

ENVIRONMENT - 1988

JAN - MARCH

13/11/89 D.P.
Wentzel praises
Ciskei's water scheme

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — Joint planning between South Africa and Ciskei was needed to maximise the benefits of the Lower Fish River Irrigation Project.

The South African Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, speaking at an on-site inspection of the project and Tyefu Irrigation Projects on the banks of the Fish River said the R100 million Orange River project, which would feed water into the area, was extremely important for the two countries as it would improve relations.

"There is a potential for joint ventures in the fields of marketing, agricultural production, exports and imports and the creating of a common market system," he said.

Mr Wentzel congratulated the Ciskei Department of Agriculture and Ciskei in general for the success of a "very well-planned irrigation scheme".

Ciskei was moving forward in such a well-planned manner, that it could move from its present position of importing all its food requirements to become a food exporter.

Commenting on the ideal to supply all Ciskeians with a daily meal, he said: "Today this ideal is going to be achieved which is something to be said about an African country."

• The Ciskei Director General for Agriculture, Mr Bomle Jack, said a report on regional marketing strategy, addressing all the problems of marketing,

would be finalised by June this year.

Mr Jack said a joint liaison committee, comprising academics from Stellenbosch and Fort Hare universities, representatives of South Africa and Ciskei, the Development Bank of South Africa as well as farmers, had been addressing the problems for the past 18 months and would draw up the report.

• One of the project consultants, Mr Bernard Rhodes, said they wanted to ensure the natural resources, particularly soil and water, were utilised in a conservative manner which would result in sustained productivity and enduring benefit to the community.

Mr Rhodes said job creation was of particular importance to the planners and whenever crops were decided on, those that would provide the most jobs were chosen.

Currently vegetable crops for freezing and citrus offered high returns and maximised employment creation.

• Some 475 hectares are presently under irrigation, supporting 31 commercial farmers, 267 foodplots, three tribal farms, and one estate.

Up to 1 000 casual workers as well as 100 regular workers are employed in the scheme.

Agricultural production in the past year was high and the project also providing subsistence for 300 families.

Additional citrus will be a major crop when the water becomes available in 1990.

Deadly defoliant used in SA

CAPT T. J. S. 14/1/88 (56)
Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — Agent Orange, a defoliant used by the US Army in Vietnam to kill plants, contains 50% of a weed-killer at present being widely used in Natal.

Symptoms which appeared in American soldiers exposed to Agent Orange, such as skin cancer and deformed offspring, are now occurring in Natal.

The weed-killer is 2,4 D, which made up 50% of Agent Orange. Used extensively by farmers on Natal's sugar belt, 2,4 D has replaced the old method of hoeing out weeds.

Initially blamed for an unexplained increase in foetal abnormalities encoun-

tered in the Camperdown-Richmond area, 2,4 D now stands accused of disturbing the whole ecology of the region — and more specifically of killing off a large proportion of Natal's vegetable crop.

"I guarantee, if hormonal herbicides were banned, the price of Natal's fresh produce would drop by a third," says Natal Fresh Produce Growers' Association chairman, Mr Roger Evans.

The biggest problem confronting researchers is to find out how 2,4 D transports from the sugar-cane fields to the vegetable fields.

Although the other ingredient in Agent Orange, 245 T — which kills trees — is no

longer produced, 2,4 D continues to be used widely as a broad-leaf weed killer.

Since the US Army evacuated its forces from South Vietnam more than a decade ago, Agent Orange has been blamed for numerous diseases experienced by Vietnam veterans and the Vietnamese.

In 1979 the United States government banned the use of Agent Orange.

Environmentalists reported a tragically high rate of miscarriages after spraying.

It is understood that Western Cape farmers have imposed a voluntary ban on 2,4 D as it was found to affect fruit crops, including grapes, and in the Eastern Transvaal use of the herbicide is kept to a minimum.

DD 15/1/88

Tarka curbs water usage

Daily Dispatch
Reporter

QUEENSTOWN — Stringent water restrictions have been imposed in Tarkastad as boreholes supplying the town with water are drying up.

The deputy mayor, Mr Mike Richardson, said the situation was serious as it was not known how much longer these boreholes would yield water.

Residents were restricted to using water for domestic purposes only. This excluded watering gardens with hose pipes or buckets and cans, and washing motor vehicles.

Mr Richardson explained that the town received its water supply from five boreholes. Water was pumped to two holding reservoirs above ground.

Two additional boreholes supplied water to the neighbouring Zola township. These had dried up and the township was now drawing from the town's supply.

Mr Richardson said the water supply was dependent on good seasonal rains. The existing serious situation had arisen as no significant rainfall had been recorded in the area since October.

"We have a problem as we do not know what is happening underground and we could run out of water at any time. Consequently we have urged residents to practise the utmost water economy".

The Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria had been approached for advice and it was possible that one of the boreholes would be rebores or that a survey to find an additional source of water would be undertaken.

AP - Times 12/1/88

Sugar industry begins probe into weed-killer

Staff Reporter

RESEARCH into the effects of a deadly weed-killer — one of two ingredients in "Agent Orange", used in Vietnam to destroy tracts of jungle — has been launched by the sugar industry and the executive of the National Fresh Produce Committee.

The investigation follows reports that the hormone herbicide 2,4 D is being widely used in South Africa, particularly in Natal's sugar plantations.

Symptoms which appeared in American soldiers exposed to "Agent Orange", such as skin cancer and deformed offspring, are now occurring in Natal.

The South African Sugar Association (SASA) said yesterday that in the light of "conflicting claims and contradictory evidence" regarding the effects of hormone herbicides, research had been initiated to provide "a conclusive answer".

Since the sugar industry used less than 25% of all herbicides in South Africa, an attempt will be made to involve all other agricultural sectors.

"The objective is to arrive at firm conclusions on the involvement of hormone herbicides before the start of the 1988 summer spraying season," a SASA spokesman said yesterday.

D/D 15/11/88

Bringing quality water to Tyefu

The people of Tyefu in the Peddie district have their hopes for the future focussed on the R100 million Orange River bulk water supply scheme which will bring quality water into the Lower Fish River Irrigation Project (LFRIP).

The pilot LFRIP, which has operated for 10 years, has grown steadily in that time and is set for further success when the water becomes available at the end of 1990.

An historical review of the LFRIP is outlined in the 1986 joint development proposal compiled by the Ciskei Department of Planning.

The report says the possibility of developing the irrigation potential in the area was the subject of investigation and discussion for many years. The first soil surveys were undertaken by the South African government in the mid thirties but the high salinity of the Fish River water precluded any major development of the area.

In 1975, the Ciskei government took the initial

major step of commissioning an investigation into the feasibility of developing the irrigation potential on the Ciskei bank, and by 1977 the first lands were brought under irrigation.

Water of a suitable quality was trapped in catchment dams on the tributaries of the Fish River as well as being pumped from the river during periods of low salinity and high flow.

Some 500 hectares are now irrigated in Ciskei from these sources but further development requires a larger more assured water supply scheme.

In 1978 a joint steering committee of the South Africa and Ciskei governments was established to investigate the possibility for developing the overall potential of the area.

In October 1981, a report prepared by the consultants to the Ciskei government was tabled, which identified a bulk supply scheme utilising off-channel storage and water supplied from the

Verwoerd Dam. This scheme recommended the development of an international project to supply water to irrigation areas in both countries and formed the basis of the scheme presently being developed.

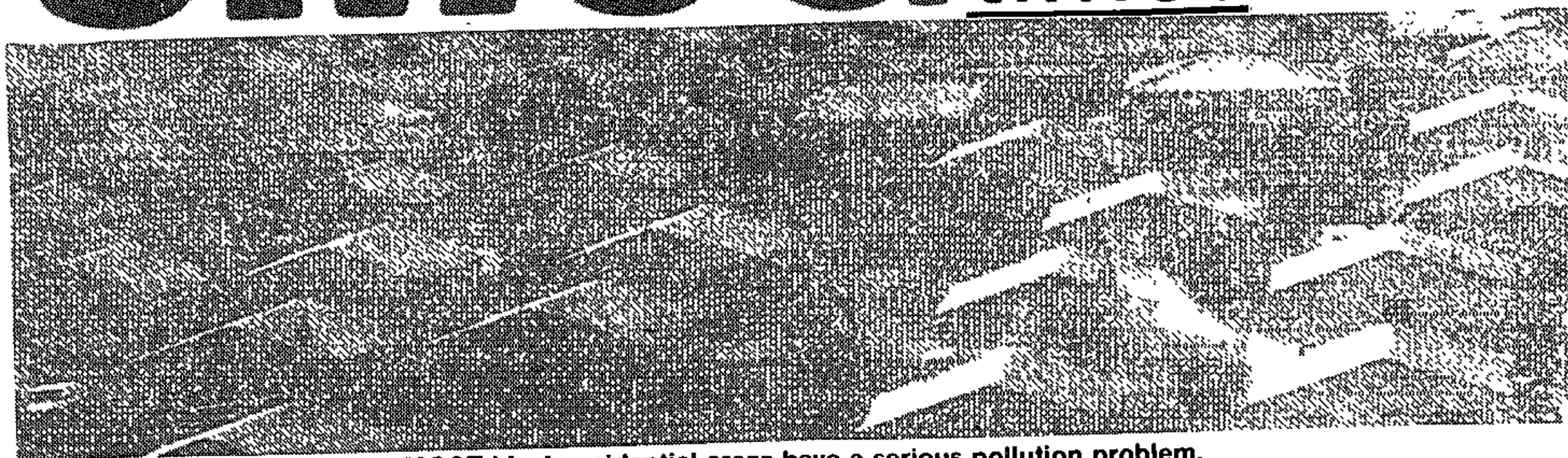
Although the project was at first turned down by South Africa, after further appraisals the State President, Mr P. W. Botha, announced in May 1985, that the project would proceed under the direction of the South African Department of Water Affairs.

That department immediately commenced with the detailed planning and design of the scheme and, by late 1985, the initial construction work had commenced.

The distinct advantage of the project is that Ciskei has for the past 10 years pioneered the development of irrigated crop production in the area and now has conclusive proof of successful crop production.

56 Smarter 2/1/88

SMOG The plague of our times



MOST black residential areas have a serious pollution problem.

ATHENS — Like a modern plague, smog has settled on many of the world's great cities. As roads become increasingly clogged with traffic, governments are under pressure to find new ways to clean the air.

Cities such as Tokyo and London have succeeded in checking air pollution, but the problem is worsening in places like Athens and Rome, according to a Reuter survey.

Faced with a mounting public outcry, the Greek Government this week announced tough new anti-smog measures including the banning of all cars from a large area of the centre of Athens, special exhaust systems for buses and halving the number of taxis in the city centre.

The drastic measures follow a statement by a doctors' conference saying that six deaths daily in Athens could be attributed to smog. Environmental groups and doctors attributed many of the 1000 deaths in a heatwave last July to pollution-related respiratory ailments.

Los Angeles, one of the first major cities to confront smog in the

FOCUS

1950s, could take another 20 years to meet government clean air guidelines, according to city air quality official Mr Thomas Eichhorn. "That is a very aggressive programme, even to shoot for 20 years," he said.

In November a new programme was approved for Los Angeles companies to provide incentives for employees to form car pools but environmental groups say the authorities are not moving fast enough to pass new laws or enforce existing ones.

The situation is even worse in Latin America where Mexico City and Sao Paulo have grown to monstrous proportions.

Mexico City, with a

population of 18 million, has 2.3 million automobiles circulating daily with no pollution-reducing equipment.

Ecology groups say pollution could result in thousands of deaths each year in Mexico City, but these estimates are denied by the government.

Among measures taken by the government is the introduction of low-lead gasoline and the changing of school opening times to avoid early morning hours when the smog is worst.

Officials in Sao Paulo, the southern hemisphere's biggest city with 16 million people, also cite the Brazilian city's 2.5 million vehicles as the major source of smog.

Traffic

The Brazilian Government has a 10-year programme to make cars as pollution-free in 1997 as they are now in the United States and Japan.

In Rome, intense traffic made the smog situation so bad last year

SAPA-REUTER

The Italian Government promised an anti-pollution decree stipulating the maximum safe level for smog and noise in cities but the decree has yet to be passed.

West Germany's air pollution problems are generally not serious but the country suffers from the cross-border drift of industrial emissions from East Germany and Czechoslovakia.

This autumn, the Bonn Government signed treaties with both its communist bloc neighbours spelling out measures to ease cross-border smog.

As part of its anti-smog drive, Bonn also offers tax concessions to people driving cars with catalytic converters and lower sales tax on lead-free gasoline.

In Hungary, the attractions of Budapest are offset by the bitter taste left on the tongue by its polluted air.

"A one-hour stroll in a busy part of town will load the lungs with combustion products equal to those produced by smoking a packet of cigarettes," the Hungarian news agency MTI reported.

Even in Switzerland, once synonymous with healthy clean air, the government has adopted

In Peking, foreign environmentalists compare air pollution with the London smog of 30 years ago, the main culprit being high-sulphur coal burnt in stoves to heat the homes of millions of urban families.

China has not published figures for deaths linked to air pollution, but respiratory diseases are common and the distinctive hacking coughs of Peking residents can be heard on every street corner in the morning rush-hour.

Surprisingly, the level of air pollution from Bangkok's legendary traffic jams remains within acceptable limits set by international standards.

Mr Sirithan Pairoj-Boriboo, director of the Thai National Environment Board (NEB), said it was feared that smog from cars would become a problem in the future.

An NEB report said there was concern about high concentrations of carbon monoxide and heavy metal lead in some parts of Bangkok.

Two of the world's few smog bright spots are London and Tokyo, once among the most air polluted cities but which have successfully done away with most airborne pollutants.

In Tokyo, a vigorous local administration over the years rid the city of most buses, enforced

that traffic police took to wearing face masks to protest against government inertia in tackling the problem.

Mr Renato Zico, a lung specialist at Rome's Regina Elena Hospital, said: "Studies show that the rate of respiratory diseases in Rome city centre is about three times than that in the suburbs."

a new smog alarm system whereby citizens are warned whenever sulphur dioxide levels climb above 200 micrograms per cubic meter of air.

Switzerland has adopted the toughest auto emission standards in Europe, cut speed limits and boosted public transport subsidies in its fight to reduce air pollution.

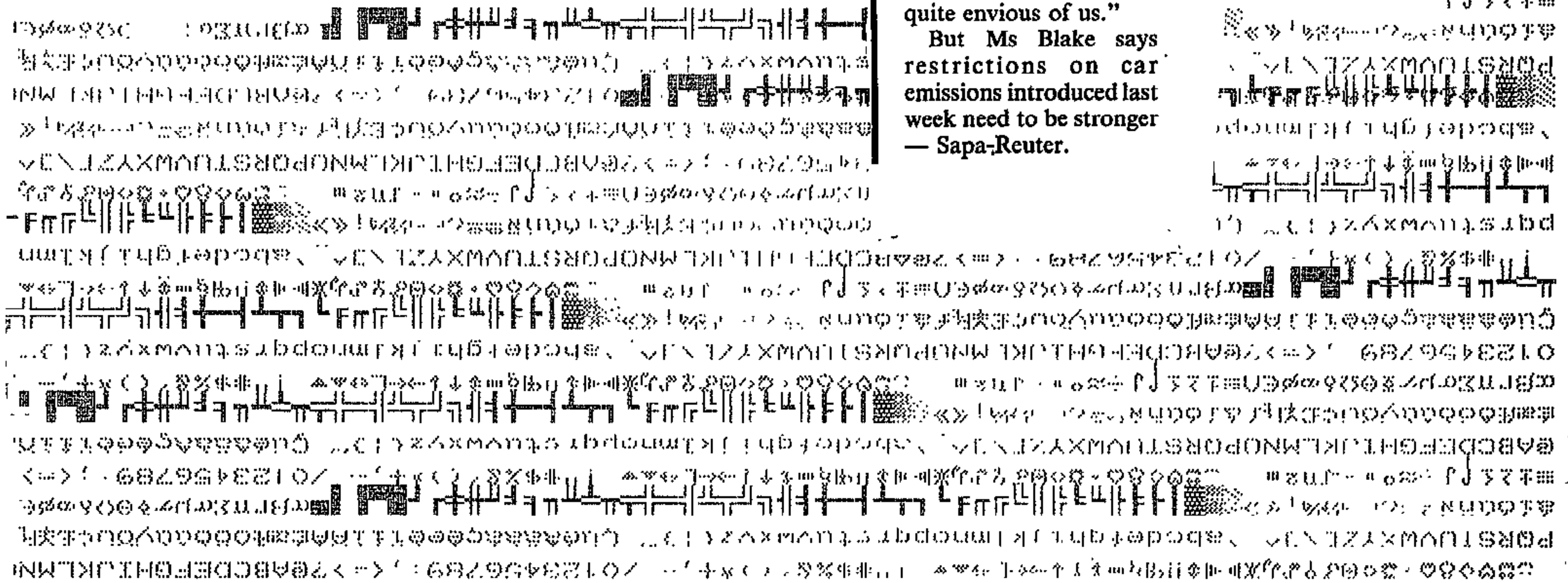
lead-free petrol in cars and taxis and extended an efficient metro system for commuters.

London's famous smoggy fogs began to fade after the Clean Air Act in 1956 which reduced sulphur dioxide levels by setting up smokeless zones where only specified fuels could be burned.

"Coal fires were the main culprits," a Department of Environment spokesman said. "As far as we're concerned smog is a thing of the past."

Ms Mary Blake, of the Friends of the Earth environmental group, said: "The Clean Air Act was quite a success story. People in Europe are quite envious of us."

But Ms Blake says restrictions on car emissions introduced last week need to be stronger — Sapa-Reuter.



4D25/1/88

Grahamstown water supply at low level

Daily Dispatch Reporter (56)

GRAHAMSTOWN — Unless the heavens opened before the next meeting, city councillors would probably have to impose water restrictions.

This was said by the spokesman for works Mrs Pamela Paton.

The maximum water stored in all four dams was down to 45 per cent on January 17, she reported.

The cut-off point is 40 per cent when restrictions will be imposed and riparian owners on Settlers' Dam will automatically have their rights withdrawn.

"There is no way by law that we can do anything about it until we get to cut-off point," Mrs Paton said.

Recalling the last severe drought which ended two years ago, she said the restrictions would be imposed in three phases.

● At the start householders would not be allowed to use hoses for watering their gardens. Nor would they be allowed to wash their cars with municipal water.

● The next stage would be restrictions on watering gardens altogether.

● Finally water would be rationed by means of a penalty tariff.

The Lower Fish River water scheme which is proceeding as the provision of money permits, could be complete by the end of 1992, but none of the officials is prepared to put a firm date on this.

So Grahamstown can anticipate a dry winter unless the heavens open between now and mid-February.

During the last drought a series of test boreholes were sunk. It has not been discussed whether these sources could be tapped.

The idea was to link the ground water with the municipal supply.

The best gushes were found at the top and bottom of African Street.

^{D/D}
R600 000
for flood 28/1/88
disaster (56)

PRETORIA — By the end of December last year R600 000 had been collected for the Natal flood disaster fund through sales of special disaster stamps.

On February 3, special Dias stamps will be issued, a statement from Posts and Telecommunications in Pretoria said.

The 16c stamp in this series will also be available as a surcharge stamp from March 1.

Four Pretoria firms presented a cheque for R4 000 for the flood fund to the chief Postmaster Mr Nic Jacobs.

Mr Jacobs said he hoped other firms would follow this example. — Sapa

Deliberate ^{Star 1/88} river flooding ⁽⁵⁶⁾ kills two men

MARITZBURG — The opening of the Henley Dam sluice valves last Wednesday to boost the water level of the Umsunduzi River before the start of the 1988 Duzi Marathon, has claimed the lives of two breadwinners in Mgodini, an adjacent location of Edendale which is just below the dam.

Mr Mandla Mbatha (36) and Mr Skhumbuzo Mahhula (44) were washed away by the flooded river after alighting from a bus when they tried to cross the river to reach their homes on Wednesday afternoon. The sluice valves were opened at about 11.30am.

The deaths have caused bitterness among community members upset about what they described as the "callousness of authorities whose priority concern was to facilitate the entertainment of white canoeing enthusiasts".

Workers and pupils were unable to cross the low-level Samero bridge last Thursday because of the man-made floods. —

Sapa.

Vaal Dam still 100,5 pc full

Stw 2/2/88

The Vaal Dam was still 100,5 percent full at the end of January, although the total January rainfall in the catchment area serving the Rand Water Board's four major dams was 56,2 mm down on last year's figure, according to Rand Water Board statistics.

Natal's Woodstock Dam was 96,1 percent full, the Free State's Sterkfontein Dam 39 percent and the Bloemhof Dam in the western Transvaal 46,3 percent full.

The total amount of water in these dams was 66,4 percent, compared with 26 percent at the same time last year.

Their catchment areas had 106 mm of rain in January, compared with 162,2 mm last year.

tions and would not help Passtoors's release.

Her former husband, Dutchman Mr Klaas de Jonge, went free in a prisoner exchange last September after spending two years holed up in the Dutch embassy in Pretoria as a fugitive. — Sapa-Reuter.

Toddlers die in shack fire

East Rand Bureau

Three toddlers burnt to death when a shack in a squatter camp at the Katlehong coalyard burnt down at the weekend.

Police said the fire broke out at 9.45 pm on Saturday.

Two little girls, aged two and 18 months, and a boy, aged 12 months, died in the blaze. They were alone in the shack at the time. Police are investigating arson.

● A five-year-old son of an Alberton domestic drowned when he fell into a pool yesterday.

Storm uproots 700 lemon trees

Staf 2/2/88

By Clyde Johnson
Lowveld Bureau

(56)

NELSPRUIT — A violent storm uprooted 700 lemon trees and extensively damaged another 536 — all laden with fruit — at Tekwane Estates, South Africa's largest lemon producers, at the weekend.

The storm, accompanied by hail, wind and rain also left people homeless when it ripped roofs from buildings and broke scores of window panes.

A large tobacco crop, ready for reaping, was destroyed by the freak storm which lasted about 15 minutes.

The storm started shortly after 3.30 pm on Sunday when a powerful wind, accompanied by hail, swept through the farm destroying everything in its path, according to Tekwane Estates manager, Mr Brian Sproule.

"At the height of the storm corrugated iron sheets were being blown around like dry leaves," Mr Sproule said.

At Tekwane's Magogeni staff village considerable damage was caused to a new hostel and dining-room complex when two wood and iron sheds were lifted from their concrete slabs.

Nobody was injured during the storm.

At nearby Tekwane, scores of people were left homeless when the storm swept through the Ka Nyamazane and Pienaar townships.

Many stranded inhabitants spent Sunday night with friends.

Machadodorp also reported extensive damage after a storm swept through the village shortly before 6 pm on Sunday.

The storm, accompanied by large hailstones, uprooted trees, broke windows and lifted roofs.

The Lowveld storm was preceded by blistering weather on Saturday and Sunday with some areas reporting temperatures upto 40 deg C.

Vaal Dam still 100,5 pc full

Staf 2/2/88

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Their catchment areas had 106 mm of rain in January, compared with 162,2 mm last year.

WATER

CSIR and health authorities fall out over power industry acid rain

Star

2/2/88

56

The CSIR has publicly revealed a serious clash between itself and the Department of Health over acid rain in the Transvaal.

The Transvaal's acid rain is from airborne sulphur from Eskom's giant power stations and from Secunda's oil-from-coal plants, which spew nearly 1 million tons of sulphur into the air to save anti-pollution costs.

In 1984, The Star's CARE campaign revealed that Johannesburg's rain was as acidic as the worst areas in Europe.

The CSIR's clash with the Department of Health and Eskom (reported in its journal *Scientiae*)

James Clarke's CARE column

came at a recent meeting of the National Association for Clean Air.

A "strong difference of opinion about industrial expansion on the Eastern Transvaal Highveld" emerged with the CSIR saying the environment could not take much more acid fallout and warning that "acid rain in Europe and North America resulted from a build-up of air pollution over at least 10 to 15

years".

Eskom and the Department of Health felt there was little cause for concern. But, said *Scientiae*, "most CSIR researchers were adamant".

The Government's health men have claimed that levels of sulphur dioxide and particles such as sulphate, nitrate and chloride at ground level were "reasonably low".

CSIR experts said fallout was "definitely" increasing at ground level and that 300 m above the Transvaal concentrations were high.

South Africa is one of the world's smallest spenders on clean air equipment.

R

5/2/88

LESOTHO WATER PROJECT

On stream



Tenders for the northern access road to the construction site of the Katse Dam in Lesotho — part of the R1,5bn first phase of the R5bn Lesotho Highlands Water Project (LHWP) — closed last week.

The northern access road — from Leribe through the rugged Maluti Mountains to the upper reaches of the Malibamatso River — will complement the R19,5m southern access road from Thaba Tseka to the dam site, an extension of an existing road.

Work on the latter has started after the necessary finances were provided by the Development Bank of Southern Africa. To date, around R50m has been spent on feasibility and engineering studies for the LHWP. Costs on the northern access road should come in at around R100m.

Both access roads must be completed by 1990, when construction work on the first phase of the project will commence. This includes the Katse Dam together with a major tunnelling system through the Maluti Mountains to the 276 MW hydropower

FIM 5/2/88
SI

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plant and pond at Sentelina, a pumping pond at Tlhaka and another tunnel underneath the upper Caledon River to an outlet into the Ash River (a tributary of the upper Vaal system).

The cost of the 240 km of tunnels is included in the first-phase costs of the Katse Dam of R1,5bn.

Four South African companies, three from Europe and one from South Korea have submitted tenders for the northern access road.

"The treaty for the LHWP — signed by SA and the Kingdom of Lesotho in October 1986 — stipulates that tendering shall be by competitive bidding without discrimination as to the nationality of any tenderer, unless the parties (SA and Lesotho) approve otherwise," says Water Affairs Director-General Theo van Robbroeck in a joint statement with his Lesotho counterpart.

Such approval will "obviously" be considered if tied finance is offered or tied finance guarantees are required by financing institutions — and if such finance or guarantees are in the interest of the project, they add.

Tenders will be evaluated on objective criteria such as cost, experience and financial conditions — and "no other criteria will hold."

The upgrading of 263 km of existing roads and construction of 288 km of new access roads should add some R206m to total project costs, says Van Robbroeck.

With the exception of Mozambique's Cahora Bassa Dam on the Zambezi River, the 166 m Katse Dam wall will be higher than any in Africa. On completion in 1995, Katse will provide the Vaal system with an additional 17m³ of water a second (cumesec).

This massive boost to existing water supplies should adequately provide for future

growth in South African industry, which currently consumes 20m cumesec/year. The added "beauty of the project" is that water from Katse will require no pumping into the Vaal system. In addition, the gravitational flow will generate hydropower for Lesotho.

The second phase of the LHWP — to be completed by 2002 — will cost around R445m (at 1985 prices). The massive Mashai Dam, with a "live" capacity of 5 375m³, scheduled for completion by 2007, will add a further R1,8bn to costs. The fourth phase is expected to be completed by 2017 at current projected costs of R400m. Meanwhile, a further dam at Ntohae, now added to the drawing boards, could push out final costs on the project even further than originally anticipated.

However, "the total project will more than double the current yield of the Tugela/Vaal system," Van Robbroeck claims.

Natal repair teams at full stretch as downpours continue

Repair teams are working flat out to repair roads, railway lines and pipelines damaged by torrential rains which have lashed Natal since Sunday.

The Weather Bureau in Pretoria reported today that rain was still falling in many parts of Natal, but added that the weather should start clearing later in the day.

A South African Transport Services (Sats) spokesman said that the north coast railway line was closed after flood waters swept away the approach to the bridge at Gledhowe.

Sats has arranged a bus service from Durban to Empanjeni to transport passengers along the north coast.

One of the lines from Johannesburg to Durban has been closed because of a mudslide near Inchanga. However, a second Johannesburg-Durban line is open and trains have been diverted to this line and are running normally.

The causeway on the old N2 giving access to Scottburgh has been closed for the third time since last September.

HEAVY DOWNPOURS

The volume of water flowing down the Mpambinyoni River over the causeway has in places gouged at least five metres of the temporary road surface away.

As a result of rainfalls at the south coast town of Umkomaas of 170 mm from Sunday to this morning, and heavy downpours inland, rivers have burst their banks.

During September the bridge at Scottburgh was washed away and work on its reconstruction has been hampered by heavy rain. Access to Scottburgh must now be gained through Park Rynie.

Seven people are still missing after the minibus in which they were travelling was washed off the N3 into a river near Cato Ridge.

Several places north of Durban have had their water supplies cut because of washaways of service lines from the Hazelmere Dam. — Own Correspondent-Staff Reporters-Sapa.

pe Times

FREWIN TROPHY

BEST DAILY
NEWSPAPER
1987

A TIMES MEDIA PUBLICATION

8 4911

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1988

50c (45c plus 5c GST)

DURBAN. — Natal was back on flood alert yesterday as torrential rains lashed many parts of the province, threatening to repeat the havoc caused by floods in September.

Reports have been pouring in of road wash-aways and subsidences, mudslides, railway-line wash-aways with resultant closures, damage to bridges, disrupted water supplies as dams overflowed and supply lines submerged or washed away.

Seven minibus passengers are missing after the vehicle they were travelling in was washed off the N3 into a river near Cato Ridge. People living in low-lying areas have been warned to prepare to evacuate their homes.

The main road between here and Maritzburg was closed yesterday morning and traffic diverted after mudslides made the route impassable.

Natal is back on flood alert

Capl Times 9/2/88 56

Many rivers that flooded their banks in the September floods are again in flood.

The swollen Umgeni River again surged over its banks near the Blue Lagoon here and the Tongaat River is in flood.

Among the bridges which have been flooded (making roads in the respective areas impassable) are the causeway on the Mpampinyoni River near Scottburgh, the low-level bridge between Umzinto and Dududu, the St Josephine's Bridge near Richmond, the bridge between Mount Morceland and Umhloti, and the

bridge on the main road through the Shongweni Valley.

The Umdhloti River is in flood and water restrictions have been imposed at Ballito and Verulam.

Forecasters at the Louis Botha weather office here said the civil defence had been notified to be on standby. They said the level of the Umgeni would definitely rise.

In the Ballito-Verulam-Canelands-Stanger area water supplies to many homes have been cut as the Hazelmere Dam overflowed, washing all supply pipelines away. — Sapa

Swaarkry! is part of the fight for life in the land of maize

THERE'S an Afrikaans word that's as much part of Western Transvaal farmers' lives as watching the nightly SABC weather forecast — "swaarkry!"

For many of the 3 000 farmers in an area from Ventersdorp and Potchefstroom westwards to the Botswana border, if no rain has fallen by the time this report is read, a seventh consecutive maize crop failure will be imminent.

The irony is that as one travels the flatlands of the Western Transvaal platteland, the mealies stand tall and proud in lines so straight they could have been drawn with a ruler. Not a weed is seen and the region is a demonstration of quality farming.

The soil is thick and rich, soil to be kneaded in the hands, good soil. There is only one problem — it is dry, the last bit of moisture sucked out by a relentless heatwave.

And in sporadic pockets the crops have already withered and died.

"Two weeks ago we were expecting record crops," said Manie du Preez, a man who has farmed in the area all his life. "But the situation changed in a week.

"Now is the crucial time — the mealies are getting cobs — and if it does not rain within the next day or so the crops will be a total write-off.

"I'd estimate there is already a 60 percent loss."

"The problem is the lack of moisture in the soil," said André Killian, chief agricultural officer of Northwest Co-operative in Lichtenburg, a town almost totally dependent on agriculture.

"As a result of the years of drought, farmers have to



SEVENTH IN A ROW... Tienie Koekemoer looks at his failed crop

By HILTON HAMANN

start each season with a 'moisture budget' of zero. Consequently, when the plant needs moisture, there are simply no reserves in the soil."

Statistics dating back to 1911 show an expected rainfall figure for Lichtenburg of 326mm. Yet, this year they have had only 201mm.

Expensive

In an attempt to reduce their risks, many farmers are switching from maize to less-risky crops and cattle ranching. Sunflower and groundnut plantings are up 71 percent and 63 percent respectively, while maize shows a 16 percent drop on last season's figure.

"We have encouraged farmers to reduce output per hectare and so reduce risk," said Dr Andries Scholtz, general manager of Northwest Co-operative. "We have also emphasised the need to diversify."

But it's easier said than done.

"Everything costs money," said Coligny farmer Tienie Koekemoer. "It's incredibly expensive switching to cattle, and then it takes at least two years before you get a return. We just can't hang on that long!"

Input costs have continued to rise over the years, while a mealie glut has seen world prices tumble.

"I would guess the average farmer in these districts

spends about R250 000 just getting his mealies into the ground," said Mr Gert Pretorius, the Transvaal Agricultural Union's Western Transvaal representative.

"That money, borrowed from the co-op, is lost if the crop fails. So next year he has to borrow again in the hope that a good harvest will make it possible to pay off some of his debts. So they just get deeper and deeper into debt."

Experts estimate if the rains do not come this week the loss to farmers in the area could be 850 000 tonnes, valued at R182-million.

But the potential loss is much greater. Farmers play a vital role in maintaining platteland structures and, if they are forced off the land, the cost to the taxpayer will be enormous.

"The average farmer has at least 100 blacks living on his farm," said Gert Pretorius. "That means about 60 000 people are dependent on the farmers in this area."

"So if the Government has to take over this role you can imagine what the cost would be to the taxpayer.

"We don't want any sympathy, we chose this life. We

our whole product
advantage — a known
Adviser has one
The Old Mutual
who do you turn to?
balanced, objective and
spare; it makes sense

ST.

Where drought hits ora

A CLOUD the size of a man's hand could determine the outcome of Schweizer Reneke's by-election.

The shadow of the most severe drought in memory is hanging over the three-cornered contest between the National, Conservative and Herstigte Nasionale parties.

Sworn political opponents shed their differences when they gather round the braai-vleis fires at night to share a common experience of a drought that has now taken on catastrophic proportions.

Barren

"We may differ profoundly on almost every issue, but when a neighbour is in trouble, everybody lends a helping hand," says CP stalwart Oom Louis Meiring, who farms near Makwassie.

He helps you to climb through the barbed wire fence of a neighbour's farm to get a first-hand look at the wilted leaves, the stunted

No divisions on one issue:
If it doesn't rain before
Thursday, all will be lost

BY DRIES VAN HEERDEN

cobs and the barren soil.

"Look at this," he says as he points to the seemingly endless rows of withered mealies. "Two weeks ago this had the makings of a record crop. Today it is a disaster."

The voters of Schweizer may disagree on whether P. W. Andries or Jaap is the best man to lead the country.

But on one issue there are no differences: If it doesn't rain before Thursday, everything will be lost.

"We have stopped counting the days, we are now talking of hours," says NP supporter Willie Lombard on his farm, Volophout, near Schweizer.

Lombard, who has been farming in the area since 1960, is a modest man, but his friends tell you that he was once counted among the most prosperous in an area where there were supposed to be more millionaires a square kilometre than anywhere else in the country.

But that was before the stormclouds turned into whirlwinds.

"Worst of all is the depression that has taken hold of everybody," he says.

"The bitter knowledge that however hard you may toil in the sweltering heat, it is almost impossible to escape from the debts you have incurred in the preceding six lean years."

Johan Roos, who farms on the neighbouring Moollaagte, gives a telling example of how the position of the farmers has worsened:

"A few years ago I bought a new Mercedes with the balance cheque on my peanut crop. Today, my whole harvest will not be able to buy me a much smaller car."

Dwindling

The effect of the drought is having repercussions throughout the community.

The towns are in danger of becoming ghost towns as more and more people are forced to move to bigger centres.

The primary school in Schweizer had to forego the services of two teachers this year because of dwindling numbers of pupils.

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There is grave concern about the security situation in the area with more and more farms being abandoned.

The drought may have disastrous consequences for the large number of black families who are completely dependent on employment on the farms.

No political party can afford not to take heed of the problems. NP candidate in the by-election Willie Lemmer is in favour of drastic measures by the State.

"The drought is just as big a disaster for the country as the recent floods in Natal," he says.

"I believe the whole region should be declared a disaster-stricken area and farmers should be eligible for emergency aid.

Abnormal

"A lot has been done already, but an abnormal situation now needs abnormal measures."

CP candidate Pieter Mulder believes the problem should be tackled at the roots:

That the dire financial position farmers find themselves in is not only because of the drought, but also because of soaring interest rates and the Government's inability to tackle inflation.

Mulder says he has not come across voters who say they will vote against the NP just because of the drought.

They do, however, question the Government's commitment to help the farmers in their plight.

The farmers themselves differ on what measures should be taken to relieve the situation, but on one aspect almost everybody agrees:

More subsidies and more Government aid schemes are not the solution.

Potential

"We are already feeling like beggars and deeply aware of the image of farmers standing in queues for more and more aid," says Roos.

"Our soil has the best agricultural potential in the whole country. All we need is a little push to help us over the lean years... and rain."

Late at night, when the fires are burning low, the talk is about the coming election, but the conversation never strays far from the drought.

The clouds have massed — the 13th time this year — and flashes of lightning can be seen in the distance.

"If it does not rain before Thursday," remarks local businessman Willie Munnik, "politics will be the only subject left to talk about."

● Report by Dries van Heerden, 11 Diagonal Street, Johannesburg.

Eight missing as Natal goes back on flood alert

ARGUS 8/2/88 (56)
The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN — Eight people are thought to have died when a mini-bus plunged into a swollen river near Cato Ridge today, as Natal went back on flood alert today after unexpected heavy rains.

Bridges are awash, the main road between Durban and Maritzburg was closed for several hours and the Umgeni River is still rising.

Rescue teams and a crane are attempting to retrieve the mini-bus, which skidded in mist and rain down an embankment near Inchanga.

Police said the driver escaped but they were still searching for the eight unidentified passengers.

RESIDENTS

Rain is continuing to pelt the Shongweni Valley between Durban and Maritzburg and many residents in the area are partially cut off by the flooding, Sterkspruit.

The river level is almost as high as it was during the September floods which caused extensive damage in the area.

It is also reported that heavy rain in the Umzinto area has caused a break in the main telephone cable to the town.

Falls of up to 260mm of rain were recorded in some places last night. The swollen Umgeni again surged over its banks near the Blue Lagoon in Durban and the Tongaat River is in flood at Tongaat.

Durban forecasters said they had been unable to issue a warning because "we only knew about it when it happened".

Muds, rocks and water have blocked the main Maritzburg-Durban road, while the alternative route through Drummond was in danger of collapse, the provincial spokesman said.

SANDBAGGED

In Durban, the low-lying Coedmore causeway was sandbagged as the river began rising swiftly last night and traffic was diverted.

The St Josephine's Bridge on the main route between Maritzburg and Ixopo is under water.

A railway bus and car collided on the Ixopo side of the bridge and the heavily loaded bus is stuck in the mud.

● See Page 3.

D/D 8/2/88

Bushman's River Valley farmers push for irrigation scheme (56)

Daily Dispatch Reporter
GRAHAMSTOWN — The shortage of water in the Bushman's River Valley is a limiting factor for all agricultural, industrial and commercial development, including tourism.

Above the ebb and flow, the river is dry except for a few stagnant pools in which the quality of the water has so deteriorated as to be unusable.

The chairman of the Bushman's River Development Association (BRDA), Mr Amedee Buchner, has spearheaded efforts to improve the situation through farmers' associations and a grouping of riparian owners.

"The biggest challenge for 1988 is to get the authorities to place the Bushman's River scheme on the priority list for Orange River water," he said.

"We have now done all that is required of us. The ball is in the court of the Department of Agriculture and Water Affairs."

For the past five years the BRDA has undertaken extensive research into the nature of the farming enterprises and their potential.

The University of Port Elizabeth's Institute of Planning undertook the task of studying the potential impact of Orange River water on the region, and their report is due to be made public in a fortnight.

"Obviously we asked them to study the impact on potentially irrigable farmlands, but they have

also looked at the towns and at tourism," Mr Buchner said.

The relevant towns include the coastal resorts of Bushman's, Kenton-on-Sea, Paterson and Alexandria, where further industrial development could take place if water was freely available.

"There are already plans to expand the chicory industry in another direction," Mr Buchner said.

The BRDA envisaged the Bushman's scheme being developed in tandem with the Sunday's River scheme, whereby Orange River water will flow down the Sunday's River valley.

"But the Sunday's River is almost exclusively a citrus-growing district. Most of the citrus is exported and does not lend itself to developing secondary industry," Mr Buchner said.

Agriculture in the Bushman's valley is far more diverse.

It is possible to grow a wide range of crops including grapes and groundnuts. The area also produces milk and dairy products, red meat and some wool.

The UPE feasibility study has cost the Development Association nearly R9 000, much of which will have to be raised by the riparian owners.

Sponsors have come up with about R4 000 of this and the Regional Development Association for Region D (RDAC) donated an amount of R1 500.

Other sponsors in-

clude the Chicory Control Board; Boland Bank; East Cape agricultural Co-operative; Eastern Province Livestock Agency; the Municipalities of Bushman's, Kenton, Alexandria, Paterson and Alicedale; Albany Coast Water Board; Alexandria Farmers' Association; Bulkop Feeds; Central Albany Farmers' Association; Paterson Farmers' Association and Harvestime.

Some 60 of a total of 200 riparian owners along the Bushman's River from its source near Ann's Villa, have been active in the BRDA.

Meanwhile, the Department of Agriculture and Water Affairs have called for their own feasibility study, Mr Buchner said.

This was being prepared by the Institute of Planning at the University of the Orange Free State and would be released by the end of the month.

"Then we want action," Mr Buchner said, adding that successive droughts were causing farmers to leave the potentially productive area.

He said valley farmers could not rely on ground

water as it was either unavailable or of such bad quality as to be unusable.

"Farmers are leading a hand-to-mouth existence having to rely on erratic and unpredictable rainfall," Mr Buchner said.

He forecast that a flow of Orange River water down the valley would help solve the problem.

"An irrigation body would pump the water and link it into reservoirs covering the whole area. They could sell the water to cover costs and enhance the whole district," he said.

At the moment even the luscious Zúney valley (near Alexandria) has areas where there was now no water.

At present there are 1578 ha of irrigated land along the Bushman's River. With Orange River water irrigation, it is thought that land in the Bushman's basin might be increased to as much as 100 000 ha.

To the west, north and east, the Orange River was being diverted into the Sunday's, Little Fish and Great Fish Rivers. The Bushman's River was rightfully an integral part of the overall scheme, he said.

ARGUS 9/2/88 56

Lightning kills six as rainstorms sweep Natal

DURBAN: — Lightning killed six members of a family, including a one-month-old baby, near Amanzimtoti as storms lashed Natal, causing flood-swollen rivers to cut off road links, water and power supplies.

This brings to 13 the number of people believed to have died in worst storms since September last year when floods devastated the province.

Seven passengers in a mini-bus taxi are believed to have drowned yesterday when their vehicle plunged into a raging torrent near Cato Ridge.

Heavy rains were still falling in many parts of the province today. Weathermen have blamed the high humidity of the past weeks.

Police spokesman Major Charl du Toit said six members of the Mapumulo family were in a corrugated iron shack in the Umbumbulu Reserve when it was struck by lightning. The family included three adults, children of seven and four, and a one-month-old baby.

"We were unable to get four-wheel

drive vehicles through to the area this morning because of the bad condition of the roads," he said.

Durban came up for a breather under blue skies today — although more rain is expected tonight. Electricity was cut last night at Verulam, Inanda, Hazelmere and Waterfall when low-lying substations were flooded.

Parts of Verulam, Ottawa, Canelands, Redcliffe, Ballito and Tongaat Beach were without water after the pipeline from Hazelmere Dam was broken by rising waters on Sunday night.

Further north, the raging Inyezane River has gouged out the approaches to the main N2 highway bridge between Gingindlovu and Empangeni, cutting off the main access to the industrial areas of Empangeni and Richard's Bay.

On the South Coast, 10 metres of the low-lying causeway over the Mpambanyoni river at Scottburgh — rebuilt after the September floods — have again been swept away by the flood waters. — The Argus Correspondent and Sapa.

Seven missing as floods ravage Natal

D/D 9/2/88
56

Daily Dispatch Correspondent

DURBAN — Natal has been plunged into chaos again after heavy downpours on Sunday night and yesterday caused flooding, damaged roads and bridges, and disrupted rail and road traffic.

Seven people are missing, feared dead, after a minibus taxi plunged into a river at Inchanga.

Severe water restrictions have been placed on several North Coast towns because part of the pipeline carrying water from the Hazel-mere Dam to the water refinery was washed away.

Weather forecasters have predicted more heavy rain overnight.

Durban's civil defence unit was warned to be on standby yesterday as the Umgeni River continued to rise.

The missing minibus plunged into a raging torrent after colliding with the back of another vehicle, a police spokesman said.

One passenger, Mr Samuel Bhengu, was found unhurt.

Trains were disrupted by mudslides on the main line between Pietermaritzburg and Durban, and the passenger coach of a suburban train was derailed at Inchanga early yesterday when washaways undermined the railway line, according to a spokesman for Sats.

No-one was injured in the accident.

The spokesman said other trains were running late as a result of three mudslides on the main line at Shongweni and KwaDengezi near Durban.

The approaches to the St Josephine Bridge over the Umkomaas River on the main route between Pietermaritzburg and Ixopo were washed away and the

road remained closed all day, a Natal Provincial Authority traffic spokesman said.

A huge landslide on the south-bound lane of the N3 at Inchanga blocked the road for nearly three hours between 7.20 am and 10.15 am yesterday, and traffic had to be diverted.

A second mudslide occurred in the same place at about 1 pm and the road was closed again for just under an hour.

A spokesman for the city engineer's department said so far no danger had been caused to Durban's water supply.

The acting director of the Northern Natal Regional Water Suppliers, Mr Gordon Pete, said if the public, commerce and industry co-operated by adhering to restrictions, the water supply could stretch to three days.

A Natal Sharks Board spokesman, Mrs Beulah Davis, said bathing at Zinkwazi, Blythedale and Scottburgh beaches had been banned.

She said the whole beach at Zinkwazi had been washed away.

No bathing bans have been imposed at Durban's beaches.

The heaviest rainfall since storms began to lash the area on Sunday night was reported from the Upper Tongaat area where more than 300 mm had been recorded.

Other heavy falls, according to the weather office, included Upper Glendale, 276mm; Port Shepstone 56; Stanger, 175; Richmond, 63; Scottburgh, 71.5; and Mahawes, 80.



Clear weather expected soon

The swollen Sterkspruit near Inchanga. Seven people were feared drowned after a minibus was swept away by the raging torrent yesterday morning.

EAST LONDON — The cloudy weather conditions which have brought good rainfalls to large parts of the Border region over the past few days are expected to clear partially today and temperatures are likely to rise.

The wind will be strong north-easterly along the coast and conditions will be fair over the next two to three days, a spokesman for the weather office here said.

The northern interior regions, where thunderstorms were experienced yesterday, can expect high temperatures with isolated thunderstorms.

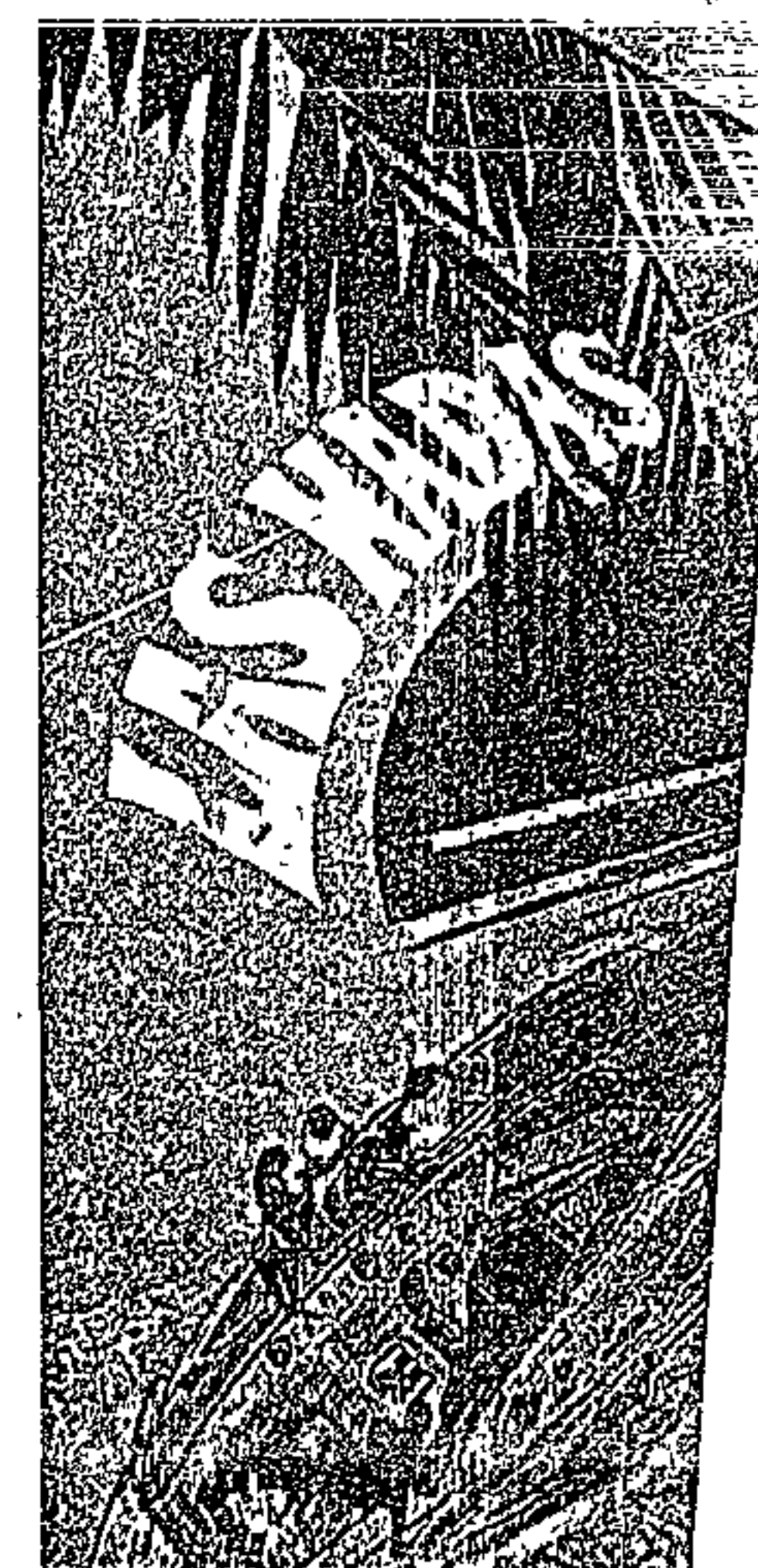
Fairly high rainfall figures have been recorded in some areas.

From 8 am on Friday until 8 am yesterday, 115 mm was recorded at Maclear, 79.5 at Kei Mouth, 77.5 at Jamestown, 65 at East London, 56.7 in Umtata, 53 at Dordrecht, 49.5 at Sterkstroom, 31.5 at Elliot, 30 at Indwe, 22.5 at Dohne, 21.7 at Komga, 20.5 at Lady Frere, 20.2 at Bisho, 15.2 at Butterworth, 14.8 at Queenstown and 6 at Cathcart.

"The hot conditions experienced before the rain were normal at this time of year and a strong high pressure ridging in the south of the country over the weekend with a cut off low in the upper air to the west of the country caused widespread rain over the entire south-eastern Cape," the spokesman said.

A farmer in the Molteno district, Mr Sandy Stretton, said it was normal to have tremendous variables such as were being experienced now, during a long dry cycle, he said.

Mr Stretton, who has weather records for the farm which date back to 1874, said it was unusual that during the past three years the region had had abnormally heavy spring rains followed by ex-



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New Bill on natural assets ^{ster} 10/2/86 disappoints ⁽⁵⁶⁾

By James Clarke

The Government's latest draft of the Environment Conservation Bill has drawn mixed feelings — from disappointment to fear.

Urban pressure groups have told The Star's CARE campaign that the Bill mostly concerns itself with nature areas as opposed to urban environments which are where stricter environmental safeguards are most necessary.

The Bill proposes increasing fines for illegal dumping to R10 000 and the same for anybody violating laws regarding a new category of land — "limited development areas".

These are being interpreted as areas of special importance aesthetically or culturally.

A section dealing with "environmental impact reports" (EIRs) says the Minister "may" make regulations requiring developers to disclose in EIRs what negative impacts they expect from a planned project. But the military, which operates in many sensitive natural areas, is excluded.

And, a change from the original Bill, "legislative decisions" (which can cause profound environmental changes) are also now excluded. There is no provision for EIRs to be made available to the public.

Northern Natal is hit by power blackout in deluge

56 10/2/88 Sfr

DURBAN — A power blackout added to northern Natal's rain-soaked misery yesterday and a further six people have died, bringing the death toll in the latest storms to 15.

The six, all members of the Maphumulo family — two men, a woman and three children, the youngest of whom was one month old — were killed when lightning struck their hut in the Tafelkop district of Umbumbulu on Sunday.

Nine other people, all of them believed to be members of the family, were taken to Durban's King Edward VIII Hospital and discharged after receiving treatment.

The dead were Mr Vuslathi Maphumulo (30), Mr Magama Maphumulo (24), Mrs Mahlango Maphumulo (53), and the children Kimile (7), Bono (4) and one-month-old Johnny.

ROAD WASHAWAYS

Empangeni, Richards Bay and other towns in northern Natal were cut off by road washaways and bridge closures, and residents at Empangeni said it was still raining heavily.

Power sub-stations at Hazelmere, Verulam, Inanda and Waterfall were flooded, cutting power to large areas and stopping efforts to renew the damaged pipeline to Hazelmere Dam, which has caused water supplies to the North Coast to be cut.

The bodies of a man and a woman, believed to be from the minibus which skidded into a flooded stream alongside the highway at Inchanga on Monday, were found yesterday by police.

With rainfall at the South Coast town of Umkomaas mea-

sured at 170 mm from Sunday to yesterday morning, and heavy downpours inland, rivers have burst their banks.

The Empangeni-Mtunzini stretch of Zululand's Great North Road was closed early yesterday and motorists were diverted through Eshowe.

Mr Stoffel Botha, Natal leader of the National Party, said yesterday the Government would provide flood relief.

Heavy rains have worsened the plight of many refugees fleeing the violence in the Maritzburg townships where church ministers have estimated that between 60 000 and 100 000 people were in need of relief.

"The most urgent needs are shelter, food and schooling for the children of families who have fled their homes," the Rev Patrick Gumede of St Christopher's Church, Sobantu, said.

"With all the rain of the past 24 hours, the plight of these people is very desperate indeed."

A national serviceman who drowned in the flooded Klip River near Ladysmith on Monday was identified as 20-year-old Rifleman T A Dreyer.

Rifleman Dreyer had been married for only a week when he slipped while searching for a nine-year-old black girl who had disappeared in the river the previous day. His body was found by divers in the Windsor Dam yesterday.

Bathing has been banned at many Natal beaches with the North Coast the worst hit.

The director of the Natal Sharks Board, Dr Beulah Davis, said Richards Bay was the only North Coast beach still open today. — Sapa.

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Curbs agreed on dumping of toxic chemicals

Government experts from nearly 30 countries, meeting in Geneva last week, agreed to the outlines of a treaty to curb the growing international traffic in hazardous waste and reduce the risk of environmental damage from uncontrolled dumping of toxic chemicals.

The proposed convention, sponsored by the UN Environment Programme (Unep), would forbid the export of hazardous waste unless the receiving country says it is willing to take it, understands what it is and has the facilities to deal with it.

Unep officials say the need for a

treaty has become increasingly urgent as industrial countries, faced with escalating costs of safe waste disposal at home, are shipping ever greater amounts abroad, often to developing countries with no legislative control and no proper disposal facilities. The West generates about 90 percent of the estimated 237-275 million tons of hazardous waste produced worldwide each year.

"The incentive to save money on waste disposal has led to widespread dangerous practices," says Dr Jan Huisman, Unep's expert on toxic chemicals. "On land a trucker

sees a handy dump on his way somewhere else and he decides to drop off 50 drums of toxic materials without saying a word to anybody. Another popular trick to get rid of waste is to ship it to a false address. No one claims it and the drums rode under a tropical sun in the port. No one accepts responsibility and no one knows what to do with the waste."

The Geneva meeting succeeded in resolving the thorny issue of defining hazardous waste, which scuppered a similar accord drawn up late last year. The UN treaty will include a core list of hazardous sub-

stances. But substances not on this list will still be covered by the convention if they are controlled by national legislation in the exporting or importing country.

The convention will not deal with the transport of nuclear waste, which is regulated by the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna.

There are still details yet to be agreed, but Mr Alain Clerc, Swiss chairman of the expert group, said he hoped the treaty would be ready for signing in early 1989 and come into effect 18 months later. — Independent News Service.

Natal death toll rises

— rain due to clear

Daily Dispatch
Correspondent

DURBAN — The confirmed death toll in the Natal floods stood at eight yesterday afternoon — with another seven probably drowned.

As rain continued to fall over Natal many towns faced water restrictions, roads and railway lines were closed and many people had to evacuate their homes.

But, the good news,

according to the Weather Bureau, is that the weather is expected to clear from today.

A young national serviceman based with the Fifth SA Infantry Battalion at Ladysmith drowned in the Klip River while assisting in the search for the body of a young boy who had gone missing during the heavy rain on Monday.

A South African Defence Force spokesman identified the dead soldier as Rifleman Thomas Andries Dreyer, 20. Police divers recovered his body from the Windsor Dam near Ladysmith yesterday.

Rfn Dreyer leaves his wife, Mrs C. L. Dreyer, of Randfontein.

Six people — three adults and three children — all members of the Maphumulo family who were in a hut with a corrugated iron roof were struck dead by lightning near Umbumbulu on Sunday afternoon. Nine other people were injured and taken to hospital.

Five people were still missing late yesterday after a mini-bus, carrying seven passengers, had toppled into the

Shongweni River on Sunday. Two bodies have been recovered.

Electricity was cut last night at Verulam, Inanda, Hazelmere and Waterfall when low-lying substations were flooded.

Parts of Verulam, Ottawa, Canelands, Redcliffe, Ballito and Tongaat Beach were already without water after the pipeline from Hazelmere Dam to the purification works was broken.

The heavy rains have also worsened the plight of many refugees fleeing the violence in the Pietermaritzburg townships where between 60 000 and 100 000 people are estimated by some ministers to be in need of relief.

Bathing has been banned at all North Coast beaches and along the South Coast at Ifafa, Scottburgh, Mtwalume, Umtentweni, Glenmore and at Umzumba and Msamba beach in Transkei.

● A record billion litres of water were consumed by hot, thirsty and sweaty Capetonians on Monday. Lower temperature of 30C are expected today.

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CPL. Travis 10/2/88

56

15 feared dead in Natal flooding

DURBAN. — The confirmed death toll in the newest spate of floods in Natal stood at eight yesterday afternoon — with another seven drownings suspected.

The deaths of six people from one family whose hut at Tafelkop in the Umbumbulu area was struck by lightning on Sunday, a national serviceman and an unidentified nine-year-old black child who drowned in the Klip River at Ladysmith, were confirmed.

The name of the national serviceman has not yet been released. Seven blacks were still missing late yesterday afternoon after a mini-bus toppled into the Shongweni River on Sunday. Only the driver emerged unscathed. His passengers are presumed to have been washed away.

The rains continued yesterday in many of the already-battered parts of the province, many of which had not fully recovered from the even more disastrous flooding that swept Natal last September.

The worst damage caused by the current torrential rains was the complete washaway yesterday morning of the main road causeway at Scottburgh.

The most severe downpours came in the Upper Tongaat, Verulam and Stanger areas. Hazelmere Dam was reported to be 115% full yesterday, and on Monday most of the pipelines to the Hazelmere purification works — which serves Verulam, Canelands, Tongaat, Stanger and Bellville — were washed away.

Yesterday afternoon Umgeni Water Board engineers began placing temporary service lines to the purification works in a bid to keep the domestic water supply to these towns operating.

So far no estimates of damage to roads, railways, bridges and other essential services have been made — and the threat of more rain today could cause further serious problems.

Swollen rivers yesterday caused all beaches but Richards Bay north of Ballitoville to be closed to bathers.

Natal Sharks Board director Mrs. Beulah Davies said Sinkwazi beach was again totally washed away, as it had been in September.

She said all shark nets between Snake Park Beach and Blue Lagoon in Durban were "doubtful" and bathing bans had again been imposed.

The ban has also been extended to South Coast beaches — Scottburgh, Umtentwini, Umtwalume and Glenmore — as well as to the main beach that serves the Wild Coast Casino in Transkei.

The heavy rains have spread further north than in September, this time reaching as far as Newcastle and Babanango.

The Durban-Maritzburg main road was reopened yesterday morning, but motorists have been warned to be extra alert as water from overflowing rivers has crossed it in places and there is a danger of mudslides and rock falls.

Traffic authorities have complained that some motorists were driving "too fast for safety" on the freeway.

In the remote and rugged Valley of a Thousand Hills, many blacks living in low-lying areas, which have become impromptu rivers, have had to move to higher ground.

The weather office at Louis Botha Airport, Durban, yesterday predicted that the rains would last till tomorrow night — Sapa

Water crisis shuts factories, schools

DURBAN. — As the weather cleared throughout most of flood-stricken Natal, reports flowed in of further devastation, water shortages and closed schools and factories.

All schools and industries at Verulam were closed yesterday because water reservoirs were empty.

A spokesman for the North Coast Regional Water Suppliers said local authorities used tankers to supply residents.

Power failure

The water shortages were caused by a power failure at Hazelmere dam, which prevented the Umgeni Water Board pumping to the area.

However, a board spokesman said he expected power to be

restored by nightfall and it would then be "a matter of hours" before residents in the area received water.

A Natal Provincial Administration traffic spokesman said sinkholes had developed on the N3 highway between Durban and Maritzburg at Inchanga and on the Mkondeni offramp.

Third sinkhole

A third sinkhole had appeared on the Georgedale-Hammersdale Road.

The spokesman said traffic would be diverted if necessary.

Five of the 27 roads, which had been closed since the heavy rain began, were reopened yesterday.

A roads department spokesman said other roads would be repaired as soon as possible.

Water was still flowing "too strongly" yesterday to repair the causeways at Batstone, near Port Shepstone, and at

Mpambinyoni River at Scottburgh.

The North Coast railway, damaged at Gledhow, and the line at Shongweni should be fully operational by the weekend, weather permitting, according to a South African Transport Services spokesman.

Three bodies of passengers in a minibus, washed away in a swollen stream near Inchanga on Monday, have been recovered. A search for three more bodies is continuing.

Hard-hit

Canelands Boating Club at Hazelmere dam, which is scheduled to hold two international water-ski meetings in April, has been hard-hit again.

Mrs Lizbett Piotz, a club official said the club had just spent R20 000 on repairing damage caused by the September floods.

"It's too depressing," she added. — Sapa.

LAIN TALK

DURBAN — As the weather cleared throughout most of flood-stricken Natal yesterday, reports were received of further devastation, water shortages and the closure of schools and factories.

All schools and industries at Verulam were closed, yesterday because water reservoirs supplying the area were empty.

A spokesman for the North Coast Regional Water Suppliers said local authorities had to use water tankers to supply residents.

He said yesterday the Desaiinger township was without water and at 3 pm levels of the reservoirs supplying La Mercy and the region from Ballito to Umhlali Beach were "very low."

The water shortages were caused by a power failure at the Hazelmere Dam, preventing the

Umgeni Water Board from pumping water to the area. A spokesman for the board said the power should have been restored by last night.

Meanwhile, a traffic spokesman said sinkholes were developing on the N3 highway between Durban and Pietermaritzburg at Inchanga and on the

Mkondeni offramp. The roads department is working, in conjunction with traffic authorities, on the situation, he said.

Five of the 27 roads, which have been closed since the heavy rains began are now open.

The North Coast train line, damaged at Gled-

how, and the train line at Shongweni should be fully operational by the weekend, weather permitting, a spokesman for the South African Transport Services said.

Three bodies of passengers in a mini-bus, washed away in a swollen stream near Inchanga on Monday, have so far been recovered. The

Further water shortages as floods subside, skies clear

(S6)

2/D 11/02/88

search for the other three bodies is continuing.

The Canelands Boat-Club at Hazelmere Dam, which is scheduled to hold two international water-skiing meetings in April, has once again been hard-hit.

Mrs Lizbett Plotz, from the club, said R20 000 had just been spent repairing jetties and the club's house which were damaged during the September floods.

The Weather Bureau in Durban said the weather should clear further today. — DDC

(56) D/P 13/2/88
Water official to inspect sites

Daily Dispatch Reporter

QUEENSTOWN — The Deputy Minister of Water Affairs, Mr J. A. van Wyk, arrives here on Wednesday to inspect two possible dam sites — at Waai-poort near here and Uitsig at Sterkstroom.

The visit stems from the recent formation of an action committee by riparian owners along the Klaas Smit River.

The action committee's chairman, Mr R. Schreuder, said that more irrigation water was an absolute necessity for farmers here to farm productively.

The mayor, Mr Gerrie Coetzer, said the water situation was giving cause for some concern. Waterdown Dam, one of two dams supplying the town, had overflowed about two months ago.

Since then the level of the dam, which supplies water to over one million people, had dropped by 50 per cent, Mr Coetzer said.

If a dam was earmarked for either of the sites the municipality would also benefit from the scheme.

With an additional water source, farmers maintain they would be able to grow fodder for their stock which they now purchase at considerable cost. It could also mean a revival of fruit and vegetable farming in the area.

After inspecting the dam sites Mr van Wyk will address a meeting of councillors and farmers regarding proposals for future water supplies in the area.

Water not promises



(56) CP Press 4/2/88

These peddlers take advantage of Mmakau's water shortage by selling water to thirsty residents.

By SOL MORATHI

AT the point on the road from GaRankuwa to Mothotlung where the tar turns to gravel, a forlorn collection of mud and corrugated iron houses makes up the village of Mmakau.

Scraps of cars lie on their backs like dead insects and a single railway track runs through the area between the GaRankuwa industrial zone and De Wildt.

Dust from our car spills over and coats the mud houses, the people's skins and the animals.

Mmakau, the home of about 70 000 Bakgatla families under the chieftainship of Peter Bazabaza Motsepe, is a place of abject poverty.

The locals have a lot to complain about. Besides having no means of earning a living, their most immediate need is for water.

No one here, it seems, knows that we are halfway through the United Nations decade for improving drinking water supply and sanitation internationally. Even if they did, they would be right in thinking it will not improve their lot.

The problem, according to the residents, lies with the local tribal authority. There is enough water beneath their feet, but the local tribal authority is apparently reluctant to tap it.

Thus locals either they buy water from water peddlars at 1c per litre, they dig water up in their yards or they wait for the summer rains to fill their oil-drums.

The first two options are, unquestionably, the most expensive exercises for nearly everyone.

The World Health Organisation estimates that 80 per cent of the world's illnesses are caused by contaminated water supplies.

Children become the first victims, dying not from typhoid and cholera outbreaks, but from diarrhoea and dysentery.

The water supply at Mmakau is unpurified, and the number of children in the area who die of such diseases bears testimony to this.

More often than not, villagers gather at the chief's kraal to raise the water issue, but not much has changed despite promises from Bazabaza Motsepe and his advisors.

A number of options have been put before the chief. The first was to dig more communal taps in this vast settlement. The second was to sink a borehole.

Mmakau cannot be relegated to be a rural area by virtue of its location.

It is situated between the most popular Bophuthatswana townships of GaRankuwa and Mothotlung. It also lies a mere 37km north west of Pretoria.

Most of its residents work in Rosslyn, Brits and Pretoria, while some travel daily to and from Johannesburg — dispelling any doubts that they may be primitive.

What the residents of this village need, as it was gathered in numerous interviews with old residents of the place, is true and honest leadership.

With that, many reckon, Mmakau will be devoid of all the troubles and problems currently facing it.

Thatcher retreat paves way for accord

EC agreement reached on financial reform

Star
GOK
12/88

BRUSSELS — European Community leaders reached a milestone agreement early on Saturday to finance the EC into the 1990s and give it more muscle.

The deal, reached in the early hours of the morning, followed a retreat by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher when her insistence on drastic curbs on farm spending seemed certain to scuttle the 12-nation summit.

She settled for softer penalties on Europe's 10 million farmers if they produce too much, in return for a tighter limit on overall EC spending.

"We have put the EC on a solid financial basis," a beaming but exhausted West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl told reporters.

Radical reforms

His persistence as summit chairman during more than 28 hours of talks over two days smoothed the way for the most radical financial reforms in the community's 30-year history.

Failure in Brussels would have pushed the EC towards bankruptcy and sapped its power to stand up to the United States and Japan in trade disputes.

Mrs Thatcher, unbowed despite her retreat, said: "We have achieved some of our main objectives — control over agriculture and community spending. We needed this control now, not at some uncertain time in the future."

The agreement, designed to last until the community removes all internal barriers in 1992, will:

- Boost EC funds from 44 billion European Currency Units (R105 billion) in 1988 to 53 billion ECUs (R125 billion) in 1992.
- Restrict the share which goes to farm subsidies by penalising overproduction with price

cuts. Farm spending, which increased by more than 20 percent last year, will be allowed to grow by less than two percent a year for the next three years.

● Lift spending on the EC's deprived regions from eight billion ECUs (R20 billion) in 1988 to 13 billion ECUs (R30 billion) in 1992.

The reforms were approved just one year after they were first proposed by EC Commission President Jacques Delors — an unprecedented feat for a bloc that normally moves at snail's pace.

Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez said the accord would free EC leaders to tackle basic issues such as unemployment, regional poverty and press on with industrial, technological and trade development.

"We will have a few years without having to dwell on the problems of the last three summits," he said. "They have been more like meetings of finance and agriculture Ministers than of heads of government."

Two summits in the past eight months have foundered over the Delors plan.

The farm spending restrictions will bring projected cuts of more than five percent in cereals prices next year, hurting the politically powerful farmers of France and West Germany. The leaders of both countries wanted to protect their producers from income losses because of elections this spring.

Mrs Thatcher said the agreement was conditional on Foreign Ministers approving curbs for minor EC crops which she had wanted the summit to approve along with the major items — cereals and oilseeds.

But diplomats said approval was certain when the Ministers met on February 22. — Sapa-Reuter.

Department of

This is a summary of Unemployment Insurance Act.

1984.
Bophuthatswana National Development Corporation Ltd., Summary of main provisions affecting employers in Labour Relation Guide, Matikong, January

BOPHUTHATSWANA

D/D 17/2/88
Botha told to freeze politicians' salaries

JOHANNESBURG — The Housewives' League have asked the State President, Mr P. W. Botha, to show his sincerity — after appealing to South Africans "to tighten their belts" — by ensuring that all members of Parliament and the President's Council go without increases in salaries, pensions and allowances.

The League said in a letter that the South African public must see a decrease in "the privileges of free travel, luxurious living and extravagant banquets".

"While we appreciate your call for South Africans to tighten their belts, we would remind you that the ball is in your court," the letter read.

"For years we have been told to cut back because we are in a depression, but every year those in power have had more than generous increases.

"If you are sincere in your appeal, we must have specific assurances that there will be no increase of salaries, allowances and pensions in the three Houses of Parliament and the Presidents' Council.

"Privileges of free travel, luxurious living and extravagant banquets must be cut down — and we, as the public of South Africa, must see it," the League stated. — Sapa

D/D 17/2/88
Deadline for cycad permits imminent

Daily Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Permits for collecting cycads will not be granted after March 31, except for bona fide research purposes.

The chief director of nature and environmental conservation in the Cape, Mr P.J. le Roux, said that following reports of extensive illegal removal of cycads in the Eastern Cape, all cycads were classified as endangered flora in May 1985.

The classification was made in terms of a proc-

lamation by the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, which amended the Cape Nature and Environmental Conservation Ordinance.

In terms of the amendment, the removal, sale, purchase, donation, receipt as donation, possession, transport, export and import of all cycad species are subject to a permit issued by the chief directorate of nature and environmental conservation.

The ordinance makes provision with effect from October 9, 1987, for the registration of and granting of permits to persons who wish to sell cultivated endangered flora.

In future people who wish to trade in endangered flora will have to qualify as growers of such flora.

25

88/1/41

Drought devastated farmers

By Paul Olivier

The whole of the western Transvaal was a disaster area and the South African Agricultural Union would be asked to look into the welfare of maize farmers devastated by drought, Mr Wilko Beukes, a member of the Transvaal Agricultural Union's executive committee, said last night.

He said at a press conference in Pretoria that farmers in some parts had difficulty feeding and clothing their families.

"The morale of many of the farmers is low.

"All measures must be taken to stabilise them and give them peace of mind."

He said that in the Lichtenburg area three schools had been closed during the drought of the past few years, resulting in the loss of more than 11 000 scholars.

● See Page 4.

Eskom pragmatism reaches to equator

17/2/88

By Michael Chester

Eskom, the state electricity network giant, yesterday proposed a round-table conference with neighbouring countries as far north as the equator to discuss the creation of a power grid to cover the sub-continent.

The Eskom chief executive, Mr Ian McRae, said the object was to harness the energy and technology resources of the whole region. The master plan was to use the multi-national grid as the foundation to economic unity outside the political sphere.

He said there had already been positive responses to proposals of new co-operation and mutual assistance from six neighbours, several of which had entered into formal agreements over two-way export and import deals on energy supplies.

The next aim was to arrange round-table discussions with the nine member nations of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference.

Undaunted by political conflicts, Mr McRae, as an engineer, views the chances of success in pragmatic rather than ideological terms.

"The sub-continent has a simple choice — economic stagnation caused by political division with growing unemployment and worsening poverty, or economic dynamism stemming from co-operation in the non-political sphere.

"If there is stalemate among the politicians, it should not mean that everything else must stay at a standstill."

Mr McRae said it would be stressed that Eskom had no ambition to act as Big Brother and dictate the terms of the exercise.

● See Page 15.

Drought conditions in Bathurst area severe ⁽⁵⁶⁾

GRAHAMSTOWN — Severe drought conditions are being experienced by farmers in the Bathurst district.

Rainfall in the last two years has fallen off, in some cases to less than half of what is received in good years.

Dams are dryer than they have ever been, according to the chairman of the Bathurst Conservation Committee, Mr Cecil Jones-Phillipson.

Light rains have brought no run-off although parts of the region have a superficial green covering belying the severity of the drought, he said.

The coastal strip has been worst hit, according to the chairman of the Eastern Border Farmers' Association, Mr Johan Liesenberg.

There farmers are beginning to reduce their stock.

"This drought has hit the entire coastline from the Fish River to Humansdorp," according to the East Cape Agricultural Union representative for the Albany region, Mr Chris van Aardt.

"The lack of water is alarming. We have not reached disaster

drought conditions yet but our advice to farmers' associations is to apply for drought relief now," Mr Jones-Phillipson said.

It usually took about two months before the wheels were in motion and if no significant rains fell in that time conditions could be critical, he said.

Most of the stock was still in reasonably good condition. The committee had had no reports of stock losses.

Pineapple farmers who also ran large stock were reasonably well off. They were able to turn their stock into old pineapple lands to graze.

"The condition of the veld is very poor. There is little or no grazing. Lucerne is at a premium.

"Certain people are able to get it but for new applicants it is virtually impossible," Mr Jones-Phillipson said.

"At Kaffir Drift they have recorded the lowest rainfall in seven years. At Shaw Park we have recorded the lowest rainfall in five years," Mr Liesenberg said.

Farmers were moving their stock. One had hired land at Kidds

Beach while another who had a farm near Adelaide had moved all his stock away.

"A limited amount of feed is available — at a price," he added.

Last year only 434 mm of rain was recorded at Kaffir Drift after peaks of as much as 750 mm in 1981 and 1985.

At Martindale where as much as 822 mm was recorded in 1985, only 345 mm had been received last year.

At the Bathurst Research Station where the rainfall averaged 700 mm a year, only 528 mm was recorded last year. Similar figures were recorded on the coast while at Shaw Park where peaks of more than 1 000 mm had been recorded in 1981 and 1985, the figure had dropped to 563mm last year.

"This year the rains have been negligible. What we have had has been so light as to produce no run-off whatever," Mr Liesenberg said.

● Depression, thought to have been caused by the prolonged drought, is believed to have led to the death on Monday morning of a Paterson farmer, Mr W. S. (Willem) Buchner, 82, on his

farm, Hashirwood.

Mr Buchner's body was found at the back of his house shortly after 4 am by his wife, Mrs Hazel Buchner, 80. He had a shotgun wound in his head.

Mr Buchner's brother, Mr Carel Buchner, of the farm, Goedemoed, said his brother, who could not come to terms with the drought, had got up as usual at about 4 am on Monday and after serving tea to his wife in bed had gone outside with his shotgun.

Shortly afterwards, a shot rang out. Mrs Buchner did not take much notice, as she had thought that her husband had fired at stray dogs.

However, a second shot, much closer to the house, had prompted her to investigate. Outside she found her husband bleeding profusely. A shocked Mrs Buchner had tried to help her husband into the house, but could not manage. He succeeded, however, to stumble into the house where he allegedly fetched another shotgun cartridge.

The police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Captain Bill Dennis, said police do not suspect a crime.

Four die, Limpopo flooded in downpour

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Four children have died, farmhouses have been evacuated and a general flood alert has been issued after torrential rain in the Northern and Western Transvaal and Botswana caused the Limpopo River to come down in flood.

The children died on the Botswana side of the Limpopo. One school pupil was killed when a toilet collapsed because

of heavy rain at Moshupa village.

An eight-year-old boy died when a hut collapsed at Mahalapye and two young girls were killed in Moshupa when their hut collapsed.

The Limpopo rose by nearly three metres during the night before stabilising at 4am today.

Railway links from Lobatse northwards have been cut and the main road from Gaborone northwards is also impassable.

More than 100m of road is flooded near Mochudi.

The district commissioner at Mahalapye said the Botswana Defence Force and the Red Cross were helping to accommodate flood victims whose houses had collapsed.

A number of border posts between South Africa and Botswana have been closed because the roads are flooded and motorists have been advised to check which border posts are open.

Most of the floodwater originated in Botswana and the north-western Transvaal,

where up to 200mm of rain has fallen. The Eastern Transvaal and parts of the Free State also had good rain.

Three farmhouses in the Pontdrift and Weipe areas on the South African side of the border were flooded when the Limpopo burst its banks yesterday. More houses are threatened should the water rise a further 10cm.

There are fears that further flooding will occur as the river's tributaries continue to gush water into the system.

Extensive damage was caused to cotton fields in the Pontdrift area, and pump houses on the river banks were flooded.

The level in the Limpopo stabilised about 4am today, said Mr Hansie Willemse, chairman of the Weipe Farmers Association. Residents of the area are ready to evacuate their houses if the level starts rising again.

Mr Willemse and other farmers in the area surveyed the damage by air today. He said farmers in the Pontdrift area, which until recently was being crippled by drought, feared most of their cotton crop would rot.

At Stokpoort, near Ellisras, the lands were also flooded.

... cancelled

Full-scale air and land search launched for farmworkers

11 dead, six missing in widespread flooding

19/2/88
SB
Star

Staff Reporters

Flooding across the country has claimed 11 lives and six other people — all farm labourers from the Eastern Cape — are missing after a flash flood in the area last night.

The raging Limpopo River which burst its banks yesterday claimed the 11 lives — one in South Africa, five in Botswana and five in Zimbabwe. Among the dead were four children.

A full-scale air and land search had been launched for the six farm labourers missing after a flash torrential downpour in the Glenconnot area near Kirkwood in the Eastern Cape last night. Police said 14 people had already been rescued.

The raging Eastern Cape flood waters, which followed the downpour of 100 mm in less than 30 minutes, swept two motor vehicles off roads, derailed a train and punched out the rail bridge over the Kariega River.

General alert

Further north, farmers in the north-western Transvaal and Botswana are bracing themselves for further flooding. A general alert has been issued by the Weather Bureau in Pretoria, which forecasts further rain in Botswana today. Torrential downpours have caused the Limpopo to rise to its highest level in 20 years.

The Limpopo rose 3 m during the night and farmers reported today that the flood is worsening.

In some places the water spread a kilometre beyond river banks and cotton fields were turned into lakes.

The raging torrent yesterday claimed the life of 75-year-old Mr Lucas Willem Dekker, who was drowned while inspecting a leaking dam on his farm in the Limpopo Valley west of Messina.

The children died on the Botswana side of the Limpopo, where hundreds of people were left homeless. A schoolchild was killed when a toilet collapsed due to heavy rains at Moshupa village.

Huts collapse

An eight-year-old boy died when a hut collapsed at Mahalapye and two young girls were killed in Moshupa when a second hut collapsed.

Details of the fifth Botswana death have not yet been released.

Several border posts have been closed between South Africa and Botswana. Reports of drowned animals and abandoned vehicles drifting downstream have also been received.

Last night, the river's level had dropped considerably at Pontdrif, but many farmers were preparing for more floods as word reached them that a new deluge was on its way from Stockpoort, 150 km to the west.

Also last night, a police spokesman at Groblersbrug — about 100 km downstream from Pontdrif — said the river was starting to rise.

Some farms were still isolated by the floods when The Star visited the Pontdrif area yesterday.

Traffic across the border was disrupted with many heavy trucks being re-routed.

● See Page 11.

Heavy rains may have brought drought relief

The Star's Africa News Service

GABORONE — Torrential rains, which have claimed several lives in Botswana, might have ended Botswana's six years of devastating drought.

There is now growing optimism in official circles that the drought could be coming to an end, bringing relief to Botswana's vital cattle industry.

For the first time in many years, Botswana has an impressive volume of water reserves stored in the country's dams and

reservoirs.

All major dams, except Gaborone dam, are 100-percent full and the Gaborone dam, which was expanded to almost twice its original size five years ago, is 70 percent full, against expectations.

In the past few days, torrential downpours in Botswana have, however, caused severe problems.

Rail and road transport to and from the north have been virtually brought to a standstill with the main highway and the railway track washed away at several points.

Argus 19/2/88 (56)

10 killed as Limpopo River bursts its banks

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The raging Limpopo River, which has burst its banks, has claimed 10 lives — five in Botswana and five in Zimbabwe. Among the dead are four children.

Farmers in the north-western Transvaal and Botswana are bracing themselves for further flooding and a general flood alert has been issued as torrential rain caused the Limpopo to rise to its highest level in 20 years.

More heavy rain is expected today in Botswana, according to the weather bureau in Pretoria.

The children died on the Botswana side of the Limpopo. A schoolchild was killed when a toilet collapsed under heavy rain at Moshupa village.

An eight-year-old boy died when a hut collapsed at Mahalapye and two young girls were killed in Moshupa, also when a hut collapsed.

Details of the fifth death have not been released.

TRUCK SWEEP AWAY

The five Zimbabweans were killed in the Filabusi area of Matabeleland on Tuesday when the truck in which they were travelling was swept away, police said in Harare.

On the South African border with Botswana, scores of people have been left homeless and several border posts have been closed.

Last night the river's level had dropped considerably at Pontdriif but many farmers were preparing for more floods as word reached them that a new deluge was on its way from Stockpoort, 150km to the west.

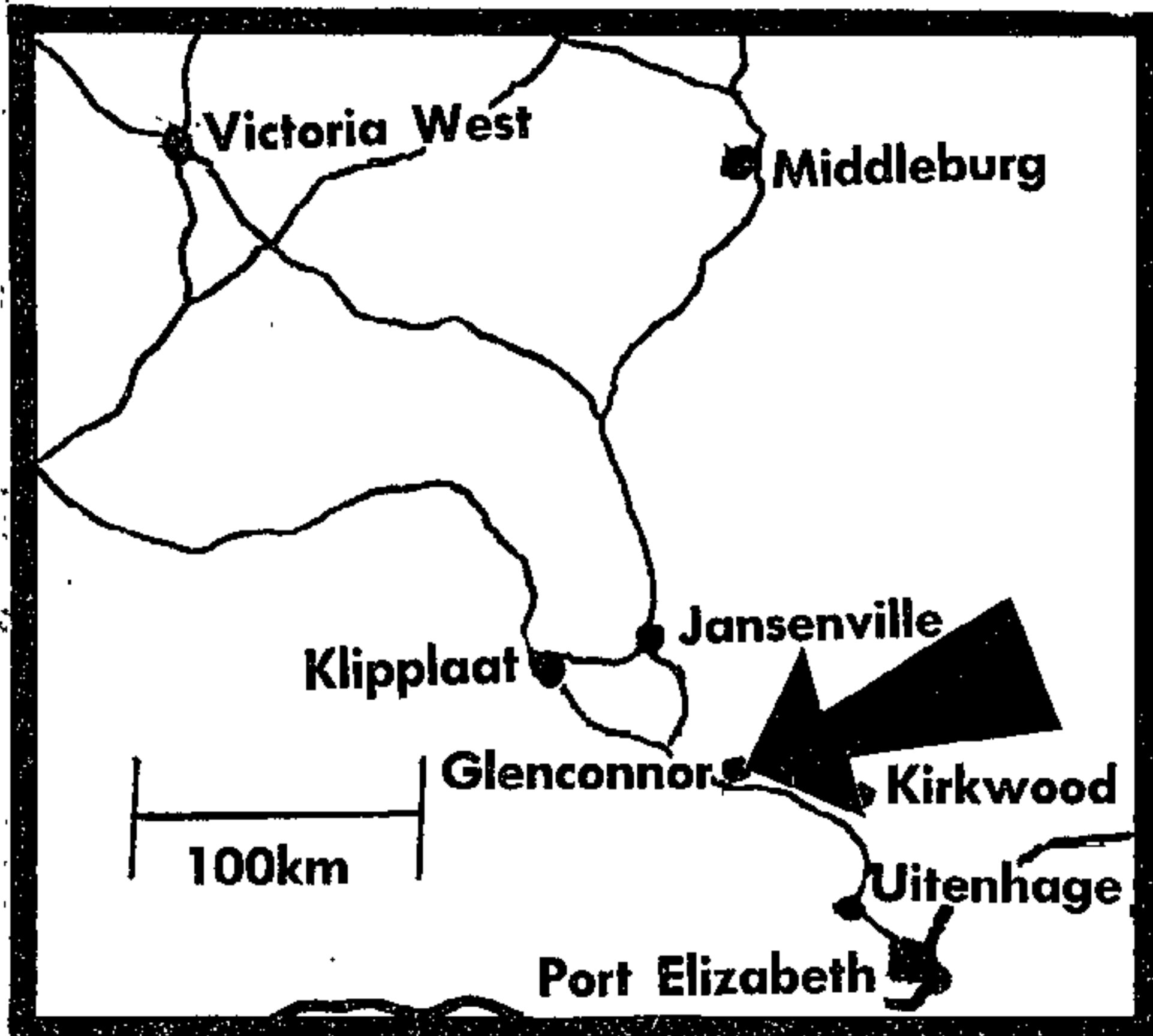
Defence Force units were active yesterday, pulling cars and farm vehicles out of mud and helping wherever they could.

Flash-flood washes cars off roads, sweeps thro

Cloudburst

ASGAS 19/2/88 (56)

By PAT CANDIDO, STEPHEN WROTTESEY and SHARKEY ISAACS, Staff Reporters
 A CLOUDBURST dumped between 100 and 127mm of rain on the Eastern Cape town of Glenconnor in less than 30 minutes, causing a flash-flood which washed cars off roads, destroyed a railway bridge and derailed a train.



Police said there was no loss of human life but some small stock drowned.

Within hours the Glenconnor district, which had been experiencing the worst drought in memory, was a lake.

A goods train and two diesel locomotives were derailed when the railway bridge over the Kariega River was washed away. Train driver Mr B J Fourie of Klipplaat was slightly injured and was taken to hospital in Uitenhage.

Police rescued 14 people trapped by floodwater and six farm labourers, earlier reported missing, were found safe.

"In 20 minutes"

A police liaison officer, Captain Bill Dennis, said the river came down in flood when between 100 and 127mm of rain was recorded in different parts of the district in "20 minutes to half an hour" just before midnight.

The Kariega is a tributary of the Sundays River.

Mr Henry Kilian and his wife Elise of Grasvlakte Farm were watching television when the storm broke.

Because they had never seen such heavy rain they went to the main road to warn the police and motorists, but their bakkie was washed off the road and submerged in stormwater.

As they climbed on to the back of the bakkie they saw a small car swept behind a large clump of trees.

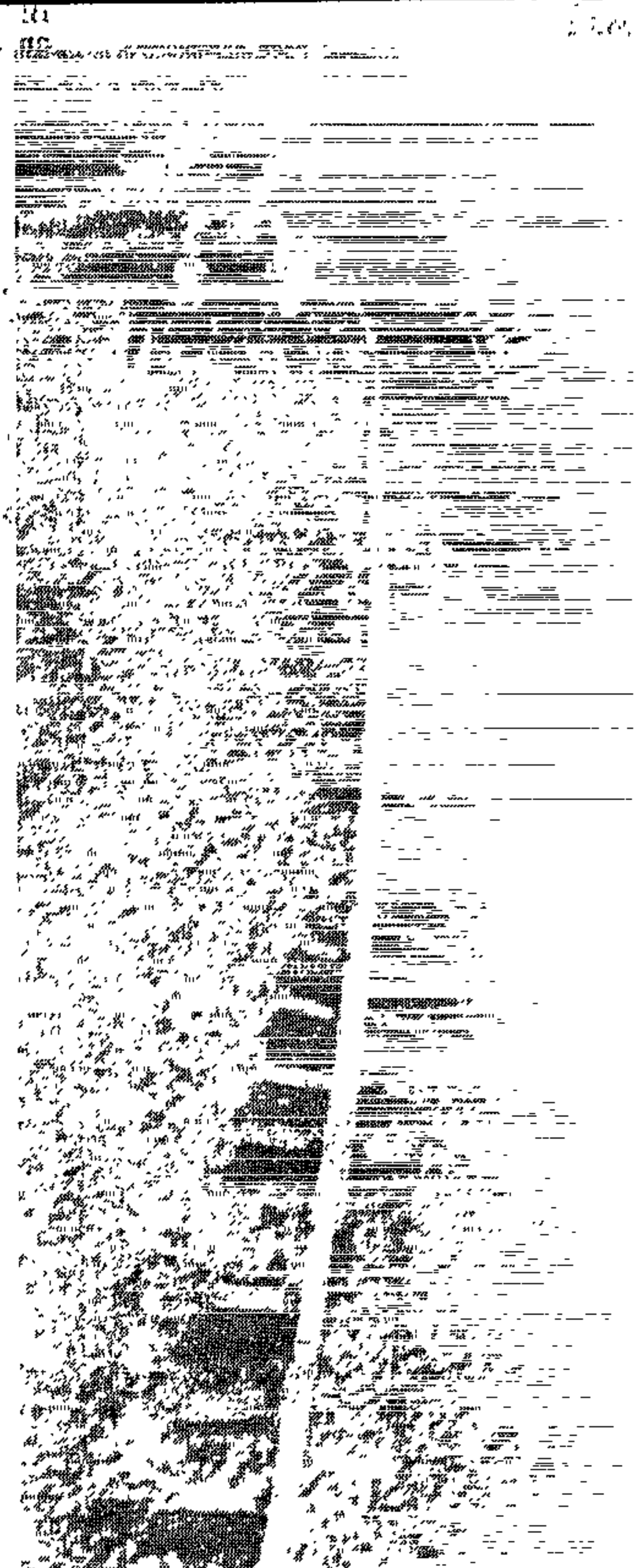
Thrown ropes

The occupants, Mr and Mrs J A Bezuidenhout of Uitenhage and their 12-month-old son, were rescued by police who threw them ropes.

Water swept through two houses near the railway bridge.

A large emergency contingent of police and firemen from Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage arrived at first light.

Backed by helicopters, they patrolled the banks of the swol-



DERAILED: Railway trucks lie on their

Murder accused blows himself up

WELKOM. — A Free State man awaiting trial on a charge of murdering his wife has died in an explosion in a field here.

Sticks of dynamite were attached to his body.

Police liaison officer Captain Johann Fouche said Mr Stephanus van Loggerenberg, 50, of Virginia, was blown to pieces by the blast, at 1.30pm yesterday.

DRINKS

Mr van Loggerenberg was on R1 000 bail following the murder of his wife Elizabeth Johanna, 46, on February 1. He was to have appeared in court again on March 3.

Mr van Loggerenberg visited

his daughter, who lives in Welkom, shortly before the blast. He left her saying he was going to have "a little sleep".

He went instead to the field.

Mr van Loggerenberg, a goldminer, and his wife visited friends on February 1. They had drinks and began to argue.

About 4pm Mrs van Loggerenberg ran out of the house followed by her husband. Four shots were fired, hitting her in the chest and stomach.

Police took possession of a revolver and Mr van Loggerenberg appeared in Welkom Magistrates' Court two days later on a charge of murder. — Sapa.

gh houses in East Cape

VLEISBEDRYF

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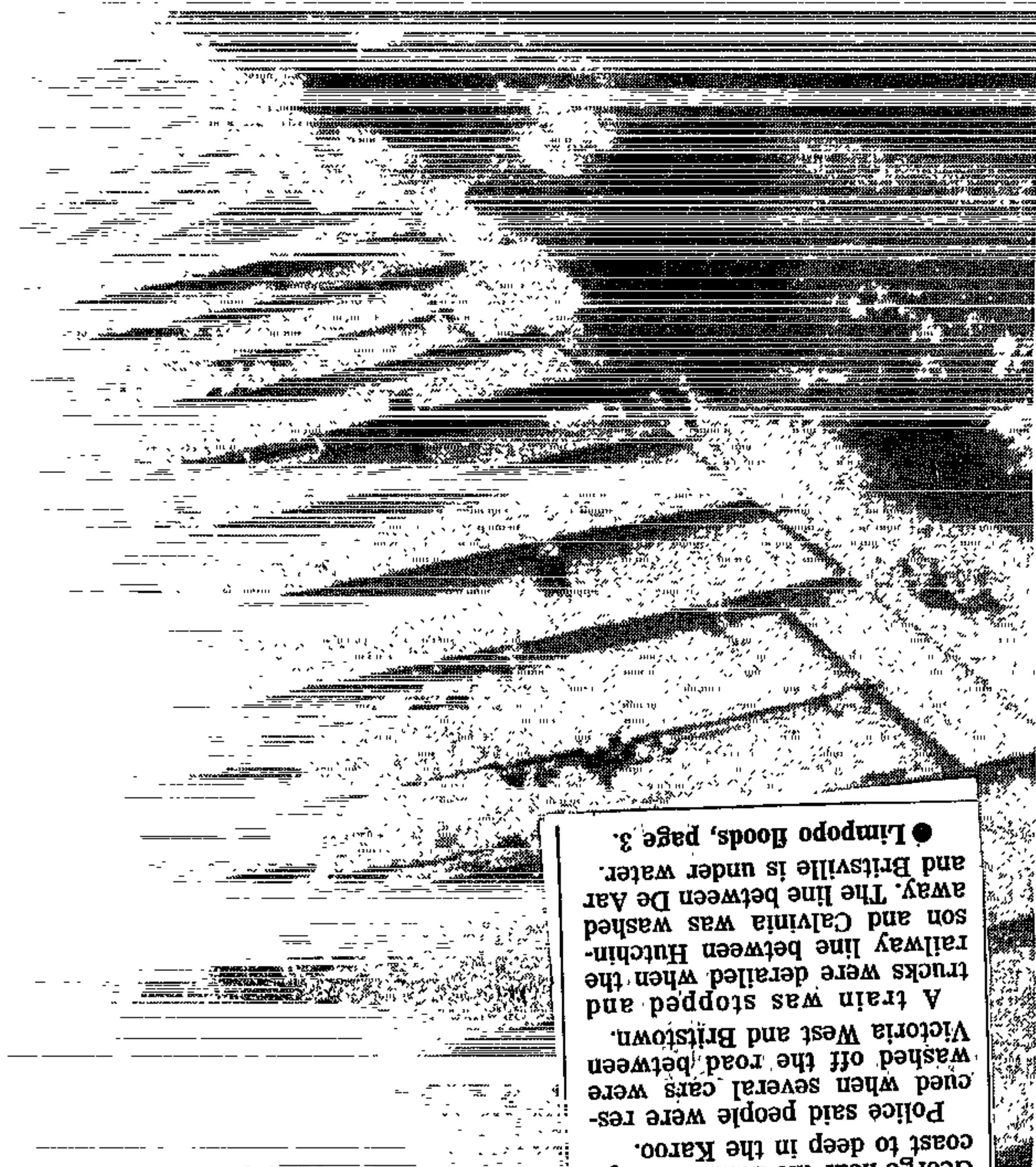
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sides next to the track washed away

len Kariega River in Venices
and on foot, searching for casu-
alties and people trapped by
rising water.

Police divisional inspector
Brigadier Johan Botha said ev-
erything was under control by
mid-morning. He said the
cloudburst seemed to have
been confined to a fairly small
area but it was too soon to as-
sess damage.

Deep into Karoo

Several roads in the Glen-
conor-Kirkwood area are im-
passable and closed to traffic.
Heavy rains have been re-
ported over a wide area from
George near the Southern Cape
coast to deep in the Karoo.

Police said people were res-
cued when several cars were
washed off the road between
Victoria West and Britstown.
A train was stopped and
trucks were derailed when the
railway line between Hutchin-
son and Calvinia was washed
away. The line between De Aar
and Britsville is under water.

● Limpopo floods, page 3.

Four children die in Limpopo flood

DIP 19/2/88

56

JOHANNESBURG — At least five people including four children have died, farmhouses have been evacuated and a general flood alert has been issued following torrential rains in the north-western Transvaal and Botswana, which have brought the Limpopo River into flood.

The children died on the Botswana side of the Limpopo.

One school pupil died when a toilet collapsed due to heavy rains at Moshupa village.

An eight-year-old boy died when a hut collapsed at Mahalapye and two girls were killed in Moshupa when their hut collapsed.

Details of the fifth death have not yet been released.

As the Limpopo rose by almost three metres last night, scores of people were left homeless. Farmers reported the river was still rising.

Most of the flood water had its origin in Botswana and the north-western Transvaal, where up to 200 mm of rain fell.

Commando and army units were on stand-by to give assistance to flood victims.

Reports of drowned animals and abandoned vehicles were received.

A number of border posts between South Africa and Botswana were closed because roads were under water.

Reports of flooded lands along the river have been received from Stokpoort near Ellisras.

● Torrential rains fell over the Border area yesterday, with as much as 38 mm recorded in Molteno in just 15 minutes.

More than 25 mm was recorded in East London's city centre last night after a downpour at about 7.30 pm.

According to the weather bureau's rain-

fall report for the 24 hours ending at 8 am yesterday, 38 mm fell in Aliwal North, 35 in Maclear, 23 in Jamestown and 15 mm in Burgersdorp.

Earlier, temperatures here soared past the 30C mark, but bathers attempting to cool down in the sea got more than they bargained for, with the sea temperature plummeting to 14C.

A forecaster at the weather office, Mr Louis Vermaak, said the low temperature was caused by northerly and northeasterly winds.

"These winds have the effect of bringing cold water to the shore."

Cloudy and cold conditions, with rain have been predicted for the coastal regions today and over the weekend. — DDR-DDC-Sapa

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D/D 912/88 (65)

New Amatola dam: building postponed

CAPE TOWN — Construction of the Wiggleswade Dam under the Amatola Regional Water Supply Scheme has been postponed.

Construction will now only begin during the 1988—89 financial year, according to a government document which was tabled in parliament yesterday.

A memorandum by the Department of Water Affairs to explain reasons for increases or decreases to its current budget, stated that it had decreased spending on the establishment of government water schemes by R13,43 million.

This was due mainly to the postponement of construction on the Wiggleswade Dam.

The postponement was on account of a "cost advantage analysis".

New tenders had been called for, but construction of the dam would only commence in the coming financial year. — PC



Commercial or pecun-

WEL

20

Raging floods: 11 die, hundreds homeless

Art 11015 20/2/88 (56)

JOHANNESBURG. — Flooding has claimed at least 11 lives after torrential rains lashed the north-western Transvaal, the Eastern Cape, Botswana and Zimbabwe.

One person died in South Africa, five in Botswana and five in Zimbabwe. Among the dead were four children.

Twenty people were rescued in the Eastern Cape after a full-scale air and land search. They went missing when a flash flood hit the Glenconnor area near Kirkwood just before midnight on Thursday, dumping up to 127mm of water in less than 30 minutes. Fourteen were found at first light yesterday and the other six, all farm labourers, by mid-morning.

The raging Eastern Cape floodwaters swept motor vehicles off roads and derailed a goods train as the rail bridge over the Kariega River, a tributary of the Sundays River, was punched out. Train driver Mr B J Fourie of Klipplaat was slightly injured.

The raging Limpopo River rose three metres on Thursday night,

breaking its banks and sending water sweeping across farmlands, causing extensive damage. Farmers reported yesterday that the flood is worsening.

A general alert has been issued as the Limpopo rose to its highest level in 20 years, spreading a kilometre beyond river banks and turning cotton fields into lakes.

The raging torrent on Thursday claimed the life of 75-year-old Mr Lucas Willem Dekker, who was drowned on his farm in the Limpopo Valley west of Messina.

The four children died on the Botswana side of the Limpopo, where hundreds of people were left homeless. Details of the fifth Botswana death have not yet been released.

A family forced to evacuate their home on Thursday night were trapped on an island. Yesterday a helicopter went to their rescue.

The five Zimbabweans were killed south of Bulawayo on Tuesday when the truck in which they were travelling was swept away, police said in Harare. — Sapa

7522 26/08/2018 (254)

1000 Cost Fan Tutte. Set in 1900

Upington flood fears lower with river

R5m raised as telethon opens floodgates of generosity

UPINGTON.—The level of the Orange River here started dropping soon after noon yesterday and within an hour fell 5cm. It is not expected that the river level will rise again in spite of heavy falls at Prieska and Marydale in the past two days.

The falls in Prieska and Marydale are expected to make only a minor contribution to the flood level at Upington in relation to the main flood which devastated areas in the North-Western Transvaal and particularly Douglas in the Northern Cape last week.

Residents started arriving at the Orange River bridge to inspect the water at first light

and found traffic officers had banned any attempt by even the largest vehicles to cross the river. The water was rushing over the bridge at a depth of 7cm and the approaches on either side as well as those to the two shorter bridges that complete the crossing to the south were not considered safe.

insisted on going to work. Another was presenter Trudi du Plessis — on the morning of her wedding day.

Big business opened its corporate wallet and produced colourful cheques for huge amounts, but it was the extraordinary amounts from ordinary people that sometimes brought a lump to the throat to the people manning the telephones — like the East London nine-year-old who had broken his piggybank and was taking the entire R20 to the bank. The new hike would have to wait.

Saturday's telethon raised a national total of just under R5 million, and Cape Town, with R1,2 million, was the second-largest contributor.

There is no certainty as to when the height of the flood can be expected at Upington, but most technical information indicates that the flood level should start falling by this evening at the latest.

The main concern is that the river should not rise above the 1974 mark as damage at this stage is still considerably less

than that suffered in 1974.

Farmers and police from Upington, Keimoes and down to Kakamas have all expressed relief at the co-ordinated and timely warnings and evacuations that have accompanied the current floods.

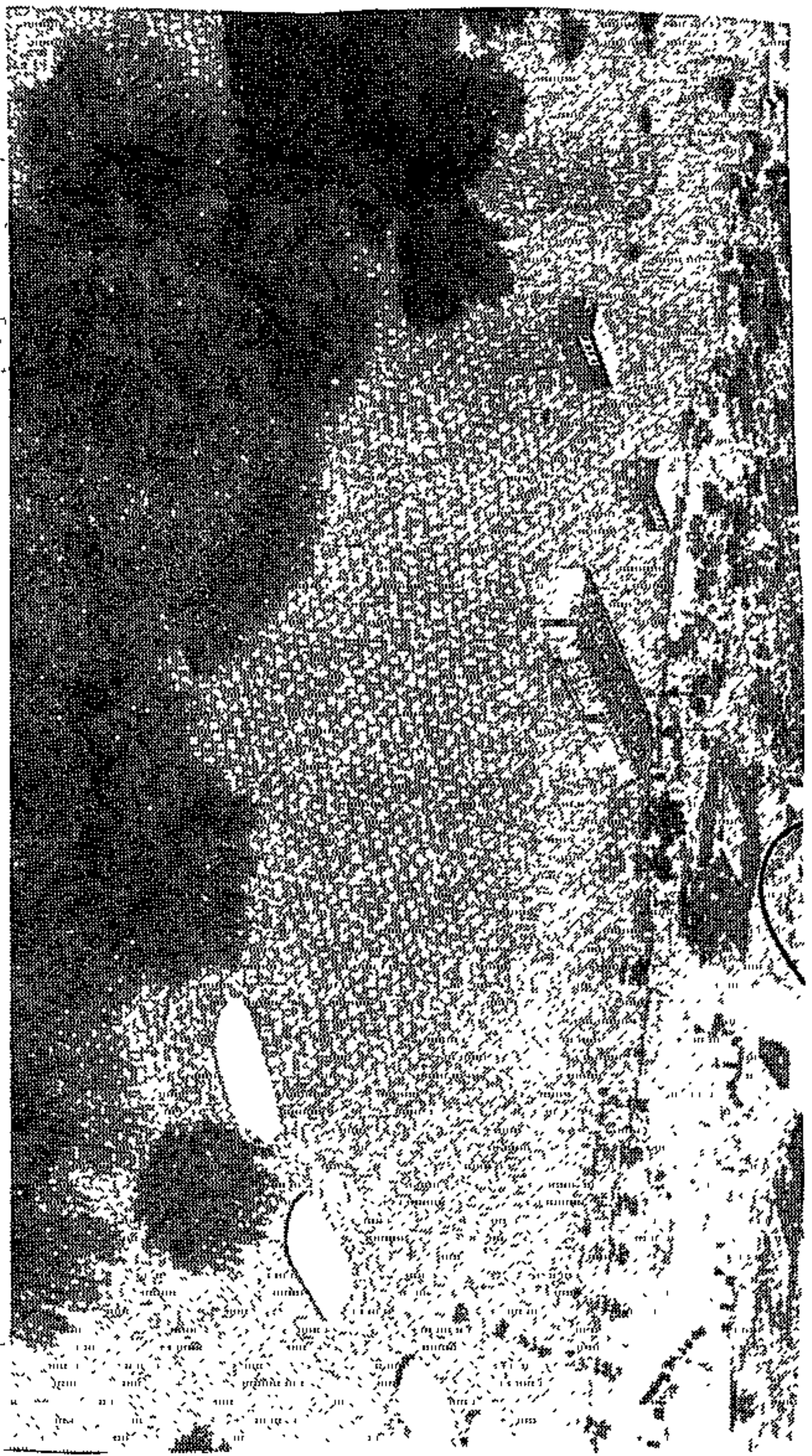
The State President, Mr P W Botha, said he was very impressed with the co-operation of local emergency services and government departments dealing with the floods, SABC radio news reports.

At Upington, Mr Botha, who visited the flood-stricken areas with members of the special cabinet committee co-ordinating the flood relief, called on people to work together in this time of crisis because the disaster could not be handled without this.

Police and Defence Force helicopters were used to rescue 23 coloured people and their livestock from an island near Kanoneiland in the Orange River.

At Upington a man drowned when he tried to swim through a subway.

The telephone service to 900 subscribers at Upington has been cut because of wet cables. Meanwhile, the main road between Van Zylsrust and Askham used by visitors to the Kalahari Gemsbok Park has been closed as it has been flooded by water from the Kuruman River.



EXTENT OF THE FLOODS... The Boegoeberg Dam near Groblershoop was so deep under water by the weekend that the dam wall could hardly be seen. Several homes in the area were covered by the water and only the roofs of some houses were visible. Picture: GLENN SHERRATT

Community cut off after flash floods

STRANDED STARVING

21/1/88
CPress
(56)

By YASANTHA ANOAMUTHU
SOMEWHERE in Ndwedwe, north west of Durban, thousands of people are apparently starving and dying of diseases after last week's flash storms isolated two schools and damaged roads, leaving the area inaccessible. The plight of the junior secondary school, Myeki, and Lathokuhle, a higher primary school, was stumbled on by a television crew monitoring the Umgeni River after the rains last week.

The two schools have apparently been isolated for four days and yet no information could be obtained about the exact number of those involved or their state of health. The reporter who was part of the team that located the trapped schools, Johann Kruger, said that they had informed the defence force and police in the area. "However, it is not possible to get to the area so we do not know the exact situation. What we do know is that food and medical supplies are needed," he

said. But while various relief agencies and the magistrate of the area know of the situation, there is no information available yet on the number of people trapped and their condition. The community, in the huge Mzinyathi and Maphethweni areas of Ndwedwe, is controlled by Chief Gwala, who also could not be contacted. Ndwedwe Magistrate BJ Buthelezi said it was impossible to reach the area. His office, he said, had no further knowl-

edge of the situation because it was so difficult to come by. He was not aware of how many children were trapped in the schools. A spokesperson for the SA Defence Force Natal Command said the people had been isolated for about four days but that they were no longer trapped. "The only information that we have at this stage is that there are numerous sick children and some of them needed medical attention. However we have not been able to establish the number of people that were trapped," he said. Dot Collins of Operation Hunger said that, although the organisation had been conducting relief work in the Ndwedwe area from after the September floods, they had no information about the schools.

This could be attributed to the fact that the community is isolated from the rest of the world. "This is not the first time it has happened. At best the roads in Ndwedwe could be described as 'not very good'." The defence force spokesperson said a doctor from the KwaZulu Health Department was working in the area, but he did not know who he was. "We understand that the area is impossible to reach," he said. The television crew's report stated that, according to their information, the

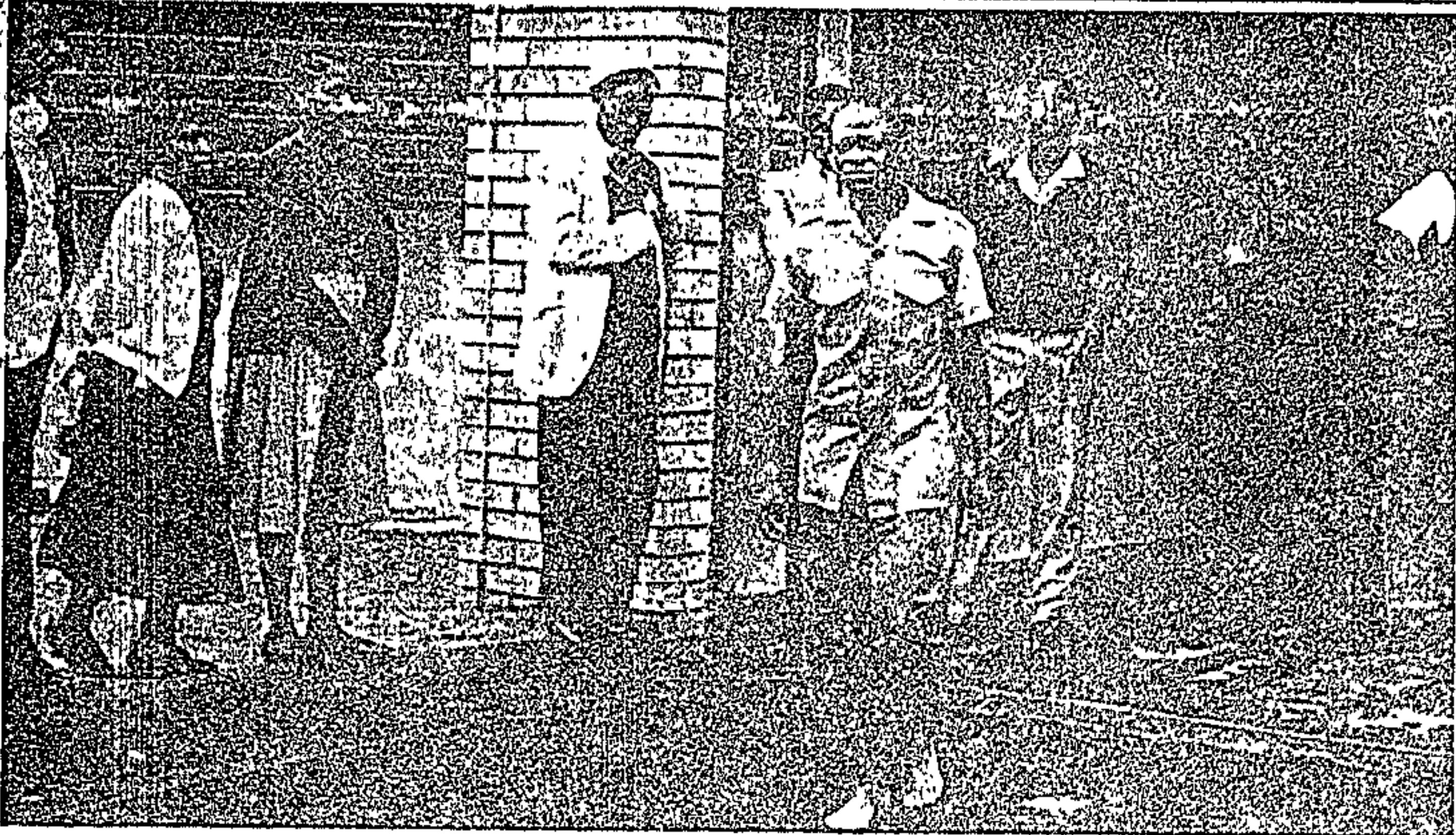
Not only does she fair
it also boasts of beauty
lets. This lovely lady
brains. She has just
student at the Univers

only fresh produce available at the nearby store was potatoes and dried cabbages.

Collins said the storms had badly affected the area's crops.

"Rains keep falling and the topsoil which we continually help to prepare is constantly being washed away," she said.

This meant one of the problems experienced by the people was malnutrition. It is also difficult to get food into the area.



Barefoot, but in his army uniform, one of the rebel soldiers who allegedly took part in the...

Floods in three provinces claim 9 lives

22/2/88

56

Registered for: all Johannesburg Municipal

Industrial Councils:

Journal: Bulletin

JOHANNESBURG — At least nine people are reported to have died in floods after heavy rains fell in the Free State, Northern Cape and Natal at the weekend.

Five drowned near Colesberg in the northern Cape, one in the Bloemfontein area and three in Ladysmith, Natal.

Soaking rains continued falling throughout the Eastern Cape and Border region and a spokesman for the weather office in East London said the rainfall for February was the highest recorded since 1981.

The worst-hit part of the country was Bloemfontein, which was virtually cut off from the rest of the Free State.

Latest reports were that the wall of the Tygerpoort Dam south of Bloemfontein was cracking. However, it could not be established whether the bridge across the N1 below the dam had been washed away.

More than 150 mm fell in Bloemfontein yesterday, bringing the total rainfall in the city since Saturday morning to 245 mm.

Five air force helicopters carried out rescue operations in areas where people were trapped by flood water. One helicopter was forced down during an evacuation operation but no one was injured.



Flooding was also reported from Wepener, Dewetsdorp and Petrusburg.

At Ladysmith the Klip River burst its banks and the air force sent helicopters to the area to help with emergency aid operations.

Several houses in the Peaceville area and in the Indian residential area of Leonardsville were evacuated.

The town clerk of Ladysmith, Mr Pieter Hurter, said the level of the floodwater at the town was dropping, after having reached a depth of four metres in some streets earlier yesterday.

and Umngazi Bungalows could not be reached. The Umzimvubu River was rising and people were warned not to use the ferry

More heavy falls were predicted over the north-eastern Cape and the Free State but the rainy weather is expected to start clearing over the Border region today.

The following places in the Border area have recorded particularly good rainfalls during the past five days:

Great Fish River 86 mm; Bisho 56 mm; Dohne 136 mm; Komga 83 mm; Kei Mouth 103 mm; Cathcart 158 mm; Butterworth 70 mm; Queenstown 112 mm; Lady Frere 122 mm.

THE BULLETIN

Flood-trees rescued

AT LEAST 200 people were plucked from rooftops, cars and trees in a huge rescue operation involving the South African Air Force in the flood-ravaged Orange Free State.

The known death toll stands at 12 as flooding worsened today over a vast tract of the Free State and spilled over to Natal, with raging torrents cutting off cities and towns, washing away roads, bursting dam walls and flooding homes.

Three people drowned in the Bloemfontein area, five at Colesberg when their house was washed away, and four at Ladysmith, Natal.

Hundreds of people were evacuated from towns and farms at the weekend as downpours of up to 250mm burst river banks throughout the Free State, Northern Cape, Northern Natal and parts of the Western Transvaal.

Almost every river in the southern Free State has burst its banks, the wall on the Tygerpoort dam on the Kaffer River broke yesterday and numerous farm dams have given way.

Nine air force helicopters have rescued 200 people from the roofs of houses, trees, cars and areas inaccessible by road, an air force spokesman said.

Further loss of life was narrowly averted when an Alouette helicopter used in rescue operations yesterday crashed on its side while rescuing 60 people from the flooding Bloemfontein. No-one was injured.

Road, rail and telephone links have been cut in many areas, and Bloemfontein is accessible only by air.

A warning has been issued that the bridge across the Rensosterspruit on the Bloemfontein-Bullfontein road could give way.

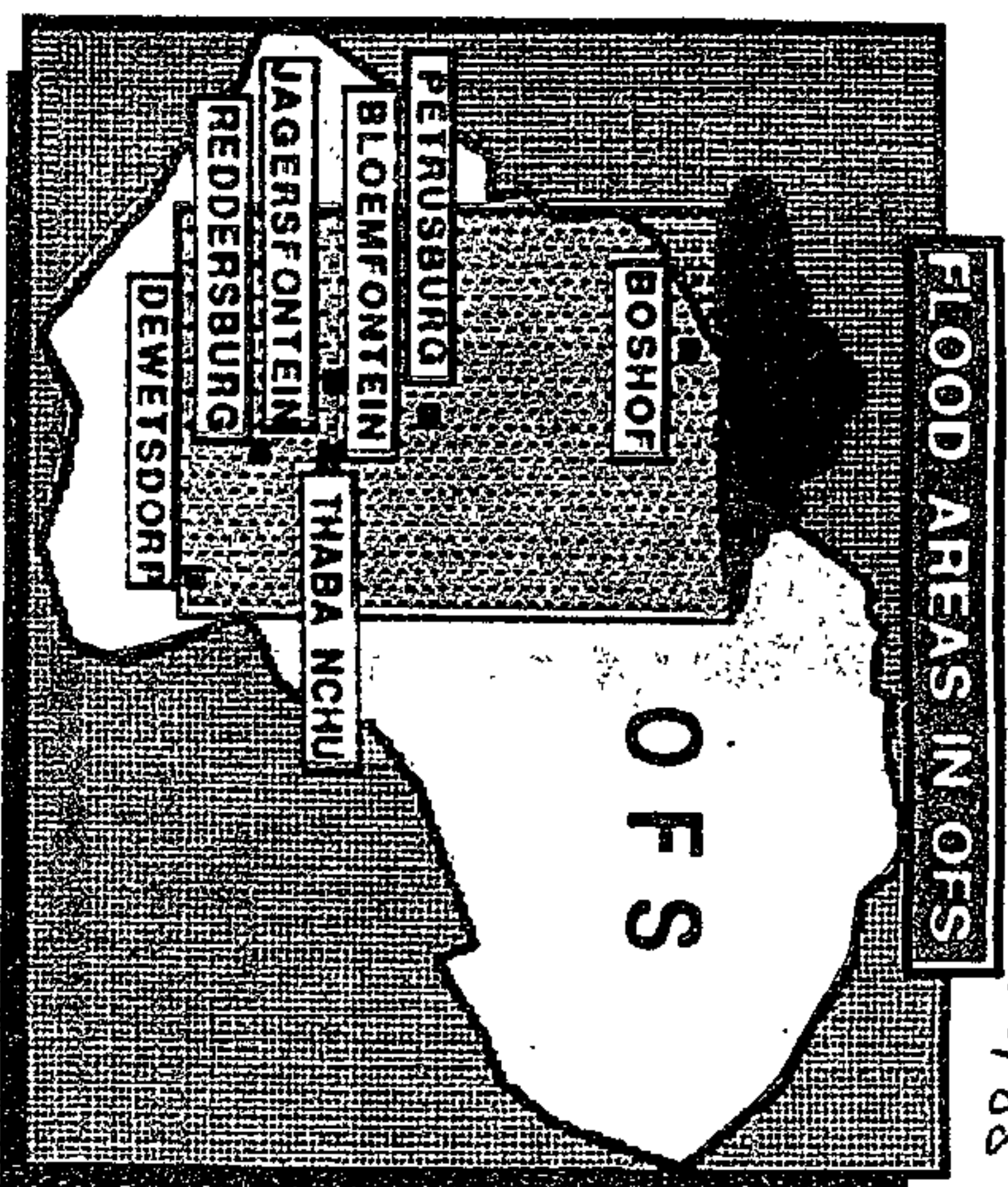
More rain expected

Rain is still falling steadily over parts of the Free State, Northern Cape, Karoo and Western Transvaal.

The weather bureau predicted that more heavy rains could be expected over the flooded areas. Conditions could begin clearing on Wednesday.

From Bloemfontein it is reported that people below the Kruger Drift dam had to evacuate their homes after floodwater from the Modder River caused the dam to overflow.

Water in stretches of the Skuippruit at Smithfield is about 400m wide, and people in low-lying areas have had to evacuate their houses. The



AGS: 22/2/88



Drowning toll stands at 12

Major Mike Lombard, police liaison officer for the South Western Districts which includes the Colesberg police division, said at 11am that water was flowing into the dam at 8 000m³ a second.

Water was flowing out at only 600m³ a second and the dam was expected to overflow by noon.

People on the banks of the Orange river were advised to move and to save their equipment.

The road north of Colesberg was closed and a logjam of vehicles was developing, he said. Staff Reporters and Sapa.

"All our men are in the field and we will do everything we can to help," said Free State police liaison officer Lieutenant W Holzhausen.

Police in the Northern Cape were gearing up for major flooding today as the H F Verwoerd Dam threatened to overflow.

Police have been placed on full alert in flood-ravaged Bloemfontein and the southern Free State and all available manpower was in the field to cope with the crisis.

Policemen sent from Bloemfontein to help out in rural areas had themselves been cut off in places in the western Free State such as Petrusburg, Boshoff and Dealesville.

Police in the Northern Cape were gearing up for major flooding today as the H F Verwoerd Dam threatened to overflow.



Hundreds of people were left homeless as more floods swept through Ladysmith. Here a boat makes its way down a street in the town.

Pictures: SABC-TV

Two drown tied to phone pole

The Argus Correspondent JOHANNESBURG. — Two men died in seething floodwater in Ladysmith after they tied themselves to a telephone pole to prevent the water carrying them away.

The town's protection services have rescued two other men who had also tied themselves to a pole.

After they had saved the two men from the rising floodwater they made the gruesome discovery of the bodies of the other two men. They had not been able to keep their heads above the floodwater. Their names have not been released.

Search for bodies

Other Free State towns where houses were evacuated because of the floods are Reddersburg, Edenburg, Boshof, Hertzogville and Petrusburg.

More than 300mm of rain has fallen east of Petrusburg since Saturday. The Kaalspruit near the town flooded a 2km section of the road between Petrusburg and Bloemfontein, and at places the water was about 2m deep.

Police are still searching for the occupants of a car that was washed away by floodwaters near the town yesterday.

People in two houses in Petrusburg had to be evacuated and several houses in the black township of Bolokanang near the town collapsed yesterday during heavy rains.

A total of 190mm has fallen at Petrusburg during the past two days. In the Western Transvaal, floods have isolated Amalia, where 23mm rain fell since Saturday afternoon. All roads to the town have been closed and several houses are flooded.

Bridge collapses

The Kalkfontein dam in the Petrusburg district was 50 percent full after registering only 10 percent yesterday.

Dam walls in the Amalia-Vryburg area have given way and the bridge across the gravel road between Amalia and

Ministers to inspect flood-stricken areas

Political Staff

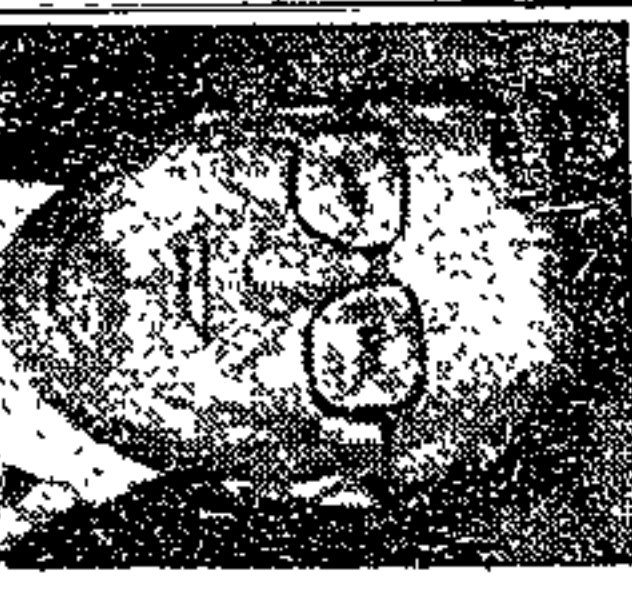
State, to inspect flood-stricken areas in the Free State later today.

President Botha has instructed Dr Willie van Niekerk, Minister of National Health and Population Development, and Mr Kohle Coetsee, Minister of Justice and leader of the National Party, in the Free State, to inspect flood-stricken areas in the Free State later today.

This was confirmed by Dr van Niekerk's Cape Town office today.

The two Ministers are expected to return to Cape Town this evening and report to President Botha.

It is understood the Administrator of the Free State, and the chairman of the board of the disaster relief fund, which is administered by the Department of National Health, will accompany them.



Dr van Niekerk

Turn to page 3, col 2

Free State, Natal devastated

11 die as towns cut off in worsening floods

Staff Reporters

Flooding across a vast tract of central South Africa worsened today with raging torrents cutting towns and cities off, washing away roads, bursting dam walls, flooding homes and claiming a known 11 lives.

Three people drowned in the Bloemfontein area, five at Colesberg when their house was washed away, and three at Ladysmith.

Hundreds of people have been evacuated from towns and farms as downpours of up to 250 mm at the weekend burst river banks throughout the Free State, northern Cape, northern Natal and parts of the Western Transvaal.

Almost every river in the southern Free State has burst its banks, the wall on the Tygerpoort Dam on the Kaffer River broke yesterday, and numerous farm dams have given way.

Nine Air Force helicopters have rescued 200 people from the roofs of houses, trees, cars and areas inaccessible by road, an Air Force spokesman said.

Further loss of life was narrowly averted when an Alouette helicopter used in rescue operations yesterday crashed on its side while rescuing 60 people from the flooding Bloemspruit. No-one was injured.

In Natal, two of the flood victims were young men who died in seething flood water in Ladysmith after they tied themselves to a telephone pole to prevent the flood water carrying them away.

Two rescued from pole

The town's protection services have rescued two other men who had also tied themselves to a pole.

After they had saved the two men from the rising flood water in Kandalor Road, they made the gruesome discovery of the bodies of the other two men who had also tied themselves to the pole, but had not been able to keep their heads above the flood water. The names of the two victims have not yet been released.

Road, rail and telephone links have been cut in many areas, and Bloemfontein is accessible only by air.

A warning has been issued that the bridge across the Renosterspruit on the Bloemfontein-Bultfontein road could give way.

Rain is still falling steadily over parts of the Free State, northern Cape, Karoo and Western Transvaal.

The weather bureau predicted more heavy rain could be expected over the flooded areas. Conditions could begin clearing on Wednesday.

From Bloemfontein it is reported that people below the Kruger Drift Dam were forced to evacuate their homes after floodwater from the Modder River caused the dam to overflow.

Evacuate homes

Water in sections of the Skulpspruit at Smithfield is about 400 m wide, and people in low-lying areas have had to evacuate their houses. The Skulpspruit had been dry for the past eight years.

Farmers along the Caledon River also had to evacuate their homes after two big farm dams burst their banks.

Other Free State towns where houses were evacuated because of the floods are Reddersburg, Edenburg, Boshof, Hertzogville and Petrusburg.

Police are still searching for the occupants of a car that was washed away by the flood water near Petrusburg yesterday.

The Kalkfontein Dam near Petrusburg was 50 percent full this morning after registering

only 10 percent yesterday.

Dam walls in the Amalia-Vryburg area have given way and the bridge across the gravel road between Amalia and Schweizer-Reneke has collapsed.

Police have been placed on full alert in flood-ravaged Bloemfontein and the southern

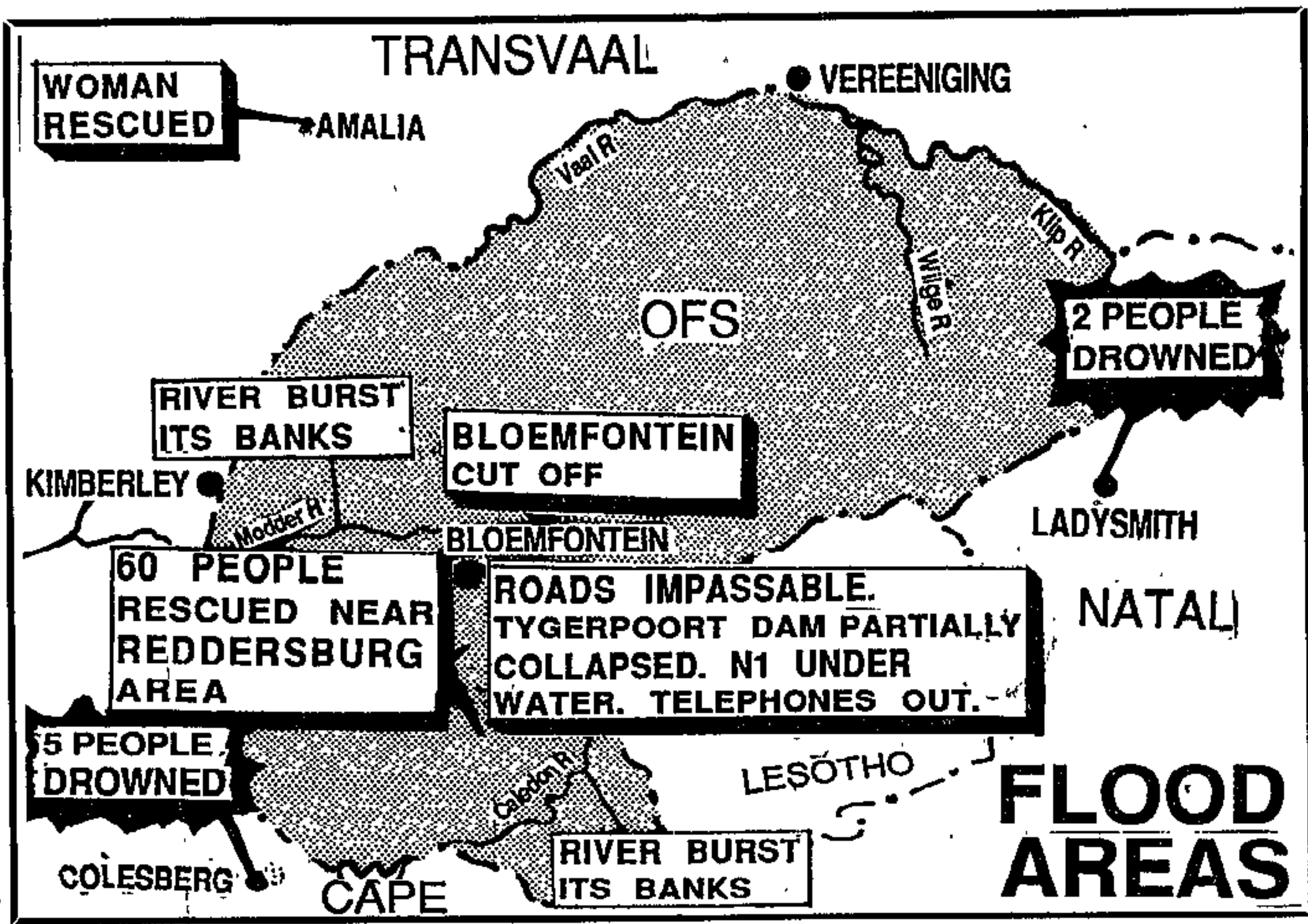
56
SPM
22/2/88



The Limpopo River, swollen from recent heavy rains in the northern and western Transvaal, flows under the road bridge linking Messina with Beitbridge on South Africa's border with Zimbabwe.



The weekend's deluge in Bloemfontein — by yesterday almost 250 mm of rain had fallen — flooded all routes to the south and east of the city. One of the casualties was this minibus.



Govt gears up again for flood relief

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — The Government is gearing itself to launch a huge flood relief operation for the second time in five months.

The Minister in charge of the special Government flood relief programme, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said in an interview that rescue measures were already being implemented.

Residential areas in the low-lying sections of Ladysmith in Natal had been flooded, with loss of life, three times in 12 months and a team was investigating the establishment of a new residential area.

Public response to the Government's Disaster Fund has continued to be sluggish.

Donations can be made at any bank.

2 washed away

HARARE — A mother and child drowned when a bus carrying 40 passengers was swept away when it tried to cross the flooded Ruya River in Zimbabwe's northern Mount Darwin district.

Free State and all available manpower was in the field to cope with the crisis, a police spokesman said.

He said many policemen sent from Bloemfontein to help in rural areas had been cut off in places in the western Free State such as Petrusburg, Boshoff and Dealesville.

Bloemfontein isolated as floods cause havoc

2/20/88 23/2/88

56

BLOEMFONTEIN was cut off from the rest of SA again last night when the Renosterspruit flooded the Lesotho road, the last of six main roads out of Bloemfontein to be closed.

Heavy rains were expected in the Transvaal today, while heavy downpours have hit Swaziland, Lesotho and southern Mozambique. Altogether 15 people have been reported killed in the northern Cape, Free State and Natal in the floods so far.

Deputy Minister for Environment Af-

Business Day Reporters

fairs. Somaroo Pachai said he would make representations to have the Lady-smith declared a disaster area.

A newly constructed dam at Likhoele, in Lesotho, near Wepener in the Free State, has burst.

The Bophutatswana Defence Force has been ordered into action to deal with the floods crisis in certain areas.

More flood warnings have been given for the countryside surrounding Bloem-

fontein, with 795 people already evacuated from outlying areas since Sunday.

The SADF, which has used ten helicopters for evacuations, said last night the situation had quietened down but the Riet River was expected to rise more than ten metres and flood warnings have been issued in the Koffiefontein and Jacobsdal areas west of Bloemfontein.

One of Bloemfontein's main lines of water supply could be in jeopardy if the pumps at Maselspoort, about 20km from Bloemfontein, cannot be repaired soon.

The city has only a four-day supply of water left.

The Krugerdrif Dam on the Modder River is 153% full while the Kalkfontein Dam on the Riet River is 160% full and

See Page 4

rising. There have been four drownings recently around Bloemfontein.

Almost a full kilometre of the N1 to Colesburg and Cape Town has been badly damaged.

(56) B/day 23/2/88

FOCUS ON FLOODS

SA's biggest dams now overflowing

Warnings on Riet and Vaal rivers

PRETORIA — Heavy rains continued to fall over the Southern Free State, Northern Cape and Karoo yesterday, aggravating the disastrous flooding which has spread over a vast area. Huge volumes of water yesterday surged into the country's two largest dams — the H F Verwoerd and the P M K le Roux.

The Verwoerd overflowed yesterday morning and is running at well over 100% full and the P M K le Roux Dam, downstream from the H F Verwoerd, was expected to overflow last night.

The Kalkfontein Dam started overflowing yesterday morning and water is still pouring in.

The Department of Water Affairs expects the Riet river to burst its banks and low-lying areas in Koffiefontein, Jacobsdal, Modder River, Richie and Douglas, and all other

GERALD REILLY

areas downstream of Kalkfontein Dam, to be under water today.

Inhabitants and riparian owners along the Riet and Vaal rivers near Douglas have been warned urgently to evacuate their homes.

According to the department, most Free State dams are overflowing.

The inflow into the Verwoerd Dam yesterday was 10 000 cubic metres a second.

The Vaal River at Douglas is in flood, and flow in the lower Orange River could exceed 3 000 cubic metres a second in the next few days.

A Weather Bureau spokesman said more heavy rain could be expected today and tomorrow throughout the southern Free State and in the north-eastern Cape.

He said overcast skies and more rain were expected over a wider area of the south-eastern part of the country.

BLOEMFONTEIN — Three of Free State farmer Sol van der Linde's

sheep clung to a tree on Sunday night to save themselves from rising flood waters. By yesterday one was still alive on its perch while several hundred lay drowned below.

Although he lost livestock, Van der Linde's farm house, along with others on the banks of the Kaffirrivier Dam, was saved when the dam burst on Sunday afternoon.

About 2km down river — near where a 500m section of the N1 had become a gaping hole — Tom Ferreira lost his stock, irrigation system and crops. His house was submerged up to the ceiling in a torrent of water from the dam.

The river, formerly half a kilometre from

IN BRIEF

RESIDENTS on the banks of the Riet River and Vaal River yesterday received a "serious warning" from the Water Affairs Department, to vacate their houses for safety reasons.

The warning was also extended to the low-lying areas of Koffiefontein, Jacobsdal, Modder River and Richie.

□□□

PASSENGER train services between the eastern Cape and Johannesburg were seriously disrupted because of the floods in the Free State, it was reported yesterday. Some services were cancelled, while others were rerouted.

□□□

TENTS and supplies were being rushed, by trucks and helicopters, to communities in the flooded areas of Taung, Kuruman and Ganyesa, where at least 50 families' homes had been flooded, a Bophuthatswana Defence Force spokesman said in Mmabatho yesterday.

□□□

TWO major dams were nearly 100% full and expected to overflow yesterday, the Water Affairs Department said. The Hendrik Verwoerd Dam was 98% full at 8am, while the P M K le Roux Dam was 93% full.

REPORTS Sapa

Ladysmith death toll rises to four

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The number of dead in the Ladysmith floods has risen to four and more than 500 people are homeless.

Ronnie Sidhoo and Amesh Ramphal, both aged 18, drowned in the fast-flowing water while trying to rescue a man who was clinging to a shop's burglar bars.

Petros Shabalala, 27, of Peacetown, about 15km from Ladysmith, drowned when he was swept away. The body of a fourth person, an unidentified black man, was found at Steadville, near the town.

Floods ruin farmers

DIANA GAMES

his verandah, was lapping his ceiling in just a few hours after the dam wall broke.

Ferreira and his family were three of nearly 800 people evacuated over the weekend to escape the floodwaters.

Free State farmers, who have battled with drought for decades, are bitter they now have to cope with floods. "We prayed all week for a bit of rain and now look what's happened," Ferreira said.

Not far from the Ferreira's property the holiday home of former Free State rugby coach Sakkie van Zyl was washed away to its foundations.

Floods a threat to maize crop

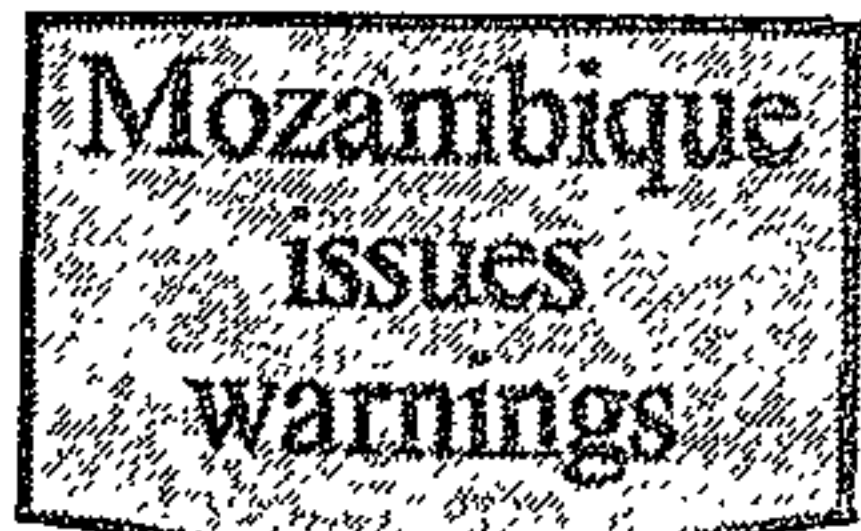
ALAN FINE

THE floods in the Free State threaten to further damage the maize crop, already severely depleted by the hot weather of the first six weeks of the year.

National Maize Producers' Organisation (Nampo) economist Kit le Clus said yesterday past experience had shown that when a dry spell was followed by a wet spell the crop was more susceptible to fungal disease.

The industry would be watching the situation in the north-western Free State carefully during the next few days to see whether such a danger emerged.

Dry weather earlier this year forced producers to cut crop estimates by a third.



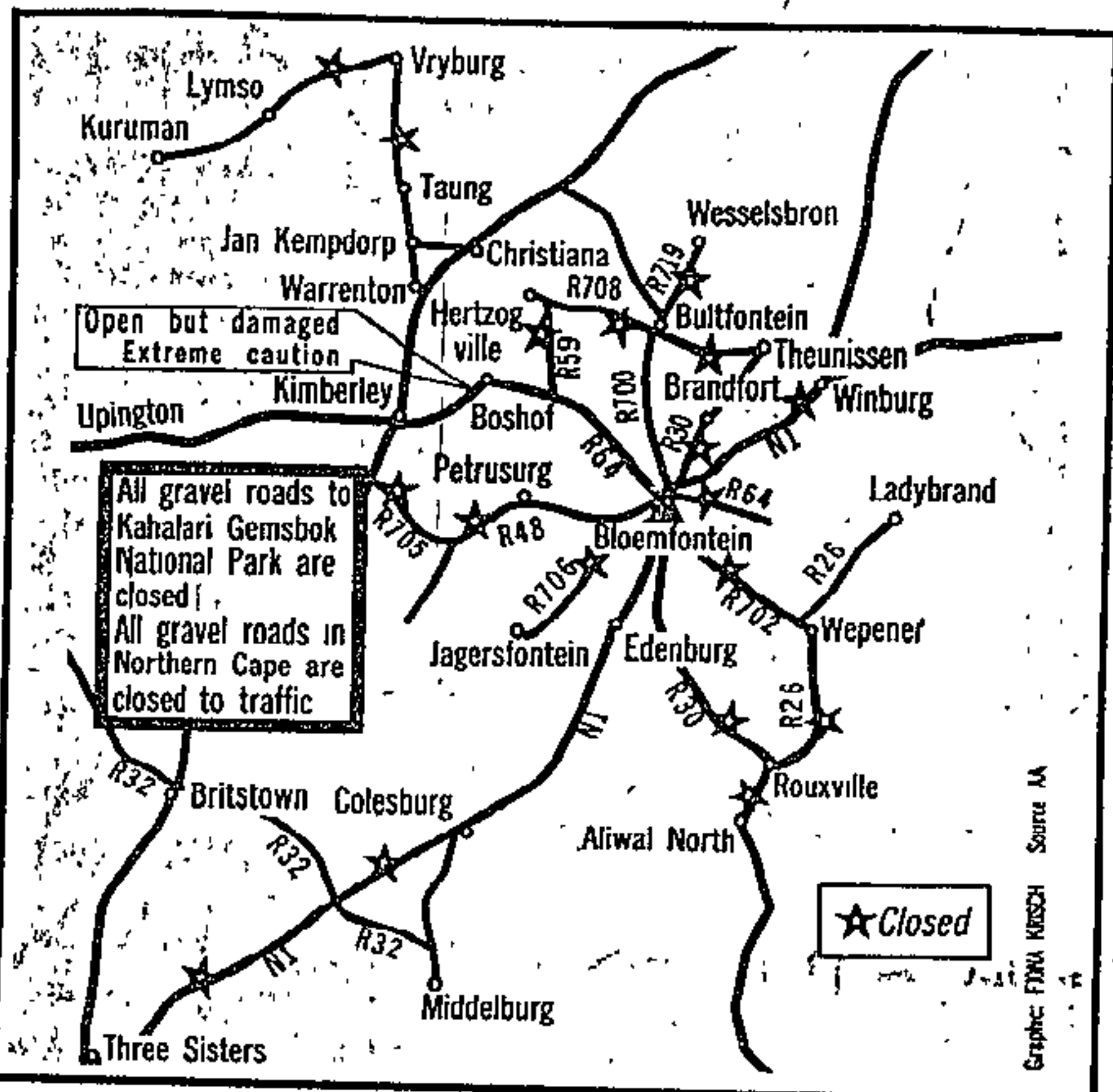
MOZAMBICAN authorities have warned of impending floods in the Gaza province in the south of the country in the wake of torrential rains further upstream.

Officials said rains along the border between Botswana and SA have greatly swollen the Limpopo River and flood waters are moving rapidly downstream.

As a precaution, eight boats have been sent to the Limpopo to prepare for rescue operations.

In addition, low-lying areas around the town of Chokwe in the Limpopo Valley have been evacuated.

The first major surge of flood waters was expected to reach Chokwe yesterday. — Sapa.



This map shows the Free State roads which have been cut by flooding

AR645 23/2/88 (1) (56)

Alien trees a potential fuel source, say experts

Environment Reporter

ALIEN plant invaders such as the Port Jackson willow could be used for fuel by the Cape's poorer people, a conference was told at Kirstenbosch.

Representatives of universities, state departments, local authorities, a hospital and the private sector yesterday attended a conference on woodlots organised by the Botanical Society.

They listened to nine papers on the subject and discussions followed.

Presenting a picture of the problem which faced poor communities, Mr Wouter van Warmelo of the Botanical Society said the population of the greater Cape Town region would increase from 2,5-million to 3,6-million by 2 000.

He said Khayelitsha was growing at a rate of 5 000 people a month, mostly because of immigration, and while 285 000 jobs were needed last year, this figure would have to increase to 474 000 within the next 12 years.

TURMOIL

Mr van Warmelo said a potential crisis was a lack of energy sources, which could lead to social, economic and political turmoil.

The wood of alien plant invaders could be an interim solution, but there were many questions about its use, he said.

Mr I MacDonald of the Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology, said alien plant invaders were plants introduced by man to areas outside their natural distribution range, which then spread to areas where they were not intentionally planted.

He said these plants could give rise to conservation, economic and social/aesthetic problems.

They threatened local species, caused damage to ecosystems, cost a lot to combat, changed the appearance of natural veld and, because they often grow best alongside roads, blocked the view.

A serious problem was that wood was not a popular fuel among the people in a township such as Khayelitsha, who preferred using paraffin, said Mr B Slon, ex-researcher at the Energy Research Institute in Cape Town.

FLOOD DISASTER

D/D 23/2/88

Deluge causes chaos in road, rail transport

56

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — Motorists driving from here to Johannesburg have been advised to go through Transkei because of the floods in the Free State.

The best route to take would be through Transkei to Pietermaritzburg, and then onto the N3 to Johannesburg.

He reminded motorists driving through Transkei to carry identity documents or passports.

No problem existed on the coastal road to Cape Town.

The Automobile Association's area manager for Border and the Midlands, Mr G. M. van Niekerk, said yesterday that the usual route through Bloemfontein had been closed due to the deluge.

fontein and to the north, south and east of Kimberley."

It is not known when the Bloemfontein route will be reopened.

According to the AA's latest road conditions report, the road between Idutywa and Butterworth is badly potholed and motorists are advised to exercise extreme caution.

The Kei Bridge-Komga section is also under construction and

periodically closed to traffic during blasting operations.

Extensive repairs are underway with robot-controlled single lanes in use between Peddie and Grahamstown and the bypass there is still under construction with two 100-metre sections of tarred deviations in fair condition in use.

Meanwhile, the Ama-tola Express from East London to Johannesburg has been cancelled the

South African Transport Services regional manager here, Mr Louis du Toit, said.

Alternative travel arrangements would have to be made with South African Airways.

The north-bound Algoa Express from Port Elizabeth is to be rerouted via De Aar and Kimberley.

Repair crews are still busy working on the Port Elizabeth/Klipplaat line.

- 13 lives lost
- Hundreds evacuated
- Bloemfontein and other towns cut off
- Rivers burst their banks
- Homes, roads and bridges washed away
- New flood warnings sounded

WRECK

23/1/88
Damelin

HAWG



ONE of the routes into Bloemfontein which was cut off by the weekend's deluge.

TWO hundred blacks and 18 whites evacuated from flooded areas in the Free State are being sheltered at Air Force base Bloemfontein near Pretoria yesterday.

Floods wreaking havoc across a vast tract of central South Africa worsened yesterday with raging torrents cutting Bloemfontein and many towns off, washing away roads, bursting dam walls, flooding homes and claiming a known 13 lives.

And as hundreds of people were airlifted to safety by Air Force helicopters, new flood warnings were issued.

On Sunday three people drowned in the Bloemfontein area, five at Colesberg when their house was washed away, and four at Ladysmith.

More than 200 people have been airlifted to safety and hundreds

"Damelin makes it easy!"

more evacuated from towns and farms as downpours of up to 300 mm at the weekend burst river banks throughout the Free State, Northern Cape, Northern Natal and parts of the Western Transvaal.

The Free State suffered its worst floods for 15 years, said the Weather Bureau.

The Department of Water Affairs yesterday warned of possible floods in the Northern Cape.

A flood warning was also sounded for the southern Mozambique province of Gaza yesterday, while torrential rains lashed Swaziland for the third successive day, flooding low-level bridges.

Yesterday two Puma helicopters from Pretoria were sent to join the nine Alouette helicopters rescuing people stranded by the floods in the Free State.



Almost every river in the southern Free State has burst its banks.

In Natal, two of the flood victims were young men who died in seething flood water in Ladysmith while trying to rescue a man clinging on to a shop's burglar bars.

Eyewitnesses said two other men who had tied themselves to a pole to avoid being swept away were rescued by emergency services personnel.

Road, rail and telephone links have been cut in many areas, and Bloemfontein is accessible only by air.

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PW promises assistance to victims of flooding

56 D/D 23/02/88

CAPE TOWN — The government will do everything in its power to assist victims of the flooding in the Free State, Northern Cape, Western Transvaal and parts of Northern Natal, the State President, Mr P. W. Botha, said here yesterday.

The ministers concerned, state departments and other authorities were already acting in this regard, he said.

Mr Botha added in a statement that it was with deep regret that he learnt of the loss of life,

damage and disruption which followed the wide-spread rainfall and floods in these areas.

"I wish to express on behalf of the government and the people of South Africa our sincere sympathy to those who have been affected in some way by the loss of

life and damage caused by the floods," he said.

"We cannot fail, however, to express our humble thanks towards Almighty God that the drought that lasted over large parts of the country for many years has been broken."

Mr Botha also thanked, on behalf of

the government, "everyone who has assisted the victims of the floods and heavy rains in their hour of need".

Mr Botha said as had been the case in Natal, where a cabinet committee had been appointed, a special cabinet committee had again been appointed.

The Natal committee

had been under the chairmanship of the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk, and was still responsible for dealing with the flood and its consequences in Natal.

Dr Van Niekerk will also chair the newly appointed committee and determine the extent of the flood damage, and "submit recommendations on dealing with the consequences of the floods," Mr Botha said. — Sapa

Faded table with multiple columns and rows, likely a financial or administrative ledger.

Help on the way

Cape Town
23/2/88
56



ROAD CLOSED . . . One of the main routes north is cut off by floods. This photograph was taken yesterday from the air near Bloemfontein.

AS THE last road out of Bloemfontein was closed last night because of floods, the government appointed a special cabinet committee to determine the extent of the damage to a vast central tract of South Africa.

The number of deaths rose to at least 13 yesterday and the Renosterspruit flooded the Lesotho road, closing the last of six main roads out of Bloemfontein.

Almost a full kilometre of the N1 to Colerberg and Cape Town has been badly damaged with the flooding of the Kaffer River and hundreds of cars have been turned away by traffic authorities since Saturday.

12 ministers

President P W Botha said yesterday the government would do "everything in its power" to assist victims of the latest floods in the Free State, western Transvaal, northern Natal and large parts of the Cape.

As was the case after the Natal floods, the committee has been appointed under the chairmanship of the Minister of Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk. It comprises 12 ministers and deputy ministers, the administrators of the Transvaal, Free State and Cape and members of the provincial executive committees.

El Nino blamed for havoc
JOHANNESBURG. — Floods which have hit the country could be linked to flooding 6 000km away in Brazil.

The government weather bureau's chief forecaster, Mr Gerhard Schultze, said the torrential rains in South Africa could be a result of a Pacific Ocean phenomenon known to scientists as the El Nino Southern Oscillation. "At the moment there is a lot of energy being pumped into the atmosphere over the tropical regions and this has to be balanced out over the poles," he said. — UPI

THE Free State cricket team have more than Western Province to worry about before the Benson and Hedges night series match at Newlands tomorrow night.

The floods have put pressure on flights to and from the city, which prompted officials to put the team on the earliest flight available. They will arrive in Cape Town today. Three of the team are flying direct from Johannesburg.

Dr Van Niekerk conducted an aerial tour of the Free State flood areas yesterday.

Meanwhile, the rain continued and more flood warnings were given for the countryside around Bloemfontein, with 795 people alerted.

Anne for LONDON — Anne leaves on a visit to Mt Kenya and Uganda visit areas dev war and fami

To page 3

P.T.O.

From page 1

Floods

ready evacuated from outlying areas since Sunday.

Of this figure, 461 were airlifted from rooftops, trees or koppies and other inaccessible points, 300 were transported by road and 34 by boat to various relief centres in Bloemfontein. Food is being distributed to the evacuation centres.

One of Bloemfontein's main lines of water supply could be in jeopardy if the pumps at Maselspoort, on the Modder River about 20km from Bloemfontein, cannot be repaired soon. The city has only a four-day supply of water left if the pumps are not repaired.

The floods in the Free State threaten further damage to South Africa's maize crop, already severely depleted by the extremely hot and dry weather of the first six weeks of the year.

The SADF, which has used 10 helicopters for evacuations, said last night the situation had quietened down but the Riet River was expected to rise more than 10 metres and flood warnings have been issued in the Koffiefontein and Jacobsdal areas, west of Bloemfontein.

In Maputo, the government has issued flood warnings in the wake of torrential rains in the catchment area of the Limpopo River.

The deputy minister for environment affairs in the House of Delegates, Mr Somaroo Pachai, said yesterday he would make urgent representations to the government to have the flood-ravaged Natal town of Ladysmith declared a disaster area. — Political Correspondent, Own Correspondents and Sapa

Ladysmith teenagers drown trying to save others

(56)

Tragic end to heroic rescue bid in floods

By Inga Molzen

Tragedy marred a heroic effort by four Ladysmith teenagers to rescue two people whom they found clinging to the burglar bars of shops in the town at the weekend.

At least four people drowned and 550 were evacuated from their homes as floodwaters hit low-lying areas of the town for the fourth time in 18 months.

A 17-year-old pupil, Raveen Mothielal, told The Star yesterday how he was nearly pulled down by the raging flood waters on Sunday morning. He and a friend, Neville Morris (18), were rescued after they managed to tie themselves to a lamp-post with a rope to stop the floods from carrying them away.

Two of their friends, who had joined them in their attempt to aid people trapped by rapidly rising water, drowned although they, too, were tied to the rope.

Indian community members commended yesterday the bravery of the two popular boys, Std 9 pupil Ronnie Sidhoo (18) and Anesh Udhayraj Rampol (18), who died helping others.

Mr Mothielal explained how his friend, Mr Morris, prevented them from being swept away by tangling the rope which held them together to a nearby lamp-post.

He said that after they rescued a man they found clinging to the burglar bars of a fish shop they were called to assist an old man, whom rescue workers later managed to save, at another shop.

Made a chain

"Neville and I knotted ourself on the same rope, the other two were at the other end. We made a chain and waded through the water together in case one of us slipped.

"As we took the old man, the force of water took Ronnie and Anesh from behind and they swept past us.

"I tried to pull them back but they were pulling me with the force. Neville held me back and tangled the rope round the light pole.

"The water dragged the others away.

"Anesh was washed away; I saw him floating about 100 m from us. Ronnie was strangled under the water by the rope," said Mr Mothielal.

His friend, Mr Morris, said: "I was frightened. Raveen lost hope, but I held tightly on to him."

Still stunned by the experience, the two teenagers were discharged yesterday from the provincial hospital where they had been admitted semi-conscious after the Ladysmith Protection Services had rescued them.

Yesterday, they attended the funeral where their two friends were buried according to Hindu custom.

They scattered petals on the faces of their friends before the coffins were closed.

Town Clerk Mr Pieter Hurter said Ladysmith's recurring flood problem was being investigated at government level following the disastrous floods last September.



Former Maseru resident, Mrs Rehana Moolla, one of the Lyell Street residents near the flooded banks of the Klip River, in Ladysmith. "We are not insured. We only managed to save our clothing," she said.

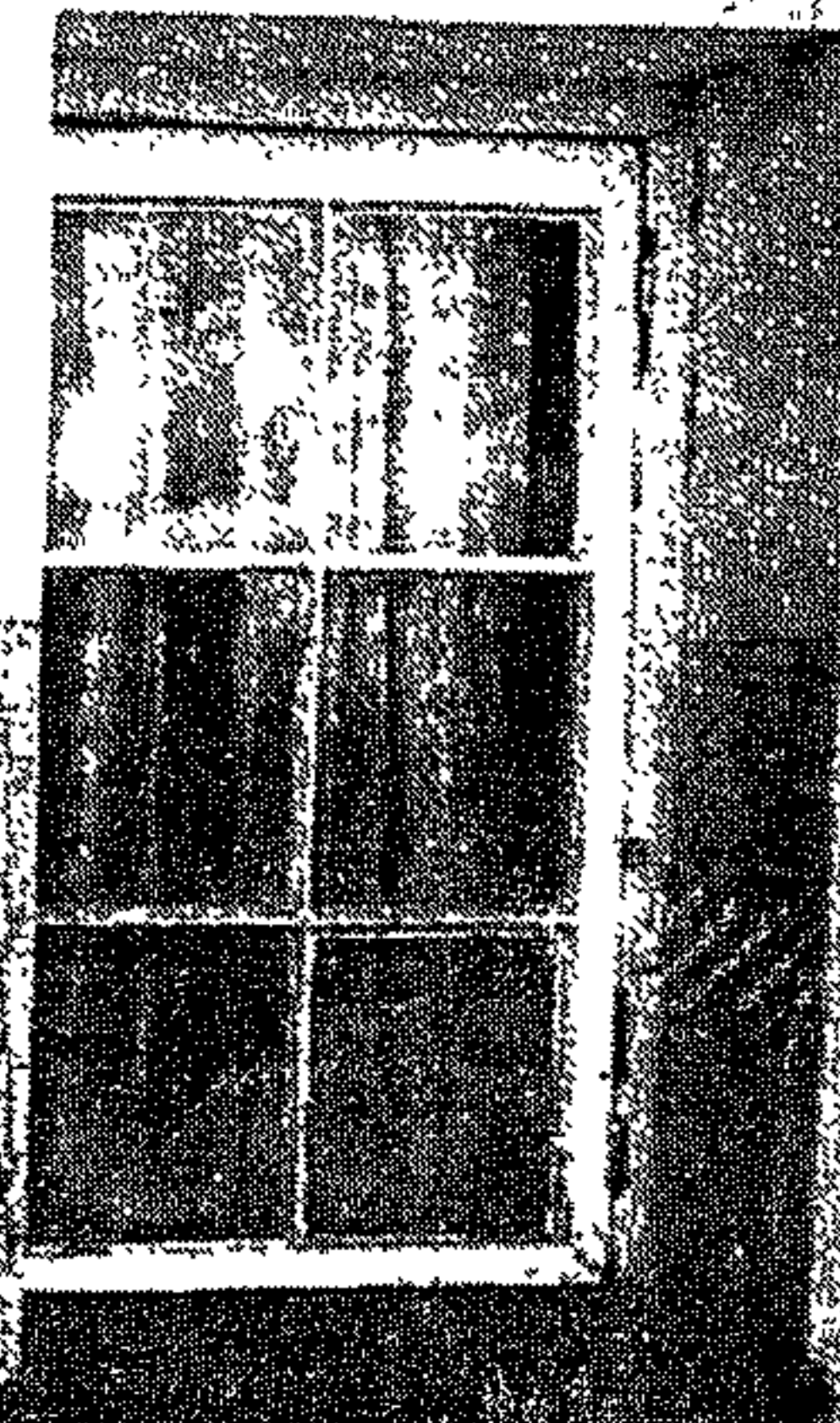
Family fled up koppie

By Duncan Guy

The Van der Merwe family had to flee their home on the farm Goede Hoop near Reddersburg Sunday night as floodwaters forced them to climb a koppie, Bloemfontein Joint Operations Centre communications operator Mr Marius Nagel said last night.

When the family were found at daybreak, they were huddled on dry ground at the very top of the koppie, a metre above the rising water.

They were rescued by police in rubber boats.



According to Hindu custom, only men attended the burial of the two Ladysmith teenagers, who were buried beside each other yesterday after they drowned at the weekend attempting to rescue others when the town was flooded.

Fresh water for 4 days in Bloemfontein

By Adele Baleta

BLOEMFONTEIN — There is enough fresh water in Bloemfontein to last only another four days, despite the deluge which has flooded the Free State capital.

This was announced at a special meeting of top Government officials, including the Minister of Health and Welfare, Dr Willie van Niekerk, in Bloemfontein yesterday.

Dr van Niekerk, Free State officials and the press yesterday inspected the flooded areas from a helicopter.

Mr Japie Visser, chairman of the disaster fund, said the delegation would assess the situation and recommend to the Cabinet whether to declare the flood-ravaged region a disaster area.

The Free State Commando involved in joint operations with State departments reported to the Minister on critical areas in the Free State.

NEW CRITICAL AREAS

Commandant Piet Venter said the situation around Bloemfontein had stabilised, but new critical areas had developed after more rain yesterday.

On Sunday night, 208 mm fell and 196 people were plucked by the Air Force from the Renosterspruit in Bloemfontein. Last night the spruit's road links were flooded.

Bloemfontein city officials said the Masselspoort pump station was flooded and electricity to operate the pumps had been switched off as it was too dangerous.

"The Welgedacht Dam has not been supplying water after an Eskom pylon went down. We are hoping it will be operating again tomorrow night."



Unaware of the disaster which has hit her family in Ladysmith for the third time in a year, this little girl still found time to play in the mud.

23/02/1988

56

Teacher recalls 1954 flood

By Duncan Guy

Bloemfontein school-teacher Mr Johan Kleinhans, who has a farm near the raging Modder River, where he has lived all his life, last saw the river in flood in 1954 as a six-year-old.

Yesterday, he took his wife and two children to the Modder River bridge on the N1 to have a look at the river "because they may never see it like that again".

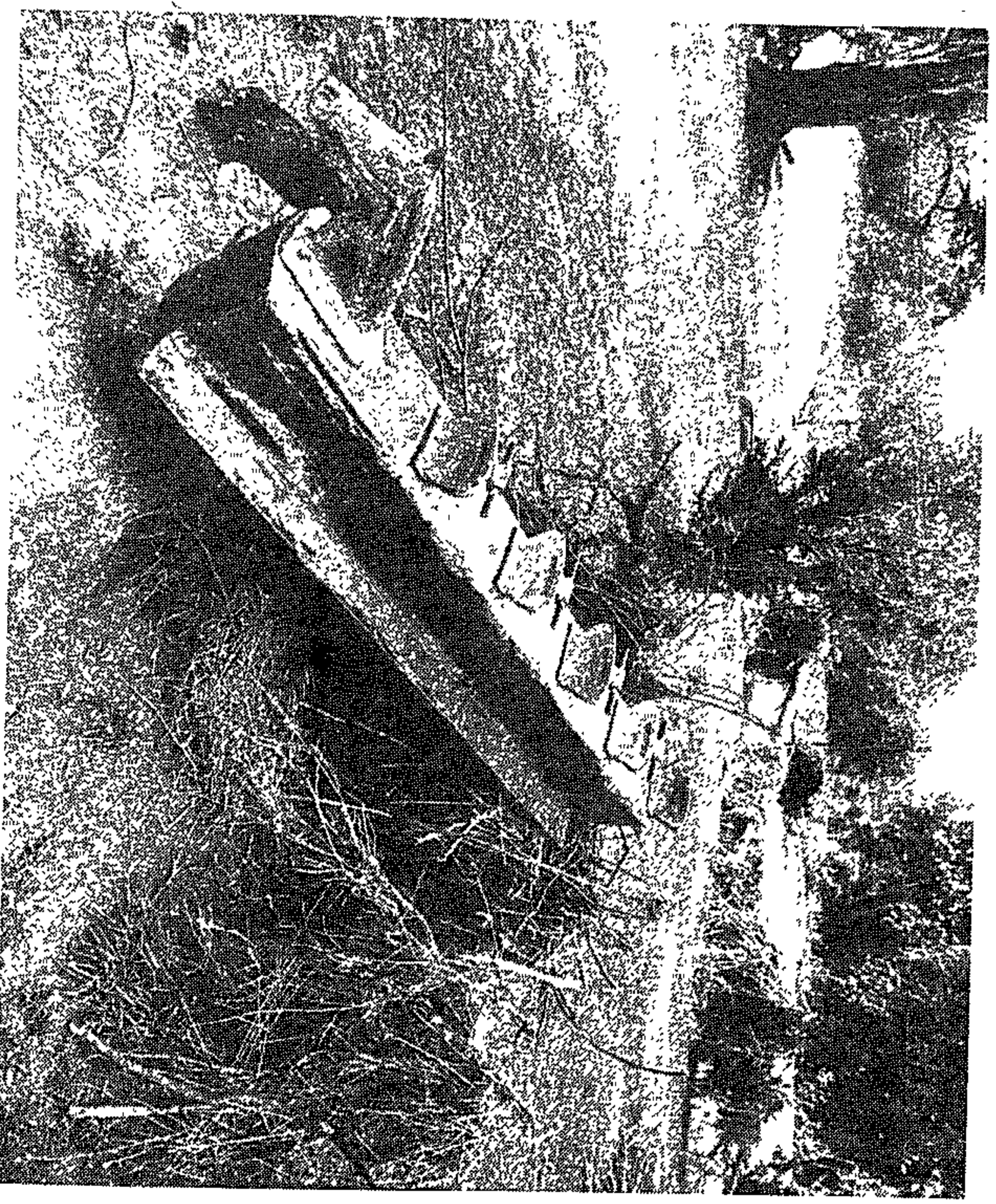
Recalling his childhood memories, Mr Kleinhans said the river was "much more full" than it was in 1954.

"We went to the railway bridge and filled cups with water that ran close to the bridge."

A farmer in the area, Mr Wilson van Dyk, said his farm had had 90 mm of rain in the past six days.



It's business as usual for Mr Norman Cyril although his motor company in the centre of Laddysmith was flooded.



In the park above the now-subsidised Klip River in Laddysmith, a damaged rocking horse bears testimony to raging waters which swept its banks on Sunday morning.

Despair hangs over Ladysmith as mopping up begins

By Inga Molzen

As quickly as Natal's Klip River swelled to flood low-lying residential areas of Ladysmith, it again subsided, leaving behind at least four dead.

Among the dead were two teenagers who had set out with friends on Sunday morning to lend a hand in their community — which well knows the disastrous effects of heavy rains up-river at the main attachment area of Van Reenen.

An air of despondency hung over the Northern Natal town yesterday as many of the 550 people forced to evacuate their homes returned to mop up.

Lyell Street residents near the river bank, worst-hit by silt and suffering the worst structural damage to their houses, spoke with bitterness. Many said if they could find alternative accommodation they would move.

An insurance assessor, who did not wish to be named, said many insurance companies would not insure Ladysmith home-owners against flood damage. This weekend's flash-flood was the fourth serious flood to hit Ladysmith in 18 months.

In September last year, angry Indian householders criticised the local authority for allegedly forcing them to occupy dangerous land on the floodplain.

DAY'S WAGES

Miss Eunice Crouch, who recalls a long history of flooding in the town, yesterday rinsed the mud from her crockery in a basin on her dressing table — all that she managed to salvage. She and six other families had to seek shelter on Sunday night after their corrugated-iron homes were flooded.

A factory supervisor in a clothing factory, Miss Crouch, who lost a day's wages by staying home to sort out her belongings, said: "What can I do? There's a shortage of housing in this country. Where else I can live?"

A divorced mother of four children, Mrs Joy Chetty, who receives no maintenance, said although she was given R3 500 after the last flood in September she had not yet recovered her losses.

Now also unemployed, Mrs Chetty wondered how she would start again from scratch. "Last year the water only flooded up to the skirting boards, yesterday it flooded above the wardrobes. Houses are standing empty across the way. We should be allowed to use them temporarily,"

Death toll rises to 15 as torrents of water pound downstream

Towns brace for new floods

Staff Reporters

More devastation is feared in the ravaged Free State today while northern Cape townsfolk are bracing themselves as torrents of water pound downstream.

Residents in the low-lying areas of Douglas, Koffiefontein and Ritchie have been warned to expect floods.

The town clerk of Douglas, Mr L. de Jager, told The Star today: "We worked right through the night moving hundreds of people out of the low-lying areas into the town.

"It's a terrible thing that is happening. The water hasn't reached us yet, but it should do so within the next two days."

The Department of Water Affairs issued flood warnings as the level in the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam reached 110.6 per cent today.

"The overflow will cause the P. K. le Roux Dam — 99.91 per cent of capacity at noon yesterday — to rise quickly, putting at peril the areas immediately downstream.

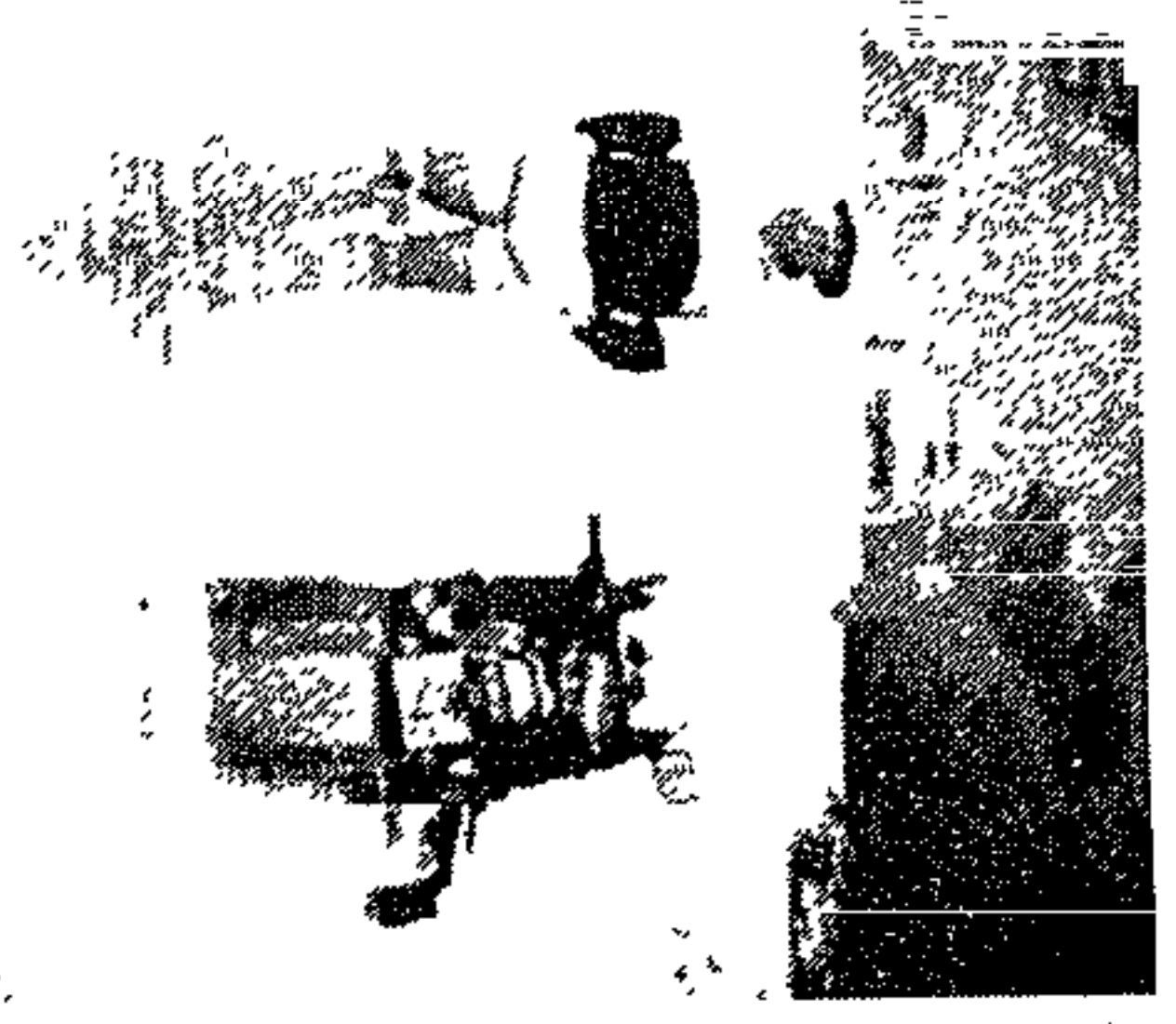
At least 15 people have been killed in floods since Saturday.

The security forces set up a Joint Operational Centre in Bloemfontein to cope with rescue work.



A motorcyclist chained his 750 cc motorcycle to a road barrier on the flooded Modder River bridge 25 km north of Bloemfontein yesterday morning. He did not think it worth moving to higher ground in spite of advice to the contrary from a traffic officer. By noon the rising water had forced him leave the motorcycle were it was.

● Pictures by Herbert Mabuza.



With his family's salvaged belongings stacked high, the despondent face of Mr Pieter Pieterse expresses the desperation of other Ladysmith residents who were also flooded out.



Govt likely to declare disaster area today

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Government is likely to declare the flood-devastated regions of the Transvaal, northern Cape, Free State and northern Natal a disaster area today — releasing emergency relief funds.

The Minister in charge of the Government's relief efforts, National Health Minister Dr Willie van Niekerk, is briefing the media today on the situation. He inspected the flood regions yesterday.

A problem for the Government is that the National Disaster Fund is already depleted following last year's Natal floods, and efforts to raise contributions from the private sector have not been very successful.

The implications are that the taxpayer will have to foot the bill for both disasters, which could run into hundreds of millions of rands.

It is believed likely that the Government will extend its postage stamp scheme, whereby the man in the street may make contributions to the disaster fund.

The extra 10c charged for each overprinted stamp is paid into the disaster fund.

Superceding w.d. no: 345

AREA A: Camperdown, Uitenhage and

AREA B: Mosselbay, Newcastle and

AREA C: Harrismith, Klip River

AREA D: All other areas excluding

She said she had applied for accommodation in the high-lying coloured township of Limit Hill but she was unable to afford the rent.

Former Maseru resident Mrs Rehana Moolia indicated two floodwater lines on the outside walls of her brother's house, saying, "the last is above window height".

About 500 baby chickens which Mrs Moolia's brother wanted to sell to earn extra money, drowned when the furniture on which their cages were stacked collapsed.

Devastation fears

More rain is forecast for the flood ravaged Bloemfontein and southern Free State areas today, and rescue workers fear further devastation.

Following a dry night, dams and rivers began to subside and the rescue of stranded people wound down with 31 plucked from trees, rooftops and higher ground by Air Force helicopters yesterday afternoon.

The nine Alouette and two Puma helicopters in service were in the air shortly after dawn today, carrying food and supplies to stranded people.

Spokesman for the Joint Operations Centre in Bloemfontein,

Mr Marius Nagel, said evacuation of people from low-lying areas below the Kalkfontein Dam had been completed yesterday in the face of fears that the dam wall would not hold.

Mr Nagel said today that further rain would be "a major problem".

Most of the roads in the area were still under water, but motor bridges were holding up.

"We don't know if they will still hold up if more rain falls today," said Mr Nagel.

Sapa reports that heavy rain-falls started in parts of the western Free State this morning and at present the most serious flood threat was in this area.

Bread is to be flown in to Edenburg, Colesberg and Aliwal North, where food is in short supply as the towns have been cut off from the rest of the province.

Telephone, road and rail links have been cut in flood areas, causing damage estimated at millions of rands.

Yesterday, it was reported that two people drowned in the Taung area of Bophuthatswana. Four people have died in the Bloemfontein area since the weekend.

Five died at Colesberg in the north-eastern Cape on Sunday when their house was swept away.

Another two people drowned at Ladysmith, bringing the toll in the province to four.

A 27-year-old Peacetown man was swept away by floodwaters and the body of another man was found at nearby Steadville.

About 1 200 telephone lines were down and no contact could be made with farmers in the Jaegersfontein, Smithfield, Colesberg and Rouxville districts.

Most road and rail links to Bloemfontein and its surrounding areas have been cut, including the N1, the main route from Johannesburg. The road between Bloemfontein and Welkom was opened again yesterday, but it was not clear how long it would remain open.

A spokesman for South African Airways said Bloemfontein airport remained open.

● See Page 11.

Four killed, scores left homeless in Ladysmith flood

Daily Dispatch Correspondent

The Ladysmith flood death toll has risen to four, with more than 500 people left homeless.

Two men, Mr Ronnie Sidhoo, 18, and Mr Amesh Ramphal, 18, of Ladysmith, drowned while trying to rescue a black man.

A third man, Mr Petros Shabalala, 27, of Peacetown, about 15 km from Ladysmith, drowned when he was swept away by flood waters. The fourth victim was an unidentified black man.

The secretary of the Ladysmith Town Council, Mr Andries van Eck, said the homeless, including scores of children, are being housed in halls in the Indian and coloured areas.

They were evacuated from their homes on Sunday when the Klip River burst its banks, flooding hundreds of homes in the low-lying areas of the town and submerging part of the town's central business district under four metres of water.

Some of the victims lost thousands of rands worth of goods, only days after receiving compensation from the House of Delegates for losses suffered during the September floods.

The own-affairs Deputy-Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr Somaroo Panchai, said yesterday that he would make urgent representations to the government to have Ladysmith declared a disaster area.

"To make matters worse, some insurance companies have withdrawn insurance cover for flood damage following the September floods," Mr Panchai said.

"I am going to call for an inquiry into this whole aspect. It would appear that, for as long as they were benefiting from premiums gathered from these unfortunate people, the companies were happy to cover them.

"But, now when they are asked to come to the assistance of these people the policies have been cancelled and withdrawn. Many people have paid for years and years and made only one claim," he said.

"This has hit my people very hard," he said.

Most of those affected by the weekend's flood — the second in the past six months — were still waiting for compensation from the government-appointed flood disaster fund.

The Natal Indian Congress yesterday urged the government to re-route the Klip River, but the Chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, quickly rebuffed the suggestion.

"The NIC is trying to climb on the bandwagon. Every time there is flood in Ladysmith the NIC reacts. In our last disaster they were nowhere to be seen, but came in on to the scene after the event," he said.



The dry scrublands outside Bloemfontein have been transformed into an inland sea by the large rain-fall which has devastated parts of the Orange Free State, leaving four dead and over 500 homeless.

JOHANNESBURG — Farmers in the Chris-tiana district in the south-western Transvaal are cut off from adjacent towns and one farmer said his potato crop was 1.5m under water.

"The flood is something terrible, far worse than the 1976 flood. Due to the hardness of the terrain it takes a long

time to drain," Mr G. P. Conradie of the farm Kafaria said.

"A grader was washed off the road and its occupants were forced to jump to safety."

Vaal farmers cut off from towns

He added that the rain came "too heavy too late" and it was doubtful if grazing lands would recover from the effects of the recent drought. The assistant general

manager of the South West Co-operative at Christiansa, Mr Johan Meyer, said extensive damage was expected when the floodwater subsided.

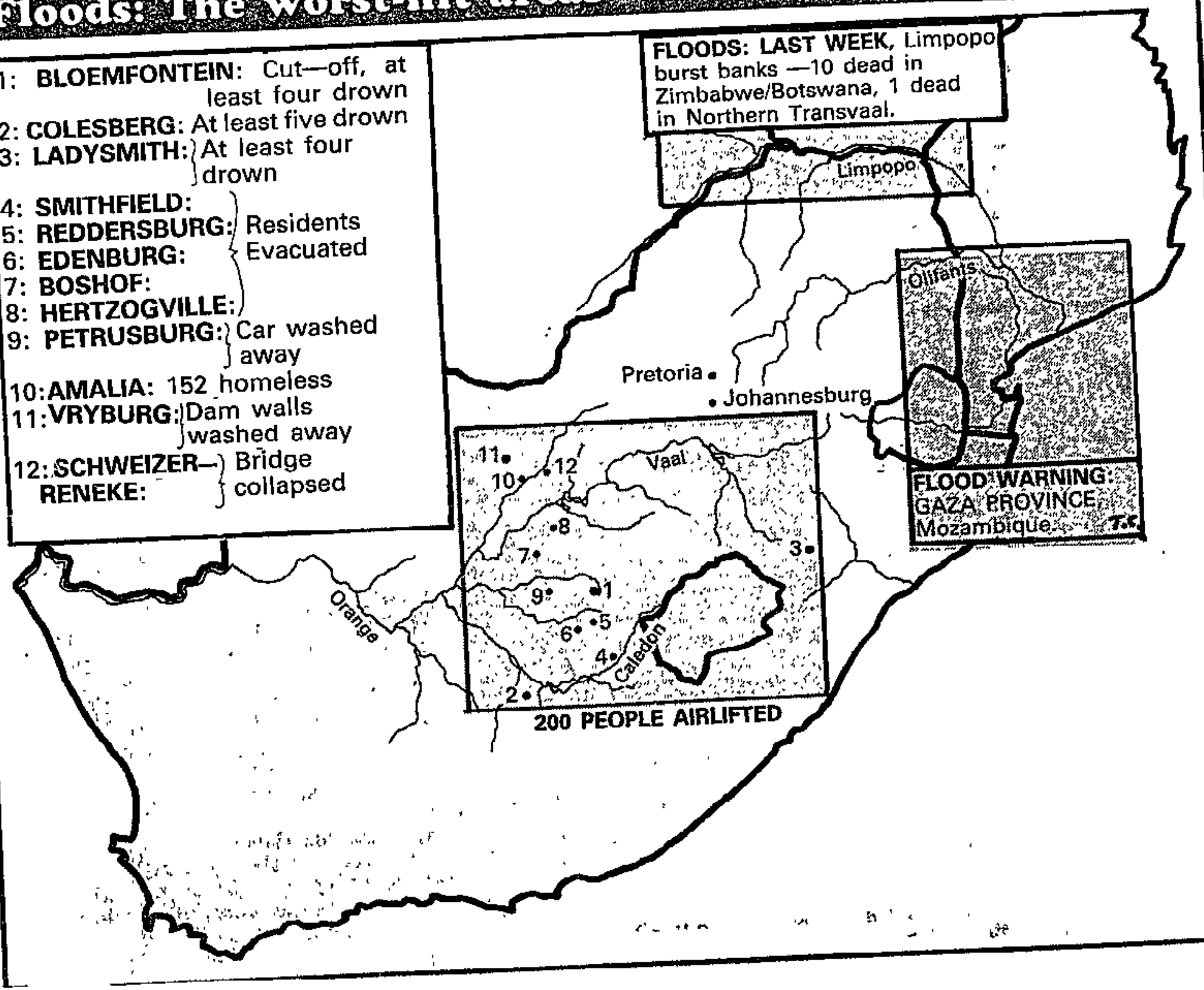
"We had 336 mm in two days, which is only 100 mm less than our yearly rainfall. Rust and rot is expected." — Sapa

CA/16 Nov 23/2/88 (5)

Floods: The worst-hit areas

- 1: BLOEMFONTEIN: Cut-off, at least four drown
- 2: COLESBERG: At least five drown
- 3: LADYSMITH: } At least four drown
- 4: SMITHFIELD:
- 5: REDDERSBURG: } Residents Evacuated
- 6: EDENBURG: }
- 7: BOSHOFF:
- 8: HERTZOGVILLE:
- 9: PETRUSBURG: } Car washed away
- 10: AMALIA: 152 homeless
- 11: VRYBURG: } Dam walls washed away
- 12: SCHWEIZER- } Bridge collapsed
- RENEKE: }

FLOODS: LAST WEEK, Limpopo burst banks —10 dead in Zimbabwe/Botswana, 1 dead in Northern Transvaal.



FLOOD WARNING: GAZA PROVINCE, Mozambique

200 PEOPLE AIRLIFTED

Towns face total disaster

By Sven Forssman and Toni Younghusband

The floodwaters racing towards small towns in the Free State and northern Cape could turn them into disaster areas, police spokesman Captain Carl van der Westhuizen, who is directing rescue operations, told The Star last night.

Captain van der Westhuizen said the entire northern Cape police force had been mobilised to help rural farmers and residents of small towns evacuate their homes, following flood warnings by the Department of Water Affairs.

At least five rural towns — Ritchie, Barkly West, Groblershoop, Jacobsdal and Koffiefontein — were in danger of being engulfed by the water as groaning dams started to burst.

The Spitskop dam was 200 percent full yesterday when its walls broke and sent a deluge racing towards Ritchie, Barkly West and Groblershoop.

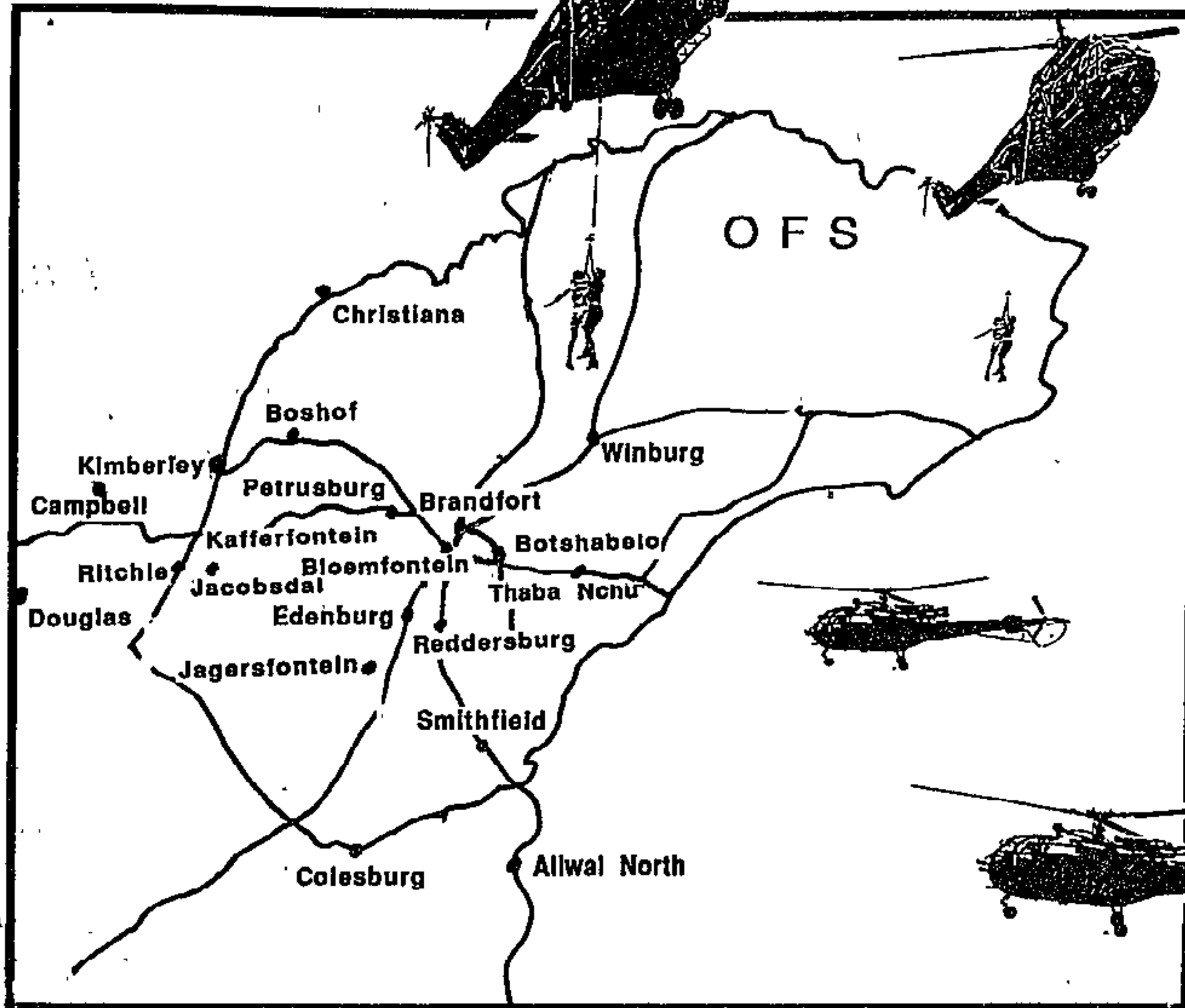
"The area has already been devastated by the rains. I shudder to think what is going to happen when the floodwaters arrive," Captain van der Westhuizen said.

"More than 500 houses have collapsed because of the rains. That number could double, or even triple.

"Farm dwellings along the Riet and Modder rivers are under water and we have already moved 1500 people to higher ground.

"Seventy houses and a school collapsed in the Winterton district alone."

FLOOD HAVOC



Douglas expects disaster

By Carina le Grange

Fifty-two homes in the low-lying areas in Douglas were evacuated last night and more homes in the threatened town could also be cleared.

Furniture of the affected people was being stored in the barns of the agricultural co-operative while the families were staying in hotels, caravans or with friends, the town clerk, Mr Louis de Jager, told The Star by telephone last night.

He said the black township was not in danger as it was not a low-lying area while the coloured township had already suffered damage from a flooded storm-water drain.

Mr de Jager said the town "expected a 'major disaster'".

"We are below several dams and rivers, all in flood," he said.

The position of the towns

Aliwal North: Almost completely isolated — one road out open, bread flown in.

Barkly West: Flood danger.

Bloemfontein: Almost isolated — one dangerous road to the north open. Joint Operational Centre set up by security forces. At least four dead. Water for only three days.

Boshof: 200 homeless.
Botshabelo (50 km from Bloemfontein): Homes damaged, some areas isolated, one drowning with other unconfirmed reports of drownings. Cut off from Bloemfontein.

Campbell: Isolated.
Christiana: Road flooded.

Colesberg: Isolated, bread flown in, tele-

phone links down. Five dead.

Delportshoop: Homes evacuated.

Douglas: Warned to expect floods.

Edenburg: Isolated, bread flown in.

Groblershoop: Flood danger.

Jacobsdal: Flooded, evacuations continuing. Homes collapsed.

Jagersfontein: Telephone links down.

Kakamas: Flood danger.

Kanoneiland: Flood danger.

Kimberley: Isolated.

Koffiefontein: Warned to expect engulfing floods. Black township evacuated and partially flooded, with some homes collapsed. Main bridge closed, evacuations continuing.

Ladysmith: Low-lying residential areas flooded, covered in silt. Four dead.

Peacetown: Flooded, one man swept away.

Petrusburg: Isolated, farmers airlifted from their land.

Prieska: Flood danger.

Reddersburg: Bread flown in.

Ritchie: Isolated. Warned to expect floods. Train and road bridges still open, but water level rising. Evacuations in progress.

Rouxville: Telephone links down.

Smithfield: Telephone links down.

Steadville: One dead.

Thaba 'Nchu: Homes destroyed.

Winterton: School and 70 homes have collapsed.

Floods: Mozambicans breath a sigh of relief

MAPUTO — The Mozambican authorities are no longer expecting serious floods in the Limpopo valley in southern Mozambique, it has been reported here.

The daily *Noticias* quoted a spokesman for the National Water Board, Ms Isabel Vaz, as saying that the level of the Limpopo River had already started to fall.

She said the fact that tributaries of the Limpopo River downstream from Beit Bridge were not contributing to the flood was the reason why the level of the river had dropped.

The Mozambican authorities started evacuating people and livestock from the Limpopo valley earlier this week.

Fresh rain brings new troubles

Fresh torrential rains have lashed the southwestern Free State, causing extensive flooding in Richie and Jacobsdal.

Richie, at the confluence of the Riet and Modder rivers, has suffered the brunt of floodwaters. Residents began evacuating early yesterday.

The South African Air force rescued 26 people from farms near Phillipolis, south of Bloemfontein.

Jacobsdal appeared totally desolate.

From the air, it can be seen that the Modder River — up to 3 km wide in places — has cut a path of destruction between Bloemfontein and Richie (160 km). Only the roofs of farmhouses and the tops of vehicles can be seen.

Homeless stranded by floods

By Adele Baleta

BLOEMFONTEIN — A numbed silence prevailed at Bloemspruit Air Force bungalows, where at least 200 people who were rescued from their flooded homes have been accommodated.

Many of those who lived in Roodewal, Valenbros and Midway no longer have homes to go to.

Mrs Lucy Shongwene (51) told The Star yesterday she was rescued by an SAAF helicopter from the roof of her employer's house in Roodewal.

"As the water started rising, my employer took a ladder and he and his three children and my husband and our four children climbed on to the roof. It was terrifying," she said.

56

Kalahari's 'desert ships' moved

Crime Reporter

THE Kalahari's famous camels have been moved to a new home as small villages on the banks of the Kuruman River batten down the hatches.

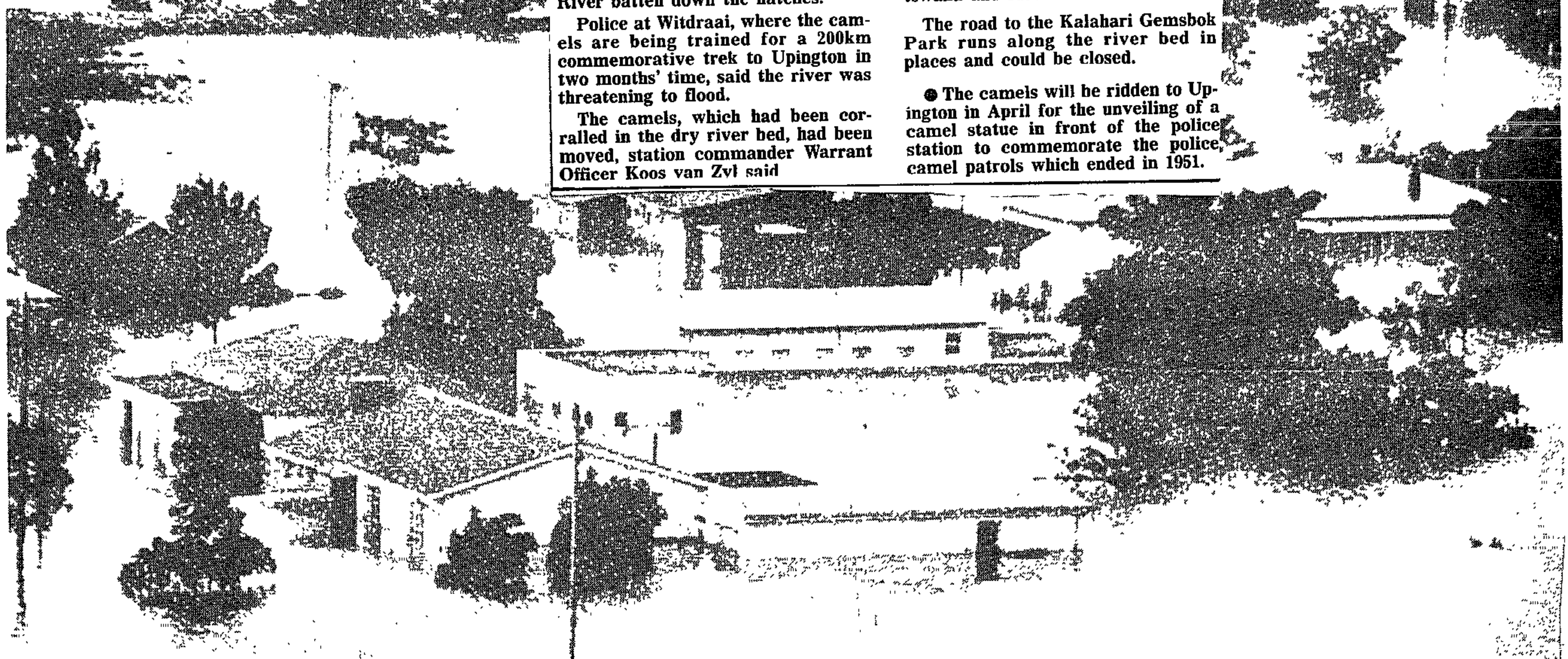
Police at Witdraai, where the camels are being trained for a 200km commemorative trek to Upington in two months' time, said the river was threatening to flood.

The camels, which had been corralled in the dry river bed, had been moved, station commander Warrant Officer Koos van Zyl said

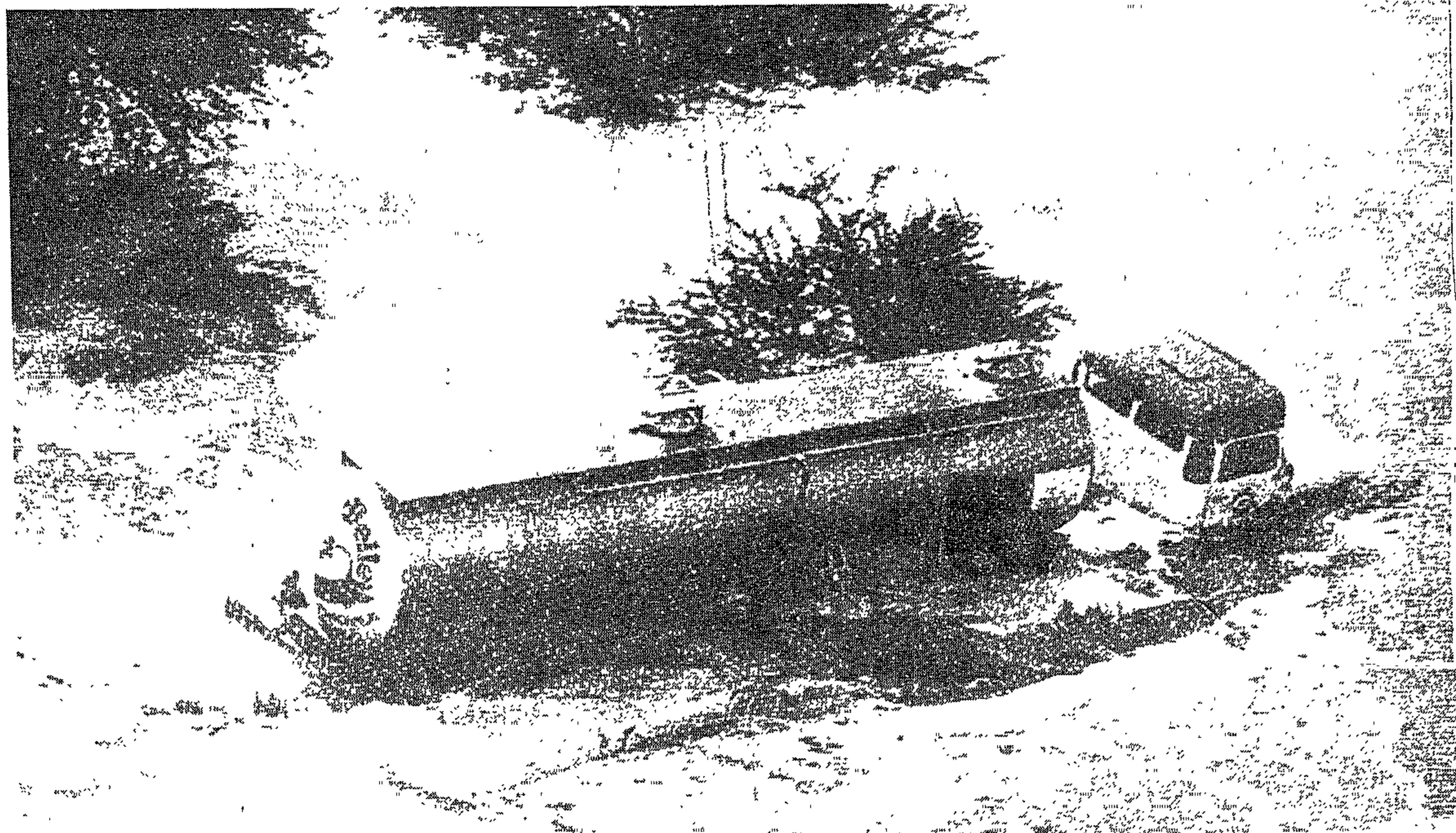
The parched area in the Kalahari had 65mm of rain on Friday and falls are thought to have been far greater in the river's catchment areas in Botswana and further to the east.

The road to the Kalahari Gemsbok Park runs along the river bed in places and could be closed.

● The camels will be ridden to Upington in April for the unveiling of a camel statue in front of the police station to commemorate the police camel patrols which ended in 1951.



TOWN FLOODED: Houses in the small town of Ritchie on the banks of the Riet River were up to their windows in floodwaters yesterday.



TRUCK TRAPPED: A milk truck lies submerged in floodwaters which have wreaked havoc in the Orange Free State and Northern Cape.

41 airlifted after floods

D/D 24/58
56

PIETERMARITZBURG — Forty-one people stranded by floodwaters in the Drakensberg were airlifted to safety by helicopter in two separate mountain rescues yesterday.

The rescues were carried out by the South African Air Force (SAAF) in Durban assisted by Department of Forestry officials and the Mountain

Club of South Africa.

One party was a group of 31 university students from the Orange Free State who were rescued in the Cathedral Peak area, and the other was a group of 10 doctors who were stranded at Injasuti following torrential rains which brought all the Berg streams down in full spate at the weekend. — DDC

MORE devastation is feared in the ravaged Free State while northern Cape townsfolk are bracing themselves as torrents of water pound downstream, bursting dams and river banks.

The giant PK le Roux Dam was expected to overflow at midnight last night, and 10 000 cumecs of water — more than three times flood level — will hit Douglas by noon today, a water affairs spokesman said yesterday.

The Weather Bureau yesterday issued a special warning that further heavy falls were possible over the southern Free State, spreading into the North Eastern Cape, Lesotho and South Western Natal.

The SA Police and army are on standby in the low-lying areas of Douglas, Koffiefontein, Bethulie and Ritchie, which are expected to be hit by waters from three flooding rivers.

SOWETAN Correspondent

The northern Cape town of Upington, on the banks of the Orange River, is braced for floodwaters expected to hit the town on Friday.

The town clerk of Douglas, Mr L de Jager, said yesterday: "We worked right through the night moving hundreds of people out of the low-lying areas into the town."

Terrible

"It's a terrible thing that is happening. The water hasn't reached us yet, but it should do so within the next two days."

Major Egbertus Vivier of the Upington police said: "People are scared. We don't know what is going to happen."

The river is expected to rise at least seven and a half metres, but we don't know what effect this will have.

The biggest storage dam in the country, the

Hendrik Verwoerd, was just over 111 percent full yesterday morning.

Contributing to the deluge is the Kalkfontein Dam on the Riet River. At 159 percent full and with an overflow of 3,02m, fears are growing that the dam will not be able to withstand the flood.

The dam above Bethulie started overflowing yesterday morning after the dam on Mr Piet Joubert's farm Rietfontein broke.

At least 15 people have been killed in floods since Saturday.

All road links to Campbell in the northern Cape have been severed by flood water. The town had 100mm of rain last night and has recorded 350mm this week.

The security forces set up a joint operational centre in Bloemfontein to cope with rescue work.

More rain is forecast for the flood ravaged Bloemfontein and southern Free State areas, and rescue workers fear further devastation.

Rescue

After a dry night, dams and rivers began to subside and the rescue of stranded people wound down with 31 plucked from trees, rooftops and higher ground by air force helicopters on Monday afternoon.

The nine Alouette and two Puma helicopters in service were in the air shortly after dawn yesterday, carrying food and supplies to stranded people.

Spokesman for the joint operations centre in Bloemfontein, Mr Marius Nagel, said evacuation of people from low-lying areas below the Kalkfontein Dam had been completed on Monday in the face of fears that the dam wall would not hold.

Mr Nagel said yesterday that further rain would be "a major problem".

Most of the roads in the area were still under water, but motor bridges were holding up.

"We don't know if they will still hold up if more rain falls," said Mr Nagel.

FLOODS FEARS GROW

88/2/27
Branch
(5)

Douglas hit by a wall of water

ARGUS 24/2/88 56

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ational
Building

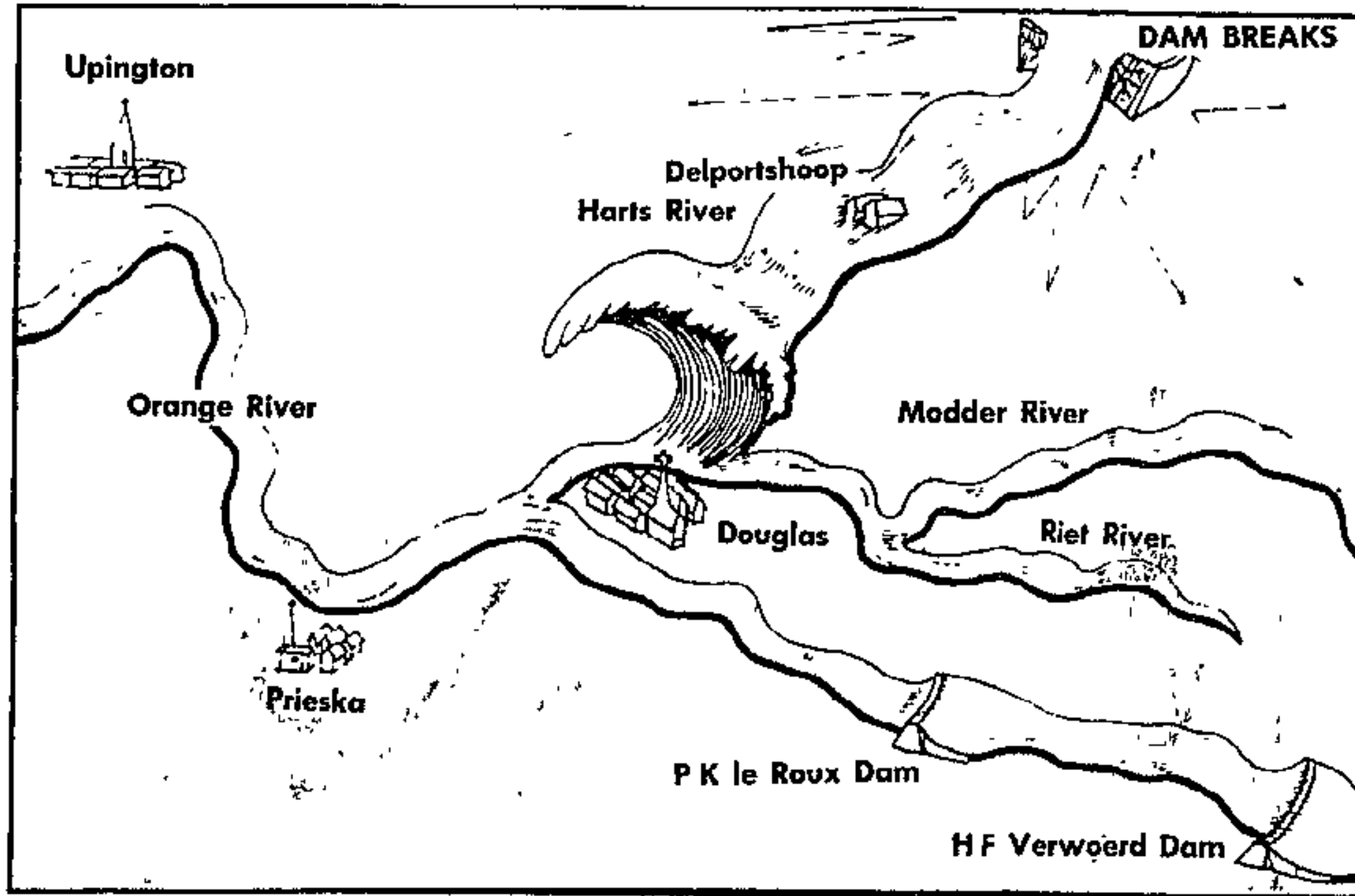
A WALL of water hit the little Northern Cape town of Douglas today.

At least one person, a woman, is missing and feared drowned. Police said most people had already been evacuated from the area.

A flood warning was issued to residents of Douglas yesterday after the Spitskop dam burst. A mass of water poured down the Modder river and hit the town this morning.

At 7am today 2,75-million litres a second was flowing past the town at the confluence of the Modder and Riet rivers.

A spokesman for the Joint Operations Centre in the Northern Cape said the level of the Harts River at Delportshoop and the Vaal River at Douglas was still rising.



Mother tells of fight to save children

The Argus Correspondent
BLOEMFONTEIN. — A Free State housewife today described her battle to save the lives of her three children trapped in their home as floodwaters rose.

Mrs Esme Buys of Roodewal, 10km from Bloemfontein, said she and her husband George and the children were preparing lunch on their smallholding when water began flowing into the house under the doors.

"By the time I alerted George a wall of water from the Renosterspruit

burst into the house," Mrs Buys said. Mr Buys packed two suitcases, loaded them on his bakkie and drove from the house with his family.

"But we had gone only 10 metres when the bakkie's bonnet was covered in water. We were stuck," she said.

Her husband, chest-high in the swirling water, went to look for help while Willie, 15, made his way to a nearby school and alerted the army.

Troops secured the bakkie and then plucked Esme and the children out through the windows.

BRIDGE
Earlier police drafted extra men into Douglas. A spokesman said: "We are shifting people to higher ground and all policemen in the northern Cape have been mobilised.

Extra men have been drafted into the town to shift people and they are being assisted by the police helicopter that has been flown down from Pretoria.

It was expected that parts of Delportshoop would be flooded this morning. The approaches to the bridge across the Modder between Kimberley and Hopetown were under water.

At least 20 houses at Ritchie were flooded and the power supply was disrupted.

Jacobsdal is partly submerged. People living in low-lying areas along the Orange river near Prieska have left their homes.

Jagersfontein has been cut off. Another 93mm of rain fell there last night. Farm dams have broken and one farmer has lost 600 sheep.

Emergency supplies are being organised for flood victims in the south-western Free State and the Northern Cape. Supplies, including 200 blankets and 40 stretchers, are being taken to Edenburg.

OVERFLOWING

A Defence Force spokesman in Kimberley said the bridge over the Modder river to Hope town had been washed away and the rail bridge over the river had collapsed.

The direct route from Kimberley to the Transvaal had been closed and motorists should travel via Barkly West.

The Hendrik Verwoerd and the P K le Roux dams on the Orange are overflowing. Early yesterday the Krugerdrift dam west of Bloemfontein was 191 percent full.

Washaways occurred overnight on the railway between Kimberley, Hotshel and Postmasburg in the Northern Cape. The railway line across the Harts River was seriously damaged.

President Botha yesterday declared the floods in the Free State a disaster as the death toll rose to at least 16.

A disaster has been declared in Bloemfontein, Boshof, Brandfort, Botshabelo, Dewetsdorp, Edenburg, Fauresmith, Jacobsdal, Jagersfontein, Koffiefontein, Petrusburg, Phillipolis, Reddersburg, Rouxville, Smithfield, Springfontein, Trompsburg, Wepener and Zastron.

An appeal has been made for contributions to an emergency fund. Food and clothing will be accepted at regional offices of Dr van Niekerk's department and money can be sent to the Director of Fundraising, Emergency Fund, Private Bag X63, Pretoria 0001. — Staff Reporters and Argus Correspondents.

Natal Midlands.....	17 538
Newholme.....	23 300
North Coast.....	17 097
Northern Natal.....	18 162
Phoenix.....	51 226
Red Hill.....	16 488
Reservoir Hills.....	16 103
Springfield.....	18 207
Stanger.....	18 072
Southern Natal.....	15 083
Tongaat.....	16 506
Umzimto.....	16 117
Verulam.....	20 320
PROV. TOTAL.....	531 357

TRANSVAAL

Actonville.....	10 336
Central Rand.....	16 688
Eastern Transvaal.....	9 803
Laudium.....	12 681
Lenasia Central.....	8 609
Lenasia East.....	8 640
Lenasia West.....	10 104
North Western Transvaal.....	14 654
PROV. TOTAL.....	91 515
REP. TOTAL.....	644 001

Foreign media: applications to visit RSA refused

7. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether any applications by foreign journalists or other members of the foreign media to visit South Africa in 1987 were refused; if so, (a) how many, (b) what were the names of the newspapers and/or organizations involved, (c) what were the main reasons for refusing these applications and (d) in respect of what specified period is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

Yes.

(a) 186

(b) and (c) It is not considered expedient to disclose information of this nature, as an application for a visa is a personal matter between the applicant and the Department of Home Affairs.

(d) From 1 January 1987 to 31 December 1987.

Industrial accidents

29. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Manpower:

(1) How many workmen in each race group (a) suffered permanent disablement and (b) died as a result of injuries sustained at work in the latest specified year for which figures are available:

(2) (a) how many industrial accidents occurred in the Republic in that year, (b) what amount was paid out by the Accident Fund in respect of such accidents and (c) what was the total period for which persons injured in such accidents were absent from work in that year?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

The latest figures available are for 1985.

(1) (a) Whites	1 465
Asians	186
Coloureds	1 300
Blacks	17 180
(b) Whites	138
Asians	28
Coloureds	94
Blacks	1 291
(2) (a) 241 820	
(b) R90 117 742	
(c) 2 989 118 man-days	

Industrial accidents

34. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Manpower:

(1) (a) How many industrial accidents occurred in the latest specified year for which information is available and (b) what was the total cost of these accidents to (i) the State, (ii) the Accident Fund and (iii) insurance companies:

(2) (a) how many persons (i) applied for and (ii) received compensation in terms of the Workmen's Compensation Act, No 30 of 1941 and (b) what was the total amount paid out in compensation in that year.

(3) what was the total period for which the persons injured in such accidents were absent from work?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

The latest figures available are for the year 1985.

(1) (a) 241 820	
(b) (i) R 9 433 934	
(ii) R90 117 742	
(iii) R45 757 070	
(2) (a) (i) 247 236	
(ii) 241 820	
(b) R155 088 888	
(3) 2 989 118 man-days	

Kruger National Park: animals culled

75. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

Whether any animals were culled in the Kruger National Park during the period 1 April 1987 up to the latest specified date for which information is available; if so, how many head of each species?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

Yes, for the period 1 April 1987 to 31 January 1988.

Elephants	189
Buffalo	1 754
Hippopotami	194

Kruger National Park: by-products depot

76. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) What was the total value of the products produced by the by-products depot in the Kruger National Park during the period 1 April 1987 up to the latest specified date for which information is available:

(2) what was the profit or loss shown by the depot at the end of this period?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

(1) Period 1 April 1987 to 31 January 1988	R2 295 130.00
(2) Period 1 April 1987 to 31 January 1988	R1 442 247.00 (Profit)

Applications for deregulation

77. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services:

(a) How many applications for deregulation have been (i) received, (ii) investigated and (iii) granted in terms of the Temporary Removal of Restrictions on Economic Activities Act, No 87 of 1986, since 13 February 1987, (b) in how many cases has deregulation taken place and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER IN THE STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ENTRUSTED WITH ADMINISTRATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES:

(a) (i) 10	
(ii) 10 of which 5 have not yet been completed	
(iii) None	
(b) None	
(c) 11 February 1988	

National Liquor Board

79. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

What was the cost of operating the National Liquor Board in the latest specified year for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

R852 669 during the 1986/87 financial year. This amount includes the expenditure in respect of the Directorate: Liquor Affairs in the Department of Trade and Industry.

Note: The amount of R847 480 for 1986/87 as furnished in the reply to question number 44 of 21 May 1987 represented an estimate.

Citizenship certificates issued

94. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

How many citizenship certificates (a) (i) had been issued and (ii) remained to be issued as at 31 December 1987, and (b) were issued in 1987, to citizens of each self-governing territory?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

The hon member is referred to the reply in this House to the written Question No 78 of 1987.

Publications/objects prohibited

263. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether the possession of any publications or objects was declared prohibited in 1987 in terms of section 9(3) of the Publications Act, No 42 of 1974; if so, how many publications or objects in terms of section 47(2)(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f), respectively?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

Yes.

Section 47(2)(a)	64
(b)	3
(c)	2
(d)	6
(e)	70
(f)	—

Reclassifications

266. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(a) What total number of persons in each category applied to be reclassified from one race group to another in 1987 and (b) how many of these applications were unsuccessful in each case?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

White to Cape Coloured	(a) 5	(b) 1
Cape Coloured to White	313	69
Cape Coloured to Chinese	4	—
White to Chinese	1	—

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

Own Affairs:

Amounts spent on housing

4. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works:

What amounts were spent by his Department in the 1987-88 financial year on the construction of housing for Whites in (a) Cape Town, (b) Durban, (c) Pietermaritzburg, (d) Pretoria, (e) Port Elizabeth, (f) Kimberley, (g) East London, (h) Bloemfontein and (i) Johannesburg?

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND WORKS:

Amounts spent per metropolitan area for the period 1 April 1987 until 31 December 1987 are as follows:

- (a) R6 985 122
- (b) R9 709 319
- (c) R1 276 951
- (d) R1 914 733
- (e) R2 300 977
- (f) R Nil
- (g) R2 320 727
- (h) R3 148 945
- (i) R15 382 759

Housing assistance: amounts spent

6. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works:

What amount was spent by the State in respect of housing assistance to the White population group in the latest specified financial year for which figures are available?

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND WORKS:

R94 930 789.

Drought relief: financial assistance

12. Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply:

What was the total amount of financial assistance rendered by his Department in the form of drought relief during 1987 or the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY:

R206 138 050
(1 April 1987-31 January 1988)

Durban: accommodation units built

34. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works:

How many accommodation units for aged White persons were built in the Durban municipal area with financial assistance from the State in 1987?

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND WORKS:

24 double units for the accommodation of 48 aged persons.

1 500 are evacuated from Douglas as wall of water hits

SM
24/1/88

Staff Reporters

A massive wall of water hit the little northern-Cape town of Douglas today after tearing its way through Ritchie yesterday afternoon and forcing the evacuation of 1 500 people.

At least one person, a woman, is missing and feared drowned. No details are yet available on flood damage in the town, but police said most people had already been evacuated.

Police said the town was in great danger because the Spitskop Dam on the Harts River had burst and tons of water poured down the Vaal and joined the water raging down the Modder.

An urgent flood warning was yesterday issued to residents of Douglas, helpless in the face of raging rivers.

This morning the large mass of water from the Modder River moved toward Douglas and hit the town, which is at the confluence of the flooding Modder and Riet rivers.

A spokesman for the Joint Operations Centre in the northern Cape said the level of the Harts River at Delpportshoop and the Vaal River at Douglas was still rising.

It was expected that parts of Delpportshoop might be flooded today.

The approaches to the bridge across the Modder River on the road between Kimberley and Hopetown were already under water.

At least 20 houses at Ritchie were under water and the power supply to the town was disrupted.

Jacobsdal is partly submerged. Peo-

ple living in the low-lying areas along the Orange River in the vicinity of Prieska have also left their homes.

Jagersfontein has been cut off from the rest of the country. A further 93 mm of rain fell at the town last night. Many farm dams in the district have broken and one farmer has lost 600 sheep.

The Cape Provincial Administration has supplied the residents of Warrenton with 30 tents, as 160 houses in the town's black residential area have been washed away. Tents are also being taken to Petrusburg, where about 50 black families have been left homeless by the floods.

The Kimberley-Douglas road, which was under water for several kilometres, had been closed, thereby cutting all road links between Kimberley and Upington. The road between Kimberley and the Transvaal is also closed.

Two large dams on the Orange River, the Hendrik Verwoerd and the P K le Roux, are overflowing.

Early yesterday the Krugersdrift Dam west of Bloemfontein was 191 percent full, creating a danger for all the areas along the Modder River.

A large number of people were stranded at Edenburg which was cut off from the rest of the province. Food was being supplied by helicopter.

Four roads from Bloemfontein have been re-opened — those leading north to Winburg and Brandfort, and east to Thaba Nchu and Dewetsdorp, but the provincial inspection service again warned motorists to drive carefully on

re-opened roads. Only vehicles of less than 1,6 tons were allowed.

Other roads still closed were those across the Harts River between Delpportshoop and Ulco and across the Riet River near Jacobsdal in the south-western Free State.

● See pages 3 and 9.

More heavy showers today

PRETORIA. — The government weather bureau expects more heavy showers today over a wide area. This includes south and central Free State, north-eastern Cape, Lesotho and the south-western parts of Natal.

And, according to the Water Affairs Department, the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam was approaching 120% full late yesterday.

The overflow is gushing downstream into the P M K le Roux Dam which was expected to overflow last night.

Water levels continue to rise in other dams.

Cost may be 'tens of millions'

PRETORIA. — The Free State provincial administration says the cost of repairing the havoc caused by the unprecedented floods over the southern parts of the province could amount to tens of millions of rands.

A provincial spokesman said that till the water subsided it was impossible to get an accurate picture, but the costs would be "high".

Roads in many parts have been undermined and washed away, dams have been breached and bridges in some areas have collapsed or been weakened. Damage caused by rail washaways and to Post Office equipment will swell the overall cost.

'Once in 200 years' deluge

JOHANNESBURG. — The massive weather system stretching from north to south over the southern Free State is a "once in 200 years" occurrence, weather experts say.

The massive deluge in the country's interior is being caused by a unique 15-day influx of moist tropical air from the north meeting up with a strong frontal low sweeping in from the west, says Pretoria Weather Bureau chief forecaster Mr Mike Edwards.

The powerful Atlantic high ridging in from the south-east has caused a virtual standstill of the combined upper and lower atmosphere low-pressure systems, which together act as a "magnet" for the moist air pouring in from the north and south.

Ladysmith 'back on its feet'

DURBAN. — Mopping up in the flood-hit Natal inland town of Ladysmith was progressing satisfactorily and the town was "almost back on its feet", town clerk Mr Peter Hurter said yesterday.

However, damage to municipal services such as roads, storm-water drainage and other amenities has been estimated at more than R1 500 000.

The losses of individual families will be known only today once they have returned to their homes after spending the past two nights in civic halls.

Rail services, which had been disrupted between Ladysmith and Harrismith, were expected to be back to normal today, a SATS spokesman in Durban said.

From page 1

ing that "further heavy falls are possible over the southern Free State and will spread into north-eastern Cape, Lesotho and south-western and southern Natal".

Loud-hailers and megaphones were being used by army and civil-defence units yesterday along a 200km stretch of the Orange River to warn people to evacuate low-lying ground threatened by floods.

Mr De Jager said 52 houses had been evacuated late last night "but we will probably have to evacuate more tomorrow — perhaps a third of the town comprising 150 homes or more".

A coloured school opposite Douglas was washed away on Monday night and several houses flooded from the 250mm of rain which have fallen there since Sunday.

A helicopter airlifted food to the residents, who were being housed in a church hall and community centre yesterday.

The rains — the first in 12 years of drought — had finally stopped falling at the town about 3pm yesterday, and no more was expected — "but we are going to have our hands full just dealing with all the floodwater from upstream".

Furniture and possessions were being taken from threatened homes and moved to the Douglas Co-operative and livestock were being moved to higher ground.

Families in lower-lying areas had moved in with friends or booked into the local hotel out of the reach of the anticipated tide.

Mr De Jager said life had continued "relatively normally" with telephone communications and electricity supplies still functioning yesterday. School had also continued as usual.

Added to the flood current was the possible collapse of the 61,3-million m³ earth-walled Spitskop Dam on the Harts River which could happen today. The dam was at 200% of capacity yesterday and was not expected to hold out.

Mr Dirk Viljoen, town clerk of Prieska, said the floodwaters were expected to reach them about 11 hours after it hit Douglas.

Fourteen houses close to the river were evacuated late yesterday and a further 13 would be cleared this morning. Scores of people had had to be relocated.

The liaison officer of the police in the Northern Cape, Captain Karel van der Westhuizen, announced late yesterday that the evacuation of Ritchie had begun. The town is just below the confluence of the Modder and Riet rivers.

Capt Van der Westhuizen said that from the air it appeared that a vast quantity of water from the Modder River was approaching Jacobsdal and only the roofs of houses were visible on many farms.

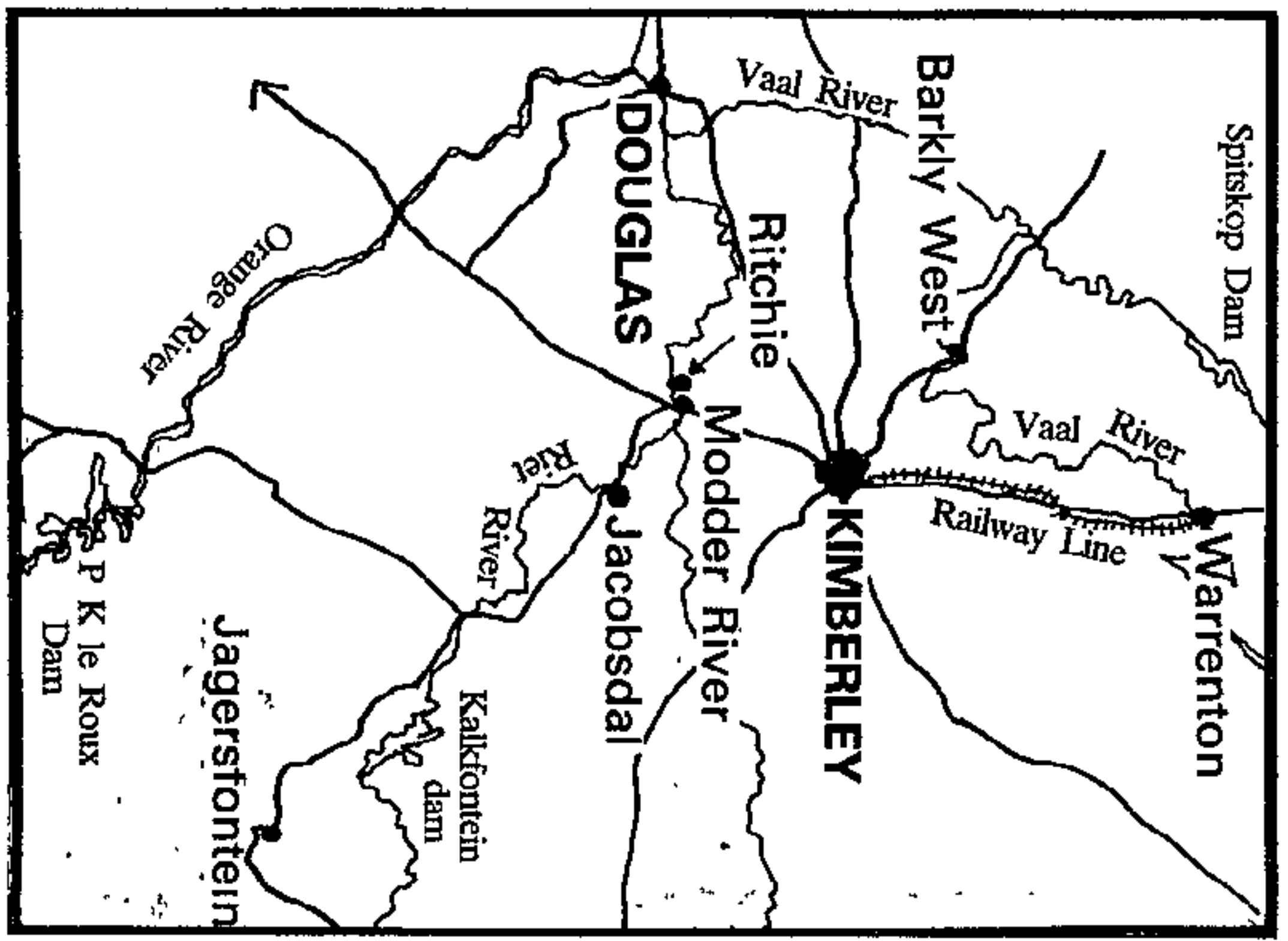
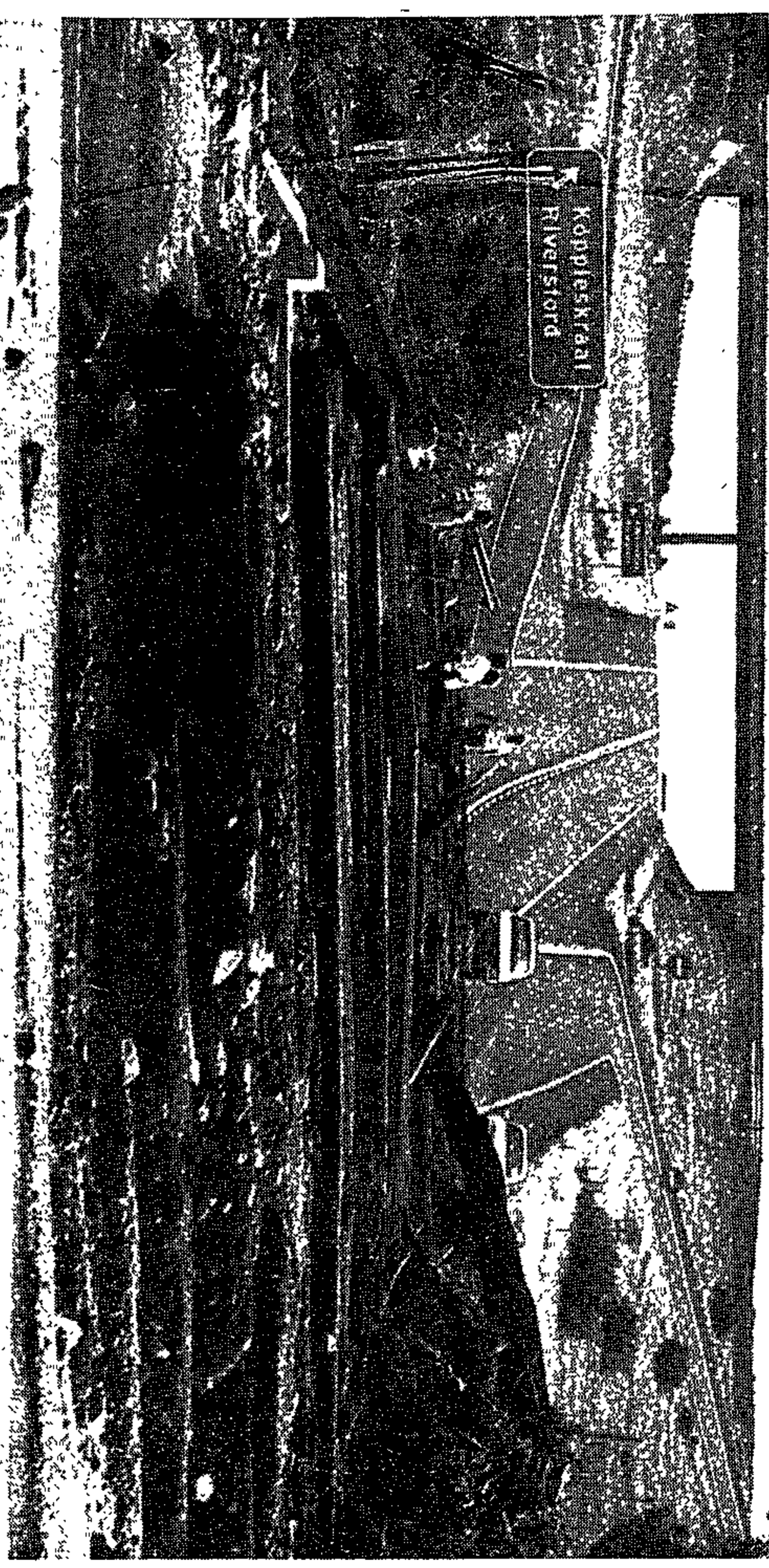
The Administrator of the Free State, Mr Louis Botha — who flew over the flood area in a helicopter, said the situation in the province was critical, but it appeared that the floodwater was receding in the east.

Although the N1 between Bloemfontein and Winburg had been reopened last night, a provincial

Town waits for a wall of water

APC Times 24/2/88

56



DANGER AREA ... Douglas is at the confluence of the Orange and Vaal rivers where the danger is expected today.

Staff Reporters and Own Correspondent
EARLY this morning, the Northern Cape town of Douglas — situated on the confluence of the Vaal and Orange rivers — was on round-the-clock alert as a wall of floodwater from three swollen rivers raced towards the town.

Army, police and civil-defence teams were working non-stop to minimize the massive expected damage which could be wrought on the low-lying residential areas of the town, the Douglas town clerk Mr Louis de Jager said.

The water mass from the Free State floods surging down the Orange River system look set to create havoc in Douglas and other towns on the banks of the river including Prieska, Groblershoop and — by Friday or Saturday — Upington.

In all, hundreds of people have left their homes before the rising waters in the south-western Free State and the northern and north-western Cape.

Evacuated
 Apart from those in Douglas and Prieska, hundreds of residents of Ritchie, Delporthoop, Jacobsdal and Jagerfontein have also fled before the inundation.

A Defence Force spokesman said Delporthoop had been evacuated as a precaution against the flood approaching from the Spitskop Dam and it is possible that Ritchie will also be flooded.

The water mass is expected to be 2.5 times the size of the previous worst flood in 1974 when it reaches Douglas.

Its flow rate is an estimated 10 000 cubic msecond — and is expected to increase as the Weather Bureau in Pretoria issues warnings of further heavy rains upstream. The bureau said in its special warn-

END OF THE ROAD The bridge and section of the national road at the Kaffer River — about 50km from Bloemfontein — was washed away after a dam, above the river overflowed during Saturday's heavy downpour in the Free State.

19 Free State districts declared disaster areas

BY ANTHONY JOHNSON

PRESIDENT P W Botha last night declared 19 flood-affected magisterial districts in the Free State as disaster areas.

The number may be increased when other districts "become affected or when more damages are reported", Dr Willie van Niekerk, who heads the cabinet flood relief committee, said last night.

The areas proclaimed a "disaster" for the purposes of the Fund-Raising Act are: Bloemfontein, Boshof, Brandfort, Botshabelo, Dawaesdorp, Edenburg, Fauresmith, Jagerfontein, Jagersfontein, Koffiefontein, Petrusburg, Philippolis, Reddersburg, Rou-

ville, Smithfield, Springfontein, Trompsburg, Wepener and Zastron.

The possibility of declaring Ladysmith in Natal a disaster area will be discussed at high level in Cape Town later this week.

According to a Sapa report the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, said a survey of the damage of the flood-devastated parts of the Northern and North-Western Cape is being conducted with the help of the Provincial Civil Defence Service. The results of the survey are expected early today.

Train services to Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London and Bloemfontein had

come to a standstill and regular services were not expected before the weekend, a South African Transport Services spokesman, Mr Japie Rady, said last night.

Meanwhile, the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willem van Niekerk, has called for generous donations for the emergency fund.

Members of the public or organizations may send financial donations to victims of the flood to the Director of Fundraising, Emergency Fund, Private Bag X63, Pretoria, 0001.

Other donations like food and clothes may

Burst rivers drown 2, leave 1000s homeless

By Paul Olivier

KIMBERLEY — Two children drowned, hundreds of thousands of hectares of farmland were devastated, thousands of people were left homeless and more than 10 000 houses were flooded as rivers in the northern Cape burst their banks.

The Modder River near Kimberley, usually only a few metres wide, was 20 km wide yesterday.

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Families huddled

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All I have left are my children,
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This is most terrible."

Mr. Jack More said he had

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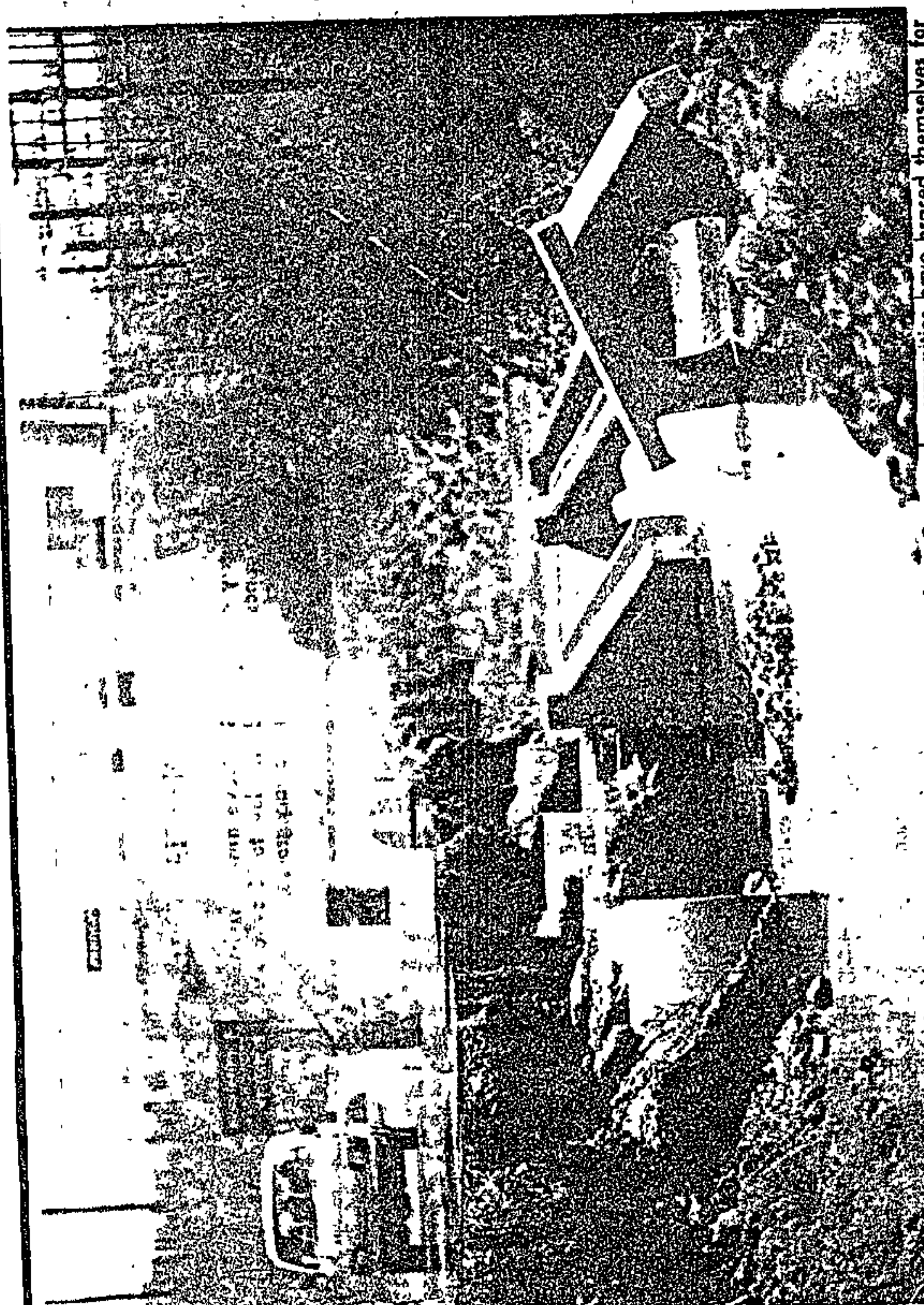
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Reports of widespread flood havoc have been received from the Northern Cape and communities have braced themselves for further flooding, but traffic is some areas is still managing to get through. © Picture by Ken Oosterbroek.

Some road, rail links are restored

Road and rail links between
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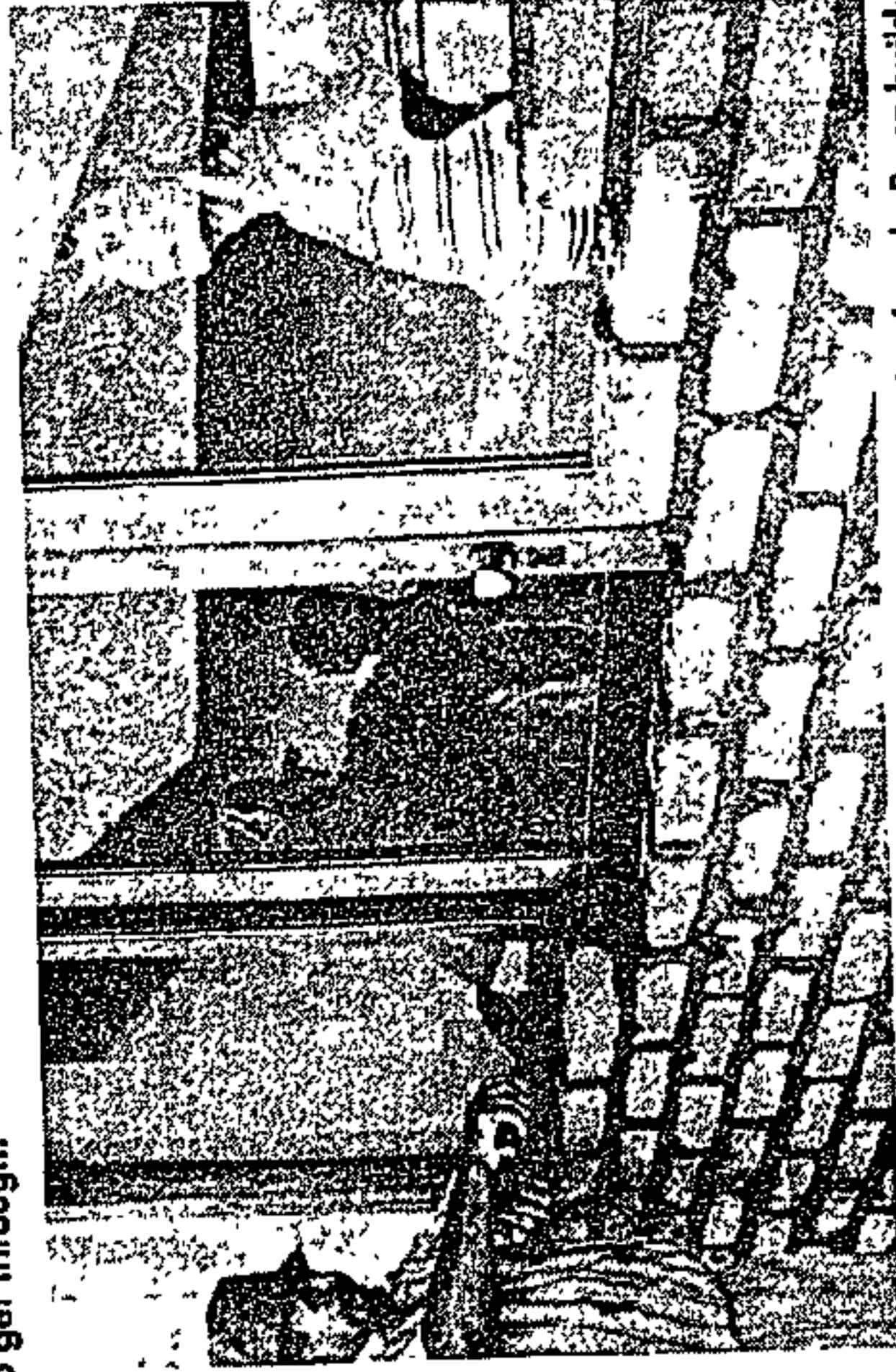
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ing a "wall" outside one of the windows at her home.

Urgent bid to prevent Bloemfontein water curbs

By Adele Baleta

Engineers and workmen helped by the SADF are battling
to restore Bloemfontein's water supply before severe re-
strictions have to be imposed on the city.

Work began yesterday with the re-erecting of Eskom
pylons at the Weigedacht Dam to restore the supply.
It is expected to be back to normal today if clear
weather continues.

The SADF, the Department of Water Affairs and Eskom
teams from Bloemfontein, Bethlehem and Hennenman
were at the scene yesterday. A Puma helicopter yesterday
lifted into position three cables — each 1 km long — and
six wooden pylons.

According to Bloemfontein's City Engineer, Mr John
Eagar, severe restrictions would have to have been im-
posed if the water supply was not restored today. Sup-
plies to Botshabelo near the city are also threatened.

ARGUS 25/2/88 (56)

Upington braced for disaster

From VERNON BRENT
Staff Reporter and Argus
Correspondents

UPINGTON. — Hundreds of residents, farmers, and farm workers have begun to evacuate the low-lying areas in and around this Northern Cape town.

The community is taking no chances as the marauding flood waters, which have so far claimed at least 16 lives and caused appalling damage, threaten to push the Orange River to an unprecedented rise of 12 metres.

The first flood waters reached Upington at 2am today.

By this evening the rate of flow will have reached twice the flood warning rate, 6 000 cubic metres per second (cumecs).

According to estimates by the Department of Water Affairs, the full force of the flood — an incredible 10 000 cumecs — will be thundering down the Orange River on Saturday morning.

RESIDENTS EVACUATING

The town is bracing itself for the worst flood in its history.

Residents in the riverside suburb of Middelpoort are evacuating, moving their furniture to warehouses on high ground.

Some are packing sandbags against the walls of their houses, using a rough rule of thumb that flood waters will be two metres higher than in 1974.

At Kanon Island, an intensely cultivated piece of land sandwiched between two arms of the Orange River 20km east of Upington, farmers and their workers have started to evacuate.

WIDESPREAD HAVOC

Meanwhile, reports of widespread havoc are being received from the Free State and many parts of the northern Cape.

At least 16 people are known to have died, but the death toll could be considerably higher.

It will be days before an accurate total will be known, and weeks and even months before the appalling damage to farms, roads, railway lines, bridges, dams and stock can be assessed.

Yesterday a farmer in the Ulco area, Mr TD Paton, 64, died of a heart attack when he was about to be being airlifted to safety from his flooded farm near Kimberley.



DROWNED, MISSING

The 16th victim of the floods was reported to have drowned in Botshabelo, the massive settlement 50km east of Bloemfontein. Two more people have been reported missing in the area.

The body of an unidentified woman was spotted floating in the Modder river near Ritchie by a helicopter crew last night, a spokesman for the Joint Flood Operations Centre in Kimberley said.

An unsuccessful search for the body was made last night and was resumed again at first light.

Meanwhile, at Delpoortshoop, which was hit last night by floodwaters from the burst Spitskop Dam, 250 houses were reported to have been flooded.

DANGER ZONES

Douglas, at the confluence of the Riet/Modder/Vaal and Orange Rivers has already been struck by the initial rush of water, with the main flood expected sometime after midnight tonight.

Large sections of the town have been declared danger zones and telephone lines in the region have been cut. About 270 people in the town were evacuated by air.

Ten women, who had gathered on Sonderdraai farm near Perdeberg, had to be airlifted to safety by helicopters when they became cut off by flood water last night.

At Prieska, on the Orange river, flood water is reported to be rising rapidly and families are being evacuated from 14 white and 12 coloured residential area houses.

Turn to page 3, col 1)

of Upington watches the bricking up of the windows and doors of her house on. She has moved the furniture to high ground and hopes that her novel remedy will keep out the fury of the flooding Orange.



P.T.O.

INUNDATED: About 15 low-lying houses at Jacobsdal on the Riet River, southern Free State, were flooded yesterday. Early warning of expected flooding allowed owners to evacuate.

WORKERS.

Agas 25/2/88 (56)

Upington braced

(Continued from page 1)

The Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, has warned people living in the flood plain of the Orange River to move from their homes to avoid any further loss of life as the river rages down the Orange through the north-western Cape to the sea.

Meanwhile, 40 police and two helicopters were flown into Upington from Pretoria yesterday to be on standby.

As the floods receded at Kimberley, officials began to count the cost.

So far it has been established that two children drowned, hundreds of thousands of hectares of farmland were devastated, thousands of people left homeless and more than 10 000 houses flooded as rivers in the Northern Cape burst their banks.

FAMILIES HUDDLED

The Modder River near Kimberley, usually only a few metres wide, was 20km wide yesterday.

All along the banks of the Modder River families were huddled together with sheep and cattle on dry spots, often a few hundred metres away from their flooded homes and farmlands.

Chairman of the Cabinet Committee coordinating flood relief, Dr Willie van Niekerk, made a fresh appeal to the public to donate cash, food, clothing or blankets to flood victims.

Money may be deposited in the National Disaster Fund at any branch of Volkskas, account number 00 00 28 29 28.

Donations of food and clothing may be made at any regional office of the Department of National Health.

● See page 35 and 36

Floods likely to cause shortages in Western Cape

Staff Reporter

SHORTAGES of certain commodities are expected to hit the Western Cape as most rail and road links through the flood-devastated areas between Cape Town and the Transvaal remain impassable.

Almost all the roads to Bloemfontein and Johannesburg are closed and motorists have been advised to delay their journeys or to fly.

Some goods trains have begun operating but many routes are still closed.

Mr John Barry, Western Cape general manager for Pick'n Pay, said shortages of some perishable goods had already been experienced.

SHORTAGES RESTRICTED

"We foresee some shortages developing in a week or two," he said.

Shortages should be restricted to certain brands but other brands would be available.

Those companies which did not have factories in the Western Cape would be affected, such as some manufacturers of paperware, cereals, soap powders, detergents and similar products.

He said the Western Cape was self-sufficient as far as fruit and vegetables were concerned but prices of some crops grown in flooded areas might rise.

At the same time there might be surpluses of produce grown in the Cape and normally transported to the Transvaal. This would lead to prices falling.

Mr Deon de Goede, Cape

Town's director of markets, said the supply which could be most affected was that of potatoes.

The Automobile Association has warned that even those roads which are open are still very dangerous and advised against using them.

The situation was changing hourly and advice should be taken before leaving, a spokesman said.

Some train and bus services have been cancelled because of floods in the northern Cape.

A Sats spokesman said that three mainline train services from Cape Town to the Transvaal, including tomorrow's Trans-Karoo, had been cancelled.

Blue Trains scheduled to leave tomorrow and on Monday have been withdrawn and the bus service from Cape Town to Upington today and on Sunday has been cancelled.

Tickets may be rebooked or fares refunded, the spokesman said.

Mr Francoise Louw, a PRO for South African Airways, said the demand for seats on flights had been heavier than usual, but they were coping and seats were still available.

Sats' passengers and livestock stranded by the floods earlier this week had reached their destinations by yesterday.

Some passengers were put on a special flight to Johannesburg while others were put on buses.

But the railways are not expected to be operating normally for some time, Sats PRO Mr Frikkie Stevenson said.

City to give R50 000 for flood victims

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is to contribute R50 000 to the national disaster fund for victims of the floods in the Northern Cape.

Mr Dick Friedlander, the chairman of the executive committee, told the council at its monthly meeting today that rescue staff, technical assistants and "whatever practical assistance we can render" would be made available.

● Pick'n Pay stores in the Western Cape are collection points for tinned food and clothing for the flood victims.

The chain started the collection with 10 000 tins.

● M-Net and a Bloemfontein newspaper have launched a disaster fund.

Contributions may be deposited into account number 479680205 at any branch of Volkskas Bank. Cheques should be made out to "Rampfonds".

Contributions by post should be sent to PO Box 267, Bloemfontein, 9300.

● The Lions Club of Somerset West is arranging a Hottentots Holland collection point until the end of next week for cash, clothing, blankets and food for contributions to flood victims. It will be at Checkers in the town.

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**Natal floods
absorbed ^{CAPE TOWN} 25/2/88
millions R6**

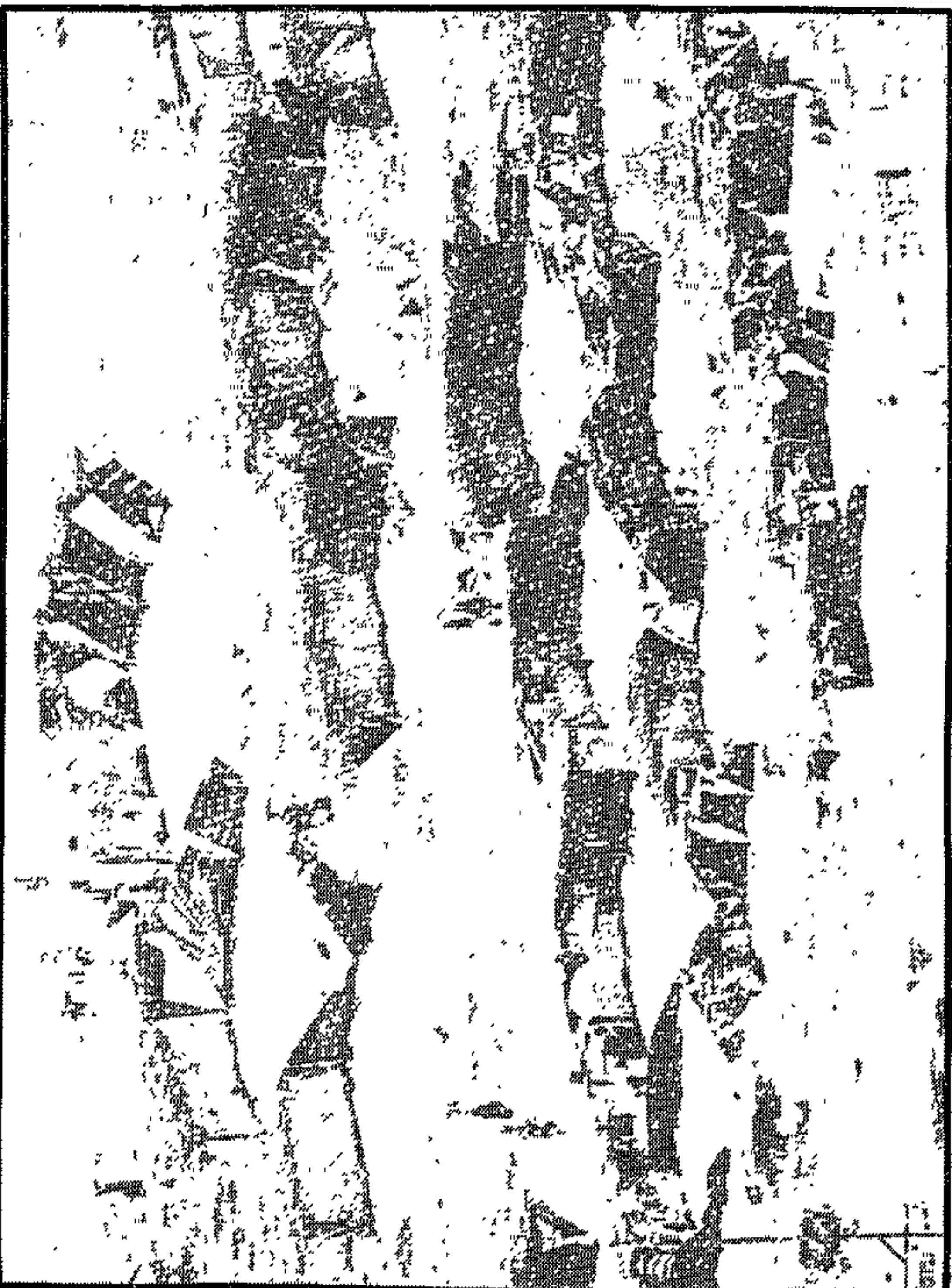
THE Natal floods last year cost the Transport Services R26 million and it faces heavy losses through the current floods in the central and northern sections of the country.

Transport Minister Mr Eli Louw said in his budget speech yesterday that most Natal rail links had been affected and trains "in the Durban area virtually came to a standstill for two days".

Altogether 6 880 employees were involved in the mopping-up operations.

"The heavy downpours in parts of the Free State, Transvaal and Cape resulted in devastating floods accompanied by great damage and heavy losses."

Uppington awaits deluge



EVACUATED: Flood victims from the small Northern Cape town of Ritchie in an emergency camp half a kilometre from the swollen Riet River.

Spectre of the 1974 disaster returns . . . and this time it's going to be worse

From VERNON BRENT in Uppington

THE agonising wait has begun for residents of Uppington on the Orange River.

Although flood-ravaged Bloemfontein, Kimberley and Douglas lie hundreds of kilometres to the east, they know they are directly in the path of the largest deluge of water in memory to scythe its way across South Africa.

The floodwaters are unstoppable. Yesterday it was Douglas, today it is Prieska: inexorably the Orange engulfs the towns along its banks.

By the weekend Uppington's turn will have come, but to residents it is not a question of when, but how high the river will rise.

The spectre of 1974 — when the river rose a disastrous 9.9 metres and raging water destroyed 70 percent of crops and left hundreds homeless — haunts those who have witnessed the awesome power of the river.

And residents have been warned the river

may rise two metres higher this time. In houses where water licked doorsteps in 1974 it could be head-high in living rooms at the weekend.

The river which threatens farmers with ruin has also provided them with the fertile soil which underpins their livelihood.

For about 500 metres on either side of the river, there is a lush vista of fall trees, gardens, grapevines, cotton, lucerne and meadows. Only one kilometre away there is stony desert, scorched by the sun, with red ridges of Kalahari dune.

While the Uppington people wait, a sense of unreality pervades the town as it basks in the summer heat with no hint of rain. However, residents know there is only one course open to the floodwaters, and they are directly in line.

Uppington has a long history of floods. The worst was in 1974 when an estimated R20-million damage was caused and hundreds of people were left homeless. About 1 300 people were rescued by helicopter from rooftops and islands.

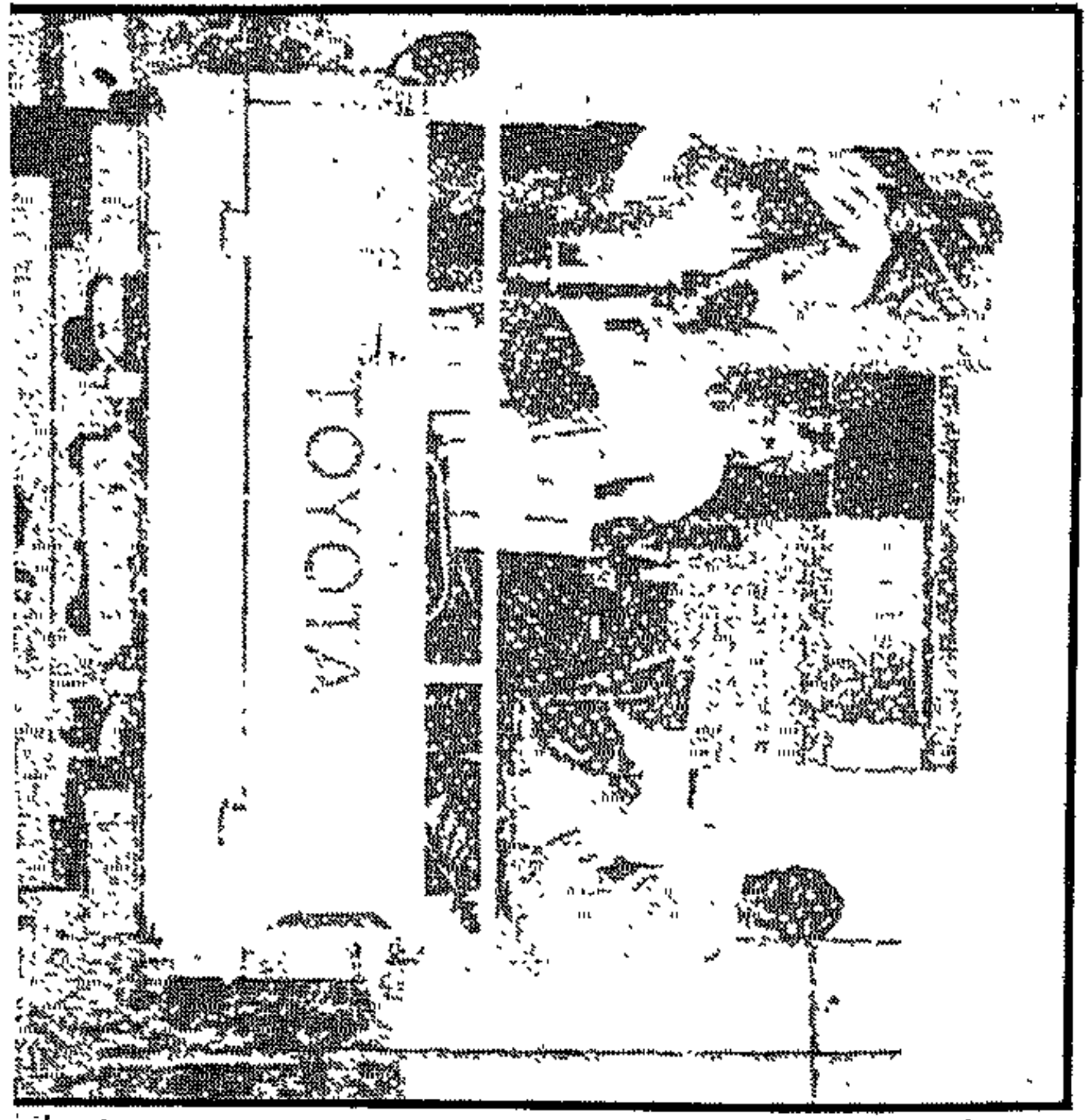
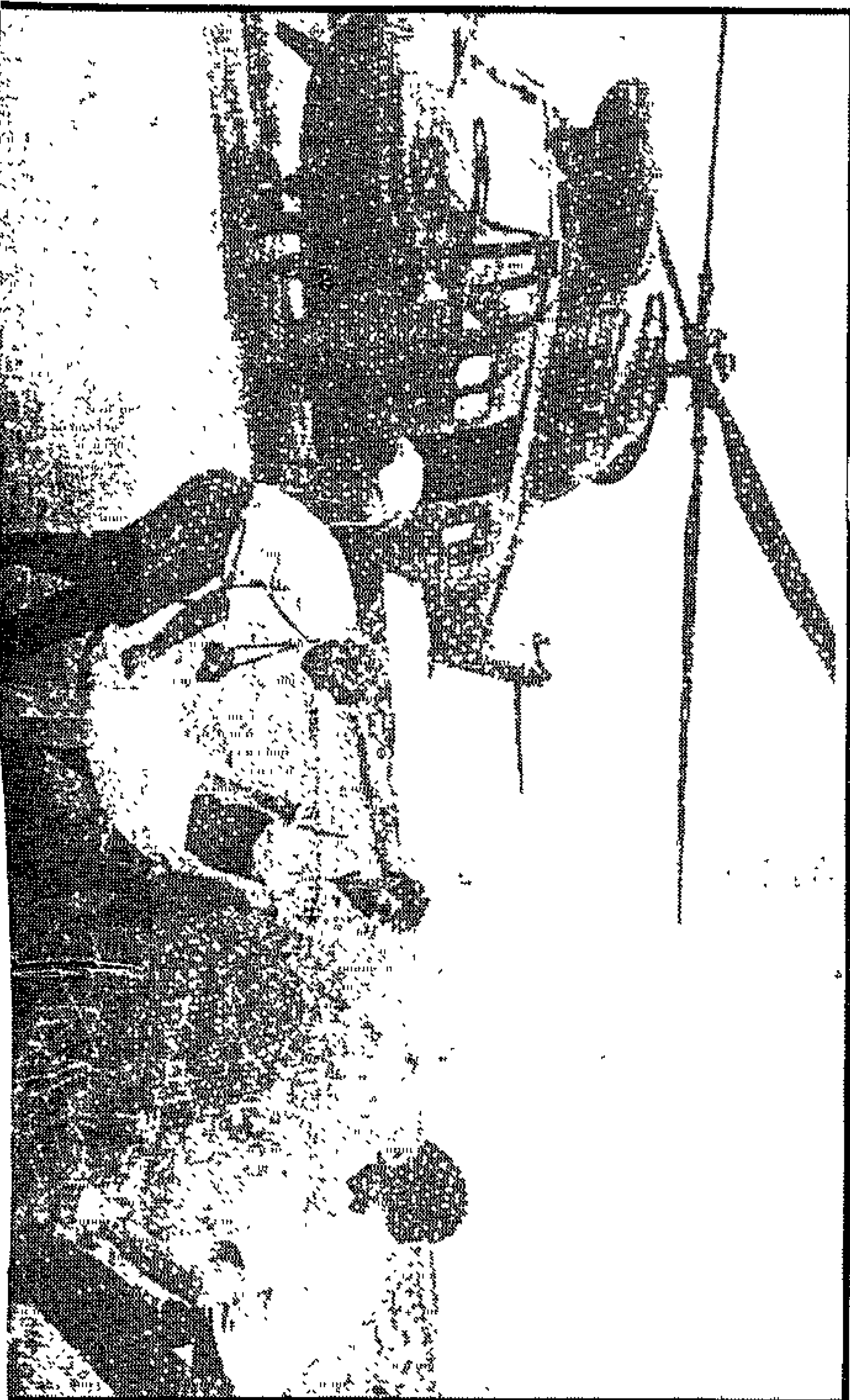
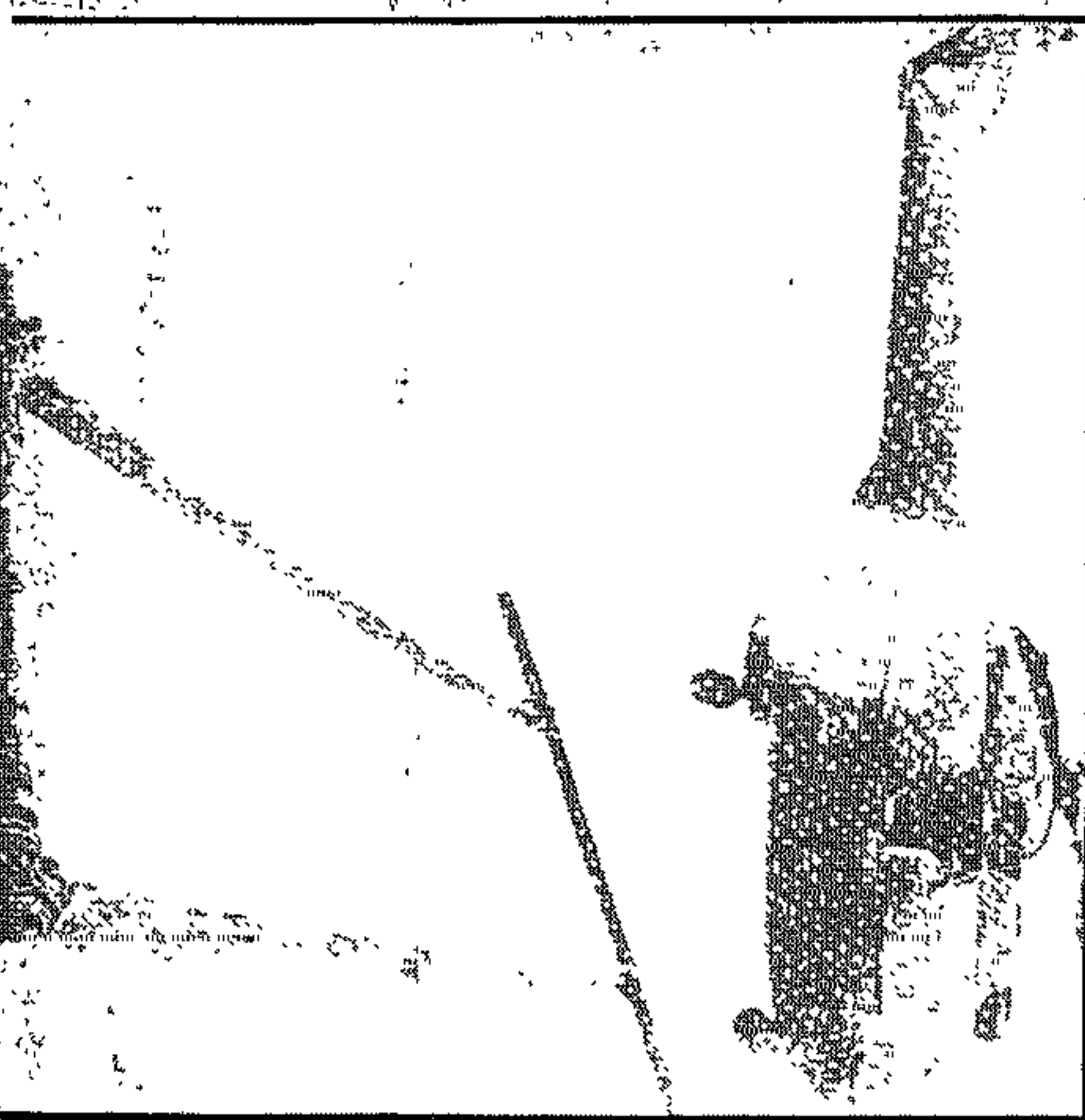
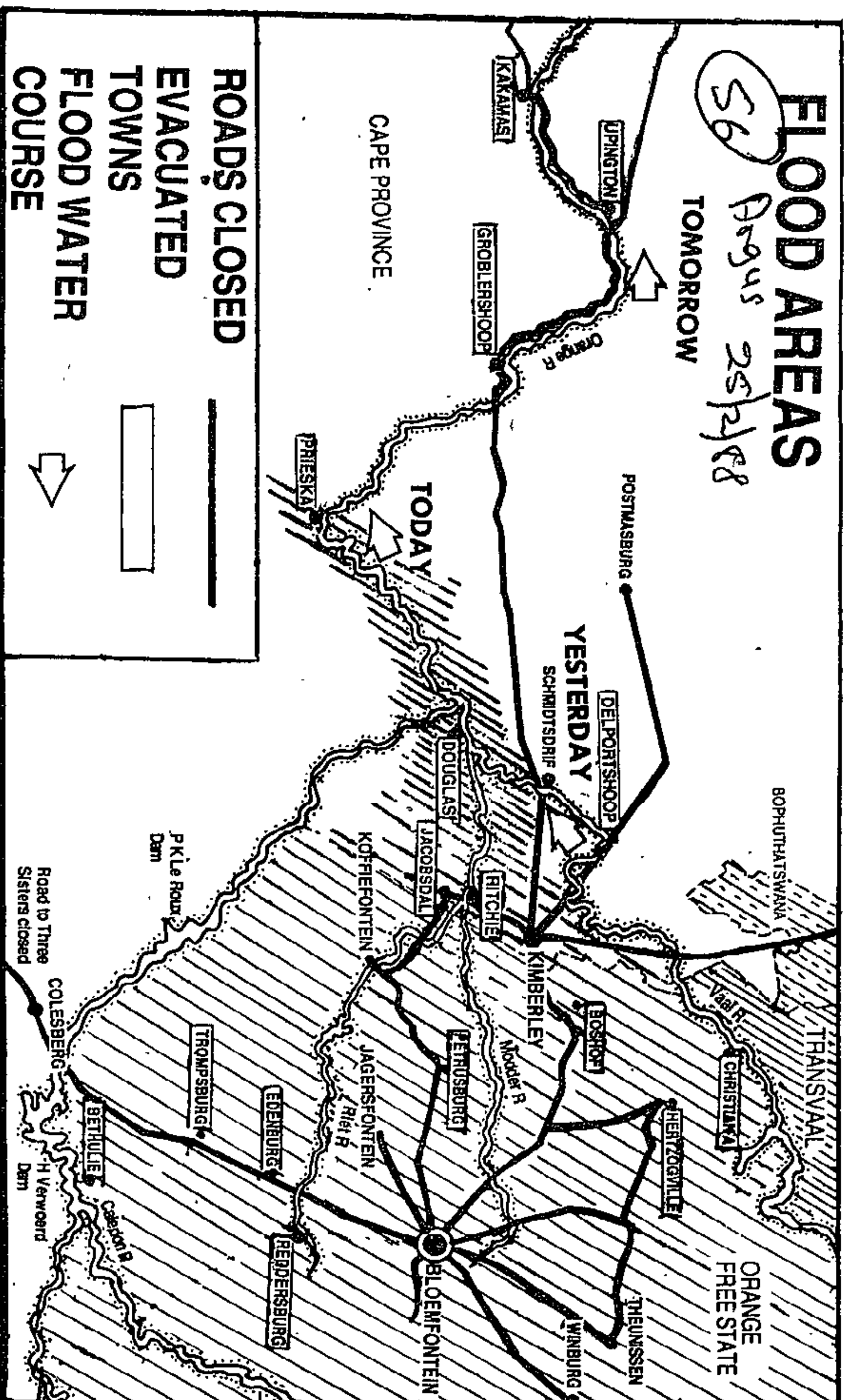
Plane-loads of food were flown in and a huge immunisation programme was under-

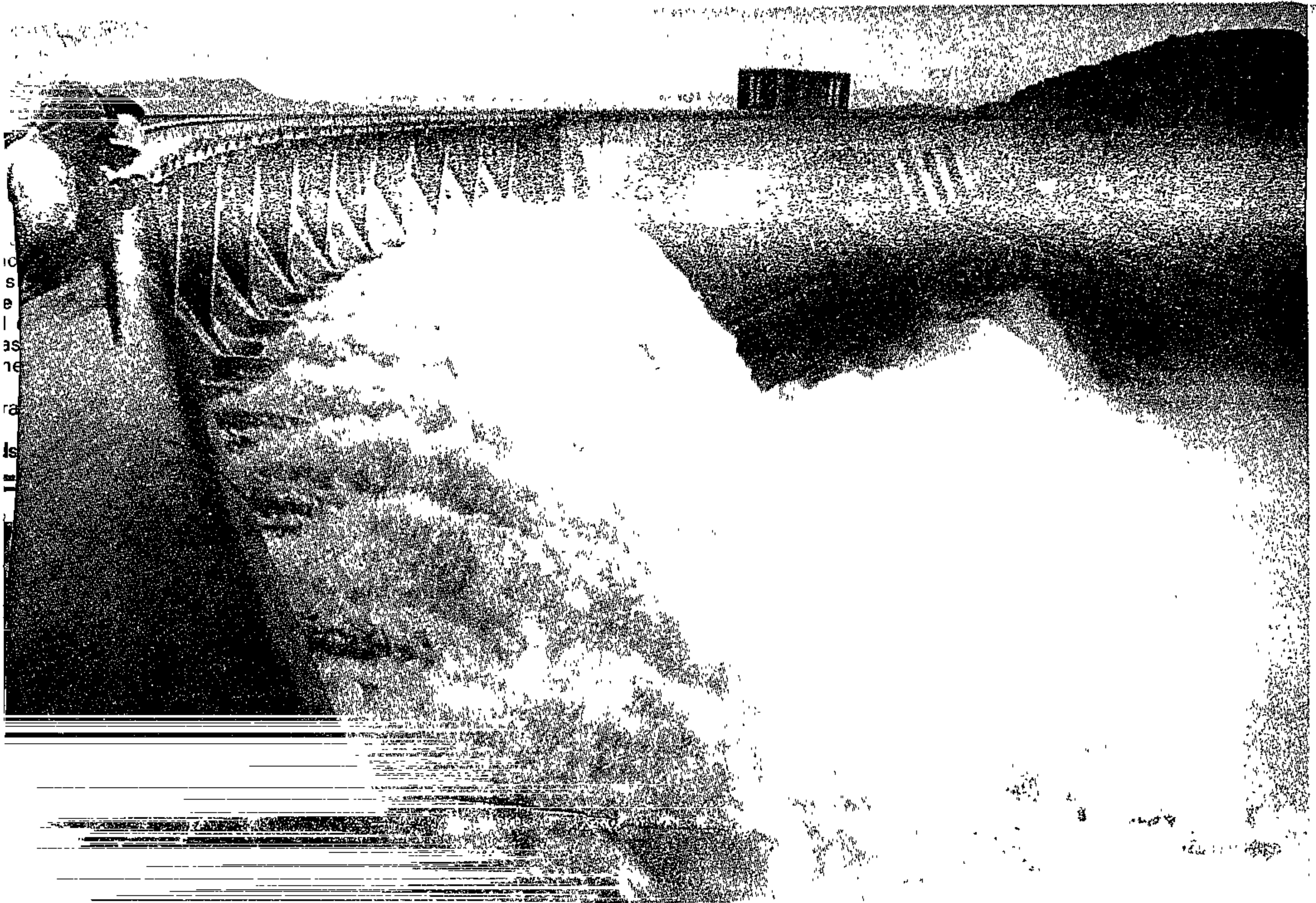
taken after an outbreak of typhoid. The fertile Kanon Island was submerged, except for houses on the ridge.

Afterwards residents were taken to task for not heeding flood warnings and building restrictions were placed on dwellings in the flood path.

In 1976 the river rose to seven metres and retaining walls were strengthened and houses sandbagged.

● A farmworker, Mr Izak Pretorius, 65, said he remembered serious floods in 1934 and again in 1944.





Floodgates of the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam, which was 122,8% full, send tons of muddy water into the Orange River.

Picture: GLENN SHERRATT

CAPE TIMES 25/2/88

Dawn . . . and the peak of the deluge

56

From PATRICK COLLINGS and SAPA

PRIESKA. — Residents of the Northern Cape town of Douglas watched last night as the raging torrent of the Vaal River which hit them yesterday continued to rise at the rate of a metre every half-hour.

The deluge was expected to peak at more than 9 000 tons of water a second by early morning.

By nightfall yesterday one person was missing, 77 houses in the town were already underwater and another 100 homes were threatened as the floodwaters continued on their devastating path.

Earlier Ritchie, up-river from Douglas, was cut off and 57 houses were underwater. There, too, the flood had not reached its peak.

ON PAGE 3

- Orange River flood warning
- Map of flood trail
- RSC gives R10 000 to fund

The flood is expected to swell, with the Weather Bureau warning of more rain, and more evacuations are expected from the areas along the Orange River. About 1 500 people have already been evacuated.

Water supplies, sewerage services, telephone, electricity and major road and rail links have been severely disrupted in the Cape and Free State.

Helicopters were moving in and out of Douglas and Ritchie

into the night, dropping off food, blankets, tents and other necessities to stranded people and airlifting others to higher ground.

Prieska, expected to be cut off when the floods reach it late today, had already evacuated 143 homes as water levels started rising by 4cm every 30 minutes.

Douglas was experiencing a strong flow of water from the Harts and Vaal rivers at 2pm yesterday and a second wall of water from the Modder and Riet rivers was expected to hit the town by 6 last night.

The Department of Water Affairs expected the flood to peak about 3 this morning with a flow of 9 150 tons of water per second.

A Cape Times team in Douglas yesterday saw families calmly

To page 3

P.T.O.

Floods

evacuating their homes in the face of the expected deluge.

Men wearing shorts and holding on to guide ropes strung between trees and walls waded to and from their homes carrying as many of their valuables and possessions as possible.

By yesterday afternoon 77 families had been evacuated from their riverside homes, while other families waited nervously to see if they would also have to evacuate their homes. They feared that their houses would collapse as the rising water steadily submerged the buildings.

The township just outside Douglas was cut off from the town. A local businessman, Mr Freddie Lahoud, said he could hear people in the township shouting for food. Civil defence and Red Cross were, however, able to deliver food to the isolated township.

Two hundred people were evacuated from the township, according to the Cape Provincial Administration's situation report yesterday.

Schools were closed as children helped parents move valuables out of the houses. One woman was seen searching for her dogs.

Mrs Cora Theron, who has been living next to the river for a year and whose family was evacuated on Monday, said she had not realized the water would rise so quickly.

"We have had to leave most of our valuables in the house and I have no idea what their total value is. Our children aren't at school because the schools are closed and the sewage is not functioning. I might not have a home here when this is finished," she said.

Mr Warwick Lovemore, a resident of 21 years' standing, said: "I never thought it could happen to us. You think it happens to places like Laingsburg and Natal."

Officials in the town seemed certain that bridges linking Douglas to the surrounding area would either be washed away or closed.

The town clerk, Mr Louis de Jager, said people were staying with friends and family in the higher part of town. "Others are staying in hotels and in church halls. Some old people have been moved to the provincial hospital."

feared they would suffer thousands of rands of damage if the water were to reach their buildings.

In surrounding areas farmers were moving their livestock to higher ground.

Down-river the towns of Prieska and Upington were preparing for the wall of water to hit them. Mr Dick Viljoen, town clerk of Prieska, said a flood control centre had been set up in the town.

"People are staying with friends and family and we are also housing people in an old school."

The river, usually about one metre deep, was about 5,7 metres deep yesterday afternoon. The Department of Water Affairs expected the peak of the flood to reach Prieska tonight with a flow of 10 700 tons of water a second. The water was flowing at 6 616 tons a second at 6pm yesterday.

In Prieska last night at least a dozen municipal workers with two bulldozers were trying to build a huge sand wall around the Prieska Copperton waterworks to protect it from the rising water.

There was a carnival atmosphere on the Frans Loots Bridge spanning the Orange River, where about 200 local residents were watching the rising water flowing beneath the bridge.

Most of them appeared more excited than afraid. They said they were concerned but quickly added that their homes were well above the water level.

Mr Constant Wahl said there was "a tremor in my heart as I think of all the water that will be passing under or over the bridge but I am not very worried as my house is safe on high ground".

Mr Willem van Wyk said he had just finished building a new swimming pool. "I haven't even had the chance to fill it up yet. I guess I'll just have to let the river fill it up."

The floodwaters are expected to reach Upington by Saturday morning. Mr Piet Venter, a municipal official in the town, said about 30 to 40 houses had been evacuated from the island in the river and from houses on the banks.

Stock had been moved to higher ground and a temporary caravan park had been created to house evacuees.

Western Cape RSC gives R10 000 to disaster fund

Staff Reporter

THE Western Cape Regional Services Council voted unanimously at its monthly meeting yesterday to donate R10 000 to the flood disaster fund.

Mr Fiet Loubser, the chairman, said: "Our hearts go out to those who lost loved ones and those who suffered serious damage."

Checkers deputy managing director Mr Sergio Martinengo said yesterday that the chain would be making all its stores available as collection points for victims of the floods. He appealed to the public to give whatever assistance possible.

At all the stores there would be special bins for donations.

The Western Cape general manager of Pick 'n Pay, Mr John Barry, said collection points for donations would be set up at the chain's Western Cape stores today.

● The SABC announced yesterday that a special fund-raising programme would be held on Good Morning South Africa on Saturday.

Burst rivers drown 2, leave 1000s homeless

By Paul Olivier

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A boy was rescued by helicopter after he spent almost two days in a tree.

Families huddled

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A mother of two children left homeless said: "My heart is broken for the loss I have suffered. All I have left are my children and the clothes we are wearing. This is most terrible."

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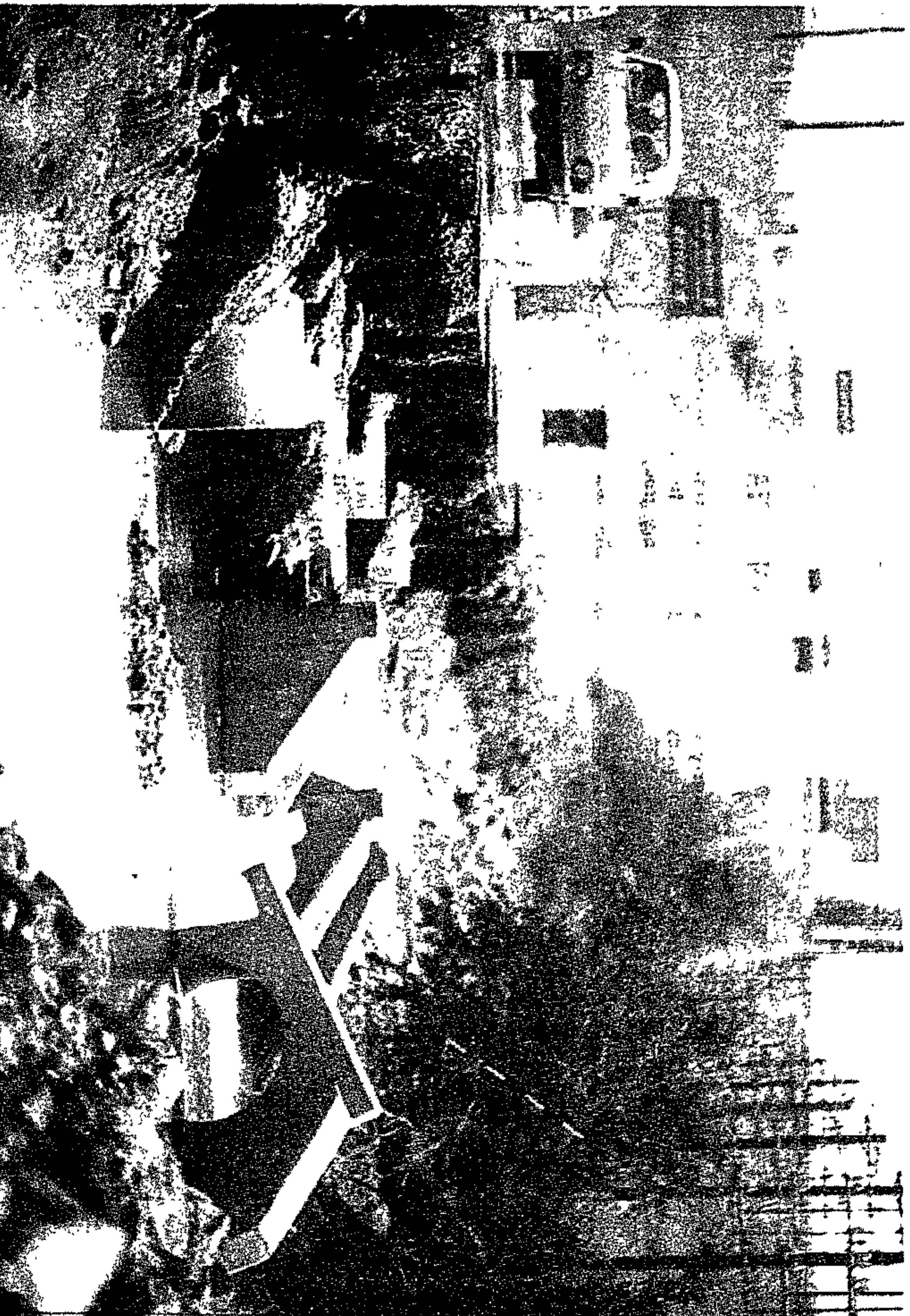
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"We expect the Modder River to reach its peak tonight after rising 1,5 m at Jacobsdal yesterday."

"Two farm dams at Koppieskraal and Plooyesberg, between Modderriver and Douglas, broke yesterday afternoon and will feed the rising wall of water."

Twenty-six dwellings on the bank of the river near Prieska had been evacuated and water in the Orange River near the town was rising by 2 to 4 cm every half hour.

Captain van der Westhuizen said a near impossible emergency operation was staged on Monday night when 10 women were airlifted to safety on the farm Sonderdraai near Paardeberg. They were taken to a railway station nearby.



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Urgent bid to prevent Bloemfontein water curbs

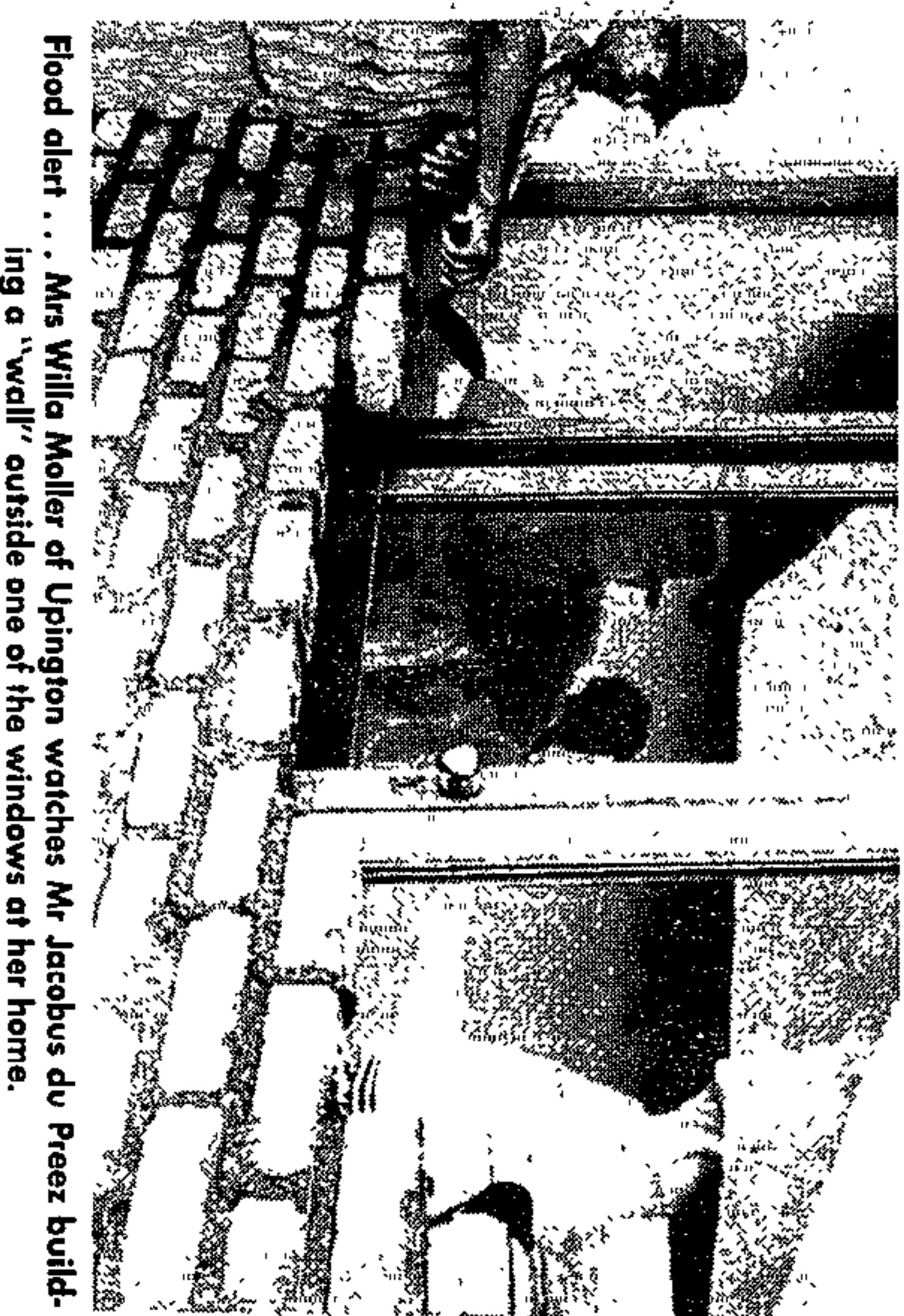
By Adele Baleta

Engineers and workmen helped by the SADF are battling to restore Bloemfontein's water supply, before severe restrictions have to be imposed on the city.

Work began yesterday with the re-erecting of Eskom pylons at the Welgedacht Dam to restore the supply. It is expected to be back to normal today. If clear weather continues.

The SADF, the Department of Water Affairs and Eskom teams from Bloemfontein, Bethlehem and Hennenman were at the scene yesterday. A Puma helicopter yesterday lifted into position three cables — each 1 km long — and six wooden pylons.

According to Bloemfontein's City Engineer, Mr John Eagar, severe restrictions would have to have been imposed if the water supply was not restored today. Supplies to Botshabelo near the city are also threatened.



Flood alert . . . Mrs Willia Moller of Uppington watches Mt. Jacobus du Preez building a "wall" outside one of the windows at her home.

Some road, rail links are restored

Road and rail links between Johannesburg and Kimberley and Johannesburg and Bloemfontein have been partially restored.

Two railway lines between Johannesburg and Kimberley and Johannesburg and Bloemfontein have been re-opened to allow special trains to ferry stranded passengers between the cities, a spokesman for South African Transport Services said today.

A Johannesburg-bound passenger train left Kimberley at 2.15 am. The return journey starts at 7 pm, arriving in Kimberley early tomorrow.

A Bloemfontein-bound train left Johannesburg at 10 am today, due to arrive in the Free State capital at 7.35 pm.

The Automobile Association confirmed this morning that the N1 between Johannesburg and Bloemfontein had been opened to traffic as well as the highway between Johannesburg and Kimberley.

All roads south of Kimberley were impassable, the AA said.

Queenstown hotel closed

The Central Hotel in Cathcart Road, Queenstown, was closed last night after an outer wall of the building collapsed just after 2 pm yesterday.

Two bedrooms on the first floor were exposed and the floor in one of the rooms crashed to the ground floor. The roof over the damaged section also collapsed. No-one was injured.

An engineering consultant, Mr Peter Fischer, said it could have been caused by water seepage. — Sapa.

Mother tells of battle to save her children

By Adele Baleta

A Free State housewife yesterday described a desperate battle to save the lives of her three children, trapped in their house as floodwaters rose.

Speaking from the safety of a hotel room, Mrs Esme Buys, of Roodewal, 10 km from Bloemfontein, told The Star that she and her husband, George, and their children, Willie (15), Rene (13) and A J (10), were preparing lunch on their smallholding when water flowed into the house from under the doors on Sunday.

"By the time I alerted George, a wall of water flowing from the Renosterspruit burst into the house," Mrs Buys said.

"Within 10 minutes we were knee-deep in water." Mr Buys packed two suitcases, loaded them on to his bakkie and attempted to drive away from the house with his family.

"Within 10 m of the house, the bakkie's bonnet was covered in water. We couldn't go any further. We were stuck," Mr Buys said.

Fight to stay alive

"Clinging to each other, Esme and the children made their way back to the house," he said.

On their return, the water level had reached window height. "I was so anxious. We had to fight to stay alive."

Mrs Buys said: "The force of the water was so strong it lifted the beds towards the ceiling."

Her husband, chest-high in the swirling water, went to look for help.

Her son Willie, dressed only in a pair of shorts, made his way to a nearby school and alerted the army.

"Army troops anchored the bakkie with a cable tied between two trees. They then plucked Esme and the children out of the windows of the house. The water had jammed the doors shut," Mr Buys said.

"A sergeant was almost washed away in the rescue operation."

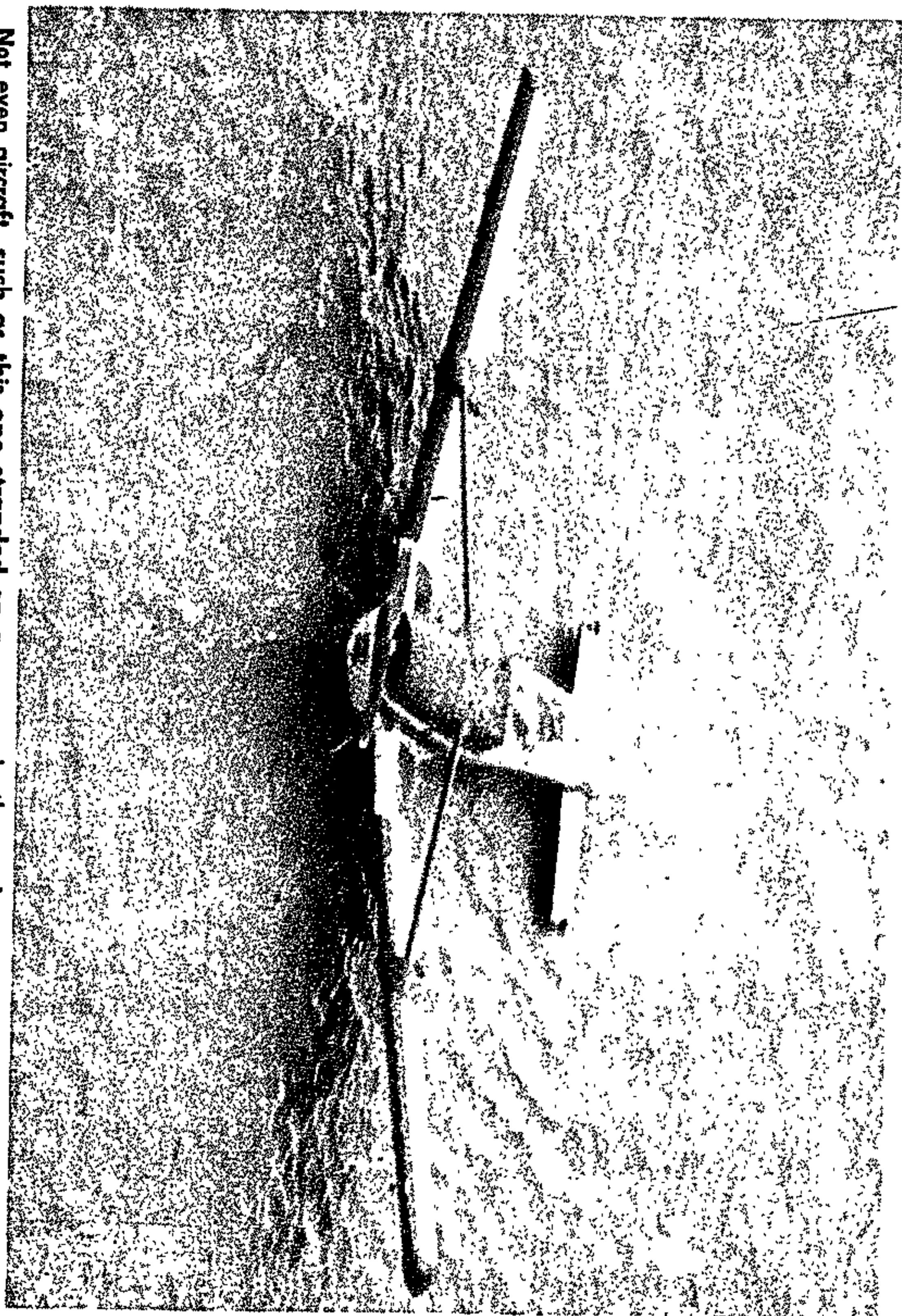
Sitting with her youngest child on her lap, Mrs Buys said: "I was terrified for the safety of my children. We may have lost our house, but our children are still with us."

The floodwaters washed away three Welsh ponies from the family's stable. The animals swam against the current and managed to reach safety.

One of the family pets, a bull-terrier, was rescued, but another dog is still missing.

Despite the ordeal, the Buys family intends staying on in Bloemfontein. "We have to start all over again. There is no alternative," Mrs Buys said.

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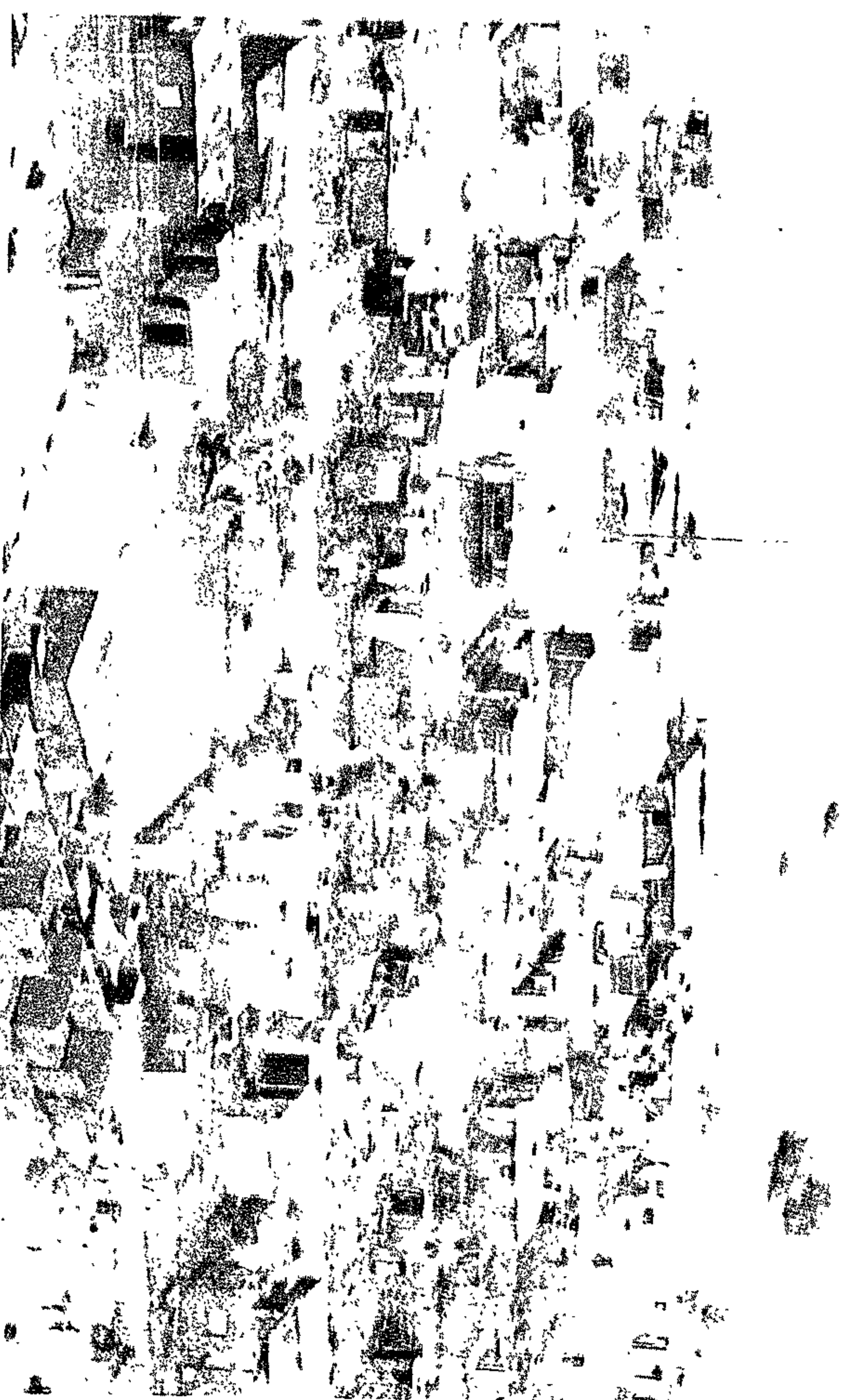


Not even aircraft, such as this one stranded on a runway in the south-eastern Free State, have escaped the floods.



A smallholding near Jacobsdal stands deserted amid the rising water.

● Pictures by Ken Oostbroek.



Many homes have been swept away by the floodwaters. Others, such as this one near Ritchie in the Northern Cape, have been swamped.

25/2/88
Mail by boat

CAPE TOWN — Mail will now be delivered by boat to flood-ravaged towns in the southern Free State.

A Post Office official said last night that the flood damage to railway lines and roads had made Post Offices in the area inaccessible, and normal deliveries had become impossible.

It was therefore decided to use small boats on flooded roads "wherever possible" to transport mail to several small towns which had been partially cut

off from the outside world.

The spokesman said the "mail boats" will be met on "dry ground" near the various towns by local postmasters driving light delivery vans.

He said it was the responsibility of the postmasters to transport mail from different rendezvous spots to their post offices.

The postmasters will also have to ensure that the "sea-mail" reached homes and businesses as soon as possible. — DDC

D/D 25/2/88

Biggest dam now an inland sea

(56)

Daily Dispatch
Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH — The torrential rain of the past week has turned the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam — the biggest concentration of fresh water in the country — into a rapidly expanding inland sea, swamping everything in its path.

The dam has increased its length by almost 30 per cent, from

85 km to 122 km — enough water to stretch from Port Elizabeth to Grahamstown.

A wall of water three metres high was surging over the wall at a rate of 2 845 cumec yesterday, a member of the Department of Water Affairs at the Verwoerd Dam, Mr Ben Venter, said.

The inflow, however, is a massive 8 000 cumec. This means that the volume of the dam

increases by more than 5 000 cumec and is causing the huge dam to creep up and over its banks, flooding large areas adjacent to it.

Mr Venter said only a sea of water could be seen yesterday where the caravan park and holiday resort at the dam had been.

The dam itself was 122 per cent full yesterday. The large overflow was gushing towards the

P. K. le Roux Dam which was 108 per cent full yesterday.

Mr Venter said the P. K. le Roux Dam started overflowing at a rate of 748 cumec at 2 pm on Tuesday.

It is expected that this overflow, which will be dramatically increased by the water rushing towards the dam from the Verwoerd Dam, will create another huge wall of water which will join the masses of water already surging towards Douglas and, eventually, Upington along the Orange River System.

"The only result can be havoc", Mr Venter said.

Meanwhile, Sapa reported yesterday that hundreds of people had already left their homes

in the flood-ravaged areas of the south-western Free State and the northern and north-western Cape.

Many residents of Douglas, Ritchie, Delportshoop, Jacobsdal, Jagersfontein and Prieska have fled from the areas of devastation.

A large mass of water from the Modder River was expected to reach Douglas yesterday.

Mr Venter said the bridge over the dam was still open to traffic.

The water level was only five metres below the bridge yesterday. The current inflow of water, however, poses no immediate threat to the bridge, he added.

Below the dam wall, however, little damage had been caused. —DDC

Flood damage to take months, cost millions

D/D 25/488 Daily Dispatch Correspondent (56)

JOHANNESBURG — Devastation to the Free State and Northern Cape transport network would take weeks, possibly months, and millions of rands to repair, the head of Murray and Roberts operations in the area, Mr Stan Fletcher, said yesterday.

He said the transport network in flood-stricken regions was in chaos.

Reports say that September's floods in Natal cost South African Transport Services (Sats) R26 million, and it was facing heavy losses due to the current floods in the central and northern sections of the country.

The Minister of Transport, Mr Eli Louw, gave the loss figures during his budget speech yesterday.

"The magnitude of the damage has not yet been determined and Sats is doing its level best to normalise its services as soon as possible."

Mr Fletcher said that even a totally superficial assessment in bad visibility in the Bloemfontein area showed that a huge mobilisation of construction personnel would be re-

quired to restore transport networks.

A number of Murray and Roberts construction operations in the affected regions — notably in Wepener and Prieska — were out of contact at present.

Mr Louw said during the September floods almost all rail links in the Natal region had been affected and "for the first time in living memory train movements in the Durban area virtually came to a standstill."

● Sapa reports that the Administrators of the Cape and Natal were considering declaring the Northern Cape and Ladysmith in Natal disaster areas.

This was said yesterday by the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis.

Mr Heunis said that officials of his department had already approached the government of QwaQwa on the possibility of that government declaring a state of disaster in certain areas such as Botshabelo.

As Minister responsible for civil defence, he called on members of all communities to support civil defence organisations.

25/02/88

The worst floods are yet to come

Interior floods have so far destroyed about 1 500 houses and forced the evacuation of more than 10 000 people.

As mopping up starts in some areas of the Free State and the western Transvaal, rescue workers say the danger area is now a 400 km stretch of the Orange River down which the floodwaters are flowing at the rate of 10 km an hour.

Close to 5 000 cumecs of water had flowed past the devastated town of Douglas by yesterday afternoon, but the worst is still to come.

By 3 am tomorrow the flow was expected to reach the peak flood rate of 9 000 cumecs, according to the Department of Water Affairs.

The first floodwaters reached Upington at 2 am today. By this

Flood reports by Melanie Gosling, Adele Baleta, Claire Robertson, Sven Forssman, Craig Kotze, Toni Younghusband, Paul Olivier. Pictures by Ken Oosterbroek and Etienne Rothbart.

evening the rate of flow will have reached twice the flood warning rate of 6 000 cumecs, and the full force of the flood — an incredible 10 000 cumecs — will hit the desert town on Saturday morning, according to Department estimates.

Further upstream, the entire town of Ritchie was flooded, forcing the evacuation of 1 500 people.

The townships of Modder River and Ritchie south-west of Kimberley, which have already been evacuated, are in "great danger of being washed away", a spokes-

man for the Kimberley Joint Operations Centre said today.

Fifty houses were under water at Douglas early this morning.

Large sections of the town have been declared danger zones and telephone lines in the region have been cut.

Six more towns were declared disaster areas yesterday, bringing to 25 the number of magisterial districts declared disaster areas.

At Upington hundreds of residents, farmers and farmworkers have begun to evacuate low-lying areas in and around the town.

The strongly flowing Orange has risen about 2 m in the past two days.

At 6 am today the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam was 120,7 percent full and the overflow was 2 500 cumecs while the P K le Roux Dam was 105,8 percent full and the overflow 500 cumecs.

Residents race to save goods and sandbag homes

SPM
25/2/88

Scramble to flee floods

By Melanie Gosling
Upington

Residents in Northern Cape towns on the banks of the Orange River are scrambling to save what they can before the might of the floodwaters devastate their homes.

Tension in Upington is high and talk is of little else. As the sun bakes down on this Karoo town homeowners near the river banks pack sandbags around their houses and seal windows and doors with plastic.

Removal services are working overtime as people pack up their belongings.

All over town trucks, bakkies and even tractors can be seen loaded with beds, mattresses, chairs and cupboards as homeowners scramble to get their gear to higher ground.

Forty policemen and two helicopters were flown in from Pretoria to be on standby to rescue flood victims.

Yesterday it was Douglas, today it is Prieska, tomorrow Upington. Inexorably the Orange engulfs the towns clinging to its banks.

Mr Piet Venter, spokesman for Upington's municipality, said staff had warned about 300 people to evacuate the low-lying areas.

Rush to harvest crops

"We're erecting tents and providing caravans for those who don't have friends or relatives to go to," he said.

"We've been warned by the Department of Water Affairs that this one could be twice as severe as 1974," Mr Venter said.

Farmers are working overtime to harvest the rest of their grape crop before the floods destroy them.

Farm workers on Karon Island in the river have evacuated their homes. Looking like a scene from Steinbeck's "Grapes of Wrath" they are camped out in the open, surrounded by beds, cupboards, chairs and suitcases.

The staff at Augrabies Falls National Park are removing fences from viewpoints over the falls.

One of the local hotels has offered meals at reduced prices for all the evacuees.

The towns of Prieska and Prieska, upstream of Upington, are making similar preparations for the floods.

The spectre of 1974 — when the river rose a disastrous 9.9-m and raging floodwaters destroyed 70 percent of crops and left hundreds homeless — haunts the faces of those who have witnessed the awesome power of the river.

● See Pages 3 and 1M.



Fund to aid victims is in arrears

(56) star. 25/2/86

Taxpayers have to foot flood bill

South African taxpayers face a massive flood bill.

The Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said the National Disaster Fund, which was launched to help victims of the Natal floods, was in arrears and much more money was needed to help victims of the floods in the Free State and northern Cape.

He disclosed that R6,5 million had been received from the public which was added to R3 million in the Fund.

INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIRS

However, the Government had paid out 6 000 cheques to the value of R6,2 million for victims in Natal as well as R13 million in kwaZulu.

This deficit would have to be made up by the State, that is, the taxpayer, as would the financing of repairs to the infrastructure.

The taxpayer would eventually have

to fork out R400 million to repair flood damage in Natal.

It was likely that the taxpayer would have to pay heavily for the present floods, too.

APPEAL FOR DONATIONS

Dr van Niekerk, chairman of the Cabinet committee dealing with the floods, said damage to the rail and road network in the Free State and northern Cape was estimated at R20 million.

Damage to bridges was estimated at R6 million. Evaluations of other damage could only be made when water levels had subsided, he said.

Dr van Niekerk appealed to the public for donations to the Disaster Fund.

These could be sent to the Director of Fundraising, Emergency Fund, Private Bag X63, Pretoria 0001.

They could also be deposited into any branch of Volkskas Bank, account number 0000282928.

A spokesman for the Minister said "millions of rands" would be needed to distribute to flood victims who had suffered personal losses. Food, clothing and blankets were also urgently required.

Yesterday, Cape Town City Council announced it would donate R50 000 for flood relief in the northern Cape.

A spokesman for the SA Red Cross said many people displaced by the floods would require feeding.

The SABC will broadcast live a relief appeal, called "Operation Good Neighbourliness" on the programme, "Good Morning, South Africa" tomorrow.

Food, blankets and donations will also be accepted at 170 Checkers stores throughout South Africa.



Mr JT Bekker sorting out his possessions in his flood-damaged house 12 km from Bloemfontein. He is holding a 100-year-old harp handed down from previous generations that has been ruined.

For flood-hit family, the aftermath is worst

By Adele Baleta

BLOEMFONTEIN — A Free State woman, overcome by thirst, waded through her flooded house looking for something to drink before she was rescued by an air force helicopter on Sunday.

Mr JT Bekker and his wife, Marita, have been trying to piece their lives together in the aftermath of floods which have cost lives and caused millions of rands damage to property in the Free State.

Mrs Bekker and her daughter, Cecilia (18), had just returned from church and were preparing lunch when the floodwaters converged on their house.

"Within an hour the water had climbed a metre up the wall," Mrs Bekker said.

Mr Bekker signalled to a passing air force Alouette.

"The water in the front garden came up to my chest. A winch was dropped from the chop-

per and our domestic worker's children were rescued first. We then followed," Mr Bekker said.

"Lollie", the family's pet dog, was left behind. He was found the next day standing on his hind paws with his front paws up against a wall and his head above the level of the water.

"There are things that can never be replaced. Maybe I should rather have been washed away than to have come back to see this," Mr Bekker said.

"I have heard about the Cape and Natal floods, but I never believed that the same thing would happen to us."

The fields where wheat once grew were bare. Four cars had begun to rust and a speedboat which was retrieved was clogged by mud.

Mr and Mrs Bekker have chosen to carry on living on their plot in a caravan.

Homeland MPs inspect flood areas

By McKeed Kotlolo

MMABATHO — Six members of the Bophuthatswana Cabinet committee on disaster relief have flown to flood areas to assess damage and arrange immediate relief for victims.

A spokesman for the Department of Public Works said yesterday the committee, under Chief Minister the Rev SG Kgobokoe, left for Taung, one of the worst affected areas, where two people were reported dead.

The spokesman said a relief centre had been set up, from which members of the Bophuthatswana Defence Force were operating.

Sources who visited the area said at least 1 500 families in Taung had been left homeless, and tents to house them were needed.

Most of the roads leading into flooded areas were impassable.

AA reports on ⁽⁵⁶⁾ conditions ^{D/O} of flood-damaged roads ^{26/02/88}

JOHANNESBURG — The roads between Johannesburg and Bloemfontein, Colesberg, Three Sisters, Beaufort West and Cape Town have been re-opened to all types of vehicles, the Automobile Association (AA) announced yesterday.

In a statement, the AA gave a comprehensive review of the conditions of roads in the country, following the closure of several through flooding.

Motorists are warned

to exercise "extreme caution" on the road between Bloemfontein and Edenburg and Colesberg—Three Sisters.

Roads in the Cape which were re-opened to traffic are: Johannesburg to Kimberley, Victoria West to Three Sisters and Kimberley to Upington.

Still closed are the roads from Kimberley to Victoria West south of Modder River, Vryburg—Hartswater—Warrenton and Kimberley—Barkley West—Postmas-

burg.

In Natal, roads which were re-opened included the Harrismith—Oliviers Hoek—Mont-Aux-Sources road, and roads to the Royal Natal National Park, Cathedral Peak, Champagne Castle, El Mirador, Monk's Cowl and the Nest.

The Injasuti, Mooi River—Giant's Castle, Nottingham Road—Loteni, Underberg—Drakensberg Gardens and Netherby—Himeville roads are still closed. — Sapa

organizations by the
Government was step-
losing his grip

He believed the prob-
lems of overrewording

He said the inter-
government was step-
losing his grip

He believed the prob-
lems of overrewording

95

AND THE RAIN KEPT COMING DOWN

Flood bill rises to R1bn

THE country's flood bill for the past six months could rise to R1 billion with the latest deluge likely to cost about R600 million and a bill of R400 million outstanding for the floods in Natal in September.

The Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said during the Additional Appropriation Bill debate in Parliament yesterday that the cost for the Free State and Northern Cape floods could be between R600 and R700 million — money that could have been usefully spent in other areas.

The estimated damage for the Natal floods runs to R400 million.

The Orange River last night continued on its devastating path through the Northern Cape leaving the town of Douglas almost completely submerged.

Evacuations

At least four people are known to have died in the Northern Cape in the disaster, bringing the death toll for the Cape and Free State to at least 11, with several people missing, presumed drowned.

Down-river from Douglas where the water was still rising last night, frantic evacuations continued as more than 5 000 people moved their possessions from the path of the flood in Prieska and Upington.

The devastation in the towns through which the unprecedented flood has already passed is nearly total and with the near certainty of even greater destruction downstream, the disaster — combined with last year's Natal floods — could cost the country as much as R1 billion.

At least four deaths had been reported in the Northern Cape by yesterday as the deluge of water continues to create havoc along the upper section of the Orange River.

Commandant Neels Visser, police liaison officer at the Northern Cape Joint Operation Centre, said he knew of two deaths. One was the body of a woman spotted by a helicopter crew in the river near Richtie.

Sapa reported two coloured children drowned in the Vryburg area.

Commandant Visser said 309 houses in Douglas had been evacuated and almost the whole town was under water. The whole business area was under water and there was no power in the town.

Patients airlifted

Residents had been evacuated to friends and family or were living in tents. Air Force helicopters were providing flood victims with tents, blankets and food.

About 8 000 tons of water per second was flowing through Douglas yesterday afternoon.

Bed-ridden patients at Douglas Hospital were airlifted to Kimberley by Dakota yesterday.

Downstream, the town of Prieska looked prepared for a siege, with sandbags piled around deserted houses and huge sand walls built in an attempt to divert the flood waters which were expected later in the afternoon, Patrick Collings reports.

People packed their belongings on bakkies and tractors to move them to higher ground.

Children, too young to comprehend that the deluge travelling at 10 000m² a second would hit their town within hours, played in the road as furniture was carried out of their houses.

Cut off

By late yesterday at least 78 families had left their homes.

Mr Dick Viljoen, town clerk, said tennis and toilets had been ordered from the army.

He expected the town to be cut off. In Upington, Captain Etienne Theart, of the Upington police said water in the river was rising fast and expected to peak by tomorrow morning.

He said about 5 000 people had been evacuated from the riverbanks and islands between Upington and Keilmoes. The Kanan Island, rich in farmland, was not cut off by late yesterday but it was expected to be completely submerged — as it was in 1974 when the floodwaters had risen 10m.

According to latest estimates, the water in Upington is expected to rise more than 12m.



EVACUATION... Prieska residents remove belongings.

Reed helps flood-relief fund effort

Peninsula dam levels 'normal'

From PATRICK COLLINGS

Chief Reporter AN offer by Springbok sailor Bernie Reed to raise flood-relief funds brought a delighted response yesterday from SATV's "Good Morning SA".

The programme on Wednesday announced a national drive to raise R5 million for flood relief to be launched tomorrow from 7am to 10am.

Reed has donated 50 personally produced philatelic covers commemorating the Bartolomeu Dias 500th anniversary to be sold for the fund.

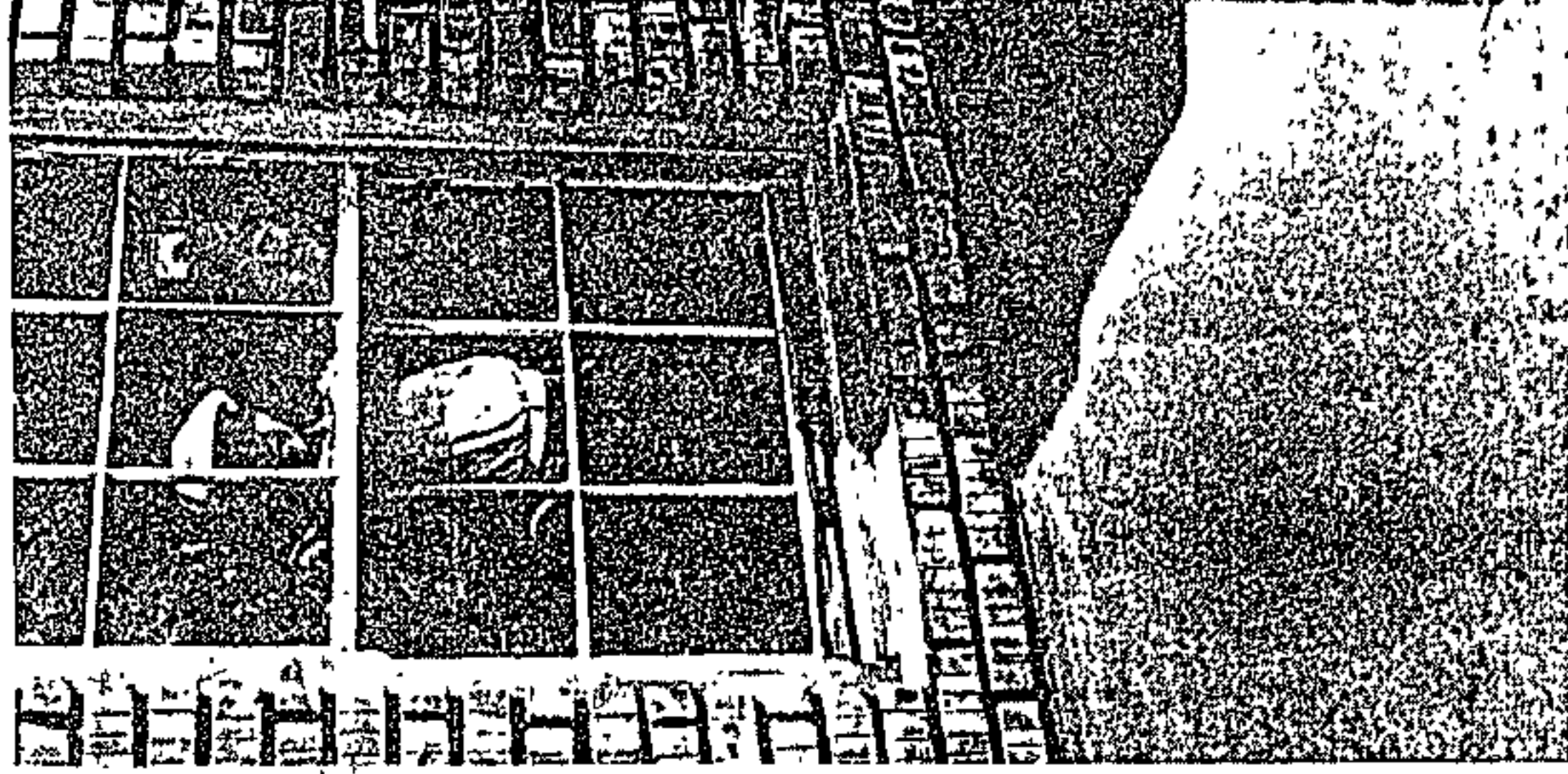
Picture: GLENN SHERRATT

Peninsula dam levels 'normal'

Staff Reporter WHILE dams in the interior of the country are overflowing and even breaking their walls, dam levels in the Cape Peninsula are reassuringly "normal".

A City Council spokesman said yesterday that the levels for the day were as follows (with last year's levels in brackets):

Wemmershoek 61% (60.8%), Voetvlei 79% (75.2%), Steenbras lower 51.9% (54.3%) and Steenbras upper 52.4% (95.6%).



Council donates R50 000

THE City Council voted unanimously yesterday to donate R50 000 to a flood relief fund.

It also sent a fully-equipped emergency vehicle to Prieska.

The Mayor of Kraaifontein, Mr Badie Badenhorst, yesterday said he had started a relief fund for money, bedding, clothes and non-perishable food.

The SA Red Cross Society (Cape region) called for donations of blankets, clothing and non-perishable food to be delivered to Red Cross House, 21 Broad Road, Wynberg. It said the most urgent need was for sugar, maize meal, milk powder, soya powder, baby foods and canned food.

Mrs Anne Botha of St John Ambulance said the organization would act as a collection centre for aid to flood victims.

Cash donations can be sent to St John Ambulance at 80 Darling Street or PO Box 2207, Cape Town 8000. Further details of other collection centres can be obtained at 46-8420.

STRANDED IN THEIR HOME

Mr Warwick Lovemore, his wife Marianne and their daughter Mary-Joy, 11, look through the lounge window of their flooded home in Douglas.

Picture: Glenn Sherratt

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DID 26/02/88

Stormberg roads very wet but not damaged 56

Daily Dispatch Reporter
QUEENSTOWN—Roads in the Stormberg Divisional Council area are very wet but no major washaways have occurred.

The chief roads inspector, Mr André van Vuuren, said he had considered closing the Boesmanshoek Road, between Sterkstroom and Molteno. However, the flood waters had subsided rapidly and a closure was avoided, he said.

Roads in Ciskei, which are maintained by the Divisional Councils of Smaldeel, Kaffraria and Stormberg, are also very wet but undamaged.

The level of the Bongolo Dam, one of Queens-

town's storage dams, has risen by 20 centimetres since last Thursday. This is about a fortnight's water supply for the town.

The dam is 89 per cent full.

The other supply dam, Waterdown, situated near Whittlesea, dropped by 0,1 per cent during the same period. It is now 48,5 per cent full.

The assistant town engineer, Mr Andy Jerard, said the gentle rain of the past week had penetrated the ground, and subsequently there was little run-off.

He explained that, unlike the hard soil at Bongolo Dam, soil in the

Waterdown catchment area was soggy and unless it rained heavily, run-off was slow.

Although the capacity of Waterdown Dam was a little low, the town had an adequate water supply for the rest of the year, he added.

"We can also expect a fairly good run-off into Waterdown during the winter. The dam has a remarkable flow pattern, familiar with rivers in England which flow during winter whereas South African rivers flow during summer".

He subscribed Waterdown's winter flow to the run-off from snow and ice on the Hogsback and other mountains in the catchment area.

Funds open to assist flood victims

P/P 26/02/88
Daily Dispatch
Reporter

0000282928. (56)

EAST LONDON — Funds have opened in the Border region to assist the victims of the flood disaster in the Free State and Northern Cape.

The mayor of East London, Mr Robert de Lange, has appealed to citizens to "open their hearts and pockets and give generously to the Flood-Relief Fund at any branch of Volkskas, in account number

"Anyone donating clothing, food and so on can contact Mrs Fleming, Department of Health and Population Development, Room 277, 1st floor, magistrates court building, East London, or phone 43 4060," Mr De Lange said.

The Mayor of Beacon Bay, Mr Henry Brèytenbach, has also appealed to Beacon Bay residents to support the Flood Vic-

tims' relief fund. Donations can be paid to the Flood Victims' Relief Fund, P. O. Box 2001, Beacon Bay 5205 or at the payment hall, Civic Centre, Beacon Bay.

In Queenstown, the Lions Club has started a flood relief fund for the Free State flood victims.

Mr Johnny Arseniou appealed to the public to: donate blankets, pillows and tinned food. Donations should be delivered to

Cathedral Hall between 9 am and 6.30 pm today.

Arrangements have been made for contributions to be trucked to the disaster area tomorrow.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the fund who had a transport problem should telephone one of the following numbers in Queenstown and collections would be arranged: 4012 and 4621 (all hours), 2121 and 2025 (office hours).

OFS FLOODS

Counting the cost

Only months after Natal was laid waste by a devastating downpour, SA has been hit by a second major flood disaster.

It's too soon, of course, to quantify the flood damage in the Free State, the area worst affected. But there is reason to believe the flat nature of the countryside and relatively low level of agricultural development should limit the damage.

Worse, however, could still come. The huge volume of water now surging down the Orange River system is expected to wreak more havoc downstream.

Douglas endured a 10 000 m³ a second (cumec) flood on Tuesday, which was expected to reach Upington by Friday or Saturday. On the Harts River, the 61,3m m³ Spitskop dam wall broke at 09h00 on Tuesday, sending a wall of water cascading towards Douglas.

Fortunately, the worst-hit flood areas — south and west of Bloemfontein — lie outside the maize belt. The worst agricultural damage is being recorded in the normally-dry valleys of the Modder and Riet rivers and their various tributaries, as well as in the Harts, Caledon, lower Orange and lower Vaal systems.

Material losses

"The area south-west of Bloemfontein has a relatively low farming potential and lies outside the major crop farming areas. In the valleys, farmers' greatest material losses would be in the infrastructure like dams, roads, fences, buildings and soil, as well as farm implements. Where wheat is a major crop, this had already been harvested. The biggest farming losses would be in stock deaths, mainly sheep and cattle," says Department of Agricultural Economics deputy director Hennie Botha.

He says maize is not an important crop in the affected area, but irrigation farmers in the Harts and lower Orange systems could face serious damage. Crops include vegetables, grapes, lucerne and some livestock.

The savage impact of the five-day deluge is beginning to emerge as rainfall and run-off statistics begin to filter through.

"Until February 22, Bloemfontein had had 328,9 mm of rain for the month, compared with a monthly average of 99 mm and an annual average of 560 mm. While this situation is the norm for most stations in the area, Danielskuil in the northern Cape had 373,8 mm between February 19 and 22 and 476,2 mm for the month so far, compared with its annual average of only 385,6 mm," says Department of Water Affairs technician Margaret Entwistle.

While the 322m m³ Kalkfontein dam on the Riet River (by comparison, Hartbeespoort Dam, near Pretoria, has a capacity of 185m m³) was only 4% full last week, this had risen to 159% by Tuesday. The 76,7m m³ Krugersdrift dam on the Modder River near Bloemfontein rose from 51% last week to 197% on Tuesday morning, sending a 3,03 m wall of water over the top of the dam wall.

SA's two "heavies," the H F Verwoerd and P K le Roux dams on the upper Orange river, were respectively 110,66% and 95,94% full on Tuesday.

City relief teams to aid victims of N Cape flood

Staff Reporters

RELIEF teams from the Western Cape are on their way to help communities along the flood-ravaged Orange River in the Northern Cape.

The Cape Town civil defence unit's special "command post" lorry, stocked with medical and technical supplies, left the city today.

And a relief column of policemen was due to leave Paarl later today for the South African border town of Vioolsdrif to set up a flood relief centre.

Cape Town civil defence chief Major Rod Douglas said the command post vehicle would bolster the communications network, which had been badly disrupted.

LONG-RANGE RADIOS

Its long-range radios would enable it to contact Cape Town from the Orange River area.

The sending of the vehicle follows a R50 000 contribution

to flood relief voted yesterday by the city council.

Acting mayor Mr Gordon Oliver said the council was worried about the loss of life and property in the area.

Executive committee chairman Mr Dick Friedlander promised authorities co-ordinating emergency work in the flood-hit area technical expertise and "whatever practical assistance we can offer".

The raging Orange River floodwaters are expected to hit Vioolsdrif and the neighbouring town of Noordoewer on the SWA/Namibian side of the river during the weekend or early next week.

The police relief column will be led by Colonel Kallie Westraat, police district commandant in Springbok.

The column will leave Paarl this afternoon and is expected at the border tomorrow.

It is thought they will set up their headquarters at Noordoewer.

Boland police liaison officer Captain Gys Boonzaaier, who will accompany the relief column, said 85 men from the Paarl reaction unit would be accompanied by two police divers.

They would be travelling in 10 four-wheel-drive vehicles and three troop-carriers.

The column will be joined by the police helicopter from Cape Town, four SAAF helicopters and two fixed-wing aircraft.

URGENT NEED

The South African Red Cross Society (Cape Region) has asked for blankets and contributions of clothing and non-perishable foodstuffs to be delivered to Red Cross House, 21 Broad Road, Wynberg.

A society spokesman said the most urgent need was for sugar, maize meal, milk powder, soya powder, baby foods, canned vegetables, canned meat and canned fish.

Also needed were cleaning materials and primus stoves.

Inquiries should be put to the director of public relations and fundraising, Mrs Rykie Hodd, (021) 71 7170.

● Port Elizabeth is to reopen its Mayor's Flood Relief Fund with a gift of R50 000 for flood victims.

The fund was launched 20 years ago when the city was devastated by floods.

Upington's flood appetiser

(Cont from page 1)

would take longer than expected to arrive because it had spread so widely.

Earlier predictions were that high water would be early on Saturday morning. The breathing space is being used for last-minute sandbagging and removals.

Mr Venter said about 500 families in Upington had been evacuated since Tuesday.

A temporary caravan park

Cloudburst victims saved by helicopter

The Argus Correspondent

KIMBERLEY. — Many people were rescued by police helicopter during a cloudburst at Hartswater in the Northern Cape.

The helicopter worked throughout the night rescuing people who had been trapped by rapidly rising floodwater.

Police liaison officer Captain Carel van der Westhuizen said the people rescued had had no warning and were not able to evacuate their homes.

Many had to be plucked from the rooftops of flooded buildings.

Among those rescued were Mr and Mrs Giel Swiegers and their three children who were airlifted at 3.30am today.

had been set up at the agricultural showgrounds and the railways had set aside train coaches for those who could not be housed elsewhere.

Companies and farmers have made available warehouses for refugees to store goods and furniture.

Mr Venter said: "I am very impressed by the openheartedness of our citizens who are pulling together in our hour of need."

In the luxury river-front suburb of Middelpos and nearby Budler Street, home-owners were trying various methods of minimising damage.

Some blocked windows and doors with thick black plastic, packed tightly with sandbags and earth. Others removed windows and doors, calculating that if the water flowed freely, there would be less chance of walls collapsing.

A householder whose property is about 40m from the river has bricked up all his windows and doors.

Upstream from Upington at Kanon Island, the fertile stretch of land sandwiched between two arms of the river, the evacuation of workers and farmers continued yesterday.

The island is expected to be submerged and thousands of people have been moved to camps on higher ground.

Argus 26-02-88

Flood damage could cost more than R1bn ⁽³⁶⁾

RESTORING flood damage in Natal, the Free State and the northern Cape could cost in excess of R1bn, according to provisional estimates.

Finance Minister Barend du Plessis said last night the cost of the latest flood damage could run to R600m or R700m. In addition, the estimate of damage during the September floods in Natal is now more than R400m.

The latest flooding has wiped out large

GERALD REILLY, HELENA
PATTEN and DAN SIMON

tracts of farmland and a spokesman for the Oranje Co-op in Upington yesterday predicted financial devastation for the farming area.

A large proportion of this year's crops — mainly grapes, maize, lucerne and cotton — could be lost as a result of the floods.

By far the largest percentage of the

cost of repairs to the infra-structure will come from taxpayers.

The Disaster Relief Fund has been exhausted by financial aid to victims of the Natal floods.

Disaster Fund chairman Japie Visser said altogether R18m had been paid out and a further R12m would be needed for relief for individual victims in Natal.

Infra-structural repairs in Natal cost R259m, another R82m had been paid to assist farmers.

KEY MARKET MOVEMENTS — FEBRUARY 24 to FEBRUARY 25 REUTERS

Properties flooded in Upington

Two towns evacuated as river rises

By Melanie Gosling and Claire Robertson

Prieska

Mass evacuations are being carried out at Prieska and Upington as floodwaters rise.

About 500 families have been evacuated from Upington since Tuesday.

Residential properties in Upington were flooded today and more were expected to be partially submerged when the peak of the flood reached the town on Sunday.

Upstream at devastated Douglas, the water has begun to subside slightly, leaving a layer of mud and debris over the town.

Residents of a home for the elderly were evacuated to a Kimberley hospital yesterday because of a shortage of water in the town.

The SADF is to fly a water purification team to the town today, the spokesman said.

He emphasised that no lives were in danger in the area.

The water level of the Orange River rose by about 2m overnight and was continuing to rise, Department of Water Affairs staff said here today.

All along the dusty streets of Prieska, sandbags were piled against doors and windows.

Closed down

Many shops, businesses and banks had closed.

Business ground to a halt yesterday as shopowners and bank staff scrambled to clear out their premises. A handwritten notice in the window of the Old Mutual building read: "Closed till after the floods, closed".

The town was also experiencing a water shortage and a Defence Force engineering team was on its way there to help cope with the situation, said a Northern Cape Joint Operations Centre spokesman.

Water pumps which supplied the town had to be removed from the river banks because of the rising water levels.

Latest indications were that



Children sit amongst the rubble of a small Botshabelo township house which collapsed after the occupants were evacuated to escape the rising floodwaters of the Klein Modder river near Bloemfontein.

Two local farmers survey the flood devastation from the boundary of their property near Ritchie in the northern Cape. More than 1 500 people were evacuated from the town when the Riet River burst its banks.

the flood will peak on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

Mr Pieter Venter, the chief municipal information officer, said the deluge would take longer than expected to arrive, because it had spread so widely.

At Kanon Island, the fertile stretch of land sandwiched between two arms of the river, the evacuation of workers and farmers continued frantically yesterday.

The island was expected to be submerged and thousands of people have been moved to

camp on higher ground.

At 3.30 pm yesterday the Fanie Loots Bridge at Prieska was closed by the police as the water crept to within 3 m of the road surface.

As the water continued to rise, activities in town were frenetic.

Lorries trundled through the main streets, tipping huge mounds of earth; waiting workers packed sandbags which were stacked around shops and supermarkets.

● See Page 8.

Rains strand tourists

This week's heavy rains have flooded bridges and stranded residents on the southern slopes of the Natal Drakensberg and tourists at some mountain resorts.

The Loteni Nature Reserve in the southern Drakensberg has been cut off for four days by the swollen Loteni River. Telephone lines are down, but the reserve has radio contact with Maritzburg.

Campers at the central Drakensberg Royal Natal National Park, which has recorded 290 mm of rain since Monday, have been forced to use the footbridge to the campsite for two days as the Mahai River has flooded the bridge on the main access road.

'Forget the cakes — bring me sandbags'

ARGUS 26/2/83 56

From VERNON BRENT, Staff Reporter UPINGTON. — As Prieska bore the brunt of the rampaging Orange River early today, Upington had its first taste of things to come.

Advance floodwaters reached the town yesterday afternoon and by 7pm the river was flowing at 5-million litres a second.

In a bizarre twist of fate, fire raged through reeds near the luxury suburb of Middelpos. Flames two metres high cast dense smoke over the area.

At Prieska, 250km upstream, shops and businesses shut down yesterday and 152 people were evacuated. Rows of empty houses showed the inhabitants were not taking lightly warnings that the floods would rival the previous worst of 1925.

As the water continued to rise, lorries tipped huge mounds of earth in the town centre and workers packed sandbags and stacked them around shops and supermarkets.

OVERTIME

A hand-written notice in the window of an insurance company's building read: "Closed till after the floods."

Department of Water Affairs staff monitoring water levels at Prieska hourly said the river had risen 3,6m in 24 hours and was flowing at 6,5-million litres a second last night.

Prieska town clerk Mr Dick Viljoen said his staff were working overtime to help people evacuate and pack sandbags around houses.

He said: "We are trying to protect our water purification works by building a 2m high wall of gravel and sandbags around it."

Mrs Christina Goussard was frantically moving cakes, pumpkins, vetkoek

and rusks to higher shelves in her home industries shop.

When a farmer arrived with more vegetables and cakes she said: "Ag no man, take those away and bring me some sandbags instead."

At 3.30pm yesterday police closed the Fanie Loots Bridge to the east as water crept to within three metres.

To the hundreds of spectators lining the road it was like watching the tide come in. Among them was Mr Johan Erasmus who saw three of his farms ravaged by the flood.

His farm and two houses on the Modder River are submerged and crops of cotton, potatoes, beans and other vegetables have been ruined.

The cotton was due for harvesting in a week's time and the beans two weeks later. He said: "I cannot begin to estimate the damage."

He had heard so many conflicting reports of the extent and timing of the flood, he did not know what to believe.

"All I can say is that if nature wants you out of the way she will take you out."

In Upington precautionary water restrictions were announced. If water supplies are cut, the town has enough in reservoirs for four days.

Residents have also been warned by the municipality to lay in stocks of gas and candles in case power is cut off.

A team of police divers with rubber dinghies has been flown in.

Hundreds of residents lined the bridge and vantage points watching flood debris race to the sea.

It is now thought the flood will peak on Saturday night or Sunday morning.

Mr Pieter Venter, the chief municipal information officer, said the deluge

(Turn to page 3, col 6)

Flood bill is over R700m

businesses and stimulate economic activity.

The total cost to the State of the floods in the past financial year is approaching the revenue earned by one percent of General Sales Tax.

Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis told Parliament yesterday that the latest floods and last year's Natal floods would cost between R600-million and R700-million.

He said today that National Health Minister Dr Willie van Niekerk would be able soon to provide a more accurate assessment of the cost of the floods in the Free State and Natal.

Earlier this week Dr van Niekerk told the media that last year's Natal floods would cost R400-million.

Mr du Plessis said today the floods would mean adjustments to the annual Budget he was preparing for Parliament next month.

The demand on funds comes when the Government is trying to prune its expenditure to push down inflation and when even modest amounts needed for socio-economic purposes have had to be turned down because of tight spending discipline.

On the plus side of the floods is that money spent on reconstruction in the devastated areas will benefit some



Picture: PETER STANFORD, The Argus

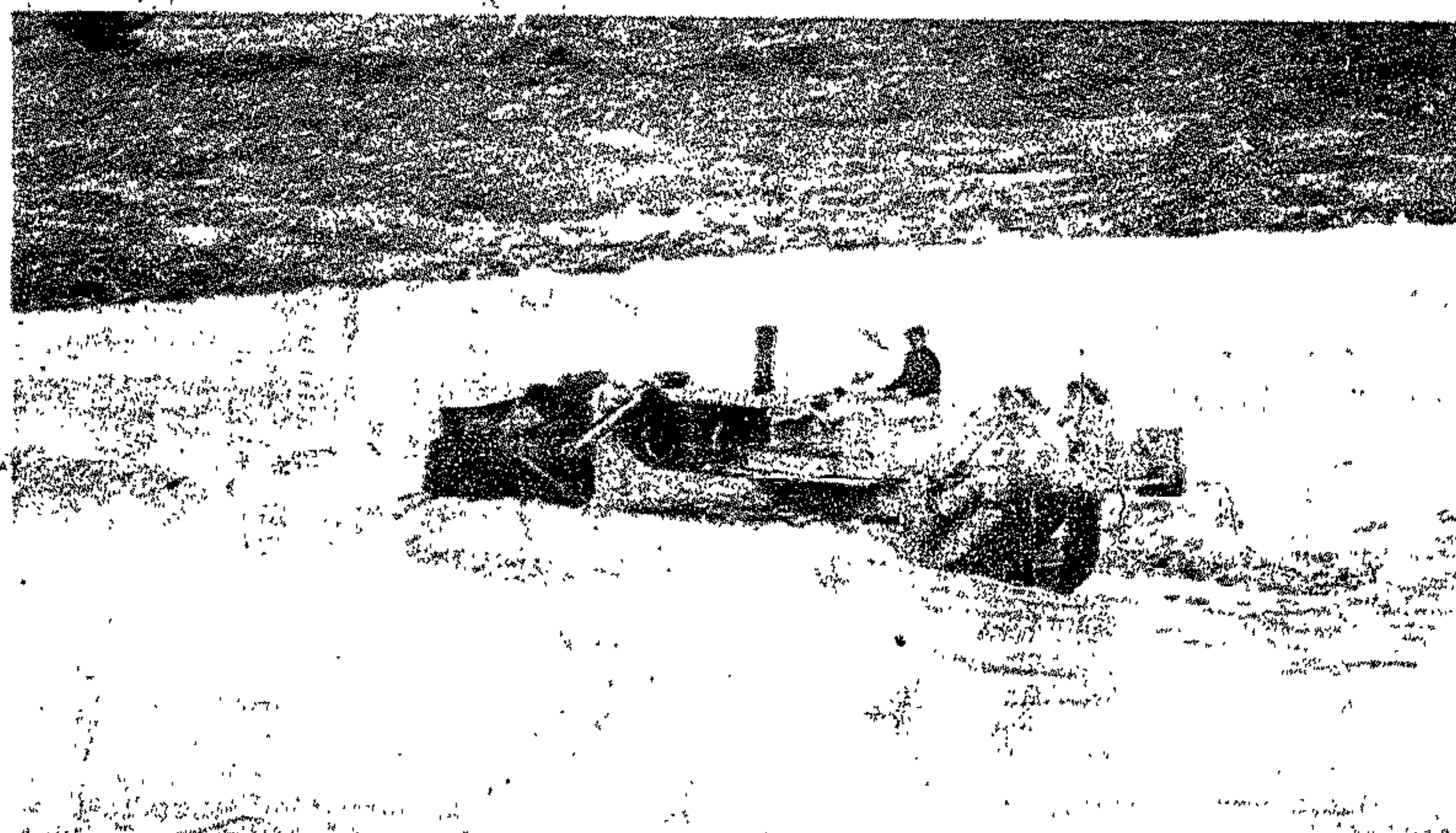
FLOODS, KEEP OUT! Workers use sandbags at a supermarket in Prieska as a precaution against the rising waters of the Orange River.

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Cruel torrent brings havoc in its wake

Floods — Cape holds its breath

(56)
SMM 27/2/88



STRANDED: A road grader is temporarily stranded in the middle of the Klein Modder in the Northern Cape as rain and flood water continued to lash the area yesterday. As the capacity of the Orange River continued to swell, the floodwaters were expected to reach Upington tomorrow.

MELANIE GOSLING

UPINGTON — Towns along the Orange River in the northern Cape are bracing themselves for the peak of the floods which have left destruction and havoc in their wake in many parts of South Africa — and are expected to hit the area tomorrow.

The frantic scramble to evacuate low-lying areas is over. Furniture has been stored and houses boarded up. Now all the people can do is wait — and hope.

So far the floodwaters have not struck the towns of Prieska, Groblershoop or Upington. But farmlands along the river banks are under water and some farmhouses have been flooded.

People in Prieska watch anxiously as the river level rises by the hour; farmers watch hopelessly as their crops are washed away and their harvested grapes stand rotting in trucks — unable to reach the wine cellars of the flooded town of Douglas.

Most businesses, shops and banks in Prieska have closed down, and sandbags lie piled up against windows and doors as the town awaits the coming floodwaters.

The Old Mutual building in the town, which has been evacuated, has a handwritten sign in a window which reads: "Closed till after the floods."

The Volkskas Bank is still open, but all furniture has been removed.

Staff member Mrs Jeanette van Schalkwyk said yesterday that the bank had run out of money.

Unlike the floods in the Free State and Douglas earlier this week, the flooding in the northern Cape town has been slow, and the weather hot and dry.

Upington town officials,
● **TURN TO PAGE 2.**

Rain warning

The Weather Bureau today issued a special warning that heavy rainfalls were expected today and tonight over Northern Natal, Eastern and Northern Transvaal and Eastern Botswana. — Sapa.

Signature

Date

ment

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P.T.O.

Floods will cost SA more than R1-bn

95
27/2/88
27/2/88

The flood catastrophes of the past two years are likely to cost South Africa more than R1 billion, and it will take years before all the damage is repaired.

The tab to be picked up by the taxpayer will be well in excess of R700 million, while the SA Transport Services, the Post Office, dozens of local authorities, the homeland governments and insurance companies will together have to cough up an even larger sum.

The latest demand on government funds follows the allocation of R2,4 billion to farmers in drought relief over the past seven years.

It comes at a time when the Government is trying to prune its expenditure in order to cut inflation, and when even modest demands for socio-economic projects have been turned down.

One small consolation is that money spent on reconstruction in flood-devastated areas will give a boost to certain businesses and stimulate economic activity in those regions.

The total cost to the Government of the floods in the past financial year is approaching the revenue earned by one percent of General Sales Tax.

Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis told Parliament yesterday that the current floods and last year's Natal floods would cost the State between R600 million and R700 million.

He said yesterday that the Health Minister, Dr Willie van Niekerk, would soon be able to provide a more accurate assessment of the cost of the floods in the Free State and Natal.

Earlier this week, Dr van Niekerk told the media the

DAVID BRAUN
Political Correspondent

Natal floods of last year alone would cost R400 million.

Mr du Plessis said yesterday that the floods would necessitate adjustments to the annual budget he was preparing to present to Parliament next month.

It was obvious that a very high priority had to be given to the repairing flood damage.

Mr du Plessis pointed out that the extra allocation would be spread over a few years, as reconstruction work would take some time to be completed.

The Progressive Federal Party spokesman on finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, said yesterday that it would take some creative financing to pay for the flood damage while still keeping the economic recovery on track.

However, he believed it could be done, as there were various capital funds which could be tapped.

The National Disaster Fund appears, however, to be showing a shortfall of about R30 million just for the Natal floods.

The fund before the Natal disaster had been severely depleted by the Demoina and Laingsburg disasters, and its balance was only R2 million.

Public appeals, donations by foreign governments and local big business and the Post Office's special postage stamp issue have raised only R6,5 million.

The taxpayer will have to make up the shortfall.

Demands on the National Disaster Fund because of the Free State and Cape floods are likely to run into tens of millions of rands.

The fund is intended to provide cash compensation to disaster victims for the destruction of property.

... HAVE BEEN ... DWARF ... WORE ...
... R47 between ...
... Vryburg ...

D/D 27/2/88

Dam has water for 114 years

Daily Dispatch Correspondent (56)

PORT ELIZABETH — The contents of the H. F. Verwoerd Dam, South Africa's largest concentration of fresh water, is sufficient, at Port Elizabeth's present rate of water consumption, to supply the city for 114 years, even if it never rained again during that time.

A spokesman for the Department of Water Affairs at the dam said the contents of the dam, which was 124,3 per cent full at noon yesterday, was a staggering 7,95 billion cubic metres.

The dam is presently 130 kilometres in length and more than 30 kilometres wide at places. It is the same distance from Port Elizabeth to the centre of Grahamstown.

Port Elizabeth's current rate of water consumption, according to a municipal spokesman, is about 60 000 megalitres a year.

This meant the city would require 114 years to use up the water in the dam, a spokesman for the Department of Mathematics at the University of Port Elizabeth said.

The spokesman for the Department of Water Affairs said the dam's level had dropped by 15 millimetres yesterday, as outflow had started to exceed the inflow for the first time since heavy downpours in the area more than a week ago.

The Orange and Kraai rivers, he added, were still heavily swollen.

Yesterday the dam's inflow was 2 700 cumecs, compared with an outflow of 3 274 cumecs.

The dam's sluices had been closed to save the wall of the Keimoes Dam at Upington from receiving too great an onslaught of water.

At the P. K. le Roux Dam, however, inflow still exceeded outflow by just more than 1 000 cumecs. The dam was 115 per cent full yesterday, with an inflow of 3 274 and an outflow of 2 272 cumecs.

The spokesman said the level of this dam was expected to rise until its outflow and the inflow to it from the Verwoerd Dam had "cancelled each other out".

D/D 27/2/88 (56)

Jamestown back to normal

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The flood water which swept through Jamestown on Wednesday has subsided, after damaging houses situated on the river banks.

The town clerk of Jamestown, Mr C. R. Venter, said the rain had stopped and things were "getting back to normal".

He said the road between Jamestown and

Dordrecht was in a bad state with potholes in places.

"Most of the bridges over rivers on farms in the vicinity have been washed away.

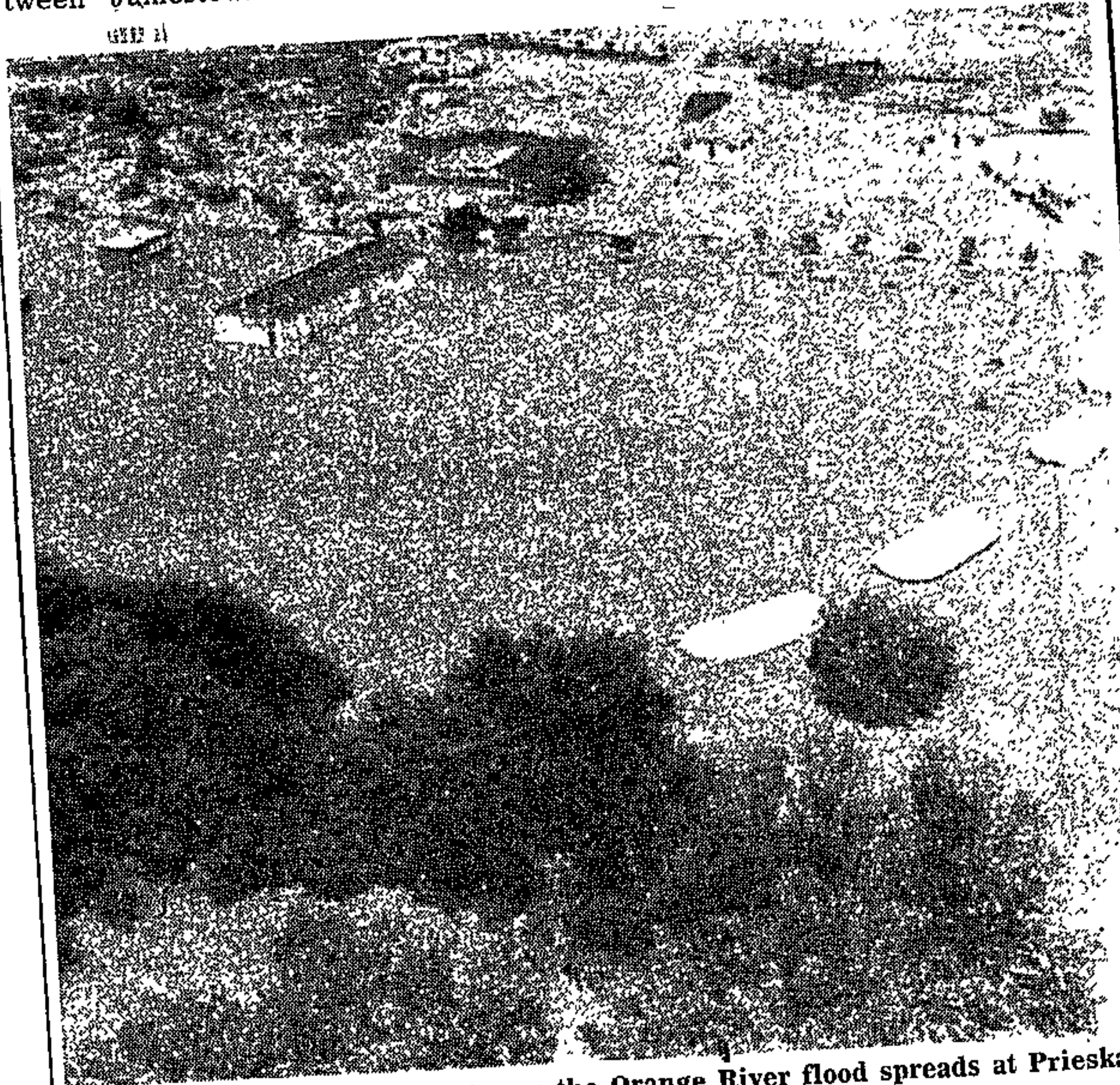
"There has not been much stock loss on farms in this area, but further north the situation has been worse."

Mr Venter said that he had heard of five farm dams which had broken their banks.

More than 300 people had to be evacuated on Wednesday after about a metre of water made it impossible for people to stay in their homes.

● A spokesman for the weather station here said scattered thunder-showers could be expected along the coastline and the interior at the weekend.

"The wind will be a fresh and strong westerly," the spokesman said.



Houses disappear under water as the Orange River flood spreads at Prieska yesterday afternoon.

Disaster declared in six districts as towns wait for worst

95

D/D 27/2/88

CAPE TOWN — A state of disaster was declared in the Northern Cape yesterday as Prieska and Upington waited for the worst of the floods to hit them today and tomorrow.

As the flood continued on its devastating path through the country's interior — leaving a death toll of at least 11 in the Cape and Free State — the magisterial districts of Barkly West, Gordonia, Herbert (Douglas), Kimberley, Prieska, Warrenton and Namaqualand were declared disaster areas for three months in terms of the Civil Defence Act.

These districts were also declared disaster areas by the State President in terms of the Fund-raising Act, 1978.

In a statement in Cape Town, the Administrator, Mr Gene Louw, said the civil defence organisations of local authorities, the South African Defence Force, the South African Police, the Red Cross and other organisations were doing excellent work in rendering assistance on a co-ordinated basis and would continue to do so.

"The declaration of a state of disaster will enable my administration to co-ordinate all relief aid to victims of the floods even better and ensure that any means and sources that are available are used effectively to alleviate the distress that is being experienced over a wide area," he said.

Several business concerns, other organisations and individuals

had meanwhile offered to assist in various ways and it was necessary to co-ordinate all these forms of assistance, Mr Louw said.

The Department of Water Affairs said in a statement yesterday the "expected peak flood arrival time" for Prieska is 5 am today while the peak should reach Upington at 5 pm tomorrow.

The department warned that expected peak flood arrival times would vary as new information reached the flood control office.

The worst of the flood waters appeared to be subsiding in the devastated Douglas area, according to the statement.

According to the police liaison officer for the Joint Operations Centre in Kimberley, Commandant Neels Visser, things in Douglas were in "a hell of a mess".

Thousands of people have been evacuated from the riverside and island near Upington and all that is left to residents is to wait for the "groot water" as one local police officer put it.

A total of about 5 000 people have been evacuated in Upington.

At noon the Orange River was 7,5m deep and flowing at 4 778 tons a second.

Upington's population appeared to have swelled yesterday, with sightseers coming from as far away as Louis Trichardt in the northern Transvaal.

The main street had a continuous flow of cars, stopping at various vantage points to watch the river.

Some farm trucks, loaded to capacity with labourers, their wives and children, came into town and filled the riverside parks with a festive crowd.

The sad side to the 1988 flood is almost deliberately avoided. Some farmers face near total ruin if the river's level breaches the large soil dykes which have been thrown up around many vineyards and cotton plantations.

The five wine cellars in the Orange River region have been taking in double the usual quota of grapes to help farmers harvest as much of their crops as possible before vineyards are buried in the deluge.

President P. W. Botha and Mr Louw are expected to visit Upington today.

● Heavy rains lashed the Natal coast yesterday but the Louis Botha Airport weather office expected conditions to begin clearing from the south last night. — Sapa-DDC

CAT TRUCKS 27/2/88 56

Cape

Small towns await the 'big waters'

BY PATRICK COLLINGS, RENEE MOODIE and Sapa

THE Orange River flood waters were expected to peak in Prieska early this morning and seemed set to hit Upington and the neighbouring Kakamas and Kanon Island any time this weekend.

Thousands of people have been evacuated from the riverside and island near Upington and all that is left for residents is to await the "groot water" (big waters), as one local police officer put it.

As the flood continued on its devastating path through the country's interior — leaving a death toll of at least 11 in the Cape and Free State — the magisterial districts of Barkly West, Gordonia, Herbert, Kimberley, Prieska, Warrenton and Namaqualand were yesterday declared disaster areas for three months in terms of the Civil-Defence Act.

A massive relief operation is in progress countrywide, with police, the SADF, local municipalities and civil defence organizations co-ordinating airlifts of food and medical supplies and evacuating people from the path of the flood.

A total of about 5 000 people have been evacuated from Upington.

The five wine cellars in the Orange River region have been taking in double the usual quota of grapes to help farmers harvest as much of their crops as is possible before vineyards are buried in the deluge. Even so, indications are that as much as 22 000 tons of grapes will be lost.

Visit to Upington

President P W Botha and the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, are to visit Upington today.

In Prieska, the water was 11,64 metres deep at 2pm yesterday and flowing at a rate of 8 500 tons a second, according to Department of Water Affairs figures. The flood, rising at the rate of five metres an hour, was expected to peak by late last night.

The town clerk, Mr Dick Viljoen, said 111 homes had been evacuated.

PATRICK COLLINGS reported from Prieska yesterday that a local hotel employee, Miss Mandy Symes, said many residents were frantic as experts expected the rising water to cover the local Frans Loots Bridge late last night. The bridge was closed to traffic yesterday.

Prieska's mayor, Mr Hannes van der Westhuizen, whose own farm is threatened by the floods, said: "According to a manager of our local farmers' Co-op, at least 30 of our 40 irrigation farmers face financial disaster."

Upstream, the town of Douglas was beginning the task of mopping up and assessing the damage after the floodwaters, which peaked at 3pm on Thursday, began subsiding.

Commandant Neels Visser, police liaison officer for the Joint Operations Centre in Kimberley, said things in Douglas were in "a hell of a mess".

Flood relief fund swells

Staff Reporter

MONEY poured in yesterday for the Northern Cape flood relief fund, with donations from business organizations bringing the total to at least R345 000.

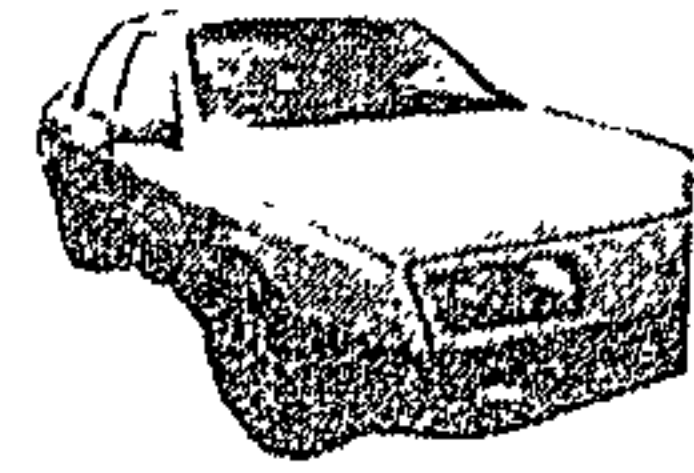
Companies which announced donations yesterday included the Standard Bank (R100 000), Gencor mining company (R50 000) and BP Southern Africa (R50 000).

Unifruco, an international deciduous fruit marketing company, donated R20 000 and R15 000 worth of fruit on behalf of the Cape deciduous fruit industry.

Collection points for donations include chain stores and the Wynberg Red Cross office.

Financial contributions may be sent to the Director of Fundraising, Private Bag X63, Pretoria, 0001.

★ MONTH-END OUTSTANDING CARS, BAKKIES



ON MONDAY

AT THE REPOSSES 14 CARS!

- 1987 Ford Sierra 3.0 GLS 5/W
- 1987 Honda Ballade 150 5 spd (2)
- 1987 Toyota Corolla 1.6 GL
- 1987 Mazda 323 1.5
- 1986 Opel Commodore 3.0
- 1986 VW Golf CSI
- 1986 Nissan Skyline 2.0 SGL
- 1985 Mazda 626 SLE
- 1985 Nissan Pulsar 5
- 1985 Opel Rekord 5/W
- 1985 Toyota Corolla 1.6 GL 5 Spd
- 1985 Honda Ballade
- 1984 Ford Sierra 2.0 GL
- 1984 Isuzu KB Diesel
- 1984 Nissan Langley 5 spd
- 1984 Ford Cortina XR6
- 1984 Renault 9 TL
- 1984 Nissan Pulsar 5

AND MANY MORE VIEWING: ON DAY OF SALE



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Man drowns as flood rages near Upington

56

W/ ARGUS 27/2/88

by VERNON BRENT
Weekend Argus
Reporter

UPINGTON. — The menacing Orange River claimed its first victim here today when a man drowned crossing flooded ground in a quiet riverside neighbourhood.

Shortly after midday, Mr Ouda Sihoy, 28, disappeared while trying to cross a flooded ditch in a quiet cul de sac, Bult Street.

The water here had built up to 9 metres above normal.

Mr Red Redelinghuys, who witnessed the incident, said Mr Sihoy wanted to come across to visit a friend.

"I told him not to fool around because it was dangerous.

"He did not listen, took off his shirt and jumped in.

"It seemed to me he could not swim properly. About five

**PICTURES,
STORIES
PAGE 5**

metres from land he started shouting for help.

"I dived in and got to within a 1½ m and he disappeared.

"I just saw bubbles."

Mr Redelinghuys also spent half an hour in a canoe poking with a paddle into the water.

Police divers also had no luck.

The water at the scene of the tragedy was very still as it creeps up gradually.

There were no discernible currents on the surface.

TREES

It is believed the body might have got trapped in trees which are several metres below the surface.

The police station and the hospital as well as about 500 telephone subscribers were cut off this morning due to a faulty cable running under the Bult Street subway.

An emergency line was routed over the Railway bridge to install communication to the police station.

Technicians said the hospital line would be restored by this afternoon but that the suburbs of Middelpoort and Keidebees would be cut off for several days.

The Orange River continued to rise steadily.

It measured 8,55 m at 10 o'clock and water was flowing at the rate of 6200 cubic metres per second.

Latest indications are that the waters will not rise to the 1974 level of 9,9 m.

However, the bulk of the

flood water has yet to arrive.

In Priska the level has begun to drop after reaching a height of 12,5 m.

This was 15 centimetres below the 1974 level.

■ TO PAGE 5

COME ON IN, THE WATER'S FINE!



Picture: PETER STANFORD, Weekend Argus

Floods up! A local Keimoes resident fearlessly dives into the raging floodwaters of the Orange River from the Keimoes bridge — expected to be under water later today.

97 / 02 / 88

Relief funds boosted

A GIFT of R500 000 from a national supermarket chain and others of R100 000 and R50 000 have boosted funds to provide emergency relief in the flood disaster areas.

The supermarket chain Checkers announced that it has cut into its advertising funds to the tune of half-a-million rands to provide relief.

Standard Bank has announced that it is contributing R100 000 to the Red Cross.

And the chairman of BP South Africa, Mr Ian Sims, said his company had contributed R50 000 to the Red Cross.



Picture: DANA le ROUX, The Argus

Commodore Phillip Viljoen, inspecting officer at yesterday's quarterly divisions of the Mine Counter-measures Flotilla, presents Mrs Gwendolyn Douglas with her son Gavin's ceremonial sword.

Drowned navy man's mates ensure mum gets his sword

Military Reporter

THE ceremonial sword belonging to Sub-Lieutenant Gavin Douglas, the naval officer who drowned last year while trying to help Natal flood victims, has been presented to his mother.

Mrs Gwendolyn Douglas received the sword from Commodore Phillip Viljoen during the quarterly divisions of the Mine Counter-measures Flotilla in Simon's Town yesterday.

Lieutenant Douglas's shipmates on the strike craft SAS P W Botha bought his sword from the Navy and had it mounted to be presented to his family.

More than R600,000 left over from money collected by the ship's company to buy the sword has been given to the Natal Flood Disaster Fund.

Mrs Douglas said she was very happy to receive the sword. "It is fitting that my son gave his life trying to

save others and I am very proud of that," she said.

Commodore Viljoen, addressing Mrs Douglas during the parade, said it was heart-breaking to lose a son, but it was also an emotional experience losing a shipmate.

"I can assure you that the South African Navy is very proud of Gavin and will remember him as a respected officer who always gave his best for the service," he said.

On October 3, Lieutenant Douglas was one of seven naval personnel in two rubber dinghies who were scouring the banks of the swollen Umgeni River for missing people.

They hit rapids and the first boat was ripped apart and lost its engine. The four occupants reached the shore safely.

The boat carrying Lieutenant Douglas and two other men capsized and he was drowned. The other men got to shore.

7 districts 'disaster areas'

FLOOD FILE

by STEPHEN WROTTESLEY
Weekend Argus Reporter

SEVEN districts in the northern Cape have been declared disaster areas for a period of three months in terms of civil defence legislation.

They are Barkly West, Gordonia, Douglas (Herbert), Kimberley, Prieska, Warrenton and Namaqualand.

The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, said that although he had been assured by the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, that everything was under control in these areas, it was necessary to declare them disaster areas to give civil defence organisations greater powers to assist them in executing their tasks.

Earlier, Mr Louw said he had asked for six Cape districts

to be declared disaster areas in terms of civil defence legislation to better enable him to co-ordinate relief efforts.

He was to visit the area to study the situation first-hand.

Meanwhile, contributions have been pouring in to aid stricken families in the Free State and northern Cape.

The first consignment of Red Cross emergency relief supplies for the flood-stricken northern Cape left Cape Town yesterday by air and road.

Supplies included a hospital tent, non-perishable foodstuffs, baby foods, 20 bales of blankets, pressure stoves, buckets, basic kitchen sets and clothes.

In a statement yesterday, Mr Louw said he had asked Mr Heunis to declare Warrenton, Barkly West, Kimberley, Douglas (Herbert), Prieska and Gor-

donia disaster areas in terms of the Civil Defence Act.

They had already been declared disaster areas in terms of the Fund Raising Act by President Botha.

Mr Louw said the military, police, local civil-defence organisations, Red Cross and other bodies were doing excellent relief work.

"The declaration of a state of disaster will enable me to co-ordinate all relief aid to victims of the floods even better and to ensure that any means and sources available are used effectively to alleviate the distress being experienced over a wide area," he said.

Joint-operations centres to co-ordinate all flood relief had been set up in Kimberley and Upington.

Man drowns

■ FROM PAGE 1

In a heavy thunderstorm this morning 105 mm fell at Prieska, and the Priska river was in flood.

Latest predictions from the Department of Water Affairs are that the flood will peak on Sunday afternoon at 10 300 kilolitres per second.

Late last night, the river was flowing at just over 6 000 cubic metres per second and the height was 7,6m.

The irrigated fields at Keidebees are awash, with vineyards and vegetable fields being swallowed by the ever-rising brown swell.

In the lowest-lying houses, resigned residents were busy with last-minute removals.

Mr Paul Galpin, whose garden and swimming pool are a metre underwater, predicted the water would enter his house by midnight.

He said: "I was the first to evacuate, days before civil defence advised us to do so. People said I should wait and see, but when I heard what was happening at Bioemfontein I packed up."



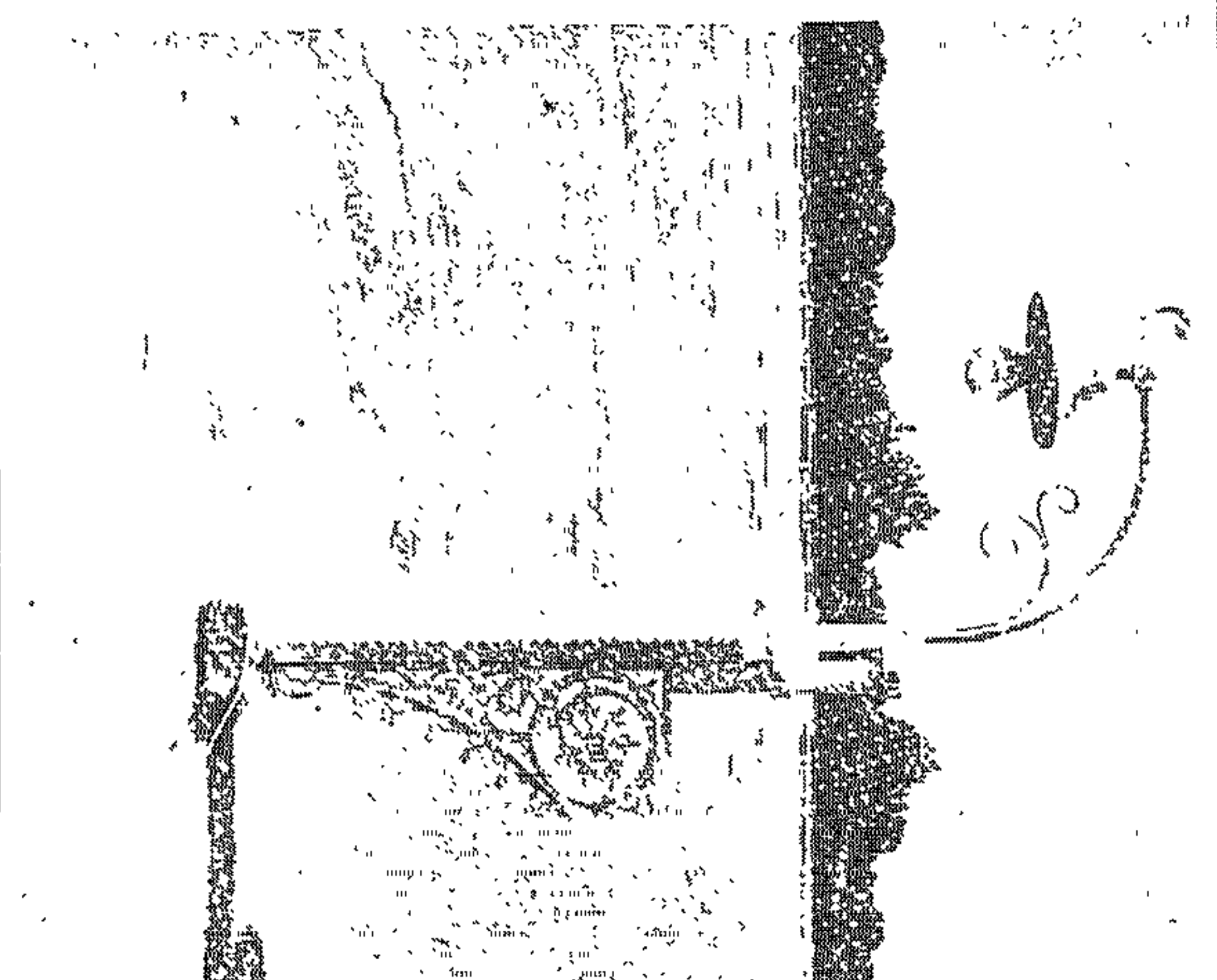
As the rising waters creep closer residents of Upington are moving to higher ground. Willing helpers carry out furniture.



Mrs Ymile Kennedy and family friend Mr Jaco van den Heever, above, watch apprehensively as floodwaters creep nearer to her newly-built sand-bagged house in Upington.

Pictures: PETER STANFORD,
Weekend Argus

The floods may be creeping up but there is still time for nostalgia... this ornate lamp post, right, was salvaged when District Six was flattened and a resident of Upington was determined not to lose it, so he tied a rope to it hoping it would hold against the might of the flooding Orange River.



28/02/88

56

THE WEEK THE ORANGE BROUGHT FE

man who touched

THE southern Free State was a bowl of mud after the flood waters, which raged through the area this week, had subsided.

And apart from signs of destruction everywhere, many were homeless.

Two of these were Adam Odendaal and his wife Johanna, an elderly couple of pensioners who have lived in the Free State town of Wepener all their lives.

Mr Odendaal touched the nation's heart when he appeared on television this week, in tears as he spoke of their ruined lives.

The Odendaals were visiting their daughter in Bloemfontein last Sunday when Wepener, the worst-hit area in the southern Free State, was swamped in minutes as the tiny spruit became a swollen river and burst its banks

Birds

"I have lost everything I ever had," Mr Odendaal, 61, told me, again in tears as he stood outside the shell of his house.

"My wife and I were born here, we have lived in this house for 48 years, and now we don't have a thing."

His son Adrian, a member of the South African Police, rushed to the house he was born in when he heard Wepener had been flooded.

"The water was up to the windows on the outside," he said. "When I broke a window to get in the water flooded out."

When Mr Odendaal returned home on Monday he found dead all the birds he

kept in the aviaries at the back of his house, including 220 doves.

His dog, a St Bernard, was buried under 3m of mud.

"When I saw the house I decided to leave — there was nothing left for my wife and I.

"But people in the town told us to stay. And then I thought, I'm an old Free Stater — I was born here and I must stay here."

Townfolk, in the meantime, have found an empty house for the Odendaals.

"What upset me most was losing my television set. It was our best friend — on a Saturday night we would sit up and watch the whole programme.

"But people in the town have been very good. They are helping us to start again."

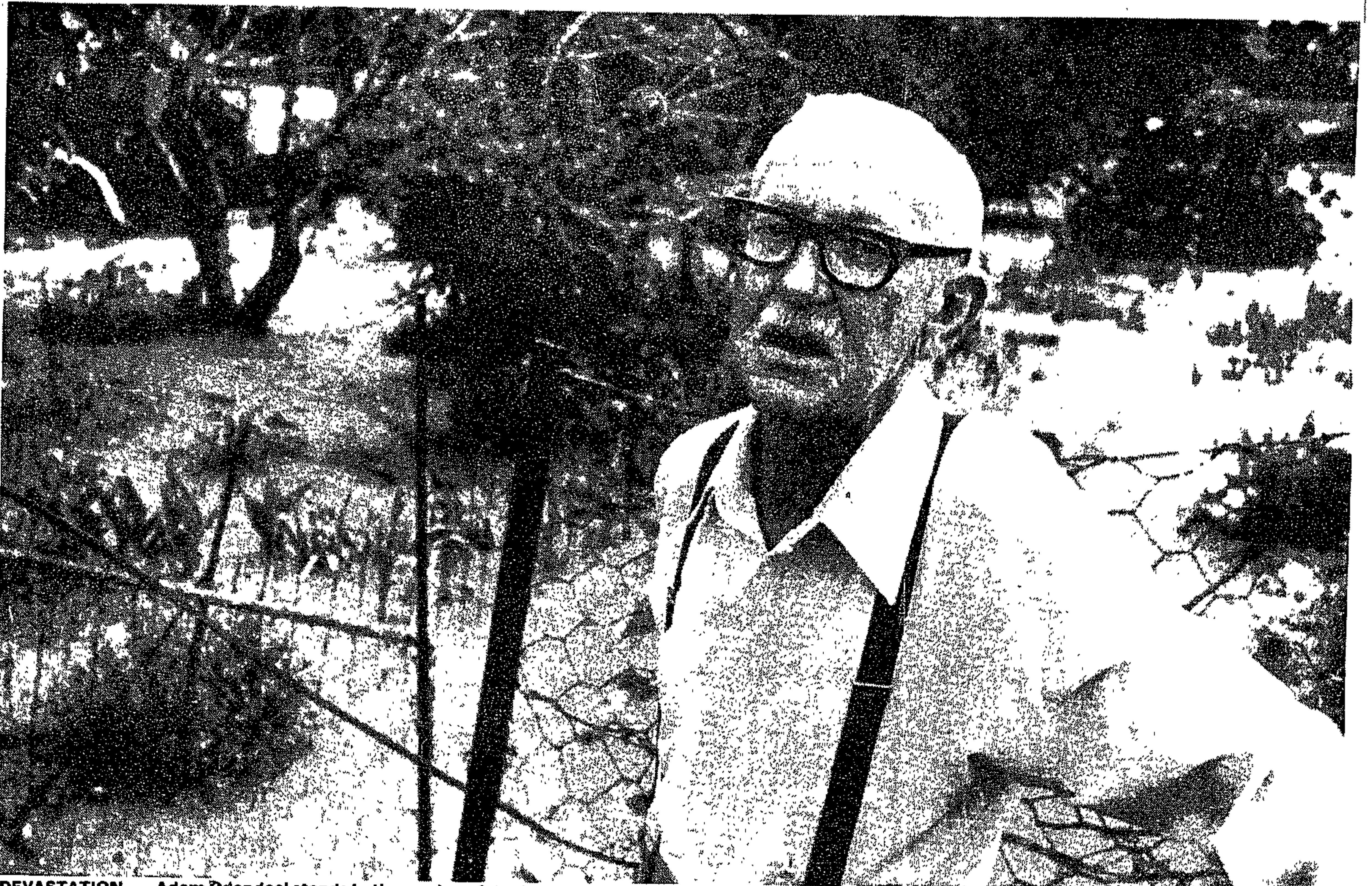
Tents

People in Qibing, the township on the outskirts of Wepener, were most affected.

Three houses were destroyed and hundreds damaged by the rain. The municipality is erecting a tent town, where more than 100 families are now living while their houses are repaired.

Annie Ramanki and her daughter Paulina, age 6, were at home when their single-room house collapsed.

"Luckily we were on the bed, which is on the other side of the room," Miss Ramanki said.



DEVASTATION . . . Adam Odendaal stands in the garden of the flooded house which had been his home for 48 years

Picture: JIMMY HUTTON

'I have lost all I ever had,' he said in the shell of his house

By SHAUN HARRIS

They are now living with her mother in the township.

Mrs Olga Marte lives on the banks of the Sandspruit River. She was at home with her mother, Mrs Laura Kohlberg, and son Otto-Carl when their house was flooded.

"It had been raining the whole day and the water was rising, but suddenly it was a metre up the walls," she said.

"Then I heard the front door burst open, and water came rushing into the house."

There was panic until a neighbour, Mr George Yiangou, arrived. "He carried Otto Carl out to a bakkie parked outside. Then he came back for me.

"The water was waist-

deep, and flowing very strongly. We kept getting pushed back as we tried to get to the truck."

By then the police had arrived and two officers had to drag Mrs Kohlberg through the swirling water outside the house.

"If my mother had slipped she would have been gone. I couldn't believe how strong the flow of water was.

"The person who saved us was George Yiangou — he risked his life to get to the house."

Mr Yiangou was modest about the rescue, but it turned out that Otto-Carl was the second child he had rescued.

"I was in my shop on Sunday when my neighbour, who runs a shop on the other side of town, phoned and told me to come and look at the rising water," he said.

"I was only gone for five minutes — when I got back my shop and my house next door were flooded."

Mr Yiangou said he got his wife and three children out of the house and planned to drive away when he realised that the child of the friend who had phoned him was still in the next-door house.

Heat

"I rushed next door and saw his son inside the house. By then the water was more than a metre deep — I had to pull him out of a window."

Municipal police sergeant David Rossouw has spent the week in Qibing, putting up tents for black families left homeless by the floods.

"January was hot as hell, so hot I was cutting my trousers to make them into shorts," he said.

"Then the rain started . . ."



A WALK ON THE WET SIDE . . . but only the children of Douglas manage smiles

Close encounters of a different kind in Edenburg

Sunday Times Reporter

A SMALL Free State town was deluged by a flood of a different kind this week — its population more than doubled in a few hours.

More than 700 stranded travellers poured into Edenburg looking for sanctuary.

"Our problem was not the water," said town clerk Johan Deetlefs. "It was finding food and shelter for our unexpected guests."

But in a grand show of Free State hospital-

ity, residents turned out to offer bed and board to the hundreds of truck drivers and residents of neighbouring towns and farms.

"There was a wonderful sense of goodwill among all races crowding into the school hostel and town hall," said Mr Deetlefs.

"From Sunday to Thursday morning, nobody could get out of Edenburg. Bread was flown in by the Defence Force, and we supplied reading material, a ping-pong table and

other games to keep the refugees busy."

On Tuesday 32 people had to leave to attend to urgent business in Johannesburg. The Edenburg school bus was commandeered and the group taken to the Kaffirrivier crossing, where SADF trucks picked them up.

"When the truckers left on Thursday morning, they held a collection and gave us R463 to pay for their keep," said Mr Deetlefs.

Members of the town council were pre-

sented with letters of thanks from many of those who had sought refuge. And the town has dubbed Miss Maggie Engelbrecht the heroine of the "siege". Sometimes spending more than 12 hours manning a CB radio and telephone, she dealt with more than 1 500 calls for help.

By yesterday the little town had returned to normal. "Now we'll all help to rebuild the roads," said Mr Deetlefs.

The old

Sunday Times
28/2/88

By ALAN DUGGAN

THEY knew a flood was coming — but nobody dreamed it would swallow half the town.

And when the muddy waters of the Vaal River swept through their homes, carrying away everything they owned, only the strongest could fight away the tears.

The little Northern Cape town of Douglas had ample warning of the huge volume of water that was heading towards it from the north-east.

Sadly, the townspeople underestimated the danger — and many of them paid for that mistake with everything they possessed.

There was no "wall of water" as had been predicted — just a steady rise in the level until the swollen river transformed the town's lower reaches into a murky lake.

Helpless

The town clerk of Douglas, Mr Louis de Jager, was among the early victims. Having moved his furniture to the upper level of his double-storey home, he watched helplessly as the river gradually flooded and submerged everything he owned.

But the head of the town's civil defence operation had no time to brood about his loss. He and other officials had little sleep as they fought to help other folk save what they could from the waters.

On Wednesday night, elderly residents were moved to a temporary refuge on higher ground by a group of nuns and male helpers.

Said the mayor, Mr Attie Coetzee: "The teamwork and spirit here has been magnificent. Our people have cooperated wonderfully."

Cheerful

But those spirits began to flag on Wednesday night as house after house was submerged. Scores of desperate home-owners commandeered tractors, trucks and sympathetic passers-by to help clear their houses.

Guests at the Frederick Hotel (including a Sunday Times news team) were awakened in the early hours of Thursday morning by water lapping at their bedclothes.

Flooded cars in front of the hotel were towed to high ground by four-wheel-drive vehicles.

Homeless people, bedraggled but remarkably cheerful, made fires on street corners while they waited for dawn (power to the town had been cut).

One of the unhappiest peo-



MUDDY WATERS . . . a father carries his son down a flooded Douglas street Picture: TERRY SHEAN

Raging waters bring a flood of tears to the town of Douglas

ple in Douglas this week was ostrich farmer Mr Raymond Theron, who lost two homes and his entire livelihood — 800 ostriches (worth about R500 000) to the flood.

He paced back and forth beside the ever-rising waterline as his house gradually disappeared.

He hadn't spent a single night in his new house and now it was gone.

"That's it," he said. "I'm finished."

The town's Catholic priest, Father Andreas Harth, 76, saw his church flooded the following day.

He and a group of volunteers had worked against the clock the night before in an attempt to clear the building

of carpets and other fittings before the floodwaters struck.

A civil defence volunteer, Mr Warwick Lovemore, told the Sunday Times that he had suspected what was coming and cleared his house of everything before the flood.

"Some people thought we were crying 'wolf'. But being proved right doesn't make us feel any better."

Municipal officials were adamant this week that Douglas would not give up in the wake of the most devastating blow in its history.

Said the mayor, Mr Coetzee: "The flood is a tragedy — but we still have a town here, and we are not giving up. We'll start cleaning-up as soon as we possibly can."

Don't let it happen again

By IVOR CREWS

THE cost of recent flood damage could be as high as R1-billion and mopping up operations could take years, experts have warned.

Now they are looking at ways to prevent damage on a similar scale in the event of future catastrophic flooding. Dr. H. de Clercq, public relations chairman of the South African Institute of Civil Engineers, says: "Further re-

search into dam safety is needed following the recent failure of both the Spitskop and Tygerpoort dams."

He says roads are not built to withstand heavy floods because of the enormous additional cost this would entail. "But potential flood damage is pivotal in the design and construction of bridges."

He points out that during the recent floods no bridges have been washed away in the Free State or on Natal's

national roads.

Flooding of towns like Ladysmith has highlighted the need to avoid construction in flood-prone areas, he says.

For this reason, the institute wants civil engineers to be responsible for indicating flood lines on development plans for new townships.

"Engineers should be required to indicate projected flood lines to enable developers to select construction sites outside of high-risk areas."



Two residents of Jacobsdal wade through what seems like a river, but is, in fact, the main street of the little Free State town.

Flood reaches Upington (SB) **as Free State counts losses**

WHILE the central Free State counts its flood losses in life and property, a massive wave of water has now reached Upington in the Cape Province. People in low-lying areas have been warned to be ready to evacuate at any time.

Dr Van Niekerk, the Minister of Health and Population Development, who heads the special cabinet committee established to determine the flood damage, said an operations centre had been set up in Upington and the level of the water in the river was being measured hourly.

"The tremendous volume of water flowing down the Orange River will cause many problems," he said.

He confirmed that nine people had died in the floods so far, but added that the death toll could rise as there was no communication with several outlying areas.

One of the hardest hit areas however was the black township at Koffiefontein.

A newly constructed dam at Likhoele in the Mafeteng area of Lesotho, near Wepener in the Free State, burst after the heaviest rains of the year.

Earlier this week, a senior security officer at Mafeteng, Colonel Shohahla Letsie, warned people living in the area their lives could be in danger.

The Bophuthatswana Defence Force had to rush tents and supplies to communities in the flooded areas of Taung, Kuruman and Ganyesa, a BDF spokesman said.

More than 1 300 houses have had to be evacuated in the Northern Cape due to the floods in the area, Administrator of the Cape, Gene Louw confirmed yesterday. - Sapa

C. Reess
28/02/88

AKGUS 79/2/88

FLOODS

Upington rail cut as floods near Kakamas

From VERNON BRENT Staff Reporter
UPINGTON. — Fears of an unprecedented disaster have proved unfounded here as the mighty Orange River threatened and grumbled its way past this riverside town.

Yesterday afternoon the river peaked at 9,74m, about 20cm below the 1974 flood level. The flow was 7 500 cu m a second.

To the relief of residents, earlier predictions of an all-time high of 12m and a flow of 10 000 cu m/sec failed to materialise.

Today all eyes turned to Kakamas, the next town along the course of the Orange.

At Kakamas, which has been cut off from Upington since Saturday, the river level has already topped the 1974 peak and by midday yesterday was rising 10cm an hour.

Floodwaters have cut the railway line at Putsonderwater, Upington's last link with the south.

An earth dam burst yesterday morning at Marydale, about 170km from Upington, after 120mm of rain, flooding several houses and sending muddy red water cascading through the town.

A spokesman for the Department of Water Affairs said the river at Upington was "stable and dropping".

However, residents were warned not to return to their homes because the huge volume of water would maintain high levels for several days.

Residents of Prieska, Groblershoop and Upington were warned that the heavy rains over the last two days in the Free State could herald a new wave of flooding.

Emergency supplies of food and clothing will be dropped by helicopter to people trapped on numerous islands, some of whom may be stranded for up to 14 days.

The floodwaters failed to reach the expected high because the Vaal River waters arrived earlier than the Orange River flow, the spokesman said.

Flow regulated

Had the waters arrived simultaneously the position would have been far worse.

About 60 luxury riverside homes have been flooded, some ankle deep in mud-laden waters, others up to 3m.

The flow had been regulated by letting floodwater spill over the P K le Roux and Hendrik Verwoerd dams instead of releasing it through sluices. Damage, however, was extensive.

Worst hit were the farmers. Up to 80 percent of irrigated croplands and vineyards were under water at Keidebees and Kanon Island.

Lost revenue from crops and equipment is expected to run into millions of rands, while damage to vines and mud and sand deposits will set farmers back at least a year.

One fatality and several rescues were reported.

Mr Ouda Sihoy, 28, of Pabellelo township, drowned while trying to swim through the flooded Bult Roadd subway.

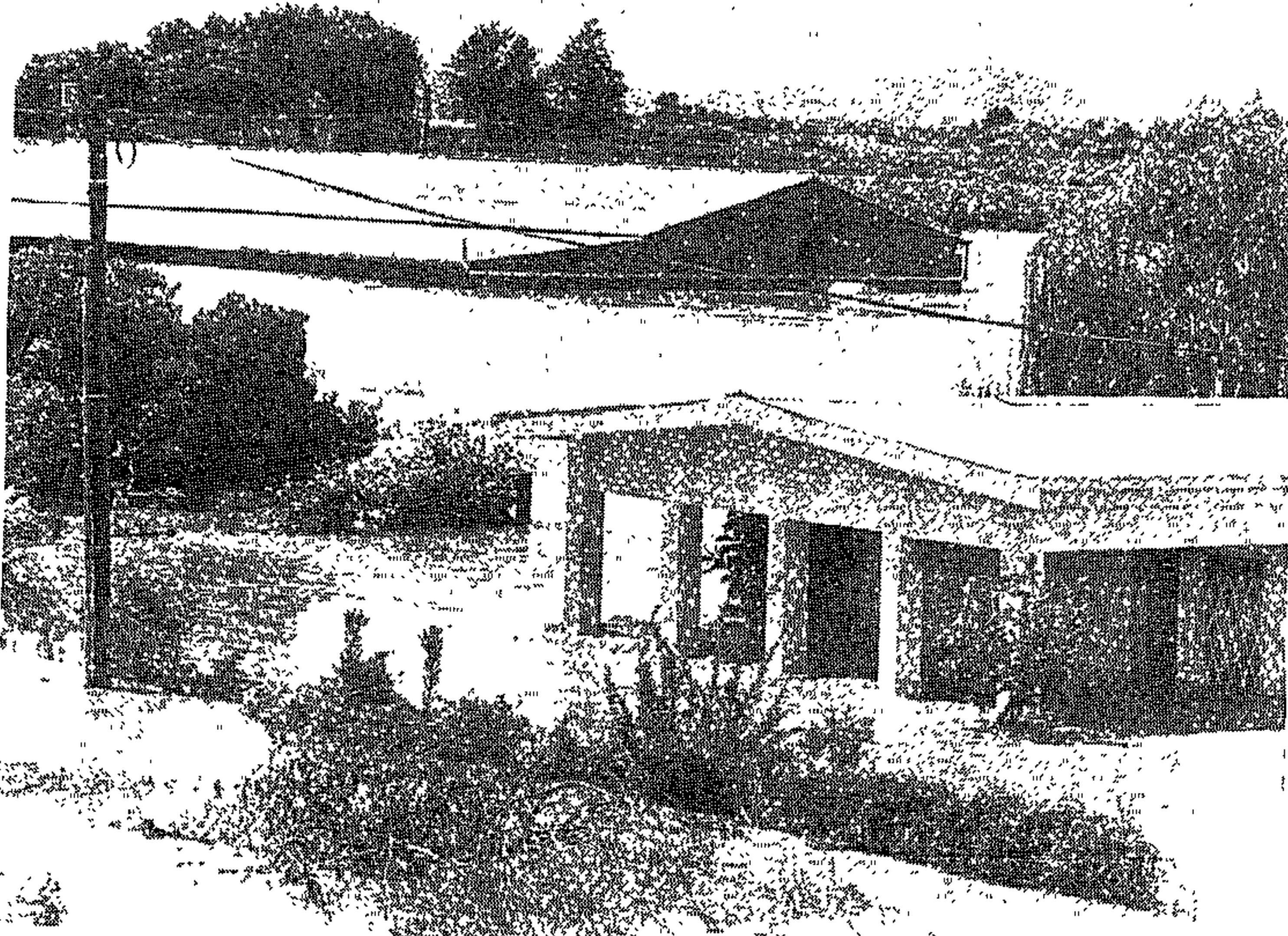
Twenty-three people were lifted by air-force helicopter from Joint Island.

A man was rescued from the water and a pregnant woman in labour was airlifted from one of the islands.

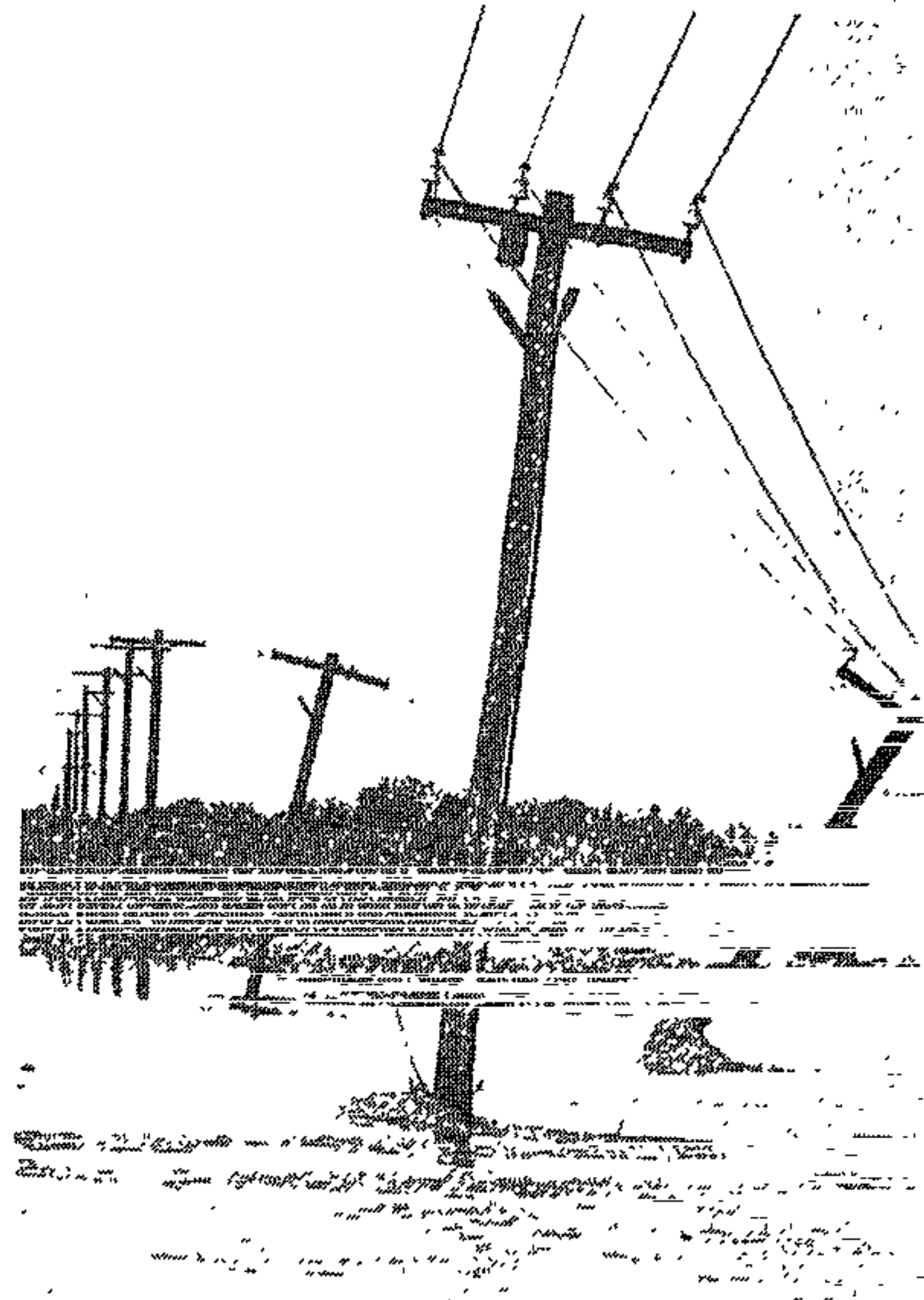
The John Rolfe helicopter airlifted a three-month-old baby from Louisvale 25km to Gordonia Hospital, Upington. The baby had been accidentally fed paraffin.



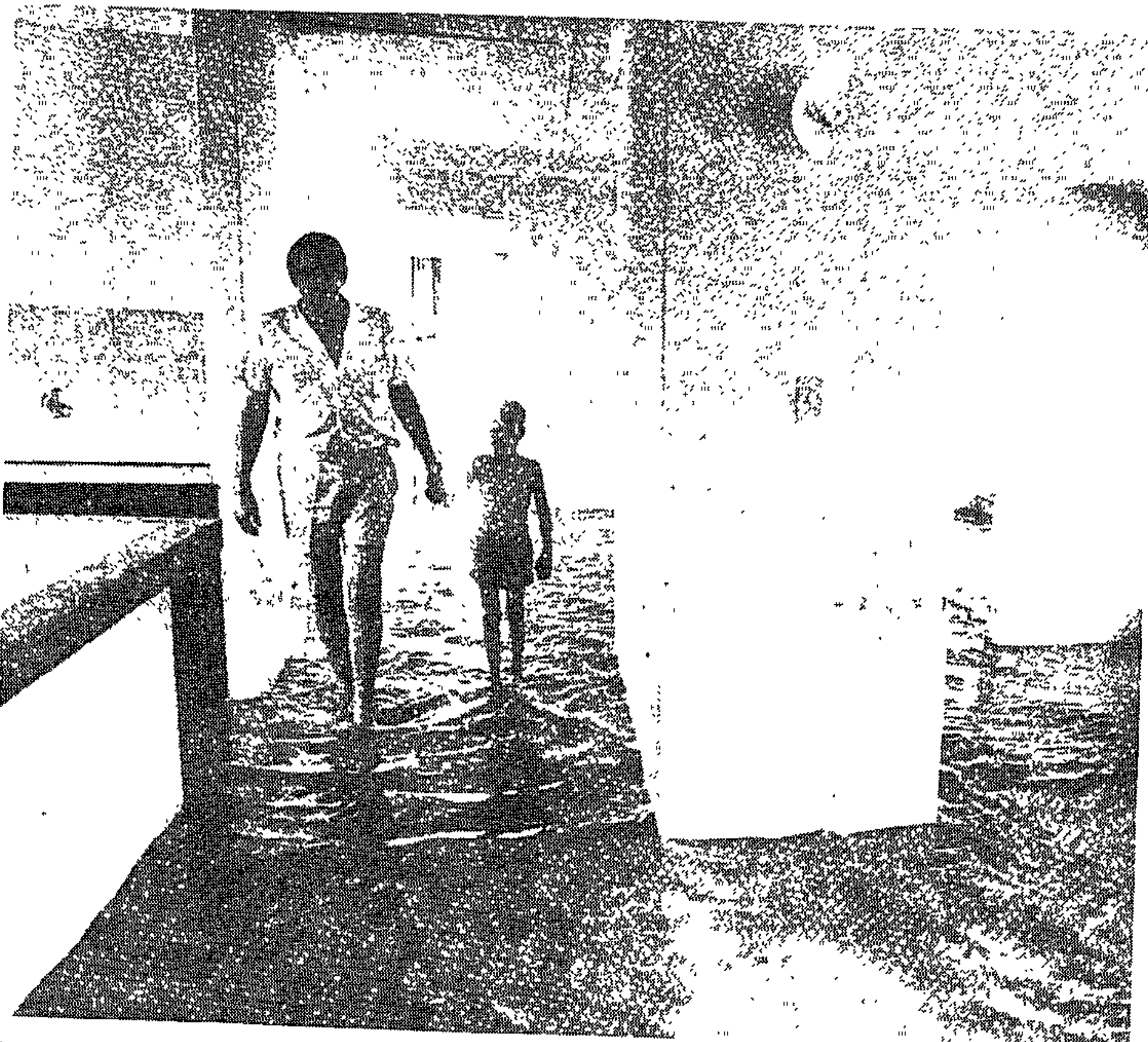
VICTIM SOUGHT: Mr Red Redelinghuys, in the canoe, and a friend sought the body of Upington's first flood victim.



WATER EVERYWHERE: Buildings in low-lying areas flooded by the Orange River.



UNDER PRESSURE: Telephone poles lean c... the force of the floodwaters at Middelpos, U...



WADING THROUGH: Mr Jannie Jacobs and his son "JD" wade through their flooded house in the riverside suburb of Keidebees at Upington.



PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: A young Upington greets President Botha as he inspects flood...

a nation

**'Dear God,
save my
children'
was her
prayer**

By ANDY GALLOWAY

"FATHER, if you have to take my house, take it, but please save my children," was the frantic prayer offered by Mrs Tolla Taljaard as she, her mother, children and baby grandchild fled from the approaching wall of water that raced towards their house.

A shocked Mrs Taljaard from Shannon, outside Bloemfontein, recounted yesterday how the once-placid Renosterspruit had erupted into a solid wall of water.

"On Sunday morning we heard on the radio about the rain and after a while my mother, Mrs Swannie Swanepoel, walked over to the window and shouted: 'My children, look what is happening here!'"

Hysterical

Mrs Taljaard said they were faced with a wall of water, several metres high, rushing towards them from 200m away.

"My mother became hysterical and I shouted to the children to run for their lives," Mrs Taljaard said.

She grabbed her daughter's seven-month-old baby, Colin, and rushed for the vehicle which was parked in front of the house.

By this time the water was swirling around the car and the house.

"I did not want to leave my home, but at the same time I did not want to see it being destroyed," Mrs Taljaard said.

"We drove off for about two kilometres and sat in the middle of the tarred road on a hill, watching a bridge in front of the house crumbling away.

"I sat with my head on the steering wheel and prayed to God that he would not take away my house, but then I thought that I must not make an idol of it, so I said 'God, if you have to, you can take the house, but please spare my children'."

They sat in rigid fear for a couple of hours before Mrs Taljaard's 17-year old son Alwyn ventured back to the house. "It is a miracle," he said. "The flood seems to have passed the house."

Strain

The concrete fencing in front of the house had acted as a type of dam wall, stunting the full force of the flood.

"But one still does not sleep well in the evenings," said Mrs Taljaard.

"The strain is something terrible. My husband is away and has missed all this. He will not believe his eyes when he comes back," she said.

"Our maid, Maria, and gardener, Petrus, both lost their life's savings and their homes," she said.



AFTER THE FLOOD . . . Tolla Taljaard and her grandson Colin

Viewers donate R5-m — in 3 hours

By CHARMAIN NAIDOO

TV viewers, shocked by the plight of flood victims, opened their hearts and wallets yesterday to the tune of R5-million.

The money was collected in three hours yesterday via Good Neighbourliness, a telethon organised by Good Morning South Africa.

The result was quadruple the figure collected for the Natal flood fund last September.

Many lent a hand: personalities manned telephones; GMSA anchor Marjorie Brooks worked on her wedding day because, she said, "It's for an excellent cause"; the public donated generously; businesses not only promised large sums of money but also offered their premises for the collection of dry food and blankets.

Ringling

In Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town, the telephones never stopped ringing, resulting in some heart-warming stories.

Discount tycoon Tony Factor told of a 74-year-old pensioner who called in to pledge

half of his life savings — R11 000. And, the old man told Tony, he wanted to give up half of his and his wife's monthly pension "for the rest of my life".

Two little girls, Mareli, 5, and Janita, 2, walked in with their mum, Mrs Benita Botha, to hand over their piggy banks filled with small change.

School children also offered their pocket money.

The largest donation came from the Checkers group — R500 000 in cash and kind.

Artist Keith Alexander donated a painting worth R13 500.

And Cole Cameron, producer of the play Above The Wind, said proceeds of the preview would go to flood victims. The preview is at the Alexander Theatre on Tuesday at 8pm. Tickets cost R2,50.

Thousands open hearts to stricken

PORT ELIZABETH — Television opened the floodgates of South Africa's generosity to the stricken on Saturday morning.

Graphic television shots of raging rivers, flooded lands and devastated homes touched the hearts and the purses of the country's people and by the time the Good Morning South Africa telethon ended, pledges of well over R5

million had reached the SABC's studios.

In the Port Elizabeth studios, telephone callers from all corners of the Eastern Cape and Border pledged more than R287 000.

It was not only the management of companies that were giving, but their staff members. It was not only the mayors who visited the studio in their chains of office,

but the municipal employees.

Soldiers and policemen and hoteliers and café owners and pensioners and students and firemen and housewives and nurses. All wanted to do their bit. Among them were:

● A Jamestown farmer's wife who said that the stock losses they had suffered in the recent floods in the North Eastern Cape were nothing

compared with what had happened further downriver.

● A nine-year-old East London boy who had broken his piggybank and was taking the entire R20 to the bank. The new bike would have to wait.

● The boys in one of the hostels at St Andrew's College in Grahamstown, who gave up their precious little luxuries.

● A Port Alfred businessman who donated a boat, and a Port Alfred woman who organised a "sacrifice sale" of valuables among her friends and neighbours.

It was clear from the regional roundups during the transmission that the busy telephone operators were all deeply touched by the way men, women and children had opened their hearts, purses and piggybanks.

A set of 50 unique philatelic covers devised by Springbok sailor, Bertie Reed, and his sponsors to commemorate the Bartolomeu Dias 500th anniversary sold "like hotcakes" on the telethon, raising about R4 500.

"I'm only too conscious of the destructive

force of water," Reed said last week when he offered the covers, franked in Lisbon, Madeira, the Cape Verde islands, Cape Town and Mossel Bay, for sale to help the flood victims.

Reed, outright winner of the recent Lisbon-Cape yacht race and his sponsors had 900 of the special covers printed with the idea of selling them to help finance the yachtsman's "last-shot" entry in the BOC single-handed round-the-world race in 1990-91.

He said yesterday: "It was a wonderful, uplifting experience just being in the studios on Saturday morning and experiencing this flood-tide of human concern for those who have suffered loss".

He said yesterday the covers were offered "for R25 each or whatever you are prepared to pay for them".

"As far as I know, no-one paid only R25 for a cover," Reed added.

"One up-country stamp-collector, unable to get through during the telethon, phoned about 10.30 am to say he badly wanted two of the covers and was prepared to pay R500 each for them. We'll be sending him two." — DDC

PW tours flood-stricken Free State, N Cape areas

UPINGTON — The State President, Mr P. W. Botha said yesterday he felt sorry for the communities hit by floods, but, like in other disaster areas, there would "come new life" in the ravaged areas.

He spoke at a press conference on the bank of the Orange River in Upington, as the swiftly moving river swirled over the town's last remaining bridge in the background.

Mr Botha and several Cabinet Ministers visited the flooded Free State and Northern Cape regions yesterday.

He was accompanied by the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk, the Minister of Transport, Mr Eli Louw, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetzee, the Deputy Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Japie van Wyk, MP for the House of Representatives, Mr David Currie and the Administrator

for the Cape Province, Mr Gene Louw.

Mr Botha was swamped by local people as he strolled through town in a khaki outfit.

He said he was impressed by a joint management system which would enable state departments to "contribute their full share" to lighten the burden of their disaster-struck town.

"We are silent as people, as ordinary human beings, before the power of nature," Mr Botha said.

It was the second time in a year that South Africa had been confronted by the power of water, he said.

"The whole of South Africa has been shocked by the disaster, which has created havoc with the lives of many people."

His flight took in the southern Free State, including Jacobsdal, Kimberley, Ritchie, Douglas and the lower Orange river area up to Kanoneiland. — Sapa

Floods subside after farms are inundated

8/10.29/2/88

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Daily Dispatch Correspondent

UPINGTON — After days of waiting, the deluge of flood water finally arrived here yesterday leaving at least one person dead and causing millions of rands' damage to areas along the river bank.

An unidentified man drowned on Saturday afternoon after he tried to cross the fast-flowing river. An attempt was made by police to find his body but it has not yet been recovered.

By midday yesterday, the water had started to subside and people were able to return to their partly submerged homes and start to assess the damage caused by the water.

Many residents told the Daily Dispatch correspondent about the helplessness they had felt as they watched the water encroach on their properties.

"You can't do anything; you are simply helpless — you just have to watch and wait," Mr Nico Steenkamp said as he waded through the back courtyard of his R200 000 home.

Neighbours waded from one house to another offering advice and support to their friends, vowing to help one another rebuild the area.

Telephone links with Groblershoop, Marydale and Kenhardt were cut but an emergency line will be laid to restore communication with Groblershoop.

Officials of the Department of Water Affairs said the river had peaked for six hours at 9,5 m, which was lower than the figure of 9,9 m recorded during the floods of 1974. However, higher up the river farmers said the water level had in fact passed the mark.

It was the farmers who were worst hit by the deluge of water, with thousands of acres of farm land below water.

In many cases the crops had not been harvested and were left to rot below the river water.

About 40 km to the south-west of Upington in the small town of Keimoes the story was much the same with farms along the banks of the Orange River flooded.

A farmer, Mr Christie Grobbelaar, said there

were few farmers in the area whose farms were not under water.

● Police have recovered the bodies of two men who drowned when their truck slid into a swollen stream about 10 km from Newcastle at the weekend. Two more men are still missing.

● The weather bureau yesterday issued a special warning about a tropical depression which was moving southwards from the Mozambique Channel at 200 km a day. However, the bureau said the depression did not pose any danger at present.

More heavy falls of rain have been forecast for the eastern half of Botswana today and thundershowers with moderate falls are expected over the southern and eastern Free State, Eastern Cape interior, Transkei, and Natal.

Cloudy and cool weather with occasional light rain and drizzle is expected along the Border coast.

See also page 9



Bikes and badges were the order of the day; the spirit of the bikers' rally were R

SA/Namibian border towns await the main floodwaters

The Star's Africa News Service

WINDHOEK — The main floodwaters of the Orange River are due at the towns of Vioolsdrif and Noordoewer on the SA/Namibian border later today.

The DF Malan bridge between the two communities has remained open to vehicle traffic. The SWA police have been notifying motorists bound for the Cape on the main

Star 11/3/88
road south from the Territory — which goes through Noordoewer and Vioolsdrif — about the state of the bridge.

A number of irrigation schemes in the two settlements are flooded and a powerline and a generator have been swept away.

Late yesterday, the river was still at least 2 m below the level of the DF Malan bridge.

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Meanwhile, it seems initial fears that Namibia would be cut off from South Africa will not materialise. With the water level declining at Upington — the other main artery to SA — Sats in Windhoek is accepting goods traffic for points south of Upington after placing a ban on the acceptance of all goods for outside the Namibian border last week.

Donate to flood relief, Schwarz urges MPs

Star 1/3/88

(56)

Political Staff

Members of Parliament should each donate a portion of their February salary to the flood disaster fund, said Progressive Federal Party MP for Yeoville Mr Harry Schwarz.

"It wouldn't be a bad idea if members of Parliament, instead of voting other people's money, voted as a body to give a portion of this month's salary to the Disaster Fund," said Mr Schwarz during the Additional Appropriation second reading debate in the House of Assembly yesterday.

"It would be a gesture that the public of South Africa would understand and would show that we don't just talk about things but put our money where our mouth is," he said. He suggested about 10 percent of each MP's salary could go to the fund.

Provision

Mr Schwarz called on Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis to amend this additional budget to make provision for the unforeseen additional expenses that had arisen as a result of the floods in the northern Cape and the Free State.

Mr du Plessis said an amendment was not nec-



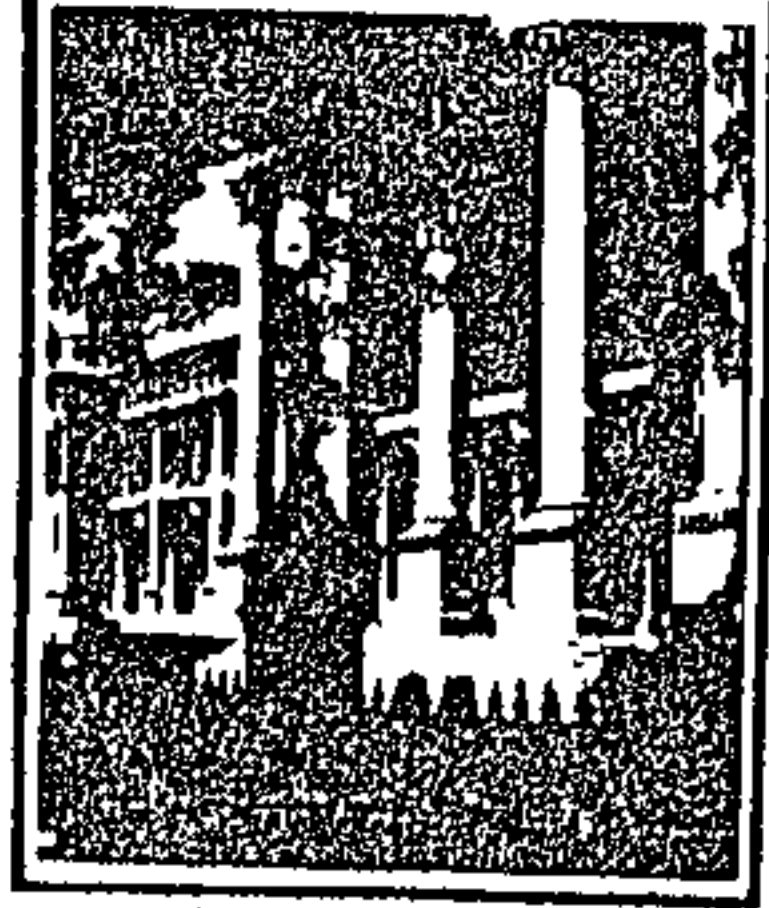
Harry Schwarz: let's put our money where our mouth is

essary now and that the money needed for flood relief could be handled administratively in the last month of the fiscal year.

Replying to Mr Schwarz's suggestion that MP's contribute to the

flood disaster fund, Mr du Plessis said there were moves in the National Party caucus to approach NP MPs and there had also been negotiation among parliamentary whips to include MPs from other parties.

Parliament '88



Star 1/3/88

Religious objectors are a real problem

Minister of Manpower Mr Pietie du Plessis said yesterday in the House of Assembly that he personally did "not have much sympathy" with religious objectors doing "alternative national service" and that using these people was "a real problem".

NOT WANTED

"People don't want them or anything to do with them," he said.

He was replying in committee stage debate on the Additional Appropriation Bill to questions from Mr Arrie Paulus (CP Carletonville) and Professor Nic Olivier (PFP Nominated).

"People" did not want anything to do with the objectors because they did not do military service.

"I will put them into jobs, but I won't go out of my way to do things on their account," he said. — Sapa.

New flood water to swamp Douglas and then Prieska

Star 1/3/88

(56)

By Adele Baleta
and Dan Side

New flood water is expected to reach the little northern Cape Town of Douglas tomorrow morning after heavy rains fell in the catchment area of the Kalkfontein Dam at the weekend.

A Water Affairs spokesman said a mass of water that would raise the level by 4,7 m was racing towards Douglas at a rate of 4 000 cu m per second (cumecs) following heavy downpours in the Kalkfontein Dam area on Saturday, which caused the Riet River to swell once again.

The water, was expected to reach the town tomorrow morning.

Water, flowing at a rate of 6 200 cumecs, will then move on to Prieska on the banks of the Orange River early tomorrow night and the level could rise by 8 metres, the spokesman said.

On Friday the water is expected to join the end of floodwaters at Upington.

The floods are starting to reach Namibia with the levels of the Orange River rising at Noordoewer, the border town on the main Namibia-Cape Road.

However, the spokesman said the water had not broken the bridge at the border at Violdrif, but the main road had been closed.

Commandant Neels Visser stationed at Defence Force headquarters in Kimberley said people on the lower reaches of

the Orange River were returning to their homes today.

"All appears to be back to normal," he said.

The Air Force was still transporting medical and food supplies to farms along the Orange River today.

One of South Africa's biggest farm co-operatives, SentraBoer, expects to be hard hit by insurance payouts.

Mr Ray Lambert, re-insurance manager of SentraBoer, which offers flood cover for all types of buildings, household contents, farm implements and machinery and stored crops, said the floods affected an area representing about R8 billion of the R15 billion exposure carried nationally by his company.

"Most farmers haven't yet been able to get off their properties and into their co-ops to file their claims. But we expect that the final bill will be hefty," he said.

However, last week's devastation is not expected to be anywhere near as big a burden to major short-term insurers as last September's Natal disaster, said the Insurance Association of South Africa today.

Spokesman Mr Rodney Schneeberger said claims would not begin to rival the estimated R400 million to R450 million that will be paid out in Natal.

"The reason," he said, "is because there is not as much industrial and commercial damage - and that's what cost us the money in Natal."

Transport & General Workers Union
Transport Workers Union of SA
Transvaal Transport Workers Union
Unit van Treinpersoneel en Bedrijfsgrade Groep C
Zakelijk Transport & Allied Workers Union

Store gives R500 000

CHECKERS store chain had donated R500 000 to the Flood Disaster Fund after cutting its media advertising budget to benefit the stricken areas in the country.

Deputy managing

Sowetan 1/3/58
director Mr Sergio Martinengo, said the donation was made over and above making Checkers stores available as collection points for food, blankets and other forms of contributions to

the fund. (56)

Mr Martinengo spoke after the chain's managing director, Mr Clive Weil, announced that the company would be cutting its advertising on television, radio and newspapers for about a month beginning yesterday.

The floods have affected Natal, the Northern Cape and the Free State.

Sandton: pollution of rivers and streams

131. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

Whether his Department took any action in 1987 in regard to the pollution of rivers and streams which flow through Sandton; if so, (a) what action, (b) in respect of which rivers and streams and (c) with what result?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

Yes

(a), (b) and (c) The hon member is referred to my reply to his question 212 (for written reply) in 1986. The action is being continued and the results have thus far remained unchanged.

An accident did, however, occur during August 1987 at a manufacturer of synthetic detergents. A tank containing raw material collapsed and deposited its contents into the stormwater system and on to adjacent ground. As much of the material as possible was removed. Since this incident, serious foaming occurs in the Sandtspruit after rain storms.

Subsequent to this incident the Department of Water Affairs instructed the company concerned to carry out certain modifications to its property in order to prevent a re-occurrence of such an incident and to prevent water pollution under normal conditions.

The Municipality of Sandton was informed that it was in fact the authority responsible for controlling water pollution by industries within its municipal area.

Water from Natal for use in Transvaal

144. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

(a) How much water was obtained from Natal for use in the Transvaal in 1987, (b) what was the price charged per litre of water and (c) (i) who paid for this water and (ii) (aa) to whom and (bb) when was this money paid?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS.

(a) 604 million cubic metres
(b) The total cost for the State for the supply of Tugela River water, via the Sterkfontein Dam to the catchment area of the Vaal River, amounts to 0,015 cents per litre. In determining the Government wa-

ter tariffs the total cost for providing all water supply components, as well as any other expenditure are taken into account, whereafter an average tariff for the supply of water is determined, which tariff presently amounts to 0,0114 cents per litre for domestic and industrial use and 0,0014 cents per litre for agricultural use.

(c) (i) The following institutions to whom the water was supplied, paid for the water and it was then, where applicable, recovered from the consumers concerned:

Rand Water Board
Eskom
ISCOR
SASOL
OFS Goldfields Water Board
Western Transvaal Water Company
Municipality of Kimberley
Other small consumers
Irrigators

(ii) (aa) The Department of Water Affairs

(bb) Throughout the year.

Citizen Force/Commando members: exemption from attending camps

150. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) What percentage of Citizen Force and Commando members called up to attend camps (a) applied for deferment and (b) (i) failed to report for service and (ii) requested exemption from rendering service in townships in 1987;

(2) what total number of persons called up for military service in 1987 requested exemption on (a) religious and (b) other specified grounds?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE.

(1) (a) 29,47%
(b) (i) 8,28%
(ii) 0,394%
(2) (a) 305
(b) Educational: 23
Essential Posts: 962
Service in other Forces: 15

Occupational Circumstances: 38

Medical: 38

Others: 46

Coloured/Indian members deployed in Black townships

153. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Defence:

Whether any (a) Coloured and (b) Indian members of the South African Defence Force were deployed in Black townships in 1987; if so, how many in each case?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(a) and (b) Yes. It is policy not to divulge personnel strengths.

SADF members killed/injured in Black townships

154. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) How many (a) national servicemen and (b) members of the (i) Permanent Force, (ii) Citizen Force and (iii) Commandos were employed in the combating of urban unrest in 1987;

(2) whether any members of the South African Defence Force were (a) killed and (b) injured while performing duty in any Black townships in 1987; if so, (i) how many (aa) national servicemen, (bb) members of the Permanent Force, (cc) members of the Citizen Force and (dd) members of the Commandos, (ii) in which townships, (iii) when, (iv) what were the circumstances surrounding each incident and (v) what was the cause of death or injury in each case;

(3) whether any residents of any townships were (a) killed and (b) injured by members of the South African Defence Force performing duty in these townships during the above period; if so, (i) how many, (ii) in which townships, (iii) when, (iv) what were the circumstances surrounding each incident and (v) what was the cause of death or injury in each case?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(1), (2) and (3) The hon member is referred to the reply in this House to written question No 60 of 1987.

Operational area: persons killed/injured

156. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Defence:

Whether he will furnish information on the number of persons killed and injured in the operational area in 1987; if so, (a) how many (i) members of the South African Defence Force and (ii) civilians were killed and injured in each case, (b) how many persons were killed and injured by members of the South African Defence Force in the operational area in that year?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

Yes, in certain instances as explained below

(a) (i) As our enemy may abuse statistics on the number of SA Defence Force members who have been killed in the operational area for propaganda purposes, it is not customary to divulge the figure.

(ii) The South African Defence Force only keeps statistics with regard to deaths and injuries which were the result of Defence Force activities or which had direct bearing on such activities.

(b) Killed: 460 of which 340 were terrorists. The remainder were killed in shooting accidents, motor vehicle accidents and crossfire during contact with the enemy, etc.

Injured: It is not possible to determine the number of injuries sustained. Injuries can vary from slight to serious and are in many instances not reported.

South African Medical Services: professional staff establishment

186. Prof N J J OLIVIER asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) (a) What is the professional staff establishment of the South African Medical Services and (b) how many posts were (i) vacant, (ii) filled by persons rendering service in terms of section (aa) 22, (bb) 24b5 and (cc) 44 of the Defence Act, No 44 of 1957, and (iii) filled by civilian consultants on a contract basis as at the latest specified date for which figures are available;

Two more drown in raging floodwaters

Cape Times 11/3/88
56

JOHANNESBURG. — The death toll in the floods sweeping the country rose yesterday when the bodies of two people — a 10-year-old girl and an adult man — were found in the Upington area.

Reports said they had drowned in the Orange River.

Earlier reports from Natal said police had recovered three of the bodies of four people who drowned in the Klip River at the weekend when their vehicle was washed off a low-water bridge.

It was not clear last night what the official death toll was in the floods that have caused damage estimated at millions of rands, but news reports have mentioned more than 20 deaths.

Meanwhile **PATRICK COLLINGS** reports from Upington that the small town of Kakamas has been cut off from surrounding towns in the north and residents there fear that the flood water will also cut off roads leading to the south.

Hundreds of acres of vineyards are submerged under the muddy flood water. A number of farm houses are also flooded to their roofs.

About a kilometre of the road linking Kakamas to Keimoes is under two to three metres of water and throughout yesterday people were being ferried to and fro by a police dinghy.

Mrs Johanna Visser, wife of a local farmer, had been trapped on the Kakamas side of the river since Saturday. She was reunited with husband Abraham late yesterday.

In a drama of another sort a baby girl about three days old, with critical breathing problems, was yesterday flown to Upington Hospital in the

Chief Reporter

A SET of 100 unique philatelic covers devised by Springbok sailor Bertie Reed and his sponsors to commemorate the Bartolomeu Dias 500th anniversary has raised nearly R30 000 for flood-relief.

The covers, offered through the Cape Times for sale on SATV's "good neighbourliness" telethon on Saturday morning, sold "like hot-cakes", bringing in about R4 500.

And yesterday Johannesburg collector Mr Edgar Droste said he is prepared to pay R500 each for all 50 covers offered, and would send a cheque for R25 000 to the Flood Disaster Fund. Reed said yesterday he would make another 50 available to meet Mr Droste's request.

arms of the co-pilot of the John Rolfe helicopter. The girl and her mother, Mrs Anna Dodds, had been marooned at Louisdale Clinic on the southern side of the Orange River near Upington.

A hospital spokesman last night described the infant's condition as critical.

Earlier yesterday, Sapa reports, radio stations said the road link between Cape Town and Windhoek could be severed if the Orange River rises at Vijoolsdrift, the only bridge on the route still open.

Reports from Vijoolsdrift said a rise of less than two metres would push the Orange River past its 1974 level and the bridge would have to be closed.

The other major crossing to the north, the bridge at Onskeepskans, was closed on Sunday night.

Rail links between Namibia and South Africa were closed yesterday, government spokesmen said.

Large-scale power failures have occurred at Augrabies, north-west of Kakamas, and Eskom was laying an emergency cable to the town.

Only three main routes to Bloemfontein were still closed yesterday: From Petrusburg, Jagersfontein and Reddersburg. Authorities expect the roads to be reopened this week.

Do not look to new rule

56

Second wave of flooding to hit Douglas

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A second wave of flooding is expected to reach Douglas in the Northern Cape tomorrow morning after heavy rain fell in the catchment area of the Kalkfontein Dam at the weekend.

A water affairs spokesman said today "a wave of water 4,7m high" was racing towards Douglas at a rate of 4-million litres a second after heavy downpours in the Kalkfontein Dam area on Saturday caused the Riet River to swell again.

A flood level increase of 8m, flowing at a rate of 6,2-million litres a second, would then move on to Prieska early tomorrow night, the spokesman said.

On March 4 the water is expected to join the floodwaters at Upington.

The floods are starting to reach SWA/Namibia, with the levels of the Orange River rising at Noordoewer, the border town on the main SWA/Namibia-Cape road.

Road closed

The spokesman said the water had not broken the bridge at the border at Viooldrif but the main road had been closed.

He said there were reports of heavy rain over the northern Karoo and at Beaufort West and Victoria West last night but it could not be established what effect the rain would have on the flooding.

A Defence Force spokesman in Kimberley said people on the lower reaches of the Orange River were returning to their homes today.

He said: "All appears to be back to normal. The water has subsided."

The air force was still taking medicines and food to farms along the Orange River today.

The spokesman thanked people for their gifts of food, clothing and blankets. He appealed for more money for the disaster fund as Defence Force stores were packed and there was no room for more supplies.

● Trains stranded
— page 3.

Call on MPs to give 10% of pay to flood fund

Parliamentary Staff

MEMBERS of Parliament should each give a portion of their February salary to the flood disaster fund, said Progressive Federal Party MP for Yeoville Mr Harry Schwarz.

He suggested about 10 percent of each MP's salary could go to the fund.

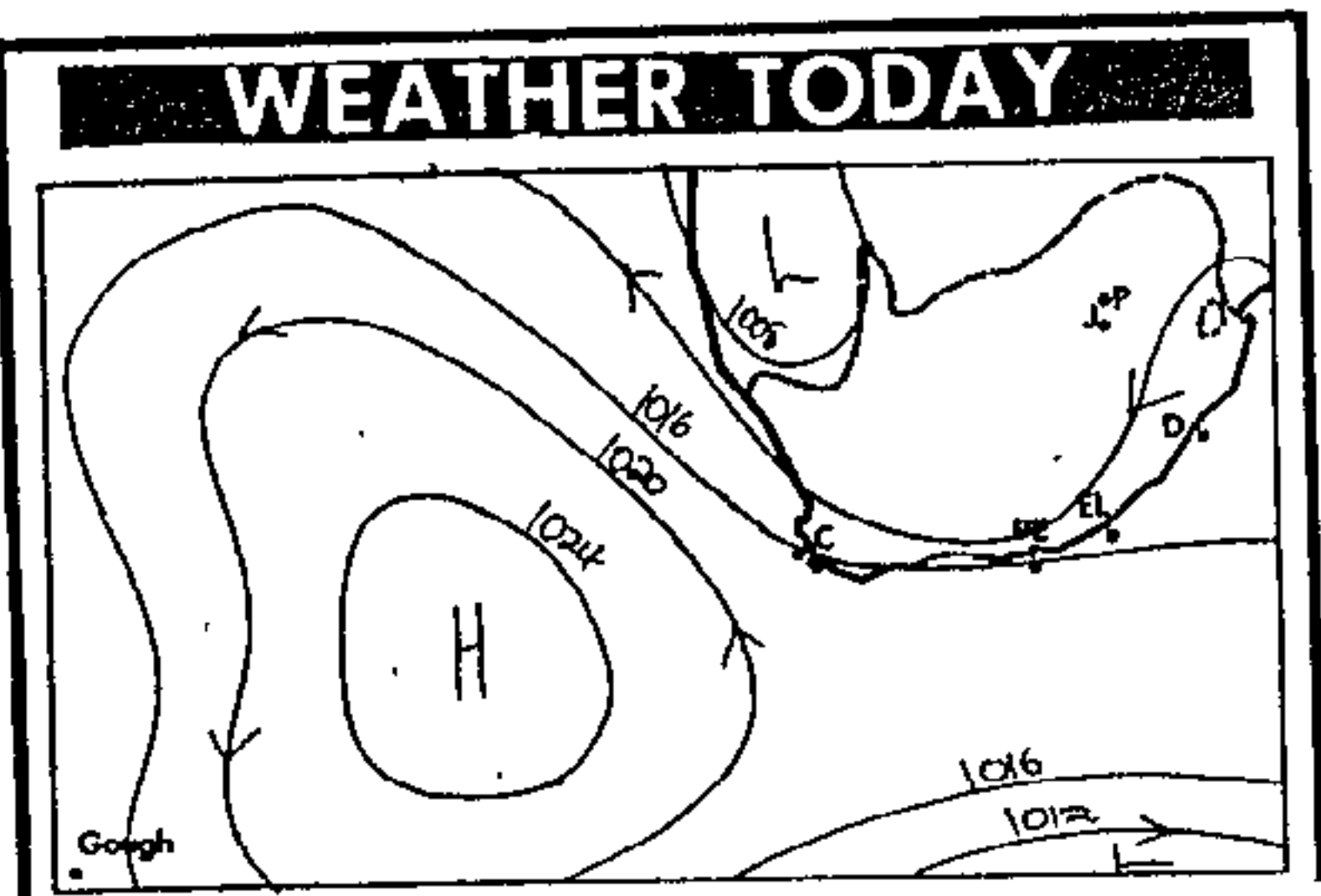
"It wouldn't be a bad idea if members of Parliament, instead of voting other people's money, voted as a body to give a portion of this month's salary to the disaster fund," said Mr Schwarz during the Additional Appropriation second-reading debate in the House of Assembly yesterday.

"It would be a gesture that the public of South Africa would understand and would show that we don't just talk about things but put our money where our mouth is," he said.

Mr Schwarz called on Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis to amend this additional budget to make provision for additional expenses that arose from the floods.

Mr du Plessis said an amendment was not necessary now and that the money needed for flood relief could be handled administratively in the last month of the fiscal year.

Replying to Mr Schwarz's suggestion that MP's contribute to the flood disaster fund, Mr du Plessis said there were moves in the National Party caucus to approach NP MPs and there had also been negotiation among parliamentary whips to include MPs in other parties.



E Cape dam levels up

D 15 1/3 / 88 (36)
EAST LONDON — It seems as if the heavy rains which plagued the entire country recently did do some good, with the level of dams in the Eastern Cape rising considerably.

A spokesman for the Department of Water Affairs in Cradock said the H. F. Verwoerd Dam, the largest concentration of fresh water in South Africa, was still overflowing and had been measured at 19 per cent above maximum capacity on Sunday.

In the Border region,

the Gubu Dam (100,6 per cent) is also overflowing, while the Bridle Drift Dam (95,6 per cent) and Nahoon Dam (91,4 per cent) are approaching that state.

The percentage levels of other Eastern Cape dams are: the Grassridge Dam (84,8 per cent) Kat River (69,8), Paul Sauer (54,9), Churchill (50,6), Waterdown (50,2), Groendal (47,3), Commando Drift (46,5), Charlie Malan (41,9), Mentz (13,06), Van Rhyneveld's Pass (25,4) and Beervlei (4,2). —
DDR

Floods cut off Kakamas

D/D 1/3/88

(56)

Daily Dispatch
Correspondent

UPINGTON — As the floods still continue to wreak havoc, the small town of Kakamas has been cut off from the surrounding towns in the north and residents fear that the flood waters will also cut off roads leading to the south.

Hundreds of acres of vineyards are submerged under the muddy flood water and a number of farm houses are also flooded to their roofs.

About a kilometre of the road linking Kakamas to Keimoes is under two to three metres of water and throughout yesterday people were being ferried to and from the town by a police dinghy.

Numerous rescues had to be carried out.

All public road and rail links between SWA/Namibia and South Africa were also closed yesterday.

The water level in the Orange River basin was rising by a metre an hour and all people living on the river banks were moved to higher ground.

The tempo of water flowing into the lower Orange River slowed down slightly but officials expected the flood level to resume rising, following the heavy rains that lashed the catchment area in the Free State and Botswana at the weekend.

A special Civil Defence committee has established its headquarters at Keetmanshoop in southern SWA/Namibia to co-ordinate and monitor "Operation Water Pool".

The Department of National Health yesterday completed an immunisation programme against cholera.

Officials of the Department of Water Affairs are making contingency arrangements to combat expected fresh water shortages in parts of southern SWA.

Problems with the supply of fresh produce from South Africa are expected, while farmers, cut off from their markets in the Republic, face financial loss.

● Four of the eight people feared drowned in two flood-related incidents in Natal at the weekend are still missing.

Parts of Ladysmith hit by overflow from Klip river

Star 2/3/88
Houses and streets in the low-lying areas of Ladysmith were flooded this morning when the Klip river overflowed.

Ladysmith town clerk Mr P Hurter said today that there had been heavy rains in the river's catchment area.

"Some streets in the town are closed and about five or six houses under water, but the waters are already subsiding. They were at their peak around 4 am today," Mr Hurter said.

Captain K van der Westhuizen of Upington police said today that the Orange River floodwaters were subsiding. Many hundreds of people were still housed in tents and hotels.

The Star's Africa News Service reports from Windhoek that the main Orange River flood has reached the Atlantic Ocean at the mouth of the river between Alexander Bay and Oranjemund.

Water rose to within 2,5 m of the roadway on the Ernest Oppenheimer bridge linking the two diamond mining communities. The level was still lower than that of the 1974 flood.

Houses are being evacuated in Alex-

ander Bay, but in Oranjemund, which is some way from the river and on high ground, it is business as usual. Consolidated Diamond Mines spokesmen said there was no danger of interference with diamond mining at Oranjemund.

The Ernest Oppenheimer bridge has already been prepared for the flood by CDM engineers, who have removed its railings to lessen pressure on the structure. Farther down the river, at the mouth, CDM's heavy earthmoving equipment has bulldozed clear a large sandbar to make the passage of the water easier.

STILL INUNDATED

The towns of Noordoewer and Vioolsdrif, astride the main Cape Town-Windhoek road, remain inundated, and the D F Malan bridge over the river there remains closed to traffic.

Vioolsdrif has lost many of its telephone links and is also reported to be without electricity, but the situation in Noordoewer is better with telephone and power links uninterrupted.

Residents in the towns do not believe the flood will exceed the 1974 level.

Zola Budd pledges 'I am British'

Star 2/3/88
The Star Bureau

LONDON — Zola Budd gave athletics officials both a verbal and written assurance yesterday that she is committed to living in, and running for, Britain.

A statement from Miss Budd said: "I consider myself British and I have severed all links with South Africa except for my family ties. Britain has given me the opportunity to make the utmost of my running talent and I am determined not to let Britain or myself down."

British officials said later that they now had all the assurances they required.

Terry McLean reports from Auckland that any demonstrators causing trouble when Miss Budd runs at the world championships at Ellerslie racecourse on March 24 could be in for trouble.

During New Zealand trials on Sunday, there was great crowd hostility to a group of demonstrators.

"If someone had leaped the fence," said Commonwealth decathlon gold medallist, Roy Williams, "I am quite sure those demos could have come close to being lynched."

● See Page 9.

Viewers want more debates

Star 2/3/88
CAPE TOWN — Viewers want more political debates on TV, says the SABC.

A corporation spokesman said the SABC was "very satisfied."

About 300 people had telephoned the SABC afterwards.

● See Page 13.

3 Bop disaster areas

Star 2/3/88
Pretoria Bureau

President Lucas Mangope of Bophuthatswana has declared the flood-stricken districts of Kudumane, Taung and Ganyesa, where nine people have drowned, a disaster area.

The chairman of the Cabinet Committee on Disaster Relief, Minister Seroke Kgobokoe, said that since the heavy rains started on February 10, 3 700 mud houses had been destroyed and 350 small stock lost in the Taung area alone.

A disaster fund has been opened at the Standard Bank, Mmabatho, for donations from the public.

ROW OVER 'looting';

Man Killed

From PATRICK COLLINGS, Correspondents and Sapa

UPINGTON. — A 52-year-old Kakamas man was shot dead on Monday afternoon during an argument about whether three youths had looted an evacuated house here.

A 53-year-old woman, Mrs Ella Swart, was wounded in the incident which left Mr David Issacs dead, a police spokesman for the Northern Cape, Captain C van der Westhuizen, confirmed yesterday.

Capt Van der Westhuizen said police were investigating but no-one had been arrested. Four people were arrested in connection with the looting.

In Natal police reported yesterday that the bodies of three of the four women who were washed away when they tried to cross the flooded Klip River near Ladysmith have been found.

The bodies of Mrs N H Khumalo, 60,

Riots in Senegal

DAKAR. — Post-election riots in Senegal have filled streets here with burned-out cars and its jails with young dissidents who consider Sunday's vote a fraud.

Defeated presidential challenger Mr Abdoulaye Wade and many of his aides are under arrest.

Armoured cars patrolled the streets on Tuesday. Thousands of police and troops took up position at strategic points, on guard for any fresh outbreaks against the re-election of President Abdou Diouf.

Senegal has often been seen as an African haven of democracy and sta-

and Mrs B Misimangu, 50, both of Driefontein, were found in the wreckage of the vehicle and the body of a third unidentified woman was also found.

Meanwhile the floods are starting to reach Namibia with the levels of the Orange River rising at Noordoewer, the border town on the main Namibia-Cape road.

As the level of the flooded Orange River continued to drop yesterday, supplies were airlifted to families stranded on islands in the river.

Air Force helicopters flew in food, tents, medical supplies and firewood. Reports suggested the water level may rise again as more water flowed down the Vaal River after recent heavy rains upstream.

A Water Affairs spokesman in Johannesburg said new flood water is expected to reach Douglas this morning after heavy rains fell upstream in the catchment area of the Kalkfontein Dam at the weekend.

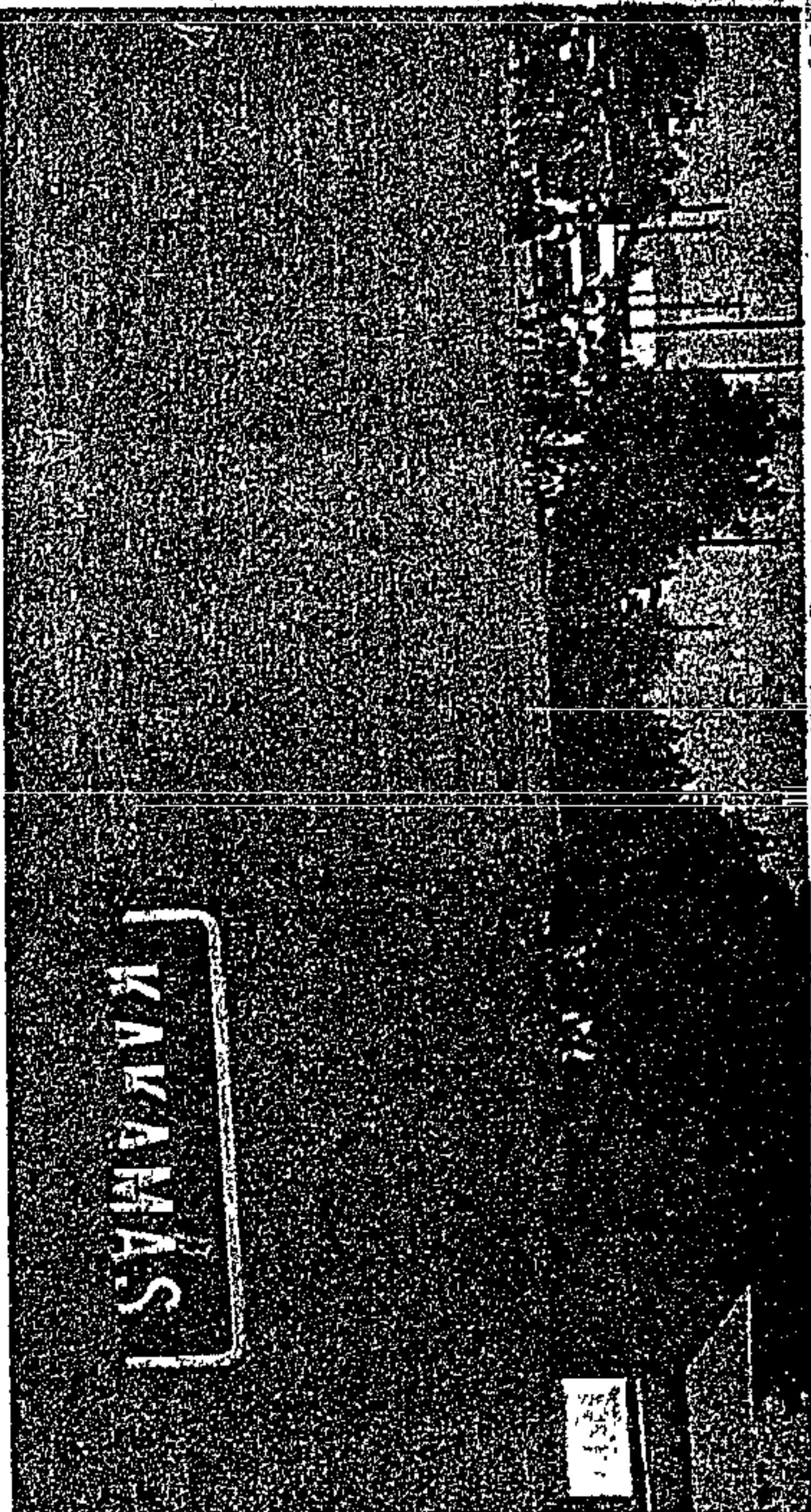
But there would be no "second flood" for Douglas and there was no reason for panic, Water Affairs said.

A Weather Bureau spokesman in Pretoria said heavy rain fell over parts of the Free State on Monday night, with up to 80mm being measured in Qwa Qwa and 65mm in Bloemfontein.

Namibia

High rainfall figures were recorded in the northern Cape and the eastern Karoo town of Murraysburg received 51mm.

At Kestell in the north eastern Free State 53mm of rain fell within an hour. Rains in the Karoo at Richmond, Victoria West and Britstown had cause the water level of the Ongers River which feeds the Smart Syndi-



SIGN OF THE TIMES. . . . This signboard, situated alongside the submerged Kakamas-Keimoes road, indicates the level of the water in the Northern Cape town on Monday. Pp: GLENN SHERRATT

Rising waters block train traffic

By PETER DENNENY

AS the Free State floods begin subsiding, rising waters in the Karoo — 63 km north of Beaufort West — have blocked the N1 and disrupted train traffic between Johannesburg and Cape Town.

Mr Jan van Zyl, public relations manager for SA Transport Services in the Western Cape, said yesterday that the Cape Town-Johannesburg Blue Train, with 130 people on board, had been stranded briefly at Biesiespoort.

An embankment between Biesiespoort and Hutchinson had washed away, leaving the rails dangerously exposed. SATS also received reports of rails washing away at Krom River, nearer Beaufort West.

The Blue Train reversed back to Three Sisters, but the three buses sent from Cape Town to fetch the passengers would be unable to get to them, Mr Van Zyl said.

This was discovered when the buses were already on the way there. Two more buses were immediately dispatched from Kimberley.

Telephone communications with the small town of Hutchinson were cut off yesterday, a post office spokesman said. It was still raining there yesterday.

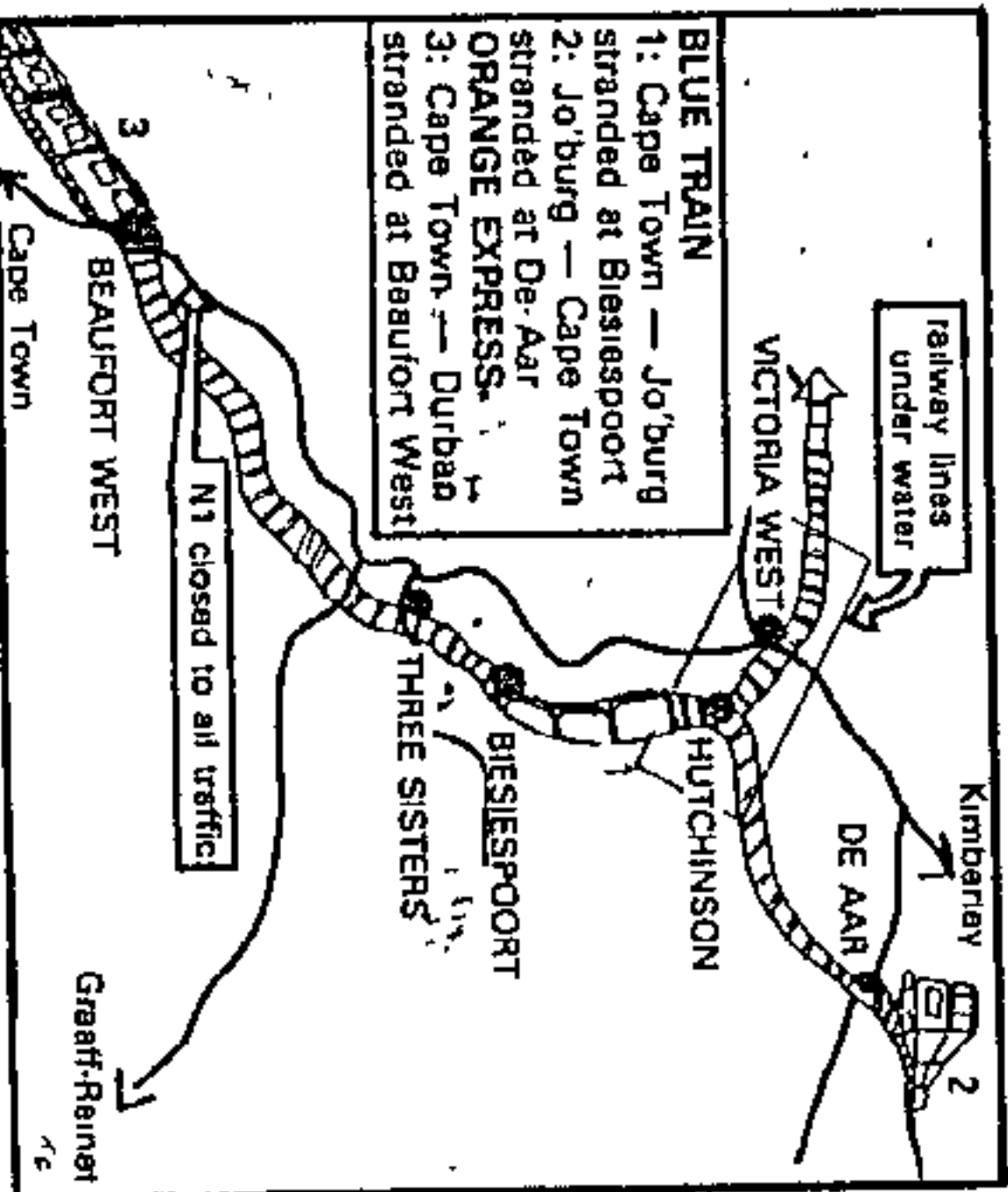
Mr Jan van der Merwe, the town clerk of Beaufort West, said yesterday that the N1 was under water for one kilometre about 63km north of Beaufort West.

Cars were being stopped on the outskirts of the town and drivers were told that it was useless to travel further as the road was blocked further up.

Both the Salt River and the Krom River had overflowed, he said, but no bridges had been washed away. He understood that "a couple of houses" were under water, but none in Beaufort West.

Mr Van Zyl of SATS said a flight from Johannesburg to Kimberley had been chartered for the Blue Train passengers, who would fly at SATS's expense to Cape Town or Johannesburg.

Another Blue Train, travelling from Johannesburg to Cape Town, was stranded at De Aar, and was



DISRUPTIONS . . . The area in the Karoo where floods cut road and rail links between Cape Town and Johannesburg.

on its way back to Kimberley.

The Orange Express, from Cape Town to Durban, was unable to proceed farther than Beaufort West, and was on its way back to Cape Town.

Twelve goods trains near Worcester were delayed when overhead powerlines were damaged by high winds which blew them off their pantographs.

The Trans-Karoo and Blue Trains due to leave Cape Town for Johannesburg and vice-versa today have been cancelled "until further notice".

SATS staff are working from 7am to 8pm to wipe out the freight backlog that built up during the Free State floods, Mr Van Zyl said.

He appealed to clients to take delivery during those hours, and to phone 9772623 (Bellville), 2183177 (Culmborg) and 9772376 (Bellville) contain-

By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN, Staff Reporter

TWO Air Force Alouette III helicopters are standing by to airlift passengers — including three babies — from the Trans-Karoo express train, marooned at Hutchinson in the Karoo by rising floodwaters.

The 248 passengers have been stranded on the train since yesterday. Food and water have run out, there is understood to be no milk for the babies and the train's batteries are weakening.

A spokesman for Southern Air Command at Silvermine said a mobile operations team was assessing the situation and if necessary the helicopters would airlift the passengers to buses.

Preference would be given to the babies, their mothers and an elderly woman passenger in a wheelchair.

The Alouette IIIs can transport about five people at a time.

It is impossible to reach the area by road and the railway line is cut off to the north and south.

Huge area cut off

The spokesman said a huge area — from Victoria West northwards to Loxton and southwards to Nelspoort — was cut off by floodwaters.

The floods also disrupted the prestige Blue Train service.

The Blue train to Johannesburg is stopped at Three Sisters. Its 130 passengers were treated to crayfish and cocktails in the air-conditioned dining car last night while they waited for buses to take them to Kimberley.

But when they reached Victoria West, they were stranded for the night. They were due to be flown by chartered aircraft to their destinations today.

The Trans-Oranje express returned to Cape Town and passengers are being flown to their destinations.

The Air Force spokesman said the helicopters and the operations team were sent from Port Elizabeth to Victoria West yesterday afternoon to be on hand in case of emergency.

Meanwhile a lorry driver was the hero of the Karoo town of Douglas when he arrived with a cargo of beer after civil defence officials had declared the town "entirely cut off from the outside world" and started an airlift of essential supplies.

Town Clerk Mr Louis de Jager said: "No one knows who he is or how he did it."

"Either he was drunk or he just closed his eyes and put his foot down."

Severed

As more reports of Karoo flooding poured in police said communications with Loxton had been severed and that a helicopter would fly to the town to check on the situation.

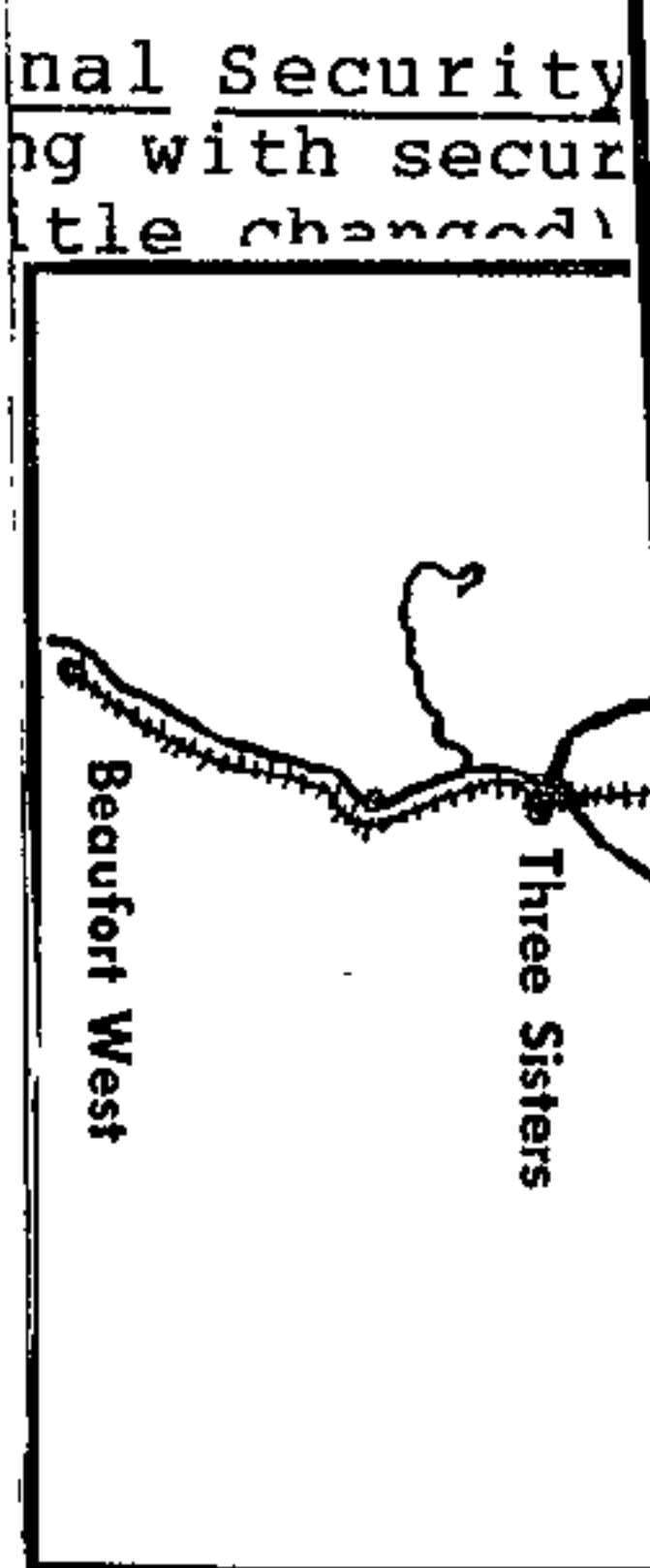
The town is midway between Beaufort West and Carnarvon.

Major Mike Lombard, police liaison officer for the South Western Districts, said telephone links with the town had been broken and there had been no communication via the police radio.

He said the SAAF helicopter would fly to the town from Beaufort West.

Major Lombard said the national road had been closed at Nelspoort, north of Beaufort West, because of flooding.

But he said the floodwaters seemed to be stabilising.



Boy drowns

A 13-year-old boy drowned in floodwaters at Groblershoop yesterday, bringing the death toll since the start of the floods in the northern Cape to 10.

Captain Karel van der Westhuizen, a police spokesman at Upington, said the boy, Andries Julius, had been playing in the flood waters with friends when he drowned.

He said floodwaters of the Orange River had reached a peak yesterday at Onseepkans, about 200km from Upington, where a number of houses were under water.

A dozen navy men, including eight divers, are assisting in flood relief operations in the Northern Cape.

A spokesman for Naval

(Turn to page 3, col 2)

Three babies marooned

ARCUS 2/3/88 (Cont from page 1)

Command West at Simon's Town said four inflatable boats, each with two divers and a coxwain, had been operating on the Orange River since Saturday.

Two boats were operating in the Vioolsdrif area and the others at Alexander Bay.

Houses and streets in the low-lying areas of Ladysmith, Natal, were flooded this morning when the Klip River overflowed.

Ladysmith's town clerk, Mr Pieter Hurter, said there had been heavy rains in the river's catchment area.

"Some streets in the town are closed and about five or six houses under water but the waters are already subsiding. They were at their peak around 4am today."

Sapa reports from Windhoek that the DF Malan Bridge at Vioolsdrif on the main route between Cape Town and SWA/Namibia would be closed indefinitely as the road on the southern side of the border had been washed away.

An official spokesman, Mr Wytze Van Wyk de Vries, said at Keetmanshoop today the water level in the Orange River at Noordoeper on the SWA/Namibian side reached a peak at 10,8 metres last night and was expected to maintain that level for at least the next 10 days.

248 stranded on Cape express train; helicopters ready to go in

Babies marooned

ARCUS 2/3/88

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Second wave of flood waters to hit Douglas

JOHANNESBURG — A second wave of flooding is expected to reach the little northern Cape town of Douglas this morning after heavy rains fell in the catchment area of the Kalkfontein Dam at the weekend.

A Water Affairs spokesman said a mass of water that would raise the level by 4.7 metres was racing towards Douglas at a rate of 4 000 cubic metres per second (cumecs) following heavy downpours in the Kalkfontein Dam area on Saturday, which caused the Riet River to swell once again.

Water, flowing at a rate of 6 200 cumecs, will then move on to Prieska on the banks of the Orange River early tonight and the level could rise by 8 metres, the spokesman said.

The water is expected to join the end of flood waters at Upington on Friday.

The heavy rains also caused huge disruption in the central Karoo last night and people had to be evacuated from their homes.

Between 200 and 300 people had to leave their homes at Hutchinson while 10 homes at

the Kromrivier Station near Three Sisters also had to be evacuated.

At Hutchinson a stream of water about 2 km wide flowed through the coloured residential area after a dam wall collapsed.

The thunderstorms caused extensive damage to railway lines and trains between Cape Town and the north were delayed.

Two Blue Trains and the Trans-Oranje express are stranded by new flooding in the Karoo and rail freight has been delayed by freak winds which swept the Worcester area yesterday, blowing down powerlines.

The Blue Trains, one on its way to Cape Town and the other to Johannesburg, were stranded at De Aar after they were unable to go beyond Biesiespoort.

A spokesman for South African Transport Services said that buses would transport the passengers to stations from which they had left.

At Upington, as the level of the flooded Orange River continued to drop yesterday, supplies were being airlifted to families stranded on islands in the river.

Airforce helicopters flew in food, tents, medical supplies as well as firewood.

R175 000 storm damage

QUEENSTOWN — Storm damage to roads and bridges in the Drakensberg Divisional Council area is estimated at R175 000.

The divisional council secretary, Mr Benny Phillips, said the areas most affected were Dordrecht, Jamestown, parts of the Lady Grey district and Aliwal North.

He said most damage was caused by flooding from burst dams which washed away sections of roads and bridges.

Several farms were isolated at the height of the flood but only one road in the region was still closed, he said.

This was the M5 route from the Motkop turnoff to Dordrecht.

Mr Phillips said motorists were not inconvenienced as there were alternate routes.

In addition to extra labour, two gravelling units had been moved to the worst-hit areas. Mr Phillips said they were working as quickly as possible to restore roads and bridges in the region. — DDR

Stamp aid extended

DURBAN — It has been decided to extend the scope of the surcharged stamps for flood relief in Natal to cover the Free State and Northern Cape, the Minister of Home Affairs and Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, has announced.

All funds collected from today by the sale of surcharged stamps and from donations by large users of the postal service, will be paid over to the disaster relief fund for utilisation in all areas.

A new stamp will appear shortly to replace the present surcharge stamps, which are printed with the words, Natal Flood Disaster.

Proceeds raised before yesterday will be paid to the Natal fund.

Stranded train passengers rescued

By Adele Baleta and Melanie Gosling

Passengers stranded on a Trans-Karoo train since Tuesday when flood waters washed away railway lines between Victoria West and Hutchinson, are being taken by bus to Cape Town today.

Sats spokesman Mr Leon Els said today flood waters had subsided sufficiently last night for buses to reach the stranded train and its 248 passengers.

"The passengers were taken to the Victoria West hotel overnight and are now on their way back to Cape Town by road. From there they will be flown to Kimberley or Johannesburg, but at this stage we have no confirmed times of arrival," Mr Els said.

He said the 65 passengers on the Blue Train had been taken to Cape Town by bus yesterday and then flown to Johannesburg.

A police spokesman at Victoria West said there was no serious flooding in the Karoo towns of Victoria West, Hutchinson, Nelspoort and Britstown where heavy rains fell last night.

He said the main road between Fraserburg and Williston was closed yesterday after the Sak River overflowed, and the road linking Vosburg and Britstown was still closed to traffic today. A dam wall near Williston had broken.

He said the N1 north of Nelspoort had been re-opened this morning and there were no rain clouds over the area this morning.

The railway line between Bloemfontein and Koffiefontein is closed and goods are being shuttled between the towns by Sats container trucks.

Commandant Neels Visser of Defence Force headquarters in Kimberley said today that conditions in the Northern Cape were returning to normal.

"The water level of the Orange River has subsided and people are being re-established in their homes," he said.

At the small northern Cape town of Douglas the level of the Vaal River was dropping, and houses away from the banks of the river were no longer flooded.

Star 31/3/88

(56)

Rescue on way for stranded 248

CMA tanks 3/3/88 (56) 7b

NEARLY 250 Trans-Karoo express train passengers were still stranded at Hutchinson in the Karoo early this morning after this week's floodwaters left large sections of railway line in the area impassable.

The 248 passengers have been stranded at the station since Tuesday morning.

"But help is expected by road," the Transport Minister, Mr Eli Louw, told Parliament yesterday.

Nine buses are standing by to bring them back to Cape Town, a SATS spokesman said last night. The buses are expected to arrive in the city by 2pm today and passengers will then be placed on the first available flights to their destinations.

Hundreds of passengers stranded in trains — including the Johannesburg and Cape Town-bound Blue Trains — had

been ferried to safety, the minister said.

He said that so far 15 stretches of line in six different regions, including Namibia, had been affected. "In all about 82km of line and 229 points have been flooded."

Mr Louw said the damage to rail lines by floods in the Northern Cape and Free State will cost more to repair than the damage done in last September's devastating Natal floods.

Torrential rains

"Provisionally the damage is estimated at about R31 million, but it will definitely be higher, as the rains have spread and more flooding is expected.

"The flood damage in the Natal floods was about R26 million."

Reports from Durban yesterday said torrential rains lashed the Natal South Coast, but no deaths have been reported.

Munster, near Port Shepstone, bore the brunt, with the low-lying parts of the village completely isolated late yesterday afternoon.

The Port Shepstone-Port Edward road has been closed. One bridge has been washed away and another is under water.

Our Johannesburg Correspondent reports that thousands of people affected by the floods are now in danger of contracting malaria.

Officials yesterday warned in a statement that areas along the Malopo river in the north-western Cape and the lower Orange River valley from Prieska to Onseepkans were epidemic areas where malaria occurred after rivers have been flooded.

To combat the risk of water-borne diseases, 12 water tanks providing more than 4 500 litres of water have been installed. — Political Staff, Staff Reporter and Sapa

Dinner, auction, in aid of flood relief

EAST LONDON — Several businessmen and a chef from a beachfront hotel here, have organised a dinner and wine auction to raise money for the victims of the floods.

Mr Mike de Stadler said that he and Mr Jeff Schueremans, had decided to do something for the victims.

Several local personalities, including Mr Dirkie Scott, Mr Tony Bryant and Mr Errol Spring, have been asked to be waiters for the evening.

A chef, Mr Schueremans, said he would auction his services for one evening.

The function will be held on Saturday, March 12, at 8 pm at a cost of R25 a head.

Anyone wanting to buy tickets is asked to contact Miss Anne Bastien at 26 270.

● Meanwhile, a senior administration clerk at the Department of Health, Mrs Ann Fleming, said donations of food and money had been coming in.

The pupils of West Bank High School donated boxes of food and clothing yesterday.

A cheque for R120 was handed over by them to Mrs Fleming. — DDR

3/12/88

DD

56

D/D 3/3/88

Helicopter to check roads after floods; trains rescheduled

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — A six-seater aircraft has been chartered by the Automobile Association (AA) to assist the provincial administration in assessing and reporting road and traffic conditions in light of the floods.

The general manager of the AA's publications and travel services division, Mr Ben Mathee, said yesterday that the aircraft would carry road engineers and senior traffic officials to assist in aerial surveys and forming better overall views of washaways.

"Road conditions are changing hourly as more rain falls onto already waterlogged areas, thereby increasing the load on rivers with further potential washaways.

"The aerial surveys will help us report the latest information to the relevant authorities and the media, so that the travelling public can be kept in the picture more effectively than at present.

"This project is our way of saying thank you to the traffic officers and those involved in road and communication network repairs," Mr Mathee said.

The East London AA area manager, Mr Dion van Niekerk, said the aircraft was a public service to help with the smooth flow of traffic.

"Once we get information from the aircraft it will be distributed to all branches of the AA.

"The aircraft is not intended as a permanent service and will only be used until road conditions return to normal."

● The disruption of rail services caused by the floods has led to some re-scheduling.

The acting superintendent of South African Railways passenger services, Mr Martin Slabber, said a new route for the East London-Johannesburg train was introduced on Monday.

The passenger train from East London to Johannesburg now

branches off at Stormberg and runs via Rosmead, Nouport, De Aar, Kimberley and Klerksdorp.

The train leaves East London daily at 2.30 pm and arrives in Johannesburg at 6.01 pm the following day.

Passengers travelling from East London to Bloemfontein must travel to Johannesburg and then by special train, via Kroonstad, to Bloemfontein.

The train leaves Johannesburg at 7.45 pm and arrives in Bloemfontein at 6.50 am the following morning.

The return trip from Bloemfontein leaves at 8.30 pm and arrives in Johannesburg at 5.53 am.

Passengers must then change to the East London train which leaves at 2.50 pm and arrives in East London 30 hours later.

Mr Slabber said passengers were not being charged extra for any of the new routes.

Farmers happy with Border's rainfall

D/D 3/3/88

56

EAST LONDON —Farmers have welcomed the good rains that have fallen over the Border.

The commodity services manager of the East Cape Agricultural Union, Mr Arthur Purchase, said the only report of flood damage to farms was the drowning of 1 000 angora goats at Steynsburg.

Mr Purchase said there was a general feeling of optimism among farmers.

"There is good moisture content in the soil for the establishment of winter grazing and this augurs well for the months ahead.

"In areas where there has been luxuriant grass growth, especially in the sour veld regions, farmers may have to supply protein and mineral licks and supplementation for livestock earlier than normal.

"Alexandria and Paterson still need rain but farmers generally in

the Border are happy with the rainfall so far," he said.

"However, one of the biggest problems facing vegetable producers is getting their produce to market."

Mr Purchase said farmers who used large trucks to transport vegetables to market were being held up by floodwaters and by road and bridge washaways.

"This is one of the factors contributing to an increase in vegetable prices with consumer demand outstripping supply."

The officer in charge of the East London weather office, Mr Louis Vermaak, said widespread rain had fallen over the Border yesterday. Adding that further heavy falls could be expected in the next few days.

Farms to the north of Dordrecht had up to 50 mm of rain but little fell in the town.

In the 24 hours up to

8 am yesterday, Kei Mouth had 53 mm; Haga Haga 96 mm; Mooiplaas 75 mm; Dordrecht 14 mm; East London 22 mm; Elliott 57 mm; Stutterheim 27 mm; Komga 23 mm; Cathcart 11 mm; Umtata 12 mm; Lady Frere 18 mm; Ncora Flats 84 mm and Port St Johns 26 mm.

Mr Vermaak said the cloudy and cool conditions would continue for the next 24 hours, with occasional rain along the coast and over the southern and southwestern interior.

Over the north-eastern interior there will be further showers.

"The outlook for Saturday is for a rise in temperatures with thunder activity and rain over the interior, reaching the coast in places.

"However, on Sunday we will have cooler, cloudy conditions with rain on the coast and thunder activity with rain over the interior," Mr Vermaak said.

Council pledges R10 000

D/D 3/3/88

56

EAST LONDON — A sum of R10 000 has been pledged by the East London City Council to assist flood victims in the Free State and Northern Cape.

The mayor, Mr Robert de Lange, said the council had intended to make a pledge during the SABC's countrywide appeal last week, but telephone lines had been continually jammed.

"We wish we could have donated more, but would like to take this opportunity to encourage others to dig deep into their pockets.

"East London has experienced its share of flood devastation, and it is

appropriate that we should do something practical."

Grens Hoërskool has already raised over R1 225 for the fund.

The headmaster, Mr D. P. Marais, said he had appealed to scholars on the day prior to the collection, and had been amazed at the generosity with which they had responded.

"We held an inter-class competition which helped to swell the fund — it was won by the Std 9 class, which contributed R321,44.

"We are hoping that other schools and businesses will follow our example and hold similar fund-raising drives," he said.

Lesotho Highlands water scheme set for start

SA 4/5/88

By Frank Jeans

56

One of the two major projects on which the South African construction industry is pinning a lot of hope as a valuable workload for years to come, the Lesotho Highlands water scheme, is set for a start.

Tenders for the first access road, which will cost an estimated R100 million, are complete and the contract award is expected within a month.

There is still a drag on decisions about the other big one for the industry, the Mossel Bay offshore oil project, and leaders of civil engineering remain in a quandary about the lack of a firm commitment on a date for the go-ahead.

While civil engineering has pulled back out of the sluggishness of recent years during which work volumes slumped to crisis levels, the industry is relying on Lesotho and Mossel Bay for an additional spurt all round, including ancillary industries.

Apart from a much needed "kick-start" for both enterprises, leading contractors are also concerned about "strong foreign interest" in the projects.

It is understood that one of the tenders for the Lesotho access road comes from outside interests.

Commenting on the Lesotho and Mossel Bay projects at a media lunch this week, Mr Brian Hackney, president of the South African Federation

of Civil Engineering Contractors, said: "While a start is encouraging, we are hoping for more clearly defined intentions."

"The entire project money still has to be placed and this would really give the industry a boost."

Welcoming the State President's privatisation initiative, Mr Hackney pledged his federation's support to the toll road programme and said the mobilisation of private sector finance along with the use of private contractors would enable infrastructure projects to be executed much earlier — "perhaps many years earlier than would otherwise be the case".



Natal coast hit by floods

Heavy rain, flooding ravages vast region

Star
4/3/88

(56)

Staff Reporters and The Star's Africa News Service

Torrential rains and flooding are continuing to blight vast areas of southern Africa.

Travel routes

● Police have advised motorists who are planning to travel from Kakamas to Upington to use the gravel road south of the Orange. Traffic from Cape Town to Upington should use the route via Louisvale to get from Kenhardt to Neilersdrif.

Battered by three floods in the past 18 months, Ladysmith in northern Natal was hit yet again on February 21 and some residents are still homeless.

A delegation of government, provincial and municipal representatives is to visit Ladysmith today to assess the flood damage.

The Weather Bureau in Pretoria yesterday released rainfall figures for 20 towns in the four provinces which were hit by the floods, showing that last month they doubled, trebled and even quadrupled the rainfall levels for the same period last year.

Bloemfontein's rainfall trebled last month compared with 1987. Last month's rainfall (533 mm) almost reached the legislative's capital's average annual rainfall figure.

Johannesburg, with 46,7 mm last month, was down on the long-term average of 124 mm.

The cost in human lives in the current floods is nowhere near as high as the September deluge in Natal in which the toll exceeded 300. The countrywide floods have claimed at least 25 lives.

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From the Limpopo Valley in Mozambique to northern Natal and the south coast, the northern Cape and Namibia, flooding and more downpours have carved a swathe of death and destruction over the past three weeks.

Rain is battering the Natal south coast, with Port Edward receiving nearly 300 mm in the last 48 hours.

Reports streamed in of damage to Port Edward.

Dozens of houses and flats were reportedly flooded and streets had to be closed off when low-lying roads became submerged because of water flowing down to the sea.

In other parts of the country:

● Defence Force and police emergency relief teams are distributing food to about 2,000 northern Cape people who have been stranded on islands in the vicinity of Keimoes and Kanon Island by floodwater.

● A number of people who left their homes in Upington for fear of flooding have returned. Some of the houses are still under water and repair and clearing-up operations have not yet begun. It is expected that the Orange River will remain at its present flooded level for at least a week.

Now floodwaters threaten the oceans

THE huge volume of floodwaters pouring into the oceans could have a severe effect on marine life, scientists and academics said this week.

Scientists have been stationed at the mouth of the Orange River in order to estimate the possible impact of the warm, fresh, silty water which started running into the Atlantic Ocean at Alexander Bay and Oranjemund yesterday.

If the flood water is undisturbed by prevailing winds and currents, said a member of the National Research Institute for Oceanology in Stellenbosch, the silt and deposits from up-

stream will not only smother fish, blocking their gills, but will also kill off surface plankton — the first link in the sealife food chain.

It depends on how long it takes for the water to be incorporated into the sea, said Dr Frank Shillington, a senior lecturer at the University of Cape Town's Department of Oceanography. Compared to the Agulhas current, he said, which carries some 60-million cubic metres of water a second (cumecs), the floods — which at

By ADRIAN HADLAND and Sapa

most are pouring 10 000 cumecs into the sea — are relatively small.

The sea is "very resilient", he said, but if the silty flood water stays in the regions around the water mouths, the damage could, in the long-term, be "detrimental".

Meanwhile, earth moving machinery from the diamond diggings at Alexander Bay have been used to cut

channels through the dunes at the river mouth to prevent major flooding of the town and estuary. Large parts of Namibia north of Keetmanshoop were cut off yesterday as torrential rains swept away road and rail links at Asab, south of Mariental.

Heavy rainfall is still falling over large sections of the country leading to another flood warning issued in Natal. Continuous rain is expected in the province at least until Sunday and Ladysmith was yesterday subjected

to its fifth evacuation in less than 12 months.

Residents in the small Free State town of Douglas, which was almost completely submerged under water last week, had something to celebrate on Wednesday. A man drove a lorry load of beer into the town after Civil Defence officials had already described Douglas as being "entirely cut off from the outside world".

"No-one knows who he is or how he did it," said the town clerk, Louis de Jager. "Either he was drunk or he just closed his eyes and put his foot down."

More severe flooding forecast and heat continues in Cape

Staff Reporters and Argus Africa News Service

ACGS 4/3/88

TORRENTIAL rains and flooding are continuing to blight vast areas of southern Africa.

From the Limpopo Valley in Mozambique to northern Natal and the south coast, the northern Cape and Namibia, flooding and more downpours have carved a swathe of death and destruction over the past three weeks.

Only the southern Cape, where temperatures have soared up to 36 deg C in the past few days, will escape the rain — at least until Sunday.

Rain is battering the Natal south coast, with Port Edward receiving nearly 300mm in the last 48 hours.

Reports streamed in of damage to Port Edward. In nearby Margate, a young police constable received 20 stitches in his head after the van he was driving was dumped in a sink hole that appeared in a street in the town.

Destruction goes on

In other parts of the country:

- Defence Force and police emergency relief teams are distributing food to about 2 000 northern Cape people who have been stranded on islands in the vicinity of Keimoes and Kanon Island by floodwater.

A Defence Force spokesman said medical personnel had earlier visited the people to give them advice on water purification methods.

- A number of people who left their homes in Upington for fear of flooding have returned. Some of the houses are still under water and repair and clearing-up operations have not yet begun. It is expected that the Orange River will remain at its present flooded level for at least a week.

- Police have advised motorists who are planning to travel from Kakamas to Upington to use the gravel road south of the Orange. Traffic from Cape Town to Upington must use the route via Louisvale to get from Kenhardt to Neilersdrif.

Battered by three floods in the past 18 months, Ladysmith in northern Natal was hit yet again on February 21 and some residents are still homeless.

A delegation of government, provincial and municipal representatives visited Ladysmith today to assess the flood damage.

Torrential rains last month pushed rainfall figures in many areas of South Africa to record levels.

The Weather Bureau in Pretoria has released rainfall figures for 20 towns in the four provinces which were hit by the floods, showing that they last month doubled, trebled and even quadrupled the rainfall levels for the same period last year.

At Van Reenen, a catchment area for the Klip River which runs through La-

dysmith, rainfall figures trebled last month compared with last year's figure.

Torrential rain this week drenched the Natal coast, causing limited flooding in some low-lying areas and blocking some roads.

With 451mm rain, Sani Pass in the Drakensberg last month quadrupled its rainfall compared with last year.

The cost in human lives in the current floods is nowhere near as high as the September deluge in Natal in which the toll exceeded 300. The countrywide floods have claimed at least 25 lives.

Last month in the far Western Transvaal town of Jankempdorp eight times more rain (340mm) fell there compared with February last year (36,5mm).

Bloemfontein's rainfall trebled last month compared with 1987. Last month's rainfall (533mm) almost reached the legislative's capital's average annual rainfall figure.

In Fauresmith, west of Bloemfontein, where rainfall figures have been measured since 1927, six times more rain fell there last month (394mm) compared with February last year (56mm).

While the Free State's Trompsburg measured seven times more rain (417mm) last month than it had for February (47mm) 1988 — to equal its annual average rainfall.

Two other towns, Dealesville and De Wetsdorp and Aliwal North and Kim-

berley in the Cape quadrupled their rainfall last month.

The rainfall at Douglas — a small northern Cape town, where the water level of the Vaal River was dropping and houses away from the banks of the river were no longer flooded, more than doubled (270mm) its rainfall compared with last year's figures (104mm).

Johannesburg, with 46,7 mm last month, was down on the long-term average of 124mm.

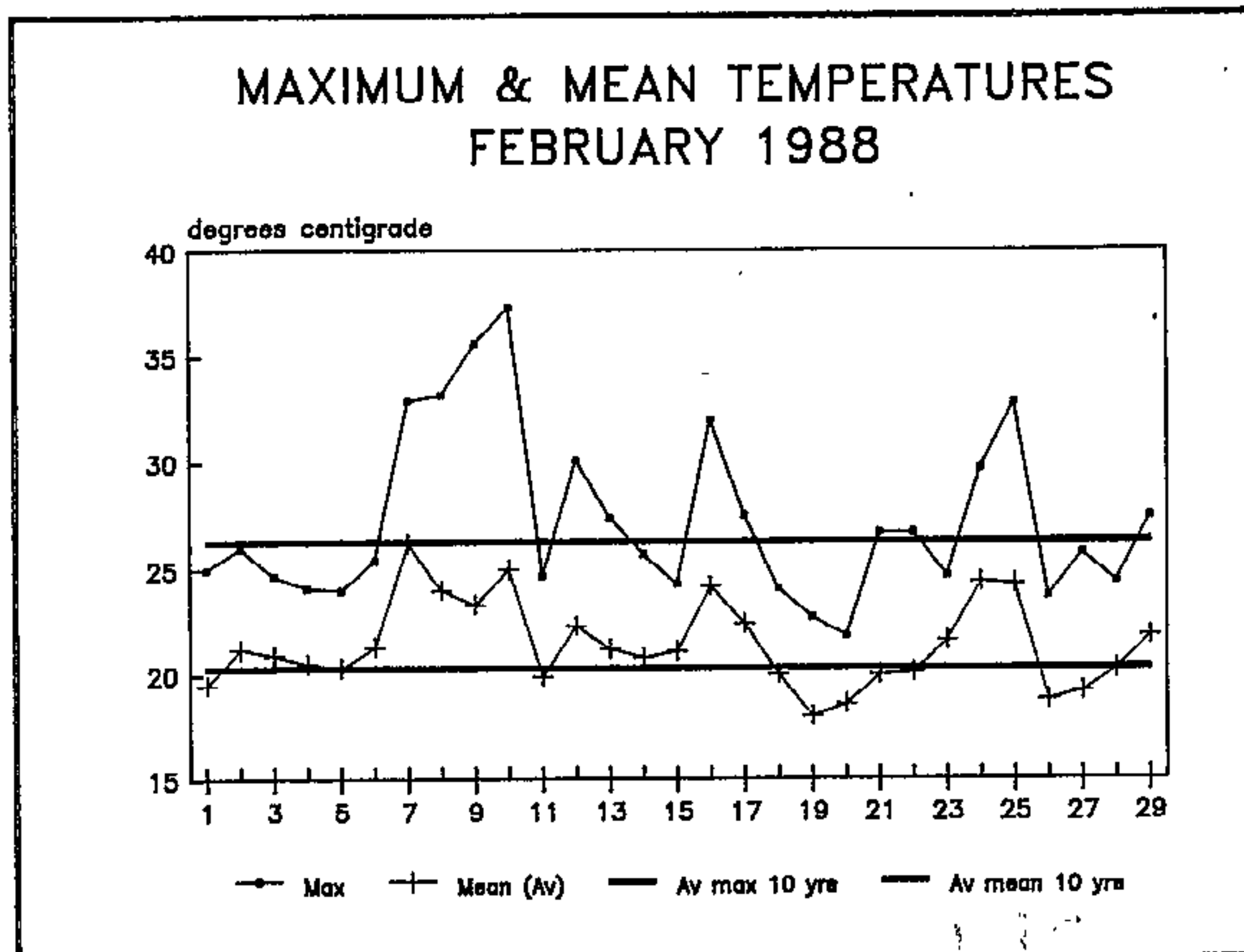
From Maputo it is reported that about 15 000 people were evacuated from their homes in the southern Limpopo Valley this week because of a threat of floods caused by heavy rains.

Mozambique's Secretary of State for Agricultural Water Resources, Mr Rui Gonzalez, appealed for food for peasant families who were moved out of their riverside homes in the Chokwe and Guija districts.

More rain is forecast for much of the country, with the only brief respite from the wet coming late on Saturday, according to the Pretoria Weather Bureau.

Scattered thundershowers and falls of between 10mm and 20mm are expected Over southern Transvaal and the flood-hit Natal north coast, Orange Free State, northern Cape and eastern parts of South West Africa.

Continuous rains are expected in Natal until Sunday and a general flood warning has been issued.



HOT AND BOTHERED: Feeling hot and bothered? No wonder — the graph shows that maximum temperatures (the top jagged line) soared above the February average maximum (upper heavy line) on 13 days. Average mean temperatures (the bottom jagged line) showed an even more noticeable trend, being on or above the 10-year average mean (lower heavy line) on 20 days.

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Committee 'unable to visit' test range

By BARRY STREEK

FOR the second successive year, the Council for the Environment has reported that it has been unable to find out whether the development of Armscor's missile-testing range near the De Hoop nature reserve was being developed in accordance with the Hey report.

The council's Overberg committee is meant to determine if the development of the testing range is in accordance with the Hey report, which investigated the environmental impact of the project on the area.

In its 1987 report, which was tabled in Parliament yesterday, the council said no meetings of the Overberg committee were held during the year under review.

"The committee received no documentation and was unable to visit the range.

"The committee established that it was unable to determine whether the Overberg Test Range is being developed in accordance with the Hey Committee's report."

In its 1986 report, the council said it had tried to satisfy itself that the development of the Overberg test range was in accordance with the Hey report, but it had been unable to do this because the oral and written evidence was "deemed insufficient".

In 1983 Armscor made a number of public undertakings to minimize the environmental impact of the missile range.

After environmental bodies called for an independent monitoring body, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said in May 1984 that Cape provincial environment officials would be permanently on the site to help monitor the environmental impact.

In October 1984, an environmental committee was appointed by the then Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr John Wiley, to monitor activities at the missile range and report on the implementation of the Hey report.

FM 4/2/88

FLOOD DAMAGE BILLS MOUNT

50

With rain still lashing the flood-stricken Free State and northern Cape, the final damage bill could exceed the estimated R500m suffered in Natal's recent deluge. A total bill of more than R1bn is feasible.

Damage to farmlands in the northern Cape alone runs into "hundreds of millions of rands," says Northern Cape Agricultural Union chairman Jack Strauss. But with more heavy rains falling in the catchments, it could take months to get an accurate assessment.

Strauss's Free State counterpart Sakie Cronje estimates provisional farm damage at R100m. In both provinces irri-

gation lands, crops, buildings and farm implements suffered the worst damage. Should the rains continue, stock disease could add to the toll.

Cronje says the Department of Agriculture has asked farmers to give comprehensive damage details by March 11 so government can estimate additional budgetary commitments.

But any assessment can only be provisional at this stage. In some Free State districts up to 80% of farm dams have been destroyed. A figure of R20m for damage to railway lines in the OFS has been quoted.

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SOUTH AFRICA

Staatskoerant Government Gazette

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PROKLAMASIE

van die

Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

No. 37, 1988

VERKLARING VAN OORSTROMINGS IN SEKERE DISTRIKTE IN DIE ORANJE-VRYSTAAT TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdrosdistrikte in die Bylae genoem sedert 20 Februarie 1988 getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Drie-en-twintigste dag van Februarie Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

SKEDULE

Bloemfontein	Petrusburg
Boshof	Philippolis
Brandfort	Reddersburg
Botshabelo	Rouxville
Dewetsdorp	Smithfield
Edenburg	Springfontein
Fauresmith	Trompsburg
Jacobsdal	Wepener
Jagersfontein	Zastron
Koffiefontein	

PROCLAMATION

by the

State President of the Republic of South Africa

No. 37, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS IN THE ORANGE FREE STATE TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which hit the magisterial districts mentioned in the Schedule since 20 February 1988 to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Twenty-third day of February, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet.

SCHEDULE

Bloemfontein	Petrusburg
Boshof	Philippolis
Brandfort	Reddersburg
Botshabelo	Rouxville
Dewetsdorp	Smithfield
Edenburg	Springfontein
Fauresmith	Trompsburg
Jacobsdal	Wepener
Jagersfontein	Zastron
Koffiefontein	

56 Bldg 4/3/88

Mopping up operations as the flood waters ease

FLOOD-damaged railway lines and roads around the country are being repaired as quickly as possible as flood waters recede, but many services are still closed.

Train services and roads between Johannesburg and Bloemfontein are open for use, Sats spokesman Sandra Gertenback said yesterday.

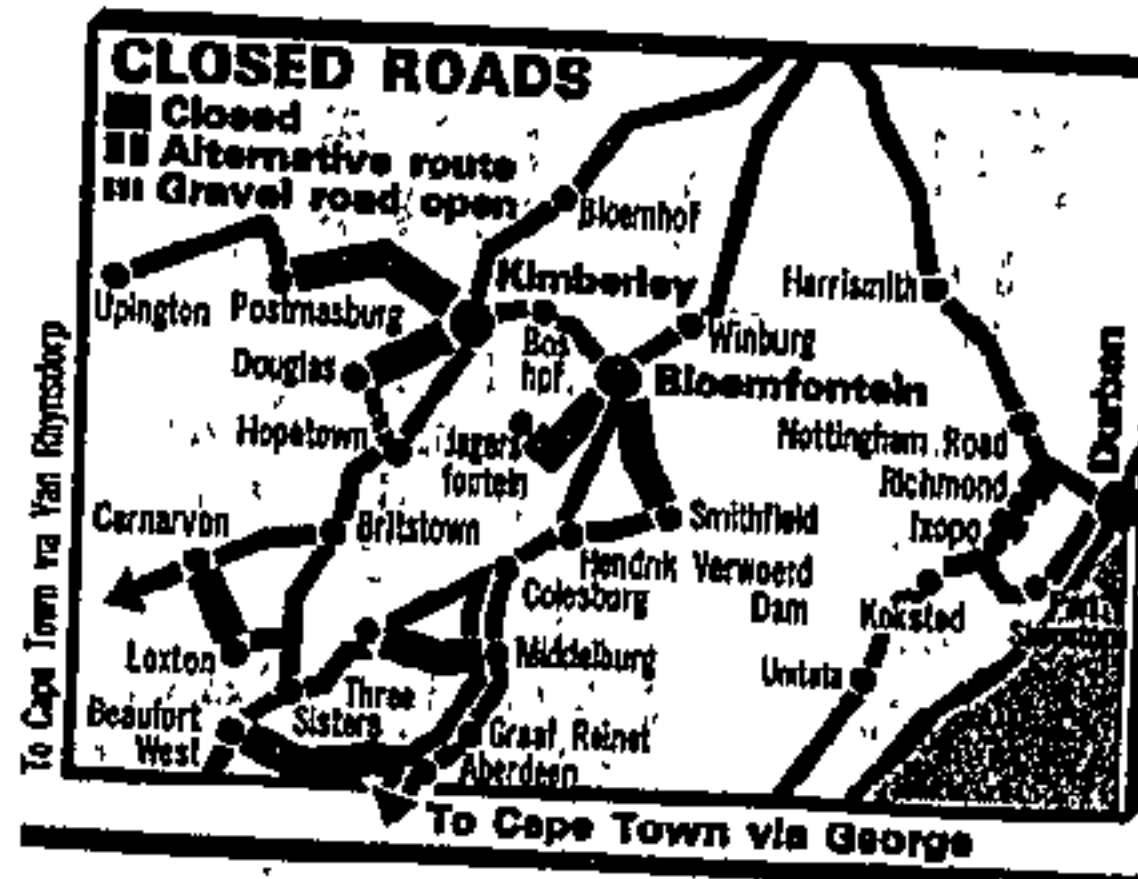
Train passengers, whose travel plans have been disrupted by cancelled services, may exchange their tickets for bus or airline tickets for travel on the same day, she said.

This offer will stand until Monday, March 7. Reservations for travel by bus can be made by calling (011) 774-4128. Passengers may also have their tickets refunded or endorsed for travel at a later date, Gertenback said.

Other train services cancelled until further notice are: Trans-Karoo in both directions between Johannesburg and Cape Town (today); Blue Train in both directions between Pretoria and Cape Town (today).

The Trans-Karoo in both directions between Johannesburg and Cape Town (tomorrow); South-Wester in both directions between Johannesburg and Windhoek (tomorrow).

The Trans-Karoo in both directions



MANDY JEAN WOODS

between Johannesburg and Cape Town (Sunday); and the Trans-Karoo in both directions between Johannesburg and Cape Town (Monday); the Blue Train in both directions between Pretoria and Cape Town (Monday); the Trans-Oranje between Cape Town and Durban (Monday).

Train passengers can make inquiries by calling (011) 773-5878 to 773-5882

The AA advises extreme caution between Bloemfontein and Edenburg, Three Sisters and Beaufort West, and Mariental and Keetmanshoop.

The R23 from Heidelberg/Newcastle/Ladysmith is open with detours at Ladysmith.

The R102 (Durban/Scottburgh) bridge is closed north of Scottburgh and travellers are advised to use the alternative route via the N2/Park Rynie turnoff and north along the R102 to Scottburgh.

The N2 Natal North and South Coast road is open, as is the N3 Johannesburg/Durban road and the N7 Cape Town/Namibia road and the R29 Johannesburg/Kimberley/Victoria road.

Rain batters Natal coast

DID 4/3/88
56

JOHANNESBURG — It was sunny in parts of the north-eastern Cape for the first time in two weeks yesterday, but rain battered the Natal coast.

Durban's heaviest deluge this summer — 82,8mm — pelted down on Wednesday to swamp roads and swimming pools, pushing the rainfall for the first two days of March above the whole month's usual average.

The south coast, still crippled by the September and February floods, was reeling under the 300 mm that has fallen since Tuesday, washing away newly-repaired roads, bridges and drains.

As the downpour continued yesterday, there was peak-hour traffic chaos as damp distributors stalled cars.

Dozens of houses and flats in Port Edward were reportedly flooded, and streets had to be closed off.

In Port Shepstone, a municipal worker clearing flood damage had to be dug out of a hole after collapsing debris half buried him.

In other parts of the country:

● Defence force and police emergency relief teams are distributing food to about 2 000 people stranded on islands near Keimoes and Kanon Island.

● A number of people who left their homes in Upington for fear of flooding have returned. Some of the houses are still under water.

It is expected that the Orange River will remain at its present level for at least a week.

● The level of the Bloemhof Dam in the Vaal River system was still rising yesterday.

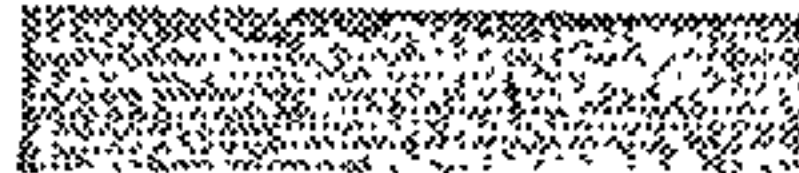
● The regional director of Transport Services in the Free State, Mr Johan Uys, said repairs to the main railway line in the province were progressing well.

Mainline trains are on time where they are running, although the Trans-Natal to Johannesburg was delayed.

● Heavy rain fell over the north-western areas of the Witwatersrand.

Roads and houses in low-lying areas were flooded, but no reports of serious damage were received. — Sapa.

More reports page 23



D/D 4/3/88

~~SES~~ (56) ~~W~~

Bank probes resources of water in Region D

by Matthew Moonieya
business editor
EAST LONDON — The Development Bank of Southern Africa is considering several major proposals for Region D.

This emerged here yesterday in an address by the chairman of the Regional Development Association Committee, Professor Charles Wait, at an East London Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting.

He said the regional liaison committee — it comprises representatives of Border, Ciskei and Transkei — had submitted an application to the bank to fund the preparation of a water resources development plan for the region.

It includes the following broad terms of reference:

●A broad review of existing water resources development schemes in the region and any problem that may exist;

●Review and comment on future water resource development;

●Review and comment on the existing administrative structures and procedures governing water resource development;

●A broad view of the quality of water used by the various sectors.

Prof Wait said the bank had also been requested to fund the development of a teacher training model which would result in cost-effective primary and secondary teaching.

"The purpose is to improve the relationship between financial cost and educational effectiveness."

Negotiations with the bank had reached an advanced stage to develop a tourism strategy for Region D.

"The objective of phase one is to stimulate an atmosphere of awareness, interest and involvement to advance tourism."

Prof Wait said negotiations were underway to see what assistance could be given to local

bodies to promote tourism in a package style between the sub-regions.

The Berlin effluent pipeline problem was also being looked at to see what "can be done about the chicken and egg situation" there. This was a reference to the debate on whether the pipeline should be built before industries were set up there or whether the industries should be established there first to justify building the pipeline.

Earlier Prof Wait outlined the development structures in Region D which played a supportive role, how they were comprised, how they functioned and what their strengths and weaknesses were.

He traced the history of institutions from 1960 when the policy of industrial decentralisation was first started.

The institutions comprised the regional development associations locally which coalesced to form the regional de-



Prof Wait

velopment advisory committees and finally the national regional development advisory council.

He said the councils had access to cabinet but when a matter was largely of a local nature, "the maze through Pretoria" could be circumvented and the advisory committees could get the matter directly before the cabinet.

56

capl 7/12 5/3/88

Amid the floods, drought

BLOEMFONTEIN. — Despite the flood of water in the Orange River, Bushmanland is experiencing one of its worst droughts in living memory.

Most farmers in the districts of Kakamas, Pofadder and Kenhardt last had sufficient rain in 1979, and many in this area of three million hectares are still receiving phase five drought aid and making use of stock-grazing schemes.

Following the floods in parts of the Free State and the Northern Cape, the

level of most dams has begun to drop. The content of the Hendrik Verwoerd and P K le Roux dams has dropped to a 114% and the Krugersdrift dam is 127% full.

The content of the Kalkfontein Dam has dropped to 124% and that of the Rustfontein Dam to 105%.

The flooded Orange River has claimed its sixth victim with the drowning of a 14-year-old girl near Kakamas. The girl, Maria Louw, was swept away as she tried to walk across a gully. — Sapa

D/P 5/3/88

Torrential downpours still causing havoc

(56)

Daily Dispatch
Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG —
Torrential rains and
flooding are continuing
to blight vast areas of
Southern Africa.

From the Limpopo
Valley in Mozambique
to Northern Natal and
the South Coast, the
Northern Cape and Na-
mibia, flooding and
more downpours have
carved a swathe of death
and destruction over the
past three weeks.

Torrential rains last
month pushed rainfall
figures in many areas of

South Africa to record
levels.

The Weather Bureau
in Pretoria has released
rainfall figures for 20
towns in the four provin-
ces which were hit by
the floods, showing that
last month they doubled,
trebled and even quad-
rupled the rainfall lev-
els for the same period
last year.

At Van Reenen, a
catchment area for the
Klip River which runs
through Ladysmith,
rainfall trebled.

Torrential rain this
week drenched the Na-
tal coast, causing limi-

ted flooding in some
low-lying areas and
blocking some roads.

With 451 mm, Sani
Pass in the Drakensberg
last month quadrupled
its rainfall compared
with last year.

In the far Western
Transvaal town of Jan
Kempdorp eight times
more rain (340 mm) fell
there compared with
February last year
(36,5 mm).

Bloemfontein's rain-
fall trebled. The 533 mm
which fell almost
reached the city's aver-
age annual figure.

In Fauresmith, west of
Bloemfontein, where
rainfall figures have
been measured since
1927, 394 mm fell com-
pared with 56 mm in
February last year.

Trompsburg meas-
ured seven times more
rain (417 mm) last month
than it had a year ago
(47 mm) to equal its an-
nual average rainfall.

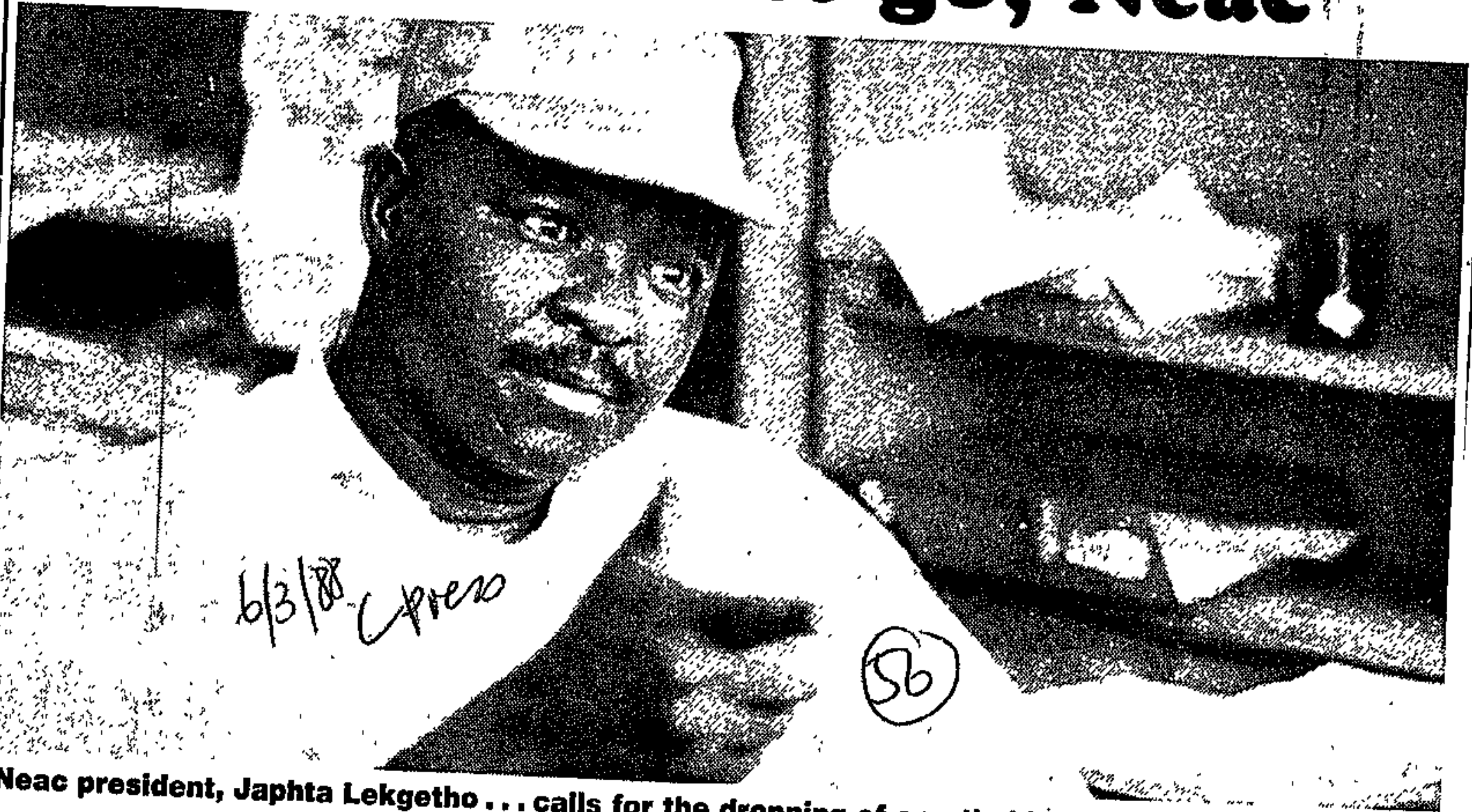
Two other Free State
towns, Dealesville and
De Wetsdorp and Aliwal
North and Kimberley in
the Cape quadrupled
their rainfall.

At Douglas in the
Northern Cape, where
the water level of the
Vaal River is dropping
and houses away from
the banks of the river
are no longer flooded,
270 mm this February
compares with 104 mm
last year.

Johannesburg with
46,7 mm last month, was
down on the long-term
average of 124 mm.

In Namibia, the resort
of Ais-Ais in the Fish
River Canyon is under
water. —Sapa

Apartheid must go, Neac



Neac president, Japhta Lekgetho ... calls for the dropping of apartheid laws.

By STAN MHLONGO

THE National Environmental Awareness Campaign this week launched a new move against apartheid and called for the immediate scrapping of related laws.

Neac president, Japhta Lekgetho, said the organisation which was founded after the Soweto riots of 1976, has grown in size and stature and now commands much respect among residents.

He said apartheid laws, were "a contributory factor to the increase in alcoholism, drug abuse and delinquency".

Lekgetho said the problems of blacks arose from the lack of an orderly environment, which emanates from the fact that the government - until recently - regarded blacks purely as temporary sojourners in the country.

He said ignorance was rife among black local authorities. They did not use proper planning when addressing township problems.

He said it was essential for any environment to have the correct facilities.

"The absence of infrastructure in the urban environment has been a major contribution to the anger of black people."

"In the rural areas, blacks have encountered various problems because of the disruption of farming activities by apartheid laws. This has been in the form of the distribution of land and the introduction of legislation prohib-

iting the ownership of land by blacks.

"The government's removal policy too, has ensured that a large number of people are concentrated in small areas," added Lekgetho.

He added that apartheid laws had backfired, in that by giving blacks ill-serviced inferior amenities they had contributed to some of the ills that had, in the long run, spread to white areas.

Lekgetho said Neac would shortly establish a research station in Soweto "where a more scientific approach to agriculture will be encouraged, thereby enhancing the image of the farmer, improving agricultural methods and generally contribute, through better crop production, to the upliftment of the people."

Flood victims pick up the pieces of their lives

Star 7/31/88 (56)

By Melanie Gosling

The stench of mud and rotting vegetation hangs over the northern Cape towns of Douglas and Ritchie, devastated by floods last week.

The crisis is over. The raging floodwaters which tore through the towns have subsided. The army, the rescue helicopters and the television cameras have gone. The towns' residents are left alone to pick up their lives again from the mud and chaos of the flood's aftermath.

Nearly the whole of Ritchie was under water, but buildings on the river front were worst hit.

Huge gum trees lie uprooted with branches snapped off. Concrete walls have been washed away and banks of debris and telephone lines lie across streets and houses.

The local holiday resort hardly exists and the restaurant is just a mangled mass of bricks and twisted iron with the river flowing strongly on either side of it.

Inside the houses, mud and sand are piled a metre high, ceilings have collapsed and curtains hang sodden and dirty.

Mr Pieter Potgieter, owner of one of the devastated houses, said his home will have to be demolished. For the next few months he will be living in a metal shed in his scrapyard where he has housed three other families hit by the floods.

The church, town hall, library, clinic and school were flooded. Children had a week off school while staff sorted out the chaos in the classrooms.

Carpets from the church lay in wet piles on the grass while workers carried wooden pews back inside. Outside the town hall piles of sodden papers lay in heaps as the mud was hosed from the building.

Most people in Ritchie were able to save their furniture. But Mr Manie Groenewald was not so lucky.

"It rained so hard for so long the dirt road was soggy and we could not get trucks to my house. I just had to watch everything being ruined."

The bridge across the Riet River, 20 km from Douglas, has been washed away.

Mr Gerard Cilliers, whose farm was under water, said the damage to his property would run into hundreds of thousands of rands.

Worst hit

Of all the towns along the river, Douglas was worst hit. Telephone lines are down, walls are flattened and several houses have collapsed.

Mr Wessel Pieterse and his wife, Susan, had bought their house a week before the floods.

The couple, wearing gumboots, trudged through the knee-high mud in their bedroom collecting belongings they had not had time to move out before the floods.

"We'll have to get spades and dig the rest of this mud out. It's going to be one helluva job," Mr Pieterse said.

According to residents, Douglas's town clerk, Mr Louis de Jager, was so busy helping to organise the evacua-

tion of others that he had no time to remove his own furniture.

Inside his home antique chairs poke out of the mud and clothes hang brown and sodden in cupboards which have burst open. The pantry shelves are lined with muddy bottles and Mrs de Jager's toiletries lie under a layer of silt in the bathroom.

A friend of Mr de Jager, who calls himself "Duitse", said he and 15 men from the army spent a day digging mud out of the house.

The town's two hotels are empty, with high water marks along their walls. Most of the shelves in the local cafe are empty.

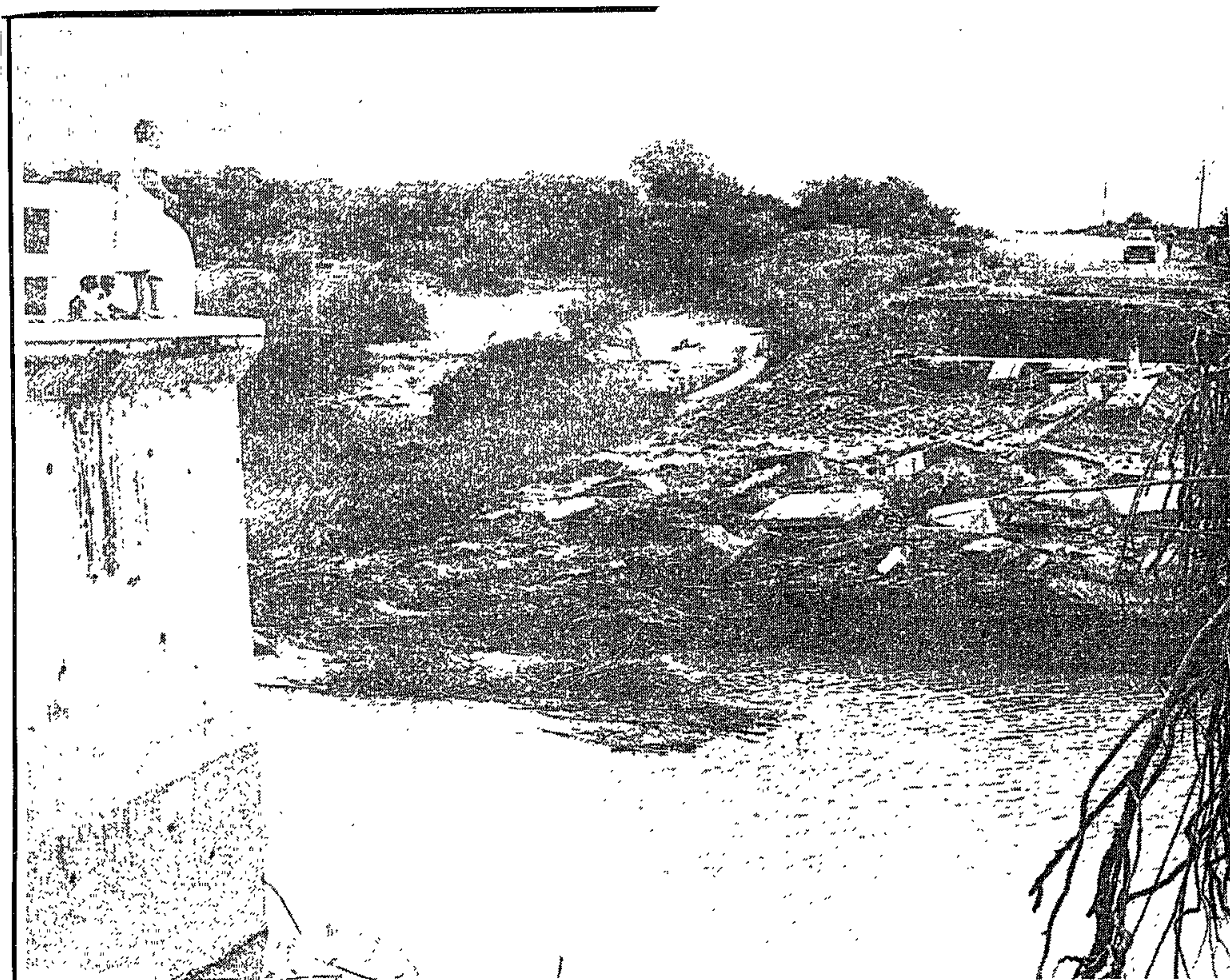
"Because the bridge has gone the truck from Kimberley can't get through so we can't get any more stock," the cafe owner explained.

About 200 farm labourers, who were evacuated from Kanon Eiland about 20 km from Upington, are living in the "tent town" next to the river.

Chairs, tables, beds and cupboards are crammed into the tents. Most of the people do not even know if their houses on the island are still standing. They can't reach the island because the road is washed away. Many of them have no money. It is two weeks since they were last paid their weekly wages of about R25.

"The soldiers brought us mealie meal and fish on Wednesday but we have not been given other food since then," Mrs Griet Dreyer said.

"We will have to start looking for other jobs. We can't go on living with no money until the road is built again," Mr Gert Pretorius said.



The bridge across the Riet River near Douglas, destroyed in the floods.

Support for flood victims

SA 7/3/84

By Janine Simon

Organisations across the country have leapt into action to help stunned flood victims.

Collection depots for clothes, food and blankets have sprung up at shopping centres, supermarkets, and religious and community-organisation outlets. Special appeals for funds are drawing substantial donations from companies, city councils and the public.

Relief and development organisations which had been working with flood-hit communities before the waters came have assessed the damage and are starting to tackle the huge task of rehabilitation.

MEDIA APPEAL

Within a day of the media appeal for aid by the National Council for Child and Family Welfare, Gencor gave R50 000 for Free State, Natal and northern Cape flood victims.

Other business concerns and individuals also responded, offering help varying from staff collections, clothing and food to personal assistance with packing and distribution of goods, she says. All council donations will be distributed to local child welfare agencies and then directly to families in need.

In the Transvaal, organisations including Lions International, Round Table, supermarket chains, religious organisations and even nursery

56 schools have made some contribution to the flood-relief effort.

For example, Eastgate shopping centre's collection point for the Southern Transvaal Red Cross, which opened on Saturday, is "well under way", says PR Mrs Maureen Harbor.

A new appeal from Johannesburg's Imanu-Shalom Congregation and Temple David for donations has been received.

According to a spokesman, the National Disaster Relief Fund is also looking much healthier. In addition to the R5 million raised in last week's SABC appeal, donations are pouring into its Pretoria offices.

Reef municipalities have done their bit with a R250 000 donation from Johannesburg and R10 000 from the Sandton Town Council pledged to the fund. Both municipalities have set up collection points for goods and non-perishable foods.

Operation Hunger's executive director Mrs Ina Perlman says feeding in flood-hit areas is "totally under control". The organisation's existing structures are being expanded to help with self-help rehabilitation.

World Vision is preparing a rehabilitation and rebuilding programme for flood victims.

● If you wish to help, cheques may be sent to The Secretary, National Disaster Relief Fund, Private Bag X63, Pretoria, or any branch of Volkskas into account number 00 00 28 29 28.

EAST LONDON — The Nahoon Dam overflowed yesterday for the first time in more than a year but there was no cause for concern, the chief city engineer, Mr Graham Keppie, said.

Mr Keppie added that the heavy rains on Saturday night had caused the dam to overflow by one metre onto the spillway yesterday afternoon, but by early last night the level had dropped to

2 EL dams overflow

0,6 metres.

He said it was a good thing that people were alert to the fact that the dam was overflowing but there was no need for alarm unless more heavy rain fell soon.

He said the city engineer's department

and civil defence were monitoring the situation.

The Bridle Drift Dam was also overflowing, but "only just", Mr Keppie added.

Meanwhile, a Torquay Road resident, Mr Robin Ross-Thomp-

son, said the Nahoon River was "slightly higher than normal, but was more like a high spring tide".

A spokesman for the civil defence unit, Mr O. H. Becker, said the Abbotsford causeway was not overflowing and the water in the river had subsided "quite a bit" by last night.

"There is no danger at the moment and we just hope we don't get any more heavy falls," he said. — DDR.

More rain for Border area

EAST LONDON — Light occasional rain with a 30 per cent probability of heavy falls in the evening is expected today.

A spokesman for the Weather Bureau at East London airport said 33,8 mm of rain was recorded in East London from Saturday until 8 am yesterday.

Umtata had 18,3 mm; the Great Fish point

20 mm and Kei Mouth 40 mm.

In Dohne 31,8 mm was measured, 18 mm was recorded at Komga while Queenstown received only 9,5 mm.

Howison's Poort Dam near Grahamstown was overflowing on Saturday and more than 130 mm of rain had fallen by 7 pm yesterday.

A spokesman for the City Engineer's Department said Grahamstown had more than four times as much as any of the surrounding districts over the weekend.

At Settlers Dam, Grahamstown's main reservoir, the level was rising slowly, the spokesman said.

Port Alfred had

25 mm. At Shaw Park, 26 mm was measured and Mr Dick Bladen of Southwell farm said the farm had received about 40 mm while at Salem 27 mm was reported.

Sevenfountains received only 3,5 mm and "rain so light as not to register" at Fort Brown.

At Carlisle Bridge 10 mm was recorded.



REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Vol. 274

PRETORIA, 8 APRIL 1988

No. 11250

PROKLAMASIE

van die

Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika
No. 66, 1988

VERKLARING VAN OORSTROMINGS IN DIE
DORPSGEBIED VAN LADYSMITH IN NATAL, TOT
'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die dorpsgebied van Ladysmith op 21 Februarie 1988 getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Vierde dag van Maart Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

PROCLAMATION

by the

State President of the Republic of South Africa
No. 66, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN THE TOWN
AREA OF LADYSMITH IN NATAL TO BE A
DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which hit the town area of Ladysmith on 21 February 1988 to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Fourth day of March, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet



Railway lines repaired

EAST LONDON — Some railway lines in the Free State and Northern Cape which were damaged by the floods have been repaired, and some services were back in operation, the South African Transport Services has announced.

The Trans-Karoo between Johannesburg and Cape Town in both directions and the Johannesburg-East London train via Kimberley and De Aar operated yesterday.

The Blue Train between Johannesburg and Cape Town in both directions will operate today as will the Trans Karoo and the Algoa from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg will also operate today.

The senior superintendent for operations for Sats here, Mr Kris Mynhardt, said the train services were not yet back to normal.

He was not sure when they would run normally again. — DDR

Bridge repairs to start

DURBAN — Repair work on the John Ross Bridge over the Tugela River, which was severely damaged in last year's floods, should begin early next month, the executive director of roads in Natal, Mr Ray Smith, said yesterday.

The province received 30 proposals following its call for tenders and a short-list has been drawn up.

"The Executive Committee will make a final decision based on our recommendations at its meeting on March 15," Mr Smith said.

"We expect work to begin after the Easter weekend and we want it finished by the start of the builders' holidays in December. We've looked at the floods and done surveys and feel the new bridge will be able to handle the largest known flood which has taken place so far." — DDC

Council gives to fund

PRETORIA — The Teachers' Federal Council decided at a special meeting here yesterday to make a financial contribution to the Flood Relief Fund.

The chairman of the council, Mr Dudley Schroeder, expressed the council's sympathy with those who had suffered during the floods.

The council also expressed its appreciation for the display of goodwill in the state of emergency and the hope that the damage to educational facilities would be repaired soon so as to enable educational institutions to function normally.

Mr Schroeder, who is the headmaster of Queen's College, Queenstown, said the council appreciated the contributions made by schools throughout the country to the fund. — DDR

Fresh vegetable prices rise amid Q'town shortage

Daily Dispatch Reporter
QUEENSTOWN — There is a shortage of fresh vegetables here and prices have risen sharply during the past few weeks.

While vegetables were obtained from the Gamtoos River Valley and areas along the coast to East London, Queenstown dealers bought a large percentage of their produce from the Transvaal Lowveld and the Free State.

The recent floods had contributed greatly to the shortage, but according to the commodity manager of the East Cape Agricultural Union, Mr Arthur Purchase, other factors were also responsible.

"Initially, there were road and rail delays from the north following the floods." When floodwaters did not subside, farmers were unable to harvest their crops.

In addition, produce from the Transvaal Lowveld became available at the start of winter, while that from the middle veld was now ending.

Root crops and lettuce from the Gamtoos River Valley were in short supply because of the excessive heat in the growing season.

A local fruit and veg-

etable dealer said he expected the price of vegetables to continue increasing until produce became freely available again.

He said carrots, beetroot, gem squash and lettuce were very scarce but tomatoes and cabbages, which were supplied from East London, were plentiful.

The bulk of the town's potato supply came from Bloemfontein and to a lesser extent from the Gamtoos area.

Mr Purchase said it was his opinion that potatoes, now selling for up to R15 a pocket, would be in short supply for a long time and that prices would rise considerably.

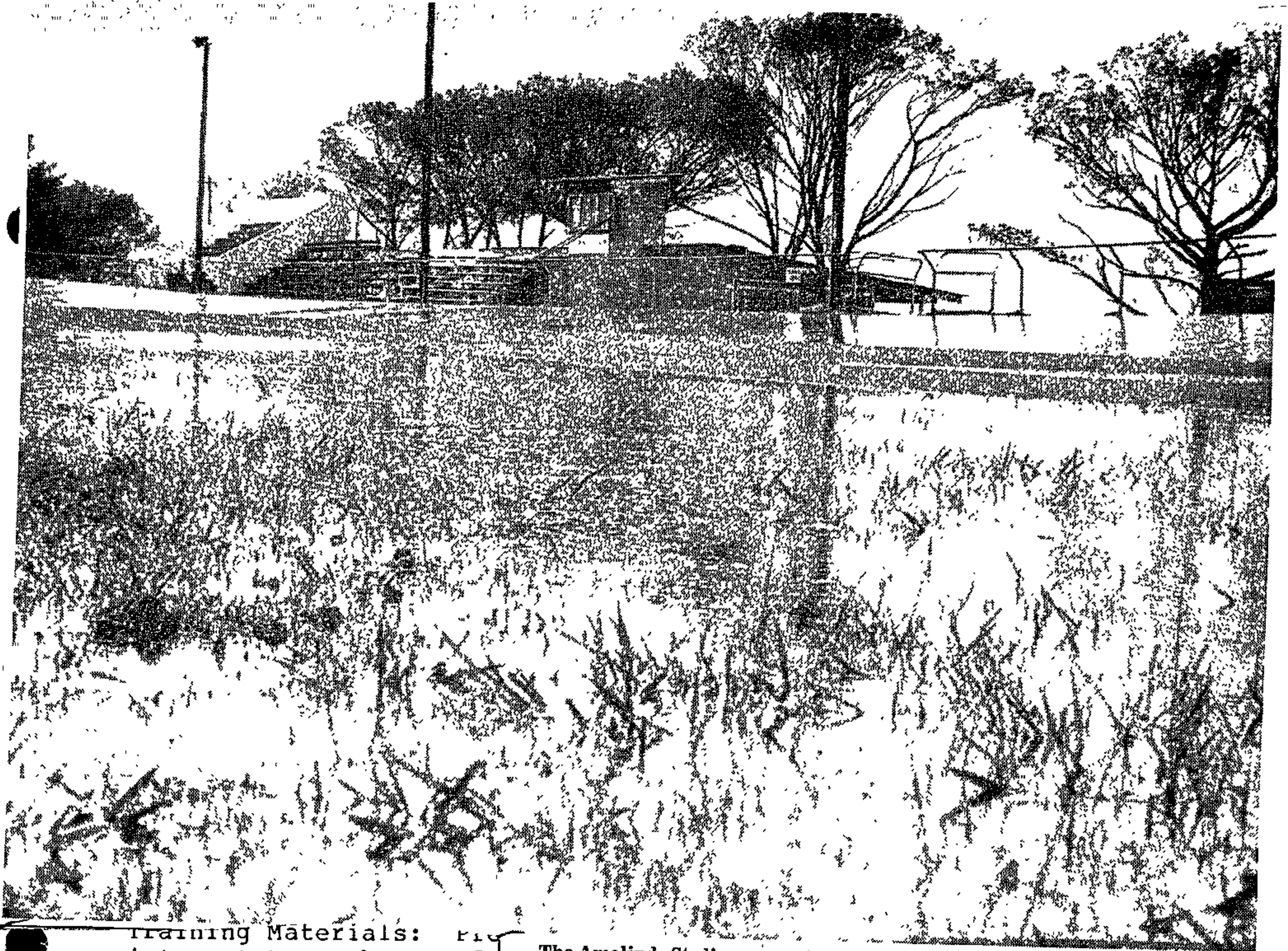
He reasoned that areas in the north-western Free State which produced seed potatoes had been hard hit by floods. Consequently there would be a severe shortage.

"The possibility also exists that some seed potato growers will sell their produce as table potatoes if prices of table potatoes exceed the price they could get for the seed variety."

The level of the Settlers' Dam has risen by nearly five per cent to 54.53 capacity, following weekend rains.

Cape still reeling from flood damage

JOHANNESBURG — Al-South African Wool Board



Training Materials:
 interest to workers and
 interest to workers.

Current Programme: Educa
 seminars.

The Amalinda Stadium was covered in water after 30 mm of rain had fallen in East London yesterday.

D/D 9/3/88 (56)

Flood fears dismissed

Daily Dispatch Reporter EAST LONDON fears that low-lying areas of the city would be flooded by rising river waters were firmly dismissed by civil defence and weather office spokesmen yesterday.

Heavy rain fell in the city yesterday and 30 mm was measured by the Daily Dispatch.

Buffalo Flats and Nahoon residents contacted the Daily Dispatch after rumours spread that a general flood warning had been issued over the radio.

None of the callers had heard the actual

broadcast themselves.

A spokesman for the weather office at the East London airport said no such warning had been issued.

He said the situation was being monitored continuously and that rivers were expected to "rise a bit, but not to anywhere near the levels of the 1970 floods".

The spokesman said that although the Nahoon Dam was full and the Bridledrift Dam was overflowing, the civil defence were on standby purely as a precautionary measure.

The civil defence offi-

cer for the municipal area, Mr Owen Becker said he "wanted to reassure the people of East London that the Nahoon River was in no danger at all of flooding".

"The dam situation and levels of the rivers is in fact more favourable now than it was on Sunday.

"We are monitoring the situation and will continue to do so through the night, but so far the flow of the rivers is less than at the weekend. All small rivers are running, but they are nowhere near flooding," he said.

Bodies in lagoon, homes flooded, rail lines cut after heavy

NEWS

ARkus 10/3/88 sk

The Argus Correspondent
DURBAN. — Heavy rains in Natal, the Free State and the Cape last night washed away railway lines, delayed trains and flooded homes once again.

The bodies of two unidentified men were found in the Uvongo lagoon today as heavy rain continued to lash the Natal coast. A cleaner found one body washed up in debris brought down by the swollen river and the other man was floating in a whirlpool in the lagoon.

Weathermen — who forecast more heavy falls for Natal tomorrow — said the 294mm Botanic Gardens rainfall figure for the first 10 days of March is nearing the 54-year record (363mm) for the entire month.

Durban and the surrounding Indian suburbs caught the brunt of the rain with a 100mm deluge.

A mudslide 80 metres wide and three metres deep covered the main Durban to Johannesburg railway line just south of Mariannhill station during the night. Workers battled for hours in the rain to clear one track for the main Trans-Natal express this morning.

The bridge between Isipingo and Lotus Park was flooded and had to be closed but was later re-opened. Part of the road in Ocean Terrace, Isi-

pingo, was washed away and the area cordoned off.

The Umlahluzana River is in flood and washed away the old bridge on the Chatsworth road. Several houses in Chatsworth were flooded.

Mr Kristen Perumal watched in horror as a retaining wall collapsed under the pressure of water from a storm drain and swamped his home.

Six homes in Chatsworth's Unit 7 were flooded with metre-deep water yesterday as a water main burst.

The residents were housed in a community hall.

Workers today cleared the Milky Way to Mariannridge and managed to divert water which was flooding houses in New Germany, Nagina Township and Mariannridge.

Mr Raveen Bhola of Nagina Township was awoken at 3.10am when a landslide from a neighbouring plot wiped out his garages and slammed into the back of his house. Two cars

(Turn to page 3, col 7)

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New washaway, floods

(Cont from page 1)

were swept away and a third, parked outside, was washed with chunks of the garage into the street below.

At least six families were cut off by a mudslide which closed off Fannin Road on the border between Wyebank and Kloof.

● The Kuruman River is in flood for the second time in a week and farmers in the northern Kalahari have been cut off from the outside world. The Kuruman River last flowed in 1976, Sapa reports.

● The main road between Windhoek and South Africa, which was washed away by floods earlier this month, has been partially re-opened to traffic, the Argus Correspondent in Windhoek reports.

In the Mariental area, where the flood damage was worst, the road is being opened for one hour in every two during

the day. Repairs to the rail line are continuing and it is expected to be re-opened some time this weekend.

● In the Free State, the recently re-opened line between Bloemfontein and Springfontein was flooded between Kaalspruit and Beukefontein. The Amatola, on its way to East London, has been delayed by more than three hours.

The Sats spokesman said three passenger trains through the Free State were delayed because of the rain. Besides the Amatola, the train between Port Elizabeth and Bloemfontein was standing at Driekuil and the train from Zastron to Bloemfontein at Sannaspos.

Pik Botha in Chile

FOREIGN MINISTER Mr Pik Botha is in Chile for a meeting of South Africa's heads-of-mission in South American countries. — Political Staff.

N Cape braced for second deluge as rains swell rivers

JOHANNESBURG (S6) Northern Cape towns are braced for a second but milder battering this week as flood waters from three northern Free State rivers and a massive run-off from the Lesotho highlands swell the Orange River.

After heavy rainfall in Lesotho and the upper Free State at the weekend, the Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria predicted that 3 000 cubic metres per second of water would reach the town of Douglas yesterday. At noon it was just over half this rate.

The flow rate of the Orange River at Prieska at noon yesterday had already reached 5 900 cumecs and the Department of Water Affairs predicts that the same rate of flow is expected at Upington today.

The Orange River may

D/D 15/3/88 burst its banks again at Prieska, they said.

The floods are not expected to be as severe as those in the past few weeks, a spokesman for the Joint Operations Centre in Kimberley said.

"Although the river will rise again, there is nothing to fear," he said.

● Three men drowned in raging flood waters in the QwaQwa area yesterday, and a Kakamas schoolboy drowned in the Hartbees River at the weekend.

About 180 people were forced to leave their QwaQwa homes, and 38 clay huts collapsed under the force of water in the area.

The Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria has also warned farmers living below the Bloemhof Dam to evacuate people and equipment to higher ground as it opened the sluice gates feeding the Vaal River at 8 am yesterday.

The department said the Bloemhof Dam, which was last full in 1982, was at about 110 per cent of capacity and that the level was rising.

The Hartbeespoort Dam near Johannesburg began overflowing late yesterday afternoon for the first time since 1981.

The largest dam in the country, the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam, is already at 127,25 per cent of capacity — its highest level yet. The PK le Roux dam is at 116,7 per cent of capacity.

The chief forecaster for the Weather Bureau in Pretoria, Mr Mike Loring, said the weather system that caused the deluges of the past few days "has now moved northwards and away from the country.

"We are back to more normal late summer rainfall patterns."

● Two routes between Bloemfontein and Johannesburg, and the N1 to Cape Town are now open to traffic. — Sapa

R150m in claims ^{10/3/88} expected after flood ^{SC} ^{Blaey}

CLAIMS resulting from flood damage in the Free State and Northern Cape are expected to hit the insurance industry for an estimated R150m-R180m.

However, losses are not expected to be as high as Natal, due to the absence of heavy industry in the affected areas.

"Losses should be substantially lower than during the Natal floods, which were just below R400m," said one source.

Floods in Natal wiped out industry with plant and machinery claims therefore high — though more quickly ascertainable than current losses.

The more recent floods affected mainly agriculture and were prolonged. Damage caused through seepage would only manifest itself later.

Swiss Re-insurance assistant-GM Gareth Bradburn said: "Although it is too early to assess losses accurately, insured damages are expected to be about R150-180m. The figure could be higher if some industries were hit, though we aren't aware of these yet."

Sentraoer operations GM James Hogg said: "Because the water has not yet totally receded, we can't estimate overall insured losses."

"We have settled a lot of claims

HELEN CHAPPEL

relating to contents of dwellings, but nothing structural," he said.

SA Insurance Association CE Rodney Schneeberger said it was too early to give any single figure, and assessors who had been sent to the affected areas had returned because they were still unable to gain access to some areas.

Mutual and Federal claims superintendent Derek Aitken said: "Claims should be sizeable — between R10-20m in total — although it is difficult to hazard a guess at this early time."

Santam senior GM Jack McLachlan said head office had no estimates from the Kimberley office: "Though many claims have been received, no assessment of damage has been possible. However, using a daily tally of figures, Bloemfontein estimates claims of R2m to date. These relate to residential properties".

General Accident assistant GM Peter Trusthan estimated losses in the R1m area, "though it is too early to do more than guess at his stage", he said.

Protea Insurance assistant GM Mike Gillings said the company was looking at claims of about R2m in total.

10/3/88

Floods cause Grindrod dip

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DURBAN — The Natal floods and a variety of other factors combined to reduce the profitability of the shipping, clearing and forwarding group, Grindrod Unicorn Group (Grincor) in the year to December.

Attributable profits were down 37,5 per cent and earnings a share 47 per cent compared with the previous year.

Turnover was up 26 per cent at R274,6-million, but operating profit was down at R20,2-million (R21,4-million).

Attributable profits were R4,6-million (R7,4-million). Earnings a share were 18,4c (34,8c).

The group has declared a final dividend of 7c per share, making total distribution 12,5c (17,9c).

The directors said the combination of factors adversely affecting earnings were:

● Extraneous costs relating to the merger of the Grindrod and Mitchell Cotts shipping and transport operations.

● A loss of R2,8-million incurred in Airoadexpress acquired as part of the merger.

● Heavy initial costs incurred by the new South African coastal roll on-roll off service.

● Disruptions caused to trading by the Natal floods and the SATS strike.

● Reduction in rand earnings due to the strengthening of the rand against the US dollar.

The directors add, however, that they are satisfied that abnormal costs will not be repeated and have therefore decided to reduce the dividend cover as they expect the company to return to acceptable levels of profitability in 1988. — Sapa

Natal, Eastern Cape flood warning

DURBAN — Torrential rain lashed the storm-weary and waterlogged Natal coast again on Tuesday night, bringing down swollen rivers in torrents, causing roads to cave, submerging bridges and flooding houses and businesses.

A new flood disaster — which could prove to be more devastating than any other since the multi-million rand damage of last September — is now staring Natal and the Eastern Cape in the face.

The weather bureau in Pretoria has issued a special warning that falls of between 50 mm and 100 mm are possible at places over the Southern Free State, Eastern Cape and Natal.

Forecasters predict that intermittent rain and thunderstorms could be expected for the next 24 to 36 hours.

Partly cloudy and cool conditions are expected along the east coast but in the interior heavy thundershowers in places are forecast.

The wind will be fresh easterly to north-easterly.

The bodies of two unidentified men were found in the Uvongo lagoon yesterday as heavy rain continued to lash the Natal coast with Durban recording almost 100 mm in a 24-hour period.

The Mpambanyoni River causeway at Scottburgh was washed away for the fifth time since the floods in September.

The rain in Natal, which had been confined to the coastal area from Durban to Southbroom, has spread and now covers virtually the entire province.

An appeal has been made by both provincial and municipal traffic authorities for drivers to be extra-alert as most roads are slippery and treacherous.

● In Queenstown, one of the town's two storage dams, the Bongolo Dam, is at its highest level since it overflowed during 1976.

The dam is 95 per cent full and the level only has to rise another 32 mm before it overflows.

The second supply dam, Waterdown, near Whittlesea, is 51 per cent full. The assistant town engineer, Mr Andy Jerrard, said although the dam's capacity was down the town had an adequate water supply for the rest of the year.

There were 14 wet days in Queenstown during February when a total of 154,62 mm was measured. The average February rainfall figure for the town is 96,79 mm.

The heaviest rainfall was on February 20, when 51,8 mm was recorded.

● The following places in the Eastern Cape reported 9 mm of rain or more in the 24 hours up to 8 am yesterday: Bathurst 11 mm; Kel Mouth 45 mm; Dohne 11 mm; Komga 14 mm; East London 18 mm; and Port Alfred 10 mm.

D/O 19/3/88.

Gonubie churches join forces to 56 aid flood victims

EAST LONDON — Eight churches in Gonubie are combining forces to try to raise money and food for the victims of the recent floods in the Free State and the Northern Cape.

The Reverend Steve Mann said the ministers from all the churches in Gonubie were involved and were asking the public for donations of money, clothing and non-perishable food.

Mr Mann said all the churches would serve as collection points until March 27. The public could contact him at 403722 for further information.

He said there would also be a combined week of church services called "Holy Week" for the victims of the floods.

"The highest need

will get priority and people must not worry about their donations getting to the people as we have arranged all that."

He said it was "tremendous" that the churches in the community had joined together to help the victims. Although they did not have a fixed target, the churches would like to try to help about 150 families.

Meanwhile, R880 has been paid in at the Dutch Reformed Church office for the Flood Disaster fund.

The municipal council has decided to send two municipal employees to collect donations in town.

Other donations may also be paid in at the municipal revenue office. — DDR

D/D 10/3/78

R180m flood claims?

(56)

JOHANNESBURG — Claims resulting from flood damage in the Free State and Northern Cape are expected to hit the insurance industry for an estimated R150 to R180 million.

However, losses are not expected to be as high as in Natal, due to the absence of heavy industry in the affected areas.

The assistant-general manager, of Swiss Re-insurance, Mr Gareth Bradburn, said:

“Although it is too early to assess losses accurately, insured damages are expected to be about R150 to 180m.”

The general manager of Sentraboer operations, Mr James Hogg, said: “Because the water has not yet totally receded, we can't estimate overall insured losses.”

South African Insurance Association's chief executive, Mr Rodney Schneeberger, said it was too early to give any single figure.

The Mutual and Federal claims superintendent, Mr Derek Aitken said: “Claims should be sizeable — between R10—20m in total — although it is difficult to hazard a guess at this early time.”

Santam's senior general manager, Mr Jack McLachlan, said the head office had not yet received any estimates from the Kimberley office.

The assistant general manager of General Accident, Mr Peter Trusthan, estimated losses to be R1m.

Protéa Insurance's assistant general manager, Mr Mike Gillings, said the company was looking at claims of R2m in total.

An Allied Insurance spokesman estimated losses at R1m. — DDC.

Chaos in wake of new floods

56

JOHANNESBURG.—Houses had to be evacuated in the Free State and there have been several mudslides in Natal as rains continue to fall and floods devastate areas across the country.

More than 100mm of rain has been recorded in Durban during the 24-hour period which ended at 6pm yesterday, bringing the total rainfall for the month so far to 296,8mm — nearly three times the average for March. The heavy rain has caused several mudslides.

Several houses at Chatsworth have been flooded and at Pinetown protection services cleared mud from the road to Mariann Ridge.

Durban's Botanical Gardens has had its second-highest March rainfall since 1934 — 294mm.

Bathing bans were imposed on all North Coast beaches in Natal on Wednesday, as well as Brighton and Addington Beaches in Durban, and many on the South Coast remained in force yesterday.

Agricultural prospects in KwaZulu have been described as "bleak" after the series of floods which began in September last year.

A senior extension officer in KwaZulu's Department of Agriculture and Forestry, Mr Nhlakanipho Zulu, says the rains helped to improve the grazing but in places destroyed crops and infrastructure.

He said, however, that the position of dams and rivers had improved, and he put the water level in the region at about 80%.

Houses in the Koring Spruit area in the Free State were evacuated when the river burst its banks. The Provincial Administration helped workers over flooded roads yesterday morning to enable them to reach their places of work.

Damage was also reported from the Kaffir River. Farmers were stranded on their farms because roads were impassable.

At Shannon outside Bloemfontein, 120mm of rain was measured within half-an-hour. Flooding houses and roads.

Lakeview residents had to take wide detours into Bloemfontein after the low-water bridge was flooded.

The stream at Smithfield in the Northern Cape has again overflowed its banks and has cut off the black residential area from the town.

Springfontein had a power failure, telephone service were disrupted and roads were flooded.

About 230 mud houses at Ha-Rasebel near Edenburg have collapsed. The houses were wet as a result of last month's floods and they gave yesterday.

The latest news from Wepener is that the level of the Caledon River is rising quickly and has exceeded the flood mark of two weeks ago.

The Sandpruit, which was in spate yesterday morning and flooded several houses at Wepener, has begun subsiding.

Washed-away railway lines have caused delays and roads were closed to traffic yesterday after the heavy rains.

The Algoa Express from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg has been delayed again between Edenburg and Bloemfontein. The Riet River has burst its banks near Edenburg. Earlier, the Algoa Express was delayed at Driekuil south of Springfontein after a section of the line had been washed away.

Two trains from Johannesburg to East London and Port Elizabeth via Bloemfontein have been rerouted via Vereeniging and Klerksdorp.

According to the town clerk of Kuruman, Mr J van Vuuren, the river last flowed in 1976. However, the Kuruman River is about 150m from the town and residents are in no danger of flooding.

"It is made up of many streams, mostly dry beds, running through the Kalahari Desert," he explained.

fontein has also been closed to traffic. Other Free State roads still closed are the Smithfield-Rouxville and Smithfield-Bethulle roads.

There appears to be no respite for the waterlogged Natal coastal belt as the heavy rains which closed roads, flooded low-lying areas and brought rivers down in flood, is predicted to continue today.

Meanwhile, on a more hopeful note, the Kuruman River is in flood for the second time in less than a week after good rains in the catchment area.

According to the town clerk of Kuruman, Mr J van Vuuren, the river last flowed in 1976. However, the Kuruman River is about 150m from the town and residents are in no danger of flooding.

"It is made up of many streams, mostly dry beds, running through the Kalahari Desert," he explained.

"The bed of the Kuruman River is usually dry. We had floods in 1974 and the last time it actually ran was 1972."

er, Own Correspondent

scribes how she had been awakened from bed by a "cracking sound" minutes before her Durban City Council-built home crumbled when the foundations caved in during heavy rain early yesterday.

Mrs L Chetty, a mother of five, of House 16, Road 115, Unit 11, said she and her children had a miraculous escape as the asbestos roof collapsed, totally demolishing the two-bedroom house about 4.45am.

Another council-built house in Road 1106 was also partly demolished by mudslides following this week's heavy deluge. Nobody was in the house at the time.

About five families in Road 305, Unit three, where a new water reservoir is being built, were also evacuated from their flooded homes yesterday.

One of the affected families, Mr P Perumal, of House 57, Road 305, said his family had to abandon their home in the face of "a wall of water and mud" which came rushing into the house, knocking down their locked front door.

"The house was underwater and all our lounge furniture and kitchen utensils were ruined. This is the fourth time my house was flooded in recent months," he said.

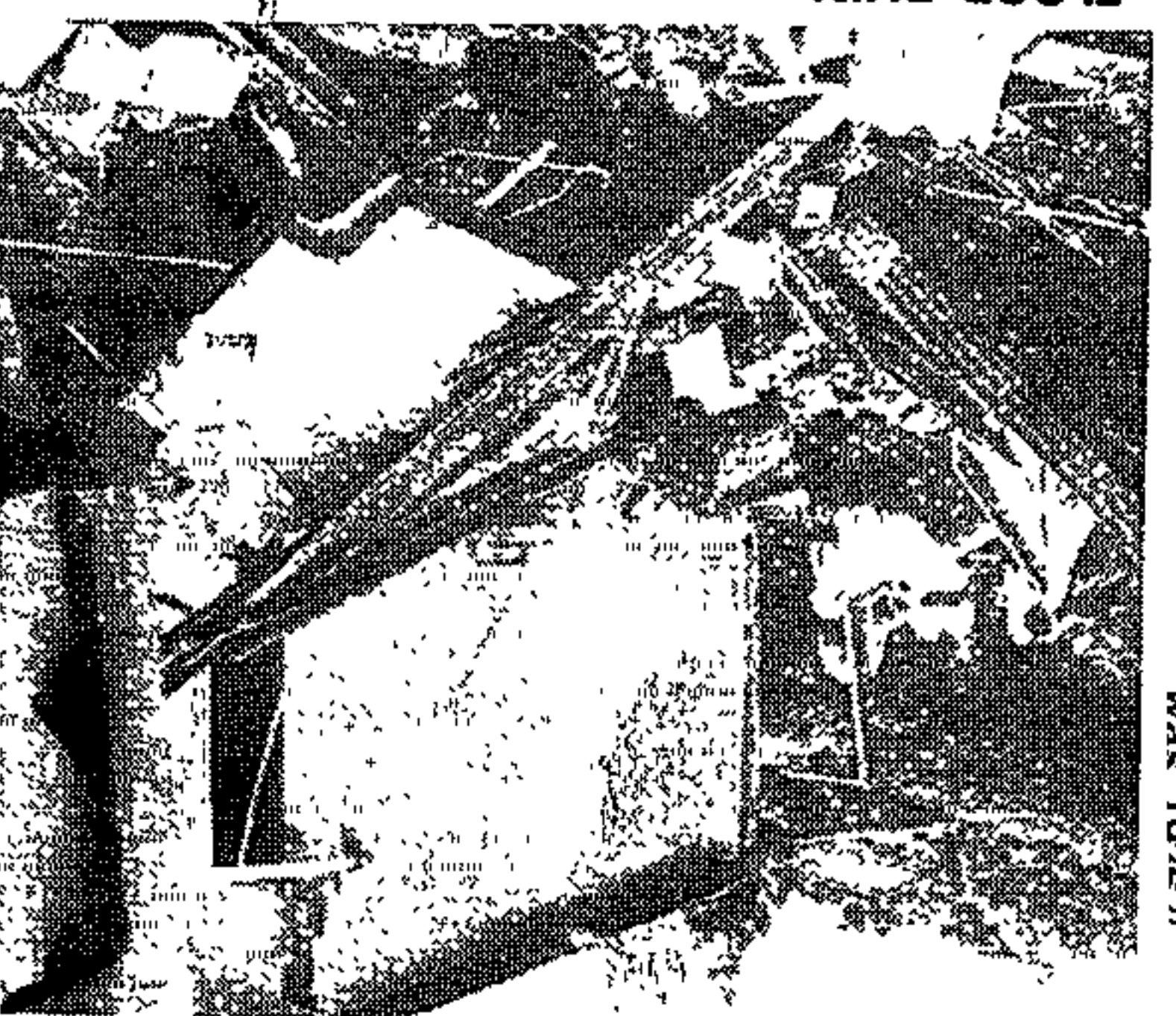
Mr Ramcharitar Panday, a member of the Southern Durban Indian Local Affairs Committee for Chatsworth, said he contacted Durban City Council's housing authorities who promised to find them alternative accommodation.

"Some of the houses appear to be unsafe as the water from the road was seeping into the foundations," he said.

Crowds of onlookers gathered at Mrs Chetty's home yesterday as Durban Corporation workers sealed off broken sewerage pipes.

Mother tells of flood nightmare

FLOOD RUIN... The remains of a council-built home in Chatsworth which was demolished when the foundations caved in.



★ Cape Times, Friday, March 11, 1988

er, Own Correspondent

Homes, roads flooded again

BLOEMFONTEIN — Downpours have brought fresh flooding to the Free State, Northern Cape and Natal, washing away railway lines, delaying trains and flooding homes once again.

Houses in the Cape and Free State — to which residents were able to return only days ago after the previous flood — were evacuated again and recently repaired bridges and roads were again under water yesterday after the heavy rains.

More than 120 mm of rain fell in half-an-hour in some places and heavy rain is forecast over the Free State, the Eastern Cape and Natal today.

At Sannaspos residents looked on helplessly yesterday as a huge mass of water threatened their homes. Many had already been evacuated after the Koring Spruit broke its banks.

Heavy rain continued to fall in many parts of Natal overnight, and reports of further mudslides have been received.

At least six families were completely cut off by a mudslide which closed off a road outside Kloof.

A mudslide 80 metres wide and three metres deep landed on the main Durban to Johannesburg railway lines just south of Marianhill station.

Rail lines have been washed away in the Free State, while others are under water.

The Algoa express between Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg has come to a standstill at Springfontein.

The line was washed away at Elstow and Driekuil and the train with 160-odd passengers has been trapped between the two stations since 4 am yesterday.

The Amatola, on its way to East London, was delayed by more than three hours. — Sapa

See also page 17

Cabinet reshuffle announced

Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — The State President, Mr P. W. Botha, yesterday announced a significant political reshuffle which will elevate two rising stars in the National Party — Dr Dawie de Villiers and Dr Stoffel van der Merwe — into the cabinet.

The move, effective from the end of the month, follows the decision of Mr Alwyn Schlabusch, 70 — the most senior member of the cabinet — to retire.

The reshuffle, mainly at the deputy-minister level, does not appear to reflect any major ideological shifts in the government and none of the promotions affect any coloured politicians in the tri-cameral parliament.

The most significant promotion is the elevation of Dr De Villiers to Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with administration and privatisation — a move that is likely to give special impetus to the government's privatisation drive.

Dr De Villiers, as the new head of the Cabinet Committee for Privatisation, will be charged with overseeing changes to giant para-statal corporations like Iscor, Eskom and Foskor — which are all earmarked for privatisation.

Mr Botha said yesterday that a special adviser — who is unnamed as yet — would be appointed to assist Dr De Villiers, whose responsibilities will also include the Competitions Board and the Commission for Administration which handles the civil service.

The other major pro-

motion is the appointment of a deputy minister. Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, to Minister of Information in the State President's Office, with additional responsibility for the SABC and the film industry.

In making the announcement, Mr Botha said the government planned to adopt "a more concentrated effort towards developing the film industry without interfering in its affairs".

He said Dr Van der Merwe would continue with his current role of negotiating with black South Africans on behalf to the government.

Other changes announced by Mr Botha yesterday were:

• The Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr Kent Durr, will replace Dr De Villiers as Minister of the Budget and Works in the white "own affairs" Ministers' Council.

• The Deputy Minister of Development Planning, Mr Piet Badenhorst, will become the Minister of Health Services and Welfare in the Ministers' Council.

• The Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Roelf Meyer, will replace Mr Badenhorst as Deputy Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning.

• The MP for Krugersdorp and chairman of the law and order standing committee, Mr Leon Wessels, will become the Deputy Minister of Law and Order.

Mr Botha also announced that the government had decided to appoint the chairman of the Tourism Board, Mr Danie Hough, as the Administrator of the Transvaal at the end of April when Mr Willem Cruywagen resigns.

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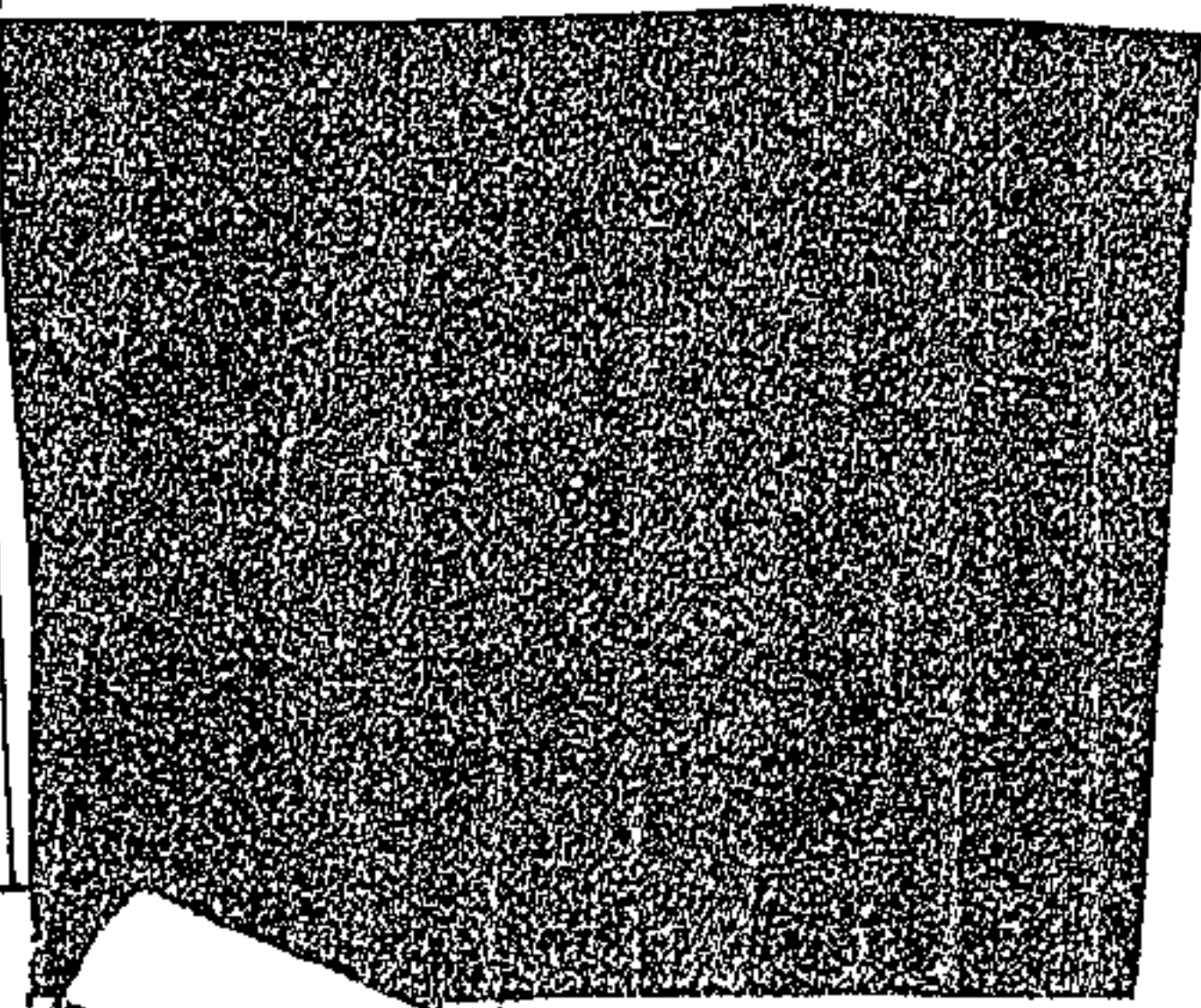
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D/O 11/31/88 (56)

Rains may signal 10 year wet cycle

DURBAN — A complete change in atmospheric conditions over the whole of South Africa has been responsible for the recent wide-spread deluges — and specialists say the current conditions are likely to persist for a further decade.

The head of the geography department at the University of Durban-Westville, Professor Gawie de Villiers, says during the past 18 months the country has been under the influence of low-pressure cells drawing moist air from the Indian Ocean.

It appeared these conditions were cyclical, and that the current rains could signal the start of a 10-year wet cycle.

Prof De Villiers said if this were the case, the country would have to brace itself for further flooding during the coming decade.

He said the reason for the advent of the wet cycles was not easy to determine, but that it could have to do with sun-spot activity. — Sapa

DIP 11/3/88
56
Flood relief

Farmers who suffered crop and stock losses during the floods in the Free State and Northern Cape will be compensated and will also be assisted in the restoration of resources and infrastructure.

The Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk, and the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr Kraal van Niekerk, have said in a joint statement that arrangements have been made to determine the

extent of losses in the agricultural areas of the two provinces.

The Air Force is to take photographs from the air to determine the extent of the damage and to assist with planning and organising follow-up operations on the ground.

Farmers can report flood damage at agricultural information offices, magistrates offices and co-operatives. A questionnaire has been compiled for farmers to fill in for this purpose.

Engineers outline input to curb flood—damage

P/D 11/3/88

(56)

EAST LONDON — The estimated cost of the flood damage could be as high as R1 billion and the question arose whether was being done to prevent death and damage in the event of serious flooding, the chairman of the South African Institution of Civil Engineers, Dr L. de Clercq, said.

He was commenting on the situation on roads, railways, dams and bridges where civil engineers were responsible for both design and construction of multi-million rand projects.

He said big dams were designed to resist even rare floods because of potential catastrophic consequences because of failure to withstand flood damage. Although much is known about maximum flood levels, further research is needed following the failure of both Spitskop and Tygerpoort dams.

After promulgation of the regulations under the Water Act in July, 1986, a survey was undertaken, and is still in progress, to deter-

mine the safety of large dams. Major problems have been identified but time has not allowed all problems to be rectified.

"However, the expertise related to dam safety has increased dramatically over the last 20 years. Dams under construction have in-built safety features not previously incorporated into the design of the Spitskop and Tygerpoort dams.

"As far as roads are concerned civil engineers should be informed if major arteries to major centres are to stay open even during rare floods. Roads are not designed to survive potential maximum floods without damage because of massive cost escalations involved in the construction of such a project. But as far as bridges are concerned, potential flood damage is pivotal in the design and construction.

"Even in the recent extreme cases of flooding, no bridges were washed away in the Free State or on the Nat-

ional Roads in Natal. Bridge approaches considered to be a safety mechanism for bridges subjected to stress, were washed away in some instances and at relatively small cost."

Dr De Clercq points out that contrary to press reports, old bridges did not survive flood damage better than new bridges. No bridge built 25 years ago or later, washed away.

"Obviously more advanced technology ensured that sturdier and stree-resistant foundations were built. Other safety measures, previously unknown, were incorporated to obviate failures during rare floods.

"After the flooding of towns like Ladysmith, consensus is that urgent attention is needed to prevent building in flood-prone areas. The institution calls for only civil engineers to be allowed to indicate flood lines on development plans for new townships.

"Engineers should be required to indicate

projected 50-year flood lines and probable maximum floodlines to enable the construction of buildings, installations and houses outside flood lines.

"Nevertheless, even where building takes place outside the 50-year flood line, it may still be prone to flooding, albeit less frequently," he said.

(56)

Iscor loses out

Flood-severed supply links between Sishen and Kimberley have cost Iscor some 60 000 t in lost iron ore production and forced it to the searoads to supply its Natal blast furnaces.

An ore shipment from Saldanha will be discharged from the 30 000 t *Nosar Sharon* in Durban harbour this week and then railed to Newcastle. Spokesman Piet du Plessis says Iscor has been forced countrywide to trim production by 18% for two weeks as a result of floodwaters cutting off supplies of ore from Saldanha.

Iscor's Thabazimbi mine stepped up ore output from 45 000 t to 75 000 t and stocks were run down to counter the supply hitches. But, adds Du Plessis, no downstream disruption of client orders is expected.

The convoluted exercise underlines the difficulties of accurately accounting for flood costs. As investigators begin the process of tallying costs in the northern Cape and OFS, it is sobering to reflect that Natal has yet to produce a final bill for last September's floods.

Rodney Schneeberger, director of the SA Insurance Association, says insured losses arising from Natal's September flood — largely covered by the international reinsurance community — are likely to be around R400m. An estimated equivalent sum was not insured, leaving a final bill of around R800m. This includes the public and private sectors, Natal and KwaZulu, agriculture, industry and commerce and private residential property.

Preliminary indications are that the OFS flood will not prove as costly, says Schneeberger. In the case of Natal, the highest losses were in industry and commerce, whereas the OFS floods were largely confined to farms and homes.

Natal Provincial Administration (NPA) secretary Roy Hindle says aggregated flood bills of local authorities and the NPA itself are now estimated at R175m. The biggest single item was R100m for NPA roads and bridges. Government had allowed the full amount applied for in the additional estimates presented at the reopening of Parliament. The balance will be included in the new year's budget.

KwaZulu secretary in the Department of the Chief Minister Stanley Armstrong puts infrastructural damage in the Zulu homeland at R60m. Of this, R17m will be added to the Department of Works' current budget and the balance will be budgeted for in the new year.

Of the 87 000 claims lodged by KwaZulu residents against the State President's Disaster Relief Fund, 41 880 claimants have been paid damages totalling R14m. Payouts are said to be around half of the amounts claimed.

Repairs to waterworks and irrigation equipment total R1,7m and to agricultural roads R4m, while Transport Minister Eli



Natal floods ... paying for nature's destruction

Louw established Sats damages at R26m.

Durban assistant town clerk Henry Meyer says 472 claims were received from residents and the total claimed was a little under R7m. The responsible committee handled 296 ap-

plications and recommenced payouts totalling R720 000, with claimants generally getting about half of their claims.

The Durban Council's claims, consolidated in the NPA figure provided by Hindle, amount to some R20m, says Meyer. The single largest item is a bill of R10,4m from the city engineer's department for damages to services.

Repairs to electrical reticulation require an additional R2,5m and repairs to playing fields and parks a further R4,8m.

The Umgeni Water Board, responsible for the purification and supply of bulk water, estimates capital losses at R4,5m and operating losses at R4,3m. The Department of Water Affairs has agreed to pay 66% of these costs and the balance will be paid by the board, says spokesman Derek Hawkins.

... Johannesburg
distribution of water in

Undertaking

More than mopping up

56

South Africans have never experienced the ferocity of the floods which have hit the sub-continent since Cyclone Demoina in 1984. In retrospect, that was the beginning of a period of meteorological violence with which we are still attempting to come to terms.

Was there sufficient warning? Well, the Department of Water Affairs' (DWA) prestigious *Water resources of the RSA* stated in 1986, before the 1987 and 1988 floods: "Droughts are often terminated by severe floods." But that could hardly have prepared anyone for the severity of the past five months' events. Natal's Ladysmith is the most visible victim of the latest calamity, having barely recovered from its fifth or sixth flood in as many months. Last week, the Klip River burst its banks again. More could yet come. While Natal suffered heavily in the September 1987 floods — insured damage is put at some R400m, with an additional R400m to be picked up by government for damage to the provincial infrastructure — both the torrential nature and extended duration of the Free State/northern Cape floods caught everyone by surprise.

The normally arid, semi-desert area has experienced floods in the past — the 1974 floods were the most recent — but never of such long duration and intensity. The cause also differs from the 1984 cyclone and the 1987 Natal cut-off low that created four days of torrential rains.

At fault was an "extraor-

The floods have hit SA with a force and effect no one anticipated. The costs to the insurance sector and State coffers can only be provisionally estimated, but there are lessons to be learnt which will reduce the impact of future floods.

ordinary" weather system, according to Weather Bureau chief forecaster Mike Edwards — an extended tropical low that wedged in from the north-east and became trapped over central Botswana and, later, the south-western Free State, feeding in warm, moist air. While such systems are fairly common in summer, this one was different; it has now stayed put, in various stages, for several weeks (see chart).

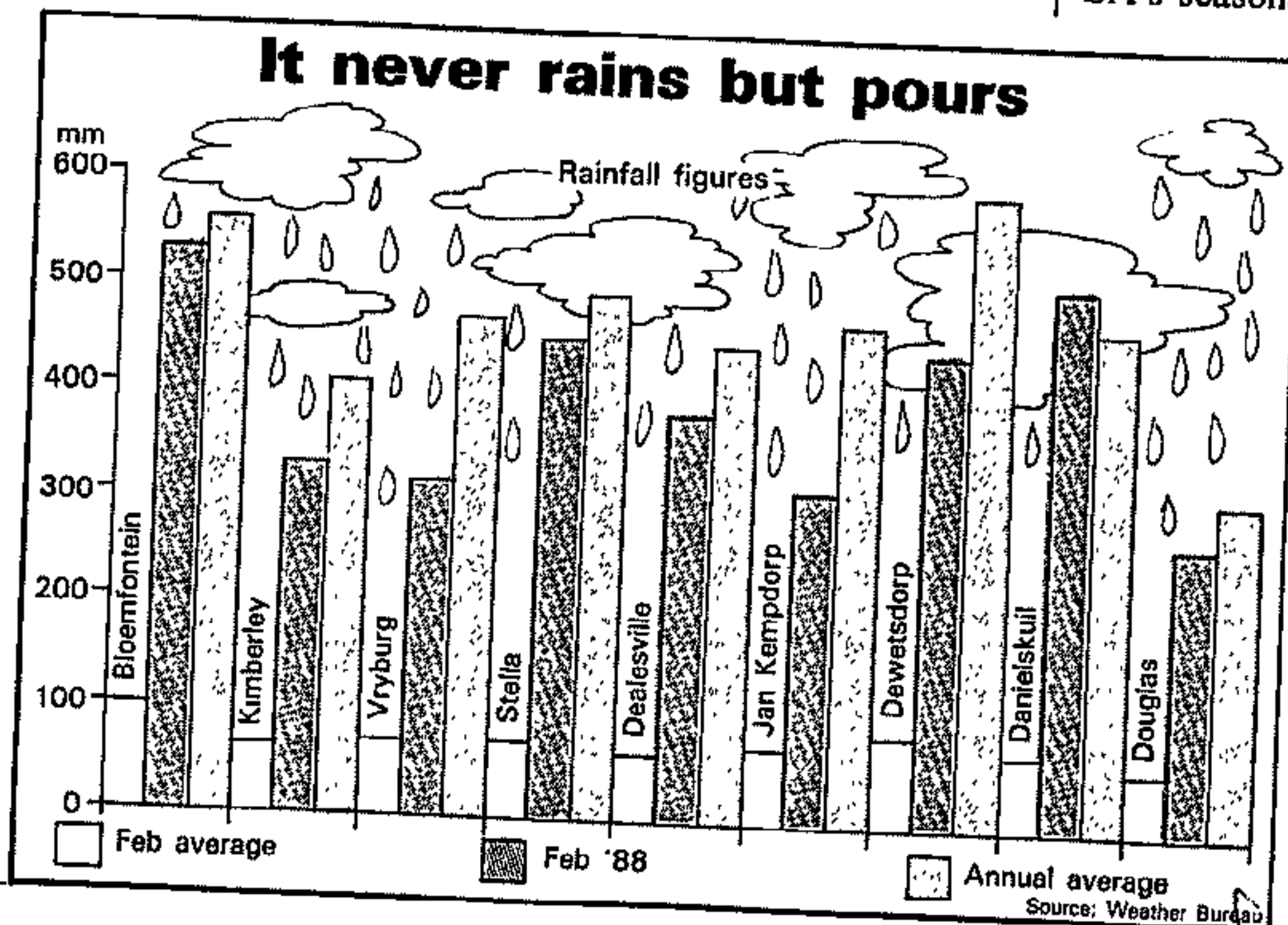
The tropical low's warm, heavily moist air

from the central African zone did not solely create the deluge. This was triggered off when the low met up with a typical westerly system, which swept in cold, moist air from the south. In the "convergence zone" of the two systems, an explosion of moisture occurred from February 20 onwards, with the undercutting colder air forcing up the moist, tropical air and creating tremendous precipitations. The Free State and northern Cape became marshlands overnight — Bloemfontein has already received some 700 mm of rain over the past month, against an annual average of 560 mm. Most stations reported record falls (see graph).

The exact causes of this weather system are not clear, though several factors are playing their part. The well-known El Nino phenomenon in the central Pacific, west of Peru, has been identified as a major cause of SA's seasonal droughts.

El Nino occurs when the normal westerly tropical trade winds slacken or disappear, allowing hot Pacific water to move eastwards to Peru. This supplants the cold Humbolt Current flowing along the South American coast, creating a ripple effect on global weather patterns.

Warm and cold ocean currents, therefore, play a major role in influencing the climate — witness the cold Benguela Current and its formative effect on the dry south-western parts of Africa; while the warm Mozambique Current creates a temperate, moist cli-



mate along the eastern seaboard.

While the so-called "greenhouse effect" — the gradual warming-up of global temperatures caused by the increased burning of fossil fuels and higher carbon dioxide content of the air — has been cited as another probable cause of possible weather changes, a southward thrust of the Mozambique Current could have triggered the tropical system now prevalent in central SA.

Whatever the cause and duration of SA's new balmy tropical weather and its concomitant floods, damage assessments remain provisional. But, obviously, several hundred million rands could be added to the country's flood bill, creating further severe budgetary demands at a time when government is attempting spending restraint. Loss of production could add further millions to the bill.

The Department of Agriculture has requested farmers to send in provisional loss assessments by March 11 — obviously to be in time for the March 16 Budget.

Worst damage was sustained by farmlands, crops, houses on river banks and infrastructure like roads, bridges, railway lines and irrigation canals.

Long-term damage to the country's agricultural potential lies in the loss of millions of tons of irreplaceable topsoil. According to Pretoria University's head of Water Engineering, Albert Rooseboom: "With some 60% of SA's veld in a poor condition due to overgrazing and bad farming practices, something will have to be done urgently to restore the balance — or we will suffer irreversible loss through soil erosion.

"Ongoing research on the long-term effects of bad farming practices is needed, so that this can be spelt out to white and black farmers."

A denuded catchment area such as the Drakensberg foothills above Ladysmith — also increases the "funnel effect" of raging floodwaters which are not absorbed or retarded by any vegetation cover.

Apart from the loss of farming potential and the gradual desertification of the country — the Karoo is apparently moving 70 km eastwards every 10 years — the water retention potential of major dams is also gradually being reduced by massive silting. Several now have an effective life of only a few decades.

But, on the positive side, the drought has been broken over large areas and the improved grazing in the central Karoo, eastern Cape and Kalahari regions could lead to a rebuilding of the nation's sheep stock.

A further positive effect is the creation of jobs and a capital injection into rural economies as government and the insurance industry fork out millions over the next few years to rebuild what has been destroyed. (It should be remembered, however, that without non-ideological planning, many places now devastated were moribund anyway.)

And as the floods gradually subside and

cost tallies are sent in by farmers, townsmen, Water Affairs, Sats, State departments, municipalities and so on, several important lessons for the future are being spelt out. A prominent civil engineer calls the breaching of the Spitskop Dam on the Harts River a "major embarrassment" for Water Affairs, while the cut-off of rail and road links and extended flooding of residential buildings and farmlands could also yield several lessons.

The most important include:

□ The major flood control role played by the huge Hendrik Verwoerd and P K le Roux Dams on the Orange River. With the Vaal system contributing the lion's share, the retaining ability of the two dams halved the potential size of the flood and thus saved Upington from virtual annihilation. This might influence the future structure and strength of a new Spitskop Dam;

□ The role of the 21-year flood line that

□ Engineering design in the dam, road, rail and bridge building areas will obviously have to take note of the increasing frequency of "very rare" floods. But while the loss of the 27-year-old John Ross bridge at the mouth of the Tugela last year was an indictment of bridge engineering design, no bridges built within the past 20 years were swept away. "We had learnt our lessons prior to the floods," says director/founder of SA's largest firm of civil engineers, Van Wyk & Louw, Hennie de Klerk.

And, adds Pretoria University civil engineering Professor Will Alexander, cost remains the major factor in determining the level of safety that can be built in;

□ The cost of any construction is determined by economic, strategic, social and political factors. Civil engineers design and construct according to a client's needs — but they should increasingly be co-opted on the design and viability decision-making group

that plans construction. This is the view of Institute of Civil Engineers' director Gerhard de Villiers;

□ The Ladysmith experience could lead to a reassessment of the wisdom of building on a floodplain. Possibilities being considered include canalisation and the erection of dykes — but the wisest decision could be to move the residents and business premises to safer heights;

□ Dam construction safety and measures to safeguard many of the country's older dams should now get top priority. "Failsafe" systems like deliberately building a weaker, collapsible section to reduce pressure on the main wall might have to be considered, as well as sufficiently strong spillways;

□ The same would apply to road and rail construction and the provision of sufficient guttering in flat, extended plains where water pressures can build up and destroy large sections of strategic road and rail links;

□ Bridge construction is also being reassessed, with solid concrete structures seen as the solution. Improved foundations near river mouths, as well as the building of lower bridges that can be flooded, if necessary, while withstanding the might of the water, could be a safer option; and

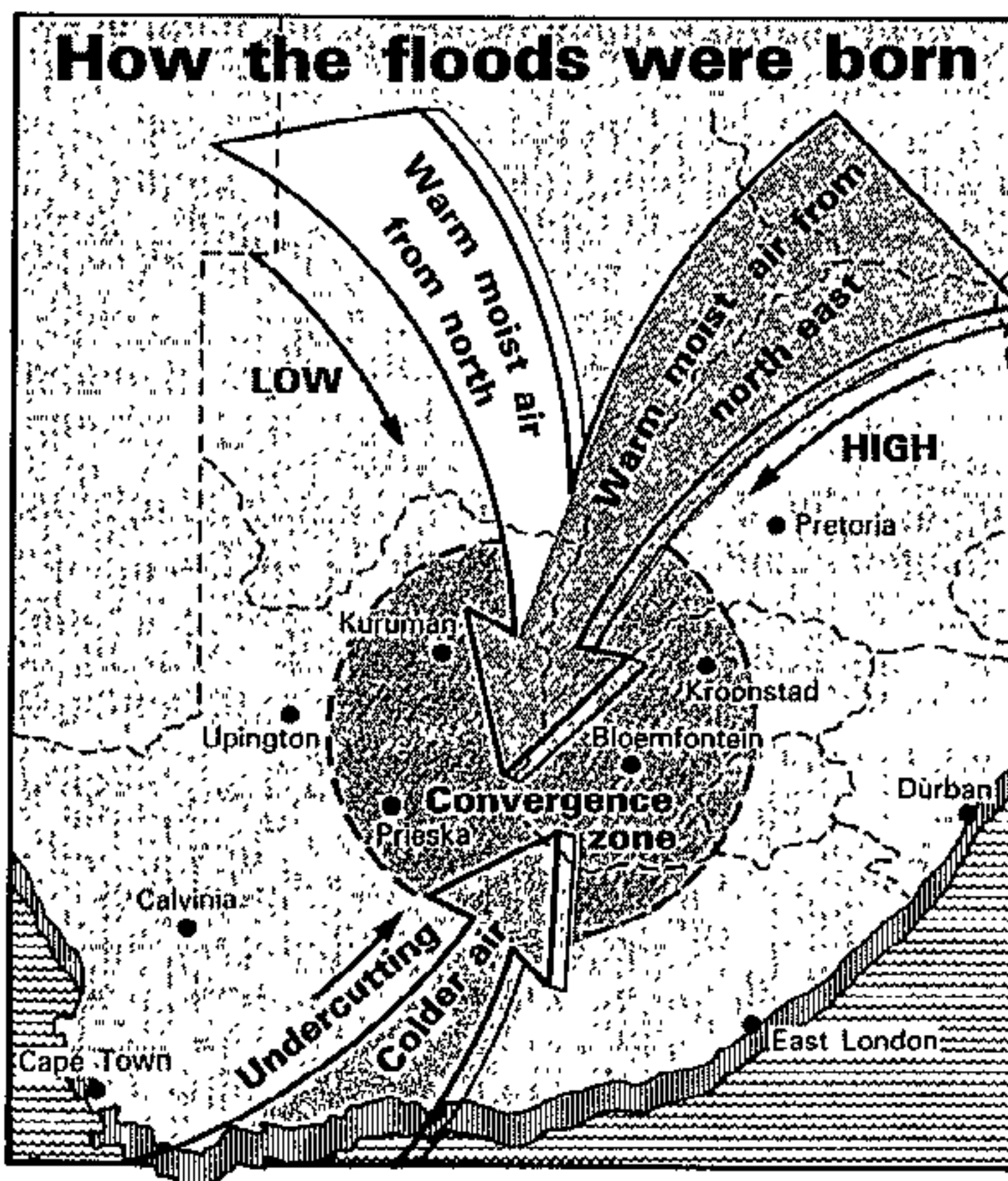
□ Future township planning should not be handled without input from professional civil engineers.

So the floods have taught SA some savage and costly lessons.

Fortunately, loss of life in the OFS floods has been slight — but the economic impact should lead to a serious rethink in several areas to prevent the recurrence of future losses.

Should SA now enter a "wet season" of several years, spending more money on essential safeguards might not be too high a price to pay for reduced damage.

The very perception of increased future risk should help to reduce damage. ■
(See Economy)



must be indicated on all township development plans where, in terms of the Water Act, the catchment area exceeds 5 km². Based on the size and savageness of the recent Natal and OFS floods, it would make sense to indicate the *maximum* probable flood line in a specific area. This would assist local authorities in the assessment of potential risk for residential, commercial and industrial development. In a town like Ladysmith this could lead to a ban on such development below certain levels;

□ The future assessment of insurance risks and the loading of premiums in specific areas, such as Ladysmith. The Insurance Association will this week meet water specialist Desmond Midgley to obtain his considered views on the industry's future policy regarding flood risk assessment. Calculating probable maximum floods could form an important future consideration. "We need a national approach in this situation," says an industry spokesman;

port yesterday on their way back to London.

Rivers in flood again

D/P 12/3/28
56

PRETORIA — The Department of Water Affairs here has announced that although certain rivers in the Free State were in flood once again, the situation could not be compared with the floods of February this year.

It was reported that a substantial volume of water was flowing in the Modder, Riet, Harts, Caledon and Orange Rivers.

The department expects water flowing in the Modder, Riet and Harts Rivers, which flow into the Vaal River, to reach Douglas today.

The peak flow is expected to reach Prieska on Tuesday where the water is expected to flow at 4 000 cumecs.

It is expected that the water level will not rise higher than six metres.

This should reach Upington by late Wednesday at its expected rate of 4 000 cumecs.

A coloured man, however, was swept away by the raging waters.

The man was one of eight workers who were on a lorry that was stuck in floodwater between Kenhardt and Van-

Wyksvlei near Bloemfontein.

His body has not yet been found.

Bloemfontein reported that 100 millimetres of rain fell in the catchment area of the Kaffir River south-west of Dewetsdorp.

● The Dias 500 celebrations in East London could be a damp affair with rain forecast for today and Sunday.

A senior forecaster at the weather office, Mr Louis Vermaak, said cloudy and warm conditions with scattered thundershowers were forecast for the coastal region today.

It would be cooler in the northern interior where fairly general rain and thundershowers were expected.

Sunday would bring showers and thundershowers in the interior with the possibility of showers over the coast.

£ note spent

LONDON — Britain withdrew its pound banknote yesterday — nearly 200 years after introducing it to conserve gold for a war effort. Pound coins replace them. — Sapa-Reuters.

CAPE TOWN 12/3/88
56

Looming havoc for flood-hit Free State

JOHANNESBURG. — Further devastation to areas of the Free State still recovering from last month's floods loomed yesterday.

The Weather Bureau has issued a special warning of possible further heavy rainfall in many parts of the province.

As homes were again being evacuated in the Free State and mudslides occurred in parts of Natal, a bureau spokesman said heavy rains were predicted for the central and southern Free State, the eastern Cape north of the Winterberg and the Drakensberg area of Natal.

In Bloemfontein, further rain could spell disaster as streams in the city were all in flood again.

A spokesman for the Joint Operations Centre in Kimberley, Warrant Officer Hendrik Naude, yesterday warned of renewed flooding in the already hard-hit areas of Modderri-
vier and Ritchie if the deluge continues in the catchment areas of the Riet and Modder Rivers.

Downpours

The N1 South has been closed between Edenburg and Reddersburg. Motorists travelling south or on their way to Bloemfontein from the south have been advised to use the route via De Wetsdorp, Wepener, Rouxville and Aliwal North.

Houses in the Koringspruit area were evacuated when the river burst its banks.

At Shannon outside Bloemfontein, 120mm of rain was measured within 30 minutes on Thursday night, flooding houses and roads.

At Wepener, the Caledon River is reported to be rising quickly. There are fears the Sandspruit, which was in spate on Thursday and flooded several houses at Wepener, could again flood.

Heavy downpours in the central Karoo have caused widespread damage in the Brandvlei area and at places most farms received 100mm and more. The Sak River is again in flood.

A kombi was washed off the road about 20km from Brandvlei, but the driver and passengers were not injured.

A spokesman for the Department of Water Affairs says they are particularly concerned by the flood water in the Caledon and Orange rivers. — Sapa

Northern Cape awaits new floods

Four drown as deluge hammers SA

56
SPM
14/3/88

Staff Reporters

Northern Cape towns are braced for a second but milder battering this week as flood waters from three northern Free State rivers and a massive run-off from the Lesotho highlands swell the Orange River.

Following heavy rainfall in Lesotho and the upper Free State at the weekend, the Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria predicts that 3 000 cubic metres per second (cumecs) of water will reach the town of Douglas today, and 5 000 cumecs is expected to stream past Prieska tomorrow.

The Orange River may burst its banks again at Prieska, the department said.

The floods are not expected to be as severe as those in the past few weeks, a spokesman for the Joint Operations Centre in Kimberley said today.

"Although the river will rise again, there is nothing to fear," he said.

Almost 6 000 cumecs of water was measured at the Oranjedraai gauging weir on the Lesotho border yesterday. This water is expected to reach Prieska by the end of this week after it passes through the Hendrik Verwoerd and P K le Roux dams.

The largest dam in the country, the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam, is already at 125 percent of capacity — its highest level yet.

However, Mr Mike Laing, chief forecaster for the Weather Bureau in Pretoria, said the weather system that caused the deluges of the past few days "has now moved northwards and away from the country. We are back to more normal late summer rainfall patterns".

Roads impassable

Low-lying areas of towns along the banks of the Sand, Vet and Vals rivers in the northern Free State were flooded at the weekend, and many roads and bridges became impassable.

Three men drowned in raging flood waters in the QwaQwa area yesterday, and a Kakamas schoolboy drowned in the Hartbees River at the weekend.

About 180 people were forced to leave their QwaQwa homes, and 38 clay huts collapsed under the force of water in the area, where 143 mm of rain fell yesterday.

The homeless are being sheltered in tents provided by the SA Defence Force.

The Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria warned farmers living below the Bloemhof Dam to evacuate people and equipment to higher ground as it opened the sluice gates feeding the Vaal River at 8 am today.

The department said the Bloemhof Dam, which was last full in 1982, was at about 109 percent of capacity and that the level was rising.

Traffic chaos as Reef gets a drenching

The Hartbeespoort Dam near Johannesburg began overflowing late yesterday afternoon for the first time since 1981. Ten sluice gates were opened to allow water out of the dam yesterday. Four of the sluice gates are still open.

Municipal Reporter

Drenching rain caused traffic chaos and flooding on the Reef over the weekend.

Three low-lying houses on the Crocodile River in Jukskei Park, Randburg, were flooded, trees were uprooted in Johannesburg and Roodepoort, and in Sandton several roads were rendered impassable when they were transformed into rivers as flood waters covered bridges.

In Melville, 93 mm of rain was recorded over the 48-hour period from Friday, Linden had 72 mm over two days, about 86 mm fell in Joubert Park and a 60 mm downpour was measured in Bryanston on Saturday.

Most bridges were under water in Sandton between 9 am and midday and several main roads had to be closed during this period, traffic chief Mr Pat O'Brien said.

A stormwater drain blockage on the Ben Schoeman highway caused a dam of water to build up at the Roodepoort turn-off, he said.

Randburg traffic chief Mr John Smith said the low bridge in Gertrude Street, Fontainebleau, was flooded and vehicles crossed with half their wheels under water.

ACCIDENTS

The heavy rain washed deep holes in roads in Ferndale and Randpark Ridge and there were a few minor accidents in the rain.

Vehicles were unable to cross several bridges over the Braamfontein Spruit in Johannesburg.

Traffic department spokesman Mr Eric Hill said staff cut up and removed three trees which were uprooted in Saxonwold, Cyrildene and Clarendon Place.

The 45 Johannesburg children from Redhill School in Morning-side who were cut off from the outside world last week by the flooded Little Caledon River while on a field trip to the Golden Gate Highlands National Park, have been taken to safety.

Two routes between Bloemfontein and Johannesburg are now open to traffic.

The Free State traffic department says that motorists can travel from Bloemfontein to the Witwatersrand via Winburg, Senekal, Steynsrus, Kroonstad and Parys, or via Dealesville, Hertzogville, Hoopstad and Bothaville.

To travel from Bloemfontein to Durban, motorists must use the route via Winburg, Senekal, Bethlehem, Warden and Harrismith. The road between Bethlehem and Harrismith is closed.

The N1 between Bloemfontein and Cape Town is open.



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10 drown in raging floods

JOHANNESBURG — Floods claimed the lives of at least ten people at the weekend.

Three men were swept away by raging floodwaters in the Qwaqwa area where about 180 people were forced to leave their homes after 143 mm fell yesterday.

It was reported earlier in the weekend that six people had been swept away by the Sand River at Senekal in the Free State and were believed to have drowned.

A 16-year-old boy was swept away in the Hartbees River near Kakamas when a retaining wall he and his friends were walking on collapsed.

The level of the Vals River at Bothaville is rising rapidly and the

river is flowing 800-metres wide. (56)

The town clerk, Mr Arthur Snyman, said 15 families were evacuated after the river burst its banks.

More than 100 mm has fallen in the vicinity of Coligny, Ventersdorp and Klerksdorp in the past few days and the Schoonspruit is still in flood.

The civil defence chief said people in low-lying areas will be kept informed and given early warning if they have to leave their homes.

The Hartbeespoort Dam began overflowing late on Saturday for the first time since 1981.

Meanwhile, the Klip River at Ladysmith flooded low-lying areas

of the town yesterday afternoon and many houses were evacuated after a flood warning issued by the Civil Defence Department in the morning.

Water was flowing knee-deep through streets in the low-lying areas but no houses were flooded, a police spokesman said.

The river reached a level of seven metres, but has started to subside.

The Oliviershoek pass in the Drakensberg between Natal and the Free State has been closed to traffic because of a large mudslide.

The bridge and road across the Renoster River at Koppies has been badly damaged and may be closed. — DDC-Sapa

s greet aravel

The Portuguese national flag was unfurled by the ambassador of Portugal, Dr J. M. P. de Villas-Boas, the South African flag was unfurled by Mr De Lange, the South African Harbour Services flag was unfurled by the port di-

D/D 15/3/88

Flood payout of 56 R15,5m approved

JOHANNESBURG — The agricultural industry's leading short term insurer, Sentraoer, has approved payouts on claims for flood damage in the Free State and northern Cape totalling R15,5-million.

The chief executive of Sentraoer, Mr Pierre Marits, said so far more than 600 claims had been received and more were expected after the torrential rains which fell towards the end of last week.

In many parts of the vast area affected, damage could not be assessed until flood waters had subsided.

Total claims payouts would be substantially greater than the R15-million already approved.

Sentraoer would be responsible for R1,5-million of the R15,5-million and reinsurers for the rest.

Meanwhile a spokesman for crop insurers, Sentraoes, has said it was impossible to estimate damage or claims while flood waters were still so high.

Floodwaters in three Free State towns have now subsided and residents are taking stock of flood damage as mopping up operations got underway yesterday.

The town clerk of Bothaville, Mr Arthur Snyman, said people had been evacuated from 68 houses an hour before the floodwaters hit the town.

Families have been accommodated by friends and relatives.

Mr Snyman said the worst damage was to businesses in low-lying areas of the town.

"A R600 000 shopping complex which was opened three months ago has been completely destroyed. The water reached the ceiling of the supermarket and all is lost," he said.

A Defence Force spokesman said conditions had stabilised in Kroonstad and repairs

were being carried out at the towns sewerage works and an old age home where the power supply had been cut off by the flood waters.

The spokesman said the fire brigade had rescued a man who was carried away by floodwaters.

The major damage to the town was at the Kronpark Holiday Resort where six of the 44 holiday huts were undamaged.

The town clerk of Senekal, Mr J. A. Botha, said that the water supply to the town had been reconnected.

He said members of the public, municipal staff and members of civil defence were assessing the extent of flood damage and cleaning up operations had begun.

"We evacuated 12 families and their furniture has been stored in the town hall."

A police spokesman said six people who were reported missing from a stone quarry next to the Sand River near Senekal are safe.

"We found them in a nearby township on Sunday," he said. — Sapa

Floodwaters ⁵⁶ bear down on *Cape Times 15/3/88* N Cape towns

JOHANNESBURG. — Northern Cape towns are braced for a second but milder battering this week as floodwaters from three Northern Free State rivers and a massive run-off from the Lesotho highlands swell the Orange River.

After heavy rainfall in Lesotho and the upper Free State at the weekend, the Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria predicted that 3 000 cubic metres per second of water would reach the town of Douglas yesterday. At noon it was just over half this rate.

The flow rate of the Orange River at Prieska at noon yesterday had already reached 5 900 cumecs and the department says the same rate of flow is expected at Upington today. The Orange River may burst its banks again at Prieska, the department said.

The floods are not expected to be as severe as those in the past few weeks.

Dam reaches highest level yet

SA's largest dam, the Hendrik Verwoerd, is already at 128% full — its highest level yet. The P K le Roux Dam is 117% of capacity.

Three men drowned in raging floodwaters in the Qwaqwa area yesterday, and a Kakamas schoolboy drowned in the Hartbees River at the weekend.

About 180 people abandoned their Qwaqwa homes, and 38 clay huts collapsed under the force of water, where 143mm of rain fell yesterday.

The Hartbeespoort Dam near Johannesburg began overflowing yesterday for the first time since 1981.

At least 22 roads between cities and towns are closed following the latest floods in the Free State, Northern Cape, Western Transvaal and Natal, according to the Automobile Association. — Sapa

D/D 16/3/88
Flood:

houses evacuated

PRETORIA — Hundreds of houses in the town of Christiana were evacuated yesterday to avoid the peak of the Vaal River floodwater which was expected last night

Another 100 property owners were warned of the approaching flood

Bloemhof in the Western Transvaal and the Northern Cape towns of Warrenton, Windsorton, Riverton, Barkly-West, Delpoortshoop and Douglas were also endangered.

Property owners along the Vaal River below the Bloemhof Dam were warned by the Department of Water Affairs that the level of the river would rise above that of the 1975 floods.

The department forecast that the peak of the floodwater would reach Douglas tomorrow

The rain in the Transvaal in the past two weeks has not solved the problems of farmers in the area, according to a survey by the Transvaal Agricultural Union

The survey showed that grain farmers in particular suffered losses because of rain that was too late

In some areas crop losses of up to 63 per cent are expected

There were only isolated cases of flood damage in the province — Sapa

R350 000 boost for soccer

UMTATA — Professional soccer in Transkei has been given a R350 000 boost with the announcement of a R350 000 sponsorship, spread over three years, from Transun

The Transkei Premier League's PRO, Mr Boy Nguza, said the sponsorship was the largest ever given to Transkei soccer.

He said prize money this year would total R100 000. It would be R120 000 in 1989 and R130 000 in 1990

This year the champion team would receive R25 000, with prizes of R15 000, R10 000 and R5 000 going to the next three teams.

A sum of R11 000 would go to operating costs and R20 000 for travelling expenses.

The league would be known as the Transun Premier League — DDR

56

Upington braced as second flood looms

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Flood-battered Upington is braced for floods worse than those of last month and than the deluge of 1975, said police liaison officer for the Northern Cape, Captain Carel van der Westhuizen.

As the second deluge of water in three weeks rushes downstream, residents of low-lying areas are moving goods and livestock to higher ground.

Many people are being evacuated from towns in flood-threatened areas of the Western Transvaal and the Northern Cape.

HELICOPTERS

Helicopters are on standby at Upington to help with possible evacuations.

Almost 8 000 cubic metres of water a second (cumecs) is expected to reach the town on Monday.

At Prieska the Orange River is expected to be in peak flood by Sunday as the flow increases to 7 900 cumecs, the same level as the February floods, said a spokesman for Water Affairs.

However, a spokesman for the Kimberley Joint Operations Centre said the floods would be more controlled than those of last month because of the planned opening of three Vaal

Dam sluices and eight of the 20 sluices at Bloemhof Dam on the Vaal River. Two of the Bloemhof sluices were closed last night, and almost 4 000 cumecs was flowing from the dam.

Today, as the crest of the Vaal River sped towards Christiana in the Western Transvaal, bridges between Upington and Kakamas and Upington and Keimoes were under water and closed to traffic.

Evacuation of towns along the Vaal River was proceeding efficiently, officials said. Bloemhof in the Western Transvaal and the Northern Cape towns of Warrenton, Windsorton, Riverton, Barkly West, Delpportshoop and Douglas are all threatened by the latest flood.

The south bank of the Orange River in the Leerkrans area has been breached. Kanon Island on the Orange River and 63 other islands were being evacuated.

Captain van der Westhuizen said the sunny weather during the past three days and the drying out of sodden ground had assisted the evacuations.

At Warrenton, where the river is in spate and much wider than normal, many families were evacuated and others put on standby.

P/D 17/3/88

Millions for East Cape

CAPE TOWN — More than R1.1 million is due to be spent in the Eastern Cape and South Western Districts by the Department of Water Affairs during the 1988—9 financial year.

And nearly R6 m is scheduled to be spent on various schemes in the next few years.

Estimates tabled in Parliament yesterday also earmarked a further R52 m for the Orange-Fish project of which R20,8 m is to be spent on agriculture in the Sundays River area.

Another R16,6 m is for the same purpose on the Fish River.

This means that by the end of the 1988—9 financial year R754 m will have been spent on the giant scheme while another R499 m still has to be allocated.

Expenditure on water supply works now in progress will see:

- R180 000 spent at Burgersdorp.
- R250 000 at Despatch.
- R105 000 at Grahamstown.
- R150 000 at the J. C. Steyn Prison at Kirkwood, and
- R130 000 at Port Alfred.

In addition, R120 000 is earmarked for Plettenberg Bay, the same amount for Mossel Bay and R10 000 for Oudtshoorn.

New water supply works will also start at Cradock, Graaff-Reinet and Queenstown. — DDC

More disaster areas are declared

By Adele Baleta

More flood-stricken parts of the country have been declared disaster areas with the Department of Water Affairs warning that, by the weekend, Prieska and Upington could be hit by worse floods than those in February.

A Water Affairs spokesman advised residents in these northern Cape towns to evacuate houses below the February floodline.

The Orange River is expected to flow at a rate of 8 700 cumecs through Prieska — situated beyond the confluence of the Vaal and Orange Rivers — on Saturday.

The Orange Rivers's peak flow of 8 500 cumecs is expected to pass through Upington on Sunday and the water level could rise half-a-metre above the February floodline.

The level of the Vaal Dam was measured at 116,28 percent last night and the department reported a decrease in the inflow.

Six sluice gates have been opened and the outflow from the dam has increased from 730 cumecs to 1 100 cumecs.

The level of the Bloemhof Dam increased from yesterday's figure of 115 percent to 116,05 percent and it is reported that two of the six sluice gates have been closed.

At Christiana in the western Transvaal, flood waters have wreaked havoc at the Rob Ferreira game reserve where six white rhino valued at R250 000 were found drowned yesterday after being stranded on an island.

FLOODWATERS RECEDING

Town Clerk Mr A J Cornelius, said floodwaters were receding and the level of the Vaal River early today was 10,6 m.

"A total of 94 houses have been flooded some up to the gutters. Everyone was evacuated by the time the floods peaked in the town on Tuesday night. The water supply is operating normally," he said.

President Botha yesterday declared 30 flood-ravaged Free State magisterial districts as disaster areas.

The Minister of Health, Dr Willie van Niekerk, made an "urgent" call on public to contribute generously to the emergency fund for the floods.

Flood damage has left portions of six major and 17 minor roads closed throughout the country, an Automobile Association report said yesterday.

The N1 between Kroonstad and Winburg is closed but stretches between Bloemfontein and Edenburg and Colesburg and Three Sisters are open with gravel and tarred deviations.

Also closed is the R29 between Bloemhof and Christiana and the R49 between Bethlehem and Kestell.

In the northern Cape, roads closed include those between Kimberley and Dewetshoop, Kimberley and Douglas, Keimoes and Kehhardt and Keimoes and Kakamas.

In Natal, routes between Nottingham Road and Loteni and Himeville and Impendle are closed.

Three Natal nature reserves — Injasuti, Loteni and Vergelegen — are closed and the road to the Kalahari Gemsbok Park in the northern Cape is closed.

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17/3/82

Families evacuate and wait for floodwaters

DI 17/3/88

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JOHANNESBURG — Evacuations are taking place in a string of towns in flood-threatened areas of the Western Transvaal and the Northern Cape.

As the second deluge of water in three weeks pounds down-country, residents of low-lying areas are moving goods and livestock to higher ground.

Flood-battered Upington is braced for floods worse than last month's and the deluge of 1975, said the police liaison officer for the Northern Cape, Captain Carel van der Westhuizen.

Helicopters are on standby at the town to help with possible evacuations.

Almost 8 000 cumecs of water is predicted to reach the town on Monday next week — higher than the February rate of flow.

At Prieska the Orange River is expected to be in peak flood by Sunday as the flow increases to 7 900 cumecs, the same level as the February floods, a spokesman for the water affairs department said.

However, a spokesman for the Kimberley Joint Operations Centre, said that the floods would be more controlled than those of last month due to the planned opening of three sluices on the Vaal Dam, and eight of the 20 sluices at the Bloemhof Dam on the Vaal river.

Two of the Bloemhof sluices were closed on Tuesday night, and almost 4 000 cumecs was

flowing out of the dam earlier yesterday.

As the crest of the Vaal River sped towards Christiana in the western Transvaal yesterday, the bridge at Kakamas between Upington and Pofadder and the bridge at Keimoes between Upington and Kenhardt was under water.

Upington's district commander, Major E. B. Viviers, said the level of the Orange River was 7,5 metres and was not likely to peak before Monday.

"Residents who evacuated their homes during recent floods have moved out again and are waiting for the water."

Evacuation of towns along the Vaal River was proceeding efficiently, officials said.

Besides Christiana, Bloemhof in the Western Transvaal, and the Northern Cape towns of Warrenton, Windsorton, Riverton, Barkly-West, Delpoortshoop and Douglas are all being threatened by the latest flood.

The south bank of the Orange River in the Leerkrans area was breached. The Kanoneiland on the Orange River and 63 other islands were being evacuated.

Captain Van der Westhuizen said the sunny weather during the past three days and the drying out of sodden ground

had assisted the evacuations.

At Warrenton, where the river is coming down in spate many families were evacuated and others put on standby.

Water surged over the Laagwater Bridge at Warrenton, but the span on the road between Warrenton and Christiana was still open to traffic.

Bloemhof's Town Clerk, Mr Dudley Callaghan, said all roads to and from Bloemhof were opened yesterday and there is a detour on the road to Christiana.

Houses west of Warrenton were being evacuated and many other families were put on standby.

The Riverton Pleasure Resort has again been evacuated in the face of further flooding.

At Barkly West residents were warned to be ready to pack their belongings if the water level of the Vaal River rose further.

At Douglas, the water is expected to reach a level only one metre lower than during the February floods. A peak flow of 4 200 cumecs is expected to reach Douglas on Saturday.

The sluices of the P. K. le Roux Dam are still open. At Hopetown the level of the Orange River was up a metre and still rising.

The town secretary of Christiana, Mr D. W. van Niekerk, said a least 120 people had been evacuated from the town.

He said although residents in the low-lying areas of Bloemhof and Christiana had barricaded their houses with sandbags the water had flooded their homes.

A spokesman for the Rob Ferreira Game Park — about 2 km from Christiana — said police have mounted a helicopter search for six black rhinos and four ostriches that went missing yesterday.

"Fortunately there were no campers at the caravan park as it is completely flooded," the spokesman said.

At Prieska further downstream on the Orange River, the town clerk, Mr Tic Viljoen, said: "The level of the river was nine metres this morning, which is three metres less than during the February floods."

A spokesman for the South African Transport Services said yesterday all main-line train services were operating normally.

"The only exception is the Trans-Oranje line from Durban to Cape Town which has been diverted via Kimberley, Orkney and Kroonstad, and not via Bloemfontein." — Sapa

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New deluge empties towns

TOWNS along the lower reaches of the Orange River were again evacuated yesterday as water from the second deluge in three weeks raced to the sea through the Western Transvaal and the Northern Cape.

And the Minister of National Health, Dr Willie van Niekerk, has announced that another 30 magisterial districts in the Free State were being included on the disaster area list.

Residents of low-lying areas again left their homes and moved goods and livestock to higher ground, as even higher water levels threatened the Northern Cape.

Upington is preparing for a water level higher than both that of the earlier flood this year and the 1975 flood.

Helicopters are on standby at the town, where an estimated peak flow of 7 800 cumecs of water, 200 cumecs more than

the flow three weeks ago, is expected by Monday. Many of the houses in the town are still under water.

The Secretary of the Gordonia Divisional Council, Mr W Snyman, said yesterday that almost 200 tents had been issued in February and many flood victims who had returned to their homes had again asked for tents yesterday morning as the water started rising again.

He confirmed that between 80% and 90% of the irrigated farmland was still under water after the February flooding.

The Department of Water Affairs has issued a flood warning saying that a peak flow of 7 900 cumecs will reach Prieska on Sunday March 20, resulting in a similar water level to that of February.

A Water Affairs spokesman said three sluices on the Vaal Dam and six of the 20 sluices at the Bloemhof Dam on the Vaal River were opened, thus regulating much of the water to the lower regions and so

preventing walls of water from surging over the banks.

At Douglas, the water is expected to reach a level only one metre lower than during the February floods. A peak flow of 4 200 cumecs is expected to reach Douglas on Saturday.

The sluices of the P Kle Roux Dam were still open and at Hopetown the level of the Orange River was up a metre and still rising.

In the Western Transvaal, Christiana's Town Clerk, Mr D W van Niekerk, said at least 120 people had been evacuated.

"There was more flooding overnight, and at least 20 houses were at least one metre under water. Another 10 houses are less than a metre under water," he said.

The flooding occurred despite the fact that residents in the low-lying areas of Bloemhof and Christiana had barricaded their houses with sandbags. — Staff Reporter and Sapa

Chamber 17/2/88

Disaster declared

CAPE TOWN — President Botha has declared Witsieshoek in QwaQwa a flood disaster area in terms of the Fund-raising Act of 1978, the Minister of National Health, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said.

A proclamation will be published soon in the Government Gazette. — Sapa.

Morale low in flood-hit Douglas

By Melanie Gosling

KIMBERLEY — Morale is low in the flood-ravaged northern Cape town of Douglas.

Residents, still stunned from the shock of last month's deluge, wait anxiously as a second wave of water hurtles down the swollen Vaal River towards their battered town.

The pungent smell of

mud hangs heavily over the town. Piles of silt lie in gutters

Only the bars operate in the two local hotels that were evacuated before the last floods. And it is in the pubs, on street corners, and in cafes that people gather to anxiously discuss the impending floods.

Some of the flooded houses in Douglas have

collapsed and cave-ins pockmark the streets.

The town clerk, Mr Louis de Jager, estimated the damage in the town was between R7 million and R8 million.

"I don't think people realise what has happened," he said. "They are still stunned. Perhaps in a month's time the reality of what they have been through will hit them."

He said the latest reports indicated the flood would peak in Douglas this evening or early tomorrow. He hoped predictions that the flood level would be lower than last month's were accurate.

N Cape towns await flood

By Staff Reporters

As dam levels along the Vaal River dropped today, northern Cape towns on the Orange River were waiting apprehensively for the flood waters to reach them for the second time in less than a month.

The Department of Water Affairs said the Vaal Dam had decreased by 1,4 percent from yesterday's 116,06 percent. The inflow has dropped from 700 cumecs to 630 cumecs.

The Bloemhof Dam has dropped from 116,05 percent to 115,64 percent.

The Hendrik Verwoerd Dam in the Cape is 120,97 percent of capacity but inflow is subsiding.

Residents of low-lying areas at Keimoes — about 40 km from Upington — evacuated their homes yesterday as the Orange River swelled.

The department warned that the upstream towns of Prieska and Upington could be hit at the weekend by worse floods than those in February.

People in and around

the Orange River settlements of Onseepkans and Noordoewer, on the Namibian border, are bracing themselves for the latest floods, due early next week.

The Joint Operations Centres in Keetmanshoop plan to meet today to discuss the approaching torrent.

No links

In the February floods the bridge at both Onseepkans and Noordoewer were closed. If the bridges at Noordoewer and Upington are closed at the same time, then Namibia will again be without rail and road links to South Africa.

Windhoek Post Office workers are working overtime to sort tons of surface mail which has only just arrived after railway washaways. More delays could be expected if links are again cut.

Keimoes town clerk, Mr E Meyer, said one part of the town had been cut off but local police had provided transport enabling residents to cross the flooded area.

"About two houses have been evacuated in the town but most prime farmland is underwater.

"Although predictions are that the water level in Upington will rise to above the February floodline, by the time the floods reach us the water will have abated. We are well prepared."

Bridges were under water yesterday and the road from Keimoes to Kenhardt and Cape Town was closed.

River towns warned of worse flooding to come

JOHANNESBURG — More flood-stricken parts of the country have been declared disaster areas with the department of water affairs warning that by the weekend Prieska and Upington could be hit by even worse floods than experienced in February.

A water affairs spokesman advised residents in the two northern Cape towns to evacuate houses below the February floodline.

The Orange River is expected to flow at rate of 8 700 cumecs through Prieska — situated beyond the confluence of

the Vaal and Orange Rivers — tomorrow.

The Orange River's peak flow of 8 500 cumecs is expected to pass through Upington on Sunday and the water level could rise by a half metre above the February floodline.

The level of the Vaal Dam was measured at 116,28 per cent on Wednesday night and the department reported a decrease in the inflow.

Six sluice gates have been opened and the outflow from the dam has increased from 730 cumecs to 1 100.

The level at the

Bloemhof Dam increased from Wednesday's figure of 115 per cent to 116,05 per cent. At Christiania, in the western Transvaal, flood waters have wreaked havoc at the nearby Rob Ferreira game reserve where six white rhino valued at R250 000 were found drowned after being stranded on an island.

The town clerk, Mr A. J. Cornelius, said flood waters were receding and the level of the Vaal River early yesterday was 106 metres.

"A total of 94 houses have been flooded, some

up to the gutters. Every one was evacuated by the time the floods peaked in the town on Tuesday night. The water supply is operating normally," he said.

Meanwhile, 30 flood-ravaged Free State magisterial districts were declared disaster areas by the state president on Wednesday.

The Minister of Health, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said in a statement that the declaration had been in terms of the Fund Raising Act, and made an urgent call on members of the pub-

lic to contribute generously to the emergency fund for the floods. Christiania and the R49 between Bethlehem and Kestell.

Flood damage had left portions of six major and 17 minor roads closed throughout the country, said Wednesday's Automobile Association report from Johannesburg.

The N1 between Kroonstad and Kennemansburg, Welkom and Bloubaai, Bultfontein and Hoopstad, Bultfontein and Wesselbron, Hertzogville and Christiania, Bloemfontein, and Pekaarsburg, Bloemfontein and Jagersfontein, and Smithfield and Bethulie and Smithfield and Rouxville. — Sapa

Also closed is the R29 between Bloemhof and

DID 1815 188

\$6

A deluge of costs

September's Natal floods caused an estimated R800m damage, of which roughly half was insured, the bulk with re-insurers.

But the floods ravaging the Free State, northern and central Cape, western and north-western Transvaal and Natal (again) since February could add a further R750m-R800m to the bill.

Assocom chief statistician Ed Verburgh says while the insurance industry talks of claims of R150m-R180m, public sector officials say damage from the latest flooding to infrastructure, housing, crops and farmland could add a further R600m to the bill. "Government — and, by implication, the taxpayer — will have to stand good for the latter, which could halt efforts to boost the economy through possible tax cuts."

Damage in Natal last year was split between insured damage to housing, commerce and industry on one hand and infrastructural and farm damage on the other. The latest floods have mainly hit infrastructure and agriculture — largely uninsured.

While it is too early for accurate damage

FINANCIAL MAIL MARCH 18 1988

assessments (areas in the lower Orange valley have been under water for weeks), damage to roads, bridges, railway lines, power and telephone lines, irrigation canals, houses and buildings, together with agricultural losses, could add up to more than the total Natal flood bill, Verburgh estimates.

Along the lower Orange river, for example, extensive vineyards may have been destroyed. Though the loss of valuable topsoil is difficult to quantify, consequential damage to farmland productivity will no doubt add considerably to the bill. To the "direct" costs

of repairing hundreds of breached farm dams, roads, houses and outbuildings, the loss of crops, livestock and equipment, must be added the cost of lost production.

On the infrastructural side, the picture is little better. Broken railway lines and bridges, national and regional roads, bridges and breached dams like Spitskop, will take years to reinstate. Although most of the country's dams are filled to capacity and the drought is largely broken, the destruction caused by SA's worst floods in living memory will be a costly burden to bear. ■

noordooswaarts met die noordwestelike grens van genoemde Erf 15977 langs tot by die noordelikste baken daarvan; daarvandaan noordooswaarts in 'n reguit lyn oor genoemde Tygerbergstraat tot by die westelikste baken van Erf 7561; daarvandaan noordooswaarts met die grense van genoemde Erf 7561 en Erf 7552 langs, sodat hulle in hierdie gebied ingesluit word, tot by die noordelikste baken van laasgenoemde erf; daarvandaan suidooswaarts in 'n reguit lyn oor Victoriastraat tot by die westelikste baken van Erf 7585; daarvandaan noordooswaarts met die noordwestelike grense van genoemde Erf 7585 en Erf 7576 langs tot by die punt waar die noordooswaartse verlenging van die genoemde noordwestelike grense van laasgenoemde erf die middel van Van Riebeeckstraat kruis; daarvandaan suidooswaarts met die middel van genoemde Van Riebeeckstraat en Voortrekkerweg langs tot by genoemde punt waar die middel van genoemde Voortrekkerweg die middel van genoemde Jan van Riebeeckrylaan kruis, die beginpunt.

No. 41, 1988
VERKLARING VAN OORSTROMINGS IN SEKERE DISTRIKTE IN NOORD-KAAPLAND TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdrosdistrikte in die Bylae genoem sedert 20 Februarie 1988 getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Vier-en-twintigste dag van Februarie Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

BYLAE

Barkly-Wes.
Douglas.
Gordonia.
Kimberley.
Prieska.
Warrenton.

No. 42, 1988
INWERKINGSTELLING VAN DIE WET OP INTESTATE ERFOPVOLGING, 1987 (WET 81 VAN 1987)

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 3 van die Wet op Intestate Erfopvolging, 1987, bepaal ek 18 Maart 1988 as die datum waarop genoemde Wet in werking tree.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Tweede dag van Maart Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
STAATSPRESIDENT.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

H. J. COETSEE,
Minister van die Kabinet.

north-eastwards in a straight line across the said Botha Street to the westernmost beacon of Erf 15977; thence north-eastwards along the north-western boundary of the said Erf 15977 to the northernmost beacon thereof; thence north-eastwards in a straight line across the said Tygerberg Street to the westernmost beacon of Erf 7561; thence north-eastwards along the boundaries of the said Erf 7561 and Erf 7552, so as to include them in this area, to the northernmost beacon of the last-mentioned erf; thence south-eastwards in a straight line across Victoria Street to the westernmost beacon of Erf 7585; thence north-eastwards along the north-western boundaries of the said Erf 7585 and Erf 7576 to the point where the prolongation north-eastwards of the said north-western boundary of the last-mentioned erf intersects the middle of Van Riebeeck Street; thence south-eastwards along the middle of the said Van Riebeeck Street and Voortrekker Road to the said point where the middle of the said Voortrekker Road intersects the middle of the said Jan van Riebeeck Drive, the point of beginning.

No. 41, 1988
DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS IN THE NORTHERN CAPE TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fundraising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which hit the magisterial districts mentioned in the Schedule since 20 February 1988 to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Twenty-fourth day of February, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet.

SCHEDULE

Barkly West.
Douglas.
Gordonia.
Kimberley.
Prieska.
Warrenton.



No. 42, 1988
COMMENCEMENT OF THE INTESTATE SUCCESSION ACT, 1987 (ACT 81 OF 1987)

By virtue of the powers vested in me by section 3 of the Intestate Succession Act, 1987, I fix 18 March 1988 as the date on which the said Act shall come into operation.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Second day of March, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

H. J. COETSEE,
Minister of the Cabinet.

No. 43, 1988

OORGANG VAN SEKERE GROND IN DIE DISTRIK MARICO IN DIE PROVINSIE TRANSVAAL NA DIE REPUBLIEK BOPIHUTHATSWANA

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 1 van die Wet op die Uitbreiding van die Grense van Bepaalde State, 1980 (Wet 2 van 1980), bepaal ek hierby dat die grond in die bygaande Bylae vermeld, geleë in die distrik Marico in die provinsie Transvaal, met ingang van 31 Maart 1988 ophou om deel van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te wees en deel word van die Republiek van Bophuthatswana.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Tweede dag van Maart Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

G. VAN N. VILJOEN,
Minister van die Kabinet.

BYLAE

PROVINSIE TRANSVAAL

Distrik Marico

Die plaas Bergvliet 23 JO en Gedeelte 5, Gedeelte 6, Gedeelte 8, Gedeelte 9 en Restant van Gedeelte 1 van die plaas Rietgat 91 UP.

GOEWERMENSKENNISGEWINGS

**ADMINISTRASIE:
VOLKSRAAD**

**DEPARTEMENT VAN PLAASLIKE BESTUUR,
BEHUISING EN WERKE**

No. 454

18 Maart 1988

WYSIGING VAN KENNISGEWING 1272 VAN 1981 MET BETREKKING TOT BEPERKINGS OP DIE ONDERVERDELING VAN GROND OF STANDPLASE OF DIE OPRIGTING, VERANDERING EN GEBRUIK VAN GEBOUE TER BEVORDERING VAN SLUMOPRUIMING EN 'N STADSHERNUWINGSKEMA TE POTCHEFSTROOM, PROVINSIE TRANSVAAL

Hiermee word vir algemene inligting bekendgemaak dat Kennisgewing 1272 van 1981 gedateer 19 Junie 1981 gewysig word deur die uitsluiting van die erf in die Bylae hiervan omskryf sodat die beperkings ingevolge die Kennisgewing ten opsigte van die erf verval met inwerkingtreding op datum van publikasie hiervan.

BYLAE

Die volgende erf in die dorp Potchefstroom:

Eiendom	Grootte	Kaart LG
Gedeelte 19 van Erf 2639	892 m ²	A1627/49

No. 43, 1988

PASSING OF CERTAIN LAND IN THE DISTRICT OF MARICO IN THE PROVINCE OF THE TRANSVAAL TO THE REPUBLIC OF BOPIHUTHATSWANA

Under the powers vested in me by section 1 of the Borders of Particular States Extension Act, 1980 (Act 2 of 1980), I hereby determine that the land defined in the accompanying Schedule, situated in the District of Marico in the Province of the Transvaal, shall, with effect from 31 March 1988, cease to be part of the Republic of South Africa and shall become part of the Republic of Bophuthatswana.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Second day of March, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

G. VAN N. VILJOEN,
Minister of the Cabinet.

SCHEDULE

PROVINCE OF THE TRANSVAAL

District of Marico

The farm Bergvliet 23 JO and Portion 5, Portion 6, Portion 8, Portion 9 and Remainder of Portion 1 of the farm Rietgat 91 JP.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

**ADMINISTRATION: HOUSE OF
ASSEMBLY**

**DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND WORKS**

No. 454

18 March 1988

AMENDMENT OF NOTICE 1272 OF 1981 WITH REGARD TO RESTRICTIONS ON THE SUBDIVISION OF LAND OR STANDS OR THE ERECTION, ALTERATION OR USE OF BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES IN FURTHERANCE OF A SLUM CLEARANCE AND URBAN RENEWAL SCHEME IN POTCHEFSTROOM, PROVINCE OF THE TRANSVAAL

It is hereby notified for general information that Notice 1272 of 1981 dated 19 June 1981 is amended by the exclusion of the erf described in the Schedule attached hereto in order that the restrictions in terms of the Notice in respect of this erf lapsed with effect as from the date of publication hereof.

SCHEDULE

The following erf in the township of Potchefstroom:

Property	Area	Diagram SG
Portion 19 of Erf 2639	892 m ²	A1627/49

KENNISGEWING 166 VAN 1988

DEPARTEMENT VAN WATERWESE

LESOTHO-HOOGLANDWATERPROJEK. — HEFFING VAN VORDERING OP WATER VERSKAF UIT STAATSWATERWERKE IN DIE VAALRIVIER VIR STEDELIKE EN NYWERHEIDSDOELEINDES

1. Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 138F (1) van die Waterwet, 1956, hef ek, Gert Jeremias Kotzé, in my hoedanigheid van Minister van Waterwese, met ingang van 1 April 1988 'n vordering van twee sent (R0,02) op elke kubieke meter water wat uit die Vaalrivier vanaf en insluitende die Grootdraaidam tot by die samevloeiing van die Vaalrivier en die Oranjerivier uit of deur middel van enige Staatswaterwerk aan enige persoon of liggaam vir uiteinde-like gebruik vir stedelike of nywerheidsdoeleindes verskaf of beskikbaar gestel word deur die Staat. Met dien verstande dat die vordering nie van toepassing is op enige sodanige water wat kragtens 'n toekenning van die Staat gratis uit of deur middel van sodanige Staatswaterwerk verskaf of beskikbaar gestel word nie.

2. Die vordering word deur die Direkteur-generaal van Waterwese verhaal gelyktydig met enige vordering wat ek kragtens artikel 66 van die genoemde Wet hef ten opsigte van die verskaffing of beskikbaarstelling van sodanige water.

3. Op enige vorderings wat na die betaaldatum nog nie betaal is nie, word rente op die onbetaalde bedrag gehef teen die rentekoers wat op daardie datum kragtens artikel 26 (1) van die Skatkis- en Ouditwet, 1975 (Wet 66 van 1975), van toepassing is.

4. By die toepassing van hierdie kennisgewing is een kubieke meter gelyk aan een kiloliter.

G. J. KOTZÉ,
Minister van Waterwese.

(18 Maart 1988)

KENNISGEWING 167 VAN 1988

ADMINISTRASIE: VOLKSRAAD

DEPARTEMENT VAN LANDBOU EN WATERVOORSIENING

KENNISGEWING VAN VERGADERING VAN SKULDEISERS KRAGTENS ARTIKEL 22 (1) VAN DIE WET OPLANDBOUKREDIET, 1966

Hierby word 'n vergadering van ondergenoemde applikant en sy skuldeisers op die plek en datum hieronder genoem, belê, met die doel om skuldeisers in staat te stel om hul vorderings teen die applikant te bewys en 'n skikkingsvoorstel van die Landboukredietraad te oorweeg.

J. H. RADEMEYER,
Direkteur: Direktoraat Finansiële Bystand, Departement van Landbou en Watervoorsiening.

NOTICE 166 OF 1988

DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS

LESOTHO HIGHLANDS WATER PROJECT.—LEVYING OF A CHARGE ON WATER SUPPLIED FROM GOVERNMENT WATER WORKS IN THE VAAL RIVER FOR URBAN AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES

1. By virtue of the powers vested in me by section 138F (1) of the Water Act, 1956, I, Gert Jeremias Kotzé, in my capacity as Minister of Water Affairs, hereby with effect from 1 April 1988, levy a charge of two cents (R0,02) on each cubic metre of water supplied or made available by the Government from or by means of any Government water work in the Vaal River from and including the Grootdraai Dam to the confluence of the Vaal and Orange Rivers to any person or body for eventual use for urban or industrial purposes: Provided that the charge will not apply to any such water supplied or made available free of charge by the Government from or by means of such Government water work.

2. The charge shall be recovered by the Director-General of Water Affairs simultaneously with any charge which I may levy in terms of section 66 of the said Act in respect of the supply or making available of such water.

3. Interest will be charged on any charges not paid by the due date at the interest rate applicable on that date in terms of section 26 (1) of the Exchequer and Audit Act, 1975 (Act 66 of 1975).

4. For the purposes of this notice, one cubic metre shall be equal to one kiloliter.

G. J. KOTZÉ,
Minister of Water Affairs.

(18 March 1988)

NOTICE 167 OF 1988

ADMINISTRATION: HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY

NOTICE OF MEETING OF CREDITORS IN TERMS OF SECTION 22 (1) OF THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT ACT, 1966

Meeting of the undermentioned applicant and his creditors is hereby convened at the place and date mentioned hereunder for the purpose of enabling creditors to prove their claims against the applicant and of considering a proposal for compromise by the Agricultural Credit Board.

J. H. RADEMEYER,
Director: Directorate Financial Assistance, Department of Agriculture and Water Supply.

Aansoek van/Application by	Plek van byeenkoms/Place of meeting	Datum en tyd/Date and time
Pieter Frederik Salverus Viljoen, Posbus/P.O. Box 1470, Klerksdorp, 2570	Kantoor van die Landdros/Magistrates Office, Klerksdorp	13 Mei/May 1988 om/at 9h00.

(18 Maart 1988)/(18 March 1988)

Floods will be worse, towns told

Star 19/3/88 (56)

Northern Cape residents along the lower Orange River are bracing themselves for floods expected to be worse than those that hit the towns last month.

The peak of the flooded Orange River is expected to reach these areas early next week.

The Department of Water Affairs said that at Upington, the level of the river was expected to rise to 10 m on Monday, half-a-metre higher than it was last month. Downstream at Kakamas, the level of the Orange River has risen to 11,5 m and police have set up an emergency centre in the town. The Department of Water Affairs said the peaks of the floodwater in the Orange and Vaal rivers would not converge.

The peak of the floodwater from the P K le Roux dam on the Orange River passed through Douglas on Thursday afternoon. However, the peak of the floodwater in the Vaal River has not yet reached the town.

Farmers in the northern Kalahari have been isolated again, with the swollen Kuruman river reaching a peak at Askham on Thursday night.

However, upstream at Van Zylsrus the level of the river has begun to drop. After heavy rains subsidences occurred in the tarred road between Kuruman and Danielskuil, about 25 km from Kuruman. The road has been closed to heavy traffic.

Although the level of the Vaal River has dropped, the bridge outside Delpoortshoop is still closed and there is no access from the town to Lime Acres, Postmasburg and Kuruman.

Police have warned the public that live powerlines are drifting in the Vaal River between Bloemhof and Christiana, posing a danger to motorboats.

All main railway lines in the Free State have been reopened, but speed restrictions are still in force at many places. Many of the damaged branch

lines have also been reopened.

The road to the Natal Parks Board's Loteni resort in the Drakensberg area, washed away by the recent rain, has been reopened. The Injasuti and Vergelegen resorts will be reopened only next week, once repair work has been done on bridges and roads.

At the Oliviershoek Pass, where mud and rock slides caused severe damage, repair work is still underway.

The levels of virtually all the dams on the Orange and Vaal Rivers have begun dropping, but indications are that at some places the flooding will be worse than last month.

The Department of Water Affairs said the Hendrik Verwoerd Dam was at just over 120 percent of capacity yesterday morning and the P K le Roux dam was at nearly 119 percent.

Washed away

The Vaal Dam is at just over 114 percent and the Bloemhof Dam at nearly 115 percent.

At Prieska in the Northern Cape, the water-flow of the Orange River was stable yesterday morning, but at Upington and Kakamas, it had started increasing.

The road between southern Botswana and Kasane at the border posts with Zimbabwe, Zambia and SWA/Namibia has been washed away.

Heavy vehicles travelling from Malawi to Johannesburg are stranded at Pandamatenga on the border between Zimbabwe and Botswana. Food shortages in northern Botswana are possible, should supplies from Francistown not reach their destination.

It was reported from Cape Town yesterday that Britstown, Carnarvon, De Aar, Fraserburg, Hopetown, Kenhardt, Kuruman, Springbok, Phillipstown, Postmasburg, Richmond, Victoria West and Vryburg had been declared disaster areas by the State President. — Sapa.

Handwritten: Howard

Primary Teachers 37 792 377 882 11 994
 Pupil Teachers 1 491 337 37 792 377 882 11 994

(iv) To bring the pupil/teacher ratio in line with the above-mentioned ratio, means that the Department has a shortage of 4 817 primary and 602 secondary teachers.

Pollution of the sea by oil

370. Mr D J N MALCOMMESS asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) How many cases of pollution of the sea by oil occurred in 1987;

(2) (a) what was the cost of combating such pollution in that year and (b) what amount was recovered from the owners of the vessels concerned?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

(1) 183 minor oil spills of less than 7 tons were reported.

(2) (a) R2 358 529 which include the total annual running costs of the kuswag vessels and aircraft.

(b) R31 480 is being recovered in respect of two specific incidents from the vessels' insurers, while R59 000 was collected in the form of fines resulting from prosecutions.

Veld types: present conservation status

425. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

What is the present conservation status of each specified veld type occurring in the Republic?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

Veld type	Protected (ha)
1 Coastal Forest and Thornveld	45 019
2 Alexandria Forest	237
3 Pondoland Coastal Plateau Sourveld	3 260
4 Knysna Forest	13 343
5 Ngongoni Veld	683
6 Zululand Thornveld	19 718
7 Eastern Province Thornveld	230

Handwritten: Amos

Veld type	Protected (ha)
50 Dry Cymbopogon-Themeda Veld	30 489
51 Pan-turf Veld	—
52 Themeda Veld (Turf Highveld)	—
53 Patchy Highveld to Cymbopogon-Themeda Veld Transition	—
54 Turf Highveld to Highland Sourveld Transition	379
55 Bankenveld to Turf Highveld Transition	—
56 Highland sourveld to Cymbopogon-Themeda Veld Transition	4 342
57 North-Eastern Sandy Highveld	6 270
58 Themeda-Festuca Alpine Veld	42 230
59 Stormberg Plateau Sweetveld	—
60 Karroid <i>Merruelleria</i> Mountain Veld	1 249
61 Bankenveld	36 652
62 Bankenveld to Sour Sandveld Transition	1 248
63 Piet Relief Sourveld	32 122
64 Northern Tall Grassveld	438
65 Southern Tall Grassveld	6 107
66 Natal Sour Sandveld	3 989
67 Pietersburg Plateau False Grassveld	201
68 Eastern Province Grassveld	—
69 Macchia (Fynbos)	1 098 393
70 False Macchia (Fynbos)	35 382

510. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

How many Black children were enrolled in 1987 and 1988, respectively, in Substandard A in (a) each specified region and (b) the Republic?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(a) REGION	ENROLMENT: 1987
Northern-Transvaal	57 842
Highveld	51 402
Johannesburg	30 066
Orange-Vaal	44 742
Orange Free State	45 822
Natal	39 010
Cape	61 263
TOTAL	330 147

Information as on 3 March 1987. The 1988-enrolment is not yet available.

OvaOwa	11 906
Lebowa	101 960
Gazankulu	46 169
KwaZulu	231 094
KaNcwana	30 008
KwaNdebele	22 055
TOTAL	443 192

Quota system: species of fish protected

527. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) (a) What species of fish are protected under the quota system and (b) (i) who are the present holders of (aa) kingklip and (bb) crayfish quotas and (ii) on what basis were these quotas allocated;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

- (1) (a) (1) Hake
- (2) Sole
- (3) West Coast Rock Lobster
- (4) South Coast Rock Lobster
- (5) Abalone
- (6) Anchovy
- (7) Pilchard

- (1) (b)(i)(aa) None.
- (1) (b)(i)(bb)
- (1) Bovenrek Belegings (Pty) Ltd
- (2) Bridger & Angelico Fish. (Pty) Ltd
- (3) Buccaneer Fish. Products (Pty) Ltd
- (5) Cape Point Fishing CC
- (6) Cape Reef Products (Pty) Ltd
- (7) Chapmans Peak Fisheries (Pty) Ltd
- (8) Coast Trading Co.
- (9) Dassen Lobster Co. (Pty) Ltd
- (10) De Seeda Seeprodukte
- (11) Dromedaris Visserye (Pty) Ltd

Business urged to help boost flood relief fund

Michael Chester

The cost of the devastation by the recent floods could run to more than R1 billion, according to a survey by the Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Assocom).

Yesterday it issued a special appeal to the business community to help boost the Flood Disaster Relief Fund to a target of R20 million.

A rough assessment of

preliminary information showed that — even at a conservative estimate — the cost of covering damage in the Free State, western Transvaal, northern Cape and Lady-smith was likely to be about R850 million.

If the worst scenario proves correct, the cost will soar above R1 billion — in line with estimates made by the Institute of Civil Engineers.

A precise estimate of

the cost of damage to private homes, businesses and agricultural land is still a problem because of a number of imponderables, but official figures are expected soon.

DISTRIBUTION

An Assocom statement said: "The impact of the floods on agricultural output ... and the distribution network appears to be considerable.

"Insured damage estimates are about R160 million, leaving approximately R690 million uninsured damage to be paid for by the public and private sectors.

"The Minister of Finance has already announced that an amount of nearly R300 million has been appropriated in the 1988/89 Budget for flood relief.

"Quite clearly, further amounts will have to be found at a later stage, depending on a more precise assessment of damage in the Free State and northern Cape.

"It is, however, unlikely that full compensation for losses can be met."

The business community has already shown a positive response to the Flood Relief Fund, which is now more than R11 million. But Assocom has appealed for more support.

Contributions should be sent to: The Disaster Relief Fund, Private Bag X63, Pretoria 0001.

56
24/3/88

Assocom puts flood bill at R1bn

DAMAGE caused by the recent floods could cost SA more than R1bn, Assocom said yesterday.

Conservatively estimated, flood damage in the Free State, western Transvaal, northern Cape and Ladysmith was about R850m.

Most of the damage was not insured — an estimated R690m — while insured damage was about R160m. However, As-

Blday 24/3/98
Assocom stressed that the figures were "guesstimates" — made on the best data available to the association. Government would probably have to increase the R300m set aside for flood relief, depending on a more precise assessment of the damage in the Free State and the northern Cape.

GRETA STEYN

(56)

Insurance market 'lacks innovation'

HELENA PATTEN

THE greater portion of insurance business being placed overseas by SA companies underlined the capacity problem and lack of innovation in the local market, outgoing South African Risk and Insurance Management Association (Sarima) chairman Rob Apps said yesterday.

Sarima represents corporate insurance consumers in SA. Apps said more business was being placed with Lloyds in London and other overseas insurers, because these markets offered better rates and more capacity than local insurers.

He said although some SA insurers recognised the need to give the corporate consumer a fairer deal, others had recently complained about the foreign competition and were encouraging the authorities to clamp down.

Assocom puts flood bill at R1bn

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Most of the damage was not insured — an estimated R690m — while insured damage was about R160m. However, As-

Bl/day
24/3/88

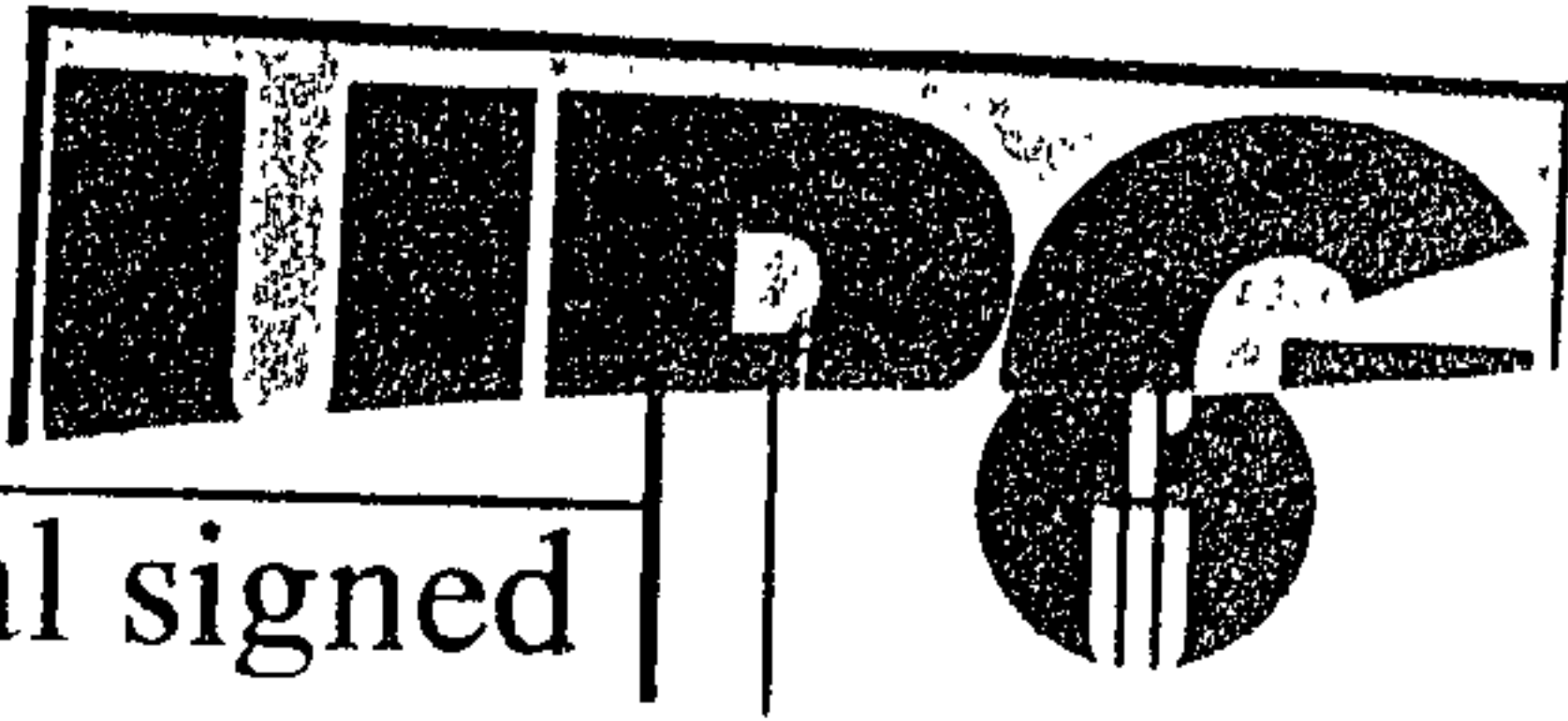
GRETA STEYN

56

Assocom stressed that the figures were "guesstimates" — made on the best data available to the association.

Government would probably have to increase the R300m set aside for flood relief, depending on a more precise assessment of the damage in the Free State and the northern Cape.

POLICE have confirmed a friend of the suspected bomber, Heinrich, has been detained in connection with the legislation of security legislation. Jurie Moolman, 22, school and university Grosskopf.



deal signed

TO ADVERTISE ON THIS

D/D. 25/3/88
Estimates
of flood
cost up ⁽⁵⁶⁾

PRETORIA — The extent of the devastation caused by drought and floods in the past eight months was only now becoming clear, the SA Agricultural Union economist, Mr Koos du Toit, said yesterday.

Estimates made by Asocom and the SA Institute of Civil Engineers that the ultimate cost of the disaster could reach R1 billion were probably close to the mark, but it would be some time before an accurate assessment could be made.

Mr Du Toit said questionnaires had gone out to hundreds of farmers in the Free State, the Northern Cape and other affected parts of the country asking them to quantify damage on their farms. — DDC

Steward

Steward

area, approximately 218 ha in extent, south of Lansdowne Road in the Vicinity of Nyanga/Crossroads as a development area; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is the nature of the development proposed and (b) when is it intended that such development be (i) commenced and (ii) completed;

- (2) whether (a) core houses, (b) other specified housing, (c) serviced sites and (d) unserviced sites for residential purposes are to be provided; if not, why not; if so, (i) how many in each case and (ii) what is the estimated total number of persons to be accommodated in this new area;
- (3) who or what categories of persons are to be (a) allowed and (b) given preference to live in this new area;
- (4) whether any persons or groups are being consulted in respect of the proposed development; if not, why not; if so, (a) what persons or groups, (b) when and (c) what have been their responses;
- (5) what total amount is it estimated will be spent by the State on this development;
- (6) whether the State owns the land concerned; if not, (a) who is the owner, (b) when was an agreement of sale between this owner and the State entered into and (c) how much is to be paid for the land; if so, (i) since when, (ii) how much was paid for the land (iii) from whom was it bought?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(a) 3 276 on 29 February 1988.

(b) March to August 1987 — not available.

September 1987	1 444
October 1987	824
November 1987	1 612
December 1987	890
January 1988	2 104
February 1988	3 205

Brought conditions: loss of foreign exchange

296. Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What is the estimated loss of foreign exchange suffered by the Republic in 1987 in respect of (a) additional imports and (b) loss of exports attributable to drought conditions in the Republic?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (a) R374 073 000
- (b) R669 885 000

Lawsuits brought against Minister of Justice by public

330. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether any lawsuits were brought against him in 1987 in his capacity as Minister of Justice by members of the public; if so, (a) how many and (b) what (i) were the circumstances of the lawsuit and (ii) was the outcome in each case;
- (2) whether he paid out any moneys (a) as a result of successful lawsuits brought against him and (b) in out-of-court settlements; if so, what total amount in that year?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1) Yes.

(a) 65.

(b) (i) Number	Cause of action
4	unlawful arrest
5	unlawful arrest and malicious prosecution
18	unlawful detention
3	unlawful detention and malicious prosecution

3	malicious prosecution	KwaNdebele
5	general damages	KwaZulu
3	crimen injuria	OwaOwa
1	insufficient medical treatment	Boksburg
3	injuries	KaNgwane
1	death	KwaNdebele
19	assault	OwaOwa

(ii) Claims settled out of court with by the plaintiff

12	6	47
----	---	----

(2) (a) No.

(b) Yes — R107 749,42.

The amount includes settlements reached pursuant to letters of intention to institute action and actions instituted during 1985 and 1986 and settled during 1987.

Blacks moved from urban areas in RSA to Black states

441. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(a) How many Blacks were moved from urban areas in the Republic to Black states in 1987 and (b)(i) from which urban areas, (ii) to which Black states, and (iii) why were they moved, in each case?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

ORANGE FREE STATE

(a) None.

(b) (i), (ii) and (iii) Fall away.

CAPE PROVINCE

(a) None.

(b) (i), (ii) and (iii) Fall away.

TRANSVAAL

(a) 269 persons (60 families).

(b) (i) Benoni

(ii) KwaNdebele	(iii) Of own request
KaNgwane	do
Ciskei	do
Bophuthatswana	do
KaNgwane	do

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

TRANSVAAL

(1) (a) 24 881

(b) (i) (aa) 20 409

(b) (i) (bb) 2 775

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PRETORIA, 25 MAART 1988
MARCH

No. 11196

PROKLAMASIES

van die

Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

No. 45, 1988

VERKLARING VAN DIE OORSTROMINGS IN DIE
LANDDROSDISTRIK HARTSWATER IN NOORD-
KAAPLAND, TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdrosdistrik Hartswater onlangs getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Nege-en-twintigste dag van Februarie Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

No. 46, 1988

VERKLARING VAN DIE OORSTROMINGS IN DIE
LANDDROSDISTRIKTE HAY EN HERBERT IN
NOORD-KAAPLAND, TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdrosdistrikte Hay en Herbert onlangs getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Vierde dag van Maart Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

747—1

PROCLAMATIONS

by the

State President of the Republic of South Africa

No. 45, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN THE MAGISTERIAL
DISTRICT OF HARTSWATER IN THE
NORTHERN CAPE TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which recently hit the Magisterial District of Hartswater to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Twenty-ninth day of February, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet.

No. 46, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN THE MAGISTERIAL
DISTRICTS OF HAY AND HERBERT IN THE
NORTHERN CAPE TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which recently hit the Magisterial Districts of Hay and Herbert to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Fourth day of March, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet.

11196—1

Howland

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) 21 September 1987.
- (2) No.
- (3) Yes, in accordance with applicable legislation.
- (4) No. (a) and (b) fall away.

Pensionable service: new conditions on buying back

656. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the imposition of new conditions on the buying back of pensionable service in the latter half of 1987, he is required to consult with any staff associations prior to altering the conditions of service of their members; if not, why not; if so, in terms of what statutory provisions;
- (2) whether he has received any indication as to whether any staff associations intend to take legal action against him or his Department in connection with the alteration of buy-back conditions; if so, which staff associations are involved;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) No. Only those office-holders specified in:
 - (i) section 17(3) of the Government Service Pension Act, 1973 (Act 57 of 1973),
 - (ii) section 8(6) of the Temporary Employees Pension Fund Act, 1979, (Act 75 of 1979), and
 - (iii) section 2 of the Associated Institutions Pension Fund Act, 1963 (Act 41 of 1963),
 are required to be consulted prior to alteration of the relevant pension fund provisions.
- (2) Yes, in a personal letter addressed to me. I have no authority to divulge the contents thereof.
- (3) No.

Howland

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

666. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (1) How many applications for the buying back of pensionable service were received by his Department from members of the Natal Education Department after 21 September 1987;
- (2) whether any of these applications had been lodged with the Natal Education Department prior to the above date but were not forwarded to his Department in time; if so, (a) how many applications and (b) what action was taken by his Department in respect of them;
- (3) whether he has received any representations concerning the applications not so forwarded; if so, (a) from whom, (b) when and (c) what was the (i) purport of these representations and (ii) response thereto;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) Not recorded.
- (2) (a) Not recorded.
(b) falls away.
- (3) Yes, not recorded.
(a) Falls away.
(b) Falls away.
(c) (i) Falls away.
(ii) Falls away.
- (4) No.

KwaZulu Natal Indaba Fund-raising Organization: activities

682. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 532 on 7 October 1987, the KwaZulu Natal Indaba Fund-raising Organization furnished his Department with a description of its activities in applying for a temporary fund-raising number to be issued to it; if not, why not; if so, what were these activities?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

Yes; in applying for a temporary authority to collect contributions, the KwaZulu Natal Indaba Fund-raising Organization furnished the Department with an application form and a constitution as required by the Fund-raising Act. According to the constitution, the objects (activities) of the organization are to handle and supervise fund-raising for the KwaZulu Natal Indaba.

East Rand-hospitals: abortions

683. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (1) With reference to his reply to Question No 537 on 7 October 1987, on what date did the Transvaal Director of Hospital Services become aware of a possible excessive number of abortions at certain East Rand hospitals;
- (2) whether the investigation into this matter has been completed; if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that the investigation will be completed; if so, when;
- (3) whether any action has been taken in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (a) what action and (b) when?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) June 1987.
- (2) Yes;
(a) falls away.
(b) November 1987.
- (3) No, all legal requirements have been adhered to.
(a) and (b) fall away.

SABC: control over programmes

735. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

- Whether the Publications Control Board has any authority in respect of programmes televised by the SABC; if not, why not; if so, to what extent?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

The hon member's attention is drawn to the fact that no such body as a "Publications Control Board" exists in terms of the Publications Act, 1974 (Act 42 of 1974).

However, if with his question the hon member has meant whether programmes televised by the SABC are subject to the control provided for in the aforementioned act, the answer is in the affirmative. All feature films televised have been examined by committees of publications and approved for screening. The normal conditions applicable to screening in theatres plus any other that the Directorate of Publications may deem necessary for televising, must be strictly observed. Because of logistical and other reasons, however, most of the other programmes of the corporation are handled on an exemption basis.

Flood relief: applications

746. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (1) (a) How many applications for flood relief have been received from (i) individuals and (ii) companies by the committee responsible for administering the Natal Flood Relief Fund, (b) how many claims have been settled and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished;
- (2) whether the application forms originally used in submitting claims have been altered; if so, (a) why and (b) when;
- (3) whether any claims submitted on the original application forms have been returned to applicants for re-completion on the altered application forms; if so, (a) how many and (b) why;
- (4) what amount had been contributed to the Natal Flood Relief Fund by the (a) public and (b) State as at the latest specified date for which figures are available;
- (5) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) (a) A total of approximately 82 000. Not possible to furnish particulars of individuals and companies separately.
(i) Falls away.

(ii) Falls away.

(b) 59 486

(c) 10 March 1988.

(2) Yes:—

(a) A simplified and more concise application form for informal housing was introduced.

(b) Middle of October 1987.

(3) Yes, by the KwaZulu Committee in respect of KwaZulu.

(a) Figure not available.

(b) The main reason being that the form did not make provision for a certificate by the magistrate of the district in which the property is situated.

(4) (a) There is no such fund as the "Natal Flood Relief Fund". After the floods in Natal and KwaZulu were declared a disaster and prior to the floods in the OFS and Northern Cape an amount of approximately R7,5 million was contributed by the public to the Disaster Relief Fund.

(b) R15 000 000 up to 10 March 1988.

(5) No.

Amygdalien banned in RSA

756. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) Whether a certain remedy, the names of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, has been banned in South Africa; if so, (a) why, (b) when (c) to what extent and (d) what are the names of this remedy;

(2) whether his Department has information on whether this remedy has been banned in any other countries; if so, in which other countries has it been banned?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) No.

(a) Falls away.

(b) Falls away

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(c) Falls away.
(d) Amygdalien, also known as Vitamin B17 and Laetrile.

(2) No.

Foreign Blacks: unemployment benefits in RSA

789. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Manpower:

(1) Whether it is permissible for foreign Blacks to draw unemployment benefits in the Republic of South Africa; if so, (a) in terms of what statutory provisions and (b) under what conditions;

(2) whether his Department takes precautions to ensure that persons drawing unemployment benefits are not receiving remuneration for employment at the same time; if so, what precautions?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(1) Foreign Blacks (excluding workers from the TBVC countries) basically do not qualify for unemployment benefits in the RSA. Contract workers and commuters from the TBVC countries have to apply for unemployment benefits in their own countries because their contributions are, according to agreement, paid over to the unemployment insurance funds of the countries concerned.

(a) Falls away.

(b) Falls away.

(2) Yes. Claims officers must inter alia satisfy themselves that applicants are unemployed, available for work and are not able to find suitable employment, prior to the paying-out of benefits.

Printing contracts awarded to two companies

832. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) Whether his Department awarded any printing contracts in 1987 to two companies, the names of which have been furnished to the Commission for Administration for the purpose of the Minister's reply, or to their associated companies and printing operations; if so, (a) in respect of what publications or printed mat-

ter, (b) how many copies of each publication or item were ordered from each company and (c) what are the names of the companies concerned;

(2) whether these contracts were put out to tender; if not, (a) why not and (b) what was the total amount paid by his Department in respect of each of these contracts; if so, what was the (i) tender price originally accepted, and (ii) total amount paid out, in respect of each contract;

(3) whether his Department subsidizes any publications published by the above companies; if so, (a) which publications and (b)(i) why, and (ii) what is the amount of the subsidy, in each case;

(4) what total amount was spent by his Department in 1987 on printing and publishing involving (a) the above companies and (b) any other specified companies?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) No; (a), (b) and (c) fall away.

(2) (a), (b), (i) and (ii): fall away.

(3) No.

(a), (b), (i) and (ii) Fall away.

(4) (a) and (b) The following amounts were debited to the Department by the Government Printer in 1987 for printing done by:—

	(a) Press Co-operation of South Africa	(b) National Press Lid	(c) Promedia, Pretoria	(d) Silverray, KwaZulu	(e) Embossed Labels, Johannesburg	(f) Pretoria Printers, Pretoria	(g) Veriprint, Johannesburg
	R524 316,30	None	R213 941,69	R14 685,44	R2 914,28	R778,40	R428,60

Former development boards: members employed

867. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Manpower:

Whether any members of the former devel-

opment boards are in the employ of his Department; if so, (a) how many, (b) what positions do they hold, (c) what period of time elapsed between the dissolution of the development boards and their present appointments and (d) what was the cost to his Department of employing these individuals?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

Yes

(a) 886.

(b) Director

Deputy Director

Assistant-Director

Senior Manpower Administration Officer

Manpower Administration Officer

Assistant Manpower Administration Officer

Chief Manpower Administration Clerk

Senior Manpower Administration Clerk

Manpower Administration Clerk

Assistant Manpower Administration Clerk

Personal Secretary

Chief Inspector

Senior Inspector

Inspector

Senior Training Officer

Senior Artisan

Artisan

General Assistant I

General Assistant II

General Assistant III

Typist

Constable

Sergeant

Senior Artisan Foreman

Driver

Chief Personnel Clerk

Handyman

Vocational Counsellor

(c) None.

(d) Exact figures are not available, as the cost of employing the personnel of former development boards is integrated in the total personnel expenditure of the Department. It was estimated that this take-over would cost the Department approximately R14,6 million per annum.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Senior State Prosecutor for a decision.

- (a) and (b) Fall away.
 (3) No. The Senior State Prosecutor declined to institute prosecution.
 (a) and (b) Fall away.

South African Government: discussions with Angola

*15. Mr R A F SWART asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

- (1) Whether the South African Government has held or is to hold any discussions with the Government of Angola: if not, why not; if so, (a) when, (b) where, (c) who was or is to be involved in the discussions and (d) what was or is to be the purport of the discussions;

- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

+The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

- (1) The hon member will appreciate that in matters of this nature, particularly as regards the possibility of discussions with Angola, I am simply not in a position to give definitive replies to the categorical questions put by the hon member.

- (2) No, not at this stage

Members of AWB who are members of Police Force/reserve police force

*16. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether it is the policy of the South African Police (a) not to engage persons as, and (b) to require the resignation of, (i) members of the Police Force and (ii) members of the reserve police force who are current members of (aa) a certain organization, the name of which has been furnished to the Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, and (bb) any other organizations; if so,

- (2) (a) in terms of what statutory provisions or regulations, (b) why and (c) what are the names of the organizations concerned?

-The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) and (2)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

proud because it best serves the interests of a multi-racial South Africa with its diverse social, cultural and religious customs.

To strictly abide by this policy is in itself a very difficult task. Therefore the South African Police cannot allow members of the Force to also be members of unregistered political parties or movements, organizations, bodies or associations which pursue radical and extremist political goals and demand undivided loyalty from their members.

Even if such an organization should register or start functioning as a political party, and the activities and goals of such party are so radical and extremist that membership thereof is incompatible with membership of the South African Police, the necessary steps will be taken to prevent this clash of loyalties.

The Afrikaner-Weerstandsbeweging is an organization which from its statements of policy at my disposal, clearly indicates that it pursues radical and extremist political goals and demands undivided loyalty from its members.

These radical and extremist political goals cannot be reconciled with the policy of impartiality of the South African Police. A person who is loyal to the Afrikaner-Weerstandsbeweging or any other radical organization cannot serve the interests of South Africa's multi-racial society impartially.

Alleged abduction/assault of person on 9 February 1988: persons charged

*17. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether any persons have been charged in connection with the alleged abduction and assault on or about 9 February 1988 of a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply; if so (a) on what date, (b) in terms of what statutory provisions, (c) with what alleged offences, (d) at what police station were they so charged, (e) (i) what are the names of the persons charged and (ii) by whom are they employed, (f) what were the circumstances surrounding this incident and (g) what is the name of the person who was allegedly abducted and assaulted;
- (2) whether the persons charged are being held in custody; if not, why not;

- (3) whether the Police have submitted a docket on the case to the Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand; if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that this will be done; if so, (i) when and (ii) with what result;

- (4) whether any other steps have been taken in respect of these persons; if so, what steps?

+The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) No
 (a) to (g) Fall away.
 (2) Falls away.
 (3) No, but to the Attorney-General of the Transvaal in Pretoria.
 (a) and (b) Fall away.

(i) 11 March 1988.

(ii) On 22 March 1988 the Attorney-General declined to prosecute.

- (4) Not by the South African Police.

National Flood Disaster Relief Fund

*18. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (1) Whether he or his Department has issued an instruction or advice to the effect that the National Flood Disaster Relief Fund was to be the only fund-raising body for flood disaster relief in the Orange Free State and Northern Cape area; if so, (a) when, (b) in what form and (c) why;

- (2) whether bodies other than the official fund collected moneys for flood disaster relief in Natal; if so, (a) which bodies and (b) with effect from what dates;

- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) Yes.
 (a) 7 March 1988.
 (b) A press statement by the Chairman of the Board of the Disaster Relief Fund.
 (c) Because the possible contravention of the provisions of the Fund-raising

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Howland

Howland

Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978) by a certain organization was brought to the attention of the Board and to enlighten the public on the relevant provisions of the Act.

- (a) Fifty-three persons/bodies/organizations were authorised in terms of section 21(2)(b) of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 to collect funds on behalf of the Board of the Disaster Relief Fund. The list is as follows:

The Mayor, Bothaville
 Our Times, Jeffreys Bay
 Marknor, Johannesburg
 The Mayor, Warmbaths
 Pietermaritzburg and District Community Chest
 Building Societies — Official Association of SA.
 Department of Education and Culture: House of Assembly
 Byrds Aye Gifts, Isando
 Municipality, Ladysmith
 The Mayor, Randfontein
 Kotsigen, Bloemfontein
 Scott Retail, Durban
 Municipality, Carletonville
 Municipality, Makwassie
 Medical Superintendent, Groote Schuur Hospital
 Sinodale Kommissie vir die Diens van Barmhartigheid, Bloemfontein
 Kleurladyskeoerant, Pretoria
 The Mayor, Schweizer-Renke
 The Mayor, Randburg
 Wimpey, Umhlanga Rocks
 The Mayor, Westonaria
 Malabar Natal Disaster Fund
 Eastern Cape Islamic Congress, North End
 The Mayor, Senekal
 The Mayor, Port Elizabeth
 Brackenham Social Club, Empangeni
 The Mayor, Pretoria
 Mannuets Restaurant, Binnam
 Saiva Sithanpha Sungum, Lenasia
 Town Clerk, Umzinto North
 Girl Guides, Rustenburg
 Actonville Welfare Aid, Dunswart
 Department of Posts and Telecommunications, Pretoria

The Mayor, Uitenhage
 The Mayor, Tweeling
 Geology Department, Orange Free State University
 Stigting Jan van Riebeeck, Cape Town
 The Mayor, Wepener
 SABC, Johannesburg
 Jean Curten, Johannesburg
 Sparletta Bottling Co, Alberton
 The Mayor, Pietermaritzburg
 Lauram Enterprises, Johannesburg
 First National Bank, Gold Reef City
 D Wright, Marine Parade, Durban
 M Kessler, Sound Investments, Springs
 Lunt Brothers, Richards Bay
 Secretary to the Chief Minister, Kwandebele
 Miss E M du Toit, Elimigie Mannequin School, Pretoria
 Municipality, Christiana
 Dutch Reform Church, Magaliskruin, Pretoria
 Hlobane Coal Mine, Hlobane

- (b) On various dates during October 1987.

(3) No.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, arising from the hon the Minister's lengthy reply, may I ask him whether he does not believe that by confining the fund-raising activities for the flooded areas of the Orange Free State and Northern Cape to one organization there is likely to be less money collected?

The MINISTER: First of all, Mr Speaker, I may tell the hon member that my reply was lengthy in order to give him adequate information. Secondly, yes, I do believe so, and it is because of the Fund-raising Act, No 107 of 1978.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, further arising from the reply of the hon the Minister, may I ask him whether he can indicate to us whether any of the fund-raising bodies that he mentioned contravened the Fund-raising Act in any way?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the answer is no.

Social pensions for Blacks: administration

*19. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether his Department is responsible,

through the provincial administrations, for the administration of social pensions for Blacks in certain areas; if so, (a) in which areas and (b) what total number of Black persons are currently receiving pensions;

- (2) whether there is a backlog in the handling of applications for social pensions in any areas; if so, (a) in which areas, (b) what are the reasons for this backlog and (c) what total number of applications are currently awaiting processing;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING.

- (1) The Department of Development Planning is only responsible for determining overall policy. The administration of social pensions vests in the different Provincial Administrations and the following information was furnished by them:

	(a)	(b)	(c)
Transvaal (independent national states and self-governing areas excluded)	213 070		
Natal (excluding KwaZulu areas)	57 130		
Orange Free State and Botshabelo (Sasolburg excluded)	79 032		
Cape Province (independent national states and self-governing areas excluded)	109 948		
(2) Yes			
(a)			
Transvaal (independent national states and self-governing areas excluded)	20 000		
Natal (excluding KwaZulu areas)	2 500 of which		
	2 000 are partly processed		
Orange Free State and Botshabelo (Sasolburg excluded)	1 250		
Cape Province (independent national states and self-governing areas excluded)	3 526		

- (b) The social pension computer system was previously conducted on a centralised basis. Since the function was transferred to the Provincial Admin-

istrations the computer system is being conducted on a decentralised basis from the provinces to a centralised data base linked to a central computer bureau. Problems are being experienced with data communication lines to the central data base which give rise to the backlog in the processing of applications.

(3) No.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Speaker, arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, can he give an indication of how long he expects it will be before the backlog of applications is eliminated?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, it is very difficult to furnish an exact period or a date. I can assure the hon member that the provincial administrations are doing everything in their power to eliminate the backlog.

Applications from suitably qualified teachers refused

*20. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

Whether any applications from suitably qualified (a) primary and (b) secondary school teachers for posts at schools under his control were refused by his Department in 1988; if so, (i) why, (ii) how many in each case and (iii) in which regions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING (for the Minister of Education and Development Aid):

(a) Yes.

- (i) Due to preference being given to bursary holders and a lack of suitable vacancies.
- (ii) 465
- (iii) Natal, Northern Transvaal, Highveld and Johannesburg.

(b) Yes.

- (i) Due to preference being given to bursary holders and a lack of suitable vacancies.
- (ii) 440
- (iii) Natal, Northern Transvaal, Orange-Vaal, Highveld and Johannesburg.

Note: Suitably qualified as mentioned above

Aid for farmers hurt by drought welcomed

Star 30/3/88
⑤

Additional assistance for drought-hit summer crop farmers announced on Monday was welcomed by the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) as "a step that would enable farmers who face sequestration, to stay on their lands and curb the depopulation of the platteland".

Speaking in the House of Assembly during the own affairs agriculture vote debate Agricultural Minister Greyling Wentzel announced that the one-off subsidy payment to farmers in those summer crop areas that he termed "emergency drought areas" would be a maximum of R100 per hectare for up to 400 hectares under dryland crops.

INTEREST SUBSIDY

Mr Wentzel said an interest subsidy, equivalent to 10 percentage points of the Land Bank's interest rate on cash credit loans to agricultural co-operatives in respect of farmers' carry-over

debts for the 1988/89 season, would be paid.

A subsidy of 5,5 percentage points would be effective on the same basis in respect of overdue production loans with the agricultural Credit Board.

The Minister also announced that production loans from the agricultural Credit Board to qualifying farmers would increase from R75 000 to R100 000.

NEW MEASURES

SAAU president, Mr Kobus Jooste, said the new measures would improve the position of farmers in emergency areas and maintain the infrastructure of the platteland.

"The scheme is an effort to improve the cash flow of summer crop farmers and to finance their next yield. It would also maintain the communities on the platteland who are dependent on agriculture," Mr Jooste said.

Most money to E Cape water schemes
DIP 30/3/88 (56)

Boost for Amatola

from CHRIS FREIMOND

CAPE TOWN — Another R21,85 million has been allocated this year towards the development of the Amatola Regional Water Supply scheme.

The amount is just over 10 per cent of the R216,8 million allocated to the development of government water schemes throughout the country this year and is the third highest single allocation after the R31,7 m for the Slang River scheme and the R22,3 m for the Umgeni River scheme, both of which are in Natal.

The total estimated completion cost of the Amatola scheme is now R225,5 m of which R31,337 m was due to have been spent by the end of this month, excluding the latest R21,85 m allocation which was provided for in this year's main budget.

The original estimated cost of the scheme in 1981 was R71 m. Government water schemes in the Eastern Cape region have been allocated R67,53 m in the coming year.

This is more than any of the other seven development regions in the country.

The next highest is R54 m for Natal.

Apart from the Amatola scheme, projects in the eastern Cape, which will cost an estimated R1,09 billion to complete, include the Mossel Bay regional water supply scheme and a number of projects within the Orange River development project.

In his annual report tabled in parliament this week, the Director-General of Water Affairs, Mr D. G. Claassens, said a "highlight" of the year was the award of the canal contract of the Amatola scheme.

It was a highlight "in the sense that it was the first time that the entire specification and contract documents for work of this nature were drawn up and the construction undertaken by the private sector for the department".

Mr Claassens explained that government water schemes were waterworks such as dams, canals, pipelines, tunnels, pumping stations, purification works and other related works constructed separately or in a combination at government expense, in the general public interest for the bulk supply of water.

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — There was no available surface water in the Queens-town area for irrigation purposes, the manager of the East Cape Agricultural Union (ECAU), Mr Rory O'Moore, said yesterday.

He was reacting to a statement by the superintendent-general of the Department of Agriculture and Water Supply, Dr A. J. Heyns, in his annual report tabled in parliament on Monday, that underground water in Queenstown and Sterkstroom was being over-exploited.

Mr O'Moore said the ECAU was concerned about the water supply situation in other parts of the Eastern Cape.

"There are no dams or any other open body of water that can be used for irrigation purposes or for livestock, with the

D/D 30/3/88 *(56)*
No surface water available in Q'town says manager

result that farmers have to use borehole water."

The chairman of the ECAU water affairs committee and of the Regional Advisory Development Committee for Region D, Mr Johan Erasmus, who is also a member of the South African Agricultural Union water affairs committee, said there was extreme concern about the underground water levels in the Eastern Cape, "especially where people draw water for domestic purposes in areas like Graaff-Reinet".

"The underground water table in this area has dropped from 45 metres to 90 metres be-

low the ground surface.

"For the extensive stock farmer it is vitally important for the underground water levels to remain high.

"We have identified the Eastern Cape region as a poor water area — we have to rely mainly on imported water from the Orange River Project (ORP), which extends to Port Elizabeth, for water supplies.

"In the Queenstown area there is a major water problem for irrigation purposes, which is why underground water is being over-utilised

"There are two schemes in the Klaassmit River and the

Black Kei River areas that are receiving our immediate attention.

"Once these schemes are operational, it will make water available on the surface, thereby stopping the use of underground water

"The Klaassmit River Scheme (KRS) is acceptable for the Queenstown area and discussions to this effect with the Queenstown municipality have proved positive, as water from the KRS can be gravity-fed to the Queenstown area without the additional cost of pumping machinery.

"The Sterkstroom area is too high for gravitational feed and thus water may have to be

pumped up to the region.

"Unfortunately the imported water from the ORP is limited and thus we have addressed a new water importation scheme from Transkei, using the Umzimvubu river with a potential of 3 000 million cubic metres of water a year.

"One of the proposed water importation routes from the Umzimvubu river will go via Queenstown"

"With normal rainfall the underground water level will rise, but with over-utilisation, the underground water level will be seriously affected.

"The department of water affairs is conducting a survey throughout South Africa to establish exactly what level the underground water supply is in the country," Mr Erasmus said.

D/D 30/3/88
Staff at Home give ultimatum to trustees

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The staff of Khayalethamba Children's Home in Mdantsane yesterday gave the home's trustees, Mfesane, a three-day deadline to meet the outgoing board of directors.

In a statement, the staff accused the managing director of Mfesane, the Reverend A. Cloete, of failing to arrange a promised meeting between Mfesane, the outgoing management board and the Ciskei Minister of Social Welfare and Pensions.

According to the statement, Mr Cloete had promised, two weeks ago, to arrange the meeting within ten days.

"The ten days was over last Friday and Mr Cloete has failed to keep his promise.

Instead he wanted to 'pop in' for a brief visit on the ninth day to talk about a constructive future for the children's home and nothing else.

"Our decision now is to give Mr Cloete three days from today to arrange the meeting with the management board members who resigned two weeks ago."

The outgoing management board members are: the Reverend D. H. Odendaal, the Reverend R. Pitt, the Reverend L. Fourie, Mrs Matiyase, Mr Hani, Mr Nduna and Mrs G. H. Lorentz.

The Mfesane members are: the Reverend G. E. G. Louw; the Rev A. Cloete; Mr T. Bezuidenhoud; Mr L. Tshume; the Ciskei Minister of Social Welfare and Pensions, Mr N. Tapa; the director-general,

Mr Mle; and all the staff members at Khayalethamba Children's Home.

"The meeting can take place at any time during the next three days. If it does not take place with all these people we will take further action.

"However if anyone is missing from any of the parties involved in the discussions we are not prepared to talk.

"We want to have a reconciliation with all parties concerned and hope that we can all sit down and talk as Christians."

Mr Cloete said yesterday that he had not received any communication from the staff at Khayalethamba and, therefore, declined to comment.

What's on over Easter

56

SA looks at R1-bn bill in floods' wake

By David Braun
Political
Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The recent floods in the Free State and northern Cape would cost South Africa about R555 million, National Health Minister Dr Willie van Niekerk announced yesterday.

Together with the R400 million last year's Natal floods had cost, this meant an unexpected expenditure of almost R1 billion for the disasters, he told a press conference in Cape Town.

Dr van Niekerk, chairman of the Cabinet committee in charge of flood relief, said R452-million



Dr Willie van Niekerk: counting the cost

of the total bill would have to be met in the current financial year.

Of this amount, R55 million could be met by the various departments from within their

normal budgets. The rest would have to come from the Treasury.

The total damage to roads and bridges was R182 million, he said.

Dr van Niekerk also announced that the Government had given the green light to a special job creation project in the flood regions. Labourers would earn R4 a day helping local authorities clear up the damage.

The Minister said the public had given generously to the national disaster fund, contributing R7,5 million between September last year and February 22 this year, and a further R13,5 million since February 22.

This amount was not enough — the fund had already paid out R23 million in Natal — and the Government would have to make good the eventual shortfall, he said.

Other points made at the press conference included:

- Damage to the N1 road between Cape Town and Johannesburg will cost close on R3 million to repair.

Other road damage is estimated at R16 million in the Free State, R15 million in the Cape and R1,5 million in the Transvaal.

- The floods cost the agricultural sector R357 million — R242 million in damage to agricultural infrastructure and R115 million in personal losses to farmers.

- The Government is to compensate farmers for the loss of livestock on the basis of a formula which will enable farmers to acquire "core herds" from which they can again build up their operations.

- The damage to water works is estimated at R43 million.

- Positive aspects of the floods include the filling of the dams, and good prospects for the recovery of vast tracts of veld which were receding rapidly because of years of drought.

Flood damage repairs to cost R1bn — minister

DID
31/3/88

56

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The floods in the past six months had caused destruction that would cost almost R1 billion to repair, the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said yesterday.

While the government accepted certain responsibilities, not all damage costs could be met by the government or the Disaster Relief Fund.

However, Dr Van Niekerk had high praise for the public which had donated R21 million to the fund in the past few months.

He said the most recent floods in the northern Cape and Free State had caused an estimated R554,7 million damage, while the Natal flood debt was about R400 million.

The agricultural sector had suffered most in the recent floods — R357 million — R242 million of which was to agricultural infrastructure which the government would meet.

However R115 million in claims would have to be submitted to the Relief Fund for determination of ex gratia payments, which ultimately would have to be met by the government.

Government had had to move quickly to establish the extent of the damage.

Having done this it would have to inform the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, to see how reparation work could be financed.

The deputy Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Japie van Wyk, said the first flood to hit the Free State and northern Cape was half a metre lower than the peak of the 1974 floods, and that the second a week later was 0,8 lower than the first.

While tremendous damage had been done there could also be advantages later, such as the recovery of veld, and increased subterranean water resources.

The Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works, in the House

of Assembly, Mr Ami Venter, said 735 houses had been destroyed, 160 of them being state-owned.

Of the others, 349 had been comprehensively insured. Damage was estimated at R4,8 million.

The deputy Minister of Transport, Mr Myburgh Streicher, said Sats had suffered heavy damages, R12,4 million in the Free State and R7,1m in the northern Cape.

The damage estimates did not include loss of earnings which ran into millions of rands.

However, just about all lines were operating normally again.

Dr Van Niekerk also said that the floods had driven people to the larger towns where they were out of work and the government had decided to employ them in clearing up operations at R4 a day.

"It is important to give them something to do and give them cash in the hand," he said.

REPUBLIEK
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PROKLAMASIES

van die

Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

No. 63, 1988

VERKLARING VAN OORSTROMINGS IN SEKERE LANDDROSDISTRIKTE IN DIE ORANJE-VRYSTAAT TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdrosdistrikte in die Bylae genoem onlangs getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Sestiende dag van Maart Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

BYLAE

Bethlehem, Bothaville, Bultfontein, Clocolan, Excelsior, Ficksburg, Fouriesburg, Frankfort, Harrismith, Heilbron, Hennenman, Hoopstad, Koppies, Kroonstad, Lindley, Marquard, Odendaalsrus, Parys, Reitz, Sasolburg, Senekal, Theunissen, Ventersburg, Viljoenskroon, Virginia, Vrede, Vredefort, Welkom, Wesselsbron en Winburg.

No. 64, 1988

VERKLARING VAN OORSTROMINGS IN DIE LAND- DROSDISTRIK WITZIESHOEK IN QWAQWA TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid, my verleen by artikel 26 van die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978), verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdrosdistrik Witzieshoek onlangs getref het vir die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

PROCLAMATIONS

by the

State President of the Republic of South Africa

No. 63, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN CERTAIN MAGISTERIAL DISTRICTS IN THE ORANGE-FREE STATE TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which recently hit the magisterial districts mentioned in the Schedule to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Sixteenth day of March, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet.

SCHEDULE

Bethlehem, Bothaville, Bultfontein, Clocolan, Excelsior, Ficksburg, Fouriesburg, Frankfort, Harrismith, Heilbron, Hennenman, Hoopstad, Koppies, Kroonstad, Lindley, Marquard, Odendaalsrus, Parys, Reitz, Sasolburg, Senekal, Theunissen, Ventersburg, Viljoenskroon, Virginia, Vrede, Vredefort, Welkom, Wesselsbron and Winburg

No. 64, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN THE MAGIS- TERIAL DISTRICT OF WITZIESHOEK IN QWAQWA TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the floods which recently hit the Magisterial District of Witzieshoek to be a disaster for the purposes of the said Act.

DID 1/4/88
by JILL JOUBERT

GRAHAMSTOWN — Trying for norms such as reticulated water, waterborne sewerage and waste disposal in the South African context would cost a tremendous amount of money, said a Grahamstown city councillor and representative on the Algoa Regional Services Council (ARSC), Dr Brian la Trobe.

"If every home in the Rini townships had waterborne sewerage it would cost R10 million for sewerage works to cope with the effluent," Dr La Trobe said.

"Water from the R80 m Lower Fish River scheme would cost another R22 m to bring to the city.

"For this we should pay R3 a kilolitre. It will have to be subsidised and this money could come out of your pockets and mine," he said.

High cost of piped water, sewerage, for Rini underlined

"At the moment black residents are using about five litres of water a day. (56)

"Yet during recent water shortages whites have had difficulty trying to keep their consumption down to 12 kilolitres of water a month.

"The Eastern Cape has an endemic problem with droughts. The rivers flow periodically and the quality of underground water is dubious and springs dry up," Dr La Trobe said.

Grahamstown now had 70 boreholes but not one borehole had potable water.

"So our water must be brought from outside. Hence the efforts to bring Orange River water down the Fish," he said.

This also presented problems because somewhere between Cradock and the Lower Fish water was picking up increasing amounts of salts.

Bedford, with a population of 11 000, relied on three springs for its water supply. To up-

grade these would cost R1,7 m.

Adelaide was looking to a water scheme from the Koonap River. Fort Beaufort was looking for an increased water supply from the Kat River while the Albany Coast Water Board was supplying dune water to Bushman's River and Kenton-on-Sea.

"Progress in these burgeoning coastal resorts will depend on an adequate water supply," he said.

"A Bushman's River scheme has been mooted as a new supply but this could cost twice as much as water from the Lower Fish."

The R6,5 m Sarel Hayward dam at Port Alfred had no catchment area and depended on water pumped from the Kowie River.

"This was subsidised by the Department of Water Affairs to an amount of R2 m, but Port Alfred ratepayers must find the money to service a R4,5 m loan or get the money from the government or the ARSC," Dr La Trobe said.

Big boys move in on Highlands scheme

By Ian Smith

WORK for SA engineers and construction companies will begin to flow soon from the long-awaited Lesotho Highlands water scheme.

International contractors are establishing a presence in SA and at least two banks, Nedbank and First National, have linked up with foreign partners in bidding for the financial syndication of the project.

However, UK banks Morgan Grenfell & Partners and Standard Chartered Merchant Bank are said to be front-runners.

The Development Bank of Southern Africa signed agreements this week with the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority for three loans totalling R128,6-million for the construction of the Katse bridge and the southern and northern access

roads.

Estimated cost for the three projects is R141,8-million, of which the Lesotho Government has contributed R8,6-million and the SA Government R4,6-million.

The first loan of R3,1-million will be used for the construction of Katse bridge, a key element in access to siteworks for Phase 1 of the project.

Two other loans of R19,5-million and R106-million will go to the cost of the access roads.

Chief executive of the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority Masupha Sole is confident that work on the northern access road will begin on schedule in June.

The loan agreement, he says, will help to remove doubts about the project. It represents strong evidence that the scheme will go ahead as planned.

(Handwritten marks and signatures)

3/4/88 S/Times

Poisons could cost millions

(Sb)

TOXIC waste has serious implications for SA manufacturers.

If the problem is not handled properly, they could lose millions of rands. Priceforbes Federale Volkskas (PFV) managing director Adrian Leighton-Morris.

He says disasters such as the Bhopal gas and Texan oil refinery acid leaks have led to a reassessment of liability insurance for environmental pollution.

"The legal implications are potentially enormous and often the dangers themselves are not clear.

"Manufacturers must identify their toxic risks exposure because both the insurance and market capacity are limited. Premiums are expensive."

A risk management programme which monitors worldwide technological developments in combating toxic emissions and pollution must be implemented, says Mr Leighton-Morris.

A special cover called environmental impairment liability (EIL) is now available.

"One large liability claim for damage caused by acid rain has been filed in SA, and with environmental awareness and concern at increasingly high levels, it could be the first of many," says Mr Leighton-Morris.

Acid rain was recorded in game reserves in Natal last year, and resulted in the death of millions of fish.

Blacks in flood-ravished Northern Cape find relief is for

Whites Only

PPS/HT/LS
28/1/77
50
Mrs S

By RYLAND FISHER
BLACKS in flood disaster areas in the Northern Cape are being denied relief by white farmers.

This was claimed this week by University of the Western Cape students who visited farms in the Upington area earlier this month.

The students claimed in many cases food and clothes donated by the public did not reach farm workers hardest-hit by the recent floods.

The students have called for a public inquiry into alleged irregularities in the distribution of flood relief items.

"Something must be done so justice can prevail for

these forgotten and deprived people," the students said in a report to the university's Social Work Department.

"Many farmworkers have not heard about flood relief. They were surprised when we asked them about it," said one of the students.

He said food and clothes were distributed to whites only by farmers' associations.

"Many farmers sit with the food in their houses while the workers starve. Some people send their children to rubbish dumps to collect raisins and other food. Some men went fishing while others tried to trap birds to provide their family supper.

"In Bloemsmund it was clear that many people did not have anything decent to eat for weeks, even months. Children appeared malnourished. One eleven-month-old baby lived on sugarless mealie meal. In many cases the people's only possessions were the clothes they were wearing," he said.

The students cited the case of a farm worker who received a tin of fish and between two and four rand a week.

"It seems people were being paid with food donated as part of the flood relief fund," they said.

"One domestic worker told us her madam's pantry was filled with tins of food. She said her employer gave her old clothes and blankets when new supplies arrived."

The 60 students collected statements from hundreds of people on farms around Upington, Grootdrink, Keimoes and Augrabies. They handed out food parcels donated by the university.

"We were only able to go on to the farms because we took food and clothes. Otherwise, the farmers would not allow us near their workers," one the students said.

The students declined to be named for fear of victimisation when they returned to their home towns in the Northern Cape. Bloemsmund and

Keideebes some people live in tents. Some live in wire mesh houses. In one area we found three families living under a tree because their house had been destroyed in the floods," the students said in their report.

"One woman lived with her husband and month-old baby under an disused truck.

"There are very few facilities in the tent towns. In some cases ditches covered by planks serve as toilets for men and women.

"People get water from a municipal truck each day. "These people are out of work. They used to work on the farms for between R12 and R35 a week. But now the land has been washed away and there is no work.

"The farmers don't care about the workers and the workers don't have any unions to fight for their rights. Most farmers consider the workers to be taking unpaid leave until they can work on the farms again.

"The media has been highlighting the plight of farmers but the farmers are insured while the workers have nothing. They are really forgotten people.

"What is clear is that the flood was not the only cause of the people's suffering. It merely aggravated matters," the students said.

Mr Willem Huseelman, chairman of the Farmers' Association in Grootdrink

said there had been a delay in the distribution of flood relief food.

Asked if the association had ways of checking whether the food reached the workers, he said: "All I can do is ask my people whether they distributed the food."

"We heard there were complaints so we gave the food to our members to distribute. I just completed the distribution this week," he told SOUTH.

He said they distributed no clothing.



DIP 7/4/88

World contenders for water scheme

56

JOHANNESBURG — The international civil engineering community is flocking to South Africa in an attempt to win multi-million rand sections of the R4,2 billion Lesotho Highlands Water Scheme contract.

Among the locally-based companies in the running are Alfred McAlpine, Basil Read, Concor Construction, Grinaker-Group, Five Roads and Murray & Roberts.

The strong international presence, here despite sanctions and disinvestment, includes representatives from the United States, the United Kingdom, West

German and French companies.

Engineers, aware of international opinion, have been keeping a low profile both in South Africa and Lesotho.

"Governments may attempt to slap bans on sports teams coming out here but when it comes to the bottom line—cash—they tend to keep quiet.

"My government knows we are here. It knows we are working in close co-operation with South Africa and many of its engineers," said one representative who did not wish to be identified.

The Joint Permanent Technical Commission does not foresee any problems should political changes occur in either of the two countries.

A Lesotho Highlands Development Authority spokesman, Mr Monyane Moleleki, said: "We are confident that (the project) will be implemented, whatever happens on the political front.

Finance for the project as a whole has already been secured on the basis of the three-year feasibility study, completed in 1986.

Investors include the two countries concerned, the World Bank and the Committee for the European Economic Community. — DDC

DIP 714/88

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(S6)

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CAPE TOWN — SA is increasingly having to import certain agricultural products which previously it used to obtain locally or even export.

Shortages are regularly occurring in respect of oil seeds, cotton, dairy products, meat and wheat.

Replying to questions put to him in Parliament, Agricultural Minister Greyling Wentzel noted that last year permits had to be granted for the importation of 11 313 tons of powdered milk, 4 664 tons of cheddar cheese and 976 tons of exotic cheese. Butter to the value of R4,5m was also imported.

Permits were also issued for the importation of 26 804 tons of beef, lamb, mutton and pork and 7 607 tons of wheat.

GERALD REILLY reports from Pretoria that agriculture authori-

Drought drives SA to importing

CHRIS CAIRNCROSS

ties said the imports were valued at tens of millions of rands.

A spokesman for Wentzel said the only serious shortage this year would be red meat and substantial amounts would have to be imported.

However, SA would continue to import products in which it had never been self-sufficient.

These included coffee, tea, rice and cocoa beans.

An SAAU spokesman said last

year's imports were "extraordinary" and resulted from shortages caused by severe drought.

In a normal year — and even in an abnormal year like last year — the agricultural industry was a net exporter.

Although there was a blackout on information on the value of farm exports in 1984 — the latest available figures — the value of processed products exported amounted to R1,05bn, and of non-processed products R788,6m.

③ B (day) 14/4/88

Should the locusts be left alone?

The brown locust is on the march again. North Africa is facing a huge outbreak and in southern Africa swarms are also appearing.

But as the drums of poisons are being rolled out in readiness there are scientists saying: "Leave them alone — it's cheaper."

The last two outbreaks in South Africa — in 1985/86 and 1986/87 — cost the taxpayer R48 million. To spray the affected areas cost R45 a hectare — 10 times more than the average annual income per hectare.

It was the most expensive locust-control operation in our history. Yet after 80 years of spraying, the locust swarms are as bad as ever.

Scientists in South Africa are now questioning the wisdom of it all. Some claim farmers themselves are creating ideal conditions for locusts.

At a conference on locusts in Kimberley last August organised by the SA Institute of Ecologists, Dr Phillip Hockey of the University of Cape Town pointed out it was an offence for farmers not to report the presence of locusts on their land, and that farmers had no say in whether insecticides were used on their properties — even if the chemicals made crops unmarketable.

In the locust war in the Karoo

South African scientists are questioning the wisdom of using insecticides, writes James Clarke.

15/4/88

56 SWA

over the past two years the Government gave special permission for stocks of BHC (benzene hexachloride) — a long-banned broad-spectrum poison — to be used. A Government spokesman later explained that the stuff had been in storage since 1981, so it seemed a good way to get rid of it. Dr Mike Mentis, Wits ecologist, commented: "By the same token would they allow doctors to use up old stocks of thalidomide?"

No monitoring was done to discover the environmental impact of dumping the 6 649 tons of long-life BHC on the veld and the chemical industry itself has little incentive to research such things — or to seek alternatives to such poisons.

Dr Hockey, in the *South African Journal of Science*, has now underscored "the widespread disquiet" in scientific circles about locust wars.

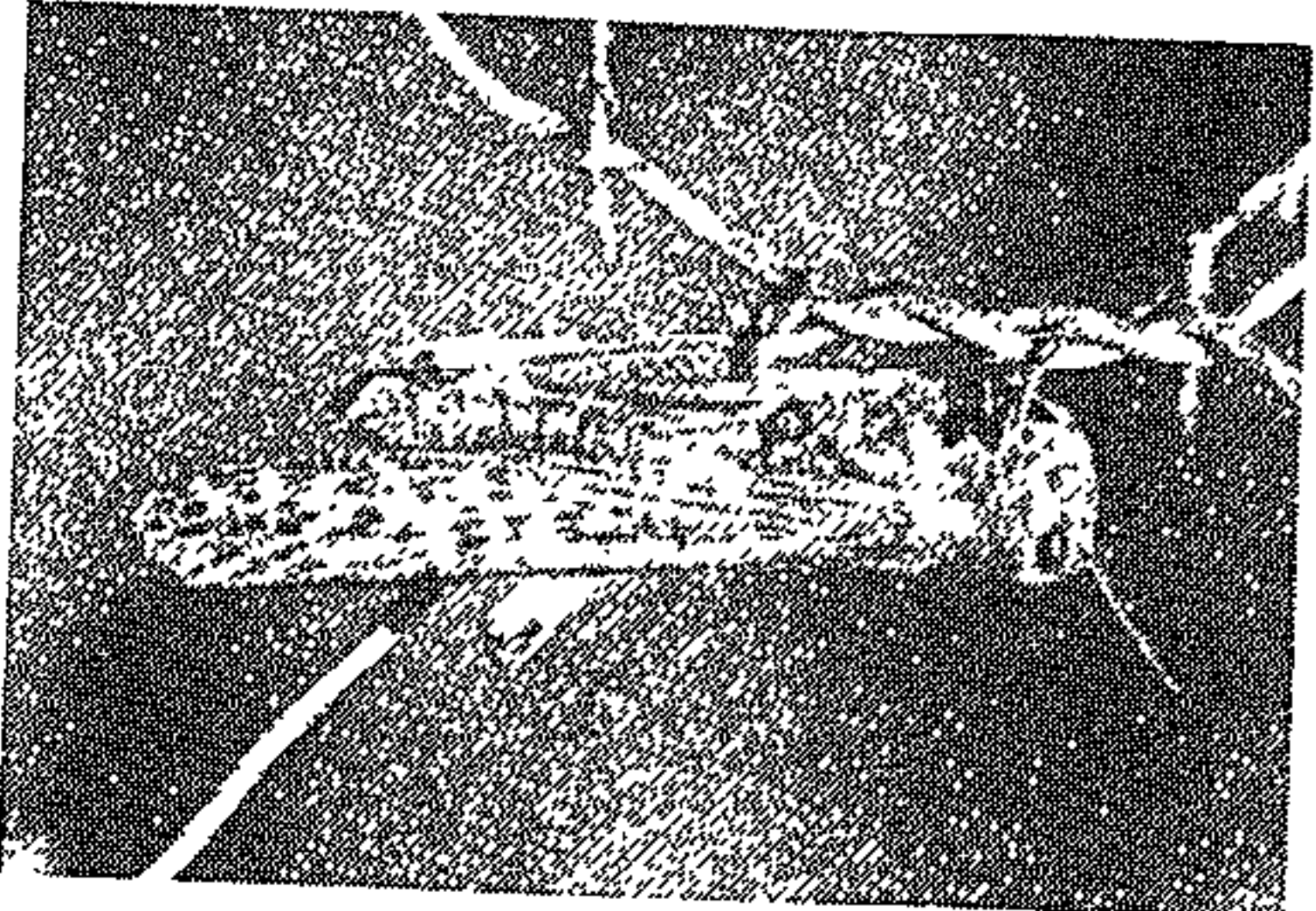
The main focus of outbreaks in South Africa has been the Karoo where the impact on grain harvests can be disastrous but where, simply by occasionally switching their crop

for a season, farmers could shatter the locust build-up pattern.

According to Dr Hockey, one in five Karoo farmers say the impact of locust swarms on normal veld is negligible. Grazing is not seriously affected and well-managed mixed farms can ride the consequences. (Some years ago at Nysivlei it was found that grasshoppers — there is no major difference between locusts and grasshoppers — eat mainly grass avoided by cattle).

Dr Hockey says locust droppings (foss) probably accelerate nutrient cycling in the soil and could even increase productivity. The locusts killed by chemicals between 1985 and last year, would have supplied about 2,26 million tons of fass — the equivalent of 14 700 tons of nitrogen fertilizer worth between R18 million and R20 million.

"Clearly", says Dr Hockey, "spraying operations have not solved the locust problem — outbreaks still occur." Indeed the Kimberley conference revealed that the regularity of outbreaks is today no less than 90 years ago.



The brown locust ... need for more research.

"Before 1907", says Dr Hockey, "outbreaks typically lasted about 13 years, with periods between each outbreak of 11 years. Chemical spraying was first tried in 1907, and by 1920 large changes in locust behaviour were apparent.

"Outbreak periods (now began to) last 6-7 years with 7-8 years between outbreaks ... The pattern now ap-

pears to be two years of outbreaks separated by intervals of two years."

So apart from the chemical industry, probably nobody has scored. One problem is that the natural enemies of the locust have been wiped out. Jackals and foxes helped check locust build-ups by wolfing them down in the hopper stage but farmers have shot them out.

In fact locust population waves seem to stimulate predator fecundity — in birds as well as insect-eating mammals.

Dr Hockey suggests biological controls may be cheaper and more effective than chemical controls.

One ruse, suggests Dr Hockey, would be for farmers to avoid producing the perfect habitat for locust swarms, season after season.

He says "repeated planting of irrigated crops may supply exactly the food resource that locusts require to sustain an outbreak over a period of many years". By switching for a year the cycle can be disrupted.

Dr Hockey says: "We still lack a comprehensive knowledge of the locust. The R48 million spent on locust control during the past two seasons was approximately R48 million more than was spent on locust research."

(b) Efforts are made continually to fill existing vacancies by means of recruiting and selection within the framework of available funds. It is constantly endeavoured to increase existing efficiency as measured to accepted norms and special attention is given to the retention of manpower.

Self-governing territories: amounts invested in industrial sector

444. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

	Investment in industrial sector			Total amount invested	
	(a) (i)	(a) (ii)	(b) (i)		(b) (ii)
Gazankulu	Nil	Nil	R24 737 000	R 1 213 000	Nil
KaNgwane	Nil	Nil	R39 135 147	R 90 000	Nil
KwaNdebele	Nil	R9 500 000	R25 500 000	R30 800 000	R9 500 000
KwaZulu	Nil	1)	R81 653 000	2)	1)
Lebowa	Nil	R2 100 000	R74 974 000	R17 187 000	R2 100 000
Qwaqwa	Nil	Nil	R29 870 000	R40 000 000	Nil

1) No annualised figures for financial years are available. Accumulative figure is R40 million as at March 1987.

2) No annualised figures for financial years are available. Accumulative figure is R363,6 million as at 31 March 1987.

Officials involved in resettlements

446. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

Whether any officials attached to his Department helped to resettle any persons in 1987; if so, (a) on what dates, (b) from what specified areas were persons moved, (c) in what specified areas were they resettled, (d) why was it necessary to resettle them and (e) how many persons were resettled in each case?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

Yes.

(a) On a continuous basis except as indicated in paragraph (b).

(b) (i) Moutse, KwaNdebele

(ii) Kwagqafontein, KwaNdebele

(iii) Inanda Dam Area, Ndwedwe, KwaZulu

(iv) Frankfort, Ciskei

(v) Bethanie, Bophuthatswana (9-15 September 1987)

(vi) Driefontein, District Wakkerstroom

(vii) Our-Kasie, District Brits

(a) What amounts were invested by (i) the State and (ii) foreign agencies in the industrial sector, and (b) what was the total amount invested by (i) the development corporation concerned, (ii) South African companies and (iii) foreign companies, in each of the self-governing territories in the 1986/87 financial year?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

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people were situated within the dam area.

(iv) On request of the Ciskei Government and the people concerned

(v) On own request of the splinter group of the Magopa Community

(vi) The building of the Heyshope dam — the houses of the people were situated within the dam area

(vii) On request of the Department Development Planning — the facilities of the Department of Development Aid were made available

(viii) On request of the Provincial Administration, Transvaal — the facilities of the Department of Development Aid were made available.

(e) (i) 69 families

(ii) 121 families

(iii) 78 families, 93 families, 63 families and 9 families

(iv) 468 families

(v) 178 families

(vi) 115 families

(vii) 208 families

(viii) 426 families

Upgrading of roads in Black areas: amount budgeted

506. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

What total amount was budgeted for the upgrading of roads in Black areas falling under his Department for the 1987/88 financial year?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

R105 656 000, which includes amounts budgeted for the construction or upgrading of bridges.

Christmas cards sent out

596. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) Whether (a) he and/or (b) his Department sent out Christmas cards in 1987; if so, (i) what total number of cards was printed, (ii) to whom were they sent, (iii) what was

the total cost of producing and distributing these cards, and (iv) who was responsible for printing them, in each case;

(2) whether postage stamps were used to send out these Christmas cards; if not, how were they distributed?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) Yes.

(i) 2 000.

(ii) NP Members and members of the other two Houses of Parliament, Provincial Administrators, MEC's, Rectors and Chancellors of Universities, Independent States, Commissioners General, SWA Cabinet Ministers, Black City Councilors and Mayors, Constituency, Ministerial Representatives, members of the President's Council, SA Medical and Dental Council, SA Pharmaceutical Board, family and friends.

(iii) R6 223,17 (printing), R130,40 (postage)

(iv) Government Printer

(b) Yes

(i) 250

(ii) State Departments, Associations, Organisations.

(iii) R127,00 (printing).

(iv) Government Printer.

Postage stamps were used to send out Christmas cards to family, friends and constituency; the rest were sent out under the official stamp of the Department.

Natal Flood Relief Fund: amount allocated

644. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) (a) What was the total amount allocated to the Natal Flood Relief Fund in 1987, (b) how many claims for such relief had been received by his Department as at the latest specified date for which information is available, (c) what was the total value of these claims, (d) what total amount had been paid out from this fund as at that date and (e) when is it anticipated that the final claims will be settled;

(2) whether a percentage formula is being used to calculate payments in respect of

these claims; if not, what formula is being used; if so, what is the percentage formula?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) (a) There is no such fund as the Natal Flood Relief Fund. The fund established in terms of the Fund-raising Act, 1978, for victims of all declared disasters, is the Disaster Relief Fund. Attention is invited to Chapter II of the said Act.
- (b) 54 000, as at 25 February 1988.
- (c) No record is kept of the amounts applied for. Figure could only be furnished if all applications are scrutinised which is impossible.
- (d) R17 000 000

(e) In respect of farmers where the closing date was 29 February 1988 it is hoped that payments would be finalised within three months. In respect of other cases it is anticipated that payments would be finalised within two months.

- (2) No. Payments are made in accordance with guidelines and bases approved by the Board of the Disaster Relief Fund and within the limits of the available funds.

Five most junior posts: salary scales

700. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (a) What are the salary scales attached to each of the five most junior posts in his Department, (b) how many of these posts are filled by Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, respectively, and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (a) Grading of the five most junior post classes in the Department:
- Housekeeper
R5 049 X 348 - 6 789 X 381 - 7 932
- Housemother
R5 049 X 348 - 6 789 X 381 - 7 932
- Linen Supervisor
R5 049 X 348 - 6 789 X 381 - 7 932
- Laundry Assistant
R5 049 X 348 - 6 789 X 381 - 7 932

Seamstress

R5 049 X 348 - 6 789 X 381 - 7 932
(b) and (c) State of incumbency per population group as at 1/3/88:

	Whites	Coloureds	Asians	Blacks
Housekeeper	33	3	0	24
Housemother	2	7	0	17
Linen	12	0	4	3
Supervisor	58	2	0	14
Laundry	47	4	0	14

Pretoria: financing of certain committee

717. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether his Department is involved in financing a certain committee in Pretoria, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) why, (b) to what extent per annum and (c) what (i) are the aims and objects and (ii) is the name of this committee?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

No.

Own Affairs:

Old-age/war veterans' pensions: raising of means test limit

66. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Budget and Welfare:

Whether consideration is being given to raising the means test limit on personal income for the awarding of old-age and war veterans' pensions; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is this limit at present and (b) (i) what will be the new limit and (ii) when will it be implemented?

The MINISTER OF BUDGET AND WELFARE:

Raising the means test limit on personal income is receiving continuous consideration.

- (a) The present limit is R1 080 per person per annum for the maximum pension and R2 616 per person per annum for the minimum pension.
- (b) (i) The new limit will be adjusted with the same amount of the increase in social pensions, if increases are granted.
- (ii) The new limit will be implemented as from the same date on which social pensions are increased.

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D 10 18/4/85

Families trapped after heavy rains (56)

BLOEMFONTEIN —
Some 60 families on the Waterbron smallholdings, west of here, have been trapped following heavy rains

Thirty three millimetres of rain have fallen in the area since yesterday morning, bringing the total rainfall figure for the month to 103 mm.

Several streets in the area, which have not been repaired since the floods, had to be closed to pedestrians late yesterday afternoon.

Water is also seeping into some houses on smallholdings at Bainsvlei close to Waterbron.

More reports of rain have been received from several places in the region. The highest rainfall figures in the Free State (40 mm) were recorded at Hertzogville and Bainsvlei.

A further 33 mm was measured at Boshof yesterday, bringing the total rainfall figure to 65 mm.

In Bloemfontein 33 mm was recorded and Gersfontein has had 28 mm.

Gomvlei had 22 mm, Brandfort and Vryburg 16 mm, and Reivilo in the Northern Cape recorded 25 mm. — Sapa

BLOEMFONTEIN — A cheque for R75 000 and the loan of three front-end loaders valued at R750 000 was given to the Free State Agricultural Union by a large earthmoving equipment company to aid farmers who have suffered damage in the recent floods.

The cash is to be used to assist farmers and their labourers who "lost everything" to start afresh, while the front-end loaders will be loaned free of charge, excluding fuel, to farm-

ers who need to rebuild dams, remove sludge and to fill washaways.

The loan of the machines will mean a tremendous saving to farmers who would otherwise have had to hire or purchase them.

Mr Barry Strydom,

managing director of Case International, said when he made the presentation to Mr Isak Cronje, president of the Free State Agricultural Union, that his company was in partnership with the farmer.

"We have been doing business with the farm-

ers in the Free State for many years.

"Although the tractor market is also under strain at present we see it as our duty to assist farmers in this disaster.

"There are many farmers and labourers who have lost everything and we know that farmers who suffered heavy losses would like to do something for their people. We trust that the R75 000 will bring some relief," Mr Strydom said.
— Sapa

D/D 2014/88
**Flooded farms
given relief** (56)

SA 23/4/88



NEWS

56A

Developing nations had to 'drag' EC to talks on SA sanctions

BRUSSELS — Developing countries will press the European Community (EC) to impose tougher sanctions on South Africa at a special foreign ministers' meeting in Luxembourg next Tuesday, but know already that they face an uphill task.

The 66-nation African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group will send 12 foreign ministers to meet their counterparts from West Germany, Denmark and Greece and discuss ways of fighting apartheid — an issue which bitterly divides the two groups.

The Community agreed last December to hold the Luxembourg meeting after turning down earlier ACP requests and arguing that sanctions-imposed on Pretoria in 1986 were enough.

But the 12 EC states will be represented at the talks only by the so-called troika — the countries which are the current, previous and next holders of the rotating

presidency of the EC council of ministers.

"We had to drag them screaming to the table," ACP Secretary-General Edwin Carrington said in an interview.

He said the ACP, which includes 45 sub-Saharan African states, would try to persuade the Community that sanctions could be made to work, and seek a firm commitment to undermine South Africa's system of racial segregation.

"I think part of the problem is that the EC, while I genuinely believe that they oppose and despise the system of apartheid, have many fears," Mr Carrington said.

"They have fears as to what a post-apartheid society with significant black South African rule would imply. I think they have many a vested interest in South Africa, they have many kith and kin (there). And for all these reasons, the EC is reluctant."

Britain and West Germany are the countries most strongly opposed to beefing up the EC's existing sanctions against Pretoria — a ban on new investments and on South African exports of iron, steel and gold coins.

Mr Carrington, a soft-spoken 49-year-old West Indian, said he was embarrassed by the "feeble arguments" sometimes used by the EC to justify their inaction against apartheid.

"For a start, why don't they ban imports of coal? My approach would be that there should be a strategy of increasing stringency of measures against South Africa," he said.

"I do not share the view that the thrust of our policy is to bring down the South African government or to wreck South Africa.

"No, it is to force them to the negotiating table, to permit normal political action to take place in South

Africa and to arrive at some kind of society and political arrangement that they accept as just and feasible and balanced."

Cutting off air links with South Africa was a sanction that would have to be considered if milder measures failed, he said.

Tension between the EC and the ACP over the issue has become a key factor as the two sides gear up for tough negotiations later this year on renewing the Lomé Convention, a major pact between the two groups on trade and development aid.

"We hope we can have a frank exchange of views and a narrowing of the gap between us, a removal of some of the thinly disguised resentment which exists on this question between us," Mr Carrington said. — Sapa-
Reuter.

D1D 224188

Connection fees rise (6)

EAST LONDON — The fees payable for sewer connections here will be increased with effect from July.

Council approved last night that 100 mm sewer connection fees would increase from R94 to R150 and from R125 to R185 for 150 mm sewer connections.

Council also heard that the proposed amendment to the drainage by-law for the increase was simply to keep abreast "with escalating costs". — DDR

Environmental 56

Laws impressive, but the policing falls far short

Star 26/4/88

falls far short

By James Clarke

It was ironic, and enlightening, when most of those who attended the environmental law conference, just ended in Kruger Park, had to pass two of the country's most notorious polluters.

The lawyers and conservationists drove past the steel mill owned by Anglo American and Vanadium Steel, and the massive slagheap of the Anglo American Steel mill, whose reeking miasma pollutes the Elands River Valley all the way to the border of Kruger Park.

At the conference, which was held in a hall at the Kruger Park Hotel, the delegates generally agreed that the environmental laws, which were passed in 1982, were a landmark in the history of South African law. The laws were passed in a hurry, and the delegates were generally impressed by the quality of the legislation.

The prime questions were why was South Africa, with so many beautiful areas at stake, so far behind in environmental protection — and how far does the new draft Environmental Conservation Bill correct the deficiencies? The general opinion was that while the Bill falls far short of what is required it is a definite step in the right direction.

At the conference venue — Berg-en-Dal, Kruger Park's beautiful new camp — delegates had a third glaring example of the need for South Africa to tighten environmental controls: the camp faces directly on to a huge sugar mill across the Crocodile River. The mill is flooded at night. If an environmental impact assessment (EIA) had been done on the original plan for the mill — and made public — the developers would surely have been forced to re-site it behind one of the hills.

CONTENTIOUS

EIAs were a contentious issue at the conference. The Bill empowers the authorities to demand EIAs, but there is no provision to make them public. Each will be judged by the department most closely involved. Conservationists see this as entirely unsatisfactory. Several delegates cited Australian environmental legislation as being far ahead of our own. The US too has many ideas we could adapt.

Professor Andre Rabie of Stellenbosch said South Africa's "vast body of environmental laws is in good shape" but its implementation is not. The Government's chief director of environmental conservation, Mr Pieter J le Roux, said that not all of the various Government departments which attend to different aspects of environmental care, "did not, until the early 1980s, have the protection of environment at heart — not even as a secondary issue."

The 1980 White Paper on Environmental Conservation stated the Government's new concern, but the Environment Conservation Act 1982 which followed was unsatisfactory. Now comes the new Bill drafted last May and redrafted in October and, apparently, being redrafted yet again in view of strong and voluminous public input. In the lobby, Mr Le Roux (57) — he is former head of the Free State's nature conservation department — told me that the Bill "is heavy with enabling clauses", allows public participation for the first time, and allows latitude



Johannesburg in the smog season. The man in the street can do little to protect his environment, according to a recent conference on environmental law. And a draft Bill fails to recognise the public's right to seek interdicts against polluters.

at various levels of Government. Generally delegates regarded the Bill as a firm step towards better environmental control but far from being a body blow to apathy.

MONEY

It seemed clear the Department of Environment Affairs had gone as far as it dare go without upsetting the other 18 "general affairs" departments. The department's status was made fairly obvious in this year's Budget: out of the R53 000 million allocated in the

Budget a mere R150 million was voted to the Environment Affairs. UCT law lecturer Jan Glazewski pointed out the Government spent R100 million more on the Huguenot Tunnel. Mr le Roux, the Bill's main architect, in his address to delegates said some environmental threats were, potentially, more serious than some security threats. The paper that would have met with most response from the public was that of Mrs Cheryl Loots, senior lecturer in civil procedures law at Wits, who said the problem of

environmental protection was that environmental laws require criminal charges being laid — yet policing is almost non-existent. There is also too little public awareness of the serious nature of the threats to the environment and, she said, the public has an "undeveloped moral sense". The moral sense was something which Dr Denis Cowen, doyen of the country's environmental lawyers, dealt with in his keynote address which ended by telling South Africans in general "you cannot love God if you treat his

Lawyer wants more action by the public

By James Clarke

The public should have the same enthusiasm for reporting environmental law-breakers as they do criminals shown on the "Police File" television programme, says a senior Johannesburg law lecturer. Mrs Cheryl Loots, civil procedures expert at the University of the Witwatersrand School of Law, speaking at a three-day environmental law conference which has just ended in Kruger Park, referred to the success of "Police File" in tracking criminals.

She said: "I believe that if the public is made aware of the threats to the environment, if it knows what offences to look out for and where to report them, it will make a similar contribution to enforcement of the environmental laws." She also suggested that South Africa follow the American technique of setting up a special environmental police department with specially trained officers to track down those who commit serious environmental crimes.

Forty lawyers and 30 professional conservationists — many from the Government — had met to discuss the draft Environment Conservation Bill. creation with contempt". A point which Mrs Loots doggedly pursued was that ordinary members of the public, and certainly organisations to which they belong — such as the Wildlife Society which sponsored the law conference — should be granted *locus standi* (legal standing) in court. Say the Kruger Park is threatened, the society should be able to seek an interdict on behalf of its members. But the Bill precludes this. It was difficult to see Mr le Roux's objections to the

inclusion of a broader *locus standi* clause in the Bill. One of his objections was that if organisations were granted *locus standi* the courts might be inundated. Lawyers said the high cost of litigation would control that. The only people who will have standing are those personally affected by a development. Mr le Roux said the Bill at least now confers the right on cabinet ministers, administrators and appropriate authorities to seek an interdict against a potential offender.

Randburg ^{Star} St holds down ^{26/11/86} water rate ⁽⁵⁶⁾

Although Rand Water Board has increased water tariffs by an average of 12 percent, Randburg Town Council is raising its tariffs by only 3,2 percent.

A council spokesman said the new tariffs would only be reflected in the June accounts.

"Randburg has attempted to persuade the Rand Water Board to increase the water tariffs of all municipalities by the same amount.

"It's encouraging to see that the board has to a large degree followed this policy."

The spokesman added that unless things changed drastically during the current financial year the tariffs would not be increased again.

Environmental law is still 'struggling to be born' in SA

Star 28/4/88
(56)

Although it is often said that environmental law is in its infancy, it is probably more accurate to regard the subject as still struggling to be born, at any rate in South Africa. There are good prospects, provided that the proposed new Environmental Conservation Act finds its way on to the statute book in an appropriate form.

The fact remains that we still await the emergence in South Africa of a coherent and logical body of environmental law which has distinctive legal principles of its own.

In the United States, since the enactment in 1969 of that landmark piece of legislation, the National Environment Policy Act (NEPA), and in several other countries with even more sophisticated legislation, the position is different.

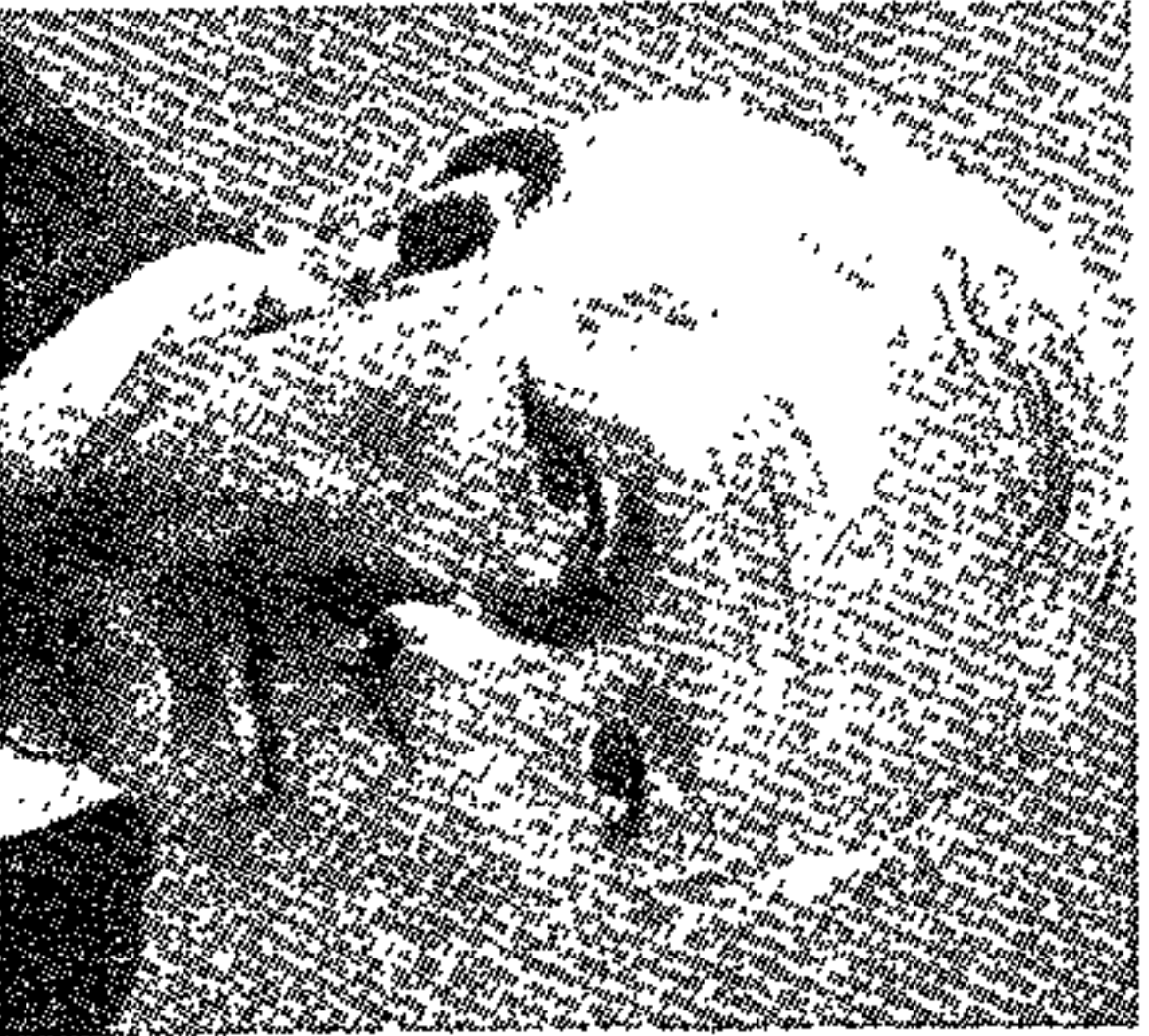
There, environmental law has made big strides forward. In South Africa a considerable volume of environmental law finds a place in a multitude of diverse pieces of legislation, passed over the years at diverse times, but which have evolved on a piecemeal and unsystematic basis.

More concerned

This "subject-matter approach" to the definition of environmental law is one that is by no means confined to South Africa and is unsatisfactory.

The common law of South Africa, like the common law of England,

Prospects for the proposed new Environmental Conservation Act were surveyed by legal doyen DR DENIS COWEN in his keynote address at South Africa's first environmental law conference last weekend. Some excerpts ...



Dr Denis Cowen ... good prospects for environmental law.

has been more concerned with the protection of private individual rights than with matters of public concern.

Yet, in actual fact environmental protection raises issues which fall within the area of public rather than private law.

What is needed, of course, is to ensure a balance between environmental protection and sustainable development; but it may be questioned whether that is a matter for adjudication by a court of law.

Probably the balance has to be achieved by the interplay of political, economic, scientific and ethical processes.

I personally would have liked to

see in the proposed legislation a legal principle phrased more or less that rights of ownership should not be exercised in a way which has unreasonably adverse effects on the environment, or which is otherwise opposed to the public welfare.

The concept of promulgating detailed national environmental policy statements, which are expressly declared to have the force of law, is potentially one of the best features of the proposed legislation.

Modern legislation on environmental protection recognises that major government departments and other public authorities are often among the most damaging of polluters and degraders ... so it is important to lay down a legal duty, binding on such bodies.

This is in fact recognised in the 1987 draft of the South African Bill.

A national policy, approved and promulgated in terms of an Act of Parliament, is likely to be taken far more seriously than a policy declaration in a White Paper.

Emphasis should be on providing legal rather than political safeguards; that is, on providing remedies in open court rather than resorting to political and administrative lobbying and compromise.

It is, after all, important that teeth be given to the legislation. Reasons should be given for all decisions. The public disclosure of

full and honest reasons is a powerful safeguard against administrative arbitrariness. The 1987 draft South African Bill is silent on the subject.

Some 10 years ago, a published paper recommended that no project materially affecting the environment should be carried out without the prior publication of a suitable Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) statement, and that the courts should be given limited jurisdiction to monitor the observance of specified procedures and requirements for the preparation of such statements.

Excellent method

I would emphasise that the publication of properly prepared EIA statements and the limited monitoring by the courts is an excellent method of ensuring rational, unemotional and effective public participation in the conservation process.

On the subject of EIA statements, the 1987 South African Bill, in clause 21 has now taken a step — albeit a small and hesitant step — in the right direction.

However, the proposed dispensation is less stringent than advocated by my colleagues and myself, and far more is left to ministerial discretion than is normal in comparable legislation abroad.

CAPE TIMES 29/4/88 (56)

Workers stole flood victims' aid

By CHRIS STEYN

SEVENTY-THREE municipal employees stole a "truck-load full" of emergency supplies — including food and blankets — which were intended for flood victims at Upington.

This was confirmed to the Cape Times yesterday by Upington's district commandant, Major Bertie Viviers, who disclosed details of the police investigation which resulted in the arrest of 74 municipal officials.

Seventy-three of those arrested were found guilty in the local Magistrate's Court this week of unlawfully appropriating emergency supplies intended for flood victims. They all pleaded guilty, and the court imposed fines — ranging between R100 and R200

each — to be paid to the Disaster Relief Fund.

A 74th accused who also admitted guilt will appear in court again on May 25.

The police investigation was started when the municipality received information that one employee had appropriated some flood relief supplies.

Major Viviers said police initially questioned only one suspect. However, he informed on a couple of accomplices, who in turn gave detectives the names of dozens of other people involved in the theft.

Major Viviers said "quite a lot" of supplies were stolen. It was difficult to estimate the exact value of the goods, but police recovered at least a "truck-load full" of supplies. These included food, blankets, sleeping mats and clothing.

The acting town clerk of Upington, Mr Gerhard Coetzee, told the Cape Times yesterday that the town council was considering disciplinary steps against the convicted employees. A council meeting to decide their future is expected to be held soon.

Describing the incident as "very unfortunate", Mr Coetzee said the guilty employees were not people with "a reputation for dishonesty". "They did not try to enrich themselves. Many of them were just negligent," he said.

Mr Coetzee said the thefts occurred when employees were moving flood relief supplies from a full store to a much bigger store.

Though he praised the police for their "good work", Mr Coetzee said the municipality had not expected so many arrests.

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Snortfishing

Baby costs health

(56)



SPAL 29/3/88

Transvaal drought is broken at last

Farmers in north smile at the water

Transvaal farmers are relieved at recent rains and it seems as if the drought has finally been broken, the Transvaal Agricultural Union said in a statement yesterday.

Western Transvaal farmers have high hopes of good farming now. Most dams are full and large crops are expected, the statement said. Northern and central Transvaal farmers have also benefited.

The TAU said: "Things are looking up in the northern Transvaal, although it will take a couple of years before grazing is re-established. Livestock remains a problem through lack of funds and availability."

Dams on average have more water than last year, though in some parts of the northern Transvaal there has been no rain and there farmers are still struggling.

The Department of Environmental Affairs also confirmed that the drought in the far northern Transvaal has been broken.

In the Letaba district there is excitement as the level of the Fanie Botha Dam at Tzaneen continues to rise.

There have been stringent irrigation restrictions in force in the area for five years. The dam reached a low 25 percent level in 1987. But it has risen dramatically to 80 percent since mid-February.

FARMERS ARE REJOICING

The picturesque Ebenezer Dam near Haenertsburg, which provides Pietersburg with 30 percent of its water is full — so is the Naude Dam, Pietersburg's main source.

While many parts of South Africa have been lashed by floods, the far north has had good rains without much damage. Farmers, industrialists and conservationists are rejoicing.

Even the normally arid Messina district in the extreme north is boasting its best grazing conditions in a decade. — Sapa and Northern Transvaal Bureau.

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ments succeeded, and, if so, in what manner, and will the results be made known?

†The MINISTER: Research is done; in fact, it is in progress. It is done, firstly, by establishing what the estimated number of readers is of the specified publications, secondly, research is then done to determine how many people actually saw and read the advertisement; and, thirdly, how much of it they remember, in other words, how much effect it had on them. This is the type of research we do and with which we are busy at present. We could probably make the results known in due course.

Case against certain person: investigation

*15 Mr D J N MALCOMMESS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether, arising out of the judgment given in the High Court of Botswana in the case of *The State versus Sieve Henry Burnet*, the South African Police investigated or are investigating any case against a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply; if so, (a) with what result and (b) what is the name of this person; if not, why not?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

The South African Police are investigating the matter. This investigation has not yet been completed.

Floods: cash payments to individual victims

So 16 Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(a) How many separate cash payments have been made to individual victims of the 1987 and 1988 floods. (b) What total amount has been paid out in this manner and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH:

- (a) 73 685
- (b) R30 261 654.47
- (c) 31 March 1988

Entrance of certain person in RSA: documents missing

*17. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) Whether any documents relevant to the entry into South Africa of a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, are missing from the records of his Department; if so, (a) what documents, (b) what are the circumstances surrounding this matter and (c) what is the name of the person concerned.

(2) whether any steps have been taken to (a) recover these documents and (b) have any persons prosecuted in this connection, if not, why not; if so, (i) what steps and (ii) with what results in each case?

†The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS.

(1) and (2) The hon member is referred to my reply in this House to oral question No 25 of 1 March 1988. A police docket with regard to the matter is presently with the Attorney-General, Cape Town, for his decision. In view thereof, I do not consider it expedient to give full details of the nature as requested by the hon member

Raid by SADF in Gaborone: persons killed

*18 Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Defence:

Whether any persons were killed in the recent raid by the South African Defence Force on properties and persons in Gaborone in Botswana; if so, (a) (i) how many and (ii) what were their (aa) names, (bb) nationalities, (cc) ages and (dd) occupations and (h) what are the addresses of the properties in question?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE.

Yes. As a result of the general practice among terrorists to use aliases and the circumstances that exist on the ground during such operations, it is almost impossible to positively identify all the bodies in all cases. In addition, the names and particulars of the dead thus given, can be abused by the enemy for its own purposes. Consequently I do not intend to divulge the names of fatalities in the future. With this as background, the reply in this case, is as follows:

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(a) (i) 4
(ii)(aa)

Solomon Molefe also known as Charles Makoena, Patric Myudla, Boy Aubrey Molo, Sandile, Mbele, Siphiso Siphiso and Molothe, plus two other male persons whose identities cannot be confirmed for certain.

(bb) South African

(cc) 41 years

(dd) Member of Umkhonto we Sizwe and regional military commander in Botswana.

Masego Kgopoleng also known as Keshabile.

Unknown

Female employee at Botswana Book Centre. Also known as communicating agent between senior members of Umkhonto we Sizwe in Gaborone.

(b) House 11464, Broadhurst, Gaborone.

Area south of Lansdowne Road near Nyanga/Crossroads: designation as development area

*19. Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 228 on 25 March 1988, a decision has as yet been taken on the designation of an area, approximately 218 hectares in extent, south of Lansdowne Road in the vicinity of Nyanga/Crossroads, as a development area; if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that a decision will be taken on the matter;

(2) whether he will furnish information on this planned development, if not, why not, if so, what are the details thereof?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

- (1) No.
- (a) The application is still under consideration.
- (b) As soon as possible.
- (2) No, not at this stage

The matter is still under consideration

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, arising out of the reply of the hon the Minister, may I ask him whether it is correct that the MEC involved with this matter said some months ago that the squatters would not spend another Cape winter in their existing places?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I suggest the

hon member submit his question in writing to the MEC to whom he has referred.

National Housing Commission: request for money granted

*20. Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 224 on 16 March 1988, the request to the National Housing Commission for an amount of R3.5 million for the 1988/89 financial year for the building of 500 houses by means of a self-help programme has been granted. If so, when will the implementation of the programme be commenced; if not, when is it anticipated that a reply will be received to the above request;

(2) (a) how many individual loans have been granted under the self-help scheme instituted in the 1987/88 financial year and (b) who is responsible for approving these loans?

†The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This information was furnished by the Cape Provincial Government:
(1) No. Because of the many claims on available funds only R700 000 was granted for the self-help programme in Khayelitsha.
(2) (a) None.
(b) Cape Town Town Committee.

Draft Bill a letdown for planners

Star 2/5/84

56

By James Clarke

One of the biggest disappointments in the draft Environment Conservation Bill, as far as the planning professions are concerned, is the way it ignores urban areas.

It is explicit on nature reserves, practically defining the birds and the bees, but it is dismissive of city environments where most South Africans live.

At a panel discussion of the Transvaal Institute of Architects in Johannesburg a few days ago, architect Mr Bannie Britz was critical of the Bill's omission and of its failure to get down to grass roots level.

Many planners and architects feel, as Mr Britz does, that local authorities are not handling urban environments at all well and need direction. Johannesburg, for instance, is losing more and more open space to ad hoc planning moves — and still has no clear idea of the type of city it is trying to achieve.

Mr Britz advocates breaking big cities up into smaller local authorities — that way each could field a good team of essentially local councillors who would be jealous of their own area's integrity and quality.

"Look at Munich," Mr Britz said — Munich, the relaxed and attractive Bavarian city which planners throughout the world tend to hold aloft as a shining example of innovative and humanistic urban planning.

"Munich", said Mr Britz, "is broken up into small districts in which two people — one appointed and one elected — examine every piece of legislation which might affect that district.

"In Munich municipal approval is needed to chop down a tree — even in your own garden."

He suggested that the South African tends more to discourage town and cities in achieving an integrated design. He gave an interesting example: if the German government wants to erect a post office, say, it has to ask the local authority where it can be sited. By contrast, the South African Government, as well as the province which nowadays is absolutely unanswerable for its actions, is not obliged to even discuss the matter with the local authority or to take any notice of local building by-laws.

"The town of George", said Mr Britz, "was once a beautiful place but now has an ugly post office tower in the centre of it.

"The draft Bill may be full of good intentions but participation at grass roots level has been left out."

Move to control vehicles on beaches welcomed

D/D 3/5/88

(5b)

Daily Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — Conservationists and local administrators have welcomed an announcement by the administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw, that the government is considering a national system to control vehicles on the country's beaches.

Mr Louw said the move followed an intensive investigation by the Department of Environment Affairs, together with the four provincial administrations.

The director of the Wildlife Society, Mr Keith Cooper, has been pushing for control

measures for eight years.

"Obviously we are very happy that something is being done at last," he said.

"There are many legitimate users of the beach, but the root of the problem lies in the country's rapidly increasing population."

Beaches on both sides of East London under the jurisdiction of the Divisional Council of Kaffraria are already closed to vehicular traffic.

A council spokesman said Mr Louw's announcement would re-

inforce the council's decision to control the use of vehicles, which was taken three years ago and applied then to the eastern beaches.

He said officials had had difficulty enforcing the ban because the council only had jurisdiction over the area between the high water mark and a line 200 m below the low water mark.

The land above the high water mark is controlled by the Department of Water Affairs.

The divisional council, which controls all beaches to the east of

the city from the Quinera River mouth to Morgan's Bay, excluding the Gonubie municipal area, is in the process of enforcing a similar ban on beaches between Leeches Bay and the Chulumna River.

The spokesman said the council had resolved that it would consider applications from the Border Rock and Surf Club to allow a controlled number of vehicles to operate on the beaches during fishing competitions.

However, he said no permits would be issued following private applications.

nature of this control and (d) what is the name of the hotel;

- (2) whether any stipulations or recommendations are applicable to this hotel in respect of the (a) provision of accommodation and (b) serving of (i) meals, (ii) drinks and (iii) other refreshments; if so, what stipulations or recommendations;

- (3) whether there is any differentiation in respect of provision of services to potential customers on the basis of race or colour; if so, (a) what differentiation (b) why;

- (4) whether any (a) other hotels and (b) resorts controlled directly or indirectly by a Government Department or a statutory body practises discrimination on the basis of race or colour; if so, (i) what hotels and resorts and (ii) why;

- (5) whether consideration is being given to changing this state of affairs; if not, why not; if so, what steps are being considered in this regard?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY (Dr T G Aiant):

- (1) Yes.

- (a) The Board of Public Resorts (Overvaal) which falls under the Provincial Administration of Transvaal.

- (b) 1 October 1974.

- (c) The hotel is managed and controlled by the Board of Public Resorts.

- (d) The Royal Hotel, Pilgrim's Rest.

- (2) (a) Yes.

- (b) (i), (ii) and (iii) Yes.

The normal conditions and restrictions pertaining to all hotel liquor licences.

- (3) and (4)(a) and (b) The Liquor Act, 1977 (Act 87 of 1977) or conditions pertaining thereto do not contain any discriminatory provisions as far as race or colour is concerned and the admission to licensed premises falls entirely within the discretion of the licensee or authority holder. The manner in which that discretion is exercised, is unknown. The supplementary questions:

under paragraphs (3) and (4)(a) and (b) fall away.

- (5) No. In the light of the replies to the previous paragraphs.

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, may I ask him whether he is aware of a newspaper report according to which guests who were not White were turned away from being offered food and refreshments at that hotel?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not aware of that, but as I have said, this hotel falls under the control of the Board of Public Resorts. I think it will be best if the hon member possibly again raises this question when the provincial budget for Transvaal is being considered.

Gatshewe, Kimberley: investigation into death of certain person

*24. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply on 6 October 1987 to Question No 17, standing over from 29 September 1987, the investigation into the death on or about 21 August 1987 of a certain person in Gatshewe, Kimberley, whose name has been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, has been completed; if not, why not; if so, (a) when, (b) what were the findings and (c) what is the name of this person;

- (2) whether an autopsy has been carried out on this person; if not, why not; if so, (a) when, (b) what was the cause of death, (c) how many bullet wounds were found in his body and (d) where was each bullet wound located;

- (3) whether an inquest has been held into the death of this person; if not, why not; if so, (a) when, (b) at which magistrate's court and (c) what were the findings;

- (4) whether any further action is to be taken regarding this incident; if not, why not; if so, what action?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) to (4)

The investigation into the death of the person has been completed and the case docket is at present with the Attorney-General for his de-

cision. Therefore, the requested information is not furnished, as it could anticipate the judicial process.

*25. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND — Constitutional Development and Planning. [Reply standing over.]

Natal: new nuclear power station

*26. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

- (1) Whether his Department has been consulted concerning the possibility of siting a new nuclear power station in Natal; if so,

- (2) whether an environmental impact study has been conducted in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what are the implications of such a project for the (a) environment in general and (b) marine life in the area concerned in particular?

†The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

- (1) No. The Department of Environment Affairs has been closely involved in a project of Eskom for the identification of areas along the South African coast which may possibly be considered for the siting of nuclear power stations.

- (2) Yes. Environmental factors have been taken into account along with economic, technological and other considerations since the inception of this project. Consequently, the entire process of selection of suitable areas, which is presently underway, can be regarded as the initial phase of a comprehensive planning exercise. This exercise is aimed at the determination of the most acceptable alternative, from an environmental, economical and social point of view, for electricity generation through nuclear power along the South African coast. Instead of using the term "environmental impact study" this process should rather be referred to as integrated environmental management.

- (a) & (b) Experience at Koeberg has shown that the environmental implications of a project of this nature are minimal.

Town clerk of Milnerton Municipality: inquiry into allegations of misconduct

*27. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether he and/or the Administrator of the Cape Province has been informed that a retired appeal court judge was recently asked to hold an inquiry into allegations of misconduct on the part of the town clerk of Milnerton Municipality; if so,

- (2) whether this inquiry has been completed; if so, (a) when and (b) what were the findings; if not, when is it anticipated that the inquiry will be completed;

- (3) whether the said municipality has taken any steps as a result of this inquiry; if not, why not; if so, what steps;

- (4) whether the findings of the inquiry will be made public; if not, why not; if so, when?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This information was furnished by the Cape Provincial Government.

- (1) Yes, the Administrator was informed.

- (2) Yes.

- (a) November 1987.

- (b) The Committee of Enquiry was of the opinion that the town clerk was guilty of a charge of misconduct.

- (3) Yes, after the findings of the investigation were available the Municipal Council of Milnerton requested the Administrator to effect the dismissal of the town clerk in terms of the provisions of the Municipal Ordinance, No 20 of 1974. Before the above-mentioned action could be carried out the town clerk handed in his resignation.

- (4) This is a matter which rests entirely with the Municipal Council of Milnerton. No indication has, however, been given to date whether the findings will be made public or not.

Failure of certain person to report presence of

ANC terrorist: investigation

*28. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Jawane

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

†Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

General Affairs:

Ozone depletion: attitude of Government

*1. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

- (1) What is the attitude of the South African Government to ozone depletion;
- (2) whether any steps are being taken by the State to control the (a) consumption and (b) production of chemicals and/or products which cause ozone depletion; if so, what steps;
- (3) whether any steps are being taken by the State to increase public awareness of ozone depletion; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

- (1) The South African Government is concerned about the allegations that certain man-made substances may be depleting the protective ozone layer. The latest scientific evidence is continuously being examined in order to assess whether and to what extent such depletion is occurring and whether it represents a threat to the environment.
- (2) (a) and (b) No. Should scientific evidence indicate that certain man-made substances may be depleting the ozone layer to the detriment of the environment, the Government would consider acceding to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and adopting the Montreal Protocol on Chlorofluorocarbons. This Protocol calls for a phased reduction in the production and use of these substances. In order to adequately substantiate a decision on acceding to the Convention and adopting the Protocol, evidence is presently being collected to assess the economic and strategic implications of such a phased reduction and the local availability of alternative substances.

- (3) No. As considerable uncertainties still exist regarding depletion of the ozone layer and the role of certain man-made substances in this process, it is considered not to be in public interest to take steps which could turn out to be premature due to inadequate substantiation.

Financial/other assistance to certain organization

*2. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Defence:

- (1) Whether the South African Defence Force has any information on a certain organization, the name of which has been furnished to the Defence Force for the purpose of the Minister's reply; if so, (a) what is this information and (b) what is the name of the organization concerned;
- (2) whether the Defence Force is in any way involved in rendering (a) financial, and (b) any other forms of, assistance to this organization; if so, (i) what was the amount of this financial assistance during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available and (ii) what are the particulars of the other forms of assistance so rendered?

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) and (2) I have fully explained the attitude of the SA Defence Force and myself with regard to the countering of subversion and propaganda actions against the Republic and the Security Forces on numerous occasions in this House. I therefore find it most unfortunate that the hon member is apparently determined to question and cast suspicion on any organization or publication which seemingly supports such counter actions. I am not prepared to support him in this. He can, however, rest assured that the SA Defence Force cannot spend a single cent without it being audited by the Auditor-General. If he suspects or wishes to imply that any money has been spent in an improper manner he is welcome to refer the matter to the Advocate-General.

Recreational resorts/out-of-school sports facilities planned

*3. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid.

(2) whether he will make a statement on the efficacy of this control?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (1) R5 132 000 for the 12 months ending 15 March 1988.
- (2) No, but I may mention that the control is done effectively in cases where the presence of locusts is reported timeously by the land users.

Area of Suurbekom agricultural holdings: Police investigation

*10. Mr S C JACOBS asked the Minister of Law and Order:†

- (1) Whether a Police investigation took place in the area of the Suurbekom agricultural holdings on or about 27 March 1988; if so, whether, as a result of this investigation, it was found that any of these agricultural holdings were occupied by Blacks (a) as landowners, (b) as tenants and (c) in any other specified capacities; if so, (i) what are the relevant details, (ii) how many of these agricultural holdings are occupied in this way and (iii)(aa) for which population group has the area concerned been proclaimed and (bb) in terms of what statutory provisions may these Blacks live there;
- (3) whether the result of the Police investigation was made known to the (a) town council of and (b) public prosecutor in Westonaria; if so, when, in each case;
- (4) whether a docket on the matter was (a) opened and (b) brought to the attention of the Attorney-General; if so, when, in each case;
- (5) whether any steps are being considered against the persons concerned; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) when;
- (6) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) to (5) The Town Council of Westonaria requested the South African Police to investigate alleged contraventions of the Group Areas Act, 1966 (Act 36 of 1966) in the Suurbekom agricultural holdings. This

investigation is at present being conducted by the Group Areas Branch of Johannesburg. After completion of the investigation the case docket will be submitted to the Attorney-General for his decision. The requested information is therefore not furnished because it could prejudice the investigation and anticipate the judicial process.

(6) No.

Thousand Hills Drive, Drummond: provincial road

*11. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:†

- (1) Whether the Administrator of Natal has been requested to authorize the Natal Provincial Administration to (a) declare Thousand Hills Drive, Drummond, to be a provincial road and (b) bear the full cost of the expropriation;
- (2) whether such authorization has been granted; if so, when; if not, (a) why not and (b) when is a decision in this connection expected to be taken?

†The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This information was furnished by the Natal Provincial Government:

(1) and (2)

Yes. On the 28 January 1988 the Administrator-in-Executive Committee granted authority for the Administration to declare 1000 Hills Drive, Drummond, a provincial road and for the Administration to pay the full cost of expropriating land to widen the road reserve to 30 metres.

Everton ramp of deproclaimed national road between Durban/Pietermaritzburg: construction work

*12. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:†

Whether any construction work is being carried out at present at the Everton ramp of the deproclaimed national road between Durban and Pietermaritzburg; if so, (a) for what purpose and (b) what is the cost involved?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This information was furnished by the Natal Provincial Government:

Yes.

(a) The ramp and structures are being widened to improve the capacity of the interchange.

(b) The cost involved is as follows:

Contract:	R1 215 702
Departmental:	R1 800 000
Total	<u>R3 015 702</u>

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, in the light of the fact that he prefaced it with a reference to the Natal Provincial Administration's being the source of the information it contained, is the House to believe that he does not assume responsibility for the correctness of the answer?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, all I intended to indicate was the source of the information.

(1) Yes.

Repair of flood damage to Assegai Road, Hillcrest

*13. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:†

- (1) Whether the Provincial Secretary of Natal has received any requests for assistance for the repair of flood damage to Assegai Road, Hillcrest; if so, in respect of which portion of this road;
- (2) whether a decision has been taken in this connection; if so, (a) what decision and (b) when; if not, when is a decision expected to be taken?

†The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This information was furnished by the Natal Provincial Government:

(1) Yes. A request for assistance was received from the Botha's Hill Health Committee with regard to repairs within the first half kilometre from the old main road end.

(2) Yes. A decision was taken on 23 November 1987 to grant a total amount of R82 035 to the Health Committee for the repair of Assegai Road as well as other minor flood damage repairs.

Missile testing range, De Hoop: report by the Council for the Environment

*14. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) Whether the Council for the Environment submitted a report on the development of Armscor's missile testing range at De Hoop in 1986, 1987 and 1988, respectively; if so, (a) on what dates and (b) where can copies of these reports be obtained; if not, why not, in each case;

(2) with reference to the reply of the Minister of Defence to Question No 21 on 29 March 1988, what attempts are being made to ensure that the said range is being developed in accordance with the recommendations made in the Hey Committee Report?

†The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes.

(a) The activities of the Overberg Committee of the Council for the Environment were reported on in the annual reports of the Council for 1984/85 (PR 25/1986); 1985/86 (PR 36/1987); and 1986/87 (PR 29/1988), which reports were respectively tabled in Parliament on 9 April 1986, 8 June 1987 and 2 March 1988. The relevant committee was, however, dissolved on 8 October 1987.

(b) Copies of the annual reports of the Council for the Environment are obtainable from the Government Printer, Bosman Street, Private Bag X85, Pretoria, 0001.

(2) Progress in the field of nature and environmental conservation in terms of the recommendations in the report of the Hey Committee, is being monitored by the Overberg Review Committee under the chairmanship of Dr D Hey and on which members of the Cape Provincial Administration, the SA Defence Force and Armscor serve. As the Cape Provincial Administration is the responsible institution with regard to all environmental matters

Water-tariff increases for 1988 are repealed

Political Staff
The Government has repealed its 1988 water-tariff increases, bringing tariffs back to last year's levels.

Mr Gert Kotze, Minister of Water Affairs, announced this yesterday and appealed to municipalities and the private sector to pass the reduction on to the consumer.

He also appealed to other water suppliers to keep their tariffs down. He said the Government provided only about half of the country's water supply.

Mr Kotze said the water tariffs which came into effect on April 1 this year had been worked out last year.

However, in keeping with President Botha's stated commitment to help fight inflation by keeping Government tariffs down, it had been decided to repeal the increase.

He urged consumers to complain to their water authorities if the reduction was not passed on to them.

Mr Kotze appealed to other water suppliers not to increase tariffs.

Homeland conditions 'worsening'

By Paula Fray

Standards of living in the homelands had gradually deteriorated, despite an improvement in the infrastructure, the national adviser on development for the National Council of Women (NCW), Mrs Cathie Schneider, said yesterday.

Mrs Schneider, who works in Giyani, Gazankulu, was speaking in Johannesburg at an NCW conference on women and rural development.

FACILITIES

She said that clinics, the water supply and other facilities had improved in the homelands over the past 30 years.

However, forced removals, a shortage of land and the collapse of subsistence farming had led to a deterioration in the quality of life.

"In one village, 10 per cent of the families have no income. There are 21 000 jobs for 600 000 people," she said.

Most of the jobs in government services were held by husband and wife teams, Mrs Schneider said.

Family life was also affected and the extended family had disappeared.

"Migrant labour means the family is a one-parent family," she said.

Mrs Schneider said 76 children in every 1 000 born in the homelands died in infancy.

Worsening conditions had given rise to depression, drug and alcohol abuse and an increase in crime.

Glue-sniffing had already been reported in rural primary schools.

Mrs Schneider said there was a desperate need for resource centres in the rural areas. Other needs included water and health facilities.

Delegates at the NCW meeting were told that development was needed rather than relief.

It was also vital that communities were consulted on their needs.

Coloureds, Indians in group alliance

CAPE TOWN — Police yesterday began investigating possible charges under the Forestry Act against the Simon's Town municipality as over a dozen homeless, angry victims of Monday's fire began counting losses estimated at hundreds of thousands of rands.

The mayor of Simon's Town, Mrs Nicki Holder-ness, declined to discuss the causes of the blaze.

She said her council had decided to appoint a special municipal committee of inquiry. The committee would "probably" be consti-

Fire: police probe charges

tuted early next week, she said.

However it was reliably learnt that the runaway blaze began at about 2.30 pm above Murdock Valley when a "sudden gust" of wind lifted burning vegetation in a fire-break and blew it into dense vegetation nearby.

It was said that nine Simons's Town municipi-

pal labourers and their supervisor had "actually stopped burning" and were "damping down" along the municipality's border with Regional Services Council land when the gust struck.

415188
The devastation — the area's worst in 27 years — spreads over 1800 hectares, from Murdock Valley just south of Simon's Town through Millers Point, Castle Rock and Partridge Point to the Spitskop above Smitswinkel Bay.

Five houses and three caravans were gutted and another five houses were extensively damaged along with several storage sheds and out-houses.

Municipalities will pay for water hike

Star 4/15/88 By Paula Fray (56)

Many PWV municipalities will still pay a 9,7 percent increase for bulk water from the Rand Water Board — in spite of the Government's announcement this week that it had dropped its 1988 water tariff increases, bringing them back to last year's levels.

Recently the RWB announced an average 12 percent increase in the price of water sold to bulk consumers, but yesterday the board said it would pass on the entire State tariff reduction to its consumers, mainly municipalities and the gold mining industry.

"As expenditure on raw water is one of the important elements of the board's cost structure, this will effectively reduce the average tariff increase from 12 percent to 6,25 percent," RWB spokesman Ms Louise Fourie said.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

However, the amalgamation of the former tariffs applicable to foundation and other local authorities means the effective increase will be 9,7 percent for the larger municipalities, while other local authorities will have no increase.

Ms Fourie said the initial 15,5 percent increase for foundation local authorities — Johannesburg, Krugersdorp, Germiston, Boksburg, Roodepoort, Springs, Benoni, Randfontein, Brakpan, Nigel, Pretoria, and Vereeniging — was now reduced to 9,7 percent.

The 5,3 percent tariff increase for other local authorities would be removed.

A spokesman for the Johannesburg municipality, Mr Stan Verrier said the municipality had not yet considered whether or not they would pass on the reduction to consumers.

"We are waiting to be advised by the RWB."

More floods hit Natal coastline

DURBAN. — Heavy rain continued to wreak havoc on the Natal coastal belt this morning after torrential rain fell along the coastline last night.

Reports have been received of mudslides closing roads, houses window-deep in water, traffic being disrupted and part of a railway line being flooded.

Pinetown seemed the hardest-hit area, with a block of flats being flooded, a six-car pile-up blocking a road and several other road accidents. In Wood Road, Pinetown, a retaining wall collapsed and toppling on to a lower-lying house.

Several Pinetown roads were closed because of mudslides or flooding.

Heavy rain was still falling this morning in many areas following last night's downpour.

More than 200mm had been recorded at Pinetown by 8am today, Durban North had had 125mm and Ballito, on the north coast, 80mm.

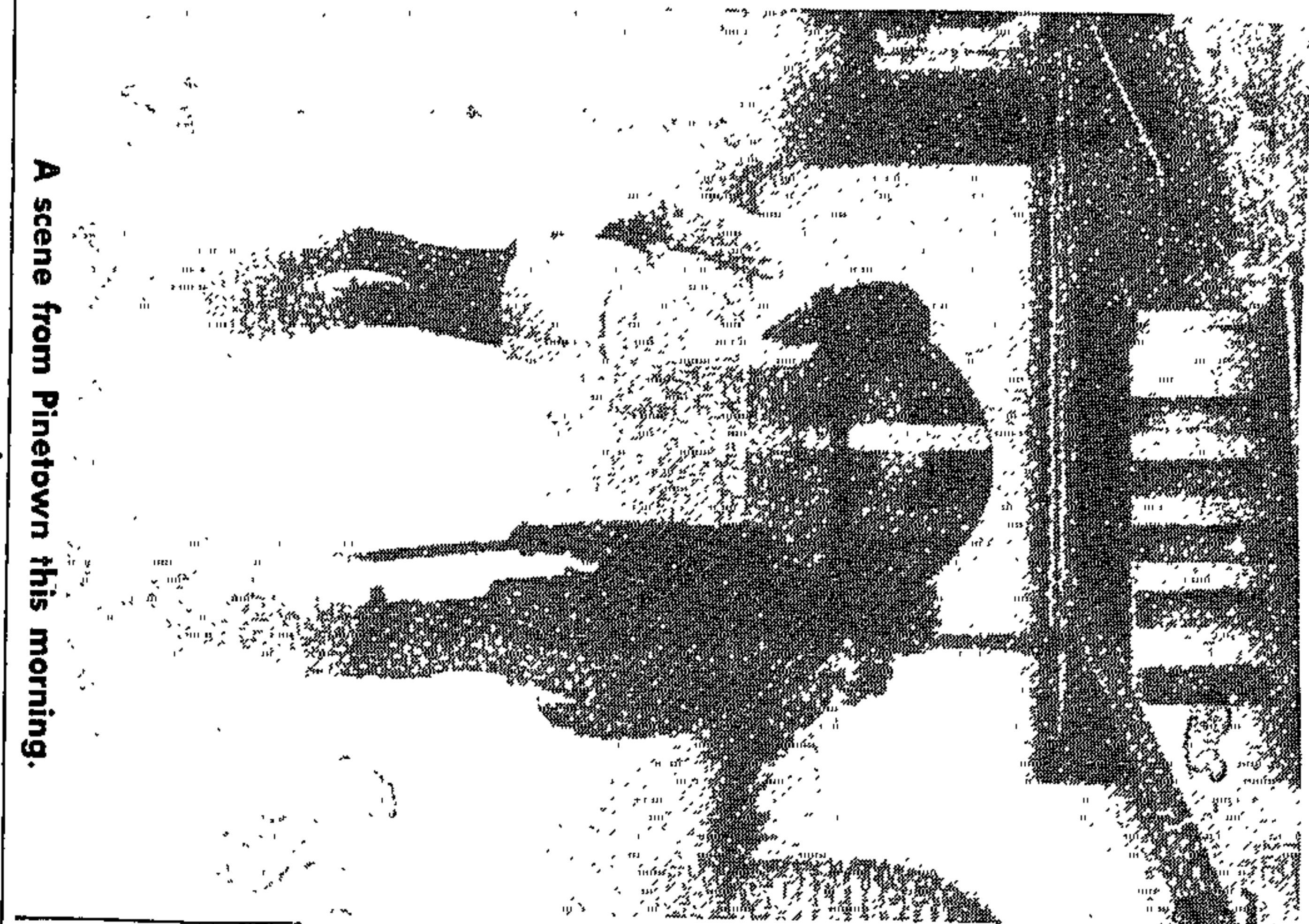
A south-bound traffic lane on the Maritzburg-Durban freeway, opposite the Edgewood Teachers Training College, was closed, along with a number of smaller roads, causing the traffic flow into Durban to be slow and erratic.

At Scottburgh more than 40mm fell and the main causeway linking the resort with the neighbouring towns was again in danger. It was flooded several times earlier this year.

Durban and Durban North had 65mm of rain overnight, Port Edward 44 and on the north coast, Salt Rock 30mm.

From Isipingo it was learned that "quite a few houses" were flooded to window-level.

In Durban sections of West and Smith streets — the city's two main streets — were without street lighting early today. — Sapa.



A scene from Pinetown this morning.

Damning SA's lack of dams

A problem in South Africa is, that when there is too much water for immediate needs, there is little opportunity to make use of it for the future, Mr Les Abrahams (LP Diamant) said in the House of Representatives yesterday. *Star 6/5/78*

MORE RESEARCH

Speaking in the debate on the water affairs budget, he said this under-

lined the tremendous work for the better use and distribution of surface and underground water. More research was needed to open up resources.

Mr Abrahams said there was nothing more frustrating when one tried to improve the socio-economic conditions of an area that lacked basic water.

(56)

Replying, Deputy Minister of Water and Land Affairs Japie van Wyk said the problem with providing new water schemes was that the users in the particular area had to pay the costs.

Only if the Government decided that it was in the national interest, for example in a growth point area, would a subsidy be given.

But if a lack of water directly endangered the existence of certain plateland towns, the department would look again at specific cases.

Mr van Wyk said underground water should be reserved for crises.

REGULAR FLOW

During the recent floods, 14 000 million cubic metres of water — enough to fill two Hendrik Verwoerd dams — flowed past Upington.

The problem with building new dams was that this flow did not happen often enough. — Sapa.

SA strikes R100m oil

SOUTH AFRICA'S first payable oil strike has been made off the coast of Mossel Bay.

Initial tests show that the well could produce between 6 000 and 7 000 barrels of crude oil a day which would be worth about R100-million a year.

By international standards, this makes it a medium-grade, paying well.

Geologists believe they are close to making further payable strikes.

The recent find has been a closely-guarded secret, but already excitement is building up in Government circles.

Payable domestic oil pro-

By Political
Correspondent

duction will make a dramatic impact on the South African economy and on the international sanctions drive.

Pure

The well is understood to be more than 100km from the gas wells that will support the fuel-from-gas project now under construction at Mossel Bay.

Oil industry sources said the strike consists of high quality crude and condensates associated with gas.

There is also a substantial gas deposit.

Combined with Sasol's existing oil-from-coal technology and the Mossgas oil-from-gas project, the discovery of recoverable crude in significant quantities could make South Africa independent of overseas supplies.

The Mossgas project will cost an estimated R5 200-million by the time it starts producing fuel in the early 1990s.

Off-shore oil exploration is undertaken by Soekor, which last year brought a fourth deep sea rig into the search, and has spent about R800-million so far.

One hundred fifty holes — most of them dry — have been drilled by Soekor in the past 20 years.

STimes

(11) 56

8/5/88

Oil discovered off West Coast says Soekor

D. 10/10/78

56

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Oil has been discovered off the Cape West Coast at Hondeklip Bay, Soekor announced yesterday.

However, the oil well, which yields about 200 barrels of crude oil a day, is not yet economic.

More holes will have to be drilled in the area before it can be established whether its commercially viable.

Soekor described the find as an "encouraging sign of oil off the West Coast".

The oil was encountered by the French-owned rig, Nymphaea, in Borehole A-J1, 26 kms south-south west of Hondeklip Bay.

"Although this production tempo is uneconomic, it indicates that possible economic oil discoveries may be made off the West Coast."

Soekor's liaison officer, Mr Mike Leibbrandt, said last night that Soekor had been drilling off the West Coast for the last year or so.

"This is the first time we got oil out, in contrast to dry gas."

The discovery of the oil off Hondeklip was "indeed very recent" and was totally unrelated to the Kudu field off the Namibian coast.

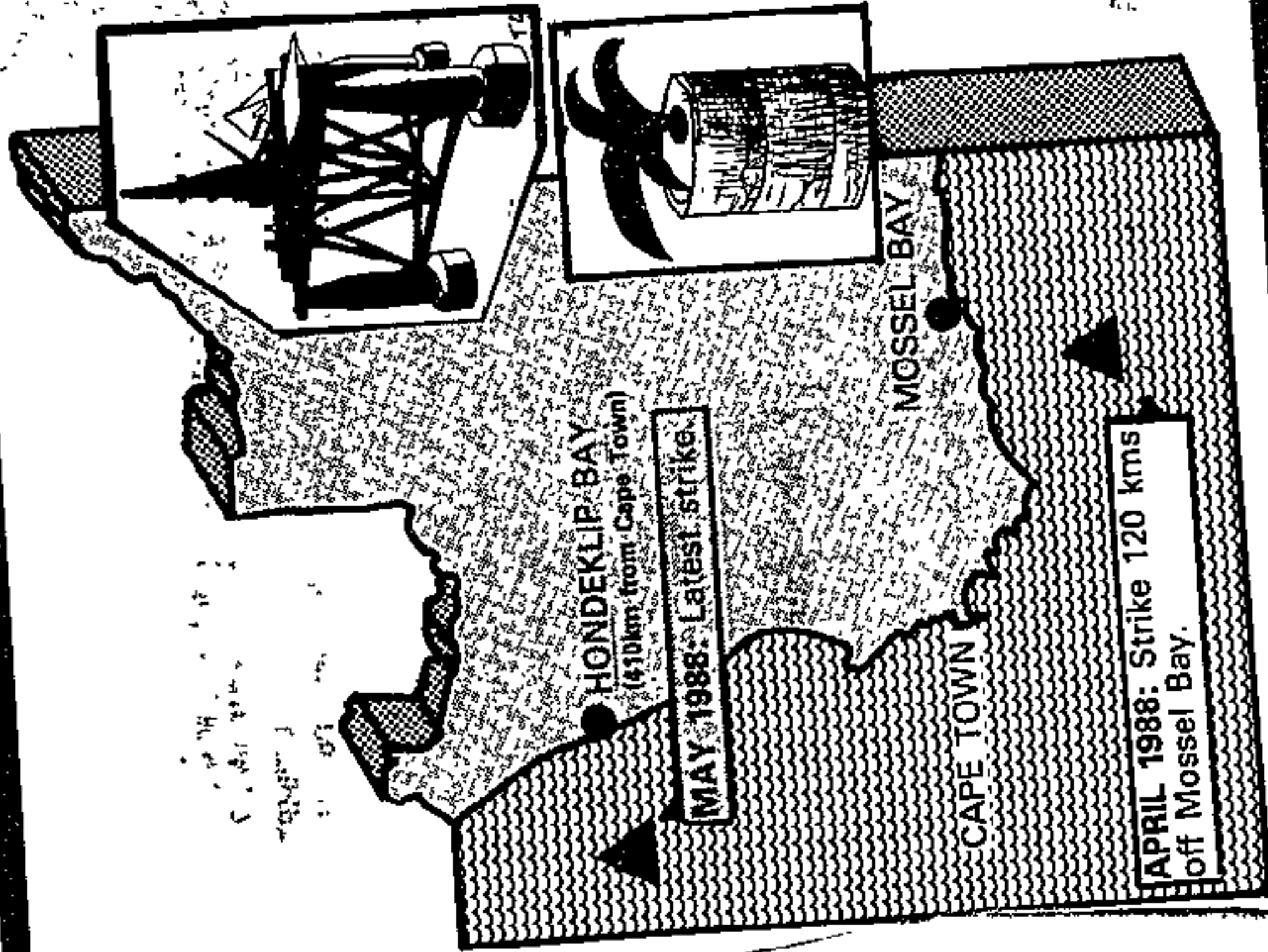
Soekor would be drilling further and a drilling programme had been drawn up.

The drilling programme could not be stepped up but it "will be pursued most strongly. We are hoping there is more oil off the West Coast".

The Hondeklip Bay hole could not be compared to the Mossel Bay fields, but it was significant that oil had been discovered there.

Editorial opinion page 10

Oil strike on West Coast



Political Staff
 OIL has been discovered off the West Coast at Hondekliip Bay. Soekor announced yesterday. But the oil well, which yields about 200 barrels of crude oil a day, is not yet economic and more holes will have to be drilled in the area before it can be established whether its commercially viable.

However, Soekor said the find showed "encouraging signs of oil off the West Coast". The oil was encountered by the French-owned rig Nymphaea in Borehole A-J1, 26 km south-south west of Hondekliip Bay.

"Although this production tempo is uneconomic, it indicates that possible economic oil discoveries may be made off the West Coast," Soekor said

in its statement. Soekor's liaison officer, Mr. Mike Leibbrandt, said last night it had drilled off the West Coast for the last year or so.

"This is the first time we got oil out, in contrast to dry gas."

Hoping for more

The discovery of the oil off Hondekliip was "indeed very recent" and was totally unrelated to the Kudu field off the Namibian coast.

He said a drilling programme had been drawn up which could not be stepped up but it "will be pursued with most strongly. We are hoping there is more oil off the West Coast".

The Hondekliip Bay hole could not be compared to the Mossel Bay fields but it was significant that oil had been

discovered there.

"The 200 barrels a day is nowhere near economic. Although we will be drilling as fast as possible we will have to do a lot more exploring," Mr. Leibbrandt said.

After the first gas was discovered at Mossel Bay, it took about four years of drilling before it became economic to develop it.

"It takes a long time — three or four months — to drill a well.

"There have been other wells drilled off the West Coast but until very recently only dry gas was discovered."

The announcement about Hondekliip Bay comes within a day of Soekor's announcement that it had struck oil at a second borehole south-south-west of Mossel Bay.

CAPE TIMES 10/5/88 56

New pact

to save nature

A ceremony heralding a new era in co-operation in nature conservation took place yesterday between the mining industry and private and government conservation organisations at the Abe Bailey Nature Reserve near Carletonville in the western Transvaal.

In terms of a lease signed by the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr Willem Cruywagen, and the chairman of the Far West Rand Dolomite Water Association, Mr B Rooyen, the TPA will administer a 4 200 ha property as a nature reserve and education centre. The lease will cost the TPA only R1 a year.

The president of the Wildlife Society of Southern Africa, Dr Nolly Zandvoort, signed a sublease with the TPA for 170 ha surrounding the environmental education centre on the reserve.

A spokesman for the society said they had renovated the original farm buildings, which had once belonged to mining magnate Sir Abe Bailey.

FAMILY AND

Conservationists warned at launch of guide to coast

D10 13/5/88
Daily Dispatch Reporter GRAHAMSTOWN — The term "conservationist" was at risk — it could get a social label, Mr Patrick Niven warned here this week.

Mr Niven, a conservationist, was here to speak at the launch of the Field Guide of the East Cape Coast.

This is a monumental 534-page work, which has been published by the Grahamstown Centre of the Wild Life Society of Southern Africa.

"We perceive what the experts tell us, but the bulk of the population is not yet able to."

Conservationists should be "terribly careful" not to be looked upon as elitist.

It was as well to remember that most of the original damage to the environment had been brought about by farmers.

"We must be humble and acknowledge that the need for conservation has been brought about by people."

However, conservation was also for people.

"We won't win unless we make sure of this."

"To succeed in our mission everybody must be brought in."

There had been a dramatic increase in the awareness for the need for conservation.

This would not have been necessary except for earlier deprecations.

"People are the most important influence in the environment."

People acknowledged what had happened, and that damage had been caused to the soil, estuaries and other sensitive areas.

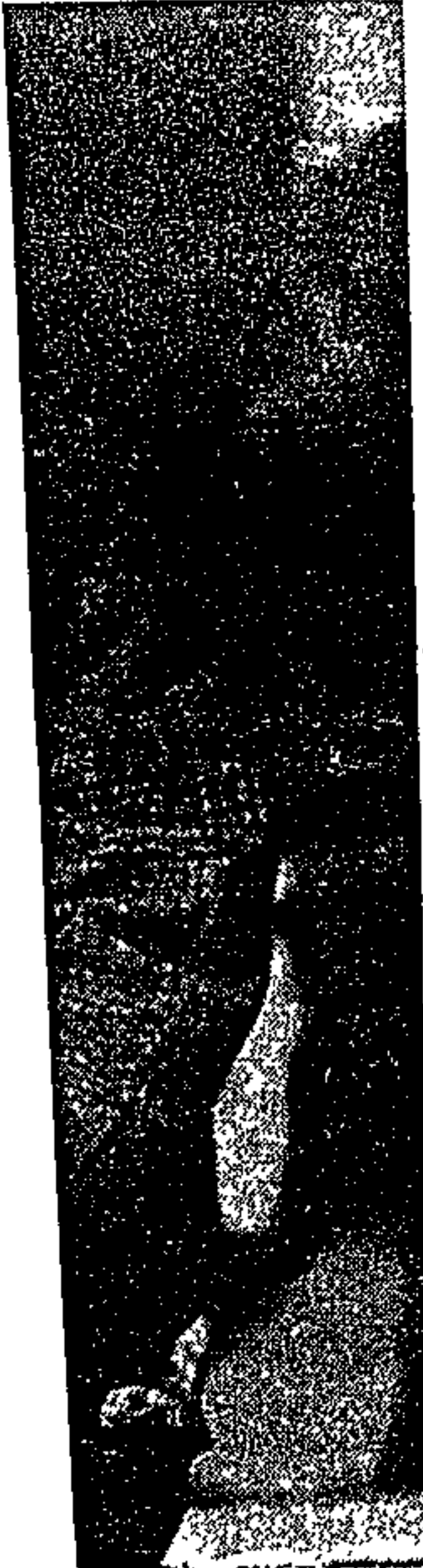
Most South Africans were not whites. Unless

the conservation ethic could be put across to all people, and the purpose of conservation conveyed to all groups within the country, conservation would become irrelevant.

"I am optimistic. Let's tackle this problem, take it by the scruff of the neck and we'll get somewhere. Let's not be depressed."

Mr Niven is a member of the South African Nature Foundation, the 1001 Club, a founder member and member of the Board of the Control of the Sir Percy Fitzpatrick Institute for African Ornithology, member of the Wild Life Society and serves on the committees of several local nature reserves.

He is a grandson of the late Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, author of Jock of the Bushveld.



Engineers to focus on the environment

Star 11/15/78 (56)

By James Clarke

Two conferences are being organised by engineers over the next few weeks — each searching for ways to bridge the gap between engineers, the public and decision-makers.

The first marks World Environment Day and the controversial archaeologist, Professor Revil Mason of Wits University — the man who wants to cover up a recently excavated 1 600-year-old Iron Age village because "South Africans don't care" — has been invited to speak.

SETTLEMENTS

The Federation of Societies of Professional Engineers is holding this conference on June 2 at 5 pm at the Mintek auditorium in Randburg.

Other speakers will deal with a broad range of subjects calculated to interest the public, in-

cluding the future of Mossel Bay now that it has struck oil as well as the impact of human settlements on riverine environments.

It is open to the public (R35 entrance fee includes finger supper). Details are obtainable from Mrs Helen Coetzee at (011) 832-2177.

A second and even larger conference — 1 000 engineers and planners are expected — begins at Pretoria University on July 4.

This is the quinquennial convention of the South African Institution of Civil Engineers which, this year, is being coupled with the annual transportation convention.

Some top speakers will discuss highway engineering, and new methods of assessing and avoiding potential environmental damage from engineering developments.

Inquiries can be directed to Ms Bailey at (012) 841-3576.

... immediately launched an extensive... basis...

Big game hunting in SA booms

SA 20/9/81 (56)

Political instability in African countries is re-routing hunters from all over the world to South Africa to set an all-time boom for big-game hunting in this country.

However, professional hunters, even though delighted with the revenue generated by visitors, warned that the boom could easily boom-merang and leave many game farmers penniless.

"Prices for game animals are going haywire, enticing many farmers to take up the business," said Dr Lucas Potgieter, past president of the SA Hunting Association.

At a recent auction, roan antelope went for a record price of R22 000 a head. The auction, itself, netted almost R1 million.

"What many of the farmers don't realise, however, is that only a few of the rarer species are sought after by hunters, and the farmer might find himself with too many animals and be forced to cull them and start farming with sheep and cattle all over again."

Big-game expert Mr Mike Hunter Cameron explained: "Tourists, especially from America, Germany, France and Spain are drawn to the South African farms by the low value of the land, by the selection of 31 species of big-game trophies and, most of all, by the fact that hunting takes place all year round. In the rest of Africa it is seasonal."

SARA MARTIN

Furthermore, South Africa was the only country to offer the "big five" trophies — elephant, rhino, buffalo, lion and leopard — necessary for the international Weatherby Award presented in America to the hunter who has the best collection of trophies.

"The black rhino is almost extinct and the white rhino, a must for the hunter's collection, is found only in South Africa."

"The length of the horn is of the greatest importance and South Africa has a prize example of an animal with an 82 cm horn," said Mr Cameron.

"The price for this trophy is R70 000. Hunting has become a game for kings. In addition to paying an exorbitant fee per capita for the animal, the hunter has to pay the game farmer a safari rate that varies from R300 to R800 a day, depending on the facilities available on the farm. The average time spent on a farm is about 10 days."

Visitors had been pouring between R35 million and R45 million a year into the South African economy.

"The depletion of wild life through poaching in black Africa and the fear of contracting Aids will, with time, entice even more hunters to South Africa," said Mr Cameron.

Dr Piet Mulder, Director of Nature Conservation, said that in the Transvaal alone there were 750 fenced game farms and 400 private nature reserves with government permits for hunting.

PRIME TARGET: A rhino is a must for the serious hunter and one could cost him up to R70 000.



Environmental study by leading ecologists

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Anglo American has commissioned top ecologists to produce an environmental "High Road" scenario.

Heading the project is Mr. Clem Sunter, an Anglo director and architect of the highly successful roadshow, book and video, "The World and South Africa in the 1990s".

Among the topics to be dealt with are the country's expected population explosion and the mining houses' potential minefield of "environmental degradation" caused by the search for raw materials.

The project is expected to

take nine months, then "the team and Anglo will take a decision whether the material is worth taking further".

If they get the go-ahead they could do a similar presentation of the High and Low Roads ecology scenarios to wider audiences.

"I think one of the crucial factors is population growth. People talk of 45 million by the turn of the century and 60 million to 80 million by 2020 or 2025, Mr Sunter says.

"My view is that one cannot use coercion to restrain population growth. Instead, it has to be done by giving everyone access to material prosperity."

Flood relief thefts: Workers keep jobs

CAPE TOWN 7/25 25/5/88

56
By CHRIS STEYN

SEVENTY-THREE municipal employees convicted of stealing emergency supplies intended for flood victims at Upington are to stay in their jobs.

This was confirmed to the Cape Times yesterday by Upington's deputy town clerk Mr C P Schutte, who said the town council decided on Monday night that the workers had been "punished enough".

Seventy-three of the 74 municipal officials arrested by police were found guilty in the local magistrate's court last month of unlawfully appropriating emergency supplies intended for flood victims. They all pleaded guilty and the court imposed fines ranging between R100 and R200 each — to be paid to the Disaster Relief Fund.

The remaining accused will appear in court today.

Mr Schutte said the town council decided that the punishment by the court had been sufficient. "All the stolen goods were recovered and the workers paid the fines imposed by the court.

"The council gave the workers a final warning. But it was decided not to take any further action," he said.

Upington's district police commander, Major Bertie Viviers, said the police investigation was started when the municipality received information that one employee had appropriated some flood relief supplies — including food and blankets.

The suspect, however, informed on a couple of accomplices, who in turn gave detectives the names of dozens of other people involved in the theft.

Major Viviers told the Cape Times that "about a truck-load full" of supplies were stolen. These included food, blankets, sleeping mats and clothing.

Drought areas 'unlisted' — aid to farmers goes on

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Recent good rains have meant that all drought-listed areas are to be "unlisted" on June 1 this year — although aid to farmers is to continue for a further two months.

In a statement issued by the Department of Agriculture and Water Supply, the director of agricultural information says that "through the drought assistance schemes, the full benefits will remain in force for an additional two months under the livestock grazing scheme, after which the payment of an incentive on reduced stock numbers could provide cash benefits to farmers optionally for another four months."

The good rains of the last few months have resulted in a "general recovery of the veld" in drought stricken areas, the director said. The availability of water has also improved, and the condition of stock is better.

However, farmers are to be encouraged to keep their stock numbers low, to allow the natural pastures to recover from the drought.

A condition of the livestock grazing scheme is that participants undertook to follow the same livestock grazing practices for two months after the areas were unlisted. Participants also have to maintain the same stocking rate that applied immediately before the area was "unlisted".

Farmers may also apply for a further four months of grazing assistance in the form of an incentive for reduced stock numbers.

The department will be "patrolling" the land of all participants by helicopter to ensure that stock numbers are being kept low, and any farmer found with excess stock will have to repay all the financial aid — including interest — given to them.

SA is now dumping^{still} ground for 'poison'^{5/3}

The Star's Foreign
News Service

ROTTERDAM — The shipping of chemical waste to Africa has become big business.

It is claimed that hundreds of tons of poisonous chemical wastes are being exported to South Africa and other African countries from Holland, which is faced with an unprecedented stockpile of waste chemicals from its 165 000 industries.

This has been revealed by the *Algemeen Dagblad*, Holland's largest daily newspaper.

The new business, says the paper, has developed over the past few months. Many European countries and municipalities have stopped issuing dumping permits because of mounting protests from environmentalists, who are increasingly alarmed about the high number of chemical waste dumps.

LETHAL 'COCKTAILS'

The legitimate chemical waste processing companies are increasingly turning to what the newspaper calls the "poison chemicals Mafia" to solve the problem.

These, in turn, find many African countries, such as Guinea Bissau, Benin and South Africa, increasingly eager to accept the often lethal chemical cocktails.

European MP Francois Roelant de Vivier, an avid environmentalist, told the newspaper that he wanted to stop this lucrative form of "development aid" to the Third World.

Nigeria, increasingly concerned about the possible harm the chemicals could do to the already fragile African environment, has protested about the shipments.

A conglomerate of British companies wants to send 3 million tons of waste to Guinea Bissau every year.

How planners can get public's views

Star 31/5/88 (56)
By James Clarke

"Cheshire Puss", Alice began, rather timidly, "would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"
"That depends a great deal on where you want to get to," said the cat.
"I don't much care where..." said Alice.
"Then it doesn't much matter which way you go," said the cat.

Professor Richard Fuggle, director of the Environmental Evaluation Unit and head of Environmental Studies at UCT, used these words in introducing a paper at a recent symposium in Sandton on town planning.

His paper tackled one of the most vexed aspects of local government — how to get the public to respond co-operatively to development plans.

Of the 25 residents' associations invited to the symposium only 12 attended.

Professor Fuggle said it was amazing how much professional expertise and sincere advice was available to a town council, at little or no cost, within its own community.

And by extending the "ownership" of a plan by involving the entire community a council could reduce long-term opposition and delays. Delays were a huge cost factor.

Little was achieved by public meetings, said Professor Fuggle. But there were "alternative ways of gathering the views of the public which are much more beneficial to planners".

He suggested the following steps:

- Tell the public the precise nature of the problem and the pros and cons of the most obvious solutions. Brochures, plans and documents might be made available at public libraries and shopping complexes where citizens can consider the evidence in a non-threatening situation.

Professor Fuggle told of how he wanted to build, had gone to his local civic centre to look at documents that were supposedly available to the public and was sent to some obscure and unfriendly office where he waited until "a two-inch thick" document was dumped in front of him. He had to study it there. "I was so thoroughly intimidated and there was no way I could study it. I went home without reading it," he said.

- This step "might involve active solicitation of the views and reactions of a cross section of established community groups. Formal presentations could be made to these groups.

- Active consultation with special interest groups. Groups established to either promote a certain option or oppose one must be properly informed and given the chance to respond formally and in writing.

- Organise workshops to which representatives of all interest groups are invited.

- Use public opinion poll methods — this tool is useful but is not a substitute for involving the public in discussion.

Professor Fuggle gave an example of how the public's negative reaction is sometimes right. After the Laingsburg flood disaster the Railways decided not to rebuild a certain bridge. This would save R30 million. Instead lorries were used and the tiny town of Montagu immediately objected, offering all sorts of excuses (children's and pets' safety, noise, etc).

ROAD DAMAGE

A study showed none of these fears was well grounded. But the entire town was worried even though it could not articulate its concern in technical planning terms. The passage of 30 large lorries, four times a day — that is 120 movements a day — would obviously alter the whole ambience of Montagu.

In fact that is what happened. It not only depressed the town but it soon smashed the road surface. In the end the damage amounted to more than the R30 million the Government was trying to save.

Had the planners talked it over with the people they might have avoided the sad and expensive affair.

AID PLEDGE FOR THE APARTHEID VICTIMS

BRUSSELS — The European Economic Community on Monday pledged to maintain humanitarian aid to South African anti-apartheid groups even if such groups are effectively banned under a Bill being prepared by the South African Government.

EEC development commissioner Lorenzo Natali met on Friday in Brussels with South African church leaders and leaders of the Kagiso Trust, a South African group that aids apartheid victims.

EEC officials said Natali assured them of the organisation's support of those who "use all pacific (peacefully) means to fight for the abolition of apartheid.

The EEC has earmarked 25,5 million European currency units (30,6 million dollars) for humanitarian aid to South African opposition groups in 1988, up from the 20 million and 10 million ecus (24 million and 12 million

Church leaders given assurance

dollars) in 1987 and 1986, respectively.

The South African religious leaders from several denominations urged the EEC to pressure South Africa into shelving the "Promotion of Orderly Internal Politics" Bill.

The Bill, likely to be adopted by South Africa's Parliament later this year, will let Pretoria seize funds from abroad if it believes these will be used for political activities.

South African churches and church groups rely heavily on foreign funding. Under the Bill,

they would need government approval to get foreign aid.

EEC officials did not say how the EEC would continue its humanitarian aid if the Bill becomes law.

Last week, a group in the European parliament urged the EEC to increase economic sanctions against South Africa if it tightens up its anti-apartheid legislation.

In 1986 the EEC banned new investments in South Africa and halted imports of iron, steel and gold coins from the country. — Sapa-AP.

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

16. Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Justice:

How many (a) prosecutions were instituted and (b) convictions were obtained in respect of cases of (i) murder, (ii) culpable homicide, (iii) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (iv) common assault, (v) rape, (vi) burglary and housebreaking with intent to steal and theft, (vii) robbery, (viii) theft of (aa) motor vehicles and (bb) cycles, (ix) malicious damage to property, (x) illegal possession of fire-arms and (xi) possession of drugs investigated at police stations serving the Riverlea and Riverlea Extensions 1 and 2 areas in Johannesburg in the 1987 calendar year?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available. To obtain it all court records pertaining to the crimes concerned will have to be scrutinised.

Own Affairs

Marianridge: financial allocations

5. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) Whether his Department made any financial allocations for the development and improvement of living conditions in Mariannridge Phase 1 in 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987, respectively; if not, why not; if so, what total amount was so allocated in each of these years;

(2) whether he or his Department was at any stage requested to appoint a planning or development committee for this area; if so, (a) on what date and (b) by whom;

(3) whether this request has been acceded to; if so, what are the relevant details; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Since the dwellings were occupied only

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

normal day to day maintenance has been carried out. However, since 1985 all the houses and flats were painted and the amounts utilized for this purpose are as follows:

(Since September)	1984	R3 000
	1985	R30 000
	1986	R38 900
	1987	R61 300

In addition R480 900,00 was spent during the 1987 floods in Mariannridge Phase 1.

(2) Yes.

(a) 18 March 1987.

(b) Mr C J Kippen, MP.

(3) The request to establish a Development Committee in this area was not acceded to as it was the Department's opinion that the area at the time was adequately catered for and not in need of immediate upgrading.

Marianridge: storm-water drainage system

6. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) Whether there is a storm-water drainage system in Mariannridge Phase 1; if so,

(2) whether this system meets the standard requirements; if not, (a) why not and (b) what steps have been or are to be taken to remedy the position?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(a) falls away

(b) falls away.

Marianridge: flood damage
7. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) What is it estimated was the cost to the State of flood damage in Mariannridge Phase 1 in 1987;

(2) whether all flood victims who were left homeless in this area have been or are to be rehoused; if not, (a) why not and (b)

how many have been or are to be rehoused; if so, (i) how many (aa) have been and (bb) are to be rehoused, (ii) what are the particulars of the accommodation provided or to be provided to them and (iii) in respect of what date is this information furnished:

(3) whether a document relating to assurance of safety in the event of a recurrence was distributed amongst flood victims; if so, (a) when, (b) on whose authority and (c) what was the nature of this assurance?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) The estimated cost to the State of flood damage in Mariannridge Phase 1 in 1987 is calculated at R500 000,00.

(2) All families have been rehoused.

(a) falls away.

(b) 3 families.

(i) (aa) 3 families.

(bb) falls away.

(ii) These 3 families were rehoused in other housing units in Mariannridge Phase 1.

(iii) 15 April 1988.

(3) Yes.

(a) 11 December 1987.

(b) Chief Director: Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture.

(c) The assurance was given that everything possible was done to expedite repair work to their homes and immediate environment. Also to those who had already moved back into their homes the assurance was given that everything possible had been done to ensure that their homes were structurally sound and safe to occupy and that where necessary earthworks were undertaken to further ensure their safety. Improvements to the services in the area are also undertaken.

Marianridge: shelters
8. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(i) August 1985
(ii) As a result of water seeping under the foundations
(iii) Foundations were undermined

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Howard

(1) Whether, during or subsequent to floods in 1987, his Department provided the tenants of a block of flats in Mariannridge Phase 1 with approximately four structures or shelters for use in the event of heavy rains; if so, what is the (a) nature of and (b) present state of repair of these structures or shelters;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(a) Converted South African Transport Services passenger coaches which were in effect core houses.

(b) Good.

(2) No.

Marianridge: land slides
9. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) Whether his Department conducted any investigations into land slides and/or subsidences which allegedly occurred in the Mercury Crescent area of Mariannridge Phase 1 prior to the 1987 floods; if not, why not; if so,

(2) whether these conditions affected a (a) house and (b) block of flats in this area before or after the said floods; if so, (i) when, (ii) why, and (iii) to what extent, in each case;

(3) whether any steps have been taken in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps, (b) by whom, (c) when and (d) with what result?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Investigations were conducted into cases of subsidences which occurred during August 1985.

(2) (a) Yes

(b) Yes

(i) August 1985

(ii) As a result of water seeping under the foundations

(iii) Foundations were undermined

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Howard

THURSDAY, 2 JUNE 1988

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- (3) (a) Foundations were underpinned.
- (b) The Department.
- (c) August 1985.
- (d) The buildings were made structurally sound.

Mariannridge: provision of housing

10. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture
- (1) Whether his Department is responsible for the provision of housing in Mariannridge Phase 1; if so, to what extent;
 - (2) whether any houses originally provided in this area by his Department are for sale at present; if so, (a) how many and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished.
 - (3) whether the State intends to guarantee the

safety of these housing units after the date of sale; if not, why not, if so, for what period?

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

- (1) No.
The Department is only responsible for the administration of the housing in Mariannridge Phase 1 which was provided by a former Department.
- (2) (a) Although the Department did not erect these dwellings, there are 604 units for sale in Mariannridge Phase 1.
- (b) 15 April 1988.
- (3) No, all housing units are sold "voetstoots" and the State does not provide guarantees for safety against natural disasters.

1673

THURSDAY, 2 JUNE 1988

1674

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

† Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Chatsworth: new police district

33. Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Law and Order.

- (1) Whether a new police district was established in Chatsworth recently; if so, (a) when, (b) why and (c)(i) how many persons of each race group are employed in this district and (ii) in what ranks are they so employed;
- (2) whether any new vehicles have been purchased for this district, if not, why not; if so, (a) how many and (b) at what total cost;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) to (3).

The necessity for a new police district in this area was identified as a result of the rapid industrial expansion in Chatsworth and vicinity and the increased demands that were gradually made on the South African Police.

A new police district has functioned in the area from 1 February 1988. Sufficient members of various race groups serve under the command of the District Commandant with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. However, for security reasons I am not prepared to reveal the numerical strength of the district concerned, but should the honourable member approach me, I am prepared to furnish the information to him on a personal and confidential basis.

Sufficient vehicles, including a number of new vehicles, were supplied to satisfy the immediate needs of the district

Offences: prosecutions convictions

50. Mr MRAJAB asked the Minister of Justice:

How many (a) prosecutions were instituted and (b) convictions were obtained in respect of the cases of (i) murder, (ii) culpable homicide, (iii) assault with intent to do grievous bodily

Howard

harm, (iv) common assault, (v) rape, (vi) burglary and housebreaking, (vii) robbery, (viii) theft of vehicles, (ix) damage to property and (x) possession of drugs investigated by the Greenwood Park, Mayville, Sydenham, Mount Edgecombe, Stanger, Tongaat, Verulam, Chatsworth, Isipingo and Wentworth police stations, respectively, in the 1987 calendar year?

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The information is not readily available. To obtain it all court records pertaining to the crimes concerned will have to be scrutinised

Fire-arm licences

51. Mr MRAJAB asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (a) How many applications for licences to possess fire-arms have been (i) received and (ii) granted since 1 January 1988 and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) (i) 32 202.

(ii) 30 290.

(b) 31 March 1988.

Indian magistrates: Transvaal

64 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether there are any Indian magistrates in the Transvaal, if so, how many; if not,
- (2) whether he intends appointing Indian magistrates in the Transvaal; if so, (a) when and (b) where, if not, why not;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1) No

- (2) and (3) Magistrates are appointed when vacancies occur from amongst the available candidates on the principles of efficiency and merit and not on a racial basis. I am convinced that as more and more Indians join the Department of Justice, more of them will become magistrates in the normal course of events.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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For written reply:

General Affairs:

16. Mr T R GEORGE asked the Minister of Justice:

How many (a) prosecutions were instituted and (b) convictions were obtained in respect of cases of (i) murder, (ii) culpable homicide, (iii) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (iv) common assault, (v) rape, (vi) burglary and housebreaking with intent to steal and theft, (vii) robbery, (viii) theft of (aa) motor vehicles and (bb) cycles, (ix) malicious damage to property, (x) illegal possession of fire-arms and (xi) possession of drugs investigated at police stations serving the Riverlea and Riverlea Extensions 1 and 2 areas in Johannesburg in the 1987 calendar year?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The required information is not readily available. To obtain it all court records pertaining to the crimes concerned will have to be scrutinised.

Own Affairs:

Mariannridge: financial allocations

5. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) Whether his Department made any financial allocations for the development and improvement of living conditions in Mariannridge Phase 1 in 1984, 1985, 1986 and 1987, respectively; if not, why not, if so, what total amount was so allocated in each of these years;

(2) whether he or his Department was at any stage requested to appoint a planning or development committee for this area; if so, (a) on what date and (b) by whom;

(3) whether this request has been acceded to; if so, what are the relevant details; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Since the dwellings were occupied only

normal day to day maintenance has been carried out. However, since 1985 all the houses and flats were painted and the amounts utilized for this purpose are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Amount. Rows: 1984 R3 000, 1985 R30 000, 1986 R38 900, 1987 R61 300

In addition R480 900.00 was spent during the 1987 floods in Mariannridge Phase 1.

(2) Yes.

(a) 18 March 1987.

(b) Mr C J Kippen, MP.

(3) The request to establish a Development Committee in this area was not acceded to as it was the Department's opinion that the area at the time was adequately catered for and not in need of immediate upgrading.

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(1) Whether there is a storm-water drainage system in Mariannridge Phase 1; if so,

(2) whether this system meets the standard requirements; if not, (a) why not and (b) what steps have been or are to be taken to remedy the position?

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(1) Yes.

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(a) falls away.

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how many have been or are to be rehoused; if so, (i) how many (aa) have been and (bb) are to be rehoused, (ii) what are the particulars of the accommodation provided or to be provided to them and (iii) in respect of what date is this information furnished;

(3) whether a document relating to assurance of safety in the event of a recurrence was distributed amongst flood victims, if so, (a) when, (b) on whose authority and (c) what was the nature of this assurance?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) The estimated cost to the State of flood damage in Mariannridge Phase 1 in 1987 is calculated at R500 000.00.

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(ii) These 3 families were rehoused in other housing units in Mariannridge Phase 1.

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Mariannridge: land slides

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(2) whether these conditions affected a (a) house and (b) block of flats in this area before or after the said floods; if so, (i) when, (ii) why, and (iii) to what extent, in each case;

(3) whether any steps have been taken in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps, (b) by whom, (c) when and (d) with what result?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Investigations were conducted into cases of subsidences which occurred during August 1985.

(2) (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(i) August 1985.

(ii) As a result of water seeping under the foundations.

(iii) Foundations were undermined.

Howard

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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For written reply.

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The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

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(3) whether this request has been acceded to; if so, what are the relevant details; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Since the dwellings were occupied only

how many have been or are to be rehoused; if so, (i) how many (aa) have been and (bb) are to be rehoused, (ii) what are the particulars of the accommodation provided or to be provided to them and (iii) in respect of what date is this information furnished;

(3) whether a document relating to assurance of safety in the event of a recurrence was distributed amongst flood victims; if so, (a) when, (b) on whose authority and (c) what was the nature of this assurance?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) The estimated cost to the State of flood damage in Mariannridge Phase 1 in 1987 is calculated at R500 000.00.

(2) All families have been rehoused.

(a) falls away.

(b) 3 families.

(i) (aa) 3 families.

(bb) falls away

(ii) These 3 families were rehoused in other housing units in Mariannridge Phase 1.

(iii) 15 April 1988.

(3) Yes.

(a) 11 December 1987.

(b) Chief Director: Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture.

(c) The assurance was given that everything possible was done to expedite repair work to their homes and immediate environment. Also to those who had already moved back into their homes the assurance was given that everything possible had been done to ensure that their homes were structurally sound and safe to occupy and that where necessary earthworks were undertaken to further ensure their safety. Improvements to the services in the area are also undertaken.

Mariannridge: shelters
8. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) August 1985.

(ii) As a result of water seeping under the foundations.

(iii) Foundations were undermined.

Howard

(1) Whether, during or subsequent to floods in 1987, his Department provided the tenants of a block of flats in Mariannridge Phase 1 with approximately four structures or shelters for use in the event of heavy rains, if so, what is the (a) nature of and (b) present state of repair of these structures or shelters;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(a) Converted South African Transport Services passenger coaches which were in effect core houses.

(b) Good.

(2) No.

Mariannridge: land slides
9. Mr C J KIPPEN asked the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture:

(1) Whether his Department conducted any investigations into land slides and or subsidences which allegedly occurred in the Mercury Crescent area of Mariannridge Phase 1 prior to the 1987 floods, if not, why not; if so.

(2) whether these conditions affected a (a) house and (b) block of flats in this area before or after the said floods; if so, (i) when, (ii) why, and (iii) to what extent, in each case;

(3) whether any steps have been taken in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps, (b) by whom, (c) when and (d) with what result?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Investigations were conducted into cases of subsidences which occurred during August 1985.

(2) (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(i) August 1985.

(ii) As a result of water seeping under the foundations.

(iii) Foundations were undermined.

Civilisation has 100 years to go unless . . .

Star 2/6/85

By James Clarke

(56)

One of the world's most quoted scientists, and a founder of the environmental movement of the '70s, Professor Paul Ehrlich, is in Johannesburg.

The professor believes that unless population growth is dramatically curbed civilisation has only 100 years to go.

Professor Ehrlich, a CSIR visiting research fellow from Stanford University (California), became world famous after his book, "The Population Bomb", was published in 1968. Its cover bore the words: "While you are reading this sentence four people will have starved to death. Most of them children."

He still believes the human population is growing too fast for the world to be able to maintain civilised standards. He estimates that its present 5 000 million people will double in 35 years.

He said: "The time has come to look at the interaction between resource depletion, environmental deterioration and population growth.

"Solutions have to be found to avert the destruction of our means for survival and our wildlife and other resources."

The professor is to deliver a public address in Johannesburg tomorrow. Later in the month he delivers the keynote address on "The process of rapidly increasing rates

of extinction in animals and plants" to the National Conference on Conserving the Biotic Diversity in Southern Africa.

The conference is sponsored by the CSIR's ecosystems research department in collaboration with the Johannesburg-based Endangered Wildlife Trust, the National Botanic Gardens and the Wildlife Society.

The three-day conference will assess southern Africa's biological richness in depth and will later publish a comprehensive source-book for use by students, administrators and the public.

Professor Ehrlich's Johannesburg talk will be at 8 pm at the Protea Gardens Hotel, Berea. Tickets can be booked through Computicket.

A group that works for better township life

From small beginnings in Soweto in 1976, the National Environmental Awareness Campaign (Neac) has become a huge organisation well known in the townships.

The moving force behind it is a former Morris Isaacson schoolteacher, Mr Japhta Lekgetho, popularly known in Soweto as "Mr Clean".

Mr Lekgetho, according to Neac public relations officer Ms Laura Pollecutt, is "a man with a vision and a sense of direction".

Blacks, Neac says, have always "had to live in an environment that was neither beautiful nor clean. We have not had proper housing, roads or services because the authorities would not accept that we

were a permanent part of the city scene. Conditions were at their worst before, and just after, the 1976 riots and this was where the community itself came in."

Neac was created because Soweto residents were "sick and tired of having to live under terrible conditions which affect the human dignity of our people."

The intention, Mr Lekgetho said, was to encourage people "to learn to love nature (and) beautify their gardens and pavements, and help in organising better parks and recreational clubs, so as to upgrade our quality of life."

Today, Neac has four soccer teams (one plays in the second division of the NSL), a netball team which plays in the Soweto Netball Association League, a softball team, modern dance, music, body-building and beauty contest groups.

IMPROVED ENVIRONMENT

The organisation also has a library and a nursery which keeps "looking greener and greener".

A five-year plan commits the organisation to fight for:

- An improved environment for all South Africans.
- Better living conditions and an improvement in the quality of life for the underprivileged.
- The elimination of apartheid practice in deciding what the land will be used for and who will use that land.
- The gaining of recreational facilities (on a par with those of white urban areas) for both existing and new townships.

However, Neac is more committed to fighting the Group Areas Act and the Land Act.

"The organisation is heavily committed to the removal of laws which affect our environment. The problems of over-crowding and those created by the congestion in our residential areas will always remain a problem as long as the Group Areas Act and the Land Act continue to be applied," says Neac in its latest newsletter.

'Apartheid is making our towns dirty'

Black townships will continue to be scenes of protests and unrest as long as laws such as the Group Areas Act and the Land Act remain in the statute book, Mr Japhta Lekgetho, president of the Soweto-based National Environmental Awareness Campaign (Neac), said yesterday.

Speaking at the Neac head office in Dobsonville, Mr Lekgetho said black people had nothing to celebrate yesterday, an international environmental awareness day.

"It is apartheid which makes our townships dirty. We have never had, and we certainly do not have now, equal services.

"Anything, including services, provided to our communities is of a lower standard, because those who do the planning and the budgetting believe that these lower standards are acceptable when they are considering another race group," Mr Lekgetho said.

By Kaizer Nyatumba

Mr Lekgetho, together with about 50 children who are members of Neac, carried placards in the organisation's premises saying: "Provide housing for the poor and the homeless", "Protect our environment by removing the Group Areas

Act and the Land Act" and "Protect our environment by providing equal community services, recreational facilities and proper town planning".

A placard saying "Apartheid makes our townships dirty" was hoisted above a heap of garbage. "We want to show that apartheid is

rubbish," Mr Lekgetho said.

Township clean-up campaigns organised by whites were welcome, but these "do not solve the real problem; they only perpetuate it. These people should call for the abolition of the Group Areas Act which is the root cause of the problem," said Mr Lekgetho.

Star 6/6/88
Environment
day 'no joy
for blacks'

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The Dried Fruit Board celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

To mark the occasion, the board was hoping for a record crop of 48 000 tons of dried fruit, but the Orange River floods earlier this year caused substantial damage to grape crops, putting the record target out of reach.

Mr DC Viljoen, general manager of the Dried Fruit Board, says raisin and sultana production has been affected by the floods in terms of both quantity and quality.

"When the floods came, we had harvested 25 percent of the crop. We then had to salvage what we could of the rest, and these were not of the best quality. We will have a lot more sub-standard raisins and sultanas this year than in previous years."

Mr Viljoen assures consumers there will be no shortage of first-grade dried grape products on the domestic market. The board reserves adequate supplies of good quality fruit for the local market before making export allocations.

The sub-standard grades will not be wasted. Those that cannot be sold to consumers will be used for brewing or in animal feeds.

The Dried Fruit Board was established 50 years ago to stabilise the dried fruit industry which, at that stage, was destroying itself because of fierce competition between a large number of packers.

Its other functions were to control the importation of dried fruit, curb periodic over-production and administer quality control.

Today, the board's main function is still the promotion of stability in the production and marketing of fruit produced for drying. The board also administers single-channel pool schemes for currants, sultanas, raisins and prunes.

Producers usually dry the fruit themselves on their farms and deliver it to receiving depots of the board's agent, the South African Dried Fruit Co-operative (SAD), where it is processed further, packaged and marketed. Selling prices are not controlled.

Mr J Coetzee, public relations officer of the board, says there is often criticism that dried fruit is too expensive, but the board feels this criticism is unjustified.

Many problems affect industry

Floods spoiled dried fruit aim

Caroline Mehliiss

"Consumers must remember that the ratio of fresh fruit to the dried product is high. It takes, for example, 12 kg of fresh apples to make 1 kg of dried apple rings.

"Dried fruit price increases have stayed below the general inflation rate. Our marketing costs are low because of the single-channel marketing system and, because our industry is basically sound and well organised, it has never been dependent on State subsidies or assistance," he says.

South Africa exports more than 60 percent of its dried fruit production. Sanctions have placed increasing pressure on the industry, although several alternative markets have been found.

Other factors, according to Mr Coetzee, which may also affect the position of our dried fruit industry on the world market include:

- The uncertainty of harvests in the producer countries due to unpredictable climatic conditions.
- Subsidies. In many countries, governments pay production subsidies which spur producers on to higher production.
- Protection of imports. Some countries protect their own agricultural products by imposing duties on imported goods, including dried fruit from South Africa.
- South Africa's high inflation rate, which is extremely detrimental to export industries.
- Improved quality in third-world countries. The advantage South Africa had in the past is steadily being reduced as countries such as Turkey and Argentina improve the quality of their products.

D F Malan Airport

Successful tenderers:

Date:

L P and A J van den Berg

(Pty) Ltd

28 July 1965

Spyskor (Cape) (Pty) Ltd

1 February 1981

J B M Hertzog Airport

Successful tenderers:

Date:

L P and A J van den Berg

(Pty) Ltd

1 June 1967

Spyskor (Pty) Ltd

1 February 1981

H F Verwoerd Airport

Successful tenderers:

Date:

L P and A J van den Berg

(Pty) Ltd

28 July 1965

Spyskor (Pty) Ltd

1 February 1981

B J Vorster Airport

Successful tenderers:

Date:

Messrs W L and A Dyason

Mr W A Dyason

1 August 1977

1 August 1987

Ben Schoeman Airport

Successful tenderers:

Date:

Ben Schoeman Restaurant

(Pty) Ltd

1 May 1967

Mr F Ferrucci

1 February 1981

P W Botha Airport

Successful tenderers:

Date:

Mr L Dyason

1 August 1977

Mr L Dyason

1 August 1987

Airports: hook-shops

1173. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

- (1) Whether the hook-shops operating at State airports are administered by his Department; if not, by whom are they administered.

- (2) whether tenders are called for in this regard; if so, (a) for what period are tenders called for and (b) (i) who were the suc-

cessful tenderers over the past 15 years and (ii) on what date was each of these tenders awarded?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:
(1) and (2)

Bookshops form part of the catering concession. Please refer to my reply to question 1172 in this regard.

Airports: duty-free shops

1174. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

- (1) Whether the duty-free shops at State airports are administered by his Department; if not, by whom are they administered;
- (2) whether tenders are called for in this regard; if so, (a) for what period are tenders called for and (b) (i) who were the successful tenderers over the past 15 years and (ii) on what date was each of these tenders awarded?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

- (1) Yes. The duty-free goods and liquor shops are leased by the State to private entrepreneurs on a concessionary basis.
- (2) Yes.

(a) Normally for a fixed period of five years. An option to extend the agreement for a further four years and eleven months was, however, granted in the case of the separate duty free goods shop at Jan Smuts Airport and the combined duty free liquor and goods shop at Louis Botha Airport.

(b) (i) and (ii)

Jan Smuts Airport

For the former combined duty-free goods and liquor shop:

Successful tenderers: Jan Smuts Duty Free Shop (Pty) Ltd

Date: 1 October 1969

Jan Smuts Duty Free Liquor Shop (Pty) Ltd

25 October 1978

(b) 1985/86: 37,5%
1986/87: 32,7%
1987/88: 29,1%

For the separate duty-free liquor shop:

Successful tenderers: Jan Smuts Duty Free Shop (Pty) Ltd

Date: 12 June 1981

Mount Argus (Pty) Ltd

1 January 1984

For the separate duty-free goods shop:

Successful tenderers: SAGAD (Pty) Ltd

Date: 12 June 1981

Louis Botha Airport

For the combined duty-free goods and liquor shop:

Successful tenderers: Southern Liquor Shops (Pty) Ltd

Date: 1 February 1981

D F Malan Airport

For the combined duty-free goods and liquor shop:

Successful tenderers: Mount Argus (Pty) Ltd

Date: 1 January 1984

National Road Fund

1189. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

What percentage of the funds available in the National Road Fund was spent on (a) new roads and (b) the upgrading and maintenance of existing roads in each of the latest specified three financial years for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

- (a) 1985/86: 43,7%
1986/87: 40,7%
1987/88: 43,1%

The attention of the honourable member is drawn to the fact that the funds on which percentages were calculated include the allocations made by the National Transport Commission to the provinces but that the percentages mentioned above do not include the National Road Funds' contributions to Urban Transport Projects.

Black townships: population

1211. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

What was the *de facto* population of each of the Black townships falling under each community services area as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

The honourable member is referred to my reply to Question 159 put by Mr P G Soal.

Own Affairs:

Cyclone Demoina: farms taken over by State

118. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply:

- (1) Whether any farms were taken over by the State as a result of damage caused by cyclone Demoina; if so,

- (2) whether any of these farms have been re-allocated; if so, (a) on what basis and (b) (i) to whom were these farms transferred, and (ii) at what cost, in each case,

- (3) whether any production methods aimed at preventing a repetition of damage caused by floods are being applied on these farms; if so, what production methods?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY:

SV
19

- (1) Yes
- (2) Yes

(a) Two economical units were sold by public auction. Five uneconomical units were sold by tender.

(b) (i) Economical units
ULO A Agricul-
tural Co-op Co Ltd 900 000,00

(ii) R

Umlhlatzi Valley
Sugar Co Ltd 780 000,00

Uneconomical units
Mr U G Groom 200 000,00
Mrs E L Groom 200 500,00
Mrs D P van Rooyen 202 000,00
Mrs M C Fryer 200 500,00
Mr S van Heerden 50 000,00

(3) This responsibility rests upon the owners.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Proclamation of group areas

81

4. Mr W J DIETRICH asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether (a) Salisbury Park, (b) Fairview, (c) Willowdene, (d) Walmer Location in the district of Port Elizabeth, (e) South End, (f) Central Hill, (g) North End, (h) Sidwell, (i) Village Board, (j) The Perl Road area, (k) Dowerville and (l) Veeplaats have been proclaimed as group areas for a specific race group; if so,

- (2) (a) (i) for which race group, and (ii) when, in each case, (b) how many (i) residential properties, (ii) churches, (iii) schools and (iv) shops were involved in respect of each of these areas and (c) (i) how many persons from each race group were property owners, and (ii) what was the total valuation of all properties in each such area per race group, as at the date of these areas being so proclaimed;

- (3) whether, at the time, the State made alternative arrangements for affected persons who wished to (a) rent, and (b) build their own, homes; if not, why not; if so,

- (4) (a) what arrangements were made in respect of (i) (aa) alternative land and (bb) subsidies for those wishing to build their own homes and (ii) alternative accommodation for those wishing to rent housing units and (b) how many persons in each race group were affected by these alternative arrangements?

THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

- (1) Yes, except Village Board and Perl Road, which are controlled areas and Walmer Location and Veeplaats which, in terms of

Act 4 of 1984 as amended, are deemed to be set aside as development areas for the Black group.

- (2) (a) Salisbury Park — White (1965)
Fairview — White (1961)
Willowdene — White (1965)
South End — White (1961)
Central Hill — White (1961)
North End — White (1961)
Sidwell — White (1961)
Dowerville — White (1961)

(b) and (c) This information is not available.

- (3) and (4).

The Department does not have access to this information as it is not responsible for moving people.

Eastern Cape: proclamation of land for race groups

340
21

10. Mr P A CHENDRICKSE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (a) How many hectares of land in the Eastern Cape have been proclaimed for residential purposes for Whites, Coloured, Indians and Blacks, respectively, (b) how many hectares of the land so proclaimed for each of these race groups are (i) undeveloped and (ii) owned by private individuals and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

- (a) (i) White: 79 451 hectares
(ii) Coloured: 23 225 hectares
(iii) Indian: 622 hectares
(iv) Black: 14 076 hectares have been set aside as development areas

- (b) Of the land set aside for Blacks, 6 750 hectares were undeveloped and 23 hectares were privately owned. Corresponding information is not available in respect of the other groups.

- (c) 4 May 1988.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Coloured, (iii) Indian and (iv) Black engineering students are currently registered at each university falling under his Department. (b) (i) how many persons are attached to the academic staff of each engineering faculty and (ii) what is the total cost involved in each case and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

- (a) (i) 0 (ii) 0 (iii) 0 (iv) 0
 (b) (i) Department of Engineering, University of Zululand: 1 Professor
 (ii) R80 000 was budgeted by the University for 1988
 (c) 19 May 1988

Note: Approval has recently been given to the University of Zululand for the training of first year students in Engineering. It is envisaged to enrol students for the first year of the course in 1989. A professor in Engineering has been appointed for the necessary initial work to be done. The University is presently negotiating with other universities to enter into an agreement to enable students to complete their second and ensuing years at such other universities.

Personal tax contributions

1138. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Finance:

What was the personal tax contribution by (a) Whites, (b) Coloured, (c) Blacks and (d) Indians for the latest specified tax year for which figures are available?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(a) Whites	R10 732 787 478
(b) Coloureds	396 771 538
(c) Blacks	258 253 663
(d) Indians	350 990 206
Total	R11 738 802 885

The above analysis of the 1987/88 financial year (provisional) collections for individual taxpayers was apportioned on the basis of the taxes assessed for the 1987 year of assessment.

Non-White pupils: admission to White schools

1145. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether his Department is required to give consent for the admission of non-White pupils to White schools situated in White group areas; if so, to how many schools was such consent given in each of the latest specified 10 years for which information is available;
 (2) whether his Department takes any action in respect of schools violating the relevant statutory provisions and/or regulations in this regard; if so, (a) what action and (b) who or what body has to initiate complaints giving rise to such action being taken?

THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

- (1) No.
 (2) Falls away.

Psychopaths: treatment in prisons

1156. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

- (1) Whether his Department is responsible for research into problems relating to the treatment of psychopaths in prisons; if so, (a) to what extent and (b) what amount was allocated for this purpose during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available;
 (2) whether the funds available for such research meet the existing needs; if not,
 (3) whether it is the intention to allocate more funds for this purpose; if so, what steps are being envisaged in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) No.
 (a) falls aay,
 (b) falls away.
 (2) Falls away
 (3) Falls away.

Own Affairs:

Caravans for homeless people

147. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Local Government and Housing:

- (1) Whether his Department has made any caravans available to persons left homeless during the recent floods; if so, how many;
 (2) whether his Department has hired any caravans for this purpose; if so, (a) how many, (b) from whom and (c) at what rentals were they made available?

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING:

- (1) yes, 14;
 (2) No, 14 secondhand caravans were purchased and made available at the following monthly rentals:
 Pensioners — R5
 Other — R10 or R15 depending on the value of the caravans.

New White pupils

150. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

How many new White pupils started school in (a) the Transvaal, (b) the Orange Free State, (c) Natal and (d) the Cape Province in each of the latest specified five years for which figures are available?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

A similar question was asked by Mr A Gerber, MP as question 57. The honourable member is

therefore referred to the answer given on 1988-03-11.

High school pupils: compulsory study of African languages

152. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

- (1) Whether it is compulsory for high school pupils in the Transvaal to study Northern Sotho, Tswana or Zulu; if so, (a) why and (b) what is the motivation for the inclusion of the Zulu language in the curriculum for these schools;
 (2) whether it is the intention to make the study of African languages compulsory for high school pupils in the other provinces; if so, what are the relevant particulars; if not, why not;
 (3) whether it is possible for a pupil in the Transvaal who is compelled to study Tswana in primary school to find himself compelled to study Zulu in high school;
 (4) whether he intends to reverse the decision to compel pupils in the Transvaal to study African languages; if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

- (1) Yes, in Std 6 and 7,
 (a) since it serves as an important medium of communication and by learning the language pupils become acquainted with the culture of another nation;
 (b) Zulu is the language medium of the majority of Black people of the Witwatersrand and the Eastern Transvaal;
 (2) no, each provincial education department determines its own policy in this regard; the possible revision of the school curriculum is receiving continuous attention and in doing so the provincial education departments also give attention to this aspect;

Uproar over list of fish banned for Cape import

EAST LONDON — The possibility of an import ban affecting almost 400 "undesirable" foreign fish species — including common goldfish and edible river game fish — has caused an uproar among fishermen and tropical aquarium owners.

The action, which is to be debated by representatives of the four provinces and leading ichthyologists in September, was proposed by conservationists to prevent the introduction of alien fish, parasites and diseases into South African rivers.

FATUOUS

A research officer with the J L B Smith institute of ichthyology in Grahamstown, Mr N James, said the reasons given for the proposed ban "were simply fatuous and represent an unfortunate trend in the department (of Cape Nature Conservation) which can best be described as a mania against exotics".

He questioned the inclusion of tropical species, which he said were unlikely to be able to survive in South African rivers.

LIST

A provisional list of fish species considered "undesirable imports into the Cape Province", compiled by the Directorate of Plant and Seed Control of the Department of Agriculture, Economics and Marketing, was distributed to aquarist societies, pet shop owners and importers earlier this month by the Cape Department of Nature and Environmental Conservation.

An accompanying letter said the majority of the species on the list "could survive in the rivers of the Cape and therefore would constitute a further threat to our 38 indigenous species, either by competing for food and space or preying (sic) on them".



CHILDREN hoist posters protesting against the dirty environment in the township during the World Environment Day celebration in Dobsonville this week.

Sowetan 13/6/88

'Apartheid to blame' ⁵⁶

APARTHEID has received a knock from the Soweto-based National Environment Awareness Council.

Its director, Mr Jafta Lekgetho, blamed apartheid for many of the township's ills.

He said last week in Dobsonville during the annual World Environment Day: "It is apartheid which makes our townships dirty. We have never had and we certainly do not have now, equal services."

Richards Bay effluent pipe-line: monitoring of effluent

*9. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

- (1) Whether effluent from the Richards Bay effluent pipe-line has been monitored since the pipe-line came into operation; if not, why not; if so, (a) in what manner and (b) by whom;
- (2) whether the findings of such monitoring show that (a) toxicity, (b) temperature and/or (c) solid levels are excessive; if so, what steps are being taken to prevent this in future;
- (3) whether the said findings are available to the public; if not, why not; if so, in what form;
- (4) whether monitoring is to continue in the future; if not, why not; if so, (a) (i) by whom and (ii) in what manner will it be undertaken and (b) who is responsible for financing such monitoring?

THE MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

- (1) Yes.
 - (a) Hourly samples of all effluent taken before discharge into the pipe-line. In addition the quality of seawater and the status of marine life is closely monitored at the point of discharge into the sea.
 - (b) The Mhlathuze Water Board and the Department of Water Affairs, as well as the institutions that discharge the effluent into the pipe-line. Sea monitoring is carried out by the CSIR.
- (2) (a) No.
(b) No.
(c) No.

The temperature and solid levels of one particular effluent before discharge into the pipe-line has on occasion exceeded permit levels, but the situation has since been rectified.
- (3) No. Analysis of the individual effluents are not available to the public for the following reasons:
 - (a) Effluent qualities can reveal trade secrets and is therefore considered to

be confidential information which can only be revealed with the concurrence of the producer of the particular effluent.

(b) Without other parameters of the effluent pipe-line known (for example dilutions achievable) interpretation of individual effluent qualities in respect of toxicity and environmental impact will not be possible.

The operation of the pipe-line and the results of sea monitoring is being closely scrutinized by the Richards Bay Effluent Pipeline Research Coordinating Committee. Overall performance is reported to the public in the form of news releases.

- (4) Yes.
 - (a) (i) The Mhlathuze Water Board, the CSIR, the Department of Water Affairs and the institutions that discharge the effluent into the pipeline.
(ii) Individual effluents will be sampled on an hourly basis. Toxicity testing on grab samples will be taken from time to time. The CSIR will continue sea-monitoring.
 - (b) Monitoring of individual samples are financed by the dischargers, the Mhlathuze Water Board and the Department of Water Affairs. From 1 April 1988 the Mhlathuze Water Board also finances toxicity testing by the CSIR, as well as sea-monitoring conducted by the latter.
- *10. Mr P G SOAL — Education and Development Aid. [Withdrawn.]
- Christmas cards sent out.

*11. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of National Education:

- (1) Whether (a) he and/or (b) his Department sent out Christmas cards in 1987; if so, (i) what total number of cards was printed, (ii) to whom were they sent, (iii) what was the total cost of producing and distributing these cards, and (iv) who was responsible for printing them, in each case;
- (2) whether postage stamps were used to send

out these Christmas cards; if not, how were they distributed?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

- (1) (a) Yes
 - (i) 1 200
 - (ii) Persons with whom I communicate frequently in my various capacities
 - (iii) R1 460
 - (iv) The Government Printer
- (b) Yes.
 - (i) 500
 - (ii) Persons with whom the Department communicates frequently
 - (iii) R251
 - (iv) Pretoria Office Supplies (Pty) Ltd

(2) Postage stamps were not used. The cards were distributed as official mail.

May I add that this was done within the framework of prescribed guidelines affecting the rights and privileges of Ministers.

College/school educators: backlog positions

*12. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

- (1) Whether he has been advised by the (a) Research Committee on Education Structures and (b) Committee on Education Structures on the matter of the backlog position of college/school educators in relation to a comparable group in the Public Service; if so, (i) when was he so advised, (ii) what were the main elements of the advice given and (iii) what was his response to this advice;
- (2) whether a percentage backlog has been identified by the said committees; if so, what was the percentage;
- (3) whether he has taken any action on the salaries of college/school educators since receiving the advice of these committees; if not, why not; if so, what action;
- (4) whether he will make a statement on the current position in regard to the salaries of college/school educators?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) (a) and (b) Yes. I have received the advice of the Committee on Education Structures on the backlog position of college and school related educators after an investigation in this regard had been conducted by the Research Committee on Education Structures.

(i) I received this advice on 20 April 1988.

(ii) This advice pertains to the backlog in the salaries of educators relative to the rest of the public sector as well as ways in which to prevent such backlogs from developing again.

(iii) As a result of this advice I am now negotiating an occupational specific salary adjustment for educators.

(2) Yes. According to the said advice, the rest of the public sector had an average of 7 per cent advantage over educators as far as salaries were concerned as at 1 April 1988.

(3) Yes. Negotiations are being conducted at present regarding an occupational specific salary adjustment for educators.

(4) No.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, arising from the reply of the hon the Minister, with reference to the media release by the hon the Minister for Administration and Privatisation yesterday that an additional R205 million is being made available for occupational differentiation, can he indicate whether this will be for educators or not?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I have also had enquiries from the Press in this regard. My reply to them and to the hon member is that in relation to the statement by the hon the Minister for Administration and Privatisation regarding the further disposal of occupational-specific investigations by the responsible authorities. I will shortly hold talks with the Committee of University Principals, the Committee of Technikon Principals and the organised teaching profession. Speculation about how the conditions of service of educators could be affected would be inappropriate at this stage.

Hansard

1819

TUESDAY, 14 JUNE 1988

1820

a hospital, but a community health centre does exist which provides the normal clinic facilities and where 18 beds for maternity cases are also available.

(b) Philadelphia at Denton

(i) to (ii) (cc) Fall away.

(iii) The Department of Health and Welfare, KwanaDebele Government Service.

(iv) May 1988.

Cape Town: air pollution

1218. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

What was the average recorded atmospheric (a) lead level, (b) sulphuric acid level and (c) level of other specified significant pollutants measured at the monitoring points in the Cape Town area in winter and summer, respectively, over the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT: Monitoring of pollution levels in the Cape Town area is done by different methods and at various sites. The levels of pollution have been found to be very low, and therefore only the results of the station that recorded the highest levels of lead, ozone and nitrous oxides namely at Cape Town City Hall are hereby reported. The results are all reported in micrograms per cubic metre and the seasons are defined as follows:

SUMMER: October 1986 to March 1987.
WINTER: April 1987 to September 1987.

	Summer 86/87	Winter 87
(a) Lead:	0.95	1.4
City Hall		
(b) sulphuric acid concentrations in the air are not monitored as such, but the following concentrations are those of sulphur dioxide a precursor to the formation of sulphuric acid.		
Summer 86/87		Winter 87
City Hall	21	47
Foreshore	7	10.5
Drill Hall	9	10.3
Epping Market	2.5	6.8

Paardeneiland 5.25 1.6
Salt River 8.6 discount.

(c) (i) Ozone and nitrous oxides are pollutants resulting from motor vehicle emissions, and may lead to photochemical smog formation.

	Summer 86/87	Winter 87
City Hall	154	315
Nitrous oxides	27	13
Ozone		

(ii) The following concentrations reflect the presence of particulate matter in the air.

	Summer 86/88	Winter 87
Foreshore	18.2	37.2
Drill Hall	15	27
Epping Market	16.2	48.3
Paardeneiland	13.2	32.6
Salt River	11.75	discount.
Greenpoint	9.6	discount.
Tamboerskloof	7	discount.

Due to the low levels of pollution measured, economic considerations and the fact that all coal fired power stations in Cape Town were closed down, it was decided to discontinue the monitoring of sulphur dioxide and particulate matter at certain sites.

Self-governing territories: overseas loans

1226. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) (a) What overseas loans were negotiated by the South African Government on behalf of each of the self-governing territories during the latest specified period of 10 years for which information is available and (b) what were the conditions of repayment in each case;

(2) whether any of these loans have been repaid; if so, (a) how many were repaid by (i) the South African Government and (ii) these states themselves and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

- (1) (a) None.
- (b) Falls away.
- (2) Falls away.

1821

WEDNESDAY, 15 JUNE 1988

1822

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Group Areas Act: complaints regarding offences

946. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) (a) How many complaints regarding offences in terms of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, were (i) received and (ii) investigated by the South African Police in 1982, 1984 and 1985, respectively, and (b) (i) in how many cases were the Police investigations into such complaints completed, and (ii) what action was taken in respect of uncompleted investigations into such complaints, in each of these years;

(2) how many members of the South African Police were involved in investigating complaints of this nature in each of the above-mentioned years?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

	1982	1984	1985
(1) (a) (i)	823	662	596
(ii)	823	662	596
(b) (i)	823	662	595
(ii)	1 case has been referred to the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning.		

(2) 1982 18 members
1984 36 members
1985 15 members

Necklacing murders

967. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) How many persons died by way of the so-called necklacing method in (a) 1984, (b) 1985, (c) 1986 and (d) 1987;

(2) how many persons were charged with murder resulting from such deaths in each of these years?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) (a) and (b) 67 persons

(c) 306 persons

(d) 19 persons

(2) 1984/85 373 persons

1986 628 persons

1987 120 persons

NOTE Separate statistics are not available for 1984 and 1985.

PWV area: offences

1024. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) (a) How many police districts are there in the PWV area and (b) what are their names;

(2) how many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) rapes, (d) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm and (e) common assault were reported and investigated at police stations in these police districts in (i) 1982 and (ii) the latest specified calendar year for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) (a) 17 police districts which fall under the command of five Divisional commissioners.

(b) WITWATERSRAND DIVISION

Johannesburg

Johannesburg North

Randburg

WEST RAND DIVISION

Krugersdorp

Vereeniging

Roodepoot

EAST RAND DIVISION

Springs

Brakpan

Benoni

Kempton Park

Germiston

Heidelberg

SOWETO DIVISION

Soweto West

Soweto East

N. TRANSVAAL DIVISION

Pretoria

Hansard

Pollution hits water resources

Some of South Africa's surface water resources used for drinking water are deteriorating, according to the Water Research Commission's (WRC) latest annual report released in Pretoria.

The report says this has been brought about by pollution, repeated re-use of water with accompanying build-up of pollutants, as well as the increasing number of chemicals appearing on the market with the risk of some of them ending up in the water environment.

"In view of this, the WRC has recently developed various research programmes such as an investigation into the incidence and concentration of certain contaminants in drinking water, water treatment technologies and monitoring strategies for water quality," the report says. — Sapa.

Academic profile — merit list with a cut-off point of 31

A profile of 17-18 points in the direction of study chosen, e.g. B.Paed (Science) — a total of 17-18 points for Mathematics, Biology, Physical Science

In addition, the University selected students from the non-priority list up to 26 points.

Students were selected for the following subjects: Music, Speech and Drama, Art, Physical Education (females), Computer Science, Biological and Physical Sciences, Mathematics and Afrikaans.

SELECTION OF STUDENTS AT SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Minimum admission requirements as per *Handbook for Principals* (pages E25-E28).

Academic Profile — merit list with a cut-off point of 30. (NB: Cut-off point was only determined when the overall Senior Certificate results were computerized, merit listings done and when the number of students to be called for interviews were determined.)

For certain *special subjects*, e.g. Art, Music, Industrial Arts — candidates were to be considered from the merit list, and below the cut-off point until a sufficient number of candidates were identified.

Old Matriculants

This category of students were considered as follows:

— Students who met the minimum admission requirements and the cut-off point were scheduled and treated in the same way as fresh matriculants; however, failing students were *not* considered. The Bursary Section determined the background of these students before the interviews.

— Students already in teacher education courses at other institutions were not permitted to transfer to the colleges.

SELECTION OF STUDENTS FOR TRANSVAAL COLLEGE

TRANSVAAL STUDENTS

Minimum admission requirements as per *Handbook for Principals*.

Merit list of Transvaal students with a cut-off point of 25 and above.

Natal Students

Minimum admission requirements as per *Handbook for Principals*.

Merit list of Springfield College, University of Durban-Westville and Natal students who applied to Transvaal College with a cut-off point of 26 and above.

The admission of all students recommended by the Selection Committees is subject to the approval of the Chief Executive Director.

(2) Yes.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(3) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(4) Yes.

31 October for all applications except UHDE students. 31 December for UHDE students.

(5) Yes.

In the Transvaal, 5 late applications were processed on the day of the interview. The students indicated that in view of the uncertainty concerning Transvaal College's future, they had not made the necessary applications in October. In Natal, 25 applications were accepted after the closing date. This was as a result of principals of schools submitting these forms after the closing date.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Population growth: Whites

1158. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

Whether he has made any recommendations regarding the prevention of a negative population growth amongst Whites in South Africa, if so, what is the purport of these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

No.

The demographic objective of the Government's Population Development Programme is the same for all population groups — Whites included, namely a TFR (Total Fertility Rate) of 2.1 children per woman during her child-bearing years. The Government does not have a differentiated population policy for the various population groups.

The TFR for Whites in South Africa is presently 2.0, indicating a declining trend, which is in accordance with what is happening in the developed countries of the world. Examples are the USA 1.8, the United Kingdom 1.8, Western Germany 1.3, France 1.8, the Netherlands 1.5 and Italy 1.4.

Several developed countries have already tried to reverse the declining trend in TFR by means of pro-natal steps but nowhere in the world had it been successful. A higher quality of life for humans clearly results in a diminishing population growth with nothing to stem it.

To the Government it is, however, important to concentrate on improving the quality of family life and it has therefore approved of a National Family Programme with its main object the improvement of the quality of family life for all population groups including that of Whites.

Flood relief

1187. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) (a) (i) How many claims for flood relief have been received by his Department up to now in respect of (aa) Natal and (bb) KwaZulu as a result of the flood disaster of 1987, (ii) how many of these claims have already been paid out in each case and (iii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (b) when is it anticipated that the outstanding claims will be paid out;

(2) whether it is the intention to allocate additional staff in order to expedite the payment of claims; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) (i) (aa) Natal: 15 126

(bb) KwaZulu: 130 000

(ii) Natal: 14 848

KwaZulu: 103 515

(iii) 31 May 1988

(b) Natal: 31 July 1988

KwaZulu: August/September 1988

(2) Additional staff have been allocated to the task since October 1987. The delay in finalising payments is not due to a shortage of staff but to the fact that:

(a) in the case of Natal, numerous applications had to be returned for proper completion or supporting documents called for have still not been submitted by the applicants; and

(b) in the case of KwaZulu, thousands of applicants delayed the submission of their application forms until the closing date, i.e. 15 January 1988. The Committee specially constituted for KwaZulu is doing its utmost to finalise these late applications and is making good progress.

The delay in making payments to the applicants is largely due to circumstances beyond the control of the Board of the Disaster Relief Fund.

Sappi recognised as a company that cares

Stav
2016/80
56

As one of South Africa's biggest employers, Sappi has long recognised its responsibility to the community.

Last year, it proved this commitment by providing assistance to flood victims in the affected areas of Natal and kwa-Zulu, where the company has several large operations. A donation of R500 000 was provided in the form of building materials for emergency shelters and water supplies and, in some cases, food and clothing to assist the victims of the flood.

Its contributions run far deeper than mere donations of money or corporate sponsorships, however. The company believes it has an inherent duty to support all those engaged in production and so it makes a substantial re-investment in communities where Sappi plants are situated and those from which employees and customers are drawn.

Traditionally, papermakers are large consumers of water and Sappi continues to invest considerable resources in developing methods of reducing its water consumption. By developing and implementing the Sapoxal process, for instance, the company has been able to reduce its water consumption per ton of paper produced to less than 25 percent of that required by most pulp and paper manufacturers in other countries.

Sappi has also devised a method of re-using treated effluent water and at Ngodwana Mill waste water is piped to a farming area where it irrigates pastures

to support cattle.

Forests are the birthright of every South African and Sappi has made its contribution in protecting them. It invests and maintains picnic spots such as those in the Karkloof Falls area in Natal and the public hiking trail in the Elandshoogte area in the Eastern Transvaal.

In 1983, the company sponsored the highly sought after "Sappi Collection", an illuminating study of South Africa's wildlife heritage. The proceeds were given to the SA Nature Foundation to be used in the preservation of the natural environment.

Education is another of its priorities. The company provides many ongoing training facilities for its staff and an extensive bursary programme for students at universities and other tertiary level educational institutions.

To celebrate its 50th anniversary in 1986, it expanded its community involvement by donating 50 000 indigenous and exotic trees to various municipalities. It also sponsored a rescue vessel for the National Sea Rescue Institute in support of coastal communities and the extension of its support to the universities and other tertiary education institutes.

A project to provide smaller farmers with saplings and constructive advice on the growing of these trees has, since 1983 when it was launched, cost almost R1 million.

Drought cost ^(S6) nation ^{21/4/88} R468-m

By Claire Robertson,
Pretoria Bureau

The two years of water restrictions during the 1983-85 drought period cost the country R468 million, according to recently released figures.

South Africa weathered another 27 months of water restrictions until they were lifted in September last year, but figures from this period have not yet been released.

A Water Research Commission investigation into the socio-economic effects of the water restrictions revealed that the cost to the domestic sector was R262 million for the two-year period.

"However, 78 percent of this amount is the result of expenses which are permanent improvement to properties, such as boreholes, paving (when gardens could no longer be maintained) and the installation of more effective irrigation systems," a spokesman for the commission said.

The cost to Government institutions, mining, agriculture and electricity supply was more than R205 million, according to the commission's investigation.

Electricity supply alone saw costs rise by almost R72 million in this period.

The huge costs at the beginning of the water restrictions could mainly be traced to the 1983 transfer of millions of litres of water from Drakensberg dams to the Eastern Transvaal, where power stations supply the bulk of the country's electricity.

Eskom imported huge pumps from Sweden and also spent a considerable amount converting some power stations from the water-cooling system to the dry cooled system. Water use was more efficient, but the cost of electricity rose.

SA will not become a 'dumping ground for toxic waste'

Star 21/6/88
(56)

South Africa will not become the nuclear dumping ground of the world.

That is the assurance from Mr Nic Ligthelm, public relations manager for the Atomic Energy Corporation of South Africa.

Speaking in the wake of reports that various parts of Africa had been selected by foreign countries as secret dumping sites for dangerous industrial and nuclear waste, he said there was no way that South Africa would allow itself to be exploited.

"Although there is a lot of money involved in storing nuclear waste, we won't be exploited. South Africa's storage grounds are for the country's own personal use."

The Progressive Federal Party's spokesman on economic and mineral affairs, Mr Roger Hulley, said the storage of waste was a

major problem for those countries producing it.

"There are not that many places left where nuclear waste can be stored. I would not like South Africa to be a dumping ground for the rest of the world."

The problem of disposal created a storm in the European Parliament in Brussels and led to a resolution demanding a ban on the "frightening" amounts of toxic waste being exported to the Third World.

Stricter implementation of regulations was also demanded.

The going rate for the disposal of nuclear waste is more than R2 000 a ton.

However, two of Africa's poorest countries are accepting waste at well below the normal rate. Guinea Bissau is admitting waste for about R100 a ton. Benin's contract provides for an acceptance rate of just over R5 a ton.

OPEN SPACES

It is believed that South Africa, with its dry climate and wide open and sparsely populated regions, could be a suitable nuclear dumping ground. This suggestion has been rejected by Mr Ligthelm.

He said the situation was "very safe" and there was little chance of a Chernobyl-like disaster.

"We took the most careful precautions before selecting the site, and we are very careful with the storage of waste. We do not do reprocessing in South Africa, so the threat of nuclear disaster is very slim."

Resins and other intermediate level waste would be placed in concrete containers and metal drums and transported by road.

"As the radio-activity of the waste is low, road transportation constitutes no health hazard," he said.

Spent fuel elements (high-level waste) would be stored under water in Koeberg for five to 10 years to allow it to cool.

The poisonings of Africa

Angus 02/6/88

From RICHARD DOWDEN in London
GIANFRANCO AMBROSINI makes no
apologies for sending toxic waste to
Africa.

The French have been sending it to Morocco for years, says the Italian owner of Intercon-tract SA of Fribourg, Switzerland, which was recently identified as the company that secured a contract to dump 50,000 tons of waste a year for 10 years in the tiny state of Guinea-Bissau.

It is just one of many European companies which are exporting toxic chemical and industrial waste from Europe to Africa. In Europe it can cost up to R1,000 a ton to dispose of in Africa. It can cost as little as R5 a ton.

Poverty makes African countries, or their officials, vulnerable to lucrative contracts from European companies eager to cut the costs of disposing of hazardous waste. Recently, nearly a dozen cases have come to light in which African countries have been offered or have accepted toxic waste which could not easily be disposed of in Europe and America.

The payments made to African companies or individuals are sometimes bigger than the entire gross national product of those countries. An African diplomat in London said he was offered R12-million by a company dealing in toxic waste for an introduction to his country's president.

When these reports became

"It's simple — you go to Guinea-Bissau, Senegal, Djibouti or somewhere like Mauritania, all poor and semi-desert countries.

"You contact the local authorities and they take you somewhere really crazy, out in the middle of nowhere,

just scorpions and snakes.

"You pay well, and then you start to dig your pit, some 30 metres down, all waterproof and according to the US, Swiss and EC regulations. Finally, you can start your shipments."

56

Nigeria led the attack on the countries involved, but was then embarrassed by reports that more than 1,000 tons of toxic waste had arrived in Nigeria itself. The government has threatened to shoot those involved.

Guinea-Bissau has arrested the Norwegian honorary consul and says he has confessed to forging documents relating to the import of toxic waste. Norway is sending a ship to Guinea-Bissau to collect the waste.

Intercontract is unique in that it is an identifiable company with an owner who is prepared publicly to justify the business. Most of it is conducted by companies registered in countries where owners do not have to be named.

"Quite a lot of the business is going on somewhere in the 'flyright', said Jan Huisman, director of the International Register of Potentially Toxic Chemicals, an arm of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

According to Unep, Africa has become the new dumping ground as more and more stringent laws raise the price of toxic waste disposal in industrialised countries.

Nearly a dozen African countries have been approached recently and the details of seven cases have come to light.

In Nigeria, documents have disclosed that government departments were fully aware of the import of toxic waste.

The Iruekpen Construction Company was registered to "import residues of several industrial processes". Taking advantage of this, several Italian companies started exporting the waste legally. Nevertheless a number of Italians have been arrested in Lagos.

The waste was disposed of at Koko, a small port in Bendel State. Drums of it became so hot that dockworkers could not handle them. Nigeria has seized an Ital-

ian ship in Lagos harbour and insisted that it removes the waste.

Benin signed a 10-year deal with SESCO Ltd, a Gibraltar-registered company, in January to store up to one million tons of industrial waste a year from several European countries.

The price was R5 a ton plus a 50 percent bonus in investment in local agriculture, mining and industry. SESCO was to be granted a 10-year monopoly for waste shipments.

Benin is also reported to have received two shipments of radioactive waste from France in return for 30 years' economic assistance. Reports that it has been buried near Abomey, an area known for its opposition to the government, have been denied by President Mathieu Kerekou.

Congo signed a R170-million deal with Van Santen, a Dutch transport firm, to store one million tons of chemical waste in the Congo.

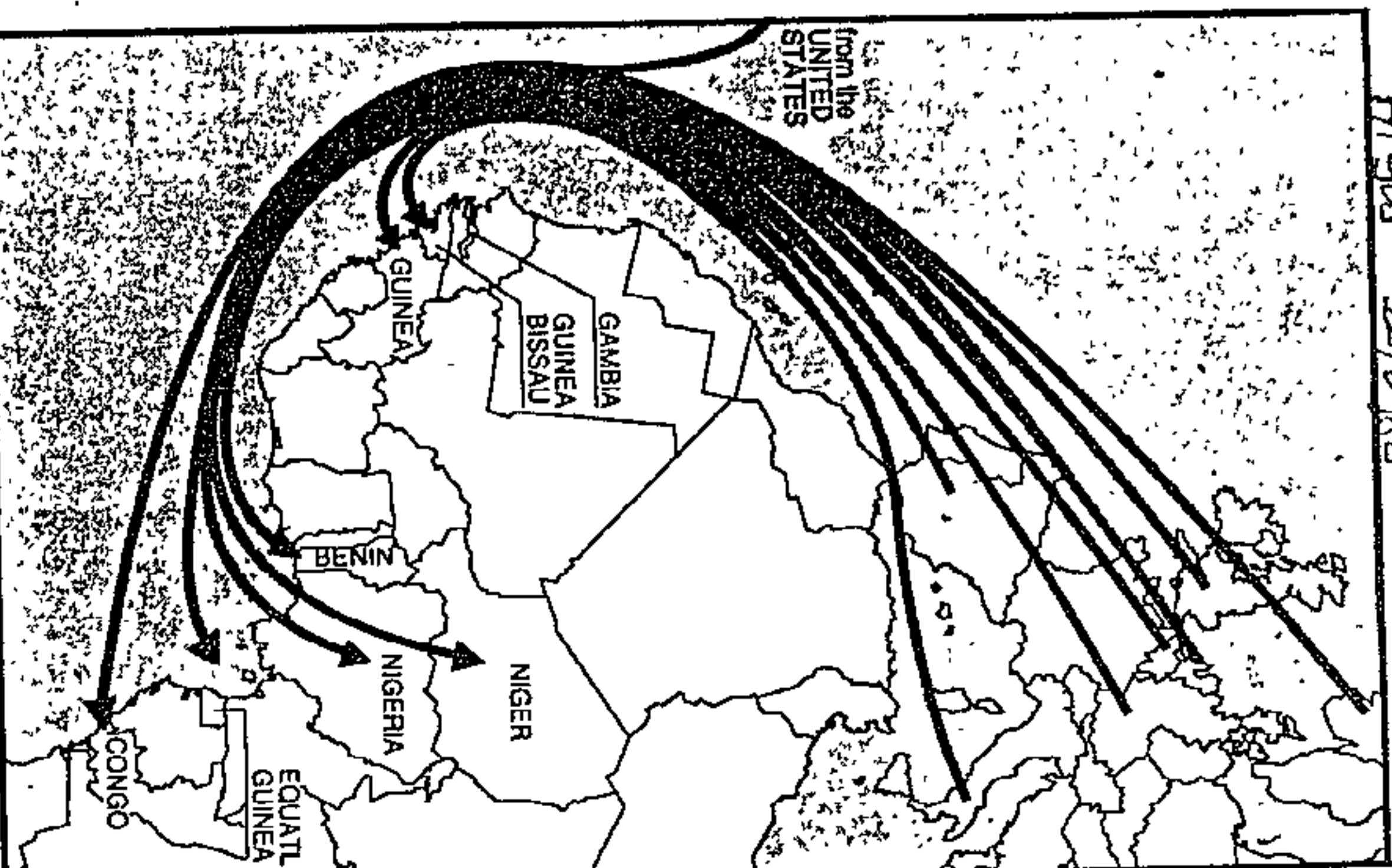
Van Santen said it had been negotiating a similar deal with Niger.

On Kassa Island off Guinea, incinerator ash from Philadelphia, described as "building materials" has been dumped. It was brought by the Bark, a Norwegian-owned ship which left the United States on February 4 and arrived at Kassa 12 days later.

According to Guinea Radio, the arrested Norwegian consul has confessed to forging documents so that 15,000 tons of industrial ash containing toxic chemicals could be stored on Kassa. Five Guineans have been arrested.

Equatorial Guinea has signed a 10-year contract with a company in Buckingham, England, for at least five million tons of waste from Europe. The deal is worth up to R2-million a year for the British company.

Guinea-Bissau has said it has dropped plans to take 15 million tons of toxic waste from Western countries. — The Independent, London.



How European and American toxic waste finds its way to Africa.

Vaal air pollution (Star 24/6/88) 'must be (56) controlled'

Vereeniging Bureau

The Vaal Triangle's air pollution problem must be dealt with "seriously and without delay", says a pollution control expert.

But although the "unacceptably high pollution levels" have caused public concern, the figures have not exceeded internationally accepted health levels, Mr Martin Loyd, chief official of air pollution control, Department of National Health and Population Development, said yesterday.

Mr Loyd was addressing a seminar on air pollution in the Vaal Triangle, organised by the local branch of the National Association for Clean Air.

He said that although industries in the Vaal region were making efforts to combat air pollution, levels were still unacceptably, but not alarmingly, high in the area, where, from a visual point of view, the problem was particularly noticeable in the winter.

Mr Loyd stressed that local industries could, however, not be blamed entirely for the high level of air pollution, saying that at the eastern Transvaal, for example, was putting out far more pollutants than was the case in the Vaal Triangle.

He said that to prevent the situation from deteriorating, it was essential that every source of pollution, no matter how small or big, be identified and tackled.

THE ENVIRONMENT

By CHARLES MOGALE

AFRICA is literally becoming the ground of the world. The situation has become so serious that Nigeria has threatened to put those involved before a firing squad.

Tons of toxic waste have been exported to the continent by European and American companies seeking cheaper ways of disposing of the waste. In Europe, it costs about R1 000 to dispose of a ton, while in Africa it costs as little as R5.

Last week, Nigeria began to evacuate the coastal town of Koko to enable residents to escape 3 000 tons of radio-active waste dumped by an Italian company.

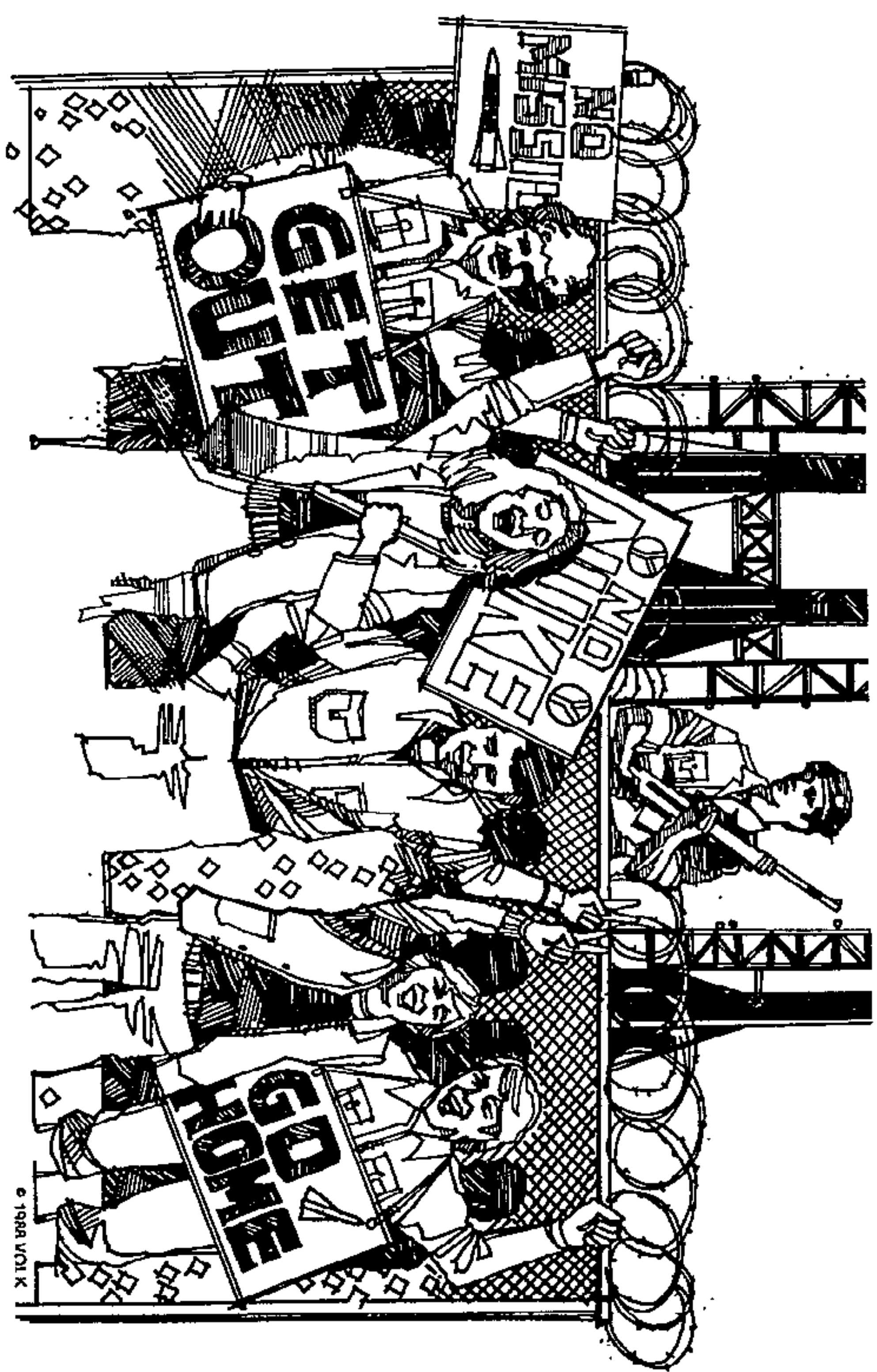
According to reports from Lagos, the military regime has threatened to shoot those involved.

"There will be no mercy - both foreign and local guilty parties will be dealt with," said Duro Onabule, spokesman for Nigerian Head of State, Ibrahim Babangida.

Onabule said an Italian businessman, Gianfranco Raffaelli, was the mastermind behind the scheme. Raffaelli had imported various poisonous chemical substances and radio-active waste using false documents. He had been permitted to import eight "safe" chemicals for

TOXIC waste row enrages Africa

Perpetrators get execution threat



Europeans and Americans protested angrily when they discovered toxic waste was being dumped in their countries. Now, Northern Africa is the world's dumping ground.

use by construction companies, but added 20 toxic substances to the list. Among the toxic substances were radioactive materials, poisonous Dioxine PCB, asbestos thread and pharmaceutical waste. Raffaelli fled from

the country when the scandal came to light. Nigeria has complained to the Italian government about the use of its territory as a dumping ground for radio-active material. And Lebanon has

threatened to return to Italy a load of chemical waste dumped on its territory. The Lebanese government disclosed that a shipment of waste about to be dumped on the territory was loaded back on to the ship with the aim of return-

ing it to Italy. Acting Lebanese Prime Minister Selim Hoss later held discussions with the local Italian ambassador. Italy is expected to send a team of experts to Lebanon to destroy the chemicals. Italy was also con-

sidering ordering the Milan company which sent the waste to Lebanon, Jelly Wax, to get it back. Meanwhile, Norway has disclosed plans to send a ship to Guinea to retrieve waste dumped on an island near the West African coast. The ship is expected to arrive this weekend. The waste, which included by-products of cyanide, chrome and lead, killed animals and plants on the uninhabited island. However, Norway has insisted the waste is not toxic and can be used to manufacture bricks.

Earlier this month, the Norwegian Consul-General in Guinea, Sigmund Stromé, was arrested and accused of complicity in the dumping of 15 000 tons of toxic waste from America. Several high-ranking officials, among them three senior Congolese diplomats, were fired for their roles in the dumping.

The material is believed to have originated in America. The waste is shipped from Philadelphia disguised as building material. The importers of the waste, Norwegian company Aluk Guinea, were provided with an import licence by accomplices in the Department of Trade.

They are now stuck with 85 000 tons of waste they can't dispose of.

(7)

(71)

CPH

26/1/88

51-2-76 USR

Musicians get together to aid disaster fund

Local musicians and record companies have got together to produce two long-playing albums to raise funds for the flood disaster fund.

A spokesman for The Bread and Butter Company, which produced the records, said all involved had given their services free.

"This ensures that all the money collected from the record sales will go to the people who have suffered during the recent floods," the spokesman said.

"Nobody will benefit from the sales except the flood victims themselves."

The albums, called "Calm after the Storm" and "Sonskyn na die Reen", are also available on cassettes.

sions of the Group Areas Act; if not, why not; if so, when?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND OF COMMUNICATIONS (for the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning):

(1) and (2) The decision to refuse the application of the person whose name has been furnished for the purpose of this reply, has been taken after due consideration of all the relevant facts.

(3) No. On 5 October 1987, when the State President announced the Government's acceptance of the principle of open residential areas, he referred to the possibility that rural land may be declared open areas in terms of amended legislation. The relevant legislation is under consideration at present.

PWV area: land

*17. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

Whether it is the intention to table in Parliament the report regarding land availability in the PWV area referred to by him in his Press release dated 2 June 1988 on Black urbanization and the identification of land for Black communities; if so, when; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND OF COMMUNICATIONS (for the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning):

No, it was a report drafted for the Department of Development Planning.

Hout Bay: proposed sewage outlet

*18. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

Whether his Department is taking any steps to ensure that the proposed sewage outlet at Hout Bay will not result in pollution of the sea; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

Yes. The planning and intended establishment of the new sea outfall pipeline, replacing the existing unsatisfactory sea outfall pipeline, to be operated by the Western Cape Regional Services Council at Hout Bay has been, since its inception, rigorously controlled by the Department of Water Affairs. The authorisation in terms of section 21 of the Water Act, 1956

Howard

(Act 54 of 1956) which controls this discharge, requires the Regional Services Council to commit itself to a programme of prior consultation and monitoring. This procedure has been controlled by an *ad hoc* committee, of which a member of the Department of Water Affairs is chairman. This committee has at regular intervals reviewed the recommendations of the engineering consultants of the Regional Services Council, experts in sea outfall design from the CSIR, the Marine Pollution Division of the Sea Fisheries Research Institute, the Chief Medical Officer of Health of the Regional Services Council and others. In addition, a programme of monitoring the effects of the improved disposal to sea is a requirement of the authorisation to the Regional Services Council and will continue in order to satisfy the Department that the sea in Hout Bay is not polluted. The Department is satisfied that the Regional Services Council has budgetted the necessary funds for the construction of the outfall in appreciation of its responsibilities in terms of section 21 of the Water Act, 1956.

Hout Bay: prevention of pollution

*19. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

Whether his Department is taking any steps to prevent pollution of the sea at Hout Bay; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

Yes. Any effluent derived from the use of water for industrial purposes, must in terms of section 21 of the Water Act, 1956 (Act 54 of 1956) be disposed of as prescribed by the Minister of Water Affairs. The effluent discharged from the existing sea outfall pipeline at Hout Bay was unacceptable to the Department of Water Affairs and pressure was brought to bear on the Western Cape Regional Services Council to discharge the effluent in a suitable manner. The hon member is also referred to my reply to question 18.

Regular monitoring of discharges are carried out and samples are analysed, so as to determine the quality thereof and the impact it could have on the sea and marine life. The Department will not hesitate to prosecute persons or bodies who deliberately or negligently cause pollution and any complaint in this regard will be followed up immediately.

Pollsmoor Prison

*20. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Justice:

(1) Whether, with reference to the 14 accused persons who are on trial for terrorism and whose names have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, there have been any changes since 5 June 1988 in the conditions under which they are being held at Pollsmoor Prison; if so, (a)(i) what were these conditions prior to the changes being effected and (ii) what changes were effected in regard to (aa) food, (bb) bedding, (cc) security measures, (dd) visits by relatives and (ee) the number of persons per cell, (b) why were these changes effected and (c) how long will they remain in force;

(2) whether any items relating to the trial of the accused were confiscated from them; if so, (a) what items, (b) when and (c) why;

(3) whether these items have been returned to the accused; if not, when will they be returned;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE [Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House]:

(1) Yes.

(a) (i) The prisoners were kept in a communal cell and received the privileges applicable to prisoners in the category concerned regarding visits, letters, purchasing of items, etc.

(ii) (aa) None.

(bb) In the normal course of events, prisoners are issued with additional blankets during winter. This has been applied with regard to all prisoners, including those who are referred to in the question.

(cc) As a result of an alleged attempt to escape from the Pollsmoor Prison during the early morning hours of 5 June 1988, more strin-

gent security measures have been applied with regard to these prisoners in terms of section 80 of the Prisons Act, 1959 since 5 June 1988.

(dd) None. These prisoners still receive the same privileges.

(ee) One

(b) and (c) In terms of section 22 of the Prisons Act, 1959 the Commissioner shall determine the security measures applicable at prisons, and may determine different security measures in respect of different prisons. There is good reason for the belief that these prisoners might have wanted to escape. The necessary intensified security measures have been in force in terms of section 80 of the Prisons Act, 1959. These measures will be kept in force within bounds of the Prisons Act for as long as is necessary to ensure the safe custody of prisoners and the safety of the public.

(2) No.

(a), (b) and (c) fall away.

(3) Falls away.

(4) No.

Pre-primary education

*21. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) Whether his Department trains or trained teachers for the pre-primary phase; if not, why not; if so, what is the extent of the training being undertaken;

(2) whether his Department admits five-year-old children to pre-primary schools; if not, why not;

(3) whether his Department has a policy for the financing of pre-primary education; if not; why not; if so, what is this policy;

(4) whether he will make a statement on his Department's policy regarding pre-primary education.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) Yes.

Howard

- (b) Huguenot and/or (c) Great Trek festivals; if so, (i) in what way, (ii) when, (iii) why, and (iv) at what cost, in each case;
- (2) whether any outside organizations or agencies were allocated funds by his Department in respect of these festivals; if so, (a) which organizations or agencies and (b) (i) what amount was allocated, and (ii) why, in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

- (1) No.
(2) No.

Diaz/Huguenot/Great Trek festivals

1370. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

- (1) Whether the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs has contributed or intends to contribute to the (a) Diaz, (b) Huguenot and/or (c) Great Trek festivals; if so, (i) in what way, (ii) when, (iii) why, and (iv) at what cost, in each case;
- (2) whether any outside organizations or agencies were allocated funds by this Department in respect of these festivals; if so, (a) which organizations or agencies and (b) (i) what amount was allocated, and (ii) why, in each case?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

- (1) No.
(2) No.

Diaz/Huguenot/Great Trek festivals

1381. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Manpower:

- (1) Whether his Department has contributed or intends to contribute to the (a) Diaz, (b) Huguenot and/or (c) Great Trek festivals; if so, (i) in what way, (ii) when, (iii) why, and (iv) at what cost, in each case;
- (2) whether any outside organizations or agencies were allocated funds by his Department in respect of these festivals, if so, (a) which organizations or agencies and (b) (i) what amount was allocated, and (ii) why, in each case?

- (1) Whether the finalization of the town-planning scheme for the Zonnebloem area in Cape Town has been delayed by unforeseen and other problems; if so, (a) by what problems, (b) what steps have been taken to solve these problems and (c) when is it anticipated that the matter will be finalized;

- (2) (a) on what date was this town-planning scheme initiated, (b) what area of land is involved in the scheme, (c) what was the value of the land at the date of the initiation of the scheme and (d) (i) what is the estimated current value of this land and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING:

- (1) Yes;

- (a) Problems were experienced as result of requirements regarding the size and use of certain land. The identification of various land components which were only traced during the replanning process with a view to the acquisition and consolidation thereof, further contributed to the delay.

- (b) The problems were continually addressed by way of negotiations.

- (c) With the exception of Phase 8, which is not finalized yet, the Zoning Schemes were approved as follows:

Phase 1	2 July 1977
Phase 2	14 November 1984
Phase 3	23 October 1985
Phase 4	24 June 1983
Phase 5	24 June 1983
Phase 6	24 June 1983
Phase 7	23 October 1985

- (2) (a) During 1966

(b) + 101 ha.

- (c) The details are not available.

- (d) (i) Business properties. Approximately R100 m² Residential properties. Approximately R80 m²

- (ii) Business properties --- June 1988

Residential properties --- April 1988.

Zonnebloem: Moravian Church

163. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Local Government and Housing:

Whether an agreement was entered into with the Cape Technikon in respect of the restoration of the Moravian Church in Zonnebloem, Cape Town; if so, (a) when, (b) by whom, (c) why, (d) what were the terms of this agreement, (e) what was the estimated cost of the restoration project at the time of the agreement being entered into and (f) (i) what funds have been spent on this project to date, (ii) what is the latest estimate of the final cost and (iii) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND HOUSING:

Yes;

- (a) August 1984;

(b) The former Department of Community Development and the Technikon Board. The agreement was since taken over by the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works;

(c) and (d) The Technikon Board initially wanted the church complex to be demolished in order to obtain a vacant property for development. During the expropriation of the complex at the time, the undertaking was given that the church would be conserved. I was then agreed between the Department and the Technikon Board that the Department will restore the complex and will, after completion of the work hand it over to the Technikon who will be responsible for further maintenance.

- (e) R310 000.00.

(f) (i) R292 677.00.

(ii) R550 00.00.

(iii) June 1988

Demoina flood damage

164. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply:

What amounts were paid by the State in the form of Demoina flood damage compensation

Howard

in respect of each of the (a) economic and (b) uneconomic farming units referred to in his reply to Question No 118 on 9 June 1988?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY:

The portions of land referred to in the reply to Question No 118, are compounded from various portions of land which were originally part of the flood damaged farms. These farms were expropriated in its entirety by the state at the request of the owners.

Owing to necessary division and grouping thereafter into economical and uneconomical units of the land still suitable for sugar-cane production it is not possible at this stage to determine the compensation paid originally for the land concerned.

Natal: crèches

167 Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare:

- (1) Whether any crèches in Natal fall under the control of his Department; if so,
- (2) whether any of these crèches are multi-racial, if so what are the relevant details?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE:

(1) No, no crèches in Natal fall under the control of this Department. This Department is however responsible for the registration of crèches in terms of the Child Care Act, 1983. Two hundred crèches providing for 9 472 children are registered in Natal.

(2) Yes, 3 crèches are registered as multi-racial crèches and they provide for 105 white and 50 non-white children. The registration of a multi-racial crèche is considered subject to the acquisition of a permit in terms of section 21 of the Group Areas Act, 1966.

Universities for whites: enrolling of non-Whites

168. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

- (1) What is the limit in regard to students from each specified non-White race group wishing to enrol at universities for Whites in South Africa;
- (2) how many (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Indian and (d) Black students who enrolled at such universities in 1987 were from (i) the Republic, (ii) each self-governing territory, (iii) each independent Black state and (iv) each other specified country?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

- (1) This matter is vested in the Council of the university concerned;
- (2) the information will be available during 1989.

Teachers: starting salary

169. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

What is the starting salary of a (a) male and (b) female (i) primary and (ii) secondary school teacher with an appropriate four-year degree?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

- (a) (i) and (ii) R15 666.
- (b) (i) and (ii) R13 473.

Universities and technicians: amount subsidized

172. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

By what total amount were the (a) universities and (b) technicians under the control of his Department subsidized during the latest specified periods of 12 months for which information is available?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

- (a) R744 793 000.
- (b) R152 379 000

For the 1987-88 financial year and does not include interest and capital redemption.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Black social and military pensioners

11. Mr P A CHENDRICKSE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) (a) What was the amount paid per month to Black (i) social and (ii) military pensioners (aa) in each year from 1961 up to and including 1987 and (bb) in 1988 as at the latest specified date for which figures are available, (b) what was the percentage increase in each such year and (c) (i) in which years were bonuses paid to such pensioners and (ii) what was the amount of the bonuses paid out in each of these years;
- (2) how many social pensioners were registered with his Department in each of the above years?

THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This function vests in the different Provincial Administrators but the information was furnished by the Transvaal Provincial Government who acted as co-ordinator:

	(1) (a) (i) (aa)			(b)		
	Urban	Town	Rural	Urban	Town	Rural
1961	R 3,371	R 2,87½	R 2,37½	None	None	None
1962	3,371	2,87½	2,37½	None	None	None
1963	3,521	3,02½	2,52½	4,44	5,21	6,32
1964	3,95	3,45	2,95	12,07	14,04	14,40
1965	3,95	3,45	2,95	None	None	None
Consolidated						
1966	3,70			6,75		
1967	3,95			6,75		
1968	4,25			7,05		
1969	4,50			5,88		
1970	5,00			11,11		
1971	5,75			15,00		
1972	6,50			11,53		
1973	8,00			23,07		
1974	9,25			15,62		
1974 (May)	11,25			21,62		
1974 (Dec)	15,00			28,88		
1975	18,50			23,33		
1976	18,50			10,81		

(bb) R218,00

(1) (a) (ii) (aa) Military pensions are not administered by my Department or the Provincial Governments. If the honourable member refers to war veterans pensions, the reply is as follows:

The same amount as for 1 (a) (i) (aa) is applicable with the exception that from 1 October 1973 an additional amount of R2,50 per month was paid to war veteran's As from 1 October 1981 this amount was increased to R5,00 and to R15,00 per month on 1 October 1986.

Making Africa an atomic wastebin ^{5-7/7/88 w/ mail.} (56)

THE discovery that more than 3 000 tons of Italian waste, including radioactive material, has been unloaded in Nigeria – apparently without government knowledge – has sparked an outcry against the increasing use of African countries as dumping grounds for industrial waste.

Companies under pressure from environmental groups in Europe and North America are turning to countries with less stringent regulations to get rid of toxic chemicals and dangerous waste.

African leaders at the recent Organisation of African Unity (OAU) conference in Addis Ababa agreed to step up measures against dumpers. Consumer groups from African countries met in Nairobi in June and called for help from international agencies in policing waste disposal.

Nigeria has been one of the most prominent opponents of dumping. News that it was a victim of illegal waste disposal was revealed in the Lagos-based Guardian newspaper. It had been alerted by concerned Nigerian students living in Pisa, from which the wastes were transported.

The student sent copies of Italian newspaper reports that Italian businessmen, collaborating with Nigerian front men, had been dumping toxic wastes at the southern port of Koko after failing to get rid of the material in Rumania, Bulgaria and Venezuela.

A long-established Italian resident of Nigeria reportedly obtained approval from the Nigerian authorities to import eight items of non-explosive, non-radioactive and non-self-combusting chemicals, but later substituted a forged list of 20 items containing dangerous toxins and radioactive wastes.

He is also said to have obtained other documents, including a forged pre-shipment report of findings, to aid entry of lethal cargo. With the

Chemical and energy companies in the US and Europe, under pressure from environmental groups to 'clean up', have found a solution: dumping their waste in the Third World. TUNDE OBADINA reports from Lagos

help of a Nigerian clearing and shipping agents and other officials, five consignments of material arrived between August 1987 and May 1988, bypassing normal port procedures such as a physical inspection by the health ministry.

The information ministry's Prince Tony Momoh said the government viewed the affair "as a deliberate act calculated to embarrass Nigeria and endanger the lives of its people".

Many officials in the government of President Ibrahim Babangida believe the Italian authorities knew of the shipments. Nigeria has urged the United Nations general assembly to send a clear message to multinational corporations to stop using Africa as a dumping ground for their industrial wastes.

Lagos recalled its envoy in Italy and asked the Italian government to recall its *charge d'affaires*. The government also demanded that the Italian government remove the waste.

Nigeria lacks the facilities to dispose of the waste. The Italian ship which delivered it was seized and Lagos says it may take the matter to the International Court of Justice in the Hague, although legal action would be a protracted process.

Meanwhile, much of the packing containing the toxic waste is damaged and exposed. Some material has spilled, raising fears of a long-term environmental damage.

Govt acts on pollution off Hout Bay

Political Staff

ACTION was being taken to stop the "unacceptable" pollution of the sea off Hout Bay and pressure had been brought on the Western Cape Regional Services Council to discharge effluent in a suitable manner, the Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Gert Kotzé, said yesterday.

Earlier this year the Cape Times did an exposé of sewage-polluted storm-water being discharged on the beach. The RSC then rectified this.

Mr Kotzé also said the existing sewerage outfall pipeline at Hout Bay was "unsatisfactory".

The planning and intended establishment of a new pipeline, to be operated by the Western Cape RSC, had been "rigorously controlled" by the Department of Water Affairs, he said. Funds had been budgeted for the new pipeline.

Mr Kotzé was questioned in Parliament yesterday by the MP for Sea Point, Mr Colin Eglin, about steps his department intended taking about pollution of the sea in Hout Bay.

Pressure had been brought on the Western Cape RSC to discharge effluent from the existing sea outfall pipeline off Hout Bay "in a suitable manner".

Discharges were monitored regularly and his department "will not hesi-

tate to prosecute persons or bodies who deliberately or negligently cause pollution. Any complaint in this regard will be followed up immediately".

Peter Dennehy reports that RSC officials, who may not officially be quoted, said partly treated sewage from septic tanks was discharged on the rocks beside the water at Badtamboer, at the foot of the Sentinel.

However, the new outfall — designed with the CSIR — would take the effluent a kilometre out to sea, also from Badtamboer, and should solve the problem. It is expected to be built next year.

Opting for major interim solutions before then would be a waste of money, the official felt, but the Department of Water Affairs did have the power to prosecute where the standards it laid down were not met.

Mr Len Pothier, "President of the Republic of Hout Bay", said only two of the six harbour area septic tanks were operative at present, and the other four needed to be unblocked.

This was a relatively cheap and urgently required interim measure which would alleviate the "extremely poor quality" of effluent discharged at Badtamboer at present.

"Sometimes the effluent backs up and flows through the manholes into the streets in the township," Mr Pothier said.

R26,5-m for disaster

56

Money raised by the Disaster Relief Fund since October last year will be used to assist only those people living in places which have been declared disaster areas, according to Mr Japie Visser, chairman of the fund.

Mr Visser said the fund could not afford to assist any person simply because he sustained losses during the floods. The whole area must have been declared a disaster area, Mr Visser said.

The fund has now raised R26,5 million, he said.

Natal and kwaZulu, both of which were declared disaster areas, have

produced 140 000 applicants for financial assistance and 130 000 of these applications have already been finalised and payments made, said Mr Visser.

Between 4 000 and 5 000 applications were expected from flood victims from the Orange Free State and the northern Cape. About 800 applications had been approved and payments made, he said.

Mr Visser said included with the Free State were Botshabelo and Witsieshoek (QwaQwa) where between 700 and 800 flood victims were to receive financial help.

Robben Island to be opened to public

CAPE TOWN can forget about a hotel or casino on Robben Island.

The government has decided to retain control of the island and keep the two prisons there open for the foreseeable future.

Moreover, as the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobbie Coetsee, told Parliament two years ago, "the interests of the South African Navy on Robben Island are recognized".

But the government has decided that there will be greater public accessibility to Robben Island, potentially one of Cape Town's most intriguing tourist spots.

Already groups such as the Boy Scouts, Voortrekkers and Girl Guides have been visiting the island on a regular basis.

Every weekend 20 Moslem people worship at the Kramat which was erected in 1969 over the grave of Sayed Abdurahman Motura, a priest who served Malay slaves on the island.

Between January 1 and June 24 this year, 12 713 people visited the island and 51 498 people went to the island in the two years between October 1, 1985, and September 30, 1987.

These visitors include the families of warders, relatives of prisoners, and other visitors, such as sporting groups and others, such as youth groups. Although the government has already decided that Robben Island should be made more acces-

sible to the public, there will not be free access. The island, and a mile out to sea around it, is classified as a prison and this has its obvious security requirements.

It will remain a prison at least for the medium-term future.

About ten years ago Mr Jimmy Kruger, then Minister of Prisons, announced that the prison on Robben Island was to be phased out. Security prisoners were to be housed at Leeukop Prison near Johannesburg.

At the time, some of the most well-known security prisoners such as Mr Nelson Mandela, the ANC leader, Mr Walter Sisulu, at one time the ANC's secretary-general, Mr Govan Mbeki, at one time the ANC's treasurer, and Mr Herman Toivo-ja-Toivo, the Swapo leader who is now the organization's secretary-general, were held on the island.

Mr Kruger's announcement, motivated by the government's determination at the time to rid Robben Island of its Alcatraz image, had two significant consequences.

The first was that various people suggested that the island be turned into a tourist mecca and a former Nationalist MP, Mr Piet Westkust Marais even suggested that a casino be built on the island. This speculation about what could be

done to the island in terms of the development of hotels and tourism has persisted to this day.

The second consequence was that the government stopped spending money on the island and the two prisons.

That decision has now been reversed by the cabinet, and the island will remain under the control of the Prisons Service.

One of the reasons that prompted the reversal of the decision was an estimate, a few years ago, that it would cost more than R80 million to build a new prison to replace the two prisons on Robben Island.

With overcrowding in the existing prisons already a major problem, it was felt that it would be a waste of limited resources if R80 million was spent on replacing an existing prison when the money could be better spent on building new prisons or extending others.

Since 1961, when the Prisons Service took over the island, only one prisoner has tried to escape — on a paddle ski belonging to a warder. Neither

By BARRY STREEK

the paddle ski nor the prisoner have ever been found again.

With the decision to make the island more accessible to the public, the Prisons Service has begun renovating old houses and buildings, which are recommended to be declared national monuments. New houses for warders and their families are being built.

A new power supply is under construction and plans for a permanent water supply are being considered.

A group of old World War II barracks, which have been allowed to fall into ruin, are about to be renovated so that they can be used for overnight facilities. There is already a guest house, which can accommodate 16, in the old home of the island's commissioner.

Despite its closeness to the Peninsula, Robben Island has only 300mm of rain a year and the vegetation is Karoo-like. This means that the residents have to resort to using the brackish local water, rain water and sea water, which is used for sewerage. A desalination plant is being installed but at present fresh water is brought over from the mainland twice a week by boat.

The Prisons Service has also started the long and arduous process of removing exotic vegetation from the island. Sadly, in 1982, 240 000 small trees, rootkrans, cypress, blue gum and mona-

tooka were planted on the island and now cover about two-thirds of the island.

These are slowly being cut down and replaced by indigenous trees, on the advice of environmental experts.

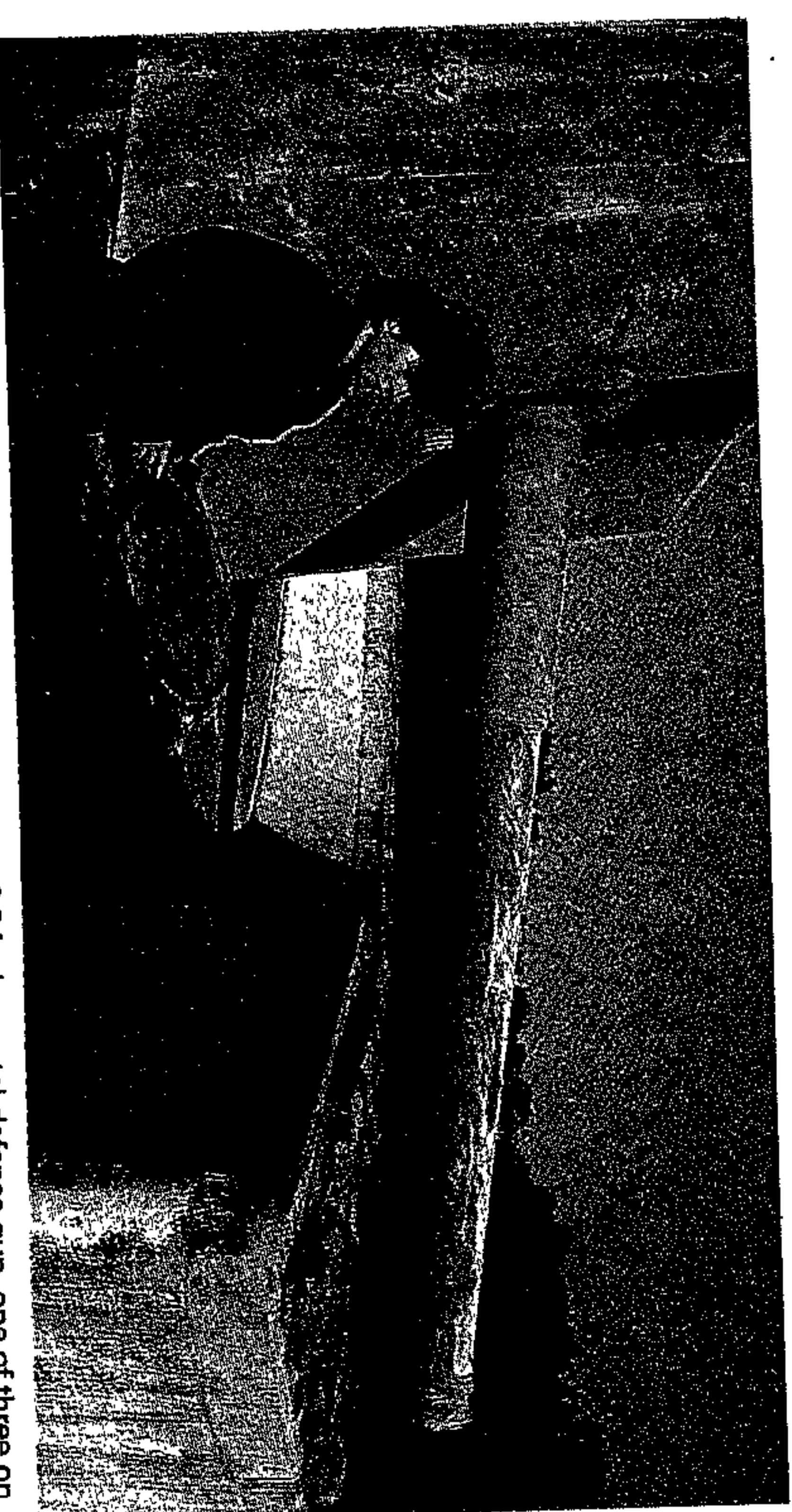
The area around the island has been declared a sea reserve, protecting the rich crayfish and perlmoen reserves.

There are also a large number of seabirds on the island and during 1984 penguins re-established a colony there. Today, with about 460 birds, the penguin colony is the sixth-biggest in the world.

There are five bontebok, 200 steenbok and, of all things, 30 reindeer. About 30 ostrich also live on the island.

The old buildings, the sea and bird life, the buck, the World War II installations (including three 9.2-inch guns which could fire over a 40km range), and the shipwrecks (the wrecks of the Daeyang Family, the tanker which ran aground in 1985, the Fung Chu II, a tuna trawler which ran aground in 1977, and Chanson de la Mer, which was wrecked in 1986), make Robben Island a fascinating place to visit.

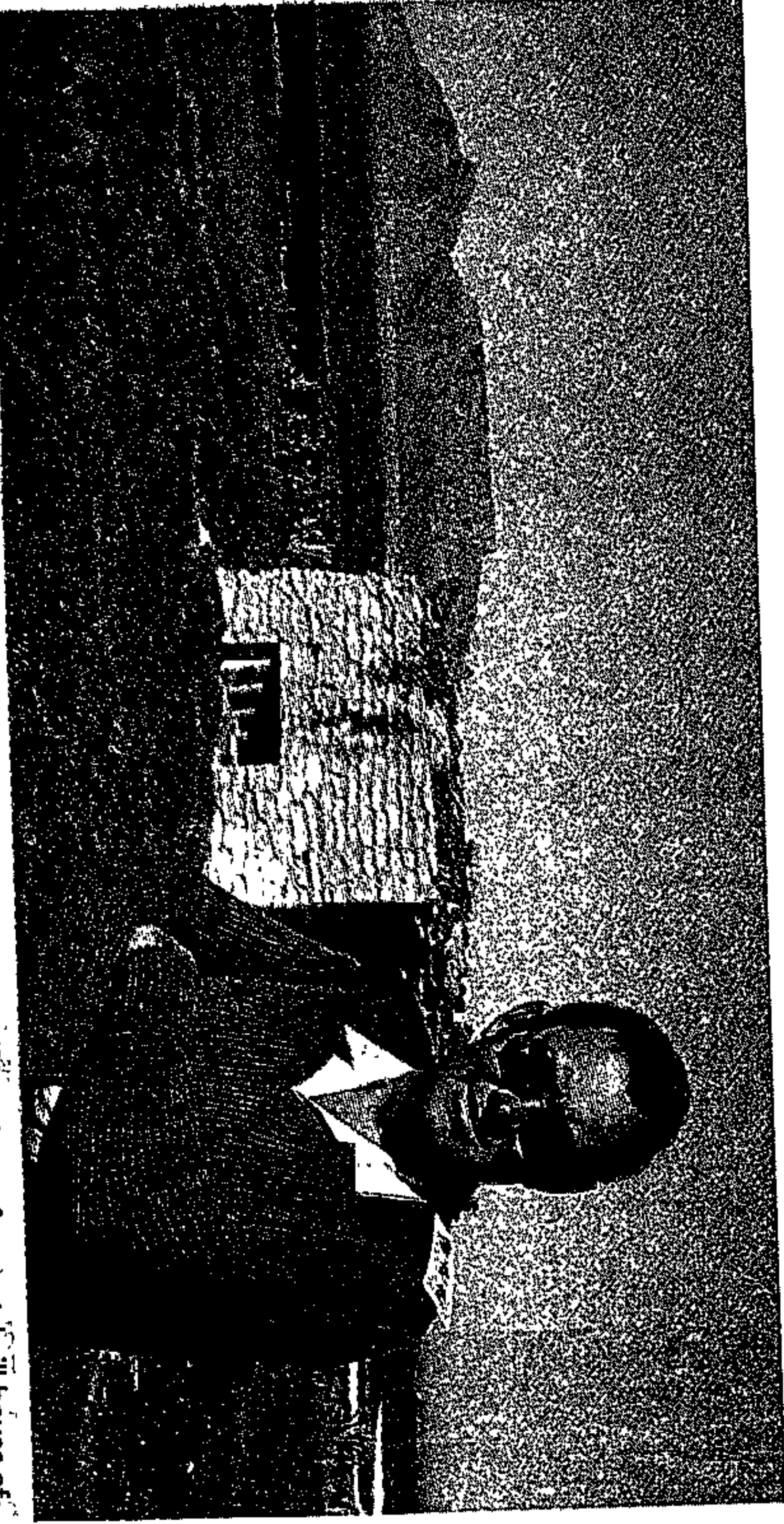
Groups who wish to visit the island can apply to the Officer Commanding, Robben Island, Private Bag Robben Island.



CITY VISITOR . . . Mrs Sue King of Pinelands next to a huge 9.2-inch coastal defence gun, one of three on the island.



ROAMING FREELY . . . Springbok and other antelope wander about freely on the prison island.



THE BOSS . . . The man in charge of the island, Colonel Lounes Roothman, in front of a coastal pill-box of World War II.

Pictures: RICHARD BELL

Flood aid 'not to mum who lost home'

By Kaizer Nyatumba

A Bophuthatswana mother of three, who lives in an area described as one of the worst hit by floods earlier in the year, cannot benefit from the Disaster Relief Fund established to help victims.

Ms Emmah Bhool, of Taung near Kimberley, said a Bophuthatswana chief had told her and many other residents they were not eligible for assistance "because we were not South Africans".

Only South African citizens could benefit from the fund, Ms Bhool was allegedly told.

Ms Bhool said her three-room hut was one of the many destroyed by floods in the area, which World Vision South Africa described as one of the worst hit by floods.

She was working in Johannesburg when the disaster occurred and it was only when she returned home that she discovered her house had been destroyed, her furniture badly damaged and her children aged two, four and eight



Ms Emmah Bhool is not eligible for flood relief because she is not a South African.

were living with neighbours.

Mrs Linda Baverey of Weltevreden Park, for whom Ms Bhool works, said it was "ridiculous" that certain disaster-stricken people could not benefit from the fund.

"Many people who have donated to the fund were not aware that their money would be made available to certain people and not to others."

She said she had phoned a Mr Gore at the Department of National Health in Pretoria on Ms Bhool's behalf, and he confirmed

that Ms Bhool could not be assisted because she was not a South African national.

When The Star contacted Mr Gore, he said he could not speak to the press, and directed questions to the Disaster Relief Fund.

Mr Japie Visser, chairman of the fund, said he was not aware of any requests for help from people in Bophuthatswana.

"We certainly did not receive any request for help from that area; that is a fact. I know this inside out because all the requests come to me," Mr Visser said.

South African Institute for Civil Engineers Convention

Conservation costs are causing conflict

Reports by Melanie Gosling

The costs of conservation were invariably higher than the cash returns, and this created a constant conflict between environmental protection and development, Dr Piet Claasen said yesterday.

Dr Claasen, of the town and regional planning department at the University of Stellenbosch, said one of the reasons why so much damage was still being done to the environment in spite of 20 years of environmental awareness, was the lack of control over Government projects.

Another was the lack of clear policy on who should bear the costs of environmental protection.

He said the problem was further ag-

gravated by the existence of First and Third World people in South Africa. The majority of South Africans, who often lived near or below the breadline, had little time to worry about the remote aspects of environmental protection.

"There will always be clashes between development and conservation and it will never be easy to resolve the dichotomy," Dr Claasen said.

Environmental protection should therefore always strike a wise balance between development and protection and a fair division of costs.

"Education and propaganda are still the most important weapons to fight environmental degradation," he said.

Consequences of motorways

The construction of a motorway through an urban area has grave social consequences, including movement of people elsewhere, noise pollution and loss of income from investments along the route, Mr DJ Hulley said yesterday.

Mr Hulley said development came with a cost in environmental problems which affected people physically and socially.

He outlined examples of the negative impacts which could occur if the Pretoria Freeway Plan 67 were implemented. These would include noise and air pollution, changes to community activities and changes to land use.

"These costs should be assessed at an early stage of planning and mitigating measures should become an integral part of the plan," Mr Hulley said.

'Degradation of the environment'

Civil engineers have sometimes been accused of being the main culprits of environmental degradation because of the "obvious evidence which surrounds us", Mr A A Friel, retired assistant chief civil engineer of SAR, said yesterday.

Mr Friel said controversial designs which had involved railway engineers included:

- Railway installations at the Swartkops River.
 - A shunting line along East London's west bank.
 - Some aspects of railways at Richards Bay.
- Other architectural and engineering constructions which matched the railway controversies were:
- The Unisa buildings in the southern hills of Pretoria.
 - The "pepper pots" at the foot of Table Mountain.
 - A sewage disposal works which has cut off the supply of sand to Port Elizabeth's southern beaches.
 - The Beacon Isle Hotel at Plettenberg Bay.

Letaba River is under pressure

By the year 2010 there will not be enough water for people living in the catchment area of the Letaba River if the present rate of development continues, experts predict.

Environmental scientist Miss Bryony Walmsley said today that research had shown the situation in the Letaba River in the north-eastern Transvaal to be more serious than originally thought.

She said as the population increased and technology developed, the demand for water increased. It was estimated that in parts of the Letaba River catchment, supplies would be insufficient to meet domestic needs, let alone those of agriculture and industry.

"One of the reasons for this critical point having been reached is that water has been regarded as a resource for human benefit only, with little regard for the ecological system it supports."

Until the 1960s the Letaba ran all year. Now it runs only in summer and even then its flow is lower than before.

WORKSHOPS

Two workshops were held to tackle the problem with specialists from a range of disciplines, she said.

"The major objective was the determination of the water needed for ecology so that rivers can continue to function as viable ecosystems," Miss Walmsley said.

Generally, there was a conflict between the water demands of development and those of ecology. To minimise this conflict, the Department of Water Affairs had adopted a holistic approach to planning.

"The aim of this approach is to manage water resources to yield the greatest benefit to all users, while maintaining the quality of life for future generations."

Miss Walmsley said the department's holistic approach was an "admirable example" of multi-disciplinary, integrated environmental management.

Flood-hit towns, farms mopping up Devastated areas get back to normal

By Helen Grange and Sue Olswang

Towns in the Free State, western Transvaal and northern Cape which were flooded this year have almost completed repairs. And farmers of land hit by the floods are preparing for the next season's crops.

Some homeowners in the worst-hit areas in the Free State and western Transvaal are waiting for the summer season to complete repairs, according to municipal spokesmen.

However, with the assistance of government's flood relief programme, roads, dam walls, bridges, sewage pipes, electricity and water supply in most affected towns and villages had been repaired.

About R555 million was budgeted by the Government in March for repairs, and a special job creation project in the flood regions was instituted. Labourers were paid R4 a day for helping local authorities clear up initial damage from the February floods.

Farmers in the northern Cape in and around Upington and Prieska are hard at work re-installing water pumps from the Orange river for irrigation.

"It will take another six months before everything is as it was in Upington. The Upington municipality has already spent R3 million on damages to municipal buildings. Private property owners have relied on government subsidies and insurance for repairs, and most homes are re-occupied," the town clerk, Mr Kolievan Wyk, said.

In Prieska, Jacobsdal and surrounding areas many owners of homes in low-lying areas have lived in rented homes for the duration of winter and are ex-

pected to start returning to their homes from next week.

"Some of these homes are still quite wet from recent rainfalls," Mr Dick Viljoen, the Prieska town clerk, said.

Douglas, one of the worse-hit towns, launched a road repair programme last week to complete repairs already started.

"We have fixed almost everything else in a remarkably short time," Mr Louis De Jager, Douglas town clerk said.

Schweizer-Reneke, also badly damaged by floods, now has only a few roads needing attention.

The town clerk at Brandfort, in the Free State, Mr Christiaan Venter, said the town was extremely lucky to suffer little damage.

Insurance awaited

Mr Pieter Grobler, the Dewetsdorp, Free State, town clerk, He added that some residential homes were still in need of repair but most residents were waiting for insurance claims to be processed.

A spokesman for the Edenburg municipality, Mr Nick Coetzee, said the town was still busy with repairs but had already fixed a small bridge as well as sewage and water pipes and electrical damage.

Mr Brinley Prichard for the Phillipolis municipality in the Free State reported: "About 19 houses in a nearby black township were evacuated and those people are staying in tents until their homes are rebuilt. They have been reimbursed through the government flood relief programme but will have to wait about 18 months for new homes because we are having difficulties getting building supplies in over unmanageable roads and we've experienced a shortage of bricks."

The Reddersburg town clerk, Mr Dieploff Pieterse, municipality said the town had completed about 80 percent of its repairs.

"We've spent about R55 000 so far on municipal repairs and repaired 15 homes in a nearby black township."

A Kimberley spokesman, Mr Riaan Pienaar, said. "Some roads need resurfacing but the bulk of work has already been done. Two pleasure resorts on the Vaal River need about R500 000 worth of repairs and we are in the process of repainting and rebuilding at the two sites.

The assistant town clerk at De Aar, also in the northern Cape, Mr Gerhard Engelbrecht, reported: "Our roads were covered in mud but everything was quickly back to normal."

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Family announcements for Engagements and Marriages are not accepted by telephone but must be placed personally at The Star Office, 47 Sauer Street, Jhb or Computicket Offices, where advertisers are required to sign the advertisement. In case of difficulty, Tel 633-2600.

Lost, Found and Hebrew Notices appear on the front page of the Classified Section.

Births

GELGOR
To Chani and Linda (nee Dryer) a daughter Robyn, sister to Stacey on 8 July 1988. Thanks to Doctor and staff at Park Lane clinic, Baruch Hashem.

O'BRIEN
To Glenn and Margie (nee Stuart) a daughter on the 8th of July in Gullford England.

Deaths

MILLER
Harold. Passed away peacefully in Mulzenberg on 8 July. Deeply mourned by his loving children Eric, Frank, Lesley Miller, Mel Kaplan and Grandchildren Carl, Danny, Luke and Jessie.

MUNITICH/JANSEN
Butchie and Dennis died tragically on the 7/7/88. Two great people. It will always be remembered by Kevin, Myra Burger and Tyrone Stevenson. Deepest sympathys to Zeldia, Desire and family.

MUNITICH
My darling Dennis was taken from us tragically on the 080788. He was so special to us and will always be remembered. R I P. All my love Porky and daughters, Bronwyn and Sharnelle.

OWEN
Formerly Williams Edna

Funeral Notices

FRIGYIK
The Funeral Cortege for Sandor (Alex) late of Swaziland will leave the Mater de la Rosa Catholic Church, Mbabane, Swaziland on Friday 15th July after a Requiem Mass which will be celebrated at 2.00 p.m. and proceed to the Mbabane Cemetery. It is requested that donations in lieu of flowers be sent to the National Cancer Association, Box 2000, Jhb. 2000.
THOM KIGHT & CO
TEL. 837-5531

HAYES
Carol-ann (nee Potgieter) a memorial service, following a private cremation, will be held at Jehovah's Witnesses Kingdom Hall cnr. Sloane st. and Grace rd. Bryanston at 11am on Thursday 14 July 1988. No flowers by request, donations to South African Institute for Medical Research, P.O.Box 4788, JHB.

MOORE (nee BRIDGEMAN)

Own Correspondent

TENS of thousands of people cut off in the Lesotho mountains and the Natal Drakensberg by the worst snowstorm in 50 years face starvation and death with no let-up in the sub-zero temperatures in sight until at least tomorrow.

Early today the five young Port Shepstone hikers missing in the snowbound Loteni area of the Drakensberg since Sunday had not yet been found and there are grave fears for their safety.

The Sani Pass linking Natal and Lesotho was still snowed in yesterday but locals reported that some Basothos desperate for food were walking down to Natal to escape the deep snow blanketing the highlands.

Officials yesterday could not say exactly how many people were cut off without food and fuel.

Most of the estimated 100 hikers caught in the Drakensberg have been brought to safety.

But hopes for the missing and poorly-equipped Port Shepstone hikers faded yesterday as two Alouette helicopters joined Natal Parks Board staff and members of the Mountain Club rescue team in an intensive search.

The missing Port Shepstone five — David, Karen and Steven Harrison, Timothy Prigge and Mr

Thousands cut off by snowstorm

ONE TIMES 13/7/88

56

IN Cape Town it will get warmer today as a high pressure system moves in over the Peninsula and Boland. A moderate north-west-er is expected to veer to the south west with the minimum temperature 8° C and the maximum 17° C.

Graham Richardson — are believed to have only three sleeping bags and a space blanket between them.

"We are most concerned about this group as they had food for only two days," said NPB spokesman Mr Jeff Gaisford.

There was also concern for the safety of a group of seven hikers believed to be trapped in the Cobham area of the Drakensberg. They have been named as Durbanites Tony Carr, Dave Johnstone, Paul Ebbeling, Sheryl

Deane, Jenny Robinson and two women identified only as Odette and Elise.

Three hikers — Mr Dave Boden, Mr Errol Brocklehurst, deputy principal of Northlands Boys' High School, and Mr Alan Leishman, all of Durban — who had been stranded in the same area made their way down to safety yesterday.

Two NPB resorts, Coleford — where about 30 visitors are stranded — and Vergelegen were still cut off from the outside world late yesterday. Two groups of people were snowed in at Vergelegen.

But the road to the Loteni reserve, where 57 visitors — including a 15-month-old baby and 10 children — had been stranded since Sunday, was opened late yesterday afternoon.

SA 'imported mercury waste from US firm'

STV 13/7/87

(56)

The Star's Foreign News Service

UTRECHT — South Africa has imported mercury wastes from American Cyanamid of the United States, according to the latest Greenpeace report.

The report minutely detailed the secretive, worldwide and very lucrative trade in toxic waste, often from Western industrialised countries to underdeveloped countries.

Greenpeace warned that its studies had shown that all the most common waste disposal options released contaminants into the environment.

"Each shipment of waste from one country to another is a threat to the public health and environmental integrity of the transited and receiving countries," the report said.

Greenpeace said the United Nations Environment Programme working group, modelled after the regulatory systems of North America and Europe, had done nothing to stem the flow of waste.

"Further, bureaucratic systems designed to monitor the flow of wastes from industrialised nations ap-

pear to be incapable of stopping the proliferation of 'sham recycling'."

Greenpeace said it would co-operate with the United Nations, interested governments and organisations to adopt a convention which would prevent the international trade in wastes.

The Greenpeace report said that in 1986 the Natal trading firm, Thor Chemicals of Cato Ridge, contracted to receive two annual 60-drum shipments of mercury-laced sludge wastes from American Cyanamid of Bound Brook, New Jersey. The shipments were to continue after 1988.

According to the Greenpeace report, Thor Chemical would undertake to reclaim and recycle the mercury wastes in South Africa.

The report noted that two shipments were made in 1986, but that it was unclear whether South Africa had since then agreed to take more shipments.

South Africa had also received wastes generated by the American exporters Diamond Shamrock, Quanax and Arbuckle Machinery Company.

'Rotten foundations' to Sandton report

Sandton Town Council has become the first body in South Africa to carry out an "environmental impact assessment" (EIA) on a big engineering project.

A Cape Town team was employed to investigate the best route for a R40 million, 4-lane, east-west arterial road.

The team (the University of Cape Town's Environmental Evaluation Unit) is under the guidance of the country's top expert on EIAs, Professor Richard Fuggle.

An EIA report is supposed to recommend the best course for a proposed development, but only after listening to the public. It must list all the anticipated good and bad effects.

The team has until September to report.

Some critics claim the EIA is superfluous because the public

has not yet agreed on the need for a new highway.

The council claims it has. It says a committee of six residents' leaders agreed there was a need. But it has since become apparent that only traffic engineers' ideas were fed to the committee.

Jomag, the big federation of ratepayers' associations, is unhappy.

A spokesman, Mr Conrad Berge, says unless the team looks holistically at Sandton's needs, as well as at the highway Randburg intends slotting into Sandton's proposed highway, it cannot make a valid judgment.

The two highways form a single corridor right across Greater Johannesburg, offering freeway (outer ring) traffic a petrol-saving short cut.

Mr Berge told me: "Jomag has no quarrel with the UCT

(S6)

CARE column



James Clarke

Star 14/7/68

team, but its work rests on rotten foundations."

He said Jomag has "extensive hard evidence" that information is being withheld; that there has been an undue influence by engineers; and that there has been misrepresentation of facts and manipulation of interests.

● Footnote: the public must respond by Friday (881-6213).

Junkyard, South Africa

VAST quantities of chemicals used to make Agent Orange appear to have been dumped in South Africa by multi-national companies in the wake of a world-wide ban on 245-T, the most dangerous ingredient of the notorious defoliant.

The chemical 245-T produces dioxin, one of the most toxic poisons known to man, and is banned for sale and use in most of the Western world and many parts of the Third World. South Africa is one of the few countries that still allows it to be used.

Government officials say only small quantities of old supplies of 245-T are available in South Africa and that no ban has been imposed on the substance as these will soon be depleted.

But massive amounts of 245-T have been found in rain water at two sites near Pietermaritzburg in Natal.

Chemwatch, an environmental group monitoring the use of herbicides in South that contain the ingredients of Agent Orange, recently revealed that samples of 245-T in the rainwater were found to be 10 000 times higher than the limit considered safe in the United States.

The findings, contained in a secret Department of Agriculture report, were leaked to the press by Chemwatch and have sparked fears that pollution of the air and rain by 245-T and 24-D has reached crisis proportions.

Agent Orange, a mixture of equal parts of 24-D and 245-T, was used by the US armed forces to destroy vast tracts of forest and jungle that gave cover to communist guerrillas during the Vietnam war.

Since then the defoliant has been blamed for a spate of babies being born with tiny hearts, small lungs, too many toes and stumps for legs both to the wives of Vietnam veterans in the US and to villagers in Vietnam.

Mystery surrounds the origins of 245-T supplies in South Africa.

Government and industry sources are tightlipped on the issue and Farm Ag, the only company known to be distributing herbicides containing 245-T in South Africa, refused to tell the *Weekly Mail* where its supplies came from.

Farm Ag director Frank Richardson would only say the firm was using up old stocks of the chemical and would no longer market products containing 245-T once these were used up.

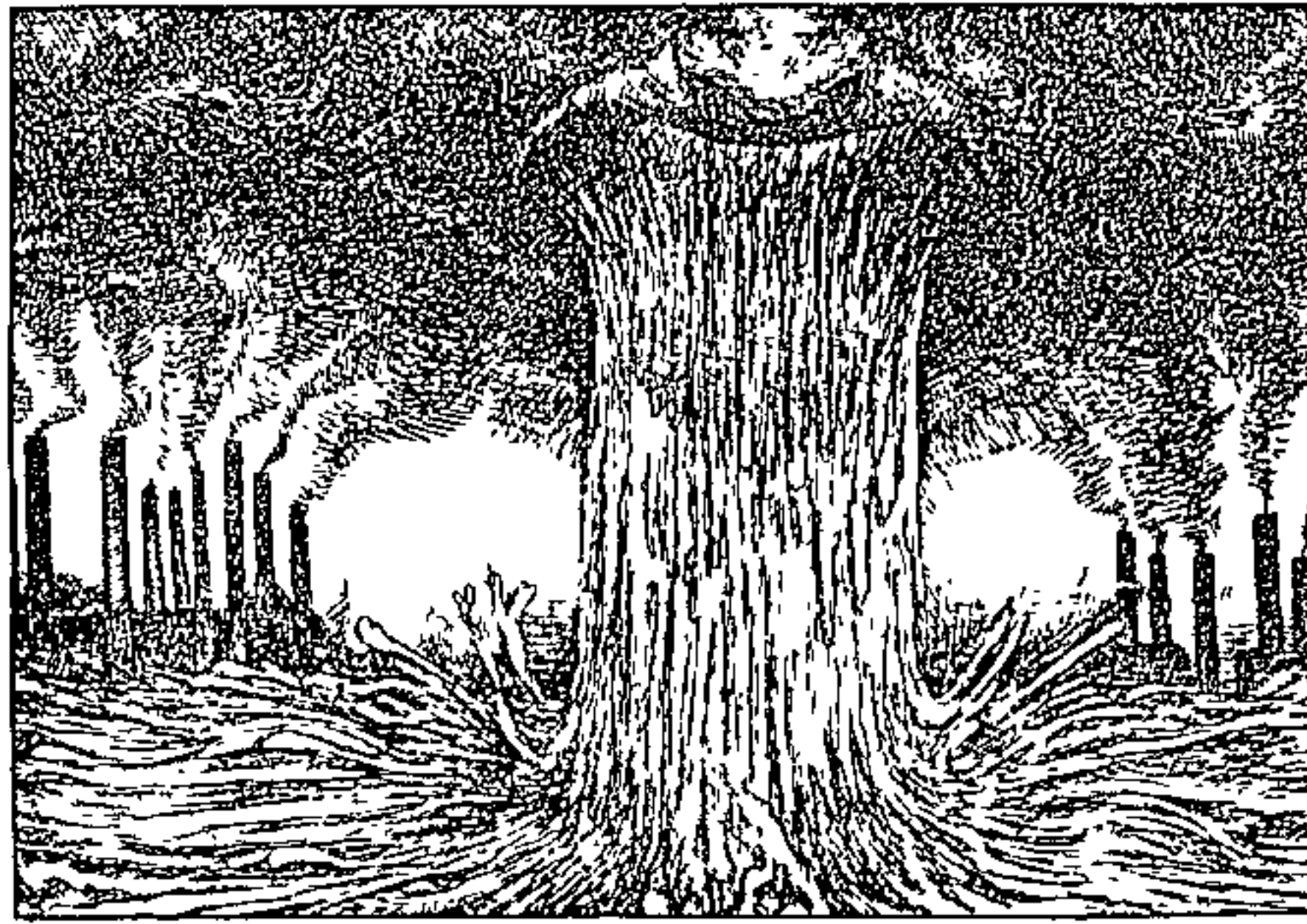
He said the Department of Agriculture's registrar for fertilizers and stock feeds, Dr Max Orban, had full details of which company supplied Farm Ag with 245-T.

But Orban told the *Weekly Mail* he did not have this information and said that even if he did, he would be prevented by law from divulging information about products registered with his department.

Orban would only say that he

Evidence increases that chemicals used in the notorious Vietnam War defoliant 'Agent Orange' are being dumped in South Africa, one of the few countries which has not yet banned the substances. New research reveals that the chemicals are more widely used than previously believed. Rain samples show poison traces 10 000 times over the 'safe' limit.

By EDDIE KOCH



thought stocks of 245-T were bought up in Europe and the US about four or five years ago, before the chemical was banned in those countries.

The only company in the world that is known to have produced 245-T recently was located in New Zealand and jointly owned by Dow Chemicals, the American company that sold Agent Orange to the US army, and a local company called Ivor Watkins. The firm closed down at the end of last year but may have sold off its old stock.

Dow Chemicals had a plant in South Africa before it disinvested in April last year and sold out to a local company, IC Chemicals. But it still has active interests in the country and supplies herbicides to the South African chemical giant, Sentrachem, through IC Chemicals.

Agricura, a Sentrachem subsidiary, distributes herbicides throughout the country under the Dow's trade mark, Tordon.

One of Agricura's herbicides, known as Tordon 225, contained 245-T and carried the Dow logo on its labels. But Agricura's manager of marketing services, NC Anderson, said this version of Tordon was no longer produced by his company.

Lloyd Morgan, manager of IC Chemicals' agricultural division, confirmed that his firm was supplied with Dow herbicides, but said Dow had stopped supplying 245-T after it was banned in the US.

He said it was possible that Farm Ag had bought the chemical from the Dow factory in New Zealand but had no evidence for this. Morgan said France was another possible source

of old stocks of 245-T.

Dow has been the subject of a huge law suit in the US as hundreds of Vietnam veterans attempted to obtain compensation from the company for diseases suffered by them and deformities that afflicted their children.

Although it is not certain who sold the supplies of 245-T to South African firms, it is clear that this country was seen as a market that could soak up large supplies of the herbicide because no ban applies here.

The United Nations' World Health Organisation estimates that at least 10 000 people are killed in the Third World by pesticides, many of whose ingredients are banned in the West, every year.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation, concerned by the massive amounts of toxic chemicals that are

dumped each year, recently passed a resolution that Third World countries should give prior and informed consent before allowing dangerous pesticides to enter their territory.

Chemwatch said the levels of 245-T found in Natal's rain were up to three times the amounts recorded in Vietnam after its forests were subjected to bombardments from the air of more than four million litres of Agent Orange.

Chris Kanna, a toxicologist at the US Environmental Protection Agency, told South African reporters that the amounts of 24-D found in the samples was far higher than the minimum standards laid down by US federal agencies and that they would "take action" if such quantities were found in the US.

The Chemwatch representative told *Weekly Mail* that the 245-T found in

Natal was combined with heavy doses of 24-D. "In effect this means that many areas of the province were hit by rainfalls of diluted Agent Orange," he said.

The level of 245-T in the Natal samples was 690 000 picograms per litre while the US safety limit was 70 picograms per litre, he said. As a guide to the levels of 245-T in the air, these measurements were an "absolute minimum".

Dew samples would contain much higher concentrations of the Agent Orange type herbicides as these are less diluted by rainwater. Chemwatch has been informed that the Department of Agriculture is in possession of tests done on deposits of dew, as well as a range of other test results, but is keeping these secret.

The leaked information about 245-T in Natal's rain follows hard on the heels of disclosures that large amounts of 24-D and lesser traces of 245-T have been leaking into the Hazelmeere Dam near Verulam in Natal. The Farm Ag factory is located on the banks of the dam.

Chemwatch has produced a dossier linking the use of 245-T and 24-D to the apparently high rate of birth defects in Natal. Numerous medical studies have provided strong evidence to show 24-D causes foetal damage and kidney and liver cancer.

The discoveries have sparked a storm of protest by environmental groups, trade unions and political parties.

The Chemwatch representative said the government had more than enough evidence to justify an immediate embargo on the use of both chemicals.

The South African Chemical Workers' Union has committed itself to a campaign around the issue. "We believe that if we don't investigate the use and manufacture of these chemicals we will have failed in our duty to protect the lives of our members as well as their health and safety," said Sacwu education officer Abel Majola.

Putting poison in perspective

A GOVERNMENT committee responsible for protection from poisons has issued a press statement on Agent Orange that "puts the toxicity to man and beast of these products in perspective".

The Interdepartmental Advisory Committee Safeguarding Man Against Poisons (Indac) said the dangerous element of the Agent Orange used in Vietnam was dioxin, a highly toxic substance produced during the manufacturing of 245-T.

Indac chairman Dr IH Wiese said products on the South African market containing 245-T have been tested and found to contain less than half the amount of dioxin considered by the United Nations to be safe.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organisation says the safety limit of dioxin is 0,1 milligrams per kilogram of 245-T; all products in South Africa have dioxin levels below 0,5 milligrams per kilogram.

Agent Orange used in Vietnam had dioxin levels of 45 milligrams per kilogram.

"Supplies of 245-T on the South African market are being rapidly depleted because international manufacture of this herbicide has been terminated," said Wiese.

Indac has recommended that existing supplies of 245-T may be used up because it has low levels of dioxin.

The committee says 24-D, the other ingredient of Agent Orange, contains no dioxin. "The toxicology of 24-D is not under suspicion," it said.

"This herbicide is currently used internationally, although it is subject to certain local use restrictions to prevent damage to sensitive crops. It is not banned anywhere in the world."

A Chemwatch representative acknowledged that dioxin levels in South African herbicides were much lower than those found in Agent Orange. But he said 245-T was volatile and produced higher levels of the deadly poison in hot climates.

Medical literature on the effects of the herbicides indicates that dioxin is not the only element of Agent Orange suspected of causing cancer and birth deformities.

A seminal study by Dr Sheila Hoar and Dr Aaron Blair based on observation of farmers in Kansas found those exposed to 24-D for more than 20 days a year ran a sixfold higher risk of developing a cancer known as Non Hodgkins lymphoma.

Master's Student



The Primary Education Project has a place in 1989 for a full-time masters student with experience of Bantu Education to assist in researching curriculum and professional development in local primary schools. A grant of R5 000 is available. An HSRC grant may also be applied for. Applications should include a CV and the names and addresses of two referees. Write to: The Project Leader, PREP, School of Education, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700. Closing date is 15 August 1988.

Research Assistant



The Primary Education Project requires a research assistant with experience of Bantu Education for 1989. Applicants should have a teacher's qualification and be interested in school-based research in education which could lead towards further qualification. A grant of R5 000 is available. HSRC grants may also be applied for. Applications should include a CV and the names and addresses of two referees. Write to: The Project Leader, PREP, School of Education, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700. Closing date is 15 August 1988.

Rural Health Field Worker

Health Care Trust (Head office — Cape Town) would like a full-time fieldworker for its village health worker project in the Cala District, Transkei and possible expansion to other areas.

Applicants must have:

- Some experience and a definite interest in rural work and in health
- a valid driver's licence
- a sound understanding and experience in organisational work
- be prepared to travel a lot between Cape Town and the area of work

Added advantages:

Some experience in adult education and ability to speak Xhosa and English or Afrikaans.

Please apply in writing with details of your background and experience and reasons for applying for the job. Include the following: Telephone numbers where possible and two contactable referees.

Closing date: July 31.

For further information telephone (021) 637-3634.

Written applications to: Health Care Trust, P.O. Box 5, Athlone 7760.

'Large sums' offered to SA to accept toxic waste

Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICA has turned down large sums of money offered by Italian and American companies looking for cheap sites to dump toxic waste, the Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria has revealed.

"We flatly refused," a spokesman said.

The foreign companies had used intermediaries to "sound out" the South African authorities, and to offer money as an inducement.

Hundreds of rands

The spokesman said: "We have been approached in the past by Italians and Americans and asked whether we would accept toxic wastes. We were offered hundreds of rands per ton and were even told the waste was not harmful. We did not believe that."

He said he did not know the names of the companies.

"You don't know who you are dealing with," the spokesman said. "They probably don't want you to know who they really are."

The spokesman was commenting after a Greenpeace report in Holland highlighted the dangers inherent in the secret, but lucrative trade in toxic wastes. American and European companies, it said, had exported dangerous waste to the Third World because regulations at home made safe disposal costly.

Instead, companies had been found to have induced poor countries — some in Africa — to accept toxic wastes as a source of income.

South Africa, the Department of Water Affairs says, would never accept such offers.

The Department of the Environment echoes this view. A spokesman said: "As far as I know, we have never had solid waste imports. We are not in favour of it at all."

Also mentioned in the Greenpeace report is a South African company, Thor Chemicals of Natal, singled out for accepting mercury-laced waste from an American company. Thor Chemicals says its operation is above-board.

A spokesman said the waste was the left-over of a product it sold to America, and Thor Chemicals believed it was responsible for disposing of it

safely. He added that the disposal operation was approved by South Africa's Department of Environment and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Government spokesmen in Pretoria were not aware of any other companies in South Africa with a similar arrangement for treating or disposing of waste from abroad.

Waste disposal in South Africa, however, is not yet, by departmental admission, sufficiently regulated. That is soon to change.

A new Environmental Conservation Act, if it becomes law, will provide government inspectors with the tool to monitor, regulate and, where necessary, clamp down on the waste trade.

The Department of Water Affairs will be responsible for the regulation of solid wastes.

Very concerned

The Water Affairs spokesman said: "We have never had waste disposal legislation.

"But we are very concerned, from a water point of view, about pollution, and the new regulations will clarify how wastes should be treated and what requirements must be met. If they aren't, the Government will be able to take action."

In fact, the new regulations have no provisions governing the import of wastes.

The spokesman said: "We did not address that issue. The department is clear ... it will never be allowed."

SA will never be dumping ground for toxic wastes

Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN — South Africa has turned down large sums offered by Italian and American companies looking for cheap sites to dump toxic waste, the Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria has revealed.

"We flatly refused," a spokesman said.

The foreign companies had used intermediaries to sound out the South African authorities and to offer money as an inducement.

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waste was not harmful. We did not believe that, though."

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DISPOSAL COSTLY

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Thor Chemicals has replied, saying its operation was above board.

A spokesman said the waste was the left-over of a product it sold to America, and Thor Chemicals believed it was responsible for disposing of it safely.

He added that the disposal operation was approved by South Africa's Department of Environment and the US Environmental Protection Agency.

(56)

This ratepayer opposes a highway for Sandton

Usually I write about other people's environmental problems.

A few days ago, as a ratepayer in Sandton's manure belt, I was invited to tell an inquiry about my own. The Environmental Evaluation Unit of the University of Cape Town asked why I oppose the building of a new arterial road across Sandton.

The unit is, on behalf of the council, reappraising a plan for an east-west arterial to ease cross-town congestion.

I told them I opposed the plan because:

- I believe Sandton has reached the point where new highways can no longer solve its traffic problems — they can only enlarge them.
- I have lived in Sandton and worked in Johannesburg for more than 25 years and have never been in a traffic jam. If I make the mistake of getting caught in morning peak traffic I blame myself — I do not demand a R40 million highway.
- Nearly everybody who sits daily in heavy traffic is a volunteer.
- Traffic congestion is something we have to learn to accept in urban areas. It is self-limiting. When it gets really bad people will demand public transport.
- London, with the best underground train system and taxi system in the world, and an excellent bus service, and having sacrificed hectares to motorways and ring roads, now boasts an average traffic speed of 12 km/h. In New York, Calcutta, Brisbane and Athens it's 15, Paris 16 and Lagos, where the traffic cops use whips, it's 12. I can get across Sandton at 40 km/h except for about 90 minutes in every 24 hours.
- No serious attempt has been made to seek alternative ways of commuting — apart from putting on desperately uncomfortable buses mounted on truck chassis and operated for the benefit of the operator rather than the passenger. They take you along a route you don't want to go and drop you off where you don't want to be.
- The priority for Sandton should be people, not vehicles. It is already difficult to find a quiet suburb not laced with fast arterials, why wreck more?

CARE column



James Clarke

OFS, Tvl
still need
flood aid

Relief to flood victims in Natal was almost concluded but it was expected that calls for help from victims in Free State, northern Cape and western Transvaal would continue, the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said yesterday.

Speaking at a function in Pretoria where the University of South Africa donated R50 000 to the emergency relief fund, he said donations to the fund now amounted to R27,2 million.

He said that in Natal and kwaZulu R51 143 285 had been used to answer 126 177 calls for aid.

In the Free State, northern Cape and western Transvaal 1 047 applications for aid had been handled at the cost of R1 501 318.

Figures for Ladysmith, which Dr van Niekerk excluded from those given for Natal, apparently because the town was declared a flood disaster area twice, amounted to R560 000 for 1 047 applications for aid.

Dr van Niekerk said that the postage stamp campaign had provided R1,1 million. — Sapa.

Cloudburst floods city

ARLUS 20/7/88
56

Staff Reporters

STREETS were today turned into rivers, cars had to be moved to higher ground and buildings were flooded in a cloudburst over suburbs stretching from Sea Point to the False Bay coast.

In Main Road, Sea Point, parked cars were suddenly up to their doors in water as the heavens opened for half an hour.

The Winchester Mansions Hotel, Beach Road, narrowly escaped flooding. Receptionist Miss Jasmine Hendricks said water started running through the front door after the downpour.

"People had to move their cars to higher up and we put sandbags outside the hotel's door. But we managed to stop more water coming in," she said.

Mr John Haycox of Southfield, who keeps a rain gauge in his garden, said the 20 minute downpour between 10am and 10.20am measured 35 mm.

"This is highest recording since 1977."

Closer to city centre

He said Victoria road, Plumstead was flooded and he had heard Rosmead Avenue was flooded.

There was flooding closer to the city centre too.

Globe Engineering's workshop in Railway Street, Woodstock, was flooded.

A staff member said: "The drainage is bad, so when the downpour came, it flooded the street and our workshop."

Flooding had not caused serious damage.

A shopkeeper in Bay Beach Road, Three Anchor Bay, said three cars had stalled in the road after flooding.

"The cars are still driving along here and getting stuck."

The Salt River Market, and shops in Albert Road, Salt River, were also flooded.

At the height of the downpour seven cars were reported to have been involved in a pile-up on the outgoing lanes of De Waal Drive.

There was another four-car smash on the incoming lane off Settlers Way at the start of De Waal Drive. It was not known whether there were injuries.

A Sea Point police spokesman said most of the flooding was in Beach Road, Sea Point and Port Road, Green Point.

Warning to motorists

He said traffic officers were redirecting traffic and city council workers were clearing the drains. So far there were no reports of damage.

The chief traffic officer of the Regional Services Council in the Western Cape, Mr Les Kirk, warned motorists to drive carefully following a mudslide on Victoria Drive near Hout Bay this morning.

A harbour spokesman said although shipping movements were not affected at Cape Town harbour, boats were unable to leave the Kalk Bay harbour because of the stormy weather.

Fashion designers in Albert Road, Woodstock, watched flood waters gush through the front door and fill their workshop in a matter of minutes.

A Dingo's Fashions spokesman said: "The water started coming in under the front door. In a flash the whole factory was filled. It's brought the whole place to a standstill."

"We are clearing up and trying to get rid of the water."

Work on the construction of underground parking in St George's Street came to an abrupt halt as stormwater poured onto the site.

A bystander, Mr Allan Wybrown, said workers scrambled to the surface.

The workforce of 25 men had to abandon their machinery as the site filled with water. Pumping was started soon afterwards.

Sapa reports motorists were forced to drive on the pavements in a flooded Rosmead Avenue near the Kenilworth racecourse.

Gale-force wind

Visibility was barely three metres and conditions were worsened by a gale force north-westerly wind.

Senior City Engineer Mr Des Riley said the council's entire maintenance force, together with construction teams specially drafted in, were mopping up after the downpour.

A team of engineers has been sent to the Table Mountain reservoir site to monitor the effects of the rain.

Rain broke through an earth bank at the weekend, causing extensive flooding to houses and gardens in Oranjezicht.

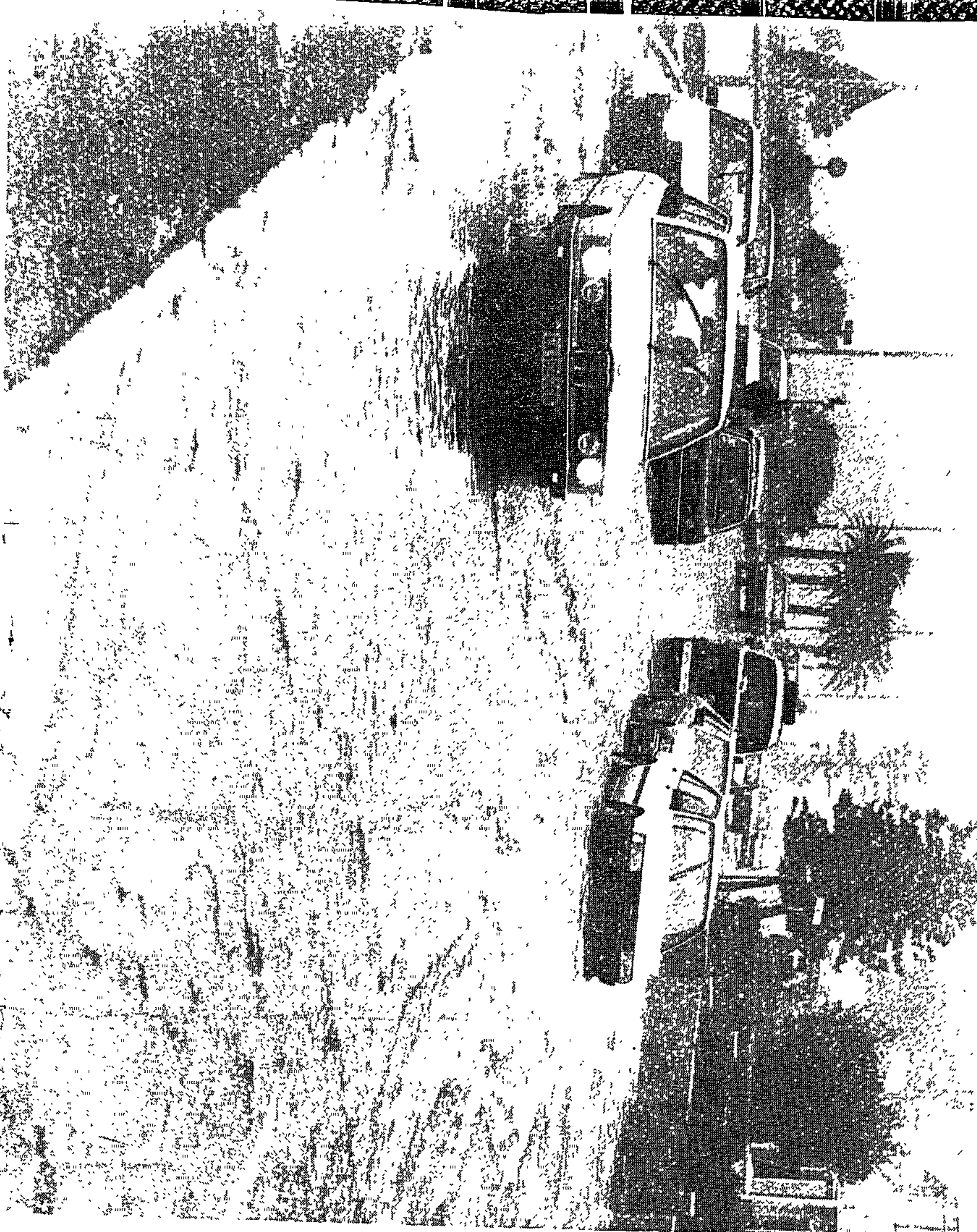
● Brace yourselves — more snow is on the way and can be expected on the Boland mountains later today, according to the weatherman at Df Malan Airport.

He said the stormy weather was being caused by a strong cold front and two or three more fronts were on their way.

Yesterday north-westerly winds of up to 35 knots were measured at Cape Point and at Df Malan Airport.

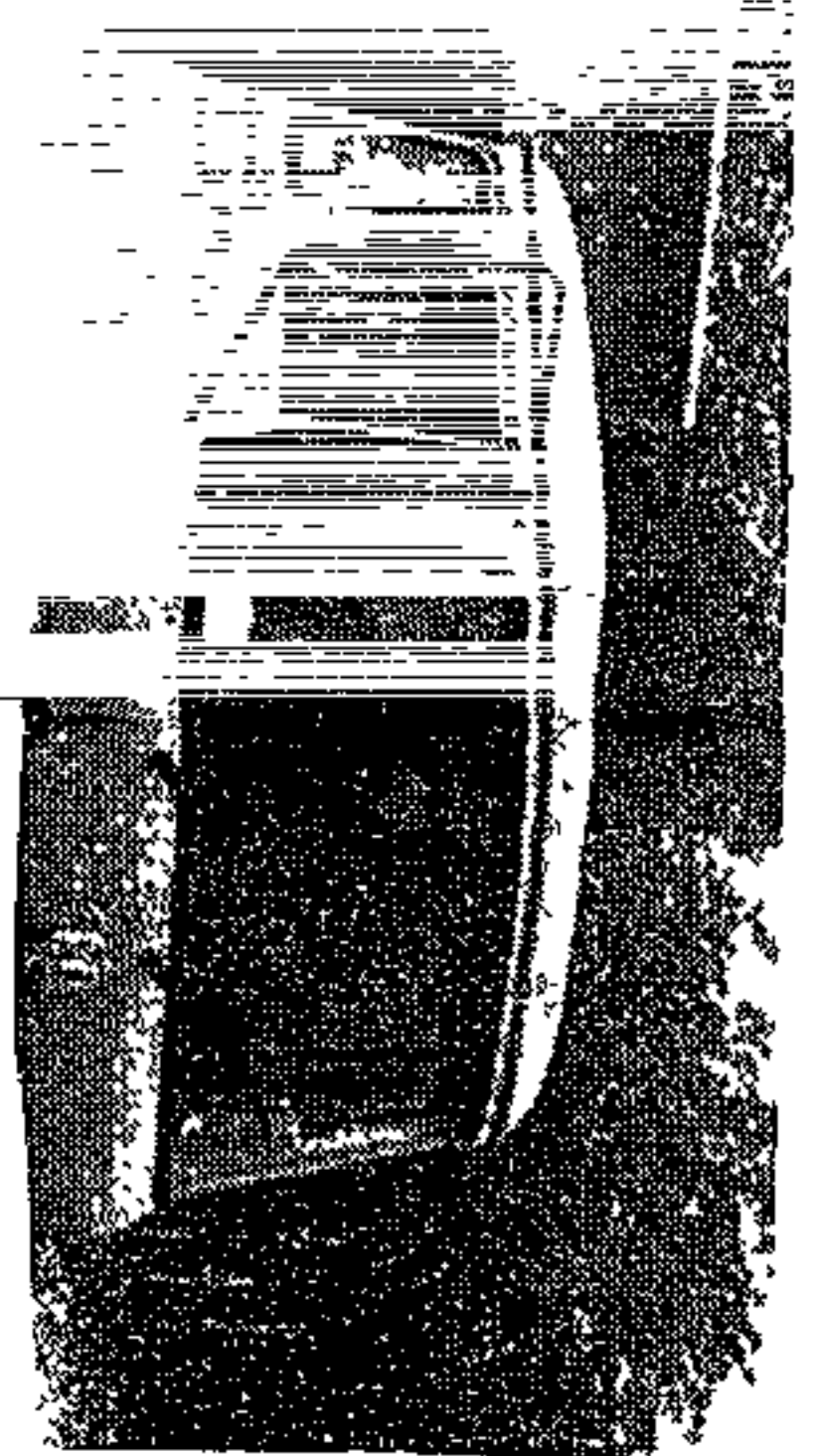
The wind is expected to moderate this afternoon, possibly swinging to the south-west while the clouds will clear partially tonight.

Electricity consumption peaked at 1 687mw about 7 last night, 4mw higher than the previous record for July 12.



Drivers cautiously brave flooded Beach Road in Sea Point at the height of today's downpour. In Main Road the water reached the level of car doors.

Pictures: LEON MULLER, The Argus



Waste disposal becomes costly

South African industrialists and home-owners will soon face sharp increases in the cost of waste disposal, says Mr Geoff Wood, managing director of a waste management firm.

For years, he says, waste disposal costs in the Republic have been well below those charged in other countries, but an imminent explosion in landfill costs threatens to change that.

"The problem arises from people's unwillingness to be responsible for the waste they produce. All of a sudden, it is not 'their' waste once it is handed over to a disposal firm — and the last place they want to see it is anywhere close to home," Mr Wood says.

South Africa has not felt the full impact of this yet because there have been adequate landfill sites away from housing estates and industrial areas.

SITES TO FIND

With continuing urbanisation, however, landfill sites which have to meet certain criteria such as the right soil conditions will have to be found further and further away. Transport costs alone will be greatly increased.

Mr Wood says owners of potential sites have become aware of their enhanced value and are asking much higher prices.

He calls for frank discussions between disposal firms and local authorities.

An alternative "is for municipalities to explore with waste disposal firms how they can co-operate to mutual benefit so that proper use is made of existing landfills". — Sapa.

Thor Chemicals cleared

(56) Own Correspondent *Stw* 22/7/88

DURBAN — Thor Chemicals, in the centre of an international row over the indiscriminate dumping of toxic wastes, has been given the all clear by the Department of Water Affairs and the Department of Health.

Investigations by these departments and other authorities came after an accusation by Greenpeace that Thor's plant in Cato Ridge was part of a secret and lucrative worldwide trade in toxic wastes.

But Thor chief executive, Mr John Dyer, said the waste was recycled, not dumped.

The company sells mercury compounds, which are used as catalysts by various plastics and paint makers.

The compounds are sold locally and overseas.

Because there is often waste containing mercury left over at the end of the process, the company offers a facility to customers to return this waste, said Mr Dyer.

"We feel that it is far better to take back all the waste ourselves. As a company, we are very environmentally aware, and so we have developed a mercury reclamation plant where all waste containing mercury is recycled."

The regional director of the Department of Water Affairs, Mr Joe Hansmann, said his department had been monitoring Thor Chemicals closely for signs of pollution. It was satisfied there was no leakage.

Helping to preserve metal species

By MEL BROOKS

Sowetan 26/7/88

(56)

Page 10

A TWINGE of guilt. Surely he must have literally collected tons every year to eke out a living . .

THE old man slowly picked his way along the road. His cart was piled high with empty bottles, pieces of scrap metal and old newspapers. It was piled so high that the cart could not actually be seen.

Looking at him one feels a twinge of guilt. Surely he must have to literally collect tons every year to eke out an existence.

And yet our future depends on him. Indeed the many others like him comprise an entire industry. These are the people that recover scarce resources that would otherwise be lost. They range from people like the old man to operators of large powerful trucks that can easily carry in one load what a hundred old men would struggle with on their carts.

Glass, paper, metal and plastic are all materials that can be

recycled, that is, re-processed in some way that will enable them to be re-used to make new products. Resource recovery has become an important part of every nation's economy.

For many years metal merchants have played an important role in the recycling of copper, brass and steel among other metals. Had it not been for the identification of this as a business opportunity by entrepreneurs, our countryside would be littered by scrap.

Were it not for these businesses, which range from one-man collectors to large scrap processing firms, the burden of collection would be on the

authorities. We as individuals would have to pay for this in the form of additional taxes.

Mention the word conservation and people conjure up visions of game rangers stalking through the bush in pursuit of some or other endangered species.

Your metal merchant is also a conservationist. He is helping to preserve what could be a disappearing metal species.

The world is running out of many key raw materials and creating serious environmental problems by its growing demand for others.

Recycling is recognised increasingly as an important means of reducing dependence on the finite deposits of minerals in the earth's crust.

The pressure on other natural resources such as water is also eased — less water is used in the processing of scrap

metal into a usable form than is used in the refinement of one from a mine into a metal.

By ensuring that worn-out and discarded products are fed back into the manufacturing process, we can guarantee a greater proportion of the earth's wealth for future generations.

When discarded materials are allowed to stray out of the system they pollute the environment, disfigure the countryside and may even become a safety hazard. So, without recycling, potentially useful materials become junk rather than being

retained as a resource.

It is therefore necessary to make recycling part of an overall conservation policy. Recycling is in fact not new. For centuries, old rags have been used to make the finest types of paper. The broken swords of medieval warriors were forged into scythes and sickles. But recycling came into its own with the industrial revolution.

Scrap metals, ferrous and non-ferrous, became standard materials for the metallurgical industries while old paper could be reduced to its original pulp and made

into new paper.

In such ways the recycling industry became established. Today it is a world-wide industry responsible for collecting, sorting, processing and marketing of a vast range of materials that have been discarded by industry and the public.

In South Africa the people, that have been in the recycling industry the longest, are the metal merchants. Now the industry also consists of waste-paper merchants and the glass and plastic recycling firms.

Thousands of people are employed in what are generally smaller firms. In fact the very nature of the industry lends itself to the entrepreneurial type operation.

So consider the old man again. He is in the resource recovery business. Apart from earning his living he is making our world a better place to live in.

Star 26/7/87 (56)

'Imperative that anti-pollution steps be revised'

Pretoria Correspondent

Substantial amounts of pollutants were being released into the eastern Transvaal highveld (ETH) atmosphere, according to an authoritative Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) report released yesterday.

"We are looking at a problem which could become acute if left to develop. As it is, we may expect negative signs of corrosion," co-author Dr Wynand Louw said.

In addition, exposed children of school-going age had displayed "increasing frequencies" of certain respiratory symptoms such as wheezing and coughing and illnesses such as asthma.

These findings were not, however, supported by lung function tests.

"It would therefore appear that control measures have succeeded in maintaining pollution levels below the level of

risk to human health," Dr Louw said.

Indications of "probable pollution" by "acid rain" had already been noted in the far eastern Transvaal forestry areas, notably in the Sabie district.

"Symptoms of foliar damage apparently consistent with atmospheric pollution effects were diagnosed only recently. A close evaluation of the situation regarding forests is needed urgently."

Dr Louw said the ETH atmosphere was "highly unfavourable" for the dispersal of atmospheric pollutants.

Most of the pollution in the area, he pointed out, resulted from power stations, though substantial contributions arose from various smaller industries, smouldering discard coal dumps, domestic combustion and motor vehicles.

"It is imperative that present anti-pollution measures be revised."

Eskom 'not to blame' for pollution

By Lloyd Coutts

Eskom power stations in the eastern Transvaal highveld meet all requirements laid down by the Government to prevent pollution in the area, a spokesman said yesterday.

Mr Jacques Messerschmidt, assistant general manager (generation), said Eskom had spent about R500 million on anti-pollution devices in the past 30 years.

He was commenting on a report by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research that most of the pollution in the area resulted from power stations.

Anti-pollution requirements were increased from time to time, and new measures had to be taken with each new station built, Mr Messerschmidt said.

Dust-prevention devices were expensive, but these costs were added to construction expenses.

"Because the eastern Transvaal highveld is a major industrial area, of course you'll get some pollution," he said.

"The question is, what level of pollution is tolerable or even affordable? We do not lay down the standards"

Public's goodwill needed

5/10/78
2/1/78
Own Correspondent (56)

DURBAN — The ideal situation was to gain the goodwill of every person in South Africa towards the environment and its conservation, the Minister of Environment and of Water Affairs, Mr Gert Kotze, told a conference on catchment conservation in Uvongo yesterday.

The Minister said there were a number of Acts of Parliament that addressed the problems of environmental conservation.

These Acts had "to punish those who had no respect for the environment and, through that, their fellow-South Africans".

Mr Kotze said it was preferable not to have to apply the Acts. A better way was to gain the goodwill of the people.

"What is needed is a change of attitude which would ensure goodwill towards every aspect of the natural and even the man-made environment. Only then will the effort to conserve this country's natural resources bear the fruit it should."

Farmers, who controlled about 85 percent of the land, held a very big responsibility in conserving the environment.

PM 29/7/88

counter SA's litter problem, particularly from packaging materials.

Consol Group MD and Packaging Council spokesman Piet Neethling says a major concern of the industry, even after the Bill's modification, is that it gives the minister power to demand compulsory deposits on packages — as a means of encouraging consumers not to throw them away.

"This kind of legislation is focused on cans and bottles but they account for only a proportion of litter," says Neethling. "Nothing is done to address the problem of cigarette boxes, sweet-wrappers and even newsprint."

The cost of deposit legislation can be considerable. A study of the effects of such legislation in nine US states and South Australia found it increased costs by 35%, he claims.

The major concession in the latest draft is that any decision taken by the minister may be challenged in the courts; previously, the only appeal was to the minister himself. But he still has wide powers: he may intervene in areas as diverse as agriculture, transport, recreation and manufacturing.

Neethling comments: "Because the Minister of Environmental Affairs is responsible for conservation, he may not take enough account of the vital need for economic development in the country.

"I don't believe the market should be left to do what it wants. There must be safeguards against pollution and other negative impacts on the environment. But there is a danger that economic development will be retarded because of a lengthy bureaucratic process involving an environmental assessment study on the desirability of a factory, which could take up to two years."

Kohler chairman Ian Willis adds that the Bill doesn't recognise voluntary action by the industry. Last year, 617 500 t of material was recycled — or 23% of total packaging material produced.

But Boet du Preez, CE of the conservation body, the Habitat Council, says the Bill lacks bite and doesn't specify how the minister's power will be applied.

"Industry has done a great deal for conservation but there is a need for statutory actions," he says. ■

PACKAGING

(Sb)

Feeling the draft

The final draft of the Environmental Conservation Bill, granting the Minister of Environmental Affairs sweeping powers over business activity, has been modified after consultation with the packaging industry.

However, the industry is still unhappy with aspects of the Bill, which is intended to

Disaster feared from waterworks sludge (56)

8th 29/7/88
Vereeniging Town Council agreed last night to lodge an objection to a Rand Water Board proposal to dump waterworks sludge down the Springfield Colliery workings, from which a number of local farmers and plot dwellers pump water to irrigate crops.

It is feared that the dumping could lead to "a national disaster" as the sludge will not only pollute a vast underground reservoir of water, but could also calcify in time and stop the flow of water throughout the area.

There is also a strong possibility that these areas could be in danger of becoming sinkhole areas.

The areas affected include Sonlandpark, Helensrus, Harmoniesrus, Van der Merweskroon, Unitas Park Smallholdings, Dreamlands and Lenteland. — Vereeniging Bureau.

Rain with the kiss of death

Step 30/7/88

56

CLIMATICALLY is one of the earth for yet it has the power

More than year are

Just one giants — Megawatts — to supply the still have 1

Air quality traded off for economic gains each To have built railed the power sive.

JAMES CLARKE

"It falleth as the gentle rain from heaven ..."
Acid.

The acid rain phenomenon which has so scared all of Europe might have its worst focus here in the Transvaal.

Acid rain and dry acid fallout is caused by airborne sulphur and nitrogen gases which come from burning coal, oil and petrol. In the Transvaal around 100 million tons of coal a year are burned — releasing 3 000 tons of sulphur alone each day.

In Europe and the US it is killing off forests, aquatic life and, lately, even the more resilient coastal ecosystems. It is also costing agriculture millions of rands a year in crop damage and chemicals to counteract the acid.

The phenomenon has badly frightened people in Europe, North America and the Far East and has rekindled the "world war" of the 1970s between environmentalists and industrialists.

That war erupted when a concerned public, often jeered at for being alarmist, demanded that industrialists and complacent officialdom do something about smog. Most industrial cities were shrouded in pollution and thousands of people were dying from ailments directly attributable to air pollution.

The public won widespread reforms and a remarkable clean up of dirty industrial areas followed. But the public had not won a war — it had merely won a battle. Industry continued pumping millions of tons of pollutants into the air — but the pollutants now were invisible gases.

The effects of these gases are suddenly becoming very visible.

In the Transvaal industrialists are bracing themselves for a public outcry here. But so far the public has been silent.

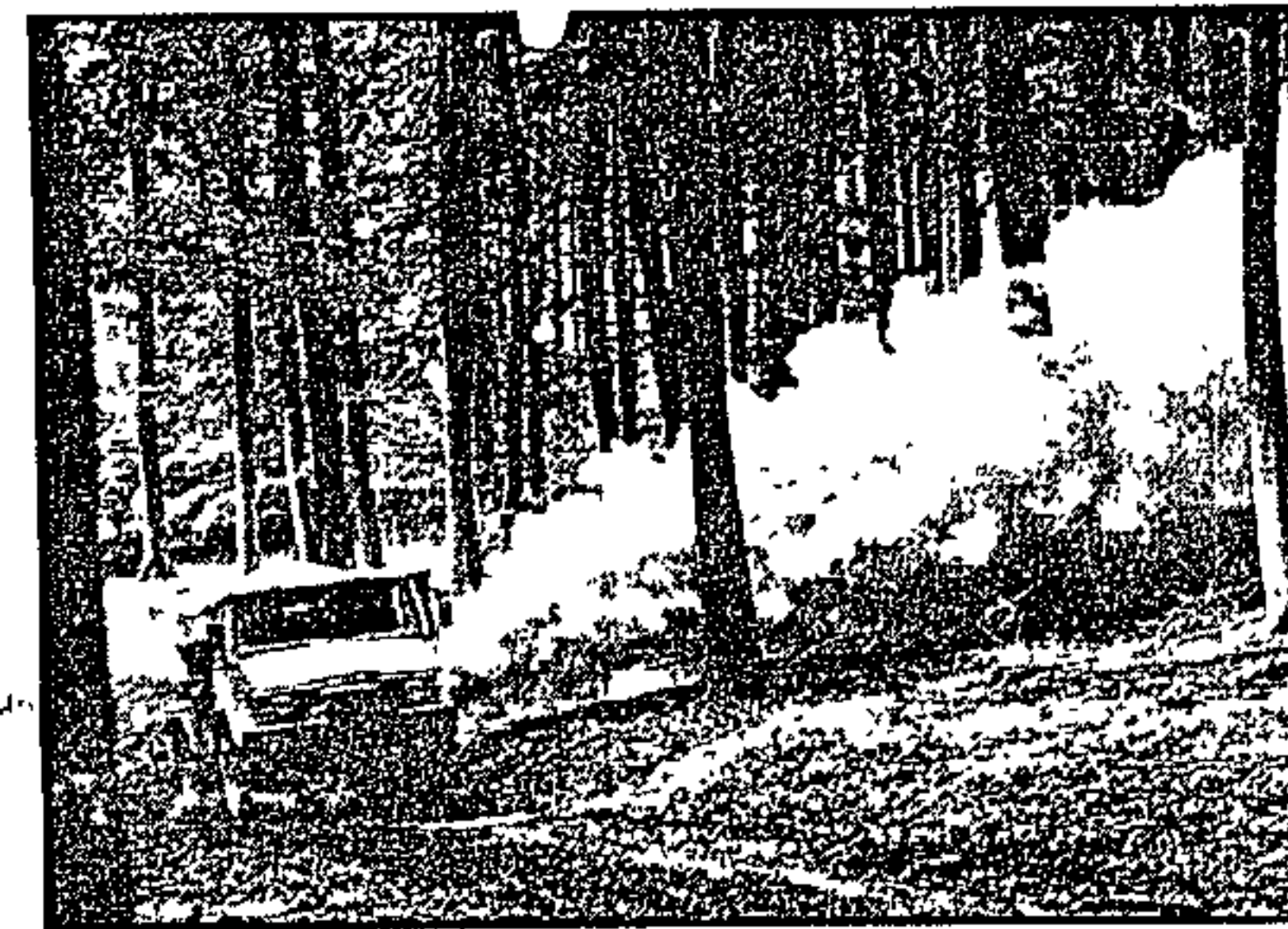
Few South Africans realise how bad things are. The World Health Organisation recently confirmed that acid fallout in the Transvaal was higher than in West Germany or Britain. Most of Western Europe's sulphur lands on Scandinavia having been carried there by the prevailing winds.

Apart from its barely understood effects on human health, acid rain has been turning the world's statues and its architectural heritage into Alka Seltzer tablets — SO₂ (sulphuric acid from the air) reacts with CaCO₃

LOCAL POLLUTION: In the Transvaal, which is climatically one of the least suitable regions on earth for coal-fired power stations, Eskom has been allowed to build the world's biggest coal-fired power stations without sulphur extractor units. Industries in the province pump 3 000 tons of sulphur a day into the atmosphere and last week a CSIR report revealed that Transvaal forests were showing signs that might indicate acid rain damage.



DISASTROUS DAMAGE: A quarter of West Germany's trees have been killed and two thirds of the Black Forest is dead or dying from acid rain. Elsewhere in Europe and the US, lakes are biologically dead, aquatic life has been destroyed and coastal ecosystems have been affected.



COUNTER-ACTIONS: A West German forest has to be sprayed with lime to counteract the high acidity of the soil caused by air pollution. Government there is to spend the equivalent of R10 000 million to reduce fallout.

(calcium carbonate) in the fabrics of statues, monuments and buildings.

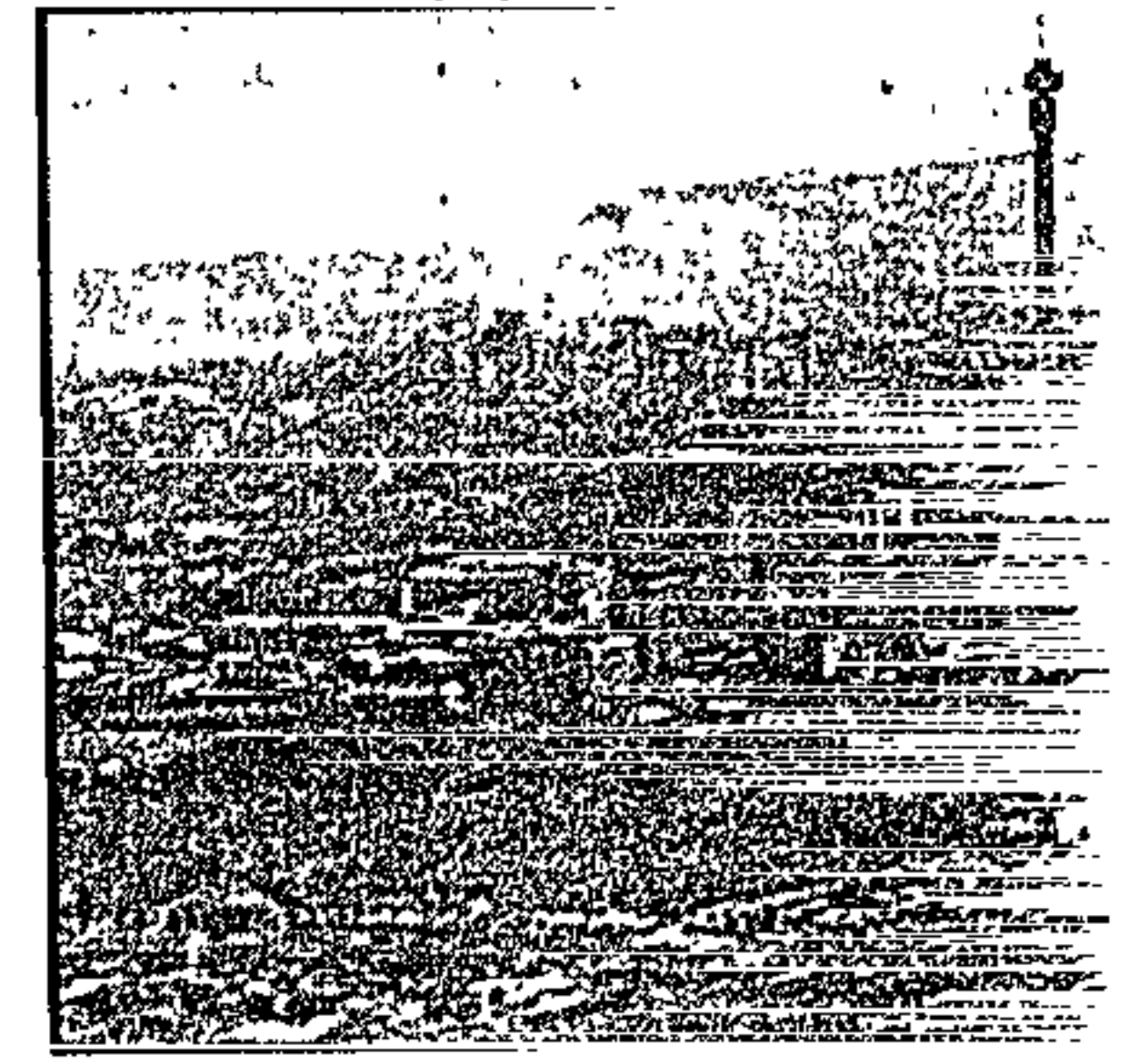
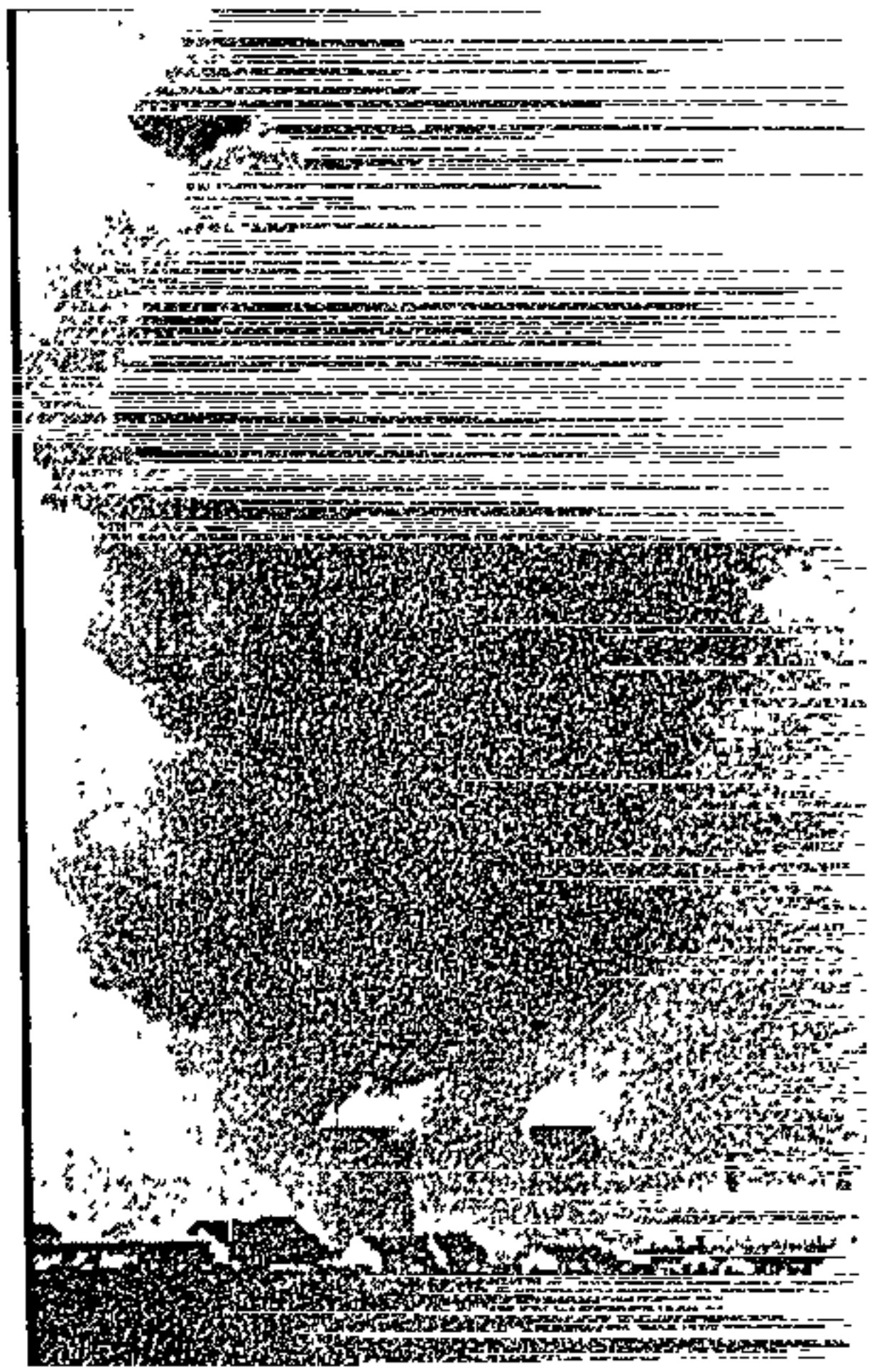
The treasures of Rome and Athens, thousands of years old, are suddenly rotting. The Taj Mahal is badly damaged by moist acidic winds; the Statue of Liberty needed millions of dollars to repair recently; Egypt's 4 000-year-old Sphinx this year lost a chunk of crumbling stonework; Venice is rotting, the Greeks are talking of

coating the Pantheon with plastic; most city buildings — including in Johannesburg and Pretoria — are showing increasing signs of decay.

Even the Rand's motorways are showing signs of spalling (concrete rot).

West Germany has just announced it is to spend the equivalent of R10 billion on the problem. Britain too is preparing to spend billions of pounds.

Industry and governments



ONE OF WORST RECORDS: The PWV one of highest rates of ear are. The World Health C

throughout Europe, particularly the power generating companies, have bowed to public pressure to clean their gases. Car manufacturers too are under pressure to cut nitrogen oxides from exhaust gases.

But in the Transvaal industry may be less co-operative. There's not much Government pressure on it for a start, and some firms are pleading poverty. Eskom was allowed to build the world's biggest coal-fired

power extraction

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20/7/88

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Acid fallout in the Transvaal is damaging huge areas of the maize and timber belt

CLIMATICALLY the Transvaal Highveld is one of the least suitable regions on earth for coal-fired power stations — yet it has the biggest cluster of giant power stations on earth.

More than 100 million tons of coal a year are burnt in the Transvaal.

Just one of its half-dozen modern giants — which each generate 3 400 Megawatts — produces enough power to supply the entire state of Israel and still have 1 000 MW to spare.

Air quality in the Transvaal was traded off for what seemed irresistible economic advantages: the power stations each straddle their own coalfield. To have built elsewhere, and then railed the coal, would have made power generation wasteful and expensive.

In the event, Eskom, even in the wildest economic boom, has never failed to meet the demand.

But it all might work out to be a pay-later scheme because acid fallout — at least 1 million tons a year goes into the environment of just the southern half of the Transvaal — is changing the chemical composition of South Africa's maize belt and timber growing region.

And then there's Sasol. At Secunda, in the Eastern Transvaal, it runs the biggest synthetic fuel plant in the world. Again the advantages seemed irresistible.

Secunda straddles its own coal mine and gulps 82 000 tons of coal a DAY — one of the three biggest coal-using plants on earth.

Even a much smaller plant, such as AECI at Modderfontein, in just one of

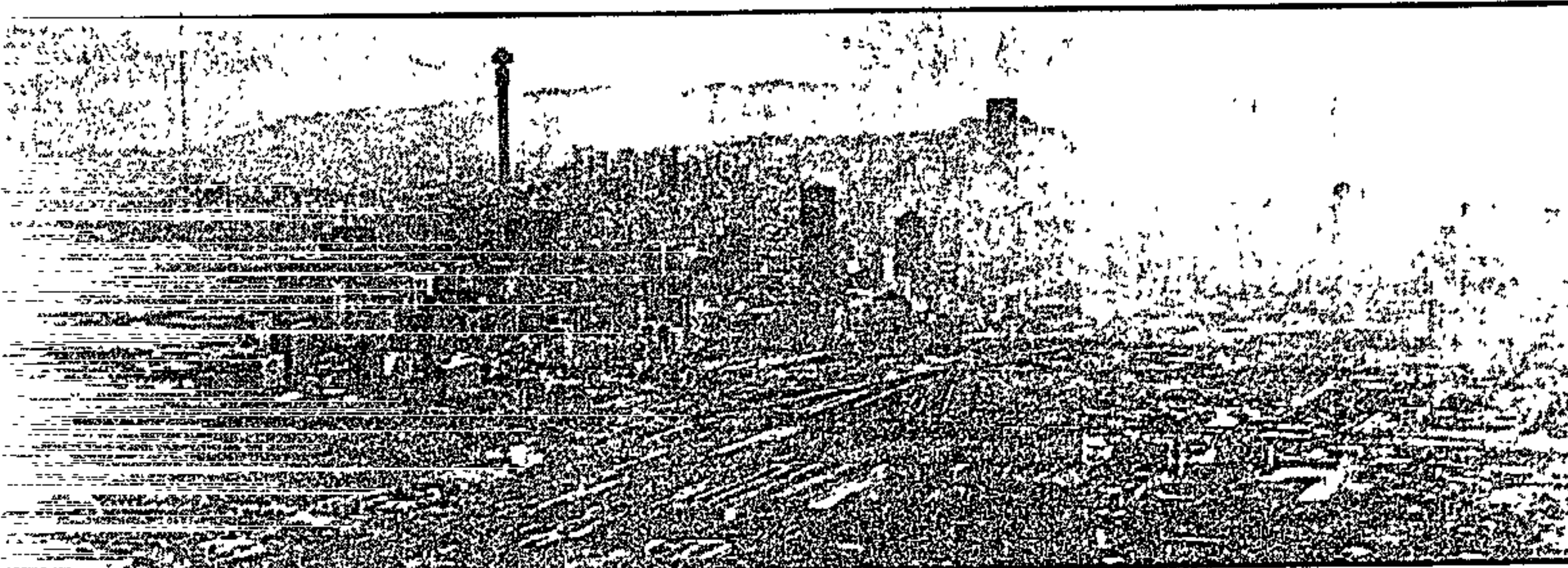
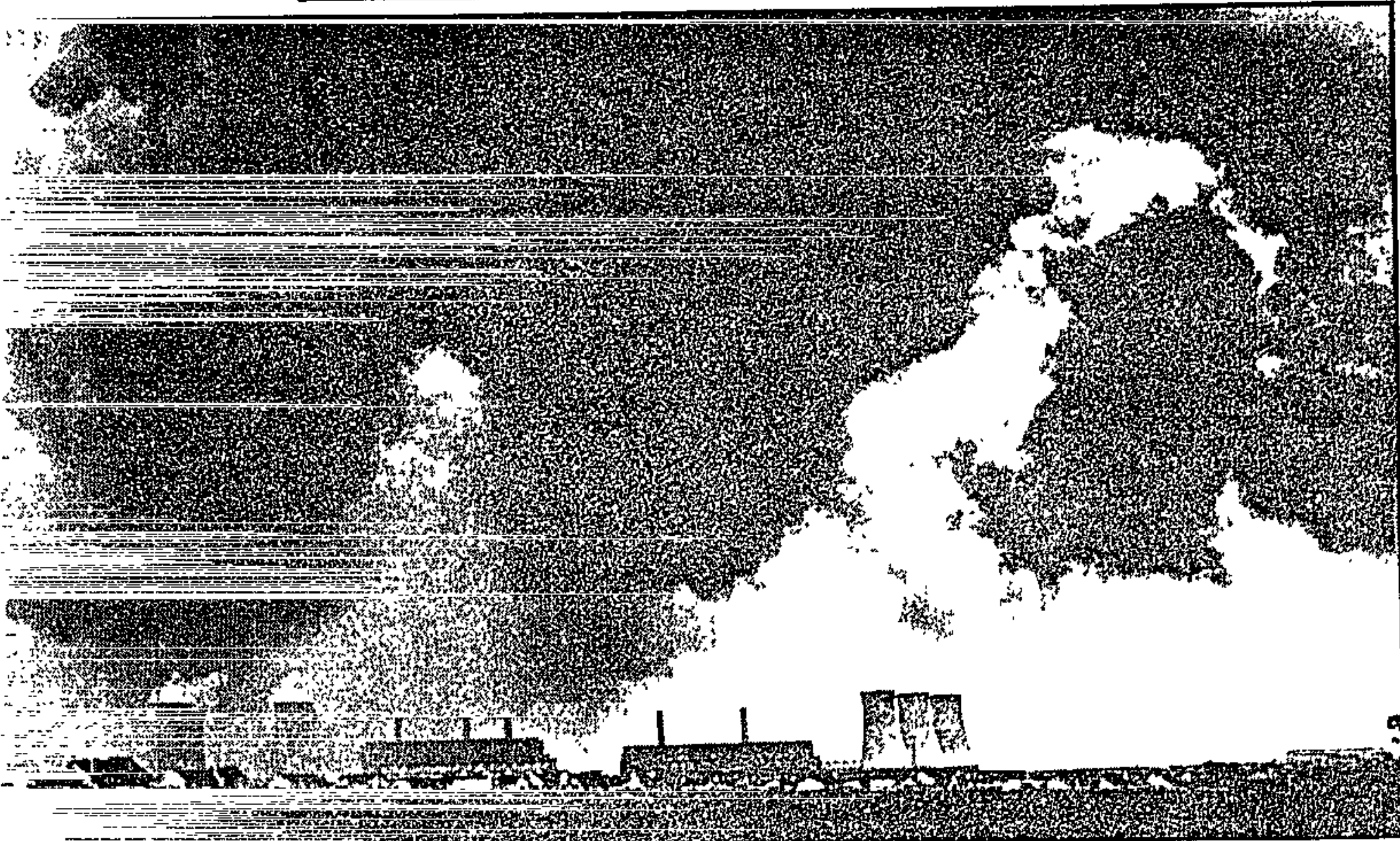
its processes (making ammonia), consumes 2 000 tons of coal a day.

Some scientists claim the Transvaal's air long ago reached saturation point, when it comes to sulphur and nitrogen gases from coal burning.

The fallout is greatly augmented by domestic fires in the townships (few were given electricity when they were built) and by veld fires.

Due to the Transvaal's severe temperature inversion in winter when cold air clings to the ground and a layer of upper warm air seals it, pollutants tend not to disperse. The long winter smog — technically a photochemical smog — gives the people of the PWV one of the highest rates of ear, nose and throat complaints in the world.

The most remarkable aspect of it all may be the public's complacency.



smell of Secunda's hydrogen sulphide. The scrubbing plant cost R120 million and Secunda intimated that this would all have to be passed on to the public. In the event, the sale of the now solidified sulphur is gradually recovering the costs.

At a conference at Eskom's headquarters in 1985 an Eskom scientist said researchers had yet to spot any damage from the Transvaal's acid rain. He argued that farmers should welcome acid rain because it saved on fertiliser. This has not been borne out in Europe and the United States where agriculture is suffering enormous damage from acid build up in the soil.

At that same 1985 meeting Johannesburg's medical officer of health, Dr Baldwin Richard, said "I am of the opinion that so-called acid rain has never been shown to have adverse effects."

Although Europe, with its now dying forests and lakes, has had acid rain for more than 150 years it seemed obvious that the Transvaal, whose fallout is so heavy and whose soils are naturally quite acidic, would soon begin showing damaging signs.

This week the CSIR in Pretoria sounded the warning: in a cautious and somewhat placatory report on air pollution it revealed that Transvaal forests are showing signs that might indicate acid rain damage. North-eastern Transvaal forests are showing tell-tale rusty colouring — the sort that Europe began to notice in the 1970s.

Some scientists say that acid fallout builds up in the soil over a long period and eventually causes toxic metal to be released and it is the metals which cause the runoff to be toxic.

In Europe the damage is already disastrous.

● West Germany: a quarter of its trees have been killed and two thirds of the Black Forest is dead or dying. The government is to spend the equivalent of R10 000 million to reduce fallout from power stations and other sources by two thirds.

● Sweden: 4 000 lakes are biologically dead — killed by acid.

● Poland: 500 000 ha of forests are dead with 2,5 million expected to be killed off by 1990.

● Czechoslovakia: Some 37 percent of its forests have been killed or irreparably damaged by acid fallout.

● Switzerland: half its trees are "seriously ailing".

● Canada: the fish have died off in 15 000 lakes and thousands more lakes are threatened.

▲ **ONE OF WORST RECORDS:** The long winter smog — it's technically a photochemical smog — gives the people of the PWV one of highest rates of ear, nose and throat complaints in the world. Few South Africans realise how bad things are. The World Health Organisation recently confirmed that acid fallout in the Transvaal was higher than in West Germany or Britain — yet the public's complacency continues.

throughout Europe, particularly power generating companies, have bowed to public pressure to clean their gases. Manufacturers too are under pressure to cut nitrogen from exhaust gases. But in the Transvaal industry may be less co-operative. There's not much Government pressure on it for a start, and Eskom was allowed to build the world's biggest coal-fired

power stations without sulphur extraction units. A measure of industry's attitude came in a remarkable document of the Transvaal Chamber of Industries in October 1986 in which the TCI claimed the air pollution problem was being "distorted by the hysterical outbursts from the lunatic fringe". It warned the public that industry would act only on "a scientific appraisal of all the facts rather than the hysterical out-

bursts of a small pressure group possessed of a loud voice and, probably, ready access to the media". It said industry was "not likely to respond with any enthusiasm to well-intentioned but uninformed nature lovers". About one million tons of sulphur material filters down on the Transvaal veld each year — almost 3 000 tons a day. It is largely concentrated in the southern and eastern regions.

Eskom contributes most. It burns about 65 million tons of coal a year. But Secunda, which burns almost 30 million tons a year, has also been a huge contributor. Sasol 2 and Sasol 3 plants were contributing 480 tons of sulphur a day, and Sasol 1 in Sasolburg, 55 tons a day, until public opinion forced it to install gas scrubbing plants. The public's reaction was chiefly because of the sickening

MONITOR CLASS

SA's waste situation is 'totally unacceptable'

50
1/23/82
1/23/82

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The threat of mountains of waste generated by SA's fast growing population was stressed at a school on waste management at the CSIR yesterday.

Johannesburg City Council's S J Verrier said the situation in many parts of the country was totally unacceptable and would result in serious long-term health hazards.

The new urban areas, which would have to accommodate 19-million new urban dwellers by 2000, were cause for real concern.

There was a real need for meaningful and urgent collaboration between the state, the RSCs, local government and the private sector if the service needs of developing communities were to be satisfied.

The situation of non-cooperation and even conflict between certain key players had no place in the SA situation and had to be eliminated.

Greenhouse Effect sends the first torrid warnings

By GARNER THOMSON,

The Star Bureau

Temperatures have risen sharply since the Ice Age with serious consequences for the world. Droughts will get worse, islands could vanish, and man is the chief culprit.

LONDON — Africa's continent-wide drought is just one of the first warnings that the "Greenhouse Effect" is already taking hold of the planet. Others have been quick to follow.

The drought in America's great plains has torn a sizable chunk out of the country's food reserves, and dust-storms have been stripping up to 15 tons per acre from around the dessicated roots of the wheatfield.

In some parts of China, crops are failing and thousands face starvation and elsewhere in that country more than 700 people have died in unanticipated floods.

Worldwide, the first five months of this year have been warmer than for more than a century.

A scientist with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) in the United States, Mr James Hansen, warns: "It's time to cut the waffle. The greenhouse effect is already upon us."

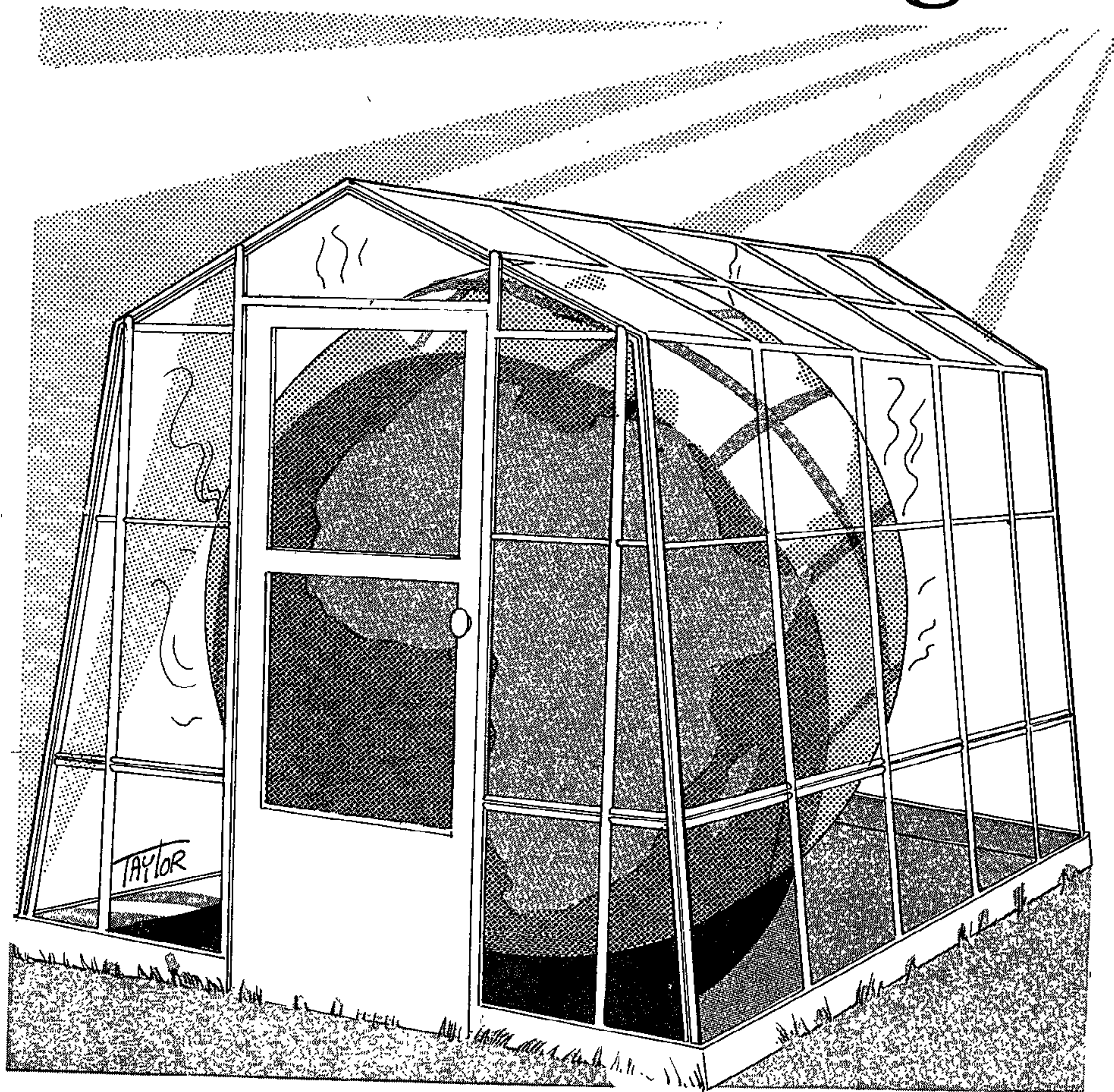
Now two leading British experts have joined the growing clamour of top international scientists who are calling on policy-makers throughout the world to take immediate steps to evade what some climatologists believe is humanity's greatest threat in 100 000 years.

Dr Jacquelin Karas and Dr P Kelly, of the climatic research unit at the University of East Anglia, have just completed a major report on what they believe is a global change which could bring more rain to wet areas, more drought to dry — and throw "the whole future of the world" back into the evolutionary melting pot.

The Karas-Kelly report, due to be published in full at the end of this month, concludes that a "large-scale" change in the climate is under way.

"The magnitude of the change and the details are not fully clear," says Dr Karas, "but best-guess estimates are that the global average temperature could rise between 1.5 and 4.5 deg C by the mid-21st century."

To put that into perspective, in the 10 000 years



since the last Ice Age, temperatures have risen by three or four degrees. Even at the lowest end of the projection, it only took a 0.6 deg C cooling of the atmosphere in Europe to create the Little Ice Age of the 16th and 18th centuries, when in Britain skating on the Thames is primarily remembered."

Such an increase could bring even more devastating drought to Africa's Sahel and further south. Sea levels will rise between 20 cm and 140 cm, bringing death and devastation to the Nile deltas, the Ganges, the Mekong, the Yangtze and the Mississippi.

The Maldives, and a number of islands will disappear. Beaches around the world will be dramatically eroded. Venice will finally sink beneath the waves.

Chief culprit in this disaster scenario are man-

made gases and pollution, in particular the notorious chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which power thousands of everyday household devices, from deodorant cans to fridges and freezers.

Unless immediate and substantial action is taken, these pollutants will increase by 50 percent in the next 40 or 50 years.

A recent international conference in Toronto was equally concerned. Scientists spoke with a single voice, warning of growing crop failure, starvation and death by the millions. Nor were they able to put an end to the devastation if nothing was done.

Said Dr George Woodwell, director of the Woods Hole Research Centre: "The effects on the Earth are well beyond the limits of prediction."

Palmiet hydro-electric scheme gets top award

CAPE TOWN
13/1/88

Staff Reporter

56



LOOKING UP . . . The new Palmiet hydro-electric and water scheme viewed from the lower Koggelberg reservoir, past the power station to the surge tank — believed to be the biggest of its kind in the world — with the Rockview Dam at the top.

Picture: ESKOM

THE new Palmiet River hydro-electric and water scheme yesterday received the SA Institution of Civil Engineers annual Outstanding Achievement award at a function in Johannesburg.

The R300-million project, started in 1981 and completed this year, will add 400Mw capacity to Eskom's national power grid and will augment the water supply to the Cape Town metropolitan area by 140 million cubic metres annually.

The two dams incorporated in the project were designed by the Department of Water Affairs while the mechanical and electrical portions were designed by Eskom.

The engineering companies involved were Ningham Shand, Van Niekerk Kleyn & Edwards, Electrowatt Engineering Services, Clifford Harris-Marti Tunnelling and Phillip Holzmann.

The Institute of Landscape Architects gave environmental consultants Ekonosult a Merit Award for Excellence in 1986 for their care in minimizing disturbance to the sensitive fynbos ecosystem of the area.

The main purpose of the hydro-electric scheme is to supplement the supply of electricity during peak hours by storing surplus energy available during times of low demand.

This is achieved by pumping water from a lower to an upper reservoir during the night and weekends, and drawing on the water thus stored to generate power for peak hours.

Other purposes of the scheme are to act as an emergency electricity supply and to help regulate voltage and frequency.

These functions are particularly important in view of the great length of the transmission lines from Eskom's major power stations in the Transvaal.

The two dams are Koggelberg on the Palmiet River immediately to the south of Grabouw and Rockview on the watershed between the Palmiet and the Steenbras rivers.

The scheme also comprises a surge tank believed to be the biggest of its type in the world. The tank is required to moderate sudden water pressure changes when the generators are switched on and off.

Invisible death stalks Highveld

Star
 (56)
 13/8/88

PAT DEVEREAUX

MOTHERS in the Vaal triangle and on the Witwatersrand have voiced extreme concern about the effects of air pollution on their children's health.

And according to local experts they have reason to panic because certain areas on the Reef have concentrations of noxious gasses far above world health levels.

In fact, the levels of air pollution reached are so bad they can affect the health of the aged, infirm and infants, says one local expert who has asked not to be named because of his position.

Mrs Carol Smith says she and other mothers in the Vaal Triangle are so worried about their children's prevalent bronchial complaints, which they believe are caused by air pollution, that they recently formed the Anti-Pollution Appeal Committee (Apac).

In June Mrs P Zahltan, of Benoni, wrote to the local health department complaining about "fallout" from the sponge iron plant at Dunswart Iron Steel Foundry.

"I am simply sick of the black muck I have to clean away every day. Recently I spent an hour cleaning my car before I could venture out. I was filthy from head to toe. My clothes were extremely dirty and the swimming pool was disgusting," she wrote in a letter to the department.

Replying to her complaint in a letter, the Benoni town secretary, Mr CH Boshoff, admitted that an investigation at the plant revealed that "a problem was being experienced with the filter bags of the sponge iron plant and that dust is being emitted, probably at levels above the permitted levels".

Pollution in Triangle 'the worst'

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research recently admitted that acid rain was a growing problem. But it did not say that sulphur dioxide concentrations, which cause acid rain, can also dissolve in the mucous membranes of human respiratory passages — leading to corrosion of the tissue.

A CSIR report completed in 1986 and conducted by the faculties of science and medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand and the National Centre for Occupational Health showed that although children in the southern Transvaal revealed respiratory disorders attributable to air pollution, their lung functions still appeared normal.

In 1983 the American Lung Association called for the reduction of sulphur oxide emissions on the grounds that it caused increased sickness and mortality, especially among the elderly and persons with respiratory and cardiovascular disease.

The World Health Organisation has warned of the suspected link between air pollution and lung cancer.

This week the chief official of air pollution control, Department of National Health and Population De-

velopment, Mr Martin Lloyd, admitted the Vaal Triangle's air pollution problem was probably the worst in the country.

He said that although the unacceptably high pollution levels had caused public concern, the figures had not exceeded internationally accepted health levels.

But Mr Lloyd's claims do not tally with the World Health Organisation's recent confirmation that acid fallout in the Transvaal is higher than in West Germany or Britain.

If this is so then South Africa must be pumping more sulphur and nitrogen gasses — the cause of acid rain — into the atmosphere than these countries.

The Vaal Triangle today is a major industrial area with almost 60 percent of the country's major factories. The area is also the home of the largest labour force in the country.

Mr Lloyd said the area formed a natural basin for pollutants.

South Africa also has a high occurrence of severe atmospheric temperature inversions, especially in winter, which have the effect of keeping pollution, including smoke, sulphurous fumes and unhealthy toxic substances, trapped near the earth for long periods.

According to Mr Lloyd, all the major factories, including Iscor, Sasol and Union Steel Corporation, have cleaned up their act.

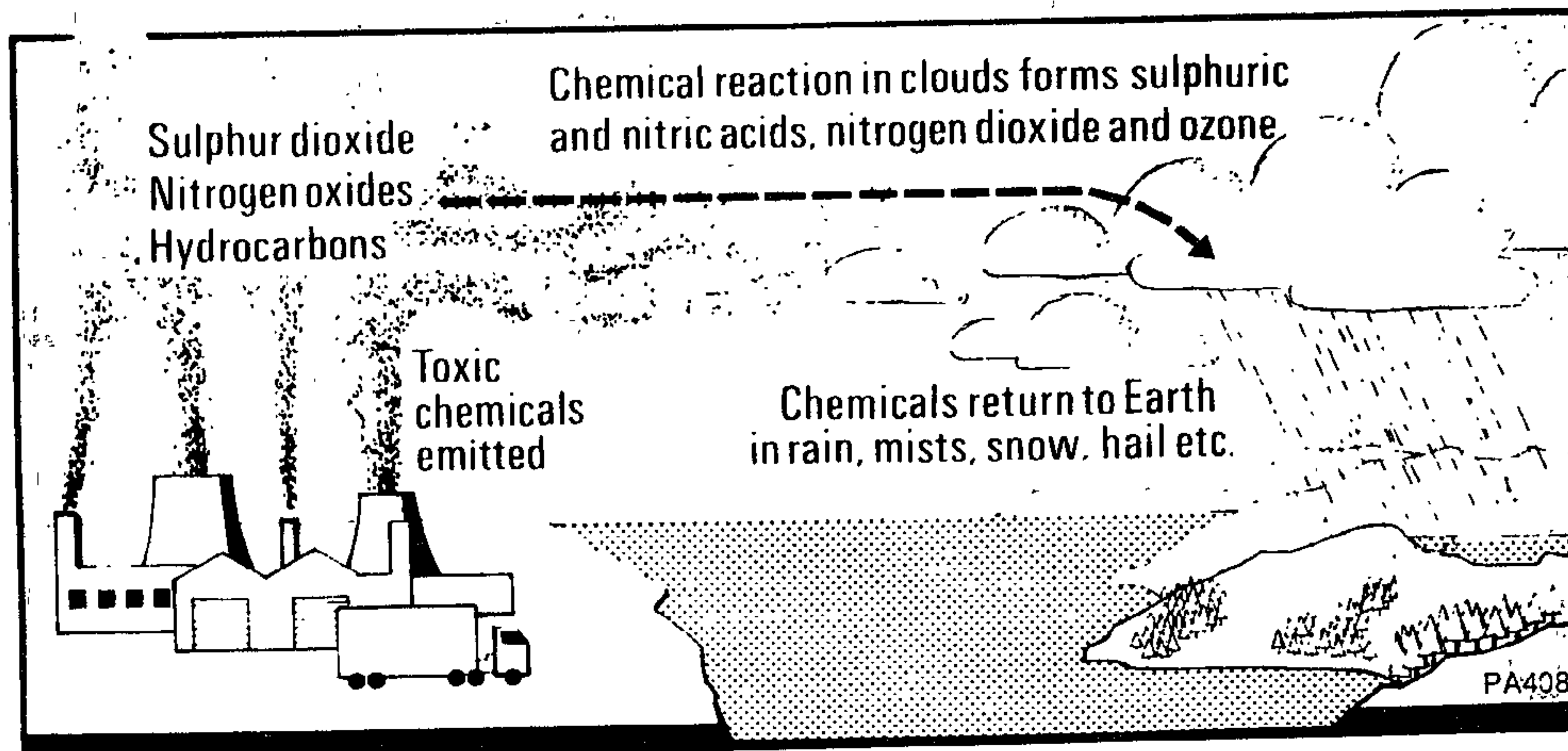
Mr Lloyd said, however, that he did not believe industry was the main contributing factor because it was monitored.

"The cause of the problem is township smoke and vehicle emissions," he said.

However, Mr John Ashton, a member of the National Association for Clean Air (Naca) said: "Industrialists are not yet facing their responsibilities to the public."

Overseas experts on the subject argue that visible pollution such as smoke is not the main problem. Clean-ups tend to be cosmetic and mainly visible air pollution is filtered — but invisible gasses pose the greatest threat.

"We have through public apathy and our own mismanagement ruined the atmosphere despite the warnings sounded in other countries," said the chairman of the Air Pollution Technical Services Company, Mr D Giles, a researcher on the subject for the past 30 years.



THIS diagram shows how air pollution results in acid rain, a devastating form of pollution.

Human battery hens say high-rise architects have laid a rotten egg

LONDON - After yuppie 'flu comes the latest high-tech disease — sick building syndrome.

And more than half of the workers in today's modern high-rise offices are suffering the symptoms: dry throat, stuffy nose, headache, itchy eyes and breathing problems, says a new report.

According to Britain's Health Promotion Trust, which has just completed a survey of more than 4 000 workers in 46 offices, sick building syndrome

SATURDAY STAR FOREIGN NEWS SERVICE

is on the increase.

A remarkably high number of workers reported similar ailments; some complained of being treated "like battery hens" in their tinted glass-clad, air-conditioned eyries.

And the powerful British bank workers' union, Bifu, based in the City of London, has come to

the trust's support.

Senior organiser Mr David Evans said: "The majority of staff are not lethargic because of their motivation but because of the conditions they are now forced to work in."

"We have buildings in the city that resemble air-conditioned ocean liners with blacked-out windows. These buildings look fine to the architects but they are miserable places to work in."

Orleans Convention Centre during a welcoming rally for the Republican national convention. Behind is a bust of former President Dwight D Eisenhower.

Pik's 'nuclear bomb' remarks take Washington by surprise

The Argus Foreign Service ^{Argus 15/8/88}

WASHINGTON. — South Africa's admission for the first time at the highest level that it has the ability to produce nuclear weapons has taken the United States government by surprise.

US officials cannot understand why Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha has decided to reveal South Africa's nuclear capability now, and the revelation is likely to increase congressional pressure to impose all-out sanctions on South Africa.

South Africa is believed to have been able to build a nuclear bomb for almost a decade and a senior Pentagon official remarked: "Anybody who has nuclear reactors can build a nuclear bomb."

Mr Botha's comments were made in Vienna after meetings with American, Soviet and British officials on the possibility of Pretoria signing the 1968 Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

REPORT BACK

Mr Botha did not say whether South Africa would sign. However, he said today he would report back to the government this week on the Vien-

na discussions, the Argus Political Correspondent reports.

Asked at the Vienna Press conference whether South Africa had a nuclear bomb, Mr Botha said: "We have the capability to make one . . . We have the capability to do so should we want to."

Pressed on whether South Africa already had the bomb, he said: "I'm not going to enlarge on that statement."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

That was seen by some Western commentators as an acknowledgement that South Africa has already used its capability to stockpile nuclear weapons.

Mr Botha's statement was also the clearest indication yet of the extent of South Africa's nuclear programme after years of semi-official allusions.

On Thursday the House of Representatives voted by 244 to 132 to ban all trade with South Africa, apart from US imports of strategic minerals, and Mr Botha's revelation is likely to increase US pressure to impose all-out sanctions.

American researchers reckon that South Africa now has between nine and 23 weapons.

Pretoria has always refused

to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

But last year the Nigerians, backed by East European countries, threatened to expel South Africa from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) because of its failure to sign. Russia and the US said they would support this move if Pretoria did not sign.

In Vienna the head of the IAEA yesterday welcomed the possibility of South Africa signing the treaty.

Director-general Dr Hans Blix was responding to comments by Mr Botha, who said he believed Dr Blix "doesn't want us to be part of the agency".

However, Dr Blix quickly responded by saying: "I would welcome a South African adherence to the treaty . . . The agency would administer the safeguards in South Africa in the same way as in other countries."

South Africa already allows safeguard inspection on two plants with French and US technology.

However, it does not allow the agency's inspectors access to the Pelindaba uranium enrichment plant which can make materials for nuclear weapons.

Radiation levels to be controlled

PRETORIA — Regulations were proposed yesterday which will oblige product suppliers to maintain prescribed safety requirements regarding the radiation levels of household and other goods.

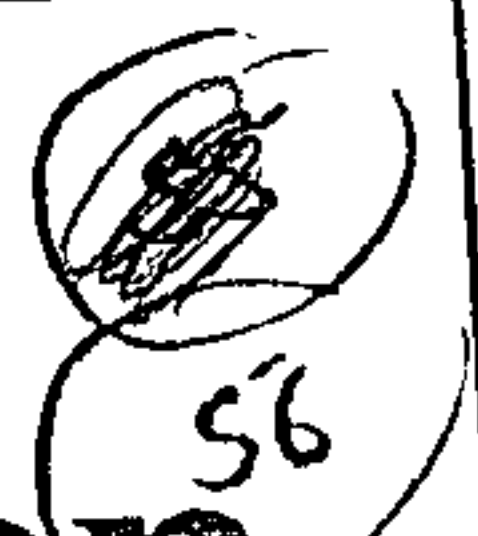
In terms of a proposed amendment to the Hazardous Substances Act, gazetted yesterday, manufacturers of products that produce non-ionising radiation will have to conform to safety requirements before being issued with a licence to sell.

Household goods such as microwave ovens, sunlamps and video terminals in particular are a target of the proposed regulations, said National Health and Health Services Deputy Minister Dr M H Veldman. — Sapa.

16/8/88 / Day

Govt spells out stand on nuclear treaty

Cape Times 17/8/88



By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA will only sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty if it has full participation in the accord, including the right to trade in uranium and the exchange of nuclear technology.

Unless South Africa is given these guarantees, it will be difficult to be a signatory to the agreement.

This was confirmed last night by the Department of Foreign Affairs after reports yesterday about South Africa's stand at the talks last week in Vienna, between a South African delegation and representatives of the major nuclear powers, the United States, the Soviet Union and Britain.

Full participation would include South Africa's right to exchange nuclear technology internationally, no discrimination against it in the buying and selling of uranium, of which South Africa is one of the major producers, and access to nuclear plants world-wide.

South Africa would then have to undertake not to produce nuclear weapons, open its nuclear facilities to international inspection and exchange its own research and technology in the field.

The government's approach to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was welcomed yesterday by the Progressive Federal Party.

The PFP spokesman Mr Roger Hulley, MP, said South Africa should do everything possible to participate in the international scientific community.

"Our long delay in not being a signatory has jeopardized our position and cast suspicion on our activities and motives in the past," he said.

The National Democratic Movement leader, Mr Wynand Malan, also said South Africa should sign the international agreements.

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Spectrum

Valley of Vines under siege

City's population is threatening Constantia farms

Plans are in the pipeline to cut up another old Constantia farm for housing, raising the question whether the remaining Valley of the Vines farms can survive in a city with a burgeoning population hungry for land. Staff Reporter MICHAEL MORRIS investigates. WILLIE de KLERK took the picture.

SHARP-eyed steppe buzzards from Russia circle over the Constantia vineyards every summer, frightening off flocks of starlings and other small birds edging to peck among the vines.

These northern sentries have probably swirled over the vineyards since Simon van der Stel planted the first ones and made Constantia wines famous.

However, today's Constantia farmer faces hazards Van der Stel could hardly have imagined. And there is no natural panacea as effective as a migratory buzzard.

Since the turn of the century the city has encroached steadily: the Constantia valley has acquired a status as one of the country's most desirable "suburbs". It keeps growing.

But Constantia is not quite a suburb. Between the houses and the mountains are the farms ... those left after subdivision and development.

Walloon, Demmndal, Morningside, Hauptville, Kreupelbos and Bergvliet have gone. Welgelee and Uitsig remain as the home of equestrian activities, but their future is by no means certain.

Dreyersdal, Zomerlust and Alphen are on the roll call of farms compressed or hemmed in by a creeping city.

Plans to cut up Silverhurst for houses have again aroused fears that the valley's rural character is imperilled — although the Regional Services Council has yet to approve the subdivision. Silverhurst was sliced from Groot Constantia in 1972.

In the 1970s town planners allowed houses to encircle the farm and complaints from residents helped to end pig and poultry farming.

Other farmers in the valley say Silverhurst was literally stifled as a farm.

Economics, says a city property lawyer, is the most important factor.

"In some cases, properties have become too small to run economically as farms and the owners have had colossal offers from developers.

"If a property is worth, say, R3-million, but because of the zoning and public pressure the owner is not able to sell, he is having to bear the cost of the policy of keeping Constantia green.

"The farms must be allowed to be run efficiently or — if the owner cannot subdivide

— he should be compensated if he wishes to cease farming, or if farming becomes uneconomic."

Conscious of the trials they face living cheek by jowl with 20th-century urban growth, the four biggest Constantia estates are nevertheless confident of their tenure.

There can be little doubt that Groot Constantia, Klein Constantia, Buitenverwachting and Steenberg are here to stay.

Andrew Louw's family has owned Steenberg since at least 1838 and family lore dates the connection back to 1895. At 200 ha, it's the biggest farm in the Constantia valley.

Steenberg produces hanepoot table grapes, a modest quantity of table wine — made at a co-op cellar on the Cape Flats — and has a herd of beef cattle. A dairy operation was ruined by disease some years ago.

In Mr Louw's assessment of farming in

Constantia, maintaining economies is most important.

"In order to justify farming on land of such high value, you have to aim at achieving the highest possible production levels. Farming has to be very efficient but, at the same time, you have to steer away from things that will provoke neighbours.

"We have kept going because we have employed farming consultants to advise us."

The 185 ha Groot Constantia is a national monument run by a government board.

General manager Danie Appel says: "Subdivision is no threat to us, but it is very difficult to run a farm straddled by residential areas. It seems that people want to live in a rural environment, but do not want to be affected by farming."

At the 168 ha Klein Constantia, owner Duggie Jooste, whose family has owned the

liquor business Sedgwick and Taylor since the last century, is no farmer, but he loves the valley.

He bought Klein Constantia eight years ago. "I know nothing about farming, but I know who to talk to," he says.

But Mr Jooste is satisfied with reinvesting the vineyards and producing good wines.

Among those he turned to for help were viticulturalist Ernst le Roux, now general manager of the estate, and winemaker Ross Gover. Mr le Roux does not doubt the permanence of Klein Constantia and believes conditions in the valley are special.

The third big wine-producing estate is the 140 ha Buitenverwachting, left in trust by alleged computer spy Richard Mueiler and, like Klein Constantia, in renaissance.

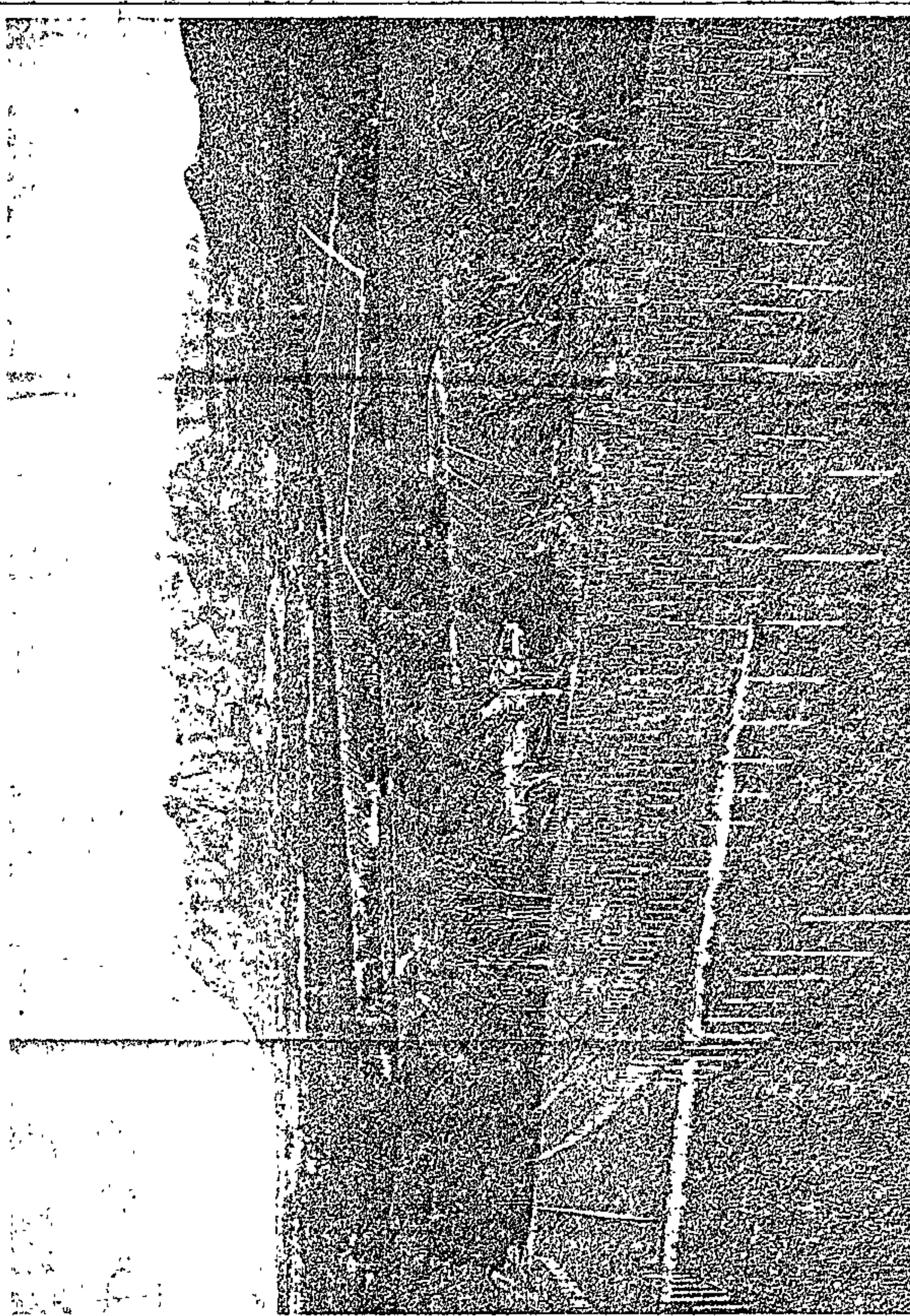
Farm manager Andre Badenhorst grew up in the valley his father, Japie, was manager of Groot Constantia.

He says the economic reality of Constantia farming is sobering.

"It's economically viable only in the long term. The capital costs of establishing vineyards — running into something like R15 000 a hectare — are tremendous and the market is very competitive. Running a wine farm is like running a big business."

Mr Badenhorst also endorses the view that what sets Constantia apart from other wine-producing areas are the constraints imposed by the public and the difficulties these create for farmers.

But they hope the newly formed Constantia Wine Route will generate wider public support for the preservation of rural Constantia.



RIGHT: Constantia's historic vineyards command the slopes, but the city continues to advance.

REPUBLIEK
VAN
SUID-AFRIKA



REPUBLIC
OF
SOUTH AFRICA

Staatskoerant Government Gazette

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PRETORIA, 19 AUGUSTUS 1988
AUGUST

No. 11466

PROKLAMASIES

van die

Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika

No. R. 130, 1988

VERKLARING VAN DIE OORSTROMINGS IN DIE
LANDDROSDISTRIKTE BLOEMHOF EN SOUTPANS-
BERG IN TRANSVAAL TOT 'N RAMP

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 26 van
die Wet op Fondsinsameling, 1978 (Wet 107 van 1978),
verklaar ek hierby die oorstromings wat die landdros-
distrikte Bloemhof en Soutpansberg onlangs getref het vir
die doeleindes van genoemde Wet tot 'n ramp.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van
Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Tweede dag van Mei
Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister van die Kabinet.

No. R. 131, 1988

WYSIGING VAN PROKLAMASIE R. 225 VAN 1971
TEN EINDE DIE GEBIED WAARVOOR DIE WET-
GEWENDE VERGADERING VAN QWAQWA INGE-
STEL IS, TE WYSIG

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 1 (2) van
die Grondwet van die Nasionale State, 1971 (Wet 21 van
1971), wysig ek hierby met ingang van die datum van publi-
kasie hiervan, die gebied vermeld in die Bylae van Prokla-
masie R. 225 van 1971 deur na paragraaf (c) van gemelde
Bylae, paragraaf (d) soos omskryf in die Bylae hiervan in te
voeg.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seël van die Republiek van
Suid-Afrika te Pretoria, op hede die Vierde dag van Augustus
Eenduisend Negehonderd Agt-en-tagtig.

P. W. BOTHA,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:

J. C. HEUNIS,
Minister van die Kabinet.

PROCLAMATIONS

by the

State President of the Republic of South Africa

No. R. 130, 1988

DECLARATION OF THE FLOODS IN THE MAGISTE-
RIAL DISTRICTS OF BLOEMFONTEIN AND SOUT-
PANSBERG IN TRANSVAAL TO BE A DISASTER

Under the powers vested in me by section 26 of the Fund-
raising Act, 1978 (Act 107 of 1978), I hereby declare the
floods which recently hit the magisterial districts of Bloem-
hof and Soutpansberg to be a disaster for the purposes of the
said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of
South Africa at Cape Town this Second day of May, One
thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

W. A. VAN NIEKERK,
Minister of the Cabinet.

No. R. 131, 1988

AMENDMENT OF PROCLAMATION R. 225 OF 1971
IN ORDER TO AMEND THE AREA IN RESPECT OF
WHICH THE QWAQWA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED

Under the powers vested in me by section 1 (2) of the
National States Constitution Act, 1971 (Act 21 of 1971), I
hereby, with effect from the date of publication hereof,
amend the area mentioned in the Schedule to Proclamation
R. 225 of 1971, by the insertion of paragraph (d) as defined
in the Schedule hereto after paragraph (c) of the said Sche-
dule.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of
South Africa at Pretoria on this Fourth day of August, One
thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-eight.

P. W. BOTHA,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:

J. C. HEUNIS,
Minister of the Cabinet.

Little Karoo hit by drought

56

CAPE TIMES 20/1/88
By MONICA GRAAFF

PEOPLE living in the Little Karoo and the South-Western District — from Riviersonderend to Riversdale — are suffering the worst drought in living memory, say farmers in the area.

Not only was last summer the severest they can remember, but this year the rainfall has been so low that many could lose their crops, they say.

Pastures have become so parched that some farmers are grazing their stock on wheat fields — thereby killing further hopes of a crop.

An Ashton farmer said that in the past year he had received only 14% of the average annual rainfall.

The financial director of a Bredasdorp co-op said there had been a severe drought between 1966 and 1968 — which was then reputed to be the worst in 100 years — but it looked as though this drought would cause worse hardship.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

† Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

55. Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (a) How many (i) males and (ii) females were detained in terms of security legislation (aa) in 1987 and (bb) from 1 January 1988 to the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) how many persons in each of the above categories were under the age of 20 years?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

With regard to persons detained in terms of the Security Emergency Regulations, I refer the honourable member to my reply to Oral question 3 of 23 February 1988 in the House of Assembly.

The reply with regard to persons detained in terms of section 29 of the Internal Security Act, 1982 (Act 74 of 1982) is as follows:

- (a) (i) 1987
(aa) 452 males
(bb) 80 females
(ii) 1 January to 30 June 1988
(aa) 140 males
(bb) 9 females

(b) (i) (aa) 75 males

(bb) 7 females

(ii) (aa) 15 males

(bb) 2 females.

Tongaat Town Board: election appointment

73. Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether an election will be held on 26 October 1988 to elect members to serve on the Tongaat Town Board; if not, (a) why not and (b) who took this decision,

(2) whether the Administration: House of Delegates was consulted in regard to this decision, if not, why not; if so, with whom did consultation take place?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

This matter vests in the Administrator of Natal and he furnished the following information:

- (1) No.
(a) The circumstances in Tongaat are unique and since 1945 the members of the Tongaat Town Board have been appointed by the Administrator in terms of section 282 of the Local Authorities Ordinance No 25 of 1974.
(b) the Administrator-in-Executive Committee.

- (2) Yes
The Minister's Council, House of Delegates

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

† Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

General Affairs:

Questions standing over from Tuesday, 28 June 1988:

*12. Mr D J N MALCOMESS — Constitutional Development and Planning. [Reply standing over.]

Educators: occupational specific adjustments
*17. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister for Administration and privatisation:

- (1) Whether he received any recommendations from the Commission for Administration in regard to occupational specific adjustments for educators; if so, what recommendations;

- (2) whether he has compared these recommendations with those made by the Committee on Education Structures and the Research Committee on Education Structures, as referred to in the reply of the Minister of National Education to Question No 12 on 14 June 1988; if not, why not; if so, what were the differences between the two sets of recommendations received;

- (3) whether he has reached a decision on the various recommendations submitted; if not, why not; if so, what decision;

- (4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

†The MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PRIVATISATION:

- (1) No.
(2), (3) and (4) Fall away

New Questions:

Table Mountain: preventing fighting of fires

*1. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply of

the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning to Question No 6 on 14 June 1988, his Department has received any proposals in respect of the prevention and fighting of fires on Table Mountain from the Cape Peninsula Nature Area Management Committee; if so, (a) what proposals and (b) when;

- (2) whether any action has been taken in respect of these proposals; if not, why not; if so, (a) by whom, (b) when and (c) at what cost?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

- (1) Yes, on 26 May 1987, but as the proposals regarding the prevention and fighting of fires on Table Mountain amounted to executive actions in respect of which the responsibility has been assigned to the Administrator of the Cape of Good Hope on 1 December 1986, these proposals were referred to the said Administrator on 14 July 1987.

The rest of the question falls away.

Cape Peninsula Nature Area Management Committee: proposals

*2. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No. 6 on 14 June 1988, any action has been taken by the Administrator as a result of proposals submitted to him by the Cape Peninsula Nature Area Management Committee; if not, why not, if so, (a) (i) what action, (ii) when and (iii) at what cost and (b) what was the purport of the proposals so submitted?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING [Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House].

This matter vests in the Administrator of the Cape Province and he has furnished the following information

Yes

- (a) (i) (1) A member of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce has been appointed to the Cape Peninsula

Nature Area Management Committee.

(2) A second private landowner has been appointed to the above committee.

(3) A Footpath Plan has been formulated.

(4) An environmental survey using satellite imagery has been initiated.

(5) A working group of the above committee is investigating uniformity of regulations within the Cape Peninsula Nature Area.

(6) Honorary Nature Conservation Officers have been and are continuously being appointed

(7) Financial assistance has been given to local authorities for major improvements to footpaths and control of invasive vegetation.

(8) The SA Nature Foundation has been approached regarding the establishment of a trust fund for the area

(9) A code of outdoor behaviour has been formulated.

(10) Management guidelines for the Cape Peninsula Nature Area have been formulated

(11) Improvements in fire control have been instituted as indicated in the reply to Question No 6 on 14 June 1988

(ii) During 1987 and 1988.

(iii) R319 999,82.

(b) Improved law enforcement; a more representative management committee; public usage and education; improved fire control; scientific surveys; funding and management guidelines

Protection of Information Act; declaration signed by teachers/principals

3. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid.

Whether any teachers or principals at schools

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Howard

Umdoni Park

*5. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Public Works and Land Affairs:

Whether the premises at Umdoni Park were used for (a) official and (b) unofficial purposes during the past two years; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS:

The premises at Umdoni Park (also known as Botha House) are under the control of the Umdoni Park Trust and in terms of clause 5(i) of the trust deed of 1920, Botha House must be held for the use of Annie Botha, widow of late Louis Botha, the Prime Minister at that stage. The trust deed further stipulates that at her death it must be held for the use of the Prime Minister for the time being and his successors in office for ever.

At present the house is used by the State President and, with the consent of the trustees, as a recreation facility by his nominees. During the past two years the house was used by dignitaries on twelve occasions.

Teachers: proposed Certification Council for training

*6. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

(1) Whether he or his Department has taken or intends taking any further steps in regard to the proposed Certification Council for Teachers' Training Bill [B 17-86 (GA)]; if not, why not; if so, what steps:

(2) whether he intends to establish a certification council for teachers' training; if not, why not, if so, by what means.

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) Yes I have initiated a new round of discussions with certain interested bodies and I intend to take up the matter again with all interested parties.

(2) Yes. By means of legislation as soon as a satisfactory degree of consensus has been reached.

(3) No.

Education: formulae for financing

*7. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

(1) Whether he will lay upon the Table of the House the formula for the financing of education; if so, what are the relevant details; if not, why not;

(2) whether in any previous financial years this formula was used, in full or in part, for the allocation of funds to education departments; if so, in which financial years; if not, what procedure has been followed since September 1984 for the allocation of funds to education departments;

(3) whether he is obliged to make publicly available any general policy for education that has been determined; if so, in terms of what statutory provisions;

(4) whether the formula for the financing of college/school education is such a general policy; if so, when was it made publicly available;

(5) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) Yes Although these financing formulae have already been drafted, no general policy has been tabled yet under section 2(1)(a) of the National Policy for General Education Affairs Act, 1984 (Act No 76 of 1984), as certain interested parties still have to be consulted. The formulae together with a strategy for their implementation will be announced as soon as general policy has been determined

(2) Yes These formulae have been used as a frame of reference for the allocation of funds to education departments for 1987/88 and 1988/89.

(3) Yes. Section 2(2A) of the National Policy for General Education Affairs Act, 1984 (Act No 76 of 1984).

(4) No General policy regarding the financing of college and school education has not been determined yet

(5) No.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

28/11 (56) Stan

ETVI pollution 'a real threat'

By Kaizer Nyatumba

Air pollution and acid rain over the Eastern Transvaal were a real threat to the population and the environment, Dr Wynand Louw, compiler of a recently released CSIR report on the topic, said yesterday.

Dr Louw was responding to Eskom's denial on Tuesday that air pollution in the area posed a threat and that there was evidence of acid rain.

Eskom scientists and senior personnel had insisted that air pollution over the Eastern Transvaal highveld was within acceptable limits and posed no problem.

Dr Louw said: "We stand by what we said in the report. We believe there

is justification for the present control policy of the Department of Health, and believe it should be made even more stringent in future in certain areas.

"There is definitely a high risk of impact on people and the environment in the long term."

He acknowledged that Eskom had contributed substantially to the report, but it was only one of many bodies whose information had been used.

Dr Fred Kruger, one of the compilers of the CSIR report, said studies had shown rainfall in the area to have an average pH factor of 4,2 - "the range many overseas experts would call acidic".

Star 25/8/80

Year's wait for disaster victims

S7

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Many thousands of blacks who lost their homes in the Natal floods of September last year are still waiting for compensation from the State's disaster relief fund. And the application forms of 80 families cannot be traced.

A number of employers have complained of the problems and frustrations experienced in trying unsuccessfully to help their workers obtain compensation.

A spokesman for the kwaZulu Disaster Committee said yesterday that about 120 000 payments had been made but there were still 28 000 to be processed.

An administrative problem, which entailed sending a second form for applicants to complete, was largely responsible for the delay.

He hoped the remaining applications would all be considered by October and that all the cheques would be dispatched by the end of November.

Mr Paddy Kearney, director of Diakonia ecumenical church agency in Durban, said yesterday that 80 destitute families at kwaNdengezi were visited by a kwaZulu official shortly after the floods and they filled in application forms.

When there was no response, Diakonia contacted a central Government Minister and the matter was referred to Ulundi. The application forms could not be found.

The homeless families lived in tents until very recently. Then the tents were taken away and the families had to find accommodation with other people in the area.

Mr Kearney said the new magistrate at Hammarsdale was sympathetic and had asked Diakonia to get new application forms filled in.

"It is really unsatisfactory that these families still haven't received financial relief nearly a year after the floods."

A statement issued last month said the kwaZulu Disaster Committee was operating under extremely trying conditions.

The committee's task was hampered because many forms were incorrectly completed and by the fact that the original forms could not be accepted by kwaZulu.

The statement asked employers acting on behalf of flood victims to be tolerant.

WAITING FOR RELIEF

THOUSANDS of blacks who lost their homes in the Natal floods of September last year are still waiting for compensation from the State's Disaster Relief Fund . . . and the application forms of 80 families cannot be traced.

A number of people have complained of the problems and frustrations they have experienced over the past months in trying — unsuccessfully so far — to help their employees

Sowetan Correspondent

obtain compensation.

A spokesman for the KwaZulu Disaster Committee said that about 120 000 payments had been made, but there were still 28 000 applications to be processed.

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all be considered by the middle of September or beginning of October and that all the cheques would be dispatched to the applicable magistrate's offices by the end of November. *28/8/88*

Mr Paddy Kearney, director of Diakonia Ecumenical Church Agency in Durban, said that 80 destitute families at Kwandengezi were visited by a KwaZulu official shortly after the floods and they filled in application forms at that stage. *Sawefan*

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'Eskom not only one to blame'

E Tvl residents suffer more ailments — GP

Star
26/8/88 (56)

By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

WITBANK — People in the air polluted eastern Transvaal highveld are troubled more by chest complaints than other communities, a Witbank general practitioner said yesterday.

The doctor, who cannot be named for professional reasons, agreed with a CSIR scientist who was quoted yesterday as saying air pollution and acid rain in the area had a high potential for impacting on people and the environment.

Said the doctor: "Where there is a lot of pollution in the air, then, somehow or other, it is going to be detrimental to normal health."

He believed people in the region, especially children, had a greater tendency towards allergies and asthma than elsewhere.

A hospital spokesman confirmed this, saying an unusually large number of children were treated for upper respiratory infections, the cause of which was believed to be pollution.

The doctor said he knew of numbers of people who had moved away from the town because the pollution aggra-

vated their chest complaints.

"In fact, some use it as a lever to get a transfer elsewhere by their company."

The doctor, who has practised in the region for almost 40 years, said he believed the pollution had increased in recent years.

"A number of new power stations have been built out here, but don't put the blame all on Eskom.

"The big industries are getting away with murder. One in particular just outside of Witbank pumps gasses and dirt into the atmosphere at a level you can't believe.

"I'm surprised they can get away with it. I don't know how the people who live near there can breathe at all."

Another doctor said he knew there was "poison" in Witbank's air "but isn't it about time tests were done by perhaps the CSIR to show us exactly what we are breathing?"

"Also needed are comparison studies of the number of respiratory illnesses here compared to less polluted regions."

"Only then will we know how bad the problem really is."



Area desperately needs protection from developers — Captrust Hout Bay is slowly dying

By ANDREA WEISS, Staff Reporter
UNCONTROLLED development is destroying Hout Bay, according to the conservation organisation Captrust.

The Hout Bay and Llandudno branch has appealed to residents and developers to act sensitively to prevent Hout Bay becoming "like any other suburb".

Mrs Barbara Jenman, the branch chairman, identified the Longkloof palmiet area, the remainder of the dune system, the beachfront and mountain areas as desperately needing protection against developers.

According to Captrust the Longkloof area falls within a 50-year floodplain and is kept stable by the roots of palmiet reeds which absorb water during flooding but keep the river flowing in summer.

Destabilisation of the area could cause flooding in the Hout Bay valley and erode the river bed higher up, Captrust says.

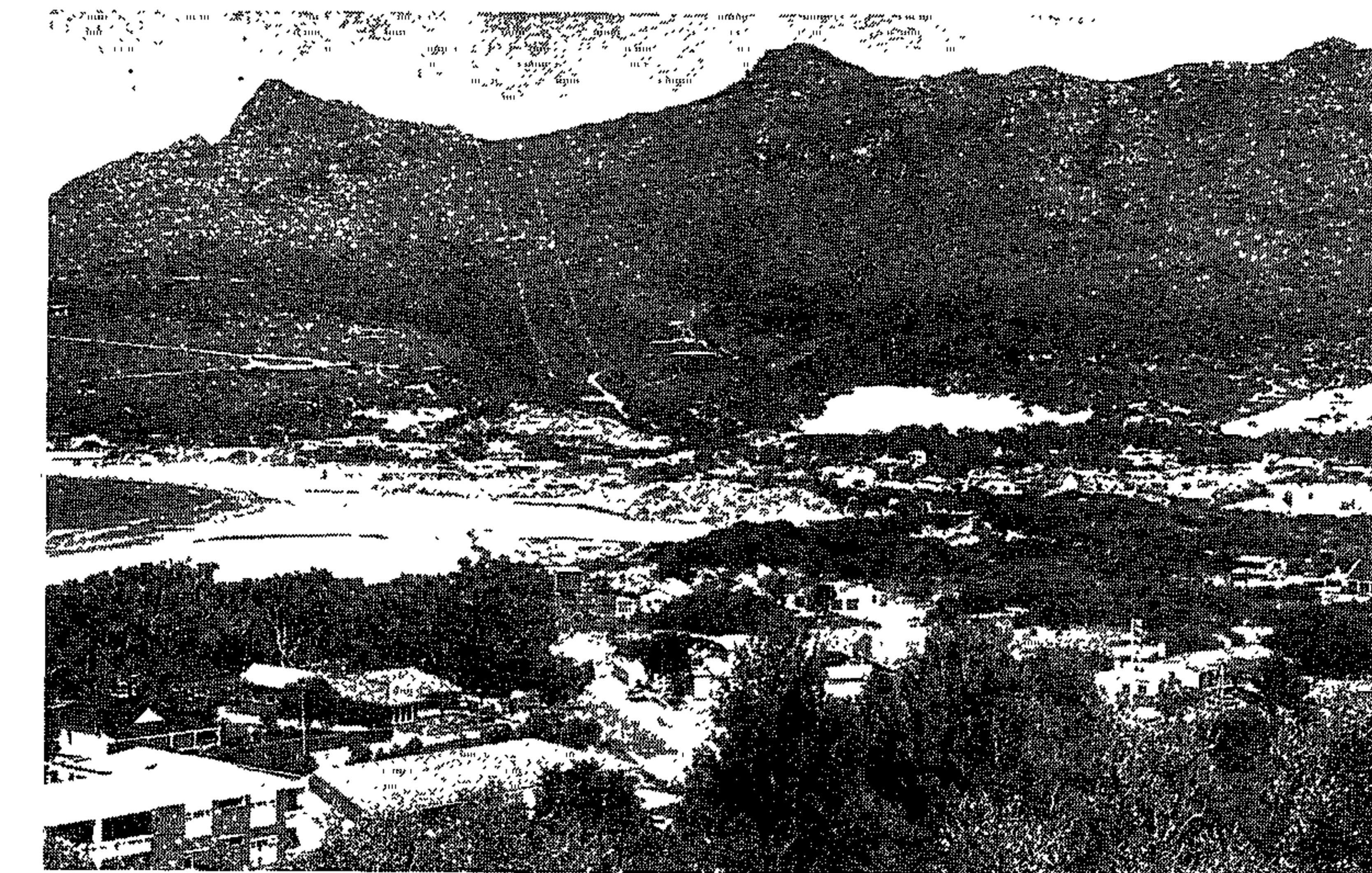
Mrs Jenman said Captrust would like a ban on building in the 50-year floodplain. The organisation is also concerned about damage to dunes.

Slowly disappearing

Development on the beachfront has stopped the natural transport of sand between Hout Bay and Sandy Bay and the large expanse of shifting dunes — which used to be a landmark — is gradually disappearing as the dunes are stabilised by alien vegetation.

"We've accepted that we've lost those dunes but the barrier dune from the top of the Nek (near Suikerbossie restaurant) to the beach needs to be protected," Mrs Jenman said.

Part of the barrier dune, which still supports fynbos and milkwood trees, had been gouged out for townhouses between Empire and Victoria roads and permission was granted



BAY BEAUTY: The Hout Bay beach front, one of the areas that desperately needs protection against developers.

recently for milkwoods to be cut down in Empire Road, Mrs Jenman said.

"The developers advertise their houses as having a Cape setting, yet they destroy the very environment they are advertising," she said.

Should act together

Captrust believes that Hout Bay is vulnerable to environmental damage because under the old general plan for the area developers have free rein on their property.

Mrs Jenman said the problems in Hout Bay should be tackled constructively.

"People want advice on how to take the environment into account when they build. The community should act together to provide this kind of input."

● The chief executive officer of the Western Cape Regional Services Council, Mr C H Mocke, said the RSC entered into negotiated development packages with developers where possible.

But this could be done only when a developer chose not to implement existing development rights.

"In theory, all land-use rights represent what is considered to be the most appropriate use of the land.

"In practice, however, because of long-standing sub-division rights in terms of old general plans (some of which were approved as early as 1902), certain land-use zones can be overridden by entrenched sub-division rights," Mr Mocke said.

Certain areas such as the beachfront, Constantia Nek and Sandy Bay had been zoned for amenity purposes, which meant that all development rights would have to be negotiated with the RSC.

A proposed structure plan for Hout Bay was completed and advertised in 1986 but had yet to be finally approved by the RSC.

Eskom's pollution claims challenged

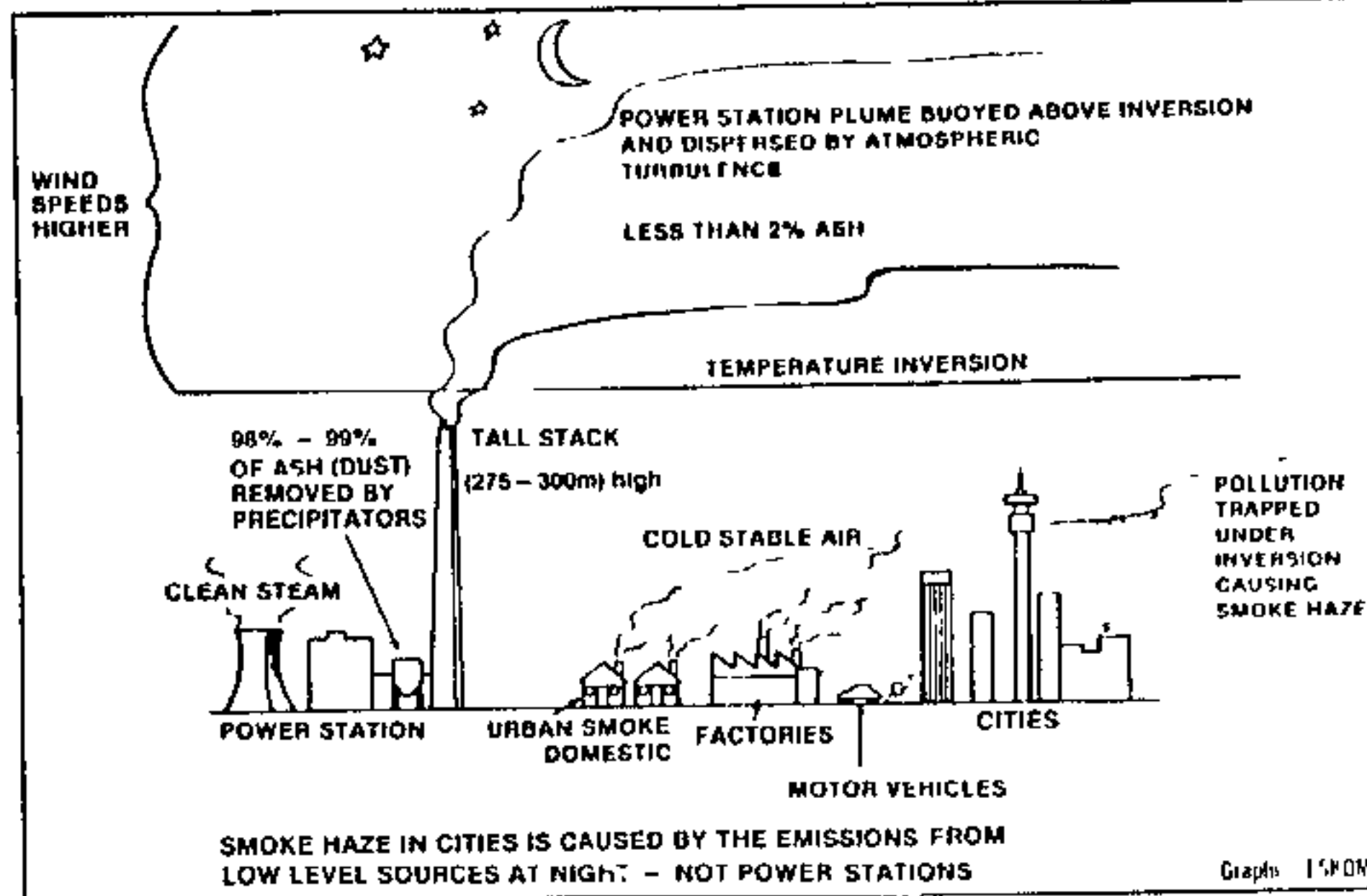
ESKOM announced this week it was to set aside R122m over the next six years to upgrade air pollution control equipment, asserting itself as "an anti-pollution force".

But claims about the effectiveness of pollution control at Eskom power stations were immediately challenged by some environmental experts, who referred to various reports on the high levels of air pollution caused by power stations and industrial plants, particularly in the Transvaal.

In Eskom's statement, GM in charge of environment control Herman Edeling said every power station built since the late Sixties was equipped with precipitators costing R100m. Eskom had spent R800m over the past 20 years to combat air pollution. But improvements still needed to be made.

"In the provision of electricity to improve living standards, a balance must be maintained between people's health, utilisation of resources, appropriate technology, costs and impact on the environment." Eskom claims the precipitators can remove "between 98% and 99%" of coal dust from the waste product before it is released, with the remaining 1% or 2% being released above the stable air layer or inversion level by tall chimneys.

For more than 10 years Eskom had been involved, in conjunction with the CSIR, in investigating pollution effects. It had spent about R1m on the project, contributing 70% of the data of the CSIR report.



GLEN SHELTON

On "acid rain," Edeling assured the public there was no reason for concern. SA had a very low sulphur content — the active ingredient in acid rain — in the atmosphere. "At present the sulphate and nitrate deposits in SA are much lower than those of comparable areas overseas."

However, other researchers expressed concern about the accuracy of these findings. Although Eskom met all governmental requirements to prevent pollution, there could be a discrepancy in how these were

applied.

The type of preventive action used in SA is similar to those used in other climates and, according to Colleen Vogel of Wits University's Geography Department, the SA atmosphere is not conducive to this type of dispersal process.

"The PH levels can differ according to the context of the climate," she said. "Depending on the volatility of the environment, the pollution levels differ."

"We have a very stable winter environment, which collects the waste rather than clearing it. The Eastern Transvaal is the worst possible place for coal burning."

The CSIR report on pollution mentioned that power stations and industrial plants in the Eastern Transvaal have created among the worst conditions in the world. Plants on the Highveld pump sulphur into the middle level of the atmosphere. This is turned into "acid rain" and carried as far as Natal and the Free State.

A study two years ago by Professor A M Coetzee of Pretoria University found children exposed to air pollution in the Sasolburg area were much more susceptible to certain respiratory illnesses.

Eskom's Greg Tosen, a researcher into pollution control, said many of the studies were contradictory and no final answer was available. He could not explain reports recently that claimed SA had the dirtiest skies in the world.

He acknowledged that although he could make statements on the levels of pollution in the air, he was not a medical doctor.

"I can't speak on the health of the population, but I can tell you the levels of sulphur dioxide in the Eastern Transvaal Highveld are not a problem in terms of internationally accepted standards."

Platinum solution

A window of opportunity has been opened for the marketing of platinum, one of SA's main metals, in research now being done into pollution-free power generation by using plati-

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num fuel cells.

The potential new market has been highlighted by a recent announcement that Taiwan is to spend US\$35bn over the next 20 years on environment protection and pollution control.

Taiwan recently postponed the expansion of its stainless steel industry because of the island's pollution problem. It is currently examining the possibility of a joint venture with SA on stainless steel production.

Platinum fuel cell research could create the technology for producing "clean" electricity, but the programme is still at the developmental stage. However, the possibility exists that worsening air pollution and climatic changes could create the lobbies (and the funds) to accelerate the development of the technology — with a view to fuel cells eventually superseding coal and oil-fired power stations.

"The fuel cell is a clean source of energy. Platinum catalysts are used to convert chemical energy into electrical energy," says Impala Platinum MD Don Ireland.

Council of Mineral Technology president Aiden Edwards has frequently called on government and the mining sector to pool resources on fuel cell application research. The

reason is obvious — SA possesses more than 80% of the world's known platinum reserves.

Currently Japan and the US lead the world in fuel cell application research. Platinum is already extensively used in the control of car exhaust emission in Europe, the US and the Far East.

Fuel cell development has been given added urgency by worldwide concern over deteriorating climatic patterns. The so-called "greenhouse effect" — the gradual warming of the world's atmosphere, caused by an increase in carbon-dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-burning power generators — has already been blamed for the US drought, worldwide floods and other extreme weather conditions.

Mean northern hemisphere temperatures have gradually increased above normal levels over the past few years — further evidence that the greenhouse effect is more than scientific theory.

But apparently the most damaging aspect of air pollution (contributing to the acid rain which is killing off forests in the northern hemisphere) is the smoke released by burning fossil fuels.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research recently reported that the eastern

Transvaal Highveld — site of some of the country's largest power stations — is now the most polluted area in the southern hemisphere.

Taiwanese Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs Hsu Kuo-an recently claimed that "the huge environment protection market has the potential to become a new environment protection industry for the nation."

SA has an obvious interest in these developments. With exhaust emission control already one of the major markets for platinum, platinum fuel cell development offers the possibility of a major new outlet for the metal — perhaps by as early as the mid-Nineties. ■

(56)
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26/8/88

Focus on township pollution

Notorious township air pollution is to be the subject of an intensive, two-day international conference in South Africa in November.

The conference, on "residential air pollution", has attracted 31 papers and will include anti-pollution campaigners from townships and industrial centres.

Industrialists, technologists, medicos and other scientists are attending from countries such as the United States, India, Malawi, Tanzania and Lesotho.

The conference will be held at the Alpha Centre in Broedersroem on November 10 and 11.

For more information, contact Dr A D Surridge at (021) 841-3968.

29/08/88

Aids tragedy striking at innocent children

BOSTON — He is three years old, wearing a red T-shirt and boasting how his dad had taken him to see the fireworks. His little friend sucks on a popsicle and shows off his purple tongue.

"You can't get me, Daddy," shouts one of the boys as he races playfully down the hallway of the hospital wing.

The illness that put them there is masked by their innocence and perfectly normal ways. They are the children of Aids.

Not all are so free to run and play. Some come into the world prematurely and drug-addicted. Many have swollen glands, sometimes enlarged livers and spleens. Their bodies are racked by diarrhoea and nausea, burning with fever and sweat.

More than 500 of them across the United States have died of Aids and 3 000 are infected, according to Dr James Oleske, medical director of the children's Aids programme at Children's Hospital in Newark, New Jersey.

Their numbers are growing at an alarming rate in a nation ill-equipped to care for them. In many places, hospitals must serve as expensive baby sitters while foster homes are desperately sought for the infants.

about 10 000 American children under the age of 13 will be infected with Aids within a few years.

That's the low end of Dr Oleske's estimate; he foresees 10 000 to 20 000 infected children by 1991.

"I estimate that one in every 10 to 15 hospital beds for children in the United States will be occupied by a child sick with (Aids) infection. That is a frightening statistic."

About 13 percent of the child victims got Aids through tainted blood transfusions.

Almost all the others, however, were doomed before birth, born to mothers infected with the Aids virus through intravenous drug use or through sex

GEORGE ESPER

single parent and unable to care for the infant because of her drug habit or because she is incapacitated with Aids herself. A grandmother may care for both, watching both daughter and grandchild deteriorate and die.

With family members unavailable to help in many cases, "Where are the increasing numbers of children born with Aids going to be cared for?" Dr Oleske asked.

One answer may lie in the establishment of state-supported transitional group homes that provide foster care for outpatient children until foster

as Dowling 5 South can house four children. Among current residents are the two boys whose fathers cannot care for them full-time but who take them on outings like the Fourth of July fireworks.

Since the Dowling wing opened in February 1987, the mothers of two children living there have died.

Ms Anne Murphy (31), a social worker at Dowling 5 South, has seen dying mothers "just coming in and spending time with their kids, playing with them, putting them to bed, feeding them supper — some of the daily-routine kind of things that I think take on so much more meaning when you feel that your time could be limited".

For many of the children, the warmth of mothers

consider children with Aids.

Even so, seven children from St Clare's Home in Elizabeth, New Jersey, have been placed in foster homes.

Local construction workers helped renovate a two-story residence that had been vacant for two years for St Clare's Home. Civic organisations held fundraisers and donated furniture to the Farano Centre for Children operated by Albany Catholic Charities.

At the Farano Centre, as many as 40 volunteers take the children for walks and visits to the park. Three of these volunteers have become foster parents to Aids children.

The transitional homes can accommodate only a half-dozen or so children at a time, cared for by an around-the-clock staff.

That leaves hospitals as the only home for many children of Aids, and that is costly for the state. Each Aids child's hospital stay costs an average \$1560 a day because of the extra nursing care and therapy required. This compares, for example, to \$576 a day at St Clare's.

Some of these children have never played with a dog or experienced sunshine.

"Everything is a sense of wonder or awe for these children," said Sister Maureen Joyce, who runs the Farano Centre. "I was planting some flowers and

manager for Eskom, and grading or many of the city's — as a white suburb 83 years ago — gramme — another advantage — There are a mere 14 prima- — zone

Poachers eye SA's rhino 'goldmine'

There were 60 000 black rhino in Africa in 1970. Today there are about 4 000.

Every day somewhere on the continent rhino are machine-gunned down, their horns hacked out and sold illegally for thousands of dollars to eastern countries by highly organised crime syndicates.

So far the large-scale rhino massacre has occurred beyond South Africa's borders. But conservationists and rhino experts say it would be naive to believe the situation would not change.

According to the SAP's Narcotics Bureau in Pretoria, organised syndicates dealing in illegal trophies have already got a foothold in the country.

With rhino horn selling at \$9 000 kg (R22 050) on the black market, and with most of the rest of Africa's rhino dead, it is only a matter of time before an all-out attack is launched on the relatively high density rhino populations in South Africa, say experts.

South African conservationists know this and they're trying to prepare for the onslaught.

Last week the Rhino and Elephant Foundation and the Game Rangers' Association of South Africa held a three-day workshop in Skukuza to try to work out how to secure the survival of Africa's most endangered large mammal.

The most significant proposal discussed was a project where South African and Namibian expertise, money and staff would be pooled in a combined effort to fight poaching and trade.

At the same time, they would actively try to increase the number of black rhino in southern Africa.

The project, still in its draft stage, will be released officially once it has been accepted by national and provincial conservation bodies.

Dr Martin Brooks, chief research officer at the Natal Parks Board, described South

BY MELANIE GOSLING

With rhino horn selling at \$9 000 a kilogram (R22 050) on the black market, and with most of the rest of Africa's rhino dead, it is only a matter of time before the rhino populations in South Africa are attacked, say experts. The police say organised syndicates dealing in illegal trophies already have a foothold here.

Africa's fines as "hopelessly inadequate".

Scientist Mr Richard Emslie called for a minimum jail sentence without the choice of a fine.

"People dealing in illegal rhino trade, as in diamond and drug smuggling, deal in huge sums of money. What's a fine to them? They will simply pay it and then go back to the illegal trade," he said.

It was suggested game rangers hold mini training courses with the SAP in investigating illegal activities.

The workshop also called for liaison between conservationists, law enforcement officers and customs and excise officials in a bid to squash the illegal trade.

massacred 439 black rhino in the valley, hacking out the horns and leaving the carcasses to rot. The poachers are heavily armed with automatic weapons, they travel light and are skilled in bushcraft.

Mr Raoul du Toit, who is doing research sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund on rhino poaching in the Zambesi Valley, likened them to armed bank robbers.

"They're working in 12 000 sq km of thick bush, they're armed and there's no way they're going to come out with their hands up.

"They're like bank robbers and there's gold out there. To them it's worth the risk of being shot," he said.

Why the scramble for rhino horn? Opposed to what most westerners think, less than 1 percent of horn is sold as an aphrodisiac. The bulk is ground down and used as traditional medicine in the East, in much the same way as animal parts

are used as traditional *muti* in South Africa.

About 40 percent of rhino horn is sold to North Yemen where it is carved into dagger handles.

Kruger Park scientist Dr Anthony Hall-Martin says the Yemeni carry these daggers in their waistbands which "constitute the average north Yemeni yuppie's idea of being well-dressed".

The fight to save the rhino has cost many millions of dollars but the poachers seem to be winning. Is it worth carrying on?

Said Mr Du Toit: "If the rhino goes, the elephants will be next and other species will follow. With the key animals gone, tourist won't be attracted to parks and there will be pressure to convert them into subsistence farming.

"The black rhino is a flagship in conservation. If it goes down, the whole of the conservation system will be undermined."

56 sent 5/9/88.

ry schools and three secondary

SA black rhino facing deadly peril

There were 60 000 black rhino in Africa in 1970. Today there are about 4 000.

Every day somewhere on the continent rhino are shot down with machine-guns, their horns hacked out and sold illegally for thousands of dollars to eastern countries by highly organised crime syndicates.

So far, the large-scale rhino massacre has occurred beyond South Africa's borders. But conservationists and rhino experts say it would be naive to believe the situation would not change.

According to the SAP's Narcotics Bureau in Pretoria, organised syndicates dealing in illegal trophies have already got a toehold in the country.

At today's black market price of R22 050/kg for rhino horn, and with most of the rest of Africa's rhino dead, it is only a matter of time before an all-out attack is launched on the relatively high density rhino populations in South Africa, say experts. And conservationists are trying to prepare for the onslaught.

COMBINED OPERATION

The Rhino and Elephant Foundation and the Game Rangers' Association of South Africa held a three-day workshop in Skukuza to decide how to save Africa's most endangered large mammal.

The most significant proposal discussed was a project where South African and Namibian expertise, money and staff would be pooled in a combined effort to fight poaching and trading.

At the same time, they would actively try to increase the number of black rhino in southern Africa.

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The workshop called for far more stringent penalties for both poaching and trading.

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By MELANIE GOSLING (56)

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It was suggested game rangers train with the SAP in investigating illegal activities.

The workshop also called for liaison between conservationists, law enforcement officers and customs and excise officials in a bid to quash the illegal trade.

The Kruger Park's chief warden, Dr Salmon Joubert, said at the workshop: "It will be foolish to think the solution will be simple. We are fighting the pawns in this game. We must look to the instigators."

Zimbabwe has had a taste of just how difficult the battle is. Although it has the largest black rhino population in Africa, numbers are declining in spite of the game department battling against poaching.

In the Zambezi Valley, the struggle between the game department and poachers coming across the river from Zambia has reached the proportions of a small bush war.

Since 1984 poachers have massacred 439

black rhino in the valley, hacking out the horns and leaving the carcasses to rot.

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"They're like bank robbers and there's gold out there. To them it's worth the risk of being shot," he said.

So far, 43 poachers have been killed in shoot-outs in the Zambezi Valley, but conservationists say the threat of being shot has in no way been a deterrent. With the price for horn sky-high, they keep on coming.

ERRONEOUS IDEA

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'CAMP UNACCEPTABLE'



MSHENGUVILE . . . the squatter camp that made Deputy Minister of Health Dr Michael Veldman see red.

11/9/88
THE deputy Minister of Health, Dr Michael Veldman, this week paid a visit to Soweto to launch an anti-pollution campaign that would result in areas of the city being declared "smoke-free" in the near future.

The Minister was accompanied by the mayor of Soweto, Mr Nelson Botile, the council's town clerk Mr Nico Malan, Soweto's health officer Dr W Matsie and a group of councillors. Among a group of experts who were with Dr Veldman was Mr Martin Lloyd who had been monitoring the smoke pollution in Soweto for more than a year.

"Soweto is not yet a health hazard, but it could easily develop into

By MOJALEFA MOSEKI

one if the situation is not monitored. The conditions at the Mshengu squatter camp is totally unacceptable. The lack of accommodation in Baragwanath Hospital is totally unacceptable. The smoke pollution levels in Soweto during winter is also totally unacceptable," said Mr Veldman in response to Press questions after the tour.

Dr Veldman also visited clinics and schools in the township.

Grip of pollution strangling millions

(56)
19/9/88

By FRANCES WILLIAMS

UN studies of world air, water and food contaminants show among other frightful findings that as the thin arms of starving children reach out for food aid, they could be reaching out for premature death from cancer, for cereals stored in humid conditions can become highly carcinogenic.

GENEVA — A devastating picture of an increasingly polluted world has emerged from United Nations studies monitoring air, water and food contaminants in rich and poor countries.

The studies, the most comprehensive ever carried out, suggest that while conditions in industrial countries are generally improving, in the Third World they are deteriorating rapidly. Less than a fifth of the world's 1.8 billion city dwellers live in air conditions that pose no risk to health. Two in three of the world's population breathe air that contains disturbingly high levels of sulphur dioxide and dust.

Around 10 percent of all rivers are polluted and five million to six million infants in developing countries die each year from diarrhoea and other water-related diseases. Untreated sewage in water supplies is a crucial problem, the UN says.

Food contamination is normally under control in the industrialised world, but in the Third World pesticides and cancer-causing aflatoxins, formed by some moulds, are causing problems.

The results of the studies were released at the weekend to coincide with a meeting in Geneva of government health and environmental experts sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Health Organisation.

On air pollution, the study estimates that 625 million people, mostly in devel-

oping countries, are exposed to unacceptable levels of sulphur dioxide, while another 550 million live in "marginal conditions".

Among the worst-affected cities in the early 1980s were Milan, Tehran, Seoul, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and Paris. In the middle range were London, Dublin, Athens, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai, New York, Calcutta and Brussels.

The UN estimates that about 1 250 million people live in unacceptable conditions of smoke and dust.

About 15 percent to 20 percent of people living in cities in North America and Europe may be exposed to unhealthy levels of nitrous oxides from car exhausts during rush-hour traffic, while people living in about a third of the world's cities are at risk from dangerous or undesirable air lead concentrations.

Mr Michael Gwynne, head of UNEP's global environment monitoring system, added a chilling postscript to the study on food contamination.

He said countries receiving food aid could be faced with the dilemma of either turning supplies away or distributing them in the knowledge that a high proportion of those receiving it would die of liver cancer.

This was because cereals stored in humid conditions might contain aflatoxins, which are highly carcinogenic, Mr Gwynne said. — The Independent, London.

Fly sprays that punch a hole in earth's roof

(58)

23-29/9/84/Week

There's a hole in the earth's roof and the culprit some scientists blame is the aerosol can.

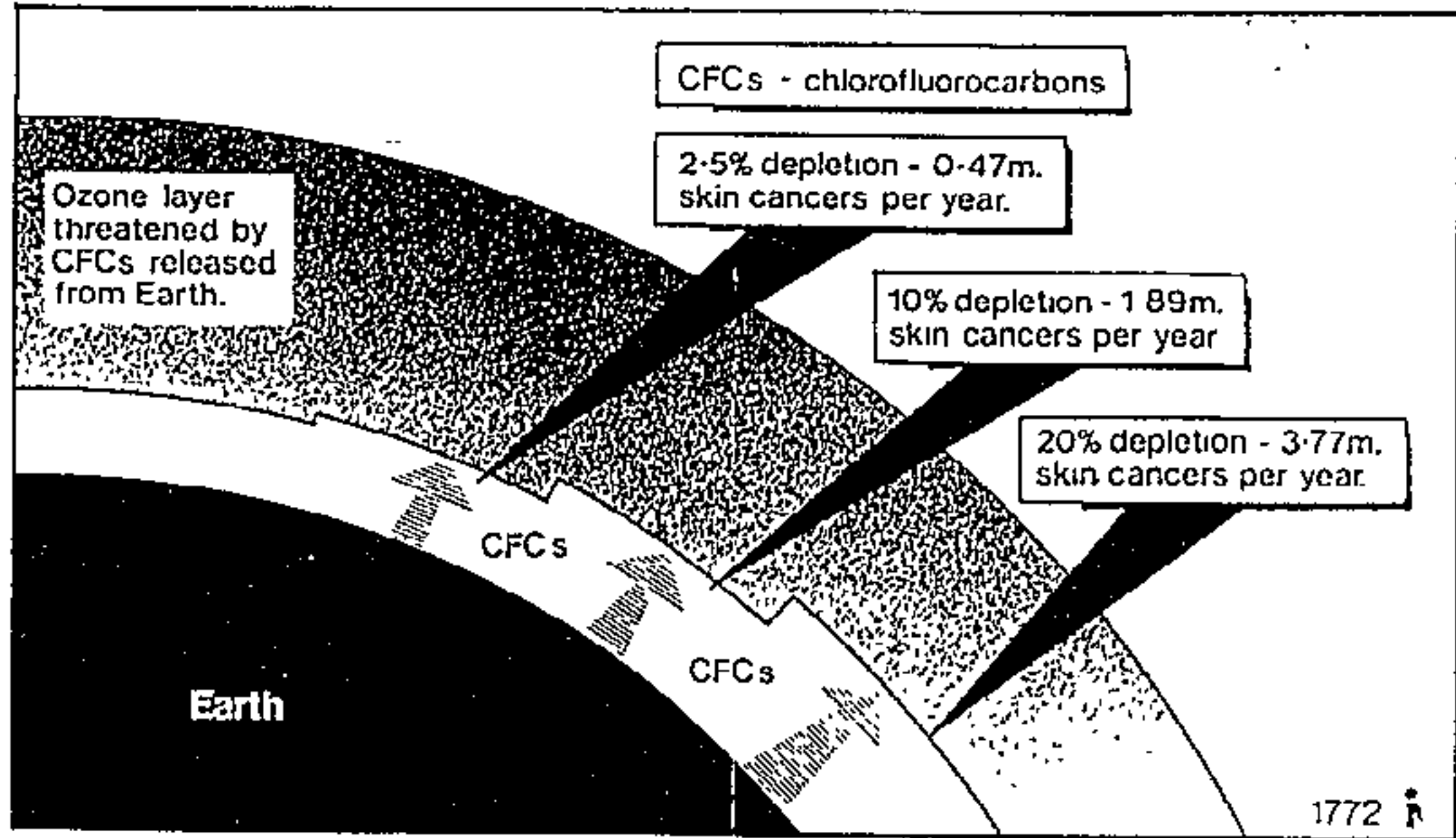
GEOFFREY LINDOP

reports

SOME scientists believe that each time we use a flyspray not only do we kill the insects, but the Freon used to propel the insecticide out of the can rises into the stratosphere where it destroys the ozone.

Freon is the trade name of a chemical belonging to a group of substances known as chloroflourocarbons (CFCs). These chemicals are used not only as propellants for aerosol cans but as refrigerator coolants and solvents. Any one of this chemical group can destroy atmosphere ozone.

With this danger in mind many countries, including the United States and Canada, banned the use of CFCs



A vanishing shield ... punching holes in the ozone layer

in aerosol sprays.

In 1957 a young British scientist, Joe Farman, was taking observations on the Antarctic ice cap as part of the International Geophysical Year.

Each year Farman and other scientists in the British Antarctic survey watched as the ozone concentration peaked in spring then slowly died away for the rest of the year. Then, three or four years ago, the results began to change. Just before each spring-time peak the level of ozone would drop dramatically. The scientists suspected their instruments were wrong, but after two years of careful checking the trend was confirmed. It

was as if a hole appeared in the ozone layer just before each spring.

The Americans have been quick to investigate the phenomenon. Unlike the British, they have been able to plough men, money and resources into the Antarctic. In particular they have been able to use an expensive instrument that had been reserved for use on the Space Shuttle.

Have CFCs destroyed the ozone to such an extent that large holes are appearing in our protective shield? Not according to Nasa, where researchers attribute the "Ozone Hole" to a springtime upwelling over the poles of air containing little or no ozone.

But the matter does not rest there.

Susan Solomon and 18 scientists are investigating the Antarctic "Ozone Hole". She and her team have measured the abundance of 15 different gases in the upper atmosphere and ruled out the springtime theory.

It has been argued that since the production of ozone is dependant on solar radiation, if this varies so too would the concentration of ozone. According to this theory, holes could occur in the ozone layer during times of minimum solar activity.

But Solomon claims that the level of oxides of nitrogen she has measured would inhibit the processes related to the solar interaction and has therefore ruled out this cause. So the ball is back in the pollution court, with emissions from air conditioners and aerosol cans the prime suspect.

Oddly enough one of the leading voices in favour of restrictions on CFCs comes from DuPont, the manufacturers of Freon, who suggest that other chemicals (which they also make) could be used for similar applications causing less harm to the environment.

DuPont officials have also said that recent research suggests CFCs also contribute to the warming of the earth's surface, known as the Greenhouse Effect.

Other scientists are concerned about the increase in ozone levels at ground level. When car exhaust fumes react with sunlight ozone is produced. There is always a certain amount of ozone in the air we breathe but the concentration is as low as 0.025 parts per million. — Gemini News Service

Pair arrested in ivory smuggling probe

A PORTUGUESE man resident in Pretoria and a Malawian were arrested on Tuesday in Botswana in connection with an attempt to smuggle rhino horn, elephant tusks and other contraband from Zambia into Botswana.

A senior Botswana police spokesman said yesterday Kazungula border post officials had discovered "quite a large amount" of leopard and python skins, elephant tusks, rhino horns, ivory bangles and malachite necklaces in secret panels in a truck.

A Volkswagen engine and video were

B/day 13/10/88
56 MANDY JEAN WOODS

also found in the back of the truck. No value has been put on the goods.

The discovery comes on the heels of reports of extensive multi-million rand smuggling operations stretching from central to southern Africa involving the poaching of endangered animals.

The two men are expected to appear in court today charged with the illegal importation of ivory among other things.

Earlier reports said police identified

the owners of the SA-registered truck as A H Pong and Sons. However, Pong said last night he did not own a haulage truck nor did he deal in curio items of any kind.

He said: "I am in the import, export and retail clothing business. I am astounded by this news. I have not been notified by anyone about this."

□ Sapa-Reuter reports from Dar es Salaam that Tanzanian police said yesterday they had arrested five government employees for smuggling more than a ton of ivory — 152 elephant tusks.

14/10/88
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B/CLAS

TWO men appeared in the Francistown Magistrate's Court yesterday in connection with trying to smuggle dozens of rhino horn, hundreds of elephant tusks and other contraband from Zambia into Botswana.

A senior Francistown police spokesman identified the men as Zimbabwean Patrick Mufambi and a Portuguese man resident in SA, Antonio Augusto Antunes Viera.

The spokesman said Mafumbi was arrested at Kazangula on Tuesday while Veira was picked up by police

Rhino horn case: two in court

DANIEL SIMON

in Gaborone on the same day.

He said the confiscated haul — impounded by Botswana authorities at Kazangula border post on Tuesday and possibly destined for SA — consisted of 382 elephant tusks, 94 rhino horn, numerous leopard, crocodile and python skins and dozens of ivory items. The haul was found hidden in

secret panels in the truck.

Earlier reports said Botswana authorities identified the owners of the impounded SA-registered truck as A H Pong and Sons.

Yesterday, Pong denied the haulage truck belonged to him but said he knew Veira and Mafumbi.

He said: "They collected and brought copper scrap from Zaire to me about two or three times."

Pollution problem 'sidelined'

56 By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

Aspirant Witbank town councillor Mr Clive Hatch believes Witbank's pollution problem is being sidelined by frightened candidates.

Mr Hatch, who says he is independent of any political grouping, says the town's polluted air should be one of the major election issues.

"Some people deny we even have a problem, but it is no good ignoring it because it is not going to go away," said Mr Hatch.

"What we need is a thorough investigation where all the facts become known, so we can see exactly

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what the dangers are to the people in this town."

He said he believed the pollution issue was being sidelined in Witbank because municipal candidates were frightened of upsetting the industries to which most people in town were connected.

"Witbank certainly can't do without industries, but we must investigate ways of cleaning up the air in our town."

Mr Hatch said it should be investigated whether the Highveld Regional Services Council could provide the town council and industry with finance to beat the pollution problem.

Pretoria to host flood conference

Star 19/10/87 (56)

More than 200 delegates — most of them civil engineers — will attend a major conference on floods and their consequences at the CSIR conference centre in Pretoria on October 20 and 21.

The discussions will cover a wide range of topics brought to the forefront by recent flood disasters in the Free State, Northern Cape and Natal, which cost the country an estimated R350 million through damage to infrastructure and facilities.

PROCEEDINGS

The proceedings will be opened by the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr W A van Niekerk.

The keynote address will be given by the president of the SA Institute of Civil Engineers, Mr Cliff McMillan.

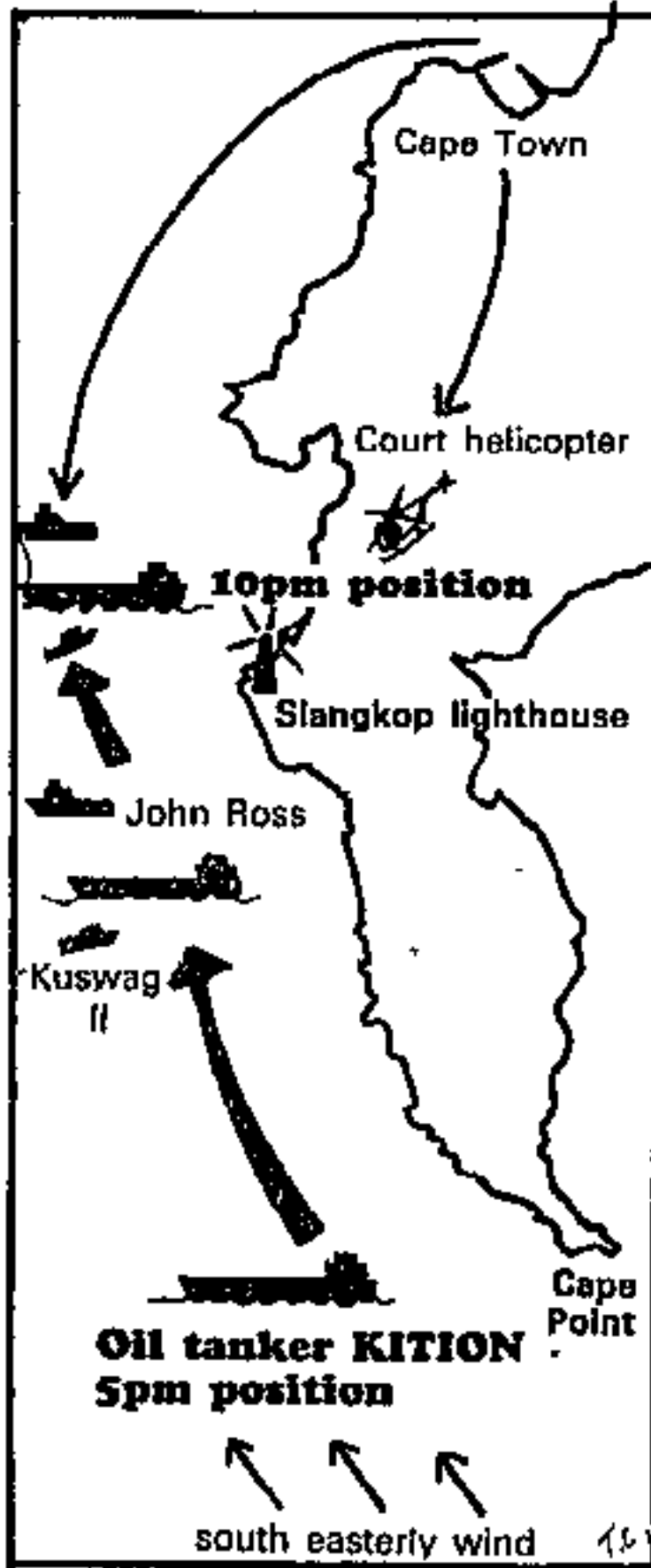
Oil-laden ship sinking off coast

Staff Reporters
A FULLY LADEN 159 000-ton Greek oil tanker, the Kition, was in danger of sinking early this morning as a salvage vessel desperately towed it away at full power from the coast.

The tanker, taken in tow by the John Ross six miles off Long Beach with an engine room flooding, has sparked a major rescue operation involving two Kuswag anti-pollution vessels and several helicopters.

A spokesman for Pentow Marine said the Kition's engine room was flooding at 1 200 tons of water an hour soon after the John Ross, carrying generator sets and pumps, reached her at 8pm. Gale-force winds were hampering the operation.

The 19-year-old vessel, on her way from the Persian Gulf to Montevideo, Uruguay, first reported being in trouble 12 nau-



tical miles off Cape Point at 5pm yesterday. The John Ross was immediately dispatched.

The Pentow Marine spokesman said a team of salvage experts and divers had been airlifted to the tanker by a Court

helicopter and reported water 15 metres deep in the engine room.

He said the tug would be towed out to sea today where bigger pumps would be used.

The oil in the tanker would be enough to keep it afloat even with the engine room totally flooded.

He confirmed that a "no cure no pay" contract had been signed by the tanker's owners and said the Kuswag II was standing by to tackle any oil spillages that might occur when the water was pumped from the engine room.

The 25- to 30-knot south-easter was helping the tug to get the tanker away from the coast.

Late last night the salvage crew on the ship had difficulty establishing the tow because no winches were working.

It was not known when water first started to flood the engine room or where the leak was, but it was hoped that pumps would be able to bring the water level down.

STORM

CAN TITLS 20/10/88

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SADF slow on posts — Angola

within a few days.
Van-Dunem also said there was disagreement on whether black Namibian soldiers should man the posts.
A Defence Force spokesman said yesterday that in terms of the Geneva agreement channels of communication had been set up deal with such issues. "The SADF respects and follows these

channels and would hope that the other parties would do the same."
□ A member of Namibia's interim government, Jan de Wet, said yesterday it was no longer possible to implement Resolution 435 on November 1. His comments followed talks between President P W Botha and members of the interim government. — Sapa-AP.

Engineers 'rarely make mistakes'

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Glib charges by the media and public that civil engineering technology was not up to standard, or that engineers were prone to underestimate risks, were baseless, SA Institute of Civil Engineers president C M McMillan said in his key note address to a Flood in Perspective conference at the CSIR yesterday.

He said there had been mistakes, but they were rare.
Unfortunately, the public did not tolerate failure in engineers' work, as it did in certain other professions where perfection was not the norm. This was understandable because of the awesome consequences of failure in major civil engineering works.

Affected

The Weather Bureau's J van Heerden said recommended more research into the mechanisms of floods.
Another bureau speaker, D E Terblanche, said the Natal floods were probably the greatest national disaster in the country's history.
Drennan, Maud and Partners' R R Maude said although the geotechnical effects of the Natal floods appeared severe, their extent should be seen against the performance of the affected region as a whole. Overall damage was small and the costs almost insignificant, in relation to the value of the capital investment in the region.

Minister calls for flood preparedness

8/10/88 21/10/88

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The massive destruction caused by recent floods, and the need for a sharper and more effective reaction to future disasters, were stressed by National Health Minister Willie van Niekerk yesterday.
Speaking at a Floods in Perspective conference organised by the SA Institute of Civil Engineers at the CSIR, Van Niekerk said R67m had been paid out in flood relief, R48m of it to victims in KwaZulu. The public's "magnificent" contribution was R27,63m.
Up to the end of August, a total of 135 000 applications for aid had been received and another 17 000 were being processed.
The Laingsburg floods in 1981 destroyed 184 of the 225 houses in the town. Only 20 were repairable.
In the Natal and Free State floods more than 400 people died. Damage was estimated in excess of R1bn, 4 000 far-

mers suffered heavy damage and more than 700 farm dams burst.
It was worrying, Van Niekerk said, that so many disasters had to occur before attention was pertinently focused on the problem.
In spite of recent disaster experiences we have not yet prepared ourselves properly for possible future disasters. The effect could be minimised by a comprehensive national flood defence policy which would provide immediate and short-term assistance to victims. It would also have to include long-term assistance and proper flood management.
Shortcomings in previous disasters, including communications and lack of facilities, were discussed recently by a task team which included representatives of state departments and Civil Defence.

Durban strike spreads to Maritzburg

WORKERS at Prospective, a subsidiary of Republican Press in Maritzburg, yesterday joined the strike by its Durban plant workers, bringing to more than 300 the number of strikers.
Media Workers' Association general secretary Sithembele Khala said striking workers in Durban were locked out yesterday as the stoppage entered its third day.
Talks called by management had broken down over allegations that the company

had failed to follow the agenda. Wages and conditions of service were to be discussed.
Khala said the company allegedly talked of mediation, skirting the wages issue.
Workers demanded that salaries for black workers be restructured to match those of white workers.
They also demanded transport for black editors as provided for their white colleagues, that the transport subsidy apply to all workers and that black workers be on a medical scheme. — Sapa.

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SA 'not prepared for floods'

SA 21/10/88

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South Africa had not yet prepared itself for possible future flood disaster, the Minister of Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said at a Floods in Perspective conference in Pretoria yesterday.

Although it was impossible to limit or control the flood phenomenon, the effects of excessive flooding could be minimised, he said.

Mr C M McMillan, president of the South African Institute of Civil Engineers, said the conference was a natural consequence of the flood disasters in Natal last year and in the Free State and northern Cape earlier this year.

The conference was organised by the hydraulic and water engineering division of the institute.

Mr McMillan said it represented a desire on the part of the civil engineering profes-

sion to derive benefit from whatever lessons could be learnt.

Ms Nan Walker of the CSIR and Ms Janette Lindesay of Wits said research indicated that early recognition of abnormal oceanic conditions might enable better predictions of the severity of the rain-bearing potential of particular weather types.

Mr J van Heerden of the Weather Bureau said the bureau had had considerable success with the prediction of the Natal flood, though the prediction of the Free State flood in February this year had been less successful.

This was borne out by Mr N J Nel of the Free State roads department, who told the conference that Bloemfontein officials had been unaware of the developing disaster because the initial rainstorm occurred over a weekend.

The first alarm had come from provincial traffic officers on Sunday, February 21, after primary roads south of Bloemfontein had been flooded.

By then, telephone links had been disrupted and internal radio links had become unreliable because several relay stations had become defective, Mr Nel said.

While road engineers could not reach flooded bridges, rural traffic officers had to take their own decisions regarding the closure of roads and bridges and the diversion of traffic.

There were not enough road signs on hand and some impassable roads could not be properly barricaded.

The Free State and northern Karoo were subject to floods about every 14 years, which made a written disaster plan essential, Mr Nel said. — Pretoria Bureau.



SA 'not prepared for floods'

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posal. "Someone, somewhere, is going to have to do it, and it would be far better done responsibly, by highly qualified scientists, preferably under international supervision, than left to rot on some Third World shoreline."

Toens, a key figure in a world conference on nuclear waste disposal which SA hosted a couple of years ago, says toxic waste should be put into the same sort of expert hands that handle radioactive matter.

SA's geophysical attributes make the country uniquely suited to deal with the disposal of nuclear waste. A spokesman for the Atomic Energy Corporation concedes that — although it is academic at this stage — the importation of atomic waste is feasible in terms of our capacity and technology.

The existing 10 000 ha disposal site at Vaalputs in Namaqualand comes close to being the perfect locale. And, with only 100 ha being used for disposal at present, it will be feasible for a long time.

Vaalputs is an area with extremely low rainfall. Existing groundwater is estimated at between 3 000 and 10 000 years old; is hardly ever replenished and lies well below the surface of the earth. Human population is virtually non-existent, as are possibilities for agricultural or mineral development. It is seismically among the most stable areas in the world.

Each year the site receives 1 500 metal containers of low-level radioactive waste and 500 concrete containers of medium-level waste which are stored underground. The first ever batch of high-level waste, comprising spent fuel elements from the Koeberg reactor, is undergoing a 10-year "cooling" process underwater at Koeberg. From there, packed in specially designed caskets, it will be transported to Vaalputs, stored and monitored above ground for several decades before being re-processed for further use.

Most waste problems are not nearly as complex. Nevertheless, according to Futter, identification of suitable sites near urban areas is being hampered by the Nimby syndrome. The attitude displays ignorance of the true nature and potential of waste disposal sites, he argues.

Disposal of waste — solid and liquid, toxic and non-toxic — requires licensed "landfill" sites designated Class 1 or Class 2, depending on their suitability for particular types of waste. The danger in the selection of sites is the contamination of groundwater. In the case of a Class 1 site, suitable for receiving liquid and hazardous waste, extensive geological and hydrological surveys must ensure that the dumping ground is virtually impermeable and likely to remain so.

Constant monitoring is required. Water samples are taken regularly from boreholes surrounding the fill

and tested for traces of leachate (waste-percolated water). The infiltration of water through domestic waste alone can produce a leachate 100 times more polluting than raw sewage. Left unmanaged, leachate is a deadly hazard to groundwater. Where necessary, sites are sumped to contain the leachate, which is then re-circulated to promote evaporation, filtration and biodegradation.

While, for obvious reasons, the sites remain unsuitable for building, they are basically harmless and, during filling, not as unsightly as one might imagine. Solid and liquid wastes are compacted in small cells which are finally covered with earth or ash and are fit for transformation into greenbelt or recreational areas.

The management of toxic waste involves more than mere sanitary disposal — and it is in the field of treatment and detoxification that private-sector waste management companies have built up profitable and safe businesses. Waste-Tech, for example, has a sophisticated laboratory employing qualified staff to design and implement specific treatment programmes for a wide variety of waste products. This is done in close co-operation with chemists from the industrial creators of the waste.

Aside from the initial analysis of waste samples, the laboratory monitors every delivery of gunk requiring disposal. Detailed monitoring of water from some 60 landfill boreholes is carried out on equipment capa-

ble of detecting traces of down to one part per trillion.

The aim is to immobilise toxins. "If it can be made less dangerous, we treat it," says Wood. Wastes found to be unsuitable for disposal on licensed sites are either organic (such as pesticides, phenols and fuel compounds) or inorganic (acids, alkalis, heavy metals, cyanide compounds and so on). Appropriate treatments to render them safe include neutralisation, precipitation, oxidation or reduction. The result of processing is a harmless solid, destined for the landfill, and a re-usable saline solution.

Certain waste substances can be used to neutralise others: fly ash, of which SA produces more than 20 Mt a year, can be blended with liquid toxins to make them inert.

There remain certain substances, such as polychlorinated biphenyls and arsenical compounds, for which there are no treatments. These are sealed in concrete and included in the landfill sites.

Private waste management companies anticipate long pressed for legislation being passed next year to enforce stricter observance of the conditions governing landfill sites. This, they believe, will put an end to careless methods of disposal.

The head of the CSIR's waste management research programme, Graham Noble, tells the *FM* that in considering the infrastructure necessary for SA to develop a hazardous waste import industry, technical suitability is critical while engineering costs are considerable. While vast tracts of land exist in SA, the engineering costs of preparing

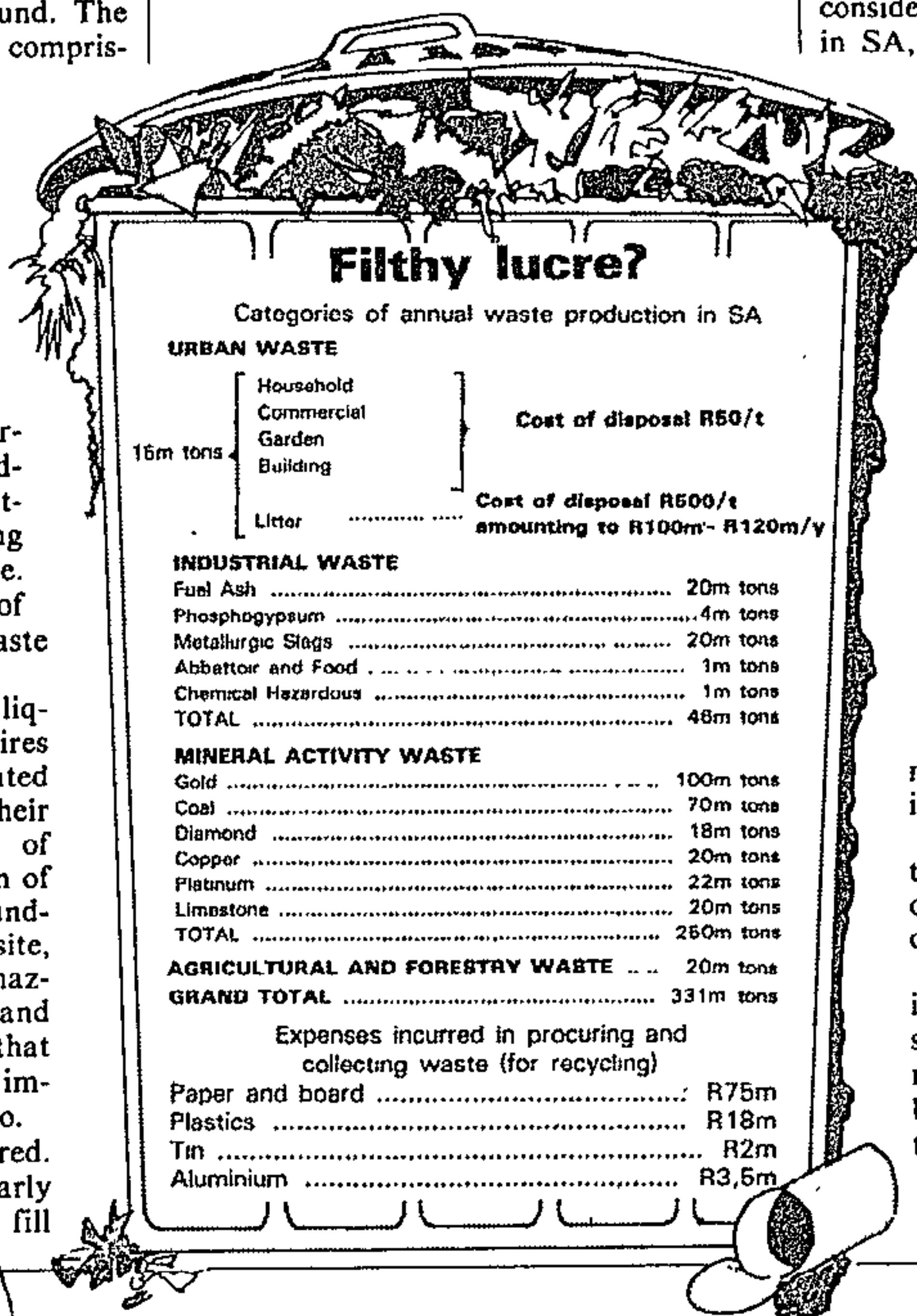
them as safe sites for the long-term disposal of toxic wastes from the northern hemisphere would be very high and he cautions: "When the costs of transporting these wastes from abroad to these sites are added,

probably few companies from abroad would be prepared to pay the price."

While this may be true now, the problem is not going to go away. There is an important opportunity here for SA — and government should seize it by authorising a detailed feasibility and environmental impact study to confirm that a risk-managed import programme can be established; and where and how this can best be done. The exercise need not cost much — a lot of information is already available.

Government should then facilitate the development by private enterprise of an industry for which a growing demand seems assured.

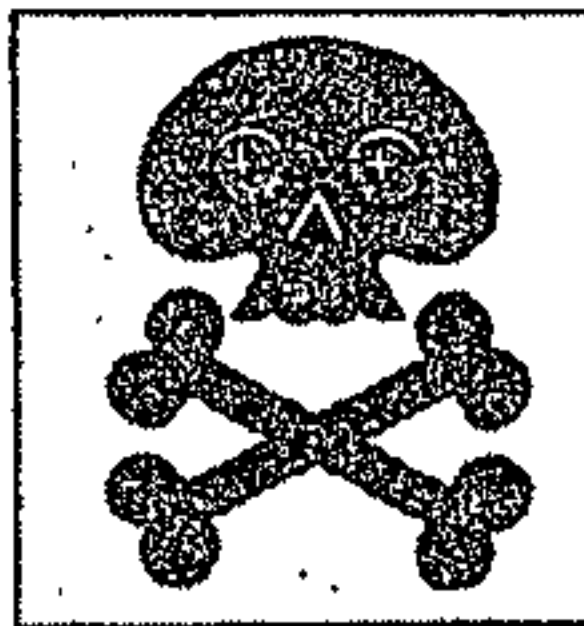
SA industry is already highly experienced in handling dangerous processes, so government's own involvement need not — and should not — go beyond satisfying itself and the public that the profitable exploitation of other countries' problems is handled safely.



Waste not, want not

(56)

■ Should SA bury the world's industrial poisons for a price? It makes sense



It's a growing problem — worldwide. Take the tanker *Khian Sea*, which left the US on August 31 1986 with a load of incinerator ash, nasty stuff that no one wants. Well, two years later — and

thousands of nautical miles on — she has joined a ghostly fleet of shunned poison ships that haunt the world's oceans, unable to find willing takers for their cargoes of toxic waste.

In the professional waste management industry (mega-garbage disposal), they call it the "Nimby" syndrome — "Not In My Back Yard." That's the cry of communities which, quite understandably, do not wish to be exposed to the environmental hazards of the waste. Horror stories about irresponsible disposal abound — and so a powerful lobby has grown up. In many cases it has beaten governments into submission and left them unwilling or unable to undertake what is in fact not an impossible task — effective, safe management of hazardous waste.

It's a question of where to put it safely. And despite Pretoria's stated opposition to anything of the sort, all indications from SA's well-established private waste management sector are that the country is uniquely equipped in terms of space and technology to do so. With responsible planning and adequate safeguards, the potential exists to set up an industry which could be a massive foreign exchange earner.

Figures from the UK show that toxic waste is big business. It provided the most lucrative part of Britain's £734m specialist waste-handling industry last year. However,

the environmental pressures which have caused other countries to try to export their waste are beginning to be felt in Britain, too.

The issue is highly emotive and, internationally, the lobby against toxic waste has considerable public support. But, as virtually *everywhere* is now somebody's backyard, decisions on disposal need to be based on thorough scientific analysis.

While the the bulk of SA's 15 Mt a year of urban waste is handled by municipalities, private enterprise handles the lucrative industrial market — disposing of the many by-products, toxic or otherwise, of the mining, chemical, fuel and manufacturing sectors. Whether waste disposal is handled internally or farmed out to a specialist company, the cost of safely disposing of hazardous muck, or transforming it into something more acceptable, is high and rising. The days when waste handling involved little more than disposing of rubbish on some remote site and forgetting about it are gone; we are in an era of technological waste management.

Neville Futter, technical manager for Waste-Tech, SA's largest private waste handling company, describes management of toxic and other wastes as "a complex technical business." However: "The facilities and technology already exist here to manage the stuff safely. To extend them to international business would be no problem."

But when Waste-Tech approached the government some years ago with an eye to the lucrative waste import business, it came up against a brick wall. It was apparently conceded that the refusal had more to do with political acceptability than doubts about the country's ability to cope.

MD Geoff Wood points out that much of the dreaded waste afloat at the moment is actually run-of-the-mill stuff to professional waste management concerns — and a far cry from the real bogey, radioactive matter.

Internationally, increasing attempts are being made to foist the burden of unwanted toxic waste on Third World countries. While most eager for the huge remuneration offered, they are usually least able to deal with it. But such is the sensitivity over the issue that even these countries are starting to cry halt.

For instance, in the west African state of Guinea Bissau, the gov-

ernment signed, then cancelled, a contract to store 15 Mt of waste. The country stood to earn R1,2bn — about twice its total foreign debt. In neighbouring Guinea, a government company agreed to allow 85 000 t of waste into the country at R100/t. The first load of 15 000 t caused trees to die on the island on which it was dumped and the government declared the agreement null and void and



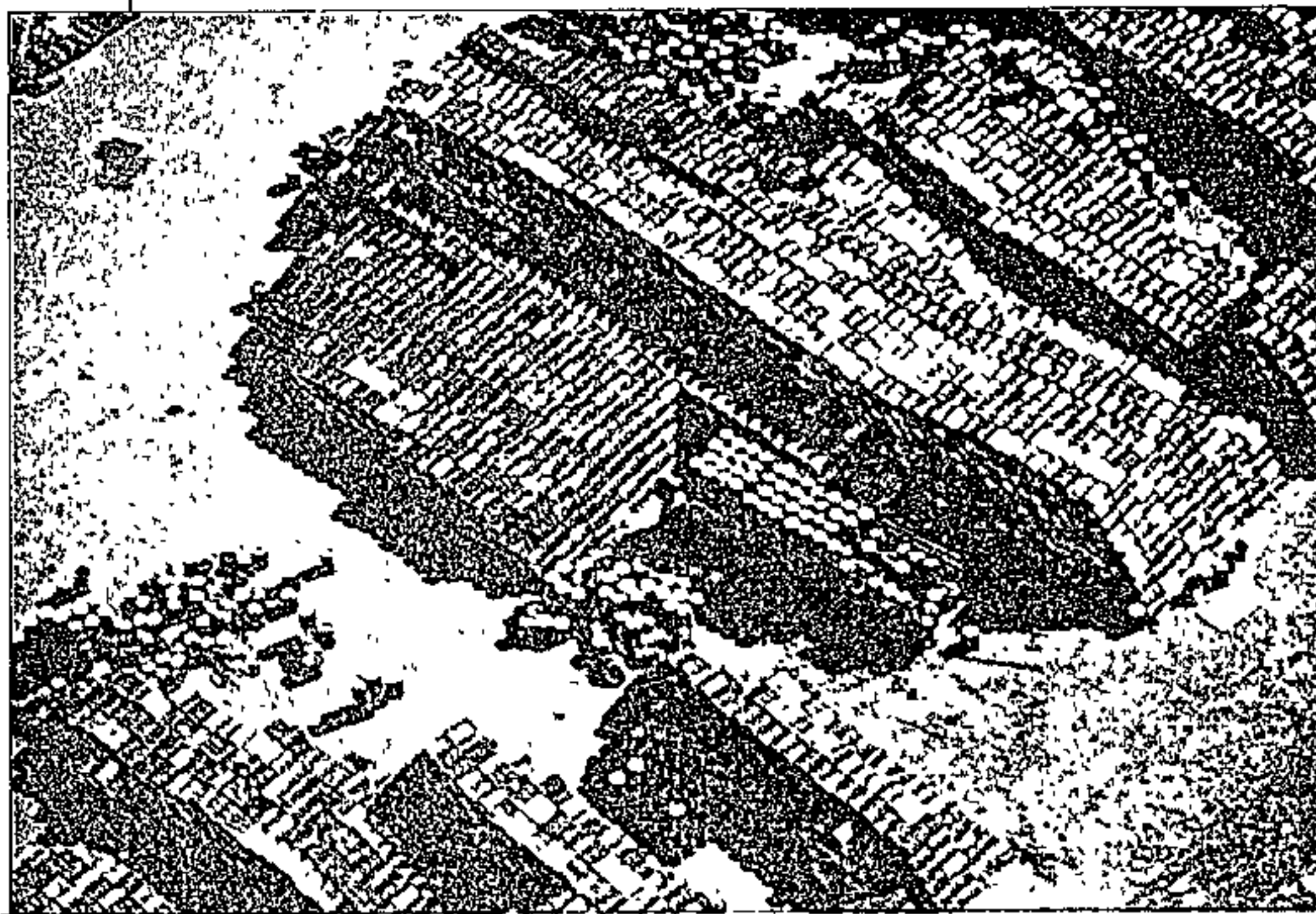
Waste-Tech slogan . . . profitable too

demanding the waste be removed.

In May, the Van Santen cargo company of Rotterdam announced it had acquired a licence from the government of the Congo to store or burn 100 t of contaminated chemical waste there. The price? R186m over eight years. The government later denied having granted the licence and the contract was withdrawn.

It appears that debt-ridden countries offer their services merely as dumping grounds, without the provision of treatment or monitoring facilities. Such ill-advised enterprises have probably contributed to international fears over the disposal of hazardous substances. Even the most naive of these countries are now reluctant to deal in toxic currency. So the way is open for a capable source to take on the responsibility — and reap the rewards.

Economic geology consultant Dr Dennis Toens (formerly of the Atomic Energy Corporation) believes that at some time — "in the spirit of international co-operation" — large countries are going to have to assist small, industrialised nations with waste dis-



Toxic waste dump in California . . . the way to go

Star 24/10/88

Law 'soft on flood control'

By Deborah Smith
Pretoria Bureau

South African legislation controlling flood plain development, where the greatest loss of life occurred during flooding, was "toothless", according to Mr W J R Alexander of the University of Pretoria.

Speaking at a Floods in Perspective conference at the CSIR in Pretoria on Friday, he said legislation was the most effective way to control flood plain development.

There was an imbalance between the very conservative procedures for dam design and the ineffective legislation relating to development on flood plains, he said.

Available procedures were accurate enough for the determination of the 20-year flood line, below which no substantial structures should be permitted, and the regional maximum flood line, above which no controls were needed.

BRIDGES

He said severe floods during the past 15 years had resulted in the loss of more than 1 000 lives and exposed severe shortcomings in available methods for flood frequency determination, legislation controlling flood plain development and the design procedures for bridges.

He said the basic objectives of engineers and hydrologists involved in flood analysis was to estimate the probability of extreme floods occurring and to take steps to minimise loss.

Modern methods of flood analysis had not been applied in southern Africa, said Mr P T Adamso of the Department of Water Affairs and Mr G G Pegram of the University of Natal.

South Africa needed to research and adapt information for general application in an arid or semi-arid environment where floods were generated over very large catchments, they said.

Vaal Dam is full

The Vaal Dam is 101,8 percent full, the Rand Water Board announced yesterday. 56) 5/25/10/88

Sterkfontein Dam is 51,7 percent of capacity; Bloemhof 89,3 percent and Woodstock 70 percent.

The total amount of water in dams this week is 78,4 percent compared with 36,4 percent this time last year.

The total amount of rain that has fallen in Vaal Dam catchment area for October to date is 64,7 mm.

Dam faces cyanide pollution threat

By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

LOSKOP DAM — Last night emergency clean-up crews were still trying to clear the spruit which runs into the Loskop Dam of contamination by deadly poisonous calcium cyanide granules.

Some of the 230 drums containing the granules burst open when they landed in the spruit after the truck carrying the deadly cargo was involved in an accident on Monday night.

It has been estimated that between two and three tons of the dangerous chemical may have been washed into the spruit which eventually runs into Loskop Dam.

The clean-up operation was delayed much of yesterday after a front-end loader became bogged down in mud.

However, a spokesman

for SA Cyanamid, the chemical's manufacturer, said there was no danger to the local population.

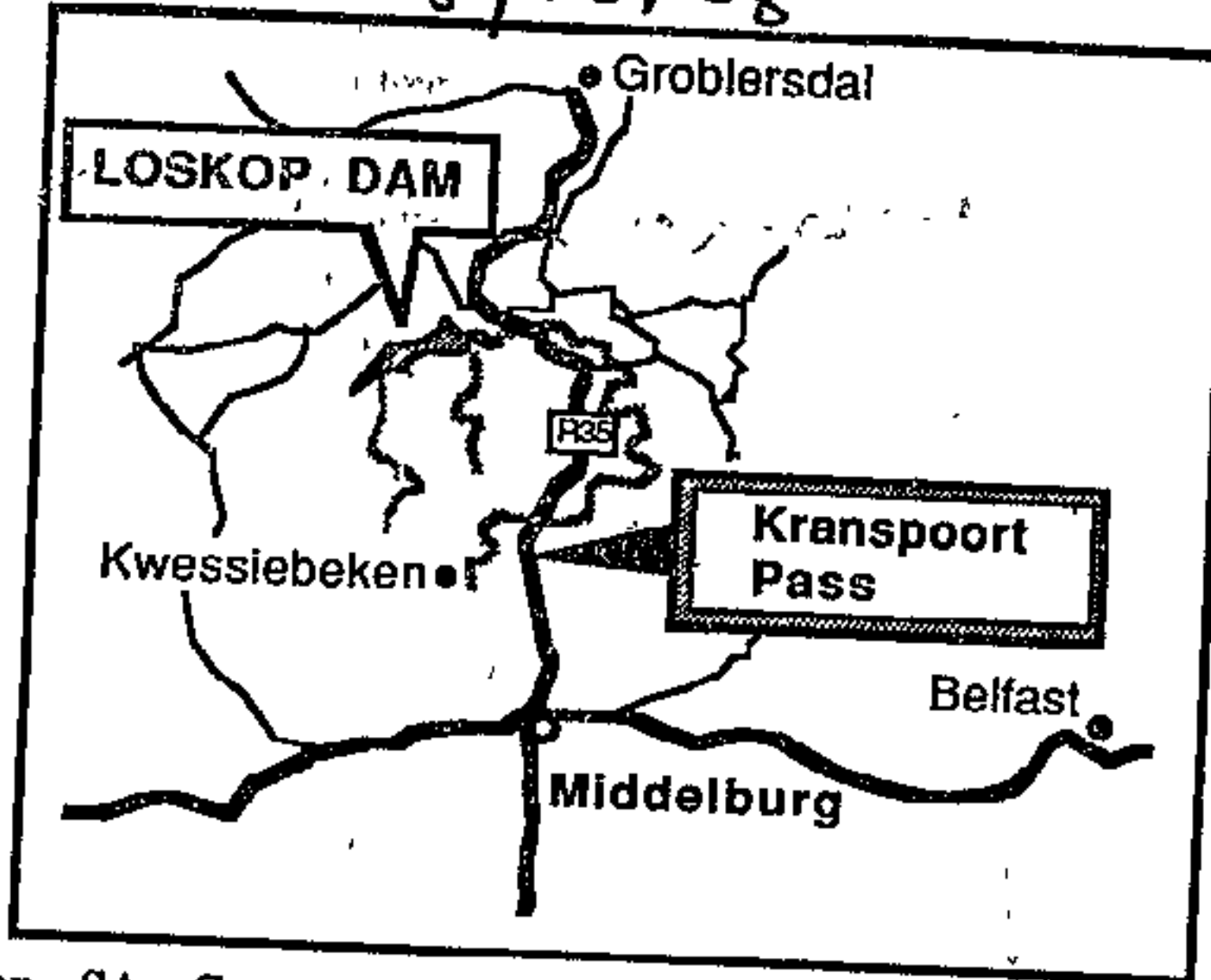
A Department of Water Affairs spokesman, Mr Andre Rousouw, said at the site that he was satisfied that SA Cyanamid was doing all it could to remove the toxic chemical.

"Of course we are wor-

ried, but we believe that the cyanide that has been washed downstream will have been quickly diluted," he said.

The spillage, believed to be SA's biggest cyanide accident, happened when a mechanical horse and trailer went out of control on the steep Kranspoort Pass.

Both the driver and his



56
assistant — believed to be Zimbabwe nationals — were killed instantly.

The makers of the chemical, SA Cyanamid, say they will spare no expense to clean up the spillage and ensure there is no contamination to the streams leading towards Loskop Dam.

Emergency workers have built dams to block the spruit, but these were only erected more than three hours after the accident.

"During that time the highly toxic substance flowed freely into the spruit and downstream towards Loskop Dam.

SA Cyanamid's Witbank plant manager, Mr John Betts, said he believed local residents were in no danger.

"We have done tests this morning down stream and found very low concentrations.

No trace of cyanide found in Loskop dam

56 By Therese Anders, Highveld Bureau 27/10/88

Samples taken from the Kranspoort River at the point of inflow into Loskop dam showed no sign of cyanide contamination, SA Cyanamid, manufacturers of the deadly chemical, announced yesterday.

Between two and five tons of calcium cyanide granules were discharged into a spruit flowing into the river when a truck crashed on the steep Kranspoort Pass on Monday night.

Cyanamid's quality assurance manager, Mr James Richards, said water testing had been carried out at regular intervals down the length of the spruit and where the Kranspoort River flowed into Loskop Dam.

"At the dam the level is below detection, which was what we expected."

He said a third dam had been built during the night to contain the spruit water until the clean-up was complete. Maize bags filled with swimming pool chemicals had been placed in the three dams to neutralise the cyanide.

Mr Richards said the last of the 230 drums was being removed from the crash site.

A second crew would begin cleaning up the crash scene during the afternoon and the site would be monitored for at least a week.

This time, disaster was averted

(56)

Regulations governing road transportation of hazardous chemicals in South Africa are hopelessly inadequate and seldom enforced, say experts.

Unless authorities introduce stiff legislation soon, South Africa, with one of the highest road accident rates in the world, could be "heading for a major disaster" they claim.

Last week's spillage of deadly calcium cyanide crystals when a truck carrying 230 drums crashed on Kranspoort Pass near Middelburg was a case in point. It is estimated about two or three tons of cyanide was washed into the spruit.

With swift clean-up operations, a disaster was averted.



The scene after a horse and trailer carrying drums of calcium cyanide granules had an accident, causing the lethal cargo to spill into a stream that flows to Loskop Dam. © Picture: Therese Anders

By MELANIE GOSLING

A spillage of calcium cyanide highlights the inadequacy of legislation to prevent and cope with such potential disasters.

But, say experts, it could happen again — with fatal results.

Mr. Phil Erasmus, chairman of the Public Carriers Association, told The Star there were no regulations controlling transportation of cyanide, or any other toxic substance, in drums. The Hazardous Substances Act controlled transportation of dangerous chemicals in tankers only.

"That's one of the major problems with the Act. Normal cargo freight do not have to conform to regulations. They can carry a dozen different hazardous chemicals in one load," Mr. Erasmus said.

The other problem was that the Act fell under the Health Department instead of the Department of Transport.

"The Department of Health is not really concerned about what vehicles are carrying on the roads and anyway it doesn't have the infrastructure to police them," Mr. Erasmus said.

Apart from complying with vehicle standards, all that operators are required to do is to display stickers indicating what substance is being carried

and stickers with codes indicating how to deal with the substance in case of an accident. The driver is not required to have any specialist training in driving skills nor is he required to be trained in how the deal with spillage.

However there is a centre in Johannesburg, run by Mr. Graham Wiles, which trains drivers. Mr. Wiles said most of the big companies sent their drivers to do the course although they were not legally bound to.

"Accidents involving vehicles carrying hazardous substances happen nearly every day. The Hazardous Substances Act is nowhere near adequate as it does not apply to general cargo trucks carrying these substances," Mr. Wiles said.

Dukakis praying for a miracle

People

Rural black 'potentially conservation's greatest ally'

Star 11/11/88

Parks 'must provide benefits'

By Melanie Gosling

Conservationists have come to realise that the rural black is not simply a poacher and despoiler of the environment, but is potentially conservation's greatest ally, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, said at the official opening of the Endangered Wildlife Trust's 15th anniversary symposium in Johannesburg last night.

In his address, which was read by KwaZulu's Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, Chief Buthelezi said conservation organisations acknowledged that their success or failure depended largely on the public support it received.

Conservation had enlisted considerable support in developed areas, but was "barely tolerated" in undeveloped areas.

In South Africa most game reserves, including the Kruger National Park, the Umfolozi and Hluhluwe reserves, were

surrounded by impoverished rural communities.

"The rural poor living outside the boundaries of the game reserves exist in degrading poverty. Their population is increasing and the natural resources at their disposal are decreasing. Yet they live alongside what to them is a rich treasure house of materials like thatch, firewood, meat and building materials," Chief Buthelezi said.

Animals which escaped from the reserve often destroyed

crops or cattle. It was not surprising therefore to find that the surrounding communities resented game reserves.

"For people to appreciate wildlife and game reserves they will need to receive some benefit from them. The benefits must be demonstrated rather than preached," he said.

Benefits included access to craftwork material and medicinal plants. A percentage of the revenue earned from the reserve could be used to provide a social service like a classroom or clinic.

Chief Buthelezi said the success of a game reserve's neighbour relations depended on the ability of reserve officials to:

- Want the project to succeed.
- Relate to neighbours as human beings.
- Develop programmes relevant to local needs without sacrificing conservation principles.
- To communicate these principles to the local community.

Old tribal laws were strict

By Melanie Gosling

Wildlife conservation was not imported to Africa by colonialism but existed for centuries among indigenous African people before the first Europeans arrived on the continent, Chief Victor Suping told the Endangered Wildlife Trust's symposium in Johannesburg yesterday.

Because the Batswana people of what is now Botswana had had to depend on nature for their survival, they had lived in total harmony with the environment, he said.

TABOOS

They had evolved a highly sophisticated conservation ethic which was expressed in taboos, totem animals, customs and laws which were passed on from generation to generation by word of mouth.

"The laws were strict and complex but in most cases were rational and based on sound principles.

"Wanton destruction never occurred in our traditional society."

Chief Suping said the problem of tribal poaching in Africa had become a problem only after tribal laws were replaced by colonial concepts and laws.

"By neglecting to take long-established conservation ethics into account, colonial conservation concepts and law never gained the support of the tribal people.

"Consequently the destruction of Africa's wildlife continues."

It was imperative to re-instil a conservation ethic among the indigenous people of Africa and to re-awaken an aesthetic appreciation of wildlife in their culture.

"In particular we must make them aware that historically their conservation ethics were at least equal to, and perhaps more advanced, than those of Western cultures," Chief Suping added.

Rural blacks 'degrade environment to survive'

Star 2/11/88

(56)

(12)

By Melanie Gosling

Rural blacks usually had no alternative but to degrade the environment to survive, Chief Justice Nxumalo of kwaZulu's Bureau of Natural Resources said at an Endangered Wildlife Trust symposium in Johannesburg yesterday.

Speaking on the theme "National Parks and Neighbours", Chief Nxamalo said when rural people damaged the environment it was not out of malice but to obtain the materials they needed to exist in their daily lives.

He said the Government had never taken the trouble to explain to rural people why conservation was important.

"All my people know of conservation is what they see happening in game reserves. They tell me the people in the game reserves care more about animals than about black people.

"When they see conservation officials, they think about being arrested."

Chief Nxumalo said to win local support for conservation a new approach, which took local needs and aspirations into account, was necessary.

Mr Tony Conway, warden of the Umfolozi and Hluhluwe Game Reserves, said the Natal Parks Board was fully aware of the crisis developing outside conserved areas regarding the decline of natural

resources which rural people needed daily.

He said it was the board's policy to try to address the people's needs, without compromising the main objective of conservation, by allowing limited use of natural resources from the game reserves.

At Mkuze Game Reserve, people had been allowed to cut thatch and reeds in the reserve and between 1983 and 1986 had bought 17 000 kg of meat from culled animals at very low prices.

At Ndumu Game Reserve, local people had bought 13 000 kg of culled meat and at Umfolozi Game Reserve they had been allowed to cut 222 tons of thatch grass in the past four years.

First floods . . . now a wind whipping

Fierce storm lashes Free State town

Staff Reporters

A storm caused serious damage and injured at least one person in Koffiefontein in the Free State this week.

Strong winds, rain and hail lashed the town.

It lifted the roofs of about 26 houses in De Beers, a coloured suburb, as well as those of a shop and several houses in the town.

Town Clerk Mr Dan le Roux said the home of the mayor, Mr Flip Tolken, was one of those hit.

Yesterday Mr Tolken was still assessing the damage.

Mr le Roux said the 26 houses damaged were newly constructed. People who lost their homes in the recent floods were to move into them soon.

Clearing-up operations have been launched in the town because many trees have been uprooted.

Tents have been brought in from neighbouring towns to house the homeless, many of whom lost their former tent homes in the storm.

A police spokesman confirmed said one person was hurt when a stone fell on his foot in the African township of Dithlake.

"The roofs of houses and a shop were torn off during the storm," he said. "The most damage was caused by the wind, accompanied by rain and hail."

Mrs Theresse van Schalkwyk said she had never seen anything like it. "You could not see your hands in front of your face."

Electricity and telephone links in the town were cut.

Mrs Van Schalkwyk said some of the tents in which people in the coloured area of De Beers had been staying since the floods earlier in the year, had been swept away.

In the Bultfontein area, trees were uprooted and there were power failures at Hennenman and in the Winburg regions.

Jagersfontein, Venterstad and Warden had 20 mm of rain. Hail and 25 mm of rain fell at Hantam in the Colesberg district.

Meanwhile, hail the size of hens eggs caused considerable damage in Philipstown, also in the Free State, on Monday night.

About a quarter of the fruit and rose trees in the district were stripped and damage amounting to thousands of rands was caused.

Window panes were broken and there was also considerable damage to cars.

A number of elderly people in a home for the aged watched the roofs of their houses cave in under the weight of the hail and rain.

Many houses were flooded.

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Wild Coast plunder:

Urgent call for action

by JANE CONYNGHAM
Weekend Argus Correspondent

UMTATA. — Top businessmen and conservationists have called for urgent action to stop the plundering of Transkei's coastline — following evidence of mass exploitation of the homeland's natural resources.

Large-scale depletion of perlemoen, oyster, crayfish and linefish in recent months has caused an outcry by conservationists who have described Transkei as an "exploiter's dream".

Representatives from the Transkei Coastwatchers Association this week said the Transkei government was issuing licences to outside operators who plundered the coast to the detriment of Transkei citizens.

They called for urgent implementation of the recommendations of Transkei's commission of inquiry into corruption, which included overhauling conservation strategy, the suspension of commercial fishing licences and the removal of many conservation officials.

Managers arrested

Transkei's military ruler Major-General Bantu Holomisa is to implement the recommendations of the commission.

"We know a lot of people have been attempting to take Transkei for a ride," Major-General Holomisa said.

In an attempt to crack down on illegal exploitation earlier this month, Transkei police arrested managers from Umgazi and Hole in the Wall hotels for illegal possession between them of oysters and hundreds of undersized crayfish and crayfish in berry.

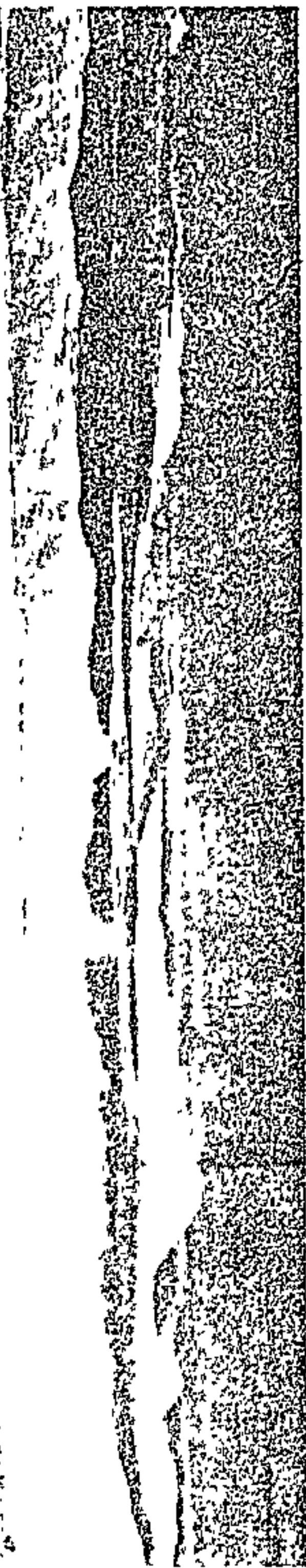
Transkei residents say crayfish have been so severely exploited that some hotels have to import frozen crayfish from Cape Town for their tables.

Licensed commercial activities which came under fire from conservationists were:

- The "rape" of perlemoen stocks along sections of the Southern Transkei coast.
- A one-man oyster and crayfish operation

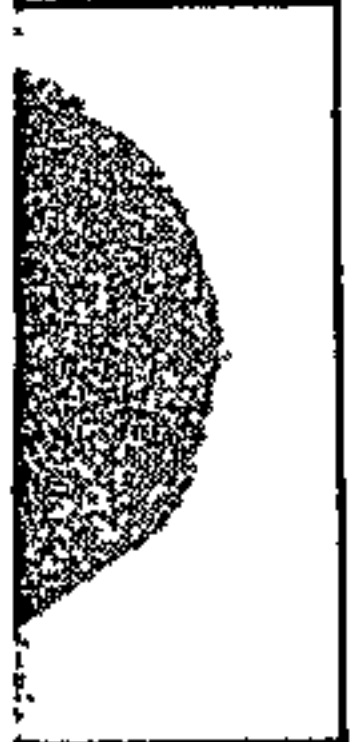
which is allegedly plundering resources at Mpande near Port St Johns to sell in South Africa.

Experts have expressed fears that Transkei's red steenbras breeding population is the last on the South African coast and that continued exploitation could eradicate the fish from local shores.



Locals forage for food from the sea, but their livelihood is being threatened by commercial operators.

EARN UP TO 15% OR MORE



Dam levels up 40 pc on last year

SAW 8/11/84
The state of dams falling under the Rand Water Board (RWB) has improved by about 40 percent since November last year.

The RWB yesterday reported that the Vaal Dam was 100,8 percent full while the Sterkfontein Dam was 52,5 percent full. It said the Bloemhof

Dam was 99,8 percent full and the Woodstock Dam was at 67,4 percent.

The total content of all dams was averaged at 80,3 percent last week and 80,1 percent this week (compared with 40,3 percent on November 7 1987).

The average rainfall for last month was 77,2 mm.

Clamour for crackdown on rhino horn racketeers

Star 2/11/88

(56)

JUNE BEARZI

THE Government has been called on to take urgent action to crush the "carnage cartels" which have made vast sums by annihilating Africa's wildlife and to investigate alleged Defence Force involvement in the scandal.

The calls from top conservationists, Progressive Federal Party politicians and a shocked public are a sequel to the ongoing Saturday Star exposé of the wholesale slaughter of rhino and elephant in black African states and the use of South Africa to funnel the contraband to black markets overseas.

In further developments this week, the Saturday Star was told that a Donika Daniel Massa had been arrested in Zambia when a truck registered in the name of a Johannesburg man had fallen off the ferry which crosses the Zambezi into Botswana. Customs officials said that when they had examined a broken axle on the truck, they had found a concealed compartment containing 29 000 Mandrax tablets and rhino horn.

Mr Rupert Lorimer, PFP MP for Bryanston and the party's spokesman on environmental affairs, said he had asked for the military board of inquiry appointed by the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, to probe claims of illegal ivory dealings by the SADF to extend its scope to rhino horn smuggling.

This follows the indictment in the United States of two SADF members, Major Marius Meiring and Sergeant-Major Waldemar Schutte, on charges of smuggling rhino horn, the skins of other endangered animals and AK-47 rifles into the US.

● TO PAGE 2

P.T.O.

Water crisis afflicts Graafwater as boreholes give up the ghost (SB)

Own Correspondent

STev 16/11/68

CAPE TOWN — The small Sandveld town of Graafwater may soon have to change its name — to Graafsonderwater perhaps?

Cape provincial officials, as well as members of the Department of Water Affairs, are expected to discuss the town's water problems today as locals prepare for the possibility of the last four boreholes giving up the ghost in the near future.

As the town — situated be-

tween Clanwilliam and Lambert's Bay — blistered in temperatures of 42 deg C and higher at the weekend, tipplers in the local hotel faced the bleak prospect of having to switch their mixers from water.

"We're worried," said Mr Hennie Germishuys, the town clerk, yesterday.

"There is just drinking water left," he said.

Graafwater last faced similar problems "four to five years ago" but a new borehole managed to carry the town through the dry summer months after that.

Then blistering heat this year drained the town's two dams and water restrictions were implemented.

But yesterday Mr Germishuys said three of the town's

boreholes could no longer be operated.

Earlier a spokesman for his office said pressure in the pipes was so low that showers and flush toilets were unable to work properly.

The wife of the hotel owner was not too pessimistic.

There was still drinking water available and this could be used to make ice to cool fevered and worried brows, she said.

And the odd drink?

"Of course!"

THE obscure dusty track branching from the main road from Louis Trichardt to Nzhelele at Ha-Maelula is hidden in a corner.

Beyond the turn off are two large water reservoirs. Beyond them the twisting track winds itself straight into the evergreen foliage.

The trees become bigger with a small river flowing with clear water. Birds of a feather, and of different feathers, sing along in the trees.

This is Mandadzi, literally translated to mean the power of lightning. There is nothing awesomely fearful about the place — the kind of fear associated with lightning, that is. Instead this is a picnic spot with a difference.

Unique

Situated at Ha-Maelula, about 25km from Louis Trichardt on the Pisanghoek road, Mandadzi is a unique resort — complete with its own natural water falls. It is also unique in that it is the only such place owned and controlled by a black man in this country.

Mr Gidimani Ramabulana (33) is an imaginative man. A former security law detainee and son of a controversial homeland politician, Mr Ramabulana said Mandadzi's

A black man captures the spirit of Africa

By MATHATHA TSEDU

FOCUS

unspoiled natural outlook is a chance for the young of today to experience the spirit of Africa as it was before colonialism.

"Some whites have told me to build this and that here but I said no. It is our place. It is a place one can come to and just relax in nature as it is," he said.

Unspoiled and natural relaxation is indeed the name of the place. The only "modern" trappings are the rotating braai stands. Even these try to remain antique. No charcoal is allowed. Only local wood used!

Mandadzi also has the highest water falls in the Northern Transvaal. Standing underneath the falls, the power of water as it splashes down explains the name — there is power in that water.

The area was recently opened to the public although finishing touches are still being

made. When complete, a donkey cart service from the gates will come into operation. A minimum fee is charged while food and refreshments are

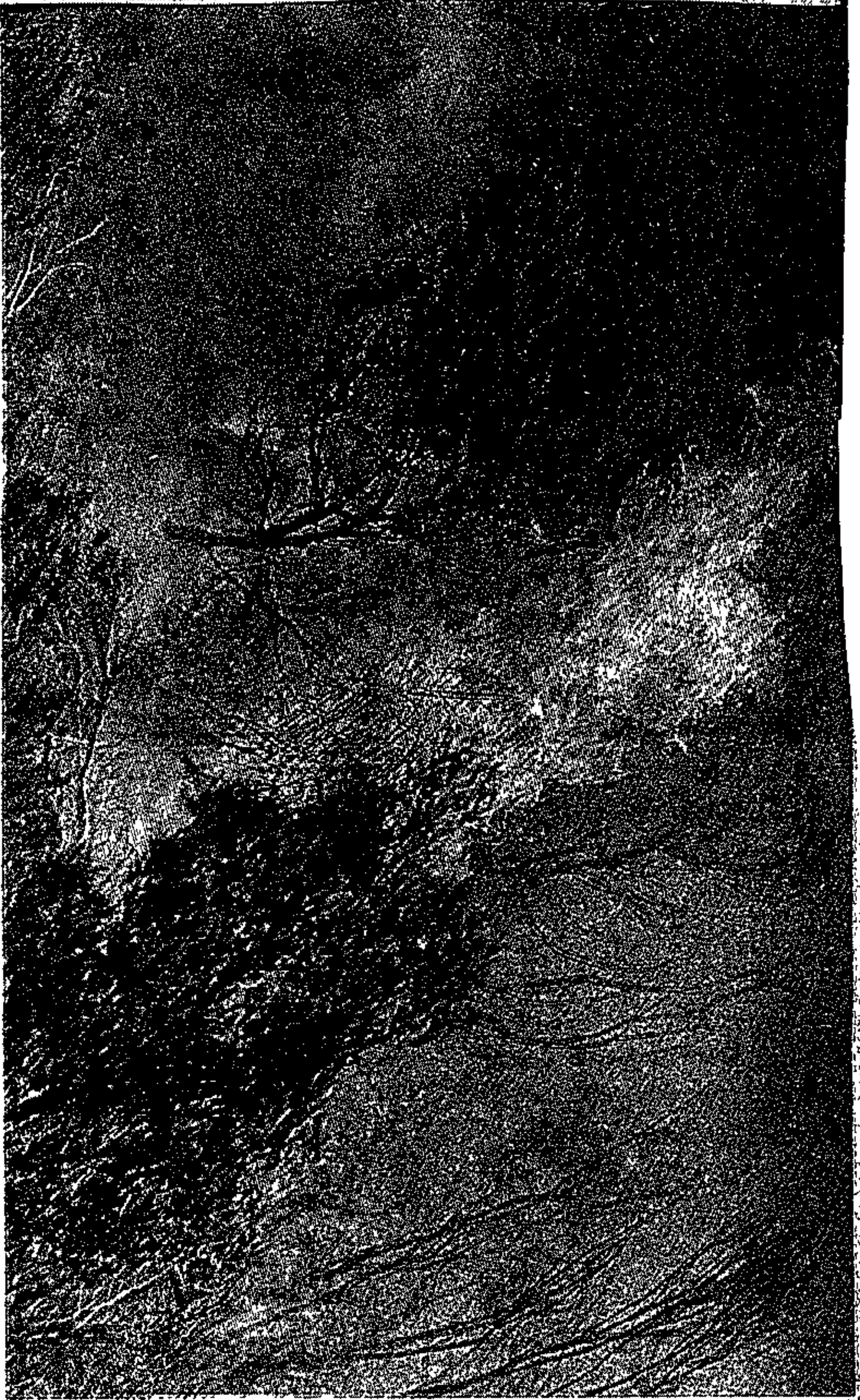
served — at a price. The spot is ideally situated for travellers from far with a cheap motel nearby which provides ample accommodation.

'It's a place one can come to and just relax in nature as it is'

Donkey cart service will ferry visitors



All of Me. When rich, eccentric Edwina
 eter, dies, a crazy guru tries to trans-
 fer soul into the body of a beautiful
 woman. But the guru goes and
 his soul accidentally takes over the
 right side of bewildered lawyer Rog-
 ob. Starring Steve Martin, Lily Tomlin,
 Victoria Tennant,
 Adeofashion
 Transmission Break
 Judd Nelson plays
 making the Grade. Judd Nelson plays
 ing hustler who knows how to enjoy
 s. Eddie Keaton he is hired by a spoilt
 id to take his place at prep school
 The Adventures of Teddy Ruxpin
 Mega-T Tuffy Tooth Club
 limbo and the Jet Set
 cartoon
 The Trap Door. Somewhere in the dark
 nasty regions where nobody goes,
 s an ancient castle. Deep down in the
 s lives Berk, overworked servant of
 hling upstairs.
 humors
 oving. Trisha receives terrible news,
 lant to Hart. A young woman's o-
 c obsession with Jonathan grows
 murderous jealousy.
 nparaport. The Australian. Open Golf
 ploiships.
 leadly Passion
 off. Highlights of the recent Austr-
 opan championships.
 hraslin.



Out flames in yesterday's fire near the Koeberg nuclear power station.

CALL TEL 5/12/88
The big BLOW

Southeaster will blow and blow, and blow

Staff Reporters

THE gale-force south-easter that has lashed the Peninsula for the past week and has fanned a bush fire near Koeberg, will blow for at least two more days, the weather office said yesterday.

Wind, gusting at up to 70 knots at times, fanned a huge veld fire near the Koeberg nuclear power station yesterday and caused havoc elsewhere.

Traffic police closed Morgenster Road in Mitchells Plain yesterday because sand was swept across the road.

A traffic light at the corner of Upper Buitenkant and Mill streets, Gardens, was snapped off at its base by the wind on Saturday afternoon, and at least one power failure was reported yesterday when wind-tossed branches touched power lines in the Schotsechekloof area.

The wind is expected to moderate by Wednesday, giving way to fine and warm conditions, the weather office spokesman said.

By late last night a veld fire, which had razed an estimated 70km² of scrubland near Koeberg power station, had burnt into a swampy area, raising firemen's hopes that it would die by this morning.

Regional Service Council firemen continued to patrol the burnt area throughout the night as the moderating south-easter sparked renewed flare-ups, an RSC spokesman said.

The fire, which forced the mobilisation of more than 200 special constables and scores of Regional Services Council and Eskom firemen, disrupted traffic for nearly three hours.

Ten-metre-high wind-driven flames at times leapt across the West Coast road, igniting bush on Koeberg property less than 2km from the nuclear reactor buildings.



WIND HAVOC

... Faith Nogwaza, of Khayelitsha, is seen here with her dog Benji on a sandbank which has blocked off the back door of her home. The sand has seeped through the kitchen window frame and has also completely covered Benji's kennel.

PHOTO: ARJINE LAING

Sand storms lash Cape Flats

By ANDRE KOOPMAN

SAND was yesterday piled up to the windows of homes in Khayelitsha and sandbanks blocked off doorways as the howling south-easter continued its blistering assault on the Peninsula for the ninth consecutive day.

Gale-force winds gusting from 55 up to 70 knots flattened at least four trees, slowed shipping in the harbour and caused the closure of some roads as driving wind-blasts dumped banks of sand on

roads and reduced visibility to less than three metres.

A section of Baden Powell Drive, stretching from Sunrise Beach to beyond Strandfontein, was closed off, as was Morgenster Road, a main thoroughfare into Mitchells Plain. Spine Road, which runs into Khayelitsha, was also closed.

The weather office at D F Malan has forecast that the wind will continue blowing today but will start moderating and should "almost be over" by tomorrow.

A spokesman said it was unusual for the wind to blow so strongly for a stretch of nine days. He attributed the weather to an "intense high pressure cell south-west of Cape Town, coupled with a low pressure cell off the coast of Namibia, which caused a very steep pressure gradient".

Residents of the new upmarket Khayelitsha development of Kulani Park found that it was painful to stay outside. In Zodiac Street sand piled up above window level of many homes. Others

could not be entered because of sand piled up high against the doors.

Mrs Xoliswa Mashleho showed the Cape Times how her kitchen door had buckled under the weight of the sand. Sand was also piled right up to the top of her kitchen window and was seeping through other windows and doors.

Mrs Mashleho and another resident, Mrs Mavis Tshwela, said the situation had been worsened by the fact that an engineering company had cleared a vast tract of land next to the township.

CAPC Times 6/12/88 56

Operation Dig-out after week of gales dumps tons of sand near homes

The big clean-up

11/6/95 6/12/81 56

Watch out

guys: Cathy's no wilting violet

Staff Reporter
CATHERINE DOLTON, 24, the rose among the horseracing thorns as South Africa's only qualified professional woman jockey, is hoping to savour the sweet smell of victory when she races on home territory for the first time tomorrow.

The gritty Durban-born jockey, who qualified in the hard American school, is based in Lexington, Kentucky, but will spend the next two months racing locally.

She estimates that there are about 110 women jockeys out of possibly 2,500 in American thoroughbred racing.

Of acceptance in the hitherto exclusively male domain of racing in South Africa, Miss Dolton says: "The few jockeys I have met have offered to help me as much as they can, so they've been pretty nice".

The Jockey Club of South Africa does not cater for woman jockeys.

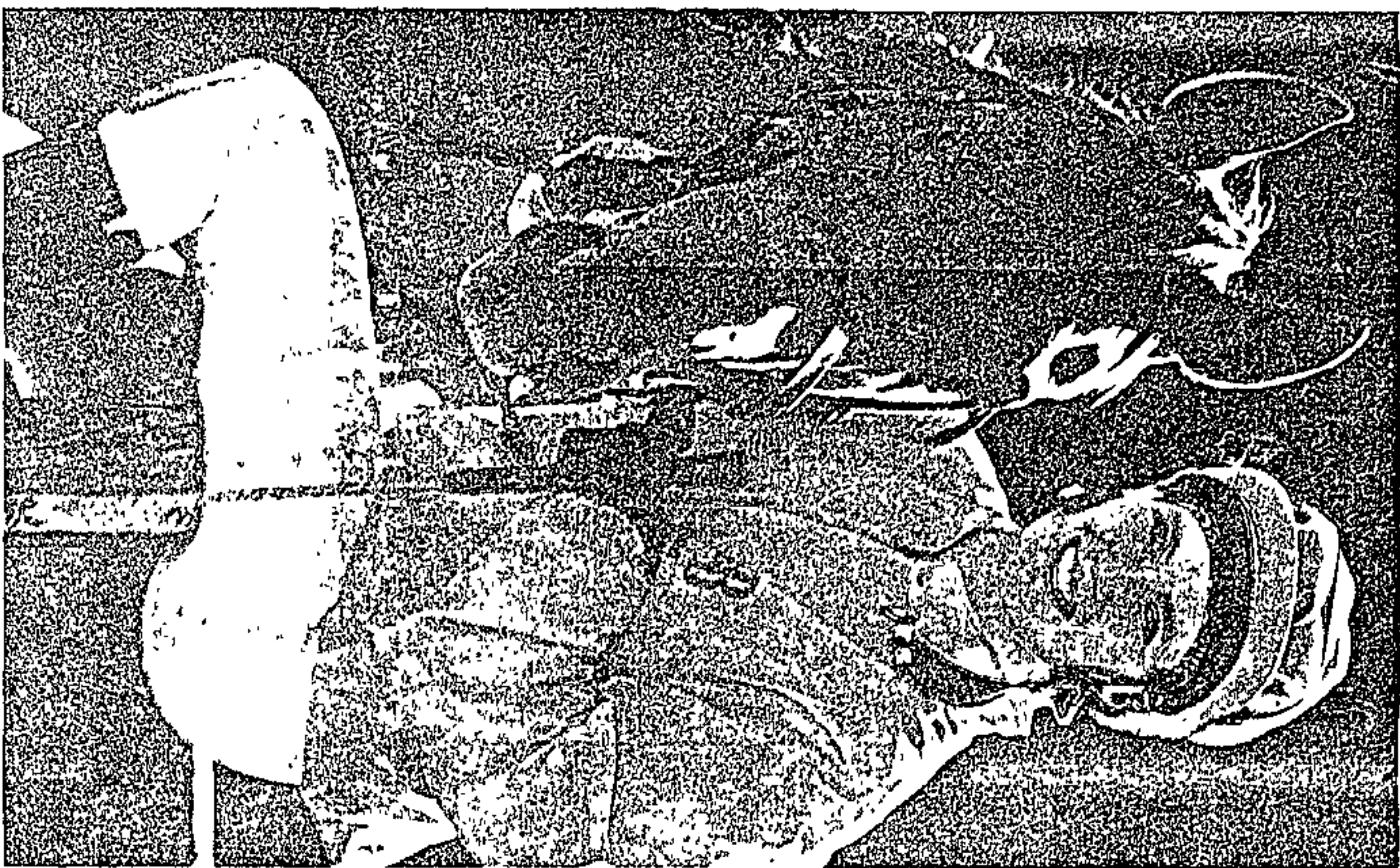
"I think if there was a demand from women, the facilities would be provided".

HAPPY TO DO WELL

Miss Dolton, who rides Russian Flyer in the first race at Milnerton tomorrow, said she would be happy just to do well.

She would like to race in Kentucky mainly, but escape the North American winter to ride locally during the festive season.

"I enjoy racing, but I'm in



Picture: HANNES THIAFT, The Argus

CHAMPING AT THE BIT: Catherine Dolton, with one of her mounts for the race meeting at Milnerton tomorrow.

The international side will

By ANTHONY DOMAN and EDWARD MOLONIYANE
Staff Reporters

THE big clean-up has started as the Peninsula wipes the grit out of its eyes and digs itself out from under huge mounds of sand in the wake of the most prolonged south-easterly gale in many years.

Hardest hit by the big blow — now into its 11th day and apparently dying down — has been the False Bay coast.

Major residential areas such as Mitchell's Plain and Khayelisha were subjected to a sandblasting as the wind, gusting up to 70 knots and averaging 35 knots, whipped up tons of sand from building sites on the coast.

Today the wind had moderated over large parts of the city but the south Peninsula was still being buffeted by a 55-knot south-easter.

New direction

The weather bureau said the wind would die down and change to north-west by Thursday.

In Khayelisha and Mitchell's Plain sand blocked drains and made roads impassable.

In the shack settlements of Site B, Site C and Green Point in Khayelisha roofs were blown off and families were left homeless.

At Kalani Park sand piled up to window level.

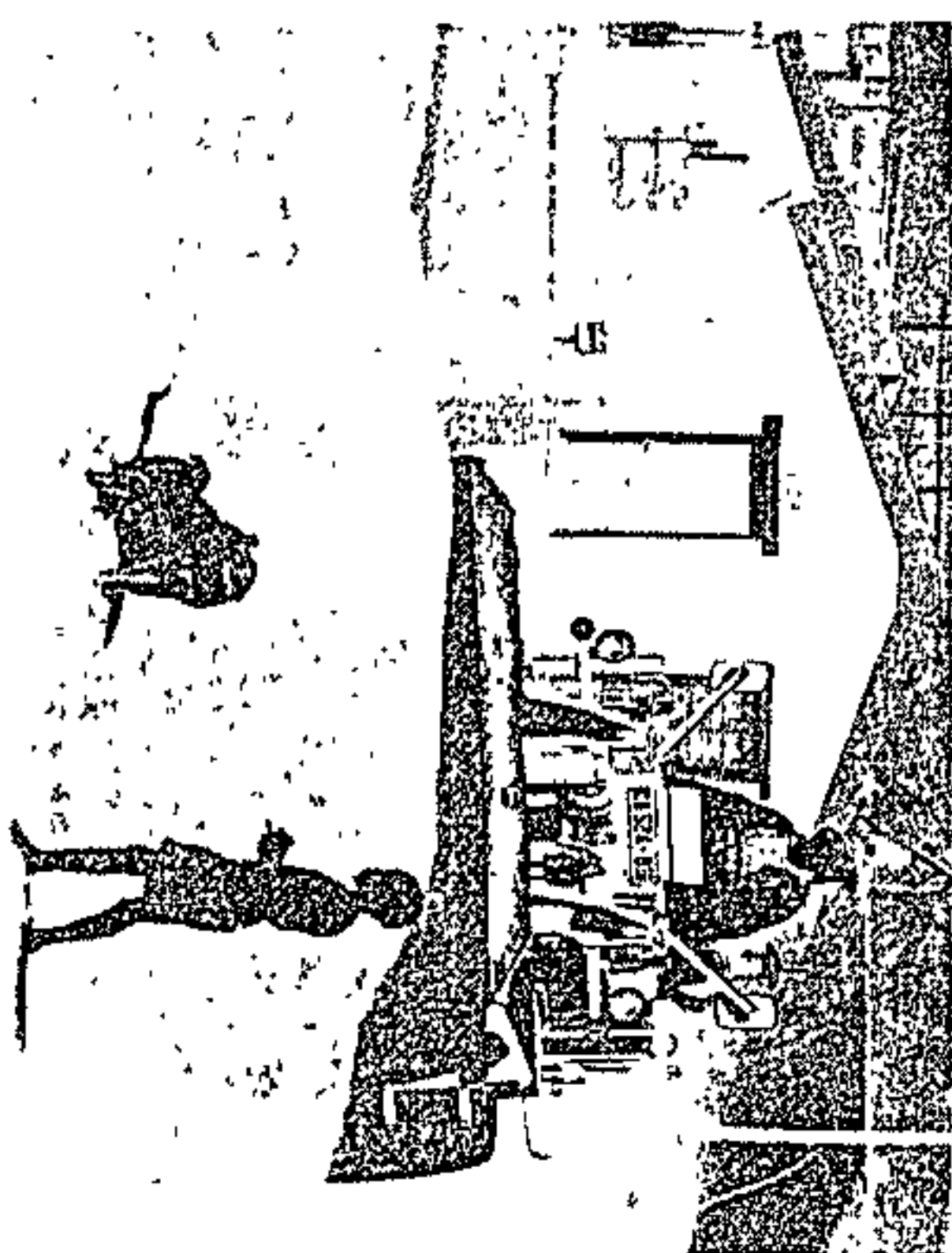
A school teacher, Miss Pamela Neapai, said the wind was so strong that it blew sand into her house even with the windows closed.

"You can feel the sand particles hitting you inside the house. It's as if you are outside. In the mornings you cannot open the doors because of the sand."

Khayelisha faced an "emergency situation", said Mr Graham Lawrence, acting chief executive officer of the Langelthu West Town Committee.

Urgent meeting

The committee had its first



Picture: LEON MULLER, The Argus

OPERATION SWEEP-UP: A roadworker and his grader fight a losing battle against the south-easter as it drives the Cape Flats sand across Khayelisha, threatening to bury houses.

Shares ease as gold slips

Business Editor

SHARE prices eased slightly today as gold slipped to \$428.75 an ounce in London from yesterday's close of \$426.55.

The rand was quoted at R2,283 (44.08 US cents) to the US dollar in Johannesburg, little changed from yesterday's R2,253 (44.16 cents) close.

Share prices surged to a post-crash high on the JSE yesterday as institutional buying pushed the overall index up 31 points to 2,001.

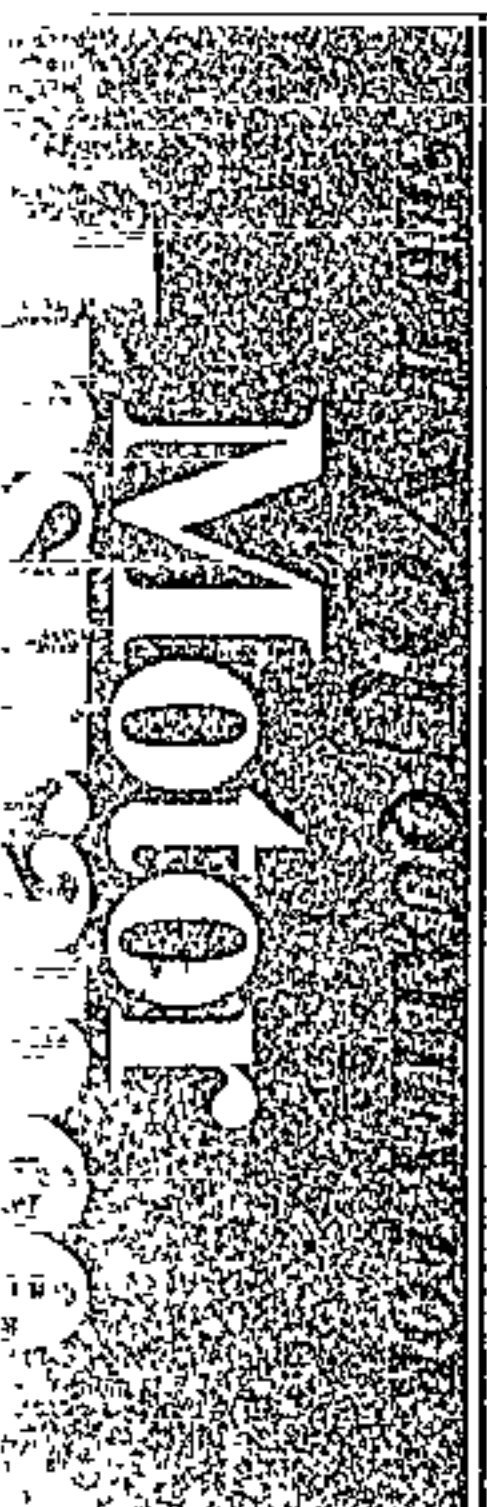
Gold shares were mostly lower early today but industrials improved slightly and the overall index eased to 2,000.

The gold-shares index dropped seven points but the industrial index gained two points.

The sudden jump in the gold price at the weekend, fears of higher oil prices and a further weakening of the US dollar provoked widespread buying.

Heavyweight gold shares such as Randfontein and Vaal Reef's made most of the running yesterday — but selected industrial blue chips, including Barlows, SA Breweries and Safmarine, were also bought.

Today, as share dealing began to wind down before year-end, Vaal Reef's lost R1 to R120 and Harties shed 25c to R24.75. See page 12.



wind would die down and change to north-west by Thursday.

In Khayelitsha and Mitchell's Plain sand blocked drains and made roads impassable.

In the shack settlements of Site B, Site C and Green Point in Khayelitsha roofs were blown off and families were left homeless.

At Kulani Park sand piled up to window level.

A school teacher, Miss Pamela Ncapai, said the wind was so strong that it blew sand into her house even with the windows closed.

"You can feel the sand particles hitting you inside the house. It's as if you are outside. In the mornings you cannot open the doors because of the sand."

Khayelitsha faced an "emergency situation", said Mr Graham Lawrence, acting chief executive officer of the Lingeletu West Town Committee.

Urgent meeting

The committee had its first meeting last night and discussed the wind damage as an "urgent matter", he said.

"We approached the Provincial Administration for help and they responded yesterday," he added.

"They provided earthmoving equipment which we supplemented with machinery hired at short notice from private contractors."

Today discussions would be held with the Defence Force, he said.

"We will need manpower and equipment to help individual householders."

The wind and sand had caused "a fair amount of disruption", particularly in the south, where land being developed by the Provincial Administration had been cleared of vegetation.

"Fortunately the wind has abated somewhat this morning," he added.

The major concern was restoring access, he said. "We had severe congestion on main routes in," he said.

However, no loss of life had been reported and most of the damage was caused by "sand penetration" rather than directly by the wind.

The City Council's cleansing branch has been hard at work since the weekend, according to city engineer Mr Des Riley.

"They're already out there and can be supplemented if necessary."

In Mitchell's Plain things were slightly better.

"We've had good co-operation from contractors," Mr Riley said. "They've helped us to clean up roads and private property."

Extra men and heavy machinery "in significant numbers" were drafted in at the weekend to cope with masses of sand blocking roads and piled up alarmingly against walls. ● See page 17.

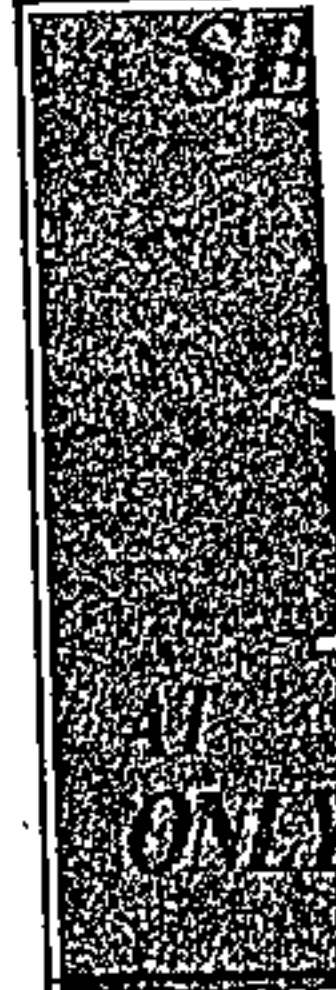
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SADF ivory deals

QBE Trip H12/84 @ 56

'no evidence'

PRETORIA. — A board of inquiry convened by the Defence Force to investigate alleged ivory smuggling from Angola by its members has concluded that there was no evidence upon which disciplinary action against personnel could be taken.

The allegations were made by a Mr Van Note in a report submitted to the US Congress. The story received wide coverage in the media, here and overseas.

"The board found that there was no evidence to prove that the SADF was responsible for or involved in the killing of elephants," a statement by the public relations department at SADF Headquarters said yesterday.

"However, small quantities of ivory, captured by Unita from poachers and others in Angola, were transported by the Defence

Force on behalf of Unita over an 18-month period from mid-1978 to the end of 1979.

"The board also found that the amount of ivory transported over this 18-month period was less than 0,25% of the amount which Mr Van Note claimed.

"This practice was stopped by the Defence Force and Unita at the end of 1979."

The board of inquiry was convened a "few weeks ago" and handed its report to the chief of the SADF, General Jannie Geldenhuys, for forwarding to the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan.

The statement said the board, in the course of its investigations, travelled thousands of kilometres and interviewed "scores of witnesses" both in the SADF and civilians, including leading conservationists, wild life experts and elephant specialists in

an effort to prove or disprove Mr Van Note's allegations.

The statement said to date Mr Van Note has consistently refused to reveal his sources of information.

"Furthermore, a study of court records in Namibia showed that nine members of the Defence Force were convicted and sentenced for illegal possession of ivory during the period 1979 to date," the statement said.

"The board also found that the figures given for the elephant population in Angola in Mr Van Note's report could not be substantiated. Leading conservationists placed the elephant population at no more than 12 400. In addition, they doubted the logistic probability for the world market to have absorbed the quantity of ivory implicit in the report and to have moved it through the alleged channels described in the report." — Sapa

WMC 1/15/88 9-15/12/88

The pollution stakes shift: Nukes are OK but coal's out

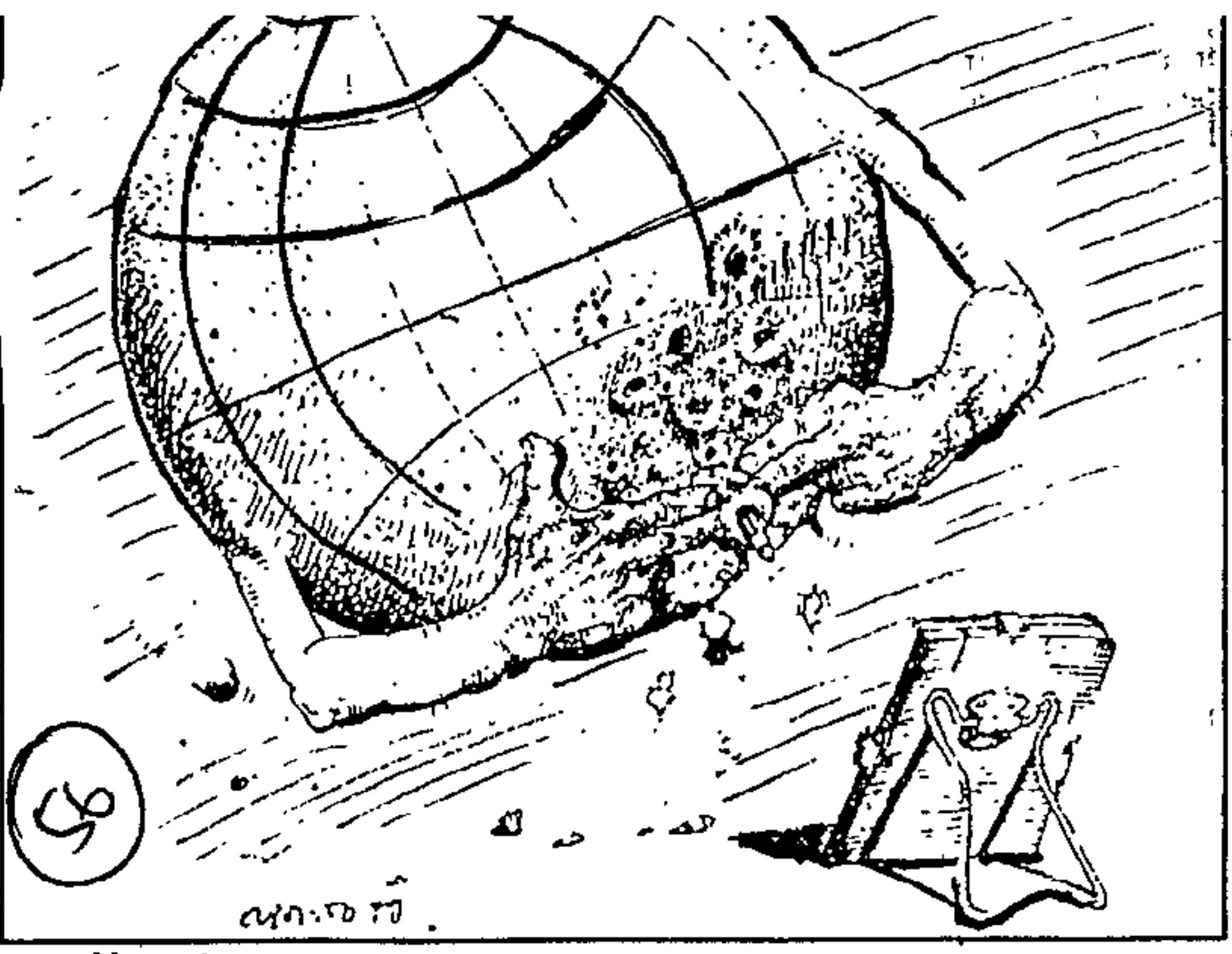
Conservationists are now more troubled by the menace of a globe poisoned to death by coal pollution than nuclear reactors.
TIM BRADFORD reports

THE "greenhouse effect" is an issue that has smouldered for decades and flared up this year with the drought in the American corn belt.

A solemn conference of scientists and politicians in Toronto in June conceded that nuclear power is a good thing compared with power from fossil fuels because it does not pollute the environment with carbon dioxide or sulphur.

But the same conference nearly deadlocked over whether there was anything more to be said in favour of nuclear power, which has lost credibility due to problems related to nuclear safety, radioactive waste and nuclear weapons proliferation.

The conservationist lobby has long argued that a nuclear power station is inefficient, expensive, requires a lot of energy to build and maintain and hardly ever meets its design performance. It is difficult and expensive to dismantle and produces several hundred cubic metres of radioactive waste a year which nobody knows what to do with.



How to save the world from death by overheating?

But how does one save the world from death by overheating within the next century? The hazard of the greenhouse effect is not in the change but in the speed of the change.

First, some statistics: the atmosphere consists of 78 percent nitrogen, 21 percent oxygen and a trifling quantity of carbon dioxide — about 0,03 percent — along with other gases implicated in the greenhouse effect. In 1860, the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere was 280 parts per million. It is now 348 parts per million. Think of it as 190-billion tons of carbon pumped into the atmosphere in the last century from the burning of fossil fuel, and perhaps 180-billion tons from forest clearances.

Think of that carbon dioxide sitting there, like the thin clear glass of a greenhouse, letting the short wavelength light of the sun through and trapping the long wavelengths of heat as it bounces back. Think of it becoming thicker every year, so that in the next 50 years the mean temperature of the globe could rise by as much as four degrees centigrade.

Four degrees centigrade is about the difference between the global temperature now and the temperature at the depth of the last Ice Age. Given 20 000 years or so, life on earth could adjust to this increase. We only have about 50 years.

The melting of the polar icecaps could push the sea levels up by two metres. This is bad news for people living at sea level — Londoners, Venetians and New Yorkers and dwellers in the deltas of the Nile, Ganges and Yangtse.

Droughts could become more frequent; so could storms. Plants which flourish at one temperature don't take kindly to another.

In the face of such a future, the Toronto conference set a goal for the world: it should reduce carbon dioxide emissions into the atmosphere by 20 percent. It can do this in a number of ways. It can use improved technologies to get more energy out of the same quantity of coal or oil. It can also try other ways of raising energy.

But this is only part of the solution: Fossil fuel combustion, in industry and cars as well as in power stations is responsible for half of the projected warming. Some of the threat comes from the steady rise in other gases: the nitrous oxides from agricultural nitrate run-off are implicated in acid rain and in global warming; the chloro-fluorocarbons that destroy the ozone layer are 10 000 times more efficient than carbon at trapping heat.

— The Guardian, London

By Robyn Chalmers

STORMS and hail damage have cost the insurance industry almost R1-billion since 1987 — and experts predict that things will get worse.

Deforestation, the spread of man and cyclical temperature changes are all factors which make the future look bleak. Experts believe SA is in for more floods, resulting in loss of life, destruction and huge financial costs.

The Natal floods in September last year cost the industry more than R400-million and brought the problem to the attention of the public. Since 1979, only one year has passed when no losses were recorded because of storm and hail damage.

In the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area, two afternoons caused R15-million damage to cars and R14,5-million to industrial and domestic buildings in one month.

After the Natal floods reinsurers, who bore the brunt of the loss, requested that the industry produce a more de-

Flood toll set to mount

(50)
11/12/88
S/Times

tailed risk profile so they could ascertain more correctly their risk and gauge the premium more accurately.

SA Insurance Association (SAIA) special perils committee chairman Peter Evans says prospects are not good, and urgent action needs to be taken.

"Over the last 10 to 15 years suburbia has exploded. Whereas previously a storm would have hit open ground, it now hits suburbs and industrialised areas.

"These areas now have tarred roads and concrete pavements so water is not soaked up as it used to be. The deforestation in river catchment areas is a major problem because forest areas can absorb between 200mm and 300mm of rain per hour, but farming land can only soak up 20mm to 30mm."

The committee is looking at Durban and Pinetown.

"We are superimposing the 50-year flood line on maps and aerial photographs to see which developed places could be hit during storms.

"Well-known hydrologist Des Midgley is involved in the operation and will be advising us."

Mr Evans believes municipalities should have powers to discourage people from building below the flood line.

To minimise risks the committee will hold discussions with local authorities on water supply.

"If the water and electricity supply is cut off in the Durban area it can cost industry between R5-million and R10-million in lost production a day. We also need to find ways of stopping rivers from flooding developed areas by building dams and increasing the height of the banks."

Mr Evans expects the survey to be finished in mid-1989.

Stamps aid flood victims

CP Reporter

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NATAL, Free State and other provinces' flood disaster victims are to benefit from the over R1,5-million contributed through the Post Office surcharge campaign.

So far the Post Office has collected a total of R1 638 370 with the special surcharge stamp campaign in aid of flood disaster relief.

The Minister of Home Affairs and of Communications, Stoffel Botha, announced in Pretoria that R538 370 had been paid over to the disaster relief fund.

A first payment of R1,1-million was made in April this year.

Botha said that since November 16, 1987 until the end of the campaign on August 31, 1988 surcharge stamps to the value of R1 105 873 had been sold. Sales

of philatelic material came to R414 009 while donations by firms totalled R118 488.

More than 15-million surcharge postage stamps were bought by the public and stamp collectors. Donations by large mail users represent the amount that would normally have been obtained by the sale of about 1,2-million surcharge stamps.

State President PW Botha announced the campaign on October 14, 1987. Sixteen cent postage stamps with flood disaster overprints and a surcharge indication of 10c were placed on sale at all of the 1 750 post offices and 400 postal agencies countrywide.

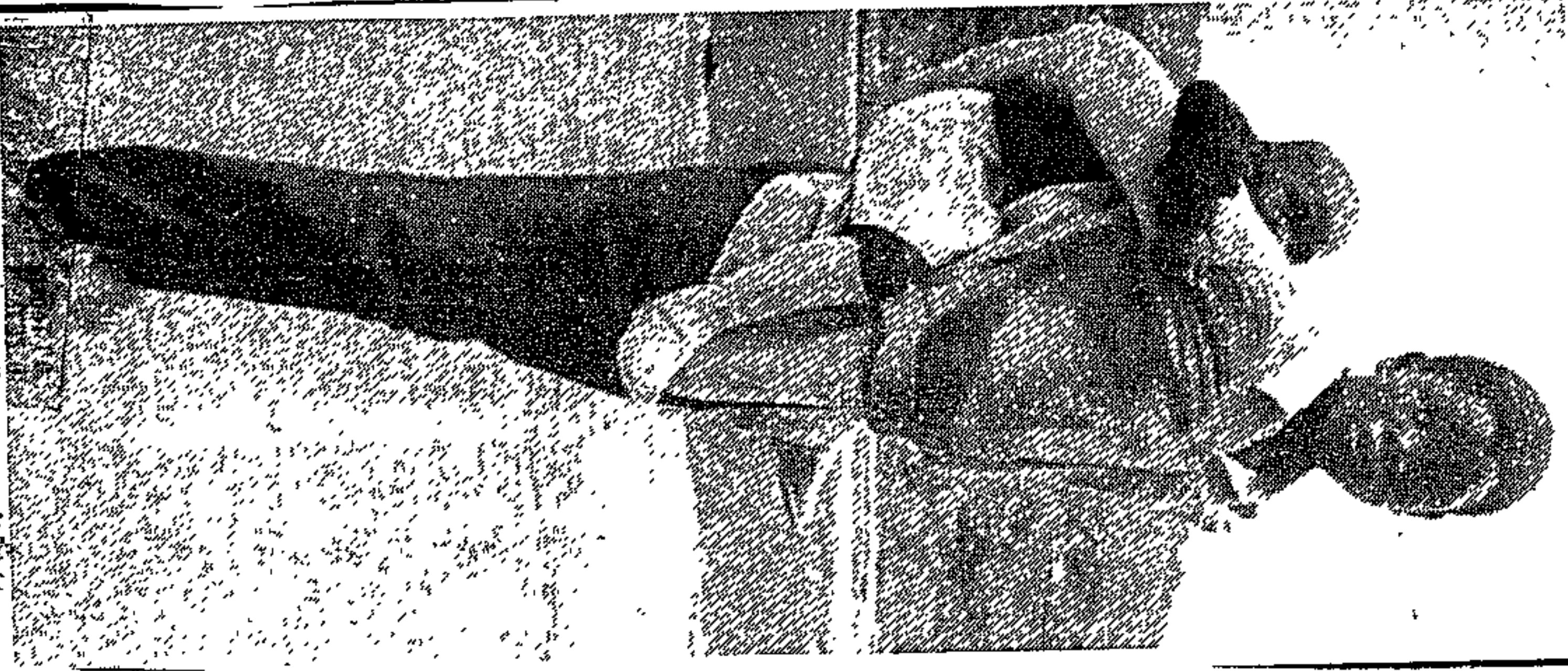
The wife of the State President, Elize Botha, bought the first surcharge postage stamps at the main post office in Durban

on November 16, 1987. A special commemorative envelope with a 16c surcharge stamp was also marketed.

Large mail users who mail consignments without postage stamps were given the opportunity to contribute to the project by donating the postage discounts they would normally have received on such mailings.

Botha said total collections since the start of the campaign to February 29 this year came to R900 300. The amount was specifically destined for flood disaster relief in Natal.

In the light of subsequent flood ravages in the Free State and in the Northern Cape, the campaign was extended from March 1, 1988 to utilise collections for disaster relief on a national basis.



Natal flood victims

Conservationist

blasts SADF

From SIMON BARBER

WASHINGTON. — Mr Craig Van Note, the American conservationist who told the US congress that the SA military was helping smuggle massive quantities of ivory from southern Angola, has blasted the SADF's inquiry into the charges as a "whitewash".

He said his information had come directly from SA soldiers who had "witnessed" the illegal trade which he charged was being "coordinated" by Jose Lopes Ferreira, a former Portuguese colonist in Angola now living "outside Johannesburg".

He also raised new allegations that as elephant herds had been poached out, SA and Unita forces had turned their attention to black rhino. He claimed to have evidence that members of the SADF were machine-gunning the highly endangered species from helicopters.

SADF Major Marius Meiring, his wife Pat and Sergeant-Major Waldemar Schutte were last month indicted by a Connecticut grand jury for smuggling rhino horn, leopard and cheetah skins and captured AK-47 rifles into the US.

In testimony to a congressional committee last July, Mr Van Note said that Unita had "ruthlessly liquidated perhaps 100 000 elephants" since 1976 and that the SADF had trucked or flown "most of the tusks" to warehouses at Rundu in the Caprivi Strip.

SADF denies charges

The SADF instituted a board of inquiry whose findings were sketched in a press release last Tuesday. The release made no mention of the alleged Rundu staging post. It said that the SADF had stopped transporting ivory for Unita after 1979.

The SADF also denied involvement in the killing of elephant, a charge Mr Van Note insisted was true. The press statement said that the Swiss-based convention on international trade in endangered species (Cites) "only came into existence in 1982". Mr Van Note said Cites went into effect, and was signed by SA, in 1976.

"Who did they talk to?" Mr Van Note asked. "They did not talk to the inhabitants of eastern and southern Angola, who would verify the massacre, or to the pilots and truck drivers, or to the SA and Unita poachers. They did not interview Jose Lopes Ferreira. The recent indictment of two SADF officers was ignored."

2470 56



KHAYELITSHA WALL . . . Casual labourers were yesterday hired to stack a kilometre-long, double wall of straw bales along Spine Road, Khayelitsha, in a bid to stop the encroachment of thousands of tons of windswept sand from nearby construction sites. Picture: ANNE LAING

Walls of straw

by CHARL DE VILLIERS

A DOUBLE bulwark of straw bales was yesterday placed between Spine Road in Khayelitsha and nearby bulldozed sandflats after a gale-force wind last week dumped thousands of tons of sand into houses and blocked roads.

The R330 000 project, launched last week by the Cape Provincial Administration, is aimed at containing shifting sand with a rampart of bales, irrigating construction sites and carpeting loose sand with straw.

"Construction work, com-

Bid to keep sand from Khayelitsha

bined with erosion, traffic and the settlement of people had undermined the effectiveness of earlier stabilisation with straw," Mr J W Theron, MEC for black affairs, said yesterday.

Vast tracts of bare, bulldozed duneland lie to the seaward of Khayelitsha and virtually in the direct path of the gale-force south-easterly winds which blow throughout

the Cape summer.

Riebeeck-West farmer Mr Stoffel Smuts yesterday said he had been contracted to deliver 15 000 bales of straw for the stabilisation of loose sand adjacent to the sprawling township.

By yesterday afternoon a team of 120 casual woman labourers had stacked 6 500 bales in a double line parallel to Spine Road, which had

borne the brunt of last week's ferocious gales.

Windswept sand blocked off doorways and piled up to window height, spilling into many houses and making roads impassable to traffic.

Mr Theron said the reclamation project was aimed at stabilising sandy areas at Khayelitsha and the nearby newly-developed Lingilethu-West township.

Besides the "wall of straw" — consisting of bales packed three wide and four-deep — engineers had proposed that other areas be irrigated and covered with straw to contain shifting sand, he added.

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CAPT Tusk 13/12/88

2 men in court over 184 tusks of ivory

By JIM FREEMAN

TWO men appeared in the magistrate's court at Grootfontein in Namibia yesterday for allegedly smuggling 184 elephant tusks in a false compartment of a truck.

The two men, a Portuguese citizen and a Tswana, were remanded after being arrested at a roadblock at the town on Sunday.

Police spokesman Chief Inspector Kierie du Rand said the weight and value of the ivory had not yet been determined. The ivory would have to be sent to experts from the Namibian directorate of nature conservation for grading before a value could be established, he said.

Inspector Du Rand added that the ivory was on its way to South Africa from either Zambia, Botswana or Zimbabwe.

He said the police diamond and narcotics branch, which also dealt with ivory and rhino horn smuggling, had been tipped off at Katima Mulilo that a large consignment of tusks would be smuggled into Namibia.

Inspector Du Rand said the ivory had not been poached in Angola, nor had the SA Defence Force been implicated.

A nature conservation spokesman in Windhoek, Mr Jan Joubert, said Namibia was a smuggling conduit into South Africa. Its vast borders meant smugglers could enter easily, while border controls between South Africa, Botswana and Zimbabwe were far stricter.

Ivory haul in Namibia

POLICE in Namibia said yesterday they had intercepted a big shipment of ivory suspected of being on its way to SA.

They added men at a roadblock in the north of the country discovered 184 elephant tusks in the false compartment of a truck after they were tipped off that smugglers were heading south from the Caprivi Strip.

A spokesman said it was believed the ivory came from either Botswana or Zambia.

He added the ivory would have to be sent to Namibian Directorate of Nature Conservation experts for grading before a value could be established.

He said the police diamond and narcotics branch, which also deals with ivory and rhinoceros horn smuggling, was on the lookout for the load as it headed south.

The spokesman stipulated the ivory

13/12/88 SIPHO NGCOBO

had not been poached in Angola. Nor was the SADF involved.

The SADF admitted recently that its trucks had been used several years ago to transport ivory in Angola.

Elephants

Endangered Wildlife Trust director John Ledger said it appeared there was a massive network of ivory smuggling into SA.

He added it was regrettable that animals such as elephants and rhinos were being slaughtered for short-term gains by greedy people who lacked knowledge of how important these wild animals were.

● To Page 2

184 elephant tusks seized in Namibia

"These animals are national treasures," he said.

Poachers also recently slaughtered some rare rhino in Swaziland for their horns, which are highly prized in the Middle East and Far East where it is believed they have aphrodisiacal powers. Rhino horns also bring high

prices in the Persian Gulf where they are used as dagger handles.

□ Two Reef men appeared in Grootfontein Magistrate's Court yesterday charged with dealing in and smuggling ivory. They were released on bail of R50 000 and R10 000.

● From Page 1

Blame 'silly' planning for Khayelitsha's sand

CAPE TOWN 14/7/88
Staff Reporter ~~300~~ 56

POOR site management and the over-hasty excavation of dunes at Khayelitsha have been blamed for forcing the Cape Provincial Administration's costly land stabilisation project in the township.

"It was very silly to leave such a huge area unstabilised and exposed to the wind," Mr Pat Morant of the CSIR's division of earth, marine and atmospheric science and technology said yesterday.

The R330 000 project to stabilise shifting sand with bales of straw started on Monday after wind-swept sand caused huge problems during last week's south-easterly gales.

"Dunes should only have been flattened once the areas were needed for construction and the region should have been developed to the north instead of southwards, since the prevailing winds come from the south," Mr Morant said.

A consulting engineer said straw dug into shifting sand was a cheap and simple method of stabilisation, but it was "irresponsible" to build homes in an area surrounded by unstabilised sand.

Despite numerous attempts, CPA engineers could not be reached for comment yesterday.

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Vol. 282

PRETORIA, 15 DECEMBER 1988
DESEMBER 1988

No. 11617

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

ADMINISTRATION: HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY

No. R. 2525 15 December 1988
CONSERVATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES
ACT, 1983 (ACT 43 OF 1983)
FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME FOR FLOOD DISASTER
AREAS.—AMENDMENT

I, Andre Isak van Niekerk, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, acting on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply, hereby, under the powers vested in me by section 8, read with section 9, of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, 1983 (Act 43 of 1983), amend the Table of the Flood Relief Scheme for Flood Disaster Areas published by Government Notice R. 47 of 15 January 1988, as specified in the Schedule.

A. I. VAN NIEKERK,
Deputy Minister of Agriculture.

SCHEDULE

The following insertion is hereby made at the end of the Table, in the columns as specified:

Area in which scheme is applicable	Date or dates on which flood damage to soil conservation works occurred	Date of inception
1	2	3
"6. The Magisterial Districts of Burgersdorp, Venterstad, Steynsburg, Middelburg, C.P., Noupoort and Hanover	February and March 1988	1 October 1988
7. The Magisterial District of Calvinia	2 and 3 April 1988	1 October 1988

Gebied waarin skema van toepassing is	Datum of datums waarop vloedskade aan grondbewaringswerke voorgekom het	Instellingsdatum
1	2	3
"6. Die landdrostdistrikte Burgersdorp, Venterstad, Steynsburg, Middelburg, K.P., Noupoort en Hanover	Februarie en Maart 1988	1 Oktober 1988
7. Die landdrostdistrik Calvinia	2 en 3 April 1988	1 Oktober 1988

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11617—1

GOEWERMENSKENNISGEWINGS

ADMINISTRASIE: VOLKSRaad DEPARTEMENT VAN LANDBOU EN WATERVOORSIENING

No. R. 2525 15 Desember 1988
WET OP BEWARING VAN LANDBOUHULPBRONNE,
1983 (WET 43 VAN 1983)
VLOEDHULPSKEMA VIR VLOEDRAMPGEBIEDE.—
WYSIGING

Ek, Andre Isak van Niekerk, Adjunk-minister van Landbou, handelende namens die Minister van Landbou en Watervoorsiening, wysig hiermee kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 8, gelees met artikel 9, van die Wet op Bewaring van Landbouhulpbronne, 1983 (Wet 43 van 1983), die Tabel van die Vloedhulpskema vir Vloedrampgebiede afgekondig by Goewermentskennisgewing R. 47 van 15 Januarie 1988, soos in die Bylae uiteengesit.

A. I. VAN NIEKERK,
Adjunk-minister van Landbou.

BYLAE

Die volgende inskrywing word hierby aan die einde van die Tabel, in die kolomme soos aangedui ingevoeg:

US probe names SA army men as rhino-horn smugglers

A CLOAK-AND-DAGGER operation by United States undercover agents has pointed to extensive involvement by members of the South African Defence Force in an international ring that deals in illicit rhino-horns.

The US attorney general last month announced a 10-month investigation by secret agents had confirmed reports that SADF members in Angola and Namibia "have been actively engaged in the killing and smuggling of wildlife species — including rhinos and elephants — for personal gain and profit".

The top-level probe also fingers former Rhodesian prime minister Ian Smith for attempting to have wildlife trophies sold on the US black market. The attorney general for Connecticut made these allegations after three American citizens were arrested last month and charged — together with three South African nationals — for smuggling rhino horns, other endan-

An American probe into wild-life smuggling names three South Africans ... and rebukes former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith. EDDIE KOCH reports

gered wildlife trophies and AK-47 rifles into the US.

A formal request has been made for the extradition of Major Marius Meiring, his wife Pat and Sergeant Major Waldermar Schutte to stand trial in the US.

A press release from the US State Department says: "A detailed affidavit filed ... by the principal undercover

agent, Special Agent Richard Moulton of the Fish and Wildlife Service, disclosed that the horns involved in this case were apparently obtained from rhinos killed by South African army troops in Angola. These horns — together with the communist bloc machineguns and ammunition which were captured by South African troops in Angola — were sold on the black market by major Meiring and his wife.

"Sergeant Major Schutte illegally smuggled a rhino horn into the United States in August while he was in the Chicago area to participate in a sky-diving event as part of the SADF parachuting team ... In addition to the

rhino horn ... the undercover agents purchased a total of six Communist-bloc AK-47 machine guns.

"Reports received by the Fish and Wildlife Service during the past year indicate that members of the SADF on duty in Angola and Namibia have been actively engaged in the killing and smuggling of wildlife species — including rhinos and elephants — for personal gain and profit."

World-wide trade in rhino horns, which can be sold on the black market for the same price as gold, has been blamed for reducing Africa's black rhino herds from some 65 000 in 1970 to less than 4 000 in 1988.

Dr Das Herbst, representative for

South Africa's Defence Ministry, told the *Weekly Mail* he could not comment on the reports because they were being investigated by an internal board of inquiry.

The US state attorney's charges come in the wake of claims that Unita rebels have financed military aid from South Africa by massacring thousands of elephants and transporting their tusks to South Africa, from where they are distributed by an illicit ivory ring. The claims, made in evidence to the US congress by conservationist Craig van Note, have been denied by the SADF as well as Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

This week the SADF announced that an internal board of inquiry had investigated Van Note's claims and found no evidence to justify action being taken against its members for alleged involvement in the smuggling of ivory from Angola.

"The board found that there was no evidence to prove that the Defence Force was responsible for or involved in the killing of elephants," said a statement from SADF headquarters in Pretoria.

"However, small quantities of ivory, captured by Unita from poachers and others in Angola, were transported by the Defence Force on behalf of Unita over an 18-month period from mid-1978 to the end of 1979 ... The board found that the amount of ivory transported over this period was less than 0.25 percent of the amount which Mr Van Note claimed."

The statement said the board had travelled thousands of kilometres and interviewed scores of witnesses during its probes into Van Note's claims. "One conservationist said in evidence before the board that 'unless one has access to information not available ... there is no indication that the level of elephant poaching he postulates for Angola and Mozambique has in fact occurred' ..."

In the rhino-horn smuggling case, Special Agent Moulton's affidavit provides a graphic account of how he infiltrated the US-based ring by making contact with John Lukman, the primary defendant, at his flat in Connecticut early this year.

One of the extraordinary claims in Moulton's affidavit is that he was asked by the leader of the ring to sell a leopard-skin rug that had been obtained from former Rhodesian prime minister Ian Smith.

"Lukman gave the leopard rug to me and asked me to sell it for his friend, Ian Smith, former prime minister of Rhodesia. He stated that he had visited Smith, a close personal friend, in Harare, Zimbabwe," the affidavit says.

Charred bodies found after fire destroys 5 shacks

Six killed in Vaal blaze

By Montshiwa Moroke

Memories of the piercing cries of a four-year-old child and mangled corrugated iron are all that remain following a fire which swept through five shacks and left six people dead, including three children, in Evaton, Vereeniging, at the weekend.

Sheer determination and the will to live saved the lives of two elderly women.

The mysterious fire was the second at 1538 Union Road within two weeks.

Neighbours were still shaken yesterday as they recounted the deadly blaze which took place at about 2 am on Saturday.

They said after the fire had gutted the five shacks, only the charred remains of the dead could be recovered. The bodies of two young women who had been sleeping on a bed and three children on the floor were found huddled together.

The charred body of a Mr Zulu was found elsewhere in the burnt-out dwellings.

Mrs Lydia Tshabalala and Mrs Queen Tshoaela, who were trapped in the same shack in which the five died, miraculously escaped death and bore no visible injuries



Mrs Lydia Tshabalala, who was rescued by neighbours, says she is lucky to be alive.

after they were treated at the Sebokeng Hospital.

The names of the six who died were given by neighbours as Mr Zulu, Ms Virginia Tshoaela (23), Thabiso Tshoaela (6), Pule Tshoaela (5) and Dikeledi Tshoaela (4). Mr Mantso Moloi (19), who was an overnight visitor, also died in the blaze.

One of the survivors, Mrs Lydia Tshabalala, who is in her fifties, said she was woken by screams from people outside alerting them to the raging fire.

"Eight of us were fast asleep in the fourth house, oblivious of the deadly fire. When we

woke up we ran this way and that trying to get out. In the darkness we managed to find the door, but the key was nowhere to be found.

"The flames were spreading from the house next door. The flames were fierce and we were absolutely terrified.

"Some of the men outside managed to make an opening at the bottom of the shack. We squeezed and pushed our heads outside and the men managed to drag us out," Mrs Tshabalala said.

She said the fire had apparently started at shack 36, where the occupants were away at the time, and rapidly spread through the row of shacks.

Another witness, Ms Queen Qubulu, said the occupants of the fifth shack were saved by men who chopped the corrugated iron. Mr Willie Mazibuko, who managed to escape, rescued his wife and six children.

"We heard the cries of Dikeledi who was screaming 'mama, mama' inside the shack, apparently trying to find a way but. The screams faded moments later as the flames devoured the shack.

"By the time the fire brigade arrived it was too late," said Ms Qubulu.



A few charred kitchen items and piles of ash are all that remain of one of the five corrugated iron shacks which were gutted in Evaton at the weekend.

Hundreds

flee floods

CAPE TOWN
7/12/88
56

Own Correspondent and Sapa

DURBAN. — Hundreds of families were left homeless when floods lashed Natal at the Christmas weekend, causing damage amounting to millions of rands.

The weather office warned hard-hit residents that more rain was expected overnight.

A 25-year-old man, Mr Pradeepkumar Sewersadh, drowned when his car was swept away while he was crossing the Umdloti River near Verulam.

A weather spokesman said Durban — where 69,9mm of rain fell in 30 minutes — was worst hit. Homes were flooded and more than 20 shops were damaged, with some owners reporting damage to goods of between R50 000 and R80 000.

Most of Maritzburg was in darkness on Christmas Eve after a storm blew down power lines. Lightning caused blackouts in other areas, including Chatsworth, Demat, KwaMakhuta, Adams Mission and Hillcrest.

In the Maritzburg area buildings were destroyed, trees uprooted and boats and caravans lifted into the air and flung hundreds of metres by the tornado-like storm on Christmas Day.

An unidentified man was struck by flying debris at Albert Falls and was later admitted to hospital at Northdale with back injuries.

At Midmar a visitor, Mr James Reid of Modderfontein, was injured when a caravan blew over and fell on top of him. The gale-force wind, accompanied by heavy rain and hail, whipped away tents and blew over caravans.

Disaster fund

"We were terrified. We were inside our caravan and were hanging on for dear life because it was rocking so hard," said one camper. "We could see the storm through the windows and it was incredible to see boats go flying past us through the air."

The Albert Falls Yacht Club building was also demolished.

In Howick and Tweedie huge trees were blown down, power lines were disrupted and the roof of a shopping centre was ripped off.

The Chambers of Commerce of Natal and KwaZulu, the Natal Red Cross and the KwaZulu Government Welfare Department will meet today to plan a relief fund for families left destitute by the floods.

Reports of hail and wind damage were also received from Northern Natal.

People had to flee their homes in Umlazi when the river rose dramatically within hours on Saturday night.

The mayor of Umlazi, Mr Patrick Zulu, said 50 houses were destroyed by the flood. In some of the houses furniture and Christmas meals were washed away, while in others water ran six metres deep and owners did not sleep the whole night.

Hundreds of families in Chatsworth and Isipingo spent their Christmas Day mopping up. Many homes were without piped water most of the day. In Lotus Park, Isipingo, about five families had to abandon their homes when the foundations were exposed.

In Umhlanga homes were also flooded. A spokesman for Eskom said Mpophomeni was the only area still without electricity yesterday.

On Saturday night, after Durban, Cape St Lucia had the most rain — 23,2mm — while Richards Bay had 18,5mm, Maritzburg 8,5mm, Kokstad 15,6mm, Port Shepstone 13mm and Makthini 6,2mm.

● Flood pictures — Page 3



Fast-bowling find rips through WP batsmen

By MICHAEL OWEN-SMITH

THE contract wrangles and injuries that have prevented Sylvester Clarke from playing more than one Currie Cup match for Northern Transvaal in the past two seasons may not be good news for his new province.

But it has helped South Africa unearth a new strike bowling prospect.

The 24-year-old Northern Transvaal fast bowler Fanie de Villiers returned career-best figures of six for 47 against Western Province at Newlands yesterday to put his side firmly in control of their Currie Cup match.

At the close of the first day Northern Transvaal had six bonus points to Western Province's three and were also leading by only 92 runs on the first day with nine second-innings wickets.

This was largely due to the new partnership of De Villiers and an unbroken wicket partnership of 127 between Mandy Yachad and his captain, V. Barnard, off only 35 overs.

Apart from a superb innings of 70 from Peter Kirsten and a useful 40 from Eric Simons, who, out of partners, it was not a very festive season for the home side.

But, to get back to Petrus Steyn, de Villiers, or "Vinnige Fanie" as he is popularly known.

He has now taken 14 wickets in the Currie Cup Innings this season and, a Springbok team were to be chosen right now, his claims would be stronger than those of more established players such as Western Province's Garth le Roux and Stephen Ferries and Free State's Allan and Corrie van Zyl.

De Villiers is in only his second season for the Northern Transvaal side and one wonders whether he would have had that chance had Clarke been regularly available.

He had previously only twice taken five wickets in an innings and those were in the less demanding B section. And this is the second time that he has routed Western Province at Newlands in less than a year.

It has been a remarkable success story for the Pretoria Teachers' Col-



Floods ravage much of Natal

27/12/88 (56) b/day

DURBAN — Flood-ravaged Natal last night braced itself for more damage as the Weather Bureau issued special warnings of more rain.

Mopping-up operations continued yesterday after violent storms lashed the province at the weekend to cause millions of rands worth of damage and leave hundreds of families homeless.

Durban was one of areas worse hit with the Louis Botha weather office recording 69,9mm of rain in 30 minutes.

Reports of hail and wind damage were also received from northern Natal.

Umlazi mayor Patrick Zulu estimated damage to property in the town at almost R100 000.

He said more than 50 houses were wrecked by Christmas Eve floods that left hundreds homeless and roads badly damaged.

He said councillors would hold a special meeting to find ways of helping the homeless.

KwaMashu mayor Vusimuzi Mbambo said more than 20 houses had been destroyed near the river.

A Verulam family of four was killed in a head-on crash on the old North Coast Road near Tongaat on Sunday afternoon. Police identified them as Ashwin Maharaj, 35, his wife, Anita, 25, and two

Own Correspondent

relatives, Anoop Maharaj, 25, and her sister, Ushana Maharaj, 22.

Heavy rains also caused bathing to be banned at Amanzimtoti yesterday because of dirty water.

More than 20 shops in Grey Street, Field Street and in Commercial Road in Durban were damaged.

Shop owners reported damage to their goods from R50 000 to R80 000. Many spent most of Christmas Day clearing out water and moving damaged stocks.

Others in Field Street said the gutter could not hold water gushing down the road and it flowed under their doors.

Houses all over the Durban area were flooded.

The Bellair home of Cornelius van der Westhuizen and his wife, Hanneljie, was flooded and their two-week-old swimming bath filled with sand when water ran through their property.

Hundreds of families in Chatsworth and Isipingo spent Christmas Day mopping up after a downpour flooded homes, blocked roads and left many people without piped water.

Southern Durban Indian Local Affairs

● To Page 2 →

Natal mops up after widespread floods

Committee member Ramcharitar Panday said yesterday he visited flood-devastated areas of Chatsworth on Christmas Day to help families whose homes were flooded.

Parts of Kharwastan and Silverglen were also without piped water for almost all of Sunday after mains burst on Saturday night.

In Silverglen, Riversdale and Parkside roads were closed after portions were washed away. Telephone poles were also knocked over.

In Chatsworth's Unit 5, scores of homes were knee-deep in water. At Lotus Park, Isipingo, about five families abandoned their homes when foundations were exposed. They spent the night with neighbours, friends and relatives.

In Elland Road, a retaining wall collapsed and the road was partially

← ● From Page 1
blocked with rubble and plants from a garden.

In Umhlanga, some homes were flooded and part of Campbell Drive subsided after being undermined by rain water. More than 100mm were recorded within two hours.

An Eskom spokesman said Mpophomeni was the only area still without electricity yesterday after a storm on Saturday afternoon.

He said men had worked throughout the night to restore electricity to Grenick, Dalton and Seven Oaks.

A Sats spokesman said there had been no major problems to its service nor delays as a result of the rain.

Millions of rands lost as deluge lashes Durban

AKG's 27/12/88

56

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — It was a black Christmas weekend for thousands of Durban residents who lost millions in Saturday night's deluge. At Louis Botha airport 69,9mm was recorded.

One man lost his life when his car was washed off a north coast bridge and his body has not yet been recovered.

A house in Wren Road, Yellowwood Park, burnt down while the family were helping to pump water out of a neighbour's home.

At Clairwood a factory went up in flames while in Chatsworth a panelbeating business was flooded.

The fire brigade had 80 calls for help on Christmas Eve and none of the men had any sleep.

More than 15 accidents were reported in the Durban area, leaving at least 30 people injured and about 20 vehicles damaged.

Thousands of residents in various areas had a "cold" Christmas when electricity supplies were disrupted by vicious lightning strikes.

Police said a Verulam farmer, Mr Pradeep Kumar Powanraj, was returning home from a Christmas party when his car plunged into the swollen Oakford River in Verulam at 2am.

Helping hands

Police divers recovered Mr Powanraj's car early yesterday when the river had subsided, but there was no sign of his body.

Yesterday while some people observed Christmas, thousands more around the city were mopping up the rain water, digging away silt from their living rooms, while others lent a helping hand to gangs of workmen clearing away rubble to make roads passable.

Police were kept working throughout Saturday night and for most of yesterday.

Scores of motorists were stranded on the southern freeway where water levels reached three metres in some sections.

The duty officer at the Durban Central Fire Station said they were inundated with calls for help to pump water out of homes and salvage belongings.

Thousands of shack dwellers in Ntuzuma, Phoenix and Inanda suffered severe damage to their homes.

During the height of the storm, parts of Inanda were hit by a power failure.

The worst hit areas on Saturday night by the heavy downpour were Chatsworth where a number of roads were flooded and hundreds of homes suffered electricity blackouts and homes were damaged with a silt build up.

False alarms

At the height of the storm police went out to about 100 false alarms resulting from burglar alarms being triggered by the storm.

Chatsworth was one of the worst hit areas suffering flooded roads and power failures, while in KwaMashu streets were reduced to rivers and water levels rose to 0,5 metres.

Residents said certain roads in Umlazi, KwaMashu and Clermont were impassable.

Appeals have been broadcast on the radio to scores of homeowners in KwaMashu and Umlazi whose locked houses were flooded while they were away on holiday.

People had to flee their homes in Umlazi as the water level rose dramatically within hours on Saturday night.

The Mayor of Umlazi, Mr Patrek Zulu, said 35 houses were badly damaged in Umlazi. In some of the houses furniture and food prepared for Christmas were washed away, while in others water ran six metres high.

Reports of flooding were received from Yellowwood Park, Durban North, central Durban, Clairwood and Morningside.

Lightning damage

According to an electricity department spokesman, there was no power in Demat, KwaMakhuta, areas south of Amanzimtoti, Adams Mission and Hillcrest. A spokesman said most of the damage was due to lightning.

A police spokesman said a multi-million rand townhouse development could be affected.

More rain is expected tonight, according to the Met Office spokesman who said that Durban was worst hit by the weekend downpour.

After Durban, Cape St Lucia had the most rain — 23,2mm — while Richards Bay had 18,5mm; Pietermaritzburg 8,5mm; Kokstad 15,6mm; Port Shepstone 13,0mm and Makhini 6,2mm on Saturday night.



MUD FALL: The foundations of this building were undermined in the deluge which hit Durban on Saturday.



OVERFLOW: Powerboaters clear up at the Midmar dam holiday resort after the weekend's heavy rains.

Star 27/12/88

(S6)

CSIR report warns on environment

Pollution in E Tvl seen as major threat

By Deborah Smith, Pretoria Bureau

The pollution climate in the eastern Transvaal highveld is among the worst in the southern hemisphere, according to a report released by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research in Pretoria.

The research into the atmospheric pollution of the eastern Transvaal highveld, and its effects on inhabitants and on the environment, was initiated by the CSIR under contract by the Government.

FUTURE STRATEGIES

Research showed that the atmosphere was unfavourable for the dispersion of atmospheric pollutants, said Dr C W Louw, one of the authors.

The degree of pollution would have to be accepted and taken into account in future atmospheric pollution management strategies, he said.

Power stations, and to a lesser degree smaller industries and domestic combustion, released substantial amounts of air pollutants into the eastern Transvaal highveld atmosphere.

There was concern about pollutants that accumulated in the upper layers of the atmosphere because the trapped pollution was deposited as acid rain, which could have a detrimental effect on the environment, said Dr Louw.

The eastern portion of the Vaal Dam catchment area and the forests along the escarpment were par-

ticularly at risk.

Dr Louw said any effects on natural systems were likely to be masked partially by other environmental problems such as drought and an incomplete understanding of the processes of pollution damage.

Tests on schoolchildren had revealed an increased frequency of certain respiratory symptoms, though lung-function tests revealed no significant differences between exposed and unexposed children.

This indicated that control measures had succeeded in maintaining atmospheric pollution levels below the thresholds of risk to human health, he said.

Rainfall acidity had risen substantially and there were indications that the strongly acid soil of the eastern Transvaal, not under cultivation, might be affected by acid rain.

He said the consequences of acidification of the upland streams in the Sabi-Tzaneen area could not be predicted at present.

The foliar damage, apparently caused by atmospheric pollution, to pine plantations had been diagnosed and needed urgent evaluation.

Continued, well-planned and co-ordinated research was imperative.

This would enable experts to plan and implement effective control measures and to adapt conservation-management practices in order to minimise the impact of atmospheric pollution.

5 knifemen attack

Missino woman's dog

Families left homeless by tornado

Natal counts the cost of violent storm

Star 27/12/88

56



Boat owners assess the damage at Midmar Dam near Durban yesterday after the heavy rains.

Staff Reporters

Mopping-up operations continued in Natal today after violent storms lashed the province over the Christmas weekend, causing damage estimated at millions of rands, leaving many families homeless and causing at least one death.

In Durban, the Louis Botha weather office recorded 69,9 mm of rain in 30 minutes on Christmas Day. The Weather Bureau in Pretoria reports that rain is still falling over most of Natal today.

In Maritzburg buildings were destroyed, trees uprooted and boats and caravans flung hundreds of metres when a tornado-like storm ripped through the town on Christmas Day, injuring at least two people.

Reports of hail and wind damage have been received from northern Natal.

At Isipingo, south of Durban five families had to abandon their homes after the foundations were exposed by washaways. At Umhlanga on the north coast several homes had to be abandoned.

Mr Bobby Sewpersadh of Durban spent Christmas Day on the banks of the Umdloti River while police searched for his son's body after his car had been washed from a collapsing bridge.

No trace

A diver from Umhlanga Protection Services could find no trace of Mr Sewpersadh. The strength of the water had forced out all the car's windows and washed the seats loose.

At Natal Parks Board's Midmar Dam resort Mr James Reid of Modderfontein was injured on Christmas Day when a caravan blew over and crashed on top of him.

Campers at Albert Falls Dam near Maritzburg told of a Christmas Day which turned into a nightmare as gale force winds accompanied by heavy rain and hail whipped away tents and blew over caravans.

Houses all over Durban were flooded.

Hundreds of families in Chatsworth and Isipingo spent Christmas Day mopping up. Many homes were without piped water for most of the day and several roads were closed.

The local fire brigade spent most of Christmas Day pumping out water from the ground floor of the Butterworth Hotel - Sapa.

Jo'burg maternity wards have a happy



Three mothers with their special Christmas gifts. From left are Mrs Jennifer Alexander with daughter Christa, Mrs Beverley Home with her new son, who is yet to be named.

Black matric results show improvement

The results of the black matriculation examinations, released at the weekend by the Department of Education and Training, show a slight improvement over last year.

Of the candidates whose results have been released, 57,4 percent (or 85 656 pupils) passed compared with 56,9 percent last year. Matriculation exemption was obtained by 28,7 percent of successful candidates.

The figures include the results of candidates in the six self-governing states.

Of the 33 200 pupils who wrote exams outside those territories, 54,7 percent passed. In 1987, the pass rate was 49,4 percent.

Of those who passed, 27,3 percent managed to obtain a university entrance.

The pass rate in Soweto schools also improved. Of the 4 508 candidates, 37,9 percent passed, compared with 32 percent in 1987.

Papenfus swop 'now under way'

The exchange of South African, Cuban and Angolan prisoners of war was "already under way", according to a spokesman for the SA Defence Force in Pretoria today.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman confirmed that moves to exchange South African prisoner of war Private Johan Papenfus - held in Cuba - for Angolan and Cuban PoWs were proceeding on course.

Neither official could reveal at what stage the exchanges now stand.

Negotiations were not, as has been reported, "becoming protracted" because of the insistence by Angola and Cuba that more prisoners than the Angolan pilot who landed in Namibia last week be released, the Foreign Affairs spokesman said.

In terms of the agreement signed in New York last week, Angola, Cuba and South Africa are to exchange all PoWs, the spokesman stressed.

One prisoner known to be due for repatriation is Lieutenant Domingo Jose de Almeida Vinez, who brought his Soviet MiG-21 fighter jet down in Namibia recently in an emergency landing.

Private Papenfus (26), from Gezina, Pretoria, would be home "as soon as possible", said the Foreign Affairs spokesman, who pointed out that the agreement between the three countries "was only signed last Thursday".

Murder suspect identified

Police have identified a suspect in connection with

Christmas births: 43 in Jo'burg

Forty-three Christmas babies were delivered in Johannesburg hospitals and clinics on Sunday and the maternity ward of the Baragwanath Hospital saw the first of 13 at 12.15 am.

A spokesman for the Florence Nightingale Nursing Home said they had eight new babies - the first delivered just after 1 am.

Three mothers at the Park Lane Clinic were happy to pose with their Christmas babies. The fourth one born in the clinic was still a little weak to be shown to the world.

Mrs Beverley Home, of Rand Park, said her little daughter at home would be very pleased with her new sister, Melissa, who was born just after 3 pm.

SURPRISED

Mrs Jennifer Alexander, of Annindale, said although baby Christa was expected on Christmas Day, it was still a "pleasant surprise".

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DURBAN. — The death toll following weekend floods in Natal rose to at least six as information began to come in from remote rural areas, SABC radio news reported yesterday.

In the Ndwedwe area near Verulam two children died when the house in which they were sleeping collapsed during a cloudburst. The victims are Lindani Hlongwa, 4, and Tozi Ngcobo, 8.

Six other people in the house escaped unhurt.

Three people in the Umbumbulu district on the South Coast drowned when their bakkie was washed off a causeway over the Obivane River. The bakkie, belonging to a Roman Catholic priest, the Rev CJ Chiliza, was found a kilometre from the causeway. The bodies of his two companions have already been found, and police are still searching for Mr Chiliza.

Mr Chiliza and his companions had been to an outstation on Christmas Eve for a service late in the afternoon and were on

Death toll in Natal's⁵⁶ Xmas flood stands at 6

CAPE TOWN 28/12/88

their way back to the church at Umbumbulu for the Christmas midnight mass when the drownings occurred.

The first flood victim, Mr Pra-deepkumar Powanraj, who drowned when his bakkie was swept away when a bridge over the Umdloti river near Verulam collapsed, has also not yet been found.

Meanwhile, insurance claims resulting from the Christmas weekend storms are already pouring in, with many more ex-

pected as holidaymakers return home and companies resume business next week.

Mutual & Federal general manager Mr Theo Vels said claims had been lodged at their Durban branch and early estimates were that these would be more than R500 000.

Mr Vels said he did not expect the storms to cost insurers the R400m the Natal floods had cost in 1987.

Federated General (FedGen) general manager Mr John Towsey said they were expecting claims around R750 000, although it was still too early to assess the full extent of the damage.

SA Eagle general manager Mr Jim McIntosh said between 40 and 50 claims were reported yesterday, although a spate were expected next week after the Christmas-New Year break ended.

He said it was difficult to gauge the extent of the damage as many homes were empty as owners were still on holiday. — Sapa and Own Correspondent

Weeping mourners recall death of 5

(S6)

SOWETAN REPORTER

MOURNERS among 2 000 people at the mass burial of three toddlers and their mother who were burned to death in their home wept uncontrollably when the tragedy that hit Evaton was recalled yesterday.

Mrs Virginia Mabaso (23), and her children, Dikeledi (3), Thabiso (5), and Pule (7) were buried in the same coffin because their bodies had been reduced to ashes.

Also buried with them was Miss Selina Moloi (20), a relative.

Speakers, including business, civic, and community representatives recalled how the five people died when a fire swept through five houses in a pre-dawn blaze in Evaton on December 17.

A representative of the Vaal Triangle African Chamber of Commerce, Mr J Aphane, consoled the bereaved families and said the deaths of their kin were a great loss to the community.

There were emotional scenes when the two coffins, donated by the local funeral undertakers' association, were carried in a procession led to the cemetery by several drum majorettes groups.

• Meanwhile the police are investigating the possibility of arson that could have led to the tragedy.

Eight fires in W Cape mountains

ARCUS 29/12/88 56
Staff Reporter

HUNDREDS of firefighters helped by air force helicopters are battling to contain eight fires caused by lightning in mountain ranges in the Western Cape.

Several orchards have been damaged in spite of the efforts of firefighters who fought throughout the night to protect the trees.

LIGHTNING

Mr Rudolf Andrag, regional director of forestry for the Department of Environment Affairs, said there were two fires in the Cedarberg near Clanwilliam, two in the mountains above Tulbagh, three above Franschhoek and one above Riversdale.

The fires were caused by

lightning on Tuesday and yesterday.

Mr Andrag said that between 300 and 400 forestry workers had been fighting the fires since yesterday and had worked throughout the night.

Early today there was no immediate danger but it was possible that the situation could worsen later as the temperature rose.

Firefighters are to be flown to the upper reaches of the Roodenzand mountains today in an attempt to contain the blaze in that area.

Copters help fight fires in mountains

Staff Reporter

LIGHTNING sparked fires which late yesterday still raged in mountain ranges from Clanwilliam to Grabouw, prompting helicopter-assisted firefighting operations with hundreds of forestry workers and farm labourers.

The fires had consumed about 4 000 hectares of mainly mountain fynbos by late yesterday.

Palls of smoke towered above Tulbagh, Wolseley and Clanwilliam through to the Hottentots-Holland range between Franschoek and Grabouw, with flames at one stage threatening Saron, a mission settlement near Tulbagh.

Hundreds of firefighters fanned out below the mostly inaccessible blazes with two Ysterplaat-based Alouette helicopters airlifting men to try to prevent the blaze spreading.

Regional chief of Conservation, Forestry, Mr Rudolf Andrag ruled out immediate damage to life or property at Saron, saying sparse vegetation around the town would halt the flames.

An abating wind was improving firefighting prospects and an earlier

threat to farmers and their citrus crops had been averted, he added.

The fires are burning in the Saronberg south-west of Tulbagh out of control; the Great Winterhoek Mountains north of Tulbagh in the higher peaks; the Mostert's Hoek Twins and Waaihoek area near Wolseley out of control in higher reaches; the Cedarberg above Algeria near Clanwilliam out of control and in the Hottentots-Holland mountains in the Franschoek, Grabouw, Stellenbosch areas in higher peaks.

Other fires which raged at Riversdale and Swellendam yesterday were brought under control, Mr Andrag said.

"Our biggest problem is manpower. It's a very widespread area and danger points constantly change," he said.

He ruled out the use of helicopter-borne water-buckets as "too dangerous for the pilots in the mountains".

Mr Andrag described the widespread lightning-caused fires as "a bit of an exception".

A spokesman for the Meteorological Bureau at D F Malan Airport said thunder and lightning occurred about twice a month in the south-western Cape at this time of year, and was "certainly nothing unusual".

Orchards threatened as seven fires rage on

APU 5
30/12/88

By HENRY DU PLESSIS
Staff Reporter

AT least seven fires are still raging on Western Cape mountain ranges.

Mr Rudolf Andrag, regional director of forestry for the Department of Environment Affairs, said a fire above Riversdale was extinguished by rain in the area.

The fires were started by lightning on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Mr Andrag said that one of two fires in the Cedarberg

range was under control but the other, south of the Algeria forest station, was still unchecked.

Three fires in the area of Tulbagh and Wolseley were still threatening orchards and plantations, but not farmhouses.

VELD BURNT

Fires were still burning above Franschoek.

Tulbagh orchards were damaged when fire swept the Roozandt mountains above Winterhoek, burning about 500 hectares of veld.

Apple, peach and plum orchards on three farms were damaged with two farms in the Winterhoek area bearing the brunt.

The fire started about midday on Wednesday on Panorama Farm and spread rapidly, fanned by a strong wind, said Mr Koos Theron of Erfdeel Farm.

Mr Theron said the fire was chased up the mountain by the wind at one stage, but the wind changed direction and the flames came racing down to the edge of his plum and peach orchards.

The first rows of trees closest to the fire were badly burnt and the next three to four rows were scorched.

PRUNED

The plum trees were young and ready to deliver their first full crop when the fire reached them.

Mr Theron believed, however, that if he pruned them well in the autumn they might recover.

According to a neighbour, a flare-up in the middle of one of the Winterhoek orchards spread both ways because of the fluky wind.

The fire on Winterhoek also swept through a pine forest and, fuelled by the dry needles on the ground, severely scorched the trees.

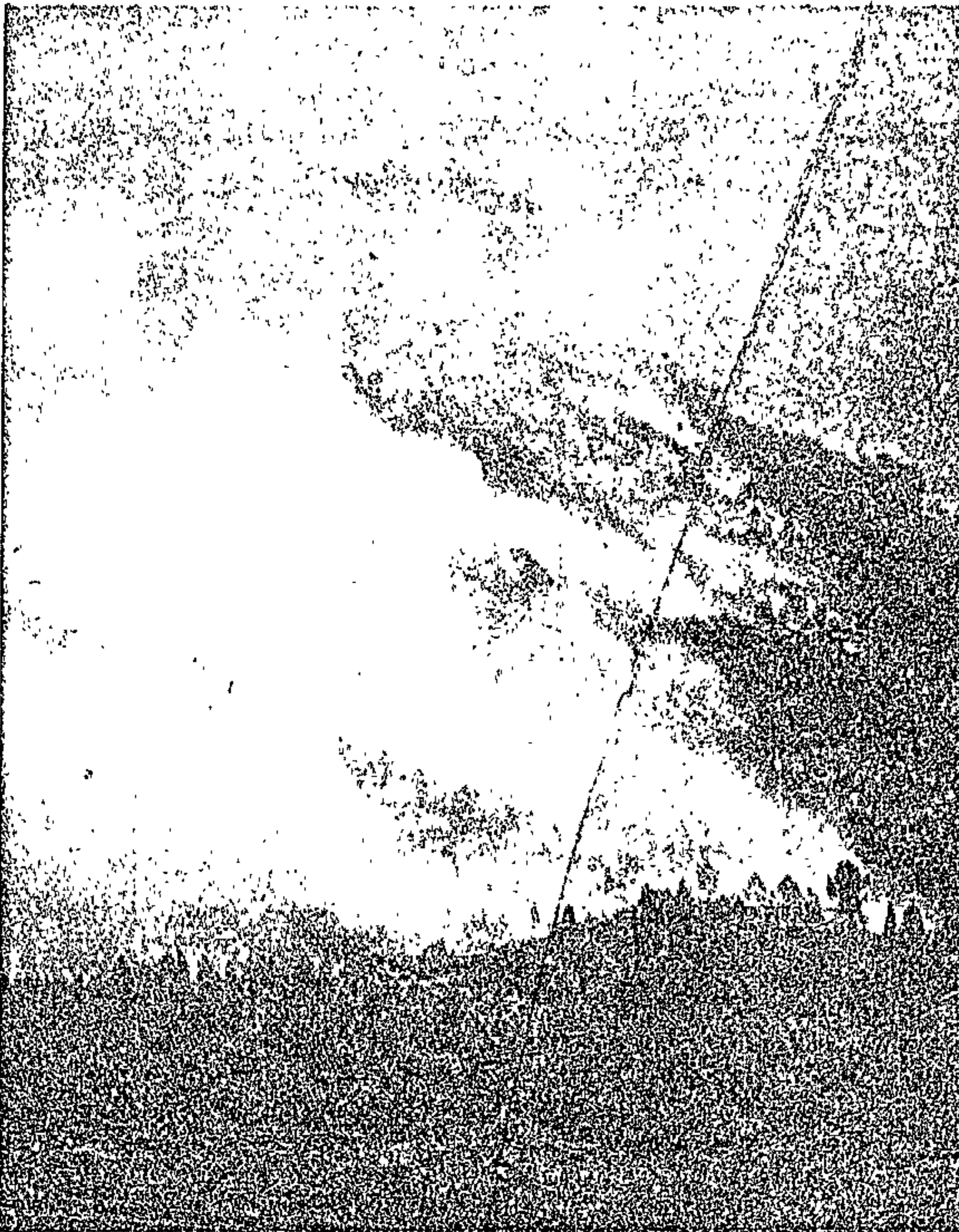
The pine forest was still in danger late yesterday.

According to a source who did not want to be identified, this fire was seen by locals as the worst in 35 years.

An estimate of the damage was not possible at this stage, because the price of the fruit on the market was not yet known and farmers still had to assess what percentage of their crops they had lost.

At Mostertshoek, at the foot of Mitchell's Pass to Ceres and a distance above Berggrivier, a fire also burnt fiercely in the upper reaches of the mountain.

It seemed to be far away from cultivated lands, though it was fanned by a strong wind.



Picture. LEON MÜLLER, The Argus

out five fronts. The wind controlling the flames.

