

## The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — A controversial television advertisement that denounces Republican presidential candidate Senator Robert Dole for opposing sanctions against South Africa is to be broadcast in the politically important New Hampshire region this week.

The ad, made for Transafrica, which leads the anti-apartheid movement in the United States, was rejected last year by television stations serving the Iowa region.

All the presidential candidates — Democratic as well as Republican — have to do well in New Hampshire and Iowa in next month's primary and caucus votes, the first tests of popularity in the election.

Senator Dole is currently in a neck-and-neck and increasingly abrasive race with Vice President George Bush for Republican front-runner.

The anti-apartheid movement does not like Mr Bush either, but Senator Dole is their special target because of his leadership role in the unsuccessful effort to stop the sanctions legislation against South Africa in 1986.

The 30-second Transafrica advertisement shows scenes of violence in South Africa and accuses Senator Dole of just turning his back on it.

## Apartheid ad to be used in US battle for presidency

Political advertisements are common in American elections. To foreigners here, many of them seem close to libellous.

Television stations in Iowa rejected the sanctions ad as too controversial, but television stations in Boston, which beam their programmes into nearby New Hampshire, will start to air them on Wednesday.

Last year Senator Dole angrily denied that he was indifferent to the suffering of blacks in South Africa and insisted that his record proved there was not a racist bone in his body. The ads were a phony attempt to distort his record.

Transafrica is also planning a demonstration against Senator Dole when the six Republican candidates gather in New Hampshire for a debate.

Ms Dale Tate, spokeswoman for the Dole campaign, said yesterday that she would prefer if the ad was not run but she doubted if it would have a significant impact on the presidential race.



# Maritzburg's tragedy

Own Correspondent

The STAR

JAN 11 1988

DURBAN — Bringing about peace in Maritzburg's strife-torn townships is singled out by *City Press* as priority number one for the new year.

The paper, in an editorial, endorsed Archbishop Desmond Tutu's call for an immediate stop to the senseless violence and called for bold new solutions to bring about peace.

Unfortunately the leader writer did not come forward with any bold new suggestions of his own on how to end the violence... but that's a problem which has baffled many a brain.

The *Sowetan*, also took a look at the Maritzburg crisis and suggested that the churches — and prayer — might hold the key.

"The situation has assumed the proportions of a national tragedy and something dramatic has to be done to stop the violence," the paper said.

"The hatred sown and the divisions driven between the people of that area are becoming deep and unbridgeable, unless something is done from outside."

The paper said it believed that sanity could only come from concerted action mounted by outsiders.

"Perhaps the churches should be approached to meet and in their united action go to Maritzburg."

The *Sowetan's* columnist Agrey Klaaste wrote: "As 1987 limped to a sticky end our thoughts were concentrated in agony on the tragedy in the Maritzburg area."

"To quote Alan Paton, I have no choice but to cry for the beloved country."

"I have ranted and raved in what I thought was a rather passionate way over the spectacle of blacks killing blacks. That, it appears, was a waste of emotions."

"I guess what I and others should be doing is to pray for the people of Natal."

**Bold call  
for end to  
violence,  
but no one  
has come  
forward  
with any  
bold ideas  
HOW to  
end it**



How the *Sowetan* of Monday January 4 saw Archbishop Desmond Tutu's call for an immediate end to the Maritzburg violence and bold new solutions to bring about peace.



**T**he state of black education is a matter of deep concern to *City Press*... even though the Department of Education and Training has described the matric results as gratifying.

The paper pointed out that while the pass rate for white matriculants was 94,8 percent, black matriculants could only manage a 56,6 percent pass rate.

"And the Department of Education and Training expects us to be thankful.

"Can a respected educationist such as the former Soweto headmaster Thamsanga Khambule be faulted when he says that the situation will go on until parity

with whites is achieved."

The *Sowetan* touched on another aspect of education... the fact that many white classrooms stand empty while black classrooms cannot cope with the demand.

The paper said that about 1 000 classrooms in Transvaal schools for whites (enough for 48 000 pupils) were empty last year. Even more space would be unused this year as enrolment at white schools in Johannesburg and Pretoria continued to slide.

Out of 23 white schools in Johannesburg, which provided information, 14 confirmed they were not full to capacity and seven were experiencing shortages of more than 200 students.

"Observatory Girls in Johannesburg east, for example, ex-

pected to be only 27 percent full in 1988."

One of the factors causing the alarming decline in enrolments is the falling birth rate.

The *Sowetan* said that several organisations and educationists had called on the Transvaal Education Department to stop the waste of facilities and allow black pupils to make use of them.

*Bona* magazine succeeded in tracing the previously unnamed father of the celebrated Siamese twins in the Transvaal, Mpho and Mphonyana, who are joined at the head.

He is apparently 42-year-old Daniel Mokgotho who — says *Bona* — met the mother in Klerksdorp 10 years ago and became her lover.

**W**hen confronted by a representative of the magazine at his place of work, he said he felt bitter because the mum, Sophie Mathibela, had not told him she was pregnant.

"Perhaps she was afraid to tell me because she knows I'm married," said Daniel, who is the father of six children... not counting the twins.

Daniel hadn't yet told his wife about the twins.

He said he was angry over a rumour that Sophie planned to have him bewitched for running away from her.

"How could I run away from her?" He asked. "She knows where I work and where I stay."



Aggrey Klaaste... "What I and others should be doing is to pray for the people of Natal."



# Weak and innocent suffer as faction war rages through townships

# Blood and tears at Maritzburg

THE STAR JAN 11 1988

## Own Correspondent

**DURBAN** — As the blood of their husbands and young sons spills to the ground in the gruesome battle for control of the Maritzburg townships, so do the tears of the wives and mothers.

Trapped between opposing sides in the carnage are the mothers, children and the elderly.

Most do not even know why the war is being fought. All they know is that each day they must protect themselves and their little ones and try to survive.

Whether they be mothers whose sons are members of either the "vigilantes" (Inkatha) or the "comrades" (United Democratic Front), they all cry for the same thing: peace.

All they want is an end to living like cornered animals, but there will be no end, they say, while the hate between the two warring factions grows and while anyone who stands in their way dies.

They say they would be able to bring some peace to the area if they were given the chance to negotiate, but custom does not allow women to have a say.

In town they meet and together they mourn the deaths of their men and sons. Once many of them were friends, but they have been divided.

"People young and old have been brutally murdered. All the time they are dying around us; we never know when we are going to be next," said a young mother of seven children who had to flee from her house in Slangspruit.

## No place to sleep

Her home was petrol-bombed a few weeks ago. "We had no place to sleep. We could not stay at my sister's house as she was afraid they would do the same thing to her."

With her children she slept in the undergrowth on one of the hills that surround her township. All they owned was the clothing they wore.

"We stayed there for days. There were many other women and children who had to run away as well."

During the day the mothers from the hill went to the township to look for food and shelter.

"We could not make shacks on the hill because they would have found us. Then the police came and chased us back into the township."

She and another family managed to find accommodation for R10 a month each. In squalor they now share a one-bedroom squatters' shack in which 17 people sleep.

In the townships of kwaShange, Taylor's Halt and the Henly Dam area, women and children have also fled into the hills.

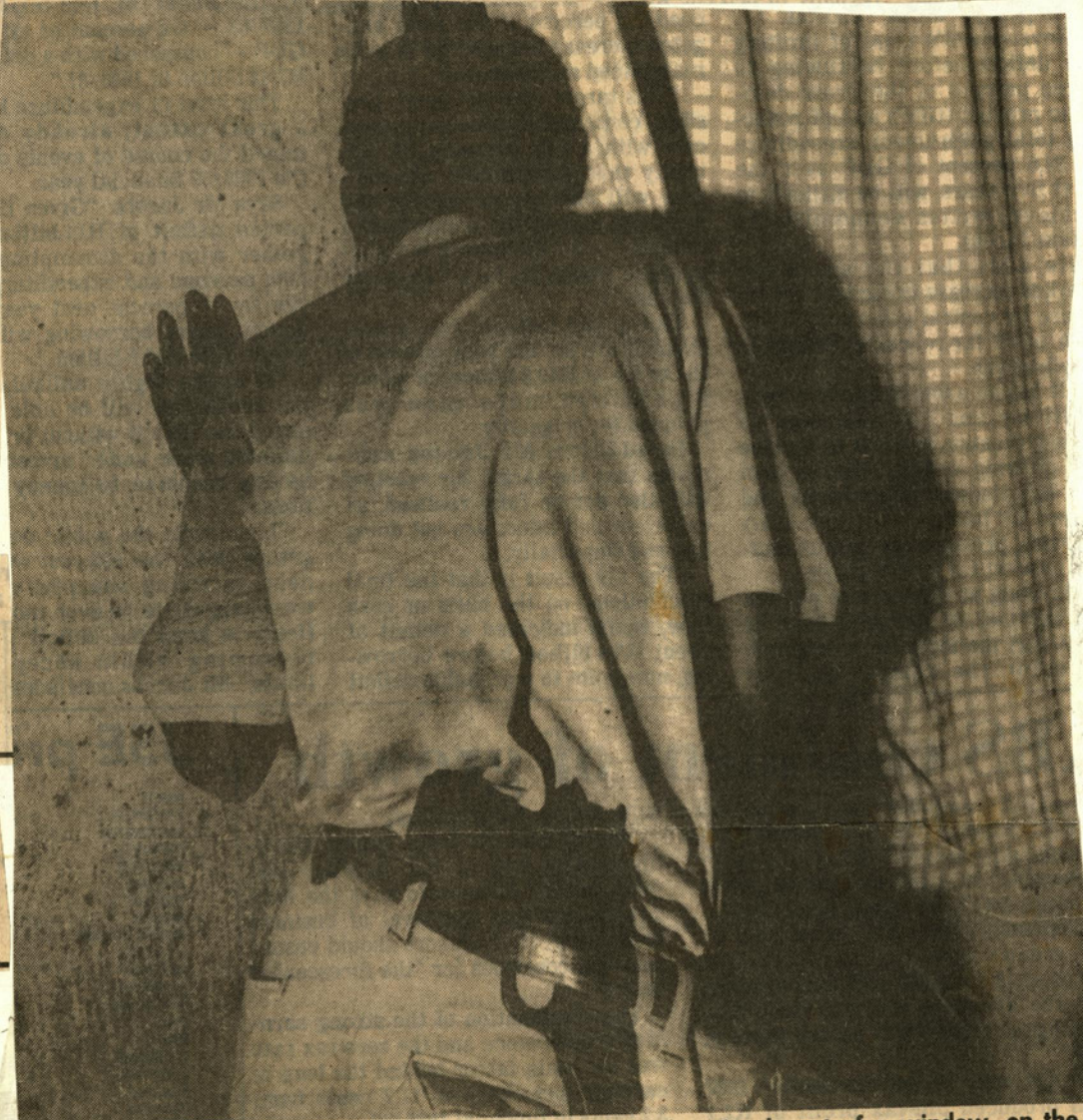
In the day they too venture back to their homes, but towards late afternoon they return to their beds under the stars.

They say they feel safe in the daylight but it is at night when the attacks begin. Many families sleep during the day so that they can stay awake at night to protect themselves.

"They come in combis or buses. Sometimes there are about 80 men and youths who go from house to house finding out which side we are on.

They knock on the door shouting: 'Are you Inkatha or UDF supporters?'.

"We do not know what to answer because we do not know what side they are on. If we make a mistake and give the wrong answer, they break down the doors, beat us up or burn our house and kill us. Every day this is happening to our friends



A young vigilante in Maritzburg, pistol at his hip, peers cautiously out of a window, on the alert for the police or a rival faction.



and neighbours," said one mother of three from Taylor's Halt.

A few weeks ago she said the two factions were fighting in her street.

"They burnt down a house near mine and were shooting people. I was scared so I took my children and grandchild and ran away to stay with my madam in Maritzburg. We are tired. We do not sleep. Now if they want to kill us, they must. What can we do? I am black, I cannot change my skin and I do not want to belong to any organisation. It is the black who is killing the black. Who can save us?"

Another group of women said they feared the vigilantes the most.

"They come to our houses and force us to become Inkatha members. If we say we do not want to, they say we must join or suffer a severe punishment."

One woman who lives in Ashdown said her family joined in order to save their own lives. Each adult in the house had to pay R5, and R2,50 each for the children, to a group who had forced themselves into her home.

She said she was lucky she could pay. A neighbour did not have the money so they assaulted her husband, raped her and slaughtered one of her cattle, which they regarded as payment.

"Sometimes they just walk into our homes and eat our food. We do not know who they are or which side they are on."

Others said they feared the comrades, who just burst into their homes and either demanded that their young sons and husbands joined them in their patrols or pulled them out by force.

### No money for food

"We worry so much because we do not know if they will come back. We know mothers who have not seen their sons for days. When our husbands disappear we have no money so we cannot buy food. We are hungry and scared."

After these disappearances the women begin searching for their men.

They go from friend to friend for information, then the hospitals and finally from mortuary to mortuary. Some have returned widows, or mourning the loss of a son, while others have to continue the search.

Some sections of the townships have been taken over completely by Inkatha or the UDF.

Families have been forced out of their homes, into which large groups of youths then move.

If the area is an Inkatha stronghold, the UDF send patrols to protect the homes of their followers or vice versa.

At one house near an Inkatha area, about eight UDF supporters had gathered. When asked what they were doing they said they were going out to protect their people. They said did not want a photograph taken as they were all wanted by the police.



## UDF leader slates political coercion

CAPE TOWN — The co-president of the United Democratic Front, Mr Archie Gumede (73), fears that the use of coercion by certain elements within the "progressive movement" could threaten the establishment of a democratic society.

In a interview in the latest edition of *Leadership* magazine, the Durban attorney and activist said that during a recent meeting youths had called him a "racist" for saying that the answer to the problem of internecine township violence lay among township residents themselves.

"Some agreed with that accusation, others didn't. I found people at leadership level in that group very much more inclined to coercing others to comply with their requests, than

understanding."

Mr Gumede agreed with his interviewer that this kind of attitude was "dangerous".

However, he said, unless more people opposed to such an attitude became involved in the progressive movement, there was a greater chance that people who occupied leadership positions would be those who believed in coercion.

Mr Gumede cited an example of a township youth leader whose firearm had gone missing and who had used "all the methods the police use in extracting confessions" to find out who had taken it — "so much so that people admitted to things they had not done."

Such behaviour was "the very thing we are opposed to", Mr Gumede said. — Sapa.



# THE DAILY NEWS

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## The Daily News Beach behaviour

BLACK leaders are to be commended for their sensible contribution to the current debate about open beaches and, specifically, for their measured response to complaints by white people about the behaviour of some blacks.

As reported in The Daily News on Saturday, there is general acceptance that some of the actions of blacks were unhygienic and anti-social; and there was a firm call for a major effort to educate blacks on the protocols of beach behaviour.

The fact is that many blacks are using the former "white" beaches for the first time; they can hardly be expected immediately to conform to all the standards expected. But, as Mr Archie Gumede pointed out, blacks would like to conform.

It is also true that many blacks have not enjoyed the

same levels of affluence or the quality of home life as many whites; many face the inconvenience of having to travel long distances in buses to reach the beaches. This has obviously contributed to overcrowding and hygiene problems. All this can be overcome with better planning, proper education and time.

What is certain is that there is a willingness (indeed, a demand) in the black community to know about beach etiquette and the awareness that certain behaviour is unacceptable is the first step to putting matters right. Black leaders have a responsibility to promote this process in every way.

And the fact that this is perceived and is happening in the black community should encourage white beachgoers to be more tolerant and more helpful.

## A no-win situation

IT has been a long time since anyone seriously believed any prediction by a South African Minister of Finance that through strict financial discipline State spending would be restricted.

Everyone now knows that the Government simply does not keep such promises. Even the Government's traditional supporters no longer go along with the fiction, now merely noting with pessimism the ever-worsening monetary statistics.

The latest gloomy report is from Volkskas which says it is already a foregone conclusion that this year the deficit will

rise to R11-billion compared with the R7,42-billion notched up in 1986/87.

And, says the bank, "it seems highly unlikely that the authorities will be able to finance this deficit without bringing interest rates under pressure or having recourse to money creation."

Rising interest rates will seriously jeopardise the present economic recovery while money creation is synonymous with inflation, which cuts into our ability to trade abroad.

It is a no-win situation and the Government must bear the blame.

## Bureaucratic bullying

THE high-handed habits of bureaucrats in South Africa could hardly be better illustrated than by the strange events at Baragwanath Hospital. Doctors at the hospital wrote a letter to the South African Medical Journal pointing to unsatisfactory conditions there. One would think that the official reaction would be to remedy

the faults or challenge the allegations. Instead the doctors have been threatened with dismissal unless they sign a retraction. The Medical Association of South Africa has deplored this response and confirmed the doctors' claims. Thus confronted, the authorities will, if they are wise, back down.

## More hopeful signs

AFTER one of the quietest weekends in months in Pietermaritzburg townships it is perhaps too early to say exactly what contributed to it. It might have been due to the stronger police presence but perhaps the church-sponsored call for peace by the United Democratic Front and Inkatha at the end of

the week is being heeded. It could take some time for the appeal to get around the scattered communities and to filter down to the rank and file. But, certainly, the spirit of unity shown by the two main organisations involved gives greater hope for real reconciliation.



# A Christian's cry: forgive us!

SIR — I am a committed Christian, truly blessed in an overgrowing realisation these past 30 years, that our Lord Jesus Christ is the Almighty God brought down to a dimension that I can understand and truly identify with. A loving, life-changing, miracle-working Lord and Friend.

This is the Jesus, who in His dying agony would say: 'Father forgive them, they do not know what they are doing!' Surely some standing there must have said: 'Forgive them? The Roman crucifiers as well? The ones who have dominated our land...? The ones who mocked You, humiliated You, who will crucify others?' only to hear the reply: 'Father forgive them (all) they do not know what they are doing!'

Bishop Tutu! Rev Nuttall! Like-thinking Anglicans! Like-minded 'Christian' Lusaka Agreement underwriters, I pray for you, I weep for you — for myself.

For you have brought me to that place, where I — a so-called follower of Christ, says: 'Very well then. Let your "liberators" come. Let them enter or re-enter my land. But be assured, as I see the terror and fear on the faces of my people — women, children, the elderly and helpless of whatever colour or creed — I will meet your standard of Christianity, and will kill those henchmen of yours — as they desecrate and kill — whilst praying our Lord Jesus Christ's forgiveness for my appalling mockery of His call to love'.

Gentlemen, be it on your conscience, that you are in-

stigating this, but be assured, you have brought me down to your level — or the level of your chosen confederates — and many, like me, will take this stand. We will not stand by and watch Godless communism taking over.

Lord Jesus forgive them — forgive US. We shame Your name and teaching as we prepare to kill, to meet savagery as it shall be met — as we have met it before.

And Pilate said: 'What will you do with this man called "Jesus?"' And the crowd shouted: "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" Many remained silent, and in their silence, they consented!

So too, many so-called 'Christians' underwriting this Lusaka union will claim innocence when destruction is met head-on. But in

truth their silence will cry again: 'Crucify! Crucify! Crucify!'

WAR VETERAN



# Mozambique rebel group is 'still popular and influential'

Unless a truly international consensus can be struck on the future of Mozambique, one that includes South Africa, the only outlook for the immediate future is one of bloody stalemate associated with enormous human suffering.

This is the conclusion reached in an analysis of the security situation in Mozambique prepared by a well-informed group which has taken a special interest in the territory.

Its views are contained in a paper circulating in diplomatic and intelligence circles in Harare.

The analysis maintains that despite well-documented accounts of savage atrocities inflicted by the rebel group, Renamo, as the MNR has come to be known, the movement remains influential and popular in many parts of Mozambique.

It says that while Renamo is no doubt responsible for some of the savagery, Mozambique is infested by "freelance bandits and local warlords" not necessarily directed by Renamo.

It says that from an ideological point of view, the movement includes people who regard Frelimo as being revisionists in Marxist terms right through to right-wing

**Quote from the analysis: "Mozambique remains a country in crisis. Out of its population of approximately 15 million people, up to 5 million face starvation and almost 50 per cent of these people are beyond the reach of the aid agencies. Infant mortality is now among the highest in the world and life expectancy has declined sharply."**

rebels who want a free enterprise approach to the economy. It includes corrupt and criminal elements simply out for themselves, while many supporters are hungry people who see banditry as perhaps the only way of feeding themselves and their families.

*THE STAR*  
International consensus should now be possible to end the war, says an analysis of the security situation. Robin Drew reports from Harare.

*JAN 11 - 1988*  
Commenting on the Mozambique situation under the late President Samora Machel (right), the analysis says: "Machel's banning of religion shortly after independence, its position as a radical Marxist regime and the withdrawal of all property rights had created many disenchanted elements within the country."



amo's sympathisers in the SA security/military system".

Of the current position, the analysis says South African assistance, official or unofficial, has been scaled down and Renamo has been forced to seek supplies by raiding into neighbouring territories and attacking Frelimo installations.

"There are so many weapons in Mozambique that it has been quite simple for Renamo to sustain its position by such activity, although this is now becoming more difficult and most recent reports indicate that the movement is seriously short of supplies."

The analysis says: "South Africa's strategy is always difficult to read and probably remains ambivalent. On the one hand they have recognised the importance of the Nkoma-

The analysis says nothing could be further from the truth than the image put about of Renamo being a coherent political force fighting a repressive communist regime which had suppressed religious freedom.

Tracing the history of the movement from the time it was established by the Rhodesian Government during the guerilla war, the analysis says that by 1984, after South Africa had taken charge of it, Renamo had 15 000 men under arms, secure rear bases in South



Africa and supply bases in several other countries.

A number of Middle East countries and right-wing groups elsewhere were giving it support.

Then came the Nkomati Accord between Pretoria and Maputo and, says the analysis: "The signing marked the end of the official destabilisation programme which was thereafter gradually wound down until it was finally abandoned in mid-1985."

It maintains, however, that initially support continued as South Africa had given Renamo with two years' supplies before Nkomati and there was evidence that the communications system was maintained and periodic air and sea drops continued, "some of which were authorised and some unauthorised by Ren-

ti Accord to their own international diplomatic status and to efforts to sustain their international trading position. On the other hand they probably want to maintain Renamo in some kind of residual form.

"The recent signing of an agreement to take part in the rehabilitation of the supply lines from Cahora Bassa so that South Africa could begin to take power is significant.

"It points to a firmer commitment to Mozambique's stability and security and to a desire to reinforce the relationship between the two states. If this policy stance is taken to its logical conclusion it will have profound implications for the whole region."

The analysis says South Africa never regarded Renamo as a potential substitute government and deliberately restricted its assistance to a level enabling Renamo to be a destabilising factor without actually threatening the power base of Frelimo.

Today Renamo had degenerated as an organisation and had more pronounced divisions. But as Mozambique's economy deteriorated, so the numbers supporting Renamo had grown and it was now probably

three times the size it was in 1984, though poorly equipped for anything approaching conventional warfare.

The analysis says there are no substantive political interests prepared to back a Renamo thrust for power and that the South Africans would not be prepared to allow it to come to power through force.

But Renamo's activities had created conditions of economic, social and political collapse and severe hardships for the people of Mozambique.

While Frelimo's position could only improve as its policy of economic reform took root and western assistance gathered momentum, an end to the civil war seemed unlikely in the short term. Even if Renamo's hold were to be broken, local warlordism would remain endemic.

In the unlikely event of a Renamo victory, Frelimo would presumably revert to the bush and fight on.

The analysis concludes that an international consensus should be possible because the war is now in nobody's interest.

"In many respects peace in Mozambique is a prerequisite to progress in the region as a whole," it says. — The Star's Africa News Service.



near

## Daggakraal land rights now secure TPA tells owners

*THE STAR*  
*Jan 11 1988*

Land-owners of the huge Eastern Transvaal freehold farm of Daggakraal will not be required to move off the property acquired by their forefathers in 1912.

The assurance that they may remain on Daggakraal and that their land rights are secure, was given by Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman Mr F Piek at a meeting of residents held in Daggakraal at the weekend.

But a community authority is to be established for the area and elections will be held for this body which will be recognised by the Government and will communicate directly with it, the community was told.

"Nobody from outside will interfere and it is up to the community to decide and to recommend what their priorities are," said Mr Piek.

Only landowners will stand for election in the community where the combined population of tenants and landowners is about 46 000.

Mr Gweje Twala, chairman of the Daggakraal Joint Executive Committee, and his secretary Mr Temple Mvelase, said they welcomed the move.

### HAPPY WITH DECISION

"We are particularly happy that the Government has decided that Daggakraal will not be run by a tribal authority but by a community authority," said Mr Twala.

This reaction is in sharp contrast to the stand taken by black freehold communities elsewhere in the country, who have rejected the community authorities as outdated modes of apartheid administration.

Daggakraal's neighbouring black freehold farms — kwaNgema and Driefontein — are among those who have rejected the system.

Mr Piek added that development in the area would be done by the Department of Development Aid, which was also represented at the meeting. Improvements to roads would be undertaken immediately by the State free of charge, he said.

The authority of the chief over the settlement would have to be curtailed, said Mr Piek, because landowners could not have a chief ruling over them.

He also noted that many landowners had tenants whom they charged rental. Mr Piek said this was a malpractice punishable by law. — Own Correspondent and Staff Reporter.



# Impatient to be home, Congress doesn't know what it's voting for

*The Star*  
January 11, 1988

The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — American legislators are alarmed at the far-reaching laws they are passing, often without knowing what they are voting for.

This emerged in recent weeks when senators and congressmen on their year-end breaks have begun to unravel what they approved in all-night sittings on Capitol Hill as Christmas loomed and they itched to fly home.

Lurking in two last-minute Bills were provisions and clauses, such as the Rangel Amendment killing tax concessions for US corporations in South Africa.

Many see it as part of a worsening shambles on Capitol Hill, where members in both chambers rush to attach their pet amendments to the 1 000-page revenue and deficit-reduction Bills.

The amendments often have nothing to do with Bills to which they are being attached, a symptom of the deteriorating Republican-Democrat bickering on Capitol Hill which has in recent years led to chaotic legislative bottlenecks near Christmas.

Observers widely believe that Congress is choking on lethargy and compromise, bogged down in a monumental tangle of its own making.

One of the Bills passed was a manoeuvre by Senator Edward Kennedy, who engineered a blow to the news media tsar, Mr Rupert Murdoch, in the heart of Mr

Kennedy's constituency in Boston.

The Kennedy-Murdoch feud is well known. The magnate's conservative tabloid, *The Boston Herald*, has long scorned the senator. When Senator Kennedy announced that he would not be running for president, the newspaper said: "Kennedy sees the light at last".

Passed in the final hours of last year's 100th session of Congress, the Bill now rules out any exceptions to a law that nobody may own a newspaper and a television station in the same area of the US.

Mr Murdoch will have to sell either *The Boston Herald*, which screamed "Kennedy's vendetta" in a headline after the Bill was passed, or his WFXT-TV television station in Boston. Mr Murdoch will also have to act on the *New York Post* or WNYW-TV in New York City.

Senator Kennedy did not introduce the Bill, but he is facing fire from all sides.

## 'OUTRAGEOUS MUGGING OF PUBLIC INTEREST'

New York's Mayor, Mr Ed Koch said, the law had been sneaked past Congress "to avoid an outrageous mugging of the public interest".

Two New York senators who did not spot this amendment at the time said they would introduce legislation to undo it as soon as they returned to Capitol Hill on January 25.

Another controversial law which has outraged many in Washington is the discovery of how a congressman used Congress to exact revenge on the Pentagon's Defence Intelligence Agency (DIA).

Congressman Charles Wilson (54), a conservative Democrat from Texas, saw to it that two aircraft were removed from DIA's hangars and that the agency's staff was cut.

Mr Wilson's feud with the DIA started in February 1986, when he and his girlfriend, a former Miss World contestant, flew to Pakistan for a close-up of the war in Afghanistan. When they arrived at the US embassy in Islamabad, they were told that his girlfriend would not be allowed to fly further in the embassy aircraft run by the DIA as it was against regulations.

Mr Wilson reportedly threatened to cut the agency's funds and have its aircraft in Pakistan taken from it. Measures to that effect are now law after almost two years of plotting by the congressman.

Another legislative surprise came from Senator Daniel Inouye, the chairman of the Iran-Contra investigation last year. He has raised hackles by slipping a \$16 million grant for Sephardic Jewish schooling in France into the spending law.

The senator's considerable financial backing from Jewish quarters in America is no secret and is spoken of openly in Washington.



11/01/88

**T**HE violence outside Pietermaritzburg continues at a horrifying rate, the death toll keeps climbing. Peace talks between Inkatha and the United Democratic Front keep breaking down in the face of the continuing violence, despite concern expressed by the leadership on both sides.

Why should this be? Is it possible that we are all misreading the violence, attributing it totally to political conflict when the real causes are different and lie far deeper and are therefore beyond "political" control?

Research conducted on the spot by this institute certainly suggests so. It suggests that rivalry between Inkatha and the UDF is rather low on the

the scale as a cause of the violence. Only 12 percent of the substantial cross-section of people interviewed in the area saw it as a vital component of the ongoing violence.

It seems that the area's appalling poverty and hopeless unemployment have created an alienated and disorientated generation who have little ideological motivation but find an outlet for their frustrations in anti-social mayhem. To them it matters nothing who their victims might be — Inkatha, UDF or the non-committed. In line with international conflict studies, the conditions in these Pietermaritzburg townships are well-primed for conflict and anarchy.

This institute recently commissioned a team of field researchers under a qualified sociologist to conduct research in the black areas around Pietermaritzburg in an attempt to gain a better understanding of the violence. The research team spoke to Inkatha and the UDF as well as, perhaps more importantly, to ordinary men and women, some of whom had political affiliations and some of whom did not.

The research discovered that economic depression on a scale to make this the most significant factor in the unrest.

While research as recent as 1986 had put the unemployment rate in these townships at 30 percent, 85 percent of the people interviewed by the institute team in December 1987 had been out of work for more than six months. These are truly alarming figures.

The research findings describe the wrath and frustration of unemployed people as fundamental to the spontaneous outbreaks of conflict. Who would disagree?

And the conflict has, in many cases, prevented these deprived people even growing their own food as they did in the past. Crops are simply destroyed by the gangs for the sake of destruction, not for any other reason.

The researchers found that the majority of the killings in the Pietermaritzburg townships are not politically motivated at all. But they can cause political repercussions if the victim happens to have a political affilia-

## MONDAY COLUMN

Gavin Woods,  
Director of the Inkatha Institute



# Poverty behind Capital violence

tion.

Consider this eyewitness account of a murder, obtained in one of the interviews:

"I was sitting with my friend Edward outside the bottlestore. Three of us were drinking there. Edward was dragged by six guys towards the open field. They shot him three times. They took off his trousers, his money, his shirt, even his underpants. They shot him in the head. Edward was not UDF, he was more Inkatha, but not really involved.

"These guys were not UDF, I knew them, Edward had some problems with them after they attacked his brother's shop. I know who the people are, they are tsotsis, but the UDF might be blamed for the killing. Edward will not like this, but I know there will be revenge."

There you have it in a nutshell: tragedy compounding tragedy.

A moral jungle has been allowed to flourish outside Pietermaritzburg. Is society not obliged to do something about it?

If the main problems are criminality and alienation caused by economic depression. Is it not time to stop merely wringing our hands?

These areas need firm but impartial policing, a far stronger presence by police fulfilling their proper peace-keeping function. This would end the bloody tyranny of the gangs and allow people to get on with their lives. The political process could then be normalised.

Is there any reason why the Pietermaritzburg area should not have the benefit of intelligent police work conforming to international norms?

But until the authorities address the underlying economic and social issues the underlying causes will remain.

There is a theory that certain quarters within government are not particularly disturbed by the Pietermaritzburg violence because it discredits black politics in the eyes of the whites and the international community.

I really cannot believe this could be so, and I hope the Government will soon prove it not to be so by taking the initiatives which this legacy to apartheid cries out for.

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