

THE CITIZEN

Monday 29 February 1988

R1 124-m package for development in Natal

ULUNDI. — The KwaZulu/Natal planning council has recommended development projects at a cost of R1 124 million, according to a joint statement released by the Chief Minister of KwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and the South African Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

The planning council was jointly established by the two governments in 1984, with a mandate to investigate and report on the improvement of the quality of life in KwaZulu/Natal as well as of Zulu people in Durban, Pietermaritzburg.

The R1 124 million figure includes the upgrading of existing infrastructural and community facilities in the metropolitan areas to the amount of R486 million and the development of new areas at a cost of R638 million.

"The two governments have considered the proposals and in recognition of the urgent need for the improvement of living

conditions, have agreed to accept the proposals in principle for implementation over a period of at least five years subject to availability of the necessary finances," the statement reads.

The KwaZulu government has been authorised to proceed with those projects which can be financed by the Development Bank of Southern Africa. The bank has indicated that it may be able to provide loans to the KwaZulu government for projects up to R428,5 million.

The South African government will by way of the normal budgeting cycle provide the KwaZulu government with the necessary financial aid to service these loans.

The Natal Provincial Administration will proceed with the projects for which it is responsible within its normal budgetary guidelines of expenditure.

The implementation of other projects for which additional funds have to

be voted by Parliament will be considered at a later stage, the statement says.

A joint coordination committee will be formed under the chairmanship of the Department of Development Aid. The committee will coordinate and implement the proposals. Representatives include the KwaZulu Government, the Department of Finance, of Development Planning and of Education and Training, the Natal Provincial Administration and the Develop-

ment Bank of Southern Africa. The committee will also monitor projects initiated following the council's July 1985 interim report.

The latest proposals cover urban infrastructural and community requirements, but do not include the costs involved in the provision of housing.

The KwaZulu government and the Department of Development Aid will negotiate with tribal authorities over the use and advisability of certain tribal lands for township development, subject to suitable compensation for the tribes concerned. — Sapa.



OLIVER Tambo . . .
ANC leader



JOHNSON Mlambo . . .
PAC leader

ANC AND PAC *Sowetan* SLAM GOVT *29/2/88* CLAMPDOWN

SOWETAN Africa News Service

LUSAKA — The African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress have said the latest restrictions on 17 organisations will not silence opposition to the Government.

In a statement issued in Lusaka the ANC said the action against the organisations had been taken at a time when "President Botha and his generals are readying their machinery to set in place refurbished puppet bodies and dummy institutions".

"Fearful that mass resistance will once again reveal the hollowness of their co-optive attempts, the regime is trying to disarm the resistance," the statement said.

It added that the Government's actions showed there was no truth in Pretoria's claims that it was introducing reform in the country.

The PAC said the restrictions came in the wake of "nation-wide militant activities organised to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the death of PAC founder president Mangaliso Sobukwe which began on February 20".

The PAC statement recalled that the South African Government already had at its disposal hundreds of security laws and that South Africa was presently under a state of emergency.

"The fact that the curbs on mass organisation are imposed amid a myriad of these draconian laws, is a clear indication that no amount of repression will silence the African majority until they achieve their self-determination and national independence," the statement said.

att: Chief Minister

R1 bn plan for upgrading of KwaZulu

African Affairs Correspondent

ULUNDI—The KwaZulu/Natal Planning Council has recommended that projects for the upgrading of facilities in black areas and the development of new areas amounting to R1,124 billion be implemented.

The recommendations — accepted in principle by the KwaZulu and South African governments — were announced in a joint statement by the KwaZulu Chief Minister, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and the Education and Development Aid Minister, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, yesterday.

Of the R1,124 billion, R486 million will go on the upgrading of existing infrastructural and community facilities in the metropolitan areas and R638 million on the development of new areas.

Five years

The council was established by the two governments in 1984 to investigate and report on the improvement of the quality of life of Zulu people in KwaZulu/Natal.

Its recommendations will be implemented over at least five years, subject to the availability of funds, under three authorities.

The majority of projects, totalling about R680 million, fall under KwaZulu, while Development Aid will be responsible for projects totalling an estimated R427 million.

The Natal Provincial Administration will be responsible for projects of R37 million.

The development of new areas will provide 57 600 sites within KwaZulu and 25 800

sites on South African Development Trust land.

Authorised

As the proposals do not include the costs involved in the provision of housing, the private sector and the South African Housing Trust will, in accordance with State policy, be involved as closely as possible in the provision of housing.

KwaZulu has been authorised to proceed with those projects which can be financed by loans from the Development Bank of Southern Africa, which has indicated that it might be able to provide KwaZulu with up to R428.5 million, in order to avoid delays in implementing the projects.

The central Government will provide KwaZulu with the necessary financial aid to service these loans through its normal budgeting cycle.

Additional funds for the implementation of all other projects under control of KwaZulu and Development Aid will have to be voted by Parliament.

In July, 1985, the council submitted an interim report identifying 70 priority projects amounting to about R107.8 million, which were approved by both governments and are in the final stages of completion.

A Joint Co-ordination Committee will be formed under the chairmanship of the Department of Development Aid to co-ordinate and implement the proposals, on which KwaZulu, the Department of Finance, the Department of Development Planning, the Department of Education and Training, the NPA and the Development Bank will be represented.

Natal Mercury
29-2-1988

Massive upgrading plan for KwaZulu

R1 124 billion to be spent on projects

Daily News Reporter

THE KwaZulu/Natal Planning Council has recommended that R1 124 billion be spent on new and upgraded development projects to improve facilities in black areas.

The recommendations were announced yesterday in a joint statement by KwaZulu Chief Minister, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and the Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

They are part of the interim report submitted by the Planning Council in 1985, which identified 70 priority projects.

The KwaZulu Government and the South African Government have agreed in principle to accept the proposals for implementation over a period of at least five years, subject to the availability of the necessary finances.

The KwaZulu/Natal Planning Council was established jointly by the KwaZulu and South African governments to investigate and report on ways and means to improve the quality of life of the Zulu people in KwaZulu/Natal with special reference to the Durban, Pietermaritzburg metropolitan areas.

Projects identified are to be implemented under the jurisdiction of three authorities. Most of them — at an estimated cost of R660 million — are situ-

ated within the area of jurisdiction of the KwaZulu Government.

The Department of Development Aid will be responsible for projects totalling an estimated R427 million on South African Development Trust Land while the Natal Provincial Administration will be responsible for projects of nearly R37 million.

The development of new areas will result in an additional 57 600 sites within KwaZulu and 25 800 sites on South African Development Trust land.

The KwaZulu Government has been authorised to proceed with those projects which can be financed by way of development bank loans. The South African Government will provide the KwaZulu Government with the necessary financial aid to service these loans.

A joint co-ordination committee, under the chairmanship of the Department of Development Aid, will be formed to co-ordinate and implement the proposals.

The KwaZulu Government, the departments of Finance, of Development Planning and of Education and Training, the Natal Provincial Administration and the Development Bank of Southern Africa will be represented on the committee.

Radicals

NATAL WITNESS 29/10/88

The Minister of Law and Order has declared that the police will win their fight against the "radicals" in the Pietermaritzburg area and elsewhere in South Africa. Effective police work has indeed quelled some of the violence in the local townships, and the state's massive security machine has been able to maintain a sort of order across the country in response to very real challenges. Yet those challenges are not new. It is more than a quarter of a century since the ANC was banned. The police have worked manfully to enforce that ban, yet the ANC is today more influential than ever. The police can hardly be accused of laxity in the enforcing of the current emergency, yet politically-motivated violence has continued in the townships despite regulations intended specifically to curb such "unrest". And, despite its panoply of long-standing security and emergency powers, the government only last week found it necessary to restrict the activities of a further 17 organisations. Mr Vlok's confidence that the police will win can hardly be based on past successes.

The fault, of course, lies not with the police but with the laws and regulations that they have to enforce. Attempts to impose order without the rule of law, and to implement laws that are devoid of justice, have created the revolutionary climate in which radicalism now flourishes. If the Minister of Law and Order wishes to restore peace and security, it is to his political colleagues that he must speak, not his policemen.

South Africa

by Gerald Shaw

Why the clampdown now?

THE far-reaching security crack-down last week has caused some puzzlement. Why has it come now, at a time of relative peace by recent South African standards (Maritzburg excepted)? It is hard to take the blathering about a "revolutionary climate" very seriously. We are not on the brink of revolution. What Dr Denis Worrall describes as an "incredibly foolish and irresponsible action", is seen by the security establishment, I imagine, as a routine exercise in good housekeeping.

It does not even have much to do with the approaching by-elections in the Transvaal. The CP is unimpressed, anyway, and is already reapproaching the NP for its namby-pamby half-measures. This sweeping crackdown has rather more to do with the growing cost and bother of keeping hundreds of leading black

politicians and their followers in detention without trial.

The security establishment, with rather more power than is good for any human institution, and occupying a murky half-world remote from everyday reality, believe it is necessary in terms of their brief to neutralise certain organisations which enjoy a mass following in the black community. It is not practical to keep all the leaders and significant members of the UDF, Azapo and the black civic and youth organisations in detention indefinitely. A detention system on such a scale imposes a huge administrative, political and financial burden, and is a continuing focal point of grievance, agitation and political mobilisation of the masses.

So what now seems likely is that long-term detainees will be steadily released, without announcement,

and immediately placed under restrictions which will prevent them from making speeches, writing for newspapers, being quoted in newspapers, addressing meetings, attending gatherings of any sort, or indeed playing any political role at all. Many will also be confined to their own districts, no doubt, or even placed under house arrest.

Some key leaders are already restricted in terms of the new measures, such as the liberal-minded Mr Archie Gumede, who believes that the question of working within the system should be considered in the UDF. That it should be men such as Archie Gumede who are now silenced is a striking illustration of the cynicism of the Botha government in its spurious commitment to "reform" and "negotiation".

The government seeks to crush

black dissent by coercion, and having restored some kind of calm, to co-opt amenable blacks in a supportive role into the existing white supremacist constitutional system. That is all. There has never been any intention at all to give up Afrikaner Nationalism's monopoly of effective power.

Given the implacable resolution, some might say ruthlessness, which is the distinguishing mark of a remarkable tradition of ethnic nationalism, no one should underestimate the readiness of the NP establishment to go to all lengths to retain power in the future, even if the economy should go to blazes. But the economy may not go to blazes, not for a while anyway. On the short and even on the medium term a lot of money could continue to be made by some people in a tightly controlled society

where the slightest stirring outside the system is smartly bludgeoned into oblivion.

And what about the CP? Dr Treurnicht and his followers will never make it to the treasury benches, I would guess, because the more they seem to be gaining the more the orthodox NP will move rightward to pre-empt them. The more the CP succeeds, the more it fails. If the CP does well at the by-elections in the Transvaal, the rightward trend in the NP will be further stepped-up.

For the rest, the political hatches will be well battened down, with all but the most docile black organisations having been put out of business. South Africa under continuing NP rule will be a white-supremacist garrison state for a considerable time to come.

• Gerald Shaw is associate editor and political columnist of the Cape Times.

HEADLESS BODIES

Sowetan 29/2/88

Butchery owners in court

SIX members of an Actonville, Benoni family and two others appeared in the Benoni Magistrate's Court in connection with the killing of two brothers who were found beheaded and their bodies burnt late in January.

By SELLO RABOTHATA

The six are a mother, her two sons and three minor daughters.

The other two are a friend of the family and a black domestic worker.

Their names cannot be published because of the girls' ages. The family owns a butchery in the Indian township of Actonville.

No evidence was led on Friday when the eight appeared on two charges of murder before Mr J P Myburgh. They were not asked to plead.

The mother and two sons are out on R5000 bail each, the girls on R3000 each and the other man was released on R2000 bail. The domestic is in custody.

In camera

The case was postponed to March 14 and is being heard in camera.

Their appearance is a sequel to the finding of the bodies of two men, believed to be Mozambican refugees, on the outskirts of Actonville on January 26 this year.

The two were Mr George Sithole (21) and his 26-year-old brother, Johannes.

Their throats were allegedly slit before they were beheaded.

A large number of curious spectators from Actonville and Wattville was cleared from the court as the accused were led in.

COMMENT

Telephone: (011) 673-4160

Sowetan Gigantic battle for votes *29/2/88*

WHITE voters in Standerton and Schweizer-Reneke go to the polls on Wednesday to elect their representatives in the all-white House of Assembly — and that probably explains the events of the past few days.

It probably explains the sudden clampdown on the United Democratic Front, the Azanian People's Organisation, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and 14 other organisations. It explains the desperation of the SABC to stage tonight's debate between the leader of the National Party in the Transvaal, Mr F W de Klerk, and the leader of the Conservative Party, Dr Andries Treurnicht.

There is a gigantic battle for the hearts and minds of the white voter. The National Party is determined to reverse the trend that was shown at the May, 1987, elections when the Conservative Party gained so much ground that it became the official opposition.

The only way that the National Party can win back the white voter is to show that it is still firmly in control, that it puts the white man's interests first. The Government had to show that it could act firmly against "trouble-makers" of the left.

All that one needs to do to see the real intentions of the Government is to listen to the debate on *Netwerk* tonight. It will be the same old story of white man boss. The two gentlemen will be vying with each other to show how they love the Afrikaner, particularly, and whites generally.

The majority of South Africans are ignored in all this. In any case, that these are all-white by-elections, has already damned them in the eyes of the majority of South Africans.

IT WAS a night of boerewors, koeksusters and "realistic idealism" in Standerton when President Botha hit town on Thursday.

Being assigned a National Party by-election meeting had seemed a daunting task. More daunting was that it was held in this conservative rural outpost, *nogal*.

But feelings of being the nigger in the woodpile, in a manner of speaking, were soon dispelled. Apprehension gave way to curiosity and, finally, to a strange mixture of disbelief and relaxation.

Perhaps *hoor, hoor!* is the Volk version of "Amandla!", but that is another matter.

There were two and a quarter hours to kill before Mr Botha arrived to deliver the speech. Transvaal NP leader Mr F W de Klerk called a *bul-spraak*.

To the only black man at the meeting, the speech was largely just that — in another sense: P W spoke of four million telephones in South Africa, 40 000 in Angola and 1 000 in Chad.

He spoke of the "hundreds of thousands leaving the heaven of socialist progress in Mozambique for the hell of apartheid in South Africa."

But the jubilant party faithful evidently loved the bull talk — and showed it by stomping their feet, clapping their hands, cheering their leader and giving him a long standing ovation when he was through.

The NP at fever-pitch is an unbelievable experience, so I thought after the Standerton meeting.

Only 24 hours earlier they had effectively dared black South Africans to do their worst. They had clobbered 17 organisations opposed to NP rule into submission, and there was no hint of remorse in the air, nor any reflective appraisal of the possible consequences of the bannings. Nor any care.

Of immediate concern was the *Kah-Pee* and the fact, as repeated by local candidate Hennie Erasmus and Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel, that the Nationalists had lost Standerton before.

There was also no visible concern about a black man among the Volk. In truth, everybody

My night in PW's laager

Sowetan 29/2/88

By JON



QWELANE

showed surprised curiosity at seeing a black face at a white election meeting — and soon lost interest.

They were very friendly at the braai which preceded the meeting. The *tannie* who served koeksusters watched with no small amount of curiosity — interest, perhaps? — as the unlikely visitor munched her offering.

She asked a political correspondent who his companion was, and gave another a look which seemed to spell approval. And she smiled.

The live band played some *boeremusiek*, and abruptly switched to the distinctive township *kwela* beat of an age gone by. It was good stuff, and

Koeksusters, boerewors and boeremusiek with the Volk in Standerton

people inside the covered stands of the school sportsground smiled and stared curiously.

Outside someone was overheard asking a prominent Nationalist attending the braai who the black man was, and was promptly told: "He's welcome here, he's a reporter on *The Sunday Star*."

And, incredibly, the band started another tune and a voice cooed softly into the mike: "Have I told you lately that I love you?"

Support

Not so at the other meeting, the one to solicit support for the candidate hundreds of Conservative Party posters in the town call "the man who can stand firm."



PRESIDENT Botha ... standing ovation.

FOCUS

back to Jan Smuts. He would be making the trip by road.

To kill time they sang Volk songs. They sang them all, from Sarie Marais to Jan Pierewiet and back again, and quickly exhausted their repertoire.

There was also something "for our English friends" by way of a folk song sung in English. Another announced that Mr Botha would be late and the leader of the singing observed that "our English friends and colleagues are going to get another chance" — and led Sarie Marais in English.

The cherry on top of the musical cake was perhaps when, after every Volk song imaginable had been sung, the crowd broke into the English "Bring back my Bonnie to me" and sang it using sign language. They laughed at themselves. So did I.

P W arrived, and a deafening roar filled the hall. Like a colossus he strode to the podium, the hand with which he rules the country clasped in Elize's. They obviously enjoyed the adulation and the whistles, and they received a long standing ovation just for being there.

The *bul-spraak* had nothing new, except this time "realistic idealism" had completely phased out the clichéd "total onslaught", "total

strategy", "vertical differentiation" and "eie sake".

No political party, and no government, was perfect, declared Mr Botha.

Several times, for curiously inexplicable reasons, I imagined 1 000 pairs of eyes focusing on my back, which was turned to them.

It was when Mr Botha made references to elements brewing trouble in the urban black areas, when he spoke of being accused of governing South Africa with an iron hand, and when he declared that Africa and the world were "on fire."

Those imaginary eyes once again jabbed my back when he asked any farmer in the crowd to stand up and say he could have made it without black labour.

But it had been a good night, speaking purely in terms of my intact health, and National Party MP for Jeppe, Mr Hennie Bekker, also thought it had been a good night.

After leading some of the songs on stage, Mr Bekker walked across to the Press table, leant over and firmly shook my hand and asked if everything was okay.

Everything was okay.

(Report by J Qwelane, 47 Sauer St, Johannesburg).

They held their braai across the muddy waters of the Vaal, and were not as welcoming and as approachable as the Nationalists the other side of town.

A woman asked a colleague as he bought a boerewors sandwich: "Who's that kaffir roaming around here? What's he doing there?"

The kaffir was a reporter covering the election meetings.

She replied promptly, coldly: "He's just here to cause a sensation."

It was time to leave and return to the Nats' meeting — only to be told Mr Botha would be late because bad weather had forced his helicopter

It's an election ploy, says CP

BUSINESS DAY
29/02/88

RSC levies cut for farmers in W Transvaal

A 20% reduction of Regional Services Council levies to farmers in the Western Transvaal was announced by Finance Minister Bar-end du Plessis in a Government Gazette at the weekend.

The concession was described by Conservative Party local government spokesman Pikkie Coetzee as an attempt by government to win National Party votes from farmers in the Schweizer-Reneke constituency where a by-election is to be held on Wednesday.

Coetzee said the CP had long called for concessions to farmers. "The CP is totally opposed to RSCs and is therefore against farmers paying any such levies," he added.

RSC national chairman Gerrit Bornman said the concession was a result of a request by the Wesvaal agricultural community, which had suffered several

ELSABÉ WESSELS

financial setbacks due to drought in recent years.

In terms of the Act, the Minister has the power to consider requests and grant concession to differentiate in the payment of levies, Bornman said.

According to the notice, levy payers from the agricultural sector on the Wesvaal RSC, which includes the Schweizer-Reneke constituency, will be excluded from paying the full 0,25% tax on remuneration and benefits levy and 0,1% turnover and receipt tax.

The concession to farmers, who would from March 1 pay only 80% of the tariff paid by the rest of the business sector, was announced in terms of the RSC Act of 1985.

(Report by Elsabe Wessels, TML, 11 Diagonal Street, Johannesburg.)

AFRIKANERDOM'S adopted son, James Thomas Jones — better known to most people as the late Jimmy Kruger, Minister of Justice — has put on the reputation of the people who nurtured him a stain, a blot, which history itself will not wash away.

If you doubt that, ask the government to let you see the movie "Cry Freedom" which records for all mankind the only comment that, for callousness and blind stupidity, matches the deathless words that preserve the memory of Marie Antoinette.

Marie Antoinette found her place in history by saying of the starving: "Let them eat cake". Jones has similarly found his place in history by saying of the death of Steve Biko: "It leaves me cold."

In a way, "Cry Freedom" is the vengeance of Donald Woods, former editor of the Daily Dispatch, against Jones, both for the killing of his friend and for his own exile. And a terrible vengeance it is.

I saw "Cry Freedom" last week in London's Leicester Square, where it is playing to half-empty houses — mainly, I would guess, to intelligent young people whose interest in South Africa outweighs the failings of Sir Richard Attenborough's worst-made movie.

It is, frankly, a bad film, a fictionalised documentary that plods its way through a litany of the sins of apartheid and the brutalities of the Nationalist regimen. But the effect on the audience is simply shattering. When the movie ended, half of them simply sat staring ahead ... and sat, and sat, and sat. In the end, they wandered out, shattered and bemused; one woman wandered towards Piccadilly, sobbing all the way.

For me, personally, the effect was not dissimilar to the effect of watching the television footage of the execution by burning of Maki Skosana in Duduza: a cracking of the human spirit, a faltering of

Afrikanerdom's BUSINESS DAY viper poisons SA 29 FEBR. 1988 in 'Cry Freedom'

KEN OWEN

faith in the nature of man.

The reasons are obvious: "Cry Freedom" presents, in fictionalised form, the truth about apartheid. I know from my personal experience over the past 30 years that every episode shown in the film is solidly based in fact, from the smashing of sorry shanties by bulldozers, to the sexual abuse by policemen of African women, to the panic-stricken shooting of unarmed protestors by young and nervous policemen, to the beating to death of prisoners in the cells.

These atrocities do not represent all of South African life; they are not even a fair sampling. But every one of these things has happened. The evidence is in the court records, in the findings of commissions of inquiry into Sharpeville and Soweto, in photographs, in parliamentary replies, in official statistics, in newspapers, in books.

And now, gathered together in one, appalling package, it has been given to the world in "Cry Freedom".

The film ends by scrolling the names of those who have died in



□ KRUGER ... adopted son

detention, beginning with "Looksmart" Ngudle in 1963, and ending in 1987. Behind each name is the official reason for the prisoner's death: slipped on a piece of soap, fell down stairs, fell ten storeys, fell against a chair, no official rea-

son, suicide by hanging. It is a catalogue of official lies.

As it happens, I reported Looksmart's death in Cape Town at the time. The tip-off came from a woman who later decided she wanted to be no part of white South Africa and quietly moved into the coloured community where, for all I know, she is still honourably "passing for coloured". She was not the kind to evade moral dilemmas by emigrating.

Since then, detention without trial has produced another 70 or 80 victims, whose killers we may hope will one day be hunted down by civilised mankind and, like Adolf Eichmann, be brought to justice. For the moment they are immune.

In one case, that of Joseph Mdluli, who died of appalling injuries, Mr Justice James found that the victim had not, as police said, suddenly fallen against a chair but that all or most of his injuries — his stomach was twice normal size — had probably been inflicted by the police themselves. Nobody has yet been convicted.

Let me say at once that recently there has been a great improvement in the treatment of detainees, not as a result of the actions of government but because the judges of the Supreme Court have taken it upon themselves to visit detainees, sometimes without warning or late at night. By doing so they have, thank goodness, rescued the reputation of the law and the courts from the ineffectual system that had depended on State-paid magistrates and doctors.

But the film does not depict the work of the judges. It focuses on the failure of the legal and medical professions to protect Biko. It records, with shocking blandness, the inquest verdict. It shows Donald Woods's little daughter screaming with pain after putting on a T-shirt impregnated with a skin irritant, supposedly a poisoned gift from the police.

Of course, "Cry Freedom" is the story as told by Woods, and many will dispute him; they will mock his pretence of "escaping" across a mighty river where there is none; they will rightly question the film's perspective; and they will be infuriated by Attenborough's unrelieved malice and bias. They will say that while the details may be based in truth, the totality is a lie.

It makes no difference. South Africa is stained by this movie as Germany was stained by the pictures that came out of Belsen. We may redeem ourselves, as the Germans have done, by a generation of exemplary behaviour; but the stain will not wash out.

James Thomas Jones once bragged to Chief Gatsha Buthelezi of his Dutch origins. In fact, he was born Welsh, taken into the Kruger family, loved and given their name. Never, except perhaps for the Dutch-born Hendrik Verwoerd, did Afrikanerdom take to its bosom a more lethal viper than the cold, pitiless man who, in "Cry Freedom," masquerades as a Kruger.

THE DAILY NEWS 29 FEB 1988

Making a start

CONSIDERING the magnitude of the task of providing for the needs over the next 20 years of one of the world's fastest growing populations, the R1 124 000 000 Natal-KwaZulu development project announced at the weekend must be seen as only the start.

Apart from the need to cope with population expansion, there is also leeway to be made up after decades of neglect. These were the years during which Natal stood at the end of the receiving line because of its failure to vote Nat, and later the years in which KwaZulu suffered a similar fate for re-

fusing to walk the Bantustan road.

Schools, training colleges, university facilities and hospitals are needed. Then there are the multitudinous requirements to support the development of residential areas: roads, water supplies, sewers and power reticulation. The projects so far announced are merely the start of a gigantic task. At least, however, they are a start and a welcome one that will create jobs and a degree of prosperity in a neglected part of South Africa.

MXENGE MURDER

A FORMAL inquest into the murder of civil rights attorney Victoria Mxenge might find that enough wasn't done to identify or track down her killers, an inquest magistrate was told last week.

The hearing was told in affidavits and by IG Farlam, SC, appearing for the Mxenge family, that several clues which could help solve the murder had been handed to the investigating officer, Warrant/Officer Jurgens Johannes Prinsloo.

The magistrate, Mr F M Vorster, found Mrs Mxenge (43), of Umlazi, died of a head injury, and had been murdered by unknown persons on August 1, 1985.

His findings are to be forwarded to the Attorney General whom, he says, might order the case re-opened. Mrs Mxenge was shot and axed to death after her attackers had told her: "You are insulting Mntwana (Chief)."

Mr Farlam, in an application for the inquest to be a formal one, told the court that facts surrounding Mrs

'Not enough done to track the killers' - attorney

Mxenge's death indicated it could have been a political assassination.

He said the family believed that Warrant Officer Prinsloo had not investigated the murder thoroughly.

However, Mr Vorster said it was not the function of an inquest court to allow the investigating officer's investigations to be scrutinised.

He said the case would be sent automatically to the Attorney General who might order that the matter be reopened.

Dominick Shezi, who was a partner in Mrs Mxenge's legal practice, said in an affidavit that he had handed a letter bearing names which had been pushed

under the door of his office to WO Prinsloo after the murder.

"This, according to my understanding, might be a clue to the killing. I also believe that Rev Xundu (who was with Mrs Mxenge at the time of the murder), gave WO Prinsloo certain names. Mr Xundu said he had got the list from a woman who did not want to be identified.

"I am of the view that the affidavit of Warrant Officer Prinsloo is lacking in material aspects. I and the family would like Warrant Officer Prinsloo to answer certain questions regarding his investigations.

"Certain witnesses who have written statements said they can identify 'both the blacks' if seen again who were responsible for the killing."

Mr Shezi said in the interests of justice and the family, the inquest should be a formal one, as cross-examination of WO Prinsloo and certain other witnesses may reveal that "enough wasn't done to identify or track down the killers."



THE late Griffiths Mxenge. He and his wife, Victoria, were murdered in two separate incidents.

12 FOREIGN NEWS ***

THE INDEPENDENT Friday 2

Pretoria's 'nightmare' crackdown kills hope

From Tony Allen-Mills
in Pietermaritzburg

THE SOUTH African government's new restrictions on the United Democratic Front and other radical anti-apartheid groups have destroyed prospects of peace for Pietermaritzburg's ravaged Zulu townships, church and community leaders said yesterday.

Khoza Mgojo, the Southern African Methodist Church president who has been spearheading moves to bring the warring factions together, described Pretoria's actions as a "nightmare". He said: "We have been doing our best... but this has brought the peace initiatives into a total ul-de-sac." Peter Kerchoff, whose church-based Pietermaritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness has been closely monitoring the conflict, said the government action "really has destroyed any chance of peace".

The Pietermaritzburg conflict has claimed more than 400 lives. Police announced the discovery of another body yesterday, bringing the number of deaths in the last two months close to 150. For more than a year, radical activists generally identifying with the UDF have been locked in a vicious struggle for control of the townships with more conservative elements supporting the leader of the KwaZulu homeland, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and his political movement, Inkatha.

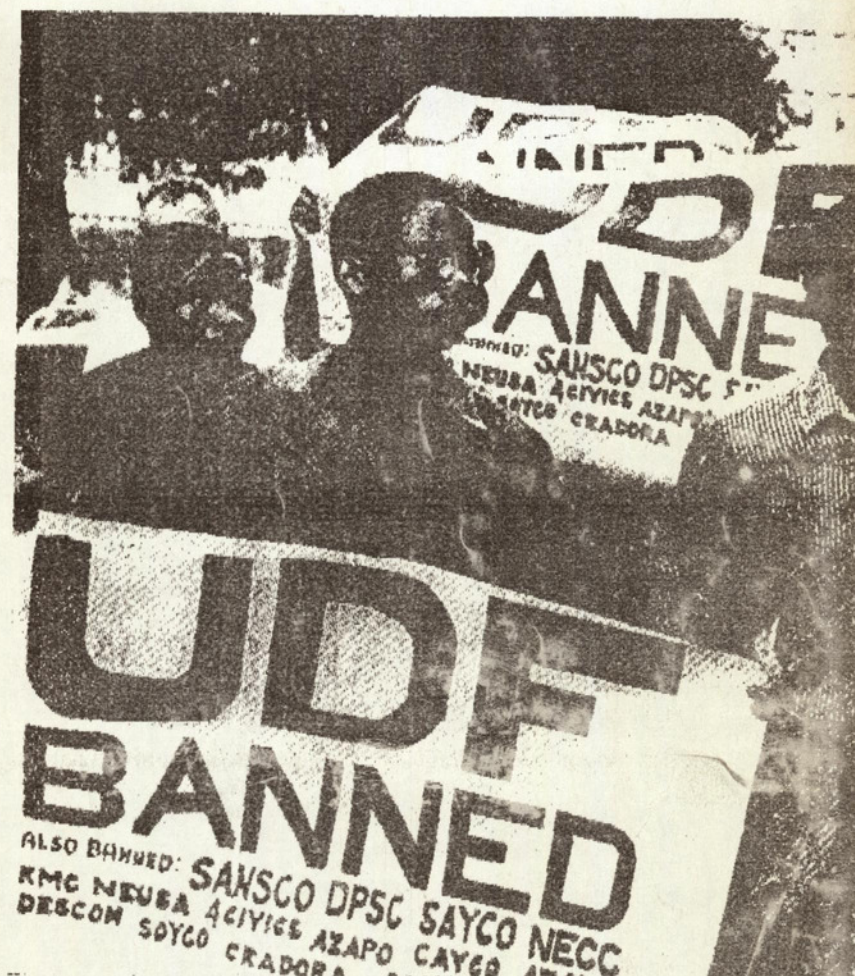
The fact that Inkatha was the only black political organisation of substance to escape Wednesday's

day's government crackdown was seen by many UDF radicals in Pietermaritzburg as damning confirmation of what they had claimed all along — that Inkatha was in the government's pocket and that Pretoria was using the Zulu group to smash radical resistance in Pietermaritzburg.

Inkatha was none the less quick to distance itself from the government's actions yesterday. The leader of the Inkatha delegation to recent peace talks, Musa Zondi, described his UDF rivals as a "crucial element in the search for peace. Who is there now for us to talk to?" Other analysts commented that Chief Buthelezi had little to gain by appearing to be favoured by the South African government. He insists that he is independent of Pretoria, and just as committed to ending apartheid as the UDF. He has no wish to be seen as Pretoria's pet.

But many local radicals felt the government's action, though primarily aimed at the broader anti-apartheid resistance, was more specifically intended to cripple the UDF's defiance in Pietermaritzburg, enabling Inkatha to impose control. Radical activists were stunned two weeks ago by the detentions under state of emergency laws of two of the region's principal UDF organisers, Skhumbuzo Ngwenya and Martin Wittenberg, both of whom were playing leading roles in trying to negotiate peace.

Radicals were further appalled yesterday when police confirmed that the UDF's two most senior figures in the region — the Durban-based national president, Ar-



Black students protest in Johannesburg against the banning of 17 anti-apartheid

chiefs Gumedé, and the Pietermaritzburg regional chairman, A.S. Chetty — had both been served with restriction orders that effectively prevent them from playing any further part in peace negotiations. "It seems as if there are some South Africans who simply don't want peace in Pietermaritzburg," Mr Kerchoff observed.

While UDF figures previously involved in the peace talks are now in detention or subject to restriction orders. The other radical group involved in the talks, the Confederation of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu), has been ordered to confine its activities to trade union matters.

The most distressing feature of the crackdown for many Pietermaritzburg radicals is that while those UDF activists committed to the peace process have been locked up, some of the Zulu leaders accused of responsibility for

hideous acts of violence continue to go free. Although countless affidavits have been filed with local courts alleging brutality by Inkatha's so-called tribal "warlords", not one of these people has so far been detained.

"We just can't understand what's happening," said a local Cosatu organiser who asked not to be named. "The UDF people they detained haven't raised a finger against anyone. That's why they detain them under the state of emergency laws. They can't pin a legal finger on them. But with the warlords, you've got eye-witness accounts of them killing and being violent. And they're still on the streets."

The white Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Commerce, which has been supervising efforts to find a peace formula, agreed yesterday that effectively banning the UDF was not the answer to

Pietermaritzburg one of the people not able to be cannot continue said.

LONDON — yesterday's condemnation on anti-apartheid Africa — but to economic Pretoria, John

The Prime Minister of a "ment" of apartheid Party leader, angry Com

But she returned to appease apartheid spend considerable money helping cans to get them might otherwise ing security states."

S. African policies are still progressing

Despite sanctions, the economy is strong, apartheid dwindling

By Paul K. Coetzee

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — We spent Christmas eve amid local media reports of an expected tightening of the sanctions by the U.S. Congress during the new year. After the burst of righteous indignation in the United States and the resultant sanctions, it has become obvious that sanctions have had little effect on events in South Africa other than to throw some blacks out of work and to slow the reform process away from apartheid.

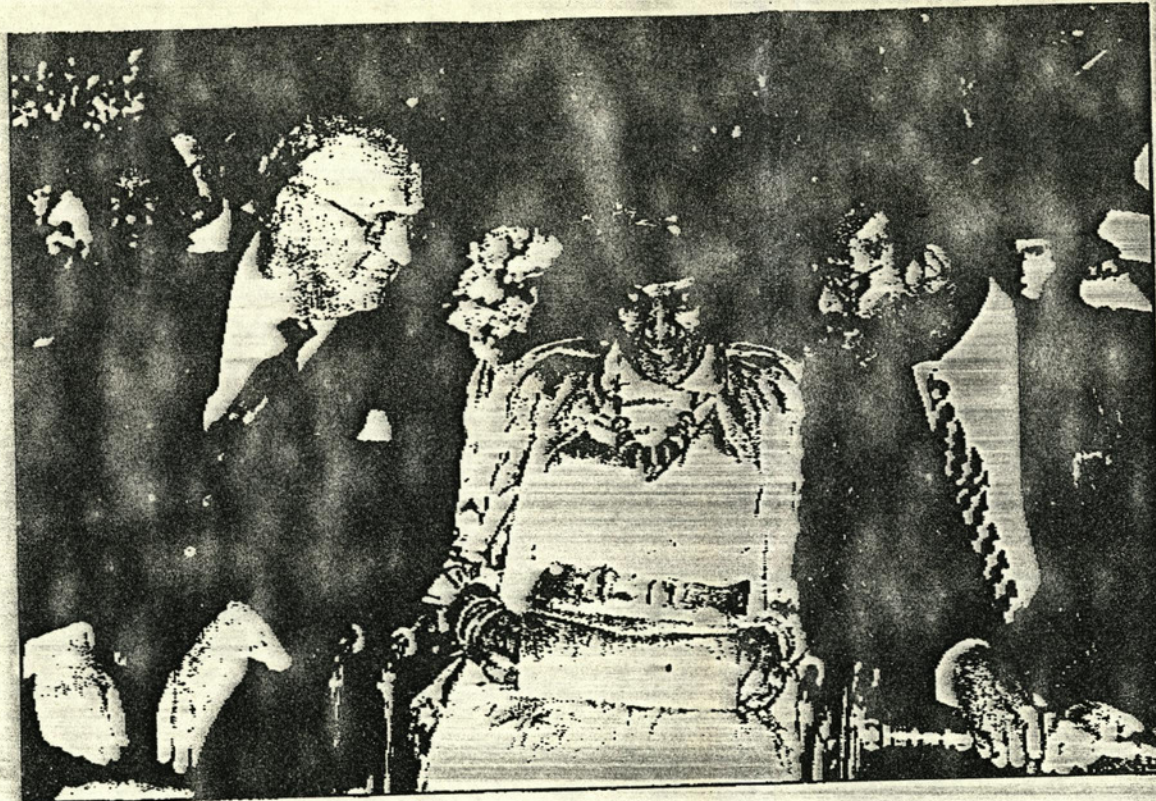
The most important misconception was that the South African government could be coerced into accepting demands from abroad to dismantle apartheid. Instead, sanctions have contributed to a slowdown of the arduous process of scrapping apartheid, a process already progressively introduced by the government as a matter of policy long before sanctions were mooted.

Sanctions have assisted the radical left and right. The radical leftists see sanctions as support for their policy of violence and ultimately the people's socialist republic that they envisage. The radical rightists claim that no matter how much reform away from apartheid is introduced, the world will not be satisfied until the country is destroyed; hence their conviction that apartheid should be reinstated as a policy.

But there is progress.

South Africa is emerging from the worst economic recession in 50 years. Key economic indicators are pointing upward. Business profits are improving, automobile manufacturing and sales have soared, disposable incomes and consumer demand for credit are rising, retail sales are up and inflation is down. Large parts of South Africa — including the Transvaal and Orange Free State provinces — had good rains late last year. The country has run current account surpluses on its international balance of payments of between 3 percent and 5 percent of the GDP since 1985 and it has used this money to repay a substantial part of its foreign debt, including all loans to the International Monetary Fund. The economic recovery may create the incentives to speed up reform in spite of the sanctions. There are at least no signs that apartheid is increasing.

In Cape Town the beaches and downtown were crowded with vacationers, the hotels were full and standing in line for dinner outside restaurants in Sea Point temporarily became a way of life. The crowds in the hotels, restaurants, shops and on the beaches come from all over South Africa and were dramatically multi-racial in composition. There were no reports of racially



Botha, Buthelezi, and Buthelezi's wife Princess Irene chat during ceremonies marking the inauguration of the Joint Executive Authority for KwaZulu/Natal late last year.

inspired incidents. In the early hours of New Year's day, Cape Town's resort districts had to cope with massive traffic jams and thousands of loud revelers. If nothing else, the crowds demonstrated that in many ways, post-apartheid South Africa already exists and that it is functioning effectively in a shared multi-racial society.

One of the most significant political developments during 1987 was the historic first meeting of the multi-racial Joint Executive Authority for KwaZulu/Natal late during the year. During that meeting, President P.W. Botha and KwaZulu Chief Minister Buthelezi inaugurated that authority, described by the president as "an experiment that can succeed", and as an example of the need that exists for embarking on similar ventures

in other regions of the country.

Buthelezi expressed the hope that the authority would prove to be "a first step in a number of steps which will lead to more effective administration in political circumstances in which reconciliation between race groups will become a reality." A prominent Zulu politician, Dr. Oscar Dhlomo, was elected the first chairman of the authority, which will meet at least six times a year to jointly administer KwaZulu and the province of Natal. The government also announced that it is going ahead with negotiations with the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba, which recommended a single legislative body for the region.

Also significant in 1987 was the introduction of the National Council Bill in Parliament, which is to frame a

new constitution in terms of which the sharing of political power with black South Africans in central government could become a reality. The launching of the multi-racial Council will receive the government's highest priority during 1988.

It was also obvious that during the new year the last four remaining major apartheid laws would become increasingly subject to the reform process, which by now has resulted in the abolishment of more than 80 such laws, regulations and stipulations. The government has already announced its intention to introduce amendments to the Groups Areas Act in terms of which the existing racially integrated districts in cities would be legally sanctioned and provisions would be made for multi-racial districts to be developed in the future. This, for the first time in 34 years, would remove statutory barriers to housing integration.

A further sign that apartheid has no growth potential was the completion late last year of the impressive new wing of the historical Houses of Parliament building in Cape Town. This wing houses the huge new joint assembly chamber in which joint sessions of the white, Colored and Indian chambers of Parliament will be held. That, and the National Council, point toward a future South Africa in which negotiation instead of confrontation and power sharing instead of apartheid would be the vital factors.

In Parliament, Colored and Indian members are clearly and increasingly playing an effective role in politics and government, but the black political picture remains much more complex. A clear distinction has now emerged between radicals, who mostly advocate South Africa becoming a one-man, one-vote people's socialist republic or even a out-and-out Marxist state and often rely on violence to achieve their aims, and moderates who believe that a post-apartheid society can only be achieved through peaceful means, including negotiation and compromise and perhaps a federal style of government.

Tribal differences also remain. The black divisions are only united in their revulsion for apartheid, which during 1985-1986 led to mostly black-on-black violence and many tragic deaths. This has largely subsided, except for the continuation of the confrontation in the Midlands area of Natal.

The general election held during May last year heralded the end of an era and there are clear signs of new political alliances and divisions. Indeed, it may have been the last whites-only election in South Africa.

Coetzee is consul general for the Republic of South Africa in Houston.