



Members of the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee

CRISIS: SOWETO SCHOOLS

For months now there have been no normal classes in Soweto schools. Students are being arrested, beaten and shot and they have said they will not sit their exams. Parents, teachers and students alike have become increasingly concerned at this crisis in education. All wish to see children being educated under favourable circumstances.

It was against this background that the SOWETO CIVIC ASSOCIATION (SCA) convened a meeting of parents, teachers and students to discuss the education crisis on the 13th October in Diepkloof.

At this meeting, which was attended by 2000 people, residents identified the reasons which have led to the education crisis.

- Police brutality aimed at the students who have been arrested, tortured and killed.
 - The presence of the SADF in the townships which disrupts normal community life and inflames an already sensitive situation.
 - Detention and harassment of students.
- The highest percentage of detainees since the State of Emergency was declared have been students. Some were as young as 12 years.
- The banning of COSAS which has angered the community and is seen as

further repression.

- The stubbornness of the Department of Education and Training (DET) which has refused to recognise the SRC constitution drawn up by parents in consultation with teachers and students.

- Apartheid education which is regarded by the black community as 'inferior Bantu education'

The meeting resolved that a Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee be formed which should meet with the DET. The proposals put to the DET were:

- Withdrawal of the SADF from the townships.
- Release of detained students
- Repeal of Emergency regulations.
- Recognition of the democratic SRC constitution drawn up by parents and students.
- That Matric examinations should be postponed until the above conditions have been met.

The meeting further resolved that primary schools should remain open.

The SPCC subsequently met with the DET which gave this undertaking:

Having regard to the fact that this Department has to liaise with other bodies in the running of the Matriculation examinations for

1985, it undertakes to do everything humanly possible to defer the said examinations in Soweto to a later date. The date will be announced later. With regard to internal examinations in secondary schools in Soweto, these examinations will start on 7 January 1986. It is accepted that in the interim the students, teachers, parents and the community will use this period to prepare for the examinations.

The SPCC reported this DET response at another meeting attended by 3000 parents and students on the 20.10.85. It was welcomed by the residents.

However despite this undertaking, the DET later announced that the Matric exams would go ahead as usual without consulting the SPCC.

The SCA feels the DET is not responding in good faith. Parents have tried to make the DET aware of the explosive nature of the education crisis. The DET's response of playing political games with the children's education can only inflame the crisis and decrease the confidence of those who seek a peaceful solution.

COSAS BANNED !



On August 22nd, the Congress of South African Students (Cosas) was banned. At the top of their list of demands was for democratic SRC's. Here SCA NEWS reviews this battle.

At the beginning of 1983 in Atteridgeville, Pretoria began a total boycott of schools. Top of their list of demands was the right to have democratic Student Representative Councils.

These demands were echoed by students from the Vaal Triangle, Eastern Cape, East Rand, Soweto and Natal. To prove their determination to have democratic SRCs at schools, students began to refuse in great numbers to serve as prefects, which were used as pretext for refusing students' involvement in decision making.

The South African government was forced to act. They announced that they agreed to introduce SRC's. In no time they came up with a constitution that was to guide the operation of the SRC's countrywide. It also spelt out the role that parents had to play in the running of schools.

But students, parents and teachers were not happy with this constitution. Parents' committees and student-parent committees formed in the different parts of the country to support student demands and to awaken the traditional parental spirit of providing a conducive atmosphere for children to grow and develop (Mangwane Tswana Tipa ka bohale). Parents' committees consulted extensively with student leaders and leaders of the African Teachers' Association of South Africa (Atasa).

Parents, students and teachers told the government with one voice that the government-drawn SRC constitution remains unacceptable. They rejected it because:

- It was drawn without consulting students and the community.
- It simply brings back the prefect system under a new name.
- It does not guarantee the democratic control of schools and genuine community involvement in the education of their children.
- It seeks to reduce student leaders into Nationalists puppets and teachers into informers.

An alternative constitution was drawn up by parents in consultation with students and teachers. This document was presented to the Department of Education and Training (DET) by a delegation representing parents. However the DET rejected this constitution and continued to foster its own discredited constitution.

However because of the urgent need for strong student leadership at school level, parents' committees at a National Conference resolved to begin implementing SRC's at schools. The parents' committees agreed to help implement SRC's at schools if they were asked to do so.

Subsequent to this resolution a number of schools in the Northern Transvaal, Pretoria, East Rand, Eastern Cape and the Vaal have established their own SRC's under the constitution that was democratically drawn by parents and students. Most of these SRC's had a good working relationship with Cosas.

The fact that democratic SRC's are being unilaterally introduced at schools does not mean that the government is no longer confronted with the demand for RECOGNITION of these SRC's.

The issue now is no longer the introduction of SRC's but their recognition. Recognition will mean among other things that SRC's will be allocated certain sums of money from the

What was Cosas?

The Congress of South African Students was formed to unite and mobilise students across the country and to articulate student grievances. In its seven years of existence its message spread to school children from Tzaneen to Cape Town and many branches were formed.

It was a constant victim of repression. Its leaders and members were constantly harassed, imprisoned, maimed and even killed. Even family members of student leaders were severely persecuted.

The SCA adds its voice of condemnation to the banning of COSAS.

The students' demands

- The formation of democratic SRC's at schools to involve students in the decision making affecting their lives.
- Scrapping of the age limit at schools which had been implemented without the consent of the community.
- Excessive unrestrained and arbitrary corporal punishment be abolished.
- End to the sexual abuse of female students.
- Release of detained students.

school budget for them to carry out their projects and activities.

"Students have been fighting for the democratic control of their schools and the genuine participation of their parents. This struggle is no different from the struggle being waged by the civic associations across the country for democratic government at the local level," said Vusi Khanyile, convenor of the National Parents' Committee and SCA executive member.

"It is not different from the ultimate struggle of the working people to meaningfully participate in the decision-making process of their workplace," he added.

"This is nothing short of the fundamental demand that people shall govern their lives at schools, factories, local residential areas, provincial regions and central government levels."

SOYCO and SCA slam hooliganism

Soweto residents and youth joined in calling for an end to hooliganism in the township at a meeting called by the Soweto Youth Congress (SOYCO) on the 27th October at the Methodist Youth Centre, Jabavu.

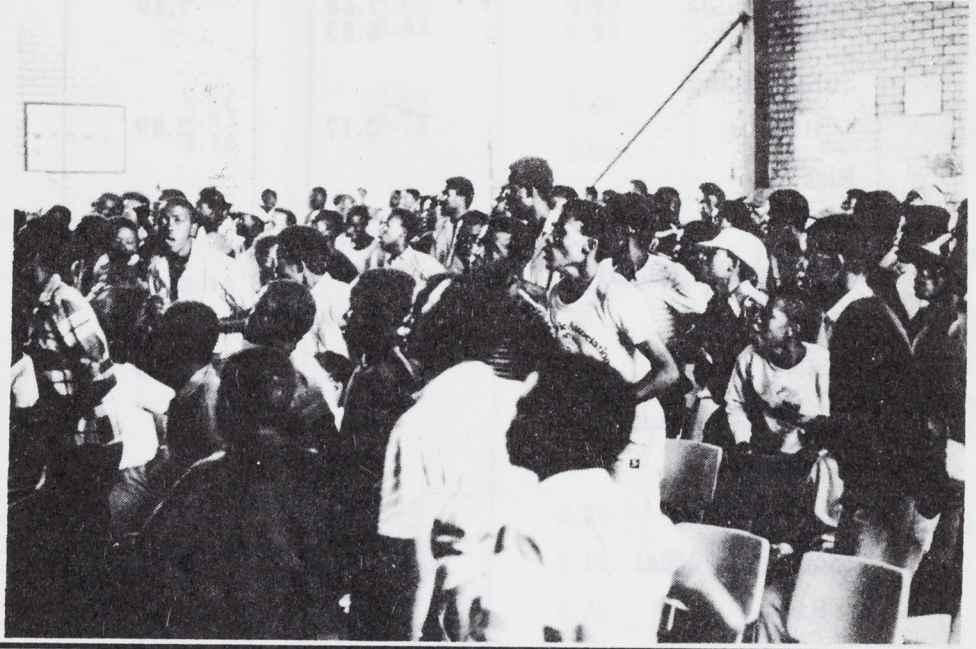
Speakers condemned the misguided actions of the elements who harass ordinary residents in the name of the struggle and said they should be re-educated. A SOYCO speaker cited cases of hooligans posing as students and demanding money and food from shopkeepers to assist with the costs of non-existent funerals. He commented on the harmful effect this had on youth and student organisations. He further condemned the practice of making consumers 'drink fish oil' they had bought in town, noting that this would only make people hostile to the consumer boycott.

Speaking on behalf of the SCA, Mr. Mosala gave a powerful speech urging the need for direction and discipline in the struggle. He praised the action of SOYCO in convening the meeting to discuss the problem

of hooliganism. He also supported the call for the rehabilitation of the gangster element. He cited the education crisis as one of the factors that have led to disturbances in Soweto and said "Let us go back to

school when the time comes."

The meeting has resulted in the establishment of subcommittees in each SOYCO branch which will be responsible for the re-education of the perpetrators of hooliganism.



'AKUTHENGWA EDOLOBHENI'

CONSUMER BOYCOTT

On the 12th August the Consumer Boycott Committee (CBC) announced the start of the consumer boycott in Soweto.

Soweto has joined a campaign which began in the Eastern Cape and is spreading throughout the country to become what may be one of the most powerful consumer boycotts in this country's history.

In the Eastern Cape, the boycott has received rock solid support. Reports have appeared of 100 percent success in Port Elizabeth, Graaff Reinet, Cradock, Queenstown and other areas of the Eastern Cape. From here it has fanned out to other parts of the country where it is beginning to take hold despite tremendous difficulties.

The CBC said the boycott has been called to force white businessmen to put pressure on the government to:

- End the State of Emergency.
- Release all detainees.
- Remove the SADF troops from the townships.

A CBC member said: "Until now all our struggles have been contained within the townships and locations where the oppressed live. The SADF and police appear to them to have the situation under control. Their lives go on as normal. They make money as normal. They go to bed as usual. They go to parties as usual. What the consumer boycott does is to

extend the struggle from the townships to the city, to the length and breadth of South Africa. No corner of South Africa can remain untouched."

Boycotts have proved to be a very effective weapon in the past. Since the famous Alexandra Bus Boycott in the 50's when buses were left empty until the fares were brought down, there have been many successful consumer boycotts.

There was the 1959 potato boycott to protest against inhuman conditions in potato farms where even women and children were forced to dig potatoes with their bare hands.

"If you eat a potato you are eating the blood of a fellow worker who has been killed and buried on those farms," was the slogan of that boycott and it achieved resounding success in three months. It focused the world's attention on the brutality of the farm labour system and the government was forced to make some changes.

1976 saw the Black Christmas boycott which caused severe losses to white businesses while the 1979 Fattis and Monis boycott resulted within six months in the reinstatement of all dismissed workers who were active in the Union.

White businesses are well aware of the dangers posed to them by a successful consumer boycott. In the Eastern Cape dozens of small white shops have been forced to close down. The Mayor of Port

Elizabeth has described the situation as "desperately urgent". This is how the situation could soon be in all of South Africa.

Predictably, attempts have been made to break the consumer boycott. Fake rumours have been spread in Soweto that the boycott has stopped.

In Tembisa police recently closed seven black shops under the Emergency regulations and arrested some of the traders.

The white Chambers of Commerce in Queenstown and East London have threatened to cut employee's salaries in retaliation to the consumer boycott. Pamphlets have even called white Queenstown housewives to put their domestic on "short time" saying the domestics were "having their cake and eating it while businesses are grinding to a halt."

Reacting to the possibility of job losses as the boycott continues a CBC member has said: "My answer is that there is always a sacrifice which we have to make in the struggle for freedom." Indeed the boycott has not been crushed despite all obstacles and it is beginning to accomplish its objectives in some areas. Communities continue to make the sacrifice and to unite to bring closer to realisation their vision of a new South Africa free of oppression and injustice.

as at 25/09/85)

PRODUCT	BLACK-CHAIN	MAPONYA	CHECKERS	OK	PICK 'n PAY
<u>Mealie-meal (5kg)</u>					
• Ace	3.16	2.89	3.16	3.16	2.99
• Iwisa	3.16	2.89	3.16	3.16	2.99
• A1	2.68		3.16	3.16	2.99
<u>Mealie-meal (12.5kg)</u>					
• Ace	7.68	7.19	7.89	8.15	7.39
• Iwisa	7.68	7.19	7.89	8.15	7.39
• A1	6.83		7.89	8.15	7.39
<u>Sugar (2.5kg)</u>					
• Hulletts	2.17	2.09	2.09	2.05	2.09
<u>Rice</u>					
• Tastic	3.95	3.65	3.29	3.29	3.29
<u>Cooking oil (750ml)</u>					
• Sunol	1.99				
• Cotona		2.29			
• Solo	2.11	2.09		1.95	
<u>Frozen Chicken (per kg)</u>					
• Festive	1.99				
<u>Eggs (1/2 doz)</u>	0.67	0.68	0.73	0.68	0.72
<u>Margarine (250g)</u>					
• Rama	0.76	0.75	0.77	0.70	0.72
• Sunshine D	0.77	0.72			
• Rondo		0.69		0.79	
<u>Toilet soaps (150g)</u>					
• Lux	0.59	0.62	0.55	0.55	0.52
• Palmolive	0.64	0.62	0.55	0.49	0.59
• Lifebuoy	0.47	0.46	0.45	0.42	0.45
<u>Toothpaste (100ml)</u>					
• Colgate	1.55	1.35	1.29	1.25	1.28
• Mentadent P	1.39	1.49	1.35	1.25	1.19
<u>Coffee (250g)</u>					
• Ricoffy	2.29	2.15	2.36	2.25	2.18
• Frisco	2.39	2.29	2.45	2.32	2.35
<u>Tea (250g)</u>					
• Pitco	3.19		2.89	2.95	3.09
• Joko	3.09	2.69	2.85	2.85	2.85
• Five Roses	2.85	2.89	2.89	2.59	2.59
<u>Milo (250g)</u>	2.04	1.79	2.12	2.05	
<u>Condensed Milk (397g)</u>					
• Nestle	1.09	0.99	0.94	0.94	0.99
• Gold Cross	1.09	0.97	1.05	0.94	1.05
<u>Coffee Creamers (500g)</u>					
• Cremora	2.29	2.29	2.49	2.59	2.29
• Ellis Brown	2.39	2.19		2.45	2.25
• Gold Cross Creamer	2.09	1.89	2.15	2.12	2.15
• Krem Top		2.19	2.47	2.47	

PRODUCT	BLACK-CHAIN	MAPONYA	CHECKERS	OK	PICK 'n PAY
<u>Peanut Butter (410g)</u>					
• Black Cat	1.49	1.65	1.49	1.59	1.45
<u>Jam (450g)</u>					
• Hugos	0.89	0.85	0.69		0.84
• Koo	1.13	1.09	0.94	1.02	0.96
• All Gold		0.95	0.99	0.99	1.05
<u>Mayonnaise (750ml)</u>					
• Crosse & Blackwell	2.59	2.69	2.69	2.69	2.29
• Koo	2.95	2.75			2.95
• Nola	2.16		2.09	1.79	2.14
<u>Cake Flour (2.5kg)</u>					
• Snowflake	2.09	2.19	2.07	1.99	2.07
<u>Sunlight Soap (500g)</u>	0.85	0.89	0.91	0.87	0.89
<u>Powdered Soap (1kg)</u>					
• Omo	2.59	2.55	1.99	2.35	2.45
• Surf	2.54		2.29		2.48
<u>Fabric Softener (2l)</u>					
• Sta-soft	2.59	2.45	2.29	2.19	2.29
• Sunlight	3.93	3.79			
• Comfort	2.51	2.25	2.19	2.35	2.24
<u>Handy Andy (750ml)</u>	1.37	1.39	1.29	1.29	1.29
<u>Dish Washers (750ml)</u>					
• Ajax	1.43		1.31	1.55	1.15
• Sunlight	1.62	1.59	1.39	1.29	1.45
<u>Candles</u>					
• Prices	0.81	0.79	0.92	0.89	
• Blackchain	0.79				
• Buffalo				0.95	
<u>Bleach (750ml)</u>					
• Jills	0.57		0.58	0.58	0.59
• Gosh		0.36			
• Jik	0.81	0.75	0.69	0.77	0.78
<u>Toilet Paper (singles)</u>					
• Carlton	0.29	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.33

The SCA in its programme of action for 1985 appointed a subcommittee that would look into the interests of the residents as consumers.

After several meetings with the local traders (Chamber of Commerce) it was decided that the SCA subcommittee would make a survey on price structures and come out with an acceptable price list reflecting all basic commodities.

The SCA and the Chamber agreed that the SCA branches should undertake to popularise the price list with their local traders.

The SCA calls on local traders to consider the poverty and hardships that our community faces and to lower the prices of basic commodities to levels that people can afford.

OUR CALL....
'EDUCATION, HOUSES, SECURITY AND
COMFORT FOR ALL'

JOIN YOUR LOCAL CIVIC BRANCH

NOW!

EDITORIAL

This first edition of SCA NEWS discusses regional and national issues as well as local Soweto problems and the internal activities of the Soweto Civic Association(SCA).

It is through an awareness of the country-wide nature and pattern of community problems that local issues can be tackled within a broader framework of understanding, borrowing constructive ideas from other regions and actively working hand-in-hand with other communities facing similar problems.

The aim of SCA NEWS is to discuss specific problems faced by Soweto residents, parents or students, to provide an analysis of recent past events and trends, to inform on difficulties raised by the current political crisis and avenues of assistance available to the community.

To this end, the current issue discusses the education crisis; the State of Emergency and its disruptive impact on the community as well as information on legal and other centres providing free assistance to people affected by the crisis; a nation-wide perspective on the consumer boycott and specific information of use to Soweto consumers.

While the paper discusses various topical matters, it is not meant to be a "current affairs" paper. It intends to fulfill an important community function, to be judged ultimately by you, the reader. We hope you find it informative and even entertaining, but more importantly, we hope that it will bring SCA closer to you.

TOBY'S

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TLADI-MOLETSANE CIVIC ASSOCIATION
WE DEMAND HOUSES
SECURITY AND COMFORT



Branch delegates at an SCA meeting

A BRIEF HISTORY OF SCA

16 June 1976 saw students rising in defiance countrywide. In anger the students and residents destroyed government buildings and called for the immediate resignation of councillors. The Urban Bantu Councils was forced to collapse. Shortly afterwards a group of concerned residents met at the offices of the banned "World" newspaper to discuss the situation.

It was at this meeting that the Soweto Local Authority Interim Committee was elected. Later this committee was popularly known as the Committee of Ten.

The Committee was mandated to draw a "blueprint" for the future of Soweto. Having done this it called for a mass meeting to present those ideas to the residents.

However successive meetings were banned. The Minister of Police and Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs stated that the Government would not negotiate with "self-appointed" groups. It would only negotiate with the Community Council.

In October 1977 members of the Committee of Ten were detained for several months. In 1978 two members of this committee, Thandisizwe Mazibuko and Sedupe Ramokgopa were banned. However the committee continued.

In Diepkloof, after a mass funeral of people who had died in a bus accident, residents decided to form the Diepkloof Civic Association. This decision was welcomed by the Committee of Ten.

"It was a very significant step towards the creation of the Soweto Civic Association as a grassroot organisation better geared to frustrate government attempts to foist on the people unacceptable government bodies like the Community Council," said Dr. Motlana, president of the SCA.

In September 1978 the Committee of Ten organised a conference entitled: "Soweto - an introspection" to discuss the problems of Soweto. By this time, civic associations had been formed in Dobsonville, Meadowlands, Mapetla and Diepkloof.

At this conference, attended by about 600 people, the SCA was formed. The Committee of Ten was elected as a "group" to serve as an executive committee until such time as elections were held.

Other branches were formed in Moroka, Orlando West, Dube and Chiawelo.

In September 1982, the SCA initiated the formation of a broad anti-election committee, called the Anti-Community Council Committee. Represented on this committee were Cosas, Azaso, Fedsaw and Mgwusa.

This committee called on Soweto residents to boycott the Black Local Authorities elections through meetings, pamphlets, posters and door-to-door visits.

"The African people will not vote in these elections unless the government is prepared to address the real issues such as pass laws, housing and political power with full and proper citizenship," said Dr. Motlana at an anti-election meeting.

At a rally just before the elections, the president of the UDF, Oscar Mpetha reminded residents: "Your children died in June 16 because they wanted to do away with institutions of oppression such as community councils.

The call to boycott the elections was a success. The official government poll was 10,7% for Soweto. UDF and SCA figures are however, below 6%.

The SCA has constantly opposed the black local authorities. Earlier this year, Phiri and Senoane residents demonstrated outside the house of the mayor of Soweto, Mr. Kunene.

They were calling for his resignation.

More recently, the SCA organised a march to Kunene's house in Pimville.

The march was stopped by the police and 105 people were arrested.

One week later the State of Emergency was declared and two executive members of the SCA were detained.

Today the SCA is very involved in the schools crisis and is represented in the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee.

STATE OF EMERGENCY: SETTING THINGS WRONG

The State of Emergency has almost become a way of life: curfews, detentions, no meetings, army and police patrols. What was Soweto like before the Emergency? One can hardly remember.

The State of Emergency in the words of PW Botha was meant to restore "normality" and "law and order". The opposite has occurred in Soweto. Since the Emergency was declared on July 21, 1400 people have been detained in Soweto.

Why then was the Emergency called? SCA NEWS tries to answer this question.

The Emergency was called because the government has lost control. In recent years our struggles have intensified resulting in:

- The downfall of the black local authorities.
- No credibility for the tricameral parliament.
- The suspension of rent increases in many areas.
- The international isolation of the South African government.
- Foreign investors not wanting to lend money to South Africa leaving it virtually bankrupt.

As a result, the government is facing the worst crisis ever. It hoped that the Emergency would set things right by smashing the township uprising and crushing the people's organisations.

Smashing the nationwide uprising

The government wants to silence the voice of the people calling for an end to apartheid, low rents, houses they can afford and political representation.

This is the intention behind the war of terror being waged by the SADF and SAP on entire townships, using large scale detentions, the curfew and other regulations. They hope to harass and intimidate the people into submission.

Under the Emergency regulations, the government has virtual free reign to torture detainees, and assault and kill people. The army and police are free from prosecution.

Yet the Emergency has not succeeded. It has fueled more conflict than ever before. More people have been killed by police since the Emergency. The uprising has spread to new areas such as the Western Cape.

And while the police have been brutal, they have not been able to get away with it altogether. The interdict in Port Elizabeth brought on behalf of over 40 detainees could hopefully restrain them.



Crushing the people's organisations

The government believes that organisations like the UDF, Soyco and the SCA are behind the uprising. Thus over half the UDF office-bearers have been detained together with hundreds of civic, youth and student leaders. Le Grange has vowed to leave no stone unturned to detain Cosas leadership.

The government has realised that as long as we are organised, they will never be able to impose unacceptable solutions on us. So they want to disorganise us - by taking away our leaders, banning our organisations and preventing us from getting together by banning and breaking up our meetings.

The government hopes that if they crush the people's organisations they will be able to try again to implement their reform plans. They hope that they will be able to negotiate a solution with people like Kunene, Rajbansi and Mangope, without us resisting.

However it is not just our organisations that voice opposition. Our organisations are merely the spokespeople for the people. By boycotting the tricameral parliament and black local authorities elections the majority of the people have shown that they rejected

puppet leaders and sell outs.

Throughout the history of our country, we have made it clear to the government that it has no right to impose solutions on us, nor will we ever accept any solution negotiated above our heads.

This message also applies to the PFP and Inkatha.

Since the government has proven that it is not able to lead South Africa out of the crisis, others such as the PFP, Inkatha and big business have begun looking for their own solutions.

They are proposing a Convention Alliance where all groups will come together to negotiate a solution.

Yet we have suffered for many years under Apartheid. We are not prepared to come and negotiate what aspects of Apartheid should be got rid of and which should remain. We are also not prepared to share an equal place at a negotiating table with Inkatha or the HNP. The majority of the people must have the majority of the say.

The people behind the Convention Alliance also want to negotiate a solution above our heads. If they were genuinely concerned about a solution they would first campaign for the release of all political prisoners, the unbanning of all banned organisations and an end to repression against the UDF so that all the people will be able to participate freely and democratically in any negotiations about the future.

SCAface

He is six foot three, broad, heavy, and strong enough to stop a Putco bus rolling downhill dead on its tracks. He loves Mama's vetkoekies with his breakfast, terrorist instigators for lunch and Mama's vetkoekies with his dinner. Koos is a cop, an ordinary cop. He is an amateur wrestler, has a healthy respect for his superiors, loves a game of snakes and ladders and takes regular lessons in monopoly from his kid sister.

Mrs. Standenmacher, Koos's Mama, brought him up to fear the three G's: God, Girls and the Goddam Bantu. "For god gave you your country and your Mama, girls take you from your Mama and, as for the Bantu, they want to take your country, kill your sister and rape your Mama." But at 14, Koos fell in love with Lena Louw, the girl next door. At age 16, Koos thought up a brilliant plan, he would join the force and get rid of the Bantu to protect god, country and sister. Then, maybe, Mama might let him talk to Lena.

It's a sour Koos who now finds himself standing at the goalposts of a dusty football field in Sebokeng - uniform, boots, balaclava and all - playing soccer with these big-bellied, thin-legged Bantu kids. Koos and his unit were proud of their 'kill ratio' in the Vaal, which had earned them the infamous title of the 'Vaal-Busters'.

They had been personally praised by the kommandant for their high Bantu Removal And Annihilation Index, more commonly

known within the force as the 'braai'. In fact they had a better braai going than any unit, save the 'Kaffir Kloppe Klan' of the Eastern Cape.

They were making rapid gains on the Klan when the kommandant dropped the bomb-shell. An instruction from the top that the force were to launch an image improvement campaign. They were now supposed to be nice to those Bantu kids and play with them so long as those bleeding foreign TV cameras were around.

As Koos snapped out of it, he saw the ball soar towards the far corner of the goalposts. He certainly was not going to let that lanky barefoot striker get the better of him

again. Koos leapt into the air and caught the ball... full in the face. The hard-driven shot knocked his head against the goalpost with tremendous force and when Koos fell back to earth with a crashing thud, shattering his hip-bone at three places, he had already blacked out.

Koos awoke in hospital with his legs, right arm and face in plaster. He could not open his mouth and his tongue counted more gaps than teeth. To the left of the bed he saw a note from Mama propped against a liquidiser. "Guess what for?", the note read, "My Koos's favourite surprise of course." Next to the liquidiser, there was a straw and a plateful of vetkoekies.



Advice Column

DPSC

Many hundreds of people have been detained in Soweto over the last couple of months. SCA NEWS found out what you can do if your relative is detained.

You must:

- Contact a lawyer. If you do not know a lawyer you can get help from the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC) and the Detainees Support Committee (Descom).

- Their address is 2nd floor, Khotso House, 42 De Villiers Street, Johannesburg. Their phone number is 23-6664.

- Ask the lawyer to find out if your relative is in detention and at what jail they are holding him or her.

- Detainees can get clothes and money if there is a shop in the prison. They can use the money to buy food.

- Some detainees are allowed food parcels. Ask the lawyer to help you get permission to take parcels. If you are short of money, tell the people at DPSC. They can give you track suits, food parcels and money for detainees.

- You can ask for visits. You must say why you want to visit. You also have to give your name, address and identity number. Ask the lawyer to help with visits.

SCA

The SCA has opened an advice office at Ipelegeng Community Centre in White City Jabavu (next to Crossroads). It is known as the Soweto Advice and Resource Office.

It will advise residents on all forms of problems.

Low prices, Super savings



BLACKCHAIN

a symbol of black achievement

