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FOURTH SESSION OF THE FOURTH KWAZULU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

BUDGET SPEECH : 1986/87 - VOTE 8

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

1986 APPROPRIATION BILL (SECOND READING)

INTRODUCTION:

Mr. Chairman, Honourable Members, we face a situation in South Africa in which the very principles of democracy are at stake. The Black struggle for liberation has always been about the eradication of racial discrimination and latterly, apartheid and its replacement with equality and freedom for all. Down through the decades of the struggle, Black South Africans have carried a huge burden of not only having to strive for democracy and decency, but having to do so in such a way that they are not dehumanised. The battle to retain our humanity is fundamental to our success in creating a democracy in this part of Africa. The ' politics of violence which is now spreading, threatens the very fundamentals of the struggle. The ANC Mission in Exile has sworn to destroy not only apartheid but the free enterprise system that goes with Western industrial type democracies, and to replace apartheid with a one-Party socialist government. The UDF and COSATU are committed to the use of the politics of confrontation and political violence which is inevitably associated with it to make our country ungovernable on behalf of the ANC Mission in Exile.

We have seen the escalation of State violence and the counter-violence it produces, and as Blacks we can tell the ANC Mission in Exile, the UDF and COSATU that violence is not the way forward, but we must in the first instance trace violence to its root cause - apartheid. I saw the levels of violence we are now witnessing as inevitable when the new constitution was introduced, and when history began proving me right, I asked the State President for an opportunity to address a joint sitting of the Houses of Parliament. I would have explained to Members of Parliament why we were faced with escalating violence and what was needed to bring about peace and stability. The State President saw fit to deny me this opportunity. I would have explained that the spread of violence becomes a run-away thing over which nobody has any control. The State has always attempted to control violence by crushing Black political organisations it sees as responsible for violence. However, violence eventually spreads in such a way that it cannot be traced to any one organisation, and that is happening today. Ultimately a position is reached in which, as the saying goes, dog

eats dog. Ordinary Blacks who have been subjected to the terrible violence of political intimidation taking the form of being stoned to death, being hacked to death and being burnt alive, inevitably respond to meet an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. When that starts happening, mob violence spreads to endemic small group violence. We face the horrible situation now in which the more police kill Blacks, the more Blacks kill Blacks. All indications are that the lifting of the State of Emergency did not curb violence. To the contrary, violence is still on the increase.

The violence that is becoming endemic in other parts of the country threatens now to invade KwaZulu and Natal. The NECC Conference on Saturday 29 March is a classical case in point. My information is that NECC delegates began arriving on Friday and Blacks around them heard them singing insulting derogatory songs about me, and Black anger spread through the community. What happened at the NECC Conference is now history. The NECC was a victim of the violence that its members encourage by their utterances and their behaviour. Ever increasingly Black organisations are going to be drawn into the cauldron of violence, there to perish or to defend themselves. In these organisations, foul blows are delivered to emerging Black democracy.

As Minister of Police, I am committed to the maintenance of law and order, and decency, but I simply do not have at my disposal enough policemen and enough equipment to ensure that the struggle for liberation in this region of South Africa remains honourable and effective.

I do not share the view that Black policemen in apartheid society are like mad dogs which must be rooted out and killed. Nowhere else in Africa have liberation forces concentrated on killing Black policemen and Black civil servants. In every country in Africa where freedom was won, those who won against colonial oppression were indeed grateful that they inherited a Black police force. Black policemen did not make the laws of apartheid. They are victims of those laws, just like every one of us. Every Black policeman is our brother and they have the same yearning for freedom that we have. Black policemen should be the average householder's closest friend, because despite the horrendous laws of apartheid, crime needs to be combatted and when communities start forming a vigilante police force, atrocities are committed in

the name of justice. It is vital for KwaZulu and Natal that our police force be expanded, that it be better equipped, and that we in this House, Mr . Chairman, Honourable Members, have the

instrument of the KwaZulu Police Force at our disposal to ensure that the struggle for liberation is not destroyed by those who want to destroy democracy with apartheid.

The police make up that branch of the criminal Justice System that has the specific responsibility of maintaining law and order and combatting crime within society.

The duties invariably assigned to police departments in most democratic countries are protection of life and property, preservation of the peace, prevention of crime, detection and arrest of violators of law, enforcing the law, and safeguarding the rights of individuals.

As it was mentioned in the last 1985 Annual Report that the KwaZulu Police is a young force needing to expand its manpower, increase its equipment and acquire and polish its policing skills, it has not been possible for this Police Force to achieve its objectives because of the current economic recession in the country which has retarded development and improvement of policing. The general crime rate and incidence of political violence and mischief is extremely high in south Africa.

My department is in some way hampered by the current paucity of funds and is experiencing problems regarding expansion, accommodation for its members and demands by the public that the KwaZulu Police should take over all police stations and police functions.

Permit me, Mr Chairman, to outline in detail the extent of these problems, and how my Department of Police is responding. In the past year within the area of authority of KwaZulu Police, 7426 serious crimes were reported. This represents an average of 20 serious crimes daily - virtually one every hour of a full year. In these crimes 261 persons were murdered and 3088 injured.

There were 223 rapes, ongoing factions fights, 3093 serious assaults; and there were 2845 serious crimes involving property.

KwaZulu is still affected by political mischief. A very large cache of weapons destined for ANC use was uncovered in Ingwavuma, Lamontville and Umlazi.

On 1985-06-07 another very large cache of weapons also destined for ANC use was uncovered in Amanzimtoti. The cache included:-

RPG. 7 projectiles

RPG. 7 propellant cartridges

RPG. 7 launching tubes

Limpet mines

Luger pistols with 8 magazines

A.K. M.S. Rifles

x RGD. 5 handgrenades

x 71 handgrenades

x RG. 42 handgrenades

Although the KwaZulu Police is doing everything in its power to bring an end to faction fighting, KwaZulu continues to be plagued by faction clashes.

On 4 January 1986 in the Okhukho area these problems resulted in a total of 6 deaths with numerous other persons injured. It may be mentioned that the police seized an assortment of firearms in this fighting including two handgrenades, five shotguns, four side arms and 29 rounds of ammunition. 58 Persons have been arrested or detained in terms of Proclamation R103 of 1973 in connection with this matter. '

In a separate incidence, a well known businessman, Mr George Zungu, was brutally murdered and his body was found riddled with eighteen gun wounds or shots. The motive of his murder has not yet been established.

I am pleased to announce that a Police Post has now been built at Okhukho and is already operational and it is hoped that the clashes in this area will come to an end. A special Firearm Unit has also been introduced in this area and a large assortment of firearms have been recovered.

I am, however, saddened and regret to announce the death of two of our Policemen, Constables H.T. Zulu and R.B. Zwane who had been selected and posted to Okhukho to bring peace and order in this area, and who were brutally killed in an ambush on a bus on

Thursday 20 March 1986.

POLICE MANPOWER AND TRAINING:

Since the retirement on 30 June 1984 of Brigadier J.M. Fontini a seconded officer who was our former KwaZulu Commissioner, Colonel S.M. Mathe the most senior KwazZulu Officer, has been acting Commissioner until 31 July 1985. Brigadier A.M.J. Laas has been appointed KwaZulu Police Commissioner since 1 August 1985.

The present establishment comprises 1218 members including 38 Commissioned Officers, 4 seconded officers, 2 seconded non-commissioned officers, 69 trained policewomen and 229 reservists. 188 Male student constables are presently undergoing this basic training course at the South African Police College in Hammanskraal.

The introduction of Policewomen to the KwaZulu Police has increased efficiency. They have proved to be generally better on administration functions e.g. secretarial and clerical work. This will enable police males to be more suitably used in field work.

During the past year manpower wastage in the force amounted to 47 comprising the death of 3 members fatally injured in the execution of their duty, 6 of natural causes, 13 to superannuation, 10 to purchase of discharge and 15 to dishonourable discharge. The ratio of wastage to establishment is extremely low.

Police recruitment has been successful. Applications for enlistment are received virtually daily, especially from girls.

We have already noted that our selectivity has led to an improved standard of service rendered. In this connection I am extremely proud to announce that one of our policewomen Constable B.N. Ntombela of the KwaZulu Police was adjudged best Woman Student at the second semester at the South African Police College at Hammanskraal, to which hundreds of Police trainees from all over South Africa go for training each year.

Woman Constable Ntombela who achieved full marks (100%) with R1 rifle in her shooting was awarded the South African Police Co-Operative Floating Trophy for her fine achievement, and as a gesture of our pride in her, she has been invited to the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly today to witness this debate.

Altogether 144 KwaZulu Policemen and 36 KwaZulu Policewomen graduated from Basic Training in 1985, some in July the others in December. The Honourable Minister of Justice, Mr C.J. Mthethwa attended the ceremony on my behalf. The Commissioner of Police, Brigadier A.M.J. Laas and the Deputy Commissioner, Colonel S.M. Mathe also attended the ceremony.

In-Service Training also receives constant and imaginative attention. Lieut. Col.T.J. Mngomezulu and Captain M.G. Magubane attended a work-study course at Soshanguve but could not complete the course because of the unrest and class-boycotts which resulted in the Technicon closing down.

I am pleased to announce that 6 KwaZulu members of the Force successfully completed their intensive training here at Ulundi as Police Dog-handlers together with 6 alsatian patrol dogs which were donated to this department.

During 1985 a number of promotions were effected to fill existing vacancies for ranks of Constables, Sergeants and Warrant Officers. Twenty Warrant Officers were selected for promotion and were sent to Soshanguve for commissioned officer training which they completed on 15 March 1985.

I am pleased to announce that 18 of these Warrant Officers have been promoted to Lieutenant rank. I am also pleased, Mr Chairman Sir, to announce that another 20 Warrant Officers were selected for promotion and were sent to Hammanskraal for commissioned officer training which they completed on 14 March 1986.

Included in the 20 candidate officers are 6 detectives who also completed their officers' course at Hammanskraal, and 20 other ranks completed a course at the South African Police Mechanical School, Benoni, in the driving care and maintenance of official vehicles and motor-cycles.

During the month of January 1986 numerous members of all ranks attended a number of specialised in-service lectures at Ulundi concerning V.I.P. protection.

We have introduced a scheme to acquire and make available to our police as much specialist policing literature as we can. The literature already obtained is regarded as the nucleus of a KwaZulu Police Library.

I am pleased to announce that this library is expanding steadily. 220 KwaZulu Police Reservists were appointed during the year, 107 at Esikhawini, 74 at Ulundi, 18 at Umlazi, 14 at Nongoma, 1 at Madadeni, 2 at Osizweni, 2 at KwaMashu, 1 at Ekombe and 1 at Vulindlela. Altogether the KwaZulu Police have 229 reservists. They are being given in-service training in general police work while assisting police in their spare time, especially at night, at weekends, and on public holidays.

It must be pointed out, however, that although their valuable efforts receive no compensation, they are certainly deeply appreciated.

Altogether 111 rank promotions were actually achieved during the year and 20 Warrant Officers completed their training for commissioned rank.

It is worth mentioning that during 1985, 8 policewomen successfully passed their written promotion examination from Constable to Sergeant. This is a good indication of the forward movement of the Force as a whole.

POLICE PREMISES:

I am pleased to announce that the building of our own KwaZulu Police Training College will commence on 1986-04-01 here at Ulundi.

The Department of Co-Operation and Development is responsible for the building of this modern structure. There is no doubt that our own College will be beneficial to us in several ways. More training courses can be presented to more members locally, thereby saving monies which would otherwise be spent on travel, subsistence allowance, and other costs incurred by attending courses elsewhere in South Africa.

To give men proper and sound training, it is envisaged that the training course for our recruits will take two years instead of six months which we consider as very inadequate. The first year will consist of theory and all relevant academic study and the second year will be devoted to practical work.

The reason KwaZulu Police are at lesser strength than they should be, particularly in the increasingly violent conditions currently existing in South Africa - is because Hammanskraal is unable to accommodate the members of KwaZulu Police we urgently need to be trained. This position is not likely to improve because of the South African Police having to increase their own force members and because of all other Independent and National States being dependent on the South African Police for all their training needs.

I am pleased to announce that the handing over of Nongoma, Hlabisa and Ntambanana has eventually materialised. The handing over took place on 1986-04-01 and will enable us to more effectively maintain law and order in these troubled areas.

Later in 1986, occupation of Police Station which is nearing completion at Sundumbili by KwaZulu Police, will enable us to more effectively maintain law and order in that troubled area.

I am also pleased to announce that the building of the following offices of the District Commandants, commonly referred to as DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS have been completed:-

- (1) NQUTU District Headquarters
- (2) NONGOMA District Headquarters
- (3) KWAMASHU District Headquarters
- (4) UMLAZI District Headquarters

The District Headquarters at Nqutu and Nongoma started operating on 1986-02-02 and 1986-04-01 respectively.

It is hoped that KwaMashu and Umlazi District Headquarters will be operational in the near future and this will bring a total of 5 Police District Headquarters in KwaZulu. I made a request through the Commissioner-General that Umlazi and KwaMashu should be handed

over to us before the end of March. I was promised that this would happen soon. A month has elapsed without this happening.

Other new KwaZulu premises which my Department is giving high priority to and which will be built during the 1986/87 financial year are the following:-

KWAMSANE GEZINSILA NSELENI
MPUMALANGA NGWELEZANE KWAMAKUTHA

Due to the expansion of the KwaZulu Police and because of the continuing political violence, it has been decided to accommodate my Commissioner of Police and his immediate staff closer to my office so as to liaise with them and so that the Commissioner will have proper control over the safety and security of the Legislative Assembly and the administrative complex.

I am also pleased to announce that the building for our Mobile Unit situated next to Ulundi Police Station is due to be completed. This building will be used for the storage of all our anti-riot vehicles and equipment.

FUNCTIONAL SPECIALISATION:

Like any other internationally recognised Police Force, KwazZulu Police are entrusted with the preservation of peace and orderliness, the protection of life and property, the safeguarding of rights of individuals, the prevention of crime and concomitant investigations and policing actions. For the Police Force to function at its best the following specialist department is a pre-requisite and the following Units/Branches are briefly described below: -

COMMERCIAL BRANCH:

I am also pleased, Mr. Chairman Sir, and Honourable Members, to announce that our Commercial Branch started operating as from the 3rd March 1986. Major G.C. Howell who has been stationed in Durban and attached to the Commercial Branch there, is now in charge of this very important Branch. This Branch is based here at Ulundi.

The importance of establishing this branch cannot be over-emphasised. The branch will, among many other commercial crimes which are prevalent here in KwaZulu, combat an unfortunate trend of misappropriation of KwaZulu Government funds and to investigate fraud and corruption matters with the Government Service.

KWAZULU POLICE BRASS BAND:

It is hoped that before the end of 1986 this branch will be fully operational. The police band will be used on all KwaZulu ceremonial occasions, e.g. the opening of the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly, other important functions as well as during military funerals and also playing for the sick at our hospitals.

REACTION UNIT:

I am also pleased to announce that the KwaZulu Police is now in possession of the following anti-riot equipment:

11 Samag - this is a specialised anti-riot vehicle which could be driven on rugged terrains and is a four-wheel drive:

4 personnel carriers;

4 anti-riot swervers (anti-riot vehicles):

This list is still inadequate in view of the volatile atmosphere which our Police Force is operating in and the general spiralling violence in KwaZulu.

KWANAB: (KwaZulu Narcotics Bureau)

KwaZulu Police members will soon be trained in this field so that they will combat crime involving drugs, marihuana and unlawful dealing in liquor.

TRAFFIC CONTROL UNIT:

A qualified traffic control officer has already been identified and will serve under the control and supervision of the Commissioner of the KwaZulu Police. Stricter road traffic measures are necessary throughout the region of KwaZulu in respect of a high vehicular accident and damage rate.

It is hoped that this branch will be fully operational before the end of 1986.

CHAPLAINCY:

As an extension and supplementary to this existing Chaplain's Office, the Department of Police has further provided a social service within the framework of the Police for the welfare of all

its members, their families and dependants. Two qualified social workers will be attested as members of the Force.

The Department further contemplates creating an additional post for chaplains because of the expansion of the Force.

DETECTIVE BRANCH:

Major R.R. Reynolds, a seconded officer from the S.A. Police has been appointed our new Detective Commanding Officer for KwaZulu Police.

The detective branch is the back-bone of any Police Force.

Detectives handle various crimes which require dedicated investigation. I hope that Major Reynolds with his dedication, experience, knowledge of detective work, industriousness and

devotion to duty, will give proper and sound training and guidance to our men and by so doing improve the standard of detective work and discipline as a whole.

PERSONNEL STRUCTURE:

The personnel structure of the KwaZulu Police has also seen a rapid growth and it is estimated that the growth since the establishment of the KwaZulu Police Force in 1980 has been approximately 278.

In 1981 there were 652 members and in 1985 there were 1119. With the expected take-over of further police stations and other functions, it is expected that the strength of our Police Force will be + = 3500 by 1995.

NOTE ON EQUIPMENT:

Like any police force in the latter part of this century, KwaZulu Police utilise modern technical aids, and mechanical and electronic equipment to efficiently serve and protect the KwaZulu Community.

It is still our unhappy experience that in too many instances suppliers and contractors from whom we purchase in good faith and on the basis of pre-sales and pre-contractual promises of functional suitability after sales services, and provision of necessary pertinent training of the end-user, fail to ensure that their promises are honoured.

KwaZulu Police and the community they serve are endangered by the non-function of equipment around which protective response systems are based, or which form an integral part of such protective responses. KwaZulu Police are increasingly blamed, moreover, for efficiency failures, when in fact, careful analysis should allocate blame to malfunctional equipment or inadequate supplier-to-client training in the use of the equipment.

In addition, there are large amounts of money involved and KwaZulu simply cannot afford to waste such monies.

KwaZulu Police are giving consideration as how best to resolve this problem.

BUDGET AFFAIRS:

Estimates of Expenditure for 1986/87 of my Department of Police as reflected in the printed estimates, show an allocation of R12 144 000 to the Department of Police - an increase of R1 104 000 over the previous year.

Salaries, Wages and Allowances have increased by RY/.863667 to R9 230 797 because of the expansion of the Police Force and implementation of the new dispensation and increased service allowances.

Subsistence and Transport has increased by R77 0000 to R847 000, due to essential expenses coupled to the opening of new offices and necessary additional training courses.

Postal, Telegraph and Telephone Services are R78 663, an increase of R7 263 due to increased postal, telephone and telegraph tariffs and related new services outlined above.

Printing, Advertisement and Publications show increases by R23 655 to R60 255 due to necessary supportive services for additional police premises mentioned above. Price increases in the printing trade have also affected this figure.

Miscellaneous expenses rise by R13 542 to R191 312 because of provisioning whereby meals to members at Mess are subsidised, and because of general expansion as described above. Police functions require R1 086 973 which represents an increase of R136 873. This is attributable to certain developments, increases in the cost of medical treatment, appointment of new members, provision for unrest, road-block and crime prevention duties and in particular training also contributed to this increase.

Equipment costs are R649 000, up by R59 000, to provide office equipment and necessary devices at new premises, camping equipment for an additional Reaction Unit to be based at Ulundi, Madadeni and Esikhawini, furniture for new premises, weapons and ammunition, and the Radio installation which will be operational before the end of July 1986.

Once again Mr Chairman, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Honourable Members of this House that as a young police force we value constructive criticism and suggestions. We are embarked on a determined course of improvement. We ask for the Nation's co-operation and understanding of the inevitable problems caused by our relative Youth and limited purse.

Mr Chairman, Sir, that explains the main developments and expenditure for Vote 8. With these few remarks, I request the House to approve the amount of R12 144 000 for my Police budget vote. A