African National Congress

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

TO: DIRECTOR M. TIKKY

DEPARTMENT DEPARTMENT 13 SEP 1984

FROM: H. G MAKGOTHI

DEPARTMENT: FDUC

DATE: 6. 4. 84

SUBJECT:

THE ATTACHED WILL
WILL PROBABLY DISTURB
THE NOISELESS TENOR
OF YOUR LIFE!

THREE MOR EPEOPLE WERE FOUND DEAD LAST NIGHT (4 SERT).

THIS WAS ACCORDING TO POLICE.

A HOSTEL FOR MIGRANT WORKERS WAS BURNT DOWN, LEAVING HUNDREDS WITHOIUT HOMES. THE SINGLE SEX HOSTELS HAVE FOR A LONG TIME BEEN A SOURCE OF FRUSTRATION AND ANGER.

THERE ARE AT LEAST 105 000 D STUDENTS IN THE VAAL TRIANGLE AND EAST RAND ON BOYCOTT AT THIS MOMENT. THIS IOS ACOREDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATI N AND TRAINING, SO THE ACTUAL FIGURE IS PROBABLY A LOT HIGHER.

MR MAHLATSI - REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE STORY - MAY NOT BE DEAD. THERE ARE RUMOURS THAT HE WAS FOUND WITH MINOR INJURIOES AND WAS TAKEN TO A POLICE STATION FOR PROTECTION.

DAMAGE TO SHOPS AND HOEMS HAS BEEN ESTIMATED THUS FAR AT R 25 MILLION. THIUS DOES NOT INCLUDE BEERHALLS, ADMIN BUILDINGS, CARS, POLICE VCEHIUCLES, ETRC.

A LITTLE MORE BACKGROUND INFO: THE AVERAGE RENT IN THE VAAL AREA IS R70 A MOPNTH, BEFORE THE INCREASE. THIS IS A LOT OF MONERY FOR PEOPLE WHJO ARE EARNING VERY LITTLE.

ESTIMATES AS TO INJURIOES ARE DIFFICUOT. THE POLICE PUT THE FIGURE AT 40 INJURED. BUT INDEPENDANT SOURCES LAST NIGHT PUT THE FIGURE AT OVER THREE HUNDRED. TODAY ITR WAS REPORTED THAT THE 99 900-B BED SEBOKENG HOSPITAL WAS FULL TO OVERFLOWING. CLEARLY, IT WAS ALREADY BUSYT BEFORE, BUT IT CAN BE SURMISED THAT MANY NOW IN THE HOSPITAL ARE PEOPLE INJURED IN THE CLASHES. ALL STAFFF THAT IS NOT ESSENTIAL IN THE BUILKDING HAVE BEEN REMOVED. MOST PEOPLE STILL AT THE HOSPITAL ARE DOCTORS OR SECURITY PEOPLE.

ORGANISATIONS WHICH CALLED FOR THE STAY-AT HOME AND RENTS BOYCOTT INCLUDE:

THE SHARPEVILLE ANTI-RENT COMMITTEE

THE VAAL CIVIC ASSOCIATION

THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FRONT

THE CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS

THE VAAL WOMEN'S ORGANISATIONS

AND LOCAL TRADE UNIONS.

THE DECISION TO DEMONSTRATE LED TO A SHARP CLASH BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL AND LOCAL CHURCH ORGANISATIONS.

THE COUCNCILLORS ACCUSED THE CLERGY OF FOMENTING UNREST BY ALLOWING THE RESISTANCE ORGANISATION THE USE OF CHURCHES FOR MEETINGS. THE COUCNCIL LATER ISSUED A WRITTEN DIRECTIVE FORBIDDING SUCH MEETINGS. CHURCHES IGNORED THE ORDER.

ENDS. OK+

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PLSE WHEN OUR STATEMENT OR PRESS RELEASE IS AVAILABLE, DD RELAY TO US ALSO. ARR

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STOCKHOLM 05/09/84
ATTN: CDE OPERATOR
FROM: AARON.

STORY ON VAAL SHA RPEVILLE SITUATION FOLLOWS:

THE 1960 SHARPEVILLE MASSACRES WHICH LEFT 59 PEOPLE DEAD HAS BEEN BRUTALLY RECALLED.

OVER THE LAST F DAY (MON. SEPT 3 AND TUES SEPT 4) 26 PEOPLE HAVE DIED AND HUNDREDS HAVE BEEN INJURED, ACCORDING TO REPORTS FILTERING OUT OF TOWNSHIPS IN THE VAAL TRIANGLE.

THE EXTENT OF THE DEATHS AND DAMAGE IS NOT FULLY KNOWN BECAUSE OF A POLICE BLACKOUT OF THE TOWNSHIPS. THEY HAVE, WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENCE FORCE, THROWN MASSIVE ROADBLOCKS AROSND SEBOKENG, SHARPEVILLE AND EVATON. ONLY THE SOUTH XXXX GOVERNMENT RUN SABC IS ALLOWED IN TO COVER EVENTAS. ALL OTHER MEDIA HAS BEEN DENIED ACCESS TO THE AREA.

ACCORDING TO POLICE STATISTICS, THE DEATH TOLL IN YESTERDAY AND LAST NIGHT'S VIOLENCE HAS RISEN TO 26 WITH THE DISCOVERY BY POLICE OF TWELVE MORE BODIES. SAP INJURY FIGURES ARE: 8 POLICEMEN INJURED AND 32 CIVILIANS INJURED. POLICE HAVE INSTRUCTED HOSPITALS IN THE SHARPEVILLE AREA NOT TO RELEASE ANY FIGURES OF CASUALTIES ADMITTED AFTER YESTERDAYU'S PROTESTS. BUT REPORTS HAVE ESTIMATED ABOUT 250 INJURED. THIS WOULD MAKE IT THE WORST CASUALTIE RATE SINCE THE EVENTS OF THE CISKEI / MDANTSANE BUS BOYCOTT WHERE ABOUT 0 90 PEOPLEIWERE ESTIMATED TO HAVE BEEN SHOT BY CISKEL BATUSTAN POLICE. IN THE TOWNSHIPS GUNFIRE WAS HEARD GOING ON LATE INTO LAST NIGHT AS POLICE MANNED ROADBLOCKS AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE TOWNSHIPS. THROUGHOUT THE DAY POLICE USED RUBBER BULLETS, TEARGAS AND SMOKE GFRENADES ZUT, AS THE RESISTANCE STRENGTHENED YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, THEY STARTED TO USE LIVE AMMUNITION. MAKESHIFT BARRICADES OF BURNING TYRES AND CONCRETE PILLARS WERE PLACED ACROSS THE ACCESS ROADS TO SHARPEVILLE AND OTHER TOWNSHIPS TO PREVENT ARMOURED POLICE VEHICLES ENTERING THE AREAS. THE ARMOURED A CARIERS THAT DID GET IN FIRED INTO THE NIGHT AS CROW GATHERED. BY LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON, POLICE WERE FORCED TO BRING IN REINFORCEMENTS FROM AS FAR AFIELD AS THE HORTHERN TRANSVAAL .: COUNTER-INSURGENCY UNITS MANNED ARMOURED CARS PATROLLING THE TOWNSHIPS. AT LEAST SEVEN ARMOURED TROOP CARRIERS WERE SEEN TO ENTER SHARPEVILLE JUST BEFORE SUNSET.

THE PROTESTS IN THE AREA HAVE BEEN BUILDING UP FOR A LONG TIME.:
MOST REPORTS IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS TALK OF 'MOBS ON THE RAMPAGE'
AND 'UNCONTROLLED VIOLENCE'.: THEY ASCRIBE THE EVENTS TO REACTIONS
TO AN INCIDENT YESTERDAY WHEN 'YOUTHS' STARTED STONING CARS.:
IN RESPONSE TO WHICH POLICE WERE SENTR IN TO THE AREA.: FROM HERE,
ASCCORDING TO REPORTSD IN NEWSPAPERS, THE VIOLENCE ESCALATED.:

HOWEYCER, THE AREAS AFFECTED IN THE RECENT VIOLENCE HAVE WARNED BEARENORESEVERS RENTS WERE INCREASED WITHOUT CONSULTATION BY R5-50 A MONTH, WHICH FOLLWED A PREVIOUS R9-00 INCREASE. + THE IMPOSITION OF THE 'DUMMY' LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON THE RESIDENTS. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE K THE 'NEW DEAL'S 'REPLACEMENT FOR THE DISCREDITED COMMUNITY COUNCILS WHICH ADMINISTER THE AFRICAN TOWNSHIPS. THE YAAL LOCAL AUTHORITIES WERE OVERWHELMINGLY REJECTED LAST NOVEMBER IN A POLL WHICH WAS LESS THAN TEN PERCENT. THEY ARE NOW IMPOSING THE RENT INCREASES.

- * INADEQUATE SCHOOLING. FOR SOME TIME SCHOOL STUDENTS ACROSS SOUTH AFRICA HAVE PROTESTED AGAINST INADEQUATE SCHOOLING, DEMANDING THE RENEGRION OF BANGU EDUCATION SYSTEM, AND THE CREATION OF FREE, COMPULSORY, DYNAMIC, NON-RCIAL AND DEMOCRATIC
- * STUDENTS HAVE PROTESTED AAINST THE NEW CONSTITUTION PRESENTLY BEING IMPOSED ON SOUTH AFRICA. IN THE PAST MONTH WELL OVER 600 000 STUDENTS HAVE BOYCVOTTED SCHOOLS TO DEMONSTRATE THEIR REJECTION OF THE CONSTITUTION.
- * PROMINENT LEADERS IN THE VAAL AREA HAVE BEEN DETAINED. SOME ARE DETAINED UNDER SECTION 28 OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT, WHICH PROVIDES FOR INDEFINITE 'PREVENTIVE' DETENTION. THE SECTION MAKES PROVISION FOR DEYTAINING PEOPLE WHO THE POLICE BELIEVE MIGHT COMMITSOME OFFENCE OR THE OTHER.

YESTEDAY'S PROTEST CENTERED ON THE RENTS ISSUE. RELATED TO IT, HOWEV HOWEVER, WAS THE RECENT RAISE IN GENERAL SALES TAX TO TEN PERCENT. THIS HAS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED THE BUYING POWER OF ALREADY LOW WAGES. LAST MONTH, TUMAHOLE, NEAR PARYS, REFACTED TO THE SAME ISSUE. THERE, THE AVERAGE WAGE FOR THE HIGHEST PAID FACTORY WORKERS WAS R15 A WEEK. ELSEWOHERE IN THE VAAL, THE WAGES ARE NOT MUCH HIGHER.

EVENTS YESTERDAY STARTED WITH A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION, AS FAR AS IS KNOWN. STUDENTS, YOUTH AND RESIDENTS WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEONSTRATIO AGAINST THE RENT INCREASES. A STAY-AT-HOME WAS MADE BY COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS THE WEEKEND BEFORE AT A MASS MEETING. THE EARLIEST REPORTED VIOLENCE INVOLVED AN INCIDENT WHERE THE DEMONST RATOS CONFRONTED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LEKOA TOWN COUNCIL, MR ESAU MAHLATSI. HE WAS STONED TO DERATH. IN SHARPEVILE, RESIDENTS CONFRONTED THE DEPUTY MAYOR, MR SAM DHLAMINI. ACCORDING TO REPORTS HE PULLED OUT A GUN AND SHOT TWO DEMONSTRATORDS DEAD. THE CROWD RETALIATED, STONIONG HIM AND THROWING HIM INTO A CAR, WHICH WAS SET ALIGHT. DHLAMINI DIED. TEN OF THE 12 XXX 14 REPORTED DEAD ON MONDAY WERE SHOT BY POLICE. R RIFLES AND SHOTGUNS WERE USED. BY EVENING 44 BUILDINGS HAD BEEN BURNED OR DAMAGED, INCLUDING ALL THE BEERHALLS IN THE AREAS. THEY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN A TARGET FOR RESIDENTS AS THEY ARE ONE OF THE MAIN SOURCES OF REVENUE FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES. RESIDENTS IN SHARPEVILLE FLED INTO THE HOMES AS POLICE ENTERED THE TOWNSHIP+. YOUTHS USING DUSTBIN LIDS AS SHIELDS SET UP ROADBLOCKS WITH BURNING CARS AND TYRES .: AIR FORCE HELICOPTERS FLEW OVER THE TOWNSHIPS 'FOR OBSERVATION PURPOSES', SAID A POLICE SPOKESMAN. POLICE REPORTED THAT: + 4 PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED IN BOIPATONG, SOUTH OF JOHANNESBURG, AFTER ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES AND A POST OFFICE WERE SET ALIGHT, AND A COUNC COUNCILLOR'S HOME WAS ATTACKED. +TWO BODIES WERE FOUND IN SEBOKENG IN THE BURNT-OUT HOUSE OF A LOCAL COUNCILLOR. TWO CHURCHES AND THE LCAL POLICE COMMISIONER'S OFFICE WERE SET ON FIRE AND PETROL BOMBS THROWN AT POLICE VEHICLES. + A BOTTLE STORE, AN INDUSTRIAL BAZAAR AND SHOPS WERE LOOTED AND DEST DESTROYERD IN SHARPEVILLE. +THERE ARE NO CAFES OR STORES LEFT STANDING IN EVATON. THERE, A POLICEMAN WAS LEFT FOR DEAD AFTER BEING STONED .: POLICE DENY HE DIED. A LOCAL COUNCILLORS OFFICE WAS ATTACKED. +BUSES, POLICE AND PRIVATE VEHICLES WERE STONED AND BURNT + A SERVICE STATION, A BUS DEPOT, A BEERHALL WERE SET ALIGHT AND DAMA MAGED IN EVATON. + A NUMBVER OF POLICEMEN WERE INJURED IN CLASHES. + SEVERAL PEOPLE WERE INJURED IN 'COUNTER-MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SAP' SAID POLICE. BODIES ARE STILL BEING FUND. IN KEMPTON PARK THER WAS ALSO RIOTING IN RESPONSE TO POLICE ACTION. + THE SHARPEVILLE HOME OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE VAAL ANTI-RENT COMMITTE WAS ATTACKED BY POLICE. REV JEFF MOSELANE WAS XXX HOME WAS FIRED AT WITH TEARSMOKE, REPORTS SAY. +IN SEBOKENG ZONE 11 COUNCILLOR CAESAR MOTJEANE WAS STONED AND HACVEK TO DEATH. MR MOTIPIDI, A MANGER AT MOTJEANE'S SHOP DIED IN THE BLAZE AT HIS HOUSE. A MAN HAD EARLIER BEEN SHOT DEAD BY MOTIPIDI, AND IT IS BELIEVED IT WAS HIS DEATH THE CROWD RESPONDED TO .: +ANOTHER COUNCILLLOR, MR CHAKANE, ALSO FIRED ON A CROWD. HE WAS LEFT FOR DEAD AFTER HIS HOUSE WAS SET ALIGHT AND HE WAS STONED.

TODAY, NOT MANY BUSES ENETERED THE TOWNSHIP. THE STAY-AWAY THAT WAS CALLED FOR WAS ESTIMATED TO BE 95 PERCENT SUCCESFUL. MANY EVENTS ARE STILL NOT CLEAR BECAUSE OF THE POLICE BLACK-OUT ON NEWS. BUT IT IS CLEAR THAT THE MAIN TARGET OF THE RESIDENTS IN MANY TOWNSHIPS SOUTH OF JOHANNESBURG WAS THE COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS WHO IMPOSED THE RENT INCREASES, THE POLICE WHO HAVE SHOWN LITTLE RESTRAINT, AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS, BEERHALLS AND SHOPS.

ACCORDING TO A REPORT IN A THE STAR NEWSPAPER, PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AR PARTICIPATING IN THE PROTEST. ACCORDING TO A MIDDLE-AGED SHARPEVILLE WOME, 'THE INCREASED RENTS AFFECT EVERYONE - YOUNG AND OLD'.

POLICE HAVE REFUSED TO COMMENT ON INCIDENTS IN WHICH A SIX YEAR OLD BOY, AND A 9 YEAR OLD GIRL DIED - ALLEGEDLY AFTER BEING SHOT BY POLICE.

JOYCE NZAMA, 9, WAS THE YOUNGEST OF FOUR PEOPLE TO HAVE DIED VIOLENTLY IN DAVEYTON LATE LAST WEEK, AND THABO SIBEKO, 6, WAS KILLED IN WATTVILLE. AN 121 XX 11-YEAR OLD GIRL TOLD HOW SHE, THABO AND ANOTHER YOUNG FRIEND SAW THREE POLICHEN 'POINTING GUNS AT US' THEY ALLEGEDLY HEARD GUNSHOTS AND RAN BACK INTO THEIR HOME. A SHORT WHILE T LATER THABO WAS FOUND LYING IN A POOL OF BLOOD NEAR THE FRONT DOOR, FATALLY SHOT.

LATEST REPORTS JUST RECIEVE INDICATE THAT ALL COMMUNITY COUNCILLORS HAVE GONE INTO HIDING. THE UNREST HAS ALO SPREAD TO WELKOM, WHERE POLICE HAVE USED TEARGAS TO DISPERSE A GROUP OF PROTESTERS.

ALL OF THE ABOVE DAS WEITTEN YESTERDAY.

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