

HOUSE OF DELEGATES BY-ELECTION

Scrap all special votes, TIC urges

THE Transvaal Indian Congress (Tic) has asked the Director-General of Home Affairs to cancel all the special votes that have been cast in the by-election for the Lenasia seat in the House of Delegates.

This was confirmed by Mr Krish Naidoo, Tic's attorney, who said this request was made in view of Thursday's Supreme Court judgement over certain special votes.

"We have asked the Director-General to either set aside all the special votes or to investigate each and every special vote."

Void

Mr Naidoo said it appeared the Electoral Officer was not fully conversant with the Electoral Act.

The Tic has also asked the Director-General to refer this week's court findings to the Attorney-General for possible prosecution.

On Thursday, six voters following four separate applications had their special votes declared null and void by Mr Justice R J

S/TIMES 03/08/87
Schabert in the Rand Supreme Court.

The candidates against whom the applications were brought were Mrs Rashida Ebrahim (Solidarity), Mr Mahdi Naidoo and Mr Mohamed Sadeck Shah (NPP).

However, the application against Mr Shah was subsequently withdrawn and no application was brought against the PRP candidate, Mr Harry Beharie.

● See Page 5

2/2

Ban, jail or kill me — that's the only way I'll stop

DR Van Zyl Slabbert — now the target of death threats and criticism for his Dakar mission in the light of the car bomb — plans to "plug on" for a negotiated future.

"The peacemakers have no option but to sue for peace," he said this week. "The only things that may stop me are banning, imprisonment or death."

He disclosed he had been receiving death threats, which have been a continuing feature of his political career.

The Dakar talks have also caused strains within the Progressive Federal Party and it is certain President Botha will use the opportunity of his budget vote next week to flay both the opposition party — which had three members in the group that visited West Africa — and its former leader.

Harry Schwarz has already told Parliament that the PFP delegates went to Dakar as individuals.

PFP leader Colin Eglin, said although he supported the dialogue, he condemned the bombing and disclosed that the PFP had not given the initiative its prior blessing. He was merely informed that the three PFP members — MPs Peter Gastrow and Pierre Cronje and President's Council member Pieter Schoeman — were attending.

It is clear the car bomb will have the worst



Slabbert

possible impact on an initiative which has been described as both a treasonable political stunt and the most dramatic breakthrough in talks this country has witnessed.

The Institute of Democratic Alternatives for South Africa (Idasa) expects to earn for its efforts, in the short term, only the wrath of most whites here as well as possible Government action and there is speculation the bomb might have



Eglin

been planted by an anti-African National Congress talks faction.

Dr Slabbert said: "There was violence before we went and we didn't expect it to subside as a result of the talks... the public is going to connect the Dakar talks with the bomb, which is ridiculous."

"I didn't plan the meeting with the idea that we would have a bomb going off when we came home."

On the possibility that the Government might hamper its fundraising or take even stronger action, he said: "The Government can kill the PFP and Idasa and it won't have solved the problem."

He had no choice, he said, but to push for peace. "In South Africa, unless we accept that violence is the only solution, we have no option but to pursue talks. The alternative is to sit back and to wait for violence to engulf society. When that happens there will be no victory, only devastation."

In laying the groundwork of a defence against criticism of the Dakar initiative, he noted that the

Government had declared itself to be seriously committed to the politics of negotiation.

He contended that as a "basic minimum test of the Government's commitment it has to be tolerant of the initiative."

He said Idasa was not a political party, its funds were "legal", it had not challenged anyone or indulged in protest politics.

Nor did the group go to Dakar in an attempt to "negotiate", as was inferred by some of his more cynical critics. "We have no mandate to negotiate. That simply misses the whole issue. We went as individuals with no hidden agenda and each could respond as he saw fit."

"This was not a one-day safari or a picnic in the bush. It was a serious attempt at having a discussion on critical issues. There was nothing illegal, secret, subversive or conspiratorial about the whole venture. It was a serious attempt to explore the possibilities of breaking the spiral of violence and confrontation... Dakar provided first hand information which is not available in South Africa by deliberate decision. The Government can quote at random what the ANC says..."

He also slammed the notion that the visit had provided the ANC with international credibility when the organisation had suffered a backlash because of violence and necklacings.

"The ANC is a fact and has been one since 1912

... they already have enormous support in South Africa. Nobody has given the ANC more credibility recently than the Government itself."

"The Government cannot have it both ways. It cannot say it has no support because it is a foreign-based terrorist organisation and then in the election that it has enough support to disrupt the election through mass actions and strikes."

Of the bomb, he said: "I condemn the car bomb, whoever is responsible, without reservation. It is an act of terror pure and simple. If the ANC is responsible, and I want this established beyond any reasonable doubt, then I have to express my deep disappointment and disapproval. It would indeed, if this was done deliberately, be a macabre homecoming after what we discussed in Dakar... if the pattern of interaction is going to be one of escalating terror and violence, our society is going to be torn apart."

He added: "In any situation as conflict-ridden as ours you will find extremists at both sides who will want to destroy the middle ground and I would see that action as calculated to do exactly that."

He said violence in all its aspects was discussed in Dakar. "The armed struggle, terror, uncontrolled behaviour, arbitrary violence, even extravagant language... we never ducked the issue of violence. We confronted it and we differed on it."

The ANC was confronted, for example, with some of the more outrageous sayings of Freedom Radio, which was again this week calling for the "armed struggle" to be taken into white areas.

Dr Slabbert said both the ANC and the South African Defence Force had committed acts of violence. "Innocent people have died because of indiscriminate violence on both sides," he said, "and it would be wrong to dismiss either as just another terrorist organisation."

On terror, he said: "I

reject all forms of terror, from whichever quarter it comes, with unambiguous revulsion. I have said so to the Government and I have said so to the ANC."

His message to the Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging (AWB), which at one stage threatened to "fix" him on his return: "All I can say to Eugene Terre'Blanche is I don't have a party or an organisation behind me. I also don't have people who walk around in jackboots to look after me... I don't shout at people who differ with me and I don't insult them either."

"I believe in the right of people to have opinions which don't agree with mine. No bullying, threats or even physical harm which might be inflicted on me will break down the standpoints and problems which I am trying to address. The problems will still be there, even if I am not."

He warned that the country was going through a crisis and its biggest problems were lack of information and communication.

Idasa and others would find they could no longer operate when a certain threshold was reached. "If the Government finally and conclusively says no negotiation is possible and prohibits anybody else from entering into negotiation then there is no question... we have reached that threshold."

The alternative to talks "is to accept the inevitability of continuous violence without victory for anyone. This is a certain formula to reduce our country to a wasteland."

Peter Gastrow said: "In spite of the bombing, which filled me with deep shock and depression, I am still persuaded that contacts like that are essential. Not only was I depressed at the incident, but also the prospect of resolving the political and violent deadlock."

"Future political compromise has been made more difficult, and the bombing has played into the hands of those who believe the deadlock can be resolved only by military means."

Labour Update Nactu officials

Some agreement in PO, Potwa talks

SOWETAN 2/08/87

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

Sympathy for victims

Worker assaulted, dismissed

A spokesman for the Minister's office said Mr Steyn was being kept informed at the highest level of developments at the mine.

The Government mining engineer had been at the mine since the beginning of the disaster, the spokesman added yesterday.

"Mr Steyn has expressed his deepest sympathy for the relatives of those who died and wishes a speedy recovery to those injured," the spokesman said.

THE Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Danie Steyn, yesterday expressed his "deepest sympathy" for the families of the victims and a speedy recovery of those injured, in the Welkom mine disaster on Monday.

Potwa this week.

A Potwa spokesman said they were prepared to meet the Minister and his entourage. The workers stood by their original demands and were not willing to go back to work until these were met by the Post Office management.

A GERMISTON service station, President Motors, has dismissed a worker who complained that a white colleague assaulted him after accusing him of being drunk on duty.

According to the worker, Mr Petrus Mbule of Katlehong, the white worker followed him to the service station's toilet at knocking off time on August 15 and assaulted him with fists.

He allegedly accused him of being drunk on duty.

Mr Mbule said he did not take any alcohol on that day.

He thereafter went to the Katlehong Legal Services Centre where he sought help.

A letter was written to management by the centre in which Mr Mbule's reinstatement was demanded because "being a victim of assault does not warrant summarily dismissal".

The letter also advised management that Mr Mbule had laid an assault charge with the police.

Mr Mbule said that when he presented the letter to the general manager of the service station on August 21 he was again threatened with assault and given R102,80 severance pay.

When the *Sowetan* telephoned the service station yesterday an offi-

cial, who declined to give his name, said Mr Victor Hayes, the station's general manager, was sick in bed and said: "Confirm that story with the police and please do not come to us. Who are you, anyway?" He then hung up abruptly.

HUNDREDS of workers at the three plants of the Consolidated Glass Ware downed tools yesterday over demands for better pay.

A South African Allied Workers' Union spokesman said the striking workers belonged to his organisation and the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union. The decision to down tools was reached after wage negotiations reached a stalemate.

The affected plants are Pretoria, Clayville and Wadeville. Workers are demanding an 80 cents across the board hourly increase on the average R3,21 hourly wage they presently earn.

Mr Hennie Roos, managing director for the company's glass division, confirmed the strike. He would not discuss the matter as negotiations were still pending.

Glass workers down tools

A FIVE-MAN delegation of the National Council of Trade Unions has arrived in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, at the invitation of Tanzania Workers Union. The Nactu delegation is led by its president, James Mda-weni.

During the visit, the delegation will brief Juwata, and government officials on the current internal situation in South Africa, the impact of the state of emergency and the struggle of the workers.

The Nactu delegation will hold formal discussions with senior members of the central committee of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC), led by the chairman, Johnson P.

Mlambo.

Nactu was established in 1986 following the merger of Cusa and Azactu and represents 420 000 workers with 22 affiliated trade unions with members in key industrial sectors such as the food, metal, mining, chemical, transport and public service industries.

Given the growing importance of unionised workers in the current struggle, the visit will

certainly assist in clarifying the extent of involvement of workers and their role in the struggle against the South African Government.

The Nactu delegation includes Stewart Mole-tsane (vice-president), Phiroshaw Camay (secretary-general) and two central committee members — J Mathebula and N Nkosi.

NEGOTIATIONS between Post Office management and the executive committee of the Postal and Telecommunication Workers' Association (Potwa) aimed at resolving the strike by thousands of employees continued in Pretoria yesterday.

A spokesman for Post Office management said agreement was reached on Monday on most of the areas of dispute which resulted to the strike action.

The spokesman said a few remaining points would be discussed at a meeting yesterday and it was hoped that an agreement would be reached this week.

The workers' demands include: parity in wages, reinstatement of dismissed workers and the removal of racial discrimination in the industry.

The Post Office has reiterated that it did not want to dismiss workers, but wished for a speedy settlement.

The Minister of Home Affairs and of Communications, Mr Stoffel Botha, has indicated that he was prepared to meet with a delegation of

Briefs

78/80/4

STRIKING Mercedes-Benz of South Africa workers in East London have been informed individually by letter that if they do not go back to work by 10am tomorrow, the company's final pay rise offer will be withdrawn.

"We have put forward a final offer which has been rejected by the National Union of Metalworkers of SA. We believe this offer is extremely fair," MBSA spokesman, Mrs Delene MacFarlane, said last week.

THE Chemical Workers' Industrial Union and various Transvaal companies recently reached settlement in the "living wage campaign", the union said yesterday.

Settlement has been reached with the following companies:

- At Vulco Latex in Johannesburg, a settlement covering 250 workers was reached "just in time to avert a legal strike" which was due to start the next day, the union said. An increase of R29 per week or R125 per month was agreed upon, giving women workers on the bottom grades a percentage increase of 29 percent.

Six months maternity leave was agreed with two months on full pay. May Day and June 16th were granted as paid holidays and Sharpeville Day would replace Workers' Day. Shift allowance was improved to 17.5 percent.

- At Reef Chemical in Boksburg, the new minimum wage agreed upon was R4,20 per hour or R800 per month minimum wage. May Day and June 16 were given as holidays and Sharpeville Day would be swapped for another leave day.

- After a two-day strike, 300 Twins-Propan workers at the Durban and Wadeville plants settled their dispute. Increases of between R145 and R150 per month were agreed upon bringing the minimum wage to

R740 per month. Maternity leave was increased to 4 months with 2 months on full pay. May Day and June 16 were also recognised as holidays, the union said. — Sapa.

Nat PC member in race row over flats

David Breier

Political Correspondent

A FORMER National Party MP who is currently a member of the President's Council, is at the centre of a Group Areas Act controversy in Cape Town.

He is Mr Mias van der Westhuyzen, former MP for the South Coast in Natal, who is reported to have threatened to go to the police if eviction notices are not served on coloured tenants of the Senator Park block of flats.

The flats are in a white group area.

Mr van der Westhuyzen has denied the allegation, although he said he had raised the issue of a date for illegal tenants to vacate the flats.

But his President's Council colleagues say they were not surprised to hear he was at the centre of the row.

Mr van der Westhuyzen is one of the sectional title owners of the large block of flats in Keerom Street where a number of white members of the body corporate have let their flats to coloured tenants.

the matter.

Mr van der Westhuyzen's role in the row is especially controversial as the President's Council, of which he is a member, has still not completed its report on the Group Areas Act. The President's Council has a Nat majority.

At the height of the eviction row, it was disclosed that Mr van der Westhuyzen was the key figure in a deadline set for tenants at the end of July.

It was alleged that in May he threatened at the body corporate's annual general meeting to go to the police if notices of eviction were not served on coloured tenants.

The Sunday Star this week contacted him at his home in Uvongo on the Natal South Coast where he was staying during the President's Council recess.

He denied the allegations and said he did not serve on the body corporate of Senator Park, but received a notice on

the matter.

He said he would be able to disclose full details when he returned to his office in Cape Town this week and had access to the correspondence.

He said the notice was sent to him as one of the owners. It stated that it had come to the notice of the writer that certain owners were letting flats to "people not of the white group" in contravention of the Group Areas Act, Mr van der Westhuyzen said.

"If I remember correctly it was also stated that on taking transfer of the sectional title, the owners undertook not to contravene any Act, or something to this effect," he said.

He said that about a month later he received notice of a meeting of the body corporate, which he attended.

At the meeting he referred to the notice and pointed out that it did not give a date by which such lessees should vacate the flats.

Asked if it was true he had threatened to go to the police, he said it was absolutely untrue.

He said the chairman of the meeting asked whether the "Minister" would receive information on the meeting.

"I said I thought the Minister would receive the information," Mr van der Westhuyzen said.

He said he was being used as a scapegoat because of his political position.

Asked for his personal opinion on whether coloured tenants should be evicted, Mr van der Westhuyzen said he had his opinion, but he declined to disclose it as the Group Areas Act was being examined by the President's Council and the matter was therefore "sub judice".

Mr Ray Swart, the Natal leader of the Progressive Federal Party, described Mr van der Westhuyzen as a "very verkrampste gentleman".

And his President's Council colleagues said they were not surprised at his involvement in the row in view of his racist attitudes.

They pointed out that it was nonsense to say the Group Areas issue was sub judice.

Although it was on the President's Council agenda, the council was not looking at the matter at present.

Mr van der Westhuyzen is a member of the economic affairs committee of the President's Council and not the constitutional committee which is supposed to study the Group Areas Act.

16/1/87

—ANC blames Govt for spiral of violence—

S/TRIBUNE 02/03/87

By Gary van Staden

THE African National Congress this week blamed the Government and the "official media" for the violence in South Africa and warned that unless the organisation was allowed to contribute to the creation of a democratic society the "downward spiral of violence" would continue.

"If whites accept that there must be change in South Africa then they have to demand to hear the other side of the story from the ANC and other democratic organisations," a spokesman for the ANC said just hours before the car-bomb explosion outside military headquarters at Witwatersrand Command.

At the time of going to Press the ANC had neither confirmed nor denied that its units were responsible for the blast which left 68 people injured.

"The official media must give time and space to the voices and opinions of those who speak on behalf of blacks in South Africa. Otherwise we will all — black and white — continue on the downward spiral of worsening crisis and more violence," the ANC spokesman added.

According to the spokesman the Government now found itself bound in its rhetoric of "reform" and "change" with no evidence of any tangible move towards radical or substantial change in the country's socio-economic or political structures.

"White South Africans can only come to know and understand the ANC and what it thinks and proposes if it is allowed to address them directly.

"It is the duty and the right of white South Africans to know that what we think and propose could make a significant contribution towards a democratic society in South Africa," the spokesman added.

"White South Africans have nothing to fear from the ANC."

The ANC spokesman said that the South African Government and its allies in the official media had undertaken an "orchestrated campaign" to vilify and discredit the organisation and that this had contributed to the cycle of violence.

"There is no doubt that this campaign is aimed at scaring those whites (such as the Dakar delegates and their supporters) who are prepared to seek a change away from the apartheid system to a democratic process," the ANC spokesman said.

In a separate general statement the ANC confirmed it had ordered its units to take the guerrilla war into white areas but added that this did not represent a policy shift.

Extra-parliamentary sources in South Africa said that the actions of the ANC and other organisations involved in acts of violence were understandable.

"Violence is almost always the result of other — and peaceful — avenues being denied. There are many historical precedents for the use of violence to achieve or protect a democratic society and the use of violence as part of an overall strategy does not represent an inconsistency," an informed extra-parliamentary source said. This did not mean that violent actions could be condoned, however, he said.

16/1/11

THE STAR
Tambo on 'armed struggle' at conference

HARARE — Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress, spoke out strongly yesterday about the armed struggle against apartheid and the role of the Commonwealth in the imposition of economic sanctions against South Africa.

Addressing a rally at the close of an anti-apartheid conference convened by veteran anti-apartheid campaigner Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, Mr Tambo expressed views on how that struggle should relate to efforts to end apartheid.

Mr Tambo made the call on Commonwealth leaders, who meet in Vancouver next month, in relation to sanctions.

25/8/87
He commented on what he believed President Botha knew of South Africa's political and economic situation and whether it was in a crisis. He addressed the issue of whether sufficient pressure was being applied to negotiate the future. — Reuter.



Report Restricted

● *Parts of this report have been omitted or altered to avoid reporting the content of Mr Tambo's speech. Mr Tambo is banned in South Africa in terms of the Internal Security Act and may not be quoted in South Africa.*

1. 8/

S/TIMES 02/08/87
Play on, says ANC

THE ANC has given the musical group, Amampondo, the all clear to perform overseas.

The ANC has recently softened its position on the cultural boycott.

It no longer opposes tours by artists who are given the backing of organisations like the SA Music Alliance which the ANC sees as part of "the broad democratic alliance".

Amampondo is the second group to be given the backing of the ANC to tour abroad. The first was Johnny Clegg's Savuka.

1. 11/