

File STAR

Cosatu urges international probe into controversial SA labour Bill

By Mike Siluma,
Labour Reporter

The Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) called yesterday for the suspension of the Labour Relations Amendment Bill and the re-opening of negotiations with employers to end the impasse over the proposed legislation.

Cosatu general secretary Mr Jay Naidoo said Cosatu, which has already laid a complaint with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) regarding the Bill, called on South African employers to agree to an ILO investigation into whether or not aspects of the Bill were in conflict with internationally accepted guidelines.

Mr Naidoo said that, contrary to employers' statements, Cosatu had submitted 27 objections to the standing committee drafting the Bill. Three of these were fully and four partially addressed and the rest rejected.

"We have challenged employers to agree that the Bill be referred to the ILO because they have said the Bill, if made law, would reform present labour legislation in line with international standards set by the ILO. The Bill cannot be discussed piecemeal," said Mr Naidoo.

If the Bill were suspended, Cosatu was prepared to meet employers to discuss mutual con-

cerns about current legislation. Joint representations could then be made to the Government.

He believed the ILO could hear evidence "very soon if people are committed to the process".

Mr Bobby Godsell, chairman of the SA Consultative Committee on Labour Affairs (Saccola), expressed willingness to re-start negotiations with the unions on the Bill, but said he believed that the ILO route was fraught with potential problems.

The ILO was a tripartite body, including governments, employers and unions from each country, he said.

"For the process to have meaning, all three parties of a country's delegation have to submit themselves to the process. It would be particularly complicated in South Africa because it is a very technical case whether we are members because the South African delegation left the ILO in 1964."

Employers would be willing to discuss Cosatu's concerns provided Cosatu specified these in the same way as the National Council of Trade Unions, the other federation to call for protest action, had done.

Mr Naidoo said conflict would result if employers went ahead with dismissals or disciplinary action following this week's protests.

Trickle of workers return to their jobs

Crippling stay-at-home dragging on

June 7, 1988

Staff Reporters

Early indications today were that work stayaways which began yesterday were easing in many parts of the Reef, with the number of commuters on trains and buses rising slightly.

More black commuters used the buses and trains on the Reef today but an explosion on the railway track between Naledi and Dube at 6.40 am caused lengthy delays to train services.

A spokesman for Putco, Mr Robin Duff, said more of its staff turned out today and slightly more people used buses in some areas.

He said the stayaway was greater today in Springs, and buses transported 95 percent fewer passengers than normal, compared to 90 percent yesterday.

"However, the situation has eased in Soweto, with taxis coming back on the road," he said. Buses in the area carried 70 percent fewer passengers than normal this morning, compared to 90 percent yesterday, he said.

Mr Duff said Putco provided substitute transport for trains disrupted by an explosion on the line between Naledi and Dube.

A spokesman for the police public relations division in Pretoria confirmed that an explosive device was detonated near the Inhlazane railway station. There were no injuries and damage to the track was minimal, he said.

Police protection

A spokesman for South African Transport Services said some services from Soweto, running 45 minutes late, were restored only at 7.23 am as a result of the explosion.

She said more passengers used trains today. "Yesterday, we carried a maximum of 25 percent of our normal passenger load but this figure increased to between 30 and 35 percent today."

Hundreds of people in the East Rand townships of Tokoza, Katlehong and Vosloorus walked to work today and police were on every street to protect them.

The biggest back-to-work was in Tokoza where many people walked to Alberton and nearby Alrode.

In Katlehong, people stood frustrated on every street as police vehicles continued to outnumber available taxis.

Police used huge vans to transport some people to an area where they could get transport.

Nurses going to work walked to the local Natalspruit Hospital.

For the second day, there appeared to be a complete stayaway from schools in the East Rand.

The number of commuters in Pretoria townships appeared to have increased slightly today,

with about a 50 percent stayaway being observed without incident.

Production at all seven major motor assembly plants remained at a standstill today.

Some of the plants are likely to remain closed tomorrow.

A survey by the Federated Chamber of Industries (FCI) showed that yesterday 80 percent of workers heeded the protest call in Johannesburg. The East Rand figure varied from 10 to 100 percent but most companies reported 80 percent absenteeism.

In Pretoria the figure was between 70 to 100 percent at Rosslyn and 50 to 80 percent at Walloo.

Many factories and companies in Port Elizabeth had closed down for the day.

Figures for other areas were: Bloemfontein between 40 and 100 percent; Border area 60 percent and Northern Cape unaffected.

At least 90 percent of Indian shops in central Johannesburg closed yesterday with 60 percent closed in Pretoria, Lenasia and Actonville, a Transvaal Indian Congress spokesman said.

The Chamber of Mines said 9 000 of the industry's 555 000 workforce stayed at home.

● See Page 13

Natal, KwaZulu

'should not be separated'

By William Harper

KWAZULU and Natal were a single region and should not be separated to suit the Government's policy of fragmenting South Africa into a multitude of so-called independent states, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, said yesterday.

Responding to an announcement by Mr Jurie Mentz, MP, chairman of the Commission for Development and Planning, that KwaZulu's total consolidation would not take place, Dr Buthelezi said the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly had long ago rejected these consolidation proposals.

The Government's attempts to force KwaZulu to participate in its consolidation plans were aimed at creating the impression KwaZulu in fact supported the division of South Africa into a conglomeration of so-called 'independent' states, Dr Buthelezi said.

KwaZulu had rejected these advances as it rejected the fragmentation of the country and because it realised whites would never agree

to their land being given back to the Zulu people.

'We knew that when the Government wanted us to participate in its so-called "consolidation plans" they wanted us to give them a moral basis for claiming that our dispossession had our approval,' Dr Buthelezi said.

'We refused to soil our hands in this way.'

He said KwaZulu and Natal were a single region and for this reason KwaZulu had initiated the Buthelezi Commission to look at the possibilities of the governing of KwaZulu/Natal by people of all races as a single region.

Notification

This, in turn, had led to the formation of the Joint Executive Authority and the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba proposals.

'We hope the National Party will accept this reality and look seriously at the KwaZulu/Natal Indaba proposals.'

Natal Agricultural Union secretary, Mr Steve Shone, said the NAU had received no official notification of the Commission's report and would comment only when it had done so.

Bomb attacks in white city areas to be stepped up

From Michael Hornsby, Lusaka

After more than a quarter of a century of exile and limited guerrilla warfare, leaders of the African National Congress — which has the somewhat double-edged reputation of being the world's oldest liberation movement — are planning to increase military action in an attempt to raise sagging black morale and to undermine whites' faith in the Government's ability to protect them.

In wide-ranging interviews here, where the ANC has its headquarters, Mr Oliver Tambo, the organization's president, and leaders of Umkonto we Sizwe (Zulu for "Spear of the Nation"), its guerrilla wing, who seldom speak to the press, agreed that 1988 was a crucial year in the fluctuating war of attrition, now in its 27th year, with the Pretoria Government.

ANC leaders argued that the Government's state of emergency and its clampdown last February on most black organizations pursuing non-violent protest had left it no option but to intensify armed action. They had concluded, after the white general election last year, that most whites would stop supporting the Government only when it was no longer seen as able to guarantee their safety.

A primary aim of the ANC will be to disrupt nationwide elections on October 26 for segregated black and white municipal councils, and to ensure a mass black boycott of the polls. A large turnout by blacks would be devastating, enabling Pretoria to claim that it had successfully relaunched the government-sponsored system of black township authorities largely destroyed in the insurrectionary turmoil of 1984-1986.

"The ANC is committed to aborting the municipal elections," Mr Chris Hani, the 45-year-old chief of staff of Umkonto, also known by the initials MK, told *The Times*. "We shall not allow puppet organizations to put up candidates. We shall mobilize our people against them. But we shall also use revolutionary violence, or forceful persuasion, to stop blacks from collaborating. Those who are about to collaborate, or who have intentions of collaborat-

ing, we want to warn them that they do so at their own risk."

It is accepted that bomb attacks in white-zoned city centres must be increased (a policy shift apparently already reflected in a spate of incidents in recent weeks), and that this will inevitably mean more civilian deaths, both white and black. But there is intense debate within the ANC about how far armed action should be taken and about how broadly the con-



Mr Tambo: One of the old guard on military action.

cept of a non-civilian target should be defined.

The official policy, as outlined by Mr Tambo, is still that police and army personnel and installations remain the primary targets, and that civilian deaths in such attacks are regretted but considered unavoidable in what the ANC regards as a war situation. He said that the lunchtime bomb in a litter bin in Rondebosch, near Johannesburg, last week — which killed four people and injured some 20 others — was "not typical". He has ordered a report from MK on why it was planted there.

In recent years the ANC has steadily widened its choice of targets for guerrilla attack.

'Six' start retrial plea

Johannesburg — An application for the re-opening of the trial of the "Sharpeville Six", five black men and one black woman sentenced to death for the murder of a black township councillor, began in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday (Michael Hornsby writes). The hearing continues today.

Defence lawyers said they

wanted to recall a state witness because of allegations that he was assaulted by the police and coerced into giving false evidence.

Several foreign diplomats were in court. The case has aroused international interest because of the controversial use of the doctrine of "common purpose" in a mob killing.

from "hard" or inanimate objects such as railway lines and petrol storage tanks, to "soft" or human targets, mainly black policemen, police informers, township councillors and other black "collaborators". But men like Mr Hani, and the chief political commissar of MK, Mr Steve Tshwete, want to take the war much more visibly to the white community which, in their view, has been allowed to live for too long in a protective cocoon.

Mr Hani said that he would regard white MPs of the ruling National Party and the far-right Conservative Party, "reactionary judges who dish out death sentences on our people" and other white individuals involved directly in enforcement apartheid as legitimate targets for attack or assassination. He would also like to see the sabotage of facilities in white urban areas stepped up to make life more inconvenient and uncertain for whites.

The killing of white MPs, judges and government officials would be a radical departure from ANC policy. Mr Tambo laughed when the suggestion was put to him, as if the idea was incredible, and then said, a shade ambiguously: "I don't think that we would want to attack MPs just because they are MPs."

Mr Thabo Mbeki, head of the ANC's publicity department and one of the key figures involved in persuading Western governments that the ANC is not a terrorist organization on the lines of the IRA or the PLO, insisted that such assassinations were not, and would not become, policy.

The differences between the political and military wings of the ANC may be partly a

matter of presentation. But they also run deeper. Mr Tambo represents the ANC old guard, many of whom had mission education and were schooled in a tradition of non-violent protest before reluctantly taking up arms 27 years ago, after the ANC was banned and forced underground.

Over the past 10 years, waves of unrest in South Africa have driven an estimated 14,000 angry and impatient young blacks into the ANC's arms in exile, strengthening the position of men such as Mr Hani and Mr Tshwete.

There is, in any case, no difference of principle between Mr Tambo and Mr Hani that whites need to feel more sharply the sting of violence before the majority of them, as Mr Tambo puts it, will "start asking questions".

They accept that this seems to contradict the ANC's professed desire to win white support both at home and abroad. But they argue that most whites will stop supporting the Botha Government and parties to its right only when they see that apartheid can no longer ensure their security.

"Their (whites') life is good. They go to nice cinemas, they go to their *braais* (barbecues), they go to their five-star hotels. That's why they are supporting the system. It guarantees a happy life for them, a sweet life. Part of our campaign is to prevent that sweet life," Mr Hani said.

"I don't think whites want to die for apartheid... When they are maimed and they are in hospital, others will go there to visit them and will say, 'This is the price of apartheid'. We must make apartheid expensive and costly in terms of financial resources and in terms of lives."

Mr Tshwete added: "A war must be war in South Africa, that is our point. Once it becomes war, once everyone realizes there is a war going on in the country, then Botha will start thinking because he is being nudged by his own people. 'Apartheid now is no longer protecting us. Apartheid is killing us. It has been killing blacks for the last 40 years. But it is beginning to kill whites, too, now.'"

The Times - June 7, 1988 - London.

THE STAR
Stayaway
disrupts milk
7/6/88
deliveries

Milk deliveries on the Reef were disrupted by staff stayaways yesterday, but some companies said alternative arrangements were made.

Dairy Belle managing director Mr R Smither said there was virtually a 100 percent stayaway, and no home deliveries were made.

"People tend to trickle back, but we don't expect a major improvement today," he said.

A spokesman for the West and South Rand branch of Clover said the situation was "abnormal" and extremely quiet but home deliveries were made in some areas.

Mr M Halsey, Nel's distribution manager at Victory Park, said they made alternative arrangements which ensured that most deliveries were done. He did not wish to comment as to what arrangements were made.

67% stay-away but no major incidents

Mercury Reporters

SURVEYS estimated that between 60% and 67% of black workers in the Durban and Pietermaritzburg areas failed to report for duty yesterday, disrupting commerce, industry and private households.

In many instances people were unable to get to work because there was no transport.

There were also reports of intimidators in the townships and rural districts.

It was the first day of a protest called by two major trade union movements, the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) and the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu), against the new Labour Relations Amendment Bill.

Holiday

Isolated incidents of petrol-bombing, stone-throwing, arson and barricade-building were reported.

By late yesterday there had been no dramatic violence and the situation resembled a holiday as thousands of workers and pupils milled around with major shopping centres closed and the bulk of transport suspended.

However, the Umgababa railway station building on the South Coast was gutted by arsonists who threw a petrol bomb at it early yesterday.

The incident did not affect train services.

Schools

Schools in Kwa Mashu, Clermont, St Wendolin's, KwaNdengezi, Mariannhill, Ntuzuma, Inanda and Klaarwater were deserted.

A spokesman for the KwaZulu Education and Culture Department said examinations at other schools were cancelled because the attendance was not good.

Students of the Medical School in Durban stayed away from lectures.

At the University of Durban-Westville, student attendance was described as 'extremely low'.

University

At the University of Natal, lectures were going ahead as usual, a spokesman for the university's public relations department said.

Buses and taxis did not operate in most townships, with the exception of Umlazi.

Police reported in their unrest bulletin that a black bus driver in Clermont was slightly injured after one of several incidents in which buses were stoned.

A councillor in Magabheni township on the South Coast, Mr C C Mncwabe, appealed to employers not to victimise workers who joined the stay-away.

Waiting

He said the majority of the people of the township near Umkomaas had left for work as normal, but because of the lack of transport as taxis were not running, many did not go to work on time.

'I have been around the township from 5 a.m. yesterday and I saw hundreds of people waiting at the ranks for taxis to get to work,' he said.

Mr Ncwabe said workers in Magabheni did not support the stay-away.

There was a 59.77% stayaway of workers at 31 industrial concerns in the Pietermaritzburg area yesterday, according to figures obtained by the Chamber of Industries.

Buses stoned

Miss Pamela Reid said of the 31 companies, 13 had been operating normally yesterday while eight had experienced a 'pretty serious' stay-away of between 64% and 100% of workers.

Police reported that four buses had been stoned in the morning but no serious damage had been done.

Mr Paul van Uytrecht, of the Chamber of Commerce, said he had received 'mixed reports' from businesses in connection with the stay-away, but the chamber had not conducted a survey.

'Some firms reported up to a 100% stay-away of workers while others had a full turnout.'

Police

Mr van Uytrecht said he had received no reports of intimidation.

Meanwhile the managing director of KwaZulu Transport, Mr E Marshall, said the bus service operated normally in Pietermaritzburg yesterday, but there had been a 'significant' drop in the number of passengers, particularly in the very early hours when it was dark.

A strong police presence was reported at bus stops in the townships to assist workers in getting to work and to

■ TURN TO PAGE 2

Dead stop at major vehicle plants

By Michael Chester

The output of South Africa's motor industry came to a standstill yesterday as all seven major assembly plants closed down.

The National Association of Automobile Manufacturers (Naamsa) confirmed that production would also be at a standstill at all plants today.

Naamsa executive director Mr Nico Vermeulen estimated that between 20 000 and 25 000 production workers were affected. Only administrative and salaried staff remained at work.

Mr Vermeulen said the companies had agreed to shut down output because:

- Naamsa had earlier been advised that certain key outside component manufacturers feared that supplies would be disrupted.
- A protest by only 10 percent of assembly plant employees would make normal production impossible.

There were dramatic contrasts in the impact of the protest in Johannesburg and across the Reef.

FULL WORK FORCES

The Steel and Engineering Industries Federation (Seifa) reported that while certain big factories had been hit by 100 percent not reporting for work, others had a full labour force and operations were normal.

Seifa spokesman Mr Hendrik van der Heefer said the protest by workers in the industrial divisions run by Barlow Rand was almost 100 percent, but at the Highveld Steel Corporation works at Witbank, it was ignored.

There were stark contrasts by work forces at many other big companies.

The Asea electrical division of Allied Technologies reported complete absenteeism at its Rosslyn plant, but no impact whatsoever at its Alberton plant.

In the Haggie Rand group, there was a 60 percent turnout at Vanderbijlpark, but 95 percent of employees in Germiston joined the protest.

In Cape Town, about 70 percent of factory labour forces reported for work. In Durban, about 80 percent of workers in the non-ferrous metals sector reported.

Intimidation reported among pupils

By Zenaide Vendeiro
Education Reporter

THE STAR
7/6/88

There was almost total absenteeism at schools in Soweto and the East Rand yesterday — where incidents of intimidation were reported — but attendance at other schools in the PWV area ranged from 20 to 90 percent.

The Director-General of the Department of Education and Training (DET), Dr A B Fourie, said in a statement issued late yesterday that attendance at schools in other urban areas was also affected but he gave no figures.

Dr Fourie said the department was concerned about the adverse effects the protest would have on pupils' mid-year examinations and appealed to parents and "all involved" to make every effort to ensure that children returned to school as soon as possible.

"Unfortunately a genuine concern for the well-being of the child seems to have been

disregarded by those responsible for thwarting the educational engagement," he said.

Dr Fourie said that while there had been no reports of incidents at schools, there had been reports of intimidation and "those wishing to enter schools have been afraid to do so". Disruption of transport services had exacerbated the situation.

There was intimidation of teachers and of the few pupils who attended school in the East Rand yesterday, according to the acting director for the highveld region, Mr R R Motau.

SECURITY FORCES

He explained: "Pupils have been going to the schools in groups of two or three so as not to attract the attention of the security forces and warning the teachers and pupils to leave the school as they are risking their lives."

Mr Motau said that while absenteeism was "almost complete" on the East Rand,

the situation in the eastern Transvaal appeared normal.

The spokesman for the Soweto region, Mr Peter Mundell, said there was almost no attendance at schools in the area yesterday. Fairly large numbers of teachers had also not reported for work.

However, no reports of violence were received and the situation had been "very quiet", he said.

Attendance at schools in the Vaal complex and northern Free State was "rather low", said a spokesman for the DET's Orange Vaal region, with preliminary attendance figures ranging from 30 to 60 percent. Attendance at the Sebokeng College of Education was much higher at 90 percent.

There had been "no trouble", he added.

A spokesman for the northern Transvaal region said school attendance in its outlying districts such as Pietersburg, Potchefstroom and Lichtenburg was normal, as was that in Mamelodi.

Casual workers helped large stores to cope

The STAR
7/6/88

By Lloyd Coutts

Major retail stores in Johannesburg appeared well prepared for workers' absenteeism yesterday but, for the smaller stores, it meant few staff and little business.

At Checkers, casual staff, mainly schoolchildren, manned the stores in the afternoon. A company spokesman said that, before lunch, the stores had managed with the staff who reported for work.

Absenteeism at the various stores varied between 18 and 80 percent.

At Click's, top management rolled up its sleeves and pitched in at the company's 16 branches in and around the city. When The Star telephoned to ask how the company was coping, the switchboard operator said she was the only person in the office.

Everyone else, from general manager to secretary, was helping out at the stores, she said.

CASUAL LABOUR USED

Casual labour filled in at the Pick 'n Pay stores, where between 65 and 70 percent of the staff stayed away. A company spokesman said students were used later in the afternoon and the operation went smoothly.

OK Bazaars spokesman Mr Keith Hartshorne said his company was coping well.

It had prepared itself and had instituted contingency plans which included the hiring of casual labour.

The smaller businesses in the west end of the city seemed to feel the effect of the protest most. A few shops in Simmonds Street were closed and staff

at two fast food outlets said they would be closing early.

Shopkeepers stood in doorways, staring at the near-empty street or reading newspapers.

A Bree Street shopkeeper, Mr Sharad Devchand, said none of his employees had reported for duty.

But it was business as usual in the east end of the city and near the station, where some shops had both black staff and customers.

Minibus taxis felt the pinch and many were empty near the station and around the city.

Driver Mr Abie Mokaila said business was slow because it was a holiday.

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Some of the plants are likely to remain closed tomorrow.

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In Pretoria the figure was between 70 to 100 percent at Rosslyn and 50 to 80 percent at Waltloo.

Many factories and companies in Port Elizabeth had closed down for the day.

Figures for other areas were: Bloemfontein between 40 and 100 percent; Border area 60 percent and Northern Cape unaffected.

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The Chamber of Mines said 9 000 of the industry's 555 000 workforce stayed at home.

● See Page 13

Work grinds to virtual halt at six Transvaal collieries

THE STAR 7/6/88

By Theresa Anders and Adele Baleta

Although gold mines were not affected, a number of the country's largest collieries were hit by absenteeism yesterday.

Six collieries in the Witbank-Middelburg coalfields reported almost 100 percent absenteeism. Many others had partial attendances.

There was only one incidence of violence reported, at Rand Mines' Vandyksdrif section of Douglas Mine.

A worker, Mr Isaac Khundla, lost an eye after being struck by "a rubber stopper" when mine security officials fired on a group of about 60 stick-wielding men trying to prevent workers going on shift.

Mr Khundla is being treated in the Witbank Hospital.

The Anglo American spokesman for the group's gold and uranium division, Mr Michael Spicer, said work continued underground as usual at all mines.

Anglovaal reported full attendance at all mines.

Gencor spokesman Mr Harry Hill said workers at the group's gold mines were at their posts except for the Grootvlei mine, near Springs,

where there was 55 percent absenteeism.

He said two Gencor collieries near Middelburg, Blinkpan and Optimum, reported 90 percent absenteeism.

Rand Mines said there was normal attendance at all group gold mines yesterday.

A spokesman said all collieries were operating with the full staff compliment except for Douglas near Witbank where 50 percent of the workforce were absent.

The spokesman said there was total absenteeism at Vandyksdrif, near Douglas, and Wolwekrans near Witbank except for staffers manning essential services.

Rand Mine employees have been informed that the company would adopt a policy of no work no pay, the spokesman said.

A Goldfields spokesman reported full attendance at all gold mines. He said, however, that there was an 85 percent stayaway at the company's New Clydesdale Colliery at Witbank.

Eskom's public relations officer, Mr Peter Adams, said some power stations in the Transvaal had been hit to a greater or lesser degree.

At two stations, Hendrina and Komati, it is believed there was an almost total stayaway of black staff

THE STAR

7/6/88

No SAP comment on the stayaway

Police would not issue any official statements on the stayaway because it was a contravention of the emergency regulations to give publicity to such actions, a Pretoria police spokesman said today.

"No official statements regarding the stayaway or intimidation will be issued because it is a contravention of the emergency regulations to give publicity to the stayaway or to further its aims," said the spokesman.

● The emergency regulations do not make it an offence to publicise a stayaway. It is an offence under the emergency regulations to incite or encourage members of the public to stay away from work or to go on illegal strike, or to publish anything which shows the extent to which a stayaway is successful or which discloses particulars of the manner in which members of the public are intimidated, incited or encouraged to take part in or support such action.

It is also an offence to give an account of any incidents in connection with stayaway intimidation, incitement or encouragement.

ANC plans to increase bomb attacks

By Michael Hornsby
of The Times

LUSAKA — Leaders of the African National Congress are planning to increase military action in an attempt to raise sagging black morale and to undermine whites' faith in the Government's ability to protect them.

Wide-ranging interviews have been conducted with ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo and leaders of the organisation's military wing Umkhonto we Sizwe, but The Star is unable to report what Mr Tambo said because he is banned in terms of the Internal Security Act and may not be quoted in South Africa.

ANC leaders argued that the Government's state of emergency and its clampdown in February on most black organisations pursuing non-violent protest had left it no option but to intensify armed action.

They had concluded, after the white general election last year, that most whites would stop supporting the Government only when it was no longer seen as able to guarantee their safety.

A primary aim of the ANC will be to disrupt nationwide elections on October 26 for segregated black and white municipal councils, and to ensure a mass black boycott of the polls.

A large turnout by blacks would be devastating, enabling Pretoria to claim it had successfully re-launched the Government-sponsored system of black township authorities largely destroyed in the insurrectionary turmoil of 1984-86.

"The ANC is committed to aborting the municipal elections," said Mr Chris Hani, the 45-year-old chief of staff of Umkonto.

It is accepted that bomb attacks in white-zoned city centres must be increased and that this will inevitably mean more civilian deaths, both white and black.

But there is intense debate within the ANC about how far armed action should be taken and about how broadly the concept of a non-civilian target should be defined.

Mr Tambo outlined the ANC's official policy on bomb attacks and referred specifically to last week's lunchtime bomb in Roodepoort which killed four civilians.

The Star may not report what he said.

THE STAR - 7/6/88

● **Durban:**

Unofficial estimates put Durban absenteeism at 75 percent.

The universities of Natal and of Durban-Westville were virtually deserted as most students were absent. Attendances at white, Indian and coloured schools were normal, while at black schools figures were down.

Thousands of people in the Valley of 1000 Hills were stranded without transport. In Pinetown, some factories were operating, but far below capacity.

Varied effectiveness

● **Maritzburg:**

The Maritzburg Chamber of Commerce said some companies had reported a complete absence of workers, others had had full attendances. Although the majority of firms were not severely affected, absenteeism was high at some of the large employers.

The Maritzburg Chamber of Industries said that bus services, operated by the kwaZulu Transport Corporation, were running normally. Information received from 23 companies indicated that only three had been hit by "effective" absenteeism.

● **East London:**

The city was markedly affected. A spokesman for the Chamber of Commerce estimated that about 60 percent of workers were absent.

● **Port Elizabeth:**

A spokesman for the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce and managing director of PE Tramways, Mr Carl Coetzer, reported an estimated 50 percent absentee rate in central Port Elizabeth and 30 percent in Uitenhage.

Mr Coetzer said that 85 percent of the coloured workforce turned up for work.

● **Western Cape:**

There was limited absenteeism in certain sectors of industry in the Western Cape.

Only about 2 percent of the Cape Town City Council's staff were absent yesterday. A spokesman said this was almost normal for a cold winter day.



A normally packed bus terminus in central Johannesburg is deserted yesterday — the first day of a three-day national protest called by black trade unions.

REEF HARD HIT BY ABSENTEEISM

Thousands observe first day of national protest but only sporadic violence reported

Reef hard hit by absenteeism

Staff Reporters and Sapa

Thousands of black workers were absent from work yesterday — the first day of a three-day national protest called by South Africa's major union federations.

The highest absentee figures were recorded in Johannesburg and on the East Rand.

At least six people were injured in incidents of violence believed related to the protest.

An explosion damaged the railway line at Dube, Soweto, at 12.15 am yesterday and, later, a limpet mine was found on a nearby section of the Dube railway track.

A train coach was burnt at Kwesine station, near Germiston, and the Umgababa station on the Natal South Coast was petrol bombed.

In Saulsville, Pretoria, several railway coaches were damaged by an explosion while a house was attacked with a hand-grenade in Mamelodi. No injuries were reported.

A miner was wounded in an eye after being shot with a rubber bullet in a clash between workers and Rand Mines' Vandyksdrif security near Witbank.

Five people were injured near Empangeni in a petrol bomb attack on a bus.

● PWV Area:

A Putco spokesman said the areas with the lowest passenger demand in the Transvaal were Soweto (90 percent absenteeism), Springs (90 percent), Edenvale (99 percent), East Rand (90 percent). Absenteeism in Pretoria was 30 percent.

The protest, said the spokesman, was less effective in Pretoria, Mamelodi and Dennilton, near kwaNdebele.

Soweto schools closed

All schools in Soweto appeared to be closed.

Taxi ranks, bus terminals and railway stations were deserted in most sections and trains ran almost empty to Johannesburg.

South African Transport Services said train occupancy rates yesterday on Reef trains were about 5 percent of normal at 5 am. Just before 8 am, occupancy rates on trains to Johannesburg station were in the region of 1 percent of normal from Tem-

absenteeism

bisa; 10 percent from Pretoria; 10 to 20 percent from Soweto and 40 to 50 percent from the West Rand

Soweto taxis operated a skeleton internal service to take nurses and other staff to Baragwanath Hospital and local clinics.

Police and the Defence Force guarded railway stations and patrolled the streets.

In the East Rand townships of Katlehong, Tokoza and Vosloorus, residents appeared to be observing the protest en masse.

There was a heavy police presence in the three townships and police were at every railway station and taxi rank to protect those who wanted to go to work.

On the West Rand, South African Breweries in Chamdor reported that half the staff were absent, leaving production intact but deliveries disrupted. Several other West Rand firms said that about 50 percent of the staff had not reported for work. Other companies reported normal absenteeism.

Randfontein and Krugersdorp municipalities said that they had not been affected.

In the Vaal Triangle, Iscor's Vanderbijlpark plant appeared to have been hardest hit with about 7 000 black employees failing to report for duty.

An Iscor spokesman said a "significant number of people" were not at work but measures had been taken to handle the situation.

The Union Steel Corporation (Usco) in Vereeniging reported 40 percent black absenteeism.

A Metal Box spokesman in Vanderbijlpark said the extent of absenteeism had not been determined, but the company was "not too badly affected".

Absentee figures of about 10 percent were recorded at the Samancor factory in Meyerton and the Vanderbijlpark Town Council.

One of the few industries unaffected was the Sasol

plant in Sasolburg. Sasolburg Town Council also reported that it had not been affected.

The Vaal Transport Corporation in Vereeniging announced in a statement that its morning services had operated without any major disruptions.

A spokesman for Samcor, the largest private sector employer in Pretoria, said the plant near Mamelodi had closed for the first three days of this week because of indications that there would be "higher than usual absenteeism".

In Soshanguve, absenteeism of 50 percent or more was reported. Thousands of people lined the main taxi routes but few vehicles were available.

Thousands of stranded taxi commuters in Mamelodi gathered at street corners trying to hitch lifts to work as there were no taxis at all in the area.

The OK Bazaars supermarket chain reported 84 percent absenteeism in Johannesburg, 70 percent in Pretoria, 75 percent on the East Rand, 80 percent in the Vaal Triangle and 48 percent on the West Rand.

A Checkers spokesman said there was 80 percent absenteeism in Johannesburg and East Rand branches, 60 percent on the West Rand, 50 percent on the Vaal Triangle and 50 percent in Pretoria.

Pick n'Pay reported that 80 percent of its workforce were absent in the Transvaal.

● Northern Transvaal:

Large numbers of workers turned up at their jobs as usual in Pietersburg, Potgietersrus, Phalaborwa and Tzaneen but bus services in the Burgersfort area were disrupted by Lebowa Transport employees not reporting for work.

Leaflets urging workers not to go to work were handed out on all major Lebowa bus routes.

No incidents of violence or police action had been reported in the Northern Transvaal by midday yesterday.

I reject *Sowetan 7/6/88* black rule

SIR — It was in 1975 that the civil war erupted in Lebanon. The civil war grew out of resentment by various groups of the power of the politically dominant Maronite Christians over other religious groups.

In the past six years, more than 52 000 people have been killed, while authority hardly exists.

The country is broken into patches which are controlled by different warring bands.

This is the very type of war which could take place if we ever allowed black majority rule in South Africa.

Ideally of course, a coalition government representing all the different racial groups, should develop, which is precisely what our present government is considering doing.

It is clear that most black leaders should prefer their people to die and suffer all sorts of deprivation, rather than practice the true meaning of reconciliation. And this is exactly what would happen in South Africa.

Hence our government is seeking a means of having all leaders representing their people.

Or are there any examples around the world where revolutionaries have come to power and the living conditions of the man in the street improved. If so, where?

RICHARD

Pretoria

DAY TWO

Thousands heed trade unions' stayaway call

SOWETAN Reporters, Sapa and Own Correspondents

THOUSANDS of workers in various areas of the country, particularly in Johannesburg and the East Rand, stayed away from work yesterday, the first day of a three-day protest campaign called by Nactu and Cosatu.

Among the few violent incidents reported were:

- The petrol bombing of a passenger bus near Empangeni, Natal, in the morning (the driver and eight passengers were injured);
- A railway line at Dube, Soweto, was damaged by an explosion at about 12:15am;
- A train coach was burnt at Kwesine Station in Kaitliahong, near Germiston;
- Umgababa Station on the Natal Coast was petrol-bombed;
- In Saulsville, Pretoria, a number of

railway coaches were damaged by an explosion; and

- A house was attacked with a hand grenade in Mamelodi.

An unexploded limpet mine was found at a section of the railway track in Dube. The police in Pretoria said that the limpet mine was found during follow-up investigations after the earlier blast. No injuries were reported.

80 percent

Manpower secretary Mr Vincent Brett estimated that no fewer than 80 percent of black workers had joined the stayaway in Johannesburg and all business sectors had been affected.

Business in general can only hope that the majority of workers will feel their protest has made its impact yesterday and that they will start flowing back to their jobs today — rather than see their pay packets shrink

To Page 2

• From Page 1

any more, he said.

Virtually all employers, he said, had agreed to the stand: "No work — no pay".

The impact in Cape Town aside from at the harbour and with milk deliveries, was no more than minimal, according to a snap Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry survey.

Buses

About ninety percent of workers stayed away from work on the East Rand.

Pamphlets calling for a stay-away from work in

Atteridgeville, Mamelodi and Soshanguve were ignored by most workers yesterday.

Many of those who went to work were left stranded in Atteridgeville as there were no taxis operating in the area. Hundreds of people boarded trains and buses. Others boarded a few taxis that operated from Kalafong Hospital in the morning.

Vaal Triangle employers have also adopted the "no work no pay" policy attitude as hundreds of workers heeded the call for a three-day national protest.

Although gold mines

were not affected, a number of the country's largest collieries were hit by the stay-away.

Six collieries in the Witbank - Middelburg coalfields reported almost 100 percent absenteeism. Many others had partial attendances.

Pamphlets

The Maritzburg Chamber of Industries said that bus services, operated by the Kwa-Zulu Transport Corporation, were running normally. East London was affected by a marked stayaway.

A spokesman for the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce and managing director of PE Tramways, Mr Carl Coetzer, reported an estimated 50 percent

stayaway in central Port Elizabeth and a 30 percent stayaway in Uitenhage.

Winter

There was a limited stayaway in certain sectors of industry in the Western Cape.

Less than two percent of the Cape Town City Council's staff were absent yesterday which a spokesman described as almost normal for a cold winter's day.

Our values *Sowetan* 7/6/88 are lost

SIR — To the casual observer, this statement may seem over-exaggerated and even fallacious.

The casual observer does not see how terribly true this statement is. The time allotted to the youth in the townships is short and getting shorter with each passing generation. And it is a tragic thing.

Our grandparents were born and grew up in a world in which children remained children for a few years longer than is the case today.

Today we are a bunch of rubble and undisciplined youth. Most of our girls have loose morals. They can sleep around with as many as 10 men a week. Boys drive stolen cars at the tender age of 16 years and smoke even before they graduate from high school.

We have deprived ourselves of the pleasure of youth. The freedom we have today ends where our noses end. We are destroying our hopes for the future. We are

crippling our abilities which in the foreseeable future we are going to regret.

This is our world. We did not create it, and even if we had, I doubt whether we could have done a better job. We are stuck with it however. We have to live in it and take over its burdens ourselves in a few years.

As much as we complain, there is nothing we can do about it. We cannot fight for a return to the past when things were moving slower and we were not faced so suddenly with adult problems and responsibilities.

I doubt whether things can be slowed down at all, they have gone too far for that. Clearly, the only thing we can do is try to prepare ourselves for the struggle ahead.

Let us do our level best to halt the approaching annihilation of mankind. If we do not no-one will.

It is for this reason that I can say let us take a more responsible attitude towards life and stop fooling ourselves into believing that someone will come to our rescue. Let us be like our parents who had to sacrifice their lives for our well being.

Let us not only be concerned with tomorrow night's date, next week's allowance, or getting a car and having a ball. In the near future we have to become adults who will run businesses, seek offices and decide world policies.

If we are not able to respond to the challenge of tomorrow instead of bemoaning the past and the ever-hastening present, we shall find ourselves ill-prepared and ill-equipped to deal with jobs that must be done.

EMMANUEL
KHUMALO

Diepkloof

SCRAP THE BILL

THE Congress of South African Trade Unions yesterday called on the Government to suspend the controversial Labour Relations Amendment Bill and appoint a team of international labour experts to review the proposed legislation.

Cosatu's general secretary, Mr Jay Naidoo, said this step was necessary because there were "fundamental differences of opinion" between employers and the country's largest federations over the Bill. *Sowetan 7/6/88*

Cosatu's call for a review of the proposed legislation comes in the wake of a three-day "peaceful protest" — which began yesterday — organised by itself and National Council of Trade Unions.

Mr Naidoo called on the Minister of Manpower to appoint a team of experts from the International Labour Organisation to review the proposed amendments to the Labour Relations Act.

He said: "We are prepared to sit down with employers and negotiate changes to the Bill. We reject the intervention of the State in the matter."

Responding to claims by employers that Cosatu had failed to specify their objections

to the Bill, Mr Naidoo said: "Of the 27 objections we handed to the parliamentary standing committee on the Bill, only four were dealt with satisfactorily. It is a lie that we failed to identify our complaints about the Bill."

He said Cosatu, when calling for three days of "peaceful protest," had left it to various communities to decide the form of protest they would take. "It is a fact that millions of workers have decided to stay away from work as part of the protest," he said.

Many contentious amendments to the labour legislation — such as lock-outs — had been suggested by the

employers, Mr Naidoo said.

Mr Bobby Godsell, chairman of the South African Employers Consultative Committee on Labour Affairs, (Saccola), was not available for comment yesterday.



COSATU'S general secretary, Mr Jay Naidoo.

By LEN MASEKO

THE CITIZEN COMMENT

7/06/88

No talks

THE limpet mine explosion outside a bank in Roodepoort which killed four people — a White woman and three Blacks — is confirmation that the African National Congress is a terrorist organisation, not an insurgent or guerrilla force as some Left-wing newspapers would have us believe.

For who but terrorists would plant a limpet mine in a dustbin outside a bank and time it to go off at the lunch hour?

Having said that — and taking into account other ANC terrorist attacks on civilians — we wonder how apologists for the ANC can continue to defend that organisation?

No, they say, the ANC may be out of touch with some of its members, who are acting independently of it.

As if the ANC does not have control over its terrorists — a laughable proposition, considering the ANC is highly organised and its attacks are not made by chance.

It is also suggested that the bombers are ill-trained and inexperienced and did not intend to set off their blasts when so many people were around, but that the explosives went off before the time they were due to explode.

Another argument is that the ANC is not mounting attacks on civilians, but the civilians just happen to get caught in the cross-fire, which is what the ANC itself claims.

The truth is that the ANC has announced it is extending its attacks to include civilians. Therefore, it was not by chance that the victims of the Roodepoort blast were civilians.

The aim of the ANC is not to overthrow the government by violence — that would be impossible. It is to cause panic among civilians and to demonstrate to township Blacks that the ANC is still in business.

However, the ANC itself is in a dilemma, since it is trying to convince overseas governments that it is a legitimate liberation force that is fighting an acceptable war against a repressive, racialistic government that uses force to maintain itself in power.

To plant bombs among civilians detracts from the image the ANC fosters of itself.

This explains why there are divisions within ANC ranks on what is the best policy to pur-

sue.

The government has asked the ANC to renounce violence as a precondition for the ANC joining talks on a new dispensation involving Blacks.

The ANC refuses to abandon violence, since it does not wish to negotiate except on the basis of a handover of power to the masses.

In other words, the ANC does not want a compromise solution but an abdication by the Whites of their power, with the substitution of ANC Marxist rule for the present dispensation.

Mr Wynand Malan, the leader of the National Democratic Movement, excuses his talks with the ANC by saying that he is trying to get the ANC to abandon violence.

Fat hope.

What Mr Malan is actually doing is giving the ANC credibility so that it can tell the world that Afrikaner liberals recognise it as an essential part of any solution, so if these Afrikaners trek to Dakar, Harare and Frankfurt to talk to it, why shouldn't the rest of the world recognise the ANC, too?

South Africans are angry when liberals, politicians, academics or businessmen talk chummily to the ANC while its bombs kill and maim people.

Britain does not talk to the Irish Republican Army; Israel has a law against contacts between Israelis and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The seven industrialised nations, including the United States, Britain, West Germany and Japan, have specifically ruled out negotiations with terrorist organisations.

We have a plethora of laws that curb radical organisations and emergency regulations that curb the Press, so any more restrictions would seem out of place.

But we believe that if people won't listen to the government's urgings that talks should not be held with the ANC while it engages in terrorism, then the government, like Israel, should introduce a law to see that this does not happen.

7/06/88 THE CITIZEN 2

Stayaway mainly on Rand

FROM PAGE 1

Others stayed overnight close to their places of employment.

Many workers in Soweto stayed away from work yesterday and all schools in the township appeared closed.

Taxi ranks, bus terminuses and railway stations were deserted in most sections and trains ran almost empty to Johannesburg.

SA Transport Services reported that early occupancy rates on Reef trains were about 5 percent of normal at 5 am, the start of the peak period.

Sats said train occupancy levels were on average between 50 and 60 percent countrywide.

A Putco spokesman said the areas worst hit by the stayaway appeared to be Soweto, Durban and Alberton.

The chairman of the SA Consultative Committee on Labour Affairs (Saccola), and Anglo American manpower chief, Mr Bobby Godsell,

said last night he was encouraged by the small incident of "violence on the ground".

"Apart from the explosions, there appears to have been very few instances of violence on the ground, which is very encouraging. These kind of actions always carry a threat of violence, even if no-one intends it," Mr Godsell said.

Last ditch efforts by Saccola to avert the protest failed after discussions with Cosatu and the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) last week.

Mr Godsell said it would be very difficult to find a winner after yesterday's stayaway. It was significant, however, that the numbers of one of Cosatu's major affiliates, the National Union of Mine-workers, did not join the stayaway in large numbers.

The process of negotiation on labour legislation would continue after the protest is scheduled to end on Wednesday, he said.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Assocom) confirmed the picture pointed by the transport figures.

According to Assocom manpower secretary, Mr Vincent Brett, about 80 percent of workers in Johannesburg and the Reef did not report for work.

He told The Citizen he had heard that "quite a number" of companies were preparing to take disciplinary steps against absentee workers.

"Employers are getting to the stage where they are going to take stronger action," he predicted.

In Cape Town the Minister of Manpower, Mr Pietie du Plessis, warned that any stayaway from work in the Cosatu protest in the next few days would amount to an illegal strike and he warned of the possibility of dismissals.

He deplored the fact that Cosatu had not accepted an open invitation he had issued to interested parties to discuss proposed changes to labour legislation with him.

His impression was that the protest was not only about the labour legislation but that political issues were also involved.

Official comment on the stayaway was not available from the police yesterday.

Senior police officers wryly confessed: "We are barred by our own law from saying anything about it."

A spokesman for the Police Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria told The Citizen: "To comment would be to contravene the emergency regulations."

The office of the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, also declined to comment.

A Cosatu spokesman said yesterday some three million people had registered their protest against the Labour Relations Amendment Bill by joining the stayaway.

"Although we haven't called for that form of protest (stayaways), the fact that so many people have stayed away is a powerful signal.

"Government and em-

ployers need to give heed and negotiate (on the Bill). The protest has shown that a lot of strong feelings exist in the community."

Attendance at many schools in the PWV and other urban areas had been affected by the stayaway "apparently connected to reaction to proposed labour legislation," the Director-General of the Department of Education and Training, Dr A B Fourie, said.

In a statement, Dr Fourie said: "While there have been no reports of incidents at schools, there have been reports of intimidation, and those wishing to enter schools have been afraid to do so. Disruption of transport services has exacerbated the situation."

Absentee figures among Sats employees varied between 48 percent in the Southern Transvaal region and 12 percent in the Northern Transvaal.

Harbours in Cape Town and Durban, which are administered by Sats, were particularly hard hit. In Cape Town 25 percent of harbour workers stayed away and in Durban 50 percent.

Only about 9 000 mine-workers, out of a total workforce of 550 000, participated in yesterday's stayaway action, a spokesman for the Chamber of Mines, said yesterday.

"With the exception of one mine on the East Rand (Grootvlei) which was only partially affected, the Chamber's member gold mines — where most of our employees are concentrated — reported normal attendance," the spokesman said.

Only six of the Chamber's more than 50 coal mining members reported stayaways. One antimony mine and three diamond mines were also affected.

"We are very pleased that the overwhelming majority of our employees have rejected the confrontational attitude urged by some union leaders," the spokesman said.

THE CITIZEN
07 JUNE 1988

7 JUNE 1988

THE CITIZEN

Archbishop has strange idea of obedience

THE SACC has really gone too far this time. Undoubtedly many traditional Christians in our country will find themselves hard put to continue to associate themselves with their traditional church after the recent meetings held in Johannesburg and Soweto.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu appears to have a strange idea of obedience to Our Lord God when His Son, Jesus Christ, clearly stipulated in the Holy Gospels that one was obliged to obey the laws of the land. See Romans 13.

Why is he obstinately refusing to acknowledge the tremendous changes that have taken place in our country — in spite of the SACC leaders I would like to add.

There are more Black millionaires in this country than any other racial group, including the Whites. There are more Black women graduates in South Africa than in the rest of the African continent put together.

The Small Business Development Corporation is actively encouraging the small businessman to set up his own business.

More low cost housing has been built than ever before. More housing loans on easy terms have been made available to the lower income groups of all races, especially Blacks.

More schools have been built and teachers trained in spite of the unrest instigated by the communists, the ANC and PAC.

More recreational areas, such as Shareworld. One only needs to look around and observe the well dressed non-Europeans and how thousands more now drive their own cars.

What does Tutu want? Oh yes, the "peaceful" overthrow of the government, precisely at such a time when the Black people are given the hope that they will have a voice in Parliament.

It is clear that the Nobel Peace Prize winner wants a Marxist Government to rule our country, in spite of the object failure of each Marxist Government on this continent.

D DEVLIN

Bramley

LETTERS

The Citizen PO Box 7712
Johannesburg 2000

Tutu has completely overplayed his hand

MANY people feel as I do, that Archbishop Tutu has now completely overplayed his hand with his latest outrageous utterances concerning his proposed "march to freedom", with its sinister undertones.

The only march he could possibly undertake successfully now is on the road to destruction.

As Archbishop Tutu has never resided in a Marxist-controlled country, he hasn't the faintest idea what unjust rule or suppression really means.

If he did have the misfortune to reside in one of these countries, he certainly would not enjoy the benefits he so dearly loves such as freedom of speech, not to mention his decidedly opulent standard of living.

He condemns the government for detaining "children" who are not really children but murderous thugs who have adopted a lifestyle which is a threat to ordinary decent human beings.

He is also extremely vociferous when protest-

ing about any other necessary restrictions the government has had to impose in the interests of maintaining law and order.

If he truly cared about humanity, as befits a man of the cloth, he would en-

sure that detainees receive the necessary spiritual guidance to enable them to relinquish their evil ways and take their rightful places in a civilised society.

Mrs J ATWELL

Arcadia

7/06/88

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STAYAWAY MAINLY ON RAND

THE CITIZEN - 7 JUNE 1988

By Peter Delmar
and Sapa

THE Rand was worst hit yesterday as thousands of Blacks stayed away from work to protest the Labour Relations Amendment Bill. Few incidents of violence were reported.

However, the protest flopped in Pretoria, most parts of the Cape, in Pietermaritzburg and on the gold mines where production proceeded as normal.

Among the few violent incidents reported were an explosion which damaged the railway line at

Dube, Soweto; a train coach being burnt at Kwesine station near Germiston, and the petrol bombing of the Umgababa station on the Natal South Coast.

A Putco spokesman said the areas with the lowest passenger demand in the Transvaal were Soweto (90 percent down), Springs (90 percent) and Edenvale (99 percent).

Ninety percent of commuters stayed away on the East Rand, 95 percent

in Durban and 30 percent in Pretoria.

The stayaway, said the spokesman, was less effective in Pretoria, Mamelodi and Dennilton near KwaNdebele.

A spokesman for the Vaal Transport Corporation, which operates in Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark and Sasolburg, said passenger volumes on its morning services were "considerably below normal".

A spokesman said

morning services operated "without major disruptions". Certain early services were late as taxis were not operating and many drivers could not get to work on time. However, staff buses were sent out and by 6.30 am all services were operating on schedule.

The transport figures cannot be seen as totally representative of the stayaway as many workers walked to their jobs to avoid possible harassment on the trains and buses.

TO PAGE 2

ANC suspected Dube rail blast

CITIZEN 7 JUNE 1988

THE ANC yesterday appeared to have made an attempt to disrupt rail traffic between Soweto and Johannesburg by placing limpet mines on the lines near Dube Station in what is seen as a protest-related incident.

One of the mines exploded and caused minimal damage and a second was found and detonated by police explosives experts. The incident was the fourth bombing involving limpet mines in the PWV area since Friday.

On Friday, in a major terrorist incident, four people were killed by a limpet mine explosion

in Roodepoort, later a limpet mine explosion severely damaged an industrial premises at Langlaagte and another caused slight damage at the Johannesburg headquarters of the South African Irish Regiment.

In the only other serious incident yesterday, in what also appeared to be a strike-related incident, five people were injured in a petrol bomb attack on a bus near Empangeni.

The condition of the five injured persons was not known late yesterday.

Earlier in the day — in what is believed to have been a mistaken refer-

ence to the same incident — Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, said four people had been killed in a hand-grenade attack on a bus, and condemned "this kind of intimidation" to force people to accept the will of others.

A Pretoria spokesman for the Director of Public Relations said the Dube plot blast caused only slight damage to the railway track. The trains had apparently not been disrupted.

The blast is being investigated by the Maroka police station in Soweto.

Stayaway mainly on Rand

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Last ditch efforts by Saccola to avert the protest failed after discussions with Cosatu and the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) last week.

Mr Godsell said it would be very difficult to find a winner after yesterday's stayaway. It was significant, however, that the numbers of one of Cosatu's major affiliates, the National Union of Mine-workers, did not join the stayaway in large numbers.

The process of negotiation on labour legislation would continue after the protest is scheduled to end on Wednesday, he said.

The Association of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (Assocom) confirmed the picture pointed by the transport figures.

According to Assocom manpower secretary, Mr Vincent Brett, about 80 percent of workers in Johannesburg and the Reef did not report for work.

He told The Citizen he had heard that "quite a number" of companies were preparing to take disciplinary steps against absentee workers.

"Employers are getting to the stage where they are going to take stronger action," he predicted.

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Official comment on the stayaway was not available from the police yesterday.

Senior police officers wryly confessed: "We are barred by our own law from saying anything about it..."

A spokesman for the Police Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria told The Citizen: "To comment would be to contravene the emergency regulations."

The office of the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, also declined to comment.

A Cosatu spokesman said yesterday some three million people had registered their protest against the Labour Relations Amendment Bill by joining the stayaway.

"Although we haven't called for that form of protest (stayaways), the fact that so many people have stayed away is a powerful signal.

"Government and em-

ployers need to give heed and negotiate (on the Bill). The protest has shown that a lot of strong feelings exist in the community."

Attendance at many schools in the PWV and other urban areas had been affected by the stayaway "apparently connected to reaction to proposed labour legislation," the Director-General of the Department of Education and Training, Dr A B Fourie, said.

In a statement, Dr Fourie said: "While there have been no reports of incidents at schools, there have been reports of intimidation, and those wishing to enter schools have been afraid to do so. Disruption of transport services has exacerbated the situation."

Absentee figures among Sats employees varied between 48 percent in the Southern Transvaal region and 12 percent in the Northern Transvaal.

Harbours in Cape Town and Durban, which are administered by Sats, were particularly hard hit. In Cape Town 25 percent of harbour workers stayed away and in Durban 50 percent.

Only about 9 000 mine-workers, out of a total workforce of 550 000, participated in yesterday's stayaway action, a spokesman for the Chamber of Mines, said yesterday.

"With the exception of one mine on the East Rand (Grootvlei) which was only partially affected, the Chamber's member gold mines — where most of our employees are concentrated — reported normal attendance," the spokesman said.

Only six of the Chamber's more than 50 coal mining members reported stayaways. One antimony mine and three diamond mines were also affected.

"We are very pleased that the overwhelming majority of our employees have rejected the confrontational attitude urged by some union leaders," the spokesman said.

THE CITIZEN COMMENT

JUNE 1988

No talks

THE limpet mine explosion outside a bank in Roodepoort which killed four people — a White woman and three Blacks — is confirmation that the African National Congress is a terrorist organisation, not an insurgent or guerrilla force as some Left-wing newspapers would have us believe.

For who but terrorists would plant a limpet mine in a dustbin outside a bank and time it to go off at the lunch hour?

Having said that — and taking into account other ANC terrorist attacks on civilians — we wonder how apologists for the ANC can continue to defend that organisation?

No, they say, the ANC may be out of touch with some of its members, who are acting independently of it.

As if the ANC does not have control over its terrorists — a laughable proposition, considering the ANC is highly organised and its attacks are not made by chance.

It is also suggested that the bombers are ill-trained and inexperienced and did not intend to set off their blasts when so many people were around, but that the explosives went off before the time they were due to explode.

Another argument is that the ANC is not mounting attacks on civilians, but the civilians just happen to get caught in the cross-fire, which is what the ANC itself claims.

The truth is that the ANC has announced it is extending its attacks to include civilians. Therefore, it was not by chance that the victims of the Roodepoort blast were civilians.

The aim of the ANC is not to overthrow the government by violence — that would be impossible. It is to cause panic among civilians and to demonstrate to township Blacks that the ANC is still in business.

However, the ANC itself is in a dilemma, since it is trying to convince overseas governments that it is a legitimate liberation force that is fighting an acceptable war against a repressive, racialistic government that uses force to maintain itself in power.

To plant bombs among civilians detracts from the image the ANC fosters of itself.

This explains why there are divisions within ANC ranks on what is the best policy to pursue.

The government has asked the ANC to renounce violence as a precondition for the ANC joining talks on a new dispensation involving Blacks.

The ANC refuses to abandon violence, since it does not wish to negotiate except on the basis of a handover of power to the masses.

In other words, the ANC does not want a compromise solution but an abdication by the Whites of their power, with the substitution of ANC Marxist rule for the present dispensation.

Mr Wynand Malan, the leader of the National Democratic Movement, excuses his talks with the ANC by saying that he is trying to get the ANC to abandon violence.

Fat hope.

What Mr Malan is actually doing is giving the ANC credibility so that it can tell the world that Afrikaner liberals recognise it as an essential part of any solution, so if these Afrikaners trek to Dakar, Harare and Frankfurt to talk to it, why shouldn't the rest of the world recognise the ANC, too?

South Africans are angry when liberals, politicians, academics or businessmen talk chummily to the ANC while its bombs kill and maim people.

Britain does not talk to the Irish Republican Army; Israel has a law against contacts between Israelis and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. The seven industrialised nations, including the United States, Britain, West Germany and Japan, have specifically ruled out negotiations with terrorist organisations.

We have a plethora of laws that curb radical organisations and emergency regulations that curb the Press, so any more restrictions would seem out of place.

But we believe that if people won't listen to the government's urgings that talks should not be held with the ANC while it engages in terrorism, then the government, like Israel, should introduce a law to see that this does not happen.

'Govt should unban ANC's political wing'

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. —

The Government should unban the political wing of the African National Congress and existing anti-Communist legislation would mean that only the non-Communist ANC leaders could return, Mr Desmond Lockey (LP Nom) said.

Speaking in the Budget Debate of Constitutional Development, he said neither side wanted to lose face and each had imposed on the other conditions for negotiation.

A dangerous situation

had developed where there were various union, church and groups but no single legitimate mouthpiece for Black political demands.

Mr Cecil Kippen (UDF, Durban Suburbs) said the government had negotiated with the Indians, the so-called Coloured people and certain selected Blacks, but chaos and mayhem continued.

The government should learn to swallow its pride and talk publicly with the ANC.

ANC attacks would continue as long as there were no talks. Instead, the Minister of Constitutional Development, Mr Chris Heunis, was fiddling with power-grabbing schemes while the country burned.

Input from the ANC on the National Council Bill would be ideal at this stage but without it, its credibility would be still-born.

Mr Heunis replied that the ANC was only relevant because of the havoc and violence it wreaked.

"It is not interested in the democracy we think about," he said.

Tuesday 7 June 1988

Malan's talks with ANC not justified

I NOTE from Press reports that Mr Wynand Malan and his Frankfurt fellow-travelers have been searching desperately to find some justification, no matter how transparently misleading, for their tête-à-tête with ANC terrorists. Some response to critical public opinion became urgently necessary when their cosy get-together coincided with another series of ANC-inspired bomb outrages in South Africa, injuring more innocent civilians.

Mr Malan's fertile mind chooses to equate his group's meeting with the ANC and the government participation in the Angolan peace talks, which at one session, included a Cuban delegation. This is a spurious comparison, as these are by no means parallel situations. The Marxist MPLA regime and its Cuban proxy allies provide a shield for the training and movement of

ANC and Swapo terror gangs. Our troops are in Angola to prevent a Marxist takeover of the whole country, involving the elimination of Unita, which would give the ANC and Swapo forward launching pads from which to mount further and greater terrorist violence on South Africa and SWA.

On the other hand, the ANC has vowed to overthrow our established political order by force and the method they have chosen is the instrument of terror, in which the victims are innocent civilians of all races.

"Meeting with Tambo, without any pre-condition that the ANC disavow terrorist tactics, comes perilously close to sending the wrong kind of message on terrorism."

Mr Malan — please note.

MENO

Pretoria

Blast damages Soweto railway line

NATAL MERCURY
7 JUNE 1988

Crime Reporter

SEVERAL stoning, arson and stabbing incidents in Durban and Pietermaritzburg townships and limpet-mine and handgrenade blasts in Johannesburg and Pretoria townships are recorded in the latest police unrest report.

At Imbali, Pietermaritzburg, a group of blacks stoned a home. They also stabbed and wounded one of the occupants, a 20-year-old black man.

A black bus driver was slightly injured in one of several incidents in which buses were stoned at Clermont, Pinetown.

At Kwa Mashu, Durban, a policeman was slightly injured when a police patrol was stoned by a group of blacks. Tear-gas was used to disperse the mob.

Also at Kwa Mashu, a bus was extensively damaged when it was set alight.

At Inanda, Durban, a private vehicle was badly damaged when it was set alight.

The report said an explosion damaged the railway line near Dube station, Soweto, soon after midnight on Sunday. No one was injured.

The damage was repaired and a second limpet mine was discovered on the track near the station soon afterwards.

The mine was detonated by explosives experts under 'controlled conditions'.

An explosion in a railway coach at Saulsville, Pretoria, on Sunday damaged the coach, adjoining coaches and the lights on the station platform.

Also on Sunday, an unknown type of handgrenade thrown at a private house at Mamelodi, Pretoria, caused some damage to property but no injuries were reported.

At Rosedale, Uitenhage, police arrested two black men after a vehicle was set alight.

The two Stoffels are poised to clash head on

NATAL MERCURY
7 JUNE 1988

Mercury Correspondent

THE looming clash of interests between two Government ministers over the need to officially promote the October elections in the 'alternative media' was described as 'absurd' and 'laughable' by opposition parties yesterday.

The potential clash was highlighted in the confidential, Government-commissioned report by the McCann advertising agency which recommends that newspapers like the Weekly Mail and New Nation may be needed to counter propaganda against the local-authority elections.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Stoffel Botha, has already temporarily closed New Nation and warned the Weekly Mail because he feels they are fanning the revolutionary climate.

However, the Minister of Information, Dr Stoffel van der Merwe, may need to place advertisements in these very publications in an attempt to rally voters to the polls.

Reacting to the latest Catch 22 situation in which the Government has landed, Conser-

vative Party leader Dr Andries Treurnicht, said:

'The Government's obsession with advertisements will, at the acceptance of the McCann recommendations, lead to the laughable situation in which one Cabinet member will place party-political advertisements in newspapers that his Cabinet colleague will prohibit.

'This is a rare example of joint Cabinet responsibility,' Dr Treurnicht said.

PEP information spokesman Peter Soal said: 'The ab-

surd situation has arisen in which "slim" Stoffel has got to advertise in newspapers that "stifle" Stoffel wants to close down.

'Because of the lack of credibility of the Government-controlled media, the Government has been forced into a situation in which the left hand does not know what the right hand is doing.'

Dr van der Merwe is expected to spell out the Government's intentions about the advertising campaign in the next few days.

Thousands of black workers stay away

NATAL MERCURY

7 JUNE 1988

JOHANNESBURG—Thousands of black residents stayed away from work in various parts of the country yesterday, the first of three days marked for 'national protest' by trade unions and anti-apartheid groups.

Among the few violent incidents reported were an explosion which damaged the railway line at Dube, Soweto, a train coach being burned at

Kwesine Station near Germiston, and the petrol bombing of the Umgababa Station on the Natal South Coast.

The mining industry reported minimal absenteeism. The Chamber of Mines said 9 000 of its 550 000 workers stayed away.

Union sources said the absence of action at the mines could lead to recriminations

within Cosatu.

The National Union of Mineworkers had been one of the strongest proponents of the protest plan, against the opposition of some affiliates which argued for a more cautious approach.

A Putco spokesman said the areas with the lowest passenger demand in the Transvaal were Soweto (90% stayed away), Springs (90%) and Edenvale (99%).

On the East Rand 90% of commuters stayed away, 95% in Durban and 30% in Pretoria.

Many workers in Soweto stayed away from work and all schools in the township appeared closed.

Taxi ranks, bus terminuses and railway stations were deserted in most sections and trains ran almost empty to Johannesburg.

SATS reported that early occupancy rates on Reef trains were about 5% of normal at 5 a.m., the start of the peak period, and countrywide train occupancy levels were on average between 50% and 60%.

A Putco spokesman said the areas worst hit by the stay-away appeared to be Soweto, Durban and Alberton.

Zulu MLAs sent home after bombing

African Affairs Correspondent

ULUNDI—KwaZulu's 140 Members of the Legislative Assembly were sent back to their respective constituencies yesterday after a bus carrying commuters to work in the Empangeni area was petrol-bombed.

Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Chief Minister, adjourned the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly and members were dispatched to their areas after a caucus meeting to discuss tactics to be employed in the light of the stay-away.

Dr Buthelezi said the attack — which occurred between Mtshane Reserve and Empangeni and in which five people were injured — made it quite clear that intimidation was the main method used by people trying to prevent workers from reaching their places of employment.

In the light of the violence and intimidation being used

to implement the stay-away in some of the members' constituencies, their presence as leaders of the community was required.

He adjourned the KLA until next Monday.

During the stay-away called last year, Dr Buthelezi also sent MPs back to their constituencies.

Dr Buthelezi said the stay-away had no significance for KwaZulu except for the threat of loss of employment and lives inherent in it.

'It appears to me that people might very soon say they prefer the devil they know — the apartheid regime — to a regime run by people who use these methods,' he said.

'If the pattern is going to be that which has been set — that a few people with guns, bombs and grenades are going to force their will on the rest of the population — then God help this country.'

Affected

The South African Federated Chamber of Industries says the Johannesburg and East Rand areas have been hardest hit.

A spokesman for the Association of Chambers of Commerce (Assocom) said the Cape had been hardly affected.

He said the Reef had been the hardest hit with more than 80% of workers not arriving for work.

The major chain store Checkers reported that large numbers of its staff did not arrive for work. A spokesman for the group told Sapa that more than 50% did not arrive in Natal although the figure ranged from a zero turnout in some of the township branches to 100% in Amanzimtoti.

The figure for the OFS as a whole was about 50%, but the group reported that in rural areas all staff came to work.

Talk to me, minister tells Cosatu

7 JUNE 1988
Mercury Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—Manpower Minister Pietie du Plessis last night called on Cosatu and the other labour organisations leading the three-day protest against the Labour Relations Amendment Bill now before Parliament to come forward with their objections and recommended changes to the draft legislation.

Mr du Plessis said his door was open and there was still

time to amend the draft legislation if 'they can convince me that their objections are valid'.

Replying to debate on the Bill in the House of Delegates, he said that neither Cosatu or Nactu had ever made an attempt to approach him personally to discuss whatever problems they had with the draft legislation.

'Instead, they have chosen to organise a three-day protest, encouraging ordinary workers to stay away from

their jobs, making them victims of the political aspirations of power-drunk opportunists.'

Mr du Plessis said he was not going to allow this form of exploitation and intimidation of the ordinary worker to continue.

He said the Bill — now referred back to the Parliamentary Standing Committee to consider specific amendments proposed in the House of Assembly — was a 'fair' package.

BBC film claims S A children were tortured

7 JUNE 1988
NATAL MERCURY

LONDON—A BBC television documentary to be screened tomorrow claims that hundreds of South African children, some as young as nine, have been tortured by security police and detained for months without charge.

The programme, *Suffer the Children*, shown in advance to journalists, alleges that more than 10 000 youngsters have been arrested and detained since the Government imposed a state of emergency in June, 1986. No official reaction to the allegations it made was sought, the film's makers said.

The South African Embassy said the BBC was considering a request for diplomats to be shown the film before it was transmitted.

Last week South African Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok denied any children under the age of 16 were still being held or that youngsters were ill-treated while in detention.

Responding to a publicity statement by the BBC about

the documentary, Mr Vlok was quoted as saying the allegations were 'vague and faceless' and had been made for propaganda.

A Ministry of Law and Order spokesman, Brig Leon Mellet, said last night it was a pity that the BBC, which had representation in South Africa, planned to screen a 'one-sided, biased, distorted film obviously designed to vilify South Africa' without giving the South African Government a chance to see the film, let alone react to the allegations in it.

Investigate

If the film were screened, the South African Police would investigate every allegation made in it, 'no matter how long it takes us'.

'If, as we expect, the allegations are untrue, exaggerated or slanted and we prove it, we will expect the BBC to afford as much time to the truth in the same time slot they allocate to this film.'

No South African Govern-

ment official had been able to see the film, which had been shown to the media.

From what the SAP had been able to glean from media reports, 'we can only judge that it's made up of a pack of lies', Brig Mellet said.

'One of the two people allegedly quoted in the film has already been questioned by the SAP and he refused to admit or deny that he made the statement reportedly attributed to him in the film.'

'In the true spirit of journalism, the BBC should have given the South African Government an opportunity to test the allegations against fact and at the least to respond to it.'

'At this point all (official) efforts to see the film before publication have been unsuccessful,' Brig Mellet said. — (Sapa)

● See Editorial Opinion

Protest was 'peaceful'

■ FROM PAGE 1

prevent intimidation.

Threatening pamphlets were reported to have been distributed in the Imbali area yesterday afternoon.

Mr Marshall confirmed yesterday afternoon that there had been minor incidents of stone-throwing involving buses.

Most major industries in the greater Durban and Pinetown areas were hit.

A spokesman for the Labour Monitoring Group at the University of Natal said about 67% of the workers surveyed in Natal had joined the stay-away.

'Of the 34 232 workers in the survey, a total of 11 450 were at work yesterday — representing an attendance of 33,45%', he said.

Dunlop, one of the largest tyre manufacturers in Durban, had a 1% attendance yesterday and production was halted, said Mr Glen Sutton, the group industrial relations manager.

No pattern

Mr Geoff Tyler, chief executive of the Durban Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, said that basically there had been no set pattern to the stay-aways in the Durban metropolitan area.

'The major factor affecting the stay-away in certain areas appears to be the availability of bus transport and where buses are running attendance figures are among the highest.

'Many firms have reported that employees are arriving at work late after having found alternative transport.

'It appears that a high percentage of employees really do wish to come to work and are not the slightest bit interested in the protest stay-away,' he added.

Transport

Mr Michael Maeso, industrial relations manager of Romatex Industrials, said between 95% and 99% of the workers had stayed away and some plants within the group were being manned by salaried staff.

Spokesmen for major public transport operators also reported massive fall-offs in passenger volumes.

Mr Alan Lubbe, a spokesman for SATS in Durban, said trains running before the normal peak were 'fuller' but there had been a 'definite decline' in the number of passengers in the normal peak period.

The head of Putco's operations in Natal, Mr Ashley Milanese, said they had a 90% drop in passengers and 'a big stay-away' of its own staff.

'We are running less than 10% of our buses,' he added.

At the Durban North Hypermarket, management and clerical staff were assisting after a 98% stay-away by black staff, Mr Martin Rosen, the general manager, reported.

However, Mr Ron Phillips of the Tongaat-Hulett group said there was an average attendance of 75% at the group's various divisions.

THE NATAL MERCURY JUNE 7, 1988

Committee's killing of Sanctions Bill is quite meaningless

EXERTING its jurisdiction over the Anti-apartheid Act Amendments of 1988 (to give the Sanctions Bill its proper title), the House Banking Committee last week effectively voted to kill the thing.

This is an intriguing, if ultimately meaningless, development.

By a narrow 27-24 margin, the Committee adopted a provision, earlier rejected by the Foreign Affairs Committee, that would ban SA products however circuitously they reached American shores.

Which means, for example, that a bar of British-made Cadbury's fruit and nut would be subject to the embargo if it contained SA sugar.

Since molecules do not come with little *Vierkleurs*, nor, if they did, would the customs service easily afford the equipment to see them, the idea is patently absurd.

And while the yawning voids of many congressmen's minds compare not unfavourably with the Grand Canyon, it is impossible to believe that every last man of the 27 who voted for the measure was unaware of the absurdity.

The measure's sponsor, Congressman Bill McCollum, a Florida Republican, wished to smother the Bill with 'pseudo-kindness', as one dissenter put it.

One must assume that most of those who voted with him, including at least 10 Democrats, were similarly inclined.

This has not been the only attempt to choke Congressman Howard Wolpe *et al* on their internal contradictions.

Congresswoman Olympia Snowe, Republican of Maine, has borrowed their line that to be really effective, sanctions must be applied globally.

Her proposal is to condition implementation of the Bill on all America's trading partners adopting the same policy.

Unsporting

Consistency is considered unsportsmanlike conduct by the sanctioneers who would rather have what, by their own implicit admission, is an ineffective policy, than wait around for the West Germans, the British and the Japanese to follow their lead.

Ms Snowe will keep trying anyway and there is a chance that her inspiration may yet prevail in one of the three committees still waiting to take a look at the Bill.

Washington Letter

Simon Barber



Not that it will make the slightest difference.

Assuming that it even gets there, the McCollum and Snowe language will die on the floor of the House and is not, alas, an omen of sanity to come.

It merely illuminates the dark but irrelevant secret that most congressmen, given their druthers, would like the legislation to go away.

They have allowed themselves to be dragged because the fate of SA is nothing beside their own political health. And as Tip O'Neil, the venerable

former Speaker of the House, liked to say, 'all politics is local'.

Spare, then, a moment's pity for Michael Dukakis, the Democratic presidential candidate and at this point, one would have to say, Ronald Reagan's likelier successor.

As a reflection of his views, his latest position paper on SA is a meretricious lie. But he has no choice.

His new paper was prompted by a document entitled *US Foreign Policy and the Black World: Proposals for a new relationship* which purports to represent the views of an impressive array of black leadership groups: the Congressional Black Caucus, the Martin Luther King Centre for Non-violent Change, the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, the National Urban League, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and, of course, Transafrica.

Jesse Jackson

THIS CREW, for which read the Rev Jesse Jackson, stands between Dukakis and a serene nominating convention like a slightly deranged rotweiler.

Dukakis, as the Democratic candidate, may technically be the creature's owner and best hope, but it is perfectly capable of ripping him up anyway if he does not feed it exactly what it wants.

And what it wants is a promise that it will be given Africa — the southern tip for lunch and the rest as a private playpen.

I mean the latter quite literally, for the document demands that a substantial slice of the \$3 billion the authors wish henceforth to transfer to the continent each year be channelled through contractors selected solely on the basis of race.

'It is well past time for the US to treat Africa equitably in the provision of development assistance. A key step in reversing (the) discriminatory pattern would be to require American minority participation in all aspects of American development assistance programmes.

'Minority Americans have much to contribute to the establishment and development of these programmes. Their common history and experiences would bring increased sensitivity to the planning and implementation of these programmes.'

On this demand, at least, Dukakis is silent. But he more than makes up for it on South Africa.

You want Pretoria declared a terrorist

state? Fine. I favour the same sanctions against SA that are already in place against North Korea, Iran and Libya. You want the Security Council to do Chapter 7? 'My administration will lead the fight'.

Now, on the whole, you have to believe that Dukakis is an honourable man. Furthermore, I am quite convinced that he does not mean a word of this.

It is even said that he has a lot of sympathy for the views of Helen Suzman whom he and his wife, Kitty, have known for some while.

Dishonest

In effect, therefore, he is the victim of a shakedown in which he has been forced by Rev Jackson and the rest to be dishonest.

Such dishonesty, sadly, will have consequences for his ability to conduct a coherent policy in the event he is elected.

He is after all a serious politician running for a very serious political office and foreign governments are under no obligation to do him the favour of seeing through his words in the absence of any hard, countervailing evidence.

If he says, as he does, that he will 'immediately' delink Namibian independence from Cuban troop withdrawal, recognise Angola and withdraw US sup-

THE NATAL MERCURY

7 JUNE 1988

port from Unita, then he must expect the parties concerned to react accordingly.

In particular, he must expect to share the blame if the Namibia/Angola negotiations break down and the September 29 deadline for agreement that Dr Chester Crocker and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Adamishin have settled on is not met.

If Pretoria has reason to fear that unprecedented sanctions will be imposed whether or not it grants Namibia independence, there appears — merely from looking at the map — to be no good reason why it should leave the territory.

Likewise, if Angola thinks it has a real chance of winning American recognition and the cessation of US arms supplies to Unita next year for free, why should it make potentially risky concessions now?

Dr Michael Clough, one of the several Democratic Africanists making a pitch to be Dukakis' Dr Crocker, delivers an explicit warning in the forthcoming issue of foreign affairs that the candidate is wrecking whatever chances there are of an Angolan settlement this year.

Clough also argues, though more carefully, that endorsing the current Sanctions Bill is not such a hot idea either if Dukakis hopes to have deal even half way sensibly with SA in the event he is elected.

Will Dukakis pay any heed? Will it even occur to him that it might be somewhat perverse to promise the abandonment of linkage when every serious player (aside, that is, from Swapo) now views it as fundamental to peace?

No. Like Congress' silent majority, he dare not.

Sanctions NATAL WITNESS backers have JUNE 1982 no mandate'

Witness Reporter

CHURCH leaders who called for sanctions against South Africa and supported stayaway calls from trade unions did so without a mandate from black people, the chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, has said.

In welcoming church leaders to the conference of the Zululand Council of Churches at the weekend, Chief Buthelezi said that at a mass rally held at Glebelands Stadium in Durban recently more than 70 000 people "roared" their approval for his opposition to sanctions.

"Are church leaders calling for disinvestment acting for the masses? Until such time as church leaders have the masses roaring approval for what they are saying they should be far more humble in presenting themselves as spokesmen for the people," Chief Buthelezi said.

He appealed to church leaders to work first with congregations and parishes and the "real people support" at synods to produce a united voice of Christian concern.

"When I speak out against sanctions as something black South Africans endorse I do so on behalf of millions of black South Africans.

"Where has any church leader ever had a mass meeting of 70 000 black South Africans who roar approval for sanctions?" he asked.

High absenteeism rates reported

The Natal Witness 7/06/88

Protest action disrupts workforce

Witness Reporter

THE nationwide peaceful protest called for by two of the country's largest black trade union federations caused major disruptions in the black workforce yesterday, with some areas reporting a 90% absenteeism rate.

The Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) and the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) called for three days of protest against the Labour Relations Amendment Bill, and against the banning and restrictions of 18 organisations and a number of leading activists.

Statistics provided by large train and bus corporations showed that at least 1.9 million people did not travel to work yesterday, according to the independent Labour Monitoring Group. The figure did not include thousands of people who normally use private minibus taxis to commute from townships to industrial and commercial centres.

A few incidents of violence were reported. However, most large commercial and industrial firms said the protest appeared to be peaceful.

In Pietermaritzburg deliveries of milk, bread and newspapers were not seriously affected.

The few violent incidents reported included an explosion which damaged the railway line at Dube, Soweto; the burning of a train coach at Kwesine station near

Germiston, and the petrol bombing of Umgababa Station on the Natal South Coast, as well as of a bus on the North Coast, which resulted in five people being injured.

A second limpet mine was found on a section of the railway track by police investigating the blast at 12.15 am, at Dube.

In Saulsville, Pretoria, a number of railway coaches were damaged by an explosion and a house was attacked with a hand grenade in Mamelodi. No injuries were reported.

The Natal Witness was informed of a number of incidents of unrest in Pietermaritzburg but police were unable to confirm these.

The Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Industries and the Development Research Studies Group at the University of Natal were both monitoring the extent to which the protest had affected the city.

About 70% of the Post Office's black workforce throughout the country turned up for work. The areas with the lowest passenger demand in the Transvaal were Soweto (90% absent), Springs (90%) and Edenvale (99%).

A Putco spokesman said that 90% of commuters joined the protest on the East Rand, 95% in Durban and 30% in Pretoria.

In the Western Cape, protest action in many industrial sectors was limited and in Cape Town, the city council described the

Turn to page 3

7 JUNE 1988

Zambia

by A

Growth in two key sectors

A LITTLE more than a year ago, Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda caused a stir in the international finance community by abandoning an economic austerity programme designed by the International Monetary Fund. Since then, Mr Kaunda's own austerity plan has apparently fared better than most foreign finance experts and many Zambians thought it would.

The plan — which limits payment of debt servicing to 10 percent of export earnings, gives some business sectors priority access to foreign exchange, and has spurred efforts to diversify the economy away from copper and into agriculture and mining of precious stones — has not begun to solve Zambia's serious financial woes.

But, according to the government, it has brought growth to two key sectors of the economy — agriculture and manufacturing. And there have been no violent riots over shortages of basic goods such as those in the copper belt in late 1986 that led Kaunda to abandon the IMF plan — even though shortages continue.

Since breaking with the IMF, Zambia has seen economic growth at an annual rate of approximately 2 percent, according to preliminary government figures. "When Kaunda announced the new programme," says a market vendor, "we said to our-

selves: 'Here is an African leader who displays Africa's will to do it alone'."

If the Zambia plan succeeds, says Western observers, there is fear among foreign lenders that other African nations — some of which are feeling adverse effects of IMF programmes — will follow suit. "Zambia's experiment is going to be a big shock to the IMF and others who are sceptical about our plan. It is quite remarkable that the country has been able to achieve some measure of growth without the IMF programme," says Vernon Mwaanga, a former cabinet minister who is now a prominent businessman.

Manufacturing and agriculture are said to have benefited greatly by having priority access to foreign exchange earnings, which are now allocated by the Foreign Exchange Management Committee (FEMAC). This committee took over from an IMF-designed weekly foreign exchange auction system. Together with a poorly managed economy and a dire shortage of foreign exchange, the auctions sent the value of the country's currency into a nose dive, leading to shortages which sparked the riots.

Still, not everyone agrees the economic programme has been successful. In the long-term, says a Western diplomat, "it looks like the country's



Kenneth Kaunda

economy, under the new plan, is being driven to an intolerable situation."

The nation faces an annual inflation rate that runs over 50 percent

and a burdensome budget deficit. Annual population growth rate is among the world's highest at 3 percent. And foreign exchange is scarce.

Because this is an election year, it would be particularly troublesome for the Kaunda plan to fail. Although there is no active opposition to the President, who has ruled since independence in 1964, last year's riots showed the situation can become volatile.

Caleb Fundanga, a former economics lecturer at the University of Zambia who is now attached to the cabinet office in charge of the economy, wants more changes. "I think parastatals (state-run companies) are a sick industry and need rehabilitation... we need to increase prices of maize and reduce subsidies. We have to spend money elsewhere and kill inflation pressures caused by the budget deficit. Our public sector also needs to be trimmed a lot," says Mr Fundanga.

Shortages of essential goods are rampant. Price controls on some basics and subsidies on maize meal (the staple food) keep farmers' prices low and give them little incentive to produce more. The black market is everywhere, despite a shutdown early this year of about 187 businesses suspected of black-market dealings.

Zambia's rigid price controls are criticised by Western diplomats and donor agencies who say they hamper economic growth. But Patrick Chisanga, an official involved with setting prices and incomes, argues that the price controls are aimed at protecting the low-income group, especially the urban dwellers.

Most of the funds which had been made available by donor countries to prop up the foreign exchange auction system and assist with Zambia's balance of payments were dropped after the break with the IMF. Zambia is in arrears on its debts and debt servicing to the IMF, the World Bank, and other agencies and countries. It cannot therefore re-schedule its debts, and currently only a small amount of bilateral aid and grants is trickling in.

For years, Zambia had depended on export earnings from copper for about 90 percent of total earnings. When world copper prices rose to record highs for about four months last year, Zambia got a breather. But copper reserves are running out. And efforts to earn foreign exchange by diversifying the economy are hampered by the smuggling of key commodities to neighbouring countries.

• By arrangement with the *Christian Science Monitor*.

OPINION

NATAL WITNESS

Joint 7 JUNE 1988 charter

Dr Denis Worrall has moved swiftly to ward off the possibility of friction between his fledgling IP and the older, more established PFP over the forthcoming municipal elections. PFP candidates endorsing the IP's principles, he says, will receive IP support in constituencies where the IP is not able to field candidates. Seeing that the IP's principles are broad enough to encompass any moderate party to the left of the National Party, PFP candidates should have no difficulty in meeting Worrall's requirements.

But what is to happen in constituencies where the IP and PFP both believe they have a chance of winning? A split vote here will deliver seats on a platter to the right. What is really required now is a shared strategy, an electoral alliance, not only between PFP and IP but among all anti-apartheid parties contesting the elections.

In the white political arena, this would require drawing up a broad charter of anti-apartheid principles, behind which a range of candidates could assemble to oppose the NP's plans for own affairs councils and the CP's intention of restoring white domination. It would also mean the PFP, IP and Wyndand Malan's NDM sitting down together and agreeing on a division of constituencies. Left to their own devices — after the election setback of 1987 — the three parties will have difficulty in mustering sufficient resources and voter enthusiasm to make their presence felt in an election which political commentators agree may well determine the future course of white politics.

Arrogance

Despite some aberrations, Zimbabwe has been a model of racial reconciliation since the end of the war 10 years ago. Whites and blacks have learned to live together, and there is relative peace between Shona and Ndebele. The two main political parties have recently merged as part of a campaign for national unity. Although there are now fewer whites than before independence, many of those who remain have contributed significantly to the economy — as acknowledged occasionally by government ministers who ask them to stay in Zimbabwe.

But reconciliation will not be enhanced by Mr Robert Mugabe's weekend outburst against whites, whom he accused of "British arrogance". Undoubtedly there are whites who have retained affluent lifestyles (just as many blacks have recently acquired them) and some whites may be arrogant in their dealings with other Zimbabweans. But arrogance is not determined by skin colour or by any other aspect of ancestry.

In labelling the British — "they remain British wherever they are" — Mr Mugabe reduces the argument to the level of crude stereotype. It is no more accurate to say that the British are arrogant than that black Africans are incapable of running a country without European help. And when Western financial assistance is discussed, Mr Mugabe's contempt for British attitudes will not prevent him from asking his biggest backer for more aid.

Cuba 50 km from border and able to beat SA, says Castro

HARARE — Cuba now has the means "to confront any South African adventure" in Angola and the balance of forces has been totally changed, according to Cuba's President Fidel Castro.

He was quoted by the SABC yesterday as confirming that Cuban forces had moved to within 50 km of the SWA/Namibian border and that a new air base was being constructed near the border to bring aircraft closer to what he termed "the frontline".

South Africa wanted to negotiate because it had encountered in Angola a

force it had "never previously faced", General Castro told delegates to a recent non-aligned conference in the Cuban capital of Havana.

This emerged from a report the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina gave the Zimbabwean news agency Ziana yesterday.

He was quoted as saying the Cuban troops were based at Menonge, 200 km from Cuito Cuanavale, at the time of "last year's South African aggression".

The situation at the time was difficult because there were insufficient Cuban troops in the area, he said.

"That is why it was decided in mid-November, at the request of the Luanda government, to reinforce troops in the area."

The reinforcements included the dispatch of the best Cuban pilots for MiG-23 fighter aircraft "until aerial superiority over the enemy was reached, which was additional to already existing superior anti-aircraft defence".

"Then South Africa showed fear and began to refuse to fight," General Castro said.

On November 23 the first Cuban rein-

forcement units left for Angola, arriving in Cuito Cuanavale on December 5.

General Castro said that while the Cubans were forced to fight in a field chosen by the South Africans, measures were being taken to strike them in another direction.

"On January 13 South Africa launched an offensive against Cuito Cuanavale and on February 14 they attacked again with 150 armoured vehicles."

This attack was stopped by a small number of tanks, he said.

On February 25, March 1 and March

23, South African attacks were repelled, causing the SADF a "high number of losses".

He said that six months after the fighting, the South Africans had not been able to capture Cuito Cuanavale.

He said the South African government accepted the London four-party talks because it was "seriously worried. They are wondering if we are going to advance, if we are going to take the dam on the Angolan border. No guarantees can be given, and they must form part of a negotiated solution". — Sapa.

NATAL WITNESS JUNE 7, 1988

Facilities to be built in buffer zone near city

Private black schools mooted

Witness Reporter

THE Anglican Diocese of Natal is planning to build private schools and recreational facilities in the buffer zone separating Edendale and Imbali from the Grange and Westgate residential areas.

In terms of an application by the diocese, tabled at yesterday's planning and development committee meeting, the initial development will comprise a primary school for about 460 pupils and a boarding school for about 100 pupils.

The completed project, which is to be launched as soon as possible and will require about 20 hectares of land, includes a high school adjacent to the primary school and recreational facilities available to both schools.

After consideration the planning committee recommended to this month's full council meeting that the application be approved in principle, whereafter it would be examined in more detail.

In a memorandum to the planning committee, the estates

manager, Mr Michael Hobbs, said the project had been fully investigated and "the proposals have merit".

According to information available to Mr Hobbs, a non-racial trust would be registered. The trust would hold title to the land and would raise and administer the funds that will be required.

Mr Hobbs said the application was the result of a resolution by the 1984 Diocesan Synod, which read: "That this synod, being aware of the sorely felt need of

the black Anglican community for education, encourages the establishment of a Diocesan College at an appropriate place, in which priority for admission shall be given to blacks."

In support of its application, the diocese said the proposed site was close to Pietermaritzburg and easily accessible to teachers of all races, and close to the University of Natal, which would enable the schools to make use of the resources of the Department of Education.

Indumiso plans sporting facilities

Witness Reporter

PLANS by the Indumiso College of Education to build sports fields in the buffer zone below Sutherland Road in Imbali have been approved in principle by the planning and development committee.

The committee made the recommendation yesterday after considering an application by Indumiso

for a substantial portion of land in the buffer zone.

The estates manager, Mr Michael Hobbs, said the college had applied for enough land to develop five soccer fields, five netball fields, eight tennis courts, one squash court and one large ablution block.

Mr Hobbs said the college also

required "maximum parking facilities for buses and cars".

Indumiso College has a student population of about 1 200 — 600 men and 600 women.

Council will make a decision at its meeting on June 14. Should the committee recommendation be supported, the application would be examined in more detail.

Proposal for garage, flats not advised

AN application to build a petrol filling station and flats at 473 Longmarket Street should not be approved, a council standing committee recommended yesterday.

The planning committee voted unanimously against the proposed construction. — WR.

FILE STAR

Cosatu urges international probe into controversial SA labour Bill

By Mike Siluma,
Labour Reporter

The Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) called yesterday for the suspension of the Labour Relations Amendment Bill and the re-opening of negotiations with employers to end the impasse over the proposed legislation.

Cosatu general secretary Mr Jay Naidoo said Cosatu, which has already laid a complaint with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) regarding the Bill, called on South African employers to agree to an ILO investigation into whether or not aspects of the Bill were in conflict with internationally accepted guidelines.

Mr Naidoo said that, contrary to employers' statements, Cosatu had submitted 27 objections to the standing committee drafting the Bill. Three of these were fully and four partially addressed and the rest rejected.

"We have challenged employers to agree that the Bill be referred to the ILO because they have said the Bill, if made law, would reform present labour legislation in line with international standards set by the ILO. The Bill cannot be discussed piecemeal," said Mr Naidoo.

If the Bill were suspended, Cosatu was prepared to meet employers to discuss mutual con-

cerns about current legislation. Joint representations could then be made to the Government.

He believed the ILO could hear evidence "very soon if people are committed to the process".

Mr Bobby Godsell, chairman of the SA Consultative Committee on Labour Affairs (Saccola), expressed willingness to re-start negotiations with the unions on the Bill, but said he believed that the ILO route was fraught with potential problems.

The ILO was a tripartite body, including governments, employers and unions from each country, he said.

"For the process to have meaning, all three parties of a country's delegation have to submit themselves to the process. It would be particularly complicated in South Africa because it is a very technical case whether we are members because the South African delegation left the ILO in 1964."

Employers would be willing to discuss Cosatu's concerns provided Cosatu specified these in the same way as the National Council of Trade Unions, the other federation to call for protest action, had done.

Mr Naidoo said conflict would result if employers went ahead with dismissals or disciplinary action following this week's protests.

■ No work — no money,
say Natal's industry chiefs

■ Nationwide stayaway
will cost absentees millions

THE DAILY NEWS JUNE 7, 1988

Protesters in for pay shock

Daily News Reporters

WORKERS joining the three-day stayaway protest will lose millions of rands in wages — Natal industry and commerce leaders today reaffirmed a “no work, no pay” policy.

Bread and milk supplies were hit again today as the stayaway continued, and black buses and schools were near-empty.

Durban supermarkets were again hit by shortages, with management staff moving onto the floor.

The director of the Natal Chamber of Industries, Mr John Pohl said employers would not pay any of those who stayed away in protest at the Labour Relations Bill and the Government clamp on 17 organisations.

With about 70 percent of the workforce absent in Natal yesterday, and the trend continuing today and maybe tomorrow, workers on weekly wages will get less than half pay this week. Chamber of Commerce chief Mr Ivan Dodd, said the same rule applied to his sector.

Just 20 of Putco's 380 buses were running today.

A Sats spokesman, Mr Alan Lubbe, said commuter traffic was up on yesterday, but below the normal loads.

While some areas had milk deliveries today, shop and cafe owners went to dairies to pick up supplies. Bread supplies were also disrupted.

Durban's municipal transport and electricity departments had 30 percent staff absent.

While Natal's white, Indian and coloured schools have not been affected, black schools, campuses and technikons have been deserted, Natal emerged as the hardest-hit province as the

stayaways began easing in many parts of the Reef and the Western Cape today, with the number of commuters on trains and buses rising slightly.

More black commuters used the buses and trains there, but an explosion on the railway track near Dube caused long delays.

The number of commuters in Pretoria townships appeared to have increased slightly today, and the protest action in the Western Cape was confined mainly to the food and engineering industries.

A spokesman for the Federated Chamber of Industries said the huge Natal stayaway could be attributed to the virtual collapse of the public transport system and intimidation.

“The protest in Natal has got stronger while the stayaway has lost its impact over most of the rest of the country.”

See page 4

Dukakis's refusal on SA upsets Jesse

Daily News Foreign Service

WASHINGTON: The Rev Jesse Jackson has declared his readiness to take on his opponent for the US presidency, Governor Michael Dukakis, over his refusal so far to label South Africa a "terrorist state".

Speaking on the campaign trail, he noted that Mr Dukakis had stopped short of calling South Africa a terrorist state. If he continued to do so, Mr Jackson said, he would take it to the floor of the Democratic National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, next month.

Mr Jackson's efforts to force Mr Dukakis on the South Africa issue came on the eve of an important day of primary elections in the US today in which Mr Dukakis seemed poised to tie up the Democratic nomination for the White House.

Mr Dukakis, who has already won 1 814 delegates to the Atlanta convention, needs 2 081 in terms of Democratic regulations to put the seal on his party's nomination.

At stake today are primary elections in California, New Mexico, Montana and New Jersey. Mr Dukakis is expected to win all four, and the lion's share of 466 delegates.

But Mr Jackson, whose hardline policy towards South Africa is only a shade tougher than that of Mr Dukakis, has pledged to pursue his campaign in spite of his clear second place (985 delegates to date) in the race.

Arguing that he deserves consideration as Vice-President at least, political observers say he has in the last few days been actively manoeuvring to maximise his clout in the Democratic Party during and after the national convention,

and in coming years.

Mr Jackson wants control over Democratic policy on certain domestic US issues, and South Africa. Some analysts believe the Democrats will, in the internal party bargaining that has already started as they compile their 1988 manifesto, be prepared to allow him free rein in shaping policy on Africa.

Mr Dukakis, of Massachusetts, said last week

that South Africa had "engaged in terrorist acts". His statement was softer, however, than Mr Jackson's, which is aimed at including South Africa on a damaging short list of "terrorist states" such as Iran, Libya, Cuba and North Korea.

"When the convention is called in Atlanta," Mr Jackson said, "I want South Africa called by its proper definition. It is a terrorist state."

NATAL MERCURY JUNE 7, 1988

Ulundi gets R56 m for infrastructure

William Harper
African Affairs
Correspondent

ULUNDI—The KwaZulu Government and the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) have concluded an agreement providing KwaZulu with R56 million for developmental projects ranging from electrification to education.

Of the 15 projects, seven bulk infrastructure projects — including the electrification of Mpumalanga Town-

ship near Hammarsdale and the construction of roads at Umlazi — will utilise a total of R26,3 million.

The upgrading of the sanitation and water reticulation infrastructure at Ekuvukeni, Umlazi, Ezakheni and Kwa-Makutha will take up a further R16,1 million.

Construction work on the James Nxumalo Agricultural High School near Ulundi will receive R10,9 million while R2 500 000 borrowed by the Mangosuthu Technikon at Umlazi will be guaranteed by the KwaZulu Government from the loan.

The KwaZulu Department of Agriculture and Forestry also received a grant of R27 000 to be used by the African Co-operative Action Trust for a feasibility study into a hydro-powered irrigation system for rural communities with the aim of increasing agricultural production.

NATAL MERCURY JUNE 7, 1988

Watch it, comrade!

ZIMBABWE is to call up 'every boy and girl', its deputy minister of state for political affairs announces, for compulsory military training.

The unkind might comment that's about the only thing it can do with them. They certainly won't get a chance anywhere else, even Comrade Mugabe acknowledges. In the past five years only 35 000 jobs have been created, but each year there are 200 000 school-leavers.

Even now, eight years after independence, most of the 40 000 men who fought in his and Joshua Nkomo's forces are still looking for jobs, so much so that more than a few have trekked south to South Africa's gold mines, much to Zimbabwe's

embarrassment.

And after his latest outburst against 'arrogant whites', there's hardly likely to be an inflow of investment capital to boost Zimbabwe's economy.

Naturally, in all the rhetoric about the new call-up there's not a word about who is going to feed, clothe and pay this new army.

But there was a word of warning from the minister, who incidentally is a major-general, for the new recruits: don't become dissidents.

Which is hardly surprising; at the last count there had been no less than 80 military coups in black Africa since uhuru dawned! That's something for Mr Mugabe to bear in mind.

WHILE black Second World War veterans battle to get their military pensions, more than 20 000 black South Africans who volunteered for service in Europe during the First World War were officially denied medals and memorials.

The same applied to more than 50 000 blacks who joined the South African campaigns in the then German territories of South West Africa and East Africa as labour contingents.

Black Second World War veterans like John Choeu, still struggling to get their pensions, at least qualified for war decorations. Choeu was awarded five service medals.

Blacks from both world wars were only recognised as war veterans in 1974. Up to 1987, no black had been paid a war veteran's pensions for service in the 1914-18 war. And they were officially denied war medals.

Nor are the names of the members of the South African Native Labour Contingent (SANLC) who died on active service during the First World War included on the National War Memorial, and they were excluded

No medals for black veterans

BUSINESS

DAY

7 JUNE

1988

from the First World War memorials in South African cities and towns.

There is no memorial in SA, other than in the officially "independent" Transkei and in Lesotho, for the more than 600 SANLC members who lost their lives in the troopship Mendi after it was rammed by another vessel and sank in the icy waters of the English Channel.

In 1986, the South African government gave its first formal recognition of their service — a bronze plaque depicting the sinking of the Mendi was included among the mural decorations at the new museum at Delville Wood in France.

As military historian Norman Clothier has written in a recently-published book *: "In their own country, they are forgotten men."

In the book, Clothier points out that the black First World War veterans were not entitled to the mea-

BARRY STREEK

gre war disablement pensions granted to white ex-servicemen.

There was a one-off compensation payment, ranging from £1-£20 for partial disablement and £30-£50 for total disablement, and they were allowed to keep their military clothing and equipment.

"A source of much bitterness was the non-award of the medals to the black South African members of the Contingent, though awards of the British War Medal were made to their white officers and NCOs and their black comrades of the then High Commission Territories of Basutoland, Bechuanaland and Swaziland.

"By a nice (in the legal sense) distinction, the British government

awarded this medal in silver to white and in bronze to non-white soldiers, who had the appropriate service.

"The Contingent soldiers qualified for it and the British government award. It had also been suggested that Britain voted the sum of money to issue the medals."

But the South African Cabinet decided against awarding any medals to the 20 000 or so black men who served in Europe.

Clothier says that the final Cabinet decision not to award medals to the black members of SANLC appears to have been taken when the Nationalist-Labour coalition was in power.

Various representations for them to receive their medals were made, and in 1928 the British Empire Service League, now the South African Legion, passed a resolution unanimously regretting that the "government cannot see its way to issue

medals to Natives who served in the Native Labour Corps".

The 40 000 white South African soldiers who conquered German South West Africa in 1915 were supported by a black labour contingent of 33 546; the South African volunteers who took part in the invasion of German East Africa were supported by a black labour contingent of 18 000 men; in 1916, some 10 000 black men were recruited for service in France, and eventually 20 887 served in Europe.

At Rouen in July 1917, members of the SANLC were personally thanked by King George V, who said: "The loyalty of my native subjects in South Africa is fully shown by the helpful part you are taking in this world-wide war."

The loyalty and service of the SANLC during the First World War was beyond question, yet they got no medals and no memorials.

* "Black Valour — the SA Native Labour Contingent 1916-1918 and the Sinking of the Mendi".

COMMENT

War clouds in Angola

NOT long ago we observed that the SADF had, by forcing its way to Cuito Cuanavale, established a new bargaining position for South Africa. It enabled President Botha to offer withdrawal from Angola — rather than withdrawal from Namibia — in return for withdrawal of the Cubans. This military-driven strategy, we also observed, carried very high risks if the Soviet Union and its surrogates decided to play the same game.

Today, it would appear that those fears were justified. The risks have become a reality. If we are to believe our own government — which it is not always easy to do — this country's armed forces may stand at the brink of serious conflict. That would explain Nationalist reports of impending mobilisation of military reserves.

Threadbare

The situation is difficult to judge. Ever since the SADF turned out to be conniving with Louis Nel (behind the back of the Foreign Minister) to run its own foreign policy in Mozambique, the credibility of the officers' corps has been pretty threadbare. This lack of credibility has been reinforced by the false denials of its activities in Angola in 1975, by the substantial politicisation of the army, and by the virtual exclusion of military correspondents from most theatres of activity. To take the statements of the SADF at face value requires, at least, a reckless patriotism.

That said, the consensus of foreign and local statements suggests that Cuban forces are gathering in strength on the Namibian border in a position to threaten the retreat of the South African forces at Cuito Cuanavale. It is a sobering thought that the Cubans now threaten the pumping station at Calueque which, in 1975, became the pretext for South Africa's invasion.

The South African forces at Cuito Cuanavale would seem (if they are where we are led to think they are) to be very exposed. As an Afrikaans newspaper has observed, the disclosure by our own military authorities that hostile aircraft have been violating Namibian air space lends credence to foreign suggestions that our obsolescent air force has been driven from the skies in Angola.

There was a time when South African aircraft ranged with impunity across Angola, and no hostile aircraft dared to come south. That situation would appear, as the Nationalist newspaper suggested, to have been reversed.

This in turn lends credibility to the foreign reports that South African troops on the ground must now operate without sufficient air cover, or only at night. In addition, it is suggested, the troops at Cuito Cuanavale are bogged down in winter mud, unable rapidly to extricate their superb G-5 and G-6 artillery from the exposed position to which they advanced in order to give South African negotiators a bargaining advantage.

To suggest, as our incredible leaders do, that the Cubans are mounting an operation against the Namibian border in defiance of the Soviet Union is surely nonsense. It makes far more sense to suppose that, with the Americans and the Soviets in substantial agreement that the Angolan conflict should be brought to an end, the Americans have given the nod to the Soviets to put some real pressure on South Africa's bargaining position. The message, surely, is that South Africa will not be permitted to "de-link" the independence of Namibia from the withdrawal of the Cuban forces, and that the withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia is as much a precondition of peace as the withdrawal of the Cubans from Angola. The solution, in other words, requires implementation of UN resolution 435 for the independence of Namibia.

Free to go

This line of reasoning is reinforced by the suggestion, spelled out in some detail in foreign reports, that the Americans are creating an alternative base for Savimbi in Zaire, so that Unita will no longer be dependent for survival on South African forces, leaving the latter free to go.

That South Africa could, if it chose to do so, administer a whipping to the Cubans who have ventured so close is beyond doubt; whether it would be wise to do so is another matter. We might be taking on the world.

Mines mostly unaffected but ...

Widespread BUSINESS DAY stayaway in 7 JUNE 1988 major cities

THE mining industry was the notable exception to the widespread stayaway action that hit the main industrial centres of SA yesterday on the first of three days of protest called by the country's two largest trade union federations.

In a survey, the Labour Monitoring Group, which comprises academics at English-language universities, found a 79% absenteeism rate in the PWV area (although it was lower in Pretoria than elsewhere), 67% in the Durban region and 64% in Maritzburg.

Most employers said they were implementing a policy of no work, no pay and no penalty, which the LMG found surprising in the light of numerous reports of "hardline" employer responses.

The LMG said statistics provided by Sats and bus corporations showed at least 1.9 million people did not travel to work yesterday.

"This makes it the biggest stayaway in SA history," a spokesman for the monitoring group told Reuter.

Assocom manpower secretary Vincent Brett said there was enormous re-

Business Day Reporters

gional disparity in stayaway figures. These ranged from 5% to 10% in the Western Cape to 20% in Pretoria and 80% in Johannesburg.

FCI spokesman Gerrie Bezuidenhout reported high absenteeism at members' plants in Port Elizabeth where the motor industry has closed down for the three days, 60% in the Border/East London area, and up to 60% in Maritzburg. Other reports put the absentee rate in PE lower — at 20%.

Seifsa director Brian Angus said the stayaway in the metal industry was extensive in the PWV area, affecting 90% of operations, and moderate in Natal and PE. In many cases workers living in hostels reported for duty while those living some distance from work were unable to obtain transport.

He said a number of companies had applied for interdicts to compel employees to attend work and had decided to take disciplinary action against participants.

The day passed relatively peacefully.

● To Page 2 ➡

Widespread stayaway in major centres *

However, there were reports of a small explosion at Dube station in Soweto after midnight, a burned-out railway coach at Katlehong and a fire that gutted the Umgababa railway station. Nobody was injured.

Putco and Sats spokesmen said passenger loads were running at up to 90% below normal on the Reef, and few minibus taxis were seen on the streets.

Department of Education and Training spokesman Peter Mundell said attendance at Soweto schools by students and teachers was close to nil.

But the mining industry reported minimal absenteeism yesterday. The Chamber of Mines said 9 000 of the 550 000 workers employed by member mines stayed away. These included one goldmine — Gencor's Grootvlei — three diamond mines (which a De Beers

spokesman declined to name), one anti-mony mine and six collieries.

Union sources said the absence of action at the mines could lead to recriminations within Cosatu. The National Union of Mineworkers had been one of the strongest protagonists of the protest plan, against the opposition of some affiliates which argued for a more cautious approach.

Wits University industrial sociology professor Eddie Webster pointed out yesterday miners had never participated in political stayaways in large numbers. He attributed this to the high proportion of foreigners and migrants in the workforce who had not been integrated into urban political issues.

➡ ● From Page 1

EXERTING its jurisdiction over the Anti-Apartheid Act amendments of 1988 (to give the sanctions Bill its proper title), the House Banking Committee last week effectively voted to kill the thing. This is an intriguing, if ultimately meaningless, development.

By a narrow 27-24 margin, the committee adopted a provision, earlier rejected by the Foreign Affairs Committee, that would ban South African products however circuitously they reached American shores.

Which means, for example, that a bar of British-made Cadbury's fruit and nut would be subject to the embargo if it contained South African sugar.

Since molecules do not come with little *vierkleurs*, nor, if they did, would the customs service easily afford the equipment to see them, the idea is patently absurd.

And while the yawning voids of many Congressmen's minds compare not unfavourably with the Grand Canyon, it is impossible to believe that every last man of the 27 who voted for the measure was unaware of the absurdity.

The measure's sponsor, Congressman Bill McCollum, a Florida Republican, wished to smother the Bill with "pseudo-kindness," as one dissenter put it. One must assume that most of those who voted with him, including at least 10 Democrats, were similarly inclined.

This has not been the only attempt to choke Congressman Howard Wolpe et al on their internal contradictions. Congresswoman Olympia Snowe, Republican of Maine, has borrowed their line that to be really effective, sanctions must be applied globally. Her proposal is to condition implementation of the Bill on all America's trading partners adopting the same policy.

Consistency is considered unsportsmanlike conduct by the sanctioneers, who would rather have what, by



□ HAND-IN-HAND ... Dukakis is the front-runner, but Jackson growls behind the scenes

Jackson's got the bite on Dukakis

BUSINESS DAY 7 JUNE 1988

SIMON BARBER in Washington

their own implicit admission, is an ineffective policy, than wait around for the West Germans, the British and the Japanese to follow their lead.

Snowe will keep trying anyway, and there is a chance that her inspiration may yet prevail in one of the three committees still waiting to take a look at the Bill.

Not that it will make the slightest difference. Assuming that it even gets there, the McCollum and Snowe language will die on the floor of the

House and is not, alas, an omen of sanity to come.

It merely illuminates the dark but irrelevant secret that most Congressmen would like the legislation to go away. They have allowed themselves to be dragooned because the fate of SA is nothing beside their own political health. And as Tip O'Neil, the venerable former Speaker of the House, liked to say: "All politics is local."

Spare, then, a moment's pity for Michael Dukakis, the Democratic presidential candidate and — at this point, one would have to say — Ron-

ald Reagan's likelier successor. As a reflection of his views, his latest position paper on SA is a meretricious lie. But he has no choice.

His new paper was prompted by a document entitled "US Foreign Policy and the Black World: Proposals For a New Relationship," which purports to represent the views of an impressive array of black leadership groups: the Congressional black caucus, the Martin Luther King Centre for Non-violent Change, the National

Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, the National Urban League, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and, of course, TransAfrica.

This crew, for which read the Reverend Jesse Jackson, stands between Dukakis and a serene nominating convention like a slightly deranged Rottweiler. Dukakis, as the Democratic candidate, may technically be the creature's owner and best hope, but it is perfectly capable of ripping him up anyway if he does not feed it exactly what it wants.

And what it wants is a promise that it will be given Africa — the southern tip for lunch and the rest as a private play-pen. I mean the latter quite literally, for the document demands that a substantial slice of the US\$3bn the authors wish henceforth to transfer to the continent each year be channelled through contractors selected solely on the basis of race.

"It is well past time for the US to treat Africa equitably in the provision of development assistance. A key step in reversing (the) discriminatory pattern would be to require American minority participation in all aspects of American development assistance programmes.

"Minority Americans have much to contribute to the establishment and development of these programmes. Their common history and experiences would bring increased sensitivity to the planning and implementation of these programmes."

On this demand, at least, Dukakis is silent. But he more than makes up for it on SA. You want Pretoria declared a terrorist state? Fine, I favour the same sanctions against SA that are already in place against North Korea, Iran and Libya. You want the Security Council to do Chapter 7? "My administration will lead the fight."

Now, on the whole, you have to believe that Dukakis is an honourable man. Furthermore, I am quite

convinced that he does not mean a word of this. It is even said that he has a lot of sympathy for the views of Helen Suzman, whom he and his wife, Kitty, have known for some while. In effect, therefore, he is the victim of a shakedown in which he has been forced by Jackson and the rest to be dishonest.

Such dishonesty, sadly, will have consequences for his ability to conduct a coherent policy in the event he is elected. He is, after all, a serious politician running for a very serious political office and foreign governments are under no obligation to do him the favour of seeing through his words in the absence of any hard, countervailing evidence.

If he says, as he does, that he will "immediately" delink Namibian independence from Cuban troop withdrawal, recognise Angola and withdraw US support from Unita, then he must expect the parties concerned to react accordingly.

In particular, he must expect to share the blame if the Namibia/Angola negotiations break down and the September 29 deadline for agreement that Chester Crocker and Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Viktor Adamishin have settled on is not met.

If Pretoria has reason to fear that unprecedented sanctions will be imposed whether or not it grants Namibia independence, there appears — merely from looking at the map — to be no good reason why it should leave the territory.

Likewise, if Angola thinks it has a real chance of winning American recognition and the cessation of US arms supplies to Unita next year for free, why should it make potentially risky concessions now?

Michael Clough, one of the several Democratic Africanists making a pitch to be Dukakis's "Dr Crocker," delivers an explicit warning in the forthcoming issue of foreign affairs that the candidate is wrecking whatever chances there are of an Angolan settlement this year.

Clough also argues, though more carefully, that endorsing the current sanctions Bill is not such a hot idea either if Dukakis hopes to have a deal even half way sensibly with SA in the event he is elected.

Will Dukakis pay any heed? Will it even occur to him that it might be somewhat perverse to promise the abandonment of linkage when every serious player (aside, that is, from Swapo) now views it as fundamental to peace?

No. Like Congress' silent majority, he dare not.

THE STAR - 7 JUNE 1988

The Star Tu

Work grinds to virtual halt at six Transvaal collieries

By Theresa Anders and Adele Baleta

Although gold mines were not affected, a number of the country's largest collieries were hit by absenteeism yesterday.

Six collieries in the Witbank-Middelburg coalfields reported almost 100 percent absenteeism. Many others had partial attendances.

There was only one incidence of violence reported, at Rand Mines' Vandyksdrif section of Douglas Mine.

A worker, Mr Isaac Khundla, lost an eye after being struck by "a rubber stopper" when mine security officials fired on a group of about 60 stick-wielding men trying to prevent workers going on shift.

Mr Khundla is being treated in the Witbank Hospital.

The Anglo American spokesman for the group's gold and uranium division, Mr Michael Spicer, said work continued underground as usual at all mines.

Anglovaal reported full attendance at all mines.

Gencor spokesman Mr Harry Hill said workers at the group's gold mines were at their posts except for the Grootvlei mine, near Springs,

where there was 55 percent absenteeism.

He said two Gencor collieries near Middelburg, Blinkpan and Optimum, reported 90 percent absenteeism.

Rand Mines said there was normal attendance at all group gold mines yesterday.

A spokesman said all collieries were operating with the full staff compliment except for Douglas near Witbank where 50 percent of the workforce were absent.

The spokesman said there was total absenteeism at Vandyksdrif, near Douglas, and Wolwekrans near Witbank except for staffers manning essential services.

Rand Mine employees have been informed that the company would adopt a policy of no work no pay, the spokesman said.

A Goldfields spokesman reported full attendance at all gold mines. He said, however, that there was an 85 percent stayaway at the company's New Clydesdale Colliery at Witbank.

Eskom's public relations officer, Mr Peter Adams, said some power stations in the Transvaal had been hit to a greater or lesser degree.

At two stations, Hendrina and Komati, it is believed there was an almost total stayaway of black staff

East Germany lacks political reformers

BERLIN — Soviet representatives in East Berlin have hinted that Erich Honecker, East Germany's conservative 75-year-old leader, may soon be a candidate for retirement.

Moscow's dilemma, however, is that there is no one in the East German party's 22-member ruling politburo who can even be remotely regarded as a reformer.

Soviet leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev faced a similar predicament in Czechoslovakia with ageing, conservative party leader Mr Gustav Husak, who was replaced last December by younger, equally conservative Mr Milos Jakes. The Czechoslovak party, while lacking a reformist leadership, at least has a programme for economic reform which does not exist in East Germany.

Mr Honecker has staunchly resisted adopting the economic and political reforms launched by Mr Gorbachev. In a recent interview, he noted caustically that no one had a recipe valid for everyone.

East Germany had already carried out extensive reforms and restructuring, he insisted, carefully avoiding the emotive Soviet word, *perestroika*.

Soviet displeasure with Mr Honecker has mounted since last year, but Moscow has refrained from using overt pressure on its most important Warsaw Pact ally.

East German officials argued that their country was in the front line of socialism facing West Germany.

UNCONTROLLABLE SITUATION

They gave a warning that reforms in East Germany could lead to an uncontrollable situation which Russia would be the first to regret.

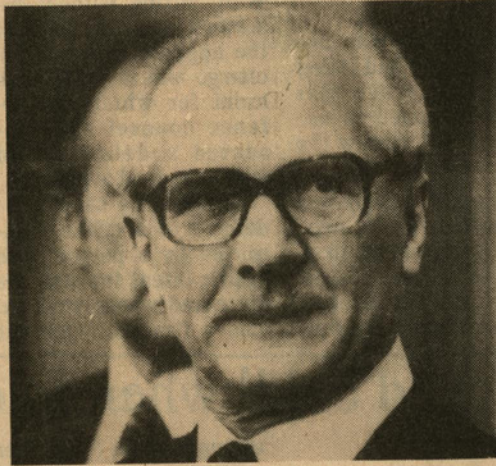
This dire scenario left its mark on senior Soviet policy-makers. Mr Honecker was left alone to advocate even more central planning and tighter political control.

However, Soviet diplomats and correspondents in East Berlin now suggest that Mr Honecker's autocratic rule is wholly out of tune with East Germany's political and economic realities.

East Germans of all ages have deluged the Soviet Embassy with letters calling for Mr Gorbachev's *glasnost* to be applied in East Germany.

The House of Soviet Science and Culture is to satisfy East German citizens' requests for publications about the Soviet reforms at a time when the official East German media is reluctant to comment about developments in the Soviet Union.

Significantly, Soviet economic specialists point



East German leader Mr Eric Honecker ... may soon be a candidate for retirement.

to an alarming slowdown in the East German economy and hint strongly that what is needed is a thorough reform of the economic machine.

The reaction of the East German leadership has been to batten down the ideological hatches. At the same time, East Germany is trying to retain the vital goodwill it has accumulated in Bonn over recent years.

A record number of people from East Germany are expected to be allowed to visit West Germany this year after 1.2 million citizens

were able to travel westwards in 1987.

After long prodding by the West, East Germany is preparing to reduce somewhat the arbitrariness with which it treats citizens wanting to emigrate to West Germany.

In the past, such political concessions by East Germany have always resulted in economic benefits from West Germany. This time, East Germany stands to gain from the expected leasing of Airbus A-310 aircraft to its Interflug airline by a West German-led banking consortium.

Lufthansa airline is to carry out maintenance of the aircraft. A West German plan to build a high-speed rail link between West Berlin and West Germany would improve East Germany's rail network at minimal cost to it.

In a similar vein, a recent private trip to East Germany by Mr Helmut Kohl, West German Chancellor, was designed partly to encourage more West Germans to cross the border and in the process to boost East Germany's economy.

But to Soviet eyes, none of this is of much benefit to Moscow. East Germany is not providing the Soviets with the advanced, high-quality products it requires.

Soviet officials suggest that East Germany's economic growth rate in recent years was heavily doctored and that last year's growth rate was closer to nil than to the 3.6 percent officially reported.

Nearly 80 percent of East Germany's giant industrial combine (groups) are said to have failed to fulfil the plan last year. Only traditional, radical reforms, the Soviets say, can improve East Germany's lagging economic performance.

Soviet diplomats also note disparagingly that a growing number of East Germans visiting West Germany fail to return home.

Without an East German reformer of any stature in sight, Mr Gorbachev finds himself in a quandary which, ironically, is largely of Moscow's own making. Under previous Soviet leaders, only the most conservative party apparatchiks were permitted to enter the East German politburo. — The Financial Times.

BBC pressured on Mandela concert

LONDON: The BBC faced mounting pressure last night to scrap its broadcast of Saturday's Wembley pop concert marking Nelson Mandela's 70th birthday.

Critics claim it should not be screened because it is too political.

The 10-hour tribute to

Foreign Service

the jailed South African leader will go out live on BBC-2 from 12.15pm to 10.30pm. It will be beamed to more than 50 countries and features the strongest line-up of stars since Bob Geldof's

Live Aid concert.

The show, a 72 000 ticket sell-out, is being staged by the Anti-Apartheid Movement and Tory MP John Carlisle believes the BBC is breaching its charter by screening "an overly political event". He may apply for a High Court injunction to halt it.

"The BBC is treading on very dangerous ground. The Anti-Apartheid Movement must be rubbing its hands at the thought of all this publicity. I find this appalling and I hope the BBC will have the sense to withdraw before legal action is necessary."

He told the Commons that the BBC's involvement was "providing oxygen to a terrorist organisation".

The BBC says, however, it will "take the greatest care to ensure that viewers and listeners can enjoy the broadcast without political intrusion".

Elephant House, an independent company promoting the show, said no political speeches were planned, but a recorded message from Mandela's wife, Winnie, might be played.