

Scrap Afrikaans call

Staff Reporter

THE newspaper Rapport has called on the Government to scrap regulations which enforce Afrikaans as a teaching medium for young urban Africans.

In an editorial the newspaper said: "This week's events are in many respects more tragic than those of Sharpeville — because they began with children and because the language of Afrikaners led to them."

There were indications, said the editorial, that as with Sharpeville, "we should have seen the fires burning from far off".

"It is now time to show that we are not so relentless as people think

and that we can see the other man's point of view.

"Scrap those language regulations in Bantu Education . . . What Afrikaner wants to fight with Blacks because they do not want to use his language? . . . We do not want blood on our language."

SOWETO LESSON

● The London Times said yesterday that the lesson of Soweto might yet be learnt by those who most need to learn it — the White South African electorate.

In an editorial on the riots in South Africa, the newspaper said: "Mr Vorster's favourite line on the dangers to the West of communism in Africa will invite the comment

that Soweto is Mr Vorster's own unique gift to communism."

● "South Africa on the brink", rang out the banner headline in yesterday's Daily Mail as Britain's nine national dailies devoted much of their space to news concerning the Republic.

After the third day of violence in the Black townships, five leading newspapers used the report of the disturbances as their main story.

● The Sunday Express said: "Nothing can diminish the revulsion over the shooting in South Africa of men, women and even children so young that they have barely left their mothers' arms, or the anger that the tragedy

should have had its origin in a petty, pointless policy.

"It was madness to force Black children to learn Afrikaans, a language that has no importance and no meaning except as a symbol of an arrogant, ruling minority.

"Yet no one should imagine that the rioting was spontaneous. It was clearly timed to sabotage Mr Vorster's meeting with the US Secretary of State, Dr Kissinger."

● The Sunday Times yesterday published on its editorial page an account of life in Soweto written by a Black reporter on the Rand Daily Mail, Mr Nat Diseko, who lives there with his family. — Sapa-Reuters-AP.

SA condemned at UN

NEW YORK. — The Security Council on Saturday strongly condemned the South African Government for "massive violence against and killings of" Africans stemming from last week's wave of protest demonstrations.

The resolution was adopted by consensus, without a formal vote.

The draft also said that the policy of apartheid was a "crime against the conscience and dignity of mankind and seriously disturbs international peace and security".

It recognized the "legitimacy of the struggle of the South African people" for the

elimination of apartheid and racial discrimination.

South Africa was called on "urgently to end violence against the African people, and take urgent steps to eliminate apartheid and racial discrimination".

In its first operative paragraph, the resolution strongly condemns the South African Government for its "resort to massive violence against and killings of the African people including school children and students and others opposing racial discrimination".

Adoption of the resolution climaxed an urgent session of the 15-nation council, summoned on Friday night.

The South African Ambassador, Mr Roelof "Pik"

Botha quickly dissociated his Government from the resolution and said that South Africa would not be "held hostage to the council or accept externally-imposed restrictions on its freedom of domestic administration".

He characterized the council debate as full of "far-fetched, emotional and unsubstantial allegations".

The United States representative, Mr Albert Sherer, said his delegation joined in the consensus "because of our strong conviction that apartheid is wrong and that tragedy can only follow if South Africa persists in its racial policies." — Sapa-Reuters