

Soweto school violence

Staff Reporter

A POLICE car was set on fire by demonstrating students in Soweto yesterday. Three other cars belonging to the police were damaged.

Trouble started after two policemen, a White and a Black, arrived in a Volkswagen at the Naledi High School.

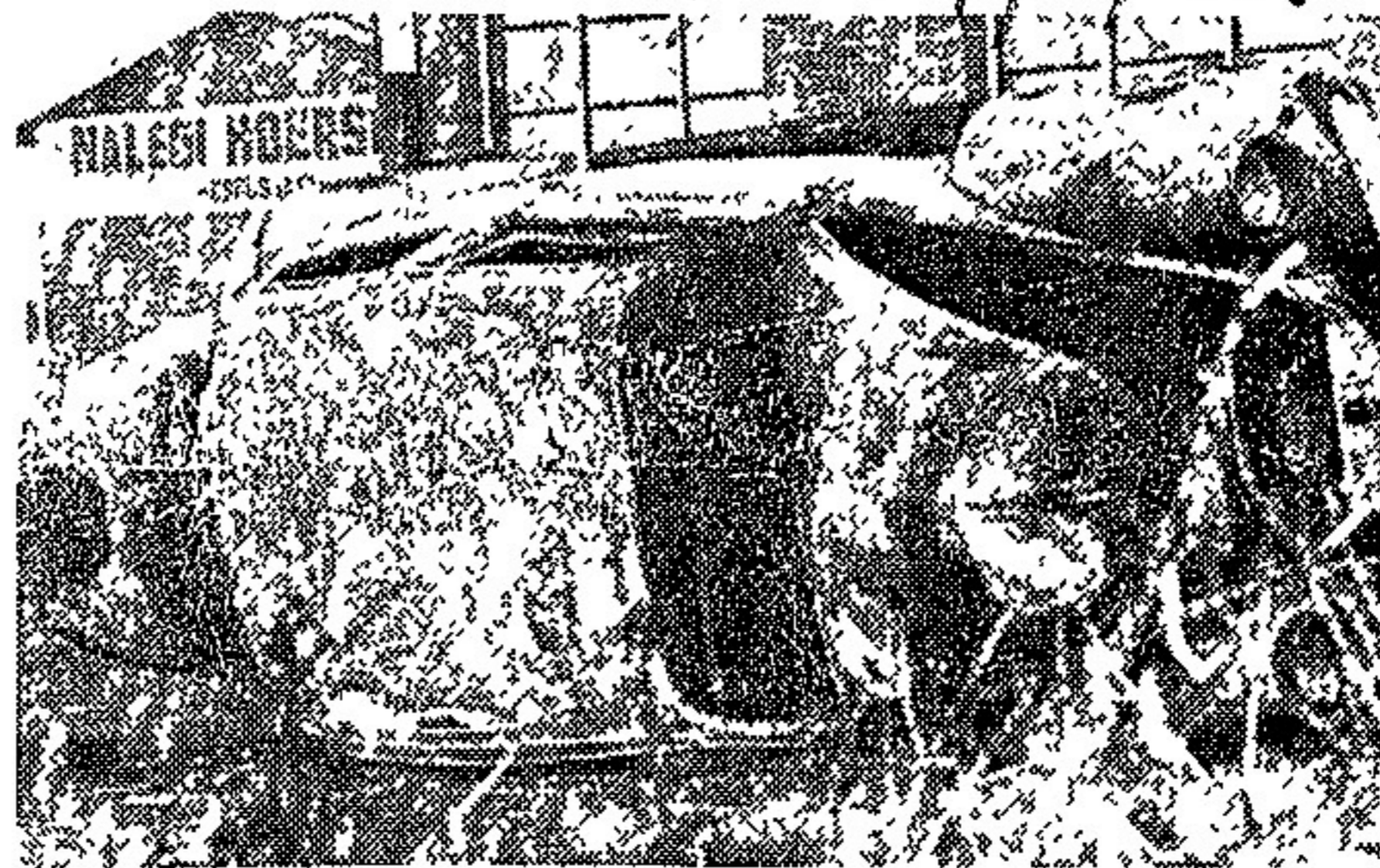
Major C. J. Viljoen, commander at Jabulani police Station, said they went to the school to "make some inquiries about some matter". There was some misunderstanding while they were there and their car was set alight.

About 30 Black and White policemen and five police dogs were rushed to the school.

They used tear gas to disperse the students after they were stoned.

The windows of the principal's office were broken and the telephone wires were cut.

One of the policemen was injured and taken to Baragwanath Hospital. Major Viljoen said a student



The burnt-out police car.

who was slightly injured was also taken to hospital in a state of shock.

The police left the school without making arrests. Major Viljoen said the students will regret their action when they go back today and see the damage they have done.

In another incident, 15 boys from Thulasizwe Higher Primary School, also in Soweto, were taken to Orlando Police Station yesterday for questioning

after allegedly disrupting classes at the school.

The boys were apparently unhappy when other pupils decided to end the strike over the use of Afrikaans as a medium of instruction for mathematics and social studies.

The headmaster, Mr L. Mbuli, said he was forced to call the police when some of the boys dragged pupils out of classes and caused "confusion and commotion".