



2000 say:

Release Mandela

IN THE first mass gathering to be held in the Western Cape since the state of emergency was lifted, more than 2 000 people packed the Claremont Civic Centre on Tuesday February 11 to call for the release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners.

The meeting was organised by the Claremont and Observatory area committees of the United Democratic Front.

The speakers and audience all called for the release of the imprisoned African National Congress leaders like Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Ahmed Kathrada and all other political prisoners. They also demanded the unbanning of the ANC which was banned in 1960.

The meeting took place at a time when the call for the release of Nelson Mandela and all political prisoners becomes louder and louder.

A former UDF official, Cheryl Carolus, told the meeting that the struggle of the people had put enormous pressure on the Botha Government.

"Botha has to release Mandela. He has no choice," she said.

"Mandela is no longer a prisoner of Botha. Instead Mandela has become Botha's jailer," she said to loud applause.

Mrs Mary Burton of the Black Sash told the meeting that in order for a peaceful and just future to come about, leaders who have massive support must be set free.

"We believe that Nelson Mandela will be set free because the country needs him. We are sure that the Government has been made acutely aware of this by everything that has happened

COSATU rally

Sunday (March 23)

University of the

Western Cape 1.30 pm

"Basebenzi yinzani kumnyhadala wokusekwa kuka COSATU nge-Cawe umhla we 23 ka March e University of Western Cape!!

'Passes must go!'

NGOMHLA we 21 ka March ngo 1960 amapolisa agwinta abantu abayi 69 kwizitalato zase Sharpville. Babebonakalisa inkcaso yabo kwimithetho yamapasi.

Nge 9th ka August kulo nyaka siyakube sikhumbula umhla wama-shumi amathathu amakhosikazi akulo lonke eli lase Mzantsi Arika amatsha aya ePitoli kwi Union Building. Kwaye kungunyaka ka 1956 mhla aye ekwaya imithetho yamapasi.

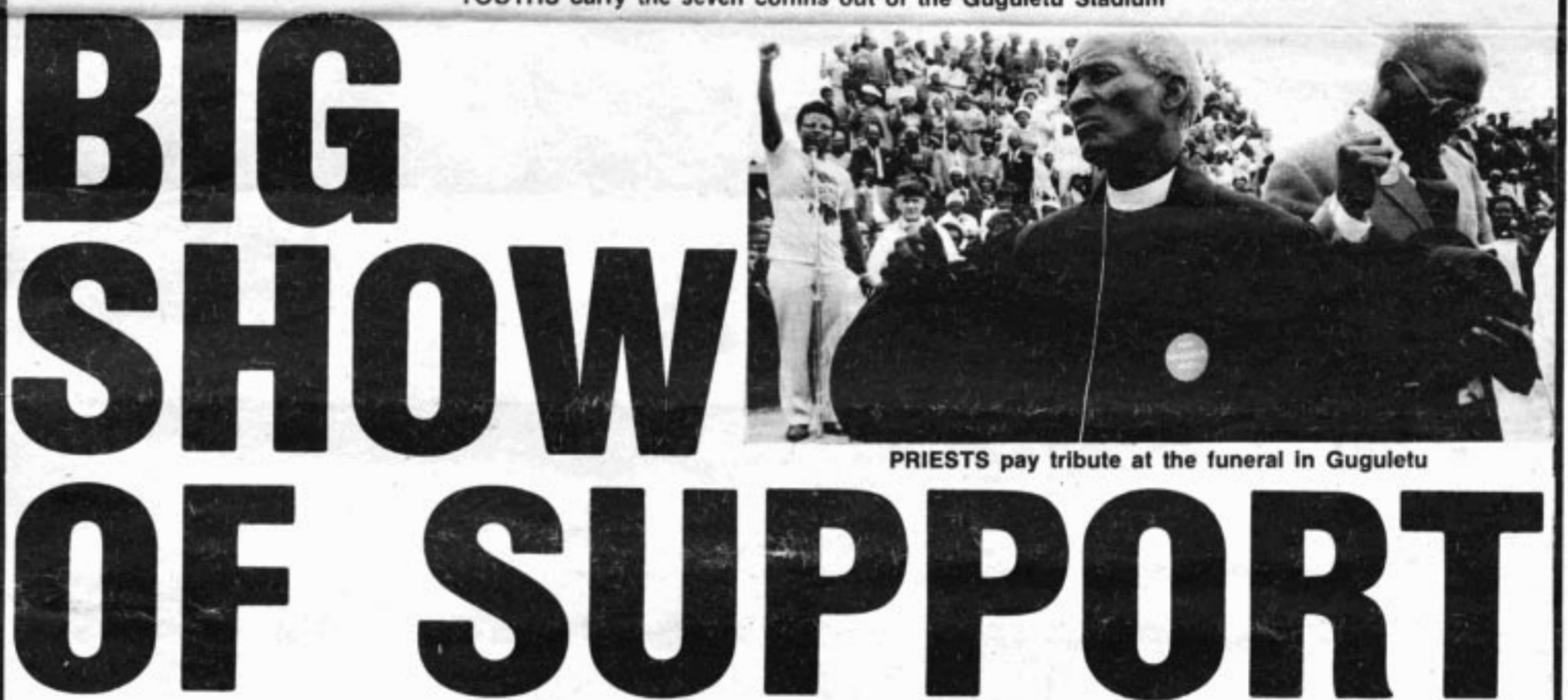
Kude kube ngoku amaasi asekhona. Imibutho emininzi enjenge UDF, iANC neCOSATU isemfazweni yokulwa imithetho yamapasi.

U Grassroots ujongene nale mithetho nendlela abantu abangayifuni ngayo lemithetho yengcinezelo.

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YOUTHS carry the seven coffins out of the Guguletu Stadium



PRIESTS pay tribute at the funeral in Guguletu

BIG SHOW OF SUPPORT

Thousands display ANC colours as seven buried

IN a massive show of support for the African National Congress, thousands and thousands of people took to the streets of Guguletu on Saturday February 15, many displaying the black, green and gold colours of the banned organisation.

The people from the African townships had been joined by many more from all over the country who had come to pay their final respects to seven young men killed in a shootout with police on March 3.

Those who had died were: MANDLA SIMON MXINWA; ZOLA ALFRED SWELANI; GODFREY JABULANI MIYA;

CHRISTOPHER PIET; THEMBA MLIFI; ZABONKE JOHN KONILE and THEMBA MADIYANA.

At about 11 o'clock on the Saturday of the funeral, the seven coffins draped in the colours of the ANC were carried into the Guguletu stadium.

The thousands of people who had already filled the stadium rose and stood with clenched fists as a mark of respect to those who had fallen.

A restriction order forbidding any political content in speeches and prohibiting the display of banners was completely ignored.

Black, green and gold

Brightly-coloured banners adorned the stadium and speaker after speaker criticised the Government.

By 2 p.m., many more people had converged on the stadium and the crowd swelled to about 25 000 people. When the seven coffins were carried out of the stadium shortly after 3 p.m., thousands more joined in the long walk to Guguletu cemetery.

Many observers estimated that between 30 000 and 40 000 people were part of the funeral procession.

According to reports, the police claimed that there was never more than 3 000 people at the funeral at any point in time.

At the head of the procession, a black, green and gold banner was held aloft, followed by the bright-red banner of the South African Communist Party.

ANC stickers, buttons, placards, uniforms and labels were everywhere to be seen. Many wore the khaki uniforms which were first worn by the

ANC volunteers during the defiance campaign in the early fifties.

Shouts of VIVA ANC, VIVA TAMBO could be heard throughout the day.

Police maintained a low profile for most of the day, and allowed people from outside Guguletu to enter the township. Hundreds of people from the so-called white and coloured areas had also come to pay tribute.

Questions unanswered

But even after the men were buried, there were still many questions left unanswered.

After the killings, witnesses had made shocking allegations to a local newspaper. One claimed that a man with his hands in the air was shot. Another alleged that a badly wounded man had been shot through the head and finished off as he lay dying.



BUILDING THE NEW SCHOOL



Students look ahead at historic Education Conference

Student reports on problems at school

WE MUST DEFEND OUR GAINS

THE conference took a number of resolutions on different issues affecting students. Some of the main resolutions were:

STUDENT ORGANISATION

The conference noted that democratic SRC's and other organisations were not allowed at many schools. Other SRC's are facing a number of problems, such as participation from students, harassment and victimisation from some principals and teachers, and interference from security guards at some schools.

It was felt that the "gains of last year (eg. the right to SRCs) should be preserved, defended, consolidated and defended." The conference therefore recommended that all students and student organisations

- * build student organisation at schools, and to engage in different activities (cultural, educational, sporting etc) to win student participation.
- * Hold regular awareness programmes
- * Build regional and national student structures, particularly the Western Cape Students Council, and engage in joint campaigns with other schools.

STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY

It was felt that "the tremendous achievements of last year show the ability of students to democratically decide on issues that affect them." However, the struggle for democratic education is "part of the general movement to build a non-racial and democratic society."

It was therefore suggested that while students must take decisions of their education struggle itself, they need to build links with progressive community and teacher organisations, and trade unions, and to take part in community and worker campaigns and struggles.

NATIONAL CONSULTATIVE CONFERENCE (NCC)

The conference believed that the NCC held by the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee in December 1985 was a "significant event in the history of resistance to Bantu and gutter education, and requires our full support and participation in the future."

It was recommended that the resolutions of the NCC and the demands linked to the March 31st deadline should be fully discussed, so that Western Cape student organisations can fully participate in the next NCC in March.

THE students of Cape Town are not wasting time. The day after the State of Emergency was called off in Cape Town, the UDF hosted one of the most significant student conferences in our history.

The conference, held on March 8 in Cape Town, was called to discuss the situation in the schools, and to decide how the community can help the student struggles. Nearly 300 students, parents and

teachers from over 60 schools in the Cape Province came together to share their ideas and experiences.

The conference was marked by a spirit of confidence and enthusiasm, as students celebrated being able to come together for the first time. But along with the freedom songs and slogans, was a careful and critical look at the many problems facing students, and at the

strengths and weaknesses of student, teacher and parents' organisations.

There were many examples of student solidarity. Students described the situation in Bonteheuwel, where three schools had boycotted classed after 41 students were arrested at an Interschools meeting last month. The students were released within two days - clearly showing the

powers of united action.

Everyone agreed that the most important task is to build strong student organisation at school. "Our biggest victory last year was showing that students have the right to decide

on their own education and on their future. We must defend this right by building strong SRC's, and ensuring that ALL students take part in deciding what is best for them" a dele-

gate said.

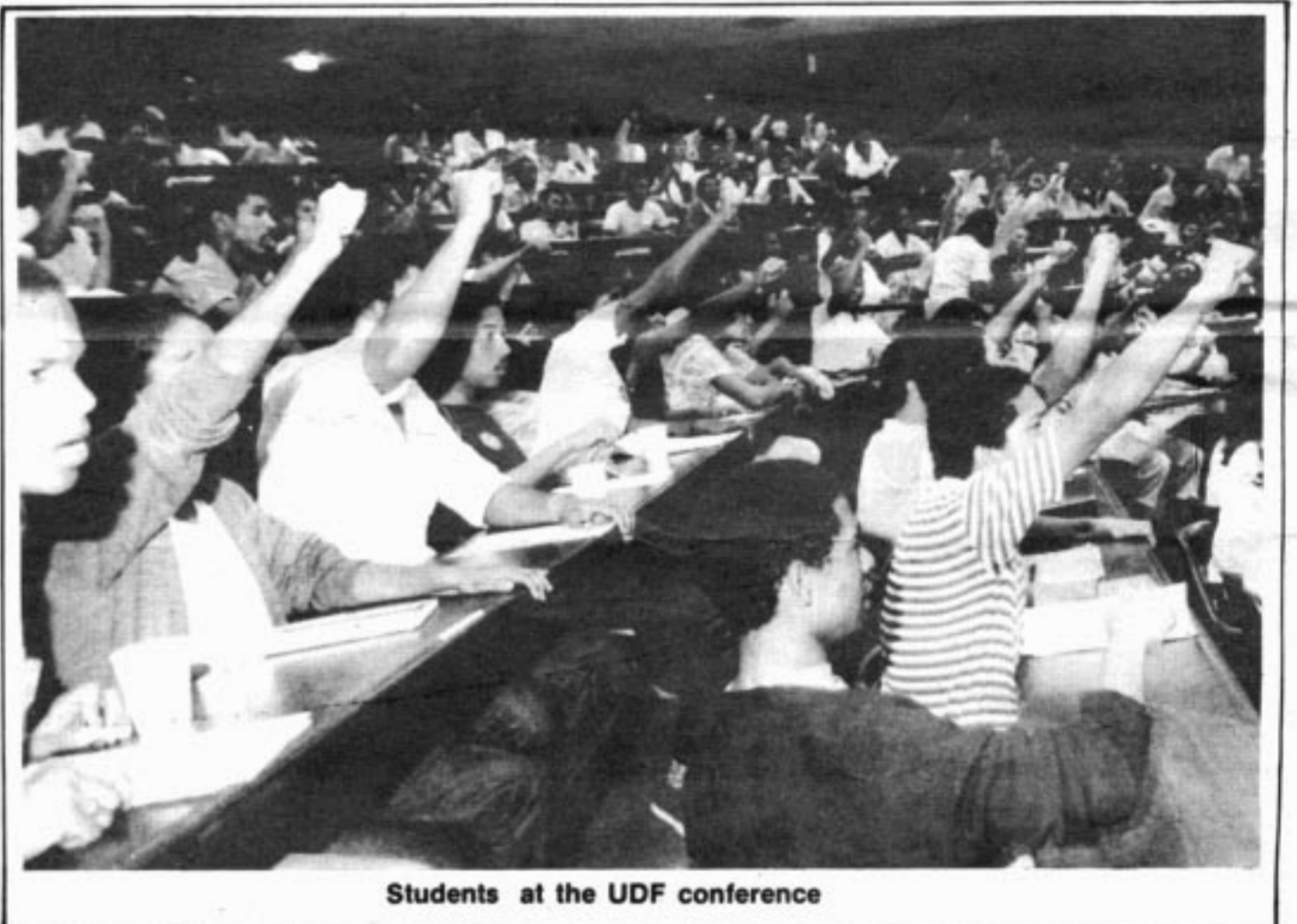
"The conference was very important in building on the gains made by the National Consultative Conference in December last year" a UDF organiser said. "Students had the

chance to find out about problems and issues in other schools. This has helped give us a sense of direction, and to lay the basis for united action in the schools in the future."

WHO WAS THERE

DELEGATES from the following organisations attended the conference:

United Democratic Front; Cape Youth Congress; Western Cape Students Council; AZASO; Atlantis Residents Association; Western Cape Teachers' Union; Democratic Teachers' Union; NEUSA; Atlantis Youth Congress; Athlone Student Action Committee; United Women's Organisation; Western Cape Civics Association; Joint SRC's; Parents' Action Committee; Mossel Bay Youth Congress; Bongoletu Civic Association; Young Christian Students' (YCS); Thornhill Youth Movement; Steenberg/Retreat Housing Action Committee; University of the Western Cape SRC; Westridge Action Committee; Bonteheuwel Interschools Committee; Kewtown Youth Movement; Black Sash; Congress of South African Trade Unions; National Union of South African Students; MIRGE; Advice Office Forum; Woodlands Action Committee; Education for the Aware South Africa; Pupils Awareness Action Group; Peninsula Technikon SRC; Hout Bay Action Committee. In addition, there were students from 66 white, African and coloured schools in Cape Town, Paarl, Worcester, Swellendam, Riversdale, Oudtshoorn, Mossel Bay, Knysna, Heidelberg, Beaufort West and Atlantis.



Students at the UDF conference

Work for the future

"YOUNG people have always enriched the struggle. We have seen this with the ANC youth league in the fifties, in the struggles of 1976 and 1980, and again in 1985 when students threw their weight behind the demand for a free South Africa."

This was the message of the opening speech of the conference by Cheryl Carolus. She described the conference as "marking the

most important phase in our history... We are now building people's power, and preparing our people for a new society where the people shall govern. It is always easy to break something down - but now we must build a new South Africa."

Cheryl said that our education is the product of an apartheid society, and the struggle for a better education was

part of the struggle for a new society. "We need to resist our present education system, and seek to replace it with a new one".

"We must not see the decision to go back to school as a defeat. Rather it is giving us the chance to build our organisations, and take forward the struggle for a free education in a free society. What is vitally important is that the students decide on

how best they can further their struggle.

"We must jealously guard the rights we have won, such as the right of student organisations to meet and organise. We must not hesitate to take action to defend these rights."

Cheryl called on students not to let the government divide the education struggle. She said that students must be aware of education struggles in other areas, and must put into practice the slogan "An injury to one is an injury to all".

She also called on students to take up the Education Charter Campaign launched by AZASO. "Let us use this campaign to consult every single student, and to draw up guidelines for a people's education for people's power!"

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OUTSHOORN TWO FREE

Not guilty of subversion

SOUTH AFRICA's first subversion trial arising out of the 1985 consumer boycott which shook this country, ended dramatically on February 19 when Humphrey Joseph, 29, and 22-year-old Louis Noemdoe were both acquitted.

There was hushed silence in the packed courtroom when at the start of the third day of the trial, the state suddenly closed its case.

In a short address to the court, advocate A M "Dullah" Omar asked for the discharge of the accused at that stage of the case. He argued that there had been absolutely no evidence linking the two men to the charge.

He said that participation in a consumer boycott was no crime. The public prosecutor then stood up and said: "The state has no submissions to make, your worship."

With that the trial

came to an end. And Humphrey Joseph, the full-time organiser of the South Cape Community newsletter Saamstaan and its treasurer Louis Noemdoe ended five months in custody, two of which they were held under section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

The Magistrate, Mr Le Grange said: "There is no evidence against you. It was clear that the state witnesses bent over backwards to try and protect you."

A wildly excited crowd of family, friends and supporters welcomed Humphrey and Louis when they left the courtroom.

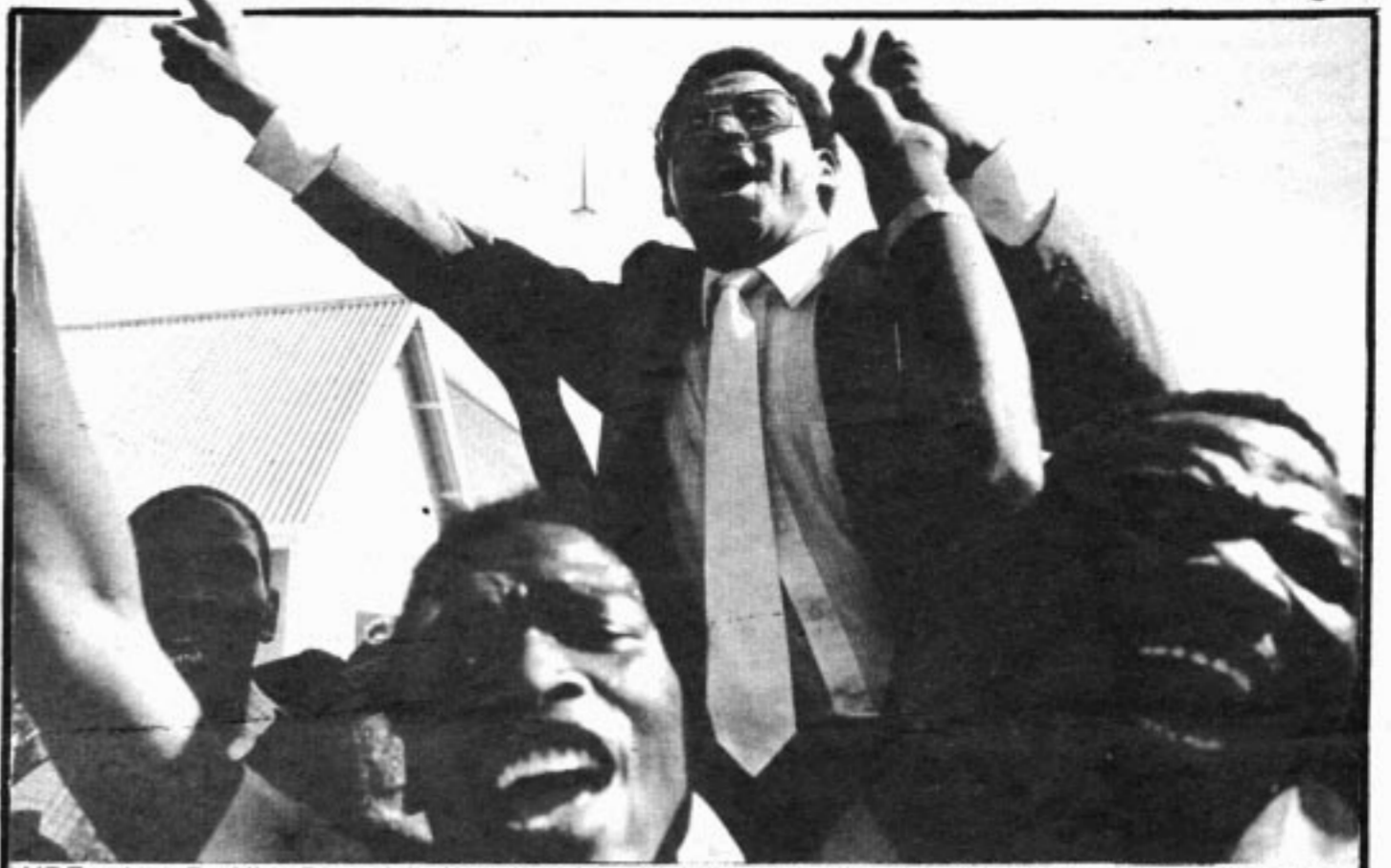
Freedom songs were sung, clenched fists were seen everywhere and cars sounded hooters as news of the acquittal spread rapidly through the townships of Bridgton and Bhongolethu.

Humphrey and Louis told Grassroots afterwards that they were amazed to see the extent of community support throughout their period in custody and especially during the trial.

Humphrey and Louis told Grassroots afterwards that they were amazed to see the extent of community support throughout their period in custody and especially during the trial.

Humphrey said: "The people have clearly shown the Government that they stand by us. Personally, I am now more determined that ever to continue the struggle for justice in our land."

The charge against Humphrey and Louis arises out of a consumer boycott of white-owned shops and certain black shops in Oudtshoorn from August 1 to September 1 last year.



UDF patron Dr Allan Boesak is lifted shoulder-high by supporters in Middelburg recently. They were attending a memorial service for Matthew Goniwe, Sparrow Mkhonto, Sicelo Mhulawuli and Fort Calata, the four Eastern Cape leaders who were killed mysteriously last year after they had gone missing. Tribute was also paid at the service for Molly Blackburn and Brian Bishop who were killed in a road accident at the end of last year.

Carevia settles with Cape

MRS CAREVIA DAVIS, the chairperson of the Clothing Workers' Union, has been paid out R2 500 after taking Cape Underwear to court.

She was dismissed on August 18 last year for a cutting mistake. She decided not to take things lying down and took the bosses to Industrial Court.

Now she has received

her money for the time she has been out of work and also a letter of reference to help her find a new job.

She had worked at Cape Underwear for 16 years. She is a lay maker.

On the first day of the court hearing at the beginning of this month, they went to inspect the cutting room at Cape Underwear to see

how it was possible to make mistakes.

On the second day, they reached agreement. The Cape Underwear bosses said they will not stand in her way when she tries to find work.

Clowu said afterwards that they thought it best that a settlement was reached in Mrs Davis' case.

"For so long, cloth-

ing workers have accepted being retrenched, harassed and dismissed by the bosses without good reason. So many clothing workers are unemployed or are unhappy in their work because they did not know they could take the bosses to the Industrial Court. For so long, workers have not had a strong union to fight for their rights.

"Now, workers are prepared to fight to keep their jobs and to demand what is rightfully theirs.

"Clowu salutes Mrs Davis' determination. We salute the example she has set for thousands of clothign workers. A victory to one is a victory to all."

Mrs Davis, 42, has worked in the Clothing industry for 27 years, since she was 15. She is a lay maker.

She became involved in Clowu in 1983 when workers at Cape Underwear went on strike for higher wages.

She became Clowu chairperson at its 1985 AGM.



A WOMAN stands outside what was once her home in Lawaalkamp, George. Her shack was destroyed by a fire allegedly after teargas was fired into her house. Many people have lost their lives in George recently.

'These houses are bad'

"BRING down our rents!"

This was the call of about 800 women from Khayelitsha when they marched to the Western Cape Development Board offices recently.

More than a third of the people in Khayelitsha have not paid rent for three months. They are protesting at the high rents they have to pay for small houses.

Houses in Khayelitsha have only one room, a kitchen and a toilet - no matter how big the family is.

Khayelitsha residents pay more rent

than some people in Guguletu, Langa and Nyanga.

"We cannot pay so much rent for a hokkie. We can't even put all our furniture in the house," said one woman.

The residents complained that the houses are beginning to fall apart. Sand and rain-water came through cracks in the wall, they said.

They are also upset that the Board wants them to buy their houses. A Board spokesman told the women they must buy their

houses if they are upset at the high rent and the small houses. They can then build on to their houses.

"These houses are not worth the money they want. They want R8 000. Also, where must we find so much money," said one of the women.

The women complained that there were as many as 13 people staying in some houses. They blamed the lack of privacy for the high divorce rate in Khayelitsha.

A mother's trauma

SHAHIED DOMINGO is 18 years old. He is one of hundreds of young people who have been charged with public violence after last year's unrest. He was sentenced to 12 months in prison.

His mother spoke to Grassroots of the trauma the family is going through.

"My son, Shahied, was arrested on October 4 last year and charged with public violence. He appeared in Wynberg Court on December 9 and was sentenced to 12 months in prison.

"Shahied is innocent. He was never near the scene of the crime. The court never gave him a chance to prove his innocence.

"Over the past few months, I lost a lot of weight. I am worried

because he was put into the same cell as the ordinary criminals.

"He must sit through his whole sentence and cannot get parole like they do.

"This is what I cannot accept. The government has punished our children very heavily. Every night I pray for his release," she said.

Mrs Domingo is one of the many mothers who must go through the trauma.

In Bongoletu, Oudtshoorn, students received sentences of up to ten years for public violence. It has increased people's anger and frustrations.

The Advice Office Forum's Crisis Centre has now handled up to 1100 cases.

They organise meetings where parents of students on trial can come together regularly.

"We want to assist lawyers with their heavy workload. These meetings are important. Parents and students can help each other to be strong and solve problems collectively," said a volunteer at the office in Hanover Park.

Groups of parents and students have met in Grassy Park, Laverder Hill and Woodstock.

In Hanover Park, the advice office workers have already held three meetings with parents.

Lawyers were present to explain court procedures, one's rights regarding statements and other legal matters.

They have also called in the help of a psychologist.

Anyone who needs help with unrest-related cases can contact the crisis centre at 63 72898.

The right to strike

WORKERS at the University of Cape Town can now strike without fear of losing their jobs.

This is said in an agreement signed this month between the university authorities and the UCT Workers' Committee.

Workers would not be dismissed if they went on strike after the agreed dispute procedures had been followed.

This is the first such agreement in South Africa. Normally, when workers go on strike the bosses can fire them.

The UCT agreement also states that the workers will be allowed four working hours off on May 1 to celebrate International Labour Day (May Day) with union educational activities.

A worker spokesman said the agreement was an "historic achievement for all workers, not only those at UCT".

It represented the emergence of a new worker power on campus, he said.

It marked a major step forward for labour relations in South Africa. In South Africa, labour relations were based on strikes being seen as criminal, but in many other countries the right to strike was guaranteed by law.

The agreement also states that the chairperson of the Shop Stewards Council can have one day a week on union business with full pay.

The agreement covers about 600 workers in all departments on the campus.

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grassroots Comment

So what?

MUCH has been made about the lifting of the state of emergency, but are things back to normal? Definitely not. The streets are still very active in some townships and the police still have powers to detain people.

Release Oscar

OSCAR MPETHA is 75, sick and in jail. He is serving a five year sentence for terrorism, arising from the unrest in Crossroads in 1980. Oscar Mpetha is a past president of the UDF and was a Cape president of the ANC in the early 80's.

Tribute to Kraatz

PASTOR Gottfried Kraatz has been forced out of this country by the government. We pay tribute to Pastor Kraatz for the contribution he made to the freedom struggle in the five years he spent in South Africa.

THE HATED DOMPAS!



Old man forced out of the city by pass laws

EVERY year hundreds of thousands of people are arrested under pass offences. However, not everyone is charged for not having a pass book. Thousands are charged for breaking the Ayler control laws.

Since 1922 it has been government policy that... 'the native should only be allowed to enter the urban areas, which are essentially the white man's creation, when he is willing to enter and submit to the needs of the white man...

What the Pass means for us . . .



Women arrested on midnight Pass raid

'TO carry a pass, or a 'dompas' as we call it. Let me tell you what it means. It means having to carry it all day, all night with you. It means police and BAAB stopping you any time in the streets, demanding to see it.



Women, struggling for shelter after their shacks were demolished in Crossroads



Workers desperately present their passes to a possible employer



Migrant workers in single men's hostel

Burning anger, burning passes

24 years ago on March 21 1960, thousands of people gathered at the police stations in various townships - Swartbos, Vanderbijl Park, Nyanga, Wynberg and Langa - throughout South Africa.



Rows of coffins at the funeral of Sharpeville victims

including Chief Luthuli of the ANC, burnt their passes. For a short time the government was forced to suspend the pass laws.

2,000 women marched to the Union Building in Pretoria in protest against the extension of passes to women and pass raids. In Wynburg, passes that were handed to women were burnt. Many women were arrested for this.

We will go to jail first!

ONE of the strongest resistance to passes was shown in 1957 by the women of Zeerust, a town in the Northern Transvaal. The mobile pass unit arrived in Zeerust on April Fool's Day 1957.



Annie Silings refused to carry a pass for whole life

passes. These are the reasons the women gave for refusing passes. 'We do not want these things... We want no part of them. Not the covers or the pictures or the paper. They call this thing the Abolition of People. We do not think our men want to be abolished.

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LETTERS

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ASHTON SE VETKATTE

Our teachers are not pawns

THE Department of "Education and Culture" can expect serious action if there is any further victimisation of progressive teachers.

We, the students of Belgravia High, will not allow our teachers to be moved around like pawns on a chess board.

We condemn the recent move of the Department to call dismissed and suspended teachers to face a board of inquiry. We will support our progressive teachers at all costs.

We also salute the Bonteheuwel (BISCO) schools who were victorious in their struggle for the release of the 40 Bisco students from detention.

We demand the immediate lifting of the state of emergency and the release of all political prisoners and detainees.

BELGRAVIA HIGH SCHOOL SRC.

EK IS baie hartseer met Ashton se dinge.

Die kinders het in November geboikot. Dit was net een dag. Die community council is nou teen die helfte mense wat vir hulle gesteem het.

Hulle het nou 'n Inkatha gestig om mense in die nag te slaan. Bedags werk hulle in die fabriek, snags patrolleer hulle die Zolani. Hulle werk saam met die polisie. Hulle loop saam met die polisie as hulle bang is vir jou. Hulle sê vir die polisie, dan vat die polisie vir jou.

Daar is geld wat die government gegee het vir die werkloosheid. Hulle deel dit onder mekaar. Hulle sê dis vir

hulle swaar werk wat hulle in die nag doen. Elkeen kry 'n salaris van R50 'n week.

Hier is 'n kontrak wat die huise bou vir die mense. Hulle het 'n besluit geneem vir die mense dat die kontrak net R20 'n week moet betaal en hy moet net met Ashton se mense werk, sodat Ashton se mense kan sien die council sorg vir hulle dat hulle nie sonder werk bly nie.

Kyk nou mooi, Grassroots. Die vetkatte sorg vir hulle self. Hulle kry twee salarisse 'n week.

Hulle kry R50 vir die rondry in die nag, en nog by die fabriek waar hulle werk.

Die mense moet vir hulle breek vir net R20 'n week. Dis tranegeld.

Hulle het ook vergeet dat Jesus sien alles wat hulle maak. Ek is hartseer. Die geld wat hulle neem sal vir hulle niks doen nie.

Dan wil hulle nog by die preekstoel gaan sit. Wie wil vir hulle luister. Die leuenaars. Die dag kom vir hulle.

Hulle het nou aansoek gemaak om permanent Inkatha te wees, sodat hulle per maand kan pay.

Dankie
EDDIE MKWETO
Ashton

Watch out, principals

PRINCIPALS and teachers who are guilty of corporal punishment, abuse and victimisation of students in the Athlone area can expect serious action from the Athlone Education Crisis Committee (AECC), consisting of PISAs, ASEC and other progressive organisations in the area.

Parents are saying that their children are sent to school to be taught and not tortured. We are aware of principals forcing students to clean the school, scrub and wash floors as a form of punishment.

Students are sworn at, verbally abused, smacked, pinched and caned by some teachers.

Furthermore, parents are aware that principals are working closely with the police

to "maintain order". Students who are SRC members are victimised by principals and teachers. They receive threatening phone calls and threats of suspension and expulsion.

Parents are saying that they will stop this and are prepared to defend their children.

They are insisting that:

1. SRC's be allowed to function at schools.
2. No victimisation and corporal punishment be allowed at schools.
3. Security guards (Carter's spies) be removed immediately from schools.
4. Principals stop acting in a dictatorial and heavy-handed manner.

It is in these times that our enemies emerge more openly and side with the oppressors and exploiters. The AECC calls upon all teachers and principals to openly show on whose side they are on.

The AECC salutes the students and parents who fought for the release of the 40 BISCO students.

We call for the release of all detainees and political prisoners, namely Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada, Andrew Mlangeni, Raymond Mhlaba, Govan Mbeki, Jephtha Masemola, John Nkosi and others.
ATHLONE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Release all our leaders

THE Release Mandela Committee (Western Cape Region) calls for the unconditional release of all political prisoners.

We note with concern the conditions put forward by the State President for the release of Nelson Mandela, such as a cooling off period" elsewhere in this divided land, and renouncing violence.

Whereas Botha talks of Mandela renouncing violence, we believe that the violence of the oppressed and exploited people is bred by the violence of the ruling class, expressed through army and police actions in our townships, against people struggling for a just cause.

Mandela's actions are no exception to those sacrificing their lives for a true non-racial society based on the interests of the

majority of the people in South Africa.

If the Botha/Malan regime is sincere about its "reforms" in no way should it put as a condition that Mandela should "cool off" in a foreign country. This would be the same as influx control that destroys families by separating husbands from their wives as well as children from beloved fathers.

We believe that the release of Nelson Mandela should be a sign of moving away from verkramptheid of the ruling apartheid regime, hence this should include the release of all political prisoners, the return of all those in exile as they have a legitimate right to be present in deciding the future of our country.

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Sisulu played vital role in changing ANC

WALTER MAX SISULU was a founder of the African National Congress Youth League and secretary-general of the ANC from 1949 to 1954. He was one of the most important leaders of the ANC in the years when it grew from a small organisation into a powerful mass movement.

Sisulu was born in 1912 in the Engcobo district of the Transkei. Because of white domination and oppression, as a youth, Sisulu grew up with a strong hatred of whites.

In 1929, he left home to take up a job as a dairy worker in Johannesburg. Afterwards, he worked as a gold miner and then as a "kitchen boy" in East London. In the 1930's he moved with his mother and sister to Johannesburg. There he held a number of jobs as a factory worker. He also studied privately to improve on his standard four education.

During these years he had built up contact with the Industrial and Commercial Workers' Union (ICU) and took part in cultural groups.

In 1940, Sisulu joined the ANC. He felt that the ANC was not militant enough. He joined with other activists to form the ANC Youth League. One of the Youth League's aims was to put pressure on the ANC to become more militant.

Sisulu became the Youth League's treasurer. Because of his earlier experiences, he was strongly against any contact or co-operation with whites.

A hardworking activist, Sisulu helped in getting the ANC to adopt the 1949 Programme of Action. This programme called for strikes, demonstrations and militant opposition to white minority rule. In 1949 also, Sisulu was elected secretary-general of the ANC.

By the early 1950s Sisulu was working full-time for the ANC. He served on the Joint Planning Council which organised the Defiance Campaign against unjust laws in 1952. He was one of the first people to be arrested for deliberately breaking apartheid laws. For his part in the Defiance Campaign Sisulu was sentenced to nine months imprisonment, suspended for three years.

In 1953, Sisulu spent five months travelling in Europe, Russia and China.

This overseas visit, and his work in the Defiance Campaign with "indians" and "whites", made him change his attitude to whites. He became a strong supporter of non-racialism and the Congress Alliance which was formed in 1954.

In mid-1954 Sisulu, already banned for attending meetings, was forced by the government

to resign from the ANC. Two years later, he was arrested with 155 other leaders for treason. The case lasted more than four years, but the government could not prove its charges.

In 1960, the ANC was banned and a state of emergency declared after the police shot dead 67 unarmed people in Sharpeville. Sisulu spent the whole of the state of emergency in detention.

In 1962, he was put under hour house arrest. A year later he was charged with furthering the aims of the now-banned ANC and organising the stay-away in May 1961 to protest at the new Republic constitution. He was sentenced to six years imprisonment. Sisulu appealed against the sentence. He was given bail and put under 24 hour house arrest.

Sisulu then decided to go underground. In April 1963, he left his home and joined

Umkhonto we Sizwe (The Spear of the Nation), the military wing of the ANC. On June 26 that year, he made a short broadcast on the NAC radio.

When police raided the headquarters of Umkhonto at Rivonia near Johannesburg on July 11 1963, Sisulu was among those caught.

Together with Nelson Mandela, Govan Mbeki and others, he was one of the accused in the famous Rivonia Trial. He was found guilty of planning sabotage and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Sisulu and his comrades were sent to Robben Island. Today he is at Pollsmoor Prison. After 22 years in jail, Sisulu and his comrades wait for the people's struggle to secure their release.

Sisulu's wife, Albertina, is one of the presidents of the United Democratic Front.

AFTER seven and a half months, the state of emergency has been lifted.

But repression continues and the troops still patrol the townships.

GRASSROOTS looks at the Western Cape's last month under the state of emergency.

Saturday, February 1:

P W Botha has made his long-awaited speech and has received strong reaction. He says he will release Nelson Mandela on humanitarian grounds if Russian and Angolan prisoners are released.

Sunday, February 2: A bomb explodes outside the home of R Rodney Tyrone Rhoda, former secretary of the Democratic Workers' Party, one of the parties taking part in the tri-cameral system.

Monday, February 3: Three UWC students arrested during demonstration on the campus last year, have charges against them withdrawn by the Attorney-General.

Tuesday, February 4: 18 people who delivered a letter to Caledon Square last year to raise questions about the health of detainees, appear in court. Charges are dropped.

Vehicles are stoned at Langa.

Wednesday, February 5: 56 workers lose their jobs as another Atlantis factory closes down.

Johnny Issel is released on R1000 bail after 51 days in detention under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Lutheran Pastor Gottfried Kraatz is told by the government that he must leave the country by February 28.

Nelson Mandela is nominated for the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize.

Thursday, February 6: Carter Ebrahim announces that schools can decide whether pupils who did not write the final examination last year should write supplementary examinations, be promoted or repeat the year.

209 newsvendors who went on strike for more money, are taken back by the Allied Publishing firm.

Friday, February 7:

Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert resigns from parliament, leaving the PFP leaderless and confused.

President P W Botha announces that the state of emergency is lifted in seven Cape small magisterial districts, but most of the Western Cape remains under

the emergency rule.

About 150 workers, members of the S A Chemical Workers' Union, down tools at Plascon Pain in Epping. They demand more pay.

Sunday, February 9: About 100 people gather outside the gates of Pollsmoor Prison anticipating the release of Nelson Mandela, as Winnie Mandela visits her husband.

Monday, February 10: City Tramways buses are stoned in Guguletu.

Tuesday, February 11: The Democratic Teachers Union (DETU) says no students should be promoted at schools in the townships.

Charges of possessing banned literature, against Shahieda Issel are dropped.

Louis Le Grange announces that more than 2000 children under the age of 16 had been detained under the emergency regulations.

Wednesday, February 12: UDF activist Cheryl Carolus is released from detention and restricted. She was detained on January 22 with other UDF officials after a visit to Sweden.

Thursday February 13: PFP chairman Dr Alex Boraine resigns from parliament.

Television crews and reporters rush to Cape Town Medical Centre to see a man, believed to be Nelson Mandela, going for a check-up, as rumours of Mandela's release increase.

The Joint SRC of Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu calls on students not to write examinations in March.

Charges of trespassing are withdrawn against 165 Murray and Roberts workers who had been arrested at their hostel.

Nampak workers protest for higher wages while the bosses hold a party at the factory.

Friday, February 14: Students

CRISIS DIARY

at Hewat demand the right to decide whether students who did not write at the end of last year should be promoted, rewrite or repeat the year.

Saturday and Sunday February 15 and 16: At least 20 people die in unrest throughout the country, including Alexandra in Transvaal.

An Industrial Court finds the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU) guilty of an unfair labour practice for organising a strike.

Sheikh A Gabier of the Muslim Judicial Council is summoned to give evidence in the trial of three men charged with the murder of a policeman in Salt River last year. He fails to appear in court and a warrant is issued for his arrest.

Monday, February 17: Two Guguletu policemen investigating housebreaking, are shot at, one wounded.

Tuesday, February 18: Black students at UCT demonstrate to show dissatisfaction with exam results.

Wednesday, February 19: The government announces new rail and air fares to take effect on April 1.

About 20 police Casspils, buffels and vans do a house to house snoop in Guguletu.

500 Rylands High School pupils refuse to enter their classrooms in protest against the presence of scab teachers.

Thursday, February 20: A delegation of the SACC meet the

government to discuss the killings of at least 22 people in Alexandra.

Hewat students learn that they will be allowed to write exams.

Friday, February 21: About 800 Khayelitsha women march to their local board offices to complain about housing conditions and high rents.

Statistics show that cost of living rose by about 21 percent.

Five people die in unrest in Lawaakamp, George.

Nampak workers in Epping win wage increases after downing tools.

Monday, February 24: 40 Bonteheuwel pupils, members of the Bonteheuwel Interschol Committee (BISCO) and an advice office worker, is detained at an education workshop.

The Schlebush Commission recommends pay increases of up to 108 percent for MPs.

Tuesday, February 25: About 300 KTC women march to demand that controversial squatter leader Oliver Memani be put out of the Western Cape.

Wednesday, February 26: Police and army raid Mbekweni, Paarl, and arrest seven people.

The 40 Bonteheuwel students and an advice office worker are released from detention after two days of protest in the area.

About 400 people attend a service in support of Pastor

Gottfried Kraatz, who was given till February 28 to leave the country.

The petrol price is reduced by between eight and ten cents. City Tramways announce a possible busfare increase.

Thursday, February 27: Police act against pupils at Heideveld, Bonteheuwel and Arcadia high schools.

Friday, February 28: Pastor Gottfried Kraatz applies to the Supreme Court to overrule a government decision not to renew his work and residence permits.

Saturday, March 1: Dr Allan Boesak saves an "informer" from angry mourners at a funeral in Lawaakamp, George.

Monday, March 3: Seven men are shot dead by police in Guguletu. Police claim the men were ANC guerillas. Mothers of two of the men deny the police claims.

Close to 3000 pupils in Oudtshoorn start a class boycott to protest against official policy regarding the 1985 final examination.

Tuesday, March 4: P W Botha announces that the state of emergency will be lifted on Friday, but fears are raised of extended police powers which would give rise to a continued unofficial state of emergency.

Thursday, March 6: Pastor Gottfried Kraatz drops his Supreme Court application to stay in the country. He decides to leave for Germany.

Friday, March 7: The state of emergency is lifted after seven and a half months and detainees freed.

Pastor Gottfried Kraatz leaves the country and 54 people arrested at the airport as police try to stop people singing freedom songs.

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Government and media hide the truth, meeting told

"THE view of the ANC which we are given by the Government and to a large extent by the media is blinding us to the truth."

This was said by Ms Amy Thornton at the "Free Mandela" meeting held at the Claremont Civic Centre earlier this month.

Ms Thornton, who was an official of the White Congress of Democrats in the 1950's, said:

"We are meeting at a time when not one single South African black or white can pretend that what is happening in the

land of our birth does not affect us profoundly. Other speakers will tell you what is happening in the African townships and I would like to speak about what is happening in our white hearts and minds.

"We whites have to face and deal with our fears about the ANC. From the time the ANC was banned in the sixties, we have been bombarded with propaganda to try and convince us that this organisation is a bloodthirsty monster dedicated to violence and killing. But this

is not true.

The ANC is more than 70 years old. For fifty of those years it petitioned and reasoned with successive white governments about the grievances of the African people and the need to redress the wrongs of three hundred years.

"Even the 'Stay at home' of 1961, was conducted by the ANC with scrupulous attention to non-violence and even pickets were cancelled lest there be some form of coercion or intimidation. What was the Govern-

ment's response to this peaceful protest against injustice and for the demands of the Freedom Charter - the army and the police armed to the teeth surrounded the townships using intimidation of the crudest kind."

She asked why whites have so much difficulty with the concept of armed struggle for freedom. She said: "Those boers who took up arms against oppression of the British in the fight for Afrikaner freedom are today the heroes of the Afrikaner

"Those who fought against the Nazis both inside Germany and in occupied Europe are today heroes. Is it some form of racism that if black people decide to take up arms to fight for freedom and human dignity, then they are terrorists?"

Ms Thornton said that White people are victims of their own propaganda and allow their tax money to be used to bolster up a regime which destroys our economy and turns "our sons into soldiers against their own countrymen."

ANGCWATYWE NGOXOLO AMAQHWE

IYE yabonakala mhlophe indlela abantu abayixhasa ngayo iANC apho amawaka-waka abantu bathe bazalisa izitalato zase Gugulethu ngomqibelo umhla we15 ka March abanye bebonisa imibala emnyama luhlaza namthubi yalo mbuth wawalwayo.

Abanye bebephumakuzo zonke iindawo zeli bejoyina inginginya ebizokungcwaba lamagora abulewe ngamabhulu ngomhla we 3 ka march Abo bebengcwatywa ibingu

1. John Zabonke Konile
2. Christopher Piet
3. Jabulani Godfrey Miya
4. Mandla Simon Mxinwa
5. Zola Alfred Swelani
6. Themba Molifi
7. Themba Madiyane

Ngentsimbi ka 11a.m. ngomqibelo zosixhenxe iibhokisi zangena zombathiswe ngembala ye ANC e Gugulethu Stadium eNY49. Isithintelo esawiswe ngu rhulumente ukuba kungabikho zithethi zopolitiko zange zihoywe ngabantu.

Malunga nentsimbi ka 2p.m. abantu babemalunga ne 25,000. Kuithe malunga nentsimbi ka 3p. mxa iibhokisi beziphakanyiselwe phezulu zisiya emangcwabeni kwangenenelela amawaka-waka abantu. Aba Abaye abantu baqikelela

ukuba ibingama 30,000 ukuya kwi 40,000 yabantu ababelapho.

Phambili bekukhokelele iflag yesizwe ibanjelwe phezulu yalandelwa yebomvu ye South African Communist Party. Amaqhosha e ANC ne placards kunye nasinxibo se khako esasinxitywa ngamabolontiya ngexesha abantu babechasa imithetho ka rhulumente ibonakala kuyo yonke indawo. Abantu bebhawaza besithi "VIVA ANC VIVA THAMBO".

Botha banned from burial

P W BOTHA joined another elite list last week

He was one of four leaders of governments to be officially declared unwelcome at the funeral of Sweden's assassinated Prime Minister, Mr Olof Palme.

Three South Africans, Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the African National Congress, Bishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Allan Boesak, the president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches - were among the 600 people from 104 countries represented at the funeral.



YOUNG women state their message at the Gugulethu funeral

THE SABC has been supporting the ANC - indirectly.

According to a news report, the cast of Cagney and Lacey, the popular series, are giving their South African royalties to the African National Congress and the Actors against Apartheid Movement.

The cast said they hated apartheid and all it stood for. Giving money was one way of expressing their feelings.

Cagney and Lacey, about two

SABC stars support ANC

policewomen, is shown on TV on Tuesday nights.

More and more musicians, actors, singers and other artists are deciding to do something to show their disapproval of apartheid and the South African government.

Recently Lorimar Telepictures announced a ban on all

future contracts with South Africa. Lorimar controls at least two popular shows on SABC "Knots Landing" and "Falcon Crest" which will soon be taken off TV.

Popular artists like Woody Allen, have signed contracts which ban the distribution of their films in South Africa.

Kraatz 'will return'

PASTOR Gottfried Kraatz has left the country. He was forced to do so by the government.

But the German Lutheran Minister has vowed that he will come back to South Africa soon. He has even bought return tickets.

Pastor Kraatz, who worked in Mitchells Plain, was told to leave

because of his involvement in "several dubious resistance actions against the state".

Pastor Kraatz denied this. He said that as a freedom-loving priest he was doing his pastoral duties in the community.

He defied a government order that he be out of the country by February 28.

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