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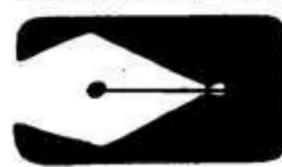


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SASPU



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Police round up 1,500 workers at Kloof Gold Mine near Westonaria during the recent strike wave on the Rand

Death strikes as miners face bullets, batons and teargas

A BLACK miner, Headman Mazibuko of the Transkei, was shot 12 times during the huge wave of strikes that paralysed the mining industry during the first week of July.

The story of Headman Mazibuko, who, according to medical sources, was admitted to a mine hospital with twelve bullets in him, is one of the few details of the strike to have emerged.

At least three of the bullets had entered through his back and, he says, many of them hit him while he was lying on the ground.

The strikes, sparked off by anger

over unexpectedly low pay increases, involved up to 70,000 workers on nine gold and platinum mines belonging to Gold Fields of South Africa and General Mining Corporation of South Africa and a group of coal mines owned by Iscor.

By the end of a week of turmoil, at least 10 mine workers lay dead, scores were injured and hundreds had been arrested. Thousands more were bussed off to the homelands. Exact figures have not been released.

Although such unrest has occurred repeatedly on the mines, these

figures indicate that the strikes were some of the biggest and most significant since the massive mine workers' strike of 1946.

They began only hours after workers were told officially of the annual pay increases set by the Chamber of Mines the lowest percentage increase in five years.

The increase, set arbitrarily by the chamber, was 11% for surface workers and 12% for underground workers, compared to last July's increases of 15% and 20%. With inflation at about 16% this means miners would be taking a significant

drop in their real incomes.

At least three mining groups Anglo-American, Consolidated Investments (JCI) and Rand Mines are thought to have granted a higher increase than this.

These three groups were not hit by the strikes.

One of the miners, Shimane Deetsang from Wildebeesfontein Mine, has described what happened: 'We had decided not to go to work and were striking because the pay increase was not enough.'

Deetsang said he earned up to R200 a month and had received only

an extra R6 in his pay packet that day.

'We were not fighting, just making a noise and were surprised to see the police come. We were just sitting and waiting when they called the police.'

'I saw they were using teargas, so I ran to get a cloth and some water to cover my mouth. When I came out of my room I was shot. That's all I remember,' he said.

Deetsang was admitted to a mine hospital with multiple buckshot wounds on the top of his back. He is now fully paralysed from the waist down and his arms are partially paralysed.

Square claims another detainee's life

AS SASPU National was going to print, a 21 year old detainee was found dead in his cell at John Vorster Square.

According to a police statement Ernest Dipale was found hanged by a strip of cell blanket at 12.13am on Sunday, August 8.

Lawyers acting for the Dipale family have reported that the young Ernest was detained three days before his death.

This is the second political death at John Vorster Square since the beginning of the year, only six months after trade unionist Neil Aggett's death in detention. Dipale was a former fellow detainee of Aggett.

He was detained in October 1981, released in January this year and

redetained on August 6.

His family's lawyers have said an attempt to shoot Dipale was made two days before security police arrested him. Earlier this year an assassination attempt was made on his sister in Botswana.

The last time Dipale's family saw him was on August 6 when security police brought him to their house to conduct a search. Dipale's father has said police had taken the only picture of his son from the family album.

Meanwhile the acting commissioner of police, Lieutenant-General Johan Coetzee has announced that Dipale made 'a confession to a magistrate' hours before his death and was to appear in court to face 'several charges'

under the Internal Security Act the following day.

Dipale's parents and lawyers said they knew nothing of a scheduled court appearance, nor did they know of any charges being brought against him.

In response to Dipale's death, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) has released a statement calling for the scrapping of all security laws and the unconditional release of all detainees.

According to the DPSC Dipale is the 53rd person to have died in detention and the 16th to be found hanged in his cell.

The statement said: 'We have been repeatedly told by the authorities that the health, safety and well being of detainees are the responsibility of

the Security Police and that measures taken are adequate.

'Yet another death in detention, the 53rd by our count, serves to expose the barbarism of the detention laws.'

The closed system of visits by State-appointed doctors and inspectors would never protect detainees against excessive pressures from police interrogators, the statement said.

'Any person held in total isolation from the outside world and at the complete mercy of his captors will have his life at risk.'

'As predicted, the new Internal Security Act, on which the ink has not yet dried, has produced no improvement in the safe-guarding of detainees.'

Another picture of the outbreak of unrest on July 2 was painted by the manager of West Driefontein Mine, one of the first and biggest to be closed by the strike.

He said a night of violence began after 4,000 workers from the Number 2 compound had refused to go to work and had gathered at the compound gates chanting for the compound manager.

When he came, he saw they were militant, so he called in security.

'The miners were warned to disperse to their rooms and told to send a delegation to speak to the compound manager. When they failed to do this, teargas was used,' he said.

Mine security guards, with dogs, batons and plastic shields, then swept through the compound in a 'show of force', according to the

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ANC three sentenced to death in Pretoria trial

THREE ANC men were found guilty of treason and sentenced to death in the Pretoria Supreme Court on August 6th. They were convicted on charges of high treason and alternative charges of murder, terrorism, robbery and possession of arms, explosives and ammunition.

Thelle Simon Mogoerane (23), Jerry Semano Mosololi (25) and Marcus Thabo Motaung (27) appeared before Justice Curlewis in the Pretoria Supreme Court. In judgement, Justice Curlewis and two assessors said they were satisfied the three accused were members of

the ANC whose purpose was to overthrow the government by violent means.

On the last days of the trial the court was packed and the trialists entered the court room singing and with clenched fists raised.

The charges against the three were that they underwent military training in ANC camps and infiltrated South Africa. They hid arms, ammunition and fellow ANC members inside the country.

Mogoerane and Motaung were convicted with being involved in the attacks on the Moroka and Orlando police stations in Soweto. The charges of murder and attempted murder related to policemen injured and killed during these attacks.

Mosololi was charged for his alleged involvement in the attack on the railway line near New Canada Station in May 1981.

Motaung, Mosololi and Mogoerane were charged with taking part in the attack on the Wonderboom police station in December 1981 when policemen were killed and injured and a car was stolen.

The accused were also charged with using an underground base.

The accused had pleaded not guilty to the charges, but had admitted attacks on the three police stations, the Capital Park Substation and the New Canada railway.

An ANC member, who had defected to the security police described the arrest of Motaung and said that he had shot the accused in the hip. Motaung received no hospital treatment for two days after he was shot.

The trial took a dramatic turn when a state witness, who cannot be named, denied a statement that linked Motaung with a Valiant car that was allegedly stolen during the Wonderboom attack. He told the court that he knew nothing about the car and said, 'I was drunk and did not make the statement voluntarily.'

Allegations of torture were made against Captain Visser of the Security Police by Mr Jaek Unterhalter, SC in his cross examination of the witness.

Visser had told the court of his arrest of Mogoerane and Mosololi on an island hideout near Hammanskraal. Unterhalter alleged that Visser had put a wet plastic bag over Mosololi's head which nearly suffocated him. One of Visser's colleagues had given the order for a police dog to bite Mosololi.

Unterhalter said Mosololi and Mogoerane had been subjected to electric shocks and alleged a wooden pole was inserted between Mogoerane's legs and arms to suspend him between a chair and table while being interrogated.

The trial is continuing.

Nusas festival focuses on Education

'EDUCATION WEAPON and Tool' was the theme of a Nusas festival held at Wits university last month.

Addressing delegates on the theme, Wits lecturer, David Webster said, 'Democrats and progressives who wish to operate in the sphere of education have a responsibility to challenge the quality of their education.'

'They must do this from a position of strength they have to be well-



David Webster

armed with knowledge and successful organisation on the campus. From this position of strength they've got to forge alliances with those democratic groups who are in a position to bring about progressive change in the broader society.'

The festival consisted of seminars, papers and panel discussions together with much informal debate and discussion. Representatives from Nusas, Azaso and Cosas led a panel discussion on the education struggle.

Papers presented at the festival included one on 'Black Consciousness and the history of the student movement'; 'The role of the intellectual in the struggle for democracy' and 'Post-university involvement'. There was a great degree of participation by most delegates in discussions and seminars and a productive exchange of ideas took place.

'The task facing us now,' said Nusas President Jonty Joffe, 'is to strengthen our base, to further educate ourselves and to tighten discipline and our organisation.'

Witness jailed in first Ciskei Terror trial

A WITNESS in Ciskei's first Terrorism Act trial in Zwelitsha was sentenced to two-and-a-half years imprisonment for refusing to take the oath and give evidence.

He was called to give evidence in the trial of four Mdantsane men, Mabone Duna (31), Dumisani Maninjwa (31), Bayi Keye (52) and Luyanda Mayekiso (23). The witness said he knew nothing and had

been forced to make a statement.

The accused are charged with participating in terrorist activities, being members of the ANC and possessing banned literature.

Another witness has given evidence, although he refused to take the oath because it was against his upbringing and religious beliefs.

He alleged he was assaulted with open hands and clenched fists by



Dr Beyers Naude victim of right wing action

Banned Beyers' car hit again

THE BOMB that damaged the car of banned cleric Dr Beyers Naude was planted by an expert, say police.

A small device exploded under the car while it was being serviced by a friend in Bosmont at the end of June.

The friend, Chris Peilman, phoned the police immediately after

finding the car burning but they only arrived two days later to investigate the explosion.

Peilman felt certain that the attack was directed at Dr Naude, as the attackers ignored a number of other cars that would have been easier to bomb.

This is not the first time that Dr

Naude has been the victim of a right wing attack. In addition to other forms of victimisation, two petrol bombs were thrown at his car in 1978.

Dr Naude was banned in October 1977. He was the leader of the Christian Institute which was one of the 22 organisations banned at the same time.



Wilson Rowntree workers protest against black-listing

Sweet campaign on despite intimidation

SAAWU OFFICIALS in East London can't get away from Wilson Rowntree. The new South African Allied Workers' Union offices are directly behind the Wilson Rowntree factory; they can see and smell the sweets being made every day.

However the smell of Peppermint Crisp and Toff o'lux has not tempted the workers at Wilson Rowntree to give up their demand for reinstatement and recognition of their union.

At a recent mass meeting in East London, the workers called on people around the country to continue boycotting Wilson Rowntree products.

Reports showed heartening support of the boycott from overseas unions and other progressive groups.

The meeting's main speaker was Bonsile Norushe, the East London branch secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers' Union, who had just been released from detention.

He called on workers to persevere in the struggle for their rights. 'To win a recognition agreement is not enough', he said. 'This must not be seen as an end in itself as circumstances change and workers need to strive for democracy.'

The meeting condemned the detention of Saawu officials Thozamile Gqweta, Sisa Njikelane and Sam Kikine. 'Our leaders are in jail because of our strength', sa Norushe.

A Saawu official said the Ciskei government acts harshly against workers in Mdantsane. 'On the weekends, the Ciskei police engage in door-to-door raids. People with union cards are arrested and so are people who wear political T-shirts', he said pointing to someone wearing a union T-shirt.

Saawu officials reminded the meeting of the 205 people detained last year for singing freedom songs. They appealed to the workers not to sing freedom songs as they entered Mdantsane, which is in the Ciskei. 'The Ciskei government uses us to make money last time we had to pay R9,000 in fines', said one official.

Workers also protested against blacklisting. 'The Ciskei department of Manpower operates as a blacklisting agency', said one speaker. 'Workers involved in strikes may never get jobs again. This was especially true in the Eastern Cape, he said, where unemployment is high. 'The Wilson Rowntree workers won't get other jobs and so they see a victory for themselves as a victory against blacklisting.'

The trial continues.

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mine manager. Security guards and miners clashed repeatedly that night and by dawn four miners lay dead.

At the outbreak of the strike mine management and police responded immediately with the explanation that it was caused by a few intimidators who were dissatisfied with the pay increases. Gold Fields director, Colin Fenton, even said that one flare-up was 'straight tribal'.

But this does not explain why so many miners were involved over such a wide area and why only certain mining companies notably those with a reputation for paying less than other mines were affected.

Another factor likely to have compounded dissatisfaction with the increase was the difference in pay between black workers of different categories one of the most frequent causes of dissatisfaction in the past. This year the gap between the majority of black workers in the lower categories and the 'team leaders' and more skilled workers in the higher categories increased.

The fact that the miners are all migrant workers, living in cramped compounds with no family life, must also be taken into account. As one mine official, speaking unofficially, put it: 'Of course, the truth is that as long as we have migrant labour, we will probably have unrest.'

ANC appeal to be heard next month

THE APPEAL of three men convicted of treason in August last year, is to take place on September 3 in the Bloemfontein Appeal Court.

Antony Bobby Tsotsobe (25), Johannes Shabangu (26) and David Moise (25) were sentenced to death for their part in sabotage operations.

Tsotsobe was sentenced for participating in the attack on the Booysens police station and on the Dube railway station; Shabangu for his involvement in the attack on a South African policeman's home near Malelani, Barbeton; and Moise for participating in the attack on Sasol II and for returning to South Africa to gather information for a second attack on Sasol.