





Mr. James Sofasonke Mpanza (centre, gesticulating) couldn't hold his own against furious Orlando residents who attacked him for agreeing to set up a Bantu Authority, so he called for the police. That didn't win him friends either!

**"I don't have to consult you. I am Verwoerd!"**

## Mpanza Tries To Force Bantu Council on Orlando

**ORLANDO is in an uproar because of the attempt of Advisory Board leader Mr. James Sofasonke Mpanza to force a Bantu Authority on the people, against their wishes, and despite the fact that his own Board is deeply divided on the issue.**

This is the second Reef attempt to get a Bantu Council going. In Benoni the men who took jobs on the Council have been attacked from all

sides.

Mr. Mpanza mustered only 15 to 20 supporters at last week's public meeting of the Orlando Residents' Association and so furious was the crowd at his back-hand deal that he had to call in the police.

Mpanza first tried to deny that he had agreed that the Orlando Board be turned into an Urban Bantu Council. Then he changed tactics and shouted: "I am not obliged to consult you. I am Verwoerd!"

Mpanza was infuriated by the vote of no confidence passed in him.

He told the meeting that while he was Verwoerd the people were like the United and Progressive Parties. "The Nationalists when they want to pass laws do so without the approval of the people of South Africa and they tell the world that they have a mandate from the people."

That didn't help Mr. Mpanza's case one bit!

Mpanza called his party, which won fame with its militant action in the days of the squatters' shantytown movement after the war, the Sofasonke ('Let Us All Die Together') Party. If anything will kill his party it is this acceptance of a Bantu Council.

### HOW IT STARTED

The trouble started on the Advisory Board when Mr. Mpanza led his group out of a meeting in protest against the appointment of Mr. H. M. Butshingi as nominated member. (Mr. Butshingi had lost the election to the Mpanza group when he stood as an Asinamali Party candidate.)

The meeting that Mpanza broke up was due to have heard the Commissioner of Urban Bantu Councils explain the Council system. After this meeting Mr. Mpanza is reported to have gone to see the Urban Bantu Commissioner alone, and to have been closeted with him for a long while.

Mpanza then requisitioned a Board meeting to discuss Urban Bantu Councils though he was warned by the Board secretary Mr. S. Mampuru that this would be improper. The Board meeting took place, but in the absence of its Secretary, Mr. Mpanza moved that in terms of Act 79 of 1961, the Urban Bantu Council Act, the secretary should be instructed to write a letter to the Urban Bantu Council Commissioner requesting him to implement the Act in Orlando.

This report sparked off the public row.

### DEADLOCK

The two nominated members of the Board, Messrs Butshingi and Mampuru, are dead against this Mpanza move, and a third member of the six-member Board has crossed to their side since the public meeting, thus bringing about a deadlock in the Board.

The residents' meeting decided to

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## UP MY ALLEY

UNLOCKING the door of my very own shelter the other day, I peeped out cautiously. The sun was shining brightly and the Sleg's Blankets signs were sprouting gaily all over the place, and even Parliament was adding to the warmth in the air.

All of which went to prove that the end of the world had not come.

So much for fortune-tellers, soothsayers, witch-doctors and stargazers.

I hear, however, that the Yanks have climbed in and offered aid to the disillusioned dummies in India—do-it-yourself kits guaranteed to replace the dough some poor saps decided to burn while waiting for The Day.

Anyway, you can't keep a good man down, as the Japanese acrobat said to the Minister of Interior, and I proceeded to read the morning blah over my breakfast cereal (also from America, called Non-Fall-Out Krispy Atomic Krunchies, send two package tops and you get a free rocket—one that works).

The news seemed to read as follows: "Visitors to Kirstenbosch were surprised to see a troop of about 29 baboons near the contour above the Gardens on the Constantia side—about five minutes walk from the popular tourist attraction.

"Except for Algeria, we in South Africa have the most

difficult problem of adjustment between human beings and human beings," said Mr. Marais Steyn.

Further perusal of the paper failed to reveal what had been said by the others, but all this, as I afterwards discovered, was due to the fact that I was not wearing my specs at the time.

Anyway, a reader did point out to me the following by a Hollywood sniper commenting on l'affaire Frankie and Julie: "There are two ways of becoming Queen of Hollywood. One is by way of the box-office, and the other is by marrying Hollywood's king."

I have nothing to say on this matter, except that one should not underestimate Juliet's prowess.

And another item called news gives us to know that a lady who claims to be the spiritual "bride" of long-dead George Bernard Shaw now claims to be expecting a baby.

I believe that similar things are happening right here in South Africa, and that the off-spring is likely to be baptised Independent Transkei.

And now, as the lady at the Shooting Club quiz said when asked how come the African population figures now stood at 11 million and the White at 3 —"I've run out of ammunition."

ALEX LA GUMA

## WIDOW OF DEAD MAN GIVES EVIDENCE IN BOMB CASE

JOHANNESBURG.

**FIRST witness in the case in which Advisory Board member Benjamin Ramotsi is being tried for the bomb explosion in Dube last December 16 was the widow of the man who was killed by the bomb.**

Dressed in black and wearing a Lutuli badge Mrs. Maria Molefe went into the witness box to describe the last day on which she saw her husband alive. She broke down at the point where she had to describe the finding of her husband's body and the court adjourned for a short while at this point.

Ramotsi is being charged with culpable homicide, and under the Explosives Act and the Unlawful Organisations Act.

Mrs. Molefe told the court that her husband left home on December 16 before 8 p.m. He had left by car but she had not asked him where he was going.

Later that night she heard people talking about something that had happened and she left her house and went in the direction of the Dube Municipal Office.

**Prosecutor:** What did you find?

**Mrs. Molefe:** There I found my husband lying.

**Prosecutor:** Was he dead or alive? (At this point Mrs. Molefe broke down.)

Det.-Sgt. Visagie from The Grays handed in sketches and photographs taken at the scene of the explosion.

The Non-European public gallery was filled to overflowing.

Ramotsi was brought to court



Mrs. Molefe

from the Fort and returned to jail again until February 23. Bail applications on his behalf have been unsuccessful. The remand to February 23 was asked for by the State so that certain exhibits can be returned from the Medical Research Institute and the Bureau of Standards.

## EVIDENCE IN P. E. BOMB CASE

PORT ELIZABETH.

**MESSRS** Harold Strachan, John Soyeye, Joseph Jack and Govan Mbeki appeared again last week at the resumed preparatory examination into allegations under the Explosives Act. The inquiry arises out of explosions that rocked the area of Port Elizabeth since December 16, 1961.

The greater part of the proceedings this week was taken up by police officers handing in articles found on the premises of the accused men. Most of the articles handed in were from the workshop of Mr. Strachan, and included plastic bottles, intact and partly burnt, pieces of plastic, tin foil, rubber stoppers and sharpeners. There are over 150 such exhibits before the court.

Police Officers giving evidence told the court how they were taken by two witnesses to places in the bush on the outskirts of Port Elizabeth (Kraggakama and Schoemanskop), and shown spots where experimental explosions had taken place. Samples of stones collected at these spots were produced as exhibits.

The prosecutor applied to the Magistrate for the court to be in camera as two witnesses, names of whom were not to be published, were going to describe in court how the accused men had trained them

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invite the Urban Bantu Council Commissioner to face the people at a meeting and to hear their protest against the Act. Said one speaker at the meeting: "If the Council ignores us and the Act is implemented without our approval, we will not co-operate with this dummy institution. We demand African representation in the Johannesburg City Council."

in the manufacture of bombs. It was not in the interest of the public for this information to be publicised.

The prosecutor called a witness to support his application, a Mr. Herman van Dijk, from the office of the Chief Inspector of explosives in Johannesburg. He told the court that his department regarded the divulging of this information as against the public interest because the chemicals employed were easily obtainable.

The Magistrate then asked the public and the press to leave and ordered that the names of the two witnesses be not published. The two witnesses then gave evidence in camera together with Mr. Dijk, who testified as to the experiments and analysis conducted by his office with the samples sent by the police in Port Elizabeth.

### DETAINED IN TRANSKEI

Two witnesses who had been detained in the Transkei following bomb investigations then gave evidence. They were Win Mabandla and Sisa Dukada who told the court how they got a lift from Port Elizabeth to East London in a car occupied by Dr. Nathan Moodaley and Mr. Mia Ismail.

After three days, the case was adjourned to February 27, 1962.

Defence attorney Mr. C. Janke-lowitz renewed application for bail but the Magistrate pointed out that the reasons for refusing bail still obtained as at the previous hearing.

Mr. Janke-lowitz drew the attention of the court to the unusually hard treatment Govan Mbeki and Joseph Jack were receiving in jail. They were not allowed visitors, were kept in solitary confinement and had only recently been allowed to change their clothes. The magistrate promised to refer the complaints to the prison authorities.

**Collection Number: AG2887**

**Collection Name: Publications, New Age, 1954-1962**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:* Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand

*Location:* Johannesburg

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