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ESTABLISHED 1887
 (Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.)

The Star

JOHANNESBURG TUESDAY MARCH 22 1960

VEREENIGING QUIET—MORE

A quiet night

TROUBLE AT CAPE

Police open fire again

MANY NATIVES STAY AT HOME

THE THREE major Native townships near Vereeniging were quiet today — although about three-quarters of the Natives there did not go to work. But at Langa township, near Cape Town, more Natives were injured today when police opened fire to disperse groups assembling in the streets.

Trouble is also reported to have flared up at Nyanga West, near Langa, where Natives are said to have tried to set fire to an Electricity Department building. The police fired some shots.

Saracens and police reinforcements were sent there only a few hours after the Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr. de Wet Nel, had visited the area.

The Department of Labour said that inquiries from industrialists show that between 60 and 80 per cent. of the Native labour force in Cape Town stayed away from work today.

Large numbers of police—at least 400 European and non-European police camped overnight—are still patrolling the Vereeniging area with Saracen vehicles and heavily loaded troop carriers. The policemen are from all areas of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria.

In Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark only industries which have their own compounds are at full production.

Most of the Native employees of the smaller businesses in the two towns are still absent.

Went home

The manager of a big firm which manufactures farm implements said that only 140 of his 430 Natives were at work today. At 11 o'clock when rumours reached them that there was trouble again in Sharpeville they told their employers they were concerned about their families.

LIBERALS BLAME APARTHEID

The Transvaal chairman of the Liberal Party, Mr Jack Unterhalter, said today that the rioting in Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark was "solely the result of apartheid policies."

In a statement, he declared: "Without associating the party in any way with the Pan-Africanist movement and their anti-pass campaign, it is important for the people of South Africa to know and understand that the rioting and its dreadful toll are solely the result of apartheid policies."

"Events will become graver unless immediate steps are taken to repeal the oppressive laws bearing so heavily on the non-European population."

A.N.C. ALARMED BY POLICE ACTION

THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS in a statement issued last night by Mr. D. Nokwe, the secretary-general, expressed alarm at the police action "which has resulted in the death of people at Vereeniging."

The congress said it had repeatedly protested against the unwarranted use of firearms against unarmed African people "which, far from restoring order, inflames and provokes the people."

The statement said the attention of the authorities had been drawn to methods employed in all civilized countries to disperse crowds without maiming and killing people.

These suggestions had been rejected by the authorities who had, instead, armed the police with more lethal weapons, and Saracens.

JUSTIFIED

The conclusion was "inescapable" that the authorities would grasp any opportunity to use these to suppress opposition to the apartheid policy.

The resentment by the African people against the pass laws was perfectly justified, declared Mr.

66 dead, 186 injured
—official

OFFICIAL figures of casualties in yesterday's rioting at Sharpeville location, Vereeniging, and Langa, Cape Town, are: 66 dead, 186 injured. Most of the victims died in the Sharpeville clash. (See photographs Page Eleven.)

Another firm which normally employs 300 Natives had a complement of only 100. They had come to work using their own transport.

But later in the morning when the rumours reached them that there was again trouble at Sharpeville they asked to go home.

The firm is carrying on with its European staff only at present.

Cape trouble

At Cape Town police are still out in force at the Langa Native township, where at least two people were killed and 29 injured in rioting last night.

Col. I. P. S. Terblanche, Deputy-Commissioner of Police, said that he had only heard of two deaths—a Native who died in hospital from injuries and the driver of a car owned by the "Cape Times," who was burnt to death after dropping a reporter and photographer in the township yesterday evening.

Municipal buildings were set alight by the rioters; buses, police vehicles and private cars were stoned.

Protected by police Saracens, the Cape Town Fire Brigade fought eight blazes at Langa until midnight. Two firemen were injured by stones thrown by rioters and two fire engines were damaged.

Four European women whose car was stoned in Vanguard Drive as they drove past the location were admitted to hospital.

TO CONTINUE

The militant Pan Africanist Congress, a breakaway movement from the A.N.C., is to continue its anti-pass demonstrations, Mr. William Jolobe, official spokesman for the P.A.C. while its leaders are in custody, said today.

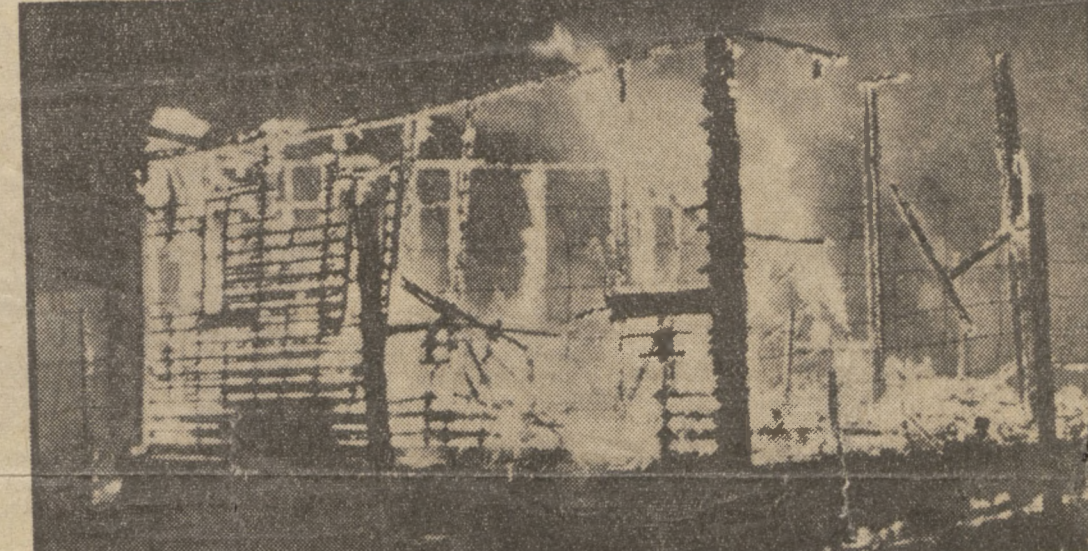
Mr. Jolobe said that the demonstrators were given strict instructions not to use violence.

"Our plans are to be arrested in great numbers until industry is affected by a labour shortage. We shall not stop until passes have been abolished."

"We call on the Government to halt forthwith the continued display of military strength by the police against an unarmed people. Ours is a non-violent struggle."



One of the four Saracens which attracted a large crowd of sightseers outside the Vanderbijlpark police station last night. The police had been reinforced. But it was a quiet night. It was otherwise at Langa location, Cape Town, where buildings were set on fire (below). Photographs taken at Sharpeville (near Vereeniging) yesterday appear on Page 11.



"WHOLE CIVILIZED WORLD IS OUTRAGED"

Overseas Press horror at riot tragedy

From Our Correspondent-Sapa-Reuter

REPORTS UNDER HUGE HEADLINES and photographs of the dead and dying in yesterday's rioting at Sharpeville location, Vereeniging, today dominated British and American newspapers. Some papers spread a photograph right across the front page. The mass circulation "Daily Mirror" said "the whole civilized world is outraged."

The "Daily Express" (independent Right-wing), under the front-page banner headline "Battle-ground," published a huge photograph across seven columns showing the bodies of the Sharpeville casualties lying on the ground.

Another headline in this newspaper read: "66 dead; Expressman watches jet swoop as machine-guns mow down rioting Africans." The "Daily Express" also reported: "Some South African English-language newspapers refused to radio pictures of the battle to Britain. They said overseas papers would get a distorted impression—and, in any case, the authorities could trace the pictures to their source."

"DAY OF SHAME"

The "Daily Sketch" (Conservative) devoted its front page to the reports under the headline: "50 die in massacre: I see the horror after police open fire."

Another headline in this newspaper said: "A day of tragedy and shame for South Africa."

"The Times" (independent) also treated the riots as the major story of the day. A three-column photograph of casualties dominated its main news page.

Photographs of casualties—dead and injured lying in the roadway—also dominated the front pages of the "Daily Telegraph" and the "Daily Mail," both Conservative newspapers, and of the "Daily Herald" (Labour).

The "Daily Herald" banner headline was: "The Massacre."

TYRANNY

Most newspapers, in editorial comment on the riots, expressed the gravest concern.

"The Times" said: "What happened yesterday at Vereeniging did not come out of a blue sky. But it will certainly have come as a shock to the average White citizen and, no less certainly, it will add to the already bitter resentment of African men and women at the way they are being treated."

The paper described pass books as "the visible signs of a highly complicated and frankly tyrannical network of control."

"The Nationalist Government has kept the moderate African

National Congress at arm's length and so has played into the hands of the far less reasonable Pan-Africanist movement.

"Now blood has been shed and yet another turn for the worse given to the unhappy state of the Union."

"UNLESS . . ."

The "Daily Mirror," with the biggest circulation of any daily in Britain, said: "Yesterday's tragedy could be the beginning of the revolt in South Africa."

It also said: "Unless the South African Government sweeps away its abominable race laws, horrors like this will happen again."

The "Daily Herald," the Labour Party paper, said the Africans demonstrating yesterday "were protesting against racial repression which revolts all civilized people."

MUST BE REMOVED

"The Guardian" (Liberal) said: "No one can deny that the protest was legitimate. Everything that the White community in South Africa has done for Africans in education, housing, hospital—and it was not insignificant—was undone the moment the pass laws deprived the lives of their families and, in many cases, bound them to one employer on pain of expulsion to the reserves."

"It would be foolish for the South African Government to treat yesterday's explosion as an isolated event and assume that it will be able, by stronger police forces, more Sabre jets, and more armoured cars, to repress further acts of defiance."

"It must remove the reason for defiance."

The "Scotsman" said: "It is not surprising that there should be violence in South Africa. It would be surprising if there were not."

"When people are denied legal means of achieving political and social advancement, they are apt to adopt other means."

AMERICAN REACTION

"Cops mow down African Negroes" and "Scores slain in S. African race riots" were two of the headlines carried by American papers in front-page reports. Extensive coverage was also given

Police outside South Africa House

From Our Correspondent

LONDON, Tuesday. POLICE were on duty in Trafalgar Square today after breaking up a picket outside South Africa House. Two constables patrolled in front of the building and other police were on duty in the square.

Five men and two women picketed throughout the night. They were expecting reinforcements today and intended to carry on a protest for at least two days.

But the police told them no parades or demonstrations are allowed within one mile of Parliament while it is in session.

"White" blood for riot victims

European donors gave blood yesterday to save the lives of Natives injured in the rioting.

Large quantities of plasma and blood were sent to Vereeniging and Baragwanath Hospital from the Johannesburg centre of the South African Blood Transfusion Service.

Although the demand was heavy, sufficient supplies were available at the centre and no special appeal was necessary.

The supplies were assisted by the fact that a large "bleed" had been carried out with non-European donors at Standerton at the week-end.

MUST BE REMOVED

by the radio stations. The morning papers carried pictures, the "Herald-Tribune's" showing a grim and horrifying picture of bodies littering a roadway.

The "New York Times" says in an editorial that the "evil policy of apartheid—the separation of Blacks from the Whites in South Africa—cannot help bearing evil fruits."

It goes on: "South Africans are wrong to think that nobody in the world understands the complexity and delicacy of their colour problem."

"No one thinks that South Africans are wicked men in the sense that they would deliberately plan or feel anything but distress over an incident that brings such appalling results."

"However, the fact remains that a policy which degrades the great majority of the people of a nation is certain to lead to tragedy."

THE EVIL

"True enough the South African authorities can suppress a mob such as the one that gathered at Sharpeville. . . . But how often can this be done?"

The editorial concludes: "Do the South Africans think that the rest of the world will ignore such a massacre? Perhaps it takes a horror like the slaughter at Sharpeville to bring home to the White South Africans themselves the evil that the policy of apartheid represents."

"Der Mittag" of West Germany, said: "The unscrupulous way in which the police shot at the demonstrating population makes our heart stop."

Riot insurance

A reminder that the ordinary motor-car insurance policy does not, as a rule, cover the insured against loss, damage or liability arising during or as a result of riot or civil commotion was issued by the Automobile Association today.

Motorists who wish to cover their cars against this risk, says the A.A., should discuss the matter with their insurance companies with a view to obtaining an extension of their policy.

Hospital was i

By a Staff Reporter

NATIVES lay all over the floor of the ward and others sat quietly in chairs. All had one thing in common—bullet wounds received yesterday in the Sharpeville riot. One of the European nurses at

Baragwanath Hospital, Johannesburg, said that the hospital was full of injured Natives.

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Collection Number: A3299

Collection Name: HILDA AND RUSTY BERNSTEIN PAPERS

PUBLISHER:

Publisher: Historical Papers Research Archive

Location: Johannesburg

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