

RESOLVE UNREST OR WE QUIT, SAY ERU COUNCILLORS

Star 4/10/84

By Revelation Ntola

The East Rand Urban Councils' Association (Eruca) has threatened to reconsider its participation in the Government-created institution if a solution to resolve the present unrest crisis, particularly in the East Rand, are not met by the Government.

Eruca's executive committee, which met in Wattville, near Benoni, yesterday resolved to summon the Minister of Co-operation and Development and Education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, to an urgent meeting where some of the causes of the current unrest, like the age limit for black pupils, and the contentious issue of rent increases would be discussed.

The heated debate of Eruca, a body representing 14 councils in the East Rand, was sparked off by a hard-hitting report by the organisation's chairman, Mr Tom Boya, on the Government's recently announced decision to offer for sale the sorghum beer outlets to the private sector.

Local Authority

"It is with utter dismay that we learn that the Minister of Co-operation and Development and Education has taken a decision without consulting the local authorities," said Mr Boya.

"We are beginning to wonder what the Government is up to," he said, adding that they (the Government) are stripping them of all sources of revenue.

He said the only way the East Rand councils could avoid rent increases would be by being able to raise revenue from such undertakings as the running of the sorghum breweries, beer halls and other liquor outlets.

"As for sorghum beer, breweries and beer halls, we object in the strongest terms to these being sold. There is a lot we can do with the R40 million which we do not even get from the Government."

He said his association could no longer keep silent while money collected in its area was being used to develop homelands to which the East Rand people had no connection.

Another speaker, Mr M Mogorosi, Eruca's secretary, said councillors ought to quit if their demands were not met by the Government.

"When we agreed to serve in this Government-created institution, we thought those in authority were genuinely handing over power to the black people, but now we realise that we are being used as cannon fodder," he said.

Confidence

Said Mr AP Khumalo whose Katlehong house was gutted during rioting about three weeks ago: "Our own people have turned against us because they have lost confidence in us, and it is now our duty to reverse the trend by telling those in authority what the black people of this country want."

Eruca has instructed its secretary, Mr Mogorosi, to send urgent telegrams to the Minister of Co-operation and Development and Education, and to the Director of the Department of Education and Training, demanding a meeting with them.

Star 4/10/84

s
r
t
n
y

ng
of
ity
nst
has
urt
ar-

Collection Number: AK2117

DELMAS TREASON TRIAL 1985 - 1989

PUBLISHER:

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

Location: **Johannesburg**

©2012

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of the collection records and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of a private collection deposited with Historical Papers at The University of the Witwatersrand.