

5.22.4

FOR PERSONAL ATTENTION MR. S. ROGERS.

11th November, 1957.

The Manager,
Native Administration,
LANGA. C.P.

Dear Mr. Rogers,

Further to our telephone conversation this morning on the subject of the first screening on 30th October, 1957 of Native families living at Belgravia and the implications thereof? I shall be most grateful if you can as arranged let me have you very full and clear explanation in this regard in writing for submission to the Institute's Regional Committee on Thursday evening 14th inst.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Kathleen R. Matthews.
REGIONAL SECRETARY.

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City of Cape Town. - Stad Kaapstad.

NATIVE ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT. - NATURELLE-ADMINISTRASIEDEPARTEMENT.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO BE DIRECTED TO

THE MANAGER:

LANGA.

KORRESPONDENSIE MOET GERIG WORD AAN

SAR/CK

13th November, 1957.

DIE BESTUURDER:

414

PHONE/FOON 69-8731.

The Regional Secretary,
S.A. Institute of Race Relations,
203-5 Bree Street,
CAPE TOWN.

Dear Madam,

re: Native squatters in Athlone Area.

With reference to our recent telephone conversation in connection with complaints which have been made to you by members of the National Council of Women on the above subject I have to confirm that my Department was recently approached by the Regional Representatives of the Group Areas Development Board with a request to collaborate with them in making a survey of the natives squatting in the Athlone area.

The area in question has been proclaimed for occupation by members of the Coloured, Malay and Indian groups by Proclamation No. 190 dated 5th July, 1957. In terms of this Proclamation all natives (and Europeans for that matter) living in the area must remove therefrom by the 5th July 1960, i.e., three years after the date of Proclamation.

Members of my Inspectorate staff have collaborated with the Inspector of the Group Areas Development Board in making the survey and the natives found living there have been instructed to report to my Office in Langa where the Registration records are kept, to enable them to be screened with the object of ascertaining whether or not they qualify for a permanent European-type dwelling in the Council's Native Township which is being planned at Nyanga West.

As you no doubt know, it is the Government's policy to discourage the permanent settlement of native families in the Cape Peninsula and to only provide funds to local authorities to erect dwellings on a letting basis to those natives who qualify in terms of Section 10 of the Natives (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act No. 25 of 1945, as amended.

Those natives who do not qualify are being told of the Government's policy and instructed to make arrangements to send their wives and families back to their homes after which the men themselves, if they choose to remain, will be required to take up accommodation which is available for them in the newly-erected Hostels in Langa.

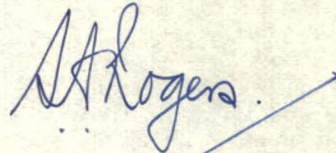
Pending/.....

Pending the erection of the permanent European-type dwellings at Nyanga West, it is possible that some natives who, for some reason or another, may either have no homes to which they can return, or may qualify for permanent housing, may be accommodated temporarily in pre-fabricated hutments provided by the Council in a transit camp to be established on part of the land at Nyanga West in terms of Section 6 of the Prevention of Illegal Squatters Act No. 52 of 1951.

Those natives who do not qualify and who have no homes to which their families can be returned are to be referred to the Department of Native Affairs for the purpose of acquiring sites in the Rural Villages in and near the Reserves which the Department is at present engaged on establishing.

I trust that the above will enable you to clarify the position to the members of your Institute and the National Council of Women.

Yours faithfully,



MANAGER OF NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

"Umneli",
Wolmunder Rd.,
Rosebank.

November 12th, 1957.

Dear Mrs. Matthews,

Herewith copies of some statements
taken from residents of Belgavia Estate.
The second lot of people are to report at
hanga on November 18th & 19th.

My husband is writing in his
professional capacity, on behalf of a man who
has been warned to report on the 18th, to Mr. Rogers,
asking what the meaning of the whole thing is.

In the meantime, I feel that
N.C.W. & the Institute should agree on
some form of concerted action. Mrs Grieve
will ~~be able to~~ speak on our behalf at Thursday
night's meeting.

Sincerely,

Flora Sutcliffe.

I, Enoch Maxhakana, living at 4, 7th Avenue, Belgravia Esxstate, Cape Town, was visited by an inspector of the "ative Affairs Department of the Municipality of Cape Town on about 15th October. He handed me a duplicated form headed "Application for Accomodation at Nyanaga West". On it were my name and address, my wife's name and the number of her permit, and our children's names and ages.

At the bottom of the form was a ^aspace for the description of my present house, and also the furniture [^]contained in the house. In the middle of the form was a space which read "You are advised to report to Langa on October 30th, 1957". I asked the inspector why he gave me this form, and he replied that the purpose was to give me the number of the house we would occupy at Nyanga West.

My wife and I went to Langa ^gon October 30th, and were attended to on that day. There were many [^]people present, all living in my neighbourhood in Belgravia. We were interviewed by ~~the~~ ^{the} same municipal official, who spoke Xosa. He had my file and ~~and~~ my wife's file in front of him.

I was first asked where I was born, and also where my wife came from. Also, where my parents were, and when I said they were both dead, ~~they~~ asked me if I was the first born. I said I was an only child, and had no family in the Transkei or elsewhere. I was also asked about my present job, how long I had been there, and how much I earned. I told them I had been there 14 months. He then told me that, as I had not been in my present employment for eight years or more, my wife would have to leave Cape Town x when her permit expires.

I have been here since 1943.

My wife has been here with me since 1949, and we are legally married. Her permit number is 38119, and it expires on 15th July 1958. I asked, where must my wife go, and I was told that she must go to my birth place, even though I have no family there, and she must get a stand and build her own house there. I was told that I could go and live in the "Zones", at Langa. No mention was made of what would happen to my three children.

allocated

Nothing was ~~is~~ said about my being [^]either a house or a site at Nyanga West, and the interview concluded.

Enoch Maxhakana

7th November, 1957.

I, Livingstone Sabulali, of 4, Seventh Avenue, Belgravia Estate, was also handed a form by a Municipal Inspector on October 15th, which warned me to report to Langa on October 30th.

I went to Langa on that day, and was interviewed ~~on that~~ by the municipal official who had interviewed the other people. He had my file in front of him. My wife was ill in bed that day.

I have been in Cape Town since 1942, and my wife since 1946. We have three children. My wife is not working. We are legally married.

I was asked where I was born, where my parents were, and I told him they are both dead. I was asked if I have a brother in the Transkei, and when I said yes, I was told that I must prepare a place at my brother's place for my wife to go to. I said this was not possible.

I was asked how long I had been working in my job, and I said I had been working at Grootte Schuur Hospital since December, 1953. I was then told that as I had not been working for my present employer for eight years or more, my wife would have to leave Cape Town when her permit expires. Previous to working at Grootte Schuur Hospital, I worked for Mr. Bakker, Chairman of the City Council's Housing Committee, for seven and a half years.

Nothing was said about Nyanga West, and I was not told about a house or a place to build there.

L. Sabulali

12th November, 1957.

I, Walriel Zibi, living at 7th Avenue, Belgravia Estate, Cape Town, was visited by an inspector of the Native Affairs Department of the Municipality of Cape Town on about the 15th October. He handed me a duplicated form headed "Application for Accomodation at Nyanga West". On it were my name and address, my wife's name and the number of her permit, and also the names of my children.

At the bottom of the form was a space for the description of my present house, and also the furniture contained in the house. In the middle of the form, there was a place which said "You are advised to report to Langa on October 30th, 1957. I asked the inspector why he gave me this form, and he replied that the purpose was to give us the number of a house we could occupy at Nyanga West.

My wife and I went to Langa on October 30th. There were many people there, all living at or near 7th Avenue, Belgravia. We were interviewed one by one by a municipal official, who spoke Xosa. I waited all day for my interview, but was not attended to, and had to return the following day.

When my turn came to be interviewed, the first question asked me was "Where is your home?", I said "Here in Cape Town", because my mother has been living in Cape Town since 1940, and I have been here since 1941." I also told them that my Mother had originally come from Middledrift, and they said they would check with the Native Commissioner at Middledrift to see if I was telling the truth, and whether my father had really died in 1935. They told me that they would let me know when the letter came from Middledrift.

I was also asked if I was really married, and I offered to show my marriage certificate. Nothing was said about my being allocated either a house or a site at Nyanga West, and the interview concluded.

7th November, 1957.

Walriel Zibi

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