

- stage brief stoppage in protest.
- 3 SATS workers refuse to accept termination pay and rail warrants back to the 'home-lands'.
- IWWF warns of sympathy action.
- 4 Meeting between PE stevedores and SATS workers. SATS workers refuse to return until all are reinstated.
- 6 AFL/CIO delegation cancels its planned meeting with SATS in protest. Stevedoring companies intervene in an appeal to SATS to negotiate. Stevedores threaten sympathy strike.
- 9 Meeting between stevedoring firms and Schoeman reaches deadlock. Stevedores agree to postpone strike until outcome of subsequent meeting.
- 16 Meeting of 580 SATS dockworkers and the GMU decides to make representations to a SATS committee investigating the Staff Associations.

DISPUTE BETWEEN THE GENERAL WORKERS' UNION (GMU) AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN TRANSPORT SERVICES (SATS).

The General Workers' Union has gained recognition for its members employed by stevedoring companies at all four of SA's ports. The stevedoring firms and GMU say the relations between them are excellent.

The stevedores who work alongside the dockworkers employed by SATS, began recruiting SATS workers to become members of GMU. GMU has for the past 11 months been demanding that SATS recognise their union. It claims to represent 1 100 workers at two SA ports - East London and Port Elizabeth. The union has stated that it is only demanding recognition for these ports, because it represents the majority of workers there.

SATS has persistently refused to meet GMU's demands. Transport Minister, Hendrik Schoeman, has repeatedly stated that the Railways will only deal with its own Black Staff Association (BSA), and will never recognise outside unions.

The BSA is to become an affiliate of the Federal Council of the South African Railways and Harbours Staff Associations. In 1942 when the Federal Council was established it had seven white unions affiliated to it. Two coloured unions and one union for Indian employees

have since joined. The BSA, which at present has observer status, is expected to join the Council soon. Many of the dockers in PE, who originally joined the BSA, have since chosen to join GMU.

GMU is affiliated to the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITWF). There is a long history of solidarity amongst its various affiliates throughout the world. In the words of Harold Dunning, European representative on a recent visit to SA:

... the ITWF has become well-known for taking international action in support of workers' rights when it had been impossible to settle problems on a national level. (Rowetan, 16.08.82)

International support for railway workers who have joined the GMU has already been offered by the German, American and Canadian dockworkers, who have threatened an embargo on loading and unloading cargoes to and from South Africa's ports.

SATS has faced a local display of worker action in the go-slow which began towards the end of August. It has displayed stubbornness in refusing to be moved by that protest. There now looms an even more threatening prospect of, firstly, local stevedores engaging in a sympathy strike and, secondly, the threat by international dockworkers to take action.

Industry in the eastern Cape is resting on the brink of an explosion, if the dispute is not resolved soon.

Industrialists in the eastern Cape have attempted to persuade SATS to start discussions with the GMU. Assistant General Manager for personnel at SATS, Dr Anton Moolman, is adamant that SATS will not talk to the union, because 'once you have begun talking to someone it is a kind of recognition', he believes.

The Ford Motor Company has appealed to SATS to recognise GMU. The Midland Chamber of Industries has also expressed its concern over the matter. Brian Matthews, executive director of the Chamber, has said:

Industry is bringing goods through the port and we'd like this to continue without any hassles. We don't want supply lines disrupted particularly as 80% of the regional economy is dependent on the motor car industry. If SATS can't supply the industry with components, this could impact on the region. (Financial Mail, 03.09.82)

Why then is SATS refusing to negotiate with GMU? One of the reasons for SATS' refusal to recognise the GMU, and its unyielding stance in dealing solely with the BSA, may be located within the nature and composition of the existing transport unions affiliated to the Federal Council.

The seven white unions represent the 115 000 white SATS employees. SATS has prided itself over the fact that its relations with these unions have resulted in four decades of industrial peace. The coloured and Indian unions within the council have a potential of representing 25 000 coloured and Indian workers. SATS employs 130 000 african workers, of whom 90 000 are said to have joined the BSA over the last 18 months. (Statistics obtained from Survey of Race Relations, 1982).

What SATS fears more than the threat which GMU and the international port unions pose, are the enfranchised white workers it employs (115 000 of them), many of whom are foremen who manage and control its operations. Schoeman has manipulated the situation and has succeeded in appeasing the white workers' fears of a militant 'outside' black trade union influencing labour relations at SATS. The Federal Council publically thanked the Minister for the strong stand taken against the recognition of an outside union, which they said would 'bring chaos and confusion' (RSM, 25.06.82).

A strike by the 115 000 white workers would be unlikely. However, since white railway workers are traditional National Party supporters, the risk of alienating 10% or more of the white electorate must give pause to a National Party government already threatened from the far right.

The situation, however, still remains serious for both SATS and GMU. The 400 workers bussed out of the harbour in Port Elizabeth, when they refused to abandon their go-slow protest, have been sacked. GMU made the following statement about having to resort to industrial action:

However, mindful of the seriousness of their particular dispute and its potential consequences for the stability of the Eastern Cape, the workers have decided to engage initially in limited industrial action.

We wish to reiterate that workers have

tremendous responsibility to all our employees and to the masses of unemployed in our area, and it is our responsibility to help them to help themselves.

I stress this point, because I do not believe that our black brothers want charity from us and in fact, I think we would be insulting them by giving them charity. It is our task as Christians to create black leaders, black entrepreneurs and industrialists so that they in turn can help to employ all their people.

I ask the question - where are the black entrepreneurs and industrialists who should be providing jobs for the masses of black unemployed people that they are continuing to produce at such an alarming rate, and is it really the responsibility of the white man to provide jobs and livelihood for these multitudes of blacks?

It is time that a much more responsible attitude is adopted with regard to family planning because if the masses of black people continue to produce more and more people at the rate that they are at present, there is no way that we can prevent starvation on a fairly large scale in the future.

NEED FOR PRAYER

I therefore come to the conclusion that our most important responsibility is that of education and helping our labour to uplift themselves, so that they in the long run, may be able to enjoy a better kind of life. However, I am still not sure in my own mind, in spite of much prayer about this matter, as to where our Christian responsibility begins and ends.

FOOTNOTE: Last year Mr Tilney was chosen as the Border Marketer of the Year by the East London daily newspaper, the Daily Dispatch. Presenting the award, the newspaper attributed Mr Tilney's success to 'his own inventiveness, initiative, planning, motivation and foresight'.

labour action

TRANVAAL

Company: Auto Plastics (Rosslyn)
Date: 12-13 August, 1982
Workers: 900

Union: National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (NAAMU)

Workers downed tools in protest at the planned retrenchment of 63 workers. They returned on 13 August, after the management opened negotiations with the NAAMU.

As a result of the talks the company agreed not to lay off the workers but to go on a shorter working week. Union shop stewards stated that they had also submitted retrenchment procedure proposals to management. (RDM, 14.08.82; Star, 18.08.82)

Company: B and S Engineering (B-rite)
Date: 7 September

Workers: 1 000

Union: Metal and Allied Workers' Union (MAWU)

Workers at two B and S Engineering plants downed tools in protest at the sacking of a colleague. The strike followed talks between the company and MAWU over union recognition. Reports that the company had closed the plants and fired the workers could not be confirmed. Workers at the plant had also gone on strike a few weeks earlier over planned retrenchments at the plant, but the dispute was later resolved. (RDM, 08.09.82).

MAWU claims that 900 workers were fired during the strike and rejected reports by the company that 70% of the workers had returned by 13 September. (Star, 15.09.82).

In a subsequent development, a foreman at the factory appeared in court on charges under the Intimidation Act. The foreman, Jacob Mahakine, chairman of the workers' committee at B and S, was remanded in custody and the case was postponed until 20 September.

Company: Chubb Alarms (Johannesburg)

Date: 9-10 August

Workers: 30-60 worker

Union: none

Workers struck over new disciplinary rules imposed by new managers, specifically over the searching of their lockers. They also complained that they were no longer allowed to go to the toilet; to talk to each other during working hours; they no longer received sick pay; and were fined R7,50 if they were five minutes late.

A company spokesman confirmed that discipline had been tightened. During discussions with the workers management explained that the R7,50 was a bonus which workers forfeited if they arrived late. Searches were carried out on all employees regardless of race, to counter theft.

The workers returned after management had investigated their grievances and found that there was no substance to them'. (RDM, 11.08.82).

Company: Coffin manufacturers (Brits)

Date: 26-31 August

Workers: 60

Union: Metal and Allied Workers' Union

Workers struck in protest at the dismissal of a fellow worker, who had stayed away from work for two days. Management claimed that he had 'deserted', but the workers claimed that he was given a letter by management allowing him to stay away from work to see a doctor. He could only see the doctor on the second day. The strike ended after the company had agreed to reinstate the man. (RDM, 31.08.82 and 01.09.82).

Company: Colgate Palmolive (Boksburg). For background see WIP 18:44-5; 19:54-5; 20:43; 23:52

Date: 25 August

Workers: 100

Union: Chemical Workers' Industrial Union

Singing workers marched through the company's plant in a 20 minute protest against the demotion of a colleague and in support of claims that management was doubling the workload in its boilerhouse without hiring new staff.

Workers sang union songs and displayed a poster which read 'Boilerhouse FOSATU'. Management did not appear to intervene directly in the march. In a statement issued after the protest, CWIU members at Colgate accused management of doubling its operations in the boilerhouse and refusing to acknowledge workers' demands that it hire additional staff. They said that the grievance had first been raised in April. They also stated that a union member had been demoted and his place taken by a non-member. The union also called on the company to account for the presence of security police during the protest march.

The company denied any knowledge of the presence of the security police. Management also stated that the march was 'irrelevant and unnecessary' and that the complaints raised by the workers were still going through the grievance procedure negotiated between the company and the CWIU. (RDM, 26.08.82; Sowetan, 27.08.82).

Company: Distillers Corporation (Wadeville). For previous coverage see WIP 22:29

Date: 10 August

Workers: 570

Union: National Union of Wine and Spirits Workers

Workers struck over a demand that a supervisor, who had been transferred, be returned to the original plant. The Corporation's PRO, PJ Retief, said that the workers were not happy about the transfer, but did not make representations to management until the 10th when they stopped work.

Management stated that it was prepared to take all workers back who showed interest. There were no further reports. (Sowetan, 12.08.82).

Company: De Luxe Consolidated Dry Cleaners and Launderers (Pretoria). For background see

WIP 23:50; Information Sheet August, 1982:1

On 26 August, the secretary of the Transvaal (Pretoria) branch of the General Workers' Union of SA (GWIUSA)

NATAL**Company:** CG Smith (Natal)**Date:** -**Workers:** -**Union:** National Union of Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employees

The union decided to take CG Smith to court over the status of workers employed in the loading and unloading of cane to the mill. The union claimed that the workers were industrial workers, and should be paid industrial council rates. CG Smith claimed that the workers were agricultural workers and fell outside the council agreement. Wages paid to industrial workers are more than 50% higher than those paid to agricultural workers.

The industrial court ruled that the workers in the cane loading zones and mill sites were industrial workers. It recommended that conditions of employment for those workers should be renegotiated. (Financial Mail, 27.08.82)

Company: Defy Metal Industries (Durban). For background see WIP 21:52; 22:31**Date:** -**Workers:** -

Union: South African Allied Workers' Union
Workers at this firm have been negotiating with management for about nine months to have their contributions to the Metal Industries Pension Fund refunded. Defy says that they cannot meet the demand because of the fund's rules. SAAMU says it is considering appealing to the Minister of Manpower to grant the workers exemption from the provisions of the fund; asking the company to establish a non-contributory fund; seeking a Supreme Court order.

The Steel and Engineering Industries Federation (SEIFSA) has refused the company exemption from the pension fund. (RDM, 27.08.82)

Company: Iscor (Natal)**Date:** ?**Workers:** -**Union:** Black Allied Workers' Union

BAWU took legal action against Iscor because the company had deducted contributions for a burial fund and a facilities fund from union members' pay packets. Iscor settled out of court by paying back more than R27 000 to BAWU. (Star, 09.09.82)

Company: SA Fabrics (Durban). For background see Information Sheet August, 1982:5**Date:** July, 1982**Workers:** 60**Union:** National Union of Textile Workers

The NUTW has alleged that the 60 workers laid off in July, were retrenched without prior consultation with the union. A conciliation board is due to meet soon to rule on the matter.

EASTERN CAPE**Company:** Busaf (Port Elizabeth)**Date:** 6 August**Workers:** 25% of the workforce**Union:** ?

The services of about 25% of the african workforce at Busaf vehicle body manufacturing plant in PE were terminated after a work stoppage.

No further news.

Company: Ford, General Motors, Volkswagen (PE)

Disputes over pay at the GM, VW and Ford plants continued in August after a 10 day stoppage in July, involving at least 10 500 members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (NAAMU). On 30 August Volkswagen closed its giant Uitenhage plant 'until further notice', and about 5 000 workers were sent home because of a go-slow over pay demands.

NAAMU's general secretary, F Sauls, stated that the workers were demanding to negotiate with management over their pay grievances, rather than through the industrial council for the industry.

On 4 August General Motor's vehicle assembly plant and Ford's truck plant were closed after workers had downed tools. Sauls stated that his union's national executive had decided to 'firmly resist' arbitration. He said that they believed that collective bargaining should take place between employers and workers only, and that they would not accept involvement by third parties. He said that workers were increasingly demanding to negotiate directly with individual companies rather than through the council.

At report back meetings on 5 August workers rejected a renewed offer by employers of an additional five cents an hour, made at a meeting of the industrial council for the industry. GM and VW workers accepted a management proposal for 'lay-off pay', but this was also rejected by Ford. This offer was accepted by the white workers' union on the council - the SA Iron and Steel Workers' Union. The Ford and GM plants resumed production on the 5th. However, GM and Ford's Neave and truck plants closed again on the 8th after renewed strikes by workers at these plants. P Searle, managing director of VW, stated that employers might introduce robots into plants if the labour situation remained unchanged.

Talks continued to be deadlocked when the employers and NAAMU met on 9 August, with NAAMU then withdrawing from the industrial council. Sauls said that the union had left the council chiefly to avoid arbitration of the dispute by a third party. The employers had suggested that they go to arbitration to settle the issue with the arbitrators appointed by themselves.

VW and GM remained closed with Ford's plants in partial production with a stay away of 25%.

On 10 August Ford announced that it would close its plants in eight days from 11 August, because workers again downed tools after six workers had been sacked. The move affected about 5 000 workers. However, both VW and GM announced that their plants would begin full production on the 11th. Ford's industrial relations director, Ferreira, stated that all workers affected would receive three days leave pay during the closure which would enable the company to 're-align stocking

levels and redraft forward production schedules'.

However, production was brought to a standstill again at GM on the 11th when workers downed tools because of the sacking of 18 colleagues, one a shop steward. The workers were sacked concerning incidents when some workers allegedly assaulted others and destroyed company property.

Around this time the International Union of Automobile Workers (UAW) wrote to Ford and GM in the USA, calling on the companies there to help resolve the critical situation in the eastern Cape motor industry. It stated that the wage proposals presented by the union to GM in SA were fair and responsible. (RDM, 12.08.82)

On the 12th GM workers returned and the plant resumed normal production, only to be closed at 14h00 because there were too few vehicles available for building.

During the closure of its plant Ford announced that it would lay off 507 hourly paid workers at its production plants. NAAMU attacked this move, saying its members would not react 'positively and without resistance'. Ferreira stated that although July car sales had been high, a marked decline was expected in the future. He said that the unions had been apprised of the situation for over three months. NAAMU said that the layoffs proved that Ford acted only 'in the interests of the profits of its shareholders at the expense of workers and that management and worker interests were irreconcilable'. (RDM, 14.08.82)

There was strong reaction by NAAMU workers at VW to a statement by the Reverend Allan Hendrikse, leader of the Labour Party, who said that the eastern Cape community did not support the workers' demands, and accused NAAMU of 'misusing the strike weapon'. A NAAMU organiser said that VW workers had passed a resolution 'condemning the Labour Party and Rev Hendrikse's approach to the dispute'. (RDM, 17.08.82)

Ford opened on the 20th, but was immediately hit by a strike by 400 workers at its truck plant as well as its cut and sew and part and accessories divisions, in protest against the retrenchment of the 500 workers. (RDM, 21.08.82) Production returned almost to normal on the 23rd.

Informal negotiations between NAAMU and employers continued and workers met on the 24th and reiterated their rejection of an interim wage increase offer by employers of 20 cents.

In early September Ford and NAAMU announced that they had reached an agreement on the procedure for rehiring the 507 workers. They would hire them as vacancies occurred, and would not hire new staff unless specific skills were required which none of the retrenched workers had. (RDM, 07.09.82)

VW announced in late August that it had shelved a R100-m expansion programme because of labour unrest. It denied that it had plans to move to another part of South Africa or to retrench staff. Sauls said that VW had made the announcement to gain a stronger bargaining position for future wage negotiations. (Star, 27.08.82)

On 31 August the employers announced that they would unilaterally implement the 20 cents an hour interim wage increase, to come into effect retro-

Accused 2 (Mqahutyane) joined the ANC, and established or had knowledge of arms caches near Umlezi. He was in possession of, or had control over

3,8 kg plastic explosives
5 x 200 g blocks of TNT
11 x 400 g blocks of TNT
16 x 1kg plastic explosives
3 limpet mines
Safety fuse and detonators
A Makarov pistol and cartridges

The third accused, Seth Gaba, joined the ANC, and underwent military training in Swaziland. He attempted to recruit Mphilo Ichabod Taho to undergo military training in Mozambique under the auspices of the ANC.

Gaba returned to South Africa to reconnoitre places in Durban and Mdantsane with a view to possible acts of sabotage. He established or concealed caches of arms and explosives near Mdantsane and Durban, and was in possession of

400 g TNT
4 x 200g TNT
4 x 75 g TNT
1 kg plastic explosives
Detonators
2 hand grenades
A Makarov pistol and ammunition.

In addition to this, the accused were all charged with criminal liability for the eight bomb blasts mentioned above. The state did not allege that all three accused had actually detonated the bombs, but that they had been involved in the planning or executing of the attacks in one way or another.

The state set out details of these blasts as follows:

DATE	PLACE	DAMAGE CAUSED	NO. INJURED
07.02.	Scotts Stores, Herriot House, Field Street	R13 890	1
25.05	Railway line at Umlezi bridge	R 1 448	NIL
27.05	SADF recruiting offices, Smith Street	R23 385	NIL

26.06	Genotaph, Francis Farewell Square	R 2 300	NIL
26.07	McCarthy Layland, Smith Street	R38 500	NIL
26.07	Parks for Peugeot, Smith Street	R221 000	2
10.10	Whitehead Building	R148 894	4
03.11	Indian Affairs Offices, Stanger Street	R 26 624	2

The trial began on August 2, 1982 in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court before Justice Auret van Heerden and two assessors.

A major feature of the trial involved the number of witnesses called by the state who refused to testify. All received very lengthy sentences, which were in some cases the heaviest ever imposed by South African courts for refusing to testify. Most of those who would not give evidence had been in security police detention for long periods before being brought to court.

Those who refused to testify were:

Litha Jolobe, 25-year old law student from the University of Swaziland. Detained on 23.11.81, Jolobe was sentenced to four years imprisonment for refusing to testify;

Mbulelo Hongo, a 26 year old legal clerk, was detained on 04.12.81. Refusing to testify, he was sentenced to three years imprisonment;

Bululane Ngcuka, a 28-year old attorney, and cousin of Maqubela, was detained on 30.11.81.

He was sentenced to three years imprisonment;

Mphilo Ichabod Taho, 20, is a former Fort Hare student, and is listed as a BAAWU member in some reports. Detained in December, 1981, he was sentenced to the maximum possible imprisonment for refusing to testify, namely five years;

Alyanda Mphahwa, a 23-year old Durban student, was initially held by security police on 03.12.81.

Brought to court during August, 1982, he was sentenced to four years imprisonment for refusing to testify.

A trial within a trial was held to establish the admissibility of a statement made by accused number 3, Seth Gaba, while in custody. Gaba claimed that he made the statement as a result of severe assaults committed by security police, and in particular, a Lieutenant Naude of East London.

While police denied the assaults, Gaba claimed that his hand had been handcuffed to a chair, and he was ordered to write about his ANC involvement with his other hand. All this time, Lieutenant Naude was hitting him across the back of the head. Naude then allegedly placed a wet canvass bag over Gaba's head, and he was handcuffed with his hands behind his legs in a crouching position with a stick between his legs and arms; he was then suspended on the stick between two tables.

According to Gaba, Naude said that he had a 'six-point plan to make terrorists talk'.

Naude denied that he had assaulted Gaba, admitting only that he had slapped Gaba when he had arrested him: this was because Gaba moved towards a cushion under which a Makarov pistol was subsequently found.

Presiding Judge van Heerden ruled that the statement had been made freely and voluntarily, and was therefore admissible against Gaba as evidence.

In the statement, Gaba said that he had gone for military training in Swaziland in October, 1980. He was taken to Durban to accused number 1, Maqubela, who arranged the trip for him.

In Swaziland, he received training on how to make explosives, in the use of hand grenades, and how to handle a fire-arm.

When I was ready to leave I was given a sketch showing where I would find the goods in Umata cemetery. At first I was to operate alone...I was to obtain information on Major-General Ngcoba, Transkei Commissioner of Police and head of Transkei's security police, and if I had the chance, I was to shoot him.

general crippling of the economy.

The case is an important one, in that the state is seeking to establish that non-violent ANC activity amounts to Treason, while the defence claims that it is possible to be an ANC activist without being guilty of Treason or Terrorism.

The trial, which began in the Rand Supreme Court on August 2, 1982, is being heard by Judge van Dyk. The state's main witness was ex-spy and security policeman, Major CW Williamson, who gave evidence on the nature of the ANC and its activities.

For the defence, Tom Lodge, lecturer at the University of Witwatersrand, gave evidence on how the accused could have associated herself with the ANC, but not with its violent activities. He testified that since the formation of MK (Umkonto we Sizwe, the military wing), the ANC had continued to maintain its non-military organisation which worked separately from the military wing. The ANC, according to Lodge, has a 'multi-dimensional' strategy, and anyone in broad sympathy with the organisations social aims - as set out in the Freedom Charter - could be incorporated into the organisation's activity.

Industrial sociology expert, Eddie Webster, testified that strikes, boycotts and trade union organisation did not necessarily cripple or prejudice industry and the economy. Neither did the organisation of unemployed workers.

Webster claims that these activities were an attempt to place pressure on employers once all else had failed. An unemployed workers' union could prevent scab labour from taking the jobs of strikers, and thus prevent conflict between workers.

Judgement in this trial is expected in late October.

TERRORISM ACT TRIALS

Alan Morris Fine (29).

The accused faces a main charge of Terrorism, with an alternative count under the Internal Security Act. The state alleges that, by involving himself

in the activities of the South African Congress of Trade Unions (SACTU), he furthered the aims of the banned African National Congress (ANC). SACTU is itself not a banned organisation.

During late 1977, the accused is alleged to have visited Jeanette Schoon, an official of SACTU in Botswana. He is further alleged to have sent information to Schoon for the use of SACTU, by the use of dead-letter boxes, ordinary post, and meetings in Botswana.

Fine admitted that he had sent certain legal information to Schoon from late 1977 to September, 1981; however, he denied that this involved a conspiracy to further the aims of the ANC via SACTU. He also denied the state's allegation that SACTU aimed to organise workers to play a militant role in a revolutionary process.

Major CW Williamson, security police spy who infiltrated the ANC and informed on their activities, gave evidence in the trial. He admitted that he was not an expert on SACTU. According to Williamson, SACTU has its own identity, but is also part of a revolutionary alliance led by the ANC.

The ANC was regarded as a mass democratic organisation working towards national liberation. It was supported by various other organisations including SACTU and the Communist Party. The revolutionary aim of the national liberation movement meant that radical changes in society would have to take place. Williamson admitted that these could occur by violent or non-violent means.

Williamson agreed that it was not necessarily unlawful to send information to SACTU, depending on the motives of those involved.

Williamson also conceded that the fact that the accused operated in a clandestine manner, using dead letter boxes, sending information in magazines, etc) did not make the communication itself unlawful. He agreed that people 'on the left' tended to behave clandestinely for fear of banning or detention, even if what they were doing was not unlawful.

Fine, in his evidence, said that he understood that SACTU was an independent organisation, and that in working for SACTU he did not believe he was breaking any law.

However, I am aware that many SACTU officials and supporters have suffered from harassment. It was for this reason that he agreed to communicate with Jeanette Schoon in a clandestine manner.

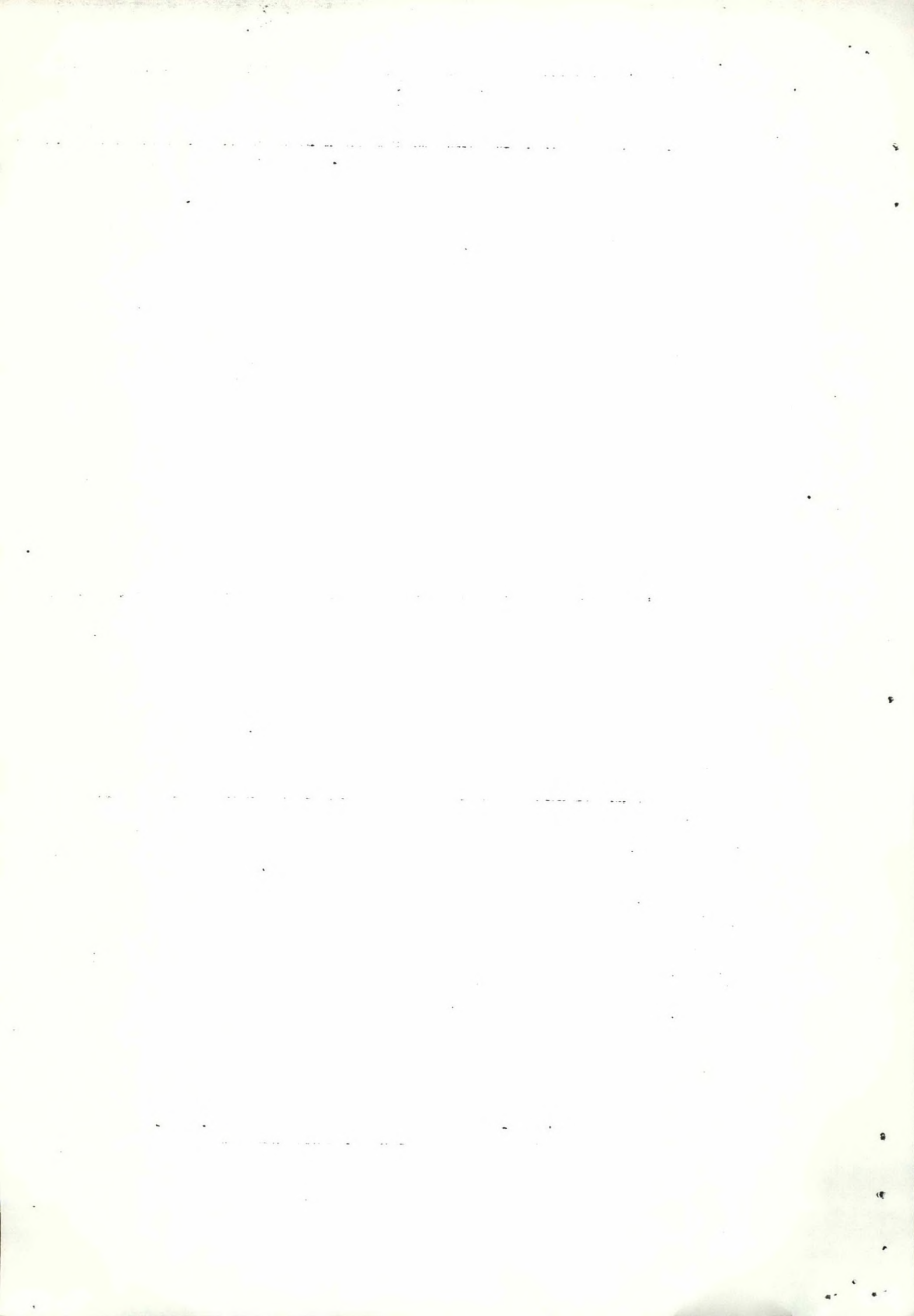
Fine explained that he was prepared to associate himself with SACTU, as it had (together with other members of the Congress Alliance) declared the principles of the Freedom Charter to be its objective. He believed that radical change could take place without violence, and that a strong trade union movement could exert pressure for non-violent change.

Industrial sociologist Eddie Webster testified that strikes, boycotts and trade union organisation did not necessarily aim to cripple South African industry. According to Webster, strikes are considered to be the ultimate weapon when all else fails during a dispute.

The defence has argued that Webster's evidence puts the activities of the accused into a proper perspective. He was participating in normal, lawful activities which were part of a continuing process of change in South Africa. In so far as he supplied SACTU with information about labour matters, he did not, according to the defence, endanger the maintenance of law and order.

The state has claimed that Fine's activities had the likely result of endangering the maintenance of law and order, and that he is accordingly guilty of Terrorism. Alternatively, according to the state, he entered into a conspiracy with SACTU which furthered the aims of the ANC. This would render him guilty of the Internal Security Act charge.

Fine, who was detained in September, 1981, and has been in custody ever since, will have judgement passed on his activities on 8 November, in the Johannesburg Regional Court.



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