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CONFIDENTIAL  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

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NON-EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

603  
388 af  
426  
58 Cofm

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE ABOVE COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD ON MONDAY, 25TH JANUARY 1960, AT 3.30 P.M.

BRIAN PORTER,

21st January 1960.

TOWN CLERK.

A G E N D A.

14 spread over  
Sandhurst

1. LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

2. REPORT. (Attached).

Non-European Affairs Department.

3. DEPUTATION.

From Johannesburg Indian Catering Employees' Association to be received at 3.30 p.m.

4. GENERAL.

Safarico | 7/2 Dubert  
Rosevear | 6 Polio  
          | 4 Turroul  
          | 2 Free State

BC/IG  
21.1.60.

2.15

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE. (5.2.60)  
NON-EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. (25.1.60)  
SUB-COMMITTEE RE GROUP AREAS MATTERS.

COUNCIL.  
REFERENCE TO OTHER COMMITTEES.  
REFERENCE TO OTHER COMMITTEES.

NON-EUROPEAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT.

INDIAN HOUSING.

On the 11th January 1960 the Non-European Affairs Committee agreed to receive a deputation from the Johannesburg Indian Catering Employees' Association to discuss housing at a special meeting on the 25th January 1960.

The Association claims to have approximately 500 members, all of whom fall within the sub-economic group and will find it most difficult to meet the high cost of living in Lensasia, which is approximately twenty-one miles from the city. Furthermore their hours of work will make it almost impossible for them to enjoy family life if they are compelled to travel such long distances between their homes and places of employment.

The Association has, therefore, been very active in attempting to find a locality nearer the city than Lenasia which could be set aside for Indian occupation, more particularly the sub-economic group which they represent.

The Secretary of the Association recently informed the Town Clerk that the joint owners (J.C.I. Ltd. and Crown Mines) are prepared to negotiate the sale to the Council, for a housing scheme for Indians, of a piece of land adjoining the north-eastern boundary of the Farm Langlaagte which the Council is acquiring as an area for the Coloured group. This land is approximately 130 acres in extent; at eight families per acre it will accommodate approximately 1,000 families and it is fairly near the city. The Secretary states that the Group Areas Board gave a sympathetic hearing to representatives of his Association when they discussed the setting aside of this land as a group area for Indians. A plan showing the land will be laid on the table and the City Engineer has been asked to examine its suitability for housing.

As members of the Coloured and Indian groups have occupied adjoining properties in the same locality for many years without any apparent racial tension, the Non-European Affairs Department sees no objection to the establishment of a group area for Indians adjoining that set aside for the Coloured group.

If the Group Areas Board is opposed to a scheme for Indians on this site, the Council should still consider acquiring the land as an extension of the proposed Coloured area.

:- Subject ....

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NON-EUROPEAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT.

Subject to any comments of the Sub-Committee appointed to deal with Group Areas matters,

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

(a) That the Town Clerk be authorised to negotiate for the purchase of a piece of land, approximately 130 acres in extent, adjoining the north-eastern boundary of the portion of the Farm Langlaagte which the Council is in the process of acquiring *and any suitable*

(b) That representations be made to the Group Areas Board for the setting aside of the land referred to in (1) above as a group area for Indians.

(c)

(122/2/8)  
(N.E.A.D.49/60)

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
NON-EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON THE QUESTION OF INDIAN  
HOUSING - SETTING ASIDE OF AN AREA IN THE MUNICIPAL AREA  
OF JOHANNESBURG

BY THE JOHANNESBURG INDIAN CATERING EMPLOYEES ORGANISATION  
PRESENTED AT JOHANNESBURG ON THE 25TH JANUARY 1960.

Sirs,

We thank you most sincerely for affording us this opportunity of presenting our case. We represent the Indians who are employed in the Liquor and Catering Trade in Johannesburg; some 600 persons, and with their dependants, some 3,000.

The persons are entirely dependent upon employment in the Catering Trade; we can safely state that for the past 50 to 60 years Indians have held the monopoly of the Trade. Further, it has become traditional for members of a family to seek employment in this Trade. There are some cases where three to four generations have served in an Hotel, in one capacity or another.

In terms of the Industrial Agreement for this Trade, a minimum basic wage of £10.10. 0. per month plus c.o.l.a., at present £4. 9.11. are paid. In some cases wages are paid up to £20 per month including c.o.l.a.

In view of this fact, we beg to lodge our emphatic and strong protest against any proposal for Lenasia Township under the present earnings and the hours of work.

Owing to acute shortage of housing, the Landlords took advantage of charging key-money and high rent, and slum conditions prevail.

Having interviews on several occasions with the Group Areas Board and the Transvaal and Free State Committee, we have recommended several areas. Our recommendations did not materialise.

We are thankful for the sympathetic hearing given to us in the past by the Manager and other officials of the Non-European Affairs Department. Many promises were made to us concerning an area and sub-economic housing for the lower income group. It is our hope that these promises will materialise in the near future.

A waiter plays a significant role, when it comes to the cullinary art of serving the business executive and the general public, in a most efficient and disciplinary manner. This is an accepted fact, well known to all managements within the Trade. Are we to be a forgotten group of workers, not assured of a place to live in according to our earnings?

CONCLUSION:

Particularly in view of the services rendered, it is felt that a just and legitimate appeal should receive the sympathetic consideration it deserves. We shall forever remain thankful for your keen interest in our affairs. May God help in assisting those who really deserve to be assisted.

We remain, Gentlemen,

Yours sincerely,

29a Nursery Road,  
Fordsburg,  
JOHANNESBURG.

Chairman:

A. Poonam

Hon. Secretary:

M. Pillay

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