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Die Universiteit van die Oranje-Vrystaat

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The Daily News

Many black tenants have been questioned by the SAP's Group Areas unit, but this had not lead to prosecutions under the Group Areas Act.

Tenants were annoyed with landlords who exploited their desparate need for housing and overcharged them.

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Black tenants may meet landlords

BLACK residents

BLACK residents of Albert Park are to take the initiative to protect their rights as tenants, a meeting of about 50 people decided last night.

The residents have been stung into action by two recent evictions of blacks from flats and petitions signed by some white residents calling on the Government to take action against black tenants.

Residents at the meeting decided they would meet again in two weekends' time to discuss steps such as setting up meetings with estate agents and landlords, and with the whites who want them out.

Several speakers made the point that before blacks moved in, the flats had been standing empty; in some cases for two years.

More than 50 residents attended the meeting, which was convened by the Durban Central Residents Association.

Tenants said after the meeting that about 1500 blacks now lived in Albert Park, despite the Group Areas Act.

They did not believe that the Government would evict them, and assumed that the suburb would be declared a free settlement area sometime in the future.