



Bron nr. 0 10 8 6

Datum 1989. 4. 19

Onderwerp nr. 043

Knipsel nr. 11495

The Daily News

Jg..... Nr..... P. 4 Dat. 1989. 4. 19

Vlok urged to act in Durban areas

Martin Challenor
Political Reporter

A RATEPAYERS' organisation representing 6 000 people in Durban has urged Mr Adriaan Vlok, Minister of Law and Order, to act speedily and decisively in enforcing group areas and separate amenities.

This would be in keeping with National Party election promises, the Civic Action League told Mr Vlok in a letter.

It was written by the vice-chairman, Mr Barry Milne, who said the CAL was the largest ratepayers' organisation in South Africa.

Members included 'white residents of the Albert Park, Point and other areas of Durban whose irate calls of distress and resentment daily inundate our offices'.

Mr Milne said the mandate given to the Government by the electorate had been betrayed as the Government had promised to uphold the Group Areas Act.

"We resent the lack of action by our police against those who contravene the Group Areas and Separate Amenities Acts."

Because of the lack of positive government action, Albert Park was already unofficially a free settlement area.

"All ethnic residential groupings were promised

that their areas would not become 'open' against the wishes of the legal residents and we would ask you, sir, to tell us when the residents of Point and Albert Park were ever consulted.

"Yet entire blocks have been taken over by other communities.

"Have the appeals for police action fallen on ears deafened by orders from government level?"

Mr Milne said that reports of prostitutes operating in Albert Park met with little response. One complainant was told the Vice Squad did

not operate after dark.

There was drunkenness, arrogance, lewdness, aggression, loud vulgarity late at night "and always illegal infiltration into white flats".

In Point, there were large-scale drinking sprees in some streets and back alleys, squatting on vacant stands and pavement drug dealing.

Some members of the police had allegedly told complainants that they were instructed to keep a low profile.

"There are many Indian and African policemen posted to white areas. What of 'own affairs'?"

"Surely, sir, whites may expect a response in their areas from white policemen with the same for Indians and Coloureds in their areas.

"It is small wonder that violations of group areas are dealt with so unenthusiastically when

the chances are that a black or Indian might take the complaint.

"Political in-fighting among blacks in their areas should obvious

answer why they cannot police their own areas, but if we in white areas can no longer look to effective police intervention, it will only be a matter of time before bloody 'black-on-black' street fights will be a fact of life in our cities and white suburbs."

People who got in touch with the CAL were fearful and angry. They demanded effective police action and called for the Government to stand by its election promises. They spoke of forming vigilante groups.

Such talk "would not exist if the police were enabled to act with authority," Mr Milne said. "Less than that is tantamount to anarchy, no matter what the outside world or the liberals among us would dictate."

TREFWOOD

1. Challenor

2. Martin

3. Organisation

4. Belasting

5. Durban

6. Aansoek

7. Vlok Act

8. wetgewing

9. Groepgebied

10. Ophelting

11. Albert Park