

ANNEXURE D

The incidents associated with the riots between 16 June 1976 and 28 February 1977 in Soweto and other places or divisions in the Republic are set out in this Annexure. The order in which the incidents are arranged shows the course of events in the various divisions day by day. The divisions referred to in this Annexure are the Bantu Affairs Administration Board and Homeland Divisions, which appear in the following order:

West Rand
East Rand
Northern Transvaal
Highveld
Eastern Transvaal
Central Transvaal
Southern Transvaal
Vaal Triangle
Western Transvaal
Northern Orange Free State
Central Orange Free State
Southern Orange Free State
Diamond Fields
Cape Midlands
Karoo
Northern Cape
Eastern Cape
Peninsula
South-Western Cape
Northern Natal
Port Natal
Drakensberg
Bophuthatswana
Ndebele
Lebowa
Venda
Gazankulu

Qwaqwa
KaNgwane
kwaZulu
Ciskei

If a place or division is not mentioned under a specific day it means that the Commission did not receive evidence of any incidents on that day in that place or division.

The incidents are discussed in Part B, Chapters 2 to 31.

For the most part, only general information regarding deaths is given in this Annexure. More detailed information on all the deaths that resulted from the riots are given in Annexure F. When a page in Annexure F is referred to in this Annexure, the date of death or date on which the deceased was first wounded should be used to locate the specific case on the said page in Annexure F.

WEDNESDAY, 16 JUNE 1976.

West Rand: Soweto.

07h00: According to a woman reporter for a local newspaper, who had received information concerning a planned protest march, all was quiet at the Naledi High School grounds and there were no pupils about.

07h45: Col. J.A. Kleingeld, Station Commander of the Orlando Police Station, ordered all available policemen to be on stand-by. A Black sergeant who was sent to inspect the area saw several groups of marchers. The march was proceeding along Xorile Street from north to south. The sergeant notified the Orlando Police Station that children were marching in the streets.

07h50: Brig. S.W. le Roux, Divisional Commissioner for Soweto, received information concerning the marchers from the local Chief of Security and ordered six station commanders to send out patrols.

08h00: Scholars carrying placards gathered at the Naledi High School. Tebello Motapanyane addressed them and outlined the route they were to follow to the Orlando Sports Grounds. The vice-principal tried to address the scholars but was driven off. Motapanyane led the march to Orlando West past the Thomas Mofolo Secondary School and the Morris Isaacson High School. Scholars from the Tladi, Moletsane and Molapo Secondary Schools also arrived and took part in the protest march. The Morris Isaacson High School was deserted, however. At the Sizwe Stores, scholars from other schools joined the march.

Scholars from the Morris Isaacson High School arrived at the Thesele Secondary School in White City, carrying placards. The school principal was driven off and the Thesele scholars followed the other scholars. Some of the marchers forced motorists to give the Black Power salute. Already at this stage motorists were being threatened with assault or damage to their vehicles if they did not give the salute.

08h10: Mr D.D. Smit, an Inspector of the Department of Bantu Education, travelling by car to Jabulani, drove past the Orlando West, Dube and Belle Schools in the direction of the Morris Isaacson High School. In Maputu Street, before the intersection with the old Roodepoort Road, marching pupils from the school attacked him in his car; he sustained only minor injuries. Some of the pupils were carrying placards. Mr Smit reported the incident at the Jabulani Police Station and shortly after that a district commandant notified the Divisional Commissioner of the attack on Mr Smit.

Col. J.J. Gerber, Divisional Inspector for Soweto, left for Naledi to investigate conditions in the area. He saw between 800 and 1 000 scholars marching in the streets and reported to Brig. Le Roux that the scholars were marching to Orlando, that motor vehicles were being attacked, that the police were being pelted with stones and their vehicles damaged. Col. Gerber stated that on his arrival at the Jabulani Police Station he found that there were too few policemen to disperse the group of scholars. This finding was conveyed to the Divisional Commissioner. Col. Gerber stated that reinforcements were unobtainable at that stage because protest marches were taking place in other areas as well. Shortly afterwards Brig. Le Roux received information from other station commanders that youths were congregating in

large numbers, attacking and overturning vehicles in the streets and even setting them on fire. Brig. Le Roux ordered the station commanders to mobilise all available policemen immediately and, where possible, to keep the scholars in the school grounds, because they were molesting people in the streets as far as they went. He ordered Col. Gerber to go to the Orlando Police Station.

08h20: A further 600 scholars fell in with the 900 scholars marching from Naledi to Orlando. The marchers appeared to be in an aggressive mood and gave the Black Power salute to police vehicles. Some marchers were wearing the Naledi School uniform.

Maj. G.J. Viljoen, Station Commander of the Jabulani Police Station, ordered officials of the WRAB and other Whites to leave the area, which fell within his precinct.

08h30: A crowd of scholars congregated at Sizwe Stores; among them were pupils from the Morris Isaacson High School. Two reporters from a local newspaper fell in with the marching pupils. On their way to the Orlando West High School, marchers sang "Nkosi Sikelele Afrika" and "Morena Boloka Afrika" among other songs and carried placards. As the marchers made their way through Dube, their ranks were continually swelled by other scholars. An inciter of about 26 years of age was noticed in the group. This group later fell in with another group outside the Orlando West High School grounds.

A large group of scholars was seen in Mofolo Village near the golf course. Col. Kleingeld sent out three patrols, one to each of the three high schools in Orlando, to ascertain whether meetings were being held there. The patrols returning from the Orlando West and Diepkloof High Schools reported that all was quiet there. The third patrol reported that west of the railway line a mob of youths was on the march from the north, moving in the direction of the Orlando West High School. Col. Kleingeld investigated and followed the protest march by car, accompanied by two sergeants. The march comprised scholars and others. The moment the marchers spotted the police, they pelted them with stones. The scholars looked aggressive. Col. Kleingeld feared for

his and the sergeants' lives and vehicles and turned back to get reinforcements. On his way back he encountered two White policemen in a vehicle and ordered them to leave the area.

A woman reporter, who was at the scene, testified that a matriculant addressed the crowd at the Phefeni Railway Station. He is alleged to have said that, as they were aware, they were being followed by the South African Police, who were not to be provoked, as they (the marchers) were staging a peaceful march. However, the evidence relating to the morning's incidents does not suggest that his warning was heeded or that his intentions were carried into effect.

Col. Kleingeld requested reinforcements and issued revolvers and pistols to his men. With 48 policemen, 40 of whom were Black, he went past the Orlando Stadium to Uncle Tom's Hall, where scholars had gathered. He tried to address them. He was notified by radio that more marchers were approaching from the direction of Jabulani and Moroka. Stones were hurled at the police, and according to Col. Kleingeld the situation was highly explosive. The police used tear-gas grenades to disperse the crowd. The crowd moved to Khumalo Street. An inciter, brandishing a knob-kerry, danced at the head of the scholars. A dog unit joined the group of policemen. Col. Kleingeld ordered that the marchers be followed by Sgt. Hattingh, whom he joined later.

At this stage, Brig. Le Roux realised that the situation was explosive. He had too few men - between 300 and 350 - at his disposal to control the situation.

09h15: A Black journalist and a White woman journalist from the same daily paper arrived at the Phefeni Junior Secondary School and were warned by the local Black teachers to leave the area because of the approach of the Naledi scholars from the west. The White woman journalist was threatened by the scholars and left the area.

09h30: On his arrival at the Orlando Police Station, a White newspaper reporter was greeted by Blacks giving the Black Power salute. He could sense that the atmosphere was tense.

10h00: When the police arrived at the Tshabalala Garage, they were pelted with stones by about 600 scholars and their vehicle was damaged. Tear-gas had no effect on the rioters. A further 600 youths fell in with the first group here. The police were withdrawn because there were too few of them to take further action.

10h30: Several thousand scholars congregated round a stone-topped knoll near the Orlando West High School. Witnesses testified that the crowd was between 5 000 and 6 000 strong. From the evidence it seems that pupils from, inter alia, the following schools took part in the rally: the Naledi High School, Morris Isaacson High School, Orlando West High School, Orlando North Junior Secondary School, Empangeni Higher Primary School, Themba Sizwe Higher Primary School and the Thesele Junior Secondary School. Col. Kleingeld's party was attacked with stones, making it impossible for him to address the crowd. The patrol consisted of approximately four police motor vehicles, three heavy-duty vehicles and two patrol vans carrying dogs. Four Black men were inciting the scholars. Those present included adults and other youths not in school uniform. The tear-gas to disperse the crowd was not effective. Only one tear-gas grenade went off. A baton charge was also unsuccessful. The police were attacked on their flanks and could be surrounded. Some of them were struck by stones. Col. Kleingeld fired five pistol shots over the crowd, without effect. After that he fired 20 shots with an automatic rifle in front of and over the crowd. Other members of the police also fired shots with their revolvers and pistols, although Col. Kleingeld had not given the order to fire. A Black boy, H. Ndhlovu, who was inciting the crowd, was killed (see Annexure F, p. 54). Two police dogs were killed and mutilated by the crowd. One of the dogs was doused with petrol and set on fire. Police vehicles were damaged by stones. Hector Pieteron, a Black boy, was fatally wounded by the police (see Annexure F, p. 59). A woman reporter took his body to the Phomolong Clinic. Maj. Viljoen and Col. Van Niekerk joined Col. Kleingeld. They proceeded to Moema Street. Sgt. Hattingh's vehicle broke down and was stormed by the bystanders. Tear-gas was subsequently used to free him. Col. Kleingeld again fired shots with his automatic rifle. Col. Gerber, with three other vehicles, attempted to join the group, but their way was barred by the people at the rear of the crowd. They were immediately pelted with stones but managed to drive through the crowd at speed. Col. Gerber ordered that the

police withdraw to the Orlando Brige, where they took up position on open ground. The crowd of about 5 000 people came to a halt approximately 500 metres from the police.

Apparently, not all the scholars had arrived at the point where they had planned to gather. A witness who was at the Mapetla Garage at that stage saw scholars approach from the west and the south. Those he saw coming from the direction of Uncle Tom's Hall were apparently already beginning to move away from the Orlando West High School. In this particular area a large number of scholars and non-schoolgoing youths and adults were milling around everywhere. Some arrived in vehicles, singing and shouting, screaming and joined the crowd that had already gathered there.

10h45: A witness, Mrs S.A. Carruthers, and three of her White women friends had entered Soweto earlier that morning to deliver fresh vegetables to certain nursery schools. In the area in which they were, but which she cannot identify with any certainty, they did not see any rioting or hear any gunshots. At approximately a quarter to eleven they decided to return to Johannesburg. In a street, probably Khumalo Street, near the Orlando West High School, they found themselves amongst a crowd of rioters, consisting of scholars and adults, and were attacked with stones. The windows of the motorcar were smashed and all four the occupants injured. Although the attackers rocked the car and tried to lift it, the driver succeeded in driving through the crowd, thanks to the physical protection given her by one of the passengers. They reached the Orlando Bridge, were escorted to the police station and taken to hospital.

10h55: A WRAB official, Mr. J.H.B. Esterhuizen, was driving along Khumalo Street when he was attacked by youths near the Phomolong Clinic. Pupils from the Morris Isaacson High School took part in the assault. Mr Esterhuizen leapt from his car but was surrounded by the youths and beaten to death in the alley opposite the clinic. Judging by marks on his clothing and body, it would appear that they also tried to burn his body (see Annexure F, p. 71). Members of the police had driven up Khumalo Street but did not see this incident, probably because of the chaos there. Mr Esterhuizen's body could be removed only about four hours later.

11h00: A Chinese driver of a Kombi was attacked by the rioters, and in attempting to escape, he knocked down and seriously injured a young Black girl in Khumalo Street.

Two White men in a truck were attacked by stone-throwing rioters. They escaped to the Orlando Bridge and were not injured.

In the same area, a truck carrying liquor was attacked and the driver fled. The vehicle was then looted and the liquor distributed. The truck was set on fire.

Two policemen from Meadowlands were pelted with stones while they were carrying out an investigation at the Phefeni Bottle Store. One of them was slightly injured, and their vehicle was damaged.

11h10: A train driver reported that Black men had pelted his train with stones and that windows had been smashed. An officer and other members of the Railway Police investigated and reported that things were getting seriously out of hand. Trains were manned by policemen, and police protection was provided at the following places: Mzimhlope, Phomolong, Phefeni, Dube, Ikwezi, Inhlazane, Merafe and Naledi.

Tsietsi Mashinini addressed scholars arriving at the Morris Isaacson High School. He ordered them to stay away from school for the next two days; on the 20th further orders would be given. He assured them that both he and other leaders would see to it that Afrikaans would not be used as the medium of instruction at the high schools and announced that the police had shot dead two scholars and wounded eleven.

11h20: A large number of people - men, women and youths - were milling around the offices of the Youth Centre in Jabavu. They became excited and were shouting and dancing. In another part of Soweto, Orlando East, WRAB's new sheltered employment workshop was officially opened at eleven o'clock. This function was attended by, inter alia, the WRAB Chairman, Mr M. Mulder, the

Chief Director, Mr J.C. de Villiers, and his Chief Welfare Officer, Dr. L.M. Edelstein. During the proceedings, word reached them of the riots in the other areas and Dr Edelstein then left by car for the Youth Centre.

At about 12 o'clock he arrived at the centre. His motorcar had already been damaged by stones. He ran into his office and locked the door. A WRAB official, Mr R.E. Hobkirk, was trapped in another office in the centre. The stone attack on the building continued to grow in violence, and it was clear that some members of the crowd wanted to kill at least the Whites in the building, if no-one else. They eventually forced their way into the building, battered down the door of Dr Edelstein's office, attacked him and dragged him outside.

The attack abated briefly when tear-gas was used in the vicinity and a helicopter flew over the building. Mr Hobkirk took this opportunity to escape from the building. He noticed Dr Edelstein's body in the entrance to the building and thought he was already dead. In fact, Dr Edelstein was either unconscious or feigning death. He managed to rise, but his attackers dragged him outside, where they eventually beat him to death (see Annexure F, p. 71). Shortly after one o'clock his mutilated body was removed by helicopter. Mr Hobkirk, who had been hiding in the Sizwe Stores nearby, was taken to safety.

Two 18-year-old scholars, K. Dhlamini and L.J. Matonkonyane, were charged with the murder of Dr Edelstein (S v Dhlamini and another, WLD 138/77). Their confessions implicated them, but, because a mistake had been made in taking down their statements, the court ruled that their confessions were inadmissible. Both were acquitted.

12h00: The police refused White reporters entry to the danger zone and they had to obtain information and news from their Black colleagues.

12h15: In the course of the morning, a Black woman social worker from the Department of Bantu Administration and Development paid an official visit to parts of Soweto, accompanied by a White woman student. They did not see any incidents until their motor vehicle was stopped by aggressive youths on the Phefeni Bridge. The youths threatened to assault the woman student. She was

taken away by well-disposed pupils and placed in the care of a clergyman. The police later removed her from the area.

12h30 to 13h00: A television newsman, who was accompanying the police on patrols in Soweto, observed looting and arson by youths and adults at this stage.

13h00: Bottle stores in the Phefeni and Dube areas were broken into, looted and set on fire by various groups of Blacks. WRAB offices were also set on fire. The police were pelted with stones. Tear-gas was used with limited success.

The office of the station commander at Orlando was rigged out as an operational office to co-ordinate police operations.

14h00: South African Police reinforcements arrived at intervals from the Johannesburg, Pretoria and West Rand Divisions.

According to observers, the disorderly conditions were exploited by tsotsis. Among some residents there was general drunkenness. Fewer children than adults took part in the looting.

A vehicle was stopped in the Phefeni area, the liquor it was carrying was seized and the vehicle was set on fire. The liquor was distributed among members of the public.

Maj. Viljoen came across a crowd of about 300 scholars and adults near the Morris Isaacson High School. They were aggressive and threatening, but they were dispersed.

Brig. Le Roux undertook an inspection flight by helicopter over Soweto, which seemed to be in chaos. People were gathering in several places. Vehicles as well as buildings were on fire, and parts of the area were under a pall of smoke.

A report was received at the Orlando Police Station that three doctors were trapped at Mofolo, and a vehicle was sent to their rescue.

14h30: The WRAB bottle store at Phefeni was set on fire, as were WRAB offices and bottle stores in Orlando East.

15h00: The WRAB offices at Phefeni were set on fire by the same group that had destroyed the bottle store earlier on.

The WRAB offices at Diepkloof were set alight. When the police arrived, they encountered two groups of Blacks who began throwing stones. Two private vehicles had already burned out. Two Black men who were inciting the crowd were shot on the orders of a police officer.

The WRAB offices at Meadowlands were set on fire.

15h00 to 17h00: Arson and looting took place at the bottle stores at Nhlanzane, Moroka, Mofolo, Chiawelo, Senaoane; at the post office in Molopo; at the library in White City; and at the clinic in Senaoane. The Mapetla Hostel was also set on fire. The windows of the Phiri Hall were smashed. The Etikeng and Vukani Schools were burnt down. Firearms were used by the South African Police in these incidents. Arrests were made, and a number of looters were wounded.

Bottle stores at Zola and Moletsane in Jabulani were looted. The police used tear-gas and firearms. At Zola, seven persons were arrested.

15h30: Col. T.J. Swanepoel arrived in Soweto with three officers and 58 men as reinforcements. They divided into two task forces.

The task force under Col. Swanepoel came up against a crowd of between 4 000 and 5 000 Blacks at Uncle Tom's Hall in Orlando West. The crowd was overturning motor vehicles, starting fires and throwing stones. Warning shots were first fired, but thereafter shots were fired at the inciters in the group, after which the crowd dispersed. A Black man was hit. No bodies were found at this stage.

16h00: Major-General W.H. Kopp, Divisional Commissioner for the Witwatersrand, joined the Divisional Commissioner for Soweto to assist him in exercising control in the area until Monday, 21 June 1976.

The crowds broke up into smaller groups, and vandalism was rife.

16h15: A Black man was shot dead by the police at the Mofolo Centre Bottle Store.

16h30: The clinic and administrative offices in White City were set on fire, as were a number of motor vehicles.

17h00: About 40 Blacks tried to set fire to taxis in Jabavu. The crowd attacked the police with stones; shots were fired and two Blacks were hit. It was subsequently ascertained that a Black man, K. Tokota, had died (see Annexure F, p. 64). An investigation revealed that about 20 vehicles had burned out.

17h00 to 20h00: Arson was committed at the WRAB offices in Orlando East, Orlando and Dube, the clinic in Orlando West and the library and Barclays Bank in Dube; stone-throwing and looting occurred at the Dube Hostel, as well as at four shops in the same complex; the bottle store in Orlando East was looted. Tear-gas and firearms were used in these cases. Arrests were made and a number of looters were wounded, but the wounded were sometimes removed by members of the public.

17h30: In the vicinity of the Mapetla Garage at the Orlando West-Meadowlands intersection, two Putco buses were set on fire. A crowd of between 5 000 and 6 000 was rioting in this area.

17h50: A Putco bus and a motor vehicle from Perkins Truck Hire were burnt in the vicinity of Uncle Tom's Hall.

A control room was set up during the night at the WRAB head office in Albert Street, Johannesburg.

18h00: A class-room at the Naledi High School was set on fire.

A bottle store in Klipspruit was looted. Tear-gas and firearms were used to disperse 400 Blacks.

The Urban Bantu Council building in Jabulani was set on fire. The fire was put out, however, as was the fire at the Sebokeng Garage.

Two motorcar wrecks were placed on the Phefeni railway section in order to block it. These wrecks were removed by the Railway Police.

19h00: The police split into smaller groups, who were assigned specific tasks. Brig. Le Roux, accompanied by a number of armed men, went by motorcar from the Moroka Police Station to the Jabulani Police Station because radio communication between these stations was poor and there was no telephonic communication. Their motor vehicle was pelted with stones and one of the windows was shattered; the roads were blocked by burning wrecks. The Divisional Commissioner remained at a looted bottle store in Jabulani till 21h00 to take charge of police operations against the large-scale rioting in the area.

19h45: The Phomolong Bottle Store was looted by about 300 men. The police shot and wounded an inciter, who was stirring up the bystanders.

19h50: Four hundred rioters were milling around the Mapetla Garage in Orlando West. They threw petrol bombs at vehicles and petrol pumps. On arriving there, the police were attacked and they opened fire on the attackers. Two wounded or dead rioters were dragged away by their companions.

20h00: About 200 people went on the rampage, looting and setting fire to the Dube Bottle Store. There were cries of "Kill the Whites". The police are thought to have shot five persons. Fleeing rioters dragged away the wounded or dead.

Two men, one of whom was a youth, were shot and wounded by the police at the Mofolo Bottle Store.

21h00: A meeting of the SPA was held in Dr A.M. Mathlare's consulting-rooms. The meeting was under his chairmanship and its purpose was to discuss the events of the day. Dr A.M. Mathlare, Mrs W. Mandela, T. Motapanyane, a scholar, and Mr R.M. Matimba, a teacher, were among those present. Mrs Mandela proposed that a mass funeral service be held on Sunday, 20 June 1976, in the African Methodist Episcopal Church for the police victims. This service was later prohibited in terms of section 2(1) of the Riotous Assemblies Act, No. 17 of 1956.

22h45: The police found Barclays Bank and the library in Dube on fire; the Board's offices had already been burnt down when the police arrived. Members of the force were ordered to stand guard at the buildings.

23h00: A Black man, V. Nkwanazi, is alleged to have been shot in front of the Carolina-Nvuuzi Nursery School in White City. No further information could be obtained.

23h10: The bottle store in Phomolong (sometimes called the Phefeni Bottle Store) was attacked with incendiary bombs. The police opened fire on the attackers.

It was later ascertained that 11 persons had been killed in the rioting in the course of the day (see Annexure F, pp. 34, 37, 39, 42, 49, 51, 53, 59 and 67). Two of the wounded later died (see Annexure F, pp. 56 and 65). Dr Edelstein and Mr Esterhuizen were killed by the rioters (see Annexure F, p. 71). At least three other persons died that day in Soweto from unnatural causes not connected with the rioting or due to police action. It was not possible in all cases to correlate the events described in this Annexure, which led to any person's death, with the circumstances mentioned in column (k) of Annexure F. The main reasons for this are that bodies were sometimes removed from the scene of the rioting, the wounded often died at places other than those where they were wounded, and information from different sources concerning the same incident was not always the same and could therefore lead to confusion or duplication.

West Rand: Kagiso, Krugersdorp.

17h00: Men, women and children were milling around in front of Beer Hall No. 2 in Kagiso. The gathering was addressed by persons who incited the crowd. They also shouted the Black Power slogan. The motorcar in which the speakers arrived had a Pretoria registration number.

kwaZulu: University of Zululand, Mtunzini.

Morning: The morning newspapers were not delivered to the campus as usual. The students blamed the university authorities for this, seeing it as a suppressive measure. They bought newspapers in Empangeni and posted articles and photographs from the newspapers on the local notice-board.

18h00: At a gathering of students in the room of one of their fellow students, those present decided that solidarity with the events in Soweto had to be shown, that force had to be used, that the students of the university should be prepared to die for freedom, and that a prayer meeting should be held, which could later be turned into a mass rally. One of the students made an inflammatory placard. These decisions were announced to the students. For the proposed meeting, one of the students began preparing a written speech entitled "The War against Afrikaans".

21h00: Students continued to make inflammatory placards and to display these on the campus. The inscription on one of these placards read: "The murderers are at it again".

THURSDAY, 17 JUNE 1976.

West Rand: Soweto.

00h15: WRAB's regional offices, situate behind the Meadowlands Police Station, were set on fire. The Police fired warning shots and used tear-gas to disperse the crowd present.

03h00: The Railway Police found the Inhlazane Station building, which had been attacked by rioters, in a badly damaged state. The body of a Black man who had been shot dead was found in the ticket-office (see Annexure F, p. 52). Attempts had been made to crack the safe. When the South African Police investigated, they were pelted with stones. In the vicinity of the station,