

## **ICS 81 University of Cape Town Students Representative Council papers on South African disturbances, 1976**

Between 16 and 24 June 1976 there was widespread rioting in the African townships of South Africa, the worst since the Sharpeville massacre in 1960. The disturbances began in Soweto, the immediate cause was the compulsory use of the Afrikaans language as the medium of instruction in Bantu schools. The rioting quickly spread to other townships. The official death toll was put at 176. The United Nations Security Council passed a resolution condemning the South African Government for 'massive violence against and killings of the African people including schoolchildren and students and others opposing racial discrimination'.

This collection includes papers relating to activities during the disturbances of summer 1976, including comments on the disturbances by black, white and coloured individuals, accounts of incidents and papers by the Soweto Students' Representative Council, the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR), the National Union of South African Students and the Union of Black Journalists.

**Researchers should order documents using the reference number and then the individual document number, eg. ICS 81 3**

Material on South African disturbances, Summer 1976.

1. Reactions of coloured domestic in Elsie's River.
2. Reactions of coloured caretaker at UCT.
3. Resident in Retreat; origins of unrest in coloured areas; riots on Retreat.
4. Strike action in a shop in Salt River; comment of black workers.
5. Comments by coloured people; in the centre of Cape Town recorded during
6. disturbances.
7. Reactions of a coloured domestic.
8. Comments on disturbances by coloured domestic, white newspaper workers, white bookseller.
9. Conversation between three black children at Nordhoek.
10. Remark by black domestic.
11. Account by Stellenbosch a student of Vigilante action.
12. Reactions of liberal white woman to damage caused by black schoolchildren.
13. Reactions of coloured char in Smuts Hall.
14. Observations on the stay-away.
15. Vigilante action in Somerset West.
16. Reactions on stay-away.
17. Conversation illustrating reactions of white of low social status.
18. Interview with retired municipal labour officer.
19. Interview with coloured UCT student: UWC, riots, reactions etc.
20. Information in the stay-away gathered by student working for the Financial Mail.
21. Conversation of four Rondebosch chars.
22. Notes on a lecture by Dr. Ellsworth on Bantu education.
23. Notes on stay-away 16 September.
24. Notes on conversation with Guguletu High School girl.
25. 2 posters dropped by helicopter 'Everyday away from work is a day less pay' and 'children please'.
26. 2 posters 'Strike?' and 'Unity or failure'.
27. Poster 'Vukani-awake'.
28. Leaflet 'Azikweelwa'.
29. Poster 'A call to all'.
30. Poster 'Vukani Zizwe'.
31. Poster 'Who is next'.
32. Soweto Students Representative Council - to all fathers & mothers.
33. Account of incident at Trafalgar High School, 3.9.76.
34. S.R.C. press release by Khotso S. Seatlholo.
35. Poster for day of solidarity, 4.8.76.
36. Programme of seminar at Soweto, 7.8.76.
37. Poster 'Now Cape Town...', 12.8.76.
38. Programme for Domestic Worker Conference on 8 & 9.9.76. held by SAIRR.

39. U.C.T. circular to all staff - 'Civil defence and security' 23.9.76.
40. National Union of South African Students. 'The threat and promise of alternatives'.
41. Union of Black Journalists. The day the cops declared war on our kids.
42. 2 pages of xeroxes of press cuttings, not identified.