

CHRONOLOGICAL REPORT OF EVENTS IN OLD/NEW CROSSROADS

1986?

- 1) Bail money had been forcibly collected from New Crossroads residents to pay bail for 169 women arrested in connection with rent protest - only R8,100 needed but they say +- R42,000 collected.
- 2) When women released and case over, very little of bail money returned - small percentage to some, none to others.
- 3) 13/1/86 Deputation of U.W.O. to Advice Office to say the "fathers" were beating them up in their houses - they had reported it to the police who did nothing. We made appointment for them to see chief of Police Guguletu - some action re arrests of offenders. We arranged 2 interviews with Tien van der Merwe who took copious statements.
- 4) Constant friction between pro ^{"N"} Nobs fathers and U.W.O., U.D.F. and Comrades - many appeals to police.
- 5) 2 girls assaulted by 2 New Crossroads "fathers" Tuesday 18th March. Miss Nyembesi had to go to hospital. Her parents tried to lay a charge. Told to return when she got out of hospital. Did so and she and father were arrested Sunday 23rd March.
- 6) 1 girl - Miss Nomwisna Vusani aged 20 attacked by axe-wielding "father".
Wednesday March 19th 2 new Crossroads Committee members killed. Mr Fengolo Sitwayi 38 and Mr James Mehlane. Houses burnt down. Comrades said to have been commissioned by U.W.O. to investigate money missing from New Crossroads Committee. (Bail money and lawyers fees). *250 women marched to Guguletu Police station to demand an end to the intimidation by "fathers".*
- 7) +- 300 "white doekies" supporters of Mr Johnson Ngxobongwana invaded New Crossroads Thursday March 20th.
~~* 250 women marched to Guguletu Police Station to demand an end to the intimidation.~~
Reported that loud hailers had called out the men to Nxolo School - to be fully armed, said that Nobs drove a blue car and led the March, plus 2 police caspirs were behind "in support". New Crossroads had been warned and a force of +- 400 women, men and comrades also fully armed with pangas, knives, sticks and *some* shot guns met them near School No 1. In battle which followed 7 "white" doekies killed.
- 8) Pro-Nobs people at New Crossroads took refuge in Nxolo School +- 60 families. Old Crossroads don't want them to stay once the funeral is over. Wives of 9 dead men *are furious* with Nobs who is in hiding - on his farm in *Transkei? Ciskei*
- 9) An added cause was that far from returning the bail money for the 169 women, the Nobs supporters were demanding more money. R15,25 to bail out people arrested for faction fighting.

Indirect Causes

Johnson Ngxobongwana has tried to keep this power over New Crossroads who have gradually grown away *towards* U.W.O., U.D.F. and comrades.

He has recently had an election - only 6000 voted - he got 3000 votes, next man 500. Rumoured that they had to pay R15 to vote (for photograph). His answer to repeated request to return the bail money or call a meeting and explaining *what it* was spent on was to take an area posse to New Crossroads.

R41,000 paid to attorney from Pretoria who charged R29,500 to defend Nobs + 72 women, R11,336,51 Hotel, Petrol & Car Expenses and flying to and fro everyday.

R2,450 given back to 29 women who were acquitted.

This information is based on newspaper reports and many statements taken from New Crossroads members of U.W.O. and men who supported them. Nobody from Old Crossroads Committee has approached us, so the report may be one-sided.

NOEL ROBB.