



ATHLONE ADVICE OFFICE
ANNUAL REPORT
OCT. '76-SEPT. '77

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE S.A.
INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS AND
THE BLACK SASH

ATHLONE ADVICE OFFICE

(Under the auspices of the S.A. Institute of Race Relations and the Black Sash)

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR OCTOBER 1976 TO SEPTEMBER 1977

Attendance Records:—

	OCT.	NOV.	DEC †	JAN †	FEB.	MAR.	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	TOTAL
Unrest	22	9	5	3	5	1	—	—	2	—	2	1	50
Squatters	16	28	1	2	68	81	10	99	22	56	149	204	736
Permits	2	14	4	21	25	27	14	21	11	9	17	20	185
Contracts	18	56	12	18	37	39	34	20	28	15	31	20	328
Misc.	77	92	42	78	118	127	109	124	113	124	145	132	1281
Old	83	116	35	74	128	152	115	116	138	100	81	117	1255
Totals	218	315	99	196	381	427	282	380	314	304	425	494	3835

Visitors: 9 South Africans	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1976	Total	3136
20 from other countries	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1975	Total	2496
A record low figure	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1974	Total	1769

INCOME and EXPENDITURE

FOR PERIOD OCTOBER 1 1976 to SEPTEMBER 30 1977

Income

	1977	1976
S.A. Institute of Race Relations	R 750,00	R 750,00
Bantu Welfare Trust	R 800,00	
Black Sash Cape Western Region	R7210,29	R8201,81
Sundries		R 80,90
	<u>R8760,29</u>	<u>R9032,71</u>

Expenditure

	1977	1976
Rent	R 600,00	R 600,00
Salaries & U.I.F.	R4627,60	R4159,41
Pension Fund Contributions	R 64,50	R 57,60
Registration Fees	R 100,80	R 88,10
Stationery & Office Expenditure	R 159,50	R 141,16
Secretarial Expenses	R 192,15	R 165,00
Legal Expenses	R2287,23	R3233,91
Fares	R 153,32	R 92,10
Telephone	R 260,61	R 248,98
Annual Report	R 241,00	R 192,00
Sundries	R 73,58	R 54,45
	<u>R8760,29</u>	<u>R9032,71</u>

INTRODUCTION

During the past twelve months nearly 3000 people have brought their problems to the Athlone Advice Office in 3835 interviews. The Advice Office aims to assist in the unravelling of the special problems experienced by urban Africans*, in such a way that the people concerned are able to assess their position, see what options they may have and decide their own line of action. It is to be hoped that they leave the Office with increased self-confidence as a result of the positive attitudes shown to them during interviews. The expert backing of lawyers is available when needed, and contact is established with relevant officials, employers or social workers.

Africans come up against the very hardest facts of South African life; a survey of the problems dealt with gives an enlightening gauge of the most crucial social, political and economic issues in the Republic and particularly in the Western Cape, which is officially "protected" against African entry in favour of a coloured preference area." This report, in outlining the main issues noted during the year, will thus be offering concrete examples of the most urgent problems our country is facing today.

Athlone Advice Office records for the year reflect many complaints which have featured in our reports year after year since the inception of the Office almost twenty years ago. They have their source in legislation, which despite all appeals and warnings from many quarters has been stiffened and implemented more and more rigorously. It is strange, disappointing and alarming that although great changes in influx control legislation are said to be in the offing, these laws continue to be applied inflexibly and the authorities zealously refuse to make concessions (with rare exceptions) even where statutes allow them some discretion. A far more human approach would have been appropriate after the anguish seen and felt throughout last year's great unrest.

These are the principle issues (no order of precedence is implied) which have come to light in case-work:

1. The effects of Transkei's independence on Africans in the Cape Peninsula.
2. The aftermath of last year's disturbances, showing a numbed return to the old status quo with few changes and those mainly for the worse. The roots of unrest retain their stranglehold on the nation while a racially discriminatory system of laws, policies and customs keeps young Africans from acquiring or from using skills, keeps wages low, housing scarce and family life torn.
3. The recession, a tremendous surge of unemployment problems and poverty biting deeper, rents rising steeply, general inflation. Pensioners and others claiming social benefits have the utmost difficulty in collecting their small allowances.
4. The relentless implementation of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Act and prosecution of penniless individuals caught trying to remedy their plight by seeking (often finding) work in the area without unobtainable permits.

*It has been found necessary to call the people who are the concern of the Athlone Advice Office "Africans" in order to distinguish them from so-called "Coloured" people whose problems are different under South African laws. "Bantu" is not a popular designation and "Black", although often preferred, is not clear.

This report will give some account of findings under these headings, ending with a section on the work done for us by our attorneys. The special strengths of Advice Office work continue to be (a) close contact with Africans experiencing hardships and expressing their wishes and fears, and (b) the support and backing of our legal advisers. Our many attorneys give most generously of their time and skill. The recent success of the appeal of Gideon Mtima in the highest court of the land (the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein) removes anxiety concerning serious, indeed almost total, erosion of Section 10 (Bantu Urban Areas Act) rights which threatened residentially qualified Africans in prescribed areas throughout the country. This good cherry on top of a largely unpalatable cake reinforces our confidence in the usefulness of Advice Office work.

1. **The independence of Transkei** has caused considerable anxiety in and around the Cape Peninsula because the relevant Act of Parliament (The Transkei Status Act No. 100 of 1976) has turned many thousands of lifelong Capetonians into Transkeians. Applicants for first reference books who report for registration at the age of sixteen (or older people whose books have got lost) are issued with Temporary Identity Certificates, valid for six months and to be replaced with Transkei Travel Documents. This does not mean that they will be deprived of residential permits in the area; they are told that permits to reside here will continue to be stamped into the Travel Documents every six months and that they need not fear losing rights. They are however far from happy to accept temporary permission when they know that they are entitled to permanent recognition under Sec. 10(1)(a) or (b) of the Act and when they have never set foot in the Transkei. It would appear that Transkei is loth to hand Travel Documents to unwilling recipients; not one of the young people, born in Cape Town of parents who came from Transkei many years back, and issued with temporary papers early this year, has returned to show us a Travel Document issued by the Transkei Consul in Cape Town and subsequently endorsed with temporary permission to reside here. But these are surely being issued.

What about Transkeians who really are Transkeians and who are legally in the area but only for a limited period, as visitors or contract workers? They are now "Foreigners". "Visitors" may not take up employment and only unskilled work is for entrants from Transkei (this is specified on the Temporary Permit, Form B1-158). The recession has cut out even this possibility of getting unskilled contract work which did exist for men (but in the Western Cape not for women), so that now no new workers are allowed into the area. Those who leave at the end of contracts (which their employers are discouraged from renewing), or whose contracts are cut short for any reason, are no longer issued with blue Unemployment Insurance cards and will not qualify for benefits from the Unemployment Insurance Fund unless they were contributors before Independence. If they do so qualify, they must register as work-seekers back in Transkei and then apply for Unemployment benefits, if no job is available, through East London. Do such people ever get the money to which they are entitled? A Transkeian Fund is evidently envisaged to take over after 1979 for Transkeians who return to Transkei while those residentially qualified in the Republic will continue to contribute to and draw from South Africa's Fund. The transfer of pensions, disability grants etc., is a similar source of worry.

2. **The Roots of Unrest:** the disturbances of 1976 arose from the very grievances to which Advice Office reports have tried to draw attention and on account of which Advice Office work is so necessary. The problems of young people directly caught up in the unrest were beyond the scope of the Advice Office but last year about seventy people were interviewed whose lives had been seriously interrupted by the death, injury or detention of family members. The unhappy incidents at Nyanga which marred the Christmas and New Year season with violence between migrants, police and residents, brought in a trickle of victims, some maimed, some whose houses were burnt and some who lost jobs. Individual tragedies are always the concern of the Advice Office, but we are even more deeply concerned about the thousands of less conspicuous miseries which were the background of the unrest and which have not changed since. The evils of the migratory labour system have been exposed incessantly, yet the bureaucratic machinery grinds on relentlessly. Langa Court is filled day after day with people who are heavily fined or gaoled for having been caught earning a living or maintaining some sort of family life. R50 or 90 days is now the standard sentence.

In the Advice Office filing cabinets there is a whole drawerful of cases of *husbands and wives trying to get permission to live together* in the area in which the husband lawfully and permanently resides and works. These men are not called "migrants", but in effect that is what they are, because their wives are not allowed to join them except for occasional brief visits when the authorities take great care to arrange that they will have to go away again. This is done by obliging them to produce return tickets to rural areas and to lodge at addresses different from those of their husbands, even when the husbands are in family houses either with their own parents or as lodgers with friends. Most men are saddled with bunks in single quarters which they are not allowed to relinquish, and that is enough to show that their wives "live elsewhere" and therefore can never begin to reside with their husbands "ordinarily" (a technical term with extraordinary implications).

Another eighty couples have brought this major disappointment in their lives to the Advice Office this past year. Our attorneys are making representations on behalf of twenty-five couples who have got a long way towards fulfilling the conditions laid down for "ordinary residence" together. Three have been successful so far. Every obstacle is placed in the way of such appeals. *This* is what impels people to break the law, to build shanties and become squatters, and the younger generation to rise up and cry out "Enough!"

Mr and Mrs Kovokovo were married nine years ago in a church in Langa. Mr Kovokovo has been working in the Peninsula legally since 1947, but he is registered as living in the Zones, i.e. single quarters, and his wife has never been able to set up the home they want together here. She goes backwards and forwards between Cape Town and Transkei, sometimes obtaining a "visiting" permit but usually just staying without. They had a shack at Modderdam, when this was bulldozed they moved in with friends elsewhere. They feel anxious and unhappy in this insecure position, but they refuse to separate. This is a typical case.

3. **THE RECESSION** has brought unprecedented numbers of unemployed people to the Advice Office. They come not in search of

jobs because it is generally known that the Office does not act as an employment agency, but because they have run into difficulties over claiming benefits from the Unemployment Insurance Fund or because they hope we may be able to persuade employers to take them back, or to ask us to negotiate over disappointments with final pay packets. For Contract workers, permits to be in the area terminate with their jobs and there is extra anxiety over empty-handed returns to rural areas. Although it is a breach of contract for an employer to dismiss a contract worker before his time is up without grave cause, and retrenchment is not accepted as such, in practice an offence on the part of the worker is usually made the excuse for dismissal and he is then sent home with little hope of fresh contracts being available, none whatever of returning to Cape Town until the economy picks up and new local regulations are relaxed, and little likelihood of any benefits from the Unemployment Insurance Fund ever reaching him. How is his family to cope?

A detailed analysis of Advice Office records shows that during the past twelve months at least 811 people brought in problems directly arising from being out of work. Of these 464 were permanent residents of the area, 270 were contract workers and 77 were illegally in the area. The peak period was in July, when there were some busy mornings during which not a single person seen was in employment. Our figures do not claim to reflect statistics with any accuracy, but it is hoped that the slight improvement we seem to be observing is significant.

Inflation and the recession are hitting the whole country and the policy of allowing Africans in the Western Cape to accept only the dregs of employment offered is imposing totally unjust hardship on them without helping any other groups

Containerisation came to Cape Town Docks at a bad time for us. Many dock workers with very long service as stevedores have been laid off, and as "casual workers" this can happen with only 24 hours' notice. There is no pension scheme for these employees on the lowest rung, and they have never been able to contribute to the Unemployment Insurance Fund so there is no help from that quarter nor from any other.

Housing in African townships in prescribed areas is not subsidised. The necessity of paying economic rentals for inferior houses (which they cannot own) during a period of inflation and widespread unemployment imposes extra strains on the poorest section of the community. It is appreciated that rentals in the Peninsula (R11,50 p.m.) have not risen very much but there is considerable fear that steep rises may be pending. In the new parts of Mbekweni, the townships outside Paarl, the houses are, if anything, inferior to those built years ago, and have no electricity, no internal doors, and few fittings, but rentals have risen to R24,35 p.m. and about R3,50 for water, making R27,85 p.m. (Rents on the older houses are still R8,50 p.m. to R14,50 p.m. for a four roomed house). This sum of R27,85 p.m. is impossible for a bread winner whose weekly earnings are usually R18,00 to R23,00 p.w. and whose family must eat, dress, get to school etc.

It is a grave injustice to force economic rentals on people whose earnings are below the Poverty Datum Line and who must pay up without any hope of home ownership or of a meaningful share in decision-making.

We were approached by a large group of residents of Mbekweni, complaining about the impossibly high rentals demanded of them. Letters to the BAAB authorities at Paarl have brought no response. The position in the new Somerset West townships is almost identical.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr S. M. Kangela has lived in the Peninsula since his birth in 1950. He is the occupier of a house in Langa, together with his wife and two children. He lost a job last year and tried for months to find another. In his case, it was not that he got no offers, but the employers who wanted him were not allowed to employ him because he is a competent driver. The last firm to be refused a "clearance certificate" by the Labour Department told our workers in a telephone explanation that he had been "told emphatically that there are no jobs for Africans while there is unemployment among coloured people." Which there is.

Mr B. M. Mbeka lost his job at a local hospital. He is the breadwinner for his mother and five younger brothers and sisters. He could only be advised to keep signing up regularly as a work-seeker, and to use his blue card to put in a claim for U.I.F. benefits. This case typifies hundreds.

Mr M. W. Jolose lost his job as a result of being injured during the disturbances. He claimed sick benefits from the U.I.F. and four months later he was still waiting for the first cheque, which had been delayed in the post as a result of the confusion at Guguletu Post Office since the troubles. He returned to the Advice Office a week later to thank us for helping him get his money by referring him to a helpful official at the Labour Department. A different matter worrying him was that although born himself in Cape Town in 1941 of parents who had never lived in Transkei, his reference book had an entry stating that his "place of origin" was "Transkei", on account of his having admitted that his grandparents came from Cofimvaba. One's "origins" seem to go further back if one is black? Most of us whites should be labelled Irish, Dutch, German or British by the same standards?

Mr S. W. Sawuti was born in Transkei in 1902. He has lived in this area since 1940 and is fortunate to be the lawful occupier of a house in Guguletu together with his wife and three unmarried daughters who have several small children between them and who contribute next to nothing to the housekeeping. His wife earns R40,00 p.m. in domestic service, which is their only joint income. He has retired, but his wife's earnings disqualify him from drawing the state Old Age Pension.

Mr M. O. Siga, born in 1913 in Cape Town and always resident here, has a home but no income since an illness last year. He took two of his children out of school because he could not afford to keep them there and they might be able to help. One elder son was shot dead during the disturbances. Mr Siga was more than R30,00 behind with the rent when he reported at the Advice Office in May. He had applied for a disability grant but been refused on the grounds that his wife earns R15,00 p.w.

4. **THE PREVENTION OF ILLEGAL SQUATTING AMENDMENT ACT 72** of 1977 has been a threatening cloud hanging over close to two hundred thousand people of whom nearly half are Africans. All are liable to lose their homes, while the Africans have family disruption and forcible removal to poverty-stricken rural areas to dread as well. The Act, which lays down heavy penalties for both squatters and owners of the land on which shanties are built, swung into action mercilessly in August 1977, with the demolition of the areas known as Modderdam and Werkgenot. While Unibel remains standing, pending current negotiations between Transkei and South Africa, there have been reports at the Advice Office of the destruction of shanties in many smaller squatter villages, such as Table View (Killarney), Jabulani and Everite (Kraaifontein) and Hout Bay. It is our experience with all these areas that nearly every household has a member gainfully employed, usually lawfully, either on an annual contract basis or, not uncommonly, as permanently qualified residents in terms of Section 10 of the Bantu Urban Areas Act. These qualified men have resorted to living in shanties because, like the migrants, they are unable to live family lives any other way. It is the structural violence of the law, combined with the contrived scarcity of family housing for Africans, which has contributed very largely to the growth of squatter communities. Along with this goes the historic economic pull of the city and push from increasingly mechanised farms and ever poorer rural areas.

Crossroads, the Emergency Camp under the administration of the Divisional Council, which was established under the regulations in June 1976, has remained in comparative peace and security. The Advice Office has interviewed a number of squatters from this area whose shacks were demolished or threatened with demolition according to the rules laid down by the Divisional Council. Shanties may not be enlarged, nor may they change hands nor stand vacant. Each complaint has been noted in detail and taken up with an appeal to the Divisional Council when there seemed to be reasonable grounds, for instance confusion in the records occasionally seems to end with a shanty coming down when in fact there has been no infringement of regulations, only some muddle over names. But appeals have met with very little success. The rental paid by Crossroads householders to the Divisional Council was reduced in August from R10 p.m. to R7 p.m., giving some relief to struggling families, suffering like all sections of the community with the scarcity of cash and jobs. Two of the original shack-owners of Crossroads, who were removed from the area by the BAAB towards the end of 1975 (long before the Divisional Council assumed responsibility for the area) have been bitterly lamenting the treatment of their belongings. These got lost or badly damaged when the BAAB, demanding first an indemnity for themselves, packed and turned them over to the S.A.R. to be railed by goods train to the Ciskei and Natal respectively. The S.A.R., approached by our untiring attorneys, have agreed to pay R80,00 and R100,00 respectively as compensation to Mrs Tosi Wambi and Mr Frank Fani.

Things could be worse for the people of Crossroads, but hardly so for the unfortunates whose homes have been bulldozed in Modderdam, Werkgenot and elsewhere. Many turned to the Advice Office where it was distressing to have to explain that almost nothing could be done to help. Those who decided that they would give up and leave the area were steered to the officials able to issue rail-warrants. Others, a diminishing band, are still sticking it out at the time of writing in tents on church property, a saga all on its own; still others have

found relatives in the townships or have made arrangements somehow. For each, it is a personal decision and the Advice Office can only warn about the penalties involved if they continue to disobey these laws, which offer no comfort to those who do indeed obey.

There have been many arrests during September of squatters caught illegally in the area after the demolitions, night-time raids on church properties having been a dramatic feature of the month. Our attorneys have appeared for over two hundred such people in the Langa Court, pleading in mitigation where nothing better could be done, and this has proved effective in minimising fines and often in getting suspended sentences. Large sums of money have been saved for the squatters or long gaol sentences avoided but it is only too clear that this assistance has the draw-back of bringing no lasting solution.

The BAAB authorities believe that the way to solve the "squatter problem" is by removals, and claim that thousands have left or are leaving the area, so that squatter communities are shrinking back to "normal" whatever that may be. The Athlone Advice Office, having got to know a good deal about the personal histories and aspirations of large numbers of squatters, doubts the validity of this claim. As long as urban industry remains the only beckoning answer for breadwinners in impoverished rural communities, so long will shanties spring up among the sand-dunes and wattles of the Cape Flats. Build houses, many houses (a fillip for the building industry), allow workers to live in them with their families, and a happier, healthier society will result. It will not be found that each man has "several wives", as is so often suggested; that custom when found in the vicinity of cities goes along with the migratory way of life forced on men, rather than showing a relic of tribal custom. It is earnestly recommended that the spirit of self-help so tenaciously shown by squatter communities be given deserved recognition. This could be done by proclaiming existing villages to be emergency camps.

5. **Legal Work:**

The work of the Athlone Advice Office rests upon knowledge of existing laws and of the manner in which these are enforced. We appreciate and rely upon the work done for us by our 18 firms of attorneys. There is always an expert available to advise, support and, if necessary, appear in Court on behalf of victims of the harsh arm of the law.

Below is an analysis of cases, according to type, handled by representatives of these firms during the past twelve months.

10(1)(a) claims:
(Birth and continuous
residence in area).

24, comprising 4 successes, 4 failures and 16 pending, 8 of which have been delayed pending the judgment in the *Mtima* case (see below) and which can now move to a conclusion. These 8 were born in the area after the watershed date 24th June 1952, when the amending section 10 of the Act was gazetted and became law. It is now established as a result of the Appeal Court judgment that the wording of that whole section does not apply retrospectively only, in such a way that no

one could claim residential qualifications unless these had already been established by the above date.

10(1)(b) claims:
Fifteen years' lawful residence in the area, or 10 years' lawful employment with one firm and no gaol sentence of over six months, nor fine above R100.

11 of which one was dropped, 2 were successful, and the remaining 8 have been held up awaiting the outcome of Mtima's appeal, including Mtima's own case.

10(1)(c) claims:
The lawful wife of a man who qualifies in the area under (a) or (b), and who has entered the area lawfully to join him in his lawful accommodation thus "Ordinarily residing" with him.

20 of which 3 have succeeded during the year and the rest are still pending. 10 of these have been awaiting the above appeal judgment, including the wife of Mtima himself. His case arose because he claimed that she should be allowed to reside with him in the area. The authorities' reason for repudiating the claim was that Mtima himself did not qualify in terms of Sec. 10(1)(b) of the Act, having worked more than ten years for one employer since 1952 but not before that date.

The 10 remaining 10(1)(c) cases which do not in any way hinge on the Mtima judgment, are wives of men born in the area before 1952 and resident here ever since. Some live with their parents, some lodge in family houses with friends, but none of these have the usual handicap of an obligatory bunk in single quarters accommodation. This precludes the large majority of couples from getting as far as an attorney with their appeal for permanent residence together, as the man cannot start "ordinary residence" with his wife while officially belonging in "single quarters".

When wives enter the area to be with their husbands, they must enter as "visitors" because entry permits are refused if "residence" is applied for; while here as "visitors" they are instructed that they must go away again and re-apply for entry as "residents". This in our experience never works. "Visiting" wives are obliged to produce return-tickets to wherever they have come from, as evidence of their intention to visit temporarily only, before their permits are issued. More often than not, moreover, they are allocated an address in a different house from their husband's lawful lodgings on the grounds that these are "crowded". This is very convenient for the authorities, who can then point out that the couple do not "ordinarily reside" under the same roof.

Sec. 12(2) or Sec. 10(4) charges:
(illegal presence in area).

About 237 court cases. People whose background is in Transkei are now "foreigners" and are therefore charged under Sec. 12(2) of the Act when found in the area without a permit stamped in their Travel Document or Reference Book. Others, from the Ciskei or from elsewhere, often from other proclaimed

areas such as Port Elizabeth, are charged under Sec. 10(4).

In all cases the sentence now imposed is apt to be R45 or 80 days plus another R5 or 10 days if the offender cannot produce any identity document. The presence of an attorney, placing the individual's circumstances before the Court in a plea in mitigation, is found to be very helpful in minimising sentences imposed.

Other — including Sec. 29 charges: Domestic wages, MVA claims etc.

35 cases. Our attorneys have helped three young men charged with being "idle and undesirable" in terms of *Sec. 29 of the Act*. Their lengthy periods of unemployment could be accounted for, which satisfied the court. At least one is now employed.

Third Party claims are normally referred to the Legal Aid Officer, but when these are very complicated to initiate our attorneys are prepared to take the extra trouble involved in tracing witnesses etc. on a *Pro Deo* basis, until the claim is ready to place before the Legal Aid Officer. There have been 5 such this year.

Domestic Workers — 107 seen during the year 6 referred to attorneys. Advice Office assistance was effective in about 20 cases. This group has little joy from the law when dismissed. There is no law obliging employers to pay notice or holiday money, although domestics expect the customary allowance of at least 2 weeks' notice money and 3 weeks' paid annual leave. There are always two sides to disputes and the employer always has an answer to a query — often a fair reply, such as pointing out that the domestic left of her own accord without offering to work off a period of notice or was given notice 2 or more weeks before the job ended, and can hardly expect "notice money". It is however not legitimate to withhold any portion of wages for work done, even on grounds of some treasure having been broken or damaged, or of an unproven suspicion of theft. When this complaint is brought to the Advice Office, we contact the employer, if possible, hear his or her side of the story and try to rectify matters. If the employer still withholds wages which appear to be done in terms of whatever may have been the initial agreement, one of our attorneys will write a letter of demand. Personal negotiation is preferred and appears to be more effective, but these cases are delicate and workers do not enjoy handling them! It seems that South Africa is still a long way off from legislating minimum wage levels in domestic and similar employment. It would however be a comparatively simple matter for both employers and employees to insist that written agreements be drawn up and signed whenever any employee is engaged — these should specify wages, hours, holiday and notice arrangements. Much grief and anger could be spared to all concerned.

In conclusion we thank once again our attorneys and also the Press for their co-operation and we express appreciation of all the team-work that goes into the

Athlone Advice Office, done by the Director, Assistant Director, Organiser, three indispensable daily interpreters who share increasingly in every aspect of the work, plus a fourth twice a week (from S.A.I.R.R.) and about twenty volunteers without whose generosity in devoting one or more mornings weekly to interviewing, nothing could be achieved. Every member of the team regards him or herself as privileged to do the work. Increasing strains, frustrations and obstacles could not daunt us — this is work for people, but it is not welfare work. While there is the need and breath in our bodies it shall be done. Our most earnest hope and endeavour is that the changes, which must come, should come in peace.

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