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EMBARGO: IMMEDIATE

PRESS STATEMENT BY THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE R J GOLDSTONE, CHAIR-MAN OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

- 1. The Commission has been requested by the State President and the Minister of Local Government and National Housing and of Manpower to reconsider its recommendation concerning the fencing of hostels.
- 2. In its report to the Commission, the Committee enquiring into train violence recommended that the Commission appoint a Committee to look into the whole issue of hostels.
- 3. In consequence of these requests and recommendation the Commission has decided to expand the terms of reference of the Committee headed by Adv R Nugent which has already been enquiring into the disposition of people by violence from their places of residence in hostels and in the vicinity of hostels in certain areas of the Transvaal.
- 4. The subject is a vast and complicated one and many organisations are already involved in one or more aspects of it. The Commission considers that it is essential that the wider enquiry be properly and efficiently co-ordinated and that all interested parties are fully consulted.

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5. The precise terms of reference of the Committee will be formulated only after further consultation have been held. An announcement in this regard will be made as soon as possible.

- 6. Any person who has an interest in or information concerning the problems relating to hostels in South Africa is requested to communicate in writing with the Secretary of the Commission, Private Bag X858, Pretoria, 0001.
- 7. The Commission would like to emphasize that the wider enquiry into hostels in no way should detract from the urgency of the Commission's concerns about the adequate control and policing of hostels. It should in no way be interpreted as excusing or justifying inaction by the relevant authorities or the failure by them to take necessary and reasonable steps to ensure that communities in the vicinity of hostels as well as the residents of hostels are adequately protected from violence.

PRETORIA 30 JULY 1992

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COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

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