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Councillors' overseas trips condemned

5 FEB 1982

By Joshua Raboroko SOWETAN

THE Vaal Community Council's plan to tour Europe and America has been condemned as "waste of resident's money" by opposition groups and other leaders in the area.

arrange a programme for the planned tour. In a statement to The SOWETAN, the opposition Basutswana Party's Public Relations Officer, Mr P S Mokoena, said that the money the councillors were going to use should rather be utilised for projects in the townships.

The planned tour by about 45 people during April was resolved by the council during its monthly meeting last month.

He accused Mr Matjila for going overseas last year with the hope to bring back millions of Rands with him. "What has happened since he came back?" he asked.

The chairman of the council, Mr Josia "Knox" Matjila, said that the tour should be before May so as to enable councillors enough time to be back at home to campaign for the September council elections.

"The residents were not informed about the trip and now he was busy trying to influence "his clowns" to accompany him to tour Europe and the States.

Those who wanted to join the councillors were welcomed and a deposit of R200 would be expected and an additional insurance cover fee.

"Who is going to pay for their expenses when they are overseas? Is the poverty stricken black expected to sponsor people who resolve to increase house rentals so that they can get more allowances from the council's hierarchy?"

Tourists would be expected to have about R800 pocket money and the council has requested the Orange-Vaal Administration Board to

He accused the councillors for resolving to increase rentals so that their monthly allowances should be hiked and enable them to take unnecessary trips overseas, where they would portray a good picture about the South African situation.

He warned councillors that they would "pay heavily for the blunders they are doing now" and said that they must strive hard to reduce the increase on house rentals.

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