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COPY SHACKS.

HOUSING.

The destruction of shacks in Soweto is unforgiveable, and stupid, too. It makes no sense to demolish homes, however inadequate they may be, when there is a housing crisis and an enormous waiting list for accommodation.

Many or most of the people whose homes have been destroyed are legally in Soweto, often members of the family in whose grounds the shacks have been erected.

~~If they are to be discharged from the squatters~~
~~their~~ There can be no justification for terming them squatters or for treating them as such.

As for the assertion that the authorities are trying to prevent slum clearance, Soweto is more likely to become a slum if people are forced to crowd into the houses even more than they do now.

Overcrowding, lack of privacy, insufficient space to live in, these factors produce psychological traumas which can only have a harmful effect on the people. To forcibly demolish their homes and remove their possessions is courting disaster. How can people react to such behaviour with other than anger, bitterness and resentment.

Statement to Gold^{City} Press

Sometime in early 1983.

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