

**If you're looking for some clues to find R25 000 — See Page 2**

## Medical aid racket exposed

A huge deception involving forged sick leave certificates has been uncovered in the Transvaal.

Fraud Squad detectives from John Vorster Square are investigating more than 180 cases involving members of the Transvaal Clothing Industry.

And officials believe the forged certificates have been issued to workers in many other major industries.

Mr Jimmy Thomas, secretary of the Industrial Council for the Transvaal Clothing Industry, said today police have questioned nurses and clerks from several Transvaal hospitals.

More than R18 000 has been paid out of medical aid funds to members on these forged sick leave certificates, he said.

### SOLD

The deception was uncovered when Mr Thomas found a member of his staff had apparently issued a certificate to a worker who had no claim to sick pay.

"Workers are very easily able to obtain these forged certificates from about 40 people who are involved," he said.

"Transvaal Provincial Hospital documents are used, and then sold to employees who stayed away from work without a doctor's permission.

### MORE PAID OUT?

"Although the R18 000 represents a small percentage of the payments made from our medical aid funds the possibility exists that much more money has been paid out to members of medical aid funds throughout the Transvaal."

No arrests have been made in connection with the investigation but police have questioned several people.

Mr Thomas said he had found more than 160 cases involving members of the clothing industry, and his staff were likely to uncover more before the investigation was closed.

## Farmer's body found

### West Rand Bureau

The body of wealthy Honeydew pig farmer Mr Adolph Mazza (70), who has been missing for a month, was found in a shallow grave on the farm Riekerslaag near Rust de Winter, near the Botshatswana border in the Northern Transvaal by West Rand police yesterday.

The body was found buried 150 km from Honeydew. It was about 400 m from the main road in a one metre deep grave, said Colonel J J du Plessis, acting head of the West Rand CID, today.

He said Mr Mazza was allegedly murdered in his home on the night of January 31 and his body taken away and buried.

Two men have been arrested in connection with the murder and will appear in court shortly.

## Well-conceived

### Own Correspondent

MUNICH — A Munich furniture dealer is looking for newlyweds to try out its beds in the company warehouse.

If in nine months any couple reports an addition to the family, they will win a complete nursery free of charge.

## Air fare rise: Apex price gap narrows

### Transport Reporter

International air fare increases were announced today, and travellers intending to take advantage of low-priced Apex tickets to London have just one day — tomorrow

— to purchase tickets at the old prices.

The increases range up to eight percent. At this stage they apply only to travel from South Africa.

The increase has significantly reduced the savings

benefit available from Apex tickets which have to be bought three months in advance.

While ordinary economy fares have risen by 3,6 percent to R584,40, Apex fares for the low

season have been raised by 7,8 percent to R521,40 and at peak season by 7,1 percent to R577,70.

So the cost margin between Apex and ordinary economy fares has been reduced.

South African Airways has announced that, irrespective of date of travel, Apex fares will only remain at the old price until, and including, tomorrow.

For ordinary first class

and economy fares, the fares will rise on April 1, and for any travel after that date travellers will have to pay the increase, even if they bought tickets before April 1.

For travel to London, the most frequent destination for South Africans flying overseas, first class will now cost R926, one way, marginally up from R917.

# Travel costs up

## All round increase in Rail budget

John Patten, Political Correspondent

### The Assembly

Sweeping increases in transport tariffs and rail and domestic air fares have been announced by the Minister of Transport, Mr Muller, in a record R4 258-million Railway Budget.

To meet a shortfall of R241,5-million and just balance his budget Mr Muller proposed:

• Suburban and main line rail fares, as well as domestic air fares, be increased by six percent.

• Rates on goods services increasing by varying percentages ranging up to 23,6 percent.

The overall effect of the increases, which will take effect on April 1, will be to increase railway revenue by 8,6 percent.

The Minister said that increases as between high and low-rated traffic would be kept on a more even level in the national interest in spite of railways policy to close the gap.

High-rated traffic rates would go up by between 10 to 11,4 percent.

### All classes

Mr Muller said the increases of 6 percent in main line and suburban passengers fares would be for all classes.

Rates for mail and parcels traffic will go up by 10 percent, with the minimum parcels rate set at R1 a consignment.

Rates on pipeline products will go up 11,1 percent and this is expected to cause a marginal increase in the price of petrol to highveld motorists.

One of the few rebates granted by the Minister is for traffic conveyed in block loads from one private siding to another. The rebate is five percent.

Special iron ore export rates to Port Elizabeth will go up eight percent—but for manganese ore the increase is 12 percent.

Departmental cartage rates will rise 10 percent. Special rates on containers conveyed by United Trans between Durban and Johannesburg go up by 12,5 percent.

The Minister announced that he was withdrawing the 5 to 10 percent rate discount allowed on private ISO containers.

Transport of large animals will go up 9 percent and those on small animals by 10 percent.

Explaining the difference, Mr Muller said the conveyance of small animals was less economic because of their smaller mass.

Because tug charges, To Page 3, Col 3



## Tears as Sobukwe's daughter arrives

Miliswa Sobukwe (23), daughter of black leader Robert Sobukwe arrived in South Africa this afternoon . . . wept bitterly as she was comforted by a friend. She had made an emergency dash from the United States with her two brothers Diniliswe (21) and Dalinyebo (19) to be at the funeral of her father who died two days ago.

• Picture by Alan Coxon.

• Barnard tells of his friendship with Sobukwe — Page 19.

## Botha to get new powers

### Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — The Minister of Defence is to get new powers to protect South Africa's borders, under legislation the Minister, Mr P W Botha, is to introduce in the Assembly today.

According to the short title of the Defence Amendment Bill it will provide further for the defence of the Republic. It will also relate to liability for service of certain persons who are not South African citizens.

This may tie in with other legislation aimed at making provision for new immigrants under the age of 25 to obtain citizenship.

## Terrorists force wife to decapitate husband

### Own Correspondent

BULAWAYO — A gang of terrorists has forced a headman's wife to decapitate her husband with an axe.

A security force spokesman said the atrocity took place in the Gwaranyemba tribal trust land, near Gwanda.

Six terrorists entered the headman's kraal at about 9 pm and called him and his family out of their huts.

The tribespeople were made to strip and the headman was then bayoneted six or eight times. After beating him on the head, the terrorists ordered his wife to chop his head off with an axe.

She was forced to strike at his neck three or four times before the terrorists allowed her to stop. The terrorists then absconded.

Follow-up operations were in progress, he said.

A communique issued in Salisbury yesterday said the war in Rhodesia had claimed 25 more lives and that a stock thief had been killed.

Eight terrorists had been killed and 10 terrorist collaborators, it said. One of the dead terrorists was identified as a "political commissar."

Three tribesmen had been killed in terrorist crossfire and four tribes-

men had been murdered by terrorist gangs in the operational areas.

One of the four was bayoneted to death and shot 50 times by the terrorists.

Meanwhile, a Bellingwe farmer, Mr Johannes Hofmeyer (70), has just recovered from his third terrorist attack, in which he was wounded in the leg and shoulder.

He said in Bulawayo yesterday that he left his hospital bed after two weeks to show his labourers that he was not dead — and then returned to hospital to have a bullet removed from his shoulder.

## Shark jumps into fishing boat

### Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — It was a normal, all-night fishing trip for the Kalk Bay fishing boat June and her seven crew — until a 3 m 272 kg shark jumped into their boat, that is.

"Then all hell broke loose," said the skipper and owner of the 7 m

June, Mr Bunny Pendlebury today.

"It was a calm sea and we had a good net of mackerel. We had the net alongside and the crew were scooping the mackerel out when this shark jumped about 2 m in the air and straight into the boat on the port bow.

"I nearly had a heart attack and the crew just did not know how to get out of its way," he added.

"It was about 3 am and pitch dark. Being in a small boat with a big shark in the dark is just not funny.

"Fortunately nobody was hurt when it jumped

in and we all managed to keep out of its way until we put a light on it and I managed to spear it in the head.

"All the boats carry spears these days. You never know when you'll need one," Mr Pendlebury said.

The shark was brought ashore at Kalk Bay today.

## BY GEORGE!



## Strike averted

LONDON — A nationwide train drivers' strike which threatened to strand all rail traffic today was averted last night when the unions involved accepted arbitration.—Sapa-AP.

## TODAY'S WEATHER

TRANSVAAL — Till 6 pm tomorrow: Fine to partly cloudy and warm with isolated thunder-showers over the west and south-west to cloudy over the east and north with light rain in places — see Page 5.

## Tomorrow



## Late Flash

## Buccaneer down: 2 are safe

Own Correspondent

Both the pilot and the navigator ejected to safety when a South African Air Force Buccaneer crashed in mountainous country about 30 km north-west of Lydenburg today.

A farmer and some of his labourers saw the aircraft crash and helicopters were soon on the scene. The airman's names have not been announced.

## Man steals R32 000

An unknown man withdrew R32 000 from a Potchefstroom bank yesterday and disappeared without trace. The man apparently phoned the main branch of Volkskas in Potchefstroom yesterday morning and asked to speak to the teller who worked at the Kock Street branch.

He told the teller Mr A Fuller, he was employed by a construction firm and he wanted R32 000 in R10 notes. These should be kept for him.

Later he phoned Mr Fuller to find out if the money was ready, came to the bank, signed for the money, walked out and disappeared.

He signed himself as 'Beukes, but police believe this to be a false name.

Will Rudy Jordache survive the final crisis in the final episode of "Rich Man, Poor Man" next week?

Whatever happens to Rudy, readers of The Star are offered a permanent souvenir.

TONIGHT! will be printing an iron-on transfer of Rudy (actor Peter Strauss) for your T-shirt TOMORROW.

## GRAND PRIX 78

• The Star Motoring bumper guide to the Grand Prix . . . your aid to enjoyment of Saturday's race.

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