

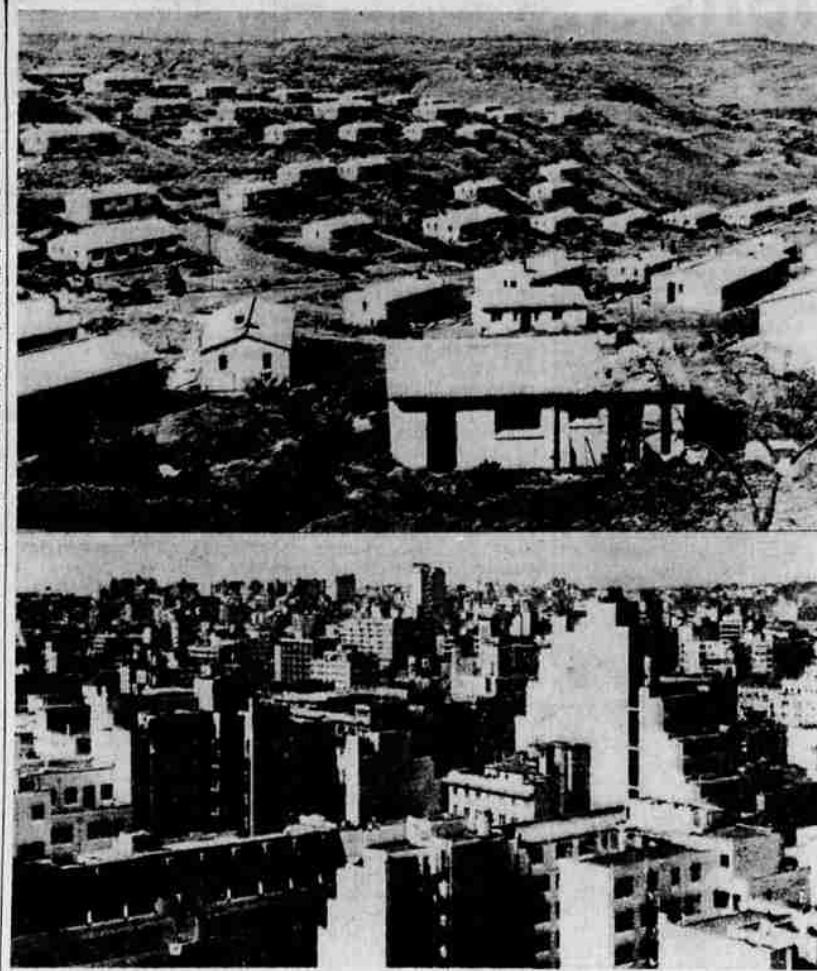
# South Africa's Race Problem Said Ingrained in Its History

By NEIL SMITH  
 United Press International  
 Johannesburg — At the rugged southernmost tip of Africa where the continent juts out into the temperate zone lies South Africa. This is a land of gold and diamonds, of year-round sunshine, of stern Calvinist traditions, luxury living — and one of the world's worst racial problems. The race problem is deeply ingrained in the country's history. When the first white settlers arrived from Holland in 1652 they found the sub-continent inhabited by primitive yellowish-skinned Bushmen and Hottentot tribes. The Bantu races who today form the bulk of the non-white population were slowly migrating down the eastern side of the country, separated from the newly arrived Europeans by a no-man's-land at least 750 miles wide. The primitive tribes died out, exterminated by attacks from both whites and Bantu, and ravaged by smallpox. In the 18th Century white and black began a century-long battle for possession of the rich grazing and farming lands. The white man won and the framework for today's tensions was completed.

Britain became the paramount power in South Africa at the time of the Napoleonic wars. A century later she conquered the independent Boer republics founded by descendants of the early Dutch settlers who trekked vast distances to escape from British racial legislation. The Union of South Africa was formed in 1910, and for 50 years its relationship with Britain was similar to that of Australia, Canada and New Zealand. In 1961 South Africa became an independent republic outside the Commonwealth, and now it faces the future as the lone white Western-oriented state in a huge, black, neutralist continent. **Proportion Dropping** But if the state is "white" its population is overwhelmingly non-white. The 3.2-million white South Africans hold sway over 11-million Africans, 1.5-million coloreds (mulattos) and 500,000 Asiatics who have little or no say in running the country. Despite continuing white immigration the proportion of whites is dropping steadily and demographers estimate that by the end of the century

the present proportion of 20 per cent will have dropped to 15 per cent due to the high non-white birth rate and improved medical facilities provided paradoxically enough by white taxpayers. This land sprawls over 472,000 square miles. With its arid dependency of South-West Africa, to all intents and purposes a fifth province of the republic, it covers an area almost as great as the United States east of the Mississippi. The ruling whites include about 2 million Afrikaners, strongly Calvinist descendants of the early Dutch settlers. They are possibly the only white race in the world almost totally uninfluenced by the great liberal resurgence that began with the American and French revolutions. There are also more than one million English speaking South Africans and smaller numbers of almost every nationality in Europe. **Racial Variety** The Africans, coloreds and Asiatics embrace as much racial variety as the white group: Stone Age bushmen remnants, Zulu college professors, Moslem descendants of Malay slaves, proud Sikhs, and weird permutations of

Afrikaner-Hottentot-English-Bantu miscegenation. It is against this backdrop that the South African racial drama is being played out. The South African government, in the hands of the largely Afrikaner National party since 1948, is pushing ahead rapidly with its apartheid or "separate development" policy. In the simplest terms it amounts to a massive and costly attempt to unscramble the South African racial concretion through rigid segregation, not only between white and black, but between the different tribal units among the Bantu. **Checkerboard Commonwealth** It envisages an eventual checkerboard commonwealth of black and white nations within the borders of South Africa. The black nations, or "Bantustans", based on the wretchedly poor but potentially wealthy African reserves will have their own industries, universities, highways, banking houses and parliaments. In these nations the white man will have no political rights, just as in the white areas the African must accept the status of a temporary laborer without property or franchise rights. Rulers of the "Bantustans" will be the tribal chieftains, whose position and prestige have been greatly enhanced by the white government that pays their salaries. Black nationalists say a black state ruled by these privileged chiefs and their "yes man" councillors can only have a mockery of independence. The chiefs, they say, must inevitably oppose the introduction of modern democratic concepts, or face the fate of Nobel Peace Prize winner ex-Chief Albert Lutuli, who lost his position and freedom for fighting apartheid. **Form Greatest Proportion** The black nationalists, who form by far the greater proportion of politically conscious Africans, want to see the same process take place in South Africa as has already occurred in Tanganyika, Nigeria and Ghana. They demand the right to vote and sweep the white man's privileges away. The wealth of South Africa, built up on the basis of white enterprise and cheap black labor, is one of the wonders of the continent. Unlike other African states with a one-product economy, South Africa is a complex, modern, industrial state. Its gold mines alone produce \$750-million worth of the precious metal a year. Streams of uranium, diamonds, platinum, coal, copper and manganese add to the mineral output. What is less generally known is that today manufacturing is far more important to the South African national economy than either mining or agriculture. In 1960 the factories of South Africa turned out manufactured goods ranging from automobiles to zip fasteners with a total value of more than \$4 billion. **Have More Money** Attempts to impose international trade boycotts against South Africa have failed, and today South Africans of all races have more money in their pockets, and more consumer goods in their homes than ever before. The country is one of the great trading nations of the world. Its external trade is greater than any Western Hemisphere nation, except the United States and Canada. Its import-export turnover exceeds that of such highly developed nations as Denmark, Norway, Finland, Austria and Switzerland. The cities of the republic are as modern and impressive as any of comparable size in the United States. Johannesburg, the richest and biggest of them all, has become a skyscraper metropolis of almost 1.25 million population in less than 80 years.



HOUSING CONTRAST—Small tin-roofed of Druban, contrast sharply with the modern, multi-storied dwellings for white South Africans (top picture) at Chesterburg, a suburb Africans (bottom) in Johannesburg. (UPI)

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The Eagle Point fire department and the Shady Cove rural fire department were called to a farm on the Arkansas Flat rd. just off the Crater Lake highway to extinguish a fire about 2 a.m. Saturday. A large hay barn was burned by flames of undetermined origin. The other buildings on the property were saved, the two departments reported. Ownership of the barn was not known to the fire fighters. The farm is located about seven miles north of Eagle Point.

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