



Mvubelo Lucy

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DONE

20/1/1970
George Goch

1. Brought up in Johannesburg's Alexandra Township, her father was a stone mason's labourer and her mother was a domestic worker. She went to boarding school in Amanzimtoti but was unable to complete her education because her parents could not afford it.

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2. In 1954 she became secretary of the National Union of Clothing Workers, South Africa's largest Black trade union with more than 18,000 members. Lucy had started in the garment industry as a table hand at R2,25 a week.

(5)

3. Lucy has done outstanding work in negotiating for better conditions for the thousands of workers employed in the clothing industry through her total involvement with people coupled with her far-sightedness and ambition. Her union which is one of the best organised in the country is like a mini welfare state 'a family' she calls it.

(1)
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4. Lucy has travelled widely on union business and was once a guest of the United States Department of State Labour. Her presence as an unofficial delegate to the International Labour Organisation convention in 1973 brought her name into world headlines

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5. Lucy was the first Black woman to drive a car in Johannesburg in 1956.

6. Her husband was assaulted by thugs on February 26 1956 and as a result will spend the rest of his life in a sanatorium for the mentally incurable. She has a son who has a degree from the University of Zululand a daughter who is a nurse and an adopted daughter.

7. She is a Life Vice-President of both the International and South African Federations of Business and Professional Women. She lives in Soweto.

References.

FAIR LADY'S WHO'S WHO OF SOUTH AFRICAN - compiled by Fair Lady a supplement to Fair Lady November 24 , 1976

'Women for our Time :2 - Lucy Mvubelo interviewed by Flavia Pascoe Fair Lady , February 20, 1974.

Born when?

Worked in garment indy when?