

WLL/ET

28th February, 1940.

The Principal Immigration Officer,
Stanger Street,
DURBAN.

Dear Sir,

re Indian Penetration : Proposed Joint
Committee

I have been informed by the Honourable the Minister of the Interior that he has deputed you to act for him in regard to the formation and functioning of a Joint Committee to be composed of representatives of my Council and representatives of the Natal Indian Association, the establishment of which was agreed to some time ago by both bodies at the suggestion of the Honourable the Minister.

I take it that you are aware that the problem of the penetration by Indians of predominantly European areas is one in which a lively interest is taken by my Council and the general European community in this City. There has been unrest on the subject for some time. It was very largely in response to representations made to him by my Council that the Honourable the Minister put forward the suggestion that a Joint Committee of this kind should be formed and urged upon my Council that it represented the most suitable and effective medium of dealing with the problem. He did this as long ago as 11th January last. My Council has lost no time in nominating its representatives to the Joint Committee and doing all it can to

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ensure that it will function successfully without delay. Members of my Council are, however, becoming greatly disturbed at the delay which is taking place in convening the first meeting of the Joint Committee. Cases are being brought to their notice in some numbers which call for urgent consideration and action by the Joint Committee, and which, if not dealt with promptly, will very soon have developed beyond the stage at which the Joint Committee could achieve any result. It is felt that there is some inconsistency between this position and the assurance which the Honourable the Minister gave to a deputation from my Council which interviewed him on the subject in Capetown on 18th January last.

Members of my Council are, therefore, most anxious that no further delay of this kind should take place, and I beg to urge upon you the urgent necessity and importance of completing the formation of the Joint Committee and convening its first meeting as soon as this can possibly be done. Can you give me any indication of the date upon which members of my Council can expect the first meeting to be held?

Yours faithfully,

UKZN
Gandhi-Luthuli
Documentation
Centre

TOWN CLERK

His Worship the Mayor,
(Councillor R. Ellis Brown), -
Mr. Councillor H. G. Capell, -
Mr. Councillor J. M. Harris, -
Mr. Councillor T. Kinloch, -
Mr. Councillor Wilfred Knight, -
Mr. Councillor D. G. Shepstone, -

For your information,

E. B. SCOTT,
TOWN CLERK.

per. 