

Act No. 96 of 1965. 6. Section *one hundred and eight bis* of the principal Act hereby amended—

Amendment of section 108*bis* of Act 56 of 1955, as inserted by Act 39 of 1961 and amended by section 10 of Act 76 of 1962, section 9 of

(a) by the substitution for sub-section (1) of the following sub-section:

“(1) Whenever any person has been arrested on charge of having committed any offence referred in Part IIBis of the Second Schedule, the attorney-general may, if he considers it necessary in the interest of the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order, issue an order that such person shall

The South African History Archive (SAHA) is an independent human rights archive dedicated to documenting, supporting and promoting greater awareness of past and contemporary struggles for justice in South Africa.

SAHA aims to:

- Recapture lost and neglected histories;
- Record aspects of South African democracy in the making;
- Bring history out of the archives and into schools, universities and communities in new and innovative ways;
- Extend the boundaries of freedom of information in South Africa;
- Raise awareness, both nationally and internationally, of the role of archives and documentation in promoting and defending human rights

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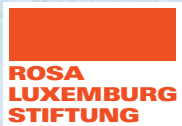
This guide draws on the archival and picture research, and interviews undertaken by the SAHA / SundayTimes Heritage Project team responsible for developing the DVD in 2007. SAHA remains grateful to all interviewees for their participation in the project. Please see DVD for full research and image credits. For more information about the SAHA / Sunday Times Heritage Project, visit [sthp.saha.org.za](http://sthp.saha.org.za).

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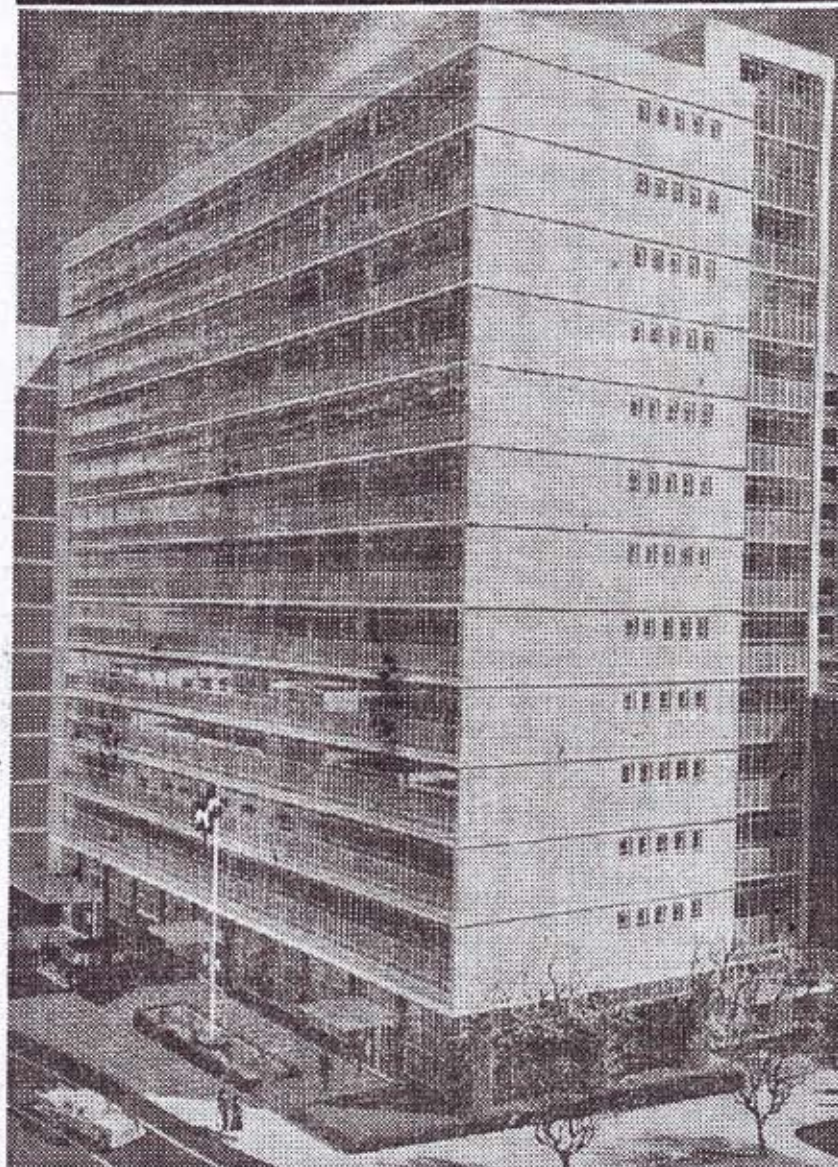


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## Johannesburg Police HQ



A perspective of Johannesburg's new R1,500,000 police district and divisional headquarters. It will be completed in about three years to take the place of Marshall Square, which may be broken down and converted into a park.

The new building will be on a half-acre site between Market, Alexander and Commissioner Streets. It will contain the charge office and offices for all branches now housed at Marshall Square.



## Die Oue

Sentrale Polisiekasern in Marshallstraat, Johannesburg, waar ongetroude polisiemanne reeds sedert 1912 gebuisves was — dus nog voordat die S.A. Polisiemag tot stand gekom bet.



## en die Nuwe

Die nuwe kaserne in Mainweg, Ferreirastown, waar die woonkwartiere gedurende November in gebruik geneem is. 'n Kantoorblok word mettertyd langs hierdie moderne gebou opgerig.



① Kam pol

BY 22





**B.J. VORSTER**

2.2

Floors Served: Basement to 12th excluding 9th and 10th where no entrances will be provided (Entrances bricked up). Automatic doors Basement to 8th only. On the 11th and 12th floors the landing doors will have locks inside similar to the security lifts to enable the lift service man or P.W.D. official to open the doors manually.

2.3

Home Landing: Only one of the three Main Passenger Lifts is to have its home landing on the Ground Floor.

2.4

"Panelyte or Formica" finish is recommended for all the lift cars inside.

3.

The following points were not discussed but are necessary for security reasons:-

3.1

Security Lifts:- The access door to the stair on the 11th floor (see drawing /29) will be kept locked by the Security Branch to prevent access to the 10th floor from above.

3.2

Main Lifts:- Security grills are to be provided on the 10th floor to prevent access by the Main Stair from the 11th floor.

## INTRODUCTION

4.

On 11th June the security arrangements for these

Over 40 years ago, on a chilly day in late August 1968, Prime Minister Balthazar John Vorster opened John Vorster Square. He heralded the squat blue structure that overlooked the motorway in downtown Johannesburg as a 'state-of-the-art' modern police station because it housed all major divisions of the police under 'one roof', boasting that the shining new precinct was the largest police station in Africa.

It was perhaps fitting that the building was named after Vorster – as the former Minister of Justice, he had overseen the institution of harsh security laws designed to crush opposition to apartheid and ensured that the Security Branch of the South African Police acquired formidable powers. Between 1960 and 1990, over 80 000 South Africans were detained, including 10 000 women and 15 000 children and youth under the age of 18 years. The number of people in detention reached its peak after the government declared a total state of emergency in June 1986: 25 000 people were detained over a period of 12 months.

John Vorster Square acquired a reputation as a site for brutality and torture, becoming the primary location for detentions and interrogation on the Witwatersrand during the 1970s and 1980s. 75 deaths in detention were officially recorded in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's report. Between 1970 and 1990, eight people, all of whom were being held under detention regulations, died in John Vorster Square.

Following the release of Nelson Mandela in 1990, widespread changes were made to the security laws in the country. Detention without trial was removed from the statute books and the Security Branch disbanded. In 1995, the South African Police Service was launched and in 1997, the bronze bust of BJ Vorster was removed from the foyer, John Vorster Square was renamed Johannesburg Central Police Station and now functions to fight crime in Johannesburg.

Despite these changes, the bleak interior and the dank smell remain the same. The ghosts of its former occupants are far from banished.