

SRC TRIES ^{"Star"} FOR VENUE _{20/10/77}

Political Reporter

DESPERATE 11th-hour attempts are being made today by the SRC of the University of the Witwatersrand to switch tomorrow's banned open-air rally commemorating the death of police detainee Ahmed Timol to an indoor venue on the campus, where the meeting would be legal.

The National Party meanwhile was granted immediate permission by the Chief Magistrate of Boksburg to hold a mass rally in the town this afternoon to celebrate 25 years of Nationalist rule.

Boksburg is one of the magisterial districts mentioned in yesterday's Government Gaz-

ette banning open-air meetings for 14 days.

The secretary of the Ahmed Timol Memorial Committee, Miss Sheila Weinberg, said today it had been decided that the Wits SRC should take over the running of the meeting, because it was possible for the students (but not outside bodies) to hold public meetings on the university campus.

The president of the SRC, Mr Glen Moss, was today seeking permission from the university authorities to hold the meeting in the University Great Hall tomorrow following a decision by the SRC last night to try to stage the function there.

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Timol ^{"Star"} rally _{20/10/77} goes on

THE Ahmed Timol memorial rally, prohibited yesterday by a surprised Government ban on open-air meetings for 14 days in certain Reef districts, is now to be held tomorrow afternoon in the Great Hall at Witwatersrand University.

The president of the Wits SRC, Mr Glen Moss, said the university administration had given permission for the meeting to be held at 2.30 pm.

It was to have been held at Vrededorp's Queens Park to commemorate the death two years ago of Mr Timol while in police custody at John Vorster Square, Johannesburg.

Mr Moss said pamphlets announcing the switch of venue would be distributed in Soweto and other Black areas and in some White suburbs.

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He could not yet confirm that the speakers who were to have addressed the rally in Vrededorp would speak at the Great Hall, but he hoped they would agree to the transfer.

The ban gazetted yesterday stopped all open-air political meetings in Johannesburg and neighbouring magisterial districts.

One of these is Boksburg, but the National Party has been granted permission by the chief magistrate there to hold a mass rally this afternoon to celebrate 25 years of Nationalist rule.