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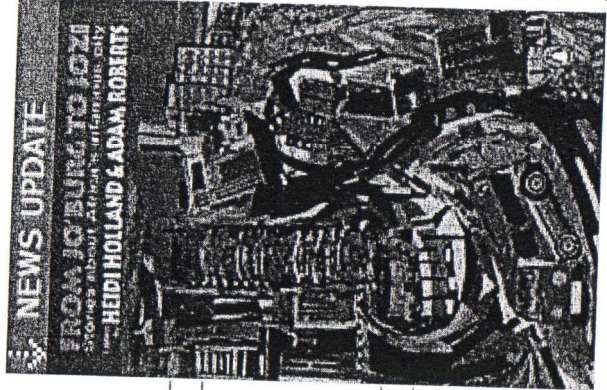
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From Jo'burg to Jozi

August 20, 2002

By Philippa Garson

FROM Jo'burg to Jozi is a pacey read about Jo'burg and the tapestry of contradictory realities that reside in its chaotic, adrenalin-fuelled heart.

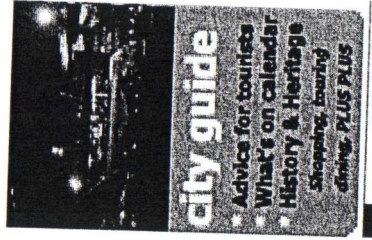
Edited by journalists Heidi Hollander and Adam Roberts, *From Jo'burg to Jozi*, subtitled "Stories about Africa's infamous city", is a compilation of short essays on the city by writers and fellow journalists who live or have lived here.

Timed for release before the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the book gives the reader a crash course on life in Jo'burg, its turbulent history and its zany present, where wealth and poverty coexist in bizarre proximity.

Many writers explore the contradictions - the sanitised suburbs and malls flanked by seedy and dangerous Hillbrow or pockets of inner city slum, the collision of First and Third Worlds at every street corner. Reading the testimonies of writer after writer (there are 60 contributions in all) is a bit like a stroll through Jo'burg itself: energetic and fast-paced, veering from one extreme experience to the next. *From Jo'burg to Jozi* conjures the myriad of possibilities, both awful and wonderful, of the city.

As contributor Ruth Bhengu says of Jo'burg: "There are those who won't set foot in it because they are so scared by the stories of high crime. And there are those who just love it."

Some writers describe situations where paranoid fears of crime and violence are dissolved by friendly warmth and wry smiles of supposed tsotsis instead. Like Darryl Bristow-Bovey, who heads off to a soccer match, expecting his car, which he has left with the keys locked inside, to be stolen when he returns. He finds instead that the keys have been



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The real Jo'burg mapped
 Artist Andrew Lindsay has come up with a colourful map of funky, vibey spots in the city.
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