

South Africans protest living conditions

by UPI

PRETORIA, South Africa -- Police in Pretoria, South Africa, fired rubber bullets and stun grenades at hundreds of residents protesting poor living conditions. The protest began with shack dwellers in Diepsloot barricading roads and turning away motorists to draw attention to their demands for better housing and clean water, The BBC reported Friday. Heavily armed police officers in trucks moved in when the protesters refused to move their shacks and fired rubber bullets and stun grenades at the angry crowd. South Africa's Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions said more than 7.5 million residents lack access to adequate housing. Next month, South Africa's governing African National Congress is to elect a new leader with South African President Thabo Mbeki and former deputy President Jacob Zuma likely to be contenders.

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