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'BIGGEST SECURITY OPERATION EVER' IN SOUTH AFRICA

APARTHEID REPUBLIC DAY

In the face of a massive campaign in protest at the celebrations of the twentieth anniversary of the South African Republic, the security forces mounted what a police spokesman described as 'the biggest security operation ever seen in the country'. Police and troops were mobilized throughout the country at the end of May following mounting protest meetings, strikes and a series of guerilla actions by the African National Congress.

Many protesters were arrested, and security police detained a number of people (T 29.5.81, 1.6.81; Tel 29.5.81).

The campaign against the republic day celebrations was supported by an extremely wide range of political, community, religious, trade union and other organisations. The early stages of the campaign were described in the last issue of FOCUS, and it continued to spread widely and rapidly.

In mid-May 100 organisations attended an anti-republic meeting in Durban where the celebrations were due to end on 1 June with a parade involving 10,000 troops. (S 15.5.81). Numerous anti-Republic Day meetings were held throughout the country, in the townships, in the cities, at universities and elsewhere. Many were organised by the Anti-Republic Day Ad Hoc Committee (S 3.5.81; FOCUS 34 p. 12).

Churches in the campaign urged their followers to boycott the celebrations, and many held church services as a protest during the military parade in Durban (S 12.5.81).

University campuses were a major focus of protest, with meetings and demonstrations, as well as boycotts of lectures. At a number of

campuses the South African flag was burnt in protest, and at one, the University of the Western Cape, the flag of the African National Congress was hoisted (Tel 27/28/29.5.81; FT 28.5.81; T 27.5.81).

Anti-republic meetings were well attended. They were addressed by community leaders, worker representatives, students and church leaders. The theme of the meetings was the oppression of the black majority under apartheid and the Republic, and the political repression (see REVIEW in this issue of FOCUS).

Several guerilla actions directed against the celebrations were reported.

On May 20 a railway near Port Elizabeth was cut by explosives (ST 24.5.81).

On 25 May, there were nearly simultaneous actions in different places. Railway lines were cut near Johannesburg and in Natal, and power lines were cut in the Orange Free State. There was also an armed attack on a police station in the Eastern Cape and shortly afterwards on a group of Ciskeian policemen, including the Chief of Police. One of the policemen was wounded in the arm and leg (BBC 27.5.81; Tel 26.5.81; T 27.5.81).

The ANC confirmed that it was responsible for the attacks on the police station, the railway lines and the power lines.

On 27 May there was a further explosion, at a South African Defence Force recruiting office in Durban.

Following the guerilla actions, and the growing demonstrations, the security forces took action.

Students were warned that all outdoor gatherings were banned, and the police arrested numbers of demonstrators and dispersed several meetings. 48 students were arrested under the Riotous Assemblies Act in Cape Town (GN 28.5.81), 20 pupils and some parents were arrested at a Johannesburg High School after police used teargas, batons

and sjamboks (whips) to disperse a meeting (Tel 29.5.81). Police broke up meetings of students in Durban and in Johannesburg 200 riot police went onto the campus (T 28.5.81).

Following the guerilla attacks on 25 May, extensive security measures were taken. Police units were placed on the alert throughout the country and roadblocks set up on many roads. A 200 strong special task force was put on the alert ready to be flown anywhere in the country. 600 extra police were drafted into Durban. A motorized column of troops was reported to be on its way to participate in the celebrations and guard against disturbances (T 27.5.81; GN 29/30.5.81; T 1.6.81). Durban was described by a journalist as a maximum security area with troops and police patrolling the streets (ST 31.5.81).

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south africa

DETENTIONS

Trade unionists, rent protesters, and members of COSAS were the main groups affected by recent detentions. At the end of May there were a number of arrests of trade unionists and student activists following anti-Republic Day demonstrations. Those detained included Andrew BORAIN, President of National Union of South African Students, (NUSAS), Joseph MAVI, President of Black Municipal Workers' Union (BMWU), Siza NJIKELANA, Vice-President of South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU).

TRADE UNIONISTS

In early May the Ciskei Intelligence Services (CIS) again acted against trade unionists from SAAWU (see *FOCUS 32 pp 6-7 and 33 p.2*). The current list names twenty Mdantsane detainees, ten of whom are confirmed as members of SAAWU and former employees of Wilson-Rowntree in East London. They are expected to be charged with sabotage (*Evening Post 8.4.81*). On 30 April Brigadier Charles Sebe, Secretary for CIS, stated that 21 former Wilson-Rowntree employees were detained, 4 of them in hospital after going on hunger-strike (*CT 1.5.81*). Two SAAWU officials Thozamile GQWETA and Siza NJIKALANA staged a similar protest during their detention in 1980 (*FOCUS 33 p.2*).

It was reported in *FOCUS 34 p.8* that four Orlando post office workers had been detained. They are counter-clerk Ben RABOEANE and telephone technicians Bob MABASO, Alpheus KHUMALO and Elias MOSUNKUTU. It is now believed they may have been arrested because of their plans to establish a trade union for post office and telecommunications workers (*CT 10.4.81*). Originally detained under Section 22 GLA, according to their lawyers, they are now subject to Section 6 of the Terrorism Act (*S 10.4.81*).

Another trade unionist recently detained is Makhosini KHUMALO of BAWU who was charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act (see *TRADE UNIONISTS under POLITICAL TRIALS*).

COSAS

The detention of COSAS members continues with six names added to the list of new detainees. All are from the Mamelodi branch and

127 CHILDREN DETAINED IN 1980

The Minister of Police, in reply to a question in Parliament, said that during 1980 there were 127 people under 18 years detained in terms of the security laws (95 males and 32 females).

He refused to say what the ages of those detained were, nor what laws they were detained under. Nor would he say for how long they were detained. "I consider it not to be in the public interest" he said, "to disclose all the information required" (*Debates 9.2.81*).

Similar questions over the last four years have elicited the information below. Since the figures do not refer to the same laws in every case, they are not directly comparable.

JUVENILES DETAINED UNDER SECURITY LAWS

	Total	Male	Fem.	Laws
1977	259	236	23	"Sec. Laws"
1978	252	227	25	TA, ISA
1979	48	42	6	TA, GLA
1980	127	95	32	"Sec. Laws"

(*Debates 10.2.78, 21.2.79, 19.2.80, 9.2.81*).

on 1 April an emergency meeting to discuss the detentions was called at St. Francis Church (*RDM 1.4.81*). No reasons for the detentions have been given but COSAS has played a leading role in the anti-Republic Day protests, as well as in the education protests.

TRANSKEI

Chief George MATANZIMA stated in the Transkei Assembly that expert evidence showed that former Interior Minister Saul NDZUMO who died in detention in September 1980 (*FOCUS 31 p.4*) had died of natural causes. Reports on post mortems conducted by pathologists for the State and the Ndzumo family have not yet been released (*DD 20.2.81*).

On 27 May Brigadier Rodney KESWA, Commissioner of the Defence Force, was arrested in Umtata along with Colonel R. H. M. LUGONGOLO and Colonel A FUMBA (*S Tel 31.5.81*). Lieutenant-Colonel Ron REID-DALY, former leader of the Selous

Scouts, has been appointed acting army commander (*Tel 1.6.81*).

RELEASES

- James KATI, executive member of the Democratic Progressive Party detained in Transkei since 6 January (see *FOCUS 34 p.8 under GADI*), was released on 2 March. Kati, a former Robben Island prisoner and 1980 detainee (*FOCUS 27 p.11*), was questioned about alleged recruiting of people for military training abroad (*DD 5.3.81*).

- Gregory FREDERICKS, an East London teacher detained since 26 July 1980 (*FOCUS 30 p.7*), was released and resumed work at the beginning of March (*DD 6.3.81*).

- Mzwandile MSOKI, a fieldworker with the Border Dependents Conference who was detained in June 1980 for attending a 16 June memorial meeting, was released from Fort Glamorgan prison on 30 March (*DD 1.4.81*). The terms of his detention changed from Sec. 22 GLA to Sec. 6 TA and finally to being held as a potential witness but he was released without giving evidence. Msoki served a 6 month sentence in 1979 for refusing to testify against GXANYANA and others (*FOCUS 23 p.9*) and was detained in Transkei in 1976-7 and 1978 (*DD 1.4.81*).

- AZAPO members Kehla MTHEMBU, George WAUCHOPE, Thabo NDABENI, Fora MATHOBELA and William MODUPO (NDUPO), detained on 4 April following rent-rise protests in Tembisa (*FOCUS 34 p.8*), were released on 20 April (*Star 21.4.81; Voice 22.4.81*). AZAPO National Secretary for Health Duke MORE was released on 18 April (*S 24.4.81*) and the remaining detainees with one exception were reportedly released in April (*Voice 6.5.81*). This issue of FOCUS lists a further ten people detained for a similar period in Tembisa. Amanda KWADI, a social worker and executive member of the Womens Federation was released on 26 May after spending more than 50 days in detention under Sec. 6 TA (*S 27.5.81*).

- Michael LETHOKO, reported detained in *FOCUS 34 p.8*, was released shortly afterwards. Along with three others he was detained for questioning when deported from Botswana in January 1981. On 25 February the South African Minister of Police told the House of Assembly in Cape Town that no refugees deported from Botswana were then in detention and that no charges had been brought against those returned (*Amnesty International Newsletter, April 1981*).

APPEALS

MASAKE APPEAL SUCCESSFUL

A former Soweto student, Adam MASAKE (19), who was sentenced last year to five years imprisonment, has had his sentence set aside by the Pretoria Appeal Court and has been released from Robben Island.

Masake won his appeal on 4 May. He was convicted in August last year after being found guilty of receiving military training in Lesotho from the ANC and the Lesotho paramilitary police. The appeal hearing found that there was not adequate evidence to prove that

Masake had received military training.

Masake alleged that while in detention he was tortured by police who forced him to admit the training allegations. He said he had no alternative but to write a statement confessing to the allegations (*S 7.5.81*).

TREASON SENTENCE REDUCED

The appeal of Vusumuzi Nicholas ZULU against a sentence of 13 years' imprisonment was heard in the Bloemfontein Appeal Court on 24 March 1981. The sentence was reduced to 9 years (*Citizen 3.4.81*).

Zulu was one of the 12 men convicted in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court in November 1979. Another of the accused in this trial, James Mange, was sentenced to death but had his sentence commuted to 20 years on appeal (*FOCUS 31 p.12*).

It was found that Zulu had undergone military training in Angola but that he had returned to South Africa unarmed and without access to any arms and did nothing in connection with the purpose of his training (*Citizen 3.4.81*).

NEW DETAINEES

Additional to previous FOCUS lists

Approx. date	Place	Name (age)	Details (where known)
Jan	Mamelodi	Moakeng Daniel KGWETE	COSAS member. Sec. 6 T.A.
Jan	Mamelodi	Koni LEKHUMBI	COSAS member
8.2.81	Punzana, Ciskei	Thembekile TSHUNUNGWA	Former chief whip of the Transkei Independence Party and former chairman of the Transkei Legislative Assembly. PROC. R252
26.2.81	Mdantsane	Gideon DUZE (72)	Student. Sec. 22 ISA
4.3.81	E. London	Pillay MDATYULWA	University student
24.3.81	Turfloop	Phillip Oupa MOLEMA (26)	COSAS member
March	Mamelodi	Stella MASUKU	COSAS member
March	Mamelodi	Abram MSIMANGA	COSAS member
March	Mamelodi	Alfred KGAMARE	COSAS member
March	Mamelodi	Unnamed youth	COSAS member
March	Klipspruit	Zacharia MOLEKO	
March		Eddie KHUMALO (30)	Sec. 6 TA
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Boy Mandi	
		Eric MNTONGA	
		Captain NGABASE	
		Manelisi NOJAHOLO	
		Siven KHUNJUNZWA	
		Velile YENGILE	SAAWU members
		Sam TOIWE	former Wilson-Rowntree workers
		Sloki GCAWU	
		Zola MUTHUSI	
		Mongezi HIGA	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Elliot ZIWELE	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Dumore NIBE	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Jeipy MNYAMANA	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Colin SITYATA	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Richard MTATI	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	China KALA	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Johan JOZI	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Telford VELAPI	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	William PLAATJIE	
3.4.81	Mdantsane	Melvin SAMENTE	
4.4.81	Tembisa	Mlungisi MAVANA	Nat. Sec. AZAPO.
			Sec. 22 GLA. Rel. 20.4.81.
4.4.81	Tembisa	Frans PALE	AZAPO branch chairman.
			Sec. 22 GLA. Rel. 20.4.81.
4.4.81	Tembisa	Zacharia LESO	AZAPO member. Rel. 20.4.81.
4.4.81	Tembisa	Lazarus MOKOENA	AZAPO member. Rel. 20.4.81.
4.4.81	Tembisa	Dr. David RADEBE	TRAC.
		Ishmael SEETA	Sec. 22 GLA
			TRAC.
		Mongadi MODUPO	Sec. 22 GLA
			TRAC.
		Mxolisi MOYO	Sec. 22 GLA
			Photographer.
		Jackie SEROKE	Sec. 22 GLA
			EC member AWA.
		Donald MAKGAKGA	Sec. 22 GLA
			AZAPO member.
			Sec. 22 GLA
14.4.81	Kempton Park	Martin PHAGE (25)	AZAPO member.
			Rel. 16.4.81
18.4.81	Zwelitsha	Ben MASHIYANE	Former mayor Mdantsane. Supporter Ciskei National Independence Party. Proc. R252.
25.4.81	Ciskei	Chief Inky HOYI (85)	Abducted from home. Reported released, May.
1.5.81	Umtata	Bessie MDODA	TPSA
17.5.81	Soweto	Reggie NIKIWE (23)	Poet. Rel. 21.5.81
17.5.81	Ciskei	Mzunzima MAYEKISO	Member Ibandla Likantu Church and Roots (see BANS). Proc. R252.
17.5.81	Ciskei	Thami MKONTO	Member Ibandla Likantu Church. Proc. R252.
24.5.81	Durban	Zweli MKIZE	Pres. Medical SRC. University of Natal
24.5.81	Durban	J. PAAHLA	Natal medical student. Pres. University Students House Cttee.
27.5.81	Bosmont	Aziz JARDINE (18)	Pres. SRC. Christiaan Botha High School Bosmont. Sec. 22 GLA
27.5.81		Andrew BORAINIE (22)	President Nat. Union of S.A. Students.
			Sec. 22 GLA
28.5.81	Johannesburg	Joseph MAVI	Pres. Black Municipal Workers' Union.
			Sec. 22 GLA
28.5.81	Johannesburg	Siza NJIKELANA	Vice-Pres. SAAWU. Sec. 22 GLA
1.6.81	Soweto	Fr. Enoch SHOMANG	RC Priest. Founder-member Black Priests Solidarity Group. Sec. 22 GLA

ABBREVIATIONS

AWA	African Writers' Association	COSAS	Congress of South African Students	SAAWU	South African Allied Workers' Union
AZAPO	Azanian People's Organisation	GLA	General Law Amendment Act	TA	Terrorism Act
		ISA	Internal Security Act	TPSA	Transkei Public Security Act
		PROC. R252	Ciskei Emergency Proclamation R252	TRAC	Tembisa Residents' Action Committee

POLITICAL TRIALS

Two new major security trials have commenced since the last issue of *FOCUS*. Both involved people alleged to have taken part in guerilla action after undergoing military training, and alleged to be ANC members. The charges include attacks on the Sasol oil-from-coal refinery, and reconnoitering oil storage installations (see *Tsotsobe and Others, Khumalo and Others*).

These two trials are among four currently taking place or recently ended in which the accused were charged with having undergone military training outside South Africa and of being connected with the ANC (*Wordsworth Mhlana, Khumalo and Dlodlu*).

CONTINUING TRIALS

OSCAR MPETHA and 18 OTHERS

The trial of veteran trade unionist and SACTU founder member, Oscar MPETHA (71) and 18 others (named in *FOCUS* 33 p.2), resumed in the Cape Town Supreme Court on 19 March after it had been adjourned on 11 March for judgement to be given on various applications made by the State and the defence.

Earlier defence counsel had claimed that insufficient particulars had been supplied by the State to enable it to prepare the individual defence of each of the accused. At the resumption the State was ordered to supply a single comprehensive set of particulars containing specific details of each accused's alleged offences — the date, time and place. In order for the State to comply with this order the trial was postponed to 15 April. The judge also ruled that the public should be allowed to attend the proceedings, despite a request from the State that the trial be held *in camera* because six of the accused were juveniles (*CT 20.3.81*).

When the trial resumed on 15 April Mpetha and the 18 all pleaded not guilty to charges of terrorism and murder.

The State provided details of how two motorists had died in the unrest at Crossroads on 11 August 1980, and claimed that there was evidence that Mpetha was the "brains behind the events that took place on 11 August last year . . . and behind the bus boycott" which was taking place at the time (*CT 16.4.81*).

Further applications were made by the State to have the public cleared from the courtroom while juvenile state witnesses gave evidence because they might be afraid to give evidence in front of a "sea of faces". A 15-year-old girl appearing as a state witness before a cleared court told that she feared reprisals unless she could appear *in camera*.

The defence told the court that the girl's parents had been spoken to and both had expressed their wish for her to give evidence in open court. It was ruled, however, that the girl's evidence would be given *in camera* because she could be inhibited by a full courtroom (*RDM 29.4.81*).

On 5 May the trial resumed after several postponements due to procedural problems and the illness of one of the accused. The 15-year-old state witness giving evidence *in camera* claimed that she had seen certain of the accused build a barricade, stone cars and set them alight, causing the death of their drivers. She also claimed that she had seen Mpetha driving a van the previous day while

There are also two trials under the Internal Security Act of people accused of procuring, possessing and distributing literature of the ANC (*Mandla Gxanyana, Mbiyabe and Nzubem*).

The Terrorism Act is being used not only to prosecute people who have been involved in military training or activities. Two trials under the Terrorism Act concern people involved in the school boycott and the demonstrations of last year (*Motlhabakwe and Others, Oscar Mpetha and 18 Others*).

In two of the trials witnesses refused to give evidence and were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment. (see *Mandla Gxanyana, Wordsworth Mhlana*).

a crowd was making its way to Crossroads. She alleged that he had given a clenched fist salute and had told the crowd to sing "his" song: "There are guns in Angola" (*S, RDM 7.5.81*).

Under cross questioning it was revealed that the girl could have incorrectly identified certain of the accused and much of her evidence appeared to be contradictory. The defence also complained that the girl was being accompanied home and brought to the court each day by the investigating officers. One of the accused also complained that he had seen a security policeman signalling to the girl as she gave evidence (*CT 14.5.81*).

The trial continues.

TSOTSOBE and OTHERS

Three alleged ANC members appeared in a Pretoria Regional Court on 10 April on charges of high treason.

The accused are Anthony Bobby TSOTSOBE (TSOTSETSI) (25), Johannes SHABANGU (26) and David MOISE (25). The three face charges that include attacks on the Booyens police station, Dube railway station and the Sasol oil-from-coal plant last year (*Citizen 11.4.81*).

The three again appeared on 16 April. The charge sheets detailed a series of guerilla attacks hitherto unmentioned in the press. Seventy-eight witnesses are expected to be called by the State to give evidence against the three. They were not asked to plead and the case was postponed to 2 June (*S 21.4.81*).

KHUMALO and OTHERS

Four men appeared in the Pretoria Magistrates Court on 15 and 22 April on charges under the Terrorism Act and the Unlawful Organisations Act. They are: Eddie KHUMALO (30), Norman YENGENI (22), Edward MBUNDU (38) and David MAMPANE (20).

In a statement to the court Yengeni admitted being a member of the ANC, having received military training and having returned to South Africa in October 1980 to reconnoitre the Caltex oil refinery in Cape Town. Mbundu admitted receiving military training outside South Africa but said he wished to remain silent on whether he was a member of the ANC and whether he had reconnoitred the Alberton oil storage depot. Mampane admitted joining the ANC and receiving military training in Angola and Khumalo was charged with joining the ANC,

Apart from the major security trials, there are numerous trials arising out of the school boycotts of last year and meetings which took place during the ban on all political meetings in 1980 (see also *BANS AND RESTRICTIONS*).

Continuing industrial action and trade union activity throughout the country have resulted in a number of trials involving strikers and trade unionists. Lawyers commented in March that prosecutions of alleged strike leaders appeared to be a growing trend at present (*RDM 3.3.81*).

receiving military training outside the country and returning to South Africa in October 1980 to reconnoitre the Alberton oil storage depot.

All pleaded not guilty to charges of participating in terrorist activities. The hearing was postponed to 22 May (*RDM 15/23.5.81*).

MOTLHABAKWE and OTHERS

Five men from Galeshewe, Kimberley, pleaded not guilty in the Kimberley Magistrates' Court on 2 April to charges of participating in terrorist activities, arson, housebreaking and attempted arson. Neville MOTLHABAKWE (19), Johannes KERS (18), Eugene MOKGOTSI (21), Nelco HLATSHWAYO (20) and Ben FANI (21) gave no evidence and made no admissions. The case was postponed to 4 May pending a decision by the Attorney General (*Star 3.4.81*).

Ben Fani was detained on 6 August 1980 along with several others in connection with the school boycott in Kimberley at that time. The others were probably arrested in early September 1980 after a meeting of 1,500 pupils at a community centre had been dispersed with teargas. It was claimed by the press that the pupils had then gone on the 'rampage' through a white residential area. The pupils denied this, claiming that most of the damage occurred when they fled from baton charging policemen (see *FOCUS* 31 pp 1, 5).

PHASHA and 25 OTHERS

26 people, including four members of AZAPO were due to appear in court on charges of public violence, on 23 and 24 April.

The four AZAPO members arrested were Muthe PHASHA (chairman of the local branch), Sello RAOPHALA (secretary), Phillip MAKWEKA and Frank MATLO.

The arrests and charges followed demonstrations in Lenyenye Village near Tzaneen in the Northern Transvaal. Buses were stoned and a beerhall set alight. Stone throwing incidents aimed at Lebowa Transport and buildings of the Lebowa bantustan authorities have been going on for some time (*S 23.4.81*). Lebowa police have in the past questioned AZAPO officials after disturbances. Two of the accused, Phasha and Raophala were detained in October 1980 following the boycott of buses of Lebowa Transport, and were released in March 1981 (*S 5.3.81; FOCUS 33 p 2-3, 34 p.7*).

CONVICTIONS & ACQUITTALS

MBIYABE and NZUBEM

Two men from Port Elizabeth, Mlungusi Malvern MBIYABE (37) and Nansame NZUBEM (30), were sentenced on 17 April to five years each, two years suspended conditionally for five years, by the Humansdorp Regional Court.

They were charged under the Internal Security Act with furthering the aims of the ANC and of importing and distributing ANC literature.

They pleaded guilty to importing 1,200 pamphlets and 75 ANC tape cassettes from Lesotho and distributing them in South Africa (*Evening Post* 21.4.81).

WORDSWORTH MHLANA

In the trial of Wordsworth Kholekile MHLANA (25) a state witness, Weaver Seralo MAGCHYE, was jailed on 20 March for three and a half years after refusing to answer questions and for giving a clenched fist salute from the witness box. Mhlana himself was convicted and sentenced to eight years imprisonment on 2 April. An application for appeal against both the conviction and sentence was refused (*Eastern Province Herald* 3.4.81).

Mhlana had pleaded not guilty to charges under the Terrorism Act and Internal Security Act in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court on 9 March. During the trial the court debated for two weeks on the admissibility of a statement made by Mhlana to a Johannesburg magistrate during his detention last year. The judge ruled the statement admissible despite a defence submission that the confession was not made freely and voluntarily. In evidence Mhlana said security police had forced him to make the confession by torture including electric shocks, assault, excessive physical exercise, starvation and a threat of drowning in the Vaal River (*RDM* 28.3.81; see *FOCUS* 34 p.6).

MANDLA GXANYANA

An artist from Duncan Village, East London, Mandla GXANYANA (26), was acquitted in the East London regional court on 9 April of being a member of the ANC but was sentenced for possessing and distributing banned literature.

He was sentenced to one and a half year's imprisonment, half of which was suspended for five years, and fined R250 or three months (*DD* 10.4.81).

Bonisile Philemon NORUSHE (34), local secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers' Union, was held for over seven months before he was called to give evidence in the trial of Gxanyana. He refused to testify and was sentenced to one year's imprisonment on 8 April.

Giving his reasons why he could not "betray" Gxanyana, he said "I cannot testify because his contribution is great to me and my nation" (*DD* 9.4.81).

KHUMALO and DLUDLU

Raphael Mzikayifani KHUMALO (24) and Raymond Veli DLUDLU (29) were both discharged in the Ermelo Magistrates' Court in April.

Khumalo was charged with having received military training outside South Africa and it was alleged that he had been in possession of large quantities of arms, ammunition and explosives which he intended to use for terrorist activities. Dlodlu was charged with assisting Khumalo by transporting him from Swaziland into South Africa (*S* 27.4.81; see *FOCUS* 34 p.6).

OTHER TRIALS

WORKERS AND TRADE UNIONISTS

The continuing wave of industrial action and trade union growth has brought with it a use of the law against workers on strike and trade union organisers.

While there have been acquittals or withdrawals of charges in some cases, the Government has introduced the Industrial Conciliation Amendment Act which, if enacted, would subject the growing independent trade union movement to stringent statutory controls (*DD* 3.4.81).

Several of the cases have been under the Riotous Assemblies Act, whose Sections 10 and 12 prohibit inciting others to strike and provide for a maximum penalty of five years or R1000 fine or both (*RDM* 3.3.81).

An exception to this was the prosecution in February under the Black Labour Regulations Act of 188 workers of Greyhound Bus Company (see *FOCUS* 33 p.5).

- On 9 February 17 workers of African Telephone Cables appeared in Brits Magistrates Court, charged with intimidating fellow workers during a strike at the company.

- On 26 February three organisers of the South African Allied Workers Union (SA-AWU) appeared in East London Regional Court charged with attending a meeting without permission from a magistrate. The meeting in question was at the Men's Hostel in Duncan Village, and was attended by about 100 workers at Model Dairy. The three accused, Sopotso RANI, Deborah KENOISE and Motiwe STURMAN, were alleged by a policeman, giving evidence, to have told those at the meeting how important it was to belong to a union and how it was helpful for workers.

The case was postponed to 30 April for the defence to lead evidence (*DD* 6.2, 21.3.81).

- At least 14 workers from Wilson-Rowntree have appeared in various trials in East London Regional Court and a Special Regional Court in Mdantsane.

The charges have varied from public violence to incitement and threatening force to stop people going to work.

The strike has involved the dismissal by

the company of 500 workers who took industrial action in sympathy with three dismissed workers.

Several of the cases were postponed to 9 April, and one of them was postponed to 12 May. The accused in the latter case was Danile TOKWE, who was detained by the security police in February (see *FOCUS* 34 p.8; *DD* 28.2, 5/12/19/27.3, 8.4.81).

- In March the President of the Black Allied Workers Union (BAWU) was charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act. It was believed that the charges, which came after detention for questioning by the security police, related to a strike at Zakhele Transport in Ladysmith earlier in the year (*Voice* 25.3.81; see also *PASSPORTS WITHDRAWN* under *BANS and RESTRICTIONS*).

- On 2 March Charles NGOBESE, a shop steward at the Toyota Car Company, and Johannes NGWENYA, a member of the Metal and Allied Workers Union, appeared in Randburg Magistrates Court after being arrested by the Security Police on 26 February. They were charged under Sections 10 and 12 of the Riotous Assemblies Act, for allegedly inciting a strike. The hearing was postponed to 16 March (*RDM* 3.3.81).

- On 4 March three workers at Everite Construction Company appeared in Klipriver Magistrates Court on charges of inciting an illegal strike, under the Riotous Assemblies Act. However, the charges were withdrawn because there was "insufficient evidence" (*RDM* 7.3.81).

- A charge of inciting workers to strike was withdrawn in the Mdantsane Regional Court in February, in the case against Thozamile GQWETA, an organiser of the South African Allied Workers Union. The charge, first brought in May 1980, arose out of a strike of construction workers in Mdantsane in April 1980 (*RDM* 17.2.81; see also *FOCUS* 31 p.3).

1980 SCHOOL BOYCOTT

Many of the recent trials arising out of the 1980 school boycotts have been in the Eastern Cape. Examples of this are the cases reported

below, in Zwelitsha and Mdantsane. There have also been trials elsewhere connected with the boycotts, such as the cases in Pietersburg and Kimberley reported below and the case brought under the Terrorism Act in Kimberley (*MOTHLABAKWE AND OTHERS* on the facing page).

- At least 100 pupils and students have appeared in more than 20 separate trials in a Special Regional Court in Mdantsane during February, March and April. The charges varied from public violence to arson, incitement, malicious damage to property, sabotage and preventing others from attending school.

Charges against 10 pupils were dropped on 9 March, and the cases against others were postponed to dates in March, April and May (*DD* 11.2, 5/10/27.3.81).

- 12 pupils and students, whose ages ranged from 20 to 17, appeared in Zwelitsha Regional Court on 18 February. They were charged with unlawfully assembling and with creating a riot.

In evidence, one of the accused said that the grievances that prompted the class boycott of 1980 were Bantu education and the presence on school premises of members of the Ciskei Central Intelligence Service (*DD* 19.2.81).

- 47 pupils of Malebeboho High School were expected to appear in a Pietersburg Regional Court on 13 March on charges of public violence. The charges are a sequel to protests at the school in August 1980, when it is alleged that the school building was stoned and the principal's house burned (*Voice* 11.3.81).

- Four men appeared in Kimberley Magistrates Court in February charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act with contravening, addressing and alternatively attending an illegal gathering. The accused are Alfred MON- GALE (19), Jon MOTSHABI (18), Steven RIET (21) and Gavin THETE (20). They were arrested on 14 January, the day before 15 people were detained in Kimberley in connection with the school boycott (*FOCUS* 34 p.8).

The case was postponed to 13 April (*Voice* 11.2.81).

For APPEALS see p.2

BANS AND RESTRICTIONS

The number of people banned in terms of the Internal Security Act rose slightly in 1980, from 153 to 156. Although three notices expired during the year and eight were withdrawn, 15 new banning orders were issued during the year, including a renewal of an expired notice. In the first two months of 1981 another five people were banned in terms of the Internal Security Act.

CONTRAVENTIONS

Several people have appeared in court on charges of contravening their banning orders.

- **FATIMA MEER**, a sociologist and author, appeared in the Durban Regional Court on 15 May on four counts of contravening her banning order.

The five year banning order, which expires on 31 July, confines her to the Durban area and she may not enter any educational premises apart from the University of Natal where she is a lecturer.

It is alleged that she illegally visited the Inanda area and also visited an educational institution, namely the Thembalisha Tutorial

College and/or the arts and crafts centre at Inanda (*ST 10.5.81; S 18.5.81*).

Previously Fatima Meer and her son-in-law Baptiste MARIE were sentenced to three months imprisonment for contravening banning orders. However the conviction and sentence were set aside on appeal. A judge in the Natal Supreme Court found that the prohibition on attending social gatherings in the banning order was void because of vagueness. The attorney-general of Natal has since appealed against the Natal Supreme Court judgement (*ST 10.5.81; see also FOCUS 20 p.9, 23 p.14*).

- **LIZO PITAYANA**, a former executive member of the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (PEBCO) appeared in the Port Elizabeth magistrate's court in May, charged with breaking his banning order in an incident in New Brighton on 25 April. No evidence was led and the case was remanded to 18 May, to be heard in the local Regional Court (*Voice 15.5.81; see also FOCUS 26 p.3*).

- **MONO BADELA**, a former journalist and PEBCO member, was granted bail pending an appeal against a two month sentence imposed on him in April for contravening his banning order (*Voice 18.5.81; see also FOCUS 27 p.14, 30 p.6, 31 p.10*).

- **REV. MZWANDILE MAQINA** was con-

victed on 14 April in the Port Elizabeth Regional Court of contravening his banning order. He was charged with failing to report to the police at a specified time.

Rev. Maqina, a playwright and cleric, was banned in 1977 for five years (*see FOCUS 12 p.3*) and was convicted in 1978 on three counts of breaking his banning orders (*FOCUS 17 p.7*). He was also detained in September 1978 (*FOCUS 19 p.6*).

Rev. Maqina was the founder of Roots, a newly founded cultural organisation with a vigilante wing. He appeared in the Port Elizabeth Magistrates Court in March on a charge of assault along with two other Roots members, Phindile MEMA and Mzunzima MAYEKISO (*Evening Post 25.3.81*).

- **FANA SITHOLE** was sentenced to six months imprisonment on 5 February in the Durban Regional Court, for breaking his banning order by being absent from his home on two occasions. His restriction order prohibits him from leaving his home in Umlazi between 6 pm and 6 am on weekdays and during weekends. Fana Sithole was detained in 1976, when he was editor of a Black Consciousness publication 'Challenge', and banned for five years on his release (*FOCUS 6 p.9, 9 p.14*).

MEETINGS

BANS

Restrictions on outdoor meetings in terms of the Riotous Assemblies Act have been in force since June 1976. By successive renewals this ban has remained in force since then up till the present. Only sports gatherings, indoor meetings, or meetings for which a minister or magistrate has given permission, are legal. The ban was renewed on 1 April 1981 for further year, until 31 March 1982.

For two and a half months during 1980, from 14 June to 1 September, the ban was extended to all meetings of a political nature of more than ten people. Two of the trials described below arose from meetings which occurred during this period.

The Riotous Assemblies Act also allows the prohibition of a specific gathering. Apart from the ban on memorial services and other gatherings to commemorate those killed by the South African army raid into Mozambique in January (*see FOCUS 34 p.9*), these powers have been used on other recent occasions.

- An order prohibiting the burial on a Saturday or Sunday of a former African National Congress executive member, Joe LENGISI, was delivered to his home on 28 February, 14 hours before the funeral service was due to begin.

The order stipulated that the funeral could be held on any day of the week except a Saturday or Sunday, and that no more than 100 people should attend the funeral.

When the funeral was finally held, a day later than originally planned, over 300 people

attended. They sang freedom songs, and heard speakers who were associated with Joe LENGISI before he was banished (*DD 2/3.8.81*).

- A prayer meeting to have been held in Lovedale in the Eastern Cape on 21 March, in commemoration of the Sharpeville shootings, was called off, after the organisers were told by the security police that it had been banned (*DD 21.3.81*).

- The first annual conference of the African Writers Association, due to be held in Sibasa, Venda, in May, was banned under the Riotous Assemblies Act (*Voice 15.5.81*).

RIOTOUS ASSEMBLY TRIALS

Amongst many recent trials under the Riotous Assemblies Act, there are two arising out of meetings held during the period in 1980 when all meetings of a political nature of more than 10 people were banned. (*For other cases see SCHOOL BOYCOTT and TRADE UNIONISTS and WORKERS under POLITICAL TRIALS.*)

• DR MOTLANA AND TWO OTHERS

The case against Dr Ntatho MOTLANA, Leonard MOSALA and Tom MANTHATA, all of the Soweto Committee of Ten has been postponed until 21 September. They are all alleged to have convened or addressed a meeting on 24 August 1980 when all gatherings were banned (*FOCUS 34 p.6*).

The advocate appearing for the accused told the court that postponement was caused by the fact that the State supplied new information at an extremely late stage.

The charges against a fourth person, Sidney MOTINGOA, a school principal, were withdrawn (*S 12.5.81*).

• BORAINÉ AND SWART

Andrew BORAINÉ (21), President of NUSAS and Christopher SWART (21), President of the University of Natal Durban Students Representative Council, appeared in the Durban Regional Court on 16 February, charged with holding and addressing a prohibited meeting. The State alleged that the meeting was of a political nature, in commemoration of the events of 16 June, 1976, and was therefore prohibited in terms of the ban then in force.

The trial was adjourned to 23 March, and the following day the magistrate reserved judgement to 1 May (*Natal Witness 17.2, 24.3.81*).

• CYRIL MATSOKO and 7 OTHERS

Seven people appeared in Cape Town Magistrates Court on 6 March, charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act for allegedly attending an illegal gathering.

They were arrested on 5 March when more than 300 people marched through the City of Cape Town from the Supreme Court where Oscar Mpetha and 18 others were on trial (*see FOCUS 34 p.6*).

They are: Cyril MATSOKO (23), Cecil DLABANTU (18), Beau MDAMANDANA (18), Desmond MNCUBE (23), Francina MAMFANYA (55) and two youths aged 16 and 17.

The hearing was postponed to 25 March and then again to 23 April (*CT 6/7/26.3.81*).

PASSPORTS

Bishop Desmond Tutu's passport was confiscated in April by the security police a week after he returned from North America and Europe. A number of other people have also recently had passports withdrawn or refused.

- While he was out of the country during April, Bishop Tutu, who is general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, angered the South African Government by

advocating economic sanctions against the country (*FT 18.4.81*).

- In March the President of the Black Allied Workers Union (BAWU), Makosini KHUMALO, had his passport withdrawn. He was detained by the Security Police on 16 March and on his release charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act, apparently in connection with a recent strike in Natal (*see TRADE UNIONISTS under POLITICAL TRIALS*).

The Publicity Secretary of the union, Beki

KHUMALO, was refused a passport to visit the United States to attend a course on union issues (*Voice 25.3.81*).

- Frank CHIKANE, an Apostolic Faith Mission minister from Kagiso, near Krugersdorp, was refused a passport to further his studies overseas. This is the second time he has been refused a passport.

He has been detained three times since 1976, on one occasion for more than 200 days under the Terrorism Act (*S 29.4.81*).

REVIEW: 20 YEARS OF INCREASING REPRESSION

The campaign in South Africa against the minority Republic celebrations has emphasised the extent to which the years since the Republic was set up in 1961, have been years of continuing oppression for the black majority. There has been a great increase in the repressive powers of the apartheid regime and in its readiness to use them.

When the Republic was set up, there was already a considerable range of repressive laws. Since then the repressive laws have been strengthened, the armed forces have been increased and their actions against those who protest, organize and mobilize for liberation have intensified.

Throughout the period the oppression of the majority has continued. This is indicated by the number of people forcibly removed, and the even larger number of people arrested and prosecuted under the pass laws.

The information below is, unless otherwise stated, taken from the *Annual Surveys of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR)*, from official South African statistics in Government Reports or in answers to Parliamentary Questions.

POLITICAL TRIALS

- Over 4,400 people have been convicted since 1961 under the *Suppression of Communism Act*, the *Unlawful Organisations Act*, the *Public Safety Act*, the *Terrorism Act*, the *General Law Amendment Act* and the *Internal Security Act*.

- Many more have been convicted in the courts as a result of participating in mass protests and demonstrations against apartheid. In only three years, from June 1976 to July 1979, 44,300 people (8,200 of them under 18 years old) were convicted of charges of Riotous Assembly, Public Violence, Sabotage, Inciting or Promoting Unrest, Arson, or Malicious Damage to Property.

A succession of laws relating to state security have been created, each new law being enacted to deal with successive stages in the struggle against apartheid:

1961 There already existed the *Public Safety Act (1933)*, the *Suppression of Communism Act (1950)* and the *Unlawful Organisations Act (1960)*.

1962 A *General Law Amendment Act* created the offence of Sabotage.

1967 The *Terrorism Act* was introduced following action by SWAPO guerrillas.

1976 The *Internal Security Act* made it an offence to endanger the security of the State or the maintenance of order and incorporated the *Suppression of Communism Act* which had always been widely used against non-Communists.

DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL

- Official (incomplete) figures and unofficial estimates by the SAIRR (certainly underestimates) indicate that at least 5,000 people have been detained without trial since the introduction of the 90-day detention law in 1963.

Laws to hold people without trial for increasingly longer periods have been introduced since 1961 (before which date the law required arrested people to be charged within 48 hours):

1961 12-day detention was introduced by a *General Law Amendment Act* in response to anti-Republic demonstrations and stay-at-homes.

1963 90-day detention was introduced by a *General Law Amendment Act* in the wake of an upsurge of sabotage activity (1,095 detained by 1965).

1965 180-day detention was introduced by a *Criminal Procedure Amendment Act* (461 at least detained by 1971).

1966 14-day detention was introduced by a *General Law Amendment Act* (Section 22).

1967 Indefinite detention was introduced under the *Terrorism Act* (at least 570 detained 1976-1979).

1976 Indefinite 'preventive' detention was introduced by the *Internal Security Act* (at least 500 detained since).

1977 Powers to detain people without trial were given to bantustans, namely Transkei (*Public Security Act*), Ciskei (*Emergency Proclamation R 252*), Venda (*Emergency Proclamation R 276*) and, in 1979, Bophuthatswana (*Internal Security Act*).

BANNING OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS

- Over 1,400 people have been banned or banished since 1961:

Powers to ban people and restrict their activities, without trial have grown.

1961 Powers to ban or banish people already existed under the *Native Administration Act* (156 people banished between 1948 and 1967) and the *Suppression of Communism Act*.

1962 A *General Law Amendment Act* meant people could be banned from attending social gatherings (being in the company of more than one person at a time), prevented from holding office in any named organisation or being quoted, or be put under house arrest.

1976 The *Internal Security Act* gave the regime powers to act against anyone it thinks endangers the security of the state or the maintenance of order by prohibiting them from attending any kind of gathering or from being in or out of any specified area.

Successive laws have been introduced giving powers to ban organisations resisting apartheid:

1960 The *Unlawful Organisations Act* was enacted and used to ban the ANC and PAC. This Act was used, along with the *Suppression of Communism Act* to ban several organisations in the 1960's (including the Congress of Democrats (1962), Umkhonto we Sizwe and Poqo (1963), African Resistance Movement (1964) and the Defence and Aid Fund (1966)).

1974 The *Affected Organisations Act* allowed the regime to prevent an organisation from receiving funds from outside the country. It was used against the National Union of South African Students and the Christian Institute in 1977.

1976 The *Internal Security Act*, incorporating and extending the *Suppression of Communism Act*, allowed the banning of any organisation thought to endanger state security or the maintenance of order. In 1977 the Act was used to ban 18 black consciousness organisations.

1978 The *Fundraising Act* gave further powers to prevent organisations receiving funds from outside the country. It has been used against the Federation of SA Trade Unions.

PEOPLE KILLED BY POLICE

- Even without counting the many hundreds of people killed by the police during the uprising of 1976, the regime has admitted that its police have killed more than 1,350 people in the ten years alone between 1969 and 1979, and wounded 3,820 people.

- 50 people died while being held under security laws between 1963 and 1978.

EXPANSION OF ARMED FORCES

- To suppress the continuing and growing resistance to apartheid, the regime has expanded its armed forces on a large scale:

	1961	1981
SA Police	27,000	77,000
SA Defence Force	79,000	515,000
(Incl. all active reserves)		
Standing Operational Force (Under arms)	39,000	255,000
Total Armed Forces	106,000	592,000
Military Spending	R72m	R3000m

(see *Apartheid War Machine IDAF, Tables I, VII and VIII; 1981 troop figures extrapolated from Tables VII and VIII; 1981 expenditure from FM 21.11.80*).

PASS LAWS

- Eight million African men and women, at least, have been arrested or prosecuted under the pass laws since 1961, and one million "endorsed out" of urban areas, (that is, deported to bantustans). Since 1948 12.5 million have been arrested or prosecuted, according to a recent study at the University of Cape Town (S 8.4.81).

REMOVALS

Information about the numbers of people forced by apartheid to move from their homes or the area they work in, is not easily obtainable. Without taking into account the many Africans who have been moved within the bantustans, from one part of the bantustans to another, available figures indicate that, at a conservative estimate, over three and a half million people have been forced to move since 1948.

- 116,272 families (about 590,000 people), almost all Coloured and Indian, were forced to move under the *Group Areas Act* between 1957 and 1980. 20,000 families (about 100,000 people) are still due to be moved (FOCUS 34 p.10).

- 439,329 Africans were removed between 1948 and 1979 from 'black spots', according to official statistics (Sash, November 80; Debates 22.4.80). ('Black spots' are areas in which African people have lived and worked but which the apartheid regime has declared 'white', forcing the people into the bantustans).

- 1.4 million Africans are estimated to have been forcibly moved off white-owned farms between 1960 and 1974. Africans used to be able to live and use land on white farms in return for labour for half the year or for rent (labour tenants and squatters respectively). This was abolished and between 1960 and 1974 it is estimated that 740,000 labour tenants and dependents, and 650,000 squatters were moved off white farms, many into resettlement camps (Sash, November 1980; G Mare: African Population relocation in South Africa, SAIRR 1980).

- 1.3 million people at least have been 'endorsed out' of 'white' urban areas since 1956, that is, deported to bantustans, according to official figures.

namibia

THE RAVAGES OF WAR

The fabric of Namibian society, already distorted by apartheid, is being further destroyed by the effect of the war on the civilian population. People in the north bear the brunt of the increasing violence perpetrated by the South African security forces and the various sections of the indigenous police and military. Reports of attacks on villages, indiscriminate killings by individuals, and forced removals give evidence of the suffering inflicted on the population.

According to recent reports, people in the north are being forced to leave their villages as a result of army and police action. Their sources of water are being cut off with the destruction of pumps and boreholes. Houses and agricultural land are being burned down by the Home Guards with the help of South African troops, according to a letter in the *Windhoek Observer*. The writer reports that "South African army vehicles are destroying the fences and agricultural vegetation of the Ovambo-speaking people by passing over their land". The soldiers don't pursue SWAPO guerrillas but "come to the civilians and start beating them up, asking why they do not shoot the SWAPO people", the writer says. According to SWAPO, the purpose of these actions is to force people to move near the main towns of Oshakati and Ondangua, where major South African army bases are located, in an effort to prevent support for SWAPO guerrillas (SWAPO London Office, 14.5.81; WO 9.5.81).

The South African army has previously cleared large areas along the Namibian border with Angola of civilians. In 1975/76, South Africa decided to create a "free-fire zone" of

one kilometre width along the entire Namibian border with Angola. The area contained large settlements with church missions, schools, clinics, shops and cafes which had to be abandoned. South African police carried out the wholesale destruction of villages and crops. Up to 50,000 civilians were forcibly removed from their homes. Security forces were instructed to "shoot to kill" if necessary in the depopulated border zone (FOCUS 2 p.1, 6 p.3; UN Commission on Human Rights, *Violation of Human Rights in Southern Africa, Report of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts, 1977 and 1978*).

TERROR

Several recent reports give evidence of coercion, arrests and shootings of civilians by the armed forces. Andreas Shipanga, the leader of the SWAPO-Democratic Party, returning from a visit to Ovamboland in December 1980, said he had never seen so many cripples in his life. He added that the Ovambo people were under crossfire and were being terrorised by the armed forces (ST (Lon) 21.12.80).

A representative of the Lutheran Church in America, John Evenson, arrived in Oniipa in northern Namibia at the time the printing press, owned by the Evangelical Lutheran Ovambokavango Church (ELOC), was blown up (see FOCUS 33 p.9). He witnessed the arrival of soldiers two nights after the event, and was told that a number of Namibians had been rounded up. Some were accused by hooded informers of being SWAPO guerrillas. One shopkeeper was severely beaten and taken away.

The following day, the rounding up continued. In the shop area of Oniipa armoured cars were positioned in a circle, with machine guns pointed at more than 40 Namibian men sitting in the centre of the circle. Evenson learned later that, after producing their identity cards, the men had been forced to say repeatedly "we hate SWAPO", and then to shout "the white man is good" louder and louder. Two persons who had not responded quickly enough to questions had been clubbed, and a number of persons had been taken away. Evenson, who had taken pictures of some of

these incidents, was forced to hand over his film.

During his stay in northern Namibia, he met numerous people who told him of family members arrested, missing or killed by white South African army and police officers (The Lutheran, 18.2.81).

As a result of widespread violence, many essential services no longer function in the north. At least 15 schools have been closed in Ovamboland, affecting approximately 20,000 children. Medical assistance is non-existent in some areas. Clinics have been burnt down and local people often have to walk 50 kilometres for medical treatment (WA 8.12.80).

RAPE

Women face the additional fear of being raped by armed soldiers, with little chance of escape or redress in the courts. Although the maximum sentence for rape is death, no soldier convicted of rape has received more than a suspended sentence or a fine. In one case, a 26 year old SADF soldier, Johannes Pretorius, raped an 80 year old woman, Sabina Kasiku, at a wedding party in Kavangoland. Evidence cited in court established that he had first tried to rape a younger woman, that Ms Kasiku had been hospitalised for two weeks because of profuse bleeding, and that the soldier's rifle was found at the homestead. Nevertheless, Pretorius' plea of "consent" was accepted. He told a court reporter afterwards that he had lied to escape "the shadow of the gallows" (Resister, No. 11, Dec. 1980, pp 14-15).

An 18 year old white soldier, Jacobus Abel van Zyl, was given 18 months and 6 months suspended sentences and R200 and R100 fines respectively for raping Hilma Sakarias (25) and attempting to rape Frida Dawid (20) in February 1980. Van Zyl had at first pleaded

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CURFEW IMPOSED

Security has been tightened in the north of Namibia, following the reported presence of SWAPO guerrillas. The Kavango tribal administration has imposed a ban on all movement in the south-west of Kavango between dusk and dawn. The ban cuts off almost the entire south-west of Kavango and also restricts movement on the road from Rundu to Grootfontein. A spokesman for the Kavango administration said the ban had been imposed because civilian movement at night had been hindering the security forces during operations in the area. The ban was aimed at restricting SWAPO guerrillas moving to the southern white

farming areas and back.

In the Ovambo region, vehicle control between sunset and sunrise is to be applied stringently, according to Colonel Roets, senior staff officer Staff Operations of the SWA Territory Force (SWATF). Security forces opened fire on a private vehicle recently, though no one was hurt. The officer emphasised that the measure was not an extension of the existing curfew in Ovamboland. The new measures applied only to vehicle traffic (WA 13.4.81).

Previous restrictions imposed in Ovamboland under Security Districts Proclamation AG9, which has been amended several times, required the written consent of a Peace Officer

or an officer of the security forces for vehicles travelling at night (FOCUS 14 p.2, 17 p.9, 23 p.2).

Security measures in and around the northern town of Ondangua were reported to have been tightened in April, following evidence that SWAPO guerrillas were in the area. Ondangua has a military air base (WO 4.4.81).

A number of road haulers owned by the SA railway and operating in Namibia have been converted to make them mine-resistant and bullet-proof. The trucks operate along the road leading from Oshakati to Ruacana (WO 4.4.81). There are allegations that landmines are planted by South African soldiers. A correspondent wrote to the *Windhoek Observer* claiming that on one occasion people saw members of the army on the road between Ondangua and Oshakati, and that a landmine was later detonated at that spot (WO 13.12.80).

THE MILITARISATION OF NAMIBIA

MARINES TO STAY

A company strength element of South African Naval Marines will in future be kept continuously deployed in northern Namibia, as a means of giving the men practical experience of counter-insurgency techniques.

This decision by the South African Navy follows the completion of three months service in the northern Namibian border region by a company strength contingent of the Marines — the first to be sent to the operational area. The men, whose arrival in Namibia at the end of December 1980 was reported in *FOCUS* 33 p.6, "took over full responsibility for protecting Oshakati without any casualties". (Oshakati is a major South African military base in northern Namibia). They had previously been specially trained by members of the SA army in internal security duties normally carried out by land-based infantry men.

The decision to keep members of the Marines continuously deployed in the operational area means an annual addition to harbour

protection of "at least two marine companies which are fully trained and have undergone a baptism of fire", according to Vice-Admiral Edwards, Chief of the SA Navy (*RDM* 16.4.81).

CONSCRIPTION

The first group of national servicemen to be conscripted into the SWA Territory Force in Namibia under South Africa's new programme of compulsory military service for all races, were due to complete their basic training in April. They will remain until the end of 1981 at the Rookop military base in Walvis Bay for infantry and artillery training and service in armoured car units. Most of the training is being carried out by South African Defence Force personnel. They are then due to be posted to units of the SWA Territory Force for the second half of their two years' compulsory service (*RDM* 2.4.81; a report in the *Windhoek Advertiser* of 3.4.81 stated that the servicemen would be posted to "units in South Africa" for the second year of their period of service).

The first intake of national servicemen was called up in January 1981 (*FOCUS* 33 p.6). Whites comprise about 20% of the intake while the black conscripts are drawn from the Coloured, Nama and Damara 'population groups'. The intake was posted to the 2 SA Infantry Battalion and split into three companies — including "a leader group with a higher education standard", mainly consisting of whites, and one consisting of conscripts with education of below Standard 8, and all black.

While the companies displayed a certain degree of racial mixing, the commanding officer of the intake, Commandant Frans van den Berg, stated that "when it comes to the men's living quarters and who they associate with socially, we force neither integration nor segregation. We leave it up to them". Journalists reported that the white and black conscripts were living in separate tents and seating themselves at separate tables in the canteen (*RDM* 2.4.81).

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not guilty to the charges and only changed his plea after several women had given evidence (*WO* 16.8.80).

In another case, two white South African soldiers were sentenced to 3 years imprisonment, suspended for 5 years, and a fine of R100 each for repeatedly assaulting a 14 year old Caprivian girl. John Anthony Bessinger (19) and Daniel Phillip Pearson (20) forced a black man at gunpoint to "take them to his sister". Some 100 yards further on, they came across a woman holding a baby and a young girl. They attempted to force both women into their army vehicle, but seized only the girl when the older woman started shouting. The girl was dragged into the cabin of the truck and driven into the bush. Despite her desperate struggles she was repeatedly assaulted by both men (*WO* 26.7.80).

Pregnant women are not safe from such assaults. During an attack on civilians at Otshandi in the north in September 1980, a pregnant woman died after being raped by five South African soldiers (*SWAPO Information & Comment*, Vol 2 No 9, Dec. 1980).

Faced with such lenient attitudes towards the perpetrators of rape, many women are reluctant to seek redress in court. A letter to the *Windhoek Observer* points out that South African Defence Force members in the north "believe they are free to do anything with an Ovambo-speaking person. Many women have been raped, and . . . people killed like flies without compensation to their families. If the convicted cannot be punished according to the law, why bring them before the court?" (*WO* 30.8.80).

CIVILIANS MASSACRED

The population in the north is in the frontline of attacks by the security forces. Under the guise of looking for SWAPO guerillas, army and police subject people to frequent harassment and violence. A number of incidents have been reported recently which indicate that the security forces perpetrate atrocities against defenceless civilians. This is in direct contrast to South Africa's claims that it is winning the "hearts and minds" of the people in Namibia through civic action programmes, placing soldiers

in schools, health clinics and agricultural projects (*RDM* 7.5.79; *FOCUS* 10 p.19).

In one incident, the army attacked a small settlement in the Oonghooi area in Ovamboland, killing 11 civilians. The commander who directed the operation from a helicopter claimed that his men had been fired on, and that SWAPO guerillas were believed to be in the village. A survivor gave evidence that in fact the seven men, two women and two children killed in the attack had been eating a meal, and that there were no guerillas present. The troops opened fire as they were approaching the settlement, and hurled hand grenades. Two huts went up in flames, and six of the

victims burned to death. The soldiers found no guerillas in the area. No action has been taken against the soldiers involved (*ST (Lon)* 22.3.81; *WO* 21.2.81).

Eight people were killed and 12 badly wounded when an 18 year old black soldier indiscriminately opened fire with a machine gun at people in the small village of Omashaka in Ovamboland. The massacre was described by an eyewitness, Ms Maria Shikongo. People were sitting in front of their huts, she said. There was a sudden burst of fire. Eight people died on the spot. After the shooting, the man walked away and was arrested some 3 kilometres from the scene (*WO* 4.4.81).

ATTACKS

A member of the police Special Task Force, Louis Conrad Nagel (20) shot a black man three times because he called Nagel a "boer". Fritz Rainhold (46) was killed in a Windhoek street near a club where he worked. Nagel was acquitted of murder and given a six year prison sentence, three years of which were suspended, on a conviction of culpable homicide. In mitigation, the judge, Justice Strydom, said that it was Nagel's training which made him react with lethal efficiency and gave him a willingness to serve his country. According to evidence given *in camera*, Nagel had been trained to "identify and eliminate SWAPO terrorists". Giving evidence for the defence, a psychologist declared Nagel to be normal but said "it would be unlikely that members of the Task Force would be 'good boys'". So-called "good boys" would not last in the Task Force. The qualities of a good soldier meant that such a boy would have to have psychopathic and sociopathic tendencies. Those were qualities that made the fearless soldier" (*WA* 27.2.81).

The brutality of some of these attacks shows complete disregard for human life. In one incident, on 27 October 1980, three security guards at the State Electricity Corporation, SWAWK, brutally assaulted a black man, Moses Namiseb, when they accidentally saw him as they were driving around the power station in Windhoek. Namiseb suffered heavy blows with a rifle and other attacks. He was found unconscious the next morning and died in hospital. The autopsy report showed that he had 11 head injuries and 14 body injuries. The three accused Conradie (30), Havenga (37) and Nel (24) reportedly showed their amusement in court

when evidence was given that the victim was found unconscious, covered in blood and without his trousers on (*WO* 9/12. 5.81). One was sentenced to R400 or four months imprisonment, the other two to R600 or six months imprisonment, on a conviction of assault. The judge decided that Namiseb could have fallen with his head against the railway line and thus received head injuries leading to his death. The defence counsel for Havenga said that, although the assault on Namiseb was not entirely excusable, "it was not done out of natural evil" (*WA* 19.5.81).

In Swakopmund, the mutilated body of Benny Iyambo (40), was found on 11 April 1980. He was beaten to death with a steel pipe and stabbed with a knife. Two white men, J. D. P. Schreuder, and J. A. Brand, were subsequently arrested but were released on bail (*WO* 16.4.81).

Two policemen received light sentences of a R500 fine or 250 days imprisonment each, and 18 months prison suspended for 3 years for assaulting and torturing a man in Rehoboth. Japie Abraham was assaulted with a pick axe handle and a cane, and was hung upside down. He was told to "talk about firearms in his house". When Abraham denied any knowledge he was beaten and assaulted (*WA* 23/24.4.81).

The wide powers given to police and army under the security laws in force in Namibia impose little restraint. The lenient treatment given to perpetrators of such acts of violence by the authorities leaves black Namibians defenceless. The Commanding Officer of the Special Task Force, Major G Nande, demonstrated this attitude in Nagel's case. He said Nagel was trustworthy and reliable and he would welcome him back into his unit.

CORPSES DISPLAYED

The South West Africa Territory Force (Namibia's 'independent' army) is reportedly investigating allegations that soldiers made "callous and mocking displays" of the corpses of persons shot dead during counter-insurgency operations in the Tsumeb area. A spokesman for SWA Territory Force headquarters in Windhoek said that complaints had been received via the media but that the Territory Force itself had "no knowledge of the matter".

Han Rohr, a member of the SWA National Assembly, said that he had received numerous complaints. "Prominent businessmen" had told him that soldiers had laid out three bullet-ridden bodies on the Tsumeb airfield, in front of a large group of civilians, including women and children. The dead men, allegedly SWAPO guerrillas, were not covered and were dressed only in underpants.

Rohr was also told that a senior officer of the Tsumeb Commando, in reply to a question, said that the bodies would be sent to a butchery where they would be turned into polony. Soldiers and members of the public allegedly stuck cigarettes in the dead men's ears and noses, and between their toes. Further bodies were reportedly shown to a group of Tsumeb schoolchildren (RDM 17.4.81).

A 90-page *Guide to Psychological Action* issued in August 1976 by the South African Army Headquarters Directorate of Operations in Pretoria recommends "the display of deceased insurgent leaders' bodies to the population" as a way of undermining support for SWAPO (FOCUS 10 p.19).

KASSINGA ANNIVERSARY PROTESTS

134 school students were expelled from a school in Keetmanshoop, southern Namibia, by the Nama bantustan authorities, for taking part in a class boycott to commemorate the third anniversary of the Kassinga massacre. The Secretary of the Nama Administration stated that the students had been expelled for "breaking school rules" after they boycotted classes at the Hoerskool J. A. Nel, and left hostels to take part in a march through the Tseiblaagte township.

The students have been turned out of both the school and their hostel and will only be allowed to return conditionally next year.

In the Damara bantustan, black pupils were reported to have boycotted classes and sung freedom songs to mark the anniversary. More than 600 Namibian refugees were killed by South African troops during attacks on the Kassinga refugee settlement and other Namibian refugee transit centres in southern Angola, on 4 May 1978 (WA/S 7.5.81).

A new publication from IDAF, *Remember Kassinga* (IDAF Fact Paper No. 9), includes an extended interview with a 26-year-old Namibian nurse who survived the Kassinga massacre. She was taken prisoner by South African troops from a transit centre approximately 200 km to the south of Kassinga itself, and taken back with other captives into northern Namibia. She was held in detention and interrogated at the Oshakati military base for six months before being released without charge. While she was at Oshakati, a group of her fellow detainees was removed from the

base to the Hardap Dam detention camp near Mariental, where they have remained up to the present time.

Remember Kassinga — and other papers on political prisoners and detainees in Namibia is available from the IDAF Publications Dept, price 50p.

DETAINEE RELEASED

Jacob NANGOLO, a businessman, is reported to have been released from detention. He is thought to be the same person as Nangola JAKOB, who was arrested in May 1980 following the discovery by SWAPO of a death list naming some 50 persons. According to a press statement by SWAPO at the time, the document was drawn up by the South African authorities and contained the names of people to be killed by a death squad, with the blame being put on SWAPO. (FOCUS 29 pp 7-8, SWAPO London Office 15.5.81).

POPULATION CENSUS

The Administrator General in Namibia has announced that a population census will be taken in the territory on 26 August 1981, in terms of the 1976 Statistics Act (*Oranjemund Newsletter* 6.3.81).

United Nations sources variously estimate Namibia's population at between 1,000,000 and 1,250,000 people. A significant percentage of the population is in exile, notably in Angola, where there are now more than 50,000 Namibian refugees, the largest single group. (*The Workers of Namibia*, IDAF 1979 pp 11-12.)

ANGOLA: SOUTH AFRICAN INCURSIONS EXTENDED

South African reconnaissance planes made a number of flights during April over the Namibia Health and Education Centre in Angola's Kwanza Sul province, according to information released by SWAPO's UK office. In its statement, SWAPO noted that such reconnaissance flights had in the past preceded South African attacks on Angola, such as the raid on the Kassinga refugee settlement on 4 May 1978 (*Anti-Apartheid News May 1981*).

The Namibia Health and Education Centre, located approximately 800 km from the northern Namibian border, is SWAPO's largest refugee settlement in Angola, accommodating over 25,000 Namibian refugees of all ages. The reconnaissance flights constitute a violation of Angola's territorial integrity not surpassed since the South African invasion of the country in 1975-76. In January-February 1981, representatives of the Angolan armed forces informed an International Commission of Inquiry that South African air force penetration did not normally extend further north than Benguela, 400 km from the Namibian border (FOCUS Special Issue No. 2 April 1981 p.5). This distance has now effectively doubled.

Material damage to Angola as a result of

South African aggression since independence in November 1975 has surpassed US \$7 billion.

During January and February 1981, South Africa carried out 150 reconnaissance flights over Angola. Angola also sustained 10 air raids, four operations by heliported troops, two landings by heliported troops, an incident of artillery shelling by regular South African troops, six land attacks, two large concentrations of troops and war material, and six incidents of strafing from the air, 28 soldiers and six civilians were killed (*Communique of the Angolan Ministry of Defence* 19.3.81).

Incursions occurred in the Ngiva, Mulemba and Xiede areas. A vital bridge on the Mocamedes railway was destroyed by South African troops landed from two Puma helicopters in the area between Mocamedes and Lubango, 250 km inside Angola. On 23 February, Angolan armed forces were reported to have taken back the village of Vila Nova, 300 km from the Namibian border and occupied by South African troops since 28 January (*Statement of the Angolan Ministry of Defence* 21.2.81; *ANGOP statement* 23.2.81).

During March, the Angolan authorities reported an increase in the number of reconnaissance flights, particularly in Mocamedes and Huila provinces in the south-west of Angola.

On 17 March, five SA Mirage aircraft overflew the town of Lubango, 200 km from the border. Three children and two women were killed when an agricultural area between Lubango and Humpata was bombed (*Speech by Alfredo Salvaterra, First Secretary of the Embassy of the P. R. of Angola in Paris, to a meeting in London* 21.3.81).

The South Africans also mounted an air-

borne attack on 17 March on a transit centre for Namibian refugees near Lubango, claiming that it was a SWAPO military base. A South African spokesman said that the raid, launched after repeated warnings to Angola that all "terrorist bases would be located and attacked even if they were in neighbouring countries", had been a great success and that all South African aircraft had returned safely to base (*BBC* 18.3.81; *T* 19.3.81).

The Angolan Department of Information and Publicity in Luanda, however, said that the location attacked was a reception centre for Namibian youths fleeing from forced military conscription. SWAPO security forces defending the centre had returned anti-aircraft fire and had shot down one of the South African Mirages. One plane succeeded in dropping a bomb which injured four youths and killed one (*Press statement* 19.3.81).

During the first fortnight of April, South Africa carried out 28 actions, including 23 reconnaissance flights. Larger-scale actions included the landing of SA troops in the Mulemba locality, an incursion by ground troops in the Melunga direction, and the strafing of an Angolan army petrol tanker on the Xangongo-Ondjiva road, all on 6 April; an attack on troops protecting foreign journalists in Mupa commune on 10 April, resulting in one dead, two wounded, one vehicle and several weapons destroyed; the bombing of the Evale commune in Kunene province on 11 April by two Impala aircraft, destroying a building, killing two civilians and causing a great deal of material damage; an incursion by three tactical groups of South African troops, each comprising 30 men, in the Namacunde area on 13 April (*Communique of the Angolan Ministry of Defence* 16.4.81).

DISPLACED PERSONS

An estimated 800,000 Angolans have fled their homes or have otherwise been affected by South African aggression against their country, according to relief organisations in Luanda assisting with the problem of displaced persons.

Several hundred thousand inhabitants of the south-eastern and southern provinces of Kuando Kubango and Kunene have fled to the south-western province of Huila to escape South African incursions and the operations of South African-backed UNITA insurgents.

Other refugees from the raids simply move from their villages into the nearby forest, going to the nearest town when they have used up all available supplies, and normally arriving in extremely poor condition, according to the representative in Angola of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), Almeri Bezer-ra de Mello.

UNICEF is concentrating its efforts in Angola on people displaced or affected by South African attacks. Two forms of aid are being undertaken:

- the expansion of existing villages in the central regions of Huambo and Bie to accommodate refugees from the south of Angola, through the provision of additional hospital and school services, housing, food and water supplies. UNICEF is co-operating with the Angolan authorities on these schemes.
- in the provinces of Kuando Kubango, Kunene and Huila, which border Namibia, UNICEF is distributing emergency supplies of food and medicine.

UNICEF is also working with the UN High Commission for Refugees in assisting Namibian refugees in Huila and Kwanza Sul provinces (*Zambia Daily Mail* 30.3.81).

ZAMBIA: ROADS MINED

Thousands of Zambian nationals and Angolan refugees in the western province of Zambia were reported in April to be starving because roads leading to the area had been heavily landmined by South African troops. The South African operation was presumed to be directed against guerrillas of SWAPO or the African National Congress, to prevent them infiltrating through to Namibia and ultimately South Africa.

The Lutheran World Information report quoted the refugee secretary of the Catholic Secretariat in Lusaka as saying that there were now 10,000 Angolan refugees in the area whose condition regarding clothes, food and medicine required urgent attention. The landmining, together with recent floods in the area had made travel hazardous, and only helicopter transportation had so far proved effective (*LWI* 14/81, 9.4.81; *WO* 25.4.81).

KATEKA APPEAL

The appeal of Markus KATEKA (40) against the death sentence imposed on him in October 1980 under the Terrorism Act was heard in the Bloemfontein Appeal Court on 7 May 1981. Hendrik KARISEB, sentenced to 10 years imprisonment at the same trial, was given permission to appeal after a petition was presented to the Chief Justice of South Africa by his lawyer. Kariseb had earlier been refused leave to appeal. Judgement in both cases was reserved.

THREAT TO SWAPO

The DTA-controlled Council of Ministers is threatening to ban SWAPO as a political party inside Namibia. At a rally in Windhoek in May 1981, the deputy president of the DTA and member of the Council of Ministers, Chief Kuaimo Riruako, said that suitable steps would have to be taken soon to ban SWAPO unless it listened to the Council of

Ministers (*RDM* 13.5.81; *BBC* 19.5.81).

Although SWAPO is not banned inside Namibia, its officials and supporters have suffered frequent attacks and detention. The SWAPO office in Windhoek has periodically been forced to close because of repeated raids and arrests of the workers there by police (see *FOCUS* 30 p.9).

LETTER FROM PRISON

A letter smuggled out of Windhoek Central Prison in 1980 and in the possession of IDAF alleges ill-treatment of prisoners, racial discrimination and deaths due to lack of medical treatment and beatings by prison warders. The letter reportedly comes from prisoners convicted under the pass laws which require each person in Namibia aged 16 and over to be in possession of an identity document, and from others convicted for criminal offences. The writer purports to speak for "the people of Namibia in prison". According to SWAPO, the prisoners have become increasingly politically aware as a result of their treatment in prison. A number have continued to be detained after their sentences expired because of their outspoken political demands (*SWAPO London*, 29.5.81).

The letter lists the names of 51 long-term prisoners, and condemns the "inhuman sentences which the South African government cast upon the soldiers of the people of Namibia". In addition, it lists 18 people who died during their detention in police cells or in prison. The majority are said to have died because of lack of medical attention. It cites six cases of prisoners who were beaten to death by prison warders, and in some cases

gives the names of the warders concerned, the place of detention and dates of the incidents. The writer also gives names and details of ten prisoners who were transferred to a maximum security prison in Barberton in South Africa, without the knowledge of their families.

Referring to the internal elections in December 1978, the writer says prisoners were forced to take part in the voting and were intimidated into voting for the pro-apartheid National Party. According to his account, five prisoners were put in solitary confinement when they protested by tearing up their ballot cards. The letter ends by condemning South Africa's continued occupation of Namibia, and the ill-treatment and detention of people under the pass laws. "Daily assault, especially with batons and Alsatian dogs are frequent here in prison and the general treatment is of a barbaric nature. Many of us, although they have completed their sentences, are still being held longer without any reason being given", the writer says. He calls on the international community to "put an end to these brutal deeds" (*Letter from Windhoek Central Prison*, 1980).

AXEL JOHANNES

A claim for damages instituted against the Minister of Police and the Ovambo bantustan government is still pending before the Windhoek Supreme Court, following a ruling by the Supreme Court that the summons was properly and timeously served.

The case concerns the elderly parents of Axel Johannes, SWAPO Administrative Secretary inside Namibia and currently living in exile. The litigation, filed by Axel Johannes and his sister Lydia Johannes, seeks damages totalling R4,050 in compensation for the destruction of the farm and property of their father Johannes Ashikono. The claim states

that the farm, in the Uukwaluudhi area of Ovambo, was burnt down through the "wanton action" of the South African Police on 28 January 1980, and that all private possessions and personal effects were gutted.

The claim for damages, filed on 27 July 1980, was challenged by the Minister of Police on the grounds that it was issued in an irregular fashion, namely on a Sunday and hence outside prescribed hours. Now that this objection has been overruled, the application is due to proceed to a hearing before the Supreme Court (*WA* 9.4.81; *WO* 11.4.81; *FOCUS* 33 p.8).

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SOUTH AFRICA: POLICE ATTACKS ON RENT PROTESTS

Action by police in various black townships throughout the country recently has highlighted the extent to which the question of housing is a point of conflict between black people and the apartheid regime.

The past months have seen a series of clashes between police and township residents following protest meetings called to oppose recently imposed rent increases. Meetings of residents and rate-payers associations have been prevented on a number of occasions and there have been several detentions in connection with rent protests (*FOCUS* 34 p.8).

At the end of March the Evaton Rate-payers Association (Evaton is an African township near Vereeniging) planned to hold a meeting to discuss the replanning of the township and the rent increases.

The Association was barred by the Department of Education and Training from holding meetings at any school premises. The venue was changed to a church but the meetings had to be cancelled again when permission to hold the meeting was withdrawn. A demonstration erupted in the streets when the dispersing crowds saw a contingent of heavily armed police with dogs watching from a nearby street corner. One of Evaton's largest stores was set alight, two bottle stores, a beerhall and at least ten vehicles were damaged in stoning and arson incidents. The disturbances spread to nearby Sebokeng where a bottle-

store was gutted and a new shopping centre stoned. Shots were fired by the police and five people were arrested (*S* 1/2/7.4.81).

At a meeting held in Tembisa (an African township outside Kempton Park) on 30 March residents decided on a complete boycott of rents in protest at the rent hikes. A Residents' Action Committee was elected to take action on the increases.

On 31 March hostel dwellers in the township caused R80,000 damage after a meeting protesting rent increases. Two tractors were set alight, a hostel and beerhall damaged and the home of the local community councillor attacked. Two people were arrested. On 1 April a crowd of women and students demonstrated outside the local administrative offices. The gathering was broken up by riot police-men wielding sjamboks (leather whips) (*S* 2.4.81; *Star* 4.4.81).

On 5 April police used teargas to prevent residents from holding a protest meeting about the rent increases. Witnesses claimed a man was shot but police denied this. Three people were admitted to Tembisa hospital with bullet wounds. Bottle stores were burnt and looted and vehicles stoned and set alight. About 20 people were arrested, many of them members of the AZAPO executive not living in the area. Demonstrations spread to Germiston where damage was caused by miners to a hostel, shops and Administration Board offices (*FOCUS* 34 p.8; *CT* 6.4.81; *S* 7/8.5.81; *RDM* 8.4.81; *Star* 11.4.81).

Disturbances in Reiger Park, Boksburg, in May arose out of different immediate causes to the events in Evaton and Tembisa but were also related to housing issues.

Demonstrations led to two deaths, 21 injuries, at least 38 arrests and more than R1m in damage to property. Police used teargas and fired shots to disperse demonstrators. Government allegations that the disturbances were caused by racial feuds were rejected by community leaders. Jac Rabie, chairman of the local Management Community, said "the demonstrations were caused by the acute housing shortage and the continuous failure of the authorities to keep promises to bring relief" (*RDM* 12/13/16.5.81; *Star* 16.5.81; *S. Exp* 17.5.81).

These three incidents are but a sample of the opposition to rent increases and housing conditions that have taken place over the past year. Organised opposition has taken place in all four provinces and clashes between angry residents and police have occurred in many places, resulting in several deaths and many injuries.

The government's policy is that each community council should be financially self-sufficient. Since black townships contain few or no business and industrial centres, which are usually a major source of municipal revenue, the local authorities have to rely on housing rentals, the sale of beer and liquor, and levies paid by employers for their funds. After the mass uprisings in 1976-7 when many township beer halls were destroyed an important source of income was cut off. Since then most community councils have been in deficit. Hence the unprecedented rent increases to make up for the deficit (*Workers' Unity* No. 2, Feb 1981).

KIDNAP VICTIM RELEASED FROM ROBBER ISLAND

A Botswana citizen, Kitso Michael DINGAKE (52), was repatriated on 5 May to Botswana after serving a 15-year prison sentence on Robben Island.

Dingake was kidnapped in 1965 in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia) by Rhodesian Police while en route from Botswana (then Bechuanaland), where he lived, to Zambia. He was handed over to the South African police. He refused to enter a plea during his trial or take part in the court proceedings because of his illegal deportation to South Africa.

He was charged with one other in April 1966 under the Suppression of Communism Act for furthering the aims of the SACP and the ANC, for encouraging people to undergo military training and for procuring information for the SACP, the ANC and its military wing.

Umkhonto we Sizwe. After his conviction the South African authorities refused to accede to requests by the British Government to deport him to Botswana.

On his arrival in Botswana he was welcomed by the President, Dr Quett Masire. The President noted that the unfortunate circumstances of his abduction and his incarceration occurred at a time when Botswana was not yet an independent country. Representations for his release after Independence were not entertained by the South African Government (*SAIRR Survey* 1966; *Prisoners of Apartheid*, IDAF & UN Centre Against Apartheid, 1978, p.15; *CT* 7.5.81; *BBC* 8.5.81).

OTHER ROBBER ISLAND RELEASES

Mkathali LOLIWE (58), a former member of the PAC was released from prison on 30 March after serving 16 years on Robben Island.

Loliwe was arrested in Duncan Village, near East London and sentenced for PAC activities in the Supreme Court in Grahamstown in 1965 (*DD* 3.4.81).

Two former members of the now-banned Soweto Students' Representative Council (SSRC) completed their two year sentences on 10.5.81. The two are Seth MAZIBUKO (21) and Sibongile MTHEMBU (24). They were among the four jailed in the marathon trial of 11 SSRC leaders in 1978-9. Mazibuko served his sentence on Robben Island while Mthembu served most of hers at a prison near Potchefstroom.

The "SSRC eleven" were charged with sedition and blamed for having spearheaded the 1976 uprisings in Soweto. Seven of the eleven were freed with suspended sentences on 11 May 1979 (*S* 8.5.81).

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