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ON POLITICAL REPRESSION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

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S. A. RAID INTO MOZAMBIQUE

On 30 January South African troops launched a raid into Mozambique on three refugee residences near Maputo belonging to the African National Congress and the South African Congress of Trade Unions.

The attack follows other recent raids by South African military forces on Angola and a general intensification of the apartheid regime's attacks on its African neighbours.

Altogether 15 people were killed in the Mozambique raid: 12 occupants of the houses, 2 South African soldiers and a Portuguese civilian who was caught in cross-fire. One of the SACTU dead is William KHANYILE (45), a long-time and senior member of SACTU. He toured Britain last year telling of his experiences as a prisoner on Robben Island for eight years (*T. 2.2.81; MS 2.2.81*).

The residences were situated at Matola, 11 km from Maputo. According to General Constant Viljoen, Chief of the South African Defence Force, the three houses contained the "planning and control headquarters of the ANC in Mozambique" (*T 31.1.81*). He also claimed that a large quantity of weapons, sabotage equipment and documents were seized. In order to prove his point South African pressmen were invited to take photographs of weapons which were allegedly captured in the raid (*GN 2.2.81*).

Oliver Tambo, President of the ANC, speaking at the funeral of the 12 ANC dead at Maputo on 8 January, declared that contrary to South African propaganda, "there have never been any ANC bases or camps in Mozambique. There are residences and if the qualifications to make a house a base is only that the people in it can use a gun, then let us be told now".

He also denied that any weapons or secret

documents were captured in the raid. The weapons shown to reporters in South Africa were weapons taken from South Africa's own armouries. The books on politics shown contained no ANC secrets (*GN 9.2.81*).

A western diplomat, who was taken to witness the scene of the attack, said that the South Africans had apparently used rockets, mortars and mines and in one of the houses he and a group of other diplomats were shown the bodies of three Africans who had had their ears cut off and the body of one of the dead South African soldiers, dressed in camouflage uniform (*T. 31.1.81*). The other South African soldier was a British immigrant, identified as Sgt. Robert Lewis Hutchinson (24), whose father lives at Bletchley, Bucks (*S. Tel 1.2.81*).

Mozambique has consistently denied that it allows guerillas to operate from its territory. Lieutenant-General Armando Guebuza, Mozambique's Deputy Defence Minister, said the attack was a "foul and criminal act" and at a Frelimo party conference he stated that it was a challenge to Mozambique's right to shelter South African citizens being persecuted by the apartheid regime (*T 2.2.81*).

The raid was condemned by Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe. He said in a statement that it showed the need for Zimbabwe to speed up the strengthening of its armed forces and to consolidate its military alliance with Mozambique (*BBC 2.2.81*). He described the attack as "part of the overall strategy of the apartheid regime to destabilize the democratic political order of the frontline states" (*Obs 1.2.81*).

Similar pledges of support for Mozambique have come from other African countries. The Prime Minister of Lesotho, Chief Leabua Johnathan, condemned the raid as a "barbarous act intended to intimidate Africa against giving sanctuary to their brothers and sisters" (*GN 3.2.81*). An appeal has been made for an urgent meeting of the UN Security Council to condemn South Africa's action (*Obs 1.2.81*).

A statement signed by the Secretary-General

of the ANC, Alfred Nzo, said the attack was "a continuation of the barbarous policy of the apartheid regime" which had resulted in the deaths of people in Mozambique, Zambia, Angola as well as in South Africa.

"This policy of mass murder once more confirms the criminal nature of the apartheid regime whose continued existence constitutes a challenge both to our people and the rest of democratic and peace-loving mankind" the statement said (*MS 2.2.81*).

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

The raid took place at the same time as delegates from all over the world gathered in Luanda to attend the International Commission of Inquiry into the Crimes of the Racist and Apartheid

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2 **South Africa**

DETENTIONS

Although the number of detentions in November and December was less than in previous months, security policy continued to detain trade unionists and people thought to be connected with the school boycott.

Members and officials of the South African Allied Workers Union in particular were affected. By mid-December 11 were in detention in the Ciskei. They were released after some had been in detention up to six weeks, and after some had staged a hunger strike (*see below*).

In Kimberley two Anglican priests were detained. They were members of an action committee formed to end the school boycott, and it was rumoured that other members of the committee had been detained. According to one report 12 others had been detained. The same report said that it was believed in Kimberley that the police, noting the committee's success in ending the boycott, might be trying to obtain the names of pupils playing a leading role (*Tel. 21.1.81*).

OSCAR MPETHA and OTHERS

Oscar MPETHA (71) remains in detention despite international demands for his release and after his admittance to hospital for his diabetic condition. The list below includes the names 15 persons who were arrested with Mpetha (2 others, Alton SABUWA and Vuyisile MZAZA were listed in FOCUS 32 p.7). The 18 were formally charged on 11 December 1980, in a specially convened court at Pollsmoor prison

with one count of Terrorism and two counts of murder (*CT 12.12.80; see TRIALS*).

A spokesman for their legal representatives said that the detainees had been put into single cells and were permitted to shower only once a week. Some of the 18 were being refused visits as well. The Prisons Department confirmed that they had been deprived of certain 'privileges' (*CT 7.1.81*).

AZAPO DETENTIONS

A security police crackdown on Northern Transvaal branches of the Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO) took place from the end of September. At least 19 members have so far been detained. All are being held under Section 10 of the Internal Security Act and their detention warrants expire on 30 April 1981. Their detentions follow the boycott of buses owned by the Lebowa Transport in their respective areas (*Voice 26.11.80*). In November 10 of the AZAPO detainees were transferred to prisons in the Western Cape (*CT 22.11.80*) moving them more than 1,000 miles from their families.

GRAHAMSTOWN DETAINEES

Rhodes University journalism lecturer, Guy BERGER (24), and first year Rhodes journalism student, Devandiren PILLAY (21), have appeared on charges under the Internal Security Act after being held in detention for periods of between six and eight months. Other Rhodes students, Michael KENYON, Chris WATTERS and Alan ZINN remain in detention and have now been held for six months (*RDM 22.1.81; DD 3.12.80; see TRIALS*).

RELEASES

13 of the 15 East London trade unionists

listed in FOCUS 32 who were detained between 4 and 9 November 1980 were released on 13 November 1980. All were held in the Ciskei under Proc. R252 (*CT 20.12.80; DD 20.12.80*). They were all officials of the South African Allied Workers' Union (SAAWU), the African Food and Canning Workers' Union, and the Western Province General Workers' Union. All three are unregistered unions and SAAWU was the first unregistered unions to gain formal recognition by an employer. Two of the top SAAWU officials, Thozamile GQWETA and Sisa NJIKALANA were released on 19 December 1980 with 10 other trade unionists who had been detained in the intervening period, including one, Welile MZOZOYANA, who was re-detained on 1 December 1980 after his first release on 13 November 1980. While in detention Gqweta and Njikalana twice went on hunger strike demanding to be charged or released. Both spent some time in hospital as a result (*RDM 20.12.80*). Several trade unionists still remain in detention including Bonisile NORUSHE who has been in detention since 15 June 1980 and Oscar MPETHA (*see above*).

Abdurazzack ACHMAT (18), a community worker, and Achmat CASSIEM (34), the banned former president of the South African Students' Association, were released from detention under Section 10 of the Internal Security Act on 9 December 1980. The two were released when their detention warrants, which had been extended three times, expired. They had been held in 'preventive detention' since April 1980. On their release they brought an urgent application in the Supreme Court against the prison authorities for being refused several of their 'privileges', including twice-weekly visits from relatives. All their personal possessions were removed from their cells and they were refused reading and writing materials. Both were confined to their cells for 23 out of 24 hours (*CT 10.12.80*).

NEW DETAINEES

Additional to previous FOCUS lists

Approx. Date	Place	Name (age)	Details (where known)
Aug. 1980	Nyanga	Jeffrey BAARDMAN (20)	With Oscar MPETHA (Focus 31/5) and two others previously mentioned in FOCUS, the following all face charges under the Terrorism Act and of causing the deaths of two men who died in a fire at Nyanga on 11.8.80. The trial begins on 3.3.81. All detained under Sec. 6TA
Aug. 1980	Crossroads	Fumanikile BOOI (18)	
Aug. 1980	Nyanga	Duyisile DIBA (21)	
Aug. 1980	Guguletu	Johannes HLAPO (20)	
Aug. 1980	Nyanga East	Makawa JABAVU (30)	
Aug. 1980	Nyanga	Peter KUBE (18)	
Aug. 1980	Nyanga	Lawrence LEROTHODI (18)	
Aug. 1980	Guguletu	Morgan Teboga MAKUVALA (19)	
Aug. 1980	Nyanga East	Raymond MAPONDO (19)	
Aug. 1980	Crossroads	Welile MAZOLAMA (21)	
Aug. 1980	Guguletu	Aaron TSHANGANA (28)	
Aug. 1980	Cape Town	4 youths	
Aug. 1980		Pinda MANAMELA (34)	
Aug. 1980		Nicodemus MOTAPO (35)	
Aug. 1980		Ettienne PILLAY (18)	
3.8.80	Ciskei	Shepherd DUMEZWENI	
Sept. 1980	Ciskei	Zama QOSHA (19)	Sec. 6 TA
Oct. 1980	Lenyenye (Tzaneen)	Rev. H.M. MAMABOLO	Sec. 6 TA
Oct. 1980	Seshego	Moses MOALUSI	Pupil Sec. 6 TA National Converter Indust. Worker. Ciskei Emergency Regs. Pupil. Proc. R252. Rel. 11.12.80 AME Priest. AZAPO official. Sec. 10 ISA Vice-Chairman Seshego Branch AZAPO

Oct. 1980	Lenyenye	David MOHWIBIDU	Vice-Chairman AZAPO local branch. Sec. 10 ISA
Oct. 1980	Mahwereleng	Meadow MOLALA	Former Chairperson AZAPO local branch
Oct. 1980	Lenyenye	Mmutle PHASHA	Chairman AZAPO local branch Sec. 10 TA
Oct. 1980	Kgapane (Duiwelskloof)	Joseph RAHOPHALA	Member exec. AZAPO local branch Sec. 10 ISA
Oct. 1980	Seshego	Mangope RAMOHLOLA	Member exec. AZAPO local branch Sec.
6.10.80	Seshego	Rev. M.P. MALATJIE	Retired priest. Chairman Seshego village committee. Elected mayor of Seshego. Chairman Seshego Branch AZAPO. Sec. 10 ISA
6.10.80	Lebowa	Laurence MARAPYANE (20)	Chairman Lebowakgomo Branch AZAPO
6.10.80	Lebowa	Jackson MASHIANE (21)	AZAPO member
6.10.80	Seshego	Mamabola RAPHESHU	Chairman AZAPO local branch. Sec. 22 GLA
8.10.80	Umtata	Zingisa MABONA	Mabona is blind. Transkei security laws
8.10.80	Umtata	Hofmeyer Manene NDUMELA	A blind switchboard operator. Transkei security laws
15.10.80	Mdantsane	Walter MAKONJWA	Frere Hospital staff nurse. Ciskei Emergency Regs.
17.10.80	Mdantsane	Lizeka JODWANA	Form 5 pupil. Released when fell ill. Ciskei Emergency Regs.
17.10.80	Mdantsane	Welile JODWANA	Form 5 pupil. Ciskei Emergency Regs.
17.10.80	Mdantsane	Zamxolo JODWANA	Form 2 pupil. Ciskei Emergency Regs.
17.10.80	Mdantsane	Nosipho MAKELENI	Form 3 pupil. Ciskei Emergency Regs.
17.10.80	Mdantsane	Luyanda SOLOMBELA	Form 5 pupil. Ciskei Emergency Regs.
19.10.80	Sebokeng	Simon NKODI	Secretary Vaal branch COSAS
19.10.80	Kagiso	Lawrence Molathlegi NTLOKO (22)	
28.10.80	New Brighton	Jeffrey Teboho BOTLHOLE (18) and 9 others	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
28.10.80	Kwazakhele	Vusumzi MATIKINCA (28)	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
28.10.80	Kwazakhele	Ngcono NGUNA	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
28.10.80	New Brighton	Vukile NTLABATI (18)	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
29.10.80	Umtata	Sonto DALINDYEBO and 6 others	Son of Chief Sabata Dalindyebo
29.10.80	Umtata	Buhle MPOTULO	Son of Umtata attorney
29.10.80	Umtata	Bhunga NZOBOLLE	
30.10.80	New Brighton	Fezekile FIHLA (19)	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
30.10.80	New Brighton	Zolani GAXAMBA (18)	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
30.10.80	Kwazakhele	Mcebisi MSIZI (17)	Pupil Sec. 10 ISA
Nov. 1980		Jannetjie Malaya CHILOANE (24)	
Nov. 1980		William Mtwante MAMPURU (18)	
Nov. 1980		Matone Joseph MASHUHU (24)	
Nov. 1980		Ezekiel Oupa MASUKU (23)	
Nov. 1980		Tshepo Albert MOTLANA (23)	
Nov. 1980		Thabo Simon NDLOVU (19)	
Nov. 1980		Arthur Elliot PHALATSE (22)	
Nov. 1980	East London	Solomon GOCI	
Nov. 1980	Potgietersrus	Perry KEKANA	Organiser SAAWU Proc. R252. Rel. 19.12.80
Nov. 1980	Pietersburg	Harold MADIKOTA	AZAPO official. Sec. 10 ISA
Nov. 1980	Potgietersrus	Sarah Mapule MOGODI	AZAPO official Sec. 10 ISA
Nov. 1980	Pietersburg	Sello RASITHABA	AZAPO official Sec. 10 ISA
Nov. 1980	Tzaneen	Joseph RAOPHALA	AZAPO member Sec. 10 ISA
Nov. 1980	East London	Voyce SOCI	Organiser SAAWU Ciskei Emergency Regs. Rel. 19.12.80
Nov. 1980	Potgietersrus	Ian Matimetsa TOBHEJANA	AZAPO member Sec. 10 ISA
4.11.80	New Brighton	Duma LAMANI (26)	Leader of PESCO
10.11.80	Umtata	Zanele MPENDULO	Nurse at Umtata Hospl. Transkei Security Act.
1.12.80	Mdantsane	Welile MZOZOYANA	Chairman East London branch AFCWU. Proc. R252. Rel. 19.12.80.
8.12.80	Durban	Duma GQUBULE (15)	Swazi pupil. Rel. 12.12.80. Sec. 22 GLA.
9.12.80	East London	Wilton HLOYI	
9.12.80	East London	Victor KALE	
9.12.80	East London	Nceba MHLANGENI	
9.12.80	East London	Boy MONDI	
9.12.80	East London	Godfrey SHIBA	
17.12.80	Mdantsane	Ndlalifa SALMAN (17) and 3 others	Wilson-Rowntree workers. SAAWU members. Proc. R252 Rel. 19.12.80.
17.12.80	Umtata	Hector Bongani NCOKAZI	Pupil. Proc. R252
17.12.80	Umtata	Loyiso MPUMLWANA	Former leader Transkei Democratic Party. TPSA
17.12.80	Umtata	Mazwi YAKO	Organiser of Student Guardian Fund. TPSA Rel. Jan. 1981
15.1.81	Kimberley	Fr. Arthur MADIJA (40)	Chairman Democratic Progressive Youth League. TPSA. Rel. Jan. 1981
15.1.80	Kimberley	Canon Augustine MAROPONE	Anglican priest.
			Anglican priest.

ABBREVIATIONS

AFCWU — African Food and Canning Workers' Union
 AZAPO — Azanian Peoples' Organization
 COSAS — Congress of South African Students
 GLA — General Law Amendment Act
 ISA — Internal Security Act

PESCO — Port Elizabeth Students' Committee
 Proc. R252 — Ciskei Emergency Proclamation R252
 SAAWU — South African Allied Workers' Union
 TA — Terrorism Act
 TPSA — Transkei Public Security Act

DETENTIONS TREBLED IN 1980

A report recently published by the South African Institute of Race Relations has revealed that at least 956 people were detained by security police in South Africa last year. But comparing privately collected statistics with official figures over the past few years, the latter are considerably higher. Since the figures compiled by the SAIRR are based on newspaper reports it would appear that many detentions are taking place without anyone knowing about them (*RDM* 12.1.81).

According to the SAIRR report, 146 of the detentions took place in the Ciskei, 41 in the Transkei and one in Venda. 431 of the people detained were pupils, 117 college and university students, 32 lecturers, school principals and teachers, 67 political leaders, 39 community workers, 10 journalists and 21 trade unionists. Most of the cases followed a certain pattern.

A detainee would first be held under Section 22 of the General Law Amendment Act, then under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act, and finally under Section 10 of the Internal Security Act.

In 1979 the SAIRR recorded approximately 300 security detentions and a similar number for 1978. Not since the mass uprisings of 1976 have so many people been detained, and as this month's list of new detentions indicates, the arrests and detentions continue. (*SAIRR: Race Relations Survey 1979, 1978*).

Although the main bulk of detentions in 1980 took place in the first half of the year, especially during and after the Cape schools boycott in April and May, there was little slowing down in the number of arrests during the rest of the year. There were noticeable patterns in the year's detentions. During the Cape schools boycott the majority of detainees were pupils, students, teachers and members of student organizations. Most were held under the 'preventive detention' clause of Section 10 of the Internal Security Act. Later in the year as the schools boycott spread

to other areas and trade union militancy increased, the areas where arrests took place shifted from one zone of militant mass resistance to another. There was a shift by the police away from mass detentions under Section 10, to harsher forms of detention under the Terrorism Act.

The Eastern Cape has been the area of most consistent resistance to apartheid, as evidenced by the large number of detentions by the Ciskei Security police and the 'rounding up' of school pupils in their hundreds (see *FOCUS* 32 pp.6, 12).

FOCUS has listed the names of more than 600 people in the same period. *FOCUS* lists, like the figures given by SAIRR, are based on newspaper reports, not an entirely reliable source. Some detentions are not reported at all while others only become known when a detainee is released or appears in court. Others never become known at all. State restrictions on the publication of the names of detainees add to this disparity between official and unofficial figures.

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LAWS USED TO DETAIN PEOPLE

General Law Amendment Act No. 62 of 1966

Section 22 of the Act provides that any commissioned officer of the police of or above the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel may arrest any person without warrant who was a "terrorist", favoured terrorist activities, had undergone training outside the Republic (or had attempted or encouraged others to do so) which could be of use in committing sabotage or in furthering the aims of an organisation declared unlawful, had obtained information which could be of use in furthering the objects of an organisation declared unlawful, or intending to commit any of these offences.

Persons arrested under the Act are detained for a period not exceeding fourteen days. The Commissioner of Police can apply to a Supreme Court judge for an extension of the detention. Usually, however, after the fourteen day period of detention under the Act has expired those detained have their detentions extended under the legislation of the Terrorism Act, or the Internal Security Act. No court of law is competent to order the release of a detainee but the detainee may submit in writing reasons why he should not be detained. This could result in an alteration of the conditions of detention.

Terrorism Act No. 83 of 1967:

Section 6 of the Terrorism Act provides for the "detention of terrorists and certain other persons for interrogation". The period of detention is indefinite and applies to any person in the Republic who is "a terrorist or who is withholding... any information relating to terrorists", or to offences under the Act. The person may be detained by any commissioned officer of or above the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel for interrogation until the "Commission orders his/her release when satisfied that he/she has satisfactorily replied to all questions... or that no useful purpose will be served by his/her further detention", or until his/her detention is ordered by the Minister. No court of law shall pronounce upon the validity of any action taken under Section 6 of the Act, or order the release of any detainee. No person, other than the Minister or an officer in the

service of the State acting in the performance of his official duties, has access to any detainee, or is entitled to any official information relating to or obtained from any detainee.

Criminal Procedure Amendment Act No. 51 of 1977

Section 50 of the Act allows persons to be detained for a period not exceeding 48 hours (if after arrest he/she has not been released because no charge has been brought against him/her, and adjudication has to be made upon the cause of the arrest).

Section 185 (as amended in 1978) allows the detention of potential state witnesses. They can be detained continuously until the proceedings in which they may appear as witnesses are completed, provided the proceedings begin within six months of their being detained.

Internal Security Amendment Act No. 79 of 1976

Section 10 of the Act provides for the indefinite 'preventive' detention of persons engaging in activities which the Minister deems "endanger or are calculated to endanger the security of the state or the maintenance of public order". The Minister may direct that any such person be detained in custody in a prison area for a specified period. A 'Review Committee' investigates the Minister's action not later than two months after the commencement of the custody and thereafter at intervals of not more than six months. The committee considers all facts and written and oral representations made to it and submits its recommendations to the Minister. The Minister need not give effect to any recommendation by the review committee. Meetings of this review committee are not open to the public and its deliberations and recommendations are not disclosed to the public. No court of law has jurisdiction to pronounce upon its functions or recommendations. Detentions under this Act may be extended for an indefinite period.

Section 12 of the Act provides for the detention of potential State witnesses. Whenever, in the opinion of an attorney-general, any person might provide material

evidence as a witness for the State, such person will not be released on bail, if in detention, or issued with a warrant of arrest. Provided the proceedings begin within six months of the detention, the person will not be released until the criminal proceedings are concluded. No-one has access to a detained person except a State official acting in the performance of his duties and a magistrate, who will visit the person in private at least once a week. No court has the power to release a detainee or allow other persons to visit him/her.

BANTUSTANS

On 'independence', bantustans have effectively adopted South African legislation on all security matters. The major security law in the Transkei is the 'Public Security Act' which came into force in 1977. In terms of the Act all security laws applicable in South Africa were repealed but the major provisions of South African security legislation, including indefinite detention without trial, are incorporated in the Act. The Act additionally makes provision for the banning of persons and for the arrest, without warrant, of any person for interrogation purposes, after which arrest there may be no recourse to the courts to obtain the release of such person.

In 1977 the Ciskei was given far-reaching powers to control political activity and detain people without trial, in Emergency Proclamation R252. Persons can be detained for up to 90 days in terms of the Proclamation. As the figures above show the Ciskeian security police have used the provisions of this Proclamation often in order to suppress the widespread popular resistance in that part of South Africa.

A similar emergency Proclamation (R276), which allows for preventive detention, has been in force in Venda since 1977. BophuthaTswana passed its own Internal Security Act (No. 22) in 1979. The Act consolidates various of the main South African security laws. Persons may be detained without trial for 90 days but this period can be extended indefinitely should it be deemed necessary for reasons of 'national security'.

BANS AND RESTRICTIONS

SIX JOURNALISTS BANNED

Six journalists have had three-year banning orders served on them in terms of the Internal Security Act. The orders prevent them working as journalists and put them under partial house arrest.

Five of the banned journalists were leading figures in the Media Workers Association (MWASA). MWASA had just ended a protracted strike of journalists, following which the Government suspended the publication of four newspapers before effectively banning two of them (see below).

The banning orders restrict them to their homes between 7pm and 6am on weekdays and for the whole of weekends and public holidays. They may have no visitors at their homes except their parents and parents-in-law and a doctor.

They are prevented by the orders from entering any newspaper office, industrial complex or educational institution and from attending social or political gatherings. They may not be quoted.

John ISSEL, of Mitchell's Plain near Cape Town was served with a banning order on 21 November 1980. The order expires on 31 October 1983 and restricts him to the magisterial district of Wynberg (CT 22.11.80; RDM 17.1.81).

He was chairman of the Rocklands Ratepayers Association and permanent organizer of a community newsletter *Grassroots*. It is a monthly newsletter started by the black community in the Cape, and the W. Cape region of MWASA (then known as Writers' Association of South Africa WASA) (Voice 26.11.80).

Zwelakhe SISULU, who lives in Orlando, Johannesburg, was served with a banning order on 29 December 1980. He is restricted to the magisterial district of Johannesburg (RDM 30.12.80; Star 3.1.81).

He is President of MWASA and was news editor of the *Sunday Post*, one of the newspapers banned shortly after his banning. Recently he successfully appealed against a nine month prison sentence imposed on him for refusing to answer questions in court about

telephone conversations he allegedly had with another journalist who was on trial (see FOCUS 31 p.3).

Marimuthu SUBRAMONEY, the vice-president and Natal regional secretary of MWASA was also banned on 29 December 1980, the same day as Zwelakhe Sisulu. He was a reporter on the Daily News and a correspondent for the BBC and several other foreign broadcasting corporations (CT 30.12.80). He was detained in May 1980 during the school boycott (see FOCUS 31 p.10).

Mathata TSEDU was banned on 9 January. He was a *Post* reporter and a Northern Transvaal executive member of MWASA. The order restricts him to the magisterial district of Sesehego, near Pietersburg (RDM 10.1.81).

Besides being a journalist Mathata Tsedu is a writer of fiction, his short story *Forced Landing* having been used as a title piece in a recently published anthology. His stories can no longer be published in South Africa (Voice 11.1.81).

Phil MTIMKULU was served with banning orders on 28 January. He was a senior journalist on the *Post*. He was formerly Secretary-General of the Union of Black Journalists (UBJ), the union which preceded MWASA and which was banned during the 1977 crack-down on black organisations (see FOCUS 14 p.9).

Joe THLOLOE was served with banning orders on 28 January. A senior *Post* journalist and a leading figure in MWASA, he was president of the UBJ. He spent nine months in gaol when still a student, after marching as a volunteer with Robert Sobukwe in March 1960 to hand himself over to the police in protest against the pass laws. He has been detained twice and held once for 18 months (GN 29.1.81; see also FOCUS 12 p.13, 14 p.9).

WESTERN CAPE BANS

Three people were banned in the Western Cape during November 1980, one of them being John Isel (see above).

Jamalludin HAMDULAY of Athlone, near Cape Town, was served with a notice on 25 November 1980 in terms of the Internal Security Act prohibiting him from attending gatherings. The five year ban expires on 31 October 1985 (RDM 17.1.81).

At the time of his banning Jamalludin

Hamdulay was acting president of the South African Students Association (SASA) which was active in the Western Cape during the school boycott. The order also involves partial house arrest: he may leave home only between 6am and 7pm on weekdays and is allowed no visitors except a doctor and his parents-in-law (Muslim News 28.11.80).

John FERRUS, Western Cape Regional Chairman of the Labour Party was served with a five-year banning order on 26 November 1980. The order restricts him to the magisterial district of Worcester. However the order was lifted a month later on 24 December.

This was the third time John Ferrus had been banned. He spent three months in detention after being detained on 25 May 1980, during the school boycott (see FOCUS 29 p.3). He spent 38 months on Robben Island in 1967 (DD 28.11.80; CT 30.12.80).

CONTRAVENTIONS

There have been several cases in which people have been charged with contravening their banning orders, including the following.

- The hearing of a case against Zubeida MAYET on a charge of contravening her banning order has been postponed twice, the second time until 9 March 1981. She is alleged to have attended a meeting on 19 October 1980 commemorating the banning of organisations in October 1977 (see FOCUS 32 p.5).

- Judy FAVISH, former trade unionist and literacy worker, was convicted of breaking her banning order, in the Wynberg Regional Court on 6 November 1980. She was sentenced to six months imprisonment, conditionally suspended for three years.

She broke the order when she went for a walk in Kirstenbosch Gardens after hearing news of an uncle's death (CT 7.11.80).

- Sadick VARIANA, who was convicted in August 1979 of breaking his banning order, won his appeal against conviction in January this year. It was set aside in the Rand Supreme Court (Voice 14.1.81).

He had been arrested for allegedly attending a social gathering after he received a lift in car carrying three passengers, and was sentenced to three months imprisonment (see FOCUS 24 p.6).

TWO NEWSPAPERS CLOSED

Two newspapers written by black journalists and with a black readership, were closed by the government in January. Shortly after the announcement of the plans to ban the *Post* and the *Sunday Post*, the Argus company announced that a new daily paper would take the place of the closed ones (T. 27.1.81). However a number of their senior journalists were also banned.

At the time of the closure of the papers, their publication had already been suspended by government action. The strike by the Media Workers Association of South Africa (MWASA) over pay had led to the paper not appearing for several weeks. Under a section of the Internal Security Act any publication registered in terms of the Act which fails to appear for more than 30 days, loses its registration. Four newspapers

had their publication suspended in terms of this clause: the daily *Post*, the *Sunday Post*, the *Saturday Post*, and weekly paper the *Sowetan*. An order prevented them from resuming immediate publication when the strike ended.

The Argus company appealed against the order, but lost the case. On the same day banning orders were served on Zwelakhe SISULU and Marimuthu SUBRAMONEY (see above).

Shortly after this the Minister of Justice and of Internal Affairs warned that if the papers were re-registered they would be banned (RDM 21.1.81).

The *Post* and the *Sunday Post*, with circulations mainly in the townships of the Southern Transvaal, took the place in 1977 of the banned *World* and *Weekend World* (see FOCUS 13 p.5). Trying to justify the bans, the Minister of Justice said the papers were creating a "revolutionary climate" in the country (T.27.1.81).

The British National Union of Journalists sent its general secretary to investigate the banning of the journalists and the government's suspension of the newspapers. On arrival at Jan Smuts airport he was refused admission to South Africa and was told to return to Britain on the next available flight (RDM 5.1.81).

The closure of the newspapers, the banning of journalists and the terms of reference of the Steyn Commission, have led to widespread fears that the Government is seeking to enforce still stricter control on the press, and that it will use the Commission as the basis for doing so. The task of the Commission of Inquiry is to "inquire into and report on the question of whether the conduct of, and the handling of matters by, the mass media meet the needs and interests of the South African community, and if not, how they can be improved" (see FOCUS 31 p.10).

namibia

MASS OPPOSITION TO MILITARY CALL-UP

Plans now being implemented by the South African authorities in Namibia to conscript young men of all races for national service have met widespread resistance within the territory. The introduction of 'selective' military call-ups for a number of 'population groups' has also significantly increased the number of young people arriving as refugees in Angola and Botswana as a means of avoiding the draft. One report from the Lutheran World Federation indicated that an extra 5,000 Namibian refugees had arrived in Angola by the second week of January (*LWI 3/81*).

CONSCRIPTION

The conscription process, which forms part of the South African government's plans to develop an indigenous Namibian army, and is consistent with its wider aim of appearing to concede 'independence' to the territory, commenced in October 1980. A Proclamation published by the SA State President on 7 October 1980 removed the racial restrictions in South Africa's 1957 Defence Act insofar as they affected national military service, and rendered all males resident in Namibia and in the age group 16 to 25 potentially liable for conscription. (*Proclamation No. 198 of 1980; GG 17.10.80; FOCUS 32 p.3*).

Educational institutions are to play a central role in effecting conscription. During October 1980, the Department of National Education was reported to have sent circulars around the schools, instructing the principals to register all boys due to reach the age of 16 during 1981, for purposes of conscription (*Letter in the Windhoek Observer 29.11.80*).

The Officer Commanding the SWA Territory Force, Maj. Gen. Charles Lloyd, announced in November that call up instructions for national service in Namibia during 1981 had been posted off to selected young men (*WA 21.11.80*).

In the event, not all those eligible for training

were called up — young men resident in the four northern 'homelands' of Kaokoland, Ovambo, Kavango and Caprivi were excluded, ostensibly on the grounds that the numbers called up would otherwise exceed demand. A spokesman for the SWA Territory Force further stated that the aim of the call-up was to feed and strengthen area force units which have replaced the former commando system of training. Such area force units do not as yet exist in the northern regions (*To the Point 5.12.80*).

Men from the Kaokoland, Ovambo, Kavango and Caprivi 'population groups' have instead been officially requested to volunteer for service with the tribal battalions already in existence in their respective areas (i.e. Kaokoveld Battalion, stationed at Opuwo; 35 Battalion at Oshakati, Ovambo; 34 Battalion at Rundu, Kavango; 33 Battalion at M'pacha in east Caprivi) (*See FOCUS 25 p.6, 30 p.8 for details of the establishment of these 'tribal armies' and their eventual incorporation, in August 1980, into the newly-formed SWA/Namibia Territory Force*).

Those called up for national service will serve for two years. They will undergo basic training at the Rooikop military base in the Walvis Bay enclave (annexed by South Africa in 1977 and administered as part of Cape Province — an arrangement which further illustrates the extent to which the ostensibly 'independent' SWA Territory Force is integrated into the South African military apparatus). Further or more advanced training will thereafter be given at centres in Namibia. There are expected to be three intakes of national service trainees during 1981 (*WA 10.12.80*).

The first intake of conscripts — comprising Whites, Coloured, Namas and Damaras — reported for training in Walvis Bay on 16 January. Although the numbers answering the draft were not revealed, military officials said that the intake was "much larger than expected". A film clip shown on SABC TV showed young men of various races queuing together, apparently for their induction into the army (*WA 19.1.81*).

400 volunteers were also reported to have signed up for two years military service (*WA 15.1.81*).

A call-up document sent out by the South West Africa Territory Force and in the possession of IDAF notifies the recipient that he will be required to render national service in the 2 SA Infantry Battalion, Walvis Bay, from 14 January 1981 to 3 January 1983. He was expected to report at the Eros Military HQ in Windhoek on 9 January 1981. Failure to report as instructed renders the offender liable to prosecution and a prison sentence of up to six months, or a fine of up to R200, the document states.

RESISTANCE

Meanwhile, protests have been forthcoming from many sectors of the community.

On 14 December 1980, between 2,000 and 3,000 SWAPO supporters were reported to have attended a rally in Katutura township to protest against the SA government's plans for compulsory military training. The rally was organised by SWAPO's Windhoek youth branch. A number of speeches were made by Youth League leaders, who also criticised the ethnic elections organised in the territory in November 1980 for the 'second tier' of government. One speaker said that the Namibian people would be committing national suicide if they joined the army. "The so-called enemy is your own brother who was forced to leave the country because of oppression. The enemy of the South African army is SWAPO. Who is SWAPO? SWAPO is the people", he said (*WA/RDM 15.12.80*).

Large sections of the crowd shouted "No, no, no" to the proposed call-up system. They were watched by about 30 policemen in camouflage uniform (*RDM 15.12.80*).

Large numbers of contract workers were reported in December to have left the workers' hostel in Katutura to return to their homes in the north of Namibia, out of fear of being conscripted in the January 1981 draft. Many are believed to have crossed the Namibian border into Angola or Botswana (*WO 13.12.80*).

A correspondent for the Lutheran World Federation reported from Windhoek in January that there was a marked presence of military police enforcing the new conscription law (*LWI 3/81, 22.1.81*).

Emergency aid has been despatched by the Lutheran World Federation's world service office in Lusaka, Zambia, to cater for an additional 5,000 young refugees estimated to have crossed into Angola from Northern Namibia. Educational supplies, food and bedding were delivered into two airlifts to Luanda. Over 200 of the refugees required medical treatment (*LWI 3/81*).

Inside Namibia, the Council of Churches, comprising the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Anglican Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church, Evangelical Lutheran Ovambo-Kavango Church and the Roman Catholic Church, has petitioned the SA State President to review the legislation providing for compulsory military training in Namibia. The petition listed a number of possible consequences of conscription, including an exodus of refugees, industrial strikes, attacks on government institutions and military installations, and school boycotts (*WA 20.1.81*).

MILITARY BUILD-UP

A company strength element of South African Naval Marines was reported to have arrived in Namibia at the end of December 1980, for service in the operational area along the northern border. An announcement from Defence HQ in Pretoria said that the Chief of the SA Navy, Vice-Admiral R.A. Edwards, had requested that the marines be sent to Namibia to gain practical experience of counter-insurgency techniques. The marines previously went through three months of intensive training with the SA Army in Middelburg, Transvaal.

A second group of marines is due to start training to replace the first group when it

returns to carry out its primary task of harbour and key point protection. Vice-Admiral Edwards said that the purpose of the period of operational duty in Namibia was to ensure that the marines were "battle-hardened and experienced to protect South Africa's vital trade links and installations" (*BBC, 1.1.81; WA 5.1.81*).

South African Police reinforcements were due to be sent to Namibia in November 1980 to "help maintain order" during the second-tier ethnic elections organised by the SA authorities during that month (*WA 10.11.80; FOCUS 30 p. 8*).

15 MONTHS IN DETENTION

CONDITIONS DESCRIBED BY SWAPO ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Previous issues of *FOCUS* have contained information on the career of AXEL JOHANNES, SWAPO's Administrative Secretary inside Namibia (see issue 21 p. 7, "Case-Study of harassment and torture", in particular). Aged 35, he has been in and out of prison and detention at least a dozen times, held in solitary confinement under the Terrorism Act and Proclamation AG 26, and has repeatedly endured severe torture and interrogation. Most recently, he was detained under Proclamation AG26 for a total of 15 months up to 28 July 1980, when he was placed under restriction at his home in Katutura township (*Focus* 30 p.9, 31 p.9).

In December 1980, Axel Johannes was granted permission by the South African authorities to leave Namibia to pursue his studies in Britain. In January 1981, he participated in the Geneva Pre-Implementation Conference as a member of the SWAPO delegation.

In an interview with IDAF in December 1980, following his arrival in London, Axel Johannes described the conditions under which he was detained in Windhoek and Gobabis prisons, following his arrest on 27 April 1979. His information adds significantly to what is already known and has been published in *FOCUS*, of the extent and severity of political repression in Namibia. This information appears particularly relevant at a time when the South African government is claiming to have already conceded the principle of independence for the territory.

Axel Johannes was arrested on 27 April 1979 along with more than 50 other top SWAPO officials and senior members inside Namibia (see *FOCUS* 22 p.14). The arrests, which immediately preceded the announcement that a South African-sponsored and tribally-based National Assembly was to be established in Namibia, were ordered by the Administrator General under Proclamation AG 26. Those detained were held incommunicado and lawyers from both international organisations and inside Namibia who attempted to see them were refused.

On this occasion Axel Johannes was not interrogated although other colleagues were. (The provisions of Proclamation AG 26 were amended in May 1979 to allow for the interrogation of detainees by a justice of the peace see *FOCUS* 24 p.15). Following his arrest he was taken to Gobabis prison, from where he was transferred to Windhoek prison for a period, and then back to Gobabis. During the early months of his detention he was one of more than 80 other SWAPO detainees, including IDA JIMMY (see *WOMEN IN PRISON*), at that time held with her baby of three or four months old.

During 1979 the SWAPO detainees were involved in a week-long hunger strike in protest at their conditions and in particular against not

being allowed to receive any letters from relatives. (As a result of such protests Axel Johannes was later permitted to send two and receive two letters per month). The detainees were not told the reason for their continued detention and their relatives were kept in uncertainty as to their whereabouts and welfare.

GOBABIS PRISON

By March 1980, Axel Johannes and a few other SWAPO members — including JASON ANGULA (SWAPO Secretary for Labour and still detained under a form of house arrest as *FOCUS* 33 went to press), RAHIMISA KAHIMISE and WILBARDT KALILI (see *FOCUS* 22 p.14, 30 p.9, 31 p.8) — remained detained in solitary confinement in Gobabis prison, others having been released.

He was held in a cell measuring approximately two meters by one and a half meters, for 23½ hours out of each day. For 30 minutes he was allowed out of doors for exercise, but even during this time he was not permitted to see or to communicate with any other prisoners. He was also attended to exclusively by white prison warders and officials. He was inspected by a prison doctor and a magistrate as required under the provisions of Proclamation AG 26, and during his detention was also seen on one occasion (in Windhoek prison) by a representative of Amnesty International. He also saw his father once for approximately 20 minutes, his father being accompanied by his lawyer. Otherwise he was not permitted visits by relatives.

Apart from a bed, Axel Johannes' cell at Gobabis prison contained no furniture, and had no window other than a grating high up in the wall. (The bed, together with a mattress, was itself provided following the visit by an Amnesty International representative to Windhoek prison in January 1980. Detainees had previously slept on the floor). He was allowed to retain his personal clothing.

With the exception of the last three weeks of his detention, when he was permitted to buy magazines, he was allowed no reading or study materials of any kind apart from a Bible —

"I read the Bible four times from start to end. Previously I never accepted that one could read the Bible from beginning to end, but it was easy because there was nothing else to do."

To occupy his mind he also sang freedom songs, until told to be quiet by the prison warders. Singing also enabled the detainees to learn of each others' existence.

The cell was too small to permit physical exercise, and he had no control over the times at which the lights were switched on and off.

Meals, three times a day, comprised pap or mealie porridge with a small quantity of meat. He was occasionally given a slice of bread, but not vegetables.

Axel Johannes was asked by IDAF how the experience of solitary confinement affected his mental and psychological outlook:

"Personally I'm familiar with such conditions, because I have been detained in solitary confinement at a stretch. It's not strange to me.

"Actually it does affect the mind, but there's nothing you can do about it unless you are going to give in, to say: 'Well, to betray the cause is the only hope'. As soon



Axel Johannes

as you say you are going to stop supporting SWAPO or being a member, they will release you. But you will be betraying the cause of the liberation of the country."

RESTRICTION

Axel Johannes was released from Gobabis prison on 28 July 1980. He was taken immediately to security police headquarters, where he was warned against taking an active part in political activities, and told that he was to be restricted to his home in Katutura township, outside Windhoek, under conditions of virtual house arrest. He was required to remain indoors from 8pm to 6am, and not allowed to leave the municipal area of Katutura for any reason, including shopping or going to church, without the written authorisation of the commander of Katutura police station. He was not allowed to have anyone else living at the house or to receive any visitors, and was not allowed to take a job. The security police would frequently raid his place during the nights — sometimes in uniform, sometimes in plain clothes, but always armed — and wake him up to search the premises.

INTENTION TO RETURN

In December 1980 Axel Johannes, although still under restriction, was permitted by the South African authorities to leave Namibia to further his studies in Britain. He was subsequently asked why, in view of his long history of detention and torture, he nevertheless intended to return to Namibia if possible. He replied:

"Many SWAPO leaders have left the country and if all of us are to stay outside the people inside will be left without a leader, and their morale and courage will suffer. Also there's the fact that old men and women in Namibia are suffering daily under the so-called martial law. If they are able to endure such sufferings and make such sacrifices, why not me? I'm still young, I myself like to be where my people are, to suffer with them. We at home must wage the struggle inside the country as well."

(Interview given to IDAF by Axel Johannes in London, 17.12.80)

MARKUS KATEKA

MARKUS KATEKA (40), a Namibian farm worker sentenced to death on 13 October 1980 for assisting SWAPO guerillas (see *FOCUS* 32 pp.1-2), is believed to be still held in Windhoek Central Prison together with his co-defendant HENDRIK KARIZEB (sentenced to 10 years).

A petition is reported to have been sent to the Chief Justice in Bloemfontein by Advocate Pio Teek, seeking leave to appeal against the death sentence. Advocate Teek, who appeared for the two accused in the trial before the Windhoek Supreme Court, said that counsel had been briefed in the matter (*Star/WO* 6.12.80). Leave to appeal was refused by the presiding judge in Windhoek, following the passing of the sentences.

The Registrar of the Windhoek Supreme Court stated on enquiry that the record of the death sentence had been sent to the Secretary of Justice who in turn would submit it to the State President-in-Council. In the event of the petition to the Chief Justice failing, then the record of the death sentence could still lead

to a decision of clemency by the State President-in-Council (*WO* 6.12.80).

Advocate Teek stated in December 1980 that he had received numerous inquiries about the case from representatives of foreign governments, including a West German diplomat. The Supreme Court's decision to impose the death penalty has provoked numerous international protests. Hundreds of letters have been sent to the authorities in South Africa and Namibia by concerned organisations and individuals overseas, with copies to the Namibian press. Within a month of sentence being passed, the *Windhoek Observer*, which has given considerable coverage to the campaign, had received nearly 100 protest letters, from the Scandinavian countries, the Low countries, Western, Central and Eastern Europe, the Iberian Peninsula, Italy, the Balkans, the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom (*WO* 15/29.11.80; *Star* 6.12.80; *WA* 12.12.80).

It is understood that a representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross visited Markus Kateka in prison in November 1980 (*Star* 6.12.80).

RESTRICTEES FREED

Three members of SWAPO living in Namibia under restriction orders were released by the South African authorities to attend the Pre-Implementation Conference in Geneva on UN Security Council Resolution 435 (1978). SWAPO had previously approached the UN Secretary General for his assistance in getting the SWAPO officials to the Conference.

The three officials, who joined an eight-person SWAPO delegation from inside Namibia, were PHILIP TJERIJE, SWAPO Publicity and Information Secretary; Dr. THOMAS IHUHUA and MARKUS HAUSIKU. Philip Tjerije and Dr. Ihuhua were placed under restriction orders on being released from detention in February 1980. Markus Hausiku and Dr. Ihuhua were both arrested and detained in a general round-up of SWAPO officials in April 1979 (*FOCUS* 22 p.14; 27 p.4; *Star* 10.1.81; *WA* 6/7.1.81).

PRISONERS ABSENT FROM GENEVA

Four members of the SWAPO delegation to the Pre-Implementation Conference were not present at Geneva. Three of them, HERMAN TOIVO JA TOIVO, JEREMIAH EKANDJO and LAZARUS GITEB are all political prisoners serving sentences on Robben Island. A demand from SWAPO that they and other Namibian political prisoners be released in time for the Geneva Conference was refused by the South African government (*RDM* 7.1.81). The fourth is BRENDAN SIMBWAYE. At the time of his arrest in 1964 he was Vice-President of SWAPO.

RED CROSS VISITS

SWA Administrator General Danie Hough stated in November 1980 that the International Committee of the Red Cross would be given regular access to detainees held in Namibia in terms of security legislation. Representatives of the ICRC met the AG shortly before his announcement and accepted an invitation to visit detainees "under the usual internationally accepted procedure" (*WA* 24.11.80).

NNF LEADERS RELEASED

Two youth leaders of the Namibia National Front (NNF), a grouping of small political parties in Namibia, were released from detention under Proclamation AG9 in January 1981. ADOPLHUS KANGOOTUI and LAZARUS NANUHE, both members of SWANU, one of the component parties of the NNF, were reported to have been detained in connection with the recruitment of young people for guerilla training outside Namibia (*WA* 15.1.81).

ELDERLY PARENTS HOMELESS

In January 1980, while he was in detention, Axel Johannes' elderly parents, living in the north of Namibia, were made homeless when their farm was burnt down and property destroyed. Axel Johannes stated his conviction to IDAF that the South African police were responsible. In 1979, in an earlier attack on his parents' home, livestock were shot and seeds for planting destroyed, he said.

Axel Johannes last saw his mother, aged over 70, at the beginning of 1979. In March 1980 his father, a clan head aged 93, and half-blind, was permitted to see him briefly in Windhoek prison, accompanied by a lawyer, to discuss legal matters arising from the destruction of the family farm. During his subsequent restriction to Katutura, Axel

Johannes was not permitted to travel to the north of Namibia to see his relatives.

In July 1980 an urgent application was brought before the Windhoek Supreme Court by lawyers acting on behalf of Johannes Ashinkono, father of Axel Johannes. The application, which was unsuccessful, sought to institute legal proceedings against the Minister of Police and the Government of Ovamboland, and compensation for property destroyed by members of the security forces in an attack on 28 January 1980 (*FOCUS* 31 p.9).

At the end of 1980, Axel Johannes' mother and father, together with other relatives, were still living in temporary corrugated iron shelters in the bush (*Interview with IDAF*, 17.12.80).

DETENTION BY THE ARMY

In his interview with IDAF (see above), Axel Johannes stressed the severity of conditions for those arrested and detained by members of the South African army and SWA/Namibia Territory Force, as opposed to the police (i.e. particularly under the 'martial law' regulations, AG9). These detainees are likely to be held in military camps and bases rather than in regular prisons, sometimes in corrugated iron huts or cells. Axel Johannes told IDAF that such detainees are known to have been continuously blindfolded throughout their imprisonment, even when being taken to the toilet or at meal-times. Some are known to have suffered permanent mental disturbance as a result, (*Interview*

JONAS SHIMUEFELENI

ROBBEN ISLAND DEATH

JONAS SHISHILENI (SHISHVENI) SHIMUEFELENI, a Namibian political prisoner serving an 18 year sentence on Robben Island, died on 1 August 1980 at Groote Schuur Hospital. He was 49. An abridged death certificate issued by the Department of Bantu Administration and Development gives the cause of death as "pulmonary oedema as a result of chronic renal failure hypoalbuminaemia from peritoneal dialysis".

Jonas Shimuefeleni was arrested in March 1966 and detained in Pretoria Central Prison for two and a half years before being brought to trial under the Terrorism Act. He and seven others were charged with undergoing military training in the USSR and Egypt, conspiring to overthrow the South African regime, and participating in a range of guerilla activities inside Namibia between 1962 and 1968. Two of the accused were acquitted, five were sentenced to life imprisonment and Jonas Shimuefeleni to 18 years.

He was known to have suffered from a severe kidney condition for a number of years and on several occasions doctors had recommended that he be released.

A list of Namibian political prisoners serving prison terms under the Terrorism Act and other South African security legislation, giving names and biographical details, is available from IDAF Publications, 104 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AP.

given to IDAF in London, 19.12.80).

Army camps where detainees are held are located in the central part of Namibia as well as the north. The Hardap Dam camp, near Mariental, where the Kassinga detainees are held, is a case in point.

(A briefing on Political Prisoners and Detainees in Namibia, prepared by the IDAF Research and Information Department at the request of SWAPO, for distribution at the Pre-Implementation Conference in Geneva, January 1981, is available from IDAF Publications, 104 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AP)

WOMEN IN PRISON

IDA JIMMY (35), a SWAPO member sentenced to seven years imprisonment in October 1980 for calling for support for the liberation struggle at a SWAPO rally, gave birth to a boy on 17 December 1980. She is believed to be held in Windhoek Central Prison pending the outcome of an appeal and her possible removal to Kroonstad Prison, South Africa. Ida Jimmy was previously detained without charge for a period in 1979 (FOCUS 32 p.2).

GERTRUDE KANDANGA, who was arrested in January 1980 while trying to leave Namibia to attend the First Consultative Congress of the SWAPO Women's Council in Angola, is believed to be still in detention more than a year later. She has never been charged and it is feared that her health may have seriously deteriorated. She was elected the Deputy Secretary of the SWAPO Women's Council in her absence (FOCUS 32 p.3).

It is believed that many other women whose names are not known are held in detention without charge by the South African police and army, particularly under the 'martial law' regulations, Proclamation AG9. SWAPO's Administrative Secretary Axel Johannes told IDAF that the conditions under which they are held are similar to those for male detainees, but that women run the additional risk of being raped and abused by members of the SA security forces, operating singly or in groups (Interview given to IDAF in London, 17.12.80).

A noticeable number of cases of rape by members of the SADF were brought before the courts in Namibia during 1980. The *Windhoek Advertiser* quoted the investigating officer from Ondangwa as saying he was "tired" of cases of this kind (WA 12.12.80).

KAINO KOVANEN

Despite being cleared of any involvement in the death of a senior Ovambo headman at Nakayale mission hospital in October 1980, Ms. Kaino KOVANEN was expected to be issued with a further expulsion order in January. The order, due to be served on her by the Ovambo tribal administration, would have given her 48 hours to leave Namibia. The Ovambo authorities were further reported to have requested the central government Department of Civic Affairs and Manpower to withdraw Ms. Kovanen's work permit (WA 7.1.81).

Ms. Kovanen, a Finnish nursing sister resident in Namibia since 1954 and employed at the Nakayale mission hospital by the Evangelical Lutheran Ovambo-Kavango Church (ELOC), was first ordered to leave Namibia in November 1980 (FOCUS 32 p.3). The order, issued by the Ovambo administration, followed an incident at the hospital on 31 October 1980 in which a patient, Lisias Shaus Aluuma, a member of the Ovamboland Legislative Council, was assassinated in his hospital bed by two unidentified gunmen. It was alleged that the murder occurred after Ms. Kovanen had had a special Ovambo police guard removed from the hospital. At least one member of the Ovambo tribal administration publicly called for her to be removed from her post (RDM/CT 12.11.80).

Despite the evident desire of the Ovambo tribal administration to have Ms. Kovanen deported, the SWA Administrator General concluded at the end of December 1980 that she had not in any way been involved in the incident (Star 27.12.80). His finding overruled the Ovambo authorities and the first expulsion order against Ms. Kovanen therefore did not take effect.

KASSINGA DETAINEES ESCAPE

Nine detainees being held in a special camp near Mariental in the south of Namibia managed to escape from custody on 1 December 1980. The nine are believed to form part of the group of 118 or more SWAPO members abducted by the SADF from the Kassinga refugee settlement in Angola in May 1978 (see FOCUS 32 p.3).

The SADF stated following the escapes that the detainees were in civilian clothes and were not armed. Members of the public were requested to report to the nearest police station, military base or post on seeing any suspicious-looking person or activities (WA 2.12.80).

Three of the nine escapees — all of whom were men — were recaptured within 24 hours, and a further five over the following week. Four were found in Tsumis Park, west of Windhoek, three near Twilight station and another near Aranos in the south. In a combined communique the Defence Force and Police thanked the public for assisting in the recapture of the eight men, but gave no further details of the operation. An extensive manhunt

was reported to be still under way for the remaining prisoner (WA 9.12.80).

The Second-in-Command of the SWA Territorial Force, Brigadier W. Meyer, announced that a Board of Inquiry had been instituted to investigate the escape (WA 9.12.80).

The escapees, together with the remaining Kassinga detainees, have been held under the 'martial law' Proclamation AG9. Under AG9 (enacted in November 1977 with subsequent amendments) the security forces are empowered to arrest persons in the course of operations "for the prevention or suppression of terrorism, or for any other purpose in terms of the Defence Act", and detain them for up to 30 days without charge and without access to legal counsel (Star 2.12.80; see FOCUS 14 p.3, 23 p.2).

The Kassinga detainees have in fact been detained incommunicado for nearly three years, first at Oshakati and later — it is believed — at Hardap Dam near Mariental (see FOCUS 32 p.3).

CHURCH PRINTING PRESS DESTROYED

International appeals have been launched to rebuild the Evangelical Lutheran Ovambo-Kavango Church's printing plant in Ondangwa, northern Namibia, following its destruction in a bomb attack on 19 November 1980. A substantial rebuilding grant was endorsed by the Lutheran World Federation's Community Development service, meeting in Geneva in December (LWI 44/80, 18.12.80).

The Evangelical Lutheran Ovambo-Kavango Church (ELOC) is the second largest in Namibia, with some 280,000 adherents. With other denominations with which it is linked through the Namibia Council of Churches, it has been a consistent critic of South Africa's apartheid policies in Namibia (eg. see MASS OPPOSITION TO MILITARY CALL-UP). Its monthly newspaper, *Omukwetu*, is the only non-government publication in the Ovambo language available to residents of the northern region.

In May 1973, the ELOC printing press, situated at the Oniipa mission, Ondangwa, was destroyed in a bomb blast. Although the attack was blamed on SWAPO by the South Africa government at the time, it is widely believed that members of the SA security forces were responsible. The press was rebuilt in 1975 with international assistance.

At 00.15hrs on 19 November 1980, the printing plant was once again totally destroyed in an explosion which also caused extensive damage to a book store and surrounding offices. A church spokesman said that a bomb appeared to have been placed under a printing press in the three-unit complex. The whole building collapsed and the machines were completely destroyed. Damage was estimated at about R350,000 (DD/WA 20.11.80).

In a statement issued immediately after the attack, the Bishop of ELOC, the Rt. Rev. Kleopas Dumeni, said that the identity of those responsible, and their motives, were unknown. "But it is true and clear that he is an enemy of the church and community", Bishop Dumeni said (Lutheran World Ministries Report on the explosion of the ELOC printing press at Oniipa 19.11.80).

Bishop Dumeni went on to point out that although the attack was reported to the police via the Oshakati hospital radio at 01.30hrs, no policemen arrived until 10.00hrs on 19 November. On the basis of information given to him "in a confidential spirit" by persons who were not prepared to reveal their names

for security reasons, Bishop Dumeni described movements in the vicinity on the evening of 18 November, by South African army vehicles, soldiers and other unidentified persons, at least some of whom were armed. At about midnight, 15 minutes before the blast, some people were seen walking from the direction of the printing shop.

The Oniipa mission is in a curfew area and ordinary residents are confined to their homes from sunset to sunrise. Only the military are permitted to move about at night (Lutheran World Ministries Report 19/20.11.80).

A senior South African Police spokesman stated after the blast that the police were conducting a full investigation. The Administrator General has also been requested by Church bodies to launch a full inquiry (DD 20.11.80; WA 27.11.80). A statement issued by the Lutheran World Federation Information Service in Geneva, however, remarked that "it is evident that the South African Police does not intend to press for an early investigation of this act" (LWF statement 20.11.80).

OMUKWETU

It was reported that the ELOC newspaper *Omukwetu* had been planning to publish the "true facts" about the assassination at Nakayale hospital, shortly before the bomb blast which destroyed the church printing press (WO 29.11.80; CT 2.12.80).

EDITOR FLEES

The former editor of *Omukwetu*, AMBROSIUS AMUTENJA, fled to Angola earlier in 1980, apparently with the assistance of a small group of SWAPO combatants.

SECURITY DISTRICTS

An amendment to the Security Districts Proclamation AG9 of 1977 (the 'martial law' Proclamation) requires any person in a security district who gives medical assistance to persons wounded or injured in suspicious circumstances to report the matter without delay to the security forces.

The Security Districts Amendment Act AG161/No.20 of 1980, was adopted by the National Assembly in October 1980 (SWA Official Gazette 13.10.80).

south africa

POLITICAL TRIALS

CONVICTIONS

MODISE, NKOSI, MOGALE

Freedom songs were sung inside the Kempton Park Regional Court after Thandi MODISE (21), Moses NKOSI (25) and Aaron MOGALE (21) were sentenced to imprisonment on 7 November 1980.

Modise was convicted on three charges under the Terrorism Act and sentenced to a total of sixteen years, but will effectively serve eight. Nkosi was sentenced to five years. His council lodged notice of appeal and bail was fixed at R2,000. Mogale was sentenced to two years and six months, suspended for five years.

Modise had told the court that she had

joined the ANC and had received military training in Tanzania and Angola. She had learnt how to handle a variety of firearms and use explosives. She said that the ANC's aim was to create a South Africa which belonged to all its people. Modise was charged with undergoing military training between October 1976 and January 1978, with being in possession of a machinegun, ammunition and explosives and with placing explosives in two department stores in Johannesburg.

Nkosi, the father of Modise's child which was born in custody, and Mogale, Modise's cousin, were charged with assisting Modise by keeping a bag containing a firearm and

explosives belonging to her (*Post* 28.10.80; *CT* 8.11.80; *FOCUS* 28ff).

4 ANC MEMBERS

Four members of the ANC have each been sentenced in the Odi Regional Court to six years imprisonment, with four years suspended for five years, for being in possession of illegal ANC pamphlets.

Alpheus MATHOPE (23), Karabo MADIBA (19), Emmanuel MADIBA (29), and Gerald SEOBELA (21), all of Ga-Rankuwa, pleaded not guilty to the charge. The court heard that during July 1979 the four were found in possession of the pamphlets (*CT* 22.11.80).

CONTINUING TRIALS

VUYISILE MDLELENI and 5 OTHERS

A crowd of people packed the courtroom and shouted slogans when the banned poet and ex-official of the now banned Black Community Programmes, Vuyisile MDLELENI (28), appeared in the Johannesburg Regional Court on 14 November 1980 with five others charged under the Internal Security Act. The others are: a staff member of the University of the Witwatersrand, Themba SHONGWE (26), Norman MONEYAPOTE (39), Patrick GABOATHLOELOE (46), Sipho NHLAPO (18) and John MATANA (24).

Priscilla Jana, the banned advocate, told the court she had not been furnished with a charge sheet. 50 friends and relatives of the accused were ordered out of the court for shouting slogans (*RDM* 15.11.80).

The accused appeared again in January and were charged with being members of the ANC or the PAC whose aims were to "undermine law and order and stability in South Africa". All pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The trial has been marked by adjournments and postponements over the withholding of documents by the state. Uniformed policemen had to form a buffer between the dock and the public gallery because of the crowds attending. The trial continues (*RDM* 24.1.81).

OSCAR MPETHA and 17 OTHERS

Oscar MPETHA (71) the veteran trade unionist and SACTU founder member, appeared in a specially convened court at Pollsmoor Prison on 4 December with 17 others (the names of the others are listed under *DETENTIONS*).

Filing into a packed court, the group chanted and sang freedom songs until security officials threatened to send them back to their cells unless they stopped. Prison warders used metal detectors to screen relatives and friends coming into the heavily guarded courtroom. No evidence was led and no detailed charges put to the accused. Bail was refused (*RDM* 5.12.80).

The 18 appeared again on 11 December, again in a specially convened court at Pollsmoor Prison. The charges brought against them were one count of terrorism and two counts of murder. As a first alternative to the three main counts they were also charged

with public violence and as a second alternative, conspiracy.

As they filed into the court they gave clenched fist salutes. At the end of the appearance, which lasted twenty minutes, spectators stood to join the accused in singing *Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika* (national anthem of the liberation movement) before they were ushered out.

The charge sheet includes six instances of contravening the Terrorism Act, amongst them damaging motor vehicles, assaulting and injuring people, barricading roads and congregating in various places to incite others to commit such acts. They are charged with the murder of two men who died in a fire during the unrest at Crossroads in August last year. They were remanded in custody until 3 March, without being asked to plead (*CT* 12.12.80).

The latest report is that Oscar Mpetha has been transferred to a prison hospital for his diabetic condition. His family saw him for the first time in December after he had been held for nearly four months (*RDM* 6.1.81; see *FOCUS* 32 p.6 and *DETENTIONS* in this issue).

MAVI and OTHERS

The State has withdrawn sabotage charges against the leaders of the Johannesburg municipal workers' strike.

Joseph MAVI, president of the Black Municipal Workers' Union, Philip DLAMINI and Gatsby MAZWI, both BMWU officials, will be charged instead under the Riotous Assemblies Act. They are charged with inciting an illegal strike. The new charges represent a substantial reduction in the seriousness of the offence with which they were originally charged.

The Sabotage Act, carries a mandatory minimum sentence of five years upon conviction and a maximum sentence of death. Under the Riotous Assemblies Act there is no mandatory minimum.

All three are out on bail and will appear again on 16 February (*CT* 20.11.80; see *FOCUS* 32 p.8).

PHALATSE and OTHERS

Seven men appeared briefly in the Pretoria Regional Court on 27 November 1980 on

charges under the Terrorism Act that they had attempted, consented or took steps to undergo military training by travelling to Houdkop on the South African-Swaziland border. The names of the accused appear in the list of detainees in this issue of *FOCUS* (*RDM* 28.11.80).

At a later hearing on 26 January 1981, a State witness told the court that he had received a letter from Lesotho requesting him and one of the accused to join Umkhonto we Sizwe, the military wing of the ANC. They had been driven to Swaziland by a man who recruited people for the ANC. Another witness told the court that he had been given a copy of the Freedom Charter and ANC pamphlets to distribute. The pamphlets were taken away from him when it became clear that he was not prepared to leave the country (*RDM* 27.1.81).

RIBEIRO and OTHERS

A Mamelodi medical practitioner, Dr. Fabian Defu RIBEIRO (48), who, with two youths, faces charges under the Terrorism Act, has been granted R500 bail. This is the first time that bail has been granted to a person facing charges under the Terrorism Act. The two youths have been remanded in custody until 12 January.

Dr. Ribeiro and the youths have pleaded not guilty to taking steps to undergo military training outside South Africa. Dr. Ribeiro further pleaded not guilty to advising or encouraging several youths between January and April 1980 to undergo military training (*DD* 4.12.80; see *FOCUS* 32 p.8).

GUY BERGER and OTHERS

A journalism lecturer at Rhodes University, Guy BERGER (24), journalism student Devandiren PILLAY (21), and Mandla GXANYANA (26) of Duncan Village, East London, appeared in the East London Magistrates Court on 28 November 1980, charged with two counts under the Internal Security Act. They were refused bail.

They appeared again on 18 December 1980 but the case was postponed to 21 January and then to 27 January. Gxanyana was detained in June last year, Pillay in July and Berger in August (*RDM* 29.11.80, 19.12.80, 22.1.81).

OTHER CASES

PEACEMAKER CASE

Four Grahamstown youths were sent to prison from one to two and a half years and five others given suspended sentences at the end of the Peacemaker stoning trial in the Supreme Court Grahamstown. In the five-week trial 12 youths were originally charged with the murder of Mr. Alfred Soya in an incident following an attempt by a group of Peacemakers (vigilantes) to end the boycott of black schools in Grahamstown. Three of the accused were discharged for lack of evidence. None were convicted of murder.

The accused claimed that they were acting in defence from what they believed was an attack by the Peacemakers.

The convictions and sentences were as follows: a 17-year old was convicted of assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm (five years imprisonment half of which was suspended for five years); the rest, convicted of public violence, included two 17-year olds (four year prison sentences, half of which was conditionally suspended for five years), a 16-year old (three year prison sentence, two suspended conditionally for five years) and a 15-year old and a 16-year old (suspended three year sentences) (CT 5.12.80; DD 14.11.80).

The three sent to prison will join a number of other juveniles in South African prisons (see FOCUS 32 p.11).

KROMRIVIER FARMWORKERS

In FOCUS 32 p.9, the appearance was reported of 15 men on charges of public violence arising out of a strike at Kromrivier Apple Co-operative near Grabouw on 25 April 1980.

All 15 originally pleaded guilty, but their convictions were overturned after they claimed that the police had administered electric shocks to obtain statements from them.

When the 15 appeared in court on 18 December 1980 again, 13 were acquitted and 2 were convicted on a charge of public violence. They were sentenced to 18 months imprisonment conditionally suspended for

five years.

The court was told that a security policeman forced one of the accused to stand barefooted on a set of wires while an electric current was passed through them. Another told the court that a security policeman had tied wires to his little fingers and he was administered shocks that way. At the previous hearing a doctor said that scars found on a number of the accused were consistent with injuries resulting from shocks (CT 19.12.80).

PRETORIA 24

At the trial in the Pretoria Regional Court of 24 who allegedly took part in an illegal procession during the unveiling of the tombstone of Solomon Mahlangu, the ANC guerilla sentenced to death in 1979, the state prosecutor asked for the conviction of only one of the accused. Only one of the state witnesses, a police constable, had been able to give satisfactory evidence and identify Dikgang MOILOA in court as the person who had held a placard at the procession in April last year. Judgement was postponed till later in the month (RDM 21.1.81; see FOCUS 32 p.9).

ACQUITTALS

AZAPO 8

Eight members of AZAPO appeared in the Pietersburg Magistrate's Court on 27 November 1980 on charges under the Riotous Assemblies Act. The State alleged that on 26 October last year, the accused attended a meeting at a Roman Catholic Church after all meetings were banned in Lebowa.

A state witness claimed that when he went to the church the group were reading poetry and that he had tried to warn them that they were holding an illegal meeting.

All eight were acquitted on 27 January (Voice 14/28.1.81).

GEORGE SEWPERSADH

The President of the Natal Indian Congress, George SEWPERSADH, was acquitted of charges of reproducing and distributing the Freedom Charter.

The State alleged that the Freedom Charter, which was adopted at the Congress of the People in 1955, had been declared undesirable by the Publications Board.

Sewpersadh was alleged to have made 200 copies and to have distributed them at an anti-South African Indian Council meeting in October last year, but he said that the meeting

was disrupted before he could distribute the copies (DD 20.11.80).

9 ACQUITTED

Nine Grahamstown men accused in Port Alfred Regional Court of stoning policemen and police vehicles were acquitted of the charge on 19 November 1980. The men, who all pleaded not guilty, were alleged to have been part of a crowd of 300 who had additionally prevented the police from removing a corpse lying in the street.

A legal representative of some of the men said that there was no evidence against one of them, while the evidence against the others was so weak and contradictory that they had no case to answer (RDM 20.11.80).

ARSON YOUTHS CLEARED

Five youths who appeared in the East London Regional Court on 12 November 1980 charged with arson were acquitted of the offence because of lack of evidence (DD 13.11.80).

10 PUPILS ACQUITTED

Ten pupils charged with public violence were acquitted when they appeared in the King William's Town Regional Court on 19 November 1980. They were alleged to have stoned cars travelling from Fort Beaufort to Alice in August last year (DD 20.11.80).

FORT BEAUFORT 32

Thirty two Fort Beaufort pupils who appeared in the King William's Town regional court on 25 November, charged with public violence were found not guilty and discharged.

The pupils had been charged with burning a beerhall. A manager of the beerhall was called to the scene but he could not identify any people on that day and in court.

A school principal, Daisy BONGCO, and two girls were later charged with perjury. The two girls claimed that they had been forced to make statements which identified certain persons but in court denied any knowledge of the incident. Bongco, of Ngaba Lower Primary School, said a group had come to the school to try to influence pupils to leave the school. She had made a report to the police, but in court denied any knowledge of certain persons who were involved in the incidents. She was allowed R250 bail and the two girls R100 bail each (DD 27.11.80).

Continued from p.4

The Second Police Amendment Act of 1980 prohibits the publication without police permission of the names of persons arrested under the Terrorism Act. If the press learns of the detention from some non-official source, an application must first be made to the police for permission to print the name. This new law makes it possible for people simply to disappear. Public knowledge of arrests also acts as some deterrent against abuse of the wide powers entrusted to the police by the security laws. Now there is no protection for Terrorism Act detainees and deaths in detention such as Steve Biko's can occur unreported (see FOCUS 29 p.3; 31 p.10).

The difficulties in obtaining information about detainees are illustrated by the differences between official figures for the numbers of people detained on the one hand, and the numbers of people known to be detained by unofficial organisations like the SAIRR which keep a record of publicly known detentions.

Even before 1980 there were big differences between the numbers of people actually detained and the numbers whose names were publicly known. The SAIRR's records at the time indicated that between 1 January 1978 and 30 November 1978, 261 people were detained and between 1 January 1979 and 30 November 1979, 274 people were detained. Figures released by the Minister of Justice for the same period were 501 (up to 31 December and 333 respectively (SAIRR Surveys 1978, p. 107; 1979, p.143).

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SOUTH AFRICA: APPEAL AGAINST DEATH SENTENCES

An appeal is being made against the death sentences passed on three young men for their part in an attack on a police station last year (*Voice* 10.12.80).

At the same time international pressure to save the lives of the three is developing with calls for the death sentence to be commuted and calls for the three, ANC members, to be treated as prisoners of war. The ANC itself declared its adherence to the Geneva conventions and their Protocol 1 of 1977 on the humanitarian conduct of war in November.

Ncimbithi LUBISI (28), Petrus MASHIGO (20) and Naphthali MANANA (24), were convicted of high treason along with six others, on 20 November 1980 in the Pretoria Supreme Court. The trial lasted four months (*see FOCUS* 32 p. 8).

The judge and two assessors found them guilty of high treason because they were active members of the African National Congress, had received military training overseas and returned to South Africa to commit acts of war and sabotage (*RDM* 21.11.80).

The court found that the State had failed to prove any connection of the men with the events of the Silverton bank siege.

The other six were given gaol sentences ranging from 10 to 20 years: Moses MOLEBATSİ (27) and Hloliile TAU (24) each got 20 years; Phumeleni SHEZI (24) and Jeremiah RADEBE (26) received 15 years, while Boyce BOGALE (26) and Thomas MNGADI (29) were each sentenced to 10 years

in gaol. They were refused leave to appeal.

The three sentenced to death were also found guilty of attempted murder and robbery, but the death sentence was passed for high treason. It is only the second time in South African legal history that the death sentence has been imposed for high treason. The first time was in the case of James MANGE, whose death sentence was subsequently commuted to 20 years' imprisonment (*see FOCUS* 31 p. 12).

The police station which the three attacked was in the small town of Soekmekaar in the Northern Transvaal. When giving evidence Petrus Mashigo explained to the court that the police station was chosen as an ANC target because of the forced removals of people from the area, and police from the police station had assisted the authorities in the removals (*CT* 20.11.80). The attack was an "armed propaganda" attack, intended to show the people of Soekmekaar that the ANC sympathised with them (*RDM* 18.10.80).

Petrus Mashigo also explained how in their training they had been taught that it was ANC policy that the war effort was to be directed at military, economic and political targets, and not at civilian targets. They had been instructed not to use methods that involved the killing of civilians (*RDM* 22.11.80).

In explaining why the death sentence was being imposed on the three, the judge said that the attack on the police station was to be viewed in a serious light, particularly so because the police were charged with the task of maintaining law and order in the country. He said that even though the international community approved of activities like those carried out by the accused, law and order had to be maintained in South Africa (*Voice* 26.11.80).

The judge said there was no evidence that the police stationed in Soekmekaar had done

anything but their duty (*RDM* 27.11.80).

It was said in evidence during the trial that police from the station assisted the authorities in forced removals of people from the locality and that the force of the station had been increased to deal with resistance (*see FOCUS* 31 p. 2.). Press reports in October 1979 at the time of some of the removals, give accounts of how police with vans and dogs were called in as people resisted, and of a number of families being forced into trucks and taken away (*RDM/Post* 3.10.80; *Voice* 29.10.80).

Following the death sentences Oliver Tambo, the President of the ANC, appealed in the Hague for world pressure to commute the death sentences (*GN* 27.11.80).

International reactions to the sentences included an appeal from the Secretary General of the United Nations in which he said he hoped that the South African Government would "refrain from the executions of persons for acts arising from their opposition to apartheid" (*RDM* 11.12.80).

The British Labour Party sent a telegram to the South African Prime Minister saying it was "deeply shocked at the news of the death sentences" and urged the Government "to refrain from carrying out the executions".

The International Committee Against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in South Africa (ICSA) called for an emergency campaign for the three to be accorded prisoner-of-war status according to the Geneva Conventions.

On 28 November 1980, just after the news of the death sentences, the ANC had itself declared its adherence to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Protocol 1 of 1977 on the humanitarian conduct of war. The declaration was formally received by the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. It involves an undertaking to treat members of the regular armed forces of the South African regime captured by Umkhonto we Sizwe, armed wing of the ANC, as prisoners of war, and distinguishes between civilians and the armed forces (*Voice* 10.12.80).

Continued from p. 1

Regime of South Africa. The Commission of Inquiry is being held to take evidence of South African aggression against frontline states.

Addressing the opening session, Henrique Santos, secretary for juridical affairs of the MPLA Workers' Party Central Committee, said that in a period of only three years Angola's sovereignty and integrity had been violated about 1,400 times by South African

aircraft carrying out reconnaissance flights. During the same period South African troops had carried out 290 bombing attacks, 50 helicopter-borne troop landings and 40 ground attacks. South African attacks on Angola since 1975 had caused damage estimated at 7,000 million dollars. He reaffirmed his country's support for the South African and Namibian peoples (*BBC* 2.2.81).

The proceedings of the Inquiry include visits by the Commission to areas of Angola which have been under attack by South African forces. A team of observers were taken on a visit to the Cuamato area where they walked through a village that was napalmed on 15 January — the day of the collapse of the Geneva talks on the future of Namibia (*MS* 3.2.81).

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