

I, the undersigned,

RUBIN WILLIAM HARE,

state that:

1. I am a Coloured male of 20 years of age presently an awaiting prisoner at the Pretoria Prison, Pretoria in terms of Act 83 of 1967.
2. I was arrested in Cape Town on the 7th November, 1974, at 4:00 a.m. and taken to the Caledon Square Police Station in Cape Town.
3. Whilst waiting in a room there under the supervision of a certain Mr. Small, a white Security Policemen, A. van Wyk, barged into the room and assailed me with a torrent of foul and abusive language.
4. The same officer than proceeded to threaten me with physical assault for having allegedly being rude to his brother, a Warrant Officer "Spyker" van Wyk also a Security Policeman, performing the actions in front of me.
5. This threatening with physical assault and abusive language continued by various Security Policemen up to about 10 a.m. on the 7th November, 1974.
6. I together with Mr. J. Issel, Mr. Steven Carolus and Mr. Harold Dickson was then transferred to Pretoria Prison, Pretoria.
7. On the 8th November, 1974, I was taken to the Compol Building by Mr. A. van Wyk and a Van Heerden.
8. I was taken to an interrogation room, where amongst others were present Warrant Officer Taylor, Lt. P. Kruger, R. Welman, A. Heystek, Mr. Visser and M. Nel.
9. Taylor and Kruger then asked me whether I knew the building I was in and when I replied in the Negative they told me "This is the building where you walk in and get carried out on a stretcher - dead."
10. I was then searched and I requested a copy of the Terrorism Act from Major Stadler so as to determine any rights I had. After perusing Section 6(1) of Act 83, 1967, I was taken to another smaller interrogation room by Warrant Officer Taylor, Capt. Welman and some other policemen.
11. Taylor was interrogating me and when I could not answer him to his satisfaction he ordered me to assume a sitting position against the wall on an imaginary chair with my arms folded, alternatively spread out against the wall and my knees together.
12. Taylor and Welman then started punching me all over my body whilst I was in this position and kicking my feet from under me, causing me to fall heavily on the floor.

13. Taylor then started punching and slapping me in the face whilst I was still in this position. My head was clean shaven and Visser also joined the assault by repeatedly hitting me on the head. This continued for approximately an hour.

14. I was then given a cloth to wipe myself and allowed to go to the toilet. A. van Wyk told me that I should not be stubborn as I would be systematically beaten up. I told him that it was impossible answering questions whilst being assaulted. He told me never to say I was beaten up and if I did, I would face the consequences.

15. At this stage the Magistrate arrived, but I did not report the assault as I feared further assaults when he was gone.

16. On the 11th November, 1974, when again at Compol, Heystek, Kruger, Taylor, Welman, Nel and others told me that I had better see to it that I made a "good" statement as "Spyker" van Wyk was expected any day from Cape Town and that he was resolved to do a "good job" on me.

17. I started writing my statement, but Kruger rejected the contents and told me that they were only interested in proving that SASO was bent on violence against whites and that I should confine myself to this. I denied this but Kruger and Welman told me that the "chair" was always there to jog my memory. Welman instructed me to start writing my whole history since I finished school.

18. From the 11th November, 1974, to the 20th November, 1974 I was busy with my statement, the two interrogators being Nel and Kruger would most of the time read over my shoulder threatening slaughter and bloodshed where I refused to say SASO was bent on violence.

19. During this period "Spyker" van Wyk arrived. "Spyker" told me that I was going to pay, with interest for having had an altercation with him in Cape Town. He related to other Security Policemen there that he was on the verge of pumping 14 bullets into me. He further stated to me that "as jou ma haar pis vir 8 weke langer ingehou het en jou versuip het in haar pis, sou jy ń beter man gewees het". He made similar foul and vulgar threats to me there.

20. Heystek came in and asked me if I knew how "Spyker" got his name and when I replied in the negative he told me that "Spyker" had driven a 6 inch nail into a Jew's penis and suggested to do the same with me. "Spyker" then said "Ja, ek gaan hom piel op daardie trappies vasslaan met ń ses duim spyker," pointing to a staircase leading to a catwalk in the room. Heystek suggested that he drive the nail through my penis while I stood on my toes so that when I tired the nail would tear me further.

21. This type of mental assaults, invectives and threats continued throughout the writing of my statement by various members of the Security Police forcing me to make untrue admissions.

22. In early December, Mr. Danile Landingwe (also a detainee still held by the Security Police), communicated to me that he was severely beaten up by Visser and other policemen. The beating was so severe that he had to be carried back to Pretoria Prison on a



stretcher and subsequently was taken to hospital. All this was because he refused to make a statement which would implicate the other people and especially SASO and BPC.

23. Another detainee Mr. Mzimkhulu Gwentse who has been detained since October, 1974 also informed me that he was severely assaulted on the 21st October, 1974.

24. Mr. Harold Dickson, Steven Carolus, Mr. Tom Manthata also informed me that they were forced to sit on imaginary chairs and assaulted.

25. I therefore fear that these detainees are subjected to these assaults by the Security Police with the hope that they will eventually break down mentally and physically and make statements which could falsely implicate others.

26. On the 4th of February, 1975 Mr. J. Issel, a detainee, informed Mr. M. Meyeza (also charged with me), that Mr. "Spyker" van Wyk had threatened Mr. Steven Carolus with physical assault if Mr. Carolus did not become a witness for the State in their case against myself and others for alleged contraventions of Act 83 of 1967.

27. Since 8th November, 1974, up to the 31st January, 1975 I was in solitary confinement which adversely affected my mental and physical health and I fear that the detainees still being held are subjected to the same stresses and strains.

28. Furthermore that I did not report my assaults to the Magistrate for fear of reprisals by the Security Police and that this is the case with the detainees.

29. Also ever since the repeated blows on my head by Mr. Visser I have been suffering from a blocked nose and severe headaches and am concerned about the physical health of other detainees.

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R.W. HARE.

I hereby certify that the Deponent has acknowledged that he knows and understands the contents of this Affidavit. Sworn to/affirmed at Pretoria on this the 13th day of February, 1975.

BEFORE ME:

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COMMISSIONER OF OATHS.