

PUBLIC SECTOR GOVT. - POLICE

1989

Oct. ~~Jan~~ - NOV.

# Colonel queries officers' presence

(251) Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Police district commandant Colonel W Visser has questioned the presence of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman and his commanding officer, Colonel John Manuel, at the so-called Rockman trial, Colonel Manuel has confirmed.

Colonel Manuel said Colonel Visser asked him yesterday morning why he had attended the court hearing on Wednesday.

He also asked why Lieutenant Rockman was at the court after he had finished giving evidence.

"It was not a reprimand. We (Lieutenant Rockman and I) do not know whether the matter will be taken any further.

"I am the officer commanding the police station in Mitchell's Plain, where the events affecting the trial took place, and I therefore feel my presence was justified."

"Lieutenant Rockman obviously has a personal interest in the trial," the colonel said

He did not know whether the many riot policemen who had sat in on the trial, occupying much of the seating, had also come under scrutiny.

"That is something I would like to know myself," Colonel Manuel said.

STAR 6/10/89

# Police warn about wave of vehicle hijackings

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Robbers made off with at least seven cars and vehicles, worth about R180 000, in a wave of attacks on a single day in Johannesburg and Sandton this week, police said

All the attacks took place in broad daylight and in crowded or busy areas. No one was injured.

Police have issued a warning to motorists and to businesses to take precautions.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said businesses should train their drivers to be on the lookout for car robbers and to drive with doors locked and windows rolled up.

If approached by suspects, motorists should either drive away where possible or not wind down windows all the way down to speak to them.

Captain Opperman said the following incidents were reported on Wednesday.

● Driver Mr Solomon Maluza (50) was robbed of his Toyota, registration JKG 541 T, when he stopped at traffic lights in Commando Road, Industria. A gun-

man jumped in and sped off with the vehicle

● Mr Sam Moreva (57) of Klerksdorp was robbed of his Mercedes Benz, registration HTJ 727 T, by a gunman after he stopped in Wolhuter Street

● Mr Moses Motshadi of Rustenburg was robbed by three knifemen of a Mercedes truck in President Street.

● A gunman made off with an Isuzu truck, registration MXJ 618 T, after holding up Mr Thapelo Tsiki of Soweto.

● Mr Alfred Mukotho was delivering goods in Bree Street when he was robbed of his Toyota Hi-Ace, registration MSG 607 T, by eight knifemen

● Two knifemen made off with a Nissan light truck, registration AGT 227 T, in Second Avenue, Wynberg, after holding up driver Mr Elias Malope (44)

● Ms Pamela Phoff (32) was robbed of her BMW when she parked in a Fox Street parking garage. Five gunmen held her up as she climbed into her car and, after being robbed of her R400 watch, she was forced out of the vehicle. The vehicle was recovered at about 5 pm in Booyens

No evidence they were directly involved in 'utterly despicable' assaults

# Riot policemen found not guilty

251  
5/04  
13/10/88

CAPE TOWN — Riot squad officers Major Charles Brazelle and Lieutenant David Roos were found not guilty yesterday on a charge of assault arising from riot police action in breaking up a demonstration at Mitchell's Plan last month

Regional court magistrate Mr A S McCarthy said he was astonished that other riot squad members could not be identified by police and were not before the court

Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, whose claims of police brutality led to the prosecution of the two officers, said he could not believe the verdict

## In command of platoon

Mr McCarthy said in his judgment it was common cause that Lieutenant Roos was in command of a platoon of the riot squad which broke up a demonstration at the Mitchell's Plan town centre on September 5 and that Major Brazelle was also on the scene. There was no evidence, however, that they were directly involved in assaults on members of the public

Despite the fact that members of the public were assaulted by members of Lieutenant Roos's platoon, neither he nor the major could be held responsible for those assaults

The court could not find that they were accomplices as it could not be established from the evidence that either of the accused witnessed any particular assault

The emergency regulations gave members of the security forces immunity from criminal prosecution for actions performed in the course of their duty, unless it could be proved they had not acted in good faith

The order to use violence against the demonstrators had not been illegal, he said. On the contrary, it was authorised by regulation 2 of the emergency regulations

Witnesses in the trial had told of being assaulted by police in Mitchell's Plan. The court regarded these assaults as not only illegal, but utterly despicable, particularly the cases in which women were hit on their breasts with quirts.

These witnesses had been unlawfully assaulted by members of Lieutenant Roos's platoon.

The court is astonished that these members cannot be identified by the police or if they can be identified, that they are not in court.

Mr McCarthy said that in ordering the police to disperse the demonstrators, Lieutenant Roos had

judged that the maintenance of public order or public safety was either threatened or would be under threat. His judgment might have been faulty

The court found that the five witnesses who had been beaten were honest and testified to events to the best of their ability

The evidence of Lieutenant Rockman had, however, been sharply criticised and he had been called a liar. For this reason it was necessary to go into his evidence closely

He had impressed the court as an intelligent person with a reasonably good power of observation

Given the background that he made press statements which put the police in an unfavourable light, it was to be expected he would be prejudiced and for this reason his evidence had to be approached with caution

The court was aware of contradictions in Lieutenant Rockman's evidence, as well as between his evidence and that of other witnesses

The fact that there were contradictions between his evidence and that of others did not necessarily mean he was incorrect

But the court found that the contradictions in his evidence did not militate against a finding that he had been on the scene and that he was basically an honest witness

British television viewers last night heard Lieutenant Rockman describe the outcome of the case as "ridiculous"

"The state of emergency has protected them and that is why they were found not guilty. The magistrate made it quite clear," said Lieutenant Rockman on ITV's evening news broadcast.

"So that means they can just go around and beat up people," he said, standing outside the court after the case.

The judgment in the case was a major news item on both independent television and BBC news broadcasts

The case is also covered in most major newspapers today

Pictures of quilt-bearing police lashing a group of fleeing people were broadcast on both BBC and ITV

The ITV's coverage outside the court included a moustached warrant officer tapping his police badge and saying "I'm proud of it"

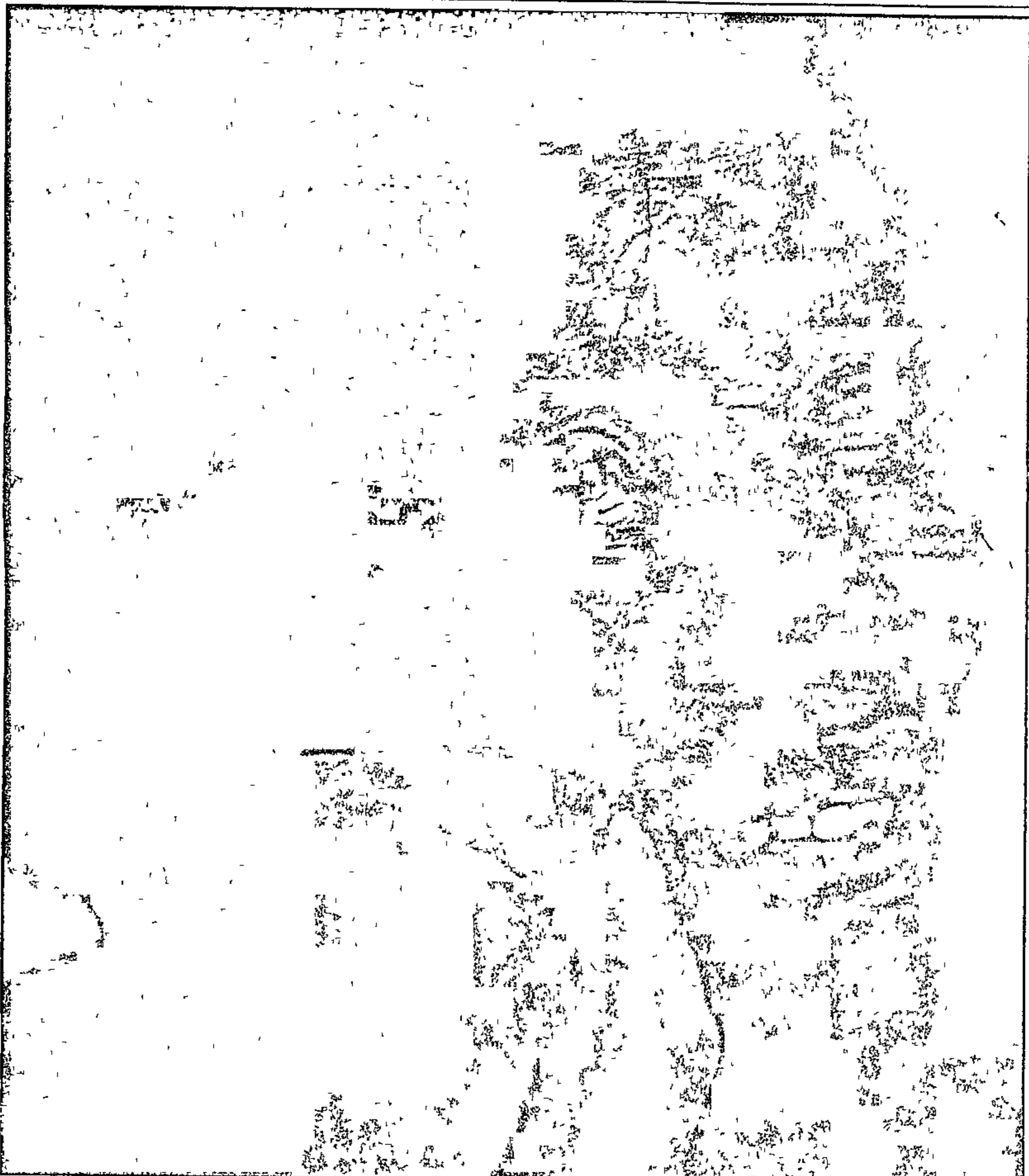
The BBC broadcast also featured Anglican deaconess Ms Wilma Jacobsen describing how she had been whipped across the chest — Sapa-The Star Bureau



Shocked by verdict Lieutenant Gregory Rockman outside the court yesterday. He said he would not resign from the force following the acquittal of two riot squad officers, and his next step would be an attempt to meet the State President.

# Tense SA waits for release of 8

Star 14/10/89



WAITING Mrs June Mlangeni is preparing for her husband's imminent homecoming Mr Andrew Mlangeni was jailed for life in 1964 with co-accused Mr Nelson Mandela

● See story on PAGE 2.

● Photograph. Ken Oosterbroek

## Police fire teargas at Sisulu home

PATRICK LAURENCE  
THERESE ANDERS  
and JANET HEARD

There was drama and tension yesterday as the country waited for the release of eight prominent political prisoners, including the ANC's Mr Walter Sisulu

In a tense scene outside Mr Sisulu's Soweto home, police fired teargas into a joyous crowd of dancing, singing people. A young girl was slightly injured by a teargas canister.

Today 17 marches, involving about 250 000 people are scheduled as a combined show of force rejecting the Labour Relations Act and celebrating the pending release of the prisoners.

The eight are Mr Walter Sisulu, Mr Jasta Masemula, Mr Oscar Mpetha, Mr Elias Mokoaledi, Mr Raymond Mhlaba, Mr Andrew Mlangeni, Mr Wilton Mkwayi and Mr Ahmed Kathrada.

The Soweto incident took place after an exuberant crowd of about 100 people followed Mrs Albertina Sisulu into the Holy Cross Church across the road from her Orlando West home.

### Journalists

The crowd danced up the street past the Sisulu house. Foreign and local journalists were also present.

A police van and a police truck approached and a shot rang out. Seconds later there was a cloud of smoke, and the singers scattered. Policemen jumped out of the van, seizing the camera of an overseas television crew.

Young people who gathered outside the gate of the Sisulu home were later told by special constables to stop singing.

## Aquanaut could cap career with hat-trick

MORE than 35 000 people are expected at Turffontein today when champion stayer Aquanaut goes for a historic treble in the R600 000 OK Gold Bowl over 3 200 m. Aquanaut won the race in 1987 and again last year and the feeling among pundits is that he will score an unprecedented third win in South Africa's richest race. Victory will boost Aquanaut's earnings to R1.2 million and elevate him to the status of South Africa's leading stake-earner. He cost only R30 000 as a yearling and has already

**ROBERT GARNER, Racing Editor**  
earned R908 757. The six-year-old has dominated betting for weeks and a flood of bets for the horse forced bookmakers to cut his odds to 3-1. The runners given the best chance of thwarting Aquanaut's bid for glory are US-bred Vighotto, easy winner of the OK Trial, Castle Walk, Tropicante, and Rootin' Tootin' — the only filly in the large field. Preparations for the Highveld's biggest

race meeting of the year have turned Turffontein into a hive of activity. Tote turnover on the meeting is expected to be more than R11 million and Turffontein chief executive Mr John Alexander has appealed to punters to place bets early. There's plenty of entertainment planned for racegoers. There are two supporting feature races, fashion competitions, and displays by the SADF equestrian team and the OK skydivers.

● See STAR RACING.

ia still wants the wealth of Natal's dunes

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Young people who gathered outside the gate of the Sisulu home were later told by special constables to stop singing.

When the singing continued, a police officer ordered the crowds and journalists to disperse.

The crowd dispersed about half an hour later after being instructed to do so by a riot police sergeant, who warned that he was acting under emergency regulations.

Permission was sought for most of today's protest marches, and police indicated they would keep a low profile.

A Ministry of Law and Order spokesman said marches for which permission had not been

● TO PAGE 2.

P.T.O.

# Release (251)

● FROM PAGE 1.

asked or granted would be stopped

A Cosatu spokesman said last night the labour movement's planned march through the industrial town of Secunda would take place despite the refusal of the town's Conservative Party-controlled council to grant permission.

"There is no way we can inform people of the council's decision at this late stage," he said

Secunda's mayor, Dominee Casper Breedt, said the council had turned down the application "because we didn't have time to consider it properly"

Cosatu said between 10 000 and 15 000 Secunda workers were expected to march.

He said the mood in the area was already tense because of the ongoing strike by 8 000 miners at Sasol's collieries

In Witbank, today's march got the go-ahead at 3 pm from both the town's chief magistrate and the council

A National Union of Mine-workers spokesman said about 15 000 protesters were expected to walk through the town to the police station.

Reacting to the demonstrations, the Minister of Manpower, Mr Eli Louw, told a press conference yesterday that it was "not necessary for trade unions to make use of such marches to make statements to the Government"

"Now is the time for reasoned consultation, rather than emotional demonstration I therefore repeat my invitation to invite Cosatu and Nactu to join me and other unions in our efforts to ensure peaceful labour relations," he said

After the teargassing in Soweto, Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed African National Congress leader Mr Nelson

Mandela, arrived at the Sisulu home

She told journalists that she did not expect her husband to be released until the Government had given in to at least some of the "major demands made by our people" She did not think her husband would be released "into the state of emergency"

Yesterday Saturday Star interviewed Mrs Sisulu in her home shortly after she had been formally informed that her restrictions orders had been lifted.

The Sisulu family have lived in the house since 1940, and Mrs Sisulu said members of her family had helped make the house spotless for her husband's homecoming.

Mr Sisulu last saw it in 1964, the year in which he was sentenced to life imprisonment for sabotage.

Police last night confirmed using teargas to disperse a crowd gathered near the home of Mrs Albertina Sisulu.

A spokesman also confirmed that a child was injured when struck by a teargas canister and that a tape belonging to a foreign TV crew was confiscated.

Police took the measures after ordering the crowd to disperse, the spokesman said

● Five emergency detainees at Kroonstad Prison embarked on a hunger strike this week to demand their unconditional release, the Human Rights Commission (HRC) said in its latest report

This was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman for attorney Priscilla Jana, who represent one of the men

Soweto residents Mr Mandla Dlamini and Mr Amos Masondo were detained at the end of August This is the second time this year they have embarked on a hunger strike while in detention

According to the HRC, the other three are Mr Elijah Ntentile from Grahamstown and Mr Lebohang Mahata and Samuel Rabutapi, both from the Vaal

## Police dog fight probe hots up

PAT DEVEREAUX

POLICE yesterday headed for the Meyerton area to investigate a tip-off that a dog fight was due to take place at midday.

This was part of their top-level investigation into the barbaric blood-sport in which trained dogs are encouraged to tear each other to pieces for high gambling stakes.

The sport is believed to be rife in the Witwatersrand area.

"This tip-off is the closest we've got to breaking into the dog-fighting ring," said Captain Tiny Nortje who is heading the investigation.

"We are also investigating reports of cock-fighting in the Walkerville/Eikenhof area, as the two may be linked."

The Saturday Star recently received a letter and a gruesome photograph of a mutilated bull terrier from animal rights investigator Stan Cronje.

Mr Cronje said the dead dog was discovered at the Daleside turn-off in the Walkerville area.

"We find many dogs like this. At first they look as if they have been hit by a vehicle. But there are no tyre marks in the vicinity, and closer examination reveals the animals have been badly savaged by other dogs."

### Publicity

Captain Nortje added. "The recent publicity about this sport and police investigation has led to hundreds of calls and some interesting tip-offs.

"Before this, we only had reports of dogs that had gone missing"

He said he had received names of people involved and venues where the secret sport took place. "But it's going to be difficult to catch them in the act."

He had also received the name of a veterinary surgeon suspected of being involved in patching up dogs after fights.

Journalists have met Captain Nortje and agreed to co-operate with the police in their investigations.

Radio 702 has also received hundreds of calls, according to a journalist at the station.

"Although many of the calls are from those who are simply upset about dog fighting, we have had interesting tip-offs about where it is happening," the journalist said.

Anyone with information is asked to telephone Captain Nortje at (011) 834-4005.



October 16 1989

# Blanket-clad gang invade township 5 brutally killed in OFS massacre

16/10/89

slow

(23)

By Craig Kotze,  
Crime Reporter

Five men were massacred by a mob of armed men who invaded a township street in Thabong near Welkom early yesterday

The mob were put to flight after a shootout with two policemen.

One of the alleged killers was shot dead and another two seriously wounded in the Mothusi Road battle. The two wounded suspects were arrested and are under police guard in hospital.

The action of the two black SAP members, who stood their ground against about 100 men armed with guns, knobkerries and pangas, prevented the massacre from being even more extensive, said a police spokesman.

The names of the victims, who all lived in Mothusi Street, were not known yesterday. Police have not released the name of the dead suspect.

A northern Free State police spokesman said about 100 blanket-clad men streamed into the street at about 3 am and began attacking people.

One terrified resident telephoned the police.

Two policemen, armed only with handguns, confronted the mob and halted its progress. The mob opened fire on the two, but they returned the fire.

Thirteen shots were fired by the policemen and eventually the mob broke up and fled.

Police said the motive behind the street attack was not yet known. A possibility was that a gang called the Ma-Russians was responsible.

Police were investigating.

● Several killings and other attacks have, in recent years, been attributed to a Soweto gang called the Ma-Russians, who are Basotho and wear blankets.

## Police focus on theft — not on shooting

The police will not be opening a docket against the Ogies farmer who shot his gardener on Wednesday night after waiting in ambush for a thief to return for a sheep carcass — instead they are investigating a case of stock theft against the gardener.

A police spokesman said that under section 49 of the Criminal Procedures Act, a citizen had the right to attempt to forcefully stop anyone fleeing who was suspected of committing a "schedule one" crime, which included theft.

Every incident was probed and should it be found that the shooting did not apply to this particular section of the Act, necessary steps would be taken.

Last week police said Mr. Ivan Enslin and his son, of the farm Klipfontein near Ogies, had during the day found the carcass of one of their sheep hidden in a stormwater pipe on the farm. That night the father and son lay waiting for the thief.

When a man collected the meat at about 8 pm, Mr. Enslin fired a warning shot with his shotgun and then, when the man refused to stop, fired at him again, hitting him in the back and buttocks.

The gardener was taken to hospital but it is believed he has been discharged. — Highveld Bureau

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Death Row statement stops execution

# Police squad killed lawyer - affidavit

(251) Star 20/10/89

By Patrick Laurence

A security police assassination squad killed Mr Griffith Mxenge, a civil rights lawyer who was brutally murdered in 1981, a policeman and member of the alleged assassination team, said in an affidavit yesterday.

The policeman, Butana Almond Nofemela, is on Death Row and was due to be hanged today. His affidavit was submitted to the Attorney-General of the Transvaal, who passed it on to Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee. This led to an 11th-hour stay of execution to enable the authorities to investigate his allegations.

Nofemela's affidavit names the policemen who commanded the squad as well as the men who allegedly helped him carry out the killing of Mr Mxenge and several suspected members of the African National Congress.

He said in his affidavit "In 1981 I was appointed a member of the security branch's assassi-

nation squad and I served under Captain . who was my commanding officer."

He alleged "Some time during late 1981 I was briefed by Brigadier . and Captain. at Pretoria to eliminate a certain Durban attorney, Griffith Mxenge. I was told by these superiors that Mxenge was to be eliminated for his activities within the African National Congress."

The affidavit goes on to describe how the murder squad travelled to Durban, where Mr Mxenge lived, and how he, Nofemela, was instructed to kill Mr Mxenge with a knife after poisoning the Mxenges' dogs.

The squad then parked a car in the middle of the road leading to Mr Mxenge's home under the pretence that it had broken down. Mr Mxenge stopped to offer to help. He was taken at gunpoint to Umlazi Stadium.

"We then started assaulting him with kicks and punches until he fell to the ground. We then all stabbed him several times. He immediately died

and we carried on butchering his body."

Mr Mxenge's car, Nofemela recorded, was taken to the Swaziland border where it was driven into a plantation and set alight. But, according to the affidavit, a radio, a tape and a booster were removed and later installed in the brigadier's car.

"I was involved in approximately eight other assassinations," Nofemela said.

After the Mxenge killing, Nofemela was allegedly told by his superiors that might have to murder Mr Mxenge's wife, Mrs Victoria Mxenge. He heard no more about it, however.

Mrs Mxenge, who helped defend the 1985 UDF treason trialists, was murdered outside her home in July 1985.

Nofemela's affidavit ends by explaining his disclosures were prompted by the failure of the police to keep a promise to rescue him from Death Row in return for his silence.

# Police out to get me, says Rockman

DALE KNEEN

251

CAPE TOWN — The South African Police were investigating Lieutenant Gregory Rockman's past in an effort to "get rid" of him, the maverick policeman claims

Lieutenant Rockman was speaking at a ceremony were the author of the book about him, Mr Eugene Abrahams, handed the manuscript of "The Rockman File" to the publisher, Mr Hans Strydom, in Bantry Bay this week

"The police are trying to find all the bits and pieces to try to establish if I have ever put a foot wrong," Lieutenant Rockman said.

Police had already questioned his colleagues at Mitchell's Plain police station and taken a statement from the policeman who opened the docket on alleged assaults which ended in the so-called "Rockman trial"

"They (the police) should rather be investigating the allegations of riot police brutality instead of investigating me," he said.

## Spoke truth

Lieutenant Rockman conceded that he had broken police regulations barring him from speaking to the press, but he said he felt the truth needed to be heard.

"I spoke the truth Surely it is more important to tell the truth than to not to break a regulation?"

"I am not a computer that gets programmed (by police authorities). They want a puppet which can be dangled on a string, but I've got a sober sense and I do what I believe is right," he said.

Lieutenant Rockman said his career prospects in the police force were not good following his allegations and now the publishing of the book about him.

"I don't worry about promotion," he said, "I only worry about people not knowing the truth"

The book would enable the public to "see what apartheid" had done and what it "put policemen through".

"There are a lot (of policemen) like me who feel the same way but are bound by regulations."

Star 21/10/89

Star 21/10/89

# Police quiet <sup>ACTUS</sup> <sup>31/10/89</sup> over claims of <sup>251</sup> Rockman 'gag'

Staff Reporter and Sapa

POLICE spokesmen today declined to react to suggestions that steps were being taken against controversial Mitchell's Plain policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman.

Lieutenant Rockman has been served with an order by the regional commissioner of the Western Cape, Major-General P C Fourie, to prevent him publishing or giving information about the force without first submitting it for clearance.

A spokesman for the liaison section of the police said today that departmental inquiries were of a domestic nature and were undertaken in the interests of good order. It was not the policy of the department to comment on them.

## "RESTRICTION"

Lieutenant Rockman said he did not understand the order or the reason for it and had refused to sign acknowledgement of receipt of the order.

The order, which required him to give an undertaking in his own handwriting that he would comply with it, further instructed him to recover any written information or documents which might be in the hands of others and prevent any intended publication of such information.

"This is nothing less than a restriction order on me. There is no case of these steps being taken against anyone else.

"They have also sent a 'minute' (notice) to the station to say that I have been nominated

by the regional commissioner to do special duties — in other words border duties, although we don't call it that any more, and that I should report in Pretoria on November 16.

"This has never happened in the history of the SAP to a non-white officer because it has always been reserved for whites. Non-commissioned officers and other ranks have been called up for this duty, but never non-white officers. I would love to know why the law has changed and why we have not been told about it before now. Why me specifically?"

"I wanted to see the Minister (of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok) and the Commissioner, to tell them of my complaints and problems, but they refused to see me. I wrote to the State President. He has acknowledged that he received the letter, but nothing else. If they won't listen then I must go to people who will listen to me."

Some police sources said today that policemen no longer did "border" duty, which was usually a reference to duty on the northern border of Namibia. They still did ordinary crime-prevention duties on the South African borders. It was not unusual for policemen to go on various courses and all officers were required to do so.

The police sources also maintained that Lieutenant Rockman had, at a recent conference the Minister had with officers in Cape Town, asked why someone like himself could not go on border duty.

# Asvat murder accused deny involvement

By Brendan Templeton

The two men accused in the Rand Supreme Court of the murder of Dr Abu Asvat yesterday denied evidence led against them by previous witnesses and stuck to their claims that they were beaten up by police and forced to make confessions.

Mr Zakhele Nhlelisa Cyril Mbatha (21) and Mr Thulani Shelela Johannes Nicholas Dlamini (20) pleaded not guilty to murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances and unlawful possession of a firearm and ammunition.

They allegedly gained access to Dr Asvat's consulting rooms after Mr Mbatha pretended to be ill. Once in, Dr Asvat was shot and they allegedly took R135 before fleeing.

Mr Mbatha said he gave an old address to Mrs Albertina Sisulu, Dr Asvat's nurse, because there were people living there who knew him.

Mr Mbatha said he left the rooms to go to a cafe after signing in. The doctor had been shot when he returned, he said.

Mr Dlamini said he was visiting relatives on the day of the shooting.

The hearing continues.

# Accused deny Asvat killing

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## SOWETAN Reporter

murder, robbery with aggravating circumstances (two charges), and unlawful possession of a firearm (two counts) and ammunition (two counts)

They allegedly gained access to Dr Asvat's consulting room after Mr Mbatha pretended to be ill. Once in, Asvat was shot and they allegedly

took R135 before fleeing.

Mbatha said he gave an old address to Mrs Albertina Sisulu, Asvat's nurse, because there were people living there who knew him

Dlamini denied he was ever known as "Johannes" - a name allegedly used to describe him in a statement made by Mbatha where he admitted killing Dr Asvat

They had not seen

each other for two years prior to their arrest, the men said

Mbatha said he left Asvat's rooms after signing in because he wanted to get some cigarettes and food from a nearby cafe. The doctor had already been shot when he returned later, he said

Dlamini said he was visiting relatives on the day of the shooting. The hearing continues

# Union group teargassed

POLICE used teargas to disperse a group of about 1 000 Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers Union members who gathered outside the Rand Supreme Court yesterday where the murder trial of six co-members was due to start.

Police arrested two people in the incident, one of whom escaped

The trial of the six men is a sequel to a strike among employees of the Afcol furnishing group in June last year

They are charged with the murder of five non-striking Afcol employees and the attempted murder of another six

It is alleged that Elias Phasha, 40, David Molebala, 25, Bongani Mazibuko, 34, Michael Thabiso Machepha, 25, Jerry Randlekoa, 44 and Sydney Dlamini, 26, were involved in the formation of a "special task-force" to intimidate non-strikers and persuade them to take part in the strike.

The State alleges the murders and attempted murders took place on June 2 and

10 last year near the Croesus, Mzimhlophe and Booysens stations

According to the indictment the strike began in April last year after the dismissal of four employees from Star Furnishers, an Afcol company

Workers in the group subsequently went out on a sympathy strike

The trial of the six was yesterday postponed until November 9

## ANC flag

Sapa reports that according to a police spokesman two people were arrested in the incident outside the Supreme Court yesterday for waving an ANC flag

One of the pair escaped but the other was still in police custody.

The police spokesman said a case of demonstrating in the vicinity of a court building was being investigated

## Rockman's superiors act

CAPE TOWN — The police are to take disciplinary action against Lieutenant Gregory Rockman following his comments to the Press after he had received an official warning not to do so

Yesterday, a police spokesman would only say "It is a departmental issue and the matter will be dealt with in that manner"

But, it is reliably understood that a decision to charge Rockman has been made following his comments to the Press yesterday after the official warning

The spokesman also dismissed suggestions that the police were attempting to prevent the publication of the book on Rockman which is due to be released soon.

Hans Strydom, chairman of Senior Publications, said the book was already being printed and would be published at the end of November

□ Sapa reports Rockman yesterday said he had been served with an order to prevent him publishing or giving information about the force without first submitting it to his superiors for clearance. He also said he had been told to report to Pretoria for duty on November 16

## Policemen face murder charge

THREE SAP members attached to the Mohlakeng municipality on the West Rand were arrested on Monday, and will face a charge of murder in court today.

A Witwatersrand police spokesman said yesterday the policemen were arrested after the body of a man with a bullet wound in the back of his head was found last Saturday alongside the Zuurbekom road outside Soweto. He said the three had been suspended from duty and investigations were continuing — Sapa

## NATAL UNREST DEATHS

September 1987 to January 1989: .....	668
February 1989 — October 30 1989: .....	297
Past 24 hours' official toll: .....	.0
<b>TOTAL: .....</b>	<b>965</b>

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# 'Trojan Horse' trial closing

Supreme Court Reporter

THE "Trojan Horse" trial, the first private prosecution for murder in South African legal history, is drawing to an end with all parties closing their cases yesterday

The private prosecution resulted when the attorney-general declined to prosecute 13 security forces members who were allegedly involved with both the planning and execution of the operation. They had pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The trial is a sequel to the death of Shaun Magmoed, 16, in Thornton Road, Athlone, when police hidden on the back of a SATS truck opened fire on a group of people when the truck was stoned.

Yesterday Brigadier Wessel Kritzinger, Officer Commanding Eastern Province Command, testified he had been appointed chairman of a Joint Management Centre (JMC) established in the Western Cape in 1985.

## Not joint action

The "Trojan Horse" incident had not been a joint operation because SADF personnel were not involved.

Commandant S Pienaar, accused No 3, would not have been able to give orders during the incident, Brigadier Kritzinger said.

Lieutenant-Colonel Piet Retief Gouws, a ballistics and forensic expert, said he had visited No 102 Thornton Road and had measured shotgun pellet marks found inside and outside the house.

On a second visit he had taken precise measurements of the holes and concluded that No 1 and AAA shot — regarded by police as live ammunition — had been used that day.

The court adjourned to November 14 for argument.

# Cop tells of blast

PRETORIA police-

man John Hennop yesterday told the Delmas Circuit Court he was flung forward 10 metres after a landmine exploded 30 metres away from him inside the Atteridgeville town council offices in April last year.

**SOWETAN Reporter**

gone to the Atteridgeville town council offices to investigate a suspicious object.

"When I arrived at the scene, Mr Jacobus de Wet, director of Protective Services at the council, described the object to me and from experience I immediately knew it was a landmine.

"He took me to where the object was but as we approached the place it exploded," Hennop said. He said after the explosion he and De Wet

ran out of the building and immediately called the security police.

De Wet, who was called to the witness box after Hennop, said he had received a telephone call that afternoon from the council offices informing him about a suspicious plastic wrapped object placed inside a plastic rubbish bin.

"When I arrived on the scene I opened the plastic wrap and immediately realised it was a Russian made landmine," De Wet said.

"I gave instructions for the building to be evacuated and I immediately called the South African Police."

Earlier in the trial

council employee Mr Ronnie Zulu said he saw a black man placing the plastic wrapped object in the dustbin. He contacted the council police who ignored him. He then told a senior council employee who in turn telephoned De Wet.

The accused are Mr Godfrey Mokube (41) Mr

- Francis Pisi (24) Mr
- George Maithe (21) Mr
- Ernest Ramadite (24) Mr
- Johannes Maleka (25) Mr
- Peter Maluleka (34) Mr
- Bernard Mokgonyana
- (26) Mr Joseph Nkosi
- (39) Mr Reuben Khotso
- (23) Mr Reginal Legodi
- (22) Mr Alfred Kgasi (25)
- and Mr Rodney Toka (25)

*Sowetan*

*25/*

*11/11/89*

Rockman

‘soon to be disciplined’

By Peter Fabricius,  
Political Correspondent

Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, the controversial SAP officer who accused the riot police of brutality, is to face strong disciplinary action by the police.

Police sources said today that Lieutenant Rockman's "reign of insubordination is rapidly coming to an end. Police will not tolerate his undisciplined behaviour any more".

It is understood that he will face a disciplinary hearing for allegedly disobeying an order not to speak to the press. But further disciplinary action could follow.

It now seems that Lieutenant Rockman's future in the police force looks very uncertain.

The impending action against him comes amid growing signs of discontent in the police about the SAP's indulgence of Lieutenant Rockman's criticism and also what is perceived by some to be the Government's refusal to enforce laws against protesters and especially against those propagating the cause of the ANC and SA Communist Party.

Reuters reported today that police were angry at uncertainties created by the Government's new hands-off policy on public protest.

"If the politicians don't want us to enforce the law then they must change the law," one senior officer said without revealing his name.

Today Brigadier Leon Mellet, spokesman for Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok denied there were any "rumblings of revolt" within the SAP as reported on one radio station today.

He said there may be one or two people who were unhappy and some might express it.

But the loyalty of the SAP as a whole was beyond question.

Stow 11/1/82

(SA)

# 'No progress'

SIX months after the assassination of academic and political activist David Webster, the total reward for information leading to an arrest stands at R150 000.

Concerned human rights and legal bodies have reiterated their anger and sadness at the apparent lack of progress by police.

Suspicion concerning police involvement in the May 1 assassination outside Webster's home has grown with the evidence of Butane Nofomela, a former security policeman who is on Death Row for killing a farmer.

Nofomela has claimed he was responsible for one political killing and partially responsible for

eight others when serving in the security police.

Speaking at a joint Press conference at the University of the Witwatersrand yesterday, Judith Hardin of the Black Sash said Nofomela's claim required urgent and scrupulous investigation at the highest level.

She called for an independent judicial commission to be set up immediately to examine the witness' affidavit.

"Until the police produce evidence to the contrary, the suspicion will continue in the minds of South Africans that death squads with alleged police links are carrying out these assassinations. The onus is on the police to dispel these suspicions," said Hardin - Sapa.

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Sowetan 2/1/82

# Rockman to face top level probe

ST  
8/11/89  
Sowetan

**CONTROVERSIAL SAP officer Lieutenant Gregory Rockman who accused the riot police of brutality is to face strong disciplinary action by the police.**

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## SOWETAN Correspondent

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He said there may be one or two people who were unhappy and some might express it but the loyalty of the SAP as a whole was beyond question.

Police sources said that no discontent was being expressed by the officers corps though there could be discontent and some confusion in the NCOs and the ranks.

However, misgivings have begun to surface even in the officer corps as evidenced by an exchange of correspondence through the pages of the All-ians Sunday newspaper *Kappot*.

In the latest edition a Lieutenant MG Smit of Westonaria wrote a letter supporting the sentiments expressed in an earlier letter by a Brigadier WB Brink of Somerset West.

Smit writes that he agrees with Brink that "protests ought to be a thing of the past."

He said the protests provoked far-right reaction and confrontation and it was always the police who in the end got caught in the middle.

## De Wit denies police revolt

CMT TMS 2/11/89 Political Staff ~~251~~ 251

THE Commissioner of Police, General Hennie de Wit, yesterday emphatically denied that members of the police force were threatening to resign because marches and mass gatherings had been allowed.

General De Wit issued a statement following a number of media reports that dissatisfied members of the police force were threatening to quit.

A spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order, Brigadier Leon Mellet, told a Johannesburg newspaper yesterday that there might be one or two members of the police who were unhappy, but the loyalty of the police was unquestioned.

He also dismissed suggestions that there was a rumbling revolt in the police.

# Hearings against Rockman soon

Political Staff

251

DISCIPLINARY hearings against controversial Mitchells Plain police officer Lieutenant Gregory Rockman will probably be held next week

A police board of inquiry has been constituted to investigate possible disciplinary steps against Lt Rockman, following his disregarding an official warning not to speak to the media

Senior police officers believe that Lt Rockman's open flouting of rules and regulations cannot be tolerated any longer

It is not yet clear what disciplinary steps are being considered

Lt Rockman hit the headlines in September this year when he said members of the riot police acted like "wild dogs" when they broke up a protest group in Mitchells Plain.

Two police officers were subsequently cleared in Wynberg Magistrate's Court on criminal charges resulting from the allegations, although the magistrate did say the actions of other policemen were "utterly reprehensible"

# CP lays charges after Soweto rally

(251)  
SPOW  
2/11/89

Political Reporter

The Conservative Party yesterday laid formal charges against the organisers and speakers of the controversial "welcome home" rally for released ANC prisoners at Soccer City last Sunday.

The CP deputy leader, Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, acting on behalf of the CP, yesterday laid formal charges at the Pretoria central police station against the National Reception Committee (NRC), the organiser of the rally, Soccer City, and the speakers, Mr Walter Sisulu, Mr Ahmed Kathrada, Mr Raymond Mhlaba and Mr Andrew Mlangeni.

In an affidavit, Dr Hartzenberg alleged the organisers and speakers at the rally had contravened the In-

ternal Security Act by:

- Organising, advertising and conducting the meeting under the banner of the banned ANC and/or SACP.
- Reading out speeches by ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo and SACP secretary-general Mr Joe Slovo, both listed in SA.
- Propagating the ANC's aims.
- Displaying ANC and SACP flags and symbols.

Asked to comment on the charges, NRC member Mr Murphy Morobe said: "This sounds absolutely exciting," adding that the State President and the Ministers of Justice and of Law and Order had been fully informed about Sunday's proceedings.



# Man seen after Asvat killing



THE movements of an alleged killer were yesterday traced to the day when he was seen holding a gun at the window of a surgery moments after Dr Abu-Baker Asvat had been shot

Mr Thulani Dlamini, accused of the murder of Asvat on January 27 this year, denied that he was anywhere near the doctor's surgery in Rockville, Soweto on that day. He was being cross-examined by the prosecutor, Mr J A van der Merwe, at the Rand Supreme Court

But he agreed that he saw and spoke to state witness, Mrs Veronica Hlatshwayo in Rockville. He said he met her on his way to White City Jabavu from where he had moved to Dube. He did not remember the day, he said. Hlatshwayo told the court in her evidence that it was the day when Asvat was gunned down.

Hlatshwayo said she had seen Dlamini sitting with a man wearing a red shirt not far from Dr Asvat's surgery moments before the doctor was gunned down. She said Dlamini had given her sunglasses to keep for him. Dlamini denied this.

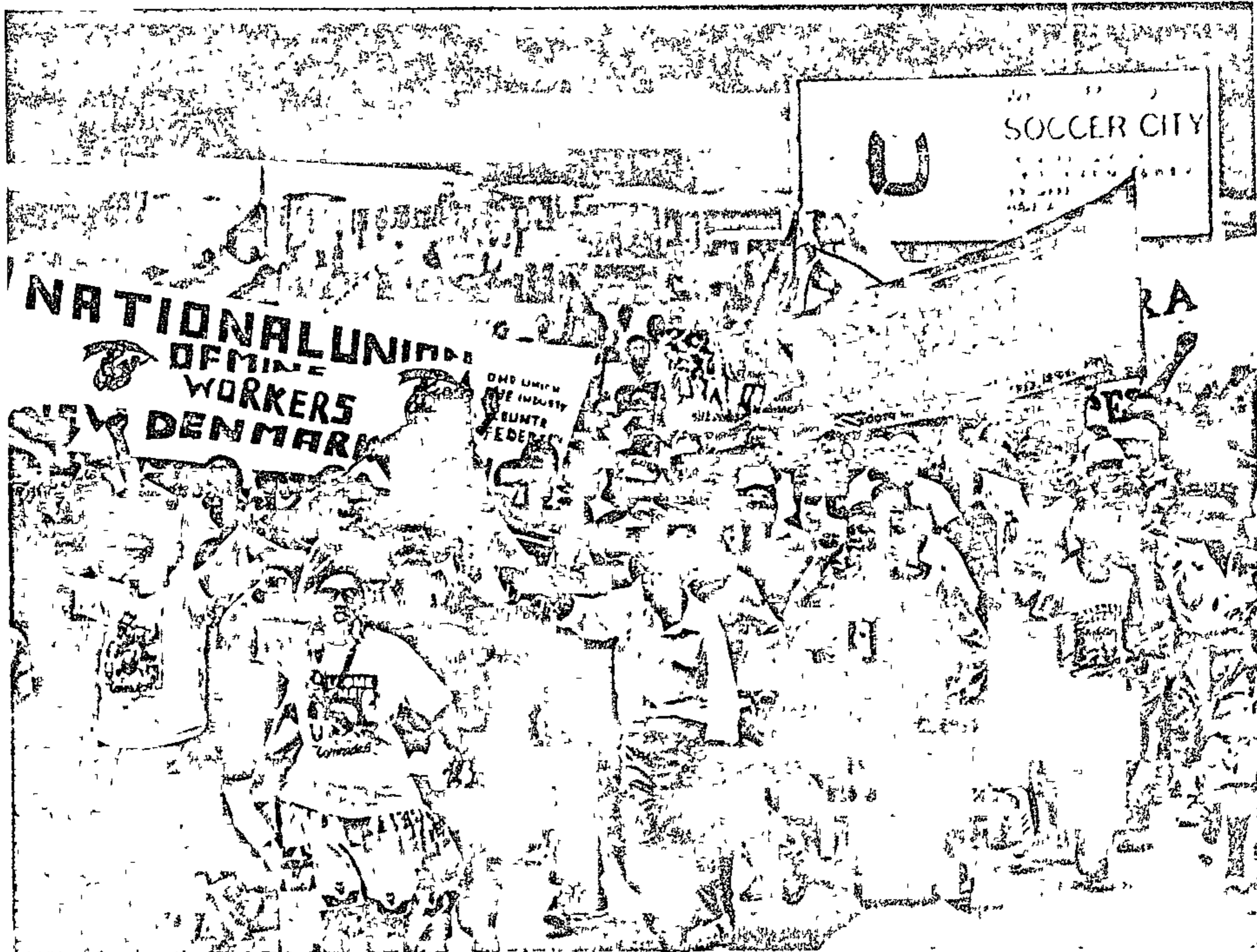
Dlamini said he did not know Mrs Thandi Tshabalala who told the court earlier that she saw him at the window of Asvat's consulting room shortly after she had heard gunshots from the surgery.

Tshabalala had said she saw Dlamini holding a gun and the burglar proof of the window of the consulting room in an attempt to get out. She ran to the surgery and found Asvat lying in a pool of blood on the floor. He could not talk but was still alive.

Van der Merwe put it to him that he was seen running away from the surgery after the shooting. The man who saw him was Mr Floyd Tshabalala, who also gave evidence for the State. Dlamini denied this and also denied that he and his co-accused, Mr Zakhele Mbatha, had planned the alleged shooting before the actual date.

Several members of the Azanian People's Organisation and Dr Allan Boesak, were among the spectators in the court's public gallery.

*Sowetan 2/1/89*



Jubilant crowds pour into Soccer City, outside Johannesburg, for the ANC's first rally in almost three decades

South 2-8/11/89

last Sunday

PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

## Police review Mbeki curbs

POLICE have confirmed that they are considering an application to revoke restrictions imposed on Rivonia trialist Govan Mbeki.

Mbeki was released on humanitarian grounds in 1987 after serving 23 years on Robben Island.

He was slapped with restrictions which confined him to his New Brighton home after hours and prevented him from speaking to journal-

**DAY OF GLORY!**

**Colour poster,  
Special focus**

● Pages 11 to 14

ists or addressing or attending gatherings.

His restrictions were relaxed last week to allow him to travel to Johannesburg for Sunday's ANC rally at Soccer City

However, although his fellow Rivonia trialists are unrestricted, police have not yet replied to his application to revoke his restrictions.

He was greeted with a roar of delight at Soccer City when he stood up and greeted the crowd. His message was read by Cosatu's assistant general secretary, Sydney Mufamadi.

Mbeki left Johannesburg on Wednesday to return to his Eastern Cape home.

His lawyer, Ms Priscilla Jana, said she was not considering court action at this stage.

'Nothing to do with inquiry'

# Brigadier in 'hit squad' case retires

251  
Star  
3/11/89

By Craig Kotze,  
Crime Reporter

A police brigadier mentioned in an affidavit by a Death Row prisoner, alleging police "hit squad" involvement in the murder of a prominent Durban activist, has retired, but police say it has nothing to do with a top-level probe into the killing.

Brigadier Willem Schoon (58) retired with effect from October 31, police confirmed

## Security policeman

He and a police captain, also no longer in the force, were mentioned in an affidavit by Death Row prisoner Butana Nofomela in which Nofomela alleged he was part of a hit squad which murdered Mr Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981

Nofomela is a former member of the security police.

The SAP's CID chief, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, and the Attorney-General of the Free State, Mr T McNally, have been appointed to investigate Nofomela's claims

They have already interviewed Nofomela on Death Row and will report to Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee when their investigation is completed.

A police Public Relations Directorate spokesman in Pretoria said today that Brigadier Schoon's retirement was due and that he had in fact been entitled to retire three years ago but had decided to stay on.

"He could have chosen to retire three years ago, but decided to stay on. He had reached retirement age," said the spokesman.

Questions regarding Brigadier Schoon's retirement in the wake of Nofomela's allegations have been raised, but SAP Public Relations chief Major-General Herman Stadler is on record as saying Brigadier Schoon was not serving in Durban at the time of Mr Mxenge's murder.

● The American government has urged President de Klerk to give the assurance that a full and impartial investigation will be made into allegations by a policeman convicted for murder that he had been part of a police death squad.

# Police chief suddenly retires

IN the midst of allegations of security police assassination squads, Brigadier Willem Schoon, the officer alleged to have headed the secret hit squads, has suddenly retired from the police force

Notices for Schoon's retirement party were being posted at police headquarters on the same day that former security policeman Butana Almond Nofomela alleged in an affidavit taken on death row that he had been a member of a security police death squad responsible for at least nine murders on ANC-linked individuals

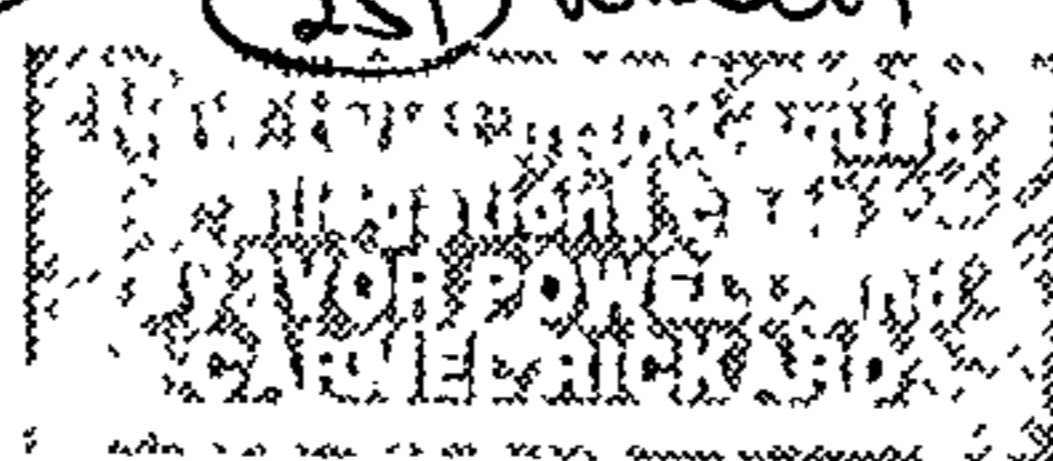
The previous day, Lawyers for Human Rights had informed Schoon of the intention to take the affidavit

The retirement became effective at the end of October

This week South African Police Public relations sources confirmed that the 58-year-old brigadier had indeed retired "as he had reached the age of retirement

"He could in fact have retired a number of years ago but chose to stay on in the SA Police," the communique continued

According to police sources, when Schoon first announced his intention



to retire about two years ago, he was urged at cabinet level to remain in the force

Questions remain regarding the suddenness of last month's retirement in the wake of Nofomela's allegations

Meanwhile, Schoon was this week linked to the current inquest into the killing of four youths and the wounding of two others in Chesterville, near Durban

An authorisation document signed by Schoon, as head of "C Section" at Pretoria security headquarters, permits a special police unit "Section C1" to take an AK47 with them to Durban

The document was handed to the inquest by Guido Penzhorn, counsel for the families of the four dead youths

It noted the weapon would be used to establish the credibility of the unit involved in infiltrating "a group of

African National Congress terrorists" in the Port Natal area.

Schoon authorised the use of the weapon for this purpose on June 3 1986

About a fortnight later seven members of the unit killed the four youths and wounded the two others in Chesterville using a variety of weapons including the AK47 authorised by Schoon.

Yesterday Penzhorn put it to Andries Seleka, one of the members of "Section C1" who was involved in the killings, that their orders had not been to infiltrate and arrest, but to kill

He said this would make sense of many puzzling elements in the incident.

Seleka denied they intended to kill the youths. He said they were ordered to arrest them but the plan went wrong when they were allegedly fired on. Thinking they were under attack, they returned the fire.

Two other officers named by Nofomela as part of the alleged hit squad have also emerged during the Ches-

●To PAGE 2

## Brigadier's surprise resignation

terville inquest: Major Eugene Alexander de Kock, in Pretoria at the time of the incident, was in charge of the unit that went to Chesterville, while Lieutenant Paul van Dyk, also from Pretoria, headed the under-cover unit during their stay in Durban

In Nofomela's first description of operations in the alleged assassination squad he said he and his three colleagues each received R1 000 after murdering Durban civil rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge. They were told the money was from Schoon in payment for "successfully eliminating Mxenge"

Nofomela claims he was appointed a member of this assassination squad in 1981 and that Schoon was his commander

He also claimed that after Mxenge's murder, his car was driven to the border where it was stripped before being set alight. He said Mxenge's radio/tape was installed into Schoon's service vehicle

According to Nofomela he was visited on death row by several officers who told him Schoon wanted Nofomela "not to reveal anything about (his) activities as a member of the assassination squad" and promised to help him (get out of death row)

As his execution date drew near, however, Nofomela claims he was

●From PAGE 1

visited by a security police colleague, a Captain Khosa, bearing a message from De Kock to the effect that the branch would not assist him and that he should "take the pain". This was only hours after Lawyers for Human Rights contacted Schoon asking him to intervene in Nofomela's impending execution

●Captain Johannes Dirk Coetzee, named as Nofomela's field commander in the Mxenge killing, left the police force in 1986, reportedly suffering from diabetes

●Though it has been widely reported that Lawyers for Human Rights are in possession of information vital to their investigations, the investigative team appointed by Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee had not contacted the organisation by Wednesday afternoon.

●A senior police source who wished to remain anonymous said that only one of the three photographs published in last week's *Weekly Mail* was not of an assassination target, but of an alleged ANC operative who blew himself up in an abortive limpet mine attack on Kine Centre last year

This is the only identification the *Weekly Mail* has been able to make to date.

Wmail 3-9/11/89.

Security police  
look into ANC  
newspaper ad

95 ADELE BALETA  
SECURITY police are investigating whether an advertisement placed in Vrye Weekblad last Friday, announcing the homecoming rally for recently released ANC leaders, constituted a criminal offence

The Afrikaans weekly newspaper was notified of the investigation this week.

Vrye Weekblad editor Max du Preez said the ad, placed by the National Reception Committee, made no reference to the ANC.

As far as he was aware Vrye Weekblad was the only newspaper under investigation despite the fact that several other publications had run similar ads

In a fax sent to Police Directorate of Public Relations' Gen Herman Stadler, Du Preez said he believed police were conducting a vendetta against the publication

Stadler denied there was a campaign against the paper and said the action was in the course of duty.



Ranger Johan van Graan with the bones of a rhino found under a tree.

Picture BRIAN HENDLER

B. Day 3/11/89  
Rhino slaughter accused in court

FORMER Kruger Park game warden Ludwig J Wagener, 44, appeared in the Hazyview court yesterday on charges related to the illegal slaughter of 25 white rhino

He was released conditionally on R5 000 bail and trial was set for November 24. It will be held at Skukuza, his attorney André Doman said in a telephone interview

Wagener, who was arrested on Wednesday, was told he had to report every Monday between 5pm and 7pm at the Brits police station and to hand in his passport

He was warned not to interfere with any Kruger Park personnel or state witnesses.

MANDY JEAN WOODS

National Parks Board (NPB) officials uncovered a trail of white rhino slaughter in September during the annual aerial census of the park's animals. Pretoria University post-graduate student Dannie Pienaar spotted rhino carcasses hidden under bushes and found bullet holes in the bones.

At least 25 carcasses were found. Ballistics tests showed bullets lodged in several of the carcasses and cartridges found near the scenes were all from a the same .375 Magnum rifle

# Rebel who crossed the border

By ESMARE VAN DER MERWE,  
Political Reporter

*ESM*

*Star*  
31/1/89  
Klerk

Two months after the name of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman appeared in newspapers, the coloured police officer, who took the unprecedented step of speaking out on police brutality, stands firm.

He has been accused of being a lying witness in the sensational "Rockman trial" which followed his accusations that the riot squad acted like "wild dogs" in Mitchell's Plain on September 5 by using excessive force against anti-election protesters, among them many schoolchildren.

He has reportedly received death threats by means of a letter signed with the "compliments" of the AWB. He has been accused of being a "stupid hotnot", politically brased and a "windgat kafir".

His every move since he joined the police 12 years ago has been investigated by the police preparing a disciplinary case against him. Requests to discuss security

police actions with President de Klerk have been denied

He has become a political football, with politicians and clergymen falling over their feet to meet the outspoken policeman. Even the ANC has hailed the stance he has taken denouncing police violence.

Asked recently whether he feared the consequences of his actions, he said "I don't care I stand to lose everything. They can lock me up. They can do anything."

"I'm not looking for fame or publicity. I'm not doing this to be a star or a hero. But I feel it's high time the people of South Africa and the world should hear about the truth of what is happening here."

Advanced plans to publish a book on his experiences in the police force appear to be in jeopardy. "Rockman, One man's Crusade Against Apartheid Police", written by journalist Eugene Abraham and published by Senior Publications, is due for release next month.

The book will explore Lieutenant Rockman's background, growing up barefoot in a Port Elizabeth township while gangs terrorised the neighbourhood, his decision to help his people by becoming a policeman, and his eventual disillusionment with the racism and brutality of the force.

This week the maverick policeman, who said some time ago that the police would not touch him because he had "gone public", was told to report for "special duties" in Pretoria on November 16.

Lieutenant Rockman (30), married with two children, said he was being sent to a remote part of the country where people could not reach him.

He was also served with an order preventing him from publishing or giving information about the force without first submitting it for clearance. The lieutenant refused to sign the order.

"They (the police authorities) want a puppet which can be dangled on a string, but I've got a sober sense and I do what I believe is right," he said.

# Brigadier in 'hit squad' affidavit quits

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A police brigadier mentioned in an affidavit by a Death Row prisoner, alleging police "hit squad" involvement in the murder of a prominent Durban activist, has retired — but police say it has nothing to do with a top-level probe into the killing.

Brigadier Willem Schoon, 58, retired with effect from October 31, police confirmed.

He and a police captain, also no longer in the force, were mentioned in an affidavit by Death Row prisoner Butana Nofomela in which Nofomela alleged he was part of a hit squad which murdered Mr Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981.

Nofomela is a former member of the Security

Police

The police's CID chief, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, and the Attorney-General of the Free State, Mr T McNally, have been appointed to investigate Nofomela's claims.

They have already interviewed Nofomela on Death Row and will report to Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee when their investigation is completed.

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"He could have chosen to retire three years ago, but decided to stay on. He had reached retirement age," said the spokesman.

Questions regarding Brigadier Schoon's retirement in the wake of Nofomela's allegations have been raised, but police public relations chief Major-General Herman Stadler is on record as saying Brigadier Schoon was not serving in Durban at the time of Mr Mxenge's murder.

# 34 dead

## HORROR TOLL OF

### PISTOL PACKING

### SECURITY GUARD

AN 18-year-old youth who was shot dead in a butchery has become a roving security guard's 34th victim in four years

As the toll rises, police are investigating three charges of attempted murder against burly East London gunslinger Mr Louis van Schoor, 37

In sworn statements to police, the three complainants have given terrifying accounts of encounters with Mr Van Schoor and his blazing CZ 9mm parabellum pistol. Now Democratic Party nominated MP for East London City, Mr Andre de Wet, has called for an independent probe.

Mr De Wet said he was alarmed by the string of deaths and called for the guard's licence to be revoked until the outcome of the inquiry.

But a Pretoria police spokesman, Colonel Mike Heyns, said this could be done only if Mr Van Schoor was found guilty. Interim steps could be taken if there is "no doubt he is guilty of a crime", he said.

Mr Van Schoor, who owns Flash Security in East London with his brother, has been cleared of culpability at 26 inquests. Another eight inquests are pending.

The most recent inquest was in September, on a 13-year-old boy shot dead at a restaurant break in in East London last year.

And in the latest incident, 18-year-old Lindile Hliti was gunned down at a butchery — allegedly by Mr Van Schoor — on Friday this week.

Mr Van Schoor refused to speak to reporters. His only comment when asked if he was still working despite the police investigations was that he was in "full production".

Those who have dared to speak about him have refused to be named. One said Mr Van Schoor was greatly feared during his more than 12 years as a policeman.

#### SLUMPED

Mr Van Schoor — divorced three times and engaged to be married again — reportedly tried to rejoin the police force after quitting in 1981 but was not accepted.

A former police major said of Mr Van Schoor: "He's not a clever bloke but he was a keen policeman who would go all out to get his man."

Police inquiries into the three attempted murder charges have been under way since July.

A 16-year-old youth who laid an attempted murder charge in July said in an affidavit he and two friends had gone to a beachfront restaurant in May to scrounge for food and had found the back door open. He claims Mr Van Schoor arrived and they hid in the back yard — he in a bin and his friend, Steki Sipolo, in a disused fridge.

Mr Van Schoor allegedly



GUNSLINGER Louis van Schoor, against whom three attempted murder charges are being investigated

Sunday Times Reporter

found Steki in the fridge.

As the guard pulled him out, the youth said Steki cried "I apologise my baas. Please rather call the police than shoot me."

Grabbing Steki by the shoulder, Mr Van Schoor allegedly fired two shots at his head and the child slumped to the floor in a motionless heap.

Said the youth in his affidavit: "I climbed out of the bin and Van Schoor grabbed me by the shoulder and asked if there was anyone else around. I said 'no'."

#### BODY

"The man said 'Look in the other direction' I refused because I knew he wanted to shoot me."

The youth claimed he lifted his arms and pleaded with Mr Van Schoor not to shoot him.

"He let me go and said: 'Show the others' I turned. The man shot me in the back. I fell."

Police told the Sunday Times that the body of another youth was found at the scene. An inquest is pending.

In the second attempted murder investigation, Mr Yuzumzi Geza, 27, claimed in an affidavit that he was walking home in October last year after looking for a job. He was allegedly picked up by Mr Van Schoor and taken to Turnbull Park Bowling Club and told to wait outside a window. Mr Van Schoor returned and fired, it is claimed.

The first shot missed Mr Geza and he fell. A second bullet hit him in the back.

He claimed: "(Mr Van Schoor) stood over me and aimed at my chest. I rolled over. The third bullet hit me in the upper arm and eventually lodged in my upper body."

□ To Page 2

THE DEATH ROLL: See Page 2

Sunday Times 5/11/89

Michelle I

By CARO

THIS is Miss South, never seen traditional

Lovely M to Taiwan to ambassador du South Africa tion in Far ment stores

This week elled to E meet the tra shiriki Danc travel with l entertainer bon-cutting launch the p

And bub didn't waste donning the ed costume to take part with the trot light of farm era.

After 10 d Michelle will Kong for a t before return

#### Bomb

A BOMB dam Gaborone yes after Frontl Ministers ende the Botswana

THE contents of the Sunday Times are prohibited to emergency

P.T.O



# 34 die at hands of guard

□ From Page 1

Mr Gcaza was charged with housebreaking but was acquitted in April

At the Gcaza trial, an East London magistrate, Mr J du Plessis, said Mr Van Schoor lied in his evidence about how he shot the burglary suspect

Mr Du Plessis said "It is very clear (from the suspect's version) how improbable it is because, if his story

is accepted, it will emerge that Mr Van Schoor drives around the streets, looks for someone, gets him, then goes and breaks into a place and shoots the person outside the place"

Mr Gcaza's version was found to be "more correct" and he was acquitted.

The magistrate referred the evidence to the senior State prosecutor for a possible charge against Mr Van Schoor to be investigated

The State prosecutor received a copy of the court transcript in August. It was passed on to the police.

The third complainant, Mr Siphwo Titi, alleged in his affidavit that he was on his way home from night shift on June 10 when Mr Van Schoor approached him.

He claimed the guard shot him in the street and then threw him into what he thought was the back of a bakkie. He woke up in hospi-

tal the next morning to find he was being charged with housebreaking.

He is awaiting trial.

In the latest inquest on Liefie Peters, 13, shot in July last year, 100kg Mr Van Schoor told the court he shot the child — half his size — only after the boy knocked him over and stabbed him in the arm while he was investigating a restaurant break-in.

Mr Van Schoor's version of the shootings is normally the only one. Few have lived to tell their tales.

Nearly all the dead suffered multiple gunshot wounds, normally in the abdomen and chest.

Mr Van Schoor shot one of his victims four times and another had six bullet wounds.

## VICTIMS OF VAN SCHOOR'S GUN

LOUIS VAN SCHOOR has been cleared of culpability during inquests into the deaths of

1 BONAKILE MKETSHANE, shot dead at a butchery in April 1978.

2 WANKISE BOY JACK, 23, shot while trying to escape on May 9, 1986.

3 THEMBA NCAYISE, 25, shot while trying to escape at Cambridge Preparatory School on July 5, 1986. Two bullet wounds in the back.

4. SIGIDI LINDILE JACK, 30, shot while trying to escape at Selborne Primary School on September 5, 1986. Shot in lower abdomen.

5 BENNET WANANA ZANAYO, 25, shot in the back while escaping from Olstine's Furnishers on September 24, 1986.

6. MICHAEL TOM, 20, shot in the leg, chest and abdomen on January 25, 1987, while escaping in St George's Street.

7 THEMBASISILE SAMBATO, 18, shot in the chest on April 26, 1987, while escaping at Marley Flooring.

8 KOLISILE NGESI, 25, shot in the arm, abdomen and chest on May 19, 1987, while escaping from Abbotsford Sports Club.

9. DANKENI SAMLAL, 18, shot six times on June 9, 1987, while trying to escape from R & R Manufacturing.

10. SIDWELL KOBOKA, 37, shot in the abdomen on June 17,

1987, while trying to escape from Jay's Outfitters.

11. EDWARD SOENIES, 27, shot in the left hand, back and stomach on June 26, 1987, while escaping from Simba Quiz.

12. KHASALO SINOBLO, 18, shot four times trying to escape from Rennie's Motors on July 12, 1987.

13 ERIC NCENCE, 25, shot in the chest on July 14, 1987, while trying to escape from Stirling Primary School.

14. MBULEO MASIZA, 29, shot in the same incident at Stirling Primary School on July 14, 1987. (three bullet wounds)

15 KHULULEKILE NHEGO, 30, shot in the head and lower chest after a scuffle on August 30, 1987.

16. ALBERT MAKAPELA, shot in the abdomen, leg and buttocks on October 13, 1987.

17. ZOLA SOTYHIFA, 27, shot in the chest on November 15, 1987.

18. LIZO WILLEM, 20, shot while trying to escape from Bags Unlimited on November 25, 1987.

19. NKOSINATHI MDODA, 35, shot in the chest on February 11, 1988.

20 MXOLIXI MNTUNGWA, shot in the abdomen while escaping from Metro Cash and Carry. Died later during surgery.

21 MLULAMILE MNYA-MANA, 27, shot in the right hand and chest at Beares Bros after a

struggle on September 10, 1988.

22 BONISILE TELE, 30, shot (four bullet wounds) trying to escape on December 6, 1988.

23 THEMBEKILE LOLO, 25, shot in the chest and abdomen while trying to escape at the Clarisa Newman Creche on December 6, 1988.

24 LIFIE REGINALD PETERS, 12, shot in the back on July 11, 1988.

25 and 26. Two men whose names could not be established.

● The following are inquests which are still pending.

27. April 23, 1989 Unidentified man shot dead at autoencers.

28 April 27, 1989 Unidentified man shot dead at drum recycling plant.

29 April 27, 1989. Another man died in hospital on May 1 after being shot at same incident at drum recycling plant.

30 STEKI SIPOLO, 16, shot dead at May 28, 1989, at Beach Burger.

31. Second child (name not released) shot dead in the same incident at Beach Burger on May 28, 1989.

32. Man shot dead at architect's office in Oxford Street on August 19, 1989.

33. Man shot dead on August 25, 1989, at Milner Road Outfitters.

34 LINDILE HILTI shot dead at Wilsonia Butchery on October 28, 1989.

5/11/89  
S. J. J. J.  
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# Police rebel's

# story <sup>(257)</sup>

# WILL <sup>Sunday Times</sup>

# be told <sup>5/11/89</sup>

Sunday Times Reporter

THE book about outspoken Cape Town policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, written by Sunday Times journalist Eugene Abrahams, will be on the bookshelves in the first week of December

A question mark has hung over the publication of the book ever since Lt Rockman — who spoke out about riot police brutality in September — was told by his superiors this week to refrain from giving out or publishing any information about the police force without first submitting it for "clearance".

Mr Hans Strydom snr, chairman of Senior Publications, said: "The book is being printed and it will be published

"There is nothing illegal in it."

He said the book would be titled Rockman: One Man's Crusade Against Apartheid Police.

## Reserved

Lt Rockman, who receives standing ovations wherever he goes, has refused to sign an order restricting him from giving interviews and/or agreeing to "recover" any material he has given to the media

Said Mr Strydom "In terms of the contract we will publish — that is also his wish"

Lt Rockman confirmed he had refused to sign the order

He said "They have sent a notice to say I have been nominated by the regional commissioner to do special duties — in other words border duties — and that I should report in Pretoria.

"This has never happened in the history of the SAP to a non-white officer because that kind of duty has always been reserved for whites."

A police directorate spokesman said "This step against Lt Rockman was initiated at department level in the interests of discipline and for the good of the force."

# Rockman at police inquiry this week

CAPT 11-71-5 6/11/89  
251

By BARRY STREEK

THE future of the controversial Mitchells Plain police officer Lieutenant Gregory Rockman could be decided this week

Lt Rockman, who accused members of the riot squad of acting like "wild dogs" when they broke up a protest in Mitchells Plain early in September, is to face a police board of inquiry after he continued to speak to the press after being officially warned not to do so

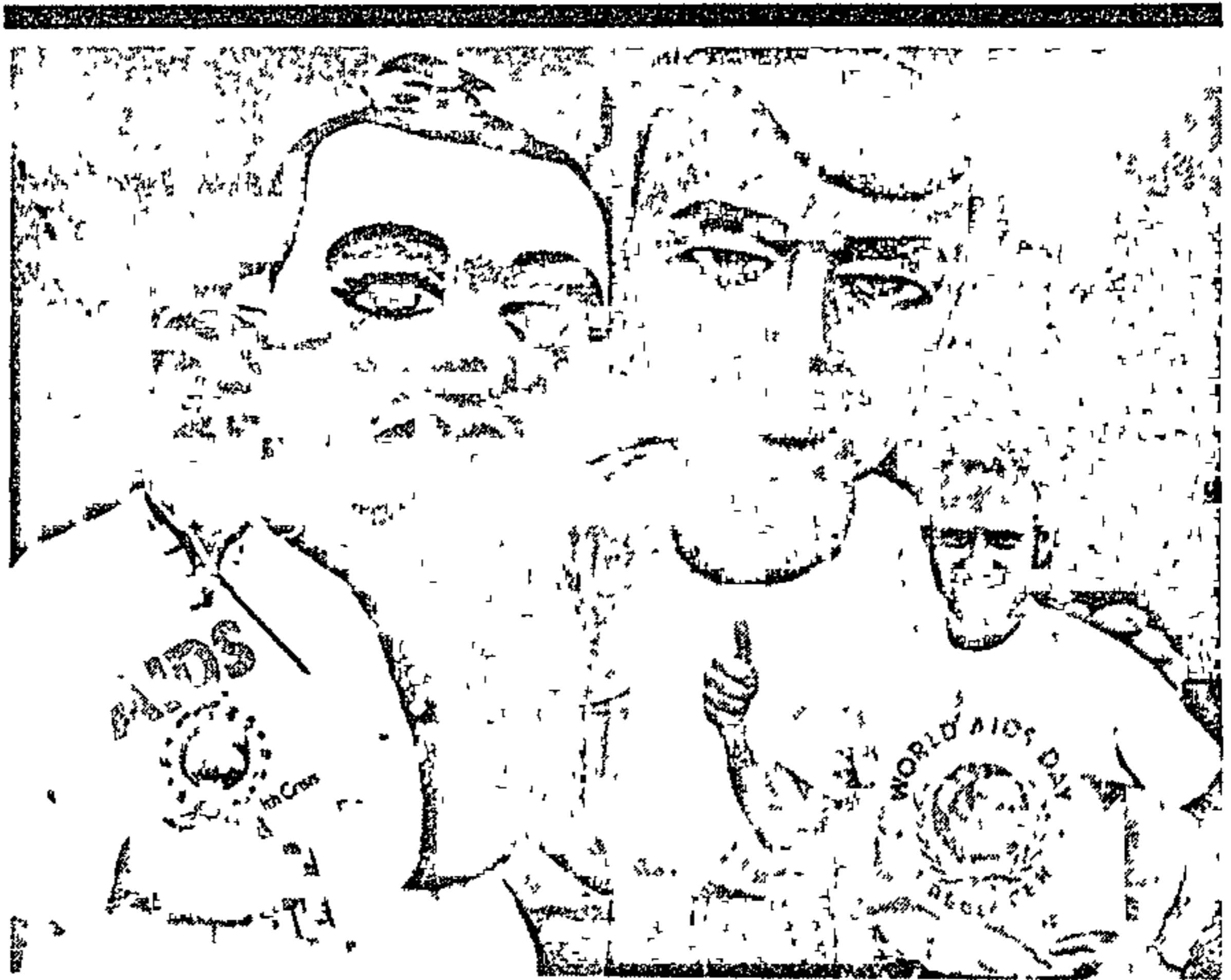
Although the internal police investigation into the matter is not yet complete, the board is expected to convene next week

## R200 'peck'

The charges facing Lt Rockman — of refusing to obey orders — are regarded as serious

If the board finds him guilty of refusing to obey orders it could recommend anything from a reprimand to a fine of up to R200 (known in the force as a "peck"), demotion, suspension or dismissal

The board will be convened by the regional commissioner of police in the Western Cape, Major-General P C Fourie. Lt Rockman will be entitled to legal representation



**PUPPET POWER . . .** Joe and Mary, two of the "Puppets Against Aids" who will be touring Cape Town and the surrounding areas later this month, with "Doctor Ben" — Mr Bentley Nkomonde (left), who will explain the disease to spectators, and Gary Friedman (right), the puppet's creator

## Aids puppet show for city

"PUPPETS against Aids", a South African Aids-awareness programme, will come to Cape Town and the surrounding townships later this month

The larger-than-life-size puppets were made by Gary Friedman of the African Research and Educational Puppetry Programme, which is based in Johannesburg

They will be in Cape Town from November 24 to December 14, to start the World Aids Day season in Cape Town. Mr Friedman said people initially

laugh at the antics of "carefree, sexually active" Joe, who "loves loving the ladies", but the darker side of such behaviour soon appears.

Joe has Aids but is outwardly healthy. He transmits the virus to his wife Mary, and their baby, before dying from an Aids-related disease.

The 2m puppets, Joe and Mary, and their baby perform in the streets, and outside community centres and clinics

Dog helps to

# Civil Rights League queries Rockman inquiry

*Cape Times  
7/11/89  
251*

Political Correspondent

THE Civil Rights League yesterday questioned why a police board to decide on the fate of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman would meet this week before a second inquiry into the handling of protest action by the riot police had been completed.

Civil Rights League spokesman Mrs Dot Cleminshaw said "We are concerned that Lt Rockman's conduct is being investigated when he spoke out about the brutal methods used by some riot police."

Lt Rockman accused members of the riot squad of acting like "wild dogs" when breaking up a protest in Mitchell's Plain early in September.

Mrs Cleminshaw noted that the magistrate in the subsequent trial of the two officers in charge at the scene found that the methods used by the police were not only unlawful but "utterly reprehensible".

"We would like to know what has happened to the police inquiry that was launched after the case into the methods used by the police when dealing with protest actions."

A spokesman for the Law and Order Minister, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday that the departmental inquiry into police action during protests was "still ongoing", but he could not say when it would be completed.

He said the inquiry was not only looking at the situation in the Cape but police actions, particularly those of the riot police, country-wide.

Mr Vlok recently attended a conference with several top police generals to discuss police tactics when handling protests and marches.

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# Police 'Union' formed

REBEL police officer Lieutenant Gregory Rockman could face a new departmental charge following reports that he has formed South Africa's first trade union for police and prison warders

## Rockman defiant

"We have discussed it with our wives and we are 100 percent committed to this union. We have tried the channels laid down with no success at all," one officer said. - Sapa

This has emerged days before Rockman, the controversial Mitchell's Plain police officer, faces a disciplinary hearing that could end his 12-year police career

to protect the basic human rights of its members of all races and all the people they come into contact with in their work," he said.

penalties ranging from a verbal reprimand to a departmental investigation will be launched into the matter," he said

Rockman became a folk hero in Cape Town townships after he flouted police discipline on September 6 to tell reporters about the alleged violence of white riot squad officers

A female prison warden said a white senior officer accused her of having sympathies when she tried to raise grievances through the proper channels.

### Illegal

Police spokesman Captain Ruben Bloomberg said today the formation of such a union was illegal without the consent of the Commissioner of Police

A departmental investigation will be launched into the matter," he said

He said he had been charged with 10 counts of breaking police regulations by talking to reporters about police brutality and would face an internal hearing within days.

He also has refused to halt publication of a book due out in December about his struggle against discrimination within the police force and by police officers

### Book

He said he had been charged with 10 counts of breaking police regulations by talking to reporters about police brutality and would face an internal hearing within days.

He also has refused to halt publication of a book due out in December about his struggle against discrimination within the police force and by police officers

About 30 policemen and prison warders swapped stories during the inaugural meeting about discrimination and brutality in the police and prisons services

"If you complain you're a communist or a terrorist," she said.

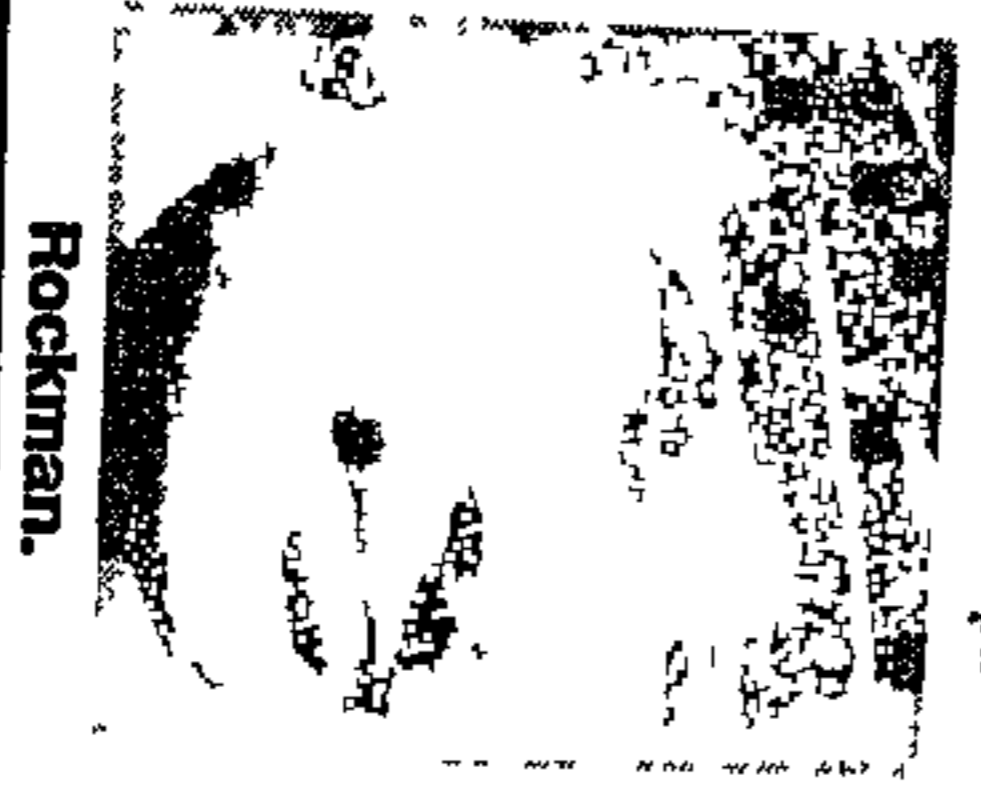
"We are ready for any onslaught that the white authorities might try to launch against us," Rockman told reporters after

Police spokesman Captain Ruben Bloomberg said today the formation of such a union was illegal without the consent of the Commissioner of Police

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"If you complain you're a communist or a terrorist," she said.



Rockman.

# Rockman union 'illegal'

JOHANNESBURG — Rebel police Lieutenant Gregory Rockman had contravened police regulations by forming a trade union for police and prison officers, an SAP spokesman said yesterday.

He was responding to an announcement earlier yesterday by Lt Rockman that he had been elected president of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union, formed at a meeting on Monday night.

The SAP spokesman said it was a contravention of regulations framed in terms of the Police Act for a police officer to belong to, or

form, a trade union without the express permission of the Commissioner of Police.

"I cannot firmly state Rockman has not received permission, but it seems most unlikely," the spokesman said.

Sapa reports that the union, in its first challenge to the authorities, yesterday delivered a statement of warders' complaints to Brigadier Frans Booyen, commanding officer of Pollsmoor Prison.

"We presented an agenda of what we want to discuss — the

men's grievances," Lt Rockman said.

"We also want to see the Commissioner of Prisons," he added.

He said the union's aims were to create a non-discriminatory police force and prisons service and ensure job satisfaction for all.

A spokesman for the prisons service, Major Dave Smith, confirmed yesterday that a document had been handed over to the commanding officer of Pollsmoor Prison by a member of the prisons service attached to Pollsmoor Prison Command. — Own Correspondent, Sapa and Staff Reporter

Cape Times 8/11/89 251

## Idasa murder. Six ex-officers appeal

*Pages 8/11/89*  
BISHO. — An appeal by six former Ciskeian security policemen against conviction and sentence for their part in the death of the co-director of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative in South Africa (Idasa) is being heard by the Bisho Appeal Court.

Mr Eric Mntonga, 35, died in the Mdantsane security police offices on July 24 1987 and his body, with 25 injuries, was found the next day alongside a dirt road on the outskirts of King William's Town

Sentenced to a total of 23 years in imprisonment early this year were the second in command of the Ciskei Elite Unit, General Witness Nganwya, the head of the security police, Major-General Mountain Ngcanga, Colonel Mabanja Mbajeni, Major Mpikiseli Potwana and Warrant Officers Tembikosi Hlulani and Tamsanqua Mcan-dana, all of Mdantsane

The accused were convicted by Ciskei's Chief Justice, Mr Justice Benjamin Pickard

Last August a seventh policeman, Zamekile Bojana, was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment after being found guilty of involvement in the murder of Mr Mntonga — Sapa

# Music rep/ plans art tour to Russia

# SAP staff shortage is 'no secret'

*Art Times 8/11/49*

# Stadler

BY MAUREEN BARNES

CLAREMONT music-lover, Mr John Scully, has been appointed South African representative of the European Association of Music Festivals. The association has established contacts with 52 music festivals in 25 countries.

The appointment follows the successful tour of Salzburg and Brezgen organised by Mr Scully's company, Classical Tours.

Now Mr Scully plans a breakthrough for South African art lovers tours to Russia.

The first, a 16-day tour scheduled for next year, will be guided by an expert in Russian icons and art from Sothebys in London.

Classical Tours was formed to cater for South Africans interested in music, art and antiques who wish to pursue their interest on visits to major cultural centres.

Sought-after tickets for concerts and exhibitions are reserved in advance.

Mr Scully says he already has arrangements in hand for two more tours to Salzburg next year. This time the tours will include visits to the music festivals of Verona or Lucerne.

THE POLICE have reacted to allegations that problems with the police emergency number in Cape Town are the result of too many policemen being called upon to do Government guard duty, and to poor working conditions in the force.

A police spokesman has confirmed that policemen are called upon to do up to 80 hours' overtime per month without pay — although he claimed this was the exception rather than the rule.

He also commented on why as many as eight out of 10 ten policemen who report for duty at Peninsula police stations are immediately taken away to do Government guard duty, leaving only two to man the station.

Many readers responded to a report on these pages about a Claremont man's difficulty in raising the Flying Squad to help him deal with an armed intruder. His wife's call to 10111 was answered with a recording asking her to "please be patient".

Callers have now claimed that there are too few squad cars in service in

the Peninsula — at times only one for the entire central business district.

Major-General HD Stadler of Police headquarters in Pretoria has replied to the questions and allegations.

Q (CT). Callers claimed the Flying Squad emergency number — 10111 — is not sufficiently manned, and that that is why the recording is necessary. More policemen should be put on duty to answer the calls.

A (Gen. Stadler): It is no secret that the police have a manpower shortage. Available manpower must be distributed in such a way that provision is made for all police duties. The police employ as many members as possible, on the emergency numbers and if the public co-operate in not phoning these numbers unnecessarily, the available manpower should be sufficient.

Q: A caller said there are not enough policemen for Flying Squad and similar duties because when they report at police stations for duty, large numbers of policemen are immediately drawn to do guard duty at Government buildings and the homes of politicians. (In our reported story a

Claremont man who got the recorded message when he called the Flying Squad for help in dealing with an armed burglar, also got no help from two policemen doing guard duty at the home of Mr Kent Durr next door. They were not authorised to leave their posts.)

A: There are guard duties that must be fulfilled. The SA Police will be failing in a very important function should they fail to supply guards to safeguard certain buildings and people.

Q: If forms at suburban police stations were to be scrutinised, it would be found that up to eight out of 10 policemen are employed in this way.

A: Available manpower is used to the best advantage.

Q: A caller claimed there is only one Flying Squad van for the entire Cape Town central business district, and very few in the suburbs. How many Flying Squad vans are there in service at any one time in the Peninsula?

A: As many police vehicles as possible are manned and used to do police work. It is not correct to allege that only one van is available for the central business district, although we will not say this was never the case. Other duties, leave etc. may have caused exceptional shortages.

Q: The main reasons for the shortage of policemen on ordinary police duties, besides the State guard duties, are poor pay and bad working conditions. Policemen who stay in the service long enough to get some experience are posted to administrative office jobs. The few policemen left to do police duties are obliged to do excessive overtime — up to 80 hours' overtime per month (four hours per day) — without being paid for it.

What are the normal working hours of a policeman and how many hours overtime do Peninsula policemen work, on average, per month? Is it considered safe for both the public and policemen themselves that they work up to 80 hours overtime in a month? Can a policeman be expected to perform his job properly under those conditions?

A: Normal working hours are 44 hours per week. We doubt whether there is a proper record of overtime kept in the Peninsula. As there is no pay for overtime, there is no real necessity for keeping proper centralised statistics. Overtime is regarded as a community service and done when necessary.

Eighty hours' overtime per month is the exception rather than the rule. Overtime demands are one of a number of reasons for some policemen leaving the force, but not large numbers, as most accept it as necessary in order to protect and serve.

"I can assure readers that the SA Police are continually evaluating, altering and renewing methods of policing, within the confines of available manpower and equipment, in order to render the most efficient service possible," General Stadler concluded.

## Councillor to save Victorian poles

WHEN Councillor Ian Iversen, of Ward 10, read in the Cape Times about the Victorian poles which are rusting from neglect in Mowbray and Woodstock, he set out to save them.

Readers responded to the appeal by the Cape Times asking for the origins of the tall, cast-iron poles with their crenellated decoration.

From the majority of calls, it appeared that the posts were "stencil poles" — erected in the 19th century

over drains to release gases which might have become explosive. No longer used, they have become neglected and are ignored by the council which regularly paints the surrounding lampposts.

But Councillor Iversen wants to see these remnants of old Victorian Cape Town preserved: "I have asked City Engineer, Mr Des Riley, to see that the posts in my ward are given a coat of rust-proofing and are maintained on a regular basis," he said.





Picture LEON MULLER, The Argus

**POLICE ON PARADE:** Part of a group of 710 special constables who took part in a passing-out parade at the Koeberg Training Centre after completing six weeks' training.

ARGUS 9/11/89

## Brutality will lead to dismissal,<sup>251</sup> general tells constables

By DALE KNEEN  
Crime Reporter

SPECIAL constables found to have committed "brutal" acts would be dismissed from the police force, says Deputy-Commissioner of Police Lieutenant General Bert Wandrag.

General Wandrag was speaking at a passing-out parade of 710 special constables yesterday.

The constables had completed their initial six weeks' training at the Koeberg Training Centre before being posted to police stations around the country.

"Any policeman who goes beyond legal powers, who acts in a way that clearly shows a lack of compassion and discipline, is not really a policeman but a bully posing as one," said General Wandrag.

### LOSE FAITH

"It is unfortunately true that one brutal, unlawful act by a single policeman can cause more harm than the disciplined action of a thousand others."

General Wandrag said undisciplined and brutal acts would cause the community to lose faith in the police.

In the first two years of their existence special constables had had many successes, among them 2 231 arrests for serious crimes and 10 132 other arrests.

"We have learnt in the trying times our country is experiencing, especially in the black residential areas, that the enemies of law and order will leave no stone unturned in their attempt to drive a wedge between the police and the law-abiding section of the community that relies on them for protection."

Friction between police and the community also resulted from the police being duty bound to maintain laws which were not enacted by it, General Wandrag said.

# 2 SAB workers killed in clash

*Sowetan* 9/11/89  
TWO SA Breweries' workers who were carrying gangster while demonstrating against the sale of beer in Zola township were killed by a gangster against the buying and selling of SAB products who had been hired by bootleggers in the area, the Food and Allied Workers' Union claimed yesterday.

The violence follows the imposition of a beer boycott at shebeens in black townships in support of SAB workers who are striking for improved wages.

Fawu called on SAB to disassociate itself from this criminal action

The SAB, however, has in turn called on Fawu to call off the self-appointed vigilantes who are terrorising shebeeners.

Fawu said in a statement the two workers had been approached by a panga

The workers had found a stack of beer bottles with which they attempted to fight off an attack from the man. They then fled but the alleged gangster apparently fired two shots striking the workers, who were then stabbed.

Incidents of violence were also reported in Katlehong on the East Rand where shots were fired at workers demonstrating outside shebeens, Fawu said.

Meanwhile, SAB yesterday said its strike-affected plants were receiving many calls from workers who wanted to return to work. - Sapa



Lieutenant Rockman

# Gregory Rockman slams police

Sowetan

10/11/89

25

SOWETAN Correspondents

LIEUTENANT Gregory Rockman yesterday accused the police authorities of victimisation after five members of the Police, Prisons and Civil Rights Union were questioned by senior officers

He said he intended to confront the SAP's regional commissioner in the Western Cape this morning

Lt Rockman is president of the newly-formed union, which includes police and prison warders among its members

He said the five -- four constables and a sergeant -- were summoned to Athlone district headquarters where they were questioned by a Colonel Visser, District Commandant, and a Colonel Mathée, who were involved in gathering evidence for the coming internal disciplinary hearing against Lt Rockman

## Refused

The five were asked to make statements about the union but refused and referred inquiries to the lieutenant.

Lt Rockman said they were then told to be present at police headquarters in central Cape Town at 7am this morning for an interview with the regional commissioner, General Flip Fourie.

He said he would accompany the five even though he had not been told to be there

"They are terrorising members of my union. Why don't they contact me as president if they want information?"

"Why start terrorising constables, why victimise youngsters? I can assure them the union is not going to tolerate things like this. This is the sort of abuse of power we want to eliminate."

Replying to official claims that the union was illegal, he said "For us the union is not illegal. The need is there and we haven't got a mouthpiece

"It's our human right to have a union that represents us. FW (de Klerk) says he is prepared to change. This is a change we want."

## Charge

Lt Rockman said he would formally inform the police today that he did not intend making an explanatory statement before his disciplinary hearing

When he was served with a charge sheet last week he was given seven days to say whether he would make a statement, he said.

Lt Rockman has been ill at his home for the past two days.

# Top cop jailed for diamond theft

Sowetan 10/11/89

257

WINDHOEK - Former head of the Oranjemund SWA Police Diamond Branch, H W (Wimpie) van Greunen, was sentenced in the Windhoek Supreme Court yesterday to 10 years imprisonment for theft of diamonds worth over R3 million and also R40,788 from a police safe in the town

SAPA

by the government  
At first denying he knew anything about the diamonds, he later told police he had found them in his garage and later hid them on the banks of the nearby Orange River.

The presiding judge, Mr Justice Johan

Strydom, granted Van Greunen leave to appeal against his conviction to a full bench of the SWA Supreme Court.

Bail of R15000 was extended on condition that he handed himself over to the authorities within 24 hours of the decision of the full bench being made known

The hearing was a sequel to the disappearance of 1803 diamonds and over R40000 at Oranjemund in December last year.

An attempt was also made to set fire to the offices to destroy evidence, the court was told

Van Greunen pleaded not guilty to the charges of theft and attempted arson

He claimed he had been framed because of an incriminating statement he had made during an internal police investigation in Namibia ordered

# 'Vaal onslaught'

Sowetan 10/11/89

(257)

WHILE people were celebrating the releases of the eight long-term security prisoners, the people of Transvaal were experiencing the State's "systematic moves to silence the democratic organisations and leaders", a spokesman for Cosatu said at a Press conference yesterday.

"This onslaught is continuing daily in the Vaal, it may even happen after this conference today," the spokesman said at the Vaal Anti-Repression Campaign Press conference.

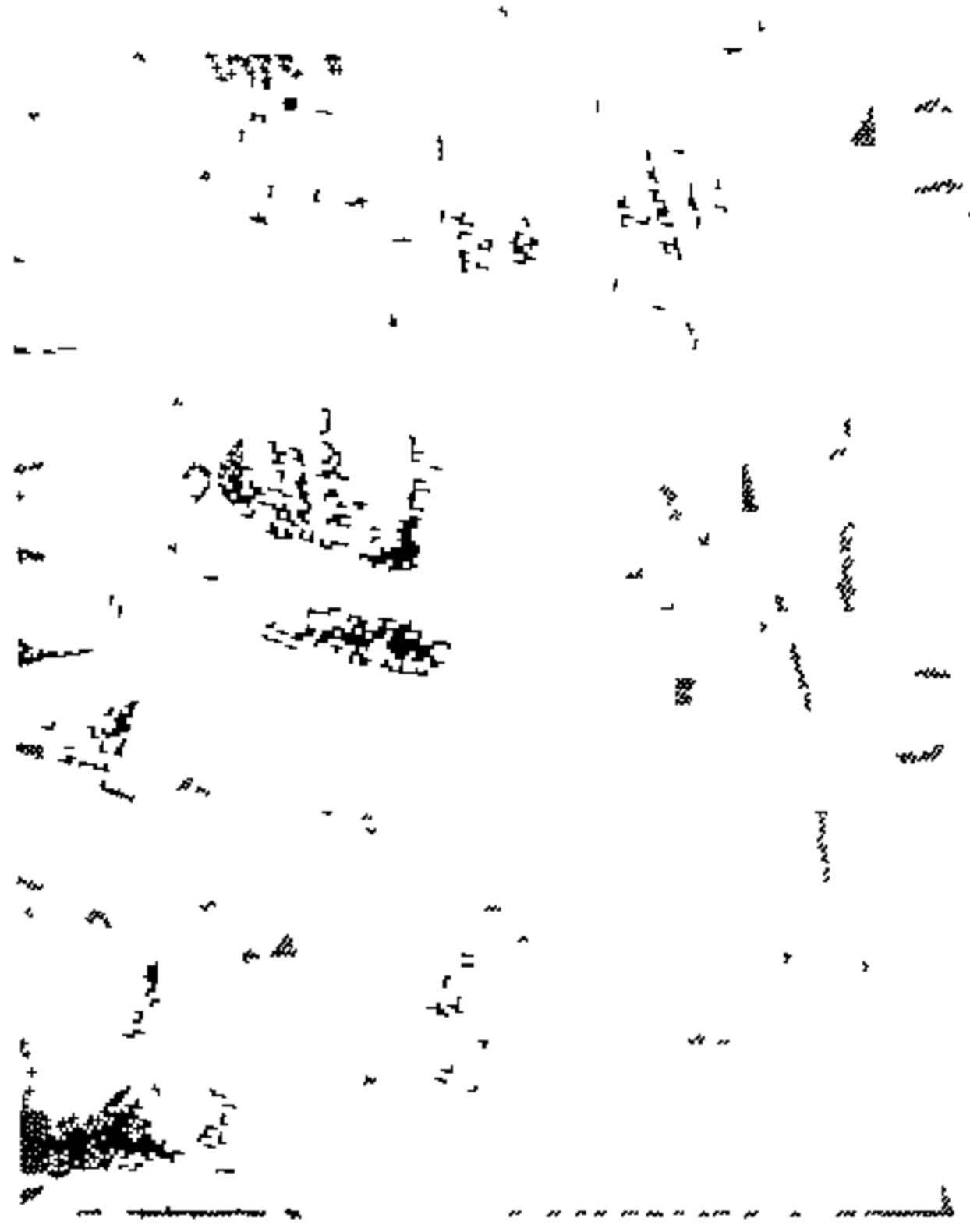
He cited 21 instances of "intimidation", including the refusal to permit peaceful protest marches, detentions, beatings, disruption of meetings by police, splashing of activists' homes with paint and acid solution, and assaults on

relatives of activists

"We fail to reconcile these provocations with what the State President has said when addressing his party's congress in Pretoria, that he was prepared to accept 'every political party's right to organise' and further that he was looking for 'signals in words and deeds' that such parties were committed to peace

"The people of the Vaal through their different structures are discussing responses to this wave of repressions," the spokesman said

Their programme of action included the writing of letters to the State President and Minister of Law and Order, one-hour peaceful protests at factories and a meeting with the Vaal Chamber of Commerce next Wednesday - Sapa.



Walter Sisulu, Elias Motsaedi and Andrew Mlangeni, with the ANC flag in the background, at their "welcome back" rally two weeks ago. At the Secunda rally such flags have been banned.

# Woman 'too short' for police

25  
W. May 10-16/11/89  
2500

THE Durban City Council, already embroiled in a fight over racial discrimination on the beaches, is now faced with supreme court action over alleged sexual discrimination

The action is being brought against the council by Sonet Elize van Tonder, a constable in the South African Police.

Van Tonder's lawyers at Durban's Legal Resources Centre say the council's regulations governing the City Police are "partial and unequal" in that they discriminate against women.

She also claims it is the policy of the council "to covertly but actively discriminate against persons of the female gender in the City Police department"

She says she applied for a job with the City Police but was told by the person who answered her initial phone call that there were no facilities or positions for women in the municipal force.

When she insisted she was sent a form and after passing the aptitude

By CARMEL RICKARD

test she was measured by a nurse

These measurements revealed she was 2cm shorter than the prescribed minimum height of 1,68cm and that her "unexpanded chest measurement" was 92cm

She was then told her application for the job was unsuccessful because her measurements were inadequate.

Van Tonder says she phoned the chief constable who said there was "not the same need for women in the City Police as in the SAP".

She told him she had six months of intensive police training which was far more rigorous than members of the City Police receive

Beaver told her the height requirements had already been reduced from "five feet ten inches" and if it was reduced any further he would "have to accept midgets" in the City Police

He also said her height would prevent her riding a motorbike, an allegation she strongly denies.

ADVISOR/

# Rockman to fight move

## 'Transfer a bid to victimise me'

CAPE TOWN — Rebel Mitchell's Plain police Lieutenant Gregory Rockman has been given orders for a transfer to another post, but says he plans to fight the move in court.

He said yesterday he intended to obtain a Supreme Court interdict against a transfer to the Police Quartermaster in Pinelands as it was clearly an attempt to victimise him, and was not in the interests of the force.

It was also learnt yesterday that his commanding officer at Mitchell's Plain, Colonel John Manuel, has been asked to take a transfer to the District Commander's office in Soweto.

Colonel Manuel, the highest-ranking coloured policeman in South Africa, has spoken publicly in support of Lieutenant Rockman's stand on police brutality and racial discrimination in the force.

Although he could not be contacted for comment, it is understood that Lieutenant Rockman's transfer will come into effect from January 1, and that his successor at Mitchell's Plain has been named.

Lieutenant Rockman said he was told of his transfer during an interview with the Regional Commissioner of Police, General Fip Fourie, at police headquarters in Cape Town yesterday morning.

He said General Fourie told him he should report to Pinelands on Monday, when he would be told what his new duties would be.

General Fourie said he was being moved because he was undermining discipline at the Mitchell's Plain police station.

Lieutenant Rockman said he was given a copy of the transfer order to sign, but refused. He said he did not believe the transfer was fair. He planned to see his lawyers yesterday afternoon to obtain an interdict to prevent it.

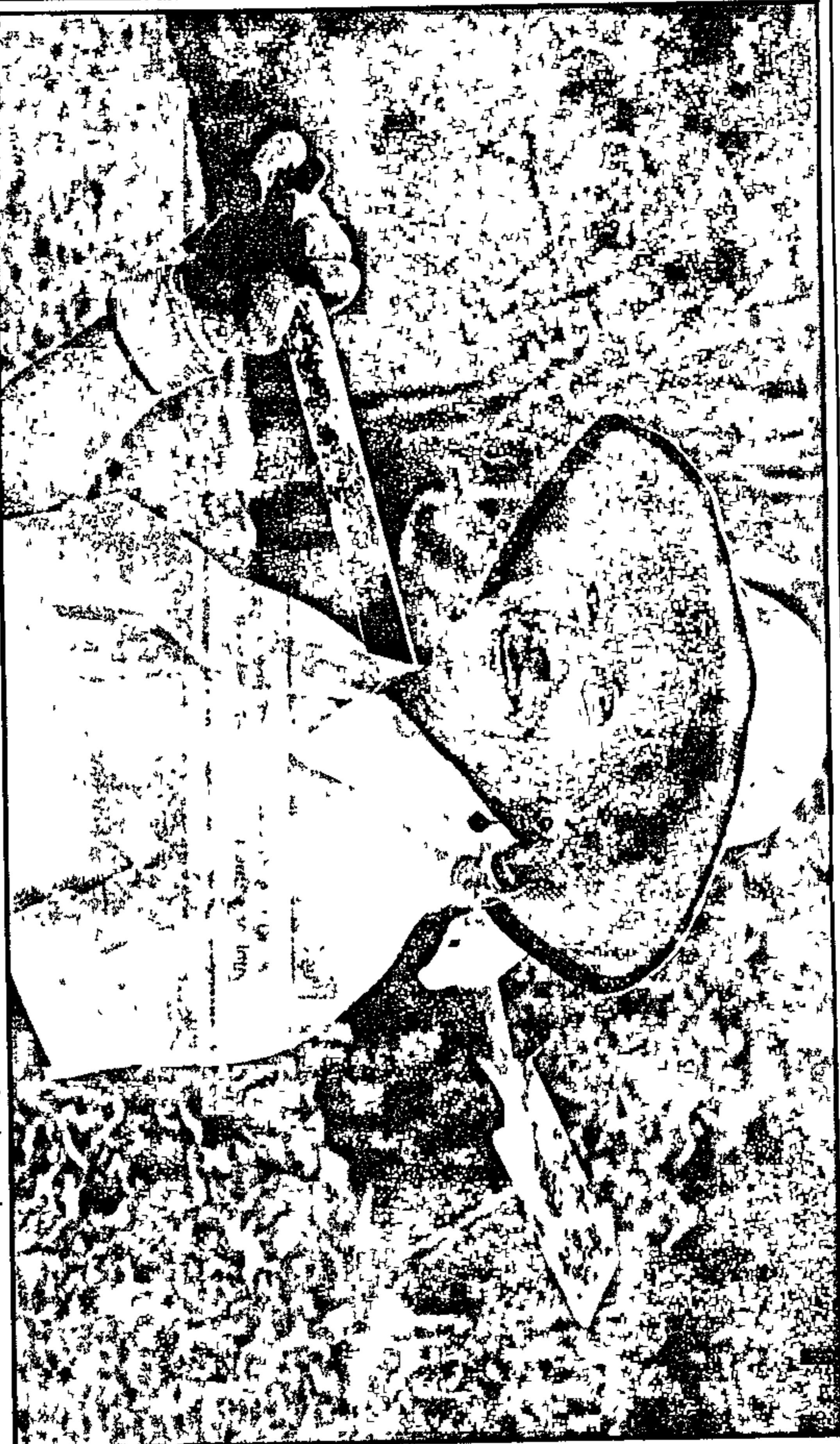
### 'No comment' order

A police liaison officer in Cape Town said that he had been instructed not to comment on the transfers. Lieutenant Rockman said he also informed General Fourie yesterday that he did not intend to make an explanatory statement on the alleged breaches of police regulations outlined in the charge sheet served on him last week.

All details of the internal disciplinary investigation would now go to the Commissioner of Police, who would decide whether a hearing should be held or not. Lieutenant Rockman said he went to the general's office to speak about the newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union, of which he is president.

He said that in a brief discussion on the matter General Fourie told him the union was not permitted by police regulations, and he told the general that its members needed a platform and a mouthpiece.

Earlier yesterday, five police members of the union were reportedly warned they might face an internal disciplinary investigation and charges because of their membership of the body — Sapa.



OFF DUTY Mrs Ailsa Greyling as she is today, using a different kind of radar to track down weeds in her garden

## Shongweni gran tells her radar secret

FOR 46 years, Shongweni grandmother Mrs Ailsa Greyling kept it a secret, but this week she spoke for the first time about the day she spotted an enemy submarine while operating a South African-built radar system during World War 2.

Mrs Greyling (75) was speaking on the 50th anniversary of the first radar set designed and built in South Africa.

This week, members of the Special Signals Services, SSS, who operated 25 radar stations and six mobile sets at the time, met in Johannesburg to remember and discuss one of "the best-kept secrets" of the war.

Mrs Greyling was assigned to the Umhlanga Rocks radar base, which was operated clandestinely. She and her colleagues were sworn to secrecy — and it was only this week that she decided to talk openly about her work.

### ISMAIL SUDER

After receiving secret training on the use of the newly developed radar system, Mrs Greyling remembers — while working in Cape Town — how she plotted the course for a ship which had been struck by an enemy ship. She guided the limping ship to port.

Most days at the Umhlanga Rocks radar base — where she had been posted — were rather uneventful, except one day when she picked up blipping dots on her radar screen.

For Mrs Greyling, the dots on the radar indicated trouble lurking deep in coastal waters. "I contacted my supervisors immediately, who in turn alerted the air force and navy."

"I was later told it was a submarine and that it was destroyed by South African forces," Mrs Greyling said.

The date, December 16 1939, is significant in the history of radar in South Africa. It was during this time that the first locally-designed radar system was switched on.

For the team who built the radar, it was a remarkable achievement.

The first radar was built under leadership of Sir Basil Schonland, Professor Bozzoli of Wits, Dr P. Gane of the Bernard Price Institute, Professor W. Phillips of Natal University and Mr Noel Roberts of Cape Town University.

They received some guidance from the United Kingdom about its construction, although they had none of the more advanced electronic parts or test equipment available in Britain.

They bought components on the amateur radio market and scrounged from radio shops

REBEL Mitchell's Plain policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman has been given transfer orders but says he plans to fight the move in court

He said yesterday he intended to obtain a Supreme Court interdict against a transfer to the police quartermaster in Pinelands because it was clearly an attempt to victimise him and was not in the interests of the force

His commanding officer at Mitchell's Plain, Colonel John Manuel, was also asked yesterday to take a transfer — to the district commander's office in Soweto

### Highest-ranking

Colonel Manuel, the highest-ranking coloured policeman in South Africa, has spoken publicly in support of Lieutenant Rockman's stand on police brutality and racial discrimination in the force.

Although he could not be contacted for comment, it is understood that Colonel Manuel's transfer will come into effect from January 1 and that his successor at Mitchell's Plain has been named

Lieutenant Rockman said he was told of his transfer during an interview with the regional commissioner, General Flip Fourie, at police headquarters in Cape Town yesterday

General Fourie told him to report to Pinelands on Monday and that the move was because he was undermining discipline at Mitchell's Plain police station by actions such as speaking to the Press.

Lieutenant Rockman refused to sign a copy of the transfer order

"I said I'm not going there I'm not going on transfer I could understand if it was to improve the efficiency of the force, but this is plain victimisation."

A police liaison officer in Cape Town said he had been instructed not to comment on the transfers

### Police union

Lieutenant Rockman said he also told General Fourie yesterday that he did not intend to make an explanatory statement on the alleged breaches of police regulations outlined in the charge sheet served him last week

All details of the internal disciplinary investigation would go to the commissioner, who would decide whether there should be a hearing

Lieutenant Rockman said he went to the general's office to speak about the newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union, of which he is president

In a brief discussion on the matter General Fourie told him the union was not permitted by police regulations Lieutenant Rockman replied that its members needed a platform and a mouth-piece for their grievances

Earlier yesterday five police members of the union were reportedly warned they might face an internal disciplinary investigation and charges because of their union membership — Sapa.

# Rebel Rockman fights police transfer orders

W/E AKBUS 11/11/89  
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# Sticky attack at flat 5

*Wesley* *12/11/89*  
THE parents of Susan Westcott, one of the "Broederstroom Three" sentenced on Friday in a Pretoria Regional Court, were victims of an attack on Thursday night which temporarily trapped them inside their Pretoria flat.

On Friday morning they discovered a resinous substance had been inserted into the locks of the flat door and the security gate during the night, said a spokesman from the Broederstroom Support Committee.

"After 45 minutes and with consider-

able difficulty, the Westcotts managed to free themselves," he said.

They then discovered the same substance had been put into the locks and exhaust of their vehicle.

The car had been further immobilised by having two tyres let down.

The committee said it believed the attack was meant to "intimidate and prevent" the Westcott's from attending court where their daughter Susan was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment. - Sapa

# Prince escapes a "necklace"

## Royal tells of brigadier's actions

### Special Correspondent

POLICEMEN put a car tyre around his neck and set fire to his clothes on the instruction of the then KwaNdebele commissioner of police, a member of the Ndzundza Royal Family told the Parsons Commission this week

The Commission is investigating unrest in KwaNdebele in 1986.

Prince Colin Mahlangu, 26, said Brigadier

Hertzog Lerm ordered he be "burnt" after the brigadier knocked him down and told police to trample him

Prince Colin is a son of King Mapog and a younger brother of Princes Cornelius, James and Andries Mahlangu. They told the commission they were arrested and detained for long periods

The royal family opposed the then KwaNdebele government's independence plans

Prince Colin testified that on the night of May 12, 1987, policemen and members of the Mbo-kotho vigilante group forced open a door of his house and dragged him outside

Brigadier Lerm punched him on the nose and the prince fell down. Lerm then shouted "trample him" to a large number of white and black policemen

"They then kicked and trampled me while I was lying on the ground. Blood flowed from my ears," said Mahlangu

Then he was pulled to his feet and Lerm asked him where his "skelm"

brother Andries was

When he replied that he did not know, Lerm told a white police captain "Bring the tyre and the petrol to burn him, so he can tell the truth"

The tyre was put around his neck and oil poured over his head. His clothes were set alight

Mahlangu said he put out the fire with his hands but did not suffer burns

He was then taken to the police station where policemen later swore at him and hit him because he still insisted he did not know where his brother Andries was.

After the assault he could not stand up straight, wash himself or eat for three days. He was detained for a month. During this time he was moved eight times from one police station to another

A doctor Snyman visited him in the cells and told him that a captain De Jager had said he should be medically examined

When Mahlangu refused treatment, as Snyman was not his personal doctor, he was threatened with more beatings

The investigation is continuing

C.P. Press 12/1/89

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# Rebel policeman arrested

Arrested

Rebel policeman, newsmen held in Mitchell's Plain

AKU 13/11/89 251

By MICHAEL DOMAN, False Bay Bureau  
REBEL policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, another policeman and about a dozen prison warders were arrested after taking part in a demonstration in Mitchell's Plain Town Centre today

Lieutenant Rockman was led away to the police station after addressing a crowd from a platform.

He had led a march through the Town Centre to Freedom Square

A 65-YEAR-OLD Nyanga East woman and her son, 21, have been beaten and stoned to death by township gangsters who attacked their home, police said today.  
A neighbour was beaten and injured when she came to their assistance.  
A member of "The Fireboys" gang was arrested and a search has begun for five more members. The reason for the attack on Saturday afternoon has not been established.  
A police spokesman said the gangsters attacked the home of Mrs Nanne Diamini and her son, Mthethiswa, about 2pm. They hurled bricks and stones at the house, breaking all the windows, before breaking down the front door and hauling Mrs Diamini outside. She was stoned and beaten to death with iron rods. Her son emerged from the house and was killed in a similar manner. Mrs Rose Makolota, a neighbour, came to help them and was also beaten. She escaped and was taken to Groot...

## Woman, son stoned to death by gangsters

Asked if he could be arrested for not reporting at Pinelands, Lieutenant Rockman said "I have the freedom of choice"

Lieutenant Rockman was meant to report for duty at the police quartermaster in Pinelands today, but he reported as usual at Mitchell's Plain at 8:30am.  
The crowd was given two more warnings to disperse, which they then did.

**"Choice"**  
The police and prison warders are all members of the newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcu).  
At the square a crowd of about 150 gathered as the Popcu members shouted "Viva Popcu!"  
The police and prison warders to Freedom Square.

**Warnings**  
Eight journalists - including ABC, Visnews and ITN television crews and Argus photographer Willie de Klerk - were taken away by police.

At 8:45am Lieutenant Rockman left the police station, opposite the Town Centre, and led a march consisting of another policeman and 12 prison warders to Freedom Square.

# Police pushed out of Rockman conference hall

AR69-3  
14/11/89  
(251)

By MICHAEL DOMAN  
False Bay Bureau

POLICEMEN, including a video cameraman, were pushed out of a Mitchell's Plain hall in which Lieutenant Gregory Rockman was giving a Press conference after he and 15 others appeared in court on charges of attending an illegal gathering at Mitchell's Plain Town Centre

Lieutenant Rockman, two fellow-policeman 11 prison warders and two members of the public were arrested at 9 07am yesterday during a protest by the newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popercu)

The policemen and prison warders arrested are all members of Popercu

By 3 20pm yesterday about 120 people — many of them high school pupils and members of Mass Democratic Movement linked organisations — had packed Court 17 at the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court in anticipation of a court appearance by the 16 men

## Striped T-shirt

When Lieutenant Rockman appeared in court wearing a striped T-shirt and blue trousers, there was a muted cry of "Viva Rockman" from the public gallery

But when the succession of brown-uniformed prison warders and others to be charged filed into court from the cells below, there was loud applause and cries of "Amandla Ngawethu!" (Power to the People!)

The hearings were postponed to November 23

Outside the court Lieutenant Rockman was carried shoulder high to the Town Centre's Harmony Square, also known as Freedom Square and Rockman Square

From there he joined a singing group of about 80 people who toyl-toyl-ed for about 400 metres past the court building to the Nicro community centre in Eastridge

During a Press conference attended by about 200 people in the centre's main hall, police were noticed filming the events at the main entrance

People started chanting "Out! Out!" and pressed towards the policemen, forcing them out and closing the door

During the Press conference, Lieutenant Rockman said he had been told by the station commander at Bellville South, where he was taken after being arrested, that he had been suspended

## Written proof

"But my lawyer and I want to see written proof of this. We won't accept the verbal information," he said

Mitchell's Plain Crisis Centre worker Mrs Hester Oosterwyk said "It's an honour for me to stand next to Lieutenant Rockman. I've seen him intervene often where teargas was being used in Mitchell's Plain

"I call on more policemen to take a stand. It is time they became 'people's police'"

Lieutenant Rockman said there had never been a better opportunity for policemen to come out and bring constructive change to the present South African police structure

"If we change this structure, then we will get a new South Africa"



Picture: WILLIE de KLERK The Argus

**SQUARE DRAMA:** Lieutenant Gregory Rockman waves to the crowd as he and prison warden members of the newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union enter Freedom Square at Mitchell's Plain Town Centre before their arrest.

# Rockman warned to appear and suspended from duty

Staff Reporter

POLICE Lieutenant Gregory Rockman and 15 associates appeared in court only hours after they were arrested for allegedly attending an illegal gathering in Mitchell's Plain town centre

The controversial Mitchell's Plain policeman had also been told he had been suspended from duty following his arrest

This followed a police decision to transfer Lieutenant Rockman from Mitchell's Plain police station to the quarter-master's section of the force

In a statement the Commissioner of Police, General H G de Witt, said the decision to suspend Lieutenant Rockman had

been "based on considerations regarding the good order and discipline in the force"

Mr Essa Moosa, Lieutenant Rockman's attorney, said the Mitchell's Plain court had been packed with people yesterday afternoon, most of whom appeared to support the policeman and his co-accused

No charges were put to Lieutenant Rockman, two police colleagues, 11 prison warders and two members of the public and they were not asked to plead

The prison warders who appeared in court were Mr Gerrit Opperman, Mr Nicolaas Witbooi, Mr Daniel Faas, Mr Denzil Peters, Mr Ferdinand April,

Mr Gerhardus Blom, Mr Lester Witbooi, Mr Stephen MacKenzie, Mr Donovan Michaels, Mr Ian Rossouw, Mr Heinrich Es terhuizen — all of Westlake

The policemen were Sergeant George Johnson and Mr Vernon Maart, both of Mitchell's Plain

The magistrate was Mr S Du Toit Malherbe and the prosecutor Miss J M Swart.

They were warned to appear in court again on November 23

They were arrested after they allegedly gathered to promote the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popercu), an organisation launched by Lieutenant Rockman

# Sewage pipeline plan queried by residents

Staff Reporter

THE controversy over the future disposal of sewage in Hout Bay rages on with residents mistrustful of a pipeline system being mooted

This emerged at a workshop held in Hout Bay last night to gauge public feeling about the proposed pipeline

The system was investigated by the Western Cape Regional Services Council for several years and put forward as the solution to Hout Bay's problem

It was also adjudged the most favourable option by a team of consulting engineers

The ratepayers' association, however, felt there had not been enough investigation of land based options

It was also not satisfied that enough study had been done of environmental problems which could arise

These problems included

- Pollution and harm to marine life
- Trapped sewage in the bay after certain winds,

- Health hazards to bathers;
- Possibility of failure as at Green Point and Camps Bay.

It was the general feeling at the end of the evening that residents did not trust the idea and preferred a land based option

Fertilisers produced in land systems were usually of good organic value, they said

Another advantage of the land-based system was the saving in capital cost.

It posed problems, however, with regard to odours, lack of space and aesthetics.

It would also not be able to treat the effluents produced by Hout Bay's fish factory

Further, the high rainfall of the area might make the system unsuitable.

The chairman of the workshop, Professor Richard Fugle of the University of Cape Town's Environmental Evaluation Unit, urged those present to take up the matter up with the ratepayers association or the Regional Services Council

# Rush on UCT residences for holiday quarters

Staff Reporter

INQUIRIES about UCT's "holiday accommodation" are streaming in, following its decision to open some student residences to holidaymakers during the festive season

Director of residences and refectories at the university, Mr Duke Metcalf, said this was the first time the residences would be opened to the public.

Besides alleviating Cape Town's shortage of holiday accommodation, the university also hopes to raise substantial amounts for repairs and renovations to the residences, and eventually to help offset students' fees.

Mr Metcalf said UCT was initially opening two residences — Tugwell Hall and Glenres — or about 530 beds

The residences offer bed and breakfast accommodation at R35 a night per person and discounts for children from December 6 to February 6

1 walk of life? (5)  
2 Discourage (3)  
3 Animal beds (7)

Business day

14/11/89

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# Lt. Rockman taken to court

PRETORIA — Lt Gregory Rockman has been suspended following his arrest in Cape Town yesterday for allegedly staging an illegal protest, Commissioner of Police Gen Henne de Witt said yesterday.

Rockman appeared briefly in the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court yesterday afternoon. No charges were put and he was not asked to plead.

Rockman, four other policemen and 11 prison warders were arrested earlier yesterday for allegedly holding an illegal gathering on

Harmony Square, popularly re-named Rockman Square.

Rockman appeared separately, and the four policemen and 11 prison warders after him. Both cases were postponed to November 23 for further investigation.

### Carried

About 120 people packed the court hours before the hearing and shouts of "Viva Rockman" echoed when Rockman entered the court.

The brief court hearing was followed by shouts of "Armandia" and Rockman was carried shoulder-

high to Harmony Square. The crowd at that stage had grown to about 250 people and Rockman warned them police might take action.

"I am afraid of the dogs," Rockman said, referring to his statement that the police riot squad had acted like wild dogs prior to the general elections when they dispersed a crowd on Harmony Square.

In a Press statement, Gen de Witt said Rockman and another member of the police force had been suspended after being arrest-

ed with 13 other people in Mitchell's Plain. Rockman had also not reported for duty at the regional quarter-master's office in Cape Town yesterday, the commissioner added.

### Warning

He had been transferred there from Mitchell's Plain in the interests of good order and discipline in the force.

The statement said no prior permission had been obtained for the meeting and the group was arrested after failing to heed a warning to disperse — Sapa



● LT ROCKMAN

Beefed-up staff will tighten for now

# Police harass strikers claim

*Sowetan*  
*14/11/89*

SOME South African Transport Services workers are being given time off to join police in intimidating their colleagues who are on strike.

This allegation was made by a South African Railways and Harbour Workers Union spokesman yesterday.

Martin Sebakwane said union members across the country had conducted a disciplined strike action.

Referring to the burning of a Sats coach last week, he said striking workers had been in a meeting when the incident took place.

The union deplored allegations in the Press that strikers had been responsible for the arson.

Reportbacks indicated Kimberley and Port Elizabeth had joined the strike, which had spread country-wide since it began on the East Rand on November 1.

The union is hoping Sats will soften its stance on worker demands at a meeting today.

"Until now they have not even made an offer, they just say our demand is ridiculous," said Sebakwane.

"We hope they will now enter into serious negotiation. Once they have made an offer, it is up to the workers to decide."

The union is asking for a R1 500 monthly wage.

# Plan to thwart hijackings

By Craig Kotze, Crime Reporter

Police have disclosed a plan to thwart vehicle robberies and have appealed to the private sector in particular to cooperate fully to reduce the hijacking epidemic on the Reef.

The plan involves painting registration numbers or identity markings on the roofs of trucks, trailers, buses and even minibuses to help identification from the air, said police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman.

He said up to five vehicles were being taken in robberies every day and police had now launched a programme to try and halt the crime wave.

"We want vehicles to be identifiable

from the air so that we can use our helicopters to trace them.

"What we also want is for owners to immediately report hijackings to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad or the Robbery Reaction Unit so that we can get helicopters into the air and catch the robbers fast," he said.

He said police required the markings — preferably registration numbers — to be 90 cm wide and three or four metres long on the roofs of vehicles.

Anyone who needs more information can contact Captain Opperman at (011) 23-4750. The number of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad is (011) 839-3322 and the Robbery Reaction Unit is 834-4005.

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2707  
12/11/81

Continued on page 1

# Controversial policeman held after march, may file charges

# Rockman <sup>(get) show</sup> suspended after arrest <sup>14/11/89</sup>

CAPE TOWN — Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, a fellow policeman and 12 prison warders appeared yesterday in court after an allegedly illegal march. No charges were put to them. Lieutenant Rockman appeared separately from the others and was not asked to plead.

The accused will appear again on November 23. The lieutenant and a lance-sergeant have been suspended from the police.

Lieutenant Rockman said yesterday he was contemplating legal steps against the police for his arrest and the way he was treated while in custody.

At an impromptu press conference in the Mitchell's Plain Community Centre after his brief appearance, he said he had given his attorney instructions to examine the possibility of filing charges.

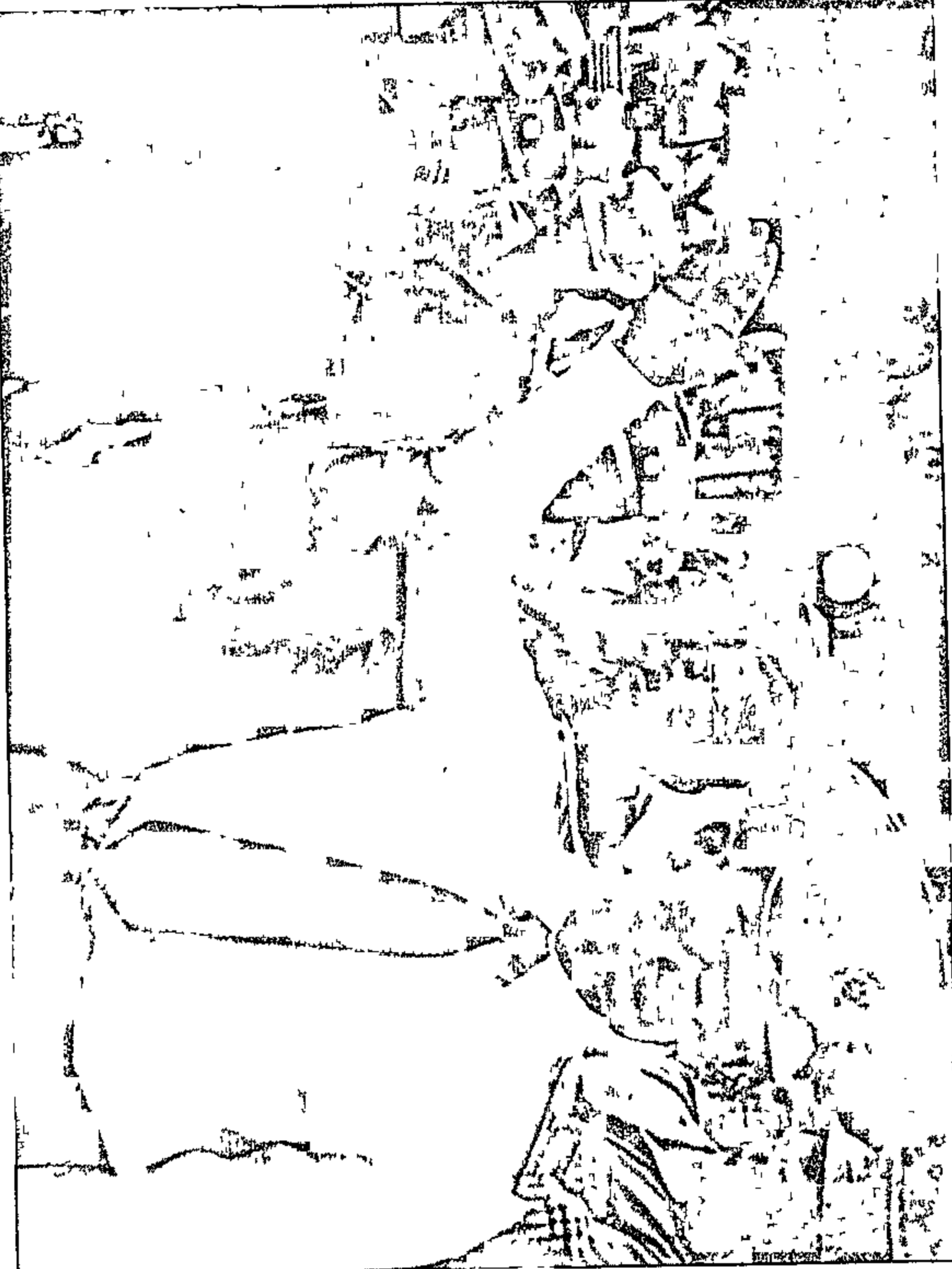
The lieutenant said he was verbally told yesterday that he had been suspended from the force, but wanted this in writing.

He was arrested after allegedly leading a march through the town centre to Freedom Square shortly before 9 am. The march was apparently held to protest against his transfer from Mitchell's Plain to the police quartermaster in Pinelands. Eight journalists, including ABC Vismers and ITN TV-crews and Argus photographer Willie de Klerk, were arrested. The Commissioner of Police, General Henne de Wit, yesterday issued a statement saying Lieutenant Rockman had been subject to police discipline and had not availed himself of established channels to register protest at his transfer.

The outspoken policeman was arrested after he left Mitchell's Plain police station at 8:45 am and led an allegedly illegal march. All those who participated were members of his newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcu).

At Freedom Square, a crowd of about 150 people gathered as the Popcu members shouted "Viva Popcu".

Lieutenant Rockman said he had been warned at the police station that he would be forming an illegal gathering.



Lieutenant Gregory Rockman with fellow policemen and prison warders in Mitchell's Plain yesterday shortly before being arrested for allegedly taking part in an illegal march

The gathering was filmed by a police video crew and at 8:54 am the crowd was given until 9 am to disperse.

The eight journalists were escorted away almost immediately and taken to the police station, while the gathering dispersed and regrouped on another square.

There, Lieutenant Rockman stood on a raised section, but he was pulled off it by a policeman and led away to the police station. After two more warnings, the crowd dispersed.

## Shunned policewoman is furious

**Own Correspondent**  
DURBAN — A tough woman is better than a wrimp of a man, says Detective Constable Sonet van Tonder, the Durban woman who was rejected for employment by the Durban City Police because she is 2 cm shorter than the minimum height demanded by the force.  
Miss van Tonder applied for a job with the all-male City Police, but was rejected because she did not meet the physical requirements. She had no problem meeting the 91 cm "chest expanded" requirement, but she could not stretch her height to the 1,68 m demanded by the local constabulary.  
So Miss van Tonder is now showing her fighting spirit by taking legal action against the City Police for discriminating against her on the grounds of her size.  
She claims there is also sexual discrimination implied in the regulations in that men are naturally taller than women.  
But Miss van Tonder is not impressed with the calibre of men the City Police are seeking.  
What sort of men have got 91 cm chests?  
She has been in the South African Police for nearly four years, but wanted to join the municipal force because of better pay.  
Her fiancé is in the City Police, but Miss van Tonder declined to name him.

## Policemen tried to force teenage lovers into having sex

**By Montshwa Moroke**  
PARYS — Two Parys policemen were convicted yesterday of assault and trying to force two teenage lovers into having sex.  
Appearing before Mr E Brandt in the Parys Regional Court were Constables Andries Herman Truter (24) and Mephahle Joe Sochita (30).  
Truter pleaded guilty to two counts of common assault, indecent assault and crimen injuria. He pleaded not guilty to two counts of pointing a firearm.  
The crimes were committed on February 5.  
He was fined R600 or six months on the first two counts of common assault and R1 200 or 12 months on two counts of pointing a firearm.  
A further 18 months was suspended for five years for crimen injuria.  
Sochita, who had pleaded guilty to the first charge of common assault and not guilty to the rest of the charges, was convicted of common assault and fined R90 or 30 days in jail.  
The policemen have been suspended from duty without pay for the past nine months. Truter has resigned from the police force. Sochita still has to face disciplinary action.  
Their counsel told the court Truter could afford to pay only R500 immediately and asked the magistrate to let him pay the remainder in instalments.  
The magistrate, Mr E Brandt, said he had taken into account the personal circumstances of the men and had decided that fines would be appropriate sentences.  
In his judgment, Mr Brandt said these were serious offences which one would not expect of a policeman on duty.  
The offences became much more serious where there was an element of sexual misconduct and the court would be failing in its duty if it imposed a light sentence.  
He had taken into account that both men were first offenders. Civil action had been instituted and compensation claimed.  
The State's case was that the two policemen found the teenagers at a public park and accused them of having sexual intercourse. Sochita slapped the girl across the face.  
The teenagers were put in the back of a police van. Teargas was sprayed several times into the back of the vehicle where they were sitting.  
In Turnahole township the policemen instructed the lovers to have sexual intercourse. They were ordered to get out of the van and threatened with assault to remove her panties and pull up her dress to expose her private parts. She was told she would be shot if she did not do so or if she tried to escape.  
She was then forced to lie on her back and the policemen then ordered the youth to have sex with her.  
He was unable to do so but was then forced to sexually stimulate her.

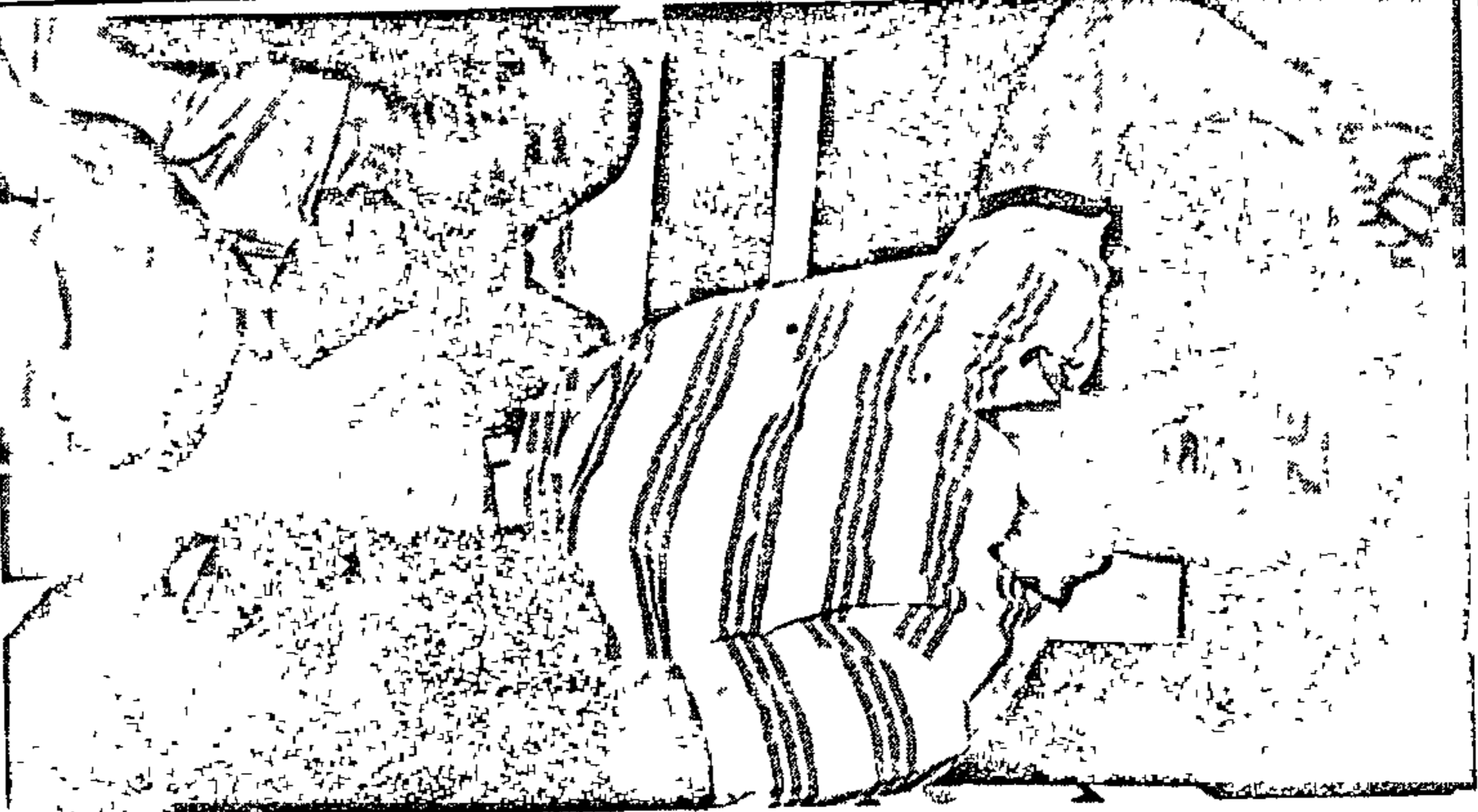
## Work stoppage at motor plant

**EAST LONDON** — The 3 000-strong workforce at the Mercedes-Benz South Africa plant in East London stopped work yesterday.  
A company spokesman said negotiations were under way between management and National Union of Metalworkers shop stewards. It was hoped the dispute would soon be resolved.  
Reports that the walk-out resulted from a difference between a worker and a supervisor were not confirmed — Sapa

## More matric hurdles today

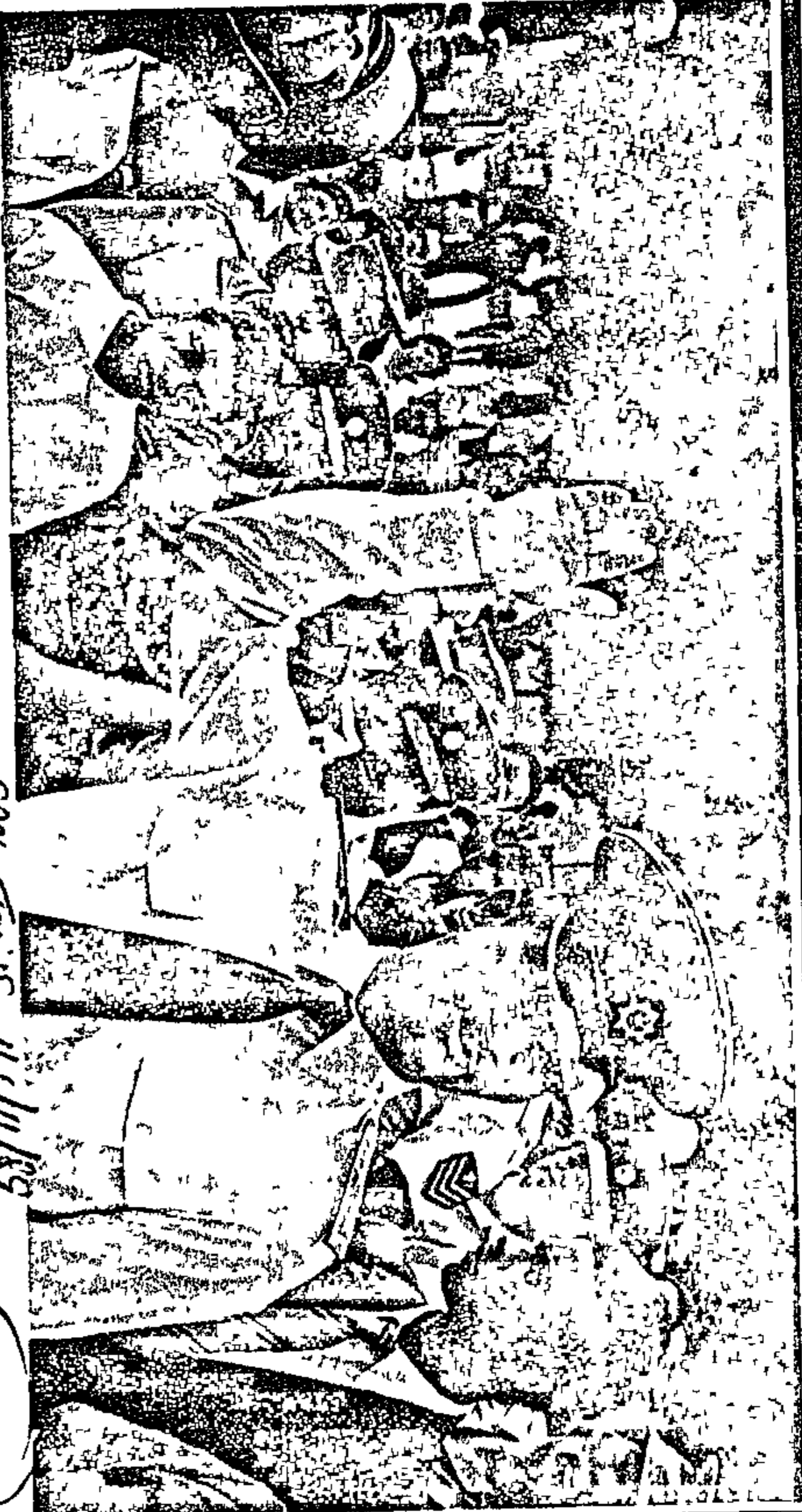
Matriculation exams today include the second and final physical science paper for JMB scholars, while Department of Education and Training (DET) students write German and economics.  
A range of subjects will be written in FED schools today they include Hebrew, Portuguese, animal husbandry, design (theory), technical drawing, German (mother tongue), history of theatre, costume and ballet.





**TOP RIGHT.** Lt Gregory Rockman with members of his union at Mitchell's Plain yesterday morning **ABOVE.** Lt Rockman is hoisted aloft after his court appearance in Mitchell's Plain yesterday

Picture: ADIL BRADLOW



# Rockman in court

*APC Toit's 14/11/89*

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By VETTE VAN BREDA

**REBEL** policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman was released on warning after a brief appearance in the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court yesterday in connection with attending an illegal gathering and defeating the ends of justice.

Lt Rockman, who was not asked to plead, faces charges under the Internal Security Act.

Immediately after his appearance, a policeman, three civilians and 11 prison warders appeared in connection with attending an illegal gathering.

Lt Rockman and the 15, most of whom are prison warders and

**PRETORIA.** — Lieutenant Gregory Rockman has been suspended following his arrest in Cape Town yesterday morning for allegedly staging an illegal protest, the Commissioner of the SA Police, General H G "Hennie" de Witt, announced here

members of the newly-formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), were arrested yesterday morning after taking part in a demonstration on Freedom Square.

Lt Rockman led a march to the square in protest against his

transfer from the Mitchell's Plain police station to the police quartermaster in Pinelands. He was arrested after addressing a crowd from a platform at the square.

About 120 people crammed into court yesterday and waited for more than an hour before the magistrate, Mr S Du Toit Malherbe, adjourned both matters to November 23.

People in the public gallery clapped and shouted "Amandla!" as the other men left the dock soon after.

Two of these men were granted bail of R200 each and the rest released on warning.

Miss J M Swart presided. Mr M Parker of E Mokoena and Associates and Mr T Popler appeared for the accused.

## Rebel policeman arrested after demo

# Rocky is charged

Sowetan 14/11/89 (251)

**REBEL** policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, a colleague and about a dozen prison warders were arrested after taking part in a demonstration in the Mitchell's Plain town centre yesterday.

Rockman has been charged with defeating the ends of justice and attending an illegal gathering.

His lawyer, Mr Essa Moosa, said 16 others arrested with Rockman had also been charged under the Internal Security act for attending an illegal gathering.

### Warnings

Three of the 16 were members of the public, one a policeman and the rest prison warders.

At 8.45am Rockman left the police station opposite the town centre and led a march to Freedom Square. The police and warders are all members of the newly formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcu).

Rockman was led away to the police station after addressing a crowd from a platform.

Eight journalists - in-

### SOWETAN Correspondent

cluding ABC, Visnews and ITN television crews, and Argus photographer Willie de Klerk - were taken away by police. The crowd was given two more warnings to disperse, which they then did.

Rockman was meant to report for duty at the police quartermaster in Pinelands yesterday but he reported as usual at Mitchell's Plain, at 8.30am.

Asked before he reported if he could be arrested for not reporting at Pinelands, Lieutenant Rockman said: "I have the freedom of choice."

ARGU- 15/11/89  
(251) **Trojan Horse men  
'knew consequences'**

**Supreme Court Reporter**  
SECURITY force members knew how shotguns worked and were aware of the possible consequences of firing at a large crowd, it has been argued in the Supreme Court, Cape Town.

Giving legal argument in the closing stages of the "Trojan Horse" private prosecution of 13 security force members charged with murder, Mr Jules Browde SC told the court the men had to have foreseen the consequences of their action on October 15 1985.

The men, at the time members of the army, police and railways police, are charged with the murder of Shaun Magmoed, 16, after nine of them fired shotguns, without warning, into a crowd in Thornton Road, Athlone. They were concealed in crates on the back of an unmarked truck.

All the men, including the officers who planned the joint operation at Manenberg police station, have pleaded not guilty.

**COMMON PURPOSE**

Mr Browde, for the prosecution, told the court he would be relying on the doctrine of common purpose for their conviction.

The planning and execution of the operation had rendered it "a virtual certainty" that someone would be killed.

As an alternative to the murder charge, the prosecution would seek a conviction on culpable homicide in that the ac-

cused had caused the death of Shaun Magmoed through negligence.

They had fired indiscriminately into the crowd the minute the vehicle was attacked and had not taken precautions to prevent anyone being killed or injured.

They had acted provocatively in driving along the route a second time after the vehicle had been ignored by the crowd on Thornton Road the first time.

Mr Browde said this was "an invitation" to the crowd to attack it.

Asked by Mr Justice D M Williamson whether he was suggesting that it was "improper enticement", Mr Browde said he believed it was improper to send a vehicle down the road, knowing it would be attacked, "with the intention of shooting people if they did".

Returning to the scene after not having been stoned the first time had been done purposefully, with the defiant attitude of: "Stone me and see what happens to you"

The hearing continues today.

**10 hacked to death**

LUSAKA. — Axe-wielding Mozambican rebels have hacked to death 10 Zambian civilians, including six children, the government says. Security secretary Mr Alex Shapi says rebels attacked a school near the border with Mozambique on Sunday. — Sapa-AP.

(25) (250-132)  
'Rockman 11'

suspended

*Case 74B 15/11/89*

THE 11 members of the Prisons Service who appeared in court on Monday after being arrested in a demonstration with Lieutenant Gregory Rockman had been suspended pending the outcome of the hearing, a spokesman for the prisons liaison section said yesterday

The suspension was under the Prisons Act

The police announced on Monday that Lieutenant Rockman had been suspended from police duties after his arrest. He and the warders face charges of participating in an illegal gathering

Lieutenant Rockman is president of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union, of which the warders are members — Sapa

# Police raid SATS union building on East Rand

*CME 10/15/11/87*  
JOHANNESBURG — The SATS strike by between 20 000 and 40 000 employees erupted yesterday after a confrontation between police and workers at Springs' Palladium building

Lieutenant Ida van Zweel said police raided the building housing Cosatu-affiliated trade unions and confiscated knives, knobkierries, steel pipes, sjamboks and similar weapons from about 220 workers. No one was arrested.

East Rand police could not confirm SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwi) allegations that they fired teargas into the building and beat workers, who had to jump out of windows.

A meeting planned for yesterday between the two parties never came off after management informed the workers' representative committee their proposals made before the scheduled talks were non-negotiable.

Management yesterday dismissed 150 workers at Langlaagte, Springs and Sentra Rand.

About 8 000 workers have until today to furnish reasons for their industrial action and to return to work or be dismissed.

The return to work deadline for more than 10 000 striking SATS workers in Natal was extended yesterday until Friday. — Sapa, Own Correspondent

# Rail trucks crush man

*CME 10/15/11/87*  
DURBAN. — A pensioner who was employed as a casual worker by the South African Transport Services during the labour strike was crushed to death on Monday night while sleeping under a railway truck.

Police have identified the man as Mr Petros Johannes Jacobsen, of Rutherford Street.

Lieutenant Bala Naidoo, police public relations officer for Port Natal, said Mr Jacobsen had fallen asleep under one of the railway trucks at a pier.

When the shunters came on duty they inspected the lines but did not see Mr Jacobsen.

They discovered his body after examining the rails to find out why the trucks were not running freely.

The railway trucks were loaded with steel. — Sapa

## Trojan Horse murder trial

# Conviction 'rests on common purpose'

15/11/87  
251  
Staw

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The conviction of 13 security force members charged with the murder of a youth after they fired shotguns into a crowd from an unmarked truck rested on the doctrine of common purpose, the Cape Supreme Court was told yesterday in the "Trojan Horse" trial.

Mr Jules Browde, SC, said that all the accused were equally guilty.

They are on trial for the murder of Shaun Magmoed (16) in October 1985, after a planned operation in which nine men hid in crates on the back of an unmarked truck and drove a pre-determined route.

When the vehicle was stoned the men emerged from the crates and fired into the crowd, killing three people.

Mr Browde told the court that the first shot had been fired 2,5 seconds after the first stone hit the windscreen of the truck.

All the accused on the truck had intended to conceal themselves in the crates on the rear of the truck, they had all proceeded to a point where, in view of the prevailing unrest situation, they would in all likelihood be attacked and, when the vehicle was not attacked, they turned around and drove the route again.

They knew that AAA shot was capable of killing people.

They had fired indiscriminately into the crowd without warning them to disperse and without leaving the back of the truck, Mr Browde said.

The hearing continues. The accused are: Colonel Pieter Janse van Rensburg, Lt-Col Christian Loedolff, Commandant Salmon Pienaar, Captain Douw Vermeulen, Warrant Officer Andre Swart, Sergeant James Sayer, Sergeant Frank van Niekerk, Sergeant Frank Burger, Sergeant Albertus Smit, Constable Andre Smit, Constable Wilhelm Puchert, Constable Alexander Rossel and Constable Pieter du Toit.

Star 15/11/89

## Police have new <sup>(25)</sup> system to handle internal complaints

By Craig Kotze

Police are implementing a "participatory management" committee system to handle complaints within the force, a senior spokesman said yesterday.

The move, discussed by the SAP General Staff and Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok at a recent meeting in Nylstroom, "was the product of years of intensive research and planning".

SAP Public Relations chief Major-General Herman Stadler denied it was a reaction to the "Rockman affair".

"It's not new, we've been working on it for a number of years," he said.

The system involves the formation of committees at each rank level — constable, sergeant, warrant officer and officer level — to which complaints can be directed.

Complaints would then be taken further, but the normal chain of command would not be affected by the new system.

# The Rockman affair

PROVOCATIVE he may be, but there could be a healthy measure of survivalism in Lieutenant Gregory Rockman. Perhaps he regards the spotlight as protection. Certainly it is possible, if his actions and allegations are properly weighed, that his campaign could clear the air of mistrust of the security forces.

The lieutenant has focused attention on two issues: whether "unrest" units have resorted too readily to undue force; and whether a policeman can be permitted to speak out without retribution descending on him. The first issue remains unresolved after an unsatisfactory court case and an even less satisfactory decision to institute a private, non-judicial inquiry.

The second issue may prove

more important. We accept that disaffected policemen should not be licensed to air their grievances at whim. That way lies anarchy. But we also believe that a public duty may arise to expose abuses. Lieutenant Rockman insists that "regular channels" have failed. His reward has been threats and peculiar transfer plans.

Seldom has the SAP had so challenging an adversary in its own ranks. It is possible that he is grandstanding now, and needs to be knocked down. But he has been in the force for 12 years; he was promoted to officer rank by his superiors; he earned the respect of ordinary people; and he displayed undoubted courage in making his first claims public. Can the man really be dismissed as merely a malcontent?



Union alleges a co-ordinated campaign to break the strike

# Police act against Sats strikers

15/11/89  
S&P

By Drew Forrest

Police used batons and teargas to disperse striking railway workers gathered inside union offices in Springs yesterday, according to the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarwlu).

Sarwlu general secretary, Mr Martin Sebakwane, said police action, coupled with yesterday's dismissal of strikers, amounted to a co-ordinated campaign to break the strike.

20 000 workers have now downed tools Sarwlu puts the figure at close to 50 000. Police confirmed they had raided the Palladium Building in Springs which houses union offices. Dozens of knives, knobkerries, steel pipes, sjaamboks and similar weapons had been confiscated, a spokesman said.

About 8 000 strikers have been told they may be fired if they were not back at work today. Yesterday Sats withdrew from a proposed meeting with worker delegates in Johannesburg, arguing that their demands were the same as those which led to deadlock at a meeting last week.

had already been reached this year and the Sats Conditions of Service Act ruled out further increases for a 12-month period Mr Sebakwane disputed this. "The Act gives an implied right to groups of workers to discuss wages Sats says our R1 500 monthly wage demand is unreasonable."

Mr Sebakwane said he was appalled by Sats' dismissal of 150 workers yesterday. "Our view is that only negotiations will bring a speedy resolution of the dispute."

Mr Lubbe said the number of strikers in Kimberley increased sharply to over 1 100 yesterday and he estimated that 80 percent of the workforce in the Durban area was now on strike.

However, workers' pay demands were non-negotiable, as a wage agreement

ment was considering further proposals for urgent talks.



## Police halt 'service' for Strijdom Square murderer

Paying homage . . . Miss Karin Rautenbach, fiancée of mass murderer Barend Strydom, lays flowers at Strijdom Square in Pretoria last night. The killer's father, Mr Nic Strydom (inset), with Miss Rautenbach at the gathering. ● Pictures by Sean Woods.

By Norman Chandler,  
Pretoria Bureau

Police last night broke up a right-wing "commemoration service" for mass murderer Barend Hendrik Strydom at Strijdom Square in Pretoria.

About 40 members of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging, the Boerestaat Party, and a new group calling itself the Afrikaner Fascist Coalition (AFC), gave salutes similar to those of World War 2 fascists.

A year ago yesterday, Strydom, a self-proclaimed member of the Wit Wolwe, shot to death seven black people

at the square and wounded another 15. He had killed another black person and wounded one other at a squatter town near De Deur a few days earlier.

Strydom was sentenced to death on all eight counts of murder and is on Death Row in Pretoria Central Prison after two refusals by the Supreme Court to hear his appeals. Supporters have petitioned the State President for clemency.

Last night, his 22-year-old fiancée, Miss Karin Rautenbach, spent several moments alone at the bust of former Prime Minister Mr Hans Strijdom, after whom the square is named, shortly after the police brought in dogs to remove the right-wingers.

A half-hour before the demonstration she had rushed on to the square to lay a red carnation and a rose at the foot of the monument.



An Afrikaner Fascist Coalition member, wearing the group's armband

Miss Rautenbach, a final-year student at the Pretoria Teachers' College, declined to comment about her wedding on Death Row next Friday, saying, "It is a private matter and I do not wish to talk about it."

Minutes before the "service", it was declared illegal by police in terms of the Internal Security Act.

But Mr Nic Strydom, the killer's father, and Mr Piet Rudolph, a senior official of the Boerestaat Party, told the crowd that "this is a free land, we are a free people and can hold a meeting"

Mr Rudolph described Barend Strydom as "a hero of the volk" and said he would not be forgotten.

Vierkleur and AWB flags fluttered as the group moved nearer to the bust, by which time police dogs were brought on to the square.

The group sang a hymn and the national anthem before dispersing after police issued a second warning. Police declared the square an unrest area and ordered the media to disperse.

Earlier, a man who refused to identify himself said that he was a member of the Afrikaner Fascist Coalition which had been formed six weeks ago to promote Boere unity.

Asked about its relationship with the Wit Wolwe, he said "I have absolutely nothing to say about the Wit Wolwe."

He claimed the organisation had a lot of support in the Transvaal.

# Cops raid strikers

(25)

EAST Rand police yesterday raided the Palladium Building in Springs and confiscated dozens of knives, knobkerries, steel pipes, sjamboks and similar weapons, SABC radio news reports

Police claimed they confiscated the weapons from striking South African Transport Services workers.

A police spokesman, Lieutenant Ida van Zweel, said about 220 workers were in the building, which houses trade unions affiliated to Cosatu. No one was arrested. Sapa

*Sawetaw*  
*15/11/89*

29

# Rockman suspended

POLICE Lieutenant Gregory Rockman and 14 associates appeared briefly in court only hours after they were arrested on Monday for allegedly attending an illegal gathering in the Mitchells Plain town centre.

*Sowetan 15/11/89*

The controversial Mitchells Plain policeman was informed he had been suspended from duty following his arrest.

*Sowetan 15/11/89*

# Mxenge report

THE two investigators appointed to look into claims that a South African Police assassination squad was responsible for the murder of Durban attorney Mr Griffiths Mlungisa Mxenge eight years ago hope to have a report by the end of the month.

*Sowetan 15/11/89*

29

Publ:

(25)

SOWETAN Wednesday November 15 1989

# PARENTS SUE VLOK

THE parents of two Parys pupils have instituted civil action totalling R82000 against the Minister of Law and Order as a result of criminal action by two on-duty policemen against their children

The two men, one of whom has since resigned from the police force, were convicted in the Parys Regional Court this week on charges of assault, crimen injuria, indecent assault and pointing of a firearm

They are former Constable Andries Herman Truter (24), a bachelor, and Constable Joel Mephalele Sochifa (30), a father of two

The father of the girl, who cannot be identified, said from the Vredefort district where he lives that he was suing Mr Adriaan Vlok for R50000

## SOWETAN Reporter

He is claiming R10000 damages for unlawful arrest and detention, R5000 for assault relating to one of the policemen slapping his daughter across the face, R10000 for assaults relating to tear-gassing and R2500 for crimen injuria relating to the conduct of the policemen in forcing the girl to undress and expose herself and in subjecting her to sexual assaults

The other plaintiff, the mother of the youth, is suing the Minister for R32000

She is claiming R10000 for unlawful arrest and detention, R10000 for teargassing and R12000 for assaults relating to the crimen injuria and sexual assaults

The papers, which have been served on the Minister in Pretoria, refer to an incident on February 5 when the boy and his girlfriend were found in a public park in Parys by the two policemen

They were ordered into a police van and accused of having had sex in the park. Teargas was sprayed on several occasions into the back of the vehicle where they were sitting, thereby causing them to suffer pain and discomfort, including burning eyes and impaired breathing

According to the papers as a result of the policemen having subjected the pair to sexual assaults, the teenagers had been humiliated and degraded and caused them to suffer loss of dignity

# 'Raw deal' for policemen

*Carl Trais*

*15/11/89*

*(251)*

By **PATRICK COLLINGS**  
Crime Reporter

DESPERATE police wives this week spoke out against a "raw deal" that has their husbands working endless hours each month for a salary that struggles to put food on the family table.

"We only have soup in the cupboards and are forced to stretch everything, including meat," says heavily-pregnant Yvette, 23.

Her 29-year-old husband, a sergeant with 12 years in the force, manages to clear just over a R1 000 monthly, with normal expenses totalling R910.

"Things will be much worse when I have the baby. People say we can't afford a baby — but we want a family," Yvette said.

The family will also miss Yvette's salary of R985 that she has had to forfeit when she takes time off to have her child.

"I will have to go back to work when my baby is only three months old, we

## Wives protest unpaid overtime, low salaries

just will not be able to live without the extra money."

Yvette's frustration at policemen's salaries is backed by reports that more than 1 800 policemen have resigned from the force since January this year because of low pay and long working hours.

"Morale in the force is very low at the moment, with senior officers always giving the men pep talks — but nothing happens," complains 26-year-old Kathy whose husband, a detective-sergeant with 13 years in the force, works an average of 80 hours overtime each week.

Policemen are not paid overtime. The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, has been active in giv-

ing pep talks — flying around the country praising policemen for their efforts in the face of difficult conditions.

Aware of the poor police salaries Mr Vlok often remarks that he wishes he could give policemen increases.

The chief of police liaison, Major-General Herman Stadler, said while he appreciated that "pep talks" and "thank yous" will not keep the bank manager from the door, it does show that both the the minister and senior officers care about members and appreciate the sacrifices made by them.

"It must be borne in mind that while the minister and the commissioner are continuously trying to improve salaries and service conditions, this is

not a simple straightforward matter. "The SAP forms part of the broad spectrum of the civil service and salaries have to be negotiated within this context," General Stadler said.

A recent rumour circulating among police in the Western Cape about a 14th cheque — a Christmas bonus over and above the birthday bonus — being given to them was squashed last week, when police headquarters in Pretoria sent out a telex "urging members to ignore rumours about a 14th cheque and a pay increase."

Wives also complained that the force appeared to have little consideration for the private lives of their members, sending them off on border duty, to camps and other assignments at a few days notice.

"My husband was given two days notice the other day before he was sent off to Port Elizabeth for a couple of months training," says an unhappy Belinda, 38.

● The names of the three women have been changed.

CASE T/15 16/11/89 (251)

# 'Trojan' operation 'punitive, unlawful'

Supreme Court Reporter

THE "Trojan Horse" operation in which police used an unmarked SATS truck to drive down Thornton Road — a trouble spot during Peninsula-wide unrest in 1985 — was an "unlawful punitive expedition from the start", the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This assertion was made by Mr Jules Browde, SC, counsel for the prosecution, in the private prosecution for murder brought against 13 security forces members. The prosecution follows the death of Shaun Magmoed, who was killed when police, concealed in crates on the back of a truck and armed with shotguns, fired 39 rounds at a group of people.

Mr Browde said medical evidence had clearly established that the cause of Shaun Magmoed's death was shotgun wounds inflicted on him, that the fatal shots were fired in a downwards and forwards direction, that at the time he had been shot Shaun Magmoed had been standing with his back to the truck, and that the shot fired at him had been live ammunition.

Ballistics evidence had conclusively established that shotguns were "most lethal and imprecise weapons" and when fired shot would start spreading at a distance of about four metres.

The totality of the evidence had established beyond a reasonable doubt that Colonel Pieter Janse van Rensburg (SAP), Colonel Christian Loe-

dolff (SA Railways Police) and Commandant Salmon Pienaar (SADF) had ordered and instructed the carrying out of the operation which resulted in the death of Shaun Magmoed.

The remaining accused had all been on the truck and each had participated in the operation, Mr Browde said.

The firing had been indiscriminate and not directed only at those throwing stones. Immediately the firing started people in the vicinity had turned and fled. Despite this the firing continued, Mr Browde said.

Because there was no evidence from the accused explaining their conduct or attempting to justify such conduct in terms of Section 49 of the Criminal Procedures Act (which authorises the use of force in effecting an arrest and even justifies homicide), the prosecution submitted that there was no conceivable basis on which such a defence could succeed.

The prosecution submitted that the common purpose that had been established in relation to each accused provided the basis for their conviction of the offence of murder, alternatively culpable homicide, Mr Browde said.

The hearing continues today.

Mr Justice D M Williamson was on the bench. Mr Browde assisted by Mr Jeremy Gauntlett, SC, Mr Les Rose-Innes and Mr Denzil Potgieter instructed by Y Ebrahim and Co leads the prosecution. Mr Flip Hettlingh SC, and Mr Jurie Wessels, instructed by Mr Adrie Brand, appeared for the men on the truck. Mr W Burger SC with Mr Piet de Jager appeared for Commandant Pienaar. Mr P de Bruyn SC, assisted by Mr Anton Veldhuizen, appeared for the police officers.

# Prisoners' Revolt

Southw 16-22/11/89

(25)

By GAIL REAGON

PRISON warders who have joined forces with outspoken policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman have revealed their "hell" behind prison walls.

The warders — members of the fledgling Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) — allege their families are "housed" in prison cells meant for prisoners.

They also claim they are barred from using sports facilities if they are members of the South African Rugby Union (Saru), and that coloured and African warders are not allowed to tend to white prisoners.

South African Prisons Service have refused to respond to the claims, saying that they "are not prepared to communicate with the members of Popcru through the press".

Eleven union members were suspended by prison authorities this week after participating in a demonstration outside the Mitchell's Plain police station in support of Rockman, Popcru's chairman

## Restrictions

They have also been slapped with restriction orders confining them to their homes and requiring them to report to prison authorities at 9am every day

But the Popcru warders have announced that they refuse to abide by these "inhuman" restrictions — in spite of threats from prison authorities that they face disciplinary action if they violate their curbs

The warders in Popcru say they have joined the union to fight not only for their rights, but also for those they serve

"The black prisoners are basically used as cheap labour. While no one ever sees the white women prisoners because it's embarrassing, our women prisoners are sent out every day to work for some or other white madam," a union member said

"The same thing happens with the black male prisoners. Even if they have skills they are not employed in any of the prison workshops. Instead they have to go and work on farms or do odd jobs for people"

Full story on page 3



# Report on hit squad claim by month end

By Craig Kotze

(25) Stav 16/11/09  
Nofomela subsequently/also

The top-level probe into the allegations of a death row prisoner who claims he was a police "hit squad" member who operated inside SA and in Swaziland should be completed by the end of the month, according to one of the investigators.

The results of the investigation would then be handed to Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said the Attorney-General of the Free State, Mr T McNally.

He and CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie were given the task of investigating Nofomela's claim that he was part of a squad which assassinated human rights activist Dr Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981.

claimed he had been sent on a mission to Swaziland in 1986 to eliminate ANC members.

He refused to comment on whether investigations had already provided a basis for charges against anyone

"Our report should be completed at the end of the month and will be sent to the two ministers concerned. They will decide on the course of action," Mr McNally said.

He and General Conradie had interviewed many people in connection with the investigation, while "representations" had been received from others

These included police Brigadier Willem Schoon, whom Nofomela alleged was in command of the hit squad. Brigadier Schoon has since retired.

Farmer stabbed to death, wife stabbed, robbed

# Alert constable arrests two alleged murderers

By Gien Elsas,  
West Rand Bureau

Two suspects were arrested in Bekkersdal by an alert policeman only hours after a murder had been committed on a farm near Westonaria on Tuesday night

Lieutenant-Colonel Tienie Halgryn, liaison officer for the West Rand police, said Mr Jan Johannes van der Mescht (72) of the farm Doringkloof and his wife Marie (66) were watching television at about 10 pm

Suddenly their generator went off Mr van der Mescht went outside to see if there was still petrol in it when he was overpowered by two men who stabbed him in the face, head and chest

## Shot at robbers

As Mr van der Mescht lay dying on the ground he shouted to his wife to warn her of the danger She ran to fetch their gun She went to the kitchen and saw two men at the screen door

Mrs van der Mescht shot at them but missed The men broke down the door and stabbed her several times in the arm They took the gun, her rings, a radio worth R150 and R150 in cash before fleeing

Mrs van der Mescht was taken to the Paardekraal Hospital in Krugersdorp and was discharged after treatment

Yesterday morning, only hours later, Constable Robert Shimange (30) and a special constable were on patrol in Bekkersdal They saw two men walking at the side of the road Constable Shimange spotted a bulge underneath the jacket of one of the men He stopped to question the man who pulled out a gun and threatened to shoot the policeman

The constable overpowered his assailant and arrested him A bloodied knife was recovered and a ring and two watches were found hidden in the lining of the man's cap

It was established that the gun belonged to the Van der Meschts and the two men, one of 24 and the other of 29, were charged with the murder of Mr van der Mescht as well as the attack on his wife and the robbery

Brigadier Colin Steyn praised the action of Constable Shimange and said it was because of the constable's alertness that an arrest had been made so soon after the murder Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, head of the detective section of the South African Police, also praised the constable



Lieutenant-Colonel Tienie Halgryn, liaison officer for the West Rand Police, congratulates Constable Robert Shimange on his arrest of two men charged with the murder of Mr Jan Johannes van der Mescht. Constable Shimange found a knife on one of the men.

the top intelligence officers.  
The hearing continues.

# Railway worker shot, claims striking union

Staw 16/11/89 Labour Reporter (251)

A South African Transport Services employee shot and wounded a railway striker in Johannesburg yesterday, the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarwhu) has claimed.

Sarwhu's general secretary, Mr Martin Sebakwane, said the incident occurred at Jeppe station after an argument between the two men.

Mr Benjamin Mamakoko was being treated at the Natalspruit Hospital after being shot in the hand.

Mr Sebakwane said he was appalled by the dismissal of 476 more strikers in Johannesburg yesterday. Sats has fired more than 600 workers in phases and thousands have been warned their jobs were at risk.

However, the strike showed no sign of abating yesterday. Sats estimated there were 20 000 on strike.

## HÄGAR the Horrible



# Union takes on SAP, prisons

By GAIL REAGON (25)

MEMBERS of the fledgling Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), launched and growing despite curbs on security force union activity, say they will not be deterred by intimidation.

They spoke out this week after the extraordinary demonstration on Monday at Mitchell's Plain's town centre which led to the arrest and subsequent court appearance of 15 prison guards and policemen, including "hell-raiser" Lieutenant Gregory Rockman

They were charged for participating in an illegal gathering. All were immediately suspended by the SAP and Prisons Service.

They vowed to defy any action against the suspended members.

The suspensions mean an effective freeze on wages, stripping of authority and a temporary loss of benefits.

## Crawling

Although able to apply for a subsidised wage, Popcru has stated that the suspended members would not do so.

"It would mean that we are crawling to them, and we are not prepared to do so," the union said.

Rockman, Popcru's chairperson, said the union was determined to change the police and prisons departments in their entirety.

"We regard the security forces as a cornerstone of apartheid and we want to change that," said Rockman.

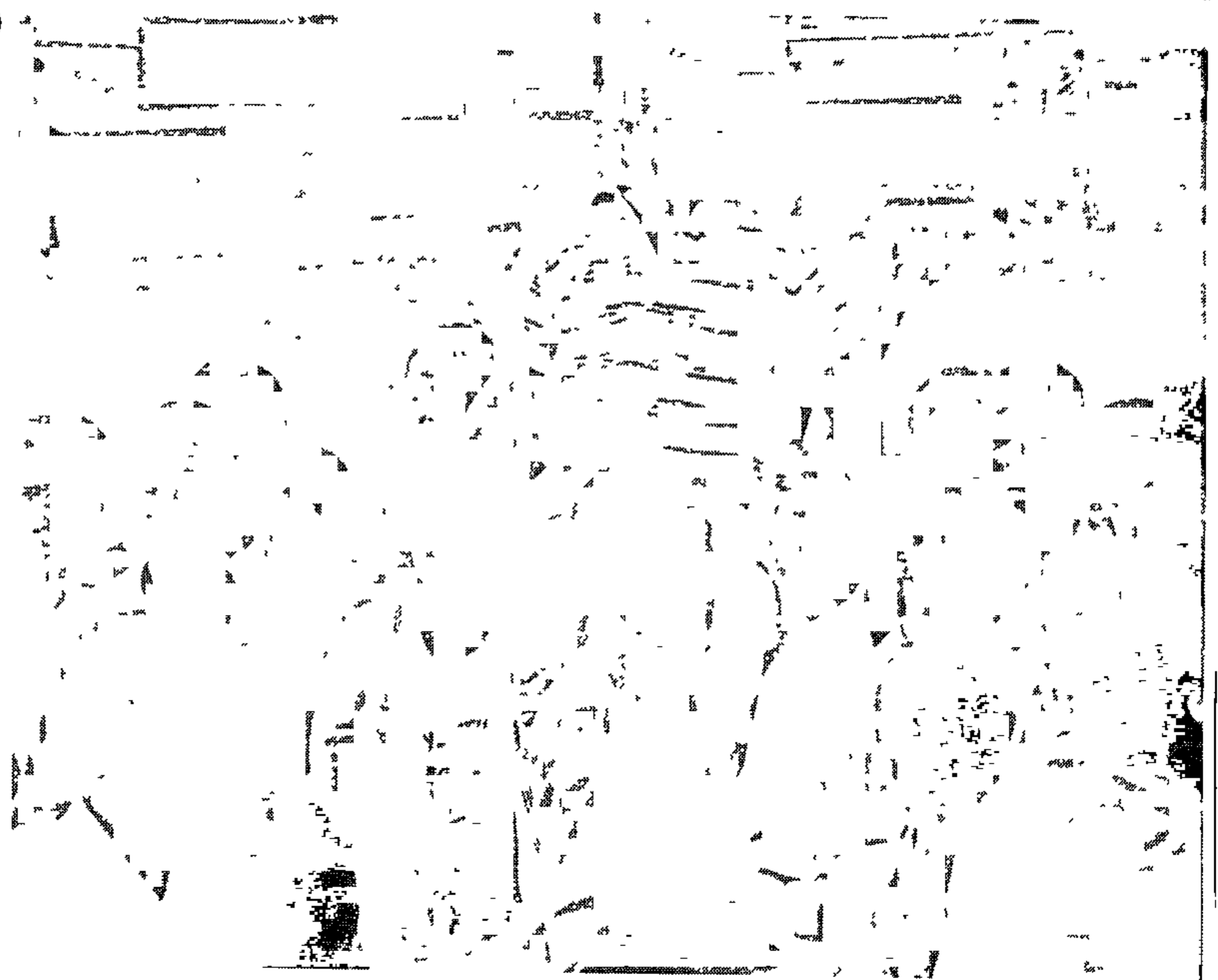
"If we get rid of apartheid in the security forces, the government will have no one to enforce apartheid in the community."

While the advent of the union is deepening the division between the ordinary police and the riot squad, support from the uniformed police cannot be taken for granted.

"The ordinary policeman agrees with what we stand for. They are on the receiving end of the discriminatory practices we want to abolish," said Rockman.

"But they are scared, they fear the unknown. They have stable jobs and don't yet seem prepared to sacrifice."

The union believes its cause would



Lt Gregory Rockman is hoisted shoulder-high by supporters in Mitchell's Plain after his court appearance this week.

PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

South 46/16-22/11/89  
be furthered if communities more clearly expressed their dissatisfaction with police apathy.

Despite difficulties, Popcru's growth has been meteoric. Since its formation, membership has soared to more than 100. Most members are from Mitchell's Plain, the Bishop Lavis Police College, Manenberg and Pollsmoor Prison.

A huge potential membership also exists in the rural areas.

While membership is open to anyone in the police force or prisons department, the union is adamant that security branch members have no home there.

Apart from fighting discrimination on all levels, the union intends fighting for an end to police brutality, the right to peaceful protest and the abolition of child imprisonment, which they feel criminalises the young.

A ten-point agenda has been forwarded to the head of the Prisons Services.

The demands relate largely to discriminatory housing, sports, medical

and work practices as well as shop-floor issues such as unpaid overtime work.

Popcru is determined to upgrade the treatment of prisoners and people in police custody.

They see themselves as "the people's police."

Lieutenant Rockman commented "I've only now realised that the police and the community live in two different worlds, and that it shouldn't be so."

"In a sense the police have lived in isolation and we have lost so much."

## Community

"Now we are regaining our rights and our principles. We are regaining our right to be part of the community we come from."

Popcru is non-aligned but will work with any organisation that has the same goal — the eradication of apartheid.

An SA Prisons Service spokesperson said she was not prepared to communicate with the members of Popcru through the press.

"The Prisons Service places a high premium on its staff and those entrusted to its care and their well-being and matters relating to them are dealt with the greatest empathy from the management," she said.

"Consequently our doors are always open for any person who wants to discuss a problem and members are fully aware of the existing channels."

She confirmed that the warders had been restricted to their living quarters at Westlake and said it was a normal procedure taken against suspended members.

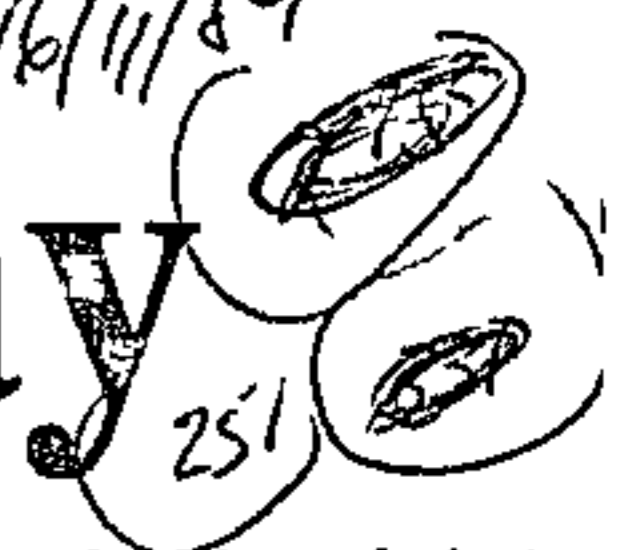
"Their actions constitute a violation of prison regulations and disciplinary steps can be taken."

A police spokesman said Lieutenant Rockman was a suspended member of the SA Police and consequently did not have the authority vested in other members of the police.

"The 'union' which you refer to was formed in contravention of the regulations for the SA Police as far as members of the SAP are concerned. We have no further comment."

# Court told of shots after election day

Cap. Truitt 16/11/89



By MONICA GRAAFF  
Court Reporter

A POLICE constable told the Wynberg Magistrate's Court yesterday that concealed policemen were "probably" firing rubber bullets or tear-gas through the portholes of a moving police truck the day after the September 6 general election

Constable Etienne Nel of Deep River police station was testifying in the trial of Mr Igshaan Kenny, 20, of Retreat, who yesterday pleaded not guilty to a charge of public violence

Mr Kenny is one of the few people against whom charges have not been dropped for allegedly being involved in stone-throwing incidents on the Cape Flats during the election period

When he first appeared in court in September he was wearing a blood-drenched T-shirt and had blood caked over a cut on his head

He alleged that he had been beaten up by the policeman who arrested him and afterwards by other policemen in the back of the truck.

The state alleges Mr Kenny threw a stone at a moving police truck after gathering with four others in Gate Road, Steenberg on the evening of September 7.

A stone allegedly hit the police truck below the windscreen.

Constable Nel told the court that he was the driver of the patrolling truck carrying other policemen who were concealed in the back.

## 'Mostly agitators'

They were "probably" pointing their rubber bullet and teargas launchers out of the portholes and firing, he said

Under cross-examination by defence counsel Mr S Desai, he agreed that it was natural for people in the street to start run-

ning away when they heard shots being fired.

"The street was fairly empty that night and the people who were out and about were mostly agitators," he said, adding that he was very familiar with people who threw stones

Constable Nel said he arrested Mr Kenny but denied beating him up, saying "I am not interested in hitting them I may have lost control when I was younger but I am too old for that now."

He said that although the area was very dark he was sure that it was Mr Kenny he saw throwing a stone at the truck.

He said he stopped the truck, got out and caught Mr Kenny who had run in the opposite direction from the other three who also allegedly had thrown stones

The hearing was adjourned until December 18 Mr Kenny was released on his own recognisance

Ms M J Gressel was the magistrate Mr C K Petty prosecuted. Mr Desai was instructed by Ms Beverly Franks of Y Ebrahim and Company

*Sowetan*  
**Youth shot  
dead**

A YOUTH was shot dead by a special constable at Lamontville yesterday after a gang tried to force entry to the A J Mwelase High School

The constable who had been posted outside the school fired a shot killing a youth instantly after allegedly being confronted with a knife

17/11/89

*Capt TWH'S 17/11/89*  
*(251)*

# SADF man 'not entitled to give orders'

★C

## Supreme Court Reporter

COMMANDANT Salmon Pienaar, the only SADF member accused of murder in the "Trojan Horse" trial, could not have given police orders to commit an unlawful act because his authority only extended to army personnel, the Supreme Court heard yesterday

There were no SADF members involved in the operation

This was said by Mr W Burger, SC, for Commandant Pienaar, during argument in the trial of 13 security force members who have pleaded not guilty to murder following the death of 16-year-old Shaun Magnoed on October

15, 1985, when police, hidden in crates on the back of a SATS truck, opened fire on a group of people when the truck was stoned

The men have pleaded not guilty to the charge and the alternative charge of culpable homicide.

Mr Burger said the private prosecutors had not led any evidence to show that Commandant Pienaar was aware that the policemen were armed with shotguns

It was clear from evidence that he could not have given police orders and there had also not been evidence that a joint decision, by or on behalf of the commandant, had been conveyed

to the men on the truck to commit an illegal act, Mr Burger said

A Joint Operations Centre (JOC) existed at the Manenberg police station and the private prosecutors alleged that Commandant Pienaar, Colonel Pieter Janse van Rensburg (SAP) and Colonel Christian Loedolf (then SA Railways Police) had jointly decided on the operation. They did not actively take part in the operation and remained at the JOC

The prosecutors had also not proved that before the men had left Manenberg police station they had a common purpose to unlawfully and intentionally kill people, including Shaun Magnoed

Mr P Hattingh, SC, for Lieutenant Douw Vermeulen and the men on the truck, said it was clear that the prosecutors did not know which of the accused had caused the death of Shaun Magnoed

It was clear that the prosecutors depended on the common purpose doctrine, which had allegedly been formed at Manenberg Police station before the truck left

From the evidence it could not be concluded that the accused had a common purpose to unlawfully kill people, Mr Hattingh said  
The hearing continues today

## Police to improve liaison operation

THE SAP is to improve its liaison operation following a recent work session for police liaison officers in the Transvaal

A police statement issued yesterday said the purpose of the three-day work session, which ended on November 11, was to "better equip liaison officers for their task".

The work session was also aimed to better equip officers for their task and promote better co-operation with the community and the media and within the ranks of the force.

"In this way, the SAP will be able to provide a better and more efficient service," the statement said

The work session was attended by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, the police Commissioner-designate, Lieutenant-General Jol van der Merwe, and members of the general staff. Speakers included experts from the academic field and private sector — Crime Reporter and Sapa



overflowed its banks yesterday and area reported  
parking area at the mouth was also Dam was filli  
washed away by the waters

# Woman wins <sup>CMT</sup> <sup>TmtS</sup> R14 000 claim <sup>17/11/86</sup> against police <sup>JS</sup>

## Supreme Court Reporter

A GUGULETU woman, who was wounded in the neck when police opened fire on a crowd of people who had attacked a truck, yesterday won R14 000 in damages from the Minister of Law and Order.

Evidence was that on February 11, 1986, a truck belonging to Chilwan's Bus Service was stoned by a group of people and was subsequently set alight.

Mrs Evelina Nomtshongwana was outside her sister-in-law's house in NY 115 on February 11, 1986, watching the incident when she felt a sting on her neck.

Mrs Nomtshongwana said she had reported her injury to the Guguletu police station where she was arrested on a charge of public violence, which was later dropped.

Mr Justice J H Conradie entered judgment in the amount of R14 000.

Mr John Whitehead, instructed by Mr Gary Jansen of Y Ebrahim and Co, appeared for Mrs Nomtshongwana. Mr B M Griesel, instructed by the state attorney, appeared for the minister.

17/11/89

# 'Hit squad' policeman was sacked

251

Staff Reporters  
Stow 17/11/89

Former security policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee, who has made sensational claims concerning alleged police hit squad actions in South Africa and abroad, was dishonourably discharged from the SAP after being convicted of a criminal offence in court, it emerged today.

Mr Coetzee claimed in an article published in *Vrye Weekblad* today that he was head of a murder squad which carried out killings and attacks against ANC targets in South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho, Britain, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

He has implicated former police Brigadier Willem Schoon, as overall commander of the unit, SAP forensics experts Lieutenant-General Lothar Neethling, former SAP spy Craig Williamson and former SAP commissioner-general Johan Coetzee, now retired.

## PROBING ALL CLAIMS

Mr T McNally, Attorney-General of the Free State, who is investigating hit squad claims, said today the claims in *Vrye Weekblad* would be investigated.

"We will probe all claims," he said.

Mr Coetzee, speaking from Mauritius, also alleged he arranged the murder of prominent human rights activist Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981.

Other murders he alleged he knew about were the assassination of Ruth First, wife of the secretary-general of the South African Communist Party, the attempted murder of Chris Hani, ANC chief-of-staff, and the murder of other ANC members.

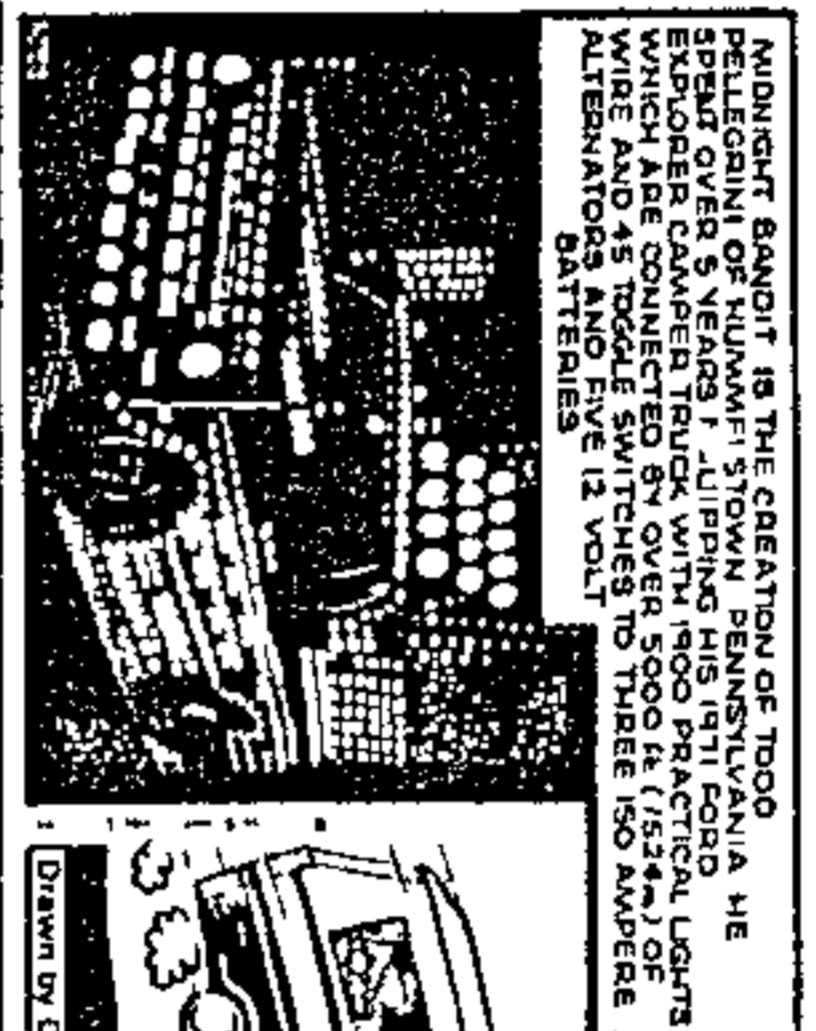
Police today confirmed that Mr Coetzee was a former member of the Security Police, stationed at Vlakplaas, a training centre where "turned" ANC fighters are housed outside Pretoria.

251

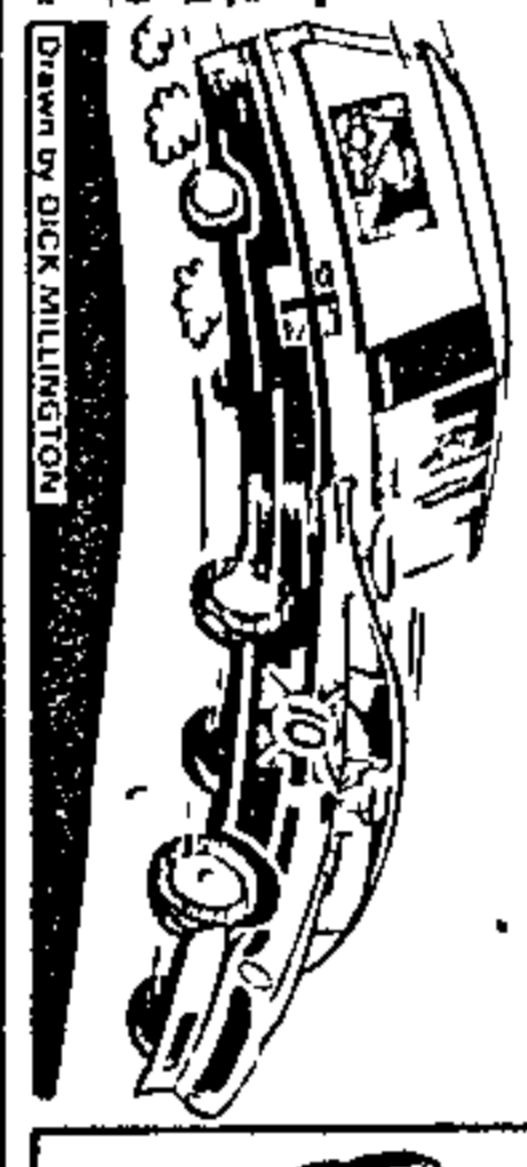
# Restrictions on staff normal practice, says service

## Prisons reply to Rockman

FACTFILE - by Norris McWhirter

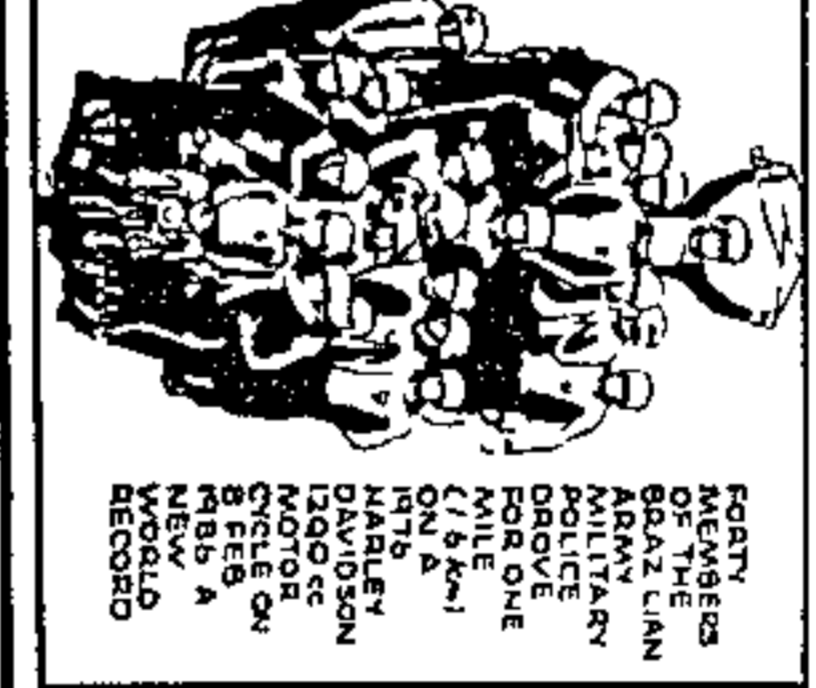


INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION IN THE CREATION OF TRUCKS. THE FIRST TRUCK WAS INVENTED BY KARL BENZ IN 1825. THE FIRST TRUCK TO BE MASS PRODUCED WAS THE FORD MODEL T IN 1908. THE FIRST TRUCK TO BE MASS PRODUCED IN SOUTH AFRICA WAS THE FORD MODEL T IN 1910.



Drawn by Dick Millington

THE WORLD SPEED RECORD FOR A CARAVAN IS 124.91 MPH (200.83 KM/H) TOWED BY A LE MAN'S ASTON MARTIN V8 SALOON DRIVEN BY ROBIN HAMILTON AT RALEIGH, NORTH DORSETSHIRE ON 14 OCT 1980.



FIFTY MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH MILITARY POLICE POLICE FORCE ONE MILE (1.6 KM) ON 11 MAR 1980. DAVIDSON RACE CYCLE ON 8 FEB. A WORLD RECORD.

### Union drive

ROCKMAN'S union has launched a major membership drive. The lieutenant said yesterday the drive would culminate in the union's first rally, at the United Kingdom Church in Elsie's River on November 21 - Sapa



Rockman.

It was normal procedure to restrict members of the Prisons Service to their quarters in the prison grounds when they had had been suspended from duty, a spokesman for the Prisons Liaison Section said yesterday. It was also normal they be required to report to the prison's commanding officer each morning. The spokesman was commenting on a complaint by Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, president of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcu) that 11 Popcu warders who appeared in court after joining him in a Popcu demonstration this week had been put under house arrest by prison authorities.

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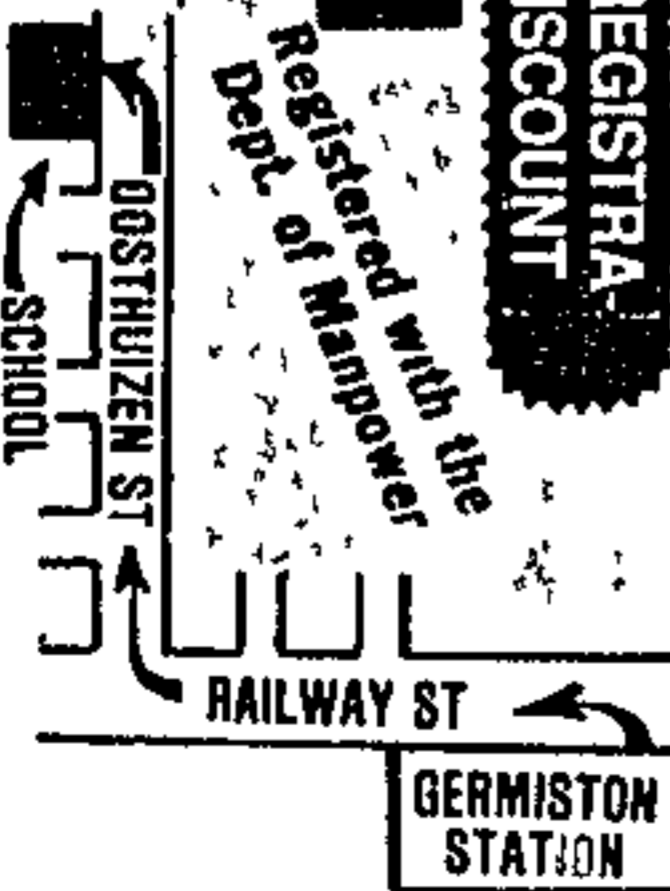
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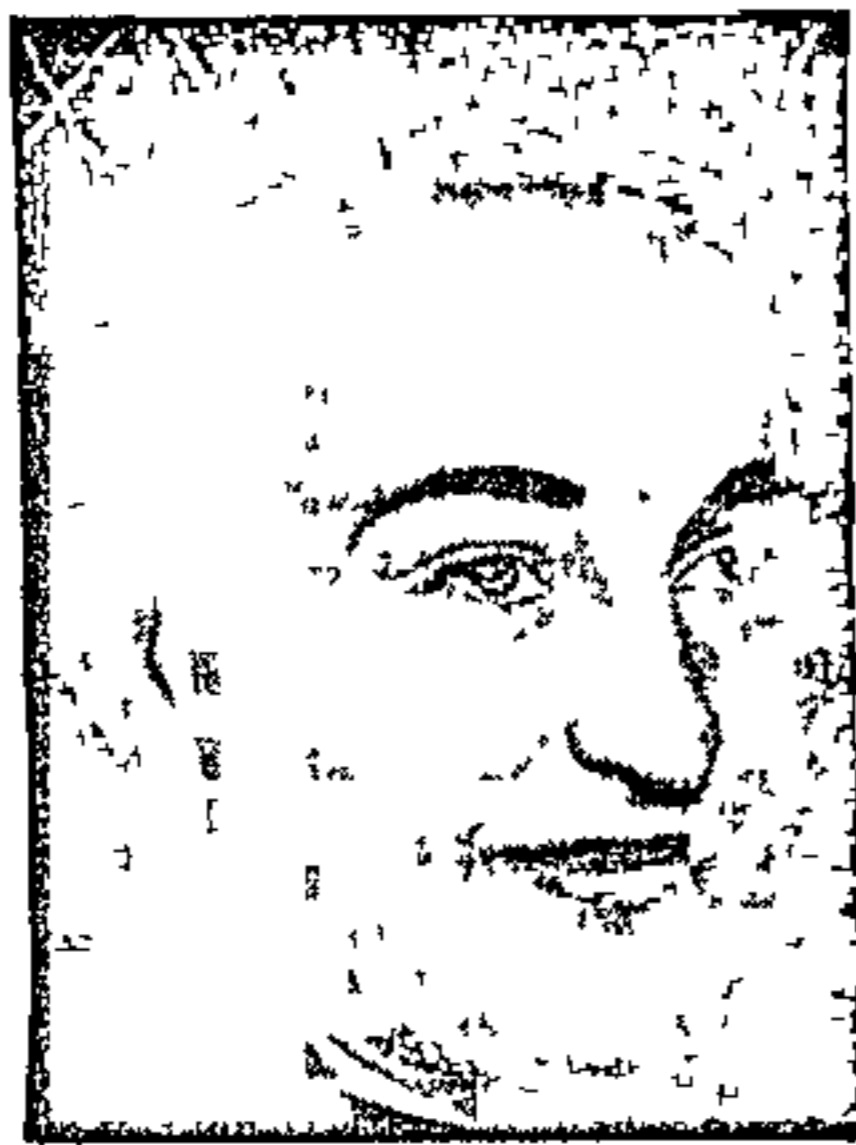
S 20907

### Suspended

The 11 were suspended from duty after their court appearance. Commenting on a claim by Lieutenant Rockman that three other Popcu members, all non-commissioned officers, had been victimised by being transferred to duties which would normally be done by ordinary warders, the spokesman said "Depending on the circumstances at a prison, the head of the prison determines the utilisation of members on a daily basis" - Sapa.

New twist to 'assassinations' controversy ✓

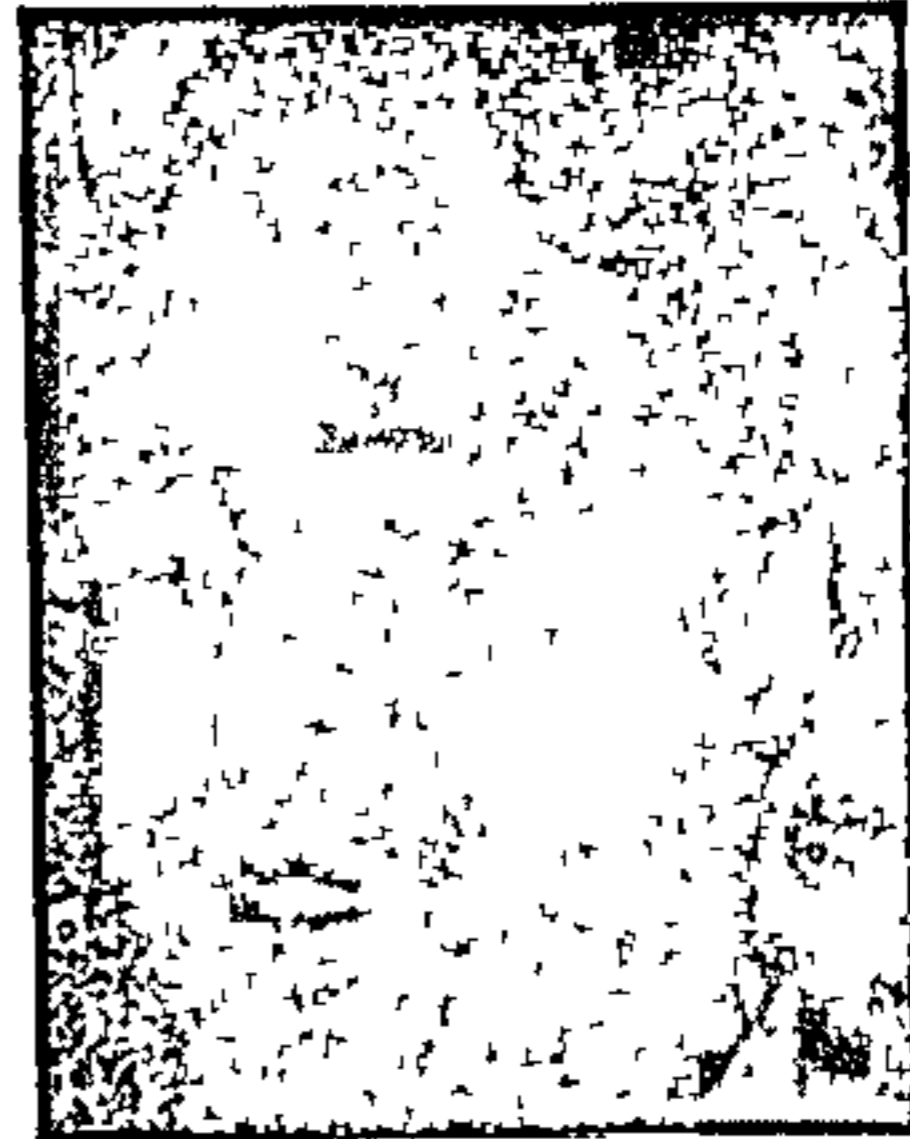
# Death squad chief flees SA



**VICTIM:** Activist Ruth First, murdered by a parcel bomb



**VICTIM:** Lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, hacked to death



**NEAR VICTIM:** Guerrilla leader Chris Hani escaped death

(25) *W Mail 1/21/89*  
**E**X-CAPTAIN Johannes Dirk Coetzee, the man named in the "Nofomela affidavits" as the field commander in a secret security police death squad, has fled the country.

Before leaving this week, Coetzee told his story to Afrikaans newspaper *Vrye Weekblad*. When it appears in the newspaper today, it is likely to cause a major diplomatic row and shake the police force.

Coetzee, who was recently named by another self-confessed hit squad member, death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela, said his unit was involved in the murder of Ruth First, a leading exiled intellectual and wife of African National Congress leader Joe Slovo, who was killed by a parcel bomb in Maputo in 1982.

He also gave information on a bomb attack on ANC offices in London, saying the explosives were smuggled into Britain in South Africa's diplomatic pouch.

He told of several bomb attacks on other ANC leaders and assassination attempts on ANC military leader Chris Hani and exiled former political prisoner Marius Schoon.

He admitted that he helped plant the bomb that killed ANC activist Patrick Makau in Swaziland in 1980 and told of how bottles of whiskey were injected with poison prepared by the police forensic department and sent to Maputo to be given to ANC members.

"I was in the heart of the whore. I was the commander of the SAP's death squad.

"My men and I had to murder political and security opponents of the police and the government. I know all the secrets of this unit

*...But not before confessing: 'I was commander of a death squad ... I am guilty'*

which is above the law. I myself am guilty or at least an accomplice to several murders," he told *Vrye Weekblad*.

He also admitted — as Nofomela had charged — involvement in the murder of Durban human rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge in November 1981. Coetzee said he received orders to kill Mxenge, and then told his men.



The Nofomela controversy ... recent front page of the Weekly Mail shows pictures of alleged death squad victims

"Get rid of Mxenge, but make it look like a robbery."

This is almost identical to the account given by Nofomela, who claims to have been one of those who carried out Coetzee's order. "In accordance with our instructions from Captain Coetzee, we removed Mxenge's items of value, like money and a watch, in order to simulate a robbery," Nofomela said in his affidavit.

Coetzee's flight comes two weeks after the unexpected retirement of another officer named in the affidavit as heading the special branch's secret "anti-terrorist unit", Brigadier WFS Schoon.

Coetzee himself retired from the force in 1985 because of diabetes and at the time of his flight was working for a construction firm in Pretoria.

He left the country saying he would seek work as a deep-sea diver on an oil rig.

Meanwhile, fears are growing that the two-man official investigation into the "Nofomela affidavits" is turning into little more than a cover-up.

According to police sources the two-man team of state officials investigating Nofomela's allegations are expected to find the affidavit unreliable as evidence when it submits its report before the end of this month.

This will allow the state to hang Nofomela almost immediately, silencing the man who first spoke out about the death squads.

The investigating team consisting of Free State Attorney General PT McNally and Pretoria CID head Brigadier Conradie will have arrived at their conclusions without contacting a number of people holding important and well-publicised evidence in the case.

Nor have they attempted to obtain copies of a second Nofomela affidavit taken by Lawyers for Human Rights which contains further hit squad allegations.

McNally last week refused to disclose details

●To PAGE 2 P.T.O.

THE ROCKMAN SAGA: WHAT ONE MAN'S FIGHT HAS DONE TO PRISON

# Secret death squad leader flees

251 WMA  
17-23/10/89

of the investigation, saying it would be tantamount to "holding the investigation in public" Yesterday he said "the investigation is making good progress"

McNally would not say whether the findings of his investigation would be made public. That, he said, would be

●From PAGE 1

decided at a later date

Conradie was not available for comment.

However, *Weekly Mail* can reveal that the investigators have made no attempt to contact the family of

Mxenge, the human rights lawyer who Nofomela claims was one of the hit squads victims, the family attorneys, Lawyers for Human Rights or the South African Council of Churches team investigating assassinations.

Much of the key evidence and information confirming the substance of Nofomela's allegations is being held by these individuals and organisations.

Two weeks ago Lawyers for Human Rights submitted a package to the investigating team. Included were false passports which Nofomela alleges were used in cross-border assassinations, photographs, allegedly of targets for assassination; and bullets for a 9mm Makarov pistol which Nofomela claims to have used in various hits while he was a member of the alleged security police death squad

The investigating team did not respond when LHR last week called for an urgent meeting to discuss this evidence and the new material contained in the second affidavit taken by the human rights organisation

It is known McNally and Conradie spent some hours with Nofomela, who is on death row, and that an interview has been held with Brigadier Schoon But beyond those, few known leads appear to have been followed up

The senior remaining partner in the Mxenge's firm, Bheka Shezi, said he has written to the investigators asking to be kept informed about the progress of the investigation He has had no reply.

Fumbathia Mxenge, brother of the murdered attorney, said the family had heard nothing from the team.

"This creates the impression, to put it mildly, that they are not doing their work as thoroughly as we would like," he said

●The South African Police have objected strongly to a *Weekly Mail* report that Brigadier Schoon had retired as head of the security police anti-terrorist unit the same day that Nofomela claimed to be part of this unit

Describing the report as "blatantly misleading", the SAP said "if notices regarding a farewell party (for Schoon) were posted on the same day the allegations were made, this is purely coincidental

"Brigadier Schoon could indeed have retired some years ago but chose to stay on in the force On July 1989 31, he gave written notice of his intention to retire at the end of October 1989.

"The retirement was not 'sudden' as alleged and to further state that the resignation was a 'surprise', after three month's notice, is nothing short of ludicrous "

POLICEMEN ARRESTING POLICEMEN PRISON WARDERS FORMING UNIONS

IT'S CALLED THE ROCKMAN EFFECT

# On the prisons turf, a group of warders meet ... nervously

A meeting of the newly-launched union of warders and policemen Forty people await the arrival of their leader and hero Gregory Rockman  
**GAYE DAVIS reports**

**A**BOUT 40 people crowded into a poky living room in the married quarters for "coloured" warders employed at Pollsmoor Prison this week

They were meeting on the Prison Services own turf, to do something that made even the bravest among them a little nervous form a union to fight for the rights of warders and policemen

As they waited for the meeting to begin, one of the men told me how the tiny houses were once prison cells, which, after Pollsmoor Prison was expanded, were converted to house "coloured" warders, their wives and children

Going to the toilet means a trip outside. The houses are set in rows in a corner of Pollsmoor's vast grounds, within walking distance of the bulky prison buildings and the attractive bungalows where white prison staff are housed

Disparities such as these, and years of fruitless efforts to have their grievances redressed by "going through the proper channels", lie behind the formation of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru)

Tuesday night's meeting was the sixth since the union was launched a fortnight ago and rebel policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman elected its president

Before Rockman arrived — in a gust of brisk efficiency — executive committee members told how they decided to approach him

"We are people who feel like him about discrimination. We were also prepared to publicly show our solidarity and support for him in the stand he has taken"

Most of those who pressed into the cramped living room were Pollsmoor warders. Eleven of them had been arrested with Rockman the day before and suspended, with immediate effect, from their posts

Until further notice they were confined to their quarters. Their salaries had been frozen. They had been ordered, in letters signed by the acting commanding officer of the Pollsmoor complex, to report to the head of the prison daily until further notice

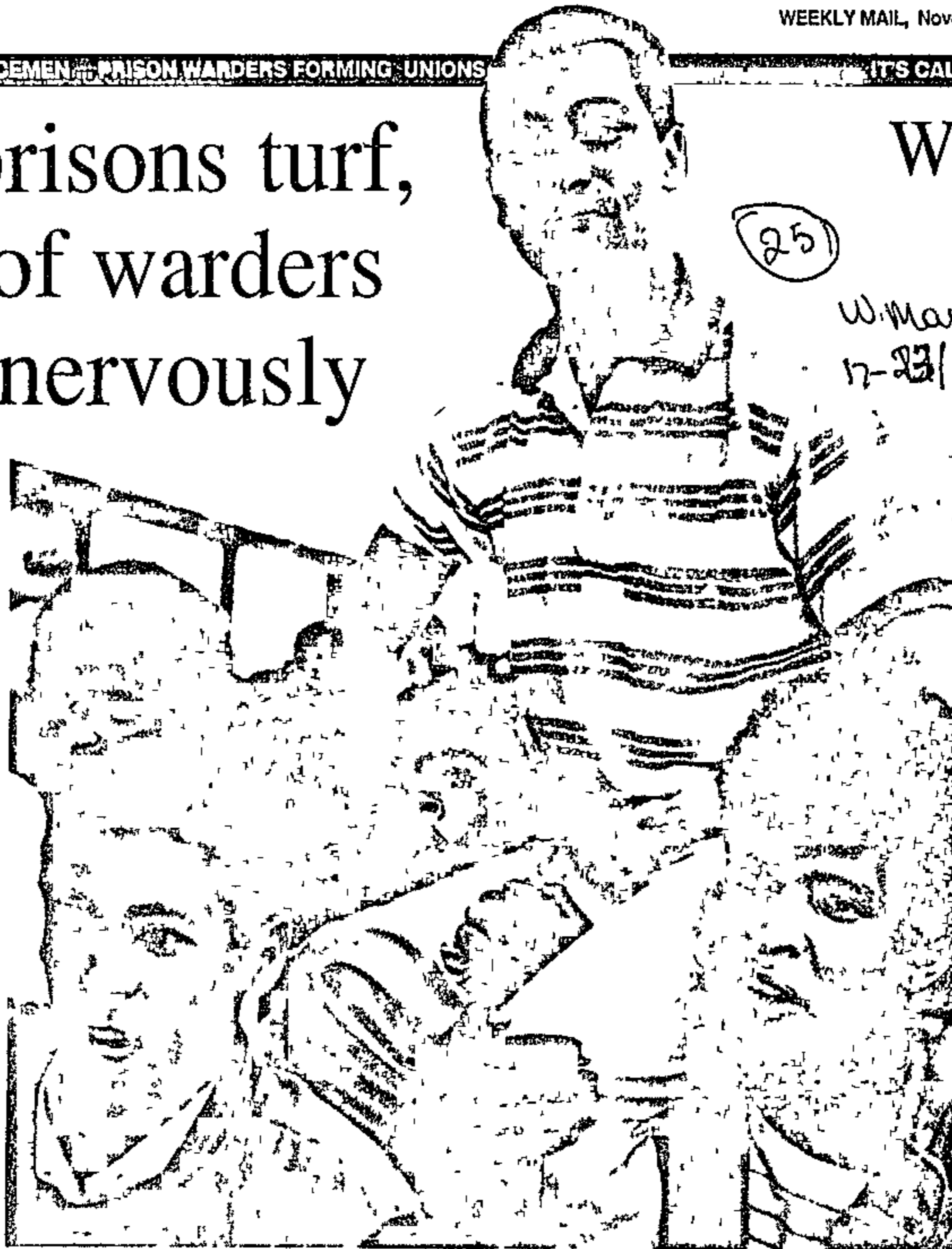
Beneath their bravado lingered the shadow of doubts. If they needed reassurance, Rockman gave it. "Don't worry," he said. "They can't restrict my members"

The meeting began with heads bowed in prayer. "We gather here in Jesus' name. God grant us the strength to speak"

Any faint hearts were soon boosted by Rockman's address, which was punctuated by bursts of applause and shouts of agreement

In enthusiastic oratory he expounded on his theme. Popcru's fight was for justice. It couldn't fail because God — rather than any political figure — was its leader

The houses the warders lived in weren't even good enough for prisoners. "They're varkhokke (pigsties)," someone interjected. They should be flattened, said Rockman,



Students give Lieutenant Gregory Rockman a heroes welcome after his arrest this week

Picture: BENNY GOOL, Afrapix

**POLICEMEN** this week found themselves in the extraordinary position of having to order their colleagues to disperse

The bizarre scenario resulted in the arrest of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, a plainclothes colleague and 11 uniformed Pollsmoor Prison warders, all members of the newly launched Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), of which Rockman is president

Watched by scores of bystanders, police first arrested eight journalists soon after issuing a five minute warning to disperse

They then arrested Rockman, Sergeant George Johnson, the warders and two civilians, one a hawker

The incident took place on Monday, the day Rockman was due to report for duty at the SAP quartermaster's store. He was told last Friday of his transfer from his Mitchells Plain post, where he was a crime prevention officer, "in the interests of good order and discipline"

The journalists were later released. Rockman, the warders and the two civilians appeared later in the Mitchells Plain Magistrate's Court where they were

and new ones built

"The boere live beautifully over there with their swimming pools and rugby fields"

Popcru wanted to end all discrimination in the police and prisons service, improve their public image and protect the rights of employees and prisoners

"If I was the minister of police or of justice I would say let them all join, Popcru is the best thing that could have happened," Rockman said

But unless there was unity — wives standing alongside their husbands — nothing would be achieved

"Everyone must come together. People must know that Popcru members are for the people, are concerned with protecting their rights"

After his address, there were questions, posed with deference to "the lieutenant"

What did the lieutenant think should be done about those members who had been arrested, who had been confined to quarters, whose salaries were frozen?

"The Prisons Service can't place

## Bizarre scene as policemen move in on policeman

warned to reappear on November 23

Cries of "Viva Rockman!" and "Phansi SAP, phansi!" erupted from the crowd of about 100 people

"The community's behind you, don't worry," a woman told Johnson as he came up to reassure his wife before taking his turn in the dock

Outside the court building Rockman was hoisted onto the shoulders of youths who then toy-toyed with him across the road and into the Mitchells Plain town centre

They swept Rockman past bemused shoppers until reaching the square where police action against demonstrating

schoolchildren on September 5 first prompted Rockman's scathing criticism of riot squad's behaviour

Officially named Harmony Square, the area was commonly known as Freedom Square. Now it has a new name — Rockman Square

In a nearby hall he gave an impromptu press conference and explained why he was no longer wearing the uniform in which he had been arrested before his court appearance. He said police had taken him home and asked him to change

As Rockman was speaking four riot squad policemen and a police video unit filming proceedings from the back of the hall. But the crowd closed the doors on them and the meeting resumed

Rockman's attorney Essa Moosa said he was initially told that Rockman was being held in terms of the Emergency regulations and was denied access to a lawyer

Later he was told Rockman faced possible charges of attending an illegal gathering and defeating the ends of justice. The warders and two civilians face possible charges of attending an illegal gathering

THE stories on this page were put to the South African Prisons Service for their comment

They replied "The report is riddled with half-truths and inaccuracies and it is clear that the members of Popcru have deliberately withheld information with the sole purpose of making propaganda and gaining sympathy"

"The Prisons Service wishes to state emphatically that we are not prepared to communicate with Popcru through the media."

people under house arrest," said Rockman

But the men had signed the letters notifying them of their suspension. The steps against them had been taken in terms of the Prisons Act

Rockman had also been suspended, but he was a lieutenant and they were just sergeants and warders

"There are laws and there are laws," said Rockman. "When it comes to laws that deprive one of basic rights I don't recognise them. I stand reckless against such unjust laws"

So what if Popcru was deemed by

the police and prisons service to be illegal?

Its fight was intended to improve the image of both departments. "We are making a new prisons service, a new police force." There were thousands of them who felt the same way, they just had to be recruited

"We are not alone in our struggle. The broader community is behind us. In the struggle for justice, everyone stands together"

It was decided he would come to Pollsmoor the next day for a meeting with the head of the prison, to intercede on behalf of the 11 warders

Lists would be circulated for donations to help ease the financial hardship of suspended members

Rockman met Pollsmoor authorities on Wednesday morning. He said the officials, including Pollsmoor's acting commanding officer, Colonel DJJ du Plessis, had refused to discuss the suspensions with him

He was optimistic, however. "In the long run they will see how strong we are"

# Warders told: your union won't be recognised

By GAYE DAVIS, Cape Town  
WARDERS at Pollsmoor Prison have been told their union, the Police Civil and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), will not be recognised

The union's first act was to write a letter to Pollsmoor's commanding officer, requesting a meeting with the commissioner of prisons in Pretoria

The letter set out a 10-point agenda listing the men's grievances

Central to the complaints are the discrimination and racism the men say they — and prisoners — are subjected to within the prisons service

"We don't want to throw the jails open and set the prisoners free. There is no political sentiment here. Justice is what we want. This is about discrimination against people because of the colours of their skins," a warrant officer said

One of their grievances is the detention of juveniles. The *Weekly Mail* has documents showing that children as young as 12 are being held

Under South African law, any child over seven can be jailed

While prison regulations specified that, where possible, juveniles be housed apart from adult offenders, this was not always the case at Pollsmoor, members claimed

Warders criticised the discriminatory treatment of prisoners, especially those classified black. Unlike the food for white prisoners, their food was poorly prepared in one pot and often served raw and cold

"There is no white crime or black crime," a Popcru member said. "Why aren't all offenders treated the same?"

Prisons sports policy was another major grievance. In 1982 prisons service rugby clubs belonging to the South African Rugby Union (Saru), a Sacos affiliate, were ordered to disband and re-constitute under Dr Danie Craven's SA Rugby Federation

A document spelling out prisons service policy states that requests from "coloured members" to play with private clubs affiliated to Saru should "under no circumstances" be favourably considered. Nor should prisons' service facilities be made available for Saru matches

There were also complaints at the lack of recreational facilities

Black employees suffered from disparities in salaries, benefits and allowances, members claimed

They also complained of discrimination regarding promotions. "Instead of promoting a 'coloured' sergeant they'll bring in a white sergeant who gets the promotion"

In addition, Popcru wants holiday facilities provided by the prisons service opened to all

On its launch a fortnight ago Popcru's membership was 28. Now it is 40 and requests for information have come from prisons at Paarl, Worcester, Malmesbury and Robertson. Its president is Lieutenant Gregory Rockman

Members stressed that at the heart of their actions lay a desire for justice and equal treatment

None of its members are commissioned officers, except Rockman

A week after Rockman first hit the headlines with his outspoken criticism of the riot police, commissioned officers at Pollsmoor were called in and asked to sign undertakings that they would not speak to the press, members claimed

They believe this has made them afraid

The fear is real. In the police and prisons service forming or joining unions is not allowed. Eleven warders have already been suspended after being arrested

# Police raid strikers' village

CPT TUNTS

17/11/89

~~SA~~ ~~SA~~ ~~SA~~ (2SI)  
Own Correspondent

**KEMPTON PARK** — Police helped by members of the SADF yesterday raided the SA Breweries village at Tembisa, where most of the company's striking workers live

A police spokesman said the raid was to follow up allegations of attacks on shebeen owners by SAB workers, apparently because the owners were selling beer in defiance of the national boycott

Cosatu said in a statement the security forces invaded the village about 5.30am, breaking doors and windows, assaulting workers and searching homes

"In the process watches, money and other belongings of workers disappeared," Cosatu said, adding that the raid had apparently been initiated by SAB management

Police said a number of weapons, including knobkerries, iron pipes and axes and union literature were confiscated.

They rejected Cosatu's allegations that workers' possessions were stolen or that they were assaulted during the raid

## Prepared to negotiate

"On occasions entry was refused and in terms of the Criminal Procedures Act the necessary force was used to enter," the spokesman said

Our Johannesburg correspondent reports that the Food and Allied Workers Union (Fawu) said yesterday it was still prepared to negotiate with SAB, despite the failure of the first round of talks this week aimed at ending the five-week-old dispute

Fawu national organiser Mr Rajin Naicker said the union was now trying to explore alternative ways to resolving the dispute

SAB management was unavailable for comment Wednesday's talks between the two parties ended in deadlock, in spite of Fawu tabling a new minimum wage increase demand which was six percent down on their initial 38% demand

Mr Naicker said management claims that striking employees had returned to work at certain depots were "lies"

"As far as we are concerned no one has gone back to work," he said

**'Ex-cop'**  
says he  
was a  
hit man

JOHANNESBURG — A man claiming to be a former police captain says he planned and took part in various murders allegedly committed by a special unit based near Pretoria.

During an interview in Mauritius and published by Vrye Weekblad, Mr. Dirk Coetzee said the squad's hit list included

- The murder of anti-apartheid activist and lawyer Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981

- The murder of South African Communist Party leader Joe Slovo's wife Ruth First by letter bomb in Maputo in 1982

- The murder of ANC member Patrick Makau and his child in Swaziland in 1980

- The attempted murder of ANC military wing leader Chris Hanu in Lesotho — Sapa

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# Railway striker shot by police dies

ONE of the two railway strikers shot by police yesterday has died in hospital, a police spokesman confirmed yesterday

And in other developments linked to the two-week strike:

● South African Transport Services fired another 792 workers, bringing to 2 600 the number of dismissals this week.

● An estimated 300 riot policemen surrounded Johannesburg's Central Methodist Church, where strikers had joined journalists planning a protest march. The workers dispersed without incident

Police also massed at the Germiston Station before a meeting at nearby union offices, but no confrontations were reported. Twelve policeman and 11 strikers were hurt in clashes in the town on Thursday

● Sats reported that another motor coach had been destroyed

**DREW FORREST**

by fire at Parkhill station on the East Rand. Three motor coaches, each valued at R2 million, and five passenger coaches have been destroyed since the strike began

● Sats started evicting dismissed workers from Johannesburg's Kaserne hostel, according to Sarhwu. Management could not be reached for confirmation

## **Strike unabated**

Despite the dismissals and police action, the strike continues unabated, with Sats reporting that over 20 000 employees refused to work yesterday

This week, strike action escalated in Pretoria and Kimberley, flared anew in Richards Bay and spread to Cape Town

Workers are demanding a

R1 500 minimum monthly wage, recognition of Sarhwu and changes in the application of a newly introduced disciplinary code

Sarhwu general secretary Mr Martin Sebakwane confirmed that a striker shot in Thursday's clashes died yesterday in the Natspruit Hospital. Two workers were shot, one with a shotgun.

He said the union would withhold the man's name until his next-of-kin had been informed.

Conflict at Germiston Station had only been averted because strikers had alighted from trains at the next station, he said. Mr Sebakwane has urged the authorities to respect workers' democratic right to meet.

Mr Sebakwane also said the union's lawyers were looking at possible court action, both in relation to the dismissals and the eviction of workers from hostels

### Supreme Court Reporter

POLICEMEN on a SATS truck who had been ordered to arrest stonethrowers in Thornton Road, Athlone, were entitled to open fire because their lives were in danger and the truck was a "soft target", the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was said by Mr Flip Hattingh SC, for nine policemen, during argument in the "Trojan Horse" trial yesterday.

Thirteen security forces members, including a commandant in the SADF, have been charged with murder in the first private prosecution on that charge in South African legal history.

The trial is a sequel to the death of Shaun Magmoed, 16, during an incident in Thornton Road on October 15, 1987 when the policemen, hidden in crates on the back of the SATS truck, opened fire when a group of people who had gathered at the intersection of Thornton and St Simons Roads stoned the truck.

The private prosecutors alleged the policemen on the truck had acted in common purpose with three officers — Colonel Pieter Janse van Rensburg (SAP), Commandant Salmon Prenaar (SADF) and Colonel Christian Loedolff (then SA Railways Police) and that the common purpose had been formed at the Manenberg police station where a Joint Operations Centre (JOC) had existed.

Mr Hattingh told the court the men had been ordered to

# Court hears police were in danger

CAPT Truis  
18/11/89  
21  
JWS

arrest stonethrowers, but had been forced to act when their lives were endangered by stones hitting the truck.

From video evidence it was clear that a large brick had gone through the unprotected windscreen of the cab where Constable James Sayer was seated. Had police been able to arrest the person who threw the brick, a charge of attempted murder would have been appropriate.

The truck had been a "soft target," he said.

The hearing continues on Monday.


Mr Justice D M Williamson was on the Bench. Mr Jules Browde SC, assisted by Mr Jeremy Gauntlett SC, Mr Les Rose-Innes and Mr Denzil Potgieter, were the prosecuting counsel. Mr Hattingh, and Mr Jurie Wessels, instructed by Mr Adne Brand of De Klerk and Van Gend, appeared for Lieutenant Douw Vermeulen and the men on the truck. Mr W Burger SC, assisted by Mr Piet de Jager, appeared for the SADF member Mr P de Bruyn SC, assisted by Mr Anton Veldhuizen, appeared for the police officers.

# Cop who

# fled

CMC TM 15  
18/11/89

# tells of

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# 'hit list'

**PRETORIA.** — The police opened its Vlakplaas base outside Pretoria to the media yesterday in a bid to defuse allegations that a sinister death squad operated from there.

The allegations were made by former police Captain Johannes Dirk Coetzee in an interview with Vrye Weekblad after he was named by a death row prisoner and former policeman, Butana Almond Nofomela, as the head of the secret police death squad.

Capt Coetzee fled the country this week. He alleged in the interview that several anti-apartheid activists — including Ms Ruth First and Mr Griffiths Mxenge — had been murdered by the squad.

The SAP also announced that a top-level investigation into the allegations would be made by the Attorney-General of the Free State, Mr T P McNally, and the CID chief in the country, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie.

In a statement, Major-General Herman Stadler, head of the SAP Public Relations Division, said the two would lead the investigation into Capt Coetzee's claims, which he denounced as "untested and wild allegations from a foreign country where he cannot be questioned".

But the row took on international proportions yesterday as the chairman of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement, Labour MP Mr Robert Hughes, called on Britain to close the SA embassy and issue arrest warrants for two men allegedly behind the 1982 bombing of the ANC's London headquarters.

Mr Hughes said that Capt Coetzee's allegation that the explosives for the attack were smuggled through the SA diplomatic pouch was more than enough proof of the Pretoria government's "direct involvement in state-sponsored international terrorism".

A senior diplomat at South Africa House said that besides denying Capt Coetzee's allegation about the diplomatic pouch as "completely unfounded", it was referring all inquiries to the police in Pretoria.

In the interview with Vrye Weekblad, Capt Coetzee said that he was told about the attack on the ANC HQ, in which one man was injured and the building

HIT MAN? ..  
Ex-capt Dirk Coetzee  
Picture VRYE WEEKBLAD

P.T.O.

# Cop's claims

destroyed, by Mr Peter Caselton, whom he claimed carried out the bombing

Mr Caselton, a British subject of Rhodesian birth, was jailed for four years in December 1982 for hitting the London offices of ANC, Swapo and the PAC, but was not charged for the bombing

Later a South African diplomat was declared persona non grata for his part in the burglaries and other alleged espionage activities

A Foreign Office spokesman said that if evidence was provided to support allegations of improper activities by foreign powers in Britain, these would be investigated.

In the interview conducted in Mauritius, where Capt Coetzee is now hiding, he said that he had decided to "clear my conscience" and start a new life in exile

"I was in the heart of the whore. I know the deepest secrets of this unit which is above the law. I am myself guilty or at least accomplice to several murders we had to carry out"

Coetzee said his unit, operating underground with foreign weapons and explosive devices, included former members of the ANC.

"The purpose of the unit was to track down and stop ANC guerrillas who had infiltrated South Africa," he said "This unit also was used to murder and eliminate political opponents of the police and the government. I know all the secrets of this unit which is above the law"

He said he was summoned in 1981 to Durban by Brigadier H van der Hoven, then head of security in Natal, where he received orders to murder Mr Mxenge, a suspected conduit for funds to ANC cadres, and make it look like a robbery

Capt Coetzee alleged a killing had taken place on the orders of police Brig Willem Schoon. Brig Schoon, 58, a security branch officer, stepped down last month

Capt Coetzee claims he left the hit squad in 1982 and received an early pension in 1986 after being diagnosed as a diabetic

But Major-General Stadler said yesterday that Capt Coetzee was discharged from the force on medical grounds after a disciplinary hearing at which he was charged with irregularities relating to "giving out information contrary to the rules and regulations."

Maj-Gen Stadler said a psychiatrist who testified reported that Coetzee had severe diabetes which had affected his judgment

● The Democratic Party yesterday called for the immediate appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry and the suspension of top police officers

The SACC said in a statement it had repeatedly called on the police to include themselves in whatever investigations they conducted into attacks on anti-apartheid activists and their property — Sapa, UPI, Political Staff and Own Correspondents

# Coetzee: Weekblad replies to police

JOHANNESBURG — The Vrye Weekblad yesterday challenged the police public relations directorate on the newspaper's report of an alleged police hit squad

The newspaper said police attempts to discredit the captain were "completely false."

Weekblad editor Mr Max du Preez said police comment that Capt Dirk Coetzee was suspended or dishonourably discharged was not true

"He left the force on early retirement for medical reasons and has kept his rank. All documentation in this regard is in the possession of Vrye Weekblad"

He said it was clear police were trying to undermine the credibility of Capt Coetzee, "instead of dealing with the information he supplied in such detail"

Mr du Preez disputed the police statement that it seemed strange that Capt Coetzee had made "wild allegations" from a foreign country (the interview was conducted in Mauritius)

where he could not be questioned "Coetzee, having been a commander of a police death squad that assassinated opponents, felt that his life would have been in danger had he spoken out while still in the country," he said, adding that the newspaper had agreed with this after hearing the former policeman's evidence

Capt Coetzee had also given Weekblad the assurance that he was willing to testify his claims in any country in the world other than South Africa

He rejected the police claim that it had been "irresponsible" to identify Vlakplaas, which police on Friday admitted was a camp to train ANC defectors and then send them on missions

Capt Coetzee said the defectors, known as "Askaris", were integral members of assassination teams

"The police know, and the fact was reported in our stories, that several Askaris have escaped and gone back to the ANC. It is thus clear that at least the ANC knew the exact location of Vlakplaas," Mr du Preez said — Sapa

# Nothing sinister about Vlakplaas base, say police

PRETORIA — Major-General Herman Stadler, head of the SAP's public relations division, told a group of visiting journalists that "there is nothing sinister" about the police's Vlakplaas base

The farm serves as a training and operational base for former, "turned" members of the ANC and PAC who are now members of an SAP anti-terrorist unit, he said

Maj-Gen Stadler denied the former ANC members were trained to kill terrorists, saying it was not the SAP's policy to kill people, but to arrest them and bring them to trial

He said Vlakplaas was the "main structure" where former terrorists — some of whom had been captured and others who had given themselves over to the police voluntarily — were kept

They formed an "anti-terror unit which is being used to trace ANC people in South Africa"

The base could house up to 30 unit members at a time, and they were free to come and go. Some of the members lived outside with their families, he said — Sapa

“Coetzee told me years ago, says DP leader

Political Correspondent

DEMOCRATIC PARTY national chairman Mr Trian van der Merwe yesterday disclosed that Captain Dirk Coetzee had told him a number of years ago about the police hit squad activities now sensationally alleged

Mr Van der Merwe said "I found Capt Coetzee an obviously intelligent person and was convinced that what he told me was substantially correct."

He had suggested to Capt Coetzee at the time that it would be helpful to obtain his allegations in writing "but nothing came of that"

Mr Van der Merwe told Sapa that evidence of a hit squad acting within the security bureaucracy was becoming overwhelming and the matter could no longer be dodged by the government

Hit squad: Ex-member 'very glad' Political Staff

THE former security policeman Butana Alimond Nofomela, who was saved from the gallows after he made allegations about a police death squad, was "very glad" that his former commander, Captain Dirk Coetzee, had confirmed his claims, Nofomela's lawyer said yesterday

Attorney Mr Shucks Sefanyetso visited Nofomela in prison yesterday to inform him about the publication of Captain Coetzee's allegations. Nofomela had been very concerned that no one would come forward to support his affidavits, Mr Sefanyetso said.

# Squad commander sent phone tapping report to Slabbert

CAPTAIN DIRK Coetzee, the former commander of an alleged police death squad, said he left the police force after he was charged departmentally for sending a report on telephone tapping to the former leader of the opposition Dr Van Zyl Slabbert

He sent the report to Dr Slabbert after he found out that the police were listening to his own telephone, Captain Coetzee told Vrye Weekblad

Last night, Dr Slabbert said he could not remember whether Captain Coetzee had supplied him with a report on telephone tapping

"But I definitely did receive something on my desk saying that my telephone was being tapped and I raised the matter in Parliament, but the then minister, Dr Lapa Munnik, refused to say anything

Dr Slabbert also confirmed that he had asked the PFP's spokesman on law and order, Mr Trian van der Merwe, to speak to Captain Coetzee

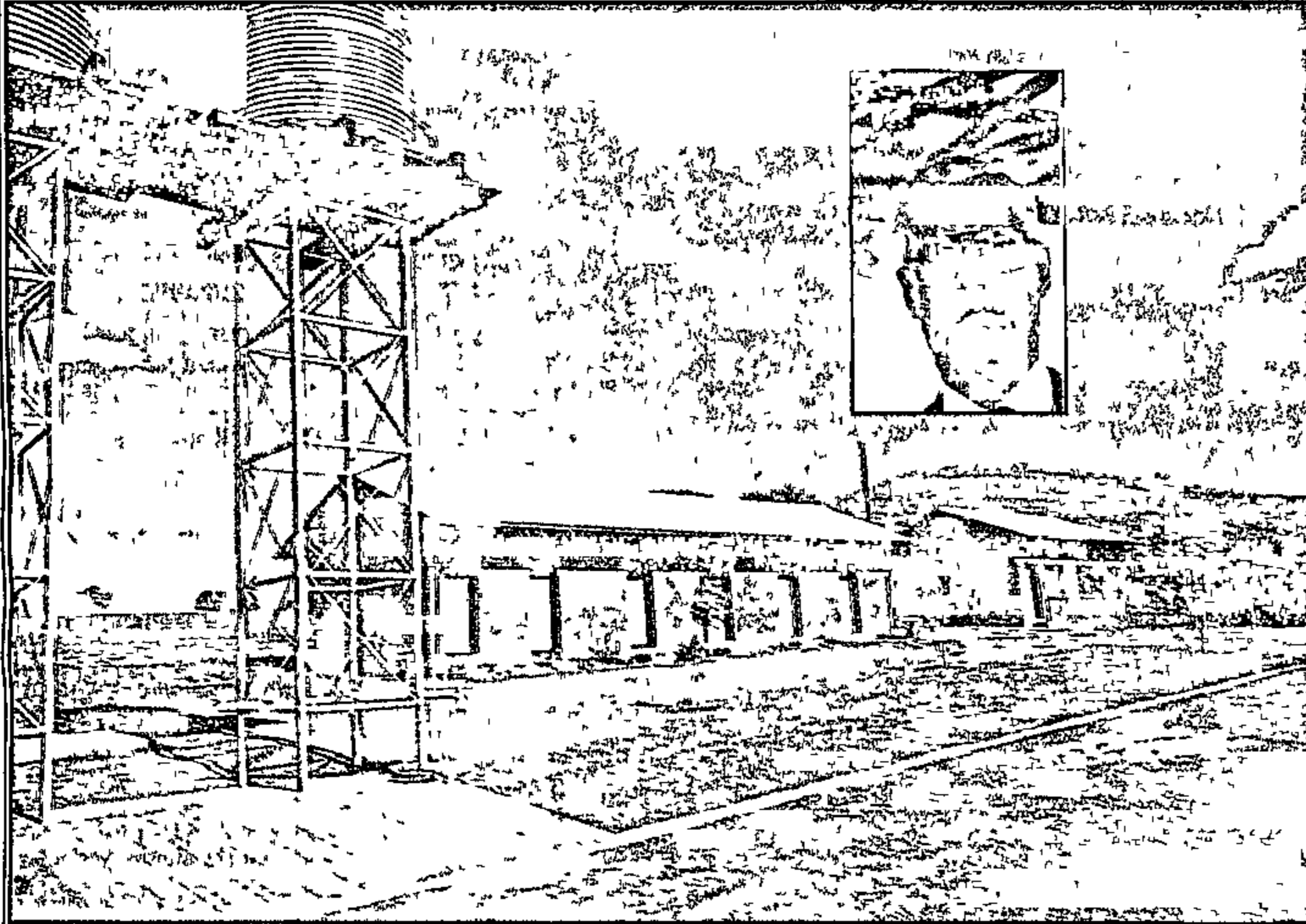
Mr Van der Merwe said he flew to Johannesburg to see Captain Coetzee where he was given details of how telephone tapping was done as well as "how the legal restraints were completely ignored"

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- car phones
- heart phones
- chunky phones
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- blue phones
- bat phones
- state of the art phones

# 'Death squad' man traced to Mauritius

stan 18/11/89

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VLAKPLAAS Allegedly the base of a hit squad, the farm was shown to the media yesterday INSET: Major-General Stadler

## Coetzee tried for 5 offences — SAP

CRAIG KOTZE, PETER FABRICIUS, PAT DEVEREAUX, DAWN BARKHUIZEN and CORRESPONDENTS

CAPTAIN Dirk Coetzee, who has made sensational claims about SAP "death squad" attacks in South Africa and abroad, has been tracked down to a Mauritius hotel

According to the Saturday Star's correspondent on the island, a man of the same name is staying at the La Croix du Sud Hotel with his wife and child. He has apparently been there since last Sunday.

It seems certain Captain Coetzee and the hotel resident are one and the same man.

Further new information about the ex-policeman emerged yesterday as police for the first time showed the press over the base at Vlakplaas from which the hit squad allegedly operated.

It was also claimed that Captain Coetzee, described privately by police sources as a "psycopath", had been tried by police for five separate offences while still an officer in the force. These were claimed to be:

- Attempting to bring in American \$150 000 dollars illegally into the country to evade taxation
- Giving a false statement under oath
- Illegally obtaining official information to which he was not entitled
- Illegally releasing official information to which he was not entitled to outsiders

Captain Coetzee now draws a police pension. He was allowed to resign from the police force in 1986 on humanitarian and medical grounds after being confronted with the choice of a dishonourable discharge.

This was confirmed by Mr Brian Curren, director of Lawyers for Human Rights, who represented Captain Coetzee at the hearing.

Recalling the departmental investigation into alleged irregularities, he said "In about 1985/6 he wrote a statement to be submitted to senior police authorities making serious allegations against the SAP."

### Agreement

"The media got hold of it and published a section. As a result Captain Coetzee was suspended. Serious charges were levelled that would have led to his dishonourable discharge from the force, including loss of pension and medical aid. As a diabetic his medical charges are enormous."

Mr Curren said an agreement was reached between the parties involved in terms of which the suspension was withdrawn, Coetzee was reinstated as a captain and it was agreed that he would leave the police force on medical grounds.

Late yesterday a senior Democratic Party MP, Mr Tian van der Merwe, said he had met Captain Coetzee and believed at least some of his allegations about a police killer squad to be "substantially correct".

Evidence of such a squad was "becoming overwhelming", he said.

As reaction to the allegations began to snowball, English Labour MP and chairman of Britain's Anti-apartheid Movement, Mr Robert Hughes, as well as local lawyers and human rights organisations called for an "open" judicial commission to be instituted without delay.

In a four-page interview with the Afrikaans weekly

● TO PAGE 2.

## Anti-terror base thrown open to the press

CRAIG KOTZE

VLAKPLAAS — Members of the SAP's Anti Terrorist Unit (ATU) preferred to capture ANC fighters for their intelligence value but would act in self-defence in a life threatening situation, a former ANC fighter himself captured by the unit told journalists at its headquarters here yesterday.

Members were definitely not ordered to kill ANC members, but to try to and capture them as he had been captured, said the ATU member, speaking on condition of anonymity.

### Hit squad denials

He was one of about 30 former ANC and PAC members — all of whom denied they were hit squad members — now working for the SAP presented to the press after claims by former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee that he had led ATU men in murder attacks on radicals.

He described how he was tracked down and approached by a former ANC comrade and member of ATU.

It was in the western Transvaal. He saw me and came to me — he was not even carrying a "piece" (gun) — and we agreed that if I wanted to continue the discussion we would go to the police station.

I went to fetch my weapons which I had packed and handed them in. I decided to work with the police to assist the Government to bring about a situation in which there would be no war.

If I approach someone I have identified as an ANC terrorist it is a negotiation situation. I am not aware of any orders to eliminate ANC members — I've only read stories in the press about this.

"Obviously as a policeman if I meet someone in the street, try to arrest them and they produce a hand grenade, what must I do? I will defend myself but I will still shoot to wound if possible — we want information from this man," said the ATU member.

### Ambit of the law

Other members also spoke of how they were policemen who worked within the ambit of the law. All were free to come and go on the 99 ha farm and many had families.

One was a PAC political commissar trained in Libya and Red China.

Several members of the unit had been killed by ANC revenge squads and it was ANC policy to kill the defectors wherever they were found, police said yesterday.

## Aids scare after sodomite found to be infected

MELODY McDUGALL

VEREENIGING — An unknown number of boys in the Vaal Triangle, Secunda and Hendrina power station areas may be unaware that they could be infected with Aids.

This follows the disclosure in the Vereeniging Regional Court that a 30-year old man, who was yesterday convicted on three counts of sodomy, had tested positively for the disease.

It is now feared that the discovery "could lead to a major tragedy involving young,

innocent boys", according to regional court prosecutor Mr Louis Venter.

Jan Abraham Sadler, who formerly resided in the Vaal Triangle area and now lives and works in Secunda, was sentenced to three years' imprisonment by magistrate Mr Dries Visagie after being found guilty of committing indecent acts with a 15-year-old Vanderbijlpark boy on three separate occasions.

occasions

The offences were committed towards the end of last year against the teenager's will while Sadler, a bachelor, boarded with the boy's parents. He initially admitted guilt on the three counts, but a plea of not guilty was entered by the court.

The possibility that he had associations with other young boys has not been ruled out. The court yesterday heard that Sadler

● TO PAGE 2.

P.T.O.

# Death squad

● FROM PAGE 1.

*Vrye Weekblad* Captain Coetzee said that he had headed a murder squad which carried out killings and attacks against ANC targets in South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho, Britain, Mozambique and Zimbabwe

He said he was involved in the murder of human rights activist Dr Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981, the killing of many ANC members and implicated prominent policemen and former policemen in the killings

He claimed his unit had been responsible for the murder of exiled ANC member Ruth First in 1982. Police said they are investigating all his claims

Captain Coetzee's allegations follow earlier similar claims made by another former security policeman — now a death row prisoner — Butana Almond Nofomela. He said he had personally participated in a hit squad operation to assassinate Mr Mxenge.

Lawyers for Human Rights managed to secure a stay of execution for him last month on the basis of his claims.

At Vlakplaas, the headquarters of the police Anti-Terrorist Unit alleged by Captain Coetzee to be the hit squad, journalists were allowed to inspect facilities and to interview more than 30 former ANC insurgents now working for the SAP

The base, said SAP public relations chief Major-General Herman Stadler, had never really been secret and many functions involving people outside the SAP had been held there in the past

Now that the safety of the roughly 30 to 40 former ANC members staying there was threatened because of press exposure, the farm would have to be guarded

"We have no hit squad. These people are trained to track

down ANC terrorists so that they can be arrested," General Stadler said

Captain Coetzee further claimed the explosives for an attack on the ANC's London office in 1982 had come via the diplomatic bag. He added that senior police officers also used the bag to stay in contact with the British saboteur who placed the bomb

But the South African Embassy in London has denied that any "irregular" items could have been carried in the diplomatic bag.

Nevertheless a spokesman conceded that the country's highest-ranking police officers — said to have ordered the formation of the hit squad — would have had access to the diplomatic bag

The British Foreign Office will wait for the outcome of the South African Police inquiry into Captain Coetzee's claims before it takes any action against the South African Embassy

A Foreign Office spokesman said no one had been found responsible for the bombing of the ANC's London office in 1982. "This was not a very satisfactory outcome from our point of view"

In Cape Town, the Democratic Party leadership has called for a judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of a "hit-squad".

Dr Zach de Beer, Dr Denis Worrall and Mr Wynand Malan also called for the immediate suspension from duty of others named in the Captain Coetzee revelations. The allegations were viewed with deep concern as "they discredit the concept of law and order, undermine completely the credibility of the police as a neutral non-political institution and must also undermine the morale of the great majority of serving policemen and women."

"Justice also requires that, if these allegations are true, those responsible be brought to account," the statement said.

18/11/89  
Cape Town



# Rockman, our hero in blue



IT is certain people's opinion that Lieutenant Gregory Rockman is a traitor and that he should be disciplined for his actions ("Speak out!", Saturday Star, November 4) These actions were simply meant to inform the public of the truth

Because Rockman exposed police violence, he proved himself honest and brave. He has received death threats and has been harassed, but did not change his testimony, with nothing to gain, but everything to lose. Knowing this, why would he lie about something so cruel and underhanded?

It has also been said that the police have to operate under a code of silence and Rockman broke this code. Police departments world-wide claim to protect the public. Why, then, is unnecessary violence used against certain groups of the public? What kind of protection is this, that keeps people ignorant?

People should try to be more like Lt Rockman. It is time we open our eyes and realise all the hardships our fellow South Africans are suffering and speak out against it, not just sit back, saying "Oh yes, I agree, but, I'm not going to get involved, because there will be violence"

There is a peaceful way: we must not allow ourselves to be fooled by the authorities.

Anonymous, Bosmont.



LT ROCKMAN: An example to us all.

18/11/89  
SIA



JOHANNESBURG — A striking SATS worker shot in a clash between striking workers and police in Germiston on Thursday has died in hospital, police liaison officer Major Reg Crewe said yesterday

# Shot SATS worker dies, 450 dismissed

*Capit Times 18/11/89*

*(251)*

Nine policemen and an unknown number of strikers were injured in Thursday's violence

Workers' option to hand in their reasons for going on strike expired on Thursday night, with the result that 450 workers were dismissed in Durban yesterday, according to public re-

lations manager Mr Mike Asefovitz. He said the dismissed workers, who would be receiving letters of dismissal, were among the first group who went on strike

However, SATS strikers are prepared to continue with their action no matter what the cost, a union spokesman, Mr Dave Moeti, said in Durban yesterday — Sapa

# Officer alleges FW not serious about reform

**BEN MACLENNAN**

CAPE TOWN — The vice-president of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) was yesterday suspended from his duties at Pollsmoor Prison Command and subjected to "virtual house arrest" in his quarters there.

But Warrant Officer John Jansen said he intended to ignore the restrictions placed on him by the suspension order, which was signed by the prison's commander, Brigadier Frans Booyesen.

"It is totally clear this is victimisation of the highest grade," he said.

His suspension follows that of 11 other Popcru members, all Pollsmoor warders, who participated in an alleged illegal demonstration this week.

## White officers

W/O Jansen, who is an instructor at the Westlake training college for warders, said he was ordered on Thursday to take up a new post at the prison workshop where he would be supervised by white officers.

"There is not a single coloured there," he said. "I would have been the first. This would have been a breakthrough for the prisons service."

He had told the brigadier he could "keep the transfer order for himself or give it to his parents" and had reported for duty at Westlake as usual yesterday morning.

At about 1 pm he had received the suspension order, which said he

- Could not leave his quarters in the prison grounds without permission.
- Had to report at 9 am each day to the head of the workshop.
- Could not in any circumstances enter the premises of the college without the permission of the head of the college or of the workshop.
- Was not entitled "any salary, wage, allowance, privilege or advantage" to which he would otherwise have been entitled.

The notice, issued in terms of the Prisons Act, said he would remain subject to the same responsibilities, discipline and punishment as if he were not suspended.

"Popcru will fight this with all its might and also the whole corrupt government of apartheid," he said.

## Will consult lawyer

"President de Klerk is not serious about this reform policy because when our people are standing up for their rights they are victimised and suspended."

He intended to consult his lawyer, he said.

He said virtually all of the 18 or so coloured NCOs who worked with him as instructors at Westlake had handed in a written appeal to the brigadier saying that if he were not reinstated at Westlake, they also wanted to be transferred away from the college.

A spokesman for the Prisons liaison section said it was "normal procedure" to restrict members of the Prisons Service to their quarters in the prison ground when they had been suspended from duty.

It was also normal, the spokesman said, that they be required to report to the prison's commanding officer each morning. — Sapa.

# Police union No 2 arrested

# Furrore over police 'hit squad'

CAPTAIN Dirk Coetzee, the former security policeman who has made sensational claims about an alleged South African Police "death squad", has been tracked down to a Mauritius hotel where he is staying while a storm rages in South Africa and abroad over his claims.

The furor grew late yesterday when a senior Democratic Party MP, Mr Tian van der Merwe, said he had met Captain Coetzee and believed at least some of the allegations to be "substantially correct".

Meanwhile, the police have ordered a top level inquiry into the allegations.

## Judicial commission

Evidence of a police killer squad, which targeted opponents of the government, was "becoming overwhelming," Mr Van der Merwe said, and the government could no longer dodge the matter and could no longer delay appointing a judicial commission to investigate the allegations.

"The inability of the police over

a very long period to successfully investigate acts of terror obviously emanating from sources other than the political left and aimed largely at critics and opponents of the government has left me in very little doubt that such acts of terrorism and killings enjoy support at some official levels at least," Mr van der Merwe said.

In an interview with the Afrikaans weekly newspaper Vrye Weekblad, Captain Coetzee admitted that he had headed a murder squad which carried out killings and attacks against ANC targets in South Africa, Swaziland, Lesotho, Britain, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

He claimed his unit had been responsible for the murder of exiled ANC member Ruth First in 1982 and assassination attempts on other ANC leaders.

He also implicated a number of prominent serving policemen, and former policemen, among them a

former Commissioner of Police, but none of them was available for comment yesterday.

Captain Coetzee's allegations follow similar claims made by another former security policeman, now a Death Row prisoner, Butana Almond Nofomela. He said he had personally participated in a hit squad operation to assassinate Durban lawyer and ANC activist Mr Griffiths Mxenge.

Lawyers for Human Rights managed to secure a stay of execution for him last month on the basis of his claims and a two-man team, the Attorney General of the Free State, Mr P T McNally, and Pretoria CID chief, General Alwyn Conradie, was appointed to investigate Nofomela's allegations.

In a reaction to Captain Coetzee's allegations yesterday, police for the first time showed the Press over the base from which the hit squad allegedly operated.

And police sources claimed that he had been tried within the department for five separate offences while still an officer in the force.

Offences allegedly noted against the former security policeman included: Attempting to bring 150 000 American dollars illegally into the country to evade taxation; giving a false statement under oath; illegally obtaining official information to which he was not entitled; illegally releasing official information to which he was not entitled, to outsiders.

But last night Vrye Weekblad editor, Mr Max du Preez, hit back at the police response to Captain Coetzee's allegations and said the statement that the assertion that Captain Coetzee was suspended or dishonourably discharged was not correct. He had left the force on early retirement for medical reasons.

Captain Coetzee had no criminal

record, Mr Du Preez said.

As reaction to the allegations began to snowball, English Labour MP and chairman of Britain's Anti-apartheid Movement, Mr Robert Hughes, as well as local lawyers and human rights organisations called for an "open" judicial commission to be instituted without delay.

## "No surprise"

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) said of Captain Coetzee's allegations last night: "It comes as no surprise to us.

"We have repeatedly called for the police to include themselves in whatever investigations they may conduct on attacks on anti-apartheid activists and their property."

According to the Weekend Argus correspondent on Mauritius, a man of the same name as Captain Coetzee is staying at the La Croix du Sud Hotel with his wife and child. He has been there since last Sunday.

It seems certain Captain Coetzee and the hotel resident are one and the same man.

# FEARS OF POLICE HIT-SQUAD COVER-UP

251  
C. Press 19/11/89

By **DESMOND BLOW**

**AMID growing fears of a cover-up on an alleged police hit squad, Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) have threatened to seek an urgent Supreme Court application to prevent condemned killer Butana Nofemela from being executed.**

LHR, which took statements from Nofemela on Death Row on Friday, will seek assurances from the Minister of Justice early this week that Nofemela will not be executed until every avenue concerning allegations made by him and former Security Branch captain Dirk Coetzee have been exhausted.

Coetzee fled the country recently. He claimed that as head of the hit squad, he had been ordered to eliminate leading anti-apartheid activists.

Despite calls for an independent judicial inquiry, government has insisted on conducting a two-man probe into the allegations.

LHR and other groups fear that once the probe is completed – and that is likely to be within a fortnight – the allegations will be dismissed and Nofemela summarily executed.

“With Nofemela out of the way and Coetzee a fugitive it will be easy to cover up,” *City Press* was told.

“Since Coetzee’s allegations, senior policemen have done nothing but condemn him instead of investigating his allegations.”

Durban attorney Bheke Shezi – whose partner, Griffiths Mxenge was said to be a hit squad victim, said “Gen Herman Stadler made disparaging remarks about Coetzee, but he is not an impartial person, being a former head of the Security Branch.”

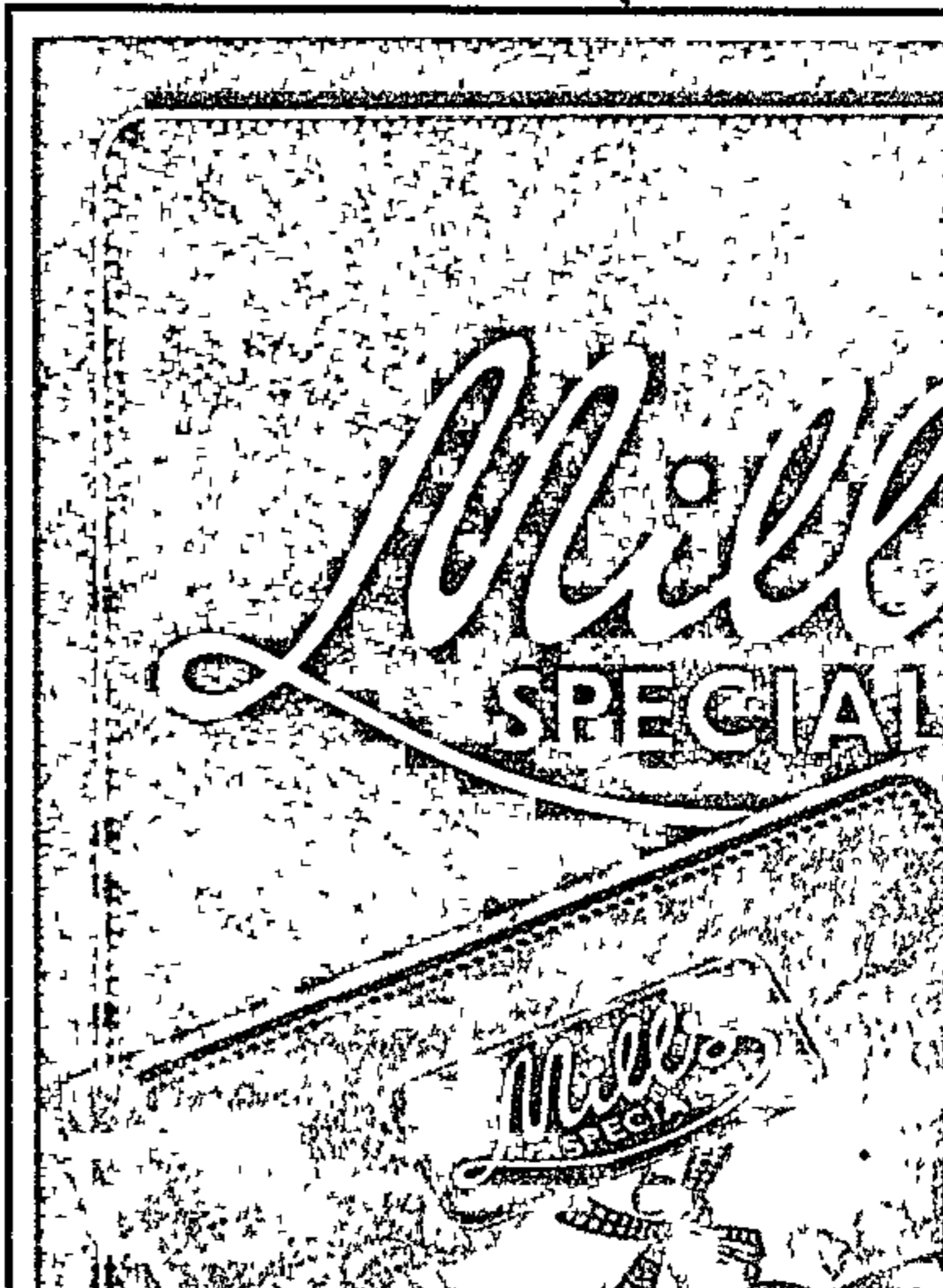
He repeated his call for an independent judicial inquiry, saying he was dissatisfied with the way the investigation team – Free State Attorney-General Tim McNally and CID head Lt-Gen Alwyn Conradie – had conducted the inquiry.

“Although Coetzee was named by Nofemela as head of the hit squad, the investigators did not interview him before his sudden departure and now they are too late.”

“There are many other relevant people who have been ignored.”

He said 150 Durban attorneys and advocates had called on Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee to hold a

Lawyers  
work on  
stay of  
execution



# COVER-UP

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"There are many other relevant people who have been ignored."

He said 150 Durban attorneys and advocates had called on Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee to hold a judicial inquiry, but the request had been refused.

Other bodies, including the SA Council of Churches and the Democratic Party, have added their voices to the call.

Shezi also called on police to hold the passports of all people named by Nofemela and Coetzee "so they can't flee the country like Coetzee did."

It became known this week that Coetzee had fled the country and spoken to the Press about his part in the alleged killings by the hit squad because he feared the Security Branch was going to make him a scapegoat and he would be charged with murder.

A person close to Coetzee told *City Press* Coetzee was concerned as Nofemela had named him as the hit squad commander and said Coetzee had ordered him to carry out killings.

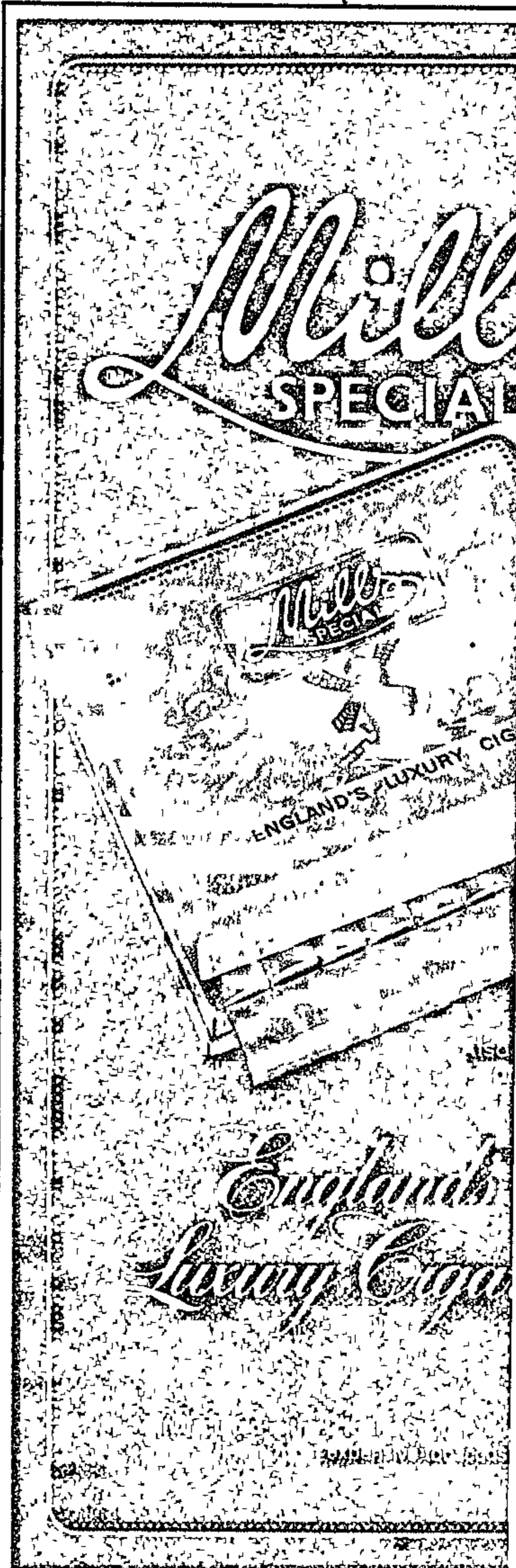
"He knew Nofemela must have told this to McNally and Conradie, yet they never approached him for a statement although he was readily available."

"Coetzee also knew that the investigators had interviewed his superior officers – and he knew that the order had gone out to deny everything."

"That left him in the middle – and the investigations were almost complete," the source said.

"Nofemela must have named Coetzee as the principal

## Lawyers work on stay of execution



■ To page 2

## 1 by white drug ring

s by the police from two white men who were brutally assaulting him. He said they beat him because he had defected

from their syndicate. Malambule said he used fraudulent prescriptions to obtain drugs such as Wellconal

# Trial of alleged killers delayed

Cross 19/11/89  
A 27 year old man and three youths accused of murdering a mother and her six children were remanded in custody when they appeared in the Umlazi Magistrate's Court near Durban on Friday

The seven bodies were found mutilated on the banks of the Umlazi River last month

The case against Vusumuzi Walter Lumumba Shamane and the youths, who each face seven charges of murder and one of arson, was postponed to December 18.

The State alleges that the killings and the arson attack occurred on October 4

The three teenagers have pleaded not guilty to all the charges and a plea of guilty has been entered for Shamane - Sapa

Political comment and newsbills by K Sibya, headlines and sub-editing by J Beffon, both of 204 Eloff Street Ext, Johannesburg

# One dead, 10 hurt in strike clashes

By CONNIE MOLUSI

VIOLENT clashes erupted this week between police and striking South African Transport Services (Sats) workers, leaving one worker dead and policemen and workers hurt

Six policemen were injured when police forced their way into South African Railways and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwu) offices to break up a meeting

A police spokesman said two strikers were wounded by gunfire after police, acting on information that the group intended to make petrol bombs, were attacked with sticks and iron bars as

they entered the building

Five strikers were arrested

In another incident, three policemen were injured after strikers disembarked from a train at Germiston and refused to pay their fares. Police who tried to arrest them were stoned

A Cosatu spokesman said the workers were indiscriminately attacked by police on the station platform en route to a meeting at Sarhwu offices

He said police manning ticket collection points in the absence of striking workers had provoked commuters by refusing to return change

(29) (29) (29)

CP 19/11/89

GRIFITHS MXENGE RUTH FIRST AND JENNY SCHOON WERE AMONG OUR VICTIMS. CLAIMS KILLER COP

# Secret police assassins

By DESMOND BLOW

CAPTAIN Dirk Coetzee a retired Security Branch officer has caused an international sensation by claiming he was the former head of an SAP hit squad that assassinated anti-apartheid activists

In an interview with the newspaper *Vrye Weekblad* Coetzee confirmed allegations made by a killer on Death Row, Butana Nofemela that a hit squad operated from the Vlakplaas police base outside Pretoria

Coetzee is alleged to have made this confession in Mauritius after fleeing South Africa. He is now believed to be in hiding somewhere in Europe

Coetzee supported allegations that the hit squad had murdered among others, Durban civil rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge in 1981. He said he had instructed Nofemela and three other black members of the hit squad to kill Mxenge after he had received orders to eliminate Mxenge from Brig H van der Hoven, then head of the Security Police in Natal

Coetzee claimed the Vlakplaas hit squad had also murdered SACP leader Joe Slovo's wife Ruth First - killed by a parcel bomb in Maputo in 1982 - and ANC activist Marius Schoon's wife Jenny Curtis Schoon and their young daughter

After he made his sensational allegations to *Vrye Weekblad* in an interview in Mauritius he flew to London

Although his wife was aware Coetzee was involved in secret activities, she had no idea they included murder, said a family friend adding she was "shocked and in a

## 'Hit squad trained at Vlakplaas to eliminate anti-apartheid leaders'

- also victims of a letter bomb

An attempt was also made to kill ANC military leader Chris Ham with a car bomb in Lesotho he said

After Coetzee's confession appeared in *Vrye Weekblad* on Friday the SAP announced a top-level investigation into Coetzee's allegations

In a statement SAP Public Relations Division head Maj-Gen Herman Stadler said the Attorney-General of the Free State Tim McNally and the SAP CID chief, Lt-Gen Alwyn Conradie, would lead the investigation

McNally and Conradie are at present investigating Nofemela's claims

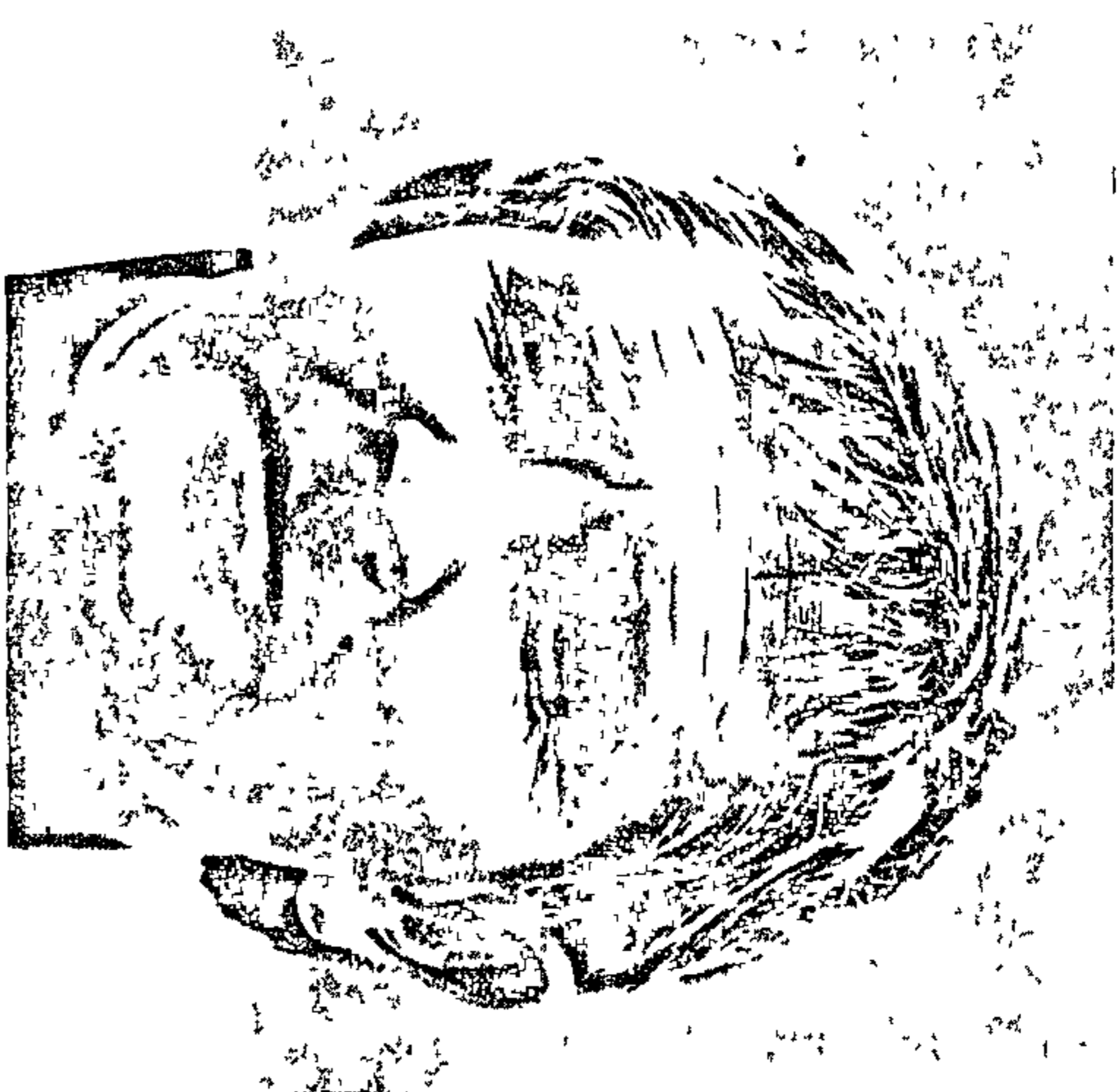
Stadler claimed Coetzee had been suspended from the SAP several years ago, and that Coetzee "now makes these untested and wild allegations from a foreign country where he cannot be questioned to verify these claims"

According to the *Vrye Weekblad* report Coetzee is prepared to give evidence to a commission outside South Africa

Human rights lawyer Brian Curran who defended Coetzee at an internal police inquiry in 1986, said although Coetzee had been found guilty at the inquiry his suspension had been lifted and he had been restored to his full rank

Coetzee had retired on full pension on medical grounds because of diabetes, said Curran "He was not dishonourably discharged"

67  
Press  
11/19



Capt Dirk Coetzee... former chief of the SA Police secret hit-squad

In his allegations which have shocked the world, Coetzee claimed he had been "in the heart of the whole" - head of the killer squad which eliminated political opponents of the government

"I know the deepest secrets of the hit squad - which is above the law - and I myself am guilty of or an accessory to many murders which we committed," Coetzee told *Vrye Weekblad*

He said captured ANC guerrillas who refused to join the unit at Vlakplaas were shot or burnt with tyres and their ashes then dumped into a river

The former guerrillas who agreed to join the unit were known as Askars and were used in anti-ANC activities, but some of them were in Coetzee's special hit squad

He also alleged that certain senior and highly respected senior police officers were aware of the unit

Among them, he alleged, were Gen Johan Coetzee, former Commissioner of Police and now a diplomat

Brig M Schoon, retired head of Section C1 - the ANC/PAC desk

Brig H van der Hoven, former security chief in Natal now retired on pension

At least 46 opponents of the State have been murdered during the past 10 years and no one has ever been charged with the murders so Coetzee's allegations have to be taken seriously as they throw a new light on the killings say lawyers

Coetzee said he was involved in the letter-bomb murder of First on August 17, 1982, at the university at Maputo where she was lecturing

First opened a UN High Commission for Refugees' envelope addressed to her from Swaziland

Coetzee says he stole the envelope from UN offices in Swaziland

He also claimed involvement in the murder of Mxenge in November 1981

Coetzee said he planned the murder on the instructions of Van der Hoven, who said police knew Mxenge was channeling ANC money into South Africa but could not prove it

Coetzee said he instructed four Askars - Nofemela, David Tshikalange, Brian Ngumlungwa and a man called Jow - to commit the murder but make it look like a robbery

He said he instructed the four killers to use a knife rather than a gun to kill Mxenge

Coetzee said he supplied the hit squad with strychnine-laced meat to poison Mxenge's dogs. The dogs were poisoned but the killers later stopped Mxenge on the road

They then took him to Umhlang Stadium where they repeatedly stabbed him, cut his throat and cut off his ears

They removed Mxenge's jacket, watch, wallet and car keys to make it look like a robbery

Coetzee said Brig Schoon gave instructions that Mxenge's car must be set alight to destroy any clues and it was taken close to the Swaziland border, where it was burnt

Coetzee told *Vrye Weekblad* he had later heard Gen Coetzee, then head of the Security Branch, was called out of a meeting by Schoon to tell him of the success of the operation

He said the four Askars were each given a bonus of R1 000 for the murder

Coetzee said he had been instructed to go to Botswana to kill Marius Schoon, a former political prisoner who was responsible for ANC activities

He said he was given a Scorpion-machine pistol to perform the task

Coetzee said the plan was for him to report to Capt Rudie Crous in Zeerust who would point out Schoon's home to him

"I was to knock on the door and shoot Schoon through the head when he opened the door"

"However, this plan was changed. A general called to say alternative arrangements had been made"

He said wife and child were killed in Angola in 1984 Schoon's with a letter-bomb intended for Schoon

In 1980 he helped plant the bomb which killed ANC activist Patrick Matkhu and his child in Swaziland Coetzee said

He said on another occasion it was decided to eliminate two captured ANC members. They were first given poison, but when it failed to work, they were each given a sleeping draught, then shot through the head

Their bodies were incinerated and their ashes thrown into a river

He said other crimes by the hit squad in which he was not involved but of which he had knowledge were

A bomb explosion in the London office of the ANC in 1982. He said the bomb was smuggled to London in a diplomatic pouch

The bomb attempt to kill Chris Ham, the military leader of Umkhonto We Sizwe, while he was still in Lesotho

The informer who had to plant the bomb blew himself up instead, said Coetzee

Coetzee said bottles of poisoned whisky were smuggled into Maputo and distributed to ANC leaders

The South African Embassy in London has denied any "irregular" items could have been carried in the diplomatic bag

The British Foreign Office will wait for the outcome of the SAP inquiry into Coetzee's claims before it takes any action against the embassy

A British Foreign Office spokesman said no one had been found responsible for the bombing of the ANC's office in 1982

"This was not a very satisfactory view," he said

## No trace of killer

SELF-CONFESED SAP "hit-squad" leader Capt Dirk Coetzee is a trained police officer who hopes to find work as a driver on an oil rig in the North Sea

After he made his sensational allegations to *Vrye Weekblad* in an interview in Mauritius he flew to London

He has left his wife Karin and four children in South Africa until he finds work

Although his wife was aware Coetzee was involved in secret activities, she had no idea they included murder, said a family friend adding she was "shocked and in a

terrible state"

Coetzee won the award as the best police cadet in 1970 and climbed quickly through the ranks, claims *Vrye Weekblad*

He was transferred to the Security Branch

Coetzee told *Vrye Weekblad* "I was proud to be selected for the Security Branch, and prouder still when I was selected to be the leader of the hit squad"

"I believed Mxenge must die. I was glad Ruth First was blown up. I was disappointed when my assassination of Marius Schoon was cancelled."

On Friday Stadler took a group of journalists to the 44ha farm, which became government property in 1982 - *City Press* was not invited - to prove there is nothing sinister about the farm

Stadler confirmed Coetzee had been stationed at Vlakplaas a training centre where captured ANC cadres who changed sides were housed

Stadler said the police were perturbed that the Vlakplaas base had been "irresponsibly" identified

"The base was not open to the public because it housed former ANC members, who are now proud South African policemen and citizens. They provide the force with valuable intelligence and also play a cardinal role in the identification of ANC terrorists infiltrating South Africa"

"Their lives are constantly in jeopardy and the base provided a safe haven for them" Despite the exposure of the base, Stadler said the members would be protected, said Stadler

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# Mxenge family is to sue for millions

251  
C.P.R.S.  
19/11/89

## Nofomela may reveal more

By S'BU MNGADI

THE family of slain Durban human rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge are to sue Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and the alleged Security Branch "hit squad" for R2,5-million

This follows allegations made by condemned murderer Butana Nofomela and former Security Branch officer, Capt Dirk

Coetzee - who this week confessed to taking part in Mxenge's murder

Durban attorney Bheka Shezi told *City Press* he was suing on behalf of Mxenge's three orphaned children - his wife Victoria Mxenge was murdered in 1985

Shezi is to send a letter of demand to claim for loss of support, loss of their dogs which were poisoned on Coetzee's or-

ders, and the loss of Mxenge's German car, which was burnt out on the orders of a superior officer to destroy all clues of the murder, according to Coetzee's allegations

Shezi also revealed that Shucks Sefanyetso of Lawyers for Human Rights had given told him that Nofomela wanted to testify at the adjourned Chesterville inquest because he claimed he had information about the

deaths of four dead activists

Although Brig Willem Schoon and Coetzee have been mentioned at the inquest, at which Shezi is representing the families of four dead activists, Nofomela's name has not been mentioned in any of the evidence

An application by Shezi to interview Nofomela in the death cell last month was refused by the Commissioner of Prisons



**Victoria Mxenge...**  
...killed four years after her husband.

# Six prisoners

C Press 19/11/89

# complain

251

By **DESMOND BLOW**

SIX prisoners at Groen Punt Medium Prison in Vereeniging are said to have gone on hunger strike because they feel conditions there have deteriorated since the beginning of this year.

But prison authorities say that although six prisoners threatened to go on hunger strike in October, only one did.

They say he did so because he was upset at punishment he received for a gang fight - but that he was no longer on hunger strike.

Other complaints by prisoners were that coloured prisoners were treated better than black prisoners, were given the best jobs, that the "long awaited" library was for coloureds only and that good black cooks were re-

placed with inefficient coloured cooks.

The Prisons Department investigated and said it was not true that coloureds were given the best jobs. There were 27 black monitors and only one coloured. All cleaners' jobs - apparently sought-after in prison - were filled by blacks.

The Prisons Department spokesman said Groen Punt Prison did not have a library, but a magazine service had recently been introduced for both blacks and coloureds.

The department said there were 23 black cooks and only 12 coloured cooks. Only three cooks - one black and two coloured - had been replaced.

On a complaint that the prison had introduced its own system of granting

parole the spokesman said the same procedures for parole were practised throughout the country. Parole was decided by the parole board at head office on the recommendation of an institutional committee. The department said this committee made recommendations regarding the treatment and release of prisoners.

These were considered with great circumspection on an individual basis.

The spokesman also denied the allegation that nothing was being done to rehabilitate prisoners.

Groen Punt had several social workers to see that prisoners were ready to be introduced back into society when they were released and had employment.

+++ 'DEATH SQUAD' SHOCKS +++ 'DEATH SQUAD' SHOCKS

# Enter the

+++ 'DEATH SQUAD' SHOCKS +++

# Third Man

By JACQUES PAUW and DAVID JACKSON

**A THIRD MAN has claimed he was a member of a police assassination squad headed by runaway ex-captain Dirk Coetzee.**

He is David "Spyker" Tshikalange, also an ex-policeman, who lives in Venda but has fled the country. Captain Coetzee caused a sensation this week when he confessed to the Afrikaans weekly newspaper, *Vrye Weekblad*, that he commanded a hit team which "eliminated" ANC members.

An official police spokesman this week rejected Capt Coetzee's "wild and untested" claims and denied hit squads existed in the SAP. Capt Coetzee's revelations followed an affidavit by Almond Nofomela, an ex-policeman awaiting execution for murder, who also claimed to be a member of the hit squad.

His execution was postponed at the 11th hour by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetzee, who ordered an investigation of his claims.

Yesterday, police said they were aware of Mr Tshikalange's claims and that they were also being investigated.

Major-General Herman Stadler, head of the SAP Public Relations Division, said Mr Tshikalange had been like an "adopted child" to Capt Coetzee and had worked as his gardener.

Through Capt Coetzee, he eventually joined the SAP and was attached to the Security Branch in 1981.

During 1981, Mr Tshikalange was transferred from the Security Branch to a police unit in Sibasa, Venda.

He said Mr Tshikalange had two convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol.

## Orders

At a later stage, Mr Tshikalange took his discharge from the police.

General Stadler said "The police have no death squads — they have anti-terrorist units."

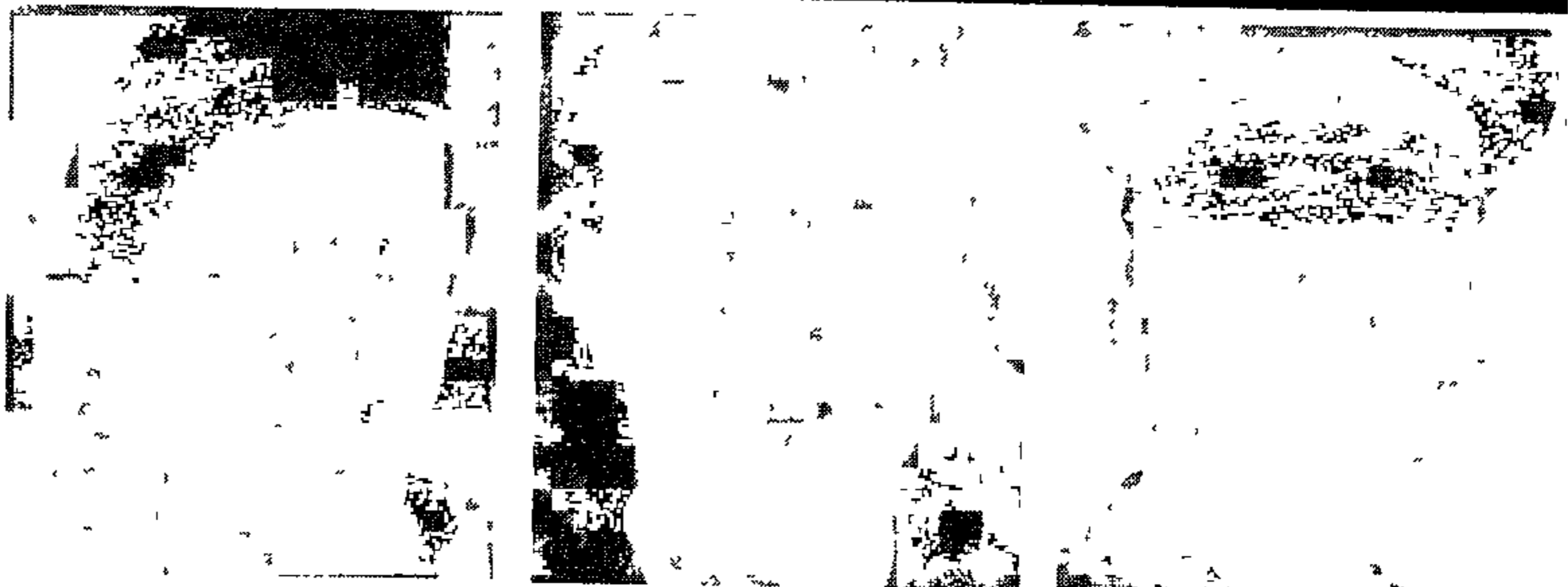
"On occasions, you find mavericks in the force who act on their own. This is being investigated. If anyone has overstepped the mark or has intentionally committed an offence the matter will be dealt with."

Mr Tshikalange claimed he was a member of the four-man unit that received orders from Capt Coetzee to kill human rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge in 1981.

He said he had also taken part in several other killings, but refused to name the victims. He said he was a constable and stayed at Vlakplaas, the headquarters of the police anti-terrorist unit on a farm north of Pretoria.

He refused to disclose any more information about the

## CAREER OF A FUGITIVE COP



CLEAN-CUT IN UNIFORM ... Dirk Coetzee (left and centre) pictured during his national service in the Navy in the middle '60s, and right as a keen young lieutenant in the South African Police

# Black policeman says: I took part in murders

alleged Coetzee death squad. Confronted with evidence about the murder of Mr Mxenge, Mr Tshikalange said he was part of the four-man squad that stabbed the anti-apartheid activist 40 times, slashed his throat and cut off his ears.

He claimed, however, that although he was part of the team, he did not participate in the killing, but watched as the other three policemen killed Mr Mxenge. "There were other killings as well. They were shot and stabbed. We did what we were told."

Mr Tshikalange was named last month by Nofomela as one of Mr Mxenge's killers.

The versions of the

Mxenge killing given by Capt Coetzee, Nofomela and Mr Tshikalanga are almost identical.

Capt Coetzee claimed in his interview with *Vrye Weekblad* — conducted in Mauritius — that Mr Tshikalange was also involved in a murder when four members of the hit squad wanted to buy diamonds in Lesotho with money borrowed from Capt Coetzee.

## Evidence

He said the diamonds were inferior and he sent the four "Askaris" — as "turned" ANC operatives were called — back to Lesotho to return the gems and get his money back. When the dealer

refused to co-operate, they shot him. His body was later burned.

Mr Tshikalange confirmed the incident, but said he did not do the shooting.

More startling evidence claiming the existence of a police death squad is expected this week.

The results of an in-depth investigation conducted by human rights lawyers will be presented to the two-man team appointed by the state to investigate Capt Coetzee's and Nofomela's claims.

The report is said to contain new evidence acquired from a second affidavit taken by representatives of Lawyers for Human Rights in which Nofomela made further allegations about assassinations.

His claims are said to coincide closely with those made by Capt Coetzee.

Capt Coetzee's claims were widely published abroad this week.

In Britain, the Labour MP and chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Mr Robert Hughes, has written to the Home Secretary and the Foreign Secretary demanding a full investigation into allegations which link the South African security forces with the March 1982 bombing of the ANC office in London and the assassination of Ruth First in August 1982.

Capt Coetzee said in the interview with *Vrye Weekblad* that he had headed a murder squad which carried out killings and attacks against ANC targets in South Africa, Lesotho, Britain, Mozambique and Swaziland.

SUNDAY TIMES 19/11/89

cont ↓

Sunday Times  
19 Nov 1989

### Planned

He implicated senior police officers in the killings of Mr Mxenge and others.

Capt Coetzee claimed he was involved in:

- The letter-bomb assassination of Ruth First, wife of SA Communist Party leader Joe Slovo. Mrs First was murdered on August 17 1982 when a packet exploded in her hands in Maputo. Capt Coetzee claimed he stole the envelope from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Swaziland.

- The murder of Mr Mxenge in November 1981. Capt Coetzee planned the murder, prepared the poison to kill the dogs, gave the orders for the murder and paid the perpetrators R1 000 each.

### Potion

- He was ordered to assassinate white ANC activist Marius Schoon. He was given a specially prepared American machine-pistol hidden in a briefcase. He was, however, later ordered to abandon the mission. Mr Schoon, his wife Jeanette and their daughter were killed in 1984 in a letter-bomb explosion.

- In 1980, he helped plant explosives which killed ANC activist Patrick Makau and his child in Swaziland.

- He was ordered to eliminate two captured ANC members. He first tried to poison them, but when the plan backfired he gave them a sleeping potion and shot them through the head.

- Jacques Pauw is a reporter for Vrye Weekblad.

# Webster case link probed



THE IDENTIKIT  
DONALD ACHESON

IRISHMAN Donald Acheson, the alleged assassin of Swapo official Anton Lubowski, may have been linked to the slaying of Wits lecturer and activist Dr David Webster.

The man assigned to lead the Webster investigation, South African deputy CID chief Major-General Jaap Joubert, yesterday revealed that his special Brixton Murder and Robbery team was pursuing this possibility.

Mr Lubowski, 37, died in a hail of AK-47 bullets in front of his Windhoek home on the evening of September 12.

Dr Webster, 44, a senior

By HERMAN JANSEN

lecturer in social anthropology, died outside his home in Troyeville, Johannesburg, after being blasted with a shotgun from a moving car on the morning of May 1.

"We have investigated a possible link between the two killings and are pursuing it," General Joubert told the Sunday Times yesterday.

"At the moment we have no evidence that connects Mr Acheson to the Webster kill-

□ To Page 2

# Link with Webster killing probed

□ From Page 1  
ing, but we have not discounted the possibility."

Both assassinations caused national and international uproar.

Despite a R10 000 reward offered by the police and a substantial part of the R130 000 Webster Fund pledged for information leading to the arrest of the killers, General Joubert admitted his team did not have a "positive clue".

Mr Acheson, who bears a striking resemblance to one of the three identikit released by the police soon after Dr Webster was killed, was taken into custody in Windhoek the day after the Lubowski assassination

try if released on bail — he said he wanted to prove his innocence," said Windhoek attorney Mr Ben van der Merwe, who brought the application.

He said Mr Acheson told the court he wanted to marry his long-time lover, Mrs Cindy Leo, who was willing to put up R10 000 towards his bail. He would not abscond and rob her of her "life's savings".

## Sensitive

Mr Acheson also told the magistrate he had secured a permanent position at a Windhoek paper, the Windhoek Observer.

Colonel Jumbo Smit, the chief investigating officer in the Lubowski case, then told the court the evidence against Mr Acheson was so "sensitive" he could not divulge it.

Objecting to the bail application, he said Mr Acheson could leave the country and interfere with state witnesses.

Bail was refused and Mr Acheson was remanded in the Windhoek jail.

Mrs Leo his lover for

more than seven years, arrived from Johannesburg the following morning for their first meeting since his arrest.

Accompanied by Mr Acheson's Johannesburg lawyer, Mr Pierre Botha, she brought the man she calls her "gentle little child" his favourite sweets and chocolates.

She was devastated when told at the Windhoek jail that Mr Acheson had been "taken away".

Mrs Leo returned to Johannesburg that evening. On Friday, Mr Botha still could not confirm the whereabouts of his client.

"We believe he was taken to Johannesburg for interrogation by the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad," Mr Van

der Merwe said.  
Colonel Smit — who in a responding affidavit to Mr Acheson's Supreme Court application admitted taking him to Johannesburg for interrogation earlier — could not be reached for comment yesterday.

General Joubert told the Sunday Times he did not know whether Mr Acheson was in Johannesburg. "But I know Colonel Smit has been doing some investigations in Johannesburg — this would concern the Lubowski killing."

Col Floris Mostert, head of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, was away for the weekend and could not be reached for comment.

68/11/61 SM/11

**Now third cop claims he was in assassination team**

# THIRD COP CLAIMS HE WAS IN ASSASSINATION TEAM

2.91mbs  
19/11/89

25

**My love**

**for Dirk,**

**by wife**

**he left**

**behind**

By DAVID JACKSON

By JACQUES PAUW

**SENSATIONAL** new claims of police hit squad were made yesterday as rogue police captain Dirk Coetzee went into hiding in Europe, saying he feared for his life.

A third ex-policeman emerged from the shadows to claim he was also involved with Coetzee and condemned murderer Almond Nofomela in a four-man hit squad commanded by the former security police captain.

Former constable David "Spyker" Tshikalang — who has also fled the country — said before leaving his Venda home that the squad he received orders from Capt Coetzee to kill humans

turned upside down three weeks ago when her ex-policeman husband Dirk told her he was going to leave the country.

Until that moment, pretty auburn-haired Karin — who married her teenage sweetheart 21 years so — says she had no inkling of the murky world of death squads and undercover missions in which her husband claims to have moved.

Then, two days before his secret flight to Mauritius, Captain Coetzee broke the news to his 33-year-old son Dirkie.

He gave Dirkie a hug and told him: "You are the man in the house now. look after your mother and your brother for me."

Every evening, Karin sits by the phone waiting for a call from her husband.

"I don't know where he is — and I never ask him. He asks after the children and the dogs. And I get the feeling he is relieved. He is just glad that the world knows the truth."

Before he left, he also confided in Dirkie. Dirkie knows what has happened but his brother Karl is a little too young to understand these things.

### Fatigue

As the wife of a senior police officer, Karin says she has been trained to deal with stress. The phone rings incessantly. And she has to look after ageing in-laws and her youngest son, who, like his father, is a diabetic.

There are traces of fatigue beneath her eyes. But petite Karen, a keen follower of modern fashion, is dressed imaginatively in one of the latest creations.

"I don't know when we will be together again. But it's crossed my mind that one day I may have to leave everything I am familiar with and join him somewhere, once he is settled and finds a steady job."

Before he left, we both decided we would take one day at a time. The separation is the hardest part — we miss him already.

"I never knew the details of what his missions were until I read the papers this week. It came as a great shock. At first, I couldn't take it all in. "I knew it was important work. Sometimes he would be away for days at a time. He could be very

concern over the claim — and vehement demands from the S.A.P. — President F.W. de Klerk has ordered an urgent investigation by the Ministry of Law and Order.

## ENTER THE THIRDMAN

### Full story on Page 6

A spokesman for Mr De Klerk said yesterday the President would consider making a statement after studying the report.

Captain Dirk Coetzee has been branded a crooked cop by former colleagues in the force.

Retired Police Commissioner Johan Coetzee said yesterday that Capt Coetzee had been "unreliable" and had allegedly been involved in a pornography ring and the smuggling of Portuguese immigrants.

Official police spokesmen said this week that Capt Coetzee, 44, resigned from the police in 1986 for health reasons amid an internal inquiry into his conduct.

Sources said the captain, a diabetic, was given the option to resign rather than be dishonorably discharged.

Speaking from his hideout in Europe, Capt Coetzee said in an interview this week "I had to leave my fatherland because I feared for my life I wanted to confess about the terrible things I have done in the past."

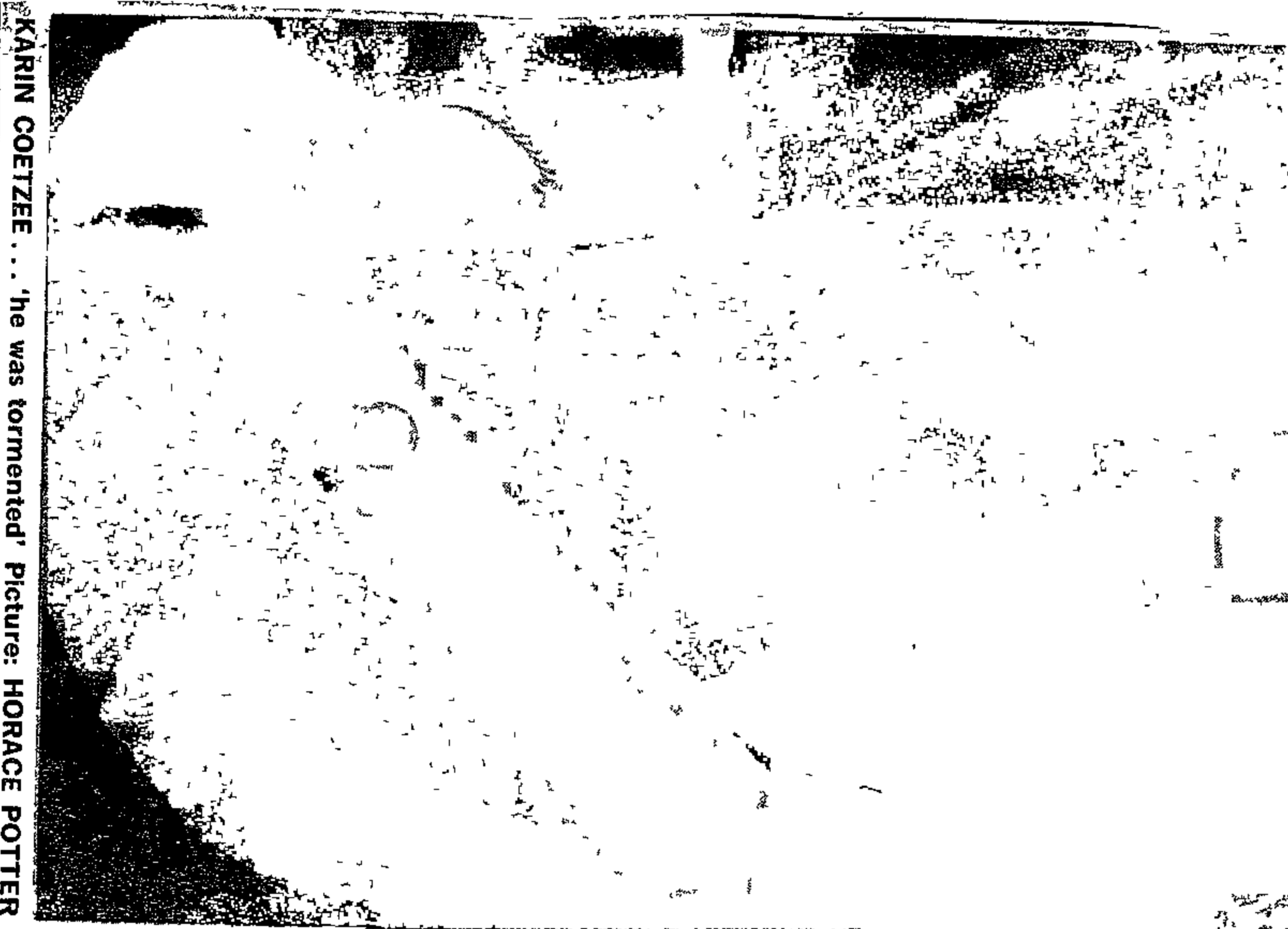
### Confess

"If I had done so in South Africa, my life would have been in danger. I have taken a huge step into the unknown to clear my conscience and start a new life."

"Revenge was not my motivation. I am not conducting a vendetta against the police or any police officers."

Capt Coetzee decided to confess after a commission of inquiry was set up to investigate allegations about the existence of police death squads made by Almond Nofomela, an ex-policeman now on death row.

Nofomela won a last-minute stay of execution after making sworn affidavits in which he claimed he was a member of a police



KARIN COETZEE... 'he was tormented' Picture: HORACE POTTER

cont ↓

withdrawn and I sensed it was causing him great stress. I'm sure that this aggravated his diabetes.

"But he was a very protective man to his family. He kept his police work and his private life very much apart.

"All I know is that I love him for the man he is — a man whose personal code was honesty. He would never lie to anybody. He doesn't deserve this.

## Withdrawn

"People get this image of the cold, professional hit-man. They don't know the human side of Dirk. He was very much a family man. He would often stop to feed the birds in the garden before leaving for work.

"His children's upbringing was so important to him. He was a firm believer in education without fear and he was very much against corporal punishment.

"But he was somewhat withdrawn from his church, for reasons I don't fully understand.

"Even knowing what I know now about the work he had to do, if I had the choice

□ To Page 6

death squad which killed lawyer Mr Mxenge.

He also named Capt Coetzee in his allegations which are being investigated by Free State Attorney-General Mr T P McNally and senior SAP officer Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie

## Agony

Capt Coetzee said he had decided that if approached by Mr McNally, he would tell the truth. That, he said, would have put his life in jeopardy. So he eventually decided to quit South Africa, leaving behind his wife and two sons.

"I was, of course, afraid I might be charged with murder. I have participated in and witnessed various police killings," he said.

He agonised for two weeks before finally making up his mind to flee his Pretoria home.

Leaving South Africa for the first time in his life, he boarded a Sunday morning flight to Mauritius two weeks ago.

"I had to take sleeping pills and tranquillisers nights before the departure. I knew that if the police found out

□ To Page 6



THE FUGITIVE: Ex-cop Dirk Coetzee, branded unreliable

Picture Vrye Weekblad



November 1989

# Pressure

# mounts

# for 'hit

# squad'

# inquiry

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251

Political Staff

FREE State Attorney-General Mr T N McNally said today he might recommend that a new commission of inquiry be set up to investigate the "death squad" claims of ex-police captain Dirk Coetzee.

He also confirmed that his own commission of inquiry into political assassinations would be assessing fresh information, arising from Captain Coetzee's allegations, which had a bearing on the claims of death row prisoner Butana Nofomela.

His information will definitely form part of our inquiry," he said.

Mr McNally said "There is some very relevant material because, among other things, the killing of Durban lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge, is mentioned".

Mr McNally said that on Wednesday he would be receiving a visit by a delegation of human rights lawyers, including Professor John Dugard, director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at Wits University, Professor Laurie Ackermann, head of human rights law at Stellenbosch University and Mr Brian Currin, director of Lawyers for Human Rights.

### Pressure

Asked if he would recommend that a new inquiry be set-up, Mr McNally said "We have not been asked to make recommendations, but nothing would stop us from doing so. We will consider it".

President De Klerk has called for a report from Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok as pressure increased on the government today to have a judicial inquiry into the allegations.

Mr Tian van der Merwe, MP, law and order spokesman of the Democratic Party, has demanded that the inquiry be done by a judge, helped by special investigators as it would be difficult for police to do it.

### Tough team needed

Mr McNally is being assisted by CID chief Lieutenant General Alwyn Conrade.

Mr Van der Merwe said the matter was extremely serious and it should be investigated by an appropriate team with an appropriate investigating method.

It should be a judicial commission by a judge assisted by a tough and independent team of investigators.

P.T.O.

→

If even half of the allegations made were true it could not be expected that the investigative work could be done exclusively by senior police officers

Mr Van der Merwe said it was also important that the inquiry be held in public and that the evidence should be presented publicly as soon as possible.

If the allegations were true it must be assumed that the lives of people involved in evidence in this case could be threatened

He wanted to warn against efforts to discredit Captain Coetzee

Captain Coetzee, Mr Van der Merwe said, was not the accused in the matter and it would only be settled through a proper investigation into the  
*(Turn to page 3, col 8)*

## 'Hit Squad' ROW GROWS'

*(Cont from page 1)*

allegations and also into the large number of political assassinations and cases of terrorism against opponents of the government in the past few years

Meanwhile in Port Louis, Mauritius, authorities have ended an inquiry into the presence on the island of Captain Coetzee. It is thought that the former SAP officer left at the weekend for Europe, probably Italy, reports the Argus Africa News Service

The presence of Captain Coetzee on Mauritius caused a political storm with the local Press dubbing him the "anti-apartheid butcher"

"The case is now closed," one of the chief investigators said yesterday

An official statement is expected to be made today after passport and immigration officials check out the embarkation cards of all passengers leaving

### RECORDED ARRIVAL

"A systematic verification of all departing dates will be made and only then will a final report be made," a spokesman said

On Saturday Prime Minister Sir Anerood Jugnauth was briefed on the inquiry and ordered a "close monitoring" of the situation

It is understood a special team was ordered to shadow Captain Coetzee on the island

A police spokesman said no action had been taken against the former SAP member because he had committed no crimes in Mauritius

According to immigration officials a Mr Dirk Coetzee arrived here in the company of a Mr Christopher Pauw earlier this month. He was given a one week visa ● See page 11.

# NEW: 'Proof' on hit squads

251  
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20/11/89

**Own Correspondent**  
**JOHANNESBURG.** — New affidavits containing further allegations by Buntana Almond Nofomela about police hit squads, and substantiating evidence, will be presented to the commission investigating earlier claims of political assassinations.

According to legal sources, "proof" of some of Nofomela's allegations will be put before the commission  
Death row prisoner Nofomela has welcomed allegations about the "death squads" made last week by ex-captain Dirk Coetzee  
And a third former policeman admitted at the weekend to being a member of a police hit squad.

The Sunday press reported that former Constable David "Spyker" Tshikalange claimed before fleeing the country that he was one of three men instructed by Mr Coetzee to kill human rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge, who was stabbed to death in Durban in 1981  
But former security police chief General Johan Coetzee and ex-spy Mr Craig Williamson vehemently denied that assassinations formed

part of official police work.  
Both served in the police in the 1979-to-1982 period to which Mr Coetzee's allegations refer, and were named by him in connection with the allegations published in Vrye Weekblad on Friday  
"If Coetzee was involved in political murders, he was acting as part of a rogue unit and

To page 3



**ALLEGATIONS** ... Ex-captain Dirk Coetzee, whose allegations of a police hit squad have caused a furor  
Picture: VRYE WEEKBLAD

WLR is still a central issue  
Times, Monday, November 20, 1989 3 or a living  
From page 1

should be brought back to face charges," Mr Williamson said

er. Trade  
job titles  
men doing

On Friday Nofomela was shown a copy of Vrye Weekblad in which Mr Coetzee, who has left South Africa, claimed his unit was responsible for the assassination of anti-apartheid activists and bomb attacks on ANC offices

Legal sources said when Nofomela saw the article he responded "This is the man I have been talking about." He was pleased about Mr Coetzee's disclosures as they confirmed the contents of his affidavit.

In a first affidavit handed to Lawyers for Human Rights last month Nofomela named Mr Coetzee as his commanding officer in the field

Sources refused at the weekend to reveal the nature of the "proof" said to substantiate the allegations

In a further development, Lawyers for Human Rights and the family of assassinated couple Mr Griffiths and Mrs Victoria Mxenge are to bring separate urgent Supreme Court applications for a stay of execution for Nofomela

The LHR is seeking a re-opening of the case against Nofomela, who was convicted of murdering a farmer

Mr Bheka Shezi, the Mxenges' former legal partner, said he would sue Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and the alleged assassination squad for R2,5 million on behalf of the Mxenges' three orphaned children who now live in Ciskei

Mr Shezi said Nofomela's evidence was also needed for an inquest into the deaths of four Chertville Youth Organisation members who were killed in 1986

P.T. 2

## 'Taking on the state'

The director of Lawyers for Human Rights, Mr Brian Currin, said further affidavits on these events would be placed before the commission headed by Free State attorney general Mr T P McNally

Mr Currin is a member of the independent board of inquiry into informal repression, set up by the SA Council of Churches. The board will meet the commission this week

Mr Currin, who represented Mr Coetzee in an SAP internal disciplinary hearing in 1985/1986, described Mr Coetzee as an "intelligent and ambitious man"

Mr Coetzee had made serious allegations against the police, some of which were published by the media. He was found guilty. After a settlement Mr Coetzee was re-instated on condition he would resign on medical grounds

Asked why he had represented Mr Coetzee at the hearing, Mr Currin said Mr Coetzee "had heard I was used to taking on the state fairly vigorously"

Mr Williamson elaborated on the police's role regarding the ANC "Obviously there is a war going on, and where legitimate ANC targets are identified action is taken," he said

But, he added, as far as he knew none of the incidents disclosed by Mr Coetzee were official operations. Official security force operations in neighbouring states "were usually admitted and were directed towards senior members of Umkhonto we Sizwe", Mr Williamson said

General Coetzee conceded that one incident described by Mr Coetzee could be true "I won't say (Mr Coetzee's allegation) that ANC activist Joe Pillay was brought back to South Africa from Swaziland by us to stand trial is untrue. Our courts do not have to inquire into how an accused was physically brought before it"

## Police 'had proof'

But he denied knowledge of the alleged assassinations "It behoves our civilised legal system that the police should gather evidence, arrest the accused, and bring him before court," General Coetzee said

He said the "turned" ANC members housed at Vlakplaas farm near Pretoria — from among whose numbers Mr Coetzee alleged the hit squad was drawn — were used purely to identify infiltrators

Mr Williamson said police had proof that Mr Coetzee's claims regarding the assassination of Ruth First in Mozambique 'were incorrect.

Mr Coetzee said that the parcel bomb which killed her was contained in a UN High Commission for Refugees envelope "We know specifically that the envelope was not a UNHCR one," Mr Williamson said. He said the police remained interested in discovering who had killed her

Meanwhile the Democratic Party has called for the urgent establishment of a judicial commission of inquiry into death squad allegations

DP co-leader Dr Denis Worrall, who was SA ambassador in London in the mid-80s, said he had no knowledge of police use of the embassy's diplomatic bag during his period in office

Mr Coetzee claimed the diplomatic bag was used to smuggle into Britain the explosives used to bomb the ANC offices in 1982 — which was before Dr Worrall's appointment

Mr Williamson said access to diplomatic bags was under the rigid control of the Department of Foreign Affairs and SAP access was "very difficult"

# 'Top Secret' Askaris figured in Yengeni trial

Cape

CMT Tris 20/11/85

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Staff Reporter

REFERENCE to the existence of a unit known as Askaris — former ANC guerrillas who were taken by police to a farm outside Pretoria where they were "turned" — was first made in the Supreme Court in May this year, in the terrorism trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and 13 others.

Further reference to the group also surfaced during the inquiry into the refusal of ANC member Mr Bongani Jonas to testify for the state in the Yengeni trial.

Jonas said he had been recruited into the unit, whose existence was confirmed in revelations by former security policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee.

After the lengthy inquiry, Mr Justice S Selikowitz found that Jonas, 31, did not have just excuse for his refusal to testify and on November 3 sentenced him to three years imprisonment.

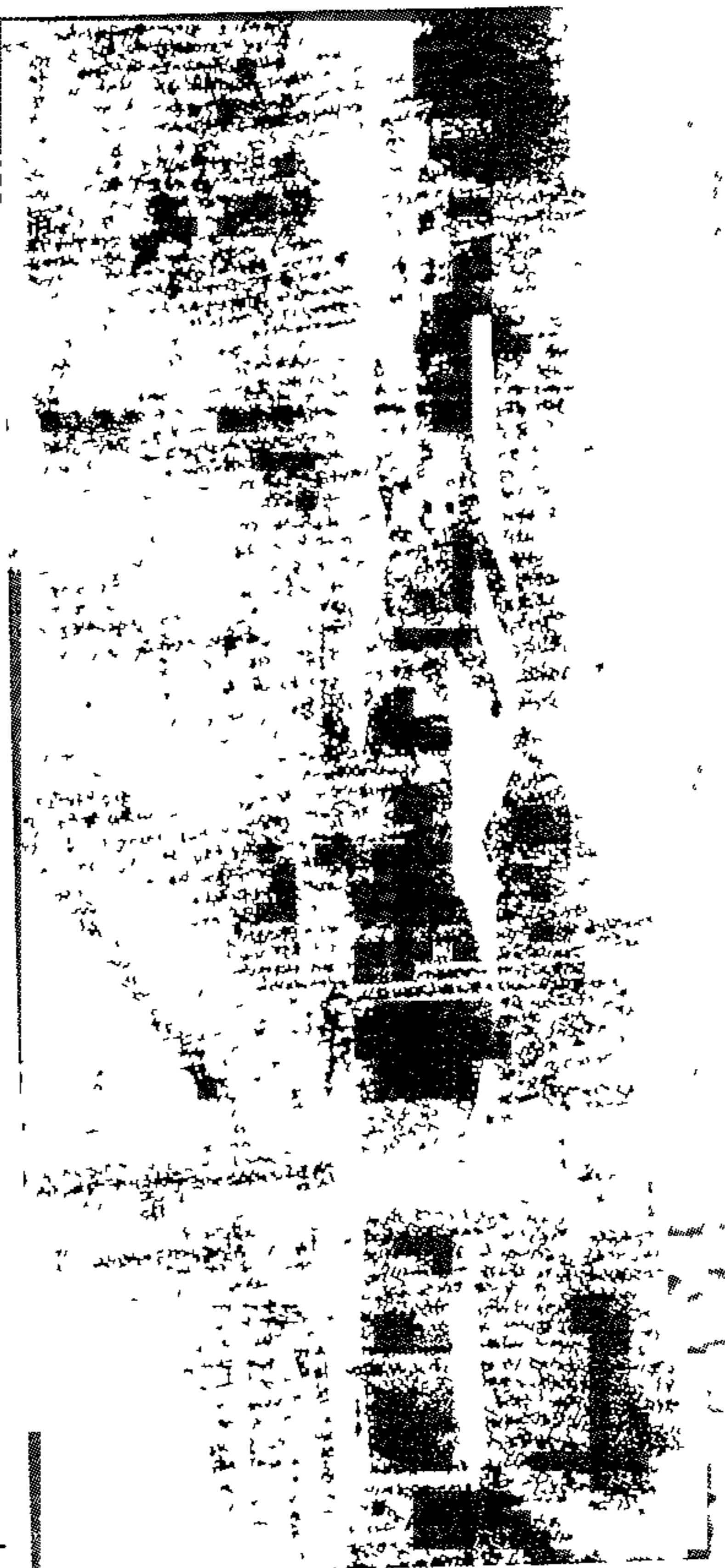
When asked about the group and its modus operandi, security policemen in both cases pleaded privilege in terms of state security or said the group was "top secret" and that nothing could be revealed about it because it could be dangerous.

During the Yengeni trial on May 11, when Mr D P de Villiers, QC, cross-examined Captain Rudolph William Liebenberg, head of the Peninsula Terrorist Detection Unit, about the "A-team", he said he knew only that it was "a television programme".

Told that the group was sometimes known as the Askari group, he pleaded privilege and said he needed an adjournment to consult with state prosecutors and his superiors.

Asked the same question by Mr De Villiers, after a short adjournment, Capt Liebenberg replied that no group was officially known by that name but that he had heard the word used for a unit consisting of "rehabilitated terrorists".

He denied having been present when Mr Yengeni's co-accused, Mr Mthetsheli Titiwana, was told by a policeman named Neville that he and other black policemen were members of the "A-Team" or that he



ASKARI BASE . . . Vlakplaas, the farm near Pretoria which ex-captain Dirk Coetzee says served as the base for the Askaris — "turned" ANC members who worked for the alleged SAP death squad.

had heard Neville say to Mr Titiwana they were "Transvaal boere" and that he (Titiwana) was in a "precarious position" and could be killed at any time.

During the Jonas inquiry on June 1, Jonas said he had agreed to join the "A-Team", which he said was composed of former ANC members whose work was

"to kill their former ANC colleagues". Jonas said he had first learnt about the "A-Team" from members of two operating units, one in Pretoria and another in East London. A third was to be formed in Cape Town and he was to be recruited into it.

He got to know "A-Team" members, who took him to Athlone, Lansdowne and Bonteheuwel at night and told him they were "the Gestapo". Their work was "to go around townships acting on information from the security police, and kill former ANC colleagues".

Jonas said the Askari members had told him they had shot a suspected ANC guerrilla in Gugulethu in September last year and another in Port Elizabeth on September 13, when the inquiry continued. Sergeant Matamela Musimeke, of security police headquarters in Pretoria — the man who shot Jonas during his arrest — admitted in reply to a question by Mr Dullah Omar, Jonas's counsel, that a group of former rehabilitated ANC and PAC guerrillas were now members of the police.

Asked how large the group was, he said he could not disclose that in court and that one of his superiors should be called. He could not say anything about the group because it was "top secret".

He could not make anything public, Sgt Musimeke said, adding that it would be dangerous to the group. He had "moved around" the country with the group and could not say anything about its activities.

Told by Mr Omar that his instructions were that part of the activities of the rehabilitated group was to "eliminate" members of Umkhonto we Sizwe — the military wing of the ANC, Sgt Musimeke said when these members were arrested they were taken to court.

Asked if it was not part of the group's work to eliminate ANC guerrillas, Sgt Musimeke replied: "If possible we can eliminate them."

He had never heard of the group referred to as Askari or "A-Team", he said.

Under-cross examination Sgt Musimeke said rehabilitated persons were regarded as traitors and became "special targets". They did not live under their own names and a large part of their lives was spent giving evidence in terrorism and treason trials all over the country.

Ex-spy Williamson denies role

# New claims made about hit squads' <sup>28/20/11/89</sup>

NEW affidavits containing further allegations by Butana Almond Nofomela about SA Police hit squads, as well as substantiating evidence, are to be presented to the commission investigating claims of political assassinations.

According to legal sources, "proof" of some of Nofomela's claims will be put before the commission, which is headed by Free State Attorney-General T P McNally.

The sources refused at the weekend to reveal the nature of the evidence, which is said to substantiate the allegations.

Nofomela, a Death Row prisoner, has welcomed the claims made last week by ex-SAP Capt Dirk Coetzee about the "death squads."



● DIRK COETZEE  
Picture VRYE WEEKBLAD

ADELE BALETA, ALAN FINE and CHARLENE SMITH

In a first affidavit handed to Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) last month, Nofomela named Coetzee as his commanding officer in the field.

But at the weekend former security police chief Gen Johann Coetzee and spy Craig Williamson vehemently denied that assassinations formed part of official police work.

Both served in the police in the period — from 1979 to 1982 — to which Coetzee's allegations refer, and were named by him in connection with allegations published in Vrye Weekblad on Friday.

"If Coetzee was involved in political murders, he was acting as part of a rogue unit and should be brought back to face charges," Williamson said.

At the weekend a third former policeman, David "Spyker" Tshikalange, emerged to allege he, too, was involved with Coetzee and Nofomela. Tshikalange, who has fled SA, said before leaving Venda that the squad had been ordered to kill human rights activist Griffiths Mxenge in 1981. Mxenge's wife, Victoria, was subsequently also assassinated. Both Coetzee and Nofomela made similar claims about the Mxenge murders.

In a further development, LHR and the family of the murdered Mxenges are to launch separate urgent Supreme Court applications for a stay of execution for Nofomela.

The LHR is seeking a re-opening of the case against Nofomela, who was convicted of murdering a farmer Bheka Shezi, the Mxenges' former legal

□ To Page 2

## Hit squads <sup>(251)</sup>

partner, is to sue Law and Order Minister Adrian Vlok and the alleged assassination squad for R2.5m on behalf of the Mxenges' three orphaned children.

Shezi said Nofomela's evidence was also needed for an inquest into the deaths of four Chesterville Youth Organisation members killed in 1986.

Six of the policemen named in the inquest proceedings so far have been named by Nofomela as alleged assassination squad members.

Nofomela has also said he was involved in several assassinations and numerous kidnappings.

LHR director Brian Curran said further affidavits on these events would be placed before the commission.

Curran is a member of the Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression, set up by the SA Council of Churches, which is to meet the commission this week.

Williamson elaborated on the police role regarding the ANC "Obviously there is a war going on, and where legitimate ANC targets are identified action is taken," he said.

But, he added, as far as he knew none of the incidents disclosed by Coetzee were official operations.

Gen Coetzee told Business Day the police had to assist in gathering intelligence on the activities of ANC cadres in neighbouring countries, particularly in regard to plans to infiltrate guerrillas into SA.

He conceded that one incident described by Coetzee could be true: "I won't say (Coetzee's allegation)... that ANC activist

□ From Page 1

Joe Pillay was brought back to SA from Swaziland by us to stand trial is untrue. Our courts do not have to inquire into how an accused was physically brought before them." But he denied knowledge of the alleged assassinations.

The "turned" ANC cadres housed at Vlakplaas farm near Pretoria — from among whose numbers Coetzee alleged the hit squad was drawn — were used "purely to identify infiltrators."

This, Gen Coetzee insisted, occurred only within SA's borders.

Williamson said police had proof that ex-Capt Coetzee's claims regarding the assassination of SA Communist Party leader Joe Slovo's wife, Ruth First, in Mozambique were incorrect.

Coetzee said the parcel bomb which killed First was enclosed in a UN High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) envelope. "We know specifically that the envelope was not a UNHCR one," Williamson said.

Both he and Gen Coetzee denied Coetzee's allegations about their links to the alleged hit squad.

Meanwhile, DP co-leader Denis Worrall, who was SA's Ambassador to London in the mid-'80s, said he had no knowledge of police use of the embassy's diplomatic bag during his period in office.

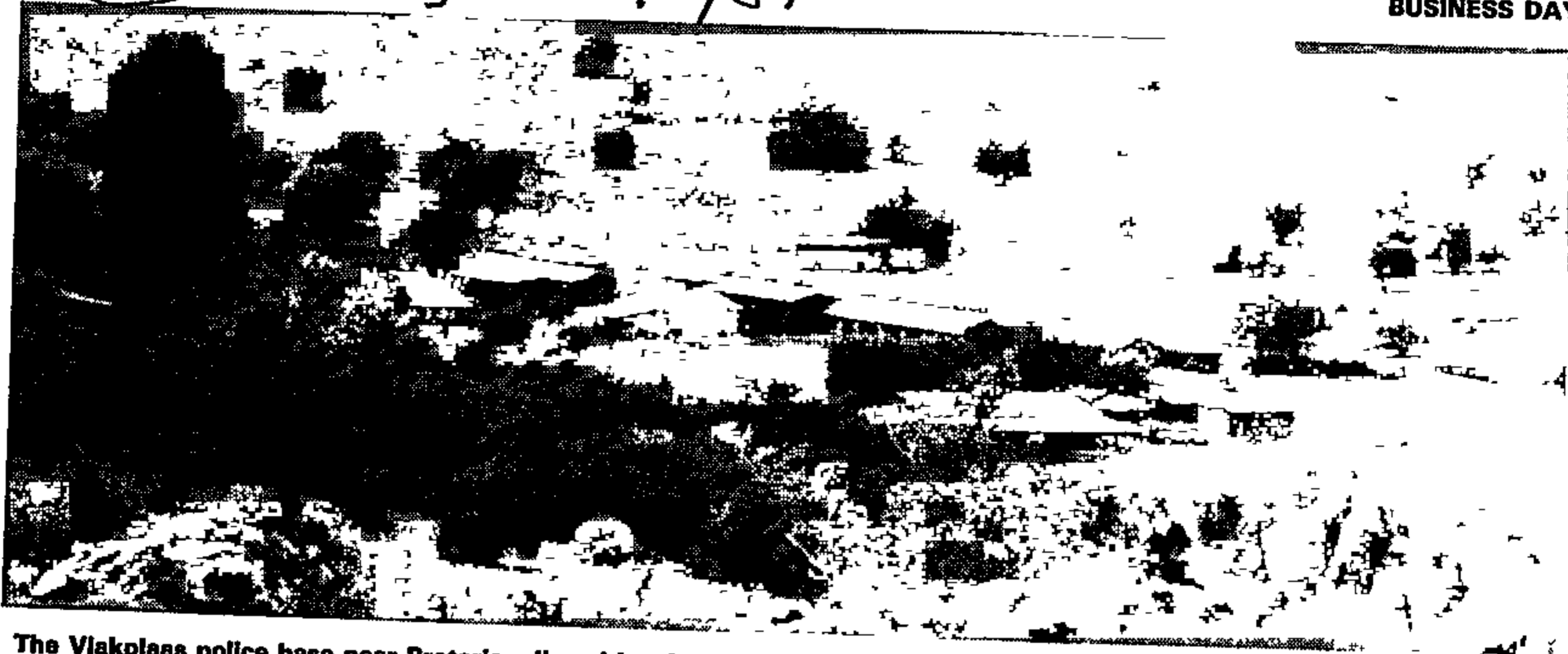
Coetzee earlier claimed the diplomatic bag was used to smuggle into the UK explosives used to bomb ANC offices in 1982, before Worrall's appointment.

The DP has called for a judicial inquiry into the death squad claims.

● Picture: Page 3

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BUSINESS DAY,



The Viakplaas police base near Pretoria, alleged headquarters of the hit squad former police captain Dirk Coetzee claims he headed up.

Picture ROBERT BOTHA

# The SAP's major hostage-breaker

25/1/89

CAPE TOWN — He's short, wiry and unsmiling. He's controversial and has come under fire from inside and outside the SAP. But within the reaction unit he walks tall.

He is Major Charles Brazelle, a leading riot policeman who has had some of the best-available training in hostage dramas.

Last week that training was put to the test as he tried to negotiate the surrender of Mr Anton Fransch — an attempt which ended in failure when the young activist was blown up by his last handgrenade.

But only 13 months ago Major Brazelle (36) led a team which persuaded a gunman who had barricaded himself in a flat in Green Point, Cape Town, to surrender.

Major Brazelle is a veteran of nearly 20 years' service with the police, having joined the force at 17. As a lieutenant he was transferred in 1978 to the task force detailed to deal with terrorism and hostages.

Because of the secret nature of its work, the special force has had little publicity.

One of its brief forays into the public eye was during the Silverton bank siege in 1980 when five people died, including three terrorists, and 22 people were wounded.

One of those injured was the then lieutenant Brazelle, hit by shrapnel from a handgrenade.

At the time there were reports that the men from the task force — all volunteers — had training based on Israeli and West Ger-

man anti-terrorist methods. It included training in bush warfare, anti-urban terrorism including the handling of hostage situations and sieges, rescue operations including mountaineering, weapon-handling, and the handling and identification of explosives.

Another foray was the freeing of hostages in the Independence Stadium in Mmabatho during last year's abortive coup in Botswana.

Major Brazelle left the unit as a captain in 1984 and joined the Western Cape section of the riot squad where he got to know another controversial policeman, Warrant Officer Hendrick "Barrie" Barnard.

W/O Barnard was one of two policemen who died in May last year during the Sun Valley shootout — the first of three sieges in Cape Town in 18 months. The gunman involved was also killed.

The bloody fight ended with a stun-grenade assault on the bedroom where Mr Christopher du Plooy had holed up with an arsenal. A fire broke out in the building.

Such was the devastation in terms of

lives and damage to the building that police reassessed the way in which they would deal with sieges in Cape Town.

And so it was that when a few months later the Green Point siege took place, police adopted a wait-and-talk approach — an approach which worked.

Then, in the early hours of Friday, police were again faced with a duel with a gunman. This time there was a combination of strong-arm tactics and talk.

Bullets were traded for bullets, grenades for grenades.

And in-between, according to police spokesmen, Major Brazelle tried to persuade Mr Fransch to give himself up.

In the end it was the blast of a grenade which stopped the siege.

Major Brazelle's work in the Cape has not dealt only with sieges.

He was in the news during the KTC trial in which squatter families sued the Minister of Law and Order after the camp was burnt in 1986.

And he again featured prominently in the controversial "Rockman trial" last month when he and another riot policeman, Lieutenant David Johan Roos, were acquitted of assault.

The charges arose out of allegations by Lieutenant Gregory Rockman that riot police used unnecessary force when dispersing people in Mitchell's Plain on September 5.

P-TO for Pictures





Major Brazelle's attempts to persuade an alleged ANC guerilla to surrender prove fruitless . . . police remove the man's body from a house in Athlone after he had blown himself up on Friday.

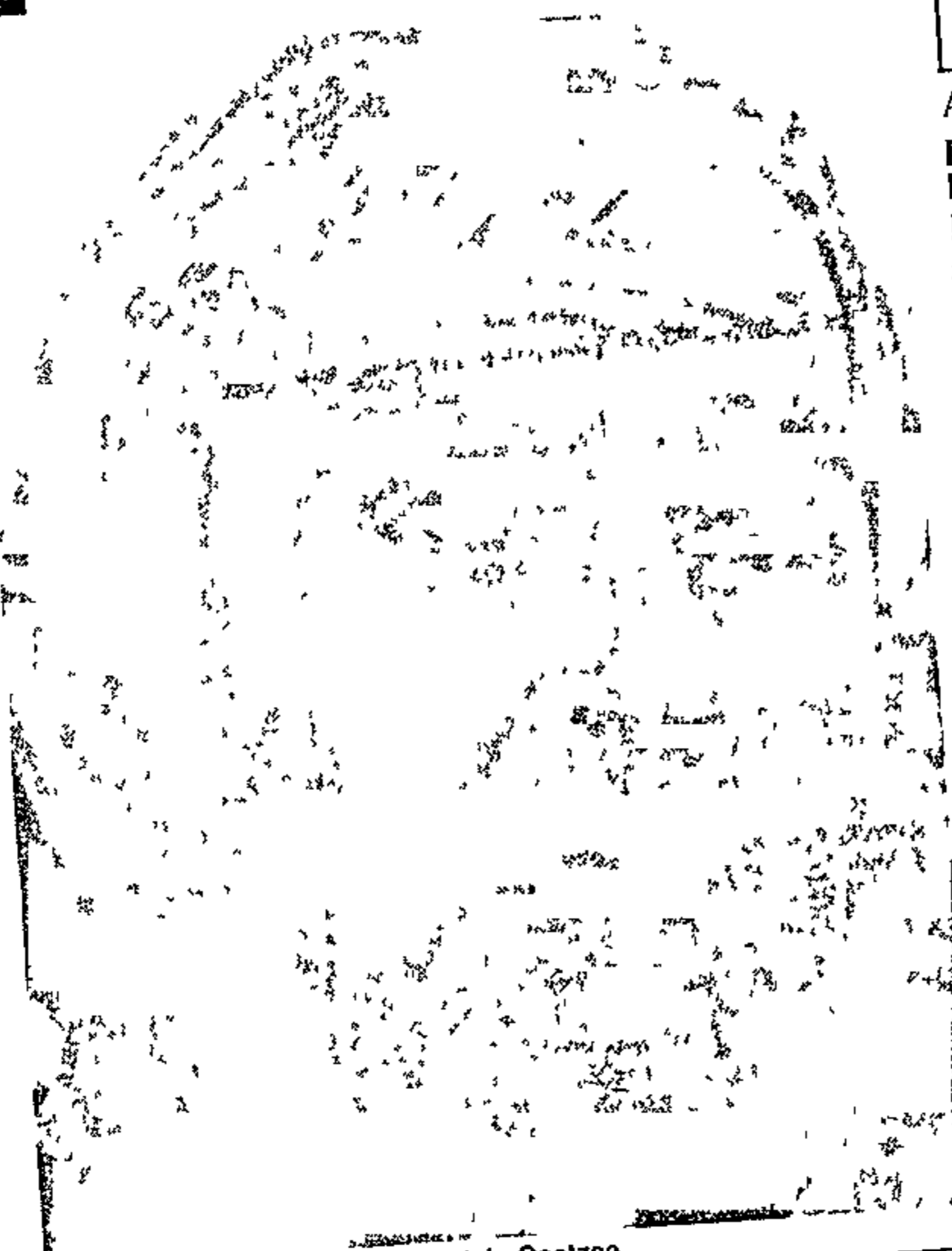
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PFP members knew about killings says

# 'SQUADS' PFP KNEW

Sowetan 20/11/89

156



Captain Coetzee

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN

AT least two prominent members of the old Progressive Federal Party heard about "death squad activities within the South African Police" a number of years ago.

Mr Tiaan van der Merwe, the Democratic Party spokesman for Law and Order, heard this from Captain Dirk Coetzee himself, he told the *Sowetan* yesterday.

Van der Merwe said he was instructed by Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert to meet with a civil servant Mr Frans Whelpton, and Coetzee "to discuss improper activities with regard to telephone tapping."

It was at this meeting in Johannesburg that Van der Merwe heard of killings by the security police.

"Coetzee told me he was directly involved in the Ruth First murder and about the smuggling of explosives by diplomatic bags into London," Van der Merwe said.

Why didn't he do anything about it? "I wasn't surprised at all. Every body knew that these things were going on in the country. And anyway I tried to get something

● To page 2

Sokutu was released from three years in detention in April and has been confined to his home after dark ever since.

Also among the 10 were Mrs Buyiswa Fazi, executive member of Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (Pebco) and Mrs Ivy Geina, president of the Port Elizabeth Woman's Organisation (Pewo), both of whom were detained for three years.

## Restrictions on 10 activists lifted

RESTRICTION orders on a further 10 Port Elizabeth activists were lifted bringing to 18 the number of East Cape people who have had restriction orders scrapped by the Minister of Law and Order this week.

The scrapping of the restrictions follow recent independent submissions to Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok by the regional vice

president of the United Democratic Front, Mr Henry Fazzie and the National Party MPs for Newton Park and Algoa Mr Sukkie Louw and Mr Frans Smit.

Included in yesterday's 10 were Port Elizabeth journalists and former detainee Mr Brian Sokutu.

Sokutu was notified by Security Police yesterday. He said no reason were given.

they confirm South Africa's direct involvement in state-sponsored international terrorism.

"South Africa can no longer deny that it is engaged in acts of international terrorism and has abused its diplomatic protection to this end, so we need prompt action by the British Government to demonstrate that such activity is utterly unacceptable.

## Death squads

● From page 1 on paper, but failed

He said that Whelpton, who was employed in the office of PW Botha at the time, made startling revelations about goings-on in Government. Van der Merwe said the two were scared to commit their story as they were on trial "Whelpton for dubious criminal charges and Coetzee had disciplinary action pending against him." Van der Merwe said he reported his findings to Van Zyl Slabbert.

Meanwhile in Britain the claims made by Coetzee has sparked a furore which might result in the closing of the South Africa embassy in London.

The Anti-Apartheid Movement chairman and British Labour Party MP for Aberdeen, Mr Robert Hughes, in a letter to British Foreign Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd, demanded the closure of the embassy because of the allegation that it was used to transmit the explosive for a bomb attack on the ANC in 1982.

Hughes also said that warrants must be issued for the arrest of bomber Peter Caselton and the alleged organiser of the attacks the National Party MP, Mr Craig Williamson.

Hughes said Coetzee's confessions "provide the most comprehensive account to date of the activities of the death squads. More directly,

227

Sowetan

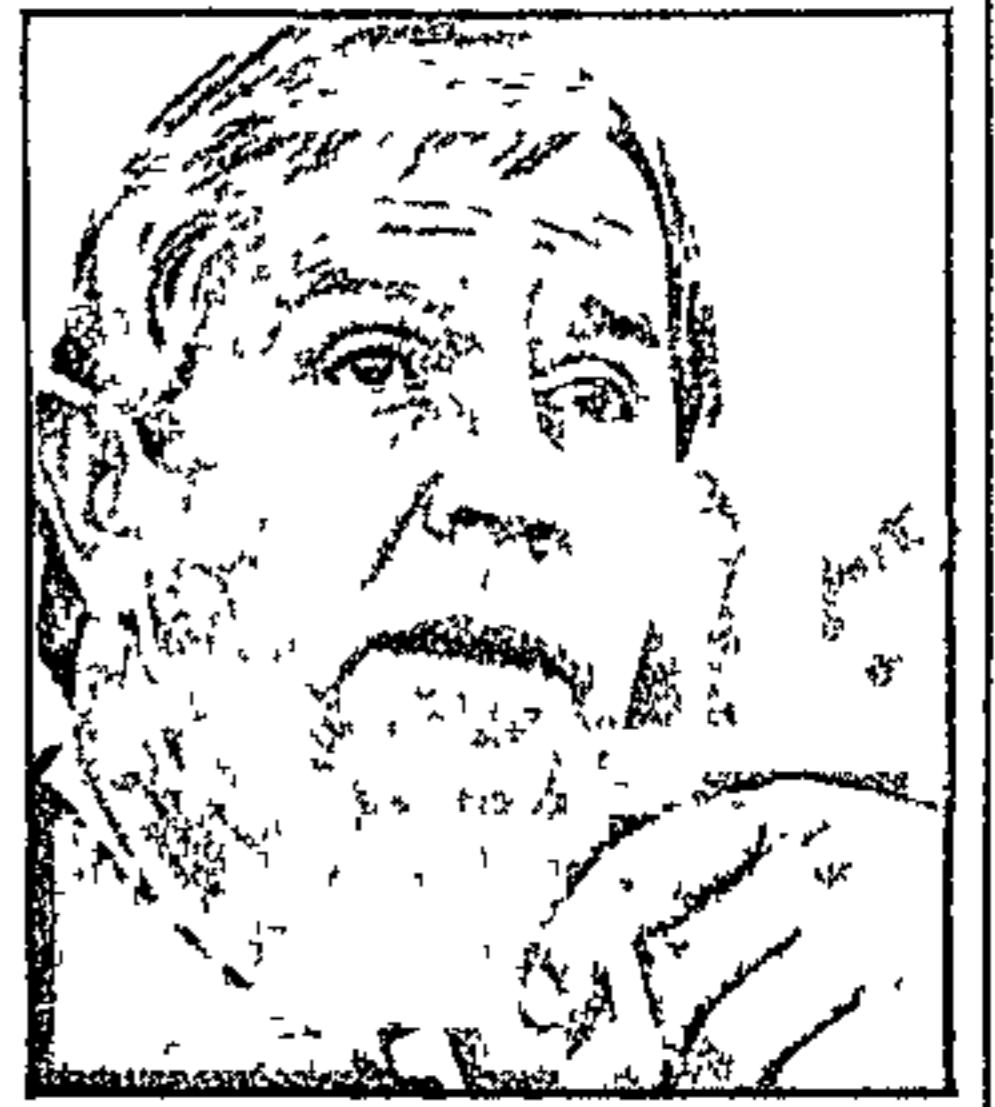
20/11/89



Three men have now provided evidence

# Hit Squad: pressure for judicial inquiry

251 Star 20/11/89



Dirk Coetzee . . . alleged leader of hit squad

By Peter Fabricius and Craig Kotze

The Government is facing growing pressure for a judicial inquiry into the sensational allegations made by former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee that he headed a killer squad formed to assassinate Government political opponents

The State President, Mr F W de Klerk, has responded to calls for a judicial inquiry by saying he has asked Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok for an urgent report on the matter

It is understood that President de Klerk and Mr Vlok have had discussions over the weekend about the allegations

Though police have strenuously denied the existence of such a squad, three different men claiming to have been part of it have now provided evidence. Police have said the evidence will be examined by the McNally investigation team set up after the first Death Row allegations were made

The hit squad claims are being investigated by the Attorney General of the Free State, Mr T McNally, and CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie

But the Democratic Party has called for a judicial commission of inquiry and DP co leader Dr Denis Worrall said at the weekend he had written to President de Klerk urging him to appoint one as soon as possible

Mr Louis le Grange, who was Minister of Law and Order at the time of the alleged hit-squad assassinations said today he had 'absolutely no comment' to make on the allegations. Mr le Grange, now Speaker of Parliament, said "It does not concern me now and it did not concern me"

The Star's Africa News Service reports that in Mauritius authorities have ended an inquiry into the presence there of Captain Coetzee

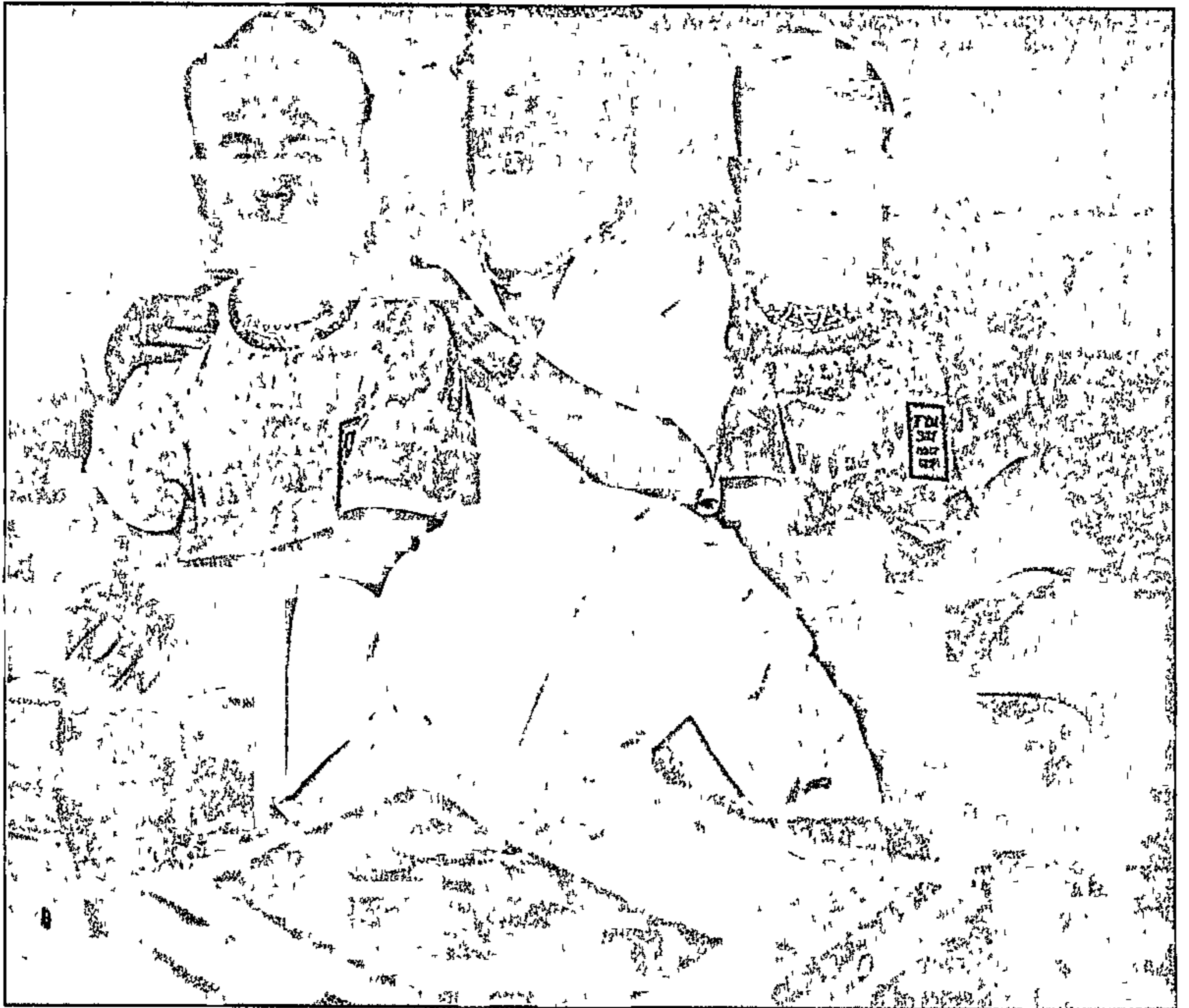
It is thought the former SAP officer left the island during the weekend for Europe, probably Italy

"The case is now closed," one of the chief investigators said yesterday

The presence of Captain Coetzee on Mauritius caused a political storm, some of the press dubbing him "the apartheid butcher"

Democratic Party Law and Order spokesman Mr Tiaan van der Merwe said at the weekend that Captain Coetzee had himself told him a number of years ago about death squad activities

He had been asked to investigate improper telephone tapping activities, and it was at this meeting with Captain Coetzee that he heard of "killings by the security police"



Left behind . . . Mrs Karin Coetzee, wife of former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee, and their two sons, Dirk (left) and Carl

● Picture by Ruvan Boshoff

## SAP defend themselves against hit squad claim — Page 15

"Coetzee told me he was directly involved in the Ruth First murder and about the smuggling of explosives by diplomatic bags into London," Mr van der Merwe said

Allegations of police hit squad murders were reinforced at the weekend after a third former policeman said he was part of the unit

Further claims by the man who sparked the uproar are expected to be handed to the committee investigating the claims

Fresh affidavits containing further claims by Death Row prisoner Butana Nofemela, whose original affidavit began the hit squad allegations, will now, it is believed, be handed in to the committee investi-

gating the claims

Proof of the allegations will also be handed in, it is reported

In another development, Mr McNally said yesterday he had examined police files on the issue surrounding the death squad claims

He declined to comment on whether any police documentation on the subject had been removed or destroyed or on what had emerged from the files examined

The wife of Captain Dirk Coetzee, Mrs Karin Coetzee, said at the weekend her husband had told her everything about his murder activities before he fled the country last month

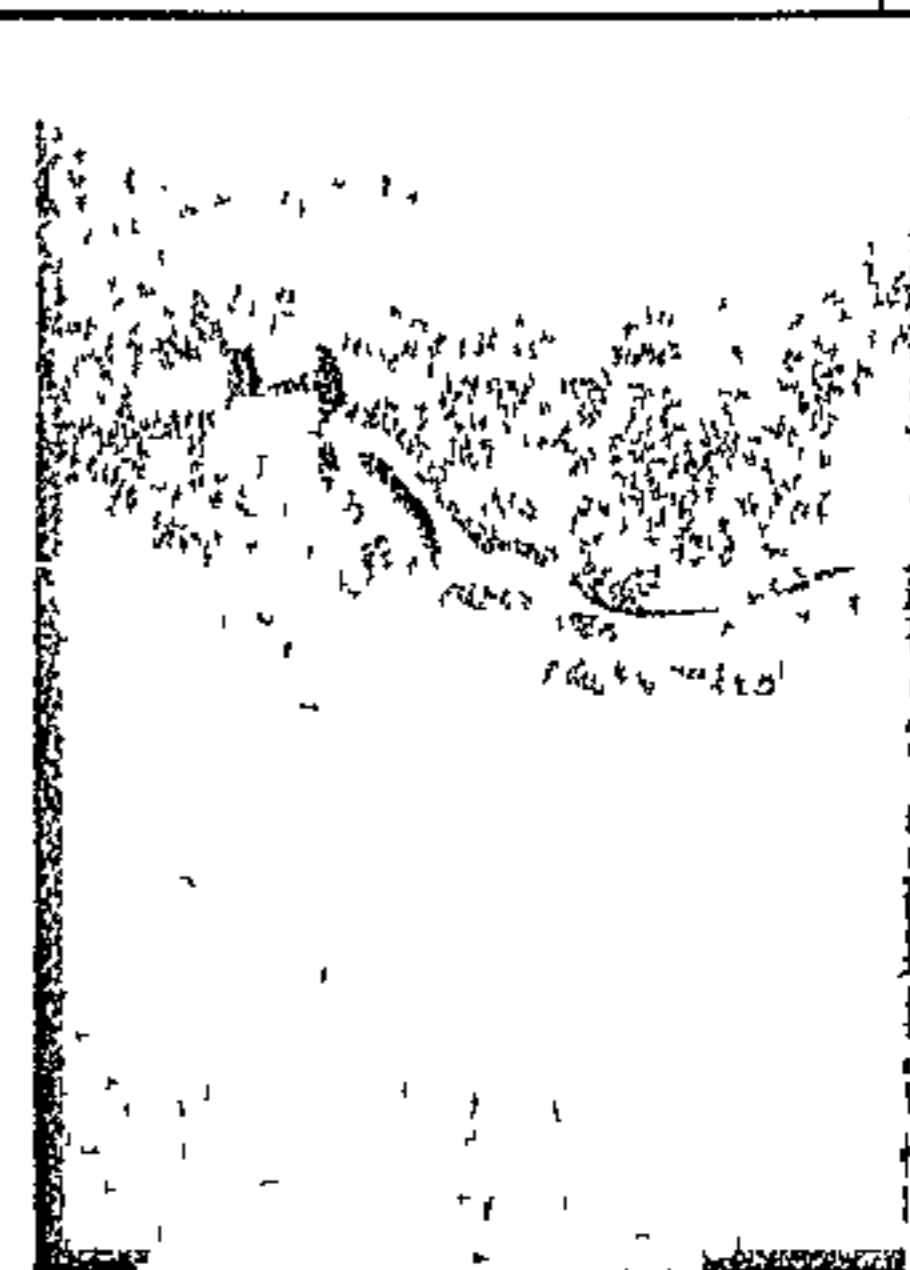
"My husband would never lie about something like this," she said

Mr Coetzee is now believed to be under guard in Europe and, according to his wife, undergoing psychological tests to refute claims he was mentally unstable

Mr David "Spyker" Tshikalange, who claimed before fleeing the country that he had received orders from Captain Coetzee to kill human rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge in Durban 1981, is the third person to make hit squad allegations against the SAP recently

Police reiterated yesterday their denial that police hit squads exist, saying if what Captain Coetzee, Nofemela and Mr Tshikalange said was true, they had acted in defiance of official policy

Captain Coetzee accused the SAP of Ruth First's murder in Mozambique and the murders of more than 10 others



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By ALI  
MPHAKI

TWO Kagiso men were stabbed to death  
their bodies were put inside a vehicle  
them before it was set alight.

# 'Death squad' row hots up

THE row over allegations of a police "death squad" involved in political assassinations was expected to feature prominently at a meeting of the State Security Council in Pretoria yesterday

## SOWETAN Reporter

A spokesman for Mr FW de Klerk's office said the President had called for a report from Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok before he

decided whether it was necessary to make a statement

Police announced on Friday that an investigation was being carried out

● To page 2

# Row hots up

● From page 1

by the Attorney-General of the Free State, Mr TP McNally and the CID chief, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie.

But an Opposition spokesman on Monday demanded an inquiry into the allegations - made by former police captain Mr Dirk Coetzee - should be headed by a judge assisted by special investigators as it would be difficult for police to carry out

This call was made from Cape Town by Mr Tian van der Merwe, the Democratic Party's law and order spokesman, who said the extremely serious matter should be investigated by an appropriate legal team with an appropriate investigating method

The police have reiterated their denial that a hit squad existed, saying if what Coetzee and others said was true they had acted in defiance of official policy and for their own purposes

A spokesman for Vlok, Brigadier Leon Mellet, said in response to the DP's call for a judicial commission, that McNally's probe had already been broadened to cover the new claims

President's Council member Mr Craig Williamson, accused by former Coetzee of complicity in an alleged police hit squad murder, is considering suing the newspaper which first published the allegations

2/11/89  
Sowetan

6/11/89  
Sowetan

# Rebel captain sheds light on missing man

CAF 70075 21/11/89

BY VAZEED FAKIER

EX-CAPTAIN Dirk Coetzee may have finally solved the eight-year-old riddle of a Port Elizabeth student leader crippled by mysterious thallium poisoning and who subsequently disappeared without trace

In his interview in Vrye Weekblad, detailing the activities of an alleged SAP "death squad", Mr Coetzee said he also knew of an incident where a suspected ANC member being held in Port Elizabeth was given poison

According to the newspaper "He did, however, not take in all the poison and was paralysed (verlam) and his hair started falling out

"He was eventually admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital where doctors discovered that he had been poisoned "One day he just disappeared on the way to hospital, along with his wheelchair"

It is eight years and one month since October 20, 1981, when Port Elizabeth student leader Mr Siphiso Mtimkulu, 21, was released from five months' solitary confinement under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act

The same day Mr Mtimkulu, a prominent member of the banned Congress of South African Students, started to complain of pains in his feet and stomach Two days later he was in a wheelchair, unable to walk

First admitted to Livingstone Hospital, he was later transferred to Groote Schuur Hospital on November 3, 1981

Medical tests showed he was poisoned by thallium, a rare and cumula-

live poison outlawed in most Western countries

Colourless, odourless and tasteless, it has been described as a "homicide's dream" and has a grim history of use in suicides and murders

Questioned by Professor Frances Ames, head of the hospital's department of neurology, and a Groote Schuur physician, Dr F Majors, the student's parents, Mr and Mrs S Mtimkulu, were adamant that no one had been allowed to visit their son in detention.

They had also been told they could not send him any food as he was well fed in prison

After a hospital visit to Mr Mtimkulu on November 21, 1981, former PFP spokesman on human rights, Mrs Helen Suzman, found him to be "obviously very sick and extremely confused" and called on the Minister of Police to immediately order "the most stringent" investigation into the poisoning

Mr Mtimkulu was meanwhile nursed back to relative health, but still could not walk

He returned home in mid-January, 1982, and was due to return to Groote Schuur for the first of his three-monthly check-ups when he disappeared from Livingstone Hospital on April 12, 1982 — shortly after having lodged a R150 000 claim against the Minister of Police for alleged poisoning

Mr Topsy Madaka, a friend, who had taken him to the hospital also went missing

Neither has been seen since

**POISONED STUDENT** Mr Siphiso Mtimkulu, the poisoned student leader who disappeared mysteriously in April, 1982 in this picture, taken in December 1981, he is seen with former PFP MPC Mrs Di Bishop, and her husband Mr Brian Bishop, who has since died

## Rumpus over new M' Plain police chief

A POLICE colonel, alleged to be a former member of the Riot Squad has been appointed to head the police station at Mitchell's Plain, scene of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman's confrontation with the authorities over Riot Squad brutality.

The move has been sharply criticised by the former commanding officer of Mitchell's Plain, Colonel John Manuel, who said the squad had a bad reputation in the area and he did not know how members of the public in Mitchell's Plain would feel about it.

However, the police have declined to say whether the officer, Colonel Alwyn Burger, was ever with the squad.

Colonel Manuel, the most senior coloured policeman in South Africa who has publicly supported Lieutenant Rockman's criticisms of the Riot Squad, is being transferred to Soweto.

"I don't know what the motives of the police are in transferring a Riot Squad member to Mitchell's Plain, because that's the root cause of the problem there — the relationship between the Riot Squad and the local police," said Colonel Manuel.

A spokeswoman for the police liaison section in Cape Town confirmed that Colonel Burger had been transferred to Mitchell's Plain and said he had previously been at "various police stations in the Peninsula" — Sapa.

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# Police were in danger, says counsel

Supreme Court Reporter

AFFIDAVITS made by the accused in the "Trojan Horse" trial that they had opened fire because their lives were in danger should be taken into account when the court considered if they had acted in self-defence and if so, if they had exceeded the bounds of self-defence, the Supreme Court heard yesterday.

This was said by Mr Flip Hattingh SC, counsel for nine policemen, during argument in the trial in which 13 security forces members are charged with murder, alternatively culpable homicide.

The trial, a private prosecution, is a sequel to an incident in Thornton Road on October 15, 1985 when policemen hidden in crates on the back of a SATS truck, opened fire on a group of people who had stoned the vehicle

Mr Hattingh said it was clear that a large number of people were involved in the attack on the truck and in the circumstances it appeared "highly unlikely" that the accused would have chosen instead to shoot at innocent bystanders.

If the evidence of the witnesses who lived in the area was correct, it could be concluded that a large part of the crowd consisted of people who had gone to the area to participate in attacks on vehicles.

## No one causally linked

It was "highly improbable" that a group of people who had just come out of a house and innocently stood on a concrete slab outside would be singled out by police as targets for their actions, while several people had been closer to the truck.

There was no evidence to prove which of the accused fired the shot or shots which killed Shaun Magmoed. It was common cause that not all of the accused fired in his direction.

There was no evidence that the actions of one or other or all the accused could be causally linked to the death of Shaun Magmoed and that they were guilty of culpable homicide.

Where the accused had said in affidavits that their lives had been in danger, the court must consider if they had in fact acted in self-defence and if so, if they had exceeded the bounds.

Their statements that their intention had been to arrest stone-throwers should also be considered.

# First Squad's shells found

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21/11/89

Own Correspondent

**JOHANNESBURG. — Spent cartridge shells from an automatic weapon and a Makarov pistol kept by death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela have been handed to investigators probing claims of an alleged police death squad.**

According to the Free State attorney-general, Mr T McNally, who is involved in the investigation of claims by Nofomela, ex-police captain Mr Dirk Coetzee and former constable Mr David "Spyker" Tshikalange, the shells were handed in by Lawyers for Human Rights.

Mr McNally is a member of the two-man inquiry with CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie. He said the ballistic evidence had been passed on to the investigating team by lawyers who had tracked down the bullets on instruction from Nofomela.

The inquiry was appointed some weeks ago by the Minister of Justice Mr Kobie Coetsee and the Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok, who has also been asked to submit a report on the alleged squad to President F W de Klerk.

Mr McNally said other evidence had been received but the only formal requests for interviews had been from LHR and the Independent Board of

## Riddle of missing man solved?

— PAGE 2

Inquiry into Informal Repression. They would meet with the investigators in Bloemfontein tomorrow.

In further developments, police public relations chief Major-General Herman Stadler disputed weekend assertions by ex-spy Mr Craig Williamson that the police had certain detailed knowledge about the letter bomb killing of Ms Ruth First in Mozambique in 1982.

He said yesterday the police had not investigated the First killing.

He was responding to Mr Williamson's statement that the police had proof the bomb which killed First was not contained in a UN High Commission for Refugees envelope as alleged by Mr Coetzee.

But Mr Williamson yesterday reiterated his claims and said he had referred allegations against him to his attorneys.

He was planning legal action against Vrye Weekblad — which first reported Mr Coetzee's claims — "and anyone else my attorneys suggest appropriate."

Vrye Weekblad editor Max du Preez welcomed the news. "We would welcome any court case so that we can get this matter before the courts," he said.

Attention has also focused on the inquest into the deaths of four Chesterville Youth Organisation activists who were shot dead with an AK-47 on June 20,

1986. At the time the killing was attributed to UD-Finkatha rivalry, but revelations made by Nofomela in as yet unseen affidavits appear to link six alleged assassination squad members.

And yesterday the possibility emerged of an MNR link to death squad activities in Swaziland in the early 1980s.

Press reports for the 1979 to 1982 period to which Mr Coetzee's allegations refer confirm that a number of the incidents he said were carried out by an SAP death squad did indeed occur.

It is understood Nofomela — who first made the death squad allegations three weeks ago — has said MNR personnel were sometimes housed at the Vlakplaas farm at which the death squad was allegedly based.

However Gen Stadler yesterday denied this. Law and Order spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet said last night no consideration had been given to suspending those policemen named in allegations by Nofomela and Mr Coetzee. "People should be considered innocent until proven guilty of these wild allegations," he said.

Meanwhile Brigadier Willem Schoon, named by Mr Coetzee as a senior officer involved in the death squads, said yesterday he was unhappy about the allegations.

"I am not feeling good about the issue but at least I am here to answer questions while everyone else has run away." He refused to answer further questions.



main street properties fetching R240 000 each

When they were auctioned together as one lot, the highest bid struck was R495 000.

LYNNWOOD, refused to give any details of himself and disappeared soon after buying Vermaas's gold Rolex watch for R20 000 and a .22 revolver for R550.

About 200 people attended the auction. — Sapa.

# Poisoned student vanished

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Capt Dirk Coetzee may have finally solved the eight-year-old riddle of a Port Elizabeth student leader crippled by mysterious thallium poisoning who later disappeared without trace

In his interview in Vrye Weekblad, detailing the activities of an alleged SAP "death squad", Capt Coetzee said he also knew of an incident where a suspected ANC member being held in Port Elizabeth was given poison.

According to the newspaper: "He did, however, not take in all the poison and was paralysed and his hair started falling out.

"He was eventually admitted to Groote Schuur Hospital in Cape Town where doctors discovered that he had been poisoned.

"One day he just disappeared on the way to hospital, along with his wheelchair."

It is just over eight years since October 20 1981, when Port Elizabeth student leader Sphiwo Mtinkulu, 21, was released from five months' solitary confinement under Section Six of the Terrorism Act.

The same day Mtinkulu started to complain of pains in his feet and stomach. Two days later he was in a wheelchair, unable to walk

First admitted to Livingstone Hospital, his condition so baffled doctors that it was decided to transfer him to Groote Schuur

Hospital, where he was admitted on November 3 1981. He started to become confused and lost all his hair.

Medical tests showed he was poisoned by thallium, a rare and cumulative poison used to kill rats and in insecticides.

The student's parents said neither they nor anyone else were allowed to visit their son in detention.

After a hospital visit to Mtinkulu on November 21 1981, former PFP human rights spokesman Helen Suzman found him to be "obviously very sick and extremely confused" and called on the Minister of Police to immediately order "the most stringent" investigation into the poisoning.

Mtinkulu, meanwhile, was nursed back to relative health, but still could not walk. He returned home in mid-January 1982. He was due to return to Groote Schuur for the first of his three-monthly check-ups when he disappeared on April 12 1982 — shortly after having lodged a R150 000 claim against the Minister of Police for alleged poisoning. Topsy Madaka, a friend, who had taken him to the hospital also went missing.

Neither has been seen since.

# Death-squad notes handed to commission

## Political Staff

A FULL transcript of the Vrye Weekblad's interview with ex-police captain Dirk Coetzee, in which he makes detailed allegations about police "death squads," has been handed to the two-man commission investigating political assassinations

Free State Attorney-General Mr T N McNally — assisted by CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie — said the commission had attempted yesterday to contact Captain Coetzee for a statement.

## "INFORMATION"

"We were not successful, but in the interim we have got a copy of the information he gave to Vrye Weekblad"

"Once we have sifted through that we'll be able to assess whether to continue trying to get hold of him"

Mr McNally also confirmed that "certain ballistic" material — spent cartridge shells from an automatic weapon and a Makarov pistol kept by Death Row prisoner Butana Nofomela — had been handed to the commission by the Lawyers for Human Rights organisation.

Nofomela has alleged that he was a member of a police death squad.

The commission is keen to gather relevant information. Mr McNally said anyone who believed they had information which might have a bearing on the investigation should submit it, either in the form of an affidavit or a letter

## CALL

Meanwhile, human-rights groups in the Eastern Cape have joined a call for an independent, judicial inquiry into the allegations that police death squads exist

Mr Rory Riordan, director of the Port Elizabeth-based Human Rights Trust, said yesterday it was widely believed that "a politically motivated group which is highly organised and experienced" was behind the deaths and disappearance of activists in the area

Since 1982, 10 East Cape anti-apartheid activists have been killed by "unknown persons," disappeared without trace or survived assassination attempts.

Mr Riordan's view was supported yesterday by Black Sash workers, human-rights lawyers, the Eastern Cape division of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative in South Africa, and Port Elizabeth anti-apartheid activist Mr Ronnie Watson, who survived an attempt on his life in a Gaborone hotel in 1987.

## "CIRCUMSTANCES"

Mr Riordan said "At least four people have been murdered here and others have disappeared in circumstances that point to hit-squad activity"

"What has always been hearsay is now becoming circumstantial evidence and appears to be moving to hard fact. Plainly, the police cannot be relied on to investigate such claims involving, as they do, allegations of involvement up to the level of general. The issue must be handled with the utmost urgency by judicial commission made up of Appellate Division judges"

# 'Death squad' policeman named in liquor racket

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[Signature]

## The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA — Customs and Excise has confirmed that former Pretoria liquor king Mr Johnny Bala paid R1,2-million in penalties and duties after a probe into a liquor-smuggling racket in which "death squad" policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee has been implicated.

However, Customs and Excise commissioner Mr Daan Colesky said today he could not comment on the alleged involvement of Captain Coetzee.

He said a secrecy clause in the Customs and Excise Act prevented him from releasing information on any person that had or might be subject to an investigation.

This did not apply to Mr Bala, who had disclosed details of his offence to the Press, he said.

Captain Coetzee's wife, Karen, said today that the "mud-slinging" against her husband had started in earnest.

"We expected mud to be thrown and Dirk warned me to prepare myself for it. Maybe that's why I feel so calm now," said Mrs Coetzee, in reaction to claims that her husband was involved in a whisky-smuggling racket in Swaziland.

## "RIDICULOUS" CLAIMS

She said she "utterly rejected" the "ridiculous" claims made by Mr Bala.

"My husband always spoke of Johnny with the highest regard," she said. "He admired him as a businessman and I am shocked and hurt by these false accusations.

"If my husband was smuggling whisky and luxury cars, he would not have needed to approach Johnny for a loan," she said, referring to the money Mr Bala claimed Captain Coetzee extorted from him so that his wife could open a boutique.

Mrs Coetzee said she had always dreamed of running a boutique and her husband had approached Mr Bala for a loan, which was to be repaid with interest.

She "strongly denied" her husband had pressured or threatened Mr Bala into giving him the money, which was a formal loan of R86 000 and not R150 000 as reported.

But Mr Bala questioned why any businessman would give any woman R150 000 "out of the blue".

"I was bankrolled by Coetzee and was forced to pay R150 000 to help set Coetzee's wife up in a boutique in Menlo Park. I didn't want to do it but at that time I had no option. I only got involved because of the threats made by Coetzee. I can prove that I paid to set up the shop and the customs and excise penalties I had to pay," he said.

## "ROGUE POLICEMAN"

In an interview Mr Bala claimed Captain Coetzee was a "rogue policeman" who set up a huge whisky-smuggling operation in Swaziland.

Mr Bala said Captain Coetzee had got him involved in the operation after Captain Coetzee had been transferred from the security police to the narcotics bureau.

"It eventually led to me having to pay R1,2-million in penalties to Customs and Excise," he said.

Mr Bala said Captain Coetzee came to see him several times soon after he was transferred to the narcotic bureau.

"I only listened to him because he was head of the narcotics bureau and I was in the liquor business," he said.

Mr Bala said Captain Coetzee mentioned a smuggling operation involving whisky being sent to Swaziland and then into Mozambique and prawns being brought back.

Mr Bala said that after eight months the operation was the subject of a big customs and excise investigation which ultimately led to him having to pay the R1,2-million in penalties.

He said several months after the liquor racket blew up, Captain Coetzee again came to see him and demanded money and threatened to get him (Mr Bala) into trouble if the money was not forthcoming.

"He said his wife needed to be set up in business and I was eventually forced to pay R150 000 to set up the business. But the business ran into trouble and I lost my money," he said.

● See page 3.

# MP wants wider probe into police actions

C.M. Times 21/11/89  
Political Staff

A LABOUR Party MP, Mr Peter Mopp, whose house was shot up about 10 years ago, said yesterday a far broader, public inquiry than was taking place at present was now necessary following publication of allegations about police actions

"After all the statements that have been made recently, including those of Captain Dirk Coetzee and General Johann Coetzee, the

(251) public demands that these allegations be tested publicly by a judicial commission of inquiry

"It seems these actions were part of a general campaign of intimidation and extermination against opponents of apartheid," Mr Mopp, the MP for Border, said.

"My home in East London was shot up I established who did it but was threatened with arrest and with being charged under

the Criminal Procedure Act  
"I was taken to the CID and I gave them the number plate of the car that was used

"Warrant Officer James van Wyk was assigned to the case, but when it was established this was a police vehicle, he was taken off the case

"My information at the time was that two members of the security police were involved"

# New <sup>CML</sup> death <sup>Trials</sup> squad <sup>22/11/89</sup> evidence <sup>251</sup> today

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — New evidence claiming that death squads operated against South African activists here and in surrounding countries up until two years ago will be presented to the two-man investigating team into death squads in Bloemfontein today, sources said.

It is believed that the two-man inquiry, comprising Free State attorney-general Mr T McNally and CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, will be presented today with evidence and allegations about further assassinations, locations and more alleged assassination squad members.

The evidence has been collected from the affidavits of Butana Nofomela, 32, the self-confessed hit-squad member whose original affidavit began the death squad probe. Nofomela was granted a stay of execution based on this affidavit.

The Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression and Lawyers for Human Rights have probed Nofomela's claims and have said they have evidence supporting his allegations.

In another disclosure it has been alleged that police removed clothes and possessions from Nofomela's family home near Brits after he was convicted of the murder of a Brits farmer. Family members did not know why this happened.

Law and Order spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellett said this was possibly for forensic testing. However, it would be almost impossible to confirm. "We handled more than two million criminal cases last year," he said.

Brig Mellett yesterday refused press access to the more than 20 policemen named by Nofomela and former captain Mr Dirk Coetzee as having had direct or indirect links with the alleged hit squad.

● More reports — Page 2

never undergone a course on the handling of explosives and was never connected to the security branch," he said — Sapa

yet for Human Rights to obtain a statement from him and a stay of execution

Nofomela said he and three other assassination squad members — Brian Nqulunga, David Tshikalange and Joseph Mamase-

formed under different security branch officers, who always acted under Brig Schoon

Nofomela added "I am instructed that due to a shortage of time, I cannot here furnish details of these other missions"

Brig Schoon's vehicle

He added in the affidavit that Captain Coetzee had handed each of the four hitmen R1 000, saying it was "from Brig Schoon for successfully eliminating Mxenge" — Sapa



**'A MEMORY'** . Sikumbuzo, the eight-year-old son of missing PE student leader Mr Siphwo Mtimkulu  
Picture OBED ZILWA

## Poisoned PE man 'did not just disappear' — Bishop

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

PORT ELIZABETH student leader Mr Siphwo Mtimkulu, who vanished without trace in April 1982 after being crippled by mysterious thallium poisoning, was too disabled to have disappeared voluntarily, former MPC Mrs Di Bishop said yesterday

"I have absolutely no doubt that he did not just disappear. In my view, being in that condition, he could not have disappeared voluntarily," she said

Mrs Bishop, who was the PFP MPC for Gardens, also said "I just hope that through the revelations, it will be possible to find out what happened to Siphwo's body

"His parents have been in agony since he disappeared and it is their deepest desire to lay him to rest."

His parents live in Zwide township here, but his son, Sikumbuzo, whose name means "a memory" and who was born three months before his father disappeared, lives in Guguletu with his mother, Ms Buyiswa Hlazo

Mrs Bishop said the family had been

trying unsuccessfully to get maintenance for his son

Mr Mtimkulu, who was detained for five months in solitary confinement in terms of the Terrorism Act, started to complain of pains in his feet and stomach on the day of his release on October 20, 1981. Two days later he was unable to walk.

Medical tests showed he was poisoned by thallium, a rare and cumulative poison outlawed in most Western countries

Mrs Bishop, who with her late husband Brian spent many hours with Mr Mtimkulu while he was being treated in Groote Schuur Hospital, said that he was able to walk on crutches when he returned home in January 1982 soon after his son's birth

"But he was still in constant and severe pain and his legs were very weak."

Arrangements were being made by Livingstone Hospital here for him to return to Groote Schuur when he disappeared

"There is no doubt in our minds that Siphwo wanted to follow through with his treatment," Mrs Bishop said

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...with his treatment," Mrs Bishop said.

# Judgment reserved in 'Trojan Horse' trial

Supreme Court Reporter

JUDGMENT was yesterday reserved in the "Trojan Horse" trial — the first private prosecution for murder in South African legal history — which entered the final stages when counsel for two police officers addressed the court.

Mr P de Bruyn, SC, for Colonel Pieter Jansen van Rensburg and Colonel Christian Loedolf, said the guilt or otherwise of the men should be judged on the fact that a joint decision had been taken to send an unmarked truck on a planned route to identify and arrest people who instigated unrest.

The two police officers, a commandant in the SADF and nine policemen had been charged with murder, alternatively culpable homicide, following the death of Shaun Magnoed, 16, after police hidden on the back of a SATS truck opened fire when the truck was stoned by a group of people.

General Bert Wandrag, a deputy commissioner of police in charge of the police operational unit, confirmed that police were required to take purposeful action to combat unrest.

There had been no evidence that Col Van Rensburg had taken a decision regarding the type of shot used on the truck that day.

Because of the seriousness of the unrest, Col Loedolf had warned the men on the truck not to place their lives in danger and had impressed on them to act in a lawful manner.

They were ordered to shoot only when it was absolutely necessary and when there was no other way to arrest stone-throwers. The only defence Colonels Van Rensburg and Loedolf could broach was that the operation was a lawful one, Mr De Bruyn said.

To prove a common purpose between

the colonels and the men on the truck, the prosecutors should have proved the existence of a prior agreement with an intention to purposefully, alternatively unlawfully, kill or assault.

In the absence of such proof, the accused could only have been guilty of common purpose had they been present at the scene and been aware of unlawful actions. If their order was unlawful, the men could only be convicted if there was proof of an unlawful action by the men on the truck.

Accordingly Colonels Van Rensburg and Loedolf should be acquitted and discharged, Mr Hattingh said.

The trial was postponed to December 11.

Mr Justice D M Williamson was on the Bench. Mr Justice Brovde SC, assisted by Mr Jeremy Gauntlett SC, Mr Les Rooze and Mr Derral Fogliar, instructed by Y Ebrahim and Co, led the prosecution. Mr Filip Hattingh SC, and Mr Jurie Westens, instructed by Mr Adria Brand of De Klerk and Van Gard, appeared for Lieutenant Oduw Vermeulen and the men on the truck. Mr W Burger SC, assisted by Mr Piet de Jager, appeared for the SADF member. Mr De Bruyn, assisted by Mr Anton Veldhuizen, appeared for the police officers.

Mr De Bruyn said the evidence of General Bert Wandrag, a deputy commissioner of police in charge of the police operational unit, confirmed that police were required to take purposeful action to combat unrest.

There had been no evidence that Col Van Rensburg had taken a decision regarding the type of shot used on the truck that day.

Because of the seriousness of the unrest, Col Loedolf had warned the men on the truck not to place their lives in danger and had impressed on them to act in a lawful manner.

...with his treatment," Mrs Bishop said.

75141616

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The police "death squad" saga took a new turn today when a high-powered South African Council of Churches delegation flew to Bloemfontein to present independent, corroborating evidence in support of allegations made by a self-declared member of the squad.

The delegation was in possession of a report which sets out to substantiate some of the details contained in statements signed by Butana Almond Nofomela, the death row prisoner whose "confessions", made in the shadow of the gallows, rekindled suspicions of the existence of state-sponsored assassins.

The report, compiled by the SACC Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression, will today be handed to the Free State Attorney-General, Mr T P McNally, by a four-man delegation of top lawyers consisting of Professor John Dugard, Professor Lawrie Ackermann, Mr Peter Harris and Mr Brian Currin.

### Nofomela's allegations

Mr McNally, assisted by a senior SAP officer, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, was appointed to investigate Nofomela's allegations.

It is claimed that the SACC report includes independent verification of at least two points made by Nofomela.

In his October 19 affidavit, Nofomela referred to the brother of an "ANC terrorist" who, he said, was a victim of the police assassination unit. The brother worked as a security guard at a building society in Krugersdorp.

Investigators for the SACC board are understood to have established this as true and that, after going to lunch one day, the guard disappeared.

Nofomela told how one of his co-assassins accidentally shot himself in the foot during a mission and had to be taken to hospital in Ermelo.

Subsequent investigation by the SACC team established that a man of that name was indeed treated for an injured foot at the hospital.

### Stay of execution

After Nofomela's first affidavit of October 19, he has subsequently made a second statement and the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, ordered a stay of execution pending an investigation.

The fear in extra-parliamentary opposition circles was that the McNally inquiry might conclude that Nofomela's allegations were unfounded and that he, one of the star witnesses, might then be summarily executed. Their hope is that the SACC report may eliminate that risk by establishing that there is still a great deal to probe.

Meanwhile, police have denied that former Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad commander Brigadier Krappie Engelbrecht, who has been mentioned in the alleged police hit squad furore, was a member of the security branch or an explosives expert.

Brigadier Engelbrecht (then a colonel) was mentioned in Captain Dirk Coetzee's claims of involvement in a police hit squad which assassinated various ANC fighters and human rights activist Dr Griffiths Mxenge.

● See page 27.

\$ 9613	\$ 4
\$ 12.79%	\$ 6
\$ 44825\$	1
24.90%	\$ 5
\$ 11974	\$
\$ 12.94%	\$ 5
\$ 6478\$	\$
\$ 14.70%	\$ 2
27640	\$ 2
\$ 7.77%	7
12654	\$ 2
5.61%	\$ 5

# Churches to give evidence Hit squad

*152*  
*68/11/1989*  
*Mcus*



AKG 22/11/89

251

## New union determined to air grievances

MEMBERS of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union chanted and raised clenched fists as they vowed to continue their growing battle with Prisons Service authorities.

About 120 policemen and members of the prisons service, many of them in uniform, attended a union meeting in a hall at Elsie's River last night.

They were told by committee member Sergeant Willem Jacobs that he and about 10 other Prisons Service members of the union had received letters from the acting commander of Pollsmoor, Colonel D J du Plessis.

The letters referred to the union, saying it was a contravention of regulations to operate through any but the prescribed channels of communication and asking them to end their association with the union.

He and other officers told the meeting the union was determined to air Prisons Service members' grievances.

Earlier, union president Lieutenant Gregory Rockman said it appeared the government was not taking them seriously.

"So we are going to show them that we are not playing games." — Sapa.

# Benzién: I get aggressive with guerilla suspects

CME T198  
22/11/87  
(251)

Supreme Court Reporter

A SECURITY policeman yesterday agreed in the Supreme Court that he became "aggressive" with suspected guerillas when he was on the verge of arresting them and admitted he had held a firearm "under the nose" of suspects

Warrant Officer Jeff Benzién of the Terrorist Detection Unit (TDU) was giving evidence under cross-examination in the trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and 13 others who have refused to plead to charges of terrorism

He was being asked about the techniques used by the TDU during interrogation of suspected guerillas in obtaining information about planned acts and the whereabouts of arms and collaborators

He denied seeing security police assault, handcuff a suspect to burglar bars and punch him, pull a suspect's beard, suffocate a suspect, wrap a wet towel around a suspect's face during interrogation, pull a plastic bag over a person's head or beat a suspect who was bound hand and foot

Asked if leg irons were justified in a situation where a suspect was handcuffed, where there were burglar bars on the windows and where there were about five security policemen in the office, WO Benzién said it depended on whether a person was riotous and if he had to be controlled

Mr D P de Villiers, QC, for the defence, said it was his duty to put to WO Benzién evidence the defence had of his role in the techniques of interrogation used by the TDU

In reply to a submission by Mr De Villiers that he had in many instances played the role of the "bad guy" during interrogation, WO Benzién said he strongly denied that

Told that at the beginning of interrogation he was "very aggressive" so as to intimidate a suspect, WO Benzién agreed he did act aggressively at the point of arrest. He said on occasions he had held a firearm under the nose of a suspect he had woken up to prevent him from reaching under the cushion or bed for a handgrenade. He wanted to immobilise the person and show he would not hesitate to shoot, he said

Asked if that was not intimidatory, WO Benzién said when he arrested a guerilla he did not regard it as intimidatory but rather as a necessity

Mr De Villiers then referred him to the arrest in 1987 of ANC guerilla Ashley Forbes — imprisoned last year for terrorism — who had alleged that he (Benzién) had told him from the start he was responsible for him and that whatever happened to him depended on him

WO Benzién said he could not remember that nor could he remember saying to Forbes it depended on his co-operation whether he was treated as an animal or a human being

# Didn't know legal rights — 'tortured' man

## Staff Reporter

A KHAYELITSHA man who was allegedly tortured by Peninsula Murder and Robbery Squad policemen during interrogation about money owed to the Kuils River Drop Inn, has claimed that he did not know he could lay charges against the police.

He made the claim under cross-examination yesterday in Cape Town Regional Court where Lieutenant-Colonel Stephanus Brits, 42, and Lieutenant Peter Lister, 46, have pleaded not guilty to charges of kidnapping, robbery, attempted robbery and extortion.

The complainants are shebeen owner Mr Eric Vokoleza and his cousin, Mr Farrel Vokoleza.

## ROBBED

The policemen are also alleged to have robbed both complainants of R6 742 and to have handed this to a Mr Conradie of Kuils River Drop Inn.

Giving evidence in chief yesterday, Mr Farrel Vokoleza said Lieutenant Lister and a Constable Ngxono had taken him from his cousin's house in Site B to the Bishop Lavis headquarters of the Murder and Robbery Squad.

The two policemen had wanted information about his cousin's whereabouts and a debt owing to the Kuils River Drop Inn.

Mr Vokoleza said his cousin had left for Transkei a short while earlier and had not explained why he was leaving or mentioned that he owed money.

When he could not give the policemen the information he was stripped and handcuffed, his feet were bound, he was made to lie on the floor and his head was covered with a cloth sack.

Mr Vokoleza said Lieutenant Lister had asked him his cousin's whereabouts and he had answered "In the homelands".

Lieutenant Lister had said he was lying. Water was thrown over his head and the sack was pulled tightly over his nose and mouth. He could not breathe and passed out.

This procedure was repeated many times.

Mr Vokoleza said he had not thought of laying a charge against the policemen because he had not been aware it was possible to do so.

He had not thought of going to an attorney because there was no sign that he had been injured. Nor had he seen a doctor. He had thought an attorney would not believe his story without proof or a witness.

It was only much later, after his car and groceries had been stolen and he was consulting an attorney, that he learnt he could charge the policemen.

The hearing continues today.

# Lieutenant tortured me, Cape court told

(25)

Start  
30/11/89

CAPE TOWN — A Khayelitsha man was tortured repeatedly by Peninsula murder and robbery police when he could not give details of a debt his cousin owed a liquor store, it was alleged in the Cape Town Regional Court yesterday.

Lieutenant-Colonel Stephanus Brits (42) and Lieutenant Peter Lister (46) have pleaded not guilty to charges of kidnapping, robbery, attempted robbery and extortion.

Mr Farrel Vokoleza told the court that early last year he was looking after his cousin Eric Vokoleza's house in Site B, Khayelitsha.

His cousin, who ran a shebeen, was in the Transkei and, although there was no liquor in the house at that time, former customers came looking for drinks.

## Questioned

A Mr Conradie arrived with a man to ask questions about a debt owed by his cousin whom they called "Sipho".

He told them that Eric Vokoleza was in the homelands.

A week later, very early in the morning, a policeman who he later came to know as Lieutenant Lister, and a Constable Ngxono arrived.

They asked where "Sipho" was.

Mr Vokozela said he knew "Sipho" was Eric's *nom de plume* so he told them he was in the homelands.

They told him he was not telling the truth and he should go with them to the Bishop Lavis police station.

He was taken to an office and questioned by Lieutenant Lister with Con-

stable Ngxono interpreting.

In answer to questions from counsel for the State, Mr Willie Viljoen, Mr Vokoleza said he was not questioned about firearms. He was only questioned about the debt his cousin owed the Kuils River Drop Inn and his whereabouts.

When he could not tell them anything else he was told to strip.

Mr Vokozela said his hands were handcuffed behind his back, his feet were bound and he was made to lie on the floor. Lieutenant Lister placed a cloth sack over his head.

Every time he repeated his answer that his cousin was in Transkei, water was thrown over his head and the sack was pulled tightly over his nose and mouth from behind, suffocating him until he lost consciousness.

When he regained consciousness Lieutenant Lister again repeated the questions and, when he repeated his answer, he was told he was lying.

The interrogation continued for several hours. All the time he was crying.

Mr Vokoleza told the court that at times, while he was lying on the floor, Lieutenant Lister sat on him.

"I again said I knew nothing about Drop Inn's money."

Later, he was told to dress and mop up the office.

He was locked in a cell for several hours until Constable Ngxono took him back to the Lieutenant's office.

"Mr Lister again asked me about Sipho and I said he was in the homelands. He asked what I knew of the money and I said 'nothing'."

The hearing continues. — Sapa

# Allegations fabricated — Benzien

Supreme Court Reporter

A SECURITY policeman, Warrant Officer Jeff Benzien, yesterday told the Supreme Court he believed allegations that he had assaulted and tortured the accused in the Yengeni terrorism trial were made up by the accused while they were held at Pollsmoor Prison

WO Benzien, who was being cross-examined in the trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and 13 others, said he was speculating, but believed stories had been made up either in Pollsmoor prison or before the arrest of the accused.

Asked by Mr D P de Villiers about the allegations that he had placed a wet bag over the head of Mr Gary Kruser, WO Benzien said it was a story fabricated while Mr Kruser was held in Pollsmoor

Told that two weeks after his detention Mr Kruser had complained about the "wet bag treatment" to the Inspector of Detainees and that he could not have heard such a story in Pollsmoor,

WO Benzien agreed

Mr De Villiers then read out the district-surgeon's report compiled in respect of Mr Yengeni a day after his arrest. The doctor found a bruise on Mr Yengeni's right cheek, a bruise on both his upper and lower right eyelid, and a 8mm laceration on his lower lip.

The doctor had also found a large bruise in Mr Yengeni's central abdominal wall.

Mr De Villiers told WO Benzien that Mr Yengeni had told the district surgeon — in the presence of two policemen — that the bruise in his face had been caused by a kick and that a wet bag had been placed over his head.

Asked if he persisted with his view that Mr Yengeni had heard of the assaults and the wet bag treatment at Pollsmoor, WO Benzien said he did.

He contended that Mr Kruser had been held at Sea Point police station where Nicklo Pedro and Colin Petersen — both accused in the Forbes trial — were held. He said it was possible they had spoken about the treatment even though they had been held separately.

## Accused tells of wet sack torture

CAH Times  
29/11/89

By MONICA GRAAFF  
Court Reporter

SECURITY policeman Warrant Officer Jeffrey Benzien put a wet sack over a woman's head, made her lie on the floor and sat on her while they were in his office, the Wynberg Regional Court heard yesterday.

This was said as evidence in mitigation in the trial of Christina Tyulu, 40, who yesterday pleaded guilty to helping two suspected ANC guerillas escape from Wynberg police cells in January this year.

Giving evidence in mitigation of sentence, Tyulu, of KTC squatter camp, said she was caught shortly after the escape and taken to Wynberg police station.

"After midnight some security policemen came to fetch me and put a sack over my head," she said.

They took her to a room, made her lie on her stomach on the floor and exchanged the sack for a wet one covered in plastic which they pulled tightly over her nose, suffocating her.

WO Benzien, WO P Mathunzi and another security policeman called Coetzee were in the room.

She was then taken to WO Benzien's office.

"When I did not reply to their questions Benzien dipped some canvass in water and sat on me," she said.

# Accused to have security cop charged

CMA T1975 22/11/84

251

## Supreme Court Reporter

IN a dramatic announcement in the Yengeni trial yesterday, counsel for the defence said two of the accused had taken steps to have security policeman Warrant Officer Jeff Benzien prosecuted under international law on charges of crimes against humanity and torture

The announcement by Mr D P de Villiers, QC, came shortly before the tea adjournment while he was cross-examining WO Benzien on the techniques he used as a member of the Terrorist Detection Unit (TDU) during interrogation of suspected guerillas to gain information from them.

Mr D Villiers said he wanted to proceed with questions which, depending on the answers, could incriminate WO Benzien

It was normally left to the court to warn a witness about incriminating himself but in certain circumstances it was the duty of legal counsel to bring information to the attention of the court and for WO Benzien to know

"the extent of his jeopardy as a witness".

"It is not merely a question of complaints against WO Benzien laid with police in this country, but steps have been taken on behalf of two of the accused with the view of prosecuting this witness (Benzien) outside the borders of South Africa on internationally-recognised crimes against humanity and torture," Mr De Villiers said.

Mr Jannie van Vuuren, for the state, said the prosecutor had consulted with WO Benzien and was of the opinion that the self-incrimination warning would not have been necessary

Asked by Mr Justice S Selikowitz when he proposed to bring the questions, Mr De Villiers said the questions which would follow would gradually lead one into the other

After the judge had told WO Benzien that the court may be asked to decide if a question should be answered or not and that he had an opportunity to gain legal advice, WO Benzien asked if the court could adjourn so that he could consult with the state advocates



Mr Vlok

## Schoon: SAP deny allegations

PRETORIA — The SAP yesterday denied that Brigadier Willem Schoon retired from the force because of allegations made against him by alleged former police assassination squad member Butana Almond Nofomela from his cell in death row.

"Brigadier Schoon had already made written application on July 31 this year to go on pension on October 31," Major-General Herman Stadler of the Department of Public Relations said in reply to requests about claims made by Nofomela and by Captain Dirk Coetzee.

"These facts are well known among Brig Schoon's colleagues and it was a pity that they had not been established from the police before the allegations about his retirement were published."

General Stadler also denied claims that Brig "Kraappies" Engelbrecht was an explosives specialist who had previously been attached to the security branch.

"Brig Engelbrecht has never undergone a course on the handling of explosives and was never connected to the security branch," he said — Sapa

## FW still waiting for Vlok's report

PRETORIA — President F W de Klerk is still awaiting a report from the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok on the "hit squad" allegations which have been making headlines since Friday.

Mr De Klerk announced on Monday that he had called for the report and he would decide once he had received it whether he felt it necessary to issue a statement.

However, there appears to be a difference of opinion between the president's office and the law and order ministry as to what Mr De Klerk requested.

One spokesman for the president

said it was his understanding that Mr De Klerk had requested an urgent report from Mr Vlok on the matter.

But Mr Vlok's spokesman, Brigadier Leon Mellett, said the minister would only be able to report to Mr De Klerk once he had received the results of the McNally investigation. It was his understanding that it was this that Mr De Klerk had asked for.

Mr T P McNally, attorney-general of the Free State, said he hoped to complete his investigations into Butana Nofomela's allegations that he was a member of an SAP "hit squad" by the end of the month — Sapa, Ova Correo

# 'Brigadier given slain man's tape'

JOHANNESBURG — A radio-tape that had been stolen from murdered civil rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge's car had subsequently been installed in a police brigadier's car, according to alleged former SAP assassination squad member Butana Nofomela.

He alleged this in an affidavit he submitted to the Pretoria Supreme Court for a stay of execution.

Nofomela, 32, made the sworn statement on death row hours before he was to be executed.

He said he decided to reveal the alleged existence of the death squad after he realised on death row that he had been "betrayed" by his superior officers, who had promised to help in getting him freed.

Nofomela said after he received his notice of execution on October 12, two security policemen visited him and told him that it had been decided that he should "take the pain".

He then sent a message to Lawyers for Human Rights to obtain a statement from him and a stay of execution.

Nofomela said he and three other assassination squad members — Brian Ngulunga, David Tshikalange and Joseph Mamase-

## 'Take the pain'

— had been briefed by Captain Dirk Coetzee — who is currently hiding in Europe — and a Brigadier Schoon to eliminate lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge.

This was one of about nine assassinations he had been involved in, Nofomela said.

Mr Mxenge had been executed for his "activities within the African National Congress". All the other victims had also been ANC members.

Some of the assassinations took place in Swaziland, one in Botswana, one in Maseru and one in Krugersdorp.

Nofomela said the Krugersdorp victim, a United Building Society security guard, was the brother of an ANC guerrilla.

The missions had been performed under different security branch officers, who always acted under Brig Schoon.

Nofomela added "I am instructed that due to a shortage of time, I cannot here furnish details of these other missions."

He introduced his affidavit "I am a 32-year-old male presently under sentence of death. My execution is scheduled for tomorrow morning, October 20, 1989, at 07h00."

After his four-man squad ambushed Mr Mxenge in Durban, they took him to the Umhlatzi stadium, where they stabbed him to death.

Captain Coetzee drove Mr Mxenge's car to the Piet Retief police station, where they were met by men in plain clothes. They drove the car to the home of one of these men, where they stripped the car before setting it alight in a plantation near the Swazi border.

The items from the car were placed in Captain Coetzee's service bakke in Piet Retief.

In Nofomela's presence, Captain Coetzee later instructed a sergeant to install the radio-tape and booster from Mr Mxenge's car in Brig Schoon's service vehicle.

"After my return from one week's leave, the sergeant remarked to me informally that the radio-tape had been installed in Brig Schoon's vehicle."

He added in the affidavit that Captain Coetzee had handed each of the four hitmen R1 000, saying it was "from Brig Schoon for successfully eliminating Mxenge" — Sapa



Mr Coetzee

## Policeman denies ordering murder

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Brigadier J R van der Hoven, named by former police captain Dirk Coetzee as the officer who ordered the killing of attorney Mr Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in November 1982, yesterday strenuously denied the charge.

Brig Van der Hoven, now retired in Middelburg, was head of the security police in Durban at the time. He said he recalled Mr Mxenge as a prominent person but refused to say whether Mr Mxenge had been suspected by security police of being the ANC member through whom the organisation channelled funds into South Africa, as stated by Mr Coetzee.

Brig Van der Hoven said that when a local division of the security police "believes there are terrorists in the vicinity, you just ask the Pretoria headquarters" to send an anti-terrorist unit team "what (the team) does and how they do it has nothing to do with the local commander," he said.

He added that it was impossible for the local commander to call for any particular anti-terrorist squad member, so Mr Coetzee's claim that he (Brig Van der Hoven) had called him out to do the job was false.

Brig Van der Hoven refused to answer further questions, saying he expected an inquiry and not that a reporter should "interrogate" him.

## Rhino Fund case to be heard in Pretoria?

Court Reporter

CHARGES may be dropped in Cape Town against the man who allegedly tried to donate a R1 million stolen cheque to the Rhino Fund last month.

This may be done so that the fraud charge can be heard in Pretoria along with three other counts of allegedly using the same stolen cheque book.

Defence attorney Mr Jack Kudo argued in the Cape Town Regional Court yesterday that it would be unfair for Mr Theunis Jacobs Sauerma, 34 of unknown address, to be tried for the same crime twice.

The hearing was adjourned till next week for a decision on the matter.

## TV TODAY

Time	Program	Channel
6:00-8:15	Good Morning South Africa	E
3:00	Teleshool	F
3:30	Beacon Everyday Safety	B
4:00	Featherfoot Farm	F
4:00	Silhouettes	C
5:00	Sylvanian Families Founders Keepers	F
5:10	Zapmag	F
5:20	Children's Bible	F
5:30	Turkey Care	F
5:30	News	F
6:00	No Jacket Required	F
6:15	Topspot. One-minute cricket update — Natal vs WP	D
7:00	Telly Fun Quiz	F
7:01	Starting from Scratch Blood Relations.	F
7:30	Network	F
8:00	Network	F

Staff Reporter

A MAN who describes himself as "a disciplined policeman who follows orders" has replaced Colonel John Manuel as station commander at Mitchells Plain

But, Colonel Manuel, the former immediate superior to rebel policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, is not leaving on transfer to Soweto without having a final word on the controversy that has raged since Lt Rockman's allegations of riot squad brutality

Colonel Manuel said yesterday "I don't know what the motives of the police are in transferring a riot squad member to Mitchells Plain, because that's the root cause of the problem there — the relationship between the riot squad and the local police

# Ex-riot squad cop takes over M' Plain

*Cape Times 22/11/89 (251)*

"Now that Lt Rockman and myself are away from Mitchells Plain, the people we have been struggling against are controlling Mitchells Plain

"I can only come to the conclusion that it is actually we who have done the wrong and that the riot squad have done right."

His successor, Colonel Alwyn Burger, who police said was second-in-command of the Western Province riot squad before taking up his new post, said yesterday he was "looking forward to

the challenge of Mitchells Plain — and I certainly don't foresee any problems"

"After one week at Mitchells Plain I have had no problem with the people I've had dealings with. None of the policemen here have any objection to my command — many of them have known me for years"

Describing himself as "a disciplined policeman who follows orders", Colonel Burger said "I have a job to do here — to serve the community"

Colonel Burger is an

experienced station commander. He was in charge of Grassy Park police station for five years, spent 18 months in command at Guguletu and was in charge of the special constables for two years

Colonel Manuel, who is the most senior coloured policeman in South Africa and has publicly supported Lt Rockman's criticisms of the riot squad, said yesterday "I think the police owe an explanation to the Mitchells Plain public



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# Poison, bombs, bullets and kidnapping . . .

**P**OISON, bombs, bullets and kidnapping are some of the methods used in what appears to have been a secret war conducted against anti-apartheid activists in neighbouring countries over a period of years

The attackers have been ruthless and in some cases have hit the wrong targets and killed the wrong people, as was the case in 1987 when a well-known Mozambican businessman was shot dead in his flat, which was near to an ANC house in Maputo

The activities of the death squads in neighbouring countries have ranged from Angola — where parcel bombs have been the favourite method — to Swaziland and Maputo, where black and white groups have been seen kidnapping and shooting people

Some of the attacks which have never been explained are

## MOZAMBIQUE:

- May 23 1980 — A vehicle packed with explosives found outside the Polana Hotel. The car, a Peugeot, had crossed from the border post of Resano Garcia

- August 17 1982 — South African activist Ruth First killed by a letter bomb at her office at Maputo University

- December 7 1983 — Two South African refugees seriously injured when an explosion damaged a house in the Xipamanine suburb of Maputo

- April 21 1986 — A car bomb badly damages two blocks of flats, injuring 49 people. Mozambican police said they were convinced the bomb was intended for the ANC offices but was abandoned when the driver could not find the target

- May 29 1987 — Unidentified attackers carried out a raid in the Polana area of Maputo, killing Antonio Pateguana, director of the Mozambican entertainment company, his wife, Suzana de Souza and a night watchman Joao Chavane

It is believed the attackers wanted to strike at a nearby house used by South Africans but hit the wrong target

A house used by the ANC to store clothes for refugees and the home of a Tanzanian businessman were also raided

- April 5 1987 — South African journalist and ANC member Gibson Ncube died in hospital in Maputo after having been poisoned a week earlier

- April 7 1988 — A car bomb maimed South African lawyer and ANC member Albie Sachs outside his Maputo flat, across the road from the South African trade mission

- December 25 1988 — ANC offices in Maputo burgled. Several items and documents stolen

**Investigations into the activities in South Africa of the alleged SAP hit squad may help to throw light on the mysterious death and attempted assassination of numbers of anti-apartheid activists in neighbouring countries.**

**JOAO SANTA RITA of the Argus Africa News Service reports that there have been a number of attacks in these countries for which no government or organisations has admitted responsibility.**

## SWAZILAND:

- In 1984 a police station at Bhunya was attacked and four ANC members being held there were freed

The ANC denied that it had taken part in the raid and said the men had been kidnapped by South African agents posing as ANC members

- June 1 1986 — The ANC said in Lusaka that one of its members, Thomas Shongwe, was kidnapped in Swaziland

- June 2 1986 — Two men and a woman, said by Swazi police to be ANC members, found shot dead outside Mbabane in "a professional killing" in which armour-piercing ammunition was used. The three were identified as Pansu Smith, Siphso Dlamini and Busi Majola

- August 3 1986 — Two people injured when unidentified raiders stole files about refugees from the offices of Ephesus House in Manzini

The house of an administrator of a Canadian aid organisation which specialises in helping refugees was also burgled



- August 1986 — A group of men raided a rural police station where an ANC activist was being held by Swazi police and freed him. The ANC denied involvement and the ANC member has not been heard from since

- October 6 1986 — Another raid on Ephesus House in Manzini. Security guards said they saw white and black men in two cars carrying files from the building

The raiders fired at pursuing guards as they drove out of Manzini

- December 7 1986 — Five people kidnapped in a bungled raid. A 15-year-old boy was shot dead, one of those abducted died later

Two Swiss nationals and two Swazis released later and South Africa was forced to accept responsibility. At-

tackers identified as blacks and whites

- December 1986 — Ebrahim Ismael Ebrahim kidnapped from a house near Mbabane. He was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by a Pretoria Court in January 1989 for treason

- May 1987 — The ANC said from Lusaka that a Mrs Sheila Nyanda was kidnapped from her home near Mbabane

- May 10 1987 — Three people found shot dead in a car in a suburb of Mbabane

Swazi police named them as Tutu Nkwanyane, a South African law student at the University of Swaziland, Mildred Msomi, a Swazi student and Theophilus Dlodlo also known as Viva, an ANC member

- July 11 1987 — Three shot dead as they drove away from Swaziland's airport in a taxi. Two of the victims had arrived from Maputo and were met by a woman

A car with Transvaal number plates pulled alongside the taxi and the driver was ordered to stop. The three taxi passengers were then shot dead but the driver was unhurt

One of the victims was later identified as commander of the Transvaal section of Umkhonto We Sizwe, the armed wing of the ANC

- February 12 1989 — Two men and a woman found shot dead in their car in a remote forestry area in northwestern Swaziland

The car was packed with automatic rifles, grenades and explosives, Swazi police said. The three were said to have South African passports. Their names were never disclosed by the police

## ZIMBABWE.

In Zimbabwe the mysterious attacks started immediately after independence in 1981. Some were aimed at Zimbabwean military installations, like the Thornhill air base, others at anti-apartheid activists

- August 1981 — The ANC's representative in Harare, Joe Gqabi, shot dead in the driveway of his home in Harare

- May 1987 — A booby-trapped TV set exploded in a Harare flat, killing the wife of an ANC activist. The TV had apparently been given to an ANC man in Maputo who

did not use it and passed it on to Harare

A South African man, Mr Lesley Letsie, is still being held in Zimbabwe in connection with the incident. According to the Zimbabwean authorities he has claimed to work for South African Military Intelligence

- October 1987 — Anti-apartheid activist Jeremy Brickhill and his wife were injured when a bomb exploded in a car parked close to their own as they walked towards it at a shopping centre

## BOTSWANA:

In Botswana there have also been a number of unsolved attacks, some of them of a military nature

- June 15 1986 — A house in Gaborone attacked and a 26 year old woman from Lobatse, Mrs Matsela Polokelo, a 12 year old boy and a man, Mr Paul Rantao, were injured. Attackers said to be wearing balaclavas

- January 2 1987 — A house near the border attacked and a 72-year-old man killed. Attackers said to have entered the country from Bophuthatswana

- April 9 1987 — Three people killed and two injured in an explosion in a house in Gaborone

- May 22 1987 — A British citizen living in South Africa, Steve Brunett, arrested after trying to kill anti-apartheid activist Ronnie Watson. Brunett sentenced to five years in jail

- December 14 1988 — Attack against the village of



Ditlaharapeng during which several houses were hit. One woman killed

- December 28 1988 — A 14-year-old boy killed when a bomb exploded next to a house in Gaborone

## ANGOLA:

In Angola South African anti-apartheid activist Jeanette Schoon and her daughter were killed in 1984 by a letter bomb apparently addressed to her husband, Marius Schoon

In Lesotho nine people were killed on December 20 1985 in a raid by unidentified men. Several of those killed were reported to be ANC members

More recently a man who had been arrested by the Lesotho police after being injured was shot dead in his hospital bed

He was reported to have been an ANC member

# Ex-Sats man shot dead

A DISMISSED Sats worker was shot dead at Johannesburg's Langlaagte station on Tuesday after allegedly attacking a policeman and ticket controller with a baton, police said yesterday.

Sapa reports that the incident, the latest violence in the three-week-old national strike which has claimed at least one life and left at least 29 injured, has again prompted police to appeal for a peaceful settlement to the dispute.

The latest shooting happened at 5 35pm after a man armed with a heavy rubber baton apparently attacked ticket controller J de Wet from behind and hit him on the head. A policeman ran to De Wet's assistance but was attacked.

The policeman tried to fend off the attacker, but was hit on the head, suffering two deep gashes. He drew his gun and fired a shot, killing the man instantly.

"The striker really seemed to be off his head and the policeman

seemed to have no other choice but to defend himself," said Capt Eugene Opperman, Witwatersrand police spokesman.

He said the dead man had a South African Railway and Harbour Worker's Union (Sarhwu) sticker on his clothes. It was later established he was fired from Sats.

Sats has received a proposal for resolving the strike from the Sarhwu and a meeting will soon be set up to continue negotiations. The deputy director of media relations for Sats, Allan Lubbe, said Sats was studying the proposal.

About 160 labourers striking at Cape Town harbour in demand for a 250% wage increase faced disciplinary action after not returning to work yesterday, Sats said.

Our Durban Correspondent reports that Sats has fired 1155 striking workers in Natal and will continue dismissing strikers.

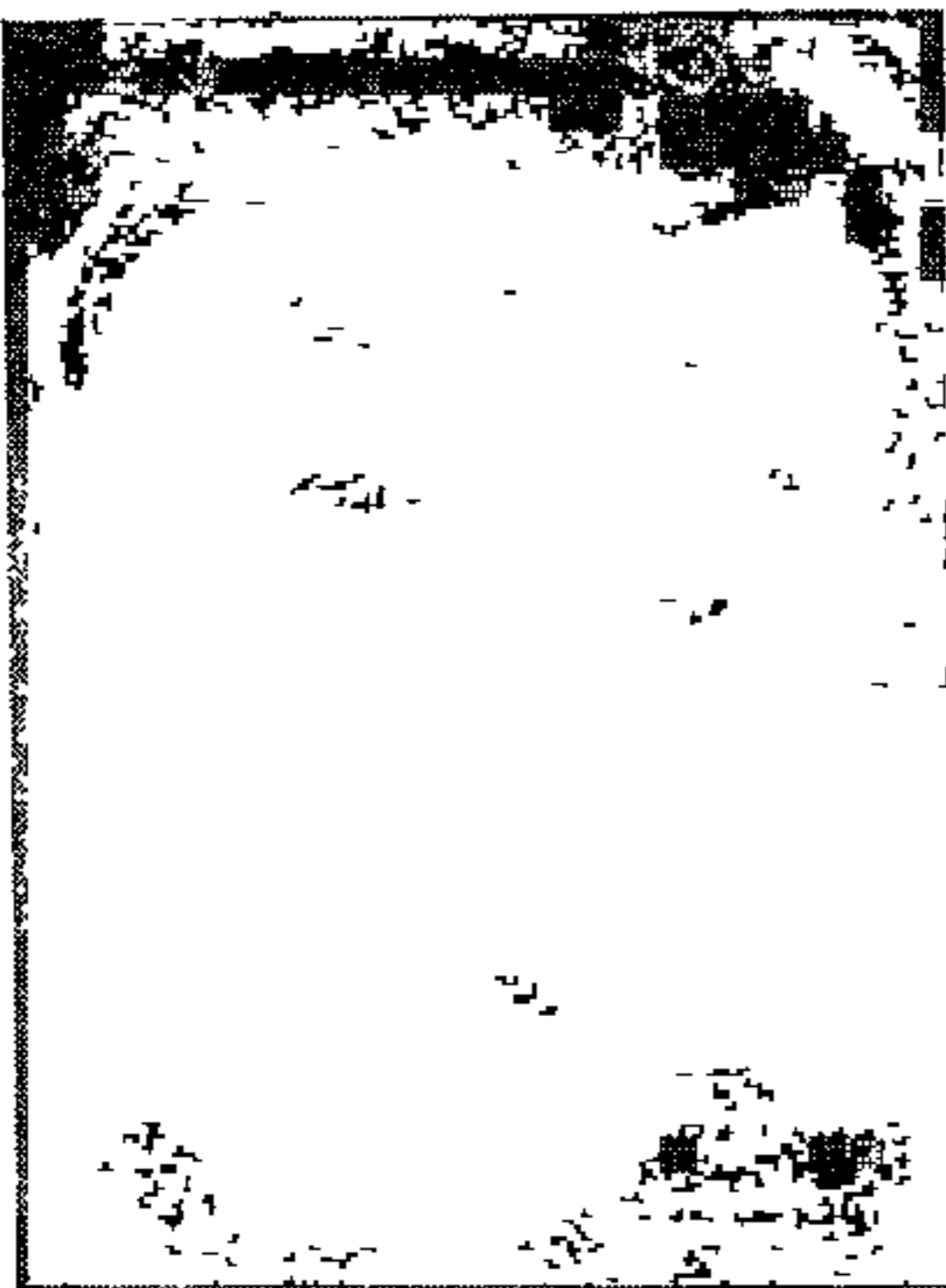
Union spokesmen could not be reached for comment last night.

# 'Hit squad' memories

(25) South 23-29/11/89



Nyameka Goniwe



Captain Dirk Coetzee

From BRIAN SOKUTU  
PORT ELIZABETH. — Disclosures of alleged South African Police (SAP) "death-squad" activities have revived bitter memories among the families of at least nine Eastern Cape activists killed or declared missing over the last few years.

Relatives interviewed this week said they were planning to take legal action on the revelations of Captain Dirk Coetzee, which caused a major stir in police and government circles.

The disclosures, which include allegations that a SAP "death-squad" had killed Durban civil rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, are the subject of an inquiry led by Free State Attorney-General T P McNally.

Mrs Elizabeth Hashe, wife of Siphon Hashe, an executive member of the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Association, hopes the inquiry will shed light on her husband's mysterious disappearance on May 8, 1985.

Hashe went missing along with two other civic leaders, Champion Galela and Qaqawulu Godolozzi.

Calling on the government to

"produce our husbands", Mrs Hashe said "We will never give up hope until we know what has happened to our husbands."

The widows of four slain Cradock leaders, whose burnt bodies were found at Bluewaters Bay near here in June 1985, said they were "encouraged" by the revelations which could lead to exposing the murderers of their husbands.

In February this year an inquest magistrate here found that "a person or a group of people unknown" had been responsible for the deaths of Matthew Goniwe, Sicele Mhlawuli, Nomonde Calata and Sparrow Mkonto.

Mhlawuli's father, Mr David Vuyo Mhlawuli, 67, died this week without knowing whether his son's killers would ever be tried and punished.

According to his family, his health had deteriorated since the deaths of the four. He will be buried in Cradock on Saturday.

Mrs Nyameka Goniwe said Cradock community leaders would "very soon discuss with our lawyers the next action in the light of the disclosures by Captain Coetzee".

Mr Siphon Mtumkulu, father of Simphiwo Mtumkulu who disappeared from Livingstone Hospital in April 1982, said he was unable to forget his son.

Simphiwo had gone to the hospital for treatment for thallium poisoning. Poisoning was diagnosed after he had complained of pain in his feet and stomach a day after his release from detention.

Iopsy Madaka, who had accompanied him to hospital, also disappeared without a trace.

MONO BADELA reports from Johannesburg that lawyers and activists believe that as many as 49 people have been eliminated by death squads over the past 12 years.

## Webster

A document released earlier this month by the Human Rights Commission (HRC) to commemorate the death of Dr David Webster six months ago, outlines 49 assassinations, 160 assassination attempts and 10 abductions and disappearances. Eleven of the 49 assassinations were reported this year.

The HRC say that though the lists are incomplete, they indicate the nature and extent of attacks on anti-apartheid activists over the past few years.

The HRC said the list underscored the failure of the police to apprehend the perpetrators of such attacks.

The police have denied the existence of death squads and dismissed Captain Coetzee's allegations as fabrications.

On Wednesday more dramatic evidence of the existence of a police hit-squad in the country surfaced at a press conference held in Johannesburg.

A high-powered legal delegation that flew to Bloemfontein on Thursday to present independent evidence it believes supports allegations that the police operated a "death squad" told the conference of reports it claimed substantiated some of the details in a statement by death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela.

The SACC's Independent Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression said they were not leaving everything to the McNally Commission of Inquiry. "We are determined to get to the bottom of the inquiry," said Mr Brian Curran.

five machines  
of the cases, no  
s taken.  
experienced the

group.  
"If any numbers match those on a list of  
stolen facsimile machines, obviously the  
user will be reported to the relevant au-  
thorities," he says.

## Police officer in court today after R100 000 bank heist

Day 23/11/89  
DANIEL SIMON (25)

A POLICE officer is to appear in court this morning following his arrest yesterday in connection with a recent Pretoria bank robbery, during which a hand-grenade was brandished and two staff members abducted, but released later.

Police Directorate spokesman Maj Marius Bonthuys said yesterday the 42-year-old man was a lieutenant and believed to be second-in-command at the Wierda Bridge police station in the Pretoria area.

He said the man's arrest by Pretoria Murder and Robbery detectives yesterday morning was in connection with an armed robbery, involving R100 000, at Santam Bank's Kwagga Centre branch on November 8.

□ A police spokesman said yesterday two Pretoria policemen were arrested last Friday and departmentally discharged for illegally issuing clearance certificates at the Silverton vehicle testing grounds. The two men had appeared in court. They appear again on December 8.

SACC to present 'independent, corroborating evidence'

# NEW TURN IN DEATH SQUAD PROBE

251  
Savelan  
28/11/89



ABOUT 140 lawyers yesterday staged a lunchtime protest demonstration at the Rand Supreme Court in Johannesburg calling for the abolition of the death penalty. The protest demonstration was called by the National Association of Democratic Lawyers (Nadel). See story on Page 2

**THE "death squad" police saga took a new turn yesterday.**

A high-powered South African Council of Churches delegation flew to Bloemfontein to present independent, corroborating evidence in support of allegations made by a self-declared member of the squad.

And yesterday the family of two murdered human rights lawyers demanded an independent judicial inquiry into allegations that the South African Police carried out political murders.

The SACC delegation was in possession of a report substantiating some of the details contained in statements signed by Butana Almond Nofomela, the Death Row prisoner whose "confessions" made in the shadow of the gallows, rekindled suspicions of the existence of state-sponsored assassins.

The report, compiled by the SACC Board of Inquiry into Informal Repression, was handed to Free State Attorney-General Mr TP McNally by a four-man delegation

• To page 2

REPORTS, pictures and comments in this edition may be censored in terms of the Government's state of emergency

Ermelo council SEE P2

Guilty of muti murder P3

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P. 70

# Death squad 251

## ● From page 1

of top lawyers consisting of Professor John Dugard, Professor Lawrie Ackermann, Mr Peter Harris and Mr Brian Currin

McNally, assisted by senior SAP officer Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie was appointed to investigate Nofomela's allegations

In his October 19 affidavit Nofomela referred to the brother of an ANC guerilla who, he said, was a victim of the police assassination unit. The brother worked as a security guard at a building society in Krugersdorp

Investigators acting for the SACC Board of Inquiry are understood to have established from the building society that the man did work there as a guard and that after going to lunch one day he disappeared.

Nofomela told how one of his co-assassins accidentally shot himself in the foot during a mission and had to be taken to hospital in Ermelo

Subsequent investigation by the SACC team established that a man of that name was indeed tre-

ated for an injured foot at the hospital. The record of his treatment was still intact.

After Nofomela's first affidavit of October 19, he has subsequently made a second statement to the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, ordered a stay of execution pending an investigation into his allegations

The fear in extra-parliamentary opposition circles was that the McNally inquiry might conclude that Nofomela's allegations were unfounded and that he, one of the star witnesses, might then be summarily executed.

Their hope is that the SACC report may eliminate that risk by establishing that there was still a great deal to probe.

The family of two murdered human rights lawyers demanded an independent judiciary inquiry into allegations that the SAP carried out political murders. Mbasa Mxenge (25) demanded that President F W de Klerk set up an independent judicial inquiry.

Sapa-Reuter

*Sawofan 23/11/89*

## SAP views hit squad charges seriously, says general

JOHANNESBURG — The SA Police viewed the allegations of a sanctioned police "hit squad" in a serious light and had launched an investigation into the allegations aired in the press since last Friday, SAP head of public relations, General Herman Stadler, said in an interview on SATV last night.

He said the investigation was intended "to get to the kernel of the matter".

The hit squad allegations were serious and showed the police in a bad light, he said.

A number of policemen had already given statements to the official commission of inquiry.

General Stadler said he had no argument with the credentials of the members of the commission of inquiry now sitting in Bloemfontein.

He ruled out another, independent, commission being ordered by President F W de Klerk.

"We have said no terrorist groups were launched from Vlakkplaas (a rehabilitation camp for former ANC members outside Pretoria)."

If any irregularities were brought to light by the commission, "appropriate action will be taken".

He said it was possible a situation could have existed where policemen were acting without the knowledge of their commanding officers — Sapa

# Mxenge family demand full judicial inquiry

JOHANNESBURG.— The Mxenge family are unhappy about the inquiry into the death of Mr Griffiths Mxenge being conducted by the Attorney-General of the Orange Free State and believe that nothing short of a full judicial inquiry will be acceptable.

Dr Sumbatha Mxenge, the brother of the human rights lawyer who was murdered in Durban in 1981, said from Port Elizabeth yesterday that the inquiry into the claims made by former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee was not being handled adequately.

"We (the Mxenge family) were shocked to hear that the investigation is almost complete and ready to be handed to (Mr Adriaan) Vlok (Minis-

ter of Law and Order) We have not even been asked to give any evidence which we might have, to the inquiry."

Dr Mxenge said the family was also unhappy about the fact that a policeman (CID head Lieutenant Alwyn Conradie) was taking part in the inquiry.

"We can't understand how a policeman can investigate allegations that the police were involved in assassinations."

He said he wanted justice to be done and the only way to ensure this was to appoint a commission of inquiry with a Supreme Court judge as chairman, so the findings could be independent.

"I would hope that the law will take its course, and any attempts at a cover-up will be resisted by (Mr F W) De

Klerk in the spirit of renewal and reform," Dr Mxenge said in a statement.

There was nothing more the family could do to force the government to appoint a judicial inquiry, but he hoped that the public pressure would grow to the point where the government had no alternative.

In his revelations, Capt Coetzee has supported claims made by Death Row prisoner, Almond Nofomela, that Mr Griffiths Mxenge had been killed by a police hit squad in a way that it would appear to have been a robbery.

Mr Mxenge's wife, Victoria, also a human rights lawyer, was shot dead in Durban four years later, but neither Capt Coetzee nor Nofomela give details of her slaying.

# Police union's fight

23/11/89  
Sowetan

MEMBERS of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union on Tuesday night chanted and raised clenched fists as they vowed to continue their escalating battle with Prisons Service authorities

About 120 policemen and members of the prisons service, many of them in uniform, attended the Popcru meeting at a hall in Elsies River in Cape Town

They were told by Popcru committee member Sergeant Willem Jacobs that he and about 10 other prisons staff belonging to the union recently received letters marked confidential from the acting commander of Pollsmoor, Colonel D J du Plessis.

The letters referred to their connection with the "so-called Popcru" and said it was a contravention of regulations to operate through any but the prescribed channels of communication

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# Hit squad offences mirror press reports

Sowetan 28/11/89 251

Griffiths Mxenge, Chris Hani, Marius Schoon and Patrick Makau were among the alleged targets of the Askari hit squad, the activities of which were revealed by former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee last week. A SOWETAN CORRESPONDENT reports.



MANY allegations made by former policeman and alleged hit squad leader Captain Dirk Coetzee are corroborated by press reports published at the time of the incidents, an investigation has revealed

Much of the detail provided by Coetzee in his interview with the Afrikaans weekly *Viye Weekblad* is not mentioned in the reports, but this information would not have been available to the newspapers. Some of the incidents, where dates and names of victims were not mentioned, could not be traced in newspaper files

## Significant

However, the mere fact that most of the incidents described by the former policeman were reported at the time, is in itself significant

The newspaper version follows a summary of Coetzee's account of each incident:

\* The assassination of Durban civil rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge:

Coetzee claimed that in November 1981 he was

summoned from Vlakplaas to Durban and given orders to murder Mxenge. He was told to ensure that the murder looked like robbery, because the police were not keen on another Biko case

## Dogs killed

Security police pointed out Mxenge's house and provided information on his movements. Coetzee and two other policemen doctored four pieces of meat with strychnine to poison Mxenge's dogs

Coetzee made it clear to the Askaris that Mxenge was to be killed with knives and not shot. He was kept informed of the movements of the Askaris, who followed Mxenge, poisoned his three dogs and set up an ambush

The Askaris told Coetzee that they had stopped Mxenge and took him to the Umlazi location where he was killed. They stabbed him, cut his throat and cut off his ears

Mxenge's car was taken to the Gollela border post and set alight a few days later

\* The facts as reported at the time

Mxenge's body was found with 45 stab wounds near the Umlazi cycle stadium on November 19 1981. His car was missing

His wife, Victoria, also slain four years later, said her husband's throat was slashed, his stomach ripped open and his ears almost cut off. His body was covered in stab wounds

She had been uneasy the night of his death because their two bull terriers had been poisoned the previous day. The SPCA confirmed that the dogs had died of strychnine poisoning

Two days later Mxenge's car was found in flames in a pine plantation near the Swaziland border

## Murder

During the inquest into his death, the presiding magistrate remarked that the police investigation had not been 100 percent as you or I would have expected. Mxenge was found to have been killed by a person or persons unknown

\* The murder of activist Patrick Makau and a young child:

Coetzee said he had received orders to report to Ermelo. He was placed in command of three policemen, including two explosives experts

They were to blow up an ANC transit-house, called White House, as well as the house of another ANC member in Manzini. A suitcase containing 40kg of explosives was used

They climbed the border fence and went to Manzini. Coetzee and one policeman set the bomb against the bedroom wall of the transit-house, and

the other two set the bomb at the other house. After the bombs exploded they hastily left the country

A few days later Coetzee went back to see the damage. The house was flattened. It was then that he heard that a child had also been killed

## Explosions

\* The facts as reported at the time

On June 4 1980, two bomb explosions rocked Manzini at 3am. The blasts destroyed one house and badly damaged another. They were so powerful they could be heard 5km away, residents said at the time. A seven-year-old girl was killed and a man, said to be an ANC activist, but not named. Other reports confirmed that ANC member Patrick Makau was killed when two houses of ANC refugees in Manzini were blown up in 1980

\* The bomb attack on Chris Hani, military commander of Umkhonto We'Sizwe:

Security in Bloemfontein had planned a murder attempt on Hani, who was still living in Lesotho. The bomb was planted by a police informer in Lesotho

## Mistake

The car bomb was supposed to explode as soon as the car started moving, but the informer made a mistake and the bomb exploded next to him. His legs were severely mutilated and his eardrums exploded. After he was discharged from hospital he was detained and was to be charged by Lesotho

## Car bomb

Bail was organised and after he was released he was smuggled out of

Lesotho and taken to Vlakplaas

The facts as reported at the time

In Lesotho in June 1980 a bomb placed under the car of ANC member Mr Tembani Hani exploded, injuring the man who had placed it. He later testified that a South African policeman had told him to kill Hani

\* Murder attempt on Marius Schoon:

Orders were given that Schoon, a member of the ANC, had to be eliminated in Botswana. A special murder weapon was prepared

Coetzee was to report to Zeerust and a policeman would accompany him to point out Schoon's house. Coetzee had to knock on the door and shoot Schoon when he opened it

Shortly before they left a general said the operation should not go ahead as other plans had been made

## Daughter

\* The facts as reported at the time.

In May 1983 Schoon and his wife Jeanette Curtis were called in by the British High Commissioner in Botswana and told that the British government had intelligence information that an attempt would be made on Schoon's life. The family fled the country. A year later, Curtis and their daughter Katryn (6) were killed by a bomb, apparently hidden in a parcel sent to their home in Lubango, Angola. Schoon was away in Luanda

\* Bombing of an ANC post box in Manzini:

Security police in Ermelo planted a prepared bomb in the post box of two lawyers in Manzini after receiving information that the ANC was using the box. When Bufana Duma, an ANC member, opened the post box, the bomb exploded and tore off his arm

This incident was widely reported at the time

\* An abduction from Swaziland:

Coetzee and two others went to Swaziland with four Askaris to blow up ANC houses. They were called back to Pretoria and while they were gone, the Askaris abducted an alleged regional commander of the ANC, Joe Pillay, from Swaziland. Pillay was brought to Vlakplaas and interrogated but was not a regional commander. He was held in the police cells in Ermelo until his black eye had recovered, given money and taken

CMT Tuffs 23/11/89  
251 (circled)

From page 1

Prof Dugard said he doubted whether the inquiry could complete its work by the end of the month if it conducted in-depth investigations into all these areas

Mr Maponye's father Joseph said yesterday he had not been approached by representatives of the government inquiry for information

He said the son killed in the Ster Land explosion had left SA during 1976. He had not seen him again until 1985 when the son had visited the family home for five minutes to explain his allegiance to the ANC

He said a security policeman had visited him after Japie's disappearance and told him Japie had left the country. Mr Maponye did not believe him "because Japie was not political" and had begun searching for him

The report also claimed that the same police major allegedly responsible for the Maponye shooting had arranged for the shooting of four Chesterville youths in mid- or late-1985. Nofomela alleged the youths were lured to a meeting with police posing as UDF members. Although Nofomela was not present, he claimed to have heard the shots. The same policemen named by Nofomela as having been involved in this incident have submitted statements to the inquest into the so-called Chesterville shootings

Business Day visited the homes of two alleged Soshanguve hit squad members named by Nofomela. One, according to his wife, was away for two weeks on police business, while the other fled when approached by a reporter

In an earlier interview in Brits, Nofomela's mother Elsie recalled her son receiving R1 000 from the police. In his affidavit the night before he was due to be executed for the murder of a Brits farmer, Nofomela said he and three others were given R1 000 each for the murder of Durban lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge

Mrs Nofomela could not say why her son had received the money

"I am a mother and am heartbroken over what's happened to my son. He is the oldest child and his salary was needed. My husband earns very little as a construction worker," she said. "He used to come home once a week every month when he was working at Vlakplaas. His friend David Tshikalange would visit often."

Tshikalange, who was also cited in Nofomela's affidavit as an accomplice to Mr Mxenge's murder, recently fled the country

"Almond never told me about his work except that he had an important position and it involved terrorists," Mrs Nofomela said

The first time she had met former police captain Dirk Coetzee was at the Pretoria Supreme Court during her son's trial

"Almond was very happy to see him. They embraced and he introduced Coetzee to me as his captain

"Before my son was due to be hanged he sent a message requesting that I contact him and a Captain De Kock. I had heard him mention before. There were only four hours in which he could have met them. But the police held them back and sent others," she said

# Evidence: Major shot guard at Vlakplaas

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A Krugersdorp building society guard was shot in the head by a security police major after interrogation at the police's farm Vlakplaas, a new report on police death squads alleged yesterday

The report, which deals with allegations made by death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela, was presented by four civil rights lawyers and academics to Free State attorney-general Mr T McNally and CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie in Bloemfontein yesterday

A member of the SA Council of Churches-appointed Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression (IBIIR), Professor John Durgard, last night told the Cape Times that he implicitly believed the claims as "there is just too much corroborating evidence for the allegations to be fabricated"

"It cannot be coincidence that incidents that were reported a number of years ago are now being explained in detail," he said

The Vlakplaas incident, the report said, occurred when the man, Mr Japie Maponye, was arrested for questioning in connection with his brother, who was suspected of having shot a policeman at De Wildt near Pretoria. He was taken to Vlakplaas and, after it became clear he knew nothing of his brother's activities, the report alleged the security police major shot him through the head with a silenced pistol, saying he "had to be got rid of"

It is alleged in the present Delmas terrorism trial that the brother, Odirile, was killed when a limpet mine he was apparently planning to use exploded outside Ster Land, Pretoria, in May 1988

Wits University's Prof Dugard, one of the four IBIIR representatives who travelled to Bloemfontein yesterday, said the group had been courteously received

End page 2

(251)

B. Day

23/11/89

# SACC report on death row man's allegations

THE purpose of this report is to assist the investigations into the allegations which have been made by death row prisoner Butana Nofomela.

The information contained in the report comes from a variety of sources, including an affidavit and subsequent statements to Mr Nofomela's legal representatives as well as from further investigations conducted by ourselves.

Whilst we cannot claim to have substantiated every allegation that is made in this report we feel it is important that you be apprised of the information that is at our disposal ASSASSINATION, KRUGERSDORP, JAPIE MAPONYE

According to Nofomela, in either 1985 or 1986 a black policeman had been shot at a place called De Wildt by a suspected "terrorist" Nofomela stated his unit at the security branch in Pretoria, which he calls C1, was given information that the terrorist's brother was working in Krugersdorp as a security guard with the United Building Society.

He states he and two col-

leagues were told by his superior, a security police major, to go to the Krugersdorp UBS and kidnap the brother. They were given the man's photograph and name.

## Interrogation

After the security guard came off duty Nofomela approached him, identified himself as a policeman and told the man that he was arresting him on a charge of suspected fraud

The three men then took the security guard with them in their car, ordering him to lie flat on the floor so that nobody would see him They drove him to the farm at Vlakplaas There they met their superior and took the security guard into the farm and interrogated him

According to Nofomela, four of them assaulted and

These are extracts from the report on police death squad allegations presented to investigators T McNally, Free State attorney general, and Lt-Gen Alwyn Conradie, CID chief, yesterday by the SA Council of Churches-appointed Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression (IBIIR)

interrogated the security guard The interrogation however proved fruitless Later in the evening the major ordered the two other black policemen to leave, and remained with Nofomela and the security guard The major asked Nofomela if he thought the security guard would recognise him in the future Nofomela replied in the affirmative.

The major said the man had to be got rid of, and shot the security guard through the head with a pistol equipped with a silencer

According to Nofomela, during the interrogation the security guard had stat-

ed that his brother had left the country a long time ago, he had not seen him since and did not know of his whereabouts

After the major had killed the security guard, the guard's body was wrapped in plastic and placed in the boot of the major's car From there the major told Nofomela that he could go, and Nofomela went home in his own car That is all Nofomela says he knows about this particular incident

## Inquiries

The IBIIR has made certain inquiries and established from the Maponye family that their son called Japie Maponye was employed as a security guard at the Krugersdorp branch of the UBS. On approximately May 18, 1985, he was taken by members of the SA Police Security Branch from the UBS and has not been seen since.

The family informed us that Japie Maponye had a brother known as Odirile Andries Maponye, a suspected ANC member, who was killed in a limpet mine explosion outside Ster Land Pretoria in May 1988

In the case of State v Toka and others currently proceeding before the Supreme Court in Delmas, the State alleges that Odirile Maponye was an ANC member who was killed at Ster Land in Pretoria.

In addition, the photograph of Odirile Mapoye was found (by the IBIIR) in the possession of Nofomela at his home

## Assassination

The IBIIR has established from the personnel manager at the UBS, Krugersdorp, that Japie Maponye worked there as a security guard but that he disappeared on approximately the 18 March 1985.

The UBS stated Maponye worked there for some three years and was a reliable worker who seldom missed a day's work. We are informed that on Japie Maponye's last day of work he acted the same as always. His salary of more

than R1 000 was paid into his account but has been untouched and remains there SWAZILAND ATTACK - LATE 1983

Nofomela advised his legal representatives that in late 1983 he was part of a group of seven men that went on an assassination mission to Swaziland

The commanding officer of the mission was a colonel who subsequently was promoted to brigadier and has since retired, the major referred to above, a lieutenant (who is apparently now a captain), two white SAP members from Ermelo whose names Nofomela does not recall, Nofomela himself and one black colleague

The squad attacked a house in Swaziland in which there were four suspected ANC members The major kicked the door open and one of the seven flung a hand grenade into the house. After the grenade exploded the members of the group burst into the house and shot at all the people inside

According to Nofomela's recollection, three people were killed while one managed to escape through a window

During the shooting Nofomela states that he accidentally shot his black colleague in the foot.

After the completion of the mission the assassination group left Swaziland by driving over a border fence near the Oshoek border gate, quite far from the road.

Nofomela states he then took the injured man to the Ermelo hospital while the others in the assassination group drove in a different direction towards Piet Retief He says the injured man signed into the hospital under his own name and that he (Nofomela) was present when this was done.

The man disclosed that he was a policeman and went so far as to furnish a Polmed certificate which entitles policemen to free medical attention He states that after one or two days the man was discharged, although he could only walk with difficulty

From there the two went to Piet Retief where they met up with the rest of the group

The IBIIR has found what it believes to be important corroboration of these allegations by Nofomela

Following Nofomela's statement, the IBIIR investigated the medical records of the Ermelo Hospital and found in the admissions register a man of the same name was admitted on November 22, 1983, with a gunshot wound in the ankle

He was discharged on the 23rd of November 1983 A copy of the relevant entry in the hospital record is attached hereto

The IBIIR has located a Press report in the Star dated November 23, 1983, which states that raiders attacked a house in Manzini and gunned down two men the previous day The Press report said the raiders hurled a grenade into the home and attacked it with automatic rifles

## Similar

The raid is supposed to have occurred just before dawn. The two victims were Mr Zakhele Nyanda and a Mr Keith McFadden, who were both believed to have been linked to the ANC. The Press report states further the police were holding a suspected ANC member who had escaped death after the attack

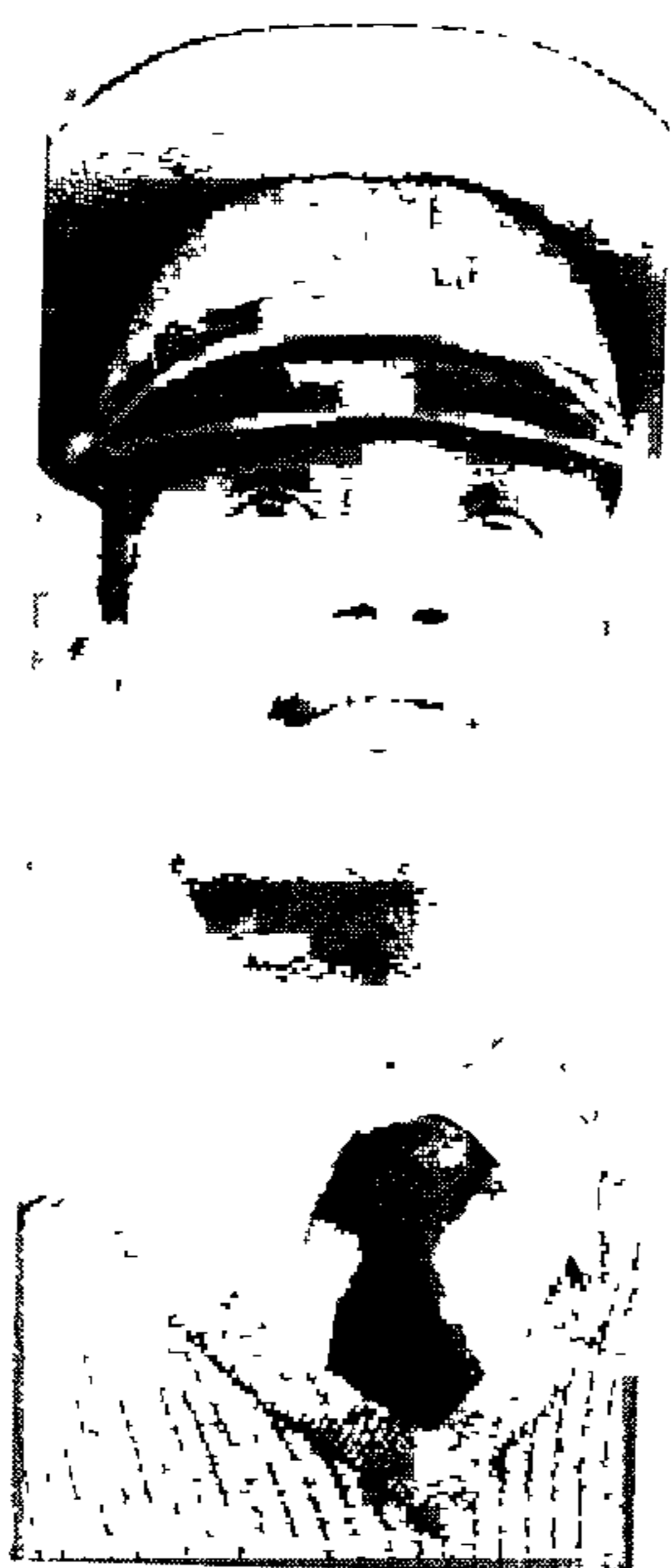
This Press report contains several similar features to the one described by Nofomela as set out above.

□ The report also contains information on the death of Durban attorney Griffiths Mxenge, and the theft of a car belonging to a Vryburg UDF activist, and the fatal shooting of four Chester-ville UDF members

# Rockman, detainee share platform

251

South 23-29/10/89



Lt Rockman

OUDTSHOORN. — At a mass rally in Knysna last Saturday, "people's policeman" Lieutenant Gregory Rockman came face to face with a former detainee he had once guarded.

The two appeared on the same platform where they spoke against the "unjust laws" of the state — Rockman's employers.

The former detainee, Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation member Michael Nzothoyi, told the crowd of about 2 000 people that they should "hail Lt Rockman as an example of a people's policeman because he had rocked the South African police force".

Nzothoyi was released in May this year after spending almost three years in detention.

Earlier in the day, Rockman took part in a march by 1 500 people to the police station in George.

The marchers handed a petition to the George town clerk, Mr Carel Du Plessis, and the local station commander.

Rockman is expected to be at the forefront of a march this Saturday in the Southern Cape town of Mossel Bay — a Conservative Party stronghold.

The Mossel Bay council this week said it would refuse to take down whites-only signs on its beaches.

# 'Informer's' wife sues Vlok

(25)

GRAHAMSTOWN. — A Hanover woman has sued Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok for R120 595 claiming that police could have prevented the death of her husband killed in a mob attack four years ago

Mr Albert Nkumbi, linked to an alleged informer, was killed the day before Christmas in 1985.

He was stabbed to death as he and his wife, Nonkuthalo, were preparing to flee their home in Kwezi township for a temporary refugee camp after their lives had been

threatened.

Three policemen accompanied Nkumbi and his wife to fetch their belongings

As they were preparing to leave a crowd of about 300 people gathered outside, throwing stones and threatening the policemen on guard

One of the policemen drove a bakkie packed with the Nkumbis' possessions to the nearby refugee camp while Nkumbi and the other two policemen stayed behind

When the crowd grew more hostile

the two remaining policemen drove away, leaving Nkumbi at the mercy of the crowd

When Nkumbi tried to run from angry mob, he was caught, stoned and repeatedly stabbed

Police, who returned 30 minutes later and found Nkumbi dead, gave conflicting evidence in the Grahamstown Supreme Court on whether they had tried to radio for help.

In her claim, Mrs Nkumbi alleged that the three policemen had a duty to protect her husband in terms of the Police Act, which policemen have denied

South 23-29/11/89

# BUSINESS DAY

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## 'Hit squad' probe hears allegation of shooting of security guard

A KRUGERSDORP building society guard was shot in the head by a security police major after interrogation at the SAP's farm Vlakplass, a new report on police death squads alleged yesterday.

The report, which deals with allegations made by death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela, was presented by four civil rights lawyers and academics to Pretoria State Attorney General T McNally and CID chief Lt-Gen Alwyn Conradie in Bloemfontein.

The Vlakplass incident, the report said, occurred when the man, Japie Maponye, was arrested for questioning in connection with his brother, who was suspected of having shot a policeman at De Wildt near Pretoria. He was taken to Vlakplass and after it became clear he knew nothing of his brother's activities, the report alleged the security police major said he "had to be got rid of" and shot him through the head with a silenced pistol.

The report was compiled by the SA Council of Churches-appointed Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression (IBIR).

It is alleged in the present Delmas terrorism trial that the brother, Odette, was killed when a lumped mine he was apparently planning to use exploded outside Star Land, Pretoria, in May 1988.

**ADELE BAILEY, CHARLENE SMITH and ALAN FINE**

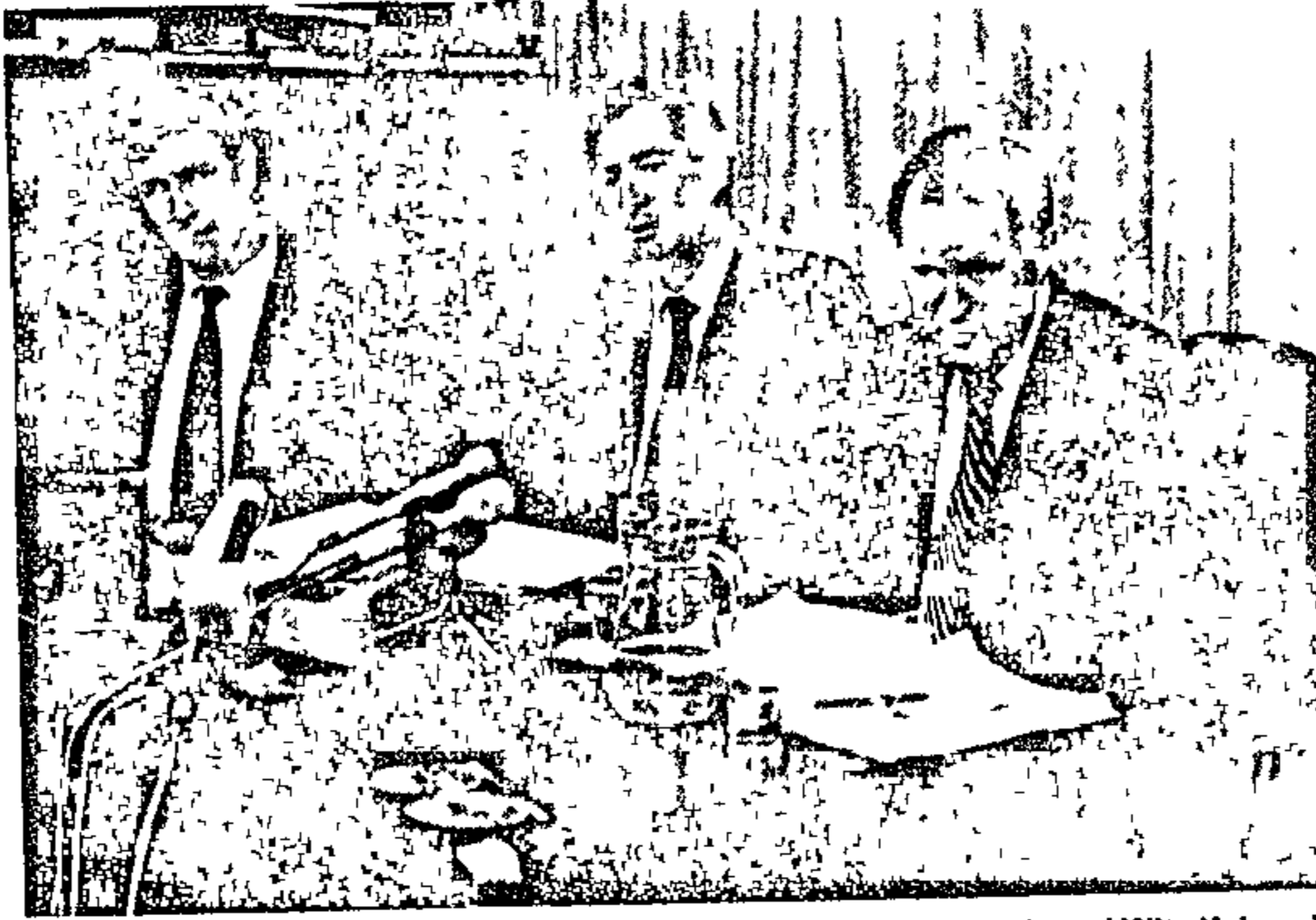
Wits University's Prof John Dugard, one of the four IBIR representatives who travelled to Bloemfontein yesterday, said the group had been courteously received.

Dugard said he doubted whether the inquiry could complete its work by the end of the month if it conducted in-depth investigations into all these areas.

Maponye's father Joseph said yesterday he had not been approached by representatives of the government inquiry for information.

To Page 2

P.T.O.



Attorney Peter Harris, Lawyers for Human Rights director Brian Currin and Wits University's Prof John Dugard at a media conference in Johannesburg after submitting a report to the inquiry into alleged police death squads

Picture BRIAN HENDLER

## 'Hit squad' probe

□ From Page 1

business, while the other fled when approached by a reporter

In an earlier interview in Brits, Nofomela's mother Elsie recalled her son receiving R1 000 from the police. In his affidavit the night before he was due to be executed for the murder of a Brits farmer, Nofomela said he and three others were given R1 000 each for the murder of Durban lawyer Griffiths Mxenge

She could not say why her son had received the money

"I am a mother and am heartbroken over what's happened to my son. He is the oldest child and his salary was needed. My husband earns very little as a construction worker," she said. "He used to come home once a week every month when he was working at Vlakplaas. His friend David Tshikalange would visit often."

Tshikalange, also cited in Nofomela's affidavit as an accomplice to Mxenge's murder, recently fled the country

"Almond never told me about his work except that he had an important position and it involved terrorists," she said

The first time she had met former police

captain Dirk Coetzee was at the Pretoria Supreme Court during her son's trial

"Almond was very happy to see him. They embraced and he introduced Coetzee to me as his captain

"Before my son was due to be hanged he sent a message requesting that I contact him and a Captain de Kock I had heard him mention before. There were only four hours in which he could have met them. But the police held them back and sent others," she said

□ Sapa reports that in a TV interview last night, SAP public relations chief Gen Herman Stadler said the SAP viewed the allegations of a sanctioned police "hit squad" in a serious light and had launched an investigation into the allegations aired in the Press since last Friday

He ruled out an independent commission being ordered by President F W de Klerk

Although "we have said no terrorist groups were launched from Vlakplaas", a rehabilitation camp for former ANC members outside Pretoria, Stadler said it was possible a situation could have existed where policemen were acting without the knowledge of their commanding officers

25  
23/11/89  
E. Lou

251 (2000)

# 'Hit squad' captain's bugging claim

By KAREN STANDER  
Staff Reporter

A DETAILED account by "hit squad leader" Captain Dirk Coetzee of the alleged circumstances leading to his suspension from the police — and ultimately to his dramatic allegations of assassinations and kidnappings — is described in a report written by the policeman five years ago.

The report was sent to Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, then Leader of the Opposition, and resulted in questions being asked in Parliament about illegal telephone tapping by police.

In the document, Captain Coetzee claims that an affidavit he drew up on illegal telephone tapping was seized in a raid on the home of the former private secretary of former Minister Mr Fanie Botha and this led to Captain Coetzee's suspension.

Captain Coetzee said he met the minister's secretary, Mr Frans Whelpton, in 1983 when they were fellow-students in

special Latin classes. From 1984, they became close friends.

He learned from a colleague in the security police that a special investigation into the resignation of Minister Botha included the tapping of telephone conversations. Captain Coetzee gathered that this included Mr Whelpton's telephone conversations.

## "Security risk"

He was concerned that he was friendly with a "security risk" and went to see a senior officer in the security branch in the Northern Transvaal.

The officer confirmed that the investigation was in connection with the resignation of Minister Botha and consisted of the tapping of telephone conversations between Mr Whelpton and Brigadier Jan Blaauw.

The officer told him criminal charges were being investigated against Mr Whelpton and concerned the allocation of diamond concessions to Brigadier Blaauw by Minister Botha. Captain Coetzee said the officer assured him that Mr

## Affidavit tells of suspension lead-up

Whelpton was not a security risk.

His suspicion that telephones were being tapped illegally was confirmed when it became apparent that other policemen knew of his association with Mr Whelpton.

Captain Coetzee asked a friend in the post office to check whether his and Mr Whelpton's telephones were bugged. The technician confirmed bugs on all three of Mr Whelpton's home telephones, but could not confirm that Captain Coetzee's telephone was tapped.

"Privately and confidentially, I handed an affidavit on the matter to Mr Whelpton with the aim of exposing this injustice in the public interest and because of the dangers involved.

"The understanding was that Mr Whelpton would hand over the statement to the Attorney-

General or another high legal authority."

On October 4 1984, Captain Coetzee used his home phone to call a colleague about a key and a photocopy machine. He also phoned a friend in the post office.

When he visited this friend that evening to examine the registers in which tapped telephones were recorded, his friend was upset and told him that a colleague in the post office had told him that the police had that day become aware of Captain Coetzee's plans.

He decided to abandon his plans and later heard that senior police officers had called in the colleague whom he had telephoned and asked about the key and the photocopy machine.

Captain Coetzee said he was away on holiday for a week and when he returned he learned from neighbours that two men had tried to break into his flat.

A few days later, he noticed two senior police officers following him on foot as well as a car which undoubtedly belonged to the police, said Captain Coetzee.

On November 21, police raided Mr Whelpton's home as well as the office of his attorney. Captain Coetzee's affidavit on telephone tapping was seized.

On December 3, two officers arrived at Captain Coetzee's flat and asked him to accompany them to the commissioner's office. He asked if he was being arrested and, when told it was voluntary, he refused to go.

The following day, Captain Coetzee received a message to contact his station commander who told him that he had been suspended, without pay or benefits, with effect from the previous day.

According to Mr Brian Curran, director of Lawyers for Human Rights, he defended Captain Coetzee at a later disciplinary hearing at which the former policeman was tried by

police for five separate offences.

Captain Coetzee resigned in 1986 on humanitarian and medical grounds after he was confronted with the choice of that or a dishonourable discharge.

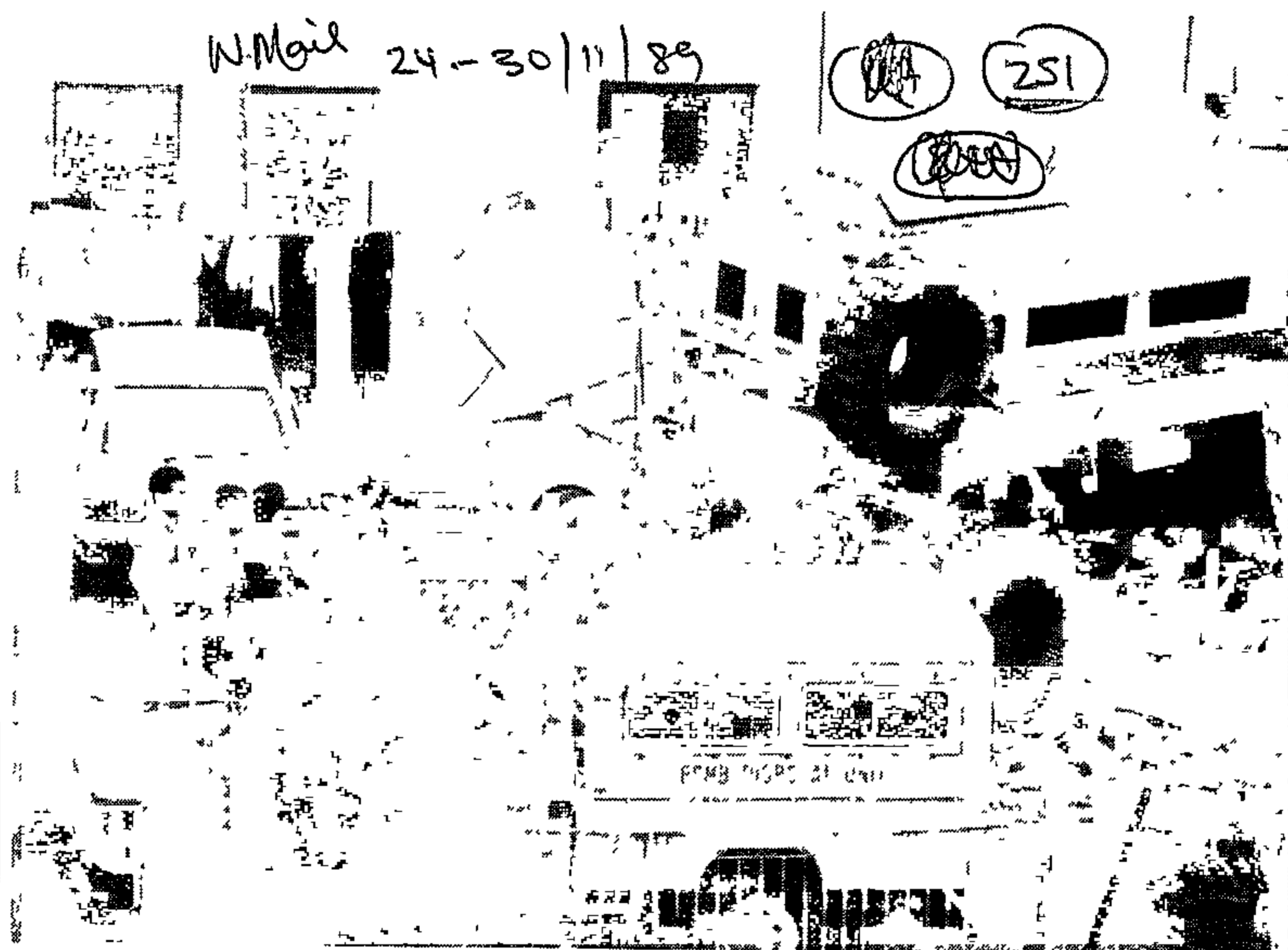
## Found guilty

He was tried for attempting to bring \$150 000 illegally into the country to avoid taxation, giving false evidence under oath, and illegally obtaining and releasing classified police information.

He was found guilty on all offences, but was not discharged.

An agreement was reached in terms of which a temporary suspension against him was withdrawn and he was reinstated. He was allowed to keep his rank and draw a pension after resigning on medical grounds. Captain Coetzee is a diabetic.





After a seven-hour gun battle with the police, ANC cadre Anton Fransch was killed in a grenade blast that severely damaged the Athlone house he was staying in

Picture: BENNY GOOL, Afrapix

# Trojan 13 'guilty of common purpose'

By GAYE DAVIS,  
Cape Town

IN an ironic twist, the prosecution of 13 security force members for the "Trojan Horse" killings depends on the same legal point that convicted the Sharpeville Six — the common purpose doctrine

Alternatively, the 12 policemen and a South African Defence Force member were guilty of culpable homicide — also in terms of the common purpose doctrine — because they caused the death of Shaun Magmoed, 16, through negligence

This was argued in the Cape Supreme Court this week by Jules Browde, SC, who said the Sharpeville Six trial had established that no causal connection had to be established between the conduct of an accused and the death of a person.

Thus the three senior police, railways police and defence force officers who devised the scheme could be held guilty even though they were not at the scene. So could the truck's driver, although he fired no shots

And although the prosecution could not establish which of the policemen fired the fatal shots, this too was not

necessary. Under common purpose, the action of each accused was imputed to each other, Browde said

The security force members are in the dock in terms of a private prosecution brought by the mother of Magmoed, who was one of three youths who died in the incident.

The trial entered its final stages this week after initially being repeatedly stalled by defence counsel objections to aspects of the proceedings

Browde described it as the "most extraordinary case" because no defence had been raised by any of the accused. The only intimation that police acted in self-defence or in order to make arrests lay in affidavits filed during an earlier inquest — and their truth had not been admitted by the accused

Browde argued that "when the accused set out on this adventure they knew the result of it was going to be death".

The operation — sending a government vehicle into an area troubled by unrest, knowing it might be stoned — was intended to elicit an attack

The fact that the hidden policemen were armed with shotguns, pistols and lethal ammunition meant the possibility of fatalities must have been foreseen

After travelling once down Thornton Road without incident, the truck turned and retraced its passage — deviating from its planned route

This amounted to a "very strong invitation — stone me and see what happens to you", Browde said.

Within seconds of the first stones hitting the truck, the policemen sprang up and started firing into the crowd — most of whom were bystanders, rather than stone-throwers

Although people immediately turned and fled, they continued to pump 39 rounds — 1 400 "lethal pellets" — into the crowd from close range without interruption

There was no warning, no attempt at identifying themselves or their purpose or even to leave the truck.

24-30/11/89

# Death squads: New calls for commission of inquiry

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

NEW calls for a judicial commission of inquiry into the allegations about a secret police hit squad were made yesterday by the leader of the Labour Party, Mr Allan Hendrickse, and the Democratic Party's justice spokesman, Mr David Dalling

In a letter to President F W de Klerk, Mr Hendrickse says that "an internal report at this stage will not placate the anger in certain quarters, nor the condemnation of the international world"

He added that he appreciated that Mr De Klerk was giving attention to the matter and had asked for a report from Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok.

In his statement, Mr Dalling said the mounting allegations against the police demanded a far more serious response from the government than a bureaucratic inquiry.

"Without casting aspersions on any of the people involved, it is wrong in principle for a police officer to investigate the police," he said

The present inquiry being held into death squad allegations by former police captain Mr Dirk Coetzee were reminiscent of the bureaucratic investigations appointed by the then-prime minister Mr John Vorster when the information scandal first surfaced, he said.

Only a full judicial commission of inquiry would carry the public confidence in this matter

Ex-mayor: <sup>CME Times 24/11/88</sup>  
Police chief <sup>(ZSI)</sup>  
threatened me

EAST LONDON — A former security policeman and mayor of East London, Mr Donald Card, has claimed the former Commissioner of Police, General Johan Coetzee, threatened him after he had said police had been involved in the Donald Woods "poison T-shirt" affair in 1978

Mr Card, an East London city councillor, said he was prepared to give evidence on the incident to the commission investigating claims of a police hit squad

General Coetzee could not be contacted for comment on Mr Card's allegations

The alleged threat, which Mr Card said was made at security police headquarters in East London, was first mentioned in a civil court case in 1983

Mr Card claimed he had angered the security police, for whom he had worked until 1970, when he investigated the incident where one of Donald Woods' children was injured after putting on a T-shirt which had been sent to the family

The T-shirt had contained a chemical, minhydrin, he said, and his investigation had shown police involvement. — Sapa

Death row cop could back <sup>CME Times 24/11/88</sup>  
police hit squad claims <sup>(ZSI)</sup>

JOHANNESBURG — Butana Almond Nofomela, the death row prisoner and self-confessed former South African Police murder squad member, told his lawyers where to find evidence at his home to corroborate his claims, including ammunition for a Soviet-made gun

The ammunition and other evidence found at his home included Makarov or Tokarev pistol bullets which had been submitted for forensic tests by Lawyers for Human Rights, according to the report of the Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression (IBIR) which was handed on Wednesday to the official committee probing hit squad claims

Other corroborating evidence mentioned in the IBIR report included the discovery at Nofomela's home of a passport in the name of Kenneth Kaiser Se-peng and hubcaps apparent-

ly belonging to a car stolen from UDF activist Mr Hoffman Galeng

Although a passport-size photograph of Nofomela was found detached from the travel document, when fitted into the passport it matched the government stamp in the passport. Significantly, the passport contains a Swaziland entry stamp dated May 31, 1986, but no exit stamp

Mr Galeng told investigators the hubcaps found at Nofomela's home were the same as those from his stolen vehicle, which was later found burnt

Nofomela said his orders at the time were either to kidnap Mr Galeng or steal his car. The latter crime was opted for when Mr Galeng failed to appear

The IBIR report made no mention of how the ammunition could be linked to hit squad activities but Nofomela's self-confessed commander, former police captain Mr

Dirk Coetzee, in an interview with the Vrye Weekblad said Makarov pistols among other weapons were used to murder government opponents

The report was presented to the official investigators by Professor John Dugard, Mr Peter Harris and Mr Brian Currin, head of the Lawyers for Human Rights group

Nofomela, convicted and sentenced to death for a murder apparently unrelated to the alleged hit squad's activities, was granted an 11th-hour stay of execution on October 19 so his claims could be investigated

Mr T P McNally, the Free State attorney-general, and a senior policeman were appointed by the government to investigate the claims, but calls have intensified for a judicial commission of inquiry into the matter since Mr Coetzee's revelations

President F W de Klerk has demanded a full report from Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok. — Sapa

# Brigadier denies *Arbus 24/11/8* 'hit squad' claims

*251*  
The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Brigadier J R van der Hoven, the former head of the security police in Durban, has denied the allegation that he ordered the killing of Durban civil rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge

Now on pension and living in the Middelburg suburb of Kankonkop, Brigadier Van der Hoven was responding yesterday to claims by former police Captain Dirk Coetzee

Captain Coetzee claimed Brigadier Van der Hoven had wanted Mr Mxenge eliminated because the police knew the ANC were using the lawyer to channel funds but could not prove it.

He also claimed the Durban security police chief wanted the killing to look like a robbery "because the police did not want another Biko incident".

## SUB JUDICE

Brigadier Van der Hoven said he would not comment any further on the allegations as the matter was sub judice.

He refused to say whether he had been contacted by the two-man inquiry into the "hit squad" disclosures

However he commented that he had believed the inquiry team "were capable men".

Brigadier Van der Hoven confirmed he had been head of the security police in Durban at the time of Mr Mxenge's death. Before that he was based in Middelburg.

Asked if the past week had been difficult for him, Brigadier Van der Hoven said it would have been if he were guilty "but as I'm not guilty I have nothing to worry about".

## RETIRED

He said he had been retired for two-and-a-half years and wanted to be left in peace

● Sapa reports from Gaborone that a South African national, believed by Botswana security officers to be a member of Pretoria's alleged "police hit squad", is to appear in the Gaborone High Court on a number of charges, including one of attempted murder.

The date of his appearance still has to be set.

The man was arrested in Gaborone last July after a shooting incident at a home in Broadhurst during the last week of June.

# Officer warned of Nuremburg style charges

By GAYE DAVIS,  
Cape Town

A SECURITY policeman was this week told he could face prosecution under international law for recognised "crimes against humanity and torture".

Dawid de Villiers, QC, defence counsel in the Yengeni trial in which 14 people are charged with terrorism and other Internal Security Act charges, interrupted his cross-examination of Warrant Officer Jeff Benzien to warn him his answers could incriminate him

It was not merely a question of complaints laid with police within South Africa, De Villiers said

Steps had been taken "on behalf of two of the accused with a view to the possibility of (Benzien's) prosecution outside the borders of this country on internationally recognised crimes against humanity and torture"

Defined after the Nuremberg war-crimes trials and ratified by the United Nations in 1946, crimes against humanity form part of international customary law Apartheid is deemed such a crime by the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, ratified by 86 nations.

Some countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom and South Africa, have rules of incorporation rendering international customary law part of their domestic law

In the view of legal experts, this gives them the jurisdiction to prosecute official torture, recognised by international customary as a crime

This means Benzien would not be able to leave South Africa without the threat of prosecution — or that he may face prosecution in South Africa at some much later date

In his evidence, Benzien has repeatedly denied allegations that he was guilty of torture

He denied jumping on the shattered leg of Bongani Jonas — who was shot on his arrest and who was recently sentenced to three years' for refusing to testify — or that Jonas pleaded to be taken to hospital

He said Jonas was co-operative and "seemed anxious" to point out arms caches in Khayelitsha, which was why police took him there first.

Questioned on the techniques employed by the Terrorist Detection Unit to extract information from suspected guerrillas, Benzien conceded that he became "aggressive" on the point of arrest but denied that he invariably played "bad guy" during Mutt and Jeff-type interrogations.

251  
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W Mail 24 - 30/11/89

# Rockman barred

251

## Not allowed to lay charge in the 'Plain

*Sowetan*  
*24/11/89*

**REBEL** policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman was yesterday refused entry to the Mitchell's Plain police station in Cape Town when he tried to lay a charge relating to his arrest after an allegedly illegal demonstration.

He, 11 prison warders, another policeman and three members of the public earlier appeared briefly in the Mitchell's Plain Magistrate's Court on charges relating to the demonstration

The demonstration was mounted by the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union of which Rockman is president, in

protest against an attempt by the police to transfer him from Mitchell's Plain to the police quartermaster's depot in Pinelands

They were not asked to plead and the case was remanded to January 10 for a decision from the Attorney-General.

### Assault

After the court appearance a group of spectators from the gallery danced and chanted at the Town Centre shopping area a short distance away, where the central plaza is known locally as Rockman Square

Rockman then went to the Mitchell's Plain police station to lay the charge of assault against policemen who arrested him last Monday. He was refused entry by policemen there

Lieutenant-Colonel Alwyn Burger, the new station commander, told him he should lay the charge elsewhere.

Rockman protested that the alleged offence had taken place in Mitchell's Plain.

He left shortly afterwards.

A Pretoria police spokesman confirmed yesterday that Rockman had been denied entry to

the Mitchell's Plain Police Station.

The police spokesman said Burger had issued orders that Rockman was not to be allowed on to the premises as he felt it was not in the interests of order and discipline in the police force to allow Rockman entry to his former station.

Burger said Rockman had the opportunity since last Monday to lay charges at any police station or to act through his attorney.

According to Burger, Rockman lived in the Strand and he could lay charges at the Strand Police Station. - Sapa.

*When she came back a cash prize (left) of 1000 rands.*

Says the wife of self-confessed leader of alleged police hit squad

# TRUTH TO

# COME OUT

251 Sowaan 24/11/89



## Birds' great night

NOEL "Mzala" Cousins and his Moroka Swallows teammate Calvin Petersen display the BoB Save Super Bowl trophy which their team captured in a mind-boggling 5-1 win against Double Action Sundowns at FNB Stadium on Wednesday night. Petersen scored twice while Cousins contributed by creating some of the goals which have also helped Swallows to scoop the R100 000 first prize

Pic MBUZENI ZULU

### SOWETAN Reporter and Sapa

THE wife of former police captain and self-confessed leader of an alleged police hit squad, Captain Dirk Coetzee says he is "standing for the truth" and is determined to "bring it all out" in the world Press.

Mrs Karin Coetzee said yesterday that her husband had telephoned from Europe on Wednesday night

"He is very lonely, I could hear that from his voice"

He was under a lot of strain but bearing up well

"I didn't even know he had started smoking again until I saw the photographs taken in Mauritius but now he has stopped again"

He was very hurt to hear the allegations against him by former associate Mr Johnny Bala who claimed this week that Coetzee was a "rogue policeman" who set up a massive whisky smuggling operation in Swaziland.

### Conference

"He said we had to expect this kind of thing but we were standing for the truth. He said he would still bring it all out in the world Press at an international Press conference."

Mrs Coetzee said her husband kept in touch with them regularly by telephone, but never spoke for long for fear of the call being traced

She said she and her two sons were coping well with the strain

"The boys have been wonderful, I really take off my hat to them. They love their father very much and have written him the nicest letters which we will post when we know where to send them"

She had no idea where her husband was and had no plans to join him "at this stage"

The family had received no nasty calls, only support and kindness "even from people I don't know, they just want to hug me"

• To page 2

P.T.O.

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# 'The truth will come out'

## ● From page 1

\*Butana Almond Nofomela, the Death Row prisoner and self-confessed former South African Police murder squad member, told his lawyers where to find evidence at his home which corroborated his claims, including ammunition for a Soviet-made gun.

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The IBIIR report made no mention of how the the ammunition could be linked to hit squad activities but Nofomela's self-confessed commander, Capt Dirk Coetzee, in his confession to the *Vrye Weekblad*, said Makarov pistols, among other weapons, were used to murder government opponents.

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Other corroborating

evidence mentioned in the IBIIR report included the discovery at Nofomela's home of a passport in the name of Kenneth Kaiser Sepeng and hubcaps apparently belonging to a car stolen from UDF activist Hoffman Galeng.

Although a passport-size photograph of Nofomela was found detached from the travel document, when fitted into the passport it matched the government stamp in the passport.

Significantly, the passport contains a Swaziland entry stamp dated May 31, 1986 but no exit stamp.

Galeng told investigators the hubcaps found at Nofomela's home were the same as those from his stolen vehicle which

was later found burnt.

Nofomela said his orders at the time were either to kidnap Galeng or steal his car. The latter crime was opted for when Galeng failed to appear.

Nofomela claims to have been involved in the assassinations of about eight alleged government opponents under police instruction, including the murder of civil rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge in Durban in 1981, and numerous kidnappings.

The IBIIR report said the statements submitted by Nofomela, Coetzee and a third self-confessed hit squad member, David Tshikalanga, substantially corroborated one another.

Both Coetzee and Tshikalanga have fled South Africa.

(25) (S)

## THE OLD THEORY THAT ASSASSINATIONS WERE THE WORK OF RIGHT-WING GROUPS IS BEING SWEEPED ASIDE ...

Operations can include the sabotage/doctored of discovered arms or supply caches. The resultant difficulties will sap confidence and morale as well as creating distrust between the insurgency and its suppliers. Such operations should not, however, be overdone so as to avoid creating suspicion. They could range from doctored foodstuffs, via mixing petrol with paraffin for lamps and tampering with medical

supplies, to the placing of instant detonation fuses in, for example, every 10th handgrenade, etc.

The preference here would be to the infliction of illness or injury, not death, the former having the added advantage of sapping morale and straining logistics.

The intelligence services can also create some havoc by the supplying of false information, particularly the type to create mistrust. Thus a leader of the insurgency

could be made to appear as a police-informer by, for instance paying him more or less secretly, or, less subtly by rewarding him publicly ....

"Further, some extra-legal operations may prove beneficial both in eliminating certain key members of the insurgency and in sowing suspicion. Needless to say such operations would need to be suitably disguised ..."

— Helmoed-Romer Heitman: "Some Possibilities in Counter-Insurgency Operations, in *Militaire*, 1977

### Coincidence? Twelve-year-old military advice that may have been heeded

TWELVE years ago leading South African military writer Helmoed-Romer Heitman offered detailed advice to members of the intelligence services on how to carry out "extra legal operations".

Whether by coincidence or design much of what he suggested in his 1977 article has come to pass with devastating effect for its victims.

Heitman, now an SADF captain, is South Africa's correspondent for the prestigious Western defence journal

*Jane's Defence Weekly*, and writes regularly for publications ranging from *Frontline* magazine to SADF-linked journals. He is the author of *South Africa's War Machine*.

Earlier this month Duduza activist Solomon Kgopi was blown to pieces after a grenade, suspected of having been rigged with an instant detonation fuse, exploded in his hands.

Eight activists from the East Rand townships of Duduza, Tsakane and kwaThema were killed as a result of

booby-trapped grenades exploding in their hands on June 25 1985.

Seven others were injured in the incidents and were later tried and convicted for possession of grenades and attempted murder. Six of them were sentenced to 30 months imprisonment, 14 months of which were suspended.

All of them expressed the belief that they were "set up" by informers posing as members of the ANC.

According to self-confessed death squad leader Captain Dirk Coetzee poisoning was one of the methods used by the SA Police in dealing with ANC suspects.

He said bottles of whiskey were injected with poison prepared by the police forensic department and sent to Maputo to be given to ANC members and that an ANC suspect in detention in Port Elizabeth was poisoned.

Gavin Evans

SUPPORT for police assassination squads has come from the commanding heights of South Africa's security forces. That, at least, is the implication of the separate accounts of death-squad actions by former policemen Captain Dirk Coetzee, Butana Nofomela and David Tshikalange.

Past assumptions that assassinations were carried out by civilian right-wingers or "rogues" within the security forces are being swept aside by the sudden flood of new allegations which implicate senior officers.

Coetzee's account names former police commissioner General Johann Coetzee as approving the hit squad murders and both Coetzee and Nofomela name recently retired police Brigadier Willem Schoon as the man behind several of the slayings.

According to Coetzee, another senior police officer involved was Lieutenant-General Lothar Neethling, head of the South African Forensic Bureau, which is said to have prepared the poisoned whiskey allegedly sent to ANC members in Maputo.

Also named was former police spy, and current National Party President's Councillor Major Craig Williamson, who Captain Coetzee said, told him that security police were responsible for the letter-bomb murder of ANC member Ruth First.

All four former policemen have categorically denied the assassination allegations, although General Coetzee has admitted that the account of a security police kidnapping of a Swazi-based ANC member may be true.

The heat is now on the police to bring the death-squad activities to an abrupt halt. Local and international attention focused on the Coetzee case has ensured that further assassinations are likely to be blamed on the police — even if they are not responsible.

The Nofomela affidavits and the Coetzee and Tshikalange "confessions" are by no means the first evidence of hit-squad activity. Over the past 18 months evidence of direct police and army sanction for such activities has steadily emerged in a number of trials and inquests.

But it is only now, with the claims of the three policemen, that the pat-



Le Grange: not concerned



Vlok: take out activists



Malan: unconventional methods

## Hit-squad clues could be seen long before Coetzee

tern is becoming clear. Previous allegations include.

●The first evidence of the existence of "Askari" death squads organised and led by police officers, was revealed in the Yengeni ANC trial in Cape Town earlier this year.

Explaining why he refused to testify as a state witness, detainee Bongani Jonas told the court that police attempted to recruit him into an "Askari" group whose task was "to go around the townships acting on information of the security police ... and seek out and kill their former colleagues".

He said such teams existed in Pretoria, East London and the Eastern Cape and a further group was being set up in Cape Town.

Last week Captain Coetzee referred to a Pretoria "Askari" group, made up of captured former ANC members, who were involved in political assassinations. This prompted the police to acknowledge the existence of the Vlakplaas base for captured guerrillas, but they denied these squads were involved with assassinations.

●The Parsons Commission of

*Evidence of hit-squad activity has mounted steadily over the past 18 months in a series of court cases and inquests. What the Dirk Coetzee allegations have done is give shape to the jigsaw.*

GAVIN EVANS

*traces the emerging patterns*

Inquiry into the kwaNdebele unrest, which is still hearing evidence, was recently told that the homeland's former police commissioner, Brigadier Hertzog Lerm, placed a tyre around the neck of a man, poured oil over his head and instructed his underlings to set him alight.

Collins Mahlangu, a member of the Ndzundza royal family, told the commission the incident took place on May 12, 1987 after he failed to reveal the whereabouts of his activist brother. His clothes caught fire but he survived the attack.

In the same hearing, Lebowa Police Commissioner Brigadier JJ de Swardt said Lerm obtained a cabinet

order forbidding the Joint Operations Centre of the security forces from acting against the Mbokhoto, the right-wing vigilante groups which conducted a reign of terror in the region.

The JOC wanted to investigate a large Mbokhoto camp because they had evidence that a large arms cache was hidden there, De Swardt said.

●In the 1988 murder trial of police Sergeant Robert van der Merwe evidence was heard how police accepted the activities of death squads.

Van der Merwe said he had not hesitated to kill two men he believed had ANC links "because I knew it happened before".

He explained that on the night of the July 1987 Swaziland murder of ANC leader Cassius Make and two others he had been on the Swazi border and had overheard a team of security policemen discussing plans for the assassinations.

●Support for the view that such activities on the part of the security forces had official support was provided by P W Botha's decision to issue a certificate preventing the prosecution of six South African soldiers accused of murdering Swapo leader Immanuel Shufidi.

It emerged at the inquest that over 50 members of the defence force's 101 Batatahon had been ferried to Windhoek with the express purpose of disrupting a Swapo meeting.

Shufidi was stabbed to death. Four white officers — two colonels, a commandant and a lieutenant — a black corporal and a black private were charged with murder. Since the incident one of the men has been promoted to brigadier.

●An SADF approach to covert actions came to light in September

last year when the defence force was interdicted by the Cape Supreme Court from illegally harassing the End Conscription Campaign.

The SADF admitted involvement in a variety of illegal incidents aimed at smearing the ECC. One of them was using a helicopter to drop pamphlets in the name of the "anti-Liberal Alliance" at an ECC fair. Defence Minister Magnus Malan had earlier told parliament the SADF had not been involved in the incident.

The SADF described the operations, controlled by its Communications Operations Division at Western Province Command headquarters, as "legitimate counter-measures". Lieutenant General Jan van Loggerenberg justified the covert campaign on the basis that the SADF was on a "war footing".

Addressing Pretoria University's Institute for Strategic Studies last year General Malan said South Africa had to use "unconventional methods" to achieve its aims. "Like others we do not talk about them," he added.

In similar vein Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok told a 1988 National Party meeting that it was government policy to "take out" activists.

Even more remarkable was a report this week of the response of the Speaker of the House, Louis le Grange to Coetzee's allegations.

Le Grange, who was Law and Order Minister at the time of the assassinations, was reported to have said, "It does not concern me now and it did not concern me" and that "I have absolutely no comment to make".

A Department of Military Intelligence booklet circulated to state officials last year explains that among the keys to "defeating the enemy" was the "annihilation/neutralisation of the enemy political organisation".

A suggestion that De Klerk may be concerned about such an approach is provided by Mozambican Prime Minister Mario Machungo. He was quoted last week as saying that De Klerk promised his government that "the commanding levels" of the SADF would be "reshuffled" to ensure its ties with the MNR were broken.

De Klerk and Malan have since denied the truth of the report and insist that SADF support for the MNR has ceased.

Until 1984 the government denied all support for the MNR. However, in 1984, Foreign Minister Pik Botha tacitly acknowledged he had previously lied about this, and admitted that such support had occurred, but had been brought to an end by the Nkomati Accord.

One of Nofomela's affidavits is believed to state that MNR personnel were sometimes based at the Vlakplaas "Askari" base for the alleged death squads. This has been denied by SA Police PR chief General Herman Stadler.

### AN INCREASING NUMBER OF ASSASSINATIONS

IN the six months since the murder of Dr David Webster the rate of assassinations, murder attempts, death threats and political vandalism aimed at anti-apartheid individuals has grown, according to the Human Rights Commission.

Between February and August this year at least 10 activists were assassinated while between April and October this year 23 attempted assassinations were recorded by the HRC. No arrests have been made.

"There is a great deal of frustration within the security apparatus, and I'm afraid we're seeing expressions of this in a wide range of illegal activities", said HRC representative Dr Max Coleman.

But human rights activists are hopeful that the rifts opened by the current spate of allegations will grow — and that further evidence of security force atrocities will emerge.

HRC figures show that between 1977 and August 1989 at least 49

political activists were assassinated and another 10 were abducted or have disappeared.

Since 1985 there have been at least 163 attempted assassinations and there have been over 200 recorded incidents of political vandalism, death threats and other forms of harassment aimed at anti-apartheid activists.

According to the Community Resources Information Centre, in the 11 years up to last April 61 anti-apartheid exiles were assassinated.

## LP objects to new M' Plain police chief

*Capt. Tait's* Political Staff *25/11/81* *251*

THE Labour Party, the ruling party in the House of Representatives, yesterday objected to the appointment of a former senior member of the riot squad, Colonel Alwyn Burger, as commander of the police station in Mitchells Plain.

"We believe this is being insensitive to the feelings of the community," the LP leader, Mr Allan Hendrickse, said in a statement.

"As a party, we object to the appointment of a riot squad policeman."

He disclosed that he had sent a letter to Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Volk, asking him to reconsider Colonel Burger's appointment.

Mr Hendrickse met Mr Vlok last week to discuss the issue of the command of the Mitchells Plain police station.



# Policeman denies threat to kill suspect

*McGee  
24/11/89*

By LINDA GALLOWAY  
Supreme Court Reporter

SECURITY policeman Warrant Officer Jeffrey Benzien has denied that he wrapped a terrorism suspect in a blanket after telling him that he had come to kill him, assaulted him and then took him to a restaurant in Bloubergstrand

The policeman denied the allegations while under cross-examination by Mr DP de Villiers QC during the Yengeni terrorism trial in the Cape Supreme Court

Mr De Villiers put it to Warrant Officer Benzien that in May 1987 he had interrogated terrorism suspect Ashley Forbes and assaulted and threatened him several times

## "Bloodshot eyes"

Warrant Officer Benzien denied the allegations.

He labelled as "lies" the allegation by Forbes that one night the policeman had gone to him "with bloodshot eyes and wild hair" as though he had been drinking and had said "I have not come to question you, I have come to kill you"

He denied that he had strug-

gled to roll Forbes in a blanket and, with the help of Captain William Liebenberg, had rolled him up in the blanket, knelt on his back and tried to smother him with a wet towel

"It never happened," he told the court

He also denied having put a plastic bag full of water over Forbes's head

He confirmed he and another policeman had taken Forbes to a restaurant in Bloubergstrand late that night, because they were on their way to Saldanha, but decided to go the following day instead, and were hungry

Warrant Officer Benzien strenuously denied allegations by Forbes, put to him by Mr De Villiers, that the policeman had used the plastic bag full of water on more than one occasion, or that he had given Forbes electric shocks

He denied that he had refused to allow him to use the toilet for long periods or had denied him meals, and said that instead he had "gone out of my way" to provide Forbes with food

He also denied having sat opposite Forbes on a stool or hav-

ing punched him and burst his ear drum, stuck his fingers up Forbes's nostrils, strangled him until his neck was bruised or hit his head against a wall until he lost consciousness

Told by Mr De Villiers that Forbes had said the policeman had then taken him on a trip to Mossel Bay to keep him out of Cape Town where people could see his injuries, Warrant Officer Benzien said he had travelled extensively with Forbes, to the Eastern and Southern Cape, the Transkei and the Botswana border during the course of the investigation

Forbes and 14 others were tried on charges of terrorism last year and he was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment

The hearing continues.

The trialists are Mr Tony Yengeni, Miss Jennifer Schreiner, Mrs Lumka Yengeni, Mr Michael Lumbambo, Mr Mbutu Nduku, Mr Wellington Nkwandla, Mr Mtheteleli Titana, Mr Gary Kruser, Mr Christopher Giffard, Mr Sitlabocha Mahlale, Mr Alpheus Ndude, Ms Gertrude Fester, Ms Zurayah Abass and Mrs Colleen Lombard

*CAPT. TRIPS 24/11/87*

# Public packs court for Rockman's appearance

*JS1* *(initials)* *(initials)* Court Reporter *(initials)*

MITCHELLS PLAIN Magistrate's Court was packed with members of the public and prison warders yesterday when suspended policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman and 15 others appeared in connection with an alleged illegal gathering in Mitchells Plain Town Centre last week.

The 16, 11 of whom are suspended prison warders, were arrested after a protest march by the newly-formed Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), headed by Lt Rockman.

They were not asked to plead and the hearing was postponed till January 10 when the attorney-general's decision regarding prosecution will be made known

(251)

wmail 24-30/11/89

# Rockman can't lay his charges

AFTER a brief appearance in court yesterday Lieutenant Gregory Rockman tried to lay a charge of his own — but was denied entry to the Mitchells Plain police station

A Pretoria police representative said the new station commander, Lieutenant Alwyn Burger, had ordered that Rockman not be allowed on the premises of his former station.

The controversial policeman's appearance — and that of 11 Pollsmoor Prison warders, a police sergeant and three civilians — was a sequel to their arrest last week during a demonstration in Mitchells Plain

No charges were put to Rockman or the other defendants, who are being tried separately. The case was postponed until January 10 for the attorney-general's decision

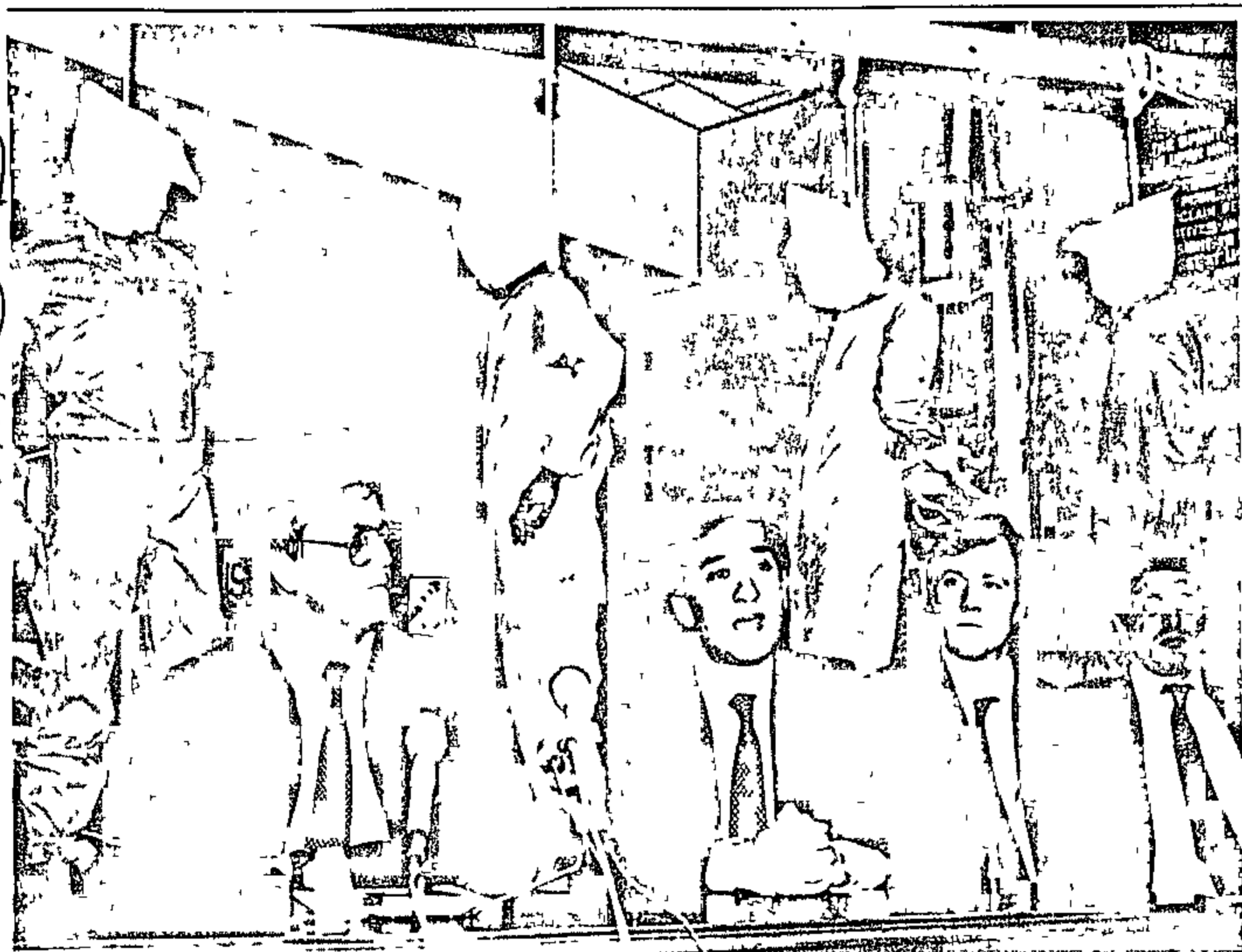
**BLOODY WAR**  
**ON THE LABOUR FRONT**  
 Guns and knives in the worst-ever labour strife  
**PAGES 6 to 8**

# Hit-squad spotlight on Coetzee successor

**Botswana to try 'hit squad' man**  
 A SOUTH AFRICAN believed by Botswana authorities to be a member of a "hit squad" is to appear in a Gaborone court. The man, who was arrested in Gaborone, is alleged to have been involved in a shooting incident in which a Botswana citizen was wounded. He is being held in Gaborone.

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 WMOA  
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wma 24-30/11/89



Beneath a menacing line of dangling plastic 'corpses', human rights lawyers call for an end to the death penalty this week. Picture ULLI MICHEL, Reuter

**By IVOR POWELL and CARMEL RICKARD**  
**M**AJOR Eugene Alexander de Kock, the man who succeeded Dirk Coetzee as head of an alleged security police "death squad", is named in two inquests linking him to nine deaths.  
 De Kock, who was transferred from Koevoet in Namibia to take over the police anti-terrorist unit in Pretoria when Coetzee left the force in 1983 has emerged at the centre of the complex web of alleged "hit squad" activities.  
 He has been linked to a number of deaths, including the shooting of a man at point blank range to prevent him from identifying De Kock and his accomplices and two ambushes that resulted in nine fatalities. When asked by an inquest court looking into one of these ambushes whether he had done this type of operation before, he answered "yes".  
 De Kock, a policeman for 21 years, has been called as a witness in one inquest and is due to be called in another in which the murders of African National Congress-connected activists by security police "anti-terrorist" units are being investigated. In both there are accusations that the unit set out to kill, rather than capture, their victims.  
 In both, De Kock is named as the field commander who set up ambushes which went wrong, leading to the killings.  
 The first incident relates to a police killing in Chesterville in 1986, when four youths were killed, the other arises from an incident near Piet Retief on the Swaziland border in June last year when youths crossing the border were shot dead. De Kock is alleged to have participated personally in the Piet Retief incident.  
 Commenting on his style of operation, De Kock told the Piet Retief inquest court that he did not need to report to any senior officer, as it was expected of him to use his own initiative and responsibility.  
 He said that between 1968 and 1972, he had received training in Zimbabwe, then Rhodesia, attending various courses run by the Special Air Services, and that in 1968 he participated in a counter-insurgency training course run by the South African Police at Buffelshoek.  
 In 1981 he attended a course in explosives and was appointed a sub-instructor in explosives.  
 At a press conference held by the Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression on Wednesday, De Kock was named in new affidavits by the former security policeman on death row, Almond Nofomela, as a murderer.

De Kock as 'hit squad' boss is linked to 9 deaths

SIX death row prisoners had their sentences overturned this week in two judgements that place serious question marks around the functioning of the legal system.  
 In the retrial — called on purely procedural grounds — of the "Queenstown 5", a different court and a different judge reduced five death sentences to terms of less than two years imprisonment.  
 A sixth accused died of TB while on death row.  
 In the second case Paulos Maseko was released from death row after the Appeal Court found that the original judge had acted in a seemingly prejudiced and partial manner.  
 Three Appeal Court judges found that Acting Justice WJ Human had acted in such a way as to make it seem he had rejected Maseko's evidence and closed his thoughts to the possible innocence of Maseko before the trial was concluded.  
 Justice Human is the same judge who convicted the Sharpeville 6 on a "necklacing" charge. Their death sentences have also been overturned.  
 In the original trial, Human had told Maseko,

## From death row to light sentences for 6 convicts

when the latter was giving evidence, to hurry up so the court could get the trial over and done with.  
 In the East London trial an important precedent was set — one which is expected to have important implications for next week's appeal in the "Delmas treason trial", which involves senior United Democratic Front leaders, and

for "necklace" cases in general.  
 This arises from the decision of the judge to admit as extenuation the principle of deindividuation in relation to certain extreme forms of crowd behaviour.  
 In the deindividuated state, the individual becomes an anonymous — and therefore only partially responsible — part of a group.  
 Lawyers have pointed to the wide-ranging effects of the judgement — they believe it is likely to have legal implications for scores of people on death row convicted for their part in mob killings.  
 "The judgement has important implications for human rights law and it could indicate a change in attitude to 'political crime' It bears directly on the current debate about capital punishment," said a human rights lawyer.  
 The "Queenstown trial" this week was the second time the men were tried for the murder of Noshopho Zamela in Mlungisi, near Queenstown.  
 The five were originally sentenced to death in 1987. However, their convictions and sentences were set aside by the appeal court on the basis of the judgement.  
 ●To PAGE 2

**MURDEROUS POL POT'S FAIRY GODMOTHERS IN THE WEST** Pages 18 & 19

# Spotlight moves to Coetzee successor

According to Nofomela, De Kock shot Krugersdorp Building Society security guard Japie Moponye at the security police training centre at Vlakplaas outside Pretoria after the two had interrogated him. Moponye, whose brother was a member of the ANC, had committed no crime, but would have been able to identify De Kock and Nofomela as having assaulted him.

Moponye's brother Odrie Andries Moponye was a bomber who blew himself up at Sterland in Pretoria last year. His was one of the three photographs found at Nofomela's home and published three weeks ago in the *Weekly Mail*.

It was allegedly on De Kock's orders that Nofomela arrested Japie Moponye at his place of employment at a Krugersdorp branch of the United Building Society and transported him to the Vlakpaas base.

There De Kock, Nofomela and two other black policemen assaulted and interrogated Moponye, but without extracting any information regarding his brother's movements.

According to Nofomela, De Kock dismissed the other two policemen,

and when Nofomela said the Moponye might be able to recognise him, De Kock said the man needed to be disposed of and shot Moponye in the head with a silenced pistol.

According to Nofomela, De Kock then wrapped the body in plastic and placed it in the boot of his car. This was the last Nofomela saw of the body.

According to papers before the Natal inquests, De Kock was in charge of the unit sent to Durban from Pretoria, which resulted in the death of four Chesterville youths in 1986. In that case the inquest has been told the police infiltrated the group and "intended to arrest" the youths. However, the plan went wrong: believing they heard a shot fired at them, the police began shooting. Some 90 shots later, four youths were dead and two hurt. Lawyers appearing for the families have questioned whether the intention of the police was to arrest — or simply to kill.

De Kock was also directly in charge of a unit which carried out an operation in Piet Retief last year.

Here again the inquest court has been told the police "intended to arrest" the youths. However, once again the plan went wrong. De Kock claims one of the passengers in a car the police were ambushing rolled down a window and fired a shot at him. He and the other police with him returned fire and all four occupants of the car were killed.

In this case, too, lawyers for the families have questioned whether the intention of the police was to "arrest using minimum force".

The Piet Retief inquest is due to resume on Tuesday.

Before it recessed, De Kock said he received information from a senior member of the ANC that armed ANC members were due to cross the border. He arranged for Silulam Gladstone Mose, a former ANC trainee, now a lieutenant in the SAP, to meet the group on the South African side of the border posing as an ANC "contact". Mose then drove the death vehicle into the ambush.

Asked by counsel for the families why he used Mose in the operation, De Kock said Mose was a specialist in some aspects of the ANC and that he had acquired this knowledge "through personal research". He later conceded that Mose was a former member of the ANC who was arrested "on a mission" in the 1970s.

Evidence has also emerged that members of "Askari" — a unit of defectors from the ANC to the SAP who have been directly implicated in the hit squads — have been used in Transkei.

In particular, Mose and another "Askari" member, Xolelwa Virginia Shosha, who was involved in the Chesterville incident, were among those implicated in the "attempted arrest" of Batandwa Ndondo in Transkei from his home in Cala in September 1985.

● Alleged members of police death squads have gone to ground in the face of independent investigations into the allegations of death squad former policemen Almond Nofomela and Captain Dirk Coetzee.

Jeffrey Bosego, named in Nofomela's second affidavit as an assassination colleague, has disappeared suddenly and a Shoshanguve security policeman has gone underground.

● According to reports in the Swaziland press, Coetzee was named in a 1981 Swazi letter-bombing which came to trial on March 4, 1981. Coetzee and three others were accused in connection with the death by letter bomb of a Swazi citizen and suspected ANC member named Duma.

However the accused were released on R800 bail, and the trial was never resumed.

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www 24-30/11/89



# 'ANC trying to besmirch me'

CMT Tuis 2/11/89

(251)

Supreme Court Reporter

CROSS-EXAMINATION of a security policeman in the Yengeni trial took an unexpected turn yesterday when Warrant Officer Jeff Benzien accused the ANC of initiating a campaign to intimidate him and besmirch his name because he was responsible for the death of highly-regarded ANC guerilla Ashley Kriel

He vowed, however, that he would remain with the Terrorists Detection Unit (TDU) and continue his task of arresting guerillas and bringing them before court

During his cross-examination by Mr D P de Villiers, QC, for the defence, about allegations that he had put a wet bag over suspects' heads, WO Benzien said serious allegations, which received wide publicity, had been made.

Serious allegations, which he had denied, had been made on Thursday when his name ap-

## WO vows to carry on task

peared on posters at a placard demonstration. In his opinion that was "absolute blackening" of his name

He denied that at times he had shown signs that he had lost self-control and said his temper was that of an average man

Told that TDU commander Captain William Liebenberg had said in reply to a question by Mr Justice S Selkowitz that he (Benzien) was the member of the unit who had the "shortest temper", WO Benzien replied the captain was entitled to his opinion

Mr De Villiers put it to him that there had been a system and an

understanding between members of the unit that he was held out as the ogre and that suspects who refused to co-operate would be handed over to him, Mr De Villiers said.

WO Benzien denied this and further denied being responsible for intimidation, serious assaults and torture of suspects

Asked by Mr De Villiers why people would give false evidence against him, WO Benzien said: "It would appear that the TDU had become an absolute threat to the ANC in the Western Cape. The purpose of the ANC was to intimidate members of the unit and to have them declared unreliable witnesses

"The repetition of this rubbish in court would spur members (of the TDU) to ask for a transfer rather than listen to these lies day after day. Should any of the members crack under this deliberate intimidation then the ANC would have succeeded in its aims," WO Benzien said

The trial continues on Monday.



Lt Gregory Rockman — the founder of Popercu.

# Restrictions

## now lifted House is no longer a 'trunk'

*Press 20/11/89*

THE Prisons Service has lifted the "house arrest" imposed on 11 warders, most of whom are members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union and who have launched a court application against their suspension from duty.

The application came before a Cape Town Supreme Court judge on Thursday, but was postponed to December 1 to enable lawyers for the State to file answering affidavits.

It was also learned on Thursday that Popercu vice-president, Prisons Warrant Officer John Jansen, plans to apply for an interdict against his suspension and an attempt by the Pollsmoor authorities to transfer him from the Westlake Training College, where he is an instructor, to the prison workshop.

The suspensions and restrictions on the 11 warders, which Popercu president Lt Gregory Rockman described as "virtual house arrest", were imposed after

they participated in an allegedly illegal demonstration

They were told they could not leave their quarters without permission and that they had to report to the commanding officer of Pollsmoor Prison every day.

It is understood that the "house arrest" clause was lifted from Wednesday on the instruction of the Commissioner of Prisons.

The instruction was issued after the application was launched.

The 11 are, however, still obliged to report each day.

It is also understood that they will receive their November salaries up to November 13, the day on which they were suspended, instead of having it suspended for the whole month.

Lt Rockman said on Thursday "This is a victory for Popercu. We are gaining ground" — Sapa



Lt Rockman carried shoulder-high. "We are gaining ground," he says.

...IP VOIV

# Woman sues Vlok after armed police failed to stop husband's death

CP Correspondent

(25)

A HANOVER woman is suing the Minister of Law and Order for R120 595 because police allegedly failed to prevent her husband being stabbed to death during unrest in 1985

Nonkuthalo Nkumbi told the Grahamstown Supreme Court her husband Albert was killed when a crowd attacked their home as they were transporting furniture to a temporary village for refugees

At the time he was employed as a clerk in the personnel department of Sasol II in Secunda and visited his wife and four children twice a year at their Hanover home

On these occasions he often received a lift with a fellow employee at Sasol, who was alleged to be a police informer

During the height of the unrest in December 1985, police in the small eastern Cape town erected a tent village for refugees near the police station

Nkumbi, weary of his association with an alleged police informer, decided to stay in this village

His wife, however, continued living in the township until she decided the situation was unbearable and advised her husband that she and their children should also move.

Nkumbi twice approached the police to accompany him into the township to fetch his belongings.

At the third request on December 24, three policemen in a police vehicle accompanied Nkumbi and his wife - who were travelling in a bakkie belonging to the East Cape Development Board - to his house in Kwezi township

While one of the policemen, a Constable Nelani, helped Nkumbi load belongings on to the bakkie, the other two armed policemen stood outside

The court heard how a crowd of 300 people gathered outside the house and threw stones and issued threats against the two white policemen.

The heavily armed policemen did nothing as they felt there was no danger

When the bakkie had been loaded, W/Officer Hattingh told Nelani to accompany the vehicle to the refugee camp

After the bakkie left, the crowd became larger and more hostile and the two policemen decided to sit in their own vehicle.

They soon decided to leave the area as



Adriaan Vlok

they thought the situation was becoming threatening.

After the policemen had driven away, Nkumbi tried to run from the crowd, but was caught, stoned and repeatedly stabbed.

The two policemen returned to the scene with two other policemen 30 minutes later and told Nelani, who had also come back to the house, that they had received a report that Nkumbi had been stabbed

An ambulance was called for Nkumbi but he died shortly afterwards.

His widow, who earns R38 a month as a domestic servant, is now claiming R120 595 in damages for loss of support and maintenance for herself and her four children.

In papers before the court she alleges the three armed policemen at the scene had a duty to protect her husband in terms of the Police Act.

She has also claimed the police were negligent in leaving her husband in the hands of the mob.

The court has reserved judgment on the facts of the case. However, the parties concerned have agreed that Nkumbi should receive the full amount if her claim succeeds.

26/11/89  
C. Press

# Court told of bomb trips

RIOT police hit a former student leader with a rifle butt, threatened to kill him and tried to force him to say "I am a kaffir," the Cape Town Regional Court heard this week.

Phumzile Simelela, 20, of Langa, who won a damages claim against the Minister of Law and Order after the event, said this during evidence in mitigation of sentence after pleading guilty to and being convicted of terrorism.

The former chairman of the Langa High School SRC said he was on his way to a scout meeting in 1985 when he was grabbed by policemen in a Buffel and assaulted, behind some bushes.

Simelela said he was 18 when he was approached by a man called Solly who, after showing him a hand-grenade, invited him to accompany him to Lesotho.

He was "curious" about the things Solly was showing him and was excited at the prospect of seeing another country for the first time.

When they were in Lesotho, Solly procured three limpet mines and stored one of them at Simelela's home on their return.

Simelela, who was arrested on July 29 last year, said "I would not have used it. I do not like the use of violence for political goals, but I understand the people who do."

He was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act for nine months before being charged with terrorism and released on R2 000 bail.

Two expert witnesses, a University of Cape Town psychologist, Cora de Villiers, and UCT's social sciences dean, Prof Martin West, told the court Simelela was a highly compassionate, bright young man who passed Std 10 at the age of 17.

He had a good understanding of the socio-economic problems of township blacks.

West also criticised the report of a probation officer, Ilse Dahms, who argued against a community service sentence for Simelela on the grounds that he might be a danger to the community.

The hearing continues on Monday. — Sapa

C. Press  
26/1/89

# Police in identity parade

251

C. Press  
26/11/89

By JAPIE MOKWEO

THERE was drama at the Tembisa police station on the East Rand this week when 56 municipal policemen lined up in an identity parade before a young woman.

After a few minutes Patience Khubeka, 23, identified one of them.

He allegedly kicked her while she was pregnant. As a result she gave birth to stillborn twins, the identity parade was told.

Later East Rand police spokeswoman Lt Ida van

Zweel told *City Press*: "We have already forwarded the report to the Attorney-General."

The policeman is continuing his duties while he waits for the AG's decision on whether he will be prosecuted.

Later Kubheka said "The moment I saw his face, I became numb as it reminded me of my twin daughters."

At the time of the alleged assault, she was among 5 000 homeless residents holding a demonstration after their shacks were demolished



**Patience Khubeka**  
... lost her twins.

by council policeman near Oakmoor station, Tembisa.

She was rushed to Tembisa Hospital where she gave birth to dead twins on arrival.

# HOW WE KILL

KILLED BY

# ASKARI

'The Askaris did not get any training on Vlakplaas. But they were teaching each other tricks and things were passed on.'

# HIT-MAN

## Things they learned were twisting knives and 'cutting to the bone'

By DESMOND BLOW

**A MEMBER of the SAP death squad told this week how he was taught to twist the knife when he stabbed somebody in order to make the wound bigger.**

He also learned to cut to the bone when he slit a victim's throat

These statements were made to

Vrye Weekblad journalist Jacques Pauw by former Askari David "Spyker" Tshikalange shortly before he followed his former commander, Capt Dirk Coetzee, into exile. (See full report Page 5)

Tshikalange became the second corroborator of allegations about a hit squad which assassinated through shootings, stabbings, car bombs, letter-bombs, and poisonings - first disclosed by condemned killer Almond Nofemela

Head of the two-man team investigating Nofemela's allegations,

Free State Attorney-General Tim McNally, told City Press yesterday the probe would be completed on schedule this week and that a report would be forwarded to Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok

President FW de Klerk has demanded a full report from Vlok. It is expected that he will be given the investigators' findings as soon as they are handed to Vlok and Coetzee

McNally said: "We have seen all the witnesses we think necessary" His statement appeared to indicate

his finding would be that there was enough evidence to prove the existence of an SAP hit squad.

This week SAP public relations head and former Security Branch chief Gen Herman Stadler conceded on television that a hit squad could exist. But if it did, he said, it was

## New claims point to killer squad's existence

Established that men who gave evidence on the murder of four Chester-vill youths were also named by Nofemela

from Hoffman Galeng, which supported Nofemela's claims of a failed attempt on Galeng's life in Vryburg in 1984; and

ed in a Swaziland raid in 1983 in which two suspected ANC members died. Obtained a statement

From Page 1  
Traced medical records of an alleged hit squad member who Nofemela had said was wounded

without senior officers' knowledge or backing.

Also this week, East London city councillor and former security policeman Donald Card alleged that former Police Commissioner Gen Johan Coetzee threatened him after he accused police of being involved in the Donald Woods "poison t-shirt" affair in 1978.

In a report handed to McNally this week the Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression this week claimed it had.

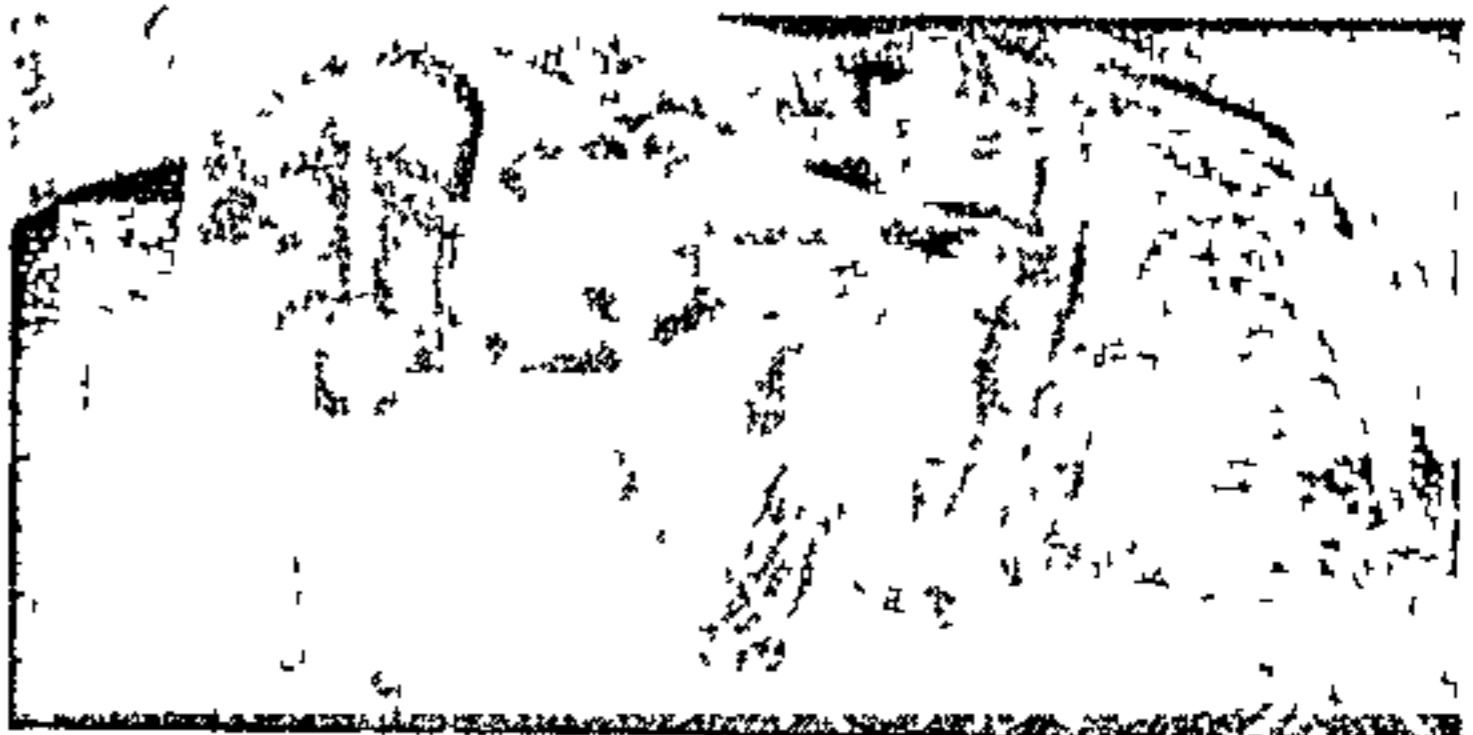
To Page 5

# Rogue cop Coetzee phones the Sunday Times

# IT'S NOT OK TO BURN!

S. JAMES 26/11/89

951



CAPTAIN DIRK COETZEE

## ANC IN EARLY MOVES FOR TALKS

DRIES VAN HEERDEN Lusaka

THE ANC has begun positioning itself for negotiations with the Government once preconditions for such talks have been met. What is more, several of its spokesmen are privately conceding that Pretoria has already gone a long way towards meeting those preconditions. Senior members of the exiled organisation in Lusaka said this week that the ANC was serious about its commitment to a negotiated settlement in South Africa. "Once our conditions have been met, there is no reason why we should not become involved in the

## Rude Mr World snubs 'banned' Michelle in TV beauty dust-up



GRIM Eric Morley, as caught by TV camera



By DE WET POTGIETER

RUNAWAY ex-security cop Dirk Coetzee made a dramatic phone call to the Sunday Times yesterday from a hideout which he claimed was "somewhere in Africa".

He said he wanted to let South Africa know that he stood by his claims of secret police death squads and to repudiate police attempts to discredit him through "smear tactics".

He said he was preparing to come out into the open at an international news conference soon.

When asked where he was phoning from — the line was very clear — Coetzee said he had previously pretended to be in Europe, but he was in fact "in Africa". He would not say where, but denied he was in a neighbouring state. Coetzee also made a number of new claims. However, unlike his first allegations — which contained great detail about "hit squad" operations in which he said he was personally involved — his latest claims were more vague and unsupported by first-hand knowledge.

Yesterday Coetzee claimed: ● That many of Rhodesia's dreaded Selous Scouts were in the SA Police and some were members of the alleged assassination teams.

● The existence of another secret training camp for these squads.

● And that the murder of liberal academic Dr David Webster bore the hallmark of a police death squad attack.

## Murder

## Janie says Sitonight



# Runaway cop sticks to his guns

From Page 1

the unstable person certain people were now trying to make him out to be

Coetzee claimed he had personal knowledge of the secret training camp "Daisy", which he said was a joint venture between the security police and another agency

It was on a farm bought with money that former spy Craig Williamson acquired from the ANC when he infiltrated the International University Exchange Fund (UIEF) during the 70s

Coetzee said he had personally arranged with the Prisons Service in Pretoria to supply prisoners to help build the base on the farm

"I had permission from my superiors to get prisoners

Commenting on the allegations about the "Daisy" project, a police spokesman said "It's used as an intelligence training base by the security police. It's a classified project"

Although he had asked the police to save Nofomela's life, nothing had been done about it

"We will wait until then and will see who will be laughing last," he added

It named them as Brigadier Willem Schoon (now retired), Brigadier Cronje (retired), Major Eugene de Kock, Lieutenant Paul van Dyk, Sergeant Willem Nortje, Constable Brian Ngunlungwa, Constable Joseph Mamasalela, Constable Jeffrey Ramotata, Constable John Mpotu, and Constable Johannes Mabela.

From the Leeuwkop Prison near Johannesburg, he said His right-hand man, Almond Nofomela, the Death Row prisoner who first made the hit-squad allegations to gain a stay of execution, had gone to Leeuwkop to pick up the prisoners

Coetzee also claimed that his so-called "Section A1" had fallen under the command of Brigadier Piet "Biko" Goosen, who had been transferred from the Eastern Cape to SAP headquarters after Steve Biko's death

Elaborating on his decision to flee South Africa and expose the existence of the hit squad, Coetzee said his loyalty to Nofomela forced him to act

Coetzee also claimed there were "several other similar bases all over South Africa

There is one in Port Elizabeth and two similar bases at Levubu in Venda and near Phalaborwa," he said

A spokesman for the Minister of Law and Order, Brigadier Leon Mellet, said yesterday no more comments would be made on Captain Coetzee's allegations until the board of inquiry finished its task

10 were not arrested and charged, "the board will lay charges itself"

The board said in a statement "In view of the substantial evidence revealed in the Press, as well as by this board, a prima facie case of criminal involvement has been made out against particular policemen or ex-policemen"

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- That many of Rhodesia's dreaded Selous Scouts were in the SA Police and some were members of the alleged assassination teams;
- The existence of another secret training camp for these squads;
- And that the murder of liberal academic Dr David Webster bore the hallmark of a police death squad attack

## Murder

Dr Webster, 44, was shot dead outside his Johannesburg home in May this year, shortly before he was due to present a report to the United Nations on alleged assassinations and abductions by South African agents. His killers have not yet been found

Mr Coetzee said the modus operandi of Dr Webster's assassins was "very much like" that of Rhodesian bush war veterans

"General Jaap Joubert (the officer in charge of the Webster murder inquiry) won't have to look too far to find his murderers," Coetzee claimed

He said that up to 15 former Selous Scouts were housed at a secret police base outside Pretoria, called "Daisy"

Said Coetzee. "Dr Webster may have stumbled on to information regarding Renamo bases, or some kind of rebel activity, while doing research on the Mozambican border

"As in the case of Dr Robert Smit (the former National Party candidate in Springs mysteriously murdered in 1977), Dr Webster's knowledge of sensitive information may have cost him his life"

But General Joubert said yesterday he had no knowledge of any former members of the Selous Scouts

being members of the SAP "If Captain Coetzee has any information that may help me with the investigations into Dr Webster's death, I would be very grateful if he would phone me and give me more details," General Joubert said

"After all, Dirk knows me well and I would like him to get in contact with me"

Coetzee said he was planning an international Press conference "in Europe" for the "world to hear the truth"

Sounding relaxed and in high spirits, he said defiantly "I want to show the world that I'm no psychopath

"I'm no angel, and I've done a lot of bad things in my life, but I'm not lying.

"The whole world will know the truth next week."

He said one of the reasons he had fled South Africa was because he realised he would have been made out as "the maverick policeman who acted on his own"

"I would have been used as the scapegoat to cover everything up"

He said the SAP top brass was "trying to incriminate me with a lot of mud-slinging"

He denied claims that he was involved in a smuggling network bringing illegal Portuguese immigrants into South Africa or that he smuggled pornography.

He said he was prepared to be examined by any psychiatrist to prove that he was not

## PIC

**TURFFONTE**  
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THE center the Sunday restricted emergency



# Third Askari spills beans on

## Gardener turned

### Police assassin

*Press 26/11/89*  
A THIRD Askari — a member of the SA Police hit squad — has described the killings carried out by this unit, confirming the evidence of Death Row prisoner Butana Nofemela and hit squad commanding officer Capt Dirk Coetzee

In an interview with the Afrikaans weekly, *Vrye Weekblad*, David "Spyker" Tshikalange said that between 1981 and 1984 he was involved in operations under three commanding officers: Capt Dirk Coetzee, Capt Jan Coetzee and Maj Eugene de Kock

Tshikalange fled the country last week — probably to Botswana — fearing he could be prosecuted for the murder of Durban activist Griffiths Mxenge

He said he arrived with Dirk Coetzee at Vaalklaas, the base of the hit squad outside Pretoria, in 1981. Coetzee had known him for a long time. They served together at Sibasa and the Oshoek border post

Vaalklaas was the place where the "terros" were kept. He also saw Renamo people there

When he arrived there he worked as a gardener, he told *Vrye Weekblad*

Eventually Coetzee made Tshikalange, Joe Mamasela, Brian Ngulunga and Almond Nofemela members of the hit squad. But they were not told beforehand that it would be a death squad. Coetzee told them only that they were going to do important things for which they would be paid

Mamaselala was the "bad" one in the group. The others found it difficult to work with him. He was an "ext-terro" who had smuggled weapons for the ANC. He was the dangerous one who spoke and drank a lot. Ngulunga was also previously a "terro". Later more "ext-terros" like Jeffery Bozigo joined. Tshikalange said he had heard Bozigo was a sergeant today. He had to do a lot of those stripes

When Mxenge was murdered, Tshikalange was a student constable and a junior member of the group. He did not ask too many questions, and just went along with the group. He knew Dirk Coetzee would look after him

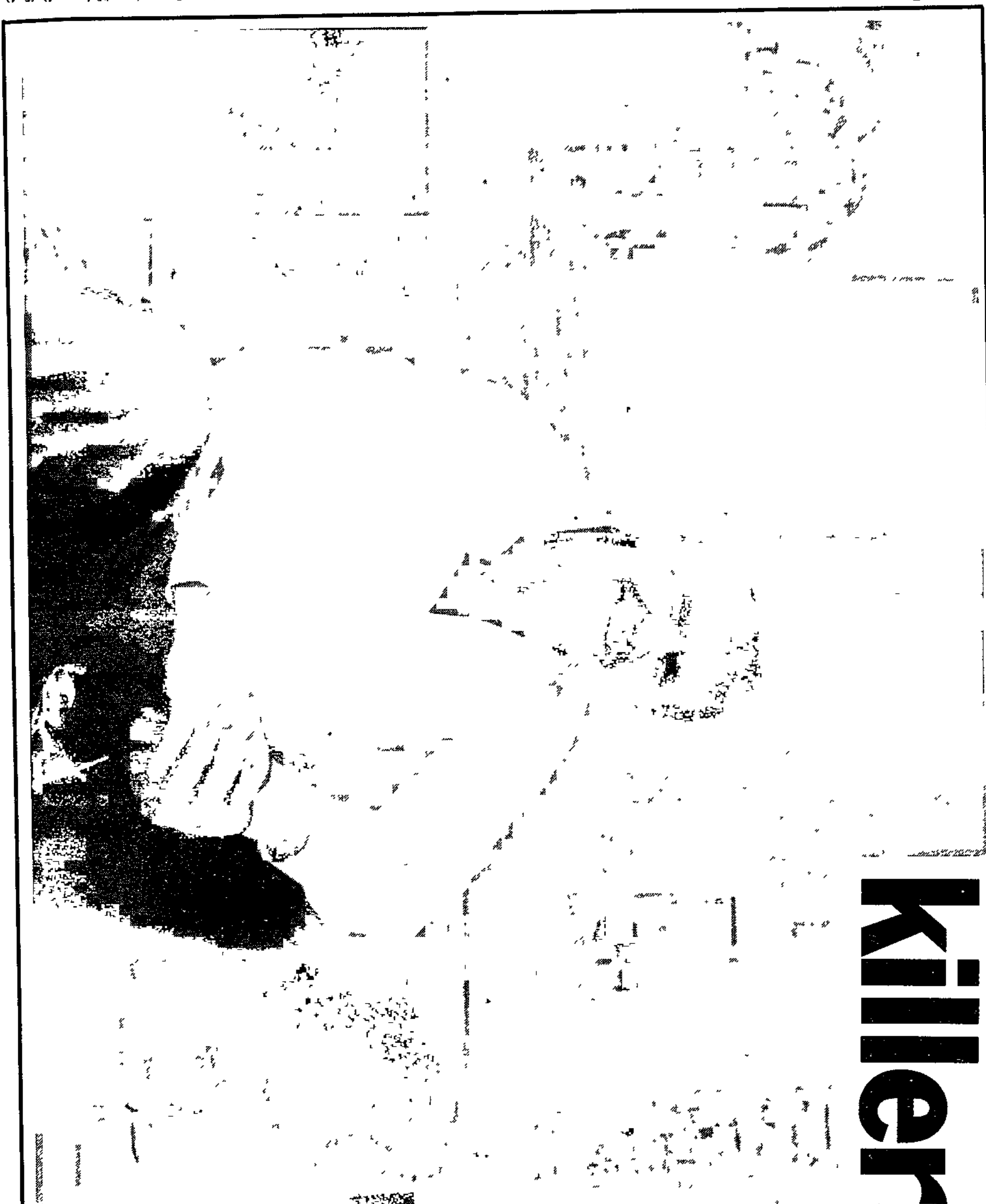
He did not know where the orders came from for the eliminations. Ngulunga was the one who got the orders from Coetzee and Tshikalange passed them on to the

# Killers

CITY PRESS, November 26, 1989

PAGE 5

squad commanding officer Capt Dirk Coetzee fled to Mauri-tius after death row prisoner Butana Nofemela gave damning evidence in the affidavit on which he based a plea for stay of execution. Coetzee has offered to give evidence from exile on the death unit. ■ Pic: VRYE WEEKBLAD



any training on Vlakplaas. Many were "ex-terros" and could shoot already. But they were teaching each other tricks and things were passed on to the younger ones.

Mamaselala told him if he stabbed he had to turn the knife before he pulled it out.

In this way you made the hole bigger. And when you cut somebody's throat you had to cut until you felt the bone. Then the person was as dead as a doornail.

It was one of their jobs to sniff out "terros" in the townships. Four of them drove around in a minibus to search for "terros". Mamaselala, Ngulunga and Bozigo knew what they looked like because they themselves had been outside the country.

When they entered a township they were shown pictures by the local branch of those they had to look for.

They were always in radio contact with commanding officers.

The other members of the group carried Tokarevs and Makarovs, but Tshikalange carried an ordinary service pistol. They also carried knives.

It was not easy to sniff out "terros". You first had to learn to know their "cherries" or "tjommies" and make them drunk in a shebeen before they could be grabbed. It happened sometimes that a "terro" recognised an Askari and then there was a hell of a fight.

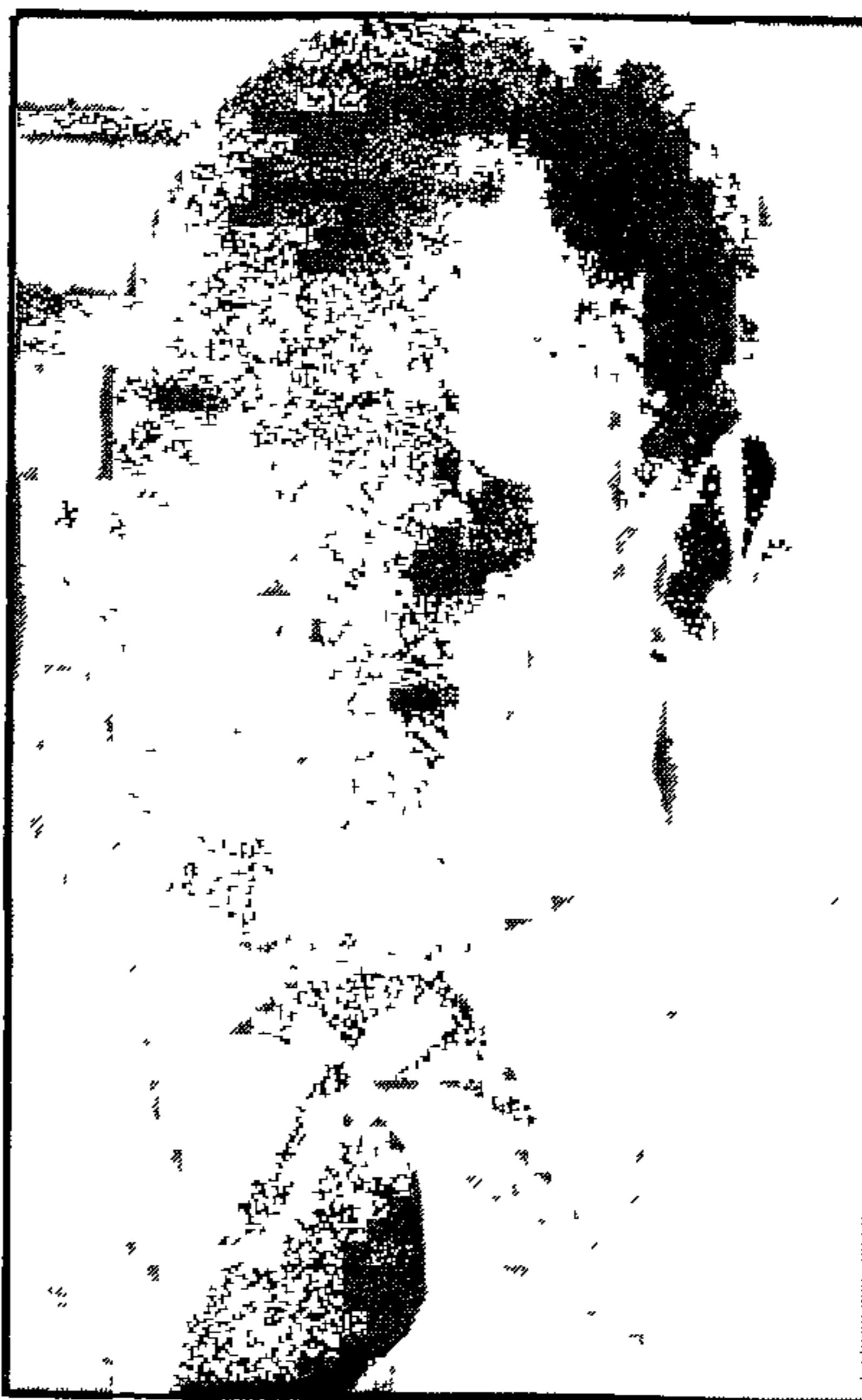
He still remembered a "terro" they met in a shebeen in Durban. When he saw them, he ran. They followed him to shoot or catch him. Then he turned around with a hand grenade and pulled the pin.

Botha Mamaselala and Tshikalange shot and missed. Then the grenade exploded in the man's hand. A part of his body was missing. They got three more "terros" in the same way. Sometimes they shot them.

They were in the Durban area when they received an order to nail Mxenge. Tshikalange did not think it was odd. He just followed the group. Dirk Coetzee told them to rob the man.

Ngulunga was the leader during Mxenge's elimination. He told them

**"It was not easy to sniff out 'terros'. You first had to learn to know their 'cherries' or 'tjommies' and make them drunk in a shebeen before they could be grabbed."**



**Griffiths Mxenge was brutally slain by hit squad.**

what they had to do first and poisoned the dogs himself. He also devised the plan that they had to use jumper leads to stop Mxenge.

Tshikalange said he did not stab Mxenge himself. He was only a student constable. The other three stabbed Mxenge repeatedly. There was blood all over. He thought Mamaselala and Nofemela had cut his throat.

They received R1 000 each to keep quiet, but when they returned to the farm everybody knew they had stabbed Mxenge. Mamaselala boasted about it when he became drunk.

Tshikalange said he also went to Botswana, where they "blasted terros". That was when Ma-

maselala shot the "woman terro" in the head. Later Mamaselala boasted about it. That night he had to guard the bakkie, Tshikalange told *Vrye Weekblad*.

He called Mamaselala a big troublemaker. Mamaselala tended to get drunk quickly in shebeens, which caused him to become aggressive. One evening Mamaselala shot somebody and they had to run away.

Some of the "terros" who returned were bad people. They were in the bush for long periods and did not know how to behave. Some of them were charged with murder. One was still in jail in Nelspruit for killing three or four people.

Tshikalange said he of-

ten went to Swaziland. He went there with Jan Coetzee (Dirk Coetzee succeeded Jan Coetzee) to kill a man in a yellow Peugeot. Chris Rorich planted the bomb under the car. Nothing was left of the car.

He was with Dirk Coetzee in Swaziland when people were killed. He got the fright of his life during a diamond deal which Ngulunga and Nofemela wanted to clinch after borrowing money from Dirk.

When the man refused to hand back the money, Mamaselala shot him in the head. Tshikalange said he only watched what was going on because he was a student constable.

During 1983 and 1984 he was De Kock's driver. By then he was no longer a member of the Askaris. However, the Askaris still spoke to him and he was aware they were still carrying on. He only drove De Kock's car in the Pretoria area.

He never went along when De Kock accompanied the Askaris. It was during that time that Mamaselala disappeared. They all wondered what had happened to him, but they were too afraid to talk.

One evening in about 1983 he saw a corpse in De Kock's car which looked familiar to him. The man was covered with plastic, and his head was covered in blood. He heard people saying the body was to be taken to Komatipoort.

Tshikalange said there was also talk about poison during that time. Mamaselala showed him some poison before he disappeared and told him when they drank with the "terros" in the shebeens, they added small amounts of poison to the drinks.

He remembered they received information one evening that "terros" planned to attack Vlakplaas. Everybody rushed around and the place was closely guarded for two weeks.

De Kock was always grumpy towards him, Tshikalange said, and hardly ever talked to him. While driving the car, De Kock kept quiet while doing his planning. He was afraid of De Kock, Tshikalange told *Vrye Weekblad*.

# Police play down allegations of Pretoria spy base

By DESMOND BLOW

251 C. Press

POLICE yesterday denied a second police base known as "Daisy" was used to launch spy missions outside South Africa.

This follows allegations in *Vrye Weekblad* that Cpt Dirk Coetzee revealed from "somewhere in Europe" that a second farm, bought with "stolen" money, existed outside Pretoria.

Coetzee alleged the farm was bought in the 1970s with R40 000 diverted from the International University Exchange Fund in Geneva by Craig Williamson after he had infiltrated the organisation as a Security Branch spy.

The police statement said "Daisy" existed but denied it was used for counter-intelligence training or as a spy base

"It is used for intelligence training," said the spokesman

Coetzee said "Daisy" was commanded by Brig Piet "Biko" Goosen after he was transferred to Pretoria from the Eastern Cape to allow the dust to settle after Steve Biko's death

Police refused to comment on the claim, also in *Vrye Weekblad*, that the family of slain Durban lawyer Griffiths Mxenge were to charge three policemen with his murder

The report said Lawyers for Human Rights were to assist the Mxenge family in bringing the charges, but LHR denied involvement in the matter.

In the *Vrye Weekblad* interview, Coetzee dismissed a claim by Free State Attorney General Tim McNally that he and Lt Gen Alwyn Conradie had made attempts to interview Coetzee in the weeks before he fled

"It is a blatant lie," Coetzee is reported to have said "During the two weeks the investigating team were gathering evidence before I left the country I was available They knew where I lived"

When McNally spoke to *City Press* he said it had been the team's intention to speak to Coetzee.

26/11/89

# FW pledges full probe of 'squads'

By Peter Fabricius,  
Political Correspondent

star  
27/11/89

The police hit squad furore is likely to come to a head this week either with prosecutions of policemen or the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry

Government sources indicated this today after President de Klerk told the *Washington Post* he would not tolerate such police action and that the allegations would be probed "to the bone"

Government sources indicated today that a commission of inquiry would be appointed if the current probe by Free State Attorney-General Mr T.P. McNally came up with nothing.

It is understood, however, that the McNally probe is sufficiently far advanced and that prosecutions might arise from it.

## GROWING PRESSURE

This is understood to be the reason why President de Klerk has not yet appointed a commission of inquiry in spite of growing pressure to do so.

In the interview he granted the *Washington Post*, Mr de Klerk distanced his administration from the allegations, noting they involved deaths that occurred several years ago.

Asked if conservative whites in the police and military might attempt to undermine reform efforts, he said he was counting on discipline for the execution of Government policy.

"Obviously one of the challenges which I face is to allay the fears of a substantial percentage of white people, wherever they are employed, with regard to what renewal and reform power-sharing might hold for them.

"I'm not really worried about the far-right and the rightist parties in South Africa."

Noting Mr Nelson Mandela's public statements that his release could not be an issue while the state of emergency was still in force, Mr de Klerk said he planned to lift the emergency as soon as possible — if not all at once, then in stages.

'Hit squad' focus moves to Piet Retief

# Major de Kock may be asked to testify at inquest

251  
27/11/89  
stow

By Therese Anders,  
Highveld Bureau

The spotlight on the police death squad disclosures swings to the platteland town of Piet Retief tomorrow where it is possible Major Eugene de Kock will again be called to give evidence at an inquest on the death of four ANC members

Major de Kock allegedly succeeded Captain Dirk Coetzee as field commander of what Captain Coetzee described as the SAP's Vlakplaas-based death squad. He has now been linked to at least 16 deaths, including those of three women and a man whose inquest resumes tomorrow in Piet Retief.

The four suspected ANC members — Mr Surendra "Lenny" Naidu (30), Miss June-Rose Nontsikelelo Cotoza (25), Miss Makhosi Nyoka (25) and Miss Lindiwe Mthemba (21) — were killed in a police ambush

after entering South Africa from Swaziland on June 8 last year.

The four were all from the Durban area.

Police have told the court that their aim was to arrest the four, but the plan went wrong when one of the passengers fired at the police.

Lawyers for the families have questioned whether the intention of the police was to "arrest using minimum force".

And The Star can disclose that a second inquest involving the killing of a further four people by a police security team is to follow immediately after the present Piet Retief inquest ends.

The second four ANC suspects were killed in the Piet Retief area on June 12 last year, only four days after the first ambush. Major de Kock is believed to have headed both operations.

He has also been linked to the killing of the Chesterville four in 1986, three people in Swaziland during a 1983 attack and the

murder of a Krugersdorp United Building Society employee.

Earlier this year Major de Kock gave evidence at the Piet Retief inquest about his role in the shooting of the four young ANC suspects who were unwittingly driven into the police ambush by a police officer who had infiltrated the organisation.

The inquest received wide publicity in May when defence advocate for the Naidu family, Mr Zak Yacoob, applied for the inquest to be set aside because it was "fundamentally flawed".

The application was made after it was disclosed in court that the investigating officer in the case, Warrant-Officer Frederick Johannes Pienaar of the Piet Retief Security Police, had been involved in the shootings with Major de Kock. Mr Yacoob called the "conflicting" role of Warrant-Officer Pienaar "absurd, obviously unjust and almost amoral".

He asked what confidence the court could have in the investigating officer when there had already been evidence that

- Repairs had been made to the deceaseds' shot-up vehicle before ballistic tests could be done
- The deceaseds' clothes had been burnt.
- No photographs had been taken of the inside of the car
- Guns had not been sent for fingerprint analysis.

Magistrate Mrs H Wilkens then appointed a new investigating officer, senior detective Lieutenant Colonel John Ras of Middelburg. He was subsequently replaced by Brigadier D van Wyk of the security police in Pretoria.

During May's hearing Warrant-Officer Pienaar admitted that he had also been involved in the June 12 shooting and was also the investigating officer in that case as well.

# Teargassing: Holomisa sorry

CAPE  
TRANS  
27/11/87  
281

UMTATA — Transkei's military leader yesterday apologised to the ANC leaders who were teargassed by a "renegade" group of policemen on Saturday

Two people were shot dead and four injured in the pandemonium that followed the teargas incident

Major-General Bantu Holomisa, who blamed "renegade" policemen for the incident, apologised twice to Mr Walter Sisulu and other visiting ANC leaders

The first apology came in a statement and the second in a message read to a crowd of 80 000 attending the ANC rally at the Independence Stadium.

The incident occurred when police fired about 10 teargas canisters into Umtata's Unity Hall where more than 400 people had gathered to hear Mr Sisulu, Mr Elias Motsoaledi, Mr Wilton Mkwayi and Mr Andrew Malengeni speak.

General Holomisa, who said he saw the attack while travelling past the hall in a car, apologised to the leaders, saying the police action appeared to be unprovoked

A commission of inquiry will be appointed today to investigate the incident and report not later than Friday.

Gen Holomisa said he had ordered his police commander to apologise over Radio Transkei to the ANC leaders and all the people affected.

The leaders emerged from the hall unharmed.

Mr Sisulu said he had accepted General Holomisa's apology.

General Holomisa's brother, Mr Patekile Holomisa, a member of the Transkei Reception Committee, established to welcome the ANC leaders, blamed "Pretoria's agents" in the police force for the incident

During an address by the ANC's Mr Elias Motsoaledi yesterday, one of the official cheerers shouted out to the crowd: "General Holomisa is the man of the people General Holomisa is stronger than teargas."

The crowd roared its approval and the thousands stamped their feet

Mr Sisulu, 77, in his first speech in Transkei since his recent release from prison, told the huge crowd at the stadium: "The homelands policy, once the cornerstone of grand apartheid, divide and rule, lies in tatters. Pioneering efforts in the Transkei are destroying the foundation of the Bantustan regime."

Speaking to General Holomisa, who was seated on the stage, Mr Sisulu said. "You are proudly carrying forward the struggle against tribalism as you fight to reunite our people into a single and undivided nation."

Mr Sisulu said the ANC welcomed the call by General Holomisa for a referendum among the Transkei people.

He rejected the South African government's proposed "black elections" for a negotiating forum.

B/om 25/11/89

# UBS guard blindfolded when shot ~~251~~ Nofomela

KRUGERSDORP UBS security guard Japie Maponye, brother of a suspected ANC guerrilla, was blindfolded but conscious when he was allegedly shot by a senior security police officer at the Vlakplaas police base in 1985.

This new information on the killing is reflected in a transcript of death row prisoner Butana Nofomela's account of the incident as related to Advocate S Katzew, who was instructed by Lawyers for Human Rights to consult Nofomela.

Nofomela told Katzew the security branch at Compol, Pretoria, had investigated the shooting of a black policeman at De Wildt and had concluded Maponye's brother had been responsible.

"This information was given to us — security branch section C1. From there (the senior officer) told me (and two others N and M) to go to the Krugersdorp UBS.

"We were given the name of the fellow who was working there and his photograph. We were instructed that we should kidnap him.

"N stood by the post office, I stood by the UBS and M stood by the car, a Jetta. The security guard came off duty, it was late afternoon and he went

CHARLENE SMITH  
and ALAN FINE

straight towards where N stood.

"When I arrived I said: 'You are under arrest, I am investigating a case of fraud against you'.

"Then we drove to a security farm in Erasmia, Vlakplaas. There we met (the senior officer). We took him about 120m from the farm into the veld near a river and trees where we interrogated him. He was assaulted and interrogated by all four of us," Nofomela said.

## Problems

At about 7pm, he added, the senior officer ordered N and M to leave.

"I remained with the officer who then asked me if the guy would recognise me in future and if I would have any problems with him later. I said 'yes' because I am known by many people in Krugersdorp.

"Then (the officer) said he had to get rid of him, shot him there and then with a pistol with a silencer. At the time he was blindfolded and conscious.

"During the course of the interrogation this man who we shot had said that his brother had left a long time ago and he had not heard of him and he did not

know his whereabouts," Nofomela said. Nofomela said he helped the officer wrap the body in plastic and put it in the officer's car.

Nofomela told Katzew that while at the police college in 1980 a Col Baker had approached him, saying his exam results suggested he was security branch material. After the passing out parade in December he and two others were taken to Vlakplaas.

"I remained there for a long time, for about six months. There were other people who lived on the farm — black immigrants from Zimbabwe.

"I was trained to shoot by Capt (Dirk) Coetzee. We were given theory on how we work by Coetzee. He told me that whenever I go on a mission I must make it a point that I leave no tracks.

"There were many other things I was told during this period that I might have to shoot and kill people, assassinate. I accepted it as part of the job.

"He even said that people who simply support the ANC without being actively involved might have to be eliminated.

"I had no hatred against the ANC, but as part of my job I had to act according to the instructions of my seniors. I didn't even feel proud of what I was doing," Nofomela said.

# Unionist fined for trespassing

By LEN MASEKO

*6/9*  
*Sowetan 28/11/89*  
AN official of the South African Catering and Allied Workers Union has been convicted of trespassing after being arrested on the premises of a Groblersdal hotel.

But Mr Mathabatha Seema, an official of the union's Marble Hall branch, intends to appeal against the conviction on the grounds that it interferes with his work.

He was fined R120 by a Groblersdal magistrate for illegally entering the premises of the hotel on October 23. The fine was suspended for three years

## Police

This means that the Saccawu official may not enter the hotel's premises for the next three years or he will be arrested and charged

Seema says he had arranged with the hotel's

management to meet workers on that day, but was surprised to be confronted by local police who immediately arrested him for trespassing.

"Interestingly management was cited in court as the complainant when they were the ones who gave me permission to talk to our members," he said.

## Wages

The hotel's management declined to comment yesterday.

Meanwhile the hotel's employees have downed tools demanding improved wages and better working conditions

Their demands include recognition of the union, minimum pay of R550 a month and recognition of March 21 as a paid holiday

The two parties were still meeting at the time of going to press yesterday



# MDM fears death squads

The Mass Democratic Movement, saying it feared death squads would continue to stalk anti-apartheid activists, announced yesterday it had drawn up a seven-point plan of action to deal with the threat.

The movement said in a statement it believed the identification of a few individuals involved in death squad activities would not stop the use of violence and terror against opponents of apartheid.

The MDM demanded:

• All those implicated in the activities of the death squads must be charged or made to account for their complicity. The investigation should go beyond the security police and include other agencies which are implicated, especially the National Intelligence Service (NIS) and the State Security Council (SSC).

Moreover the entire government, right up to President (F W) de Klerk, should be made to account,

• An independent full-scale judicial commission of inquiry must be instituted.

• The State Security Council/JMC, the National Intelligence Service, and the Security Police must be dismantled, and

• The victims and families of state terrorism must be fully compensated.-Sapa.

*Sowetan 28/11/89*

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# Ambush sn death

**SOWETAN Reporter**



**Captain Coetzee.**

THE spotlight in the "death squad" issue turns to the Eastern Transvaal town of Piet Retief today where it is possible that Major Eugene De Kock will again be called to give evidence at an inquest into the death of four ANC members.

It has been alleged that De Kock succeeded Captain Dirk Coetzee as commander of what Coetzee described as the SAP's Vlakplaas-based "death squad". De Kock has

(30), Miss June-Rose Nontsikelelo Cotoza (25), Miss Makhosi Nyoka (25) and Miss Lindwe Mhamba (21) - were killed in an ambush after entering South Africa from Swaziland on June 8 last year. The four were all from the Durban area

## Aim

Police have told the court that their aim was to arrest the four, but the plan went wrong when one of the passengers fired at the police.

Lawyers for the families have questioned whether the intention of the police was to "arrest

using minimum force". It was disclosed yesterday that a second inquest involving the killing of a further four people by a police security team is to follow the Piet inquest.

The second four ANC suspects were killed in the Piet Retief area on June 12 last year, four days after the first ambush De Kock is believed to have headed both operations

He has also been linked to the killing of the Chesterville four in 1986, three people in Swaziland during a 1983 attack and the murder of a Krugersdorp building society employee.

*251*  
*Sowetan*  
*28/11/89*  
**De Kock to testify**

Sowetan 22/11/89

# Office raided

A COMPUTER terminal worth R9 000, cash and other documents were stolen

By MONK NKOMO  
after thieves broke into the offices of sev-

eral organisations affiliated to the Black Consciousness Movement in Pretoria early yesterday morning.

Graffiti of "UDF," "COSATU" and "ANC" was sprayed on the walls inside the offices situated at the Boukrag Building in Brown Street.

The offices belong to the Banking Insurance Finance and Assurance Workers Union, Azapo Azasm and the Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers Union.

Mr Siphon Maseko, publicity secretary of Azasm yesterday condemned what he described as "a professional burglary" and dismissed the attempt at incriminating ANC, UDF or "Charterists" in the raid.

"We really take ex-

ception to the intention by those who broke into our offices to try and incriminate the ANC, Cosatu or the Charterists," Maseko said.

A spokesman for the organisations believed the burglary could have been committed by four white men who asked questions about the organisations recently.

In a statement issued yesterday Maseko said. "We believe the ANC and Cosatu do not need the information in the computer. Such acts of banditry from whatever source will not deter the fighting spirits of the BC Movement

"We believe that instead of deterring us it will give us every reason to confront and destroy the forces of darkness which continuously rear their ugly head."

25

1989

**Political Staff**

A FULL-SCALE judicial commission manned by an international jurist and legal experts should be launched to investigate death squad allegations, the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) said yesterday

All those implicated in the activities of the death squad should be charged or made to account for their complicity, the MDM said in a statement

It called on all local and international democratic forces to support it in pressuring the government to take seven steps

These included charging those responsible, the appointment of an independent judicial inquiry, "the dismantling of the State Security Council/Joint Management Committee system, the National

*Cam Lewis 28/11/89 (251) (25)*

## MDM wants full-scale 'hit squad' probe

Intelligence Service and the Security Police", full compensation for victims of state terrorism, the implementation of punitive measures by states on whose territories illegal acts had been committed, an inquiry into international collaboration with South African death squads and pressure to stop all collaboration by Western agencies with "apartheid security forces"

"We believe that wide-ranging

and drastic action is necessary to put an end to these apartheid crimes," the MDM said

"We are deeply concerned that, if this is not done, a few individuals will be made scapegoats, while the biggest criminals — those in command — will be able to continue 'business as usual' "

It said most South Africans did not see the judiciary as being independent from the apartheid state

The commission should also have full power to subpoena relevant state records and witnesses, the State President had to waive restrictions which prevented information being given on the grounds of "state security" and no limitations should be placed on access to witnesses

# 'Hit Squad' reports: Angry police to sue

Star 28/11/89

(25)

A massive legal battle is looming between various policemen and sections of the alternative press over sensational allegations of the involvement of several policemen in so-called "police hit squads"

Claims running to several million rands could be involved

But already *Vrye Weekblad*, which broke the story earlier this month, has made it clear that it is prepared to defend itself in court

As the McNally Inquiry draws to a close, with the possibility of prosecutions against policemen, the police struck back this week with promises of several massive legal actions against the alternative newspapers which broke the story

Apart from Lieutenant General Lothar Neethling's massive claim of R500 000 against *Vrye Weekblad*, it was learnt today that several other policemen named in the newspaper's allegations were contemplating similar action

"This could run to several million rand," a senior police source said, but declined to give details

## Sticking to story

General Neethling, a deputy commissioner of police and head of the SAP forensic laboratories, has been the first to announce that he will sue. He is claiming R500 000 damages and a printed apology from the *Vrye Weekblad* for an article which allegedly defamed him

A spokesman for the Afrikaans weekly said today the paper stuck to its story and was prepared to defend the matter in court

In addition to South African policemen considering legal actions, Sapa reports from Mbabane in Swaziland that former Swazi commissioner of police, Mr Titus Msibi, and the current assistant commissioner of police, Mr Stanley Bhembe, have threatened to take legal action against the South African newspaper *New Nation* for an alleged defamatory article

In the article, it was alleged both men had collaborated closely with SAP "death squads" allegedly responsible for a number of assassinations and abductions of ANC activists in Swaziland between 1981 and 1987

Mr Msibi pointed out that his police service ended in 1985 and he could not possibly have been involved in the death squad's alleged activities in 1987

The claim General Neethling will bring against *Vrye Weekblad* relates to allegations made by self-confessed former SAP police death squad leader Captain Dirk Coetzee in an article published on November 17

## Career jeopardised

Police spokesman Major Marius Bonthuys said last night that General Neethling had yesterday addressed a letter of notification to the editor of the *Vrye Weekblad*, Max du Preez

General Neethling claimed that as a result of the article, headlined "Bloedspoor van die SAP", he had been "seriously injured" and his career placed in jeopardy

"General Neethling, who has a wife and children, says his family has also been seriously affected by the article," Major Bonthuys said

"He (the general) estimates damage sustained by him as a result of the publication of the alleged defamatory article to amount to at least R500 000"

"General Neethling not only demands payment of this amount but also an immediate apology and retraction, which is to be given the same publicity as the alleged defamatory article" — Staff Reporters and Sapa

● See Page 3



## Govt 'serious on cutting spending'

By Peter Fabricius,  
Political Correspondent

Organised business and industry believe the Government is serious about cutting State spending

This was the general reaction yesterday after the major employer bodies held a three-hour closed meeting with President de Klerk, Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis and other Ministers at the Union Buildings.

"They do mean business, that was the message we got," a top business source said, but would not elaborate as he said those attending had been sworn to secrecy

The representatives of all the main employer organisations were consulted on the measures which the Government intends imple-

menting to curb inflation and State spending.

It is understood that most of the Government's economic policy decisions in the months ahead will be directed at these two goals

The businessmen and industrialists gave the Ministers their views on a number of issues

After the meeting Mr du Plessis issued a brief statement saying the discussions had focused on curbing inflation, economic growth, job creation and the need for constructive co-operation between the public and private sectors in the development of the economy

No list of participants to the meeting was released, but they included Assocom chief executive Mr Raymond Parsons, FCI chief

executive Mr Ron Haywood, AHI director Dr Martin van der Berg, Iscor MD Mr W van Wyk, president of the South African Agricultural Union Mr N J Kotze, Bifsa director Mr Neil Fraser and representatives from the Chamber of Mines and Selfsa

The other Ministers present were Privatisation and Administration Minister Dr Wim de Villiers, Transport Minister Mr George Bartlett, Manpower Minister Mr Eli Louw and Agriculture Minister Mr Jacob de Villiers

It is understood that a follow-up meeting might be held before the Government finally decides on any of the measures discussed

● See Page 17.

## Comoros alleged assassins caught

The alleged assassins of President Ahmed Abdallah of the Comoros have been arrested and the Supreme Court chief installed as president of the Indian Ocean islands following Sunday's attempted coup

Sources in contact with the islands and the Comoros's trade representative in South Africa told *The Star* the suspects had been arrested shortly after the president was killed on Sunday night

Reuter reports that the president was shot dead by a disgruntled army officer, named by a senior French government source as Major Ahmed Mohamed

The alleged attacker was, until recently, army chief of staff. He was sacked by President Abdallah

in early October

Mr Abdallah had been president since 1978 when he was installed by invading white mercenaries.

Communication lines to the holiday islands north-west of Madagascar have been virtually cut since Sunday night, but South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said the Comoros security forces were in control of the situation and everything was calm

The Supreme Court president will call an election within 40 days. It was not clear yesterday whether the assassination would prompt the Comoros government to change its policy on South Africa

The leading contender to take power following the death of the

president will be his youngest son, Mr Assouf Abdallah

● The cruise ship *Oceanos* carrying 300 passengers, many of them South Africans, is due to arrive at the Comoros on Sunday.

Tour organisers in Johannesburg said yesterday that trips to the islands would go ahead as planned, providing the situation remained calm

An estimated 180 South African tourists were reported to be safe in their hotels on the island

● The Comoros Republic is also known as Comoro or the Comores. *The Star* has opted for the style Comoros, which is also favoured by several leading reference books and Reuter news agency

● See Page 25

# More police set to sue over hit-squad claims

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A huge legal battle is looming between several policemen and the alternative press over sensational allegations of the involvement of policemen in so-called hit squads.

It was learnt today that several policemen are contemplating actions similar to that of Lieutenant-General Lothar Neethling against Vrye Weekblad and other newspapers which ran articles related to the possible existence of police death squads.

A senior police source said claims running to several million rands could be involved.

But already Weekblad, the first to publish allegations made by former police captain and self-confessed death squad leader Dirk Coetzee, has said it will stand by its articles, in court if necessary.

## R500 000 DAMAGES

It was announced yesterday that General Neethling, a deputy commissioner of police and head of the SAP forensic laboratories, is claiming R500 000 damages and a printed apology from Vrye Weekblad, as well as the retraction of an article which allegedly defamed him.

Police spokesman Major Marius Bonthuys said last night General Neethling had yesterday addressed a letter of notification to the Vrye Weekblad editor Max du Preez.

However, a spokesman for the Weekblad said today the newspaper stuck to its story and was prepared to defend the matter in court. It had already referred the matter to its lawyer.

● Sapa reports that the former Swazi commissioner of police, Titus Msibi, and the current assistant-commissioner of police, Stanley Bhembe, have threatened to take legal action against South African newspaper New Nation for alleged defamation in an article about death squads.

... change free state from next year.

CAP- Timis 28/11/89 (251) ~~(251)~~

## 2 Natal policemen slain

DURBAN. — Two more policemen were murdered in different incidents over the weekend, bringing to five the tally of SAP officers brutally killed by unidentified assailants in Natal last week.

# 'Policemen threatened shebeen boss'

Argus.  
(251)  
28/11/89

By GILL TURNBULL  
Staff Reporter

**PENINSULA** Murder and Robbery Squad officers threatened a Khayelitsha shebeen owner while questioning him about money he owed a Kuils River bottle-store, it has been alleged in the Cape Town Regional Court.

This was evidence in the trial in which two senior Murder and Robbery Squad officers, Lieutenant-Colonel Stephanus Brits, 42, and Lieutenant Peter Lister, 46, are charged with kidnapping, robbery, attempted robbery and extortion.

State witnesses are Khayelitsha shebeen-owner Mr Eric Vokozela and his cousin, Mr Farrel Vokozela.

## Stripped

Mr Farrel Vokozela is alleged to have been kidnapped on January 6 last year and held at Bishop Lavis police station for about 12 hours, threatened and led to believe he would be kept in detention, stripped, handcuffed and repeatedly suffocated with a sack over his head if he did not hand over an unspecified amount of money.

It is alleged that he was kidnapped again on February 8 and held at Bishop Lavis police station for about 15 hours.

Mr Eric Vokozela is alleged to have been kidnapped from Tsomo in Transkei on January 31, brought to Bishop Lavis police station and held there on February 6, 7 and 8.

The State alleged the policemen robbed both men of R6 742, or alternatively extorted this sum from them.

Mr Eric Vokozela told the court through a Xhosa interpreter that he ran a shebeen in Khayelitsha and bought his stocks from the Kuils River Drop Inn.

Two or three times a week he dealt with a Mr Conradie, sometimes on account and sometimes paying cash.

In 1987, on the Thursday before Christmas, he went to the warehouse he shared with several other brothers and found the doors open and the stock missing.

The following Monday Mr

Conradie arrived at his home and demanded R9 000.

"I told him what happened and offered to pay off the money but he would not accept my explanation and demanded the full amount."

Mr Vokozela said he "ran away" to the Transkei because Mr Conradie threatened to shoot him if he did not pay.

In the Transkei he was arrested by two Transkeian policemen on an allegation of armed robbery which they said he had committed in the Cape.

Mr Vokozela said he was

held in Queenstown police cells for a few days until two white and one black South African policemen arrived and asked where the Drop Inn's money was.

Because they threatened him he told them the money was in the Cape.

The magistrate, Mr A van Wyk, warned Mr Vokozela to answer all questions in full even if they would incriminate him, saying if he did so he would be granted immunity from prosecution.

The hearing continues today



Picture HANNES THIART, The Argus

**SHEBEEN CASE:** Accused Lieutenant Peter Lister, left, and Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Brits at court.



# 'Death squads' General to sue for R500 000

C.M. Tont's  
28/11/89

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**JOHANNESBURG** — A police general is claiming R500 000 damages and an apology from the Vrye Weekblad for a report on the alleged SAP death squads

Lieutenant-General Lothar Neethling, a deputy commissioner and head of the police forensic laboratories, claims the report defamed him

The claim relates to allegations made by former captain Mr Dirk Coetzee, who claimed in an interview in Vrye Weekblad that he led a police death squad

Police spokesman Major Marius Bonthuys said last night that General Neethling had sent a letter yesterday to the editor of the Vrye Weekblad, Mr Max du Preez. General Neethling claimed that as a result of the report he had been "seriously damaged" and his career placed in jeopardy

General Neethling said the article was published without any justification.

"Furthermore, as a result of the article and accompanying photograph, the general claims to be unable to travel in the Republic of South Africa or surrounding countries or abroad as his life is in danger," Maj Bonthuys said

"General Neethling, who has a wife and children, says his family have also been seriously affected by the article"

Maj Bonthuys said General Neethling estimated the damage suffered by him to be at least R500 000. He not only demanded payment of this amount but also an immediate apology and retraction, to be given the same publicity and in the same format as the alleged defamatory article

If the claim was not satisfied within seven days, General Neethling intended taking action against the editor of the Vrye Weekblad, the author of the article, Jacques Pauw, and the printers and publishers of the newspaper, Maj Bonthuys said

Mr Pauw said last night he was unaware of the civil claim. This could be because the letter was addressed to the editor, who was in Paris

"We obviously foresaw that we could be sued as we made some very serious allegations," said Mr Pauw.

"We stand by what was said in the article and will definitely not print a retraction. We'll fight it in court if we have to"

● In Mbabane former Swazi commissioner of police Mr Titus Msibi and the present assistant commissioner, Mr Stanley Bhembe, have threatened to take legal action against the New Nation for an alleged defamatory report at the weekend concerning the alleged SAP hit squads — Sapa

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# Top city detectives charged

*CVE Times 28/11/89*  
751

Lieutenant Peter Lister (left) and Lieutenant-Colonel Steve Brits outside court yesterday. The two top detectives were appearing on charges of abduction, extortion, robbery and attempted robbery. Both pleaded not guilty. ● Report — Page 3

# Robbed by cops, men claim

CAP-7-7/85  
28/11/89  
251

By MONICA GRAAFF  
Court Reporter

TWO local shebeen owners say they were abducted by senior members of the Peninsula Murder and Robbery Unit who used torture tactics to rob them, the Cape Town Regional Court heard yesterday.

This was said by shebeen owner Mr Eric Vokozela in the newly-opened trial of former Murder and Robbery chief Lieutenant-Colonel Stephanus Brits and one of his senior officers, Lt Peter Lister

Both officers pleaded not guilty yesterday to charges of abduction, extortion, robbery and attempted robbery.

The charges include allegations that they forced one of the complainants to submit by stripping him of his clothes, putting a wet sack over his head and hitting him.

Soon after the allegations came to light, Lt-Col Brits, 42, of Birchlot Street, Bellville, left the Murder and Robbery Unit to join the District Commissioner's Office in Belville.

Lt Lister, 46, of Steynrust Road, Somerset West, is still a member of the unit.

Mr Vokozela, of Site B, Khayelitsha, said he was a shebeen owner who ran into difficulty when his warehouse was raided during December, 1987, as he could not pay his debts to the Drop Inn in Kraaifontein.

When a Mr Conradie from the Drop Inn discovered where he lived (he used a pseudonym and a false address in the operation of his illegal business), he went to the Transkei to hide.

Not long afterwards two men detained him and handed him over to the Queenstown police — allegedly in connection with charges of armed robbery.

He was then moved to a cell in East London where another two men questioned him about his debt, but not about the alleged armed robbery.

One of the men hit him and he told them that he had money at home — even though he did not — in the hope of them taking him to Cape Town where he would have a better chance of finding out "what was going on", he said.

In Cape Town he was placed in police cells at the Bishops Lavis Murder and Robbery headquarters after being questioned by Lt Lister in his office.

"The next day they took me to my house and I asked my cousin Farrel (Vokozela) to lend me some money so that they would let me go. He said he did not have any so they took us both back to Bishop Lavis where we were questioned individually by Lt Lister and Col Brits.

"When we went back to the cells Farrel told me that Lt Lister made him undress and assaulted him by putting a wet bag over his head and hitting him."

According to the charge sheet, Mr Farrel Vokozela was abducted, assaulted and held for 12 hours on February 6, 1988, and again on February 8, 1988, when he was held for 15 hours. He was also allegedly robbed of R6 742.

Mr J van Wyk was the magistrate. Mr W. Viljoen, from the attorney-general's office, prosecuted. Mr D J U... instructed by G F Kohler of the state attorneys, appeared for the accused.

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By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

# Many blasts still unsolved

MORE than two years ago a bomb blast exploded at the newly-opened Community House in Salt River, Cape Town, causing serious damage to the building, which houses a number of anti-apartheid organisations.

Four months earlier, in April 1987, Cosatu House in Johannesburg was rocked by two explosions which shattered its foundations and rendered it unsafe for occupation.

Then, in September last year, Khotso House, the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches in Johannesburg, was so badly damaged by yet another bomb blast that it had to be evacuated.

Although the police immediately appointed top-level investigation teams to track down those responsi-

ble no one has ever been arrested, let alone convicted, for these attacks — and others on anti-apartheid organisations.

The list of unsolved bomb and arson attacks on buildings throughout South Africa is now extensive. At the end of last year the Human Rights Commission published an "incomplete" list of attacks on 103 individuals and properties.

The recent allegations of alleged hit squads have focused attention on the unsolved killings of some 49 activists but the fact that the police have been unable to solve the bomb and arson attacks on buildings and

individuals is as disturbing.

In October last year, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, appointed a senior officer, General Jaap Joubert, to investigate the acts of violence at Cosatu House, Khotso House and Khanya House, the headquarters of the Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference in Pretoria.

Mr Vlok said then that these incidents caused concern and everything possible would be done to arrest those responsible.

His liaison officer, Brigadier Leon Mellet, added: "I have no doubt that in the end we will catch

them and it's going to be very interesting to see who they are and whom they represent."

But still no one has been arrested or charged.

In May this year, the Democratic Party MP for Johannesburg North, Mr Peter Soal, asked Mr Vlok in parliament whether anyone had been detained, arrested, charged or convicted for the attacks on Cosatu House, Khotso House, Khanya House, Community House, the office of Grassroots newspaper in 1985, the office of the SA Council of Higher Education (Sached) in Grahamstown in May 1988, the office of

the Community Resources and Information Centre (Cric) in Hillbrow in April 1988, the office of the Release Mandela Campaign in Johannesburg in March 1986, the Cosatu offices in Nelspruit in May 1987, the Cosatu offices in Kimberley in October 1987, the SA Allied Workers Union building in East London in May 1987 and the Cosatu offices in East London in November 1988.

The question had not been answered by the time parliament adjourned.

Anti-apartheid organisations are convinced that right-wing groups have been responsible, although the police have not accepted this publicly.

If a thorough investigation into the death squad allegations is ordered, this may lead to some answers about the bomb attacks.

Fears 'hit squad' after deserting SADF unit

# Magnus's 'cousin' seeks political asylum



General Malan

By Garner Thomson,  
The Star Bureau

LONDON — Mr Mervyn Malan, a 27-year-old South African who claims to be the "cousin" of General Magnus Malan, has applied to the Dutch government for political asylum, according to the country's leading anti-apartheid publication, *Anti-Apartheid News*.

He is reported to fear his life is in danger after deserting from the SADF's elite Special Forces unit, and to have maintained a low profile in Holland after arriving there some months ago.

But now he has given his first interview since fleeing to Swaziland in 1988 where, he says, an attempt was made on his life. He hopes the publicity will prevent his assassination by a South African hit squad.

In a transcript released last night by the AAM, Mr Malan admits to having "seen and done terrible things".

The report is bound to inflame further the controversy about alleged South African hit squads, especially as his interview provides the first published information about Special Forces structures and activities from the inside.

## Taken note

A Defence Ministry spokesman said today the department had taken note of Mr Malan's allegations and was going to the matter. There may be a statement issued later.

In the *Anti-Apartheid News* interview, Mr Malan says "I will never ever be part of any killing again. Special Forces won't leave me alone. Military Intelligence tried to recruit me after I left the Forces. Then, again, more call ups. I don't want that."

"I want to live a normal life. I tried to do that in Swaziland, until they came after me there. I don't know if I'm safe here. Maybe publicity will give me some protection. I think by now they must know I am here. Friends of mine have been interrogated by the Security Police in South Africa. My cousin, the general and Minister of Defence, doesn't protect me."

Mr Malan has provided the Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement with many names, descriptions which he claims are of Special Forces bases and headquarters, and details of illegal operations allegedly carried out by the Special Forces.

## Report to Cabinet

Political Correspondent

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, is expected to present the Cabinet today with the McNally report on alleged police hit squad assassinations.

It is likely that the Cabinet will then decide whether to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry. Senior Government sources have said that they expect Mr McNally to recommend prosecutions of policemen, but that if it comes up with nothing, a judicial inquiry will be instituted.

Mr Coetsee confirmed today that he had received the bulky report from Free State Attorney General Mr T P McNally yesterday and had spent most of the night studying it.



Workers remove parts of a collapsed crane that fell from a 14-storey construction site on to rush hour traffic. Five people — a bus driver, three construction workers and a pedestrian — were killed and about a

# Emergency end may be near

By Peter Fabricius,  
Political Correspondent

President de Klerk's announcement that the National Security Management System is to be scrapped has prompted new speculation that the state of emergency could be lifted soon and troops removed from the townships.

Speculation is rife that Mr de Klerk could make an announcement tonight when he receives the Newsmaker of the Year award from the Johannesburg Press Club.

The NSMS was largely created as an infrastructure for the emergency and its departure has been seen as heralding the end of the four-year emergency.

The Government now seems to be pondering the question of whether the emergency should be lifted in part or in full. Mr de Klerk has mentioned both possibilities and until recently there were strong indications that he might take the piecemeal approach by lifting some or all of the media emergency regulations.

However, it is known that the Government is also considering the possibility of making a bigger impact by lifting not only the media regulations but part of the



Spelling it out: President de Klerk speaking at a police parade in Pretoria yesterday while Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok listens.

regulations.

Today, Democratic Party co-leader Dr Zach de Beer said he did not expect the state of emergency to be lifted soon. It was more in Mr de Klerk's style to retain the emergency while ameliorating some of its effects such as removing troops from the township.

In a speech at a police parade in Pretoria yesterday, Mr de Klerk announced his decision to take control of national security back into Cabinet hands, a major departure from the system set up by his predecessor.

In a blow to the securocrats of Mr P W Botha's administration, he

changes at a parade at the Police College in Pretoria where he handed over the national standard to the police.

In the place of the NMS, Mr de Klerk has opted for a less-structured mechanism of co-ordinating committees firmly under Cabinet control.

And in place of the SSC, all-powerful under Mr Botha, Mr de Klerk has put security control in the hands of a new security Cabinet committee consisting only of Cabinet Ministers.

The plethora of army and police-dominated joint management centres, sub-JMCs and mini-JMCs will be scrapped to make way for regional co-ordinating centres and local co-ordinating centres.

Mr de Klerk stressed that the move should not be seen as an attack on the security forces, but it was clear from his announcement that the power and influence of the security establishment had been dealt a blow.

The changes mean the National Joint Management Centre, the committee formerly chaired by the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, and its various sub-committees will fall away.

Mr de Klerk said one of the

Sou

# Judges turn down appeal

(29)

THE Appeal Court in Bloemfontein yesterday held that an order of the Commissioner of Police on January 8 1987, which restricted what might be published in the Press, was "ultra vires."

The Chief Justice, Mr Justice Corbett, with the concurrence of Mr Justice Botha, Mr Justice Smalberger, Mr Justice Vivier and Mr Justice F H Grosskopf, dismissed with costs, including those of two counsel, an appeal by the Minister of Law and Order and the Commissioner of the South African Police.

The appeal was

against a judgment of Mr Justice H Daniels who in the Witwatersrand Local Division Supreme Court on January 29 1987, granted an application by Argus Printing and Publishing Company Ltd and South African Associated Newspapers Ltd.

### Void

He had found the Commissioner's order void and of no force and effect.

On appeal it had been

contended that the Commissioner was properly authorised by section 7(1)(d) or 7(1)(b)(i) of the Security Regulations to issue the order.

Mr Justice Corbett said that by the time the order of January 8, 1987 was issued the Security Regulations had been amended by the Media Regulations.

The intention underlying the amendments seemed to have been to collect in the Media

Regulations all the prohibitions and controls that affect what may be published

It was not necessary in this case to define with any degree of precision what the ambit of the powers conferred by the two regulations was.

It was sufficient to hold, for the reasons stated in the judgment, that they did not include the competence to make an order, such as that of January 8 1987, which prescribed what may or may not be published in newspapers, magazines and other periodicals, said Mr Justice Corbett

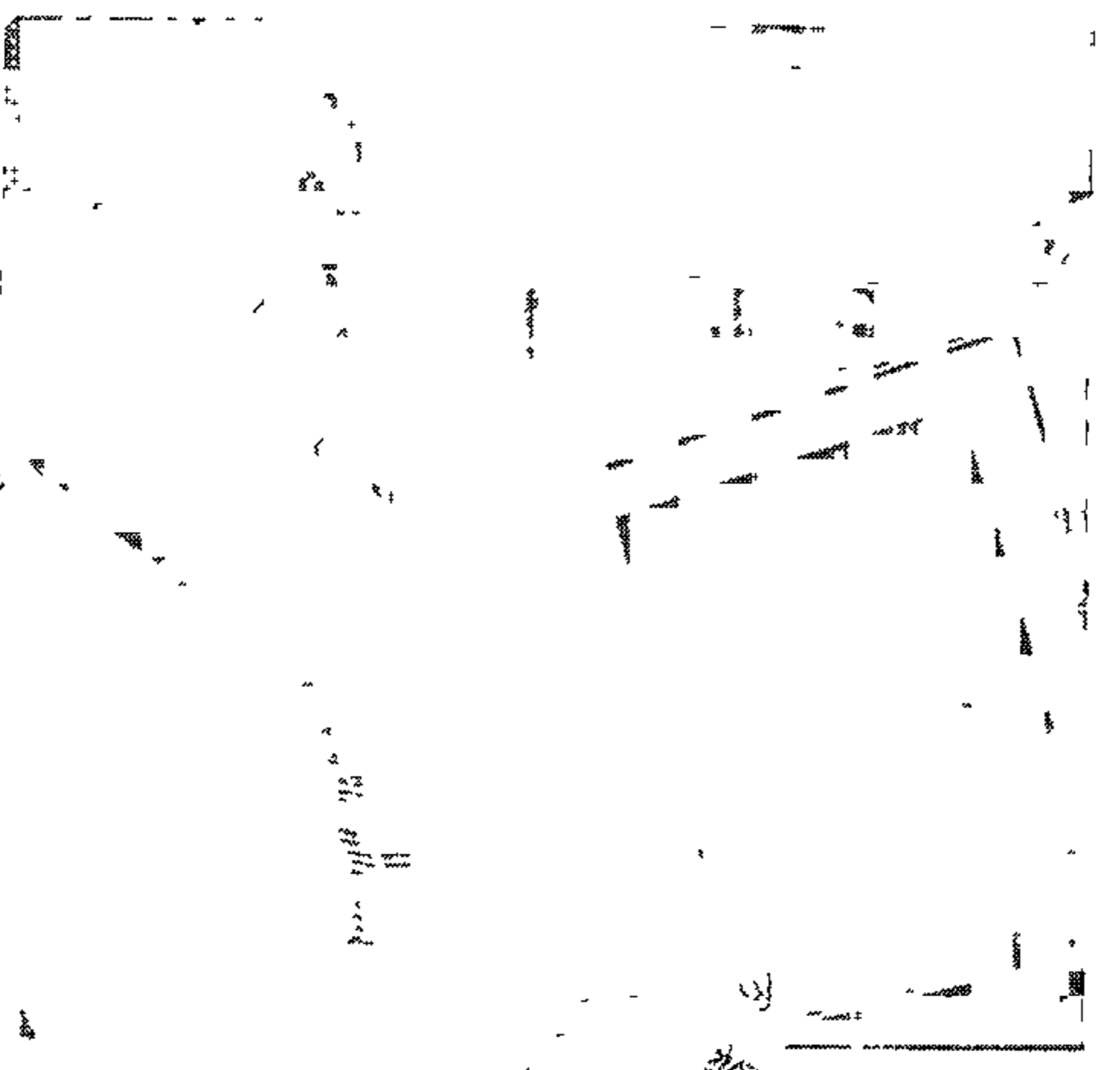
Sowetan 29/11/89

# I shot suspect, says alleged hit-squad boss

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**NAMED:** Warrant Officer Pienaar, who was second-in-command of the hit-squad operation according to his superior, leaves the inquest.



**MEMORIES:** Mrs Naidu holding a picture of her son Lenny, killed in a police operation.

## The Argus Correspondent

**PIET RETIEF** — Major Eugene de Kock told an inquest court he had prayed that a young African National Congress suspect would not die as he shot him in the side with an Uzi machine-gun.

The security police officer who is alleged to be the head of the Vlakplaas "death squad" said in evidence earlier this year that he had shot at Mr Surendra "Lenny" Naidu, 23, after Mr Naidu had fired at him with a pistol.

Two affidavits have been handed into the court saying the four people in the ambush car were unarmed

## In charge

Although Major de Kock was not present at the resumption of the inquest in Piet Retief yesterday, the court record with his previous evidence was available. He is on record as saying he was solely in charge of the operation on June 8 last year when the four ANC suspects died.

He said he had neither written instruction nor directives from any superior on how this matter be handled. News that the four people were to cross from Swaziland into South Africa had first reached him the day before the incident.

He had appointed a Warrant Officer Pienaar, of the local security police, as second-in-command of the operation in which about seven or eight policemen were involved. He had armed his men with standard 9mm pistols, R-1 rifles and Uzi sub-machine guns. They were not wearing bullet-proof vests.

Major de Kock said he aimed the Uzi at Mr Naidu's left side.

Asked if he expected someone shot in the heart to survive, he replied "One can only hope someone will come out of it alive."

Sowetan 29/11/89

# Alleged hit squad

951

## De Klerk to get report 'within days'

STATE President Mr F W de Klerk said in Pretoria yesterday he expected a report "within days" on allegations that hit squads operated within the SA Police force.

And Swazi Prime Minister Obed Dlamini has ordered a full inquiry into allegations published in a South African newspaper at the weekend that two senior Swazi police officials had collaborated with SA Police "hit squads."

Speaking at a parade at the SA Police College in Pretoria West, De Klerk said the report would enable the Government to make a "sensible and well-considered" decision on further steps necessary, strong action will be taken," he said.

De Klerk criticised "efforts to drag the whole police force through the mud"

The thousands of police officers - the overwhelming majority of the force - who helped to maintain law and order in

an impeccable manner deserved better. The police were performing their duties under extremely difficult circumstances.

"It is no easy task to maintain law and order in a period of fundamental change and relative economic adversity." The Government was sympathetic to the needs of the SAP. "We will try, within the framework of present constraints, to address them," he said.

**Problems** "Hopefully some of the most pressing problems can at least be alleviated."

A spokesman for the Prime Minister's office under which the Swazi-land Police Department falls said the allegations against former Police Commissioner Mr Titus Msibi and the present As-

stant Commissioner of Police, Mr Alfred Bhembe, were "very serious." An inquiry would be held to determine whether there was any truth in them. Meanwhile, both Bhembe and Msibi have strongly denied the allegations and said they would take legal action.



President De Klerk

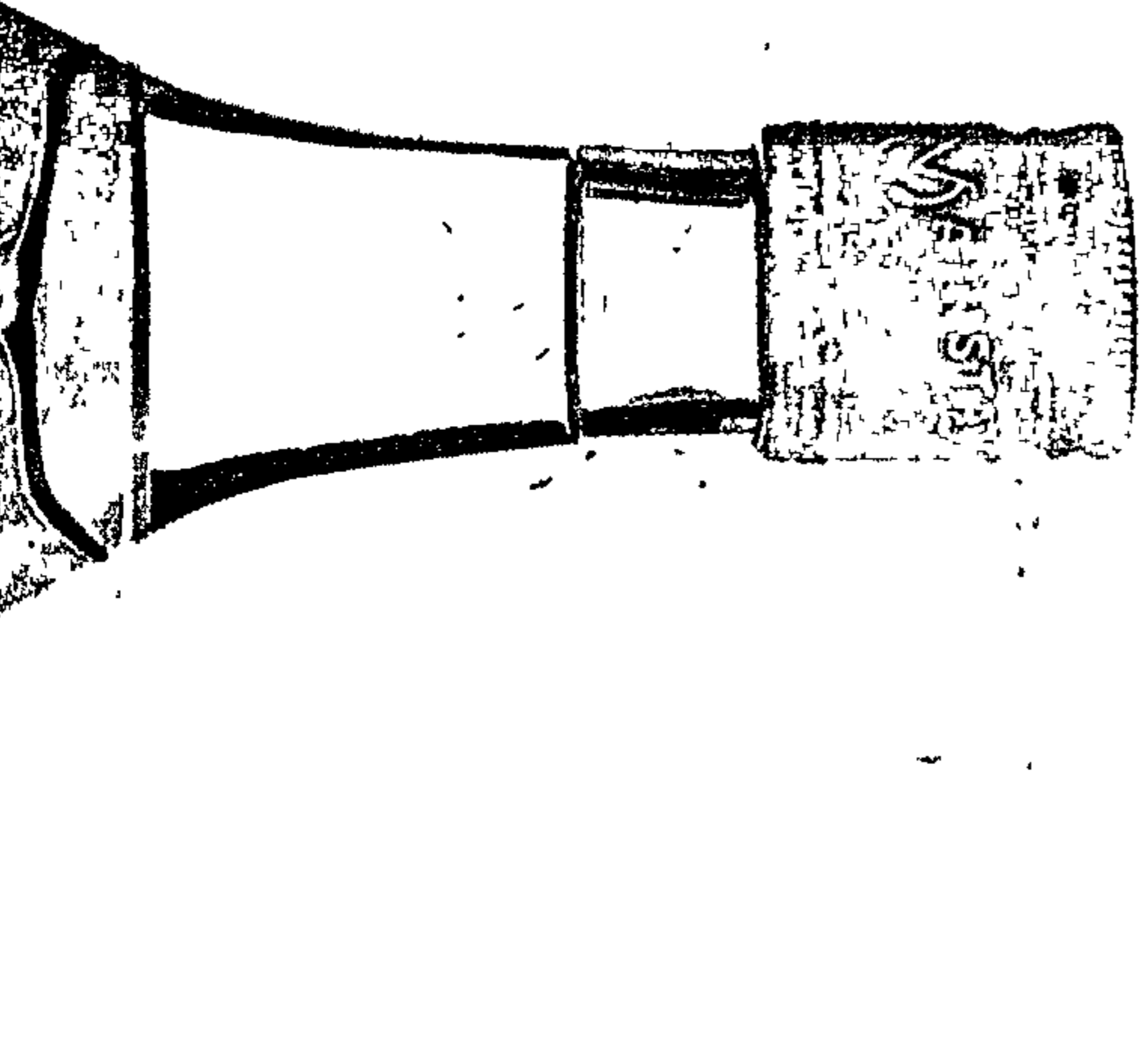
## Church

You can stay as you are for the rest of your life or you can

Change to

# VALENTINESTAY

INTERNATIONAL





# Justice Minister studies hit-squads report

PRESIDENT De Klerk is expected to be handed a report on allegations about police "hit squads" and the Cabinet could be briefed at its weekly meeting in Pretoria today

The report, drawn up by the Attorney-General of the Free State, Mr Tim McNally, and CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, has been handed to the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, who studied it overnight

Mr McNally confirmed today that the "detailed" report was handed to Mr Coetsee yesterday "It took just over a month I'm glad it's done," he said

Mr McNally declined to discuss the report or even say how many pages it ran to. It is said to be bulky

## "STRONG ACTION"

Mr Coetsee said he would deal further with the matter during the day

Mr De Klerk had said earlier that no stone would be left unturned to get to the full truth and so far as was necessary, strong action would be taken

Meanwhile the provincial standing committee of the Anglican Church has called for a judicial commission of inquiry comprising at least three judges and advocates "from different backgrounds" to investigate reports of death squads

The committee, which includes representatives of Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Swaziland, is the top executive body of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa.

According to a Press statement from the church, the committee was "distressed and horrified by reports of death-squad activities."

It "calls upon the government to close immediately Vlakplaas (near Pretoria, where death squads are reportedly based) and any similar centres."

The mouthpiece of the Ned Geref Kerk, Die Kerkbode, has also expressed serious concern over the allegations

Its editorial column in the latest edition reads "Murder remains murder, irrespective of any good intentions there might have been or who was involved"

"If people have the right to start taking into their own hands — if they dare to decide who should die because they are a threat to the community, and if they act without ever having to answer to the existing legal structures in the country, society is in reality exposed to the whims of an uncontrollable dictatorship. This must never happen.

## "DARK PLACE"

"The responsibility of those who must ensure that justice is upheld and who must apply the law is especially great in an emergency situation such as we have already experienced for some time

"Their deeds must also pass the sharp probe of the law. If this does not happen, society has become a very dark place. And eventually we must all — servants of justice and citizens of the land — know that we will answer to God for our actions"

● The editor of Vrye Weekblad, Mr Max du Preez, whose newspaper faces lawsuits over police death-squad allegations, has referred the matter to his lawyers

Interviewed in Paris where he is a delegate to the conference on South Africa, Mr Du Preez said he thought he should not comment other than to say the matter had been referred to his lawyers

"That is probably the wisest course. Although there is much I am tempted to say, at this stage I don't want to make life difficult for the lawyers," he said — Political Correspondent, Staff Reporter, Argus Foreign Service and Sapa

# Policy deny barricading railway workers' hostel

29/11/89

Police and members of Coin Security last night tried to stop SA Transport Services' workers from entering their hostel in Germiston, the SA Railway and Harbour Workers' Union claimed.

A union spokesman said the police and Coin Security members had surrounded Delmore Hostel and barricaded the entrances.

This was denied by police, who said they maintained a supervisory role at the hostel.

Meanwhile striking Sats workers were yesterday interdicted and restrained in the Cape Town Supreme Court from intimidating any employee or preventing any employee from continuing normal duties.

Mr Acting Justice B Hoberman ordered a group of 348 striking workers to show cause on December 8 why they should not be interdicted and restrained from entering or remaining in Table Bay harbour for any purpose other than working.

In an affidavit, Mr Richard Cornelius Miller, manager of the manpower department, said the workers had been involved in a work stoppage in Table Bay harbour since November 13.

At about 12.45 pm that day an unauthorised meeting was conducted between certain cargo handling personnel at the Duncan Dock area where the workers demanded a wage increase.

He told the meeting that the request

did not comply with the provisions of the Sats Conditions of Service Act and that their action was unlawful. The workers refused to return to work.

Similar meetings were held during the next two days when workers at the civil maintenance depot at the Ben Schoeman Dock also asked for an increase.

The striking workers at both the Duncan and Ben Schoeman docks joined forces and in spite of a letter being read out to them and widely displayed, the workers refused to return to work.

## PLACARDS

Last Friday four stick-wielding workers moved to the eastern side of the harbour where they approached non-striking workers and aggressively demanded that they join the strike.

Another group of about 50 strikers marched through the harbour with placards shouted that other workers should join the strike.

Mr Miller said the general unruly behaviour and intimidation continued throughout the week.

Last Tuesday about 80 strikers gathered at Duncan Dock and remained there all day. As a result of shouting, singing and the display of placards, other Sats employees were not prepared to continue their normal duties, Mr Miller said. — Sapa.

## Battles looming

A MASSIVE legal battle is looming between various policemen and sections of the Alternative Press over sensational allegations of the involvement of several policemen in so-called "police hit squads"

Already *Vrye Weekblad*, which broke the story earlier this month, has made it clear

As the McNally Inquiry draws to a close, with the possibility of prosecutions against policemen, the police struck back with massive legal actions.

Apart from Lieutenant-General Lothar Neethling's massive claim of R500 000 against *Vrye Weekblad*, it was learnt yesterday that several other policemen named in the newspaper's allegations were contemplating similar action.

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Sowetan  
29/11/89

# KILLING OF 'ANC FOUR'

THE inquest into the deaths of four people held in Piet Retief gains momentum today after a dramatic turn early yesterday when a security policeman refused to be cross examined in English.

Mr Gideon Lotz, SC appearing for the Minister of Law and Order and giving evidence at the inquest said Warrant Officer Frederik Johannes Pienaar, who has been warned by the magistrate he may in future face a charge of murder also refused to testify while an interpreter was "translating for the audience".

By ISMAIL LAGARDIEN

In delivering her ruling the magistrate, Mrs H Wilkens said that while it was desirable and preferable that counsel should be proficient in both official languages, it was also in the interest of justice that the inquest continued and that an interpreter be brought in

## Interpreter

Wilkens ruled that an interpreter be brought in to translate counsel for the deceased's family from English to Afrikaans and said the court had no objections to the family appointing an interpreter for their own benefit.

The magistrate's ruling came after a more than three hour adjournment following Lotz's remarks that the witness

## Drama in Piet Retief court

found the cross examination "confusing" and that if counsel was not proficient in Afrikaans, "there were many advocates at the bar who were"

Pienaar was being cross-examined in English by Mr Zak Jacob, legal representative for the family of Naidu and

he was replying in Afrikaans.

Lotz made this representation at the resumption of the inquest on the deaths on June 8 last year of four suspected ANC members

The dead were Mr Surendra "Lenny" Naidu (30) Miss June-Rose Nontsikelelo Cotoza (25)

Miss Makhosi Nyoka (25) and Miss Lindwe Mthemba (21). All were originally from Durban.

The inquest has attracted great interest as the police operation in which the four died was headed by Major Eugene de Kock, the alleged head of the Vlakplaas-based alleged death squad.

In previous evidence De Kock said Pienaar was his second-in-command for this particular operation.

(Proceeding).

*Sowetan 29/11/89*

*(95)*

# SA facing up to hit squads - editor

By Peter Sullivan

PARIS — Editor of *Vrye Weekblad* Mr Max du Preez yesterday told the conference on South Africa in Paris that for the first time his countrymen were facing up to the possibility that police death squads existed.

"Reaction in the short time since the allegations were published has been remarkable, for it has shown the old argument that we are engaged in a war no longer goes down," he said.

"There's now a perception among ordinary rank

and the Nationalists that this sort of thing has to be cleaned up

"Let's not do what (former Rhodesian Prime Minister) Ian Smith did, whites are saying, and leave a legacy of bad laws which will be used against us by a future majority government."

He added that there was a lot of pressure on President de Klerk to appoint a judicial commission, and he expected that this would be done once Free State Attorney-General Mr T P McNally has reported on his investiga-

tions

Asked why the controversial disclosures had been made by ex-policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee, Mr du Preez said he thought morale in the Security Police was very low, that they were coming apart as a group, and that Captain Coetzee had been worried about his safety.

The morning session was devoted to dealing with the current situation in South Africa. It saw major differences emerge between JCI chairman Mr Murray Hofmeyr and various ANC speakers on the role of business and trade unions in moving towards a non-racial democracy.

The issue of sanctions was lightly touched, but is likely to become a major focus of debate tomorrow, the fourth day of the conference, when the economy will be put under the spotlight.

Where President de Klerk intends to lead South Africa and the extent of his reform programme was again the major issue of speculation.

● See Page 35.

## NGK wants 'hit squad' probe

CAPE TOWN — It was essential that the question of alleged police "hit squads" be thoroughly investigated and the law had to take its course, a report in *Die Kerkbode*, mouthpiece of the NGK, said yesterday.

"Correct-thinking (*regdenkende*) South Africans have great appreciation for the South African Police and its work. The force has, over the past trouble-filled years, helped prevent the country falling into anarchy and chaos and has fulfilled its task under extremely difficult conditions," the report says.

There was, however, reason for concern if even a few of the allegations were true. Murder remained murder — even if carried out with "good intentions" — no matter who was involved, it said.

If people started taking the law into their own hands ... the community would be delivered into the hands of an uncontrollable dictatorship, it said. — Sapa

B/Dam 29/11/89.

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Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok listens as President F W de Klerk addresses a parade at Police College in Pretoria yesterday.

Picture REUTER

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Times, Wednesday, November 29, 1989 3

# 'Police took cash but gave no receipt'

By MONICA GRAAFF  
Court Reporter

A SHEBEEN owner started suspecting that two senior police officers had robbed him when he realised they had not given him a receipt for money he and his cousin had been forced to hand over to them

"I thought it was wrong but I could not go to the police because it was them," he said

Mr Eric Vokozela said this in evidence in the trial in the Cape Town Regional Court of former chief of the Murder and Robbery Unit, Lieutenant-Colonel Stephanus Brits, 42, and one of his senior officers, Lieut Peter Lister, 46, who have pleaded not guilty to charges of robbery, attempted robbery, extortion and abduction.

They allegedly abducted Mr Vokozela and his cousin, Mr Farrel Vokozela, both of Khayelitsha, and threatened them with violent measures if they did not hand over R6 742

The Vokozela cousins allegedly handed over the money to the officers in Lt-Col Brits's office on February 8 last year

Under cross-examination yesterday, Mr Eric Vokozela denied suggestions put to him by defence advocate Mr DJ Uys that he had deliberately picked out Lt-Col Brits at an identity parade so as "to get at" him

The hearing continues today.

Mr A J van Wyk was the magistrate. Mr W Viljoen from the Attorney General's office prosecuted. Mr D J Uys, instructed by G F Kohler of the State attorneys, appeared for the accused

# FWW to get 'hit' report

## Probe of 'death squads'

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Staff Reporters

**THE McNally report into alleged police hit squads was handed to the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, yesterday.**

This was confirmed last night by the attorney-general of the Free State, Mr Tim McNally, who said he and his co-investigator, CID chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, had made several "findings"

His confirmation followed President FW de Klerk's surprise statement yesterday that "a report" on the alleged death squad was expected "within days"

The report, which is understood to be detailed, concerns the allegations made by the commander of one of the squads, ex-captain Dirk Coetzee, and two of its members, Butana Almond Nofomela, a prisoner on death row, and Mr David "Spyker" Tshikalange

Mr McNally said last night that the investigation had begun "around October 20" and had been "somewhat different to my normal duties"

### 'Hard work'

He said the probe had been "hard work but not particularly arduous", adding, "the important thing is that the work has been done and the report handed over"

He declined to discuss the contents of the report. President De Klerk's statement yesterday, given in a speech at the Police College in Pretoria, indicated that the McNally report was either very close to completion or had already been completed

In his speech, President De Klerk said the report would enable the government to make "a sensible and well-considered decision on further action"

Mr De Klerk said "I want to give the assurance that no stone will be left unturned to establish the full truth."

Earlier in the speech, he emphasised that the government would at all times maintain a prepared army and police force

President De Klerk also criticised "efforts to drag the whole police force through the mud".

● The Kerkbode said in its latest issue that it was essential the question of hit squads be thoroughly investigated.

Staff Reporter

A WINDHOEK heart patient had four "false alarms" before finally receiving a heart that has given her a new lease on life

Mrs Verina Schulte, 44, on Monday night became Grootte Schuur Hospital's 30th heart transplant patient this year

A jubilant Mr Wilfried Schulte, her husband, yesterday told the Cape Times the transplant was the culmination of months of waiting and much trauma

Mrs Schulte has been waiting for a transplant since June but each of

the hearts previously made available were incompatible, her husband said

"Once when she returned to Windhoek for a much needed week-long holiday," said Mr Schulte, "she was contacted by Grootte Schuur on the night of her arrival and told to return immediately as a heart had become available for her"

After a desperate dash back by Lear jet, Mrs Schulte was disappointed to find that the heart was no longer in a condition for transplant.

Mr Schulte described his wife as an "incredibly friendly and positive person" who seldom let her ill health get the better of her, yet the continuous waiting and disappointment had begun to depress her spirits

"A hospital social worker telephoned me in Windhoek and urged me

## Fifth time lucky for heart patient



ABOVE Mr Wilfried Schulte drinks a toast to his wife's heart-transplant operation  
BELOW Mrs Verina Schulte.

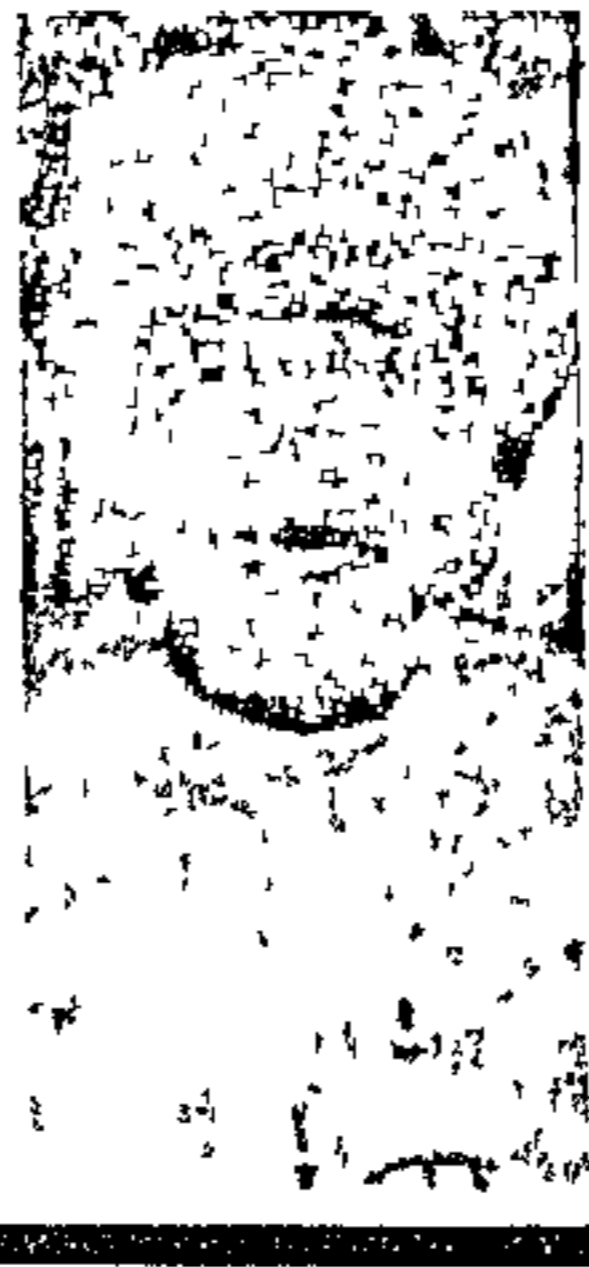
to visit her this week," said Mr Schulte, "and I arrived here on Saturday not knowing she'd be in theatre so soon"

He said Mrs Schulte had felt unwell on Monday and that they'd gone into Rondebosch for a light meal. While walking down Main Road they received a bleep from the doctors at Grootte Schuur who asked her to come in immediately as a heart was waiting.

Mr Schulte was sent home and telephoned at 1 15am with the news that the operation had been successfully completed

She was in good spirits yesterday and had spoken to Mr Schulte only six hours after surgery

"I know she'll be alright now," he said



REPUBLICAN



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SAW

20/11/89

# Askari chief and two members are named

By Therese Anders

**PIET RETIEF** — The name of the current head of the South African Police's secret C1 Askari unit and those of two other members were made public yesterday by a security policeman during an inquest here into the deaths of four alleged ANC suspects in a police ambush on June 8 last year.

Warrant Officer Frederick Johannes Pienaar said a Brigadier van Rensburg had replaced the retired Brigadier Willem Schoon as head of the unit.

The latter was named by former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee as being involved with alleged death squads.

Warrant Officer Pienaar named two other members of the C1 unit as Lieutenant Gladstone Silulami Mose and a Warrant Officer Ras. Both men and Major Eugene de Kock came to Piet Retief from their C1 base in Pretoria for the operation in

which the four suspects died, Warrant Officer Pienaar said.

Warrant Officer Pienaar acted as second in command to Major de Kock during the operation, although he was not a member of C1.

He said that the unit worked with rehabilitated ANC members "who had come to their senses". The type of work they did for the unit was to identify and locate ANC members in South Africa "and nothing else".

The unit was based in Pretoria but its members travelled to other parts of the country.

Warrant Officer Pienaar said he had also worked with Major de Kock during an operation in 1986 when they had prevented a group of alleged infiltrators from entering South Africa from Swaziland. Only one of the people in the infiltrators' car had survived the ensuing shoot-out.

The hearing continues

# Nofomela 'willing to speak'

**PIET RETIEF** — Death Row prisoner and self-confessed former member of an alleged police death squad, Butana Almond Nofomela, is willing to give evidence in the Piet Retief inquest into the deaths of four African National Congress suspects, counsel for the families, Mr Zak Yacoob, announced yesterday.

Nofomela has alleged in his affidavits that Major Eugene Alexander de Kock, who has already given evidence during the inquest that he was the leader of the police operation in which the four ANC suspects died on June 8 1989, was the head of an SAP death squad. Major de Kock told the inquest he shot Mr Surendra "Lenny" Naidu (23) with a sub-machinegun after Mr Naidu had fired at the police.

Two affidavits have been handed in at the inquest, stating

that the four men were unarmed at the time of their deaths.

Mr Yacoob said in court that the assassination squad referred to in Nofomela's affidavits was led by Major de Kock, who was also the leader of the operation in which the four lost their lives.

"Advocate Moerane (representing three of the families) has already put it to Major de Kock that if this had been a plan to kill the deceased, the plan could not have been worked out better."

Mr Yacoob called for an investigation into whether there were assassination squads within the SAP and whether Major de Kock was the head of such a squad.

If the squad did exist and Major de Kock was the leader, then the likelihood existed of the inquest deaths being assassinations, he said. — Highveld Bureau.

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# Policeman on death row ready to testify

**The Argus Correspondent** - PIET RETIEF — Death row prisoner and self-confessed former member of the alleged police "death squad", Butana Almond Nofomela, is willing to give evidence at the Piet Retief inquest into the deaths of four African National Congress suspects.

Mr Zak Yacoob, counsel for the families, told the court this yesterday after he had linked the deaths of the four deceased to the alleged death squads.

Nofomela has alleged in affidavits that Major Eugene Alexander de Kock was head of a death squad in the police force.

### LED OPERATION

Major De Kock has told the inquest court that he led the police operation in which four young ANC suspects died on June 8 last year.

If there was indeed a police hit squad and Major De Kock led it, then there was a likelihood that the inquest deaths were assassinations, Mr Yacoob said

A security policeman, Warrant Officer Frederick Johannes Pienaar, gave the court the names of the current head of

the police's secret C1 Askari unit and several of its members.

He said a Brigadier Van Rensburg had replaced Brigadier Willem Schoon, who had retired, as head of the unit. Brigadier Schoon was named in the confessions of former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee as having been involved with the unit's alleged "death squads".

Warrant Officer Pienaar also named two other C1 unit members under cross-examination yesterday by counsel for the families of the four ANC suspects who died in a police ambush on June 8 last year.

### TRAVELLED

The two are Lieutenant Gladstone Silulami Mose and a Warrant Officer Ras. They and alleged "death squad" chief Major De Kock had travelled to Piet Retief from their C1 base in Pretoria for the operation in which the four suspects died.

Warrant Officer Pienaar said he had been second in command to Major De Kock during the operation, although he himself was not a member of C1 unit



Mr Mervyn Malan

# SA agents will come after me — ex-Recce runaway

The Argus Foreign Service

LONDON — Mr Mervyn Malan, former Recce commando applying for political asylum in Holland, has spoken of his fears that South African agents will "come after me"

"If they came for me in Swaziland they can come for me here," said Mr Malan in a telephone interview from Amsterdam. "They do it to other people."

Mr Malan stood by the allegations he made about South African special forces to Anti-Apartheid News in Amsterdam and repeated his claim that he was related to Defence Minister General Magnus Malan "I was adopted by his uncle," he said

## CRIMINAL RECORD

He admitted a criminal record but put that down to having spent years in an environment where he was taught that illegal activity was acceptable "I was taught that by the South African government it took a while for me to get it out of my system

"As soon as I got back into civilian life I thought I could carry on behaving as I had before"

Asked if it was true that he had, in 1987, been given a four-year suspended sentence for housebreaking and theft, he replied that he and a friend were drunk one night and broke into a company guest house because they knew it had a bar

His drunk driving arrest followed drinking a bottle of whisky and another conviction arose after he set alight the car of his wife's lover

Mr Malan was a lance-corporal in a Recce commando at Phalaborwa from July 1983 to April 1985

## "GRENADES"

He claims he resigned after an incident in Angola in which women, old people and children in a truck were attacked with "phosphur grenades" He moved to Swaziland in August 1988 to avoid a call-up

Mr Malan fled to Holland from Swaziland last December after former Recce colleagues came to his house "I don't know what they wanted but I had avoided a call-up, so when they came to the front door I got out the back"

● The Dutch Justice Department has confirmed an application from Mr Malan for political asylum He has been granted a temporary visa.

# Head of police CI unit is named

2/10/87

30/11/87

30/11/89

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NEW information about the Pretoria police CI unit, alleged to be a "death squad", was disclosed yesterday with the naming of its leader as a Brig van Rensburg during the Piet Retief inquest into the death of four ANC members last year.

During cross-examination, Warrant Officer Frederik Pienaar, second in command of the operation in which the four were killed, said Van Rensburg succeeded Brig Willem Schoon as head of CI unit. He said the unit rehabilitated ANC members who were then used to identify ANC activists in SA. The dead ANC members, one man and three women, were killed in a police ambush shortly after they entered SA from Swaziland on June 8 1988. Their names were Surendra "Lenny" Naidu, 23, Nontsikelelo Cotoza, 25,

ADELE BALETA

Makhosi Nyoka, 25, and Ludiwe Mthembu, 21.

The court has heard that Maj Eugene de Kock, was the commander of the police ambush.

Pienaar, head of Piet Retief security branch, said yesterday two more CI unit members, Lt Sibusiso Mose and W/O Marthinus Ras, took part in the shooting.

## Affidavits

In an affidavit, Mose, a former ANC member, said that on De Kock's instructions he drove the deceased across the border on June 8. They were intercepted by De Kock, Pienaar and other policemen outside Piet Retief. Mose leapt out. Police say shots were fired from the car. They returned

the fire and the four diseased were killed.

Two affidavits by Swazi ANC members have been handed to the court stating they were unarmed.

Pienaar said yesterday that the police had planned only to arrest the ANC members. Asked if he thought that any one could survive such an ambush, he said "I had hoped so".

Earlier inquest magistrate H Wilkens turned down a application by lawyers for the families who have death row prisoner Butana Nofomela's affidavit admitted as part of the record. Advocates Zak Yacoub and M Moerane argued that the document was relevant to the case.

Yacoub said the families were worried that alleged squad head De Kock was the same man who led the operation that led to the death of their children. He said it was crucial to establish

that De Kock was head of the alleged squad and if such a squad existed. He said a full investigation was necessary to resolve the matter.

Moerane said Nofomela, who had mentioned De Kock in his affidavit, was willing to give evidence in the Piet Retief inquest. He suggested that the magistrate subpoena Nofomela. There was nothing preventing her from doing so.

## Allegations

State Counsel Gideon Lotz said if the document, which she felt was irrelevant, was to be admitted, Nofomela's evidence should be tested in court.

The magistrate ruled that the allegations in the affidavit that De Kock was leader of an alleged assassination squad were based on speculation. The hearing continues.



# ACTION IS PROMISED

Sowetan  
30/11/89

## Death squad report

THE State President, Mr FW de Klerk promised last night that anybody implicated in the McNally report for participating in police hit squad activities would be prosecuted

Speaking at the Johannesburg Press Club "Newsmaker of the Year" function, Mr de Klerk said the Government was studying the McNally report

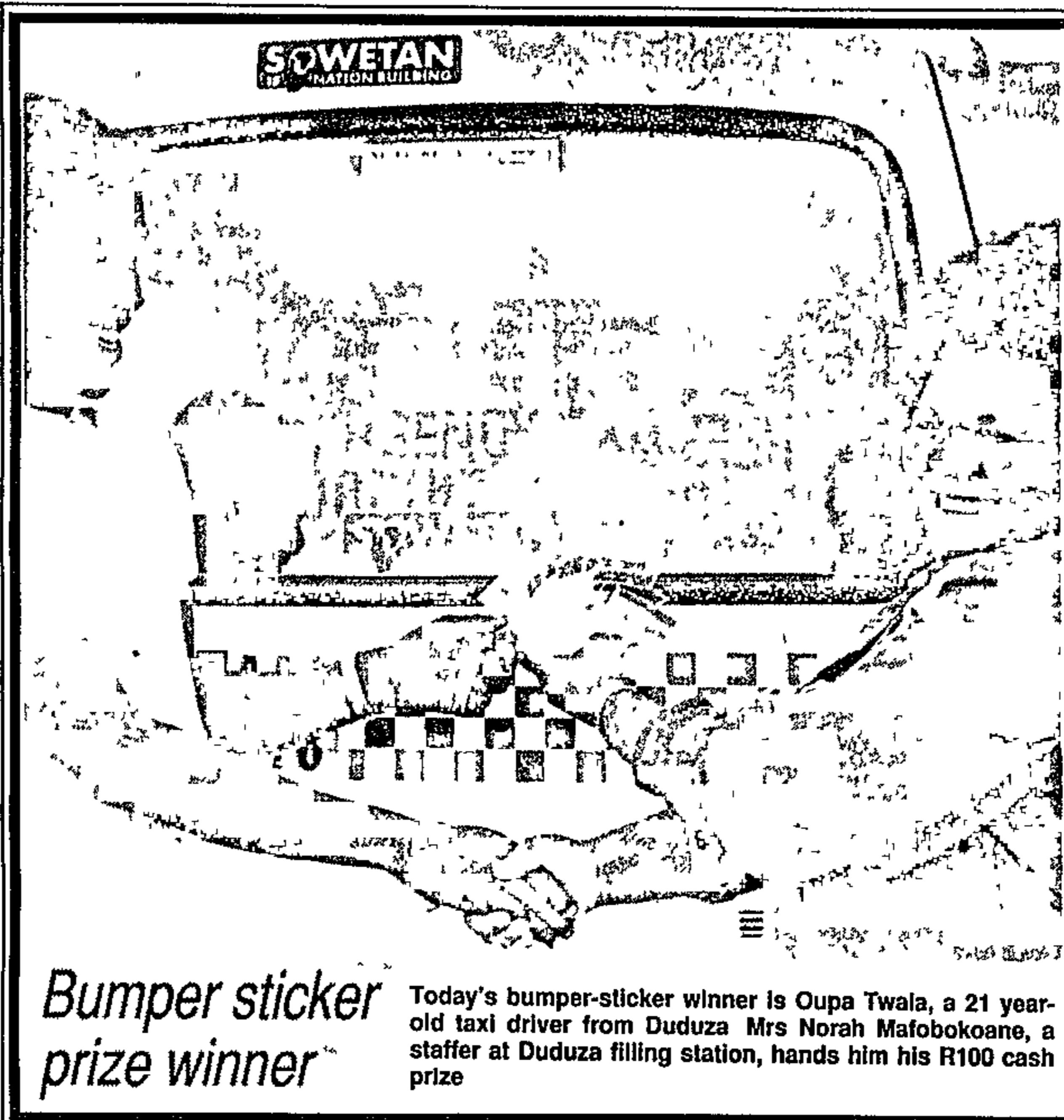
A further announcement on the next Governmental step would be made early next week

Receiving the Newsmaker of the Year award, Mr de Klerk said speculation that he would announce the lifting of media regulations last night had been unfounded

However, he assured members of the media that the Government was paying "urgent attention" to the possible lifting of the media regulations in terms of the state of emergency, or aspects thereof

Speaking on widely published allegations of police hit squads he said the allegations made by Mr Butana Almond Nofomela had been very serious and would be investigated properly

Criminal offences would not be tolerated by the Government be they committed by politicians, the police or members of the public. Crime should be curbed with integrity



*Bumper sticker prize winner*

Today's bumper-sticker winner is Oupa Twala, a 21 year-old taxi driver from Duduza Mrs Norah Mafobokoane, a staffer at Duduza filling station, hands him his R100 cash prize

Vrye  
to publish more

PARIS - The newspaper *Vrye Weekblad* will be published and distributed on Friday with more evidence on police death squads and their use of poison, editor Max du Preez said here last night

"We deny absolutely that we have defamed General Lothar Neethling," he said.

"We find it curious that he feels defamed merely because we stated that poison used to murder activists was prepared by the forensic department of which he is the head

"We see his action and that of Major Craig Williamson as crude intimidation

"We will not be scared off. We will not apologise to General Neethling, Major Williamson, or any other policeman or public servant whom we have implicated in our reports on the death squads

"We have not been reckless in our reports. We have only published carefully considered information which had been checked thoroughly

"We have been overwhelmed by the international support we have received after the news that senior policemen are demanding large sums of money," he said

## Boycott threat over refugees

THE South African Government has been asked to step into the Peelton refugee crisis or black buyers in the King William's Town district would embark on a consumer boycott

In a written demand handed to the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Leon Wessels, the MDM and Cosatu said the small Eastern Cape town faced "a huge con-

**SOWETAN Correspondent**

sumer boycott" if the plight of the almost 1 000 refugees was not resolved.

Wessels earlier this week held a meeting with the refugees who have been living in a church hall in the town for the past six weeks and was scheduled to meet with

the refugees again yesterday

A statement will be issued today

MDM and Cosatu representatives attended the meeting chaired by the Reverend B Finca who is also chairman of the Border Council of Churches

Wessels said "We have had long discussions we have not resolved this issue"

Finca said he would like to see the issue resolved this week "in terms of the deadline."

Wessels also visited Dale Junior School across the road from the refugee centre to ascertain whether rumours that the school may be downgraded were true. It is alleged that parents have removed children from the school because of the refugees across the road

B1 Day 30/4/89

## Hit squad report may be with FW

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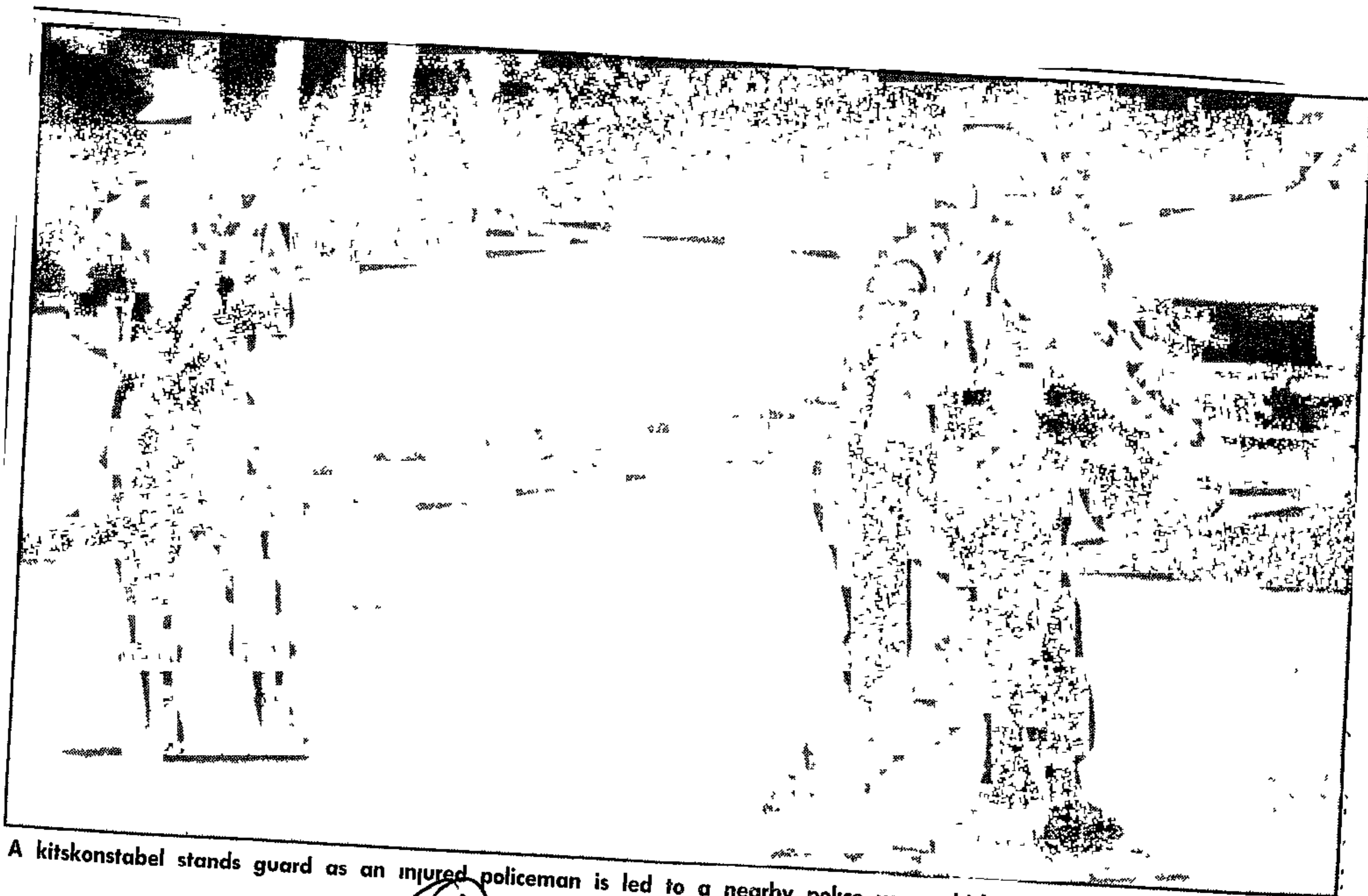
ALAN FINE

LAW and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok took a copy of the McNally-Conradie report on alleged hit squads to yesterday's Cabinet meeting and had probably handed it to President F W de Klerk, a spokesman for Vlok said yesterday.

A spokesman for De Klerk said he was not sure whether the matter was on the Cabinet's agenda this week, and a statement would be forthcoming only after De Klerk had studied it.

The report was described as extremely lengthy, "at least as thick as a Pretoria telephone directory".

In a joint statement yesterday, Vlok and Justice Minister Kobie Coetzee said the report, handed to them on Tuesday, was "being studied in depth, whereafter the State President will be advised in this regard without delay".



A kitskonstabel stands guard as an injured policeman is led to a nearby police van, which immediately drove him away. © Picture by Sean Woods.

# Several hurt as police disperse crowd

By Kaizer Nyatumba and Craig Kotze

Three policemen and possibly five workers were injured yesterday afternoon when police dispersed a crowd which allegedly attacked them outside union offices in Wanderers Street, Johannesburg

Police fired birdshot to ward off the attack and used teargas and batons to disperse the crowd, said Pretoria police spokesman Captain Ruben Bloomberg

He said he knew of only two policemen injured, but reporters saw a third policeman shot and wounded in the foot, apparently by a kitskonstabel.

A Congress of SA Trade Unions spokesman said at least five workers were injured in the incident, but Captain Bloomberg said no injuries were reported to police

About 2 000 Cosatu members were about to march on Bree Street around noon in solidarity with South African Breweries and SA Transport Services workers who have been on strike for the past few weeks

Police stopped them and ordered them to disperse.

Captain Bloomberg said a section of the

crowd attacked a policeman, smashing a bottle over his head and stabbing him in the back

Birdshot was used to ward off the attack and police ordered the crowd to disperse

When they refused, action was taken and they were teargassed and baton-charged, Captain Bloomberg said

A second policeman was hit by a stone

The first injured policeman was not seriously hurt but was admitted to Milpark Hospital

## Head injuries

Cosatu spokesman Mr Abel Mabelane said five union members, two of them with gunshot wounds, were admitted to hospital after yesterday's confrontation

At the time of going to press, the superintendent of the Hillbrow Hospital could not confirm Mr Mabelane's statement

A white policeman, who was in the crowd, was held and attacked by angry demonstrators. A kitskonstabel standing nearby fired a shot, accidentally wounding the policeman. The policeman sustained in-

juries to the head and was taken away in a police van

In another incident a white policeman who had walked close to the crowd was attacked and beaten up and his gun was taken away. His colleagues retrieved the weapon.

A number of press photographers and television cameramen, including The Star's Alf Kumalo, were arrested briefly and later released

Police dogs twice came close to mauling two people trying to cross the crowded streets. A woman's jersey was torn and she fell to the ground. A few minutes later a man's trousers were torn.

A lawyer acting for Cosatu, Mr Joe Nxumani, confronted the policemen to find out what had happened. He later told The Star he had been advised to approach the SAP divisional commander for information

A police team on the scene videotaped the events.

● SABC radio news reported that a policeman was stabbed in the shoulder three times during the same clash. The name of the injured policeman had not yet been released, according to the SABC.

# Hit squads: response next week

By Esmaré van der Merwe,  
Political Reporter

The State President, Mr F W de Klerk, vowed last night that anybody implicated in the McNally report as participating in police hit squad activities would be prosecuted.

He was speaking to the Johannesburg Press Club which had elected the State President as its Newsmaker of the Year for 1989.

Mr de Klerk said media speculation that he was to make an important announcement concerning the lifting of the media regulations at the banquet, held in Randburg, were unfounded.

However, he wanted to assure the media that his Government did not want to place unnecessary obstacles in the media's way.

"We will keep the issue of the state of emergency under constant review. I am committed to lifting it, or aspect thereof, at the earliest possible opportunity."

Commenting on allegations of police hit squads, Mr de Klerk confirmed that

the Cabinet had received the report by the two-man committee which had been appointed to investigate the claims first made by Death Row prisoner Butana Nofomela.

Nofomela's allegations were being viewed as very serious and the McNally report would be studied urgently.

Mr de Klerk said an announcement regarding further steps by the Government in connection with the allegations against the police force would be made, at the latest, early next week.

He said criminal offences would not be tolerated in government service. The tried and respected prosecution procedures of the state would be used to bring people accused of any crimes to justice.

"Nobody has the right to take the law in his own hands and nobody dares acting without the framework of the law, not I as State President, not the police, not political leaders of any party and not members of the general public."

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6/21/89  
Stow





NATIONAL

# FW promises *Argus 30/11/87* tough action on hit squads

The Argus Correspondent *SI*

JOHANNESBURG — President F W de Klerk has promised that anyone implicated in the McNally report for taking part in police hit-squad activities will be prosecuted.

Speaking at the Johannesburg Press Club "Newsmaker of the Year" function last night, Mr De Klerk said the government was studying the report.

A further announcement on the next government step would be made early next week.

Receiving the newsmaker award, Mr De Klerk said speculation that he would announce the lifting of media regulations last night had been unfounded.

## Serious allegations

However, he gave the assurance that the government was paying "urgent attention" to the possible lifting of the media regulations in terms of the state of emergency or aspects of them.

Speaking on widely published allegations of police hit squads, he said the allegations made by death-row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela had been very serious and would be investigated properly.

Criminal offences would not be tolerated by the government whether they were committed by politicians, the police or the public. Crime should be curbed with integrity.

The government would seriously consider charging in court policemen guilty of hit-squad actions.

● The Argus Foreign Service in Washington quotes White House Press spokesman Mr Marlin Fitzwater as saying that changes proposed by President De Klerk were encouraging, but it was still too early to make a final judgment about them.

"We hope they (the South Africans) are moving toward an end to apartheid. But, I think it is too early to have a final judgment."

## US visit unlikely

"We want to wait and see the actions, to see if they live up to the words and see how far he (Mr de Klerk) is willing to go," he said.

Meanwhile, United States sources have indicated that a visit to America by President De Klerk is not on the cards for the foreseeable future.

Although impressed by many of Mr De Klerk's recent announcements and actions, the administration is wary of the political repercussions of such a visit, particularly in view of recent allegations of police death squads murdering South African opposition activists.



# Justifiable killings 'merely make a mockery of the law'

THE 34 burglary suspects shot dead by East London security guard Louis van Schoor over the past few years shows that the value of human life under South African law can amount to just a few rands, say lawyers

"According to our law one could justifiably shoot at a child who was stealing an apple," said human rights lawyer Nicholas Haysom, who has researched the right of policemen and private citizens to shoot "fleeing felons"

Van Schoor's record of 34 killings — more than four times the toll of mass murderer Barend Hendrik Strydom — has sparked a public outcry

Last week Cape Law Society president Tony Hardy called for an urgent review of the Criminal Procedures Act, which allows a person carrying out an arrest to shoot dead a fleeing suspect. The crimes could range from pilfering to robbery to murder

Inquests were conducted into the deaths of 26 of Van Schoor's victims

and in each case magistrates found that the security guard had acted within the law

A lawyer involved in investigating the shootings said Van Schoor had claimed he was acting in self-defence in 18 of the 26 cases

But Van Schoor now faces three charges of attempted murder, all involving people allegedly shot by him

Eastern Cape attorney-general Dr J D Oliveira said this week that the records of the 26 inquests would be examined, but police dockets relating to the allegations of attempted murder have not yet been passed on to his office

**When one man alone is 'permitted' to kill 34 people in 'self-defence' then the law must be questioned** CASSANDRA MOODLEY reports on a growing call for an inquiry

Hardy welcomed Oliveira's announcement of an investigation and described it as "encouraging"

But Haysom said the Van Schoor case was not the first instance in which a private citizen embarked on a series of "justifiable killings"

"The principle objection to these shootings is that they make a mock-

ery of the legal system," he said

He said the Criminal Procedures Act allowed a suspect to be killed without any test of his innocence or guilt, even in cases in which he would only have received a suspended sentence if arrested, charged, tried and convicted

An well-known example was the Johannesburg café owner who shot dead eight people whom he alleged were attempting to break into his property, Haysom said

No criminal charges were ever brought against the man but it was only after the eighth killing that his licence to own a firearm was revoked,

Haysom said

"It appears that the staff of the attorney-general are reluctant to prosecute a property owner who kills in defence of his property. There is no reason to believe that policemen who kill in defence of property would be treated more severely"

The attorney general was reluctant to prosecute policemen — or security guards — for the use of firearms, he said, adding that the person killed or injured was the only one who could really give evidence

"Many of the cases which come into the public eye are those resulting in a formal inquest, commissions of inquiry or civil suits," he said

Haysom said that South African law allowed policemen to use deadly force on three grounds

- When protecting life or property, which falls under common law

- To arrest a fleeing suspect. In this case the policeman acts in terms of the Criminal Procedures Act.

- To disperse an unlawful gathering under the Internal Security Act

"In South Africa property is regarded as more valuable than life," Haysom said

"In the early 1970s, the Appellate Division ruled that people who acted outside the law should not claim its protection. Thus a person could deliberately kill or wound another to protect his property"

Referring to a call for a review of the law, Haysom said "In the instance of the security guard, the attorney-general's role needs to be stressed"

"The courts also have a particular role in preventing the role of deadly force to protect property interests and the attorney-general and the police themselves should be bringing more prosecutions before the courts"

"At the heart of it we need a political system in which the police are accountable to the people, both locally and centrally"

Haysom adds "Police use firearms and inflict deadly force too readily"

This was illustrated in "township policing" in recent years, he said, citing the examples of shootings in Mamelodi, Langa, Kabokweni, Athlone and Winterveld

The most notorious township shooting is the "Trojan Horse" case, in which nine policemen are standing trial for shooting dead three youths from the back of a railway truck during the 1985 riots in Athlone. The youngest of the three, an 11-year-old, died of shotgun wounds to the head

The policemen claimed their truck had been bombarded by stones

A Cape Town magistrate ruled in an inquest last year that Lieutenant Douw Vermeulen and his task force had been negligent and responsible for the deaths of the three youths

He found police had exaggerated the extent of the stoning of the truck by the crowd — international television crews found that only one brick and two or three stones had been thrown

It was also found that 39 rounds of shotgun ammunition and buckshot had been fired into the crowd and that there was no evidence to show that the youths who were shot dead had thrown stones

But Cape attorney-general Daniel Rossouw declined to prosecute and did not give reasons for his decision

The family of two of the youths then privately prosecuted the policemen for murder, the first time such a case has been heard under South African law. Judgement in the case is expected soon

Other cases of shooting by policemen include the Langa shooting in March 1985, where 20 were killed and 27 seriously injured when police shot at a group of mourners marching to a funeral in kwaNobuhle

A year later Bophuthatswana police opened fire on the Winterveld squatter camp, killing 13 — almost half of them children

Haysom said surveys carried out on such shootings showed that 50 per cent of the victims were shot in the back or side of the body — suggesting that the shootings were not merely aimed at arresting agitators since such wounds could result in death or serious injury

## APARTHEID BAROMETER

### CLOSURE OF WHITE SCHOOLS

A TOTAL of 196 white primary and secondary schools have been closed over the past 10 years, according to the latest edition of the SA Institute of Race Relations publication *Update 8*. The report said that 21 of these schools were presently being let to the Indian and "coloured" education departments, 133 to other government departments or private interests and 42 were not in use.

Excluding the Cape schools among the 196, these schools had a combined capacity of 15 238 pupils

### BORDER FENCE

AT least 94 people have been killed on South Africa's electrified border fences, according to figures released by the South African Defence Force.

Colonel Hans Stempfle of the army said that nine people were killed between August and December 1986, 36 in 1987, 28 in 1988 and 16 in the first eight months of 1989. In this period five others were shot.

The northern fence was switched on in 1986 and the eastern one in 1987. According to the director of the Catholic Bureau for Refugees, Father Jeanne Pierre le Scour, 52 people were killed on the fence between July and December last year — excluding those shot.

### PRISONER OF CONSCIENCE

JOHN VUSUMUZI NENE, 46, a member of the African National Congress, was detained under South Africa's security laws on November 30 1975 and sentenced to life imprisonment under the old Terrorism Act on July 25 1985

He has spent a total of 25 years and three months behind bars, making him the country's second longest serving political prisoner (after Nelson Mandela)

Since March 1963 he has spent only 16 months out of prison — all but 11 days of which were spent living under a banning order

The son of a domestic worker and a policeman, Nene grew up in Pietermaritzburg. After he had completed Std 6 his father died and he left school to find work. He first became politically active in 1958 as a 15-year-old during the ANC's potato boycott campaign

He joined the ANC and later Umkhonto weSizwe, leaving the country for military training in February 1963. The following month, aged 19, he was detained in Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) and deported to

South Africa where, on April 4, he was sentenced to two years' imprisonment for leaving the country without a passport. While still serving this sentence he was tried for leaving South Africa for military training, and on May 21 1965 was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment.

Nene was released on May 19 1973 but was soon afterwards served with a five-year banning order. Ten months later he was sentenced to an effective 12 months' imprisonment for contravening his banning order. He was released on March 23 1975 but eight months later was detained with six others. Twenty months later he was sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island, together with Harry Gwala, Anthony Yaba, Msomi Mjilwa and Zakhele Mdalose.

### BANNED BOOKS, PUBLICATIONS AND OBJECTS

Banned for distribution and importation: No Easy Road — Apartheid: What and Why is it? (Mahmoud El Kali), Apartheid South African Nazism (Sipe E Mzimela), Che Guevara and the Cuban Revolution (Pathfinder, Australia), The Penis (Brian Richards, MD), The World's Greatest Nudist Videos — video, Pamflet, BVCC, Warm baths), Buckskin Breed — Buckskin Special Edition (Kit Dalton), Illustrator's Reference Manual Nudes (Bloomsbury Publishing Ltd, London), Ninja in Action — film, Blood Tracks — film, Leon Popsicle — film, In Too Deep — film, Exterminator 2 (Review) Restricted

The Loving Touch (Dr Andrew Stanway — not for persons under 18, must be sealed in plastic wrapping and only distributed by bookshops, lending libraries and wholesale book distributors), Make Better Love (Hamlyn Publishing Group Ltd, London — not for persons under 18, must be sealed in plastic wrapping)

Banned for possession: Sure Shot 1980 — greeting card (Sure Shot, Chicago), Bestell nos 00102, 00101, 00106, 00108 — greeting cards (Verlag Rosa Winkel, GmbH, Berlin), Playgirl vol 111 no 9 February 1976 (Playgirl Inc, California), Gay Life — it used to be such fun — PN 409 90 — greeting card (Rockshots Inc, New York)

Unbanned for distribution and importation: Forced Removal — the Division, Segregation and Control of the People of South Africa (Elaïne Unterhalter).

Unbanned for possession: Year of Fire, Year of Ash (Baruch Hirson)



Feast after the famine — a Boksburg resident stocks up after months of boycotting the local shops. With the recent announcement by the State President FW de Klerk that the Separate Amenities Act would be lifted the consumer boycott came to an end

Picture: CEDRIC NUNN; Afrapix

## Protesters poised to march

TWO protest marches, one in Daveyton and another in Alexander, hang in the balance as organisers wait for magistrates' permission

The decision to hold the Daveyton march was taken at a meeting attended by more than 500 residents

The meeting also elected a delegation to visit the Transvaal Provincial Administration in Pretoria next week.

Besides the rent crisis in the township the delegation will discuss the appointment of a commission of inquiry into the council's activities, the suspension of the July rent increase, an end to evictions, the suspension of the council, and the building of low-cost housing in the township

The aim of the march is to register the anger of the Daveyton community at the increased rentals and the R25 paid monthly to the council by shack-dwellers," organisers said

Meanwhile, the Alexander Action Committee and other Mass Democratic Movement structures in the township have approached the Randburg

By VUSI GUNENE

magistrate and the government to seek permission for a mass meeting at the township's stadium

Last week, a proposed meeting and march was banned

AAC representative Obed Bapela said the Ministry of Justice asked for a letter from the council confirming that the meeting would take place on the Saturday, but that the council refused to submit such a letter

The AAC intends to draw the following grievances to the council's attention: the lack of houses and poor living conditions, an expensive housing policy beyond the reach of most Alexandra residents, the threatened destruction of shacks and forced removals to Orange Farm, and the relocation of residents to parts of the township where they are accommodated in old buses and zinc shacks

The AAC has threatened to seek a supreme court interdict if the march is not allowed

The ESP is a non-profit education trust which provides supplementary education to Std 9 and 10 students. In 1990 we will be implementing a study group training and support programme in the East Rand. We need a

## STUDENT SUPPORT WORKER

Responsibilities will include

- devising and implementing counselling and advice services for ESP students
- devising and implementing extension strategies for the formation and support of study groups
- taking responsibility for the development, implementation and evaluation of ESP's Life Planning Studies, Study Skills and Organisational Skills courses
- participating in the overall management of the project

Applicants should have

- a university degree
- experience in counselling students
- an interest in educational issues in the South African context and an ability to work well in a team committed to democratic practices

Applications in writing together with CV and two references should be sent to 108 Dunwell House, 35 Jorissen Street, Braamfontein 2001, Closing date 7 December 1989 To start January 1990 or as soon as possible

3 (ESP) L. mail 24-30/11/89

By REHANA ROSSOUW

TRIALISTS in the Yengeni trial have initiated steps to have security police warrant-officer Jeffrey Benzien prosecuted overseas for alleged crimes against humanity and torture.

According to their legal counsel, the trialists have instructed international agencies to prosecute Benzien should he set foot outside South Africa

It is understood that they also intend taking similar steps against other members of the security branch

In another development in the ongoing Yengeni trial 10 former detainees who were interrogated by Benzien and his colleagues in the terrorism detection unit have offered to give evidence against them

**Suffocated**

Details of Benzien's alleged intimidation and alleged torture of the 10, mainly at security police offices at Culemborg, were revealed in the Supreme Court recently during the Yengeni trial

Under cross-examination by Advocate DP de Villiers QC, Benzien denied that he had beaten, chained, suffocated and shocked detainees

De Villiers said four people alleged that Benzien smothered them by placing a bag filled with water over their heads Ashley Forbes, Peter Jacobs, Tony Yengeni and Gary Kruser

He said he would raise allegations by people who had been involved in three security trials and had been in contact with Benzien during their detention under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act

De Villiers raised allegations made by five people who had been on trial with Forbes David Fortum, Ashraf Karriem, Nicklo Pedro, Anwa Dramat and Peter Jacobs

Allegations of assault and intimidation were also made by Yengeni and his co-accused Gary

# Charge cop, say trialists

South 30/11 - 6/12/89

Kruser and Lumka Yengeni

Bongani Jonas, recently sentenced to three years' imprisonment for refusing to give evidence in the Yengeni trial, alleged that Benzien stood and jumped on his leg while a bullet was lodged in his thigh

Benzien admitted during cross examination that he was "aggressive at times" but said he had never seen violence used against a person suspected of being a "terrorist"

He said he had never seen a suspect being smacked or punched, he had never seen anyone handcuffed to the burglar bars at Culemborg, he had never seen a person's beard being pulled piece by piece from his face

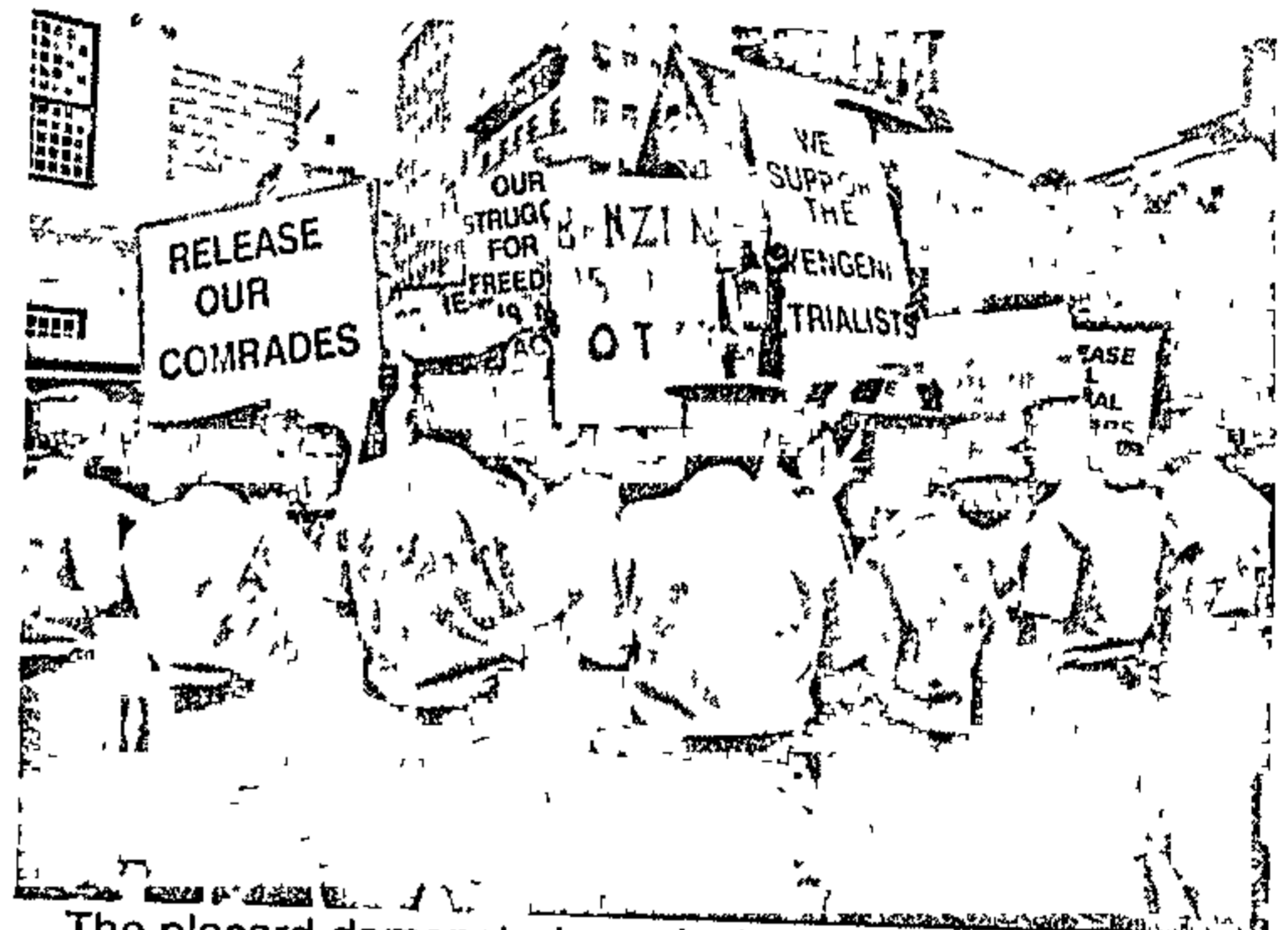
Benzien said he had never seen a person suffocated to the edge of unconsciousness or beaten until they fell to the ground

He denied that he had squeezed the private parts of a detainee or touched the breasts of a detainee and lifted her nightgown over her head

Benzien denied that he intimidated suspects but admitted that during arrests he awoke suspects by pressing his gun against their faces

He believed there was a smear campaign against him. During a demonstration in support of the trialists on Thursday he had seen posters which had his name and derogatory slogans on them

"My instructions are that you go



The placard demonstration which upset Warrant Officer Jeffrey Benzien

further than issuing threats, you tell people what will happen to them if they do not co-operate," De Villiers told Benzien

De Villiers said he would call several witnesses to testify about Benzien's actions during interrogations. He put all their allegations to Benzien

● In terms of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 95 (1) of 1946 the person charged need not have committed the offence in the

country in which he is being prosecuted

Crimes against humanity are "inhumane acts committed against any civilian population before or during a war, or persecutions on political, racial or religious grounds"

A legal expert said apartheid was a crime against humanity according to the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of Crime Against Apartheid which has been ratified by 86 nations

# Benzi keeps his address a secret

Call Trip 30/11/89  
251  
Supreme Court Reporter  
SECURITY policeman  
Warrant Officer Jeff  
Benzien told the  
Supreme Court yester-  
day that he was not pre-  
pared to say where he  
lived except to say it was  
in the northern suburbs.

WO Benzien was being  
questioned by Mr D P de  
Villiers, QC, defence  
counsel for Mr Tony  
Yengeni and 13 others  
who have refused to  
plead to charges of ter-  
rorism.

Asked about allega-  
tions of torture made in  
evidence during the trial  
of Ms Christina Tyulu  
and reported in yester-  
day's Cape Times, WO  
Benzien said he still be-  
lieved the allegations  
were fabricated in order  
to smear his name and  
intimidate him.

Mr De Villiers then  
showed WO Benzien a  
document received from  
the regional commis-  
sioner of police confirm-  
ing that jailed ANC guer-  
illa Ashley Forbes had  
laid a complaint against  
police. Copies of three  
statements by Forbes  
were annexed.

In the third statement,  
made on February 1 last  
year, Forbes said he had  
not told the truth in an  
earlier statement be-  
cause he feared the se-  
curity police.

He alleged that WO  
Benzien undressed him  
at Culemborg, that he  
was handcuffed, suffo-  
cated and subjected to  
electric shocks.

The trial continues.

# Malan has record — SAP

PRETORIA — The only record the SAP had of Mervyn Malan, who claims to be Defence Minister Magnus Malan's cousin and a former member of the alleged police hit squad, is a string of criminal convictions dating back to 1982, a spokesman said.

*D 1291 20/11/84*  
The police spokesman said Malan apparently left SA in September last year for Swaziland, where he asked for political asylum.

The Dutch government yesterday granted temporary residence to Malan.

Malan, 27, who claims he was a lance-corporal in the elite Reconnaissance Unit, has appealed for asylum on the grounds that his life would be in danger if he was sent back to SA.

Malan, who openly admits he has a criminal record, says he fled to Holland several months ago from Swaziland after an attempt to kidnap him there failed.

Malan, the police spokesman said, was arrested for fraud in 1982. He was convicted in Bloemfontein on two counts of fraud.

**GERALD REILLY,**

In 1986, he was convicted on a drunken driving charge, and in the same year he was also convicted on a charge of malicious injury to property after setting a car alight.

In 1987 he was convicted in the Tzaneen Magistrate's Court on two counts of housebreaking and theft, said the spokesman.

The Dutch government indicated yesterday that at this stage his allegations were not the issue to be considered — only his appeal for refugee status.

~~Unknown~~ **Unknown** (251)

Malan has been accorded temporary refugee status. He is allowed to stay in the country, but not to work.

Defence Minister Magnus Malan said that he had never heard of the man. "This Mervyn Malan is unknown to me. I do not know of such a family member."

The minister said he had asked the Chief of the SADF to institute an investigation.

## Vrye Weekblad 'will defend itself in court'

INDEPENDENT Afrikaans weekly newspaper Vrye Weekblad says it will defend any action instituted against it. The SAP's Deputy-Commissioner has notified the newspaper that he is contemplating suing it for R500 000 ~~(252)~~ (252).

Former police spy Craig Williamson has also notified the newspaper that he is considering action against it for defamation.

The newspaper has published allegations about the function of police death squads by self-confessed assassins Capt Dirk Coetzee and David Tshikalange — both of whom have fled the country.

In a statement, Vrye Weekblad said it

Bloom 30/11/89  
CHARLENE SMITH

would "not be gagged by threats of litigation". It would continue to expose those responsible for unlawful killings, and it was in the public's interest that the newspaper fulfilled its journalistic duty, it said.

Vrye Weekblad said it found "it strange" that information about the threatened suits was leaked to the media before the newspaper received legal notification.

It said allegations were published after careful consideration of all the implications of publication.

# Brig linked to Askaris unit

30/11/82 251

Cops: Malan has record

JOHANNESBURG — A Brigadier Van Rensburg was named yesterday as the commander of the Pretoria police unit which "rehabilitated" the ANC members or "Askaris" used to identify ANC activists in South Africa.

The brigadier was named yesterday during the Piet Retief inquest into the death of four ANC members last year.

During cross-examination War-rant Officer Frederik Prenaar, second in command of the operation in which the four were killed, said Brigadier Van Rensburg succeeded Brigadier Willem Schoon as head of the Pretoria-based police unit.

The dead ANC members, one man and three women, were killed in a police ambush shortly after they entered South Africa from Swaziland on June 8, 1988. Their names are, Surendra "Lenny" Naidu, 23, Nontsikelelo Cotoza, 25, Makhosi Nyoka, 25, and Lindiwe Mthembu, 21.

The court has heard that Major Eugene de Kock — the alleged head of an SAP assassination squad — was the commander of the police ambush in 1988. In an affidavit Lieutenant Silulamani Mose, a former ANC member, said that acting on Major De Kock's instructions he drove the four ANC members across the border on June 8. The car was intercepted by Major De Kock, W/O Prenaar and other policemen outside Piet Retief.

THE only record police have of Mr Mervin Malan, who claims to have been a member of a South African "hit squad" and is seeking political asylum in Holland, is his criminal record. Police spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet said Mr Malan had been convicted on two counts of fraud in 1982. Defence Minister General Magnus Malan, meanwhile, denied he was a member of his family. Mr Malan had claimed he was General Malan's cousin.

## Vrye Weekblad says: We'll fight

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Vrye Weekblad issued a statement here yesterday saying it would defend any action instituted against it.

The statement followed a notification from the deputy commissioner of police that he was contemplating suing the paper for R500 000.

Ex-police spy Major Craig Williamson has also sent a lawyer's letter to the newspaper notifying them that he is considering a defamation action. Vrye Weekblad said it would "not be gagged by threats of litigation".

"We will continue to expose those responsible for the unlawful killings that have occurred in our country over the past decades. We believe it is in the interests of the entire SA public that we fulfil our journalistic duty."

Our correspondent in Paris reports that Vrye Weekblad editor Mr Max du Preez said yesterday there was a strong chance he would be leaving the indaba here early because of urgent developments over the R1 million lawsuit.

## Death squad report done

THE McNally report into alleged police death squads is being studied by Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok and Minister of Justice Mr Kobie Coetsee.

The report will probably be handed to President F W de Klerk before the end of the week with comment from the two ministers.

The Anglican Bishops of Southern Africa yesterday called for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry, saying the allegations had "a ring of truth" and were "consistent with" speeches by cabinet ministers saying that security forces would "eliminate terrorists".

## UK denies SA intelligence leak

Own Correspondent

LONDON. — Foreign Affairs spokesman Lord Brabozos yesterday denied allegations that British Intelligence passes information to South Africa.

He was responding to a question in the House of Lords from Labour peer Lord Hatch of Lusby, as to whether British Intelligence passed on information to South Africa on the movement of ANC members in Britain and elsewhere.

Lord Hatch said he had a very strong personal interest in the matter because "a very dear friend of mine was murdered by the hit squad now being investigated in South Africa."

From the opposition front bench, Lord Cledwyn asked about the series of articles in the Guardian newspaper which alleged that explosives used in the bombing of the ANC office in London in 1982 were smuggled into Britain in a diplomatic bag to the South African embassy. Lord Brabozos replied that the bombing had been investigated at the time and the case remained open.

# 'Malan a criminal'

THE South African Police said in Pretoria yesterday that Mervyn Malan, who alleged from Amsterdam that he had been a member of a police "death squad", had a criminal record dating back to 1982

The police public relations division said Malan had been convicted on charges of fraud, drunken driving, malicious damage to property and housebreaking and theft.

He had never been an SAP member and had never applied to join the SAP

The division said Malan first came to the attention of the SAP in 1982 when he was arrested for fraud.

He was later convicted in Bloemfontein on two counts of fraud

In 1986 he was convicted on a drunken driving charge and also that year, a

charge of malicious damage to property after he had set a car alight

He was sentenced to 18 months jail, suspended for four years

Both these cases were heard in Phalaborwa, where he had worked as a miner

In 1987, Malan was convicted in the Tzaneen magistrate's court on two counts of housebreaking and theft, and sentenced to four years suspended for five years, the division said.

Malan recently fled from Swaziland to request political asylum in The Netherlands, where he told Dutch journalists he had been a member of a South African Police "death squad" for two years

He said he had quit the force in 1985 after participating in an attack on a village in Angola - Sapa

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Sowetan 30/11/89



# Shot kitescop sues Vlok

(25) South 30/11-6/12/89

GRAHAMSTOWN. — A municipal policeman has instituted a civil claim against the Minister of Law and Order and the Defence Force after being shot by a member of the security forces.

Thembinkosi Amos Macezu, 36, now partially disabled, was

shot through both legs, in April 1985 as he and three other municipal policemen were returning from work in an administration board bakkie.

Municipal policeman, Aaron Jamela told the court that he and Macezu were sitting on the back of the bakkie when they were stopped by a policeman and soldiers in a casspir.

The policeman shone a torch into the bakkie and allegedly pointed his gun at the men sitting on the back. Fearing that they were going to be shot, Macezu shouted at the driver to pull away. As the bakkie pulled off, a shot was fired hitting Macezu in the thighs.

The SADF has denied the municipal policeman's allegations.

An SADF Board of Inquiry set up after the shooting, found that the two SADF members had accompanied a policeman to the bakkie where a man with a revolver was sitting on the back.

The findings of the board were that a South African policeman fired a shot at a vehicle, which however missed.

A second shot was then fired at the wheel by rifleman Errol Riddin, which missed its target and instead hit the municipal policeman.

Riddin, who was a member of Dads' Army, told the inquiry that he enjoyed being a soldier and hoped he would not be asked to leave the commando as a result of the incident.

The case has been postponed.

PUBLIC  
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Right-wing murder gangs being probed

# Police net closes in on political killers

Star 1/12/89

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By Craig Kotze



Mr Barnard ...  
detained.

The net is closing on the killers of activist Dr David Webster and Swapo lawyer Mr Anton Lubowski, and detectives are probing a right-wing murder gang suspected of carrying out a string of cold-blooded killings of leftwingers.

The dramatic twist in the assassination drama came yesterday when it was learnt that police had detained former drug squad sergeant Mr Ferdie Barnard (31) in connection with the killings.

More arrests are expected soon by a special team of detectives headed by deputy CID chief Major-General Jaap Joubert.

Police spokesmen remain tight-lipped about the group, but it is believed the murder gang has at least three members.

Identikit of Dr Webster's killers are being examined to find links with Mr Lubowski's murder.

It emerged yesterday that the arrest of Mr Donald Acheson (51), held in Windhoek in connection with Mr Lubowski's murder, led to Mr Barnard's detention. Mr Acheson is still in custody.

Detectives said earlier that the Lubowski and Webster assassinations, which led to allegations of "hit squad" murders, were similar. Both were shot dead outside their homes by killers in cars.

Mr Barnard, a former West Rand detective, is being held at the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad headquarters in Johannesburg under section 29 of the Internal Security Act, under which he can be held indefinitely.

## Convicted

Mr Barnard resigned from the SAP on December 10 1984 — the day he was convicted of murdering two drug dealers, attempted murder, and three theft charges. He received an effective six-year jail sentence. He was on parole when he was detained.

In October 1984 Mr Barnard and another police sergeant were charged with the murder of drug addicts Mr Peter Ward (19) and Mr Edward Joffe (19), who had been set up to rob a pharmacist in Wilro Park, Roodepoort.

A third drug addict, Mr Edward Symons (29), was also shot dead in a car in Roodepoort.

Namibian police said detectives investigating the Lubowski murder in Windhoek had taken note of Mr Barnard's detention and would go to Johannesburg to question him if necessary.

News of Mr Barnard's arrest came to light yesterday after it was learnt his father, Mr P J Barnard of Nylstroom had made an urgent application to the Pretoria Supreme Court for his release.

The application was contested, then later withdrawn after his father, a former lieutenant-colonel in the West Rand SAP, visited him in detention.

● See Page 3.

being held in custody pending the court hearing. The Vanderbijlpark teen-  
any way involved with him — are urged to confide in their parents or house doctor and to have immediate Aids tests.

## Evidence on hit squads ruled as irrelevant

By Therese Anders,  
Highveld Bureau

PIET RETIEF — References to the SAP's alleged hit squads were barred by a magistrate during an inquest here yesterday after objections by a State prosecutor and counsel for the Minister of Law and Order.

The magistrate, Mrs H Wilkens, ruled the alleged hit squads were currently irrelevant to the inquest on the deaths of four suspected ANC members, who died in a police operation headed by Major Eugene de Kock. Star 1/12/89

Counsel for the families of the four deceased told the court they would be challenging Mrs Wilken's ruling in the Supreme Court and her ruling on Wednesday when she turned down an application to accept the Nofomela affidavits at the current state of court proceedings.

On the restriction on references to the alleged hit squads, Mr Gideon Lotz, SC, representing the Minister of Law and Order, said if proof was later shown that there was a hit squad, then an appeal against the magistrate's ruling could be made at that time.

Mr Zak Yacoob, representing the Naidu family, said the ban on hit squad references made it impossible to carry on his cross-

examination of Warrant Officer Frederick Johannes Pienaar, deputy to Major de Kock in the operation in which the inquest deceased died.

Advocate Mr Marumo Moerane, representing the families of the three women deceased, said he had intended going deeply into the hit squad in his cross-examination of Warrant Officer Pienaar.

"I want to establish whether or not there is a hit squad and whether it is identified as C1. This is highly relevant to see whether the police assassinated the deceased."

### FORENSIC EVIDENCE

Earlier in the day, Warrant Officer Pienaar said he had burnt the clothing of the killed ANC suspects because he thought he might catch Aids or some other virus.

He denied destroying important forensic evidence, saying the contents of the clothing were more important than the clothing.

Asked if he could not have dried the blood-soaked clothing so it could be used for evidence, he said this could have been done.

Warrant Officer Pienaar named another member of the secret C1 unit as Sergeant Leon

DEATH SQUADS

# Time to come clean

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Email 1/12/89

Dirk Coetzee, the former security police captain who has made detailed allegations about an SAP-sponsored death squad, plans to seek refuge through the UN

He will obviously be a key witness if a commission of inquiry is appointed by President F W de Klerk. Coetzee has been advised to seek refuge with a human rights organisation to ensure his safety and guard against possible extradition — from wherever he is or might be.

The FM has learnt that the British government is also keen to interview Coetzee after his allegations in *Vrye Weekblad* that an SA diplomatic bag was used to transfer explosives used in the bomb attack on the ANC's London offices some years ago. On Tuesday the British embassy (helped by *Vrye Weekblad*) completed a report on Coetzee's allegations: it will be forwarded to PM Margaret Thatcher.

Legal circles expect De Klerk to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry to investigate Coetzee's allegations which, apart from the lawlessness they imply, have severely dented SA's and the SAP's image. Lawyers are talking of possible candidates to chair such a commission: two judges that have been mentioned are Louis Harms and Johann Kriegler.

Both are highly respected in the legal world and will be accepted by the members of the *ad hoc* Independent Board of Inquiry into informal

repression which has been investigating the claims of Almond Nofomela, the ex-security policeman on death row. The members, professors Laurie Ackermann (Stellenbosch) and John Dugard (Wits), and attorneys Peter Harris and Brian Currin, are believed to have already retained the services of advocate Wim Trengove SC to represent their commission. They have also enlisted three private investigators to probe Nofomela's allegations.

Meanwhile, the government-supporting daily newspaper *Beeld* said on Tuesday that the time had come for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry.

It is believed that Free State attorney general Tim McNally (who has been investigating only Nofomela's allegations that suspected ANC terrorists were killed by the squad) will propose the appointment of such a commission. Nofomela's claims apparently triggered Coetzee's decision to expose the

alleged existence of the squad and his role as its commander.

In an interview with the *Washington Post* at the weekend De Klerk indicated that he would consider appointing a judicial commission. He added he would not tolerate illegal police action and promised that the allegations would be probed "to the bone". On Tuesday he restated his position when he said he expected the McNally report "within days" on allegations that hit squads operated within the SAP. Speaking at a parade at the SAP College in Pretoria West, De Klerk said the report would enable government to make a "sensible and well-considered" decision on further steps. "In as far as may be necessary, strong action will be taken," he added.

The *Citizen*, normally a strong supporter of the security community, stated this week that there was *prima facie* evidence to suggest that a hit squad may well have existed. "Killing political activists within the country cannot be excused or justified under any circumstances."

A voice of concern about the allegations has also come from the largest Afrikaans church. Respected NGK clergyman Willem Nicol has called for the highest independent investigation the State can offer. In a letter to *Beeld*, Nicol says the police are supposed to arrest murderers. "But what do we say when there are rumours from all sides that they appoint murderers, arm them, supply them with poison and reward

them?" Nicol adds there has long been suspicion that the police might be involved in the "ugliest forms of violence in our community."

The hit squad row has doubtless widened the gap between the De Klerk administration and security community which, under P W Botha, ruled the country virtually on its own. This seemed to be underlined by De Klerk's announcement, at the same SAP ceremony, that he has decided to scrap the National Management System (NMS), with its network of joint management committees, and replace it by a "needs-oriented" system to co-ordinate joint State actions.

The move could be a first step towards lifting the State of Emergency. The NMS had, especially since the 1986 emergency, made a useful contribution to stabilising matters in certain communities, said De Klerk. He thanked the security and welfare communities for the dedicated way in which

they carried out their instructions within the system.

Then he added: "As a result of changed circumstances and practical experience, certain specific adjustments have become necessary." He said the State Security Council would continue to fulfil its statutory functions. At the same time, Cabinet ministers on the council would henceforth form a Cabinet Committee for Security Matters and operate like other Cabinet committees.

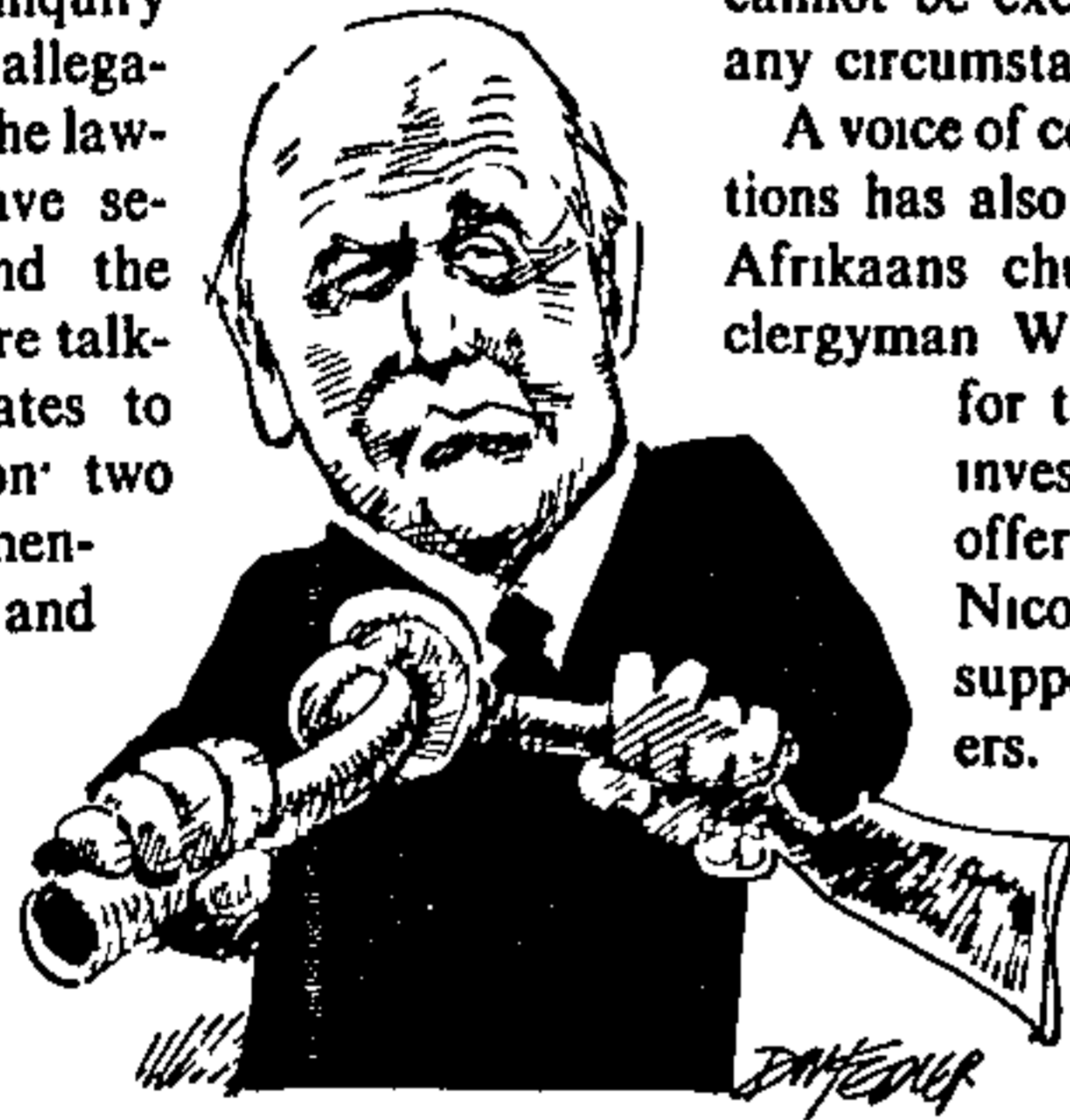
In what can be seen as a final break with the Botha style of government, De Klerk said the Cabinet was confirmed as the highest policy-making and co-ordinating authority. His efforts to emphasise that these steps should not be seen as diminishing the security forces' role will be little consolation to the seurocrats who for so long ruled supreme at Tuynhuys.

With a crisis of morale evident in police ranks, Law & Order Minister Adriaan Vlok earlier came to the defence of his men — and cast some suspicion on the media. Addressing a National Party meeting at Calvinia, Vlok said the police had once again become the target of revolutionaries who were doing everything in their power to destroy the morale of the security forces.

"There is a now a new attempt to break down the morale of the police. The SA Communist Party-ANC alliance and its colleagues are directing all their attention to the police."

He said the ANC had been engaged in conflict with the police for years but the security forces have always stood in their way. The police force would remain steadfast and not allow itself to be brought down by what was being directed at it. "We have withstood many onslaughts against us in the past 76 years and have survived. Our cause is right. We are fighting for SA's interests," said Vlok.

It seems only a thorough investigation into the alleged death squads, by an independent judicial commission, may convince the country that Vlok's assertions are justified. ■



## SAB STRIKE

152 182 Email

## Thirst to settle

1/12/89

The townships boycott of SA Breweries' products has degenerated into chaos and will probably be called off soon.

Chris Dlamini, Food & Allied Workers' Union president and Cosatu vice-president, says that not only has the boycott, in support of 5 500 SAB strikers (all union members) disintegrated but the stoppage "has given

11/2/89

# 'Secret Information' on Webster, Lubowski Killings

## Argus Correspondent in Pretoria

**D**URING questioning of the former police sergeant, Mr Ferdie Barnard, who is being held in terms of the Internal Security Act regarding the murders of Swapo official Mr Anton Lubowski and slain activist Dr David Webster, police

## AFFIDAVITS

learned that he was monitoring a well-known activist closely linked to Dr Webster.

This was revealed in an affidavit by a police officer handed to the Pretoria Supreme Court last week when his father, Mr P J Barnard of Nylstroom, brought an urgent application for his son's release.

Mr Barnard brought the application against the Minister of Law and Order, the

Commissioner of Police and the Divisional Commander of the Witwatersrand police, who opposed the application.

The Commanding Officer of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit, Brigadier Floris Mostert, said in his affidavit that the police had reason to believe Mr Barnard Jr was withholding information, including that of Dr Webster's murder, from the police.

In his affidavit Brig Mostert said the arrest of Mr Donald Archeson in connection with Mr Lubowski's killing led the police to Mr Barnard.

The application was withdrawn on Tuesday by agreement between the parties after it was postponed last Friday.

In his affidavit, Mr Barnard said his son, who was an assurance representative prior to his arrest, was being held at Johannesburg's Brix-

ton Murder and Robbery Unit.

He said during the middle of October he had heard from his son that the police were looking for him.

Mr Barnard said the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit inquired from him and his other sons about the whereabouts of Mr Ferdie Barnard. He said after discussing the matter with his son, Mr Barnard recommended that he report to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit.

"I learned from him that he was questioned over a period of two days by members of the SAP attached to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit."

In a subsequent discussion his son told him that he was questioned regarding his possible involvement with the murders of Mr Lubowski and Dr Webster.

"On October 31, 1989 at approximately 5 30 pm I was

telephoned by my above mentioned son's girlfriend and told that three men in private clothes removed my son from his house. According to what she told me, he was removed summarily without being given an opportunity to take any clothes or toiletries with him."

## Secret information

In his affidavit Brig Mostert said he was one of the investigating officers in the case of Dr Webster's murder and has already obtained a considerable amount of information.

"I have to respectfully emphasise that the nature of my investigation is extremely sensitive and the secret keeping of the information I possess, is of great importance. Under the circumstances I am unfortunately not in the position to place all the facts before this honourable court. I am, however, satisfied that

the information I possess, is reliable information.

"I can, however, mention that during my investigation it became apparent that a link existed between the above mentioned murders and other incidents and as a result my investigation is even more sensitive of nature.

"In the event of me divulging particulars of my information, the possible danger exists that my sources would be revealed, and as important, that those responsible for the murders and other malpractices would be warned, which would result in serious damage to the police investigation.

"After the assassination of Anton Lubowski a Donald Archeson was arrested as a suspect by the police in Namibia. As a matter of fact close cooperation existed then between the SAP and the police of Namibia, and this still ex-

ists. After the arrest of Archeson the police investigation also led to the detainee (Mr Barnard) and I am fully informed by the Namibian police in this regard.

"As a result of this information, as well as other information I have already obtained, I am of the opinion that the detainee possesses valuable information, including with regard to the Webster murder and the detainee, on my request, subjected himself voluntarily to questioning.

"As a result of answers the detainee gave during questioning and as a result of further information obtained thereafter, it became clear to me that the detainee was withholding valuable information regarding the Webster murder from the police.

"In particular I ascertained from police files that the detainee and another person were arrested on June 9, 1989

as suspects in an attempted robbery. During a subsequent investigation it became clear that the detainee was not busy with an attempt to rob but that he monitored the movements of a well-known activist, who was closely linked to Webster.

"As a result of all these clues, I had reason to suspect that the detainee had valuable information regarding the above mentioned crimes but was withholding this from the SAP."

Although the investigation was still in an early stage, Brig Mostert said the police have obtained valuable information during questioning.

He said he had reason to suspect that Mr Barnard had more information which he was withholding from the police.

"In my opinion his continued detention is necessary," he said.

# Dipale death not suicide, says death row cop

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Butana Almond Nofomela, the death row hit squad member, has claimed that the death by hanging in 1982 of security police detainee Mr Ernest Moabe Dipale, 20, was not suicide.

Lawyers and human rights groups investigating Nofomela's allegations are probing this in the latest of a long list of shock allegations by the ex-security policeman.

A police spokesman said in Pretoria last night that this was the first he had heard of new allegations, and no comment was forthcoming as the State President had still to comment on previous allegations investigated by the McNally inquiry.

It is believed that Nofomela has instructed his attorneys that full investigations must be made of all his allegations before they are made public.

Mr Dipale died in detention at John Vorster Square three days after being detained on August 8, 1982, six months after Mr Neil Aggett, the first white to die in detention, was also found hanging from the bars of his cell at John Vorster Square.

The inquest verdict for both deaths was that they were suicides.

Three days after his detention, his father Mr Gideon Dipale was told of his son's death. He went to John Vorster Square with Ernest's aunt, "but we did not believe it. Even the strip of blanket we were shown, with which they told us he had hanged himself, was not strong enough to have held his body."

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# Benzien concedes error, denies falsifying record

By LINDA GALLOWAY  
Supreme Court Reporter

A SECURITY policeman has admitted in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, that the times written in his pocket book may have been incorrect but the entries were not "fitted in" to suit his version of events.

Warrant Officer Jeffrey Theodore Benzien is under cross-examination in the Yengeni trial in which 14 accused refused to plead to charges of terrorism and African National Congress-related activities.

Continuing with the cross-examination of Warrant Officer Benzien, Mr D P de Villiers QC, for the defence, recalled the interrogation of accused Mr Gary Kruser on the morning of September 22 1987.

## Conflict

There was conflict about the times the policeman had written in his pocket book recording the events of that morning.

Mr De Villiers put it to the policeman that he had interrogated Mr Kruser for two hours that morning and used the "wet bag treatment" by putting a bag of water over his head and nearly choking him.

The policeman denied this and said he had taken part in a raid on two adjoining houses in Belgravia, Athlone, at 6 25am in search of an ANC suspect, "Bollie".

He had returned to security police offices at Culemborg at 6 38am, had spoken to Mr Kruser but not interrogated him.

Warrant Officer Benzien denied that he had made entries and later filled in times to suit his version of events, and denied that he had made this particular entry to cover up having interrogated and assaulted Mr Kruser that morning.

Mr De Villiers said that Mr Tony Yengeni, arrested on 17 September, also alleged that the policeman had used the "wet bag treatment" on him.

## Salute

● Recently released political prisoner and former Umkhonto we Sizwe commander Mr Raymond Mhlaba attended the trial yesterday. He was in Cape Town to meet fellow Rivonia trialist Nelson Mandela at Victor Verster Prison and attend the University of the Western Cape graduation ceremony where Mr Govan Mbeki received an honorary doctorate.

The accused stood to attention and saluted Mr Mhlaba, who spoke briefly to them before the hearing began.

The trial continues today.

The trialists are Mr Tony Yengeni, Miss Jennifer Schreiner, Mrs Lumka Yengeni, Mr Michael Lumbambo, Mr Mbutu Nduku, Mr Wellington Nkwandla, Mr Mtheteleli Titana, Mr Gary Kruser, Mr Christopher Giffard, Mr Sitlabocha Mahlale, Mr Alpheus Ndude, Ms Gertrude Fester, Ms Zurayah Abass and Mrs Colleen Lombard.



# Ferdie Barnard was 'good detective who went wrong'

ARG 1/12/89 (251)

By CRAIG KOTZE, Argus Correspondent in Johannesburg

**F**ERDIE Barnard, 31, the man being held in connection with the Webster and Lubowski slayings, was a top detective with great charisma before he turned rogue and murdered two drug addicts on the West Rand five years ago, former colleagues said today.

Big and muscular and an avid sportsman, he was very popular with his colleagues and subordinates in the West Rand CID, despite being considered something of a "loner" who did not drink often.

He was also recognised as a very good detective who solved a string of housebreakings at chemists in the area — the very cases which led him

to set up two addicts and shoot them dead after instigating them to break into a chemist.

But unlike infamous rogue policemen like Captain Andre Stander and former East Rand Murder and Robbery Squad commander Captain Jack le Grange, the former drug squad sergeant was not originally motivated by personal gain in his crimes.

### Good rugby player

"He took the law into his own hands. I think it was a case of him not believing the law dealt adequately with drug abusers and pushers," said one officer who knew him.

From a police family — his father,

retired Lieutenant-Colonel Piet Barnard, was the Roodepoort CID chief — he was a very good rugby player while still in the SAP.

He played in the West Rand SAP first team and for Roodepoort and Krugersdorp city.

"Ferdie was a very good detective. The fact that he was put on the chemist cases when the West Rand was being plagued by an epidemic of pharmacy break-ins for drugs was proof of that.

"He made the breakthroughs and we've never had a similar problem since. Unfortunately he went off the rails and that could not be tolerated," said one policeman.

# Webster killing: More arrests expected

M&W  
1/12/89

251

**The Argus Correspondent**  
JOHANNESBURG. — Detectives are probing a right-wing murder gang suspected of carrying out a string of cold-blooded killings and attacks on left-wingers, including the murders of lecturer Dr David Webster and Swapo lawyer Mr Anton Lubowski.

More arrests are expected soon by a special team of detectives under command of deputy CID chief Major-General Jaap Joubert.

The dramatic twist in the assassination drama came yesterday when it was learned police had detained former drug squad sergeant Mr Ferdie Barnard, 31, in connection with both killings.

Police spokesmen remain tight-lipped on the group, but it is believed that the murder gang has at least three members.

Three people are believed to have carried out the Webster and Lubowski assassinations.

Detectives have uncovered information indicating the existence of the extremist group, which specialises in assassinations of left-wing activists.

Identikits of Dr Webster's killers are also being examined to find links with Mr Lubowski's murder.

It emerged yesterday that the arrest of Mr Donald Acheson, now being held in Windhoek in connection with Mr Lubowski's murder, led to Mr Barnard's detention.

A Namibian police spokesman said yesterday that the status of Irishman Mr Acheson, 51, was unchanged. He is still in custody.

Yesterday police confirmed they were holding Mr Barnard, a former drug squad sergeant, who has two convictions for murder, one for attempted murder, and three for theft.

Detectives said earlier that the Lubowski and Webster as-

sassinations, which led to allegations of "hit squad" murders, were similar. Both were shot dead outside their homes by killers in cars.

Mr Barnard, a former West Rand drug squad detective, is being held in Johannesburg under section 29 of the Internal Security Act. Under that section he can be held indefinitely.

Mr Barnard resigned from the SAP on December 10, 1984 — the day he was convicted of murdering two drug dealers, attempted murder, and theft. He received an effective six-year jail sentence.

Meanwhile, friends and relatives of Dr Webster have welcomed the news that the police are holding a suspect.

## "SUCH A RELIEF"

Former wife of Dr Webster, Mrs Glenda Webster, said it was a relief that South Africa was finally "learning the truth about its profane administration."

"It would be such a relief for us all if all the truth finally boiled out. After all that's what David was working towards."

Mrs Webster said she had phoned Dr Webster's brother, Gavin, who lives in England and he too had expressed similar sentiments.

Dr Webster's lover, Ms Maggie Friedman who was with him when he was killed, said: "I feel a sort of disquiet that they might stop investigating now that they have got somebody. It sounds like a huge apparatus behind it all and I wonder if they will be allowed to investigate without someone higher up intervening."

An executive member of the Wits branch of the Union of Democratic University Staff Associations, Mr Derek Young, said UduSA welcomed the development.

● Profile of Ferdie Barnard, page 21

# Webster killing: Ex-cop is held

FURTHER arrests are expected after police confirmed yesterday the detention of a former drug squad police sergeant in connection with the assassinations of Swapo lawyer Mr Anton Lubowski and Wits University lecturer Dr David Webster.

The recent arrest of the 29-year-old suspect who already has two murder, one attempted murder and three theft convictions brings to two the number of men being held in connection with Mr

## SOWETAN REPORTER

Lubowski's murder

Police have already said the two assassinations which led to allegations of hit squad killings were similar. Both victims were gunned down outside their homes by killers in cars.

The possibility of further arrests is not excluded, said a statement issued by the SAP Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria.

A Namibian police spokesman said the status

of Irishman Mr Donald Acheson (51), also linked to Mr Lubowski's killing, was "unchanged" and was still in detention.

The latest suspect, a former West Rand drug squad detective, is being held in Johannesburg in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. He has apparently not yet appeared in court and can be held indefinitely under Section 29.

His name is known to the press but police have requested that he not be

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*(257)*

P.T.O.

Sowetan 1/12/89

# Webster killing

● From page 1

identified (25) (circled)  
He resigned from the force on December 10 1984 - the day he was found guilty - after being convicted of murdering two drug dealers, attempted murder and theft. He received sentences totalling 20 years' imprisonment, but which ran concurrently.

He was on parole when he was detained by detectives in connection with Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski's murder. Detectives searched his Johannesburg flat several weeks ago.

At the time of his arrest he was apparently selling insurance. Before that he worked for a well-known Reef security company.

## Suspect

The suspect was charged in October 1984 with the murder of drug addicts Mr Peter Ward (19) and Mr Edward Joffe (19) after he and another policeman set them up to rob a Wilro Paik chemist on February 3 1983.

A third suspect, Mr Edward Symons (29), was also shot dead in a car in Roodepoort. The suspect was also found guilty of



Dr Webster

car theft linked to the set-up.

Namibian police said detectives investigating the Lubowski murder in Windhoek had taken note of the suspect's arrest and would go to Johannesburg to question him if necessary. They had not yet seen him, said the spokesman.

Dr Webster was gunned down outside his Johannesburg house on May 1 by unknown assailants. Mr Lubowski was gunned down outside his Klein Windhoek home on September 12.

News of the latest suspect's arrest emerged yesterday after it was learned his father had made an urgent application to the Pretoria Supreme Court to have him released.

The application was contested and later withdrawn after his father - a former Lieutenant-Colonel in the West Rand SAP, visited him in detention.

He is now being held at the Buxton Murder and Robbery Squad headquarters in Johannesburg.

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# Gregory Rockman on Gregory Rockman

**T**HE Civil Rights League has made a human rights award to Mitchells Plain policeman, Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, "in recognition of his courageous public stand against brutal methods used by the riot police in dispersing demonstrating people including women and children and bystanders in Mitchells Plain on September 5 1989"

In accepting the award, Rockman made the following speech

**F**or me it's quite an honour to be the first recipient of this wonderful award. It was wonderful to be phoned and asked: "Lieutenant Rockman, will you come and receive this human rights award." They explained the background of the organisation, knowing that I'm a cop and might be scared!

I thought: "Well, if it's a human rights award, I will be there." I don't care about the background of the organisation because of what is said here (on the certificate) "a human rights award". Why is the police force there but to protect the human beings? So if you get an award from an organisation stating that you actually stood up for human beings, I think it is appropriate that you go and accept that award.

For me, I'd like to ask everybody in the police force to come out and stand up for what is right and for what they believe in. What I did is an example for them to stand up and show that there are many policemen in the department who share my views. But they are scared. Why are they scared? Unjust regulations withholding them from speaking the truth!

I said to myself, "Well Gregs, you have a task at hand. You are going to fight with the department, to break down those unjust laws or regulations that exist in the department." Many a time we say that we are Christians — but why are we avoiding (exposing) the evil, and yet as Christians we condemn what is evil? Unjust laws are evil, apartheid is evil. So why uphold them? Why are we being used to uphold those laws?

There is a rumour within the department — I laughed to hear it — that there are now two forces with the police force. I thought: "That is good — two forces now! The one (maybe I'm wrong) a black consciousness one, the other still wanting to uphold the government of the day."

And for me, I just want to be a policeman. I don't want to be anything else besides a policeman because I describe a policeman — my own definition — as somebody that works for the police department and serves the public. He's a protector and servant of his community. And he is from the people, therefore he is for the people. And not for the government.

Last night I went to Stellenbosch and had a meeting with some of those students. For me it was nice to see that on the other side of the barriers the government has brought about in this country,

*I said to myself:  
'Well Gregs, you  
have a task at hand.  
You are going  
to fight with  
the department,  
break down those  
unjust laws'*

**Excerpts from a speech by  
Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, on  
receiving a human rights award**

there are still human beings. And it's nice for me to know that all you lovely people sitting here — maybe I'm exaggerating, as they always say to me! — nice to know that we still have people



**Lieutenant Rockman is féted by students**

with human hearts on each side of it (the barrier).

I said: "If you go to one of the blood banks, there are no tags, only whether it is 'A' or 'B'. For those who are so concerned about colour, how will people know when they have an operation whether it is black, yellow or pink blood?"

I also asked: "What will we do when the Lord comes in the form of a black man? We all know he will be rejected." And I said "as we are standing, when the Lord has been rejected, he takes off his black skin mask 'Oh Lord, please we want you!' because they see the white skin"

You go around thinking "Why are people so colour conscious?" For me, I'm not colour conscious. I've told the police department many a time, I am not a so-called "coloured" I am a lieutenant within the police department, so just treat me as such and there won't be any trouble.

I said to them, there is something I want to know and that is what are they going to do with me, because they've

got a problem. I said to Mr Vlok (the minister of law and order) for the next 10 years I will be very prominent in his department, so rather speak to me or there will be lots of trouble within the 10 years

The way they are ducking and diving over the real issues is unreal. Just an example these disciplinary steps that are going on against me — last night I was in Stellenbosch, this morning at 8am this Colonel Snyman and another colonel were at my door at the office. Knock, knock! "What were you doing at Stellenbosch?" I said, "Get out."

But when Lieutenant Rockman went to the papers and the foreign media, they never came knocking at his door to say "Please lieutenant, what is your problem? Why are you so mad, so upset?" They never, up to today, come to me to address my complaints, my grievances, or those of my people. Why? Why are we rushing away from the real issues? This is the normal tendency of the South African government.

Prime Minister Thatcher phoned me just after she saw me on the BBC, that very same night, and then through sources of mine I heard she phoned FW (State President FW de Klerk) and said "What are you going to do with Lieutenant Rockman — are you going to rattle his case?" He said, "No, we are busy investigating the matter." And then she said "But (there was a case when Nelson Mandela was smacked when he was in prison) what is happening to Nelson's case then?" "Oh, it is still under investigation." She said "Gee whiz, when are you going to address the issues and stop investigating them? It's the same with your five-year plan. Every time since 1948 it's been five years, five years. We must make an end to this 'five years'."

But to reassure you, there are lots of policemen who share my views, and they are just scared to come out publicly. But they say, you know, your silent majority is always a powerful one, because once they burst out they are quite dangerous.

This award I've received here, I will go about where people can see it. I will display it because I am very proud of it. Because to stand up for the human race takes some doing. I've had trouble with nightmares. A couple of months ago I was battling with myself, to convince myself, and the Lord came to me and said, "Gregs, if you want to be a Christian, then you must really stand up for the truth." And I was convinced by that, and that's why I came out. I cannot thank the Lord enough for what he has done in my life, because after I had spoken out, a heavy burden sank from my shoulders.

*I feel a new man I feel as if no laws can restrict me any more. There is nothing that is going to bind me, and it's so nice to know that you are free, a human being again, that nothing can stop you*

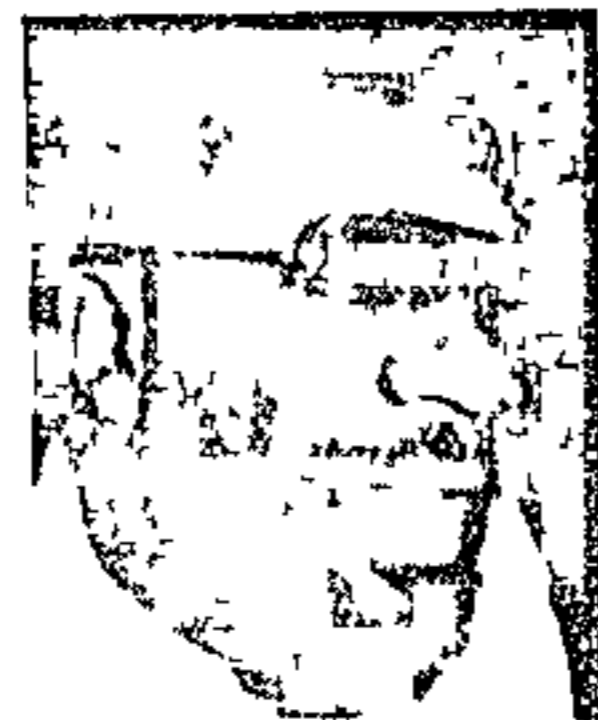
# COPS BREAK



A policeman removes a man from a crowd of protesters who had gathered in Alexandra township yesterday. The protest was held to air residents's grievances against the banning of a march which was intended to present township grievances to the council.

# ALEX DEMO

ASB  
Sowetan  
1/12/89



**Isaac Hayes in  
secret visit  
- See page 3**

REPORTS, pictures and comments in this edition may be censored in terms of the Government's state of emergency

**RIOT police broke up a planned march to the local town council offices in Alexandra yesterday and arrested three community leaders.**

One of them, Mr Mzwanele Mayekiso, the brother of trade unionist Moses Mayekiso, was removed by police from the crowd which he had just addressed.

As he was escorted to an waiting van he shouted "Amandla Viva AAC Viva!"

Minutes thereafter he was joined in the police van by Mr Paul Tshabalala and Mr Richmond Mdhkane, both members of the Alexandra Action Committee (AAC).

Hundreds of residents who heeded a call for a stay away in Alexandra gathered several hundred metres away from the town council offices. They were to present a petition listing residents' grievances after they were refused permission to

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# Cop killed in Natal ambush

A MEMBER of the South African Police Reaction Unit in Durban was killed in a fierce ambush early yesterday during an operation against a group of "warlords" in a reserve near Umkomaas.

A police "penetration team" had stormed in as a follow-up to an earlier operation three weeks ago in which shots were fired at local policemen, who withdrew.

The dead policeman has been identified as

Constable Eric de Witt (25) of Durban

Lieutenant-Colonel Charl du Toit, head of the police public relations division in Natal, said De Witt was part of a group involved in the house penetration at Amahlangwa Reserve, near Umkomaas, just after midnight.

Members of the Reaction Unit and policemen from Umkomaas, includ-

ing the Dog Unit, went to the reserve after receiving information that a group of between 30 and 40 people - "warlords" and their supporters - were hiding in houses there.

During the operation members of the Reaction Unit surrounded several houses in the area. De Witt was shot in the neck and rushed to the J G Crookes Hospital at Scottburgh, but was certified dead on arrival - Sapa

*Sowetan 1/12/89*  
*(157)*

# Cops break Alex demo

● From page 1

march last week  
According to sources in the township, the petition listed complaints dealing with housing and rent. Another demand was for the town council to resign.

Several policemen in a combi were seen filming the gathering while others took photographs.

They were later joined by scores of other police in riot gear backed by security members who arrived in a convoy of vehicles.

People in the gathering

Sowetan 1/12/84  
toy-toyed and sang freedom songs

The police gave the crowd three minutes to disperse.

When the crowd sat down defiantly, two tearsmoke canisters were fired and the crowd scattered in all directions.

Several police in riot gear were seen following the crowd into another street and came back escorting another resident who they later allowed to go.

A police spokesman confirmed that police dispersed a crowd and arrested four men.

According to the police, the crowd was warned that the march was illegal in terms of Section 48 of the Internal Security Act and was told to disperse.

Tearsmoke was used when the crowd refused to disperse.

In another incident police used tearsmoke and rubber bullets to disperse a crowd which had regrouped.

A spokesman would not say whether those arrested were detained under the state of emergency or not. No one was injured.



Star 11/12/89  
Ex-policeman is 'withholding information'

# Suspect was watching leading activist SAP

Pretoria Correspondent  
Police claim they learnt that a former police sergeant, Mr Ferdie Barnard, who is being held in terms of the Internal Security Act, was monitoring a well-known activist closely linked to murdered Dr David Webster

This was revealed in an police officer's affidavit handed to the Pretoria Supreme Court last week when his father, Mr P J Barnard of Nylstroom, brought an urgent application for his son's release

Mr Barnard brought the application against the Minister of Law and Order, the Commissioner of Police and the Divisional Commander of the Witwatersrand police, who opposed the application

The Commanding Officer of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit, Brigadier Floris Mostert, said in his affidavit that the police had reason to believe Mr Barnard jnr was withholding information, including some with regard to Dr Webster's murder

Brigadier Mostert said the arrest of Mr Donald Acheson in connection with Mr Lubowski's killing led the police to Mr Barnard. The application was withdrawn on Tuesday by agreement between the parties after it was postponed last Friday

In his affidavit, Mr Barnard snr said his son, who was an assurance representative before his arrest, was being held at Johannesburg's Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit

He said that in the middle of October he had heard from his son that the police were looking for him

He said that after discussing the matter

with his son, Mr Barnard recommended that he report to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit

"I learnt from him that he was questioned regarding his possible involvement with the murders of Mr Lubowski and Dr Webster

"On October 31 1989 at approximately 5 30 pm I was telephoned by my abovementioned son's girlfriend and told that three men in private clothes arrested my son"

Mr Barnard snr said he made several inquiries about his son's whereabouts at the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit and with the security police at John Vorster Square "Both the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit and the security police at John Vorster Square denied any knowledge of my son."

After he left his telephone number with the Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit, the commanding officer, Brigadier Floris Mostert, returned his telephone call

Brigadier Mostert did not want to discuss

the matter on the telephone and would neither deny nor confirm his son's detention, but, Mr Barnard said, they made an appointment to meet at the Warmbaths charge office the next morning, November 1

"During the meeting I was told by Brigadier Mostert that my son was being detained in terms of section 29 of the Internal Security Act. He also told me that the detention was related to the abovementioned murders"

Since October 31, Mr Barnard said, he had made regular inquiries about when his son would be released

"I was told many times that although it was not certain, it (his release) was expected to happen 'soon' or 'shortly'"

Mr Barnard said he had been advised that it was possible that the original arrest and the ensuing detention did not comply with the pre-conditions as set out in section 29

"For example, I have until today not been told who took the decision to arrest my son

and on what grounds the arrest was made" Asking for his son's release, Mr Barnard said he knew of no good reason why his son was detained in terms of section 29

In his affidavit, Brigadier Mostert said he was one of the investigating officers in the case of Dr Webster's murder and he had obtained a considerable amount of information

"I have to respectfully emphasise that the nature of my investigation is extremely sensitive and the secret keeping of the information I possess is of great importance. Under the circumstances I am unfortunately not in the position to place all the facts before this honourable court. I am, however, satisfied that the information I possess is reliable

"In the event of me divulging particulars of my information, the possible danger exists that my sources would be revealed, and as important, that those responsible for the murders and other malpractices would be warned

"After the assassination of Anton Lubowski a Mr Donald Acheson was arrested as a suspect by the police in Namibia. As a matter of fact, close co-operation existed then between the SAP and the police of Namibia, and this still exists. After the arrest of Mr Acheson the police investigation also led to the detainee (Mr Barnard) and I am fully informed by the Namibian police in this regard

"As a result of answers the detainee gave during questioning and as a result of further information obtained thereafter, it became clear to me that the detainee was withholding valuable information

"In particular I ascertained from police files that the detainee and another person were arrested on June 9 1989 as suspects in an attempted robbery. During a subsequent investigation it became clear that the detainee was not busy with an attempt to rob, but that he monitored the movements of a well-known activist"

He said Mr Barnard was arrested in terms of the Criminal Procedure Act of 1977 but while he was in detention he, Brigadier Mostert, issued a warrant for his detention in terms of section 29 of the Internal Security Act based on the "facts-circumstances" and the considerations mentioned in the affidavit

"In my opinion his continued detention is necessary," he said

Although Mr Barnard snr said in his affidavit that his son was an insurance representative at the time of his arrest, Brigadier Mostert said his information was that Mr Barnard jnr was unemployed at the time of his arrest

# General asked to recuse himself

(2)

LIEUTENANT Gregory Rockman's legal team intended applying for the recusal of the police general presiding over the disciplinary inquiry against him when the hearing resumed in Cape Town yesterday afternoon

The lieutenant is facing 10 charges ranging from unauthorised use of a police vehicle to disobeying orders not to speak to the Press.

One of his lawyers said that the inquiry,

which is closed to the Press, was yesterday morning taken up with informal discussions on matters including a defence request for further particulars

He said an application would be made for the recusal of Lt-Gen M van Eyk, the presiding officer, on the grounds that there was a real likelihood of his being biased "in the administrative law sense of the word, not as the man-in-the street understands it"

It would be claimed that the general had knowledge of matters relating directly to the inquiry by virtue of his position dealing with personnel matters at Police Headquarters in Pretoria and that he and Rockman had indirectly crossed swords on occasion

Shortly after he made his widely publicised claims of riot squad brutality in September this year, Rockman was summoned to regional police headquarters in Cape Town and told by a superior that he was to fly to Pretoria immediately to see Van Eyk, who is a Deputy Chief Commissioner of the SAP

Rockman refused to go and demanded to see the State President instead

Source: 7/12/89

## AGREEMENT SIGNED

THE Transkei and South African governments yesterday signed a bilateral agreement in Umtata on the detention of prisoners from either country.

South Africa was represented by Ambassador Mr Gert Terblanche and Transkei by Justice Minister Chief T Ndamase

Chief Ndamase said the agreement was evidence that the parties subscribed to the basic precepts of justice

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# Death-squad claims raise spectre of cross-border poison

ALARMING questions are beginning to emerge from the assassination squad scandal about the use of chemical warfare and what might be described as the "Rhodesian connection" with the South African security services

The involvement in South African hit squad activities of security force personnel with experience in Rhodesia has become a recurring theme of investigations into political assassinations

Captain Dirk Coetzee, for example, is believed to have served in Rhodesia during the bush war. His alleged successor as head of the hit squad, Major Eugene de Kock, was apparently trained in Rhodesia. And Merwyn Malan — the former Reece who has made allegations in the Netherlands about SADF involvement in hit squad activities — has named a string of officers who served in Rhodesia, particularly in the notorious Selous Scouts

Evidence pointing a link between the Rhodesia conflict and the South African assassination story also emerges from similitudes in the methods used, notably the use of poison. Captain Coetzee has disclosed a number of incidents in which poison was used in an attempt to murder political activists here. He has given a gruesome account of how he personally killed two African National Congress members at Komatiport — giving them huge doses of poison and then finishing them off by shoot-

**The hit-squad allegations have familiar ring — similar claims were made about the Rhodesian Selous Scouts. And these have since been confirmed**

ing them. He has also alleged the police were responsible for poisoning Siphwo Mtinkulu, the Port Elizabeth activist Mtinkulu disappeared in 1982 after medical tests confirmed that he had been poisoned with thallium and after he had instituted a damages claim for R150 000 against the minister of police.

Poisoning was one of the most horrific aspects of the Rhodesian war. Its use, by the Selous Scouts, first emerged from the memoirs of the former head of the Central Intelligence Agency. In his book *Serving Secretly* (Galago Publishing), he described how the Selous Scouts impregnated clothes with poison which were then distributed among would-be recruits to the Zanu liberation army (the Se-

lous Scouts would actually do the "recruiting" for the guerrillas)

"The men would be sent on their way to the guerrilla training camps, but before reaching their destination would die a slow death in the African bush," recounted Flower. "Many hundreds of recruits became victims of this operation. It became so dia-bolically successful that exposure seemed inevitable and so the principle perpetrators had to be eliminated."

More light has now been thrown on the use of chemical warfare by the Selous Scouts, as well as the link between the unit and South Africa, by a former Rhodesian special branch officer, Henry Ellert.

In his recently published book, *The Rhodesian Front War* (Mambo Press), Ellert confirms Flower's story and says that the Scouts developed a fixation with chemical warfare, on different occasions poisoning a river and a water reservoir in Mozambique, causing hundreds of deaths.

Ellert suggests that, in the worst tradition of the Nazis and Japanese

war criminals, the Selous Scouts may have actually used human guinea pigs to try out their poisons. In 1975, he claims, a group of young Africans were arrested in Salisbury and handed over to the Selous Scouts. They were taken to a specially opened camp near Mount Darwin where army doctors moved in with a number of scouts. A few days later bodies were taken out of the camp for disposal.

By Ellert's account the poison used to impregnate the clothes bears a striking similarity to that used in the recent attempt on the life of the general-secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Reverend Frank Chikane. Ellert says the symptoms were similar to those in an extreme case of malaria.

Chikane, who suffered four attacks, is believed to have been poisoned with organophosphate anticholinesterase, an insecticide which prevents the function of one of the body's vital enzyme systems. His account at the time of the symptoms sounds like a malaria attack: "In all cases I felt nauseous, I started sweating, salivating and vomited. My body started shaking and twitching. My eyes became watery and my vision was blurred. I could hardly walk, or turn my body when in a sleeping position."

Ellert claims, significantly, that the Selous Scouts were largely funded in secret by South African military intelligence who used them both for their own information-gathering and to gain experience in counter-insurgency.

and murderer

... the West Rand police police captain

# Unrest flares as observers look on - and they accuse police

12/12/87

By CASSANDRA MOODLEY

A SENIOR delegation of visitors and observers watched this week as conflict erupted in Mpumalanga, Natal, leaving 18 dead.

Afterwards, the observers, including senior attorneys, accused the South African Police of negligence, and even complicity, in the violence. They, and a number of residents, have signed affidavits accusing police of taking part in the massacre.

"There appeared to be a total breakdown of law and order and the SAP appeared to be involved in the commission of offences, by participation and omission," a turning Richard Lyster of the Legal Resources Centre in Durban said.

Roy Ainslie of the Democratic Party unrest monitoring committee added: "As a result of what I witnessed today it appeared that the SAP are contributing to the breakdown of law and order by openly siding with one of the groups in the conflict."

Not only did Ainslie see evidence of this, but he quoted kwaZulu Police members making similar accusations against their SAP colleagues.

Lyster, in his affidavit, told how on Tuesday he saw a group of about 100 to 120 men armed with knobkerries, bush knives, pangas and sticks move along a road, entering houses while a Hippo vehicle drove in the vicinity of the group. Lyster added Ainslie had told him shots had been coming from the group.

The policeman in charge of the Hippo confirmed he "had instructions not to disarm the group", the lawyer said.

Allegations made by residents in affidavits implicate the police in allowing vigilante groups to attack Mpumalanga residents, shoot-

● TO PAGE 2

**A HUFF AND A PUFF**

# While delegation watches, more unrest flares

W. M. M. 1-3/12/89  
●From PAGE 1

ing at residents, looting their homes and showing partiality to Inkatha supporters

And yesterday the township was sealed off by the police

Fighting broke out in the district early this week when a group of men allegedly stormed houses, setting them alight, and firing shots.

The Democratic Party unrest monitoring committee member, Roy Ainslie, said on Wednesday night the death toll in the Natal township stood at 18. However several families from the area had since called the DP's offices looking for missing relatives

The Pietermaritzburg township has been plagued by internecine violence between United Democratic Front supporters and Inkatha members since 1987

Some of the allegations made this week include

● That SAP members armed with a "large gun" shot a young boy in the leg on Monday night and then threatened residents who tried to help him

This happened after a house was petrol bombed while police and "kitskonstabels" stood watching and mingling with a group of armed men carrying sticks, knobkerries, bush knives and spears.

According to another affidavit, a group of white policemen and kitskonstabels fired with long, pump action shot guns at random at youths on the streets

● That kitskonstabels and white policemen in a Hippo watched while "Inkatha people set my house alight" on Monday

● At 12 30 pm on Monday a "group of white policemen with uniformed special constables opened fire on my house with pump action shot guns," said a resident in another affidavit. Special constables entered the house taking clothing and other possessions. They were then helped by a group of black men carrying sticks, bush knives and assegais

Other affidavits indicate that police collusion with Inkatha was evident earlier than this week

A Mpumalanga resident related in a sworn statement how, in April last year, a white policeman told him "the Inkatha group had attacked the incorrect house" when he reported that they had bombed his house. "The Mpumalanga police station commander, 'Smith', said he was a member of Inkatha and there was no room for UDF members in Mpumalanga

"Neither he nor the policeman who took the statement from me appeared to show any concern or interest in the matter I had reported to them.

"He also told me that the police knew of the Inkatha gangs that attacked the houses and the people in Mpumalanga. He said that often there were members of

the police who took part in the attacks"

● Another woman reported that her house was searched and stoned by three white policemen in October. When she reported the incident a group of white policemen visited her and informed her that "Mpumalanga was reserved for Inkatha people, and all others have to leave". He did not care where she and her family went to — "that was not his problem" — but she should "make sure she left immediately"

The same woman two weeks ago, on November 20, witnessed three white policemen shooting a young boy. "After he was shot another group of men, armed with sticks and pangas, attacked and killed him in the presence of police," she said

Ainslie also said he witnessed police on Tuesday "taking no action against gangs who swarmed into houses"

Lyster said Unit Three of the township, where almost all the violence and arson took place, is known to be inhabited by UDF supporters. Lyster believed from talking to people that the police were determined to undermine and harass people in this area to force them to leave the township in order to make way for supporters of Inkatha

Ainslie added a kwaZulu policeman, a Colonel Dube, seemed to lack authority in the presence of the SAP. "Other kwaZulu police members told me that they

were being prevented from taking action by the SAP. They made serious allegations concerning the SAP. They said that the SAP had attacked and looted houses together with the vigilantes. They said that on Monday a SAP Hippo had transported vigilantes from Section 4 to attack Section 3"

SAP liaison officer for Natal, Lieutenant Colonel Charl du Toit, said police had shot dead three people this week after they were attacked. He said police had a video to confirm that residents had fired shots at police

Du Toit said police were shot at 10 times by residents on Tuesday

Concerning the allegations made in the affidavits, Du Toit maintained the "SAP did follow ups, dispersed crowds and arrested agitators. We are there for law and order. We are unbiased at all times"

Furthermore, he said, people who had such complaints should come to the police

Natal police spokesman Colonel JG Lourens said the LRC had submitted affidavits to him. "These documents have been handed to the uniform branch for investigation," he added

Concerned organisations such as the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa) have set up an independent commission of inquiry, headed by Durban senior advocate RS Douglas, to investigate the causes of the violence

# Benzien: No false entries in pocket book

*251*  
*Case 7-715 11/2/85*

Supreme Court Reporter

WARRANT OFFICER Jeff Benzien yesterday said in the Supreme Court it was not far-fetched that he could have taken 13 minutes to take part in a search of two houses in Athlone, talk to the occupants and reach security police offices at Culemborg.

WO Benzien was being cross-examined in the trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and 13 others who have refused to plead to charges of terrorism.

Mr D P de Villiers, QC, for the defence, referred him to an entry in his pocket book about the search of a terrorism suspect Mr Eustice Nyerenda, also known as Bollie, on September 18, 1987. Police had surrounded a house in Second Avenue, Belgravia in order to arrest Mr Nyerenda and also to search it.

One entry read he had arrived at the house at 6.25am and the next at 6.38 that he had been back at Culemborg.

In reply to a question by Mr De Villiers, WO Benzien said it was not far-fetched that he could have searched two houses, spoken to the occupants and return to Culemborg in 13 minutes.

Asked if it was not clear that something was wrong with the entries in his pocket book, WO Benzien said the

time noted must have been wrong. He denied he had used his pocket book to place himself as far away from Culemborg as possible — at a time when terrorism accused Mr Gary Kruser alleged he had been tortured by WO Benzien with the wet bag method.

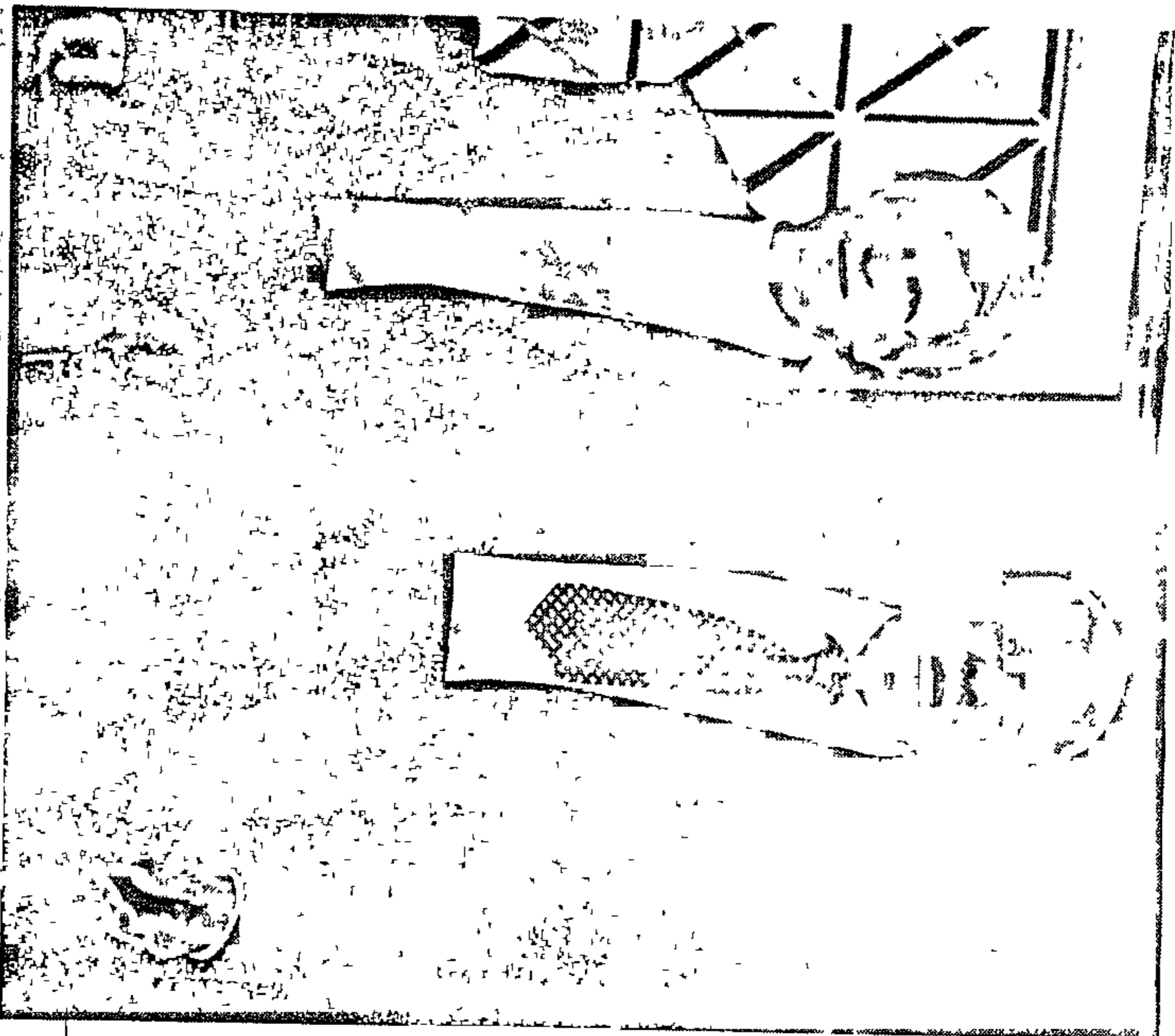
Mr De Villiers referred WO Benzien to the evidence of his commanding officer Captain William Laebenbergh who had said Mr Gary Kruser had been interrogated at Culemborg, by several security policemen including WO Benzien, for two or three hours.

WO Benzien said he disagreed, the investigation he had done with Mr Kruser concerning his passport and a post box in Athlone had taken place between 6.40am and about 10am.

In reply to questions WO Benzien agreed that he had taken Mr Kruser to Manenberg police station where was left in a cell with his hands cuffed behind his back.

He denied however that Mr Kruser was not allowed to drink water. The cell also had a tap and a toilet, he said.

Asked if someone with hands cuffed behind his back would have been able to use the toilet or drink water, WO Benzien replied "If he had tried hard enough, I believe he would have".  
The trial continues today.



**SOLIDARITY VISIT**... Recently-released ANC leader Mr Raymond Mhlaba outside the Supreme Court with the Rev Syd Luckett, where they briefly attended the trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and 13 others. Mr Mhlaba was loudly greeted by the accused in court.

Picture ANNE LAING



Malan tells of life in the roughest unit in Angola  
PAGE 6

## THE FATHER WHO BREEDS GENIUSES

Lazlo Polgar has three teenage daughters and all three are chess grandmasters. He planned it that way before they were born  
PAGE 20

# Webster suspect named

BY JUSTINENE GAVIN EVANS & PHILIP GIBSON

THE man held in connection with the assassinations of Dr David Webster and advocate Anton Lubowski is Ferdie Barnard, a 31-year-old insurance agent, former police sergeant and convicted murderer. Barnard was detained at his Rooderpoort home on October 31 and has been held ever since. According to *Weekly Mail* sources, he was arrested as a result of information obtained from Donald Ascherson, the man being held in Namibia in connection with Lubowski's murder. A police representative said yesterday that Barnard had "taken his discharge" from the West Rand police in 1984, when he was later convicted in October that police were looking for him in connection with the Lubowski and Webster murders. He told his son to hand himself over to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, which he did. His son later told him he had been extensively interrogated about the two murders, and subsequently released. But on the afternoon of October 31, Ferdie was taken from his Rooderpoort home without a change of clothes or toiletries by three plain-clothes policemen. On hearing of this from his son's girlfriend, Petrus Barnard made enquiries with the security and Brixton police, both of whom denied the arrest. Brigadier Floris Mostert of

**Held man a former police sergeant, insurance agent — and a convicted murderer**

TO PAGE 2





# Webster suspect once jailed

Brixton had declined to discuss the arrest on the telephone and suggested they meet on November 1 in Warmbaths

Here he was told his son was being held under the Internal Security Act in connection with the two murders

In his replying affidavit, Mostert, who is the investigating officer in the Webster case, said he had arrested Barnard on June 9 this year

He was held on suspicion of robbery after Mostert had followed leads suggesting that Barnard, and other unnamed persons, had been monitoring the movements of one of Webster's colleagues. He was later released.

Mostert said Barnard was re-arrested in connection with the Webster and Lubowski murders on October 31.

Police confirmed yesterday a white man had been held under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act which provides for detention without trial for the purposes of interrogation. They said he had been held for "some time"

Barnard's lawyer, Krugersdorp attorney WS van Vuuren, said the former police sergeant was being held under Section 40 of the Criminal Procedure Act, having previously being held under Section 29

The application for his release, which was withdrawn on Tuesday, was heard by Mr Justice J Kriegler. Johannesburg attorney Lawley Shein, who represented several of those arrested

From PAGE 1 1-7 12 81

by Barnard when he was a policeman, said in one trial the judge had declared him "an unmitigated liar". "We took advantage of this ruling, and it helped us get the charges withdrawn against several clients."

Barnard had been sentenced to six years imprisonment for the murder of two people caught in a drug bust but, according to Shein, served only a small part of his sentence.

Barnard was sentenced for setting a trap for a group of Mandrax addicts and taking part in their killing.

A police spokesman said that despite the "release of certain particulars to the press" the police had not ruled out the possibility of further arrests.

It is understood that police are investigating the existence of a death squad operation, possibly connected to Barnard, involved with planning the assassinations of anti-apartheid activists.

Wits University academic and human rights activist Webster was murdered outside his Troyville home on May 1 this year.

Namibian advocate, trade unionist and Swapo member Lubowski was shot outside his Windhoek home on the night of September 12 this year.

Mostert could not be reached for comment.

# Lubowski, Webster Killings:

# EX-GOP FILED

CP 7/19/84  
11/12/89  
CSL

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

**In a dramatic breakthrough, police have detained a former West Rand police sergeant in connection with the killing of Dr David Webster in Johannesburg and Mr Anton Lubowski in Windhoek.**

Police yesterday expected further arrests but would not comment on reports that they have uncovered a special assassination squad which planned the murders.

The Cape Times can reveal the name of the 31-year-old former drug squad detective who has been in detention for several weeks.

He is ex-sergeant Ferdinand Barnard who was jailed for nine years on December 10, 1984 for murdering two drug addicts after leading them into a trap for attempting to murder a third drug addict and for stealing three cars.

The sentence was to be served concurrently with sentences of 11 years for other crimes.

In his evidence at the time Barnard told the court I have seen girls of 14 and 15 who have run away from home filthy and out of control lying on top of each other among blacks and coloureds. Girls of 13 are sent into black townships as white slaves in the drug trade.

Barnard was released on parole last year after serving four years.

The full police statement, issued in Pretoria after a report about the detention had appeared in a Transvaal newspaper, read: "A 31-year-old white man is being held in terms of section 29 of the Internal Security Act in connection with the murders of Messrs David Webster and Anton Lubowski.

"The man was a sergeant in the South African Police but took his discharge in 1984 already when he was sentenced on various charges, inter alia murder, attempted mur-



Webster

Lubowski

der and theft. He was attached to the narcotics bureau on the West Rand.

"The person has been in detention for some time. The police did not wish to announce his detention because this would have jeopardised an investigation which still had to be launched.

"The arrest was made known to the media

from other sources. The possibility that further arrests may still be made despite the release of this information is not excluded."

The arrest of Irish passport holder Mr Donald Achson in Windhoek after Mr Lubowski's death and the fact that Mr Achson was then twice questioned in Johannesburg by murder and robbery detectives fuelled speculation that the killings of Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski were linked.

However at the time police said they had nothing to link Mr Achson with Dr Webster's murder.

The news of Barnard's detention only came to light yesterday after his father returned former major in the police force applied for his release in the Pretoria Supreme Court on Wednesday.

The application for his release was refused and Mr Justice Krige ruled that the fused and Mr Justice Krige ruled that the police affidavit on the issue not be made public.

A police spokesman said yesterday the

detention of the suspect had nothing to do with allegations of police hit squads made by three former policemen ex captain Mr Dirk Coetzee death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofemela and Mr David Spyster Tshikalange.

Barnard was detained some weeks ago after the police searched his Johannesburg flat. Mr Lubowski 37 whose children and former wife live in Cape Town was gunned down on September 12 by a burst of fire from a Soviet made AK-47 automatic rifle as he got out of his car and walked to the gate of his home in a wealthy suburb of Windhoek.

Dr Webster 44 a University of Witwatersrand social anthropology lecturer was shot and killed outside his home in Troyeville Johannesburg at 10:20am on May 1.

A senior Namibian policeman probing the Lubowski killing returned to Windhoek yesterday after questioning Barnard in Johannesburg.

# Inquest rules out questions on police unit

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CPT Tink 1/12/89  
Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A Piet Retief inquest magistrate was told yesterday an application would be made to a higher court to review two findings she made relating to Pretoria Police C1 Unit and the existence of an alleged assassination squad

The inquest is into the death of four ANC members — one man and three women — who were killed in a police ambush on June 8, 1988

Magistrate Ms Helen Wilkens yesterday refused to allow cross-examination of Warrant Officer Frederik Pienaar — head of the Piet Retief security police — about the C1 Unit which is alleged to have operated an assassination squad

WO Pienaar said Major Eugene de Kock, a C1 Unit member, was in charge of the police operation in which the shooting occurred shortly after the deceased entered South Africa from Swaziland last year

"From our instruction the people 'deceased', who came into SA were unarmed and were killed unnecessarily," the advocate for the families of the three women, Mr Marumo Moerane, said

He contended that if the operation was the work of a "hit squad", then the four ANC members had been assassinated

The magistrate postponed the hearing until May 8, 1990, after Mr Yacoob and Mr Moerane refused to continue cross-examination of WO Pienaar, saying they reserved the right to question at a later stage

Call Temp 2/12/89

# Killings prove hit squads exist — HRC

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Eleven people have been assassinated in South Africa this year and there have been attempts on the lives of 28 other political activists, according to a new report by the Human Rights Commission

Over the past five years there have been at least five disappearances, 45 assassinations, 160 attempted assassinations and 68 incidents of harassment. The HRC admits that these records are incomplete

The report says the sheer volume and sophistication of such actions during the past five years "is a clear indication of the

widespread existence and activity of well-organised units or hit squads

"A high degree of expertise is evident, with skills in the use of explosives, weapons, incendiary materials, chemicals and lock-picking devices. Abundant resources include equipment, materials and access to information not generally available to the public

"Speculation as to the base for such an operation inevitably leads to state security structures, particularly the security police, which would also explain the virtually complete lack of success on the part of the police in solving these numerous mys-

teries "

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The HRC report notes that hit squads apparently seek to intimidate or eliminate political activists or cripple their organisations. In addition to bricks, shots, petrol bombs and teargas canisters thrown at the homes of activists, their organisations are either fire-bombed, bombed or burgled, with records, office equipment and computers being stolen

"Partial records show 79 attacks and 29 burglaries in the last five years (13 attacks and nine burglaries during 1989). In addition, nine places of worship have been attacked and four graves desecrated "

CMH 714 FC  
2/12/89  
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# Right-wing gang 'behind the killings'

By BARRY STREEK  
Political Staff

POLICE are convinced that a clandestine right-wing organisation is behind the assassinations earlier this year of Dr David Webster and Mr Anton Lubowski, as well as other attacks against anti-apartheid activists

They also said more people could be detained shortly in connection with these incidents

Yesterday, police revealed little about their investigations, but they believe the gang of assassins has at least three members.

The commanding officer of Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, Brigadier Floris Mostert, said the murder of political activists in recent years was a conspiracy to thwart the government's reform plans.

The police are also angry that a Johannesburg newspaper yesterday published a picture of Ferdi Barnard, the former drug squad sergeant who was detained on October 31 in connection with the murders of Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski

They believe the publication of the picture will jeopardise their investigations, particularly because identification parades were one of their best weapons in the investigation

Yesterday the police lodged an official complaint with the Media Council about the publication of the picture

Brigadier Mostert said he believed there was a connection between the assassinations of Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski, as well as in the intimidation of left-wingers

Barnard, a former member of the West Rand drug squad, was on parole at the time of his detention after he had been jailed for two murders, one attempted murder, the theft of three cars and other crimes

In 1984, the Rand Supreme court heard how he arranged for two ad-

PRETORIA. — The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, yesterday slammed reports that the authorities would "surprise (Almond) Nofomela with a sudden execution".

The authorities granted Nofomela a stay of execution on the strength of an affidavit linking him with an alleged police "hit squad".

Observers have warned, however, that in view of possible civil actions against the state by families of the victims of the alleged squads, it would be prudent to obtain from the Supreme Court a stay of execution for Nofomela. Mr Coetsee yesterday called the reports "malicious". — Sapa

dicts, Peter Ward and Edward Joffe, both 19, to break into a chemist in Wilro Park on the West Rand.

Barnard lay in wait for the two men with another policeman and then shot them when the break-in was committed. Joffe was wounded but Ward was killed.

Then, on February 3, 1983, Barnard shot dead drug dealer Edward Symons, 29, who was driving a car stolen by Barnard himself. Barnard had arranged a drug deal with the victim.

He was convicted on two counts of murder and one of attempted murder in December 1984 and sentenced to an effective six years' imprisonment. He was also convicted on three counts of car theft

An indication of the police investigations was given by Brigadier Mostert in an affidavit submitted to the Pretoria Supreme Court during an application by Colonel PJ Barnard, a retired police officer and father of Ferdi Barnard, for the release of his son

Brigadier Mostert said in the court papers he believed the detainee was withholding valuable information on the murder of Dr Webster from the police

# Handcuffed accused 'not ingenious'

CASE 714 B 2/12/89

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Supreme Court Reporter

WARRANT OFFICER Jeff Benzien yesterday told the Supreme Court that terrorism accused Mr Gary Kruser could have used his ingenuity to use a toilet or open a tap to drink water while he was held in a cell with his hands cuffed behind his back.

WO Benzien, of the Terrorism Detection Unit, was being cross-examined in the trial of Mr Tony Yengeni and 13 others who have refused to plead to charges of terrorism.

He told the court he had taken Mr Kruser to Manenberg police station and placed him in a cell.

He denied that Mr Kruser did not have access to water or a toilet and said those facilities were in the cell. The tap had been of the "modern, economical" sort which, after being depressed, would run for a few seconds and automatically shut off.

Asked by Mr D P de Villiers, QC, for the defence, if he could think of a method how Mr Kruser could have opened the tap, WO Benzien replied:

"If I had been in his shoes, I would have used an elbow to open the tap."

Asked if he would be surprised that Mr Kruser was unable to open the tap, WO Benzien said he would and added: "I think he was not ingenious enough."

Asked by Mr Justice S Selikowitz why he had left Mr Kruser handcuffed in the cell, WO Benzien said there was no way of knowing if other people would pass the cell. It had happened that dangerous criminals pretended they had been arrested for lesser crimes like drunkenness in order that they could be released.

He had not left instructions that Mr Kruser could get water or use the toilet because he believed Mr Kruser could help himself, WO Benzien said.

Asked how a fully clothed person with his hands cuffed behind his back could use the toilet, WO Benzien said he could use his thumbs to pull his trousers down.

The trial continues on Monday.

Mr W S la Roub and Mr J V Knoll were the assessors. Mr De Villiers appeared for the accused. He was assisted by Mr Mike Donen, Mr Plus Lange and Mr Johnny de Lange and instructed by Mallinck, Rees, Richman and Cloenberg Inc; Esau Moses and Associates; R Vassen and Co, and Erver Daniels and Co. Mr Hendrik Klem, SC, and Mr Jennie van Vuuren appeared for the state.



Dr Fabian Ribeiro who was shot dead with his wife Florence in 1986.

## 'Mend your ways', brother told hit-man

SERGEANT Jeffrey Bosigo, a "turned" ANC guerrilla who was a member of the SAP hit squad, told his brother about his involvement in the murders of human rights lawyer Victoria Mxenge and activist Dr Fabian Ribeiro and his wife Florence, *Vrye Weekblad* reports

The brother, Mmutle Bosigo, told the newspaper how he tried to convince his brother over years to stop his life of murder and violence

Sgt Bosigo, who left his house in Soshanguve near Pretoria two weeks ago, told his brother about numerous operations in which he took part

Mmutle, a well-to-do farmer and businessman from Mmabatho, told *Vrye Weekblad*

"I know all those people in the hit squad. When they went on operations in this part of the world, they came to stay with me. I know Nofemela, Tshikalange, Dirk Coetzee and Eugene de Kock."

Bosigo said he heard in 1984 for the first time what Jeff did when he told him his gang had killed Victoria Mxenge

Jeff Bosigo left South Africa in 1976

at the age of 18. He fled to Botswana and received guerrilla training in several countries

In 1978 Mmutle Bosigo went to Botswana to persuade Jeff to return to South Africa. After Jeff handed himself over to the police in Bophuthatswana, both brothers were detained for a year

Jeffrey was sent to Vlakplaas where he agreed to become a member of the counter-insurgency unit of the police

"I told Jeff then already brother, you are making a mistake. If you want to be a soldier rather die as an ANC hero than as a coward for the police."

Bosigo said Jeff told him he was "hunting terrorists" and that they worked in Durban, Swaziland, Lesotho and the Transvaal

"During a visit to Jeff I saw hand grenades under his bed with two false passports. I asked him brother, what do you do with all this stuff. He told me about the Mxenge woman."

"I tried to convince Jeff: we are a good, hardworking family. He cried and said he did not want to go to jail."

Bosigo went to see Maj Eugene de Kock - who succeeded

offer of the hit squad - at Vlakplaas to try to convince him to let Jeffrey go. "De Kock only said I don't have to worry because Jeffrey was doing good work."

Jeffrey's last operation took place last year when he was wounded in the hands, legs and shoulder during a skirmish with ANC guerrillas

After he was discharged from hospital, Bosigo looked after him for three weeks

Bosigo said he never received details of the murders in which his brother was involved. He only mentioned the names of the victims

"When Jeff told me about Mxenge and Ribeiro, the names meant nothing to me"

C.Press 3/12/89

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# Recce fears for his life

C.P. VUSS 3/12/89

Spilling the beans

By KHULU SIBIYA

Mervyn Malan, 27, who claims to be a cousin of Defence Minister Magnus Malan, has asked for political asylum in Holland. He fears his life is in danger after deserting South Africa's elite Special Forces military Unit, part of the South African Defence Force.

For the first time, information about Special Force structures and activities has been given from inside. Now that suspicions about Special Forces' actions of terror against citizens in South Africa's townships are confirmed by Malan, who has given an extensive interview to *Anti-Apartheid News*, edited by the Anti-Apartheid Movement of the Netherlands.

Mervyn Malan was team leader in a Special Forces Reconnaissance Command from 1983 until 1985.

He left the unit when he saw that "torture, the bombing of villagers and the burning of women and children" in South Africa's neighbouring countries was normal procedure, instead of "just military action against Swapo".

When Malan was called up again for renewed Special Forces service in 1987 and 1988, he tried to get an exemption, which was refused by the SADF the second time.

He fled to Swaziland, where he was pursued by former recce-colleagues. After escaping from them he went to see the Dutch consul, who advised him to try to get political asylum in Holland.

Mervyn Malan, who is very nervous, has been in Holland for some time.

Afraid of reprisals by the SADF, he has avoided publicity until now.

"I have seen and done terrible things," he tells *Anti-Apartheid News* in its November-issue. "I will never ever be part of any killing again."

"Special forces won't leave me alone. Then, again, more call-ups. I don't want that. I want to live a normal life. I tried to do that in Swaziland until they came after me there. I don't know if I'm safe here. Maybe publicity will give some protection - I think that by now, they must know I am here."

"Friends of mine have been interrogated by the Security Police in South Africa. My cousin, the general, doesn't protect me. He is the one that wants me killed."

Among the information which Mervyn Malan gave to *Anti-Apartheid News* and to the Anti-Apartheid Movement are many names, descriptions of Special Force bases and headquarters and details of illegal operations carried out by the Special Forces.





C Press

3/12/89

# Mxenge questioned days before his murder

By S'BU MNGADI

SLAIN Durban civil rights lawyer and political activist, Griffiths Mxenge, was questioned about "ANC funds" at CR Swart Square Security Police headquarters in Durban days before he was killed in November 1981, Durban attorney Bheka Shezi said this week.

Before this, a security policeman, a W/O De Wit, burst into Mxenge's offices in Victoria Street, Durban, while the attorney was in consultation with a client.

Police assassination squad leader Captain Dirk Coetzee recently told *Vrye Weekblad* he had planned the murder of Mxenge with then security police chief in Durban, Brig H van der Hoven.

Coetzee said Van der Hoven told him police knew Mxenge was channelling ANC money into South Africa but could not prove it.

Shezi, now the family lawyer, said his former boss

was summoned to CR Swart Square for questioning a few days after De Wit burst into the offices.

"Mxenge asked me to accompany him just in case the security police decided to detain him.

"I waited from 2pm until Mxenge emerged from De Wit's office at about 5pm looking very disturbed," recounted Shezi, who was then an article clerk.

He said the first thing Mxenge uttered in the elevator was "Bheka, these boers are after me".

Back in the office, Mxenge reported to his late wife Victoria Mxenge, Shezi and the staff that the police believed he was a local conduit of ANC funds.

"A group of detained student activists from KwaMashu confessed to the police that Mxenge had given them money for school fees.

"It was this money the security police alleged was from the ANC," he recalled.

Mxenge later telephoned his brother Dr Fumbartha

Mxenge, then studying medicine in Ireland, saying he was disturbed by such accusations and the poisoning of his dogs.

A W/O JHJ De Wit, of the security branch in Durban, on Friday could not confirm or deny he had questioned Mxenge about "ANC funds" in 1981.

Van der Hoven, implicated by Coetzee in Mxenge's killing, strenuously denied the charge.

Van der Hoven, who is now retired in Middelburg, reportedly refused to say whether Mxenge was suspected by security police of channelling ANC funds.

He explained that when a local division of the security police "believes there are terrorists in the vicinity, you just ask the Pretoria headquarters to send a team from the anti-terrorist unit.

"What the team does and how they do it has nothing to do with the local commander."



Griffiths Mxenge . . . "boers are after me".

# The tit-for-tat

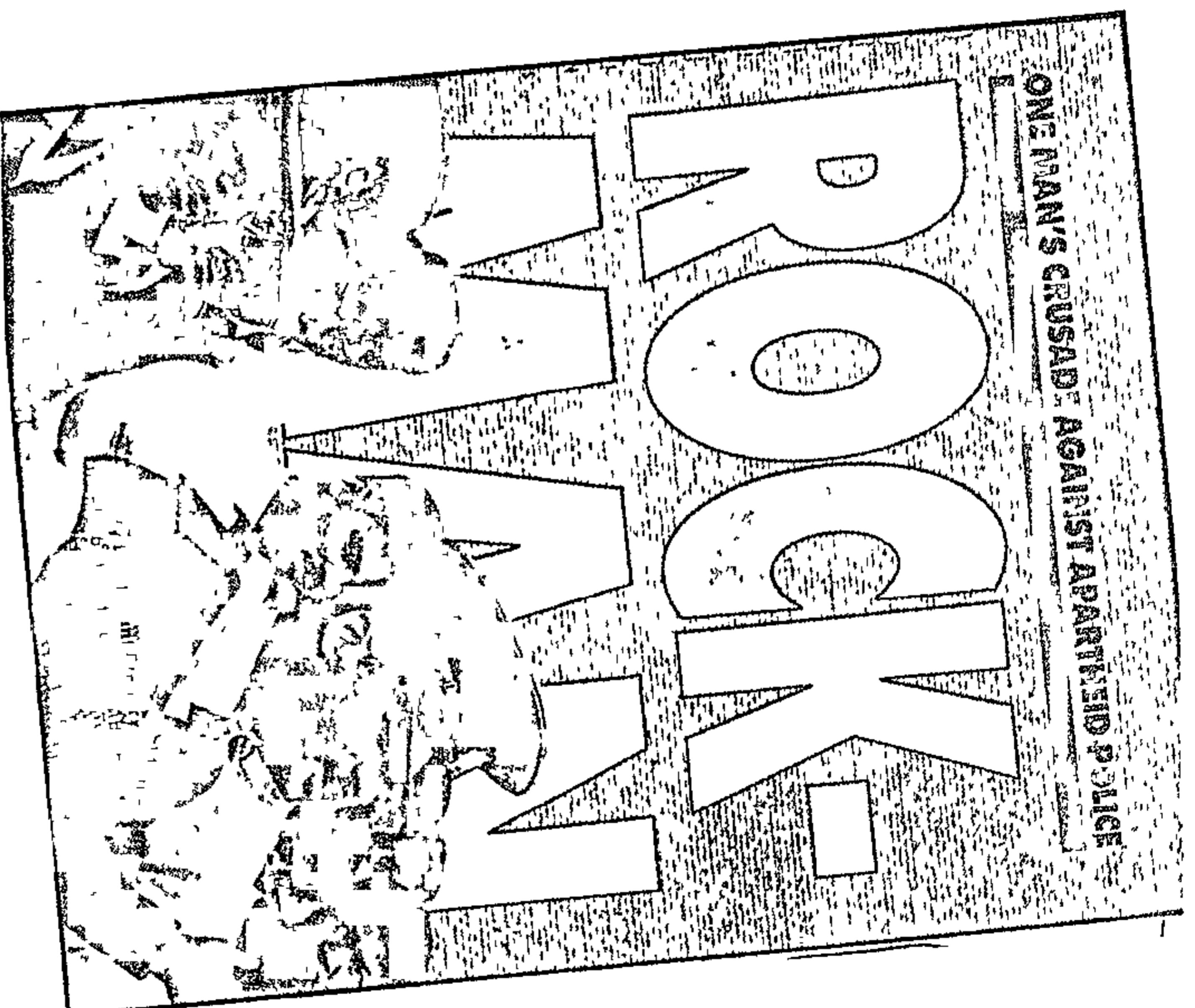
2/12/89 Times

# History of a Crusader cop

2/27/89  
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SINCE Lieutenant Gregory Rockman spoke out against the actions of the riot police at Mitchell's Plain town centre on September 5, this is what has happened:

- In October, two riot policemen, Major Charles Brazelle and Lt David Roos, were tried in a Cape Town magistrate's court on charges of assault. The court found them not guilty as they were not actually involved in any assault. They were in command of the riot police but had not taken any action themselves
- October 18. After the case police revealed that the investigation would continue
- October 20: Police launched an investigation into Lt Rockman's actions, claiming he had broken police regulations by speaking to the media without permission.
- October 26. Lt Rockman receives the Civil Rights League's first human rights award, plus R500 prize money.
- October 30. The regional commissioner of police in the Western Cape, General Flip Fourie, orders Lt Rockman to tone down his comments on the police.
- October 31. Rockman refuses to sign what he calls a "gag order" and is surprised when told that he has been nominated for "border duty".
- November 6: He launches a union for police and prison services employees (Popernu) An SAP spokesman says that Lt Rockman has again contravened police regulations by forming the union, which the spokesman says is "illegal" as members of the police are not allowed to belong to any union.
- November 10: Lt Rockman is transferred to the quartermaster's office in Pinelands and two members of Popernu are transferred to Beaufort West
- November 10: His commanding officer, Colonel John Manuel, who went on a "competence course", is transferred to Soweto.
- November 13: Lt Rockman and members of Popernu demonstrate in "Rockman Square" and are arrested. They are charged with holding an illegal gathering.
- November 13. Lt Rockman appears in court and after the case is remanded he is suspended from the police force.
- November 18. Still under suspension, Lt Rockman addresses two peace marches, one in George and the other in Mossel Bay.
- November 20. Col Alwyn Burger, a former member of the riot police, is appointed commanding officer of Mitchell's Plain police station.
- November 21. Eleven prison warders who are members of Popernu are suspended from duty.
- November 21: A Cape Town band, Grove Station, dedicates its latest album to Lt Rockman and releases a song titled Rockman Rock Hulle.
- November 23: Lt Rockman appears in court for a second time, charged with attending an illegal gathering.
- November 23: He is later refused entry to the Mitchell's Plain police station, where he had worked at for two years and where he wanted to lay a charge of alleged assault against the police. He is told to go to the Strand police station.
- November 24: Lt Rockman calls for the immediate arrest of those named as members of the alleged SAP "hit squad"



# Transvaal player held in Webster killing probe

# COOLPS GETS OUTZ ROGTER BY STINZAR

S/Twee

3/2/89

DAVID WEBSTER  
Shot outside his home

By DE WET POTGIETER, DAVID JACKSON and HERMAN JANSEN

A SECOND man — former Transvaal rugby player Calla Botha — has been detained for questioning about the killing of Wits lecturer Dr David Webster and Swapo lawyer Anton Lubowski.

And police say more arrests may be imminent as the net tightens on the shadowy, unnamed organisation they believe is responsible for a spate of attacks on leftwing activists.

The head of the SAP public relations division, Major-General Herman Stadler, confirmed yesterday that a second suspect had been detained in terms of the Internal Security Act. He declined to disclose the man's name.

But lawyers acting for the detained man confirmed that he was Calla Botha, a former member of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad.

Botha, aged about 30, is a member of the Roodoepoort Rugby Club, winners of the Toyota club tournament this year, and has played for Transvaal B.

Police have also detained former drug squad sergeant Ferdinand Barnard in connection with the murder inquiry. He has been in custody for several weeks.

A supreme court court application for Barnard's release — brought by his father, Mr P J Barnard of Nylstroom, a retired police colonel — was withdrawn this week. According to a legal source, the applica-



## Why blonde Nicky thinks Basil is such a silly huggler



pect had been detained in terms of the Internal Security Act. He declined to disclose the man's name.

But lawyers acting for the detained man confirmed that he was Calla Botha, a former member of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad.

Botha, aged about 30, is a member of the Roodepoort Rugby Club, winners of the Toyota club tournament this year, and has played for Transvaal B.

Police have also detained former drug squad sergeant Ferdinand Barnard in connection with the murder inquiry. He has been in custody for several weeks.

A Supreme Court court application for Barnard's release — brought by his father, Mr P J Barnard of Nylstroom, a retired police colonel — was withdrawn this week.

According to a legal source, the application was withdrawn at Barnard's own request because he feared his life would be in danger if he was released.

## Denies

Mr Lubowski was gunned down on September 12 outside his home in Windhoek and Wits anthropologist Dr Webster was shot dead on May 1 outside his Troyeville, Johannesburg, home.

General Stadler said yesterday that a rightwing organisation was closely linked to the hit squad's activities. Police knew the identity of the forces behind the "secret organisation".

The attorney acting for Botha told the Sunday Times yesterday that his client had voluntarily handed himself over to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad on Thursday after he heard police were looking for him.

The attorney said Botha was a friend of Barnard's. They played for the same rugby club and attended the same gym.

He told the Sunday Times "Mr Botha absolutely denies that he is a member of any rightwing organisation. He is a supporter of the National Party and its reform policies and denies taking part in the alleged crimes".

He said an urgent court application would be lodged this week to secure Botha's release. Police sources say that while Donald Acheson, the Irishman now detained in Windhoek in connection with the Lubowski investigation, has supplied valuable information to the police, he is not being directly implicated in the assassination of Dr Webster.

They discount the resemblance between Acheson and the identikit picture of one of the men wanted for Dr Webster's murder. Police believe the wanted man is much younger than Acheson.

## Ruin

On November 6, Acheson was released from custody after a successful application in the Windhoek Supreme Court against being held as an illegal immigrant.

He was immediately re-arrested and told he would be charged with Mr Lubowski's murder.

After an appearance in the Windhoek Magistrate's Court he was remanded to December 6.

Reports said Acheson was brought to South Africa for interrogation.

Police are also looking into the possibility that the killer squad may have been recruited by a foreign agency in order to destabilise the Government while placing the blame on rightwing radicals.

According to Brigadier

□ To Page 2



No more cuddles, Nicky orders Basil Picture

By CHARIS PERKINS

A PLAYFUL cuddle ended in tears when motor-racing champion Basil Mann hugged a petite blonde radio producer — and broke her ribs.

The Springbok racing driver and seasoned bachelor is used to breaking women's hearts. But nothing could prepare him for the damage he did when he bear-hugged Radio 702 producer Nicky Carter.

Now, he says, his reputation is in shreds. Women avoid him and his friends have dubbed him "the bone-breaker". What is more, his victim Nicky — the vivacious producer of the John Berks morning chat show — refuses to forgive him.

Not even the huge bouquet he sent to her office this week will melt her angry heart.

"He'll have to give me a new car," she said. "And until he does, he will just have to suffer with his guilty conscience."

But 34-year-old Basil isn't feeling particularly guilty.

"It was an accident," he said. "How was I supposed to know she was such a fragile creature?"

Bone-crusher Basil broke Nicky's ribs just hours after she risked death driving in a hair-raising relay to raise funds for World Vision.

The 30-year-old go-getter was part of the winning 702 four-man team which raced against sides from Radio Five, M-Net and Top Sport at Kyalami.

## Disaster

Nicky was celebrating with her team-mates after the race when disaster struck. Ribald Basil sneaked up from behind, put his arms around her and squeezed.

"I got such a fright," recalled Nicky. "I felt this terrible pain, but couldn't breathe or scream. Then I blacked out."

Buffoon Basil thought Nicky was playing the fool and roared with laughter. "I thought it was a huge joke."

But it wasn't a joke at all. Nicky had been well and truly crushed and she now spends her days wincing around the studio waiting for two left ribs to heal.

Basil claims it's unfair to blame him for what happened. "I hugged Nicky because she was dressed in pink. She looked so nice I couldn't resist," he said.

"I've offered to break tw

## PICK 6

**GOSFORTH PARK**  
A NETT pool of R1 248 620 saw 89 winners collect R14,029,40c each. Winning Nos. 5, 11, 8, 7, 9; 10, 11.

**GREYVILLE**  
640 punters picked the right combination for a payout of R557,20c. Winning Nos. 12, 3, 1, 13, 14, 4, 6, 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 4.

**MILNERTON**  
There were no winning tickets and a pool of R220 052,25c has been carried forward to the next meeting. Numbers. 8, 6, 3, 3, 4, 6.

**ARLINGTON**  
A dividend of R7 037,10c was paid to 4 ticket holders from a pool of R37 531,50c. Combination 1, 3, 6, 4, 2, 1, 5, 10, 10.

## Gold raid nets R3m

Sunday Times Reporter

SIX armed robbers — one of them brandishing an AK47 sub-machinegun — terrorised a businessman and his staff before escaping with gold jewellery worth more than R3-million.

The balaclava-clad gang pistol-whipped terrified employees of Efune Brothers in central Johannesburg before emptying two safes of gold jewellery.

A reward of R250 000 — or 10 percent of whatever is recovered — is being offered by insurance assessor Stuart Woodhead at 883-1328.

## EP victory

EASTERN PROVINCE waltzed away with the Nisan Shield trophy when they trounced Northern Transvaal by seven wickets at Centurion Park yesterday.

Match report Page 37

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# HIT - MAN HIDES OUT

# IN BOP

251  
C. Press 3/12/89

## 'Turned' ANC man boasted of killings

BY CHARLES MOGALE

SERGEANT Jeffrey Bosigo whose hit squad was responsible for the deaths of civil rights lawyer Victoria Mxenge and Mameledi activist Dr Fabian Ribeiro and his wife Florence is in hiding in Bophuthatswana

He is holed up in a posh mansion in Mmbatho after he left his home in Soshanguve near Pretoria two weeks ago following revelations of a police hit squad

It was revealed this week by *Vrye Weekblad* that Bosigo's hit squad killed Mxenge and the Ribeiros and that Bosigo was a leading member of the squad

The mansion in Mmbatho belongs to Bosigo's brother, Mmutle, a well known building contractor

This week, suspicious occupants of the house would only communicate with journalists through a half-opened window. A young woman told journalists "nobody" was home

Mmutle Bosigo told *Vrye Weekblad* his brother had told him about the Mxenge and Ribeiros killings

He tried to convince his brother in the past years to stop his life of murder and violence

Jeffrey Bosigo a "turned" ANC guerrilla boasted about the Russian weapons and hand grenades he had

Bosigo said Jeff's suspicion that his younger brother Godfrey died in an ANC camp had driven him to violence and murder

Capt Dirk Coetzee, un-

der whom Bosigo started his career as a hit-man, this week said Bosigo succeeded Almond Nofemela - now on Death Row for murder - as the squad's main assassin

Victoria Mxenge, treasurer of the UDF, was shot and axed to death in 1985

The Ribeiros were shot dead by two black men

outside their home in December 1986. The two men were picked up by two white motorists about 500 metres from the house, witnesses said

See Page 4

## Cops face R10-m suit

By S'BU MNGADI

DURBAN lawyers are preparing a major civil claim against the SAP for alleged negligence and complicity in the violence which reduced Mpumalanga, near Hammarsdale into a "little Beirut" for two weeks

This comes against the background of a tenuous ceasefire between the warring factions in the area as a degree of normality returned

The ceasefire was signed on Thursday night by local leaders of the UDF and Inkatha, com-

mitting themselves to further peace talks

Lawyers Bheka Shezi and Kwenza Mlaba estimated at R10-million the civil claim being planned

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Unrest monitoring groups yesterday estimated at 45 the number of people killed in Mpumalanga alone since November 19

Earlier this week, a delegation of lawyers and hu-

man rights activists watched in horror as heavily armed vigilantes moved from house to house attacking occupants before looting and burning the houses

The lawyers later submitted affidavits alleging white policemen did nothing to stop the vigilantes. Instead, a police van and a Hippo appeared to be escorting the invading mobs, described by residents, and later police, as Inkatha members

On Friday, the residents were granted an urgent interdict restraining members of the SAP from allowing the unlawful attacks

## One in 200 girls HIV-positive

By S'BU MNGADI

ONE in 200 Natal schoolgirls has tested positive for the HIV virus

These shocking figures were revealed this week by Prof Dennis Pudifin of the Natal University's Medical School

"The carriers are rapidly passing the Aids virus on to others," he said

Pudifin's figures are based on samples from the Durban blood bank

Surveys at a Durban clinic conducted between June 1988 and February this year, have backed Pudifin's find

The surveys found that more than three in every 100 women and more than two in every 100 men were HIV-infected

"The incidence of women being Aids carriers has now overtaken that of men and is increasing faster. We don't know why it's a more common pattern in the black population," said Pudifin

Other research on blood samples from pregnant black women showed that one in 461 were HIV positive

See Page 11

Blind man fights council  
PAGE 3

W.C. scores  
PAGE 4

'Why did they kill my son?'  
PAGE 5

Victory for Peleton  
PAGE 6

AIDS: a threat to all of us  
PAGE 11

W.C. scores  
PAGE 4

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■ The Ribeiros were shot dead by two black men

two white motorists about 500 metres from the house, witnesses said.

■ See Page 4

# COPS face R10-m suit

By S'BU MNGADI

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# Second squad cover-up fears

By **DESMOND BLOW**

THERE are two "death squads" eliminating left-wing activists - one for blacks and one for whites, legal observers believe.

This follows reports this week of the detention of former police sergeant Ferdi Barnard in connection with the assassinations of human rights lawyer Dr David Webster and Swapo lawyer Anton Lubowski.

Earlier, former Rhodesian Greys Scout Donald Acheson was arrested in Namibia in connection with the murder of Lubowski.

Irish-born Acheson is now co-operating fully with the police authorities.

Brig Floris Mostert, head of the Brixton Murder and Robbery squad, which is holding Barnard, yesterday refused to say if any more arrests were imminent.

The assassinations of Webster and Lubowski were apparently committed by a different group to that "revealed" by condemned killer Almond Nofomela, and Cpt Dirk Coetzee.

Evidence of a second group comes amid fears the McNally report into hit squads - which was handed to two government ministers this week - may conclude the blame for the assassinations of the C1 hit-squad rests with Coetzee.

When he fled the country, Coetzee said he feared he would be made the scapegoat.

But there is a fear of a

cover-up by putting the blame on Coetzee.

Observers this week warned State President FW de Klerk that attempts to find scapegoats to cover-up two previous political scandals, Watergate in America, and the Information Scandal in South Africa, caused it to snowball and resulted in the fall of President Richard Nixon and Prime Minister John Vorster respectively.

## Elbows up as beer strike ends

IS going to be elbows up for the Charles Glass Society in what was threatening to be a dry festive season

The good news came on Friday that the long dry nine-week beer strike ended when the Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) and SA Breweries settled.

A joint Fawu-SAB statement yesterday said efforts by both parties in tough negotiations resulted in settlement. The strike was immediately called off.

## 20 die in crash

TWENTY people died when the bus ferrying them to Port Shepstone plunged into a river at Weza, in Transkei, yesterday. Another 21 were injured and two were reported to be in a serious condition

(25) C. Dr. W. S. 3/12/89

IS going to be elbows up for the Charles Glass Society in what was threatening to be a dry festive season

C. Dr. W. S.

3/12/89

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# 'Extremist' squads' alleged in court

## Series of killings by policemen

AT least 16 ANC suspects in five separate incidents were 'exterminated' in a similar pattern by a South African Police "hit squad", it has been claimed in evidence at an inquest in the Piet Retief Magistrates Court.

The killings have been referred to since February at the inquest into the deaths of three women and a man who were shot dead in a police trap outside Piet Retief on June 8 1987.

Major Eugene de Kock - the alleged successor to self-confessed field commander of hit-squad Cpt Dirk Coetzee - or men serving directly under him in Section C1 of the Security Police, were involved in all five killings it was disclosed in court.

In four of the slayings police shot people while they were trapped in cars alleged advocates Marumo Moerane and Zak Yacoob who represent the families of the deceased.

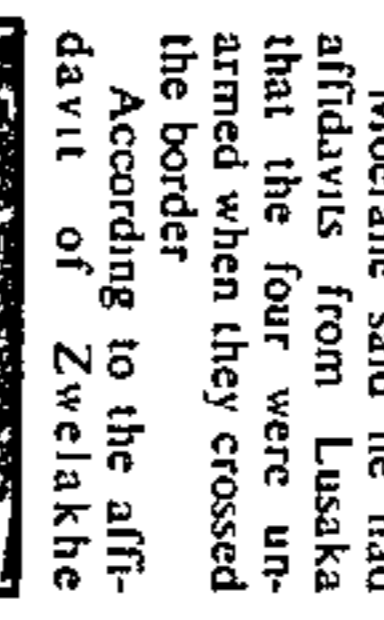
The four slayings on June 8 last year near Piet Retief were Surendra "Lenny" Naidu 23, Nontsketelo Cozozo 25, Makhosi Nyoka 25 and Lindwe Mthembu, 21 all from Durban.

They were gunned down by seven or eight policemen after they crossed the border from Swaziland and were driven by an undercover policeman, Lt Sliuman Mose into an ambush set up by police.

**Slayings**

The other killings referred to were

- The slaying of four ANC suspects near Piet Retief on June 12, four days after the previous killings.
- The slaying of three people in Amsterdam, not far from Piet Retief, on August 14, 1986.
- The slaying of four Chesterville activists and
- The slaying of Balandwa Mdoondo in the



by Gordon Loiz SC for the Minister of Law and Order and the police refused to allow lawyers for the families to cross-examine police witnesses about the alleged hit-squad because she ruled it was irrelevant at this stage.

She also refused to allow Nofemela's affidavit alleging a hit-squad be handed into court.

Lawyers for the families of the deceased will take these matters to the Supreme Court for review before the inquest resumes in May next year.

Counsel claim it was the intention of Major De Kock and his men to shoot the suspects in cold blood and not to detain them.

Counsel for the Minister of Law and Order and the police claim they were forced to shoot the suspects because they resisted arrest and were armed with a Russian pistol.

Moerane said he had affidavits from Lusaka that the four were unarmed when they crossed the border.

According to the affidavit of Zwelethe

"On reaching the car Amos opened the boot to enable the deceased to store their luggage," said Gwebu in his affidavit.

The car drove away and according to evidence given by De Kock and Peniar the two of them stopped the car further along the road.

De Kock said he signalled for the car to stop and Lt Mose who was driving did as planned.

De Kock then said in English "This is the South African police, get out!"

He said Lt Mose immediately jumped out of the car and ran away. He saw a movement in the back of the car. Although it was so dark he could not distinguish the figure and a shot was fired.

"I immediately ordered my men Skiet!"

The men including Major de Kock who either carried R1 rifles or Uzis opened up with a barrage of shots at the car and the passengers.

One of the dead passengers fell out of the back door of the car. A Makarov pistol and two spent Makarov cartridges were found nearby, said De Kock.

Lt Mose was not injured.

De Kock admitted that he had personally pulled the trigger of his Uzis sub-machine gun nine times.

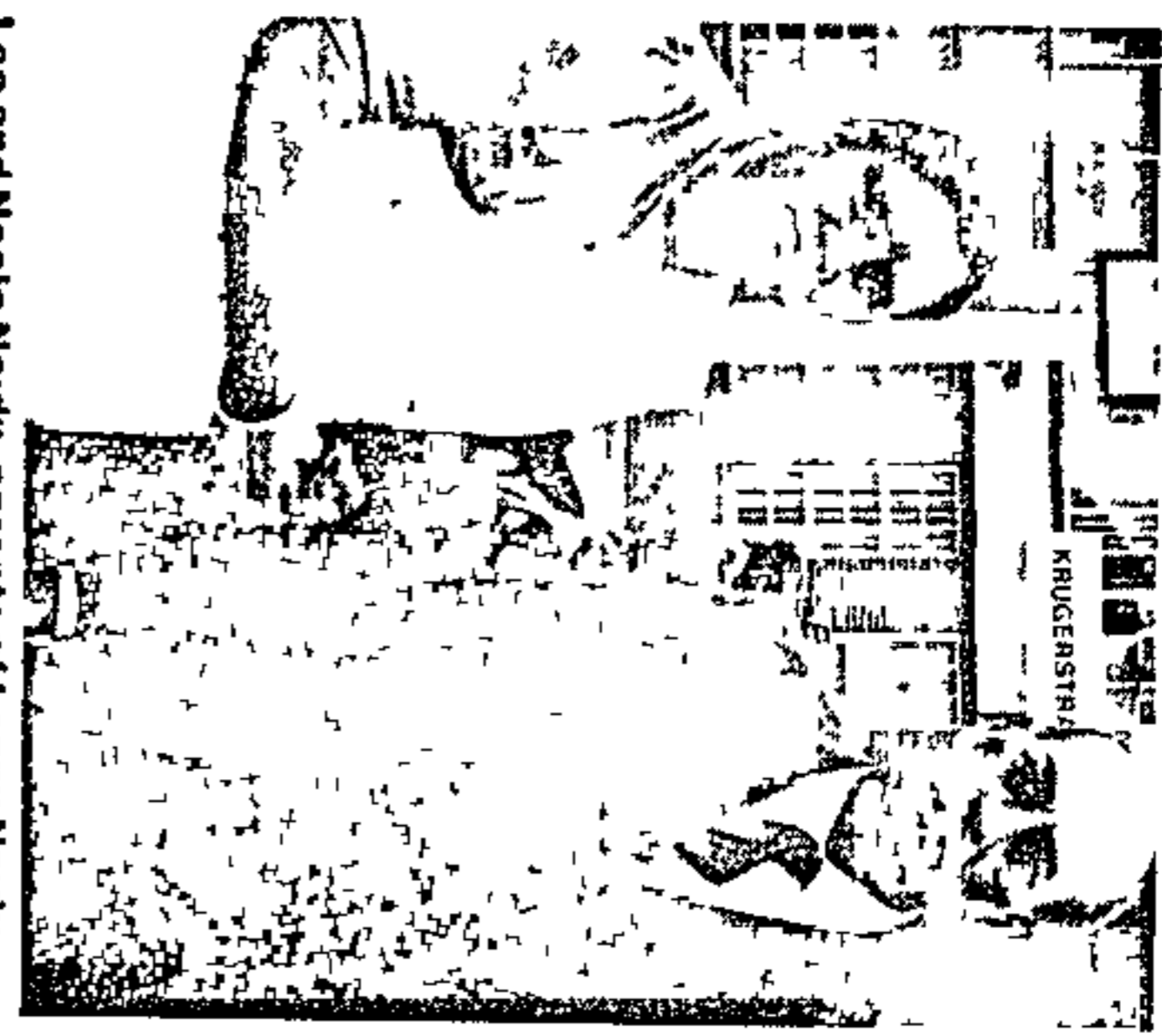
De Kock said that in his opinion the operation had been a success even though the suspects, whom they wanted to interrogate had been killed.

He said that given the same circumstances and with hindsight he would plan the operation exactly the same way.

**Security**

"I was not surprised at the result of the shooting. I foresaw this could happen when I gave the order to shoot," said De Kock.

De Kock said he had



Leo and Neela Naidu, parents of Lenny Naidu.

light of his involvement in other such incidents was ideally suited for that particular purpose.

De Kock told the court he had received anti-surveillance training in Buffalo in 1968 and had undergone refresher courses in then Rhodesia with the Special Air Service in 1972 and 1973.

As investigating officer before he was disposed Warrant Officer Peniar had the blood-soaked clothing of the deceased burnt.

When asked why he had destroyed these vital clues Peniar said he was afraid that people might catch Aids or other viruses from the blood-soaked clothing.

He was asked why he only destroyed the clothing 15 days after the event if he thought it so

dangerous.

Peniar replied he had kept it in case it was claimed by relatives of the deceased and had assured it was kept away from people.

He was criticised for sending the damaged car for repairs before it could be examined and for not having ballistics done on the Makarov pistol and cartridges.

Four people died in this car under heavy police gunfire after they crossed the Swaziland border.

# FANTASTIC

# BEATERS

## GIFTS FOR YOU!

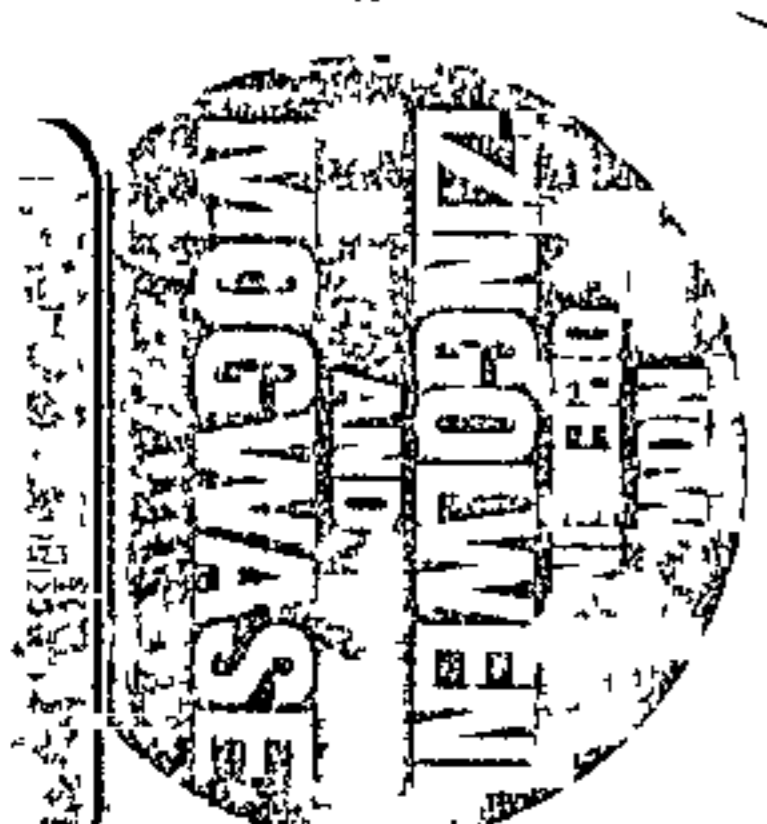
# BETTER LIVING

# STARTERS

*This Christmas*

2.75 m x 3.66 m PIONEER  
ROTO VINYL  
● Colourful design  
● Durable material  
● Easy to clean

044.HP





Major Eugene de Kock - the alleged successor to self-confessed field commander of "hit-squad" Cpt Dirk Coetzee - or men serving directly under him in Section C1 of the Security Police, were involved in all five killings it was disclosed in court.

In four of the slayings police shot people while they were trapped in cars, allege advocates Marumo Moerane and Zak Yacoub who represent the families of the deceased. The four slain on June 8 last year near Piet Retief were Surendra "Lenny" Naidu, 23, Nontsikelelo Cotozo, 25, Makhosi Nyoka, 25, and Lindiwe Mthembu, 21, all from Durban.

They were gunned down by seven or eight policemen after they crossed the border from Swaziland and were driven by an undercover policeman, Lt Silumani Mose, into an ambush set up by police.

### Slayings

The other killings referred to were

■ The slaying of four ANC suspects near Piet Retief on June 12, four days after the previous killings,

■ The slaying of three people in Amsterdam, not far from Piet Retief, on August 14, 1986,

■ The slaying of four Chesterville activists, and

■ The slaying of Batandwa Mdondo in the Transkei.

A charge was still pending in the Transkei Supreme Court against certain people, including a Lt Mose - a turned ANC member who was now an Askari - it was said in court.

The suspects were not detained. They were all shot to death.

One of the policemen involved in the killings, W/O Frederick Pienaar, was appointed the investigating officer for the inquest into the deaths of the four slain on June 8, 1987.

When this was disclosed to the court by advocate Moerane the magistrate, Mrs H Wilkens, ordered a new investigation officer be appointed. Brig Daantjie van Wyk from Pretoria head office replaced Pienaar.

The inquest began in February and allegations about some of the killings were made in court long before the death cell confession of Nofomela and of Coetzee about the existence of a death squad.

This week the magistrate, after an objection

by the defence to the Supreme Court for review before the inquest resumes in May next year.

Counsel claim it was the intention of Major De Kock and his men to shoot the suspects "in cold blood", and not to detain them.

Counsel for the Minister of Law and Order and the police claim they were forced to shoot the suspects because they resisted arrest and were armed with a Russian pistol.

Moerane said he had affidavits from Lusaka that the four were unarmed when they crossed the border.

According to the affidavit of Zwelakhe



W/O Frederick Pienaar ... involved in the deaths.

Mhlungu, said it had been agreed the four would enter South Africa unarmed.

He was the only one who could have supplied them with arms, and they had no way of obtaining them elsewhere.

Leonard Gwebu, who took the four across the border, also denied they carried arms.

He said his instructions were to deliver them to a man called Amos in a white Corolla at a blue-gum tree on the South African side of the border about 5kms from the junction of the Piet Retief - Mahamba - Botha-shoop roads.

Amos, it has been disclosed in evidence before the court, was in fact Lt Silumani Mose, a turned ANC member and member of Section C1.

English. This is the South African police, get out!"

He said Lt Mose immediately jumped out of the car and ran away. He saw a movement in the back of the car. Although it was so dark he could not distinguish the figure, and a shot was fired.

"I immediately ordered my men 'Skiet!'"

The men, including Major de Kock, who either carried R1 rifles or Uzis, opened up with a barrage of shots at the car and the passengers.

One of the dead passengers fell out of the back door of the car. A Makarov pistol and two spent Makarov cartridges were found nearby, said De Kock.

Lt Mose was not injured.

De Kock admitted that he had personally pulled the trigger of his Uzi sub-machine gun nine times.

De Kock said that in his opinion the operation had been a success even though the suspects, whom they wanted to interrogate, had been killed.

He said that given the same circumstances and with hindsight he would plan the operation exactly the same way.

### Security

"I was not surprised at the result of the shooting. I foresaw this could happen when I gave the order to shoot," said De Kock.

De Kock said he had received information on June 7 that two people were to cross and they would be armed.

They were to be met by a black man in a white Corolla car and he sent Lt Mose in a police car.

De Kock said he did not know who was really supposed to pick up the four at the rendezvous but he was not worried that a second car would turn up. He said because of national security he could not disclose the reason for this.

He had planned the operation with others.

Asked why other methods, including tear gas, had not been used to capture the suspects, De Kock replied he did not think other methods necessary.

Moreane told the court there was a dispute as to whether the deceased had been armed, and the suggestion had been put that the four were actually shot and killed in cold blood to eliminate them, not to arrest them.

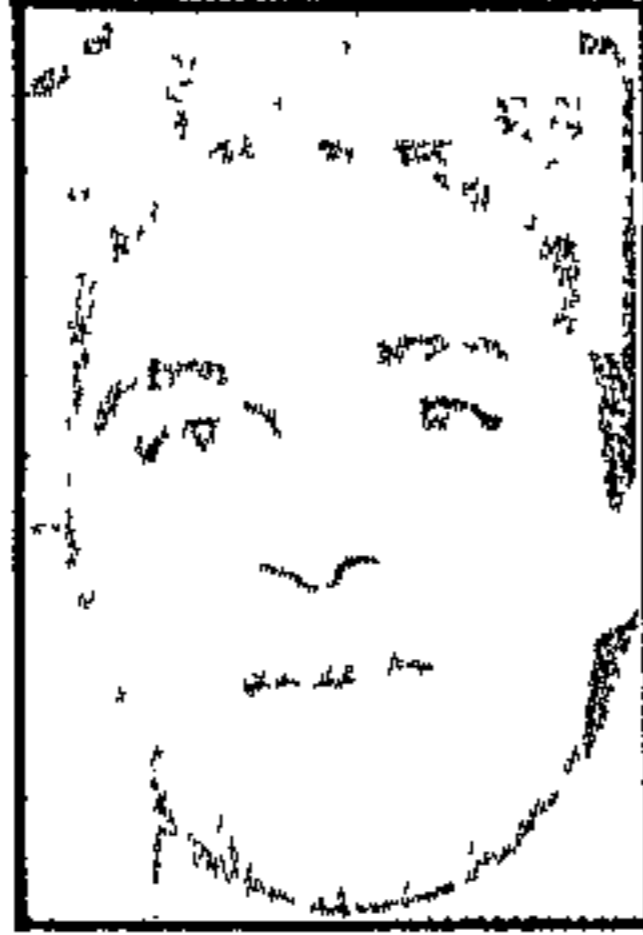
"My submission is that Lt Mose, in the light of his experience, in the

clothing burnt

When had des clues, P afraid I catch / uses f soaked

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(251)



THE Sunday Times has exclusive rights to publish extracts from rebel police lieutenant Gregory Rockman's controversial book: **ROCKMAN** — One man's crusade against apartheid. It is the story of Gregory Rockman as told to Sunday Times writer **EUGENE ABRAHAMS** (left). In this, the first extract, he reveals his suffering under "racist" attitudes within the SA Police, which culminated in his outburst against riot police action at Mitchell's Plain. The second and final extract appears next weekend.

# BOOK



## THE PEOPLE'S COP ... Gregory Rockman — still a policeman — once believed he could serve his community while wearing apartheid's uniform

### ● From previous page

that was the type of policeman I wanted to be

"That experience has helped me throughout my career because it gave me an understanding of what could be done by the police"

Rockman joined the police on August 10, 1977, and was almost immediately shocked by the extent of the racism in the force

"For me, the biggest shock came when I realised that no matter what his rank, a black policeman was always inferior to a white cop"

Rockman says he witnessed daily how white policemen ordered around black superior officers because of their colour

### Conflict

"I found this repugnant, particularly because I knew that blacks were as much in the firing line as whites"

Rockman stresses that he is not anti-white. On the contrary, he believes in a non-racial South Africa and police force

Many white policemen advised him and helped him in his career. He has the highest regard for them because they treated him as a colleague

Unfortunately, other white policemen treated him as a "hotnot" (Hottentot) regardless of his rank

"I suppose one finds this in every sphere. I could never accept that and it brought me into continuous conflict with some white policemen

"I saw this naked 'Boer' attitude which said that if someone was white, he was superior. I was constantly having to stand up for my guys because I refused to allow them to be pushed around"

In 1980, when Rockman was still a constable, the police standing orders were changed, enforcing rank as a criterion, not colour

"Some white policemen were so angered by the new rules that they left in disgust,

but I saw this as an opportunity and decided I would study further for rank because it would now really mean something"

However, as he discovered, attitudes built up over many years did not end because "of a piece of paper" and racism and discrimination still continued on a wide scale

In 1987, Rockman, who had already earned himself a reputation as a "trouble-maker" because of his constant rows over the treatment of blacks and coloureds, was transferred to Mitchell's Plain

"When I arrived I received very bad reports about the relationship between the police and the public we were meant to serve. As community officer I went among the people to tell them the police were there to help them and encouraged them to come to me with their problems

"I believe we were really getting through to the people. We had managed to stop the gang warfare and were involved in work with the community

### Threat

"But the behaviour of the riot police during August, and particularly on the day before the September 6 general election, destroyed all that"

Today Rockman says he is forced to live with friends in safe houses around Cape Town when he is off duty because he fears that there could be an attempt to kill him forcing him to live a way of life which put a serious strain on his marriage

He has already received a frightening death threat from a man claiming to be a policeman and a member of the supposed white terrorist group, the Wit Wolwe (White Wolves)

"It left me shaken. But I spoke out for justice because of my Christian upbringing and I believe I achieved what I set out to do. They can do

what they like to me now. They can lock me up or even kill me. I am prepared for anything

"The full story must be told"

(C) ROCKMAN, One Man's Crusade against Apartheid Police. Published by Senior Publications, Johannesburg



2/12/89 Times

# The tit-for-tat history of a crusader cop

251

- SINCE Lieutenant Gregory Rockman spoke out against the actions of the riot police at Mitchell's Plain town centre on September 5, this is what has happened:
- In October, two riot policemen, Major Charles Brazelle and Lt David Roos, were tried in a Cape Town magistrate's court on charges of assault. The court found them not guilty as they were not actually involved in any assault. They were in command of the riot police but had not taken any action themselves.
  - October 18: After the case police revealed that the investigation would continue
  - October 20: Police launched an investigation into Lt Rockman's actions, claiming he had broken police regulations by speaking to the media without permission.
  - October 26: Lt Rockman receives the Civil Rights League's first human rights award, plus R500 prize money.
  - October 30: The regional commissioner of police in the Western Cape, General Filip Fourie, orders Lt Rockman to tone down his comments on the police.
  - October 31: Rockman refuses to sign what he calls a "gag order" and is surprised when told that he has been nominated for "border duty".
  - November 6: He launches a union for police and prison services employees (Popernu). An SAP spokesman says that Lt Rockman has again contravened police regulations by forming the union, which the spokesman says is "illegal" as members of the police are not allowed to belong to any union.
  - November 10: Lt Rockman is transferred to the quartermaster's office in Pinelands and two members of Popernu are transferred to Beaufort West.
  - November 10: His commanding officer, Colonel John Manuel, who went on a "competence course", is transferred to Soweto.
  - November 13: Lt Rockman and members of Popernu demonstrate in "Rockman Square" and are arrested. They are charged with holding an illegal gathering.
  - November 13: Lt Rockman appears in court and after the case is remanded he is suspended from the police force.
  - November 18: Still under suspension, Lt Rockman addresses two peace marches, one in George and the other in Mossel Bay.
  - November 20: Col Alwyn Burger, a former member of the riot police, is appointed commanding officer of Mitchell's Plain police station.
  - November 21: Eleven prison warders who are members of Popernu are suspended from duty.
  - November 21: A Cape Town band, Grove Station, dedicates its latest album to Lt Rockman and releases a song titled Rockman Rock Hulle.
  - November 23: Lt Rockman appears in court for a second time, charged with attending an illegal gathering
  - November 23: He is later refused entry to the Mitchell's Plain police station, where he had worked at for two years and where he wanted to lay a charge of alleged assault against the police. He is told to go to the Strand police station.
  - November 24: Lt Rockman calls for the immediate arrest of those named as members of the alleged SAP "hit squad".



S/Tues 3/12/89

(251)

# ROCKMAN

**THE policeman was hardened to most things — he couldn't be otherwise after 12 years in a force some say is one of the most brutal in the world.**

But the day came last September when he had tears in his eyes

Bitterness and anger welled up inside him, almost choking the policeman. He felt cheated, betrayed, double-crossed.

After years of putting up with attitudes in the South African Police which is the living, breathing reality of the hated policy of apartheid, this policeman had had enough.

Lieutenant Gregory Rockman, 30 years old, husband, father, Christian and, above all, a cop who loved his job, was at the crossroads.

On the morning of September 5, 1989, years of anger and frustration boiled over when he was forced to watch helplessly as white policemen beat and whipped people gathered peacefully in Cape Town's "coloured" township of Mitchell's Plain to protest against racially segregated parliamentary elections.

When the riot police turned up after he had spoken to the protesters, his assurances that he had the situation under control were ignored. His undertaking to give the demonstrators time to leave was overridden. He felt like a traitor.

## History

When they waded into the young protesters and innocent bystanders "like a pack of wild dogs", something snapped inside him.

As he was to say afterwards "I realised it was my duty to speak out against what I had witnessed over the past weeks, no matter what the consequences for myself or my career."

And speak out Gregory Rockman did, creating for himself a place as a hero in a vitally important chapter of South African history. He told his story the very next day to a journalist.

And such was Rockman's courage, he demanded first an assurance from the reporter that his story would be transmitted overseas "for the whole world to see what is happening".

His timing, although not of his own making, had profound implications.

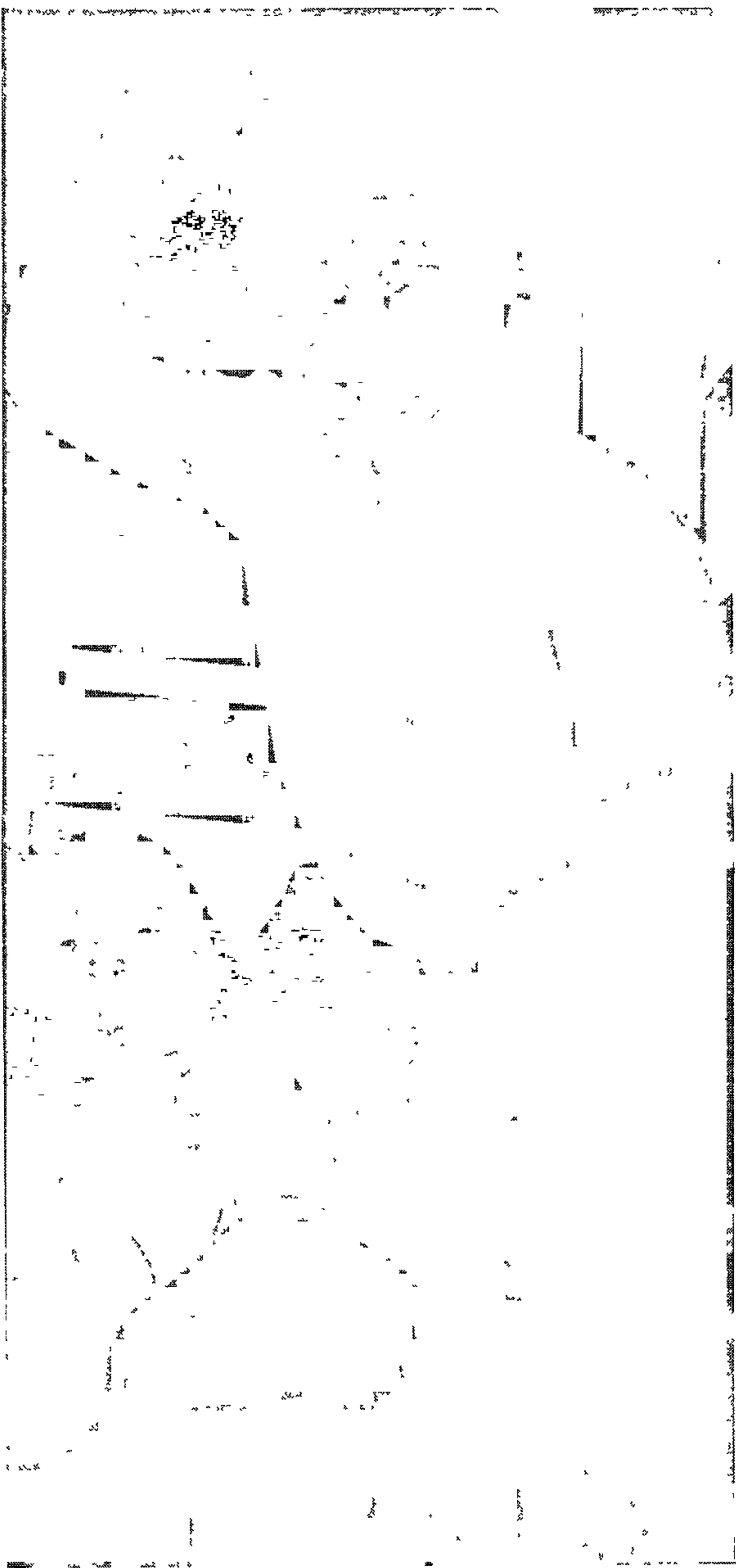
No one accustomed to the heavy-handed actions of the South African authorities and its police in dealing with protest — peaceful or otherwise — could have guessed the consequences of what Rockman told the reporter.

In Mitchell's Plain itself, where there had never been anything but a sour relationship between the community and the police, Rockman became a hero overnight.

The shopping mall where the September 5 incident happened has been renamed Rockman Square by the locals.

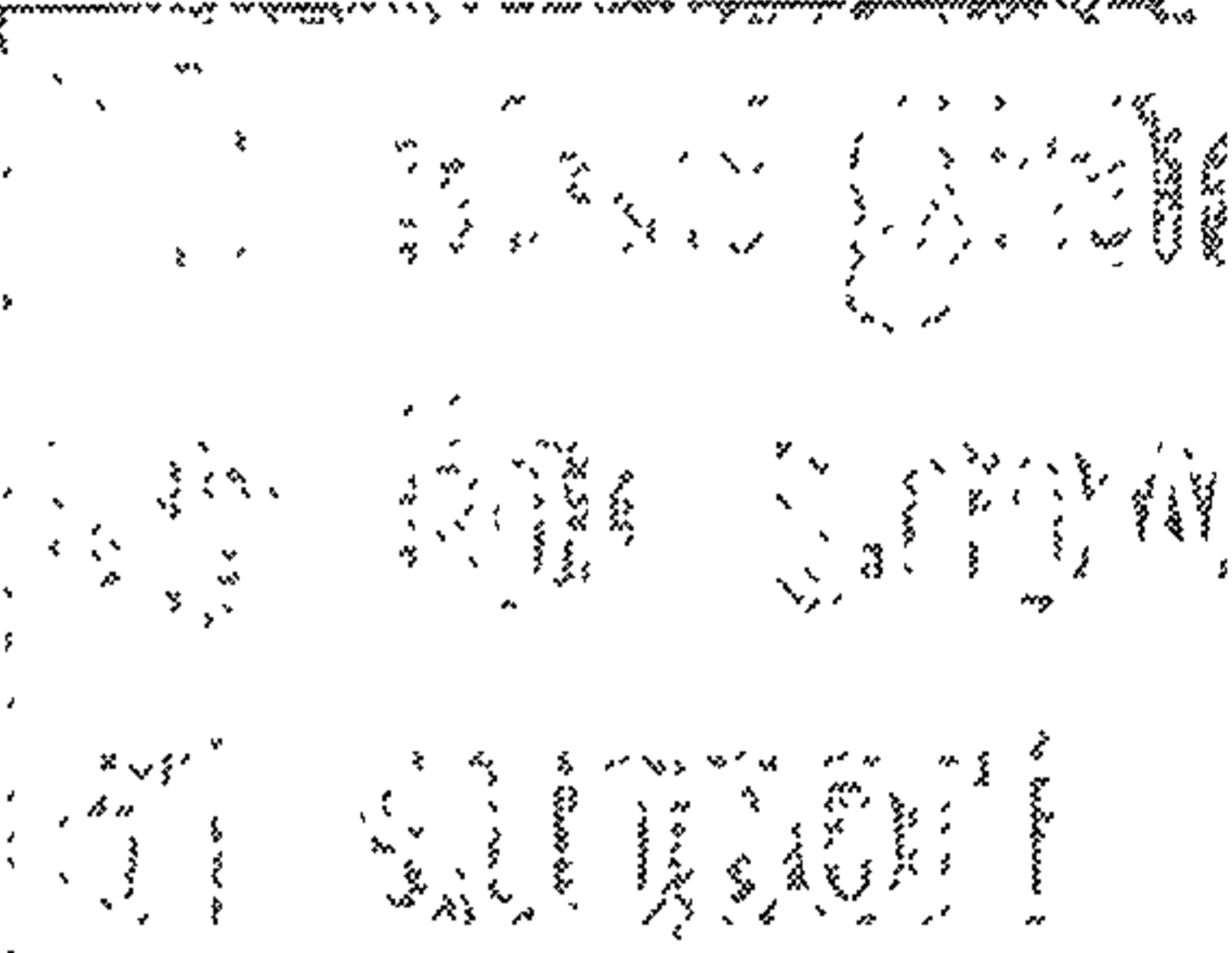
Residents mob him wherever he goes, lauding him for his brave stand and shouting "Viva Rockman! Viva Rockman!"

Who is this man, Gregory Rockman, whose name became known around the world as his story made



**THE PEOPLE'S HERO . . . since defying the orders of his superior officers Rockman has become the anti-apartheid movement's best-loved policeman**

# THE



THOUSANDS of well-wishers are expected to converge on Mitchell's Plain's Harmony Centre near Cape Town — now known as Rockman Square — for the launch of controversial policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman's biography.

The book's launch, expected to be the biggest and most unusual of its kind in South Africa, will start at 9am on Saturday.

All shops in the centre are participating in the launch and will be giving discounts on several items.

Radio Plan will provide the music, there will be a Miss Rockman Square beauty competition and representatives from the local and overseas Press are expected to attend.

Lt Rockman, currently

suspended by the SAP, will sign copies of the book.

The incident central to the book and to the investigation into Lt Rockman took place during an anti-election protest on September 5.

Riot police waded into a Mitchell's Plain crowd with batons and quirts. Lt Rockman tried to halt the riot police attack, accusing them of acting like "wild dogs".

Exclusive extracts from the book, printed in the Sunday Times today and next Sunday, give an insight into why Lt Rockman took such a strong stand.

Publisher Hans Strydom said "It will be the biggest and most unusual book launch ever in South Africa."

"There has been an enormous amount of interest."

## One man can make a difference — Tutu

IN a foreword to the Rockman book, Archbishop Desmond Tutu says

Often when we are faced with massive problems, our tendency is to shrug our shoulders in imagined impotence exclaiming with perhaps some justified frustration "What can little I do against this colossus?"

And most of us will resign ourselves to doing nothing because we say it can surely not make any difference and the serious problem remains, unacknowledged, the injustice goes unchallenged and the suffering is not lightened.

But Gregory Rockman illustrates the wonderful truth that each of us can make a difference. We can transcend our depressing upbringing and we can indeed get the ghetto out of our souls.

God be praised for such as Gregory Rockman. They give us a renewed faith in human nature.

# Rebel lieutenant tells his story of defiance

headlines from New York to Hong Kong?

He does not see himself as a hero.

"I am a Christian and I could not have lived with myself if I had stood by and said nothing at all. Now I am ready to face the consequences and I am prepared to die if necessary," he says.

To understand what finally made Rockman take on the might of the South African Police, it is necessary to go back many years to his childhood in Schauderville, one of Port Elizabeth's poorest "coloured" townships. Rockman was the second

oldest in a family of nine children. Life was a constant battle for the family.

"We were very poor. Life was a real struggle and there were often times when neither of my parents had a job."

Religion also played a major role in the Rockman family.

"It was this Christian upbringing and being taught the difference between right and wrong that made it so easy for me to speak up for justice now," he says.

"I was still at primary school when I began to realise that whites and blacks were treated differently.

"But my parents kept telling us that although white people felt superior, they were not better than us. 'You are their equal,' my parents kept on telling us."

Eventually, frustrated with the inferior school system, Rockman — a particularly bright pupil by all accounts — dropped out.

## Gangsters

This was followed by months of confusion and aimlessness for the bitter young man. His dream was to become a teacher "and do something for my people",

but because he had still not passed matric this door was closed to him. (He later passed his matric through a correspondence course.)

It was about this time that something happened which forever changed his life. One day in the township of Arcadia in Port Elizabeth, he watched as a group of gangsters harassed people.

"Suddenly a police van pulled up and a cop, a 'coloured' man, got out," Rockman recalls.

"I remember thinking how neat he looked in his uniform and how brave he was. He spoke to them for a few min-

utes and then they walked off. This was a side of the police I had never seen before and I was really impressed.

"To me, this was amazing. I thought of how terrified we as a community were of these gangs — and yet one man could see them off. That day a seed was planted in my head and I decided I wanted to become a policeman.

"Until then I had always seen the police as 'the enemy' — but now I saw them in another role, as friends. I saw myself doing something for my community and realised

● To next page

# Dozen cops leave force daily for higher pay

AN average of 12 SA policemen leave the force every day. This staggering — and frightening — statistic came to light during a Sunday Times investigation this week.

In the wake of the current spate of bad publicity about alleged hit squads, upset senior policemen spoke of the dilemma between continuing to do their sworn duty and their fight for financial survival.

The reasons vary from officer to officer, but the main reasons for the flood of resignations emerged as:

- Poor salaries;
- Virtually non-existent housing facilities for new families; and
- The present adverse publicity surrounding the police force.

And there is little that officers in the SAP can do publicly about their plight.

## Increases

For, unlike teachers and other public servants, who can openly demand salary increases and better living standards, it is forbidden for policemen to publicly fight for their cause.

"They want to double the police force in the near future," an upset officer told the Sunday Times this week.

"What are they doing at present to improve our standards of living? By the time they start doubling the force there will be nobody left in it."

Although the statistics are chilling enough, they hide an even more worrying fact. Most policemen leaving to find alternative means of feeding their families are skilled officers with six or more years of service.

By DE WET POTGIETER

A policeman works an average of 12 to 13 hours a day, receives no overtime pay, and housing for newly-weds and members transferred from other districts is almost non-existent.

"We have the best police force in the world with the best criminal success rate anywhere — but we are losing all these good men," he said.

# Cops deny 'camps' claims

251  
Sawston  
4/12/89

THE South African Police have denied operating "training camps" where captured cadres of the liberation movement are held against their will and forced to participate in atrocities against people committed to justice and peace

In a statement issued in Pretoria yesterday morning the Commissioner of the SAP, General Henne de Witt, responded to a campaign he said was to be launched within days to cast a slur on the police and its so-called "training camps" for former terrorists

The campaign, which De Witt said further alleged that the captives were being denied legal

resources and underwent extreme coercion to turn them into "killing machines" was aimed particularly at the United Nations and the International Red Cross, the statement said

De Witt stated that the SAP had no "training camps" and had never forced people to join the police force or trained people to become assassins

## Benefits

"The former ANC members who are now proud members of the South African Police all joined the force voluntarily. Most of them have given evidence in court where they were subjected to severe cross-

examination without their integrity ever being affected," he said.

De Witt said their salaries, benefits housing and promotion were exactly the same as any other member, irrespective of race, colour or creed

None of them were being held captive and all had access to their families friends and lawyers. Those who were married lived with their families in normal suburbs, De Witt added.

"The SAP is extremely proud of these colleagues who have provided invaluable service and information in our fight against terrorism and crime" he concluded - Sapa



# Vlok expects more arrests in 'death squad' probe

ARLS  
4/12/89

ZSI

By TOS WENTZEL Political Correspondent

POLICE breakthroughs had been made into groups involved in crimes with political motives and further arrests would soon be made, according to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok

He said today the police had been working day and night in the past few months in an effort to solve crimes which apparently had political motives.

A team of detectives under the leadership of Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, the CID chief, was busy with an investigation into all aspects of allegations so that the matters could be placed before court as soon as possible

Mr Vlok's announcement came after the detention of two former police sergeants, Mr Ferdie Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, and the arrest of an Irish passport holder, Mr Donald AScheson, in investigations connected with the assassinations of Dr David Webster in Johannesburg and Mr Anton Lubowski in Windhoek

Today Mr Vlok called on the media to co-operate and not to obstruct an investigation which had entailed great effort and sacrifices. He regretted that the publication of pictures of Mr Botha and Mr Barnard had destroyed the possibility of important evidence which would have emerged from an identification parade

Mr Adriaan Vlok

*Cape Times*  
**Rockman 4/12/83**  
**probe begins**  
*251*

THE internal police disciplinary hearing of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman will start on today and has been set down for four days

Lt Rockman said this weekend he had been notified of this in a letter from police headquarters in Pretoria last week.

The hearing will begin at 9am in Western Cape police headquarters in the Thomas Boydell Building

He will be represented by an advocate Lt Rockman has been charged with, among other things, breaking police regulations by speaking to the press without authority

He made international headlines earlier this year with his criticism of riot squad brutality — Sapa

Star 4/12/89

# Expect more 'squad' arrests 251 Vlok

By Peter Fabricius and Karen Stander

Further arrests would be made soon of people involved in hit squads responsible for political assassinations and other crimes, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok said today.

Several breakthroughs had been made and further arrests would be made soon.

Convicted murderer Ferdi Barnard, a suspect held by police in connection with the killings of Dr David Webster and Swapo attorney Mr Anton Lubowski, has claimed that reports of a far-right death squad were designed to "protect certain people in authority".

The attorneys for another suspect, Mr Calla Botha, said in a statement that Barnard had also confessed to his father, Colonel P J Barnard, to being under the



Rugby player and former policeman, Mr Calla Botha has also been detained.

command of Military Intelligence.

Dr Webster's former wife said last night she believed he was killed as a result of his investigation into the activities of the SA Defence Force along the Mozambique border and the link

between South Africa and Renamo. In his statement today, Mr Vlok appealed to the media to co-operate with the police and not to wreck the investigation which had already cost so much sacrifice and effort.

The SADF has denied that Barnard, detained on October 31 under section 29 of the Internal Security Act in connection with the murders, was a member of the Defence Force.

In a further development, police last night confirmed officially that a second former policeman, Mr Calla Botha, is being held under section 29 in connection with their investigation into the murders.

Mr Barnard is a former West Rand drug-squad sergeant and has two convictions for murder, one for attempted murder and three for theft. Mr Botha, a former member of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, is a rugby player who represented, among others, Transvaal under-20 and the SA Police.

He said he regretted that the placing of photographs of Barnard and Mr Calla Botha — two ex-policemen being held under a detention-without-trial clause of the Internal Security Act for alleged involvement in a right-wing hit squad — had destroyed the possibility of gaining valuable information from an identification parade.

"It must be kept in mind that according to all indications, these crimes are being committed by a person or persons who leave no clues and that the police need all possible help and must summon all expertise to solve them."

Notes  
sales — a figure forecast by big busi-  
ness analysts

251

# ANC suspect killed after crossing Swaziland border

By Therese Anders, Highveld Bureau

The recent shock disclosures about the SAP's alleged death squad and the role of its alleged commander, Major Eugene de Kock, have been particularly painful for Durban couple Mr Leo and Mrs Neela Naidu

According to evidence given in court by Major de Kock, their 11-year-old child, Surendra (23), known to all as Lenny, was killed by the controversial security police officer

Major de Kock has told a Piet Retief Inquest Court that he was returning fire when he shot Mr Lenny Naidu in the side with his Uzi sub-machinegun on a lonely road near the Swaziland border on June 8 last year

However, counsel for the families have handed in affidavits that Mr Naidu and his three women companions, all ANC suspects who had illegally crossed over from Swaziland, were unarmoured when ambushed by Major de Kock and his team.

Mr and Mrs Naidu are unable to comment on Major de Kock's evidence as the inquest is not yet complete.

Last week they spoke for the first time about how they learnt of their son's death

"The phone rang just before 9 o'clock on June 21 last year. My 18-year-old matric daughter picked it up, then she began cry-

# Our son was a pacifist, says shot man's family

"I ran to her and she sobbed that a man had told her Lenny was shot," Durban salesman Mr Naidu said

"I picked up the phone and a man said in halting English 'Lenny was shot in a skirmish in Lusaka and you'll hear about it a little later' — then the line went dead."

After a tearful and troubled night, the Naidus contacted their lawyer, Miss Daya Pillay.

The lawyer recalled hearing a news bulletin a few days previously that an Asian male had been killed during a shoot-out with police near Piet Retief. She telephoned the Piet Retief

Police Station and was told there was an Asian male body in the mortuary which the parents could see if they wished. They set out that day.

Mrs Naidu said, "We were shown a mortuary drawer in which four naked bodies had been stacked alternately head to toe. It was obvious the refrigerator was not working properly as there was the most unbearable stench

"We were told the top body might be our son, but it was difficult for us to tell because it was so badly decomposed. By now it was 15 days since they say he died.

"The body looked nothing like the Lenny we knew, so we told them it wasn't our son and drove back to Durban."

But that night nagging doubts began and the couple returned to Piet Retief the next morning. This time an attendant moved the corpse's head revealing Lenny's distinctive birth mark on his neck.

"It was a shattering moment for us," remembers Mrs Naidu.

She recalled the last words her son said to her before he disappeared on September 26 1986, the last time they saw or heard from him. "He said I must continue to be a strong lady and I must always remember that he had done nothing wrong."

Mr and Mrs Naidu described their son as sensitive, loving and a pacifist.

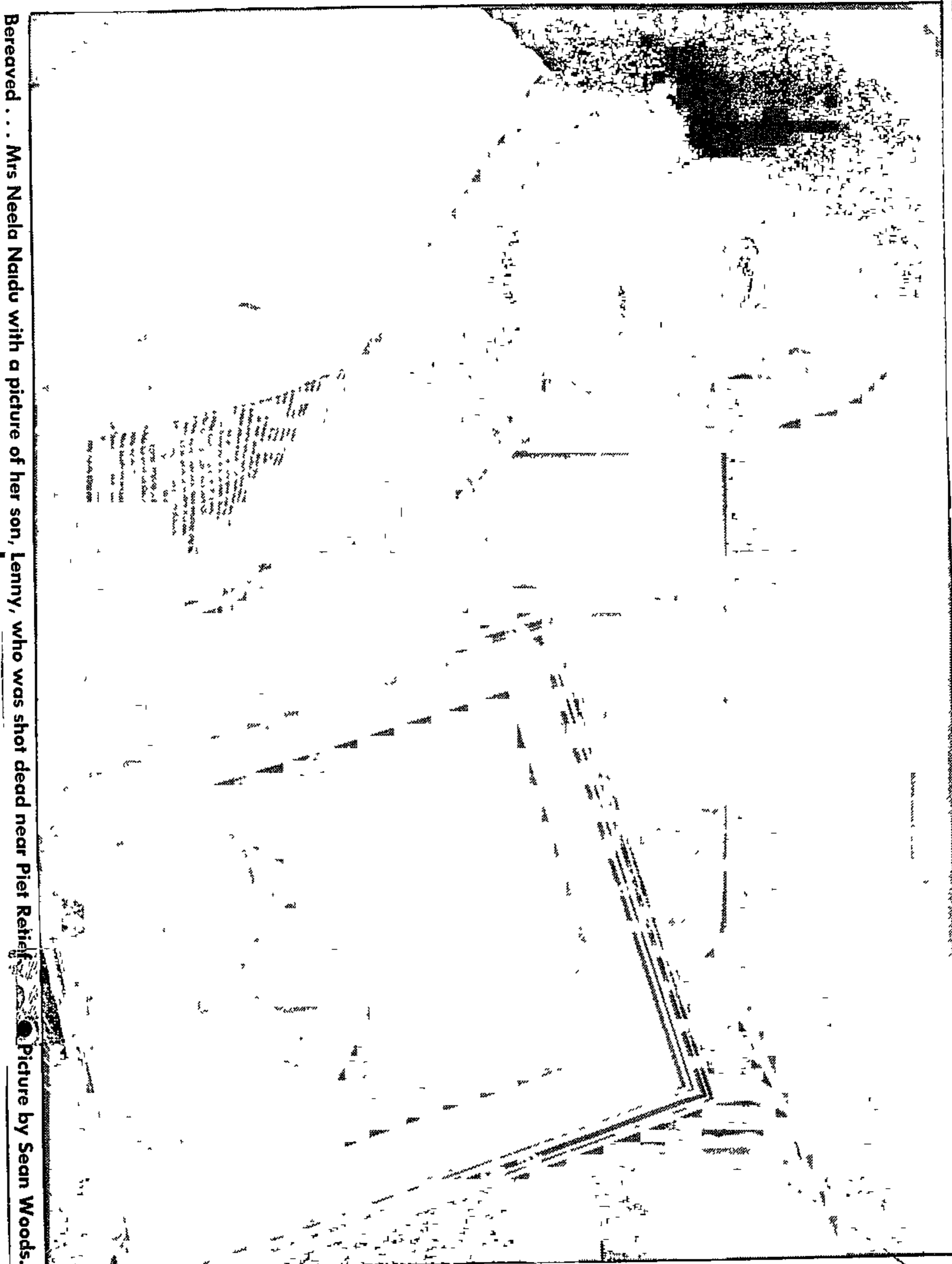
They say their home was a non-political one and they never heard of their son having any political involvement

"But he was deeply distressed by apartheid and the suffering it caused"

Mrs Naidu says a special Government Gazette banned speeches at her son's funeral

When Major de Kock gave evidence about killing her son he said he had prayed the suspect would not die.

Says Mrs Naidu "And while Major de Kock was speaking I too was praying praying he would tell the truth and praying for justice."



Bereaved . . . Mrs Neela Naidu with a picture of her son, Lenny, who was shot dead near Piet Retief. Picture by Sean Woods.

# Hit squad file to be handed in soon

By Kaizer Nyatumba

A dossier on the brutal murder of human rights lawyers Mr Griffith Mxenge and his wife, Victoria, was expected to be handed to the Attorney-General of Natal soon

The dossier arises from the investigations of Free State Attorney-General Mr Tim McNally and the chief of the CID, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, into the alleged existence of a police hit squad which is said to have assassinated the

Mxenges and African National Congress insurgents

~~251~~ ASSASSINATED

Upon receiving the dossier, the Attorney-General of Natal will decide what steps to take

Death Row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela was the first to claim in an affidavit that he was a member of a police hit squad which assassinated Mr

Mxenge in 1981

Two other policemen, former Security Police captain Dirk Coetzee and Mr David Tshikalange, have since made similar allegations.

Copies of the McNally report have been sent to the State President, Mr FW de Klerk, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee.

Star 4/12/89

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251

# ASSASSINATIONS: NEW ARRESTS

251  
788  
Capt Tuis  
4/12/89

By BARRY STREEK

**POLICE are on the verge of a major breakthrough in their investigations into a number of right-wing groups involved in attacks on anti-apartheid activists and organisations.**

Yesterday police said more arrests and detentions were imminent.

The detentions of two former police sergeants, Mr Ferdi Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, and the arrest of an Irish passport-holder, Mr Donald Acheson, in Windhoek, in connection with the assassinations of Dr David Webster and Mr Anton Lubowski, relate to the activities of only one such group.

But the police investigations involve other independent right-wing groups which they say have been responsible for a number of incidents over many years.

"We are beginning to make breakthroughs in our investigations," a police source said last night. He said the groups were well trained and organised.

The spokesman denied reports that the right-wing group, in which Mr Acheson and Mr Barnard were believed to be involved in, was linked to military intelligence.

## Intelligence link?

"These groups are totally separate from the SA Police and the SA Defence Force," he said.

The Defence Force also rejected a reported confession by Mr Barnard that he had operated under the command of the Military Intelligence branch of the Defence Force.

Attorneys acting for Mr Botha, a former Transvaal rugby lock forward, said Mr Barnard had admitted to his father, Colonel P J Barnard, that he was "a member of the Military Intelligence branch of the Defence Force" and that he had acted under the command of MI.

It is claimed that Mr Barnard joined, or linked up, with MI after his release on parole last year after serving four years in jail after being found guilty of two charges of murder, one of attempted murder and theft.

But yesterday the SADF said it had no record of Barnard being a member of the force.

The latest developments into the investigations of alleged hit squads come on the eve of a two-day special working session of the cabinet "somewhere in the Transvaal countryside" and a formal cabinet meeting on Wednesday.

One of the matters they will have to deal with this week is the McNally investigation into hit squads, following startling claims by three former policemen, death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela, ex-captain Mr Dirk Coetzee and Mr David "Spyker" Tshikalange.

The government is expected to respond by defending "authorised" actions against guerillas and distancing itself from "non-authorised" actions, such as those which have been admitted in the Nofomela/Coetzee/Tshikalange statements.

## Webster and ANC

The cabinet is expected to instruct the police to investigate all unauthorised death squad activities and lay charges against those responsible.

A statement by Mr De Klerk on the hit squad and the McNally report is expected this week.

Police will also investigate claims that Dr Webster was an ANC member and at the time of his assassination was preparing a report claiming continued South African support for Renamo in Mozambique.

The Commissioner of Police, General Hennie de Witt, yesterday accused the SA Council of Churches (SAAC) of being involved in a smear campaign against the police.

A member of the SACC's Board of Investigation into Informal Repression, Mrs Sheena Duncan, denied the SACC was planning a smear campaign against the police. She said the SACC was planning to hold a media conference this week to address the issue of former ANC members being held in camps like Vlakplaas, where former ANC members are trained by the police.

# EX-Brixton cop arrested

**POLICE** have detained a second former policeman for questioning in connection with the assassinations of Wits lecturer David Webster and Swapo lawyer Anton Lubowski, deputy CID chief Major General Jaap Joubert confirmed on Saturday.

Joubert, who heads the investigation into their deaths, would not reveal the second suspect's name.

Reliable sources however say he is former Brixton Murder and Robbery Sergeant Calhe Botha, who resigned from the force last year.

Meanwhile, Joubert would not confirm or deny allegations by family members that Ferdi Barnard was attached to military intelligence.

Earlier this week police revealed that Barnard, a former sergeant in the narcotics bureau, had been detained in connection with the Lubowski/Webster murders.

More arrests are expected.

Webster was shot dead on May 1 outside his home in Johannesburg Troyeville, and Lubowski was gunned down on September 12 as he arrived at his Windhoek home.

Botha's lawyer said his client had reported to the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad on Thursday when he heard police were looking for him.

The lawyer said Botha, a National Party supporter, denied being a member of any right-wing organisation or taking part in the assassinations.

An urgent application would be lodged for Botha's release, he said.

Police on Saturday again suggested that a right-wing organisation was closely linked to alleged hit squad activities.

- Sapa.

(25)

Handwritten notes: "Sowetan 4/12/89" and "H/12/89".

## 'Hit

## squad'

## mystery

## unfolds

## Call for release of McNally's findings

THE family of assassinated attorneys Griffiths and Victoria Mxenge has asked government for access to the McNally report into death squads.

The family's attorney Bheka Shezi, who was the slain couple's partner, said he had faxed letters to the Justice and Law and Order Ministers requesting a copy of the report. *B/D ay 5/12/89*

Shezi said the family also intended applying for the re-opening of the inquest into Victoria Mxenge's death.

CHARLENE SMITH

The McNally report has apparently been referred to the Natal attorney-general for possible prosecution in the death of Griffiths Mxenge. Three former policemen have claimed Mxenge was killed by a police assassination unit.

Shezi said the family would wait for the attorney-general's decision, before proceeding with a possible civil action for R2,5m damages from the Law and Order Minister. *(251)*



# Rockman may be axed from SAP

Staff Reporter

LIEUTENANT Gregory Rockman may be dismissed from the police force at the end of a disciplinary inquiry which started at police headquarters yesterday.

The inquiry was conducted in camera at the Thomas Boydell Building Lt Rockman faces 10 charges but has not been asked to plead to any of them

Lt Rockman's lawyer, Mr Essa Moosa, said they had applied to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, to have the inquiry re-constituted and presided over by a magistrate instead of a police officer

The application was refused on grounds that it was a departmental inquiry and that the presiding officer, Lieutenant-General M van Eyk, would approach the matter with an open mind and afford Lt Rockman a fair hearing, said Mr Moosa

Mr Moosa said that apart from the possibility of his dismissal, Lt Rockman could also be warned, fined or suspended

Advocate Mr Pat Gamble, representing Lt Rockman, applied for an adjournment to enable the legal representative for the police, Mr L Kok, to reply to the request for further particulars He also applied to Mr Vlok to have the hearing conducted in public

The adjournment was granted and the matter was postponed till tomorrow

The charges Lt Rockman faces are that he

A PRISONS Service sergeant was rebuked by his seniors at Pollsmoor Prison after praying for members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), members of the union said yesterday.

On November 23, the day on which a number of warders were to appear in court for attending an allegedly illegal Popcru demonstration, Sergeant Edward Joseph, who normally led morning prayers, had asked the Lord to help them.

"He was afterwards called in and reprimanded and asked how can he pray for us and told his prayer was subversive," said Lt Rockman. — Sapa

● Disclosed information which could have been detrimental to the police force at a meeting at Stellenbosch University on September 20,

● Used a state vehicle for private purposes to drive to Stellenbosch from Mitchells Plain on October 25,

● Neglected his duties as a police officer on that day by not being available for service at all times,

● Disobeyed a command by Major-General Flip Fourie on October 27,

● Disclosed to the press that he had been summoned to do special duty and that he was refusing to serve it,

● Adopted a "contemptuous attitude" to his superiors, General Fourie and Brigadier Acker, amounting to insubordination, and

● Disclosed information to the press

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# Affidavit tells of overheard

## conversation on Death Row

● From Page 1. (251)  
The State President by the family of convicted murderer, Dimitrios Skoularikis, included affidavits by Skoularikis's aunt, Mrs Gyltides, and his mother, Mrs Klita Skoularikis

Skoularikis and Friedrich Brenner were given a triple death sentence in February 1987. They were found guilty of murdering the "polony king", Mr Alfons Talpa, his daughter Anna Maria and her husband, Mr Costa Phakos, in their Germiston home in June 1986. On September 20, Mr F W de Klerk, hours before his inauguration as State President, commuted their sentences along with those of five other Death Row prisoners

Speaking from her Germiston home yesterday, Mrs Gyltides said she was forced to flee the country on January 13 after her sister had received the threatening call. She returned in August this year after legal advisers said it was safe for her to come home because the petition had been sent to the South African Government.

Mrs Skoularikis left for Greece last month. Skoularikis's father, Mr Vasilius Skoularikis, said he had decided to send a copy of his wife's affidavit to The Star following the recent exposure of the alleged existence of police hit squads operating in the country. A copy of the petition and Mrs Gyltides's original notes have been sent to international legal advisers.

The petition called for a reopening of the trial after the defence team argued they had come up with circumstantial evidence showing alleged irregularities in court proceedings.

Minister of Justice Mr Kobie Coetsee said yesterday that on September 15 he requested Mr Jasper Noeth, director-general of the Department of Justice, to consider and report to him on all allegations "which were not settled" during the trial of Skoularikis and Brenner, as well as later allegations, including Mrs Skoularikis's statement. The investigation was pending.

In a telephone interview from Greece, Mrs Skoularikis last night confirmed the contents of an affidavit of which a copy was sent to The Star in a petition to the State President.

Mrs Skoularikis said she overheard Van der Merwe say to a woman, who introduced herself as Sandra, that he participated in seven murders in the Germiston district.

"Van der Merwe mentioned the names of two policemen, a Barnard and Botha, who were both found guilty of murder. He said the two would not hang because they were being protected from the top."

Mrs Skoularikis said Sandra told them she was from Witbank. She and Van der Merwe talked in raised voices and spoke in English.

Mrs Skoularikis said that in January she was alone at home and received a call from a woman who spoke in "good English". The woman told her to "shut up about what you heard in maximum security, otherwise things can happen to you".

She said she told the woman she was not afraid of anybody. The woman then said "What about your sister and her children? Things can happen to them. Something can go wrong with the car."

Cuddling the family puppy, Mrs Eleftheria Gyltides and children, Ilias (11) and Mary (8), who were forced to flee the country in fear of their lives earlier this year after Mrs Gyltides wished to reveal the contents of a conversation which she claims she overheard between convicted ex-policeman Robert van der Merwe and a visitor at Pretoria Central Prison.

● Picture by Alf Kumalo.

# More claims of police killings submitted to State President

By Karen Stander, Janet Heard and Anna Louw

New claims of police killings have been sent to the State President, Mr F W de Klerk, in an affidavit claiming convicted murderer and former detective Robert van der Merwe spoke about police slayings to a visitor at Pretoria Central Prison's Death Row

According to the affidavit (more details on Page 15), an East Rand woman had to flee the country with her two children after receiving death threats when attempts were made to report the overheard conversation

The Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, has ordered an investigation into allegations made in the affidavit, which was presented to the Minister in the form of a petition. The Star learnt last night. The petition claims:

● Van der Merwe told a woman visitor he had participated in seven murders in the Germiston area.

● He spoke of two other former policemen, including Mr Ferdie Barnard, now being held in connection with the assassinations of activist Dr David Webster and Swapo lawyer Mr Anton Lubows-

ki. The second policeman, named in the petition as "Botha", is believed to be Mr Theunis Stephanus "Calla" Botha, also a former West Rand police sergeant, and Mr Barnard's co-accused in a murder trial

Mr Barnard, the son of retired police Colonel P J Barnard, was

### More details on Page 15

jailed and later released on parole after being convicted of the murder of two drug addicts.

Mr Botha was given a suspended sentence for attempted murder.

● Mrs Eleftheria Gyltides received death threats after allegedly overhearing a conversation while visiting a prisoner, and after attempts were made to persuade a prison warden, who was present at the time, to make a report.

According to the petition sent to the State President, Van der Merwe, speaking in English to a woman identified only as Sandra, said he had been involved in seven Germiston murders.

"He further stated that at no stage had these murders been exposed by police headquarters," said the petition

Asked to comment, the head of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, Brigadier Floris Mostert, said that the murders Van der Merwe was referring to related to a police trap which was set up to apprehend a gang of bank robbers. Five suspects and two others were shot dead.

Brigadier Mostert said Van der Merwe was not involved in the actual shooting but had guided the detectives from a roof-top by two-way radio.

"He had nothing to do with the shooting," Brigadier Mostert said.

In January 1987, the chief magistrate of Germiston found that no one was to blame for the deaths of five of the men shot dead outside the then Barclays Bank branch in February 1986. He made no finding on the deaths of two other men.

The incident was widely reported at the time and caused controversy when police insisted that all seven men killed were robbers. However, an investigation at the time by the Sunday Star established that the two other men were innocent bystanders.

The 5366-page petition, sent to

● To Page 3.

# Rockman inquiry held in camera

CAPE TOWN — A disciplinary inquiry into the SAP's Lt Gregory Rockman, which began at police headquarters yesterday, could lead to Rockman's dismissal from the force.

Rockman faces 10 charges but has not been asked to plead to any of them at the inquiry being held in camera.

Rockman's lawyer, Essa Moosa, said they had applied to Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok to have the inquiry reconstituted and presided over by a magistrate instead of a police officer.

The application was refused on grounds that it was a departmental inquiry and the presiding officer, Lt-General M van Eyk, would approach the matter with an open mind, and afford Rockman a fair hearing, said Moosa.

He said apart from the possibility of his dismissal, Rockman could also be warned, fined or suspended.

Advocate Pat Gamble, for Rockman,

Own Correspondent

also applied to Vlok to have the hearing conducted in public.

The matter has been adjourned until tomorrow *BIDAM 5/12/89*

The charges face by Rockman include that he.

Disclosed information which could have been detrimental to the police force at a meeting at Stellenbosch University on September 20,

Used a state vehicle for private purposes to drive to Stellenbosch from Mitchell's Plain on October 25,

Disobeyed a command by Major General Flip Fourie on October 27,

Disclosed the contents of the command to one or more members of the Press,

Adopted a "contemptuous attitude" to his superiors, General Fourie and/or Brigadier Acker, amounting to insubordination,

# Lt Rockman inquiry set <sup>251</sup> for tomorrow

CAPE TOWN — The disciplinary inquiry involving Lieutenant Gregory Rockman was postponed to tomorrow after a brief session yesterday.

Lieutenant Rockman's attorney, Mr Essa Moosa, said the postponement was to enable the legal representative of the SAP to reply to a request for further particulars to the charge sheet.

He said a request had also been made to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, for the hearing to be conducted in public, and specifically for members of the press and Sergeant G A Johnson, Lieutenant Rockman's bodyguard, to attend proceedings.

Lieutenant Rockman faces 10 charges ranging from using police vehicles for private business to neglecting his duties, refusing to obey or acknowledge written orders and unlawfully speaking to the media.

Lieutenant Rockman arrived at the Thomas Boyedell headquarters just before 9 am and said he felt positive about the inquiry.

"I feel good. There is nothing that I fear," he said. "It will not be me they find guilty, but the truth."

He was greeted with a handshake and a smile by the regional commissioner of the Western Cape, Major-General Flip Fourie, before the inquiry began.

The inquiry is being presided over by Lieutenant-General M van Eyk, an advocate — Own Correspondent and Sapa.

# Lt Rockman faces 10 charges in inquiry

951

THE police disciplinary inquiry against Lieutenant Gregory Rockman on ten charges ranging from disobeying an order not to speak to the Press to unauthorised use of police vehicles, began in police headquarters in Cape Town yesterday.

The inquiry, presided over by the SAP's senior chief deputy commissioner, Lieutenant-General M van Eyck, has been set down for four days.

Rockman, who arrived dressed in a civilian suit, told Sapa before the closed inquiry began that he felt good.

"There's nothing that I fear," he said. "It's not me that's going to be found guilty. They're going to punish the truth."

## Fair

It was learned yesterday that the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, refused a

last minute request from Rockman's lawyers that the inquiry be headed by a magistrate rather than Van Eyck.

The lawyers said in a letter to the Minister on December 1 that while they were certain the Lieutenant-General would try to give Rockman as fair a hearing as possible, they were concerned that the nature of his position in the force would preclude him from approaching the matter with

an open mind

This argument was rejected by the Minister

None of the charges against Rockman stem directly from his initial and internationally-publicised criticisms of riot squad brutality, made on September 6

## Vehicle

The charges include Making known information to an audience at the University of Stellenbosch on September

20 which could have embarrassed the South African Police

Using a police vehicle without authority on October 25 to take him from Mitchell's Plain to Stellenbosch to address a meeting

Unlawfully or improperly neglecting his duties as a police officer on that date by not being available for service at all times

Making a false entry in an SAP vehicle log-

book

Disobeying an order from the Regional Commissioner in the Western Cape, Major-General Flip Fourie, to give written acknowledgement of receipt of an order not to speak to the Press.

## Special duty

Breaking orders by telling the Press of this order

Breaking regulations by telling the Press he had

been called up for special duty in the police

Rockman is being represented at the inquiry by an advocate

It is understood that internal inquiries are closed to the Press unless the Commissioner of Police orders otherwise

An application may be made to the Commissioner by Rockman's legal team for it to be opened

# 'Hit squad' more arrests

(251)  
Sowetan 5/12/89

**FURTHER** arrests will be made soon relating to the SAP's "hit squad" investigations following several breakthroughs.

This was said by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, in Pretoria yesterday

Vlok said he regretted that the publication of the photos of two accused in the case, Mr Ferdi Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, had scuppered the possibility of important evidence - namely them being identified in

a parade - being gained

"It should be borne in mind that according to all indications these crimes were committed by a person or persons who left no clues and the police will need all possible assistance and know-how to solve them," Vlok said

He called on the media to cooperate so as not to thwart the investigation

A team of detectives led by CID chief Lt Gen Alwyn Conradie and assisted by Maj-Gen Jaap Joubert and Maj-Gen Ronnie van der Westhuizen were

tirelessly investigating all aspects flowing from the allegations with a view to bringing the matter to court as soon as possible where it could be adjudicated properly, he said

The police had worked day and night the past few months to solve the crimes which, it is believed, had been politically motivated.

A senior South African Defence Force spokesman reiterated yesterday that the SADF had no record of Ferdinand Barnard, the former policeman

being held in connection with the murder of Dr David Webster having been employed by the SADF in any capacity

Allegations were made at the weekend that Barnard had been a member of Military Intelligence at one stage

A senior police spokesman said although he did not have knowledge of such a particular allegation being investigated by police it had to be borne in mind that police would investigate all information which may pertain to the case

# MP injured at meeting

Sowetan 5/12/89

DEMOCRATIC Party MP for Greytown Mr Pierre Cronje was injured when police clashed with a crowd of people who attended a protest meeting in Edendale near Maritzburg on Sunday.

The meeting, which was to have been held at a sports stadium in Edendale, was banned and the venue was changed to the Ecumenical Centre which holds about

1 500 people

A crowd of between 2000 and 3000 arrived at the meeting and those who could not be acc-

ommodated inside gathered outside the hall

According to police, the crowd outside the hall became angry and threw stones and bricks when the police ordered them to disperse. Police then used stun-grenades and birdshot on the crowd.

Cronje, who had been attending the meeting, was struck in the chest by a stone during the fracas.

A DP spokesman confirmed that Cronje had been at the meeting and had been hurt but said the injury was only slight and he was "fine".

# Benzien read complaint by Schreiner against policeman, court hears

ARCUS 6/12/89 (251) ~~251~~  
Supreme Court Reporter

AFTER terrorism suspect Ms Jenny Schreiner was allowed to lay a charge against a security policeman alleging harassment and intimidation, her statement was shown to one of his colleagues, the Cape Supreme Court has heard.

Cross-examining Warrant Officer Jeffrey Benzien during the Yengeni trial, Mr DP de Villiers QC said that Ms Schreiner was taken to Rondebosch police station to lay a charge with the uniformed branch against Lieutenant Frans Mostert for harassment and intimidation.

Warrant Officer Benzien confirmed that he had gone to Rondebosch police station later that day and that he had spoken to the captain who had taken Ms Schreiner's statement.

He denied that Ms Schreiner had walked into the office to find him reading the statement she had made or that the uniform branch policeman had said they should all leave because he was embarrassed that it had happened.

## "ENEMY RANKS"

Warrant Officer Benzien told the court it had not surprised him to hear that Ms Schreiner had made a complaint against Lieutenant Mostert as he had heard of other instances where complaints had been made against him.

He said it was "no secret" that he and Lieutenant Mostert did not "see eye to eye".

However he could not remember having asked Ms Schreiner whether she was "surprised that there were problems in the enemy (police) ranks as well".

He could not explain why, after noting in his pocket book that Ms Schreiner had complained about Lieutenant Mostert, he had taken her straight back to Lieutenant Mostert for further questioning.

Asked about an early morn-

ing incident in January last year, when Ms Schreiner was admitted to Tygerberg Hospital after complaining of being ill, Warrant Officer Benzien said he had seen Ms Schreiner in her cell and she had complained of nausea.

She had her blanket drawn up to her chin and he had not looked around her cell to see if there was any noticeable cause for her illness.

Agreeing that attempted suicides were a risk taken into consideration by policemen interrogating Section 29 detainees, Warrant Officer Benzien said he was not aware of a sportsbag with a shoulder strap Ms Schreiner had.

He confirmed that it would be possible to hang oneself from the bars of a police cell "if one wanted to."

## HOSPITAL

Although several attempts were made to call a district surgeon to examine Ms Schreiner, one had only arrived later that afternoon, and he had advised that Ms Schreiner be admitted to Tygerberg Hospital.

Cross-examined on the interrogation of Mr Tony Yengeni, Warrant Officer Benzien agreed there would be "pressing" questions to ask someone detained under Section 29 about the whereabouts of weapons and other terrorism suspects, but denied emphatically that Mr Yengeni had been assaulted in trying to obtain this information.

(Proceeding)

The accused are Mr Tony Yengeni, Ms Jennifer Schreiner, Mrs Lumka Yengeni, Mr Michael Lumbambo, Mr Mbutu Nduku, Mr Wellington Nkwandla, Mr Mtheteleli Titana, Mr Gary Kruser, Mr Christopher Giffard, Mr Sitlabocha Mahlale, Mr Alpheus Ndude, Ms Gertrude Fester, Ms Zurayah Abass and Mrs Colleen Lombard.



**FIVE MEN** arrested in connection with attacks on activists were today described by police as "ultra-rightwing fanatics" — while human-rights activists expressed concern over creating a "smokescreen" by blaming all death-squad killings on neo-nazi groupings.

Major-General Hermann Stadler, chief SAP spokesman, said the five men arrested yesterday would be questioned about a range of attacks, including bomb blasts and other violent crimes

General Stadler said that while the men would be questioned about the killing of Wits academic Dr David Webster, police had no link between the men and murder

The five men would also be questioned on their involvement in the escape from police of three murder suspects who were freed in an ambush of a police vehicle in Namibia on Monday

### Five Transvaal arrests

General Stadler said the five new arrests were made in "various places" in the Transvaal yesterday. Names may be revealed today

The men belonged to a "rightwing group" and were believed to have broken away from Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche's bodyguard, Aquila.

General Stadler said the men were being held in terms of the Criminal Procedures Act but would be transferred to detention in terms of the Internal Security Act

Police earlier detained two former policemen in connection with the murder of Dr Webster in Johannesburg and Swapo advocate Mr Anton Lubowski in Windhoek. They are former West Rand drug-squad sergeant Mr Ferdie Barnard and rugby player Mr Calla Botha, formerly a member of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad.

Human-rights activist Dr Max Coleman yesterday expressed concern that the government could attempt to focus the existence of hit squads predominantly on rightwing elements

While welcoming progress in police investigations, Dr Coleman said he had no doubt that the alleged hit squads operated both from within and outside the ranks of the police force.

He suggested there were three types of hit squads — those that operated squarely within the ranks of the police, those that operated totally outside the police force and those that were a hybrid of the two, having tenuous links with police.

He warned that "the latter two must not be used as a smokescreen" and said the ultimate goal of all investigations was to "trace the those responsible to their source, wherever it may be".

Mr Brian Currin of Lawyers for Human Rights said the government would obviously like to highlight the existence of an extreme rightwing terror group which would take the public focus off the hit-squad allegations

"Should they try, I don't think they will succeed. There is no doubt about the magnitude of allegations and the evidence which has emerged. I think there is nothing the government can do to stop this snowballing."

In the complex allegations about hit-squad activity so far, Military Intelligence has been mentioned as linked to the alleged hit-squad killings of Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski

● The government's reaction to a the McNally report on police hit-squad allegations is expected to be announced today.

They reiterated their demand for the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry to deal with all allegations about the conduct of the police

They urged that the full McNally report be made available to a commission as a starting-point for its investigation and that a team of expert and independent investigators be formed to help the commission in its work — Staff Reporters, Argus Correspondents and Political Staff

The co-leaders of the Democratic Party, Dr Zac de Beer, Dr Denis Worrall and Mr Wynand Malan said the McNally report had been with the President for several days but that the public was still in the dark as to its findings



General Stadler

# Ultra right-wings fanatics — police

Argus 6/12/89

25-1  
RBB



# Cops net 5 hitmen

POLICE yesterday arrested another five people in connection with the existence of an extreme right wing organisation allegedly responsible for the assassination of leftwing activists, SABC-TV news reported last night.

as 50c (44c + 6c GST)

157



*Commodores  
have arrived  
- See page 2*

A top team of detectives are investigating the possibility that those arrested yesterday may have been involved in Monday's daring escape of three rightwingers, who had been held in Namibia on charges of murder, TV added.

The arrested men and the escapees may have been fanatical members of an extreme rightwing organisation, according to informed sources quoted on the 8pm bulletin.

It is believed the unidentified organisation had drawn up a list of people they wished to eliminate.

One of those apparently on the hit list was the leader of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbewiging (AWB), Eugene Terreblanche. Other members

● To page 2

6/12/89  
Sowetan

us sias JOU...  
Sals JOU...  
HIT SQUADS  
HIT SQUADS

## Hit squads condoned

HIT squads in the police are justified, according to the White Workers Union.

*Sowetan 6/12/89*  
"The so-called hit squads in the South African police have never killed innocent victims by means of bombs and landmines as the ANC, PAC or Swapo is doing," Mr J A Venter, the general secretary of the union said in a statement.

Mr Venter said it was in "our" interest that the leaders of the ANC and the PAC be found and "exterminated."

Mr Venter said these organisations will have to pay compensation for damages.

# Hit squads arrested five

**By BARRY STREEK and CHRIS BATEMAN**  
**POLICE yesterday arrested five more men in their crackdown on right-wing hit squads.**

SAP public relations directorate chief Major-General Herman Stadler said in Johannesburg the men were arrested on the Witwatersrand and other areas in the Transvaal.

The men are believed to be linked to the three murder accused still on the run last night after their sensational escape in Namibia on Monday.

Those arrested yesterday are all thought to be involved with an extremist breakaway group from Aquila, the security unit of the militant Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging.

All are believed to be South African and some are English-speaking.

According to a source, the group had compiled a hit list which included AWB leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche and former Sunday Times columnist Ms Jani Allen. They apparently also planned to bomb a restaurant which served blacks.

The fanaticism of the well-trained splinter group was described as extreme and would "make Hitler look like a puppy".

General Stadler said the men were being held under section 29 of the Internal Security Act. They were in custody at various centres and were being questioned in connection with bombings and other violent incidents. Further arrests could follow.

## FW may talk on hit squads

**By BARRY STREEK**

PRESIDENT F W de Klerk may respond today to the report of the McNally investigation into alleged police hit squads after a meeting of the cabinet in Pretoria.

Mr De Klerk has not yet said anything about the McNally report which has been with him for several days.

The cabinet has been at a special working session "somewhere in the Transvaal countryside" for the last two days to discuss future policy initiatives — and it is probable that the hit-squad allegations were discussed. However, it is expected that Mr De Klerk will only comment after an official meeting of the cabinet today.

The three co-leaders of the Democratic Party, Dr Zach de Beer, Mr Wynand Malan and Dr Denis Worrall, said in a statement yesterday that the McNally report had now been with the president since last week. "Yet the public is still in the dark."

The arrest of the five was not directly connected to the Webster/Lubowski murder investigation, he said.

"This was another group. But naturally we will question them over a whole spectrum of happenings in the past," General Stadler said.

General Stadler said a statement giving details

concerning the men could be expected today.

In Namibia yesterday, the police described the three fugitives — Mr Leonard Veenendal, 23, Mr Darryl Stopforth, 22, and Mr Horst Klenz, 52 — as "armed, very dangerous and desperate".

Throughout Namibia, border posts were late last night sealed to the three — and to the two men who sprung them from the police in a meticulous planned ambush operation near Ojivarangano.

Two aircraft and dozens of police vehicles scoured the vast territory yesterday.

In neighbouring Botswana, police commissioner Mr Simon Hirschfeld placed his security apparatus on full alert, "with a special look-out for false pass ports".

Inspector Nico Smith, one of two detectives investigating the fatal bombing of Untag's Outjo offices in August, said he had spent "days" interrogating the suspected trio.

According to Inspector Smith and Namibian CII chief Brigadier "Tommy" Tomasse, the trio were 10km from the Ojivarangano Magistrate's Court en route to Windhoek jail when they banded on the police van cab about 3pm on Monday and indicated they wanted to relieve themselves.

The two junior constables obliged at a roadside picnic spot where a metallic blue/green sedan was inconspicuously parked. As Constable L Boo!

McDag

● Escape angers UN boss — Page 2  
● Graphic of ambush — Page 2

6/12/89  
CHRIS TILLY



X

P. 10

# 'Hit men'

(25)

~~(25)~~

~~(25)~~

opened the van's "cage" the three suspects "jumped" him and a shot rang out from the parked sedan, felling his colleague, Constable T Van Wyk.

Const Boois was bundled into the back of the van and both vehicles took off. They drove another 26km south, taking a 10km detour along a side road before making good their escape.

The seriously injured Const Van Wyk was picked up by a passing motorist. A bullet close to his spine was removed at Windhoek hospital yesterday. He is in a "stable" condition and may be flown to Cape Town for specialist treatment.

Inspector Smith said Mr Klenz, a West German who arrived in Namibia in 1985, was the strongest character and had convictions for illegal possession of weapons in his home country. A "world traveler", he was known for his right-wing sympathies, had no fixed Namibian abode and did odd jobs. He was "highly intelligent".

Mr Stopforth and Mr Veenendal are both from Johannesburg and are full members of the AWB. Mr Veenendal, a Johannesburg central AWB chairman and organiser of right-wing protests at the Hillbrow public baths in July, was an "arrogant, pompous and immature type".

Mr Stopforth, an AWB "drill" instructor and former security official with the Johannesburg Water Board, was "more gentle-natured and easily influenced", Inspector Smith said.

Senior SAP spokesmen in Walvis Bay said both border posts on the only road through town were fully alerted and on standby.

# MP to charge riot policeman

Own Correspondent 5/26/12/89.

MARITZBURG — Democratic Party MP Mr Pierre Cronje is laying a charge of assault against a riot policeman who allegedly manhandled him at a meeting of the Congress of Traditional Leaders held in Edendale near Maritzburg on Sunday.

Violence erupted after the meeting, leaving one man killed and 13 others — including eight special constables — injured.

Mr Cronje said yesterday that the meeting had become technically illegal after more people had arrived at the Edendale Ecumenical Centre than could be accommodated indoors.

251

## ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

Mr Cronje, who was attending the meeting, said he had negotiated with senior police and marshals at the meeting about procedures to adopt in allowing people into the grounds and their subsequent dispersal after the meeting.

After these negotiations a riot policeman grabbed him around the neck, twisted his arm and used abusive language towards him, Mr Cronje claimed.

He had explained that he was a Member of Parliament and was trying to assist in the situation, but the policeman allegedly told Mr Cronje he did not care and continued shouting at him.

Mr Cronje said he felt denigrated by the policeman's actions in front of a crowd of about 3 000.

Police liaison officer Major Pieter Kitching said the incident would be investigated but he could not comment as the matter had become *sub judice*.

257 29 30  
CMT Tim's 6/12/89

# Benzien: Assault charges fabricated

WARRANT OFFICER Jeff Benzien yesterday denied in the Supreme Court he had seen injuries on Mr Tony Yengeni's face and said he persisted with his view that allegations of assaults by him were fabricated at Pollsmoor Prison to smear his name

WO Benzien was responding to questions by Mr D P de Villiers, QC, for the defence, in the trial of Mr Yengeni and 13 others on charges of terrorism

Mr De Villiers said there were several people and parties to whom Mr Yengeni had shown his injuries and with whom he had lodged complaints

Soon after his arrest on September 17, 1987, a district surgeon had noted bruises to Mr Yengeni's face, his inner left arm and the wall of his stomach.

On September 19 Steenberg police noted in the occurrences book that his eyes were swollen and he had complained of being assaulted by security police.

Asked by Mr De Villiers if he had seen Mr Yengeni's swollen eyes, WO Benzien said he had not seen him that day and could not comment

The next day Mr Yengeni had been seen by the station commander, who had also entered his assault allegation in the occurrences book.

On November 11, 1987, Mr Yengeni saw the inspector of detainees while held at Paarl and under a heading "general treatment" the inspector had written that Mr Yengeni had complained of an assault by security police after his arrest but did not wish to provide details

The trial continues.

# AWB, BBB deny links with hit squad suspects

CAF Ten 1's Staff Reporter 6/12/89 (LSI)

THE Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB) and the Blankebevydingsbeweging (BBB) have "no knowledge" of the suspects being held in connection with assassinations of Mr. David Webster and Mr. Anton Lubowski.

This emerged yesterday from interviews with a senior AWB member and Professor Johan Schabott, former restrictee and former chairman of the BBB.

Mr Kays Smit, head of administration and finance for the AWB, and Prof Schabott

were reacting to police claims that detectives were on the point of a major breakthrough in their probe of right-wing groups.

"We don't know these people who were arrested at all and the police have not approached us at all to my knowledge," Mr Smit said yesterday.

Two former police sergeants, Mr Ferdi Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, and Irish passport holder Mr Donald Acheson are being held in terms of section 29 of the Internal Security Act

Professor Schabott said he did not know any of the trio and police had not visited any of his members.

If police did have a hit squad which murdered ANC cadres, a mitigating factor at the trial of any hit squad member would be the killings of innocent people by ANC bombs, Prof Schabott said.

He said it seemed from what had emerged of hit squad activities was that police and the army shared the view of right-wingers that the courts were not always fair.



# Watson tells of hitman



THE man who attempted to kill Port Elizabeth anti-apartheid activist Mr Ronnie Watson in Gaborone in May 1987 claimed he was acting for the Military Intelligence branch of the South African Defence Force

And seconds before he fired at Mr Watson would-be assassin Steve Burnett also demanded to know which members of the ANC Mr Watson planned to visit in Botswana and wanted to know who his contacts were

Relating the attempt on his life in the President Hotel Gaborone, Mr Watson yesterday said

Burnett tricked his way into my room and whipped out a 22 --

He demanded all my documents and said we activists had got out of hand and he was going to deal with me When I asked him who he was he said he was an M16 agent working for the South African military counter-insurgence.

The bulky eastern Cape rugby player escaped death when he dived onto the ground as his assailant pulled the trigger

**Burnett is serving five years in Botswana.**

# Police arrest hitmen 25

## ● From page 1

of the AWB were also on the hit list.

The new organisation is apparently a breakaway group from Mr Terreblan-

che's personal bodyguard, Aquila, which was not extreme enough for the new organisation consisting of English and Afrikaans speaking members.

Earlier, it was announced Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad detectives had arrested two former policemen in connection with the murders of Dr David Webster and Mr Anton Lubowski.

## Rugby

They have been identified as Ferdi Barnard and former Transvaal rugby player, Calla Botha.

Mr Barnard was taken into custody before the

allegations of a police hit squad were made.

The three men who escaped on Monday are Leonard Veenendal, the Johannesburg leader of the AWB, Daryl Stopforth and Horst Klenz. A policeman was shot and seriously injured during the escape.

TV said it is believed two policemen were due to interview the three escapees on their alleged involvement in the murder squads when they were sprung from custody.

The three men were being held in connection with an attack on an Un-tag base earlier this year Sapa.

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*Saxton 6/18/89*

## 2 caught snooping

SECRET  
6/12/84

TWO men claiming to be from Military Intelligence were caught yesterday snooping around the Pretoria home of one of the key figures involved in exposing the activities of alleged assassination squads

Brian Curring, national director of Lawyers for Human Rights - which first recorded former policeman Mr Butana Nofomela's allegations of police hit squad activities - said his neighbour had caught two men at the back wall of his garden

"When asked to identify themselves, they claimed to be officers in the SA Defence Force on a military intelligence expedition."

Mr Curring said yesterday that he had reported the incident of the two intruders to the CID

day December 6 1989

Ahtisaari surprised at 'lax' methods

# Escaped suspects linked to hit squads

6/12/89  
By Jon Qwelane,  
The Star's Africa News Service

**WINDHOEK** — Three murder suspects, on the run in Namibia after being freed in an ambush of a police vehicle, were due to be questioned by police in connection with "hit squad" activities in South Africa

The Star learnt this yesterday as one of the biggest hunts yet conducted in Namibia was under way for the fugitives

Two white men ambushed a police vehicle on Monday afternoon and freed the three men accused of murder in the attack on the United Nations offices at Outjo last August.

## Questioning

The attackers locked the two policemen in the back of the van, abandoned it on a side road and sped away in a car with the three prisoners Mr Leonard Veenendal of the Johannesburg suburb of Southdale, who is leader of the AWB in Johannesburg, a close associate of his, Mr Darryl Stopforth of Rosettenville, Johannesburg, and Mr Horst Klenz, about whom little is known, except that he speaks only German and has given his address as "care of Vermaak, Duiwelskloof"

Two senior South African policemen were on their way to Namibia to question the three South Africans about a series of right-wing attacks in

South Africa when they escaped

South African police wanted to question them about the activities of a fanatical "hit squad", said to be a breakaway movement from the AWB

The squad even had the AWB leader, Mr Eugene TerreBlanche, on its "hit list"

Police said the fugitives were "armed, very dangerous and desperate" and warned the public not to try to apprehend them

Police described the ambush as "a well-placed outside job"

Mr Veenendal, Mr Stopforth and Mr Klenz were arrested, together with Mr Johan Coetzee and Mr Arthur Archer, both South African citizens, after the attack on the Outjo office of the UN monitoring force, Untag

● The United Nations special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, has expressed his surprise at the "surprisingly lax" transport arrangements provided for the three escaped prisoners

UN spokesman Mr Fred Eckhard said yesterday Mr Ahtisaari raised the matter with the Administrator-General, Mr Louis Pienaar

● The policeman shot in the daring escape is paralysed and, though unconscious, was in a "serious but stable" condition yesterday Constable R van Wyk was shot in the back during the escape

He suffered serious spinal and chest injuries, and has been paralysed. He was due to be transferred to Cape Town yesterday for treatment.

# Rockman team seeks recusal of SAP general

CAM. Tr 73 7/12/89

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Staff Reporter

LIEUTENANT Gregory Rockman's legal team applied for the recusal of Lieutenant-General M van Eyk, the police general presiding over the disciplinary inquiry against Lt Rockman, when the hearing resumed yesterday afternoon

Lt Rockman faces 10 charges, ranging from unauthorised use of a police vehicle to disobeying orders not to speak to the press. He has not pleaded to any of them

A request for the inquiry to be opened to the press has been turned down by the regional commissioner of police for the Western Cape, Major-General Flip Fourie

The application by Lt Rockman's advocate for the recusal of Lt-General Van Eyk was made on the grounds that there was a "real likelihood" of his being biased "in the administrative law sense of the word, not as the man-in-the street understands it"

It was claimed the general had

knowledge of matters relating directly to the inquiry by virtue of his position dealing with personnel matters at police headquarters in Pretoria, and that he and Lt Rockman had indirectly crossed swords on occasion

The application was opposed, by counsel for the police.

Lt-General Van Eyk will announce his decision this afternoon

An application for Lt Rockman's bodyguard, Sergeant G A Johnson, to attend the hearing was granted and he was the only person, other than legal representatives, permitted to sit in on the inquiry.

Soon after he made his widely-publicised claims of riot squad brutality in September this year Lt Rockman was summoned to regional police headquarters in Cape Town and told by a superior that he was to fly to Pretoria immediately to see Lt-General van Eyk, who is a deputy chief commissioner of the SAP

Lt Rockman refused and demanded to see the State President instead

## Rockman: recuse judgment today

CAPE TOWN — The police disciplinary inquiry against Lieutenant Gregory Rockman has been postponed to today, when it is expected the presiding officer, Lieutenant-General M van Eyk, will give judgment on a defence application that he recuse himself.

The application was argued yesterday afternoon by Advocate Pat Gamble, who is appearing for Lieutenant Rockman. Star 7/12/89

A spokesman for Lieutenant Rockman's attorneys said the application was opposed by the legal representative of the police, Mr L Kok.

Shortly after he made his widely publicised claims of riot squad brutality in September this year, Lieutenant Rockman told reporters that he was summoned to regional police headquarters in Cape Town and told by a superior that he was to fly to Pretoria immediately to see General van Eyk, who is a deputy chief commissioner of the SAP. (251)

Lieutenant Rockman said he refused to go, and demanded to see the State President instead.

The lieutenant is facing 10 charges ranging from unauthorised use of a police vehicle to disobeying orders not to speak to the press — Sapa

# 'Hit squads': Police name five arrested

JOHANNESBURG. — The five men arrested on Tuesday for allegedly being involved in rightwing "hit squad" activities have been named.

A spokesman for the police public relations division identified the men as Mr Fanie Goosen, 29, Mr Dawid Johannes de Beer, 38, and Mr Cornelis Johannes Loppering, 24, all of Vereeniging, Mr Hendrik Francois Binneman, 41, and Mr Cornelius Gerhardus van Zyl, 28, both of Randburg.

Weapons, including 12-bore shotguns, were seized soon after the arrest of the men, who are allegedly linked to a rightwing group.

Police said they were detained for questioning in connection with unsolved bombings and other violent acts.

The men were said to belong to a "rightwing group" and were believed to have broken away from Mr TerreBlanche's bodyguard, Aquila.

Two others, Mr Ferdinand Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, were detained on October 31 and November 30 respectively.

## MARATHON MEETING

The Cabinet is understood to have decided to go ahead with prosecution of policemen involved in alleged police "hit squad" activities against political activists inside the country — but not to prosecute for actions taken by the squads outside the country against the African National Congress.

Government sources have indicated that this was decided at a marathon 12-hour meeting of the Cabinet at the Union Buildings in Pretoria which ended about 10pm yesterday.

The report by Free State Attorney-General Mr Tim McNally and Criminal Investigation Department chief Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie of their investigation into widespread police "hit-squad" allegations was discussed at length.

Sources have indicated that it is unlikely that the President will appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into the "hit-squad" allegations at this stage — although he has been under great pres-

sure to do.

Although other important policy matters were discussed at the Cabinet meeting and the special bushveld indaba which preceded it, no other big announcements are expected to flow from these discussions immediately.

The special two-day work session was devoted mostly to the government's legislative programme for next year's session of parliament.

It is understood that the media emergency regulations were not discussed. — The Argus Correspondent and Sapa.

Report 33, Sport 34-36, TV —

By BARRY STREEK  
MORE arrests are imminent in the police investigations into hit squads

The police have also discovered a large quantity of weapons, including shotguns, ammunition and explosives

This follows the detention of three Vereeniging men, aged 29, 38 and 24, and two Randburg men, aged 40 and 28, on Tuesday in connection with various attacks

A police spokesman said yesterday "Further questioning is taking place and more information has come out. More arrests are imminent"

A top police team, which includes the head of the investigations, Major-General Jaap Joubert, the head of the CID, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, the deputy head of the Security Police, Major-General Louw Erasmus, and the head of the Brixton Murder and Robbery squad, Brigadier Floris Mostert, is working day and night on the case

It is reliably understood the

# New hit squads arrests likely

*CAPE TIMES 7/12/89*

*(251)*

weapons confiscated this week include shotguns similar to the one used in the assassination of the University of Witwatersrand lecturer Dr David Webster

The discovery of explosives, believed to be dynamite, is significant as explosives were used in the bombings of Cosatu House and Khotso House in Johannesburg and of Community House in Cape Town

Explosives were also used in two bomb attacks at the home of a Nationalist MP, Dr Boy Geldenhuys, in Randfontein

After the arrest of six people in connection with the attack on a United Nations office in Outjo, the Namibian police disclosed that their investigation had led to the discovery of a large arms cache, including handgrenades and R-4 and R-1 automatic rifles

Three of these people who face murder and other charges — Mr Leonard Veenendal, 23, Mr Darryl Stopforth, 22, and Mr Horst Klenz, 52 — escaped from custody on Monday

The police are convinced the three men, as well as their two outside helpers who drove them off, are linked to the five men detained in the Johannesburg area on Tuesday

Neither the fugitives nor their helpers have been arrested yet

Both the men detained in Johannesburg and those arrested in the Outjo attack are believed to be associated with a break-away group from Aquila, the security wing of the AWB

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**Political Correspondent**

The Cabinet is understood to have decided to proceed with prosecutions of policemen involved in alleged police hit squad activities against political activists inside the country — but not to prosecute for actions taken by the squads outside the country against the ANC.

Government sources have indicated that this was decided at a 12-hour meeting of the Cabinet at the Union Buildings in Pretoria yesterday.

It is understood that the Cabinet decided a distinction would have to be drawn as it was felt prosecutions instituted against actions outside the country would fail because South African

Star 7/12/89  
**No action against  
(251)  
'external hits'?**

courts do not have jurisdiction there. The report by Free State Attorney-General Mr Tim McNally and SAP CID chief, Lieutenant-General Alwyn Conradie, on their probe of police hit squad allegations was discussed at length by the Cabinet and it is understood decisions were taken about how to handle the matter.

President de Klerk is expected to make an announcement today or tomorrow.

● See Page 3.

# Opposition MPs slam move on hit-squad probe

APL 5 8/12/87

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## Political Staff

PRESIDENT De Klerk's refusal to have a judicial inquiry into allegations about police hit squads was slammed today by opposition spokesmen.

Mr Peter Gastrow MP, a justice affairs spokesman for the Democratic Party, said the public would not have confidence that the police, in private, would investigate themselves effectively.

Mr De Klerk announced that, instead of a judicial investigation that would drag on too long, the police, with Attorneys-General, would hold investigations, and that no effort would be spared to bring the guilty to justice.

## McNally report

He did not disclose the contents of the McNally report on hit-squad allegations but implied that some of the allegations might have been confirmed. He said prosecutions and judicial inquests would result from the report.

Mr Gastrow said Mr De Klerk had focused on alleged deeds and had left out of consideration allegations about hit squads.

If allegations about senior police and Defence Force officials being involved in hit squads as a matter of policy were true then the credibility of the police and Defence

Force would be severely undermined.

The suspicion about police and Defence Force involvement should not be allowed to drag on. It could be cleared up only through an open judicial commission of inquiry.

Certain aspects of the allegations could not be dealt with through police inquiries, although these were also necessary.

Aspects which needed to be cleared up in an open inquiry were the involvement of sections of the police, if any, and what could be done to restore the confidence of the public.

There was some suspicion about whether the McNally report, which had been rushed through and which was being kept secret, addressed all aspects of allegations about hit squads.

Democratic Party co-leader Dr Denis Worrall today also criticised the government for refusing to appoint a judicial inquiry.

Dr Worrall said that President De Klerk's announcement last night showed that he was treating the controversy as a criminal matter.

"It is not a criminal matter primarily. If the allegations are true it indicates this is a disease which fundamentally affects our society in the deepest and most crucial way.

"We need to have the whole

thing opened and exposed."

Dr Worrall said he did not accept Mr De Klerk's explanation that a commission of inquiry would take too long.

But since Mr De Klerk seemed committed to a police investigation the DP believed the probe should be as complete as possible before any prosecutions were begun.

He said the government was following the wrong procedure by prosecuting death-row prisoner Almond Nofomela — the alleged former member of a hit squad whose disclosures opened the whole controversy.

"It seems that Mr De Klerk is going for the messenger not the message."

● Five policemen named as members of an alleged police hit squad have been relieved of their duties. Nofomela is to be prosecuted and a warrant will be issued for the arrest of Captain Dirk Coetzee.

Justice Minister Kobie Coetzee said last night that the Natal Attorney-General, Mr MWC Imber, planned to apply for a warrant for the arrest of former police Captain Coetzee, whose allegations about his part in a police death squad fanned much of the controversy.

Mr Coetzee said Captain Coetzee was assured of a fair trial but the government would apply for him to be extradited if he did not come forward.

**Rockman  
inquiry <sup>Mr. Tark</sup>  
chief won't  
recuse self**

<sup>251</sup>  
Staff Reporter

THE police general presiding over the disciplinary inquiry into Lieutenant Gregory Rockman has refused to recuse himself

Lieutenant Rockman's legal team applied for the recusal of Lieutenant-General M van Eyk, the presiding officer, on Wednesday and this was opposed by the legal representative for the police

General Van Eyk turned down the application yesterday afternoon, rejecting submissions that he might be biased and asserting his ability to remain objective

After the application was turned down, Lieutenant Rockman pleaded not guilty to 10 charges ranging from unauthorised use of a police vehicle to disobeying orders not to speak to the press.

The hearing, originally scheduled to last four days, has been adjourned to January 11

The evidence was led by Mr L Kok assisted by Colonel J Welthagen, Mr P Gamble, instructed by Mr Mushtak Parker of E Moosa and Associates, appeared for Lieutenant Rockman.

Where is there this approach?

## Red minibus used for police work – claim

By CARMEL RICKARD

PIETERMARITZBURG police have admitted using a red minibus which has been at the centre of allegations of police assault and harassment.

The vehicle featured in an urgent supreme court application to stop the police from assaulting Pietermaritzburg resident Bonginkosi Zondi.

Zondi alleged four members of the police had repeatedly harassed and assaulted him. He said they operated out of a red minibus, cruising the township assaulting and harassing Imbali youth, in particular members of the Imbali Youth Organisation.

The police said they had a special section of the riot police which used the red vehicle. The unit was formed this year to help with the arrest of suspects in unrest-related crime.

Major Deon Terblanche, who is the officer commanding the riot police, said in his replying papers, that as the incidents of unrest decreased, there were fewer arrests and the section began to do other crime prevention work.

Referring to three incidents mentioned by Zondi, the police denied any knowledge of the first, claiming the second and third were carried out as part of their normal police duties and that there had been no unlawful police action against Zondi.

The case resumes on January 22.

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wmai/ ~~8-14/12/89~~

# Seized arms 'SAP type'

Own Correspondent

**JOHANNESBURG.** — Teargas canisters and handgrenades closely resembling SAP and SADF issue were among items seized from five different locations by police on Tuesday after they detained five men in connection with unsolved bombings and other violent incidents.

The five men, believed to be members of a right-wing splinter group, were yesterday identified by police as Mr Fanie Goosen, 29, Mr Dawid Johannes de Beer, 38, Mr Cornelis Johannes Lottering, 24, all of Vereeniging; and Mr Hendrik Francois Binneman, 41, and Mr Cornelius Gerhardus van Zyl, 28, of Randburg.

Among the weapons and equipment seized by police were several armbands marked with AWB insignia and cassettes containing speeches by AWB leader Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche.

Some of the dozen or so shot-

guns in the cache had their serial numbers filed off. One rifle carried a silencer and another a nightscope.

Other weapons seized included hunting knives, steel catapults, gelignite, two crossbows, mortar bombs and dynamite sticks.

Police said the men were detained for questioning in connection with unsolved bombings and other violent acts.

Two other men, Mr Ferdinand Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, were detained on October 31 and November 30 respectively.

The Black Sash yesterday expressed concern that responsibility for the hit squads was moving away from the real sources and that through a concerted campaign the government was pinning the blame on the political right wing.

It was gratifying, however, to see some visible police action in resolution of the crimes, the Sash said.

The SADF has apologised to

Pretoria human rights lawyer Mr Brian Currah for an incident earlier this week when two military officials were seen on a property near his home.

An SADF spokesman said yesterday the SADF had been in the vicinity of Mr Currah's home in search of a military vehicle which had allegedly been used for private purposes.

The anti-apartheid South African Council of Churches yesterday launched a campaign to expose alleged clandestine camps where captured guerrillas are moulded into hit men to eliminate government opponents.

"While focus is directed at the death squads themselves, not much mention had been paid to the cries of many parents whose children are captured as guerrillas of the liberation movements and never taken to court by the security forces," the Rev Bruce Evans, Anglican Bishop of Port Elizabeth, told a news conference — Own Correspondent and Sapa



**ARMS CACHE . . .** The collection of arms and explosives found in the homes of five "hit squad" suspects on the Reef.

CNK 7/5/8 8/12/09

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~~251~~

# Hani's alleged bomber joined police - Coetzee

By IVOR POWELL and  
MZIMKULU MALUNGA

ERNEST RAMOTALA, the man who allegedly attempted to bomb current Umkhonto weSizwe leader Chris Hani in Lesotho in 1980, was given a job by the South African security police after absconding on bail, the *Weekly Mail* ascertained this week.

Prior to the attempted bombing, in which Ramotala was severely injured when the bomb went off during priming, he had been a police informer and a member of the South African state-connected United Democratic Party. However, he was not officially employed by the SAP.

Subsequent to absconding, Ramotala was seen on numerous occasions in the company of self-confessed security police death squad operative Butana Almond Nofomela, and on one occasion he introduced himself as a colleague.

This was told to *Weekly Mail* by a senior Lesotho government official.

According to the source, it was widely suspected at the time that the bomb had been booby trapped and that Ramotala had been set up. Ramotala believed the bomb would explode when Hani put the car into reverse gear. Instead it left Ramotala very nearly castrated and walking with a permanent limp.

Seriously injured by the blast, Ramotala was taken to Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Maseru, where he was kept under 24-hour police guard.

However, journalists managed to get to him at the time and Ramotala told them that he had been doing the job for the South African security police.

Apparently he had been promised his own minibus taxi as reward for the successful completion of the job.

In September of 1981, Ramotala was brought to trial for the crime, but after being granted bail of a mere R200, he absconded across the border into South Africa.

Former self-confessed security police death squad officer, ex-Captain Dirk Coetzee confirmed to *Vrye Weekblad* that Ramotala had been involved in the incident, and that he had later joined the SAP.

The fugitive assassin added that Ramotala's escape was aided by members of the South African security police, and Ramotala was taken to the alleged death squad headquarters at Vlakplaas, where he received further training and became a constable in the police force.

Coetzee also said that Ramotala — whom Coetzee knew by his police nickname, Mosjesj — was smuggled across the border and received explosions training in Bloemfontein prior to the attempted bombing.

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wmail 8-14/12/89

# 'Campaign to expose camps'

THE United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross have been drawn into the continuing row surrounding allegations of South African death squads operating against anti-apartheid activists

Secretary

8/2/89

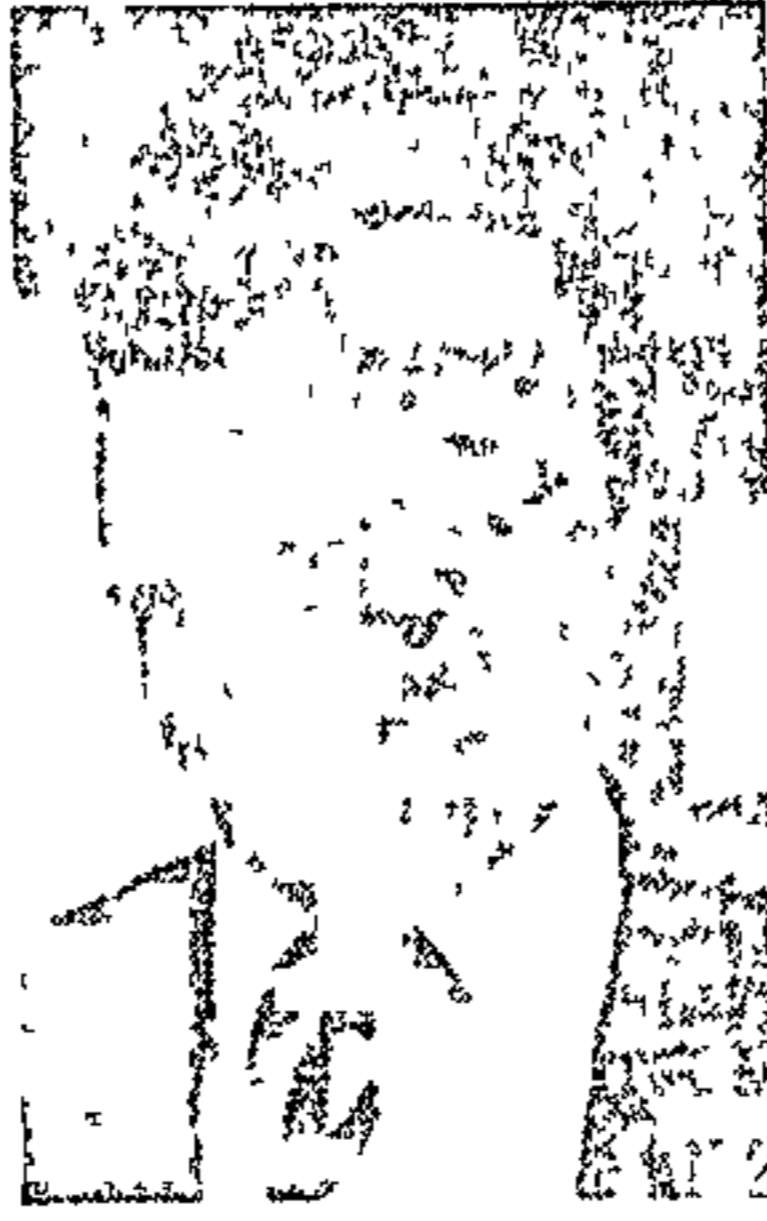
The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has written to the international organisations to ask for help in exposing the shadowy camps where captured ANC members are allegedly "turned" to become "killing machines" and in putting an end to the activities of the alleged hit squads

In the letters, released at a Press conference yesterday, SACC general secretary, the Reverend Frank Chikane asked the UN to put pressure on the South African Government, and for the Red Cross to monitor and inspect the camps

Speaking at the conference, Mrs Emma Mashinini, director of the Anglican Church's department of justice and reconciliation, said her son, who had left the country after 1976, was apparently one of those former ANC members who had been "turned" by the Government

She had not even known that he was back in South Africa

"These people (the victims of the alleged hit squads) are friends I keep saying, is it my son who has done it? Is it my son



**Reverend Chikane**

who killed Dr David Webster?" she asked, her voice breaking with emotion

Mrs Mashinini would not answer further questions on her son or give his name

Anglican Bishop of Port Elizabeth, the Right Rev Bruce Evans, said not much attention had been paid to the cries of many parents whose children were captured as guerrillas and never taken to court but "used" by the security forces in the assassination of anti-apartheid activists

Parents had never been informed of their capture and detention

The cadres were at the mercy of the captors and could be forced to do anything. The situation alone constituted extreme coercion

Bishop Evans called for the names of the former ANC members to be released and for them to be put in contact with their families

● Opposition slams Govt decision ● Five policemen suspended

Star 8/12/89 (251)

# No judicial inquiry into hit squad claims

Five policemen named as members of an alleged police hit squad have been relieved of their duties, Death Row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela is to be prosecuted, and a warrant will be issued for the arrest of Captain Dirk Coetsee.

But no judicial commission of inquiry will be appointed to investigate the hit squad allegations — because it could take years to complete its work.

The decision not to appoint a judicial inquiry was slammed today by an Opposition spokesman.

Mr Peter Gastrow MP, a justice affairs spokesman of the Democratic Party, said the public would not have confidence that the police would in private investigate themselves effectively.

Measures to deal with the police hit squad controversy were announced in statements by the President Mr FW de Klerk, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and Justice Minister Mr Kobie Coetsee last night in response to the McNally Report on hit squad allegations.

Mr Coetsee said the report, which has not been released for publication, had been forwarded to the relevant attorneys-general.

Natal Attorney-General Mr MWC Imber planned to apply for a warrant for the arrest of former SAP captain Dirk Coetsee — whose allegations about his part in a police death squad fanned much of the controversy.

Mr Coetsee said Captain Coetsee was assured of a fair trial but the Government would apply for him to be extradited if he did not come forward.

## Request

He said Mr Imber had decided to prosecute Butana Almond Nofomela — another ex-policeman who made disclosures about hit squad activities including the murder of Durban activist and lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge.

The decision is in accordance with a request received from the attorneys of the Mxenge family.

Mr Coetsee said Mr Imber might also reopen the inquest into the death of Mr Mxenge's wife, Victoria, who was also murdered.

Mr Coetsee said Mr Don Brunette, SC, Transvaal Attorney-General, had decided to order an inquest into the alleged murder of Mr Japie Nkele Maponya, a Krugersdorp security guard.

Nofomela claimed Maponya was shot by policeman Major Eugene de Kock — present head of the controversial anti-terrorist unit at Viakplaats — after interrogation.

Major de Kock was one of five policemen whom Mr Vlok said had relieved of their duties at their own request, pending

By Peter Fabricius, Political Correspondent

the outcome of investigations. The others are Captain P J van Dyk, Major J S Vermeulen, Sergeant J T Mamasela and Constable B B E Ngqulunga.

Mr Vlok said a top team of detectives under Major-General Ronnie van der Westhuizen would help with the Mxenge probe and Maponya inquest.

Mr de Klerk said "Both the attorneys-general and the police will continue with investigations of various persons, including several police officers, serving and retired."

He said he had handed a list of politically motivated murders to the attorneys-general to investigate.

Explaining his decision not to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry, Mr de Klerk said "Justice must also be done as quickly as possible. This implies that investigations must be finalised as quickly as possible."

"The Government has full confidence that the tried and respected prosecution mechanisms of the State will be sufficient to bring the accused before the court, impartially and objectively and without respect of persons."

"On the other hand, a judicial commission can take months if not years to reach its final conclusions."

"In the meanwhile a climate of suspicion and distrust could develop, something the country can ill-afford at this stage in its history," he said.

Mr Brunette had decided to order an inquest into the alleged murder of Mr Maponya, a security guard of Krugersdorp, Mr Coetsee said.

"Nofomela claimed that such a person was killed and the body removed. However, no body has been found as yet."

"An appeal is made to everyone, including the media, to submit all information regarding the alleged offences as well as Captain Coetsee's present whereabouts, to the attorneys-general."

The five members of the police who had become the subject of press reports had requested that they be withdrawn from duty until the allegations against them had been properly adjudicated.

They had found it impossible to execute their duties, the statement said.

## Leonard retains title b



Sugar Ray Leonard (left) ducks as Roberto Duran swings at him during the fight.

## Nactu dashes hopes of black unity

By Patrick Laurence

The decision by the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) to withdraw from the Conference for a Democratic Future (CDF) to be held at the University of the Witwatersrand tomorrow, comes as a major blow to the hopes of uniting ideologically disparate black forces in a campaign to end apartheid.

The official reason given by Nactu was the acceptance by the CDF of representatives of political parties in leg-

islative assemblies in the "homelands". Until recently, there was unanimity in black extra-parliamentary circles that there can be no political co-operation with people serving in "homeland" assemblies or black town councils.

But lately the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) has changed tack to take account of men like Mr Enos Mabuzza of kaNgwane and General Bantu Holomisa of Transkei.

In adopting its new approach, the MDM won over black consciousness organisations, notably Azapo. It failed, however, to convince the Africanists.

The Bookie's Bet

Turfontein tomorrow. Best bet — Critique, race 2. Best eachway — Hitchin' Hippy, race 5.

## Restrictions

The Star is being produced under the severe restrictions of the emergency regulations.



# Five top policemen have been suspended from duty pending investigations into the activities of the alleged secret hit squads.

By BARRY STREEK

The suspended policemen include Mr. Eugene Alexander de Kock, the man who allegedly took over command of the squads from former police captain Mr. Dirk Coetzee. The government said prosecutions and inquiries would result from the McNally report into the hit squad allegations. In a series of announcements last night, including a statement by President F. W. de Klerk, the government reacted to the claims, mainly published in the weekly

newspaper *Vrye Weekblad*, that police hit squads had assassinated a number of anti-apartheid death squads and Order. Mr. Adrianus Vlok said last night the five policemen had been suspended at their own request. Mr. Vlok also said a top team of detectives had been appointed to assist Natal attorney-general Mr. Mike Imper. He said the allegations made about police hit squads by a former policeman and death-row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela. The new round of investigations include various police officers, both serving and retired. The five suspended policemen are: Major J. S. Vermeulen, Sergeant J. T. Mamasele

and Constable B. P. Ngujunga. In a series of late-night statements, the government in the allegations. Mr. De Klerk said he was "fully informed" about the McNally report. The minister of justice has given the report to various attorneys-general. Prosecutions and judicial inquiries will result from the report and both the attorney-general and the police will continue with investigations of various persons, including several police officers, serving and retired. In fact, some of these police officers have requested that they be suspended while such investigations and/or legal proceedings are in progress.

"I have handed a list of alleged victims of politically-inspired assassinations to the minister of justice, which will form part of this intensive investigation," he said. "Further, I have taken note that South African Police have already made a number of other arrests that may be related to politically-inspired acts of murder, including possible cases of murder." "The ministers of justice and of law order will deal with respective functions. Furthermore, I have requested the relevant ministers to make use of instruments at their disposal and to instruct no stone unturned in apprehending guilty and bringing them to justice in criminal cases in general, and in particular, Mr. De Klerk said

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# General refuses Rockman inquiry application (25)

CAPE TOWN — The police general presiding over the disciplinary inquiry into the conduct of Lieutenant Gregory Rockman yesterday refused a defence application that he recuse himself

The inquiry, which began on Monday, has been postponed to January 10

A spokesman for the lieutenant's attorneys

said Lieutenant-General M van Eyk had given the hearing an assurance he would be unbiased

He said Lieutenant Rockman yesterday formally pleaded not guilty to 10 charges, ranging from unauthorised use of a police vehicle to disobeying orders not to speak to the press — Sapa

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Political Staff

AN inquest into the possible death of a Krugersdorp security guard, whose body has not been found, has been ordered by Transvaal attorney-general Mr Don Brunette.

This was contained in the statement on Thursday night by President F W de Klerk in response to the McNally report on allegations of police hit squads

Mr De Klerk said Mr Brunette had decided to order an inquest "into the alleged murder of Mr Japie Nkele Maponya, a security guard of Krugersdorp".

This followed the claim by former policeman and death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela that Mr Maponya

# Inquest ordered into a 'possible death'

was killed and his body removed. "However, no body has been found as yet," Mr De Klerk said.

Mr Nofomela alleged in an affidavit that Mr Maponya was shot dead after interrogation by Major Eugene Alexander de Kock, one of five policemen who have been suspended

Major De Kock, a key figure in the inquest in Piet Retief into the death of four ANC members who had allegedly crossed over the Swaziland

border, is said to have taken over command of a secret hit squad from former police captain Mr Dirk Coetzee.

The Nofomela allegations about the disappearance of Mr Maponya were revealed when the South African Council of Church's independent board of investigation into informal repression submitted a report to the McNally inquiry on November 20

Mr Maponya was arrested in Krugersdorp for questioning because it was suspected he

had information about the whereabouts of his brother Odirile, who was believed to have shot a policeman at De Wildt near Pretoria

It has been alleged in the current Delmas terrorism trial that Mr Odirile Maponya was later killed when a limpet mine exploded at Ster City in Pretoria in May 1988.

Mr Japie Maponya was allegedly taken to the Vlakkplaas police farm after his arrest.

Nofomela alleged that when it became clear that Mr Japie Maponya knew nothing about his brother's activities, an officer said he "had to be got rid of" and shot him.

These allegations will now be assessed by an inquest court.

JOHANNESBURG. —  
The Media Council has upheld a complaint by the police against the Star for publishing a photograph of former policeman and alleged right-wing hit squad member Mr Ferdinand Barnard, who is being held by police in connection with murder charges.

**Picture:  
Newspaper  
in error**

*CNE-T-75 9/12/89*



The council found that the editor of the Star, Mr Harvey Tyson, had erred by publishing a picture of Mr Barnard. The police had requested that the photograph not be published.

The Media Council therefore upheld the police's complaint that the Star had violated paragraph 6 of the agreement between the Newspaper Press Union and the police. — Sapa

# Govt 'trying to hide chain of command'

**KAREN STANDER, JANET HEARD  
and SAPA** (291) Star

LEGAL experts, politicians and civil rights activists yesterday angrily accused President F W de Klerk of a "cover-up" and of trying to conceal the chain of command directing the alleged hit squads by his refusal to appoint an independent judicial inquiry.

But last night the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, dismissed these arguments and claimed that direct prosecutions through attorney-generals would be the quickest way to reach the truth.

"A man on trial for his life is hardly going to 'cover up' for others," said.

See PAGES 3 and 11

Senior police said they were seeking the public's assistance in tracking down all alleged hit squads, whether policemen, ex-policemen or anyone else. They revealed that a group of rightwing extremists, calling themselves "The Order of Death", were allegedly plotting to assassinate simultaneously President de Klerk and three Cabinet Ministers.

The police said they had kept a careful watch on the squad and taken action when two of their number were trained as sharpshooters (See accompanying report).

Mr Jannie Momberg, Democratic Party MP for Simon's Town, said that the failure to allow a judicial commission to probe all the ramifications of "hit squads" was the State President's first major blunder. Mr de Klerk had taken the country by storm with his enlightened speeches, but this error would explode in his face.

The failure to release the McNally report — the report of the two-man committee appointed to investigate the claims made by former security policeman and death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela — has led to widespread fears that justice will not be done.

## Measures

The Government announced this week that its measures to deal with the hit squad allegations included:

- Suspending five policemen named as members of an alleged police hit squad.
- Prosecuting death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela.
- Issuing a warrant of arrest for Captain Dirk Coetzee.
- Refusing to establish a judicial commission of inquiry on the grounds that it would "take years to complete".

Professor John Dugard, director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, said he feared the prosecutions would be used to contain the issue by suggesting that only a limited number of "rogue" policemen operating on their own without higher orders, were involved.

"I believe the chain of command stretches very high into the upper regions of the police force and possibly into the Cabinet itself," he said.

He also feared that newspapers would be intimidated by the sub judice rule into abandoning their own investigations.

## 'Junior officers blamed'

"The refusal to release the McNally report .. is a concerted attempt to try to conceal the fact that orders came from higher up. Junior officers will take the blame as scapegoats."

Mr Norman Manom, attorney for the Independent Board of Investigation into Informal Repression (IBIR), said the reason given for not appointing a commission — that it could take years to complete — was "quite unsatisfactory".

"There would certainly be no bar to conducting criminal prosecutions and to holding a judicial inquiry at the same time. It is clear from the revelations so far that the allegations are very widespread, which is precisely why it is necessary to hold a judicial inquiry."

He said he believed the real reason for not appointing an inquiry was that the revelations were "so far-reaching", that the Government could not afford the political cost.

He cited the alleged role of Section C1 of the security branch, which appeared to be most closely associated with the hit squads, of Military Intelligence, and of the so-called Askaris, who were allegedly "turned" ANC/PAC members now doing clandestine

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## Hit squads

● FROM PAGE 1.

work for the police

"Taking into account the gravity and ambit of the allegations, it is astounding that the Government thinks that by having a few select prosecutions and inquests, the situation can be satisfactorily resolved."

Mr Jules Browde SC, the chairman of Lawyers for Human Rights, said it was imperative for the McNally report to be made public.

Describing the reason for not holding a judicial inquiry as "specious", Mr Browde said trials also took long periods to complete to ensure justice was done.

Veteran human rights campaigner and politician Mrs Helen Suzman described the decision not to hold a judicial inquiry as "extremely serious error".

"It is only the findings of an

independent judicial inquiry which will be accepted as true reflections of which persons are implicated in the vicious and notorious actions of hit squads," she said.

The parliamentary leader of the Democratic Party, Dr Zach de Beer, said he was deeply disappointed.

"Unless more is done, there will be the suspicion of a cover-up," he said.

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) yesterday said that it was clear that the death squad issue would be covered up by the Government.

President de Klerk's idea that "justice delayed is justice denied" is as "cynical as it is spurious", it said.

And in a letter to President de Klerk, the Dutch Reformed Church's Synodical Committee for Public Witness said the results of the McNally inquiry should be clear motivation for the appointment of an independent and public inquiry into alleged police hit squads.

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# Birth of the death squads

Grisly trail started with Act of Union when the free were divided

(25) Stav 9/12/89

PATRICK LAURENCE

**D**EATH squads, like concentration camps, do not emerge in a vacuum, they are conceived and nurtured by political actions and attitudes

The genesis of death squads in South Africa started decades ago. Their origins stretch back to the Act of Union when black people were excluded from the ranks of first class citizens

The formation of the Union of South Africa in 1910 formalised the deep schism in the land between those who were free and those who were not

But, as Abraham Lincoln observed in 1858 at Springfield, Illinois, a society which is "half slave and half free" cannot endure. It will become all one thing or all the other

In America the fatal contradiction was resolved, partially, by the American Civil War of 1861-65. In South Africa it has not yet given birth to a healing synthesis

Instead it generated conflict. Unable or unwilling to recognise that the only way to retain freedom was to extend it to their rebellious black compatriots, whites — with a few honourable exceptions — sought to hold on to power and privilege through draconian laws

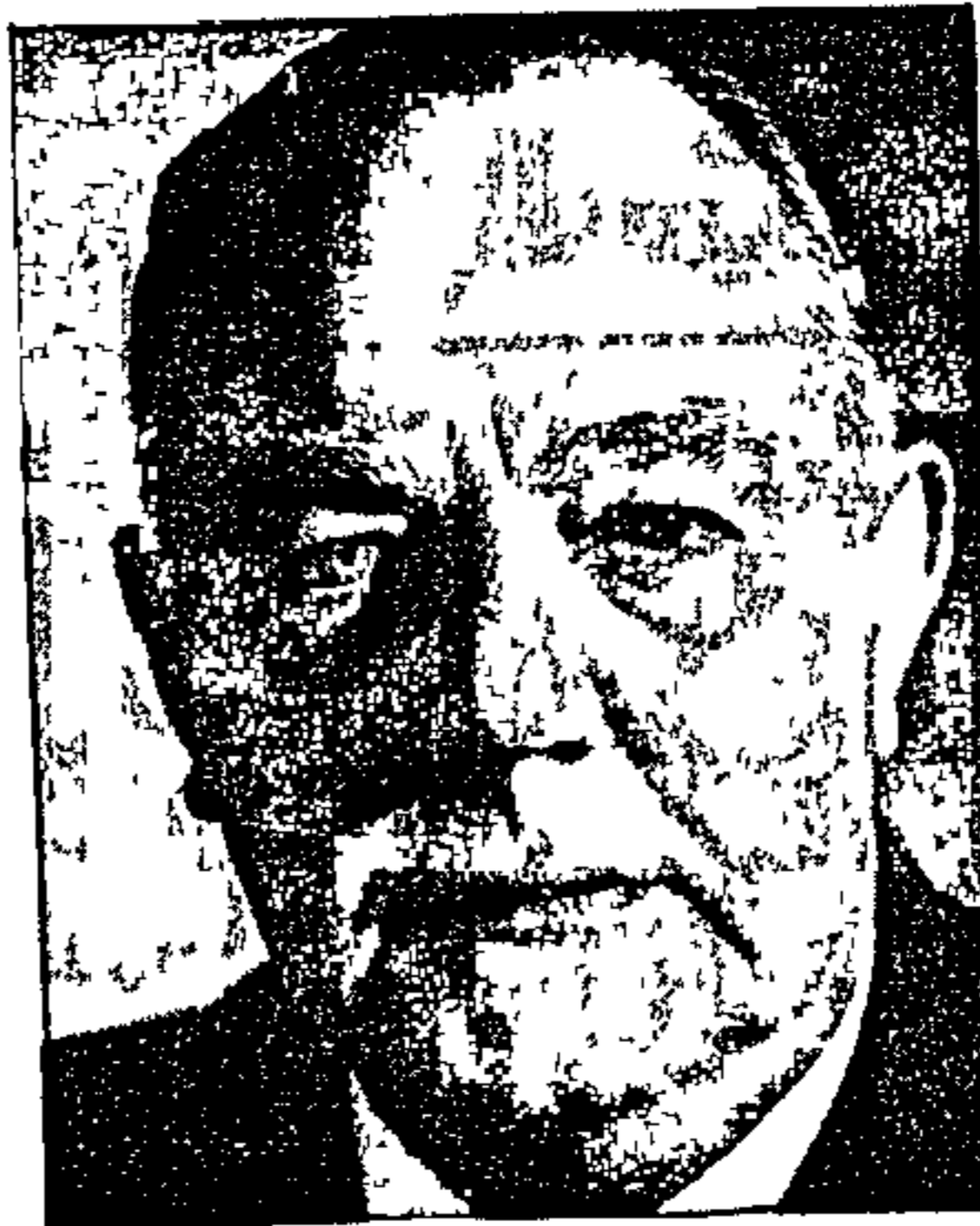
These laws placed vast power in the hands, above all, of policemen, they led inexorably to detention without trial, to paths in detention, to emergency decrees, to indemnity from prosecution and, ultimately, to death squads

In a concrete sense the grisly trail which led to death squads started in 1963. In that year the Minister of Police, Mr B J Vorster, placed the General Law Amendment Act or "90 day detention law" on the statute book. It empowered a senior police officer to detain any person for up to 90 days if he, the police officer, suspected on "reasonable grounds" that he or she had information about acts of sabotage or contraventions of the Suppression of Communism Act or the Unlawful Organisations Act

The detainee could be held for interrogation until, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Police, he or she had answered questions satisfactorily. They could be held for 90 days on "any particular occasion". If after 90 days, they were still unwilling or unable to respond satisfactorily, they could be re-detained for another 90 days

Vorster's 90 day law was repealed in 1965, only to be replaced by a successive of statutory laws providing for arbitrary and indefinite detention. The 180 day law, the Terrorism Act and, more recently, the Internal Security Act

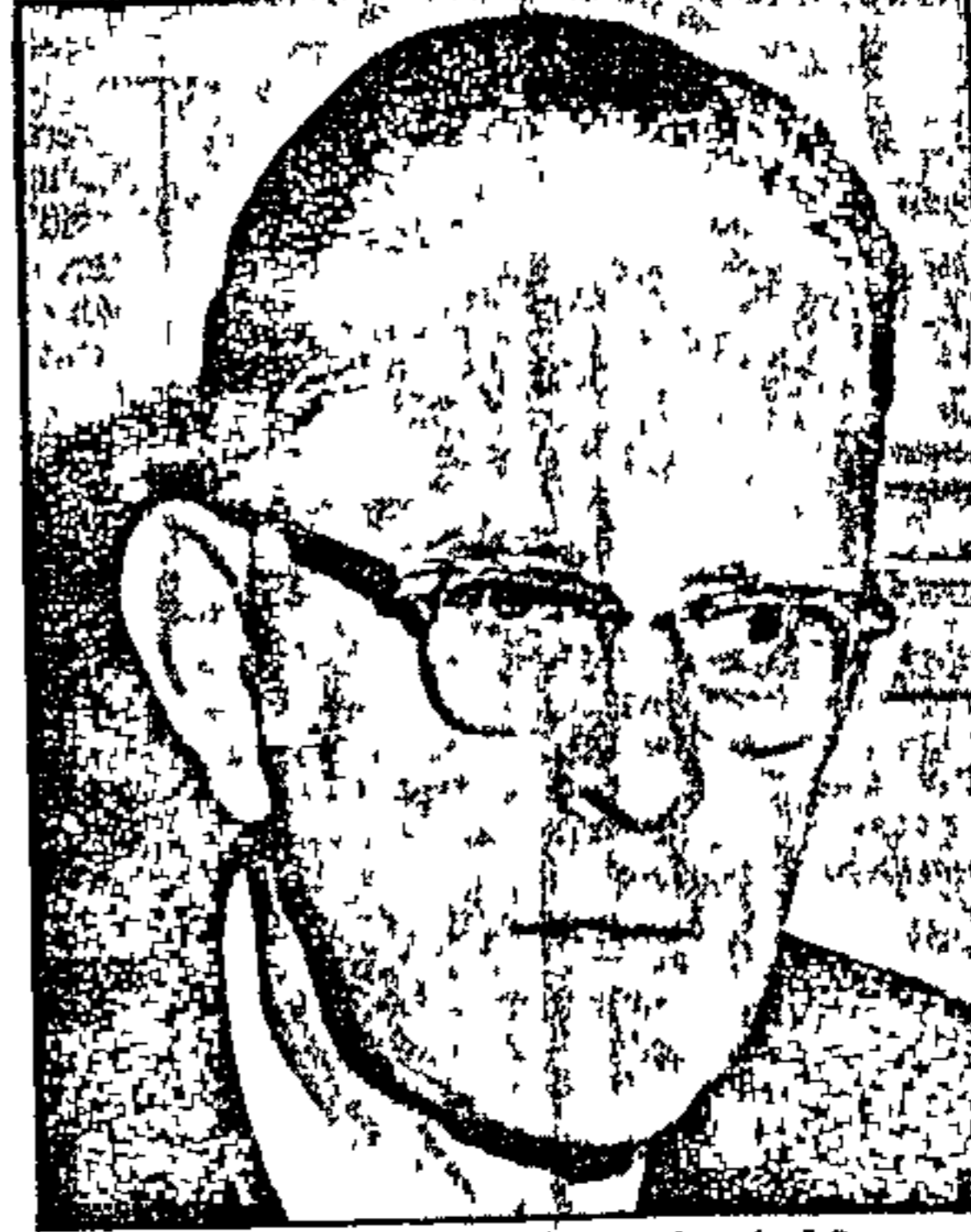
**DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL** In 1963 Minister of Police, Mr B J Vorster, placed the General Law Amendment Act or "90-day detention law" on the statute book where a person could be detained until, in the opinion of the Commissioner of Police, he or she had answered questions satisfactorily. Since then successive statutory laws have provided for arbitrary and indefinite detention



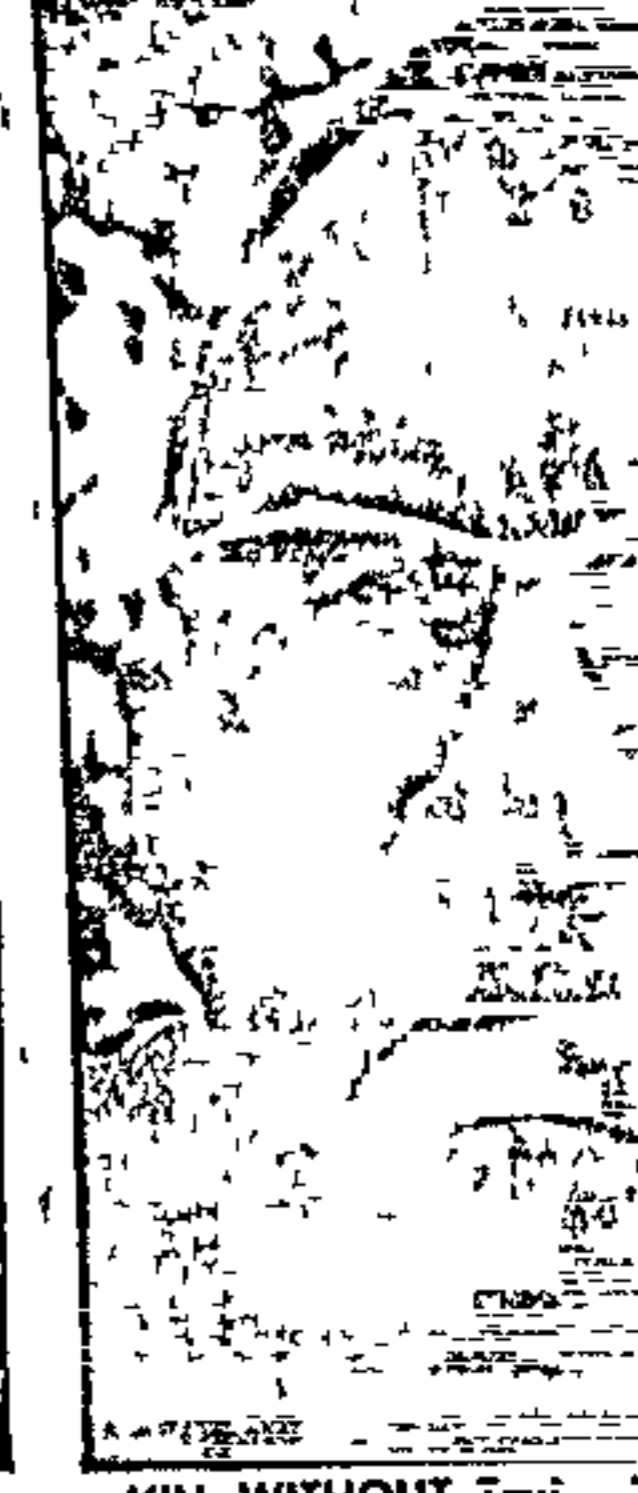
**DEATHS IN DETENTION** In 1977, when Steve Biko was found dead in his prison cell the day after he had been driven naked and manacled from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria, the then Minister of Police, Mr J T Kruger, expressed no dismay at his treatment. "It leaves me cold," he said to laughter at a National Party meeting. Since 1963, 69 detainees have died while in detention



**TOTAL ONSLAUGHT** In 1987, Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok, talked of "eliminating" and "taking out" revolutionaries



**MURDER ON ORDER** The former head of Bureau for State Security (BOSS), General Hendrik Van den Bergh, once boasted he had men who would "murder" on order for him.



**KILL WITHOUT TRIAL** Colonel Pieter Goosen, a former officer in charge of Biko's interrogation, once boasted he kills "terrorists"

**T**hese laws introduced a new feature into South Africa. On September 5 1963, only a few months after the 90-day-law was placed on the statute book, Looksmart Ngudle was found hanging in his cell. He was the first of a long list of detainees — 69, according to the Human Rights Commission — to die in detention. The inquest magistrate found that Ngudle's death had not been the result of act or omission amounting to an offence by any person. It was a phrase which was to be repeated in inquest courts in years to come. Since 1963, 69 detainees have died in detention, nearly half were found by the courts to have committed suicide. The human rights lawyer, Mr George Bizos, SC, coined the term "induced suicide" when he

appeared for the family of Neil Aggett, the young doctor and trade unionist who died in detention in 1982. The Muslim leader, Imam Abdullah Haron, was one of seven people to die in detention in 1969; 18 months before his detention he was declared fit for life-insurance purposes. He was found dead in his cell on September 27 1969; his body was covered with 26 bruises. The police explanation was that he sustained them by falling down a flight of stairs, counsel for the Haron family submitted that he had been beaten in a bid to extract a statement from him. The inquest magistrate found that some of his injuries had been sustained during an "accidental fall down a flight of stone stairs" but was unable to conclude how he had sustained the rest. Steve Biko, the charismatic founder of Black Consciousness,

was found dead in a prison cell in Pretoria on September 12 1977, he had been driven up, naked and manacled, from Port Elizabeth the day before. Like the Imam, Biko had injuries, including a scar over his left eye. Counsel for the Biko family, Mr Sydney Kentridge, SC, argued that the inquest court could only come to one finding: the death of Biko was due to a criminal assault on him by one or more of the eight security policemen in whose custody he was. The magistrate, Mr M J Prins, found that the likely cause of death was the head injury and an associated brain injury, he found further that it was probably sustained during a scuffle with the security police. He concluded, however, "The available evidence does not prove that the death was brought about by any act or

omission involving or amounting to an offence on the part of any person". Looking back, it is striking that no policeman was prosecuted for these deaths in detention, indeed, on the contrary, some were even promoted which, prima facie, meant that their superiors were not displeased with them. The most conspicuous promotion was that of Colonel Pieter Goosen, the officer in charge of Biko's interrogation who — in Mr Kentridge's words — left the mortally injured Biko "on a mat in chains for 48 hours". **T**he Minister of Police at the time, Mr J T Kruger, expressed no dismay at Biko's treatment. "It leaves me cold," he said to laughter at a National Party meeting.

# of the death squads

ISI Stav. 9/12/89

ied with Act of Union when the free were divided from the unfree

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It is pertinent to recall that another ex-policeman, Robert van der Merwe, did not hesitate to kill the two men when he was told by a superior officer that the men had links to the outlawed African National Congress. I know it had happened before," van der Merwe said in a bid to explain why he shot the men at point blank range.

There are, however, additional links in the chain of causality some of which amount to a chilling commentary on the state of mind of highly placed people.

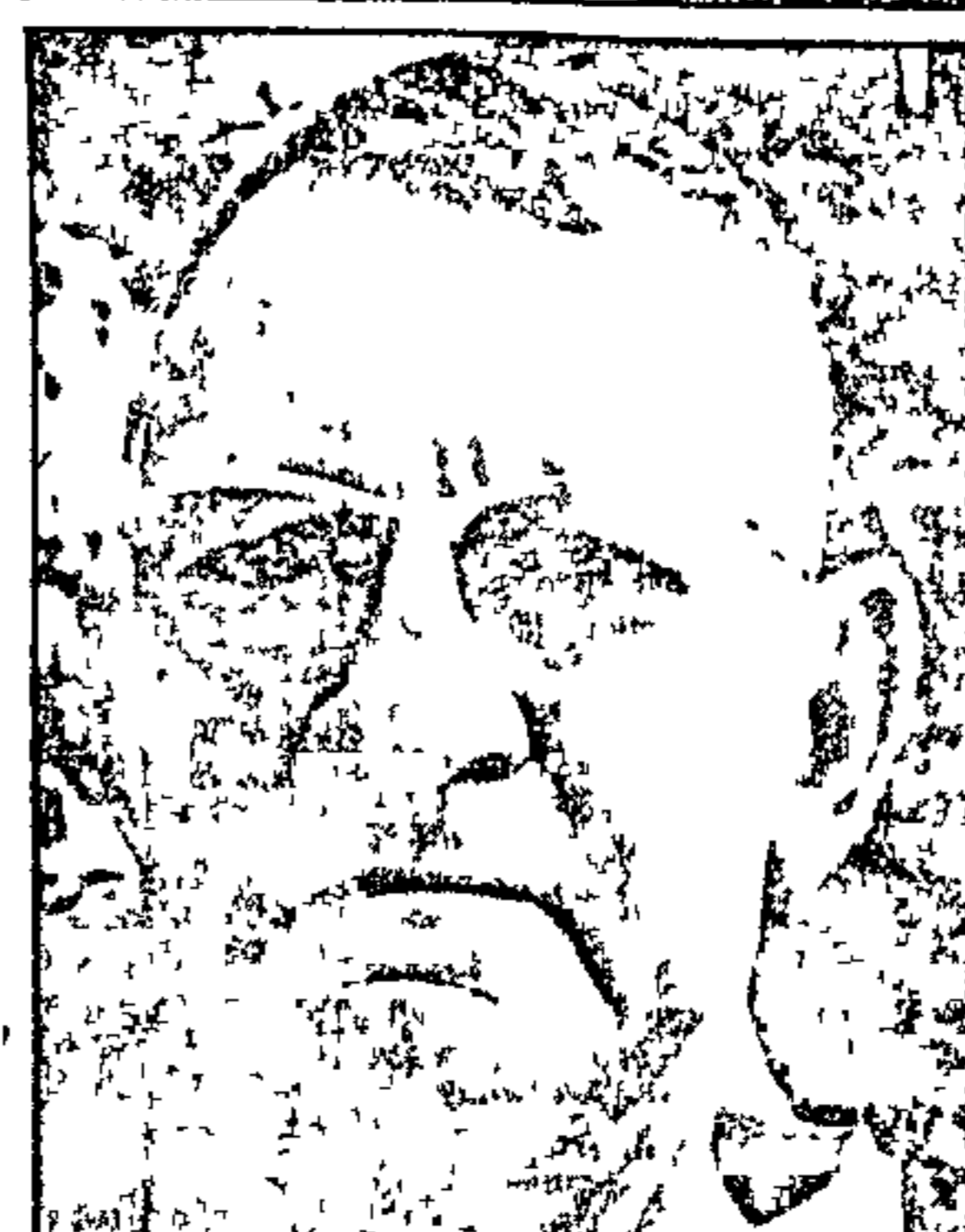
The former head of Bureau for State Security (BOSS), General Hendrik van den Bergh, once boasted that he had men who would murder on order for him, irrespective of who their prey was. His statement was made to a judicial inquiry and was, therefore, presumably considered.



**BRIGHT** In 1987, Minister of Law Adnaan Vlok, talked of "eliminating" "taking out" revolutionaries.



**MURDER ON ORDER** The former head of Bureau for State Security (BOSS), General Hendrik Van den Bergh, once boasted he had men who would "murder" on order for him.



**KILL WITHOUT THINKING** Brigadier "Roos" Swanepoel, a former Divisional Commissioner, speaks of "ANC and Swapo bastards" and says he kills "terrorists" without thinking about it.

**B**rigadier "Roos" Swanepoel still speaks of "ANC and Swapo bastards", by his own testimony, kills "terrorists" without thinking about it. He is a former Divisional Commissioner of Police in Soweto.

In 1987 the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adnaan Vlok, talked publicly of "eliminating" and "taking out" activists and revolutionaries. He later denied that he was using the words literally. His words, however, had an ominous ring, inviting comparison to Stalinist phraseology about "liquidating" enemies of the state.

These statements must be seen in the context of the "total strategy" doctrine. Devised as a response to what the "total onslaught", it rested on the assumption that the enemy was everywhere and not merely on preparing for war on the battlefield. He was in the universities, in the trade unions, and in cultural associations, plotting total psychological and economic warfare.

In the minds of right-wing zealots, imbued until recently with a sense of their own immunity from prosecution, talk from men in senior position about "eliminating" people is dangerous enough on its own. Linked to the doctrine of "total strategy", it is positively lethal.

Responsibility for these developments cannot be evaded. It lies in the first place with successive governments from Prime Minister Vorster's onwards. It lies, in particular, with successive Ministers of Law and Order, starting again with Vorster who introduced detention without trial.

In the end, however, the responsibility spreads out to white voters; the vast majority either accepted deaths in detention and the murder of anti-government activists by unknown killers or became too tired or too frightened to protest.

Free men cannot evade responsibility for what happens in around them. As George Bernard Shaw remarked "Liberty means responsibility".

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He concluded, however "The available evidence does not prove that the death was brought about by any act or

omission involving or amounting to an offence on the part of any person."

Looking back, it is striking that no policeman was prosecuted for these deaths in detention, indeed, on the contrary, some were even promoted which, prima facie, meant that their superiors were not displeased with them.

The most conspicuous promotion was that of Colonel Pieter Goosen, the officer in charge of Biko's interrogation who - in Mr Kentridge's words - left the mortally injured Biko "on a mat in chains for 48 hours".

**T**he Minister of Police at the time, Mr J T Kruger, expressed no dismay at Biko's treatment. "It leaves me cold," he said to laughter at a National Party meeting.

The death of scores of detainees without visible punishment of the people responsible for their safety created an environment congenial to the growth of death squads. It encouraged some policemen to think they were above the law when dealing with people suspected of crimes against the state.

From that state of mind there are but a few steps to serving in, or even organising, death squads to hunt down anti-apartheid activists.

It is significant that the men who have confessed to participating in death squads were all ex-policemen: Captain Dirk Coetzee, Almond Nofomela and Mr David Tshikalange.

It is significant, too, that the men detained in South Africa for questioning in connection with the murder of Dr David Webster and Mr Anton Lubowski, Ferdi Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, are ex-policemen.

# Plan to kill FW, Pik, Vlok and Malan revealed

(65)  
7/11/74  
PRESIDENT F W de Klerk and three Cabinet Ministers were on an "order of death" list found when Mr Dawid Johannes de Beer and four others were arrested, police revealed in Pretoria yesterday.

"Among other things, there was a plan to attack these four simultaneously. That would have created chaos in the country," Major-General Jaap Joubert of the detective branch of the SAP told a briefing for journalists.

The Ministers named were Mr Pik Botha, Mr Adriaan Vlok and General Magnus Malan.

Police had been monitoring the five people, a right-wing splinter group of the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging.

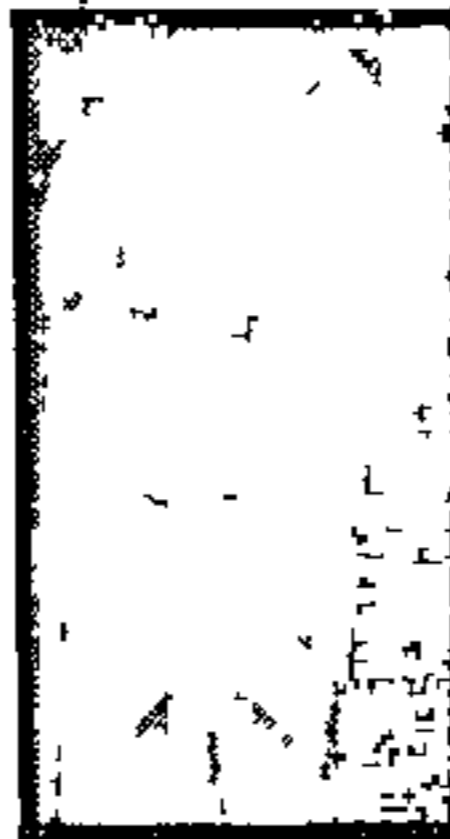
Charges pending against the five include terrorism, murder, armed robbery and contravention of the Arms and Ammunition Act, as well as the Explosives Act, General Joubert said.

The "order of death" list contained many names, including those of Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Allan Boesak.

Mr Vlok and the acting Commissioner of Police, General Johan van der Merwe, were also present at yesterday's briefing.

The men arrested with Vereeniging resident Mr de Beer were identified earlier this week as Mr Fanie Goosen (29) and Mr Cornelis Johannes Lottering (24), both of Vereeniging, and Mr Hendrik Francois Binneman (41) and Mr Cornelius Gerhardus van Zyl (28), both of Randburg.

Rifles, shotguns, teargas canisters, grenades, knives, crossbows, mortar bombs, gelignite and dynamite were among items seized from five different loca-



Mr de Klerk.



Mr Pik Botha.



Mr Malan.



Mr Vlok.

● TO PAGE 2.

P.T.O.



error  
"It is only the findings of an

# Death list

FROM PAGE 1

tions after the arrest of the five  
General Joubert said two men, whom he did not identify, had been trained as sharpshooters on a farm in northern Transvaal

Police were investigating links between these men and those who were arrested — and freed in a dramatic attack on their police escort this week — for an attack on a United Nations Transition Assistance Group post at Outjo, Namibia, in which one man died

It was not yet clear whether the link was more than common membership of the AWB

It was clear that there had to be an organisation behind the freeing of the Outjo three

The attack on the police escort showed sound information and good planning of when and where to strike, the general said

The police investigation was at an early stage. It was not yet known whether there was any connection between the five rightwingers and the murders of Dr David Webster in Johannesburg and Mr Anton Lubowski in Windhoek

"We have to look deeper. So far, no connection has been found," General Joubert said

The police were anxious to uncover how deep and how far the organisation's tentacles

dent and public inquiry into alleged police hit squads

stretched and they hoped people with information would come forward

Discussing the investigations into the activities of detained former policemen, the general said "It is clear that we have to do with people who go to work in a sophisticated way. They have money and planning. We do not yet know exactly what we are looking at and what is behind the curtain."

Mr Vlok repeated President de Klerk's assurances that the Government wished to uncover "to the bone" all the illegal acts of policemen who were alleged to have murdered people

A list of names of people on both the Left and Right who had been murdered for political reasons had been compiled and these cases were being investigated anew

"We want to charge the culprits," Mr Vlok said "They must be brought before the courts to answer and be judged there. I have confidence in the courts of this country"

As many as 79 names were on the list so far

Allegations by former SAP Captain Dirk Coetzee and Death Row prisoner Butana Nofomela about hit squads were being probed not by the security branch, but by the SAP's detective branch, the Law and Order Minister said.

Speed was of the essence, and the Government wanted to see results soon so that the public could be assured that the system worked. — Sapa.

Star 9/12/89  
201A  
257

Wk News 9/12/89

2510

# Cabinet hit list revealed

Weekend Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA — President De Klerk and three Cabinet ministers were on an "order of death" list found when David Johannes de Beer and four others were arrested, police have revealed.

Major-General Jaap Joubert told a Press briefing: "Among other things, there was a plan to attack these four ministers recently. That would have created chaos in the country."

Those named with President De Klerk were Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and Defence Minister General Magnus Malan.

The death list contained many names, including those of Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Rev Allan Boesak.

Police had been monitoring the five people, a rightwing splinter group of the Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging (AWB).

When two were trained as sharpshooters, police took action. Charges pending against the five include terrorism, murder, armed robbery and contravention of the Arms and Ammunition Act as well as the Explosion Act.

General Joubert said: "The men arrested with De Beer were identified earlier this week as Mr Fanie Goosen, Mr Cornelis Johannes Lotter, 29, Mr Cornelis Johannes Lotter, 24, all of Vereeniging, and Mr Hendrik Francois Binneman, 41, and Mr Cornelius Gerhardus van Zyl, 28, both of Randburg. Rifles, shotguns, tearsmoke canisters, hand-grenades,

## FW, P, IK, Tutu in death squad sightings

General Joubert said two men, who he did not identify, had been trained as sharpshooters in the Northern Transvaal.

Police were investigating links between them and those who were arrested and subsequently freed in an ambush on their police escort in Namibia this week, for an attack on an Umag post at Outjo in Namibia. A guard died in the attack.

It was not clear whether the link was more than common membership of the AWB.

The police investigation was at an early stage and it was not known whether there was any connection between these men and the murderers of Dr David Webster in Johannesburg and Mr Anton Lubowski in Windhoek.

Discussing the investigations into the activities of former policeman Bernard and his connections, General Joubert said: "It is clear that we have to do with people who work in a sophisticated way. They have money and planning. We do not know yet exactly what we are looking at and what is behind the curtain."

Mr Vlok, who was at the Press briefing, repeated President De Klerk's assurances that the government wanted to uncover all the illegal acts of policemen who were alleged to have murdered people.

A list of names of people on both the left and rightwing who had been murdered for political reasons had been compiled and these cases were being investigated.

"We want to charge the culprits," Mr Vlok said. "They must be brought before the courts to answer and be judged. I have confidence in the courts of this country."

Weekend Argus Reporter Jacquelyn Swartz writes that Mr De Klerk's decision not to appoint a judicial commission to inquire into the alleged hit squads has been described as a "tragic blunder which is going to explode in his face".

Mr Jamie Momberg, MP for Simon's Town, speaking at a Democratic Party meeting in Fish Hoek last night, said Mr De Klerk seemed not to have learnt from experience that internal commissions hardly ever delivered anything of note.

He said the questions being asked by the public at the moment would be left unanswered if only those who had been named were prosecuted, and the people behind them were not also investigated.

"Having taken the country by storm with his enlightened and reform-sounding speeches, the State President's decision must be regarded as his first major blunder," Mr Momberg said.

(25) C. H. M. S. 10/13/89

# Officials held as cops bust rebel tour demo

RIOT police cut short a demonstration in Cape Town yesterday against racist sport and the proposed rebel cricket tour.

Top sports officials were among the 53 arrested, according to a spokesman for the South African Council on Sports.

A police spokeswoman said 30 arrests were made when demonstrators tried to disrupt a cricket match at the Field Crescent Sports ground at Athlone.

Sacos general secretary CR Clarke said the protesters were arrested after placards with anti-apartheid slogans were held aloft.

He said police threw a cordon around the field to stop 1 000 demonstrators from moving on to the field, where a match was in progress.

"After this, police indiscriminately arrested demonstrators."

Those arrested included Sacos president Joe Ebrahim, South African Soccer Federation vice-president Alex Abercrombie and other key figures.

Clarke said they were taken to Athlone police station and assured they would be released after the match.

After the arrests, demonstrators regrouped and demanded to enter the field.

"This united action was a victory for unity of all sports organisations under the banner of Sacos.

"It is only in a country like ours where peaceful demonstrations against a farcical cricket tour are met with the full powers of the police," he said.

Clarke condemned the arrest of the demonstrators "in the strongest possible terms" and demanded the immediate cancellation of the proposed rebel tour.

- Sapa

# Dipale 'did not commit suicide'

251 10/12/89  
C. Cross

## Nofomela claims police lied

By CHARLES MOGALE

THE "revelation" this week that detainee Moabi Ernest Dipale had not committed suicide in detention has left his family unmoved

Death Row prisoner and former security policeman Almond Nofomela disclosed this week that Dipale had not hanged himself, as alleged by police in August 1982. At the time, police said he was found hanging from a blanket strip in his cell.

Inquest Magistrate G Schoeman returned a verdict of suicide, saying no-one was to blame for the death of the 21-year-old Sowetan.

Dipale's mother, Lizzie, said "Who believed that he had hanged himself in the

first place? The report was ridiculous. The strip of blanket he allegedly used was too weak for his body weight, and furthermore how could he have cut the blanket with his hands?"

During the inquest hearing, State counsel JH Liebenberg, SC, said Dipale had confessed to being an ANC member shortly before taking his life. The confession, he said, could have prompted him to take his life.

However, counsel for the Dipale family CR Mailer was refused access to the alleged confession and said this hampered his investigations.

The family is not planning any legal action yet.

"It is a futile exercise. It is like taking your problem to the person who was responsible for it in the first place. Show me the means to raise my son from the dead and I will do anything to bring him back. But for now, running to the authorities is useless," Dipale's mother said.

"That child was full of life. He had everything to live for. It was after his death that I realised how close he was to me. On the day he was detained, we were planning to travel to Botswana."

No further details were available regarding Nofomela's new claims. According to human rights lawyers who are following up his claims, the prisoner has asked that his allegations be investigated before being made public.

He told reporters, "His death upset us a great deal. We are still trying to get over it. Talking about it hurts us because it will not bring him back."

About six months before Dipale's death, trade unionist Dr Neil Aggett was also allegedly found hanged in his cell at John Vorster Square.

The inquest court found that Aggett had committed suicide. There was local and international uproar after people who knew Aggett personally said he was "not suicidal", expressing doubts about the suicide.

**Andy Capp**



**Nkosana Mtshali ...  
'turned ANC youth'.**

# Baby Askari? 25

## Mtshali could be squad member 25 10/12/89

By CHARLES MOGALE

SPECULATION is mounting that "baby terrorist" Nkosana Mtshali has joined the Askaris - former members of the PAC and ANC now working for the security police

This follows the mysterious disappearance of the 15-year-old Dlamini, Soweto, youth after he was detained by the security police 17 months ago.

Brig Leon Mellet, Law and Order Ministry press secretary, has denied that police are holding the youth, while his dis-

traught parents believe he is still in detention

Nkosana was displayed before local and international media just days after he was captured in Hillbrow, Johannesburg

He told journalists he was a trained ANC guerrilla, but regretted joining the organisation and was prepared to "help" the police fight the organisation

Nothing has been heard about the youth since then

*Vrye Weekblad* reported this week that at least 10 former security policemen who had been sta-

tioned at the notorious police base Vlakplaas left the country to join the ANC. The ANC was willing to make their evidence available to a judicial commission of inquiry.

Nkosana's father, Joseph Mtshali, said the family occasionally received calls from strangers inviting them to talk to Nkosana over the phone, or visit him at various police stations throughout the country. Once, he said, he was asked to visit him in Newcastle and once in Pretoria.

This week Mtshali was still adamant that his son was in detention.

Asked about speculation that he could have joined the Askaris, he said: "Anything is possible. What can I say? Nobody has said anything to me. I am in the dark."

Fears that Nkosana could have joined the Askaris follow startling revelations by Death Row prisoner and former security policeman Butana Almond Nofemela, that "turned" PAC and ANC guerrillas were used in "anti-terrorist" operations.

Following the revelations, the police admitted the existence of a camp in Pretoria called Vlakplaas.

Political comment and newsbills by K Sibiya, headlines and sub-editing by J Beffon, both of 204 Eloff Street Ext., Johannesburg

# Rockman a rebel since '76

REBEL police Lieutenant Gregory Rockman clashed with police while a leader in the student unrest which swept South Africa in 1976, according to his biography launched at Mitchells Plain, in the Cape, yesterday.

He says that in 1976 he was in Standard Nine at Bethelsdorp High School in Port Elizabeth and "became one of the leaders of the boycott movement" after the June 16 shootings in Soweto.

The book, entitled "Rockman - One man's crusade against apartheid police", was written by Cape Town journalist Eugene Abrahams.

LSB  
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10/12/89 C. Press

orange juice tests from Dr Klatzow.  
it was up to the client

# Govt slammed over 'cover-up'

(25) C. Press 10/12/89  
By CHARLES MOGALE  
and DES BLOW

THE government has come under attack for trying to "cover-up" details of alleged police death squads.

It is feared senior policemen named by condemned Butana Nofomela and fugitive Capt Dirk Coetzee will never be prosecuted.

Coetzee expressed these fears when he fled the country.

He said he was afraid he would be made a scapegoat and his senior officers would never be prosecuted.

Officers as high as Gen Johan Coetzee, former Commissioner of Police, were aware of the activities of the hit squads, according to Coetzee.

Lawyers said that by issuing a warrant for Coetzee's arrest for murder, the government was making sure he would never return to South Africa to face trial and implicate his superiors.

The suspension of five

policemen at their own request, including Maj Eugene de Kock, was unlikely to lead to prosecution, said lawyers.

"Unless there is an independent judicial inquiry, it will be easy to cover up later events," a lawyer said.

Lawyers warned that attempts to cover up political scandals in the past had not succeeded.

Civil rights lawyer Brian Curren drew attention to the Watergate scandal in the United States which toppled President Richard Nixon and the Info Scandal in South Africa which eventually brought down Prime Minister John Vorster.

"When there is an attempted cover-up by making scapegoats to protect people higher up, the scandal snowballs and the scapegoats reveal more than ever before," said Curren.

Nofomela is to be charged with the death of human rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, who was butchered in Umlazi in 1982.

# Rockman signs his book where it all started

Sunday Times Reporter

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OUTSPOKEN police lieutenant Gregory Rockman yesterday launched his autobiography only a few steps away from the scene of his controversial confrontation with riot squad police.

In the book, Rockman: One Man's Crusade Against Apartheid Police, an extract from which appears on page 15 of today's Sunday Times, he

reveals that his devotion to duty as a policeman could also cost him his marriage.

More than 1 000 Mitchell's Plain residents and shoppers turned out yesterday to see Lt Rockman, who gained worldwide recognition when he spoke out against the riot police in September, sign copies of the book.

The popular policeman's fate is still in the balance after the disciplinary inquiry against him this week

failed to come to any decision

After four days of legal wrangling at the inter departmental inquiry in Cape Town this week, it was decided to adjourn to January 11, 1990.

He said yesterday: "I'm feeling very positive about the whole affair and know that next year I will still be in the force."

Lt Rockman's wife Sharleen and their two children, Clint, 7, and Fay-Anne, 1, did not follow him to Cape

Town when he was transferred to Mitchell's Plain from Port Elizabeth in 1987.

As Sharleen said in the book: "Since our marriage I have always understood that he has to spend time away from home and that I have no choice but to share him with the police force."

"It's just the way he is and I have to shape my life around him. I can live with that... but for how long?"



S. Times

(251)

10/12/89

THE

**T**O understand what finally made Lieutenant Gregory Rockman take on the might of the South African Police, it is necessary to go back to his childhood in Schauderville, one of Port Elizabeth's poorest and most deprived "coloured" townships

It was also in those early days that Rockman had his first experience of the violent gangs that operated — and still do — in many of the coloured areas

It was this early first hand experience of gang terror that helped Rockman achieve some of his greatest successes as a "people's policeman" in Mitchell's Plain, where there had never been anything but a sour relationship between the community and the police.

Here, where the police station is surrounded by huge walls and is under armed guard day and night, Rockman became a folk hero in his own right

Mitchell's Plain in the centre of the wind swept Cape Flats served as a dumping ground for the tens of thousands of coloured families driven from District Six and other parts of Cape Town in terms of the Group Areas Act in the '60s

Like many other coloured suburbs, it has been plagued by gangs who terrorise the community, exist on the proceeds of crime and bring fear and violence to the streets as they conduct their inter-neighbourhood wars.

**I**NTO this war Rockman walked, sometimes alone, always unarmed, to convince gang leaders to lay down their weapons and make peace

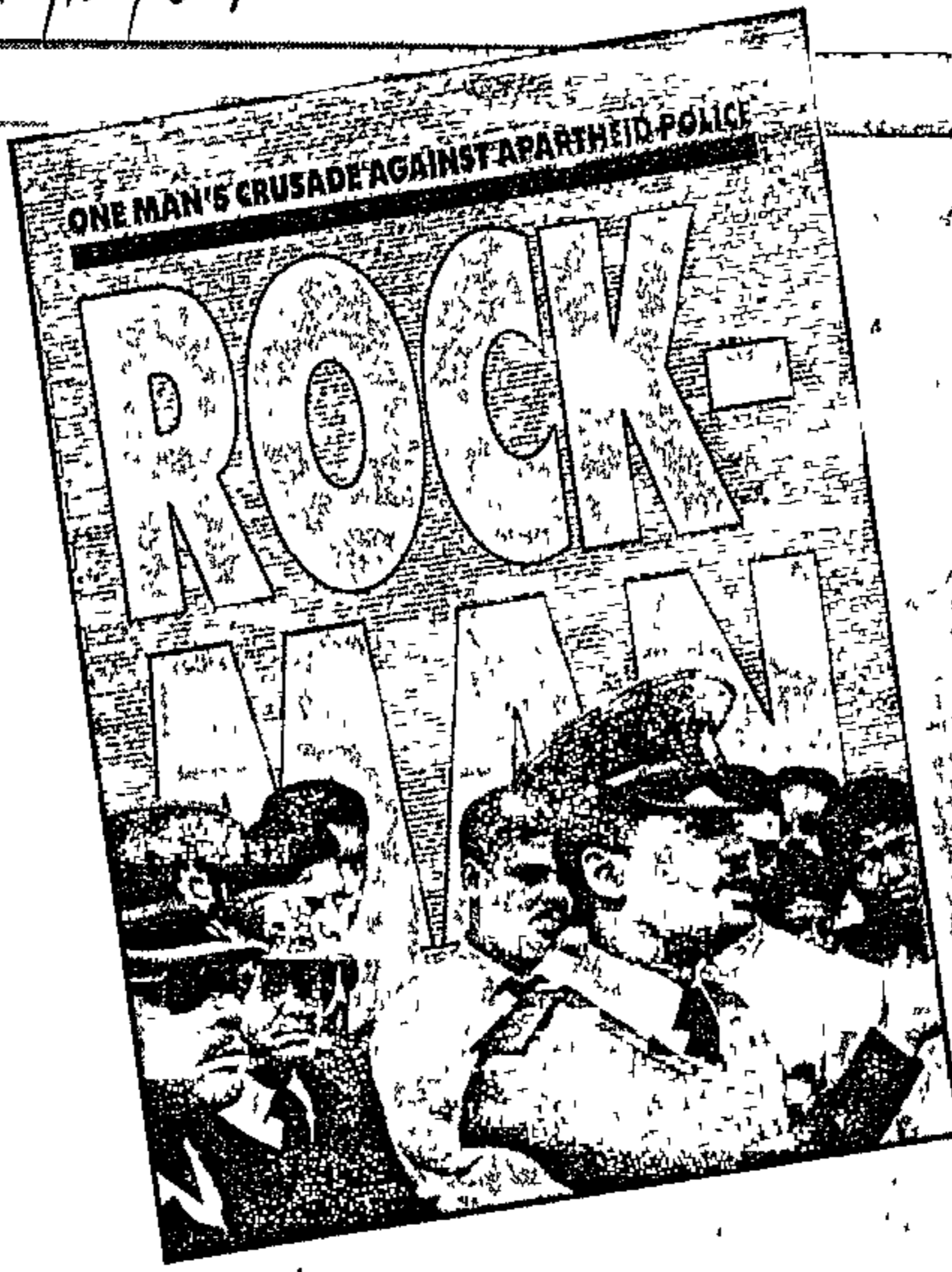
Rockman explains "The gangs pretty much ruled our lives in Gelvandale where we lived as kids. It was so easy to fall in with them because they gave the kids a sense of power and belonging and identity

"But we never got involved with them because mom and dad kept us on a tight rein and made sure that at night we were at home where we belonged — not running in the streets"

And gangsters were a major problem to confront Rockman after his arrival at Mitchell's Plain police station in November 1987

Most complaints came from Eastridge, a suburb where people live in sub-economic conditions. In Eastridge, Rockman's first step was to organise a meeting with the leaders of the gangs

He had a stroke of luck when fighting over "turf" (gangsters' territory) erupted near the home of a police colleague, known to all as Kappie. The gangs in the area — the Mongrels, the Spoilers, the Cisco Yakkies, the Americans, the Nice Times, the Stoute Motors, the Scorpions and the Hard Livings — asked Kappie, who



Long before he publicly attacked police "brutality" and became a household name in South Africa, Lieutenant Gregory Rockman was a hero in his own community of Mitchell's Plain. He was known as something of a peacemaker for his work in quelling gang warfare.

In fact, it was seeing a policeman halting gang violence which inspired him to join the police in the first place.

His role as a township peacemaker is revealed for the first time in this second extract from his book, *Rockman: One Man's Crusade against Apartheid Police*, co-written with Sunday Times journalist EUGENE ABRAHAMS.

# THE PEAC

**“Before we lived and acted like animals but this Lieutenant Rockman treated us like people here tonight. So let's start to live like people.”**

had lived close to them for two years and was seen as a community leader, to help them make peace

Residents were complaining that their children could not walk in the streets — day or night — and that graffiti was turning the suburb into another Hanover Park, a township where vice was rife and life meant little

Kappie told Rockman about the gangsters' request and, with Colonel Manuel, his station commander, they arranged to meet the gangs at Kappie's house

The meeting was planned for 7pm, but most of the gang leaders only arrived at 8pm, after smoking a "white pipe" — dagga mixed with crushed mandrax tablets — to boost their confidence

They shuffled into Kappie's house, exchanging nervous glances. The cops were scared because any one of the hoodlums might produce a zip-gun — a home-made pistol — at any moment and start firing

**T**HE chances were also good that one of the gang leaders had his troops waiting nearby to ambush the others.

Rockman's hands were sweating. He and Manuel spoke to the gangsters, trying to convince them fighting was destructive and solved nothing. The gang members were impressed by Rockman because for the first

time a policeman was speaking to them as equals

After two hours of talk, a peace pact, albeit crude, was forged

A gang member remarked to a rival. "Before we lived and acted like animals, but this Rockman treated us like people here tonight. So let's start to live like people"

Their first task was to use paint, which had been donated, to remove the graffiti which marked their "turf"

The second task — and one they agreed to with reluctance — was to hand over their weapons to Kappie. These ranged from axes, pangas and knives to zip-guns. Kappie handed them to Manuel

Some thought Rockman was mad for trying to tackle something which was bigger than most of them, but they supported his efforts nonetheless

After hearing these stories, Rockman and Manuel returned to the station and discussed the problem. They knew they were only touching the tip of the iceberg be-

cause of what they had heard was also happening in other suburbs of Mitchell's Plain. Woodlands, Tafelsig, Beacon Valley, Rocklands, Portland and Westridge

The National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of Offenders had also started to expand its community awareness programme in Mitchell's Plain.

After the gangs met Rockman and went their separate ways, peace came to Eastridge. What people had hoped and prayed for became a reality and gangsters were no longer scared to walk through each other's "turf"

At another meeting with the gangs, Rockman said, "When you see somebody doing wrong, you have every right to arrest him and take him to the police station. You are a citizen of this country, and that is the type of citizen you must strive to be."

"If a man respects you, treat him with respect. But, if he is trying to be difficult, try to be courteous. If he hits you, hit him back. Let him

also feel. Let him also understand he is dealing with a person and not a gangster

"I don't like it if I'm being courteous and someone tries to hit me. No person in his right mind will stand for that kind of treatment. The law does not make anyone the lord of kaffirland. No one is a god.

"If a policeman treats you badly, report him to me. I'm trying to bring about a change in the attitudes of the police in Mitchell's Plain. Now, there will still be policemen who may not treat you properly

"I cannot be held responsible for their actions, but if they do that, you lay a charge against them. Make them aware that when they come to Mitchell's Plain, they are among decent, clean-living people

"Manners make a person, not clothes. You can wear expensive clothes, but you can be rotten inside. I can only risk my neck for people who co-operate with me. And so far, the co-operation has

# ROCKMAN FILE



STRIDING OUT... Lieutenant Gregory Rockman with supporters of his move to unionise the police force and Prisons Service

# CEMAKER

been very good and it can only get better I believe in that."

Not many people knew of Rockman's work in negotiating the truce between the gangs. People heard of him only when he made his stand against the riot police.

Rockman would be the first to admit that he could not have played his Hill Street Blues Captain Furillo part without the help of his loyal colleague, Kapple.

Previously the police had been helpless. When they got to the scene of a fight, the gangsters would be gone. But Kapple went to their mothers and said "We must try something different now. Can't we somehow get them all together and start talking?"

**H**E then went to every gang leader. Because of his reputation, they listened to him and when he told Rockman what he wanted to do, Rockman sensed that he was on the right track.

Rockman knew of Kapple's difficulties and often suggested he move to another area. But he was glad when Kapple insisted on staying. His initiative was the breakthrough they needed and it gave Rockman the opportunity to get the gangs together. Rockman saw it as a God-given opportunity and he took it with both hands.

Nicro researcher Norman



Lieutenant Gregory Rockman signs copies of his autobiography at the launch in Mitchell's Plain yesterday

Jantjes said the institute had proof that Rockman's intervention played a leading role in ending violence in Mitchell's Plain.

And a leader of the Americans gang told him, "I see a light in you, which I haven't seen in any other policeman."

While his fate was being decided at the highest level,

Rockman was still helping his community to the best of his ability.

A week after the court case where riot squad police commanders were cleared of all charges against them, Rockman met gangsters from Rocklands and organised a Neighbourhood Watch in Tafelsig, Mitchell's Plain.

Gangsters from all over the Cape Peninsula have approached him to help them with their feuding problems.

"That is the kind of work I like to do. I want to help my community and serve them. They appreciate the work of the police that much more, and see them in a different light."

And while Rockman is one hundred percent behind policemen using disciplined means to prevent crime, he feels that demonstrations and riots are the expression of political views.

"There is a clear distinction between the two. You cannot use force to counter ideology because people must have the democratic right to express their views."

"Views cannot be changed with violence and differing political ideologies should be discussed, not beaten out of people."

Rockman is not sure where he stands now. He believes he has no future in the force he has dedicated 12 years of his life to.

"I can already see that I have no future here. I want to serve my people more and more and the only way I can really do that is to resign."

**S**URPRISINGLY, Rockman said if he had to do it all over again, he would not be a policeman.

"I've built tremendous ties with the communities in which I worked, but the bad times I had in the police force and the humiliation I suffered have convinced me that perhaps I made the wrong career choice."

"When I started I did not know any of that. If I had, I'd probably be a schoolteacher today. But such is life."

"I've said it many times and I'll say it again. My complaints must be investigated. I'm willing to be put on trial and crucified for breaking police regulations, but first they must investigate my complaints."

(C) ROCKMAN, One Man's Crusade against Apartheid Police. Published by Senior Publications, Johannesburg.

# Police morale 'lowest ever'

Cape Times  
11/12/89

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Crime Reporter

MORALE in the police force is "at an all-time low" with many policemen increasingly disillusioned with their pay and working conditions.

Many, including lieutenants, warrant officers and sergeants, have contacted the Cape Times with their complaints. They say the situation is worsening daily and the public is suffering with a rapidly diminishing and demotivated police force.

They listed their main complaints as

- A salary that has many policemen struggling to support their families
- Excessive overtime — averaging 80 hours a month — with no compensation
- The fact that experienced policemen leaving the force are being replaced by special constables and national servicemen doing their two-year national service
- The introduction of railway policemen into the force at a higher salary
- A belief that senior police officers and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, are out of touch with the working conditions of the average policemen

The policemen said their grievances had been met with "pep talks" by Mr Vlok and senior officers or with the harsher response of "if you don't like it — leave"

"Pep talks are just rhetoric rubbish — they don't keep the creditors and bank managers from the door," said a constable, who, after more five years service, received a net salary of just under R400.

"Morale and motivation are so low we just drive around with our feet up waiting for knock-off time," the constable admitted.

He added that if paid a "better wage" policemen would be more motivated "to turn around and check" things that didn't seem right the first time.

A recent newspaper report estimated that an average of 12 policemen a day were leaving the force in search of better jobs in the private sector.

The constant exodus of policemen has meant that remaining detectives are now overloaded with case dockets, many of which are closed unsolved.

The head of the police's liaison division, Major-General Herman Stadler, admitted in an interview at the beginning of November that it was no secret the police force had a manpower shortage.

Another major concern for the policemen is the reduction in the quality of people entering the force.

"They (the police force) are losing good solid policemen who care about the job but have to leave for financial reasons and are replacing them with special constables and national servicemen," a detective sergeant said.

● The policemen who approached the Cape Times identified themselves by showing the front of their identity card, which carries their picture and the SAP badge. Their names were on the back of the card which the Cape Times, satisfied that they were policemen, did not ask to see, thereby assuring them that their identity would not be disclosed.

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REBEL policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman was in his youth a leader in the student unrest which swept South Africa in 1976, according to his newly-released biography.

The lieutenant says in the book which had its official launch in the coloured area of Mitchell's Plain in Cape Town on Saturday, that in 1976 he was in standard nine at Bethelsdorp High School in Port Elizabeth

He intended to become a teacher after he matriculated

After the shootings in Soweto on June 16 pupils at his school decided to stage demonstrations and formed a committee.

"During my senior year I was one of the leaders of the boycott movement at school

"We were protesting against the inequalities of our education system and I was active in getting the other pupils out of their classes to join us," he says in the book

"Looking back, I realise just how lucky I was that I never landed in trouble with the police. I suppose this was mainly because I worked undercover as an organiser and avoided open confrontation with them "

Rockman said he was dissatisfied with the education system, but that he was made more aware of this by the Soweto unrest

**Pupils**

He said he and his fellow-pupils "often had clashes with the police" in the school grounds

The book, titled *Rockman - One man's crusade against apartheid police*, was written by Cape Town journalist Eugene Abrahams and has forewords by both the Archbishop of Cape Town, Desmond Tutu, and the president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Dr Allan Boesak.

It details the lieutenant's childhood in the depressed Port Elizabeth coloured townships of Schauderville and Arcadia.

There, as one of a family of nine youngsters, he received regular beatings



**Rebel policeman  
a youth leader  
during student  
unrest in 1976**



Rockman: no shoes until he went to high school

**Rockman  
looks back  
in anger**

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from his father, an upholsterer at the Ford motor factory.

He had to walk 15km to school and 15km back each day and did not own shoes until he went to high school

Rockman's decision to

opt for a career in the police was a second choice as he dropped out of school before writing his matric and could therefore not study as a teacher

The book details his constant struggle against racism in the force and tells how his revelations of riot squad brutality in September this year shot him into international prominence.

He said that if he had to make the choice again,

he would not become a policeman

"The bad times I had in the police force and the humiliation I suffered have convinced me that perhaps I made the wrong career choice "

The book notes that Rockman, who is facing a disciplinary inquiry that could mean the end of his career in the force, is also facing an intense private crisis.

His wife, Sharleen,

and their two children did not follow him to Cape Town when he was transferred to Mitchell's Plain from Port Elizabeth in 1987 and distance has added to other strains in their marriage.

According to author Eugene Abrahams, Rockman has said he intends to divorce her. But, Abrahams adds, there is a chance that there may be a reconciliation

Abrahams also reveals that in October this year when Rockman attended the trial of two riot squad officers on charges of assault arising from his complaints, he was protected at the court each day by an unobtrusive bodyguard of the gangsters he had been working with as crime prevention officer in Mitchell's Plain

**Fighters**

"They were alert, experienced street fighters, always close to Rockman," he says.

Earlier, Rockman had received a death threat from a man claiming to be a member of the Wit Wolwe.

In his foreword, Tutu says of the lieutenant "He illustrates the wonderful truth that what each of us does can make a difference and it does not matter what our antecedents might be.... God be praised for such as Gregory Rockman. "They give us a renewed

# Uncertain how to be 'softer'

By BARRY STREEK

THERE had been frustration and uncertainty among police officers following the "softer" approach towards peaceful protest, according to Major-General Herman Stadler, head of the police liaison division.

Senior policemen were "busy re-orientating the chaps; we give them guidelines", he said in an interview in the latest issue of the Suid-Afrikaan.

"But I do not want to actually call it confusion. Perhaps a person must just say there was uncertainty. When could you act and when could you not act?"

"Discretion must now be used. But the instruction was still always: 'People, you must not be too rigid.

Investigate the matter." General Stadler also said: "It is not the police who have become softer, or who allow certain things, it is the politicians. The police did not take the decision. Justice took the decision."

He admitted that some of the police "went over the limits". "I do not offer it as an excuse, but you know, those poor blighters (blikskottels), they work for days on end. Sometimes day and night.

"They are absent from the house for long hours. The wife is cross with them. They never see their children

"Then they are sworn at and abused, petrol bombs are thrown at them."

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LAWYERS are re-examining the case of convicted African National Congress executive Ebrahim Ismael Ebrahim, in the light of new allegations by a former hit-squad member that Ebrahim was abducted by South African security forces from Swaziland.

The new evidence may influence the appeal Ebrahim will lodge against his 20-year sentence next year, lawyers said. Mr Justice H Daniels who heard Ebrahim's treason case last year rejected Ebrahim's claim that he had been abducted by South African agents on December 15, 1986.

At the time, however, Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok said he could not admit or deny the allegation of the abduction of Ebrahim "except to strongly deny that any member

## Lawyers move on Ebrahim case

of the SAP was involved".  
Butana Nofomela, the self-confessed security police assassin on death row, has made allegations about the abduction of Ebrahim, who was regional commander for Umkhonto we Sizwe. The details of the allegations are not known.

However, two other alleged members of Section C1 are known to have been involved in Ebrahim's interrogation. One was Brigadier Willem Schoon and the other a Captain Naude. — Sapa

# Lawyers bid to free Calla Botha

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Staw. 11/2/09  
By Karen Stander.

Lawyers for Mr Calla Botha, the second former policeman detained in connection with the assassinations of activist Dr David Webster and Swapo attorney Mr Anton Lubowski, will approach the Rand Supreme Court tomorrow in a bid to secure his release.

And, in a further development, human rights activists will contact families of victims of the alleged police hit squad with a view to bringing civil claims against the Government.

Mr Botha, a former member of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, was detained on November 30 under section 29 of the Internal Security Act. The other man detained under section 29 in connection with the murders is Mr Ferdie Barnard, a former West Rand drug squad sergeant.

Mr Botha's attorney, Mr Piet du Plessis, said last night that the basis for the urgent application would be that the police had had no reasonable cause to detain Mr Botha.

Mr du Plessis said police had asked for the hearing to be held *in camera*.

Mr Botha's legal advisers would de-

cide whether to oppose the request once they had seen the affidavits filed by the police. They would agree only if there was "good reason".

The legal team had agreed to keep the affidavits confidential until tomorrow when the court would decide whether they would be released.

An earlier application to the Pretoria Supreme Court for the release of Mr Barnard, brought by his father, Colonel P J Barnard, was withdrawn.

Mr Barnard was detained on October 31.

In the absence of an independent judicial commission of inquiry into the death squad allegations, Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) is to contact the families of the alleged victims of the hit squads with a view to instituting civil claims against the responsible Ministers.

LHR director Mr Brian Currin said the organisation would also continue its investigations into the allegations and hand over information gathered to attorneys-general with the names of people it believes should be prosecuted.

If no prosecutions follow, the information would be published.

# Rockman union man faces firing

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THE Prisons authorities have summoned the vice-president of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union, Warrant Officer John Jansen, to appear before a disciplinary hearing that could result in his discharge from the service.

Rebel policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman is president of the union, Popcru.

Warrant Officer Jansen, who was suspended from duty as an instructor at the Westlake Training College near Pollsmoor three weeks ago, was told he would face five charges at an internal court on January 3.

The charges are that:

He was absent from duty for about 3½ hours on November 13 without permission or reason,

He ignored an order to leave the office of the commanding officer of Pollsmoor,

He disobeyed an order to sign for receipt of a letter,

He ignored an order transferring him from the Training College to the prison workshop; and

He ignored an order from the head of the College to leave its premises.

"This is a clear sign of victi-

misation and discrimination," said Warrant Officer Jansen.

"It's also a shame for South Africa, that they have the chance to negotiate but don't want to negotiate.

"Instead, they want to fight us. Popcru won't just lie down and let them cut our throat. We are going to fight back for sure. Justice must survive."

He said he would consult his lawyers about the hearing.

## No benefits

He said that while he and 11 other Popcru members from Pollsmoor were under suspension, they received no salary, medical aid or other benefits, despite the fact that they were still theoretically subject to Prisons Service discipline and could not take other work.

"I have the expense of a private home to maintain. I don't know what will happen. I will have to sell my car, and maybe my home, just to get justice."

"I can't even buy my children Christmas presents."

The other 11 are warders suspended after participating in an allegedly illegal Popcru demonstration.

Lieutenant Rockman appeared last week at a police disciplinary inquiry which was postponed to January. — Sapa



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# Bid for release of ex-cop

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# Deserting soldiers: Renamo link?

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By MARIUS BOSCH

**A STATE witness in the Namibian murder case against three alleged right-wing terrorists who are on the run was a sergeant who recruited arms smugglers for Renamo, it was claimed yesterday.**

Sergeant Johan Coetzee is being held by Namibian police as a potential witness in the case against the three who are charged with the murder of a security guard during an attack on Untag offices in Outjo.

Rapport yesterday claimed that Sergeant Coetzee was a sergeant in "the security forces" and that he had recruited 10 right-wingers to smuggle weapons to Renamo.

The officer investigating the attack on Untag offices, Inspector Nico Smith, said yesterday Sergeant Coetzee "was connected to the SADF". He did not know to what unit he belonged and said he "might have been discharged from the SADF".

Defence Force spokesman Brigadier Tim Krynanuw said yesterday he could not confirm whether Sergeant Coetzee was a member of the SADF.

**'Got scared'**

It has been reported that Sergeant Coetzee was

expelled from the AWB in September by Mr Eugene Terre'Blanche for being "a spy for military intelligence".

The men on the run, Mr Darryl Stopforth, Mr Leerd Veenendaal and Mr Horst Klein, along with other right-wingers, were allegedly recruited by Sergeant Coetzee, but, according to Rapport, seven of the volunteers for the Renamo mission "got scared" and the operation was called off.

In another development, South African police said they were investigating a possible link between military intelligence and an unnamed secret right-wing organisation that allegedly arranges political assassinations.

The group has reportedly infiltrated key sectors of society and aims to derail reform initiatives.

Police believe the group may have been involved in the assassination of Dr David Webster and Mr Anton Lubowski.

South African support for Renamo started in 1980 when control of the rebels passed from the then Rhodesian Central Intelligence Organisation to the SADF's Directorate of Military Intelligence.

It has been claimed that Dr Webster might have been assassinated for his knowledge of alleged continuing SADF support for Renamo and the secret training of rebels inside South Africa.

A SADF spokesman, however, said last week that "it has been emphasised at all levels of government that the SADF does not support Renamo".

# Police probe 5 death squads

BY BARRY STREEK

THE police are now investigating the existence of five separate hit-squad operations — and four of them, all far-right, could be linked.

Reports at the weekend said the fifth group had infiltrated key sectors of society, including government departments, but last night Major-General Herman Stadler, chief of the police liaison directorate, denied that he had confirmed the existence of a new secret group.

Democratic Party co-leader and spokesman on law and order Dr Denis Worrall said the government was obviously engaged in a cover-up operation with regard to death squads.

The four hit-squad operations that have been confirmed by the police are:

● The alleged secret police squad, which was at one time under the command of ex-captain Dirk Coetzee.

● The Barnard group, for which two former police sergeants, Mr Ferdi Barnard and Mr Calla Botha, have been detained under the Internal Security Act. It in-

● 49 political murders — Page 7

● Lawyers' move on Ebrahim — Page 7

● Killer Strydom in final plea — Page 7

cludes Irish passport-holder Mr Donald Acheson, who is under arrest in Namibia.

● The Outjo group, which was arrested in connection with the attack on an Untag office in which a security guard was killed. Three members of that group have escaped.

● The Order of Death group, five of whom were detained under the Internal Security Act in Vereeniging and Randburg last week. They have been linked to an alleged hit list on which the names of President F W de Klerk and Archbishop Tutu, among others, appeared.

General Stadler said last night the police were investigating the links between the confirmed right-wing groups.

"There does seem to be some link-up. After all, birds of a feather flock together," he said.

They had all been members of the AWB or its security wing, Aquila, and they knew of each other.

"They all apparently have very strong right-wing feelings," General Stadler said.

Dr Worrall last night questioned whether the former law and order ministers, cabinet ministers or former president Mr P W Botha knew of these hit-squad activities.

"The government is clearly engaged in a cover-up operation. Aside from diverting public opinion, it has chosen to focus on the criminal dimension of the allegations alone."

He said the circumstances called for the publication of the report on hit squads by Free State attorney-general Mr Tim McNally. So far the report has been kept secret. Mr De Klerk last week reacted to the report by promising an investigation, but Dr Worrall said the State President should appoint a judicial commission of inquiry.

# Mxenge: 'Big fish' wanted

Sowetan

12/12/89



THE Mxenge family would bring a private court prosecution against two "big fish" in the South African Police if they were not charged by the Attorney General of Natal for the murder of lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge.

This was said by the family's legal representative yesterday

At least six policemen,

**Family  
may  
bring  
private  
case**

including two senior officers, have been mentioned by former police-

men in newspaper articles on the 1981 murder

Mr Michael Imber, the Attorney General of Natal, has decided to prosecute former policeman Almond Nofemela on the murder

Nofemela, who is on Death Row revealed his own alleged role in the Mxenge murder.

Mr Bhekis Shezi, the Mxenge family lawyer, said Nofemela should be charged together with other policemen who have been named. He would have expected that the other policemen named would have been arrested by now "right up to the big fish"

"We are not interested in the small fry but the people who engineered the whole thing."

## **Prosecute**

Shezi said he would wait to see who Imber prosecuted and if the "big fish" escaped, the family would bring a private prosecution as had been done in the Trojan horse Supreme Court case in Cape Town

"Everyone must be charged, from Nofemela right up to the top"

Shezi said he would still like an official judicial commission of inquiry into allegations of a police hit squad.

The Mxenge family is continuing with its claim of R1,5million from the police for the death of Mxenge.

Imber was yesterday not available for comment.



**THE COLONEL** . . . Lieutenant-Colonel Christian Loedloff, former head of the now defunct Fallways Police Task Force, helped plan the operation at Manenberg police station  
Pictures ANN LAING



**THE COP ON THE TRUCK** . . . Warrant Officer Andre Swart with his wife outside the Supreme Court shortly after the acquittal yesterday



**THE OFFICERS** . . . Colonel Jans van Rensburg and Commander Salomon Penaar, two of the officers who planned the "Trojan Horse" operation, shortly after being acquitted of murder



**THE GENERAL** . . . Lieutenant-General Bert Wandrag, a deputy commissioner of police, leaves court shortly after the judgment. He was both a witness and an observer

# Trojan acquittals: Appeal plan

By RONNIE MORRIS  
Supreme Court Reporter

If the "Trojan Horse" incident had served any purpose it was to warn those in authority that "never again" must an operation of that nature be allowed. Mr Justice D M Williamson said yesterday in acquitting 13 security forces members on a charge of murder.

What had happened showed only too clearly that armed operations of that nature carried too much risk of injury and death to innocent persons for them to be justified, the judge said.

Immediately after the judgment was delivered, Mr Jules Browde, SC, for the prosecutors, said an application would be made to "reserve on a question of law" (to determine whether the judge was correct in refusing to admit as evidence the inquest court record and the trial record of a public violence trial of people subsequently arrested and later acquitted).

That application will be heard on January 29 next year when a similar private prosecution by Mrs Georgina Williams, mother of Michael Miranda, will also be brought.

The trial is a sequel to an incident in Athlone at the intersection of Thornton and St Simons Roads on October 15 1985.

When police hidden in crates on the back of a SATS truck opened fire when a crowd stoned the truck.

The incident lasted 17 seconds, during which 39 shotgun rounds were fired, leaving three people, Jonathan Claassen, 21, Shaun Magoed 16, and Michael Miranda, 11, dead.

Last year a Wynberg inquest magistrate, Mr G Hoffman, found that Captain (then Lieutenant) Douw Vermeulen, who was in command of the nine-man task force on the truck, and his men were guilty of negligence and had caused the death of the three.

The finding was forwarded to the attorney-general of the Cape, Mr Niel Rossouw, who declined to prosecute. As a result Mr Martin Magoed brought a private prosecution, the first for murder, alternatively culpable homicide, in South African legal history.

Yesterday morning, Lieutenant-General Bert Wandrag, a deputy commissioner of police, and a few senior police officers were in court to hear the judgment.

Mr Justice Williamson said there was a reasonable possibility that the operation had been planned and contemplated within legal limits and that what had in fact happened was not as a result of a common purpose to punish and deter but was an "overreaction to a manifestly

COUNSEL for both the private prosecutors and the defence in the "Trojan Horse" case have been described in legal circles as "formidable teams" and men who have served with distinction.

A defence advocate, Mr Filip Hattingh, SC, for the men on the truck, has already served as an acting judge in the Kimberley Division of the Supreme Court.

The police officers were represented by Mr Foen de Bruyn, SC, of the Port Elizabeth Bar, and Mr Anton Veldhuizen of Cape Town.

Mr Veldhuizen successfully defended Warrant Officer Paulus Kruger, who was charged with Constable Ernest Villet in 1987 with on charges of murder in 1988. Mr Jules Browde, SC, Mr Jeremy Gault, SC, Mr Les Rose-Innes and Mr Dennis Potgieter.

Mr Justice Williamson said that looking at the unusual nature of the operation and the actual way in which it had been carried out and the manifest difficulty of effecting arrests without first shooting, it seemed there was a very high probability that an armed response to any attack had been visualised and indeed intended.

"The response which took place in this case was in our view in its totality clearly excessive, for shots were still fired when it was clear that the stoning had stopped and all danger had been averted."

"Furthermore there appears to have been an indiscriminate firing into a crowd that must inevitably have comprised among its numbers many innocent people."

The judge said the actual events showed that a "vicious and murderous attack" had been planned on the truck by the stone-throwers. An "armed response within limits was justified."

If a common purpose to murder existed one would have expected that with 39 shots of mainly AAA ammunition fired from mainly nine trained men at virtually point-blank range the loss of life would have been far greater than it had been.

The operation was said to have been planned to effect more arrests and in particular to arrest ringleaders

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The burning question which arose was whether that had been the purpose of the operation or whether there had not been an "additional and more sinister and indeed illegal purpose" — that of a punishment expedition.

"There is a substantial body of evidence which points to the existence of this illegal purpose as shown on video there was an almost immediate and concerted response to the stoning with everyone appearing with their guns and firing, on their own admission, at the crowd."

The whole intent of the operation was so obviously to present would-be stone-throwers with an apparent "soft target" that the truck was likely to be attacked, Mr Justice Williamson said.

Mr Joe Ebrahim, the instructing attorney, said yesterday he was very disappointed with the judgment.

"The matter does not end there. We have informed the court we want a question of law to be determined by the Appellate Division."

"If it is decided in our favour, it means there would be the great body of evidence admitted against the accused which would have a telling effect on the evidence already before the court."

"In our opinion that would in all probability lead to a different result."

# Crossroads: Police's role to be probed.

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE stage was yesterday set for a top-level investigation into allegations of police complicity in the weekend's Old Crossroads killings and burnings while charity organisations began assessing the plight of some 200 homeless people.

Mr Jan Van Eck, DP spokesman for black affairs in the Western Cape, said he had recorded and documentary evidence to support allegations that policemen in uniform and plainclothes fired at rebel headmen and their supporters.

Five people died and eight were seriously injured in Sunday night's fighting.

Mr Van Eck telephoned the office of Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok yesterday to inform a senior staffer that he was "now convinced that there are cases of police involvement".

A Pretoria police headquarters spokesman said yesterday that police were waiting for Mr Van Eck "to supply us with concrete proof".

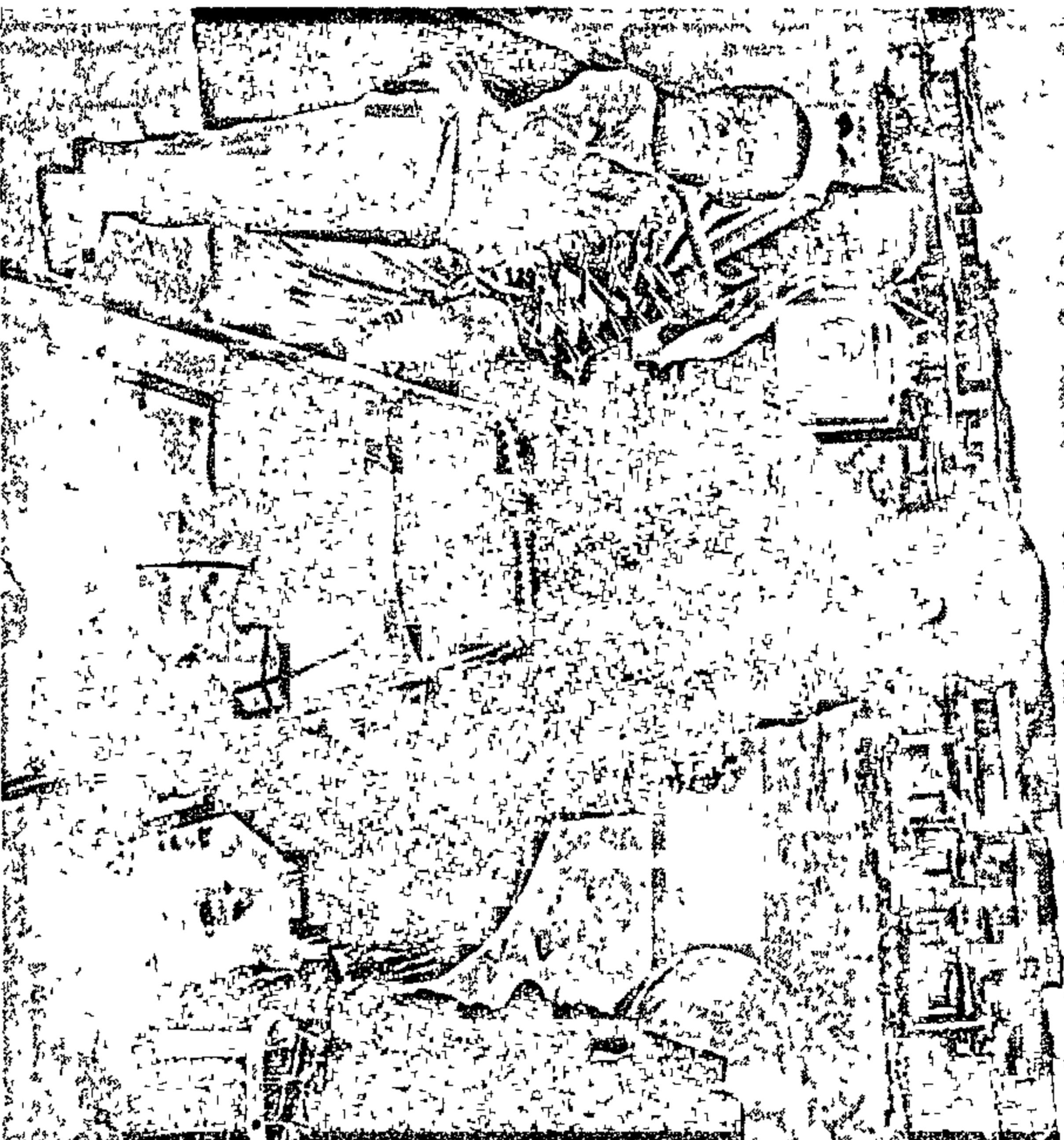
Mr Van Eck replied last night that he was prepared to make his tape-recordings and eye-witness accounts of alleged police involvement available to police investigators.

Sunday night's eruption of violence was the worst since Mr Geoffrey Nongwe and 14 of 19 headmen under Old Crossroads Committee mayor Mr Johnson Nxrobongwana broke away.

Mr Van Eck said yesterday that he had a recorded statement from a shotgun-wound victim that he had been fired at by three white men and one black or coloured policeman. Another Nongwe-supporting family alleged that a policeman entered their home and shot a youth dead.

● A tour of section 4 of Old Crossroads yesterday revealed about 40 destroyed huts and scores of homeless people sitting on the pavements with their possessions.

"We cannot go back and rebuild until the fighting is over — tonight the attacks will come again," Mrs Jeanette Carrolus, mother of a four-day-old infant predicted.



**A REFUGEE PONDERERS . . .** Mrs Sophie Mckhandayi of section 4, Old Crossroads, whose home was among about 40 burnt down on Sunday night, ponders her dilemma as she sits at the roadside with her children and possessions yesterday.

Picture CHRIS BATEMAN

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Own Correspondent

## Ex-W Cape police chief to head probe

Political Staff

**THE former Commissioner of Police in the Western Cape, Major-General Ronnie van der Westhuizen, has been put in charge of the police team investigating the hit squad allegations made by ex-police captain Mr Dirk Coetzee.**

**The team has been appointed to assist Transvaal attorney-general Mr Don Brunette.**

**In a statement yesterday the police requested information on Mr Coetzee's whereabouts.**

**He is believed to be somewhere in Europe, though a Sunday newspaper reported over the weekend that he had phoned the newspaper from Bophuthatswana.**

**The contact number for anyone with information is: (012) 310-1134.**

**"This telephone is connected to an answering machine. A message can thus be left anonymously if so desired," the police statement said.**

PORT ELIZABETH — Amid the public and political furore surrounding recent allegations of "hit lists" and "death squads", the families of the victims have been forgotten

That was the conclusion reached by Port Elizabeth Anglican Bishop Bruce Evans following a recent meeting in Johannesburg, organised by the South African Council of Churches (SACC)

Bishop Evans met with parents and relatives of people who have been assassinated or have disappeared

"While focus is directed at the death squads themselves, not much attention has been paid to the cries of many parents whose children were captured as guerillas and never taken to court by the security forces," a statement released by the meeting's participants read

The captured guerilla is at

## 'Families of hit squad victims forgotten'

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the mercy of his captors and can be forced to commit any act, including assassination, the statement said

"Those that have been captured and who have subsequently joined the security forces must be put in contact with their families," they stated

"That is the only way that there can be proof that whatever they are doing for the security forces is done voluntarily."

# Police suspect Coetzee hiding in nearby state

By Karen Stander

Former policeman and alleged police hit squad leader Captain Dirk Coetzee could be hiding out "somewhere close by", police believe

SAP media chief Major-General Herman Stadler said yesterday that Captain Coetzee was possibly in a neighbouring state such as Swaziland, Botswana or Bophuthatswana. It was unlikely that he was overseas.

General Stadler said this belief was based partly on information, and also because it was known that he telephoned various people regularly and spoke for a considerable time.

A warrant of arrest had been issued for Captain Coetzee and police were looking for him

General Stadler released a telephone number for the public to use if anyone had any information on the allegations made by Captain Coetzee or on the whereabouts of Captain Coetzee or self-confessed hit squad member Mr David "Spyker" Tshikalange

The telephone was connected to an answering machine and a message could be left anonymously.

General Stadler said an investigating team, under the command of Major-General Ronnie van der Westhuizen, had been appointed to assist the Attorney-General in investigating Captain Coetzee's allegations

The telephone number to contact with information is Pretoria (012) 310-1134.



# Search for ex-cop

A TOP police team investigating "hit squad" allegations has asked for information about former South African Police captain, Dirk Coetzee's whereabouts.

The team, under the command of Major-General Ronnie van der Westhuizen, has been appointed to help the Attorney-General investigate Coetzee's "hit squad" allegations.

"Any information which may shed more light on the matter (Coetzee's allegations), also as regards the present whereabouts of Dirk Coetzee and Spyker Tshikalange, (must) be supplied as soon as possible," a police statement issued yesterday said.

The contact number for anyone with information is (012) 310-1134. Callers can remain anonymous - Sapa.

# 4 die as hit squads attack, says MP

HIT squads, who were aiming to assassinate opponents of Crossroads mayor Johnson Ngxobongwana, fired shotguns and automatic rifles at the home of a breakaway faction leader on Sunday night, the Democratic Party MP for Claremont, Mr Jan van Eck, alleged yesterday.

Four people were reportedly killed and at least eight injured in the fighting

Van Eck said when he inspected the home of faction leader Geoffrey Nongwe he found large holes made by shotgun pellets in the walls

## Automatic rifle

He also picked up spent R1 automatic rifle cartridges near the house.

He said he was telephoned at about 9.30 on Sunday night and was told marauding gangs were going from shack to shack, setting them alight

When he arrived at Crossroads about 11.30pm, he found hundreds of people milling around. At that stage about 30 homes had been destroyed. Some were still burning.

Many of the people trying to protect their property were armed with knives and pangas, but only members of the pro-Ngxobongwana faction had firearms, he alleged - Sapa

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Sowetan

# COMMENT

Telephone: (011) 474-0128

## Govt must act against hit squads

**T**HE revelations of the sinister and hidden acts of Hit Squads and the way in which rightwingers are kicking and screaming to resist the break from old apartheid ways show the size of the struggle we will experience before liberation.

Boksburg illustrates this particularly. Blacks in Boksburg, fighting petty apartheid, boycotted that city's business area. The boycott was eventually stopped when the Government changed some of the rules that legalise petty apartheid.

Erstwhile hallowed apartheid terrain like the Boksburg Lake was thrown open to all races. As would be expected, the rightwingers were furious over this, leading to violence between them and the blacks who were fighting apartheid.

There is no doubt that the boycott of the Boksburg central business district hurt white business. Most businessmen in that area were against petty apartheid edicts which were obviously inimical to economic growth and social stability.

If the Government is serious about eradicating apartheid, it should act decisively against groups and people that further it. It should make apartheid in all forms illegal. After all this evil system was legalised and institutionalised by the State.

The manner in which the Government is pussy-footing in taking action against alleged Hit Squads and outright racists does not inspire confidence in those who are willing to negotiate with it.

(251) Sowetan 12/12/89

# 'Trojan horse' 13 acquitted

(25) Sawetaw 12/12/89

AN army officer and 12 policemen were acquitted of murder yesterday after an unprecedented private prosecution initiated by the father of a boy shot dead in 1985 by officers hidden in crates on an unmarked truck.

Supreme Court Justice D M Williamson said the officers involved should have known their actions could endanger innocent people and he ad-

vised police to stop such operations.

But he said there was no evidence to support the allegation that there was a premeditated plan to kill stone throwing youths if the truck were attacked.

The father of Shaun Magoed, one of three youths killed in the incident, decided last year to pursue the case on his own after the Cape Province Attorney General declined to prosecute despite an inquest magistrate's finding that

members of the police task force were negligent.

The trial which began in August in the Cape Town Supreme Court was the first murder case to proceed under a law allowing private citizens to press a prosecution in certain instances where government prosecutors have declined to do so.

The 1985 confrontation which occurred during anti-apartheid unrest in a coloured township near Cape Town became known as the "Trojan Horse incident" because of the manner in which the white police gunmen concealed themselves in what looked like an ordinary delivery truck.

Television news footage of the incident was shown at the time in the United States and Britain.

According to evidence at the inquest, the truck was sent into the township of Athlone in the expectation that it would be a target for stonethrowers. Subsequent gunfire from concealed policemen killed Magoed (16) Michael Miranda (11) and Jonathen Classens (21) but the magistrate concluded that there was no evidence any of the three were among a handful of youths who did throw stones.

The officers in the

## Father of shot youth brought case

crates popped out of the hiding places and fired 39 rounds of shotgun ammunition at the crowd, according to the evidence.

Judge Williamson said yesterday it was clear that "a vicious and murderous attack" was launched on the truck.

"An armed response within limits was justified," he said.

He said there was a "reasonable possibility" that the operation was planned within legal limits and that the fatal shootings were not murder but rather an "overreaction to a manifestly dangerous situation."

### Police

He said nine policemen firing at point-blank range would have killed many more people if their intention had been to commit murder.

However, Judge Williamson said the case "shows only too clearly that armed operations of this nature carry too much risk of injury and death to innocent persons for them to be justified. If this unfortunate incident has served any purpose, it will be too warn those in authority that never again must an operation of this nature be allowed."

Sapa-AP

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The 13 security force members charged with murder in the "Trojan Horse" public prosecution were yesterday acquitted in the Cape Town Supreme Court

Mr Justice D M Williamson said that an armed response to the vicious and murderous attack by stone throwers on the unmarked railways truck which contained armed security force members was justified, but he said the incident should be "a warning to those in authority to never again plan such an operation."

Judge Williamson found that a common-purpose criminal intent on the part of the officers who planned the operation and the men who "fired indiscriminately into a crowd of people,

## Common-purpose criminal intent not proven, says judge

# 'Trojan Horse' 13 are acquitted

killing three, had not been proven

The judgment is the culmination of the first private prosecution for murder in South Africa

The action was brought by the father of Shaun Magmoed (16), who died of his injuries on October 15, 1985 when security force personnel concealed in an unmarked truck and armed with sharp ammunition fired into a crowd in Athlone, after the truck was stoned

A second prosecution, for the death of Michael Miranda (11), was initially postponed pending

the outcome of the first.

Judge Williamson said from the video footage shown in court it had been obvious that the men had fired indiscriminately into a crowd for nearly 15 seconds without identifying themselves or issuing a warning

They had "overreacted to a manifestly dangerous situation"

It was clear that a number of innocent bystanders formed part of the crowd and it was probable that Shaun Magmoed had not been involved in stone throwing

The men fired 39 rounds

which they must have known to be obviously dangerous to life"

The accused had said that they felt their lives were in danger as well as the lives of others. There had been evidence that ordinary police methods to control unrest had been ineffective and the "Trojan Horse" operation was planned to effect the arrests of ringleaders involved in stone throwing and burning barricades

It was reasonable to believe that this was the object of the operation but it had to be asked whether there was a more sinister, illegal purpose.

The whole intent of the operation was "so obviously to present would-be stone throwers with a soft target" and there had been "an immediate and concerted response" by the men on the back of the truck when it was stoned

The men had to have anticipated that an armed response would be necessary to carry out the operation. The question was whether this was necessarily illegal or whether it had exceeded what was permissible

The response to the stoning

had been blatantly excessive" — the men had continued to fire after the stoning had stopped and all danger had ceased.

However, it was clear that "a vicious and murderous attack" had been launched at the truck as evidenced by the brick which went right through the windshield

"An armed response, within limits, was justified," Judge Williamson said.

Although the men had said they had fired into the crowd, more people would have died if

the intention had been to kill, Judge Williamson said

He had given careful consideration to all the facts and taken into account the fact that none of the accused had testified

Although there were strong indications of a common purpose, it had not been proven beyond reasonable doubt

The men charged were Colonel Pieter Jansen van Rensburg, Lt-Col Christian Loedolf, Commandant Salmon Penaar, Captain Douw Vermeulen, Warrant Officer Andre Swart, Sergeant James Saver, Sergeant Frank van Niekerk, Sergeant Jacobus Burger, Sergeant Albertus Smit, Constable Andre Smit, Constable Wilhelm Puchert, Constable Alexander Rossel and Constable Pieter du Toit

## Father seeks Botha's release

# Police link ex-SAP man to hit squads

By Cathy Stagg

Brigadier Floris Mostert, commanding officer of Brixton Murder and Robbery squad, believes Mr Carl Casteling "Calla" Botha, detained in terms of section 29 of the Internal Security Act, was involved in the shooting of Mr Anton Lubowski and Dr David Webster

The brigadier, whose affidavit was before the Rand Supreme Court yesterday, also said Mr Botha was a member of an organisation whose other members were involved in the two crimes

Mr CC Botha, father of Mr Calla Botha, launched an urgent application for the release of his son who, he said, was not in a position to do so himself. His son's business, his wife and two young daughters were all suffering

Brigadier Mostert said that during the investigation of the Lubowski murder, it became clear that Mr Botha jun was one of Mr Donald Acheson's handlers

### Arrested in Namibia

The court heard that Mr Acheson was arrested in Namibia, his arrest led to the arrest of Mr Ferdie Barnard and that, in turn, led to Mr Botha's arrest. Mr Barnard and Mr Botha are both former members of the SAP

During legal argument it was submitted by the Botha lawyers that the papers before court did not say who Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski were. Mr Justice JC Kriegler asked where one drew the line when taking judicial notice of recent events

Mr Botha sen said in papers he could not believe his son, with whom he had a close relationship, was guilty of any crimes or of withholding information

Brigadier Mostert said he arrested Mr Botha jun on December 1 because of information he had received. Previously, on June 9, Mr Botha and Mr Barnard were arrested in Johannesburg as they were suspected of attempted robbery after Mr Barnard was seen observing "an activist with close links to Dr Webster" for four days

### Explanations were lies

After Mr Botha and Mr Barnard made statements, they were released. Later information revealed their explanations were lies, the brigadier said

He described Mr Lubowski and Dr Webster as murdered political activists and said there were other incidents of damage to activists' property. Information revealed the point of these actions was to work against the Government's aim of drawing all population groups into governing the country, or to scare or demoralise the public

It appeared there was a link between the two murders and other incidents but because of the sensitive nature of the investigation, he said, it was not possible to give the court details

Mr S Maritz SC assisted by Mr P Kemp instructed by the State Attorney, appeared for the Minister of Law and Order and the police. Mr E du Toit SC assisted by Mr S Bekker instructed by Botha du Plessis and Kruger appeared for Mr Botha sen

● See Page 6



Holiday time again Jonathan Howcroft of Melrose wife, Glenda, waves goodbye

## Arms cache found home of blast victim

### Staff Reporters

A large cache of arms, including 17 limpet mines and two Soviet-made pistols, was found yesterday at the Lenasia home of one of two Indian men killed in the Johannesburg Station blasts on Monday night.

Police say the two men were responsible for the two blasts

Mr Yusuf Akhalwaya (23), who was a final year BA student at the University of the Witwatersrand, was buried against a backdrop of a huge ANC banner in Lenasia yesterday

### 'YOUNG LION'

The funeral of the second man killed in the blast, Mr Prakash Napier, will take place in Lenasia today. Mr Napier was one of the "Young Lions of Africa" who escorted the seven recently released ANC leaders to the stage during the mammoth "Welcome Home" rally in October

At a media conference yesterday, the head of the security police on the Witwatersrand, Brigadier Piet du Toit said Mr Akhalwaya and Mr Napier, who was a former Congress of South African Trade

men planted the in Joubert Street blown up by the one of them was

Police have said two men were with Johannesburg Station blasts on Monday night

There was no plan were planning to the station or the tack was in any the rail strike

At the room allegedly lived SPM limpet mine various makes, fit two A K-47 assault viet-made Stechli boxes of bullets cleaning the rifle

Both Mr Akhalwaya and Mr Napier were men Youth Congress-Youth League, but also a member of

About 2 000 people Akhalwaya's funeral Cemetery yesterday sage from the Al Umkhonto we Sizwe the funeral

# Ex-cop 'was Lubowski man's handler'

CMT Tria 13/12/89

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Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Former Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad detective-sergeant Mr Carl "Calla" Botha was a "handler" for Irishman Mr Donald Acheson, charged with the assassination of Windhoek lawyer Mr Anton Lubowski, according to documents before the Supreme Court yesterday.

The documents form part of an application by Mr Botha's father to secure his release. Mr Botha was arrested on November 30 in connection with the murders of Mr Lubowski and Wits academic Dr David Webster. He is being held in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

Mr Sam Maritz, the counsel for the police, who are opposing the application, defined "handler" in the context of the case as "one who facilitates murder".

"The least one can say is he (Mr Botha) had contact with Acheson," Mr Maritz told Mr Justice J C Kriegler.

Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad chief Brigadier Floris Mostert said in an affidavit that according to his information Mr Botha was involved in the Webster and Lubowski murders.

Information obtained after Mr Acheson's arrest and "other information" led to the arrest of former West Rand policeman Mr Ferdinand Barnard.

Information obtained after Mr Barnard's arrest revealed Mr Botha's involvement in an organisation consisting of members from all levels of society whose purpose was to demoralise or scare the public and to impose their political beliefs on people, he said.

Mr Botha had so far refused to divulge any information or co-operate with police, Brigadier Mostert said.

He said the public exposure of facts surrounding the police investigation into the murders of Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski had done irreparable damage and alerted the people police suspected of committing the murders.

For this reason, Brigadier Mostert said, he could not divulge to the court the full extent of facts available to him.

Investigations into Mr Lubowski's murder showed Mr Botha was one of Acheson's "handlers".

Judgment in the matter was reserved and Mr Justice Kriegler said he would not hand down his judgment before next Monday at the earliest.

An application by the SAP to have Botha's application held in camera — opposed by Mr Botha's counsel — was dismissed by the judge.

He will give his reasons for this when he hands down his judgment.

State of emergency censorship restrictions apply to a wide range of publications.

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# Morale non-existent, say PE policemen

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — Scores of Port Elizabeth policemen, including officers, yesterday claimed that morale in the police force is not just at an all-time low, but virtually non-existent.

One reason is the low salary scales — constables can start on as little as R5 814 a year — and the possibility that there might not be an increase next year.

Several telephone calls were received from disillusioned local members of the force following a report yesterday about the dissatisfaction of policemen with their pay and working conditions.

For obvious reasons, they requested to remain anonymous.

The callers alleged that there is hardly a policeman in the country, with the possible ex-

ception of the very high-ranking officers, who are satisfied with their situation.

They also alleged that officers with high rank, whom the men and women of lower rank expect to "speak up" on their behalf, are too afraid to do so.

And, to crown it all, they claim that a letter had arrived about a month ago from police headquarters in Pretoria in which policemen were informed that there will be no general pay increase for them in April next year.

The letter, they say, had been signed by the Commissioner of Police.

It is a known fact among policemen, they said, that police headquarters in Pretoria are extremely concerned about the low morale in the force and the high number of men and women who leave to seek a better lot elsewhere.

The reasons for the latter low pay and bad

working conditions — have been reported internally to headquarters in Pretoria, but it "remains to be seen" what will be done about it.

"Once a policeman, always a policeman," a junior officer said. "It gets into your blood. But it is increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to motivate yourself and your men under the present circumstances. It undermines one's ambition and willingness to work."

He said most policemen will be expected to work long hours overtime without any compensation during the coming festive season.

"Why should we do it?" he asked

Another popular complaint is that despite the merging of the SAP with the municipal police and railways police, former members of these two forces still receive higher salaries than their counterparts in the SAP.





The circular television probe, part of the Chamber of Mines rescue drilling unit, yesterday located the body of a white man, believed to be Mr Sydney Robson. The camera was lowered down the Selby mine shaft. ● Picture by Alf Khumalo.

## Police in tussle to get body out of mine shaft

By Louise Burgers

Police were battling last night to retrieve the body of a white man, believed to be the murdered Johannesburg school caretaker Mr Sydney Robson, from the disused mine shaft in Selby after it was located only 140 m down yesterday

Police and Chamber of Mines officials decided to try to bring up the body last night after they had spent the whole day setting up a surveillance camera. They were monitoring the material relayed by

the camera

Large mirrors were used to reflect light down into the 600 m vertical shaft, now being used as a ventilation shaft

If the body had been much lower down, it would have been too dangerous to bring to the surface and evidence collected using the camera would then be used in court

Police have been trying to find the body since Mr Robson disappeared three weeks ago from King Edward VII School. One of three suspects arrested in connection with

the case told police Mr Robson had been killed with fighting sticks and his body dumped in the mine shaft.

Firemen were lowered to a depth of 100 m before the search was abandoned as too dangerous. The search was suspended two weeks ago after supports were found to be rotting and there were fears that parts of the shaft could fall in if disturbed

The suspects have already appeared in court in connection with Mr Robson's death

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Staw  
  


# The Star

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## Lessons of the 'Trojan Horse'

THE "Trojan Horse" private prosecution has ended with the acquittal of all 13 accused, but the judgment of the Cape Supreme Court is important. Particular note should be taken of Mr Justice Williamson's warning to the authorities "never again to plan such an operation".

The facts were shocking, even in the heated atmosphere of mob violence prevailing in the Cape townships in late 1985. After stoning incidents in Athlone the police sent in an unmarked truck as a trap. It carried crates concealing six armed policemen. The professed aim was to identify and arrest ringleaders.

Yet as soon as stoning began the police opened fire into a crowd for nearly 15 seconds — indiscriminately, in the words of the judge, and without identifying themselves or issuing a warning. Three persons were killed, including an 11-year-old boy. The court found that the crowd included a number of innocent bystanders and it was probable that 16-year-old Shaun Magmoed, whose parents brought the private prosecution, had not been involved in the stone-throwing.

While a limited armed response was justified the police reaction had been "blatantly

excessive"; they continued to fire after stoning had stopped and all danger had ceased.

Also dubious, it must be added, was the authorities' behaviour after the incident: 13 people were charged with public violence, then acquitted for lack of evidence. But although an inquest magistrate found the security forces negligent and responsible for the deaths, the State declined to prosecute. That is why the victims' parents went to the trouble and expense of instituting a private prosecution.

That this prosecution has now failed does not lessen the turpitude of the incident. The 13 security force men were acquitted because a common purpose between them was not proved beyond reasonable doubt. Yet, if the classic Sharpeville and Uppington trials are a guide, common purpose in this case was hard for a layman to dispute. The objective of the exercise seemed clear.

Whatever the legalities of the matter, the Trojan Horse affair remains deplorable and we trust the lessons spelt out by Judge Williamson will be taken to heart. The function of the police is to prevent trouble — not provoke it — using minimal reasonable force.

# Townships residents fear holiday 'war'

## More police sent to Durban

### Political Staff

The police have sent 380 more reinforcements to the black towns around Durban in an attempt to curb growing violence, the Government announced yesterday.

Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok and Deputy Minister of Justice Mr Damie Schutte said the extra men would be sent immediately to Inanda and other black towns north of Durban.

The SAP already had 350 extra men in the areas.

The Government action came shortly after Democratic Party MP Mr Peter Gastrow and local leaders, churchmen and human rights groups called for an increased police presence in the embattled areas after rumours flared that "wholesale war" would break out after the factories close tomorrow.

Mr Gastrow yesterday telephoned Major-General Johann van Niekerk, the Natal police regional commissioner, to ask for additional men to forestall the "bloody Friday" that frightened residents were predicting.

He also proposed a five-point plan for Christmas peace in townships in the greater Durban area.

"The situation has reached such proportions that no one individual group or organisation on its own can resolve it."

"A multi-pronged approach is necessary to start containing the violence in the short term," said Mr Gastrow.

His plan calls for

- A greater police presence to contain

and control the situation because present numbers are inadequate.

- A call by the leadership of Inkatha, UDF and Cosatu to their supporters to help stop the carnage.

- Firm and absolutely impartial police action against political hooligans and criminal elements.

- Peace talks at a community level as happened at Mpumalanga.

- Immediate and co-ordinated action by welfare organisations, churches and the community at large to address the immediate needs of the thousands suffering as a result of the violence.

Last night even more people were seeking shelter in church halls and private homes of employers.

### Help refugees

Some of them have not had anything substantial to eat for days and Mr Gastrow called for a resources centre to be set up where food, medicine and clothes could be collected to help the refugees.

Natal industry was concerned about the effects of the violence on the labour force, a Natal Chamber of Industries spokesman said yesterday.

There were no absolute figures of losses suffered by industry due to the violence, said the executive director and labour advisor of the Natal Chamber of Industries, Mr J Pohl.

However, people who have fled their homes were unable to come to work.

People's fear was affecting their performance at work.

President de Klerk has said that he is being kept fully informed of the Natal violence.

# Cops bar mourners

By ALI MPHAKI

THOUSANDS of mourners hoisting a huge banner of the outlawed African National Congress were yesterday barred by police from marching to the Avalon Cemetery for the burial of one of the two Umkhonto we Sizwe cadres who died in Monday night's Johannesburg station bomb blast.

The 25-year-old part-time Unisa student, Mr Prakash Napier, who was called a hero throughout the service, was cremated at the Muslim section of the cemetery.

More than 5 000 people attended the funeral.

Police, who had kept a low profile

during the service, stopped the march to the cemetery when the cortege was about to leave the Via Christen Church in Lenasia.

Some of the mourners were preparing to march for about 2km to the cemetery.

A photographer working for a foreign agency was taken away by the police, but returned a short while later. Another was nearly knocked down by a police vehicle.

Speaking at the cemetery, a representative of the South African Railway and Harbour Workers Union (Sarwhu), who would not give his name, said Napier and Yusuf Akhalwaya (who was buried on Tuesday night) were members of the union's underground network.



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Sowetan  
14/12/89

A CROWD of about 50 people was dispersed at Mayfair railway station yesterday morning, police said

No force was necessary and those gathered had left peacefully, an SAP spokesman added

He said members of the group, some of whom were armed with knives, pangas and knobkerries, had been questioned

They had claimed they were there to settle a grudge with a mob which had attacked them at Denver hostel early yesterday

They emphasised they had nothing to do with the SA Transport Services strike violence, the police spokesman said

Congress of South African Trade Unions spokesman Neil Coleman earlier claimed the group constituted "vigilantes" opposed to striking SA Transport Services workers.

A fruit vendor at Mayfair station told

# 50 dispersed in Mayfair

*Sowetan*  
Sapa reporter on the scene there had been about 100 people grouped at the station, but confirmed they had left peacefully after the police had arrived

He could not say who they were

## Mob

Coleman said it was possible the mob had moved on to Germiston station

Reports from there indicated a heavy police presence but no further sign of trouble.

Meanwhile four people died, 15 were hurt and five railway coaches were

*14/12/89*  
damaged by fire in unrest incidents around the country on Tuesday, the official police report said yesterday

A special constable died after he was thrown from a moving tram near Kathlehong on the East Rand where two coaches were also extensively damaged

A youth was shot dead when police returned fire on a group who had shot at an SAP vehicle at Inanda near Durban

Two youths were arrested following this incident

A man was stabbed to

death by unknown people in Inanda, the report said and added that a number of squatter shacks were set alight causing extensive damage in the same area

## Burned

At Salt River Railway Station near Cape Town, a man was burned to death by a mob, the report said

At Athlone near Cape Town, three trains were set alight in separate incidents

No injuries were reported and the damage caused was not very serious - Sapa

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# Police morale high, says general

By BARRY STREEK

ALTHOUGH members of the police force were having difficulty in making ends meet, more than 90% of the police force were very loyal and morale was very high, the head of police's public relations division, Major-General Herman Stadler, said yesterday.

There was cause for complaint about salaries, particularly because of the rising cost of living, he said in an interview.

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and the general staff were doing "their utmost" to improve police salaries and working conditions.

General Stadler said he had every sympathy with members of the police force, and as he had a daughter in the police force, he fully understood the difficulties

they face because of the rising cost of living.

But they face an "exterior problem" because police salaries were linked to salaries of other civil servants on the basis of equal pay for equal rank and the financial situation was very difficult as South Africa was "bankrupt".

He was approached for comment about reports in the Cape Times that police morale was at an all-time low because of working conditions and the levels of police salaries.

General Stadler said the reports about low morale in the police force were "a bit far-fetched".

There were people in the police force, as in all organisations, who would never be satisfied, but more than 90% were loyal and committed and morale was high.

"There was some confusion when we started the new approach but the police now realise what it is all about."

Internally, the police were doing everything possible to deal with the complaints about salaries and working conditions, but they could do little about the exterior problem.

"I believe 90 to 95% of the police are not satisfied with their salaries, but that has nothing to do with the morale of the police force."

He pointed out that President F W de Klerk had publicly committed himself to improving working conditions for the police.

"Every one will do his utmost to get a better deal for the police, particularly as they work overtime without pay. Members of the police should take that for granted," General Stadler said.

(1608) Workers

## Details of a third <sup>251</sup> <sup>Staw</sup> 'hit squad' <sup>14/12/89</sup> emerging

By Karen Stander

Startling new details on a shadowy organisation said to be responsible for a number of political assassinations — including the murders of activist Dr David Webster and Swapo attorney Mr Anton Lubowski — emerged in the Rand Supreme Court this week

The aim of this mysterious organisation is allegedly to bring about a revolution by sabotaging reform initiatives by the Government and to create a state of general panic.

Members were drawn from all levels of society but police had been unable to ascertain who its leaders were, a high-ranking police officer said

This is apparently a third type of "death squad" operating in South Africa, separate from the hit squad allegedly organised from within the ranks of the police force and the ultrarightwing "Order of Death" recently uncovered by police.

An affidavit by Brigadier Floris Mostert, commander of the Brixton Murder and Robbery Squad, was filed in opposition to an application for the release of rugby player and former Brixton detective Mr Calla Botha, who was detained under section 29 of the Internal Security Act on November 30

Judgment on the application is expected on Monday

Brigadier Mostert said the aim of the attacks on activists was to sabotage the current political objective of the Government to involve all population groups in the governing of the country and, in so doing, to bring about constitutional and political change opposed to the current system

He said it had not been possible to establish the nature or the extent of the organisation.

# Lenz arms cache found

## Weapons captured at blast victim's home, say police

**SOWETAN**  
Correspondent

A LARGE cache of arms, including 17 limpet mines and two Russian-made pistols, was found on Tuesday at the Lenasia home of one of the two Indian men who blew themselves up at the Johannesburg Station on Monday night.

One of the two men, 23-year-old Mr Yusuf Akhalwaya who was a final-year Bachelor of Arts student at the University of the Witwatersrand, was buried against a backdrop of a huge African National Congress banner in Lenasia on Tuesday.

The funeral of the second man killed in the blast, Mr Prakash Napiet, took place in Lenasia yesterday. Napiet was one of the "Young Lions of Africa" who escorted the

seven recently released ANC leaders to the stage during the mammoth "Welcome Home" rally at FNB Stadium in October.

The head of the security police on the Witwatersrand, Brigadier Piet du Toit said Akhalwaya and Napiet, who was a former Congress of South African Trade Unions shop steward, were responsible for the two blasts in Johannesburg on Monday.

The South African Police signal corp offices in Joubert Street were appar-

ently the target of the second blast

Police believe the men planted the SPM limpet mine in Joubert Street before they were blown up by the SPM mine which one of them was carrying.

Police have established that the two men were walking through the Johannesburg Station thoroughfare when the mine detonated. There was no proof that the men were planning to plant the bomb at the station or that the planned attack was in any way connected to the railway strike, according to Du Toit

Earlier reports that the

bomb blast at the station was strike-related proved incorrect following a Security Police investigation

"Mr Akhalwaya was well-known among the police for his participation in student protests and marches, especially at the University of the Witwatersrand," he said

At the room where Napiet allegedly lived, police found five SPM limpet mines, 12 type 158 mini-limpet mines, 60 detonators of various makes, four handgrenades, two AK-47 assault rifles, two Russian-made Stechkuns 9mm pistols, boxes of bullets and equipment for cleaning the rifles.

Both Akhalwaya and Napiet were members of the South African Youth Congress-affiliated Lenasia Youth League



Police display an arms cache found at the Lenasia home of Prakash Napiet, one of the victims of a bomb blast at Johannesburg Station on Monday. In the background, from left, are Brigadier Piet du Toit, head of the Witwatersrand security police, a reporter and Captain Charles Zeelie.

14/12/89 Sowetan

(25)



# 6 policemen are injured

SIX policemen were injured, a mayor's home badly damaged in a petrol bomb attack, and five people arrested when violence broke out in Wesselton township near Ermelo yesterday, police reported.

The violence erupted when police tried to halt a march to Ermelo by about 10 000 people protesting against charges against 88 residents for electricity arrears, the interim police unrest report said.

The 88 residents were to appear in the Ermelo Magistrate's Court yesterday morning.

Police said the march

## SAPA

was staged in contravention of an undertaking given by the organisers, the Wesselton Action Committee, on Tuesday. They had been informed during talks the march would be illegal.

"The mob was in an aggressive mood and some of the people were armed with iron pipes, pangas, knobkerries, stones, etc", the report said.

Police used tearsmoke and stun-grenades when the crowd ignored a police order to disperse. Six policemen were injured in the ensuing disorder when the dispersing crowd hurled stones at police patrols.

"As tearsmoke proved to be ineffective under the circumstances, birdshot was used to disperse

mobs," the report said.

In Wesselton, while other people marched to Ermelo, a mob attacked municipal offices and the mayor's house. The mayor's home was badly damaged when one of two petrol bombs tossed at it exploded.

Police opened fire with birdshot to disperse the mob, injuring six people, including a child. Police said five of them were arrested on charges of public violence.

The report said 397 people were arrested outside the Ermelo Magistrate's Court after police called in the defence force.

They were taken to a local police station and released with a written warning after negotiations between the police, the magistrate and the Wesselton Action Committee.

# More police

(25)  
Sooetaw

ANOTHER 380 police reinforcements are to be sent to the black towns around Durban in an attempt to curb the escalating Christmas violence, the Government announced last night.

Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan vlok and Deputy Minister of Justice Mr Dami Schutte said the extra men would be sent immediately to Inanda and other black towns north of Durban.

They said in a joint statement that the situation had deteriorated considerably in recent days and there was serious concern about the continuing unrest.

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# Ex-policeman Calla linked to hit squad

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Sowetan  
14/12/89

STARTLING new details on a shadowy organisation said to be responsible for a number of political assassinations - including the murders of activist Dr David Webster and Swapo attorney Mr Anton Lubowski - emerged in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday..

The aim of this mysterious organisation is allegedly to bring about a revolution by sabotaging reform initiatives by the Government and to create a state of general panic.

Members were

drawn from all levels of society but police had been unable to ascertain who its leaders were, it was alleged by a high-ranking police officer.

This is apparently a third type of "death squad" operating in South Africa, separate from the hit squad allegedly organised from within the ranks of the police force and the ultra-right wing "Order of Death" recently uncovered by police

An affidavit by Brigadier Floris Mostert, commander of the Brixton Murder and

Robbery Squad, was filed in opposition to an application for the release of well-known rugby player and former Brixton detective Mr Calla Botha, who was detained under section 29 of the Internal Security Act on November 30. Judgment on the application is expected on Monday

Brigadier Mostert said it had not been possible to establish the nature or the extent of the organisation. Police investigations were so sensitive that further information could not be placed on record

Brigadier Mostert alleged

There was a connection between the assassinations of several political activists, including Dr Webster and Mr Lubowski, and attacks on other well-known activists and damage to their property

The aim of these attacks was to sabotage the "current political objective" of the Government to "involve all population groups in the governing of the country" and, in so doing, to bring about constitutional and political change opposed to the current system

Alternatively, the aim was to create fear or demoralise the public.

There was an organisation in the country with broadly these aims which had members from all levels the community.

Brigadier Mostert said he had been unable to ascertain the nature and extent of the organisation and was still in ignorance of who was the driving force behind it. However, his investigation was "very extensive and multifaceted".

# Nofomela appears in court today

Staff Reporter

(251)

Star 14/12/89

Condemned prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela, is today scheduled to appear in the Maritzburg Magistrate's Court to answer charges in connection with the murder of Durban civil rights lawyer, Mr Griffiths Mxenge

Mr Brian Currin, director of Lawyers for Human Rights, said this week the former security policeman would be asked to plead to charges in the Magistrate's Court before being referred to the Supreme Court at a later date

He said it appeared at this stage that Nofomela would be the only accused

The Government last week refused to appoint a judicial inquiry into the hit squad allegations

It was announced that five policemen named as alleged members of a hit squad had been relieved of their duties, internal inquiries would be held into the roles of serving and retired policemen, a warrant for the arrest of alleged hit squad boss former policeman Captain Dirk Coetzee would be issued, and Nofomela would be prosecuted.

On October 19, the day before Nofomela was to be hanged for the murder of a farmer, he alleged in an affidavit that he had been a member of a police death squad responsible for the murder of Mr Mxenge and attacks on several other anti-apartheid activists

Mr Mxenge's body was found with 45 stab wounds near the Umlazi cycle stadium on November 19 1981.

## Accused 'did not tell of assault'

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — The alleged Highway Rapist complained to no one — not even to his own mother — about injuries he claimed were inflicted by the police, prosecutor Mr Carl Koenig told the Durban Supreme Court during argument yesterday.

Mr Koenig was addressing the court in a trial-within-a-trial to determine the admissibility of a confession which multi-rape accused, Mr Ernest Mbongeni Duma (24) made to a magistrate.

Mr Duma has pleaded not guilty to six counts of rape, two of attempted rape and various counts of robbery.

It is alleged that Mr Duma made a confession to Pinetown magistrate, Mr Albert Mitchley, under duress from the police.

Arguing the case, Mr Koenig said: "Failure to complain normally carries with it the inference that there was no reason to complain. In his version it

was fear that seemingly caused him to complain to no-one — not even to his mother — in February this year.

"His failure to do so must weigh very heavily in favour of the fact he had no complaints and coupled with this is the apparent lack of injuries."

Mr Koenig said photographs taken of Mr Duma showed absolutely no signs of any injuries.

Defence advocate Mr L Gering said he did not find it unreasonable for Mr Duma not to complain to anyone, even his mother, because he was at the mercy of the police, knowing full well that if he mentioned anything about the assaults he could be injured or killed.

Mr Duma felt safe only when he spoke to counsel like himself and to the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice Alexander will decide today whether Mr Duma's confession is admissible or not.

The hearing continues.

(251) Staw 15/12/89

In two forgotten trials,  
court told of documents  
so explosive not even  
lawyers could see them

15-20/12/89  
**Secret**

# Pappers

# hold 'hit squad' key

By NOR POWELL

**T**HE *Weekly Mail* has identified a State Security Council document which gives details of the establishment and function of police and military "hit squads" and could provide the key to the "hit squad" scandal.

The document believed to be entitled "Constitution and Functions of the Special Forces" was stolen by a soldier from the psychological unit of the Department of Military Intelligence (DMI) nine years ago.

It is believed to outline the structures in which the "hit squads" operate, tracing them up to the SSC, which was then led by President PW Botha and included a number of senior cabinet ministers or their deputies.

Although *Weekly Mail* does not have the document, state investigators should have easy access to it as part of the court records of two Official Secrets Act trials in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court that took place in 1980/1.

The authenticity of the document is not in question — the state itself argued that its content was so sensitive that possession of it was illegal.

The trials were held *in camera* and the state argued that the document was so explosive that not even the defence lawyers should see it. After legal argument, they agreed to show only parts of it to the lawyers in order to secure their agreement on an *in camera* ruling.

It is believed that it was marked "secret" and was intercepted on its way to a shredder in the DMI psychology unit. An SADF soldier, Corporal Gerhard van der Werff, who worked in the unit, was tried and convicted for this.

● To PAGE 2

15-20/12/89  
**Mandela did tell MDM of FW talks**

By GAVIN EVANS

THE Mass Democratic Movement had prior knowledge that jailed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela was about to meet State President FW de Klerk. Contrary to speculation that the MDM and ANC were "caught by surprise" by the meeting, MDM representatives said they had been told the event was in the pipeline weeks before it took place.

"Soon after his meeting with PW Botha, Mr Mandela raised the possibility of meeting with De Klerk, and we therefore knew it was about to take place, although we did not know the exact date," said MDM representative Murphy Morobe.

He said the MDM was cautious about commenting on the meeting. "We will have to wait for a detailed report from Mr Mandela." Morobe said the MDM was confident Mandela would have articulated the ANC position and said the meeting was "part of the process. We have never had any reason



to question his bona fides. He has always taken his lead from the movement. The ANC has yet to respond to news of the meeting, but has kept in touch with developments.

When Mandela met PW Botha four months ago, the ANC welcomed the event. While Botha's "tea party" came as virtually the last act of his presidency, De Klerk's marks a major step in an ongoing process of negotiation. Having engaged in discussions with Mandela, De Klerk is likely to open the prison doors within the next few months.

Advocate Dullah Omar, who represents Mandela, stressed the ANC leader wished to be freed immediately, but was "not going to beg for his release."

Wednesday's Tuihuya meeting was the first encounter between the state president (pictured left) and the ANC leader. Also present were Justice Minister Kobie Coetsee and Constitutional Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen.

● To PAGE 2



Bloodied and bruised Injured Ermelo resident waits for treatment

OPENS of residents of Ermelo's

Reporter PHILIPPA GARSON



Bloodied and bruised ... Injured Ermelo resident waits for treatment

# A small town's morning of terror

**D**OZENS of residents of Ermelo's Wesselton township have told how police and soldiers fired teargas and birdshot indiscriminately after an attempt at a peaceful protest march.

I interviewed these people shortly after the outburst of violence on Wednesday — and they described events that bore no resemblance to the version given by police in their terse unrest report.

Police sealed off the township with barbed wire and escorted journalists out of the area. However, I spoke to residents shortly afterwards and they told how many of them were shot while doing day-to-activities such as walking down the street or doing their washing.

**Reporter PHILIPPA GARSON arrives in Ermelo on a routine assignment ... and drives into teargas and violence**

Police fired many rounds of teargas — even inside houses in an attempt to flush out panic-stricken people. A baby in one of the homes was overcome with tearsmoke and only regained consciousness 12 hours later. The parents, fearing arrest, were too scared to take it to hospital.

Nearly 100 people, most of whom were afraid to go to hospital for treatment, had birdshot wounds all over their bodies, their faces and genitals. I personally saw about 60 of these people.

251 Whall  To PAGE 2 15-20/12/89.

P.T.O.

# Secret trials link to hit squads

Political Staff

WEEKLY MAIL reported today that two Official Secrets trials in 1980-81 revealed the existence of "special forces" within the police and the military.

A secret State Security Council document, part of the court record in the two in-camera trials, was believed to have been intercepted at the time on its way to a shredder in the Directorate of Military Intelligence (DMI) psychology unit.

A soldier, Corporal Gerhard van der Werff, who worked in the unit, was tried and convicted for the interception.

In exchange for a comparatively light sentence, Mr Van der Werff gave evidence against his then lover, Mr Ben Greyling, a Wits University activist.

Mr Greyling was in custody at the time after being arrested with three other students for putting up South African Communist Party posters. Police then raided his home and found a copy of the DMI document.

Mr Greyling was tried in 1981 and acquitted on charges under the Official Secrets Act, but he and the other three students served 10 days for furthering the aims of the SACP.

Weekly Mail said it could not reveal details of the document because the trials were held in camera.

The state argued then that the document was so explosive that not even the defence lawyers should see it. After legal argument, however, they agreed to show parts of it to the defence lawyers to secure their agreement on an in-camera ruling.

Weekly Mail said it had made contact with Mr Greyling, who was granted political asylum by the United States and

to Devon, has already instructed solicitors to act if the tapes are broadcast. — Daily Telegraph

From page 1

## 'Hit squad'

now lives in San Francisco.

As far as he could recollect, the document taken from his home was entitled "Constitution and Functions of the Special Forces".

Mr Greyling told Weekly Mail that he had gathered information dealing with secret funding of the "special forces", who answered not to parliament but to the State Security Council.

He said "special force" staff were recruited from the ranks of the defence force, the police and other branches of

the civil service and were tested by state-run psychological units for "aggression quotients".

These were made up of factors such as a history of instability, alcoholism or divorce in the candidate's family. The presence of such factors counted in the candidate's favour, Mr Greyling claimed.

He said the secret funds were used for destabilisation, running secret operations in neighbouring states, disinformation and propaganda to raise morale in the general armed forces.



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# A Spanish parallel with our own media 'hit-squad' claims

A REMARKABLE investigation by two Spanish reporters has striking parallels with South Africa's recent 'hit-squad' allegations. Journalists Melchor Miralles and Ricardo Arques have established lines of responsibility that lead directly from the shadowy right-wing Spanish death squads into the highest quarters of the administration.

A long-running Spanish press investigation into 'hit-squads' which murder Basque activists, has some chilling parallels with South Africa's own press revelations about 'hit-squads'.  
By JOHN HOOPER

So far there has been only one casualty. The editor of the newspaper, *Diario 16*, was dismissed, despite having trebled the circulation.

400 rounds of ammunition, two detonators, explosives, fuse wire and a bomb already made up.

As a general reporter on *Diario 16* in the late 1970s, Miralles did a number of stories on a mysterious anti-guerrilla group, the Spanish-Basque Battalion (BVE).

With the documents the two reporters were able to show how GAL had been set up by police officers to exterminate Basque separatist exiles.

After the socialists came to power in Spain in 1982, the BVE vanished, to be replaced by a similar organisation called the Anti-terrorist Liberation Group, or GAL. Between December 1983 and July 1987, GAL claimed responsibility for a succession of bombings and shootings in the south of France in which 24 people died and many others, including a three-year-old, were wounded. Most of the victims were Spanish subjects.

It was not until December that the Spanish judiciary began to take an interest in the affair and not until January that a young Madrid judge, Mr Justice Baltasar Garzon, launched the first thorough inquiry. Among facts he brought to light was the Spanish police never once investigated GAL.

In 1986, Miralles got hold of legal documents relating to the first assassination thought to have been carried out by GAL. Like many other journalists in Spain, he had been interested by Portuguese press reports of five men arrested and charged there with working for GAL.

Then the two reporter received their third important offer of help. It came from Amedo's former girlfriend, Inmaculada Gomez. She said she had broken with the superintendent after hearing Amedo and his sidekick, Dominguez, plan a killing. Gomez and Dominguez's girlfriend, Blanca Balsategui, who also subsequently threw out her lover, were to give key evidence in court.

According to the Lisbon weekly *Expresso*, one of two Spaniards who lured them had stayed at a hotel under the name of Genaro Gallego Gallindo, yet paid his bill with a credit card in the name of Jose Amedo Fouce.

On October 28 1987, Balsategui retracted her testimony at a hearing in Madrid. Afterwards, she told Miralles she had been put up to it by a man claiming to act on behalf of the authorities. Miralles persuaded her to rectify her evidence and continue arrangements with the intermediary so that he could shadow him.

As he pored through the documents, Miralles spotted the name Amedo. It was that of a detective superintendent at Bilbao police station in the Basque country. "It was only later I noticed that both the false surnames used by Amedo in Portugal began with the letters GAL."

The following day, Miralles and a photographer tailed the man from his meeting with the witness at her hotel and watched him park his car outside the Ministry of the Interior. He turned out to be Francisco Paesa.

Miralles published an article in *Diario 16* linking Amedo with GAL to provoke a response. But nothing came of it. He had to wait for his next major break in the person of Ricardo Arques.

The "Paesa affair" went to the heart of the question. Miralles and Arques had shown that GAL was organised by policemen. But were they acting in private or official capacities?

As a reporter on *Deia*, the Basque Nationalist Party's newspaper, he had followed a trail from Portugal to Bilbao that had led to his identifying GAL's other Lisbon recruiter as Inspector Michel Dominguez.

Four months earlier, the chief of the Spanish police, Jose Maria Rodriguez Colorado, had told Mr Justice Garzon that the trip to Lisbon on which Amedo and Dominguez allegedly recruited mercenaries for GAL was paid out of Interior Ministry "reserved funds".

In June 1987, he received his first telephone call from a source who was to become the Deep Throat of the GAL case. The caller claimed to have intimate experience of GAL and wanted to spill the beans about it.

The Interior Minister ordered his subordinates not to reveal anything further about the funds and himself refused to answer the judge's questions on grounds of official secrecy.

Arques set about establishing the man's credentials. Each time he called he would ask him for a titbit of information, then check it out. "Everything he told me proved to be true," says Arques. One day, the source offered to tell him where GAL kept its arms and files, and indicated a time when he could go there.

The judge responded by calling on the council of lawyers, Spain's supreme judicial authority, to back his view that the government was obstructing justice. But it shied away from what threatened to be the biggest showdown between the judiciary and the executive in Spain since the end of the dictatorship.

In August his superiors told him not to pursue the case. Arques went straight to *Diario 16* where he was hired by Pedro Ramirez and assigned to work exclusively with Miralles, by now the paper's chief reporter.

At the same time, pressure was mounting on *Diario 16's* editor, Ramirez, who was dismissed despite having quadrupled *Diario 16's* circulation during his nine years as editor.

On August 22 1987, Arques and Miralles made their way through undergrowth to a spot 100m from the French border. In a dell, between bushes and covered by leaves, just as Arques' source had promised, they found a large metal box.

Ramirez immediately set about founding his own newspaper, *El Mundo*. A third of *Diario 16's* journalists followed him into the new enterprise, among them Miralles.

It contained weapons, disguises and papers. They decided to take the documents, which they handed over to the courts but to replace the other articles. These included a wig, women's shoes, false identity papers, a pistol,

Thus month Miralles returned to the GAL case, reporting that Paesa had previously worked as a government agent in one of the most important operations against ETA. Arques has remained with *Diario 16* where "no one has tried to stop me from publishing anything on GAL".

Amedo and Dominguez have been in custody for the past 17 months. No trial date has yet been set. — The Guardian, London

Call No. 15-1-2/189 (251)

# 'Death squad' man in court

**IN THE DOCK ...** Former security branch policeman Butana Almond Nofomela, who was yesterday charged with the murder of Durban lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge, in the dock at the Mantsburg Magistrate's Court.

Nofomela was photographed while consulting with his attorney, Mr Ahmed Motala. On the extreme left is advocate Mr Denis Kuny SC. In the middle is Mr Brian Currin of Lawyers for Human Rights.

Nofomela was on death row in Pretoria for the murder of a farmer when he claimed to have been a member of a police death squad which murdered Mr Mxenge.

● Report — Page 3



# Nofomela: I was in police squad that killed Mxenge

Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG — Former security policeman and death row prisoner Butana Almond Nofomela, 32, admitted in the Magistrate's Court here yesterday to being a member of a special assassination squad sent to Durban to "eliminate" civil rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge.

Nofomela, in leg irons, pleaded guilty before magistrate Mr G L S Holland to the murder of Mr Mxenge on November 19, 1981.

At the time he was a member of the security branch seconded to a special assassination squad under the command of Captain Dirk Coetzee, he said.

Nofomela said he and three colleagues, Brian Justice Nqulunga, David Tshikalange and Joseph Mamaselela, were instructed to "eliminate" Mr Mxenge by Brigadier Willem Schoon and Captain Coetzee.

In late 1981 they travelled to Durban where they forcibly apprehended Mr Mxenge and drove him to the Umlazi sports stadium. There they assaulted him by kicking him, punching and stabbing him to death.

Nofomela said he tendered his plea of guilty with a full understanding of the charge against him.

The magistrate said it was clear from Nofomela's statement that he admitted all the relevant elements of the charge and ordered that the proceedings be stopped and referred to the Attorney-General for his decision.

Nofomela was remanded in custody at Pretoria Central prison until February 28 next year.

Earlier defence advocate, Mr Denis Kuny, SC, said the defence wanted to know from the state whether Nofomela would be charged alone or if he would be joined by other accused at a later stage.

"Our instructions are that this offence was committed by the accused in the company of three other persons. It is important to the defence in preparing for trial to know whether anyone else is to be charged."

State advocate Mr Bruce Morrison said he was unable to give a reply as the matter was still under investigation. "This would be a decision for the Attorney-General and would depend on the outcome of investigations."

# Natal violence: Now it's over to the police

THE government decision to deploy extra security force members in Inanda, Ntuzuma and other Durban townships this week has been welcomed by residents — but it could prove disastrous unless the police act impartially.

The two sides involved in the fighting blame each other, so it is not surprising that Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi says the culprits are the United Democratic Front, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the African National Congress.

However, when Deputy Minister of Defence Wynand Breytenbach tells troops in the Durban townships that the violence is caused by the "onslaught" of ANC revolutionaries, the implications are more serious.

If the security forces, charged with keeping the peace in the townships, are informed by their bosses that one side in the fighting is to blame, they cannot be expected to act neutrally in policing the trouble spots.

There is also the question of whether the available evidence backs Breytenbach's theories.

Certainly in Ntuzuma and Inanda, the worst hit of the Durban townships since the beginning of the month, the visual evidence is that most of the attacks have come from the squatter settlements where vigilantes, like

**The decision this week to move hundreds of policemen into the strife-torn Durban townships has been welcomed by residents. But the police must prove that they can be impartial, reports CARMEL RICKARD**

modern day Vikings, sally out in pre-dawn raids to pillage, rape, loot and kill.

Their targets are houses across the invisible border in the "proper townships", where buildings are made of blocks and where electricity and water borne sewerage are available.

It is common knowledge that the raiding parties include many newcomers to the urban areas, people who arrive on the fringes of the city to look for work, without money or security, or even a piece of cardboard over their heads.

They are offered a place to stay on condition they join the raids, and as an incentive, are promised the goods they loot. The extorted money they keep, television sets and other electrical goods are sold.

In other areas where this strategy has been used, the deserted houses form a buffer strip between the two sides for a few weeks, but they are soon occupied by erstwhile "raiders",

## Over 700 men shifted to Durban

OVER 700 additional security force members have been made available to deal with the unrest in Durban's northern townships. Local residents welcomed the move, saying the political temperature had immediately "cooled".

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and Deputy Justice Minister Danie Schutte issued a joint statement on Wednesday night saying they had decided to strengthen the forces in Inanda and other northern townships.

When the violence escalated sharply over the weekend, 350 extra security force members were brought in.

But Vlok and Schutte said in addition to these reinforcements, another 380 were being made available with immediate effect.

They said the situation had deteriorated considerably over the last few days and

there was serious concern about the continuing unrest. That was why it was decided to bring in a second batch of reinforcements.

They said the situation was being carefully monitored and they appealed for residents to co-operate so the violence would end as soon as possible.

Residents of Inanda's Ohlange area said they welcomed the extra police in the townships and that already the situation had improved.

"We hope they stay at least a month to dampen down the violence," one woman said.

"It was cooler today because there are now many soldiers going up and down in the streets," said another.

"When they are here we do not have trouble — but they must be fair. They must stop whoever is attacking, whatever side they come from."

and a process of colonisation begins.

If Breytenbach were to visit Section E and F in Ntuzuma he would see scores of sturdily built block houses along the border with the Lindelani shack settlement — most are empty, many are extensively damaged.

He should also ask the people who used to live in these houses, and those security force members who

believe their job is to act impartially even in the townships, who is responsible. He would find "ANC revolutionaries" are not the ones being blamed.

Instead the finger is most often pointed into Lindelani, at the leadership of that community.

Despite the detention powers of the South African government and the

banishment powers of the kwaZulu government, the people blamed in scores of affidavits to lawyers and in statements to the police, continue to sanction — if not to plan — these attacks and raids.

There have also been serious allegations, taken down in statements by the South African Police as well as in affidavits by lawyers, pointing to the involvement of the kwaZulu police with the Lindelani raiders.

These claims are being investigated at top level by the KZP but it could be too late to salvage the reputation of this police force.

That is also the danger for the SAP: one of the many reasons given by unrest monitoring groups for the escalation in the violence is that all sides have lost their faith in the forces of "law and order".

Many people have suffered months — and sometimes years — while the security forces appear unable or unwilling to ensure their safety.

For their own survival, these people have learnt not to depend on the "forces of law and order".

The deployment of hundreds of extra forces in the townships presents the SAP with what could be a last opportunity to show they are capable of neutral policing.

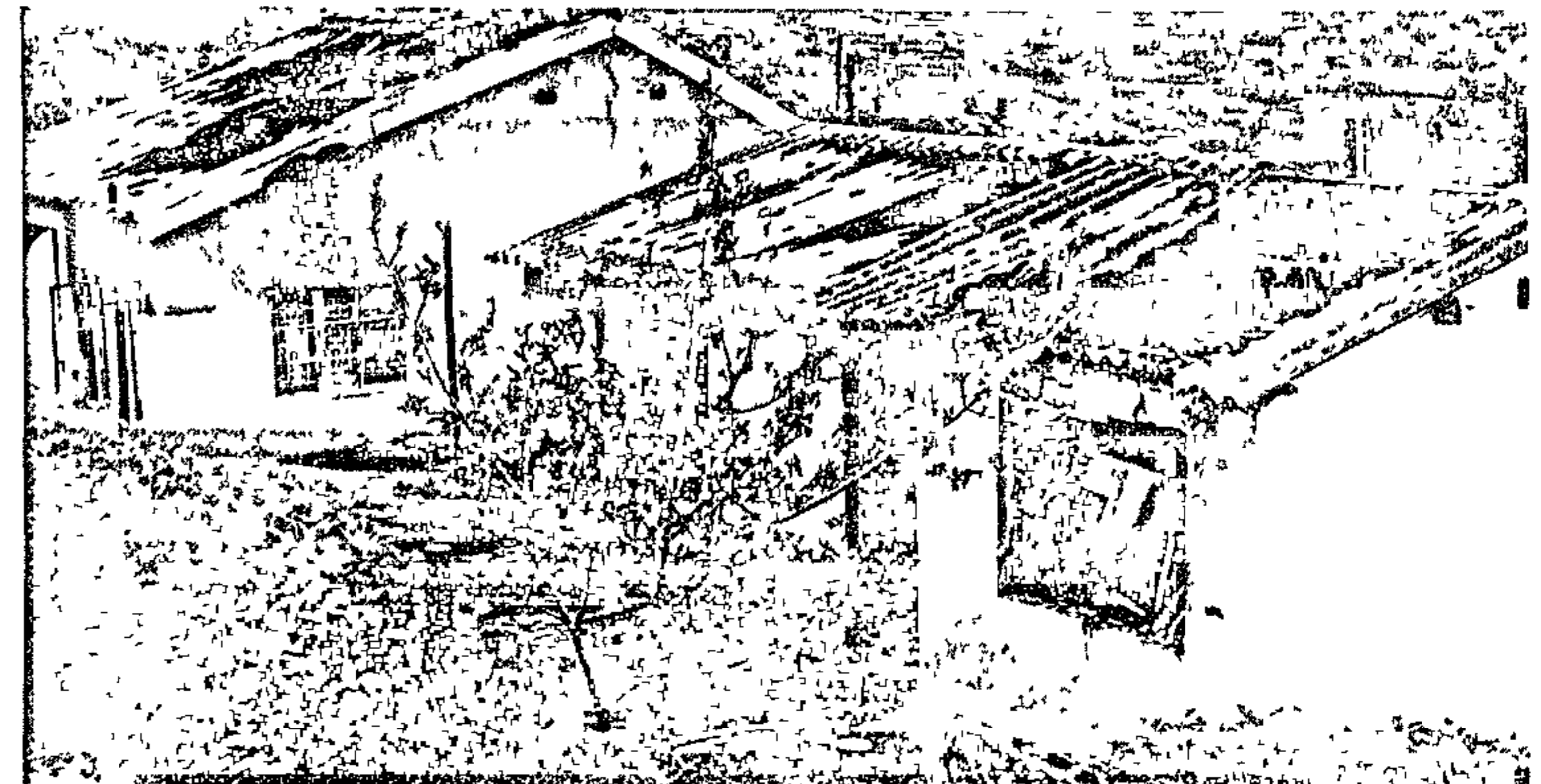
## The heroes who emerge from out of the misery

By CARMEL RICKARD, Durban  
THE violence in Durban's townships over the last week has produced its crop of heroes.

Children risked their lives to bring their younger brothers and sisters out of the firing line, a teenage girl carried two babies out of bullet range, but was struck in the back and is now paralysed for life, a priest turned back a raiding party about to break into the church where women and babies were sheltering, another priest probably saved the lives of a party of canoeists, by placing himself between them and a crowd of heavily armed men.

Many black and white families have also proved Good Samaritans, taking in numbers of refugees and storing the furniture and clothes they were able to rescue from their homes. Church leaders have urged ministers to open their buildings to refugees and asked members of their congregations to give shelter to people made homeless by the violence.

But although the violence has



Houses like these in Mpumalanga — gutted by fire and abandoned — are an increasingly common sight as violence continues in Natal.

Picture CLINT ZASMAN

reached disaster proportions, there has been no large scale co-ordinated attempt to help the thousands of displaced people, even with the basics of food and clothing.

The death toll since the beginning of December in the Durban townships stands at about 75. About 200 homes have been destroyed, most by

fire.

Refugees continue to leave the worst-hit areas, sometimes carrying belongings they were able to bring out, sometimes with nothing more than the clothes they were wearing.

The scale of the violence is difficult to imagine — one Indian trader in the Inanda area said that on Monday

morning when he came to work he found "eight or nine" bodies around his property, in parts of Ntuzuma it takes some effort to find houses which are not damaged or destroyed — row after row of homes with all the windows broken.

The police have a difficult task, and even the additional forces sent in this

week could prove inadequate.

The night of the announcement that over 700 reinforcements had been sent in, residents said 14 houses were burnt in the Amawula area of Inanda, there were fierce attacks by the Siyoyos in kwaMashu's K section and a number of homes in the Siyanda squatter settlement were set alight.

# Limpet mine kills 3 Cape policemen

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JOHANNESBURG — Three black policemen and an informer were killed last night when a limpet mine exploded in the vehicle in which they were travelling in the Eastern Cape, 25km from Port Elizabeth.

A spokesman for police headquarters in Pretoria said today the four were travelling on the Koega-Motherwell road shortly before midnight when the explosive device detonated.

The four died instantly. Their vehicle was blown to pieces.

The spokesman said the names of the dead members of the force would be released when their next-of-kin had been informed. The name of the informer would not be released to protect members of his family.

Two explosive devices were detonated on two Peninsula suburban railway lines at Lansdowne and Observatory early today.

Sats spokesman Mr Brian Lotter said the blasts did not affect rush-hour trains and caused "little physical damage" to the lines.

According to police Major Jan Calitz, one device was placed on the railway line between Athlone and Crawford stations and the other at a siding near Observatory station.

The Athlone/Crawford explosion happened about 2am and the other an hour later about 200m from Observatory station. — The Argus Correspondent and Staff Reporter.

## Press curbs

In terms of the emergency regulations reports, comment and pictures may be restricted.

# Murder: Wife to sue police for R800 000

CME 7-12-89 15/12/89  
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JOHANNESBURG. — The widow of a murdered alleged drug dealer is suing the Minister of Law and Order and her husband's killers — two former policemen — for R800 000 compensation.

In an affidavit, Mrs Vivica Pillay claims R800 000 from the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and the two convicted policemen, Jack la Grange, who was head of the East Rand murder and robbery squad, and Robert van der Merwe, who was attached to the Brixton murder and robbery squad.

In a sensational trial in the Rand Supreme Court last year, La Grange and Van der Merwe were found guilty of the murders of Mr Peter Pillay of Eldorado Park and his business rival, Mr Benny Ogle of Ennerdale, and were both sentenced to death. Former President P W Botha later reprieved them.

In her personal capacity Mrs Pillay is claiming R300 000 from the three defendants, R100 000 in her capacity as the mother of her 14-year-old daughter, Zinobia, R150 000 in her capacity as the mother of Lee-Ann, 12, and R250 000 as mother of her son, Peter, 4.

Mrs Pillay argued that her husband was shot dead on October 5, 1987, by La Grange and Van der Merwe — Sapa

Swiss born

## Death row man pleads guilty

DEATH row prisoner Butana Nofomela yesterday and pleaded guilty to murdering Durban attorney Griffiths Mxenge.

Nofomela, a former security policeman, was the first person to allege the existence of police death squads.

On October 19, the night before he was due to hang, he signed a statement saying he knew about the assassination squads and that he had been part of them, assisting in a number of killings.

He appeared briefly in the Pietermaritzburg Magistrate's Court where he pleaded guilty to the murder of Mxenge — just one of the killings in which he claims he participated.

The magistrate, GLS Holland, prosecutor Bruce Morrison, and Denis Kuny, SC, for Nofomela, discussed who else was to be charged for Mxenge's killing.

Kuny said the offence was allegedly committed by Nofomela in the company of three others who were involved, and he asked whether Nofomela was to be charged alone or with other accused.

Morrison said he could not reply to this question as it would depend on investigations which are under way.

Nofomela's lawyers handed in a statement outlining the circumstances of the killing. Nofomela said he was a member of the security police seconded to a police assassination squad under the command of Captain Dirk Coetzee.

He said that in late 1981 he was instructed by Brigadier Willem Schoon to "eliminate, that is to kill", Mxenge.

The magistrate postponed the case to February 28 next year.

w mail  
15-20/12/89.



The morning after ... Crossroads residents sit in the ruins of their shacks following weekend violence that left five dead and hundreds injured

Picture ERIC MILLER, Afrapix  
15-20/12/89

JOHN Fongo was one of eight people injured in Old Crossroads late on Sunday night. He says he was shot by the police.

Speaking from his hospital bed in the early hours of Monday, Fongo, 48, a supporter of opposition headman, Geoffrey Nongwe, said the police were accompanied by "Johnson Ngxobongwana's men".

Ngxobongwana, who sustained a fractured hip, a fractured right elbow and forearm on the shooting at Nongwe's house on Sunday night, said he saw "two white policemen and a black policeman".

He was in Nongwe's house when the shooting started. "The door was closed. They shot at the house. We got a fright and went out of the house. They shot us there, outside the house," he said. "They shot and shot and shot. Then they went."

Five people were killed that night and after the burning of shacks, about 600 were left homeless.

## Police shot me, Old Crossroads resident claims

By SAHM VENTER

Nongwe himself has told Democratic party MP Jan van Eck that on the night of the shooting he saw two police vehicles on either side of his house, dropping men off. "Soon after that, the shooting on his house started," Van Eck said.

Having received statements alleging active police involvement in the violence, Van Eck phoned them through to the Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok on Monday.

"It makes it virtually useless for me to ask the South African Police to provide protection for the people of Crossroads," Van Eck said in his

message to Vlok.

Tensions have been brewing in Old Crossroads for a few months as supporters of a breakaway group of 14 headmen, led by Nongwe, allege corruption on the part of Ngxobongwana and his council. They claim that monies collected ostensibly to "improve housing" have been squandered. Attempts by dissatisfied residents to protest have been thwarted by the authorities, Van Eck says.

"While the mayor's supporters have been allowed to hold marches and public meetings in support of the mayor, the mayor and his town clerk have prevented the opposing group from marching or holding a meeting."

Sunday's violence came two days after Van Eck sent a faxed message to President FW De Klerk, urging him to "urgently intervene before there is loss of life." It was his second fax to De Klerk on the issue in less than a month. In his November 20 communique, Van Eck said "Unless some immediate steps are taken, a bloody conflict with loss of life and property will erupt any day."

Reacting to a meeting addressed by police and attended by supporters of Ngxobongwana, Van Eck said "There are enough policemen who are partaking in the conflict to make a solution impossible."

He stressed that it was a political problem, not a police one and urged that meetings be held by "political heads." It was essential, he said, that the men who control black affairs on a provincial level are present. But had refused to see Nongwe.



## 9 to be charged at special hospital hearing

# Police hold injured Wesselton mother

By Therese Anders,  
Highveld Bureau

A Wesselton mother of three, who neighbours say was hanging out washing in her backyard when she was hit by police birdshot is being held under police guard in Ermelo Hospital in connection with public violence

Mrs Beauty Maphosa (37) was struck in the neck during Wednesday's police action in Wesselton township after thousands of residents began marching towards Ermelo

Police say nine people injured in Wednesday's confrontation between Wesselton residents and police are being held under police guard at Ermelo Hospital

They say police and SADF forces were confronted by a crowd of between 8 000 and 10 000, some of whom were armed, and warnings were given before teargas and birdshot were used

According to the Wesselton Action Committee about 5 000 township people were heading towards the Ermelo Magistrate's Court to hear a judgment in a town council arrears case against

88 residents

Mrs Maphosa's husband, Mr Meshack Maphosa, and her neighbour, Mrs Tiele Nkabinde, say Mrs Maphosa was not involved in the march.

Soon after the incident Mrs Nkabinde told The Star "Beauty was outside in her yard washing when I saw a Hippo coming up our street I ran inside, but Beauty just carried on washing I heard some shots and when I looked out of my house I saw Beauty was bleeding She had many holes, but the worst was in her neck."

Mrs Nkabinde says she then ran to a policeman with a two-way radio and asked him to help The policeman called for a van which then drove Mrs Maphosa to hospital

### Special hearing

Mrs Maphosa's condition is not known as Ermelo Hospital superintendent, Dr M P Veltman, said yesterday he could give no information about the patients because it was "a police case".

Mrs Maphosa's lawyer said it was believed that the nine patients, who are all being kept in the same ward, would be charged at a special hearing at the hospital today

Mr Moses Yende, the father of five-year-old Nkosinathi Yende, says his son was standing in the doorway of their house when he was hit in the legs by birdshot.

Mr Yende said a neighbour carried young Nkosinathi to hospital on her back The Star has been unable to find out if Nkosinathi has been discharged police said the number of injured residents reported was 19

However, Wesselton Action Committee executive members said the number of injured was much higher, but the injured would not go to the hospital because of the police presence there A Wesselton general practitioner said he treated 34 patients injured in Wednesday's unrest

Police said six of their men were injured

## Boycott in Brits continues

By Mckeed Kotlolo,  
Pretoria Bureau

Action against white-owned businesses in Brits by local and neighbouring blacks is continuing

It started on Thursday last week after the authorities refused to allow residents of Oukasie to stage a peaceful demonstration

According to the spokesman of the Brits Working Committee, Mr Solomon Wona, the Brits Taxi Association has pledged its support and resolved not to transport any person carrying goods bought in town

"The committee is doing its best to avoid violence during the action because we want it to be peaceful," said Mr Wona

He complained about the harassment of boycott supporters by police. He said six residents were allegedly assaulted by police for distributing pro-boycott pamphlets

A spokesman for the Northern Transvaal police, Lieutenant Hennie Crowther, advised the residents to report the matter to the police

The residents are demanding the immediate reprieve and upgrading of Oukasie, that all whites-only facilities in Brits be opened to all races, that the authorities make public the inquest report on the murder of Ms Joyce Modimoeng and Mr Marshall Buys, that the security forces stop supporting vigilantes in the area and be removed from the township immediately

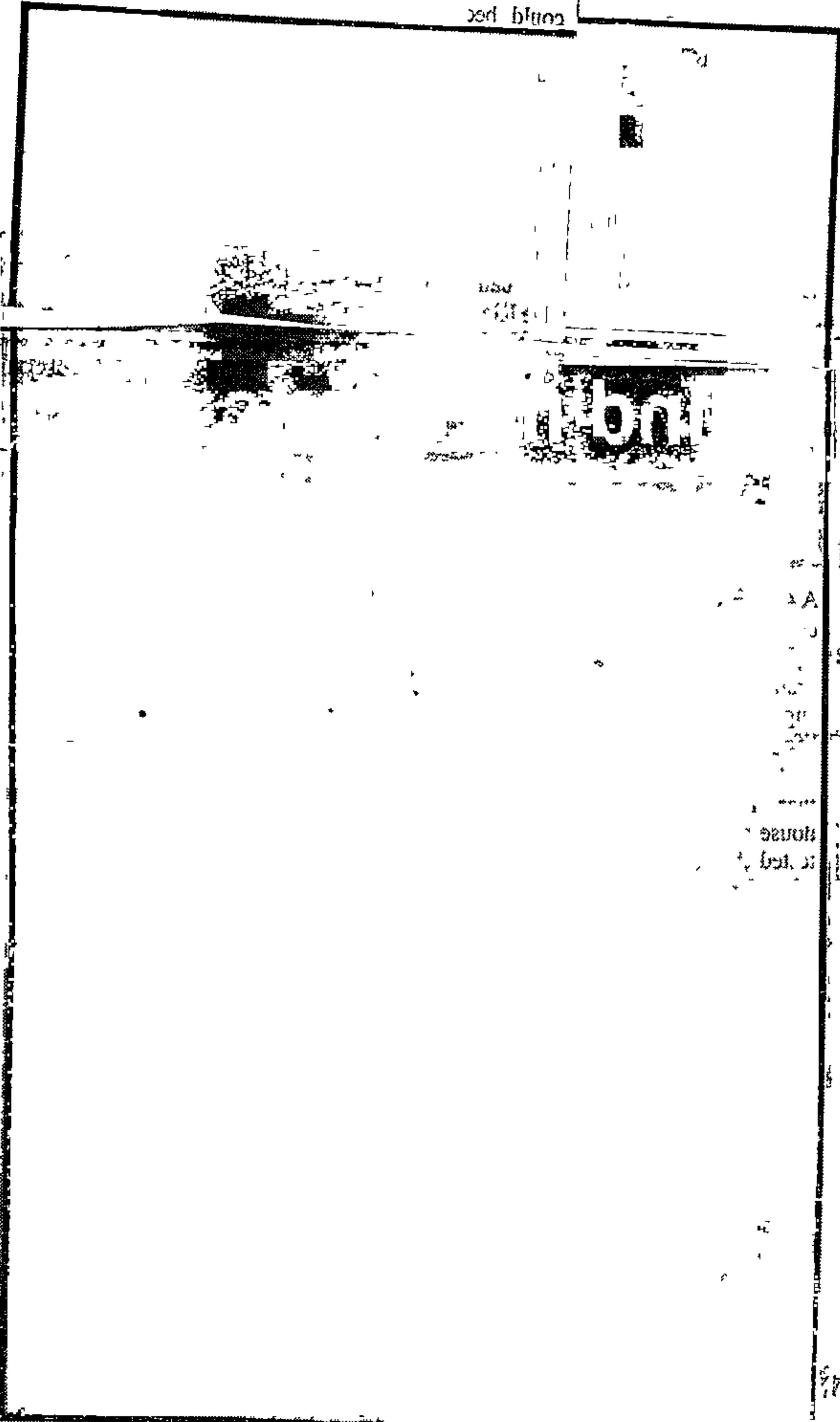
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# KILLER

# COP

## We killed Mxenge, confesses Nofomela



**DEATH** Row prisoner Almond Butana Nofomela yesterday pleaded guilty in the Maritzburg Magistrate's Court to the murder of anti-apartheid activist and lawyer, Griffiths Mxenge.

Nofomela appeared in green prison overalls and slippers.

He was wearing leg irons and sat in the dock between two burly prison wardens

Nofomela is represented by Mr Des Kuy, QC, who was appointed by Lawyers for Human Rights.

Nofomela was the first to allege the existence of a police hit squad which allegedly assassinated Mxenge, a Durban civil rights lawyer

### Squad

Nofomela read the following statement to the court

"I have pleaded guilty to the charge and I am tending this statement with full understanding.

"At the time of the murder I was member of the (Police) Special Branch assassination squad

"I was instructed by Brig (Willem) Schoon and Capt (Dirk) Coetzee to proceed to Durban and there to kill one Griffiths Mlungisi Mxenge

"I and three colleagues, Brian Justice Nqulunga, David Tshikalange and Joseph

the vicinity of Umlazi where we apprehended Mxenge and took him to the Umlazi Stadium where we proceeded kicking him and punching him and finally stabbing him to death Nofomela said

The case was adjourned for the Attorney-General's consideration and is to be resumed on February 28 next year - Sapa

Almond Butana Nofomela, who has pleaded guilty to the murder of anti-apartheid activist Griffiths Mxenge, was photographed in the Maritzburg Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Staff Reporter

A MAN was killed and another wounded when a special constable fired birdshot into a crowd that had gathered outside his home at De Aar in the Northern Cape, according to yesterday's overnight police unrest report.

The report said members of the group were throwing stones at the house and were allegedly warned by the constable to disperse.

When they failed to comply, the policeman fired birdshot into the crowd.

A spokesman at the De Aar advice office said a group of people did the toyi-toyi in the black township of Nonzwekazi

## Kitscop fires on De Aar crowd, killing man

after returning from a meeting.

They passed the house of the special constable and his wife allegedly shouted. "Shoot them, shoot them."

The spokesman said the special constable's house had been stoned in the past.

As the tail-end of the group moved past the house, the constable allegedly went into the house and returned with

a rifle, he said.

The constable fired a shot and hit Mr Martin Jambo. When others went to his assistance, one of them, Mr Sizekele Mbekhushe, was also shot and the group dispersed, leaving Mr Jambo lying there.

The spokesman alleged that the special constable then beat Mr Jambo on the head and kicked him. He was later taken to hospital.

Mr Mbekhushe ran to the next street and was taken to hospital, but he died on the way there, the spokesman said.

CAP & TWP 15/6/12/89  
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# Brigadier

# may face

# Mxengse

# Murder rap

# Squad acted on orders

By DESMOND BLOW

**CONDEMNED** killer Butana Almond Nofomela has implicated Brig Willem Schoon - former head of the Security Branch C squad - in the murder of human rights lawyer Griffiths Mxenge.

This emerged when he pleaded guilty to murder in the Varrizburg Magistrate's Court this week.

Nofomela, 32, said he was a member of the Security Police at the time and acted under the orders of Schoon and Capt Dirk Coetzee.

It is now up to the Attorney General of Natal, Mike Imber, to either accept or reject Nofomela's plea of guilty with mitigation that he acted under

Should he accept Nofomela's plea, he must accept the allegations

*Press 12/18/89*

against Schoon - and Schoon must also be charged with murder.

If Imber rejects Nofomela's plea he must enter a plea of "not guilty" and evidence must be led to convict Nofomela.

Magistrate Geratd Holland remanded Nofomela in Pretoria Central Prison until February 28, 1990, when the Attorney General will give his decision, pending further police investigations.

General Rommie van der Westhuizen and Brigadier IJ "Krapies" Engelbrecht, who were in court this week, are leading the investigations based on the McNally report.

General Van der Westhuizen said allegations even against the "highest rank" policemen would be investigated.

A source close to the Attorney General said if Imber was not satisfied with the police investigation he would send the docket back.

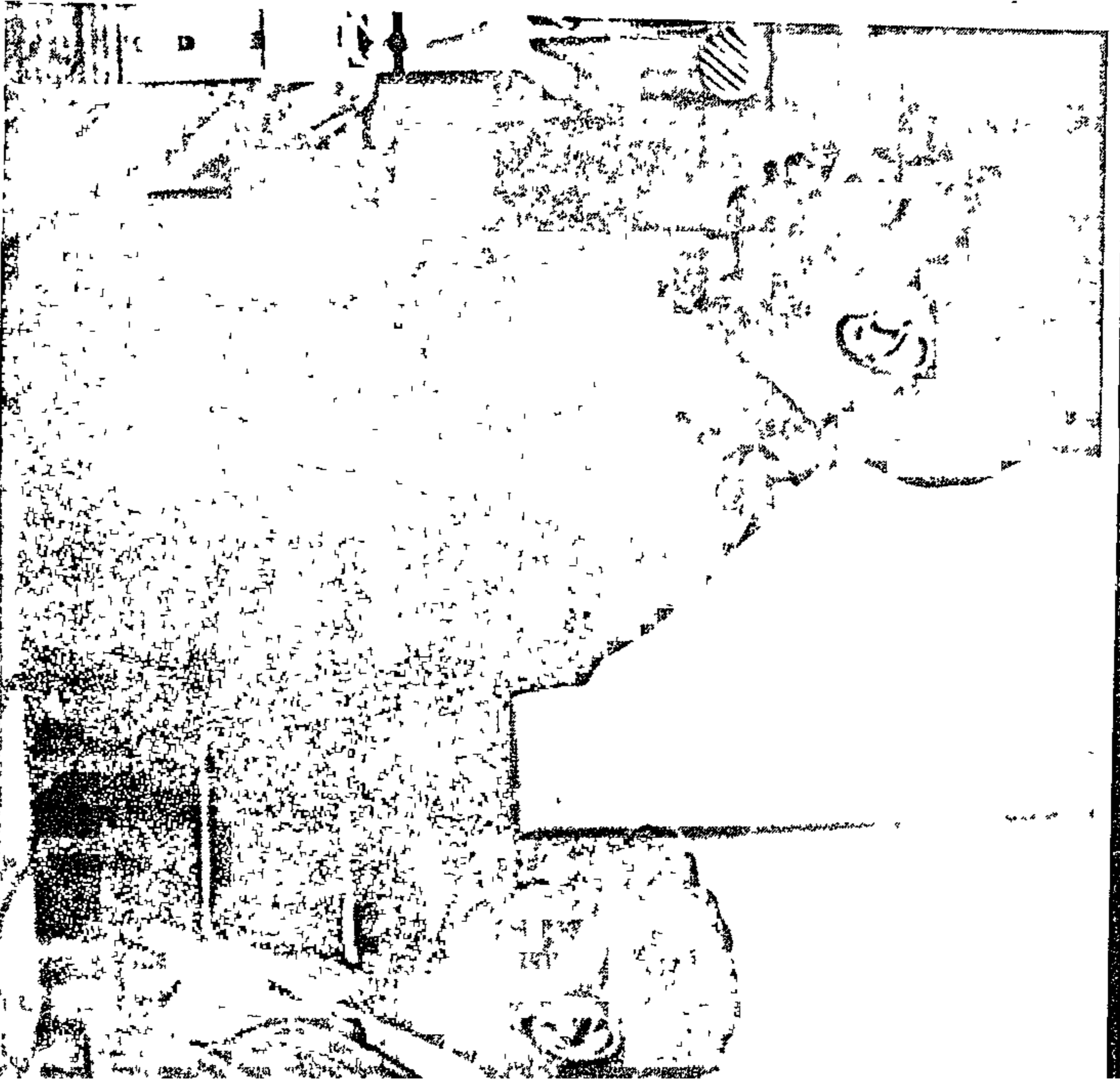
Should others be joined with Nofomela he will probably give evidence implicating them.

If Nofomela is tried alone he will probably give evidence against them later when they are tried separately.

In a statement to the court through his counsel Denis Kury SC, Nofomela admitted the murder of Mxenge.

But he said he was a member of the Security Branch at the time and had acted on instructions from Schoon - then head of the Security Branch C section at a secret base at

Viakpias - and Capt Coetzee who was commander of the assassina-



Condemned killer Butana Almond Nofomela is guarded by a warder as he gives evidence.

tion squad. In his statement Nofomela said he and three other members of the hit squad - Brian Ngulunga, David Tshikalang, and Joseph Mamaselala - had murdered Mxengel on November 19, 1981.

He said that acting on orders from Schoon and Coetzee they travelled to Durban where we appre-

hended Mxenge in Umlazi and took him to the Umlazi Stadium where we kicked and punched him and stabbed him to death.

Nofomela was due to hang for the murder of a white farmer on October 20 1989 but his execution was stayed when he made a dramatic statement to Lawyers for Hu-

man Rights admitting his part in the murder of Mxenge.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Coetzee, who left the country shortly before confessing to having been in command of the hit squad.

City Press understands that although the McNally inquiry did not include

an interview with Coetzee, it has noted his allegations in the newspaper *Vrye Weekblad*.

Gen van der Westhuizen and Brig Lamprecht have been instructed by Imber to investigate Coetzee's allegations as well as events not directly implicated with the Mxenge killing which may have a bearing on it.

December 1989

# Signs of deeper cancer

## in the police force

251

DEATH SQUADS are not an isolated part of an otherwise healthy police force. They come into existence within a police environment and their existence implies much about the operation of the force as a whole.

It is often forgotten the police are there to protect the public and they operate under a social mandate which accords them limited, justiciable powers to do so.

The police are always the servants of the public. They may never exceed the authority vested in them by society.

Where that society consists of diverse racial groups, the concurrent obligations of the police to different portions of society require a sensitivity to the transcending interests of society as a whole.

In addition to death squads, there have been many allegations of serious abuses by our police force, including

- Siding with Inkatha in the Natal violence, the Witdoeke in Crossroads violence and the Mbokotho in the KwaNdebele unrest,
- Failing to properly investigate or act where crimes are committed against people with doubtful political attitudes,
- Brutality in a variety of situations,

### Collapse

- A discrepancy in law enforcement against lawful organisations on opposing sides of the political spectrum

Most of these allegations are supported by extensive evidence in court proceedings and considerable Press coverage. Most people will detect a ring of truth about them.

Seen as a whole, they suggest the police are being used to enforce a political policy. Seen individually they suggest a startling collapse in accountability and control.

In the face of the Government's refusal to establish a judicial commission of inquiry into these allegations, grave suspicion and distrust must now exist regarding the activities of the police.

How have the police got to this position, and how has this slide from the proper standards of policing been permitted?

It must be assumed that either the police have withheld fundamental information about their objects and true role from the higher levels of power, or the executive has been aware of the incidents described above and has condoned them.

Without being naive about the methods in which governments

### Nick de Villiers

of the Legal Resources Centre, looks at the background to police hit squad allegations

operate, either option is disturbing.

The state of emergency has bloated the perception police have of their roles. This has happened in several important ways.

The state of emergency has undermined the rule of law. The duty of the court has been placed on the shoulders of the police, and the powers of the judge are exercised by a civil servant who has been trained to be suspicious and to find and punish people who he thinks are guilty.

Emergency law has placed the police above the control of the courts. This has encouraged excesses and arrogance among the police.

### Secrecy

Another long-term effect has been to entrench the secrecy of the police. The media restrictions have produced a climate in which the police are in a position to censor and control the publication of their excesses.

Apart from depriving the public of the information they need to exercise proper control over the police, this has strengthened an organisational trend towards secrecy within the police force and has contributed to the isolation of the police from community accountability.

A police force cannot properly protect a political system that has no overall societal legitimacy. The policing ideal is premised on a partnership between the police force and the persons who enjoy the protection of that police force.

Central to the maintenance of the subtle balance between various interests is the notion that the police are dependent on public

support for the attainment of their mandate. The developments in policing in recent years must be painful and humiliating to all policemen of integrity.

The flip side of all this is that the police have become overworked and demoralised. They have had to police activities that are part of proper democratic government.

Many policemen lack the respect or the support of the community and the danger of police work and poor pay do not enhance their position. Within the police organisation itself, there are indications that complaints by policemen are stifled and clogged by red tape.

The police response to criticism has been to adopt a high profile media campaign. There are police pageants, "adopt a cop" and "the police care" campaigns.

But this is merely an expensive dressing for a wound that requires a more direct treatment. The public opinion of the police will not improve until the public has confidence that they operate within their constitutional mandate.

### Welcome

On a more positive note, the police have instituted a Community Relations Department to foster improved contact between communities and police. This department forms part of the police public relations exercise and aims to make policemen more aware of the public's perceptions and attitudes so they may respond in a manner appropriate to the circumstances.

This is a welcome development, but it does not mean that the police are accepting a measure of community involvement in policy formulation, or that they are subjecting themselves to democratic controls.

The minimum standards for the proper management of the police are, first, the restoration of full ministerial accountability for police action and the expenditure of State funds.

Second, there should be a highly prestigious independent body, answerable to the public, which has the authority to address police policies and supervise the investigation of complaints against policemen.

In the long term, there is no other acceptable option. Ideally, proper control and accountability should be instituted before the need arises, for it is difficult to implement them effectively once abuses have become rampant. It is doubtful whether it is still possible to do this.

# Mystery of hit squad cop

251  
 CAPT T1975  
 18/12/89

**JOHANNESBURG.** — Dirk Coetzee, who headed the alleged police hit squad that killed human rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge, yesterday spoke from his place of hiding to deny reports that he was still in South Africa.

But in spite of sensational weekend press claims that he never left the country and subsequent denials, the whereabouts of the former police captain whose allegations have rocked South Africa for more than three weeks remain a mystery. In a front-page report Rapport stated

that a "reliable source" told the paper that a "very ill, tattered and gaunt" Mr Coetzee was holed up on a farm north-west of Pretoria.

Last night he denied he was in South Africa or in bad health.

Responding to claims that he was "desperately ill", he said it was sad that elements of the media were using his diabetic condition to make the revelations about police hit squads suspect.

"I believe it forms part of an organised campaign to discredit me," he said.

He repeated his willingness to give evidence on the existence and extent of police death squads and his part in them.

"My only wish is to see that the whole truth about the groups is exposed," he said.

Mr Coetzee's press statement was received from Vrye Weekblad, which first carried his allegations and with whom he has remained in telephonic contact.

It arrived hours after Vrye Weekblad's editor, Mr Max du Preez, issued a statement on his and journalist Mr Jaques Pauw's visit yesterday to Major-General Ronnie van der Westhuizen and Brigadier "Krappies" Engelbrecht, who are investigating Mr Mxenge's murder.

"The officers said they did not 'have the vaguest idea' where Coetzee was and rejected the Rapport story that he was on a farm in the Transvaal.

"They had up to that point made no effort to visit the 'farm' where Coetzee was supposed to be hiding, nor had they contacted Rapport's journalist, Johan Gagliano."

In the statement Mr Coetzee said "I left South Africa on November 6 in the company of Vrye Weekblad reporter Jaques Pauw and carried out a series of interviews with him on Mauritius. I left a couple of days later for a destination in Europe.

"Owing to security considerations I do not wish to disclose my whereabouts, but can give the assurance that I am still in a foreign country (buiteland)."

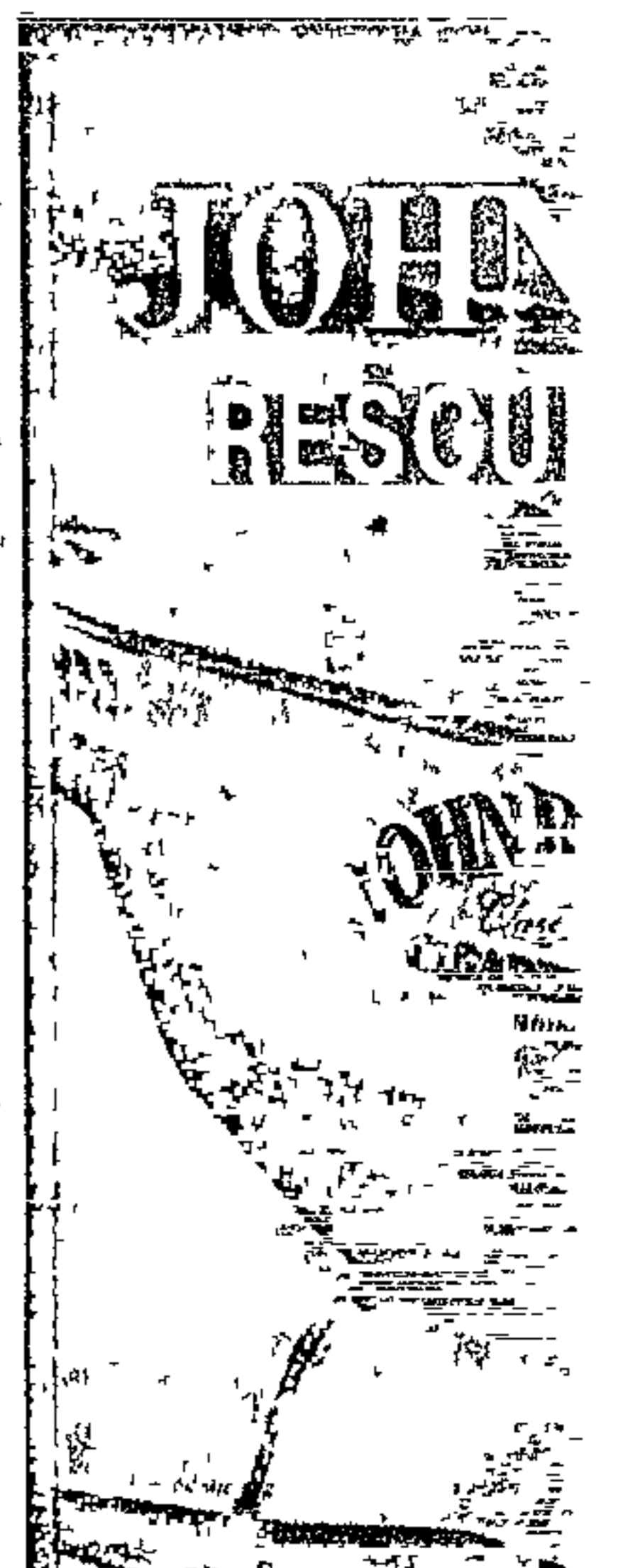
"I am not desperately ill, tattered or fatigued."

"My psychological condition is not bad. In fact my physical and emotional condition is outstanding."

Rapport said the whereabouts of the farm are known to them but the information cannot be disclosed for security reasons — Sapa

## Dublin coffin cave-in

**LONDON** — A Dublin widow's husband's coffin began falling in front of mourners at a funeral vice has been awarded damages R15 170 by a Dublin court. Mrs Frances Murphy said the mass was up for 15 minutes.



T1975 18/12/89

## ard and 3 'hide-out'

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for crimes he allegedly committed during an abortive coup in Benin in 1978, officials said.

The four mercenaries remaining in South Africa have been granted temporary residence permits. A Foreign Affairs official said he hoped the four would leave as soon as possible.

The official reiterated that Colonel Denard would not be allowed to stay in South Africa.

Meanwhile, Colonel Denard's men organised a 24-hour drinking party for themselves in the transit lounge at Jan Smuts airport while they awaited flights to Europe.

They started with tinned Russian

## Kuiper out of two matches

By MICHAEL OWEN-SMITH

**SOUTH AFRICA'S** most effective one-day cricketer, Adrian Kuiper, has been laid low by an attack of viral meningitis and will miss Western Province's two important Benson and Hedges night series matches against Transvaal and Border this week.

Kuiper had to spend three days in hospital for treatment and tests before being discharged yesterday.

"Fortunately I am only suffering from a virus and not the bacterial form that can be very dangerous," he said.

Kuiper is still hoping to play in the Currie Cup programme after Christmas, but he would be unwise to rush back too soon.

This is the latest in a series of harsh blows to Western Province. It



# Dirk denies report he is ailing, in SA

(257)

Former police Captain Dirk Coetzee last night denied he was in South Africa or in bad health.

His denial follows reports in the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper *Rapport* that the captain, whose allegations on police death squads have rocked South Africa for more than three weeks, was "hiding out on a farm near Pretoria and was desperately ill, suffering from diabetes"

Star 18/12/89

A press statement from Captain Coetzee was received through the Afrikaans weekly newspaper *Vrye Weekblad* which first carried Captain Coetzee's allegations.

The captain said he had taken note of the allegations in the lead story in *Rapport*

He criticised certain newspapers for recently giving the impression he was emotionally and psychologically unbalanced

It was sad, he said, that elements of the media were using his diabetic condition to make the revelations about police hit squads suspect

"I believe it forms part of an organised campaign to discredit me," he said

"I left South Africa on November 6 in the company of *Vrye Weekblad* reporter Jaques Pauw and carried out a series of interviews with him on Mauritius

"I left a couple of days later for a destination in Europe.

"Due to security considerations, I do not wish to disclose my whereabouts, but can give the assurance that I am still in a foreign country (buiteland).

"I am not desperately ill, tattered or fatigued. In fact my physical and emotional condition is outstanding."

Captain Coetzee reiterated his willingness to give evidence on the existence and extent of, and his part in, police death squads.

— Sapa.

# Police prevent pro-Mandela vigil

CAPE TOWN — Police set up a roadblock last night to prevent about 1 000 activists, including Mrs Winnie Mandela, from staging a candlelight vigil outside the prison where black leader Mr Nelson Mandela is held

The demonstrators, travelling in 10 buses and about 50 cars, were stopped by police about a kilometre outside Victor Verster Prison, where Mr. Mandela lives in a suburban-style staff house

Police gave Mrs Mandela permission to visit her husband, but she declined after learning the other demonstrators would not be allowed to hold their vigil at the prison's front gate

A magistrate turned down an application for the demonstration because it was not submitted the required five days in advance.

The demonstrators called for the immediate release of Mr Mandela and all others they consider political prisoners

After reaching the roadblock, the activists sang freedom songs on the side of the road, then held a meeting in the nearby town of Paarl. No incidents were reported

Mr Mandela has been in prison for more than 27 years. He is serving a life sentence for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the Government. His release is widely expected within weeks

The ANC leader met the State President, Mr F W de Klerk, at the latter's Cape Town office last week to discuss prospects for opening negotiations.

All black leaders, even those who are rivals of the ANC, say Mr Mandela must be released before any talks with the Government can begin — Associated Press.



# Coetzee mystery

251

Sowetan  
12/2/89

FORMER police Captain Dirk Coetzee last night denied he was in South Africa or in bad health

His denial follows reports in the Afrikaans Sunday newspaper *Rapport* that the captain, whose allegations on police death squads have rocked South Africa for more than three weeks, was "hiding out on a farm near Pretoria and was desperately ill, suffering from diabetes".

A press statement from Capt Coetzee was received from the Afrikaans weekly newspaper *Vrye Weekblad* which first carried the former special branch officer's allegations.

Following a visit to police headquarters in connection with investigations into the death of anti-apartheid lawyer Griffiths Mxenge, *Vrye Weekblad's* editor Max du Preez said he would ask Capt Coetzee, if he telephoned the newspaper or reporters, to issue a statement to the Press.

Capt Coetzee's statement arrived hours after Mr du Preez issued a statement on his and journalist Jaques Pauw's visit to police.

In the statement Capt Coetzee said: "I have taken note of the lead story in *Rapport* of December 17 in which the following allegations were made.

\*"That I am currently in South Africa and am hiding out on a farm northwest of Pretoria=

\*"That I am in a bad physical condition and that I am desperately ill, emaciated and spiritually in a bad way=

\*"It is also believed



Captain Dirk Coetzee

that I have none of my necessary medication (insulin for diabetes)= and

\*"That I was possibly never overseas"

Capt Coetzee denied the fact that certain newspapers had recently given the impression that he was emotionally and psychologically imbalanced

It was sad, he said, that elements of the media were using his diabetic condition to make the revelations about police hit squads suspect

+I believe it forms part of an organised campaign to discredit me,+ he said.

"I left South Africa on November 6 in the company of *Vrye Weekblad* reporter Jaques Pauw and carried out a series of interviews with him on Mauritius

"I left a couple of days later for a destination in Europe.

"Due to security con-

siderations, I do not wish to disclose my whereabouts, but can give the assurance that I am still in a foreign country (buiteland).

"The last time I was in South Africa was on November 6,+ the statement said

"I am not desperately ill, tattered or fatigued. My psychological condition is not bad. In fact my physical and emotional condition is outstanding.

"Since November 6 I have been taking medication for my diabetic condition regularly,+ Capt Coetzee added.

He reiterated his willingness to give evidence on the existence, extent and his part in police death squads

"My only wish is to see that the whole truth about the groups is exposed," he said in conclusion -Sapa

# Police stop activists

251

Sowetan

19/12/89

POLICE set up a roadblock on Sunday evening to prevent 1 000 activists, including Winnie Mandela, from staging a candlelight vigil outside the prison where black leader Mr Nelson Mandela is held

The demonstrators travelling in 10 buses and about 50 cars were stopped by police about a kilometre outside Victor

Verster Prison where Mandela lives in a suburban-style staff house

Police gave Winnie Mandela permission to visit her husband but she declined after learning the other demonstrators would not be allowed to hold their vigil at the prison's front gate

A magistrate turned down an application for

the demonstration because it was not submitted the required five days in advance.

## Demo

The demonstrators called for the immediate release of Mandela and all others they considered political prisoners

After reaching the roadblock, the activists

sang freedom songs at the side of the road, then held a meeting in the nearby town of Paarl. No incidents were reported

Mandela, the country's best known black leader, has been imprisoned for more than 27 years and is serving a life sentence for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the government

His release is widely

expected within weeks

The ANC leader met President F W de Klerk at his office last Wednesday to discuss the prospects for opening black-white political negotiations

All black leaders, even those who are rivals of the ANC, say Mandela must be released before any talks with the Government can begin

CAPT Tim H  
19/12/89 (251)

## Judge frees hit squad accused

JOHANNESBURG. — A judge ordered yesterday that former policeman and alleged hit squad member Carl "Calla" Botha be set free as there is not enough evidence linking him to the secret "hit squads".

And in another development in the investigation, police announced in Pretoria that Rapport journalist Mr Johan Gagliano is to be questioned on the whereabouts of former police captain Mr Dirk Coetsee — the man who first revealed the existence of alleged police hit squads.

The Afrikaans Sunday paper published a leading report alleging that Mr Coetsee was hiding out on a farm outside Pretoria.

"We need to know where they got their information from," Colonel Vic Haynes, a liaison officer, said.

He said police did not know where Mr Coetsee was.

In the Rand Supreme Court yesterday, Mr Justice J C Kriegler issued the order releasing Mr Botha following the withdrawal of an application for leave to appeal against a successful application for his release.

A visibly pleased Mr Carl Casteling Botha sen, who brought the urgent application for his son's release, immediately began making arrangements to unite with him following the court's ruling.

Mr Botha, 28, was detained on November 30 this year, following his questioning by the police into the death of Wits activist Dr David Webster earlier this year.

Mr Justice Kriegler said that an affidavit linking Mr Botha to the

# Not enough evidence to link ex-policeman, judge rules

# HIT SQUAD MAN

## Hit squad case

From Page 1

hit squad although he did not understand the sensitivity and confidentiality of the investigations

He said the only concrete facts Mostert had made were that Botha and Mr Ferdinand Barnard -

an ex-policeman currently being held by police for alleged hit squad activities - had kept close observation on an activist in June this year who was "close" to murdered Wits academic, Dr David Webster

"However, I'm not told who the activist is, what his or her connection was to Dr Webster, whether the connection was social, political, professional or even sexual

"I also know that they (Botha and Barnard) were suspected of robbery earlier this year," Justice Kregler said.

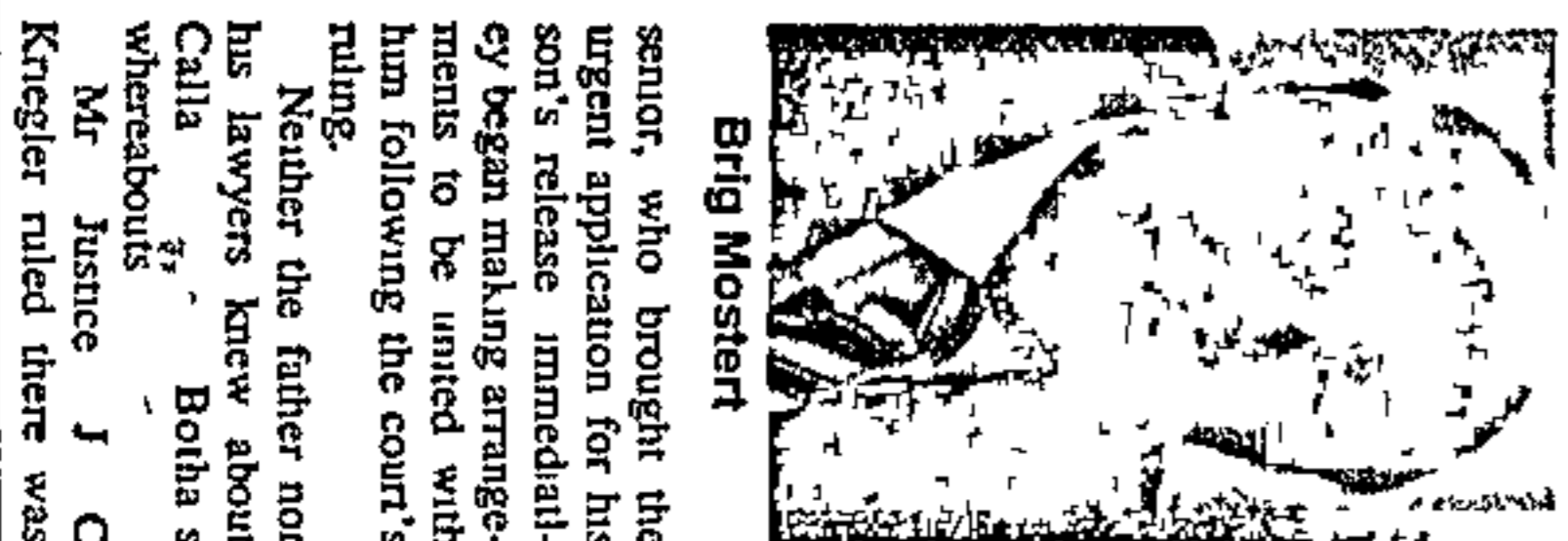
However, Mostert did not supply enough information linking Botha to the organisations (hit squads) and the application for his release was thus successful, he concluded.

# FORMER POLICE MAN AND ALLEGED HIT SQUAD MEMBER Carl "Calla" Botha was freed yesterday.

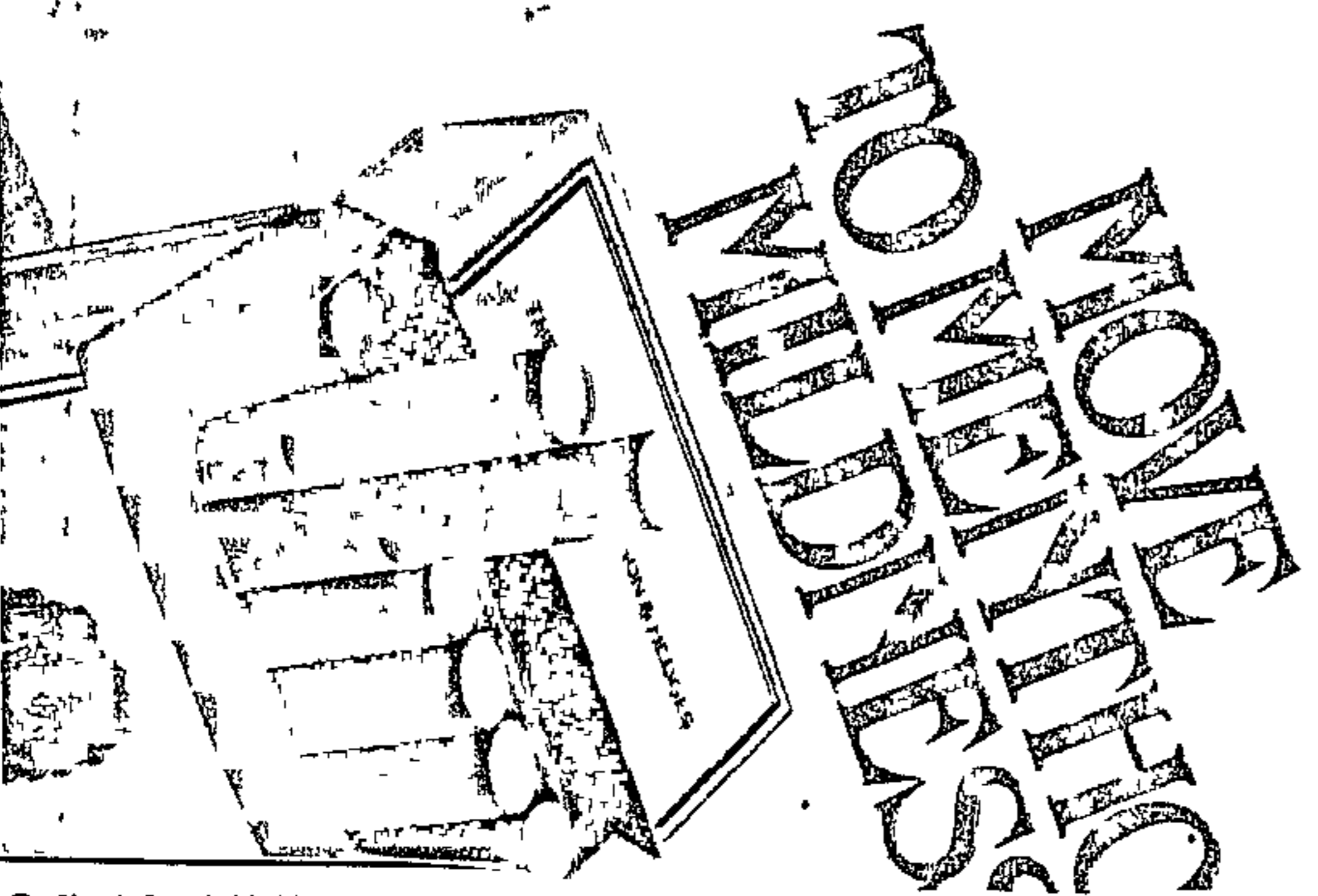
Botha was freed yesterday.

This followed the withdrawal of an application for leave to appeal against a successful application for his release yesterday morning

Mr Sam Maritz, SC, who appeared for the Minister of Law and Order, the Commissioner of the South African Police and the Witwatersrand Divisional Commissioner of Police, withdrew his application in the Rand Supreme Court following requests to do so from his clients



A visibly pleased Mr Carl Caseling Botha, senior, who brought the urgent application for his son's release immediately began making arrangements to be united with him following the court's ruling. Neither the father nor his lawyers knew about Calla's whereabouts



## Exam papers can be sent for second check

BY MONK NKOMO

THE Department of Education and Training, rocked by a scandal of irregularities in the marking of Matric examination papers, yesterday announced

To page 2

To page 2

To page 2

Sowetan 19/20/89

Sowetan 19/20/89

# Oswalpoetimes

**FREWIN TROPHY**  
**BEST DAILY**  
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A TIMES MEDIA PUBLICATION

Main Rd., Kemilly

# Hit-squad's police victims dies

Own Correspondent

**WINDHOEK.** — The policeman who was wounded when three right-wing "hitmen" escaped in Namibia died in a hospital here yesterday.

Constable Ricardo van Wyk, 21, was wounded in the back during the well-planned escape on December 4.

South Africans Darryl Stopforth and Leonard Veenendal and West German national Horst Klenz now face a second murder charge. Just before their escape the three made a

brief court appearance in Ojivawarongo for the August 10 shoot-up of a UN district office during which a security guard died.

Two weeks ago they escaped from two police guards with the aid of two unidentified accomplices, wounding Constable Van Wyk.

Doctors had planned moving the policeman to Cape Town for specialist treatment, but his serious condition and paralysis prevented the airlift.

Conservative farmers have apparently hindered a police hunt for the three fugi-

tives, whom police believe are still in Namibia.

Police officials have publicly warned that harbouring the fugitives was a criminal act, but investigators have still found their probe thwarted by an apparent network of support and concealment.

"It's a double murder charge now," SWA Police spokesman Chief Inspector Kierie du Rand said last night.

"These men are still very dangerous and desperate, and the public must be cautious

about approaching them."

Untag chief Mr Martti Ahtisaari and Administrator-General Mr Louis Plenaar damned the shoot-up of the UN office as blatant terrorism, and UN investigators said the attack showed the precision of military-trained planners.

Police on the case have linked up with South African investigators probing allegations of organised hit-squads seeking out left-wing activists for assassination, but no firm connections have yet been established.

AP/WIDEWORLD

CNT-110715 19/12/89

(251)

# Webster reward

THE R150 000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the murderers of Wits academic Dr David Webster is valid for just two more weeks until December 31

A member of the pledge committee of the Wits branch of the Union of Democratic University Staff Associations, Mr Derek Young, said no one had yet supplied Udusa with information which they felt could lead to them claiming the reward

"We want people to realise this substantial amount of money is there for the taking, but only until December 31.

"It is being offered to anyone other than members of the South African Police's investigating team"

Asked whether Udusa considered those men presently detained as not being responsible for Dr Webster's mur-

SOWETAN Correspondent

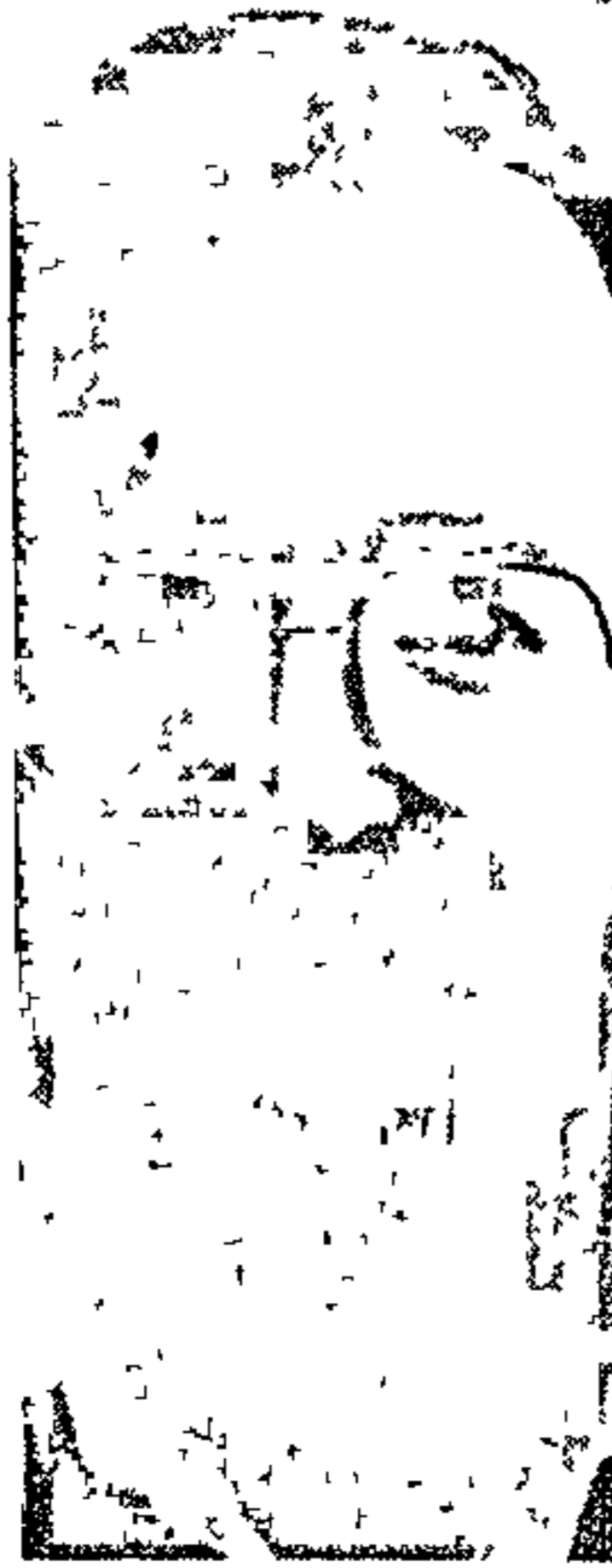
der, Young said it was impossible to respond because it was difficult to know what information the police had

Another member of the Wits pledge committee, Mr Scott Hazelhurst said there were reasons why Udusa was still advertising the reward

He said the men were being detained under Section 29 which meant they were being held for questioning and no one knew whether they were responsible

"Secondly, even if they are responsible, there might still be others who have not yet been arrested and if they are the only ones responsible, then the police might not have enough evidence to convict them and the reward might entice people to come forward"

De Klerk must think again, say academics



DAVID WEBSTER

# Probe death squads - Wits

Sowetan 20/12/89

THE Council of the University of the Witwatersrand has called for the State President to reconsider his decision not to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into alleged hit squad activities.

Wits University's acting vice-chancellor, Professor Mervyn Shear, said in a statement yesterday the Council was concerned that the State President had decided not to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry into such allegations

"At a meeting on Friday December 15, the Council of the University of the Witwatersrand noted with gratification that the police had made substantial progress in their investigation of the murder of Wits lecturer, Dr David Webster, and the indication by the State President that he was determined to identify alleged members of the 'hit squad' and ensure prosecution," he said

"Nevertheless, the Council was seriously concerned that the State President had decided

against the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry

"It was of the opinion that while it is essential that prosecutions proceed expeditiously, it is of absolute importance that everyone involved in these alleged 'hit squad activities', of whatever rank or seniority, be identified and brought to justice, and that this be seen by all to have been

done."

He said the Council had, therefore, written the State President urging him to reconsider his decision and to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry without delay

"The Council has asked that the State President receive a delegation from the university at the earliest convenience, in order to discuss the matter" - Sapa

# Vlok, Buthelezi (251) pledge aid to end Natal violence

*Blyden 20/12/87*  
DURBAN — Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok and KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi have given their assurance that police will do their utmost to protect people and solve problems in strife-torn areas near Durban.

A joint statement, issued here yesterday after an invitation by Buthelezi to Vlok to visit the areas, and subsequent discussions, said the Minister and Buthelezi would give urgent attention to "possible plans to restore law and order". They were accompanied on their visit by SAP Acting Commissioner Lt-Gen Johan van der Merwe.

Both Buthelezi and Vlok gave the assurance that the SAP and KwaZulu Police would do "everything within their power" to protect the people of the areas and to solve "underlying problems".

## Involved

This would be done "impartially and by means of due process of law" in order to maintain order.

However, they said the police forces involved were powerless if the population in the affected areas did not have the will to achieve peace. They therefore appealed urgently to leaders of the local population to ensure their followers refrained from acts of violence.

"If the community itself is not involved in the peace process, law and order cannot be restored," the statement said.

"The SA and KwaZulu police forces can only act where visible cases of violence occur, but by then the damage has already been done. The people of the area will themselves have to resolve conflict situations and will have to rid themselves of their mutual hostility."

The two also said they hoped the feuding groups would "bury the hatchet and work towards peace, law and order in the spirit of the festive season". — Sapa.

## NATAL UNREST DEATHS

September 1987 to January 1989: .....	668
February 1989 — December 18 1989: .....	438
Past 24 hours' official toll: .....	0
TOTAL: .....	1 106

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## Rockman 'brought peace' to Flats

By PETER DENNEHY

SUSPENDED policeman Lieutenant Gregory Rockman demonstrated support from unusual quarters yesterday when he introduced a "Mongrel gang leader" to the Cape Town Press Club

Lt Rockman, the speaker at yesterday's Press Club function, stressed he saw his guest, Mr Edwin Daniels, as "a person worthy of respect"

Mr Daniels said: "Mitchells Plain was a killing field. We in the Mongrels used to kill people. Rockman brought peace. Now it is the valley of peace. I, who am a Mongrel, say that if Rockman leaves Mitchells Plain, I am going to object."

Lt Rockman said that 14 members of the organisation he leads, the Police

and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), had now been suspended and faced a "black Christmas"

He himself had not wanted to ask the police for a portion of his salary while under suspension. He said other members of his union had been offered "R100 for single guys and R200 for those who are married"

He had suggested that the money should be sent back to Pretoria

Lt Rockman hinted yesterday that he might stay on in the police force if he is able to do so

"I am still prepared to stick it out, because my community have asked me to stay on, even though I was going to resign," he said



Lt Rockman



day December 20 1989

251

Sowetan 20/12/89

# 300 on Death Row for Xmas

By THEMBA MOLEFE

MORE than 300 people will spend Christmas on Death Row in Pretoria, according to the Society for the Abolition of the Death Penalty.

The SADP, which has declared the 1989 festive season as a "Christmas Against the Death Penalty" has also started a petition calling on State President F W de Klerk, to reprieve all those sentenced to death "as a gesture of goodwill before 1990".

In a statement to "fellow-South Africans" the SADP said: "As we rejoice during this festive season let us not forget the more than 300 people awaiting death by hanging in Pretoria.

"For them the festive season is no reason for joy and hope.

"South Africa uses the death penalty against many of its people - against political prisoners and against those who are the products and victim of apartheid."

The SADP said that since 1980 more than 1200 people had been hanged in Pretoria.

In 1988 a total of 117 people went to the gallows.

"This year 53 people have been executed. For us that is 53 too many," the SADP said.

It said 97 percent of all those executed were black

while 100 percent of the judges who sentenced them to death were white.

"South Africa stands in the company of Iran, Iraq, China and Nigeria as the top five executioners in the world.

"Not something to be proud of," said the organisation.

The SADP said the fight against the death penalty should be a priority in 1990 and called on all organisations to demand a moratorium on all executions until the final abolition of the death penalty.

## Reprieve plea

The society has also written a letter to De Klerk and the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, calling on them to reprieve those on Death Row and for a moratorium on further executions, moves it said would do much to "nourish the seeds of hope and reconciliation planted in our country".

\* The Department of Prisons has announced that the hangman has gone on leave for the festive season.

The last hanging for 1989 was on November 4

951 straw 20/12/89

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The worst form of terrorism is the destruction of peoples' minds, says suspended police Lieutenant Gregory Rockman who claims that there are people in Government departments "walking around like robots".

Lieutenant Rockman said there were police who were more concerned with administration than policing, with paperwork than protecting the public.

Referring to his "12 years of hell" in the South African Police, Lieutenant Rockman told the Cape Town Press Club yesterday that the police force was riddled with racism.

The former Mitchell's Plain policeman said: "I gave orders

# SAP riddled with racism, says Rockman

as a lieutenant and they weren't acknowledged by white policemen. So how is the coloured warrant officer, sergeant or constable supposed to feel?

"Coloured people live in a different world from whites, and that's not a nice world to be in. So now I'm going to speak out. I had 12 years of hell in the police and was accused of being a terrorist and a communist.

"And I'm proud of those names, because they mean I was speaking out."

The police were there to serve and protect — the motto

of the South African Police — yet they spent more time in oppression and suppression.

"I believe the police should stand loose from politics, we're not there to uphold the Government, that's not our job. Our job is to serve and protect, not to cause ruin and destruction."

He had no plans to quit the police, he said.

"I have thought of resigning, but I've been persuaded to stick it out because my community needs decent policemen to stay on."

Describing his horror at see-

ing high school pupils in Mitchell's Plain being beaten by police as they clawed their way over a high fence in a bid to flee riot police, Lieutenant Rockman said poor salaries and long hours demoralised the police, but that was no excuse for violence.

"What I saw between August and September this year was bad and no responsible human being could tolerate what I saw. For justice I'm prepared to be crucified."

This was why he and colleagues from the Prisons Service had formed Police and Prison Workers Civil Rights Union (Popcru) to phase out all forms of discrimination within the police and the prisons service, and to uphold human rights.

# Police mum on theft of paintings

By Carina le Grange

Police are investigating all angles of the theft of two Thomas Baines paintings, valued at more than R1,5 million, from the head office of First National Bank, but will not say when the theft occurred and when it was discovered.

For the purposes of the investigation, details of the time and *modus operandi* of the theft were being withheld, said the police liaison officer for the Witwatersrand, Captain Eugene Opperman.

But there was no forced entry into the bank headquarters, and the investigation includes looking at the possibility of an inside job. It has not been established how the thieves gained access to the building despite a sophisticated security system.

Other valuable paintings were untouched.

## LIVINGSTONE

The 1852 "Storm in the Stronghold of Rebel Chief Sandile in the Amatola Mountains" and the 1862 "Spray Cloud at Sunrise" went missing from the seventh floor of the Market Street offices.

On the back of "Spray Cloud at Sunrise", the artist describes David Livingstone's discovery of the Victoria Falls in his own handwriting.

Art dealers and museums throughout the world have been alerted and a reward of R50 000 has been offered by the bank for information leading to the recovery of the paintings.

It is the second major artwork theft this week. Police have launched a search for the Japanese ceramics, worth millions of rands, stolen from the Groot Constantia Museum at the weekend.



# Rockman tells of '12 years of hell in police'

By VIVIEN HORLER  
Staff Reporter

THE worst form of terrorism is the destruction of people's minds, said suspended police lieutenant Gregory Rockman who claims that there are people in government departments "walking around like robots."

Lieutenant Rockman said there were police who were more concerned with administration than policing, with paperwork than protecting the public.

Referring to his "12 years of hell" in the police, Lieutenant Rockman told the Cape Town Press Club yesterday that the police force was riddled with racism.

The former Mitchell's Plain policeman said "I gave orders as a lieutenant and they weren't acknowledged by white policemen. So how is the coloured warrant officer, sergeant or constable supposed to feel?"

"Coloured people live in a different world from whites, and that's not a nice world to be in. So now I'm going to speak out. I had 12 years of hell in the police, and was accused of being a terrorist and a communist."

"And I'm proud of those names, because they mean I was speaking out."

The police were there to serve and protect — the motto of the South African Police — yet they spent more time in oppression and suppression.

"I believe the police should stand loose from politics, we're not there to uphold the government, that's not our job. Our job is to serve and protect, not to cause run and destruction."

He had no plans to quit the police, he said. As a young man he had wanted to be a teacher, but then had seen a policeman defuse a gang war, and had realised he could play a role in peace.

"I have thought of resigning, but I've been persuaded to stick it out, because my community needs decent policemen to stay on."

Lieutenant Rockman said poor salaries and long hours demoralised the police, but that was no excuse for violence.

"What I saw between August and September this year was bad, and no responsible human being could tolerate what I saw. For justice I'm prepared to be crucified."

EDYTH BULBRING

THE Department of Foreign Affairs yesterday denied President F W de Klerk had received a formal request through diplomatic channels by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to release ANC leader Nelson Mandela before Christmas.

Thatcher's official spokesman at 10 Downing Street confirmed on Monday that her request had been made through such channels.

Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha and British ambassador Sir Robin Renwick met yesterday to discuss a wide range of issues and the matter of the formal request had received a mention, A Foreign Affairs spokesman said. *Blom 20/12/81*  
The spokesman said it appeared there

## SA denies formal Thatcher request

had been some confusion which had resulted following questions put to Thatcher in parliament this month.

She was asked whether the British government would try and get Mandela released before Christmas. She replied that she believed Mandela's release would help to bring about the end to violence and begin negotiations for a new SA constitution, the spokesman said.

The meeting between Botha and Renwick had been initiated by Renwick some time ago and was part of maintaining regular contact with the SA government.

# 'Police not shying off'

(25)

Sowetan

21/12/89

**SOWETAN  
Correspondent**

AN objection to a statement that police witnesses were "discernably reluctant" to give evidence was made at an inquest in Durban into the fatal shooting of four Chesterville youths by policemen in 1986.

At the start of yesterday's proceedings, Mr G Penzhorn, for the families of the youths, said he wished to place on record that it had been agreed by all the parties that the inquest would resume on Monday to hear evidence by policemen.

On Monday the policemen were not present and nor was advocate G G Lotz, SC, for the Minister of Law and Order.

The inquest was adjourned until Tuesday and the police witnesses and Lotz were still not present.

Lotz appeared yesterday but there were no witnesses.

Penzhorn submitted the inquest magistrate, Mr B J Olivier, would draw the conclusion that there was a discernable reluctance by police officers involved to give their version of what occurred.

Whether there was a relationship between this and sensational revelations about hit squads in

the Press was not something which concerned this inquest.

He said there was also the question of the families going to considerable expense for legal representation.

Lotz said he objected to any suggestion that police witnesses were staying away because of reluctance to give evidence. He said the delay

had been due to a misunderstanding. He had been asked by Penzhorn and by the prosecutor, Mr V Holland, whether he was available this week and had said he was.

He was subsequently told by the deputy state attorney's office that it would not be possible to make the police witnesses available this week. The other parties were informed and Lotz and the deputy state attorney both believed that the inquest

would not resume this week.

As far as expense to the families was concerned, Lotz said it was well known that the case was not being conducted by the families. Funds for legal representation did not come from their pockets.

The inquest was adjourned to January 24 next year.

Subpoenas will be issued for all witnesses to appear.

## Stop the war singer P J Powers pleads



Singer Powers

IN a Radio Zulu broadcast yesterday rock star P J Powers made an impassioned plea to the warring factions in townships around Durban to quit fighting.

And she plans to work on ways to bring emergency aid to the people affected by the troubles.

Powers, who is in Durban for a five-concert tour, said that she would be donating R500 to the Red Cross in Durban. In her radio broadcast she asked all artists to do the same in order to bring some cheer to the victims of the fighting.

She said that she was stunned by the

extent of the violence and the large numbers of people who had left their homes to seek shelter elsewhere from the bloody fighting.

"It is even more sad that so many children have been caught up in the violence for them there will be no happy Christmas. In fact most of them will be starving on what is supposed to be a day of great joy.

"I am making arrangements to visit the riot-torn areas myself", said Powers who has a major black following. She said that she would be working on projects aimed at emergency aid for the victims of the unrest.

# Freed Calla not to sue

(25)

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FORMER police sergeant Mr Calla Botha would not immediately sue the police for unlawful arrest but would wait until next month to determine whether his business had been adversely affected, his attorney, Mr Piet du Plessis said yesterday.

The Rand Supreme Court this week ordered the immediate release of Botha, a well-known rugby player who had been held under section 29 of the Internal Security Act in connection with police investigations into the assassinations of activist Dr David Webster and Swapo attorney Mr

Anton Lubowski. Questioned on whether Botha was willing to speak to the Press, Du Plessis said he had been instructed not to grant interviews. He added that Botha could change his mind next week "because things may change and there may be new developments".

"There is nothing Botha can tell anybody (about the hit squads) He was arrested and held and was asked questions. He could not tell the police anything because he doesn't know anything," Du Plessis said.

21/12/89  
Sweeter

# Bank tricked out of R470 000

THREE men posing as members of Com Security company yesterday tricked the staff of the Bank of Athens in Germiston into giving them R470000.

Lieutenant Ida van Zuuvel of the police liaison in the East Rand said the incident took place at 8 15am.

She said a Com Security vehicle stopped in front of the bank, and one of the men went into the building. Another stood on the pavement while a black man remained in the vehicle.

Lieutenant van Zuuvel said the man who went into the bank was coloured and he produced an identity card which

showed him to be a Mr Botha.

The unsuspecting clerk then handed over two trunks which contained an amount of R470000.

Lieutenant van Zuuvel said when the real Com Security members arrived at the bank at 9 30am, they realised that something was wrong when they were told the money had already been fetched.

She said police investigations had revealed that a member of Com Security had lost his identity card about three weeks ago.

Police are investigating a case of theft but there have been no arrests so far.

CITY



NATIONAL

# Cut community service <sup>MCAS 21/12/81</sup> more, say army objectors <sup>ZSCU</sup>

By JOHN YELD, Staff Reporter

SEVERAL religious conscientious objectors doing six years' community service instead of military training have had their service reduced by one year.

The objectors — some have been working for Cape Town City Council for five years — recently received letters from the Defence Force saying they will now finish at the end of the month.

Many other religious objectors are expected to be told of a one-year reprieve, according to the National Community Service Group, which represents national servicemen doing six years' alternative service.

## Three times as long

While the group welcomed the reduction, it said the present length of alternative service was still nearly three times as long as military service.

"This is not acceptable," said national secretary Mr Dawie Bosch. "In the light of recent drastic reduc-

tions in the period of military service, the reduction of the period of community service by one year does not go far enough.

"The Minister of Defence is morally compelled to further and significantly reduce the excessive length of this service with immediate effect."

Mr Bosch said the group also noted the reductions in military and community service did not apply to conscientious objectors who had been jailed — such as David Bruce, Charles Bester and Saul Batzofin.

"We call for their immediate release," he said.

● Asked to comment, a Defence Force spokesman said an announcement was expected in January.

Early in December the Loggerenberg committee investigating possible changes in the length of national service submitted interim recommendations to the Chief of the Defence Force, General Janne Geldenhuis.

On December 7 President De Klerk announced that national service was to be cut from two years to one, starting with the first intake next year.



251

# Death squads: A crisis that touches the

FAR from allaying fears, recent responses by the government to allegations of state-sponsored death squads have deepened suspicions that the authorities are attempting to cover up a crisis which reaches deep into the heart of South African state power.

Equally dubious are a series of "breakthroughs" by police in the investigation of the murders of Johannesburg activist Dr David Webster and Swapo lawyer Anton Lubowski, both earlier this year.

Despite well-founded allegations that the two detainees linked to the Webster/Lubowski killings — former policemen Ferdinand Barnard and Calla Botha — were acting on orders from Military Intelligence, all evidence released from police investigations points to far-rightwing killers. In the wake of the interrogation of Barnard and Botha, five other alleged rightwing extremists have been arrested and Afrikaner Weer

standsbeweging badges were reportedly found in an arms cache shown off by police investigators.

On Monday Botha was released after Mr Justice JC Kriegler declared his detention under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act unlawful and invalid.

In ordering Botha's release the judge said a counter-affidavit presented by Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit head Brigadier Floris Mostert, the sensitivity of police investigations notwithstanding was too vague to convince him that Botha's continued detention was justified.

He said the public had a right to know what was going on, and that if Mostert could do no better than to allude to the extreme sensitivity of the

**In the nine weeks since allegations of state-sponsored hit squads became public little progress has been made in the investigations**

**By IVOR POWELL**

situation, then the court had no alternative but to order Botha's release.

But why are the investigations being construed as being so sensitive? On one hand the state is quick to make allegations of rightwing involvement, to release information which has some political payoff for the government or anti-rightwing propaganda element. See for example the hit list sourced to the police and published by *The Sunday Times* this



Former captain, Dirk Coetzee

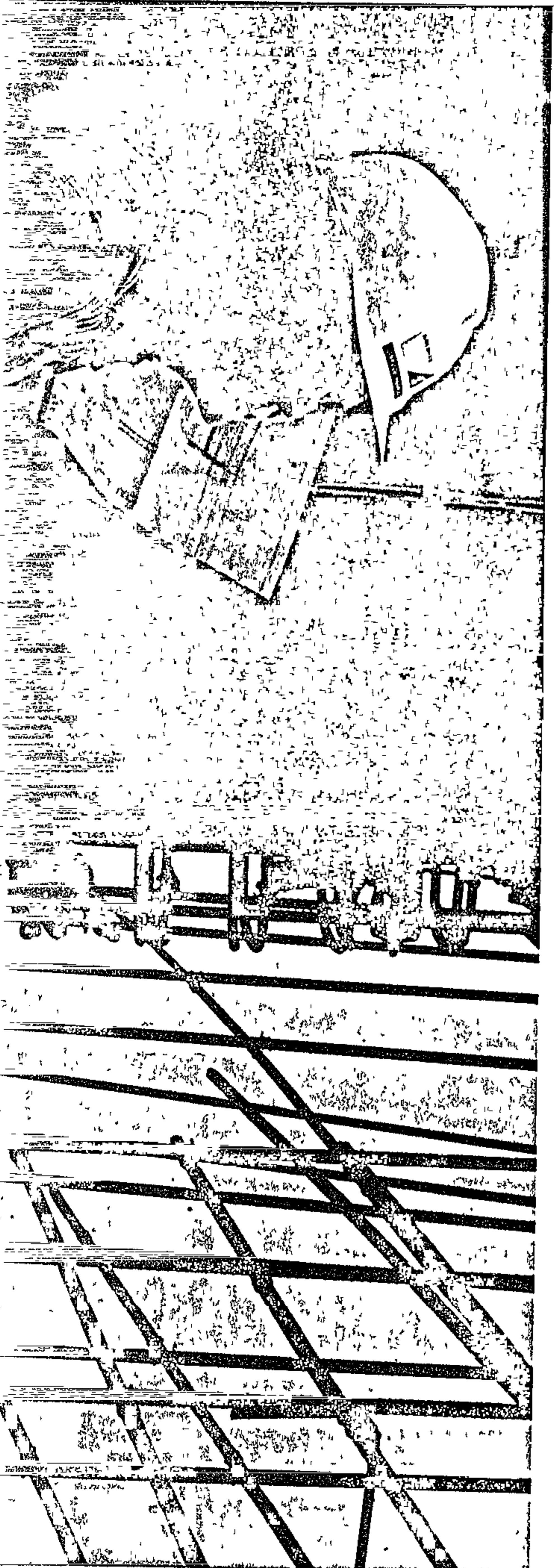
week. Among other political institutions it listed such lightweight assassinations targets as Hersugie Nasir, male Party leader Jaap Marais' prize

buddies and AWB head Eugene TerreBlanche's Brahman bulls.

On the other the need for secrecy is stressed as being overwhelming and absolute. Why? A partial answer might lie in a departmental investigation launched some years ago in which Colonel Bastie Smut (now head of the security police) was prominently involved.

In the wake of drug and murder scandals surrounding Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit and other connected branches in the Wintervaterstrand police many heads rolled.

Key players in the scandals were, among others, former death row prisoners ex-captain Jack le Grange and ex-warrant officer Robert van der Merwe, former lieutenant "Slang"



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WEEKLY MAIL D

# Hit squad-linked police 'miss' inquest

TWO police officers and a retired brigadier implicated in alleged police "hit squads" failed to appear in a Durban inquest court this week—and the authorities said they could not "track them down".

Brigadier Willem Schoon, Major Eugene de Kock and Lieutenant Paul van Dyk, all named by death row prisoner Butana Nofomela as hit squad members, were expected to testify in the inquest into the deaths of four Chesterville youths in 1986, and an official request was made to the police by the court to ensure they were present.

Three policemen, key witnesses to the shooting of four Chesterville men, inexplicably failed to arrive at the inquest court. By CARMEL RICKARD

ing Olivier's November 6 ruling that the former ANC trainees, now members of the South African Police, should give evidence in open court. However, no such application has yet been made. Penzhorn said it ap-

peared it was not going to be brought and that the three should therefore be ordered to appear and give evidence.

The four youths were shot and killed by police using a variety of weapons including an AK47, in what police claim was an infiltration attempt that went wrong.

They claim they intended to arrest the youths but that they heard a shot and, believing they were under attack, they fired back into the hut where six youths were gathered.

Two survived, one of whom has told the court none of the group was armed.

The families claim the police intended to kill the group, not to arrest them.

The police involved in the killings were sent to Durban by De Kock, armed with an AK47 authorised by Schoon, under the command of Van Dyk. The field unit were members of the secret section C1, based at security police headquarters in Pretoria.

On Monday, after investigations by the prosecutor to establish why they did not show up, the court was told that De Kock and Van Dyk could not be "tracked down".

They were on "voluntary suspension" and in terms of "new police rules" did not have to leave their addresses.

The magistrate authorised subpoenas to be issued to ensure the three appeared in court later in the week.

On Tuesday the court was told they would not appear the following day because of "time problems".

On Wednesday the court was told their non-appearance was due to a "misunderstanding".

Counsel for the families of the dead youths, Guido Penzhorn, told magistrate Ben Olivier the only conclusion which could be drawn was that there was a "discernable reluctance" on the part of the officers to be questioned about their role in the deaths of the four youths.

Gideon Lotz SC, appearing for the minister of law and order, said he "vehemently rejected" such a suggestion.

Lotz had himself not been at court on Monday or Tuesday, and no explanation was given until Wednesday when he told the court he had been given to understand that the case was not going to proceed this week.

He said the fact the officers did not appear was due to a misunderstanding.

During yesterday's hearing, Penzhorn read out a letter written by the attorney acting for the families, Bheka Shezi, to Natal's attorney general, asking for the AG's help in securing the attendance of the police witnesses.

He said in the light of their absence despite a police "departmental directive" to attend, the only inference was that they were "playing fast and loose" with the court.

Olivier has now ordered that the three officers who did not appear this week be subpoenaed to appear from January 24-31 next year.

He has also authorised subpoenas ordering three "Ascaris", members of the unit of turned African National Congress guerrillas that has also been implicated in "hit squads", to appear on the same dates.

An application was to have been made to the supreme court challeng-

# Sceptical victim disputes theory about missing cash

AN SA Perm client and regular reader of this column has quashed theories that conmen are behind the widespread disappearance of the clients' savings from the building society's automatic teller machines

Mr Richard Moyo of Tshawelo this week said there was more than meets the eye in the mysterious withdrawals

This was after his "Quick Cash" card was retained by a machine at the Carlton Centre branch of the building society on December 9 leading to an unauthorised withdrawal of more than R1 000 from his account

Moyo said when he inserted the card into the machine and started keying in his personal identification number (PIN), it was rejected because he had "keyed in the wrong number".

"I removed the card and checked if it was really mine. Satisfied that the signature at the back of

**Consumer**

By SY MAKARINGE

**Corner**



the card was mine, I made a second attempt. After keying in my PIN, the card was retained.

"I must stress that I was alone when I made the transactions," Moyo said.

He said he went back to the branch the following Monday, but was amazed when he was told his card was not among those which had been retained over that weekend.

He said a computer printout later showed to him reflected that an amount of more than R1 000 was withdrawn on the same day that his card was "swallowed" by the

machine.

A spokesperson for SA Perm said that, according to their records, the card was retained on Monday, December 11, and not on December 9 as Moyo claimed. She said the withdrawals were made on the same day the card was retained.

She said there was also no record that the client tried to withdraw money on December 9.

## Auto-teller arrests

POLICE this week claimed to have made a breakthrough following the arrest of at least three people in connection with fraudulent withdrawals of money from auto-teller machines.

According to Captain Eugene Opperman, Witwatersrand Police liaison officer, the three men were part of one of several syndicates which operate in Johannesburg. They lingered around auto-teller machines and pounced on unsuspecting victims who arrived to withdraw money.

Opperman said the conmen stood in the queue of the cash dispensing machines like ordinary clients. He said they would sometimes "come to the assistance" of clients who appeared to have problems operating the machine.

### Weekends

In a split second they would have observed their victim's PIN. They would then swiftly exchange his card with another one. Because the victim would now be unwittingly using a stolen card which did not correspond with his PIN, it would be swallowed by the machine after three attempts.

The members of the syndicate would walk away. They would then use the victim's card to withdraw money from another auto-teller machine. This could explain why clients who had their cards retained by the machines do not find them when the machines are opened by staff of the bank or building society.

Most of these incidents take place on weekends. This means that victims have to wait until the following Monday to report their missing cards, giving the conmen ample time to withdraw as much money as possible.

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — CID deputy chief Major-General Jaap Joubert said Mr Dirk Coetzee, alleged former police death squad commander, had been traced to a relative's farm near Pretoria, but had not been found, according to a front-page report in Rapport at the weekend.

Rapport carried an exclusive interview with General Joubert, who said the elusive former captain — being sought in connection with the murder of Durban human rights lawyer Mr Griffiths Mxenge — had been traced to Sambok, the farm of an uncle, Mr E C Coetzee, near De Wildt, north of Pretoria.

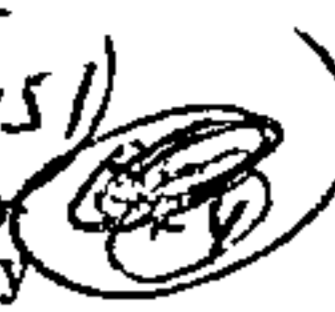
The report claimed a team of policemen under former murder and robbery head Brigadier Krappies Engelbrecht had searched the farm after a report a week earlier by Rapport carrying the same allegation.

## Coetzee 'traced but not found'

Mr Coetzee was not found, but Rapport carried an affirmation by General Joubert that their information on Mr Coetzee and his whereabouts had been correct.

Police public relations spokesmen in Pretoria yesterday said they had been given no further information on the matter.

Vrye Weekblad, which has maintained contact with Mr Coetzee and printed his revelations about his alleged work as a police assassination squad member, claimed in a statement last week that Mr Coetzee was not in South Africa. A spokesman said they stood by their statement.

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# Youth Congress man shot dead in Guguletu

Staff Reporter

A GUGULETU activist of the Cape Youth Congress has been shot dead by police outside his Tambo Square home.

The family of 21-year-old Mr Mnkedisi Shepherd "Toto" Kratshi have contradicted police reports that he stabbed a policeman and was shot in self-defence.

Police liaison officer Captain Gys Boonzaaier said police had been chasing suspects who had dumped a stolen vehicle. A sergeant searched the area and found Mr Kratshi, who stabbed him in the back. Before he could stab him a second time, the policeman shot him in the chest.

Mrs Gladys Kratshi said that on Tuesday night her son visited next door, returned home and went to a toilet near the house.

They heard several shots in the distance and then one nearby.

"It was the shot that killed my son," said a tearful Mrs Kratshi.

"He was a very sweet child. He didn't carry a knife."

A neighbour, Mr Timothy Mpetha, said Mr Kratshi had been there about 10 minutes before the shooting.

The family's lawyer, Mr Ebrahim Mohammed, said there would be an inquest.