



A campaign
initiated by
The Africa Fund.

Bill Cosby
Honorary Chairman

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Coordinator

Memo

To: Southern Africa Support and Human Rights Groups
From: Adotei Akwei, Research Department
Re: Political Trials: Apartheid's machinery runs on
12/7/90

When F.W. De Klerk unbanned political organizations in February, he promised then and in subsequent agreements with the ANC to release all political prisoners, and allow opposition groups to organize in a new more tolerant South Africa. None of this has happened. In the case of political prisoners not only has the government failed to release even a substantial number of these prisoners, as it promised, it continues to jail more anti-apartheid activists. Less than 200 political prisoners have been released out of a population of 3,000.

There have been at least 500 political trials in the last five years in South Africa, involving roughly 5,000 people. As yet another instrument of repression, drawn-out and expensive trials serve the government's effort to remove opponents of the regime from the community and prevent them from engaging in political activity.

In 1990 alone 570 trials were completed involving 2,875 people. As we go to print there are a further 275 trials in process in which 2,201 people stand accused. Conditions for defendants remain harsh and indicative of the fact that apartheid "justice" remains in force. In one case, the Yengeni trial, bail for the initial 14 defendants ranged between \$1,000-2,000 (the average income for Black South Africans in 1989 was \$190 per month) It was not until November, nearly 30 months after the trial started that all the defendants finally received bail, the last two at the astounding amount of \$16,000 each, and with severe restrictions imposed upon them after their release.

On February 2, internal and international pressure forced the South African government to release Nelson Mandela from prison, he left behind thousands of others who have also committed their lives to the task of ending apartheid. Until the De Klerk government is exposed and put under pressure it will continue to undermine and ignore its promises and agreements. These prisoners will remain ignored in jail and the nation will quietly become a nation of invisible prisoners.

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Tilden J. LeMelle
Chairman

Jennifer Davis
Executive Director

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

HUMAN RIGHTS BRIEFING 42/90

5 DECEMBER 1990

DETENTIONS

There were no new detentions recorded in the past week.

RELEASES

SECTION 29

The following detainees were released and charged in the past week:

27/11/90

1) MAZIBUKO Mbegeni

30/11/90

1) HLONGWANE Loyco

2) MASHILOANE Tliso

BOPHUTHATSWANA STATE OF EMERGENCY

We have received information that all the remaining Bophuthatswana detainees were released last week Monday - 26/11/90.

BOPHUTHATSWANA INTERNAL SECURITY ACT

Three people were detained on the 23/11/90 for allegedly passing on classified information to the ANC. They were all released on the 27/11/90 without being charged.

They are:

- 1) ?? Musi
- 2) ?? Kolwane
- 3) M.A. Majisi

"UNREST AREAS"

It has come to our attention that the three detainees from Atteridgeville, held under the Declaration of Unrest Areas were released without being charged on 03/12/90.

They are:

- 1) MANGWANE Jimmy
- 2) ?? Vincent
- 3) ?? Brendel

DETENTION STATISTICS

Legislation	Detentions this week	Releases this week	Still Held as at 05/12
"Unrest Areas"	0	3	0
ISA Sec 29	0	3	90*
Sec 31	0	0	0
Sec 50	0	0	0
Transkei PSA	0	0	21
Bophuthatswana SOE/ISA	0	3	0
Venda MLOA	0	0	0
Ciskei NSA	0	0	2
Unknown	0	0	2
TOTAL	0	6	115

ISA = Internal Security Act

PSA = Public Security Act

SOE = State of Emergency

MLOA = Maintenance of Law and Order Act

NSA = National Security Act

BISA = Bophuthatswana Internal Security Act

* = The official figure for Sec 29 detainees is 82

COMMENTS ON DETENTION STATISTICS

Note

We do not always receive notice of detentions and releases on the date of their occurrence. However we still reflect the changes in our statistics when these reports are received.



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HUMAN RIGHTS BRIEFING 4000

21 NOVEMBER 1990

DETENTION STATISTICS

Legislation	Detentions this week	No Released this week	Still Held as at 21/11
'Unrest Areas'	3	0	1
ISA Sec 29	1	0	101
Sec 31	0	0	0
Sec 5C	0	0	0
Transkei PSA	0	0	21
Bophuthatswana SOE	0	0	111
Venda MLOA	0	0	0
Ciskei NSA	0	0	2
Unknown	0	0	2
TOTAL	4	0	217

ISA = Internal Security Act
PSA = Public Security Act
SOE = State of Emergency
MLOA = Maintenance of Law and Order Act
NSA = National Security Act

COMMENTS ON DETENTION STATISTICS

Note
We do not always receive a notice of detention or release as to the date of their occurrence. However we will reflect the changes in our statistics when a notice is received.

NEW DETENTIONS AND RELEASES

Section 29
We have recorded one new detention this week.
Moses Benjamin Mzobe was detained at the Wynberg Regional Court after charges of illegal possession of arms and ammunition were withdrawn on the 19/11/90.

Releases

Makhlano - Tsamane
Manganya - Tsebo
Moko - Gama
Mushu - Gochon
Shole - Jaburani

CISKEI NATIONAL SECURITY ACT

M. of Police - However, who is a former executive member of Ciskei's council of state was detained under Ciskei's security laws on the 11/10/90.
A council spokesperson declined to elaborate on the reasons for the Mayor's detention.

BOPHUTHATSWANA STATE OF EMERGENCY

Since last week's briefing we have obtained the names of 37 more people who were detained in the security police crackdown from the 11th to the 14th of November.

They are:

11/11/90
Tshabang Kg. Amole
Saboed William
Mabane M.
Dlamini Vonda
Mokhele Paddy
Mokhele - Moko

12/11/90
Mokhele Joseph
Mokhele Sello
Dipole Mela
Lobwe Elizabeth
Phakwan Mabel
Mela Louise

13/11/90
Ngobelo Melrose
Moko Magela
Moko F. Moko
Moko Moko, Moko
Moko Moko, Moko
Moko Moko, Moko
Moko Moko, Moko

14/11/90
Moko Moko, Moko
Moko Moko, Moko
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Bophuthatswana Releases

We have received reports stating that 15 people have been released in the past week. We have the names of 8 of these detainees, listed below.

List of recent releases in Bophuthatswana:

13/11/90

Mamela Angie
Jamelia Senekong

18/11/90

Mogel Poucha (Lawyer)

17/11/90

Marguba Laronco
Hlangweni Fane
Nkabelo Jones

STATE OF REPRESSION

NATAL

Edvair

Edvair, chairperson of Friends Youth Organisation and ANC member, was stabbed in Durban Saturday, 7 November. 'Edvair' was involved in peace initiatives in Durban. The identity of the assassin is unknown. He alleged that his name 'Edvair' sounded dangerous.

BORDER

Berkey East

17/11/90 - Two people died and one was injured when police opened fire on protesters in the local township. Vice chairperson of the local ANC branch Munkhaya Langa, who in Berkey East Hospital and ANC member Sonwabo Zindile died in the spot. An unknown person was injured during the incident. There is an air of protest and boycott in the area.

ORANGE FREE STATE

Indlovu

More than 20 people were injured when police allegedly assaulted people who attended the 'dancing' of an ANC branch in the area. An unknown number of people were arrested and released later without being charged.

PWV

Chibweni District

18/11/90 - More than 20 youths were arrested when police allegedly disrupted a local youth general meeting. According to witnesses, approximately 15 police vehicles surrounded the venue and everybody at the meeting was arrested.

N. TRANSVAAL

Ngabu

A former employee of the National Anti-Repression Forum and ANC organizer, Francis Phathane, was abducted by a group of unknown persons. According to family members, a group of black and white men arrived in the evening and kicked down the door. They later locked everybody in different rooms and a largely assaulted Francis before abducting him. Francis Phathane was recently arrested over R40 000 in the region as a result of being tortured in detention in 1987. Although his name was not on the list of police officers involved in the case which were sent to Phathane's home the night. Lawyers are investigating the matter.

Gauteng (Johannesburg)

19/11/90 - EASF members detained Mthembu Mankela and Jaromah (unknown). They were taken to the SAUF camp at Witpoort where they were questioned about a Youth Congress meeting and were allegedly released. They were later released without being charged. They are both executive members of the local Youth Congress.

Maphephethi

18/11/90 - People who went to attend the launching of an ANC branch were killed away before reaching the venue by members of the SAUF. Those who made it to the venue proceeded with the meeting. SAUF members arrived later and surrounded the venue, some went in and took notes of the proceedings.

Norx

18/11/90 - A meeting for the launching of an ANC branch was violently disrupted by members of the SAUF. As a result, the launch did not take place.