COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC

VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

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STATEMENT WHICH WAS GIVEN TO THE SUNDAY TIMES ON SATURDAY, 22 AUGUST 1992 BY MR JUSTICE R J GOLDSTONE, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMIS-SION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

On Friday evening I was informed by the Sunday Times of its information concerning the business connection between Grinaker and the South African Defence Force and its receipt of Government grants.

Commission does not in any way question the independence or The integrity of Grinaker or its employees with regard to a scientific examination of the tapes. However, any suggestion or appearance of bias, a conflict of interests or an absence of independence could materially affect public confidence in any results furnished by Grinaker to the Commission. If the Commission had been aware of the relationship between Grinaker and the SADF and the Government at the time it sought independent advice it would not have considered Grinaker a suitable organisation for the appointment. In these circumstances the Commission has no option but to withdraw its mandate from Grinaker and to appoint another independent expert in South Africa or, if necessary, abroad. I have accordingly requested the Secretary of the Commission to collect the tapes from Grinaker on Monday morning.

As the Commission has already made public, Grinaker informed it that the tapes had not been bulk erased but had been over-recorded. The questions which remain are when, where and why they were over-recorded and whether what was over-recorded can be retrieved. These are important questions relating to the

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Bolpatong massacre enquiry and it is in the interests of all the parties that they be answered in a manner which has complete credibility and is beyond suspicion or question.

PRETORIA 24 AUGUST 1992

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PRESS STATEMENT BY HIS HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE R J GOLDSTONE, CHAIR-MAN OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY REGARDING THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC VIOLENCE AND INTIMIDATION

1. When the Commission learnt last week of the murder of Mr André de Villiers and the allegations in relation thereto, with the co-operation of the South African Police, Lieutenant Colonel H Heslinga, a full-time member of the staff of the Commission, travelled to Port Elizabeth to observe the Police enquiry on behalf of the Commission. On Thursday Col Heslinga furnished a report to the Commission.

2. In view of the most recent developments and the obvious relevance thereof to its terms of reference, the Commission has requested the South African Police, the African National Congress and the Attorney-General of the Eastern Cape to keep it fully informed and to furnish it with any relevant information.

PRETORIA 24 AUGUST 1992