3011 339 1422

HRC







Fox: (011) 339-1422

Eastern Cape Room 502, Alfin House, Main St. North End, Port Bizabeth 6001 Tel: (041) 546-284 Fox: (041) 547-394

Notal

Roam 66, Ecumenical Centre, 20 St. Andrews Str. Durban 4001 Tel: (031) 305-9460 Fax: (031) 305-7380

Western Cape

Industria Hse, 350 Victoria Rd, Salt River 7925 Tel: [02]) 47:4767 Fax: [02]) 47:4744

WEEKLY REPRESSION REPORT

FOR WEEK No.34 FROM 18/08/93 TO 24/08/93

WEEKLY DEATH TOLL				
	PWV	NATAL	ELSEWHERE	TOTAL
General Incidents	44	28	2	74
Security Force Activity	3	-	-	3
Attacks against Security Forces	-	1	-	1
TOTAL	47	29	2	78

Seventy-eight deaths and 52 injuries were recorded during this period.

Main incidents:

* Incidents of violence in the East Rand resulted in 45 of the 47 deaths recorded in the PWV, and accounted for more than half of the country's total deaths. A massacre in at the Scaw Metals hostel in Germistion accounted for 14 of the deaths.

- * Violence in Natal continues unabated and resulted in 29 deaths.
- * The HRC wishes to express its concern at the revelations of the Motsuenyane Commission's report into the abuse of human rights in ANC camps outside the country. The HRC hopes that the organisation's National Executive Committee takes the Commission's findings seriously and implements its recommendations as soon as possible.
- * The HRC welcomes the long-overdue announcement by the Minister of Defence that the compulsory conscription of white men is to be scrapped, and replaced by a nonracial volunteer-based national service. However, the HRC urges the Minister of Defence to discontinue the prosecutions of conscripts for "failure to report" and "refusal to serve" in a system which the SADF has now, finally, acknowledged to be unnecessary.

A. FORMAL REPRESSION

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FORMAL REPRESSION OF PERSONS

Detention without Trial

The police reported that 3 people are currently being held in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act and that 111 people are being held under the provisions of the Public Safety Act. According to HRC records, most, if not all, of the people held in terms of the Public Safety Act were detained on the East Rand of the PWV. * On the 24th August in the Rand Supreme Court, the ANC was granted an interim

order interdicting the Ministers of Defence and Law and Order, the heads of Modderbee and Boksburg Prisons, 8 East Rand police station commanders and the forces under their commands from assaulting, abusing, threatening or ill treating detainees in their custody. The court action followed allegations that a number of East Rand detainees had been assaulted in custody. However, the judge emphasised that he was not making a finding in respect of these allegations. The interdict will remain in force pending the detainees' application to have their arrests and continued detention declared unlawful, which is to heard next week.

Bophuthatswana

The six people detained on the 11th - 12th August - and who embarked on a hunger strike on the 17th August - were released from detention on the 19th August.

GENERAL INCIDENTS

B. POLITICAL VIOLENCE

PWV: 44 deaths and 24 injuries. All but 2 of the deaths and all of the injuries occurred in the East Rand sub-region. In a single incident on the 22nd August, 14 people, including a woman, were killed and 20 others injured, when a group of men armed with AK-47 rifles, opened fire on people at a hostel housing employees of Scaw Metals in Germiston. The worst affected townships remain Thokoza (13 deaths, 1 injury) and Katlehong (11 deaths). Other affected areas in the East Rand were: Tembisa (2 deaths, 1 injury), Phola Park (1 death), Vosloorus (2 injuries), Alberton (1 death),

Three separate train attacks in Katlehong, Soweto and Pretoria accounted for 3 deaths.

NATAL: 28 deaths and 12 injuries were reported as follows: Durban (6 deaths), Midlands (7 deaths, 5 injuries), North Coast (12 deaths, 7 injuries) and Northern Natal (1 death). Five women were killed and 2 injured; and two children were killed and 2 injured in violence in the region.

In Durban's Malukazi township, an IFP member was shot dead in the IFP section of the township and an ANC spokesperson said the killing was an attempt to disrupt the peace agreement signed by the ANC and IFP in Malukazi two weeks previously.

BORDER-E.CAPE: No deaths or injuries. However, on the 19th August in East London, Border, an oil depot was attacked by men using RPG7 rockets. A man claiming to be a commander of the PAC military wing, APLA, claimed responsibility for

The HRC also received numerous reports of vehicles being set alight and stoned in the Port Elizabeth townships of KwaZakhele, New Brighton and Struandale.

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W. CAPE: 2 deaths and 1 injury in separate incidents in Khayelitsha and Crossroads. Also, a number of vehicles were damaged by youths who were reportedly responding to campaigns called by COSAS to keep "reactionary elements" out of the townships.

SECURITY FORCE ACTIONS

PWV: 3 deaths, 15 injuries and 132 arrests. In Phola Park, East Rand, 3 people, including a 3 year-old girl, were shot dead and one person injured, when members of the SADF opened fire on shacks in the settlement. According to residents, members of the SADF on patrol in the settlement opened fire on residents without provocation. Residents said that they had been previously warned by SADF members that they would have to leave the area because it belonged to IFP members. The SADF said that a foot patrol was shot at and returned fire, resulting in the casualties. Two AK-47 rifles were allegedly found by the SADF near the victims. In Johannesburg 10 members of the Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru) were arrested and then released during a protest march by Popcru members to police regional headquarters in Braamfontein. Also in Johannesburg, at least 14 students of the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) were injured, and 121 arrested during protest action by the South African Students Congress (Sasco). In Sharpeville, Vaal, an Azanyu member was arrested after during a raid on his home.

E. CAPE: Police arrested 49 NEHAWU members during a protest march in Port Elizabeth that was declared illegal.

W. CAPE: In Nyanga about 40 women were arrested by police during a protest march to Nyanga police station.

ATTACKS AGAINST SECURITY FORCES

PWV: A municipal policeman was injured in KwaThema. However, the HRC recorded 13 other attacks which did not result in injuries in the East Rand townships of Daveyton (5 attacks), Katlehong (2 attacks), Thokoza (5 attacks), Phola Park (1 attack).

NATAL: A member of the SAP was shot dead in Inanda.

BORDER-E.CAPE: 4 policemen were injured in the course of 11 attacks. Ten attacks, resulting in 3 of the injuries, occurred in the Eastern Cape township of KwaZakhele. In the other incident a policeman was injured in East London when gunmen, believed to have participated in the attack on an oil depot (see General Incidents), opened fire on police.

C. OTHER INCIDENTS

EDUCATIONAL CONFLICT

PWV

At Wits University students supporting the South African Students' Congress (SASCO) damaged property, destroyed student files, disrupted lectures and clashed with other students during protest action by SASCO. SASCO protested against the ratio of black students to white students; problems regarding bursaries; the "undemocratic" composition of the university council. The SASCO action took place in defiance of a court interdict barring SASCO from disrupting university activities.