



Sculpture by Paul Stopforth

Photo: Ingrid Hudson

DURING April 1982, a memorandum prepared by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) claimed that systematic and widespread methods of torture were employed by the Security Police during the interrogation of detainees.

The Minister of Law and Order, to whom this memorandum was presented, rejected these allegations. Subsequently, an officer of the CID approached the DPSC, having been

appointed to investigate the allegations made in the initial memorandum.

In response to this, on September 30, 1982, the DPSC submitted more than 70 particulars of allegations by ex-detainees, in which various forms of torture, intimidation and pressure were set out. Particulars were sent to the CID officer appointed to investigate the allegations levelled and to the Ministers of Law and Order and Justice.

- ★ 'I want to ask that we identify all people who make these wild, exaggerated allegations, wherever they are made, as liars and continue to identify them as liars. We must continue to say, "We cannot believe you".'
- ★ 'Every person who opens his mouth about these exaggerated things must get a direct accusation from every right-thinking and responsible inhabitant of South Africa that we cannot believe you, you are a liar.'

— Minister le Grange in Parliament (RDM 25/5/82)

- ★ 'You won't get much information if you keep a detainee in a 5-Star hotel or with friends.'

— Minister le Grange (Citizen 11/8/82)

DETAINEES WHO HAVE DIED IN DETENTION

Name	Date of death	Act detained under	Cause of death
Solwandle Ngudle	5/9/63		'Suicide by hanging'
Bellington Mampe	?/9/63		Undisclosed
James Tyita	24/1/64		'Suicide by hanging'
Suliman Saloojee	9/9/64		'Fell 7 floors during interrogation'
Ngeni Gaga	9/5/65	Proclamation R400 (Transkei)	'Death from natural causes'
Pongolasha Hoye	9/5/65	"	"
James Hamakwayo	?/8/66	180-day clause of CPA	'Suicide by hanging'
Hangula Shonyeka	9/10/66	"	'Suicide'
Leong Pin	19/11/66	"	'Suicide by hanging'
Ah Yan	5/1/67	"	"
Alpheus Madiba	9/9/67	"	"
J B Tubakwa	10/9/63	Terrorism Act	"
Unknown	Unknown		Reported in Parliament
Nicodemus Kgoathe	5/2/69	Terrorism Act	Bronchial pneumonia after slipping in shower
Solomon Modipane	28/2/69	"	'Slipped on soap'
James Lenkoe	10/3/69	"	Signs of electric shock, but verdict of 'suicide by hanging'
Caleb Mayekiso	1/6/69	"	'Natural causes'
Michael Shivute	17/6/69		'Suicide'
Jacob Monhakgotla	10/9/69	Terrorism Act	'Thrombosis'
Imam Abdullah Haron (45)	27/9/69	"	'Fell down stairs' and died of heart failure
Mthayeni Cuthsela	21/1/71	"	'Natural causes'
Ahmed Timol (30)	27/10/71	"	Fell from 10th floor of John Vorster Square
Joseph Mdluli (50)	19/3/76	Criminal Procedure Act	Severe injuries inflicted before death
Mapetla Mohapi (29)	5/8/76	Terrorism Act	'Death by hanging'
Luke Mazwembe (32)	2/9/76	General Laws Amendment Act	'Suicide by hanging'
Dumisani Mbatha (16)	25/9/76	Terrorism Act	'Natural causes'
Fenual Mogatusi (22)	28/9/76		'Natural causes — epileptic fit'
Jacob Mashabane (22)	5/10/76		'Suicide by hanging'
Unnamed man	6/10/76		Undisclosed. Reported died in Carletonville cells
Edward Mzolo (40)	9/10/76		Undisclosed
William Tshwane	14/10/76		"
Ernest Mamasila (34)	19/11/76	Terrorism Act	'Suicide by hanging'
Thalo Mosala	26/11/76	Proclamation R400	'Natural causes'
Wellington Tshazibane (30)	11/12/76	Terrorism Act	'Suicide by hanging'
George Botha (32)	15/12/76	General Laws Amendment Act	'Suicide by jumping 6 floors down stairwell'
Dr Nanoath Ntshuntsha (43)	9/1/77	Terrorism Act	'Death by hanging'
Lawrence Ndzanga (53)	8/1/77	"	'Heart failure'
Elmon Malele (52)	20/1/77	"	'Brain haemorrhage'
L Mathews Mabelane (22)	15/2/77	"	'Fell 10 floors to his death'
Twasiene Joyi	15/2/77		Undisclosed
Samuel Malinga (45)	22/2/77	Terrorism Act	'Pneumonia'
Aaron Khoza (35)	26/3/77		'Suicide by hanging'
Elija Loza (59)	1/8/77	Terrorism Act	'Stroke'
Phakamile Mabitja (27)	7/7/77	General Laws Amendment Act	'Fell from 6th floor during interrogation'
Hoosen Haffejee (26)	3/8/77	Criminal Procedure Act	'Suicide by hanging'
Bayenpin Mzizi (62)	13/8/77	Terrorism Act	"
Steve Biko (31)	12/9/77	"	'Brain injury after a scuffle in interrogation room'
Sipho Malaza (18)	16/11/77	"	'Suicide by hanging'
Lungile Tabalaza (19)	10/7/78		Jumped from 5th floor, Security Police HQ, Port Elizabeth
Saul Ndzumo	10/9/80	Transkei Public Security Act	'Natural causes' — No inquest was held
Tshithiwa Muolhe (28)	12/11/81		Died two days after his detention by Venda Security Police, who were found responsible
Neil Aggett (29)	5/2/82	Section 6, TA	Inquest in progress
Ernest Mbabe Dipale	8/8/82		Not yet determined
Jona Hamukwaya	18/11/82		Namibia. Not yet determined
Kaduma Katanga	18/11/82		Namibia. Not yet determined