

NM 01/01/0027/9



HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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SUMMARY REPORT ON REPRESSION FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 1992

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WITH COMPLIMENTS

Date: 9 July 1992 Pages: 3

A. STATISTICAL SUMMARY

FORM OF REPRESSION	JUNE 1992	TOTAL YEAR TO DATE	1992 MONTHLY AVERAGE	1991 MONTHLY AVERAGE
<u>POLITICAL VIOLENCE</u>				
DEATHS: FWV	281	1177	196,1	99,8
Natal	82	545	90,8	88,1
Elsewhere	10	84	14,0	27,3
TOTAL DEATHS:	373	1806	301,0	215,2
INJURIES:	395	2931	488,5	338,8
<u>FORMAL REPRESSION</u>				
DETENTIONS WITHOUT TRIAL	118	226	37,7	91,1
DEATHS IN POLICE CUSTODY	1	12	2,0	0,8
POLITICAL ARRESTS	1433	4316	719,3	772,2
POLITICAL TRIALS: -				
Completed Trials	9	109	18,2	47,9
No. of Accused	500	2092	348,7	270,5
No. Convicted	-	164	27,3	20,2
POLITICAL PRISONERS:-				
No. Imprisoned	-	1	0,2	3,8
No. Released	-	3	0,5	81,7
DEATH SENTENCES	3	19	3,2	7,1

FORMAL REPRESSION

REPRESSIVE LEGISLATION

At the end of June, Unrest Area declarations were in effect in 14 PWV townships.

DETENTION WITHOUT TRIAL

During June, 118 persons were detained without trial, with most of these being residents of the KwaMadala Hostel said to be involved in the Bolpatong massacre. At the month's end 83 were still being held.

DEATHS IN POLICE CUSTODY

One death in police custody was recorded this month.

POLITICAL ARRESTS

During June, Security Forces made 1433 political arrests, the second highest figure in the last two years, after the 2574 of May 1991.

About 63% of arrests in June were in response to labour related protest, and a further 23% in response to politically related protest. An increase in the number of political trials can now be expected.

POLITICAL TRIALS AND IMPRISONMENT

HRC recorded 9 political trials as having been completed in June, involving 500 accused. This is the first month this year, in which no convictions, resulting from these trials, were recorded.

As at the end of June, there were still 115 trials in progress, involving 1859 accused.

DEATH ROW

Three more death sentences were handed down in June. The current number on death row is 300 including 8 politicals.

BANNING OF GATHERINGS

During June, the Cradock Advice Office (in the E.Cape) reported that magisterial permission for a picket demonstration, demanding the re-opening of the inquest into the 1985 deaths of Matthew Goniwe and three other activists, which was to be held in front of the local security police offices, was refused.

**FOR FULL DETAILS, SEE HRC's JUNE ISSUES OF
HUMAN RIGHTS UPDATE
AND
AREA REPRESSION REPORT**

B. COMMENT

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

DEATHS AND INJURIES

- * The death toll in June was 373, the third highest month on record in the last 2 years, after August 1990 (709) and March 1992 (437). It includes a major massacre (Boipatong) in which 45 people died. Deaths for the year now total 1806, which is 34% more than at this time last year.
- * Injuries for the year total 2931, or 49% ahead of last year.

SOURCES

- * Vigilante-related actions accounted for 290 deaths (78% of the total) and for 239 injuries (81% of the total).
- * Security Forces were responsible for 15 deaths (year's total now 74) and for 66 injuries (year's total now 683). They themselves suffered casualties to the extent of 12 deaths and 46 injuries.
- * Hit Squads claimed 15 lives, the highest monthly figure in two years, bringing the total for the year to 51.

AREA ANALYSIS

- * The PWV area recorded its third highest monthly death toll in two years at 281 (or 75% of the country total), and 284 injuries (72% of the total). Vaal was again the leading flashpoint with 99 deaths (including Boipatong), closely followed by East Rand (93), and Soweto (77). Alexandra registered a most welcome decrease, with only 4 deaths.
- * Natal remained at its usual level with 82 deaths (22% of the total) and 74 injuries (19%). The death toll rose in Midlands to 34, as it did in Durban (23), while the South Coast drops to only 14.
- * Other areas accounted for 11 deaths, or 3% of the total.

VICTIMS

- * Commuters continued to fall victim to attacks in June. Train attacks caused 29 deaths and 55 injuries in 37 incidents, bringing the totals for the year so far to 197 deaths and 367 injuries in 212 incidents or monthly averages of 33 deaths and 61 injuries in 35 incidents. In addition bus and taxi attacks were responsible for 23 deaths and 20 injuries in 11 incidents.
- * Women and children figured prominently among the victims. Women suffered 85 deaths (23% of the total) and 51 injuries (13%). Children suffered 25 deaths (6,7%) and 3 injuries.
- * From June records it was possible to identify about 40% of the victims as to their affiliation or location within the community, as follows :-
 - ANC supporters and township residents - 86,6% of the dead, 89,8% of the injured.
 - Inkatha supporters and hostel dwellers - 13,4% of the dead, 10,2% of the injured.

ATTACKERS

Where the affiliation of attackers (other than Security Forces) could be assessed from reports, the following emerged during June:-

- ANC supporters and township residents - 10 attacks resulting in 8 deaths and 11 injuries.
- Inkatha supporters and hostel dwellers - 17 attacks resulting in 60 deaths and 38 injuries.