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The Citizen 11/6/92

ANC calls for end to violence

THE African National Congress has called on the police, the Inkatha Freedom Party and others to join it in bringing an end to violence.

Reacting to the Amnesty International report on the violence in South Africa and the emphasis placed on police complicity, the ANC said: "We call on the South African Police, the Inkatha Freedom Party and all the organisations that have been mentioned in these reports to join us in a full-out effort to bring an end to the violence in terms of the undertakings of the National Peace Accord."

The ANC said it would study the full Amnesty International report, together with the other reports on violence that had recently been made public.

"The Amnesty International report, the Goldstone report and the International Commission of Jurists report are clearly looking at the violence from different angles.

"We welcome the useful contribution that all these reports are making to our understanding of the violence in order to try and find ways, together with all concerned and peace loving South Africans, to solve the violence," the ANC said.

The Amnesty International report was selective and appeared to be an attempt by the human rights organisation to ingratiate itself with the ANC, the IFP national chairman, Dr Frank Mdlalose, said yesterday.

"It is difficult to take the work seriously.

"Even a cursory study shows that Amnesty has relied entirely on secondary sources. It has done no research of its own, relying instead on the reports, writings and conclusions of others.

"The IFP views and answers to the allegations made were not sought and are not reflected," said Dr Mdlalose.

"Amnesty has chosen cases of violence selectively to underpin the case it wanted to put. Mountains of material could easily have been supplied to paint a very different picture from the one in the book. Amnesty thus makes itself guilty of concealment of evidence."

Dr Mdlalose said for many years Amnesty had refused to accept ANC president Nelson Mandela as a prisoner of conscience, claiming it could not support violent organisations.

"The book it has just published appears to be a belated attempt by Amnesty International to ingratiate itself with the ANC."

Amnesty International condemned state oppression and if the ANC became part of a future government and committed human rights abuses, it could also expect criticism, an Amnesty spokesman said yesterday.

Ms Mary Rayner, who was part of the London-based human rights organisation's delegation that visited South Africa last December, was reacting

to the SAP's denouncement of its report.

Ms Rayner said in a telephone interview from London that Amnesty was on record for expressing concern about evidence of human rights violations by the ANC in its camps abroad.

The organisation was also involved in a programme to monitor the ANC's Commission of Inquiry into human rights abuses.

She said the organisation did acknowledge in its report that ANC supporters were involved in killings, but the major focus of the document was state security involvement in torture and killings.

It was acknowledged in the report that State President De Klerk took the initiative in 1990 to take the police out of politics, but "evidence over the past two years showed that (police) practice on the ground has not substantially changed".

One of the reasons for the lack of change at grassroots level and police action on the ground, Ms Rayner said, was the failure of the authorities to act swiftly on continuing allegations and evidence of violations over the past two years.

The State President's message was "muddled" by this lack of action, she said. — Sapa.

The Citizen 11/6/92

THE CITIZEN COMMENT

Amnesty

IT is difficult for any overseas body to apportion blame for the violence in South Africa.

Amnesty International, by the very nature of its activities, tends to place its emphasis on torture and killings by official security forces, as any study of its bulletins will show.

South Africa is no exception in this regard.

Amnesty accuses South Africa's security forces of involvement in violence and says the government is guilty of "gross negligence" at best in not bringing the culprits to book.

The report says reforms in South Africa have brought sweeping changes but it is "business as usual" for the security forces — often including collusion in political killings or standing by while others massacred political rivals.

Inkatha and KwaZulu police are heavily criticised in the report, which also accuses the Bophuthatswana Government of violent coercion and says there is a strong suggestion authorities there condone the use of torture.

Although it says the ANC and its supporters have been responsible for deliberate and arbitrary killings, the "overwhelming majority" of victims of violence have been members or perceived sympathisers of the ANC and other formerly banned organisations.

The report documents what it calls a "systematic pattern of police and military involvement in torture and assassinations" during the past two years.

Despite State President De Klerk's promises to take the police out of politics, the police have continued their "war against the ANC and allied organisations". The government has been slow to act against policemen despite mounting evidence, the report says.

It was drawn up after a month-long visit to South Africa by senior members of Amnesty International in December last year and subsequent monitoring operations.

While we cannot suggest that they were deliberately biased, their views would certainly be formulated from the outset by a natural propensity of all human rights groups everywhere to find governments and their security forces responsible for most of the political killings in their countries.

Amnesty's sources would, in the main, also be drawn from those bodies which campaign on the basis that there is a Third Force in which the security forces are involved — or a conspiracy by security forces to kill opponents of the government.

But even if Amnesty could be totally impartial — which we doubt — there is no way in which it can judge the situation here in a month or more when it is impossible even for jurists and politicians to form conclusive judgments of what is going on.

We know that prisoners have been tortured, but our impression is that torture is not practised on a large scale anymore. Since there are safeguards, including visits by magistrates and judges to check the conditions under which prisoners are held.

We know that there are policemen who have been involved in killings, the Trust Feed massacre being a sad example of this.

But there are dozens of policemen who have been killed, too.

We know that the ANC and Inkatha Freedom Party have been involved in a struggle for power in the townships and in the rural areas of KwaZulu-Natal.

Killings in the townships continue despite the Peace Accord, despite the promises of the ANC, Inkatha and the government to end the violence.

Sadly, because of the mainly one-sided nature of its report, Amnesty will not have either a calming effect, nor will it lead to any change in the situation.

It may, however, add fuel to the demands for international intervention, either by a monitoring body or peace-keeping force.

But while the battle for power goes on, such intervention — and we hope it will not be countenanced — will not help.

President Daniel arap Moi of Kenya pleaded at a State banquet in Cape Town this week with all South African leaders and people to stop the "senseless, vicious cycle of violence".

Until such calls are heeded, the violence will continue.

THE Citizen 11/6/92

Impossible to take in other armies: Louw

Citizen Reporter

THE new Minister of Defence, Mr Gene Louw, says it would be impossible to accommodate all members of the armed forces of the TBVC countries as well as members of Umkhonto we Sizwe in the South African Defence Force.

Mr Louw said in an interview in the latest Paratus, the official South African Defence Force magazine, that much water still had to run into the sea before the process of integrating the SADF with the other groups could be implemented.

Those members of other armed groups or forces that can be accommodated in the SADF would also be accommodated on merit only.

He said both his predecessors

had made it clear there would never be any question of amalgamating MK with the SADF.

"It was made clear that members of MK who conformed with the standards set by the SADF could join. This policy has not changed and it will be my policy as well," Mr Louw said.

He stressed, however, that the armed forces of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and the Ciskei would have to be accommodated in some way if it was decided that in a future political dispensation these countries should be re-incorporated into South Africa.

On the issue of the SADF, Mr Louw said it appeared as if there was an orchestrated attempt to discredit the SADF.

This attempt was possibly to create the right climate to bring a peace corps such as Untag into South Africa, which could be more acceptable to some political groups in the country which believed that such a force could help them reach their aims.

Because the state and the SADF were forced to

abide by certain rules, it was not possible to defend themselves against the propaganda onslaught.

Mr Louw said despite

this, he did not believe the SADF was involved in any hit-squad activity.

"I also do not believe the allegations of brutality."

IFP rejects plan for integrated army

DURBAN. — The Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) has rejected the unilateral restructuring of the SA Defence Force (SADF) to form a new integrated force.

IFP Central Committee executive member Dr Ben Ngubane yesterday condemned comments attributed to Chief of the SADF, General Kat Liebenberg.

"The IFP firstly believes that statements of such a fundamental nature should be issued by civilian governments

rather than by the military itself; and secondly such comments are premature and pre-empt the debate about the restructuring of the SADF which is a matter to be discussed at the negotiating table," he said.

"It is clear that if South Africa is to be stable, competing ideological military forces must be accommodated and a new cosmopolitan defence force be created," he said.

"However, in saying that, the scenario which Gen Liebenberg paints obscures the thorny chal-

lenge of merging a wide range of ideologically opposed forces into one cohesive national military establishment without bloodshed," Dr Ngubane said.

Dr Ngubane said this issue had to be dealt with at the level of multi-lateral negotiations.

"All parties engaged in negotiations must collectively determine a formula satisfactory to all, which will guarantee and apolitical defence force representative of the general population so that no group can monopolise,

abuse, or control military power.

Dr Ngubane said Gen Liebenberg's predictions of a future "umbrella" defence force consisting of conscripted citizens and members of the current armed services, homeland armies and private paramilitary forces were so vague and all-embracing as to render them meaningless. — Sapa.

Bop won't join new SA 'super army' — Min

MMABATHO. — Bophuthatswana's Minister of State Affairs and Defence, Mr Rowan Cronje, has denied the Bophuthatswana Defence Force (BDF) will be incorporated into the "super-army" for a new South Africa.

Delivering the homeland's Defence Budget of

about R148 million in Mmabatho yesterday, Mr Cronje said the proposal of the chief of the SA Defence Force General P C "Kat" Liebenberg that about 50 percent of the defence forces and private armies in southern Africa would be incorporated into the SADF should not cause concern among the ranks of the BDF.

He said the proposal was not discussed with Bophuthatswana at all, and as Bophuthatswana was a sovereign country,

it would not be affected by it.

"Before we even consider change, there are a large number of issues to be cleared, to establish what the impact of change will be on the people, and this (jobs) is one of them," he said.

He added that a new South Africa would not bring new job opportunities, but new competition, and appealed to the people to think of these issues before accepting reincorporation "propaganda" and glib catch phrases. — Sapa.

Goldstone asks A-G to probe two slayings

THE Goldstone Commission has requested the Attorney-General of the Transvaal as well as the Magistrate of Ermelo to consider holding an inquest on June 26 into two cases of murder and three of attempted murder allegedly committed during a shooting incident in Wesselton, near Ermelo.

The chairman of the commission, Mr Justice Richard Goldstone, announced this yesterday in Pretoria during the sitting of a committee inquiring into public violence and intimidation.

The request stems from evidence brought before the commission this week about two murders and

three attempted murders allegedly committed during shootings between followers of the African National Congress and Inkatha Freedom Party, who were attending separate funerals on August 11, 1990, in Wesselton.

Mr Justice Goldstone pointed out that from the evidence, it became clear that some relevant police dockets had not been handed over to the Attorney-General of the Transvaal.

Mr Gert Steyn, a member of the commission, told Col Patrick John Otto, who was co-ordinating investigations into the shootings, he was surprised that although dockets contained prima facie cases the people implicated were not charged.

He pointed out to Col Otto that a member of the KwaZulu Legislative As-

sembly, Mr Amos Mthembu, in his first statement had implicated two KwaZulu policemen, Const Zweli Dlamini and W/O Nhlambhla Khawula. He had intimated that they took part in the shootings.

Mr Steyn said the same people were also implicated in a statement by Mr Basil Dlamini, an alleged gangster in the "Black Cats" — said to be a branch of the Inkatha Youth Brigade in Wesselton.

He then asked why a later police report said investigations found no evidence which could lead to charges being laid.

Col Otto, who agreed there was a prima facie case, said he was not aware of the report and could have confronted the investigating officer responsible for the statement if he saw it. — Sapa.

ANC rejects claims of Angolan stockpile

Official Report

THE African National Congress has rejected an allegation by the International Freedom Foundation which claims that the Angolan Government is secretly maintaining huge stockpiles of weapons belonging to the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe.

IFF International chairman, Mr Duncan Sellars, recently wrote to Mr Brent Snocroft, the US National Security Advisor, informing him of the alleged stockpile of weapons and urging him to investigate these claims.

In his letter, he stated: "There are hundreds perhaps thousands of tons of armoured personnel carriers, light amphibious tanks, multiple rocket launchers, recoilless rifles, anti-aircraft guns, heavy machineguns as well as large stocks of small arms and ammu-

Mr Sellars said the stockpiling of the weapons would be an abrogation of the 1988 tripartite agreement between South Africa, Angola and Cuba which opened the door for Namibian independence at the end of the Angolan civil war, of which the United States was a guarantor.

He said it might also constitute a violation of the 1991 Angolan Peace Accords, signed between the government of Angola and Unita.

Under these accords, all armaments and ammunition in Angola were to be gathered at designated collection points and carefully controlled and guarded.

In his letter to Mr Snocroft, Mr Sellars says the government of Angola ordered the ANC to remove the weapons from the country prior to the upcoming Angolan ap-

elections in September, or risk having them transferred to the Unita-controlled armed forces after the election.

He states the ANC has approached the governments of Zambia and Namibia for permission to relocate the arms.

The statement says that Zambia declined although Namibia could be more accommodating.

Two other locations, namely Cuba and Transkei, have been discussed, it says.

ANC spokesman Mr Carl Niehaus slammed the IFF as "and unreliable and biased organisation".

He denied there were any ANC stockpiles in Angola and said his organisation would abide by the undertaking made to Angola.

Keys

CAPE TOWN — action belied its govern. Finance yesterday.

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agerness to em- nly the latest of e economic civil organisation's in-

ranked with the ons and showed he achievements ng the past very

pressure of surplus expenditure de of the state eased the rate of reases would slow, allowing lower rates.

he same time the state would not o dip into its savings resources. This exert downward pressure on inter-

BILLY PADDOCK

Instead of learning the language and the codes of taking full advantage of the international market, the ANC were walking into the trap of rhetoric and slogans.

Wrapping up the budget votes he told Parliament SA needed to increase savings by about R20bn — equivalent to about 6% of GDP — to achieve a satisfactory level of investment.

Government should be responsible for half the R20bn savings, he said.

There was no fear of the economy over-

heating. The Reserve Bank had to gallop to keep to the interest rates which it believed were correct for SA.

But this was an exceptional year, given the recessionary trough of the economy and the devastating drought.

As soon as the private sector showed signs of economic recovery government's duty would be to cut its expenditure in real terms, he said.

Given that the state machinery was so huge and complex, preparations for this had to be made this year.

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est rates. Keys said he could think of no single act in the economic sphere which would have a more pronounced favourable effect for SA's reintegration into the world economic system than the ability to lift the standstill restrictions and to re-establish a single convertible currency.

Train security 'inadequate'

ARMED people were still able to board trains because many stations continued to lack adequate security facilities, police said yesterday.

The police admission came after a spate of attacks on Reef trains and at stations yesterday morning and on Tuesday night.

Two people were injured in two separate incidents on the Reef yesterday morning. One person was injured after he had been hacked and thrown off a train near Soweto's Nancefield station, while another was stabbed several times at Johannesburg's Braamfontein station.

On Tuesday night, three people were injured when they were attacked on a train between New Canada and Nancefield.

A Witwatersrand police spokesman said since Law and Order Minister Hermus Kriel banned the carrying of dangerous weapons on trains and at stations, police had been doing everything possible to prevent armed people from boarding trains.

However, a number of people carrying weapons had been able to board trains because many stations lacked adequate security facilities, the spokesman said.

He also admitted police found it difficult to arrest armed commuters because culprits got rid of their weapons when they saw policemen.

Trains and commuters arriving from

WILSON ZWANE

Soweto were extensively searched at Johannesburg station yesterday morning. A number of dangerous weapons were found but no arrests were made.

Spoornet, Transnet, the SA Rail Commuter Corporation and police signed an agreement in April with community leaders which stipulated that people carrying dangerous weapons should not be allowed to board trains.

Sapa reports that police, in their daily unrest report, said the body of a man was found in Thokoza, on the East Rand.

□ Sapa-AFP reports that award-winning Time magazine photographer Peter Magubane's 30-year-old son Charles has been murdered in Soweto.

Magubane, 55, said Charles, unmarried and a budding photographer, left his home in Soweto's Mzimhlope district on foot on May 18.

His body was picked up by police two days later a few hundred yards from the Dube migrant workers' hostel.

Magubane found his son's body in a police mortuary on Tuesday. Charles had been hacked and shot.

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Time lensman's son killed in Soweto

AWARD-winning Time magazine photographer Peter Magubane's 30-year-old son Charles has been murdered in the violence ravaging Soweto.

Magubane (55), told AFP yesterday that Charles, unmarried and a budding photographer, left his home in Soweto's Mzimhlope district on foot on May 18.

His body was picked up by police two days later a few hundred

yards from the Dube migrant workers' hostel, a stronghold of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

Magubane discovered him in a police morgue on Tuesday. He had been hacked and shot.

Magubane blamed IFP supporters for the murder. "Hacking is the method that is used by hostel-dwellers, the community doesn't use hacking."

Although Magubane is a friend of Mr Nelson

Mandela, President of the African National Congress (ANC), his son was not wearing any political badge at the time of his death.

"He was in the wrong place at the wrong time. It's not a question of belonging to any political organisation at all."

"I've been covering violence from the 50s to now. It's never struck me as it's struck me now. Now it has struck on my own door." — Sapa-AFP.

The Citizen 11/6/92

ANC declines SAP symposium invite

Citizen Reporter

THE African National Congress has declined an invitation to address delegates at a police symposium on violence and possible solutions for peace in Soweto, to be held at the Protea Police Station today.

An ANC delegate was invited to speak on the organisations contribution to minimising violence in Soweto, but turned the

invitation down.

According to a Soweto police spokesman the ANC apparently declined the invitation because Cosatu declined to attend the symposium.

However, the ANC will unofficially be represented by Rev La Font who will speak on "The role of the Church in Soweto" the spokesman added.

Other speakers listed

on the agenda of the symposium include Mr Themba Khoza of the IFP, Colonel Jacques de Vries of the SAP and Mr Coen van Niekerk of the South African Rail Commuter Services.

The opening address will be delivered by Mr Justice R.J. Goldstone and Professor Karl Nofke of the Randse Afrikaanse Universiteit (RAU) will chair the meeting.

B. Day 11/6/92

Townships to be given new look

CAPE TOWN — Phola Park and Alexandra on the Reef will be among the first areas to be upgraded in government's new upliftment strategy to improve conditions in townships throughout the country.

Deputy Land Affairs Minister and national co-ordinating mechanism (NCM) political head Johan Scheepers said yesterday he hoped discussions would be held soon with community leaders to help plan the upgrading actions.

He said upgrading the townships into "liveable" settlements would depend on the success in involving community structures like civics, churches and local political leaders.

It was hoped a "discussion forum" could be established in each township to identify problems and co-ordinate socio-economic work with various government departments.

Community priorities would play an important part in deciding on the nature and pace of an upgrading programme.

Short-term goals could deal with issues like proper refuse removal and upgrading of toilet and water facilities. This might be followed by improving roads.

Scheepers said there was no point in government storming into areas with upgrading schemes unless com-

Political Staff

munities had been involved in the planning from the beginning.

He emphasised that the NCM was not a clone of the former national security management system, which was seen as a shadow security administration by its critics in the mid-'80s. The new emphasis was on welfare, not security, he said.

But it was difficult to embark on socio-economic action in a region where there was no law and order.

He emphasised that while the issues of violence and socio-economic development could not be separated, the NCM had "nothing to do with law and order on a management level".

NCM head Koos Engelbrecht said pressing problems in Alexandra and Phola Park were sanitation and rubbish removal.

Phola Park settlement on the East Rand had become a virtual no-go area and what infrastructure there was had broken down.

More than 30 000 people live there but it has only one tap, few working toilets and very few roads.

Conditions in the 126 000-strong Alexandra community north of Johannesburg are also appalling, with refuse piled high on many pavements and the stormwater drains system out of action.

B. Day 11/6/92

Mandela meets Numsa over clashes

ANC president Nelson Mandela has met Numsa officials to discuss "personality clashes" among members of the Vaal Triangle's branches of the ANC/SACP/Cosatu alliance.

A senior Numsa official has said the power struggle within the alliance and the existence of a hit list targeting Numsa shop stewards for assassination are threatening to cause large-scale violence in the Vaal Triangle.

It is believed that "police spies" who

WILSON ZWANE

have infiltrated Numsa and some members of Numsa, Cosatu, the ANC and the SACP are implicated in the plan to break Numsa's power base in the region.

ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus confirmed yesterday Mandela had met Numsa representatives on Tuesday for talks but he would not say if any action had been agreed upon.

Pretoria let killings go on, says Amnesty

By ROSS DUNN,
Johannesburg, Wednesday

A report by Amnesty International strongly criticises the De Klerk Government, warning that it is jeopardising the post-apartheid reform process by letting systematic political killing and torture continue in South Africa.

The London-based human rights organisation has called on the Government to publicly admit "that extra-judicial executions, torture, and other grave human rights violations continue to be committed by members of the security forces and others acting apparently on their behalf".

Amnesty International said Mr F. W. de Klerk's Government was guilty of gross negligence at best for not bringing security force members to justice.

The Government's initial reaction through its Law and Order spokesman, Mr Craig Kotze, has been to dismiss the report as partisan and one-dimensional.

In fact, the Amnesty report, while strongly attacking the Government, also recognises that the country's leading political movement, the African National Congress, has not been blameless.

Amnesty said that "in the spiralling violence in the townships during the past two years, the ANC and its supporters have been responsible for deliberate and arbitrary violence".

However, the Zulu-based Inkatha movement is more heavily criticised, and the main thrust of the report effectively supports the ANC's claims that the Government has been pursuing a double agenda.

It said: "The reforms of the past two years have brought some sweeping changes in South Africa, but as far as the security forces are concerned, it's business as usual. And all too often that means taking part in political killings or standing by while others massacre political opponents."

The report said the Government

had to act now to make the police and military uphold the law, not undermine it. "Otherwise, hopes for a new South Africa will founder."

It said police and military involvement in torture and assassinations had taken place in the past two years, the period in which Mr De Klerk began the reform process and abolished laws which restricted blacks from owning land, living in white areas, and a population register which underpinned the apartheid system.

"Despite Government promises to take the police out of politics, the fact is they have continued their war against the ANC and allied organisations — and the Government has been slow to react despite the mounting evidence against the police," Amnesty said.

"Nearly all the human rights violations in the report have happened since Nelson Mandela was freed (in February 1992)."

Amnesty International said that police had continued to fight those they saw as "the enemy".

The report says its claims are backed by particular cases where police participated directly or stood back, and allowed massacres to occur.

Although judicial commissions had found evidence of murder, perjury and destruction of evidence, not a single prosecution had followed.

"This can only serve to give the security forces the impression that they can get away with anything, even murder," Amnesty said.

The organisation recommended that the Government make it clear that all security forces will be held accountable for their actions, and brought to justice for violations of human rights.

It said the Government should suspend immediately, disarm and investigate all members of the security forces suspected of being involved in executions.

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The Government's initial reaction through its Law and Order spokesman, Mr Craig Kotze, has been to dismiss the report as partisan and one-dimensional.

In fact, the Amnesty report, while strongly attacking the Government, also recognises that the country's leading political movement, the African National Congress, has not been blameless.

Amnesty said that "in the spiralling violence in the townships during the past two years, the ANC and its supporters have been responsible for deliberate and arbitrary violence".

However, the Zulu-based Inkatha movement is more heavily criticised, and the main thrust of the report effectively supports the ANC's claims that the Government has been pursuing a double agenda.

It said: "The reforms of the past two years have brought some sweeping changes in South Africa. But as far as the security forces are concerned, it's business as usual. And all too often that means taking part in political killings or standing by while others massacre political opponents."

The report said the Government

had to act now to make the police and military uphold the law, not undermine it. "Otherwise, hopes for a new South Africa will founder."

It said police and military involvement in torture and assassinations had taken place in the past two years, the period in which Mr De Klerk began the reform process and abolished laws which restricted blacks from owning land, living in white areas, and a population register which underpinned the apartheid system.

"Despite Government promises to take the police out of politics, the fact is they have continued their war against the ANC and allied organisations — and the Government has been slow to react despite the mounting evidence against the police," Amnesty said.

"Nearly all the human rights violations in the report have happened since Nelson Mandela was freed (in February 1992)."

Amnesty International said that police had continued to fight those they saw as "the enemy".

The report says its claims are backed by particular cases where police participated directly or stood back, and allowed massacres to occur.

Although judicial commissions had found evidence of murder, perjury and destruction of evidence, not a single prosecution had followed.

"This can only serve to give the security forces the impression that they can get away with anything, even murder," Amnesty said.

The organisation recommended that the Government make it clear that all security forces will be held accountable for their actions, and brought to justice for violations of human rights.

It said the Government should suspend immediately, disarm and investigate all members of the security forces suspected of being involved in executions.