

Witkommando

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'brains held'

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CAPE TOWN—Security policemen believe they have arrested the 'brains' behind the four urban bombings for which the ultra Right-wing terrorist organisation, the Witkommando, has claimed responsibility.

Senior police sources also revealed yesterday that a breakthrough from an unexpected quarter had led to the arrests following an intensive

investigation by a top security team.

Reports in some newspapers that a coloured woman and two Italians were being held in connection with the bombings in Durban, Pretoria and Port Elizabeth were incorrect, they said.

White woman

It is understood that a white woman is involved along with a man of Italian origin who has been in South Africa for many years.

Police sources are not yet prepared to reveal the number of people being held because investigations are still continuing and more arrests are expected soon.

He said he was speaking on behalf of the leader of the Kappiekommando, Mrs Marie van Zyl.

'These are people from inside South Africa. They are not numerically strong, just a small number,' said a police source.

The people are now being held in Pretoria and could be charged under either the Terrorism Act, the Sabotage Act or the Internal Security Act.

Brig J A du Preez, Deputy Chief of the Security Branch, said yesterday that English people and Afrikaners had been held under Section 22 of the General Law Amendment Act in connection with the bombings, reports our Johannesburg correspondent.

Prayers

Meanwhile our Pretoria correspondent reports that members of the Kappiekommando were holding prayer meetings for the welfare of arrested members of the Witkommando.

A spokesman for the Right-wing movement said yesterday that the Kappiekommando wholeheartedly supported the Witkommando and other Right-wing groups.

He said none of the arrested people had been charged so far but police were moving as quickly as possible to bring the docket before the Attorney-General. Section 22 enables police to keep suspects in custody for up to 14 days before bringing them to court.

The Commissioner of Police, Gen Mike Geldenhuys, last night dismissed as 'untrue' speculation that Rhodesians and Portuguese from neighbouring countries might have been among those arrested.

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