

1. WHAT DO WE MEAN BY TORTURE.

NOVEMBER 64

Central Hall  
Westminster

NOV 64  
CENTRAL HALL

WI

Stance of Af. prisoners.

Rooi Hell roundg up - splattering, bellows

William Mofokeng, 74 "Not concerned... assault by p. normal"

Bultfontein officer: "I don't think there is a police stn in the country that dies not use violence durg questiong."

This is certainly background. But discussg torture...

"Infliction of severe bodily pain, e.g. as punishment or means of persuasion"

That is T. not haphazard or occasional, but as state policy in which all concerned wth contol & admin. of st implicated

T. systematically applied wth purpose of breakg open & destroyg all org. resistance.

T. as fundamental part of apartheid & as means of maintaining racial oppression and W supremacy

We are discussing the politics of torture

2. THE EVIDENCE

Background: "Rights are gettg out of hand" 62/63 Laws  
90 days mkes mind-breakg & torture officially acknowledged & ministerially approvd instrument o police interrogation.

Act removes pp entirely from any protection of law, empowers p. officer arrest without w, detain without t, in sol. confine, for interogation, no access lawyers, bks,

Schermbucker judgement 21.

THE CASES

Kemp & Brooks

Indris & others 10, 11.

THE SHOCKING MACHINE (Algerians)

Bultfontein, 14.  
The affidavits.

THE STATUE (Portuguese)

The affidavits.

"SOOLITARY CONFINEMENT"

Severe bodily pain...how severe? Mental torment?

Rusty's cell. Rassools pin.. Threads of hankie. Hairs on leg

"This side of eternity"





Last yr 60 leadg psychiatrists, medical spec. psychologists  
appeld end 90 dys: W2

"We submit that the exposure of individuals to acute suffering &  
mental impairment for indefinite periods of time is no less abhorrent  
than physical torture....sol. conf. is inhuman & unjustified."

Sensory deprivation. Geneva Convention. Yet 100's men, women  
children young as 15, subject to 'cruellest kind of torment  
for lengthy periods.

Alfred Nz...270 dys al one in tiny cell

Morris Motsemela endured 345 days

Joe Moroleng: "They kept me too long"

*1,000s*  
~~detained~~ *detained - only 1/2 charged & many charges dropped or cleared - convicted.*  
One detained for 3 successive periods of 90 dys, charged, brought  
to trial, discharged.

Boy 16 detained 4 mths before mther could find him (no clothes)  
Wellington Sikiti, 18 yr old student, not allowed bath or clean  
clothes entire 87 dys at Ferndale..outside tap:

"All I could do was splash my face with a little cold water. My  
body was filthy & I felt like an animal."

~~13 people held varyg periods, trial, not guilty, rearrested.~~

Lettie Sibeko

Caroline Motsoaledi..156 days.

Prolongd sol. donf. lastg effects, many need psychiatric treatment  
Moodley boast. Norma Kitson.

VAN NIEKERK'S TESTIMONY...19

SUICIDE: Solwandle Ngudle; Sipho James Tyita in PE cell.  
Ebrahim Sinyanvala drowned. BABLA...bars.

Nov 63, Comm of P: "Utter nonsense...deliberately spread by neo-C"  
Jan 64: Vorster " We have no shred of evidence before us about people  
who were tortured." Later only 49 complaints, police e  
examined all & found to be without substance.

GVT. INSTIGATES, POLICE CARRY OUT.....AND

### 3. MAGISTRATES & COURTS CONCEAL.

Magistrates: "Don't I get an answer".

Mag. who told police.

Another "You also wantd to kill W's, go to Tanganyika  
so they are only doing wht thy lke to you"

Dozens of Mags, dozens of centres...not one...

Courts. Jhbg. Mag, refusd al low affidavits on grounds "might be  
used by certain pple to create sensation"

Maharaj, after sadistic T, brought to Ct, begged leave to  
address Ct, told by Judge couldn't be considered by him



Indris case, Judge Bekker in Supreme Ct: "It is unnecessary for me to return a verdict on the alleged assaults as it is not relevant to the issue & it is impossible ~~for xxxxxx~~ to state from the evidence that the accused were assaulted by the police after their arrest."

Ngudle case, counsel walked out after Mag. disallowed evidence on T as 'irrelevant.'

Another case, Mag refused to hear complaints, as accused no longer under 90 days.

Doctors:

Brookes case.

Bongco, under dth sentence, chained, evidence of hanging by handcuffs on door, struck, kicked, head struck against wall, testicles pinched & twisted, strangled with towel. throttled.

Records  
"lost"

Medical evidence District surgeon's statement.

Judge: Sheer fantasy; police evidence consistent, Bongco on clearest evidence untrue.

4. THE MATTER GOES FURTHER IN ASSESSNG GUILT

Order come from very top: Verwoerd, Vorster.

Carried out by top men, Keevy, Klindt ("I don't make the law..")

But more - ultimate guilt: Whites. Swanepoels only thugs, given power by Whites.

Strange silence...angry liberal...Bishop to flock

INCONTESTIBLE that Whites know what's happeng (H-Russell, press)

Ardent upholders of W civilisation enjoy boom....

big, beautiful country, best o everythg, cheap labour, *Profitable!*

Only one thing, like Germans, keep silent, sell souls, to remain herrenvolk. - *Economy demands it!*

FURTHER: Cold truth, Bit & US 47% SA exports. Brit. approx 1,000 million £'s invested; one yr (62/63) Brits favourable balance o trade with SA almost doubled, while SA imports of Brit goods rose 23%

X SEE LEAFLET

More business exchanged, harder becomes for any gvt impose San  
*Dog with bone doesn't bark.*

5 FURTHER STILL - YOU AND ALL MANKIND INVOLVED

~~Justification of 90 days is "safety of state."~~  
*security laws & oppression*

Satre: What distinguishes us from these sadists? Nothing does, because we do not protest: our indignation seems to us to be sincere, but would we be indignant if we lived over there?"



Justification is 'safety of State' Need to prise out secret - secret of victim always out of reach....

"Torture is the expression of racial hatred. It is man himself they want to destroy, with all his human qualities, his courage, his will, his intelligence, his loyalty ..."

Torture as pol. weapon, enforced thru SA policy & administered by means of the law, implicating all concerned with control & admin, raises certain fund. problems for people of world as a whole; *raise* in clearest possible way ~~xxxxxx~~ basic issues tt strike at very roots of man's existence & confront humanity with crisis of dec.

~~MIRRORED WHEN IT as pol. weapon becomes SA policy, the humanity of man is challenged.~~ This problem of man's attitude to man has reached focal-point in SA. This is importance of SA question to all. Issue on which none dares remain silent.

Mirror to humanity...turn away, as most W's in SA, but strike ourselves down. Or set out to change image.

6. RESISTANCE IN JAILS

BABLA . MOTSOMELA - DAVE KITSON -

Pixie. Tappng on walls. Songs at night, Sundays. Mandela in court.

TRALE'S WIFE

MINI . "AMANDLA" IN JAIL

NGABENI'S WIFE:

Brit gvt keeps pledge to deliver 40 buccaners. *& other Contracts.*  
Let Brit people keep pledge to themselves as civ. & demo people,

For to ~~xxx~~ initiate world action to end apartheid is not simply act of international brotherhood to SA's pol. pris. It is part of mankind's long struggle to lift himself out of the primal swamps & shape civil. that permits full flowerg of human spirit.

These are the politics of torture in SA today. I believe it leaves you no choice.

*This is the challenge to the humanity of man  
Challenge only man himself can meet*

**Collection Number: A3299**

**Collection Name: Hilda and Rusty BERNSTEIN Papers, 1931-2006**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:* **Historical Papers Research Archive**

*Collection Funder:* **Bernstein family**

*Location:* **Johannesburg**

**©2015**

***LEGAL NOTICES:***

**Copyright Notice:** All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

**Disclaimer and Terms of Use:** Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document is part of the *Hilda and Rusty Bernstein Papers*, held at the Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.