



AMNESTY COMMITTEE

P O Box 3162
Cape Town
8000

Tel: (021) 24 5161
Fax: (021) 23 3280

Our ref : LC/PL/ 2773 - 2777

16 October 1996

Messrs Strydom Britz Inc.
P O Box 6991
PRETORIA
0001

Sirs

RE: AMNESTY APPLICATIONS

The following acts where there are no gross violations of human rights shall be dealt with in chambers by the Amnesty Committee subject to the availability of sufficient information and evidence submitted.

PAUL JACOBUS JANSEN VAN VUUREN

Schedule 1 : Bomb explosion in Moutse

Schedule 2 : Further interrogations

Schedule 14 : Unknown white man - Chawn

Schedule 15 : Hofmeyer - the priest

Schedule 16 : Ernest Dikgang Moseneke

Schedule 18 : Petrol bomb in Mamelodi

JAN HATTING CRONJÉ

Schedule 1 : Interrogations

Schedule 11 : Car bombing in Gaborone, Botswana and certain members of the public were killed

JACQUES HECHTER

Schedule 4 : Burning of houses

Schedule 5 : Ekangala Bronkhorstspuit

Schedule 7 : Garage in Kwandebele

Schedule 14 : Pietersburg

Schedule 16 : House in Moutse

Schedule 17 : Bomb explosion

ROELOF VENTER

Schedule 1 : Action against right wingers

Schedule 2 : Action during the period 1972 until 1985

Schedule 10: Dr Alan Boesak investigations

WILLEM WOUTER MENTZ

Schedule 1 : Bombing in Atteridgeville

Schedule 2 : Attempt in Mamelodi

Schedule 6 : Weapons in Atteridgeville

Schedule 9: Bomb in the street, Strand, Cape Town

Schedule 10 : Komatipoort Four

The following matters are considered gross violations of human rights. The application form contains insufficient information therefore the Amnesty Committee is unable to grant a hearing due to the following reasons :

1. the names of the victims are unknown and;
2. place and/or address of the incident is unknown;
3. the victims cannot be traced;
4. there are insufficient leads for the investigation unit.

PAUL JACOBUS VAN VUUREN

Schedule 3 : Houses burnt down

Schedule 4 : Assaults on unknown activists

Schedule 5 : Unknown activist at the Bron

Schedule 11 : Interrogation and murder of unknown activist'

JAN HATTING CRONJE

Schedule 2 : Unknown SWAPO fighter in Namibia

Schedule 9 : Kidnapping, torture and elimination of unknown activist ± 1987

JACQUES HECHTER

Schedule 1 : Unrest during the 1970's

Schedule 2 : Interrogations and assaults

Schedule 8 : Unknown activist

Schedule 19: Petrol bomb and bomb explosions in Brits

Schedule 22 : Unknown activist at the Bron

Schedule 23: Interrogation of activist arrested in Mamelodi

ROELOF VENTER

Schedule 2 : Action during 1972 to 1985

Schedule 3 : The Barbara Hogan investigation

Schedule 4 : Regan Shope investigation

Schedule 5 : Silent Valley

Schedule 6 : Klerksdorp hand grenade attack

Schedule 7 : Vryburg hand grenade attack

Schedule 10: Dr Allan Boesak investigation

Schedule 11 : Operation Vula

WILLEM WOUTER MENTZ

Schedule 1 : Bomb attack in Atteridgeville

Schedule 5 : Botswana - operation Kahn House

Schedule 8 : Vereeniging, Pence Mine, Burgersfort

Yours faithfully

ADV J. M. MPSHE

AMNESTY COMMITTEE - TRC

TABLE FOR CROSS REFERENCING : THE TABLE INDICATES WHICH APPLICANT IS INVOLVED IN THE FOLLOWING ACTS					
ORDER	5	2	3	4	1
ACTS	CRONJE	VAN VUUREN	HECHTER	MENTZ	VENTER
MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH AT GAUTENG HEARINGS					
Zero hand grenade	Schedule 4	Schedule 9			
Killing of Joe Jele	Schedule 6				
Attempted murder on Jerry Thibedi		Schedule 12	Schedule 13		
Attempted murder on Rev Makatshwa		Schedule 7	Schedule 25		
Pebco Three					Schedule 8
Killing of Zweli Nyanda and Keith McFadden	Schedule 3				
MATTERS TO BE DEALT WITH AT PRETORIA HEARINGS					
Nietverdiend	Schedule 5		Schedule 3		
Ribeiro double murders	Schedule 8	Schedule 6			
Makupe, Maake and Sefola killings		Schedule 9	Schedule 11		
Kwandebele Nine killing			Schedule 6	Schedule 3	
Killing of Jeffrey Sibiya		Schedule 10	Schedule 9		
Killing of Piet Ntuli	Schedule 7				
Killing of Brian Nyalunga				Schedule 4	
Killing Policeman and his wife Hammanskraal		Schedule 17	Schedule 26		
Interrogation : Scheepers Morudi		Schedule 13	Schedule 10		
Burning zozo house in Mamelodi		Schedule 8	Schedule 24		



AMNESTY COMMITTEE

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FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE : 17TH FEBRUARY 1997
TO : BELL, DEWAR & HALL ATTORNEYS
FOR ATTENTION : MR G.A NOTT
YOUR REF : MR VAN DEN BERG/di/11307
FAX NUMBER : (011) 838-5088
FROM : ADVOCATE J.M MPSHE
RE : AMNESTY APPLICATIONS OF *CRONJE,*
VENTER, HECHTER, MENTZ & VAN
VUUREN

MESSAGE

The telephonic discussion between your Mr Nott and the writer hereof on even date refers.

We confirm that a pre-trial meeting will be held at the offices of attorney Willem Brits at *Strydom Brits Incorporated, Duncan House, Momentum Park, 1109 Duncan Street, Brooklyn* on Friday, 21st February 1997 at 11h00.

Yours faithfully

p.p. *J. Andrews*

ADVOCATE J.M MPSHE
AMNESTY - TRC



AMNESTY COMMITTEE

P O Box 3162
Cape Town
8000

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Fax: (021) 23 3280

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE : 17TH FEBRUARY 1997
TO : STRYDOM BRITZ INCORPORATED
FOR ATTENTION : MR WILLEM BRITS
FAX NUMBER : (012) 346-3437
FROM : ADVOCATE J.M MPSHE
RE : AMNESTY APPLICATIONS OF *CRONJE, VENTER, HECHTER, MENTZ & VAN VUUREN*

MESSAGE

I refer to the abovementioned matter and wish to advise that I have, on even date, liaised with Mr Nott of Bell, Dewar & Hall Attorneys and have confirmed that the pre-trial meeting will be held at your offices on Friday, 21ST February 1997 at 11h00.

Yours faithfully

p.p. *J.M. MPSHE*

ADVOCATE J.M MPSHE
AMNESTY - TRC

Faxed at 10:00am 30 2 97 Penny.



AMNESTY COMMITTEE

P O Box 3162
Cape Town
8000

Tel: (021) 24 5161
Fax: (021) 23 3280

Our ref :
Ons verw : CDJ/PL

20 February 1997

Attention: Mr van den Berg

Bell, Dewar & Hall
P.O. Box 4284
JOHANNESBURG
2000

Fax No: 011-838-5088

Dear Mr van den Berg

**AMNESTY APPLICATIONS OF CRONJE, VENTER, HECHTER, MENTZ
AND VAN VUUREN**

I acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 6 February 1997. It is incumbent on the Committee when it issues a subpoena to convey to the person concerned, in terms of Section 29(2) of the Act, to specify the reason why he is being subpoenaed and why the evidence is to be given. It would assist the Committee therefore if you will motivate your application in respect of each of the persons you wish to be subpoenaed.

Yours faithfully

**THE HONOURABLE MR JUSTICE H E MALL
CHAIRMAN
AMNESTY COMMITTEE**



PO Box 1158
Johannesburg
2000
Tel : (011) 333-6330
Fax : (011) 333-0832/6341

3 February 1997

Mr Brian Currin
S.A. Constitutional Consultants
P.O. Box 4284
JOHANNESBURG
2000
FAX: (011) 838-5018

Dear Sir

Re: Applications : Mentz, Hechter, Cronje, Van Vuuren and Venter

Attached is the schedule for hearings on the 24th February 1997 onwards in Pretoria.

PLACE : Pretoria City Council
Munnitoria, Cnr Van Der Walt & Vermeulen Streets
Pretoria.

Kindly note that I have not informed your clients(victims) for ethical reasons.

Yours faithfully


Adv. J. M. Mpshe



AMNESTY COMMITTEE

P O Box 3162
Cape Town
8000

Tel: (021) 24 5161
Fax: (021) 23 3280

Our ref : LC/PL/2773-2777

16 October 1996

Strydom Britz Inc
P O Box 6991
PRETORIA
0001

Dear Sirs

RE: **AMNESTY APPLICATIONS OF : J. H. CRONJE, P. J. J. VAN VUUREN,
J. HECHTER, W.W. MENTZ AND R. VENTER**

We hereby wish to inform you that the following matters will be dealt with at the Johannesburg hearing commencing 21 October 1996.

1. **ZERO HAND GRENADE** committed by applicant, J. H. Cronje, schedule 4 of his application with particular reference to page 73 and applicant Roelof Venter, schedule 9 of his application.
2. **THE KILLING OF JOE JELE** committed by J. H. Cronje, schedule 6.
3. **ATTEMPTED MURDER ON JERRY THIBEDI**, committed by Van Vuuren schedule 12 thereof and Jacques Hechter schedule 13 thereof.
4. **ATTEMPTED MURDER ON THE LIFE OF REV MAKATSHWA**, committed by P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren schedule 7 thereof as well as Jacques Hechter schedule 25 thereof.
5. **PEBCO THREE**, committed by Roelf Venter schedule 8 thereof.
6. **THE KILLING OF ZWELI NYANDA AND KEITH MCFADDEN**, committed by J. H. Cronje schedule 3 thereof.

2./...

Please note that the following matters will be dealt with at the hearing to be arranged in Pretoria.

1. **NIETVERDIEN (THE KILLING OF NINE PEOPLE IN BOPHUTATSWANA)**, committed by applicant, J. H. Cronje schedule 5 page 88 and applicant, Jacques Hechter, schedule 3 of their applications.
2. **THE RIBEIRO DOUBLE MURDERS**, committed by J. H. Cronje, schedule 8 and and applicant, P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren.
3. **THE DEATH OF MAKUPE, MAAKE AND SEFOLA**, committed by applicant P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren, schedule 9 thereof and applicant Jacques Hechter schedule 11 thereof.
4. **THE KILLING OF THE KWANDEBELE NINE**, committed by Applicant, Jacques Hechter schedule 6 thereof and applicant, Wilem Wouter Mentz schedule 3 thereof.
5. **KILLING OF JEFFREY SIBIYA**, committed by applicant, P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren schedule 10 thereof and Jacques Hechter, schedule 9 thereof.
6. **THE KILLING OF PIET NTULI**), committed by J. H. Cronje schedule 7.
7. **THE KILLING OF BRIAN NYALUNGA**, committed by Willem Wouter Mentz schedule 4 of his application form.
8. **THE KILLING OF A POLICEMAN AND HIS WIFE IN HAMMANSKRAAL**, committed by P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren schedule 17 and Jacques Hechter schedule 26.
9. **THE INTERROGATION AND TORTURE OF SCHEEPERS MORUDI**, committed by P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren schedule 13 thereof and Jacques Hechter schedule 10 thereof.
10. **THE BURNING OF A ZOZO HOUSE OR SHACK IN MAMELODI**, committed by applicant Jacques Hechter schedule 24 thereof and by P. J. Jansen Van Vuuren schedule 8 thereof.

Yours faithfully

ADV J. M. MPSHE
AMNESTY COMMITTEE - TRC

Memorandum

To: Mr K. Mpshe

CC: Glen Goosen, Jerome Chaskelson

From: Investigation Unit - Investigator Kilian

Date: 18 October 1996

Re: Amnesty Application - J.H. Cronje, Hechter, Mentz, Van Vuuren and
Venter

(1)

The following information relates to the Zero hand grenade explosions on the East Rand.

(2)

Captain du Plooy, the head of the Detective Branch in Nigel under whose jurisdiction Duduza Township resorts, was interviewed. He referred the Investigator to Dunnottar SAPS, who is responsible for policing in the Duduza Township.

(3)

The inquest registers for deaths that occurred during the period June/July 1985 were perused personally by Investigator Kilian. No record of fatalities relating to hand grenades or explosions could be found in the registers. No inquest dockets relating to that period are still in existence.

(4)

Enquiries amongst policemen about possible victims also proved to be unsuccessful.

(5)

Kwa Thema police station was also visited and an inspection of the Archives by Investigator Kilian only revealed the name of one victim, viz Congress Mtsweni, who was killed in the apparent handling of a limpet mine. Kwa Thema inquest 150/1985 refers. According to Inspector "F" Du Plooy the relevant inquest docket has already been destroyed.

(6)

Investigations at Dunottar archives with the assistance of the Branch Commander Inspector A. Fourie revealed that no incidents of fatalities caused by explosions were registered over the relevant period.

(7)

Mrs Deysel, the Klerk of the Court at Nigel, was interviewed with an effort to trace any inquest dockets relating to the Zero hand grenades. She informed Investigator Kilian that the Investigating Team of the Attorney General, Pretoria, had already visited her in the same regard. She has no records of any hand grenade incidents in their judicial area.

(8)

According to her it was established that Captain Steenkamp, at the time attached to the Security Branch in Springs, mentioned in the Amnesty Application of J.H. Cronje was the investigator into the incidence of hand grenade explosions that occurred during the relevant period. He is also the same person mentioned as being present when the planning of the Zero hand grenades was planned with the past Commissioner of Police, General J.V. van der Merwe, who allegedly arranged the meeting.

(9)

A notice in terms of Act 34/1995 was served on Nelson Mtsweni, the brother of the late Congress Mtsweni who died in the limpet mine explosion on 26/6/1985 in Kwa Thema.

(10)

Congress Mtsweni was, at the time of his death, a final year student at Potchefstroom University and was an active member of COSAS.

(11)

Nelson was also requested to inform his mother, who was absent at the time of our visit, to gladly attend the hearings from 21/10/96 onwards.

(12)

The inquest registers at Brakpan SAPS were also perused to trace any particulars of people who were killed in hand grenade explosions over the relevant period. No registers or inquest dockets relating to the period June-July 1985 could be found. According to the Station Commissioner they have already been destroyed.

(13)

Investigator Kilian in a further effort to trace any of the victims of the Zero hand grenade explosions then visited the archives of the Magistrate Court in Brakpan, under whose jurisdiction Tsakane Township resorts. He personally perused all inquest files for the period 1984 to 1987, but could not find any trace of such incidents.

(14)

The telephone numbers of Steenkamp mentioned in paragraph 8 are (w) (011) 814-2351 and (h) (011) 814-6890. He was, however, not approached as it might later become necessary to subpoena him in terms of Section 29 of the Act.

(15)

The acknowledgement of receipt for the notice served on Nelson Mtsweni will be handed to you in person on 21/10/96 in Johannesburg.

0822281682

Bruce Curran



BELL, DEWAR & HALL

PO Box 4284 Johannesburg 2000
78 Fox Street Johannesburg
South Africa

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LAWYERS ADDING VALUE THROUGH EXPERTISE

Per Courier

The Chairman
Amnesty Committee
8th Floor, Metlife Building
391 Smith Street
Durban

Your Ref:
Our Ref: Mr van den Berg/di/113507

6 February 1997

Attention : The Honourable H Mall

Dear Sir

3622972
325 2461

AMNESTY APPLICATIONS OF CRONJÉ, VENTER, HECHTER, MENTZ AND VAN VUUREN

We are on record for a number of the victims or families of victims in the above amnesty applications.

Arising from the evidence led before yourselves to date we believe that the following persons ought to be subpoenaed. We accordingly request that subpoenas be issued :

- 1 The Chairman of the State Security Council at the time of the establishment of TREWITS, namely Mr Roelf Meyer;
- 2 *Viktor?* ~~Brigadier Echter~~, *Victor (father)* Commanding Officer at the time of a number of these incidents; *General Instruction*
- 3 *NO* ~~Brigadier Schoor~~, Commanding Officer at the time of a number of these incidents;
- 4 *NO* ~~Tom Louw~~, at the time of a number of these incidents in charge of TREWITS;
- 5 ~~General Bouter~~, at the time of a number of these incidents in charge of TREWITS;
- 6 ~~General Beukes~~, at the time of a number of these incidents in charge of TREWITS;

BELL, DEWAR & HALL

6 February 1997

The Chairman, Amnesty Committee

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7 ~~John van der Merwe~~ in respect of whom we reserved our rights to cross-examine at the commencement of these proceedings;

8 the respective Ministers of Law & Order and the Defence Force, Messrs. ~~Adrian Vlok~~ and Magnus Malan; ~~X~~

9 the Chairman of the State Security Council at the time of a number of
NO these incidents, Mr P-W Botha. - - - - -

Yours faithfully



BELL, DEWAR & HALL