

ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM

POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT

FEBRUARY 2004

2 April 2004

A report by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

OVERVIEW

National Constitutional Assembly (NCA) held a demonstration to call for a new constitution outside Parliament on 4 February 2004. The police stopped the demonstration and the demonstrators were arrested and subjected to varying forms of torture. NCA Chairperson, Lovemore Madhuku and 8 other members of the NCA, were reportedly abducted by ZRP officers from outside Parliament where they were had been rounded up. The victims were taken away in a police Defender truck and were dropped off in different areas in and around town. The police reportedly proceeded with Madhuku alone. He claims that the police severely assaulted him with baton sticks and clenched fists before they dumped him at a rubbish dump site near the National Sports Stadium on the outskirts of the city centre. Madhuku reportedly had difficulties breathing after the assault. Madhuku claims that the police called him stubborn and said that he had to be eliminated.

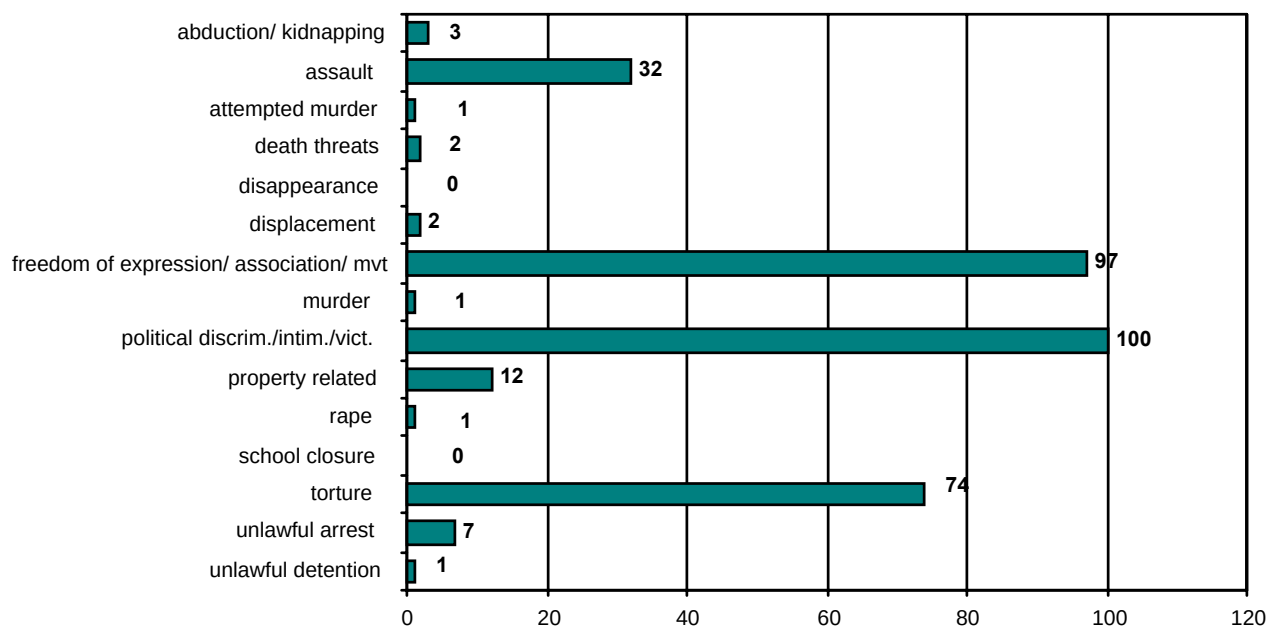
The police continue to prevent members of the NCA from exercising their rights to freedom of association, assembly and expression by routinely arresting them and assaulting them whenever they attempt to hold a peaceful demonstration. The police reportedly assaulted sixty-six other NCA demonstrators with baton sticks while some had dogs set upon them at the time of their arrest. Setting dogs upon the demonstrators is cruel and inhuman and must be strongly condemned. DG, NM, JM, TM and other demonstrators had dogs set upon them. TM was reportedly bitten by one of them on her left arm. JM alleges that a dog was instructed to bite her on the right hand and that the dog only let go of her when it was ordered to do so. EP, who reportedly fell face down and was bitten by a police dog on her right arm as she was lying on the ground. Torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment by law enforcement agents as exhibited against the NCA demonstrators is deplorable. The Human Rights Forum urges the Commissioner of Police to ensure that police officers do not use gratuitous force in the exercise of their duties.

Violence continues to be commonplace on Charleswood Estate, which belongs to Roy Bennet (MDC MP for Chimanimani – MANICALAND PROVINCE). Farm workers at Charleswood have been consistently victimised on the basis that they work for an MDC MP. Shemi Chimbarara, a farm worker at Charleswood Estate, reportedly died when he was shot by a soldier settled at the farm. JK, also a farm worker at Charleswood, was reportedly shot in the knee as he was running away from the soldier. JK was taken to SASU Hospital in Mutare for treatment the following morning, while the body of the deceased Shemi Chimbarara was taken to Chimanimani Hospital Mortuary by the police. Chamunorwa Muusha, a war veteran settled at Charleswood reportedly raped a farm worker from the farm on 6 February 2004. MC, VN and SC were reportedly abducted by ZANU PF supporters and taken to Muusha's homestead. The three were allegedly subjected to assaults and were forced to run around in circles then bound to a tree with a leather rope by their necks. The rope around their necks was then untied and they were further assaulted with a rubber whip all over their bodies for about 3 hours. VN was reportedly assaulted on the back and buttocks, and was ordered to stop working for Roy Bennet and work for Chamunorwa Muusha instead. SC was reportedly severely beaten on her head, back, buttocks and thighs. VN alleges that she was later taken to Chamunorwa's bedroom for

sweeping as she had been ordered to, and that Chamunorwa fondled her as well. She alleges that Chamunorwa slapped in the face when she declined his advances. VN claims that she fell down and Chamunorwa raped her twice, at around 21:00 hours and then again at about 02:00 hours.

The Human Rights Forum calls upon the responsible authorities to take action regarding the human rights violations cited in this report in terms of bringing the perpetrators to justice. Failure to do so will create a climate of impunity in which politically motivated violence may thrive. It is imperative that checks be put in place to prevent this prior to the upcoming Parliamentary Elections in early 2005.

Totals: 1 February 2004 – 29 February 2004



Cumulative Totals: 1 January 2004 – 29 February 2004



Sources: The information contained in this report is derived from statements made to the Public Interest Unit of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum, statements taken by the member organisations of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum. **(See last page for list of member organisations)**, newspaper reports, Justice for Agriculture (JAG), Combined Harare Residents Association (CHRA), Zimbabwe Community Development Trust (ZCDT).

Notes to the tables:

Torture:

All cases of torture fall under the definition of torture according to the general definition given in the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Forms of Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment and Punishment.

The four elements of torture are:

- 1 **Severe** pain and suffering, whether physical or mental
- 2 **Intentionally** inflicted
- 3 With a **purpose**
- 4 By a state official or another individual acting with the **acquiescence of the State**.

Those individuals referred to in point # 4 include the ZRP, ZNA, ZPS and the ZNLWVA (as a reserve force of the ZNA) and by any other grouping when directly sanctioned by the state.

Unlawful arrest and detention:

Arrest by the Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) with no reasonable suspicion that an offence has been committed. Detention thereafter for a period exceeding 48 hours without access to redress through the courts or subsequent release without charge.

Abduction/kidnapping:

A kidnapping by a member(s) of an organised group that is not the ZRP, political party, ZNLWVA, ZNA, MDC, Zanu PF etc

Disappearance:

Kidnapped persons whose whereabouts remained unknown at the time of reporting. Their whereabouts have still to be ascertained through follow up reports or further investigation.

Property related

These are incidents in which property rights have been violated. This includes arson, property damage and destruction and theft.

Key Abbreviations

AIPPA – Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act

CIO – Central Intelligence Organisation

MDC – Movement for Democratic Change

MP – Member of Parliament

NAGG - National Alliance for Good Governance

NCA – National Constitutional Assembly

OVT – Organised Violence and Torture

POSA – Public Order and Security Act

PTUZ – Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe

UMP – Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe

Zanu PF – Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front

ZCTU – Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions

ZNA – Zimbabwe National Army

ZNLWVA – Zimbabwe National Liberation War
Veterans Association

ZPS – Zimbabwe Prison Service

ZRP – Zimbabwe Republic Police

ZIMTA – Zimbabwe Teachers Association

ZUPCO – Zimbabwe United Passenger Company

Cases of Political Violence

Note: The identities of victims whose names have not been published in the press and are not public officials are protected by the use of initials. This is done in order to protect the victim from further violence, intimidation and possible retaliatory attacks.

The purpose of this report is to record the nature of the politically motivated violence and intimidation that continues to prevail in the country. The Monthly Political Violence Reports are primarily based on victims' accounts, accompanied by medical evidence where possible, obtained from member organisations of the Human Rights Forum and other partner organisations. Use is also made of press reports on politically motivated violence. The situation prevailing in the country is such that it has not been possible to verify all of these accounts. The Human Rights Forum has done what it can to verify the reports, and is satisfied that the vast majority of them are substantially true. It is also not possible to rule out whether a victim's account is exaggerated or contains inaccuracies.

All reports derived from the press are denoted with the symbol Σ .

HARARE

Chitungwiza

13 February 2004

- TG left his home after ZANU PF supporters reportedly burnt it. He claims that the fire destroyed all his property. He purports that the reason for his attack is his support for the opposition party MDC.

Harare Central

4 February 2004

- JM, NM, DG, CM, BK, TM, MG, AT, DM, TC, PM, LC, SM, TC, EP, CD, FK, AH, AT, TM, TC, RC, BG, CK, KD, CB, PN, MC, LH, JM, FD, JC, JM, LM, GK, BC, PG, RA, JB, AM, MC, EM, BV, CP, EM, PS, ST, WJ, TS, TN, BV, AM, MU, AM, MC, HC, MM, GS, LG, FC, EN, AC, PM, BN and JC were part of a group of NCA members who were demonstrating for a new constitution outside Parliament House when riot police arrived and rounded them up. GS claims that the riot police beat people indiscriminately even after they had sat on the pavement, and then set police dogs upon them. DG, who was displaying an NCA banner when he was arrested, also had dogs set upon him, NM, JM, TM and other demonstrators. TM was reportedly bitten by one of them on her left arm. JM alleges that a dog was instructed to bite her on the right hand and that the dog only let go of her when it was ordered to do so. EP, who reportedly fell face down and was bitten by a police dog on her right arm as she was lying on the ground, also sustained bruises on both knees.
- DG reportedly bled profusely after he was hit on the left eyebrow with a baton stick. He sustained an injury on the left thumb as he tried to block a blow from a baton stick, and a laceration on his left eyebrow. CM is still experiencing pain after he was assaulted by the police.
- JM claims that to avoid victimization, he stood up and ran off to hide in the nearby Anglican Cathedral, but was spotted by some policemen who went after him and dragged him back to the Africa Unity Square, where the rest of the demonstrators were seated. He purports that he was ordered to lie down and was assaulted on the back, arms, cheeks, ears and buttocks with baton sticks. He was forced into a police Defender vehicle and taken to Harare Central Police Station with the other NCA demonstrators who had been arrested.
- CM was reportedly grabbed by the riot police, kicked in the chest and severely assaulted with baton sticks. He claims that he started coughing blood, then collapsed before being taken to the Harare Central Police Station for detention.

- AG, asserts that he was ordered to move to a secluded area in 4th Street where there were bushes, forced him to lie on his back, and then poked in the pubic area with the butt of his gun. AG claims that he was released after agreeing to work with the police in case of future demonstrations.
- LH, CD, TC, BK, LC, MG, and AC purport that they were assaulted with baton sticks, kicked with booted feet on their backs, thighs, buttocks and between the shoulder blades. They claim that they were slapped in their faces, forced into a police Defender vehicle and driven to Harare Central Police Station. They sustained injuries to their hands, faces, buttocks and thighs. It is said that AC was ordered to identify some groups that were coming into town to take part in the demonstration as they drove her around town. She further claims that one of the male policemen purported to conduct a body search and touched her all over her breasts. The policeman is said to have slapped her in the face when she protested. The victim was later dropped off in a farming area outside the city.
- MC, RA, TS, FA, JC and others were also reportedly assaulted on their buttocks and backs with baton sticks, before they were forced into a police Defender vehicle and taken to Harare Central Police Station.
- JM, MN, GS, FC and 7 other demonstrators, were reportedly ordered into a police Defender and then dumped one by one in the Avenues, Dzivarasekwa and Avondale suburbs of Harare. MN alleges that she had to walk back into town from Dzivarasekwa. She sustained 8 dogteeth imprints on her right arm and dark track marks on both buttocks and on the back. BG, RC, AT and CK were also reportedly driven around town, assaulted severely, and then dropped at several sites outside the city centre.
- TM claims that he was thrown into a police Defender vehicle where he was beaten. He was allegedly driven out of the city and dumped in Ruwa (approximately 20 kilometres out of Harare), upon which he had to find his own way back into Harare.
- EN, EM, PN, TN, KD, MG and JB sustained injuries after they reportedly fell and were trampled on in the stampede. MG is currently complaining of a backache and a heavy chest. KD is now experiencing chest pains.
- PM, who was driven out of town and dumped in Ruwa by the police, claims that the officers also confiscated her NCA T-shirt leaving her garbed in a bra and skirt. She claims that she had to walk back to Harare half naked. She sought assistance from another woman who gave her and her colleague two old T-shirts.
- PG, TC, MC, CB, FK, AH, LH, EM and MM were wearing NCA T-Shirts claim that their NCA T-Shirts and their personal shirts were confiscated by the police. MC and EM claim that money was missing from their pockets when they were given back their shirts. DM, who was wearing an NCA T-shirt, was reportedly beaten with baton stick on the head, right wrist and back. He was then forced into a police truck and taken to Harare Central Police Station where he was later released at around 00:45hours after the police had confiscated his NCA T-shirt.
- TC was reportedly taken to a secluded place where he was verbally abused by the police and then assaulted beneath the feet and on his hands while one of them held his feet up and the other sat on his back. He was later taken to Harare Central Police Station. TC sustained bruises under his feet and on his palms.

All the NCA members whose arrested are narrated above were later released at different times of the day, upon the intervention of human rights lawyers and upon payment of Z\$10 000 admission of guilt fines. They were charged under POSA.

- The NCA Chairperson, Lovemore Madhuku, together with 8 members of the NCA were reportedly arrested by 6 ZRP officers outside Parliament, where they had gathered to stage a demonstration. Madhuku claims that he and the others were pushed into a police Defender vehicle and taken away. The others were dropped off on the way, and the police reportedly proceeded with Madhuku alone. He claims that the police severely assaulted him with baton sticks and clenched fists before they dumped him at a rubbish dump site near the National Sports Stadium on the outskirts of the city centre. He asserts that as the officers beat him up, they told him that they wanted to eliminate him as he was a problem, and that they asked him why he wanted to sell the country to the whites. He insists that this was a police attempt on his life, as one of them said "*jeri rakuramba wavakutoda pfuti chaiyo*", literally meaning, "*you are no longer afraid of the prison cells, you deserve the gun now*". Madhuku alleges that the police had earlier stated that they wanted to silence him once and for all. He alleges that he recalls hearing one of the officers saying that he was stubborn and had to be eliminated. Madhuku reportedly experienced difficulties breathing and lost a lot of blood as the police continued beating him. He was left unconscious at the dumpsite. When he woke up later, he was alone and then he switched on his phone and called other NCA members who came to his assistance. Madhuku reportedly sustained lacerations on his head and serious injuries all over the body.

Harare North

20 February 2004

- It is alleged that ZANU PF youths attacked and evicted members of the Harare North Housing Cooperative. They reportedly broke into the home of Charles Mpofu (new chairman of the Harare North Housing Cooperative), destroyed and looted property and then assaulted his wife Tambudzai. The police later intervened and arrested 12 of the youths. Upon interrogation by the police, the youths are said to have revealed that Nyasha Chikwinya, former ZANU PF MP for Harare North and Daniel Mawaka, had incited them. Those arrested have since appeared in court facing charges of inciting public violence, together with Chikwinya. The police recovered Z\$325 000 from the youths, which they claimed they had been given by Chikwinya as a token for taking part in the exercise.

Hatfield

12 February 2004

- MM, an MDC supporter from Zinyengere Extension in Epworth, was chased away from her parents' home after ZANU PF youths continued trailing her, on allegations of having participated in issuing out fliers and putting up posters for a rally held by Tapiwa Mashakada, MDC MP for Hatfield. She is said to have been identified by some ZANU PF supporters, who allegedly visited her at her parents' home and threatened them with arson if they continued providing her with accommodation. She claims that they gave them this threat because she is an MDC supporter. ZANU PF supporters have since chased her away from home.

13 February 2004

- MS was reportedly beaten on the face and neck by a group of ZANU PF supporters because he had refused to attend their meeting. The youths are also said to have accused him of being an MDC activist before confiscating his table and stocks of soap that he normally sells. He is now complaining of painful jaws and teeth.
- GN claims that he was assaulted by a group of ZANU PF youths at his vending stall because he had not attended their meeting. He asserts that the assailants accused him of being an MDC activist and then he was beaten on the lip and pierced with some object on his elbow. He managed

to fight back and escape. GN alleges that they also took away the soap he sells for a living. He sustained a swollen right arm.

Highfield

1 February 2004

- ZANU PF supporters reportedly attacked SZ because he was wearing an MDC T-shirt. He asserts that the youths accosted him as they were coming from a ZANU PF meeting. He claims that he was forced to remove it and then attend their meeting but refused to do so.

21 February 2004

- RM purports that 3 plainclothes policemen went to his house at around 23:00 hours and accused him of having been involved in the assault of a ZANU PF youth. RM was taken to Highfield Police Station where he claims that he was slapped on the face and beaten under the feet and left knee. The policemen allegedly demanded to know who had assaulted the youth as he was denying any knowledge of it. The ZANU PF youth purporting to having been assaulted reportedly went to the police station the next day and informed the police that RM had indeed beaten him. RM was placed in the holding cells at around 13:00 hours and then further interrogated the following day. It is reported that he was taken around the area in a police Defender truck so that he could show them where the real perpetrator stayed, since he had denied being involved in the assault. The victim did not show them anything. He was later released upon payment of a fine by his lawyer.

Kuwadzana

20 February 2004

- MN was on his way home at around 12:00 hours when 5 members of the National Youth Service allegedly stopped him and demanded that he show them the 10 NCA calendars and 5 agenda books he was carrying. He claims that they confiscated the calendars and books, and then accused him of campaigning for the MDC party. They reportedly ordered him to go home immediately, which he did. He claims that about 17 of them later came to his house at around 14:00 hours and forced him to roll on the ground. They are said to have told him that he would roll all the way back to town to collect some more NCA calendars. The victim claims that it had rained and the ground was wet, muddy and rough but he obliged. It is said that they met a neighbourhood watch policeman who was in the company of Councillor Kadoza along the way and he asked the youths why they had arrested MN. The youths replied that the victim had been giving out NCA calendars, thus campaigning for the MDC, and that they were taking him to the police station. The victim claims that Councillor Kadoza suggested to the youths that they tell the police that the victim had insulted the President. The victim was taken to the Kuwadzana Police Station and was incarcerated at Banket before being taken to Chinhoyi on 21 February 2004 at around 10:00 hours. He claims that he was forced to sign statements that were prepared for him by the police. MN asserts that the police officers beat him on the head, back and buttocks with baton sticks. He claims that he was also hit with a belt on the head and the metal clip cut him across the forehead such that he bled, and that one of the police officers applied a lot of fertilizer to the wound to stop the bleeding. The victim was bailed out on 22 February and remanded out of custody to 8 April 2004.

Mabvuku**Mbare East/ West***10 February 2004*

- SC was reportedly assaulted by ZANU PF youths belonging to a group known as “CHIPANGANO” members, on accusations of murdering Ali Khan Manjengwa. Manjengwa, a senior ZANU PF official, was shot and killed while walking in a corridor of the Nyenyere Flats in Mbare, after attending a ZANU PF meeting on 24 August 2002. He asserts that he was arrested and then detained at Harare Central Police Station. He was released the following day.

Zengeza*2 February 2004*

- LM alleges that ZANU PF supporters assaulted him on the head with a golf club. A Parliamentary by-election for the constituency is due for 29 – 30 March 2004 the Zengeza parliamentary seat, following the resignation of Tafadzwa Musekiwa.

21 February 2004

- EG was reportedly attacked by ZANU PF youths while she was attending a meeting of the MDC, regarding the Zengeza Parliamentary By-election. A by-election is due in the area on 29 and 30 March 2004. She claims that the assailants demanded to know why they were holding the meeting, and then assaulted her.

MANICALAND**Chimanimani***6 February 2004*

- MC, VN and SC are farm workers at Charleswood Estate, which belongs to Roy Bennet, the MDC MP for Chimanimani. They were walking MC to her sister’s place in Mativi, using a path that passes by a Mr Chamunorwa Muusha’s (head of the war veterans in the area) homestead, when one of the settlers stopped them and accused them of spying on the events at Chamunorwa Muusha’s home. MC alleges that the ZANU PF youths and war veterans were beating up a certain MM on accusations of being a thief at the time they passed through Muusha’s homestead. Muusha’s is settled on Charleswood Estate.

MC claims that she and her colleagues returned from their journey and then proceeded to finish sorting out the measured coffee beans for the day at Charleswood Estate. At the end of the day, it is reported that 4 ZANU PF supporters with 4 dogs approached the 3 girls on their way home from work at Charleswood Estate, and force-marched them to Muusha’s residence. MC claims that the assailants verbally abused them and threatened them with unspecified action. When SC tried to run away, the youths unleashed a dog on her, which pulled on her skirt. MC claims that when they arrived at Muusha’s house, they were forced to run around in circles and were then bound to a tree with a leather rope by their necks. She alleges that 6 dogs were set upon them and that she was assaulted on the right hand, on the legs and on the feet. VN and her colleagues were then relieved of the noose around their necks and further assaulted with a rubber whip all over their bodies for about 3 hours. VN was reportedly assaulted on the back and buttocks, and was ordered to stop working for Roy Bennet and work for Chamunorwa Muusha instead. She claims that her arms were swollen and she was ordered to wash the dirty dishes while her colleagues went off to fetch some water at the well and cook some food. SC was reportedly severely beaten on her head, back, buttocks and thighs until they were very swollen. She claims that she was then ordered to go and

fetch some water to pour over MM who was by that time lying on the ground helpless. The police came at around 21:00 hours to collect MM. The assailants allegedly ordered the three girls to maintain silence and hide, else they would be further assaulted and killed at Chimanimani Police Station. The police are said to have taken away the naked and badly injured MM.

MC professes that Chamunorwa approached her later while she was washing plates behind a hut and fondled her breasts and buttocks, and then threatened to assault her when she protested. SC also states that Chamunorwa fondled and only left her when she protested. However, VN alleges that she was later taken to Chamunorwa's bedroom for sweeping as she had been ordered to, and that Chamunorwa fondled her as well. She alleges that Chamunorwa slapped in the face when she declined his advances. VN claims that she fell down and Chamunorwa raped her twice, at around 21:00 hours and then again at about 02:00 hours. She states that he proposed marriage to her since she was already his wife by virtue of him raping her. Chamunorwa is said to have later threatened SC, MN and VN with a "war", and that they were about to experience some 'liberation war tactics'. SC claims that she did not see VN and MN until the next morning when she was released. On her release, SC asserts that she was ordered to return later and work for the settlers, failing which she would face more harassment. The assailants allegedly threatened that they were not giving up until they had completely occupied Roy Bennet's Charleswood Estate. They were ordered to go to their rural homes and never to be seen again at Roy Bennet's farm. MC and her colleagues were released at about 07:00 hours and reported their ordeal to the farm management at Charleswood Estate. MC is complaining of pain in the left foot that is swollen and a wound from the dog bite while SC is complaining of severe headaches.

MM claims that he was manhandled by a group of 4 youths as he was taking a walk with his two friends at around 10:00 hours at Charleswood Farm. MM claims that the youths took him to Muusha Chamunorwa's home, a war veteran, who informed him that he was on the police wanted list. MM purports that he was tied to a tree with a leather rope with his arms and legs painfully outstretched, and that he was assaulted with sticks, rubber whips, planks and sjamboks all over his body. He sustained deep bruises all over the body.

8 February 2004

- PS works at Charleswood Estate Clinic as a medical assistant. She claims that she was woken up at around 21:00 hours by a farm worker, who told her that a certain ED who had been beaten by the settlers needed urgent medical attention. PS alleges that she left for the clinic with her son armed with slashers for protection, and that when she heard gunshots as she was dressing ED's wounds, she quickly locked the clinic doors and fled. PS purports that she met up with a group of farm workers who were fleeing from the farm manager's homestead, which had been set on fire. She claims that she saw someone falling to the ground but she could not stop to help since an armed soldier by the name of Joseph was pursuing them. When the commotion had died down, PS checked on the person who had fallen down, and she found a soldier inspecting the body of **Shemi Chimbarara**, who had been shot. One JK had also been shot in the knee and was hiding in the banana plantation. PS asserts that the farm manager took JK to SASU Hospital in Mutare at around 08:00 hours the following morning. The police took the body of the deceased Shemi Chimbarara to Chimanimani Hospital Mortuary at around 15:00 hours the following day. PS adds that in retaliation, the farm workers later went round the compound and burned down the head settlers' house.
- It is reported that a farm guard alerted JK and his colleagues that 4 war veterans and a soldier by the name of Joseph were ransacking the house belonging to Mr Makaza, the farm manager. JK teamed up with about 30 of his colleagues and made their way to the farm manager's house armed with planks, knobkerries, and axes. He claims that the war veterans had broken the

windowpanes and doors and had gained access to the house, where they allegedly looted groceries and other household goods. JK asserts that the war veterans and the soldier started retreating when they realised that the workers outnumbered them. As they walked back to the compound, the soldier, Joseph, and 2 war veterans followed them from a distance. The soldier is reported to have fired shots in their direction, killing **Shemi Chimbarara** instantly. JK was reportedly shot in the right knee and he sought refuge from a nearby banana plantation. It is reported that a nurse that works on the farm went back to inspect Shemi Chimbarara's body and the victim cried out for help from his hiding place in the bananas. The farm manager took JK to SASU Hospital in Mutare at around 0800 hours the following morning where an operation was performed on his leg. The police arrived that morning and took Chambarara's body to Chimanimani Mortuary.

Chipinga North/ South

3 February 2004

- ZANU PF youths and war veterans are said to have assaulted GM with iron bars, sjamboks and stones when they arrived at his house at midnight. They allegedly accused him of being an MDC activist.

10 February 2004

- It is reported that GM was woken up at midnight by a mob of ZANU PF youths and war veterans who forced the door to his house open and beat him. Among the assailants were Danmore Spindiye, Phinias Mudiwa, Munondirasha Siyatunya, Fainas Bangamure and Mushando Tasa. He claims that he was assaulted with pick handles, iron bars, stones and whips. The assailants are said to have accused GM of plotting to overthrow the government because the MDC MP for Chimanimani, Roy Bennet, had visited him that afternoon. The assailants are also said to have demanded that GM surrender all the MDC regalia he had in the house. He claims that he was further assaulted and left for dead, bleeding all over.

Mutare North/ South

6 February 2004

- A group of ZANU PF youths led by Fari Mhonyera allegedly went to BM's home and demanded to know why she was not at the ZANU PF meeting that was being held at the local township at that time. She claims that they threatened to evict her on accusations of being an MDC activist. The youths are then said to have ordered her to run ahead of them and attend the meeting. The victim did as she was ordered but she fell down and stopped because of fatigue. She was also carrying her two-year-old baby on her back. The youths reportedly whipped her on the back and hit her on the hand as she tried to shield her face from the assault. BM purports that the youths also confiscated her husband's MDC T-shirt and the wrapping cloth with which she was carrying the baby.

25 February 2004

- Lovemore Madhuku, the NCA Chairperson, was reportedly arrested by the police at a road block at Christmas Pass in Mutare, at about 08:15hrs, and was detained for about three hours at Mutare Central Police Station. He was on his way to address a seminar on behalf of the Centre for Peace Initiatives in Africa (CPIA) in the area. The seminar was to do with the security of the nation as well as human rights. On arrival at the police station, he was reportedly quizzed by the Officer Commanding the Law and Order Section, before being taken to the Officer Commanding the Police Internal Security Intelligence Department, for further questioning. The officers were reportedly not satisfied that Madhuku was attending that meeting, despite producing an invitation

letter from the CPIA and showing the police a draft CPIA program, which stated his mission. He was later released following the intervention of the CPIA officials and *"on the understanding that there was no basis for his arrest"*. He however asserts that CIO agents and plain clothed police officers trailed him to the conference venue where he was heading.

MASHONALAND EAST

Marondera West/ East

3 February 2004

- ZANU PF activists are said to have attacked FM and with his wife, on allegations of being a sell out. FM and his wife are both active MDC supporters.

Murehwa North

13 February 2004

- ZANU PF youths are alleged to have attacked WC, MDC Ward 14 Secretary, while he was herding cattle near his home. This was after BG, the Ward Organising Secretary, was attacked by ZANU PF youths, and forced to disclose the name of the secretary. WC sustained an ear injury and he fled to Harare with his wife and two children.
- SD, MDC Vice-Secretary in the Youth District Executive Council, claims that he was attacked at his home in Ward 14 by 4 ZANU PF youths, who were in a District Coordination Committee truck, which belongs to the ZANU PF. He managed to escape, leaving behind his family and home. SD did not sustain serious injuries but is still under threat from the youths.

Murehwa North/ South

1 February 2004

- WC, MDC Branch Secretary for the area, was reportedly assaulted by a group of ZANU PF youths while he was herding his cattle. He was reportedly attacked because he holds a position in the opposition party MDC.

3 February 2004

- FM is the MDC District Secretary as well as NCA Chairman for Mashonaland East. He claims that a group of 4 ZANU PF supporters arrived at his home at around 13:00 hours driving vehicles with the inscription *"ZANU PF"* on them and accused him of being a sell-out. Two of the youths are said to have beaten him up with a sjambok on his back, resulting in an open wound. The other youths reportedly beat his wife before ransacking the house. The ZANU PF supporters are alleged to have taken away Z\$350,000,00, NCA T-shirts, and MDC records from him. FM claims that the assailants later took him to the clinic and ordered him to give a false statement about the cause of his injuries. FM was therefore forced to say that he had sustained the injuries from a fall. He alleges that he was also ordered to withdraw his membership from his party and was threatened with unspecified action if he did not comply. He is currently worried about his family's welfare and has moved his family to stay with relatives in Harare.
- BU claims that a group of ZANU PF supporters came to her homestead at around 13:00 hours in a vehicle marked *"ZANU PF MASHONALAND EAST"*. They alighted and pushed her to the ground. The youths are said to have trampled on her chest with booted feet, slapped her on the face twice and then beat her all over the body with open hands. She further claims that the assailants took away cash from her. The assailants allegedly threatened to kill her and her family if she did not immediately vacate the area. She claims that she was assaulted for supporting the MDC.

6 February 2004

- It is reported that a group of war veterans came to EM's home and assaulted him all over. He claims that they had met his wife along the way and slapped her before leading her back home. They allegedly assaulted EM the moment they saw him. They accused him of being an MDC activist and told him that they did not want sell-outs like him in the area, thus ordering him to leave. EM asserts that the assailants took him away to a hall where a ZANU PF meeting was being held and verbally abused him before beating him up some more and then releasing him.
- It is reported that at a meeting held in Kadzire Township, ZANU PF supporters resolved that all MDC activists in the area be eliminated. JM claims that a group of ZANU PF activists went to his home during the meeting, beat up his wife, searched for MDC regalia, confiscated it and then force-marched his wife to the meeting. JM was not at home when they came. The youths later found him at home when they brought his wife back. He claims that he was assaulted and then force-marched to the meeting where he was verbally abused and further assaulted. He further claims that the ZANU PF District Chairman for Murehwa threatened to kill him if he continued staying in the area.

13 February 2004

- EFM was reportedly attacked by ZANU PF youths at his homestead in Murehwa, on allegations that he is an MDC activist.
- SD, MDC Vice Secretary for Youth in the area, was reportedly attacked at his home by ZANU PF supporters, because he is an MDC activist.
- ZANU PF youths are said to have attacked JM, an opposition MDC supporter at his home. He fled his home and is now living in Harare
- MM was allegedly attacked at his home by ZANU PF youths because he had taken part in the drafting of an MDC budget for plan of action for the Ward. The assailants, who were reportedly in a truck with the inscription "ZANU PF DCC", attacked MM with a hoe handle, clenched fists and booted feet. He sustained injuries on the back and on the left side. He claims that Maliki, DCC Chairman of Murehwa Siwela, and two others were among the assailants. MM fled with his wife and children. He also asserts that the youths threatened to burn his homestead.

18 February 2004

- EM, who had been given shelter by Alois Mudzingwa (MDC Provincial Chairperson for Mashonaland East), was allegedly attacked by ZANU PF activists and CIO agents from Murehwa. Two men named Banda and Mbetsa were reportedly amongst the CIO agents. He however managed to escape from them, left his home and then settled in Harare for fear of further victimisation. He asserts that he was being followed up because of his links to Mudzingwa.

Murehwa South*2 February 2004*

- AK, Murehwa South District Co-ordinator for the opposition party MDC claims that he was attacked at his home by ZANU PF supporters, who were moving around in a vehicle with the inscription "ZANU PF, MASHONALAND EAST". He alleges that when he tried to fight them back, the assailants overpowered him.

MASHONALAND CENTRAL

Bindura

24 February 2004

- It is reported that ZANU PF youths, among them Maxwell and Mujambajecha, attacked LW and slapped him twice before asking him to attend a ZANU PF meeting at Chiwaridzo Hall. He claims that the assailants forced him to reveal the names of other MDC activists, a request that he declined. As he was reportedly receiving further threats on his life, LW left Bindura for Harare. He asserts that the attackers promised that they would pick him up again and force him to comply.

24 February 2004

- LW, an MDC supporter, purports that he was attacked on two consecutive days by ZANU PF youths, and that he was forced to reveal the identities of the other MDC supporters in the area. He alleges that the youths forced him to leave Bindura and go to Harare.

Muzarabani

1 February 2004

- JK, whose cattle was reportedly confiscated by Chief Chiweshe, was reportedly severely assaulted by the police from Muzarabani Police Station when he reported the incident to them. He lost some of his teeth during the assault. He was arrested on allegations of beating Chief Chiweshe, a charge that he denies. He left the area with his family after the release.

MASVINGO

Gutu North

February 2004

- ∑ Joseph Chinotimba, ZNLWVA leader and other ZANU PF supporters, reportedly stormed Zouma, a supermarket owned by Crispa Musoni (MDC candidate for the post of MP in the Gutu North by-elections, held on 2 and 3 February 2004), accompanied by about 6 ZANU PF youths. Musoni claims that Chinotimba and the youths began to tear down the MDC campaign posters, which were in the shop and threatened to beat up Musoni's staff. Musoni is said to have appealed to Tungamirai, the ZANU PF candidate, and Chinotimba was reportedly ordered out of Gutu.

MATEBELELAND NORTH

Nkayi

February 2004

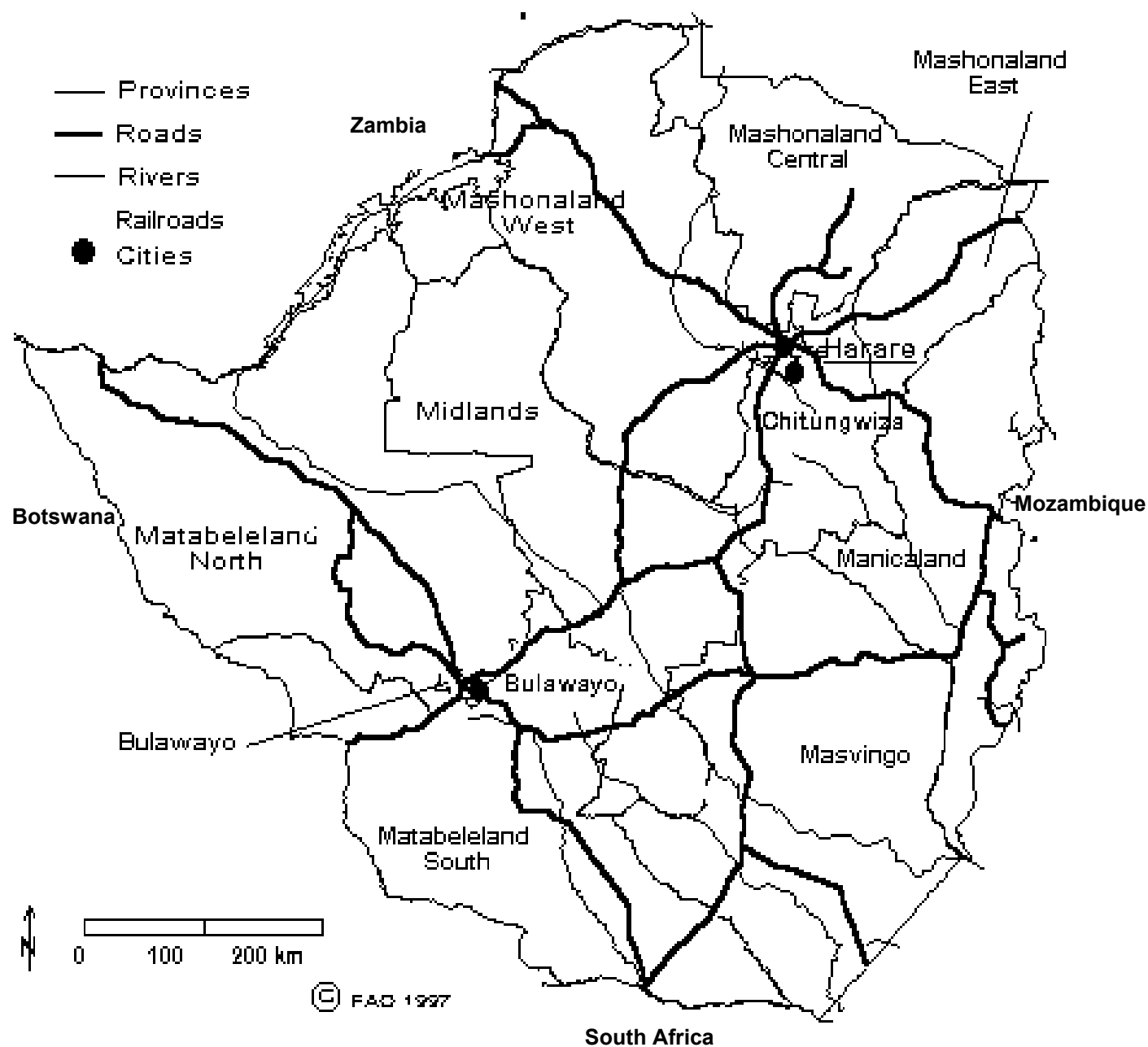
- ∑ Sifiso Mpofu, MDC Councillor in Nkayi, was reportedly arrested by the police for inviting politicians to his victory celebrations. He was arrested despite having received police clearance to hold the celebrations. He claims that the police picked him up after the victory celebrations were over and detained him. The police are said to have accused Mpofu of breaching their agreement that he would not invite politicians to the celebrations. Nkayi MP, Abednigo Bhebhe, alleges that Mpofu spent three days in police custody before any charges were levelled against him. He was later charged with holding a political meeting without police clearance under POSA. He was however released on free bail after the Attorney General's office declined to prosecute.

Full alphabetical list of reported deaths related to political violence 1 January to 29 February 2004 recorded indicating name, political affiliation, date of death, constituency and province.

TOTAL: 2 MDC – 1 UNKNOWN - 1

SURNAME	FIRST NAME (S)	POLITICAL AFFILIATION	DATE OF DEATH	CONSTITUENCY	PROVINCE
1 CHIGEGA	ALEXANDER	MDC	4 /1/2004	SHAMVA	MASHONALAND CENTRAL
2 SHEMI	CHAMBARARA	UNKNOWN	8 /2/2004	CHIMANIMANI	MANICALAND

ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF ZIMBABWE



The **Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum** (also known as the “Human Rights Forum”) is a coalition comprising 17 member organisations. It has been in existence since January 1998 when non-governmental organisations working in the field of human rights joined together to provide legal and psychosocial assistance to the victims of the Food Riots of January 1998.

The Human Rights Forum has now expanded its objectives to assist victims of organised violence, using the following definition:

“Organised violence” means the inter-human infliction of significant avoidable pain and suffering by an organised group according to a declared or implied strategy and/or system of ideas and attitudes. It comprises any violent action, which is unacceptable by general human standards, and relates to the victims’ mental and physical well-being.”

The Human Rights Forum operates a Research and Documentation Unit and offers legal services through the Public Interest Unit of the (formerly the Legal Unit of the ZHRF.)

Core member organisations of the Human Rights Forum are:

- Amani Trust
- Amnesty International (Zimbabwe) (AI (Z))
- Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace (CCJP)
- Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe (GALZ)
- Human Rights Trust of Southern Africa (SAHRIT)
- Legal Resources Foundation (LRF)
- Transparency International (Zimbabwe) (TI (Z))
- University of Zimbabwe Legal Aid and Advice Scheme (UZ (LAAS))
- Zimbabwe Association for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of the Offender (ZACRO)
- Zimbabwe Association of Doctors for Human Rights (ZADHR)
- Zimbabwe Civic Education Trust (ZIMCET)
- Zimbabwe Human Rights Association (ZimRights)
- Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR)
- Zimbabwe Peace Project (ZPP)
- Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association (ZWLA)

Associate Members:

- Media Monitoring Project of Zimbabwe (MMPZ)
- Nonviolent Action and Strategies for Social Change (NOVASC)

The Human Rights Forum can be contacted through any member organisation or through:

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