

ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM

POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT

April 2005

15 July 2005

A report by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

OVERVIEW

The month of April was awash with political violations of human rights including 2 murders. The violations are linked to post election retribution that was occurring throughout the country. Fifty five displacements were recorded in the month, which exceeded the total number of displacements recorded from January to March viz 21. This contributed to the number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Zimbabwe. Throughout the country and particularly in Mashonaland Central Province, people were being chased away from their homes for being either MDC activists or for having been election observers or MDC polling agents. A number of people who reported to the police claimed that they were told, in essence, that it was better for them to leave their place of residence because the police could not help them. The Human Rights Forum views such reports with concern as it is the duty of the police to maintain law and order in Zimbabwe and protect, not curtail, the rights of all Zimbabweans, including their right to form or belong to political parties of their choice, which right is enshrined in section 21 of the Constitution. The Human Rights Forum therefore urges the police force to ensure that innocent citizens of Zimbabwe are protected from criminal activities perpetrated for political motives.

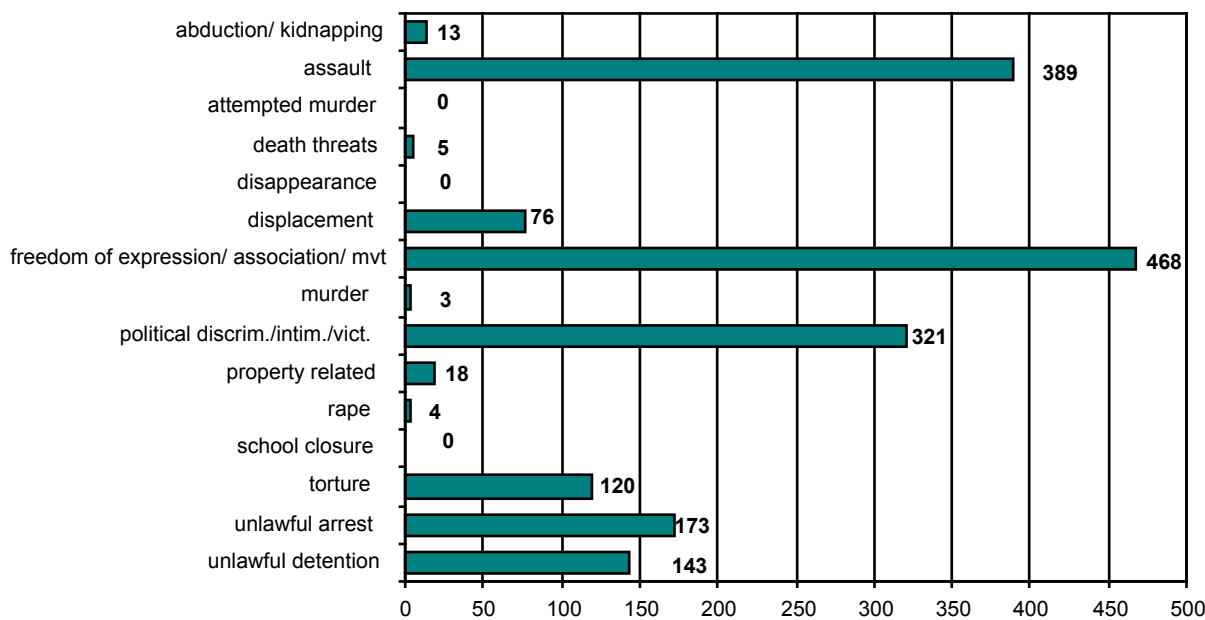
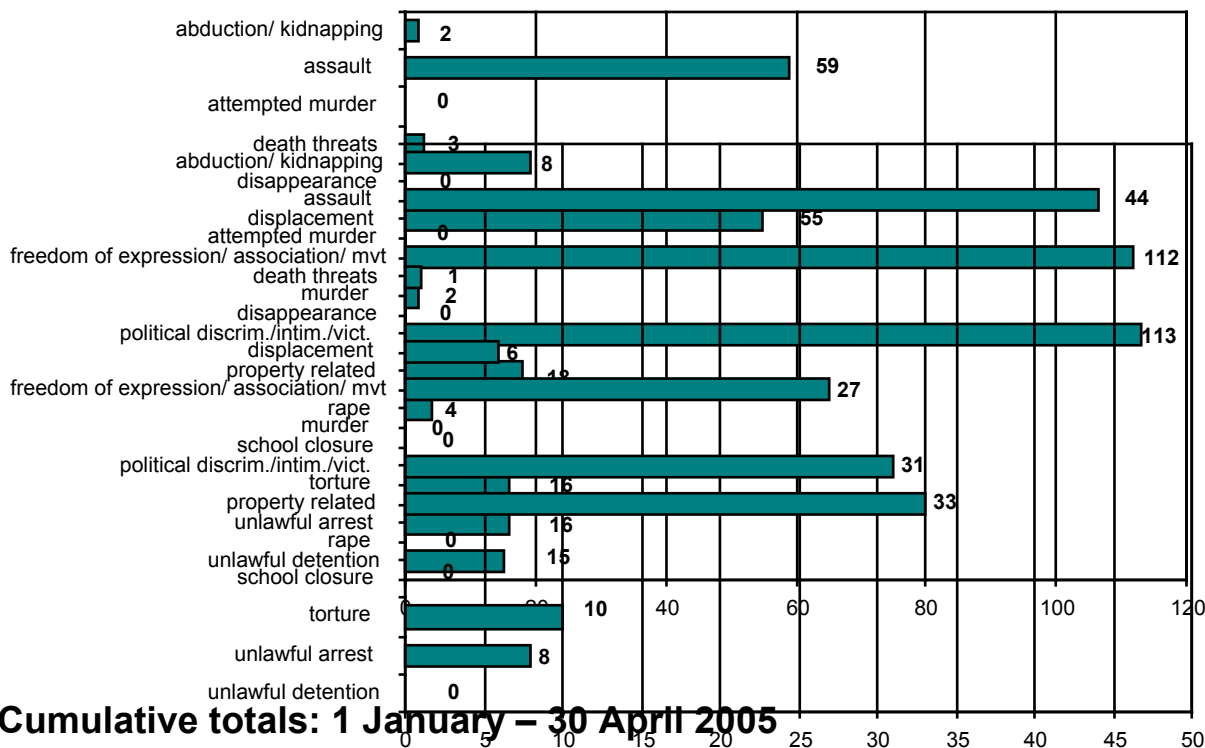
In the post-election period, Ebrahim Mofat, an MDC activist and Febby Muchacha, a resettled old lady were brutally murdered. The Human Rights Forum deplores the disregard for the sanctity of human life with which such murders were perpetrated. The Forum further urges the police to fully investigate both cases and to ensure that the guilty are brought to book.

On 4 April 2005, the MDC held a demonstration against the manner in which the elections had been conducted. Reports are that the demonstration was violent and that property and shops were destroyed. While the Human Rights Forum notes that it is the right of every individual to express themselves through demonstrations, it condemns the use of violence in any form and urges all people who wish to demonstrate to do so in a peaceful manner. After the demonstration, the police allegedly picked up the people involved in the demonstration. The police are said to have been armed and are alleged to have detained the demonstrators for more than 48 hours having subjected some of them to torture

The Human Rights Forum condemns torture as a way of soliciting information or punishing those detained and urges the ZRP to conduct itself in a lawful manner at all times. The Human Rights Forum further urges the Commissioner of Police to investigate these deplorable allegations and bring to book all the perpetrators of such gruesome acts. It is noted with concern that there were other incidents recorded in which the police allegedly acted in collaboration with war veterans and ZANU-PF supporters in violating the rights of opposition members. There were also alarming reports of victims, not perpetrators, being detained by the police. The Human Rights Forum urges the police force to be

impartial in their enforcement of the law and honour their obligations to all members of the public to protect their rights.

Totals: 1 April – 30 April 2005



The cumulative graph should be read along with the table depicting the monthly totals of violations from 1 January 2005 to 30 April 2005

Key Abbreviations

AIPPA – Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act	UMP – Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe
CIO – Central Intelligence Organisation	ZANU PF – Zimbabwe African National Union
Patriotic Front	ZCTU – Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions
MDC – Movement for Democratic Change	ZNA – Zimbabwe National Army
MP – Member of Parliament	ZNLWVA – Zimbabwe National Liberation War
Veterans Association	ZPS – Zimbabwe Prison Service
NAGG - National Alliance for Good Governance	ZRP – Zimbabwe Republic Police
NCA – National Constitutional Assembly	ZIMTA – Zimbabwe Teachers Association
OVT – Organised Violence and Torture	ZUPCO – Zimbabwe United Passenger Company
POSA – Public Order and Security Act	
PTUZ – Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe	

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 a network of human rights activists and newspaper reports,

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.

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. This is done in order to protect the victim from further violence, intimidation and possible recriminatory 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 Monthly Political Violence Report cannot therefore be considered as the exhaustive record of all incidents of politically-motivated violence in Zimbabwe in the period under review. Nevertheless, every incident reported to the Human Rights Forum directly or through its members is meticulously documented and included in the reports.

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.

BULAWAYO

Bulawayo South

3 April 2005

Σ. Emganwini suburb was reportedly plunged into darkness when an electricity transformer was removed by the Zimbabwe Electricity Supply Authority (ZESA) on the instigation of disgruntled losing ZANU-PF Parliamentary Candidate for Bulawayo South and Minister of Small and Medium Enterprise Development, Sithembiso Nyoni. The suburb, which had gone for years, without electricity had a transformer installed by Nyoni just before the parliamentary elections.

HARARE

Budiriro

2 April 2005

The victim claims that he passed through a certain Nightclub where he used to work. On leaving the premises, he was reportedly confronted by about 8 ZRP and ZNA uniformed officers accusing him of being an MDC supporter. He tried to resist but he was allegedly beaten with a baton across the face and powder was applied to his face. He was allegedly handcuffed and dragged to a dark corner near the community hall where a military truck was parked where there were 4 other uniformed soldiers. The victim claims that he was assaulted with handcuffs, batons, an iron bar, open hands, fists and booted feet before being taken to a cabin where ZANU-PF supporters were stationed safe-guarding public cars for a fee. He was reportedly left in the cabin until 4:00 hrs. It is reported that there were other people in the cabin who had been arrested for public drinking. The victim further claims that one of the neighborhood watch members stole \$50 000 from him while other people he was with in the cabin bribed the ZANU-PF neighborhood watch members to gain their release. He was taken to Glen View Police Station where he was reportedly cautioned for walking during the night before he was released.

4 April 2005

The victim claims that he is being victimized by ZANU-PF supporters on allegations of being an MDC activist. He has had to relocate in fear of further victimization.

15 April 2005

The female victim was reportedly victimized by suspected ZANU-PF supporters after she was seen wearing MDC regalia at the Glen View 3 shopping center. The ZANU-PF supporters allegedly incited some members of the ZNA and war veterans to look for her at her house. She decided to flee from her home.

Dzivarasekwa

5 April 2005

On the day in question, around 1:00 hrs armed plain-clothes police officers from the Law and Order Unit reportedly went to pick up the 6 male victims from their homes in Dzivarasekwa for alleged involvement in the MDC demonstration against the 31 March 2005 Parliamentary election results. They were reportedly taken in a police vehicle to Dzivarasekwa Police Station but they did not get into the Charge Office. It is purported that two victims were left at Mabelreign Police Station, two at Avondale Police Station and the other two were taken to Malborough Police Station. At around 13:00 hrs all the victims were apparently taken to Harare Central Police Station. One of the victims claims that while in the car on their way to Harare Central Police Station, he was threatened with death if he did not tell the police what he was doing in town the previous day, to which he responded saying he was at work.

One other victim reported that at Harare Central Police Station, he was assaulted with a wooden hammer on the knees, with a broomstick on the back and with fists on his head. He was also allegedly forced to assume painful postures and to do painful exercises such as to sit in air and to do press-ups on his elbows. He was allegedly threatened with death in the process. The other victims allege that while at Harare Central Police Station, they were assaulted with booted feet, open hands, batons, whips and fists on the accusation that they participated in a demonstration in the city center the previous day, which one of the victims denied. The assault was allegedly recorded by the police officers using a video camera. The victims claim that they were denied food while in custody. They were detained until they were taken to court on 8 April 2005 at about 19:00 hrs. They were charged with public violence, released on bail of \$300 000 each and told to report to the Law and Order Unit twice a week.

Glen Norah

3 April 2005

The victim was allegedly chased away from Glen Norah on allegations of being an MDC activist by ZANU-PF supporters. He has had to relocate to another area for safety.

Harare Central

4 April 2005

Σ. About 18 MDC youths reportedly held a demonstration to protest against the outcome of the March 31 Parliamentary Elections in the Central Business District (CBD) of Harare where they destroyed property and assaulted passers by. In the process the youths are said to have been distributing flyers inscribed "*reject fraud*". As they passed by a bank queue near Nelson Mandela Avenue, they reportedly forced people to confront the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) observer Mission for endorsing the results of the election. Shops including Fashion Discount Centre, Power

Sales, and Nyore Nyore Zimbabwe Furnishers were among those reportedly stoned along Rezende Street in Harare. The youths were arrested, appeared in court and were released on bail of \$300 000 each on 11 April. They are being charged under POSA.

4 April 2005

On the day in question at around 14:00 hrs, the victim reports that she was part of an MDC demonstration against the 31 March 2005 Parliamentary election results. Plain-clothes Police Officers allegedly manhandled her and threw her into a police vehicle on the accusation that she was among those who had looted a shop and broken windows in shops and a bank. Whilst in the vehicle the victim claims that she was assaulted all over her body with booted feet, open hands, fists and batons. She and other demonstrators were then taken to Harare Central Police Station, Law and Order Section where she claims she was assaulted until about 23:00 hrs. She further claims that she was intimidated and shown video footage of the group attending a meeting at Harvest House, which was addressed by Nelson Chamisa, the MDC MP for Kuwadzana. The victim alleges that about 18 members of the Central Investigation Department (CID) assaulted the demonstrators and she spent five days in the cells. On 8 April at around 19:00 hrs she went to court and was released on a \$300 000-00 bail.

Another female victim also involved in the above case was reportedly standing at the corner of Angwa Street and Speke Avenue when a police officer came and asked her what she was waiting for. Before she could answer she was allegedly beaten twice on the buttocks with a baton and when she turned to look at the officer she was struck in the face. The victim ran away and went inside the Commercial Bank of Zimbabwe (CBZ) banking hall where she fainted and regained consciousness later. She was said to have been assisted by the employees who made a call to her home.

Another male victim involved in MDC demonstrations against the March 31 Parliamentary elections was taken to Harare Central Police Station on 4 April 2005 where he was allegedly assaulted by the police using batons, open hands and a fan belt. He was reportedly detained for 2 days and on the 3rd day he was taken to Braeside Police Station. He was allegedly denied food during his detention and he was later taken to court on 8 April in the absence of his lawyer. He was charged under POSA. They were both made to pay \$300 000 bail each ordered to report to the Law and Order Unit twice per week.

6 April 2005

The victim claims that plain-clothes police officers came to his house in Harare North with one uniformed officer. He alleges that they tried to strangle him and they demanded some MDC cards but as he was looking for his ID he was assaulted with open hands. He reports that they took him to a car where they demanded to know who was at the MDC post-election demonstration. When he did not reveal the names, the police are said to have produced the list and proceeded to pick up five more people. He was taken to Harare Central Police Station where there were 14 others from various parts of Harare. They were reportedly made to sit in uncomfortable positions and assaulted indiscriminately by the police. He claims that he developed a severe headache and on reporting this the officers retorted saying "*crooks do not get sick*". He was later released.

8 April 2005

The victim claims he was coming from Harvest House and walking along Julius Nyerere way when he suddenly felt a blow on the back of the head. He reportedly fell down to the ground and the police took him to Harare Central Police Station where they allegedly assaulted him using baton and open hands. The following day, statements are said to have been taken and he was locked up in cells until the next day when he was taken to court at about 19:00 hrs where he was charged with public violence.

Harare East*7 April 2005*

Σ. It is reported that Nelson Chamisa, the MDC MP for Kuwadzana Constituency was tortured while in police custody. The MDC MP was arrested on 6 April 2005 for allegedly inciting violence following demonstrations in Harare by suspected MDC supporters. It is alleged that between 19:00 hrs and 10:45 hrs on 7 April 2005, the Officer In Charge of Rhodesville Police Station, Assistant Inspector Gatora, denied Chamisa's lawyer access to him, despite producing a valid practicing certificate. She is said to have further refused to make Chamisa available for supper, which meal the lawyer had brought for him. Chamisa was allegedly then taken from the police station late at night between 22:00 hrs and 00:00 hrs, and transferred to Matapi Police Station for reasons unknown to his lawyers, while being tortured and intimidated by members of the ZRP namely Ngena and Dowa. Chamisa was reportedly told to alight from the vehicle when they were near the Coca-Cola factory in Graniteside and force-marched from there to Matapi Police Station alongside the police vehicle while in hand and leg irons.

5 April 2005

The victim, an MDC male activist, took part in the MDC demonstration on 4 April 2005 but managed to hide when the police came after the participants. It is reported that on 5 April around midnight the police came to his home looking for him, but when the victim saw them he ran away and the police allegedly set their dogs on him. He claims he was bitten on both legs but the police later rescued him. He was taken for interrogation and was allegedly asked to lie on his stomach while being assaulted on the back and beneath the feet for about 30 minutes. He was reportedly taken to Southerton Police Station where he was further assaulted using batons. He was kept in the cells for 3 days and was released after paying an admission of guilt fine for possession of dagga.

Harare North*4 April 2005*

The victim claims she is a ZANU-PF activist and on the day of the incident at around 10:00 hrs, she carried her goods to sell at the place where she normally does her business in town. She decided to take a short cut using the path that passes through the fields in Hatcliffe New Stands. On her way she reportedly met a group of ZANU-PF youths who asked her where she was going. She told them that she was going to her vending site. The youths in turn asked her to return to their base. She was told that reports had reached them indicating that other ZANU-PF members were not sure of her allegiance and thus they wanted to know exactly what she was doing and why she was not attending party meetings on a regular basis. The victim claims she saw a heap of logs that the youths claimed were going to be used to assault her until she told them about her activities.

It is purported that one of the youths blindfolded the victim with ZANU-PF regalia and they started to assault her beneath both feet and on her palms. She claims that the beatings lasted for about 20 minutes. Three buckets of water were then allegedly poured onto her. She says she tried to convince them that she always attended meetings explaining that she had to do the vending for her survival and the youths mixed water with red soil and poured the mud on her from head to toe. The victim was then asked to go. She has had to relocate in fear of further victimization.

5 April 2005

On 4 April 2005, the victim reports that he attended a meeting, which was addressed by MDC MP, Chamisa, to make the people aware that the election results had been tampered with. It is reported

that Chamisa asked people what they wanted to do about the issue and people allegedly opted for a demonstration. From the meeting, people then started to demonstrate and after about 10 minutes the victim claims he retreated since he has some chest problems. On the next day around 4:30 hrs, the victim alleges that about four members of the CID, including one policeman, took him from his house in Harare North and they allegedly assaulted him demanding party cards and ammunition. The victim claims he was assaulted with open hands whilst the other officer was pointing a gun at him. He then produced his party card but no ammunition. He was reportedly ordered to tell them where the other MDC members were. After being handcuffed, he was thrown into a police car and driven around picking other MDC members. They were reportedly taken to Harare Central Police Station and put in room 22. The victim claims they were interrogated one at a time while some members of the CID were recording the interrogations using a video camera. The victim was forced to assume painful postures and to do painful exercises. He was detained up till 8 April when he went for a court hearing.

Harare South

1 April 2005

The female, whose husband is a security personnel in the MDC, was evicted from her residence at Green Valley Farm which is a ZANU-PF stronghold.

3 April 2005

The victim was reportedly evicted from his residence at Green Valley farm by suspected ZANU-PF supporters. After the forceful eviction he claims his house was burnt down.

Hatfield

18 April 2005

The male victim, who denies being an MDC activist, alleges that on the day in question, some ZANU-PF supporters came to his house when he was not there and they ordered his wife to pack his belongings and leave the area under the accusation that he was an MDC activist. The perpetrators then allegedly took away his property and told his wife that if he wanted his property, he should come and collect it from their base. He apparently followed this up but got nothing from the base and so he reported the matter to the Police in Epworth. The victim records that he had been previously intimidated by the same ZANU-PF supporters on 21 March 2005 around 21:00 hrs. At that time they had accused him of belonging to the MDC, which he denied but they nevertheless told him to leave Epworth. The victim has had to relocate from his house and he can no longer conduct business at his market in Epworth.

Kambuzuma

5 April 2005

The victim reports that she was sitting outside the Mashazhike Butchery in Rugare with other people waiting for meat to be sliced prior to purchase when some ZANU-PF supporters confronted the group accusing them of having voted for the MDC. The victim says that she felt they were focusing on her and so she stood up since she was too close to them. She was allegedly assaulted with an empty bottle on the right side of the face and sustained a cut above the upper lip and on the right shoulder blade. She also reportedly stepped on fragments of the bottle and got cut on the soles of her feet. The victim further claims that the youths twisted her right arm at which time the group of people are said to have intervened arguing that she could not be equated to the 17 000 people who voted for MDC. She reported the case to the police and got treatment at Harare Hospital.

Kuwadzana

2 April 2005

The victim was allegedly chased away from his place of residence in Kuwadzana by ZANU-PF activists on allegations that he was an MDC activist. He had to relocate in fear of further victimization.

Mabvuku

3 April 2005

On the day of the incident the victim reports that the police arrived at her house at about 22:30 hrs. They allegedly broke through the kitchen and immediately began to assault her telling her that she knew what she had done. They reportedly ordered her to get dressed and they forced her into their truck telling her that she had no rights when she questioned their actions. At Mabvuku Police Station, they allegedly pinned her head between her knees and assaulted her using batons. They accused her of attacking one of the militias and denigrating the President. She spent the night in police cells before being charged under the Miscellaneous Offences Act, fined Z\$25 000 and then released.

Mbare East

23 April 2005

The victim was allegedly evicted without notice by his landlord for supporting MDC. He is now residing with the Chairman of the MDC in Mbare.

Mbare West

4 April 2005

A female victim was allegedly assaulted on the day in question on allegations that she was an MDC activist. She reported the matter to the police but so far nothing has been done.

11 April 2005

The victim claims that he was assaulted by a Chipangano¹ and ZANU-PF member known to him. He was allegedly kicked twice in the chest, slapped once on the face and punched. He reportedly fell down hitting his head against the tarmac and losing consciousness for some few minutes. This is reported to have happened while a police officer was watching but no action was taken. The perpetrator is also said to have threatened him saying that he would continue punishing MDC supporters since the international election observers had left the country.

16 April 2005

The victim was allegedly assaulted at his house by ZANU-PF supporters who accused him of mobilizing support for the MDC in Mbare for the March 31 2005 Parliamentary elections. He has had to relocate in fear of further victimization.

Mufakose

2 April 2005

On the day of the incident, the victim says that a ZANU-PF member known to him, came to his house in the company of others and parked their 3 vehicles outside the gate. It is reported that they started to sing ZANU-PF songs but the victim did not stop them. The ZANU-PF member then reportedly approached the victim's wife and told her that they hated her and were targeting her. She was then allegedly kicked in the chest. The victim reportedly tried to defend his wife and as a result he was

¹ Chipangano is a group of ZANU-PF activists who are reported to be victimizing opposition supporters in Mbare.

allegedly caught by the youths, blind-folded and assaulted all over the body. He reportedly sustained a fractured right hand as a result. He however managed to escape and reported the matter to Marimba Police Station, which referred the case to the Law and Order Section. The ZANU-PF member was reportedly arrested and taken into police custody.

11 April 2005

The victim claims that some ZANU-PF youths told him that they had been watching him and his colleagues going to MDC rallies and wearing MDC regalia. He was slapped in the face and when he tried to defend himself, about 6 youths allegedly surrounded him. He says one of them assaulted him with a log on the right shoulder and he fell. One youth is said to have tried to assault the victim on the head but he covered his head with his hands resulting in injuries to his right hand. Other youths allegedly joined in assaulting him in the face and stomach with booted feet and took his wallet which contained \$400 000 and a cell phone. It is reported that his friend tried to rescue him but the youths threw stones at him. The victim reported the case to the police.

Zengeza

29 April 2005

The female victim was reported to be in the company of other MDC activists who were dressed in their party regalia when they were surrounded by about 100 ZANU-PF supporters who were singing. The ZANU-PF supporters allegedly started throwing stones. The victim reportedly tried to run away but she was hit with stones on her left lower chest, thighs and legs. She is said to have tripped, fallen and was assaulted on the back with booted feet. She however managed to stand up and run away and sought treatment at Avenues Clinic.

MANICALAND

Chipinge South

2 April 2005

Σ. It is reported that after ZANU-PF Parliamentary Candidate Enock Porusingazi was proclaimed winner for Chipinge South Constituency, ZANU-PF supporters went around the town celebrating and in the process assaulting suspected opposition supporters. The ZANU-PF supporters are said to have threatened to attack the losing candidate for ZANU, Wilson Kumbula who was then defended by his supporters. A fight reportedly ensued which led to the arrest of 11 people, 8 ZANU and 3 ZANU-PF.

Buhera South

8 August 2005

On the day of the incident at around 11:00 hrs, the victim claims he went to Maringa Shopping Centre to buy maize. As he was waiting for his turn, 2 brothers known to him pointed at him declaring that maize should not be sold to him because he is an MDC member. It is alleged that one of the people who was there then approached the victim and asked him what his business was, to which the victim replied that he only wanted to buy maize. ZANU-PF youths are said to have started assaulting people who were accused of being members of the opposition MDC. Some of the people managed to escape. The victim reportedly tried to run away but he fell to the ground. The youths then allegedly trampled on him until some people intervened telling the attackers that they would kill the victim. The youths then dispersed. The victim reports that he lost his personal belongings in the assault.

MASHONALAND CENTRAL

Bindura

1 April 2005

The victim was allegedly chased away from Bindura for being an MDC activist. He has had to relocate to Harare while another victim was allegedly forced to close down his business in Madziva. He also claims that he had to flee his home because of threats of violence issued against him for being an MDC activist.

1 April 2005

On the date in question, around 22:00 hrs, ZANU-PF youths reportedly arrived at the female victim's homestead and took away some grass on the thatching of her kitchen. The ZANU-PF supporters allegedly went on to break the window to her bedroom while she was sleeping. The victim reports that she woke up due to the noise and commotion. The youths then allegedly set the thatching on fire and started throwing it into the whole house to burn everything that was inside the house. She managed however to put out the fire.

On the same day another female victim reports that she was at the station discussing the possibility of an MDC victory in the Parliamentary elections with her friends. It is reported that one person, a ZANU-PF member known to her, was passing through and heard her talking. He reportedly asked the victim what she was saying and told her that they have not heard all the results. The victim is reported to have reminded him that he did nothing when her son was beaten. The perpetrator is said to have gone to a tree, plucked a stick and allegedly assaulted the victim on the back and hands until she escaped by jumping into a commuter omnibus that was passing by. She then went to Nyava Police Station and reported the matter. It is purported that the perpetrator threatened the victim that he would come looking for her, as he would want to deal with her thoroughly. The victim claims that at this moment she is not free in her movements as she is scared that he might still want to assault her.

4 April 2005

The victim claims that he was chased away from Minto Farm, his home area, on allegations that he was an MDC activist. He has had to relocate for safety.

14 April 2005

The victim claims that he was chased away from his rural home in Bindura by ZANU-PF activists led by the Councillor for the area in Mafusire village. He has had to relocate to Harare

17 April 2005

The female victim's house was allegedly destroyed by ZANU-PF supporters when two of the rooms were burnt down along with her property.

Guruve North

19 April 2005

It is reported that on the day in question after the independence celebrations, the ZANU-PF Councillor for the area, ordered the ZANU-PF youths in the area to evict MDC supporters whom they said should relocate to Harare. The Councillor is reported to have taken a male victim and his property to a nearby bus stop so that he would find his way to Harare. The victim reported the matter to Mahuwe Police Station where he was reportedly told that there was nothing the police could do and was advised to leave the area. He relocated to his father's homestead but his father is now being victimized. He is allegedly being told that he too will be evicted from the area by the village head.

23 April 2005

MDC Youth Chairman for ward 6 in Guruve North, Alfred Chideme, claims his property was removed from his house and dumped at his father's home by a group of ZANU-PF youths on the instruction of a ZANU-PF Councillor and the kraal head in the area. The youths allegedly destroyed the door to Chideme's house and forced entry taking property which included a bed, bedding, clothing and plates and put the property in a cart before dumping it at his father's house 600 meters away. When Chideme reported the case to the police he was told that the officer who dealt with such cases was away and no one could attend to him. A second report was then made to Constable Usika by Chideme's uncle and the report number is RRB 0337049.

Mazowe East

2 April 2005

On the date of the incident, 4 male victims report that they had gone to pay lobola (bride price) for one of their colleagues. It is reported that some ZANU-PF activists saw the son of the MDC Parliamentary candidate for the area in a vehicle they knew to have been used for campaigning and they confronted him and his companions. The ZANU-PF activists allegedly abducted the son of the MDC Parliamentary aspirant when he fell off the vehicle as his brother was driving off to escape victimization. His colleagues are said to have tried to rescue him but they were allegedly assaulted using stones, bricks, sticks, booted feet, open palms and wire. The perpetrators allegedly took him to a nearby river where they left him for dead. The ZRP responded and came to their rescue and the assailants fled from the scene. The victims were treated at the Avenues Clinic in Harare the following day.

Mount Darwin North

1 April 2005

A male victim alleges that he was assaulted by ZANU-PF supporters for supporting the opposition MDC.

23 April 2005

Three male victims and 1 female victim who were involved in the March Parliamentary elections, the 2 males being MDC Polling Agents and the other 2 being observers, were allegedly told to leave the village. They were reportedly labelled sell outs and told to leave the area altogether.

Mount Darwin South

3 April 2005

On the day of the incident, 3 suspected ZANU-PF youths known to the victim, reportedly came to her home. They reportedly told her that they had always been suspecting her to be an MDC member and now it has become clear since she was an MDC polling agent at Nembire Primary School. The youths allegedly assaulted the victim all over her body with booted feet and fists and poured some liquid, which was not identified, onto her body and into her eyes causing continuous discomfort.

15 April 2005

The male victim was an MDC polling agent at Chibara Primary School in Mt Darwin South in the March 2005 General Elections. He alleges that the ZANU-PF Councillor in his area told him to leave and threatened to kill him. The victim has also received death threats from ZANU-PF youths in his area. He has had to relocate in fear of his life.

23 April 2005

The victim, who is a District Youth Chairperson in Mt Darwin South, was allegedly chased away from his home area in Mount Darwin South for being an MDC activist and also for being a campaign agent for the MDC candidate for that constituency. He has had to relocate to Harare.

Two female and one male MDC activists allege that they were chased away from their homes for being activists and the male and female for being MDC election observers during the 31 March 2005 Parliamentary Elections. She has had to relocate to Harare for safety.

Muzarabani

2 April 2005

The victim alleges that his house and property were destroyed on the date in question by suspected ZANU-PF supporters after the Parliamentary Elections. He has since fled from his homestead.

4 April 2005

The victim claims that he was chased away from his home in Muzarabani on allegations of being an MDC activist. He had to relocate to Harare.

18 April 2005

One male victim claims that he was evicted from his home while another male victim was allegedly assaulted by ZANU-PF activists because they support the MDC and also because they were MDC polling agents in the March 31 2005 Parliamentary Elections. They were allegedly ordered to go and live in Harare "*because that is where MDC people live.*" They had to relocate with their families.

22 April 2005

The victim claims that he was chased away from Muzarabani, Machaya area for being an MDC activist. He has had to relocate for safety.

Rushinga

18 April 2005

The two female victims were allegedly chased away from Rushinga for being MDC supporters and MDC Polling Agents during the March 31 2005 Parliamentary Elections. They were apparently labelled sell-outs and ordered to leave the area by ZANU-PF activists.

Shamva

2 April 2005

The victim reports that he was coming from Mashambe polling station on the day in question around 17:30 hrs when he met a group of ZANU-PF supporters who came out from the bush. It is reported that they started interrogating him accusing him of being an MDC supporter and also an MDC polling agent. He was allegedly assaulted with empty bottles on the head and on the right shoulder where he sustained a cut. He reported the case at Madziva Police station where he was referred to Madziva Clinic for treatment.

16 April 2005

The victim claims that after the announcement of the March Parliamentary election results, ZANU-PF supporters confronted her, mocking her and threatening her with assault. On the particular day she was allegedly threatened with the burning of her shack and she ran off to the nearest mountain to hide

the whole night. When she returned she reports that her spectacles had been broken by the youths who had entered her shack.

MASHONALAND EAST

Chikomba

5 April 2005

The victim alleges that he was chased away from Chikomba for being an MDC activist. He relocated to Chitungwiza.

Goromonzi

2 April 2005

The female victim was dressed in an MDC t-shirt in the company of a fellow MDC colleague at Munyawiri Business center socializing when ZANU-PF youths and members of the neighbourhood watch reportedly accused her of selling out the country. She was allegedly assaulted in the back and slapped in the face.

A male victim reports that he had seen his relatives off at Zinyana Shop at Munyawiri Township around 15:00 hrs when he went into the shop to buy a drink. It is reported that the ZANU-PF Councillor and other ZANU-PF activists known to the victim called him from the back door. When he got to where they were, they accused him of wearing an MDC t-shirt. They allegedly took away \$221 000 from him, the t-shirt and his identity card. The owner of the shop reportedly gave him a shirt to wear and he went home but on his way home, he reports that they followed him and assaulted him with sticks, a slasher, fists, booted feet and stones for about an hour. He was reportedly then taken to the Police Station where he was made to pay an admission of guilt fine of \$25 000. It is reported that the police officer at the Police Station also joined the ZANU-PF supporters in assaulting him.

4 April 2005

On the day of the incident, the victim and others were wearing MDC T-shirts on their way to play soccer at Kachuta Primary School. It is reported that some women who were attending a ZANU-PF meeting saw them and shouted that they should be apprehended. The victim and others reportedly ran to escape but some ZANU-PF youths and the women allegedly threw stones at them. The victim and his colleagues ran back home but some members of the neighborhood watch reportedly told them to go back to where the incident had happened as they wanted to take some statements. When they got inside the fence from where they had run away, the victim was allegedly handcuffed by one neighbourhood watch man and then slapped in the face. He was allegedly kicked with booted feet in the stomach on the accusation that he and his colleagues wanted to sell the country. They were then reportedly taken to Chinamora Police Station where they were accused by one war veteran of stoning people who were attending a ZANU-PF meeting. The victim reports that they were locked up in the cells for a night and were released the following day after paying a Z\$25 000-00 admission of guilt fine each.

Marondera West

13 April 2005

Σ. It is reported that on the day in question, around 3:00 hrs, 8 settlers of Kimcote farm were axed and 4 of them raped in a case that is suspected to be politically motivated. Febby Muchacha aged 70 was raped and axed to death while Tecla Mutsindiri aged 45 who was reportedly in critical condition at Harare Central Hospital, was reportedly raped and axed. Tecla and Febby had their eyes plucked out

and the sockets stuffed with mealie-meal. Tecla's husband, Kenedy Mutsindiri, was reportedly assaulted until he lost consciousness. Two girls aged 9 and 6 were reportedly gang raped before one of them had her eyes gouged out and another 2 girls and a man, Pius Nogwe, reportedly had life-threatening axe wounds. One of the raped girls, a 9 year old, reportedly watched her grandmother Febby being raped and then axed to death because she had pleaded with the assailants to spare her. Febby's naked body was found tied up outside her dwelling with her granddaughter in a pool of blood. It is said that Pius Nogwe, Febby's husband, was found lying in a pool of blood in their hut. His legs were fractured, he had deep wounds all over his body and his eyes had been plucked out and mealie-meal stuffed in the sockets. The incident is reported to have been perpetrated by a gang of 5 men. The resettled farmers suspect that the murders are politically motivated judging by the fact that after the Parliamentary Elections they heard unknown people shouting on several occasions from behind some rocks that they would deal with all the "mushrooms".²

5 April 2005

A male victim's house was allegedly burnt and he was chased away from Mahusekwa on allegations that he was an MDC activist. He has had to relocate to Harare for safety.

Mudzi

19 April 2005

The victim alleges that he was assaulted by ZANU-PF youths for being an MDC supporter, that they then burnt his clothes and took away his wife's peanuts. They also reportedly ordered the Headman to chase him away from the area since they did not appreciate living with an MDC member in the same area. The victim allegedly fled when he found the chance but he left his family behind.

Murehwa North

2 April 2005

On the day of the incident, the victim reports that 6 ZANU-PF youths and the Youth Chairman for the area came to his home and confronted him on why he was an MDC activist. He was allegedly assaulted with booted feet, fists and open hands. They also allegedly threatened the whole family and threatened that they would burn the houses. The victim has since moved his family to his in laws.

12 April 2005

On 12 April 2005, a group of suspected ZANU-PF supporters reportedly went to the male victim's house and left a letter which threatened unspecified action if he were to be found in the area because he was an MDC activist. That same night, a group of ZANU-PF youths allegedly went back to his house and threw stones on his roof. The ZANU-PF supporters are said to have stolen some live chickens when they were leaving the victim's homestead. He has since fled his home for fear of being attacked.

16 April 2005

The female victim alleges that on 16 April 2005 she was summoned to a ZANU-PF meeting at Kasiku 2 Village. The meeting was supposed to determine how much would be paid for the 18 April Independence day celebrations. The victim failed to pay since she did not have the money. The ZANU-PF members in charge of the exercise then reportedly accused her of failing to pay because she was an MDC member. The following day, two ZANU-PF activists, known to the victim, are said to have gone to her home and asked her to leave the area. On 23 April 2005 at about 19:00 hrs unknown

² Mushrooms is reported to be a term coined by the MDC President Morgan Tsvangirai to refer to the new settlements in Zimbabwe.

people reportedly went to her house and knocked harshly on her door. They apparently went away shouting obscenities and stating that George Bush should come and collect all MDC supporters in the area. The victim hid in her kitchen when all this was happening.

26 April 2005

The victim says that he was inside his tuck-shop when a vehicle marked ZANU-PF Mashonaland East Province parked at the side of the tuck-shop. The people in the vehicle disembarked and requested to see him outside. He was reportedly asked to tell them the names of the MDC activists in that area and to surrender any MDC regalia. The victim reports that he told them he did not support or have anything to do with MDC and asked them why they had approached him of all the people in the area. One of the men allegedly pulled him by the ears and lifted him up. The same man is alleged to have further drawn a circle and told him to run around the circle until he dropped to the ground. This was repeated twice. He claims that he was then asked to put his finger in the middle of a brick and do some circles around it until a hole was drilled. He was left alone when he had drilled the hole in the brick with his finger. He claims he was later taken to a pit toilet into which the assailants attempted to throw him but he kept holding onto the leg of one of them. He alleges that he was forced to eat some newspapers and was given water to drink afterwards. The assailants then left him.

Murehwa South

2 April 2005

On the date of the incident, around 22:00 hrs, the victim was allegedly assaulted by ZANU PF supporters at his home on the accusation that he was an MDC member. The perpetrators are said to have used sticks, open fists and booted feet to assault him. The victim and his family have had to relocate from the area.

Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe (UMP)

16 April 2005

On 16 April 2005, the victim reportedly went to a grinding mill owned by a local ZANU-PF member, where she was denied services. On 19 April 2005, she was then summoned to a ZANU-PF village meeting where she was directly confronted by ZANU-PF activists who ordered her to follow her husband who fled from the area due to political intimidation. Her husband is reported to have been an MDC activist.

18 April 2005

On 18 April 2005, an MDC female activist went to the local shops wearing a T-shirt and a bandana printed with MDC logos. That same day around 23:00 hrs, three men wearing MDC T shirts approached her homestead. The men asked for MDC T shirts which the victim gave them. The T shirts were allegedly burnt immediately afterwards and the men threatened to come back for her before they left the homestead.

24 April 2005

A female victim reportedly went to UMP Ward 13 to be included in the Food for Work Programme. The Headmen and the Village Secretary, who are all involved in the selection of the participants in the programme, allegedly denied her participation citing her MDC affiliation. The following day, a group of alleged ZANU-PF youths reportedly came to her homestead saying that they had come from the MDC headquarters. She has since fled her home in fear of victimization.

MASHONALAND WEST

Chinhoyi*7 April 2005*

The victim claims that he was chased away from Chinhoyi for being an MDC activist. He's had to relocate to Harare.

Chegutu*2 April 2005*

The victim alleges that she was victimized and threatened by ZANU-PF supporters on allegations that she was an MDC activist. She had to relocate to Harare.

Hurungwe East*4 April 2005*

Σ. ZANU-PF militants were reported to be threatening to intensify attacks against MDC members in Kazangarare area. At least 10 villagers from the area reportedly sought refuge in Karoi after fleeing ZANU-PF youths.

11 April 2005

The victim claims that a group of ZANU PF youth and other elderly people amounting to about 200 led by people known to him, came to his homestead on the day in question around 13:00 hrs in Mutoranhanga Resettlement area. They allegedly removed all asbestos sheets from his bedroom and carried all his belongings which they later dumped in the bush. He was allegedly ordered to leave the area because he is an MDC activist. In the process he allegedly lost most of his property. The victim reported the case to Karoi Police Station.

19 April 2005

The victim alleges that he was chased away from the school where he was teaching by the head on allegations that he was an MDC activist. He has had to relocate to Harare.

28 April 2005

It is reported that on 20 April, a male murder victim, Ebrahim Mofat, was arrested on allegations that he had bunt houses in Ward 6 belonging to ZANU PF supporters. He was apparently detained at Chinhoyi Police Station for 3 days and later released. On 27 April 2005, he was on his way to Kariba when he was allegedly abducted at Kasimhure Bus Stop by a group of war veterans and ZANU PF youths who took him to one Cde Gora's house. He was allegedly assaulted overnight and then the following morning he was reportedly murdered using sticks. A report was made to Karoi Police Station. Elifas Gora and Newman Zifodya were arrested in connection with the matter and they are now out on bail.

Manyame*27 April 2005*

Σ. The newly appointed Deputy Minister of Science and Technology and ZANU-PF MP for Manyame, Patrick Zhuwao, is said to have occupied part of Little England farm in Mashonaland West, displacing several settlers who had been allowed to stay there, courtesy of a High Court Order. However, the MP has denied the allegations stating that it is his relatives who have in fact occupied the farm. Sabina Mugabe, sister to President Robert Mugabe and mother to Patrick Zhuwao, was quoted as saying that the farm belongs to the Mugabe family.

MASVINGO

Gutu South, Mwenezi and Bikita East

April 2005

Σ. It is reported that MDC supporters in rural areas in Masvingo Province are being denied access to maize meal because they are accused of having voted for the opposition party in the March 31 Parliamentary Elections. Also reportedly affected were local election observers who were attached to the Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN). Villagers alleged that ZANU PF officials ordered headmen and councillors to strike off the names of suspected opposition supporters and local observers from lists that are submitted to the Grain Marketing Board (GMB). The lists enable people to buy maize meal from the GMB. The worst affected areas are Gutu South, Mwenezi and Bikita East constituencies, which were won by ZANU PF candidates in the Parliamentary Elections. Elizabeth Dube, an election observer with ZESN is reported as having said that she was chased away from a GMB maize selling point in Bikita East by one of the councillors who accused her of being an opposition sympathiser.

MATABELELAND NORTH

Lupane

2 April 2005

Σ. It is reported that suspected ZANU-PF supporters set ablaze a thatched house belonging to Richmond Zitha, an MDC Campaign Manager for the newly elected Lupane MP, Njabuliso Mguni, in post election retribution. Household property including two bicycles, a wardrobe, school uniforms, clothes, birth certificates, 21 bags of cement and \$2.1 million in cash were reportedly destroyed during the arson attack. The attack is said to have come a few days after ZANU-PF activists in the area threatened to deal with all suspected opposition MDC supporters. The war veterans and ZANU-PF supporters are alleged to have called a meeting at Dongamuzi Village in Lupane, where they read out a list of MDC campaign committee members and threatened to deal with them. It is further reported that the war veterans went around the constituency harassing people they suspected of voting for the MDC.

MATABELELAND SOUTH

Gwanda South

17 April 2005

Σ. The ZANU-PF MP for Insiza, Andrew Langa, reportedly assaulted Gwanda Mayor Thandeko Mkandla saying he had belittled him by calling him “*jaha*” meaning “*young man*”. Langa is also said to have threatened Gwanda Town Clerk with unspecified action at the Independence Day Celebrations preparatory meeting.

Insiza

3 April 2005

Σ. The ZANU-PF winning candidate for Insiza, Andrew Langa, reportedly led an attack on MDC supporters as part of an alleged nationwide retribution campaign after the March 31 Parliamentary Elections. It is reported that Langa together with the other violators, Clement Ndlovu, Mudhodhani Sibanda, Nkosilathi Moyo, Ndabazabo Siziba, Isaac Jele, and some employees of the state run GMB attacked supporters of the MDC at Avoca business centre in Filabusi on the day in question. Langa allegedly fired gunshots in the air during the incident. One of those seriously injured during the

assaults, Dumisani Mthunzi, was taken to Bulawayo Central Hospital in a critical condition. . Langa is said to have personally threatened and chased away Alderland Phiri who was helping Mthunzi after he had fallen onto the ground and lost consciousness during the attack. Other persons reportedly injured were Cornelius Siziba, Methuli Siziba, Mbongiseni Sibanda, Levi Sibanda, Sibonginkosi Chili and Davies Dube. Several buildings, including Avoca Butchery and a bottle store belonging to Aaron Phiri, were reportedly damaged during the incident. Police officer Gilbert Zvere is said to have arrested several ZANU-PF youths, whom he took to Filabusi Police Station where they were later released by the Member In Charge, Inspector Helmand Shoko. Instead of detaining the attackers, Shoko allegedly ordered the arrest of the victims including Aaron Nyathi, Frank Gumbo, Ndabezinhle Mpofu, Mncedisi Ncube and Fanjani Moyo.

MIDLANDS

Gokwe Central

3 April 2005

On the day of the incident the victim reports that he was at Sandura Shops with his friends drinking beer when a UD lorry and 2 Mazda pick ups, full of people who were singing, was parked in front of the victim and his colleagues. Some of the people allegedly approached the victim and told him that this was the day they would kill all MDC people. The victim claims he did not answer back and one of the people allegedly took a bench, on which the victim was seated and assaulted him on the head, hand, left eye and back with it while the other people were assaulting him with sticks. The victim then fell down and the assailants allegedly trampled on him with booted feet. He claims that he does not know what happened next since he lost consciousness only to regain this on the way to the Clinic. The victim went to Zhombe Clinic where he claims he was refused any treatment, as he is an MDC member. He was then taken to Gokwe Hospital where he was then referred to Harare.

On the same day around 16:00 hrs, another female victim says that three trucks passed by her dwelling with people who were celebrating their winning of a Parliamentary seat. The victim's husband is an MDC activist and because of this she says she has been assaulted twice before and told to get a ZANU-PF supporter for a husband. The perpetrators were reportedly singing that they had silenced the victim's husband forever, since he was also an MDC polling agent in the March 2005 Parliamentary elections. She was therefore not concerned by the people celebrating their victory as she believed her husband was no longer a threat to them as the MDC Candidate had lost the seat. However, the perpetrators saw the victim's husband in the bar and they allegedly assaulted him. Three of the perpetrators also ran towards her and assaulted her. She claims that she was slapped in the face and she fell down, that she does not recall what happened but when she regained consciousness she was wet all over. She thinks she must have lost consciousness for about half an hour. The victim then went to Zhombe Police Station where she made a report.

Full alphabetical list of reported deaths related to political violence 1 January 2005 to 30 April 2005 recorded indicating name, political affiliation, date of death, constituency and province.

TOTAL: 3 ZANU PF 1 MDC 1 UNKNOWN 1

SURNAME	FIRST NAME (S)	POLITICAL AFFILIATION	DATE OF DEATH	CONSTITUENCY	PROVINCE
1 CHIMBANDI	GIFT	ZANU PF	3 MARCH 2005	MAZOWE EAST	MASONALAND CENTRAL
2 MOFAT	EBRAHIM	MDC	28 APRIL 2005	HURUNGWE EAST	MASHONALAND WEST
3 MUCHACHA	FEBBY	UNKNOWN	13 APRIL 2005	MARONDERA WEST	MASHONALAND EAST

MAIN EVENTS 2005

January	WOZA women arrested and detained unlawfully as they demonstrate against hikes in school fees. The newly appointed woman Vice President holds celebrations throughout the country and in Bindura, press reported that people are forced to attend the celebration. ZANU PF youths reportedly move from door to door forcing Epworth residents to register as voters and to vote for ZANU PF
February	Political violence and victimization surrounds campaigns and preparations for the 31 March 2005 Parliamentary elections. WOZA members demonstrate on 12 February in Bulawayo to commemorate Valentine's Day under the theme <i>"the power of love will conquer the love of power"</i>. Police reportedly disrupt an MDC training session of Parliamentary candidates in the March 31 Parliamentary elections and MDC supporters on 16 February at Harare Sheraton Hotel. They arrest MDC Director of elections Mr. Ian Makoni. NCA members are arrested and assaulted by the police after holding a demonstration dubbed <i>"no election without new constitution"</i> on 17 February in Harare.
March	ZANU PF supporter and war veteran, Gift Chimbandi is reportedly burnt to death under unclear circumstances. MDC supporters are suspected to have burnt his house leading to his death. Zimbabwe's 6th Parliamentary Election since independence is held on 31 March 2005. A WOZA peaceful candle light vigil is disrupted by riot police and the women are reportedly badly assaulted and arrested. The vigil was held at Africa Unity Square in Harare to safeguard the March 31 vote from manipulation. MDC activists throughout the country are arrested or assaulted for putting up posters and distributing campaign material and people are victimized for attending MDC rallies by ZANU PF supporters. MDC Parliamentary candidate for Zvimba North constituency is reportedly victimized for trying to campaign in the area.
April	Febby Muchacha a 70 year old woman living at Kimcote Farm in Beatrice is reportedly raped and murdered when a gang of 5 attacks the resettled farmers around 3:00 hrs on 13 April 2005 Ebrahim Mofat is reportedly murdered by ZANU-PF activists in Hurungwe Eas on 28 April 2005. MDC supporters demonstrate against the election results on 4 April 2005 in Harare. Widespread post-election retributive displacements and post-election victimization is reported. Independence celebrations are held on 18 April 2005 marking what the Government termed the <i>'silver jubilee'</i> of Independence

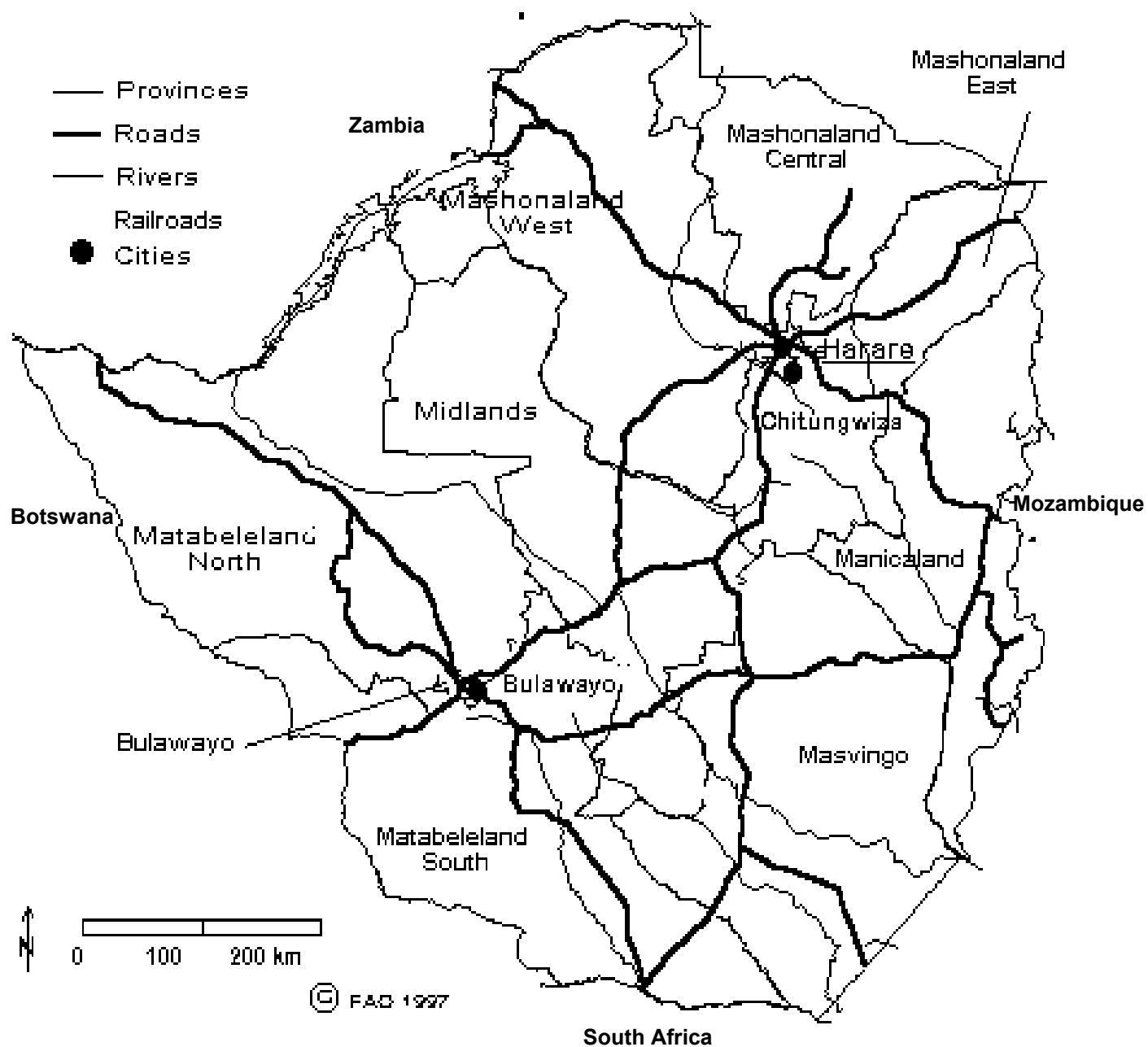
The table below and the graphs on page 3 above depict the number of violations committed on the persons whose circumstances are described in the report. One individual may have been subject to many violations and thus appear under several categories of violations.

Monthly totals of human rights violations from 1 January 2005 to 30 April 2005

	January	February	March	April	Total
Assault	17	54	259	59	389
Abduction/kidnapping	2	3	6	2	13
Attempted murder	0	0	0	0	0
Death threats	1	0	1	3	5
Disappearance	0	0	0	0	0
Displacement	17	1	3	55	76
Freedom of expression/ass/mvt	31	57	268	112	468
Murder	0	0	1	2	3
Political Discrim/vict/intim	31	49	128	113	321
Property related	0	0	0	18	18
Rape	0	0	0	4	4
School closure	0	0	0	0	0
Torture	1	5	1 (97) ³	16	120
Unlawful arrest	8	63	86	16	173
Unlawful detention	8	63	57	15	143

³ The 97 torture cases in brackets relate to the WOZA women who held a vigil in Harare's Africa Unity Square on the night of the 2005 Parliamentary Election on 31 March 2005 (see March 2005 Report). It was only established after the publication of the March 2005 Report after expert advice from medical practitioners that the level of the assaults were sufficiently severe to constitute torture. Accordingly the 97 are included in the statistics of torture as well as assault since they were also assaulted in the process.

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.)

The Human Rights Forum can be contacted through:

The Administrator, P O Box 9077, Harare – email: admin@hrforum.co.zw

The Public Interest Unit, P O Box 9077, Harare – email: legal@hrforum.co.zw

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Previous reports of the Human Rights Forum can be found on our website.

