

EXTERNAL (for general distribution)

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Further information on UA 122/93 (AFR 53/14/93, 21 April 1993) - Fear of
Extrajudicial Execution

SOUTH AFRICA:Chris KHOZA, African National Congress (ANC) branch
chairperson, Mpophomeni township, near Howick, Natal
province
and other ANC members in the Mpophomeni community

Amnesty International continues to be concerned for the safety of Chris Khoza, ANC branch chairperson in Mpophomeni, as further death threats have been made against him. This concern is heightened by the apparent reluctance of the South African Police (SAP) to investigate actively and credibly the death threats against Chris Khoza and bring those responsible to justice.

An anonymous phone call was made to the Khoza house on 11 May 1993, in which the caller alleged that three Mpophomeni residents were planning to kill Chris Khoza. The three men have denied the allegations. The SAP Crime Intelligence Service in Pietermaritzburg was promptly informed but stated that the police could not monitor the Khozas' home phone line unless the family lodged a formal complaint with the police at the local Howick police station. The family complied with this, but the Howick police refused to allow Chris Khoza's wife to make a statement in private or to give her a copy of her own statement or the reference number of the complaint. This obstructive conduct from the police contradicts earlier police undertakings to investigate the threats to the Khoza family and provide protection for them.

Seven suspects have been charged in connection with five of the 11 murders that took place in Mpophomeni between 8 and 14 April 1993, including three men charged with the murder of Bheki Maseko and a young man in the same house on 14 April. The suspects are in custody at Howick police station. Local residents, however, feel that there are other suspects who have not yet been arrested and that the police are not actively and visibly taking all possible steps to investigate the murders.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED ACTION: Please send telegrams/telexes/faxes/express and airmail letters either in English, or your own language:

- expressing continuing concern for the safety of ANC official, Chris Khoza, in view of further death threats against him, and urging the authorities to safeguard him and his family against harassment and attack, and to promptly and thoroughly investigate these threats;

- noting that some suspects have been charged in connection with killings in

Mpophomeni township between 8 and 14 April 1993, but calling for continuing investigation into all the murders and for all the perpetrators to be brought to justice;

- urging the authorities to exercise their responsibility to protect the lives of all residents of Mpophomeni by ensuring that the local police force behaves impartially and responds promptly to calls for assistance and is willing to investigate and arrest the perpetrators of attacks, irrespective of political affiliation.

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APPEALS TO:

1) Mr F W De Klerk
State President
State President's Office
Private Bag X83
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Telegrams: President De Klerk, Pretoria, South Africa

Telexes: 321695 SPLIB SA, 321890 PRES SA

Faxes: + 27 12 323 3982

Salutation: Dear President

2) Mr H J Kriel
Minister of Law and Order
Private Bag X463
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Telegrams: Minister Law/Order, Pretoria, South Africa

Telexes: 321353

Faxes: + 27 12 322 2559

Salutation: Dear Minister

3) Lt-Gen J Van Der Merwe
Commissioner of Police
Police Headquarters
Private Bag X94
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

Telegrams: Police Commissioner Van Der Merwe, Pretoria, South Africa

Telexes: 3-20772 SAPQM SA, 3-20838 SAPOB SA

Faxes: + 27 12 323 2033, +27 12 326 5162

Salutation: Dear Commissioner

4) Lieutenant-General W H Steyn
Regional Police Commissioner, Natal
P O Box 391
Durban 4000

Telegrams: Natal Regional Police Commissioner, Durban, South Africa

Salutation: Dear Commissioner

COPIES OF YOUR APPEALS TO:

Colonel Ungerer
Station Commander
Howick Police Station
Howick 3290
South Africa

and if possible to any of the following:

- Pietermaritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness (PACSA), P O Box 2338, Pietermaritzburg 3200
- The Editor, Natal Witness, POB 362, Pietermaritzburg 3200
- The Editor, City Press, POB 3413, Johannesburg 2000
- The Editor, New Nation, P O Box 10674, Johannesburg 2000

and to diplomatic representatives of South Africa accredited to your country.

PLEASE SEND APPEALS IMMEDIATELY. Check with the International Secretariat, or your section office, if sending appeals after 9 July 1993.