

# ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM

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## POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT NOVEMBER 2001

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December 2001

A report by the  
Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

## Summary

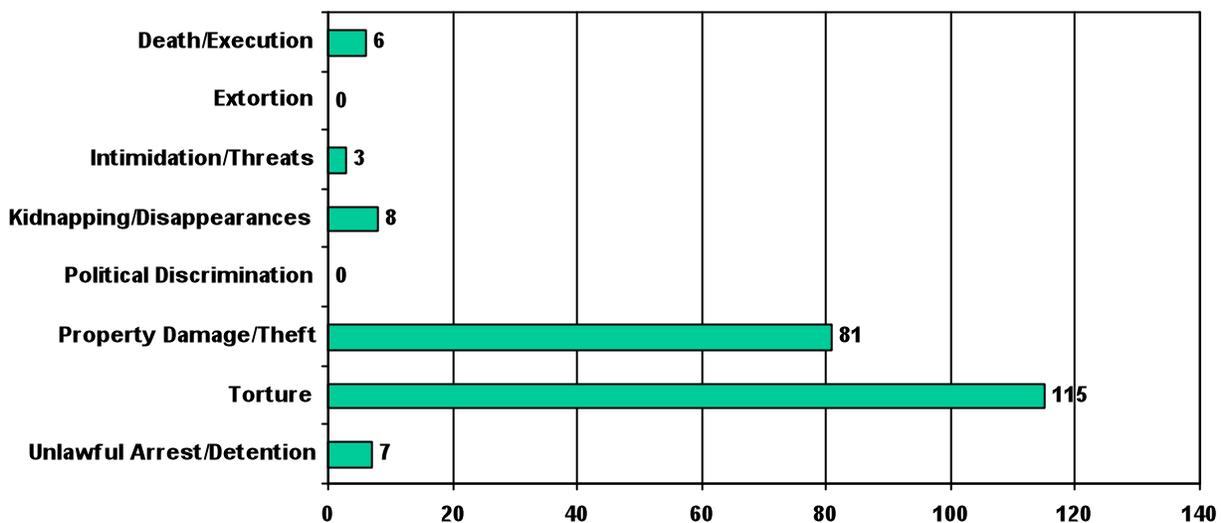
Attacks on farm workers residing on invaded farms, ongoing since the end of February 2000, were reported to the Human Rights Forum in November. Since January this year, more than 70 000 farm workers have been displaced and countless others have been beaten and tortured whilst others lost their homes in arson attacks.

Once again the ZRP was been found wanting in its protection and reaction to violations concerning farm workers and MDC supporters. In one recorded case, policemen in Kadoma arrived at the local Zanu-PF offices and witnessed the torture of two MDC members but left without rendering assistance. However 14 MDC members were arrested for the murder of Bulawayo war veteran's chairman, Cain Nkala.

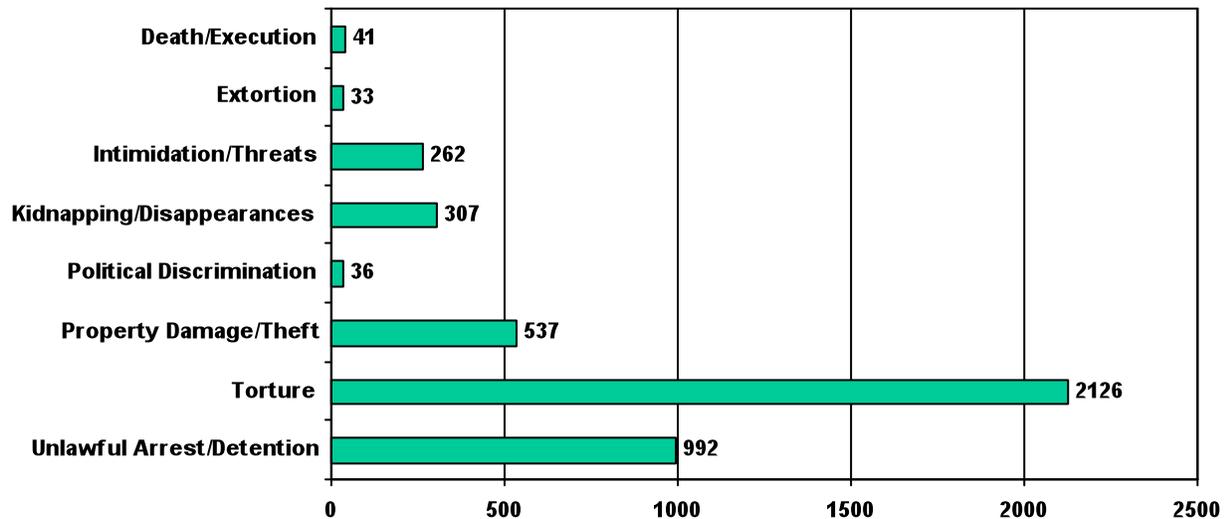
In Harare members of the ZRP unlawfully arrested and tortured two MDC officials from Zengeza, accusing them of having had some involvement in Cain Nkala's murder, despite their being in Harare at the time. The two were released without being charged having been interrogated about the operations of their party.

Six deaths were recorded in November. A list of all deaths that have been reported since January 2001 is given at the end of the report.

## November 2001 Totals



## Cumulative Totals January-November 2001



**Sources:** Amani Trust medical assessments, HR Forum legal statements, CFU reports and newspaper reports.

**Notes to Tables:** The following categories have been changed and/or expanded due to the nature and the volume of crimes.

**Unlawful Arrest/Detention:** Unlawful arrests perpetrated by members of the police force and unlawful detentions by state agents, members of political parties and private individuals

**Kidnapping/Disappearances:** Victims who have been released and those who are still missing.

**Torture:** Crimes of torture include rape. Rape is a highly underreported crime in Zimbabwe. To date, the HR Forum has only been able to document three cases, all in the month of June. Rape has not been allotted its own category as the low number would minimize the actual occurrences of rape and not effectively illustrate the volume of this crime.

All cases under torture also fall under the definition of torture according to the general definition of torture 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 acting with the **acquiescence** of the State.

**Displacement/Eviction:** At least 70 000 persons have been internally displaced since January 2001.

## **November Violence**

### **Bindura**

*November 2001*

- Taurai Chiwetso, an MDC supporter, was beaten for refusing to attend a Zanu-PF rally in Chiwaridzo. He was said to be in a critical condition and battling for his life.

*2 November 2001*

- Two unnamed male MDC supporters were reportedly killed at Kitsiyatota Squatter Camp following their refusal to attend the funeral of the Zanu-PF youth chairman for Bindura, Voster Rupiya.

*5 November 2001*

- M.T's wife secured employment with Man-Made Security, which turned out to be owned by Saviour Kasukuwere, Zanu-PF MP for Mt. Darwin, and Dick Mafiosi, Zanu (PF) District Chair for youth. She was tasked with spying on the MDC for Zanu-PF but because her husband is an MDC member she refused. However she is now being hunted down for allegedly passing on sensitive information to the MDC regarding the security company.

*8 November 2001*

- Gift Kapfunde and seven other MDC supporters were severely assaulted at Kuyedza Cocktail Bar in Chiwaridzo. Kapfunde received 11 stitches on his face and lost two teeth. He was initially taken to Chiwaridzo Clinic and then transferred to Bindura Hospital. The attack was carried out by war veterans and Zanu-PF supporters who returned to Bindura after the burial of Cain Nkala and beat up MDC supporters in apparent retaliation for the murder of Nkala.

### **Chegutu**

*30 November 2001*

- Farm invaders and war veterans burnt down 42 houses belonging to Asaf Jazire, Selina Mafuta, Mariyani Tenesi and other unnamed farm workers at Blackmorevale Farm. Some of the workers were beaten with chains and knobkerries while others sustained burns and were treated at Kadoma Hospital. The workers were then ordered to vacate the farm. The owner of the farm was accused of supporting the MDC and aiding gold panners in the area.

### **Chiredzi South / North**

*11 November 2001*

- **Johannes Felix Sikele**, a resettled farmer, was shot and killed at Fair Range Estate by farm guard, Robert Nganduni. Nganduni was patrolling the area of the farm occupied by the resettled farmers when they challenged him. Sikele and Nganduni were involved in a struggle for the latter's gun during which he was shot at close range in the chest.

## **Gokwe North**

- Ellifanos Chamunorwa was tortured by being beaten under his feet (falanga) at a Zanu-PF base in Gokwe.

*19 November 2001*

- **Kufa Rukara** was abducted at Mrora Growth Point in Gokwe and tortured on 14 October 2001. He was admitted to Gweru Hospital for treatment. Rukara had sustained a severe head injury that could not be treated and a broken right tibia. His condition deteriorated until he was unable to sit or talk. Rukara died on November 19 2001 of his injuries.

## **Guruve North**

*November 2001*

- The homes of Roger Mwinga and Ian Musanduka, both members of the MDC, were burnt down in Mushumbi Pools. Joseph Zambezi led the attack together with other unnamed Zanu-PF supporters.
- Zanu-PF supporters, on allegations that the villagers sympathised with the MDC, displaced Peter Chafesuka, Cliff Chirowapasi, Robson Mwarawara and other unnamed villagers in Ward 22 from their homes.
- There were numerous cases of torture recorded in Guruve in November, particularly in Mushumbi Pools where war veterans and Zanu-PF members in Dande tortured Wilson Karikoga, Manikidzo Kopakopa and Nyambari Mahamba and other MDC supporters. The following are first hand statements given by the victims:

*11 November 2001*

### **E.M**

- We were notified that war vets wanted us at Chitepo Base. We had to go there as we had been assaulted regularly previously. We went to the war veteran chairman's homestead, Joseph Masauki. Zanu-PF militia in t-shirts with Mugabe's face on them escorted us. Masauki then took us to Dande River where their base is located. Masauki then began to catalogue our 'crimes' as MDC members though they were otherwise lawful activities. Masauki and another war veteran called Emmanuel Kamukiyana and Bibby and Zuze then ordered us into an ant-bear's hole. We were then ordered to yap and bark like dogs and come out with a kill. After being ordered out our legs were tied up in ropes, our t-shirts removed and our trousers lowered. We were asked to lie prone and then assaulted on the buttocks with thick poles, slapped on the face and kicked with booted feet. This continued for about 2 hours. We were then ordered to roll in hot sand then tied up and further beaten. After that, buffalo thorns were smeared all over our bodies. The process was repeated in which we were told to roll around in hot sand. We were dizzy after that but were beaten up when we fell down. This lasted for about 5 hours. They made us grind our teeth and swallow sand. We were released around 4pm.

We failed to seek medical treatment because if you are treated at any hospital beaten once, this is known and the police refuse to supply referral forms.

We did not report to the police as they are in cahoots with the war veterans, especially Inspector Musukwa.

## **Manikidzo KOPAKOPA**

- I live at Nyakatondo village near Mushumbi Pools in the Dande Communal Land of Guruve North. On 11th November 2001 I was assaulted by Nyande Mausauki, Desmond Gomo, Joseph Musauki, and Emmanuel Kumukiyani (Dombo). They assaulted me for about six hours using wooden logs, fists and huriri (buffalo bean) and rolling me in the hot sand of the riverbed. This is the worst treatment I encountered in my life. My clothes were dipped in water with huriri and I was forced to wear them and instructed not to wash them for some time. They said I must not remove those clothes. To survive that torture I am no longer moving from my home. The assault has created difficulties for me when moving. I have a swollen elbow and wrist and suspect they are broken. I am not safe and also fear that they might come again to attack me one day or night. I could not report the incident to the police as we know they will do nothing. PISI Constable Tarwira was there all of that day. The Member in Charge, Inspector Musukwa, has said he cannot help MDC supporters. He is a war veteran and ZANU supporter. MDC supporters who are assaulted cannot get help from the clinic so we have to suffer by ourselves.

## **S.C**

- I live at Nyakatondo village near Mushumbi Pools in the Dande Communal Land of Guruve North. On 11th November 2001 Mahamba Munyambari came through my home and told me that we were wanted at a ZANU PF youth training point. We quickly took off to the point. Whilst we were there, Koshiwe Jonasi told me and the others, Ephraim Gatsi and Manikidzo Munyambari, that we were supposed to proceed to Kabvuma or Chitepo village to meet with ex-combatants.

With others I went to Chitepo village. Trouble started when I got there. I was called by Pius Musauki. He started questioning me why I had joined MDC. Also he said that on the run up to the parliamentary election we had created a headache for ZANU PF that led to the Star Rally being addressed by President Robert Mugabe. From there he started beating me using a wooden log. As the tension grew, he demanded that I start some military drills and rolling on the hot sand of the riverbed. After that, he rubbed a hot material huriri (buffalo bean) against my body. This torture carried on for about 6 hours and included beatings, putting my head in a hole and barking like a dog and lying on the hot sand.

The most sever torture came when Pius Musauki, with the help of Emmanuel Kumukiyani (Dombo), Nyande Musauki and Bibi Mudzongachiso, forced me down onto the ground. They forced back my foreskin and anus and sprinkled the hot material huriri in. I nearly died out of the pain and thirst as they said my existence is equal to Satan. I cried for their mercy but they left me unattended for almost 30 to 40 minutes. Lastly my clothes were mixed with the huriri and I was forced to wear them home. Until now I am in great pain. May I be rescued from here? I have not reported to the police in Mushumbi as the Member in Charge is a war veteran and known ZANU PF supporter. PISI Constable Tarwira was there at the beginning of the incident but when he saw what was to happen he quickly left and obviously did not report the matter to his superiors as nothing was done to try to stop this torture.

We did not report to the police, as the Member in Charge is a war veteran and known ZANU PF supporter.

## **Mahamba MUNYAMBARI**

- I live at Nyakadondo village near Mushumbi Pools in the Dande Communal Land of Guruve North. On 11th November 2001 I was called to a Zanu (PF) Youth Training centre

at the old Neshangwe Primary School. Koshiwe Jonasi the Zanu (PF) Youth Chairman. was conducting the meeting. Whilst there I was surprised when my name was called out and I had to stand out in front of the other youth with Manikidzo Kopakopa, W.K, E.K, P.N and H.C. Koshiwe Jonasi told us that the war veterans at Chitepo village in Ward 9 wanted us. We walked all the way to the village. To my astonishment we were called to a place in the bush near the Dande River. Joseph Musauki, a war vet leader and ZANU PF commissariat secretary, called me to come closer to him. He clapped me and then started to strongly assault me with a wooden log. I was forced to lie flat on the riverbed on the hot sand. He assaulted me with that log countless times. He then handed me over to Emmanuel Kirmukiyani (Dombo), Desmond Gomo, Nyande Musauki and Pius Musauki, who tied me up hand and foot and carried on assaulting me for six hours. The assault was by beating, making me roll in the hot sand for more than 150 metres, lying on the hot sand without moving, putting my head in a hole and barking like a dog and doing military drills. During this time Dombo brought huriri, a very hot plant powder, (buffalo bean) and spread it around my body from time to time. During this time they left me in the hot sun for almost three hours without drinking water. I felt that I was dying. Finally I was offered a cup of water which I could not finish as they hit it down after I took two sips. They left me and told me to go and rest under a tree after they notice that I was momentarily loosing my breath. Lastly Dombo opened the foreskin of my penis and brushed the huriri against my penis. With the help of Desmond Gomo, Nyande Musauki and Pius Musauki, he opened my buttocks and dropped this hot stuff inside. While I was in agony with this huriri they then beat me with eighteen cuts. I was then told to go home after they had mixed the huriri into my clothes. I was forced to wear those clothes. As I am speaking my penis has some paining cracks and my anus is developing a wound. I am definitely desperate. They have said they want to set an example on me to show that ZANU can kill. This victimization is a plot by ZANU PF to silence opposition members. And mainly their agenda on me is to make sure that I feel intimidated to the bone. I am the shadow councillor for MDC in Ward 9. They definitely know that if I am allowed to campaign ZANU PF would never stand a chance. I could not report to the police in Mushumbi Pools. The Member in Charge, Inspector Musukwa, has vowed not to help MDC supporters as he is a war veteran.

## C.K

- I live at Nyakatondo village near Mushumbi Pools in the Dande Communal Land of Guruve North. On the 26th September 2001 ZANU PF youths came to my house and broke three windowpanes. They then took a 14lb hammer and broke down my door and looted some household goods. I reported this to the police but the member in charge said that the people must discuss this on their own because MDC is not yet ruling. A neighbouring youth, Tapfuma Mabhutsu, was assaulted at the same time. On 11th November 2001 Kowishe Jonasi came to my house with about 50 ZANU PF youths to take me to the ex-combatants. I was sick and they said they would come back for me on Saturday (17th November 2001). I heard what they had done to the other MDC supporters that day and sold my cottonseed and fled my home. I came with some of the victims who needed to go to hospital. They gave their statements to the police but they refused for the police to open a docket for court because they feared to be assaulted and they were told that if at all reports are made ZANU PF would come and destroy their houses. At this present time I am afraid to go back to my home because I was given a warning. They want to kill me. I could not report to the police in Mushumbi Pools. The Member in Charge, Inspector Musukwa, has vowed not to help MDC supporters, as he is a war veteran.

## K.Z

- I live at Jurujena village near Mushumbi Pools in the Dande Communal Land of Guruve North. On 11th November 2001 Joseph Musauki and another war veteran Karomo called me. I was told that I had failed to give them information about MDC, so if I had cottonseed it was advisable to sell it. This implies I had failed to give them grenades and pistols that they think we were given. This is very untrue, as we have no weapons at all; I cannot give them things we do not have. On 12th November 2001 they wrote a letter to five MDC members who are myself, Elisha Mupinyuri, Ian Musandauka, Elias Mupinyuri and Tosa Gondo telling us to go to them. We did not go there. During the night of 13th November 2001 at about 10:15 pm about 10 people arrived at my house looking for me. I was away at a church service. They told my wife that I was supposed to go to Ward 9 or they were to come back for me. I had heard about the torture taking place at Ward 9 so I decided to leave my home for safety as they wanted to torture me for things I do not know. A lawyer for the Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum had obtained a peace against these people but they are continuing their hostilities against me and the police know this but do nothing.

### **Guruve South**

*16 November 2001*

- An unnamed farm pastor, his wife and the senior foreman at Marira Mbada Farm in Horseshoe were assaulted after they failed to produce Zanu-PF cards and were therefore accused of being MDC supporters.

### **Harare East**

*13 November 2001*

- C.C was on his way to church in Hatcliffe Extension on a commuter omnibus and was carrying an MDC leaflet. Because of this he was abducted by the war vets and taken to their office in Hatcliffe extension. He was accused of being the main operator in the area for the MDC. He was assaulted with fists as they tried to extract information from him about the district. C.C was also assaulted in the abdomen, back and testicles.

### **Harare South**

*11 November 2001*

- Learnmore Jongwe (MP Kuwadzana, MDC), Hilda Mufudze, Tendai Nyamushana together with unnamed MDC members were held hostage for four hours at the MDC offices at Harvest House by war veterans led by Joseph Chinotimba. The war veterans barricaded the entrance to Harvest House and detained the victims from 9:30am until 1:30pm. They said they were searching for Cain Nkala, abducted in Bulawayo the previous week. The group also assaulted security guards at the building's entrance.

## Hurungwe East

November 2001

- Unnamed farm workers and Ndiripo Farm in Tengwe had 26 huts and 2 brick buildings burnt down by farm invaders.

## Hurungwe West

12 November 2001

- Maxwell Bidi, the MDC chairman for Hurungwe West was abducted by war veterans from Karoi bus terminus, taken to the Zanu-PF offices and assaulted with logs, empty beer bottles and iron bars. His legs were then bound in wire and he was tied to roof trusses and beaten further. Bidi sustained bruises and cuts all over his body. One of the perpetrators was identified as John Dungiro. Below are excerpts from Bidi's testimony

### **Maxwell BIDI**

" I was abducted at about 3pm by 14 war veterans and Zanu-PF supporters. I was on my way to Chinhoyi from my home area Magunje. When I disembarked in Karoi, waiting for a bus that would take me straight to Chinhoyi, I saw Cliff Sabadza at one of the call boxes and went to speak to him. I saw 2 Zanu-PF guys crossing towards the Zanu-PF offices. I did not suspect anything at the time.

When the pioneer bus was about to leave, I said bye to Cliff Sabadza but at the moment I started running to catch the bus, I heard a lot of noise behind me and people shouting at me to run. I saw a group of Zanu-PF youth surrounding me and they started to beat me. I failed to get into the bus, which drove away. I asked them why they were beating me and they said it was because I was the very person they had been hunting for for a long time. I was grabbed by the neck and was kicked by the group. I shouted for help but the crowd just watched in fear and some ran for their lives.

They dragged me to their office, which was 50 metres away from the bus terminus. They ran into the office shouting, "kill him, kill him". In the office I was beaten with stones, chains, baton sticks and beer bottles.

I fell unconscious for some minutes and when I woke up the youths were pouring water over me with plates and there was blood everywhere. I saw Gift Sabadza, who was also bloody. I do not know how they got him. I begged them to release him and keep me instead because I was almost dead anyway. They released him and dragged me onto a table. One of the war vets took out his knife and cut my trousers into pieces until I was left naked. He pulled out some rubber band and started hitting my private parts with them. Then the other two war veterans started beating me again. By that time their boss, war veterans chairman John Dungiro had walked in. He told me to stand up and clapped me with his left hand and I fell down. He kicked me and beat me then placed one foot on my head and the other on my neck. I know Dungiro, we are related, but he holds a grudge against me because I am an MDC supporter.

I was already badly wounded when the war veterans started beating me again. They were asking, "Who is Morgan? What is the MDC, What is *chinja* (change)?" Then they said, "*chinja tione!*" ('let's see you change then'). One of them ordered the youths to tie my legs and hands and hang me from the roof. It was getting dark and it was after 5pm when I heard people saying that the police had arrived. The policemen came and talked to Dungiro and the other war veterans outside. I saw the policemen peep through the window

and they saw me hanging there. When our eyes met I thought I was going to be rescued but then I heard them being ordered not to interfere with politics. The policemen were told to come back tomorrow and they left. I was then asked about the whereabouts of Cain Nkala, where MDC gets its money from and which farmers support the MDC. At that stage I was no longer able to talk so they gave me a pen and paper to write the information down on but I was no longer able to do that either. As a consequence I was told I would be dead by 2 o'clock.

They started operating in shifts, some beating me and others drinking beer. At about 12 o'clock a new gang of four came in. They asked me if I had been told I was going to die before 2 o'clock. I did not answer them. One of them brought a coffin beside me and told me that I only had 10 minutes left. When they went out of the room for a discussion I managed to untie my hands and escaped through the window. I took cover in a 3 metre trench that surrounds the office. From there I crawled into an office that is still being built. I saw the youth running around looking for me and accusing each other of leaving the window unattended. At about 3 o'clock I started crawling to Simon Mudzingwa's house. It is about 1km from the bus terminus. When I got there his wife pulled me into the house. She cleaned my wounds and gave me some clean clothes to wear. At about 4 o'clock they hired a taxi to ferry me to Chinhoyi.

I went to Chamagamba Police Station to make a report and they said they would write a letter to the Karoi police to action the case. I was given a referral to the Hospital. Mr Karemba from Chinhoyi phoned the Amani Trust and asked them to assist me. I was referred to a private hospital. I am still receiving treatment. Items taken from me during the abduction were my ID, passport, drivers licence, party cards, party programmes and \$5 000 in cash."

### **Gift SABADZA**

- I was at the bus terminus in Chikangwe having a chat with the MDC chairman for Hurungwe West, Maxwell Bidi. I went to the phone to make a call and while I was doing this I heard commotion behind me and turned to see Bidi being beaten. I turned to run and was hit several times on the head with a bottle. They took both of us to the Zanu-PF offices. They then beat us up from 2 to 5pm.

They accused us of selling our country. They beat us more when we protested and beat us using bricks, bottles and hands. Then I was let go. During the beatings by these Zanu-PF youths and war veterans the police came by and left without helping us.

I escaped to Chinhoyi where I made a report to the police who verbally abused me before referring me to the hospital. At the hospital I did not get any help. I was told that they did not have drugs and equipment. The same people that beat me threatened to burn my house in Mukorori Village, Magunje.

### **Kadoma Central**

*23 November 2001*

- K.S was approached by Zanu-PF youths who demanded a party card from him. He did not have one and was forced to lie down on his back and was assaulted 4 times with a big log. K.S sustained lacerations on his back.

28 November 2001

- Emmanuel Mutemi of Zanu-PF was abducted from Westview Lodges in Kadoma. He was then assaulted by MDC supporters, Evans Ruzvidzo, Celestio Gumireshe, Picket Mafuta, Butane Mazvidzwa, Fanwell Solomon, Taurayi Chishaya, Tinashe Kudemba, Tawanda Madevuko, Shepherd Banda, Kizito Mhike, Anthony Damani and Charles McLaine. He sustained a swollen face and bodily injuries and was treated at Kadoma General Hospital. The alleged perpetrators were charged with kidnapping, public violence and assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and remanded in custody to 11 December. War veterans, Zanu-PF supporters and MDC supporters clashed in Kadoma on 28 November and during this clash an MDC youth was allegedly kidnapped. The MDC youths are said to have retaliated by kidnapping Mutemi.

### **Kadoma West**

November 2001

- War veterans and Zanu-PF supporters assaulted five unnamed teachers at Nyamatsane Primary School in Sanyati with sticks when they failed to produce Zanu-PF party cards and chant party slogans. A report was made to Sanyati Arda Police post but no action was taken. One of the teachers assaulted is pregnant and almost miscarried due to the assault.

14 November 2001

- Frank Mhondiwa, Rodzani Nyoni, Amos Chamunorwa and Jack Kapoka, MDC supporters from Rimuka, were abducted and assaulted by war veterans lead by Ducam Pembedza. They were admitted to Kadoma General Hospital for treatment and their condition upon admission was described as critical. Several houses in Kadoma belonging to MDC officials were stoned by the group that abducted Mhondiwa, Nyoni, Chamunorwa and Kapoka. The militia is based at the Zanu-PF district offices in Rimuka, about 100m away from the police station.

### **Lobengula-Magwegwe**

5 November 2001

- Local war veterans leader **Cain Nkala** was abducted from his Magwegwe home by 10 men that arrived in a truck at about 11:30pm and were armed with Kalashnikov assault rifles. The abductors struck Nkala's wife, Sikhumbizo, on the head with a rifle butt before taking off with Nkala. He was assaulted and then strangled to death. Nkala was buried in a shallow grave 50km along the Khami Road towards Solusi University. His body was found and exhumed on November 13 2001. The following MDC members have since been arrested and charged with the murder: Simon Spooner, Thembi Mkandla, Gilbert Moyo, Remember Moyo, Stanley Dile, Sakhile Ncube, Sazini Mpofu, Khetani Augustine Sibanda, Silas Sibanda, Ferdinand Dropa, Alexander Khanye, Eddy Sigoga, Army/Ronnie Zulu, Sonny Masera Moyo, Sithabiso Mangala; Fletcher Dulini-Ncube (MDC MP, Lobengula Magwegwe).

Dile, Sigoga, Khanye, Dropa and Mangala had their charge later changed from that of murder to one of contravening the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act by receiving military training and were remanded in custody to December 4.

14 November 2001

- An unnamed MDC supporter had his 8-room house in Magwegwe petrol bombed and burnt down by war veterans and Zanu-PF supporters. The attack was in apparent retaliation for the murder of Cain Nkala.

### **Lupane**

November 2001

- An unnamed man in Lupane was beaten and sustained a head injury. Four Zanu-PF supporters also burnt down his home. The victim was attacked in violence that erupted following the murder of Limukani Luphahla in October.

### **Makokoba**

16 November 2001

- The MDC party offices on Herbert Chitepo Street, Bulawayo, were petrol bombed and burnt down by a mob of approximately 500 Zanu-PF supporters and war veterans. The mob proceeded through the streets of Bulawayo on a demonstration over the murder of Cain Nkala.
- An unnamed man over 70 years of age was assaulted, kicked and punched to the ground by a mob of Zanu-PF supporters and war veterans. The group, who were on a demonstration in the Bulawayo city centre, randomly attacked people as a protest over Nkala's death.
- A private college, Zdeco, belonging to Sikhanyiso Ndlovu of Zanu (PF) was burnt down by approximately 2000 MDC supporters in retaliation for burning down their party office building.
- An unnamed driver and photographer for the Chronicle Newspaper had their vehicle burnt by MDC supporters and were assaulted during clashes in the Bulawayo city centre between war veterans, Zanu-PF supporters and MDC supporters.

18 November 2001

- Mduduzi Mathuthu, a reporter for the Daily News, and Grey Chitiga, a photographer with the same paper, were arrested and detained at Esigodini and Figtree prisons respectively for their alleged involvement in the kidnapping and torture of Ndobazinhle Moyo. The two were released without charges being preferred against them.

### **Marondera East**

November 7 2001

- Tendai Peturo, Takudzwa Chikasha who is Peturo's son (aged 5) and more than twenty-five unnamed farm workers from Mushangwe, Eirene, Angus and Safari Farms were severely assaulted for 'siding with their masters'. Chikasha sustained bruises on his face plus a swollen mouth. The assailants were wielding sticks, knobkerries, chains and stones.
- Nyarugumi Kamburuwa, a farm worker at Mushangwe Farm, was beaten all over his back with chains by war veterans and Zanu-PF supporters.

- War veterans and Zanu-PF supporters beat Moses Nyandoro, a farm worker at Munemo Farm, with a hoe handle. \$2 300 stolen was stolen from him during the same incident.
- Farm invaders in the Ruzawi River Valley severely assaulted a three-year-old child. The child sustained bruises and cuts on face. The invaders also assaulted farm workers in the Ruzawi River Valley and destroyed the workers houses in an attempt to get them to vacate their farm.

The following events, affecting farm workers, took place at Munemo Farm on November 7.

- Farm invaders came to N.K's home, kicked the door in and assaulted him with sticks.
- Four farm invaders came to A.W's house, kicked the door in and assaulted him with sticks. They also stole \$1 600, a handbag and pens.
- Seven farm invaders came to E.N's house and kicked the door in. They went to her bed and assaulted her with wire and sticks.
- Nine farm invaders came to M.N's house and beat him with sticks. Six of them took his wife and went off with her.
- Farm invaders came to P.G's house and broke his door down. He went out of his house to see what was happening and beating him with a stick.
- Four farm invaders came to E.T's house and broke the door down. They went to her bed and beat her. They also stole \$8 000 and 2 blankets.
- Five farm invaders broke the door down at P.N.'s house then beat her with a chain.
- Farm invaders broke into C.M's house after by kicking the door in. They beat him with sticks and a chain.
- Farm invaders kicked the door of E. B's house open and beat her with sticks.
- Two farm invaders came to B. Y's house, kicked the door open and beat him with thick sticks.
- Farm invaders broke the door to S.I's house down and beat him while he still lay on his bed.
- Farm invaders broke the down the door and window of A. C's house and then beat her with logs.
- Farm invaders broke into A.Y's house through the window and entered the bedroom. They beat her before she escaped through the window. The invaders also stole \$5 000 from her.

*11 November 2001*

- Kudzanai Mashumba, the MDC provincial administrator for Mashonaland East, had his car burned by Zanu-PF supporters in Cherutombo.

## **Mbare East**

29 November 2001

- G.C was attacked by a group of about 20 Zanu-PF supporters. He was accused of having committed an offence by being an MDC supporter. He is a well known MDC activist. G.C was struck on the head with a brick and an iron bar. He sustained multiple injuries including head injuries. \$8 000 was stolen in the attack.

## **Mberengwa East**

10 November 2001

- M.M was in the company of **Ravengai Sikhucha** and witnessed his murder. A war veteran, the MIC at Mataga Police Station, a CIO agent identified as Walter, one Mudzingwa and another police officer only identified as Chris, approached the two. They were accused of having committed an offence because they were alleged to have distributed material for the MDC. M.M managed to escape unhurt but Sikhucha was assaulted with booted feet, clenched fists, open hands and baton sticks. He was then forced into a Nissan diesel truck and the group drove off with him. He was later found dead. Police who allege that the deceased simply fell off the back of a truck have ignored the murder report.

## **Mberengwa West**

November 2001

- Members of the army and police force moved into section 7 of Slovery Conservancy and attempted to evict squatters settled there. Those that refused to leave were assaulted.

## **Murehwa South**

11 November 2001

- Alan Bradley, a commercial farmer, was shot at close range through the shoulder and into the chest at Royal Visit Farm and seriously injured. The farmer, his wife and their two children were returning home when they came across a log barricade on the farm road. The farmer, who was the passenger, got out of the car to ask for the barricade to be removed. When he was met with a hostile response, he got back into the vehicle, but was shot through the shoulder into the chest. It is not clear what type of weapons were used. The motive for the shooting is also not clear, but the farm is occupied and it is known that there is friction between the settlers, senior war vets and the farmer as the former insist that the farmer should not be permitted to continue production. The police arrested one suspect, William Nyawire.

14 November 2001

- Unnamed farm workers from Springdale, Craiglea and Mug Farms in Macheke were all evicted from their homes by farm invaders. The ZRP was called in but failed to resolve the matter.
- Unnamed farm workers at Nyagadzi Farm in Macheke had their huts burnt down by farm invaders.

## **Mutoko North**

04 November 2001

- P.C is the Zanu-PF district chairman. He attended a meeting at Chisambiro Township. he was accused of having defected to the MDC and that his sons were in possession of MDC regalia. He denied this but was made to lie down and was beaten with sticks on his buttocks. One of the perpetrators was identified as Raga Chanyuruka.
- E.M is the Zanu-PF district chairwoman. She attended a meeting at Chisambiro Township where she was accused of having defected to the MDC and that her sons were in possession of MDC regalia. She denied this but was made to lie down and was severely assaulted.

10 November 2001

- Z.C's husband was assaulted by war veterans for belonging to the MDC. He was assaulted in front of policemen in Mutimbanyoka Village, Chief Chimoyo but they took no action. The war veterans further alleged that they had cell phones and guns that they should relinquish. They asked Z.C why she had a beautiful home that they could not afford on their war vet gratuities and said that they therefore were funded by the MDC. The war vets then left and said they were coming back to beat Z.C. She fled soon afterwards.

## **Mutoko South**

1 November 2001

- At around 18 00 hrs I.C was coming from a funeral in Chief Chimoyo when he heard a passer-by saying that he and his colleagues were supposed to attend a Zanu-PF rally at Chisambiro Business Centre. After supper they went to the rally where people were being told to surrender all their MDC belongings. At about 2200hrs another group of Zanu-PF supporters joined the rally. They announced that they had captured MDC supporters where they were coming from. One of them approached I.C and told him that his name was on the war vets list. I.C. decided to hand over his MDC card but as he did he was told to lie down and was beaten on his buttocks several times with a stick. The detainees were released at about 0200hrs the following day.
- At around 18 00 hrs D.C was coming from a funeral in Chief Chimoyo. He heard a passer-by saying that he and his colleagues were supposed to attend a Zanu-PF rally at Chisambiro Business Centre. After supper they went to the rally where people were being told to surrender all their MDC belongings. At about 2200hrs another group of Zanu-PF supporters joined the rally. They announced that they had captured MDC supporters where they were coming from. One of them approached D.C and told him that his name was on the war veterans' list. He decided to hand over his MDC card but as he did he was told to lie down and was beaten on the buttocks several times with a stick.

10 November 2001

- I.C met war veterans Steven Tambudze, Christopher Hodzi, Kambanje, Lewis Bhiri, Regis Matambo, Samanyanga, and Collen Bhiri at Chisambiro Business Centre. They beat him and accused him of having guns, communicating radios and holding sewing machines that were given to him by the MDC. He was beaten on the buttocks with logs several times. I.C was released at about 1900hrs on the same day.

## **Pumula Luveve**

*14 November 2001*

- Peter Mangena, the MDC councillor for Ward 27, had the doors and windows of his house smashed with boulders and logs by suspected war veterans and Zanu-PF supporters. Mangena fled his home and went into hiding following the attack. The attack was in yet another apparent retaliation to the murder of Cain Nkala by suspected MDC supporters

## **Zengeza**

*14 November 2001*

- Davis Mtetwa, Steven Chasara and other MDC supporters were assaulted and abducted by police officers in plain clothes. They were taken to Highlands police station and then transferred later to Harare Central Police Station. They were severely beaten with batons and tortured at both police stations. Chasara received seven stitches for a gaping wound on his leg and was treated at Chitungwiza General Hospital. The two were accused of having taken part in the abduction and subsequent murder of Cain Nkala. Below is the full testimony of Davis Mutetwa:

### **Davis MTETWA**

“About 7 men arrived at my home and introduced themselves as police officers. They asked us to open up, myself and Chasara. The men had obviously climbed over the gate and were not in uniform. One of them identified himself to Chasara and produced an ID. They asked us to open the doors and the thoroughly searched our house - every nook and cranny was searched. All MDC membership cards, campaign material, files etc were confiscated as well as about 40 party constitutions. We were then asked to carry all the material outside to a blue 323 and a white Nissan Sunny parked outside. At no point did these officers produce a warrant or tell us that we were under arrest. We were force marched to the car and taken to Highlands Police Station. They gave us pieces of paper and told us to write our autobiographies. I wrote less than half a page and was told that that was not enough. All along these officers were liaising with police personnel at Highlands Police Station.

They accused us of not being comprehensive enough and began interrogating us. We were asked why we had joined the MDC and where our party portfolios, families and relatives were. They even retrieved the numbers from my phone and asked for my pin number. They questioned us about the operations of our party, who and how many whites provided the party in our province with money. In the mean time Chasara was in custody at Highlands Police Station.

When I indicated that no white person I knew had given us money, they began beating me and alleged that I knew that the MDC was sponsored by whites. They used a sjambok made of hippopotamus skin to hit me on the head. After that they handed me over to the custody of a police officer at the reception. The ordeal had lasted about 5 hours. After they had interrogated Chasara they took us to Harare Central Police Station. They had bought sadza at Rhodesville and one of them offered me sadza, I had no appetite and I refused.

At Harare Central they took us to the CIO offices in the basement. they then indicated that the time they had been waiting for had arrived. They said they now wanted us to tell them the truth and stop messing around. They also indicated that there was a way of us being implicated in the murder of Cain Nkala. Chasara was then taken out. I told them that I didn't know anything about the murder of Nkala. They severely tortured me, beating me with a sjambok underneath the feet. They rotated the administration of the beatings among themselves. In the meantime they were

saying “munhu ngashandwe”.

I lost all power to cry out. They further inquired as to how much was in the provincial account. They asked about vehicles that were allegedly bought by a certain Puzzey for the MDC as well as what farmers had offered the MDC money. This lasted from about 3pm till 11pm.

After that Chasara was called in and I was taken into another room. I was asked to salute a picture of Mugabe on the wall as well as toyi-toyi and chant Zanu-PF slogans. After the beatings, both of us were taken together under guard and they indicated that they would then brief their boss upstairs.

Chasara was then released on the same day having sustained severe injuries. I was taken to Matapi Police Station where I was put in a cell with seven other inmates. We were denied drinking water. Four of them came for me at around 9 am . They took me to a Nissan sunny and blindfolded me and asked me to lie down. They took me to a room in an area I couldn't identify. I was interrogated further on the same issues as before and then I was asked who I would vote for between Tsvangirai and Welshman Ncube. They also asked me what I thought about Masundire's leadership in the province and what role I had played in his suspension, i.e., what information I had given to the commission of inquiry into the factionalism that took place. I was also asked who we would make the MDC mayoral candidate and among the member of the police and army, who supported the MDC. I was further beaten with a sjambok.

At around 2pm, they went through the files they had seized and questioned me about each piece of correspondence. I was further slapped, knocked about and booted. They threatened me saying that I could disappear and that I was lucky to be going back in one piece. In the evening, I was blindfolded and taken back to the officer in charge, Law and Order section, who asked me to write statement regarding the death of Nkala. He took my fingerprints and then asked me to sign the statement. I was refused the services of a lawyer.

Before I was released the CIO officers involved said that I should not talk to the press and that I should take that seriously. They said my wife would be in trouble if I talked to the press. I was taken home in a white defender and passed by the officer-in-charge at Morris Depot before proceeding home. I went to the Avenues Clinic but left as soon as my case had been reported. I am scared for my life. I have stopped going to work. They said that if I wanted to go back to work I should be prepared to campaign for Zanu-PF.

## **Zvimba South**

*November 2001*

- The farm manager of Mede Farm in Nyabira was abducted by farm invaders. It has been ascertained that the manager is still alive. The Nyabira police initially would not react and then did not answer their phone. Eventually a vehicle was then sent to Nyabira to collect the ZRP. It is unclear whether the farm manager has since been released.

Full alphabetical list of reported deaths related to political violence January to November 2001

**Name, (Political Affiliation), Date of Death, Province, Constituency**

1. **CHIHUMBIRI, Eswat** (Zanu (PF), 23 March 2001, Mashonaland Central, Muzarabani
2. **CHIKWENYA, Richard Dzokurasa** (MDC), 1 May 2001, Manicaland, Buhera North
3. **CHIRIMA, Robson Tinarwo** (MDC), March 2001, Mashonaland Central, Muzarabani
4. **COBBET, Robert Fenwick** (commercial farmer), 6 August 2001, Midlands, Kwekwe
5. **DUMUKANI, Zondani**, (farmworker) 9 June 2001, Harare, Mbare East
6. **GWENZI, Gilson** (MDC), 27 July 2001 (assaulted in June), Mashonaland Central, Mwenezi
7. **KANOMERA, John** (MDC), 3 July 2001, Harare, Hatfield (Epworth)
8. **LUPHAHLA, Limukani**, (Zanu-PF), 29 October 2001, Matabeleland North, Lupane
9. **MADZVIMBO, Fanuel**, (resettled farmer), 16 September 2001, Mashonaland East, Hwedza
10. **MANYAME, Ropafadzo**, (MDC), 16 January 2001, Masvingo, Bikita West
11. **MAPENZAUSWA, Phibion** (resettled farmer), 14 July 2001, Manicaland, Mutare West
12. **MATARUSE, Peter** (MDC), March 2001, Mashonaland Central, Muzarabani
13. **MATEMA, Hilary** (MDC), 15 October 2001, Mashonaland Central, Guruve South
14. **MAZAVA, Felix**, (MDC), 11 September 2001, Mashonaland East, Chikomba
15. **MUKWELI, Vusimuzi**, (MDC), 9 September 2001, Midlands, Gokwe South
16. **MUNANDISHE, Peter**, ( MDC), 22 July 2001, Mashonaland Central, Bindura
17. **MUPESA, Ndonga** (MDC), 30 March 2001, Mashonaland Central, Muzarabani
18. **MWANZA, Miseck** (MDC), 4 May 2001, Mashonaland West, Zvimba North
19. **NKALA, Cain**, (ZNLWVA), 5 November 2001, Bulawayo, Lobengula-Magwegwe
20. **NYAMADZAWO, Alexio**, (resettled farmer) 15 September 2001, Mashonaland East, Hwedza
21. **NYATHI, Mbuso**, (ZNLWVA), 27 September 2001, Matabeleland North, Nkayi
22. **NYIKA, James** (MDC), 3 July 2001, Harare, Hatfield (Epworth)
23. **OLDS, Gloria**, (commercial farmer), 04 March 2001, Matabeleland North, Bubi-Unguza.
24. **RUKARA, Kufa**, (MDC), 19 November 2001, Midlands, Silobela
25. **SIKELE, Johannes/Felix**, (resettled farmer), 11 November 2001, Masvingo, Chiredzi South
26. **SIKHUCHA, Ravengai**, (MDC), 10 November 2001, Midlands, Mberengwa East
27. **ZIWENI, Osbon**, (MDC) 18 September 2001, Masvingo, Bikita West
28. Unnamed (MDC), April 2001, Mashonaland Central, Shamva
29. Unnamed (2) (MDC supporters), May 2001, Mashonaland Central, Mount Darwin South
30. Unnamed (2) (war veterans) 3 July 2001, Harare, (Hatfield) Epworth
31. Unnamed (2) (MDC supporters) 3 July 2001, Harare, (Hatfield) Epworth

- 32.** Unnamed (2) (Zanu-PF), 11 September 2001, Mashonaland East, Seke
- 33.** Unnamed (MDC), 6 September 2001, Bulawayo, Nkulumane
- 34.** Unnamed (farm worker), 15 September 2001, Mashonaland East, Hwedza
- 35.** Unnamed (game scout), 05 October 2001, Masvingo, Bikita East
- 36.** Unnamed (2) (MDC supporters) 2 November 2001, Mashonaland Central, Bindura

Total of 41 deaths

## **Background**

The MDC is contesting the outcome of last June's parliamentary elections in many constituencies that resulted in the victory of the ZANU (PF) candidate. The MDC has filed 41 cases from constituencies across Zimbabwe. ZANU (PF) is likewise contesting the election result in only one constituency where the MDC won a parliamentary seat. Trials began 12 February 2001.

Human rights abuses have been reported in all cases that have appeared before the High Court. Some of the victims seen by the HRLU (Human Rights Legal Unit) during March 2001 were victims of political violence that occurred when they returned home after testifying in the election challenges. The violence, which has mainly implicated ZANU (PF) supporters, but has also implicated some MDC supporters, is being used as a tool to intimidate people who had testified at the High Court. The intimidation continues to instil such fear that witnesses consider not testifying and in some cases have to be subpoenaed.

Many victims were forced from their homes because of an extreme fear of victimization and repeated intimidation. Victims are often forced to look for alternative housing and many are forced to live with family or friends elsewhere in the country. Most victims report beatings as the main form of torture.

Some victims seen by the HRLU were victims of other political violence, torture and ongoing intimidation in several constituencies.

Political violence has been reported in the following constituencies: Beitbridge, Bikita West, Bindura, Bubi-Umguza, Buhera, Bulawayo, Bulilima-Mangwe, Chegutu, Chikomba, Chimanimani, Chinhoyi, Chipinge North, Chiredzi, Gokwe, Goromonzi, Gweru, Harare, Hurungwe West, Hwange, Hwedza, Kariba, Karoi, Kwekwe, Mabvuku, Makonde, Makoni East, Makoni West, Marondera, Masvingo North, Matabeleland South, Matobo, Mazowe West, Mberengwe East, Mount Darwin, Murehwa, Mutare, Mutoko, Muzarabani, Mwenezi, Nkavi, Raffingora, Ruwa, Seke, Shamva, Shurugwi, Tsholotsho and Zvimba.

The Clemency Order handed down by the President in October 2000, which declared that only those involved in political violence that resulted in murder or rape could be prosecuted, clearly has had serious effects. Police have taken little action to protect persons against political violence and in many cases, according to victims, refuse to take statements from MDC supporters. Some victims refrain from making reports to the police out of fear of further victimization often because of a perceived link between the assailants and members of law enforcement agencies. The police, as evidenced by statements of victims, have shown little intention of taking the reported matters seriously or investigating them with diligence.

It is urgent that the Zimbabwean government takes steps to ensure a climate of peaceful political competition. It is also imperative that the government ensures that the rule of law is restored, and criminal charges are brought against all alleged perpetrators, whatever their political affiliation.

The Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum (also known as the “Human Rights Forum”) has been in existence since January 1998. Nine non-governmental organizations 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 organized 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 Legal Unit and a Research and Documentation Unit.

Core member organizations of the Human Rights Forum are:

The Amani Trust  
Amnesty International (Zimbabwe)  
The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace  
The Legal Resources Foundation  
Transparency International (Zimbabwe)  
The University of Zimbabwe Legal Aid and Advice Scheme  
Zimbabwe Association for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of the Offender  
Zimbabwe Human Rights Association  
Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights  
Zimbabwe Women Lawyers Association

Associate members are:

GALZ  
ZIMCET

The Human Rights Forum can be contacted through any member organization or through the following:

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Website: [www.hrforumzim.com](http://www.hrforumzim.com)

All previous reports of the Human Rights Forum can be found on the website.