

ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM

POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT

JULY 2001

August 2001

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

The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace

Amnesty International (Zimbabwe)

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

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

Note: The identities of victims that have not been published in the press will be protected by the use of initials. Victims who are named have been identified in the press, have been witnesses in election petitions, or are public officials.

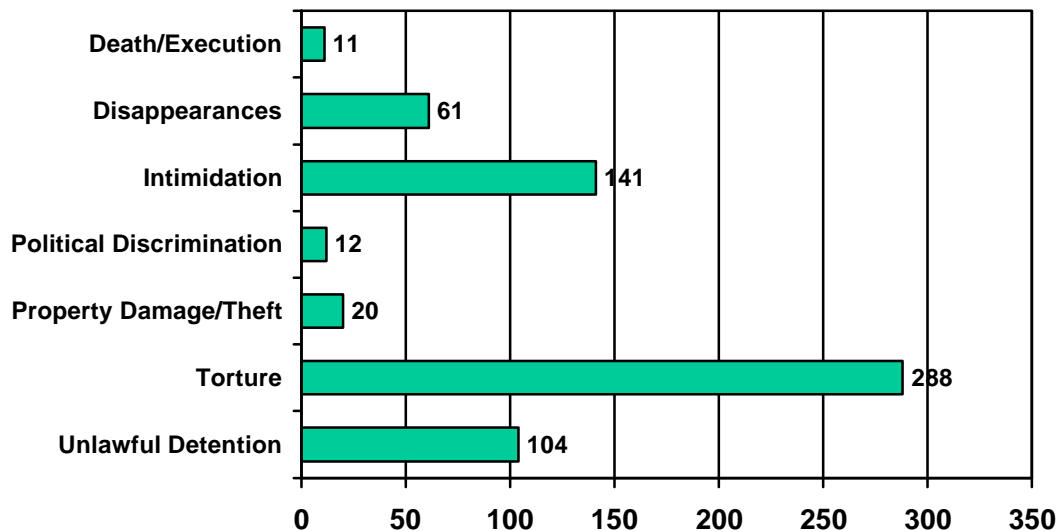
Summary

In early July, members of the ZNA were deployed in various townships in Harare where they perpetrated violence against citizens participating in the nationwide work stay-away declared on 2 and 3 July. The ZNA, with the help of war veteran militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters, also targeted persons perceived to support the opposition MDC.

There was also a resurgence of violence on commercial farms throughout July. In Mutare West, commercial farmer Philip Bezuidenhout allegedly ran over and killed a farm occupier. In Marondera, Iain Kay, a commercial farmer attacked and injured during the pre-election period last year, was held hostage with 120 of his farm workers and three other white farmers on Chipesa Farm.

There were many incidences of violence in the Bindura constituency as a result of the by-election that took place on the weekend of 27-28 July. An incident included an attack by Zanu (PF) supporters on MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai's convoy that was traveling through the constituency. In Makoni West and Makoni East, Nathaniel "Punish" Mhiripiri was involved in multiple incidents of violence. This is significant since witness testimony during the Makoni East election petition challenge identified Mhiripiri as a well-known Zanu (PF) member who supervised attacks and performed torture on MDC supporters during the 2000 Parliamentary elections.

Monthly Total



Note

Disappearances: Those who were abducted and whereabouts are still unknown.

Unlawful detention: Those who were abducted and released.

Bindura

- On 5 July, unnamed Zanu (PF) supporters abducted and assaulted MDC supporter, Smail Matola. Matola was abducted in a government vehicle and released six hours later.
- On 7 July, unnamed Zanu (PF) youths invaded the home of MDC supporter Felix Kunaka Shangwa. Shangwa's property was looted, his cattle slaughtered and meat stolen. The youths who attacked Shangwa's home are based at Chiveso Primary School and are said to have harassed villagers from Manhenga, Chiveso, Mupandira and Shangwa villages.
- 'War veteran' militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters kidnapped 13 unnamed MDC supporters. The thirteen were reported missing and believed to be held at the various Zanu (PF) bases throughout the constituency. Zanu (PF) has set up bases at Kitsiyatota, Chiveso, Murembe, Mupandira, Maizeland Farm, Foothill Farm and Nyawa BC. They are using the bases as centres where they can torture captured opposition supporters. The bases are also used as launch pads for raids on opposition strongholds.
- On 1 July, 'war veteran' militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters attacked MDC youth executive member Philip Mabika with broken bottles and baton sticks. Mabika sustained cuts on his hands and required 14 stitches. He was treated at Chachville Clinic.
- Between 10 and 11 July, 18 suspected MDC supporters torched the homes of Zanu (PF) supporters, Cosmos Chikono and Zvonda Mushonga. They received death threats from local MDC supporters a day before the homes were torched. As a result, 16 were arrested and two MDC campaign vehicles were impounded.
- On 11 July, 18 suspected MDC supporters assaulted 11 unnamed Zanu (PF) supporters at a Zanu (PF) meeting. The 11 were treated and discharged from Bindura Hospital.
- Chipu Ruzive and 27 unnamed MDC supporters were abducted in Bindura by armed police officers who also claimed to be war veterans. Five of the youths are still missing. The youths were searched for arms; two catapults were found in one of the cars, and as a result, the three vehicles they were traveling in were impounded. The youths were assaulted by police officers at Bindura Police Camp, and then placed in cells. They were later driven to Rushinga where the assaults continued from around 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. They were then dropped off in groups along the Rushinga Road about 150 kms from Bindura. The police took their money and as a result they were unable to get transport back to Bindura and had to walk the 150 kms distance back from Rushinga.

- An unnamed victim was beaten up at Murembe Base, and could hardly walk after the beating.
- Two unnamed MDC supporters were severely beaten and sustained serious injuries in Bindura at Chipadze.
- An unnamed MDC supporter was severely beaten by over 60 Zanu (PF) supporters and sustained serious injuries. Earlier that afternoon, the MDC candidate Elliot Pfebve, had addressed a rally at Chiveso Shopping Centre; the 60 Zanu-PF youths in a Nissan UD truck descended on Chiveso SC and assaulted people for allegedly supporting the MDC.
- Unnamed MDC supporters were beaten at Chemhofu Business Centre by Joseph Chinotimba, Zanu (PF) supporters and members of war veteran militias.
- An unnamed victim was severely beaten by war veteran leader Joseph Chinotimba and Zanu (PF) supporters. The victim is a disabled former soldier.
- Thirty unnamed MDC polling agents were attacked by Zanu (PF) supporters in Chiveso as they were returning to Musana CL from a training session. The truck they were traveling in was attacked and damaged by Zanu (PF) supporters who blocked the road and pelted the car with stones.
- Michael Mukashi, David Mandengenda, Rumbidzayi Samu and Isaiah Chimunhu, MDC supporters, were badly beaten and seriously injured during an attack by Zanu (PF) youths on 22 July. Samu could hardly speak as a result of the attack. All four were admitted to Bindura Hospital and placed under arrest for political violence. They are under armed police guard at the hospital.
- On 22 July, approximately 100 Zanu (PF) youths attacked MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai's convoy. Peter Mangurenje, Job Sikhala, Tafadzwa Musekiwa, Bennie Mutasa Tumbare, Tichaona Munyanyi, Chaibva, Morgan Tsvangirai, Elliot Pfebve, Tichaona Mudzingwa and four unnamed MDC supporters in Chiveso were attacked. The attack took place about 1.5 kms from Bindura. There was an exchange of gunfire between the two parties. Five of the MDC supporters were seriously injured, taken to Makumbe Hospital, treated and discharged. Two were transferred to Parirenyatwa hospital in critical condition. Mangurenje lost an eye as a result of the attack. All nine cars in the motorcade were damaged and the vehicle belonging to Mudzingwa was burnt. Seven MDC supporters were arrested including Mudzingwa. The magistrate declined to place the seven on remand due to "glaring shortcomings" of the state's case. Diamond Karanda and Mordekai Lucius were injured in the attack.
- An unnamed MDC supporter was in Tsvangirai's convoy when it was attacked. His Mazda B2500 was damaged, and he sustained a cut on his hand from falling glass when his window was broken.
- On 26 July, MDC youths stoned a hall in Chiwaridzo where Zanu (PF) youths were gathered.
- Twenty-one unnamed MDC supporters were kidnapped and assaulted on 28 July in Musana CL by Zanu (PF) supporters.

- On 28 July, Trymore Midzi, an MDC supporter, and Eliot Pfebve, the MDC MP candidate for Bindura were arrested for actions that might trigger violence.
- An unnamed elderly woman was working in the fields when a group of Zanu (PF) youth approached her and asked her where her husband was. She told them he was in Harare, and then they took her to the local school where they questioned her again. They brought her back to her home and stole her money and some food. They took her outside and forced her to lie down. One of them grabbed her by the throat as another sat on her knees and tortured her by beating her under the feet (falanga) until she fainted. She regained consciousness, borrowed money from a friend, and fled to Harare.
- Whilst at his shop on 13 July, W.M. was approached by two truckloads of Zanu (PF) supporters. They disembarked from lorries, began chanting Zanu (PF) slogans, and forced him to chant the slogans. They began assaulting him with sticks, chains, and sjamboks and kicked him in the chest and the side of the body. He was later carried in a wheelchair to his home.

Later that day the Zanu (PF) supporters returned to his home. They pulled him out of his bedroom and began assaulting him with sticks. They burned the blankets and clothing of his wife and children. They took 14 chickens, burned the maize in his grainery, killed four goats and two dogs, and left him lying on the ground. He traveled to Bindura on the following day and reported the incidents to the police, who took him to Bindura Hospital where he was treated. Later that day in the hospital, he was afraid that the perpetrators were coming to the hospital to kill him. He fled to Harare.

- On 13 July, a group of about 25 people, including M.T., were taken by police from Bindura rural areas to the police station. He was tortured by being beaten with fists and flat wooden planks all over his body and underneath the feet (falanga). The group was taken to Rusape Police Station where M.T. was again beaten. He was released at midnight.
- G.M. was tortured by police on 12 July at Bindura Police Station. He was beaten with wooden sticks, kept overnight, and deprived of food. When he was released, he tried to walk back to his home but was intercepted by Zanu (PF) supporters and beaten with sugar cane.
- O.M., a student, has been living in Harare since mid-May due to the burning of his parents' home by Zanu (PF) supporters.
- On 22 July, K.G. was in a motorcade driving through Musana when it was blocked by mob of Zanu (PF) supporters. The window of the vehicle that she was driving in was smashed and she was hit by an object that she thought was a stone.
- C.V. was abducted by Zanu (PF) supporters on 28 July at Manhenga and taken to Chieta the following day. He was tortured at Manhenga by falanga with a stick and rubber and beaten on his buttocks. He was beaten in the face with fists, kicked on both sides of his body with booted feet, kicked in the head, and assaulted with fingernails on his face. He has difficulty walking, and cannot hear properly as a result of the torture.

He also experienced psychological torture: verbal abuse, threats against him and his family and threats of sexual abuse.

- Thirty-four Zanu (PF) supporters, one identified as Salim, on 27 July, approached M.C. They apprehended him after they threw stones so that he would fall down. They began to torture him with iron bars, sjamboks and knives. He was beaten all over his body, and including on both feet with a stick (falanga).

They tried to force him into a car but he refused. They used a knife and screwdriver to pick inside both his palms. The Zanu (PF) supporters left him after his supporters attacked them in order to rescue him. He experienced psychological torture: verbal abuse, threats against him and his family and threats of sexual abuse. His palms are cut up; he has wounds sustained from dragging, and has a knife scar on his elbow.

- B.P. was stoned by a group of people in Chiwendzo Township on 26 July. As a result of the attack, he experiences pain in the left elbow joint and the left side of the chest.
- On 28 July, around 10 p.m., W.J. was trying to outrun Zanu (PF) supporters who were chasing him and four other colleagues. The Zanu (PF) supporters were trying to catch and beat them. Unfortunately, the five stumbled upon a Zanu (PF) base. W.J. and two others were abducted, searched, and beaten with booted feet, fists and sticks. The assailants used another implement to beat their victims, which W.J. was unable to identify. The three victims were put into a room together and put under guard. The Zanu (PF) assailants beat and interrogated the three prisoners. The following day W.J. and his two colleagues were forced to chant slogans as they were beaten some more. They were told that they were going to be killed and placed into a vehicle one by one. W.J. was, at that time, able to escape, from whence he made his way back to Bindura. W.J. still experiences headaches, pains in his legs, back and chest and has had recurring trouble sleeping.
- On 28 July, S.M. was at the polling station at Chireka with three other colleagues. They were monitoring the by-election for their party, MDC. Zanu (PF) supporters came in three cars, disembarked and surrounded the four MDC supporters. S.M. and his friends fled to a mountain and tried to find their way to Bindura. Unfortunately, they found their way to Manhenga Base where they were captured, searched, stripped of their clothes and beaten by Zanu (PF) supporters. The assailants stole their victims' clothes and money. S.M. and his friends were bundled into a vehicle and driven to Chireka where they were told they were going to be killed. S.M. managed to escape and meet up with a police truck. S.M. reported the incident and the police took him back to Manhenga Police Camp. The perpetrators were locked up and S.M. was asked to come back to get the RRB number, but by the time he arrived the next day, the perpetrators had been released from custody. S.M. experiences headache, pain in the legs and back and experiences disturbed sleep. He was subjected to verbal abuse, threats, false accusations, and deprived of food and water.
- On 28 July, Zanu (PF) supporters attacked MDC supporter, Stephen Baudi.
- Five unnamed teachers and a headmaster were forced to flee their school after being beaten by 'war veteran' militias and Zanu (PF) supporters in Bindura.

- On Candwell Farm in Bindura, Zanu (PF) supporters and 'war veteran' militias beat MDC supporter, Stenford Kachai, and former MDC candidate for Shamva, Shadreck Mashinya, with batons. Kachai and Mashinya (who is confined to a wheelchair) were forced to push the car they were traveling in despite one of the tires being punctured; they were then beaten all over the body. The two were saved by the intervention of the police. Kachai identified one of the attackers as Ison Sakunzeka.
- Zanu (PF) supporters abducted twenty-one unnamed MDC supporters at Manhenga on 27 July. Their whereabouts are still unknown at the time of the report.

Chiredzi South

- On 7 July, on George Whitehead's Marikanga Ranch, Aaron Baloyi, MP for Chiredzi South, 'war veteran' militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters abducted four unnamed game wardens and held them hostage for 40 hours. The game wardens were released after being severely assaulted. Whitehead's farmhouse was raided, and looted of property worth \$120,000.

Gokwe West

- In Mutimutema Village, Douglas Ndowani, 'war veteran' militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters ordered Mazita Maondo and twenty other MDC supporters in the village to surrender their party cards and t-shirts. They were threatened with property arson before being severely assaulted. Maondo was left for dead with burned wrists (tied with wire), head and leg injuries; Maondo was hospitalized at Gokwe and then transferred to Avenues Clinic, Harare. The victims had abandoned the village the previous week after being assaulted and sought refuge in the bush. Maondo returned home after hearing that his brother had died and was again assaulted. Twenty-six MDC youths were arrested and remanded in custody till 26 July.
- On 4 July at 8 p.m. Mazita Maondo was assaulted by group of Zanu (PF) youths and members of 'war veteran' militias. He received a cut on head and severe burns on both palms and two fingers. They attacked him with sticks, logs, and axes, accused him of being an MDC member of Gokwe West and verbally abused him. He fell during the assault, and was unconscious for 15 minutes. The assailants stole two jackets he had worn to keep warm in the cold. His watch and keys were also stolen. He experiences backache and general weakness. He was rescued by an MDC MP, and has hidden in the bush for two weeks with other MDC members. He visits his family at night only.

Goromonzi

- On 11 July, at Chireka Village, 18 suspected MDC supporters assaulted two Zanu (PF) supporters. Anderson Kadyara was assaulted with sticks, stones, catapults and iron bars. Kadyara sustained internal and leg injuries. The village councilor said that 'anything associated with the ruling party is rubbish and therefore needs to be disciplined.' Thandiwe Chimbiro was assaulted with sticks, stones, catapults and iron bars. Chimbiro sustained injuries to his back and was hospitalized in Bindura.

Harare

- On 2 July, in Hatfield, 'war veteran' militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters beat James Nyika, John Kamonera and two other unnamed MDC supporters to death. The four were abducted and assaulted at McDonald's Farm in Epworth, which is currently being used as a base by the war veterans. One died at the base while the other two including Nyika died at Harare Hospital. It is alleged that the war veterans were responsible for the throwing of petrol bombs, which triggered the violence in Epworth and resulted in the deaths of two Zanu (PF) supporters. Despite their alleged culpability, the war veteran militias have subsequently blamed MDC supporters of having killed their fellow colleagues.
- Between 2 and 3 July, in Hatfield, 'war veteran' militias abducted Edson Karavhina, Dagi, Funny and Tichaona Meza, John Kamonera, James Nyika and 12 other MDC supporters. The eighteen were abducted from their homes on Monday morning, taken to the war veterans' base at McDonalds Farm, stripped of their clothing, tortured, then dumped out in the cold on Tuesday morning. Four of the abducted, including James Nyika and John Kamonera, died following their release. The MDC supporters in the area were accused of failing to pay a protection fee, and as a result they were abducted and assaulted. Police officers at Dombo Police Post are alleged not to have arrested the assailants who had been positively identified, but instead thrown the victims into the cells and sometimes assaulted them.
- On 3 July, in Epworth, 'war veteran' militias threw a petrol bomb in a house killing two persons, also suspected to be war veterans. Violent clashes erupted in Epworth after a house belonging to a Zanu (PF) supporter was petrol bombed. It is alleged that the militias were responsible for the throwing of petrol bombs, which triggered the violence in Epworth and then blamed MDC supporters having killed their own colleagues in the process (a claim supported by Tapiwa Mashakada, MDC MP for Hatfield). The petrol bombings may be linked to opposition of Epworth residents that were targeted to selling pieces of land meant for resettlement.
- On 3 July, in Epworth, six unnamed individuals were burned after 'war veteran' militias detonated petrol bombs.
- On 3 July, in Epworth, MDC supporters threw a petrol bomb into the home of Zanu (PF) supporter, Lucky Maumburutse and destroyed the property of Abel Sibanda.
- On 5 July, in Glen Norah, members of the ZNA assaulted George Mujajati with batons. Mujajati sustained bruises on his arms and back. MDC supporter Trust Kwande, a tenant to an MDC women's league chairperson in Glen Norah, was also assaulted. Similar assaults occurred in Warren Park, Dzivarasekwa and Kuwadzana. People were allegedly beaten up for taking part in the two day stay-away.
- On 9 July, in Epworth, war veteran militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters abducted Prince Ncube. Ncube is the son of John Kamonera who was killed in Epworth on July 2. The alleged killers of his father were harassing Ncube.
- On 13 July, in Avondale, 20 members of the ZRP and CID tailed Sekai Holland, MDC candidate for Mberengwa East, who was in her car on her way home. Holland was shot

at through her home gate following a failure to stop at a ZRP roadblock. She, her husband Jim, and four security guards (Better Chakanukya, Norman Chinyere, Ringo Makhuna and Godfrey Manjengwa) were blockaded inside the home for 2 hours until the ZRP arrived. Five employees (including the four security guards) were handcuffed and assaulted at gunpoint. Holland is apparently always followed, but usually is successful in losing those following her. CIO members told the ZRP that they thought they were dealing with carjackers.

- On 11 July, in Budiro, members of the ZNA arrived at 2:00 am and asked for lodger and MDC supporter, Mary Chibanda, who was not in her room. Tim Rhumba and his family were then ordered to lie on their kitchen floor and were assaulted.
- On 11 July, in Budiro, members of the ZNA forced MDC branch secretary, Philip Katsande to undress before they assaulted him. Brighton, Philip's seventeen year-old son was forced into a full bathtub while clothed before he too was assaulted.
- D.M. was tortured on 4 July at about 4 a.m. in Kuwadzana by a group of approximately 100 ZRP and ZNA. He was asleep when they arrived and took him from his home. He was detained at a nearby roadside for one hour and assaulted. He was then released. He suffered bruises on his upper arm, back and wrist.
- On 3 July at 9 p.m. a group of about 100 ZNA approached D.G. and his friends in Caluph Public Bar in Kuwadzana. The group of ZNA began to torture him by assaulting them with rubber whips, sticks and kicked them. He was whipped in his right eye. The eye is currently red and inflamed, and has only partial sight. He suffers bruises and swelling on his abdomen, back, and shoulder, and has bruises on the back of his head.
- Edson Karavina was taken from his home by 'war veteran' militias and some Zanu (PF) supporters to their base at 3 a.m. on 2 July. He was tortured by being assaulted with sticks. He was accused of being an MDC supporter. He experienced swelling on his back, left shoulder and buttocks, and has a cut behind his ear.
- On 1 July M.T. was stopped in Epworth by ZRP who began beating him and his cousin with baton sticks. The ZRP ordered them to get into their car and drove them to Harare police station where they were left in a cell for two nights. They were released from custody after appearing in court.
- On 2 July at 11 p.m., H.M. was asleep in his home in Epworth when a gang of Zanu (PF) youths and war veterans arrived and ordered him to open the bedroom door. He was then ordered to follow them. As they got outside they started beating him with sticks and iron bars. There were about 10 other victims who were outside that the Zanu (PF) youths were assaulting in the same manner. They were moved to local base camp at about 2 a.m. where they spent the whole night being tortured. Two victims died at about 6 a.m. Police arrived and took them to hospital. A third victim died of injuries on 9 July. The victim experiences swelling on the finger of his right hand. He has scars on head, chest, back, shoulders and right arm.
- On 6 July at Warren Park Shopping Centre, 6 Zanu (PF) youth accused W.M. of being an MDC Chairman, and accused him of instructing MDC youth to attack police with stones. Before he answered they kicked him all over his body resulting in the loss of

four teeth. They stole \$500 from his trousers and destroyed his watch. He fell down during the attack and lost consciousness for about 15 minutes. Upon regaining consciousness he realized they had taken him to a police camp. The police made the same allegations that the Zanu (PF) youth had made. He was threatened and experienced verbal abuse. He was handcuffed whilst bleeding from the mouth and nose, and was kept in a cell for a whole day and night. He was allowed to return home at 10 a.m. to receive medical treatment. He suffers severe pain in left shoulder and is unable to move it properly.

- G.M. was assaulted with long sticks by 20 people at her home in Epworth on 2 July. She received blows to the head and verbal abuse.
- S.F. was assaulted by three Zanu (PF) supporters at about 8 p.m. in Epworth. They verbally abused her and told her that her husband was an MDC Chairman. She was slapped on the face and hit with a stick on the left knee. They promised to come back and destroy the entire family.
- On 26 July, in Mbare East, 'war veteran' militias and other Zanu (PF) supporters invaded the farm compound at Blackfordby Farm, and assaulted the farm workers with knives. The farm invaders told the resident farm workers that they had to share accommodation. Farm workers were forced out and 30 farmhouses were occupied. Farm workers were also forced to share food and blankets. Police officers were allegedly instructed not to act on any reports from Blackfordby Farm.
- In Greendale, unnamed assailants illegally entered the home of Jacobus Nel. The house was searched and a Nissan pick-up, worth \$2 million was stolen. The violators were posing as policemen and were wearing police uniforms. They alleged that Nel had been funding the MDC, produced a search warrant, and searched his house.

Hurungwe West

- Zanu (PF) supporters and war veterans Matenga, Munyanyi and an unnamed person, held Hedley Lilford hostage on Dixie Farm in Karoi. He was held hostage for two hours in his farm workshop for 'illegally' continuing to work on his land. His farm was invaded and plots parceled out to invaders with the assistance of government agricultural extension officers, although the farm was not designated.

Forty-five farmers in Karoi have ceased production after having been threatened by war veterans to cease operations on their farms or face unspecified action. The district administrator for Karoi, Jasper Munetsi, told the farmers the matter was political and so he could not offer any help.

Hwange East

- Zanu (PF) supporters and 'war veteran' militias beat six unnamed MDC supporters with stones on 29 July at an MDC rally in Victoria Falls at Chinotimba Stadium.
- Zanu (PF) supporters and 'war veteran' militias dismissed twelve unnamed Victoria Falls Council employees after being questioned for heeding the ZCTU stay away.

Makoni East

- Phille and Sheperd Mazingaizo, Wilson Gowero, Obert Garafa, David Ngwenya, Nathaniel “Punish” Mhiripiri, and 10 other unnamed Zanu (PF) supporters assaulted several MDC supporters, who were resettled on Olivia Farm, with logs. Mhiripiri, a member of the Zanu (PF) district coordinating committee in Rusape, was carrying a 303 rifle and threatened to shoot them. He threatened to unleash a wave of violence on families resettled at Olivia Farm after he accused them of sympathizing with the MDC. Mhiripiri was arrested and charged with public violence. He was remanded on \$5,000 bail to August 24. He is currently facing charges of public violence in emanating from three separate incidents.

Makoni West

- On 7 July, at Shangwe BC in Rusape, Nathaniel “Punish” Mhiripiri, war veteran militias and other unnamed Zanu (PF) supporters, cornered and assaulted MDC supporters Samson Magumura and Robert Kwaramba with hammers, chains and a pickaxe handle. Kwaramba sustained a serious elbow fracture. Magumura sustained serious head, arm and leg injuries and was subsequently hospitalized. Mhiripiri and his youths attacked patrons of Shangwe BC. Magumura and Kwaramba were isolated from the rest and beaten unconscious. The police rushed them to the hospital.
- On 7 July, at Vengere Nightclub in Rusape, Zanu (PF) supporters from the Self-Help Development Foundation, run by Gibson Munyoro, assaulted MDC supporter Nation Sagwete. The assailants used a white pick-up truck with registration number 635-393T. Munyoro, the former Makoni South MP and Zanu (PF)’s Makoni district secretary for production, was recently selected as Zanu (PF) candidate for the Makoni West seat that has fallen vacant following Moven Mahachi’s death. Munyoro admitted that the truck was his, but denied involvement despite running SHDF.
- Solomon Karuru and his three children, Bishop, Elias, Saliwe were beaten on 25 July in Marowa. The father was assaulted as reprisal for children’s support of the MDC, and then his children were assaulted when they tried to intervene.

Marondera

- On 6 July, on Chipesa Farm, war veteran militias assaulted a farm worker named Douglas, and then took him away. The farm, belonging to Iain Kay, invaded by war veterans earlier in the day that burnt grass and demanded to see the farm -owner.
- Between 6 and 8 July, at Chipesa Farm, ‘war veteran’ militias forced Iain Kay, David Kay, Trevor Steel, Kim Nelson, and 120 unnamed farm workers into a farm workhouse where they were held hostage for three days. The militias threatened farm owner Iain Kay with death because he actively supported the MDC. The invaders have ordered Kay to leave his farm within a month.
- On 6 July, war veteran militias assaulted twenty unnamed farm workers at Chipesa Farm. Two farm workers were seriously injured. Most were eventually treated at Igava Clinic while those who sustained serious injuries were taken to Borradaile Trust Hospital.

The workers were assaulted after they had been told to hand over their MDC membership cards and t-shirts.

- Martin Perreira and his wife who live on Rapids Farm were held hostage for 50 hours. Their house was surrounded, they were threatened with death, and the mob set fires, cut trees, banged on the walls and windows and threw logs on the roof. The mob is alleged to have included teachers and staff from nearby Bernard Mzeki College, an Anglican Secondary School.
- Zanu (PF) supporters invaded Monora Farm and destroyed property. Jill Hunter, owner of the farm, was taken to a nearby workshop where she was held and interrogated for several hours, and then released after the intervention of government officials from Harare.
- Zanu (PF) supporters destroyed the home of Chipso Macheke, a tenant on Monora Farm. Her home, comprising three huts burnt to the ground with everything in them. Property was also ransacked and looted from other homes within the farm compound.

Masvingo Central

- On 30 July, 100 unnamed ZNA recruits raided Ritz Nightclub and Wildlife and Landmark Bars where they assaulted patrons whom they accused of having lost direction by supporting the MDC. One patron, Andrew Zimuto, sustained leg injuries. More than ten were also injured, five of them seriously. Five suspects were consequentially arrested and charged with public violence.

Mount Darwin

- W.M. attended church service on 28 July and went to look for Zivai Mumbamarwo outside the church. He was approached by young man who asked to speak to him. The young man was with 2 other men; they showed him identity cards, which said that they were from CID Central. They took W.M. to the police station and handcuffed him to a bench. They told him he was Asani Lunga, but he told them he wasn't. They beat him and slapped the left side of his face until he became numb. They beat him on his uncovered back with a metal plate whilst his head was between his knees. They were laughing and joking as they did this. They made him to push ups, and wanted him to do 50. Every time he failed they made him start again, until he lay exhausted on his stomach. They also made him do a handstand against a wall whilst they interrogated him, beating him on both feet (falanga). He was made to stand on his head as they interrogated him. As he lay on the ground they stamped on his head. As a result of the attack he still experiences ringing in his ears. His uncle came to the police station with his passport to establish his identity; the police constable realized his mistake and gave him \$100 for bus fare. He has trouble walking because of falanga.

Mutare West

- On 14 July, Phibion Mapnezauswa was killed on Tara Farm in Odzi. He was reportedly run over and dragged for 20 metres by farmer Philip Bezuidenhout who was in his Isuzu pickup. Mapnezauswa was a new settler on Bezuidenhout's farm. He died on admission to hospital. Bezuidenhout was held in custody in Mutare and appeared in

court on 18 July facing a murder charge and remanded in custody to 1 August. The magistrate said he could not grant bail.

Apparently there was an earlier clash between 20 youths and new settlers. Bezuidenhout's brother claims that the farm had not been designated, and that Bezuidenhout had removed his family (wife and two children) to his brother's farm. He reportedly returned to his farm and chased off settlers with assistance of youths, then drove into Mapenzauswa who was getting into his own car after being allocated plot number 4. Mapenzauswa was employed as a finance manager at Mutare Board and Paper Mills who were surveying the land that had been allocated on Tara Farm. Bezuidenhout did not stop after having hit Mapenzauswa who then fell to the ground but instead drove to Odzi Police Station to make a report where the police arrested him.

Mwenezi

- On 6 July, at Quaggapen B Ranch, 'war veteran' militias, armed with spears and axes, beat farm workers, whom they believed were MDC sympathizers. The injured farm workers were treated at Neshuro Clinic. The militias have declared the farm a "no-go" area and barred the owners from moving around on their own property.
- Farm occupiers on Mwenezi Ranch assaulted and seriously injured two unnamed game scouts. Fighting broke out on the ranch following an order by President Joseph Msika to evict the occupiers. The scouts fired shots into the air to remove the occupiers from the land.
- In Sarahuru village, unnamed Zanu (PF) supporters assaulted and seriously injured Gilson Gwenzi. Gwenzi was hospitalized and died on 27 July from his injuries. Gwenzi was a key witness in MDC's Lucia Masekesa's electoral petition against Zanu (PF)'s Isiaih Shumba.

Shurugwi

- Zanu (PF) farm invaders assaulted Owen Jarman, the farm manager of Gwenhoro Farm. Former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Ian Smith, owns Gwenhoro Farm.

Zvimba South

- Tangai Mukwazi was shot on 18 July at Nyabira by a farm guard and admitted to Parirenyatwa Hospital. Mukwazi is one of the occupiers on a farm in the area belonging to Mike Valaro.
- George Pio, from Darwendale, Harefield, was told to vacate his farm within 24 hours by 'war veteran' militias.

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 instill 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: Karoi, Hurungwe West, Chikomba, Chiredzi, Makoni West, Bikita West, Mabvuku, Shamva, Harare, Bulawayo, Bubi-Umguza, Mberengwe East, Mazowe West, Muzarabani, Masvingo North, and Mount Darwin.

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.