

# **ZIMBABWE HUMAN RIGHTS NGO FORUM**

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## **POLITICAL VIOLENCE REPORT**

### **JUNE 2004**

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9 September 2004

A report by the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum

## OVERVIEW

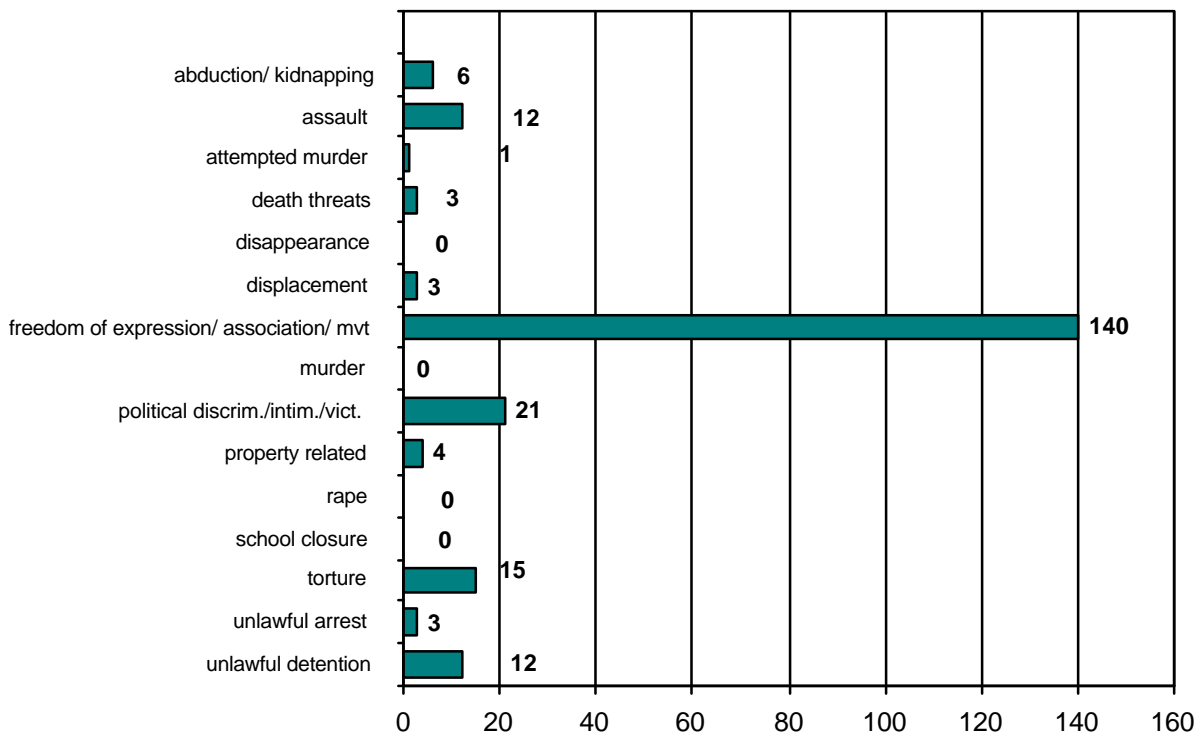
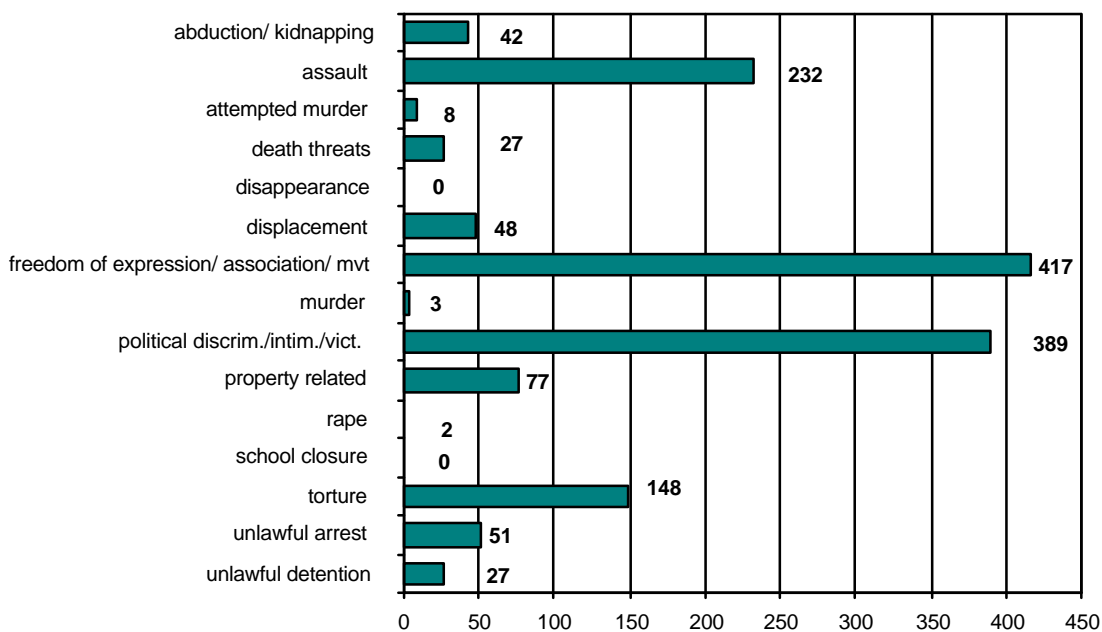
Members of Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA), who have frequently been arrested in the past for holding peaceful demonstrations in support of various causes, were again arrested while engaging in a peaceful demonstration in Zimbabwe. On 16 June 2004, 43 WOZA women were detained at Matshobana Hall by CIO agents and ZRP officers in Mpopoma constituency (BULAWAYO Province) where they were scheduled to have a community meeting. Jenni Williams, leader of WOZA, claims that two plain-clothes policemen interrupted the opening session of the meeting wherein the facilitators were discussing project formulation. The officers stopped the meeting and informed the women that they would be charged under POSA. Williams reports that the women were locked up in Mathsobana Hall for about 15 minutes. A group of fully geared anti-riot police then reportedly arrived at the scene and ordered the women to get into a police Santana vehicle parked outside the hall. The women were taken to Western Commonage Police Station in the Santana in several loads.

At the Police Station, the 43 women were locked up in what the police called the yard. A count was done - 43 women and 7 babies were recorded and they were told to wait for officers from the Law and Order Maintenance section. One female and six male officers from the Bulawayo Central Police Station's Law and Order Maintenance section reportedly arrived and began to shout obscenities at the women. The officers were identified as Detective Inspector Sango and Ngwenya, Detective Sergeants Mlothswa, Hlongwane, and Detective Constables, Mathazi and Ndlovu. Four of the arrested women were detained for the night whilst the rest of them and the 7 babies were released. The four were taken to court the following day but the prosecutor allegedly declined to prosecute and the women were subsequently released.

On 19 June 2004 WOZA women's freedom of association and assembly was further curtailed. 73 WOZA women who had gathered at the Bulawayo Main Post Office to commemorate the United Nations World Refugee Day were arrested by uniformed police officers. By noon, the WOZA leadership who had remained out of the reach of the police gathered more women together and marched to Bulawayo Central Police Station in solidarity with their colleagues who had been arrested. Whilst marching along Fife Street, the road on which the police station is located, a police Defender truck arrived and uniformed officers alighted from their vehicle and descended upon the women. The WOZA women who were singing a religious song, quickly sat down to avoid assault. Eleven women were reportedly arrested by the police and detained in custody for 3 days and nights at Donnington Police Station. These 11 women were eventually taken to Court on the 4<sup>th</sup> day and were initially to be charged under POSA, however, they were eventually charged under Section 7 of the Miscellaneous Offences Act. The WOZA women were remanded to 13 August 2004 on free bail. The 73 women that had been arrested on the morning of 19 June were released later that same day having paid \$25 000 Admission of Guilt fines.

Attacks on MDC supporters attending a rally at Mukandabhutsu in Msasa Park, Hatfield constituency, (HARARE Province) on 6 June 2004 makes evident the climate of intolerance by ZANU PF supporters to those people who want to associate with other political parties. WM was reportedly assaulted by two ZANU PF youths while guarding the area designated for the MDC rally at

Mukandabhutsu Ground in Msasa Park Harare. The victim alleges that he was hit with a beer bottle on the head and sustained a cut on the left ear. GG, also an MDC supporter, claims that at around 15:30 hours, when he was at Mukandabhutsu Bottle Store in Msasa Park, arranging for transport to carry chairs and other equipment which had been used during the MDC rally in Msasa Park that afternoon, a group of about 15 ZANU PF youths wearing white T-Shirts written 'Zimbabwe 24' and chanting ZANU PF slogans beat him with a wooden log and fists on the hand and legs while demanding to know who had given the MDC permission to hold the rally. Several other incidents of assault and political victimisation surrounded the Mukandabhutsu rally.

**Totals: 1 June 2004 – 30 June 2004****Cumulative Totals: 1 January 2004 – 30 June 2004**

**Sources:** The information contained in this report is derived from statements made to the Public Interest Unit of the Zimbabwe Human Rights Forum, statements taken by the member organisations of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum. *(See last page for list of member organisations)*, newspaper reports, Justice for Agriculture (JAG), Combined Harare Residents Association (CHRA), National Constitutional Assembly (NCA), Women of Zimbabwe Arise (WOZA), Zimbabwe Community Development Trust (ZCDT), Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) and Zimbabwe Election Support Network (ZESN).

#### Notes to the tables:

##### Torture:

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

The four elements of torture are:

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

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

##### Unlawful arrest and detention:

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

##### Abduction/kidnapping:

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

##### Disappearance:

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

##### Property related

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

#### Key Abbreviations

AIPPA – Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act	PTUZ – Progressive Teachers Union of Zimbabwe
CIO – Central Intelligence Organisation	
MDC – Movement for Democratic Change	
MP – Member of Parliament	
NAGG - National Alliance for Good Governance	
NCA – National Constitutional Assembly	
OVT – Organised Violence and Torture	
POSA – Public Order and Security Act	

UMP – Uzumba Maramba Pfungwe

Zanu PF – Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic  
Front

ZCTU – Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions

ZNA – Zimbabwe National Army

ZNLWVA – Zimbabwe National Liberation War  
Veterans Association

ZPS – Zimbabwe Prison Service

ZRP – Zimbabwe Republic Police

ZIMTA – Zimbabwe Teachers Association

ZUPCO – Zimbabwe United Passenger Company

## Cases of Political Violence

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

*The purpose of this report is to record the nature of the politically motivated violence and intimidation that continues to prevail in the country. The Monthly Political Violence Reports are primarily based on victims' accounts, accompanied by medical evidence where possible, obtained from member organisations of the Human Rights Forum and other partner organisations. Use is also made of press reports on politically motivated violence. The Monthly Political Violence Report cannot therefore be considered as the exhaustive record of all incidents of politically-motivated violence in Zimbabwe in the period under review. Nevertheless, every incident reported to the Human Rights Forum directly or through its members is meticulously documented and included in the reports.*

*The situation prevailing in the country is such that it has not been possible to verify all of these accounts. The Human Rights Forum has done what it can to verify the reports, and is satisfied that the vast majority of them are substantially true. It is also not possible to rule out whether a victim's account is exaggerated or contains inaccuracies.*

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

## BULAWAYO

### **Mpopoma**

16 June 2004

- Forty-three members of WOZA were arrested while attending a meeting at Matshobane Hall. One of the WOZA members was delivering a speech and other members were chanting WOZA slogans when police officers and CIO agents reportedly arrived and demanded to know what the meeting was about. One of the officers was in uniform and the rest were in civilian clothing. WM alleges that the uniformed officer wrote down the names of the women but did not say why. Three police Santana vehicles arrived soon after and 43 women were reportedly bundled into the trucks. EM claims that the two officers demanded to see the leaders of WOZA, PK and MM, and then told them "you are all arrested". EM purports that PK, MM, WM and the rest of the women were all taken to Western Commonage Police Station and then summoned into an office for questioning in groups. The women purport that the officers indiscriminately arrested women, including those women in the vicinity going about their personal business. 13 of those arrested were moved from Western Commonage Police Station to Donnington Police Station while the rest were detained at Bulawayo Central Police Station. WM asserts that she and the others were forced to kneel on the ground, remove their shoes, and then forced to divulge information regarding WOZA newsletters, their identity particulars, residential details, as well as information about their family members and the schools that their children attended.

WM claims that one of the police officers hit her 5 times with a sjambok and that another slapped her on the cheek accusing her of telling lies. They reportedly went on to hurl abusive language at WM, while another officer, Matshazi, hit her with a sjambok, telling her to desist from liaising with older women. LM claims that one of the officers slapped her with open palms on the cheeks. NM alleges that one of the police officers stood on her calves and hit her many times with a sjambok on the soles of her feet, while a second also beat another woman on the soles of her feet. When PM, one of the leaders, was called in for interrogation, she was reportedly told to sit on the floor with her feet stretched out in the front of her, and then hit many times on the soles of her feet. PM

and three others claim that they were each beaten once on the arm with an iron rod and told, 'we will beat you until you menstruate'.

EM asserts that when the beatings continued, she ordered the officers to stop, after which they complied and sent her outside. She alleges that among the assailants she recognised Officer Matshazi who had once arrested her in connection with previous WOZA gatherings. The rest of the women and the 7 babies were released without charge while 4 of the women including MM, EM and SM were detained in police custody overnight and taken to court on 17 June. The 4 women had been charged with contravening s24 of POSA, which requires organisers of a public gathering to give the police "four clear days' written notice" before holding a meeting. However the Prosecutor declined to prosecute.

19 June 2004

- 73 WOZA women who had gathered at the Bulawayo Main Post Office to commemorate the United Nations World Refugee Day were arrested by uniformed police officers and taken to Central Police Station. By noon, the WOZA leadership who had remained out of the reach of the police gathered more women together and marched to hand themselves in at the Bulawayo Central Police Station in solidarity with their colleagues who had been arrested. Whilst marching along Fife Street, the road on which the police station is located, a police Defender truck arrived and uniformed officers alighted from their vehicle and descended upon the women. The WOZA women who were singing a religious song, quickly sat down to avoid assault. Eleven women were allegedly arrested by the police and detained in custody for 3 days and nights at Donnington Police Station. These 11 women were eventually taken to Court on the 4<sup>th</sup> day and were initially to be charged under POSA, however, they were eventually charged under Section 7 of the Miscellaneous Offences Act. The WOZA women were remanded to 13 August 2004 on free bail. The 73 women that had been arrested on the morning of 19 June paid were released later that same day having paid \$25 000 Admission of Guilt fines.

### **Budiriro**

1 June 2004

- AC, an MDC supporter who resides at the home of the ZANU PF chairperson in the area, claims that he was threatened with eviction by ZANU PF supporters after his landlord informed ZANU PF supporters that he supports the MDC. The victim alleges that he is being threatened with destruction of property if he continues living there.

### **Chitungwiza**

25 June 2004

- IM, an MDC activist, was at Njambanja Community Ground when 3 Chitungwiza Town Council employees approached him. IM was allegedly taken to a T35 truck where he was handcuffed and beaten by a group of about 15 ZANU PF youths and 5 National Youth Service youths. IM asserts that he was assaulted with whips, fists and slapped on the cheeks for about 30 minutes. He was reportedly initially driven towards the ZANU PF base but his assailants changed route and took him to the Chitungwiza Municipal Offices where the chief security officer released him.

### **Harare Central**

11 June 2004

- The Media and Information Commission (MIC) cancelled the registration certificate for the African Tribune Newspapers Private Limited (ATN), the publishers of the weekly newspaper, *The Tribune*. The certificate, which was originally issued in late 2002 to the company's predecessor, Media Africa Group, was cancelled for allegedly violating the Access to Information and



Protection of Privacy Act (AIPPA). MIC Executive Chairperson Dr Tafataona Mahoso, said in a statement that the cancellation would be effective for one year in accordance with Section 71 (1) (a) of AIPPA Chapter 10:27. Reasons for the cancellation allegedly include failure by ATN to notify the Media and Information Commission (MIC) of changes in its ownership structure, in terms of Section 67 of AIPPA. The other allegation is that the ATN failed to give due notification in terms of AIPPA to the MIC of the merger between the *Weekend Tribune* and the *Business Tribune* into one paper called the Tribune. The MIC claims that ATN misrepresented important information which misled the MIC. The MIC alleges that ATN employed an unaccredited journalist, Bekithemba Mhlana and in its defence the ATN argued that Mhlana was not a reporter but a consultant employed by UKI Nominees Private Limited.

#### 22 June 2004

- DM claims that she and 9 others were summoned to court on allegations of having assaulted a ZANU PF supporter. DM attended the court proceedings and denied the charges against her. However, 3 of DM's co-accused failed to attend court. Two CIO agents, one of them named Madzivadondo, allegedly followed her to her house later in the evening and ordered her to reveal the whereabouts of the others who had not attended court. DM was reportedly hit on the left eye with a fist by one of the CIO agents and fell to the ground. She claims that the CIO agent also kicked her on the shoulders with booted feet and told her, '*Muchakaura!*' (You will suffer!) before they left. DM alleges that she went to the local Police Station to make a report but failed to do so as the two CIO agents that assaulted her were at the same Police Station.

#### **Hatfield**

#### 5 June 2004

- Mutonhori Chatukuta, Honest Makuva, and Elliot Makuva, all MDC youths, reportedly arrived at Msasa Trading Bar, threatened and then assaulted Detective Inspector Witson Temba, Sergeant Elliot Alexander Kaedza, Ronald Chigwinya, and Memory Dube. Temba reportedly sustained a cut on the head and on the leg while Chigwinya and Dube sustained injuries all over their bodies. The MDC youths are alleged to have shouted obscenities at the police officers and then fled having stolen Z\$1m from traders at Msasa Trading Bar. The trio were subsequently arrested and charged with public violence.
- LG alleges that he was wearing an MDC T-shirt and was on his way home from a pre-rally meeting at Mukandabhutsu Ground in Msasa Park, when he was accosted by 3 ZANU PF youths who demanded to know why he was wearing an MDC T-Shirt. Their identities are unknown to LG. He asserts that he ignored the youths and proceeded home. The 3 allegedly followed him to his house a few minutes later and he ran away. LG fell into a trench and hit his head against the walls as he tried to escape.

#### 6 June 2004

- WM and his colleagues, who were guarding the area designated for an MDC rally at Mukandabhutsu in Msasa Park, assert that two ZANU PF youths approached their female colleague who was dancing along to music and harassed her. WM and his colleagues reportedly intervened and this purportedly resulted in conflict. WM claims that he was hit with a beer bottle on the head and he sustained a cut on the left ear. The assailants are said to have left after WM and his colleagues put up some resistance.
- GG, an MDC supporter, claims that at around 15:30 hours, when he was at Mukandabhutsu Bottle Store in Msasa Park arranging for transport to carry chairs and other equipment which had been used during an MDC rally in Msasa Park that afternoon, a group of about 15 ZANU PF youths wearing white T-Shirts written '*Zimbabwe 24*' and chanting ZANU PF slogans demanded

to know who had given the MDC permission to hold their rally. GG purports that he was beaten with a wooden log and fists on the hand and legs.

- PT, an MDC activist, is said to have been waiting to attend an MDC rally at Mukandabhutsu Ground in Msasa Park in the company of three fellow MDC activists when a group of about 20 ZANU PF youths approached them and demanded to know who they were. PT and his colleagues purport that they fled in different directions while the ZANU PF youths threw stones at them. PT asserts that he was hit with a stone on the left ear and left shoulder. He sought refuge at the Chairman's house in ZIMPHOS Village. The assailants allegedly came looking for him at the Chairman's house but did not find him.
- EM alleges that a group of ZANU PF youths and one plainclothes policeman approached him and punched him in the face with fists and slapped him on the cheeks until he fell down. EM was on his way to look for his brother who had left home the previous day to attend an MDC rally at Mukandabhutsu in Msasa Park, Hatfield Constituency and had not returned. EM claims that the assailants took him to Msasa Police Station, Rhodesville Police Station and then on to Harare Central Police Station. He claims that three other MDC supporters were also detained at Harare Central Police Station when he was transferred there. EM was reportedly detained for 2 days and subsequently charged with stealing a cell phone, a jacket and money. He denies this charge and asserts that the items were stolen on 5 June 2004 when he was at work.

### **Mabvuku**

*1 June 2004*

- PM, an MDC supporter, claims that he was assaulted by ZANU PF supporters on accusations that he attacked a ZANU PF supporter who had dropped his ruling party membership card at an MDC rally in the area previously.

*11 June 2004*

- MG purports that full-gear riot police stormed the venue of the meeting that he was addressing, and demanded to see him on accusations of organising MDC meetings. The police then arrested 4 people. MG asserts that the officers later followed him to his home, threatened his landlord with death and also threatened to 'fix him' if MG continued staying there. He alleges that it has become difficult to live at the house as CIO agents and the police were constantly harassing him. He is currently of no fixed abode.

### **Mbare West**

*29 June 2004*

- NZ claims that at around 16:00 hours as she was on her way to *Irvine's Chickens* to buy some chickens, she was confronted by a group of 8 ZANU PF youths because she was wearing an MDC T-shirt. The youths allegedly accused her of supporting the MDC and then assaulted her with fists, open palms and booted feet all over the body. A certain man who was passing by is said to have pleaded with them to stop assaulting her. The victim then managed to run back home.

## **MANICALAND**

### **Buhera North**

*13 June 2004*

- LZ was reportedly picked up by riot police from a funeral that he was attending in Makubise Village, and accused of being an MDC activist. He claims that he was driven to a bushy area, forced to lie down on his stomach, and then beaten with baton sticks on the buttocks, thighs and calves. The police officers allegedly took him back into the car and drove around with him, looking for other MDC supporters. They reportedly picked up a certain Magaire whom they beat with baton sticks and then left him lying by the side of the road. The policemen are said to have kept the nozzles of their guns on LZ' s rib cage and neck as they walked him to a nearby anthill. He claims that he was ordered to lie on his stomach and threatened with death. LZ purports that he was further assaulted with baton sticks all over his body and that one of officers stamped on his rib cage and left side of the neck with booted feet. LZ claims that he was unconscious for about 7 hours and when he woke up he was at his brother' s residence. He was taken to Murambinda Hospital for treatment. He however purports that 4 nurses pushed him out of the hospital and told him to go and seek treatment from Tony Blair. He later received treatment from a private doctor.

***Chimanimani***

*1 June 2004*

- SS claims that the police came to her home looking for her husband who is the MDC Councillor in that area. SS, who was standing outside at that time, was allegedly handcuffed and beaten by the police while her husband was in the house.

*14 June 2004*

- CIO agents, ZNA officers, ZNLWVA, National Service youths and ZANU PF members are said to have severely assaulted BK and her husband MK, at the MDC Offices in Chimanimani, and threatened them with death. The couple own the building that houses the MDC offices. MK was reportedly kicked with booted feet and stoned, while BK was assaulted with iron bars, rocks and fists. She sustained 3 deep lacerations on the head as well as cuts on the shoulders and on the right hand. MK sustained extensive bruising on the upper body, arms, around the right ear and on the face. BK claims that the assailants left her unconscious thinking that she was dead, and that she was later taken to the hospital by a passer-by. BK asserts that she identified most of the assailants because they usually come for drinks at her bottle store. It is reported that the couple were attacked after BK tried to evict war veterans and ZANU PF youths who had invaded the MDC offices in the town. This is reportedly the second attack on BK by ZANU PF youths, after the youths assaulted her in May 2004 at the MDC offices, and then force-marched her around the town carrying a ZANU PF flag.

***Makoni East/ West***

*1 June 2004*

- PM was reportedly displaced from Makoni by ZANU PF supporters on suspicion that he supports the MDC. He has since relocated.

*28 June 2004*

- SK, an MDC supporter, asserts that he was detained by 2 CIO agents and 3 war veterans for about 5 days at a farm near Rusape on accusations of having been in possession of independent newspapers, 15 MDC T-Shirts and 5 NCA T-Shirts. He claims that the assailants beat him under the feet, shone a bright light in his eyes, and then demanded information to do with the MDC. SK alleges that the assailants demanded to know why he was working for the MDC. He later escaped to the main road at about 09:00 hours with the help of one of the farm workers and he received help at the MDC offices in Makoni. The CIO agents are reportedly still looking for him.

SK's family is said to have been taken in for questioning by the CIO agents regarding his whereabouts. They claim that they are still consistently receiving threats from the state agents.

***Makoni North***

*10 June 2004*

- ST purports that at around 18:30 hours, 3 uniformed police officers, 3 neighbourhood watchmen, and 8 ZANU PF supporters came to his home, demanded to speak to him and then ordered him to follow them. ST obliged and when his wife attempted to follow she was ordered to go back. GD, EM, and one other person were reportedly picked up along the way and forced to walk for about twenty minutes and then ordered to sit on the ground for interrogation. ST asserts that when he tried to answer their questions regarding the MDC, he was told that his answers were not satisfactory and one of the police officers hit him on the back with a baton stick and then slapped him on the right eye. ST asserts that the officers also threatened to shoot him. ST later managed to escape. He believes that he was assaulted because he had in his possession an MDC T-shirt which he received at an MDC rally at Chendambuya Growth Point in May 2004.

**MASHONALAND CENTRAL*****Mount Darwin North***

*22 June 2004*

- CM and one of his colleagues were reportedly picked up by the police while they were planning an MDC meeting at the MDC Chairman's house near Katarira School in Mount Darwin. CM purports that they were forced into the back of a police truck and taken to Mukumbura Police Station where they were detained over night. The following morning they were reportedly taken to Bindura Police Station where they were charged for violating some sections of POSA. They were released on 26 June 2004 having paid Z\$150 000 bail.

**MASHONALAND EAST*****Chikomba***

*27 June 2004*

- MM, an MDC supporter, alleges that some ZANU PF supporters arrived at her home during the night and chased her away. She claims that they trampled all over her bananas which she had obtained for the purposes of vending and then destroyed most of her property.

***Mutoko North***

*7 June 2004*

- At around 23:00 hours about 200 ZANU PF supporters allegedly went to the home of FC, MDC Chairperson for Mutoko North demanding to know about MDC activities and strategies. When the youths knocked forcefully on his door, FC reportedly dressed up quickly and opened the door for them. He claims that he was hit with a knobkerrie on the forehead and he fell down. His hands were purportedly tied behind his back with tree bark strips and then he was dragged to a hall at Nyamuzuwe Township which is used as a ZANU PF base. It is located approximately 3km away from his home. He alleges that he was ordered to lie on his stomach and was beaten with sticks all over the body, kicked with booted feet and hit with fists in the face. He was also reportedly hit with barbed wire until he bled from the ears. He reportedly passed out thrice and cold water was poured over him to revive him. He later spent the night in detention under the guard of three war veterans. He purports that one of the war veterans released him and advised him to escape while

most of the ZANU PF supporters were asleep. FC claims that he went and spent the night in the mountains and that at dawn, the assailants came to his home looking for him. When they did not find him, they reportedly stole his goats and made unspecified threats at his wife. He spent two days at his sister's house and then proceeded to Harare to seek refuge.

*27 June 2004*

- PC claims that ZANU PF supporters took him to their base and then threatened him with death because he supports the MDC. He fled to Harare together with his family after the assailants ordered him to stop associating with the MDC.

## **MASHONALAND WEST**

### ***Zvimba South***

*27 June 2004*

- GM and an MDC colleague claim that as they were passing Kimberly Spar supermarket, they saw a ZANU PF youth harassing an elderly woman because she was wearing a red T-Shirt. GM allegedly approached the youth and rebuked him about his behaviour towards the elderly woman. The ZANU PF youth allegedly took offence and summoned his colleagues who came and assaulted GM on the head and back. GM purports that he fell to the ground and was dragged along the ground and then hit with a brick and fists on the chest and face. GM reportedly lost consciousness for about 15 minutes, and woke up when his assailants had left. He was later taken to a local hospital for treatment by the MDC Councillor for the area. He sustained bruises on both knees and elbows.

### ***Mhondoro***

*27 June 2004*

- CM of Norton purports that ZANU PF supporters attacked him at his home and then beat him on accusations of supporting the MDC. He has since relocated.

## **MIDLANDS**

### ***Gweru Urban***

*June 2004*

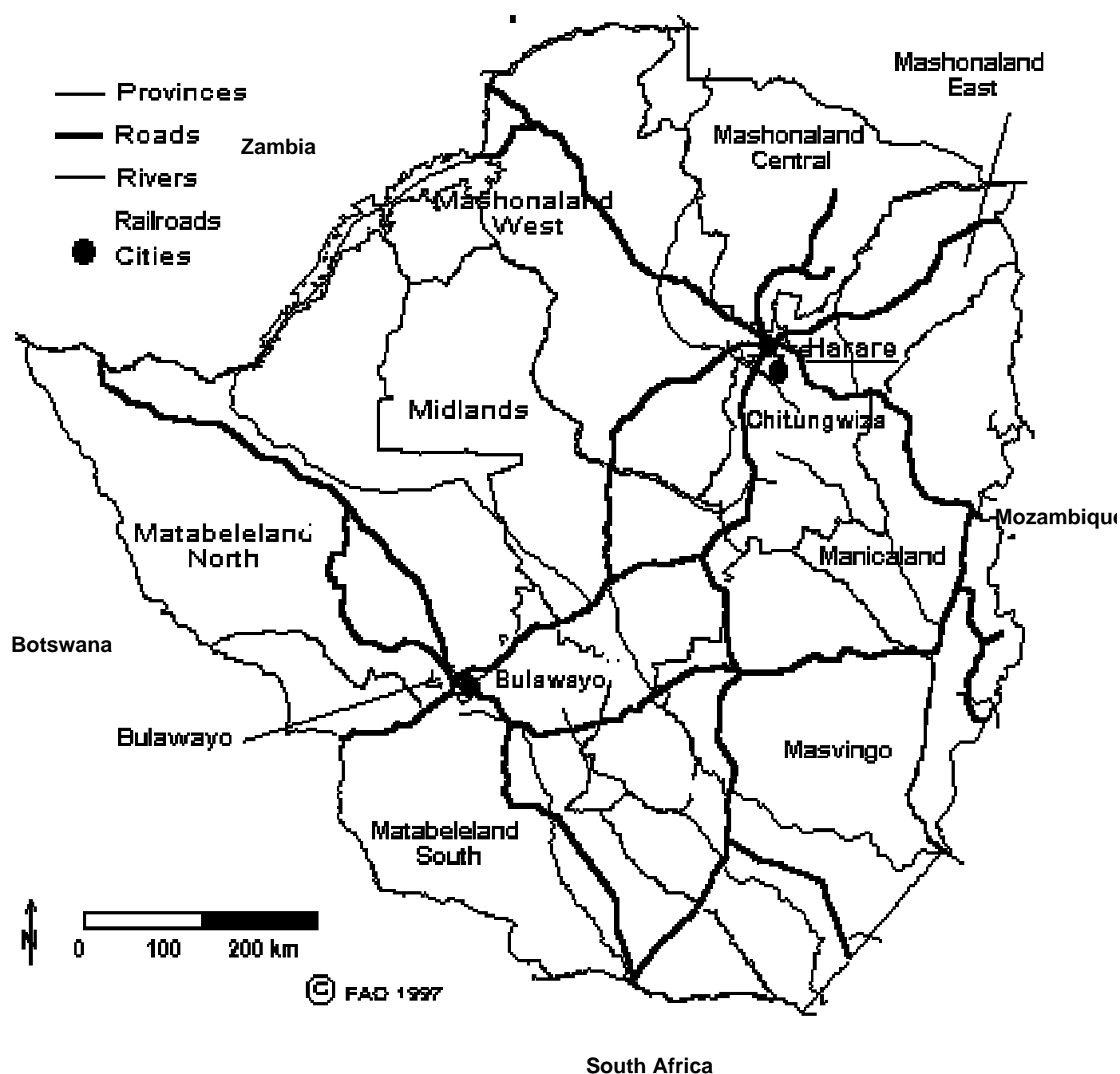
- Sessel Zvidzai, MDC Executive Mayor for Gweru, claims that members of the ZRP accompanied by ZANU PF supporters and ZANU PF Councillors, who contested in the Urban Council Elections held in the year 2003, went to Town House and demanded to see Zvidzai. The group reportedly disrupted council business. It is alleged that the group provided the *Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation's (ZBC) Newsnet* with transport to cover them at Town House chanting ZANU PF slogans, singing *Chimurenga* songs (songs from the war of liberation) and calling on the Ministry of Local Government, Public Works and National Housing to reinstate the old council which was dominated by ZANU PF members. Zvidzai purports that he declined to see the ZANU PF supporters as he was only prepared to see residents who were concerned with addressing the development of the city.

Full alphabetical list of reported deaths related to political violence 1 January to 31 May 2004 recorded indicating name, political affiliation, date of death, constituency and province.

**TOTAL: 3      MDC – 2; UNKNOWN - 1**

SURNAME	FIRST NAME (S)	POLITICAL AFFILIATION	DATE OF DEATH	CONSTITUENCY	PROVINCE
<b>1    CHAMBARARA</b>	<b>SHEMI</b>	UNKNOWN	8 FEBRUARY 2004	CHIMANIMANI	MANICALAND
<b>2    CHIGEGA</b>	<b>ALEXANDER</b>	MDC	4 JANUARY 2004	SHAMVA	MASHONALAND CENTRAL
<b>3    CHINOZVINA</b>	<b>FRANCIS</b>	MDC	28 MARCH 2004	ZENZEZA	HARARE

## ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF ZIMBABWE



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

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

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

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

Member organisations of the Human Rights Forum are:

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

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

The Administrator, P O Box 9077, Harare – email: [admin@hrforum.co.zw](mailto:admin@hrforum.co.zw)

The Public Interest Unit, P O Box 9077, Harare – email: [legal@hrforum.co.zw](mailto:legal@hrforum.co.zw)

The Research Unit, P O Box 9077, Harare – email: [research@hrforum.co.zw](mailto:research@hrforum.co.zw)

Address: 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Bluebridge North, Eastgate, Harare; Telephone: 250511 - Fax: 250494

The International Liaison Office, 33 Islington High Street, London N1 9LH – email: [IntLO@hrforumzim.com](mailto:IntLO@hrforumzim.com)  
Telephone: +44 (0)20-7713.1123

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

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