



A campaign
initiated by
The Africa Fund.

Bill Cosby
Honorary Chairman

Dumisani S. Kumalo
Coordinator

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DETAINED TO DEATH:

HUNDREDS OF DETAINEES IN CRITICAL HEALTH AS HUNGER STRIKE GROWS

Detainees in South Africa have started a hunger strike, now in its third week and growing to include some 300 prisoners. The health of many of these detainees is deteriorating and some are in critical condition and have been taken to hospital. They have embarked on this dramatic course of action to highlight their desperate situation. There are more than 2,000 detainees, many of whom have been held without charge or trial for over two years because of their opposition to apartheid.

Many sectors of the community are showing their solidarity with the detainees by calling for actions ranging from "sit ins" by parents to sympathy fastings by lawyers, trade unions, religious groups and other organizations. There have also been urgent calls for the international community to show its support and solidarity with the detainees.

We cannot sit by and watch as as people are literally DETAINED TO DEATH. Pressure must be brought on the South African Government to end the terrible injustice it is committing against anyone daring to stand up for democracy and the international concept of HUMAN RIGHTS.

- * We urge you to write to or cable the South African Government, and demand that they release all detainees immediatly. Send your demands to:

WRITE: President P.W. Botha
State Presidents Office
Private Bag x213
Pretoria, 0001
South Africa

Mr. Adrian Vlok
Minister of Law and Order
Private Bag X463
Pretoria 0001
South Africa

TELEGRAMS: President Botha
Pretoria, South Africa

Adriaan Vlok, Pretoria
South Africa

TELEX: 011-27-12-321695
or 011-27-12-321890,
or 011-21-12-322158

011-27-12-21353

To send a Western Union telegram call 1-800-257-4900

* Anti-apartheid South Africans have declared March 12 National Detainees Day. Plans are now being laid for demonstrations in honour of Detainees day in South Africa. We urge you to make March 12 a day of protests in the U.S. Demand the release of all detainees and political prisoners. Please spread the word, and let us know your plans. Write us for more information.

The Africa Fund, 198 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10038 (212) 962-1210

Tilden J. LeMelle
Chairman

Jennifer Davis
Executive Director



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Tilden J. LeMelle, Chairman
Jennifer Davis, Executive Director

3 hunger strikers on glucose drips

By Janet Heard

At least three of the eight hunger strikers in hospital are being fed with glucose drips.

The eight men were the first detainees to embark on a hunger strike 18 days ago.

The more than 200, and possibly close to 300 hunger strikers nationwide are demanding they be released or charged.

Mr Marks Modiba, Alexandra Students Congress general secretary, who has been in detention for 18 months, is suffering from pre-renal failure, a very serious kidney

disorder.

Doctors say if his condition worsens, his kidneys could collapse, causing irreparable damage. Mr Krish Naidoo visited Mr Modiba today.

A doctor said today kidney failure was due to a lack of liquids, meaning he was not drinking sufficient water while on hunger strike and had become dehydrated.

The doctor said patients could recover but the disorder must be corrected immediately.

Mr Modiba is being fed by glucose drip.

Another detainees in

hospital, Mr Lucky Matola, was linked to a heart monitoring machine.

Lawyer Mr Krish Naidoo requested hunger strikers Mr Solomon Dlomo and Mr Ignatius Chiloane, be admitted to hospital after he visited them yesterday in Diepkloof Prison.

Lawyers said Mr Joseph Makhalemele, who has been in detention for more than two years, collapsed on Wednesday night. It was unclear whether he had been admitted to hospital.

The eight detainees known to be in hospital

are: Mr Ephraim Nkwe, Mr Lucky Motale, Mr Donovan Cloete, Mr Marks Modiba, Mr Akila Maphaeto, Mr Cecil Maerla, Mr Strike Ramagola, and Mr Lawrence Bayana.

A group of 70 to 80 concerned health workers formed an ad-hoc support committee in Johannesburg last night.

The group, said the fact that the condition of some of hunger strikers had deteriorated so rapidly "might be an indication of the detainees' poor state of nutrition before beginning their fast".

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