

Late Flash

A THIRD member of the Essop family of Johannesburg, Miss Haira Essop (21), was detained by Security Police last night.

She is a sister of Mr Mohammed Essop whose hospitalisation during his detention led to an urgent court application in Pretoria last month. Mr Essop's other sister, Fatima, was arrested early on Saturday, October 23.

Page 12

The Star

To clear the air

MR VORSTER will have a great opportunity at his Press conference on Monday to clear the air about the security system which he believes is being unjustly criticised.

We hope and expect that he will have frank and ready answers to questions such as these:

● Why are detainees being held under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act (which was designed for use in the bush and admits no judicial supervision) instead of the ministerially extolled 1966 General Law Amendment Act which requires detention to be supervised by a judge?

● What are the objections to allowing detainees to be seen regularly by a judge, as advocated in, inter alia, the Vaderland?

● Why are South African detainees deprived of facilities (such as visits) which are allowed to detained foreigners?

● If the police knew, as they say, that communists are liable to suicide and believed Timol to be a communist agent, why did they take no precautions against his leaping out of a window?

● What, precisely, have newspapers said to make him — Mr Vorster — think that their general defence of the rule of law can legitimately be construed as a defence of terrorism; and precisely which newspapers have said it?