

Letters in Timol car told of codes

Window he went through

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Staff Reporter

DECODED letters allegedly sent by the South African Communist Party headquarters in London to Mr. Ahmed Timol, and handed in as exhibits at the inquest on him in Johannesburg this week give details of "unit" or cell structure and security precautions of the party.

They were said to have been found in the boot of a car driven by Mr. Timol on the night of his arrest, October 22 last year, and were written on the backs of what appeared to be ordinary letters, each of which began "Dear Ahmed," and ended "Regards to all, Stephanie."

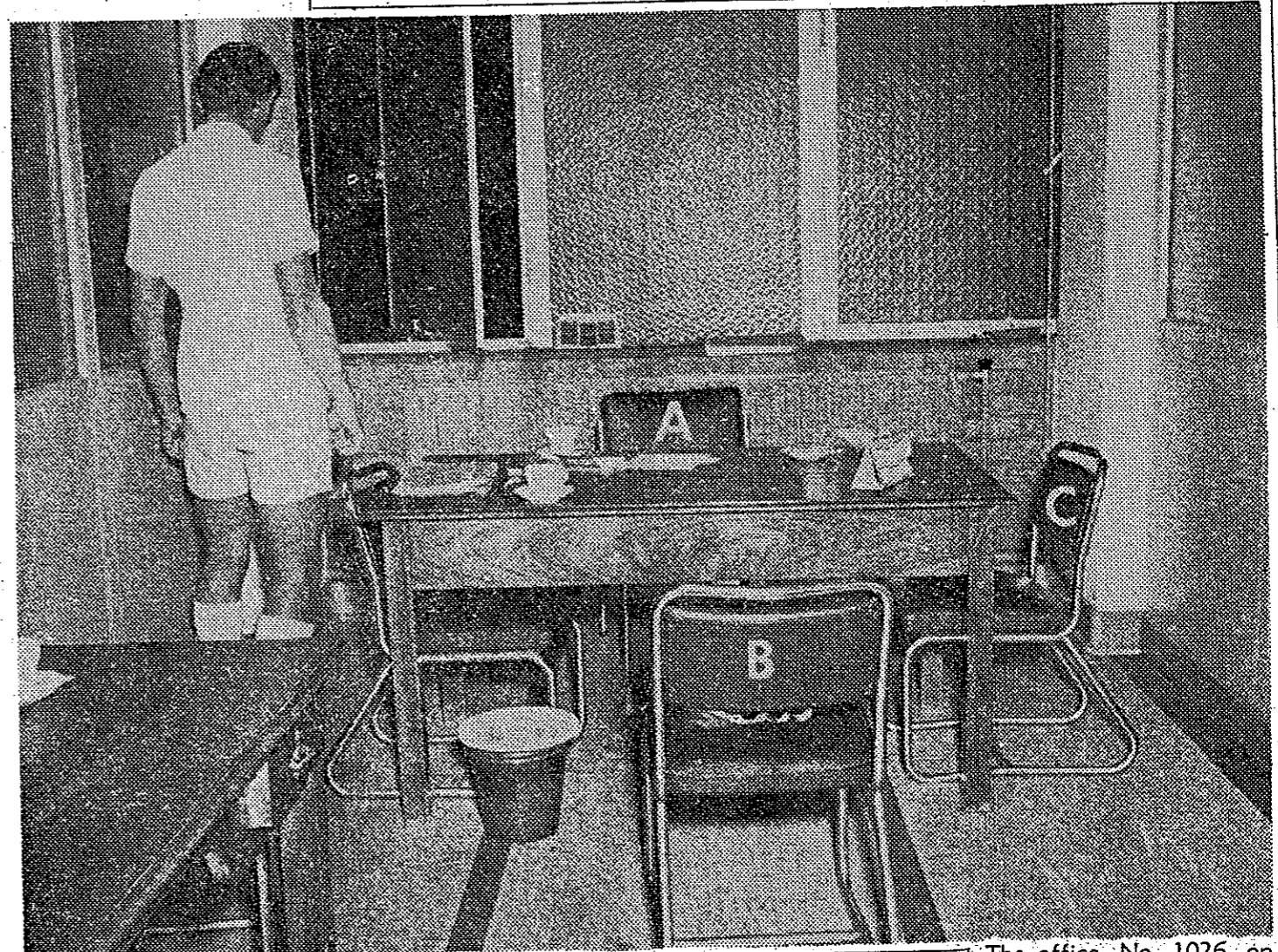
Lt.-Col. W. P. van Wyk of the Security Police identified "Stephanie" as Mrs. Rica Hodgson.

The letters allegedly identify Mr. Timol as a "main contact" or head of a three-man "main unit" and responsible for organisation of two three-man "sub-units."

The letters relate to instructions on:

- Establishment of the "main unit" and "sub-unit" structure;
- Code methods in letter exchanges including three methods for writing invisibly and methods for the "developing" letters;
- Recruitment of party members;
- A highly detailed code system for communication between "main units" and a similar code system for "sub-units"; and
- The use of photographic equipment for forging and counterfeiting documents and papers.

● Timol talked of training — Page 3.



The office, No. 1026, on the 10th floor of John Vorster Square and the window from which Mr. Ahmed Timol fell.

Minutes before the incident, according to the evidence, he was sitting at the table in chair B with Captain J. Z. van Niekerk in chair C and Captain J. H. Gloy in chair A.

When Mr. Timol rose from his chair, Sergeant Rodrigues was sitting in chair A.

Extensive examination of Security Police witnesses marked yesterday's hearing of the Timol inquest.

● Full report — Pages 10, 11.