

Detentions now top 800 mark

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Detentions in the massive Security Police crackdown after recent township unrest rose above the 800 mark

yesterday with the arrest of three more people in Johannesburg. Detained yesterday

were: Mr Mohammed Timol, chairman of the Human Rights Council, Mr Barney Ngakane, director of university and technical bursaries of the South African Council of Churches, and Mr Ismail Kola, a student at the University of the Witwatersrand.

About two weeks ago, two of Mr Barney Ngakane's children who are in exile were refused permission to enter South Africa to attend their mother's funeral.

The Deputy Commissioner of Prisons, Major General J P Roux, refused to comment on reports that many of the Black leaders held under the preventive detention clause of the Internal Security Act have been transferred to Modder B prison in Benoni.

"It is departmental policy not to disclose where any prisoner is held," he said.

But he confirmed that the preventive detainees — who include Mrs Winnie Mandela and Mrs Fatima Meer — had been accorded the same status as awaiting trial prisoners.

This means they may receive food from outside and have access to literature in addition to other privileges.

"The Star" Timol's brother detained

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Mr Mohammed Timol, chairman of the Human Rights Council and brother of Awmed Timol, who plunged to death at Vorster Square while under questioning in 1971, was detained in Johannesburg today.

He was taken from his job at a jewellery firm by two White security policemen. Mr W Mewstadt, managing director of the firm, said he understood Mr Timol had been taken for "interrogation."

According to another source, Mr Timol telephoned his family to say he was being taken to Modder B prison in Benoni, where many Black leaders detained under the preventive detention clause of the Internal Security Act are being held.

Senior Security Police officers were not available for comment.