

Suzman to Govt: talk on detainees

MRS HELEN SUZMAN, MP, today said it was "high time" the authorities released information on the wave of Security Police detentions, which began on October 2.

Referring to the assurance by the Commissioner of Police on October 25 that detainees would be brought to court "in the near future," Mrs Suzman said: "Three weeks is a long time. It's high time some positive results of the investigation were made known."

Since the arrests began 26 days ago, only one detainee, Mr David Davis, a Durban student, has appeared in court.

At least 20 people were still in detention today, three of them foreigners. Five other detainees have been released.

LATEST

The latest was that of Mr Ian Hill (22), a fourth-year medical student at Wits University, last Friday evening.

Mr Hill is the fourth Wits student to be held in recent weeks. Another recent detainee, Mr Kantihal Naik a Rodepoort teacher, is a part-time BEd student.

Today the principal of the university, Dr G. R. Bozzoli, said arrangements would be made for the detained students to write their examinations on their release.

Mr Joergen Wagner, the German photographer who was released after seven days' Security Police detention last

week, intended to approach the German Embassy today after a further five hours of interrogation yesterday.

RELEASED

He was arrested about two weeks ago with two Britons and an Australian whose photographic studio he began to share a few days earlier. Seven days later he was released after paying an admission-of-guilt fine for posses-

sion of dagga.

The Britons and the Australian are still in detention.

The question of detention without trial was expected to come up for discussion at the monthly meeting of the council of the Incorporated Law Society of the Transvaal in Pretoria today.

The society's president, Mr J. E. Knoll, could not say whether the council would issue a statement.

HELD STUDENTS: WITS PROTESTS

THE vice chancellor and principal of the University of the Witwatersrand, Dr G. R. Bozzoli, today protested strongly against the recent wave of detentions by Security Police, in which three Wits students were arrested.

In a joint statement with the executive of the university's Academic Staff Association, the detentions are described as "calculated to intimidate the general public and thus encroach upon their freedom."

Dr Bozzoli disclosed today that he had made representations to the authorities after the arrests.

He would not elaborate, but in the statement he complains of "the continued determination of the authorities to withhold all information about the detainees, despite my request to be kept informed about the position of young persons to whom the university owes responsibility."

He adds: "I most earnestly urge that to the fullest extent appropriate, all aspects of the matter be brought out into the open at the earliest possible moment."

INCOMMUNICADO

A statement by the executive of the Academic Staff Association, endorsed by Dr Bozzoli, reads:

"We are deeply disturbed that three students of the university, Miss Yanus Patel, Miss Dishad Jetham and Mr Mohammed Essop, should have been arrested in terms of laws which enable the Security Police to hold them incommunicado.

"This concern has been reinforced by the admission of Mr Essop to the H. F. Verwoerd

Another student detained

MR IAN HILL (22) a fourth-year medical student at Wits University, was detained under the Terrorism Act by Security Police last Friday evening, it was learnt today.

He is the fourth Wits student to be arrested in recent weeks.

A class mate of Mr Hill, Mr Julian Judelman, said he had been to see the detained student's mother, who said she had arrived home from work at 6.30 pm last Friday to find Security Police searching their home. Her son was with them.

They were told by the men to carry on with their dinner while the policemen searched. At about 8 pm they left, taking Ian with them. Nothing has been heard from them since.

Students said Mr Hill had not been involved in politics in any way. This year he was in charge of distribution for Wits Wits, the student rag magazine.

Hospital, Pretoria, and by his subsequent transfer to a prison hospital. The committee cannot fail to view this in association with the death of another detainee."

Whatever the aims of the

detention they "cannot justify methods that jeopardise the lives of some students and severely disturb all students at a time when examinations already place them under considerable strain."