

Timol 'talked to police of Red training'

STAFF REPORTER

STATEMENTS allegedly written by Mr. Ahmed Timol in the three days before his death on October 27 and handed in as exhibits at his inquest, gave details about training in sending codes and how he was taught to make bucket-leaflet bombs by a leader of the South African Communist Party in London.

The statements, allegedly given to the police while he was in detention, also contained one page titled "How the Communist Party Operates."

In a hand-written statement by Mr. Timol, dated Sunday, October 24, he said: "I was made the leader of the Main Unit which I was to start off, this was under instructions from headquarters in London in February, 1970.

"My training was started in January, 1970 at Jack Hodgson's residence. I was taken there by Stephanie. He taught me the following aspects:

- "Secret writing and code. The method to be used was shown to me.

- "How to 'set off' leaflets by timing devices.

- "Lessons in theoretical training were given by Stephanie. I attended two lessons a week for a period of a month."

Mr. Timol wrote about his training in coding in the following words:

"A prepared book was given to me which was treated by chemicals on a certain page, either pages ending with the numbers 5 or 6."

'CLEAN'

"I had to place a clean sheet of paper on top of this page and another sheet which will take on the chemically-prepared page." He said behind the secret paper an innocent letter was written. "The letter is then posted to Stephanie, who then hands it over to Jack Hodgson."

Mr. Timol then gave details of the making of a timing device and a bucket leaflet bomb. This section of the statement by Mr. Timol, also handed "Formula for Gunpowder."

The statement includes details of the use of torch batteries with wires soldered to them, the use of a Smith-clock and fuse wire. Details were given of the manner in which a bucket is packed with gunpowder at its base with leaflets and the timing device packed above it. Two diagrams of a bucket-leaflet bomb were given.

A further eight-page statement by Mr. Timol also handed in by the State, dealt with the operation of the Communist Party and Mr. Timol's association with certain people whom the police detained last year.

In a diagram headed "Headquarters Situated in London," four arrows point out from names: Joe Slovo, Jack Hodgson, Jusuf Dadoo and Stephanie Kemp.

From the name Hodgson a further arrow pointed to the title, "Main Unit of Three Members," with the name Ahmed Timol situated above two arrows pointing to the names Saleem Essop and Indres Moodley.

Under the name Essop was written, "Assisted me with the posting of the first batch of pamphlets posted August, 1971. With Saleem, I only had Marx-

ist political discussion. He was not aware of the pamphlet in the car when we were arrested on 22-10-1971."

Under the name Moodley was written: "No meetings of Main Unit held. I held about four discussions with him between August and December. I met him in January, 1971, when I gave him one Marxist book. In April I wrote a letter to him and since then no reply or communication took place."

Writing on the Communist Party, Mr. Timol said: "According to my knowledge there is close co-operation between the Communist Party of South Africa and the African National Congress. Every South African who goes abroad is a potential recruit to the ranks of the African National Congress and the Communist Party, irrespective of his race and colour."

"I joined the party because of my stay in London at my relative's place, Mr. Essop Parhad, and by 1969 I had developed a firm friendship with Stephanie Kemp, who was a member of the central committee of the Communist Party of South Africa."

Mr. Timol wrote that ANC pamphlets distributed in South Africa were printed in England. Distribution was also made from a studio in London. He said he had attended two meetings of the ANC Youth Branch in 1968.

"I was given the sum of R500 by Jack Hodgson prior to my departure for South Africa. I was to use the money for the purchase of printing machinery and stationery for distribution purposes."

"I, however, did not buy any printing machinery, but used the school's duplicating machine for the cyclo-styling of 'Inkululeku'. The draft copy of the newsletter was sent to me by post and I thereafter had to print the necessary stencils — the size of the stencil was to be of a uniform nature."

Mr. Timol wrote that the stencils were typed by him on his own Underwood portable typewriter, with a red colour which had been taken into possession by the police.

● Counsel probes claim —
Pages 10 and 11.