

# CID CHIEF —TIMOL'S LAST MOMENTS

STAFF REPORTER

**CHURCHES and churchmen yesterday took up the challenge of the treatment of detainees as a senior policeman revealed more information about the death of the young Moslem, Mr. Ahmed Timol, who is said to have plunged from a 10th storey window at John Vorster Square.**

About 1 200 people met at an open-air prayer meeting on a field adjoining Vrededorp and sang "We Shall Overcome".

**Mr. Ian Thompson, a philosophy lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, brought them a message of sympathy and solidarity from 400 people at a "justice and peace" meeting.**

At a High Mass service at St. Mary's Anglican Cathedral yesterday, Father R. F. Yates told his congregation: "Why did Ahmed jump? What hell did he anticipate? What did he see?"

On the secular front, demands for a public commission of inquiry into the treatment of detainees grew in the face of Mr Vorster's rejection of the call on Friday.

A Bryanston housewife has started a telegram-chain that may result in hundreds of telegrams pouring into United Party offices in Johannesburg from tomorrow. The Young Progressives and the University of the Witwatersrand Academic Freedom Committee are to send telegrams to Mr. Vorster urging that Parliament be recalled to debate the recent security raids and the death in detention of Mr. Timol.

Rapport also quotes the acting head of the Security Police, Brigadier Piet Kruger. He is reported as saying that the Security Police have nothing to hide from the public on the circumstances of Mr. Timol's death and that, for understandable reasons, there was information which could not be made known for the sake of the country's safety, but it would not take long before everything was revealed at the inquest.

"There is no question that the Security Police used force to get information from Ahmed Timol. The things with which we have been accused, we don't do," said Brigadier Kruger.

"Ahmed Timol was sitting calmly on a chair. There were security men with him. At one stage two of them went out of the room. Then Timol suddenly jumped up and aimed for the door."

"A security man ran to the door to stop him. But the Indian then dashed for the window and jumped out. Nobody frightened him or touched him. The post-mortem will show that."

Gen. Buys said he personally was handling investigations into the case, which would be concluded this week.

## CID chief describes Timol's death

● FROM PAGE 1

tests continued to swell, there was still no news from the Security Police of Mr. Mohammed Essop, the detainee who became ill while in detention and who was the subject of an urgent court action on Friday, in which the judge urged that a private doctor be allowed to see him.

His father had not seen him, and did not know where he was being kept. The police refused to allow a private doctor to see him.

No further information has been released on the number of detainees nor of the nature of the charges being investigated. Mr. Vorster has warned there are likely to be further arrests.

But the police did provide further information about the death of Mr. Timol — to a Nationalist Sunday newspaper. Yesterday, Major-General C. A. Buys, Chief of the C.I.D. and in charge of the investigation into Mr. Timol's death, confirmed that he had been correctly reported in Rapport.

In the report General Buys described the events which led up to Mr. Timol's death.

"In the office of the 10th floor there was the most relaxed atmosphere one can imagine in such circumstances.

"There are no bars on the windows of John Vorster Square's security offices on the 10th floor, because no burglars could get in on the 10th floor.

"We don't threaten anyone or assault anyone, and therefore we accept that no one would want to flee from 10th floor. This was a normal investigation. Bars were not necessary."

"But today we realise that Ahmed Timol is a hero of the communists. We who know the communists know that when they want to go over to violence they have their people swear an oath to commit suicide rather than name their comrades. They are taught to jump out before they are interrogated."

Brigadier Kruger could not be contacted yesterday.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town, Owen Cardinal McCann, in calling for a public inquiry into Mr. Timol's death, has announced a night of vigil prayer in St. Mary's Cathedral, Cape Town, today commencing at 5.45 pm, concluding with Mass at 6 am tomorrow.

The Christian Institute has called on all South Africans to observe a day of prayer, penitence and denial this week. And a special call has been made to the people of Pretoria to observe a day of prayer and penitence between 6 pm today and 6 pm tomorrow.

The call was made after a meeting in Pretoria at the weekend by representatives of the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches.

## 'Why did Ahmed jump?'

Staff Reporter

WHAT hell did Ahmed Timol anticipate before he jumped to his death from the 10th storey of John Vorster Square?

This is what hundreds of St. Mary's Cathedral, Johannesburg, parishioners were asked from the pulpit yesterday by Father R. F. Yates, who was delivering the sermon at High Mass.

"Why did Ahmed jump?" he asked. "What hell did he anticipate? What did he see?"

Father Yates said it was clear there was something to hide.

"Who is the next of our friends to be taken at four in the morning? And carried out later feet first?"

"We have heard from Parliament that a Mr. X died—no name—no date of death—no cause."

"This is terrifying," he said. "We feel that we are without human feelings, love, justice or mercy."

**CHURCHES and churchmen yesterday took up the challenge of the treatment of detainees as a senior policeman revealed more information about the death of the young Moslem, Mr. Ahmed Timol, who is said to have plunged from a 10th storey window at John Vorster Square.**

About 1 200 people met at an open-air prayer meeting on a field adjoining Vrededorp and sang "We Shall Overcome".

Mr. Ian Thompson, a philosophy lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, brought them a message of sympathy and solidarity from 400 people at a "justice and peace" meeting.

At a High Mass service at St. Mary's Anglican Cathedral yesterday, Father R. F. Yates told his congregation: "Why did Ahmed jump? What hell did he anticipate? What did he see?"

On the secular front, demands for a public commission of inquiry into the treatment of detainees grew in the face of Mr Vorster's rejection of the call on Friday.

A Bryanston housewife has started a telegram-chain that may result in hundreds of telegrams pouring into United Party offices in Johannesburg from tomorrow. The Young Progressives and the University of the Witwatersrand Academic Freedom Committee are to send telegrams to Mr. Vorster urging that Parliament be recalled to debate the recent security raids and the death in detention of Mr. Timol.

Rapport also quotes the acting head of the Security Police, Brigadier Piet Kruger. He is reported as saying that the Security Police have nothing to hide from the public on the circumstances of Mr. Timol's death and that, for understandable reasons, there was information which could not be made known for the sake of the country's safety, but it would not take long before everything was revealed at the inquest.

"There is no question that the Security Police used force to get information from Ahmed Timol. The things with which we have been accused, we don't do," said Brigadier Kruger.

"Ahmed Timol was sitting calmly on a chair. There were security men with him. At one stage two of them went out of the room. Then Timol suddenly jumped up and aimed for the door."

"A security man ran to the door to stop him. But the Indian then dashed for the window and jumped out. Nobody frightened him or touched him. The post-mortem will show that."

Gen. Buys said he personally was handling investigations into the case, which would be concluded this week.

## Protest

He refused to elaborate any further. "You've come too late," he said. "Why didn't you approach me first, instead of going off at a tangent and blackening everybody. You've done your damndest, and all ready thrown all the dirt."

"Only senior officers handle such matters. They are not children, and stay within their rights and instructions."

The Nationalist-supporting newspaper, Rapport yesterday published a leading article which was sharply critical of Security Police methods. Late last night, as the pro-

## 'Why did Ahmed jump?'

Staff Reporter

WHAT hell did Ahmed Timol anticipate before he jumped to his death from the 10th storey of John Vorster Square?

This is what hundreds of St. Mary's Cathedral Johannesburg, parishioners were asked from the pulpit yesterday by Father R. F. Yates, who was delivering the sermon at High Mass.

"Why did Ahmed jump?" he asked. "What hell did he anticipate? What did he see?"

Father Yates said it was clear there was something to hide.

"Who is the next of our friends to be taken at four in the morning? And carried out later feet first?"

"We have heard from Parliament that a Mr. X died—no name—no date of death—no cause."

"This is terrifying," he said. "We feel that we are without human feelings, love, justice or mercy."

NO further information has been released on the number of detainees nor of the nature of the charges being investigated. Mr. Vorster has warned there are likely to be further arrests.

But the police did provide further information about the death of Mr. Timol — to a Nationalist Sunday newspaper. Yesterday, Major-General C. A. Buys, Chief of the C.I.D. and in charge of the investigation into Mr. Timol's death, confirmed that he had been correctly reported in Rapport.

In the report General Buys described the events which led up to Mr. Timol's death.

"In the office of the 10th floor there was the most relaxed atmosphere one can imagine in such circumstances."

"There are no bars on the windows of John Vorster Square's security offices on the 10th floor, because no burglars could get in on the 10th floor."

"We don't threaten anyone or assault anyone, and therefore we accept that no one would want to flee from 10th floor. This was a normal investigation. Bars were not necessary."

"But today we realise that Ahmed Timol is a hero of the communists. We who know the communists know that when they want to go over to violence they have their people swear an oath to commit suicide rather than name their comrades. They are taught to jump out before they are interrogated."

Brigadier Kruger could not be contacted yesterday.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town, Owen Cardinal McCann, in calling for a public inquiry into Mr. Timol's death, has announced a night of vigil prayer in St. Mary's Cathedral, Cape Town, today commencing at 5.45 pm, concluding with Mass at 6 am tomorrow.

The Christian Institute has called on all South Africans to observe a day of prayer, penitence and denial this week.

And a special call has been made to the people of Pretoria to observe a day of prayer and penitence between 6 pm today and 6 pm tomorrow.

The call was made after a meeting in Pretoria at the weekend by representatives of the Anglican, Roman Catholic, Presbyterian and Methodist Churches.