

Nicolaas Johannes Deetlefs

I am the husband of Sylvia Deetlefs. We are both pensioners. Accordingly I declare as follows in Afrikaans.

1. Lt. Woensdregt and Lt. Whitehead and I were part of a group to interrogate a detainee Dr Neil Aggett, I think our interrogation started at 18h00
2. Not long before our interrogation session began, Lt. Whitehead and Lt. Woensdregt came to me, and Lt Whitehead said to me that he had to attend an office function that evening and made apology that he would not attend the interrogation session. Lt Woensdregt also mentioned that he would not attend the interrogation session but I cannot remember the reason for his absence.
3. I began Neil Aggett's interrogation. I was not at all aware of what was his alleged involvement, but I knew that it was in connection with trade union matters.
4. I treated Aggett with all necessary respect and called him doctor. As I was ignorant of all trade union business, I permitted him to tell me of his involvement and his activities. I can remember very little of what he said, otherwise I would have questioned him about it, what I cannot remember is that I cannot remember any specific issue. There were a few outstanding issues which I can remember today. After he had told me the long version, he suddenly stood up and said that he respected me. He then asked if I would give him a pen and paper and that he would then give his whole version in a declaration format in writing. I agreed and gave him what he asked for.
5. He began to write and the writing of his declaration took a reasonably long time. He would stop writing periodically and stop writing before continuing.
6. At a point while he was writing his statement, he stopped and asked me if he could mention my name in his declaration because he respected me and wanted to mention that. I told him it was not important to me, and he should go ahead without mentioning me which he proceeded to do.
7. While writing his declaration he said to me that he was going to tell me a great secret and that it was as follows, namely: that one Jan Theron who lived in the Cape, was SACTU's underground leader, in South Africa. He added that he was his good friend, or one of his best friends and that he did not know how he would continue to live as he had betrayed Theron. I told him he should just tell the truth, otherwise he would be wasting the time of both of us. As my knowledge of trade

union issues was minimal, he would name any name and I would not know it, it was the truth. It was the first time I had heard the name Jan Theron in connection with trade union matters of SACU, and I always remembered the name.

8. Further I can say with honesty I cannot remember anything else he told me. I believe I read his completed statement but unfortunately I cannot remember what was written therein. If a crime was mentioned therein, I would certainly have remembered it.
9. After the interrogation session of Aggett, on the first occasion when I saw Whitehead again, I handed over Aggett's statement to him. This interrogation session that I had with Aggett, was the first and last time I ever saw him.
10. After Aggett committed suicide, I understood he hung himself with a table cloth in his cell, it was presumably a table cloth which family or friends had given him during his detention over Christmas.