

ANNEX C3

SB Officers – Denials and Admissions: torture, assault, SB culture and cover-ups

	Name	Excerpt	Reference
Denied ever involved in any assault	Woensdrecht	Never abused any detainees while stationed at JVS	Woensdrecht testimony second inquest record pp 861-862
	Venter	Never physically assaulted any detainee	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1273
Admitted assaulting detainees	Deetlefs	Deetlefs admitted to assaulting Barbara Hogan on 22 October 1981 and threatening her with electric shots. He admitted to abusing other detainees.	2020 consolidated transcripts page 2688
Denied serious assault – only did minor assault like slaps etc	Swanepoel	His methods included: (1) threatening detainees with imprisonment; (2) making detainees stand for lengthy periods, (3) enforced exercises and (4) raising his voice. Claimed that he never seriously assaulted a detainee. When asked what a serious assault was, he said this is when assault	Oral testimony of DE Swanepoel, page 37, line 15, 2021 consolidated transcripts page 1755 Testimony of Swanepoel, page 104, lines 8 to 18, 2021 consolidated transcripts page 1822

	Name	Excerpt	Reference
		goes over to a level of violence resulting in injury	
	Deetlefs	Deetlefs admitted under cross examination that early in his career he used force and conceded that he might have 'klapped' detainees on the face, but not the ears.	2020 consolidated transcripts page 2575
Denied being present when other SB officers were assaulting a detainee	Venter	Venter claimed, most improbably, that assaults did not take place at JVS in his presence	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1381
Denied witnessing assault or hearing detainee cries on the 10th floor	Woensdrecht	Never witnessed any assault or abuse on the 10 th floor during his career with the SB at JVS.	Woensdrecht testimony second inquest record pp 828
	Venter	Never heard a detainee crying out in pain on the 10 th floor.	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1382
Confessed hearing detainees cry on the 10th floor	Deetlefs	He confirmed he heard detainees crying out in pain.	2020 consolidated transcript bundle page 2492
Denied ever hearing detainees being sleep deprived	Visser	No knowledge of SB employing sleep deprivation on detainees. Agreed that sleep deprivation and	Visser testimony second inquest record p 1215

	Name	Excerpt	Reference
		<p>electric shocks were torture but, claimed no knowledge of that occurring while he was a police officer</p> <p>Visser claimed not to know that Aggett had been deprived of sleep for approximately 50 hours prior to the start of his session of interrogation.</p>	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1225 - 1228
Denied SB culture of covering up and standing together	Woensdrecht	Denied the culture in SB of protecting each other	Woensdrecht testimony second inquest record pp 831-832
	Visser	Claimed not to know that Security Branch officers, including the most senior officers, routinely perjured themselves before courts.	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1222 to 1223.
	Chauke	Denied that he was protecting Van Schalkwyk or that he was told by Cronwright what the content of his statement should be.	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1711 line 10

	Name	Excerpt	Reference
Confessed covering up torture	Deetlefs	Deetlefs admitted to this	2020 consolidated transcript bundle page 79. Oral testimony of NJ Deetlefs on 18 February 2020, page 137, lines 7 and 2020 24, consolidated transcripts page 2692
Heard of torture being carried out by other SB officers, but never did it themselves	Swanepoel	Aware of some officers who used electric shocks, but never in his presence Aware of other abusive techniques such as sleep deprivation, assuming difficult body positions and holding heavy objects above the head.	Oral testimony of DE Swanepoel, page 57, line 1, 2021 consolidated transcripts page 1775 Swanepoel testimony second inquest record p 2080
Heard of torture being carried out by other SB members but did not know who they were	Deetlefs	He could not say which SB officers used electric shock treatment. There were so many offices on the 10 th floor so he could not tell precisely who was doing the torture	2020 consolidated transcript bundle page 2541 2020 consolidated transcript bundle pages 2493 and 2494
Believe that no torture was ever carried out by the	Deetlefs	Deetlefs at first claimed never to have seen or witnessed electric shocks being administered to	2020, consolidated transcript bundle page 2541 – 2542, and 2543.

	Name	Excerpt	Reference
SB and have no knowledge of such instances		detainees. He also claimed that he did not know who was involved in torturing detainees with electric shocks	
	Chauke	No knowledge of assault and torture inflicted on detainees at JVS	2021 consolidated transcripts page 1692 line 16
	Woensdrecht	Never heads of detainees being abused	Woensdrecht testimony second inquest record pp 861-862
	Swanepoel	<p>Not aware of any assaults taking place on the 10th floor of JVS.</p> <p>Only aware of insults, tearing of statements, slaps on the back of the head, forced exercises such as squatting and deprivation of sleep.</p>	<p>Oral testimony of DE Swanepoel, page 56, line 9, 2021 consolidated transcripts page 1774</p> <p>Oral testimony of DE Swanepoel, page 56, line 13, 2021 consolidated transcripts page 1774</p>