

SACBC ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD STATEMENT

ON

32 PERSONS AWAITING EXECUTION (24/8/87)

Over 32 persons awaiting execution were found guilty of certain acts of violence, that included two episodes of 'necklacing' and one bombing that caused three fatalities. Among the deaths attributed to the 32 are those of three community councillors, three alleged informers and two policemen. The courts found them guilty of murder and they are to be executed in terms of South African criminal law.

The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference has said the state must calculate how much it contributes to further inflaming political passions by going ahead with the executions and earnestly recommended commutation of the death sentences.

The bishops also noted how necessary it is for all to take up the issue of capital punishment.