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He denounced the illegal registration of 227 voters in Mandlakazi

Young brigade member arrested on orders of STAE District Director

Brigade member Dercilio Nhantembo was picked up on Wednesday morning (7 June) by two police agents, who were transported in a white Toyota four wheel drive vehicle, driven by the owner himself, Jonas Mathe, the Manjacaze STAE district director. This is a vehicle with a South African number plate.

Dercilio Nhantembo, who was a data input operator, was taken to the Mandlakazi district police command, supposedly to be questioned for having registered a voter (himself) twice.

He remained at the district command all morning and afternoon, and was only released shortly after 16.00. He was kept at the command because he was under pressure, and the STAE director made dropping the case against him conditional on Nhantembo withdrawing the complaint he had made against Mathe. But the complaint against the STAE district director was not submitted by the brigade member but by the Renamo election agent.

Jonas Mathe had made a complaint to the police accused the brigade member of organising the dual registration of a voter. But, as the “CIP Eleicoes” Bulletin has found, what he did was not an electoral crime, but a normal procedure for brigade members.

Dercilio registered in Madendere where he works, but then transferred his registration to Manjacaze, where he lives. The sources of the “CIP Eleicoes” Bulletin say that the STAE director knew about the process and it was up to him to eliminate the first registration to validate the second. But, for purposes of eventual revenge, Jonas Mathe wanted to use this trick to incarcerate the youth or oblige him to negotiate the withdrawal of the case that Renamo had begun against him.

Indeed, sources in the district STAE told our Bulletin that the main intention of the district director was indeed to have Dercilio jailed, but this intention was not supported by the STAE provincial director, who advised him to withdraw the complaint, since there was not enough evidence of an electoral offence.

Unhappy at this advice, Jonas Mathe decided, as a way to put psychological pressure on Dercilio, to take two police agents from the district command in his car to go and detain the youth, and take him to the Mandlakazi district command, and not to the Madendere police post, located a few metres from the registration post where Dercilio was working.

The young man was released at around 16.00. The STAE district director was instructed to return him to Madendere.

Dercilio is now living in a state of insecurity, and feels under great pressure from the district STAE and from Frelimo, because of the denunciation he made against the ruling party.

The story began on 29 May, when Dercilio Nhantumbo denounced the adulteration of the number of voters registered during the night. To put the adulteration of the data into practice, the STAE district director ordered Dercilio to go to the district STAE office in Mandlakazi town to deliver the weekly report to the head of electoral operations, known as chief Siteo. But when he returned to his post the following day, he found that the computer he uses had an extra 200 voters more than he had registered ([for more details, see Bulletin 91](#)).

Many registration posts are not displaying the voter rolls (registration books) in the centre and north

Zambézia, Nampula and Niassa are the worst affected provinces. In Nampula and Zambézia there are registration posts with voters who still do not have their voter cards. Strangely, Sofala has many more posts with the voter rolls displayed than one might have expected. In the South, particularly in Gaza and Inhambane, all the posts have put their registration books on display.

In Niassa, in Mandimba, of the three posts visited, only that at the Filipe Samuel Magaia Basic School was open. The STAE district director had sent home the supervisors at the Chanica registration post, telling them to return at 15,00 to receive instructions, At the Ngame EPC, the printer had broken down.

In Cuamba, only the registration post at the Josina Machel Basic School is functioning. The other two did not display the registration books, allegedly because the printers were out of order.

In Malema municipality, in Nampula, there are still voters who have not received their voter cards and in all the voter registration posts, the registration books have not yet been displayed. There are still posts that have not even printed the registration books, The supervisors at these posts say they have no authorisation to display the books.

From the survey made by our correspondents of some posts in Ribauè district, namely at Quithele, Ribauè town, Namiconha, Ratane and Chica, it was found that the books had not been displayed. However, at the Ribauè and Quithele posts, the lists had not yet been signed by the monitors of the opposition parties, and the process of checking voter cards with mistakes is continuing in all the posts.

At the Parque Popular Complete Primary School, in Nampula city, the registration books containing the voter rolls are not on display. Our correspondent in that area, on visiting the place, just found one brigade member who did not want to be photographed. He was sitting beneath the school acacia tree, and said the supervisor does not yet have instructions to display the books.

In the Quelimane municipality, in Zambezia, the registration books are not yet on display on more than ten posts, namely the Moropue registration post, the field of the 1 May neighbourhood, the Acordos de Lusaka School, Coalane, Sangariveira, Manhawa EPC, Icidua, Quelimane EPC, Torrone Velho, Janeiro EPC, Sinacurra Secondary School, and 1st May Industrial and Commercial Institute. The STAE press office in the district does not yet know when the books will be displayed.

In Guruè, also in Zambézia, the posts at the Aeródromo EPC, the Projecto EPC and the Gurué ESG closed before 14,00, and not at 16.00. The opposition monitors are being prevented from gaining access to the printing of the voter rolls and of the registration reports.

In Nhamatanda, in Sofala, at the posts at the Heróis Moçambicanos EPC, the 3 February EPC and the 1 June EPC, the brigade members are present but the registration books are still not available for consultation by the voters.

In the Patrice Lumumba EPC, in Matola, not all the voter cards have been printed, but the brigade members say they registered 5,125 people which corresponds to the 7 registration books on display at this post.

Also in Matola, at the post in the 8 March EPC, at around 14.00 we found the brigade members braiding their hair, with the registration books kept in their briefcases.

200 voters still do not have their voter cards in Nacala

According to the brigade members at the registration post in the Lili2 EPC, the slowness in printing the cards was due to the lack of rolls for the printer during the three days that preceded the close of the registration.

The post only received the cards (700 cards) as from 11:00 on Monday, 5 June.

The printer can only print 200 cards a day. By Thursday morning (7 June), there were still 200 voters without cards.


Two registration posts still have no registration books or cards

At the posts in the Namaja and Mareço EPC. in Milange town, they have not yet printed the registration books. According to the supervisors, the problem is a breakdown of the printers of the computer (“Mobile”) which prints the electoral bulletins and registration books. At these posts there are still crowds of citizens attempting to collect their voter cards.

At the Mereço post, there is talks of illegal charges “to make the process flexible”. Citizens fear that by tomorrow (8 June), the last day on which the brigades will be at the posts, they will not have finished delivering the cards to the voters, particularly in areas where the brigades were moved during the registration (Mauza and Paquete).

The post at the Eduardo Mondlane EPC, also in Milange, has still not displayed the registration book. The supervisors claim that they have not yet received instructions from STAE, but promise to make the books available by Thursday, the last day.

The post at the Milange-sede EPC has books on display, but it is impossible to correct any names, because the Mobile has broken down. The supervisors say that the post is still receiving people who want to register, although registration has finished.

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