

**EXTRACTS FROM AN ADDRESS BY THE  
MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS & FORESTRY,  
RONNIE KASRILS,  
AT A TREE PLANTING IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER TRUTER,  
ANTON FRANSCH, ROBERT WATERWITCH, COLINE WILLIAMS  
AND ASHLEY KRIEL  
Arbor Day, Bonteheuwel, September 1999**

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I am very honoured to have this opportunity to greet you all.

I am here today in memory and in tribute of all the people of Bonteheuwel. I salute the courage you have shown over the years. And I want to salute those who are here from the families of those who fell in the struggle.

This commemoration is dedicated to five people. Five people who were senselessly slaughtered in the dark years of apartheid.

Christopher Truter was killed by police on the 25 August during the 1976 student uprising. He was only 15 years old. Ashley Kriel was killed by security police in his home in Athlone on 9<sup>th</sup> July 1987. Coline Williams and Robert Waterwitch died on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1989 when a bomb mysteriously detonated ahead of time. Anton Fransch died in a battle with the security forces on 17<sup>th</sup> November 1989.

I want to pay my special respects today to the families of these victims and to

their friends and comrades. I would also like us to think today about the fate of those young people who survived and who, even today, struggle to cope with the legacy of their experiences.