



NONGQAI

**Vol 16 No 5 - Explosive Detection Dog
called Bowser**



**SUIDER-AFRIKA VEILIGHEIDSTUDIES & MAGTE-GESKIEDENIS
SOUTHERN AFRICA SECURITY STUDIES & FORCES HISTORY**



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There are two sub-editors. Col. **Logan Govender** ("LG") is our lead historian on police officers of Indian descent. **Henning van Aswegen** ("HvA") renowned author formerly of the National Intelligence Academy, handles the intelligence desk.

Any opinions expressed by any editor (or by any other contributor), are entirely their personal responsibility, and should be attributed to them individually and **not to the editorial board, owners or publisher.**

REDAKSIE

Die hoofredakteur van die *NONGQAI* tydskrif is afgetrede Brigadier **Hennie Heymans** ("HBH") van die S.A. Polisie, met 'n Meestersgraad in Nasionale Veiligheidstudies en wat die S.A.P. verteenwoordig het op die Sekretariaat van die SVR.

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Daar is twee sub-redakteurs. Kol. **Logan Govender** ("LG"), is ons historikus vir die geskiedenis van polisie-lede van Indiër-afkoms. **Henning van Aswegen** ("HvA"), skrywer voorheen van die Nasionale Intelligensie Akademie, versorg intel-nuus.

Enige menings uitgespreek deur enige lid van die redaksie (of deur enige ander bydraer), is hulle persoonlike verantwoordelikheid en moet hulle individueel toegereken word, **nie die redaksie, eienaars of uitgewer nie.**

Aim & Policy - Doel & Beleid

Our goal is to collect and record our national security history for publication in the *NONGQAI* for future generations.

We publish the articles and stories as we receive them from our correspondents; we only correct spelling mistakes. It's important to publish the stories in the form and context that we received them from our correspondents. Policemen and Defence personnel have their own language and sub-culture. We are not a scientific or literary journal. We only work with historical building blocks, as in the oral tradition.

Ons doel is om die nasionale veiligheidsgeskiedenis in die *NONGQAI* aan te teken en só vir die nageslagte te bewaar.

Ons gebruik die artikels en stories soos ons dit van ons korrespondente ontvang; ons maak slegs die spelfoute reg. Dis belangrik om die stories te bewaar in die vorm en in die konteks soos ons dit ontvang. Lede van die veiligheidsmagte het hul eie taal en ons moet dit ook so aanteken. Ons is nie 'n letterkundige of wetenskaplike joernaal nie. Ons werk slegs met die boustene van die geskiedenis, in die orale tradisie.

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ERKENNING VAN KOPIEREG

NONGQAI is 'n opvoedkundige publikasie sonder winsbejag wat gratis versprei word. As sodanig geniet dit onder S.A. Reg die "redelike gebruik"-vrystelling van ander se outeursreg in materiaal wat hierin her-publiseer word. Eties, word sulke oorspronklike outeurs en publikasies na die beste van ons vermoë siteer en erken, ook vir foto's en beeldmateriaal. **Al wat ons vra vir die her-gebruik van ons materiaal, is dieselfde hoflikheid van volledige kreditering.**

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NONGQAI is 'n gratis aanlyn bewaarplek van herinneringe, historiese gegewens en ontledings rakende die nasionale veiligheidsgeskiedenis van Suid-Afrika. Dit dek van die heel onlangse tot die koloniale verlede van polisiëring, militêre ontwikkelinge, intelligensie en diplomatie in die streek. Dit word gedoen met twee hoof oogmerke: om rou historiese gegewens en die insigte van werklike deelnemers, geboekstaaf in die tradisie van orale vertellings, te bewaar tot voordeel van toekomstige geslagte; en, tweedens, om aan veterane van die dienste en gewapende magte 'n platform te bied waardeur hulle hul verhale en foto's kan deel, vir die leesgenot van ou kamerade, vriende en familie. **NONGQAI** doen dit sonder om die verlede te verheerlik, en ook nie om die verlede weer te wil herleef nie. Ons wil help om die goeie in die verlede te koester, deur die geskiedenis sonder kwaadwilligheid te boekstaaf.

Die eerste **NONGQAI** het in Maart 1907 verskyn as die amptelike kwartaallikse tydskrif van die polisie van die kolonie Natal. Na die totstandkoming van die Unie van Suid-Afrika in 1910, en die daaropvolgende stigting van die Unie-weermag en die nasionale polisiemag in 1913, is besluit om die tydskrifte van die verskillende koloniale magte van voor die Unie, saam te voeg in een. Die naam **NONGQAI**, wat in Zoeloe beteken "die koning se wagte", is gekies vir hierdie saamgevoegde tydskrif, wat die tydskrifte van koloniale dienste soos *The Bandolier*, *The Qakamba*, *The South African Constabulary Journal* en *The Transvaal Police Magazine* vervang het. Die nuwe 1913-weergawe van die **NONGQAI** verteenwoordig dus al die uniformdienste van die Unie, insluitend die Polisie, Weermag en Gevangenisdiens.

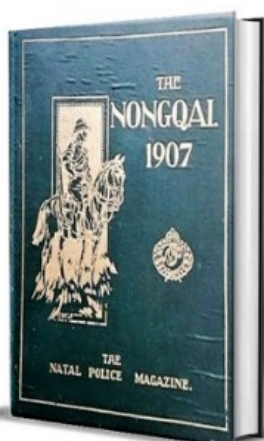
Nadat die Unie die Republiek van Suid-Afrika geword het, het die verskillende dienste geneig om hul eie tydskrifte te ontwikkel, soos *Paratus* vir die weermag en *Servamus* vir die polisie. Die oorgang in 1994 na 'n nie-rassige demokrasie het 'n einde gemaak aan daardie era, maar nie 'n einde aan belangstelling in die geskiedenis van daardie epogmakende tye nie. Brigadier Hennie Heymans het daarom die **NONGQAI** in e-tydskrif vorm laat herleef as 'n bewaarplek van data, herinneringe en ontledings oor die nasionale veiligheidsgeskiedenis van Suid-Afrika.

NONGQAI se tradisionele e-tydskrifte (standaard en vroue-edisies) word aan die begin van elke maand gepubliseer en word gratis op ons Blog www.nongqai.org en die ISSUU-platform gedra. Spesiale uitgawes, wat elk oor 'n spesifieke tema handel, word gereeld gepubliseer. Ons Blog-artikels daarenteen, verskyn deurlopend, en so ook ons video's op YouTube. Die beleid van die redakteurs van **NONGQAI** is om nie in te meng met die inhoud wat deur bydraers voorgelê word nie, behalwe vir eenvormige blad-opmaak en hersiening van spelling en grammatika. **Die inhoud is dus die verantwoordelikheid van elke individuele bydraende outeur; Nongqai, sy redakteurs en uitgewers aanvaar geen aanspreeklikheid daarvoor nie.** Die doel is om die voormalige deelnemers so outentiek en direk as moontlik te laat praat, sodat historici dit as bron van rou historiese gegewens kan gebruik in hul historiografiese evalueringe. **NONGQAI** self is dus ook nie 'n akademiese geskiedenis-publikasie wat aanspraak maak op wetenskaplike beoordeling of verifiëring van die inhoud wat sy vrywilliger bydraers op sy bladsye gedeel het nie.

NONGQAI, hetsy as tydskrifte of digitale media, is heeltemal gratis en toeganklik op ons web-blad: <https://nongqai.org> Dit kan aanlyn gelees word of as .pdf-dokumente afgelaai word. Die argief van vorige uitgawes verteenwoordig 'n skatkamer van historiese gegewens, foto's, persoonlike herinneringe en staaltjies, sowel as ontledings van belangrike nasionale veiligheidskwessies van die verlede en die hede – dit word bewaar op ons Blog, sowel as deur die Akademia Biblioteek.



NONGQAI is a free online repository of memories, historic data and analysis relating to the national security history of Southern Africa. It covers from the very recent to the very ancient past of policing, military developments, intelligence, and diplomacy in the region. It does so with two main goals: to provide raw historic data and insights from actual participants, in the tradition of oral history, for the benefit of future generations; and, secondly, to provide ex members of the services and armed forces with a platform through which to share their stories and photographs, for the reading pleasure of old comrades-in-arms, friends and family. This **NONGQAI** does, without glorifying the past, nor wishing to live again the past. It helps cherish the good in the past, recording history without malice.



The original **NONGQAI** magazine had started out in March 1907 as the official quarterly magazine of the police of the colony of Natal. After the establishment of the Union of South Africa in 1910, and the subsequent founding of the Union defence force and the national police force in 1913, it was decided to amalgamate the magazines serving the different pre-union colonial forces into one. The name **NONGQAI**, which in Zulu means “the king’s watchmen”, was chosen for this amalgamated magazine, which replaced the pre-union colonial services magazines such as *The Bandolier*, *The Qakamba*, *The South African Constabulary Journal* and *The Transvaal Police Magazine*. The new 1913 version of the **NONGQAI** thus represented all the uniformed services of the new Union, including the police, the military, and the prisons service.

After the Union became the Republic of South Africa, the different services tended to develop their own magazines, such as *Paratus* for the military and *Servamus* for the police. The 1994 transition to a non-racial democracy brought an end to that era, but not an end to interest in the history of that era. Brigadier Hennie Heymans thus revived the **NONGQAI** in e-magazine form, as repository of data, memories, and analysis about the national security history of Southern Africa.

NONGQAI in its traditional magazine format (standard and Ladies’ editions) is published at the beginning of each month and is carried on our Blog www.nongqai.org and the ISSUU platform. Special issues, each dealing with a particular theme, are regularly published. Our Blog posts and YouTube videos, on the other hand, are published throughout the month.

The policy of the editors of **NONGQAI** is not to interfere with the content of articles submitted and deemed publishable, except for uniform formatting and reviewing spelling and grammar. **The content is therefore the responsibility of each individual contributing author; the editors, owners and publishers accept no liability for it.** The objective is to let the former participants talk, as authentically and directly as possible, for historians to use as source of raw historic data in their historiographic evaluations of past events. **NONGQAI** itself thus isn’t, nor does it pretend to be, an academic history publication laying claim to scientific assessment or verification of the content its volunteer contributors had shared through its pages.

NONGQAI is entirely free and accessible on the internet, where it can be read online or downloaded as .pdf documents. Its archive of past editions represents a treasure trove of historic data, personal recollections, and anecdotes, as well as analysis of important national security issues, past and present. This archive can be found on our Blog, and in the care of the Akademia Library.



NONGQAI

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SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES HISTORY MAGAZINE

**Laaste A4 Uitgawe
Last paper edition**

www.nongqai.org

**Voortaan sal u tydskrif net op
ons BLOG verskyn, gepos
deurlopend deur die maand**

**In future your magazine will only
be availble on our BLOG, with
articles continuously posted
throughout the month**

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NONGQAI

national security history without malice

vanaf | since
1907

**TO PRESERVE THE PAST,
WITHOUT LIVING IN THE PAST.**



Generaal Jannie Geldenhuys – Hoof van die SAW (Foto – HBH)



ELEKTRONIESE BEDIENING: GEBED EN JOU "RAS"

Nongqai se Kapelaan: Pastoor Koot Swanepoel (082-041-9123)



“.. Daarom moet julle julle sondes teenoor mekaar bely en vir mekaar bid sodat julle gesond kan word. Die gebed van iemand wie se saak met God reg is, het 'n kragtige werking.” - Jakobus 5:16 NLV

Om te verstaan hoe kragtig en effektief gebed is, moet ons vanuit 'n neurologiese perspektief daarna kyk. By die basis van ons brein lê 'n groep senuwees wat die retikulêre aktiveerstelsel (RAS) genoem word, wat ons omgewing monitor. Ons word voortdurend met ontelbare stimuli wat meeding om ons aandag, gebombardeer en dit is die RAS se taak om te bepaal wat raakgesien word en wat ongemerk bly.

Jy laai byvoorbeeld 'n nuwe luitoon vir jou selfoon af. Jy is seker dat jy dit nog nooit vantevore gehoor het nie. Nadat jy dit egter afgelaai het, lyk dit asof almal dieselfde luitoon het. Dis nie omdat baie mense die luitoon na jou gaan aflaai het nie. Dit is die eenvoudige feit dat toe jy daardie luitoon afgelaai het, dit 'n kategorie in jou RAS geskep het. Daardie luitoon het onopgemerk by jou verbygegaan voordat jy dit afgelaai het, want dit was nie vir jou belangrik nie. Sodra jy die luitoon afgelaai het, het die RAS dit as relevant erken. Gebed werk op dieselfde manier.

Wanneer jy vir iets of iemand bid, skep dit 'n kategorie in jou retikulêre aktiveerstelsel. Nou merk jy alles wat relevant aan daardie gebed is, op. 'n Pastoor skryf: 'Het jy al ooit opgelet dat toevallighede gebeur wanneer jy bid? Dit is meer as net toeval, dit is voorsienigheid. Gebed skep goddelike geleenthede. Gebed heilig egter ook die retikulêre aktiveerstelsel en stel ons in staat om die geleenthede wat God beskik het en wat heelyd oral om ons is, raak te sien. Sodra ons hierdie geleenthede sien, moet ons ons geloof aktiveer en hulle aangryp.' Gebed is die portaal na God se koninkryk en waardeur Sy seëninge na ons toe vloei. Bid dus elke dag.

Sielskos: [1 Kon 10-11](#); [Mark 8:27-38](#); [Ps 45](#); [Spr 12:7-9](#)

NONGQAI

Voorblad
Cover story



Hermanus de Beer: "My Explosive Detection Dog Bowser and I at Jan Smuts Airport – August 1991" (Photo – SAP / Servamus)



WELCOME & FOREWORD | VOORWOORD & WELKOM

Hennie Heymans

Welkom	Welcome
Hartlik welkom by hierdie besondere uitgawe – besonder as gevolg van ons lesers se deelname met artikels en foto's	A warm welcome to this special edition – especially because of our readers' participation with articles and photos.
Opvoedkundige, Kultuur-Historiese tydskrif	Educational and cultural-historical magazine
Nongqai is 'n opvoedkundige en kultuur-historiese tydskrif wat sy inhoud vir die nageslag bewaar. Dit is slegs komende geslagte wat ons na behore kan evalueer.	Nongqai is an educational and cultural-historical magazine that preserves its content for posterity. Only future generations can properly evaluate it.
Bylaag "A": Hierdie maand se jongste artikels op ons blog	Annexure "A": This Month's Posts on Our Blog
Ons blog se skakel is www.nongqai.org	The link to our blog is www.nongqai.org
Selfoon	Cellphone (Mobile)
Ek lees die Nongqai-tydskrif en die Nongqai-blog op my selfoon.	I read the Nongqai magazine and the Nongqai blog on my cellphone.
Laaste gewone uitgawe	Last "Regular" Edition
Hierdie is die laaste "Gewone" uitgawe van die Nongqai. Spesiale uitgawes sal steeds uitgegee word oor spesifieke onderwerpe en alles kan later van die blog afgelaai word.	This is the last "Regular" issue of the Nongqai. Special issues will continue to be published on specific topics, and everything can be downloaded from the blog later.
Advertensies welkom	Adverts welcome
Kontak gerus vir die redakteur by heymanshb@gmail.com wat u na die advertensie bestuurder sal verwys.	Please contact the editor at heymanshb@gmail.com who will refer you to the advertising manager.
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Saluut / Salute

HBH



MY UITTREDE UIT DIE POLISIE

(HOOFSTUK 7 – vervolg)

Genl JV van der Merwe

Die Kommissie vir Administrasie (voorheen die Staatsdienskommissie), wat die poste- en salarisstruktuur van die staatsdiens gehanteer het, was uiters ongelukkig oor die pensioenvoordele wat aan die generaals toegeken is en het sterk beswaar aangeteken. Mnr. De Klerk het egter by sy onderneming gebly en die generaals het almal hul beloofde voordeel ontvang, al het dit in daardie stadium weinig gehelp om die bitterheid wat met hul uittrede gepaard gegaan het, te versag.

Ek en die generaals wat ná 10 Mei 1994 aangebly het, het alles in ons vermoë gedoen om 'n konstruktiewe bydrae tot die totstandkoming van die nuwe polisie diens te lewer. Mnr. Mufamadi het hom egter grootliks op sy eie raadgewers verlaat en daar het nooit 'n vertrouensverhouding tussen

ons ontwikkel nie. Persoonlike skakeling het hoogstens op vergaderings plaasgevind en verdere kommunikasie het deur briefwisseling geskied. By geleentheid het ek 'n skrywe van mnr. Mufamadi ontvang waarin hy opdrag gegee het dat die skorsing van sekere polisielede opgehef moet word. Ek het hulle weens wangedrag geskors en die skorsing is deur mnr. Mufamadi bekragtig. Kragtens die Polisiewet kon die minister slegs die skorsing op aanbeveling van die polisiekommissaris ophef. Soos in die verlede het ek elke stap in noue oorlegpleging met die regsafdeling van die Polisie oorweeg, 'n voorsorg waaraan mnr. Mufamadi hom oënskynlik nie gesteur het nie. Ek het 'n regsmenting van die regsafdeling aan mnr. Mufamadi gestuur en hom ingelig dat ek ná oorweging van al die feite van mening is dat die skorsing van krag moet bly. Ek het niks verder oor die saak van mnr. Mufamadi gehoor nie.

Op 10 November 1994 het pres. Nelson Mandela die generale staf van die SA Polisie en al die polisiemagte van die nasionale en onafhanklike state in Suid-Afrika op 'n buitengewone vergadering in Pretoria toegesprek. Die vergadering is op sy versoek belê. Sy toespraak het verskeie teenstrydighede en onversoenbaarhede bevat. Inleidend het hy gesê dat hy die eerlikheid en integriteit van elke generaal onvoorwaardelik aanvaar. Hy het beklemtoon dat professionele standaarde te alle tye gehandhaaf moet word. Dit is noodsaaklik dat die polisie diens moet transformeer. Die generaals se ervaring, kennis en kundigheid is onontbeerlik vir die nuwe polisie diens. Dit moet egter radikaal verander en die blanke meerderheid in die bevelstruktuur moet deur lede van ander bevolkingsgroepe vervang word. Hy het in dié verband opgemerk [volgens die transkribering van sy toespraak, wat op band opgeneem is]: "There would be a lot of arguments that we occupy this position on merit, we have the qualifications. That, of course, is a powerful argument which we must conceive, but at the same time we must be realistic. We must be aware that the blacks in this country – now by blacks I mean Africans, Coloureds and Indians, that's what I mean by blacks. It would be regrettable if you oppose the promotion of blacks of this country on the grounds that they, their literary standards, are very low, they do not have the educational qualifications which you have, they have not the exposure of travelling all over the world to a land of the latest developments in police matters."

Hy het ook die volgende gesê: "Now, not only did I appeal to the nation as a whole to change their attitude toward the Police, I took certain steps, quiet, to ensure that the new South Africa becomes peaceful at my own initiative before the 27th of April. A couple of months before that, I approached the Commissioner of Police and I said to him: 'I would like you to continue to serve as Commissioner of Police after the 27th April, I don't want to change you in this profession, because to change you would introduce an element of insecurity and destabilisation at a time when we want this transformation to take place peacefully.' After discussing this, we were then joined by General Basie

Smit and General Johan Swart [albei was adjunkkommissaris van die SA Polisiemag] and we had a fruitful discussion because I stressed the importance of them working with me if I win the election.”

Pres. Mandela het sy dank betuig vir die bekwame en doeltreffende manier waarop die Polisie hom ná sy vrylating en voor die verkiesing beskerm het. Daarna het hy egter op 'n bitsige toon die Polisie van allerlei dinge beskuldig. Volgens hom het die Polisie voor die bewindsoorname van die ANC mense in die Caprivi opgelei om die land te destabiliseer. Toe het hy die Polisie verwyt vir hulp wat hulle aan Uwusa, die Inkatha-vakunie, verleen het. Die Uwusa-kwessie was toe reeds holrug gery en ek het al verskeie kere die omstandighede waaronder die hulp verleen is, aan mnr. Mandela verduidelik. Voorts het hy gesê dat hy persoonlik inligting aan my verstrekket het oor 'n opleidingskamp in KwaZulu wat ten doel het om geweldpleging in die land aan te stig. Volgens hom het die klopjag op die terrein misluk omdat die inligting uitgelek het – “so there was a tip, I am sure it did not come from the General here, but somewhere along the chain of carrying out his instruction, there was a leakage”.

SAP KING'S REST: DISTRIK 75: DURBAN-SUID

HBH

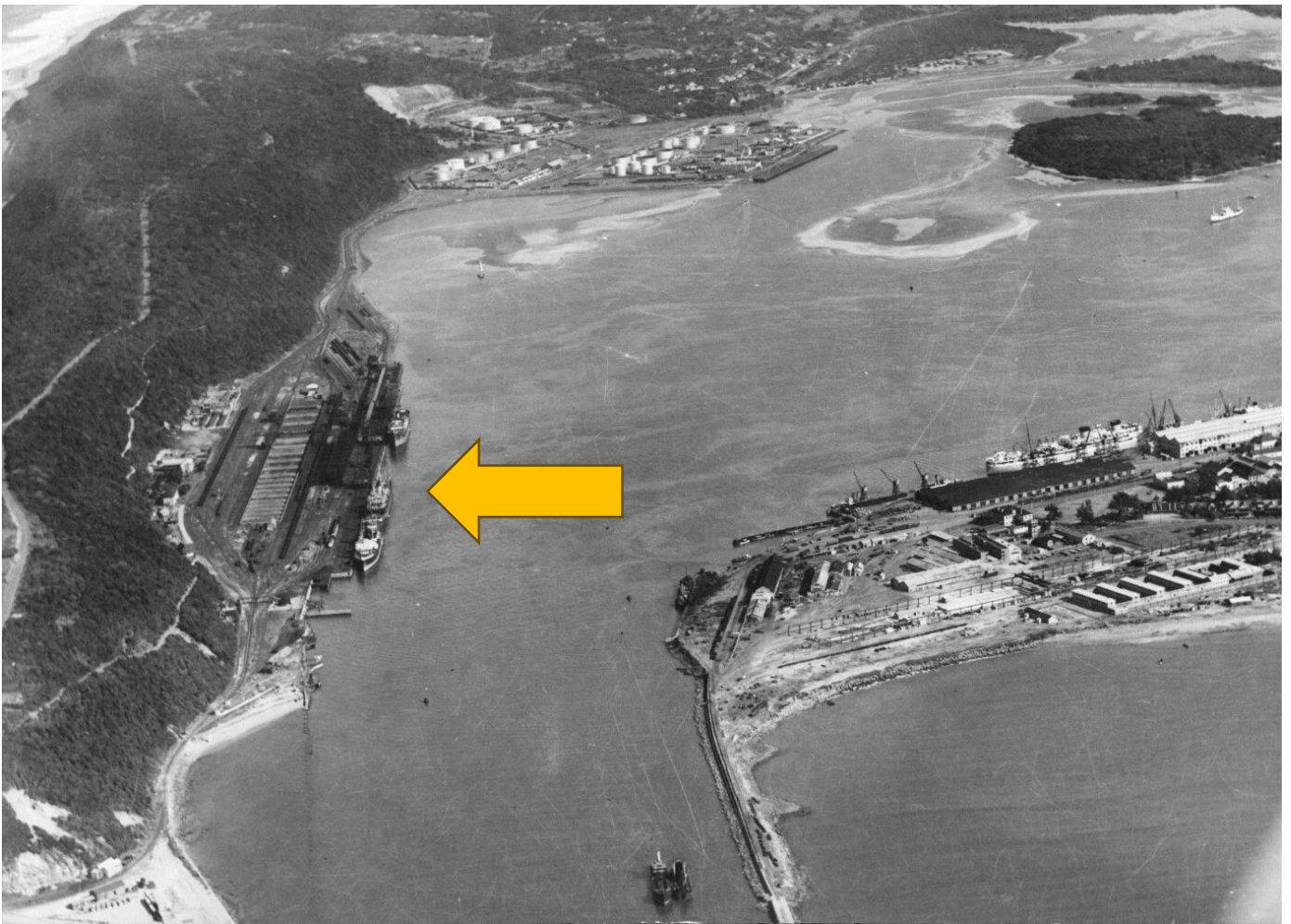


Ek het die voorreg gehad om 'n paar klagtes by Wests by te woon. Van die hawe tot oor die spoor tot by 'n pypleiding, wat parallel met die Bluff geloop, het onder die jurisdiksie van die SA Spoorwegpolisie (SASP) geval. Van die pypleiding teen die berg uit was die SAP se jurisdiksie. Die Wests Hotel het ook onder die SAP se jurisdiksie geval want die hotel was op spoorweg grond maar deur privaat persone bedryf.

Die area was amptelik en nie-amptelik deur matrose, werkers in en om die skepe, verwers, hyskraan operateurs, dokwerkers, vissers, doeane en aksyns, stuwadore, dames, (ja dames was volop!) en spoorwegmanne besoek. Misdadigers het ook nie uitgebly nie.

Eendag nadat ek met die veerboot op Wests aangekom het, is ek na 'n toneel van misdaad om 'n klagte van moord by te woon. Dit is nie elke dag dat mens 'n moord by woon nie! Ek kom op die toneel, die vermoorde dame word gevind. Die opdrag is in so geval moet die speurder-sersant self uitkom.

“Waar lê die vrou? Bokant die pyp of onderkant die pyp?” vra die speurdersersant telefonies. Ek verwittig hom ek sal weer gaan kyk en hom terug bel, aangesien ek nie so opgelet het nie. Die arme vrou lê toe 'onderkant' die pyp, m.a.w. op die SASP se terrein. “Bel die spoorwegpolisie dit is hulle saak,” sê die sersant verlig want hy wil nie nog 'n saak op sy boeke hê nie. Hy wil ook seker nie in sy afdyd na die toneel gaan nie. Die SASP word verwittig dat die vrou op hulle perseel is. “n Ruk later kry ons weer die klagte die vrou lê nou in ons gebied! Die uiteinde van die saak is, die sersant het sonder moeite of veel inspanning nog 'n moordsaak bygekry.



Die geel pyl dui aan waar Wests geleë is. Mens kan Wests slegs per trein of per ligte boot bereik.

Op nagdiens een aand kry ons 'n klagte, van diefstal by Wests Hotel. Dit is nag en die veerboot loop nie. Ons bel die waterpolisie een vra hulp met vervoer. Hulle is bereid om te help, hulle kry ons by Island View. Dit is tye soos die dat ek die polisie hartstogtelik lief kry! Waar is daar nog so 'n werk wat sulke avontuur bied – kyk jy ry op 'n boot in die hawe! Ons klim by Wests af en hulle beloof ons dat hulle ons oor 'n uur of wat weer sal kry en ons terugneem na Island View.

Die klaer word gespreek, die dossier word opgeskryf en 'n verdagte – so 'n maer Indiër man wat vreeslik berouvol is en terselfdertyd jammer vir homself voel - word gearresteer en ek lê ook beslag op 'n bewysstuk – so lekker 'n lang visstok. Ons wag ter vergeefs vir die waterpolisie, polisiewerk is onvoorspelbaar – enigiets kan gebeur!

Soos drie natgereënde hoenders staan ons daar rond! Ek in my blou uniform en my swart kollega in sy kakie uniform met die visstok en die jammerlike verdagte. Skielik hoor ek 'n stoomlokomotief! Ek spits my ore en so waar die lokomotief kom by ons verby. Treine is my ander passie in die lewe! Dit is 'n klas H2 lokomotief wat steenkool trokke rangeer by de bunkerstasie.



H2-lokomotief – foto deur mnr HL Pivnic

Met verlangende oë staar ek na die lokomotief. Indien ek die lokomotief kon koop sou ek, so verlief is ek op die stuk stomende yster.

“Haai Hennie! Wat maak jy hier so verlate?”, ek skrik wakker uit my slaap en sien dat die stoker 'n outjie is wat saam met my op skool was. Gou verduidelik ek ons penarie aan hom en sy drywer.

“Geen probleem!” sê die drywer, “spring op en ek neem julle na Island View”. Dit was lekker. Die lokomotief is klein en lig. Die drywer het ons eers vir 'n 'spin' gevat deur die wiele laat spin en vir ons vinnige wegtrek en stil hou gewys. Die prentjie van die vyf mense op die voetplaat was seker 'n gesig om te onthou!

Een middag kry ek weer 'n klagte van iemand by Wests en vra die persoon of hulle die klaer vra om intussen na Punt te gaan waar ek hulle by die veerboot se hokkie sal ontmoet.

Ek kry die klaagster – ek is in volle uniform geklee en kom met 'n polisievoertuig daar aan, so dis maklik om my te kry. Ek neem die dame se verklaring af. Die getuie staan nader en ek begin sommer om sy verklaring af te neem.

“Naam?”, vra ek

“Hendrik” , sê hy. Ek skryf.

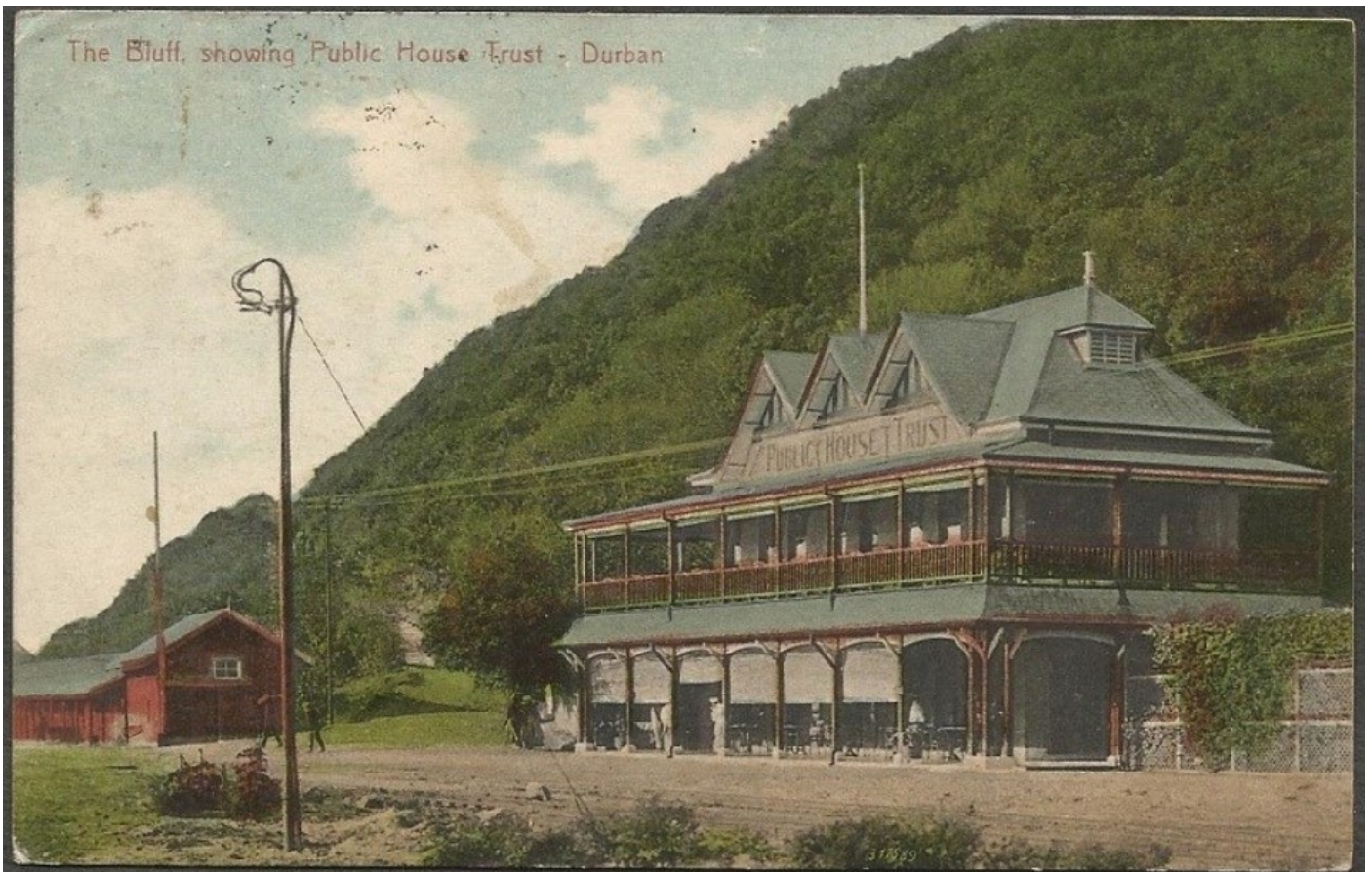
“Ja, gaan aan”, sê ek.

“Bernardus”, sê hy.

“Ja, gaan aan”, sê ek. Hierdie ou en ek het dieselfde voorname dink ek!

“Heymans” sê hy.

“Hoe spel jy jou van?”, vra ek. Hy spel toe sy van. Ek verwittig hom dat ons dieselfde name het. Ons was egter nie familie nie. Die dame was blond, blou oë, lig-rooi wange en ‘n mooi groot dame. Amper is ek smoorverlief op die vrou. Sy was so dertig jaar oud. Ek het baie keer gewonder wat van die mooi vrou geword het? Ook het ek gewonder wat maak sy op Wests? Wat van die saak geword het kan ek glad nie meer onthou nie! Jammer ek onthou net die HB Heymans en die ‘mooi blonde vrou van Wests’.



Die ou hotel by Wests – foto uit die ou dae – destyds was daar verskillende spoorlyne voor die hotel – HBH.

HBH

PRETORIA HONDESKOOL EN PRETORIA HONDE-EENHEID – 1980

Kol Dana Kruger (Storie 470)



Ek het my patrolliehond kursus wat vanaf September 1979 tot Januarie 1980 in die Hondeskool te Pretoria-Wes plaas gevind het voltooi. Kolonel Hennie Meyer (later brigadier) was 'n ysterman in die

Hondeskool. Silwer snor soos hy geroep was onder die lede. Kyk hy het nie twak gevat nie. Ons was maar versigtig vir hom as hy jou daar op sy perd se rug in die veld besoek het waar ons besig was om honde af te rig.

Hier voor ons uitpassering tydens die eerste week van Januarie 1980 word die hele kursus se lede aangesê om in die auditorium by die Hondeskool byeen te kom.

Kolonel Hennie was op 'n missie. Hy deel ons toe mee dat hy 10 vrywillige lede soek om na die uitpassering vir 'n tydperk van 3 maande in die Hondeskool agter te bly. Die lede word benodig by die wageenheid om ondermeer die polisie Hoofkantoor (Wachthuis), die Staatspresident en Eerste Minister se wonings snags te patrolleer.

Ag nee dink ek vir myself. Wie wil nou nog langer bly? Ons lede wil na ons onderskeie honde-eenhede vertrek. Vuur en vlam, angstig en gretig om te begin werk. Ek wonder, hoekom? Ons wou skelms vang al was dit nou met ons byt masjiene.

Hy vra *volunteers* om hul hande op te steek. 'n Doodse stilte heers daar onder die manne. Jy wil nie beweeg of rondkyk nie, te bang dat jy aandag trek. Kyk jy voel jy wou wegs melt daar in jou stoel. Niemand beweeg nie, geen hande word opgesteek nie. Ek weet wat almal dink. Die kolonel kyk rond. Dit voel sy oë was besig om die stout-gatte uit te soek. Hy vra weer, "kom nou ek soek 10 lede".

Hy sê toe, "nou maar goed as julle nie tevore kom nie dan sou hy 10 lede homself nomineer".

Stadig en teensinnig kom die lede se hande een vir een op en ja ook die uwe. Ek was mos die langste en staan daar soos 'n puisie uit, so waarom sou hy my nie kies nie.

Goed so hy het sy 10 lede. Dit was nou nie wat ek wou hê nie maar dit was gesien as spesiale dienste en daar was 'n dag toelaag vir die 3 maande daaraan gekoppel.

Net na ons uitpassering bly ons groep agter in die Hondeskool. Daar was sulke sinkkamers waar ons ons intrek neem. Later was ons verskuif na die kaserne te Pretoria Sentraal polisiestasie.

Met elke skof word ons opgelaai met ons patrolliehonde en na die Pretoria honde-eenheid te Silverton geneem. Later kon ons ons honde by die honde-eenheid huisves wat take vergemaklik het. Daar staan ons parade in 3 groepe ingedeel. Slegs 3 lede per skof. Die 1 gaan Wachthuis toe, die 2de na die Eerste minister se huis en die 3de lid na die Staatspresident se woning.

Weereens word ons afgelaai om daar saam met dié wageenheid se lede parade te staan. Die hondegeleiders het nie by 'n spesifieke punt diens verrig nie. Jy kon rondloop net waar jy wou. Ek onthou dat die Staatspresident se perseel so groot was dat as jy om die heining stap dit my 'n uur geneem het. Die agterkant van sy gronde was rof. Jy stap teen die rand af en dit was erg klipperig. Al langs die groot heining stap ek en my hond Simba.

Gelukkig het die 'big brass' ons dienste bietjie aangepas. Vir een maand verrig jy wagdienste en dan 'n maand as bemanning op 'n 'squad-kar' met jou hond by die honde-eenheid. Dit was nou lekker. Daardie groot Chrysler Valiants met daai tamaaie lang wip antennes, was mos nou net die

lewe vir 'n polisieman. Ongelukkig tydens my maand saam met honde-eenheid het ons dié dag nog op parade gestaan toe daar 'n dringende klagte van 'n gewapende roof by die Volkskasbank te Silverton deurkom. Dit was skaars 'n kilometer van ons ligging.

Ons verdaag en gaan laai ons honde. Daar by die bank aangekom was dit chaos. Die Volkskasbank was op 'n straathoek geleë. Ons blok met ons polisievoertuie die strate af en deur middel van ons patrolliehonde verrig ons skarebeheer dienste. Daar word ons egter ingelig dat dit nie 'n bankroof was met die rowers nog in die bank nie. Nee, dit was terroriste wat die bank oorgeneem het.

Ek het al 'n storie geskryf oor my wedervarings tydens die dag se gebeure by die bank. Maar net weer inkort berig ek oor my hond. Ek merk op dat my hond maar traag was en nie lekker lyk nie. Ek vra toestemming om hom spoedig by die Hondeskool te kry by 'n veearts. Daar aangekom besluit die veearts om hom daar te hou vir verdere toetse. Ons het toe dadelik teruggery na die toneel daar by die bank te Silverton. Dit was die laaste wat ek my patrolliehond A1959 Simba gesien het. Hy was na Onderstepoort se Veeartsenykundige afdeling gestuur waar hy gediagnoseer was met bloedkanker en was hy uitgesit. Daar sit ek toe vir die duurte van my spesiale dienste sonder 'n hond. Ek verrig bemannings dienste op 'n 'squad' en soms ook hekwag dienste by Radiobeheer en ook telefoon dienste by Radiobeheer.

Ek onthou hoe ons een aand besig was met patrollie in Kerkstraat, Pretoria toe ons deur die diens offisier afgetrek was. Die luitenant wou weet hoekom ek nie my polisie pet in die voertuig dra nie. Dit was maar die voorgeskrewe reëls vir ons as 'n gedissiplineerde polisiemag om na te kom. Daar was egter 'n verskil in my omstandighede. Vanweë my lengte van 2.09 meter of 6 voet 11 in die ou taal nie moontlik om binne 'n patrolliemotor 'n pet te dra nie. My kop het alreeds die dak geraak so 'n pet sou nie werk nie. Die luitenant vermoed ek praat twak en na 'n praktiese demonstrasie kon ek aan hom wys dat dit nie moontlik was nie. Hy het begryp en ons het ons dienste hervat.

Ja dit was goeie en mooi tye. Tydens die 3 maande se spesiale dienste het ek vele stories wat elk op sy eie vertel sal word.

Met my aankoms later by my standplaas by die Oos-Rand honde-eenheid te Benoni het ek weereens vir 'n paar maande saam met die daggahond geleider, Toit Wessels beman alvorens ek my skenkingshond A2021 Dango ontvang het. Daar by die honde-eenheid het ek die hond opgelei en was ons na die opleidings periode in die Hondeskool te Pretoria geëvalueer en uitpasseer. Toe kon ek met alle erns my dienste voortsit as hondegeleider.

Ja en soek vir 'n booswig wat weghardloop.

Rim hom oubaas se honne.

Braaf hond.

Raar maar waar.

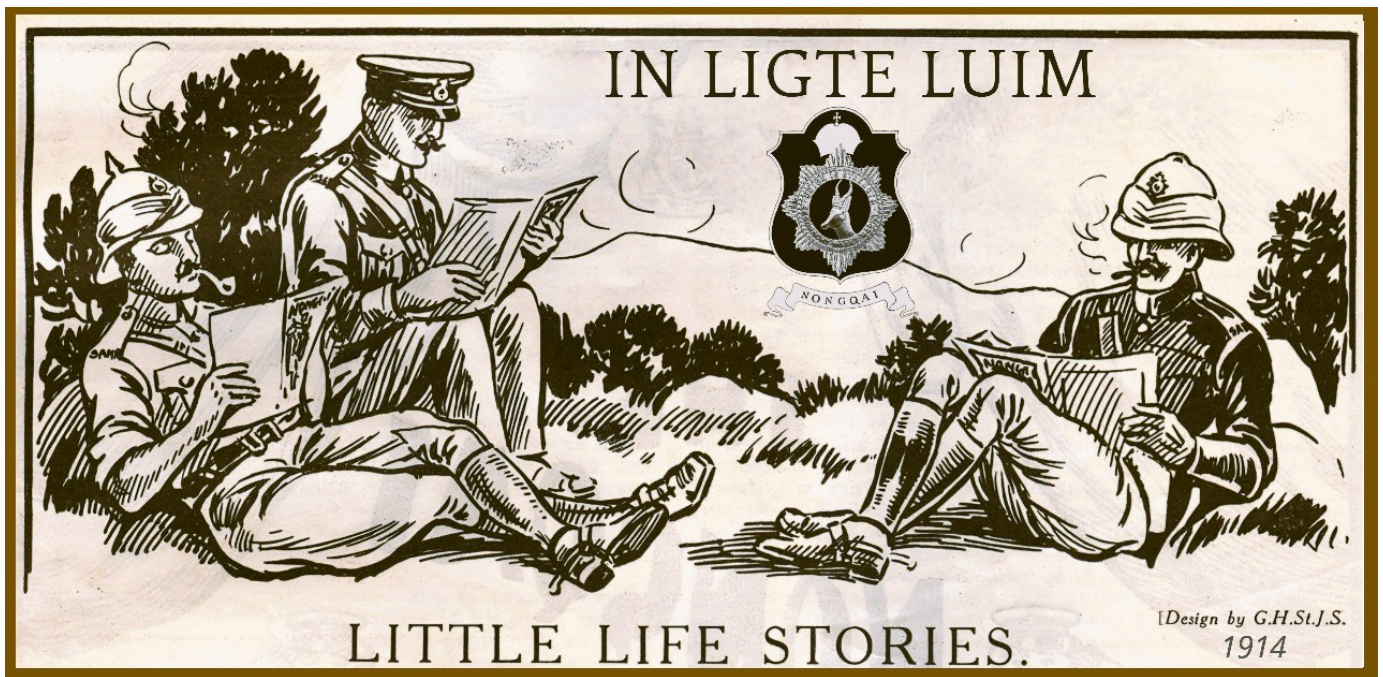
Dana Kruger New

SAPS: RANGTEKENS

Henry Cordier



IN LIGTE LUIM



ONTWAKING IN DIE STRAFREGKLAS*

Genl-maj Chris Botha (Afgetree)



Eers was daar 'n doodse stilte.

Toe begin die leier van troep 8, die student-orkestroep, proes. Hy was 'n groot man, basdromspelende, tierveldraende swaargewigstoeier, met 'n bulderende stem. En die proes word 'n lag. Daarna bars die hele klas los, en hulle skreeu van die lag. In die klas langsaan, waar kaptein Eddie Snyman se studente toets skryf, duik die manne vir dekking grond toe, van skrik oor die helse lawaai wat die Polisiekollege in Pretoria-Wes getref het.

Die hele ding gaan oor strafreg, en dit het met 'n weddenskap begin.

Troep 8 was deel van die groep onder opleiding wat die jaarlange program gevolg het. Hierdie manne het nie die voorreg gehad om matriek in die gewone skoolstelsel te voltooi nie. Die opleidingsprogram van die polisie-studente van daardie tyd, laat sestigs en begin sewentigs, was so saamgestel dat die studente 'n matrieksertifikaat kon verwerf as deel van hul opleiding. Hierdie matrieksertifikaat was nasionaal aangebied (deur die departement van Nasionale Opvoeding) en dus nie deur een van die destydse vier provinsiale opvoedingsdepartemente van die Suid-Afrika van daardie tyd nie. Benewens die verpligte tale (Afrikaans en Engels) kon die studente dan 'n beroepsgerigte nasionale senior sertifikaat verdien vir hulle opleiding in polisiewerk met suksesvolle afhandeling van die vakke Inleiding tot Kriminologie en Volkekunde, Suid-

Afrikaanse Strafred, Strafredes- en Bewysred, en Wetred. Hierdie nasionale senior sertifikaat het vinnig in die polisie-subkultuurtaal as die 'redsmatriek' bekend geword. Matrikulante het die laaste ses maande van dieselfde opleidingskursus bygewoon en het ook die 'redsmatriek' geskryf met die uitsondering van Afrikaans en Engels wat erken was vanaf hul skoleindsertifikate van welke provinsie ookal.

Vir die redsmatriek het troep 8 egter 'n kollektiewe probleem gehad, en dit was die strafred. Hulle kon nog redelik die mas opkom met kriminologie en met volkekundige gesprekke. Laasgenoemde was met insig aangebied deur 'n gesekondeerde onderwyser, en meneer Steenekamp het ook gou 'n gewaardeerde dosent vir almal geword (en sekerlik ook die sagter, nie-paramilitêre oor vir die onder-druk-polisiestudente). Wetred, die wette van die Parlement, was ook nie vir hulle te moeilik om te verstaan nie. Die enigste probleem was dat dit nogal baie leerwerk beteken het. Hulle moes definisies en 'n klomp ander goed in die statute letterlik uit die kop uit leer. Dit het die troep ook goed hanteer met die hulp van hul troepsersant. Laasgenoemde het gou besef dat hy eintlik die persoon is wat op die dun lyn loop: die orkestroep moes gereeld oefen en optredes doen wat hul studietyd beperk het. Die optredes sou egter nie die troepsersant se vel red wanneer die troep swak doen in die eksamens nie. Sersant 'Joep' Joubert het gevolglik 'n snoekermaat van hom, kenner van Oom Lasie se studiemetodes, met heel goeie gevolge ingespan. Dis nou behalwe vir Simbaal Stander, wat op 'n stadium tot die ingeligte besluit gekom het dat 'n aanrandingverdagte wat baie dun arms gehad het, gearresteer sou kon word vir messteek.

Strafredesred was aangebied deur die nimlike sersant Chris Barnard, 'n ouer ware heer wat die studente in die klas aangespreek het as 'gentlemen' en 'here'. Om die beurt, in Engels en in Afrikaans, kon hierdie dosent die prosesred met behulp van stories vertel. (Die latere 'oom Barries' of 'oom Chrisjan' vir so baie van ons, het later ook vir 'n ander rede bekendheid by ons verwerf, maar daaroor meer op 'n later geleentheid). Ek weet van niemand wat by oom Barries klas gehad het wat ooit met die strafredesred gesukkel het nie. Geïgnoreer het sommiges dalk, maar dat hulle nie geweet het nie kan ek nie glo nie. Met bewysred het die moeilikheid al begin. Gelukkig vir die polisiestudente op senior sertifikaatvlak was hierdie vak 'n deelvak met strafredesred, het dit selfs 'n bietjie aan die agterspeen gesuig wat intensiteit betref, en kon die manne die storie heel suksesvol baasraak.

Maar strafred was 'n ander saak.

Troep 8 se strafredosent bekla op 'n dag sy lot in die dosente se teekamer. Troep 8, sê hy, het geen idee nie, geen konsep nie, hulle verstaan nie. Die troep sit daar, al 36 van hulle, en kyk vir hom met gordyntjies oor die oë. Hulle konsentreer so dat hy kon sweer hulle haal nie asem nie. Hulle kom nog red met *actes reus* want hulle verbind die handeling in misdadpleging maklik met die 'wie-het-dit-gedoen-konsep'. Maar dis met *mens rea* waar hulle nie die kloutjie by die oor kan bring nie. Dit is juis met die bestudering van *mens rea* waar die groot reds-filosofiese diskoerse hulle heeltemal te bowe gaan. Hulle kan geensins die denke, die

gewete, die gedagte van die mens in kriminaliteit bymekaar kry nie. Op 'n manier kom hulle nog by opset uit, waarskynlik omdat dit soos met die handeling vir hulle makliker sigbaar in hul gedagtes kan vorm. Maar hoe kan mens weet dat dit wat jy doen verkeerd is, as jy net nalatig is? Daarby saam is die Latynse terme wat so gemaklik deur hom (dis nou die dosent, 'n BProc LLB van Tukkie) gebesig word, vir troep 8 Grieks. Met *dolus directus* en *dolus indirectus* het hy hulle nog spreekwoordelik in die palms van sy hande. Maar laat hy nou net, selfs saggies, begin praat oor *dolus eventualis*.... En sò gaan die dosent voort, *ad nauseam*.

Dis waar kaptein Ben Smit (en die weddenskap) op die toneel verskyn. Kaptein Smit, vermaarde dosent met 'n meestersgraad, staan op en verduidelik dat hy graag hierdie probleem sou wou aanspreek. Gee hom drie periodes met troep 8, sê kaptein Smit, en hulle slaag enige vraag oor *mens rea*, die hele troep 8. En as ons nie keer nie, maan die kaptein sy kollegas, dan gaan ons nog moet verduidelik hoe ons soveel onderskeidings vir strafreg uit een troep studente gekry het ...

En om darem net sy erns te beklemtoon, wed hy sy kollegas vir twee kaste bier, in kwarte. [Hier moet ek ietwat verduidelik: 'n kwart bier daardie tyd was eintlik 'a quarter gallon' in die Amerikaanse maat, vandaar die 'quart' wat vertaal is na 'kwart' by ons. In vandag se terme sou mens dit kon verreken na 750 ml bier per bottel. Dus: 12 bottels per kas, maal twee kaste, maal 750 ml bier per bottel, kom hier op die spel. Die prys van die bier kan ek nie onthou nie, maar ek dink dis gemene saak dat dit astronomies sou kon wees teen 'n polisiebeampte se salaris indertyd – selfs 'n kaptein s'n].

Kaptein Smit spring aan die werk. Hy spandeer tyd in die regsafdeling van die biblioteek, hy soek na pedagogiese en andragogiese oplossings vir die aanbieding van strafreg op die vlak van die nasionale sertifikaat, hy berei voor soos hy nog nooit tevore voorberei het nie. By die Openbare Betrekkinge-seksie van Polisiehoofkantoor kry hy 'n kunstenaar geleen. Die maak vir hom transparante vir die oorhoofse projektor, die gelyke waarvan nog nooit tevore in die Polisiekollege gesien is nie. Op die dag trek hy nie net sy uniformhemp, das en langbroek met rangtekens en medaljelint aan nie, maar die hele uniform - amptelike uniformbaadjie en al.

So skop kaptein Smit sy drie periodes af.

Dit gaan met rukke en stote, op en af, goed en minder goed, soms gaan die ligte aan, soms is geen ligte aan nie. Maar kaptein Smit beur dapper voort. So nou en dan gee hy die manne 'n kort rookbreuk en 'n kans om 'n draai te loop. Dan gaan die klas weer aan, met toenemende angstigtheid soos wat die tyd verby tik.

lewers lyk dit of die manne begin verstaan. Daar kom selfs 'n paar goeie vrae, en 'n paar verligte verbale aanduidings van verstaan kom oor 'n paar manne se lippe. Kaptein Smit skep sommer baie moed, iets is beslis aan die werk.

Maar hier reg voor hom, heel voor, in die middel van die klas, sit 'n man. Daar was nog geen lig sigbaar by hierdie man nie. Hy konsentreer, hy hou elke beweging van die kaptein dop, sy oë beweeg nie van die kaptein se gesig af nie al hardloop die kaptein se hande tussen transparante, bordskryf en gebare rond. Hy hou die kaptein stip dop, maar toon geen sprankie hoop van 'n strafreg-ontwaking aan die uitgeputte dosent nie.

En toe gebeur dit.

Student-reg-voor-in-die-middel spring regop, albei hande in die lug, wydoop oë vol van onmeetbare blydschap, en hy skree: 'ek het dit, ek het dit...!'

Kaptein Smit gaan sit, sy bene kan hom nie dra nie. Die hele klas, van die troepleier af tot by die jongste lid, hou asem op, en kyk, en wag.

En student-reg-voor-in-die-middel vra: 'kaptein, kaptein, kaptein het nie dalk familie in Witbank nie kaptein?'

Na die stilte, die gelag, die dekkingsoeke van kaptein Eddie Snyman se klas langsaan en die relatiewe besef van verloor, pak kaptein Ben Smit maar sy goedjies wat hy so sorgvuldig vir daardie klas (en vir daardie weddenskap) voorberei het.

En gaan koop twee kaste bier, in kwarte.

*Ek het hierdie storie met professor Ben Smit, hoogleraar emeritus in Strafrechtspleging en Navorsingsmetodologie (primêr) aan die Universiteit van Suid-Afrika (Unisa), uitgeklaar. Dit is immers 'prof Ben' wat die kern van die storie gedeel het met ons, sy kollegas en vriende van Unisa, sovele jare gelede al (dit was voor 2 Februarie 1990). Op 'n stadium was meeste van ons wat die vak Polisiekunde in die departement Kriminologie aan Unisa doseer het voormalige kommissie-offisiere van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie (die SAP) en voormalige dosente van die Polisiekollege in Pretoria-Wes (nou die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisieopleidings- akademies, Tshwane). Prof Ben en ek het ooreengekom dat my weergawe van hierdie storie nie noodwendig die hele waarheid is nie, maar hy het vriendelik ingestem om my verbeelding te akkommodeer. Dalk laat dit iewers 'n *baby boomer* – polisiebeampte glimlag ...

oOo
cjb13052025

1970: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS: AWARD OF OFFICER RANK TO NON-WHITE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE

Abstract

1970: Historical Documents: Award of officer rank to non-white members of the South African Police

Keywords

- Abbott, Henry – Dr
- Apartheid in the South African Police
- Botha, Chris – Maj-Gen.
- Boucher, Fanie - Brig
- First Non-White offers – South African Police
- First Non-White Officers – in British Army
- Govender, Logan – Col
- Heymans, HB – Brig
- Munitlall – D/Sgt SAP Wentworth – later a Senior Officer
- Noyager, Nelson – Capt
- Nkosi, Sgt - SAP Louis Botha Airport
- Pillay, S – Col
- Steenkamp, WP – Dr

1970: HISTORIESE DOKUMENTE: TOEKENNING VAN OFFISIERSRANG AAN NIE-BLANKE LEDE VAN DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIE

Skrywe C.8/3/14 (Brig Loxton) gedateer 30 Julie 1970

Dr Henry Abbott (seun van genl Abbott – genl Abbot was voorheen stasiebevelvoerder van SAP Witdraai in die jare '50) het hierdie dokumente bekom toe hy oor die ou Witdraai-polisiestasie en oor kamele, in diens van die SA Polisie, navorsing gedoen het.

Britse Gemenebes

Die Unie van Suid-Afrika was deel van die Britse Gemenebes tot in 1961. Die SA Magte het baie by die Britse geleer. Baie Britse tradisies en gewoontes van rugby en krieket tot by saluut en eerbetoon is aangeneem. Eers na die tweede wêreldoorlog is wêreldwyd begin om af te sien van segregasie en het “Uhuru” oor die wêreld gespoel.

RSA en apartheid

In 1961 het ons 'n republiek geword en natuurlik moet die aangehaalde SAP-dokumente in die konteks van daardie tyd gesien, geëvalueer en waardeur word. Daar was afsonderlike ontwikkeling/apartheid en dit was die beleid van die regering dat elke groep hulself afsonderlik moes polisieer. Apartheid (of segregasie) was nie eksklusief tot Suid-Afrika beperk nie. In die Britse Ryk en in die VSA was dit aanvanklik vry algemeen.

Ons blankes het van segregasie by die Britte geleer. Die Britte het eers tydens die eerste wêreldoorlog (1914 – 1918) nie-wit offisiere aangestel. Kyk hier: https://www.google.com/search?q=First+Black+Officers+in+British+Forces&rlz=1C1GCEU_enZA1088ZA1100&oq=First+Black+Officers+in+British+Forces&gs_lcrp=EgZjaHJvbWUyBggAEEUYOTII CAEQABgWGB4yCAgCEAAYFhgeMgoIAxAGKIEGikFMgcIBBAAGO8F0gEKMTkzOTNqMGoxN agCCLACAFefuzA1h0nr-qbxBbswNYdJ6_qm&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

Walter Tull (Afro-Karibiese afkoms)

Walter Daniel John Tull (28 April 1888 – 25 Maart 1918) was 'n Engelse professionele sokkerspeler en Britse leëroffisier van Afro-Karibiese afkoms. Hy het as 'n binne-voorspeler en halfagter vir Clapton, Tottenham Hotspur en Northampton Town gespeel en was die derde persoon van gemengde afkoms wat in die top-afdeling van die *Football League* gespeel het na Arthur Wharton en Willie Clarke. Hy was ook die eerste speler van Afrika-afkoms wat in 1917 vir Rangers geteken het, terwyl hy in Skotland gestasioneer was.

Tydens die Eerste Wêreldoorlog het Tull in die Middlesex Regiment gedien, insluitend in die twee *Footballers' Bataljons*. Hy is op 30 Mei 1917 as tweede luitenant aangestel en het op 25 Maart 1918 in aksie gesneuwel.¹

Seth Anthony: eerste swart Afrika-gebore soldaat

Uit Wikipedia, die vrye ensiklopedie

Majoor Seth Kobla Anthony, MBE (15 Junie 1915 – 20 November 2008) was 'n Ghanese soldaat en diplomaat. Hy was die eerste swart, in Afrika gebore soldaat wat as offisier in die Britse Leër aangestel is.

• Vroeë lewe en opvoeding

Seth Anthony is in Adafienu in die Volta-streek van Ghana gebore.

Loopbaan

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Walter_Tull afgelaai op 13 Mei 2025.

Anthony het in 1937 by die personeel van die Achimota-skool aangesluit om Latyn, Engels en Wiskunde te onderrig. Later, tydens die Tweede Wêreldoorlog, het hy as soldaat by die Britse leër aangesluit. Sy eenheid was die Vyfde Bataljon van die Gold Coast Regiment. Hy het in 1941 by die Royal Military College in Sandhurst in Engeland ingeskryf en is in 1942 as 'n Tweede Luitenant aangestel. Hy het in die 81ste Divisie van die Royal West African Frontier Force gedien, waar hy die eerste Afrika-offisier in die geskiedenis van die Britse leër geword het.²

Wat het in suidelike Afrika gebeur met die mense van kleur? Ek gee my eie perspektief:

Die Nie-Wit lid van die SA Polisie: Persoonlike Perspektief

As iemand wat vir jare in die geskiedenis van die SA Polisie belangstel en gedurig vrae gevra het, kom ek vandag tot die volgende gevolgtrekking:

Onder die VOC se bestuur van die nedersetting aan die Kaap was die meeste polisiemanne nie-blank. Na die eerste Britse besetting, onder die kortstondige bewind van die Bataafse Republiek, was die Kaap die eerste nie-rassige demokrasie in Afrika, met alle kwalifiserende mans wat stemreg geniet het ongeag ras. Vir die tydperk (1802 – 1806) kon ek geen voorbeeld van diskriminasie teen nie-wit soldate vind nie. Ek dink bv aan die “Slag by Blauwberg”, waar die Kaap teen die 2e Britse inval verdedig is deur die gesamentlike mag van Boere dragonders, Hottentotse Ligte Infanterie en die plaaslike Maleiers wat die (vrywillige) “Javaanse Artillerie-korps” gevorm het. Daar was geen ‘apartheid’ nie.

Ook gedurende die Groot Trek is daar skouer-aan-skouer geveg. Tydens die slag van Bloedrivier was ongeveer ‘n kwart van die vegters in die laer Trek-deelnemers wat “nie-blank” was. Dit was byvoorbeeld die Trekker-leier Jan Bantjes, waarskynlik die mees geskoolde van die Voortrekkers en self ‘n man van kleur, wat die Gelofte formuleer het (hy sou later posmeester-generaal van die Transvaalse republiek en sekretaris van die Volksraad word – dit was sy seun wat die Witwatersrandse goud-rif ontdek het).

In die Britse kolonies wat later Suid-Afrika geword het, het die Britse owerhede altyd teen die nie-wit polisieman op een of ander wyse gediskrimineer – neem bv die uniforms, mediese voordele en soldy. Daar was verskillende uniforms vir blankes, Indiërs en swart lede. Laasgenoemde was dikwels kaalvoet. (Die SA Polisie het die beleid en die sub-kultuur voortgesit tot in die 1980’s en toe eers het almal dieselfde blou-en-grys uniform gedra.)

In teenstelling met die Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek Politie (Zarp) – word waargeneem dat die swart polisie wel dieselfde uniform en skoene dra.

² https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seth_Anthony

'n Foto vertel sy eie verhaal. Graag word 'n paar foto's vertoon om die polisie van destyds te skets.

Natal Kolonie



Natal Kolonie: 'n Kaalvoet-polisieman met assegai.



Natal Kolonie: 'n Sersant met knopkierie. Ek wonder of hy 'n beredeman is? Opmerklik ligte broek en oprol kamaste.



Twee lede met verskillende uniforms – die swart lid dra “tradisionele” wapens – assegai en knobkierie! (Miskien Durban Gemeentelike Politie).



Natal Kolonie: Weer kaalvoetpolisie en wit en swart dra verskillende uniforms.



Early Days in Natal

THE NATAL POLICE AND COURT HOUSE STAFF AT PORT SHEPSTONE IN 1904.

Seated (L. to R.) : Mr. Foyle (Clerk of Court), Insp. Clifton, Mr. J. J. Jackson (Magistrate), Mr. F. H. C. Behrmann (Clerk of Court) and Dr. C. A. Bowker (District Surgeon).
 Standing : Tpr. Woods, Gnr. A. B. Cox, Tpr. van Rensburg, Sergt. George and Tpr. Jacobs.

THE NONQOAI

968

AUGUST, 1946

Natal Kolonie: Drie verskillende uniforms vir wit en nie-wit. 'Kaalvoet-polisiemanne' van Natal. In die heel agterste ry, links, staan twee Indiërlede met petjies op. Nie-wit lede dra swart en blankes dra kakie.

Natal Police of Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie



Let op die nie-wit lede van die Natal Police of Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie – let op Indiër-lid agterste ry – regs met petjie. Voor swart lid - kaalvoet met knopkierie en rolkamaste.

Zarps

Adjutant Maraba van die Zarp's dra dieselfde uniform (met skoene) as die wit lede.





Staande heel regs: Adjudant Maraba in dieselfde uniform as sy Boere-kollegas. Onder die Boere se polisie kon ek geen kaalvoet polisiemanne kry nie – slegs onder Britse koloniale heerskappy.

Kaapkolonie: Swartmense in die Polisie

Ek kan geen foto's van swart polisieledes in die Kaapkolonie opspoor nie. Meestal kom slegs wit mense op foto's voor. Sekere magte, soos die Frontier Mounted and Armed Police, Cape Police, Cape Mounted Police blyk slegs wit mense in diens te hê. Sekerlik was staljongens en wadrywers swart maar ek kon geen swart lede in uniform bekom nie. (Is dit omdat hulle onbelangrik was dat hulle nie afgeneem is nie.)

Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie



Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie: Voor gestewelde swart lede – voet- en beredepolisie (met opslaan hoede). Middelste ry Indiër-lid heel links.

My eerste indruk van die “nie-Blanke”-lede van die Mag was, dat hulle nie van die begin af, as VOLWAARDIGE lede van die Mag beskou was nie, maar eerder as hulp-konstabels (Auxiliary Police) in ons stryd teen misdaad gesien was. Soos onder die Britte (Kyk ook maar na die destydse Rhodesië) het blankes altyd die bevel gevoer en was ‘n nie-blanke lede aan selfs die jongste Patrol Officer onderskik. (Die Zulu’s het ons jong mannetjies “Kosaan” genoem.)

Deur die jare het ek die indruk gekry dat nie-wit polisiemanne, alhoewel sommige nie kon lees of skryf nie, wel uitstaande lede van die Mag was. Ek was op “skofte” van 1964 – 1969 en het met etlike swart lede saamgewerk. Baie van hierdie lede was ongeletterd of het lae skoolastiese kwalifikasies gehad, maar hulle was uitstekend polisiemanne! (Hulle het ‘**discipline, dedication and determination**’ gehad).

So het ons bv senior-spesiale graad-hoofersant Taylor Xaba gehad – hy het vir niemand op die stasie teruggestaan nie, veral wat administratiewe kennis betref het MAAR hy kon in sy wildste

drome nie die stasie “oorvat” as stasiebevelvoerder nie. Die ander swart lede sou nie na hom luister nie want hy het geen “koninklike bloed” gehad nie. Die man met gesag op die stasie was ‘n verrimpelde ou konstabel met koninklike bloed – as hy met die stasiebevelvoerder tydens stasielesings saamgestem het, het al die swart lede ingestem – dis hoe dit was!

‘n Swart man sluit by die polisie aan te SAP King’s Rest en sy rang? Arbeider-konstabel! (Nie student-konstabel nie.) Dit verskerp my siening dat die owerhede hulle as hulp-polisie beskou het.

Eers na die tweede wêreldoorlog word swart lede vir die eerste maal formeel opgelei en Indiërs later in Durban gedurende 1952.

Sers Nkosi: SAP Louis Botha-lughawe (1969)

Sersant Nkosi: ‘n Beter en getroue sersant was moeilik om te vind! Ons was net twee sersante op die stasie en hy het sy plek dubbel en dwars vol gestaan, maar hy was geen klerk nie. (“When I think of him, I think of the three “D’s” viz: **Discipline, Dedication and Determination**” – HBH)



Kom ons wees eerlik:

1. Blanke lede was destyds skolasities beter opgelei (ons het bv die hele leerstuk *mens rea* geken) en het die leiding geneem – ons polisie was die eerste linie van verdediging.

2. Wit polisiemanne het 'n groot kulturele voorsprong gehad, hulle was mense wat bv kerk toe gegaan en dus met die gemenereg in sy breedste sin, groot geword het en bv Bybel, koerante en die Nongqai gelees het, radio geluister het. Swart lede het uit 'n ander milieu gekom.
3. As rekenpligtige amptenaar het die kommissaris altyd probeer om die Mag twee-derdes ongetroud te hou om te spaar op mediese uitgawes. Blanke lede moes aansoek doen om te trou. Die polisieman se gesin het gratis mediese behandeling ontvang. Slegs die nie-wit lede het gratis medies ontvang want hulle gesinne was groot en baie het meer as een vrou gehad. Ek is jammer maar so was dit.
4. Wanneer 'n swart lid met verlof gegaan het, moes hy sy uitrusting inhandig en het hy 'n geskrewe verlofpas ontvang.
5. 'n Wit lid – juis van sy kulturele agtergrond - het altyd bevel gevoer en was dissiplinêr verantwoordelik aan die stasiebevelvoerder vir bv die aflossing se gesamentlike optrede. (Ek ontken geensins die ervaring ván swart lede nie – hulle was 'n onmisbare skakel in ons strewe om 'n misdadervrye samelewing daar te stel.
6. Gedurende 1964 was ek in die SAP-kollege – ek was 'n kind - en was uitgereik met 'n rewolwer met 12 patrone, 'n .303-geweer, bajonet en 50 patrone. (Ons Boerseuns het vuurwapens en die hantering daarvan van kleins af goed geken). Ook is ons baie goed in die kollege opgelei – **deur die beste instrukteurs in die wêreld!** Saam met my uitrusting het ek 'n stel boeke ontvang, nl Staande Orders, Staande Orders Finansieel, Staande Orders Voorrade en Wenke by die Onderzoek van Misdad. Ek moes nie net die vuurwapens in stand hou nie maar ook die gereelde wysigings in die boeke aanbring. Ek het omdat ek kan lees 'n reuse voorsprong gehad!
7. My swart kollegas het net 'n knuppel, fluitjie en handboeie gehad. My swart kollega het ook 'n knopkierie of assegaai, by geleentheid, gedra. (Die bandietwag het elke dag sy assegaai gedra.) In die onluseenheid het ons swart kollegas met assegaai en knopkieries die eerste linie gevorm.
8. Ons wit jong seuns in die Mag het alle sersante respekteer en op die rang aangespreek – wit en swart. Ons het baie met die ervare swart lede beraadslaag en hul leiding aanvaar. Hulle het my bv geleer om inbrekers te vang!
9. Ek was ook op die personeel van die afdelingsbevelvoerder, veiligheidstak, Port Natal. Destyds was die BO luit-kol FMA Steenkamp. Luit Nayager was na sy offisiërskursus weer na Durban teruggestuur. Almal het hom "luitenant" genoem. Lt-kol Steenkamp het hom 'n nuwe goue Chevrolet sedan motor gegee (bekend as "The Golden Beauty") en toe die wit luitenant en AO's kla dat hulle swakker voertuie as Lt Nayager het, het die BO gesê dat die luitenant 'n leier in sy gemeenskap is en 'n "bypassende" motor moet hê.

10. Ek het met Lt. Nayager saamgewerk – ons was op dieselfde Saterdag-skof en ek het baie met hom gesels. Hy was ‘n vermaarde offisier en het selfs alleen ‘n opgeleide terroris gearresteer. (Ek het toevallig nou die dag met die einste aangekeerde gesels, ‘n afgetrede generaal van die SANW, en hy het bevestig dat die luitenant hom aangekeer het.) Hy was so goed hy het selfs blanke bronne gewerf en hanteer. Vir my het hy soos die akteur Omar Sharif gelyk. Hy was ‘n ware heer.
11. Ook as konstabel en sersant het ek met uitstaande nie-wit lede gewerk wat uitmuntende diens gelewer het. Daar was in daardie “moeilike dae” baie goeie polisiemanne en “apartheid” het nie vir ons saak gemaak nie. In die aanklagtekantoor as ons moes borg gee en geen witsersant was teenwoordig nie, het sersant Q Khumalo 140072R (ek onthou steeds sy magsnommer) die borgkwitansie vir ons geteken en geen haan het daaroor gekraai nie. Sers Muninal was ‘n uitstekende speurder te Wentworth en hy het ons gereeld gehelp – veral wat tolkwerk betref het van Hindoestani, Goetsjerath ander Indiese dialekte na Engels – sy bynaam was “Sergeant Tiger”.
12. Die eerste swart lid om sy eie dossiere te dra was speurder-konstabel Russel Gwala – hy het my daarvan vertel. Eers het slegs blanke speurders dossiere gedra en swart speurders getaak om in opdrag sekere verklarings te neem. Konst Gwala was baie trots op die feit.
13. Ek sal nooit konstabel Bekinkosi Cele se woorde vergeet nie: “Kosaan as julle die land moet verlaat, gaan ek saam. My mense kan g’n land regeer nie”. Hy was ‘n tweede wêreldoorlog veteraan en het te Tobroek ontsnap. Ons het op nagdiens baie oor die oorlog gesels.
14. As militaris kon ek nooit verstaan dat iemand ‘n “Bantoe-luitenant” kan wees nie! Jy is ‘n offisier wat ‘n kommissie van die staatspresident ontvang het en niks anders nie. Mens salueer die rang nie die mens nie. So is ‘n sersant ‘n sersant. In my oë was daar ook nie iets soos ‘n vroue-kaptein nie – jy is ‘n kaptein en niks anders nie. ‘n Rang is ‘n rang en die word verwerf sonder voorvoegsels!
15. As distrikskommissaris (DK) het ek ondervind dat ‘n (swart) luitenant-kolonel as stasiebevelvoerder dien. My distrik-offisiere was luitenant, kapteins en majoors – hoe kon hulle sy stasie inspekteer? Ek het hom toe na die DK-kantoor verplaas en by Gemeenskapsverhoudinge aangestel maar hy moes ook DK-stafwerk doen. Hy was ‘n uitstekende Gemeenskapsverhoudinge-offisier maar het nie van die stafwerk gehou nie.
16. Ek het gedink dis kwetsend as Indiërlede van Natal deur die Vrystaat na die Transvaal gereis het om permitte te bekom om deur die Vrystaat te reis. ‘n Polisieman is ‘n polisieman en moet as sulks behandel word – eintlik moes die wet gewysig word dat dit nie op Indiër-polisiemanne van toepassing was nie.
17. Ek het in my polisieloopbaan slegs een voorval van rassisme teëgekom toe ‘n munisipale busdrywer nie ‘n swart konstabel in volle uniform – wat my vergesel het – nie op die “rooi”

Durban munisipale bus wou toelaat nie – ons moes vir die “groen” nie-blanke munisipale bus wag waarop ons albei kon reis. (In Durban, Johannesburg en Kaapstad het poliesmanne destyds gratis op busse gery.)



Links: S/Sers Munilal destyds van die KOD te SAP Wentworth – hy het later ‘n senioroffisier geword.
Regs: Lt-kol S Pillay stasiebevelvoerder van SAP Chatsworth



My kollega van die veiligheidstak, Port Natal. Luit Nelson Nyager met die “Golden Beauty”.

SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIE

Privaatsak 94
Verwysing: C.8/3/14
Navrae: Brig. Loxton
Telefoon: 2-3130

HOOFKANTOOR,
PRETORIA.

30 Julie 1970.

STRENG VERTROULIK

- A. Alle Afdelingskommissarisse,
REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA EN
SUIDWES-AFRIKA.
- B. Die Bevelvoerende Offisier,
Veiligheidspolisie,
PRETORIA.
- C. Die Kommissaris,
KAAPSTAD.
- D. ALLE HOOFKANTOORAFDELINGS.

TOEKENNING VAN OFFISIERSRANG AAN NIE-BLANKE
LEDE VAN DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIE.

A. & B.

1. In ooreenstemming met die Regeringsbeleid van afsonderlike ontwikkeling vir die verskillende volke en bevolkingsgroepe in ons land en om hulle sover moontlik deur eie rasgenote te laat polisiëer en ter uitvoering van 'n kabinetsbesluit in dié verband 'n jaar of twee gelede is die aanstelling in luitenant-rang van die volgende elf Nie-blanke lede van die Mag met ingang van 1.7.1970 goedgekeur:

<u>NOMMER</u>	<u>RANG</u>	<u>NAAM</u>	<u>TAK</u>	<u>HUIDIGE STANDPLAAS</u>
132294T	S/G/H/S (I)	Pillai, S.	Uniform	Chatsworth.
134816N	Spr/H/S (I)	Nayager, K.	V/Polisie	Durban.
131407M	Spr/S/G/H/S(K)	Voskuil, A.	Speurders	Bishop Lavis.
138547T	H/Sers. (K)	Carstens, W.E.	Uniform	Paarl-Oos.
130766K	H/Sers. (K)	Balie, A.M.	Uniform	Woodstock.
131583P	S/G/H/S (B)	Mantutle, J.	Uniform	Zwelitsha.
134225P	S/G/H/S (B)	Cwele, E.	Uniform	Cofimvaba.
123525N	S/G/H/S (B)	Radebe, A.	Uniform	Oostelike Bantodorp.
133247F	S/G/H/S (B)	Mantanga, R.S.	Uniform	Willowvale.
129420E	Spr/S/G/H/S(B)	Zikalala, P.	Speurders	Kwa-Mashu.
135769N	Spr/S/G/H/S(B)	Mphahlele, J.M.D.	V/Polisie	John Vorsterplein.

2/

2. Met die uitsondering van twee lede bly almal, na die aanstelling in offisiërsrang, op hul huidige stasies aan. Kleurlingluitenant Balie word met ingang van 1 Augustus 1970 na Bishop Lavis as Stasiebevelvoerder verplaas en Bantoe-luitenant Mantanga aan die einde van Augustus 1970 na Kwazakele nr.8 (Korsten) Distrik waar hy toesighoudende dienste sal verrig. Die koste verbonde aan die verplasing moet so spoedig moontlik verstrek word.
3. Die rangsbenaming van hierdie lede is Indiërluitenant, Kleurlingluitenant en Bantoe-luitenant en hulle moet aangespreek word as "Luitenant" of "Lieutenant".
4. Die elf lede is wel, onder andere, onderrig in die prosedure om rade van ondersoek en tugverhore waar te neem, maar dit word aan die oordeel van distrikskommandante en -speur-offisiere oorgelaat om, in oorlog met hulle afdelingskommissaris, te besluit of individuele luitenant aanvaanklik met gemelde pligte belas moet word.
5. Ingevolge artikel 4 van die Wet op Vrederegters en Kommissaris van Ede, nr.16 van 1963, word hulle by aanstelling outomaties vrederegters en kragtens artikel 6, gelees met Goewermentskennisgewing R.1038 van 14 Julie 1967, is hulle ook Kommissaris van Ede.
6. In terme van artikel 7 van die Wet op Oproerige Byeen-komste, nr.17 van 1956, sal die luitenant by magte wees om die persone by so 'n samekoms aan te sê om uiteen te gaan en, indien hulle weier, opdrag te gee dat hulle uiteen gedryf word. Hierdie bevoegdheid moet vanselfsprekend nie in Blanke gebiede uitgeoefen word nie.
7. Insgelyks sal hulle, ingevolge artikel 58 van die Drankwet, nr.30 van 1928, onder sekere omstandighede die sluiting van gelisensieerde geboue kan gelas. In hierdie geval moet die Wetsbevoegdheid ook nie in Blanke gebiede uitgeoefen word nie.
8. Hulle rang- sowel as kentekens, gespes en dies meer, sal van wit metaal wees. Hulle word uitgereik met Sam Browne-lyfbande, handskoene, stokke en swaarde, maar nie met tafeltenudrag nie.
9. Die woordoms krywing van "meerdere" in Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie regulasie 1(1)(xx) bring onder andere mee dat dit nie verpligtend is vir Blanke konstabels, sersante en adjudant-offisiere om Nie-blanke offisiere te salueer nie.
10. Ek en ander senior offisiere was besonder beïndruk deur die betreklike hoë standaard wat deur hierdie elf lede tydens hulle kursus aan die dag gelê is, wat beslis ook 'n aanduiding is dat die tyd nou ryp is om tot hierdie stap oor te gaan - hoewel aanvaanklik maar op 'n klein skaal. Ek voel oortuig dat

indien hulle in die praktyk die nodige simpatieke leiding, onderrig en bystand van hulle voogde, ons Blanke offisiere, ontvang, hulle van groot diens vir die Mag, hulle mense en ons land kan wees.

11. Dat daar van tyd tot tyd probleme sal of kan ontstaan, moet ons verwag. Dan is ons immers daar om dit te oorbrug. Niks wat die moeite werd is, is nog ooit in die wêreld bereik sonder om probleme te bowe te kom nie.

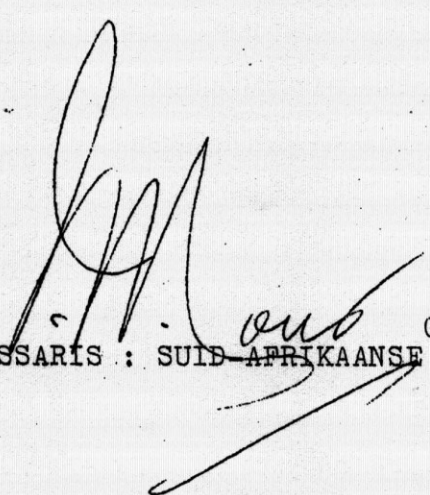
12. Van my kant wil ek graag n ernstige beroep op alle lede van die Mag doen om juis van hierdie besondere gebeurtenis en geleentheid ten volle gebruik te maak om die tradisionele, interne, gesonde rasseverhoudings wat nog altyd so kenmerkend van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisie was verder uit te bou en te bevorder. Daarmee kan ons n groot diens aan Suid-Afrika lewer.

13. Voldoende eksemplare gaan hierby vir verspreiding aan bevelvoerders tot op stasievlak.

.....

C. & D.

1. Afskrif vir u inligting.


KOMMISSARIS : SUID-AFRIKAANSE POLISIE. Generaal.

Nota: Ek wonder wat van hierdie offisiere geword het. Nie-wit offisiere het later tafeltenue ontvang en gedra. Gedurende die begin 1980 het almal die blou en grys uniform gedra.

Kommentaar deur dr Willem Steenkamp

'n Baie nodige artikel, brig Hennie. Blank Suid-Afrika (die wit Afrikaners by name) het nie Apartheid uitgevind nie – net dit loop staan en kodifiseer en naam gee, en toe die Britse uitvinders daarvan verbygesteek (soos met rugby) in die uitleef daarvan.

Dat dit egter nie gestrook het met ons eie Kaapse en Trekker-wortels nie, is 'n historiese feit soos 'n koei – soos u navorsing deeglik aantoon.

Ek kan beaam wat u sê oor die aandrang op respek vir alle seniors van kleur. My pa (na wie u in die artikel verwys) was altyd absoluut gesteld hierop – ook met ons as kinders. Iets wat mens moet onthou is dat vele Afrikaanse polisiemanne van daardie era plattelandse kinders was wat die swart taal van hulle streek vlot kon praat en saam met swartmense grootgeword en self van kindsbeen af geleer is om hulle te respekteer.

Al het Britse tradisies ingesypel (die grondslag vir die struktuur en uitrusting van die polsie na die 2e Vryheidsoorlog is to deur hulle gelê) was daar ook die Afrikaanse Christelike norme wat vormend gebly het oor inter-persoonlike gedrag.

Niemand kan of wil dus die destydse bestaan van diskriminasie en 'n sin onder ons dat daar tog opsigtelik verskille in kulturele identiteit was, probeer ontken nie. Maar erkenning van die werklikheid van verskillende kultuur-agtergronde het nie *ipso facto* beteken persoonlike disrespek nie – veral nie in instansies soos die Mag nie, waar ander sterk tradisies tog ook gegeld het, soos dissipline, erkenning van gesag en die beginsel dat dit orde-gewys gaan om die rang, nie die man wat die kentekens daarvan dra nie.

Gelukkig verander tye, en verander mense se tradisies en simbole. Was ons te laat, om aan te pas? Bes moontlik ja. Sou dit veel beter gewees het as ons die Ou Kaapse en Trekker-benadering bly handhaaf het, eerder as dat ons magte (as aanvanklik deel van die Britse Ryk) toentertyd in daardie styl georganiseer is? Bepaald JA. Moet ons egter ook erken dat van die ander Britse magte-tradisies wat ons ge-erf het waardevol was? Ook JA.

Gedane sake het geen keer nie. Dit is wat dit was. Al wat oorbly, is om die lesse van die verlede te leer. En daarvoor, daardie verlede korrek te boekstaaf – soos wat u hier puik gedoen het.



Kommentaar deur brig Fanie Bouwer

Ek was 'n paar maande 'n konstabel gewees toe Hoofkantoor bostaande omsendbrief in 1970 gesirkuleer het. Ek sien dit nou vir die eerste keer.

Ek sit en wonder hoekom die omsendbrief nogal as 'Streng Vertroulik' gemerk was?

Twee dinge het onmiddellik deur my kop gegaan toe ek die omsendbrief lees. En natuurlik ook brigadier Heymans se mymeringe en geskiedenisoorisig hierbo.

Die eerste was: "Those were the days .. ". En die tweede ding, is die ou stelling: "Ons was maar almal maaksels van ons of 'n spesifieke tyd" gewees.

Laasgenoemde stelling dra natuurlik 'n diep en insiggewende betekenis, veral in die konteks van 'n era soos ons dit destyds in Suid-Afrika in daardie historiese tydvak(ke) beleef het en wat mense se denke en gedrag gevorm het.

Met "maaksels van ons spesifieke tyd" word erken dat mense nie in isolasie bestaan nie, maar eerder gevorm word deur die idees, norme, strukture en verwagtinge van die tyd waarin hulle geleef het. In die ou Suid-Afrika het wetgewing, opvoeding, godsdiens, media en maatskaplike druk almal saamgespan om 'n sekere wêreldbeskouing te vorm, wat ook al dit sou wees.

In daar dekades vóór 1970, het polisiemanne, wat ookal die politieke beleide was, reg of verkeerd, geglo hulle dien die gemeenskap - nie met kwaadwilligheid nie, maar omdat dit bloot in die gees van die tyd was.

Ek lees in die artikel van nie-blankes se eienaardige uniformstukke, toerusting (assegai, knopkierie) en 'n swartkonstabel sonder skoene. Die 'maaksels' van die tyd het dit só goedgevind, sonder enige kwaadwillige bedoelings.

In 1970 was die verhoudinge met ander rasse in SA op 'n baie goeie plek. En veral in die SAP was daar baie goeie, onderlinge verhoudinge en wedersydse respek tussen wit en swart lede gewees.

Ek glo vas ek en my mede wit kollegas sou daardie nuwe nie-blanke offisiere gerespekteer het; op hul rang aangespreek én gesalueer het.



Kommentaar Deur Genl-Maj Chris Botha

Geagte brigadier Hennie,

Bake dankie hiervoor – ek het met aandag gelees.

Ek hou van die feitelikheid (soos met Fanie die geval is, is die primêre bron vir my onbekend gewees tot nou toe) en die histories-eerlike empatie waarmee jy hiermee omgaan. Neem alle hedendaagse kommentators oor die aparte ontwikkelingsdenke altyd genoegsaam kennis van die soomlose benadering teenoor die eerste- en vroeër inwoners van die huidige Suid-Afrika tydens (opeenvolgend) kolonialisme en apartheid? Van die denke in Europa wat saamgekom het met die mense wat hierheen gereis het? En die invloed wat dit vir solank na aankoms nog sou uitoefen?

Die outo-etnografiese insigte wat jy met jou lesers deel het my natuurlik oopgeval: dit is 'n bron van ryk inligting waarvan opvolg-navorsers kennis kan neem.

Op Wolmaransstad vanaf 20 Januarie tot vroeg Julie 1972 het ons vir sersant Isak, 'n swartman, gehad. Hy het 'n lourierkrans om die kasteel (of ster?) van sy rangteken gedra en ek meen (as ek reg onthou) dat sy rang as 'Hoofdersant' bekend gestaan het. Sersant Isak was as 'dersant' aangespreek en my stasiebevelvoerder (die latere bekende kolonel Willie Fouché van Koevoet) het ons twee studente op die stasie die dood voor die oë gesweer indien ons nie respekte sou betoon het nie. Hy was aktief betrokke by ons opleiding terwyl ons op die stasie was. (Onthou, dit was in die ou Wes-Transvaal, nie juis bekend vir verligte politieke denke nie ...). Op Oos-Londen (1977) het sersant Njombolwana, 'n isiXhosa sprekende, saam met my gewerk wanneer ek die Aanklagkantoor-sersant was. Van hierdie ou man, in die lang nagure by die ou Fleetstraat polisiestasie, het ek van die beste opleiding gekry oor gemeenskapskaking. As 'n jong kommissie-offisier en kompaniebevelvoerder by die drilafdeling van die ou Polkol, het ek die voorreg gehad om (latere kommissaris/generaals) John Manuel, Morgan Chetty en 'n paar ander deur die drilkurrikulum van die Kandidaatoffisiërskursus te neem. Die gesprekke rondom die rol van dril in die uitvoering van die polisietaak in die samelewing bly my vandag nog by (ek het selfs later die diskoers verfyn en in 'n voorgeskrewe handboek publiseer).

En so voort ...

Kom ons vertel die lesers wat ons beleef het, en wat ons uit ons geleefde ervaring geleer het - sonder om heeldyd te blameer, maar tog met die doel om nie dieselfde foute te maaak nie en te neem uit die verlede wat goed was. Vir die vrou by die put het Jesus gesê dat sy gerus met haar lewe moet aangaan, maar nie weer dit moet doen wat nie reg was nie ...

Dalk pas die aangehegte gediggie hierby?

Dankie vir wat jy doen geagte vriend – hierdie saad sal op vrugbare grond val ...

Caritas et amor!

B



Gedig deur genl-maj Chris Botha

DEMOKRASIE, Sê JY?

(Chris Botha)

nog iets wat ek nie verstaan nie
is, hoekom is ek die aartsvyand
vir die wat nie met my eens is nie
ek mag mos verskil, dan nie?

eerlikheid is tog nie verkeerd nie
my punt is sorgvuldig beredeneer
mag ek nie aangehoor word nie
het ek dan nie ook 'n saak nie?

oneerlikheid is nie vir my reg nie
reg en oneerlik is tog nie verwant
wil opposisie my punt nie oorweeg nie
daarmee is mos niks verkeerd nie?

is die wat nie kan redeneer nie
ongesofistikeerde stiksieniges
wat verkies om nie te groei nie
of bang hul kan nie meeding nie?

dalk moet ek tog maar bedees
berus die aartsvyand te wees
van die analfabetiese gees

(Hartenbos; 11 Mei 2025)



Kommentaar deur Kol Logan Govender

Hy was die eerste offisier van kleur te Wachthuis. Hy lewer soos volg kommentaar:

1970: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS: AWARD OF OFFICER RANK TO NON- WHITE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE

The history of the South African Police dates to April, 1913. The first two Indian members / officials of the South African Police Force were Constables Maghali and Jacob Mahomed, who originally joined the Borough Police of Natal during 1904. Historically, Non-White policemen were seen to be inferior to white police officers, and they were poorly treated and further discriminated against. Every White member was considered superior to their Non-White counterparts, irrespective of their rank or seniority.

During June 1970, approximately 57 years after inception, the South African Police, created the first opportunity for Special Grade Chief Sergeants to be trained into Commissioned Officers. If successful, these officials were to be Commissioned to the rank of Lieutenant. The first course was held at The South African Police, New Modder, Training College located in Benoni, Transvaal (now Gauteng).

The initial intake, in 1970 comprised of eleven (11) Non-White candidates selected for this Candidate Officer's Course of which, only two were Indian, viz Subramonia Pillai and (Nelson) Karbalamurthi Nayager; both of whom were based in Durban, Kwa-Zulu Natal.

At a special passing-out parade at the New Modder Police Training College, the eleven (11) Non-White officials were promoted to officer's rank in the Police Force. This must have been a very proud moment for each of them, their families and friends.

During the 1970's and 1980's, a number of these officers had acquired many years of service, experience, knowledge and skills in policing, that made it possible for them to assimilate the training material imparted to them, on this intense Commissioned Officer's Course.

The passing-out parade, which was addressed by the then Minister of Police, Mr SL Muller, was also attended to by General JP Gous, the then Commissioner of the South African Police. Other high-ranking officers, representatives of several departments of State (including the Department of Indian Affairs, the Chairman of the South African Indian Council, members of the Coloured Representative Council, other dignitaries, relatives and friends of those on parade) were also in attendance. **(According to the information at my disposal S Pillai attended a course, Warrant Officer to Lieutenant from 1970-07-01. The article published in the Fiat Lux 1970 v 5 attached below is dated 7th September 1970. this causes me to believe that the first course in 1970 was for approximately ONE or maybe TWO MONTHS only. - [LG])**



The Minister of Police, Mr S. L. Muller, inspecting the parade with Lieutenant Pillai in the right foreground.

S.A. Police Get 11 New Officers

AT A SPECIAL passing-out parade at the New Modder Police Training College, near Benoni, 11 Non-Whites were recently promoted to officers' rank in the Police Force.

The passing-out parade, addressed by the Minister of Police, Mr S. L. Muller, was attended by General J. P. Gous, the Commissioner of the South African Police, high-ranking

officers, representatives of several departments of State (including the Department of Indian Affairs), the Chairman of the South African Indian Council, members of the Coloured Representative Council, other dignitaries, relatives and friends of the men on parade.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE

Congratulating the officers on their achievement and the high standard set by them, the Minister paid special

tribute to the very important role played by Non-White policemen in maintaining peace and order in South Africa and the way they had proved their loyalty by the faithful execution of their duties along with the White members of the Force. He gave the assurance that further posts would be created and he appealed to Non-White members of the Force to increase their efficiency and to improve their chances of promotion by diligent study.

GREATER RESPONSIBILITY

Pointing out that the modern world with its phenomenal development placed severe strain on the commanders of any police force, the Minister said, "on you, gentlemen, in whose honour this parade is held today, rests a still greater responsibility". Mr Muller pointed out that to be able to cope with their exacting duties, the officers would have to utilise every second of their time and all opportunities to improve their knowledge and efficiency and at the same time also that of their subordinates. He added : " You will be expected to give special attention to those under your command in the knowledge that your success will be measured by the efficiency and devotion to duty of those who serve under you."

ADVANCED

After expressing his gratitude to the officers on parade for what they had already done towards in-service training, the Minister mentioned that it was the policy of his Department to step up training of a more advanced nature and that it was hoped that such training for Non-White members would be well on the way in the foreseeable future.

He added that, judging by the report received on the officers on parade, there existed no doubt in his own mind that they would live up to the high ideals set for an officer in the S.A. Police.

ON THE THRESHOLD

The Minister also remarked that the officers were standing on the threshold of a great future and that it would be their responsibility to prove the success of the scheme and thereby create further opportunities for their own racial groups.

Concluding his address, the Minister appealed to all members of the Force to give their whole-hearted support to the new officers●

Indian police officer gets a commission

LIEUT. SUBRAMONIA PILLAI, Station Commander at Chatsworth Police Station, who recently became the first Indian commissioned police officer in South Africa.

Born in Durban in 1927, Lieut. Pillai was forced to leave school at Standard III because of poor family circumstances. He went to work in a factory and then as a waiter. But he also went to evening classes where he obtained his Standard VI certificate.

After passing his examinations he joined the S.A.P. in 1949. His first appointment was at Stamford Hill, where he served as a constable for eight years, before writing another examination for promotion to sergeant.

Later he was transferred to Sydenham Police Station, where he rose to senior sergeant and later chief sergeant.

STATION COMMANDER

In 1965 he was appointed Station Commander at the Chatsworth Police Station and two years later he was promoted to special grade chief sergeant. By private study he obtained his matriculation and Hoër Taalbond certificates and he is presently studying a second-year course in public service law.

He is in charge of a staff of more than 100 policemen in the vast township with a population of more than 150 000 Indians.

Lieut. Pillai is married and has six children, two of them in high school and another studying to become a teacher at the Springfield College of Education.



Unfortunately, very little or nothing further is known about the nature of this particular course.

Apart from a few minor incidents of the unpleasant racial policies of the Apartheid Government, I did not experience the same racial discrimination that was meted out to other members and our predecessors from the early days. I have learnt from many other fellow members of the unfair practices experienced by these individuals.

Entrances to the charge office, toilet and ablution facilities, canteen and mess and barracks were separated for the exclusive use of Whites and Non-Whites did exist and we were compelled to strictly complied with.

I will not waste valuable time and dwell on these as I am primarily concerned with the historical accomplishments and achievements of our individual Indian members.

I shall begin by referring to some of the incidents that I was involved in but overcame by the Grace of God and hard and diligent work.

After I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1984 I was summoned by the District Commandant's office and informed that as an Indian I am unable to remain at the station as firstly awaiting promotion to the rank of Warrant Officer and it is prohibited to remain at a station where the commander was a white Warrant Officer as I would have seniority over the white constables and sergeants. The authority arrived a few days later stating "Die verplasing moet so gou as moontlik uitgevoer word om doeltreffendheid te bevorder." This was not the reason as I was verbally informed otherwise.

I was immediately transferred to a station that had an Indian Captain as the station commander.

After my promotion to commissioned rank, lieutenant in 1986, I was acting station commander as the White Captain, the station commander was away on detachment duties. An incident occurred where an attorney reported irregularities at the station regarding an awaiting trial prisoner. The District Commandant sent a white sergeant to drive to the station to investigate. Upon his arrival he was informed by the charge office to consult with myself. After listening to the sergeant, I informed him as he could see I was a commissioned officer and will not let a sergeant undermine my integrity or authority. I Immediately called the District Commandant, who was a Colonel and informed him that a white sergeant is at the station on the instructions from his office who was sent to investigate an Indian Lieutenant, but I won't allow it. The District Commandant responded that he was not aware that there was an officer at the station and profusely apologized and asked that the sergeant be sent back on his way. This officer has reached a senior rank and him, and I are still in constant contact as friends.

During 1989 I was transferred to the Soweto West District; after a few months the Chief Deputy Commissioner, a Lieutenant-General at the time forwarded a telex instructing me to report to the

Head of Personnel Administration, a Major General, I think it was the “Maritime” building in Pretorius Street. I was informed by the General that I was the first and only Indian will be working amongst mainly white members and civilian staff.

A few days later a telex arrived instructing me to report to Compol, Wachthuis, Pretorius Street, the following Monday.

On Monday morning at around 7am I nervously walked towards “Wachthuis” the “lions’ mouth” as I nicknamed it. I was shocked as I was gently greeted by a Major General. He said, “more luitenant, wie soek jy” I greeted him in Afrikaans and informed him that I was instructed to report to the 10th. He gladly led to the foyer where the elevators were and guided me to the office of the senior staff officer another Major General. I later learnt he was the Quartermaster Major General Stemmet, himself.

No one spoke English and expected that as a Lieutenant I was *au fait* with it. I was informed to attend the morning prayer meeting where Afrikaans hymns were sung.

My immediate supervisor was summoned to collect me from the 10th floor, and I was inducted and taken to a very large office shared by about 4 other Lieutenants and one Captain.

The duration at “Wachthuis” was the highlight of my police career as I was treated with respect and dignity. Even the White civilian females were very pleasant.

A few years later I was reluctantly informed by the Chief Deputy Commissioner there was a vacancy available and whether I wanted to return to Pietermaritzburg. He urged me not to accept but I unfortunately did not have the foresight neither the hindsight to foresee this decision would not be good for my career.

Upon my arrival in Pietermaritzburg, I was told by a White Captain who was the Station Commander to just go upstairs and find an office and occupy yourself. I was not inducted or told what to do.

During and after my career I became friends with a number of senior and junior white officers and members, such as late Lieutenant General Mulder van Eyk, Snr, Major General Dirk Schoeman, Brigadiers Stan Gillham, Hennie Heymans, the Editor in Chief of Nongqai, who appointed me as a sub-Editor of Nongqai online magazine, Reg Crewe, Eugene Smit, Gert Van Rooyen, late Lieutenant Jan de Klerk, Jerome de Villiers, Norman Nel, Pieter Van Zyl and others. Brigadiers Heymans and Gillham introduced me to several other senior officers including the previous Commissioner, late General JV van der Merwe.





Darryn Newcombe

Durban Borough Police *History* Durban City Police



Edited by Darryn Newcombe

- Durban Borough Police | Durban Gemeentelike Politie



Policeman in Town Gardens with (old) City Hall in background.



Postcard Durban South Africa, West Street, Police Station, Town Hall, Natal Bank.

- **Durban City Police | Durban Stadspolisie**

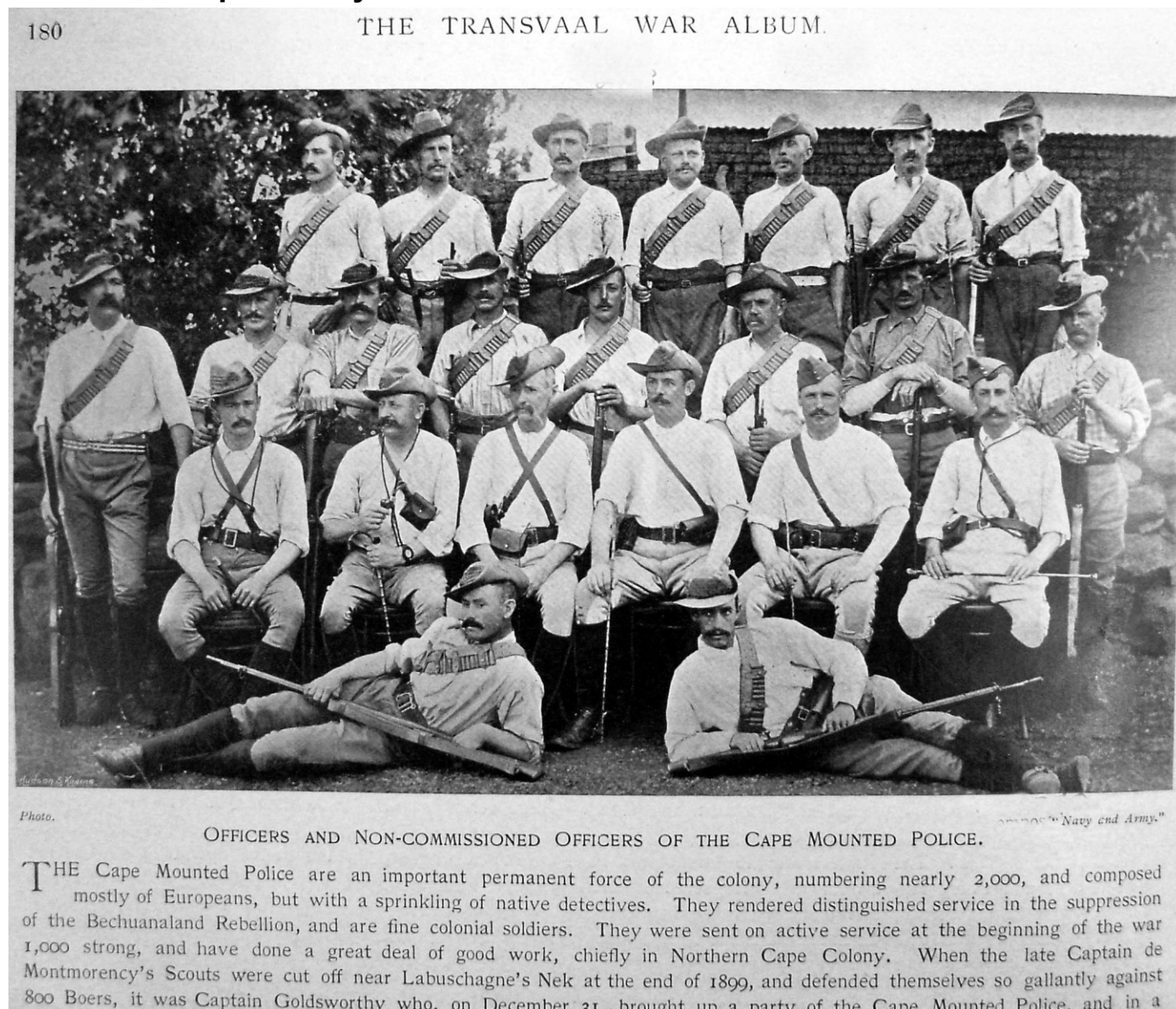




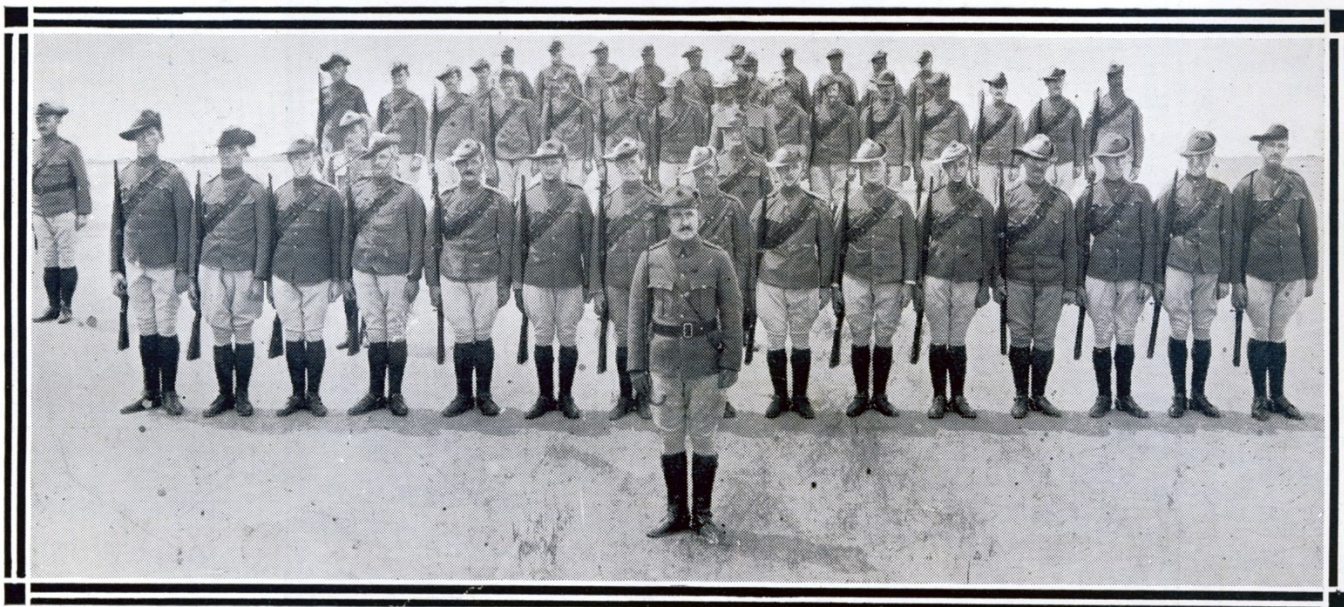
BRITISH COLONIAL POLICE SOUTHERN AFRICA AND ANTECEDENT POLICE FORCES IN SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE MOUNTED POLICE

- Northern Cape Colony



- Cape Police: D2: Headquarters Troop and Machine Gun Section: Kimberley 1901



HEADQUARTERS TROOP AND MACHINE GUN SECTION C.P. D2, KIMBERLEY, 1901.

The O.C. is Capt. W. W. Rush (now Lt.-Col. Rush, D.S.O., retired). In command of the 2nd Troop is Lieut. T. M. Davidson (later Deputy Commissioner, S. A. Police, retired). On the right is Regt. Sergt.-Major J. Ball (afterwards Capt. Ball, S.A. Police, now deceased). Capt. D. C. D. Selby, S.A.M.R. and S.A. Police, now retired) is standing 10th from the right in the 1st Troop.

• Three VC's the Cape Mounted Police



THREE V.C.'s OF THE C.M.P.

In 1899 this detachment of the Cape Mounted Police escorted the Governor of Cape Colony from Grahamstown to Kingwilliamstown. - Three of them were later awarded the V.C. in various campaigns. Col. J. Sherwood-Kelly, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O., Lt. W. Bloomfield, V.C., and Mr. Alec Young, V.C.

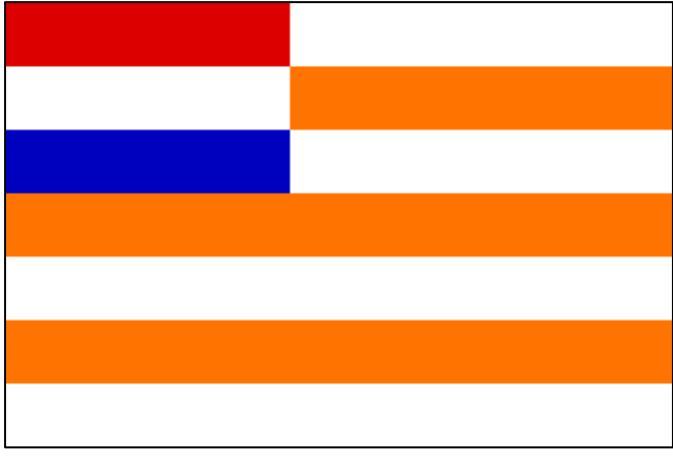
STANDING L. to R. : Ptes. J. Sherwood-Kelly, W. Bissett, A. C. Brown, — Rudolph, W. B. Attwell, O. Fennell.
SITTING : Ptes. W. Bloomfield, A. Ritchie, Sgt. E. Woon later Deputy Commissioner, S.A. Police, Insp. G. Pope-Hennessy, Cpl. Ewers, Pte. Graham.
IN FRONT : Ptes. C. W. Waterford and Alec Young.

THE NONGQAI

1114

SEPTEMBER, 1946

POLISIEMAGTE IN SUID-AFRIKA | REPUBLICAN POLICE FORCES IN SOUTH AFRICA

	
ZAR	OFS

- Zarp's



Z.A.R.P.'s (Helmet Badge) – Period 1901.



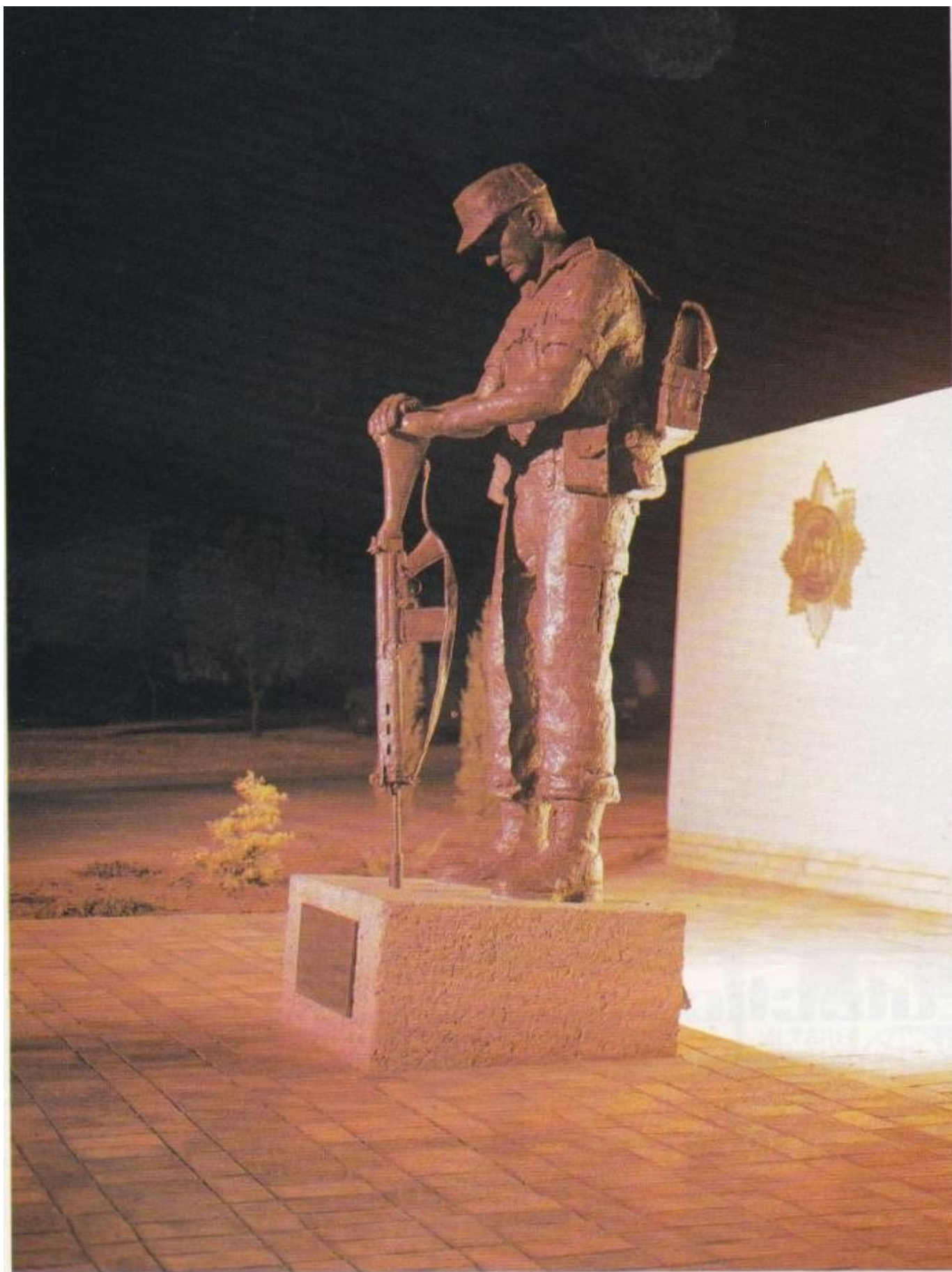
Z.A.R.P.'s – Period 1902.



- OVS Rijdende Dienstmacht (OVSRDM)



Waarskynlik lede van die OVSRDM



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We protect and we serve

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Nasionale Intelligensiediens
Bureau for State Security, Dept of National Security
National Intelligence Service

BSV DNV NI
BfSS DNS NIS



NONGQAI
SUID-AFRIKAANSE MAGTE GESKIEDENIS-TYDSKRIF
SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES HISTORY MAGAZINE

"INTELLEGERE"
(om te verstaan)



Die Ontwikkeling van'n eie
S.A. Intelligensiekunde
Artikel-reeks deur Henning van Aswegen



INTELLEGÉRE 21 – AGENT 1912.

Case Study Agent 1912; Henning van Aswegen

Abstract: Case Study Agent 1912, in the Series Intelligere, based on the book The Spymasters of South Africa.

Agent 1912

The trade union leader with a hidden agenda

In the mid-1980s, the British Government and its secret foreign intelligence services MI6/SIS, attempted to undermine and subvert the South Africa's Government through brazen and sometimes successful espionage and double agent operations. These were the years of extensive economic and military sanctions against South Africa, the boycott of Outspan fruit and other South African products in Europe, sports boycotts, protest marches, and daily demonstrations in front of South African embassies abroad, especially in London and Washington DC.

South Africa's intelligence services, starting with the Bureau for State Security (BfSS) and later the Department of National Security (DoNS) and its successor, the National Intelligence Service (NIS), have been gathering intelligence information in Britain since 1964, especially about perceived political opponents and adversaries. These opponents can be widely referred to as British anti-apartheid groups and exiled political movements, such as the African National Congress (ANC), South African Communist Party (SACP), Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), and the Southwest Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO). South Africa's NIS, with its offices hidden deep in the South African embassy on Trafalgar Square in London, succeeded in infiltrating the ANC-SACP office in London through penetration and infiltration agents and indirectly the British Trades Union Congress (TUC). During the apartheid years, British trade unions were among the largest money suppliers to the ANC- SACP, and also ardent supporters of the international anti-apartheid movement.

Agent 1912 was a respected trade union leader who represented his own trade union on the central committee of the TUC and held a position as regional organizer of the British Labor Party. The TUC is a federation of trade unions that was established in Britain in 1868 and by the end of the 1980s, 78 separate unions were affiliated to the TUC. During the years of apartheid, this trade union regularly made donations to the ANC, the SACP, South African labour unions and the British Anti-Apartheid Movement (AAM). The TUC also campaigned for the imposition of sanctions against South Africa.

Because Agent 1912 came from the ranks of the British trade unions, anti-apartheid pressure groups accepted his bona fides unconditionally and did not suspect that he was a penetration agent of the NIS. As a respected

member of the TUC's executive committee, he attended meetings where financial donations to the ANC-SACP were authorised and methods were discussed to overthrow the South African government through violence. Among other things, the agent determined which organizations in South Africa received money from the British trade unions and the AAM and exactly how much.

Clandestine communication methodology

During monthly meetings with his handler, a member of the South African Embassy in London, Agent 1912 reported on the donations and provided information on the channels and methods used by the ANC-SACP to raise money to send underground members of Umkhonto we Sizwe. Clandestine communication techniques were therefore of the utmost importance to disguise the contact between 03/1912 and his handler. The agent handler (source handler) planned and worked out the details of his secret encounters with the agent, and the methods of communicating with him. Because this agent was so sensitively placed, every possible precaution was taken to prevent him from being compromised. The Embassy and its intelligence component knew that MI5 gathered information about every foreign embassy in London, the locations of cypher rooms, details about incoming and outgoing telephone lines and any satellite communications systems on the premises. So, information about this and other sensitive agents were never written down or recorded, everything was done oral-verbally at locations outside of the Embassy, for example rugby games at Twickenham, where meetings and conversations were almost impossible to monitor.

Neither the ANC-SACP / TUC, nor the British domestic intelligence Neither the ANC-SACP / TUC, nor the British domestic intelligence service MI5, realised that this trade union leader was indeed a spy for the NIS. Some of the information gathered by Agent 1912 were, for example, minutes of ANC-SACP meetings, documents on the British AMM's strategy to undermine the South African government, correspondence between anti-apartheid and pressure groups working together, and agendas of meetings between these groups. Planned meetings between the TUC, the AAM and the ANC-SACP was an example of the kind of information that the South Africans were interested in, particularly how the British Labour Party and Trade Unions were funnelling money to the ANC-SACP. Glennys Kinnock, the wife of the leader of the Labour Party Member of Parliament Neil Kinnock, was 'the brains behind the throne' and an active member of the Anti-Apartheid Movement. Glennys Kinnock pushed the issue of South Africa and the anti-apartheid campaign within left-wing political groups in Britain and in the Labour Party. Kinnock had visited the ANC-SACP SOMAFSCO school in Tanzania and as an open supporter of the ANC-SACP, became a regular speaker on anti-apartheid platforms. Kinnock and the Labour Party took political positions in opposition to NATO and Britain's use of nuclear weapons in the event of war. On South Africa, Kinnock was heavily influenced by his wife and also Peter Hain (a vocal supporter of Kinnock). Chris Childs, who used to work full-time in the AAM offices, also worked as an assistant to Neil Kinnock. Kinnock became an MP in 1970 for Bedwellty and Islwyn, and later the leader of the British Labour Party. Agent 1912 also reported on the activities of Bob Hughes, a British Labour MP, who was the Chairman of the AAM and Richard Caborn MP, chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Group of the British Parliament.

This information was obtained and transferred to the NIS during clandestine personal meetings in and around London in the 1970s and 1980s.

Agent 1912 diligently made copies of all documents that crossed his desk and hid them on his person by taping big brown envelopes to his body, under his clothing. Every personal meeting between Agent 1912 and his handler, who was known to the agent under a false flag (a false name/identity), was arranged during a previous meeting so that there is no electronic contact between the two parties. Electronic communication methods such as phone calls, text messages and the like were avoided because they could be easily intercepted by MI5. It is very difficult for a counterespionage service to prove contact between an unfriendly intelligence service and an agent if there is no electronic communication between the parties involved. The counter-espionage service must in fact catch the agent and his handler in the act during a personal meeting to prove espionage. The NIS's well-trained agent handlers therefore always arranged a series of sequential meetings, as well as relapse meetings and contact points, with the agent during previous personal meetings. If the agent or the handler for some reason could not make a personal meeting with a handler, a follow-up procedure would take effect, and the agent and handler would then be at a different date and time at a meet substitute locality. Agent 03/1912 and similar penetration and infiltration agents handled by the London Regional Office of the NIS, usually met with handlers in hotel rooms in London's western suburbs or environs. A pre-arranged clandestine meeting, for example, would take place on Wednesday 12 June at 12:00 in the Great Western Hotel. The agent would then log in to the agreed-upon hotel under a false name and pay cash for the room, because electronic fund transfers, travelers' checks or credit card payments would be traced. The agent would then write a number on a small green or red sticker and paste the base of a toilet in the hotel lobby, for example toilet number two. This number on the sticker informed the handler in which room the agent was. If the number 96 was written on the sticker, the agent was in room 69) after which the meeting between the agent and handler would then take place there at the pre-arranged time.

According to AMM, Britain was the largest source of white immigrants to South Africa and Rhodesia in the 1960s and 1970s. In 1969, the British Trades Union Congress (TUC) adopted a resolution in which affiliated unions agreed to discourage their members from emigrating to South Africa and its neighbouring country, Rhodesia.

Counterespionage methods.

The most important element of a successful clandestine personal encounter between Agent 03/1912 and his handler in London was the

effective counterespionage and countersurveillance techniques used by both parties. Agent 03/1912 took the train from a suburb to London, as he usually would do on the days of the personal meetings, but unobtrusively alight at one of the intermediate stations, change trains (usually one traveling in the opposite direction) and repeat the procedure going in the opposite direction. After one or two

stations, the agent got off the train again and took another train back to London, where he got off near the central bus terminal. He then used bus transportation, changed buses, got on and off escalators, used bathrooms to slip out the back door of a coffee shop and quickly turned around and only the approach the hotel where the meeting was to take place. The agent handler also followed several unorthodox countersurveillance routes, including by jogging or riding his mountain bike through narrow streets of London and under bridges. These methods and procedures worked best at night, especially since one or two of the NIS agent handlers were excellent cross-country and marathon runners.

Clandestine communication methods are only successful when electronic devices are not used, the best being one-time letter pads. The handler of Agent 03/1912 used cryptographic arithmetic to compile the one-time pads. Messages between the handler and agent were encrypted by assigning numbers to letters in groups of five and sending the sequences to the agent by way of a dead letter box near the Highgate Cemetery in London. The agent placed the covering pads, which were only used once before being burned, precisely over the sequences. He then added another set of five letter sequences, each equal to a letter value. The added numbers on the pad were equal to the letters and the messages from the handler was then in decrypted form.

The identity of agent 1912 was never disclosed. He now thoroughly enjoys his retirement in the British countryside, with fond memories of the days when he outwitted South Africa's enemies by providing valuable intelligence to the NIS. His value and effectiveness as an agent lay in the accurate information he provided for eight years regarding the funding used for the violent overthrow of the South African government. He managed to identify the methods and routes used to funnel money from the British Trades Union Movement to the ANC-SACP and their underground networks within South Africa.

None of his colleagues in the British trade unions ever knew of Agent 1912's real purpose and espionage role within their ranks.

* Books on South African Intelligence Science and Espionage by Henning van Aswegen can be obtained from Imprimatur Publishers, Pretoria.



SA SPOORWEGPOLISIE | SA RAILWAYS POLICE

NONGQAI

S.A. SPOORWEGPOLISIE | S.A. RAILWAYS POLICE





Spoorwegpolisie: Durban-hawe. Foto's via J & J Wepener.



Durban. SAR & H police launch 'Vink' view of deck at sea. - R van Wyk.

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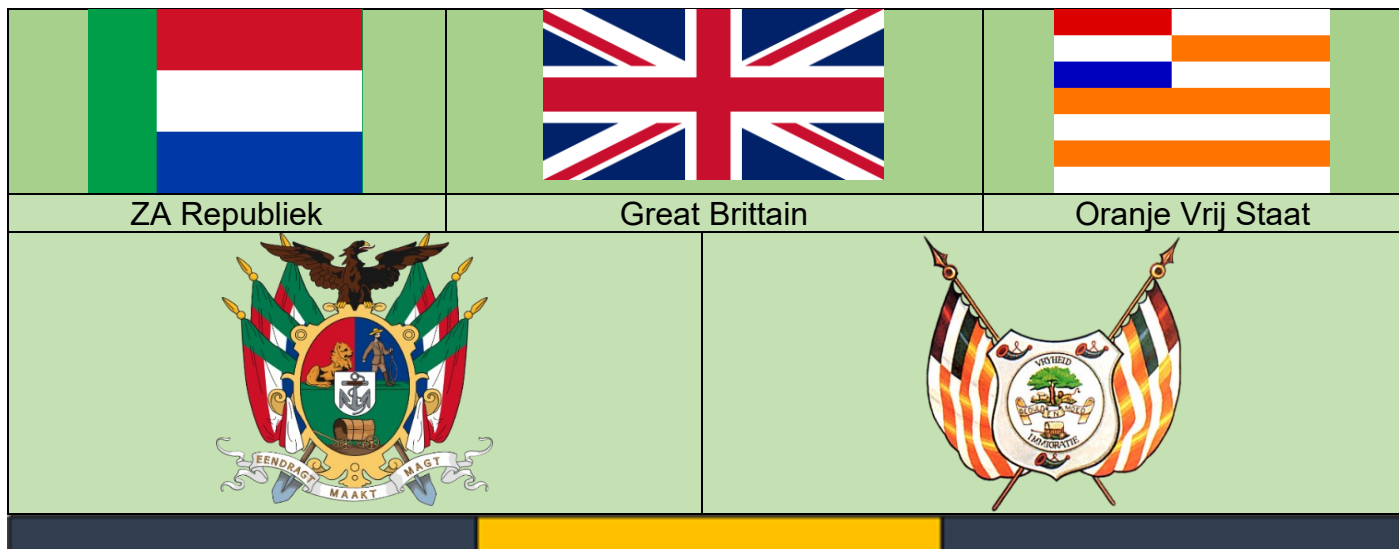
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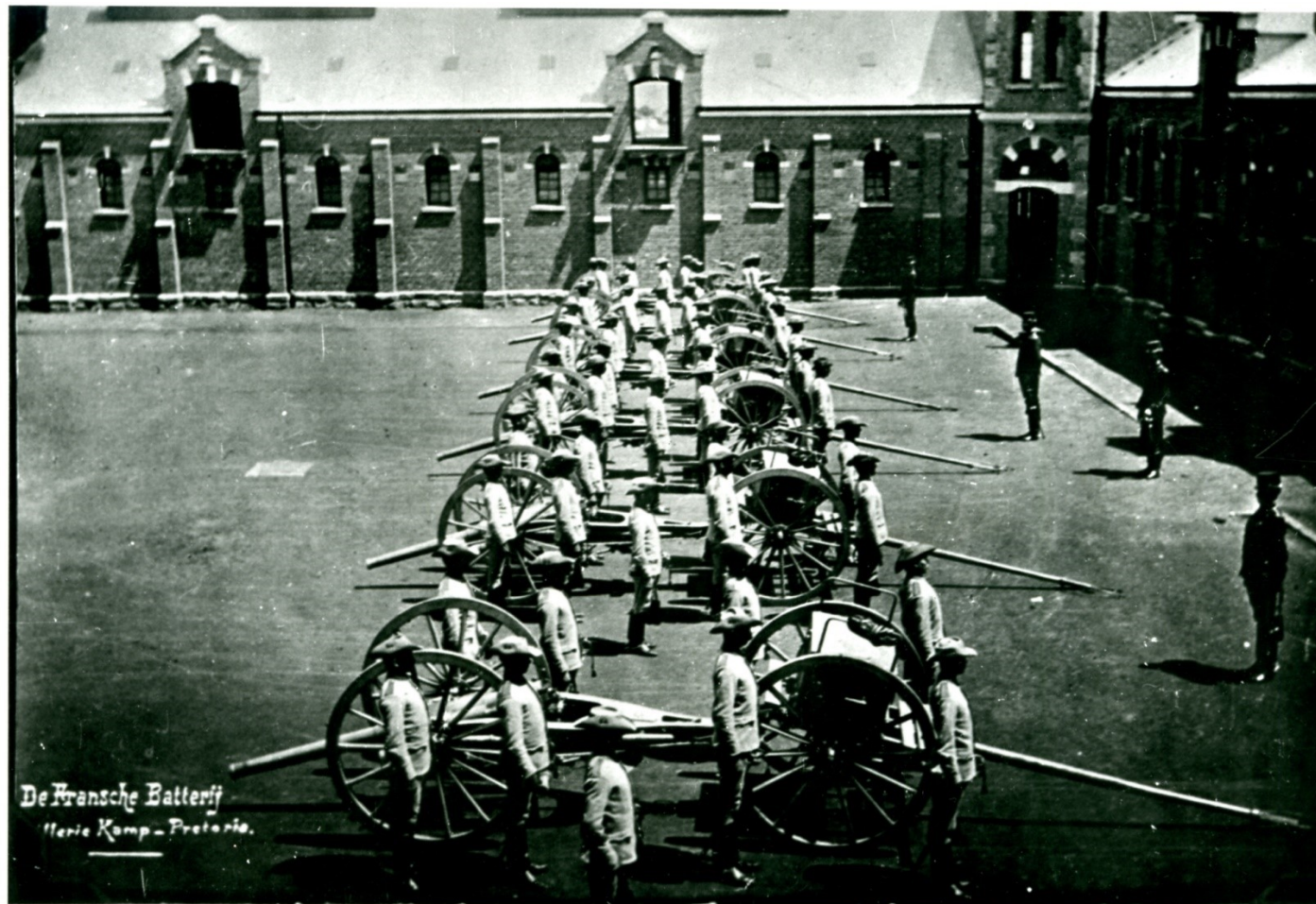


1900: ANGLO BOER WAR

- Military Attaches to the British Forces in Pretoria



- Some random photos of the Anglo Boer War









ARMY SIGNALS IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Story of the South African Corps of Signals

Walter V. Volker



ARMY SIGNALS IN SOUTH AFRICA: THE STORY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN CORPS OF SIGNALS AND ITS ANTECEDENTS

PART II: SIGNALS DURING THE ANGLO-BOER WARS (1880-1881 and 1899 – 1902)

5. FIELD TELEGRAPHY IN THE OFS REPUBLIC STATE ARTILLERY (CONT.)



Field Telegraphy Section

Originally Albrecht recommended *Onderofficier* (Corporal) WA Hallatt³ and Bombardier F de Bruin⁴ for the task as they had already worked with field telegraphy for some time and had proved their competence. De Bruin left the unit in October 1897 and so Hallatt and Bombardier MJ Nell⁵ was sent to Pretoria for training. The two Free State NCOs performed well and Paff was able to give a praiseworthy report of their training. After their return to Bloemfontein, Albrecht formed the Free State's first dedicated field signals unit under command of Cpl Hallett. The unit consisted of two NCOs, eight men and five horses. New applicants to the unit had to be no younger than 17 years, had to have a standard III school certificate and had to sign up for three years. The applicants were also required to supply a written consent from their parents and a certificate from a *landdrost*, justice

³ WA Hallatt joined the Free State Artillery on 12 May 1894 and was promoted to Bombardier on 5 October 1895 and Corporal on 21 November 1896. He passed away on 1 March 1898.

⁴ F de Bruin joined the corps on 1 May 1894, was promoted to Bombardier on 21 January 1897 and was discharged on 31 October 1897.

⁵ MJ Nell joined the corps on 1 November 1894 and was promoted to Bombardier on 21 November 1896 and Corporal on 28 August 1897.

of the peace or other authorised person that he was born in the Free State and of sound character. [373 18]

After Hallatt passed away early in 1898, Cpl GJ Scheepers⁶ of the Transvaal *Staatsartillerie* was sent to the Free State to train the Free State Artillery's signallers. He started work in the Free State on 1 June 1898 and, on Albrecht's request, was promoted to Sergeant on 2 October 1898. Under Scheepers' competent leadership the unit grew and by 1898 consisted of 12 signallers. At the end of November that year Scheepers and Nell were sent with 2nd Lt J du T Böning to the Transvaal as war observers during the Magato/M'pefu Campaign where they received valuable practical experience under Lt Paff.



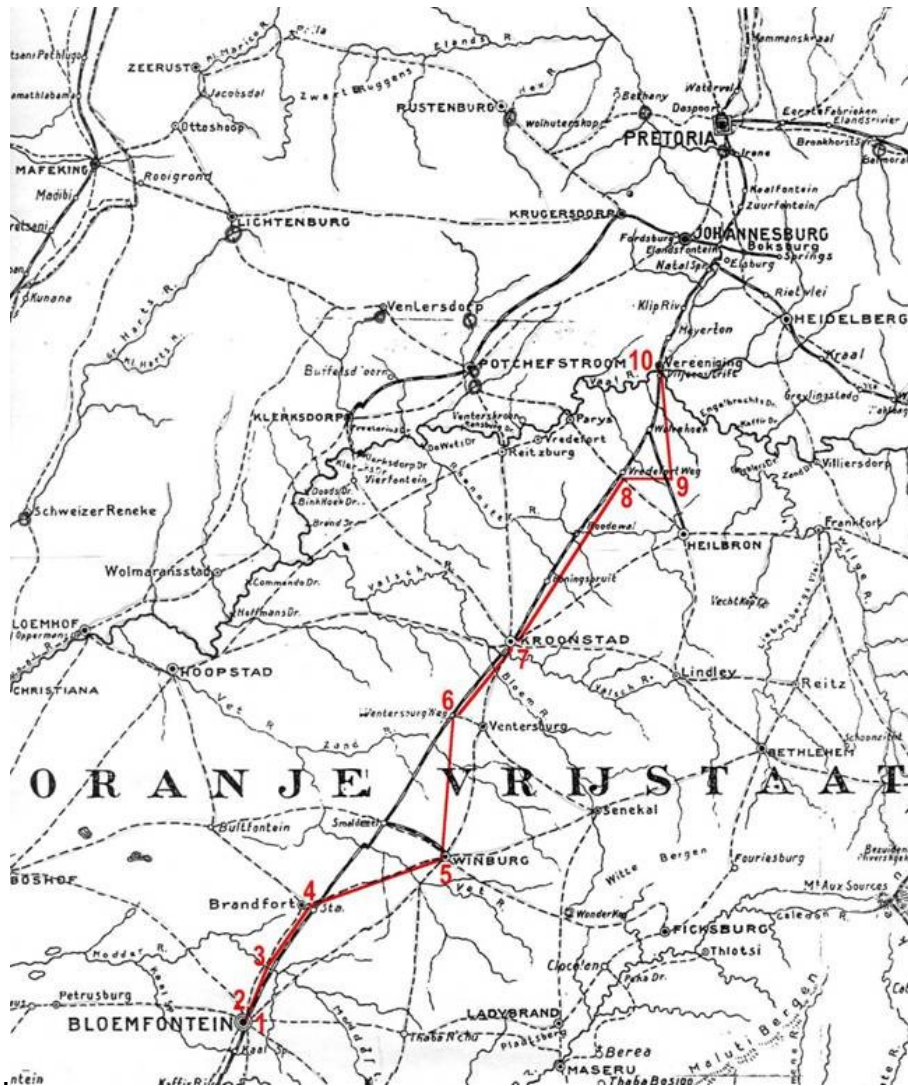
Free State Artillery Signal Corps, c1899. The NCOs seated in the centre are (ltr) Nell, Scheepers and Van der Merwe. Unlike signallers in the Transvaal and Germany, Free State signallers did not wear signaller's insignia on their tunics. Instead, a badge was worn on the Prussian style peaked cap, above the OVS coat of arms (insert left). Details are not clear, but the badge was probably the same "small bundle of lightning rods" badge worn by Lt Paff of the Transvaal on his collar (insert right). [373]

In August 1899, with war looming against Britain, Pres MT Steyn decided that heliograph stations should be set up between the Free State and the Transvaal. On 11 August the Executive Council instructed Albrecht to find sites from where they would be able to communicate with the Transvaal. Contact was also to be established between Thaba Nchu, Tromps Kopjes (Theronskoppe, Winburg district) and Elands Kopje (Elandskop, Heilbron district) and other points deemed necessary. Scheepers established nine heliograph stations to relay messages between the two republics, all manned by Free State artillerists. They were:

- The Old Fort (HQ of the corps) – *Onderofficier* Van der Merwe and Artillerist Odendaal
- Hospital Hill - *Onderofficier* Nell and SC Roux
- Tafelkop, Modder River – Artillerist P Maritz, N Watson and A Calitz.
- Keerom, Brandfort – Artillerists N Jacobs and C Vorster (37 miles from Tafelkop)

⁶ Gideon Jacobus Scheepers joined the Transvaal *Staatsartillerie* in 1894 at age 16. In November 1900, with the rank of Commandant he invaded the Cape with a small commando where he was later captured and executed on 18 January 1899 under tragic and highly questionable circumstances.

- Theronoskoppe, Winburg – Artillerists W Erasmus, H Brink and B Lubbe (39 miles from Keerom)
- Aasvoëlkop, Ventersburg Road, Bombardier Laurenz and Artillerists Du Toit and Barnard (35 miles from Theronoskoppe)
- Rhenosterkop, Kroonstad – Bombardier Combrinck and Artillerist JN Fourie (35 miles from Aasvoëlkop)
- Witkop, Vredefort Road – Artillerists J Scholtz and P Smidt (40 miles from Rhenosterkop)
- Elandskop, Heilbron – Sergeant GJ Scheepers (see map).



The Free State with its sunny weather and endless grassy plains dotted with kopjes was ideal heliograph country. This extract from a 1900-dated map roughly shows the route the heliograph signals would have followed between the Free State and Transvaal. Unfortunately, this map does not show the kopjes and therefore the heliograph stations are shown in proximity of the nearest town or railway station. They were:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Old Fort, Bloemfontein | 6. Aasvoëlkop, Ventersburg Road |
| 2. Hospital Hill, Bloemfontein | 7. Rhenosterkop, Kroonstad |
| 3. Tafel Kop, Modder River | 8. Witkop, Vredefort Road |
| 4. Keerom, Branfort | 9. Elandskop, Heilbron |
| 5. Theronoskoppe, Winburg | 10. Houtkoppies, Vereeniging [373] |

On 28 August 1899 Scheepers telegraphed Albrecht informing him that, from Elandskop, he was able to make contact with the Transvaal at Houtkoppies Station near Vereeniging: 'Ik ben Zondag morgen in verbinding gekomen met Transvaal. Zeer moeilijk om alle twesschen Posten met een Helio te werken.' * [288, p 146] From Elandskop Scheepers was also to establish contact with Standerton, while Kliprivier Berg (Witwatersrand), 4 miles south of Johannesburg, could be seen from the same hill. From Aasvoëlkop the entire Gatsrand (Potchefstroom district) was visible. The heliograph stations in the OFS covered a total distance of 310 km.



Free State Artillery signallers outside Kimberley. Note their 5-inch heliograph, its carrying bag and the leather briefcase carried by the man on the left. They are dressed in OVSAC field dress uniform. [373]

When war was declared a few weeks later the signallers were dispatched to the various fronts. Here they worked in co-operation with the Transvaal signallers and acted with the various burgher commandoes, each commando having one or more heliographs. As the number of trained signallers was limited, their ranks were augmented from the telegraph department and by training *penkoppe* (young burghers) to use the heliograph. In the field it was soon found that the use of telegraph operators to man heliographs was not as successful as hoped. It seems that the telegraph operators were used to the high pace of a telegraph machine and therefore often flashed the heliograph too quickly to be read by a distant station. The lack of trained personnel resulted in signallers regularly having to man a station alone, receiving and writing down messages at the same time. The mobile nature of the Boer War also made it impossible to establish permanent heliograph stations and signallers had to relocate regularly and improvise to keep contact with their comrades. Even with their limited resources, the *Veldtelegrafie* section of the Free State Artillery excelled as a professional unit and won the respect of friend and foe.

“Morse” Code

The code system used by the Free State Artillery was the standard "Continental Code" or "Wireless Code" which was based on the code invented by Alfred Vail (1807-1859). To this day it is referred to as Morse code, after Samuel Morse (1791-1872), Vail's better known partner who registered the patent in his name.

Boer Secret Code

Since British forces also used Morse code, Boer signallers made use of code words and alphabet scrambling code to protect the information of their messages:

- The first step, after contact with a distant station was established, was to signal the letters SN which indicated the start or end of a message. The receiving station then knew they had to ready themselves to receive a message.
- The next step was to find out if the receiving station was actually manned by friend or foe. WU for “*Wie is jy?*” (Who are you?) was sometimes used to ask for identification (British heliographers often used RU for the same reason). To verify identification a system of code words for each day was used. An example of this was GESPER (Sunday), HELM (Monday), LEPEL (Tuesday), BOER (Wednesday), STAAL (Thursday), STEUN (Friday) and SAAG (Saturday). To confirm that the distant station was manned by Boers, the signaller would then transmit the first part of that specific day’s code word. For example, if it was a Sunday he would send GES. The distant station then had to reply with the rest of the letters to complete the day’s code word, in other words PER. If he was unable to complete it the sender knew that the distant station was probably manned by the enemy.
- When enemy troops were not in the area normal Morse code was used. When the possibility existed that the message could be read by the enemy, an alphabet scrambling system was used. This system had three keys, for example 275, 752 and 527. Each of the keys also had a code word, ADEL (for 275), BORD (for 752) and CATO (for 527). Before sending the encoded message, the signaller would signal the appropriate code word to the receiver to indicate which key was used to encode the message. For example, if he wanted to send the word VYAND (enemy) using the 275 key he would first signal ADEL. Next the word would be encoded as follows: from V he counted two (275) letters up in the alphabet, which gave I. Next, from Y he counted seven (275) letters up in the alphabet, which gave R, from A he counted five letters up, which gave (V), etc. The encoding thus gave the word TRVLW which was sent to the distant station. To decode the word TRVLW, the receiver used the same ADEL key (275), but counted each letter down the alphabet, which again gave VYAND.

As soon as a Boer signaller fell into British hands the keys and the code words were simply changed.

Another possibility was to use the same system that was used for secret telegrams. In this system both sender and receiver had to use the same dictionary in which the pages and words were numbered; the book “*Woordelijst voor de Spelling der Nederlandsche Taal*” being a favourite. Instead of sending the letters of the word, the page number and word number were sent. For example, instead of sending INSTRUCTIEN (instruction), P170W61 was sent. The receiver then simply turned to page 170 and wrote down word number 61! Obviously this system would have been easy to crack as soon as a dictionary fell into the enemy’s hands and could only be replaced or adapted with difficulty.

Equipment

On 13 July 1897, after his visit to Pretoria, Maj. Albrecht requested the Government Secretary to order a list of field telegraphy instruments at the following estimated prices:

- 6-off Heliographs 5-inch diameter with special polished mirrors @ £11.10.0 £ 69.0.0
- 2-off Heliographs 10-inch diameter @ £20.0.0 £ 40.0.0
- 4-off Conical “terrestrial” telescopes @ £4.0.0 £ 16.0.0
- 4-off Leather tubes with carrying straps @ £0.13.0 £ 2.12.0
- 4-off Tripods with metal mounting brackets @ £5.0.0 £ 20.0.0
- 4-off Cases to store mounting brackets @ £1.0.0 £ 4.0.0
- 6-off Large white flags (long 1 yard, wide 1 yard)
- 6-off Large red flags (long 1 yard, wide 1 yard)

- 6-off Large white flags with red quadrants
- 6-off Large red flags with white quadrants £ 17.10.0
- 6-off Small red flags (1'6 x 1'6)
- 6-off Small white flags (1'6 x 1'6)
- All with poles respectively 5' and 2'6
- 3-off "Smalkardersche" compasses (prismatic) @ £4.10.0 £ 13.10.0
- 4-off administrative briefcases with locks @ £2.10.0 £ 10.0.0
- 12-off pair blue spectacles (sunglasses) @ 5/- £ 3.0.0
- £195.12.0

Albrecht recommended that the instruments should be ordered from the firm Siemens & Halske (Box 3003, Johannesburg) as they were leaders in field telegraphy and optical instruments. He further noted that this firm had also supplied the equipment used in Pretoria (i.e. with the Transvaal *Staatsartillerie*). This order only seems to have gone through in June 1898 (or another consignment of exactly the same equipment was ordered?) at a cost of £245-10. The flags, briefcases and compasses seem to have been sourced locally, but the heliographs, telescopes and tripods were imported from Germany.

In June 1899 the Volksraad voted a further £420 for equipment that was ordered from abroad, but the outbreak of the Boer War prevented the delivery of these instruments, and the Free State was forced to borrow six 5-inch heliographs from the Transvaal.

The day-to-day use of signals equipment during the Boer War could fill a book on its own and therefore only a few well-known incidents that took place in January 1900, during the prominent Battle of Spion Kop, will be mentioned.

Signal Flags

The first and most elementary method of relaying a wireless message was by the use of signal flags. In this system the short and long flashes of Morse code was made by the motion of the flag.

The Free State Artillery's red and white flags were similar to those used by the German Army. Large flags were one yard (914 mm) square in size and were usually made of a muslin material and mounted on a 5-foot-long pole. They were made in plain white, for use with a dark background, and plain red, for use with a light background. Similarly red with a white quadrant or white with a red quadrant was used. Small flags were made of the same material as the large examples, but 1 foot 6-inch square in size and mounted on a 2 foot 6-inch-long pole.





Boer signallers under Lt. Baay of the Staatsartillerie who operated with Gen. Lemmer's commando in the Colesberg area and Southern Free State. The burgher on the left is holding a large red signal flag with a white quadrant, while a second flag of the same design lies on the ground in front of Lt. Baay. [824- 761000644]

Although Boer War photographs show the presence of signalling flags, their use on Boer side was limited. British forces used a similar system, but with white flags with a horizontal blue line and blue flags with a horizontal white line. They also used semaphore flag signalling in which coloured flags (yellow and red) were used to spell out messages. The use of white signal flags may even explain some of the many co-called "misuses" of the flag of surrender, when flag signals were misread as signs of surrender! Although flags were a cheap and simple way of signalling, the terrain and weather in South Africa often caused line-of-sight problems, especially in hilly country, thereby usually ruling out their use. In addition, there was also the very real danger that flag signals could be read by the enemy. At Spionkop the British heliograph was smashed by a Boer shell and so they had to resort to signal flags to call for urgently needed re-enforcements. However, the minute the flag waver rose he was struck down by a Boer bullet.

An original Boer signal flag (red with white square) is today kept in the collection of the Suffolk Regimental Museum in Bury-St Edmunds in Britain. This flag was picked up by a member of the regiment on the Paardeberg battlefield. Another original signal flag can be seen at the War Museum of the Boer Republics in Bloemfontein. This flag, white with a horizontal blue line, was returned to SA in 1953 as part of a number of items that were "liberated" from the Free State Artillery fort by Maj. Beecham-Smith of the Grenadier Guards after the British occupation of Bloemfontein. The white and blue design of this flag was typically British, suggesting that this flag was a captured British item.

Heliographs

The main wireless instrument used by the *Veldtelegrafie* department was the mirror telegraph, more commonly known as the field heliograph.

Heliographs were used by the armies of several countries during the late 1800's. They were especially popular with British forces in India and South Africa because of the dependable sunlight. This form of communications reached its peak during the 1899-1902 Boer War and was used by both sides as the primary means of communications for forward control. In the British Army, heliographs were issued to at least regimental/battalion level and usually each column had its own equipment. At Spion Kop the British heliograph on the hill was damaged by Boer artillery fire, preventing them from sending calls for re-enforcements.



The Winburg Commando with their heliograph team and a 5-inch instrument posing for a photo [373]

The Boers, who controlled fewer telegraph lines, preferred the heliograph to any other form of communications and were as adept if not better than the British. To the Boers, the heliograph was absolutely essential and most commandos and also officers had one or more heliograph teams attached to them. It allowed the monitoring of the enemy's movements and coordinated the movements of the various commandos. At Spion Kop a Boer signaller, Louis Bothma, directed the murderous fire from the Boer guns below the hill onto the British positions with his heliograph. One version tells how Bothma later had the tripod of his heliograph shot out from under his heliograph, forcing him to mount the instrument on a rock. Later in the war, as the British blockhouse lines became more and more difficult to cross, the heliograph became the most practical and fastest way of getting information, intelligence and orders across these lines.

Hand and Begbie Lamps

Hand and Begbie lamps came in various sizes and in essence were oil lamps in which a light was concentrated by a lens or "bull's-eye". Their use during the Boer War was limited and no mention of the Free State Artillery using lamps could be traced. Photographs however show Transvaal and British units equipped with lamps and for this reason they are included here. One example of the difficulties associated with their use occurred the night before the Battle of Spion Kop. After British units reached the top of the hill swirling mists obscured their lamp signals to the battalions waiting below. To add to the frustration most of the oil for the lamps had been spilled or discarded during the perilous night climb. (See Chapter 176 for a fuller description)

Lime Lights

This instrument was similar to the hand lamp, but a much brighter light was obtained by the use of a pencil of lime raised to a white heat by forcing a jet of oxygen gas through the flame of a spirit lamp on the end of the pencil. As with the hand lamp no mention of the Free State Artillery using

lime light lamps could be traced, but contemporary photographs confirm their use by British units during the war and therefore captured equipment could have been utilised.

Telescopes and Binoculars

Binoculars or field glasses were also used by signalling teams. The binocular consisted of two telescopes, one for each eye, mounted together in a light frame.

Boer Communications during the Anglo-Boer War [230]

When the Kruger Ultimatum was sent off to the British government on 9 Oct 1899, the two Boer Republics were as well equipped as the prevailing circumstances would allow, ensuring an extensive communication network that was accessible to commanders and government officials. While Maj Albrecht had for many years exercised gunners (artillerymen) and bombardier in the art of signalling before legislation had made possible the establishment of a Signal Section in 1897, the Field Telegraphy Section in the ZAR had already been busy for nine years with intensive training for signallers, and they were also well provided with equipment. The independent development of a signal unit with a specialised signalling task in the ZAR must possibly be regarded as a development which was made possible through early knowledge of signals services as observed during the First Anglo-Boer War (1880-1881) and, secondly, as a result of the availability of a capable head of the section in the person of Lt Paff.

A month or so before the outbreak of the (Second) Anglo-Boer War an attorney from Krugersdorp, Daniel (Danie) Johannes Stephanus Theron, established a "*Wielrijders Rapportgangers Corps*" (Cycle Despatch Riders Corps). The objective of this Corps was to lighten the load of the mounted messenger by carrying despatches especially to points where no signal services existed and also to act as an inter-Commando intelligence service.

Danie Theron was formally appointed by Cmdt Gen Piet Joubert on 13 September. Each man in the Corps was personally selected by Theron and in this way he ensured that only men that he could rely on under every circumstance would be taken up into their ranks. In this way he succeeded in building up a reliable unit which speedily managed to win over even the most sceptical burghers on the Natal Front. In the execution of his task Danie Theron was especially faithfully assisted by a well-known cyclist, J. P. (Koos) Jooste, who was promoted to Vice Captain (Afr: onder-kaptein) of the Corps. The men were grouped into sixteen sections, for the districts Waterberg, Soutpansberg, Lichtenburg, Wakkerstroom, Vryheid and Bloemhof and each section or detachment was under command of a lieutenant. Each troop was issued with a bicycle, revolver and, where considered necessary, also with a carbine, and by October 1899 the Corps was already 94 men in strength. They performed important despatch riding functions and due to their valour, they were also considered to be intrepid opponents in the field, which Col B. D. Moller and the 18th Hussars already experienced firsthand very early on in the war at the Battle of Talana Hill.

With the outbreak of the Anglo-Boer War the Detachment Field Telegraphy of the Free State was still too young to have mastered signalling techniques and to have obtained all the necessary equipment. All the existing heliographs and trained signallers were, however, allocated among the Commandos, resulting in each Commandant having access to the services of at least one signaller.

Sgt Gideon Scheepers attached himself to the Commando of Gen C.R. de Wet, where he performed stirring work by transmitting messages or despatches to the different Commandos. The civilian telegraphic service in both Republics was quite extensive and was mainly utilised for internal communication as well as for liaison with sister republics. A rudimentary secret code was used by listing the words of a specific list of words and allocating each a number, which were then telegraphed.

The signallers, conscious of the possibility that the enemy might be able to intercept their heliographic messages, selected a new password for every day of the week. As soon as a signaller fell into the hands of the enemy, the passwords were immediately be changed. A former heliographist, G.P. Swart, related that seeing that both Boers and the British were familiar with the Morse Code, and both made use of it, a code key for the Morse Code also existed. [T.P.E. Swemmer, Masters dissertation on the History of the Free State Artillery] Apparently after the fall of Pretoria, the telegraphists found it particularly difficult to erect heliographic stations as constant attacks by the enemy would frequently force them to once again pack up and flee. A certain Mr Swart, who mainly served as part of Gen Melt van Schoor's men, could not recollect that they ever made use of signalling flags.

Lt Paff, as head of the ZAR's Field Telegraphy Section, during the first phase of the war was kept continually updated of planned military operations, so that he was able to also plan signal services accordingly. In the execution of his duties, he was assisted by three officers and 46 NCOs and enlisted men. The existing extensive telegraphic system owned by the railways and another civilian system ensured relatively easy contact within the Transvaal. In addition, there were sufficient linesmen and material available for emergency lines. Towards the end of December 1899 communication lines with telegraph and heliograph had been established between Pretoria and the main lager at Ladysmith, with branch offices at Newcastle, Dundee, Glencoe, Helpmekaar, Waschbank, Elandslaagte, Colenso, Vryburg, Van Reenenspas, Aliwal-Noord, Burgersdorp, Stormberg, Warrenton, Lady Grey, as well as with Gen De la Rey at Kimberley.

In the meanwhile, all railway and telegraphic links between Gen White within the besieged Ladysmith and his base had been severed. In this way telegraphic cable and operator would follow in the footsteps of the foremost Commandos to ensure that all generals and state departments were able to communicate with each other. A copy of each telegram was sent for information to the State President and the Commandant General, which certainly resulted in a lot of administration but also was responsible for the fact that President Kruger in Pretoria had enough information available to give advice to his generals at the front.

In contrast to the British Army, where telegraphists were part of the Engineers Corps while visual signallers had their own Corps, telegraphists and heliographists of the Boer Republics were integrated into the Field Telegraphy Detachment of the State Artillery. In this way unity of command and control was achieved, which had ensured the effectiveness of the peacetime training, and also eventually the superior productivity of the group as a unit. At the time of the outbreak of war, however, three separate telegraphic detachments existed within the ZAR, namely the Field Telegraphy, the civilian telegraphic service, and the railway service. The Field Telegraphists were far too few to man the extensive telegraphic posts across the widespread lines, and rather than fragmenting the telegraphic services, Commandant General Joubert decided to centralised all telegraphic services under Karel van Trotsenburg, head of the civilian telegraphic service. Visual signal services remained under the command of Paff, who strangely enough, also was required to perform engineering services at the front.

Despite the divided control, messages were still effectively transmitted, with few exceptions. During the Boer offensive heliographs were regarded of inestimable value at the front where they were able to link various combat sectors, railway stations and cannon placements with each other on a continuous basis. Indirectly guided fire was relatively unknown in those days, but an excellent example of effective signal services in support of artillery was during the Battle of Spioenkop where communications worked particularly well between the heliographists and Maj J. F. Wolmarans' gunners. One cannon had been hidden on a hill that was somewhat lower than Spioenkop and therefore had no view of the field of battle. Cmdt H. P. Prinsloo signalled messages and information

to his gunners by means of his heliographer, Louis Botha, which enabled them to shoot over the heads of the adjacent Boers in order to hit the British entrenchments on top of the hill. When one takes into account that Boer and Brit were sometimes involved in personal combat during the battle, the accuracy of the information provided to the gunners could not have been an insignificant achievement and was probably in the end of decisive importance to the results of the battle.

Led by signals the gunners put the British heliograph out of action very soon into the battle, causing their signallers to be driven from their positions – with devastating consequences. The communication link of Lt Col A. W. Thorneycroft with the main camp was interrupted and despite the fact that British signallers later on managed to reach the headquarters via a signal station at Spearmanskop, Thorneycroft's pleas for reinforcements never reached their destination. Weak signals arrangements most certainly played a decisive role in the British defeat of that day. On the side of the Boers, they were able to effectively make use of flag signals during the course of the battle.

At the Tugela line the Boers were also well equipped with signals facilities so that they performed relatively better than that their British counterparts. At the time of the British breakthrough on the Upper Tugela, in the camp of Gen Schalk Burger there were three telegraphists and a despatch rider to whom the general gave instruction to break up the station at 1930 hours. When the Controller of Telegraphy heard of the instruction, he immediately countermanded the order with instructions not to break up the office until he had personally given the order. This was a typical example of a miscommunication resulting from divided control. When War Council later attempted to get in touch with them, however, there was no longer any reaction from the telegraphists. The War Council held an urgent meeting late in the night of the 27th February 1900 and their spokesman Gen L. Botha felt that the situation was far too serious for a one sided discussion on telegraphic paper. The result was that he made telephonic contact with the Commandant General in the main camp and with that clarified the three-fold functions of the various communication media confirmed: the heliograph where the cable would not reach; the telegraph especially suited for long distance communication across difficult terrain, and the speed of the telephone by means of which urgent questions could immediately be answered. As related earlier, visionary telegraphists had also ordered wireless equipment for use by the Republican forces; the consignment, however, never reached its intended destination but fell into British hands.

In British occupied territories, the Boer telegraphists often used the telegraphic lines for their own purposes or else to intercept enemy messages. It was the heliograph, however, which remained the most appropriate visual signalling method in sunny South Africa, and right up to the end of the war ensured communications between the Boer Generals. Use of both these means can be illustrated by the following story: Immediately following Gen Louis Botha's return from his abortive invasion of Natal early in Oct 1901 the General established his headquarters on the farm Roodepoort, some four miles south of Ermelo. However, he could not remain inactive for long. In the second week of October, he sent Piet Jooste (later to become Chairman of the Diamond Control Board) and Fred Siemssen, both members of his staff, with the curt instruction "Go and find out what the enemy is up to." They rode some sixty miles in a westerly direction without seeing the enemy. Near Trichardtsfontein, they found a telegraph wire, origin unknown. Piet Jooste, who also was a field telegraphist, climbed up the pole and tapped the wire with his vibrator. Remarkably, the message intercepted was from Col Benson, informing Lord Kitchener at Standerton that he intended leaving Middelburg for the High Veld on 20 Oct with a large convoy and 2 200 men. Piet Jooste and Fred Siemssen immediately turned back and when they reported back to Gen Botha he formed his plans in an instant. Together with Hendrik Watkins and Dirk Dirksen, he climbed a koppie, taking a heliograph to contact Gen Coen Brits in the Standerton district. After a few moments of flashing in the direction of Bloukop, Hendrik Watkins said: "I've got him, General." Gen Coen Brits immediately

advanced in the direction of Bethal. The other commandos were ordered to do likewise. Gen Botha himself instructed the Ermelo Commando under Gen Hans Grobler and Cmdt Willem Buhrman to "saddle up" and, after five forced night marches he reached the area where he intended to ambush Benson. ['Bakenlaagte Nogeens' by Evert Dommissie, *Die Huisgenoot*, 12 May 1939, pp 30-33, 61]

Between the heliograph and the telegraph, the virtually irreplaceable despatch rider (Afr: rapportryer) performed his duties. Where the electrical cable could not reach, or sun and light could not transmit a message, the mounted troop or cyclist stood ready to perform his task. About the organisation of the despatch riders little is known. Frequently important despatches were sent with the general's adjutant. For example, Corneels du Preez, adjutant of Pres. M. T. Steyn, often risked his own life to deliver important messages to the magistrate or general. Up to the conclusion of the hostilities, frequent use was made of the services of the despatch rider.

Conclusion

The Free State Field Artillery suffered a serious setback when Maj Albrecht was forced to surrender as part of Gen Cronje's army at Paardeberg on 27 Feb 1900. Their Chief Telegraphist, Sgt Scheepers took over the duties of Danie Theron after the death of this brave scout on 5 Sep 1900; he continued in this role until he himself fell into the hands of the British on 18 Jan 1902 and died a tragic death. Of the ZAR's telegraphists, among others Lt Paff managed to remain a free man until the final surrender at Balmoral in the Eastern Transvaal on 3 June 1902; this after he had first managed to destroy valuable signalling equipment.

In any armed conflict communication plays an all-important role. The Boer War was no exception. For this reason a well-trained group of signallers was essential, and both the *Veldtelegraafafdeling* of the ZAR and the *Veldtelegraafdienst* of the *Oranje Vrijstaat Artillerie Corps* did not disappoint. Using the equipment of the day they excelled in their task and won the admiration of both friend and foe. Technologically no fundamental changes in the techniques of communications took place during the war in South Africa, but the war did pave the way for the subsequent improvements that were to take place. Wireless sets were not used in action during this conflict, but some early equipment, supplied by Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company Limited and Telefunken, was tested during war. For this reason the Boer War is often described as the first war that utilised the radio wireless. [373 18]



L: Sketch of a despatch rider during the Anglo-Boer War [230] M & R: Members of the modern day OVSAC re-enactment group doing heliograph demonstrations [373]



SOUTH AFRICAN COMMONWEALTH WAR CASUALTIES BURIED ACROSS THE WORLD – PART EIGHTY-EIGHT.

Captain (SAN) Charles Ross (SA Navy Retired)

South Africans participated in almost every war theatre during the First and Second World Wars. According to the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Casualty Data Base 7 290 (includes 607 unknown) First World War casualties and 9 986 (includes 84 unknown) Second World War casualties are buried in 1 207 cemeteries. In contrast, 2 959 First World War and 2 005 Second World War casualties are commemorated on 48 memorials. This does not include the more than 2 700 South Africans not recently commemorated by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. A new memorial, Cape Town Labour Corps has been constructed in the Gardens in Cape Town and was unveiled by HRH Princess Royal on 22 January 2025.

- **Habarcq Communal Cemetery Extension - France**



The extension to the communal cemetery was begun by French troops in 1914 and was used by them until March 1916. Commonwealth forces (XVII Corps) then took over this part of the front and field ambulances continued to bury in the extension using the plots which are now numbered I, V and VIII. In March 1917, the extension was closed, except for two later burials in Plot V. Habarcq Communal Cemetery Extension contains 179 Commonwealth burials of the 1914-1918 war. There are also 15 Commonwealth burials of the

1939-1945 war here, 11 of which are unidentified. There are also 378 French burials of the 1914-1918 war here.

The cemetery was designed by W H Cowlshaw.

- **Six South African casualties from World War One are buried in this cemetery.**

- **Godewaersvelde British Cemetery - France**

The cemetery was begun in July 1917 when three casualty clearing stations were moved to Godewaersvelde. The 37th and the 41st buried in it until November 1917, the 11th until April 1918, and from April to August 1918, during the German offensive in Flanders, field ambulance and fighting units carried on the burials. After the Armistice, the graves of five soldiers of the 110th Brigade, Royal Field Artillery were brought in from a point nearer the Mont des Cats and in May 1953, four graves in Godewaersvelde Churchyard were moved into the cemetery.



A considerable French plot was made on the terrace at the higher end of the cemetery in May and June 1918, but these graves were later removed. Godewaersvelde British Cemetery now contains 972 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, and 19 German war graves.

The cemetery was designed by Sir Herbert Baker.

- **Two South African casualties from World War One are buried in this cemetery.**

- **Doullens Communal Cemetery Extension No.1 - France**



Doullens was Marshal Foch's headquarters early in the First World War and the scene of the conference in March 1918, after which he assumed command of the Allied armies on the Western Front. From the summer of 1915 to March 1916, Doullens was a junction between the French Tenth Army on the Arras front and the Commonwealth Third Army on the Somme. The citadelle, overlooking the town from the south, was a French military hospital, and the railhead was used by both armies. In March 1916, Commonwealth forces succeeded the French on the Arras

front and the 19th Casualty Clearing Station came to Doullens, followed by the 41st, the 35th and the 11th. By the end of 1916, these had given way to the 3rd Canadian Stationary Hospital (which stayed until June 1918) and the 2/1st Northumbrian Casualty Clearing Station.

From February 1916 to April 1918, these medical units continued to bury in the French extension (No 1) of the communal cemetery. In March and April 1918, the German advance and the desperate fighting on this front threw a severe strain on the Canadian Stationary Hospital. The extension was filled, and a second extension begun on the opposite side of the communal cemetery.

In May 1940, Doullens was bombed with Arras and Abbeville before being occupied by the Germans.

The COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION No 1 contains 1,335 Commonwealth burials of the First World War. There are also seven French and 13 German war graves from this period. Second World War burials number 35, more than half of them men of the Queen's Royal West Kents who died 20/21 May 1940.

The COMMUNAL CEMETERY EXTENSION no 2 contains 374 Commonwealth burials of the First World War, and 87 German war graves.

The COMMUNAL CEMETERY itself contains ten Commonwealth burials of the Second World War.

The extensions were designed by Charles Holden.

- **Three South African casualties from World War One are buried in this cemetery.**

- **Mont Huon Military Cemetery, Le Treport - France**

During the First World War, Le Treport was an important hospital centre and by July 1916, the town contained three general hospitals (the 3rd, 16th and 2nd Canadian), No.3 Convalescent Depot and Lady Murray's B.R.C.S. Hospital. The 7th Canadian, 47th and 16th USA General Hospitals arrived later, but all of the hospitals had closed by March 1919. As the original military cemetery at Le Treport filled, it became necessary to use the new site at Mont Huon. There are now 2,128 Commonwealth burials of the First World War in the cemetery and seven from the Second World War. The cemetery also contains more than 200 German war graves.



The cemetery was designed by Sir Reginald Blomfield.

- **Nine South African casualties from World War One are buried in this cemetery.**

- **Mazargues War Cemetery, Marseilles - France**



Marseilles was the Base of the Indian troops in France during the 1914-18 war and throughout the War the Royal Navy, the Merchant Navy, British troops and Labour units worked in the port or passed through it.

Four of the town cemeteries were used, in the main, for the burial of officers and men of the Commonwealth forces who died at Marseilles. At ST. PIERRE CEMETERY, on the East side of the town, the bodies of Hindu soldiers and labourers were cremated in 1914-16. LE CANET OLD CEMETERY and LE CANET NEW CEMETERY, on the North side, were

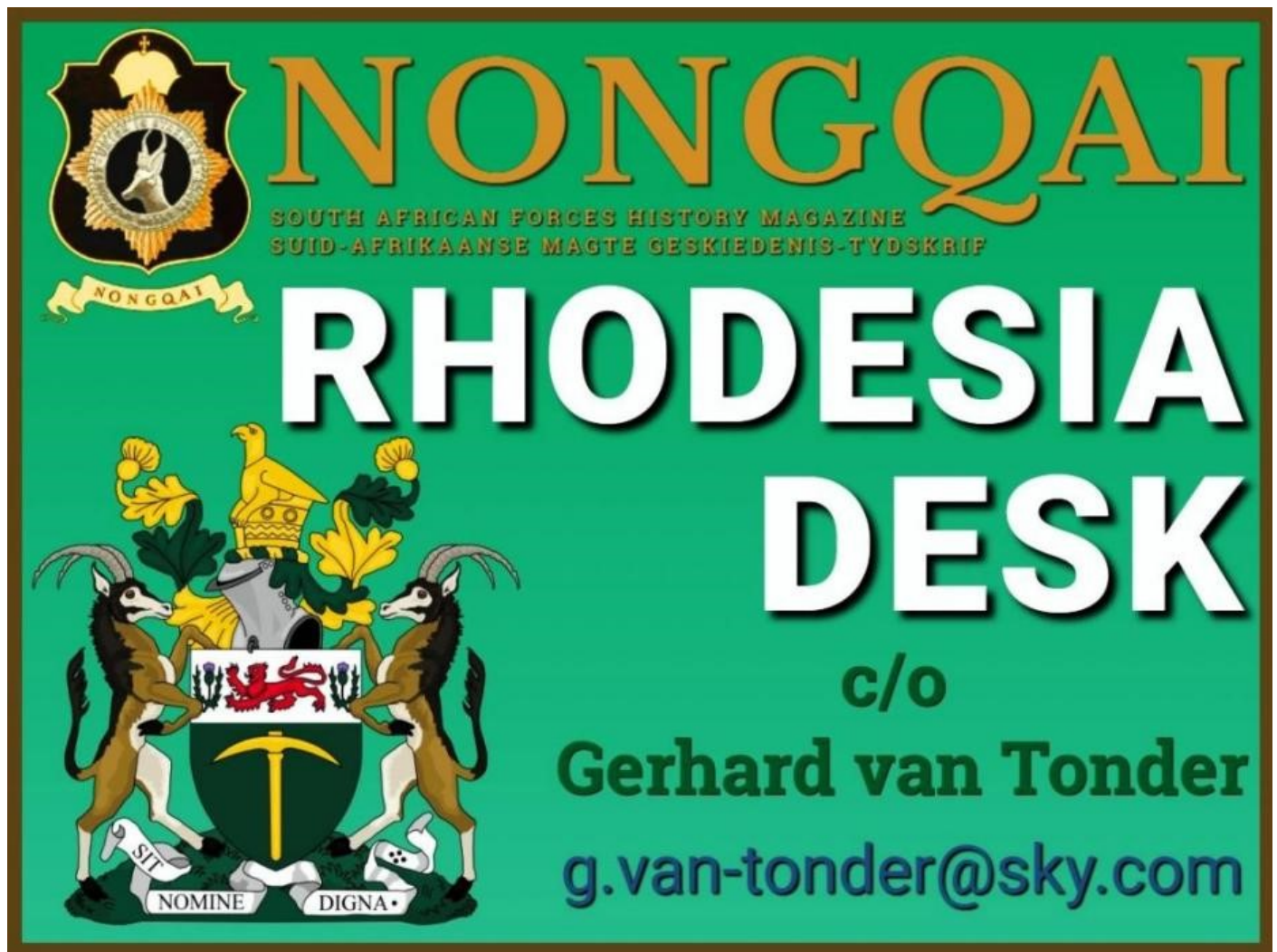
in 1917-19, the places of burial for Indian soldiers and Indian, Egyptian and Chinese labourers.

MAZARGUES CEMETERY, on the South-East side, was used less in the War, but before the Armistice an Extension was made, to which were removed, a little later, the bodies or ashes from the four Town cemeteries and from PORT ST. LOUIS-DU-RHONE COMMUNAL CEMETERY.

There are now 1,487, 1914-18 and 267, 1939-45 war casualties commemorated in this site. 205 of the Indian casualties, who were cremated, are commemorated on a memorial at the rear of the cemetery. The Mazargues Indian Memorial was unveiled by Field Marshal Sir William Birdwood in July 1925. In addition, 8 members of the Egyptian Labour Corps, who were buried in Le Canet New Communal Cemetery at the time, but whose graves were later lost, are commemorated on a stone tablet on the left-hand wall of the war cemetery.

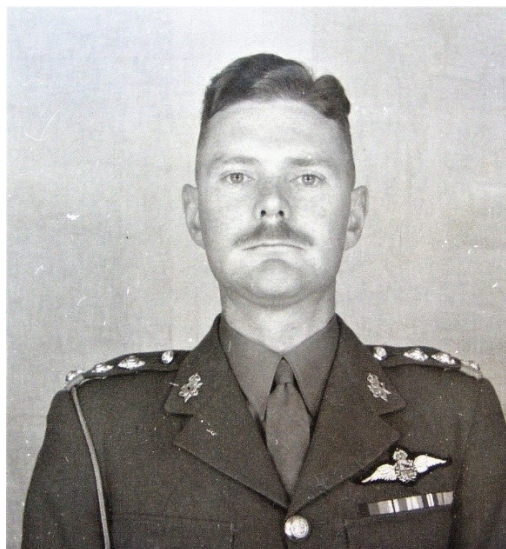
The cemetery covers 9,021 square metres.

- **Ten South African casualties, three from World War One and seven from World War Two are buried in this cemetery.**



CAPTAIN KEITH COSTER, NO. 5 SQUADRON, SAAF, PRISONER OF WAR, WWII - PART I: Shot Down and Captured

Gerry van Tonder



Captain Keith Coster, SADF.

Lieutenant-General Keith Coster SSAS, ICD, OBE, was a World War Two South African Air Force (SAAF) fighter pilot and post-war SADF and Rhodesian army officer who rose to command the Rhodesian Army from 1968 to 1972.

In May 1937, Coster enlisted in the Special Service Company, Royal Durban Light Infantry, South African Permanent Force. A year later, he commenced officer training at S.A. Military College, Voortrekkerhoogte, as a cadet pilot.



On 4 September 1939, Coster completed the pilot's course, and transferred to Zwartkop Air Station, Pretoria. From his personal papers, to which exclusive access was given to the author by the family, the following is his own account of this part of his military career:

One minute we were officer cadets earning five shillings (50 cents) a day, and the next minute we were 2nd lieutenants, and our pay would go up to fifteen shillings (R1.50) per day! We all had a couple of beers to celebrate this fantastic stroke of luck, and no more work was done on that Wednesday, 6 September 1939. At that stage we were all very close to getting our 'wings' for flying, and for the next ten days we put in quite a lot of flying time. On 16 September, I did my flying test with Major S.A. Melville and qualified for my 'wings', which meant that I was considered capable of carrying passengers in the air.

I resumed my duties as a specialist air armament instructor at No. 65 Air School on 18 September 1941, but by now my sights were set on getting back to general flying duties and getting into an operational squadron in North Africa where the Allied Forces (British, South African, Australian and New Zealand) were confronting the German Afrika Korps.

We completed the journey from Pretoria to Cairo on 17th April 1942, two days before my 22nd birthday. It was brought about by a chance meeting with a fellow called Eric Baker who had

been at Young's Field with me earlier on during the war. Eric was by now a lieutenant-colonel in the South African Air Force and had a Distinguished Service Order and a Distinguished Flying Cross. He asked me where I was headed, and I said that I was in Egypt to fly bombers. Eric, being a fighter pilot set about convincing me that it was far better and more exciting to be a fighter pilot than a bomber pilot.

So, the following day I asked for an interview with Brigadier Peter Hingeston, the senior SAAF officer in Cairo, to whom I put my case for a change in my posting to fighters. He was agreeable and made immediate arrangements for me to attend a fighter OTU [Operational Training Unit]. Until the next course started, I would be posted to the SAAF base at Amyria from 20th to 28th April. In the event, I did not stay in the SAAF base until the 28th.

On 2nd July we were ferried out to LG [Landing Ground] 85 in the desert, to join what was known as 233 Wing, which consisted of Nos. 2, 4 and 5 Squadrons of the South African Air Force, but which was commanded by a Group Captain Beresford of the Royal Air Force. In an introductory speech, he told us that things were pretty rough in the desert at that time, with a great many casualties to air personnel and aircraft. I remember his closing words, "And if you break any of my bloody aircraft, I'll have your guts for garters." We all dutifully laughed.



Curtiss Tomahawk, No. 5 Squadron, SAAF.

I was assigned to No. 5 Squadron, which was equipped with Tomahawks. Dick Clifton, much to my envy, went to No. 4 Squadron, which had Kittyhawks, which were much superior to the 'Tommies'. Fighter squadrons usually had twelve operational aircraft, seldom more, and often less if there had been casualties. The CO [Commanding Officer] of No. 5 Squadron up to a few days before had been Dennis Lacey. He had been shot down and killed, as had 'Cookie' Botha, one of my fellow cadets who, in the time that we had been at OTU, had shot down five enemy aircraft, been awarded a DFC [Distinguished Flying Cross], and then had been shot down himself. Our Acting CO at that stage was a Captain van der Spuy.

On 11 July 1942 a medium cover operation to 18 Bostons was scheduled, and we took off in the early afternoon. Flying as my 'number two' was a young 2nd Lieutenant called Lionel Rapp. His function was to keep an eye open for any attacks from enemy fighters and thus to protect my rear. We were flying at about 8,000 feet when, all of a sudden, we were ordered over the radio to attack a formation of German Stukas that were dive-bombing Allied forces in the same general area as our Bostons were going to bomb in.

Almost immediately, I spotted them – and they obviously had seen us – because they stopped their dive-bombing and headed downwards with their throttles wide open. My No. 5 Squadron formation broke away from the Bostons and dived in pursuit of the Stukas. As we hurtled towards the ground, the first thing of which I became aware was out of the corner of my left eye: a burning Tomahawk completely enveloped in flames. I presumed it was Lionel Rapp, which was later confirmed. It could mean only one thing: our formation had been 'jumped' by ME 109s [Messerschmidt], just as we had jumped the Stukas.

At this point I had my sights on a Stuka and I fired my four .50 Browning guns at him. I know I damaged the Stuka, but whether he went down or not I don't know, because I became pre-occupied with a sudden loss of my ring-sight that normally imaged on the windscreen in front of my face. We all pulled out of our dive as we were getting dangerously close to the ground, and, as I levelled out, there was an almighty bang. I realised that I had been hit!



Luftwaffe Me-109s over the Libyan desert.

While I was absorbing this development, a 109 [German fighter Messerschmitt Bf 109] passed in front of me and I gave him a burst from my Brownings – but it was not an aimed burst as my ring-sight had gone. In trying to follow the 109, it became immediately obvious that my rudder had been shot away because there was no response when I kicked my rudder bar. An aircraft without a rudder becomes a sitting duck, as the basic manoeuvre in aerial combat is to turn into any aircraft that fires at you.

It was obvious that without rudder control I couldn't make any further contribution to the dogfight, so by the use of ailerons alone, I managed to start a long, flat turn towards the sea when I was hit again. Not being able to turn into my attacker, I had but two alternatives: to climb or to dive. I decided on the latter and dived down to a few hundred feet above the ground.

In the dive I was hit a third time from directly behind – a long burst which started my Tomahawk burning and caused shrapnel wounds in my left arm and in my neck. I could see the long trail of smoke tailing out behind my aircraft and I knew that I had to make a very quick decision. To climb to a height where I could bail out would be inviting further – and probably fatal – attacks, or a complete burnout of the aircraft.

As I was very close to the ground, I decided to put it down on the desert and get out before it went up in flames. I loosened my straps and jumped clear before the aircraft had come to a halt. When I stopped rolling, I jumped to my feet and ran to put as much distance as I could between me and the aeroplane. Seconds later, it burst into flames and very rapidly burnt out completely.

I continued running but could see the 109 turning and diving down towards me. Then he opened up, and a couple of cannon shells exploded close enough to me to cause rock fragments to penetrate the skin under my jaw. I fell forward as though I had been fatally wounded and lay spreadeagled on the desert sand. The 109 pilot did another circuit to see whether I would get up again, but as I didn't, he presumably considered me dead and flew home to his forward landing ground.

When I was satisfied that there was no more aerial activity, I stood up and started running again, to get as far away from the burnt-out aircraft as possible.



Members of the Afrika Korps.

Suddenly I heard something behind me and looked around to see a small reconnaissance vehicle with three Afrika Korps soldiers closing rapidly on me, so I stopped running and turned to face them. One of them could speak some English and said, "For you the war is over. Every day is now Sunday."

I suppose this was funny, but I wasn't in the mood for laughing. Just before I left Cape Town in January, I had bought a beautiful Tissot wristwatch, which caught the eye of my captors. The English speaker made it clear that he wanted it. When I protested, a machine pistol was pushed into my ribs, and my Tissot acquired a new owner.

They loaded me into their vehicle and went off in search of a casualty clearing station to treat my wounds, which were not in fact very serious, although I was covered in blood. Having delivered me to the CCS (Casualty Clearing Station), they pushed off back to the war and I saw them no more. After I had been cleaned up and bandaged, I was given something to eat and drink and then put in an ambulance for the night.

I went to sleep almost immediately, only to be rudely awakened by a German doctor who said he was going to sleep in the ambulance, and that I should sleep on the ground outside, which of course I did – and very cold and uncomfortable it was.

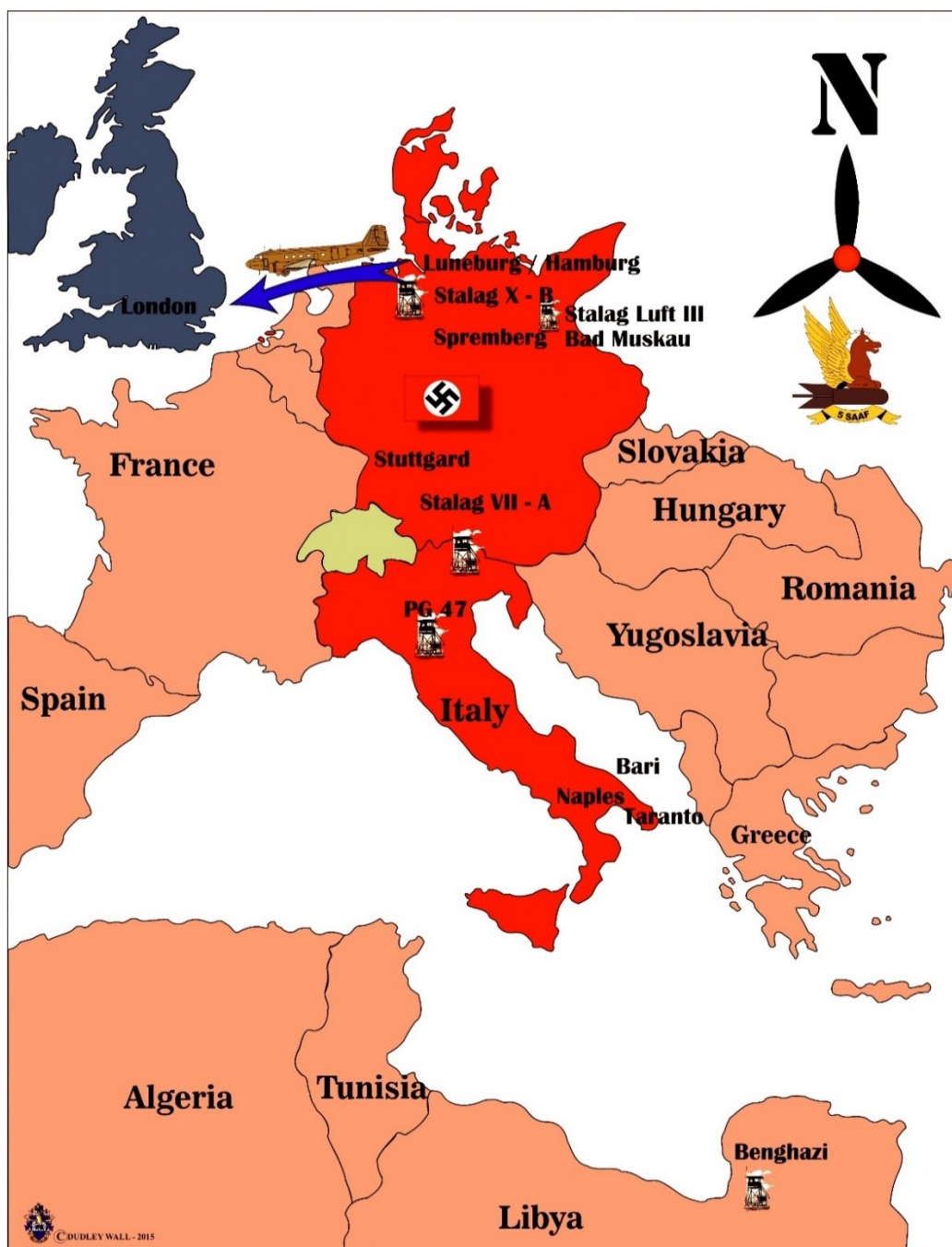
The next day I was delivered to a prisoner-of-war interrogation centre, which consisted of some tents and a couple of barbed-wire compounds for the holding of POWs, erected in the desert. Here, for a couple of days, the German interrogator endeavoured to get me to disclose the number of my squadron and other relevant information that would be of value to the Luftwaffe. However, all pilots had been briefed that if ever they became POWs, all that they were permitted to disclose was

their number, rank and name. And so for two or three days we verbally sparred. No force or torture was used. Eventually I was discarded and handed over to the Italians.

Two weeks before I was shot down, the desert fortress of Tobruk had surrendered to the Afrika Korps, and thousands of South African, Australian and British soldiers had become prisoners of war. They too had been handed over to the Italians for safekeeping, who began moving all POWs into the coastal town of Benghazi, from where they would be shipped across the Mediterranean to the Italian port and naval base at Taranto. I was also moved into Benghazi to join the vast number of South African officers who had arrived there from Tobruk.



Italians watch Allied POWs, Libya, North Africa.



(Map Colonel Dudley Wall)

I cannot remember when we left Benghazi, nor the name of the Italian ship that took us across the Mediterranean. The voyage lasted a couple of days, until our ship docked at Taranto from where we were taken by train to Bari and chunked into a POW camp.

I can't remember how long we were in Bari; not very long I think, as Bari was merely a transit camp. From there a train moved us across Italy from east to west. It was on this journey that I contemplated escaping by jumping from the train. The thought was that one would then wait in the dark beside the railway truck for a goods train to come by, and at the same place where the passenger train had slowed down, jump up onto the goods train and get as far north as possible. I had discussed this with a friend called 'Bones' Hobson, who had been my company commander

when I joined the Special Service Company of the Royal Durban Light Infantry in Durban in 1937. By this time, I had caught him up and we were both captains.

We got ready for the train to slow down and opened the compartment windows to jump out, but as we were about to go, some chap from the compartment ahead of us beat us to the jump. We expected the Italian guards to open up with their rifles on the man we could see crouched beside the track, his spectacles glinting in the moonlight, and hesitated. Then the train started to pick up speed again and the moment was lost.



Italian campo perimeter fence.

We went on westwards across southern Italy, eventually arriving at a small town called Aversa, not all that far from Naples. This proved to be another transit camp (Campo P.G. 63) and I cannot recall how long we stayed there. All I recall is that it was summer and there were flies in their millions. The commandant of the camp was a small Italian lieutenant-colonel with a very short fuse.

One occasion when something upset him, he called a parade of all the officers in the camp: South African, British, some Australians, and a number of Indian Army officers. As he could speak no English, he harangued us in Italian, screaming and shouting, and punching the air with his fists. After about five minutes of this, he turned to his interpreter who said in English, "Gentlemen, the commandant is displeased with you." We all burst out laughing, whereupon the commandant really went crazy, and finally stamped off the parade ground.

We were not very long at Aversa before we were moved once again, this time quite a long way up north to a town called Modena, presently famous as the birthplace of opera singer Pavarotti, and the place in which the Ferrari factory is situated. For us it was the place in which Campo P.G. 47 was located. P.G. stands for Prigioniero di Guerra: prisoners of war (POWs). The camp was

some way out of town, and was built in the form of a square, with all the buildings on the sides of the square, with a very large expanse of open ground in the middle. Our accommodation was in the form of large bungalows, each holding a substantial number of officers.



POW sport at Campo 47.

We soon settled into a routine, which revolved around food, efforts to escape, and sport. As far as the latter was concerned, we laid out all sorts of sporting facilities on the open ground in the centre of the camp. One of our most popular sporting activities was softball, as it was so easy to organise and needed a minimum of equipment.

One of my closest friends in the camp was Les Payn from Natal, who was a brilliant cricket all-rounder and an especially good left-arm leg spinner. When he was captured at Tobruk, he had a cricket ball in his possession, which survived through to Aversa. During a routine search there, the Italians came across Les's ball, about which they were highly suspicious and insisted upon cutting it open to see what he was concealing inside. Also, when he was captured, he was wearing a Red Cross armband as he was in charge of African stretcher bearers (he spoke Zulu like a Zulu). His armband was to stand him in very good stead when a delegation from the International Red Cross visited the camp. They declared him a non-combatant and arranged that the Italians should repatriate him via Switzerland and the UK to South Africa. Back in the Union of South Africa, he went to see next-of-kin of POWs in our camp and called on Molly (my wife) to tell her that I was fine. After the war, Les became a Springbok cricketer and remained my very good friend until he died in the eighties.

In between our sporting and other recreational activities – I also played a great deal of bridge – we dreamt of escaping and getting back to our units while the war was still on. We never considered that it could go on for another three years.

A tunnel is no easy thing to construct. . . or to conceal. You must start with a tunnel entrance, which must be in a building so that your activities are hidden from prying eyes, and where you can spot the approach of enemy sentries in time to close down tunnelling activity before they came upon it. Then your major problem is to get rid of the 'spoil': the earth that you excavate from the tunnel. You must keep the tunnel going in the right direction—easier said than done—or you may find it breaking out in the Italian commandant's office! And finally, you have to contend with the technicalities of tunnelling such as 'shoring up' to prevent subsidence and ventilation as the tunnel increases in length. Digging a tunnel may take many months and then not be successful.



Italian campo entrance.

I was involved in two tunnels in Modena, which kept me busy for most of the time I spent in Campo P.G. 47. Both were eventually discovered before we had got very far. In the one case, the tunnel entrance was found during a routine search, despite it being very well concealed. In the other case, the spoil, which we distributed over the sports fields during the night, showed up a different colour in the light of day, alerting the Italians to the fact that a tunnel was under construction. They would then search for days until they found the entrance.

While we were busy with the second tunnel, I approached an air force friend, Jeff Morphew, to ask him whether he would care to join our tunnelling team. Much to my surprise, he turned the

offer down. What I didn't know then was that Jeff and a friend of his were on the brink of a brilliant escape, which for security reasons he dared not tell anyone else about. Jeff and his friend were both small men. They had made themselves Italian soldiers' uniforms, complete with wooden rifles, which looked just like the real thing. When the time came, their plan was to wait for dusk when the day guards inside the camp finished their shift and marched out of the front entrance to the compound. They would fall in behind the single file of departing guards and march out with them, hoping that there was no-one counting the number of guards who marched out – as it turned out, no-one was.

Jeff and his friend Coelgees were taken to be genuine Italian soldiers, and once out of the POW compound, they laid up until it was completely dark and then walked out of Campo P.G. 47 altogether. They then changed out of their Italian uniforms into civilian dress and bought tickets at the local railway station to get as far away from Modena as possible. Later, while they were en route to the Swiss border, they became separated and Coelgees was recaptured. Jeff, however, made it into Switzerland, where he met the girl, he was eventually to marry. From there he was helped by the French underground to cross occupied France by train, thence through Spain to Gibraltar, which remained in British hands throughout the war. From Gibraltar, he was flown back to England where he was seconded to the RAF, finding himself back on operations against Germany.



Red Cross food parcel contents.

Probably the subject nearest the hearts of all POWs was food, as this was usually the most pressing problem. The food provided by our captors was never sufficient but fortunately, for us, the International Red Cross was a wonderful organisation that looked after prisoners of war of whatever nationality and wherever they were.

When everything was going well, we would receive a weekly food parcel from the Red Cross, with such wonderful delicacies as 'KLIM' (powdered milk), condensed milk, biscuits, jam, 'Spam'

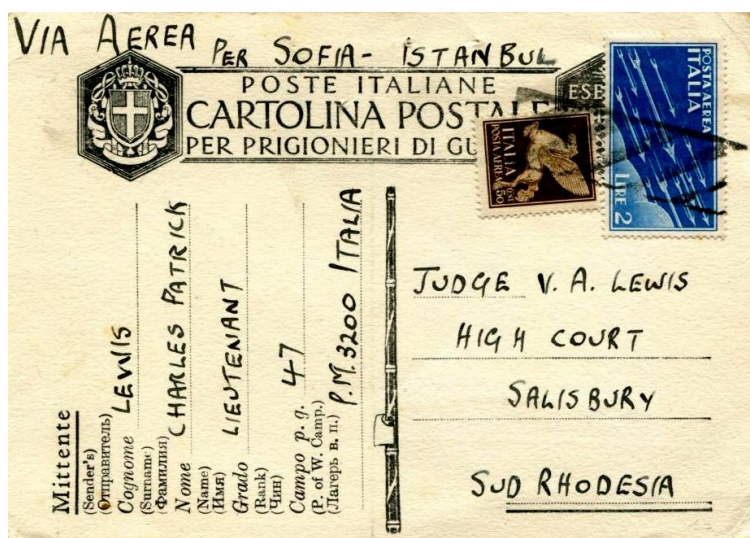
(American tinned meat), sugar and tea, etc. When things were not going well, the Italians – and later the Germans – would withhold the Red Cross parcels in order to punish us.

It was virtually impossible to live on the food provided by our captors, which usually consisted of a couple of slices of dry bread and a bowl of watery ‘soup’ per day. Now and again, we might be given a couple of shrivelled potatoes, or a piece of some ghastly vegetable called kohlrabi; also known as turnip-cabbage. There were also long periods when no Red Cross parcels could be delivered to the camps. During these periods, we really knew what hunger pangs meant.

Now, some fifty or more years after the war, it is difficult to recall just how hungry one was most of the time, but I do know that even when the supply of Red Cross parcels was satisfactory, one was still perpetually hungry. It was not unknown for some POWs to give promissory notes for up to £100 – to be paid after the war – for the purchase of a Red Cross parcel.

As POWs, we were allowed to write only one lettercard a month to our next-of-kin, and it wasn’t until we got to Modena that we were given this privilege, so it was a couple of months before Molly learned that she still had a husband after all. Whatever we wrote was subject to censorship by the Italian military authorities, so there wasn’t much that we could say about how we really were and what we really felt. Nevertheless, it was a lifeline to which we clung tenuously, as it was our only link with home.

Despite being locked up and isolated from the outside world, we were always aware of the progress of the war. Every camp had a clandestine radio receiver, which listened in to the news bulletins from the BBC. We also got an occasional newspaper into the camp from ‘friendly’ guards, so we knew what was going on in Italy and indeed the rest of the world.



A Rhodesian POW's 'lettercard' from Campo 47.

The year 1942 passed painfully slowly for us, but we knew that the tide had turned with the battle of El Alamein fought in the Western Desert in North Africa in October, between the British 8th Army under General Montgomery and the German Afrika Korps under Field Marshal Rommel. Rommel's

drive towards Cairo had been stopped at the Alamein line and then turned round after the Battle of El Alamein. The Afrika Korps and their Italian allies were soundly defeated. They started a withdrawal to the west, which would eventually lead to their being forced out of Africa and back, firstly to the island of Sicily, and then on to the mainland of Europe. The last battle on African soil was fought on 12th May 1943, heralding the end of the desert war.

Then came the Allied invasion of Sicily. The writing was on the wall for the Italian armed forces. The Fascist leader of Italy, Benito Mussolini, was driven from office in July 1943.

We began to get very excited when Allied forces entered Italy from the south, and as they began to move northwards with the intention of driving the Axis forces out of Italy altogether. At about this time, the Italian component of the Axis forces, realising that the war was effectively over for them, capitulated, leaving only the German armed forces to confront the advancing Allies, so we believed that it would not be very long before our camp was overrun and we would be released. Regrettably, I cannot now recall the dates on which things happened. I used to have a POW log in which I recorded the events that governed my life in those days, but this disappeared when I was living in Potchefstroom from 1949 to 1951.

It must have been August 1943 when it became apparent that very shortly our POW camp would cease to be guarded by the Italians. It was our hope that the Allied forces would overrun our camp and set us free. However, the Germans had dug themselves in on various defensive lines across Italy, effectively holding up the progress of Allied forces.



The British and American armies were trying to move up from the south of Italy to the north, into what Churchill referred to as “the soft underbelly of Europe”. So much so, that when the Italian capitulation took place and the guards disappeared from Campo P.G. 47, their place was taken immediately by the Germans, who entered the camp with the express intention of moving all the POWs out and transferring them to Germany.

Many of us in the camp had decided to get out the moment the Italian guards left. We were ready to do so, but then a message was received, via our clandestine camp radio, from the British HQ in Italy, to the effect that we should stay where we were and not leave the camp under any circumstances until we were relieved by the British forces. We were all summoned on to the parade ground and addressed by the senior officer in the camp, who was a New Zealand lieutenant-colonel. He said that he had received this instruction from the British HQ in Italy and advised no-one to disobey the instruction. Subsequently, when he realised that the great majority of the officers in Campo P.G. 47 had been moved to Germany because of following his advice, he very sadly committed suicide. The next morning, the Italian guards disappeared and the Germans marched in.



The following day we were marched out of the camp, and down to the Modena railway station where we were loaded into cattle trucks for the long train journey to Germany.

On the railway platform, I witnessed one of the most horrible things I have ever seen. Italian civilians were also being sent to Germany as labourers. One young Italian lad was embracing a woman who presumably was his mother. She was crying and holding on to him, while a young German officer was yelling at him to get on to the train. The more the German yelled, the more the woman cried and clung to the young man. Eventually the German officer pulled out his Luger pistol, and without further ado, shot the young Italian dead in his mother's arms.

When all the POW officers were loaded into the cattle trucks, the doors were bolted from the outside, and the train moved off. We had no water, there were no toilet facilities, and we were

crowded to the point where no-one could lie down. It was hot and airless. We had no idea how long we would be incarcerated in the trucks.

(To be continued. . . Italy, Germany, Stalag Luft III, the Great Escape).

Comments by HBH

I had the good fortune to work with Gen Coster at the Secretariate of the State Security Council (SSSC). He worked for the SADF and was posted to the SSSC. He was a real officer and gentleman!

EIETJDSE POLISIEGESKIEDENIS | CONTEMPORARY POLICE HISTORY

VERBETERDE HOMMELTUIE

(Lt-kol Philip Malherbe [afgetr])



Hierdie artikel is vrylik vertaal van bronne soos aangedui in die bronnelys. Mei 2025	
“Abstract”	Abstrak

"Drones are the new "buzzword." It is used as a variety device, in the air and water, as an assault device and tool, and have set new limits. With war between Russia and Ukraine, the observed number of drones that spared human lives – by drones that replaced number of soldiers. As well as by enormous cost savings brought about in terms of war equipment. Electronic warfare began to dominate the battlefield."	Onbemande hommeltuie het die nuwe "gonswoord" geword. Die aanwending as verskeidenheidstuig, in die lug en water, as aanvalstuig en hulpmiddel het nuwe grense daar gestel. Met die oorlog tussen Rusland en Oekraïne, is waargeneem hoedanig vermelde tuie menselewens gespaar het met hommeltuie wat groot aantal soldate vervang het. Asook deur enorme koste besparing wat teweeg gebring is in terme van oorlogstuig. Elektroniese oorlogvoering begin die slagveld oorheers.
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(Skrywer se skets van 'n Hommeltuig)

Hommeltuie as hulpmiddel:

Luidens Poppy Khoza ("Sunday Times" gedateer 11/05/25) word hommeltuie toenemend deur polisie- en veiligheidsdienste gebruik as 'n veelsydige hulpmiddel vir nie-militêre doeleindes. Dit behels oa toesig, grensveiligheid, monitering en toesig vanweë hul buigsaamheid, vermoë om toegang tot moeilik bereikbare gebiede te verkry, en die potensiaal om doeltreffendheid, akkuraatheid en situasiebewustheid te verbeter. Hulle kan ook gebruik word vir misdaadtoneeldokumentasie, indringeropsporing, bedreigings bepaling en selfs die opsporing van individue. Hommeltuie reageer vinniger, bereik verder en beskerm lewens.

Dit skrik misdadigers af en monitor hoë risikogebiede en ondersteun die polisie. Dan help dit ook met soek, redding-operasies en help met arrestasie.

Hommeltuie is rewolusionêr in die manier waarop ons noodsaaklike dienste lewer en gemeenskappe beskerm byvoorbeeld: die aflewering van lewensreddende bloedaflerings tussen hospitale sowel as aan afgeleë areas.

Dan help die boere met siektes opsporing en monitering van gewasse in landerye. Dit kan voorraad opnames in enorme paksure van besighede baie vinniger en meer deegliker as persone monitor.

Vermelde hommeltuie is gewoonlik toegerus met gevorderde tegnologie soos termiese opsporing, insluitende infra-rooi sensors, nagsigkamera's, en Kunsmatige Intelligensie (KI)-aangedrewe herkenning van bewegende -mense en voertuie.

Hommeltuie kan in afgeleë landelike gebiede sonder GPS-toegang en selfs ondergronds werk. Dit is ook ontwerp vir beide dag- en nag bedrywighede, met gespesialiseerde vermoëns soos sterligkamas vir lae ligtoestande.

Wanneer dit veilig toegepas en doelgerig ontplooi word, kan dit ons lewens verbeter, ons werk verbeter en dit veiliger en doeltreffer maak.

'n Interessante aanwending van hommeltuie is die gebruik om voorraad op "Mount Everest" te skuif (verminderde tyd) vanaf Basis Kamp - sowel as om vullis af te bring. Die lere, toue en suurstofsilinders wat per hommeltuig vervoer word om die Sherpas of "ysvaldokters" (plaaslike inwoners) by Khumbu Icefall, 'n gletser tussen Basiskamp en Kamp 1, het al lewens op dié berg gered.

Spesialis Sherpas wat van die nabygeleë heuwels en berge kom, navigeer en stel al sewe dekades lank die roete vir klimmers op Everest. Tientalle het hul lewens in die proses verloor. Pandey, van Airlift Technology, 'n plaaslike hommeltuigkartering, glo dat hulle met sy tegniese kundigheid in die gebruik van hommeltuie gekombineer met die Sherpas se dekades se bergklimkennis dit veiliger kan maak om op die dak van die wêreld te wees en die tyd verminder.

Lug Hommeltuie as Aanvalsvaartuie:

Die MQ-9 Reaper bv. is 'n veelsydige afstandbestuurde vliegtuig stelsel wat gebruik word vir 'n verskeidenheid missies, insluitend intelligensie, toesig, verkenning en presisie-aanvalle. Dit is ontwerp vir lang uithouvermoë en kan 'n verskeidenheid sensors en wapens dra.

Belangrike kenmerke en vermoëns

- lang uithouvermoë, wat dit moontlik maak om vir lang tydperke in die lug te bly, dikwels langer as 12 uur vir toesig- of verkenningsmissies;

- verskeie veelsydige missies, insluitend intelligensie-insameling, toesig, verkenning, noue lugondersteuning, reddingssoektog en presisie-aanvalle;
- toegerus met 'n verskeidenheid wapens, insluitend "Hellfire"-missiele en ander presisie-geleide ammunisie;
- afgeleë afstand bestuur deur 'n span van twee of meer, insluitend 'n vlieënier en 'n sensoroperator, vanaf 'n grondbeheerstasie;
- wye reeks sensors, insluitend infrarooi, nagsig en ander beeldstelsels, om intelligensie- en toesigdata in te samel;
- kan verskeie missies gelyktydig uitvoer, soos verkenning en die lewering van presisie-aanvalle;
- ontwerp om hoogs betroubaar te wees met lang uithou vermoë;

Op 26 April 2025 berig Boyko Nikolov, van die Russiese staat nuusagentskap TASS dat die produksie van die "*Knyaz Vandal Novgorodsky*" FPV-hommeltuig, 'n nuwe wapen wat via optiese veselkabel beheer word, in drie Russiese streke begin opereer het.

Hierdie hommeluig verteenwoordig 'n beduidende tegnologiese sprong in die voortslepende Russies-Oekraïense konflik,

Anders as konvensionele hommeluie wat op radioseine staatmaak, maak die Knyaz Vandal se bedrade verbinding dit immuun teen steun sturings, wat 'n taktiese voorsprong bied in betwiste omgewings. Hierdie ontwikkeling, wat ondanks Europese en Amerikaanse sanksies bereik is, onderstreep Rusland se vermoë om onder druk te innoveer.

Tog beklemtoon dit ook 'n breër tegnologiese wedloop met die Oekraïne, wat 'n wêreldleier in hommeluigproduksie geword het. Die vraag is nie net hoe hierdie hommeluig-oorlogvoering vandag hervorm nie, maar of dit 'n nuwe era van onaantasbare hommeluie aandui - en of die Oekraïne tred kan hou.

Water Hommeluie as Aanvalsvoertuig

Die Oekraïne se militêre intelligensiediens het onlangs twee Russiese Su-30's (elk \$ 50 miljoen werd) in die Swart See afgeskiet, die "eerste keer in die geskiedenis" dat die tegnologie 'n bemande gevegsvliegtuig vernietig het, deur 'n missiel te gebruik wat vanaf 'n vloothommeltuig gelanseer is.

Die aanval is uitgevoer deur 'n missiel wat vanaf 'n Magura-vloothommeltuigplatform gelanseer is, wat missiele kan dra wat die Oekraïense hoofdirektoraat van intelligensie voorheen gesê het Russiese vliegtuie sal teiken.

Die Su-30 is 'n veelvoudige vegter wat beide lug-tot-lug- en lug-tot-grond-aanvalle kan doen.

Die vloothommeltuie het ook probleme vir Rusland in die lug veroorsaak. Oekraïne het in Desember gesê dat hy vir die eerste keer 'n Russiese helikopter met 'n vloothommeltuig vernietig het, en gesê 'n Magura is ook in daardie aanval gebruik.

Die Magura kan ook aangewend word vir gebruik in elektroniese oorlogvoering, verkenning of kinetiese aanvalle, waar die “Lumberjack” ammunisie kan ontplooi, insluitend die maatskappy se ses pond (2.7 kilogram) “Hatchet” presisie-aanvalswapen.

Groot Lugstelsels Hommeltuie 3 UAS

Die 3 UAS Lumberjack, behoort tot die Pentagon se kategorie Groep 3 onbemande lugstelsels, wat dit klassifiseer as 'n groot hommeltuig wat tussen 24 en 598 kilogram weeg.

Dit kan tussen 185 kilometer tot 463 kilometer per uur beweeg op 'n hoogte van tot 5 486 meter.

Boonop het die aanvalshommeltuig na bewering 'n stakingsradius van meer as 200 - 321 kilometer, wat verhandel kan word om sy rondhang-uithouvermoë vir tot 'n paar uur te verleng.

Lanseer keuses

Tydens proewe het die stelsel sy vermoë getoon om vanaf 'n elektriese spoorstelsel gelanseer te word, wat potensiaal toon vir gebruik in vlootoppervlakvegters.

Dit is ook ontplooi vanaf 'n pneumatiese lanseerder (wat met lugdruk werk), wat baie goedkoop, en baie maklik is om te bou met plaaslike komponente.

KI-oorsig Hommeltuie

Die “Bayraktar TB3” is 'n binnelands ontwikkelde onbemande gevegslugvoertuig wat ontwerp en vervaardig is deur “Baykar”, 'n Turkse maatskappy. Dit is 'n evolusie van die “Bayraktar TB2”, wat aansienlike verbeterings in vermoëns bied, veral in sy vermoë om vanaf vliegdekskepe te werk en langafstandmissies uit te voer.

Belangrike kenmerke en vermoëns:

- Opvoubare vlerke: Laat werking vanaf kort aanloopbane en vliegdekskepe toe.
- “Beyond Line-of-Sight” kommunikasie: Maak beheer vanaf verre plekke moontlik.
- Gevorderde loonvrag en wapens: Kan tot 290kg loonvrag dra, insluitend slim ammunisie.
- Outonome opstyg en landing: Ten volle outomatiese bekendstellings- en herstelprosesse.
- Lang uithouvermoë: Ontwerp vir uitgebreide bedrywigheide, in staat tot 24+ uur se vlugtyd.
- Prestasie op hoë hoogte: Het rekordhoogtes behaal tydens toetsing.

- Gevegsbewys: Het suksesvolle presisie-aanvalle met supersoniese missiele uitgevoer, wat sy gevegs gereedheid ten toon stel.
- Gevorderde sensors: Toegerus met ASELFLIR-500 elektro-optiese teikenstelsel en AESA-radar vir uitstekende teiken en verkenning.
- Inheemse ontwikkeling: 'n Produk van Turkse ingenieurswese en ontwikkeling, met 'n fokus op huishoudelike tegnologie.

Operasionele betekenis:

- Krag vermenigvuldiger:

Dien as 'n sleutelement in Turkye se verdedigingsposisie, wat langafstandverkenning, toesig, intelligensie en stakingsmissies moontlik maak.

Zelensky het nie bykomende inligting oor die nuut vernietigde vliegtuig verskaf nie, maar net bygevoeg dat militêre depots ook in die aanval vernietig is. Oekraïne se weermag het nie besonderhede in die openbaar bekend gemaak oor die aanval nie.

In die lug bo die Oekraïne het hommeltuie die meedoënlose polsslag van moderne oorlogvoering geword, wat die ritme van gevegte dikteer met hul toesig en presisie-aanvalle.

BRONNE:

Khoza Poppy, Sunday Times, 2025-05-11

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POLICE INTERNATIONAL: KENYA POLICE

Col David Reeve

The Air Wing was certainly manned by some outstanding pilots, and I wonder if they are still remembered today.

Air Wing's new operational base officially opened

Over a million miles on operational duties since December 1952 is the proud record of the operational squadron of the Police Air Wing. They are "one of the most effective and efficient units" engaged in the Emergency.

ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT UNITS ENGAGED in the Emergency was how the Commissioner, Mr. Richard Catling, described the Police Air Wing when he formally declared open on July 23rd the new base of "A" Flight at Nyeri Main airfield.

The official opening took place in the flower-bedecked officer's mess, and was attended by a number of distinguished guests, including the following: Mrs. Catling, Mr. K. P. Hadingham (A.C.P., Central Province) and Mrs. Hadingham, Colonel Hayes Newington, Wing Commander C. P. M. Newman (representing the Senior Royal Air Force Officer, East Africa) and Mrs. Newman, Mr. D. D. P. Cracknell (A.C.P.(O) and Mrs. Cracknell, Captain Lutyens-Humfrey (G.L.O.). An official War Office artist, Lady Pamela Rathdonnell, who was on a visit to East Africa at the time, was also present.

The Commissioner was received by the Commandant of the Air Wing, Senior Superintendent (R) A. N. Francombe, and other members of the Air Wing present were Superintendent (R) 'Punch' Bearcroft, Assistant Superintendent (R) R. G. Pakenham Walsh (commanding "B" Flight) and Mrs. Pakenham Walsh, and Chief Inspectors (R) Colin Prichard, Ian Cuthbert, John Economides, Rex Taylor and Tony Burston.

A telegram wishing the Air Wing good luck in the future

was sent by the Senior Royal Air Force Officer.

The Commissioner was received on arrival with Mr. Hadingham by a Guard of Honour provided by the Police of Nyeri Division (who are responsible for the guarding of the base) under Superintendent L. A. Elliott, at that time commanding Nyeri Division.

A very pleasant duty

Following is the text of the Commissioner's address at the opening:

It is my very pleasant duty today to declare open this new 'A' Flight base. It is pleasant, not because we are in congenial surroundings at the moment with a drink in our hands remembering all we owe to the K.P.R. Air Wing pilots who have operated in the Nyeri Area in the past and those who do so now but because, recalling the extremely uncomfortable conditions in which they had to live in the old air-strip at Marrian's Farm, Mweiga, it is a splendid thing to see them now in very much better circumstances.

'A' Flight of the K.P.R. Air Wing originated at Squair's Farm on the north eastern slopes of the Aberdares in mid-December, 1952. It was here that Punch Bearcroft, Jimmy Dodds and Tommy Thompson, flying aircraft chartered by the Police, and in close co-operation with Item Force of the Kenya Regiment, carried out the flying which by ex-



A group photograph of the Air Wing pilots of "A" Flight at Nyeri, to whose record in Emergency flying the Commissioner paid glowing tribute when he opened their new mess (D of I photo)

tremely hard work, skill and tenacity of purpose resulted in the perfection of the techniques employed today in the wide variety of operational tasks which the Air Wing is called upon to carry out.

Flying from Mweiga and Nyeri main was also carried out by what is now 'B' Flight Nakuru.

In February 1953 an Operational Commander was appointed and it was decided to concentrate the Unit at Mweiga, where the Kenya Regiment had established their Headquarters. Demands for close support were increasing daily and the concentration resulted in more economical control of the flying carried out and flexibility of utilisation.

In June the arrival of the R.A.F. Harvads at Mweiga resulted in the Station being placed under R.A.F. Command and also in greatly increased commitments for the already hard-pressed 'A' Flight, because marking for all the harvard bombing and machine gun sorties had to be undertaken due to the R.A.F. pilots' unfamiliarity with the difficult country over which they had to fly.

The Police were by now purchasing more Tri-Pacer aircraft and as these came into operation the charter aircraft were released. 20 lb. bomb racks were fitted to enable the Pacers to take advantage of 'opportunity' targets and thus the basis of the present Mushroom operation was formed.

Mweiga was an extremely uncomfortable camp built on the worst type of black cotton soil with inadequate drainage. The runway of about 1,000 yards became a boggy morass after heavy rain and it was a great tribute to the skill of the R.A.F. and Air Wing pilots that they carried out intensive operations throughout the rainy seasons without a single accident due to adverse weather conditions or the airstrip surface.

In March, 1953, it was decided to move the Station from Mweiga to Nanyuki and thus avoid a further rainy season at Mweiga. 'A' Flight remained at Nanyuki for three months and moved back to Mweiga when the Harvard flight were withdrawn permanently to Eastleigh.

Recommendations for building Nyeri Main airstrip to an all-weather standard for light aircraft were first made by the Operational Commander in February, 1953.

It would not be suitable to trace here the history of the

phases through which this project passed to the great moment early this year when not only was the runway completed but also this very comfortable and attractive station. It is indeed a haven for the pilots and other personnel who suffered so long and uncomplainingly at Mweiga.

It is appropriate to mention the names of some of the pilots who have built up what is considered to be one of the most effective and efficient Units engaged in the Emergency. I have already spoken of Punch Bearcroft, whose name will remain a by-word amongst all with whom he has come in contact and who has considerably more than 2,000 operational sorties to his credit, Jimmy Dodds, now in New Zealand, and Tommy Thompson, who flies for the H.Q. Communications flight in Nairobi, but no record would be complete without mention of 'Pak' Pakenham-Walsh, commanding 'B' Flight at Nakuru, Phil Archer, Collin Prichard, Roy Marsh, Mike Richmond, Ken Holding, all of whom did sterling work in the early days.

Usually I try to avoid mentioning figures in an address of this kind but today I do not feel I can leave some out because they are so impressive.

Million and half miles

Since its inception 'A' Flight has flown 13,450 hours—85-90 per cent of them operational, and in the course of these has covered some 15,00,000 miles.

It would take a very long time to work out the total weight of supplies dropped but according to the G.L.O. 150,000 lbs. were dropped during operations 'Hammer' and 'Flute' alone.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have the greatest pleasure in declaring this Base of 'A' Flight's officially open: I would also ask you to join me in drinking to the health and good fortune of all the pilots who operate from here—good luck to them: I know they will continue to enhance the already high reputation of 'A' Flight.

On the evening of July 23rd the officers of "A" Flight were At Home at a cocktail party in the Mess at which the Commissioner and Mrs. Catling were present and a large gathering of prominent local residents, and a number of senior officers of the Force, attended.





If you have any info on the Kenya Police, please forward so that we can send it to the Kenya Police Archive in the UK, care of Col David Reeve – HBH.





DIE GROOT DUIMGOOI (“HIKE) KOMPETISIE: ‘N MUIHOND ONDER DIE HOENDERS EN ‘N SLANG IN DIE GRAS: DEEL 5

Artikel deur Koos de Wet



Ons gelukkige dag of was dit..?

Ons het skaars stelling ingeneem langs die B1 buite Windhoek op pad Okahandja toe, toe stop n afdeweringsvragmotor op pad Okahandja toe en neem ons tot in Okahandja.

Dis n handige 70km om ons dag mee te begin en ons skep moed dat ons vandag n goeie “hike” dag gaan hê as ons so vinnig opgetel kan word.

Die bestuurder was n stil man wat nie juis wou gesels nie en het nie en nie eers kommentaar gelewer op ons bagasie wat ook nou so n bietjie na diesel en ou vuil olie begin ruik het nie .

Okahandja het net begin wakker word toe ons daar aankom en ons moes iets kry om te eet want Weskus-liefie se heerlike toebroodjies is nou al amper 24 uur gelede geniet en die honger begin nou ons sake so n bietjie werk.

Ons Romany Creams en Dawid se biltong voorraad is ernstig gestraf en ons wil nie alles eet voor ons die halfpadmerk/omdraaipunt bereik nie want ons weet nie wat voorlê met ons terugreis nie.

Om “finansiële redes” (ons het elk net R10 gehad itv die reëls van die kompetisie) besluit ons om n brood te koop en n botteltjie grondboontjebotter.

Met behulp van my Joseph Rogers paddaslagter sny ons die brood in amper duim dik snye en smeer n dik laag grondboontjebotter op. Sonder botter is dit maar 'n wurg-storie maar dit help die honger verlig... en dit maak ons ook dors. Gelukkig het ons genoeg water want ek het my *army* waterbottel (altyd vol water) in my swart sak so dors is nie juis n probleem nie.

Dis Maandagoggend en baie van die mense wat elders werk of sake moet doen het reeds vroeg die pad gevat en hier word dit weer van vooraf stil. En ons wag ... en wag.... en wag.

So terwyl ons wag noem ek aan Dawid hoe anders die plantegroei hier is vergeleke met die suide van Suidwes en dis net wat Dawid nodig het om my op spoed te bring oor Mambas waarvan hierdie deel van Suidwes glo wemel.

As n Capie ken ek net die “groot 3” van slange – die Kobra (of Geelslang, die koning van slange), die Pofadder (die staatsdiensamptenaar van slange – vet, lui en baie gevaarlik) en die Boomslang (die groen, uiters gevaarlike stil sluipmoordenaar).

Volgens “Mamba-kenner” Dawid is die Mamba glo baie aggressief, val mense aan vir boggerôl, kan jou jaag teen 50km/u en binne 5 minute maks na jy gebyt is deur n Mamba is dit oor en uit vir jou.

My lys gevaarlike slange het nou die Groot Vier geword met die Mamba nou ook ingesluit! En ek weet nie eers of dit n groen of swart Mamba is nie – maak ook nie saak nie, wat weet ek in elk van Mambas af.

Wat wel n feit is dat ek besluit om nooit eers naby n Mamba te kom nie.

So 10h00 sien ons weer n lang slap Amerikaanse motor aankom en ons hoop maar weer van voor af....

Toe hulle nader kom sien ons dis n bejaarde egpaar en die motor is n redelike nuwerige model Ford Fairlane of Galaxy.

Ons stap agter die motor om na die ou omie toe om ons storie te vertel maar dis gou duidelik die vriendelike “antie” is in beheer van sake en doen die onderhandelinge.

Ons “hartjies” moes haar toets geslaag het want ons kan maar agter inklim maar ons bagasie moet in die katebak gaan – lyk stowwerig en “ruik so n bietjie of dit n heel paar dae op die pad was”.....

Ons gaan sit op die opgevoude kombers op die groot agtersitplek en tussen ons is n mandjie (waarskynlik vir padkos werk ons uit) met n vadoek daaroor.

Die omie trek weg en kort daarna begin ek wonder of iemand in die motor nie n “stil een laat glip het nie”. En dis nogal n sterk een ook! Ek kyk so onderdeur na Dawid en duidelik het hy dit ook geruik. Ons knik so onderdeur vir mekaar en werk uit dis nie een van ons twee nie so dis waarskynlik van die omie of ‘antie” af. Gebeur mos met ouer mense wanneer die kleppe nie meer so styf toemaak nie...

Die oom en ‘antie” is vroegdag uit Mariental uit weg op pad Otavi toe en hulle gaan vinnig by Otjiwarongo stop vir ontbyt en sodat die ou omie “n draai kan gaan loop” – sy blaas is nie meer wat dit was nie.....

Ons stop by Otjiwarongo en ek moet die mandjie uithaal. Die vadoek word afgehaal en netjies opgevou en daar is n termosfles met koffie en toebroodjies netjies in waspapier toegedraai.

En daar word die raaisel van die “sterk geur” agter in die motor vir ons opgelos – eier toebroodjies! En nogal n sterk aroma ook. Ek ken eier toebroodjies en hou van hulle , maar hierdie het nogal n sterk “stinkbom” tipe reuk gehad.

Dawid meen die hoenders is of erg verinnuweer deur die haan of n muishond het in die hoenderhok gekom en die hennie aangetree want die eiers wat gebruik is het glo “ernstige myle op hulle gehad”.

Ek het maar langtand die toebroodjie geëet wat ons aangebied is (mens kyk mos nie n gegewe perd in die bek nie) maar Dawid se nee dankie – hy is skielik allergies vir eier toebroodjies

Met padontbyt agter die rug is ons gou weer terug op die pad en die oom (nog steeds baie stil) sit met mening voet neer en die gewillige Ford vreet die kilometers met gemak op terwyl die vriendelike ou “antie” n hond uit n bos uit met ons gesels .

Ons begin ook toe verstaan hoekom die ou oom so stil is – hy kry nooit n word in nie en sy is duidelik die bevelvoerder in daardie familie en niemand sal haar durf teenstaan nie.

Dis so middagete toe ons by die Otavi afdraai aankom en hulle ons langs die hoofpad aflaai. Ons groet en ek bedank hulle vir die “heerlike” toebroodjie – daar is niks verkeerd met diplomatieke skynheiligheid in my boek nie

Ons besluit ons gaan Tsumeb om *Grooties* toe liewers as direk via Rietfontein want dit gaan ons n bykomende 30km met meer verkeer gee en ons nader aan ons doelwit van 4000km bring.

Dis oral om ons droog, die lang digte gras langs die pad is bruin en uitgedroog en dis warm.

Ons wag nou al n uur en n heel paar voertuie gaan verby sonder om spoed te verminder en ons moet begin alweer sake en ons hou onself besig deur klippe te gooi na n leë bierblik wat ons langs pad gekry het.

En toe

Ons hoor in die verte n voertuig aankom en toe die motor sowat 400m van ons af weg is en die enjingeras begin afneem, begin seil daar sowaar die “moeder van alle Mambas” n klipgooi van ons af oor die pad. En hy is haastig!

Dawid sien eerste die Mamba en skree “slang” en is reeds 20m op pad Tsumeb toe voor ek my eerste tree kon gee.....

Dis n “meneer” van n Mamba van sowat 2.5m lank, kleinerige koppie maar n fris grysbruin lyf en hy is haastig om oor die warm pad te kom.

Die neus van die motor sak soos die bestuurder remtrap en die motor stop vinnig waar ons swartsak en Dawid se tassie nog verlate staan, die bestuurder spring uit, los die deur oop, hardloop katebak toe, gryp n gholfstok en hardloop na waar die Mamba in die dik, lang gras so pas verdwyn het.

Ek kan my oë nie glo nie! Is die man kranksinnig?

“Gryp vir julle gholfstokke en kom help my die Mamba vaskeer” skree hy vir ons.

Het hy mieliepap vir breins? Sy gat as hy dink ons gaan in die digte lang gras n omgekrapte Mamba help vaskeer en ek en Dawid roer nie.....

Die ou swaai en kap met alle geweld in die gras met sy gholfstok vir seker so 5 minute en kom toe terug (met n nogal sterk bierasem!), natgesweet met sy broek vol grassaad en klein blaartjies, die Mamba het weggekom en hy is vies ons het nie kom help nie, en ons sien al klaar ons gaan ons “lift” agv die Mamba verloor.

Hy is baie teleurgesteld hy kon nie die Mamba bykom nie. Het blykbaar al n heel paar op sy kerf(gholf)stok en hierdie “meneer” sou hy baie graag wou byvoeg..

Te oordeel aan hoe hy die lang gras verniel het lyk dit vir my hy is maar n gholf beginner wat minder tyd op die skoonveld deurbring as in die bossies en gras. Ek kon nie glo wat ons nou net gesien het nie. Die Mamba het oor die pad begin seil waar ons slegs n paar minute vantevore “tjoe geswaai” het.

Wil nie eers dink oor wat kon gebeur het as ons op die Mamba getrap het of hom “natgegooi” nie Dawid het mos gesê Mambas het nie n sin vir humor nie en val vir boggerol aan!

Die Mambajagter se gunsteling 5 yster is weer terug in die sak in sy katebak, hy koel so n bietjie af en gelukkig is ons nog welkom om saam Tsumeb toe te ry.



Hy kan nie ophou praat oor die “moerse Mamba” wat weggekom het nie en ek en Dawid ly aan skok en ek dink ek begin die eerste simptome van Mamba PTSD ervaar....

Die “Mamba gholfspeler” is n motorverkoopsman op pad Tsumeb toe om sake te doen en beide Dawid en ek was so geskok oor wat gebeur het dat ons bitter min van die res van daardie “lift” Tsumeb toe kon onthou.

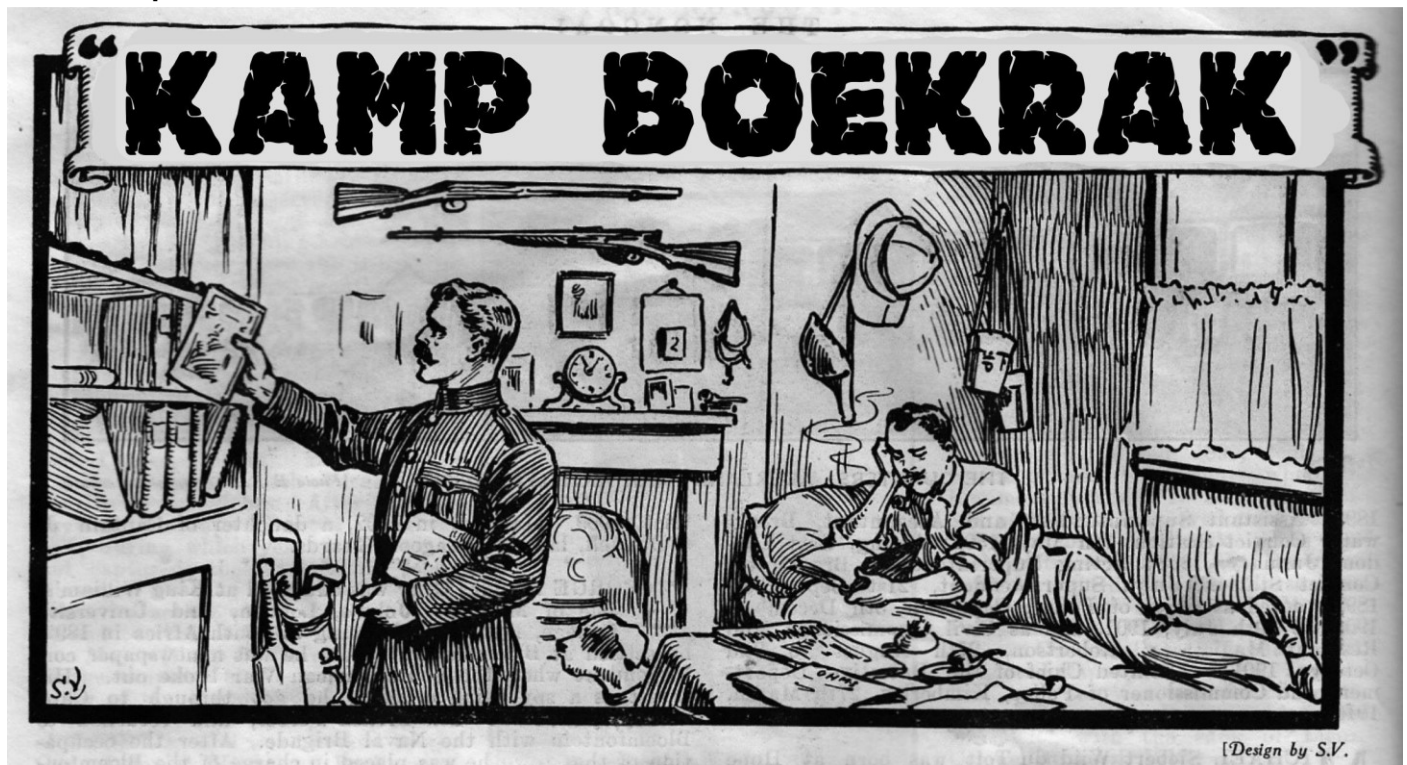
Buite Tsumeb klim ons uit sy motor en gaan staan ons langs pad vir die laaste skof na die halfpadmerk toe – Grootfontein.

Is die gebeure van daardie dag nie dalk n aanduiding dat dit tyd is om om te draai en huis toe te gaan nie? Ons is slegs drie dae op die pad en wie weet wat anders kan nog met ons gebeur?

Dis ongeveer so 60km Grootfontein toe, ons het al so ver gekom en so baie deurgemaak so ons gaan maar deurdruk na ons oorspronklike omdraaipunt en die halfpadmerk.

Deel 6 om te volg.

Koos



DIE BURO
Henning van Aswegen

OOOR 'N KOPPIE KOFFIE

“IT'S A STRANGE, STRANGE WORLD WE LIVE IN, MASTER JACK” - (Liedjie van Four Jacks & a Jill) - HBH



Nou sit ek vanmore in die kerk. 'n Besoekende dominee kom doop sy kleinkind in ons kerk ... die doopplegtigheid is in Engels - in die NG Kerk. Sy dogter woon in Spanje en is met 'n Katalaan getroud ... Daar is nie 'n gereformeerde kerk naby hulle in Spanje nie.

Ek sit en dink aan die diaspora van die Afrikaner ... ek dink aan Oupa en Ouma Heymans se nasate, hulle word almal Engelssprekend en is in Skotland, Engeland, die VSA, Australië en wie weet waar.

Die dominee doop sy kleinkind geklee in hemp en das ... Nou dink ek weer en dink weer ver terug na my kleintyd ... “Pappie waarom moet ons skoolklere aantrek kerk toe – kan ek nie maar met kortbroek en kaalvoet gaan nie?” (My Katolieke vriend het met T-hemp, kort broek en plakkies kerk toe gegaan – dis

warm in Durban.)

“Nee jy moet jou beste kleed aantrek Kerk toe”.

In my jeug het predikate swart pak en toga gedra en dit was dit warm en bedompig. Ons het selfs in die ‘ou dae’ in volle winters-uniform beat gestap. Dames is gehoed Kerk en Hof toe. Swierige dames het selfs hoed gedra stad toe. Offisiërsvroue het die Dames tee-klub gehoed bygewoon.

Nou, na kerk, dink ek weer. God het aan Aaron beskryf hoe die Hoë-priester moet aantrek ... ‘dragorders’ priesters en lewiete.

“Pappie waarom trek Pappie vandag ‘n swart uniform aan?” (Andersins het hy kakie uniform gedra.)

“O, ek gaan hof toe”.

Gedurende 1972 trek kapt. Stadler ‘n pienk hemp aan hooggeregshof toe en die regter gebied hom om ‘n wit hemp aan te trek... Nou gaan getuies sommer geklee op enige manier Hof toe.

Op Natal Universiteit het die professors en lektore togas tydens lesings gedra. Dit was vir my mooi en het my aan aanklaers in die hof laat dink.,

Ek sit en dink tydens ‘n oorsese vlug hoe ek aan die begin slegs met pakkere na die buiteland gevlieg het. Op my laaste vlug het ek ook maar informeel aangetrek ... Baie passasiers het kortbroek en plakkies gedra – dis van Holland na die RSA.

Ek was ‘n luit-kol toe ek skielik tydelik na Tuynhuis in Kaapstad verplaas is. My privaat motor en “my” polisiemotor is toe agter in die Trans-Karoo gelaai en ek en vroulied is voor in die trein – dit was omtrent 1985. Weer as ‘offisier op reis’ in pakkere. Die eetsalon was destyds baie stylvol en almal daar het pakke gedra en die atmosfeer en kos was uit die boonste rakke. So was dit ook op SA Lugdiens.

Vir sekere geleentheid is dit vir my mooi en paslik, as mens reg vir die geleentheid geklee is. Ek dink ‘n lid van die kabinet moet weer die tradisie volg en formeel geklee gaan. Sal dit nie beter dienslewering tot gevolg hê nie?

Roomse en Anglikaanse priesters is altyd tydens eredienste paslik geklee. Ek dink ons dominees kan gerus weer daaraan dink om hul ampsdrag te dra – hulle is immers die funksionaris wat namens die gemeente met God in gesprek tree. Dit lyk vir my so mooi as hulle - met toga – die seën uitspreek.

Tandartse, geneeshere en aptekers het altyd wit klere gedra.

Maar kyk na die Britte, hoe handhaaf hulle hul tradisies.

Ons lewe inderdaad in 'n “strange world” – miskien is ek uit pas?

BRIEWE | LETTERS



BRIEF UIT OOSTENRYK: WOLWEDANS IN DIE SKEMER

Marthinus de Lange



“As die hadida oor 'n huis vlieg en sy angs roep oor die vallei, dan sê hulle dat iemand gaan sterf. Dit is dan wanneer die wolf uit sy skuilplek kom as antwoord hierop.”

Ek dink dat al die lesers hier die ou radioprogram sal onthou. Van 'n tyd, lank gelede, toe hadidas nog nie as 'n pes beskou is nie. Nou ja, ek mis nogal hadidas, die lomp, lelike voëls met die onmiskenbare stem het my altyd laat terug dink aan jag in die Bosveld. Hier te lande in Oostenryk is daar nou nie hadidas nie (Alhoewel ek graag 'n paar vir my tuin sou wou hê om die slakke te eet.) maar daar is wolwe.

Wolwe is oorspronklik in die 19de eeu in Oostenryk uitgeroei, sedertdien het hulle slegs af en toe verskyn, gewoonlik afkomstig van die omliggende, Oos-Europese, lande. Maar, sedert 2016 het Wolf-pakke weer hier gevorm en die wolwe het na Oostenryk teruggekeer.

Vriende van ons is met 'n plaaslike skaapboer bevriend en, 'n rukkie gelede, het hulle vir ons vertel hoe die boer se klein trop skape deur 'n wolf verskeur is. Ek persoonlik kon nie glo dat een wolf al daardie skade kon aanrig nie, maar hulle beweer dat DNS-bewyse (Daar is 'n DNS-databasis van die wolwe) daarop dui dat dit net een dier was. Aanvanklik wou die plaaslike burgemeester die storie

geheim hou, maar die storie het versprei en hulle het geen ander keuse gehad as om 'n amptelike kennisgewing vry te stel nie.

Die kennisgewing sê, min of meer, dat daar ten minste een wolf in die omgewing is en dat lede van die publiek, indien hulle die wolf raakloop, hulle so moet gedra: Moenie foto's neem nie! (Ha-ha! Ek is seker dit sal werk. Veral in dae waar almal 'n kamera op hulle foon het. Maar deesdae is daar genoeg mense wat waarskynlik "selfies" met die wolf sal probeer neem)

Moenie probeer om die wolf aan te raak nie! ('n Wolf is nou nie diersoort wat 'n mens so maklik kan aanraak nie. Hulle is nie mak nie en hondsdelheid, wat kan veroorsaak dat hulle mak optree, is nie hier 'n probleem nie. Maar miskien sal dieselfde mense wat "selfies" saam met die wolf sou probeer neem, ook die wolf probeer streel). Die omgewing verlaat en dadelik die polisie roep. (Om die omgewing te verlaat is goeie raad, maar ek is nie seker wat die polisie veronderstel is om te doen nie.)

Soos ek al voorheen gesê het: Ons dorp het nie 'n polisiestasie nie. Ons naaste polisiestasie is 25 tot 30 minute se ry op 'n goeie dag. Die wolf gaan nou nie so lank wag nie! Maar afgesien daarvan, wou ek weet wat die polisie veronderstel is om te doen.

Ek het 'n vriend van my gevra, 'n voormalige Oostenrykse polisieman. Sy antwoord is min of meer wat ek verwag het. "Die voorval dokumenteer en, indien nodig, ander owerhede daarvan in kennis stel."

Dit herinner my aan stories wat ek gehoor het van 'n vriend in die SAP wat, na College, na 'n baie klein plattelandse stasie gepos was: "Niks gebeur ooit hier nie, tensy 'n jakkals 'n paar van die tannie se hoenders steel." Ek wil nie die dorp noem nie, maar as ek Google, sien ek dat daardie tye lank verby is en dat dinge daar nie meer so vreedsaam is nie. Net soos in daardie ou plattelandse dorp gebeur daar hier in landelike Oostenryk nie veel nie en dus moet die polisiemanne sulke pligte uitvoer.

Nou ja, om na die onderwerp terug te keer: Dis wonderlik om in die natuur te woon. Maar, om met wilde diere saam te leef, vereis 'n sekere mate van versigtigheid en gesonde verstand. Ons is hier dikwels in die woud, maar ons het nog nooit 'n wolf teëgekom nie en ek het nie eers 'n wolfspoor gesien nie.

Maar as iemand, wat hier saam lees, vir my 'n paar hadidas wil stuur om saam met my wolf te gaan, sal ek met graagte my posadres verskaf.

Groete uit Oostenryk.

NONGQAI

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DOELEINDES VAN DIE TRUST

Die doel van die Trust is om ten behoeve van enige persoon (of hul families) wat sorg, berading en ondersteuning nodig het ten opsigte van post-traumatische stres; sielkundige ondersteuning; sorg en behandeling, of fisiese besering wat hy of sy opgedoen het as gevolg van sodanige persoon se betrokkenheid by misdaadvoorkoming, misdaadbekamping of blootstelling aan misdaadbekamping of verwante optrede, of voormalige lede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Polisiemag.

PURPOSE OF THE TRUST

The purpose of the Trust is to act on behalf of any person (or their families) who need care, counselling and support due to post-traumatic stress; psychological support; care and treatment, or physical injury that he or she has suffered as a result of their involvement in crime prevention, combating crime or exposure to the combating of crime or related actions, or former members of the South African Police force.

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Baie dankie aan elke persoon wat 'n donasie aan die Nongqai Trust gemaak het.

Ons is dankbaar vir u ondersteuning!

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Email: editor@nongqai.org

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PHOTO RESTORATION & HAND COLOURISATION

Have you ever wondered what that old black and white photo would look like in full colour?

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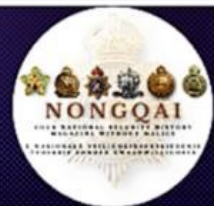
Geagte leser

In die tradisie om die geskiedenis weer te gee soos gesien deur die oë van diegene wat daardie tye beleef het, bestaan die *Nongqai* uit insette gelewer deur sy onafhanklike bydraers. Dit bevat dus uiteenlopende persoonlike herinneringe en menings. Die redakteurs en uitgewers van die *Nongqai* kan daarom nie verantwoordelik of aanspreeklik gehou word vir die inhoud wat deur individuele bydraers gelewer is nie.

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ANNEXURE “A”: THIS MONTH’S POSTS ON OUR BLOG

BYLAAG “A”: HIERDIE MAAND SE JONGSTE ARTIKELS OP ONS BLOG



Posts

- [THE OVAMBO CAMPAIGN MEMORIAL NEAR THE WINDHOEK RAILWAY STATION](#) (26/05/2025)
- [TWO ANGLO BOER WAR MEDALS AWARDED TO BOER REPUBLICAN POLICEMEN FOR SERVICE IN THE 2ND ANGLO BOER WAR AND A FAKE.](#) (26/05/2025)
- [1970: HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS: AWARD OF OFFICER RANK TO NON-WHITE MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE](#) (26/05/2025)
- [Intellegere 21: Case Study Agent 1912](#) (24/05/2025)
- [IMPROVED DRONES](#) (24/05/2025)
- [TRANSKEI POLICING HISTORY](#) (21/05/2025)
- [Soldier, Liar, Policeman Rapist. The Extraordinary saga of Patrick Bradley \(1874 – 1937\).](#) (20/05/2025)
- [Skrywers en Boeke: Vrystaatstories](#) (20/05/2025)
- [HESTER FOUCHE - Eerste Vrou as Volwaardige Reservis ingelyf](#) (20/05/2025)
- [Skrywers & Boeke: Vrystaatstories](#) (18/05/2025)
- [SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE: SERVICE STRIPES](#) (15/05/2025)
- [AWAKENING IN THE CRIMINAL LAW CLASS](#) (14/05/2025)
- [AFRIKANERS IN AMERICA](#) (14/05/2025)
- [IMPORTANT EXPLAINER FOR NONGQAI CONTRIBUTORS](#) (14/05/2025)
- [SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE COLOURS](#) (10/05/2025)
- [VAN GOED WAT WEG IS SONDER DAT JY DIT VERLOOR HET](#) (10/05/2025)
- [South African Security Regulatory Authority \(PSiRA\) Regulations](#) (10/05/2025)
- [LAND AS NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUE IN SOUTH AFRICA](#) (08/05/2025)
- [BADGE: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE](#) (08/05/2025)
- [SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE: THE POLICE BOARD](#) (08/05/2025)

- [FROM ZARP TO TRAINWRECKER](#) (08/05/2025)
- [1882: CAPE TOWN POLICE](#) (08/05/2025)
- [WAR STORIES AND YARNS](#) (08/05/2025)
- [SIR THEODORE TRUTER – THE HATED POLICE COMMISSIONER](#) (08/05/2025)
- [1916: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE: MONTAGU](#) (08/05/2025)
- [THE CAMP ADJUTANT, THE COLOURS AND THE JUNIOR LIEUTENANT'S SABRE](#) (08/05/2025)
- [MAU MAU: SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE ACTIVE IN KENYA](#) (08/05/2025)
- [MEMORIAL WALL FOR FOUR-LEGGED SOLDIERS UNVEILED AT MONUMENT](#) (08/05/2025)
- [HOW A PRETORIA GIRL BECAME A PILOT IN WORLD WAR II](#) (08/05/2025)
- [DIVISIVE NARRATIVES ABOUT LAND COULD PUT SA'S SECURITY IN GREAT RISK](#) (08/05/2025)
- [MAJ GEN \(REV\) M de V “DOEMPIE” CLOETE](#) (08/05/2025)
- [THE MURDER OF CAPT BM VAN HEERDEN](#) (08/05/2025)
- [EULOGY: BRIG TH SCHERMAN](#) (08/05/2025)
- [COMMUNITY POLICING IN SOUTH AFRICA - SUCCESSES AND FAILURES \(DE WITT COMMITTEE\)](#) (08/05/2025)
- [NEW BOOK ON SOUTH AFRICA'S BUREAU FOR STATE SECURITY](#) (08/05/2025)
- [DIE COMRADES MARATHON: 8 JUNIE 2025](#) (06/05/2025)
- [APRIL 2025 EDITIONS NOW DOWNLOADABLE](#) (01/05/2025)
- [KERNKRAGOOREENKOMS MET ROOI SJINA LAASTE SPYKER IN SUID-AFRIKA SE DOODSKIS](#) (25/04/2025)
- [PLEASE PROTECT THE PANGOLIN](#) (23/04/2025)
- [HOW A PRETORIA GIRL BECAME A PILOT IN WORLD WAR II](#) (23/04/2025)
- [SAAF HELICOPTERS AS FORCE MULTIPLIERS LT GEN DJ EARP](#) (23/04/2025)
- [The Evolution of Intelligence Science in South Africa](#) (18/04/2025)
- [INTELLIGENCE COURSE WITH BND 1979](#) (17/04/2025)
- [SA POLICE TRANSPORT](#) (16/04/2025)
- [POLICING IN SOUTH-WEST AFRICA \(SWAPOL\)](#) (16/04/2025)
- [INTELLEGÉRE 20: DIE BURO](#) (15/04/2025)
- [BOEKRESENSIE; VRYSTAATSTORIES](#) (14/04/2025)
- [NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND VIOLENCE](#) (12/04/2025)
- [TRANSKEI: SAP MEMORIES OF THE OLD TRANSKEI](#) (12/04/2025)

- [AFRIKAANS POEM: VERSKROEIDE AARDE?](#) (12/04/2025)
- [IN SEARCH OF A VIDEO: FREEDOM OF NYLSTROOM](#) (12/04/2025)
- [PASTORAL SUPPORT OF FORMER KOEVOET MEMBERS](#) (12/04/2025)
- [FARM MURDERS IN SOUTH AFRICA: A RE-ASSESSMENT](#) (12/04/2025)
- [PHILOSOPHIZING IN THE OVAMBOLAND BUSH; THEN DISASTER STRUCK](#) (12/04/2025)
- [POLICE PATROL MASSACRED IN CATO MANOR, 1960](#) (11/04/2025)
- [Nongqai Skrywers & Boeke: Tong in die Kies](#) (10/04/2025)
- [Nongqai Books & Writers - The Pink Sea Chest](#) (09/04/2025)
- [Algoritmiese Ongeregtigheid](#) (09/04/2025)
- [MICHAEL COENRAAD BOTHA: MISSING SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE \(SAAF\) PILOT'S REMAINS FOUND IN KOREA](#) (08/04/2025)
- [PATROL BOAT "ELSIE": WATER POLICE: SOUTH AFRICAN RAILWAYS POLICE](#) (08/04/2025)
- [BOEK: AMPER MY MENSE \(Dot Serfontein\)](#) (08/04/2025)
- [LOOPBAAN: KAPTEIN M "THYS" DU PLESSIS \(SPOORWEGPOLISIE & SA POLISIE\)](#) (08/04/2025)
- [Disinformation, Propaganda and Other Lies](#) (08/04/2025)
- [TALK BY MAJ CRAIG WILLIAMSON \(agent RS 167\)](#) (08/04/2025)
- [NONGQAI SPECIAL EDITION VOL16 NO 3B NOW AVAILABLE](#) (07/04/2025)
- [NANCY THE SPRINGBOK the SA Scottish mascot during WW1](#) (06/04/2025)
- [THE BUREAU FOR STATE SECURITY AS SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ORGAN](#) (06/04/2025)
- [CHIEF ALBERT JOHN MVUMBI LUTHULI](#) (02/04/2025)
- [NONGQAI VOL 16 NO 3 MARCH 2025 STANDARD EDITION](#) (02/04/2025)
- [NONGQAI LADIES Vol 16 No 3 March 2025](#) (02/04/2025)
- [The Daisy Spy Ring](#) (30/03/2025)
- [SKRYWERS & DIGTERS: VERSKROEIDE AARDE](#) (30/03/2025)
- [Okhela and Breyten Breytenbach - the romantic poet](#) (23/03/2025)
- [Nongqai Skrywers & Boeke: Om te Teken met Woorde](#) (20/03/2025)
- [SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE: MY DAD : SERGEANT MARIEMUTHU "IRUSAN"](#) (20/03/2025)
- [1962: SAP CHAPLAINS: THE BEGINNING](#) (20/03/2025)
- [CAPE MOUNTED POLICE](#) (19/03/2025)

- [CAPE COLONY POLICE: SERJT. JOHN EDWARD REDDING.](#) (19/03/2025)
- [1961: DURBAN CID: DISTRICT 46 \(DURBAN CENTRAL\)](#) (19/03/2025)
- [1973: LETTERBOMBS | BRIEFBOMME](#) (19/03/2025)
- [1963: SAP GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY: HINDU BRIGADE DURBAN](#) (19/03/2025)
- [Nongqai Skrywers & Boeke - Van Bruce Lee en Litte wat moet Knak](#) (19/03/2025)
- [SAP KING'S REST](#) (19/03/2025)
- [MOSSAD: SABOTAGING OF HAMAS' PAGERS](#) (19/03/2025)
- [1920's: EARLY CROWD CONTROL: SA POLICE](#) (18/03/2025)
- [MURDER CRISIS IN SOUTH AFRICA](#) (18/03/2025)
- [1963: SAP GOLDEN JUBILEE](#) (18/03/2025)
- [DURBAN BOROUGH POLICE: PHOTO ALBUM NO 1](#) (18/03/2025)
- [COVER STORY UPCOMING NONGQAI VOL 16 NO 3](#) (15/03/2025)
- [GENERAL IN TROUBLE!!!](#) (15/03/2025)
- [BRIG DJ MARITZ: CO SAP COLLEGE \(1964\)](#) (15/03/2025)
- [Nongqai Skrywers & Boeke - Die Eenkantkind](#) (14/03/2025)
- [Nongqai Spotprente](#) (14/03/2025)
- [NONGQAI SWITCHED FROM ISSUU TO OWN BLOG](#) (13/03/2025)
- [DIE LEGENDARIESE AO BOKKIE BREEDT](#) (13/03/2025)
- [DIE LEWE SE TEEKAMER-PRAATJIES: VERLEDE, HEDE EN TOEKOMS](#) (13/03/2025)
- [NAMIBIAN PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA OBITUARY](#) (13/03/2025)
- [Nongqai Dames Skrywers en Boeke](#) (10/03/2025)
- [C. Louis Leipoldt se 'SING, vinkie, sing!'](#) (09/03/2025)
- [Intellegere - die Geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika se Intelligensiedienste](#) (09/03/2025)
- [HISTORY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA \(CPSA\)](#) (06/03/2025)
- [UNDERSTANDING THE NEW AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA AND UKRAINE](#) (25/02/2025)
- [Operasionele Navorsing - 'n dissipline uit die Tweede Wêreldoorlog](#) (18/02/2025)
- [EEN PASPOORT, EEN LAND](#) (18/02/2025)
- [SA se \(eens magtige\) lugmag vier 105 jaar](#) (11/02/2025)
- [NONGQAI INTELLEGERE - Abram Fischer](#) (08/02/2025)
- [Dr LD \(NIël\) BARNARD - AN APPRECIATION](#) (07/02/2025)
- [THE HISTORY OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF SOUTH AFRICA \(CPSA\)\(Part 2\)](#) (03/02/2025)

- [SUID-AFRIKA SE VROUESPIOENE: DIE SEKRETARESSE](#) (31/01/2025)
- [Christian Sisters gesels oor handsakke, en barmhartigheid](#) (29/01/2025)
- [Die Lugmagmuseum: Veteraan vegvlieënier vertel](#) (28/01/2025)
- [Comrades Marathon honours Anglo-Boer War and Great War veterans](#) (26/01/2025)
- [BRANDEWYN OP PARADE](#) (24/01/2025)
- [Die Meisie van Pretoria](#) (23/01/2025)
- [The History of the Communist Party of South Africa \(CPSA\)](#) (20/01/2025)
- [Niël Barnard was 'n baanbreker en onderhandelaar, maar eerstens 'n gesinsman en intelligensieman](#) (18/01/2025)
- [PROBLEME MET DIE GOLDSTONE-KOMMISSIE](#) (16/01/2025)
- [Dr. Niël Barnard in Gansbaai oorlede](#) (13/01/2025)
- [Dirk Kriel - the Impact of Parkinson's Disease on My Life](#) (07/01/2025)
- [Waarom die Verwoerd-regering die Afrikaner Broederbond ondersoek, en onskuldig bevind het](#) (07/01/2025)
- [Sylvia Raphael - die Meisie van Graaff-Reinet, Mossadspioen](#) (05/01/2025)
- [Cuban DGI Spy Jennifer Miles](#) (05/01/2025)
- [Intellegere 17 - Die Ontwikkeling van 'n eie Suid-Afrikaanse Intelligensiekunde](#) (04/01/2025)
- [Richard Sorge - die Russiese spioen wat die gang van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog verander het](#) (04/01/2025)
- [FOURTH ANALYSIS OF SECURITY CONCERNS ROUND THE 2024 SOUTH AFRICAN ELECTIONS WITH COALITION INEVITABLE](#) (30/05/2024)

