



Contact! Contact!

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A Rhodesian Services Association Inc. publication

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PO Box 13003, Tauranga 3141, New Zealand.

Web: www.rhodesianservices.org

Secretary's e-mail thesecretary@rhodesianservices.org

Editor's e-mail theeditor@rhodesianservices.org

Phone +64 7 576 9500 Fax +64 7 576 9501

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Greetings,

Once again we apologise for the sporadic nature of publishing this newsletter over the last half of 2013.

At this time last year I was working very long hours outside my business and other commitments cataloguing the 2,500 or so photos and illustrations for our book Rhodesia Regiment 1899–1981. I was targeting the New Year of 2013 to complete this and then be out of the scene, with the exception of proofing, before the final publication which was envisaged towards the middle of 2013.

As we all know, the best laid plans do not always work out. So, here I am 12 months down the track and I am still pushing long hours with the book. I spent the whole of September and October captioning those 2,500 illustrations. I was assisted by Mike Vivier and Gerry van Tonder.

The length of time that the captioning took was a job entirely of my own making, I guess. Those that know me or have fallen foul of my grumpiness on Facebook know that I am not a fan of a photograph that is not accompanied by as many of the four 'W's' as possible – Who, Where, When, What i.e. who is in the photo?; where is it?; when was it taken?; what is it about? To me it is absolutely pointless to scatter photos all over the place without those elements being addressed.

This book is intended to be entertaining as well as educational. So while I had catalogued all the illustrations, including details of the donor and as many W's as possible, the format that I had recorded all this in was making life too difficult for our typesetters and illustrators – Chris and Kerrin Cocks. The only way to fix this was to take all that information and put it into a better format. We also decided that all the unit photos with their printed names underneath would be better off if we only used the photos and printed the names so as to be more easily read because many had damage to the area where the names were. This is where Mike and Gerry stepped in. So while I was working on all the other illustrations these two friends took on the massively boring task of taking every name off the photos and writing them into a set format for me. The final process was for my wife Diana to take on the equally boring and laborious task of counting how many names we had in the book. We can tell you that there are over 8,000 names in Rhodesia Regiment 1899–1981. This is a huge record when you understand that the only other book that claims more than this is the history of the BSAP – Blue and Old Gold. But I must point out that the bulk of their names are formed by the inclusion of their Nominal Roll, whereas the bulk of our names are accompanied by that person's image.

The point that we are at with Rhodesia Regiment 1899–1981 as I write this piece on the 8th December 2013 is that the bulk of the typesetting and illustration editing has been done. Current work is on the appendices covering the Rolls

of Honour, Medals and Awards and Uniforms, Embellishments and Equipment. Once this has been done we will then go through the whole thing with a fine tooth comb eliminating any typos and errors. We expect to have the book available for distribution in March/April 2014 – thus completing the project that began for me around 14 years ago when Dave Gordon, son of my late father's Half Section in Burma, Ginge Gordon, put the idea in my head. Sadly, many people who have been part of this project along the way, not least of all my Dad, have passed away, so it is for them and all the others who we served with or who served before us in the Rhodesia Regiment that we have done everything that we possibly could to produce this book.

These immortal words and other loyalties are the inspiration that I have drawn on over all these years to keep driving ever onwards with this project.

"We Rhodesians are very proud of what our men did during the Great War, and I have no hesitation in saying that we are prouder still of the 2nd Rhodesia Regiment – the only one that continued to serve until it could serve no longer....."

Major-General Sir Alfred HM Edwards KBE, CB, MVO

Commandant-General Rhodesian Forces

March 31st 1922

For those unaware of the history of the 2nd Rhodesia Regiment, and in brief explanation of what Maj Gen Edwards based his comment on, the 2nd Rhodesia Regiment departed for active service in German East Africa on 6 March 1915, with a total of 36 officers and more than 1,000 NCOs and soldiers. Their ranks totally encapsulated the lasting legacy of the dedication and commitment of Rhodesia's armed forces that prevailed throughout the proud military history of the nation. On 26 October 1916, Brigadier SH Sheppard of the 1st East Africa Brigade reported that the Senior Medical Officer had found, after inspecting 53 men of 2RR on duty, only 30 were fit for duty. Another 120 were inspected, mostly having been discharged from hospital. The conclusion was that the 2nd Rhodesia Regiment would not even be able to muster as many as 100 battle-fit men. Based on statistics provided by medical staff, the CO Lt Col Capell reported at the end of the campaign that, on average, every member of the unit went to hospital twice and reported sick ten times. Recorded cases of malaria alone amounted to 3,127, reflecting that many contracted this debilitating tropical disease more than once.

Finally, from myself, my wife Diana, and on behalf of the production team of this newsletter and the Rhodesian Services Association Committee – may you all have a peaceful and safe Christmas and prosperous year in 2014.



Rhodesian Services Association Purpose & Web Links

The Rhodesian Services Association Incorporated is an Incorporated Society as well as a Registered Charity under the New Zealand Charities Act 2005. The purpose of the Association is to provide benefit and education to the community. For detail and disclosure please refer to the opening page of our website www.rhodesianservices.org

We also have a Facebook group which you are welcome to join. We have loaded up a lot of photographs from various events, as well as others from our museum displays. We have found that Facebook is another platform assisting our purpose of preserving Rhodesian history. If you want to find us, search for Rhodesian Services Association on Facebook.

Please use these links on our website www.rhodesianservices.org for the following resources:

Guest Book <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/guest-book.htm>

Guest Map <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/guest-map.htm>

Events <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/events.htm>

Please remember to let us know if you are changing your email address.

Obituaries

The Rhodesian Services Association holds a large Rhodesian flag for use at funerals. Please contact me at hbomford@clear.net.nz to arrange delivery if required.



Colin Harrison Logie 27/11/1959 – 22/11/2013.

Colin was diagnosed around 2005 with an exceedingly rare disease called *Cryoglobulinemia*. He was the only person with this disease in New Zealand, of which very little is known. Colin was treated with various forms of chemotherapy over an extended period of time. With his depleted energy levels he found the occasional work that I could provide him with was of mutual benefit.

So for around six years Colin worked with me doing the driving while we went about our work. This certainly suited me because as I was working some really extended hours on account of the Rhodesia Regiment book project, I could catch up on sleep between assignments while Colin drove.

During this time I learned all about Colin's life and passions. Colin attended Alan Wilson Tech, following which he had been an Armourer with the Service Corps and Armoured Cars in Rhodesia. Completing his time in the Zimbabwe Army he went to South Africa and was in their Navy for a short period, following which he was offered a shot at working with the Transkei Defence Force under Ron Reid-Daly. This never came about because shortly thereafter Reid-Daly and co were dismissed. The parts of his life in Africa that he really loved were when he was doing bush clearing under the power lines in Zimbabwe for ZESSA and then when he built and operated various safari camps – Giraffe Springs and Ruckomeche to name two. We spent countless hours in each other's company recounting our memories. We probably repeated stories more than once but we never seemed to run out of things to talk about. Never far from our conversations was food. We both like our food and especially curry, so this was also a topic of conversation. Colin was a far better cook than me and so I took in a lot of what he did. While making things stupidly hot was not on either of our agendas there was one curry that Colin made, which according to the story he told me, his wife Teri had said that it was so hot that it had made her teeth hurt!

Over a period of years, once a month, Colin would cook up a curry and would serve it up at the 6th Battalion Hauraki Regiment's Garrison Club, after which I would run a movie. This became known as the Graze and Movie night. It was well attended and a popular date on the calendar. The resultant profits were given to the Hauraki Assn as a token of our gratitude to them for their friendship to us and protection of our displayed military history in their establishment.

When Colin's illness started to get the better of him we stopped doing these Graze and Movie nights. His declining health also made it impossible for him to continue working with me.

The latter part of 2013 saw Colin in and out of hospital receiving treatment for various skin cancers. Ultimately the cancers took a total grip on him and he made the brave decision to not receive any further treatment.

Colin died on 22nd November 2013 – a poignant day for me and my family because it is the same day that my Dad died in 2001. To me it appears that God has reserved this day for the best people.

Colin had no enemies. He was accepted and liked by everyone. A nicer bloke you could not meet. He was a committed family man. Colin never once complained to me or anyone else that I know of, about his illness.

Colin died just after 10am on 22nd November 2013 in the Tauranga Hospital in New Zealand. His funeral on 27th November would have been his 54th birthday. Colin had asked for a semi-military funeral. Around 300 family and friends gathered at his local church on Evans Road. Some 30 Rhodesian and New Zealand soldiers formed his Guard of Honour. Rhodesians from every branch of the Security Forces – BSAP, Air Force and Army were there representing Artillery, Military Police, Rhodesia Regiment, RLI, SAS and others. Lt Col Julian Sewell, Commanding Officer of the 3/6 Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment was the senior ranking officer among the Kiwis, who also represented various units – 6th Battalion Hauraki Regiment and New Zealand SAS. The hearse was led away by Piper Ray Crafts playing 'Scottish Soldier' – a befitting farewell to a bloody good man.

Colin will be greatly missed by his wife Teri, son William, daughter Michelle; parents Bob and Sylvia; sister Avril and brother in law Lt Col Alan Steel MBE.

Hamba khale Colin, RIP my friend.



Dateline Rhodesia 1890 – 1980 by Gerry van Tonder

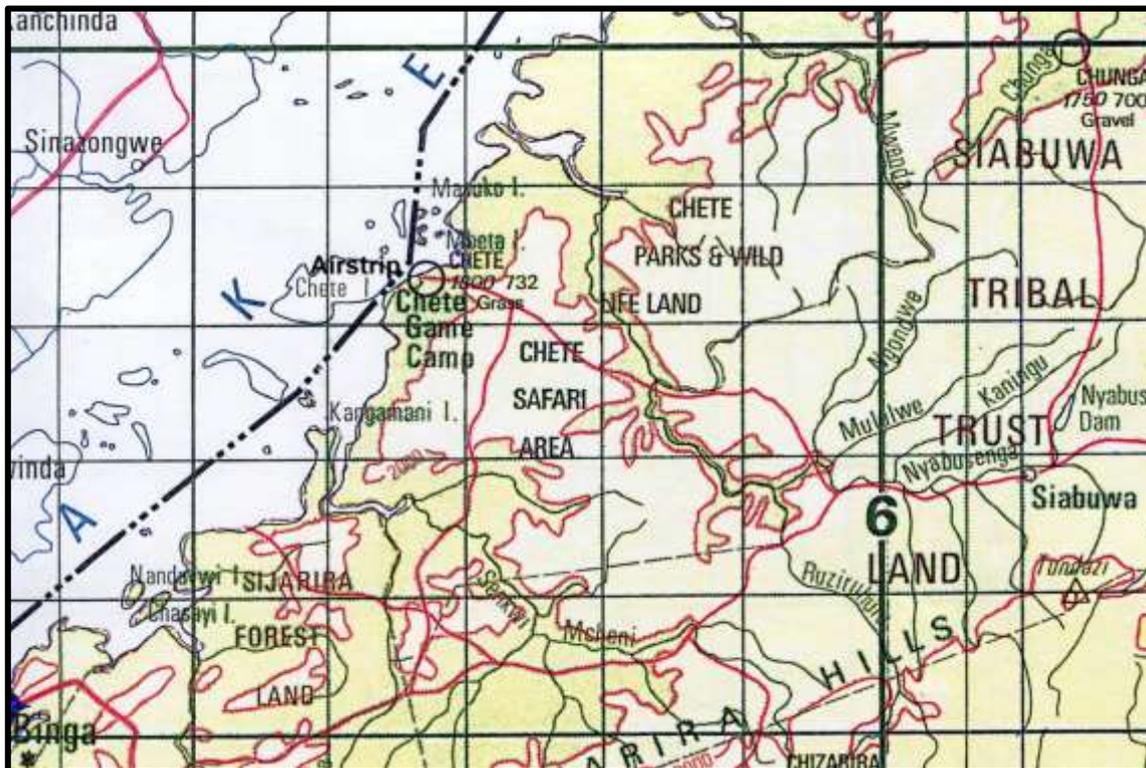


October/November

Newsflash Headlines +++ On 16 October 1896, Colonel Robert Baden-Powell, elements of the 7th Hussars, and volunteers from Belingwe, attack a rebel stronghold on the Wedza Mountain, Mashonaland +++ On 18 October 1899, elements of D Squadron Rhodesia regiment on reconnaissance across the Limpopo River, are fired upon by Transvaalers +++ On 12 October 1917, after seeing active service in German East Africa, the 2nd Rhodesia Regiment is officially disbanded +++ During the first week of October 1944, 1st Battalion Rhodesian African Rifles commence Exercise Heron to assess the jungle-readiness of the troops before leaving for Burma +++ On 8 October 1940, Lt Colonel Lucas Guest welcomes the first Royal Air Force men to be stationed at Bulawayo +++ Government Gazette 945 of 28 November 1947 announces the establishment of the Southern Rhodesia Air Force +++ On 9 November 1951, Royal Rhodesian Air Force pilots leave for the UK to collect a second batch of Spitfires +++ On 28 November 1951, an appeal is made to the RAR to assist the British with the crisis in the Suez Canal zone +++ From 24 October to 4 November 1966, small groups of black and white members of the Special Branch, CID and SAS, participate in a pseudo-operations evaluation exercise in the Lowveld +++ On 15 November 1976, elements of the RR, RLI and RAR, initially led by 4RR trackers, engage ZANLA terrorists in the Honde Valley in the so-called Battle of Hill 31, killing 31 insurgents +++ On 6 October 1979, 2nd Battalion the Rhodesian African Rifles, is granted the Freedom of the City of Fort Victoria +++

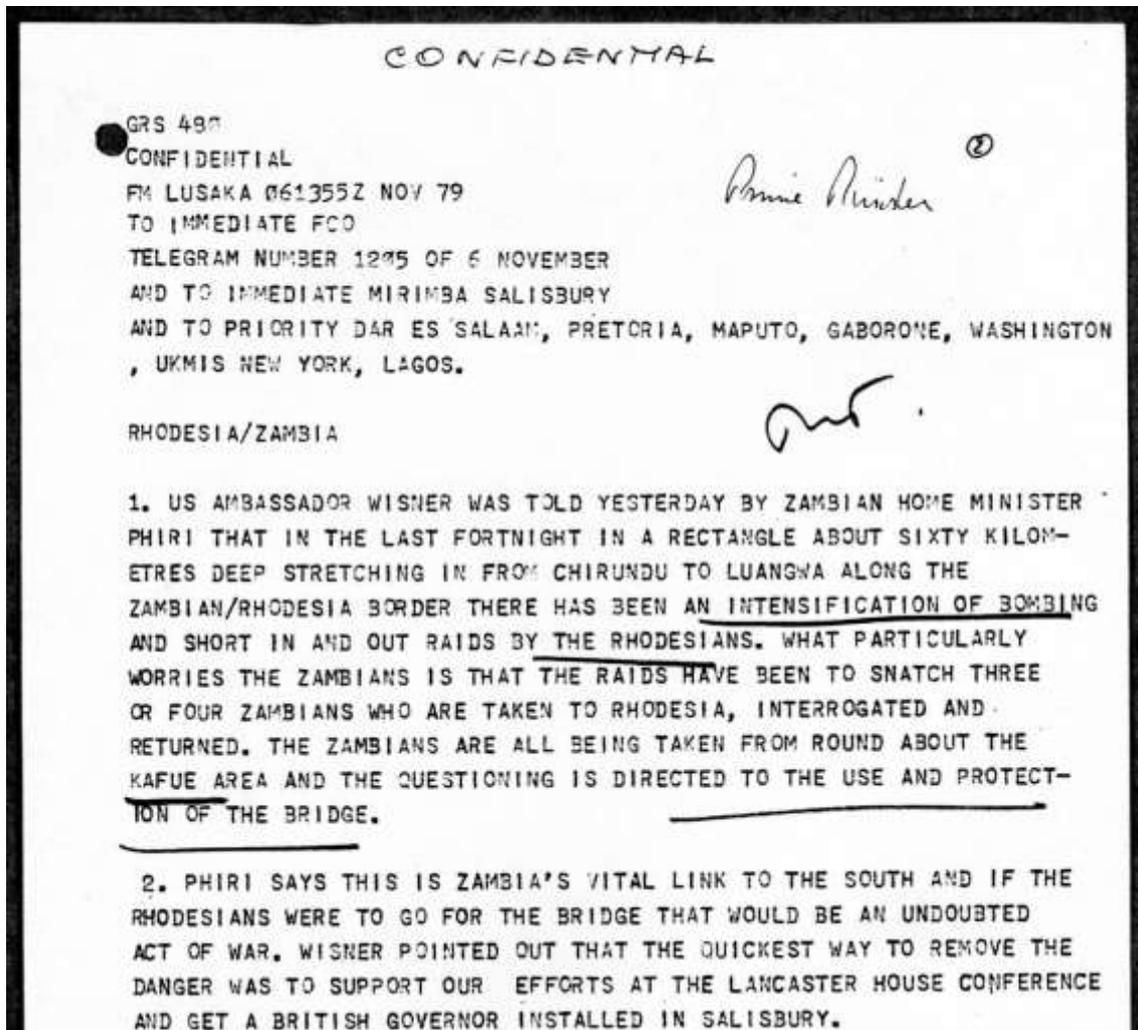
In Brief

In one of the shortest operations of the Bush War, Operation Crater was launched on 28 October 1972, after a Rhodesia Regiment vehicle detonated a landmine in the Chete Game Reserve, Lake Kariba, Binga District. Sgt Jeffrey Hill (29) of C Company 6RR, was killed when the Land Rover they were travelling in near the Chete airstrip struck a landmine with the front offside wheel. Rfn Eddie Duthie, though injured, ran 2,000 metres for help, an action which would earn him the Operational Military Forces Commendation. A Company 1RAR and the battalion Tracker Platoon were deployed in the area. Bare-foot spoor of four men was found in the area, leading to the lake shore. Despite extensive patrolling along the shoreline and on Chete Island, no further signs of a terrorist presence were found, leading to the assumption that the insurgents, most likely ZAPU, had withdrawn by boat back to Zambia. The operation was closed on 6 November.



The Chete area of Lake Kariba, scene of Op Crater in 1972
(Map Gerry van Tonder)

On 6 November 1979, the British High Commissioner to Zambia, Sir Leonard Allinson, informed the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in London that Zambia had reported to the Americans that Rhodesian security forces were very active in the border area from Chirundu to Luangwa. This included bombing raids into Zambia and the abduction for interrogation of Zambian locals. These citizens were being questioned about Zambian bridges, their uses and the security of these links. This apparent intelligence gathering was in preparation for the launch of Operation Dice on 17 November, when elements of the SAS and the Selous Scouts, assisted by the Air Force, proceeded to systematically blow up key Zambian bridges in southern Zambia, including ones on the Chirundu/Kafue road as well as on the Great North Road. Altogether, ten bridges were destroyed in a period of four days.

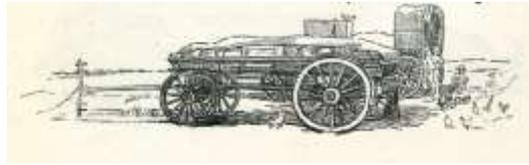


An extract of Ambassador Allinson's Telex to London on 6 November 1979, annotated and initialed by Prime Minister Thatcher (British Government Archives)

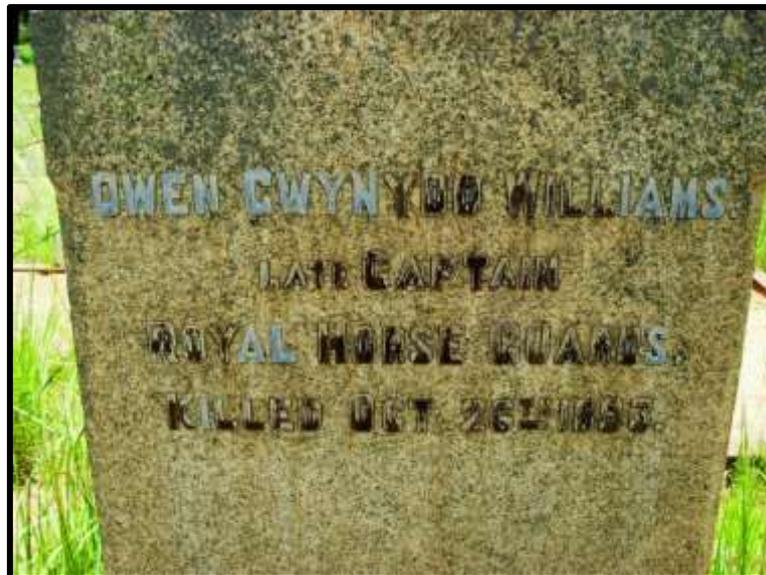
What's in a name

Situated 142 kilometres south of Salisbury on the main road to Fort Victoria, the settlement of **Enkeldoorn** was established by Afrikaners, mainly from the Orange Free State Republic in South Africa. One of the first leaders to arrive was a Colonel Ferreira, but it was only after an altercation with Jameson and Rhodes at Rhodes Drift on the Limpopo, that the trekkers were granted permission to enter under the BSA Company. They moved to the home of the Banyai chiefs where a certain Adendorff had obtained a concession for them. By this time, the Rev. A.J. Liebenberg had already selected a site for the township in 1896. It was named Enkeldoorn, high Dutch for *single thorn*, an apparent reference to a single tree found growing on the spot for the settlement; the surrounding countryside comprising rolling, treeless plains, reminiscent of their South African home.

During the Mashona Rebellion, in August 1896, Cecil Rhodes passed through the laagered settlement where, one night and at his instigation, he joined a patrol led by Zacharias Prinsloo to conduct an attack on a rebel stronghold. A successful assault was launched at dawn, resulting in the deaths of 70 rebels. In 1897, Colonel Ferreira became the Government agent in Enkeldoorn, also serving as Justice of the Peace. With the appointment the following year of an assistant magistrate, the magisterial district of Charter was formed.



To the west of Gwelo lies the farming district of **Somabula**, named after an African elephant hunter who lived in the area. Characterised by sparsely wooded veld, surrounded by a dense belt of trees, it was here, in late October 1893, that Lobengula's impis engaged the combined Salisbury and Victoria column in a series of battles and skirmishes along the Shangani River. During an action on the banks of the Shangani on 26 October, a group of scouts under Maurice Gifford encountered elements of the isiSiba Regiment among very broken and rocky ground. In the ensuing melee and confusion, Captain Owen Williams horse took fright and bolted, heading straight for the amaNdebele. His horse shot out from underneath him, the hapless former Royal Horse Guards officer sought cover behind some rocks, from where he bravely fought off his assailants with his Lee Metford rifle and his revolver. Williams was eventually shot in the head, the warriors stripping his body and placing it on a horse, before taking him to where the retreating regiment was camped. Williams' body was left here, the amaNdebele taking only his rifle, revolver and bandolier to show Lobengula. Diamonds were discovered in the district in 1903, but by 1908 exploitation became unviable and operations ceased, the pipe remaining undiscovered.



Capt. OG Williams' headstone, Bulawayo Cemetery
(Photo Alan Bryant)

Operation Nickel: August 1967 (Part 2)

The last Dateline column gave an account of the initiation of Operation Nickel in northern Matabeleland in August 1967, as Security Forces reacted to the insurgence of combined gangs of ZAPU and SAANC terrorists into Rhodesia. By mid-August, several engagements had accounted for many of the terrorists, encounters characterised by numerous acts of bravery, but also by several casualties, including the deaths in action of two 1RAR soldiers. Operation Nickel continued on into September of that year.

By the middle of August the Lithuli gang, under one John Dube, had set up a camp near Leasha Pan, ironically, not far from where Lt Piers, commander of the 1RAR Mortar Platoon had stopped for the night. The following morning, stop groups from E Company 1RAR were dropped off by helicopter to cover the game fence from Ngulube Pan towards the Botswana border. At the same time, elements of the Mortar Platoon were approaching Leasha Pan, and as they were crossing a dam wall, a fleeting contact occurred, but it was only as the platoon moved back to their vehicles that a terrorist was shot and killed. In spite of all the activity, the whole terrorist group, now numbering more than 40, simply moved to a new site two miles away. Over the next few days the terrorists managed to avoid the Security Forces as they moved into the extreme north-west area of Tjlotjo TTL where they established a well laid out camp on the Tegwani River, complete with camouflage and slit trenches.

On 22 August, 1 Platoon, A Company 1RAR, under 23-year old Lieutenant Nick Smith, started following fresh spoor of seven terrorists along the game fence near the Nata River. The spoor headed south-east as Smith and his men inched forward, carefully scanning the surrounding bush. Next to Smith, and slightly out in front, was the 42-year old Warrant Officer II Havahli Timitiya, a Malayan campaign veteran. What they could not have known was that the spoor was leading straight into a well-concealed terrorist camp. Early that afternoon a camp sentry, observing the approaching soldiers, opened fire on Smith's platoon. Flying Officer Prop Geldenhuis of No. 4 Squadron, the Royal

Rhodesian Air Force, piloting an armed Provost over the area, was immediately alerted to the fire fight taking place below, but every time he flew close, he was met by heavy ground fire. Geldenhuys' aircraft took a hit, as an AK47 round went through the port wing before striking his side of the canopy near his head. He was forced to return to base at Main Camp where his aircraft was quickly patched up, before returning to the contact area. On the ground, though, events would have more tragic results.

Lieutenant Smith and WOII Timitiya briefly huddled together to decide how to take on the terrorist positions. The platoon moved forward in an extended line, the exchange of fire fierce and prolonged. As Smith moved to rally his men, he was shot and killed. Timitiya had by this time swapped his rifle for an MAG and, bracing the machine gun on a branch of a tree, in a standing position he fired controlled bursts at the enemy. As he was bravely taking the fight to the terrorists, a bullet ripped through a branch of the tree before fatally entering Timitiya's head. In a statement afterwards, Lance Corporal Mavaradze stated that they had then run out of ammunition, and with the enemy about to overrun their position, they were forced to withdraw, leaving behind the bodies of Smith and Timitiya, their packs, rifles and radios. After initially taking up a defensive position some distance away, Mavaradze sent for help before moving to the Wankie National Park boundary road where they stayed the night.



WOII Havahli Timitiya, seated on the right, as a member of the Army team Inter-Services Shooting Competition team
(Photo Dave Heppenstall)

With the contact scene all to themselves, the terrorists moved in to claim the kit the Rhodesian troops had left behind. As they moved across the Nata River, they opened fire on elements of E Company 1RAR who they observed in a thicket of trees. Leaving their ambush position, Lieutenant Ken Peirson went out to investigate, but on his return he was mistaken for a terrorist by one of his own men and shot and killed.

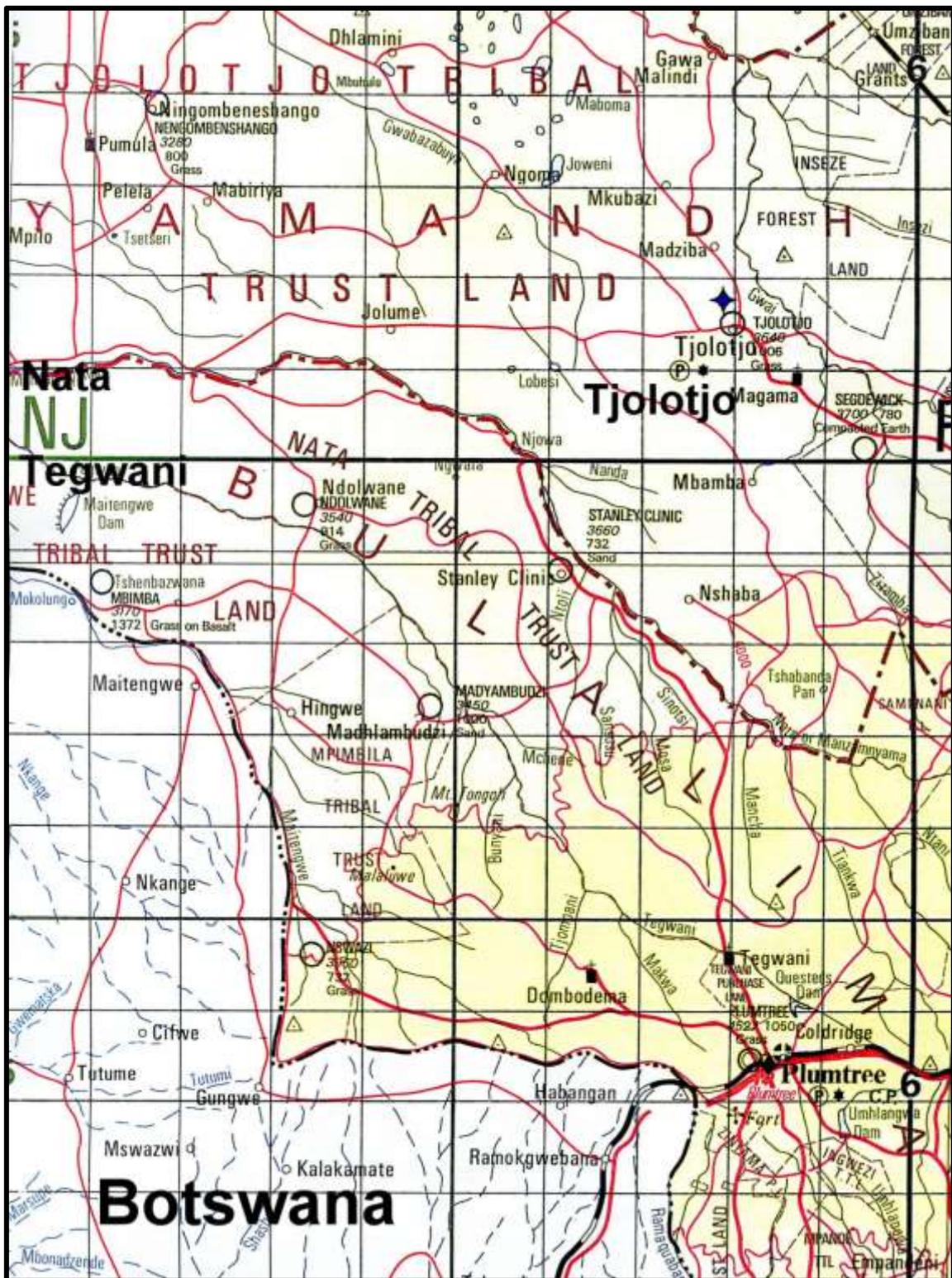
On 23 August, following the discovery of two terrorist weapons by an E Company 1RAR patrol, together with intelligence obtained from a SAANC terrorist captured at Siwuwu Pools, the Security Forces were able to confirm the existence of a large terrorist camp near the Tegwani River, situated in thick bush and holding more than 30 ZAPU and SAANC insurgents. Late that morning, fresh spoor was found by 13 Platoon and 15 Platoon, who immediately commenced a follow-up operation. They were accompanied by two British South Africa Police dog handlers, Patrol Officers Spencer Thomas and Robert Horn.

At 1600 hours that afternoon, however, Lieutenant Bill Winnall, commanding 13 Platoon was radioed and instructed to halt the two platoons to allow Hunters of the RRAF's No. 1 Squadron to carry out cannon and rocket attacks on what was believed to be the terrorist position. After a fleeting 12 minutes of strafing by the Hunters, and before a scheduled bombing run by Canberras from No. 5 Squadron at 1800 hours, Winnall moved the two platoons into thick cover to prepare a safe night position. All their movements were being watched, however, and as the Rhodesians relaxed with no apparent sentries, terrorist leader Dube and one of his men put on captured Rhodesian combat jackets and nonchalantly sauntered over to the unsuspecting RAR platoons. Shortly afterwards, heavy fire was brought down on to the platoons by the hidden terrorists, wounding eight including PO Horn Winnall himself. PO Spencer Thomas died of gunshot wounds to the chest. Two terrorists were killed.



BSAP dog handlers leading an army stick away from a RRAF helicopter
(Photo Ministry of Information)

Taken totally by surprise, and under immediate threat of his position being overrun, Winnall organised a withdrawal as best he could, leaving behind weapons and kit. Light was fading so they would only be able to fully assess the situation at first light. Communications with the JOC had been lost, and it was not until 0130 hours the following morning that the platoons were able to raise the JOC and arrange for a casevac from the temporary forward airfield at Tjolutjo. Flight Lieutenant Chris Dixon of No. 7 Squadron, flying in hazardous conditions over dangerous territory, performed the mercy flight, recovering Lt Winnall and a Pte Jonas to Wankie Hospital.



North-west Bulalima-Mangwe and Tjolutjo, scene of the later stages of Op Nickel
 (Map Gerry van Tonder)

The JOC, now re-positioned at Tjolutjo, immediately deployed 48 men of A Company 1RAR, under Second Lieutenant 'Butch' Duncan, into the contact area, supported by Second Lieutenant John Pritchard with 13 Platoon and 15 Platoon. Platoons from D Company were placed south of the position and across likely escape routes in the Nata and Tegwani rivers area. By late afternoon, elements of 2 Commando RLI were also deployed a short distance north of the Nata River. Finally, stop groups from E Company RAR were placed along the Botswana border, effectively sealing off the last known terrorist position, now estimated to hold less than 30 terrorists.

As the month drew to a close, the terrorist group commander, John Dube, accompanied by three of his men, were arrested by the Botswana police at Tutumi. A further 17 members of the SAANC, disillusioned with ZAPU and the turn of events, set out on their own in an attempt to reach South Africa, but the arid conditions in this part of the country

slowed their progress as hunger and thirst took hold. Two members of the group were tasked to go and find food, but instead deserted, only to be arrested by the BSAP near Plumtree.

By 31 August, it had become blatantly obvious that the security forces' cordon was being breached, necessitating a redeployment of E Company 1RAR to the north-west and south of the Tegwani River, close to the Botswana border. Early that morning, acting on a report received from a local of an insurgent presence, Lieutenant Charl Viljoen, commanding 7 Troop, 2 Commando, RLI, captured a terrorist by the name of Ncube. The man took the RLI troops and Lieutenant Schlachter's 11 Platoon, D Company, 1RAR, to where his comrades were based. A brief fire fight resulted, with four terrorists killed. A fifth terrorist escaped, eventually returning to Zambia.

2 Commando continued to patrol the area, knowing that there were about 17 terrorists of the original insurgency still to be accounted for. Lieutenant Peter Mincher had received vital information from a local tractor driver, who had informed the RLI officer that he had been given money by a large group of terrorists to buy them food. JOC Tjolutjo immediately deployed all the 1RAR companies and 2 Commando along a cutline, creating a barrier opposite the Botswana border. The tractor driver was asked to go through with the terrorists' request and deliver the food. As the Security Forces closed in, however, they discovered the terrorists had already eaten and slipped through into Botswana. On 3 September, all 17 of them, members of the SAANC were arrested by Botswana authorities.

On the same day, a headman in the Lupane District reported to the police that Madziba, the leader of one of the terrorist gangs, the Lobengula group, had visited a local mission near St Paul's Mission. He was found and arrested by the BSAP. Late that afternoon, Captain John Templer's 1RAR patrol found a rhino carcass about 20 miles south west of Intundhla Siding, west of the village of Lupane; the spoor of five men led away into the bush. Early the following morning (4 September), 1RAR Lieutenant Graham Noble with 10 Platoon, D Company, set off along the spoor. At 1300 hours, Warrant Officer II Wurayayi Mutero (awarded the Bronze Cross of Rhodesia in 1970) challenged a terrorist he saw sitting in a thicket.



CSM W Mutero chatting with Prime Minister Ian Smith at the investiture of his BCR
(Photo thanks Dave Heppenstall)

The terrorist reacted by alerting his dozing comrade and opening fire on the soldiers. Mutero shot and killed one of them, before lobbing grenades into the terrorist position. As the fighting continued, Noble took some of his platoon and skirted the terrorist hideout, encountering a shallow trench as they crept forward. At this stage, a third terrorist, already wounded in the abdomen, opened fire with his AK and threw a grenade at the advancing 1RAR group. The explosion seriously injured Private Pedzisayi and killed Private Nyika Muchazorega. In a follow-up sweep, the bodies of all three terrorists were found.

Operation Nickel officially closed on 8 September, but the final outstanding member of the original group that entered Rhodesia was only captured the following year by the SAP in Durban on 12 May 1968.

This 'joint operation' between the South African ANC and ZAPU drew considerable criticism from nationalist movements in both countries. On 15 August James Chikerema, Vice-President of Nkomo's ZAPU, and Oliver Tambo,

Acting President of the ANC, issued a statement in Lusaka declaring that the two organisations had established a military alliance. This fuelled inter-party discontent, the South African Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) referring to events in Matabeleland as 'The Wankie Fiasco', declaring in a leaflet that, "You cannot hope to gobble up a regular army, all at once in a conventional style war, as our brothers tried to do, and still claim to be waging guerrilla warfare".

Sithole's ZANU was equally outspoken, commenting in its party publication, *Zimbabwe News*, that the ANC should fight at home, thereby splitting the 'colonialist, racist' forces in the sub-continent, and essentially leave the Rhodesian nationalists to free their own country. Closer to the truth, possibly, is the fact that ZAPU and ANC subversive activities were wholly Soviet-supported, whereas ZANU and the PAC were firmly entrenched in the Chinese orbit, following the Maoist approach to guerrilla warfare. In the 1970s, ZIPRA and ZANLA, the respective 'armies' of Nkomo and Mugabe, would have bitter clashes when their paths met along the poorly defined boundaries of the terrorist operational sectors within Rhodesia.

Operation Nickel Footnote:

In the first part of the Op Nickel story, the following was mentioned:

"A second Coloured member of the SAANC, by the name of Petersen, was arrested by a security guard and taken to the Dett Police Station. Unfortunately, the man was not searched, and upon entering the charge office, produced a pistol and opened fire on those around him, wounding one, before making good his escape in a vehicle parked outside and taking off in the direction of Bulawayo. He would die four days later in Figtree in a shoot-out on a farm where he had stopped to demand food and water".

During a search for more information regarding Lt Ken Peirson's tragic death, I came across the official government Death Notice for this SAANC terrorist, shown below:

PART I	
DECEASED	
1. Christian names (in block letters)	PAUL
2. Surname (in block letters)	PETERSEN.
3. Sex	MALE.
4. Usual place of residence (in full)	CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA.
5. Age	22 YRS. APPROX. <small>(If under 2 years, state exact date of birth; otherwise state age in completed years)</small>
6. Race	COLOURED.
7. Country of birth	SOUTH AFRICA.
8. Whether Single, Married, Divorced, Widowed or Separated	U/M.
9. Number of children deceased has had	U/M.
10. Occupation	
11. Date of Death (in words)	SIXTEENTH DAY OF AUGUST 1967.
12. Place of Death	AUCHMALDY FARM, FIGTREE.
13. Intended place of burial	
14. Causes of Death	GUNSHOT WOUNDS.
15. Duration of last illness	—
16. Name and place of residence of medical practitioner	—
PERSON GIVING NOTICE	
17.	6929 P/O MARTIN.
<small>(State whether you give notice as: a relative present at the death or in attendance during the last illness; a relative dwelling within the district in which the deceased died; a person present at the death; the occupier or inmate of the house in which the death took place; or the person who has buried or caused the burial)</small>	

Death Notice for SAANC terrorist Paul Petersen, killed on Auchmaldy Farm, Figtree
(Source Gerry van Tonder)

Know the Medal

A 36mm round silver medal, the Defence Forces Medal for Meritorious Service (DMM), carries the armorial bearings on the obverse. On the reverse, there is a combined services badge incorporating the Army and the Air Force, with the words 'For Meritorious Service'.

Awarded to officers and senior NCOs from all branches of the Army, the Air Force and Guard Force, there were numerous recipients following inception of the award in 1971.



The Defence Forces Medal for Meritorious Service (DMM)
(Gerry van Tonder collection)

Above and Beyond

In 1955, a young subaltern serving with the Northern Rhodesia Regiment saw active service in Malaya, during a conflict between the British and Chinese Communist insurgents, which commenced only three years after the end of the World War II Japanese occupation. In the hot, humid disease-infested jungles of this south-east Asian peninsula, the 24-year old Second Lieutenant, John Hickman, born in Bulawayo and educated at St George's College in Salisbury, displayed exemplary qualities of leadership and gallantry in several actions during his time in Malaya. Undoubtedly, qualities which would see Hickman as the Rhodesian Light Infantry Commanding Officer from 1968 to 1970 and ultimately, in 1977, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General as Commander of the Rhodesian Army. After a career not always free from controversy, General Hickman passed away on 28 October 2011.

The London Gazette of 8 May 1956, listed the award of the Military Cross to 0117 Second Lieutenant John Selwyn Varcoe Hickman, 1st Battalion The Northern Rhodesia Regiment, Rhodesia and Nyasaland Staff Corps, the official culmination of a recommendation process endorsed by the General Officer Commanding the Malaya Command, 1954-1956, Lieutenant General Geoffrey Kemp Bourne. The citation reads:

"This officer has shown outstanding qualities of leadership as a platoon commander throughout the period that he has served in Malaya.

On three occasions the platoon under his command has achieved one hundred percent success in elimination of Communist terrorists.

On the 1st March 1955 in the RAUB area of Pahang a fighting patrol under 2nd Lt Hickman's command came across three terrorists resting beside a track. One of the terrorists saw the leading scout and brought his rifle up into the aiming position. 2nd Lt Hickman who was behind the scout immediately shot the terrorist and then led his patrol in a charge against the remaining two who fled towards a river. One of these, a female, fell into the water and was seized and captured by a member of the patrol. The other crossed the river and, as he was climbing the far bank, was shot by 2nd Lt. Hickman.

On the 18th March 1955 2nd Lt Hickman was resting in his platoon base in the jungle when his sentry reported one Communist terrorist approaching the camp. 2nd Lt Hickman immediately ordered a stand-to and himself moved to the sentry post to observe the terrorist. He saw the one terrorist climbing to the opposite bank of a nearby river. He held his fire until he was sure that there were no others following. He then opened fire and some of his men did likewise. The terrorist fell and lay still. 2nd Lt Hickman ordered cease fire and, telling some of his men to cover him, he went forward with four others to see if the terrorist was dead. He was still alive but badly wounded. He was therefore captured and evacuated.

In May 1955 in the KUALA KRAU area 2nd Lt Hickman was ordered to carry out an ambush on a Communist terrorists' letter-box and, if possible, to capture two terrorists who were known to be in the area. One of these was a badly wounded State Committee member. A single unarmed man entered the ambush position on the morning of 30th May. Acting on 2nd Lt Hickman's orders the ambush party withheld their fire and this man was captured. He was identified as the doctor who was accompanying the wounded State Committee member and he was eventually persuaded to guide the platoon to the place where the wounded man lay. The State Committee member was found lying in a makeshift shelter and was captured by 2nd Lt Hickman.

These three actions resulted in the elimination of six terrorists including one high-ranking member of the Communist Party Organisation. The credit for these successes must go entirely to 2nd Lt Hickman who not only was largely instrumental in killing and wounding three of them, but was also responsible for capturing three alive, with the result that much valuable information was obtained.

Throughout the actions 2nd Lt Hickman controlled his men with superb discipline under exacting conditions and by his own personal bravery made certain that the utmost success was achieved. His behaviour and example in these engagements and in subsequent operations has been an inspiration to all in his unit."



The Military Cross (Britain)

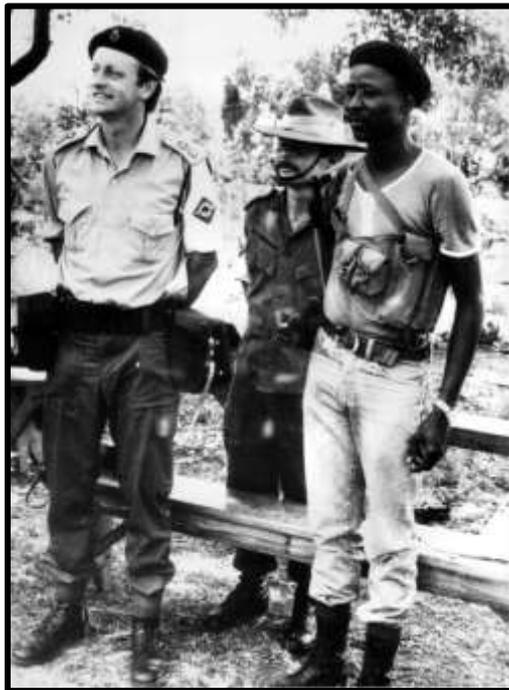
A Snapshot In Time

Thank you to all of you for responding to the Snapshot in my previous column; again only the more appropriate ones can be inserted. Here's a selection:

Rod Hale: *"If I have to hold this forced grin much longer I will grind all the enamel off my teeth!"*

Brian Hughes: Message from JOC HQ, *"They are sending us an Australian Midget Unit to relieve us. Lord knows what that is - I applied for clarification"*

The photo below, from the late John White collection, was taken, after the ceasefire, at Assembly Point Echo. From left: Lt Col Andrew Parker-Bowles of the British Army, Capt Mike Dinnison of the Australian Army, both with the Monitoring Force; and then, immaculately turned out in state-of-the-art combat uniform, a ZANLA commander.



The photo for this publication hails from April 1975, with acknowledgement to the BSAP journal *Outpost* for that month. Is that frustration, joy or resignation manifesting itself in the man's posture – or something else?! Please send your captions to me at g.van-tonder@sky.com



Who's Who

On 20 December 1893, public opinion precipitated a Court of Inquiry into the circumstances behind the slaying by the amaNdebele of Major Allan Wilson and his 33 men, in a battle which became the legend of the Shangani Patrol. Scout Fred Burnham and Captain Pieter Raaff were convinced that there were no survivors of Wilson's patrol, the stranded men cornered by thousands of Lobengula's warriors on the banks of a river in full flood. In the fifteen days that Major Patrick Forbes and his dispirited column took to return to Bulawayo, they were repeatedly attacked, losing almost all their horses in the journey. A young trooper wrote in his diary, "*No news from Wilson's party – Forbes in disgrace – Raaff practically running the show.*"

In an account by Arthur Nangle of F Troop of the Bechuanaland Police, appearing in *The Graphic*, London, on Saturday 10 March 1894, he wrote, "*Commandant Raaf (sic) CMG, died at Bulawayo on December 25th, 1893. He was with us during the expedition in search of Lo Bengula and the subsequent retreat. His services were, indeed, valuable, for during that retreat he never appeared to obtain any rest, and his advice and great experience in African warfare, no doubt, was what brought us safely through a very trying time. He never showed sign of breaking down until we reached the relief party, and then his strength failed, and he was compelled to place himself in the doctor's hands.*"

But who was **Commandant Pieter Edward (Johannes) Raaff, CMG?**

Raaff was born in the Orange Free State in 1849, at a time when it was called Transoranje. In 1865, when he was only 16 he fought in the Boer dispute with Basutoland, and took part in the storming of Thabo Bosigo's mountain stronghold, in which he was badly wounded. He married Catherine, with whom he had five children. In 1878 he served with the Lydenburg Rifles, in Colonel Hugh Rowlands' column which set out to attack the stronghold of Chief Sekhukhune of the Pedi tribe.

Upon Rowland's request to assist with the British in the war against the Zulu nation, in 1879 Raaff began enlisting Hottentots and any European volunteers he could find in and around Kimberley, eventually leaving for Zululand at the head of this amorphous body of 138 men, dubbed by him the Transvaal Rangers. At the sight of Raaff's party, an officer of the Frontier Light Horse commented, "*A more forbidding lot of mixed Hottentots and the scum of the Diamond Fields was never collected together outside a prison wall.*"

Lt Col Buller VC however, was happy to add the Rangers to his command.



Commandant Pieter Edward Raaff, CMG
(Photo unknown archives)

Raaff's Transvaal Rangers were at first ordered to Derby, close to the northern border of Natal, but when Rowlands' column was broken up the mounted troops were attached to Brevet Colonel Evelyn Wood's No.4 Column. The ill-conceived attack on Hlobane mountain in late March 1879 cost many lives, especially those of the irregular cavalry under Lieutenant-Colonel Redvers Buller's command. The Transvaal Rangers were in the group that came in from the east and scaled the heights in pouring rain. The attack looked, initially, like a success, but a Zulu impi of 23,000 approached and the retreat of Buller's men began. It turned into a disastrous rout down Devil's Pass and only the actions of a few brave men prevented a total massacre. Buller singled out Pieter Raaff to praise him for his distinguished conduct. The battle that followed at Khambula was a victory for Wood's troops, Raaff again responsible both for giving early warning of the approach of the impi, and for leading a sortie against the right horn of the Zulu formation.

Raaff was involved in the battle of Ulundi, but it was the end of the war and the irregular units were disbanded. The Transvaal Rangers went home and Raaff was appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George, which he proudly wears in the photo above (the award appeared in the London Gazette of 18 December 1879). In an official report to London in August that year, Lieutenant-Colonel Redvers Buller VC, referred to Raaff as, "...a perfect type of a border soldier, brave, indefatigable, and deeply versed in African warfare. I have profited equally by his assistance and by his advice."



Commandant Pieter Raaff is standing in the centre of this group of irregulars who volunteered to fight the Zulus in 1879
(Photo S Bourquin)

After the Zulu war Raaff was offered a governmental position in the West Indies, which he turned down, taking up employment instead with the British as a political officer, a position where he found himself caught in the middle of a growing confrontation between the Boers and his employers. He warned the British about a Boer attempt to rescue one of their number who was being held for trial in Middelburg. When the so-called First Boer War started, Raaff was in a difficult situation but continued to act as a go-between for negotiations at Potchefstroom. As tensions rose, a Transvaaler by the name of Bezuidenhout had refused to pay the British taxes, resulting in his wagon being seized by the court to recover the debt. On the day of the auction, however, fellow republicans prevented the sale from taking place, dragging the wagon away.

When this intelligence reached Pretoria, Transvaal administrator Sir Owen Lanyon sent down a few companies of the 21st Regiment, under the command of Major Thornhill, to support the Landdrost in arresting the dissenters. Lanyon appointed Captain Raaff to act as special messenger to the Landdrost's Court at Potchefstroom, with authority to enrol special constables to assist him to carry out the arrests. On arrival at Potchefstroom Raaff found that, without an armed support, it was impossible to arrest any of the perpetrators. The town would eventually come under siege attack from 4,000 Boers.

At the end of hostilities, Raaff was himself arrested and locked in a room at General Cronje's headquarters. Regarded as a collaborator, Raaff was tried by a Boer military court, but Paul Kruger refused to endorse the death sentence imposed on Raaff, electing instead to keep him as a prisoner of war. Upon his release on 1 April, Raaff set up a butchery in Kroonstad in the Orange Free State Republic. He then took to prospecting for gold in the Transvaal before moving north into a new territory established by Cecil Rhodes and Doctor Jameson. Here he gained prominence as the Resident Magistrate at Fort Tuli.

With the onset of the Matabele War in October 1893, and in a move that many considered to be a ploy to outflank Lobengula, Raaff was tasked to raise a column and march from Tuli towards Bulawayo, ostensibly to protect Bechuanaland from imminent amaNdebele invasion. Accompanied by a contingent of 220 men of the Bechuanaland Border Police under Colonel Hamilton Goold-Adams, resplendent in his Imperial uniform, Raaff set off with 235 volunteers. With the taking of Bulawayo, Jameson was anxious to apprehend Lobengula, who had fled with his royal kraal, heading north along the Shangani River. A column of 200 drawn from the Salisbury and Victoria Columns, under the command of Major Patrick Forbes left GuBulawayo on 8 November, meeting up with Gold-Adams and Raaff four days later on the Khami River. Ultimately, Raaff would command 20 volunteers from Tuli and 78 Bechuanaland Border Police as part of Forbes's column that continued in pursuit of the retiring amaNdebele impis and their king.

Although Forbes maintained that some of Wilson's patrol had survived the battle across the flooded Shangani, he set off with the remains of his column on an arduous journey back to the relative safety of GuBulawayo. Most accounts, including that by Fred Burnham, relate how a tireless Raaff kept the worn and starving men heading south. Fred Burnham in his first meeting with Raaff, found a man of handsome features with strong forceful eyes, who spoke with an English accent. He had a large bushy beard and curly red, shoulder-length hair, parted in the middle.

Dogged by sporadic attacks from pursuing impis, Raaff forced the pace by day and night, the men surviving on horse meat and wild roots.



This illustration from *The Graphic*, London, 10 March 1894, depicts members of the retreating Forbes Column butchering a horse for rations. The report states that 112 horses were killed, eaten, destroyed, or left on the road during the retreat.

As the unshaven, worn and haggard men, most in rags and with boots in tatters, neared Inyati, they were met by a relief column. Raaff was welcomed and treated as a hero, Forbes was completely ignored by Cecil Rhodes.

Accounts vary as to the exact date of Raaff's death, from 25 to 27 December 1893, but it was one evening that the ailing Raaff collapsed with a sharp pain in his abdomen. Jameson diagnosed inflammation of the bowels, but Raaff did not make it through the night. Part-time soldier, butcher, pioneer, bushman, magistrate and exceptional leader - historian and author Peter Baxter describes Raaff in his article on the Shangani Patrol as "...*doubtless the single most competent commander present in Bulawayo*" (<http://peterbaxterafrica.com/index.php/2011/08/13/the-shangani-patrol/>)



Commandant Raaff's simple grave in the Bulawayo Cemetery, in the process of being cleaned up by Alan Bryant and his team
(Photo Alan Bryant)

At the Going Down of the Sun

The Rhodesia Herald of Friday 25 April 1952 carried the news that, "*Information has been received from Malaya by Defence Headquarters in Salisbury, that Corporal VE Visagie, aged 22, serving with the Rhodesian forces in Malaya, was killed by bandits on Wednesday. His next of kin have been informed*".

Future Commanding Officer of the Selous Scouts, the then Sergeant Ron Reid-Daly of 11 Troop, C Squadron, SAS, was part of the operation on the day that Visagie was killed. Writing in Jonathan Pittaway's *SAS: The Men Speak* (Dandy Agencies), Reid-Daly relates how 90 men of different troops were moving in single-file through the thick jungle when the firing started. Visagie was the lead scout for his troop which, on that day, was leading the column of men along a ridge line, following a well-defined elephant trail. Reid-Daly says he then moved to the front to see what was

transpiring, and found Sgt Major McLoughlin lying behind a log with the body of Visagie in front of him. A Communist terrorist sentry at a temporary camp had opened fire on Visagie from only ten yards, killing him instantly with three rounds to his face. The terrorists, estimated to be 12 in number, bomb-shelled, leaving behind only their unfinished meal of fish and rice.

Major Peter Walls, then commander of the Rhodesian Squadron in the 22 SAS Regiment, tasked Reid-Daly and his troop with the burial of Visagie. With concern that the condition of a body would deteriorate very quickly in the hot and humid environment, the men immediately set about digging a grave. They were stopped, however, when a new member of the troop, an undertaker in civilian life, offered to embalm the body, and in doing so avoided having to exhume the body at a later point in time for proper burial.

The necessary chemicals were air-dropped, and the following morning the suitably prepared body was carried out. Visagie was buried, with full military honours, in the military cemetery in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



The well maintained Commonwealth War Graves Commission cemetery at Kuala Lumpur
(Photo CWGC)

Zimbabwe Prelude

On 29 January 1980, the Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Lord Christopher Soames, informed London that former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith had visited him the previous day. This is his original telex, seen, annotated and initialled by the then British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher:

IMMEDIATE

[RHODESIA: POLICY: ADVANCE COPIES] 28

PS
PS/SIR I GILMOUR
PS/MR LUCE
PS/PUS
SIR D MAITLAND
MR DAY
LORD N G LENHOX
MR ASPIN

PS/NO 10 DOWNING STREET

SIR R ARMSTRONG
MR R I WADE GERY
MR P M MAXEY
MR GOULTY
MR P J FOWLER
DIO } CABINET OFFICE

.....
HD/RHOD DEPT (4)
HD/C AF D
HD/S AF D
HD/PUSD (2)
HD/NEWS DEPT
HE/WAD

MR FREELAND LEGAL ADVISER RMK200A
MR ~~FRISBY~~ LEGAL ADVISER RM K164
RESIDENT CLERK

IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL
FM SALISBURY 291130Z JAN 80

IMMEDIATE

TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 388 OF 29 JANUARY 1980

RHODESIA: SECURITY SITUATION

1. MR IAN SMITH CALLED TO SEE ME YESTERDAY. HIS MAIN PURPOSE WAS TO KNOW WHAT WE PROPOSED TO DO ABOUT ZANLA. HIS PARTY AND THE ENTIRE WHITE COMMUNITY WERE CONCERNED THAT IF THE PRESENT LEVEL OF INTIMIDATION WAS ALLOWED TO CONTINUE UNCHECKED, IT WOULD RESULT IN MUGABE WINNING THE ELECTIONS. HE CITED A NUMBER OF AREAS WHICH HAD BEEN AND REMAINED PARTICULARLY AFFECTED BY ZANLA ACTIVITY AND IN WHICH NO OTHER PARTIES COULD CAMPAIGN. THE RHODESIAN DELEGATION HAD BEEN ASSURED IN LONDON THAT WE WOULD NOT PERMIT ANY PARTY TO PRACTISE SYSTEMATIC INTIMIDATION ON THIS SCALE. HE BELIEVED THAT HE WAS REFLECTING THE VIEWS ALSO OF THE SECURITY FORCES. HE COULD SEE THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THE BRITISH

COULD SEE THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO TAKE THE ONLY EFFECTIVE ACTION, WHICH WAS TO BAN THE PARTY CONCERNED. THIS WOULD BE FLYING IN THE FACE OF THE CRO AND THE FRONT-LINE STATES. HOW DID WE PROPOSE TO DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION?

2. I SAID THAT IT CERTAINLY WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO BAN A POLITICAL PARTY. IT WAS OUR OBJECTIVE TO GET THROUGH TO THE ELECTIONS WITH ALL THE PARTIES PARTICIPATING. I WAS, HOWEVER, CONCERNED ABOUT THE PERSISTENCE AND INCIDENTS OF INTIMIDATION BY ZANLA. WE WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER WHAT ACTION, SHORT OF BANNING A PARTY, COULD MOST EFFECTIVELY BE TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THIS. I DOUBTED WHETHER MUGABE COULD HOPE TO WIN AN OVERALL MAJORITY AND ASKED FOR MR SMITH'S ASSESSMENT.

3. MR SMITH SAID THAT IN HIS JUDGEMENT NKOMO WOULD BE LIKELY TO WIN A FEW SEATS OUTSIDE MATABELELAND, GIVING HIM ABOUT 25 SEATS OVER-ALL. MUGABE WAS AT PRESENT AHEAD OF MUZOREMA IN MASHONALAND AND HE FEARED HE WOULD GET FURTHER AHEAD (IN SMITH'S VIEW THROUGH INTIMIDATION).

4. I SAID THAT WE WERE SATISFIED BY NKOMO'S ATTITUDE AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT BY ZIPRA. IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THERE WOULD BE A RE-ALIGNMENT OF THE PARTIES. NKOMO WOULD NOT NECESSARILY ALLY WITH MUGABE. IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO ENVISAGE A COALITION BETWEEN HIM AND MUZOREMA. MR SMITH AGREED THAT THIS COULD SOLVE THE PROBLEM. BUT THERE WOULD BE NO FUTURE FOR THE WHITE COMMUNITY IF NKOMO RETURNED TO AN ALLIANCE WITH MUGABE. HE BELIEVED A PATRIOTIC FRONT VICTORY WOULD BE INTOLERABLE - THOUGH HE DID NOT YET KNOW WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT IT.

5. IT WAS CLEAR THAT MR SMITH WAS LOOKING FOR THE ISSUE ON WHICH TO MAKE HIS POLITICAL COME-BACK: HE WILL NOW BE SETTING OFF FOR HIS CAMPAIGN IN THE ELECTIONS FOR THE WHITE SEATS. HE CLEARLY WANTED TO BE IN A POSITION TO SAY THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO THE GOVERNOR WHO HAD SHOWN THAT HE WOULD MEETLY ACCEPT A PF GOVERNMENT, AND THAT THE WHITES MUST BE THINKING ABOUT HOW THEY WOULD REACT. THIS HAD ALWAYS BEEN HIS FEAR THROUGHOUT THE LANCASTER HOUSE

DELIEVED A PATRIOTIC FRONT VICTORY WOULD BE INTOLERABLE - THOUGH HE DID NOT YET KNOW WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT IT.

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SOAMES

IMMEDIATE

NNNN

Across the globe

- On 6 October 1961, US President John Kennedy advises the nation to build nuclear bomb shelters.
- On 15 October 1962, American aerial reconnaissance photographs reveal the construction of missile sites in Cuba.
- On 4 October 1969, China announced that it had completed its first underground nuclear explosion.
- On 6 November 1917, the Third Battle of Ypres concluded after five months as Canadian and Australian troops took Passchendaele. Their advance, measuring five miles, cost at least 240,000 soldiers.
- On 20 November 1917, the first use of tanks in battle occurred at Cambrai, France. Over 300 tanks commanded by British General Sir Douglas Haig went into battle against the Germans.
- On 4 November 1942, British troops led by Bernard Montgomery defeated the Germans under Erwin Rommel at El Alamein after a twelve-day battle.

And they said...

"We were a small country, less than 300,000 whites and seven million blacks, and nothing we could do or had done would satisfy the world as to the correctness of any of our actions. There had been a time when we had been held up to the world as an example of fine race relations – an example to emulate. Now we were the pariahs. Only black rule, not multiracial checkerboard rule, would satisfy our enemies, or our friends for that matter".

Lt Colonel Ron Reid-Daly in his book *Pamwe Chete*, Covos Day 2001.



Lt Col Ron Reid-Daly CLM, DMM, MBE, (centre) shares a moment with RLI veterans, Hatfield House, England, 28 September 2008. 'Uncle Ron' passed away on 9 August 2010, aged 83 years.

(Photo Gerry van Tonder)

Bibliography

- *A Pride of Eagles*, B Salt, Covos Day 2001
- *Avondale to Zimbabwe*, R Cherer Smith
- *Masodja*, A Binda, 30 Degrees South 2007
- *Matabeleland and How We Got It*, CLN Newman, Elibron Classics 2008
- *Own Goals*, R Martson, Paragon 2009
- *The Silent War*, R Shay and C Vermaak, Galaxie Press 1971

What's On In New Zealand

TAURANGA

The Garrison Club, which is run by the 6th Battalion Hauraki Group Regimental Association, is open every Friday from 16:00 hrs and welcomes visitors. Email hbomford@clear.net.nz to get on the local mailing list to see what is going on around the area.

AUCKLAND

Contact John Glynn johndglynn@actrix.co.nz or phone 09 832 1300 to find when there are planned social gatherings at the Hobsonville RSA

CQ Store

Visit www.rhodesianservices.org/The%20Shop.htm to see what is in store for you.

Please give our CQ Store consideration when buying a present for friends or family. Profits from the sale of these items go towards the Museum Fund. All prices are in NZ\$ and do not include postage.

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Overseas customers - we prefer payment by PayPal, personal or bank cheque. We can accept personal cheques from most countries with the exception of South Africa. If you elect payment by PayPal, we will bill you from thecqstore@rhodesianservices.org Please note that we can only process credit cards via PayPal. We do not accept postal orders or Western Union transfers. Rest assured, if you want to make a purchase we will make a plan to enable you to pay!



[Clothing](#) - shirts, jackets, caps, beanies, aprons, and regimental ties.



[Berets & Badges](#) – most Rhodesian units available.



[Medals & Ribbons](#) – an extensive range available.



[Posters & Maps](#) – high quality reproductions.



[DVDs & Phone tones](#) – historical footage, unique cell phone tones.



[Other goods](#) - flags, bumper stickers, lighters, and more, as well as quality products direct from our contributing supporters.

Here at the CQ Store we never run out of new ideas. Here are some new items in our inventory:

Rhodesia Regiment Bullion Wire Blazer Badges

High quality custom made from bullion. Price NZ\$40 + P&P



Rhodesia Regiment Port – taking orders for dispatch in the New Year

Specially bottled for us – you are unlikely to find a better drop – ask the people who were at the RV in October. Price NZ\$40 per bottle + P&P – we will ship world wide



Front and back labels.

Engraved shot glasses

Current engraving patterns include Rhodesian Coat of Arms, BSAP, Air Force, Grey's Scouts, RAR, Rhodesia Regiment, RLI, SAS and Selous Scouts. We will do others if required. Price NZ\$12.50 each + P&P



Triple Shot whiskey glasses

Engraving concept thanks to Bruce McGregor who saw them in Rhodesia and designs drawn by Dudley Wall. Rum and coke tastes a whole lot better in one of these! Price NZ\$25 each + P&P.



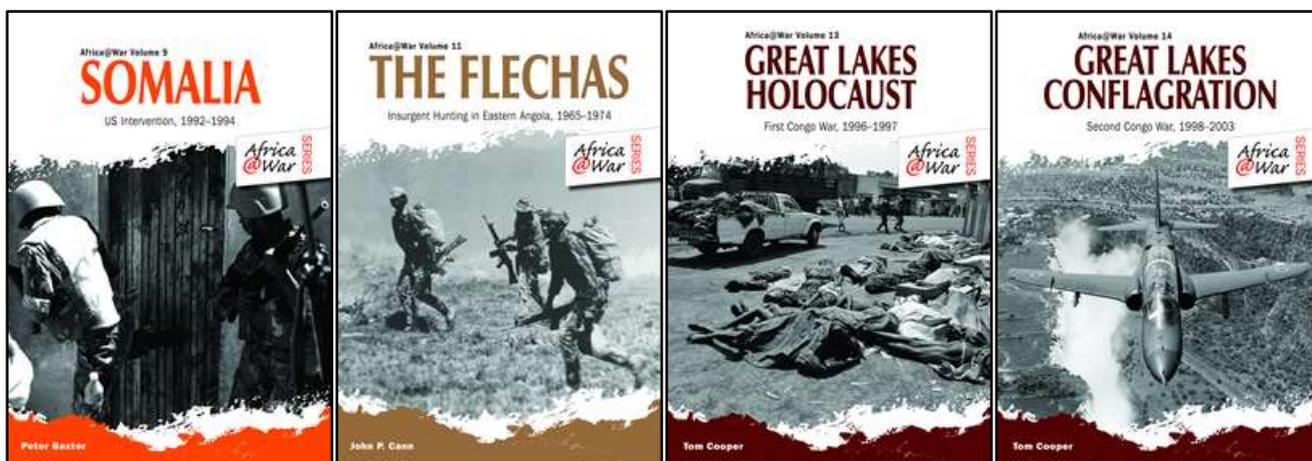
To order from the CQ Store - go on line to <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/clothing.htm> - select what you want and then email thecqstore@rhodesianservices.org for a full price including postage and methods of payment.

Books for Africa

I again remind you that all the books and audio visual disks that I stock and sell are listed at www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm These sales are my own hobby and income from sales is directed to me and not the Rhodesian Services Association. However, the Association does benefit indirectly from these sales. A great selection of books, many with a Rhodesian connection, can be found on the link above. All prices are in NZ\$ and do not include postage.

We have stacks of new titles for more details go on line www.rhodesianservices.org/Books.htm

From the Africa @War series all NZ\$30 + P&P:



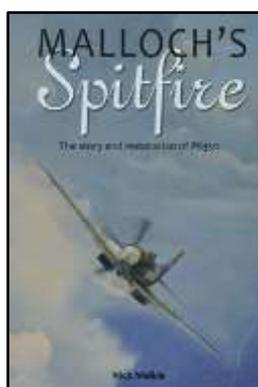
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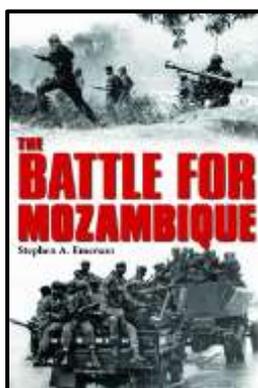
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Malloch's Spitfire - The Story and Restoration of PK350 by Nick Meikle



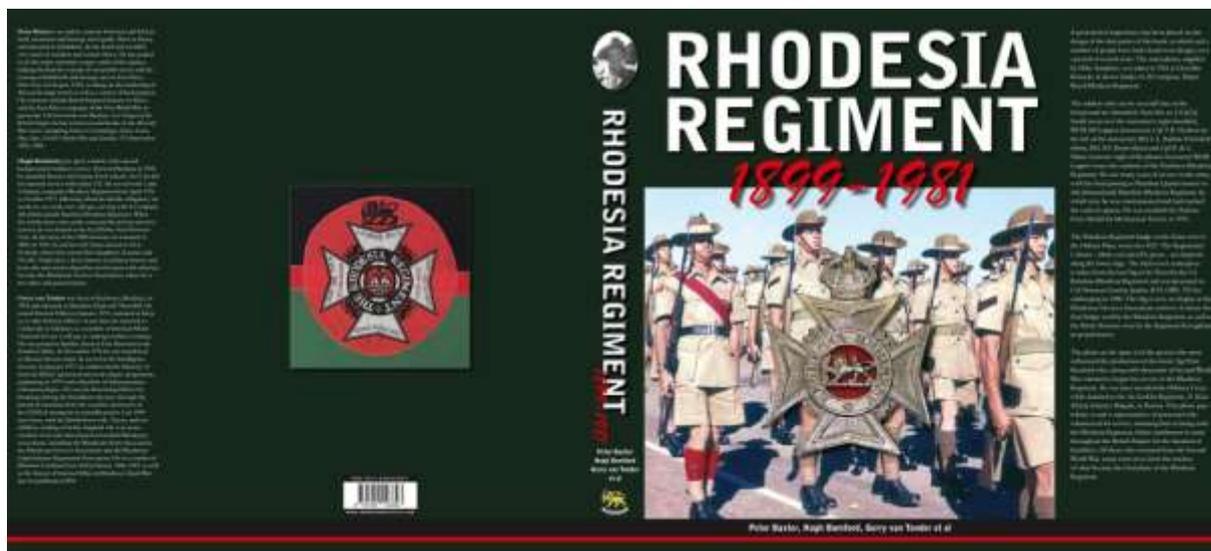
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The Battle for Mozambique - The Frelimo–Renamo Struggle, 1977 - 1992 by Stephen Emerson



Price NZ\$40 + P&P

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by Peter Baxter, Hugh Bomford, Gerry van Tonder et al
 Published by the Rhodesian Services Association



We hope that this book will be ready for distribution in March/April 2014.

This book is a definitive record of the Rhodesia Regiment.

It is being funded and published by the Rhodesian Services Association as part of a major historical record.

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The dustcover above is the finished product showing the front, spine and back. The back flap has details of three of the authors.

The front flap has details of the cover per below:

A great deal of importance has been placed on the design of the dust cover of this book, to which end a number of people have had a hand in its design over a period of several years. The main photo was supplied by Mike Simpkins; taken in 1961 at Llewellyn Barracks it shows Intake 41, B Company, Depot Royal Rhodesia Regiment. The soldiers who can be seen full face in the foreground of the photo are identified as (L-R):

L/Cpl JJ Smith (seen over the Instructor's right shoulder)

WOII Alf Leppert (Instructor)

Cpl TR Herbert (to the left of the Instructor)

Rfn LL Badam-Thornhill (ditto)

Rfn AV Knott (ditto)

Cpl D de L Slatter (at the extreme right of the photo)

In this photo Instructor WOII Leppert is in the uniform of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment. He saw many years of service in the army and his final posting was as Battalion Quartermaster with 4th (Manicaland) Battalion Rhodesia Regiment, by which time he was commissioned and had reached the rank of Captain. He was awarded the Defence Force Medal for Meritorious Service in 1976.

The Rhodesia Regiment badge on the front cover is the Helmet Plate worn circa 1927.

The Regimental Colours - black, red and rifle green are depicted along the lower edge.

The back cover centre piece is taken from the last flag to be flown by the 1st Battalion Rhodesia Regiment. This was presented to Col Norman Gourlay Jardine ICD, OBE, TD for safe keeping in 1980. The flag is now on display in the Rhodesian Services Association archives. It shows the final badge used by the Rhodesia Regiment, as well as the Battle Honours won by the Regiment throughout its proud history.

The photo on the spine is of the person who most influenced the production of this book - Sgt Peter Bomford who, along with thousands of WWII volunteers, began their service in the Rhodesia Regiment. He was later awarded the Military Cross while attached to the 1st Gurkha Regiment, 21 (East Africa) Infantry Brigade in Burma. This photo pays tribute to, and is representative of the personnel who volunteered for service during WWII, initiating their training with the Rhodesia Regiment and then becoming attached to units throughout the British Empire for the duration of hostilities. Of those who returned from WWII, many went on to form the nucleus of what became the final phase of the Rhodesia Regiment.

The authors et al

We have a list of over 400 people who have supplied information. We have around 2,500 photos and illustrations to choose from for inclusion in the book. In addition to the named authors – Peter Baxter, Hugh Bomford and Gerry van Tonder, the following have written chapters or appendices on their own or in co-ordination with the other authors:

Craig Fourie
Tony Fraser
Adrian Haggett

The following list is of those people who have made significant contribution to the project:

Nick Baalbergen
Diana Bomford
Chris Cocks
Kerrin Cocks
John Lomas
Tinka Mushett
Dudley Wall
Mike Vivier

This book has, in all essence, been a product of a "committee effort". However, unlike some committees that bicker and muddle along - this project has been more on the lines of a military operation where there has been a job to do and everyone has given their best for the ultimate objective.

As co-ordinator of this project, I (Hugh Bomford), thank everyone who has put their shoulders to the wheel.

Keep watch on this newsletter as well as this web page <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/rhodesia-regiment.htm> for updates and pre-publication offers.

Our Supporters – please also view our webpage <http://www.rhodesianservices.org/our-supporters.htm>

This section is for individuals and businesses who support this Association either by giving us something for auction at the RV in October; by donations from sales generated from our listings of their product or service; by offering discount to buyers who mention the Rhodesian Services Association when making a purchase; contributing material to our Museum and Archives.

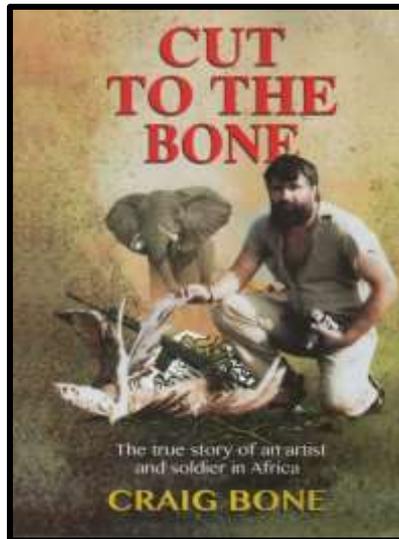
Email me at theeditor@rhodesianservices.org for details of how you get a mention here.

The Association is very grateful to all our contributors; please reciprocate this support by supporting them in turn. Please don't forget to mention where you saw their advert.

Craig Bone

Craig is this Association's biggest single contributor, through the sale of a donated original oil painting, prints of that painting, as well as commissions off other sales.

Please show your support for Craig by buying his biography *Cut to the Bone*. This book, along with his artworks, is available from www.craigbone.com



Buckles and Tees www.bucklesandtees.co.nz

Mike Vivier has a number of Rhodesian related lines which include the 'Advice to Terrorists' image on t-shirts and aprons as well this stunning Rhodesia Regiment belt buckle which sells for NZ\$24.95 excluding postage. 100% New Zealand made.



Mike donates a portion of his income from all Rhodesian related items sold to the Rhodesian Services Association. Please email Mike at mike_jovivier@xtra.co.nz with your order or query or go to www.bucklesandtees.co.nz and do it on-line.

The Global Forked Stick - Snippets and Requests



With grateful thanks to Vic MacKenzie for use of this illustration to better explain the 'forked stick' connection for those who were not raised in Africa.

The late Colin Mcleod Murray

If anyone knows the whereabouts of the relatives of Colin Mcleod Murray who served with 9th Battalion Rhodesia Regiment and was killed in ambush returning from Vila Salazar on 1 February 1978 please email Tony Ballinger tony@ballinger5422.freeserve.co.uk and Robert Edminson robman1947@hotmail.com

Interpol issue warrants for skellems sheltering on Portuguese Algarve



John Horbury writes:

“Here's a pic of Cpl John Horbury, Rhodesian Corps of Signals (Retd.) and his son Bruce, BSAP Cadet (Retd.) pictured at a braai at their home on the Portuguese Algarve. John is wearing his treasured 'Spud' cartoon apron, given to him by the cartoonist Spud McDonagh, when John was managing editor of Rhodesian Farmer Publications in the 'seventies.”

That's all folks, so until next time – go well – be safe over Christmas and trusting that 2014 will shine with good fortune on you and yours.

Cheers

Hugh



Celebrate 'Rhodesia Day'* on the 11th November each year



*The concept of 'Rhodesia Day' originates from Eddy Norris and family. During the 90 year life span of Rhodesia we experienced the best of times and the worst of times. I encourage everyone to use this day to remember the good times as well as remembering those who are no longer with us.

Rhodesian Services Association donations.

You can make a donation to the Rhodesian Services Association by clicking on our 'Collection Hat' below which is a typical slouch hat of the type used by the Rhodesian Army up until the 1960's. Click on the hat or this link:

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=s-xclick&hosted_button_id=MLMB2B8Y2UY3G

and if you are registered with PayPal the process will be immediate. If you are not a PayPal member you will be given instruction on how to make a credit card payment via PayPal. Thank you - every bit helps.



This newsletter is compiled by Hugh Bomford, Newsletter Editor of the Rhodesian Services Association. It contains many personal views and comments which may not always be the views of the Association or Committee.

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