

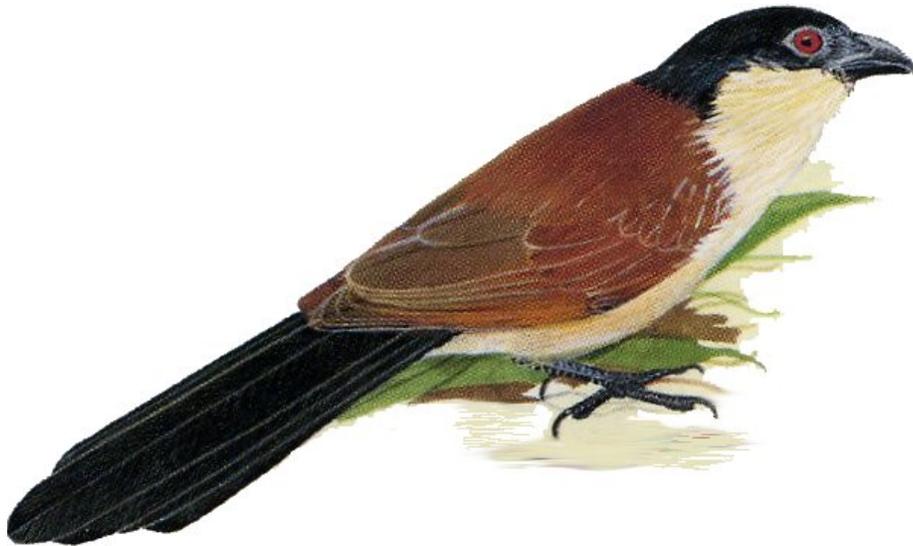
When the Loerie Sings Again

One of the true Sounds of Africa is the call of the Rainbird, the Loerie, which is hardly ever seen, but always heard when the sun comes out after the rain. This call is imprinted on any person who has lived there and has cared to listen.

*It is the sound of the sun after the rain...
The sound of calm after the storm
The sound of hope after all has been lost...*

I have known the sound of the Loerie since I can remember.

(The Song of the Loerie)



Foreword

And so it came to be that a British friend of mine commented that he seemed to be meeting an awful lot of emigrant South Africans in England in recent times. To a man they were expressing horror at what was happening in that tortured country. This caused him some confusion, as he had been under the impression that South Africa's "Rainbow Revolution" had been such a dramatic success in the name of Democracy. He did note that there did not seem to be all that much news from there anymore, but that things in neighboring Zimbabwe had clearly turned into an abject nightmare under the hand of the despotic Robert Mugabe. A number of white farmers had even been killed by Mugabe's gangsters, who stole their farms. They knew this in Britain.

My American friends, being generally hugely uninformed on the matter of Africa, other than watching TV Host Oprah Winfrey on TV with AIDS orphans in South Africa, only knew that there was once a policy of Apartheid in that country, maintained by, what they understood to be, a "terrible and evil minority of white people". They rejoiced at these people being removed from power when Nelson Mandela became the first democratically elected president. They generally confessed ignorance about the place. They had been told that Mandela had been wrongfully imprisoned and that he was therefore a hero and martyr. They had heard absolutely nothing about events there since then, beyond Oprah's efforts. In fact, they expressed some confusion at hearing that Oscar-winning actress Charlize Theron and golfers Ernie Els and Retief Goosen, all of whom seem like decent ordinary folks, were all members of a nation called Afrikaners.... the very people whose ancestors had implemented Apartheid. This caused them some confusion.

When they then heard that by mid-2005 as many South African farmers had been torture-murdered in attacks on farms as the number of US soldiers that had died in the War in Iraq, they were horrified and wanted to know more. Some, with leanings toward the more liberal end of the spectrum, quoted from Alan Paton's "Cry the Beloved Country". When pointed toward the subsequent letter written by that author's wife, in which she announced her departure from South Africa and expressed her gratitude that her husband had not lived to see what was now happening in that country, they were at a loss for words. This question has prompted me to put pen to paper and summarize the story of South Africa, as seen through my eyes.... a white kid who grew up in South Africa to be a fairly Liberal Afrikaner, and how I came to leave the country of my birth after a bloodline there of more than 340 years.

Personally, I believe there were a few pivotal moments in South African history, and a couple of key decisions...some good, some bad. I do not truly know exactly what went wrong, but I have some ideas. I elect to start right at the beginning of European arrival, because if the last seventy years is "a background painting" behind the current excesses, as some say, then that in turn has a "canvas" behind it that needs to be equally appreciated.

I shall not try to sketch history through the eyes of a black South African, as I do not believe I can do it justice. Culturally they look at life differently and they have suffered misery upon misery. I also think great care should be taken in accepting the views of any white man or woman in this regard; particularly from Europe or North America, there being more than enough black people in Africa to make any point to be made. It is a great and enduring truth that the Western World has heard their story extensively since 1950, as sketched by an extremely sympathetic Western establishment news media complex that played by far the biggest role in bringing Nelson Mandela and his black nationalist ANC liberation movement to power.

This author would also like to point out that there are many upon the face of our planet who have violent and destructive agendas. I abhor all of these ideas. To the extent that this document clearly addresses what has gone wrong in South Africa, this author wishes to reiterate his support

for the democratic elections of 1994 and the mandate the world gave South Africa at that time to devise a non-racist country.

The tragedy is in how that international mandate, together with the goodwill of millions who had sought a New South Africa free of racism, have been abused and trampled asunder. Hope for a truly non-racist future has all but disappeared in South Africa. An estimated one fifth of all white people have left, taking with them the skills that created one of the most "can-do" technocratic countries ever. As of the date of writing of these words more than 2,000 farmers have been killed. Very many of them are brutally tortured before being killed, most of them being white Judeo-Christian Afrikaans people. It is brutally evident that they are targeted. The UN accredited Genocide Watch has already deemed it a genocide and nothing on the horizon provides hope of any form of improvement. In the workplace the black nationalist ANC government has formulated policy after policy to construct what is today the largest edifice of brazenly racist policy in the world, much of it pointedly ensuring the active economic destruction of white people. In the international domain, the government openly supports the starkly racist regime of the despotic Robert Mugabe, who receives standing ovations in the South African Houses of Parliament. So far has sunk the dream.

During the time of Apartheid, millions in the West rightly expressed outrage.
Where is the outrage now?
Why so silent?

Here then is my attempt at the canvas of South African history and the painting upon it...
and the story of South Africa through rather different eyes from those of the regular news media whose silence on the tragedy unfolding in South Africa is utterly deafening.

Deep Cove, BC
1 April 2007

Book 1: The Canvas of History

The Canvas of History – Part 1: The Beginning

The discovery of America, and that of the passage to the East Indies by the Cape of Good Hope, are the two greatest and most important events recorded in the history of Mankind.

Adam Smith,

An inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations (1776)

1.1 The Dutch: The Dutch were a leading power from 1600 to 1800. They started the Cape settlement in 1652 to keep it from the Brits, whom they were about to fight. However, they were never really very committed to it. Probably the best thing that ever happened in that respect was the arrival of the French Protestant Huguenots in the 1680's and the British Settlers in 1820. In South Africa today folks are hugely proud of their tough and religiously principled Protestant French ancestry. One can read more about them and trace one man's ancestry [here](#). They left France after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes.



What went wrong?: Maybe the Dutch should never have started the settlement at the Cape. That's how we got there. My wife and I both trace our Dutch ancestors back to before 1665 at the Cape. Very few folks of European descent in North America can claim that length of history on their present continent. We can certainly relate to the 1608 French Acadians of Nova Scotia.

1.2. Slavery: The Dutch did not allow enslavement of local population. That was a very good decision, not that it makes any practical difference today; but it is one of the few things South Africans can hold their heads high about. All this while the Slave Powers, such as Britain, Spain, Holland and, to a lesser degree, France, made sure that they moved their "merchandise" between colonies and never on their own soil. They also bought from and sold to one another. In the case of the Dutch they brought slaves from their territories in India and Indonesia, while they purchased slaves from the Portuguese in Angola and Mozambique (Masbiekers). No indigenous South African was ever a slave as far as we know of.

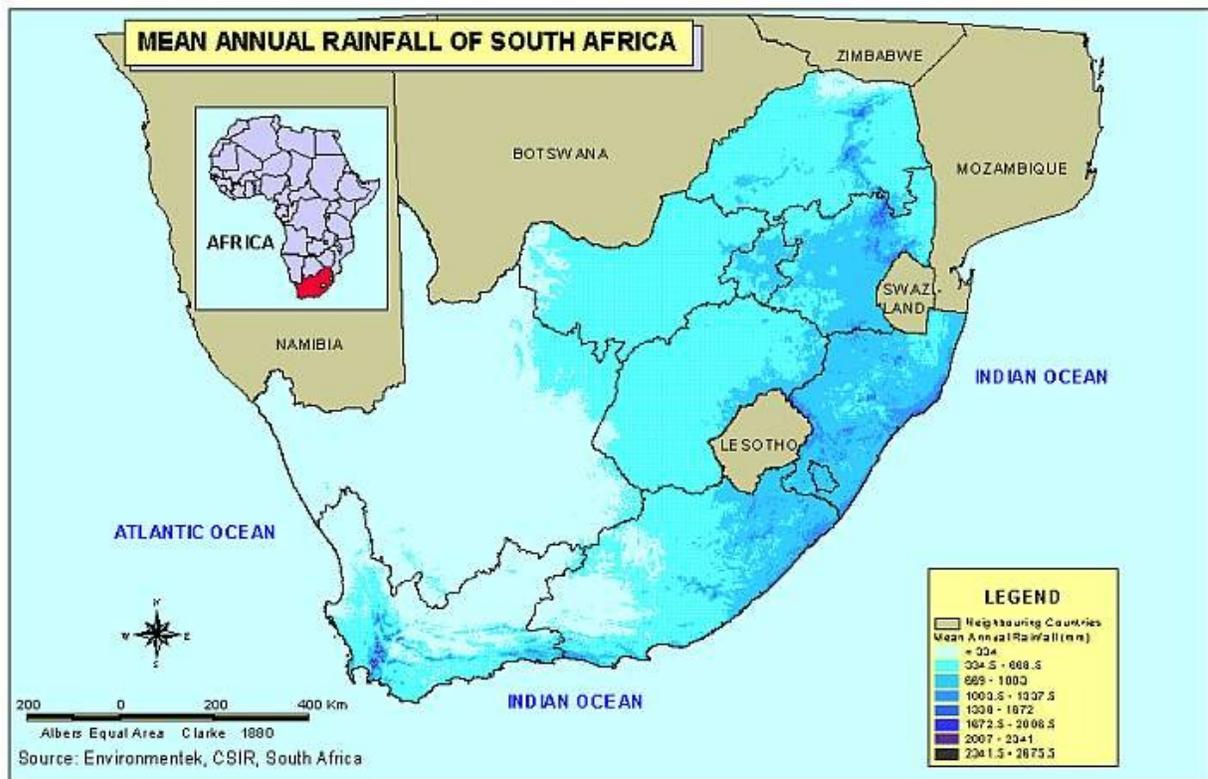
What went wrong?: Nothing in particular, but we might as well have enslaved the people in South Africa, because we get accused of it and attacked or punished for it in any case. I trust folks won't mind if I stick my bottom lip out here and there in this process.

1.3 Religion: From early on there was religious tolerance and it remains a hallmark of the country. The Indonesians brought the Muslim faith and the first mosque was opened in 1798. As a result, many "Coloured" people (In South Africa the term means descendants of Indonesian and Indian slaves mixed with Khoi, the indigenous people of the western part of SA) are Muslims in SA. Like the white Afrikaners (typically Dutch/French/German descended), they speak Afrikaans (Cape Dutch), just as Americans (Afr: Amerikaners) speak "American" (Afr: Amerikaans). Later, when the Brits brought indentured laborers from "India", many were also Muslims. So, even today, these two groups and their mosques are largely centered on Cape Town and Durban respectively. As a kid, I woke every morning to the daybreak call to prayer from the mosque about two miles away in the "Indian" suburb, wafting on the wind. At the worst of Apartheid in the 1970's, when they bulldozed an old Coloured township in my birth town of Port Elizabeth and moved the people to a new place, the mosque was left standing as a matter of deep principle.

What went wrong?: Maybe we were too tolerant? I Don't know. I do not think so. I think religious tolerance is a good thing, especially considering that the white Afrikaner is a Calvinistic Protestant that one finds in church on Sundays and at communion once a month. Read them as US Midwesterners and it would be 95% correct. They mostly belong to the Dutch Reformed Church, which one might as well see as Presbyterian. In Canada they attend the Presbyterian church.

1.4 White meets Black: In around 1750, a whole hundred years after the founding of the Cape Settlement, White met Black formally for the first time near where Port Elizabeth is today (above the last "N" of "Indian Ocean" in the picture below), a whole 500 miles east of Cape Town. They were Nelson Mandela's Xhosas. West of that point lived the Khoi. They are better known as "The Hottentots", an utterly different major race of people, related to the San Bushmen. They lived in fear of the black Ba'Ntu people, who had pushed them down Africa as the latter had moved south from the present area around Nigeria. One of these meetings (a rather later one) is described in "Robert Jacob Gordon: 1743-1795: The Man and his Travels at The Cape" by Patrick Cullinan. Gordon was military commander at the Cape at the time of the later British invasion, a good example of the many Scots-descended Dutchmen in service with The Netherlands at the time.

What went wrong?: Maybe that was where the line should have stayed: roughly at Port Elizabeth, and running northwestwards from there along the 300mm rainfall line. Cattle country to the east, sheep country to the west. The African Ba'Ntu ("Black People") have a cattle-based culture.



1.5 The Khoi-San:

The "Hottentot" people, together with the "Bushmen", form the Khoisan family of races. Today the "Hottentot" are called Khoi and the Bushmen are called San. In appearance they are comparatively small people, who exhibit steatopygia to varying degrees. They were the subject of huge interest from Europe in the 1600's and 1700's when the Dutch were at the Cape. These days people are retroactively obsessed with the "Hottentot Venus". A simple search for the word "Hottentot" on Google will show what I mean by that statement. The Dutch found the Hottentot concept of life unacceptable: See [THIS](#) document, from which I make an excerpt:

"If the child is born alive, they do not wash or bathe it in water, for they say that this is Sickum, or unhealthy. Instead, they have a different and extraordinary way of cleaning the birth filth off the baby—though according to the customs of Europeans, we would say that this is just making it

even more offensive than it was by nature. For, instead of using water, or something else that one might use to clean newborn children, they take fresh cow dung and rub it all over the child, so that it is simultaneously perfumed and colored grass-green"

.... Peter Kolb, German astronomer who visited the Cape around 1700.

The French and Dutch did the strangest things. In the last few years, the French finally returned the private parts of one of these folks that they had in a museum exhibit. The terms "Hottentot" and "Bushmen" ("Bosjesman" in Dutch, Boesman in Afrikaans) are these days seen as derogatory. However, if I wrote "Khoisan", no one would know what I was talking about. Amongst white Afrikaans men, it is common to have the nickname "Boesman" with zero derogatory implication. It is even used as a loving term towards kids. My parents used to call me "Boesman".

The Black cultures were much more organized and way more powerful and more numerous. So they pushed these folks south all the time. In the case of the Bushmen (San), the black Ba'Ntu hunted them like animals. Even in the 1970's the SA Defense Force had to rescue a group of San from the Ba'Ntu people in Southern Angola. They are utterly superb little people, though they did make life unbearable for a while in the center of the old Cape Province. As to slavery in the USA, I believe most slaves in the USA came from the West African Coast...true Negro people rather than the formally Negroid Ba'Ntu who inhabit Central and Southern Africa.

It is one of the greater stupidities of South African history, that the white government alienated these "Khoi" and/or "Malay" folks and Indian folks during the Apartheid years.... a big mistake in my book. After all, they were natural allies. Despite this, during the first open election in 1994, I believe a majority of the Khoi/Malay actually voted against Mandela's ANC. Their home language is typically Afrikaans and they are fully Westernized. The Indian population is English-based and supported the ANC. The "Coloured" people are the REAL tragedy of Apartheid. These folks got caught in the middle and suffered really bad indignity as far as I am concerned.

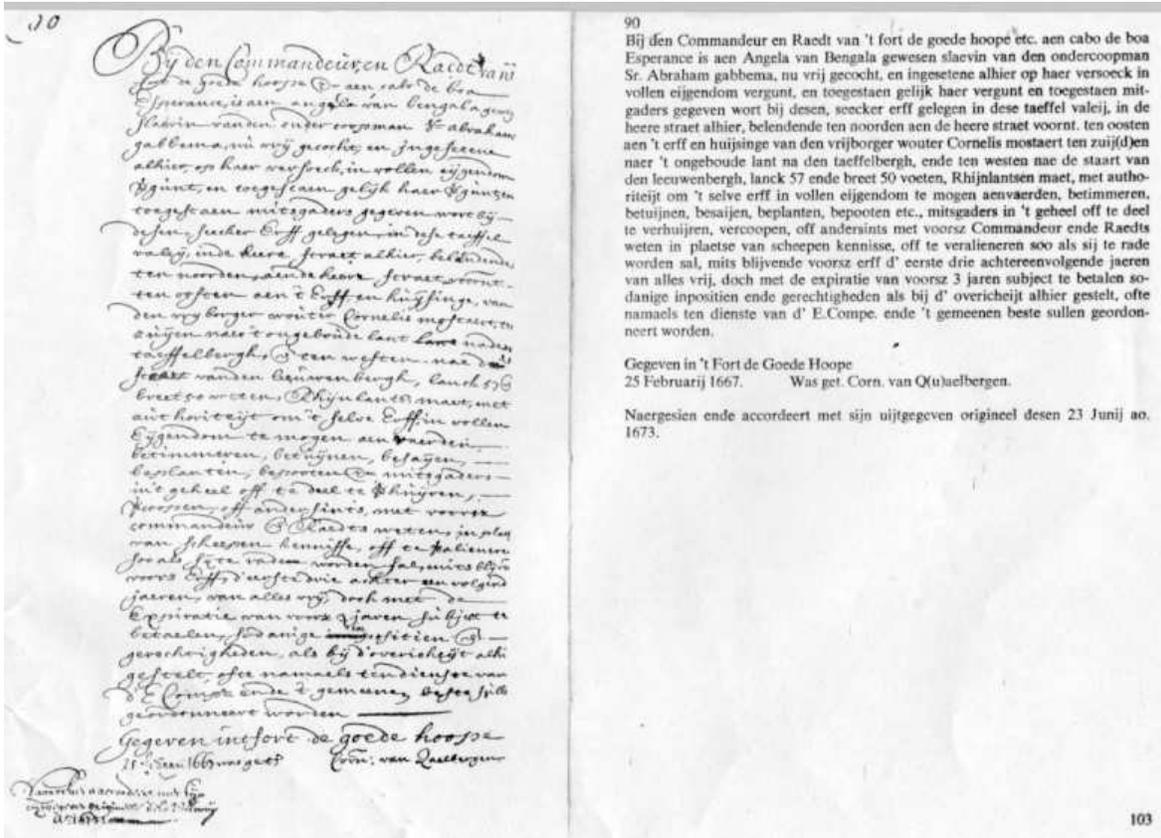
1.6 A closer look at one slave

The Dutch brought slaves from India. One of the most famous was Angela of Bengal (known as Anselva van Bengale in Dutch), also more interestingly called Pretty Angela. She was given her freedom a few years later, as one can see in the following document. It reads:

Appeared to the commander and council of the Fort of Good Hope at Cabo de Boa Esperance (Cape of Good Hope) a (certain) Angela van Bengala (Angela of Bengal), former slave of merchant Sr Abraham Gabbema, now freed. We accept her request for full ownership of a lot situated in the Table Valley on the Heere ["Main" or "Lord"] Street, at the north end of the Heere street and east of the lot of Wouter Cornelis Mostaert and south of the unoccupied land adjoining Table Mountain, and west of the end of the Leeuwenberg (now Lion's Head), lot measurements being 57 feet long and 50 feet wide (Rhineland measurements). Authorisation is given to own this lot, build upon it, plant, sow, etc and partly or fully rent, sell or, with knowledge of the commander and council dispose of the property as she sees fit, free of all imposition for the first three years and thereafter subject to taxes as might be set by the authorities or by the representatives of E.Compe. [Dutch East India Company]

*Issued at Fort of Good Hope
25 February 1667
Signed: Corn. Van Qu(u)ellenbergen*

Confirmed to be a true copy of the original issued on 23 June 1673



The "Heere straat" is still there today and is the main street of Cape Town, known formally as "Heerengracht". We kept the formal Dutch name, just like Wall Street in New York is actually "Wal Straat" in Dutch.

It seems this lady was a quite something at the Cape in those years and an awful lot of men were trying to make quite sure she was very happy. One can only speculate.

1.7 Meanwhile, in North America? : In this year the Dutch also sailed into New York and retook it. They were the big World Power back then. They held it for a year and then the Brits signed a treaty with them and got it back. Louis Joliet had just started exploring the Great Lakes and the Mississippi. It was two years before King Philip's War, which pretty much destroyed the East Coast Indians and gave New England to the white settlers.

1.8 The Dutch East India Company: Over the period 1602 to 1796 The United East India Company (Dutch East India Company or VOC) dominated the formation of the Western World. It was massively influential and was, in reality , the first ever really big Multinational. The founder of the Cape Settlement, Jan van Riebeeck, was an employee of this company and founded the station at the Cape under its control. In this respect the Company played the same role in the overseas territories of the Dutch as did the Hudson Bay Company in North America for the British....playing a massive role in the forming of the Canada we know today. [Read more here.](#)

The first resolution of the new settlement was drawn up at sea on the way there, on 30 December 1651. One can actually see the real thing [HERE](#).

The Canvas of History – Part 2: The British Invade

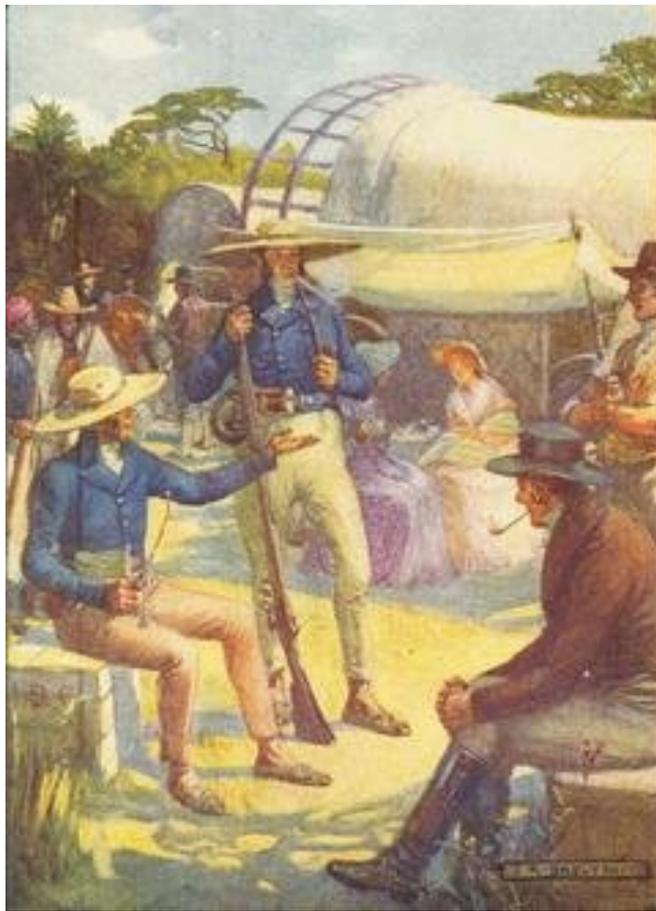
2.1. The British invade : The British invaded in 1795, then gave the place back to the Dutch, and then, in 1806 the Brits invaded a second time and removed the Dutch control forever. The Dutch had lost their power and had been conquered by Napoleon, the Dutch East India company had collapsed, and it was the end of Dutch supremacy on the Trade routes. The latest Superpower wanted the Cape, to keep it out of Napoleon's hands, because he had islands east of Africa and threatened the Cape Sea Route. In 1814 the Dutch formally sold the Cape to Britain for £2M. SO, my ancestors knew exactly what they were worth to the Dutch...no love lost there!

What went wrong?: Maybe the Brits should have stayed away?

2.2 British Settlers: The British hit upon the idea of settling the Eastern border area with British Settlers. They picked the area between the Bushman's river and the Fish river, calling it Albany. They recruited people from the Cities in England, essentially gave each family a spade and a bag of seed, and dumped them unceremoniously on the African veldt, with the angry Xhosas just across the river. These folks found what the Dutch farmers (Boere, singular: Boer) already knew: The area has acid soil, is not good for general agriculture, and has very erratic rainfall. It is good for cattle. The Xhosa also knew this. The one thing this DID do, was to create a sort of Brothers in Crisis feeling between the Afrikaner Boere and these English folks. The latter almost all gave up trying to farm, and moved into Grahamstown to become what they had been before...townsfolk. To get a first hand look at some of these folks, as they left England, read [HERE](#).

Here the writer Thomas Pringle describes their arrival at their destination, where they were taken by Afrikaner Boer escorts with ox-wagons. The Boer tells them: "[And now, mynheer \(sir\),](#)" said the Dutch-African field-cornet who commanded our escort, "[there lies your country.](#)" Looking in the direction where he pointed, we beheld extending to the northward a beautiful vale, about six or seven miles in length, and varying from one to two in breadth". In the picture, the Boere are the men wearing wide-rim hats, blue spencers and moccasins.

These new immigrants eventually brought a lot of good to SA...they fought for proper government at the Cape (something the Boere had given up on a century earlier) and they fought particularly hard for a free press; something that has remained a proud legacy. It also made the East Cape language-blind. I come from there. We have always been seen as the folks that have no hang-up on origin/culture...we happily speak Afrikaans (Dutch) at home and English in business.



What went wrong?: Callous disregard on the part of the British Government for any of the parties involved...Xhosa, Boer or British immigrant settler.

2.3 Slavery Ends: In 1814 Lord Charles Somerset became governor at the Cape, and the British abolished the actual *overseas* slave trade. That was a good thing. For Americans reading this, it might be good to know that there were no *plantations* in South Africa. So these people were essentially regular farm hands. Also, it bears repeating that there were no slaves taken from areas controlled by the Dutch or British in Southern Africa...EVER!

In 1834 the British formally emancipated all the slaves. This was a good thing. As best one can figure out, the vast majority remained with their employers. Where were they supposed to go? Few Boere even had slaves to start with. These were poor frontier farmers and slaves were hugely expensive. However, this did lead to massive vagrancy and theft problems.

What went wrong?: Nothing much, but I make the point so liberal folks in the USA can take careful note that South Africans abolished slavery 33 years before them...an entire generation earlier. So I'd appreciate it if they'd stop attacking South Africans about it in uninformed fashion.

2.4 The Border...anatomy of a mess: The new British authority at the Cape was a **Military Government**; men recently returned from the Peninsular War with Napoleon. There was no form of representative government.

The problems started when the Military Governor started imposing Anglicization on the Dutch speaking Afrikaner Boere. It seemed to the Boere that the authorities were constantly taking the side of Hottentot workers against them. Be that as it may, in the end some Boere rebelled. For their pains, on 9 March 1816, the leaders were hanged. When the ropes broke, and the men fell, they pleaded for their lives. While the Boere did not care too much for the rather suspect rebels, they saw the breaking of the ropes as Divine Intervention. The British hanged them again anyway. The event was known as *Slagtersnek* (Butcher's Neck), after the rising/hill/"neck" where the hanging happened. The British had stamped their authority down, but had taken the side of the Hottentots and had trodden heavily on the Boere. This was the end of the short romance between Afrikaner Boer and Brit.



The Slagtersnek memorial north of Port Elizabeth

The new Government also abolished the local governments (*Heemraden*) of the Boere and administrated them from Cape Town. Canadians understand "Western Alienation" very well: the phenomenon of being governed by distant Ottawa. But in this case local powers were taken away and it was comprehensive absentee management. They nevertheless levied taxes on these farmer.

At the same time, the Army would not police the border adequately...and when they DID get involved, they would have the tax-paying Boere do the fighting to get the cattle back, and then take some of the cattle as payment for their (largely absent) services.

In 1819 there descended upon these folks the London Missionary Society, who basically made cultural war on the Boere, and who appeared to believe the Hottentots could do no wrong. Even the British Governor took exception to these misguided Enlightenment zealots, but they had huge political power in Britain. Now the Boere found themselves in court, defending themselves in a language they could not speak on charges they could not understand, trumped up by self-serving

missionaries with a liberal Enlightenment religious zeal, inflamed with Jean Jacques Rousseau's inanity about the "Noble Savage". This was known as the "Black Circuit". Since it took weeks to suffer the court process, these men had to leave their families exposed to the privations of the frontier to indulge these fanatical missionary zealots who wished them only ill; the uneducated fanatical liberals of their day.

Oliver Ransford in *The Great Trek*

...indeed, one cannot help but feel a good deal of sympathy for the Boers on this matter, especially as the missionaries were earnest irritable men who had no experience in dealing with a multi-racial society, and who seemed to reserve all their charity for its coloured members. Many of the missionaries came from the artisan class and had received the call during the British evangelical revival: for instance, John Philip, who was particularly loathed by the Afrikaners, had been a mill hand before entering the Church, while Robert Moffat of Kuruman had begun life as a gardener. This sort of background inevitably led them to display a narrowness of vision which might have been avoided by a wider education.

At first the Afrikaners had welcomed the British, as they were more competent than the bankrupt Dutch. Now it turned to abject and permanent hatred and distrust. The split between Boer and British authority was complete and would in reality last until the late 20th century.

With the emancipation of all slaves in 1834, the government offered the farmers compensation, but insisted they had to travel to London to get the money! Naturally no-one did. This devastated those frontier farmers who *did* have slaves, and who now had to find money to pay their workers while defending their property and families against the marauding Xhosa cattle thieves. Many lost their farms in this process.

The British military powers then proceeded to bungle a host of things with the Xhosa, including messing with Xhosa Chief Mqoma, with whom the Boere had lived in relative peace. The British Army's treatment of Mqoma's people was quite terrible.

On 2 December 1834, with Sir Benjamin d'Urban now the governor, all hell broke loose with the Xhosas, due to yet another bungling by the British military, which seemed to have no clue of what it was dealing with. On 21 December 1834 an army of 15,000 Xhosas invaded the Cape Frontier (see later). [This was a pivotal moment.](#)

By the time the 1834 Xhosa invasion above happened, the Great Trek (see next Part) had started on the part of the Afrikaner Boere, and the rest of the confrontation between white and black man on the East Cape border would be mostly a British Military affair (see later).

What went wrong?: British Colonialism, the missionaries, Lord Charles Somerset and Lord Glenelg of the Colonial Office, plain and simple. This last section has many wrongs on the part of the British Government and the "Godless missionaries" (as they were seen). These obsessively liberal religious types of the London Missionary Society were led by a evangelical mill-hand, John Philip, who arrived at the Cape in 1819. They instilled in the Afrikaner Boere a well-founded suspicion of all matters liberal to this day...especially if it arrives speaking English, presumes to represent God and "connives" with the "other races" to the detriment of "civilization". Those are my words, but I think they put across the idea and line of thought at the time.

Certainly, Philip, Moffat and even David Livingstone exhibited naked hatred (often staggeringly falsely expressed in racial anthropological terms) toward the Boere, who repaid the "compliment" by associating the missionaries with Mephistopheles himself. The Boere were entirely correct in seeing the missionaries as spearheading British influence, even if that were not the active political plan of the British Authorities. There is probably nothing as dangerous as an uneducated man imbued with religious zeal being let loose in "foreign territories".

2.4 Harry Smith to the Rescue: Looked at from afar, the British Military Government, when it finally woke up, bungled pretty much everything. They mistreated and bitterly humiliated the Xhosa. They mistreated and alienated the Boere. They alienated the Missionaries, who were despised by the Boere and ridiculed by the Xhosa. It would appear they were simply inept.

The Xhosa understandably went on the rampage and the Boere had to twiddle their fingers at it in frustration and, almost like today, sit and wait to die, while liberals STILL vilify them. Many Afrikaners in South Africa today talk about emigration as the Second Great Trek. Others call it the Diaspora of the Afrikaner. Things are remarkably similar today.

Much of this blame for the mess must fall on governor Lord Charles Somerset who alienated the Boere by trying to Anglicize them, and on his son, who was a bungling military incompetent and bully who incensed the Xhosa. (*Frontiers* by Noël Mostert, Pimlico). Lord Glenelg of the Colonial Office contributed hugely to all of this through what would today be viewed rank mismanagement.



The Hero of that dark hour would be Lieutenant-Colonel Henry George Wakelyn Smith, Baronet of Aliwal; Sir Harry Smith, as he would be known.... having fought the Peninsular War against Napoleon with Wellington. He would even affect Canada. We shall get back to Harry Smith and the Xhosa later, because the center of gravity of South African history moves away elsewhere...and the English language gains two new words....

COMMANDO....and TREK!....the real life *Battlestar Galactica* of the 19th Century

What went wrong?: BEFORE The British colonization the relationship between Boer and Xhosa was characterized by small battles and short term alliances between Xhosa Chief Ndlambe and the Boere. The advent of the British turned the Xhosa into enemies of the white man in general forever.

In one example of of these alliances (1793), Chief Ndlambe sought to defeat the remaining Xhosa clans west of the Kei River and adjoining the Boer territory. In the ensuing Second Frontier War the Boere, eager to stop constant cattle raids by these next-door tribesmen, mounted a concerted attack and drove several smaller clans out of the lands west of the Great Fish River. There, Ndlambe waited with his armies and routed his fleeing cousins.

Later the Xhosa would tell the British that they could not be frightened by British threats that the Boere would help them (the British) , because the Boere would likely fight with them (the Xhosa). Current popular history paints the Boere into natural enemies of the Xhosa, but it certainly was not always like that. There used to be much more of a “live and let live” or “you in your place, I in mine”relationship. The history of the Xhosa may be read here in detail [HERE](#).

Much later in the 19th century the Boere would similarly ally with the Sekonyela against the Matabele and with the Zulu against the Swazi. Again in the 1980's the Afrikaner-dominated government would ally clandestinely with the Zulu leader Buthelezi against the Communist ANC. As will be seen later, the “Boere” (SA Government) also allied with the Ovimbundu tribe-based UNITA movement in Angola. So, the Afrikaner Boere should not be seen as “enemies of all black people”. The description “The White Tribe of Africa” might very well be more appropriate, though Afrikaners resent it very much, because it implies the West denouncing our European heritage.

The Canvas of History – Part 3: The Great Trek

'Their adventures and exploits form one of the most singular chapters of modern history, and deserve a clearer record than has yet been given to them.'

... English historian James Anthony Froude (1875)

3.1 The Great Trek: After being in the Cape for 170 years, 28 of those under British rule, these disgruntled frontier Afrikaner farmers (Boere) packed their belongings on their heavy ox carts, and still with some of their freed "slaves" loyally in tow, set off into the wilds of Africa to look for a life where they might live freely by the Bible, their only real literature. They had become disenamored with the liberal Dutch ministers and preferred to deal with reformation Scots, like Andrew Murray. They wrote a "Declaration of Independence", promising to not practice slavery and to respect the British and their government, but that they now leave this land of horror in the knowledge that the "English" Government "has no more to require from them". Do read it. It is rather interesting. There is one issue confusing matters in the translation, where they say "vexatious laws which have been enacted respecting them" (freed slaves). It should read "with respect to them".

This was the Great Trek (that's where the English language got the word "trek"). Up to that point, no one was on supposed "black territory". There had been disputes on the eastern border and a horde of "Border Wars", but the border was generally taken to be variously the Fish River or the Keiskamma River. The Xhosa had massive, well-watered territory to the east. However, as we'll see, the British just did not want to leave them alone. Too late, the government woke up:

Sir Benjamin d' Urban, Governor of the Cape in 1834:

It is a matter of deep regret that a large proportion of the farmers who have emigrated are of the oldest and most respectable of the districts to which they belonged, and are in themselves, as a brave, patient, industrious, orderly and religious people, an incalculable loss to the Colony in whatever way they may be regarded—whether as the cultivators, the defenders, or the tax-contributors of the country which they have quitted, and from which they have naturally carried away all their property and possessions, as well as such movables as of cattle, sheep and horses.

What went wrong?: Maybe the Great Trek should not have happened. Maybe the Boere should have stayed where they were in the Cape Colony and fought the Xhosa. Had they stayed, South Africa might have been a smaller but safer country today with largely White and Coloured populations. However, it is rather ironic that the British would first totally vilify these people, making their lives thereby a living hell, and then wake up and lament their departure.

3.2 Mfecane: As the Voortrekkers (Eng:Pioneers) moved north around present day Lesotho, these folks ran into a renegade Zulu group, called the Matabele, led by Mzilikaatse. He had been thrown out of the Zulu Kingdom in Natal. He had terrorized the central plateau of what is now known as the Highveld (Prairie) and the Tswana/Sotho people that had lived there had pulled back further northwest and into the mountains of Lesotho, leaving the cold (by African standards) Prairie country largely empty and under his sway.

This murderous rampage was known as the Mfecane or Difecane. It left the Highveld strewn with sun-bleached skeletons. In a key battle, Vegkop, where the Boere pulled their wagons in a circle and fired through the openings, they defeated "Silkaats", as they called him. The women also helped. This circle of wagons was called a "*laager*". In the end they drove Mzilikaatse first to the border of what is now Botswana, and then later into Zimbabwe. They live there to this day in the area known, appropriately, as Matabeleland.



What went wrong? : Maybe they should have lost against Silkaats and returned? In the same way, maybe the Cavalry should have lost its battles with Indian Tribes in the USA. In Mzilikaatse the Boere did remove from the map one of the most monstrous leaders of the time in Africa.

3.3 Massacre: After crossing this Highveld Prairie, some moved down the mountains to the edge of Zulu territory. Their leader, Piet Retief, made an agreement with the Zulu King that they would retrieve his stolen cattle from another tribe in exchange for land. The king, Dingane, agreed. They duly retrieved the cattle and brought them to the king's kraal ("Corral") on 3 February 1837. A contract was drawn up whereby Dingane granted "*the land between the Tugela and the Umzimvubu rivers, and from the sea to the north as far as the land may be useful to Piet Retief and his followers*". This document was signed on 6 February 1837, whereupon the group of 70 Trekkers and their English translator were summarily killed and impaled, some alive, as the king yelled, "Kill the wizards" (anticipating the ANC's recent "Kill the Farmer! Kill the Boer"). The event is recorded in the Diary of the Reverend Owen, missionary to Dingane.

The Zulu Army then attacked the unsuspecting people in the unprepared Boer encampments some days later in a clear attempt at genocide. It was a massacre, with children being swung by the feet to bash their heads against rocks. Five hundred Afrikaner Boere died.

What went wrong? : Maybe Retief should not have made a deal with the Zulu King. In the US many treaties were made with the Native Peoples and broken by the whites. In South Africa the whites kept the deals, and look what happened. Maybe that is what went wrong. Should they have broken the deal and just shot their way in there?

3.4 Blood River: After regrouping and getting reinforcements from the Cape Colony, some 470 Boere prepared for a decisive battle. The evening before the battle they made a Covenant with God that, if they were given victory against the Zulu, they would forever treat the day as a Sunday and erect a church in His name. Fog settled over the laager the night before the Zulu attack, which would benefit the Zulu stabbing spears or *assegaais* over the Boer muskets!



The next morning, Sunday, 16 December 1838, opened clear as they waited for the impending Zulu attack.

When it came, it was a massive Zulu Army; the most awe-inspiring body of fighting men the world has ever known. Their number was anything from 10,000 to 25,000, depending on the different journals of those in the battle. These were the famous undefeated Zulu Impi, whose bravery, discipline and tactics were legendary and feared throughout Southern Africa and who had already had four clear victories against white men, three against the Boere and one against British. The Boere had repulsed them only once in battle, but they had taken all the cattle. They would attack in the famous "Horns of the Bull" formation. This comprised two flanking horns of men that would move fast to outflank and surround the enemy and divide his forces. Then would come the main battle-hardened force; the "head of the bull", right down the middle and pulverize the enemy.

The Boere/Afrikaners absorbed the repeated attacks with devastatingly accurate musket fire, their wagons having been placed to address the anticipated flanking. The Ncome River, together with

a donga (arroyo) had been used to break the stride of the Zulu Impi. Each Boer had more than one musket and there was at least one lady reloading. When they were almost out of ammunition, they mounted their horses, opened up the laager, and charged at the Zulu, firing their muskets from horseback. The third charge broke the Zulus, with the Boere loading multiple slugs per firing round in their muskets. The Ncome River went red with Zulu blood.

From the Journal of Andries Pretorius (in Dutch)

You will scarcely be able to form an idea of the sight presented around us, it was such as to require some nerve not to betray uneasiness in the countenance. Seeing that it was necessary to display the most desperate determination, I caused four gates of our enclosed encampment to be simultaneously thrown open, from whence some mounted men were to charge the enemy; at the same time keeping a heavy fire on them.

This was the Battle of Blood River, a defining moment in South African history. They routed the Zulu without losing a single man. Three had spear wounds, including the leader, Andries Pretorius. These exact same Zulu tactics wiped out a 1,200 man formal British force 40 years later, when the British were infinitely better armed, equipped and supplied than the Boere. The Boere believed it was divine intervention, based on their Covenant. As a scientist, I think it may just have been a combination of true Christian Faith that bolstered morale, experience in collective defense, superlative discipline, excellent choice of battleground, superb tactics and good knowledge of the enemy's own tactics. Some of these lessons would stay with us when we fought the Cubans and Russians 150 years later, as you will see.



The circular Bronze Laager at the Blood River Monument in near Dundee, SA

What went wrong? The entire venture into Natal went wrong. In the event, as we will see, it was a lost cause anyway. Thanks to the British, those folks all essentially died in vain.

3.5 To be a Boer: In *Frontiers*, Noël Mostert describes an earlier report in the Cape Province by a British military patrol sent on 26 December 1834 to warn outlying Boer farms that the Xhosas were coming. They arrived at one farm to the following scene:

From report by British Patrol on East Cape border (*Frontiers*, Noël Mostert)

...found three Boers at one farm holding off several hundred Xhosa. Only two of the Boers had guns and kept up a rapid fire [with front-loading muskets and powder!!] from within a clump of bushes. The bush was described as resembling a porcupine from the number of assegais (Xhosa spears) sticking in every stem. The Boers themselves had been struck repeatedly. One had nine assegai wounds, another two; one of them had pulled the spears from his own body and hurled them back at the assailants. He did not survive his wounds."

Noël Mostert, who never has any good to say about the Boere, states, with reference to the British Settlers, who were still facing the Xhosa back in the Cape Colony:

1. The British had "...no experience of organizing themselves as rapidly as the Boere could"
2. That they did not have the..."instinctive sense that the Boer had of laying down a faultless and selective field of fire through which to hold off an attack on a homestead or"... "a military post"
3. That they did not have..."the Boer's impulse to laager when circumstances became

overwhelming, something that had developed almost into a natural instinct, of moving by foreknowledge to whatever place they knew to be the most suitable for a communal defence".

Obviously these Boere had a superlative sense of how to handle themselves in a fight. So, please do not believe the drivel that one hears these days about how it was an "unequal struggle between superior white guns and 'innocent' blacks with spears". To get a feeling for the nature of the king of the Zulu, Dingane, this highly descriptive text is superb reading. When the Boere reached the site of the Retief massacre, they found the men's vulture scavenged remains. The contract signed with Dingane was in Piet Retief's pouch. The journal of Jan Bantjes, the Dutch scribe, records the scene in Dutch.

A transcription of
of the 16th February
1838

I know all men by this that Whereas
Piet Retief Governor of the Dutch Emigrants
South Africans has been taken my cattle which
Dingane had, stolen which cattle he
the said Retief now deliver unto me.
I Dingane King of the Zulus do here
by Certify and declare that I thought
fit to deliver unto him this said Retief
and his Countryman On New year of the
New Year above mentioned the Place
called Port Natal together with all the
Land thereof, that is to say from Dorela
to the Ondekoeb River westward and
from the Sea to the North as far as the
Land may be useful and in my possession
which I did by this and give unto them
for their Everlasting property.

He made in the name of
King Dingane

M. G. G. G.
M. G. G. G.
M. G. G. G.
M. G. G. G.

M. G. G. G.
M. G. G. G.
M. G. G. G.
M. G. G. G.

A transcribed copy of the Retief-Dingane contract (1838)

Courtesy : The Voortrekker Monument

Andries Pretorius



The Canvas of History – Part 4 : The British; always the British

4.1 Keeping their Vow: The Boere kept the Covenant they made with God and built the church they had promised and declared a perpetual Sunday on 16 December (my birthday as fate would have it). They formed their democratic Republic of Natalia. The Zulu lived in peace with them on the north of the Tugela and east of the Blood River, which became known as Zululand.

Five years later, in 1843, the Brits simply annexed their new Republic of Natalia that the Voortrekkers occupied in accordance with the signed deal with Dingane, now paid for in blood. In fact, they had very cordial relations with the new Zulu King, Mpande...each in his own place.

What went wrong?: Maybe the Boere/Afrikaners/Voortrekkers should have broken their vow!? Maybe that's where it went wrong. The present ANC government of South Africa has now canceled that National Day (Day of the Vow) specifically and pointedly to anger Afrikaners. If I were more religious, I might say that is why God is angry and our people are dying so horribly. Maybe the Brits just should NOT have annexed the Republic of Natalia. They were using every conceivable excuse to paint the planet red.

4.2 Back to the Highveld (Prairie): While some of the Boere remained on the high ground of Natal, inland from the Zulus' territory in the low country east of the Ncome (Blood) River, most Natal Boere moved back to the Highveld Prairie, the empty highland space originally denuded by Mzilikaatse in the Mfecane...anything rather than live under British rule again, which now covered brutal discrimination and oppression by Lord Charles Somerset, dereliction by care-taking governors and rank desertion by Lord Glenelg. The only really competent governor, D' Urban, had arrived too late to stem the original Great Trek and had been dismissed by Glenelg for being tough on the Xhosas. Governor Napier now presided over the expulsion of Boere from the "Canaan" they had paid for so dearly in blood, Natal.

From Harry Smith's own Autobiography: (He was back at the Cape in 1847)

.....these families were exposed to a state of misery which I never before saw equalled, except in Massena's invasion of Portugal, when the whole of the population of that part of the seat of war abandoned their homes and fled. The scene here was truly heart-rending.

.....The scene exhibited by about three or four hundred fathers of large families assembled and shedding tears when representing their position was more, I admit, than I could observe unmoved. . . .

They settled in the "Free State" prairie, there to become corn and cattle farmers. They'd hardly got there when the British, at the instigation at the very Harry Smith himself, annexed that as well!! It seemed to the Boere that the British were using them as cannon fodder to tame Africa, and then they would just march in every time and take over everything after the "heavy lifting" had been done and impose the same privations and horrors that had caused the Great Trek.

However, in the 1850's the Brits finally relented and let them be independent.... very reluctantly. Keeping up with these "fractious Dutchmen" was starting to cost the Empire.

What went wrong? : Maybe the Brits should not have annexed the Prairie Free State. Maybe things should have stayed the way they were after the British recognized their independence? Who knows? It seems to me to have been a fine arrangement. However, it irked many an Englishman that these "dour Dutchmen" stood between them and their dreams of painting the planet red from The Cape to Cairo. The London Missionary Society zealots also never stopped for a minute their constant "moral" attacks on these people. Even the respected David Livingstone could not manage his hatred or his tongue on the subject.

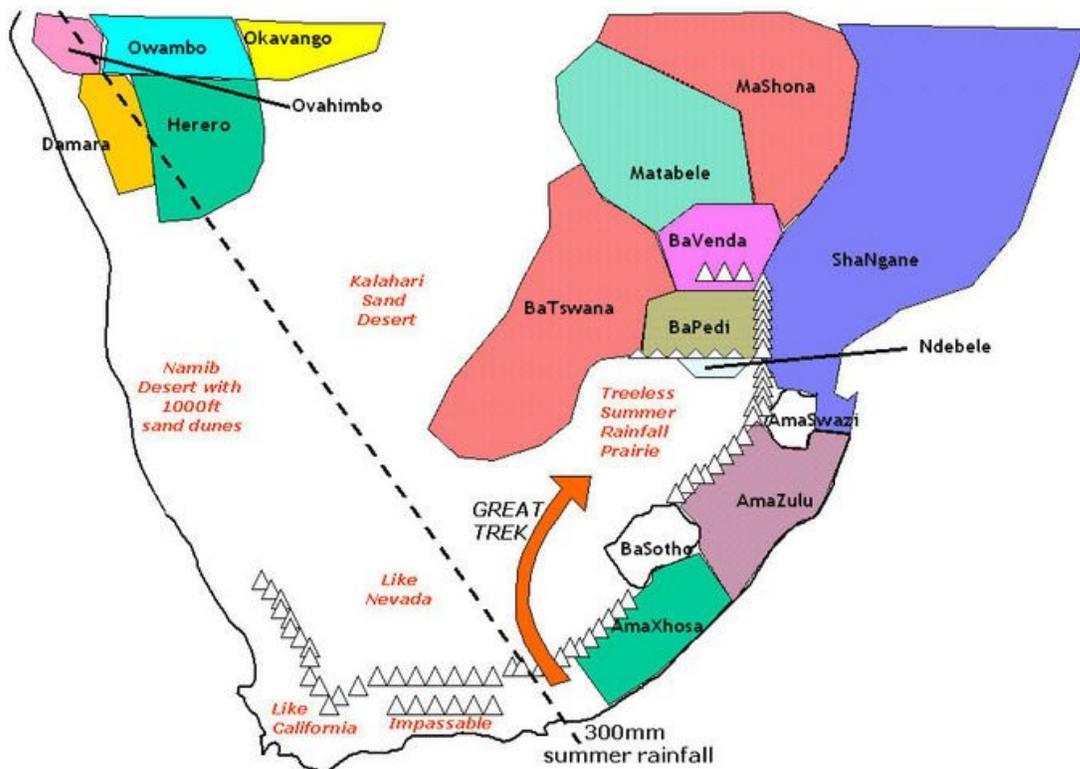
4.3 The Transvaal republic: North of the Vaal River, in the Transvaal Republic, the farmers settled on the Highveld Prairie and did the same farming. This is cold country in winter and black folks did not really live there, except for the tiny Ndebele nation nearer Pretoria and the Ba'Sotho in the eastern mountains. The black people of Africa really are tropical/subtropical people. One does not really associate them with subfreezing winters and frost. And one would be right, of course. Most were settled in the lower lying country to the northwest and north.

What went wrong?: Maybe the black people should have stayed where they were. They had their countries where they had always lived. See the next section.

4.4 The Countries of the Ba'Ntu: To the Northwest, North and East of the "White area" of the old Transvaal Republic lay the Bushveld/Lowveld Country. There were the territories of the major tribes like the BaPedi, BaVenda, the Shangaan, the Swazi and the place of the Lobedu Rain Queen, the famous "She" of H. Rider Haggard. The Tswana were to the Northwest. The way I see it, these people were left largely alone, though certainly NOT exclusively so, in their territories. But there were skirmishes with the BaPedi and the BaVenda. The only group that was right amongst the Boere were the Ndebele. They are worth a separate story at another time. They were a very small but hugely interesting nation.

What went wrong?: The religious Boere did not think of putting these tribes/nations on "reservations" or on "death marches" or "Trails of Tears" and the like, as happened in the USA. They just figured to leave the black people largely alone in their lands. Maybe that's where it went wrong. Unfortunately they did not leave them COMPLETELY alone, as we shall see.

I think that they were simply not strong enough to take on all these people. So they tried to live in relative peace with them, each "in his own civilization", much like the original West of the USA; "settlers at peace with the Indians", so to speak. After the Trek, this is what Southern Africa looked like. Behind these tribes were countless others all the way to the Sahara:



Southern Africa after the Great Trek

The Canvas of History – Part 5 : The Middle of the 19th Century

5.1 The Sixth Frontier War of 1834: Now we have to step back just a little to fetch the story in the (now British) Cape Colony. The reader can also read the Xhosa history [here](#):

In 1819, there had been a first assault by the Xhosa on the Settler Town of Grahamstown, but in 1834 (one day after The Emancipation of the Slaves) all hell broke loose. This was the Sixth Frontier War. It started with massive and brutal assaults by the Xhosa at multiple points. They basically drove the British Settlers and some of the Afrikaner Boere on the Eastern Frontier off their farms and into the three towns of Grahamstown, Salem and Bathurst. Now imagine "flamboyant and gallant" Harry Smith riding 600 Miles in 6 days from Cape Town to get to Grahamstown, to declare martial law, turn the men into a militia, shore up the defenses, and put the fear of death into all and sundry. Ultimately he went on the offensive, drove the Xhosa back, rescued the missionaries and killed the paramount Xhosa Chief Hintsa. Fundamentally all this was hugely unfair on the Xhosa, but it is a fact that they undertook the murderous invasion.

The Frontier was utterly devastated, and the Xhosa, Boer and Brit were now all mixed up territorially. The Boere and the Xhosa had lost their cattle. The British Settler farms were smoking ruins, and through all this Harry Smith galloped and humiliated the Xhosa by trying to play "Big White Bwana Come Africa", making everything worse. He was a great and brave fighter, but a total political buffoon, and hopelessly too heavy-handed. He saw himself everyone's "father". This form of condescension from folks outside Africa is still visible today (*Oprah Winfrey also shows it.*)

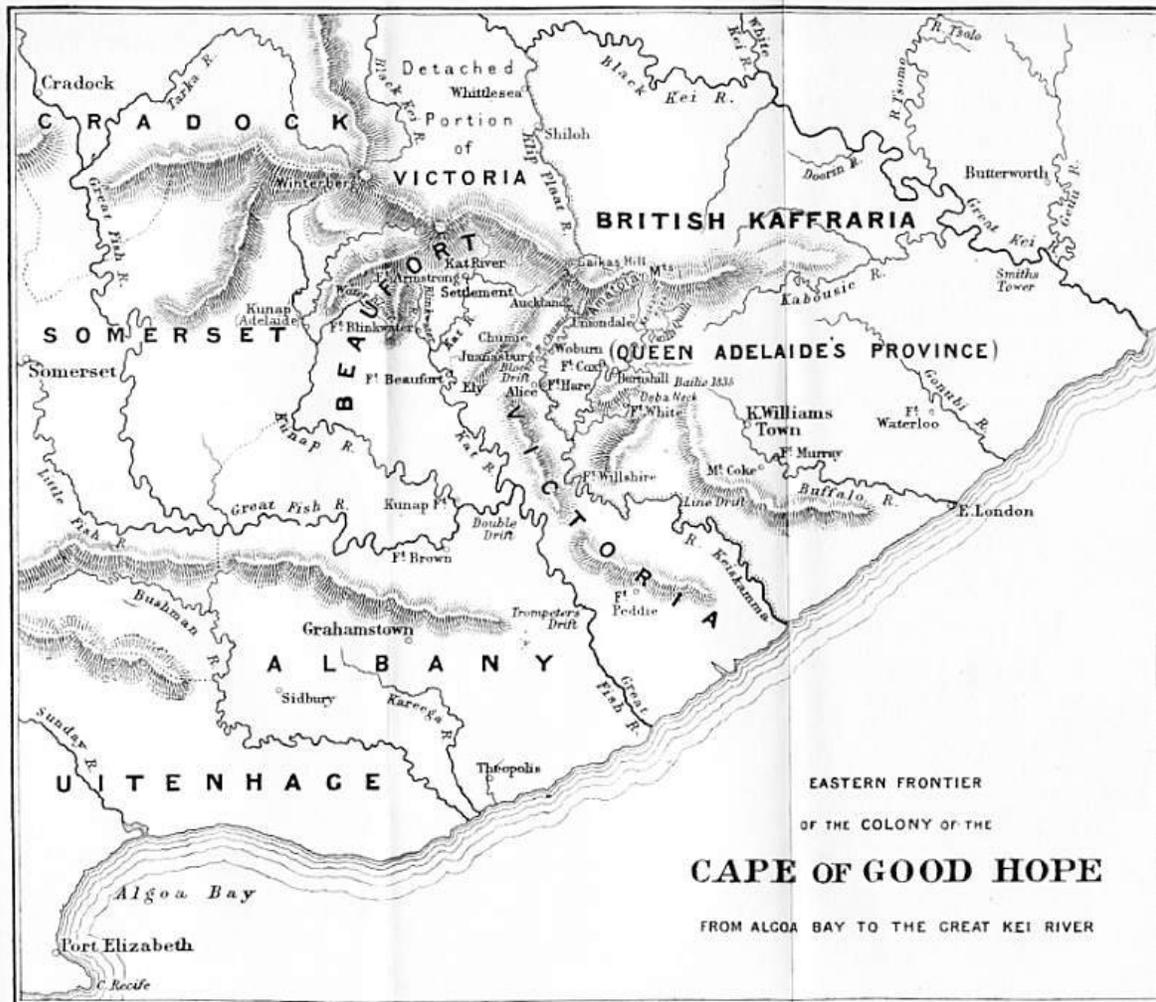
One final outcome of this is that the British Military finally recognized the London Missionary Society for what it was, and even the Wesleyans turned on them. Certainly, the invasion had destroyed any misdirected philanthropy on the part of the actual British Settlers and none of them further entertained any more idiot notions about "Noble Savages". In defense of the Xhosa, however, their conduct toward British women and children had been truly exemplary.

In the most bitter of ironic twists, Lord Glenelg became Colonial Secretary and sent a letter to the Cape that all the lands in the East should be abandoned, the British Settlers brought back to England, and the Boere left to "sort themselves out with the Natives". The British Settlers were shattered and the Boere shrugged their shoulders.... just like today, in 2006, they knew they were expendable in the eyes of "The Superpower of the Time". They packed their wagons, put their faith in God, said goodbye to their loyal British Settler friends, who shared their dismay, and set off on the Great Trek. In Grahamstown the British Settlers raised public subscription and a huge Bible, bound in Russian leather, was presented to the Boer leaders as "a farewell token of their esteem and heartfelt regret at their departure" on the Great Trek. The Brits had become Boere at heart and, like the Boere before them, had lost their European liberal delusions the hard way.

I post here a map of the Eastern Border, taken from Harry Smith's own autobiography. My family comes from just off the top left corner of the map, north of Cradock. They did not go on the Great Trek, but also did not live too near the Xhosa.

The racial hatred of the British Settlers toward the Xhosa, who could now apparently just keep everything they had stolen, and toward the London Missionary Society, knew no bounds. Fundamentally, this was the first time ever that the British saw an African Nation at war. They were utterly staggered that the earlier peaceful, friendly Xhosa could become "*the most barbarous savages, sunk to the lowest abyss of moral degradation*". They reviled the missionaries who were "*constantly blackening and belying the character of the colonists, representing them at home as the oppressors and destroyers of the aborigines of the country*".

For once local Boer and Brit were 100% on the same wavelength, except that the Boer was used to the realities. For the Brits it was a rude awakening.



Opposite p. 600.

The Boere were well acquainted with the uniquely African transformation that everyone saw yet again with the Mau-Mau in Kenya in the 1950's, the Simbas in the Congo in the 1960's and yet more recently in Rwanda in the 1990's. They had seen it in 5 earlier frontier wars. *The more things change, the more they stay the same.*

The Boer comment on The East Cape Border: *"We cannot conceive that we shall ever have such laws here as to guarantee us a quiet and secure living...cannot fathom the reasons why we have been held up to the British Government as monsters of cruelty and barbarity..."*

I might ask that question also today. They packed their bags and joined the Great Trek. I packed my bags for Canada 166 years later...basically the same issues...The "London Missionary Society" is well at work in the Western Media and there is no hope..... and I remain painted a monster while liberals sit safely in North America and Europe and criticize condescendingly.

What went wrong?: Fundamentally the British Colonial Government had abused the Xhosa repeatedly, they had taken their land, they had pushed them until they had no choice but to fight, and then they had inflicted ruinous reparations on them. Relations between Brit and Xhosa would never recover. However it also branded ALL "white man" forever in the Xhosa psyche. Certainly, they had fights with the Boere, and the Boere could kill Xhosas faster than anyone else, but they were not taking all the land and cattle of the Xhosa and killing their chiefs. The Boere had a "live and let live" and "we'll take you on on your own terms" attitude, and they ran their society parallel

to the Xhosa ("You in your place and I in mine"). The Brits wanted to colonize and control.... it is that simple.

The Boere had had enough of British Government.... first militaristic government control...then followed by extreme liberalism...then threatened abandonment. I do not see how they really had any other choice but to leave. Ironically, things may have worked out better had they stayed, because a few months later Victoria ascended the throne. And, did she ever WANT Empire!

Meanwhile the devastation of the Sixth Frontier War left the British colonists deeply embittered:

British Settlers in the Grahamstown Journal newspaper:

"Let war be made against the Kaffir huts and gardens. Let all these be burned down and destroyed. Let there be no ploughing, sowing or reaping. Or, if you cannot conveniently, or without bloodshed prevent the cultivation of the ground, take care to destroy the enemy's crops before they are ripe, and shoot all who resist. Shoot their cattle too wherever you see any. Tell them the time has come for the white man to show his mastery over them."

5.2 The Day of Two Suns: The situation was made worse in the 1850's by an unforgivable mess caused by a sangoma (witch doctor). A little girl, Nongqawuse (Nonkwasi), had seen a vision which was interpreted by the sangoma as meaning that, if the Xhosa people killed all their cattle and destroyed their crops, the white man would be driven into the sea. The Xhosas mostly believed it, though some "unbelievers" would not comply.

A later picture of Nongqawasi



When the appointed day (18 February 1857) came, no white men vanished into the sea and the Xhosa plunged into devastating famine. They moved by the hundreds of thousands onto white (mostly now English) farms for rescue. The once-proud Xhosa nation had been shattered. This little paragraph cannot do the story of a once proud nation justice.

The starvation was utterly unbelievable, with starving Xhosa dying in the streets of Grahamstown. However, the earlier horrific trepidations at the hands of the Xhosa had hardened the British Settlers, whose commentator, Godlonton, said: **"every Xhosa that is saved from starvation...is just one more enemy fattened and rendered effective at our expense"**. The remaining Boere at the East Cape had gone into their laagers, fearing attacks from disillusioned Xhosas. Instead, the Xhosa turned on the unbelieving Xhosa that had kept cattle and grain. It was awful!

What went wrong?: Maybe Nongqawuse should have shut up. Then the Xhosa would have stayed behind the Kei River (the Brits had earlier pushed them back to the Kei). Certainly it went wrong there. Had they been left alone there would now have been an independent country called Azania or Transkei and it would have been run by Mandela. He was born there.

Clearly the Xhosa should have been helped with the Day of the Two Suns. The Brits did try to reason with them about the visions, but it did not help. In the end Sir George Grey, the governor, openly speculated that it might work in favor of the British. That's just sick. The net effect of it all was that the Xhosa were dispersed everywhere through the Eastern Cape and became the majority. How terribly ironic.

5.3 More British and Xhosa: The tragedies just did not end there. There followed various running battles with the Xhosa who stayed in Xhosaland (British Kaffraria...yes, the British called it that). At one point the Brits managed to estrange their loyal Khoi supporters, who joined the Xhosa to fight the British. Harry Smith eventually drove the "independent" Xhosa back to behind the Kei River. That then also eventually became the border of the 1960'6-90's homeland of the Xhosa (The Transkei).

In the end, the British constructed bogus charges against some of the Xhosa leaders and imprisoned them on Robben Island. So the idea of putting political prisoners there, was a British one. They did this repeatedly, including putting the largely innocent Zulu King, Cetswayo, there.

What went wrong?: Basically, the Brits just could not leave the Xhosa alone and kept messing with them. In the end it engendered in the Xhosa such a genetic dislike of the white man that it persists to the day.

5.4 Poll tax: In the event, the Boere wanted some labor for their farms and hit on the infinitely stupid idea of imposing a Poll Tax on the Transvaal black tribes...something like the US government imposing a head tax on the Sioux or the Canadians on the Chinese. AND THAT **WAS** A MASSIVE MISTAKE. It brought those people off their territories and into the "White" territory/farms.

What went wrong?: The blacks did NOT stay in their countries. I think the Poll Tax was a galactically stupid idea as it led to the influx of black people into nominally "white" South Africa.

Aside: Poll Tax is not such a unique thing. Interestingly, until very recently Canada had a head tax on Chinese immigrants as a way to dissuade them from immigrating and is now running in square circles trying to apologize and fix. Of course one can afford to do such things when one is the majority and in control.



The Exiled Xhosa Chiefs on Robben Island

5.5 The Zulu War: In 1879 the British decided to make a War against the Zulu for absolutely no good reason at all. They tried to get the Boer Republics to help them. The nerve of these folks is incredible, considering they had YET AGAIN annexed the Boer Republic. The Boere said that they were at peace with the Zulu and suggested the Brits leave well enough alone. The Brits being British, attacked the Zulu on three fronts and there followed three British defeats, one of which was the most lamentable British loss in history, with 1200 men wiped out by "natives" with spears at Isandhlwana. True to British form, they addressed this by handing out the largest number of Victoria Crosses in one event to this day, to commemorate the subsequent turning back of the Zulu at Rorke's Drift Mission Station (See ZULU; Michael Caine's first major movie).

Actually the Zulu just left, because Rorke's Drift was on the Ncome River, which was the Zululand border. Of course, in the end, the Brits listened to the Boer advisers, and defeated the Zulu, exiling their proud king Cetshwayo. All he had ever wanted was peace. If the reader gets the idea that I respect the Zulu, her or she would be right. Amazing people...a hugely disciplined warrior nation worthy of everyone's respect; none of which detracts from the fact that they are very bloodthirsty when "on the warpath". The Brits had no idea what they were dealing with at the time.



The Red Soldiers stood firm...they died well (as described by the Zulu, who disemboweled them)

What went wrong?: Who knows. Maybe the British should have lost. Maybe that is what went wrong. As it is, Zululand ultimately became part of Natal Colony. With it came the entire Zulu nation...now, in 2006, about 7 million and rapidly dying from AIDS, while SA president Mbeki denies the connection between HIV and AIDS. Some believe it is because he wants the Xhosas' archenemy, the proud and fierce Zulu, to die out. This is the unspoken issue behind the fights between him and presidential hopeful Jacob Zuma, who is a Zulu. 2008 will be interesting indeed.

5.6 The First War of Independence: Not to disappoint the Boere in their view of British Colonialism, Theophilus Shepstone, the governor of the Natal British Colony, annexed the Boer Transvaal Republic in 1877. Having waited for the British to stop fighting the Zulu, the Boere decided in 1881 to rebel against the occupation. At the Battle of Majuba, the British occupied a mountaintop on the border of the Transvaal Republic. Realizing the enemy had taken the mountain in the night, a Boer Commando climbed the mountain and soundly defeated the Brits.

The Boere believed they won because the Brits had dishonored a Sunday by fighting on it. I think it happened because of the terraced structure of the mountain, which hid the climbing Boere from the British, and because the British never seemed to realize that one must aim low when one shoots downhill! Thereupon, the British recognized the Transvaal Republic again. I think the real reason for that recognition was that the new Liberal British Prime Minister, Gladstone, wanted no foreign intrigue. He had also pulled out of Afghanistan after "Bobs" Roberts had won the Battle of Kandahar. The British Army, who certainly could have defeated the Boere if they put their minds to it, was furious and swore revenge. They ultimately got it in the Great Boer War. *After all, they were the Superpower of the day.* One can read more about the Battle of Majuba HERE.

What went wrong?: Maybe the British should have elected a different Prime Minister or the Boere should have lost the First War of Independence. I do not believe helping the Brits against the Zulu would have changed a thing. Why could the British just never leave the African people alone? They were forever fiddling and messing with them. With the Boere the tribes had a tacit understanding: "you in your place, and I in mine.... or we'll fight it out"! That tacit understanding survives to this day with the traditional Zulu. But, the Brits just *had to* dominate and conquer and colonize. Without that, Zululand might have been an independent country today. Ever since Mpande, the Boere had lived in peace with the Zulu and had even helped the Zulu against the Swazi. For this they were duly rewarded with land near the southeastern extreme of the Old Transvaal Boer Republic.



Majuba Mountain ("Hill of the Doves" for the Zulu)

5.7 Juana Maria de los Delores de Leon: Everyone thought that Harry Smith's wife was utterly divine. So much so, that the Old Boere named two of their towns after her. Her name was, Juana Maria de los Delores de Leon, descendant of Juan Ponce de Leon, the discoverer of Florida. To escape rape by the British Army, she actually sought their protection when they attacked Badajoz in Spain, during the Peninsular War with Napoleon, where Harry Smith fought with the famous Wellington. He married her within two weeks of meeting her.

The town of Ladysmith would feature later in the Second Boer War. To celebrate its relief from the Boer siege, the town of Berlin on Vancouver Island in Canada, was renamed to Ladysmith. So Canadians should know that their town was named after Juana Maria de los Delores de Leon. One may also find the De Leon Park in Aliwal North in South Africa.



Book 2: The Painting of the Past

The Painting – Part 1 : Brutalising the Afrikaner

1.1 Gold and "democracy"

If there be a God, I think that what he would like me to do is to paint as much of Africa British-red as possible and to do what I can elsewhere to promote the unity and extend the influence of the English-speaking race....Cecil John Rhodes

*The Boer people felt that the Lord led them so far, and they had a right to the land. They had given their belongings and their blood for this country, and they had a right to this land
....Rose van Rensburg*

In 1886 the world's largest gold deposit was discovered in the Prairie part of the Boer Transvaal Republic, at a place called Witwatersrand (Whitewater Ridge). Soon Johannesburg rose up and diggers came from everywhere, mostly Britain. The British Government got a sudden unscratchable urge to "bring democracy" to the Boer Republics, who they thought were evilly refusing voting rights to foreign workers on the gold mines. Try and explain the logic of that one to Americans about Mexican workers. So Britain embarked on a Propaganda War:

A century of Wrong, by FW Reitz. The Secretary of the Transvaal Boer Republic (1899)

Written on the eve of the inevitable Great Boer War, with British soldiers on the way.

Up to the present our people have remained silent; we have been spat upon by the enemy, slandered, harried, and treated with every possible mark of disdain and contempt. But our people, with a dignity which reminds the world of a greater and more painful example of suffering, have borne in silence the taunts and derision of their opponents; indeed, they elected out of a sense of duty to remedy the faults and abuses which had crept into their public administration during moments of relaxed vigilance. But even this was ascribed to weakness and cowardice.

Latterly our people have been represented by influential statesmen and on hundreds of platforms in England as incompetent, uncivilised, dishonourable, untrustworthy, corrupt, bloodthirsty, treacherous, etc., etc., so that not only the British public, but nearly the whole world, began to believe that we stood on the same level as the wild beasts. In the face of these taunts and this provocation our people still remained silent. We were forced to learn from formal blue books issued by Her Majesty's Government and from dispatches of Her Majesty's High Commissioner in South Africa that our "unscrupulous" State Government, and our "unjust, unprincipled, and disorderly" administration, was a "continual festering sore, which, like a pestilential vapour, defiled the moral and political atmosphere of South Africa". We remained silent. We were accused in innumerable newspapers of all sorts of misdeeds against civilisation and humanity; crimes were imputed to us, the bare narration of which was sufficient to cause the hair to rise with horror.

If the reading public believe a hundredth part of the enormities which have been laid at the door of our people and Government, they must be irresistibly forced to the conclusion that this Republic is a den of thieves and a sink of iniquity, a people, in fact, the very existence of which is a blot upon humanity, and a nuisance to mankind.

In this awful turning point in the history of South Africa, on the eve of the conflict which threatens to exterminate our people, it behoves us to speak the truth in what may be, perchance, our last message to the world. Even if we are exterminated the truth will triumph through us over our conquerors, and will sterilise and paralyse all their efforts until they too disappear in the night of oblivion.

The degree to which the above text, with very minor differences, could have been written by the white people of South Africa at the end of the 20th century is simply frightening. Again, by virtue of distance and isolation, we had our character viciously assassinated; our lives made dispensable. Again it was done to us in the English language. Again the news was formulated by London.

1.2 The Great Boer War

"The most formidable antagonist who ever crossed the path of Imperial Britain."..Arthur Conan Doyle

War was inevitable, and in September 1899 it broke out. The Boere went to war in their Sunday Best, each with his horse and a month's supply of beef jerky, flour and coffee. The two republics issued them with spanking new accurate German Mauser rifles firing smokeless rounds.

Louis Botha: Boer General

At first the Boere defeated the Brits repeatedly in spectacular battle after battle, one particular week in December 1899 getting the name "The Black Week", based on spectacular British defeats in rapid succession at Colenso, Stormberg and Magersfontein. The British found themselves abjectly outsmarted and outfought and certainly comprehensively out-generated.



The spectacular defeat in the Battle of Spioenkop was the last straw. That led to them replacing Sir Redvers Buller as commander and it very nearly brought down the Government in London. Europe was ecstatic at this little huddle of farmers and their sons tweaking the British Lion's beard so painfully, but they did not really help pragmatically.



Not since Napoleon had anyone so humiliated them in a war. They appeared to have no concept of what they were fighting whatsoever. With the exception of the Crimean their wars since 1820 had been largely with "hordes of natives".

Boere helping the British remove their dead after the Battle of Spioenkop.

There were in all around 2,700 foreign volunteers on the Boer side (in round figures 650 Dutch, 550 Germans, 400 French, 300 Americans, 225 Russians, 200 Italians, 200 Irish and 150 Scandinavians).

Certainly the equally republican-minded Americans understood the plight of the Boere very well, given their own experiences of British Colonialism in 1776. Americans in the Transvaal formed their own Boer units. There were American Boer scouts under Captain John A. Hassell from New Jersey, who formed part of the Vryheid Commando. The Chicago Irish-American Volunteers under Captain Patrick O'Connor joined Colonel John.Y.F. Blake's Irish Brigade. Irish-American societies in Chicago provided these volunteers with doctors and an ambulance.



Painting of the British trying and failing to save their guns after being defeated in battle in Natal.

Author of *Sherlock Holmes*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle:

TAKE a community of Dutchmen of the type of those who defended themselves for fifty years against all the power of Spain at a time when Spain was the greatest power in the world. Intermix with them a strain of those inflexible French Huguenots who gave up home and fortune and left their country forever at the time of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. The product must obviously be one of the most rugged, virile, unconquerable races ever seen upon earth. Take this formidable people and train them for seven generations in constant warfare against savage men and ferocious beasts, in circumstances under which no weakling could survive, place them so that they acquire exceptional skill with weapons and in horsemanship, give them a country which is eminently suited to the tactics of the huntsman, the marksman, and the rider. Then, finally, put a finer temper upon their military qualities by a dour fatalistic Old Testament religion and an ardent and consuming patriotism. Combine all these qualities and all these impulses in one individual, and you have the modern Boer-the most formidable antagonist who ever crossed the path of Imperial Britain. Our military history has largely consisted in our conflicts with France, but Napoleon and all his veterans have never treated us so roughly as these hard-bitten farmers with their ancient theology and their inconveniently modern rifles.

HENCE, THUS and THEREFORE.... the call went out to the entire British Empire for immediate help. The newspapers of the time were quite panicked. All came, including Canada. With 450,000 men vs. about 60-80,000 of all ages the result was a foregone conclusion. I understand that every single unit of the British Army served in SA except one lancer unit. It was the most expensive war the Brits had ever fought and saw trench warfare, Lyddite, smokeless rounds and the first ever radios used in warfare. The British also sent a new Military leader, Kitchener of Khartoum. This time the Boere were driven back by utterly impossible odds.

1.3 Guerrilla War: The significant thing is that, when their two capitals fell after less than a year, the Afrikaner Boere turned to a new form a warfare...and thereby taught the slow and ponderous British Army its first lesson in modern High Mobility Guerrilla Warfare. A lot of people took careful note...*particularly Germany*



The strongest moral and political support came, oddly, from Russia, of all places. In order to increase the pressure on Britain, Russia built up its Mediterranean and Atlantic fleets and even courted provocation with the dispatch of four cruisers to the English Channel. At the same time, Russian troops were moved up to the borders of India and Afghanistan. Kaiser Willie was then muscled by his aunt Victoria, causing the Czar to back off. This freed up all the British troops.

Some of Jan Smut's Guerrillas

Boer farm house burnt down as family watches



Boer Sheep killed by British



What went wrong? : Maybe the Boere should have won. Maybe France, Germany and Russia could have been more assertive in their position. They were all too scared of Superpower Britain.

1.4 Concentration Camps: When the Brits (helped by Canadians and Australians and Rhodesians, 30,000 black soldiers and 100,000 black transport helpers) could not break the Afrikaner (Boere) fast enough, they torched and dynamited the farm buildings, killed all the livestock and burned the two Boer Republics to the ground. At first they left the women and children sitting on the barren winter veldt. Then the callous lord Kitchener of Khartoum thought of a way to kill two birds with one stone:

He had the women, children and old men carted to concentration camps, making the British the originators of this 'stellar' institution, as the Nazis would enthusiastically remind them later.

Boer women and children (right) being carted off in open trains to the tented concentration camps on the open Winter Prairie (below).

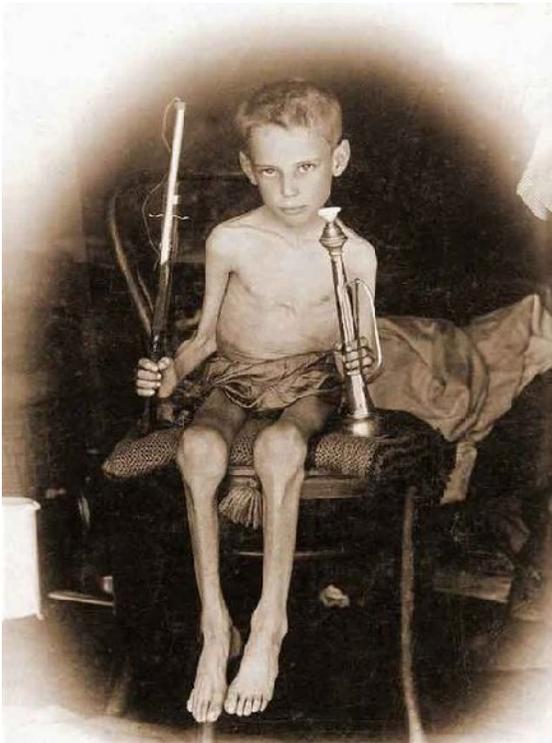
More than 28,000 of these women and children died in those tents at 22F in the Highveld Winter...25,000 of them children. This was done to a nation that could only field 60-80,000 fighting men over the age of 12. It is claimed that a full 15% of the Afrikaner nation died in British concentration camps (I think that assessment is high). Some 20,000 Boere were fighting to the bitter end. Eventually, the Boere elected to surrender to avoid the complete extermination of their people.

To this day some Afrikaners hold the view that *"the British fight women and children."*

Afrikaner Boer child in British Concentration Camp



32325.



At the gathering points the Afrikaner Boere rode up, dismounted and broke their rifles on the rocks rather than give them to the Brits. The Brits were sensible enough to leave them be. Many of these grown men cried openly as they broke their rifles. Many of their colleagues had already been sent to POW camps in places like Ceylon. Some were young children.



Young POWs of the British (9 and 11)



What went wrong? Maybe, just maybe, the British should not have invented Concentration Camps and should have not killed off the Boer nation with such dedication. To quote Kitchener of Khartoum, who later screwed up Gallipoli and then conveniently died at sea before the British themselves could publicly destroy his evil career in disgust: **"This extermination is a tiring business"**.

Hitler's ambassador to London told the British some 37 years later that they need to remember who invented concentration camps. The British do not teach this history in their schools. Instead some try desperately to prove that such camps were actually invented in Cuba earlier.

Kitchener of Khartoum

I doubt that anyone could EVER understand the Afrikaner's dedication to the brutal rock of that continent, where they have spilt their blood for 354 years; perhaps only the French Acadians in Canada, with whom we share so many French family names. **Remember Evangeline!**

1.5 The Homecoming...and the heart of an American:

The Brits had sent their prisoners of war to Ceylon, St Helena island (remember Napoleon? ...SAME PLACE) and Bermuda. They came home to not two bricks standing one on top of the other in burnt fields with nothing but nothing. They had nothing but the ragged cloth on their backs. All the animals were dead, the homes dynamited and gone, the women and children dead in concentration camps.

I made a special trip to the Black Hills in the USA to see the Dejected Boer. It is a small 24 inch bronze by Gutzon Borglum, the man who did Mount Rushmore in South Dakota. He was a reporter in the Boer War and was unimpressed with what the Brits had done. Him being an American, I should hope so. If I had my way, I should like to appeal to President George Walker Bush, a man of some compassion, to give this to the Afrikaners as a nation, but not to let it go to the hands of the present rulers of South Africa, who only wish them ill. It belongs with Afrikaners, preferably in exile, as their soul now is. Nothing so describes their painful history as this poignant miniature.



What went wrong?: The Afrikaner (Boer) fought with everything he had to the utter bitter end, until extermination stared them in the face. It was a mistake. Maybe they should have just rolled over right at the beginning, and confronted the British with the reality of being outvoted at the next poll, which happened anyway. However, it did end the independence of the Boer way of life, described by Deneys Reitz In his Boer War Diary, *Commando*, as a "Tom Sawyer" kind of life. Interestingly, Mark Twain himself declared: **"I think that England sinned when she got herself into a war in South Africa which she could have avoided..."**.

Deneys' father wrote *A Century of Wrong*

It created in the Afrikaner an insatiable, and now morally justified, reason to be ultimately free of the British. That war, and its horrors and abuses by the British, deeply and profoundly affected the view of Afrikaners. They learnt some wrong lessons...for example, "it does not matter what you do, the civilized world does not care" (they saw Britain get away with effective genocide). They learnt European promises mean absolutely nothing. After the war they were a totally shattered nation, sitting on the rocks in Africa...soon to be the poorest white people on Earth.

They blamed Imperial Britain. Future thinking up to 1961 was to be dominated by this, more than anything else. They DID learn that fighting the British would not work, even if you win all the battles. They're just too strong in the international political domain.

1.6 The Aftermath: This war gave us:

- Churchill, who was a reporter in that war
- Ghandi, who was a stretcher-bearer for the Brits
- Jan Smuts, Boer general who served as part of the UK War Cabinet in WWI, created the Royal Air Force, became Prime Minister of South Africa, and wrote the preamble to the UN Constitution.
- Kitchener, who was too late to save Gordon of Khartoum, invented concentration camps and messed up Gallipoli. He then conveniently died at sea. The world was better off.
- Lord Roberts of Kandahar who took over the British Command...yes THAT Kandahar!

The war deeply and profoundly shook Britain and showed very vividly that, as the Superpower of the day, it was NOT invincible. It was one of the clear and vivid nails in Britain's coffin as a Global Imperial Power. The New Central European Power, Germany, took careful note and started building its Navy. Churchill, for his part, thought back to the Boer War to create the British "Commando Units" during WWII, using them on raids into occupied Europe.

Author of *Sherlock Holmes*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, for the Imperialist View

After two years seven and a half months of hostilities the Dutch republics had acquiesced in their own destruction, and the whole of South Africa, from Cape Town to the Zambezi, had been added to the British Empire. The great struggle had cost us twenty thousand lives and a hundred thousand stricken men, with two hundred millions of money; but, apart from a peaceful South Africa, it had won for us a national resuscitation of spirit and a closer union with our great Colonies which could in no other way have been attained. We had hoped that we were a solid empire when we engaged in the struggle, hut we knew that we were when we emerged from it. In that change lies an ample recompense for all the blood and treasure spent.

The terms of surrender (note the 8th point):

1. That the burghers lay down their arms and acknowledge themselves subjects of Edward VII.
2. That all prisoners taking the oath of allegiance be returned.
3. That their liberty and property be inviolate.
4. That an amnesty be granted—save in special cases.
5. That the Dutch language be allowed in schools and law-courts.
6. That rifles be allowed if registered.
7. That self-government be granted as soon as possible.
8. That no franchise be granted for natives until after self-government.
9. That no special land tax be levied.
10. That the people be helped to reoccupy the farms.
11. That 3,000,000 be given to help the farmers.
12. That the rebels be disfranchised and their leaders tried, on condition that no death penalty is inflicted. (this refers to Afrikaners from the Cape and Natal Colonies who helped the Boere)

The Brits were wise to negotiate that end to the war. The Boere had invaded the Cape again under Jan Smuts and Boer Guerrillas were swimming in the sea near Cape Town! The British lost some 20,000 men with around 100,000 wounded and the war was followed by a complete re-organization of the British Army. The Boere lost some 5,000 men. However, the concentration camps cost the lives of 25,000 children and 3,000 women. This was a near-genocidal loss to a small nation that could only field at best 80,000 men between the ages of 12 and 65. Also, their countries had been burnt to the ground. Moreover, they lost their precious independence; at least for a while. In my entire life of more than 50 years, I have never met a person from Britain who has been able to tell me why Britain went to war against the Afrikaner Boere. It turned out to be the first vividly clear nail in the Imperial British coffin. It was all downhill for Britain from there.

1.7 Rebels: The matter of rebels from the Cape Province was very painful indeed. As fate would have it, the very church in which I was baptized in 1953, the Dutch Reformed Church in Middelburg, Cape, is also precisely where five Cape Rebels, who had fought for their people, had their death sentences promulgated. Here is a picture of the awful event. The men were then marched out of town and executed behind the hill. This is why point 10 found its way into the peace treaty. As a kid I picked up many British bullets in the hills in those parts.



1.8 Sarie Marais : One of the cultural contributions of the Boer War, was the Afrikaans song, Sarie Marais, which has a young Boer soldier lamenting the fact that he will be sent to a POW camp far over the sea while he longs for his lady love, Sarie Marais. The tune is actually that of *Ellie Rhee*, a song of the Civil War era in the USA, based on escaped slave lamenting his own lost love and Tennessee. In fact, the Afrikaans lyrics are amazingly similar to the American ones with a parallel storyline. It has been translated from the Afrikaans into French, Italian and *Russian!*

Utterly ironically, this song, which was never popular in the USA, but is probably the most well-known Afrikaans song ever, was adopted as the ceremonial march of the British Royal Marine Commandos in the year of my birth, 1953, and [may be heard here](#), complete with the Royal Marine Battle Cry: "*Royal Marines, do your duty!*". Hearing it in the military in England has staggered many a visiting Afrikaner.

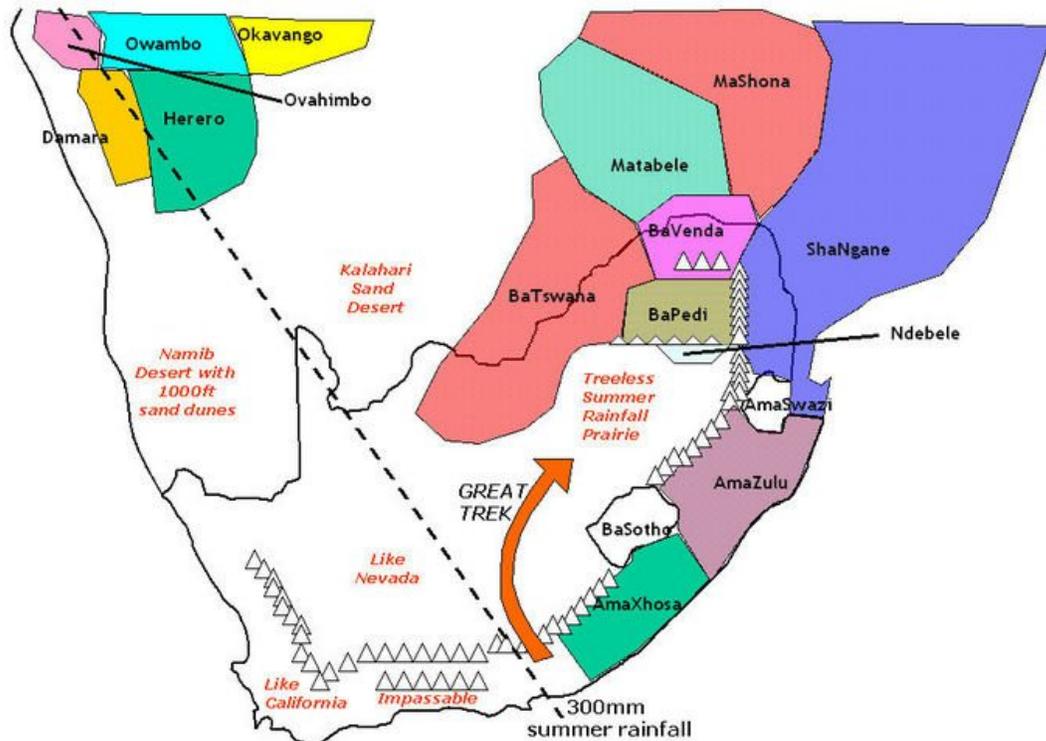
In Russia there was huge emotional support for the Afrikaners, and they composed the song, "Transvaal, Transvaal, My Beloved Country" in support of the Afrikaners. SO, the Russian nation was never our enemy... **Soviet Imperialism was.**

1.8 Apologies: Lastly, a [Canadian apology for the Boer War](#). It is accepted with thanks and humility. Everyone just did what they thought was right and honorable. It was Canada's first real exposure to war as a new country under direct British influence. What else could they do?

What the West did to us at the end of the 20th century was infinitely worse, as the reader will see.

The Painting – Part 2 : Hope and Crushing Poverty

2.1 Self rule and Union: Both Old President Kruger of the Transvaal Republic (who created the Kruger Nature Reserve) and Queen Victoria (who liked all that conquering stuff) died soon after each other right after the war ended in 1902. The Brits gave the Transvaal self-rule in 1907, three years later and the Afrikaner, being the majority of the Western people, again controlled matters to some degree. This was true, not just in their two ex-Republics, but also in the Cape. In the following 3 years there was a huge effort to unite the various ex-republics and colonies. This led to the formation of the Union of South Africa in 1910, a British Dominion, like Canada. The first Prime Minister of SA was Boer War General Louis Botha. The Brits had won the War; the Afrikaner had won the Peace.



The same map as before, but now with the border of South Africa as in 1910.

Now follows one of the key junctures. The Brits agreed to basically keep the blacks out of government and that was the deal that the place was founded on. Go read Conan Doyle at the end of the previous section again. So, please speak to the British about that...they invented it. [Also check the equivalent rules in Canada at the time HERE.](#) A delegation of black leaders went to London and was ignored by the British. Furthermore, Basutoland (Lesotho), Bechuanaland Protectorate (Botswana... mostly the Kalahari desert and covering half of the Tswana people) and Swaziland were kept as separate colonies by the British. Ask THEM why. For reasons I do not comprehend, Transkei (Xhosas) and Zululand were not made separate countries in the British world. I am clueless as to why, because they both remained "wild" territory for ages after that, into my time. Those are the two main constituent nations of the "New South Africa". The 7 million Xhosa form the main basis for the ANC and they dominate the show today.

What went wrong?:

A. Britain could have also kept Zululand, Transkei and sections of the Transvaal, which have the other main black population groups, as separate countries. She did that in West Africa but not in SA. As it is, Grande Dame Britain thereby condemned us to be a minority in the country we had carved out of the unforgiving rock of Africa and for which we had paid such a mind-boggling price.

They could also have hived off the Kruger Park area to Mozambique, where most of the Shangane lived. However, just as they screwed up Iraq, Iran and Kuwait, and drew straight lines all over the map of Africa, they bisected these various nations with the border. The Zulu, Xhosa, Pedi and Venda, along with the small Ndebele nation, are the only ones that are 100% inside present SA. I personally believe that the Xhosa and Zulu should have had their own countries. As it is, they have the two most stunning parts of the country anyway and I have to hear how they were "dumped mercilessly in places they do not relate to". What utter drivel.

B. They could have given blacks a qualified vote. It seems quite sensible in hindsight. Ideally, they could have done the points I mentioned in A above and done B as well. Question though...how many black Americans were voting at that point? And what about the Canadian Indians, who would not be allowed to vote for another 40 years? Was it realistic then, to expect South Africans to be the most liberal people in the "New World", especially given the history they had come through?

2.2 World War I: Salt in the Wounds: When WWI broke out, Britain insisted on help from SA. Boer War generals like Louis Botha and Jan Smuts provided that, but the greatest hero of them all, Koos de la Rey (note the French name) refused. He was NOT going to fight on the side of "Ye Olde Enemie". The Germans had done him precisely nothing. However, he also cautioned against rebellion. This led to huge divisions and bitterness. De la Rey died in an accidental shooting at a roadblock. Feelings were quite raw. When Smuts was cabled to move his forces to German East Africa (Tanzania), he responded: *"Order received. Whom do we fight? The Germans or the British?"*

Some interesting bits include massive losses of SA soldiers fighting in France at Dellville Wood, where 3153 men went in and only 755 came back. The WWI effort also covered the crossing of the Kalahari desert by the SA troops to outflank the Germans in Namibia and attacks on SA by German troops across the Namibia border in the northwest. Also included was the whole saga of the movie: **"Out of Africa"**. The allied troops referred to that movie in German East Africa (Tanzania) were South Africans, led by Jan Smuts. In that same theater there is the intriguing story of a Zeppelin that went all the way from Berlin to supply the Germans, but it never got back. In the process of that war, Smuts helped the Brits to form the Royal Air Force (when the Germans were decimating them)...the RAF is therefore a creation of a Boer War Afrikaner general.

South Africans took to flying like few others, producing 47 air aces in WWI. While most were of English-speaking South African extraction, some were Afrikaans. Take a look [HERE for SA air aces of WWI](#). Quintin-Brand (in that list) eventually became Air Vice-Marshal in the UK and was responsible for a major section of Southern Air command in WWII during the Blitz. The South African Air Force is the second oldest Air Force on Earth. 3,000 South Africans helped the British Royal Flying Corps as pilots in WWI. Ironically, it was the much-reviled Afrikaner that created the oldest (RAF) and second oldest (SAAF) Air Forces on Earth. Oh well!

Today our role in WWI gets disowned utterly and we were even forbidden to attend the commemoration of the Dellville Wood battle in the 1980's. Even our dead were not to be spared the wrath of the Western liberals of this planet. Such are people devoid of principles.

What went wrong? The wounds had not yet healed, and the Brits were already demanding that the Afrikaner be cannon fodder for the British Empire...and that to fight a people who had done the Afrikaner absolutely no injury, the Germans. In fact, they had been Boer supporters in the Boer War and had a lot of volunteers fighting on the Boer Side. My Grandfather, already bitter about the Boer War as a little kid, now got really angry at being called up to the Middelburg Commando to go and fight Germans in Namibia. He really resented that. However, it did get him to keep his family German Mauser...the Boer's most beloved weapon.

2.3 The poorest white nation on Earth: After WWI and leading into the Great Depression, the Afrikaner ended up being the poorest white nation on Earth. It was so bad that the Carnegie Institute made a special study of the so-called "poor white problem" in South Africa. So much for being supporters of Britain.

A palpable hatred of the British developed. They were seen as having used the Afrikaner as cannon fodder (they did not do too badly abusing the Canadians that way either...especially in WWI). The realization dawned that there would have to be a plan. Systematically various para-statal infrastructure- and industry-oriented efforts were started. Steel mills, electricity corporations, fertilizer firms, water/hydro supply organizations, banks, mortgage corporations, funeral societies and even an oil from coal operation.

During the 1930's there was launched a HUGE effort to develop an national "consciousness" with much emphasis on history and the role of the Brits in the subjugation of the Afrikaner. This created a very strong sense of identity. The entire Great Trek was re-enacted in a charade called the Symbolic Ox wagon Trek. It was an all out effort to politicize the Afrikaner, always dangling out there the hope of independence from Britain and finally being rid of the "bloodsucking Brits".

Through this all, the Afrikaner remained quite brutally poor. Certainly my family was on government support after my grandfather went blind. They could collect bad meat once a week from the butcher on a voucher. In a nutshell, about the last things on the ordinary person's mind were democratic rights for some "natives in the bush" (as they saw it). They were busy with a war and trying to crawl out of the mud where the British had pushed their fathers. On the other hand, it was not as though the rest of the West could really lead us in the domain of race relations. The US at the time was hardly a shining example, having lynched black people into the 1930's, and Canada was taking First Nations kids away from their parents to re-educate them, taking voting rights AWAY from Asians and taxing Chinese to keep them away from Canada.

What went wrong?: Over this period the Afrikaner...

- a] was first brutalized in concentration camps,
- b] had his two republics utterly destroyed,
- c] was used as cannon fodder in WWI,
- d] was turned into the poorest Western people on Earth and
- e] was dumped kicking and screaming into yet another War on the side of the very people who had tormented them for a hundred years since 1814.

In this process they probably missed the greatest opportunity they ever had of reaching an accommodation with the black people of SA. These folks were ready and willing to accept a qualified vote earlier in the century. However, no one was listening as best I can tell. In fact some really atrocious land laws were even passed that did black people out of sharecropping arrangements and the like (e.g. 1913 and 1936). On the other hand, these days these are hugely dramatized in order to extend the notion of "entitlement" under the ANC regime.... murder and expropriation now being a preferred technique of restitution.

I think the 1930's represented a major opportunity lost. Jan Smuts, who had most of the power, was consumed by helping Britain. In between he apparently talked of "*Die Swart Gevaar*" ("The Black Danger"), but that's about as far as he got. As a leader of World stature, I hold him accountable. He knew the problem and he did nothing. He appears to have been too busy being a "World Politician" and looking good to the Brits.

And there it is...that's one of the key opportunities where it went irretrievably wrong. However, it would also have required the country to be a leader in the "Native Rights" area, when it certainly faced the greatest threat and could least afford to do it. Everywhere else it was a Minority Rights debate and none of those in control felt their very civilization threatened by such a decision.

2.4 World War II: When WWII broke out, SA was quite heavily industrialized and much war production for the British war effort happened there. Many Commonwealth pilots were trained and quite a few planes built there. My uncle went off the war and ultimately fought in Italy.... he was there when the US landed in Italy. My father-in-law became a fighter pilot in North Africa and the Adriatic, much of that in support of American troops. Our biggest family friend was a belly-gunner on a heavy bomber and flew on the infamous Ploesti Raid and on the Warsaw drop. One third of all the SA pilots that did the run to Warsaw never came back. There are memorials to them specifically in Poland. The majority of Allied Air Cover in the Mediterranean was apparently South African. For a list of WWII fighter aces from South Africa, look [HERE](#). In the East South Africans, like author and philosopher [Laurens van der Post](#), ended up in POW camps. *"There can be such a thing as prison bravery, and in this man we witnessed British fortitude at its best,"* one of Van der Post's Australian co-prisoners said later. He certainly kept up morale, but rather than British, he was an *Afrikaner!* He wrote *The Seed and the Sower* on which Nagisa Oshima's movie *Merry Christmas Mr Lawrence* is based, David Bowie playing Afrikaner officer Jacques "Jack" Celliers.

2.5 The Contribution of South Africa to WWII:

The first thing was that South Africa was asked to remove the Italians from East Africa. This was the *War of a Hundred Days*, with some bitter fighting through rugged terrain in Somalia, Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Shot up and abandoned Italian equipment in the mountain passes



This ultimately resulted in the surrender of His Royal Highness Prince Amedeo of Savoy, the Duke of Aosta. In this process the SA Army returned Ethiopia to Emperor Haile Selassie...not that he ever acknowledged it later when he also

berated us. From there the fight moved to North Africa and then into Italy. Smuts had promised that South Africans would not be required to fight outside Africa, but the ended up on Europe. These SA men were known mostly for their contribution in the air. If a US 8th Army GI looked over North Africa or Italy, and saw Allied planes, he could pretty much bet he was looking at South Africans. They provided most of the air cover over the Adriatic and flew huge numbers of sorties into Croatia/Yugoslavia. Frustratingly, they used the same identification roundels as the British, so folks thought they were Brits. It seems to be our lot in life...even my own.



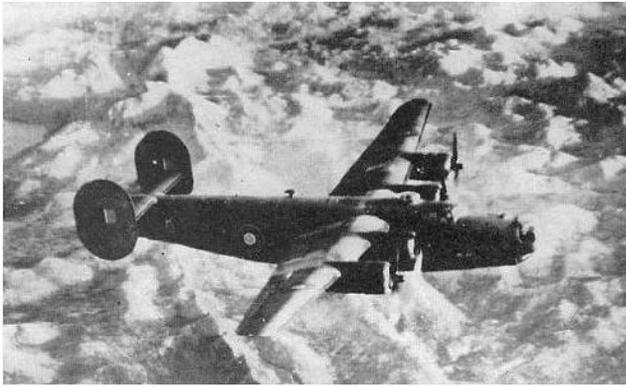
SAAF Kittyhawks in the Mediterranean.



SAAF Boston Bombers over Cairo.

Right: "Sailor" Malan, Afrikaner Hero of the Battle of Britain

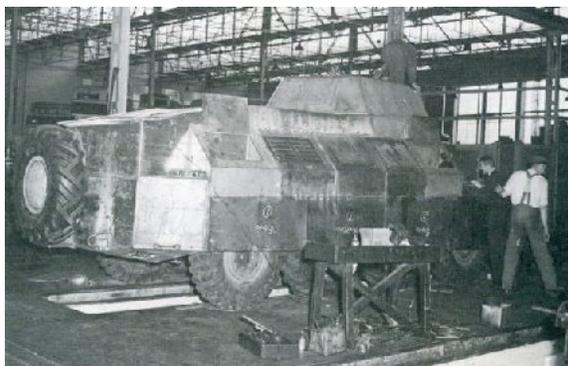
South Africans flew many different 'planes of UK and US manufacture. Below is a picture of one of the US-made Liberator heavy bombers that they flew on the Warsaw Drop that cost so many South African lives:



SA Armored Brigade Sherman tank entering Rome



There were a number of Forgotten Wars. Here the SA Army does an amphibious landing to take the Island of Madagascar from Vichy France



Armored cars and launches produced in South Africa for the Allies

Among the memorable South African Air Force contributions were the raid on Ploesti's oil (Hitler's lifeblood) and the Warsaw airlift to the beleaguered Poles. They also took the first aerial photos of the German concentration camps and sank Rommel's last tanker, thereby finally cutting off his fuel supply.

*Polish Memorial to the SA pilots who died for them.
85 bomber aircraft were lost on the Warsaw Drop.*

In the key Battle of Britain, Sailor Malan, an Afrikaner, was one of the famous "British" air aces, downing 35 planes, while South African Tom Prattle downed 45. One of the 5 UK Air Defence Marshalls was none other than South Africa's Chris Quentin-Brand, air ace from WWI, defending southwestern England's air space.

Five South Africans participated in the process of *The Great Escape* of Steve McQueen movie fame. The organizer of the Great Escape, Roger Bushell, was born in South Africa. He was executed by the Gestapo for that effort.



2.6 And my family?: My own father-in-law trained on a Tiger Moth and then on a Hawker Hartebeest, and then went to Hurricanes and Spitfires and ended up flying US built Mustangs over Italy. He was shot down once over Egypt, survived in the desert eating all manner of crawly things and made his way back. He was shot down a second time over the Adriatic, baled out and hurt his back on landing. The Italians nursed him back to health and treated him very well, even taking him to the Opera. He then simply walked back to his own lines again!

Conversely, Italian POWs in South Africa could ask to be placed out to SA farms and got paid. Two ended up on the farm where my mother worked. They both loved the country and people so much that, after the war, they fetched their families and settled in South Africa.

My father was too young to go, but his brother was there when the US forces landed in Italy.

My grandfather refused to have anything to do with "The Englishman's War", as he saw it. He was very nearly interned for his openly anti-British views. His Jewish employer vouched for him!

2.7 Aftermath: When WWII ended, Britain was basically bankrupt. Looking from 6,000 miles away, it seemed to many South Africans that Churchill's insistence on fighting Germany had failed to free the brave Poles, and, moreover, had cost Britain its famed empire. It rapidly became clear that the UK was dumping its empire as fast as it could. India became independent in a huge upheaval that spelled problems for many. South African whites found themselves in Africa and outnumbered by black people in their own country that they had paid for in so much blood.

At the same time, the old liberal battle cries were starting again in the West. It was 1834 and the Sixth Frontier War all over again...with a NEW "London Missionary Society".... the Western Media.... and again it spoke English and professed to have moral high ground even as its history dripped in blood... and they were lecturing my parents' generation.

SO...The folks did what they've had learnt to do over a period of 300 years.... they "pulled their Laager and got ready for the fight". Unlike real colonists in Africa, they did not have passports to go "HOME". Home was Africa, and had been that for hundreds of years. However, they sadly underestimated the cynical ability of the West to sentence them to death while it deftly maneuvered to look good in the eyes of the new "*emerging countries*" to get votes in the UN.

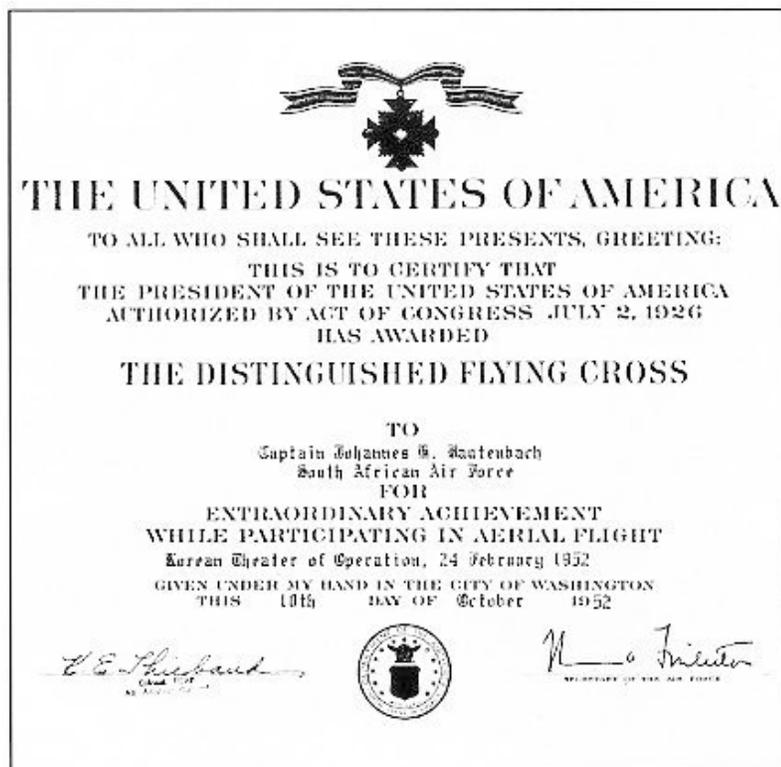
The Painting – Part 3 : Uhuru and Apartheid

3.1 After the War: The National Party: After the war, in 1948, the National Party, promising a better life for the Afrikaner and a promise of real independence from Britain, was hugely attractive to the rank and file Afrikaans person. The National Party was voted in strongly in 1948, and started formulating the idea of Apartheid and homelands. They had absolutely no trouble in implementing this policy, because the first rumblings of Uhuru and Amandla were being seen in Africa and white South Africans were not going to indulge that savagery. The main architect of this was a man named Hendrik Verwoerd, a second generation Dutch chap.

South Africa kept doing its duty as a Western country. So, South African pilots flew alongside Americans in Korea where 34 lost their lives. Policy Order No.13 of the 18th USAF Fighter-Bomber Wing: *"In memory of our gallant South African comrades, it is hereby established, as a new policy, that at all Retreat Ceremonies held by this Wing, the playing of our National Anthem shall be preceded by playing the introductory bars of the South African National Anthem, 'Die Stem van Suid-Afrika'. All personnel of this Wing will render the same honors to this Anthem as our own"*.

On 24 June 1951, a US Marine position was overrun. The US Marine citation to the SAAF reads:

"We were catching all hell because of an overwhelming Gook counter-attack. The tide of battle was leaving casualties in its wake like seashells cast upon a beach. It was then we saw four silvery streaks plummet from the skies with guns blazing. It was so wondrous a sight we completely forgot our whereabouts or line and just stood up in our foxholes and cheered. The Hall of Fame does not possess any greater men than those who flew that day".



50 United States DFCs were won by South African pilots in Korea.

3.2 Uhuru & Amandla: In 1952 the Mau-Mau rebellion erupted in Kenya with immense brutality. The Mau-Mau kill 100 whites in the process and become known for their immense berserk brutality and apparent use of drugs in the process. The British fly troops out and kill 11,000 of the Mau-Mau. Whites flee the country, and my later professor gets to move to South Africa. In 1957 the Gold Coast becomes independent from Britain as Ghana, and the word "Uhuru" echoes around the globe ("Freedom" in Swahili), with Kwame Nkrumah as its figurehead.

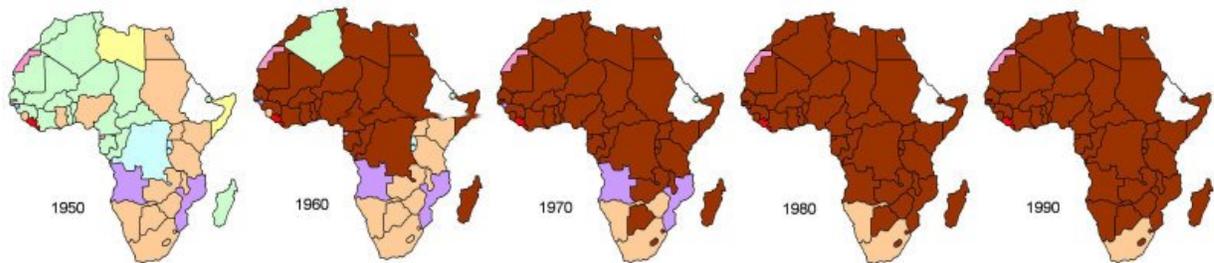
QUOTE from www.Historynet.com

Nkrumah, well aware of his status at the head of the first west African nation to emerge from colonialism, dreams of leading the continent into a Marxist future. This requires a republic, which Ghana becomes in 1960 with Nkrumah as president for life.

This starts the South African quote about Africa: **"ONE MAN, ONE VOTE, ONCE ONLY!"**. Clearly black Africans did not care a dime about democracy. They just wanted unadulterated power...and the ("Godless") Soviets were backing them up all the way!!!

In 1960 Africa went into colonial meltdown. The French pull comparatively peacefully out of nearly 50% of the surface area of Africa, which had been very much a continent split between them (east-west across the north) and Britain (north-south through the east).

The only place it went really bad for the French was Algeria, because it was the only place with a large French population. Also, they had made it a formal part of France! Unlike the white South Africans, those folks had fairly recently arrived in Africa, commuted to France a lot, and they had France to go back to...and they did. I do not recall any country offering my parents a country to move to, to get away from any of this horror.



Africa's Colonial Meltdown. *Imagine being at the bottom of the picture. [Africa.+ppt](#)*

Orange: British

Green: French

Purple: Portuguese

Yellow: Italian

Lilac: Spanish

White: The world's oldest independent nation...Ethiopia...much good it did them

Note: Spanish Sahara (Western Sahara) remains undecided territory

Egypt was actually independent in 1950, but HUGELY under Britain's control.

The Congo blew up spectacularly with immense cruelty. Gangs of armed, uniformed troops looted shops, raped women in their homes, and indiscriminately beat and terrorized Europeans in the street. Soviet-sponsored and newly elected Patrice Lumumba openly incites his followers to specifically attack white people. Of course, these days he is presented as some or other paragon of virtue and a true democrat. :

QUOTE from www.historyworld.net:

In the short term no one can control the unfolding chaos. Without any effective chain of command, the army goes berserk in riots against the Belgian population. Priests and nuns in particular are singled out for violence and rape. Before the middle of July 25,000 Belgians flee the country. In the other direction nearly 10,000 Belgian troops fly in to protect European lives and property, particularly in wealthy Katanga.

America's attention was largely elsewhere, because Cuba blew up, Kennedy screwed up the Bay of Pigs, Che Guevara became a hero, the Russians stayed ahead in the Space Race, and their Navy outpaced the USA etc. In 1962 the World teeters on the brink of World War III. In Africa the whites are being chased away everywhere in the north of the Continent, and the south watches with bated breath as the leading nations of the West elect to give South Africa lectures on "The Winds of Change"...which my parents read as: "Why don't you white people stuck in Africa just die and spare us all a lot of bother over here in the Northern Hemisphere".

3.3 In South Africa: Against this hyper-charged background, the African National Congress (ANC) and other "liberation movements" in South Africa, such as the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), thought their time had come, and started organizing various activities. One of these was a demonstration against identity documents at Sharpeville on 21 March 1960. This was SA's first real open mass racial confrontation. I do not know exactly what happened, but it is clear that the police panicked in the face of this first ever major confrontation. They opened fire and 69 people died. The World went insane...and all it did, was to make SA whites more scared. *No-one noticed that, in Canada, aboriginal people only got the right to vote that same year.* In Australia the aborigines would have to wait longer. *Amazing what one can quickly do if one is the majority.*

What Western news media did NOT report on, were the earlier events of 23 January 1960 at Cato Manor outside Durban on the East Coast. An angry mob attacked 4 white and 5 black policemen at the police station, butchered them to a man, mutilated the bodies and, according to various reports, dragged the violated bodies through the streets with their genitals stuck in their mouths. In his book, *An Ordinary Atrocity: Sharpeville and Its Massacre* (New Haven: Yale University Press), Philip Frankel argues that the Cato Manor outrage on the eve of the disturbance helped to condition the police response at Sharpeville.

In this tense climate, on the night of 2 February 1963, about fifty Xhosas descended on a road camp near Bashee River Bridge in the Transkei and, using petrol bombs, firearms and axes, murdered five white tourists who were sleeping in caravans. THAT did it. (Of course, one will never hear about the Bashee Bridge murders in the New York Times...) The entire white system turned into a fortress to protect against the obvious barbarism at the door.

As the Socialist Black Nationalist effort got uglier, so the reaction became more heavy-handed also. There is no way in a million years anyone is going to tell me Police were worse than the ANC/PAC. Just lose the thought. With the "Godless Communist Soviets" in the ascendancy over the USA at the time, and backing up all these African nasties, South Africa batted down the hatches, "drew up the ox wagon laager", laid out the bullets and dried the powder, and prepared to fight for its life... Africa was one giant heaving disgusting heaving bloody protoplasmic nightmare ...it was a big black tidal wave and it was coming our way.

Frankly and honestly, and even with 20-20 vision in hindsight, there is no way one discusses "democracy" when one is under THAT kind of threat. Absolutely no thinking person was going to negotiate one marble under such circumstances. It was obviously time to fight to the death again.

What went wrong?: Africa went wrong, that's what...and the black South African folks overplayed their hand, forcing worse reaction. Africa has not recovered since. Everywhere to the north of SA things turned very scary. The entire continent was erupting in the wake of independence followed by utter horror. The Portuguese in Angola and Mozambique were holding out, but they were pretty pathetic. The British colonies were going independent one after the other and whites were getting "driven into the sea", just like Nongqawuse had said. As a little kid I knew the fear of that time. I was about 6 when the Sharpeville shooting happened. There was no other thought going around other than how are we going to fight all these "murderous" blacks and "Godless Communists". All the grownups around me had huge eyes and were frightened. The fact that we lived in Port Elizabeth, just outside Xhosa territory, made it worse. The Xhosa were ALWAYS the most politically active. They were rushing trains and stoning them if they saw white faces. This is hardly the circumstance under which people would be debating civil rights.

3.4 Homelands: Over this period, the Transkei Homeland was being formulated. Take a look at the links below and the picture that follows:

[Transkei 1](#)
[Transkei 2](#)
[Transkei 3](#)

While it is undulating, it is great country for agriculture and, of course, cattle farming; not to mention forestry.



So who will look me in the eye and explain to me why folks could not make it by themselves there...my forefathers did in infinitely worse country. So did the forefathers of American readers. Compare all this (overleaf) with the Karoo where my (white) parents grew up (the Karoo...most of the western interior). They would have given anything to be able to farm in the Xhosa territory. Most of Western South Africa looks like Nevada.

HOWEVER, the liberal Western media reacts to all of this by taking the following grainy black and white picture of the same beautiful place as in the first picture. That is the Xhosas' own attempt at a fence for their cows. This is the stuff that was dished up to folks all through the 60s-80s. That German website is utter garbage, but people believed that kind of misrepresentation.

It fitted what they WANTED TO believe....
....what they NEEDED to believe.

(This picture from a German anti-SA site)





The vast expanses of the Dry West of interior South Africa...."White Territory"...the Karoo.

At Home:

I get born just after the Korean War; the child of two white Afrikaners who grew up in the Karoo. My mother's father was a farm manager/share-cropper and my father herded ostriches on a mixed farm. My earliest memories are of a pet chicken that follows me everywhere. However, at three years of age I am terrified of the black people. They are stoning trains in New Brighton and Kwazakhele townships. The road out of town to granny's place goes past there. I'm so scared of these "savages" that I ask my mother to carry me on the way to the shop.

At 4 years of age, my mother takes me to the "Grassy knoll" across the road and shows me a star that is moving...it is called Sputnik! I definitely want to be a scientist.

We are rather poor. My father works on the railways and my mother has gone to work for a book distributor so we can buy a fridge. We still cannot afford a bicycle for me. I do get copies of unsold books and I absolutely tear through all of those. Of course I also get some Marvel Comics.

850 miles to the north my 6-year-old wife-to-be bravely opens the door for visitors for the first time in her life, to find a refugee white family asking for her father. They have driven all the way from the hell in the Congo and badly need help....and her father is the only person they know.

At the age of seven, a strange man dressed in a black coat with a funny top hat comes to the school. We all go outside and get a little flag to wave and a little gold-plated medallion. I hear later that this was because we have become a Republic. I have no idea what that means, but that is OK. We will now have to talk of Rands and Cents, rather than Pounds, Shillings and Pennies. All I know is that the man at the shop keeps cheating me when I try to buy chocolates that used to be 2-1/2 pennies. He now wants three cents instead.

By the age of 9 the books have allowed me to know how dangerous the situation is with Khrushchev and Kennedy squaring off over Cuba. I have already seen many pictures of the horror of Hiroshima. I also have a scrapbook of my heroes...the US astronauts. And then come the Beatles, and they change me forever. I immediately save \$4 and buy a guitar!

The Painting – Part 4: Mandela, Rhodesia and Vorster

4.1 Mandela is caught and sentenced

In 1963/4, just as I was getting very excited about the Beatles as a "teeny-bopper", the Rivonia trial happened, against the background of the absolutely hellish Communist "African Uhuru" north of SA and the Bashee Bridge murders. A bunch of ANC members were arrested for plotting the violent overthrow of the government:

Those arrested at the Liliesleaf Farm (left) in Rivonia were Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki (the present President Mbeki's father), Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, Ahmed Kathrada, Dennis Goldberg, Lionel Bernstein (member of the Communist Party), Bob Hepple, Arthur Goldreich, Harold Wolpe, James Kantor and others. Goldberg, Bernstein, Hepple and Goldreich were Jewish. Kathrada was Indian, and Sisulu, Mbeki, Motsoaledi and Mhlaba were black. The trial brought in Nelson Mandela and chief of the military wing of the ANC, Walter Mkwayi.



The charges were:

- 1. recruiting persons for training in the preparation and use of explosives and in guerrilla warfare for the purpose of violent revolution and committing acts of sabotage*
- 2. conspiring to commit the aforementioned acts and to aid foreign military units when they invaded the Republic,*
- 3. acting in these ways to further the objects of Communism*
- 4. soliciting and receiving money for these purposes from sympathizers in Algeria, Ethiopia, Liberia, Nigeria, Tunisia, and elsewhere.*

In his opening address, the prosecutor Percy Yutar said "Production requirements" for munitions for a six-month period were sufficient to blow up a city the size of Johannesburg.

What had Mandela been doing?... Mandela admitted that he had organised sabotage as a result of a calm and sober assessment.

In his own words:

EXTRACT FROM THE RIVONIA TRIAL STATEMENT

(20, APRIL, 1964).

"I do not... deny that I planned sabotage. I did not plan it in a spirit of recklessness, nor because I have any love of violence. I planned it as a result of a calm and sober assessment of the political situation...

I admit immediately that I was one of the persons who helped to form Umkhonto we Sizwe, and that I played a prominent role in its affairs until I was arrested in August 1962.

- NELSON ROLIHLEHLA MANDELA -

He reckoned he did it, not because he liked violence, but because he was trying to avoid racial violence (!?)..."but the violence we chose was not terrorism" he says. I suggest the reader be the judge when I post a time line of SA history later through the 1980's, sanctioned by Mandela from jail, especially AFTER he was offered freedom in the mid 80s. Remember he is a lawyer.

On June 11, 1964, at the conclusion of the trial, Mandela and seven other defendants - Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Raymond Mhlaba, Elias Motsoaledi, Ahmed Kathrada and Denis Goldberg - were convicted. Mandela was found guilty on four charges of sabotage. All eight were imprisoned for life. So, eight defendants were sentenced to life imprisonment on Robben Island, keeping the British Tradition, and one was acquitted.

To get some idea of what Mandela was actually planning, read the ANC's own [archives](#). The police discovered this document in the Rivonia building in 1963. To get some idea of the Communist involvement, one can read "[The Duty of a Communist in the National Liberation Army. Umkhonto we Sizwe.](#)" Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) was the ANC's "military wing". Nelson Mandela was ultimately the Commander-in Chief, as evidenced by [this 1993 MK Medals ceremony](#). The SA Communist party was founded in 1921...one of the oldest on Earth. For another view of all the above, from a more outspoken individual (with very good reason), one can read this and weep: [Where are the liberals who lied about South Africa?](#)

SO, clearly, the grown-ups at the time were right to be worried about the Black Nationalists having Communists in the woodwork with the Soviets behind them. Did the USA not also dig up a collection of Communists in the 50's. Did not the USA hang the [husband and wife Rosenberg team](#) in the 50's for spying? I seriously believe that, for the same guilty verdict in the USA in 1963/4, Mandela would have suffered a worse fate than Robben Island.

4.2 The Congo explodes a second time: Simbas seize over 300 Belgian and American hostages in Stanleyville (including several of the CIA's own agents). They threaten to kill the hostages if Moïse Tshombe's forces come any farther. The USA dispatches transports to Belgium to load Belgian paratroopers before flying on to the Congo. The Belgians jump over Stanleyville airport and slowly fought their way into town. However, they are too late for 27 hostages, all of whom are shot and hacked to death as the first parachute canopies blossom over the airport. More than 60 hapless civilians are wounded. The remaining 1600 non-Africans in the city are evacuated by road and air. A subsequent drop at Paulis fails to save 23 more hostages. More than 300 more die in isolated missions and plantations in the forest...Africa at its best. Over this period two Italian chaps make a movie called [Africa Addio](#). They are pilloried in the West as racists and liars, but in South Africa folks knew they were pretty much correct, even if they staged some of it.

What went wrong? : Black African people were trying to kill whites, that's what... and the Soviets were now openly supporting them everywhere in Africa. What more was there to understand at that point? The gauntlet had been thrown down and they were out to kill. That is really not deep to understand. What were white South Africans supposed to do.... roll over and die? Would Americans do that? Would the Dutch do that? Well, the Dutch have had just two people killed in political murders recently and they're all in a tizzy already and threatening all manner of weird laws. They are emigrating in heaps and droves to Canada. What would Americans and Europeans do if they had to face what we faced? I really truly seriously wonder. The broad feeling was one of ["there is nothing we can do, except hold out and pray that some sort of opportunity for long term survival will present itself"](#).

4.3 Rhodesia: Somewhere in the mid-late sixties I "got my brains". I "awoke" into a country where black people were hell-bent on killing whites and taking over the country. I never knew anything else until 1990 when Apartheid was abolished.

Our Prime Minister, Hendrik Verwoerd (a Dutchman), the architect of Apartheid, had been [assassinated by a certified madman](#) (claiming torment from a giant tapeworm) and a new Prime Minister, BJ Vorster, was in office. He had been interned in WWII by Jan Smuts' men and, on the

surface of it, was a hard-line rightist. Behind the scenes he was looking for a way to start talking to Black Africa. The broad picture was to hold out until the *Marriage made in Hell between the USSR and Black African Nationalism* fell apart. At the time, though, country after country in Black Africa turned Communist and descended into the image of Hell we had always feared.

In 1965 Rhodesia (Now Zimbabwe) declared itself unilaterally independent from the UK, in order to avoid the same fate as Uganda, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, Malawi and Zambia. It had been a very strong economy and well run. It fed itself a few times over and was a major tobacco exporter.... and Britain turned on its own flesh and blood. Like most other non-Portuguese African Colonies, it had only been colonized right at the end of the 19th century. Most white folks there had automatic British citizenship...but not the Afrikaners who farmed there. Like me, they would have to face being driven into the sea to the sound of liberal Europe cheering.

It was ironic that Paul McCartney was singing "Back in the USSR" on the White Album as a cute rock ditty, just as we would have to literally face the USSR over the barrel of a gun. But that's another story later.

4.4 The other Kennedy and America's Guilty Conscience

The United States had in effect maintained the racially discriminating Jim Crow Laws all the way up to 1965. It was only on 6 August 1965 that the National Voting Rights Act was passed and removed the abusive practice of subjecting black Americans to unpassable and abusively mal-applied language tests before they were allowed to vote. In the US South, according to the US Government, only 2 African-Americans served either in Congress or in a state legislature in 1965. That year Martin Luther King tries to link Apartheid to the US Civil Rights issue and in June 1966 Bobby Kennedy plays to the crowds in South Africa. The US was mired in its own racial mess, trying to force racial integration by busing kids about, but Bobby Kennedy lectured South Africa:

QUOTE: Robert Kennedy in South Africa (June 1966)

I came here because of my deep interest and affection for a land settled by the Dutch in the mid-seventeenth century, then taken over by the British, and at last independent; a land in which the native inhabitants were at first subdued, but relations with whom remain a problem to this day; a land which defined itself on a hostile frontier; a land which has tamed rich natural resources through the energetic application of modern technology; a land which once imported slaves, and now must struggle to wipe out the last traces of that former bondage. I refer, of course, to the United States of America.

His intent was clear. He needed a political cause and he found it. In case someone missed the photo-op, he jumped on the car to wave to the crowds. Ever since then, Americans have wrongly associated the plight of Black people in South Africa with the Civil Rights effort in the USA.

What went wrong ? : [This is a pivotal point.](#) From this point on Americans would draw a constant parallel between their Civil Rights Movement and South Africa's problems. HOWEVER, Black Americans do not represent a foreign culture with incompatible practices and different languages to other Americans. They were plainly and simply artificially poor Americans who were descended from slaves. Black South Africans were NEVER slaves! They had never been publically lynched either! There had never been Mau-Mau type insurrections in the USA. Black Americans had never killed heaps of policemen and dragged their mutilated bodies through the streets with their



severed genitals in their mouths. There had never been nuns raped and killed in heaps by Black Americans. They had never put tires around their opponents, soaked them in gasoline and burned them to death. Americans thought the Black Panthers were about as bad as it could get.

The parallel to the US situation was the plight of the Coloured people in South Africa, but that was not a proposition for Kennedy. Not enough Black American and Liberal votes locked up in that.

4.4 And Britain?

Britain, meanwhile, was ruled by the arch union socialist Harold Wilson who withdrew all forces "East of Suez", thereby effectively ending the "Empire of Great Britain". Britain became a mere whisper of a ghost of its former self, struggling to even maintain itself against little Iceland in the ridiculous Cod War. Britannia barely ruled the Dogger Bank. Their Empire fell like dominoes and the resulting countries went to hell in a handbasket immediately afterward. They could not get out of there fast enough. In 1899 FW Reitz had said : "*...the truth... will triumph and will sterilise and paralyse all their efforts until they too disappear in the night of oblivion*". His words were coming true. Take a look at [Afrika Addio](#) for a brilliant example of a "British Colonial Departure". Britain would have to wait for Maggie Thatcher and Ronald Reagan to regain some semblance of pride.

At Home

All the events in this section happen around the time that I am engrossed in the Beatles' songs like "Help" and "Baby's in Black". By now I'm pretty good on the guitar and a hugely dedicated Beatles fan. I know all their lyrics by heart.

My parents talk about all this Black Africa stuff. The Bashee Bridge murders have happened, Rhodesia is in a mess; Our new neighbors have just arrived as refugees from Northern Rhodesia and we become good friends. Mandela has been caught red-handed. I know next to nothing about Cato Manor or Sharpeville, but the name Sharpeville is mentioned all the time.

As a 12-year old I take the train with my mother to Johannesburg. It goes past a number of black settlements. This was the first exposure I really had to so-called "locations". It was pretty scary.

One day, while sitting with my grandfather, listening to the radio, an SOS beep signal comes over the radio out of the blue. Before any radio person says a word, my grandfather says with a flat voice in Afrikaans: "They have killed him". He is right. Prime Minister HF Verwoerd has been assassinated by a knife wielding parliamentary messenger named Tsafendas.

My grandfather always asks me to draw him huge maps of Vietnam, because his eyesight is mostly gone and he is extremely worried that the US will screw up in Vietnam. He keeps saying "this is important for all of us. They must win this thing". So we tune to Voice of America. The Tet offensive is a big deal for him.

The one thing that is always clear over this period is the fear of this huge torrent of savage black nationalism and its associated berserker-crazed bloodshed. We know about the Mau-Mau and the horror killings in the Congo. When the Bashee Bridge atrocities happen, we all think that hell is at the door. We have no concept of the fact that the West means for us to die. In hindsight it is now clear to me.

As a naive kid I stupidly think that we were considered an obvious part of the West and members of the Western European peoples of the planet. After all, look how we have helped to fight in WWI and WWII. My grandfather, however, says that I should "Never trust the British, my son! Never! They never say what they mean and they never mean what they say." Turns out later he is right not to trust our God-given kin. They are in fact busy sentencing us to death as he speaks.

One of the first ever South African policeman to die in the fighting on the border comes from a house up our street (see next section). I certainly am calibrated right there. It is still just a Police Matter, though.

The Painting – Part 5: A close-up view of Hell, and glimmers of Hope

5.1 Rhodesian UDI: In December 1965 Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) declared unilateral independence, rather than accede to the UK's demand for black majority rule. As anyone with a brain can vividly see today, they had a very, very, very good reason. Look [here](#) and [here](#). ...and thousands of other places. So, guerrilla warfare broke out. Despite UN sanctions, the Rhodesian economy improved. It was one of the breadbaskets of Africa.

People started leaving there, though. Our neighbors in Port Elizabeth had been Northern Rhodesians (now Zambia) who had fled threats to their children from black people there. Now South Africa was seeing an influx of Rhodesians. The whites in the Congo had fled to South Africa. The whites in Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) and Nyassaland (Malawi) had fled to South Africa. The whites in Kenya had fled to South Africa. One was my professor at University. Now the last people north of us were fleeing. We kept seeing Nongqawuse's picture of whites driven into the sea. All the way behind these savage onslaughts came the consistent and unrelenting Soviet support. Everyone was fleeing south, but all WE had behind OUR backs was the sea.

On 16 August 1966 Southwest African People's Organization (SWAPO) insurgents attacked the border post at Oshikango between Namibia and Angola, helped by the UNITA movement in Angola, from bases provided by President Kaunda of Zambia. For the next 14 years things just got worse. I got called up for military service in 1972 and got trained in a Commando Unit. I got torn between being an "angry young man" and rock lead guitarist in a multiracial rock band on the one hand, and the obvious fear of the utter mess that is developing on the other. *And the ANC?:*

QUOTE: The ANC themselves: [ANC Website](#)

"The white enemy in South Africa can and must be defeated."

That means they saw white people as the enemy. We knew that. The US and Europe apparently did not. Seems no-one told them. Strange! After his later release, Nelson Mandela would sing the MK song in which they swear to kill the whites. [Here you can see Mandela singing it.](#) Still the West would not believe it! They clearly had a mental block against any wrongs by black people.

What went wrong?: My view is that, instead of attempting to sketch for white people any plausible future, the West just piled on the political and economic pressure. The two Kennedys had cut off arms supplies to us, quite ignoring our blood spilt in Two World Wars and Korea. Was truly no one then capable of understanding any of this? The Rhodesians had UK passports. However, the South Africans had no such recourse. They faced the black "savages" with "Godless" Soviet masters, while their own kin made political war on them from Northern Europe and New England. I herewith directly blame the Western powers for the intransigence in South Africa. What is the point in morally berating a person that has a knife being held to his throat? Back there somewhere my hate of Western liberals started...like sick animals, they rejoice in the murder of their own kin, and moralize on behalf of the murderer.

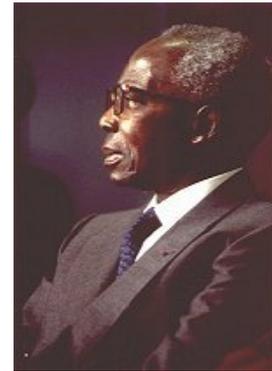
5.2 A vision of Hell: The left wing military coup in Portugal in April 1974 led to the precipitous independence of Angola and Mozambique. The Portuguese confined their military to base and left their European populations in Mozambique and Angola totally to their own mercies. With three guerrilla armies fighting to take over Angola, the darned Portuguese Communist Government invites Cuban "advisors" into Angola. Mozambique immediately descends into extreme Marxism with collective farm disasters, ultimately turning into the poorest country on the surface of the planet...and this right on our doorstep next to the Kruger Park! Just imagine that being Mexico!!

In Angola, the MPLA, UNITA and FNLA growled at one another. The MPLA had 240 Cuban advisors. In January 1974 the CIA gives the FNLA in the north \$265,000, having listened to the man they had propped up since the early 60's, Congo's Mobutu Seseseko. His son-in-law is

Holden Roberto, leader of the FNLA in the north (Bakongo people). In the south Jonas Savimbi (leading the Ovimbundu) has Red Chinese support. In this process the MPLA manages to annoy Mobutu and he throws his weight behind the FNLA and sends in some of his own troops.

In mid-1974, I go for a road trip through Angola up to Lobito Bay with my father-in-law-to-be. The Portuguese people we meet believe that Portuguese ships will magically appear to whisk them to safety. However, Portugal has no plans. Just a little later, a convoy of 4000 people try to make it to the civilization of South African held Namibia from the north of Angola. On the way they have to make it through repeated roadblocks by all three armies. The wives and daughters of these people are raped all the way down, despite bribes and pleading. Savimbi tries to head north with his 10,000 followers in tow. He travels separately with 12 people. Those 12 are the only ones to arrive alive in the central area, his country. Angola is in the throes of utter barbarism. Eventually Portugal starts flying people out, evacuating a full 600,000 from the two countries by 1978. They added 7% to the Portuguese population. Several hundred thousand settle in SA.

5.3 Black Africa asks for help: At this point the CIA gets South Africa (read ex-CIA bureau chief John Stockwell's self-exonerating book) to train and help the FNLA. Amazingly, the Ivory Coast, Zaire and Senegal all ask South Africa to do something to stop the Cubans. President Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast asks for MASSIVE intervention. Kaunda kicks SWAPO out of Zambia and Unita turfs out SWAPO, who have to scamper north to have bases under MPLA/Cuban/Soviet protection. Here we have the first ever indication that it is possible for SA to talk to Africa sensibly. The Kaunda connection would grow.



Leopold Senghor, poet-President of Senegal

So with a rag-tag FNLA army, 24 Eland armored cars and two companies of ex-Angolan San Bushmen, the SA Army officers set off on 15 October 1975 into Angola, riding various "borrowed" pieces of equipment, trying to look as Portuguese as they could. This was led by Colonel Koos van Heerden, who would later become known as "Rommel", because they advanced 3,000km in 33 days against opposition. Just outside Luanda, the Cubans finally effectively bombarded the FNLA with 2000 122mm rockets.. The FNLA broke and ran. SA moved in more troops to back up "Rommel's" drive. On 22 November 1975 the Washington Post ran an article announcing SA as being in Angola. All hell broke loose. The USA withdrew and SA pulled out. In early 1976 the Cubans were on the Namibian border, with a Soviet Alligator class giant tank-landing craft and marines on board, plus a guided missile destroyer sitting off the coast. Angola was flooded with MIGs 21, 23 and 27, together with tanks, SAM batteries and RADAR. Eventually 50,000 Cubans would be shipped in. Unlike the USA, the Soviets supported their Allies.... sorry boys, but that's the truth. Africa took note.... the 1970's USA could simply not be trusted when the chips were down.

What went wrong: Watergate and the Fall of Saigon; tha's what! US testosterone evaporated like mist before the sun. Congress cut off support for Angolan efforts. The USA, the World Power that had saved the free world in 1945, turned itself into the wimp of the century. The opportunity to make Southern Africa safe for an arrangement between white and black had never been better. It evaporated. At least the thought remained. I cynically told my friends that we should declare war on America and quickly lose. They equally cynically responded by telling me to watch the Peter Sellers movie: "The mouse that roared".

5.4 Toughing it out: There was nothing else for it now but to tough it out and pray that a decent opportunity for a long-term future would ultimately present itself. By now all white males were doing 2 years military service and were most likely to have some time fighting Cubans in Angola, or SWAPO (The Communist supported guerrillas in Namibia). The military had found that it had nearly run out of ammo in Angola in 1975 and that its equipment needed rethinking. SA launched a massive military technology drive, which culminated in the world's most advanced long-range

artillery, the G5/G6 howitzer, which was sold, amongst other places, to Iraq. New mine-proof vehicles were developed, as were new tanks and night vision technology. New Mirage F-1 fighters were bought from France.



UNITA fighters with a captured Cuban BTR-60

What went wrong?: The West gave us a choice between dying badly and dying horribly. In Canada, Pierre Trudeau allowed Cuban planes supplying their invasion force in Angola to refuel at Gander, Newfoundland. Just exactly how low can the West actually sink? That is TREASON!

5.6 Soweto: In June 1976, inspired by the Communist success in Angola, and the NOW very evident weakness of the West, the ANC launched a huge effort in Soweto. The slogan was “No education without Liberation”. As issue, they chose the use of Afrikaans in schools. In this process the schools for black kids were made inoperable and they went out on the streets on protests. The schools themselves were burnt down. The ANC desperately needed another Sharpeville to energize “The Masses” as they like to call humans. In the Western media this is presented as a popular uprising. Then on 16 June 1976, approximately 25 white policemen faced an angry and screaming black crowd of up to 10 000 people. Already one white official had been killed, so that police feared for their lives. Lacking any riot-control gear and being vastly outnumbered, police opened fire with live ammunition. A 12-year old bystander, Hector Peterson, was shot dead in the cross-fire. The ANC had the *Media Event* it had desperately wanted. The picture is immortalized in the media. All this actually achieved was to create the Lost Generation of black kids in SA that never went to school. Much of the violence in South Africa today comes from this ANC-politicized 'Lost Generation’. And the later ANC admission?:



QUOTE: ANC themselves: ANC Website

"In South Africa in 1977 mass action with workers and young people participating was combined with actions by the military formations of the African National Congress, and both types of action were obviously coordinated in time."

What went wrong?: Pretty much everything! We certainly learnt the USA could not be trusted. Just when things were looking up in South Africa's dealings with Black Africa, we were sold out.

5.7 A flash in the Southern Oceans: With the African Nationalist Communist Hell now on our doorstep, the new president PW Botha, approved a nuclear deterrent strategy

Phases of South Africa's Nuclear Deterrent Strategy

Phase 1: Strategic uncertainty in which the nuclear deterrent capability will not be acknowledged or denied.

Phase 2: Should South African territory be threatened, for example, by Warsaw Pact countries through surrogate Cuban forces in Angola, covert acknowledgment to certain international powers, e.g. the USA, would be contemplated.

Phase 3: Should this partial disclosure of South Africa's capability not bring about international intervention to remove the threat, public acknowledgment or demonstration by an underground test of South Africa's capability, would be considered.



*Two South African Air Force Blackburn Buccaneers bought from the British in the 1960s
Note the long-range refueling facilities attached to the noses.*

On September 22, 1979, a U.S VELA ballistic missile early warning satellite spotted a telltale double flash in the Indian Ocean near South Africa's Prince Edward Islands. There was huge speculation, which is exactly what SA wanted. In the event six bombs were built, probably for delivery using Buccaneer bombers that had been bought from the Brits in the 60's. They had in-flight refueling ability for longer range. The country also acquired airborne refueling Boeing 707s with "AWACS" systems.

In Angola the skirmishes with the Soviets, Cubans and MPLA continued. Various raids were undertaken elsewhere to keep the Soviet Communist drive on the defensive and in disarray.

What went wrong?: With the utterly pathetic Western response to the massive Angolan challenge from the Soviets, the West blew peace in Africa to rags for at least 15 years. It utterly destroyed Angola and Mozambique. I guess we can thank Ford and Carter for that.

5.8 Pulling Laager and Holding on: The basic plan seems to have been as follows.

The Basic South African Survival Plan:

1. Wait for a break in the marriage between the Soviets, Cubans and African Nationalists
2. Destabilize the neighboring communist efforts as much as possible by any means possible
3. Develop a good armaments industry to offset sanctions by our own kin
4. Keep the lines of communications open with the more reasonable African States
5. Leave the world guessing about the nuclear ability, just in case it became necessary.

In the next section we'll see the "break in the international weather" appear. We shall also see the nuclear option in play...and we'll thank God for Ronald Reagan and Bush Senior. I reckon without them, South Africa would have been a disaster. Over THIS 70's period, though, the USA and the West were frankly a liability: What with Vietnam, Yom Kippur, Watergate, Hapless Carter, Iran!! North of us was a rolling black hell...south of us the Soviet Navy ruled the waves.

At Home:

In the summer holiday at the end of 12th grade a Coloured man (in the South African sense of the term) appears at the door, asking whether I have a job going. I tell him I need help building an aviary for my aunt who lives with us. We go to the lot at the back of the house, and then he looks at me with two blue eyes and says the thing that changes my outlook on life: "You know, boss, I was almost a white man, but then my father went and married that black maid". It stops me cold. This encapsulates for me everything that is wrong about our society. There is no way I could ever look anyone in the eye and pretend this is right.

At the end of the summer, I report for compulsory military training, which gets broken up into sections that would, if unchanged, keep me in the Forces till the age of 35 (18 years!). It is a daunting prospect of using every holiday ever to be in the army! Every University break bespoke!

Meanwhile I go to University using a loan from SA Breweries, who now own Miller Beer and are the second largest brewers on the planet. There just is not money for this kind of thing in the family. I will have to pay that back somehow.

Over this period I become the lead guitarist in a mixed race Rock band and we mostly play at a very popular restaurant in the Coloured Township, Korsten. I most certainly look the other way while relations happen across the "colour line" in the process.

In 1977 my father dies, leaving me his razor and his Hi-Fi and his 8-track tapes. Over this period I also meet the best friend of my life, George. George comes from Virginia and spends 18 months with us while I am in Post-grad doing a Masters Degree in Physics under his promotorship. We argue a lot about South Africa and stuff like that. He realizes that most news about SA was 100% drivel, but fears for the future of the country in view of that. So do I.

I fall helplessly head over heels in love, at first sight, with a brown-eyed girl in First Year Physics. Like myself, she is a descendant of folks that landed around 1665 at the Cape. While she is English-speaking, her great grandfather actually helped the Boere in the 1899 war, while my own Boer Afrikaans-speaking ones did not! In 1979 we get our Ph.Ds, get married, and leave for the USA, where the two of us end up working at IBM.... and look who also turns out to be there... George! And he has had nothing to do with us getting there.

That is where I am when the US effort to rescue the Embassy staff in Iran fails so miserably. That is also how I get to watch on PBS as they actually lament South Africa's growing ability at making weapons to defend itself! That is also how I get to hear about the double-flash in the southern ocean on ABC news.

At the office, Jörn, the Danish Socialist with whom I share an office, suggests to me that the only good thing for white South Africans is to die, because we are such a "disgusting anachronism and a blot on the name of the European people". My grandfather was right all along. The Liberals of the West want us dead. Their hate transcends the racial prejudice of any black people I know.

The Painting – Part 6: Holding the Soviets and building Hope

In June 1980 we finished up our jobs in New York. We were so homesick for Africa that we could die. We would drive up hills just to see if we could see the horizon. There is no way people can understand the immense depth of love that the Dutch/French-descended Afrikaner has for Africa. It flows in our veins deeper than our very DNA code. My wife's ancestors had landed there in 1665 and mine just a little later. It is like asking an American with Pilgrim Father ancestors why he would go back to an America threatened by what what has been explained here. The reader would also do it. I took up lecturing at a university and then, finding that way too boring, we moved to a High Tech lab in Pretoria, where we stayed for 18 years. In the process I developed the widest technology experience portfolio of anyone I have met in my life. That happens when a capable nation is fighting with its back against the wall with no friends on Earth. The Afrikaner, as a nation, is deeply technocratic and "can-do". It must be the Dutch blood.

6.1 Reagan and the Winning of the Cold War... which was a Real War for us

In the 1970's, during its lowest ebb, the USA had suffered the Fall of Saigon, Watergate, the Iran Debacle, the Failed Rescue. Over the same period the Soviets were clearly on the ascendancy and "made hay while the sun shone". They had been handed Angola on a silver platter by that lamentable Clark Amendment, and (taking the right cue from that) had invaded Afghanistan and had sent Cubans to Eritrea. In 1973 their equipment had shot a full one third of the Israeli Air Force out of the sky and only the extreme valor and dedication of the Israelis, together with crisis arms shipments and satellite intelligence from the USA, had turned that war. Frankly, the Third World lay at the feet of the Soviets while the USA focused on the "REALLY important stuff" like the Sexual Revolution and "heroes" like Jane Fonda.... sort of like Canada in recent times.

I have been asked why the Soviets were so interested in Southern Africa? Let's ask Leonid Brezhnev, the 1970's master of the Soviets, himself:

QUOTE: Leonid Brezhnev, 1973 : Quoted [HERE](#) by the Heritage Foundation

"Our aim is to gain control of the two great treasure houses on which the West depends: The energy treasure house of the Persian Gulf and minerals treasure house of central and southern Africa, and then we will dictate the terms of surrender to the United States and to the West.

SA was and still is the only significant global supplier (outside Russia) of Chromium, Vanadium, Gold, Palladium, Platinum, Rhodium and a host of other exotic minerals critical to industry. In a number of cases it is the number one producer. South Africa still handles 80% of the world's diamonds. In addition; it controls the strategic Cape of Good Hope, past which all oil tankers to Europe and America must pass. If the Soviets were to have shut off South Africa, they would have severely crippled the rest of the industrialized world.

The Reagan Team.



Fortunately the US put Ronald Reagan in the job at a critical time in 1980. There, finally and at last, the US had a man of some conviction. He struggled with the "House", though. Despite the best efforts of the liberals in the United States, he pulled the country in the right direction and initiated Star Wars. He just kept up the spending pressure on the Soviets and played hard to get

in any SALT negotiations. The Soviets had extended themselves far more than ever before, and were mired in both Afghanistan and in Angola...and they were starting to hemorrhage money in the process. In addition, the Cubans had a uniquely expensive mix of incompetence and appetite. Eventually the Soviets started hyperventilating economically in their desperate effort to match Star Wars (SDI). Now every blow against them really counted much more heavily.... South Africa was about to oblige. If the US could just keep the Soviets "stretching", we could keep "kicking them in the crotch" on the "Brezhnev-Minerals" Strategic Front in Southern Africa, while the Middle East allies nailed down the "Brezhnev-Energy" front.

Herein lies a lesson...if you are a little nation you pay way more attention to world news and the strategies of the big players. It is a sad comment that the general US public is so uninformed on such matters, preferring sensationalized hyperventilating news of a generally parochial nature on CNN, ABC, CBS an NBC..."the truth as determined by viewer sensation ratings"

6.2 The "Cold" War in Africa: Angola- Episode 2: In the early 80's, the South African government maintained its position of [1] holding the nuclear card, [2] bleeding the Soviet Axis in Angola and elsewhere in Southern Africa, [3] maintaining contact with the likes of Kaunda in Zambia, Banda in Malawi and the Ivory Coast. South Africa repeatedly went into Angola to push back the Axis (Soviets-Cubans-East Germans-Ukrainians-Romanians-MPLA). In late 83/early 84 the SA Army routed this Marxist Heap and took 4,000 tons of equipment off them, including 11 tanks, three armoured cars, two hundred trucks and sixty big artillery and Anti-Aircraft systems. Several Russians were captured, one being the Russian colonel in command of Ngiva. It was starting to cost the Soviets serious money and now men were not coming home. Then South Africa pulled out again, based on a deal brokered by Kaunda in Zambia.



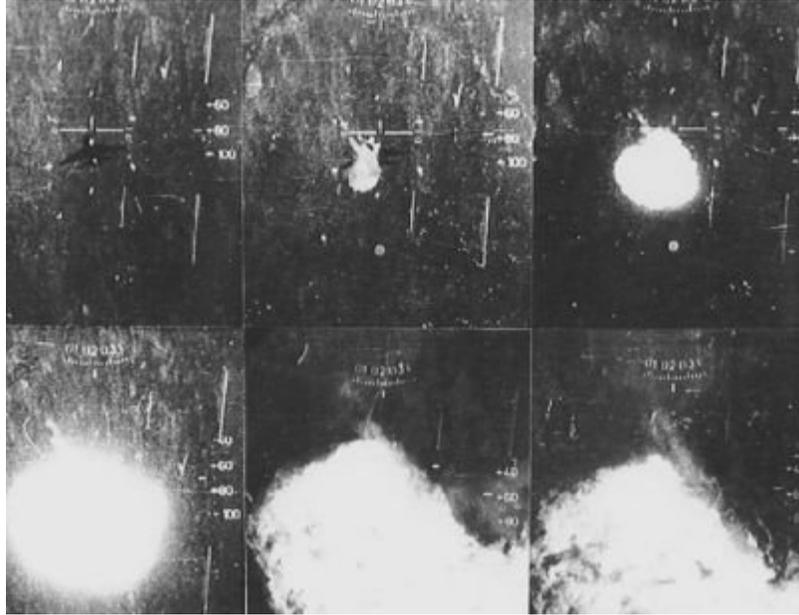
Soviet SAM-3 in Angola

The Soviets were hugely upset at these reversals and absolutely flooded weapons into Angola; Sukhoi 22 fighters, MIG 23's, MIG 27's, Mi 24 helicopters and Mi-25 Hind gunships (like those in "Rambo"). For the USA that was a movie. For us it was REAL LIFE! They also shipped in SAM 8 and SAM 9 Missile batteries and absolutely massive RADAR networks. Then they moved in 350 T-55 tanks, 150 T-34's and 50 amphibious PT-76s. This handful of hard bitten Voortrekker-descendants and their black (NOTE: BLACK) allies, with the world media against them, could not

fight the whole Russian Bear.
Even the US could not.

*Soviet-Axis MIG goes down at
the hands of the SAAF*

Then, on 11 June 1985, the Clark Amendment tying the CIA's hands in Angola was finally repealed. Of course, George Bush senior had become CIA chief in 1975, and so now, as Vice President, he knew how the CIA had been hammered by the Left in the USA. The CIA came back and funded Unita in the Southeast of the country, while South Africa provided the training and, every now and then, got directly involved. South Africa's 32 Battalion came into its own over this period.



The CIA shipped in Stingers with (it is believed) black CIA operators. UNITA kept the CIA and South Africa apart...an interesting love triangle in which SA and the CIA competed for influence with Savimbi. For (by now) obvious political reasons most "kills" by South African forces were credited to UNITA. The West would punish UNITA if, as black people, they dared to work with SA.

6.3 The "Cold" War in Africa...Angola: Episode 3

Every time the MPLA Marxist government of Angola tried to move further south, "Unita" would push them back. Then, in early 1985, when the MPLA tried to move south again, South Africa helped Savimbi to move his troops by air to reposition them (no doubt overflying Zambia with President Kaunda's approval) and REALLY hammer the MPLA in the side. This time we trotted out our latest copy of the Russian "Stalin Organ" of WWII, renamed the "Valkyrie", loaded with airburst rounds and absolutely decimated them. Then we sent in Impala ground strike aircraft. 17 of 25 MPLA brigades were destroyed and the whole bundle retreated ignominiously, abandoning mountains of gear. The cost to the Axis: 1043 dead, including 10 Soviets and 56 Cubans. 1300 were wounded including 9 Soviets and 60 Cubans. UNITA's own casualties were 1500. Our simple little AerMacchi "trainers" shot down a MIG 23, 6 helicopters and an Antonov flying 11 Soviet officers. All these kills were credited to Unita because our men were supposedly not there. Such is politics.



South African-built AerMacchi MB 326 Impala

This was one too much for the Soviets. They responded by sending in Afghanistan veteran General Konstantin Shaganovitch to take over command of all forces in Angola, as well as General Mikhail Petrov, a first deputy on the Soviet Politburo. 950 Soviet officers came with him. The Angolans were obviously not competent enough, and the “real guys” had to do the job!! 2,000 East German specialists were flown in along with 45,000 more Cubans. The Soviets had decided on a conventional war in the south of Angola. AMAZINGLY, it removed strategic equipment from the European Front, and sent it to Angola. Later we shall see the linkage between Mandela being offered a deal, and the escalation of the pressure on South Africa. Angola was part of it.



MIG-23s in Angola with Angolan insignia on the tails.

Meanwhile our Recces (equivalent to UK's SAS and US Special Forces) created huge havoc in Namibe Harbour by sinking a Cuban supply freighter and damaging two Russian supply ships. They also blew up the fuel tanks. After some tit-for-tat efforts, the 1985 war season ground to a halt, because the place is impassable when it rains. The Soviets had been stopped for 1985. One can read all this stuff in “*The Silent War*”, by Peter Stiff, Galago Publishing, 1999.

What went wrong?: I think SA was a little TOO successful in Angola and forced the Soviet Axis to commit further. We did not have to go and “win the Cold War all by ourselves”, so to speak. We could have left more “heavy lifting” to the USA.

6.4 The Cold War in Africa: Mozambique and Zimbabwe: In February 1980, Robert Mugabe's ZANU PF party (Red Chinese supported) won the British managed election in Rhodesia. He has mismanaged that country ever since. For the first ten years he kept up the pretense of being a civilized human being, but the strain of this lie proved to be too much and he showed his true savage colors in the late nineties. The rest is history and Zimbabwe is now a basket-case.

In the Soviet Union, Yuri Andropov wrote off Mozambique as a client state. South Africa maintained support for the RENAMO guerrillas who were also helped by Malawi and some Arab States. I speculate that it was the Omanis. This, together with an air-strike on Mozambique following an ANC bomb in Pretoria, was so successful, that on 16 March 1984 Mozambique and South Africa signed the Nkomati Non-aggression Pact. It fell apart, but was properly revived in 1988. The Soviets were halted stone cold on that front and henceforth focused on Angola.

What went wrong?: Most white Zimbabweans left the country and moved to SA or the UK, where most had citizenship. What the UK did to Zimbabwe was plain wrong. Zimbabwe should be a blot on the conscience of the British, presuming always that they actually have a conscience. The decent black citizens of that tortured country are now begging for help from South Africa, but Mbeki is Mugabe's biggest and most reliable supporter. After all, Mugabe gets standing ovations when he visits the SA parliament. *Shouldn't South Africa be worrying people in the West?*

6.5 But what about inside South Africa?: The first glimmers of hope started to show:

In 1980 the Dutch Reformed Church, the main Afrikaans Church, along with its more conservative sister churches, told the government that it saw no problem if the government were to scrap the "Immorality/Mixed Marriages" acts. With this "moral authority" in hand. PW Botha started off making a lot of changes that were all good. The overt items in "Petty Apartheid", like signs on beaches, were removed. White South Africa was visibly sick of this stuff. For a man like me it was a moment of hope that things were going to turn. Job reservation was scrapped, collective bargaining and black trade unions were allowed, black right to purchase housing in the "white parts of the country" [they'd only had lease-hold previously], influx control and Pass laws scrapped [imagine telling all Mexicans it is OK, you are now legal], the Mixed Marriages Act abolished, the black-white wage gap closed tremendously. The President's Council (with 60 nominated Coloured, Indian and white members) and a Parliament of 3 houses (White, Asian and Coloured) were established. South Africa trains start running all the way through Botswana, through Zambia and into Zaire. Sure Mobutu is a tyrant, but Bokassa, north of him, is worse. He was tried for cannibalism and once commented: *"Everything here was financed by the French government. We ask the French for money, get it and waste it."*

At this point it would be good to read "Visit 1" as written by a gentleman from the Lutheran Church in the USA when he visited South Africa in 1984. He is rather nice to the Afrikaner, I think, but he is spot-on on a HUGE number of issues:

This sudden sensibility was clearly an enormous threat to the power base of the ANC, who responded with an escalating campaign of urban bombing attacks against civil infrastructure, like government buildings, government officials, police and the like. At the time, they seemed to fairly carefully refrain from overt terrorist attacks on civilians. They mainly attacked train lines, power substations and the like. However, they also attacked the Koeberg Nuclear power station and later tried to attack the nuclear stuff at Pelindaba, a few miles from my house. However, on 20 May 1983 a car bomb explodes specifically during the afternoon rush hour outside the South African Air Force Head Quarters in busy downtown Pretoria. 19 people of all races are killed and a massive 217 injured. On 23 May the South African Air Force retaliates by attacking ANC facilities in the Matola suburb of Maputo, Mozambique. Soon afterwards, President Samora Machel of Mozambique sits down to discuss the nKomati Accord described above.

The Nordic countries rewarded PW Botha for his positive efforts by implementing comprehensive sanctions. In 1982, the UN responds with the International Year of Mobilization for Sanctions against South Africa. Thank God, by now the United States has woken up to the fact of what an abomination that "august body" is. Maybe they could inform Canadians of that fact. Canadians go into paroxysms of mindless adulation at the mention of those two letters in sequence.

In 1984 PW responds to the continued bombing by the ANC, and the violence they instigated, by declaring a State of Emergency and sending troops into black suburbs. Of course this was PRECISELY what the ANC had wanted.... time to call the Western Media again to wait at the ready with cameras, preferably shooting in black and white with fast grainy film for dramatic effect.



On 30 April 1982- PW Botha and President of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda, had met on the Botswana border to discuss the political situation in Namibia and South Africa. In one memorable speech PW told white South Africans to "get their act together and 'Adapt or Die' ". Now Botha tried to move forward by making the worst move of his entire life.... and I think it endangered my family terribly and ultimately cost me my country:

On 31 January 1985 he made Mandela a public offer of freedom if he would swear off violence. In the next section we'll see what happened immediately afterwards.

What went wrong? Well, the government of SA started taking the initiative in changing things for the better. This was not recognized by the Western World at all, but they happily indulged what became open terrorism from the ANC. Is there not a moral in there somewhere? Anyone in his right mind in South Africa would agree that the reforms that PW had instituted were all good and moving in the right direction. However, this deeply and profoundly threatened the power base of the ANC. Lastly, [PW broke the golden rule of the USA: Do not negotiate with terrorist organizations. Like predatory cats, they read it as weakness.](#) After all, word had started to leak of [how the ANC treated its own](#). At the same time I also think PW made a mistake with the heavy-handed way he sent the Army into those ANC-politicised areas.

At Home

By mid 1980 my wife and I are desperately homesick for the open spaces of South Africa. We hate the East Coast of the USA with a passion. So we go back to South Africa in June 1980. It turns out to be a major mistake in life that will cost us the best years of our lives.

We arrive back to a South African currency that has climbed 20% to 1.3 US Dollars in a Rand and a gold price that is off the charts. The year in the USA has hardly done anything for us financially, except to make us behind in a home market that has been doubling in price.

We first go back to teaching jobs at the University, but then I am offered the opportunity of heading up an R&D team in Pretoria. Ultimately, I will spend 18-1/2 years there leading various R&D operations in many different technologies. We really struggle to buy a house in Pretoria because they are so expensive and we cannot not get a mortgage.

We find life in Pretoria frustrating. It is a capital city and there is a lot of posturing. Since we both come originally from the East Cape, language has never been an issue. Now we are meeting people who insist on speaking Afrikaans only, a concept that we find rude in the East Cape. I also meet for the first time people who cannot speak English....they are few and far between, but they do exist. This was unheard of in the East Cape.

I also run into the phenomenon of the Broederbond Super-Afrikaner. In general, I do not take well to this entire notion. I am hugely proud of being an Afrikaner, but I tell one person that my ancestors stayed to fight the Xhosas and did not spend 4 years smelling up the rear end of an ox...referring to the Great Trek. That does not go down well at all.

As with all high tech R&D operations, we take contracts from the military for all manner of interesting technological stuff. This exposes me to a lot of exceedingly interesting people and problems. Ultimately, in view of my work in defense technology, the military decides to terminate my annual call-up commitments. An Army colonel phones me to tell me this. This is rather an improvement over my life of crawling in the mud and being sworn at some years before.

I also learn that the government had little time for technology. It is too busy fighting for its life. I am unimpressed. However, over this period a lot of high tech development takes place and the high tech community develops many advanced technologies. These go into many different systems and onto many different weapons.

I get to talk directly to fighter pilots that are in action against Soviet Axis pilots, even as they have to worry about a huge array of Surface-to-Air missile systems and layer after layer of enemy RADAR systems. All the way through this one rule holds: Avoid Anything American, because the USA simply cannot be relied upon in any way for anything...a profoundly bad ally that simply cannot be relied upon under fire.

The lessons of 1976, the CIA desertion under fire in Angola and the fatefully disastrous Clark Amendment, have clearly been learnt the hard way and will not be repeated ever.

The Painting – Part 7: Oh! Ye'll take the low road and I'll take the high road, and I'll be in Scotland afore ye

7.1 Diamonds and Scenarios: We were seeing the changes in South Africa that were generally good. By 1985 some of us in the high tech arena were picking up a clear message that was quite stunning. Folks in the De Beers-Anglo American fold were saying things like “WHEN the Soviet Union collapses we will do this that or the other...”. Soon afterwards, a senior chap in Anglo American started doing the rounds of the South African lecture circuit and spoke to and all who would listen, promoting a presentation he called something like the “The World and South Africa in the 1990’s”. In it he sketched possible scenarios, and the phrases “High Road” and “Low Road” featured prominently. In fact, he seemed to be doing ONLY that. About one thing he was totally convinced...the Soviets were going to hit the wall spectacularly. Of course, De Beers had continuous dealings with the Russians on the diamond, gold, platinum, palladium etc front...they would know better than anyone except the CIA.... apparently they knew BETTER than the CIA!

We had various business links with Anglo and listened carefully. Little did we know that this picture was about to be presented to PW Botha and a bit later to Nelson Mandela in jail. Based on this input, we were convinced during 85 and 86. By 1987 we were having detailed strategic planning sessions. Our R&D organization had some 4,000 people. We started mentally re-gearing for life AFTER the Soviet Union. In our picture “peace would break out” everywhere (as we joked at the time). Most of us believed all the players would see reason and the “High Road”, or a close approximation to it would be followed, in the absence of the dreaded Soviet influence. We 100% confidently predicted Mandela would be freed and that the ANC would rule the country. Since we had quite a bit of work from the military, as most R&D entities do, we started thinking about how we would “beat guns into plowshares”. In our picture, there would be fully participative elections in 1992.... we were fast by just two years. The man behind this is Clem Sunter, and I suggest the reader looks carefully at his [personal website](#). He has a letter to President George Bush on there, written 3 months before 9/11 and long before Hurricane Katrina.



What went wrong?: Nothing. For the first time something looked like it might go really right.

7.2 Back in Angola...again: In June 1986, the dry season, General Shaganovitch launched his offensive southward, but the South Africans stopped them by taking out the Cuito Cuanavale air base with G5 howitzers. That was the game for that year.

In 1987 the Soviets again poured in staggering amounts of weapons. There was a MASSIVE air bridge from Russia via Ilha do Sal, using their huge Antonov transports (The Washington Post reported on that, at least). By 29 August 87, the Soviet-Axis reached the Lomba River. South Africa now moved in more armored cars and howitzers, and moved the Air Force into position. The Soviets had overwhelming air power and air defense, the latter based on SAM-8s. Battle broke out along the Lomba River. SA wanted the Soviets kept behind the Lomba. By end September the Angolan MPLA troops under the Soviet command had lost 2/3 of their strength and the Soviet leadership corps simply abandoned them!! That should have been a signal.

The decision was made to go after the Angolans and pin them at the Lomba River, destroy as much of their ability as possible and to try and avoid a repeat show in 1988. After considerable fighting, including some of the most clever uses of weather balloons I have ever heard of, the Angolan force was shattered. When I add up what was taken off them, it comes to at least: 49 tanks (a further four T55s were captured), 30 armored cars, a bunch of SAM-8 missile systems, some of which the US got to take a look at in the process. They'd never had their hands on these. Several MIGs (variant 23 and other) were destroyed or badly damaged and two Hind gunships destroyed when the SA folks launched a seriously clever attack on Cuito Cuanavale airport using SA's unique G5 howitzers. In the end the SAAF took out the key bridge the over the Lomba with a strike using a very special “smart” bomb in early 1988.(See later)

QUOTE: US Asst Secretary of State Chester Crocker in *High Noon in Southern Africa*

"In early October the Soviet-FAPLA offensive was smashed at the Lomba River near Mavinga. It turned into a headlong retreat over the 120 miles back to the primary launching point at Cuito Cuanavale. In some of the bloodiest battles of the entire civil war, a combined force of some 8,000 UNITA fighters and 4,000 SADF troops destroyed one FAPLA brigade and mauled several others out of a total Fapla force of some 18,000 engaged in the three-pronged offensive. Estimates of FAPLA losses ranged upward of 4,000 killed and wounded. This offensive had been a Soviet conception from start to finish. Senior Soviet officers played a central role in its execution. Over a thousand Soviet advisers were assigned to Angola in 1987 to help with Moscow's largest logistical effort to date in Angola: roughly \$1.5 billion in military hardware was delivered that year. Huge quantities of Soviet equipment were destroyed or fell into UNITA and SADF hands when FAPLA broke into a disorganized retreat... The 1987 military campaign represented a stunning humiliation for the Soviet Union, its arms and its strategy. It would take FAPLA a year, or maybe two, to recover and regroup. Moreover the Angolan military disaster threatened to go from bad to worse. As of mid-November, the UNITA/SADF force had destroyed the Cuito Cuanavale airfield and pinned down thousands of FAPLA's best remaining units clinging onto the town's defensive perimeters."

With the back of the Soviet-Axis broken in Angola, SA agreed to pull out of Namibia on the basis of the Cubans leaving Angola. In order to save face, Fidel (now apparently personally in control of the effort) moved in another division of troops from Cuba and launched an air attack on an SADF unit at a bridge near the Namibian border and killed 12 of our men, even though the two parties were actually negotiating. PW Botha wisely let the matter rest, so the Cubans could just leave Africa. The Cubans departed. This had always been a concern.... we hit the Soviets too hard and they have to do something dumb to save face.

Ultimately, on 9 July 1989, Fidel Castro made admissions of failure during a two-hour speech at the full Council of State Meeting. The poor unfortunate General Sanchez, who had commanded the Cuban forces, was executed!! **Fidel Castro had taken over personal command** for fear of not just *"losing Cuba's honor, but also the entire Communist Revolution"*. (*The Silent War*, Peter Stiff, Galago Publishing, 1999, page 550 and also Fred Bridgland. *The War for Africa* page 182.)

The cost to the Soviets must have been simply enormous. I personally crawled over some of that equipment (See [HERE](#), though the author's numbers are hopelessly too low). Nine years later some of it was still being used for target practice. By 1986, before the huge shipments started, the Cubans were already laboring under a \$10B debt to the USSR for equipment in Angola. One can read that [HERE](#) in a 1986 interview with defecting Cuban hero, Gen Rafael Del Pino:

QUOTE: Cuban Gen. Rafael Del Pino

... Cuba has somehow to pay back \$10 billion it owes to the USSR for all the supplied weapons. ...It is said that over 10,000 Cubans were killed, injured, died of diseases, or disappeared during the war in Angola

The Soviet Union was finally bankrupt in more ways than one!! The combination of Star Wars, Afghanistan and Angola had bled them dry. With this, Soviet money for foreign escapades dried up. They dumped Fidel rather unceremoniously as an embarrassment and they started withdrawing their military support from the ANC in South Africa. They also forced the Cubans to pay market value and do so in US Dollars. Sweet revenge!

In 1989 the Soviets withdrew from Afghanistan and the Berlin Wall fell and, ironically, some 45 years after losing WWII to the Soviets, the Germans found themselves equipped with advanced Russian MIG-29 fighters. In South Africa we had outlasted the intense onslaught of one of the main drives of the Cold War. We had weathered the storm and could start working on a new South Africa, having pictured much of it in 1985/6. [The US Marines have used this South African](#)

military effort as a study for US operations, noting that it forced the Soviets to a negotiated end to the War. See [Fighting Columns in Small Wars](#), by Major Michael F. Morris, USMC.

What went wrong?: NOTHING! Maybe, though, if we had hit less hard, that stupid attack at the end might possibly not have happened and the 12 men would have been alive today.

7.3 The Nuclear option in Play: Back in 1976/77 the US and USSR had both detected that SA was preparing a nuclear test site in the Kalahari Desert. The Soviet Union apparently became sufficiently alarmed at the progress of the South African nuclear program to discuss it with the United States. According to Dieter Gerhardt, a German national living in South Africa who spied for the Soviet Union, Soviet officials asked for U.S. cooperation in halting the program. (Gerhard was caught in SA and put on trial) One of the options allegedly considered by the Soviets was a preemptive strike on the plant outside Pretoria, about 12 miles from our home. U.S. officials reportedly “rejected this option”. South Africa WAS forced to dismantle the place at the time.

With the US and USSR clearly being aware of the nuclear option, SA decided to openly mess around with that site again in 1987. One speculation is that, with SA having clearly lost air superiority near the end of the Angolan episode, the time had come to play the nuclear card. The message was: “Either the Soviets call off their Cuban henchmen, or South Africa would use its bombs” That “extra-heavy smart bomb” strike on the bridge in early 1988 may have been done to drive the point home regarding the viability of the drop.

With cooperation from Israel, SA had also developed long-range ballistic missiles with a range of about 3500km. The similarity between South Africa’s nuclear deterrent policy and that of Israel is interesting. The Israelis spelled out their nuclear deterrent strategy. ["If you \(France and America\) don't want to help us in a critical situation we will require you to help us, otherwise we will use our nuclear bombs."](#)(*London Sunday Times* on October 12, 1986)

I do not know how big a role the overt drawing of attention to the missile site played in Soviet thinking at the end of their Cuban-Angolan escapade. I don’t think they really cared. They had no doubt already decided to dump the Cubans and Angola. Their brazen running away in the middle of a battle in 1987 seems to indicate that, but I am speculating. In fact, as history would bear out, the devices had become superfluous and possibly a liability. The US certainly made it VERY clear that it would not tolerate nuclear devices in black ANC hands and the SA had to lose those before any democratic election.

What went wrong?: It went right, but it could very easily have gone wrong. If Castro had developed senile delusions of grandeur, we might have been forced to use those weapons.

7.4 Back in South Africa: With PW Botha having tried to negotiate with Mandela, by offering to set him free if he were to reject violence as a political weapon, I now post the following data in a table, extracted from [here](#) where the reader can go and get it for him-or herself as well.

Statistics of ANC Attacks inside South Africa

	Attacks on the Military	Attacks on the Police	Attacks on Civil Structure	Terrorist attacks on civilians	
1980	0	2	5	0	
1981	3	4	20	5	
1982	2	3	15	2	
1983	0	0	33	7	
1984	3	8	11	4	
<i>PW Botha offers deal to Mandela/ Mandela refuses (Look how numbers change)</i>					
1985	7*	8	11	41	*: 4 anti-tank landmines
1986	7	16	7	30*	*: 13 anti-tank landmines
1987	6	25	2	32*	*: 3 anti-tank landmines
1988	3	23	18	37	

The table lists the ANC “Guerrilla” attacks starting in 1980, because, before that it was insignificant in its effect. I broke it down into attacks against the military, which is what Guerrilla War is supposed to be about, attacks on civil structures (both physical structures like power stations and including attacks on officials themselves), attacks against the Police and Terror attacks, which are attacks out and out aimed at civilians. I used a bit of judgment in how I assigned “Civil structures”. I would take it as read that civilized readers would agree that blowing up a court room full of people and killing the judge belongs under “terrorism.”...maybe liberal Northern European people would like to disagree? It would move basically one point in the table.

The effect of trying to talk to Mandela and the ANC is clearly visible. Clearly the ANC actively decided to target civilians. One can also see the switching of anti-tank land mines from military targets to civilian targets like farmers. This is the era of the ANC battle cry: “Kill the Farmer, kill the Boer”. This is when Mandela’s wife (these days known as “Mugger of the nation”) went on TV saying that black people should necklace whites.

This was the ANC’s unique technique of dousing a tire in gasoline, hanging it around a person they did not like, and then setting it alight...hence “necklacing”. They ACTIVELY went after black policemen and started bombing the houses of teachers and school principals. As the reader can see in [this hugely horrifying video](#), their brutality against black people was simply staggering. This video shows one how elections are won in Africa. They resented the idea of the three-house parliament so much, that they tried to kill the leader in the Indian House three times and failed three times. It is absolutely everything one sees in Iraq today, with “necklacing” replacing beheading. The ANC defended their assault on civilians as follows later, during Desmond Tutu’s farcical [Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#) hearings:

QUOTE: ANC submission to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Farms: *“While regretting all loss of life, the ANC believes that the use of land mines on white border farms was justified because the apartheid regime had declared them military zones....”*

As for the attack on a bar killing some ladies: *“This attack was in line with the ANC’s attempts to take the struggle out of the black ghettos and into the white areas....”*

Comment: *If terrorists come across your border, your border is now somehow NOT a military zone? If you give the farmer a gun to defend himself and radio to call for help, just like in Israel, he is now suddenly a military target and fair game. The USA has no confusion on what Hamas and the Hezbolah are. Why then the confusion on the ANC?*

On 15 August 1985, with the whole world having been led to believe that PW Botha was going to announce the release of Nelson Mandela and other sweeping Reforms, he kicks his heels in and says nothing of the sort. To this day we have not had a suitable explanation of the event. This becomes known as the Rubicon Speech, in that he “Turned at the Rubicon”. In the event it may have been the right thing to do. Things were stacked badly against the country and the Soviets were still going strong in Angola and giving massive support to the ANC. Many people internationally believe that he made the right call under the circumstances. In hindsight I also think so, though I felt kind of cheated at the time.

Three weeks later our son is born. My wife and I decide that he’ll be brought up entirely colour blind in anticipation of an entirely new South Africa. He could find out the hard truths of history later by himself as he grew up. We had faith it would all work out somehow.

In 1978, when my father had died in Port Elizabeth, my mother had moved to Amazimtoti (“Sweet Water” in Zulu) just south of Durban. On 23 December 1985 she goes to work. She gets a phone call to say that a massive ANC bomb had just gone off at her apartment building, inside the supermarket on the ground floor. Five people die and 40 are injured. That’s where she buys her groceries every afternoon. A few months later the ANC tries to bomb the same place again. Life becomes a routine of looking for limpet mines under one’s car before getting in. In Pretoria our

Post Office up the road gets bombed and our bank down the other road as well. For a glimpse of SA through an American's eyes at the time, look [HERE](#).

What went wrong?: I think it was a profound, and ultimately fatal, tactical mistake to talk to the ANC at that time with the Soviets still strong behind them. Their training by the Soviets led them to read it as a sign of weakness. Never let a savage think you are weak for whatever reason, even if you are. I think the creation of expectations before the Rubicon Speech was also an unmitigated disaster and pulled the wrath of the West down on the country at a bad time. However, I think standing firm was the right thing to do. I really wish I could understand what exactly happened there. Maybe he saw the Russian decline coming...just thinking aloud here.

7.5 And in the USA... 1986?: Congress passes the Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986 over President Reagan's veto. He knew what was actually going on and [made his position clear](#).

QUOTE: Ronald Reagan – September 9, 1985

"South Africa is not a totalitarian society. There is a vigorous opposition press, and every day we see examples of outspoken protest and access to the international media that would never be possible in many parts of Africa or in the Soviet Union, for that matter."

He was a good man. It is fitting that an ex-South African Church Minister laid him to rest.

The Act prohibited U.S. trade and other economic relations with South Africa. It anticipated the need for sanctions by other countries and specifically directed the president to seek the cooperation of industrialized democracies as well as South Africa's other trading partners. This decent man did not do this. It seems ironic that the church minister of the Reagan family, who presided over his funeral, should be an ex-South African white man.

If one has a credit card and a mortgage that is partway paid, imagine the bank foreclosing on that mortgage, tearing up one's credit cards and terminating one's mortgage line of credit. That is what that did. In effect, the USA directly threatened South Africa exactly the same way they threatened Britain at the time of the 1950's Suez Canal crisis. They threatened to collapse the currency of the country. This while we were killing ourselves fighting one of the two main drives of the Cold War. I will let reasonable people here be the judge of that decision...I am just too angry about that.

With the USSR out of the game by 1990, the USA starts supporting first [Gatsha Buthelezi, the moderate Zulu leader](#), but, when he seemed to not be popular enough with non-Zulu blacks, they quickly hop across the floor and [start funding Nelson Mandela](#). The US news media now portrays him as walking on water, and, lo and behold, one has the image that everyone knows today. It is odd how people now want to say the ANC is doing great stuff with the economy. Ever tried to grow your company with no access to capital and the entire world running Acts to keep their people from buying from you, while you are being bombed morning noon and night?

What went wrong?: The West hammered SA when it should have rewarded it for motion made in the previous 5 years. PW had nothing to show his supporters for all the changes he had made. Ironically, having chased the Cubans out of Africa and removed the Russian threat, we were now expendable through cold US political eyes. It becomes hugely obvious over the next few years, as the US eventually settles on the ANC as the horse to ride (with the USSR out of the influence stakes) and attempts to force the terrorist organization's policies towards Neo-Liberalism.

7.6 But life goes on as best one can

Between 9 and 12 July 1987 61 White South Africans, mainly from the Afrikaans community, meet the African National Congress in Dakar, Senegal in search of a democratic alternative for South Africa. There Senegal again plays that sensible role I referred to earlier.

The Angolan situation gets resolved in 1988 and the Cubans/Soviets are effectively out of the picture. It becomes clear that the USSR is not really going to support the ANC any further like before.

In September 1989 FW De Klerk Becomes State President and immediately starts scrapping what remains of any Apartheid legislation. In the next 8 weeks the Berlin Wall falls. On 11 February 1990 De Klerk formally scraps Apartheid, unbans all the "banned" organizations and releases Nelson Mandela. On June 7, 1990 De Klerk suspends the State of Emergency and on 1 August 1990 the ANC suspends "The Armed Struggle". The focus of "Fickle Western Moral Outrage" has moved to Red China and Tienanmen Square...then the latest popular liberal cause.



FW de Klerk

By agreement with the USA, the nuclear warheads get destroyed so that the USA can be comfortable that it would not have to suffer any consequences for its actions in the 70's and 80's.... the thought of those nukes in the hands of the ANC was one too much for the US...but it was OK in their minds for us to be in the hands of the ANC. We were now clearly expendable.

From this point follows four years of negotiations. In the middle of all this, in 1992, De Klerk calls a white plebiscite to vote on giving him the authority to proceed with a complete settlement with the ANC and other parties. He gets a 69% vote from whites.... including my vote.... one of only three times I voted in the Old South Africa.

On 25 July 1993, black APLA terrorists burst into the St James Church in Cape Town and machine-gun the congregation, throwing hand-grenades with cans of nails attached. Eleven die, including young Gerard Harker who threw himself upon a grenade. A few weeks later a similar attack takes place on a tavern and a number of white women are killed. Mercifully that was the end of that effort.

In 1994, just before the election, South Africa absolutely teeters on the brink of utter anarchy. There is open warfare between the ANC and the Zulu in Natal. Buthelezi, the moderate Zulu Leader, threatens unilateral independence. As elections approached, the Zulu got edgy and tens of thousands of them, wielding various weapons, take over the heart of Johannesburg on March 28, 1994. ANC "security personnel" in Shell House, their HQ, under orders from Mandela himself to shoot to protect the building, open fire on the Zulu crowd, killing 19 and wounding many....so much for the Sharpeville event. Read the ANC's excuses here in their own words.



Mangosutho Buthelezi

The fight between the ANC and Buthelezi's Inkhata became a war between owners of Black Taxi fleets at lower levels. In this process a Zulu by the name of Dudu Ndlovu is killed...and he is a member of "Johnny Clegg and Savuka", the mixed white/Zulu rock group. So, in 1993 Johnny Clegg, the "White Zulu" writes the song "The Crossing" in memoriam. I mention this, because Johnny Clegg and Savuka had become an international symbol of the unique things that might be done between white and black. To me personally it was a model of what could be done in the cultural arena and I set a lot of store by it. In a sense the event also killed the model.

On the right hand side, White Conservatives bomb the offices of De Klerk's ex-Apartheid party for being a "Sell-out". In the Bophuthatswana homeland things boil over. A rag tag heap of white conservatives in Toyota trucks try to go help the beleaguered leader of that country, Lucas Mangope, and they get messed up by the local army who turns on Mangope. International TV sees black soldiers shoot up white cars, pull the occupants out, and shoot them dead in cold blood as they are begging for their lives in front of the cameras. *What!?! No liberal outrage?*

At my home we just watch all this in stunned silence, and my mother gets 2 liter Coke bottles and fills them all with tap water, and puts them in the fridge...just in case. Things were really touch-and-go there for a while. However, on the allotted day in 1994, all South Africans lined up together to vote. The ANC won a huge majority, but, amazingly, the Coloured people of the West Cape voted en masse for FW De Klerk, whose ex-Apartheid National Party retains the West Cape Province and North Cape Province.... pretty nearly following that 300mm rainfall line.

What went wrong?: In later revelations, the ANC would allege that De Klerk "rolled over" in the negotiations as soon as he heard that his pension would be guaranteed if he stayed in SA. I have no idea whether that is a lie or not. Anyway, in the next few years, people dumped his party totally and they disbanded.For three years things seemed to work. Then it turned to utter rubbish.

7.6 The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC)

Given that I end the period of open South African strife at this point in this document, there is merit in considering the later findings of this commission, of which much has been made. The TRC was set up in 1995 to "*bear witness to, record and in some cases grant amnesty to the perpetrators of crimes relating to human rights violations, reparation and rehabilitation*". The commission was presided over by Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

It did nominally try to look at both sides of the situation, but even a cursory scan of the commissioners showed it stacked 9:1 against parties from the previous government. Given that the commission had been dreamed up during the ANC government's time in office, whites considered it a circus perpetrated to show them in the worst possible light. In fact, the very Thabo Mbeki who is President of the country in 2006, laughed when addressing the killing of white farmers, attempting to demonstrate that the chant of "Kill the farmer. Kill the Boer" was not meant to be taken seriously. Yet four ANC members wanted amnesty from the very same commission because they claimed the slogan had driven them to kill farmers. The South African Defense Force, one of the most color-blind bodies in the country and the key defender of the West, as shown earlier, was particularly aggrieved, and with very good reason. Various one-sided movies have been made about this in which white people are invariably the bad guys, because that is the paradigm that fits with the standard picture promoted by the formal Western media from Bobby Kennedy's visit onward. HOWEVER, what IS instructive is to note in particular what the commission said about the ANC, which had themselves conceived of the commission in the first place in an attempt to get themselves conveniently exonerated. Tutu clearly did not appreciate the attempt to make a political stooge out of him. The ANC then tried to wreck the commission. Much of this may be found in *The Fate of Africa* by Martin Meredith, published by Public Affairs.

From the 2003 report by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Page 648: *While it is accepted that targeting civilians was not ANC policy, MK [Umkhonto we Sizwe] operations nonetheless ended up **killing fewer security force members than civilians.***

Page 649: *Relating to mining farmer's roads: **The ANC is held accountable for such gross human rights abuses.***

Page 649: *...there were instances where members of MK perpetrated gross violations of human rights [the commission then cites the bombing outside the SAAF headquarters and carries on.] **The 1985 Amazintoti shopping center bombing is regarded by the commission in this light.** [That would be my mother's apartment building]*

Page 650: *The Commission finds that, in the 1980's in particular, a number of gross violations of human rights were perpetrated....by civilians who saw themselves as ANC supporters. In this regard the Commission finds that the ANC is morally and politically accountable for creating a climate in which such supporters believed their actions to be legitimate and carried out within the broad parameters of a "people's war" as enunciated by the ANC.*

SO, the ANC killed more civilians than security forces and drove their supporters to do it also. The vast majority of those killed were black opponents of the ANC. That means they were a garden variety terrorist organization. As a fighting force they were utterly pathetic. In 2006 their members still embarrass the newly constituted armed forces of the country. Rape accusations against them in Central Africa and the willful loss of equipment are but some of the complaints.

At Home

Over this period I visit the USA and I am treated like the enemy. In view of my shoddy treatment, a Vice President of Rockwell invites me to his place at Pebble Beach to try and make up for the treatment. Decent man. The Challenger disaster had happened earlier. I watch on TV with him as famous Physicist, Richard Feynman, takes apart NASA on the frozen O-ring of the Space Shuttle's Solid Fuel Rockets. Rockwell built the Space Shuttle, so I get special commentary. For a high tech guy like me, this was a ringside seat to the international and emotional drama of the Challenger Disaster...one of my "Forrest Gump" moments.

In Britain, matters are somewhat better, their relations with South Africa obviously having been closer over history than those of the USA. However, in London I am dumped out of a taxi for being a white South African.

At work we are starting to plan the future of the R&D operation in case the Soviet Union collapsed and PW Botha made a deal with the ANC. We see that as inevitable. However, over this period the ANC is still bombing my mother's apartment building (twice), our post office, our bank, and even the specific family restaurant, The Spur in Queenstown, which we used to stop at on the way to Port Elizabeth: abject first degree terrorism! Over this period one always checks under one's car for limpet mines. Our building shakes when the ANC bombs the SAAF Buildings downtown, killing 19 of all races and injuring more than 200.

Later, in Angola, the Russians pour in enormous heaps of weapons and Cubans, and it turns into a conventional war. I happen to be on a trip on that border of Angola when word comes of a staggering defeat of the Cubans at the Lomba River. All the senior officers are concerned that SA has to play this "just right". We should not rub the Cubans' /Soviets' noses in it too deep, otherwise they'll be stupidly honor-bound to pull some or other dumb stunt. We just want them to "get the message" and leave. Eventually the Cubans pack up and leave Angola, deserted in mid-battle by their Russian masters. Soon after, FW de Klerk takes over from P W Botha, who has had a stroke. He immediately starts breaking down what few aspects of operational Apartheid still remain. He starts open negotiations with the ANC in Lusaka, Zambia. At work I attend a briefing by an attendee to the negotiations between the government and the ANC in Lusaka who reveals that the ANC is scared to death of the SADF's effective 32 Battalion and secretly admires the Afrikaner's abilities at making things work in general.

Our son is born in 1985 and, at the age of two to three, it becomes obvious that he is deaf. We get him some hearing aids, but then, in 1988 he has a relapse of some sort and most of his hearing disappears. The doctors raise the specter of brain cancer, but they are wrong. We get him even more powerful hearing aids and we decide we need my mother's help to just talk to him incessantly so he could at least learn the significance speech. She moves in with us.

My wife and I hold great hope for a new SA without all this Apartheid nonsense. We have fixed up the house really nicely and would be very happy to retire there. I have planted palm trees and African Acacias around the terrible old pool, which we have fixed up. We now have African Bushveld on our property and an enormously impressive bird life. We love the place. By this time our son is heading for school. We have agreed that he will be brought up without any hint of racial issues. There is no need for him to live through everything we had experienced.

He has his black friends over from school. We are preparing for a New South Africa.

The Painting: Part 8 - The New South Africa

8.1 The World is our Oyster: Even before the 1994 elections, the doors of the world started opening to South Africa. After all, FW De Klerk had killed off the last remnants of Apartheid. The most insightful of these changes was actually the fact that our organization was now visited by Russian Politburo members and Romanian technocrats, who all saw in South Africa an intriguing example of a country that had developed a very strong free market economy despite being vilified by all and sundry. Everyone just wanted to study us and get to know us. This is how I met my Russian equivalent and his KGB interpreter who secretly understood Afrikaans, but kept to English, until I caught him out. what I would call a "Forrest Gump Moment"



As a high tech R&D organization we were rapidly beating swords into plowshares. We had both the British and US military establishments all over us for some of our technology. One of the greatest moments in my technological life, was when a director of an important US Defense agency, a very imposing gentleman on the verge of retirement, shook my hand in Pretoria South Africa, and told me: *"Son, you tell me how on Earth we could throw so many tens of millions of dollars at US companies and they could not do what you folks showed me here today. I'd like to shake your hand!"* This was the stuff that I had been born for.

At the very same time, a French supermarket chain looking into this technology had approached us. Their chairman flew to SA to see our technology for himself, complete with a sizable entourage of business lieutenants who followed his every command. When he saw the demonstration, he turned to me, nearly walked my colleague out of the ground, grabbed my hand and pumped it furiously up and down: *"Monsieur...Formidable! Formidable!"* Immediately he announced that he would fly his 150 regional managers to Jo'Burg, along with their spouses, for a conference, at which time he would like us to "Do ze show!"...This was a real Steve Jobs & Apple kind of stage show. South Africa became the "go-to" place for this kind of technology.

To me the New South Africa was about the doors of the world being opened, and we were going to use what we could each bring to the table to make South Africa a great country for all of its people. The playing field was going to be level. We needed to somehow get our black population up and running economically and make sure that they had (in my simple model) at least R6000 disposable income so they could start buying manufactured goods to help propel the economy. I was happy to pay tax through my neck to make this happen. The new black government, led by Mandela and his famed Freedom Charter, based on total equality for all, was going to see the value of these white people and rely on them to help build the country, given all their experience and their demonstrated love for and devotion to that country. My wife turned her project management skills into helping the police on information systems to fight crime.... white and black together for a real future! I felt on top of the world...a millionaire! We were about to become the country we could always have been, given half a chance. The Cold War was over and our side had won against the monstrous Soviet Machine! Mandela conceded that the SADF had remained undefeated (*Leadership*, volume 16/97' no 3, p.52). Hooray for us all!

SO, on a certain day, I found myself in a conference room with three colleagues and the new Minister of Defense, Joe Modise, who had, some few years earlier, been the military leader of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the very people who planted all those bombs. It was a new world though, and we were all prepared to shake hands and start anew. After all, the whole world had given us a license to turn South Africa into the example for the world to emulate. He looked at us and said: *"Boys, now you've got to help me. Those Brits are trying to screw us"*. This was with reference to

the proposed sale of South African designed Rooivalk (Red Falcon/Kestrel) attack helicopters to a major NATO country. He could have asked us for anything and we would have done it. Such was the spirit of that period. It was another one of my "Forrest Gump" moments.... a significant snapshot in time in the book of my life.



Rooivalk Attack Helicopter...direct competition for the US Apache: Various countries were interested. Read more [HERE](#)

Even now, the aircraft still has popular impact. For South African technocrats, it was their equivalent of what the Avro Arrow meant to Canadians. See [HERE](#) how people are creating animated computer games icons for it.

That night I went home and told my family: *"These new guys are, man for man, a better type of human being than the previous white guys in government"*. I had had very little respect indeed for those previous guys; idealistic idiot that I was...but that's me!

Before his death from cancer in 2001, Modise was criticized for conflicts of interest in awarding contracts in the multibillion-dollar arms deal when he was defense minister. At the time of my meeting, that was still all in the future. Recent reports show he had been a problem all along.

8.2 The shine comes off the penny: We had started to appoint black engineers (as scarce as chicken's teeth) to try and "get real" in the new society. This was all fine by me. No problem. We also started getting some black folks who were a little thin on knowledge/experience/expertise, but they had a good sense of what is needed in "the community" and were therefore very helpful in beating our swords into plowshares. One of these people came with a resume that included a position in a leading US company. We had hardly hired him, when we started realizing that this person is truly useless...and I mean UTTERLY useless.... After about 18 months of desperately trying to make this AA hire work out, we were utterly lost as to what to do with him, having tried him in different places...let's just call him "Joseph".

Now let's go back to Winnie Mandela for a minute. To get one's calibration right on this creature, one should read [THIS](#) to see how she escaped jail for fraud and being an accessory to murder. However she is more infamous for her statement in Munsieville on April 13, 1985, where she endorsed the practice of "necklacing" ANC opponents, by putting a gasoline-doused tire around their necks and setting them alight to burn to death, in the "struggle to end apartheid".

QUOTE: Winnie Mandela – April 13, 1985 at Munsieville

"With our boxes of matches and our necklaces we shall liberate this country".

In 1991 she had been found complicit in the murder of 14-year old Stompie Sepei, back in 1989, at the hands of her bodyguards, "The Mandela United Football Club". Her 6-year sentence was reduced to a fine!!



The first weird thing that happens is that this paragon of virtue is appointed Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology in the first post-Apartheid government in May 1994. Since our organization got some government money, she had some say over us. And so, I found myself presided over by someone who had been found complicit in a murder.

---Sick blemish #1 on the picture.

Imagine my surprise one morning very early, when my phone rang and it was the (very liberal) president of our organization: "Who is this Joseph guy that you have over there?" I explain the background. He then tells me that he had just been told that this person is now the representative of our multi-thousand person organization to Winnie Mandela, and effectively his political boss. Not long afterwards, he resigned. Though the Winnie was dismissed eleven months later following allegations of corruption, that predictable result was still in the future at the time of this event. Today people have finally started realizing what they are dealing with....or HAVE they?

---Sick blemish #2 on the picture.

A while later, the position of boss for our division opens up. *White men are told to not bother applying.* It is time for black people to get a chance. Only problem, is that the guy who DOES get the job is of mixed Indian-Coloured descent. He finally gets fired some months later when he cannot explain how our clients in Europe could not remember him visiting, while he booked a \$500/night hotel room near the Eiffel Tower and charged tickets to the French Open to his company account.

----Sick blemish #3 on the picture

I am profoundly sickened by all this and in 1998 I elect to move back to the division I originally helped to found back in 1984. They needed my help. I arrive at the new division to find an even more disgusting trend. As soon as a white manager addresses any matter of rampant theft or abuse on the part of black employee, then, as by magic, he or she is invited to a disciplinary hearing on charges of racism. They systematically target manager after manager. It is fairly clear that it is a systematic and routine setup. My homework reveals that the president of the company knew fully well that a secret black professional organization had been created inside the organization, and that they had signed up all staff that was not white...an anti-white union. All they were doing was to launch a lazy person or thief at a decent manager, and wait for the reaction. However, they never came clean as to their purpose. No one had the guts to confront them.

---Sick blemish #4 on the picture

8.3 South Africa starts going to Hell: Over this period, centered more or less on 1997, Mandela was clearly standing back and his second-in-command, Thabo Mbeki was starting to run the show. Mbeki spent some of his exile in the United Kingdom, earning a Master of Economics degree and he also received military training in what was then the Soviet Union. He became a Deputy President of South Africa in May 1994, and sole Deputy President in June 1996. Mbeki succeeded Nelson Mandela as ANC president in December 1997. In mid-98 the Trade Unions and the Communist Party started making very threatening sounds, suggesting that they were not getting rich enough fast enough. At the Communist Party Congress, Mandela thundered at them: *"We will not change it because of your pressure. If you feel you cannot get your way then go out and shout like opposition parties. Prepare to face the full implications of that line... choose a role you want to play!"*.... The hall sat in stunned silence as Mandela slowly departed. Apparently, in his old age, Mandela was starting to see through these communist allies of his.

Mbeki on the left...friend on the right

However, the Dream of the New South Africa was clearly getting lost. We were seeing unbelievably brutal farm attacks appear everywhere and a rampant increase in crime in general. White men were being pushed out of their jobs quite unceremoniously left right and center as part of "Affirmative Action", to make way for utterly and completely unqualified people.



If they would not get out of the way fast enough, there would be accusations concocted against them, or everyone would be fired and re-hired, and they'd be missed out. In most cases the white man was asked to suddenly train a black recruit and would then be told a few months later to take "early retirement". Think through what that means if the inflation rate is above 10%. Whichever way one turns it, they knew they had no hope of a future as employees...and even then they were maligned day in and day out. The evident abuse throughout the country was increasing. The qualified employees of towns and cities were being fired and replaced with unqualified people, and the finances would collapse. The case of the Kannaland Municipality is a good example. See pages 28, 55, 61 and 102, of [this document](#). The corruption cases were increasing exponentially.

And so it came to pass that Mandela himself, at one point, climbed into his members of parliament for being absent from parliament or fast asleep in it when they were there at all...something along the implied lines of "This is not what I sat in prison for for 26 years!" (He used different words, but that was the message). He also went off about the black youth that seemed to think they were somehow "ENTITLED" when they had not done the fighting. That stands to his credit, but no one was listening. He was now just a spent old man that got them the power they wanted and that he had promised. Internationally people fainted if they touched his shirt, but, in South Africa?:

QUOTE: Black colleague to me in South Africa:

"Mandela!? What the hell does HE know? He sat in jail for 26 years!"

To my way of thinking, he was the one that had presided over these very same young people burning down their own schools in the 1980's and bombing their teachers and "necklacing" their opponents. It was his own plan and decision. He was reaping the whirlwind he had sown. Now they wanted their piece of the pie he had promised. After all, his ANC had told their followers that they'd get the white people's houses if they won, and they simply were not getting it fast enough. So they were clearly going to take it by whatever means.

8.4 Deciding on the inevitable: In 1999, the next election was held and Mbeki became president, and the ANC STILL managed to miss getting 2/3 of the vote, which is what they needed to change the Constitution. Immediately the talk turned to how things have not moved fast enough for black people, and whites would have to make a plan to give more to blacks. Somehow a mindset developed based on "We had better give before we are killed for it".

I suggest that "protection rackets" are things that belong with the Mafia and not with governments. They do not form a healthy basis for a society. At the same time the denigration of Western Culture as "evil" and "self-centered" reached new heights, in which one had to hear day in and day out how black culture, or "Ubuntu" is more humane and sharing, and white Western culture is a disgusting pox upon the planet. When whites campaigned for the death penalty to curb the terrible crime, Mandela himself piped up that it is just a "thinly disguised scheme by whites to kill blacks." I bet the reader never heard that on CBS, NBC, ABC, CNN,CBC or BBC. I imagine it does not fit their self-delusionary image of him, therefore he could not have said it.

The affirmative action thing had escalated to insanity level. I was instructed that I had to get and keep all these high tech international contracts, but I MUST hire only black personnel...I was only allowed to hire a qualified white person *after* I had hired a black person, suitably qualified for the job or NOT. If the black person could *not* do the job, then it was on my neck to figure out a way to get him to be able to do it. Of course it was dressed up in nice words...but I would not play that game. This made me a clear problem. Here is how it has been going in ESKOM, the parastatal power utility. The complainant in the case is "right on the money". I was put under similar pressure policy-wise. It has only got worse and might end up at the United Nations.

Mbeki's ever increasing support of the murderous racist tyrant Mugabe just north of the border in Zimbabwe was getting increasingly crazy. His own brother has since reacted to it. Apparently Mugabe's mob killing of white farmers is not tyranny. So what is it then exactly? I guess it is UHURU...just like we feared in the 1960's... why whites resisted "change" in the first place.

Mbeki keeps using Mugabe as a bogeyman to scare SA whites into accepting his own barely less onerous and disguised excesses and to keep the militant nationalists in his ANC party inside that party. By constantly needling, humiliating, bleeding and scaring the whites, he wins the favour of these people.... and that is the actual "game in town".



Mbeki and his best friend, murdering tyrant Mugabe

Mbeki further piped up with his infamous denial of the link between HIV and AIDS... In many areas of the country 40% of all the women are HIV positive. The Zulus, in particular, are worst hit. There are some South African companies in the province of KwaZulu-Natal where they have a 50% incidence of HIV/AIDS among their personnel. The thought occurs that it would suit Mbeki, a Xhosa, if the famously brave Zulus exterminated themselves through AIDS.

By early 1998, my wife and I sat down, sketched out for ourselves what was happening, and decided to apply for permanent resident visas for Canada. We had difficulty seeing how our son, with his disability and a white skin, was ever going to have a chance in the South Africa that was very evidently now developing. We felt that a man with a vision for South Africa had been replaced by a man who just stole stuff for black people, preferably those that are his cronies. This was classic African Nationalism.... 1950's UHURU was back, despite all our best efforts. Seems someone has forgotten to tell the Western Media. They are still patting themselves on the back for "getting rid of" Apartheid. Presumably that's not good enough. We must actually die.

The writing was visibly on the wall. However, white South Africans so desperately want to believe that all is OK, that they ignore the systematic collapse of civilization around them.... In South Africa it is called the Boiled Frog Syndrome.... one puts the frog in a pot, raises the temperature slowly, and it boils to death before waking up and jumping out. I know how to read the signs, and they were being rubbed in my face by virtue of where I worked.

So, the issues at the time were Mugabe, Affirmative Action, Farm Attacks and AIDS...and now, more recently, Black Economic Empowerment.... which openly discriminates against white-owned businesses, lay in the future at that time, although it seemed inevitable. The government was not getting its black supporters into jobs fast enough, so clearly they had to simply TAKE the businesses. Already the ANC was trying to rewrite South Africa's history, denying mine, and starting to try and indoctrinate the children at school with this drivel, as may be seen in this text.

8.5 To slaughter an ox: We let the visa process run in the background, and carried on with our daily lives. Work was interesting. I was talking to Rolls Royce and GE about turbine technology on the one hand, and to Zulu people about clay pots on the other. After all these years, I found myself talking to a senior Zulu leader (a Minister in Mbeki's Cabinet) whom I respected, joining hands to make sure the British did not go off with South African Ndebele cultural goods.

I thought that was REALLY "cool"; a little like my own technology version of Johnny Clegg and Savuka. The Minister was a great supporter in the R&D contract domain. I was doing *much* better contract R&D business with the new government than the old one...and it was fun stuff.... and it made me feel good about what we were doing. We even used Virtual Reality modeling to create software that was used to select a national statue!! In the regular business domain it was now open business because the doors of the world had opened to the country.

However, in the background, I realized I was living an illusion.... I was trying to live the dream I had had for South Africa, and was actually amazingly successful! However, the reality outside the door and within the company culture was something else. The dichotomy was becoming extreme. I was hugely excited about negotiating R&D projects internationally, but then having to face the "on the ground" realities of South Africa. And they were flatly terrible.

Ironically, it was a white Communist in the Government that did the most damage, explaining to me how he despised white defense contractors, but how he has to tolerate them "*because each one of those bastards that gets a job, keeps seven of my guys employed*". This author always thought that, in a democracy, an elected official represented ALL the citizens. It just shows one how wrong I can be at times.

Without going into detail, which would be inappropriate in public, I will say here that I then uncovered an effort within our organization to get rid of all white managers. An Indian colleague (actually from India, in this case) told me at the time:

QUOTE: Colleague from India

"This is not a country for a white man anymore. You are in danger here. You must be very careful what you say"

At a major business strategy planning session, or "bosberaad" (Bush Council), I confronted the leader of the insidious "secret" black professional organization, who confirmed their intentions to my face in front of witnesses. One of my black colleagues found me and asked me not to blame them and that the British expatriate president of the organization was busy selling out all the white males, particularly the white Afrikaners, but that they had thus far not managed to "get anything on me"... all the black employees were apparently "vouching for me". I leave it to the imagination of the reader as to what that statement is supposed to mean exactly.

When I got home, I told my wife that we are leaving this country. There is no hope for it. The white African is not welcome in his own country. That is 100% clear. He now has zero say and therefore he now has zero future. I could not stay in South Africa and look my child in the eye. How would my son, with his disability and the obvious internationally agreed curse of a white skin ever have any hope in that country? We were almost too old to have any hope of starting again.

I had anyway received a job offer from a high technology company in Canada, so I resigned my job of 18 years less than 18 hours after getting the visa. After announcing my departure, I was approached by various individuals, and the statements were interesting. My one South African Indian colleague was a staunch member of the ANC, and was also, ironically, an exile in Canada over the 1980's. On my last day at the organization we talked about how we had enjoyed working together, and then his tone changed, and he said these key words to me:

QUOTE: South African Indian Colleague upon my departure : End May 2000

"I have to confess to you now that I do not know what to say to you. I was not white enough for the previous government, and it is now clear to me that I am not black enough for this one."

The company president insisted on a meeting with me and wanted to know whether it was the organization or the country that was the problem, because my resignation after 18-1/2 years was causing a lot of instability in the organization. I told him it was both, because the organization was a microcosm of the country, was close to the government, and therefore represented the future, which had clearly turned to rubbish. The mere asking of the question already tells one there was a problem with the country. He left the country a few months after me. He was obviously just picking my brain and confirming his own conclusions, but was selling out his white Afrikaans-speaking employees on his way out the door.

At my departure party, the one new young black engineer that I had hired came up to me, shook my hand in the respectful way of the Venda and said:

QUOTE: Young black engineer upon my departure: End May 2000

"I have not worked with you for long, but I know that where I come from, my people will slaughter an ox for a man like you"

That meant much more to me than the official presents and uncomfortable artificial "accolades" of the organization.... but that's just me. It was my personal evidence that I had truly tried to make the New South Africa work.

In a country historically labeled with white racism and now run by the party that swore to the world to do away with that racism, I was getting my strongest support from decent black colleagues, apologies from Indian ANC members who already felt betrayed and more overt naked racism from the machinery of the government than ever before in the history of the country.

The Leaving : To finally lose one's country

On a clear June day in the year 2000, a slightly prematurely grey-haired man puts two suitcases, a sleeping bag and a new laptop PC with his family's information in a little rented Opel, turns to his family and kisses the womenfolk goodbye. Then he firmly shakes his 14-year-old son's hand, telling him to look after the womenfolk, because he is now the Man of the House. Then he turns to Stompie, the Tswana woman who has worked with them for about 8 years, and he hugs her goodbye...and THAT is when he realizes the strange stickiness on his face is tears.

She has no real idea of what is going on. She just says, "Die baas hy moet mooi loop" (The boss he must walk well).

Yes, I most certainly do appreciate the supreme irony in those precise words. They probably sum up the entire White Experience in Africa.

I look at our house of 18 years and the beautiful green-and-gold acacia-dotted African veldt in the distance, and this Afrikaner silently says goodbye forever to the Africa of his Birth for which his ancestors fought their superpower enemy and I have fought mine; the country for which I was willing to die. I do my level best to smile at my family. I have no idea what that looks like. They will have to make it for another two months while I try to set up life for us in Canada, exactly ten thousand miles away on the other side of the Earth under different stars with no Southern Cross.

Then, I get in the car and drive the thirty miles to the airport ...crying like a baby all the way...

When the Loerie sings again

Vancouver, BC, Canada...early 2004:

And so it is that the judge explains that Canada is a nation of immigrants; that they arrive here with no common language, no common religion, no common philosophy, no common culture. The only thing they have to keep them together under such circumstances is the Law. For this reason Canadians are the most law-abiding people on the planet. If they were not, then the country would come apart. He explains that we all had absolutely equal rights and equal privileges and equal responsibilities.

Then he tells us to stand, and to say the oath of allegiance to the Queen of England after him, three words at a time ...first in French and then in English.

It is at this point that I feel the wetness rolling over my cheeks. I am crying for My Africa...for everything it could have been...for all the love I have given it...just to see it turned into a disgusting nightmare. Now I finally know what the old Bitter-enders in the Boer War felt like when, after surrendering, they broke their rifles in front of the British soldiers and cried as grown men at the loss of their country and having to swear allegiance to the Queen of England. I really do my best to manage, but I am lost. I am swearing off everything my ancestors had fought and died for for over 350 years and it is breaking me as human being.

I just keep looking the judge straight in the eye with the tears running uncontrollably ...that is the least I can do with what remains of my pride, my dignity and my courage. ... I croak along, with my right hand in the air and my Bible in my left...but I am smiling.... at least I think I am. I am going to wear my tears proudly...if that makes any sense.... but I am obviously not as tough as I thought. The man who has had to be everyone's cornerstone for so long is obviously a wimp when it finally comes right down to it.

When the judge finishes, he says:

"Do you see those beautiful mountains out there.... they are now yours.

Welcome Home"

No one on Earth could ever imagine the power of those two simple words: "Welcome Home". We are home.... Dear God, Home!...Home!

At the end of the ceremony, the judge comes straight over to us, pretty much puts his arms around us as a family and tells me to take my family out that night and be happy.... Decent man. He knows where I am from and presumably understands why I struggled.

So, this is our first day as Canadians. And perhaps it is no major issue for other people, but for me it is everything. I have a country again that I can call "Home" and that I can love again and can help build and turn into something to be proud of; one that will understand when I commit to it and that will not damn me and recriminate me day in and day out for being white.... I am...a Canadian.... and I am so desperately thankful to the Canadians for allowing me to be one of them, even though they themselves have absolutely no idea how important that is.

Maybe my son will know the wonderful feeling of pride in one's country and what it is to live in it with hope and without fear. For myself, I do not know. I think I shall die with my personal anguish. I simply wanted too much for South Africa, believed too much and tried too hard.... and was proven the fool for it...and I stand so proven before you...

For me, the Loerie will never sing again.



*"Do you see those beautiful mountains out there.... they are now yours.
Welcome Home!"*

FINIS

*Deep Cove,
10 March 2006.*

EPILOGUE

The dream of the New South Africa is today comprehensively lost.

FW de Klerk is universally reviled in South Africa for having sold his own people down the river, his old party having ignominiously dissolved. Mandela has all but disappeared from public life, having served his purpose as the “acceptable front man” of the Marxist inspired ANC. Several old Soviet-style communists are in the Cabinet under President Thabo Mbeki, himself a Soviet aparatchik type. The Minister of Intelligence is Ronnie Kasrils, a classic Cold War-style Lithuanian Jewish hard line Communist trained to Brigadier by the Soviet Army. He is a token white man in Cabinet, but an enemy of true freedom.

Mbeki openly supports the black racist tyrant Mugabe, who proudly calls himself “Hitler” in next-door Zimbabwe. He does this because it gives him a *Fear Factor* to use on whites, implying that they had better do what he wants so that he does not do what Mugabe does. At the same time that wins him points with the more radical elements in his own party who still want “whites driven into the sea” according to Nongquwasi’s prophecy.

More than 2,000 white, mostly Afrikaans, farmers (Boere) have been brutally murdered since Mandela took over power. This is usually accompanied by the most mind-boggling torture. This includes raping the women, covering them in cooking oil and then assaulting them with hot clothes irons. Men are shot execution style or slowly choked to death with lead wire. Some have been executed and their Bibles pointedly thrown on their bodies. This has caused the UN-accredited Genocide Watch to issue a genocide warning on the subject of “Boer Genocide” in South Africa. And yet one does not see it in the Western media. It has not once graced the screen on CNN! This is incomprehensible.

AIDS has skyrocketed to the point where South Africa has major areas with 40-50% of women HIV positive. This seems to be the only issue attracting international media attention. Whites cynically believe that this is the case because blacks are dying. They believe their own deaths, however cruel, are condoned by the West. I have absolutely zero evidence that they are wrong. Mbeki tries to address this crisis with concoctions of garlic and beetroot, denying the link to HIV.

With Affirmative Action against the minority whites not having got enough of his supporters enough riches fast enough, Mbeki embarked on Black Economic Empowerment. By this policy larger companies must provide evidence of their “blackness” in order to qualify for BEE-points. This gives them access to government tenders. Others lose out. As part of this process, they get BEE-points for buying from other “black” businesses. This forces very small businesses to literally give away major shareholding to a black man who has to do nothing to get hordes of money, and the white man works to keep two families in money. This has led to a mind-boggling Culture of Entitlement among young blacks who now only have to be black to get a job. They do not actually have to do the job they get. Some white person is put under pressure to keep them looking good.

It is simple to see how white people are being constantly planned out of the economy and into *serfdom*. With Afrikaners forming the bulk of the white working class, they are particularly hard hit by this brazen racial discrimination. Since this leads to enormous personnel deadweight, efficiency is suffering. The unavoidable competence problems have led to key systems breaking down, such as the Koeberg nuclear power station. The Air Traffic control system in Johannesburg was also threatened. Some whites actually went back from Canada to support it!

The fact is that, in attempting to get jobs for the 35 million black people by stealing them from the 4 million white people, the ANC is not truthfully growing the economy. With blacks outnumbering whites by 9:1, forcing a 10% racial minority out of its jobs cannot be the way to success for the 90% majority. This mathematical truth appears to elude the ANC. One is forced assume they have ulterior motives relating to this abuse of white people. They could have tried using the 10%

minority as a multiplicative factor, leveraging the economy and building jobs. However, they opted for coercion and what is effectively disguised grand larceny in the form of BEE.

Leading industrialists and money bosses have tried various industrial and economic arrangements with Mbeki, taking up the AA and BEE policies “enthusiastically” and selling out their white employees in the process. Naturally this boils down to them basically paying Mbeki off like the Mafia in order to try and keep their profit streams going....often to London; this while many whites are systematically reduced in life with no hope for the future for their children.

To make matters worse, whatever has been taken from whites has consistently ended up in the hands of the same small cadre of ANC sycophants. This has hugely angered the broader mass of black people, who are little better off than under Apartheid, and, in very many cases, worse off. They suffer under the highest crime rate and murder rate on Earth. They look at this new corrupt black overnight elite in their Mercedes sedans, and “sharpen their assegais”.

As one black street beggar pointed out: “The rich blacks swear at us; the whites give money”.

The ANC, desperate to deflect this criticism, since it knows what black-on-black brutality can be like, constantly tells the ignorant and illiterate voters that whites and *Apartheid* are to blame for their predicament, 17 years after the demise of that equally sterile policy. This sets these people off to raid white property and kill whites. Ignorance is a terrible disease and forms the cornerstone of so-called “Democracy” in Africa.

As I write these words, major cracks have begun to show in the bulging “church tent” of the ANC, with Jacob Zuma, a hard line radical African Nationalist Zulu and Deputy President of the country, openly going up publically against Mbeki. Barring a miracle, Zuma will be elected as leader of the ANC next year, and will thereby pretty much automatically become South Africa’s next president. The future for whites under such a man looks even worse than under Mbeki, who is only killing them slowly while he bleeds them for all they have.

A recent high level report showed that around 20% of the white population, mostly from among the intelligentsia, has left the country. The ANC government has gone on a drive to try and draw people back, but no-one basically believes them anymore. The trickle that flows back is more akin to evidence of a strategic failure and a political insult. Indian people are now leaving, fearing the same consequences as under Idi Amin. Kenyatta and Nyerere in East Africa.

The manifesto of the expatriate South Africans basically says: *If you want us back, you will:*

1. *dispose of Mugabe in Zimbabwe so you cannot scare us with your bogeyman*
2. *stop the racially discriminatory Black Economic Empowerment program*
3. *stop the racially discriminatory Affirmative Action program*
4. *stop the farm murders and address the staggering crime spree immediately*
5. *seriously address AIDS and stop making a mockery of the issue*

Short of these 5 demands being addressed, whites will keep leaving South Africa, no matter how wonderful the climate, beautiful the country or friendly the people. Meanwhile, the white youth is starting to rise on the basis of the discrimination against them. The 23-year old white job-seekers today were 10 years old when Mandela came to power. They know nothing of Apartheid and they are angry about this injustice to them. They are rediscovering their history, and they are proud of it. At the same time the World Wide Web and YouTube have created for them a way to get their message out, bypassing the anti-white biased Western Media with its aging Left Wing Liberals who have overstayed their welcome on the conscience of an increasingly insecure West.

Deep Cove,
April 2007