

WAR IN ANGOLA

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www.warinangola.com

THE NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING EVENTS, INFORMATION AND FACTS RELATING TO THE CONFLICT IN ANGOLA AND SOUTH-WEST AFRICA (NAMIBIA) FROM 1975 TO 1989

Historical Background: Reaction of the FNLA

The seventh part of the series of articles on "THE POWER STRUGGLE IN ANGOLA"

Of the three liberation movements, the FNLA was militarily the most active. Roberto had foreseen a "great offensive". In



South African Air Force Mirage F-1 fighters

Zaire he once again received significant support from President Mobutu in his efforts to establish an army of 15 000 men in Zaire, and also a detachment of Zairian volunteers by recruiting amongst the Bakongo refugees. That resulted in the considerable expansion of the FNLA's operational areas.

After the coup the Portuguese security forces only acted defensively, and gradually relinquished their positions as leftist influences on the government were brought to bear.

Thus the FNLA was allowed to occupy the coffee region of Uige with barely any resistance. "This movement (FNLA) has

taken tremendous strides", a report stated in October 1974, "in consolidating and expanding its military influence in the North of Angola." (SADF Archives)

Apparently Roberto seized the opportunity presented by these military activities and the occupation of the coffee region in the north, to boost his position in the foreign countries.

Next week: The reaction of the MPLA...

Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1103>

Featured Gallery:



UNITA instructor showing how to use a SA-7 Surface-to-Air Missile



Koevoet members riding on top of a Casspir APC



Angolan MI-25 "Hind" Assault Helicopters

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Next Week's Features

- The Historical Background series of articles on the POWER STRUGGLE IN ANGOLA continues: "Reaction of the MPLA"
- Featured Equipment: The Remington 870 Shotgun
- "Foreign Assistance" Looking at Portugal's desperate efforts to keep Angola
- Operation Sceptic: Alouette shot down by RPG-7, Part 2
- Operation Moduler: the battles continue with "The destruction of 47 Brigade, Part 1"

Images from "Grensoorlog" series, by Linda de Jager, reproduced with kind permission by MNET

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Operation Sceptic: Alouette shot down by RPG-7



Alouette III gunship in flight

Extract taken with the author's permission from: "BORDERSTRIKE!", by Willem Steenkamp

On the afternoon of 21 June [1980], [Commandant] Dippenaar had watched the Pumas take off from Cuamato with the stopper groups on board. A few minutes earlier his two Alouettes had taken

off to sweep ahead of the Pumas, and neither he nor a certain helicopter pilot could have foretold what was about to happen.

The senior Alouette pilot was Captain Tim Bosman; his Number Two was Lieutenant Tinus van Rensburg, who was soon to feature in an exploit so unbelievable that a writer of war adventure books would

scarcely consider it as a potential plot.

Van Rensburg had exactly two days of his tour left before being rotated back to South Africa and was filled with the peculiar bonhomie that suffused border servicemen who had reached the "min dae" ("only a few days more") stage. Whether it was this or sheer absent-

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From the Diary of Lieutenant Colonel Igor Anatolevich Zhdarkin

Link to this story:
<http://www.warinangola.com/default.aspx?tabid=1090>

"After two days of this shelling, our brigade had lost four men killed and twenty-two wounded."



Soviet advisors posing in front of a captured SADF Olifant tank

October 25, 1987

In the morning, we resumed our march. From 7:40 to 10:20, we marched under constant bombardment from 81-millimeter mortars. On a number of times, we had to stop because groups of the enemy were attacking our column and fighting was breaking out.

Around 15:00, we made contact with subdivisions of our First Tactical Group. We refueled them and replenished them with oil.

Nearby, several kilometers away, the 59th brigade is located. Around 17:00, they were being bombed by enemy planes. The South Africans had worked out a new tactic. At first they would launch an artillery bombardment and all the Angolans would run for cover, including the anti aircraft gunners. And then, unexpectedly, their planes would appear, beginning to strike and then flies off more quickly than the anti aircraft gunners could

come out of their hiding places.

We had just sat down to eat when the «mumbling» of a «Kentron» system was heard. It was a South African anti personnel jet system, of directional effect and with range of fire of 17 kilometers. Its projectiles are filled with small balls possessing big destructive power.

We had already worked out clearly the norms for bombardment: in a fraction of a second no one remained at the table. The South Africans shot a little bit from their «Kentron» and then from 120 millimeter mortars and at last «quieted down». Probably, they simply decided to wish us good appetite, the rascals.

October 26, 1987

This morning, we took leave of our Tactical Group and pushed forward. The South Africans were again late with their shelling and began to fire upon our positions after we had

already left. After two days of this shelling, our brigade had lost four men killed and twenty-two wounded. Today, towards evening we finally reached our destination. We set up camp and dug ourselves in the ground. No one knows how much time shall we remain here.

October 27, 1987

Last night and the whole of today, we were enveloped by an unceasing din of cannon fire. The South Africans shelled the 59th brigade, the crossing over the Shambinga river and our Tactical Group. As yet, they did not disturb us, perhaps because they still did not realize where we are.

For dinner, the Angolans had caught a goat. As a gift, they brought us a whole leg. We left it to stew with potatoes for

(Continued on page 5)



Featured Equipment: The durable Mosin-Nagant Rifle

The Mosin-Nagant Rifle was a mix of designs from the Belgian brothers Emil and Leon Nagant and the Tsarist Russian officer Sergei Mosin. It was produced as a new standard rifle for Russian infantry forces and was issued as the M1891. Like most Russian weapons throughout the century the key property of the Mosin-Nagant was its durability under the worst conditions. This was somewhat surprising as the rifle had some fairly complex design features. Foremost amongst

these was the two-piece bolt action, which actually allowed the cartridge being fired to remain free from the magazine spring pressure. Yet the gun worked well and it became the standard Russian and Soviet service rifle (although hopelessly under-produced to meet demand) and emerged in several carbine models (the World War II model was the M1981/30)

"Twentieth-Century Small Arms", by Chris McNab

For more detailed information on the Mosin-Nagant, see Wikipedia: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mosin-Nagant>



SWAPO guerillas on parade with AK-47's and shouldered Mosin-Nagant rifles.

Specifications

Country of Origin:	Russia/USSR
Caliber:	7.62 x 54mm
Length:	1304mm (51.25in)
Weight:	4.43kg (9.77lb)
Barrel:	802mm (31.6in)
Feed/magazine capacity:	5-round integral box magazine
Operation:	Bolt-action
Muzzle velocity:	805 m/s (2650ft/s)
Effective Range:	1000 m (3250ft)

"The key property of the Mosin-Nagant was its durability under the worst conditions."

The Mosin-Nagant Rifle



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PORTUGAL'S DESPERATE EFFORTS TO KEEP ANGOLA

Ideological background: Black



Guerrilla's crossing a river in a crude boat

Link to this story:
<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1059>

"The 'Discover Angola'-movement researched the first appearances of Angolan awareness and tried to present a historical perspective."

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Some of Savimbi's UNITA soldiers on parade

It is not practical to provide a complete overview of all the ideological forces that lay behind the conflict of Black Africa against colonialism in this writing. It is shown by some authors to be traceable back to the Pan-African movement that originated at the start of the twentieth century in America, attempting to sanctify the American Negro but also reaching out to the black nations of Africa. It started with figures like Booker T. Washington and the more radical Dr. William Du Bois, with his **National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People** – NAACP, to culminate in the visionary ideas of Marcus Garvey who prophesized a Black African Empire and evangelized Black Zionism.

On this a number of conferences of the **Independent African States** and the **All African Peoples Conference**-movement and various others followed, as the liberty of African states and the accompanying activation of nationalistic

movements made it necessary. (In the first chapter of his book "**Organizing African Unity**", Jon Woronoff provides a nice overview of the entire development of the Pan-African thinking.)

With the political influences there were also the not-so-obvious cultural influences which also made an important contribution to the national awareness. It was largely a literary movement and also originated outside Africa. Black authors from America and the West-Indian area started searching for the core of the black man in their writings. The first was possibly Jean price-Mars who settled in Paris as a diplomat in the nineteen-twenties, followed by the poets Alain Locke, Leopold Senghor, the later president of Senegal, Alioune Diop, and Aimé Césaire, who started the first school of African literature in Paris and designed the concept of *negritude*. It achieved acclaim in the intellectual world of Paris and amongst others, enjoyed

the support of Jean-Paul Sartre. The Negro-philosopher Frantz Fanon also contributed to the outlining of the concept. (David Caute, "**Fanon**")

Although the movement was largely cultural in nature, it was also drawn into the political whirlwinds of the time. In September 1956 the first congress of Negro-authors and –artists were held in Paris, where the main argument made was that the black man should remain true to himself.

As happened in probably every country of Africa, similar cultural movements also started in Angola and contributed to the national awareness that was rising. Among them we find poets that would later play important political roles, like Viriato da Cruz, Mario de Andrade and Agostinho Neto. The "Discover Angola"-movement researched the first appearances of Angolan awareness and tried to present a historical perspective.

This week, 23 Years Ago, In South-East Angola...

Friday, 12 February 1988: 61 Mech combat team ready to intervene

A second contact between Fapla and Unita followed on 12 February. The 61 Mech combat team moved to an area just west of the Chaminga source during the night, and deployed there to wait for

the situation to stabilise, ready to intervene if necessary....

Saturday, 13 February 1988: Unwelcome welcome of SAAF air defence elements

The SAAF air defence element's deployment in a hide east of the Chaminga source was apparently noticed by

Fapla, who welcomed the airmen with a BM-21 shoot at 17h05, the rockets landed some 300 metres away from their positions. At 18h05 they fired their first SAM - unsuccessfully - at a MiG-23 flying at 14 000 feet nine kilometres away. Pierre Franken treated the Monongue air

(Continued on page 5)

Historical Account:

Operation Moduler: 21 Brigade tries again

Extract taken with the author's permission from: "War In Angola - The Final South African Phase", by Helmoed-Römer Heitman

Fapla were at that time devoting their attention to the resupply of their three brigades in the Lomba River area. 47 Brigade and 21 Brigade, in particular, had used up prodigious quantities of ammunition and fuel, and all three were short of most items. 25 Brigade pushed through a logistic convoy of 148 vehicles to 21 Brigade, reaching it on 15 September. 21 Brigade then

took the convoy down to the Lomba and across the Cunzumbia to replenish 59 Brigade, deployed at the confluence with the Lomba. Their most difficult problem, though, was how to move supplies through to 47 Brigade. The decision was that 21 Brigade should cross the Lomba and set up a bridgehead, to which 47 Brigade would then advance from its position just south of the Lomba-Cuzizi confluence, to replenish on arrival. First, however, 21 Brigade had to cross the Lomba.

21 Brigade Tries Again

The attempt by 21 Bri-

gade to carry out this instruction was preceded by a heavy artillery bombardment of the South African positions four kilometres south of the original bridgehead. These had been cleared in time, however, as a signals in-tercept referring to "smoking the South Africans out" had awakened fears of chemical attack. The shelling of the vacant positions continued for much of the day. As soon as the shelling ended in the late afternoon, the anti-tank squadron and the artillery forward observers moved forward. They

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South African Samil trucks, Olifant tanks, and Ratels form up before moving up to the front line.

This week, 23 Years Ago, In South-East Angola...

(Continued from page 4)

base with two ripples of 127 mm rockets, causing some damage to aircraft, air defence systems and installations. Seven Cubans and thirty-seven Angolan Air Force personnel were reported killed...

Sunday, 14 February 1988: The Attack on 59 Brigade

The original concept had provided for an attack by

4 SAI on the main 21 Brigade positions, preceded by probing attacks against its eastern positions. 4 SAI would then attack 59 Brigade's main positions from the north-east, after Unita had attacked its eastern positions. 59 Brigade was regarded as the key to the Fapla defensive system on the Chaminga high ground. With it and the mobile reserve - essentially 3 Tank Battalion - destroyed, it was felt

that 21 and 25 Brigades would have no option but to fall back. Should 25 Brigade remain in its positions, it would be attacked by 4 SAI and 61 Mech after they had dealt with 59 and the reserve. The loss of men to hepatitis and malaria, however, decided the South Africans to change this plan, and leave the attack on 21 Brigade to Unita. 4 SAI would now make a feint towards 21

(Continued on page 7)

"It was felt that 21 and 25 Brigades would have no option but to fall back."

From the Diary of Lieutenant Colonel Igor Anatolevich Zhdarkin

(Continued from page 2)

supper. We found it so tasty that we licked the whole pot.

I began to compose songs

about how we now live in Angola. Our men listened, and then approved and some of them also began to compose. Of course, as regards the style of our songs... We cannot do them «cultural» and «smooth», they are full of «bad language», es-

pecially when we recall the South Africans and UNITA. They got on our nerves with their bombardments and even do not permit us to eat in peace.



A typical temporary bomb shelter using ammo cases as support

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Historical Account: Operation Moduler: 21 Brigade tries again



FAPLA infantry killed by G-5 fire and rockets while trying to cross the flood plains of the Lomba

"By 18h25 forward observers with Bravo reported a BM-21 destroyed, at least two vehicles on fire, and many infantry killed in the Lomba flood plain."

Link to this story:
<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=670>

(Continued from page 5)

arrived in time to see three columns of vehicles moving down to the river crossing, flanked by infantry. Quebec and Papa Batteries both opened fire about 18h00, the forward observers, who had a clear view of the crossing site, correcting from registered targets engaged during the previous attempt to cross.

The G-5s fired airburst, which had set several vehicles on fire by

18h30, possibly including a tank whose external fuel tanks had been punctured by fragments. A signal from 21 Brigade to the Forward Command Post at Cuito Cuanavale was intercepted, which said that "our infantry are dying like ducks", suggesting that the G-5s were once again doing their work well. This attempt to establish a bridgehead south of the Lomba failed under the fire of the G-5s and rocket launchers. The anti-tank

squadron stayed deployed on the south bank through the night, to guard against any surprises.

Early next morning they could again see Fapla infantry on the north bank. The guns opened fire again, and Fapla pulled back again. Further attempts during the day were all stopped by artillery fire. The South Africans found that their artillery could prevent any crossing with no risk of any physical contact between the forces, or

The guns opened fire again...

even of counter-bombardment, the range of their guns and rockets keeping them safe. By 18h25 forward observers with Bravo reported a BM-21 destroyed, at least two vehicles on fire, and many infantry killed in the Lomba flood plain.

Fapla now gave up this attempt, and 21 Brigade was instructed to hand over 47 Brigade's supplies to 59 Brigade. They placed a TMM bridge over the Cunzumbia about three kilometres north of its confluence with the Lomba and moved the supplies

across. 59 Brigade then deployed two of its battalions westwards to the Cuzizi-Lomba confluence with the supply trucks. They settled in just to the east of the confluence to await the arrival of 47 Brigade on the south bank.

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Operation Sceptic: Alouette shot down by RPG-7

(Continued from page 2)



Alouette III helicopter coming in for a landing

mindedness, he had a large, unnecessary bulge in one of the leg pockets of his flying suit when he lifted his Alouette into the air: a thick paperback novel called *Death of a Fox*, by George Garrett, which he had been reading just prior to takeoff.

So far both PLAN and

FAPLA had been conspicuous by their absence, and neither van Rensburg nor his flight engineer, Sergeant Koos Celliers – who was his firm friend even though they had been flying together for only 10 days – was very worried as they sped at treetop height up to the location where the ground troops

were to be dropped off. They did not know that a substantial concentration of FAPLA troops, estimated later as being of company strength, was in the vicinity.

Then an RPG-7 rocket soared up from the ground and smashed into the helicopter, blow-

(Continued on page 7)

Operation Sceptic: Alouette shot down by RPG-7

(Continued from page 6)

ing up the fuel tank and wrecking the control cables. It happened so suddenly that Tinus van Rensburg had no time to feel fear or any other emotion. One moment he was racing along at 150 km/h, the Xangongo road unreeling like a dusty tape measure just nine metres below his bubble canopy; the next there was an explosion that filled the cockpit with smoke and shattered Perspex.

Van Rensburg's trained mind immediately registered two facts. Firstly, he had been hit by a missile, not small-arms fire. Secondly, he had only a few seconds be-

fore hitting the ground. He initiated the emergency landing procedures and tried to call Captain Bosman to report what had happened, but his radio was as dead as the helicopter controls.

He was still trying to raise Bosman when the crippled little helicopter tipped to the right, steadied momentarily and then ploughed into the ground with terrible force. The undercarriage crumpled, the cockpit dissolved into ruin and the tail-boom snapped like a twig. Van Rensburg felt himself being hurled out, and then lost consciousness.

A horrified Captain Bos-

man saw Van Rensburg's Alouette plough into the ground and burst into flames. There was no question of obeying the SAAF's golden rule and going down to pick him up; so he sheered away immediately and reported back to Cuamato. He told Dippenaar what had happened and added that in his opinion one of the Alouette's crew was dead, but the other might have been able to get out in time.

As it happened, both Van Rensburg and Cilliers were alive at that stage. The first to regain his wits was Van Rensburg; he found himself lying in the burning wreckage, his nostrils

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Alouette III helicopters moving in mutual support

This week, 23 Years Ago, In South-East Angola...

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Brigade before swinging around to attack 59 Brigade. 61 Mech would deploy south of 21 Brigade as a mobile reserve for 4 SAI's attack on 59 Brigade. It would also cover against interference by 21 Brigade or from the Tumpo area. Both combat groups moved out late that night to their forward assembly areas, and settled in there about 01h00 to await a final decision on whether to proceed with the attack. About 04h00, the units were up and forming up to move out. The order to go ahead came at 08h50. For an historical account of this encounter, see the Historical Accounts section on the website....

Monday, 15 February 1988: More Fapla battalions driven back

During the afternoon three Fapla battalions sortied from Tumpo towards the 59 Brigade positions. They were quickly met by the South African and Unita forces, however, and driven back....

Tuesday, 16 February 1988: Situation stabilised

By 16 February the situation had stabilised; the South Africans and Unita were busy with replenishment and maintenance while the artillery went on harassing Fapla. The Regiment Molopo squadron, reinforced with a mechanised infantry platoon, a anti-tank platoon, a mor-

tar group and an engineer section, deployed in the former 59 Brigade positions with a forward observer to hold them and over the clearing up of the battlefield. The rocket launchers deployed north-east of the 59 Brigade position to support this force as necessary....

Wednesday, 17 February 1988: Crossing of the Cuito to be simulated again

It was again decided to simulate a crossing of the Cuito, in the hope that Fapla might withdraw its remaining forces from the east bank to prevent them from being cut off by a force coming up from the south. 4 SAI was ordered to detach its armoured car squadron

(Continued on page 8)

"They were quickly met by the South African and Unita forces, however, and driven back..."

Link to this story:
<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=574>



Multiple Rocket Launchers firing a ripple

Uittreksel uit "Ag man dit 'WAS' lekker in die Army" - van Danie Matthee



Een van Korporaal Spikkels se sêgoed wat ek nooit sal vergeet nie was toe ons net ingeklaar het. Ons was besig in die Bangalow om reg te maak vir inspeksie toe hy daar ingestap kom en om een of ander rede direk na my toe loop. Hy kom voor my tot stilstand. Ek los dit

waarmee ek besig was en spring op aandag. Nadat hy my 'n ruk lank op en af bekyk het vra hy my wat my naam is en waarvandaan ek kom. Ek antwoord hom: "ek is Wimpie Smith en ek kom van Keiskammahoek af". Met 'n frons op sy gesig vra hy my waar op des aarde dit

is en voor ek kon antwoord sê hy vir my as ek eendag daar doodgaan en Liewe Jesus my kom haal, ek Hom 'n ruitverwysing sal moet gee om my op te spoor.

Kavalaris W Smith

1979 tot 1980



South African Infantry undergoing training

Operation Sceptic: Alouette shot down by RPG-7

(Continued from page 7)

squirting blood and his spine ablaze with pain, while around him automatic weapons rattled and bullets hissed through the air.

Van Rensburg crawled away from the wreckage, forced himself erect in spite of the agonising pain in his back and then ran to take cover near a camouflaged FAPLA vehicle which was standing close by. He looked around as he did so, and said later in an interview published in the Johannesburg Sunday Times newspaper, and saw Cilliers stumbling after

him.

But "he fell down on his face before he could reach me... I crawled under the FAPLA vehicle and shouted to Koos to join me. He didn't reply. Leaving the shelter, I made for him but realised there was nothing more I could do for him. I crept back under the vehicle. The MPLA troops continued firing at me from no more than 27 metres, [and] I realised my only chance was to move to a safer area from which I could attract my leader's attention by firing pencil flares."

Van Rensburg managed

to crawl away without been seen, and then walked through a six-metre-deep donga to a clearing. There he fired seven of the nine pencil flares he had with him, but nothing happened [ironically, Captain Bosman saw the flares, but thought they had been fired by PLAN].

Van Rensburg waited a while and then decided to put some distance between himself and the troops who had shot him down. Fighting his back pain, he started walking. After a few minutes he came to a large anthill. On the other side of the

(Continued on page 9)

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This week, 23 Years Ago, In South-East Angola...

(Continued from page 7)

less one troop, two mechanised infantry platoons, an engineer troop less one section, an armoured recovery vehicle to do the earth-moving work, a single tank to recover the ARV if it should break down, and a forward observer for that purpose....

Thursday, 18 February 1988: Shelling and probes by Unita, SAAF strikes

A 'groundshout' team went into action against the Fapla forces at Tumpo during the night of 17 to 18 February, followed by intense shelling at 01h00 and a series of probes by Unita elements in the area

from 02h00. At 08h00 SAAF Mirages attacked a Cuban convoy stopped at Cuatir. The fighters attacked the convoy again at 12h00. Secondary explosions followed both attacks. Angolan fighters flew top cover for the convoy after the first strike which required careful planning of the second....



Burning Angolan vehicles after a convoy has been struck by the SAAF

Operation Sceptic: Alouette shot down by RPG-7

(Continued from page 8)

anthill was a small, unoccupied shelter made of a cow's hide stretched over four posts.

Then, he said, "suddenly I heard a movement on my right and saw an Angolan soldier in full uniform, wielding an AK-47 rifle. My face was covered in blood and I don't know who got the biggest fright, him or me. The soldier, who was in a shelter, stood only about five metres away and I realised that he was going to shoot me.

"He started shouting – and I charged. Because of limited space in the shelter he could not aim his rifle and tried to use it as a shield. We strug-

gled, and as he stumbled I grabbed the rifle. I am not familiar with the action of an AK-47, but while the soldier was getting to his feet I cocked it and fired a burst, hitting him. He was either dead or severely wounded."

Van Rensburg then became aware of the fact that he was being shot at again. He fired back a couple of times – not expecting to hit anything because the rifle's sights had been bent upwards during his struggle with its former owner – before making off, keeping the weapon, although he did not know how much ammunition, if any, remained in the magazine.

By now about 20 min-

utes had elapsed since the crash, and the effects of Van Rensburg's injuries were beginning to catch up with him; although, in spite of the fact that he was reasonably fit, "at times I became so tired I did not even bother to think about the pain in my back". But he knew that the danger of discovery was ever-present because there were many kraals in the vicinity, and the paths he kept running across all bore numerous boot-prints of the distinctive SWAPO pattern of sole.

This account continues next week in Part 2...



South African Infantry patrol taking a break

"My face was covered in blood and I don't know who got the biggest fright, him or me. "



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SADF!

Write the names of the units represented by the flashes below each one.

Find the answers in next week's issue!

Last week's unit flashes:



Special Forces Headquarters was established in 1974, at the Zanza Building in Pretoria.

In 1980, Special Forces Headquarters was moved to Swartkop Park nature reserve outside Pretoria, which has subsequently unofficially been called "Speskop" within the Special Forces community. In 1981, Special Forces became an independent formation.



Special Forces Supply Depot was initially a part of Special Forces Headquarters.

This unit's role was to see to and maintain all logistical, technical and other equipment for Special Forces. This included all equipment and material unique to Special Forces.



1 Reconnaissance Regiment was established as 1 Reconnaissance Commando at Oudtshoorn in 1972.

This was the first Special Forces unit formally established in South Africa. In 1974, 1 Reconnaissance Commando relocated to Durban. In 1981, 1 Reconnaissance Commando was redesignated as 1 Reconnaissance Regiment.



Special Forces Operators jump out of a helicopter during a insertion behind enemy lines



Please send your event notices to info@warinangola.com

Schedule of Events

- 21 - 22 February 2011 — Seaport Security India
- 22 - 24 February 2011 — Directed Energy Weapons 2011, UK
- 23 - 24 February 2011 — Tactical Data Links 2011
- 26 - 27 February 2011 — 18th MSSA North West Board Gaming & Wargaming Championships
- 28 February - 1 March 2011 — Air Mission Planning 2011, UK
- 6 March 2011 — 3rd Annual Vintage Transport Day at the Bournemouth Aviation Museum, UK
- 10 March 2011 — SA Military History Society Durban: Major General Sir Charles Warren in Northern Natal
- 10 March 2011 — SA Military History Society Durban: My Experiences in the Armed Struggle

FEBRUARY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28					

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Mark Raats has created this **SPECIAL EDITION** high quality 900mm x 600mm poster of his original artwork, "An Unpopular War", SPECIFICALLY and EXCLUSIVELY for the users of WarInAngola.com. This is the same artwork which has proven such a direct hit in the form of the complimentary "OUMAN" sticker we have been sending out to all SADF

Veterans, courtesy of Danie Matthee, with the kind permission and specific design provided by Mark. This high quality poster is now available for only **R300, plus R50 handling and postage** anywhere in South Africa. Postage to the rest of the world will be added accordingly. Please enquire first as to the cost thereof.



NEW: PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP

With over 3,800 UNIQUE visitors to War In Angola, viewing in excess of 56,000 pages per month, the time has come to allow a select few to rise above the rest.

In order to continue expanding the site and adding additional functionality it is essential that some sort of revenue is generated to overcome the ever-increasing costs.

While by no means minimising the information available to Public and Registered users (which is what attracts all the attention in the first place), it takes considerable time and effort to research, find and publish new information all the time.

To this effect, some new information will only be made available to Registered users that have subscribed to the annual PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP.

This subscription will have a number of advantages:

- Access to a growing library of information not available to other users
- 10% off your first order you place on WIA
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- Access to your own personal WARLOG where

you can post your own stories and photos and create your own profile

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THE NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING EVENTS, INFORMATION AND FACTS RELATING TO THE CONFLICT IN ANGOLA AND SOUTH-WEST AFRICA (NAMIBIA) FROM 1975 TO 1989

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The War In Angola website (www.warinangola.com) is dedicated to recreating and re-fighting the battles between the adversaries of the Angolan War (or Border War as it is also known), that is, the SADF and UNITA on the one side and the Soviet-supplied FAPLA, Cuba, and SWAPO on the other side. In order to recreate the battles as accurate as possible, a lot of research is required about the equipment, organisation, quality, uniforms, command, support and logistical structures behind the different forces.

There are two sides to the website: the gaming and recreation of the miniature battles; and the historical facts and research of the forces behind the battles.

The dividing line between the two sides is deliberately blurred in order to expose both sides to all the users, thereby promoting and exposing the wargaming and modeling hobby to the historically inclined and vice-versa.

Johan Schoeman

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Last week's latest topics on the Forums

Link to the Forums:
<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=590>

RE: Planning of Operation Moduler by Dirtyoldsix

Hi everyone. I was an Intelligence NCO at Sector 20 HQ when Op.Moduler started. I wish I could remember all the sitreps I typed into that Olivetti M24 in 1987! I was first involved with SWAPO Buitela...

Kpl van Emmines by Kpl Graat Pelsier (guest)

Soek 3SAI / vals-kerm Kpl van Emmines?

Bom van Wyk by Graat (guest)

Kpl Pelsier soek Bom van Wyk 14veld ops 75

Sunday 14 Feb 1988 59th brigade. by Herman1

Our fallen friends of 22C.. We SALUTE you.

RE: Background and early operations (1975 -1985) by HUGHROY

JOHAN, PUMA CHOPPER

WAS SHOT DOWN AND THE FIREFORCE TROOPS WENT TO SECURE THE AREA. A SUPER FRELON LIFTED IT OUT. SWAPO HAD FORMED DEFENSIVE POSITIONS AT 180 DEGREES AROUND THE WRECK. COL. BREYTENB...

RE: Background and early operations (1975 -1985) by johansamin

Incursion into Zambia? I am sure we all want to hear more of that! LOL Regards Johan

RE: Background and early operations (1975 -1985) by HUGHROY

I WAS BORN TO EARLY TO BE VERY INVOLVED, BORDER STINTS AND ONE INCURSION INTO ZAMBIA. HOWEVER WAS AT THE IN-OEFENING FOR CASSINGA, SADLY PASSED OVER. REGARDS, HUGH

RE: Bren and Browning 7,62 conversions by pfv

Thanks again, Mexican Dave, for some excellent stats and info. I had no idea they Brens were manufactured in Canada, though it makes sense in view of many other factors like WW2 evacuation plans, the...

RE: Bren and Browning 7,62 conversions by Mexican Dave

Some info on John Inglis and Co who seem to have made many of the brens that ended up in SA and elsewhere. Doesn't say anything about the 30 Browning MG however but I'm certain of what I read on the ...

RE: Painting your Models by johansamin

Some of the more modern vehicles, including Mambas, Scout Cars, Olifant 1Bs, the Total Tank Demonstration (TTD), the different models of Rooikats, Casspirs, Buffels, etc...