

# WAR IN ANGOLA

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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

## Historical Background: Background to internal strife

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

The Alvor Agreement did not address the internal strife. All three liberation movements still stood strong and were still receiving foreign aid in the form of weapons with the promise of more to come. It was therefore difficult to expect of them to bury the hatchet at this stage. Alvor was Portugal's last attempt to steer the destiny of Angola in a specific direction.

Clashes started with Chipenda. For Agostinho Neto it was a sensitive loss when Chipenda broke away from him with about 2 000 well trained soldiers. Under the pretence that the

Chipenda faction was illegal because it was not acknowledged by the Alvor Agreement, MPLA soldiers attacked the offices of Chipenda in Luanda on 13 February 1975 and drove his supporters out of the city. Between 15 and 20 of them were killed in the fighting. This



*Huts of a guerilla base burning after a successful operation of the SADF*

forced Chipenda to seek legal status and before the end of the month he announced formally his joining with the FNLA, where he soon became assistant secretary general.

The differences and enmity between the three movements were just too strong to be overcome by an agreement that was forced on them. Tribalism also still played an important role: The FNLA with its Bakongo background established in Northern Angola, the MPLA with its Mbundu-supporters of the Luanda-Malanje area, and UNITA with its Ovimbundu background on the central and southern plateau. Each one's

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Featured Gallery:



*UNITA troops attending a training lecture*



*South African Infantry moving through the bush*



*Members of 32 Battalion posing at a temporary base in Angola*

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### Next Week's Features

- The Historical Background series of articles on the POWER STRUGGLE IN ANGOLA continues: "First Clashes"
- Featured Equipment: The convenient Tokarev TT-33 Pistol
- "Socio-economic policy" Looking at Portugal's desperate efforts to keep Angola
- Operation Moduler: the battles continue with "The Attack on 16 Brigade, Part 3"

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## Historical Account:

## Operation Moduler: The Attack on 16 Brigade, Part 2



Olifant tank on the move

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

The Olifants of E Squadron overran infantry and 23 mm gun positions, 82 mm mortar pits, and a BM-21 position. One BM-21 was destroyed and one captured intact. Several trucks and a diesel tanker were also shot up and set on fire. The infantry meanwhile dealt with some bunkers. Juliet Troop's G-6s, which had supported

Alpha's diversionary attack, now concentrated on the 23 mm guns in the outpost, directed by Major Jako Potgieter, who was with the tanks. He also used the 120 mm mortars of Romeo Battery, deployed about 3 000 metres away. At least two of the 23 mm positions were silenced by artillery fire.

This fight was soon over, the Fapla Battalion in this outpost having been driven out of it by 09h10. They left behind twenty-two dead and two wounded and captured, for no loss to the South

Africans. One of the prisoners said that the main position was about four kilometres away to the south-west. Unita elements accompanying Charlie were quick to seize their opportunity, and took away two 23 mm and one 14,5 mm guns captured on the objective. Among the items taken by the South Africans, was a map showing the minefields and registered defensive Fire tasks over much of the area.

The brass cartridge case

*(Continued on page 5)*

## From the Diary of Lieutenant Colonel Igor Anatolevich Zhdarkin

## Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/default.aspx?tabid=1090>

"After the South Africans had attacked them with poison gas on the 29 of October, they had more or less regained consciousness."



Soviet advisor relaxing—their lives was not just all work...

**November 8, 1987**

All night, the enemy was disturbed that the column had reached us, but he could not hit it. The sons-of-bitches (enemy) launched mortar mines and shells all the time!

Following a directive received yesterday, we set off this morning in the direction of the river Vimpulo, situated in the area of the 1st Tactical Group. The 25th brigade occupied our place. Also the first battalion of our brigade remained in its positions. The 59th brigade which stood next to us was to move out a little later after us and go directly to Cuito-Cuanavale.

The whole day, we moved forward through a dense forest, advanced 16 kilometers, and finally reached the limits of that river Vimpulo. Strangely, we were not ever attacked nor fired upon. It

was simply amazing!

Indeed, later on, the 59th brigade reported that at 10:00 our positions had been subjected to a powerful bombardment but by then we were no longer there. Verily, success has until now remained with us!

In our new location, we have taken positions in the hills. At this point, there is nothing very clear: from where are they shooting and what are they shooting at. From all sides, we hear explosions, for the moment more or less far from us.

**November 9, 1987**

All night, we heard the rumble of engines and nearby explosions. It was the 59th brigade approaching us but the South Africans were "escorting" them with their artillery.

In the morning, we went down to meet them. We saw our Soviet advisors. They felt that everything for them was under control. After the South Africans had attacked them with poison gas on the 29 of October, they had more or less regained consciousness. Their faces were happy - after all, they were returning "home", to Cuito. They had been in the forest for almost 4 months. It is difficult to imagine such a life - one must have personally have lived through it. We, for example, have been in the forest exactly one month, today, yet I have the feeling that already half my life has slipped by, and that all the days have merged into one, that each day is one and

*(Continued on page 7)*

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## Featured Equipment: The excellent Star Super Pistol

The Spanish Star pistol is based on the Browning-designed Colt M1911 and had been in production from 1946 to 1965. The Star pistol family is manufactured by the Spain-based company Bonifacio Echeverria, SA.

Being very similar in appearance to the Colt M1911A1 pistols, the Star pistols had some differences. These pistols had no automated grip safety, and no detachable backstrap/ mainspring housing

Star pistols had simplified trigger/sear design with single trigger link, and pivoting trigger external safety switch locked the hammer, not the sear. Star pistols featured external extractors. Star pistols also had different barrel locking/unlocking. In general, all these pistols were of high quality, and offered good performance.

The Star was the major service pistol of the SADF during the Border War.

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



The Star pistol was a favourite amongst SADF officers as a side-arm

### Specifications

|                         |                       |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Country of Origin:      | Spain                 |
| Caliber:                | 9 x 19mm Parabellum   |
| Length:                 | 204mm (8.07in)        |
| Weight:                 | 1.2kg (2.5lb)         |
| Barrel:                 | 134mm (5.2in)         |
| Feed/magazine capacity: | 9-round magazine      |
| Operation:              | Recoil, single action |
| Muzzle velocity:        | 366mps (1203fps)      |
| Effective Range:        | 50m (164ft)           |

"In general, all these pistols were of high quality, and offered good performance."

### The Star mod. B Super Pistol



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## PORTUGAL'S DESPERATE EFFORTS TO KEEP ANGOLA UNITA in war



UNITA troops during training

**Link to this story:**  
<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1063>

"On Christmas Day of 1966, UNITA entered the combat arena for the first time by attacking the border town of Teixeira de Sousa."

Jonas Malheiro Savimbi was born in 1934 to a prominent Christian family living in Munhango in the Moxico district. He received his school education firstly at two Protestant missionary schools, then at the middle school at Silva Porto (Bié) and finally at the *liceu* of Sá da Bandeira (Lubango), where he excelled in his final exams as best student in his class.

In 1958, with the help of a bursary from the United Church of Christ, he went to Lisbon, which he left in 1960 to continue his studies in Switzerland, first at the University of Freiburg and then at the University of Lausanne. Here he earned his doctorate in State Sciences.

In 1961 he made contact with Holden Roberto. Later he joins Roberto's

movement and contributed much to the workings of the UPA (of which he was secretary-general), FNLA and GRAE (**Gouvernement Révolutionnaire de l'Angola en Exil**).

But in 1964 he broke away from Roberto and approached the MPLA. His approach failed and he and his supporters proceeded with the creation of his own organisation, the **União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola** – UNITA (National Union for the total independence of Angola). This occurred in March 1966 in the district of Moxico, i.e. inside Angola. His supporters originate mostly from the Ovimbundo nation. The movement was, on paper at least, well organised with a General Council at the head with underneath it,

central, provincial, district and area committees. A military wing was also added, the **Forças Armadas de Libertação** – FALA (Armed Liberation Force), in which Chinese influences could be seen. Some men were indeed sent to China for training.

President Kaunda of Zambia viewed UNITA favourably and allowed the organisation to open an office in Lusaka, which made the import of armament and the transfer of recruits possible.

On Christmas Day of 1966, UNITA entered the combat arena for the first time by attacking the border town of Teixeira de Sousa (Luau) with around 250 poorly armed followers. They suffered serious casualties. After this, UNITA elements penetrated the sparsely

*(Continued on page 6)*

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

### **Saturday, 19 March 1988: Mirages attacked Baixa Longa**

Mirage F-1AZs of 1 Squadron attacked the 36 Brigade battalion at Baixa Longa at 19h30 on 19 March. One of the Mirages, flown by Major Willie van Coppenhagen, crashed in Kavango on the way back....

### **Sunday, 20 March 1988: Deception actions at the Cuito river**

Regiment Groot Karoo's A Company moved out with a mortar platoon and an engineer element during the night of 19 to

20 March to carry out deception actions. They opened by simulating a bridge-building operation over the Cuito north of its confluence with the Mianeí, to again suggest the possibility of an attack on the Cuito defences from the south-west. Fapla reacted with 12 BM-21 rockets on 20 March and by despatching elements of 13 Brigade to carry out deep reconnaissance south of Cuito Cuanavale....

### **Monday, 21 March 1988: SAAF struck Tumpo defences**

The SAAF struck the Tumpo defences at 07h30 on 20 March and at 11h15 on 21 March. Fapla's air-defence again began firing only after the South African aircraft had already turned around and were on their way home....

### **Tuesday, 22 March 1988: Fapla intended to regain control of the Chaminga high ground**

An intercept on 22 March suggested that Fapla intended to regain control of the Chaminga

*(Continued on page 5)*

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Mirage F-1 firing rockets at a ground target

## Historical Account:

## Operation Moduler: The Attack on 16 Brigade, Part 2

*(Continued from page 2)*

of Hein Fourie's first tank-killing round was carefully marked and packed away. It now stands in the club of the School of Armour in Bloemfontein.

The main body of Combat Group Charlie had halted while the tanks and A Company dealt with the outpost. The 2iC of E Squadron, Captain Joubert, found himself out of touch with the squadron, as some of the command group vehicles between him and the tanks had stopped for a time rather than also moving by bounds. While they were stopped, three Fapla tanks escaping from the outpost turned too soon and burst out of the bush in line with the South African vehicles. Two of the tanks quickly retired back into the bush, but one opened fire on some

nearby Unita infantry before again disappearing. Two of these Fapla tanks were later found abandoned nearby.

The tankers were justly pleased with themselves after the brief action. Everything had been done 'by the book' and it had worked out as 'the book' said it would. This was to be characteristic of this tank squadron in these operations. The individual tank and troop commanders constantly reported what was happening around them, what they were doing and the result, keeping the squadron commander up to date. Tapes of the squadron command net sound as if they were recorded during a rather dull exercise. The squadron had trained together for nineteen months before deploying, and this now paid handsome dividends. It is also noteworthy

that the first employment of tanks since 1945, and the first under such terrain conditions, was so successful. It suggests that the School of Armour had succeeded in adapting the lessons learned by armoured car crews during past operations, to tank tactics.

One new lesson of this conventional fighting was the need to operate with hatches shut. There was simply too much fire of all kinds to operate 'head out' as generally practised in the past. This is a consideration that would apply equally to fighting in other theatres.

16 Brigade now asked for close air support against Charlie, but it was refused at 08h43.

By 09h30 the last resistance had been mopped up and the outpost cleared. Charlie now

*(Continued on page 6)*



T-55 tanks on a road in Angola

"...three Fapla tanks escaping from the outpost turned too soon and burst out of the bush in line with the South African vehicles..."

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

*(Continued from page 4)*

high ground. Various elements received orders to reoccupy the former 21 Brigade positions, crossing the Cuito at Chaconda, north of the Miane, and then moving from there to the former 21 Brigade positions. 82 SA Brigade was ready to attack on 22 March, leading elements of Regiment De La Rey having already moved off to their assembly area at 06h00....

sembly area at 06h00....

### Wednesday, 23 March 1988: Third Attack on Tumpo

The force for the third attack on the Tumpo area consisted of 82 SA Brigade and four Unita battalions. 82 SA Brigade had two squadrons of tanks from Regiment President Steyn, an armoured car squadron of Regiment Moorivier, and two mechanised infantry battalions - Regiment De La Rey and Regiment Groot Karoo. Its artillery included two batteries of

Regiment Potchefstroom University, one each with G-5s and G-2s; a 120 mm mortar battery of 44 Parachute Brigade and a multiple rocket launcher troop of 19 Rocket Regiment. Supporting elements included two troops of 7 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, six troops of 13 Field Engineer Regiment, and five reconnaissance teams of 4 Recce. For a historical account of this encounter, see the Historical Accounts section....

*(Continued on page 8)*

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



The World War II vintage 5.5 inch gun known in South Africa as the 140mm G-2 gun was still used in anger during 1988

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## Historical Account:

## Operation Moduler: The Attack on 16 Brigade, Part 2



South African Mechanised Infantry disembarking from their Ratel-20 Infantry Fighting Vehicle

"Marais could only see the vehicles immediately around him, an unhappy situation for the commander of a mechanised force."

(Continued from page 5)

regrouped before resuming its advance on the main positions of 16 Brigade.

The action against the outpost and the regrouping afterwards, had, however, cost Charlie valuable time. Elements of 16 Brigade used this time to escape from their positions.

Combat Group Bravo had meanwhile reported at 08h50 that it had reached the 59 Brigade positions on the Mianei but had found them deserted. Intelligence later showed that 59 had withdrawn during the night, leaving only 21 Brigade and the 25 Brigade battalion as a covering force on the Mianei, and had crossed the Vimpulo south of Sandumba.

Unita made contact with 59 Brigade at much the same time as Bravo discovered its withdrawal.

At 09h30 the SAAF located the main body of 59 Brigade north of the Vimpulo. Eight minutes later it warned that MiGs were in the air. At 10h05 it reported that an SA-8 vehicle was withdrawing westward out of the 16 Brigade positions.

Charlie had meanwhile cleared its immediate area, regrouped and begun moving forward again towards the main positions of 16 Brigade. The armoured car squadron and D Company moved forward to deploy some 500 metres ahead of the main force. There D Company debussed and its infantry fanned out to continue the advance on foot. The

rest of Charlie resumed their original formation. The decision to debus D Company was taken because of the very thick bush in this area. In some places the visibility was only five to ten metres. Marais could only see the vehicles immediately around him, an unhappy situation for the commander of a mechanised force. Control was, therefore, a serious problem for him. At that point there was no reaction from Fapla. It was, in fact, so quiet that the armoured car squadron took the opportunity to change a wheel while waiting for the rest of the force to form up again.

The first Fapla fire - small-arms, machine-guns, recoilless guns, tanks and mortars - was

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## PORTUGAL'S DESPERATE EFFORTS TO KEEP ANGOLA - UNITA in war

(Continued from page 4)

populated south-eastern corner of Angola, where the MPLA were also already operating.

It is often difficult to determine which one of the two organisations was responsible for sporadic terrorist attacks in these districts. This was also the case with the sabotage of the Benguela railway line, which eventually got blamed on UNITA with the result that Kaunda retracted his hospitality of Lusaka from Savimbi.

After being banned from Lusaka, Savimbi lived for a couple of months in

Cairo and made visits to China and North-Korea. From China he received a small quantity of armaments and from North-Korea the training of twelve of his men. Upon his return, Savimbi took over command of the UNITA forces in Angola.

When the MPLA started expanding its operations in Cuando-Cubango in March 1968, it clashed with UNITA in the area. In fact, the first MPLA force of 207 men that penetrated the area, had orders to firstly drive out the *mongos* (UNITAs). Against this, as well as the Portuguese forces, UNITA was unable to stand, and later fell back

to a central area contained within the triangle of Cangamba, Luso (Luena) and Silva Porto (Bié).

UNITA's army was never large: in 1970 there were only 800 against 4 000 of the MPLA, but amongst his own people Savimbi enjoyed much support. He also boasted that UNITA was the only liberation movement managed from within Angola.



UNITA troops in the thick bush

## Historical Account:

## Operation Moduler: The Attack on 16 Brigade, Part 2

*(Continued from page 6)*

drawn at 10h12 by B Company. One of the Ratel-20s was hit and damaged by an 82 mm recoilless gun as it came out of the bushline in front of the Fapla position. A minute later some 23 mm guns also began firing on the South Africans. D Company reported that the Fapla tanks appeared to be mainly to the right front.

B Company had some difficulty in joining up with the armoured car squadron and deploying properly, the thick bush greatly restricting visibility and hampering con-

trol. The use of smoke to mark the boundaries attracted the unwanted attention of Fapla artillery observers perched in nearby trees, who called mortar fire down on the company while it was still deploying. Indirect fire was also falling on A Company and had earlier fallen on the command group and the anti-aircraft troop.

A Company, on the left, found itself facing tanks and debussed its infantry. A 120 mm mortar bomb fell among a rifle section as it debussed from its Ratel, killing two men and wounding four. The company's Rinkhals

armoured ambulance collected the wounded, while the 2iC took the two bodies back in his command Ratel. Shortly after, the observers were able to identify some of the Fapla mortar positions and bring the fire of Romeo Battery's 120 mm mortars on to them. The Fapla mortar fire ceased and the advance continued, again in bounds of fifty metres.

Piet 'Boer' van Zyl's D Company, 32 Battalion, had also lost one man killed and one wounded by the mortar fire. The riflemen of 32 Battalion

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Olifant tanks advancing to form up before an attack on enemy positions

**Link to this story:**

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=669>

## From the Diary of Lieutenant Colonel Igor Anatolevich Zhdarkin

*(Continued from page 2)*

the same. If it is suddenly quiet, then you begin to go crazy, they say, wondering why they do not shoot, and what they still have in mind to do there. When the shooting starts, you wait for when it will finally end. And so on and so forth every day.

Around 8 o'clock, we got information that the 16th brigade (which is located in the area of the Shambinga River, 20 kilometers away from us)

had been subject since 3 o'clock in the morning to heavy fire and attacks from the regular South African battalions. The Shambinga area lies right next to Cuito-Cuanavale, and already the South Africans had arrived there, but after all, they were anyway on the river Lomba not long ago.

During the afternoon, the advisors attached to the 25th brigade, located on our old positions, informed us that at around one in the morning, the

enemy had attempted to penetrate their defense line. When that failed, he began to «throw» everything he had and then another several times tried to break through and has been continuing all this commotion up till now. The position of the 25th brigade is precarious. After all, it remains practically alone there, if we do not take our battalion staying with them into account.

"The 16th brigade had been subject since 3 o'clock in the morning to heavy fire and attacks from the regular South African battalions."

## Historical Background: Background to internal strife

*(Continued from page 1)*

support was not limited exclusively to those areas either. The MPLA, for example, also had supporters in the south around Benguela and Lobito. When Chipenda

joined the FNLA, they suddenly gained areas in the southeast of the country, while UNITA believed it had the most supporters, even though it was militarily the weakest. UNITA placed its hopes on the elections.

After tribal differences there were also ideological differences. Agostinho Neto had stated on occasion that it would be wrong to call the MPLA communist, because his movement

*(Continued on page 8)*

Typical revolutionaries, armed to the teeth, in a Land Rover

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



Fully equipped SADF troops clambering on their Samil-20 transport

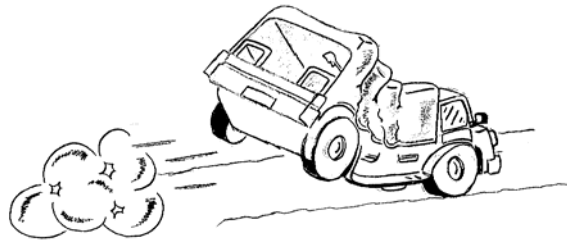
In basies het ons gou geleer as ons in 'n Samil gelaai word dat ons styf teen mekaar moet sit om soveel ouens as moontlik te kan inkry. Die eerste keer toe hulle ons in 'n Samil gelaai het wou die ouens nie teen mekaar sit nie want netnou dink die

ou langs jou jy is "skeef". Die Koporaal vra toe of daar nog plek is en toe daar bevestig word dat die Samil vol is, klim die Koporaal agter die stuur in en trek daar weg met 'n stink spoed net om ewe skielik die remme aan te slaan. Toe die

Samil tot stilstand kom is ons almal soos sardientjies in 'n blik saamgepers teenaan die agterkant van die driuwers kompartement, en is daar plek vir omtrent dubbel soveel ouens as wat oorspronklik ingelaai was. Die Koporaal maak toe die klap agter weer oop en vra: "Is daar "nou" plek vir nog troepe? Van daardie dag af het ons geweet wat die Army se standaard vir vol is.

Onder Korporaal H Matthee

1992



## Historical Background: Background to internal strife

### Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1108>

(Continued from page 7)

was open to all political affiliations. Jonas Savimbi claimed that his movement was socialist and anti-capitalist. Hol-

den Roberto, again, was prepared to accept aid from wherever he could get it, even from Red Chine, while pretending to be a friend of the West. In this regard

there were therefore ideological differences. (Colin Legum and Tony Hodges, "After Angola. The War over Southern Africa", p.49.)



### Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1106>



Soviet-supplied truck completely destroyed in the bush

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

(Continued from page 5)

### Thursday, 24 March 1988: Fapla developed their defensive system

Fapla now fully expected the South Africans to try an attack from the south. They began to develop a defensive system to the south of Cuito Cuana-vale, and brought in additional forces from Menongue....

### Friday, 25 March 1988: Colonel Fouché and

### General Demosthenes discussed further joint action

Colonel Fouché met General Demosthenes on 25 March to discuss further joint action in the area. Angolan fighters were also in the air again that day, flying an unsuccessful attack on one of the G-5 positions. They were engaged by the 35 mm guns, but none were hit. The G-5s and the rocket launchers spent their day engaging several targets, including

personnel at the bridge, a vehicle concentration just south of Cuito Cuana-vale and a BM-21, which they destroyed....



Historical Account:

Operation Moduler: The Attack on 16 Brigade, Part 2

(Continued from page 7)

continued fighting the dug-in Fapla infantry opposite them until Reliefs tanks joined up with them. They then fought through the Fapla posi-

tions, moving along between the tanks as they advanced, the first post-1945 tank and motorised infantry cooperation in the South African Army. D Company and E Squadron were to fight

together until the squadron was relieved.

*The Attack on 16 Brigade continues next week, with Part 3...*



Armoured Recovery Vehicle (ARV) of the tank squadron

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RPG-7V Anti-tank Rocket Launcher

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**A correction on the info about the 1 Para Bn shoulder flash on Page 9 of Volume 1, Issue 10:** Jan Breytenbach was never the founder or even a founder member. Thanks to Tinus de Klerk for pointing out that fact. *[I really do appreciate you pointing out any errors I may make in the newsletters.]*



**TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE SADF AND SWATF!**

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:



**The Infantry School** was established as a self accounting unit on 1 October 1963.

On 1 January 1964 the new Infantry School opened its portals in Oudtshoorn. During January 1974 the training of National Service Infantry Leader Group started at this facility.



**The School of Artillery** became a separate unit on 1 February 1964 and was based

in Potchefstroom until it moved to the nearby Klipdrift Military Base in mid-January 1989. It was responsible for the training of the leader element of National Servicemen, Citizen Force officers and NCOs and Permanent Force personnel as well as holding specialized courses for locating and observation



**Danie Theron Combat School** was established at Kimberley in November 1967 as the

Commando Combat School and renamed in 1968. Since 1977, the Danie Theron Combat School was responsible for promotional courses for the Commandos and the Civilian Force. Officers and non-commissioned officers were trained in conventional and counterinsurgency warfare.



Leadership training of young officers and NCO's at the SA Infantry School



Schedule of Events

- 26-27 March 2011 — 28th MSSA Gauteng Board Gaming & Wargaming Championships
- 28-29 March 2011 — Soldier Equipment & Technology Expo & Conference, USA
- 10 April 2011 — York Castle Military Vehicle Display, UK
- 13 April 2011 — 61 Meg Skouerskuur, Port Elizabeth

MARCH 2011

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
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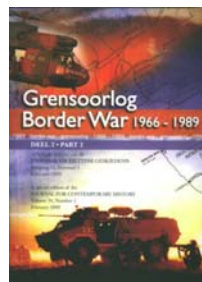
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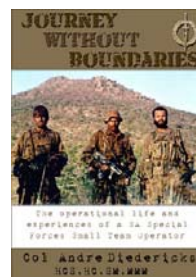
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Mark Raats has created this **SPECIAL EDITION** high quality 900mm x 600mm poster of his original artwork, "An Unpopular War", SPECIFICALLY and EXCLUSIVELY for the users of WarInAngola.com. This is the same artwork which has proven such a direct hit 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.



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War in Angola

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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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 34 Glen Oak Rd  
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Phone: +27 (0)72 409-6271  
 Fax: 086 626-3388 (SA only)  
 E-mail: info@warinangola.com

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<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1088>

The War In Angola website ([www.warinangola.com](http://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>

### Anderkant Cuito - 'n Reisverhaal oor die Grensoorlog by gert61

Anderkant Cuito - 'n Reisverhaal oor die Grensoorlog Louis Bothma Louis Bothma, die skrywer van Die Buffel Struikel, was verlede jaar in Oktober saam op die 61 Meg Veteranevereniging se 2010 A...

### Armed Liberation Struggle – Some accounts of PLAN's combat operations by TinusDK

Hi All I've just finished reading a book written about PLAN's combat operations (for those interested the detail is: Namakalu, O. Oswin, Armed Liberation Struggle – Some...

### RE: Planning of Operation Moduler by George

Had a look at your call sign diagram for 61 Mech Bn Gp. My name is George Conradie, Battery Post Officer (BPO) at Sierra Battery (61 Mech Bn Gp) from

Jan 1986 till Dec 1990. As I can Recall the BPO...

### RE: Bridge 14 by marwen

Howzit Brad, Long time no hear. Remember Tony Carter's Gun Crew "Bad Company"? We dropped our 5.5 in the Nhia River while trying to cross to do some sniping behind FAPLA's lines Regards, ...

### RE: "Zulu, Zulu Golf", by Arn 'Jim' Durand by Feetloose

Thanks Jim, I will keep my eyes peeled for the announcement.

### RE: "Zulu, Zulu Golf", by Arn 'Jim' Durand by Jim Hooper

Morning, Feetloose-- Zebra don't sell directly to the public, and won't be listing it on their website until it's in the bookshops. But don't worry, there will be plenty of copies. Best, ...

### RE: "Zulu, Zulu Golf", by Arn 'Jim' Durand by Feetloose

Darn, can not wait for July. How do we "reserve" a copy ?

### RE: Weekends, Missions and other Actions by Sensi702

hi Mike, i do have various photos of ops hooper 1987-88 from 61 mech and 2ssb unfortunately i do not have the negs so not sure if you could use them. i was an ops medic that side nov87-april88. ...

### Weekends, Missions and other Actions by Mike Brink

Hi All. I am in the closing phases of completing my book on the 75-88 angolan border war. A 101 tales of bush war mahem. I am looking for photos to illustrate the book and if anyone has a rele...

### RE: Planning of Operation Moduler by slide

Hi Guys, I think I was one of the gunners that went along with that G5. For the records the pamphlet projectiles were beige not blue ( see my pics, there is one with me and two mates sitting with a pi...