

WAR IN ANGOLA

Volume 3, Issue 1

6 January 2012

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

Planned Features of Volume 3

Welcome to the **THIRD VOLUME** of the **War In Angola Newsletters**. Coming In the following volume of 26 issues, look out for the following features:

We will start a new series of articles of **OPERATION SAVANNAH** from March 2012; which will include the battles and clashes at Norton de Matos, Artur de Paiva, Evale, and Perreira de Eça;

The **Prelude to the participation of the South African defence Force to the Angolan Civil War** will continue with articles on the support and aid provided to the FNLA and UNITA;

We will look at the actions in **Northern Angola** during 1975; culminating in the **Attack on Luanda** and the subsequent withdrawal from **Ambrizete**;

Featured Equipment will focus on landmines, mine detectors, night scopes and radios used by both sides;

Operation Hooper will conclude with "The second attack on Tumpo";

The final big battle and encounters of **Operations Packer and Displace** will be covered;

Extracts from the '**Memoirs of a Russian Advisor**' will continue with the second set of the 52 parts which started in the second volume;

A series of articles on **Operations Olyfhout, Super and Boomslang** will be coinciding with the thirtieth commemoration of those operations in 1982;

Danie Matthee's series of Afrikaans articles on the experiences of army life will continue with "**Ag man dit 'WAS' lekker in die Army**";

Unit Flashes with a short history following in the subsequent issue will start again in this issue;

The coming week's **military and military hobby related events** will continue to be listed;

Special offers on books, models, posters, and other items of interest that you can order, may be featured every week;

Featured Gallery: Operation Moduler 1987



The much feared 23mm AAA (Sean Wilson)



Angolan tank burning (Sean Wilson)



Knocked-out T-55 tank (Sean Wilson)

Inside this issue:

Arms Purchases	2
The escalating nature of war aid	2
Featured Equipment: The PMN anti-personnel mine	3
Memoirs of Lieutenant Colonel I.A. Zhdarkin Part 25	4
Operation Hooper: The 2nd attack on Tumpo Part 1	5
Logistical support during Operation Daisy, Part 2	6
This past week: "Somewhere on the Border..."	9
Last week's latest topics on the Forums	12

Next Week's Features—Volume 3, issue 1

- Prelude to the SADF's participation in the Angolan Civil War: First support provided to the FNLA via Rundu
- Featured Equipment: The OZM3 anti-personnel mine
- Operation Hooper: The 2nd attack on Tumpo Part 2
- Operation Packer MAP: The second attack on Tumpo
- Memoirs of Lieutenant Colonel I.A. Zhdarkin Part 26

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Arms Purchases



Sam Nujoma of SWAPO hails his guerillas

Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1263>

The fourteenth article on the prelude to the participation of the South African Defence Force in the Angolan Civil War:

Lt.-Gen. van den Bergh did not hesitate. Within two days after the meeting at Klippan, he was overseas, possibly Paris. On 17 July 1975 a telegram was received in which he confirmed that he obtained weapons "subject to packing, immediately available – a boat was standing by to ship the consignment".

In the telegram he mentioned that "I am not planning to finalise the order of the goods before I have been able to talk to Holden." (SADF Archives) He did, indeed, shortly afterwards, conduct an interview with Holden Roberto, but a meeting with Savimbi was cancelled.

Apparently, the weapons mentioned in the above mentioned telegram (or a part thereof), were purchased, because the list somewhat matched the first consignment of

weapons shipped to Matadi in August, and transported to Kinshasa for further distribution.

It is difficult to establish exactly how the weapons purchased by South Africa were distributed from Kinshasa. By this time weapons supplied by the CIA as well as originating from France had arrived in Kinshasa and it appears that distinction between the groups was not always made on further distribution.

The escalating nature of war aid

"The FNLA and UNITA have been trained for guerrilla- but not conventional-warfare."

The fifteenth article on the prelude to the participation of the South African Defence Force in the Angolan Civil War:

While arrangements were made for the supply of weapons to the FNLA and UNITA, there existed some doubt about the effective application of the weapons by the forces to which it was transferred. It was seen to be a fact that the troops of the FNLA and UNITA have been trained for guerrilla- but not conventional-warfare. A second step was therefore required. If you give a man a weapon, you should also show him how to use it, otherwise it was worth

nothing. And not only this either, a war is not conducted by people, but by combat units. It was therefore logical that combat units had to be trained in the use of the weapons which they had to employ together.

There had been multiple instances in which it was shown that the way South Africa got involved in the Angolan War, was distinctly similar to the way the USA got immersed in the Vietnam War. For the American nation Vietnam had been a traumatic experience and it heavily affected American activities in Angola. (Robert B. Asprey, "**War in the shadows. The guerrilla**

in history", Vol. 2. pp. 1367-1368. - This book, chapters 76-95, provides a detailed description of the USA's involvement in the war in Vietnam.)

It is possible that the American experience in Vietnam had been ignored by the South African decision-makers when they landed in a similar boat in July of 1975. The parallel should, however, not be taken too far, as the situation in Angola was very much different to the situation as it had been in Vietnam.

Next week, The SADF's first support of the FNLA via Rundu...

Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1264>



SWAPO (PLAN) guerrillas marching during a passing out parade

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Featured Equipment: The PMN anti-personnel mine

The Soviet PMN anti-personnel mine is a little larger than the PMK-40 mini-mine, but performs the same function, using similar operating procedures. Indeed, it was developed as the successor of the PMK-40.

The PMN consists of 240 gm of TNT, percussion-cap detonator and spring-loaded striker, encased in a small, round, flat duroplastic box. When the safety pin is withdrawn the igniter moves slowly into the mine until it is stopped by a step in the centre. The top and bottom halves of the case are held together by a rubber pad

fastened by a small wire clip, and on the side of the bottom half there is a comparatively large cap, protecting the fuse and detonator, projecting through an aperture.

As with the PMK-40, this mine is intended to be left strewn around in areas abandoned to the enemy, detonation occurring (with rather more severe results than with the 50 gm TNT filled PMK-40) when a soldier (or civilian) inadvertently treads on one. The resultant pressure forces the spring striker to ignite the percussion-cap.

In the base of the PMN are four shallow wells formed by cruciform ribs, providing the opportunity for further booby-trapping.

From "Brassey's Infantry Weapons of the Warsaw Pact Armies", edited by J.I.H. Owen



Soviet PMN anti-personnel mines and hand-grenades captured by SA Security Forces during Operation Daisy in November 1981

Specifications

Country of Origin:	USSR
Height:	56mm (2.36in)
Diameter:	112mm (4.33in)
Weight:	0.6kg (1.32lb)
Body Material:	Plastic
Charge:	240gm (8.47ounces)TNT

"Intended to be left strewn around in areas abandoned to the enemy."

The PMN anti-personnel mine



Image from *From "Brassey's Infantry Weapons of the Warsaw Pact Armies", edited by J.I.H. Owen*

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Memoirs of Lieutenant Colonel I.A. Zhdarkin, Part 25



Russian advisors deployed with FAPLA at Cahama (photo: © Igor Ignatovich)

"We were at the time young interpreters, unmarried and we committed stupid blunders."

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Russian advisor posing with an Angolan ambulance (photo: © Igor Ignatovich)

This is the twenty-fifth part of a 50-part series taken from "**We did not see it even in Afghanistan**". Memoirs of a participant of the Angolan war (1986-1988)", by Lieutenant Colonel Igor Anatolevich Zhdarkin

Knowing how much they loved to bargain with us, I offered them "two or three jars at the most." But they stood their ground, answering "six". Again, I insisted, "Two to three jars, nothing more". And we continued to haggle with them. As for how I went about it, I can't even remember.

Finally, they said, "Well O.K., three jars, and you can go wherever you want".

"And where's the fellow with whom I came, eh?",

I asked.

"That shouldn't be of any concern to you since he's anyhow arriving", they shot back.

Then I gave them three jars, saying "that's the lot".

They reacted by saying, "You're a splendid fellow. We know you, you are Geronimo and we admire you. And therefore we will see to it that no one disturbs you in your travels around here".

"And who indeed could disturb me!" I exclaimed.

"Well, our block stations", was the answer.

Those belonging to UNITA!

And I thought, "To hell with you!" Basically, what's going on around

here! Get it?"

As I indeed found out, very often small UNITA columns were moving around in the territory around Cuito Cuanavale, inside the zone controlled by FAPLA, approached the FAPLA blockhouses, met with them, took food from them and gave them food as well. Why not? People want to eat and life is life!

Moreover, on both sides of the trenches, people had many relatives, how could they kill each other, so to speak. As the deputy political officers (both the Angolans and our own) told me, there were frequent situations in which, within the same family, one son served in UNITA and the other in FAPLA

One son served in UNITA and the other in FAPLA

– just as in Russia in our post 1917 Civil war. (The main difference was that the Angolans, in contrast to us, were not as sensitive to these divided loyalties.) As they say, "It happened so, nothing to do!"

– **Body armours – what kind were they.**

– We were all given bulletproof vests and we were instructed to keep them safe. Not that they should protect us but rather that we should protect them. Why? Because the loss of every bulletproof vest entailed a cost of an extra \$250. Although they were very expensive to whoever needed them, if they killed you with shrapnel hitting your head, for

example, what for do you wear a bulletproof vest!

Therefore, everyone who participated in a military operation, even if he, of course, was dressed in a bullet-proof vest, all buttoned up according to plan, but believed very little in its utility. Our advisors of the 47th brigade, during a retreat, carried with them the bulletproof vests simply not to have to pay \$250. Our lads of course wanted to save their lives, but ... had to carry their bulletproof vests with them. Is it OK? Well, that is just how it was.

– **Did it happen that some people had «lost their heads» during the war?**

– Of course, it happened sometimes.

We were at the time young interpreters, unmarried and we committed stupid blunders. On the other side of the Cuito river, the 25th brigade occupied its defensive positions. From time to time, our officers would arrive – to wash themselves, to shave, to wash clothes, etc. Later, they would return to their positions. Then they would be transported back.

To be continued next week in Part 26...

Historical Account: Operation Hooper: The second attack on Tumpo Part 1

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

The purpose of this attack remained the same as for the previous attack: to destroy the Fapla force east of the Cuito or to drive it across the river. As soon as the bridgehead was taken, the bridge was to be destroyed. The renewed attack was planned to take place in five phases:

Phase 1: Reconnaissance of the enemy positions and of approach routes.

Phase 2: Movement from the assembly areas to

the forward assembly areas, and the forming up of the forces taking part.

Phase 3: Movement from the forward assembly areas to the jumping-off point, and the attack itself.

Phase 4: Destruction of the bridge.

Phase 5: Withdrawal.

The main force for this attack comprised Mike Muller's 61 Mech, plus a re-inforced tank squadron - F Squadron plus two troops of Regiment Molopo; 32 Battalion; an engineer section; and Unita's 3rd and 5th Regular Battalions. The bridge destruction team consisted of a mechanised infantry platoon

and an engineer section. The reserve force was led by Major Servaas Lotter. It comprised the armoured car squadron, a mechanised infantry company and a mortar platoon of 61 Mech.

32 Battalion was to marry up with 61 Mech in its assembly area during phase one. The combined force would then marry up with the 5th Regular Battalion in the forward assembly area during phase two. The 3rd Regular Battalion would meet up with them at the jumping-off point for phase three and would lead from there, navigating and sweeping for mines.

On contact, the 3rd Regular Battalion would break to a flank and



SA Artillery G-2 140mm gun just fired

"His task was to deceive Fapla..."

Clear the way for the tanks

clear the way for the tanks and the infantry of 32 Battalion and the 5th Regular Battalion. They would break into the Fapla positions at their north-western edge, and then attack Fapla from that flank. The reserve force was meanwhile to move to the central Tumpo area to cover the flank of the main force.

During phase four, the combined attacking force would deploy in the bridge-head to exercise an influence on the east bank while the bridge was destroyed. If the Unita demolition team failed to complete this task, the South African team would do so on orders. The precondi-

tions for this were that there should be no moon, that the demolition could begin at least three hours before first light, that there was no direct ground threat, that Unita had swept the flood-plain up to the bridge, that there were few enemy troops in the bridge area, that artillery and tank support was guaranteed, and that the bridgehead and bridge had been swept for booby traps. Illumination would be provided by the mortars of the reserve force. This force would then also cover the withdrawal of the main force.

Should the attack only commence at first light, the 3rd Regular Battalion

was to move in with the tanks of 61 Mech and the 5th Regular Battalion. 32 Battalion would follow behind the tanks.

4 SAI was to deploy a Ratel-90 troop, a mechanised infantry platoon and an 81 mm mortar under the command of Commandant Les Rudman south-east of Tumpo as part of a deception plan. His task was to deceive Fapla into believing that the new attack would follow the same approach as the first, only turning west after passing through the abandoned first line of defences.

Other mechanised infantry platoons were to pro-

(Continued on page 8)



Eland 90 armoured car in action

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Logistical support during Operation Daisy



SA Artillery G-5 155mm gun in action

"These are the men who do not get recognition in the history books..."

By Major Michiel Reinecke, Logistics Officer, 61 Mech HQ* (reproduced with kind permission from 61 Mechanised Battalion Group Veterans Association, www.61mech.org.za)

Continued from Volume 2...

I could not give them enough – but the shortage of diesel did not affect the operation. I personally think that the effect was greater vehicle discipline and driving skills, use of radios and lights, and focused planning, all contributed to better diesel consumption.

Challenges for the Tiffies

During movement the vehicles were stretched

out over a distance of 40 to 50km and more. At 10 to 15 km per hour it took four to six hours to get all the vehicles in the lager position. This had a tremendous effect on the technical support and recovery of breakdowns.

To save time the Tiffies would change the engine of a Ratel during the move. They would loosen all the pipes and attachments, stop for 4 to 5 minutes to remove the unserviceable engine and replaced it with a new engine – and connected all the pipes during the movement. With the large number of vehicles they worked almost every night – through the night to get all the vehicles going.

One morning before dawn, I walked up to the

area where the Tiffies worked throughout the night and I saw staff sergeant De Kock with a beer in his hand. He looked at me and said "Major, we have just completed our days work – all the cars are running – and it is in any case the only time when the beer is cold".

These are the men who do not get recognition in the history books of great battles won – but they were working endless hours to keep the force mobile.

Landmines galore

The Bambi SWAPO complex was spread out over a very large area. The area was covered with anti-tank mines and we were unfortunate to drive over a couple of the mines.

Initially the Ratels could be repaired...

Initially the Ratels could be repaired by just removing the damaged axle and replacing it with a new one. I cannot recall how many mines were hit but we also ran out of axles. The rear or middle axle of a Ratel could be chained-up but a front axle could not be "hanged" and the vehicle had to be hang-pulled by an armoured recovery vehicle or 10 ton recovery truck.

We submitted our request to Sector 10 for two Ratel axles and did not expect them to be delivered because an axle weighs probably two tons each. To our amazement, we received a message that the axles

are on the way and we had to prepare a landing pad for two Super Frelon helicopters.

The Tiffies did their magic again

One of the Samil 50 Cargo truck hit a mine. Luckily the driver was not injured besides a bit of shock. The vehicle was damaged but because we had a policy not to leave any vehicles in Angola, the Tiffies worked hard to get the vehicle running. After a few days the vehicle was running, without a door but the driver was proud and happy to be back in his vehicle again.

The Paratroopers

The link-up operation with the Paratroopers took place. Unfortunately, there was a field fire and all the parachutes got destroyed in the fire. We had an extra 10 ton cargo vehicle which would later be used for a Buffel Personnel Carrier which burnt out. The Buffel was loaded with captured enemy ammunition when it caught fire and burnt out.

Replenishment

The unit withdrew from Bambi to the region just east of Mupa where a diesel bunker convoy from 5 Maintenance Unit linked up with us to replenish and fill-up all our

(Continued on page 7)



Ratel 81 Fire Support Vehicle in action, firing its 81mm mortar in support of an infantry attack

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

Met opleiding het ons een dag "vuur in beweging" ge oefen en ons Koporaal wat gedink het hy is "Rambo" sê hy sal die "LMG" alleen hanteer. Gewoontlik neem dit twee troepe om met die "LMG" te skiet, een om die geweer self te hanteer en een om die belt met die rondtes te voer en dan word die geweer op sy pootjies geplaas en in 'n lê-houding gevuur. Maar nie "Rambo" nie, nee hy wil dit alles alleen doen en dit nogal staande, seker

om die troepe te probeer imponeer! Die eerste sarsie kon hy nog miskien hanteer maar met die tweede sarsie raak alles te swaar vir hom en skiet hy hier reg voor hom in die grond vas en skiet amper sy voet af. Die Majoor skree toe : "Staak vuur" en beveel die Koporaal om eerder die "LMG" terug te gee aan die troepe wat veronderstel is om met die ding te skiet want hy is nou besig om sy naam met 'n plank te slaan. Van daardie dag af staan

hy bekend as Koporaal Rambo.

Onder Korporaal H Matthee

1992



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Logistical support during Operation Daisy

(Continued from page 6)

vehicles. From there we went to Mupa where the engineers established a water point from the Cunene River and we could replenish all our Water Bunkers since we left Omuhoni. The withdrawal to Omuthiya went without any incident.

Fresh rations

Sector 10 had a policy to provide all the troops deployed in Angola with one day fresh rations per week. In theory this worked well but in reality on the ground – it was not so easy.

I would provide the SO1 Log in Oshakati with the number of men in the unit and they would prepare the basic fresh rations called a "braaipak". When the rations arrive, normally with the Pumas on their return to the HAA in the morning, it was more of a surprise pack than a braai pack.

The rations were issued in bulk and we receive 20 to 25 cases of frozen rump (12.5kg each) or mutton chops, bags of potatoes, cases of tomato's and boxes of bread. Time required for cooking the food had to include time for defrosting and cutting the frozen meat, but the fresh rations were always welcomed after six days of dry ration packs.

Severe damage to the echelon vehicles

During the span of the operation we realised that the damage to the echelon vehicles were severe. Most of the Samil vehicles were normal "soft-skin" vehicles and not suited for bundu-bashing.

The area from Omuhoni to Chetaquara was covered with big trees and very dense. The Ratels could easily turn between the trees but a 10 ton Truck and Diesel

Bunker were just too long and the tank and back got severely dented. The cabs of all the vehicles were damaged, front windcreens were cracked, air cleaner pipes, diesel tanks and bumpers got knocked off.

The damage was not due to driver skills but purely because of the lack of preparation of the vehicles.

We knew that the damage will have serious repercussions in NLC and all the way back to Army HQ. I started taking statements from all the echelon drivers and prepared a board of enquiry. The RSM, captain Jaeckel, WO1 du Plessis and I sat together to compile a list of recommended modifications to protect the Samil vehicles and to prepare them for bundu-bashing. I later submitted a formal Board of Enquiry with the list of

(Continued on page 8)

"The
damage
was not
due to
driver
skills..."



Olifant tank in action at the Army Battle School

The second attack on Tumpo Part 1



Mirage F1 taking off to strike at a designated target

"The South Africans were not really ready for the attack."

Link to this story:

<http://www.warinangola.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1006>

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(Continued from page 5)

protect the A-echelon and headquarters elements, the EW team and the surgical post. The assault pioneer platoon was to protect the landing zone. 4 SAI was also to keep a reserve force in readiness, consisting of two Ratel-90 troops, an 81 mm mortar fire group, an assault pioneer platoon and an engineer troop.

On 29 February the South Africans were not really ready for the attack. Eleven of their tanks, four Ratel-90s, five G-5s and one of the rocket launchers were still unserviceable, awaiting spare parts. Colonel McLoughlin decided to go ahead with the attack despite that; the weather was favourable, and he still had seven-teen tanks and twelve G-5s to fight with. He did, however, shift the H-hour for the move to the assembly area forward to 15h00.

Mike Muller now reported that a critical component of the mine rollers was missing, and that that might delay him. Colonel McLoughlin remained firm on his starting time, for he wanted to exploit the advantages of a night attack. The missing component was found on a logistics vehicle in time for the move. Muller had meanwhile requested that the attack be changed to one at first light, to simplify the task of engaging the Fapla tanks that were still mobile. McLoughlin again remained firm on his timings. Muller also suggested that 32 Battalion should take the place of the 3rd Regular Battalion, also without success.

The Approach

61 Mech moved off on time and was in its forward assembly area by 17h37. The mine rollers had, however, fallen behind, apparently because one of them overheated. With the tanks

reportedly still giving trouble, McLoughlin ordered Muller to let him have a technical evaluation of his tanks, so that he could form an opinion of the situation.

The mine rollers had still not joined up by 20h17, and Muller now also reported that he was down to eleven effective tanks. Colonel McLoughlin asked him whether he felt the attack could go ahead if he were reinforced with a squadron of Ratel-90s, which he could deploy to cover his flank. Muller agreed that that would give him an adequate force. Just over an hour later, at 21h55, General Meyer came into the picture. He was also concerned about the dwindling number of serviceable tanks, and asked Muller if he was able to go ahead with the attack. Muller again confirmed that he was happy to proceed, if the Ratel-90s joined him.

Continued next week, in Part 2...

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Logistical support during Operation Daisy

(Continued from page 7)

proposed modifications to NLC.

There was never any query of comeback on the damage of the vehicles and most of the recommendations for modifications were implemented.

The HQ company fulfilled their duties

61 returned to Omuthiya, after a successful operation disrupting SWAPO's command and control structure.

The HQ Company was responsible for supporting the fighting force to

advance through thick dense bush and thick sand, over a total distance of 1600km, with all the vehicles running, except the burnt out Bufel on the back of a Samil 100 Cargo truck.



Eland 90 armoured car guarding a Ratel Command vehicle

This past week, "Somewhere on the Border..."

January 1968 saw Portuguese Security Forces starting to get established in the Cuando-Cubango province of Angola.

During **January 1970**, various new terrorist camps were observed between 60 and 80 kilometres from the SWA border by the SADF.

In **January 1971**, well-armed MPLA elements were thought to have crossed the Cubango River.

On **1 January 1976**, during *Operation Savannah*, a withdrawal plan for South African forces from Angola was drawn up by Task Force 101. Combat Group Piper was formed at Rundu with the intention to capture Teixeira de Sousa (Luau).

On **2 January 1976**, a South African Infantry platoon was ambushed in the terrain between Fat Fig, Hengo and the Nhia River in Angola. The area was bombarded by SA Artillery.

On **3 January 1976**, Dr. Hilgard Muller and Mr. B.G. Fourie, respectively the SA Minister and Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and Maj.-Gen. Viljoen, met with President Mobutu at Bandolita via

Kinshasa to discuss a combined strategy to combat the Russian threat.

4 January 1976 saw Combat Group Piper leaving Rundu, but ambushed by UNITA on the way to Serpa Pinto.

On **5 January 1976**, the withdrawal of SA forces from Angola was countermanded and halted. The State Security Board of South Africa met in Port Elizabeth where it was decided that the withdrawal would be postponed until 12 January.

On **6 January 1976**, Combat Group Piper arrived at Serpa Pinto.

4 January 1977 saw the start of 32 Battalion's short lived *Pseudo Operations*.

On **4 January 1981**, *Operation Zulu* were launched as 32 Battalion's Alpha, Bravo and Charlie companies as well as 1 Parachute Battalion were deployed to seek and destroy SWAPO's Northern Front Headquarters, believed to be to the west of Ongiva.

Operation Rickshaw started in **January 1986** during which pamphlets were dropped over Owamboland from Kudu

and Dakota aircraft on an ongoing basis.

Between **2 and 4 January 1984**, during *Operation Askari*, 32 Battalion discovered and captured a SWAPO base near Tetchamutete and occupied the town.

On **3 January 1984**, in *Operation Askari*, a SA mechanised combat group engaged Fapla's 11 Brigade which was reinforced with two Cuban battalions at Cuvelai, destroying eleven T-54 tanks.

The second phase of *Operation Jerry (Jerry II)* was set in motion on **3 January 1986** involving UNITA and 32 Battalion to launch an attack on Cuito Cuanavale and Menongue with the Multiple Rocket Launchers.

In **January 1987** *Operation Uitspring* was carried out in the Ogongo-Ruacana area to prevent SWAPO from being able to assemble any worthwhile attack force.

Operation Prone started in **January 1988** and was intended as an ongoing SAAF operation for the duration of the year. In August, however, *Operation Assassin*'s name was changed to *Operation Prone* for security reasons.



Impala Mk II strike aircraft on the runway for take-off

In **January 1989** the SAAF initiated *Operation Wedge* to run continuously through 1989. Using B-707 and DC-4 EW aircraft the programme was designed to monitor all transmissions in the electromagnetic spectrum (EMS) that could affect South Africa.

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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!

Schedule of Events

- 8 January 2012 — Military Vehicle Trust, Severnside Area Road Run, UK
- 9 January 2012 — SAMHS Eastern Cape: The Battle of the Rufiji River; and British Forces in Kuwait in 1961
- 17-18 January 2012 — 11th Annual Airborne Early Warning and Battle Management 2012
- 17-18 January 2012 — Integrated Missile Defense Systems
- 19 January 2012 — SA Military History Society Johannesburg: The Boer Lieutenant's War: Battle of Talana 1899; and The Invasion of Britannia, 43 AD
- 19 January 2012 — SA Military History Society Durban: The Giant Leipheim; and Zulu Military Systems
- 19 January 2012 — SA Military History Society Cape Town: An overview and history of the Cape Coastal Defences; and The ordnance, B.L. 9.2-inch Mk X gun on Mk VII and IX mounting and the three 9.2-inch Coastal Defence Batteries of the Cape Peninsula (Illustrated)

JANUARY 2012

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	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

All 26 issues of the **first volume** of the War In Angola Newsletters, presented in a **single, high quality, well-bound, 310-page hard-cover A4-sized book**. The printed edition includes a complete **Table Of Contents**, a comprehensive **Glossary** of all the terms, acronyms, abbreviations and equipment used in the newsletters, a select **Bibliography**, as well as a detailed **Index**. Finally, to replace the Events Section on page 10 of every issue, a full-colour, detailed hand-drawn **Schematic Drawing** of relevant equipment has also been included. Designed to be the first of many more volumes to come...

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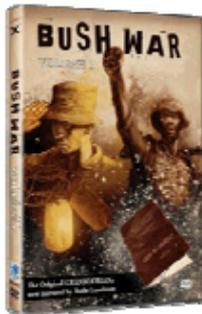
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THE NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING EVENTS, INFORMATION AND FACTS RELATING TO THE CONFLICT IN ANGOLA AND SOUTH-WEST AFRICA (NAMIBIA) FROM 1975 TO 1989

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 E-mail: info@warinangola.com

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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: Engineers in Oshakati by johansamin

Haai, Chris. Nee, daar was nie 'n balkie vir elke Operasie nie. Al balkies wat ons maar gedra het was ons Korps balkie wat onder die Eenheidsteken op ons Beret gesit het, met ander woorde, groe...

RE: 4 SAI - OPs Modular 87 by Sean Wilson

Hi Philip, I am now based in Perth and have been for over ten years.

RE: Engineers in Oshakati by Broer (guest)

Kan iemand my dat help ek wil weet of daar vir elke OPs n balkie was en waar ek die kleure van die balkies kan kry Baie dankie Broer (Chris) SOLDIER FOREVER,FOEVER SOLDIER

Wanted: Research Participants (retired white Afrikaner ex-servicemen of the SADF) by flip

My name is Flip Wessels. I am a Masters Counselling Psychology student and registered Intern Psychologist, studying at the University of Pretoria (UP). I am conducting research entitled: "A construc...

RE: 4 SAI - OPs Modular 87 by Philip (guest)

Hi Sean, where do you find yourself nowadays?. I was searching for Basil and found this post.

RE: Engineers in Oshakati by Broer (guest)

Baie dankie aan Johan van warinangola en almal wat dit aan die gang hou N geseende kerstyd en n voorspoedige nuwejaar aan al die bosoorlog veterane ook aan Johan en ook aan DIE SILENT SOLDIERS MC m...

At Thy Call by pfv

This is a short film and a student essay. It focuses on the scenes the maker would seem

to regard as essential, and connects them by way of captions. As a result, the characters never really develop,...

RE: BORDER WAR PC GAME by Cassius

Hi Mike, I have been following your posts with utmost interest. I am glad I found a "local" with the same kind of interests. I would love to participate in your workshops. Thank you for offering y...

RE: BORDER WAR PC GAME by Mike Brink

Thanks Johan. I have created a webpage for an overview of my game engine. You my visit it at <http://www.digitalsidewalk.co.za/wargame00.htm> for a write up and some screen shots. It supports human, la...