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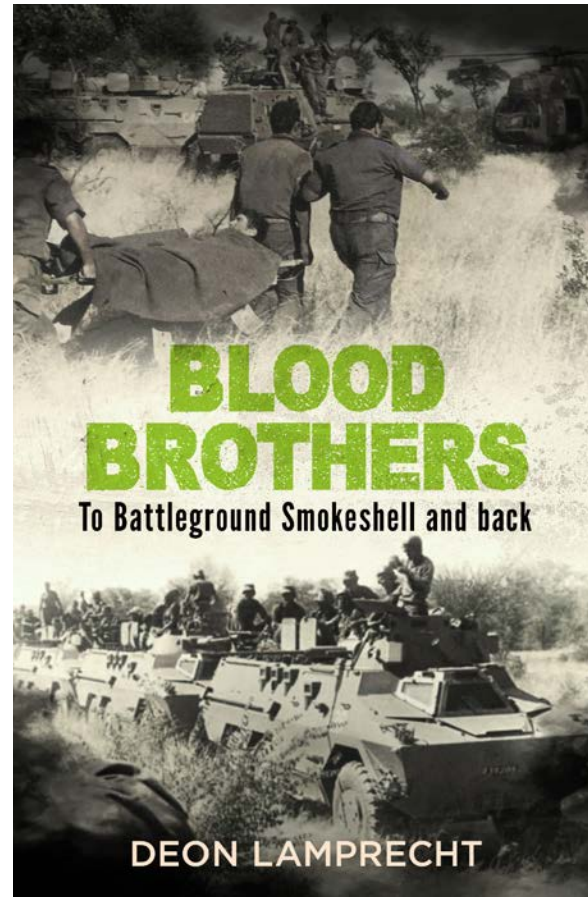
Military Catalogue



Blood Brothers

To Battleground Smokeshell and Back

DEON LAMPRECHT



On 10 June 1980, during the Border War, the SADF's 61 Mechanised Battalion Group attacked a complex of Swapo military bases in southern Angola. Second Lieutenant Paul Louw led Platoon 1, in four Ratel infantry fighting vehicles, to an objective called Smokeshell. After emerging from a dry riverbed, the young national servicemen suddenly found themselves facing a heavily defended enemy position and under deadly fire.

In the ensuing chaos of that day, 12 troopies of Louw's platoon of 44 were killed and he himself was wounded. The 18-year-old HP Ferreira was shot through the pelvis by a 14,5 mm anti-aircraft round but miraculously survived.

Blood Brothers records the dramatic events of that horrific day, in the words of the survivors of the battle, and follows members of Louw's platoon on their long journey of healing and recovery. It investigates the human cost of war after the last shots have been fired and follows the veterans as they return to the battleground four decades later in search of peace.

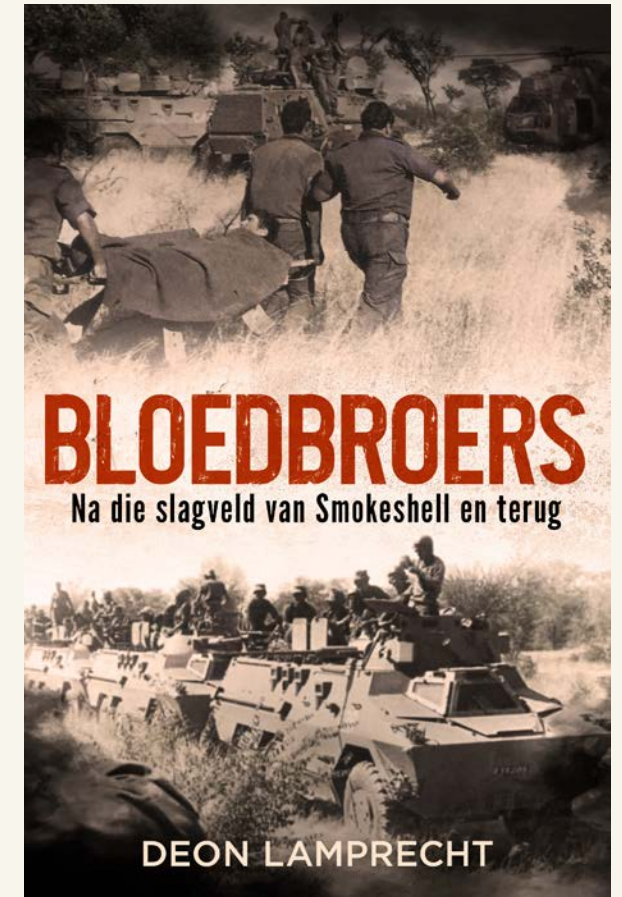
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RIGHTS World Rights
CATEGORY Military History

DEON LAMPRECHT is an award-winning journalist and author.

Bloedbroers

Na die slagveld van Smokeshell en terug

DEON LAMPRECHT



Op 10 Junie 1980 gedurende 'n eindelose dag van bloedige gevegte onder die Angolese son is 13 lede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag dood en etlike beseer toe 61 Gemeganiseerde Bataljon Groep 'n kompleks van Swapo-basisse in die suide van Angola aangeval het.

Gedurende Operasie Sceptic het tweede luitenant Paul Louw sy peleton in vier Ratels na die slagveld by die doelwit Smokeshell gelei. In die chaos wat daardie dag gevolg het, is 12 dienspligtiges in sy peleton van 44 noodlottig gewond en hy is self ook beseer.

Louw, nog met die bloed van sy manne aan sy klere, en 'n handjievol ander soldate het die aand deurgebring in 'n Ratel wat deur 'n RPG-vuurpyl getref is. Hulle was heeltemal afgesny van die res van die aanvalsgroep en het nie geweet of hulle die son sou sien opkom nie.

In *Bloedbroers* vertel van die oorlewendes van hul ervarings tydens die geveg. Dit werp ook lig op wat met soldate gebeur nadat die laaste skote afgevuur is en volg die veterane toe hulle vier dekades ná die operasie vir die eerste keer na die slagveld teruggekeer het.

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KATEGORIE Militêre Geskiedenis

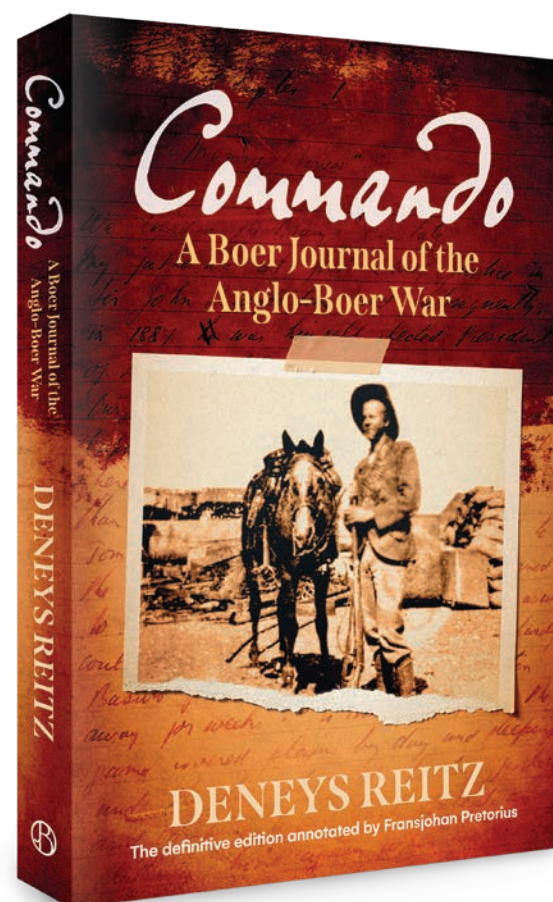
DEON LAMPRECHT is 'n bekroonde nuusjoernalis en gewilde skrywer.

The definitive account of *Commando: A Boer Journal of the Anglo-Boer War*, published word-for-word as Reitz first wrote it; edited and annotated by historian and Anglo-Boer War expert, Professor Fransjohan Pretorius

Commando

A Boer Journal of the Anglo-Boer War

DENEYS REITZ



In 1899, Deneys Reitz, then aged seventeen, enlisted in the Boer army to fight the British. He had learnt to ride, shoot and swim almost as soon as he could walk. He made full use of these skills and the endurance he had acquired in the next three years of the war, during which he fought with the Boer commandos.

He was involved in major actions, like the battle of Spioen Kop, and he interacted with prolific political and military figures of the time.

Reitz forged a strong personal and political friendship with General Jan Smuts after the war, built on reciprocal respect.

Commando is more than a historical document; it is a literary masterpiece that transcends time. With prose that captures both the brutality and the beauty of war, Reitz weaves a narrative that resonates with authenticity and passion.

As relevant today as when it was first penned, *Commando* has become a South African classic and stands as a testament to the indomitable human spirit in the face of adversity.

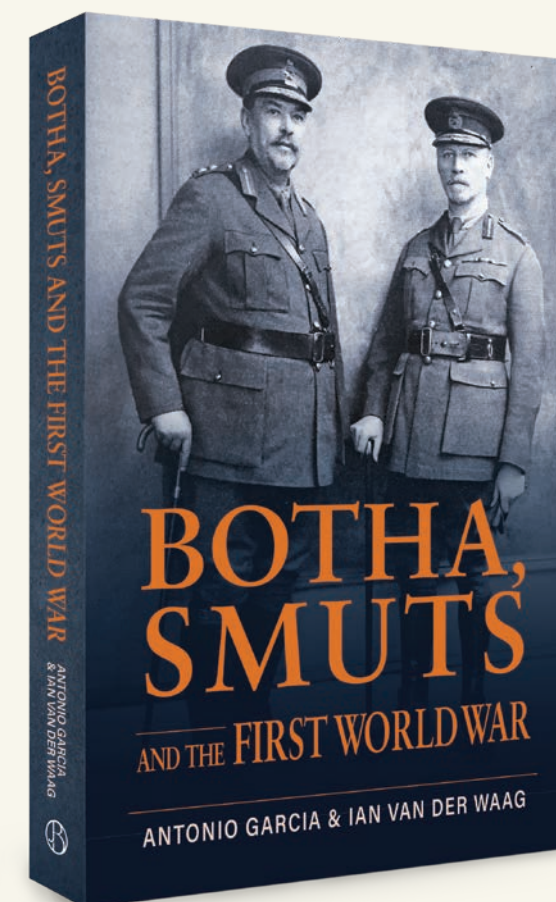
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RIGHTS World
CATEGORY Military History

DENEYS REITZ (1882–1944) was a Boer soldier, lawyer, author and politician.

PROF. FRANSJOHAN PRETORIUS is Emeritus Professor of History at the University of Pretoria, and the author or editor of eight books on the Anglo-Boer War.

Botha, Smuts and the First World War

ANTONIO GARCIA & IAN VAN DER WAAG



Facing internal rebellion and the German threat on South Africa's borders, Prime Minister Louis Botha and his deputy, Jan Smuts, led the Union Defence Force during the First World War. This first-of-a-kind volume investigates the wartime roles of these two legendary yet divisive historical figures.

Both men commanded in the field. The army they commanded gained resilience, experience and battle-hardiness, adapting to the conditions of the campaigns and the demands of the tasks.

Behind Botha's charming façade and Smuts's stoic machine, were two very human, imperfect men. Together they provide a wonderful lens through which to examine the potent forces of the early 20th-century world and the country they hoped to forge. They fought insurmountable odds and achieved great victories, but also made startling errors and, ultimately, in classical fashion risked being crushed by the weight of the world they tried to create.

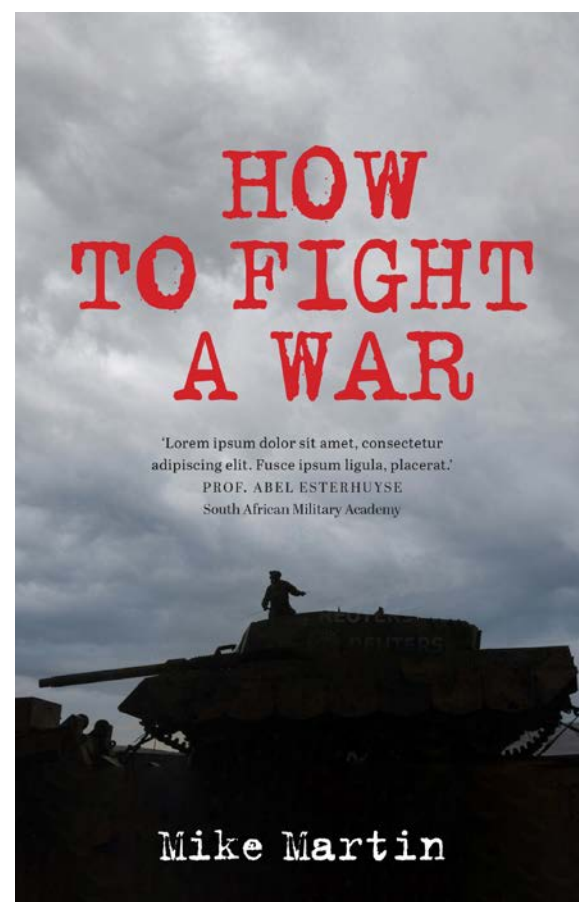
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CATEGORY Biography, History

ANTONIO GARCIA is a research fellow at Stellenbosch University, visiting lecturer at Durham University, and tutor at the Open University. He has been published widely on military history and strategy. IAN VAN DER WAAG is a Visiting Professor in the Centre for Security, Peace and Conflict Resolution at Nelson Mandela University in Gqeberha, and is Emeritus Professor of Military History at Stellenbosch University.

‘Mike Martin expertly explains the basic principles underpinning the successful deployment of armed force in war and this is precisely why this book ought to be read far and wide.’ – Prof. Abel Esterhuyse, Faculty of Military Science, Stellenbosch University

How To Fight a War

MIKE MARTIN



Has any war in history gone according to plan? Monarchs, dictators and elected leaders alike have a dismal record on military decision-making, from over-ambitious goals to disregarding intelligence, terrain, or enemy capabilities. This not only wastes the lives of civilians, the enemy and one’s own soldiers, but also fails to achieve geopolitical objectives, and usually lays the seeds for more wars.

Conflict scholar and former soldier Mike Martin takes the reader through the hard logic to fighting a conclusive interstate war that solves geopolitical problems and reduces future conflict. He outlines how to orchestrate military forces, from infantry and information to strategy and tactics.

Martin explains the unavoidable art of using violence to force your enemies to do what you want. It should be read by everyone seeking to understand today’s wars, and those wishing to lead us through future conflicts.

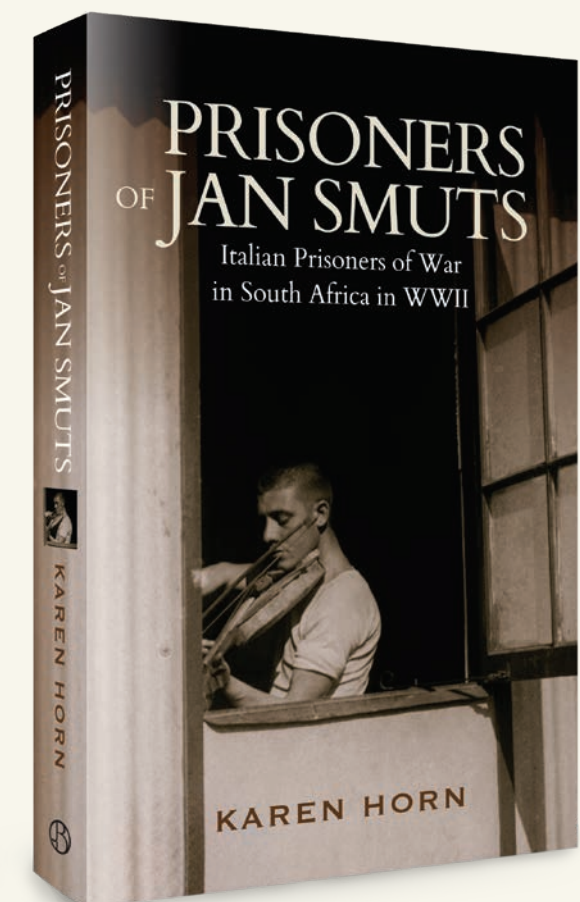
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RIGHTS Southern Africa Rights
CATEGORY: Military Science

MIKE MARTIN is a conflict scholar, former soldier and military author.

Prisoners of Jan Smuts:

Italian Prisoners of War in South Africa in WWII

KAREN HORN



Equally skilled in different trades than in the art of love, the Italian Prisoners of War who were held in South Africa during WWII have been a source of great fascination for many.

The first Italian POWs arrived in the Union of South Africa in early 1941 after they were captured by Allied forces in northern and eastern Africa. Most were held at Zonderwater Camp outside Cullinan. The government of Jan Smuts saw the POWs as a source of cheap labour that would contribute to harvesting schemes, road-building projects, and even prickly pear eradication.

This book tells the story of the Italian POWs through the eyes of five prisoners, who had documented their experiences in memoirs and letters. Several Italians chose to remain in South Africa after the war and many, such as the artist Eduardo Villa, left an important mark. Others became successful businesspeople, like Aurelio Gatti, who established an ice-cream empire.

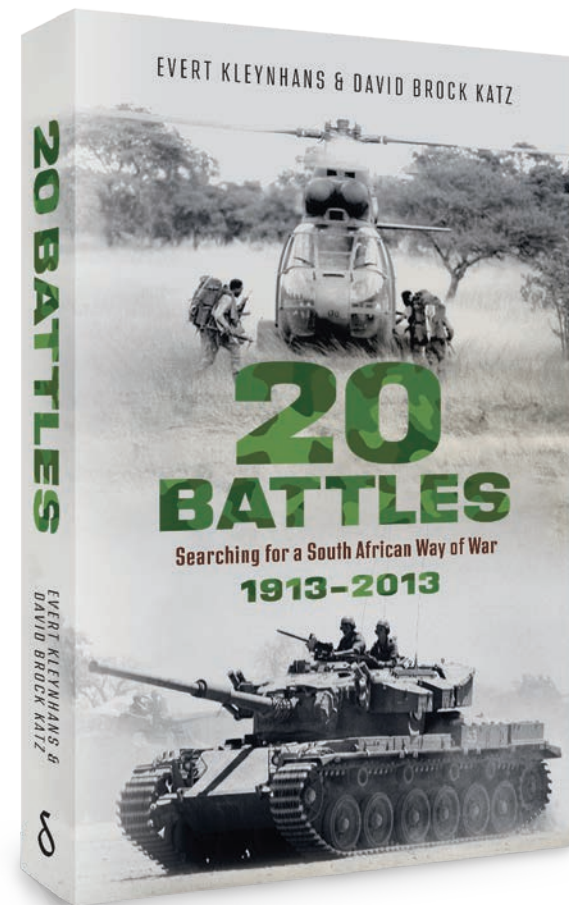
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CATEGORY History, Military

KAREN HORN is a historian and the author of *In Enemy Hands: South Africa’s POWs in WWII*.

20 Battles

Searching for a South African Way of War 1913-2013

DR EVERT KLEYNHANS &
DR DAVID BROCK KATZ



The story of the intelligence war in South Africa during the Second World War is one of suspense, drama and dogged persistence. In 1939, the German government secretly reached out to the leadership of the anti-war movement, the Ossewabrandwag.

The Nazis' aim was to spread sedition in South Africa and to undermine the Allied war effort. The critical strategic importance of the sea route round the Cape of Good Hope meant that the Germans were also after naval intelligence. Soon U-boat packs were sent to operate in South African waters, to deadly effect.

With the help of the Ossewabrandwag, a network of spies was established to gather important political and military intelligence and relay it back to the Reich. Agents would use a variety of channels to send coded messages to Axis diplomats in neighbouring Mozambique. Meanwhile, police detectives and MI5 agents hunted in vain for illegal wireless transmitters.

Hitler's Spies present an unrivalled account of German intelligence networks that operated in wartime South Africa.

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DR EVERT KLEYNHANS is an author and a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Military Science at Stellenbosch University.

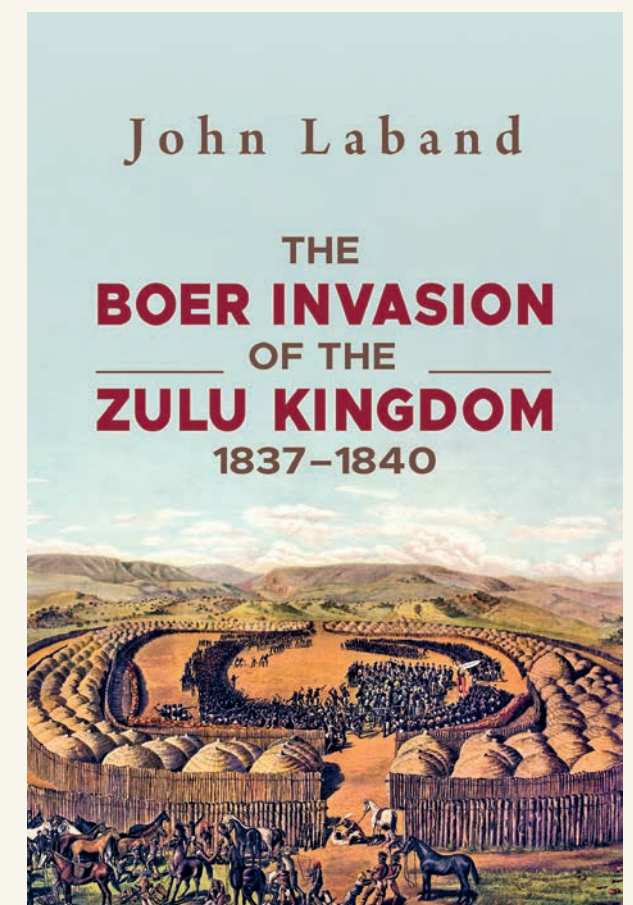
DR DAVID BROCK KATZ is an author, historian, and part-time lecturer and research fellow in the Faculty of Military Science at Stellenbosch University.

'John Laband's book is a greater reward for young minds grown cynical about the past.'

– Archie Henderson, *Business Day*

The Boer Invasion of the Zulu Kingdom: 1837-1840

JOHN LABAND



The battle of Blood River on 16 December 1838 has long been regarded as a critical moment in the history of South Africa.

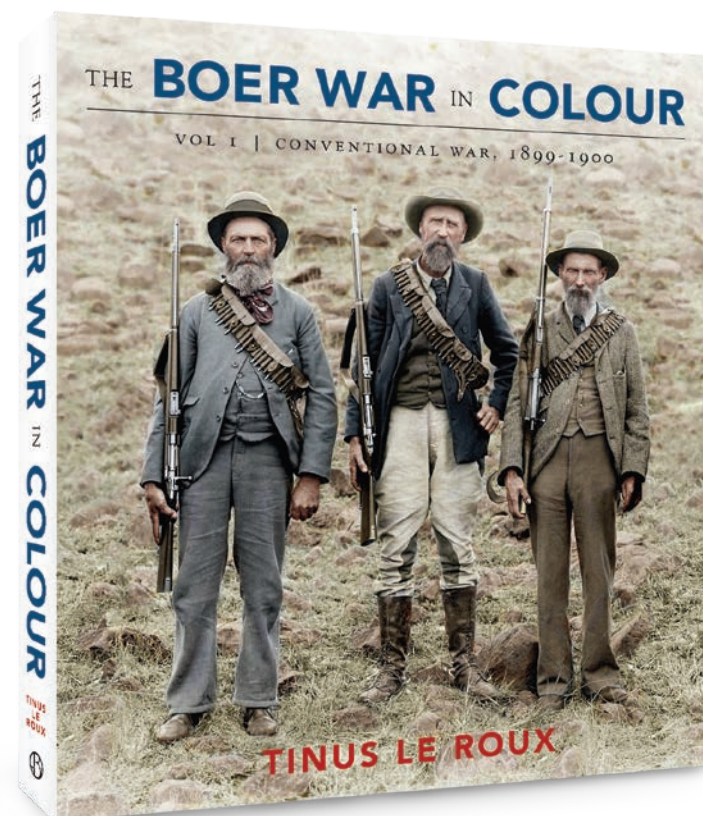
Many Afrikaners long acclaimed their triumph as the God-given justification for their subsequent dominion over Africans. By contrast, Africans celebrate the war with pride for its significance in their valiant struggle against colonial aggression.

In this telling of the Boer invasion, Laband deals even-handedly with the warring sides in the conflict. Crucially, he presents the less familiar Zulu perspective and explains the decisions taken by the Zulu leaders as they grappled with the existential threat of the Boer invasion.

The protagonists are placed in the context of the early nineteenth century that saw the displacement of populations and migrations, the emergence of new kingdoms such as that of the amaZulu, and the inexorable and violent advance of colonial settlement and rule.

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CATEGORY History & Biography

DR JOHN LABAND is a retired historian and an expert in Zulu history. He has authored, co-authored or edited over twenty books on warfare and military culture in Africa.



The Boer War in Colour

Vol 1 | Conventional War, 1899-1900

TINUS LE ROUX

Infused with colour, scenes from the Anglo-Boer War suddenly come to life in this striking collection of colourised photos from one of the biggest conflicts on South African soil.

The Anglo-Boer War, or South African War, pitted the two Boer republics of Transvaal and the Orange Free State against British imperial might. The effects of this devastating war on the political, economic and social landscape were felt long after its end.

The Boer War in Colour contains many iconic photos from the war, as well as several previously unpublished images. Over the past 120 years, hundreds of books on the Anglo-Boer War have been published, but this will be the first to show this conflict in full colour – introducing a fresh perspective and transforming it into living history.

‘Terrific to experience the Anglo-Boer War in colour – as its participants had so many years ago! Without question a truly remarkable photo album of the war.’ – FRANSJOHAN PRETORIUS, HISTORIAN

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RIGHTS World Rights

CATEGORY History

TINUS LE ROUX is a military history enthusiast who started colourising Anglo-Boer War images in 2014. He also colourises World War II images, specifically those related to the South African Air Force.

Die Anglo-Boereoorlog in Kleur

Vol 1 | Konvensionele Oorlog, 1899-1901

TINUS LE ROUX

Tonele en rolspeleers uit die Anglo-Boereoorlog kry nuwe lewe in hierdie unieke versameling foto's wat lewensgetrou ingekleur is. Dit bring vars perspektief op een van die belangrikste historiese gebeurtenisse in die Suid-Afrikaanse geskiedenis.

In die Anglo-Boereoorlog of Suid-Afrikaanse Oorlog het die twee Boererepublieke van Transvaal en die Oranje-Vrystaat teen die Britse Ryk te staan gekom. Hierdie verwoestende oorlog sou vir dekades lank nog 'n uitwerking hê op die Suid-Afrikaanse politieke, ekonomiese en sosiale landskap.

Lesers sal talle ikoniese foto's in *Die Anglo-Boereoorlog in kleur* raaksien, maar ook verskeie wat nog nooit tevore gepubliseer is nie. Honderde boeke het die afgelope 120 jaar oor die oorlog verskyn, maar dit is die eerste een in volkleur.



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REGTE Wêreldregte

KATEGORIE Geskiedenis

TINUS LE ROUX is 'n militêre geskiedenis-entoesias wat al sedert 2014 Anglo-Boereoorlogfoto's inkleur. Hy kleur ook foto's uit die Tweede Wêreldoorlog in, spesifiek dié wat met die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugmag verband hou.

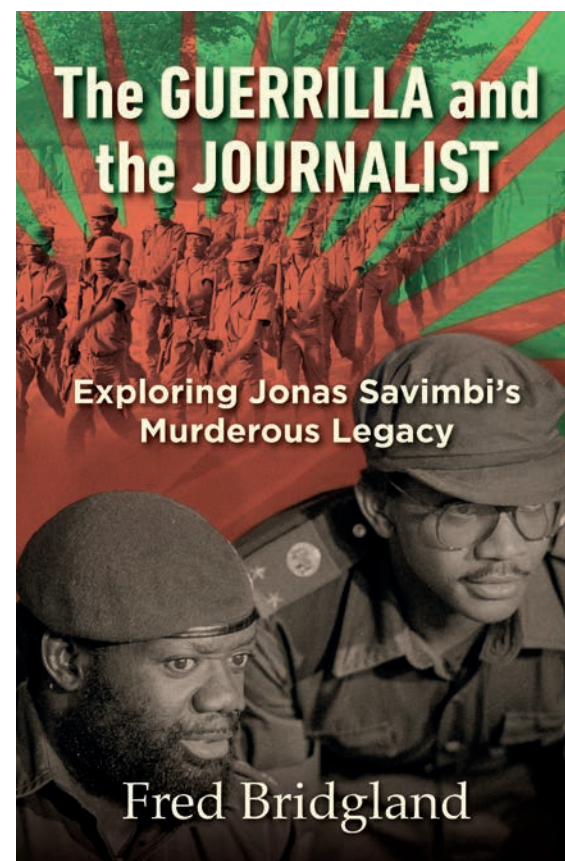




The Guerrilla and the Journalist

Exploring Jonas Savimbi's
Murderous Legacy

FRED BRIDGLAND



For many years UNITA leader leader Jonas Savimbi was known for his charisma, charm and brio: he convinced millions of his followers and also international statesmen that post independence he was Angola's and the West's best hope for democratic rule in this war-torn country.

More than 30 years after writing a sympathetic biography of Savimbi, Fred Bridgland sets the record straight by revealing the rebel leader's murderous legacy based on new evidence that has come to light. In the 1970s and 1980s Angola had become a hotbed of the Cold War and few people would believe that Savimbi had fellow UNITA officers and women, who he viewed as a threat, killed in brutal ways.

Tito Chingunji, the brilliant young foreign secretary of Savimbi's UNITA movement who approached Bridgland to write the original biography in the early 1980s, risked his life to help Bridgland tell the true story of what was going on behind the scenes. This is an account of the intense friendship that developed between the two men, the adventures they shared and the terrifying challenges they faced as they revealed Savimbi's true face.

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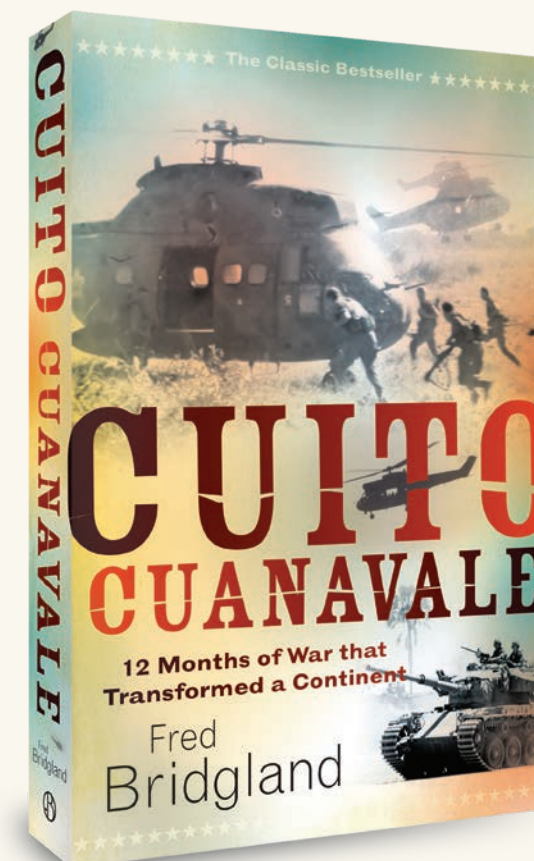


FRED BRIDGLAND is a veteran British foreign correspondent and the author of several books, including *Cuito Cuanavale* (2017) and *Truth, Lies and Alibis* (2018).

Cuito Cuanavale

12 Months of War that
Transformed a Continent

FRED BRIDGLAND



'As we advanced the tanks began firing ahead speculatively. It was an amazing sight. After an Olifant [tank] unleashed a 105 mm shell you saw a path opening up through the forest just like the Red Sea divided for Moses.'

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CATEGORY Military History

It is September 1987. The Angolan Army – with the support of Cuban troops and Soviet advisors – has built up a massive force on the Lomba River near Cuito Cuanavale in southern Angola. Their goal? To capture Jamba, the headquarters of the rebel group Unita, supported by the South African Defence Force (SADF) in the so-called Border War.

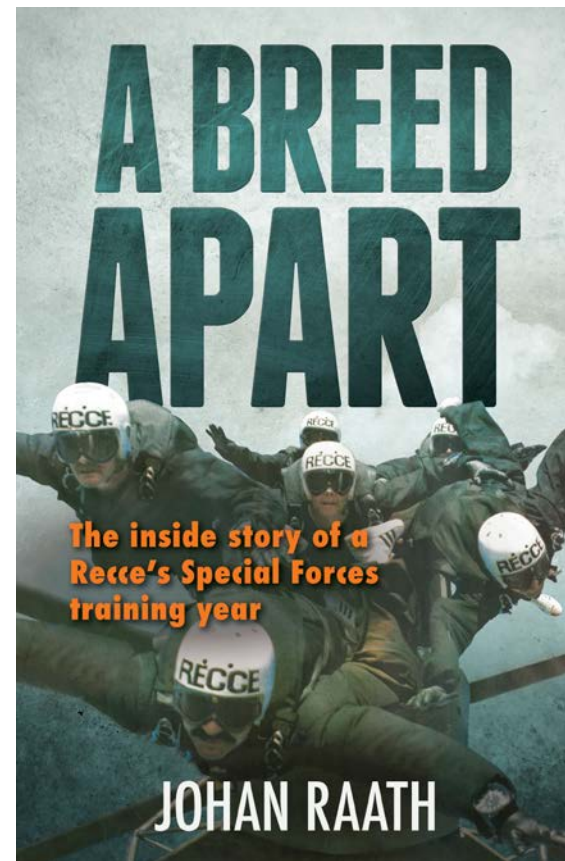
This gripping account of the last bloody battles around the southern Angolan town of Cuito Cuanavale in 1988 has become a Border War classic. Thousands died in the fighting, vividly and dramatically retold by Fred Bridgland. Thousands of soldiers died in the vicious fighting that is described in vivid detail in this book. Bridgland pieced together this account through scores of interviews with SADF men who were on the front line. This dramatic retelling takes the reader to the heart of the action.



A Breed Apart

*The Inside Story of a Recce's
Special Forces Training Year*

JOHAN RAATH



Over the years, many have signed up for the South African Special Forces selection course but only a select few have ever passed. The gruelling course pushes recruits to their limits.

Those who make it through selection still have to complete a demanding year-long training cycle before they can join the ranks of this elite unit. Raath offers a rare insider's view on the training he and other young soldiers received in the mid-1980s. Drawing on the reminiscences of his fellow Recces, he describes the phases of selection and training, and offers valuable insights into what makes a successful operator.

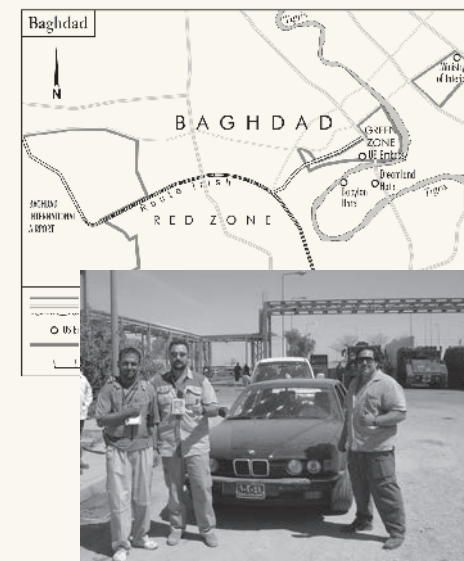
The courses in the training cycle show the range and standard of Special Forces training, including weapons handling, bushcraft/survival, parachuting, demolitions and urban warfare, as well as seaborne and riverine operations. For Raath and his training cycle buddies, their training culminated in an operation in southern Angola where the young Recces saw action for the first time.

Much of what Raath underwent still forms part of present-day Special Forces training. Comprehensive and revealing, this book shows why these soldiers truly are a breed apart.

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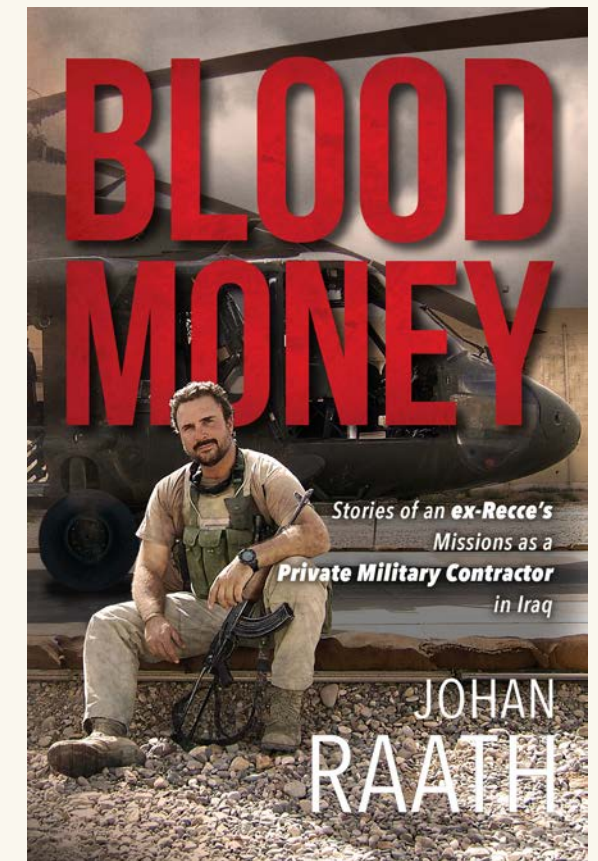
JOHAN RAATH is a former South African Special Forces operator and private military contractor.



Blood Money

*Stories of an ex-Recce's
Missions as a Private Military
Contractor in Iraq*

JOHAN RAATH



'I remember the cracking sound of the AK-47 bullets as they tore through our windscreen . . . A piece of bullet struck my bulletproof vest in the chest area and another piece broke off and lodged in my left forearm.'

Raath and a security team were ambushed in May 2004 while on a mission to reconnoitre a power plant south of Baghdad for an American firm. He had been in the country for only two weeks. This was a taste of what was to come over the next few years as he worked as a private military contractor (PMC) in Iraq.

Raath had numerous hair-raising experiences. Key to his survival was his training as a Special Forces operator, or Recce.

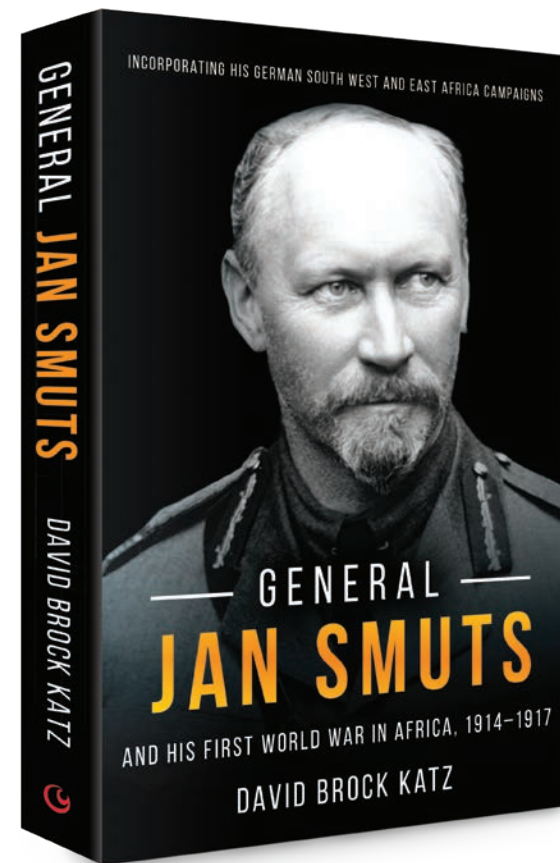
This riveting account offers a rare glimpse into the world of private military contractors and the realities of everyday life in one of the world's most violent conflict zones.

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CATEGORY Military History



General Jan Smuts and his First World War in Africa (1914-1917)

DAVID BROCK KATZ



Jan Smuts's abilities as a general have been much denigrated by modern historians. However, he was no armchair soldier – the statesman courageously led his men into battle. During the South African War, he was immersed in the Boer manoeuvre doctrine, which he used to devastating effect in the guerrilla phase of that conflict – leading his commando in a daring invasion of the Cape.

The First World War ushered in a renewed scramble for Africa. Smuts grabbed the opportunity to realise his ambition of a Greater South Africa. He led the southern defensive and was an integral part of the German South West African campaign in 1915. In command of the Allied forces in East Africa in 1916, he led a combination of South Africans and imperial troops against the legendary Paul von Lettow-Vorbeck and his Schutztruppen to great effect. His penchant for manoeuvre warfare remains an enigma.

Katz makes use of multiple archival sources and many of the official accounts of the participants to provide a long-overdue reassessment of Smuts's generalship and his role in furthering the strategic aims of South Africa and the British Empire in Africa during the First World War.

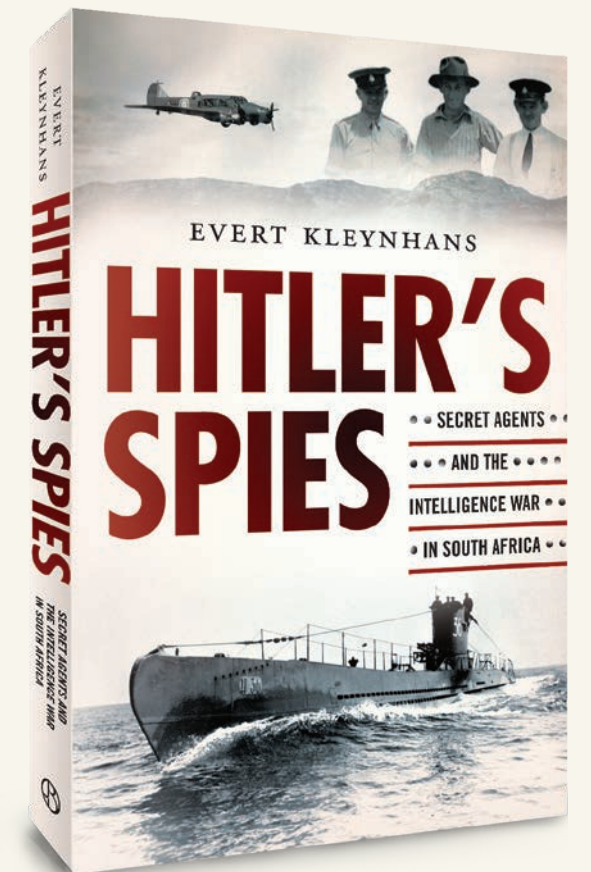
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CATEGORY History

DAVID BROCK KATZ is an author and historian, who lectures at the Army and Defence Colleges of the South African National Defence Force.

Hitler's Spies

*Secret Agents and the Intelligence War in
South Africa*

EVERT KLEYNHANS



The story of the intelligence war in South Africa during the Second World War is one of suspense, drama and dogged persistence. In 1939, the German government secretly reached out to the leadership of the anti-war movement, the Ossewabrandwag.

The Nazis' aim was to spread sedition in South Africa and to undermine the Allied war effort. The critical strategic importance of the sea route round the Cape of Good Hope meant that the Germans were also after naval intelligence. Soon U-boat packs were sent to operate in South African waters, to deadly effect.

With the help of the Ossewabrandwag, a network of spies was established to gather important political and military intelligence and relay it back to the Reich. Agents would use a variety of channels to send coded messages to Axis diplomats in neighbouring Mozambique. Meanwhile, police detectives and MI5 agents hunted in vain for illegal wireless transmitters.

Hitler's Spies present an unrivalled account of German intelligence networks that operated in wartime South Africa.

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CATEGORY History

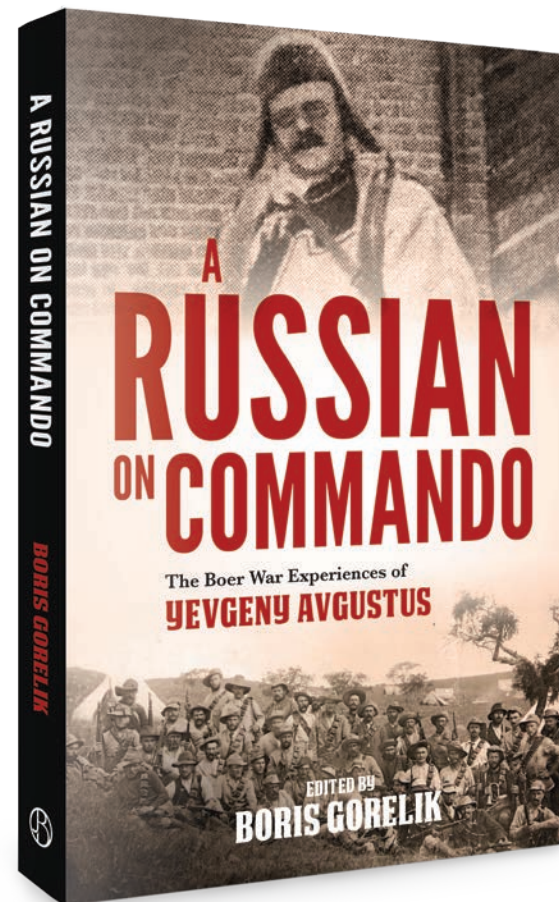
DR EVERT KLEYNHANS is a lecturer in military history at the University of Stellenbosch's Military Academy in Saldanha.

‘Lucid, evocative and perceptive, this combat memoir is a delight.’
– Fransjohan Pretorius,
Emeritus Professor of
History

A Russian on Commando

*The Boer War Experiences of
Yevgeny Avgustus*

BORIS GORELIK



Galvanized by the daring of the Boers to take on imperial Britain, the young officer Yevgeny Avgustus set off from Russia and arrived in the Transvaal in January 1900 to fight in the Anglo-Boer War. Like most Russian volunteers, he went to fight on the Natal front.

After visits to generals Piet Joubert and Lucas Meyer, portrayed in vivid detail by Avgustus, he and his companions joined the Krugersdorp commando. The central part of this gripping account is dedicated to episodes of the Battle of the Thukela Heights in February 1900. The immediacy of Avgustus’s writing allows the reader to almost feel his trepidation and excitement as he approaches the battlefield for the first time.

A gifted writer, his narrative is a series of paintings rather than snapshots that offers both keen observation and thoughtful introspection. Through the eyes of this foreign volunteer a turning point in South African history comes alive and is enriched by his eyewitness account.

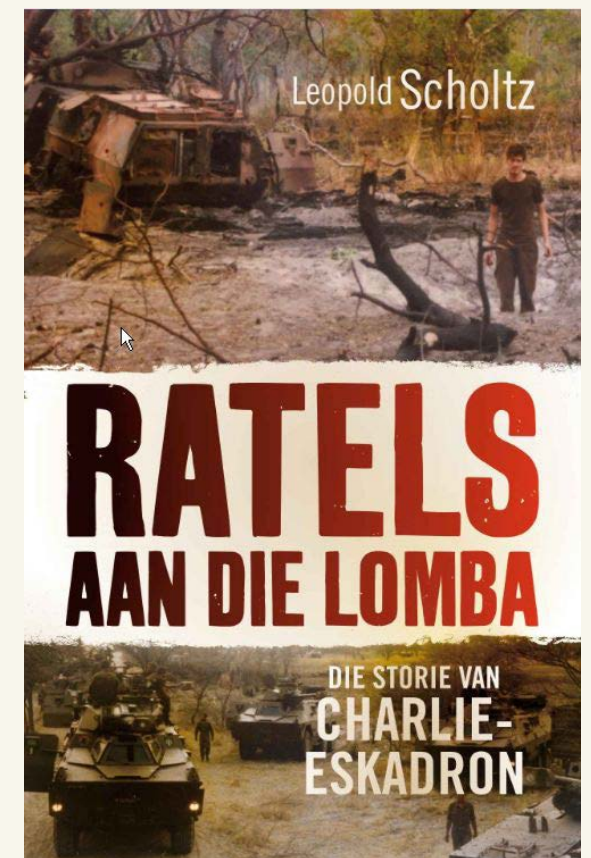
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CATEGORY History

BORIS GORELIK is a Russian writer and academic who lived in South Africa for many years.

Ratels aan die Lomba

Die storie van Charlie Squadron

LEOPOLD SCHOLTZ



Op 3 Oktober 1987 het Charlie-eskadron – die ystervuis van 61 Gemeganiseerde Bataljonggroep – die kritieke geveg tussen die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag en die Angolese magte op die Lombarivier in die suide van Angola gelei. Dié boek plaas die leser in die midde van die groep jong dienspligtiges wat na die Grensoorlog weggevoer is om hierdie geveg te gaan voer.

Op die Lomba het hulle nie net te staan gekom teen ’n Angolese mag met ’n getaloorwig en beter wapentuig nie, maar ook teen ’n terrein wat so dig bebos was dat hul sig en beweging aansienlik ingeperk is. Steeds is 47 Brigade van die Angolese magte amper uitgewis tydens die geveg op die Lomba. Scholtz se beskrywing van hierdie David teen Goliath geveg neem die leser na die hart van die aksie.

Danksy onderhoude met veterane en dagboekinskrywings dra hierdie eerlike, intense hervertelling die volle drama van die geveg oor. Dit is ook ’n diep menslike verhaal oor hoe individue reageer in die aangesig van die dood en hoe die oorlog hulle nooit uit sy kloue gelaat het nie, selfs nadat hulle teruggekeer het.

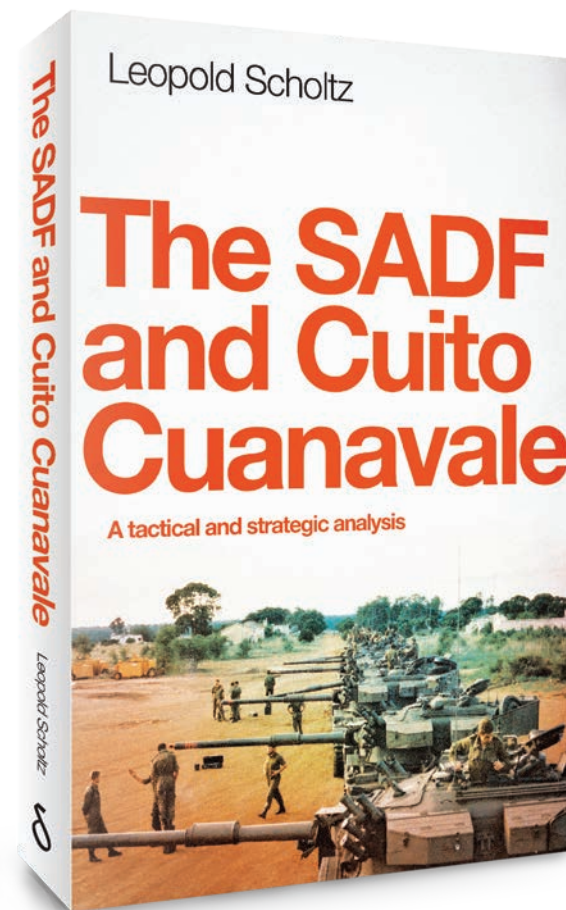
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REGTE Wêreldregte
KATEGORIE Geskiedenis

DR. LEOPOLD SCHOLTZ is ’n oudjoernalis en militêre historikus.

The SADF and Cuito Cuanavale

A Tactical and Strategic Analysis

LEOPOLD SCHOLTZ

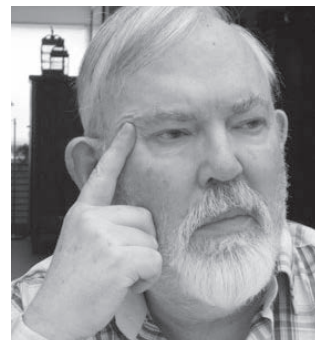


'A shooting war is often followed by a second war. This war is not fought with bullets or artillery shells, not with tanks or bombers, but rather with words. The war is, in effect, fought again on paper.'

Ever since the Border War ended in 1989, the fighting around the dusty town of Cuito Cuanavale has been the subject of a fierce public debate over who won the war. While the leadership of the former South African Defence Force (SADF) claims it was never defeated, the supporters of the Angolan MPLA government, Cuba and SWAPO insist that the SADF was vanquished on the battlefield.

But was Cuito Cuanavale ever really an objective of the SADF? Scholtz tackles this question by examining recently declassified documents in the SANDF archives and exploring the strategic and tactical decisions that shaped the six main battles. His incisive analysis untangles what happens when war, politics and propaganda become entwined.

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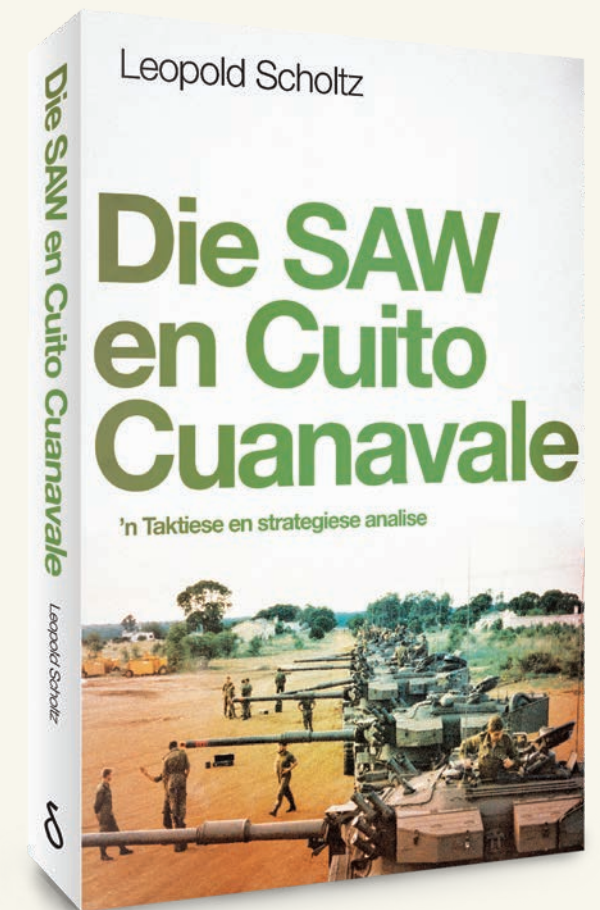


The late DR LEOPOLD SCHOLTZ was a journalist and military historian.

Die SAW en Cuito Cuanavale

'n Taktiese en strategiese analise

LEOPOLD SCHOLTZ



'Dit gebeur dikwels dat ’n skietoorlog deur ’n tweede oorlog gevolg word. Dié oorlog word nie met ammunisie of kartetse gevoer of met tenks en bomwerpers nie, maar met woorde. Die oorlog word as ’t ware op papier oorgeveg.'

Sedert die einde van die Grensoorlog in 1989 is die stowwerige dorpie Cuito Cuanavale die fokuspunt van ’n openbare debat oor wie eintlik hierdie oorlog gewen het. Die leierskorps van die Suid-Afrikaanse Weermag (SAW) hou vol hulle is nooit verslaan nie, terwyl die alliansie van die Angolese MPLA-regering, Kuba en Swapo beweert hulle het die SAW uit Angola en Suidwes-Afrika verdryf.

Maar was Cuito Cuanavale ooit regtig ’n doelwit vir die Suid-Afrikaners? Dit is die vraag wat Leopold Scholtz vra wanneer hy onlangs gedeklassifiseerde dokumente in die weermagargief bestudeer en die SAW se taktiese en strategiese besluite ondersoek. Sy kritiese ontleding wys hoe maklik propaganda en politiek in die pad van feite kan staan.

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REGTE Wêreldregte

Wyle DR. LEOPOLD SCHOLTZ was ’n oudjoernalis en militêre historikus.

Die Brug

Na die hel en terug in Angola

DEON LAMPRECHT



Vroeg in 1988 is ’n groep jong dienspligtiges van 61 Gemeganiseerde Bataljon na die vleismeul van suidelike Angola gestuur. Daar, op die bloedige slagvelde om Cuito Cuanavale, het die meeste van hulle vir ewig hul onskuld verloor.

Aanvanklik het hulle blindelings geglo dat hulle teen die totale aanslag van die kommunisme veg. Nadat hulle egter herhaaldelik deur die SAW-leierskap in dieselfde doodsakker ingestuur is, is hulle toenemend ontnugter.

Dertig jaar later het hierdie groep mans bymekaar-gekom om die wrak van ’n Ratel waarin ’n makker dood is. Hier het die meeste mans vir die eerste keer openlik gepraat oor die gruwelike werklikhede van die oorlog en wat dit aan hulle gedoen het.

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KATEGORIE Militêre Geskiedenis
REGTE Wêreldregte

DEON LAMPRECHT is
’n bekroonde joernalis
en skrywer.

About the book

DEON LAMPRECHT is an award-winning journalist and writer.

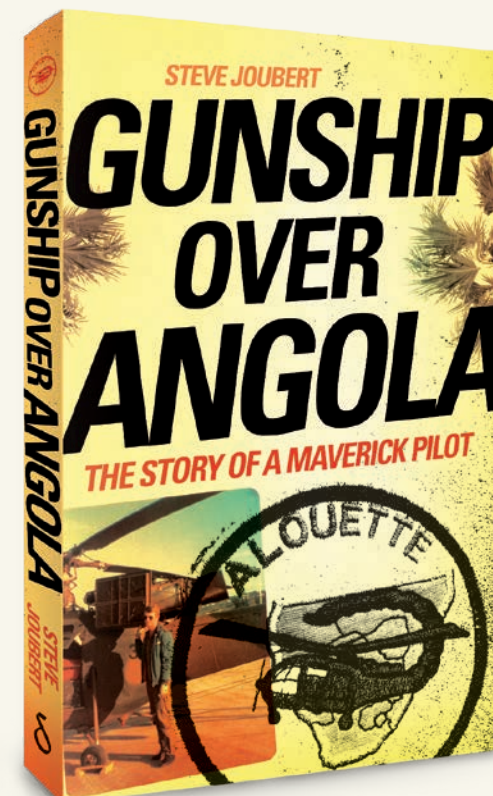
Die Brug tells the stories, in their own voices, of a small band of brothers – young national servicemen of 61 Mechanised Infantry Battalion – who fought in the last and most intense battles around Cuito Cuanavale. Initially they believed they were fighting to defend their country against a total communist onslaught, but later they merely fought to stay alive.

Thirty years after the war they travelled to the wreck of a Ratel in which one of their comrades died. Here many of them opened up for the first time about the gruesome realities of the war and how it affected them.

Gunship Over Angola

The Story of a Maverick Pilot

STEVE JOUBERT



‘Seconds later, the clear blue sky into which we had been heading erupted in a hellish scene of smoke, flame, exploding rocket-propelled grenades and tracer bullets. Had we continued on that path our aircraft would almost certainly have been blasted from the southern Angolan sky.’

Growing up in suburban Pretoria, Steve Joubert dreamed of a career as a pilot. After undergoing SAAF pilot training, a freak injury put an end to his hopes of flying fighter jets. Instead he learned to fly the versatile Alouette helicopter.

Joubert had barely qualified as a chopper pilot when he was sent to fly missions in the Border War to supply air cover to troops on the ground. As an Alouette pilot, he saw some of the worst scenes of the war. In this moving memoir he shares some of this experiences and describes how it led him eventually to question his role in the war effort.

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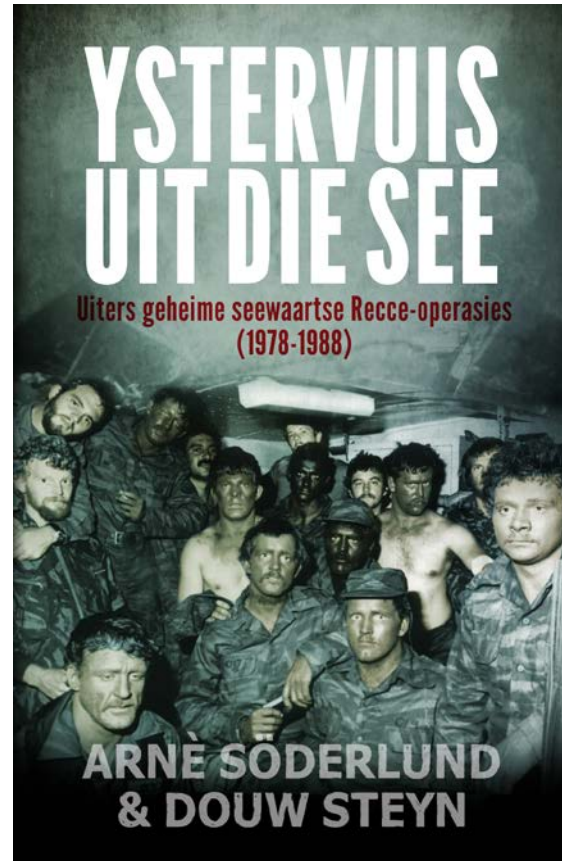
STEVE JOUBERT is a former pilot for the South African Air Force.



Ystervuis uit die see

Uiters geheime seewaartse Recce-operasies (1978-1988)

ARNÈ SÖDERLUND &
DOUW STEYN



Gedurende die Grensoorlog het die Spesiale Magte se 4 Verkenningregiment tientalle klandestiene seewaartse operasies saam met die SA Vloot uitgevoer. Van Cabinda in Angola tot Dar es Salaam in Tanzanië het hulle strategiese teikens soos oliedepots, vervoerinfrastruktuur en selfs Russiese skepe aangeval. Die bestaan van 4 Recce is grootliks geheim gehou, ook in die SAW.

Ystervuis uit die see beskryf 50 operasies deur 4 Recce, ander Spesmagte-eenhede en die SA Vloot. Daaronder tel Operasie Kerslig (1981), waartydens 'n operateur dood en ander beseer is in 'n aanval op 'n olieraffinadery in Luanda, en Operasie Argon (1985) toe kaptein Wynand du Toit in Angola gevange geneem is.

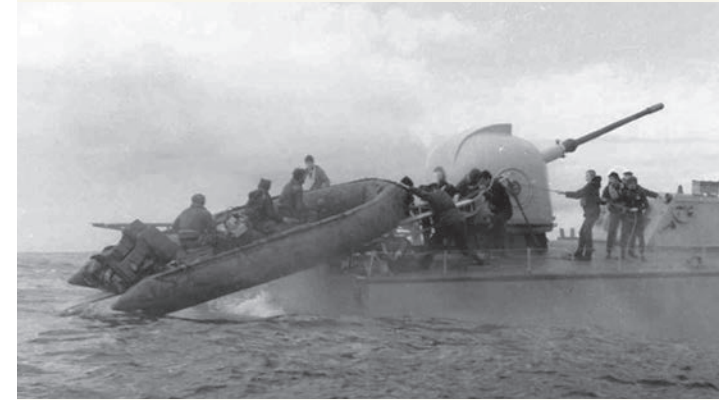
Die skrywers, wat self aan etlike van die operasies deelgeneem het, het ook toegang gekry tot uiters geheime dokumente wat intussen gedeklassifiseer is. Hul dramatiese vertellings wys hoe veelsydig en doeltreffend hierdie elite-eenheid was.

Die omvattende boek is 'n moet vir enigeen met 'n belangstelling in die Spesmagte. Dit neem jou na die hart van die aksie, die adrenalien en vrees van seewaartse operasies.

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REGTE Wêreldregte
KATEGORIE Militêre Geskiedenis

RADM (JG) ARNÈ SÖDERLUND
is 'n voormalige vlootoffisier.

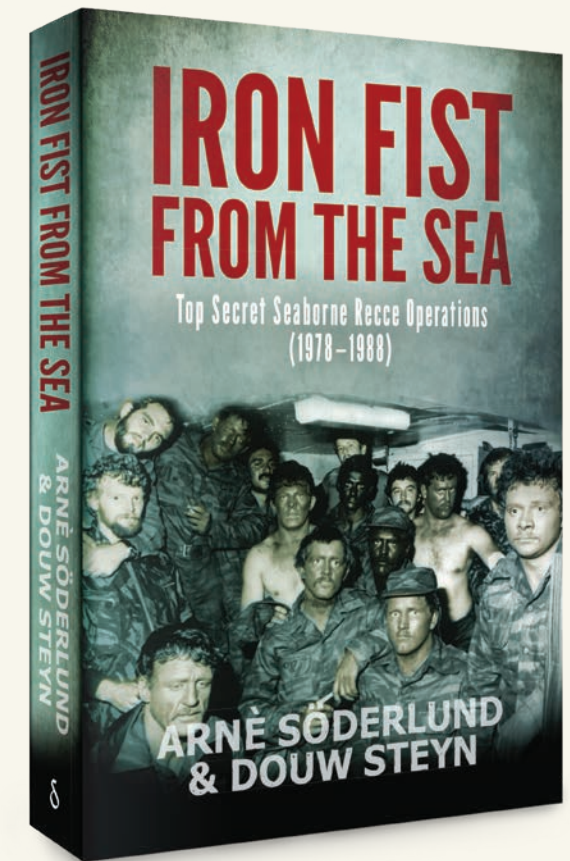
LT KOL DANIËL STEYN is
'n voormalige Spesiale Magte-
operateur.



Iron Fist from The Sea

Top Secret Seaborne Recce Operations (1978-1988)

ARNÈ SÖDERLUND &
DOUW STEYN



From Cabinda in Angola to Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, 4 Reconnaissance Regiment conducted numerous clandestine seaborne raids during the Border War. They attacked strategic targets such as oil facilities, transport infrastructure and even Russian ships. All the while 4 Recce's existence and capability was largely kept secret, even within the South African Defence Force.

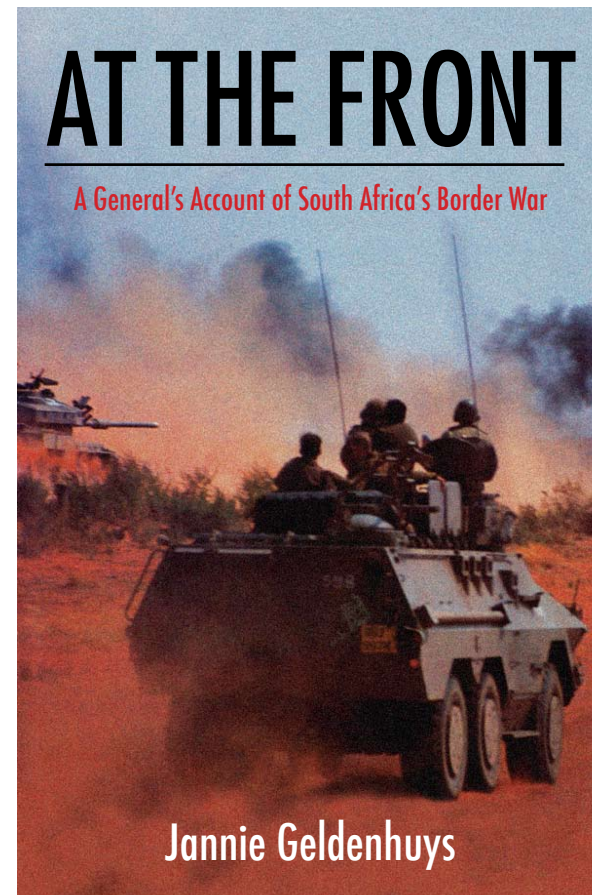
With unparalleled access to previously top-secret documents, 50 operations undertaken by 4 Recce, other Special Forces units and the South African Navy are described. The daunting Operation Kerslig (1981), in which an operator died in a raid on a Luanda oil refinery and others were injured, is retold in spine-tingling detail.

The book reveals the versatility and effectiveness of this elite unit and also tells of both the successes and failures of its actions. This fascinating work will enthrall anyone with an interest in Special Forces operations.

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CATEGORY Military History

RADM (JG) ARNÈ SÖDERLUND
is a former Navy officer.

LT COL DANIËL STEYN is a
former Special Forces operator.



At the Front

*A General's Account of
South Africa's Border War*

JANNIE GELDENHUYS

In this completely revised and updated edition, Geldenhuys reflects on a life defined as much by a military career spanning more than four decades as it was by politics and indeed the need for peace on the African sub-continent.

At the Front covers the years before and during the protracted Border War. But rather than a blow-by-blow official history, it consists of Geldenhuys' personal experiences and insights. These include facts unknown to civilians and even to some high-ranking military officials. In particular, Geldenhuys sheds light on the final years of the conflict and the negotiated settlement.

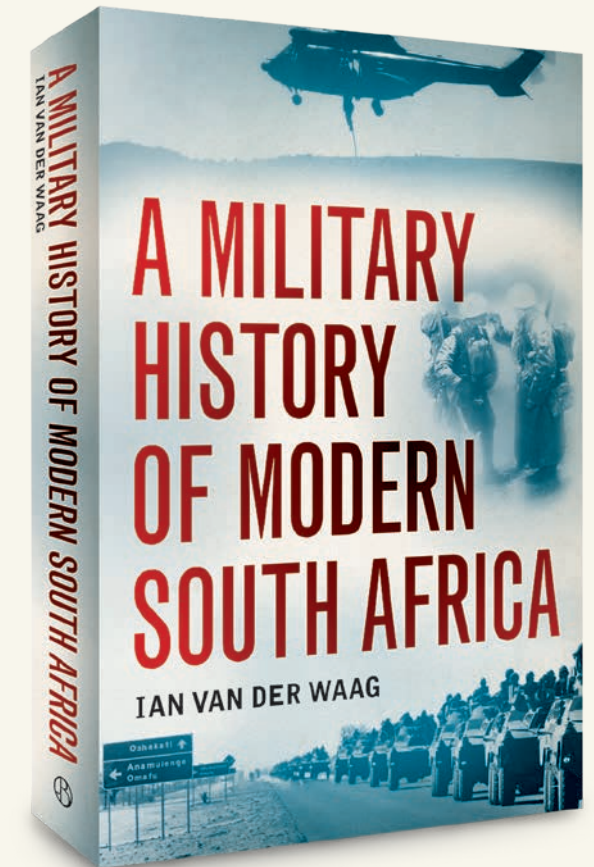
Geldenhuys also writes of his early years, as he evolved from a rugby-mad young subaltern officer to a deep-thinking, reflective man with ever-sharpening insights into, war, peace, politics and, most of all, himself.

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CATEGORY Military History

GENERAL JANNIE GELDENHUYS is widely regarded as one of the leading military commanders South Africa has ever produced.

A Military History of Modern South Africa

IAN VAN DER WAAG



The 20th Century has been one of enduring, rapid and fundamental social and political change. In Southern Africa, innumerable wars, rebellions, uprisings and protests have marked the integration, disintegration and then reintegration of both society and subcontinent during this period.

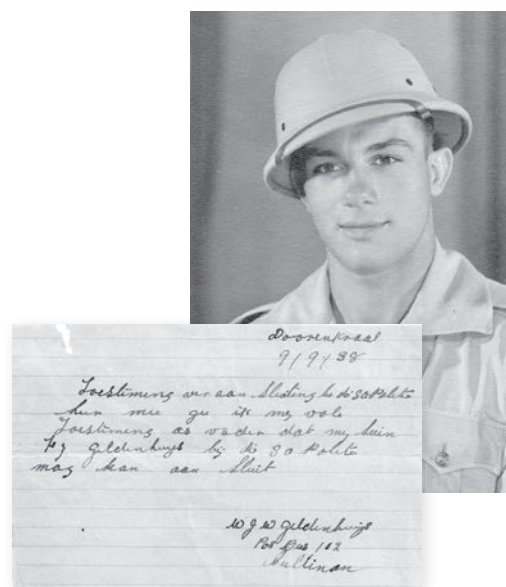
The century started with a brief but total war. Less than ten years later, victorious Britain brought the conquered Boer republics, and the Cape and Natal colonies, together into the Union of South Africa.

The century ended as it started – with a war. But this was a limited war, a flashpoint of the Cold War, which embraced more than just the subcontinent and lasted a long, twenty-three years.

The first of its kind, *A Military History of Modern South Africa* provides an overview of South African military history from 1899 to 2000. Focusing on the campaigns and battles, it also brings discussion on the evolving military policy and the development of the South African military as an institution into a single volume.

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CATEGORY Military History

IAN VAN DER WAAG is an associate professor and chair of the Department of Military History in the Faculty of Military Sciences, Stellenbosch University.



In Enemy Hands

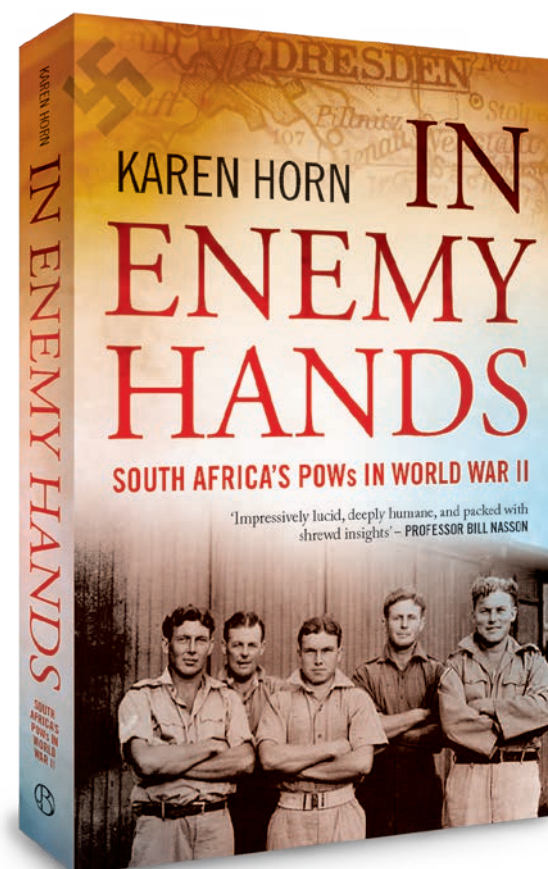
South Africa's POWs in WWII

KAREN HORN

There are remarkably few publications on South Africa's role in World War II, which had such an influence on how we live today. There is even less written about those who participated on the margins of the war, especially those who were physically removed from the battlefields through capture by enemy forces. South Africa's prisoners of war during World War II, their experiences and recollections, are largely forgotten. That is until now.

Horn painstakingly tracked down a number of former POWs. In their interviews, all the POWs expressed surprise at being asked to share their experiences. Together with written memoirs and archival documents, these interviews reveal rich narratives of hardship, endurance, humour, longing and self-discovery. Instead of fighting, these men adapted to another war, one which was fought on the inside of many prison camps. It was a war against hunger and deprivation, at times against ever-encroaching despondency and low morale amongst their companions in captivity.

With great insight and empathy, Karen Horn shines a light on a neglected corner of South African history.



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CATEGORY Military History

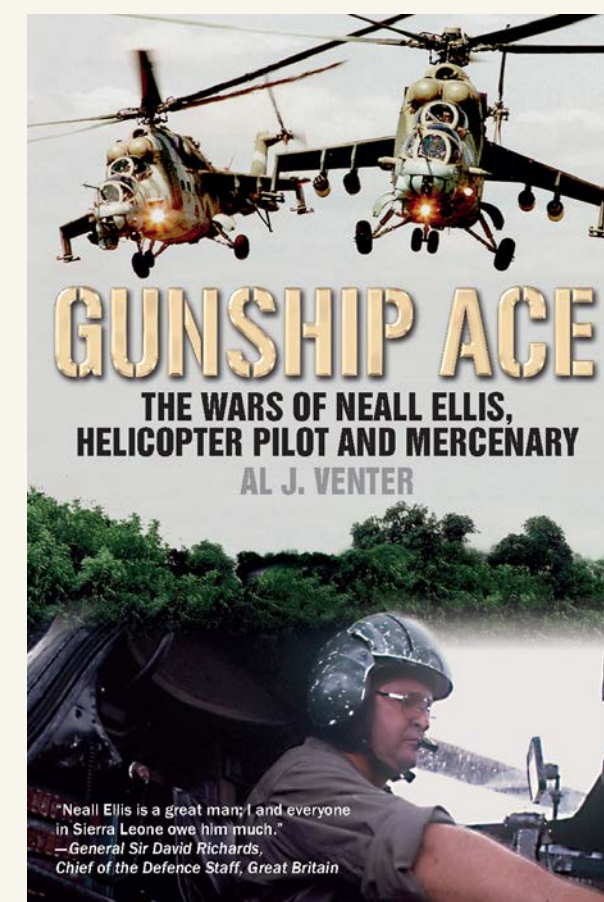


KAREN HORN is a historian and an academic.

Gunship Ace

The Wars of Neall Ellis,
Helicopter Pilot and Mercenary

AL J. VENTER



A former South African Air Force pilot who received a Honoris Crux during the Border War and later became a private military contractor, Neall Ellis is one of South Africa's best-known combat aviators. He participated in several major Border War operations, including Operation Protea, Super and Meebos.

Apart from flying Alouette helicopter gunships in Angola, he has fought in the Balkan War (for Islamic forces) and tried to resuscitate Mobutu Sese Seko's ailing air force during his final days ruling the Congo. In war-torn Sierra Leone Ellis played a major role in the fight against the rebel forces of Foday Sankoh. Ellis was also the first private military contractor to work hand-in-glove with British ground and air assets in a modern guerrilla war.

Later in Afghanistan, Ellis flew helicopter support missions for three years where he had more close shaves than in his entire previous four decades put together. The author recounts these hair-raising missions, some of which he accompanied Ellis on as a war correspondent.

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AL J. VENTER is a well-known military writer who has had 50 books published, including *War Stories* and *War Dog*.



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