

them.

CAM/018/2354/3 Tyhikhilong evidence

And did it have your name or a false name on it? -- There was one with a really name and then one with a false name.

Can you remember the false name? -- Yes, it was Alphius Mpapudi.

And what happened to that passport? -- That passport, I was having it.

Do you know where it is or what has happened to it? -- I have given it to somebody.

And the real passport? -- The real passport, I think (10) I left it at home.

Now, in those days, this is in 1981, did you have passports or travel documents? -- I am sorry for saying that. It was - we always used travel documents.

Is that what you called the passport? -- The passport. That is what I call passport. In fact it is travel documents.

Do you know whether Almond had a false passport or passports? -- Yes, he did have.

Did the same apply to all of you? -- Joe did have one and then Almond did have one and myself I did have one. (20)

Did you know of a man by the name of Pillay, Joe Pillay? -- Yes, Joe Pillay was a man who was being kidnapped from Swaziland. I was his guard somewhere there in a military place. I do not know what they call it. Water Tower or Tower or what. I do not remember the name of ...

Who kidnapped him from Swaziland? -- What I learned it was, there was some other Portuguese guys, Amaro and George and Adriano Mbambo and Petrus Kwadi, he was also included.

Where were they from? -- They are also - those others, Adriano Mbambo and George and Amaro were people from (30)

Mozambique/..

Mozambique who were also staying in Vlakplaas.

So he was kidnapped by people from Vlakplaas? -- Yes.

What happened to him when he was brought back to the Republic? -- I only saw him while he was there in the military place. I was his guard and then they were busy beating him and interrogating him there.

How were they beating him? -- He was being beaten and then he was being - there was something that they tied it ...

Blindfold? -- Yes, blindfold.

Yes? -- He was there. Coetzee was also there. (10)

Which Coetzee? -- Dirk Coetzee. There were also some other military people there.

What hear was this, can you remember? -- It is '81.

And what happened to him? -- It came to a point that those people who had their - because Almond did leave them. Almond was also included in that kidnapping, so he and Geoff they came out. Those people remained - for of them remained inside Swaziland. They were being arrested, so it happened that they organise bail of R800 each, that they must come out. Then they came out, so he - there was a problem. I mean (20) there were too much of rumours that South African police have done this and this and this and so on. It happened that they have to take Pillay back. It was me and Schutte who took him to Lothair.

Lothair is near the border of Swaziland? -- Yes, we left him there. We do not know how did they put him inside there.

Who did you hand him to over there? -- I do not know those whites who ...

And in what condition was he at that stage? -- He was red, being beaten. (30)

How long/..

How long was he under your guard? -- I stayed with him for two days until he become all right and that is when they took him back.

The two days that you guarded him, was that immediately after he came from Swaziland or had he been somewhere else first and then did you guard him? -- You see, when he come out from Swaziland I did not see him. I see him later on while I, I think after - I do not know how long was he being kept there.

And while you were guarding him, was he being in- (10)
terrogated or was he recovering from the interrogation and the assault? -- They were just asking him there and there and there and so on.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR MARITZ: Mr Tshikalange, Dirk Coetzee, does he speak any black language? -- No, only Afrikaans and English.

Now, you must have got to know him in the early part of 1970. -- Pardon?

When did you get to know Dirk Coetzee? -- If I am not mistaken it is round '73. (20)

In which standard were you in school then or which form? -- If I am not mistaken I think I was doing standard 4 or 5. I cannot remember.

And what language did you speak to Dirk Coetzee when you started working for him? -- Oh well, of course I used to try to speak Afrikaans, not that I am perfect in Afrikaans.

From that time on until 1981 you followed Dirk Coetzee around as he was transferred from one post to the other? -- Well, the fact remains that when I was there on school holiday I used to go and visit him. (30)

So when/..

never said I guarded him to Lothair. I mean there was a military base. I cannot remember what do they call it, the name of that place and then I guarded him, I think, for two days after that and then we have taken him, it was me and Schutte and then he was being what you call that ... (intervenues)

Handcuffs. -- He was handcuffed with me until Lothair when we left him there.

Now I think the place that you are referring to are the old Observatory in Voortrekkerhoogte. Is that where you guarded him? -- As I am saying I do not remember the name of that place, but there were some other things on top. It is on top of a hill in fact. (10)

Yes and were you the only guard guarding Joe Pillay? -- Mostly it was me.

It was you? -- Yes.

And did you have a rifle or a side-arm or anything to guard him with? -- He was being handcuffed and being blindfolded.

Did you have a gun? -- No, I was just having a "knopkierie". (20)

And you say that you and Koos Schutte then took him to Lothair where you left him? -- Yes.

In whose custody did you leave him at Lothair? -- We left him at the police station where they said they will throw him on the other side.

Do you recall when that happened? -- Pardon.

Do you recall when that happened? -- Do I recall?

When that happened, when that occurred? -- I took him in

(30)

1981.

But/...

But when in 1981 or don't you know? -- I cannot remember the month and the date.

Now you had nothing to do with the capture of Pillay at all, did you? -- Well it is what you are saying. I mean, whatever I know is that I did guard him and then he was captured and then I guarded him. All the things we were doing, like killing Mxenge, we were doing it for the police force, we were not doing it on our own.

No, but the question is this: Did you have anything to do with the kidnapping of Joe Pillay or didn't you? -- I do (10) not understand what do you mean?

CHAIRMAN: Did you go to Swaziland to fetch Pillay? -- No, I did not go. I only went to fetch those other guys later who had been arrested in Swaziland.

MR MARITZ: Who did you go and fetch in Swaziland? -- If I could remember, I see, it was Petrus Kgoadi ... (intervenes)

CHAIRMAN: Just a moment, who did you fetch in Swaziland? -- Petrus Kgoadi.

What is it, I cannot catch the surname, Kwadi?

MR MARITZ: Kgoadi, K-g-o-a-d-i.

(20)

CHAIRMAN: Yes and the other one? -- The other one was Thabo.

Thabo. -- I cannot remember these other Mocambiquan guys. It was, the other it was Adriaan Bambo.

But that was at a later stage? -- Pardon?

That was later, that was after 1981? -- No, it is the same year.

MR MARITZ: Whom did you go with to go and fetch them? -- I go with Almond.

You and Almond fetched them? -- Yes.

How did you go about fetching them? -- We go and wait for (30)

them/...

them there in Oschhoek. They were being, they have been delivered by the police of the Swazi to this other side of the border.

CHAIRMAN: So what happened, the Swazi police handed them over to you at Oschhoek at the border post? -- Yes.

MR MARITZ: You see I have the greater difficulty with this story of yours because according to the evidence which will be placed before the Commission at a later stage, Joe Pillay was in fact abducted from Swaziland on 19 February 1981. As a matter of fact he made a statement to that effect. He made a(10) statement on 26 February 1981 in which he says in paragraph 9 of that statement, that is Joe Pillay, that he was abducted on the evening of 19 February 1981. You would not be able to say yes or no on that?-- Pardon.

Well you cannot say whether that date is correct or not? -- As I have said and then I do not remember the date, but I can remember the year was 1981.

Yes, now I am putting it to you that he was abducted on 19 February 1981. I want to put it to you further that he was released and returned to Swaziland on 10 March 1981. Can (20) you say anything about that? -- I mean, I cannot say, I mean of course he was handed back the same year, 1981. As I have said, I cannot remember the date and the day, but it was 1981.

But the point is this, I put it to you this morning that you became a student constable on 18 March 1981. -- As I have told you it was in 1981, but I cannot remember the day and the date. I have told you such a thing.

But the point is this. If Joe Pillay was released on 10 March 1981 and you were only appointed a student constable eight days later, in other words on 18 March 1981, how would (30)

it/...

it have come about that you guarded the man? -- Well I cannot remember whether I was a student constable that time or what, but this is what I know.

But your evidence was that when you were still a labourer you remained at Vlakplaas and cooked. -- Yes.

You weren't in a position to do guard duty when you were a labourer. -- As I am telling you I do not remember, but whatever I know is that then I was there in that place and then I still remember taking him back with Schutte. If it was before, I cannot remember that, as I am telling you. (10)

Well I want to put it to you that your story is absurd. You would not have been used as a guard when you are a labourer. -- Well if you say my story is absurd, but I mean I am telling you what I know and then I was there and then I am just trying to explain the way I know the thing. That is all.

The other explanation of course is that you are telling a story that you heard, but which you know nothing about? -- Not heard. I mean how could I know that that man was there on that military base and what and then I have seen him and then how could he be handcuffed with me if I have never seen him? (20)

Well, the only deduction I can make from your evidence is that you are not telling the truth and I want to put it to you that you are not telling the truth. -- I am telling you the truth. I mean how can you prove that that I am not telling you the truth as I am doing?

Now let us get to Joe Bosigo, no Joe Mamasela, sorry. Do you know that Joe Mamasela only became a policeman on 4 February 1982? -- Yes, I know he became a policeman later on. I know that. They appointed him as a policeman at a later stage whereas he was already working. (30)

Once/...

to Joe Pillay you said that all you had to do with that instance was that you guarded Joe Pillay for a day or two. Is that correct? -- That is correct.

Now yesterday you told a rather involved story about how he was interrogated. He was beaten and he was injected with some substance or another. Do you remember having told the Commission that yesterday? -- I said and then he was detained there when he was being interrogated.

And you also said there were military people involved? -- There were army people, I mean they were wearing army clothes, (10) this military?

Now you did not see this did you, this interrogation you spoke of, you did not see that? -- I do not understand if you say I did not see it. I mean that is what I am saying, I was there when they beat him and he was being interrogated.

And except for being beaten was he interrogated in any other manner? -- Only mentioned, I only know he was being beaten and then (inaudible)

Did you actually see this happening? -- Yes, I saw it.

When you were guarding him? -- Yes.

(20)

This is not something which you were told by somebody else? -- No, not told. I mean I was being with him as I have told you that I have been with him two, I think it might be two, one day or two as I have said until when he left that place and then he was taken to Schutte's house, he was being with me, being handcuffed with me until we took him to Lothair.

Were you handcuffed to this man Pillay? -- Yes.

During all the time that you guarded him? -- No, while I was being there, then I was not, the time while he was there I (30) was/...

was not handcuffed with him. He was blindfolded and being banged with those things.

Then when were you handcuffed with him? -- When we left that place, because he firstly go to Schutte's house. I cannot remember whether we slept there and then we go the following morning to Lothair. That time he was always handcuffed with me.

You do not recall that he was injected with something? -- I never said such thing.

You never said that? -- I never said that he was injected. (10)

And you do not recall anything of the sort either? -- Too?

You do not recall anything of the sort either? You do not recall ... (intervenes)

CHAIRMAN: Do you remember that he was injected? -- No I never said such thing.

MR MARITZ: Okay, well I must put it to you that you had absolutely nothing to do with the Joe Pillay aspect. -- Should I answer? (20)

Yes. -- I mean I have nothing to do with Pillay, I mean in the mean time I was there. I mean if I was having nothing to do with him then they should not have handcuffed him with me and then tell me to take him to Lothair, I mean just like that.

Now another thing that bothers me somewhat is that when one reads the transcript of the interview which was taped, which Jacques Pauw had with you, one gains the impression that there was someone else with you in the car, was there? --

Someone like what? I mean we were only two. (30)

There/...

In fact he shot one or two people or one people at Winterveld, they took him away in order that he must not appear to the what you call it. If ever there was any favour for that then they should have sit down and talked with me and said look this and this. I am not against them in fact.

It is just strange that you did not tell Mr Pauw all this which you have just told the Commission, but let us go on to something else quickly. I want to put to you that there was nothing secretive about Vlakplaas at any stage since it is an inception to this point.

(10)

CHAIRMAN: Well, I do not think the witness said something. Did he say it was secretive or sinister?

MR VISSER: Well Mr Chairman, with respect, he says that they ran a hit squad there.

CHAIRMAN: Yes, I cannot recall he ever used the term.

MR VISSER: It is in EXHIBIT B5 before you.

CHAIRMAN: But he has not said it under oath today or yesterday.

MR VISSER: Then I leave that point and I do not believe I have anything else if you would bear with me for a second. I (20) have no further questions, thank you for your indulgence Mr Chairman.

CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR BURGER: Just one or two questions. Mr Tshikalange if I understand you correctly Joe Pillay was kidnapped by the South African Police. Is that correct? -- Yes.

And he was also interrogated by the South African Police? -- Yes and military.

He was not interrogated by the South African Defence Force or members of the South African Defence Force? -- (30)

Pardon?/...

Pardon?

I say Mr Pillay was not interrogated by members of the South African Defence Force, the military people you were talking about, they were not interrogating? -- Look, I mean according what I have said, I mean he was being abducted by the police, the Vlakplaas hit squad and then the police and then in the mean time he were being put to the military place and then there were also military people who were ... (intervenes)

Well you expect military people to be present on a (10)
military base? -- Pardon?

You expect military people at a military base, don't you?
-- As I have said there are some of the things that we do not understand.

CHAIRMAN: No, the question is this: What did the military people do to Pillay? -- There were two guys ^{there} ~~their~~ who were interrogating him, although I do not know ^{their} ~~there~~ names, they were wearing military (intervenes)

Did they interrogate Pillay? -- Yes.

MR BURGER: What did they do to Mr Pillay? -- As I have said (20)
then they were beating him and kicking him.

Were the military people beating Mr Pillay and kicking Mr Pillay? -- Well, I do not know, it is what I have seen which was happening.

I am asking you did the military people beat and kick Mr Pillay? -- Yes, I mean that is what I have seen there.

What do you think? -- Not think I say what I have seen there.

How many people were beating and kicking Mr Pillay? -- If I am not mistaken there were four or five somewhere around (30)

there/...

there.

Four or five? -- Yes.

And the other three I suppose were policemen? You say two were military people. -- Yes.

What did the policemen do to him? -- The same thing I have told you, I mean beating him, taking him to a certain room and then bring him back again there. What they were doing there in the other room I do not know and then they bring him out and so.

Was he beaten in the other room? -- He was beaten here (10) where I was sitting with him and then they also took him again to a certain room, but that I do not know what had happened there and then they came out with him again.

And what did the military people want from Mr Pillay? -- I do not know. I mean they were asking a lot of things. I cannot remember what it was.

Just give me one example what the military people wanted to know? -- I still remember they talked about the University of Swaziland.

I am talking about the military people now, not the (20) police, what the military people wanted to know? -- I mean they were on the same group of that police, I mean ... (intervenes)

Yes, but what did the military people say Mr Tshikalange? -- Well I cannot remember. There were a lot of things which were being discussed there. I cannot remember and then I was not so interested about it.

And did both members of the South African Defence Force beat Mr Pillay? -- It is four people who mostly beat him.

And the one who did not beat him was he a policeman or a (30) defence/...

defence force member? -- He was also, I mean those other policemen, there is two military and the other two policemen I did not know them. They were policemen, but I did not know them. They were in private clothes and then there again there was Captain Koekemoer who was also there.

And what were the names of the defence force members? -- I do not know them. I mean it was the first time to see them in fact.

And how many days were Mr Pillay kept there? -- As I have said it, it might be one day or two days, I cannot remember as(10) this thing had happened a long time ago.

And you never heard the names of the defence force members? -- It was the first time when I, I mean to meet them, I cannot remember.

Where exactly did this take place, this interrogation? -- I said it is a military place on top of a hill on the way to Johannesburg.

How far from Pretoria? -- Well, it is not so far away.

Is it outside Pretoria? -- If I am not mistaken ...

(intervenes)

(20)

CHAIRMAN: Didn't, wasn't it put by Mr Maritz that it was at the old Observatory at Voortrekkerhoogte?

MR BURGER: Mr Chairman, the problem is the old Observatory is not at Voortrekkerhoogte.

CHAIRMAN: I beg you pardon?

MR BURGER: The Observatory is not at Voortrekkerhoogte. How far was it from Pretoria Mr Tshikalange? -- It was next to, what do you call that place, I cannot recall the name of the place, but it was on top of a hill there.

You know Pretoria and you know Johannesburg? -- Not so much/... (30)

much as a person, a bona fide of Johannesburg or Pretoria. I am not a bona fide of Pretoria.

All I want to know from you is how far approximately from Pretoria is this military place? -- I said it was on the way to Johannesburg.

CHAIRMAN: Yes, now could I ask you, do you take the Jan Smuts Road or do you take the Ben Schoeman Road or do you take the old Johannesburg Road? -- What I can say, I mean from Pretoria B ... (intervenes)

Pretoria? -- Big station going straight on the way to (10) Johannesburg, this Unisa is if I am not mistaken and then on this side, on the right.

On the right of the road you pass Unisa. -- And then the next bridge.

So that is not what I know as the Observatory in Pretoria, because that is to the left. In any rate now ...?

MR BURGER: And on the right-hand side, I put it to you, the only defence force members on the right-hand side is, just a moment please Mr Chairman - the Air Force, did they wear blue uniforms? -- It was a little bit brown, although I am not so (20) good in colour also, it was a little bit brown. I am not good in colours.

I am putting it to you Mr Tshikalange, the only military base on the right-hand side of the road going past Unisa is the Air Force. -- Well it might be, as I have told you I cannot recall the name of that place. I know the place, it is on top of a hill.

Now there is no Observatory there. -- I mean that is what you are saying, but what I know is that place is on top of a hill.

(30)

And/...

And you spend two days at least at this military base? --
As I have said I am not sure whether it is one day or two
days. I have said like that.

But were you the only guard? -- Well, there was also
military people also there. But now the person who was
sitting with him, who was being with him, was me.

Mr Chairman it is now 16h00.

CHAIRMAN: Are you finished or not?

MR BURGER: I am not sure.

CHAIRMAN: Do you want to find out it was on the right-hand (10)
side of the road, because there are many hills to the right.

THE COMMISSION ADJOURNS.

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(20)

(30)