

THE NATAL CARBINEERS.
REGIMENTAL ORDERS 1976.

REF: G/TRG/1
G/OPS/3/3
TEL: 0331-23462
TELEGRAMS: ONE CARBS.

Drill Hall,
PIETERMARITZBURG.
15TH MAY 1976.

AMENDING

MOVEMENT ORDER NO 2/1976
MOVEMENT ORDER NO 1/76 BY
COMMANDANT E.G. WITHERSPOON J.C.D.,
COMMANDING.

NATIONAL TRAINING 1976.

URGENT.

SHOW THIS NEW INSTRUCTION TO YOUR EMPLOYER IMMEDIATELY.

PARA 1. Continuous training by members of The Natal Carbineers will take place this year in South West Africa.

PARA 2. Due to changed commitments by the S.A.D.F. the date of training for the Regiment has been ADVANCED. You will therefore report for training at THE DRILL HALL, PIETERMARITZBURG ON THE 9 AUGUST 1976 AT 08H00 and NOT on 2 September 76 as previously advised.

PARA 3. All other instructions contained in Movement Order No. 1/76 (15 April 76) REMAIN IN FORCE, especially PARA 3 of that Order, which is repeated hereunder.

You will probably be employed in terms of Sec 3(2) of the Defence Act (Act No 44 of 1957) and such employment will probably be extended in terms of Sec 92 Chapter 2 to a period of twelve (12) weeks.

You should therefore immediately apply to your employer (if employed) for the necessary leave to attend the camp and produce this notification to him.

Attendance is compulsory and failure to attend will render you liable to penalty provided for in the Defence Act.

Attention is directed to section 4 (1) of the Defence Act, 1957 which reads: "An employer shall afford any person in his employ all reasonable facilities to be enrolled for or to carry out any training service under this Act".

Exemption on medical grounds will only be considered on the production of an approved medical certificate.

PARA 4. EXEMPTIONS/DEFERMENT OF TRAINING.

Due to the advanced training date those Carbineers wishing to apply for exemptions of training this year are advised to submit their applications (in triplicate) to this Headquarters AS SOON AS POSSIBLE in the manner laid down in PARA 8 of Movement Order 1/76 (15.4.76.)

Carbineers are reminded that an application for an exemption from training does NOT EXCLUDE them from attending training. CARBINEERS ARE STILL LIABLE FOR TRAINING UNTIL THE EXEMPTIONS BOARD HAS REACHED ITS DECISION, AND YOU HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY INFORMED IN WRITING THEREOF.

ORDER 2/1976

THE NATAL CARBINEERS.

15th May, 1976

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PARA 5.

(a) Your Regiment is investigating the possibility of an insurance policy to cover death or disablement during training. Details of this policy will be advised when you attend your one day camp.

(b) All Carbineers are earnestly requested to ensure that they have a valid will before attending training. Pro formas will be available these Headquarters but it is suggested that members make their own private arrangements in this matter.

PARA 6. PAY AND ALLOWANCES DURING TRAINING.

A new system has been devised this year for pay whilst undergoing training. Basically it means that you personally may only receive a minimum of 20c and up to a maximum of R4.00 per day whilst training. This is termed an "allotment", and may not exceed 75% of your basic pay. The balance of your pay must be paid into a Bank a/c, building Society etc., or direct to a dependant OR it will be accumulated at the Paymaster General for payment after training. You must therefore decide before attending training what you want done with the balance of your pay and how much you want to allot to yourselves. There is a special form (DD 2222) for the allotment. These will be issued at the commencement of training.

PARA 7. Your address whilst on training will be as follows:-

NO.
RANK NAME COMPANY.....
THE NATAL CARBINEERS
PTE BAG X 2010,
GROOTFONTEIN. S.W.A.
9245

PARA 8. Further instructions will reach you in due course and will also be given at the one day camps.

P. B. B. B. ADJUTANT FOR COMDT.
COMMANDING: THE NATAL CARBINEERS.



HOME OFFICE
WHITEHALL SW1A 2AP

24 November, 1976.

Dear Mr. Hooley,

Thank you for your letter to the Home Secretary of 29th October about Mr. Kevin Laue and Mr. Laurence Bartlett who wish to remain in the United Kingdom.

It will be necessary to interview Mr. Laue and Mr. Bartlett to obtain all the relevant information and we will be getting in touch with them in the near future so that a convenient appointment can be arranged. Dr. Summerskill will, of course, write to you as soon as she has reached a decision.

B. M. Caffarey

B. M. CAFFAREY
Private Secretary

Frank Hooley, Esq., M.P.



HOME OFFICE
WHITEHALL SW1A 2AP

25 January, 1977.

Dear Frank

You wrote to the Home Secretary on 29th October about Mr. Kevin Laue and Mr. Laurence Bartlett who wish to remain in the United Kingdom. My Private Secretary replied on 24th November to say that it would be necessary to interview Mr. Laue and Mr. Bartlett to obtain all the relevant information and that I would write to you as soon as a decision had been reached.

Mr. Laue and Mr. Bartlett have now been interviewed and I have considered both their cases very carefully. I am afraid however, that neither has been able to establish a claim to political asylum in accordance with article 1 of the United Nations Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees (1951). Their applications to remain here on this basis must therefore be refused and they will both be formally notified of this decision in the near future. They will, of course, have a right of appeal to an independent adjudicator and the appropriate appeals forms will be sent to them.

I understand that both Mr. Laue and Mr. Bartlett would like to take employment in this country and they may qualify for an extension of stay on this basis if they can submit a definite offer of employment which could be approved by the Department of Employment. I enclose for their information 2 copies of a leaflet which sets out the present criteria to be fulfilled before the Department of Employment can give their approval for the employment of a foreign national.

Yours sincerely

Shirley

(DR. SHIRLEY SUMMERSKILL)

Frank Hooley, Esq., M.P.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

28th January, 1977.

Mr. K. Laue,
16 St. Alphonsus Road,
Clapham,
London, S.W.4.

Dear Mr. Laue,

I enclose a copy of a letter from the Home Office concerning your request to stay in the United Kingdom which I am afraid is disappointing. You will see, however, that you have a right of appeal, and there is also the possibility that you might be permitted to remain in this country to work.

I am not sure whether Mr. Bartlett is still at 5 Sunnyside, Golders Green, N.W.2 or whether he has now moved with you to St. Alphonsus Road, but if you are in touch perhaps you could pass on the extra copy of the Home Office letter to him. If not, perhaps you could let me know his current address.

I believe he is also in touch with my colleague Joan Lestor, and I am copying this letter to her.

Before presenting any case to the adjudicator, I think you might find it useful - if you have not already done so - to contact the National Council for Civil Liberties at 186 Kings X Road, London, W.C.1. which has had a good deal of experience on immigration matters and the law regarding appeals etc. and could probably advise you as to the best way to submit your appeal against the current decision.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Hooley, MP

KB

Form APP 101A

L 188188

IMMIGRATION ACT 1971

Refusal to revoke or
vary leave to enter or remain

To Mr Kevin August Robert Laue

You have applied for your leave to enter to be varied so as to permit you to remain in the United Kingdom on the grounds that if you return to SA you will be persecuted because of your religious or political opinions but the Secretary of State is not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded.

The Secretary of State therefore refuses your application. Under the Immigration (Variation of leave) Order 1976, your stay has been extended to 2nd April 1977. If you do not wish to appeal, you should leave the United Kingdom by that date.

You are entitled to appeal against this decision under section 14(1) of the Immigration Act 1971 to the independent appellate authorities established under that Act. If you wish to appeal you should complete the attached form and return it to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office (Appeals Section), Lunar House, Wellesley Road, CROYDON CR9 2BY, to arrive NOT LATER THAN 14 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THIS NOTICE. The Home Office will transmit your notice of appeal to the appellate authorities.

The United Kingdom Immigrants Advisory Service, a voluntary organisation independent of the Government, will advise you, if you wish, about the decision which has been taken against you and on whether to exercise your right of appeal. If you decide to appeal, the Service can also help you to prepare your appeal and to present it to the appellate authorities. These services are provided free of charge. The London office of the Service is at 7th Floor, Brettenham House, Savoy Street, Strand, London WC2E 7EP (telephone 01-240 5176). The Service has other offices at Birmingham, Folkestone, Leeds, Manchester, Southampton, Heathrow Airport and Glasgow.

(Signed) *Home Secretary*
On behalf of the Secretary of State

(Date) *2nd March 1977*

Home Office
Immigration and Nationality Department

IMMIGRATION ACT 1971

Notice of appeal to an adjudicator or Tribunal at first instance

Delete words
which are
inapplicable

To the Adjudicator/Tribunal

The appellant is - giving notice of appeal
~~applying for entry~~ (see note (a) overleaf)

Particulars of Appellant

Full names: (Forenames) (Surname)
(Block letters) KEVIN AUGUST ROBERT LANE

Date of birth: 18 FEB 1949

Nationality/Citizenship SOUTH AFRICAN

Address
(If detained) 16 ST ALPHONSUS RD
(Give address CLAPHAM
where detained) LONDON SW4

Particulars of decision or action appealed against:-

REFUSAL TO REVOKE OR VARY LEAVE TO ENTER OR REMAIN

A copy of the notice of the decision or action appealed against is
annexed hereto.

The grounds of appeal are as follows:-

GROUNDS TO FOLLOW



HOME OFFICE

Lunar House Wellesley Road Croydon CR9 2BY

Telephone 01-686 0688

Please reply to THE APPEALS SECTION
Your reference

MR. K. A. R. LANE

16 ST ALPHONSUS RD.

CLAPHAM

SW4.

Our reference K18188

Date 8.3.77

The Under Secretary of State has today received the
notice of appeal given by KEVIN AUGUST ROBERT
LANE.

against

together with the following documents:-

* The appellant will not be required to leave the United
Kingdom while the appeal is pending.* This acknowledgment in no way accepts the validity of the
notice of appeal. The notice is being forwarded to the
appellate authority, who will determine whether the appeal
should be accepted as having been brought within the
prescribed time. You will be notified of the authority's
decision in due course.

* delete where inapplicable

19/3/1977

Embattled conscripts

By MARTIN WALKER

Two South African conscripts who have refused to join "anti-terrorist" campaigns in Namibia are to fight a test case in Britain to establish whether they, and subsequent South African deserters, have a right to political asylum.

Their first application to the Home Office has just been rejected on the grounds that the Home Secretary "is not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded."

They are now appealing against this decision and, with the support of Labour MPs and the Anti-Apartheid Movement, intend to mount a public campaign to persuade the British Government to give South African conscientious objectors the right of asylum.

Mr Laurence Bartlett, aged 27, a South African journalist, left his country in May last year when he received call-up papers to join his regiment for three months "anti-terrorist" training at the forward operational base of Grootfontein. His call-up papers advised him to prepare a will before joining his regiment, the Natal Carbineers.

Grootfontein was the base camp for South Africa's "Operation Cobra" last May, which

Turn to back page, col. 5

Continued from page one

involved the forced detention and torture of "several thousand" Namibians, according to one soldier whose eye-witness account was published exclusively in the Guardian last September.

Mr Kevin Laue, the second of the two men, arrived in Britain in 1975 and his regiment, the Natal Field Artillery, sought to recall him last year for service in Namibia.

Under the South African Defence Act a reservist who does not answer his call-up "may be apprehended as a deserter and may be tried and convicted under the Military Disciplinary Code for the offence of desertion committed while on service." The penalty is 10 years in

prison.

Mr Bartlett is being called to the colours under Section 92 of the Defence Act, which applies to "service in the prevention or suppression of terrorism in the prevention or suppression of internal disorder."

Mr Bartlett and Mr Laue were both called up for nine months basic training when they were 17. They then became members of the Citizen Force reserve. Each has served for two further periods of three weeks in training camps. Both men say that their changing political views, and evidence from Angola that South African troops were invading other countries, led to their decision

"We see the struggles of the black people in Southern Africa

as a just one, and we refuse to fight anywhere for the white minority South African Government," the two men said yesterday. "We are proud to be regarded as traitors to apartheid and deserters from racism."

Other white South Africans have managed to win the right to stay in Britain.

Mr Bartlett and Mr Laue, however, are determined to see their case through on the simple principle of political asylum. They point to the British Government's support for the UN resolution which states that South Africa is illegally occupying Namibia, and to Labour's consistent record of opposing apartheid.

19/3/77

Rees to deport 'draft-dodgers'

Morning Star Reporter

TWO South African "draft-dodgers," opponents of the white minority regimes in southern Africa, have been ordered to leave Britain by April 2 by the Home Secretary.

Anti-Apartheid chairman Robert Hughes MP is seeking an urgent meeting with Mr. Merlyn Rees to get him to change his decision and grant asylum to the two men concerned, Mr. Kevin Laue, 28, and Mr. Lawrence Bartlett, 27.

Both applied for asylum at the end of last year. They have just received identical letters from Mr. Rees stating he "is not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded."

DENYING REFUGE

In his letter to the Home Secretary, Mr. Hughes says: "It appears that the United Kingdom government, by denying refuge to those who are refusing to serve in the military forces in the

white minority regimes of southern Africa, is therefore in practice siding these regimes."

Mr. Laue was in Britain when he was called up and the army is looking for him in South Africa.

Mr. Bartlett, who fled the country when called up last May, would have to serve in Namibia, his regiment being the Natal Carbineers.

ILLEGAL

According to a UN Security Council resolution supported by the British government, the South African army's presence in Namibia is illegal and it was given until August 31, 1976 to get out.

In a statement issued yesterday the two draft-dodgers said: "We see the struggle of the black peoples of southern Africa as a just one."

They said they therefore refused to fight anywhere for the South African government.

CONSCRIPTS FIGHT FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM IN BRITAIN

London Bureau

LONDON, Saturday.

TWO SOUTH African conscripts who have refused to join anti-terrorist campaigns in South West Africa are to fight a test case in Britain to establish whether they — and South African conscientious objectors in general — have a right to political asylum in the United Kingdom.

The first application by the two men to the Home Office has just been rejected on the grounds that the Home Secretary "is not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded".

They are now appealing against this decision and, with the support of Labour MPs and the Anti-Apartheid Movement, intend to mount a public campaign to persuade the British Government to give all South African conscientious objectors the right of asylum.

Mr Laurence Bartlett (27), a South African journalist left the republic last May when he received call-up papers for three months' anti-terrorist training at Grootfontein with the Natal Carbineers.

Mr Kevin Laue, the second of the two men, arrived in Britain in 1975. His regiment, the Natal Field Artillery, sought to recall him last year for service in South West Africa.

In a statement yesterday the two men said: "We see the struggles of the black people in Southern Africa as a just one, and we refuse to fight anywhere for the white minority South African Government."

"We are proud to be regarded as traitors to apartheid and deserters from racism."

Other South Africans have won the right to stay in Britain and so avoid military service by getting work permits, by marrying British girls or by applying for British citizenship if they have at least one British-born parent.

Mr Bartlett and Mr Laue, however, are determined to see their case brought on the principle of political asylum.

FOOTNOTE: Article one of the UN convention relating to the status of refugees says the criterion for asylum should be the respect of persecution in the home country.

British asylum sought for 2 former Pmb men

LONDON — Britain's Anti-Apartheid Movement wants political asylum for two former Pietermaritzburg men, Mr Kevin Laue (28) and Mr Lawrence Bartlett (27) who left South Africa to avoid military service.

The movement is asking for an urgent meeting with the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, to discuss the position of the two men who were refused residence by the Home Office.

In a letter to Mr Rees, Mr Robert Hughes, chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement and a Labour Member of Parliament, said it appeared that the British Government, in denying refuge to those who refused to do military service, was in practice aiding the "White minority regimes".

The movement said Mr Hughes also planned to take up with Mr Rees the cases of those who were refusing to serve in the Rhodesian armed forces.

Long wait for 'no fighting' S. Africans

Rhodesia Herald
24/3/77

Herald Bureau; LONDON

TWO YOUNG South African national servicemen, Laurence Bartlett and Kevin Laue, who say they refuse to fight for South Africa, will have to wait some time before their appeal against a decision refusing to allow them to stay in Britain can be heard.

A Home Office spokesman said on Tuesday a date had not yet been set for the men's case to be heard by an independent adjudicator. Only after that — if they were not satisfied — could they go before an appeals tribunal.

The spokesman said the two men had arrived in Britain as visitors and were refused permission at the end of February to stay permanently. The Home Office had said it was not satisfied "there is a well-founded fear of persecution if they return to their own country".

The spokesman would not say where the men were staying, or how they were supporting themselves since they are not allowed to work. He assumed they had private means.

SECRET

The Anti-Apartheid Movement, which has taken up the men's case and has helped them to publicise their case in a British newspaper, is also keeping their whereabouts a secret.

But a spokesman disclosed that the AAM's chairman, the Labour MP, Mr Robert Hughes, had written to the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, seeking an urgent meeting to discuss their position and that of other "opponents of the white minority regimes in Southern Africa who are refusing to undertake military service and are seeking residence in the United Kingdom".

In his letter, Mr Hughes said both men had fled South Africa to avoid service in the South African armed forces.

A report in the Guardian quoted the men as saying they were "proud to be regarded as traitors to apartheid and deserters from racism".

The AAM is considering arranging a Press conference for them at a future date.

RHODESIAN
HERALD 24/3/77

Britain gets SA draft dodger alert

By IAN HOBBS

LONDON. — The British Government has been warned that a steady trickle of South African and Rhodesian Army deserters seeking asylum in Britain could become a flood.

A group of Labour and Liberal MPs and anti-apartheid movement representatives are to meet the Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, on May 3, to ask him to assure them of asylum.

So far the Government has reacted with extreme caution to the issue.

Anti-apartheid spokesman Mr Mike Terry said yesterday: "We have evidence that a major problem is coming from an increasing flow of draft dodgers. They will have the support of a large body of MPs."

"It could become similar to the situation of young Americans dodging the Vietnam war."

He said support for South African and Rhodesian deserters was also growing in Holland and West Germany.

The delegation seeing Mr Rees will also renew the appeal by two Natal conscripts, Kevin Laue and Laurence Bartlett, for permission to stay in Britain.

Both did their compulsory nine months' military service in 1967 and went to Britain to avoid fighting in Angola. They sought permission to stay, saying they would be persecuted if they had to return home.

To the fury of the anti-apartheid movement, Mr Rees turned them down. He said he was not satisfied their fears were well founded.

Bartlett and Laue have now appealed to the House of Lords and have been told they can stay until the outcome, expected between July and September.

RAND DAILY MAIL
20/4/77

They are refusing to meet the Press for fear that publicity will jeopardise their chances of staying permanently.

In a joint statement they said the struggle of the Black people of Southern Africa was just.

In Durban last night Mr Aldor Laue, elder brother of Kevin Laue who is seeking political asylum in Britain, said: "I am sure the whole asylum story is merely a ruse to stay in Britain and get a work permit."

And Mrs D. C. Bartlett, of Maritzburg, mother of Laurence Bartlett, said her son telephoned her regularly and had told her "not to believe reporters." She said her son was old enough to know what he was doing and she knew nothing about his seeking asylum.

Britain refuses political asylum to South African draft dodgers

BRITAIN has refused asylum to two South African draft dodgers. The two conscripts, one of whom was recently called up to fight in Namibia, will appeal against the decision.

Kevin Laue and Lawrence Bartlett applied for asylum late last year on the grounds that they would be persecuted in South Africa for refusing to fight for apartheid.

In March this year they were told that "The Secretary of State is not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded", and ordered to leave the country by April 2 if they did not intend to appeal.

Both men did nine months compulsory military training in 1967 immediately after leaving school. In terms of the Defence Act they were then posted to Active Citizen Force (ACF) regiments. In January last year, during the Angolan war, it was announced that ACF regiments were to be called up for three-month periods of active service in the "operational zone".

Lawrence Bartlett received call-up papers in May, ordering him to serve three months with his regiment, the Natal Carbineers, in "South West Africa". He left the country and came to Britain.

Kevin Laue left South Africa for Britain in 1975 before the invasion of Angola. "When the call-up of ACF regiments was announced, I knew I couldn't go back," he said. "I've heard since that the army is looking for me and that my regiment, the Natal Field Artillery, went to Namibia for three months last year."

In a joint statement to AA NEWS the two men said: "Apartheid South Africa is at war. It may not be a declared war in the conventional sense, but South African conscripts are being used against the people of Namibia, and in South Africa itself the government is using white troops against the majority of their fellow countrymen in a civil war. This civil war is the direct result of apartheid, and in Namibia the war is a result of South Africa's illegal occupation of that country."

"We see the struggle of the black peoples of Southern Africa as a just

one, and refuse to fight anywhere for the racist aggressors—the white minority South African Government."

In terms of the South African Defence Act, any person called up who fails to report for active service "may be apprehended as a deserter and may be tried and convicted under the Military Discipline Code for the offence of desertion committed while on service". The code provides for a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment for that offence.

A number of South African draft dodgers have already been granted asylum in Holland.

Bid to stop deportation of war resisters

Morning Star Reporter

A delegation from the Anti-Apartheid Movement, led by Labour MP Bob Hughes (right in the picture) yesterday took up with the Home Secretary the cases of South African and Rhodesian war resisters who have been refused political asylum in Britain.

In particular ex-soldiers Lawrence Bartlett and Kevin Laue are in danger. They are at present appealing against the rejection of their applications for asylum.



They were told that "the Secretary of State is not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded." But under South Africa's military discipline code alone they could get ten years.

However, the delegation members were optimistic yesterday, after meeting Mr. Merlyn Rees, about the fate of draft resisters in Rhodesia.

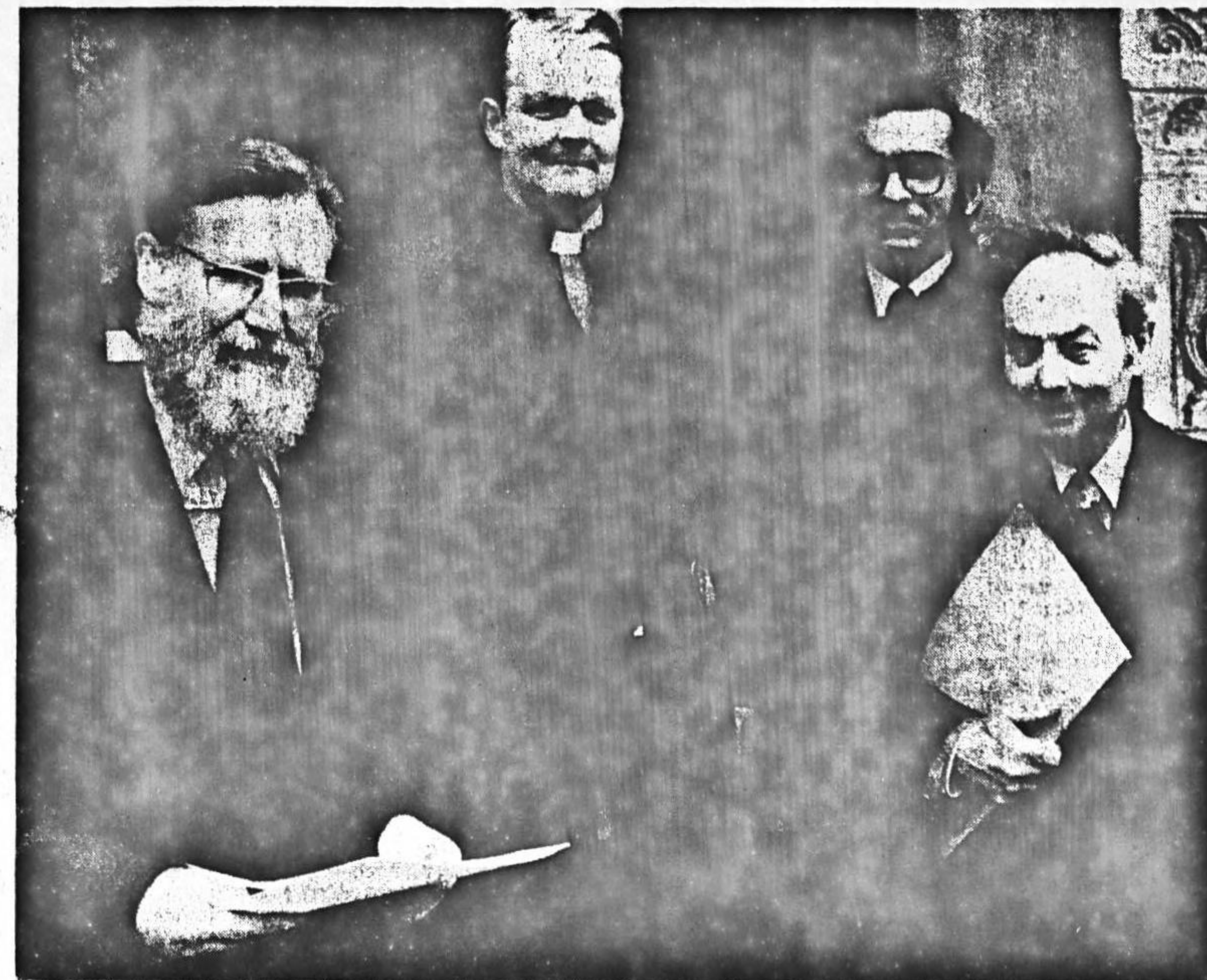
This would be dealt with at ministerial level, and the cases of South African draft dodgers would be given individual and sympathetic attention, Mr. Rees had said.



AAM vice-chairman John Ennals (left) said Mr. Rees had promised that officials would be told that "no mistakes must be made in future."

The minister took the point, he said, when asked: "How long do you have to be imprisoned in South Africa before it constitutes political persecution?"

Other delegation members pictured are (left to right) Monsignore Bruce Kent, Mr. Abdul Minty, AAM secretary, and Mr. Frank Hooley, Labour MP for Heeley.



10/5/77

Cabinet eases pressure on Africa draft dodgers

By Christopher Sweeney

The Home Secretary, Mr. Merlyn Rees, yesterday gave an assurance that war resisters from Rhodesia and South Africa would in future receive more sympathetic treatment from the Government in attempting to obtain asylum.

He told a five-man delegation during a meeting at the Commons that Rhodesians evading the draft for genuine reasons of conscience would not, as in the past, be sent back to Salisbury before their cases had been reviewed at ministerial level. He also indicated that South Africans, whose claims for asylum have been refused in the past, would receive more generous treatment.

However, Mr. Rees refused to give the delegation, from the

Anti-Apartheid movement and the Immigration Advisory Service, a solid assurance that all war resisters from Rhodesia would be allowed to settle here.

Mr. Robert Hughes, MP and chairman of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, said after the meeting that war resisters would now be given temporary right of admission to Britain on arrival at Heathrow. The decision to review cases at ministerial level would, he felt, also assure that special consideration would be given to them.

The delegation met Mr. Rees to express concern at the deportation of Rhodesians and South Africans who had claimed to be conscientious objectors. Mr. Hughes also pressed the case of two South Africans, Mr. Kevin Laue and Mr. Law-

rence Bartlett, whose applications for political asylum were refused by the Home Office in March this year.

The cases, regarded as a precedent for future war resisters, are now being appealed. Both men, drafted into the South African army, would face up to 10 years' imprisonment for desertion.

There has, however, been growing concern at the treatment of young men from Southern Africa by the Home Office. A number, particularly Rhodesian Asians, have already been refused entry to Britain and sent back to Rhodesia. The Home Office decided in these cases that their objections to military service were not genuinely on the grounds of conscience.

In the Lords, Lord Harris, the junior Home Office Minister, put the official Government position last October. "We are not prepared to indicate that we will admit anyone who wants to come here simply because they do not wish to service in the Rhodesian armed forces." But war resisters, now organised into a semi-clandestine network, assert that in most cases it is impossible for the men to bring documentary evidence with them.

"It is extremely dangerous to be seen with these sort of papers in South Africa," Mr. Abdul Minty, secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, said yesterday. "Therefore there are real problems for any person coming into Heathrow. How can he prove his position?"

There are no accurate figures on the number of war resisters now in Britain and Europe. Many, particularly from Rhodesia, come here perfectly legally through the patriality clauses of the 1971 Immigration Act, giving them rights of settlement through a parent or grandparent. Many others come on tourist or student visas and then go underground.

Western countries, with the possible exception of Holland, are nervous of opening the door too widely because of fears of a major exodus from southern Africa in the next few years.

Australia, the United States and Canada, once regarded as easy options if the war escalated, are equally unfriendly. Bill Anderson, who provided immigration officers at Heathrow,

formation on massacres by South African troops in Namibia before getting out of the army is currently having his application examined in Washington.

Holland has so far given asylum to two resisters, and West Germany is considering another case. Botswana, again in a move regarded as a precedent, has given asylum to a resister.

Before yesterday's announcement, Britain's position was that the evasion of military service, even in the technically illegal Rhodesian armed forces, was not regarded as a basis for political asylum.

They could order that a man be returned on the next flight to Salisbury or his last port of call if they were not satisfied with his bona fides.

The Home Office says that the

war resisters will not in any instance be handed over to their home Governments in the way that American draft dodgers from Vietnam were forcibly repatriated, often straight to gaol. The Alien Forces Act, under which this was done in the sixties, does not apply to South Africa. Rhodesia is also excluded since its administration is not recognised.

● Argentina and Bolivia are planning to accept large-scale immigration of white settlers from Southern Africa in a scheme financed by West Germany, a Mexican newspaper reported yesterday. It said West Germany has offered to contribute about £80 millions towards the scheme and that Britain and Holland have also promised support.

UK accepts draft-dodgers

RDM 10/5/77

By IAN HOBBS

LONDON.

THE British Government has indicated that it will accept two South African draft-dodgers — and that it will consider further cases of genuine conscientious objectors sympathetically.

The British Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, yesterday said he had sympathy for the situation of men who refused to take up arms in South Africa.

But he indicated that a strict screen would be set up to ensure that young South Africans did not use this as a means of easy immigration to Britain.

The two men involved in the critical test case are Mr Kevin Laue and Mr Lawrence Bartlett, both old boys of Maritzburg College and former Natal Witness journalists.

Their case for political asylum was turned down by the Home Office late last year, and they are now awaiting appeal. Their supporters in Britain are now confident they will be allowed to stay.

Mr Rees has previously accepted South African draft-dodgers and announced its willingness to open its doors to conscientious objectors.

Mr Rees yesterday told a special delegation of MPs and anti-apartheid representatives that any "war resister" who applied for asylum in Britain would have his case heard on merit at Ministerial level.

He has overruled civil servants at the Home Office who fear an increasing flow of conscientious objectors.

The delegation to Mr Rees at the House of Commons was led by Labour MP Mr Bob Hughes.

He said the object of the meeting was to establish what entry problems "war resisters" would face on arrival in Britain, and to campaign for genuine cases to be granted asylum.

RAND DAILY MAIL (SA)

10/5/77

Safeguard

Mr Hughes said the Home Secretary had shown compassion and sympathy. Mr Rees had said each South African case will be taken on merit and considered favourably.

But Mr Rees "safeguarded himself" against South African soldiers who may use conscientious objections as an excuse to settle in Britain without making a general statement of attitude.

During the hour-long meeting it was agreed that:

- Under the 1951 Convention on Refugees Britain could not expel anyone liable to face persecution in South Africa.

- Deserters would not be extradited.

- Decisions on deserters' cases will be taken at Ministerial level.

Mr Hughes said he was delighted with the meeting.

"We have been given a statement on the principle of men who refuse to take up arms for apartheid," he said.

"War resisters who arrive here can now be confident they will not be put on the next plane back."

Mr Bartlett flew to London last year when he was ordered to join a unit in South West Africa.

Mr Laue came to Britain in 1975 and says he is wanted for failing to serve in South West Africa with his regiment.

Mr Laue said: "I will not return to South Africa because I refuse to fight for a racist government. And here in Britain we are testing a principle."

Mr Hughes said that until now the case had been handled only at civil service level.

SA silent over the draft dodgers issue

RDM 11.5.77

By DON MARSHALL

THE South African Government has not reacted to indications that the British Government is about to offer asylum to South African draft dodgers.

At the same time, it was pointed out that both South Africans who presented themselves as draft dodgers to the British Government had in fact completed their basic military training before leaving the country. They could have applied for exemption from attending the annual military camps.

The South African Government's reluctance to become involved in the draft-dodging issue is understandable, since the British Government has not

released an official statement of its attitude towards young men who refuse to take up arms in this country.

A London report in yesterday's Rand Daily Mail said that the British Government had indicated that it will accept two South African draft dodgers.

The report quoted the British Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, who was commenting on the situation to a delegation of MPs and anti-apartheid representatives during a meeting in London.

Mr Rees said he had sympathy for the situation of men who refused to take up arms in South Africa.

The two men involved in what has become a critical

test case are Mr Kevin Laue and Mr Lawrence Bartlett, both former Maritzburg College scholars and Natal Witness journalists.

Their case for political asylum was turned down by the Home Office last year and they are now awaiting appeal.

On April 20, Mr Kevin Laue's brother, Mr Aldor Laue, said that the request for political asylum was merely a ruse to enable Kevin to stay in England.

Mr Aldor Laue described the entire issue as a "try on" and added that his brother had in fact completed his basic military training and had already attended a few training camps.

12/5/77

We're committed, say SA deserters



Lawrence Bartlett, left, and Kevin Laue . . . outside the House of Commons this week.

By IAN HOBBS

LONDON. — Kevin Laue and Lawrence Bartlett, the two Natal "war resisters" seeking political asylum in Britain are committed deserters.

Nothing anyone says — even by loved family members — can change that, they both emphasised to me.

Soft-spoken, serious-minded Bartlett said: "I served my nine months straight after school when I was just 17. But ever since I had a clear understanding of what apartheid means, I have known that I would never in any circumstances fight for it."

"I did not hesitate to leave South Africa the moment I received my call-up last year. Let there be no doubt that I recognise the Black struggle in Southern Africa as legitimate."

Laue, who graduated in law at the University of

Natal, was equally emphatic that they are not playing any ruse.

"We are not pacifists. We are and have for a long time been determined that we would never fight for White supremacy in a civil war created by apartheid."

Bartlett showed the classic strains that bear on men who become conscientious objectors by saying: "We have not taken the easy way out — that would be to ignore the racialism. It would be far easier to go up to the border and be killed."

Both men refuse to discuss the strains and conflicts bearing on their families.

Mr Bob Hughes, the Labour MP who this week led a delegation on their behalf to see the British Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, may seek further action at the United Nations.

"We are considering trying to get the terms of the UN Convention of 1951 on refugees altered so it is more helpful to war resisters seeking political asylum."

The convention obliges countries to accept "refugees" but they don't automatically get political asylum, which generally means the full rights of a country's citizens.

(SA)

NATAL WITNESS

13/5/77

Asylum for former Pmb men not final —appeal pending

NW 13/5/77

LONDON.—The case of South African draft dodgers Mr Kevin Laue and Lawrence Bartlett has not been finally settled. It was learnt yesterday that their applications to stay in London were currently on appeal. The applications were refused in March.

Mr Laue is a former Natal Witness employee and Mr Bartlett formerly worked for the Sunday Times, the Daily News and The Natal Witness.

Secretary of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, Mr Mike Terry said yesterday that no clear undertaking on the case of South African draft dodgers had been given.

But it was quite clear that the Home Secretary Mr Merlyn Rees appreciated the issue and "we are very optimistic there will be a new policy coming from the Home Office."

Mr Rees who had met a delegation from the movement and the Immigration advisory service last Monday, had also given a "sympathetic hearing" to the case of South African draft dodgers seeking asylum here, Mr Terry said.

However, a Home Office spokesman said the Government's policy in this regard had not changed and that "we are not an

open door for persons claiming to be draft dodgers."

He said Mr Rees might have talked "sympathetically" with the anti-apartheid delegation, but he stressed that the policy remained to examine each application to stay in Britain on its particular merits.

The spokesman would not confirm reports that Mr Rees had given an assurance that South African and Rhodesian war resisters would in future receive more sympathetic treatment from the Government in attempting to obtain refuge.

Asked to confirm whether the Government had indicated it would accept Mr Laue and Mr Bartlett in Britain, he merely said: "They applied to stay here because they did not want to return to South Africa. Their application was refused and they have lodged an appeal. Their hearing is pending."

On the question of Rhodesian draft evaders, Mr Rees had agreed that the cases of Rhodesians who wanted to stay in Britain to avoid military service would in future be reviewed at ministerial level.—Sapa.

Draft dodgers issue sparks new row

Sunday Times Reporter
LONDON. — The fight between anti-apartheid campaigners and the Dutch and British Governments over the fate of South African draft dodgers is hotting up.

Groups to aid military refugees from South Africa and Rhodesia have been set up in Holland and Britain. The Dutch group, the Assistance Group on South African Draft Evaders, is already considering an underground "pipeline" to help draft dodgers escape from South Africa. They are convinced the legal permits, which will make Holland a haven for South African draft resisters, are only a matter of time.

Asylum

In Britain the outlook is bleaker for South African refugees, although Rhodesian refugees have won important concessions.

Immigration officials have recently started allowing Rhodesians into the country while their asylum applications were considered — instead of immediately deporting them at their port of entry.

The Home Secretary, Mr Merlyn Rees, this week expressed strong sympathy for South African draft dodgers, but Whitehall is expected to maintain a hard line on them.

Two South Africans, Kevin Laue and Lawrence



MR MERLYN REES
Sympathetic, but . . .

Bartlett, are appealing against refusals for their asylum applications, but it is unlikely that their appeals will succeed.

The British Government has always insisted that conscientious objectors face prosecution rather

than persecution in their home countries and therefore do not qualify for refugee status.

But I learnt from the newly formed Conscientious Objectors Advisory team that after the publicity given to the Laue and Bartlett cases, three other asylum applications are in the pipeline and more are expected.

In the Netherlands, where about 25 South Africans are believed to be queueing for political asylum, the draft dodgers have won an important precedent with the granting of "humanitarian" asylum to a Johannesburg university student, Derek Schmulow last year.

Two further test cases are being fought with the Department of Justice.

Black and white

FROM January 1 next year all white South African boys, when they leave school at 17, must undergo two years military training.

At the moment they do one year, and afterwards many go straight into action in Namibia, where about 50,000 South African troops are concentrated, mainly on the Angolan border.

I spoke this week to a young South African who, having completed his training, has, as he put it, "dodged" conscription and is now seeking asylum in Britain. For obvious reasons he does not want his name made known.

Training period

"I went into the army straight from school as everyone does," he said, "but at that time, in the late '60s, the training period was only nine months, after which we were on strength (in reserve) for a further nine years."

"During the Angolan war the training period was increased to one year, and national service by ballot in the Active Citizen Force was extended to everybody."

The choices facing a school-leaver who, for whatever reason

Not all of white South Africa's young men want to take up arms for apartheid.
SUE CHALLIS reports.

—moral, religious, political or emotional—doesn't want to become a soldier, are very limited.

The government has created what chief of the defence force general Malan calls a "total war" mentality, and claims that every second male over the age of 18 is a member of the defence force.

War resistance

"Everything is orientated towards war," said my informant. Young people have grown up believing that this war is against Communism, against terrorists intent on raping their mothers.

"A young would-be draft dodger would need more than the sympathy of his parents, he would also need the fare to Europe. Even if he could afford this, it takes a lot of confidence and conviction to leave family and friends so finally."

"Although the war resistance in America has had an influence on South Africans, I don't think that draft dodging will ever reach the level that it

did there during the Vietnam war.

"There are several reasons for this, but its partly geographical — it's difficult now for young whites to go to Angola or Mozambique, where they understandably fall under suspicion of being agents of the South African secret police.

"Escape to Europe, Australia or the US is limited to those who can afford it. There is no way of telling how many people, leaving the country with non-South African passports, mainly British, Irish, or Dutch, have done so to avoid the draft."

Black refugees

Draft dodgers in Holland and Britain are pressing for asylum to be granted on grounds of evasion of call-up alone in order to create a precedent — but so far, they have failed in Britain. Botswana, already coping with a flow of black refugees from South Africa and Zimbabwe,

has given asylum to at least one white war resister. Holland has given two draft dodgers asylum and is considering another two.

Bill Anderson, the war resister who exposed atrocities in north Namibia, is seeking asylum in the US.

"Draft dodgers tend to be well-educated, middle class and often English-speaking" I was told, "perhaps because of the tendency for the English-speaking community to regard itself as less racist than the Afrikaners."

No provision

"Recently many young men have dodged the draft simply by going 'on the run' in South Africa — not registering their change of address, taking casual jobs, etc, and so far this has been possible. But the government is not likely to tolerate this for much longer."

There is no provision for conscientious objection under South African law. Draft dodgers who fail to report for active service are charged under the Defence Act with desertion, which carries a penalty of up to ten years imprisonment.

Although objectors—for ex-

ample Jehovah's Witnesses—are sometimes accommodated despite this lack of legal provision, by being given non-combatant tasks, these are always military.

"The last resort for apartheid," I was told, "which rests on force, is the white population physically fighting for it. That's why reaction to draft dodging is often severe."

At the moment, the number of draft dodgers is low by South African government estimation, as well as in the estimation of groups such as Anti-Apartheid in England. Anti-Apartheid says: "There has been little resistance to the process of militarisation from white South Africa. All the white political parties have supported increased mobilisation and military spending."

Imprisonment

The most notable voice of resistance has been that of the churches.

As long ago as 1974 the South African Council of Churches deplored the legal situation and upheld the right of Christians and pacifists to refuse to fight for apartheid.

Two weeks after this declaration the government brought in the Defence Further Amendment Bill, which provided for a fine of R10,000 (about £5,000) or ten years imprisonment for attempting to persuade a person to avoid military service.

Implementation

The churches have remained vocal, however, and in February this year Catholic and Anglican bishops publicly defended the right to conscientious objection.

"The church should minister," said the Anglicans in the Rand Daily Mail, "both to the Defence Force and the opposition forces." The government response was to threaten full implementation of the Defence Act.

"In such conditions of security," I was told, "there is a limit to the political effectiveness of simply being a martyr by standing up in South Africa and declaring that you will not fight, the odds are you will simply disappear in the hands of the secret police."

Bitter end

Draft dodgers who apply for asylum abroad receive much publicity in the South African press.

My informant said: "We are hoping that such publicity will not only undermine the morale of those committed—as I believe the government and military are—to fighting to the bitter end. But it will also give further proof to black South Africans that the apartheid system is not the monolith it appears to be."

Rees promises sympathy for draft evaders

HOME Secretary Merlyn Rees has given assurances to the Anti-Apartheid Movement that war resisters from Southern Africa will in future get more sympathetic treatment from the British immigration authorities — but the Government still refuses to grant any automatic right of entry to Rhodesian and South African draft dodgers.

The Home Secretary told an

AAM delegation that Rhodesians evading the draft would in future have their cases heard at ministerial level before it was decided whether or not to allow them to enter Britain.

In the past at least two young Zimbabweans have been sent back to Rhodesia after they had tried to enter Britain to avoid serving in the illegal regime's armed forces.

Two South African draft dodg-

ers are currently appealing against the refusal of the British authorities to grant them asylum (April AA NEWS). They were told that the Secretary of State was "not satisfied that your fear of persecution is well-founded" — although the South African Defence Act provides for a maximum penalty of 10 years' imprisonment for anyone failing to report for active service after call-up.