

Lum/065/0003/04

MINUTES OF THE HEADQUARTERS COMMITTEE

26/10/67

CAMP COMMANDER: The meeting declared open. May our Secretary read us the statements in connection with Oscar Mali's two cases.

Comrs, now that the two statements are being read what suggestions do you bring forward?

GUMA: I suggest that Oscar Mali should excuse us so that we may be able to decide upon the punishment.

CAMP COMMANDER: The punishment for Oscar was suggested by the Headquarters Committee. We have to give him one of the following punishments:

- (1) Demotion to section level,
- (2) Transfer to another job,
- (3) Suspending,
- (4) Stern warning.

The majority of the H.Q. Committee decided that Oscar should be given a stern warning.

(Oscar is called in)

C.P.O.: For your two cases this Committee decided to give you a stern warning. If the SWAPO comrade could have opened the door when you were knocking, it is possible that you could have killed each other. And if it was not because of Mexton Joseph's efforts to convince his men that he would talk to us, the SWAPO soldiers could have attacked us by surprise. The other thing is that when you are making an investigation of any case you should not use force because it is very wrong. The using of force nearly made the soldiers to revolt against us.

CAMP COMMANDER: If there is nothing to be said in connection with these cases, we are going to proceed to some other things.

One of our pigs died last week. Yesterday we decided to slaughter the other one because we realised that it was in pains. Half of this pork will be consumed by the detachment and half will be sold so that we should be in a position to take care of the eight piglets; and to help some comrades who eat eggs instead of meat.

The other thing is that we cannot keep pigeons if we cannot feed them. So we have decided to sell them so that we must be in a position to feed them with the money received.

There are comrades who are building tomb-stones for our late comrades. These men came to me yesterday and asked me to buy them marbels, so that they should write down the names of our late comrades who are resting there. Those men approached me about somebody who could help them with plastering.

BEJANE: Boy Dlamini volunteered to do this job. *get diffi*

CAMP COMMANDER: Let us get the difficulties faced by our Company Commander.

BEJANE: There are some comrades who are not prepared to stop going out without permission. I have always taken them to the company commissar to go and show them how wrong it is to go out without permission. The other thing is that the comrades complain of uniform. In connection with work the comrades are prepared to do it, besides a few comrades like Comrade David Ngwenya who said he is not prepared to work at the construction. He said he is only prepared to work in the camp. There are also people who take food out; for example, meat and vegetables from our garden.

GUMA: Going out with things like tomatoes, spanish etc. is because some comrades buy this things and take them to their friends.

OSCAR: The other thing that causes these difficulties for the company commander is because members of the H.Q. Platoon are not punished when they came back from town after time, but the members of the detachment who come from town after time receive punishment.

MUTSI: In order to solve these problems, I suggest that the company commander should meet the H.Q. Platoon commander and come to an agreement of co-operation. After having met they should arrange for a meeting of comm the section commanders from the company and the H.Q. Platoon, to explain to them the importance of working together.

C.P.O.: Comrade Company Commander, do the section commanders ever hold meetings to have discussions about their platoons? Because this is very important.

OSCAR: The soldiers cannot stay in the camp when their commanders go out without permission.

BEJANE: There is also my company commissar (Solomon Dube) who goes out without permission. This makes it difficult for me because I cannot punish him, because we are of the same rank. One other thing is that comrade Solomon Dube the company commissar had taken some people's watches. This was raised some time ago, but it has been quiet for a long time since it has been raised at the formation. There are many comrades in the company who are complaining that the company commissar has taken their watches, which were for repairs but he never brought them back.

CAMP COMMANDER: A Committee of enquiries will be appointed to take up this case.

HAG-GAR: I want to raise a point about Amos Mkele. His sickness seems to be aggravating, he is living on drugs, but still he says he is not feeling any change.

CAMP COMMANDER: What is his sickness?

HAGGAR: His sickness is heart palpitation

CAMP COMMANDER: Comrades, in connection with punishments, we, as a Committee are put here to take care of all people. If someone is punished one must not say he does not participate in giving the other a punishment because they come from the same place, e.g. the C.P.O. said when Morgan was punished he did not talk because it would be said he and Morgen come from Natal.

C.P.O.: I was not against the punishment of Morgan. I was

against him beaten up before reaching the camp.

GUMA: What the Committee wants, comrade C.P.O. is, what did you mean when you said you kept quiet when Morgan was punished, because you come from the same place with him.

C.P.O.: It is true, he had deserted, but what I wanted was that he should have received his punishment here at the camp. I would have said something against the beating up if it were somebody else, because I come from Natal with him I felt that I could not say a thing.

MUTSI: Comrade C.P.O., why did you not call a meeting and explain to the Committee that you did not like the beating of Morgan?

C.P.O.: Who am I? I am not recognised to call a meeting.

GUMA: When did this thing of not recognising you start? Did it start with the arrest of Morgan?

TEDDY: Do you, the C.P.O., mean to say that mistakes made by individuals make you feel that your authority is not recognised? The committee that you today say does not recognise you never issued an order for Morgan to be beaten.

C.P.O.: It started with the beating up of Morgan. During the past things were going on very well.

CAMP COMMANDER: It leaves the Committee with big doubts because the Commissar insists that he did not say a thing when he realised that Morgan was beaten before he reached the camp, because he comes from the same province with him (Natal).

Meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.

Minutes passed correct by H.P.C. Berry.....

Seconded by E. Metse.....

Teddy Hawkins
TEDDY HAWKINS
SECRETARY

ELIAZAR MABOEE
CAMP COMMANDER - CHAIRMAN