

The Ossewa Brandwag was a movement started in South Africa by Colonel J.C. Laas about 1938. It was semi-military in its organisation and the more active group was represented by the Stormjaers. It appealed to Afrikaaner sentiment, being strongly in favour of severing the tie with the British Empire and forming a Republic.

Their aim was to make Afrikaans the only official language and to have a benevolent dictatorship, rather on the lines of Nazi Germany. Not only were they anti-imperial but also anti-communist (for fear it would lead to the end of separated societies according to race) and yet at the same time anti-capitalist. During World War II the O.B. was declared illegal and as they did not offer any clear policy the movement gradually disintegrated and the Nationalists won over their members.

The papers contain memoranda which illustrate the organisation of the O.B. and how it was set up and worked. There are photographs (unidentified) of parades and festivals. In the printed section there are newsletters and periodicals which are interesting in showing the split with the Nationalists and the aims of the movement.

#### INVENTORY

#### A MEMORANDA

- A1 1941 Feb. 10. Order 2 & 3/1941 to officers, on the organisation of the O.B. Sgd J.D. Jerling, Asst-Komm-Gen. T.V.L.
- A2 1941 May 15. Memo. on the basic principles for rehabilitation of the poor whites. Sgd A. de Villiers, Adj for Komm Terburgh.
- A3 1941 Jul. 10. Order 13/1941, for the naming of officers as distinct from members. Krygsraad is to consist of officers of veld-cornet rank and above. Sgd J.D. Jerling, Asst-Komm-Gen. T.V.L.
- A4 1941 Oct. 13 & 14. Minutes of 1st meeting of O.B. officers of Union and outside at Bloemfontein.
- A5 1941 Nov. 4. Order 16/1941, that the Xmas funds of the O.B. be used to help Afrikaans business and poor Afrikaaners.
- A6 1941 Nov. 8. Minutes of meeting of Advisory Council of Transvaal.
- A7 1941 Nov. 24. Min. Letter from D.F. Malan to Dr J.F.J. van Rensburg, Komm-Gen. O.B., setting out aims and advising more propaganda.
- A8 1941 Dec. 15, 16. Programme for 5 yearly Dingaans Festival at Paardekraal.
- A9 1942 Feb. 2. Declaration of freedom. Sgd. J.V van Rensburg, Komm Gen.
- A10 1942 Feb. 27 – Mar. 1. Programme for celebration of Free Day at Majuba. With attached article "The Battle of Majuba" by A.J.H. van der Walt.
- A11 Form, for volunteers to complete, indicating how many hours of duty they will perform for the O.B.

- A12 Expense sheet.
- A13 Fortnightly return of personnel to be completed by senior officers.
- A14 Subscription form for Grootvlei Mine Strike.
- A15 Extracts from speeches 1940-41 by D.F. Malan, J.A. Smith, A.J. Werth, J.O. du Plessis, Paul Sauer, Dr K. Bremer, S.M. Loubser, P.J. Olivier, Eric Louw, P.J. van Nierop, Dr S.J. du Toit, F.D. du T. van Zyl, G.W.M. du Toit, J.G. Strydom, P.T.O.
- B PRINTED ITEMS
- Ba Letters
- Ba1 1941 Aug. 23. Dr J.F.J. van Rensburg antwoord Dr D.F. Malan.
- Ba 2 "Die grondslag van die ossewabrandwag" by Dr F.D. du Toit van Zyl, Komm: gen. (2 copies)
- Bb Die Waketting. 5 issues No.1 (Pamflet-reeks), 1st, 2nd, 4th & 7th skakels.
- Bc O.B. Uniale Omsendbrief. 2 issues 1 & 2/1941
- Bd Dié O.B. 20 issues. Nos. Vlugskrif No. 3, 1-2, 4-5, 7-12, 14-20, 32, 50, 1941 Nov. 5, 1943 Nov. 3  
Bound vol. Nos. 1-52 Oct. '41 – Nov. '42.
- C PHOTOGRAPHS
- 15 of parades and festivals (unidentified)
- D PRESS CLIPPINGS (loose)
- D1 1940 Oct. 10 'Cape Times' Article 'O.B. leaders on Nuremberg'
- D2 1975 Dec. 17 'Star' Article 'The bitterness and the flags have faded' by Jaap Boekkooi.