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NATIVE RECRUITING CORPORATION LTD.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO

THE SECRETARY,

P.O. Box 1251. ALL COMMUNICATIONS
TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE
GENERAL MANAGER.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "PAMBILI".

TELEPHONE NO 4747.

JOHANNESBURG,

18th May, 1926.

IN YOUR REPLY
PLEASE REFER TO

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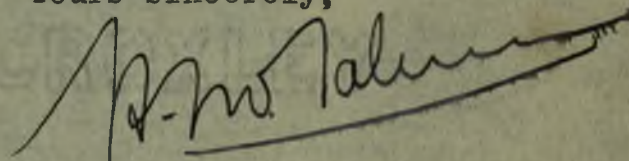
4084

My dear Hunt,

The Native Branch of the Johannesburg Hospital was opened some little time ago and the wards were named by me after the great chiefs of South Africa, and among them one ward was named "Sekukuni". The Superintendent of the Hospital now asks that I should give a short biography of this Chief to be kept as a record in the Hospital, and I shall be very glad indeed if you can let me have a history of this Paramount Chief for this purpose. It need not be a long one, what is really required is an outline of his life and doings, giving dates wherever possible.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



300 words

Major D. R. Hunt,
Native Commissioner,
SECOCOENIE,
Transvaal.

My dear Chief

In your letter ~~no~~ ^{No} 4084
of May 18th - you do not say which Sekukuni
you want to me to give details about - ~~but in the~~
~~I therefore~~ ^{you mean the more distinguished one} attach a short biography of the
greater of the two. If you ~~want~~ ^{think} this is not
enough & you want it expanded I can write
a book on it - all, giving details of the 1876
war which ^{though true} ~~might~~ ^{be quite} nowadays ~~be subject to~~
censorship ~~by the Govt~~ under which we live.

Also I can give details of the doings of the
Lydenburg Volunteers under Sekukuni & Heywood
the ex-Terians & the gallant - Von Schlickmann
who was killed. I have also one Colonel
Rowland's activities & the fighting at Magers
Heights & on the Eshivani side & only struck to
the main detail. ~~Sekukuni & Cetshwayo were for~~
~~a short~~ ^{at one time} ~~as~~ ^{for} ~~together in life from till Cetshwayo~~
~~was removed from power.~~

Of course ~~Andane~~ ^{Tulane} or more properly "Thulani"
is the greatest of the Basuto Chiefs & they call them
~~brother~~ ^{brother} his children but he was ^{died - 1824} pre-Mosilikatse.

I have also a rough ^{copy} ^{and} photo of Sekukuni though
there is a very good one in Sir Godfrey's later book which I have.

Things are very dry here, the worst year I have
ever seen since you saw me here in 1908.

Let me know if attached will do, after the wording
as you like & if you wish it expanded I can do so.

With kind regards

Yours sincerely

D.B.H.

Chief Sekukuni

Chief Sekukuni succeeded his father Sekwati in the chieftainship of the Bapedi Tribe in 1861 and established himself firmly after expelling Mampono the other claimant who took refuge with the Swazies.

Sekukuni was a powerful chief who ruled his people well at first & would not allow them to carry out some of their former more barbarous practices. His power originally extended over the natives of the Eastern Transvaal, excepting the Swazies.

In 1876 his brother Johannes Dinkwanyane who had become a Christian & lived near Lydenburg quarrelled with the ^{neighboring} Boers ~~of the~~ ~~2nd~~ ~~Volant~~ ~~Republic~~ farmers. Though Sekukuni disapproved of his people becoming Christians he supported his brother & thus brought on the war of 1876-1877.

On August 2nd 1876 the Boers attacked Sekukuni's stronghold under the eastern slopes of the Lulu mountains but failed to dislodge him & on Sept. 30th of the same year the Bapedi in turn attacked the outpost at Fort Burgers on the Steelpoort river. Desultory fighting continued along the line of the Steelpoort, till in February 1877 peace was patched up but the Bapedi of Sekukuni still remained a menace to the Republican Government.

After the annexation of the Transvaal by Sir Theophilus Shepstone in 1877 Sekukuni attacked some neighboring natives who had not supported him in ~~the~~ ^{his} previous war with the Boers & this brought him into collision with the British. On

November 28th 1879 Sir Garnet Wolseley with British troops & a number of Swazies (with whom came the exiled Mamfumu) attacked & captured Sekukuni's stronghold. Sekukuni himself was captured immediately afterwards on the Lulu mountains.

At the retrocession of the Transvaal Sekukuni was released & assisted the Government against Mamfumu but was himself surprised & killed by Mamfumu on August 13th 1882. For this Mamfumu was hanged.

Sekukuni's grandson Sekukuni II is the present Chief of the Bapedi Tribe.

Written at H.M. Flanders
request. The place in the
"Sekukuni's" place of the
Hofstad

D. J. Hunt-

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D. J. Hunt-

May 22nd 1926

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