

c/o C. Chamberlain
P.O. Box 15,
LOUIS TRICHARDT. Transvaal.
6th March, 1953.

The Editor,
Cape Times Ltd.,
PAROW. C.P.

Sir,

I have just read "Lords of the Last Frontier" by Lawrence G. Green. As a record from our historical point of view I am amazed at the complete absence of any mention of the first occupation and establishment of law and order in Ovamboland, which took place in August 1915 long before the late Major Holm ever saw that country.

As one of the party dispatched by Gen. Botha to enter this country and proclaim to the native population that the German army in South West Africa had surrendered and that henceforth Ovamboland and its natives would fall under the protection and rule of the Union Government of South Africa.

In support of this I attach copy of a letter received by me from Col. Pritchard written from Army Headquarters on the Western front. Also I would refer you to copies of yours and the Cape Argus papers published in December 1915 or January 1916, quoting extracts with photographs from Col. Pritchard's official report taken at the time, in addition to this you will find in the Cape Town Archives a Blue Book embodying a full report on the provisional conditions reached in Ovamboland, when the matter was discussed in Parliament during January, 1916.

I regret that a later report was owing to war conditions never written up, and it is to this period that Col. Pritchard refers in his letter when myself and Lt. Moroney were left alone to hold the position at Namakunde whilst he and Capt. Bell returned to Windhoek to report what had taken place and there Lt. Moroney and myself remained dealing with Mandume and the Portuguese forces as best we could with nothing but a tree for a courtroom and covering against the howling and starving Ovambos, Mandume shooting and killing his own people who failed to follow him when he fled to us from Angola. During this period I submitted several reports to Sir Howard Gorges then Administrator at Windhoek, stating how matters stood from time to time in Ovamboland.

I would like you to draw Lawrence Green's attention to these facts which are history and which he had omitted from his book.

Yours obediently,

T.E. LIEFELDT.

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LIEFELDT, Major T.E., Scrapbook and papers, 1915-1953

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