

GOLDSTONE COMMISSION OF  
INQUIRY  
BOIPATONG

SUBMISSIONS ON BEHALF  
OF THE  
MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER  
AND THE COMMISSIONER  
OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE





CHRISTO DAVIDSON

states as follows:

1. I am a major in the South African Police attached to the Unrest and Violence Crime Investigation Unit stationed at South African Police Headquarters, Pretoria. I have been tasked to partake in the investigation of the occurrences in Boipatong during the night of 17 / 18 June 1992. One of my particular tasks is to investigate the allegations made against members of the South African Police.

BACKGROUND

2. 2.1 Boipatong is a township situated in the magisterial district of Vanderbijl Park. This township is approximately eight square kilometres in size and the Slovpark squatter camp is on the eastern side of Boipatong. On the northern side of the township is an industrial area which is separated from the township by the Noble Boulevard, a tarred road with ordinary street lights.

- 2.2 On the western side of the Boipatong township is a fairly large open veld adjoining the Frikkie Meyer Boulevard. The latter runs from North to South and carries traffic in both directions. The latter road is lit by ordinary street lights. Employees of Iscor and the industries in surrounding industrial areas make use of this road to go to and from their places of employment. Immediately to the West of the Frikkie Meyer Boulevard is another area of open veld, through which a railway line, serving Iscor, runs. The railway line is fenced in on both sides. The Kwa-Madala Hostel is situated directly to the west of the railway line. This hostel is located on the property of Iscor and is in fact owned by Iscor.
- 2.3 Directly adjoining the Kwa-Madala Hostel is Iscor, which is a National Keypoint. The premises of Iscor are fenced in and there are several gates



allowing access to these premises. The Frikkie Meyer Boulevard is connected with the Kwa-Madala Hostel with a tarred road which is in fact an extension of Noble Boulevard running in an East-West direction alongside the industrial area. There is a petrol station situated on the North-Eastern corner of the Frikkie Meyer Boulevard and Noble Boulevard crossing. The aforesaid petrol station is known as Uniepark Motors.

THE COMPOSITION OF THE RESIDENTS OF BOIPATONG AND THE  
KWA-MADALA AND KWA-MASIZA HOSTELS

3. 3.1 The residents of the Boipatong township, including Slovopark, mainly comprise of pro-ANC or ANC-orientated people. On the other hand, the residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel are mainly Zulu speaking and supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party. Although the Kwa-Madala Hostel is situated on

the property of Iscor, it is not managed or run by Iscor. This hostel is "privatised". Although the majority of the residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel are employees of Iscor, there is a contingent of persons who live in the hostel, who do not work at Iscor and are allegedly resident in the hostel as a result of the fact that they were driven from the Boipatong, Sebokeng and Sharpville areas by supporters of the ANC, according to such residents. Some of these residents also allege that their homes were burnt down by the aforesaid supporters of the ANC. Other residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel allege that they were intimidated by members of the ANC to such an extent that they had to leave their homes and seek refuge in the hostel.

3.2 It is estimated that approximately 10 000 people are living in Boipatong and Slovopark and that approximately



600 - 700 people are resident in the Kwa-Madala Hostel. The Boipatong township is situated in a low-lying area. With the close industrial area and Iscor, the entire area is not well lit at night. As a result of the large volumes of smoke emanating from the adjoining industrial areas as well as the township itself, visibility is generally not too good.

3.3 Although the township is lit by "Apollo lights" which are switched on automatically at night, visibility is not good at night (especially in winter). It has been alleged that the Boipatong township is guarded by certain "self-defence units" which are in support of the ANC. These units operate normally at night and comprise mostly of youths of the particular township. These self-defence units often erect road blocks in the township and prevent traffic flow. The members of the self-defence units are alleged

to demand a toll fee from visitors to the area.

The Kwa-Madala Hostel has only one official gate where a certain measure of control is exercised by the residents of the hostel.

3.4 The Kwa-Masiza Hostel is situated approximately five kilometres to the North-West of the Kwa-Madala Hostel. The people who reside in this hostel are mainly employees of Iscor and who, according to information, are to a great extent ANC supporters. There are approximately 3 000 residents in this hostel.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SECURITY FORCES IN THE AREA

4. 4.1 The South African Police:

4.1.1 Normal policing is carried out by the South African Police,

Vanderbijl Park and police assistants attached to satellite stations of the South African Police under the control of the South African Police, District Headquarters, Vereeniging.

Normal policing includes general crime investigation and attendance to complaints by members of the public.

4.1.2 The Internal Stability Division, stationed at Powerville, Vereeniging is responsible for attending to all unrest related incidents in the Vaal Triangle.

4.2 The South African Defence Force:

4.2.1 Vaal Commando



This group is stationed at premises adjoining Iscor. They are responsible for the protection of this National Keypoint. They mainly conduct patrols in the immediate vicinity of the Keypoint and assist in the patrolling of the bus routes from Iscor to the various hostels.

4.2.2 SADF Group 17 is located to the west of Vereeniging, close to the market in the vicinity of the Green Point Prison. This contingent of the South African Defence Force acts in support of the South African Police when so requested.

There are also certain security concerns operating the area:

- 4.2.2.1 The larger concerns, such as Iscor, Metal Box and Cape Gate have their own security personnel who perform certain security functions. These concerns liaise with the South African Police and the South African Defence Force in the event of any occurrences in and around the area.
- 4.2.2.2 Uniepark Motors, referred to above, is equipped with an alarm system which



is connected to a central control room, the latter which is in turn connected to the South African Police at Vanderbijl Park.

EVENTS OF THE 17TH OF JUNE 1992

5. During the evening of 17 June 1992, 39 persons were killed in Boipatong and Slovopark (later 4 other persons died in hospital but it has not yet been ascertained whether the latter 4 people were also fatally injured during the attack on the Boipatong and Slovopark residents). Approximately 30 people were also seriously injured and hospitalized. Two of these people are still hospitalized.

The South African Police regard the particular incident in a very serious light and are doing everything humanly possible in order to

investigate the incident and to bring the culprits to justice.

DUAL NATURE OF THE INVESTIGATION

6. 6.1 The investigation into the incident is in the main, twofold:

Colonel du Pont and a team of approximately 70 investigators are in charge of the case docket.

The second leg of the investigation deals with the allegations that members of the security forces were involved in the attack and is being investigated by a team of investigators under my command. I have approximately 12 investigators assisting me.

Colonels Eager and Steyn are in charge of both legs of the investigation and report directly to Major-General Grové



of the South African Police Headquarters.

6.2 THE PROGRESS OF THE INVESTIGATION

37 statements from victims and/or witnesses of the incident have been obtained. 137 statements have been obtained from members of the Defence Force, the Police and members of the public, as well as approximately 400 statements of residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel.

My own investigation comprises of the following:

- 6.2.1 Allegations that members of the South African Police were involved in the attack or that they supplied transportation to the attackers;

- 6.2.2 Allegations that members of the South African Defence Force were involved in the attack and that they transported members of Inkatha to and from the township;
- 6.2.3 The responsibility of the South African Defence Force in relation to the Kwa-Madala Hostel;
- 6.2.4 The alleged prior knowledge of the South African Police of the attack, including the allegation that the South African Police did not react to reports received prior to the attack;
- 6.2.5 The allegations levelled against the security forces by organisations such as the ANC, Peace Action, Human Rights



Commission and others as highlighted by the press;

6.2.6. Allegations by two South African Police assistants that members of the South African Police took part in the attack.

6.3 SUMMARY OF THE INVESTIGATIONS TO DATE

6.3.1 The allegations that the security forces were involved in the attack and that they transported residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel to and from the township are totally unfounded. Evidence obtained from members of the public who travelled along the Frikkie Meyer and Noble Boulevards in order to get to their places of employment indicates that the attack was carried out by persons moving on foot from

the direction of the Kwa-Madala Hostel. Further investigations have revealed that no member of the security forces took part in the attack or that any white person was involved or had any form of command during the attack.

6.3.2 The allegation that the street lights were switched off before or during the attack and that they were switched on thereafter, was investigated and found to be false;

6.3.3 The allegation that the police dispersed residents with tearsmoke from the streets prior to the attack in order to allow the attackers to gain entry to the area was investigated and can be



dispelled as unfounded and false;

6.3.4 The allegations that the South African Police damaged property of the residents of the township in order to gain entry to premises were also investigated. At this stage one fence has been found to be damaged, in all probability as a result of the fact that the street in that spot was blocked and that vehicles had to pass the obstruction close to the fence;

6.3.5 The allegation that the South African Police had prior knowledge of the attack and that the police failed to react thereto was thoroughly investigated and found to be unsubstantiated. The information supplied to the

police in this regard was acted upon and such information related to a possible incident in the Sebokeng area;

6.3.6 The allegation that ambulance services were placed on special standby duties prior to the incident was also investigated and this was found to be totally untrue;

6.3.7 The allegations by two South African Police assistants, Messrs M.M. Xaba and Joseph Sello, attached to the Evaton Satellite Police Station of the South African Police, namely that the attackers were transported by police Casspirs and that white policemen took part in the attack, are being investigated.



Investigations to date prove these allegations to be false. Witnesses, who according to the aforesaid police assistants were supposed to corroborate their versions, have been interviewed by members of the South African Police. Statements were obtained from some of these witnesses and the contents thereof contradict or do not support the versions of these two assistants.

6.3.8 The allegation that members of the South African Defence Force were involved in that Inkatha members were escorted to and from Boipatong by them, was investigated and found to be false;

The investigation indicates that during the evening of 17

June 1992 until the early hours of the morning of 18 June 1992 various vehicles of the South African Police and the South African Defence Force were present in the area at different times. These vehicles carried out patrols in the area or attended at the scene after being called to the scene or sent to the township as a result of reports made to the South African Police and the South African Defence Force. Members of the security forces did not partake in the attack, but rendered assistance to victims and complainants. Vehicles of the security forces were not involved in order to facilitate the attack.



THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN DEFENCE FORCE  
IN RELATION TO THE KWA-MADALA HOSTEL

7. 7.1 One of the tasks of Vaal Commando is to ensure that the National Keypoint (Iscor) is patrolled on a regular basis.

7.2 Kwa-Madala Hostel is situated on the property of Iscor and forms part of Vaal Commando's patrol area. It must be stressed that the Vaal Commando does not control the flow of people and vehicles to and from the Kwa-Madala Hostel. This function is carried out by residents of the hostel themselves. Vaal Commando is also not responsible for the monitoring of vehicles and people entering or leaving the Kwa-Madala Hostel.

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE INCIDENT

8. 8.1 Investigations to date have revealed that approximately 200 to 300 residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel left the hostel at approximately 21h15 on foot, crossed the Frikkie Meyer Boulevard and gathered in an open veld to the West of the Boipatong township. From there they moved in a south-easterly direction, along the southern side of Boipatong and gathered at the south-eastern side of the township, where the group split up in different groups. These groups attacked houses and residents of Slovopark and Boipatong.

It would appear as if the attack was carried out from approximately 21h25 until approximately 22h45 on the evening of the 27th of June 1992. Members of the South African Police who shortly thereafter arrived in the township, were informed by the residents that they were attacked by residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel.



When the first members of the South African Police arrived in Boipatong they were informed by a group of youths that they intended to carry out an attack on the Kwa-Madala Hostel (such an attack was prevented by the security forces), as a reprisal against the residents of Kwa-Madala Hostel, who according to them, shortly before attacked certain residents of Boipatong.

8.2 The police investigations commenced immediately after the attack. A photographer and forensic expert visited the various scenes where people were killed and/or injured as well as houses that were damaged during the attack in order to obtain evidence. The South African Police attended to persons injured in the attack and removed bodies from the various scenes. Patrols were also carried out thereafter, but no further incidents occurred.

THE INVESTIGATIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN  
POLICE SINCE THE 18TH OF JUNE 1992

9. 9.1 Since the early hours of the morning of 18 June 1992 several branches of the South African Police became involved in the investigation of the incident. General Gloy of the South African Police Headquarters and a group of senior investigators arrived at Vanderbijl Park and immediately commenced with an intensive investigation.

9.2 At approximately 16h00 on the 18th of June 1992 a large scale operation in and search of the Kwa-Madala Hostel was conducted. During the search a number of home-made weapons, knopkieries and spears were found and confiscated. Approximately 200 members of the South African Police took part in this investigation. During the initial investigation no visible signs of blood



or any other substances could be conclusively detected on these weapons. Only a few residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel could be linked to any of the weapons so confiscated. Subsequently senior members of the ballistic unit of the South African Police and the services of an experienced pathologist were engaged to assist members of the South African Police in their investigations.

- 9.3 During the search of the hostel on 18th June 1992, members of the South African Police experienced great resistance from residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel. The residents of the hostel refused to co-operate with the members of the South African Police. This operation commenced at approximately 16h00 and lasted until approximately 20h00. During the evening of 18 June 1992 at approximately 20h00 all members of the Kwa-Madala Hostel were restricted to

the hostel in terms of the applicable unrest regulations.

- 9.4 On the 19th of June 1992 members of the South African Police again visited the Kwa-Madala Hostel in an attempt to obtain particulars of residents and possible information in relation to the Boipatong incident. At that stage members of the South African Police received uncorroborated allegations that residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel were involved in the attack on the residents of Boipatong. At that stage no substantial, concrete evidence was available to prove this.

During the weekend 20 / 21 June 1992 an attempt was made to obtain information from various sources in order to determine the identity of the attackers. The South African Police continuously planned further investigations in an endeavour to



apprehend the attackers. Senior officers, including members from headquarters, were continuously present, assisting in the investigations.

The aforesaid planning and following-up of information resulted in a mass operation carried out in the early hours of Monday the 22nd of June 1992.

9.5 On the 22nd of June 1992 at approximately 05h30 a large scale police operation was initiated during which all rooms of the Kwa-Madala Hostel were sealed off and the residents confined to their individual rooms. Full particulars of all residents were obtained by a large number of investigators and photographs of individual residents were taken.

9.6 The verification of particulars was undertaken on the ensuing Monday as a

result of the fact that several of the residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel are not employed by Iscor but by other businesses in the vicinity, whose personnel were not available over the weekend to assist the members of the South African Police. The South African Police could therefore not verify information from other employers in the area during the weekend.

The abovementioned operation was necessary in order to ensure that persons who did not take part in the attack could be excluded from the list of possible suspects.

9.7 During the evening of Monday the 22nd of June 1992 a total of 127 hostel residents were allowed to leave the hostel area, after it was established that such residents could not have been involved in the attack.



9.8 On the 23rd of June 1992 a similar operation was carried out and the hostel rooms were sealed off again. It was then established that residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel had left their rooms at approximately 03h00 that morning and gathered in a stadium inside the hostel. As a result of this it was not possible to link individual residents to any particular rooms.

After negotiations with one Moses Mthembu, the manager of the hostel, members of the South African Police managed to remove a group of approximately 155 suspects from the hostel to the police station in Vanderbijl Park.

9.9 During the afternoon of 23 June 1992 the Commissioner of Police visited the hostel. The Commissioner had negotiations with senior Inkatha representatives and obtained an undertaking from them to assist the

South African Police to apprehend possible suspects.

- 9.10 At approximately 17h00 on the 23 June 1992 a large portion of the 155 residents detained earlier, were allowed to return to the hostel when it was clear that they were not involved in the attack.
- 9.11 On 24 June 1992 a group of approximately 300 residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel was once again taken to the Vanderbijl Park police station for purposes of questioning. This action resulted in the compilation of a list of possible suspects.
- 9.12 Presently there are 81 residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel who are in custody in terms of the unrest regulations. Five of the aforesaid persons were arrested during the operations on 22 June 1992. The five residents of the hostel all lived in one room. One person who is



presently in detention was arrested by security personnel of Iscor during the evening of the 17th of June 1992.

9.13 During the investigations and the search of the Kwa-Madala Hostel certain items of clothing were found and confiscated. Some of these items of clothing have since been identified by residents of Boipatong as their property which were taken from them during the attack on the 17th of June 1992.

9.14 Since the time that the identities of the deceased and injured people were established, members of the South African Police again visited Boipatong and Slovpark in an attempt to obtain statements from residents and family members or possible eyewitnesses.

ALLEGATIONS THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE DID NOT FOLLOW UP OR DID NOT INTERVIEW WITNESSES

10. 10.1 During the evening of 17 June 1992 when Lance-Sergeant Schlebush and Sergeant Kruger visited the scenes of the attack, they were unable to obtain descriptions of the attackers from any of the residents or witnesses in the area at that time.
- 10.2 During the evening of 18 June 1992 senior members of the South African Police under the command of General Gloy, visited the Sebokeng Hospital and talked to some of the injured. The hospital authorities were reluctant to allow the South African Police to talk to the injured people.
- 10.3 At the request of the hospital authorities no statements were taken from these persons although members of the police were eventually allowed to talk to them. Not one of these persons could identify their attackers. The general allegation was that the



attackers were unknown Zulu speaking persons.

- 10.4 On 19 June 1992 Lieutenant van der Gryp, the commander of the local Unrest and Violence Crime Investigation Unit and members of his personnel visited the Sebokeng Hospital and obtained statements from a small number of injured people indicating that they were unable to identify their attackers. Other injured people refused to give any statements to the South African Police.
- 10.5 On the same day members of the police visited the Boipatong township and the Slovopark camp in order to obtain statements of witnesses or any other information. Persons who were interviewed either refused to supply their identities or to make statements or to give their names and generally refused to say anything to members of the police and no positive information

could be obtained during this exercise. During this exercise members of the A.N.C. as well as the Red Cross allegedly advised the residents not to make statements to the South African Police.

- 10.6 The police investigation is hampered in that it is difficult to move through the streets of Boipatong with normal vehicles as the area has been barricaded since prior to 16 June 1992. Stones, trees, vehicle wrecks and vehicle tyres as well as pieces of concrete were placed in the streets to hamper normal vehicular traffic. Since 18 June 1992 it was noted that dungeons were dug in the streets. Certain of the affected houses are situated along these streets. The investigation in these areas is hampered and heavy four wheel drive vehicles must be used to drive into the area.



10.7 During the last few months it has become a daily occurrence that police vehicles come under attack when driving in the townships situated in the Vaal Triangle. Shortly after the incident I personally interviewed 11 residents of Slovopark. These people could not render useful assistance or give any description of their attackers. Colonel du Pont also interviewed some 22 persons in Slovopark and Boipatong with the same result.

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING OR LEADING TO THE ATTACK

11. 11.1 It has become evident that the primary cause of the attack can be found in a power struggle between supporters of the ANC and the supporters of the IFP.

11.2 It is alleged that some of the present residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel were driven out of the nearby township areas such as Sebokeng, Sharpville and

Boipatong and such displaced residents alleged that their houses were burnt down or that their property were destroyed or that they were intimidated and forced to leave the aforesaid areas. Certain Inkatha members were murdered during June 1992 in the Boipatong area. This resulted in an extremely hostile attitude of hostel residents towards township residents.

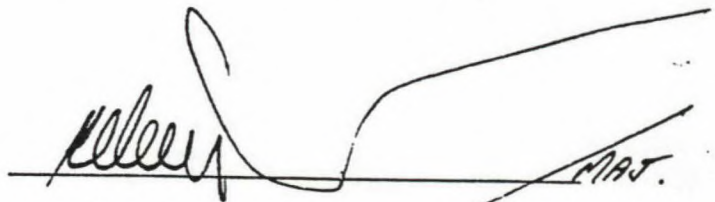
11.3 It has further been stated that some of the residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel intended attacking the self-defence units in Boipatong on the night of the 17th of June 1992. Two of the arrested residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel have alleged that on the arrival of the hostel residents in Boipatong, the members of the self-defence units could not be found whereupon the Kwa-Madala Hostel residents embarked upon a random attack upon residents of Boipatong and Slovopark.



- 11.4 I wish to point out that Mr J.G. Rautenbach, appearing on behalf of the ANC, advised a committee of this commission on the 25th of June 1992, that: "as far as violence in general and specifically the Boipatong incident we do not allege at the outset that these people were responsible....." but when later pressed by committee chairman Mr Steyn, stated that the ANC have information that certain ex Koevoet members, now employed by the South African Police, were involved in Boipatong. Investigations have clearly indicated that the lastmentioned statement on behalf of the ANC is false. No evidence could be obtained that anybody, apart from residents of the Kwa-Madala Hostel were involved in the attack.
- 11.5 The allegations pertaining to the ANC, IFP, township dwellers, hostel dwellers, Zulu or Xhosa apart, the evidence unambiguously prove that the

residents of Kwa-Madala hostel attacked  
the residents of Boipatong and  
Slovopark on this tragic night.

DATED AT PRETORIA ON THIS 1ST DAY OF JULY 1992

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christo Davidson', is written over a horizontal line. To the right of the signature, the initials 'C.D.' are written.

CHRISTO DAVIDSON



I, the undersigned

PIETER GABRIEL VAN NYK

declare as follows:

1. I am a Citizen Force member of the Defence Force and I hold the rank of Major in Vaal Commando. I am employed by Iscor, Vanderbijlpark. The primary functions of Vaal Commando are the following:
  - 1.1 The protection of Iscor, Vanderbijlpark as a National Keypoint;
  - 1.2 The protection of residential suburbs located close to Iscor, Vanderbijlpark;
  - 1.3 The patrolling of roads in the vicinity of Iscor.
2. After the incident that took place on the 17th of June 1992 at Boipatong, I was ordered by the officer commanding Vaal Commando to do an internal investigation as to Vaal Commando's knowledge of the incident on 17 June 1992.

3. At the outset, and with reference to the allegations made against the SADF, I wish to stress that neither Vaal Commando nor the SADF were in any way involved in the attack in Boipatong on the 17th of June 1992.
  
4. In order to enable me to do my internal investigation, I conducted interviews with all the people of Vaal Commando who were on duty on the night of the 17th and 18th of June 1992.
  
5. Vaal Commando's role during the night of 17 to 18 June 1992 was as follows:
  - 5.1 During the night of 17 June 1992, Lance Corporal Roberts and four other soldiers were patrolling Vanderbijlpark's central business district, in a light duty vehicle. During this patrol they received a message from Vaal Commando headquarters that shots were heard in Boipatong. Lance Corporal Roberts then proceeded from the central business district to Boipatong to investigate. When he

} when



arrived in Noble Boulevard he saw a vehicle in flames opposite Boipatong, on the eastern side thereof. He proceeded closer to this vehicle to investigate, but saw that there was nothing he could do. He reported the incident to Vaal Commando. At the time of this investigation everything was quiet in the township. It must be mentioned that the occurrence of gunshots in this township at any given time is not a rare occurrence and happens quite often.

5.2 After this, Lance Corporal Roberts proceeded with his normal patrol duties. Whilst he was patrolling in Dönges Street, Vanderbijlpark, he heard gunfire from the direction of Boipatong. He went back to this township. He again proceeded down Noble Boulevard but before he could come to the point where the vehicle was burning, he was stopped by a security guard at Cape Gate.

- 5.3 As the soldiers alighted from their vehicle at Cape Gate they heard shots being fired in and from Boipatong.
- 5.4 Because of the fact that their vehicle was not armoured, they took cover behind some boulders and contacted Vaal Commando to send reinforcements.
- 5.5 Whilst they waited for reinforcements to arrive, a black man came running from Boipatong to them and said that people were busy in Boipatong committing acts of violence. This black man was injured. The soldiers sent this black man to Cape Gate's security office for medical assistance.
- 5.6 Vaal Commando sent a buffalo vehicle, which was busy with patrol duty in the vicinity of Kwa-Masisa hostel to assist the soldiers who were at Cape Gate at that time.

Renew  
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5.7 This buffalo military vehicle was under control of Lance Corporal Odendaal. He proceeded to Cape Gate. When he arrived at the intersection at Frikkie Meyer Boulevard and Noble Boulevard he turned into Noble Boulevard in the direction of Boipatong. At this stage he saw a large number of black people in the veld next to Boipatong. Although he saw this group of black people in the veld, he noticed nothing untoward and decided to proceed and pick up the soldiers at Cape Gate. After he had picked them up, he moved back along Noble Boulevard and again saw this group of black people in the veld.

5.8 At this stage Odendaal saw that the group of blacks were moving in the direction of Frikkie Meyer Boulevard. This was also the direction of Kwa-Madala hostel. Lance Corporal Odendaal and the soldiers with him thought that

*between  
10 to 11  
or 17th*

*white head bands  
- ANC -*

*thought they were  
ANC supporters going  
to attack the hostel  
didn't know of attack on  
Boipatong at that time.*

these people were on their way to Kwa-Madala hostel.

- 5.9 At the crossing of Frikkie Meyer Boulevard and Noble Boulevard, another buffalo military vehicle of Vaal Commando, which had also been busy with patrol duties in the vicinity of Kwa-Masisa hostel, joined Lance Corporal Odendaal's buffalo. The lastmentioned buffalo vehicle was under control of Corporal van Straaten.
- 5.10 Due to the fact that a large number of black people intended crossing Frikkie Meyer Boulevard, which is a busy street, Corporal van Straaten decided to block off the road for traffic, wanting to proceed in the direction where the black people were crossing the street.
- 5.11 Lance Corporal Odendaal's buffalo vehicle proceeded from this intersection to Kwa-Madala hostel.



- 5.12 During this time Major Jordaan of Vaal Commando as well as members of the SAP joined this buffalo vehicle at Kwa-Madala hostel. The SAP arrived in one Casspir and one Nyala vehicle.
- 5.13 When the group of black people had crossed Frikkie Meyer Boulevard the buffalo vehicle which blockaded the road at the intersection under the control of Corporal van Straaten, also proceeded to Kwa-Madala hostel.
- 5.14 Members of both the SADF and the SAP waited at Kwa-Madala hostel for a while to determine what the intentions were of this group of blacks that crossed the road in the direction of Kwa-Madala hostel.
- 5.15 Thereafter Major Jordaan ordered one buffalo vehicle to go and investigate along Frikkie Meyer Boulevard what had happened to the group of people. In this regard it must be stressed that

NB

between  
80  
and  
300

the area adjacent to Frikkie Meyer Boulevard, on the western side of Frikkie Meyer Boulevard, is very rugged terrain which is inaccessible by vehicles. This area consists of dense reeds, dongas and ditches.

5.16 Various attempts were made to locate the group of people in this rugged area, but without success.

5.17 As nothing further happened, Major Jordaan decided to withdraw all the military personnel and they all proceeded back to Vaal Commando's headquarters in the early hours of the 18th of June 1992.

*Some  
said  
Kobakgwe  
and  
spears*

6. I also wish to state that gunshots in this township is quite an usual occurrence.

7. The regional headquarters of the SADF in the area, namely Group 17 were in fact requested



to assist the police in Boipatong later that  
night.

DATED AT JOHANNESBURG ON THIS THE 1ST DAY OF JULY  
1992

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PIETER GABRIEL VAN WYK

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