

SECTION 29 INQUIRY

NAME: MR BOOI

HELD AT: EAST LONDON

CHAIRPERSON: [inaudible] represented if you wanted to. I assume therefore that you elected not to be represented.

There are earphones which you could use if you wanted to give your evidence to what is taking place in Xhosa. I believe the channel for Xhosa is channel 3. You will be assisted and whenever you have to talk you will make sure that you press the red button, I believe that it is on at the moment.

The panel consists of Reverend Shingwe to my left who is a Commissioner and is a member of the Human Rights Violations Committee and is the regional co-ordinator for the Eastern Cape which is one of the regions of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

I am ordinarily from the Eastern Cape but I am based in Cape Town in the Investigative Unit. Mr Jogard Makwagesa is one of the investigators so also is Zuko Kamako. I believe that in either the subpoena or the invitation that was extended to you, certain areas were indicated in relation to which I'll endeavour to get your co-operation and answers so that we can enlarge our knowledge of the issues that are involved.

Now before you testify, I will ask Reverend Shingwe an oath, whereafter, Mr Makwagesa and Mr Kamako will put to you the questions that they hope will elicit responses that will assist us in gathering the evidence we need.

Reverend Shingwe?

MR BOOI (sworn states)

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Makwagesa?

MR MAKWAGESA: Thank you Mr Chair.

Mr Booi, you are a retired Colonel in the Transkei Police Force, is that so?

MR BOOI: Correct.

MR MAKWAGESA: When did you return from the police force, Mr Booi?

MR BOOI: At the end of March, 1994.

MR MAKWAGESA: Is it correct to say that you were attached with the security section of the Transkei Security Police?

MR BOOI: Yes, that is correct.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you tell us when did you first join the security police in Transkei and where were you based?

MR BOOI: I joined the security police in 1969. In 1990 I stopped working for the security police. I worked in Umtata, I worked in Butterworth as well, Bizana, Port St Johns - those are the areas in which I worked and at the security police.

MR MAKWAGESA: In all those years that you were a member of the security police, what were your specific activities within the security police?

MR BOOI: We used to investigate banned organisations like the ANC and the PAC. All the activities that were against the government of the day.

MR MAKWAGESA: Where were you based in the security police by or on or about 1988?

MR BOOI: I was at the head office of the security branch in Umtata.

MR MAKWAGESA: What rank were you holding in 1988?

MR BOOI: I was a Lieutenant Colonel.

MR MAKWAGESA: Based in head office, that is Borstal, doing specifically what?

MR BOOI: I was under the investigative unit, we looked at the security police cases that we reported.

MR MAKWAGESA: Were the investigating cases that happened in Umtata or were you that was getting all the cases related with terrorism that occurred in the whole of Transkei?

MR BOOI: I would go and help in other areas as well when the Branch Commanders in that specific town don't have enough experience. I would leave Umtata but go back to Umtata, but I was based in Umtata.

MR MAKWAGESA: So is it correct to conclude that, Mr Booi, you were now and then in charge of all terrorist related investigations in Transkei?

MR BOOI: Correct. However, I was not the head. Mr Dengane was the head.

MR MAKWAGESA: Let me rephrase - is it correct to conclude that you were in charge not necessarily heading the investigation, almost in charge of every investigation that took place in Transkei if it related to terrorism?

MR BOOI: No, I disagree, I was not in charge. Dengane was in charge, I was assisting him.

CHAIRPERSON: Let me ask the question. You see we have just taken evidence from Wana. He now calls himself Wanasi, but you know him - Bongane Wana - who was in the security - yes?

Now he has told us that there was an anti terrorist unit in Umtata in which he, Nobanga, Dandala and Kumengo served and he said that that unit was headed by you. So I think that's why Mr Makwagesa is trying to say when - maybe he was mistaken, maybe you can tell us but that's how he conveyed this thing to us that you were heading a so called anti-terrorist unit and he mentioned these four boys or four gentlemen.

MR BOOI: They are correct, they were my subordinates, I was their Commander, I had a Commander Dengane - that's the

explanation. Then I was in charge of the investigations under the security and the terrorist unit was under him.

MR MAKWAGESA: Would it be correct then to say that you hand picked the people mentioned in that unit?

MR BOOI: Yes, you could say that.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you tell us, what criteria did you use to elect those people, to pick them up?

MR BOOI: They impressed me because they were hard workers - they were not always in Umtata. When you're making your rounds you could see that these people worked well - maybe if they had to take a statement, they did it well. I was impressed and I realised that I could work with them.

MR MAKWAGESA: So is it correct to say that you would use them whenever there was going to be an operation in Transkei which had to do with guerrillas?

MR BOOI: Correct.

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you remember an incident where some people namely Zonabele Mahape and Zangone and Gift were killed in ... [inaudible]?

MR BOOI: Yes I remember such an incident.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you tell us what happened that day, who you picked up to work with the askaris up until after the incident where these three guys were killed. Can you just tell us, sir?

MR BOOI: If I remember well, Wana was one of the people who worked with the askaris from East London. I only remember Wana. I'm not sure whether Blackhead was a part of that, however I remember Wana clearly.

MR MAKWAGESA: Yes, Mr Booi, can you relate the whole story, starting from the time the askaris arrived in East London, who were they travelling with, were there any white officers from the East London branch of the security. What happened that day, up until the end of the day?

MR BOOI: As the group from East London would go up and down working with us in Umtata, they were in the office Matlewa requested that we give him someone to work with. We knew him as Matlewa, he was a policeman. I worked together with Dengane, I went and told him that a group from East London has arrived and they need help in such a way. He then said I must give them assistance. I handed one over to them. The reason why they needed somebody is because they did not want to be seen as the police, they needed a policeman from Umtata to identify the people. This is how it happened.

If I am not mistaken, as I was in the office, I heard that there were shootings in Namakgale. I was not able to go there. Major Joe Mdwasa ended up going, I did not go, I can't remember why. I can't remember clearly because it happened a while back. I heard that Matlewa came reporting that there was a shooting in

North Crest but I can't remember clearly. That is what happened, that people were shot there. I don't remember whether they shot at each other or they were shot at. However, one of the people that was shot was a Sangone. I was not able to go to the scene of the crime, Joe ended up going there.

MR MAKWAGESA: What was your immediate reaction Mr Booi, after you had heard that there was a shoot-out between police and some askaris? That some people were dead in the incident?

MR BOOI: I was shocked.

MR MAKWAGESA: Didn't you take any measures to protect the askaris?

MR BOOI: I can't remember.

MR MAKWAGESA: Wouldn't it have been proper for you, as a member of the police, to arrest people who have killed other people?

MR BOOI: When it happens that people are killed the case would be investigated. A case that involved security police would be investigated by a member of the C.I.D. - that was the procedure.

MR MAKWAGESA: You've just said that Matlewa or some other guy told you that some people were killed by them. Wouldn't it then - it would have been proper for you to instruct C.I.D. members to arrest the perpetrators?

MR BOOI: As I had a Commander that I was subordinate to, I had to report that there was such an incident. He then would give an instruction as to what happens after that.

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you know what happened to the askaris after they killed the people in [inaudible]

MR BOOI: I don't remember well but as I said Matlewa was on his own in my office - I can't remember clearly where the askaris were, whether they left. There were white men that these askaris were with, they were not on their own.

MR MAKWAGESA: When the askaris came from East London to report to you that they needed to do some work in Transkei, what nature, what kind of assistance did they request from you?

MR BOOI: It was not the first time that they went Umtata, however, to the office, Matlewa and some white people would come and talk to me and they would tell me that the askaris are around the Transkei.

MR MAKWAGESA: What were these white policemen? Can you give us their names please?

MR BOOI: I can't remember well, they were just young men from East London. I can't remember their names well.

MR MAKWAGESA: Did it not surprise you that some young policemen and you have a rank of Lieutenant, would just come from another country which is the Republic of South Africa, in East London and go and operate freely in your own country in



Transkei as a member of the Transkei Police Force and with the rank of Lieutenant?

MR BOOI: I thought that they had gotten permission from their Commander. I realised at a later stage that these people were working together.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you expatiate, Mr Booi, when you say it could happen that they got permission from somebody higher than your rank?

MR BOOI: Certainly, sir. The head of security knew exactly what was happening. The police from East London working together with us.

MR MAKWAGESA: Was it General ... [inaudible] that was head of security?

MR BOOI: 1988 yes it was he, if I'm not mistaken.

MR MAKWAGESA: So you can say with confidence that there was clear co-operation between the Transkei Security Police and the Republic of South Africa Security Police?

MR BOOI: Certainly.

MR MAKWAGESA: From whom did you take instructions.

MR BOOI: Dengane.

MR MAKWAGESA: What did he tell you about the co-operation between the South African Police and the Transkei Police?

MR BOOI: I would go in and out at the time.

MR MAKWAGESA: Mr Booi, can you give us the specific instructions that Brigadier Dengane gave to you with regards to the co-operation between members of the security police of the Republic of South Africa and Transkei?

MR BOOI: I can't remember clearly, sir. I don't know why it happened as it did that we started working together with the South African Security Police, I was just told that there would be a group from East London, I was told that I should hand over a few men that would work with them. If I was able to go, I would have gone as well. They were sent there to help us.

MR MAKWAGESA: You know for a fact that whenever there were askaris in Transkei, they went there to kill and not to arrest people, is that correct?

MR BOOI: I don't know anything about they going there to kill.

MR MAKWAGESA: Is there any single instance where askaris were involved where they arrested somebody in the Transkei in your knowledge?

MR BOOI: There is none that I remember.

MR MAKWAGESA: I've got examples starting from Mtand Ondondo, Leo Klathula, these are instances that you know about - Mahape case and Gift case. Did they ever arrest any people in those cases or any other cases accept to actually shoot on sight or shoot to kill?

MR BOOI: I hear you sir and I remember the cases that you refer to.

MR MAKWAGESA: So on the day when Sonobile and the others died, you knew very well that it could happen that they will not be arrested but they would be shot at because there were askaris involved?

MR BOOI: No sir, I wouldn't say so. I didn't know that they were going to kill people there.

MR MAKWAGESA: Mr Booi, it was not the first instance that people were killed by those guys, by askaris, it was not the second instance, could have been the third, fourth instance. Did you willingly give instructions to Wana to go with the askaris with the intention to go and kill people?

MR BOOI: I did not say to Wana that he must go with those askaris to kill, I did not say that to him.

MR MAKWAGESA: Was there anybody arrested for this incident, Mr Booi?

MR BOOI: C.I.D. took over the case. Statements were taken from Matlewa and them, I don't remember if anybody was arrested. If there was anybody arrested maybe I missed that.

MR MAKWAGESA: Mr Chairman, I just want to give him to my colleague, perhaps he's got some questions for us?

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Kamako?

MR KAMAKO: I don't have a question at this stage.

CHAIRPERSON: Now, Mr Booi, I just want to look at - these people apparently came from East London. Now do you know who was head of this anti-terrorist unit in East London who would then have been Dengane's counterpart?

MR BOOI: I wouldn't know the head there because I think that the head of the security in East London must have worked together with the head of the security in Umtata.

CHAIRPERSON: No, I'm asking a more general question which - and that it is, did you know who was head of the anti-terrorist unit in East London, who was based in East London?

MR BOOI: No, I don't know.

CHAIRPERSON: There was a white gentleman called Brigadier Griebenauw who was based in East London. Did you know of Griebenauw? Brigadier Griebenauw?

MR BOOI: Yes I know him.

CHAIRPERSON: Was he not the person who was in charge of the anti-terrorist or terrorist tracking unit in East London?

MR BOOI: If I'm not mistaken, he was in charge of the branch of the security branch in East London. Perhaps he also headed the anti-terrorist section. I knew him as a Branch Commander in East London.

CHAIRPERSON: And do you know if he had anything to do with the sending of Matlewa and his three askaris for this specific incident in Umtata?

MR BOOI: I'm sure that he knew because he also would go to Umtata on his own.

CHAIRPERSON: Now did you know of a Warrant Officer Viljoen involved?

MR BOOI: Maybe they referred to him in a different name, perhaps I would know him when I see him.

CHAIRPERSON: Now, this incident took place on a Friday, do you still remember? Some Friday afternoon? But if I remind you for instance, on the following morning which is a Saturday, you were called to the police station in Madeira Street, were you not?

When you were told that the people who had killed these three persons, Sangone, Mahape and Gift as he was then known, had been chased by a motor vehicle as they were going around the city. Do you remember that incident, a motor vehicle which had been driven by Lungezile Stofile who had a 16 valve VW white with registration numbers YBA5225, do you remember?

MR BOOI: I don't remember well but I remember being asked of this even the last time.

CHAIRPERSON: You remember after you went to the police station with Goniwe, remember Goniwe? Security policeman Goniwe?

MR BOOI: Yes I do remember him.

CHAIRPERSON: Don't you remember that day when we went to the police station I also came later on and I found you there and

there were a lot of people milling around and this kombi was behind the police station and these people were saying they are afraid that you want to do things to them. Can't you recall that? Ntgina was arrested and he was detained, he was taken to Norwood and then you took me into the police station with Brahu and you said you know that you want to question us about what exactly was happening. Don't you recall?

MR BOOI: I don't remember, sir.

CHAIRPERSON: Don't you recall that I even said to you, you see there, Dlamini was wanting to kill those people, an opportunity to run away because we want to know who those people are. These people who were seen yesterday and there are women also there who are involved and we want to know - that's all we are chasing these people for, we are not chasing them for anything. We want to know who they were because they committed an offence and you said "No, no, no, this thing is going to be investigated, just wait here." Do you remember? Or don't you want to remember because it's an incident that embarrasses you now.

MR BOOI: I don't remember this part even from the last time.

CHAIRPERSON: The reason why you don't remember is because now it's a disgrace for you because you are the cause that these people could run away. I told you that you're giving these people an opportunity to run away. Don't you remember Dlamini?

MR BOOI: I don't remember clearly.

CHAIRPERSON: Exactly you don't remember because now it's a disgrace. Even then you realised that I knew what you were up to, isn't that so? Because you wanted these people to get away because we don't see them because the askaris were there.

MR BOOI: How could I do that sir because they were going to investigate the case.

CHAIRPERSON: No, you knew that these people were committing an offence or you just did not want us to see who the askaris were, the two women askaris and the male askari, that was your purpose. No so?

MR BOOI: No, that is not so.

CHAIRPERSON: That is why you don't want to remember this thing because it turned out to be exactly what you know - you remember you only let us go at sunset and we asked where these people are. I asked you where these people are and you said

"No, perhaps they've left already" and I said to you "you see, I told you so, you're letting these people get away and they killed" and you said "no, don't worry, they'll investigate it". That's exactly what you said. That is why I'm here because I thought no, let me be here to remind you. Don't you remember?

MR BOOI: Please remind me sir of this kombi, what was it?

CHAIRPERSON: It was a Husky - it was brownish, whitish, the registration was from Aliwal North - Wana remembers it.

MR BOOI: I remember a red kombi.

CHAIRPERSON: They drove away and a white man came out.

You and Goniwe - Stofilo was also there - you said that these people were seen in Nambalane from the previous day?

MR BOOI: I remember vaguely, but I don't remember your presence there.

CHAIRPERSON: I got there, when they were already behind - these people were already behind, Stofile was there in his car by the police station. He said that they're lying, they didn't want to shoot, they apparently lied and said they were being chased by people wanting to shoot.

MR BOOI: I now remember this incident because I was with Goniwe to check out what was happening at the police station. We heard that there were people chasing the police.

CHAIRPERSON: Yes, I was then taken from the office. I said to you "these people were not being chased to be shot" and you took us into the charge office. I said "You shouldn't do that."

Dinge was arrested - I said "Look what's going on now, you wanted these people to get away, I asked you to arrest these people" and you were vague about everything, you said you that couldn't arrest the people because they were security police. I said "we've identified them, here they are." Do you remember?

MR BOOI: I remember vaguely.



CHAIRPERSON: Now, I think it's becoming clear as we're investigating, as Wana says as well, the askaris - was it not so that you had to protect their identities. In other words, since they were people who were former ANC or PAC members, if they were not going to be used as state witnesses, they were used in the tracking units and you had as security police person to protect and hide their identity as much as possible? Would you agree with me that at the back of your mind that was what was in your head "I must not allow these askaris to be seen by these lawyers because they must be protected in terms of identity". Do you agree with that assessment?

MR BOOI: That is correct. We had to hide the askaris work. Generally nobody knew who the askaris were.

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Kamako?

MR KAMAKO: Colonel Booi, as a Commander of the anti-terrorist unit, can you tell us of all the operations carried out by that unit in Transkei and elsewhere. For instance the Mount Fletcher shooting of Mr Sipiwe Maswaai, Luthula Mbisana, Zokwe Namake?

MR BOOI: As I said, I was in the anti-terrorism unit. Sometimes I would hear of an incident after it occurred without stipulating anything I heard about the Lathula incident. They asked from assistance from Bizana. They had information of who was present in Bizana to help. There was an incident, I think



there were two men there - I remember such an incident, Blackhead went to Bizana. As Branch Commander, Major Safuma who was in Bizana - a Branch Commander of the specific area would attend to the case - I did not have to leave Umtata to go to distant areas. I would just get a report of what occurred wherever that was. I would then take the report in turn and give it to my Commanders. For example, in Butterworth, the Zonkwe incident, there was a battle or there was a man, Faswe, who was in charge in Butterworth. They would report to me and I in turn would report to my Commanders.

The Ntale incident, they left from Umtata, just moving around. I did not know that they were going to Ntale specifically, I knew that they were askaris. You would get a report then after the incident, whatever incident that is. That's how things worked.

MR KAMAKO: You would make a returned report after an incident has been reported to you?

MR BOOI: Whoever would be in charge in the specific area would verbally and also would right down a report telling me what happened and I would then in turn take the report to my Commander. A head of the C.I.D. would then delegate somebody to take over the case from the security department.

MR KAMAKO: Would you normally keep a copy for your own information?

MR BOOI: I did not keep copies, the report would be filed.

Each had, kept a copy - for example, as each person had their own file they would keep a copy - they would keep a record of the people.

MR KAMAKO: I understand you had a smaller unit consisting of Nombange, Wana and Dandala. Can you tell us in which operations these were involved?

MR BOOI: It was Nombange, Dandala and Wana - they worked with me. However, when they worked with the askaris, they would move separately. Nombange and Wana and Dandala were in the head office and the rest are no longer there.

MR KAMAKO: In which operations were these people involved, can you recall?

MR BOOI: The anti-terrorism operations. They were involved in all the security force incidents. I remember that Dandala was involved in the Ntale incident, the Atand Dwandondo incident.

He was with the askaris, if I'm not mistaken.

CHAIRPERSON: Blackhead was involved in the Lathula incident?

MR BOOI: Blackhead was involved in the Lathula incident.

CHAIRPERSON: And Gani?

MR BOOI: Gani was in Butterworth.

CHAIRPERSON: Which ones was Gani involved in?

MR BOOI: In the Atand Dwandondo incident and Stembilo Zokwe and Spambo.

CHAIRPERSON: Has he applied for amnesty, has Stembilo applied for amnesty according to your knowledge?

MR BOOI: As I'm no longer in the field, I don't even know who he is, he left a long time ago. He was not even in the Transkei when I retired from the police force.

CHAIRPERSON: Sipiwe Maswai's death in Mount Fletcher, who did you send amongst your people?

MR BOOI: I don't remember him at all, I don't remember Sipiwe Maswai, I don't remember who I sent either. Which year was that sir?

MR KAMAKO: 1988, Sipiwe Maswai is from Grahamstown, you know his sister from Kwezi? You kept on arresting her. I'm sure you know Sipiwe Maswai.

CHAIRPERSON: Brigadier Dengane knows exactly what happened, the sister to Sipiwe was working at Sales House in Umtata where they originally come from and there was a pitch battle, I mean he was eventually killed but he had - there was a pitch battle in the street at Mount Fletcher and I know that I was involved because I was trying to get you guys to release the body of this fellow who had died and who Brigadier Dengane ...[inaudible]

MR BOOI: I don't remember sending anybody in Mount Fletcher because there was a security force in Matadela. There was a security force also in Maluti, also in Mount Eliph - I don't remember sending anyone. I don't remember well.

MR KAMAKO: Were you people always working with the askaris or were there incidents where they acted alone? Did you really depend on the askaris to deal with the terrorists?

MR BOOI: We worked on our own, however what would happen is that if they'd arrested someone from abroad then there would be people who would come to our side, would come and help otherwise we worked on our own.

CHAIRPERSON: Do you remember a Minister Nsumu who passed away ...[inaudible]

MR BOOI: I was the Branch Commander in Port St Johns. I got a message that I should arrest him in Ntambalala at the shop with his girlfriend. I can an instruction from Neba that I should arrest him. I brought him to Umtata, left him in Umtata and I drove back to Port St Johns. I had played my part.

CHAIRPERSON: What's the truth about Nsumu's death, was he mistreated whilst he was in detention, did he die of natural causes? There were all sorts of stories that were going around.

MR BOOI: He drank a lot, you could see that he could not part with alcohol, he was not well. All I noticed is that he drank a lot. I don't know what happened in ...[inaudible] perhaps the

people that were interrogating mishandled him, but I could see that this man is not well, he drank too much. When I got there, Dengane was not there. I had to leave him at the branch in Umtata then the head office would say where he should be taken. I remember Dengane saying that this man is going to die, he's a drunk.

CHAIRPERSON: After how many days did he die in custody?

MR BOOI: I couldn't lie, I don't know. I was together with some policemen, Nyani and Zuma, there were three policemen. I just arrested him, left him in Umtata and I parted with him. I was shocked when I heard, perhaps after a week, that he'd died in the cell.

CHAIRPERSON: Is it not so that Mr Nsumu said that you must leave him behind he would go by himself to the police the next day?

MR BOOI: I don't remember. Even then, if somebody says that they will go to the police the next day, you can't leave him behind, you've got to arrest him and take him to the police station.

CHAIRPERSON: Do you remember, Mr Booi, that you pretended to cry saying that, Mr Booi, please let's go - pleading with him? He then said he should go with you anyway to his wife because you were crying.

MR BOOI: I don't remember but I remember I felt for him but I had to do my job.

CHAIRPERSON: Now, when you say you don't remember, you're saying you could have pretended to be crying except that you don't remember it now or are you saying it never happened?

MR BOOI: I never began to cry. Perhaps he just noticed that I seemed to feel for him.

CHAIRPERSON: I'm afraid I have to go and check out at the hotel that I'm booked at because I'm checking out. If we can adjourn now and then we'll return. How much longer do you think we'll - I would suggest that we adjourn for lunch now and then we'll return at quarter to two so that we should wrap up for about 30 to an hour thereafter but I had indicated to those people that I would check out at one o'clock and don't want them to levy a further fee. Let us adjourn for lunch to return at quarter to two for two o'clock.

COMMITTEE ADJOURNS

ON RESUMPTION

CHAIRPERSON: This is a resumption of the Section 29 enquiry. Colonel Booi, you are reminded that you are still under oath. Mr Kamako?

MR KAMAKO: Colonel Booi, how many anti-terrorist units did you have in Transkei?

MR BOOI: [inaudible]



MR KAMAKO: And how many members did you have in that one unit?

MR BOOI: The ones I'd already referred to - Wana, Blackhead and Dendane and the branches of the security there were yet other people for example Butterworth, Bizana and Sterkspruit they were all doing the same job. I was at head office.

MR KAMAKO: Are you counting the security branches in other places as part of your anti-terrorist unit?

MR BOOI: Correct.

MR KAMAKO: At some point you mentioned that there were instances where you operated on your own without the askaris, can you quote any instances where you had some successes, kind of arrests or killing that you engaged in on your own without the askaris?

MR BOOI: Some others who would arrest suspects that the askaris would point out.

MR MAKWAGESA: Colonel Booi, I want to ask you about something different from what my colleague has asked you.

Colonel Booi do you remember in 1988 on the 30th July...[intervention]

CHAIRPERSON: There's interference in our ears. Can we take an adjournment and give Ian a chance to look at this.

COMMITTEE ADJOURNS

ON RESUMPTION

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Makwagesa?

MR MAKWAGESA: Thank you Mr Chair.

Mr Booi, do you still remember the attack that took place at Madeira Police Station in Umtata in 1988?

MR BOOI: I do remember but this did not take place in 1988.

MR MAKWAGESA: In your opinion, what year was it?

MR BOOI: 1985 or 1986.

MR MAKWAGESA: I agree with you Mr Booi, it must have been - it was in fact 1986. What happened in the attack?

MR BOOI: I don't know because I wasn't there. I was told that some police were shot, I was not in Umtata at the time.

MR MAKWAGESA: How many police were killed in the attack?

MR BOOI: Four or Five.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you remember that one guy from the side of the attackers was injured in the same incident?

MR BOOI: I can't say I remember because I wasn't there, I just heard. I heard that somebody was injured who was not a member of the police force.

MR MAKWAGESA: The matter was investigated, isn't that so?

MR BOOI: I don't know very well because we were not investigating the matter, I trust that it was fully investigated.

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you remember who was actually in charge of the investigations of that case?

MR BOOI: The murder side?

MR MAKWAGESA: No, Mr Booi, on the security side of the case.

MR BOOI: It was Dengane, I was helping Brigadier Dengane.

MR MAKWAGESA: Would it be correct to say that Brigadier Dengane gave you instructions to head the investigations in that particular case?

MR BOOI: No, I wouldn't agree with that because I did not head a case, I disagree with you.

MR MAKWAGESA: Are you aware that the guy on the side of the attackers who died in the attack was buried at Nadu Forest?

MR BOOI: I heard from a white man, Wakeling, - he said that somebody was buried in the forest.

MR MAKWAGESA: Was the body of the remains exhumed?

MR BOOI: ...[inaudible]

CHAIRPERSON: Perhaps before you go on, Mr Makwagesa, just tell me what was the involvement of Wakeling and how was he involved and how did he know of what had happened to this person?

MR BOOI: In our investigation, Wakeling was arrested and he said there were people who would be in their offices in Owen Street - they were training there but he did not know them. The reason for his arrest was that there was information that one night there was a spade and he borrowed a spade in that yard - that is

why he was arrested because he told that this person was buried in that forest, that is why he was arrested.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you as well explain what was the involvement of Tapscort in this case?

MR BOOI: Please remind me who Tapscort is?

MR MAKWAGESA: Chris Tapscort was lecturer at the University of Transkei at the time.

MR BOOI: Wakeling said to me that a professor at UNITRA knew about these people. He heard that Wakeling had been arrested therefore he ran away. We were then not able to arrest the professor.

MR MAKWAGESA: What happened to the body after it was exhumed from the Nadu Forest?

MR BOOI: I met this body in the branch, I did not go there when they were exhuming this.

MR MAKWAGESA: Colonel Booi, are you listening? What happened to the remains after they were exhumed from the Nadu Forest?

MR BOOI: The remains that were exhumed was taken to the mortuary at the Umtata General Hospital.

MR MAKWAGESA: What happened thereafter?

MR BOOI: I have no knowledge because the person, who is not known, I assume that the man was buried by the hospital.

MR MAKWAGESA: Is it not normal that since this was a security related case then you security guards would be required to give authority to the hospital to bury the body since you were still conducting some investigations about it?

MR BOOI: It was the first time I came across such a case. It was probably the man - the people that were working prior to me that knew of such.

MR MAKWAGESA: Colonel Booi, you are a Lieutenant Colonel in the Transkei Police, are you not aware that if the case dealt with security matters and the person in the process died, that person wouldn't just be buried by the hospital, the security branch would have to give an authority for the burial of that body. Are you not aware of that fact?

MR BOOI: No, I don't know about this because I had never dealt with such a matter before.

MR MAKWAGESA: Were you not working closely with the investigation in this matter?

MR BOOI: Correct.

MR MAKWAGESA: Who was in charge of investigations of this matter, Mr Booi?

MR BOOI: Brigadier Dengane.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you repeat yourself?

MR BOOI: It was Brigadier Dengane.

MR MAKWAGESA: Mr Booi, I happened to investigate this case and I spoke to Brigadier Dengane and he has told me in no uncertain terms that you were the officer who was in charge of investigations and you should know better where the body of this person is buried.

MR BOOI: He's mistaken because I also met with him and told him that it is not so.

MR MAKWAGESA: Who was the head of the security at the time in 1986 in Transkei?

MR BOOI: I think it was General Gauwe.

MR MAKWAGESA: Again, I spoke to General Gauwe and Dengane and he said that you are the person who was dealing directly with this case, you were the investigating officer in charge of investigations so you should know better about this case.

MR BOOI: Unfortunately sir, all the dockets have been destroyed or are no longer there. If you check the docket you would see on record who was responsible for this. I was part of the case, investigating, arresting, helping him.

MR MAKWAGESA: Colonel Booi, this was a case which involved terrorists and you were heading a unit which was actually dealing with anti-terrorism in Transkei?

MR BOOI: Correct, I don't deny that.

MR MAKWAGESA: There were times when sometimes our commanders would take over the case it's intricate, if it's a complex case then our commanders would take over because we were working together.

MR MAKWAGESA: Where was the office, was it in Norwood or was it in Borstal?

MR BOOI: Norwood.

MR MAKWAGESA: Who was leading the investigation which led to the exhumation itself?

MR BOOI: Brigadier Dengane.

MR MAKWAGESA: Again?

MR BOOI: Brigadier Dengane.

MR MAKWAGESA: What was the role of your unit in this particular case?

MR BOOI: ... [inaudible]

MR MAKWAGESA: What was its role, what was the role of your unit in this particular case?

MR BOOI: The information that led to Wakeling was from our unit.

MR MAKWAGESA: Who in the unit brought the information to your attention, Mr Booi?

MR BOOI: My informer gave me the information.

MR MAKWAGESA: For the purpose of this investigation, the name of that informer, Colonel Booi?

MR BOOI: I can't remember who he was. He was not on anybody's payroll, he just trusted me.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you tell us the circumstances surrounding which your informer was able to have access to the information, to that information that the body was buried in Nadu?

MR BOOI: He did not give me the information that the body was buried in Nadu, he just told me - it was Wakeling who told me that these tools were going to be used at the forest.

MR MAKWAGESA: I mean in your mind what was the connection between Peter Wakeling, the use of shovels and forks and picks at the Nadu Forest, I mean to me it doesn't make sense, how did you connect - how did you put together the whole facts such that - I mean they make sense in such a manner that they led to you getting where the body was buried?

MR BOOI: It was because we knew that there were strangers who kept on going to the office - Wakelings office.

MR MAKWAGESA: Could it happen that the informer was inside where Peter Wakelings office?

MR BOOI: It could happen that way.

MR MAKWAGESA: Mr Booi, would it be possible for just an ordinary visitor to the office to know that at a particular time and date, Peter Wakeling did use his picks and shovels to dig in the second forest?



MR BOOI: Somebody could borrow it to - perhaps I mean it didn't occur to the person what the tool was going to be used for.

MR MAKWAGESA: Did your source overhear Wakeling actually borrowing somebody else the shovels?

MR BOOI: In the evening, early evening, after sunset.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can I repeat the question. Could it happen that the informer, your source, was inside Peter Wakeling's office?

MR BOOI: Please repeat your question.

MR MAKWAGESA: I'm asking you, Colonel Booi, how possible is it or that it is highly likely that the informer was inside Peter Wakeling's office?

MR BOOI: Before I answer you, let me ask, are you saying that this man was inside Peter Wakeling's office when this was said or was working there?

MR MAKWAGESA: I put it to you, Mr Booi, that it was somebody who was working together with Peter Wakeling in the same office.

MR BOOI: No, that man did not work with Wakeling, he was just around there, he was not working there as such. Perhaps he was cleaning there.

MR MAKWAGESA: If you cannot remember the name of the source or the informer, how possible is it for you to say clearly that the person was not working inside Peter Wakeling's office?

MR BOOI: This is what I'm saying, this man was around there, I can't say he was working there, he was just around there, he was a messenger.

MR MAKWAGESA: If you can remember, Mr Booi, that the person was working within the surrounding of the office, whether he was a cleaner or he was somebody, a postman, it is possible that you must know the identity of the person. Who was the person, Colonel Booi?

MR BOOI: I know this man but I can't remember his name, I don't even see him around however, I could identify him. I know him, I could identify him, it's just his name that I don't remember.

It's been years since I saw him. After I left the security police, I never saw him again. I don't know where he is now or if he's still alive.

MR MAKWAGESA: But you still believe that you can see, given the chance, that you trace the person, you can trace and identify the person?

MR BOOI: I could give you the name, if I did get it. If I could trace him down, I would give you those details, I wouldn't hide it.

MR MAKWAGESA: Mr Booi, is it not funny that you being then the commander of the anti-terrorist unit, a terrorist act happened in Umtata, Madeira Police Station. Somebody died from the side of the attackers, he was buried, he was exhumed, you say that the body was taken to that hospital, yet you are telling us that you

cannot remember what happened, what was the end result of - what happened to the body after it was taken to hospital?

MR BOOI: I don't want to lie and say I know, I truly don't know, I'm telling the truth. I don't know what happened to that man's body because he was not known. The procedure there is such that if the person is not known, there's an inquest docket that is opened. If there is no next of kin, the Government would then bury the person.

MR MAKWAGESA: Where you aware that cadres attacked the police station?

MR BOOI: Well I suspected that it was them that attacked the police station.

MR MAKWAGESA: Did it not raise some interest to you when somebody from the police station was killed and then he was buried somewhere, did it not raise some interest as somebody who was dealing with anti-terrorism?

MR BOOI: I was interested in finding out who it was that was being buried, as there was somebody who was injured and not know.

MR MAKWAGESA: But all of a sudden you never cared when that person was buried, you never cared that that person should be identified so that you show that this was one of the attackers and this person was a cadre?

MR BOOI: No, I was not interested.

MR MAKWAGESA: Why didn't you have some interest?

MR BOOI: He was unknown, nobody knew who he was or where he was from.

MR MAKWAGESA: You were not interested in this particular person getting identified?

MR BOOI: Who would point him out sir, because when we were there, the body was already injured, nobody could identify the face. Who would who he was?

MR KAMAKO: That you found the body decomposed and you couldn't recognise the face - was it the reason you dumped it at the hospital so to speak?

MR BOOI: I thought that somebody would come and clean the body because this was during the time of the curfew - a lot of people would come for a permit, I thought that somebody would report that somebody is missing in their family. This is why I thought this body should be taken to the mortuary at the hospital.

MR KAMAKO: Wasn't that information of interest to you to know that somebody would have identified the body to make a follow up?

MR BOOI: We could investigate if somebody knew but I do remember that nobody came to identify the body at the hospital.

MR MAKWAGESA: You must have kept your fingers on the pulse of the case for some time, how long did you do that?

MR BOOI: We tried for a while to find out who the attackers were. It took quite a while, I even left the security branch without any findings.

CHAIRPERSON: You see, I think the problem that I have is - if you - I mean you got information from Wakeling after you had arrested him, that the person had been buried, you must have then known at that stage that he was one of the people who attacked at the police station, was it not? Did you not?

MR BOOI: Yes, I did think so.

CHAIRPERSON: Now did he tell you what his name is - Solly Bresande?

MR BOOI: No, I heard of Solly, he did not say Bresande.

CHAIRPERSON: Now didn't you call people from East London for instance who had these files and photographs of people who they suspected to be ANC or even askaris to establish whether they did not know a person called Solly?

MR BOOI: I think that it took a while for someone to say that the deceased was Solly Bresande. A long while after he was exhumed we then knew that he was a member of MK. It took a long while.

CHAIRPERSON: Now was Matike Zele ever involved with this case?

MR BOOI: Yes, Matike Zele and Umfunfase.

CHAIRPERSON: You see, let me tell you why we are keen to have some solution to this case, you are aware that all these people who were killed in battle between the security forces and the members of the liberation movement. Some of them were buried secretly, some of them were buried as paupers and their families were never really told what had happened to their own and we have now people who have come and they are from Cape Town, who have told us exactly where and how this thing took place because they came to hear about it and part of the whole reason that we are having this enquiry is to endeavour to find - not so much because we want to, I mean, this is one case where the police did not, had nothing to do with the death of Bresande or of Talla Kumende, his real name but his relatives are very keen that he should be able to bring his remains so that they can give him a decent burial. So if you can think of anybody at all whom might be able to assist. Where is Matike Zele now, do you know where he is?

MR BOOI: He is here in East London. He stopped working.

CHAIRPERSON: Does he live here?

MR BOOI: Yes, he is working here, he's got a smallholding.

CHAIRPERSON: Do you think he might be able to assist because we are really keen now to exhume those bones and then send them to Cape Town for reburial.

MR BOOI: I think that his information will also go as far as the hospital. I said to Mr Makwagesa that perhaps he should ask Doctor Mtinkulo to find out who performed that post mortem then we'd know from the post mortem attended, who would give us direction according to the records. However, I don't know what Mr Matike's findings were. This is why I said you must speak to Doctor Mtinkulo, maybe he would know who the District Surgeon at the time was.

CHAIRPERSON: Ja, we'll possibly look into that, you see the other thing is there were also these foreign doctors from Ghana and Uganda and what have you, may well be that but be that as it may, we will follow that up but you see there's the other thing that Mr Makwagesa asked and that was whether it was possible for a reburial of that nature to have taken place without authorisation from the police. See, I can understand that the body may have been exhumed, then it was taken to the mortuary for identification of whatever since you as say there were people who had gone there, you know, to ask for permits and what have you and you wanted to be sure that the person who died there was not a civilian who may have been crossing at the crossfire. But, you see our problem is how do we now determine, how do we answer to ourselves the question as to how it could have been possible for him to have been reburied without the police having been involved in it?

MR BOOI: If, sir, I don't know which police took the person there, if the hospital had contacted me for the burial of this person, they would say so. Perhaps one of my commanders has a knowledge of this. However, if somebody is not known or cannot be identified in the hospital, they bury him.

CHAIRPERSON: And you would say if there are records in the hospital, then it should be able to trace if he was, how he was buried - are you saying the hospital records should be able to tell us?

MR BOOI: There should be records there, yes the record would say, it doesn't matter when the person is buried, the date would be there.

MR MAKWAGESA: Yes, thank you Chair.

Mr Booi, what would you say if I've got witnesses who can testify that you were present when the body was exhumed?

MR BOOI: I would dispute that. I was only there the first day where we did not find them. On the second day I was not there.

MR MAKWAGESA: What would you say if the same witness would say that there were askaris at the time that the body was exhumed. Who identified the person, the dead body, as that of Talle Kumende?

MR BOOI: I missed that, I'm sure, however there were askaris, I don't know who called them, we could not find the body the first time we went or the first day thereof, there were weeds. The



next day they then brought dogs who could trace the body. I was not there on the second day. I just came across the body when he was at the branch.

MR MAKWAGESA: Who did you meet at the branch, security branch?

MR BOOI: I'm talking about the body. The police were there who had gone to exhume the body.

MR MAKWAGESA: But was this body not bad, badly decomposed at this stage?

MR BOOI: It was decomposed in a plastic bag, it stank.

MR MAKWAGESA: But why did you have to take it to the security branch instead of straight to hospital?

MR BOOI: I was not there sir. When they fetched the body from the forest, I wasn't there.

MR MAKWAGESA: But you never questioned why the body was kept in the security police offices?

MR BOOI: It was outside, not in the office.

MR MAKWAGESA: From there where did they take the body after that?

MR BOOI: To the hospital, at the mortuary there. I don't know which police took the body there but they took the body to the hospital.

MR MAKWAGESA: What makes you sure it was taken to hospital?

MR BOOI: Because that's what I heard. Dengane also said that this body was taken to the mortuary.

MR MAKWAGESA: Can you be sure that the body was taken to the hospital?

MR BOOI: If there are no records perhaps that is not so. If there are no records referring to such perhaps truly the body was not taken to the hospital.

MR MAKWAGESA: I said to you some time ago that I am personally involved in this case, that I've been following all the leads. I've been to hospital on several occasions, I've spoken to you on several occasions. You kept on saying I must come back, perhaps you are going to remember some of the things but you never remembered anything and I went to hospital on several occasions, I looked at the records and nothing appeared and the doctor who examined the dead body was a foreign doctor, could have been a Ghanaian or could have been an Ugandan doctor.

MR BOOI: It is surprising that there were no records. There were a lot of policemen there, I don't know which police took the body. I assumed that the body was taken to the mortuary, I did not go and confirm that.

MR MAKWAGESA: When you saw the body at the security police offices, you were told or you were showed that this was the dead body of the person who was involved in the shoot-out with the police at Madeira Police Station?

MR BOOI: I was told that that was the body that was exhumed from the forest.

MR MAKWAGESA: The very body that was actually pointed out by Peter Wakeling, isn't that so?

MR BOOI: Correct.

MR MAKWAGESA: And you knew from your informer that the body was buried on the same day that there was a shoot-out at the police station?

MR BOOI: No, it is not so. Let me put it this way, sir, when there was the shooting at the charge office, I was not in Umtata. I think I came back to Umtata about three days after the incident.

MR MAKWAGESA: But you were interested, you know, in what your informer said that Peter Wakeling used his shovels and picks at a certain forest which we now know is Nadu Forest and somebody is actually exhumed from the same area where your informer showed you or pointed out to you. But it looks like you lose interest?

MR BOOI: Listen carefully, sir. The matter concerning the informer goes as far as the shovel and the pick, it has nothing to do with the forest. Wakeling told us that a body was taken from Gungululu in a 4x4. This body was fetched from a rural area to the forest, it was in Gungululu.

MR MAKWAGESA: How did the body get to Gungululu?

MR BOOI: There was no one at the house.

MR MAKWAGESA: Did no Nogumala ever come to you and ask you about this body after he came from exile?

MR BOOI: I haven't seen him. It is Dengane who met him. I did not meet him.

MR MAKWAGESA: So did you establish that it was Nogumala that had taken the body to Gungululu?

MR BOOI: Yes, the body was taken to Gungululu. We found out that it was dropped at Nogumala.

MR MAKWAGESA: Now what was the involvement of Dabula if any at all, the medical doctor?

MR BOOI: I couldn't be sure because maybe he was treated by him. There was cotton wool that was on his right hand side amongst his ribs, there was cotton wool that was stuffed in there.

MR MAKWAGESA: But was Dabula interrogated in relation to that incident because he was also arrested and detained around that time?

MR BOOI: I arrested Doctor Dabula a number of times and interrogated him a number of times. I couldn't be sure whether he was arrested at that particular time. You could never ask Doctor Dabula about something that you were not sure of, you had to ask him of something he knew.

MR KAMAKO: Mr Booi, this is an enigma, I spoken to a number of people, they all say that you must be the person who was in

charge of the investigation in this matter. Do you deny that you were in charge of the investigation?

MR BOOI: I worked together with Dengane investigating this matter. If you cannot get a docket, I would report to Dengane all the time. Dengane was in the office compiling dockets, I was in the field. There was a thick docket there.

MR KAMAKO: Do you know what happened to the records ..[inaudible] security, where is the - is it when Holomisa came in or is it when 1994 came in because things seemed to have disappeared and who would know? When you left in 1990, who replaced you?

MR BOOI: Mabiso was already at Head Office, that man was across, Vaso's at Head Office, who passed away. I tried as Makwagesa came to me, I went to them, I asked for the docket. Perhaps I could be enlightened also about the cops. Dabisa was in charge at the security at that time, he said he knew nothing about it. I couldn't exactly walk in and try to find the docket. I left, when I resigned, I left everything behind. Colonel Dabisa is in charge at the moment. I think he's in Bizana.

MR KAMAKO: Can I ask, did they destroy everything, no personal file of the person, no police file of the person, nothing, everything was just destroyed on the instructions of this General who died, who was shot and killed? That's what they say, I don't

know whether they say so because Umbulaway is no more, I don't know.

MR BOOI: I can't dispute anything.

CHAIRPERSON: Now I think now, I would like to know, do you know this case - did you ever enquire from Colonel Booi about the case of KK and your brother?

MR MAKWAGESA: No Chairperson, I never enquired about that because it is a matter that will involve me deeply because my brother was killed.

CHAIRPERSON: He was killed in Lesotho?

He was killed Lesotho, perhaps Colonel Booi would be in a position to know who did it but I felt I must not ask it from him.

CHAIRPERSON: Let me ask it.

Colonel Booi, there's the case of KK and Makwagesa, you recall? It had I think - it started around Willowvale if I remember. What happened there?

MR BOOI: According to what I know, they were not found at Willowvale - we knew that Makwagesa was there but I don't know about the second person. When I got there - at the shop the previous night they had already looked for him. Then by the river, they tried to find them but they didn't. Colonel Kope was there at Lugwayso. When he was shot at the arm, I found him like that. They were exposed therefore he got shot at. I got that the following day when they were looking for them by the river.

We gave up after that. I went to Sterkspruit, I arrested Dugard there by the bottle store - no sorry - I got there after he'd left with Thebe. I arrested the late Doctor Nombe. It's the last time I dealt with Makwagesa. We then heard that he was shot in Lesotho at home. I then thought that it was the Boers that got him.

MR MAKWAGESA: Eugene de Kock, did you ever know him at all?

MR BOOI: No, I only know Cronje from Botesdal.

MR MAKWAGESA: Jack Cronje?

MR BOOI: ...[inaudible]

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you know who Amasam is?

MR BOOI: ...[inaudible]

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you know Van Wyk?

MR BOOI: Yes.

MR MAKWAGESA: Have you worked with them?

MR BOOI: Yes.

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you know where the body of R.C. is buried, R.C. is the guy who died at Enobo, apparently he died in a bomb - not a bomb attack but he was going with Booi's son, Booi who was the Minister. Do you know where the body is buried?

MR BOOI: No.

MR MAKWAGESA: Who would know, how is it possible - Dengane doesn't know also?

MR BOOI: I think the body was kept in Enobo, the police who there is Dada from Sterkspruit, Sergeant Dada. They were the security police at the time. When I got there, there was nothing, we had to go there and arrest the boers who were there trying to trace this person.

MR MAKWAGESA: So it is possible that the body is buried at Enobo Cemetery?

MR BOOI: ...[inaudible]

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you know where the body of Wenduna who died in Sterkspruit is buried?

MR BOOI: Sinyanya would be the person to tell you this because he was a security police there. I don't know whether he's in Aliwal North or where but he is still a policeman. He was born in Sterkspruit so he would be the one who would tell you.

MR MAKWAGESA: Do you know how Wenduna died, can you just relate the story briefly?

MR BOOI: There was an attack with the police, the police was trying to arrest but he got away. Apparently he got help from the South African Police in Aliwal North, Sinyanya would know better.

MR MAKWAGESA: What is Sinyanya's rank now?

MR BOOI: He probably would be a Superintendent, Senior Superintendent, not above that.

MR MAKWAGESA: Where did you say he was based?



MR BOOI: He's originally from Sterkspruit.

MR MAKWAGESA: Thank you Mr Chair, I don't have any more questions.

CHAIRPERSON: Mr Kamako?

MR KAMAKO: I'm puzzling over the fact that you left the body at the hospital and that's the last you know of it. Is there any possibility that as the police, would have buried somewhere, that of Solly? Taking into account the fact that you brought it to the police station at the branch you said and I mean it was decomposed and I don't know what medical purposes would it - I mean any medical expertise you would find at the police station?

MR BOOI: He was not taken to the police station, sir, it was just an office outside town. If they did not take the body to the hospital, I don't know, perhaps they did that and never told me. I just assumed that the body was taken to the mortuary at the hospital as he was unidentified. It's just the way I thought.

Because the body was not claimed, the government then must have buried him.

MR KAMAKO: Megalane Kopman?

MR BOOI: The name sounds familiar, I just trying to remember where he was from.

MR KAMAKO: Yes he originally came from ...[inaudible]

MR BOOI: Yes that is so.

MR KAMAKO: Light in complexion?

MR BOOI: Yes.

MR KAMAKO: Do you know the guy who was arrested with him in Butterworth? He was not alone when he was arrested in Butterworth. Do you know the guy who he was arrested with?

MR BOOI: I cannot remember. I remember Kopman because he looked coloured.

MR KAMAKO: So you don't know when Magelane Kopman was arrested?

MR BOOI: When I met him he was already in custody. I met him at the offices of the security branch. They could arrest somebody from Butterworth and I'd have to go and listen to him because maybe he would divulge something that would be helpful to me.

MR KAMAKO: So you visited Butterworth after Magelane and you interrogated him. So for sure you were aware that he was not arrested alone?

MR BOOI: This is what I'm saying, sir, I cannot remember who it was that he was arrested with, I just remember that it was someone who was light in complexion. I can't dispute that.

MR KAMAKO: And the last question, Mr Chair, is - was the body taken by the security police from where it was exhumed, the body of Dula Gumede or by the uniformed branch to the offices of the security police at Norwood?

MR BOOI: I don't know because I did not see a member of the uniformed branch.

MR KAMAKO: The body was partly decomposed, is that so?

MR BOOI: Very much so, it was completely decomposed.

MR KAMAKO: Okay thanks. Thank you Mr Chairman.

CHAIRPERSON: Well, I think it remains for me to thank you Colonel Booi, firstly for having come and secondly for having endeavoured to reply to questions as best as you can.

As I indicated at the beginning of the proceedings today, you are not on trial, we would hope you should understand that.

The answers which you give are to seeking to assist us to get a picture of what happened so that we can write the story of this, can any way promote reconciliation and make sure that your children and my children will not have to live in a society where the things that happened in the past on both sides, happened in a manner in which they did.

For the moment, as far as I understand, you will be excused because we have no further questions to put to you but let me ask you as a favour to us, should you remember anything at all that might assist us, you should contact Mr Makwagesa because we have been asked constantly by the relatives of China Ala Kumende who is Solly as you knew him and especially now that we are doing exhumations everywhere all around the country, the pressure is very huge on us to come up with something. We want

to be able to say to them we have tried our best and our best would be our best and therefore we are making a very, very strong appeal to you. If you are able to get into contact with any of the people who might have involved - or if you can think of somebody who might have some light to shed as to the whereabouts of Talla Kumende, then you should phone Mr Makwagesa and we'll take it from there.

As for the moment, these proceedings are adjourned and you are excused.

COMMITTEE ADJOURNS