

AL3123 - An Interview with Adriaan Vlok by Bernard Spong

Call Number: AL3123

Title: An Interview with Adriaan Vlok by Bernard Spong

SubTitle:

Creator: Inventory prepared by Ethel Kriger, September 2004

Origination: Inclusive Dates: Bulk Dates:

Extent: 1 audio recording

Language: English

Acquisition: Accession Number: none

Access Restrictions: This collection is open for research

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Abstract: An interview by Bernard Spong with the apartheid Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, the

only member of the Apartheid Cabinet to apply for Amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). Vlok applied for amnesty for the bombings of the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Congress of South African Trade Union as well as

commercial cinemas that showed the film "Cry Freedom", a film that portrayed slain Black

Consciousness leader, Steve Biko.

Introduction

The collection comprises one item, namely an interview with the apartheid Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, the only member of the Apartheid Cabinet to apply for Amnesty from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). Vlok applied for amnesty for the bombings of the headquarters of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), the Congress of South African Trade Union as well as commercial cinemas that showed the film "Cry Freedom", a film that portrayed slain Black Consciousness leader, Steve Biko.

In the interview Vlok explains the religious and theological motivation for his amnesty application. He also makes reference to the fact that in his amnesty application he had presented under oath evidence of unlawful activities by the apartheid state.

Bernard Spong, who conducted the Vlok interview, established the Interchurch Media Programme, a media training and alternative media organisation alongside the SACC. From 1991 to 1997 Spong was Head of Communications for the SACC. In 2000 Spong conducted interviews for a now published book "Religion and Reconciliation in South Africa", which he co-edited. The Vlok interview was not included in the book and Spong made the transcript of the interview available for inclusion in the Directory of TRC Archival Resources.

Notes

The TRC Archival Audit

Between 2003 and 2006, SAHA and Historical Papers, University of Witwatersrand embarked on a project to locate, retrieve and make available records relating to the South African Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC). The project entailed conducting an archival audit of all existing TRC records in order to identify and locate documentation in danger of being lost.



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In the process of conducting the archival audit, SAHA and HP located many collections from individuals and organizations that participated in the TRC process, including this collection. Selections from these materials as well as TRC related material found in the freedom of Information Collection and other pre-existing SAHA and HP collections, were digitized and can be accessed online at http://truth.wwl.wits.ac.za/

A guide to archival resources relating to South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission can also be found at http://www.saha.org.za/pdf/trc_directory.pdf

Inventory

- 1.1: Audio Compact Disc with Interview with Adriaan Vlok: Track 1:45:22min [no date]
- 1.2: Audio Compact Disc with Interview with Adriaan Vlok: Track 2:32:56 [no date]
- 1.3: Audio Tape with Interview with Adriaan Vlok [no date]