

Second Tape you sent Magnus to replace the Vigne tape that broke:

This is the second side of that tape. I checked what I had transcribed from the first tape with this and so can now proceed with the second side of the tape.

Hope this makes sense:

Interview with Randolph Vigne:

V: I think when accepted, there was no point in our group favouring the ANC or PAC. And I don't think that I thought at that stage I had been rather set back by the total failure (you know PAC always had this big talk) about one lot go to prison and the next lot step into their shoes and the next lot And it just didn't happen. Riddled with informers, not only a lot of people were tortured but it was a real mess.

MG: And then you go on to say there was still some sense of some sensible leadership developing inside the country, okay. That clears it up, in other words ..

V: No, that comes into the story of the group that the African Leaders Group, what do they call them, I put it in the Liberal Party, Jordan Gubani was supposed to be the chap and he and Phil Bangu went to meetings in Joberg when Tip Holmes and Ken Hendricks went up and Hendricks said "we're Africans" and they said "please leave".

MG: There was that famous meeting that was the preparatory meeting where Mandela

V: No, no no that was ANC

MG: But I thought that Jordan and a couple of others were on the preparatory meeting as was a PAC person and then they left because they felt that again the Communist was manipulated.

V: Exactly. After the collapse of that '61 strike. The PAC were in that group. They eventually withdrew.

MG: I think it was Adrian Goldbourne who may have been

V: No it was somebody else. Vincent Mikiso

MG: Now moving on...

You go on about the Pragers and you used to argue a lot about the need for Socialist Program and then I say but those ordinates would have taken place at National level rather than the cell and then you say "no, no, the cells would" and then the tape goes

V: Yes, the idea was we wanted all discussion of this you know.

MG: Then there was quite a lot of ideological discussion went on from time to time.

V: I remember long meetings with Loretta and Fred in Cape Town actually in which they were pushing for this. And I was saying "well it's no good you and I or you two, you and your social friends.... Where Fred of course was Liberal Party. Pulling together, it's got to be canvassed generally.

Except I didn't want us to be in a straight jacket.

MG: Yes, an Ideological Straight Jacket.

V: But it may have been partly genuine, partly avoiding having to try ourselves.

MG: And then developing splits and all that kind of stuff.

V: It served the ANC well to call itself a (899 _____) that served everybody.

MG: And so, your assumption was that certainly the smaller elements, the cells could have easily gotten into those discussions.

V: Yes.

MG: It is quite interesting where you say that "basically the African Freedom Movement would have been the mass organization"

V: Until as you say in the chapter, "we found they had melted away".

MG: I think I will leave this one, but the point was that we knew the money was there and the expectation was there but we kept writing and saying...

I suppose we kept saying "give us some of it"

V: Yes, we need

MG: This bloody boat and aircraft none of which we have any say in whatever.

It was a plaything for Lang.

V: Yes. It's extraordinary how tolerant the Burnhams were of this.

The Burhams never check Lang.

MG: No, they liked him.

V: They liked him very much.

MG: Monty says, people can say what they like about Lang, but he always came through for me and he must have given him some support. He gave him the passport of which he lost. Monty had a great admiration for Lang, which we all did. I mean it was hard to dislike John. He was an enormously common guy. Neville told the story about Lang when you went to meet him. I don't think it ever happened to me.....

"You get in a cab with him, and you say goodbye John, nice to see you" and then he would hand you these, you know the way the Banks roll up two and six pences you know these little paper and then he would give you 20 or 25 pounds or two and six pence. Here maybe this will help you a little bit with your expenses.

V: Yes, he had various ways, but I hadn't heard that one.

MG: John Schingler I think remembers that one as well.

This is very clear actually. In the Tristar, one was in fact in the process of identifying the sort of people..... and then it was unclear

But the sort of people who could help us do the mass base, perhaps even help us join the underground.

MG: I was asking about the Transky and you said.

V: Who could mobilize and organize the aspect.

MG: I think we could leave this. You make some comments that are not quite clear About Sandy Majeke , I can find that tribe.

Here we are: Unfortunately too much of the Transky stuff was at the Chief level because it was always felt, because that's how the Transky is, it was felt Chief Sandy Majeke of _____ would bring his people across. Majeke of the Pingo's whatever.

V: No, Majeke.

MG: It's not a big thing.

But he just wanted to be a voice against (945)_____ authorities and also make quite sure that Devidanelle didn't sack him. A lot of hard work, wasted a lot of time Forget about ...

V: He was a Headman not a Chief. The Head of the Mageja family Sandy, was also named Sandy.

But there was Chief Sandy Majeke.

He is the fellow I'm thinking of and were they in Pondomesa or I remember having a long meeting with someone, to the north. Yes, it was Sandy Mejeke and I am pretty sure it was in Pondomise, he's quite a prominent guy in the Bunga you know. And he liked to talk about these bastards and all... But they got there money for there pay you know.

MG: Yes, they were in tricky situations themselves weren't they?

It was hard, for old Sabbata.

V: Well, you know he stuck his neck way out.

MG: Yes, but he was brave. Too bad, the ANC didn't take to him when he went up to the south of.....

V: Who was it told you or somebody told you that --- Neville what's his name Shire no " who read the book about capital killing" He was an ANC, MP.

MG: Yes, I know. (sounds like) Perara Peers.

V: Hilmar... He and I

MG: Oh! he was in the LP, Hilmar was, wasn't he.

V: Yes, he was Jan (sounds like) Logs, girlfriend. She was a large dyed blonde cochney lady, set up in a level flat at sea point with this young fellow Hilmar.

MG: He was coloured I assume.

V: Yes. Sitting waiting at _____ Neck to get into (974)_____ Zutu
And he started talking about Balaclove helmets and all that sort of things. And I said look I don't know, but you shouldn't talk about it.

MG: Oh! he was implying that you would know. You obviously didn't give people any hint that you were involved.

V: No, he was talking as if he was involved in this thing you know.

MG: That's the way Hamilton Mageja gets a lot of his stuff from compression.
Did that surprise you that compression.

V: Absolutely amazed me. All these guys taking all these guns.

MG: Poor old Mageja, they had him by the short and curleys because he was on a biggame charge. I don't know whether you knew that or not.

V: He was a bit of a rogue. He got fired from his teaching job in the Transky earlier.

MG: Then we talked a little bit Randolph about money raising. You mention this Trotsky that came from Italy. Nothing came from that and then I mentioned that

I had done some stuff in the States. Actually there a footnote on it. You advised me against it.... But I put it in.

V: No, no put it in. I just thought that there were so many other stories that weren't in, but on the other hand I can't think what they were.

MG: So funds essentially apart from the stuff that Lang was spending on boats and on a plane that was taking people out of Swaziland (tape unclear – never happened) I think probably what never happened was Lange ever using this plane.

V: Yes.

MG: You say, nurses were taken out by bus.

V: Yes.

MG: There is one section that I wanted to ask you.

This may not be possible..... “Used to run around.. dash – dash – boxes and collect letters and they were absolutely safe you know. And I say: “so amazing, you didn't even have to sign, you could sign a false name without giving an identification, presumably”. They didn't even ask for authorization or something? “That's right, nothing like that, you could say your name is Joe”

V: I think all I'm saying is arising out of the thing about Myrtle. Myrtle used to write long, long detailed letters about what was happening to a box number. I think it was in Mullberry (?)

MG: Oh! she used to write quite a lot! I wonder what happened to those letters?

V: Well, I think they would have gone to Adrian. I think I was saying that one of the big gaps in security and how how terribly easy it was to have a PO Box. You could go to the Post Office and say your name was John Smith and the would allocate a PO Box to you.

MG: Oh! alright.

V: We changed them once or twice, just in case. But you could any time day or night.

MG: Oh! that was very convenient, anyway.

V: But I think that was what that was about.

MG: So I think those letters may have disappeared. So anyway the last question is:

Then I ask you about code names again and you say: "No,

"I'll tell you what I did find, I found a detailed thing that Mike Snyder had told

me about. He was the first person who knew about Lethwich I think, yes said I.

You said to me that he had written something, did you actually find that? No

chance of digging that up and Xeroxing it. RV: Yes, I found these notes but not

at this moment, but I'll try and find them.

V: I think when I saw Mike in London, he told me hour by hour what would happen

from Adrian's raid from when he left the country and I did note all that. But

when I spoke to you then I had those papers and I think I've come across them

since (only a few sheets).

MG: They weren't in your SOAS file. You gave me authorization to go through those.

V: No.

MG: I found a couple of interesting things you were relating to on Transky and so on.

V: No I don't think I put any ARM stuff in there.

Shall I look for those?

MG: If you would, it would be interesting, but I hate to impose on you. You have been so generous with your time and obviously Julia will never talk to me again.