

CHAPTER 11

The first orders for the new civil force were as follows:¹

" NORTHERN RHODESIA CIVIL POLICE

POLICE ORDERS

BY CAPTAIN P.R. WARDROPER M.B.E.

COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

for the week ending 1st April 1932

1. NOTICE It is published for general information that the separation of the Military and Civil Branches of the Northern Rhodesia Police will take effect from 1st April, 1932. The provisional designation of the Civil Police will be "The Northern Rhodesia Civil Police" and will include the Criminal Investigation and Immigration Branches.
2. COMMAND The Northern Rhodesia Civil Police (including the B.N.C. Cordon) will be under the command of the Commissioner of Police.
3. ABOLITION OF TITLE The Title "Officer-in-Charge Criminal Investigation Department" is hereby abolished.
4. APPOINTMENTS Captain P.R. WARDROPER, M.B.E. to be Commissioner Police whilst in command of the Northern Rhodesia Civil Police to date 1-4-32.
Captain T.HAMILTON, M.B.E. to be Asst. Commissioner of Police to date 1-4-32 and ceases to act as Officer in Charge Criminal Investigation Department from that date.
Superintendent R.J. VERRALL to be Paymaster N.R. Civil Police to date 1-4-32. Authority: Chief Secretary's Minute No. T.S.2/1/4/4 dated 15-3-32.

Asst. Superintendent E.S. FOLD to be Staff Officer to the Commissioner of Police, to date 1-4-32. Authority: Chief Secretary's Minute No. T.S.2/1/4/4 dated 15-3-32.

5. ESTABLISHMENT The authorised Establishment of the N.R. Civil Police for the financial year 1932-33, is as follows:

Commissioner of Police (1)
Asst. Commissioner of Police (2)
Superintendent and Asst. Superintendent (4)
Chief Inspector (1)
Chief Detective Inspector ... (1)
Inspectors and Detective Inspectors (11)
Asst. Inspectors and Det. Asst. Inspectors (22)
British Constables and Det. Constables (40)
Native Police (494)
Native Detectives (42)
Native Civilian Employees... .. (31)
Barotse Namwala Cattle Cordon Native Police (50)

Capt Wardroper had been awarded the King's Police Medal on 30 April 1929. His salary was to be £1,000 per annum. Assistant Commissioners, the second was Lt H G Hart, were on a salary scale of £600-£840. Mr Verrall, who after eight years in the BSAP, had only joined the NRP at the end of June 1928, had been commissioned in 1929. Andrew Pickup and Cecil Arnott were the other officers, commissioned in December 1930 and June 1931 respectively. Both attended a senior officers course at New Scotland Yard in 1932. Pickup had joined the Force in July 1925 and 'Gerry' Fold on 28 July 1924. The pay scale for assistant superintendents and superintendents was from £380 to £500 a year. Otherwise the strength on 1st April 1932 was 73 chief inspectors, inspectors, assistant inspectors and British constables, 447 African sergeants-major, sergeants, corporals, lance-corporals and privates, 41 African detectives and 45 Barotse Namwala Cattle Cordon police. Capt Hamilton and Chief Detective Inspector Willson retired before the end of the year and Arnott took command of the CID and Livingstone Police Station. Fold was Superintendent of Livingstone Gaol.²

The new Northern Rhodesia Police Ordinance, as drafted, still contained the stipulation that the Force could be used for police or military purposes within and without the Territory. It authorised a "rewards and fines fund" for the first time. Disciplinary charges could be heard by boards of officers which could award a maximum punishment of six months imprisonment or by the Commissioner who could sentence a British constable or inspector to up to 20 days imprisonment and an African policeman to 30 days.

Headquarters and the Depot remained at Livingstone. There were police detachments at Livingstone, Kalomo, Choma, Mazabuka, Sakania, Ndola, Bwana Mkubwa, Luanshya, Nchanga, Mufulira, Kansanshi, Nkana, Fort Jameson, Mongu, Lusaka, Broken Hill and Chisamba. In 1930 the Victoria Falls Bridge had been widened to provide for a roadway alongside the railway track and in 1931 a post had been opened at Victoria Falls following the outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease among cattle in Southern Rhodesia. The Constable in charge made road reports for immigration and acted as customs officer. By the end of 1931, 24 out of 73 would be immigrants entering by this road had been rejected.³

The cattle cordon established in 1922 now only stretched as far as Musa. The remaining eighteen posts and camps on the cordon were, from north to south:-

- NRP Post 1, Musa
- Camp 2, Ngoma
- Camp 3, Shakalonga
- Camp 4, Chonza
- Camp 5, Kasha
- Camp 6, Winsi-Winsi
- Camp 7, Kalumbu
- Camp 8, Mukuni
- Camp 9, Simamba
- Camp 10, Muouli
- Camp 11, Buwe
- Camp 12,
- Camp 13, Kuminyane
- NRP Post 14, (Barker's)
- NRP Post 15, (Maranga Pool) Cordon HQ NRP
- Post 16, (Beacon and grave)
- NRP Post 17, Musikili
- NRP Post 18, Kasaya.⁴

During 1932 Ibwe Munyama Police Preventive Post was opened on the Zambezi near modern Chirundu. There was still no bridge other than that at Victoria Falls but a track to the south ran near Ibwe Munyama Mission to the riverbank. Two British constables were posted here during the dry season, mainly for immigration and stock control. The post was closed during the rains as the track was then impassable. In anticipation of the removal of the military detachment from Kasama, a civil police station was opened there in November 1932 under Insp Maxwell. During 1931 the military detachment commander had prosecuted two important cases.

Crime continued to increase steadily. 10,510 offences were reported in 1932 resulting in 9,932 convictions. There was a large increase in housebreaking, theft, fraud, theft by false pretences, forgery, affray and assault. No doubt in part because of financial difficulties due to the depression 56 Europeans committed fraud or false

pretences. There were 1,918 committals with an average prison population of 544.76 persons. There were five executions. The Commissioner of Police continued to be Commissioner of Prisons and was also Officer in Charge of Aerodromes and Registrar of Aircraft. Since 1927 Northern Rhodesia had been required to maintain aerodromes at Livingstone, Ndola and Abercorn so that the Cape to Cairo route was always open for the Royal Air Force. RAF and South African Air Force planes passed to and fro each year to co-operate in exercises.⁵

As well as normal police duties, members of the Force were responsible for: service of civil process, disposal of property in deceased estates, collection of customs and hospital debts, inspection of trains under the Cattle Diseases Regulations, collection of landing fees at aerodromes, supervision of cattle dipping at Broken Hill, issue of permits to export hides and supervision of dipping prior to export, collection of dog tax in certain districts, issues to bomas of motor, dog and cycle licences, issue of film permits, issue of Governor's permits for the importation of firearms and ammunition, rabies patrols, provision of warders, normally African police, at local prisons at stations where there were police detachments and fire brigade duties at Livingstone. Police officers served 2,110 civil summonses and other civil process during 1932. A civilian had been appointed to do this work in Ndola saving much police time. It was recommended that Government make similar appointments elsewhere and that these officials should also take over the preparation of inventories of deceased's property. In 1933 civilian process servers were appointed in Luanshya, Nkana and Lusaka. During 1932 8,830 motor vehicle and 30,000 cycle licence badges were issued, together with 1,127 driving permits, 8500 dog licences, and 1,700 film permits.⁶

The police were to be responsible for the enforcement of a new Weights and Measures Ordinance and with this in mind an assistant inspector had attended an appropriate course with the Board of Trade in England in 1930.⁷ Although the necessary equipment arrived in 1932 the Ordinance was still not in force.

Just as the development of the infant Town and District Police had been stunted by the outbreak of war in 1914, so fate dealt the newly independent civil police force a savage blow within a year of its inception. World recession had started in 1929 and it may be that the boom in European immigration into Northern Rhodesia in 1930 was partly due to the unemployed from the more developed parts of the English speaking world seeking to restore their fortunes in the developing colonies. Whether or not this surmise is correct, the respite was brief. The depression began to bite in Northern Rhodesia in 1931 and continued into 1933 although the effects lasted much longer. The European population of the Territory had risen to 13,846 in 1931 with 1,702 new immigrants but it now entered a period of decline. There was a net loss of over 3,000 whites in 1932 and 801 in 1933. Of 615 immigrants in 1932, 90 were deported as being unlikely to be able to support themselves in the Territory. 409 destitute white residents were repatriated as against 157 in 1931. 1,179 passports were issued and 268 renewed. The African population was put at 1,382,705. There were 176 Asians in the Territory and 425 persons of mixed race.⁸

Inspector E S Fold had taken charge of the Bwana Mkubwa detachment in 1931, but was soon recalled to Livingstone to become Paymaster, and then, as we have seen, Staff Officer on promotion to Assistant Superintendent. Acting Assistant Inspector A J I Hawkins took over command of the African sergeant, lance-corporal and eight privates who made up the detachment together with the civilian interpreter, Elias Mumba, who was for many years interpreter and clerk at Kitwe after Bwana Mkubwa closed. During 1931 production at Bwana Mkubwa Mine started to run down and equipment was moved to Nkana. The European population shrunk from about 800 to about 40 and the African workforce on the mine to around 1,000. Until 1932 Bwana Mkubwa continued to produce limestone which was sent to Nkana for processing, but during 1932 Bwana Mkubwa Mine closed altogether. The police camp, now under the command of Assistant Inspector T M Davidson, another future assistant commissioner, was closed soon afterwards.⁹

Detective Assistant Inspector Heatlie had been sent to Ndola in February 1931 for immigration duties in connection with the influx of Europeans but, as he later wrote:

"A very short time after my return to Ndola, there were indications that the boom was ending. From time to time a few persons would call at the Boma seeking relief or repatriation, and they used to be turned over to me. Then in the latter part of 1931, Bwana Mkubwa mine shut down and the flood set in. Everywhere people were trying to get out of the country. Many were unable to do so having lost their 'domicile' elsewhere. Relief in the form of rations and housing was provided by the Government.

In 1932 Nchanga closed down, then Mufulira. The early beginnings of Chambishi were abandoned. All along Broadway in Ndola the road was bordered with little grass shelters accommodating European families. A large part of the Civil Service was retrenched. From the latter part of 1931 to about mid-1933, I was employed solely in investigating destitute persons and families and in making reports and recommendations as to what assistance should be given."¹⁰

The Annual Report showed 428 Europeans as destitute in the Territory in January 1933, between five and ten per cent of the white population. When Mufulira Mine closed in August 1932 the officer in charge of the police detachment there became responsible for protecting property in the almost deserted mine township, issuing all forms of licences, collecting native tax and running the telephone, telegraph and postal services. He was housed in the building vacated by Barclays Bank until the police detachment itself was withdrawn in December 1932.¹¹

On 31 December 1932 Force Headquarters at Livingstone comprised Captain Wardroper, Mr Verrall, Mr Fold, an acting inspector, 2 acting assistant inspectors, a constable, a lady clerk, an African sergeant-major, 15 other African police, 2 African clerks and 3 tailors. At the Depot were an inspector, a constable, a sergeant-major, a sergeant, 5 corporals, 10 lance corporals, 45 Native constables, as privates were now called, 24 recruits and an African interpreter. Under Mr Arnott at the police

station were an inspector, an assistant inspector, 3 constables, a lady clerk, 43 uniformed African police, a detective inspector, a detective assistant inspector, 2 detective constables, 5 African detectives and 3 civilian interpreters. There was 1 Sgt with 6 native constables at the Railway Station and one British constable, a lance corporal and four native constables at Victoria Falls.

The rest of the Force was distributed as follows:-

Choma: 1 A/Insp 1 Cpl 1 LCpl 8 Native Consts 1 Interpreter 1 Native Detective.

Mazabuka: 1 Insp 1 A/Insp 2 Consts 1 Sgt 1 Cpl 16 N/Consts 1 Interpreter 2 detectives.

Lusaka: Mr Pickup 1 Insp 3 Consts 1 Sgt-Maj 45 other African uniformed police 1 interpreter 1 D/A/Insp 5 native detectives.

Ibwe Munyama: 1 Const 1 Cpl 2 N/Consts

Broken Hill: 1 Insp 2 A/Insp 3 Consts 1 Sgt 34 other African uniformed police 3 interpreters 1 D/Const 4 detectives.

Broken Hill Railway: 1 Sgt 7 N/Consts

Bwana Mkubwa: 1 A/Insp 1 Sgt 8 N/Consts 1 interpreter.

Ndola: Mr Hart 1 Insp 2 A/Insp 4 Consts 1 Sgt-Maj 41 other African uniformed police 1 interpreter 1 D/Insp 1 D/A/Insp 7 detectives.

Ndola Railway: 1 Sgt 5 N/Consts

Ndola Motor Search Post: 1 Const 1 Cpl 3 N/Consts

Luanshya: 1 A/Insp 2 Consts 2 Sgts 27 other uniformed African police 2 interpreters 1 D/A/Insp 3 detectives.

Chingola: 1 A/Insp 1 Sgt 7 N/Consts 1 detective

Mongu: 1 Actg A/Insp 1 Sgt 6 N/Consts 1 interpreter 1 detective

Kasama: 1 Insp 1 Sgt 1 Cpl 7 N/Consts 1 interpreter 1 detective

Nkana: 1 Insp 1 A/Insp 3 Consts 1 Sgt 2 Cpls 2 LCpls 31 N/Consts 2 interpreters 3 detectives

Fort Jameson: 1 Insp 2 Consts 1 Sgt 1 Cpl 1 LCpl 18 N/Consts 1 interpreter 3 detectives

Cattle Cordon: 1 Acting A/Insp 50 African police

On long leave were one inspector, 1 A/Insp, 7 constables (pending discharge) and 15 African police.

The new Force was armed with 380 rifles and bayonets. When the new Governor, Sir Ronald Storrs arrived at Livingstone Railway Station on 1 December 1932 the civil police provided the guard of honour with the band of the military brought down from Lusaka for the occasion.¹²

The detachments of the force at Kansanshi, Chisamba, Nchanga were withdrawn before the end of 1932 and during 1933 those at Ibwe Munyama, Sakania, Kalomo and Kasama were all withdrawn. The Northern Province was left without one police station. Some police stations were never reopened. In the detachments that remained in Northern Rhodesia, station buildings fell into disrepair and even essential items could not be purchased. However Mufulira police detachment was re-

established in 1933 with a constable and 10 African police.¹³

Seventeen European inspectors, assistant inspectors and constables, 42 African police, 9 African detectives and 4 interpreters were discharged 'on reduction of establishment'. Originally 23 European police were given notice. Tommy Davidson was already on the train for the south when his notice was rescinded. He was intercepted at Livingstone and told of his reinstatement. Those remaining in the service were hit by a levy on the salaries of all Government servants on a sliding scale commencing at five per cent. Five inspectors retired on pension and one constable resigned. The concession by which African police could be exempted from Native Tax on retirement was withdrawn from 1 January 1933.¹⁴

Northern Rhodesia suffered another heavy blow in 1933 when clouds of red locusts swept in from Tanganyika, devastating the crops. At Fort Jameson, Constable Sugg was asked by the Provincial Commissioner to try, while on patrol, to get some concerted efforts by Africans to prevent locusts settling to lay their eggs. A swarm could be made to move on by much banging of tins etc. From 26 March until 12 April four officers, three British NCOs and 182 men of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment were deployed on farms west of Lusaka to assist the civil authorities and population in trying to halt the advance of these insects. The immature 'hoppers' which could not fly were the biggest menace. Trenches were dug across their path to a depth of about two feet. As the trenches filled up with stranded hoppers, insecticide powder was added. Only a minority could be trapped in this way. The remainder moved on, leaving bare farms and bankrupt farmers behind them. At least it must have made a change for the troops whose usual duty at the time was building the Great East Road.¹⁵

A platoon of the Regiment took over manning posts 1 to 3 on the Barotse-Namwala Cattle Cordon from the police from September 1933 until November 1934.

In 1933 there was a slight drop in reported crime, perhaps reflecting the decline in the strength of the police force and closure of stations. There were 9,337 offences reported and 8,774 convictions, a clear up rate of 93.9%. Constable Eric Halse and sergeants 86 Mwanada and 122 Yobe were commended by the Commissioner for their investigation of burglaries at Nkana. Const Goslett was commended for rescuing a lunatic at Mazabuka. In 1934 Constable Owen Mitchell and D/Const 'Punch' Randall disarmed a European homicidal lunatic at Broken Hill. Both were commended, Mitchell's bravery earning him the Governor's commendation. Randall was also commended by the Commissioner for his investigations into stock theft. Both constables were to retire as senior superintendents.¹⁶

Once the name of the Regiment had been settled there was no need for the retention of the word "Civil" in the title of the police force which became the Northern Rhodesia Police under the Northern Rhodesia Police Ordinance, Chapter 44 of the Laws, passed in 1933. The question of a badge remained.

In March 1925 the need had been recognised for an emblem for the territory of Northern Rhodesia for use on flags and possible incorporation in a Public Seal. Prior to 1 April 1924 the seal of the British South Africa Company had been used on all official documents, but this could not continue under the Colonial Office. The Governor took to using his own private seal. In 1926 he appointed a committee to consider the problem. The first suggestion was to use the crested crane of the old Northern Rhodesia Police, but it was found that Uganda was already using the crane in its coat of arms. Various designs were discussed without agreement until, in 1927, Sir Richard Goode, then Acting Governor, hit on the idea of a fish eagle (nkhwazi) grasping a fish over the Victoria Falls. In heraldic language this became "Sable six palets wavy Argent on a Chief Azure an Eagle regardant wings expanded Or holding in the talons a Fish of the second". This design was approved by the King in 1930. Presumably it did not take long to decide that the badge of Northern Rhodesia should be the basis of the badge of the Northern Rhodesia Police. Mr R I Hockey, of the Government Survey Department, designed the new Force badge. It was issued in brass at the beginning of 1933 and remained in use until 1949.¹⁷

The uniform for British ranks remained basically the same as before 1932, except for the badge which appears to have been worn only on the collar and not on the khaki helmet, which remained the 'new Wolseley' pattern. The diamond flash on the left of the helmet was now divided top half blue, bottom white. The pugri remained khaki but with the top fold blue for officers. The khaki tie and brown leather Sam Browne belt were worn with all orders of dress, including the bush shirt. In full dress the Commissioner and, like an infantry adjutant, his staff officer, wore breeches, brown field boots and spurs. All other British ranks wore khaki puttees and brown ankle boots. Revolvers were carried in working dress. The Sam Browne belts of constables, assistant inspectors and inspectors, had snake fasteners instead of buckles.

African police wore khaki shorts, or knickers as they were still officially called, and the same khaki drill long sleeved tunic that had been worn since 1911, but with dark blue or black shoulder straps with brass shoulder titles. Rank chevrons were still khaki on red cloth and good conduct badges red on black. The black fez was worn with a black tassel but no badge. The military had adopted a scarlet tassel for ceremonial in 1927, but it may never have been worn by the Town and District Police. A brown leather waist belt with a brass snake fastener was worn with the short baton hanging from a hook on the left side. On duty a brass brassard bearing an identification number was worn on the left upper arm. African police still had no footwear. Swagger canes were carried by all African police in walking out dress.

The Commissioner wore the crown and star rank badges of a lieutenant colonel. Assistant inspectors wore one, and inspectors two blue worsted braid loops on the shoulder straps of the shirt and, like a naval officer, around the cuff of the long sleeved tunic. All metalwear was brass.

In 1930 or 1931 a green stripe had been added to the red and white tie of the old Northern Rhodesia Police. The main reason was that the original red and white striped tie soon became soiled, but the green served to commemorate the green facings of the North-Eastern Rhodesia Constabulary. It cannot have taken long to think of replacing the red stripes with blue to produce a suitable tie for the new civil force.¹⁸

In the Police and Military Museum, which opened in the old Boma at Lusaka in 1962, was a smart blue mess jacket with green facings, introduced for officers of the Force in 1935 but sadly not revived after the Second World War. The old white mess jacket remained in use and both were worn with blue overalls with a two inch side stripe of black oakleaf braid and a blue cap. The white jacket was to be worn with a blue cashmere kamarband and the blue with a white waistcoat.¹⁹

Livingstone, a mere 3,250 feet above sea level, is hot and humid. Since the completion of the railway there had been talk of finding a more suitable seat of government. Livingstone was deemed, "to have an unsatisfactory climate and not to be sufficiently centrally placed". Among the sites considered were Broken Hill, Bwana Mkubwa, Chilanga and Lusaka. The Legislative Council commissioned a special committee headed by Sir Stanley Adshead, Professor of Town Planning at London University, to consider the matter. The committee narrowed down the choice to three sites in the Lusaka area - Chilanga, Lusaka Village itself and a ridge three miles south of the railway station and village. The water supply at Chilanga was said to be unreliable. Lusaka Village was hot, dusty and prone to flooding. Accordingly it was announced in August 1930 that the new capital would be on the ridge. In the same year Lusaka was upgraded to a township by notice in the Government Gazette. The Township Management Board was to be responsible for an area of 4,500 acres. It was to consist of the Provincial or District Commissioner, as Chairman, the Government Medical Officer and four-non official appointed members.²⁰

Harry Franklin arrived in Lusaka as a District Officer of the Provincial Administration in about 1931. He later wrote: "At erratic intervals along Cairo Road, the corrugated iron roofs of the Boma, the Grand Hotel, two or three general stores, a butchery, a bank, Counsell's Hotel and a few offices and oddments grumbled metallically as they contracted or expanded according to the temperature. Nearby, lost in the long grass, was a hospital".²¹

The administrative district headquarters had only moved to Lusaka from Chilanga in 1931. In 1932 the population, white and black, of the Township was about 1,000. The Management Board's annual budget had reached £1,919.

Lusaka Township Management Board did not control the new capital site. The Governor, Sir Ronald Storrs, told the members in October that they would be unwise to wish to do so. The townspeople dubbed the area "Snob's Hill" but the Chief Secretary wrote a letter emphasizing that this name was not to be used in official

correspondence! It was not until 1st January 1936 that the Management Board's responsibilities were extended to cover the area of the new capital.

On 3 April 1934 the foundation stone of the Secretariat building was laid by Prince George, later Duke of Kent. To mark the Royal Visit many prisoners were granted three months remission of their sentences.²²

There were now five European police officers in the Lusaka Detachment, Acting Inspector N T Nissen, in charge, with Constables Sugg and Tozer, Detective Assistant Inspector Deane-Simmons and Detective Constable Goslett. The development of the new seat of government was now so advanced as to require the opening of the "New Capital Site Police Post" with twelve African police. Their tiny camp was to gradually expand to become the main police residential area in Lusaka, Wardroper Camp, and to house Force Headquarters from 1949 until 1962.

Police methods had to keep pace with new developments as shown in the following report of Lusaka's first speeding case:

" LUSAKA
24th September 1934

The Staff Officer,
to The Commissioner of Police
LIVINGSTONE.

TRAFFIC: KING GEORGE'S AVENUE

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your 806/1a/13 of the 31st August ulto, and in accordance with your instructions beg to submit my report in terms of para.3 of your communication.

2. On 8th September I hired a motor car and accompanied by Const. Tozer proceeded to King George's Avenue with a view to trapping motorists for speed. At about 11 a.m. Mr Flutter of the P.W.D. was followed from the top of King George's Av; to the Administrative Offices and keeping a uniform distance behind Mr Flutter's car and also permitting him to GRADUALLY DRAW AWAY, it was noted that his speed was between 33 m.p.h. and 35 m.p.h. over a distance of ½ mile. Mr Flutter was duly summoned and the case was heard by the Actg: Resident Magistrate on Friday 21st inst. Accused pleaded guilty and the Magistrate found him guilty and warned and cautioned Mr Flutter as being the first case of this nature brought before this Court. The prosecution brought up the question of costs and I attach Const. Tozer's report of the reply of the Court to the application.

3. The strongest point in favour of the prosecution in this type of case, was the fact that the police had permitted the offender to gain on the police car and that the offender had not been overtaken at the time when the distance over which accused

was speeding was being recorded. The speedometer of the police car had been checked twice, once before the car was actually being used for speed trapping and immediately after accused had been caught.

4. The first attempt was completely abortive, and it was after nearly an hour of fruitless cruising that Mr Flutter was trapped. To date over £1 approx. has been spent. The expenditure sheet of Mr Flutter's case working out as follows:

Hire at 5/- per hour	
1½ hours	7/6
@ 9d per mile 8 miles	6/-

	13/6

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant

Actg: Inspector. "23

On 15th February 1935 the Commissioner of Police, Captain Wardroper, accompanied by his staff officer, moved his office from Livingstone to the new capital. At first they occupied a corrugated iron building near the Secretariat. After about eight months four rooms in the Secretariat itself were made available for occupation by the Commissioner, Staff Officer, records and a typist. The Commissioner's office was the Governor's retiring room when the Legislative Council was in session, at which times Captain Wardroper had to move in with the Staff Officer. Finance was as short as ever and the Commissioner had a long struggle to secure funds to purchase a retiring civil servant's bookcase for his office.²⁴

Const J W Hughes was seconded to the Northern Rhodesia Regiment from 24 February until 4 April 1935 as the only person in the Territory qualified to overhaul the unit's ageing rifles.²⁵

In June 1935 the new capital was officially opened as part of the celebrations for the Silver Jubilee of King George V.

In 1933 the first aircraft had landed on an improvised airstrip four miles east of Lusaka Railway Station. It was a light aeroplane piloted by Mr Coull, a Salisbury building contractor, on a visit in connection with the construction of the new capital. So began the Lusaka Airport which was to remain in use until after the Territory became the Republic of Zambia.

Sir Hubert Young KCMG had become Governor of Northern Rhodesia in 1934 on transfer from Nyasaland. In 1935 Lady Young and a Dr Kirby were missing for four

days after taking off in an aircraft from Lusaka on 28 February. The search extended from Lusaka to Monze. The Northern Rhodesia Regiment was called out to assist until word was received that the party was safe after crash landing near Gokwe in Southern Rhodesia.²⁶

On 27 May 1935 a flight of Victoria troop transports of the Royal Air Force was at Lusaka in the course of a training exercise from Cairo to Salisbury. Its presence was fortuitous. Word was received of riots on the Copperbelt. Captain Tysoe, lieutenants Hughes and Cree, Sergeant Burne, and forty-four African soldiers of the Regiment emplaned in the early morning to be flown to the Copperbelt. They reached Nkana at 8.40 a.m and immediately gave assistance with patrols there.

Lieutenant, later Major, Angus Cree produced a number of water-colours showing uniforms of the Northern Rhodesia Police and Regiment and their predecessors over the years.

On 17 and 18 May 1935 Africans on the Copperbelt had been informed of a tax increase from ten shillings to fifteen shillings a year, to offset a reduction in tax for those in rural areas. African mineworkers were paid about twenty-five shillings per 'ticket' of thirty shifts worked. There were disturbances at Mufulira where the mine had reopened. On 21 May an inspector and 24 African police were sent from Ndola as reinforcements. That evening Const Abbott with the District Officer, Mr Moffat, two NRP and two African 'Mine Police' arrested 8 men seen earlier armed and causing trouble. Later further arrests were made and twelve men were prosecuted 8 of whom were convicted. On 23 May African mineworkers began to drift back to work and on 25 May all was back to normal at Mufulira. The Commissioner of Police visited the Copperbelt by Air on the weekend 25/26 May. Although all was quiet at Mufulira he arranged for 50 additional police to be sent to arrive at Ndola on the Monday morning bringing the total of reinforcements on the Copperbelt to 71. At Nkana 200 strikers ran to the concentrator and drove out the workers. That night four policemen were injured by stone throwing. Armed police were posted at the Magazine and Power House and two lorries with regular and 'mine police' patrolled the compound with a good effect. The ringleaders were arrested by a party under Insp Wilkinson. By Tuesday 28 May nearly all the miners at Nkana were back at work.

However information was received that the African miners at Roan Antelope intended to stage a protest strike the next day. Inspector Maxwell was in charge of the police at Luanshya assisted by Constable A H Pipe and one other European. Maxwell had sent off three of his 26 African policemen on 26th May to guard the pontoon crossing over the Kafue River on the road to Nkana. A telephone call for reinforcements was now put through to Nkana. At about 4.30 a.m. on 29th May Superintendent E S Fold arrived at Luanshya to take command. Fold was followed by two European and 78 African police brought from Nkana in lorries to arrive before dawn.

At about 6.15 a.m. word reached the police camp that the Bemba workers had struck,

but men from other tribes were trickling in to work. The strikers had organised pickets to stop them. The police then left camp by lorry for Roan Antelope Mine. Some of the African police from Nkana had rifles but all the ammunition was left at Luanshya police camp except for a bandolier of 50 rounds carried by A/Insp Arthur. The police were to escort Africans who wished to go to work and to protect property. Parties of eight police each, with rifles, were posted at the smelter, concentrator, power house, and winding engine house, and at the bridge connecting the mine compound with the plant, all under A/Insp Arthur.

This left less than thirty African police, who arrived at the compound office shortly after 7 a.m. Several miners had assembled at the office, afraid to go to work without escort. A crowd of fifty or sixty strikers who were threatening these men, was dispersed by Superintendent Fold and about a dozen African police, but a large mob remained some way off, dancing and waving sticks.

Some of the miners who wished to work were placed in a lorry and sent off to Number 15 Shaft with Colonel Stephenson, now working for the Mines. Maxwell and Pipe each took out a patrol in a vanette and dispersed several groups of strikers who were armed with sticks. The African police had been issued with miners' helmets to protect their heads from missiles.

At about 7.30 a.m. a large mob of strikers charged the compound office, but was turned back by the police. An hour and a quarter later some 2,000 returned to the charge, hurling stones and other missiles. Several police were injured before their attackers drew off. Maxwell and Pipe, returning with their patrols, had to run the gauntlet, driving through the mob which pelted the vanettes with stones. One private was badly cut on the head, his miners' tin helmet being dented. Others received lesser injuries.

At about 9.15 a.m. Mr A W Bonfield, District Officer in charge at Luanshya, with another district officer, G S Jones²⁷, Mr M Spearpoint, the Mine Compound Manager, and the Assistant Manager, H H Field, went, unarmed, to talk to the main body of strikers who were then on the compound football field. The party mounted an anthill to address the men who crowded round them armed with sticks and stones, shouting. When Bonfield was able to make himself heard, he asked what the trouble was. A general cry was raised for reduced taxes and more pay. Bonfield told them that if they thought the tax was too high, they should make representations in the proper way. He promised to forward their requests if they immediately put down their weapons and returned quietly to work. He told them to approach the mine management in a proper way concerning their pay. His words were not well received and the four Europeans made their way back to the compound office through a hostile and threatening crowd.

On reaching the office, Mr Bonfield conferred with Superintendent Fold. Inspector Maxwell was despatched in a vanette with a party of police to assess the situation and collect ten rifles and ammunition from Luanshya police camp. On the way the

vehicle was again heavily stoned. Part of the mob had split away to attack the smelter. On his way Maxwell picked up a number of African police who had been driven from their posts, and some of the mining company's "police", who were with him, took advantage of these stops to dismount and fade away. The police party at the mill was strengthened, those with rifles being ordered to fix bayonets. Some white miners, who had been exchanging stones with the strikers, were told to retire into the buildings to avoid provocation.

On returning from the police camp Maxwell's vanette was again stoned. The ammunition was taken into the compound office. No cartridges were issued, but the ten rifles were distributed among the members of the Luanshya police detachment. The African police were lined up in front of the office facing the howling mob, where they were subjected to further stoning and threats. One charge was repulsed, but a second drove the thin line of police back onto the verandah. Mr Bonfield estimated the crowd at between three and four thousand, saying it advanced rapidly to envelop the offices. Most of the office windows were broken by the hail of stones, iron bars, pieces of piping and other missiles. One African policeman was rendered unconscious by a large piece of rock. Several others had been hurt. Finally the line broke and the policemen poured in through the three doors to the offices asking for ammunition, shouting "We shall all be killed. This is war!" Maxwell said he had never seen such a threatening crowd. When he had asked whether he should issue ammunition, Fold had said "Not yet". Now the superintendent was beset by rioters at the back of the offices. As Maxwell, who was hit on the head by a stone, went to him, the African police appear to have helped themselves to cartridges. Several opened fire through the windows. As the crowd drew off the police advanced beyond the verandah, still firing, until Colonel Stephenson and Superintendent Fold came and knocked up their rifles, ordering them to cease fire. Some had already been disarmed by Maxwell who had rushed back when he heard the first shot. Seven rioters were killed and twenty wounded in the firing which was said to have continued for ten minutes although only forty rounds were fired. The bodies lay between 15 and 50 yards from the office.

A lull ensued during which, at 10.50 a.m., Captain Tysoe arrived with the troops flown in from Lusaka. He ordered his men to line a ditch in front of the verandah. The mob was only twenty yards away. Tysoe and his officers went forward and began to collect weapons from out of the hands of the strikers, until the surprise wore off and they encountered resistance. The crowd began to press forward again, threatening and insulting the troops and police, who were now only in support. Captain Tysoe made four arrests before it was clear that any further such action would merely spark off greater violence. The rioters were pressing the troops 'belly to belly'. Hosepipes were turned on the crowd but the pressure was insufficient. The troops had been stood there for more than two hours when some were struck in the face. This caused the soldiers to throw their rifles up into the standing load position. The crowd shrank back. Some soldiers began to load but were stopped by their officers. Tysoe ordered bayonets to be fixed, which caused the rioters to withdraw further. The captain was standing in front of his men when one fired accidentally in the course of

clearing a jam in unloading. The bullet passed just over Tysoe's head. The mob fled a considerable distance and so calm was restored.

The troops and police were then redeployed to protect Luanshya Township as well as the mine plant and compound. At 5.50 p.m. dissidents began looting a grain store. William Tysoe went to investigate with a Lewis gun section. The looters ran off leaving some sacks behind them. That night Major Graham, Commanding Officer of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment, arrived from Lusaka by train with another 150 troops, so that in the morning the exhausted police could be withdrawn from the mine compound.

Further use was made of the RAF planes to fly Captain J E Ross and fifty Europeans of the British South Africa Police up from Salisbury to Ndola. One hundred European and African police from that Force came by train from Bulawayo. Peace quickly returned to the Copperbelt. The BSAP remained until 17 June.²⁸

At the inquest into the deaths of the shot strikers, Captain Tysoe expressed the opinion that well-disciplined troops, such as those of the Regiment, accustomed to work as a body, were better qualified, as well as better equipped, to deal with unruly mobs, than civil police, used to working as individuals and amongst whom discipline could not be enforced in the same way. Captain Wardroper, the Commissioner of Police, stressed that the police were also still trained as soldiers. They were accustomed to acting under orders in a disciplined way and often acted together in groups of tens and twenties. They had considerable experience in quelling disorders. He mentioned the riot at Mufulira in 1930, when a sergeant was killed and an assistant inspector badly injured, an attempt by a mob to storm the gaol at Ndola, and faction fights at Livingstone and Broken Hill. Captain Wardroper accepted that the Roan Antelope riot was the worst which had yet occurred in Northern Rhodesia. He also acknowledged that once a policeman had left the Training Depot his duties were largely performed as an individual except for weekly parades.

Wardroper and Tysoe were in agreement that 29 police supported by a number of the mining company's "police boys", were quite insufficient to deal with the sort of mob that they had had to face, and of that there can be no doubt. Clearly the rapid growth of the African urban population had found the new Northern Rhodesia Police with insufficient manpower, training and equipment for riot control. The Force had been starved of finance and had until recently been always under the shadow of the military. The African police appear to have shown exemplary steadiness until driven to the limit, and, had they not taken things into their own hands must almost certainly have been overrun with probably disastrous consequences. The decision to send some of them into the compound armed with rifles while leaving the ammunition back in the police camp is difficult to understand but the Provincial Commissioner, back at Ndola, had given instructions that there was to be no firing without reference to him! The situation when the ammunition did arrive would appear to have demanded the formation of an armed section to be held in reserve under the command of a European officer. Controlled volleys should have produced the required result with

less casualties. Superintendent Fold, having turned down Inspector Maxwell's suggestion that ammunition be issued, appears to have allowed himself to be distracted from the main threat. As a result neither he nor Maxwell was on the spot when firing broke out. However as the Governor pointed out, Fold, at the time, had been almost without sleep for four days. The Governor did not accept the finding of a Commission of Inquiry that an "ill-judged attempt to disperse small groups standing near the compound office" caused the strikers to attack. According to Captain Wardroper, seven of the 29 police at the Roan Antelope compound office had been drawn from cattle cordon duty and were only partially trained.

There was no suggestion that it had been unnecessary to open fire, although G S Jones, the young district officer, gave evidence of one belated shot which appeared unnecessary and scored a hit. Jones had earlier made himself useful as driver of the vanette carrying Constable Pipe's patrol. This was not to be Jones' only experience of riots on the Copperbelt. He was to be Provincial Commissioner in 1956.²⁹

The strength of the Northern Rhodesia Police at the time of the riot was 475, including 50 on the cattle cordon. The establishment of the Copperbelt stations for 1935 was:-

- Ndola : 4 European and 42 African police,
- Luanshya : 3 European and 31 African police,
- Nkana : 5 European and 44 African police,
- Mufulira : 3 European and 20 African police.

A total of 15 Europeans and 137 Africans, including the superintendent at Nkana. Only the 'Government townships' were routinely patrolled the 'mine townships' and compounds were left to the management of the mining companies whose 'mine police' were more of the nature of watchmen and messengers.

The Commission of Inquiry into the causes of the disturbances and the action taken, was satisfied that the detachments of the Force available for normal policing on the Copperbelt were quite insufficient to deal with such unrest, and that a reserve of manpower was required close at hand. Accordingly a detachment of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment was posted at Bwana Mkubwa, and remained there until its services were required elsewhere after the outbreak of the Second World War. The Establishment of the Northern Rhodesia Police was increased by nine Europeans and 96 African police, the majority for duty at Copperbelt stations.³⁰

615 tear gas bombs, 40 respirators and 200 pairs of goggles were obtained from the Union of South Africa and distributed to be held at stations in case of riots. The gas was in liquid form, contained in glass spheres, about the size of cricket balls, which, when thrown, smashed on impact releasing the gas. A sergeant-major from the Union Defence Force came up from Pretoria to give instruction in this new device.³¹

Captain Wardroper had told the inquiry, "There are no written instructions issued to my officers as to how to deal with a case of riot or anticipated riot". A pamphlet

"Instructions on the Use of Armed Force for Civil, Military and Police Officers" was now issued. Amended from time to time this pamphlet was issued to all assistant inspectors on joining the Force throughout the remainder of its existence.

135 Private Katungu was commended for single handedly arresting seven rioters in one disturbance in 1935. Three other privates, 140 Chongo, 278 Chimba and 508 Chisulu received commendations for arresting two armed burglars at Livingstone. Native Detective Machisa was commended for the single handed arrest of a triple murderer who was armed with a rifle.³²

Not only was manpower short on the Copperbelt, accommodation left much to be desired. On 5 April 1935 the Commissioner had written to the Government to urge the need for new housing at Mufulira. During the rains water poured through the roof on the men as they worked in the office. The three European constables, who slept in one room in the same building, had to move their kit almost every day to prevent it being eaten by white ants. During Captain Wardroper's inspection a window had fallen out and a door had dropped off its hinges. As a temporary measure two tents were supplied as office accommodation. By August 1935, all the European police had abandoned their quarters because the Kimberley brick was infested with bugs and white ants. They had built themselves grass huts to live in. The officer in charge, Inspector G W Rees, lived in a grass hut right through the ensuing rains.³³

There were six European police at Mufulira by the end of 1936, the others being, Assistant Inspector Owen Mitchell, and constables J E Long, L Mitchell, A R Collett and D B M Patten. Like Owen Mitchell, Leslie Mitchell and Alan Ross Collett were to serve for many years and reach senior rank.

Native Detective Gilbert Chakalunta, a 27 year old Nyasaland, attested in 1935 at a salary of £1.10s.0d, a month. He served with the Criminal Investigation Department for twenty-eight years receiving ten commendations. In 1959 "Chak" was to be one of the first Africans promoted to Detective Assistant Inspector.

It was in 1935 that the following report appeared in the local paper:-

"An unusual type of patient is occupying the maternity labour ward at the Lusaka Hospital. It is a man.

Asst Inspector R. J. (Punch) Randell of the Northern Rhodesia Police was sent down from Broken Hill with a bad bout of fever.

As all the beds in the hospital were full, the hospital authorities did the next best thing and put him in the empty labour ward.

The Governor's secretary, Miss Edith Kilburn, and Mr E (Gen) Sergeant have made the rounds of Lusaka's gardens and have filled the ward with flowers, to give it the gay appearance it usually has when in use."³⁴

Punch Randell had been articled to the surveyor of the Royal Estates at Sandringham before going to Malaya in 1926 to plant rubber. In 1927 the foreign

settlements in China were threatened in the disturbances which brought Chiang Kai Shek to power. Strong military reinforcements were despatched from the United Kingdom. As a part time soldier in the Malay States Volunteers Punch was mobilised and sent to help protect Hankow. The Great Depression put him out of a job. In 1931 he began a training course with the Royal Ulster Constabulary and, as mentioned, earlier arrived in Northern Rhodesia in February 1932.

He used to tell another story of those days in Broken Hill. He had occasion to go to Chisamba to investigate a sudden death. Having no further immediate use for the body he packed it up, attached a label addressed to "Assistant Inspector R J Randell, Northern Rhodesia Police, Broken Hill", put it on a northbound train, and continued his investigation. On his arrival back in Broken Hill he found the body had arrived safely, and the whole town was in mourning for "poor old Punch"!

In 1942 Punch was to pay another visit to Lusaka Hospital when he went to visit Assistant Inspector Jack Seed. Jack introduced him to a newly arrived nursing sister and another confirmed bachelor bit the dust!

R J Randell QPM, Senior Superintendent of Police retired in March 1960. His son John returned to Lusaka in the early 1970s to practise as a solicitor. Jack Baron Seed was Senior Superintendent commanding Southern Division in 1964. In about 1960 an African constable who had just been before "the Baron" on a disciplinary charge informed the author that he felt no bitterness about being punished by Bwana Seed, because he was a "very gentleman", a description from which none would dissent.

In 1936 the first "Standing Orders, General Instructions and Dress Regulations" for the Force were issued in one slim volume of 58 single sided pages, compiled by Assistant Superintendent Andrew Pickup, who was Staff Officer until going on leave at the beginning of the year. While on leave Mr Pickup and Insp Arthur attended a course at the Civilian Anti-gas School, Falfield, Gloucestershire. It was already clear, even in Northern Rhodesia, that war might come. On his return in July Pickup became Superintendent in Charge of Ndola and the Copperbelt. Supt Fold was in charge at Broken Hill, Supt Croxford had succeeded Pickup as Staff Officer and Assistant Superintendent Brodie was in charge of the CID and Chief Immigration Officer.

The Force Paymaster, Superintendent R J Verrall was also in command of the Depot. The rank of Deputy Commissioner was introduced in 1936, but the first holder, Mr H G Hart, then 42 years of age, almost immediately became Acting Commissioner of Police when Captain Percy Wardroper OBE went on leave pending retirement on 6 April. Mr Verrall became Mr Hart's deputy on 23 August 1937. Supt Pickup then took over as Paymaster and in charge of the Depot until the functions were separated on 1 November 1937. Supt Fold, returning from leave, was then appointed Force Paymaster.

In July 1936 five Africans left Solwezi and walked to the Copperbelt to find work. They camped about 2 miles from the Chambezi cross roads towards Mufulira and some 50 yards off the Nkana road. Having eaten they sat round the glowing embers of their fire and watched the cars passing. One coming from the direction of Mufulira stopped. They saw someone get out. A shot rang out. The Africans ran into the bush and four climbed trees hearing their companion shout that he was wounded and dying. The next morning the frightened men climbed down from their hiding places and found his body not far from the ashes of the fire. On the road they found a used Greener shot gun cartridge. They decided to go home and report the matter to the District Commissioner at Solwezi. It was therefore a month before the police at Nkana were informed of the case. Insp Batty went to the scene with a medical officer. The body was exhumed. An SSG pellet was found in the heart. It was established that one Sunday in July there had been a football match in Mufulira and scores of cars had used the pontoon ferry over the Kafue near the town. All such crossings were recorded in a book, which was checked. The whole station staff was employed in tracing and interviewing the drivers. Information was obtained that a man had been seen standing by a particular car but that car was not in the book. The owner was traced but was out when the police called. He later came to the police camp and explained that he had been picnicking near the ferry but had not used it. He had had his shotgun with him and fired at the river. When asked if he had fired on his return journey he admitted taking a shot at some "eyes" in the Bush but on the Nkana side of the crossroads. His house was searched and a shotgun and Greener SSG cartridges found. He was arrested and charged with manslaughter but at his trial before a judge and assessors maintained his story and was acquitted. Nevertheless Insp Batty and all at Nkana police station were commended for tenacious investigation and good teamwork.³⁵

Seven youths were attested as boy buglers, an experiment which was deemed a success. Boy buglers, usually the sons of African policemen, remained a feature of the Force.

The population of Northern Rhodesia in 1936 was estimated to be 1,378,000, of whom 9,913 were Europeans and 342 Indians. During the year 11,123 cases were taken to court by the Northern Rhodesia Police. The Native Courts Ordinance of 1936 came into force on 1st January 1937 establishing courts of chiefs and other African notables to deal with civil disputes and minor crime entirely involving Africans as both complainants and defendants.

In December 1935 the Northern Rhodesia Government, at the suggestion of Capt Wardroper, had requested that the Force be inspected by Sir Herbert Dowbiggin CMG. Sir Herbert had served as Inspector General of Police in Ceylon (Sri Lanka) for twenty years. He had carried out an inspection of the Cyprus Police in 1926 and the Palestine Police in 1930. There was at this time no Inspector General of Colonial Police. Dowbiggin was unable to come to Northern Rhodesia until March 1937 having retired from his post in Ceylon that January.³⁶

He found a force 636 strong, including the Cattle Cordon and recruits, leaving some 465 trained African police. Strength on the Copperbelt, where the population had risen to 70,866, was now:-

Ndola - The superintendent, 6 other Europeans and 62 African police (Including 6 employed as railway police)

Luanshya - 5 European and 55 African police.

Nkana - 6 European and 56 African police.

Mufulira - 5 European and 55 African police.

Dowbiggin recommended that an assistant superintendent be posted to Nkana. He was to be responsible to the superintendent, for the supervision of Nkana and Mufulira, enabling his superior to concentrate on Ndola and Luanshya. Ndola and Nkana each had one European detective on strength. Dowbiggin recommended that the European CID staff on the Copperbelt be doubled by the provision of European detectives for Luanshya and Mufulira.

African police strength elsewhere was:-

Broken Hill - 45 plus 6 railway police.

Lusaka - 60.

Mazabuka - 31.

Livingstone - 51 plus 6 railway police.

Fort Jameson - 23.

Choma - 13.

Mongu - 13.

At the Depot at Livingstone there were two intakes each year of 42 recruits each for a six month training course. 25 African police attending a six or twelve week refresher course at the Depot on return from vacation leave formed the only trained reserve. Training courses were also provided for prison warders, 24 attending in 1937.

The Chief Secretary to the Government, the Hon Charles Dundas CMG OBE³⁷, had pointed out that in 22 districts there were neither police nor troops stationed. This was dangerous in view of the poor communications in the Territory. It took nine days to reach Balovale from Mongu by river. Chinsali was three days march from Kasama and it took three days to drive from Ndola to Mwinilunga in good weather and ten in bad weather. Various suggestions, such as giving military or police training to district messengers, stationing a detachment of the Northern Rhodesia Regiment at each Provincial Headquarters and stationing police in all districts, were considered and rejected by Dowbiggin. His solution was for landing grounds to be prepared at each district headquarters and wireless installed. Prompt reinforcement would then be possible all over Northern Rhodesia.

Sir Herbert Dowbiggin rated the 11 uniformed African police at Mongu the weakest and most inefficient body he had seen. He reported that they had nothing to do. Mongu was still a three week journey from Livingstone, although it was hoped that a

new road from Lusaka would soon be completed and reduce the journey to three days. He noted that the Mongu detachment had not been visited or inspected for two years. Prosecutions there had dropped from 162 in 1935 to 81 in 1936, and 7 in the first four months of 1937. The station was only manned because of a stipulation in the Lewanika Concession that the Resident Commissioner be accompanied by "a suitable suite and escort".

On the other hand he considered that the prison warders at Mongu had plenty to do. Accordingly he recommended that the uniformed police and interpreter be withdrawn and replaced by a European gaoler and six additional district messengers. Dowbiggin estimated that this would result in a saving of £208 per annum. An African detective would remain as the only policeman at Mongu, security being guaranteed by air and wireless communication.³⁸

This recommendation was not implemented. Instead a European police officer was posted to take charge of the Mongu detachment. A year or two later the detachment commander was reported by a visiting officer from headquarters for failing to run his detachment properly. The delinquent answered that he could hardly be expected to have time to do so. He was also in charge of prison industries. Prisoners were the only regular labour force in Mongu. He was responsible to the district commissioner for repairs to government houses, furniture, roads and bridges, the painting of buildings, and prison sanitary and water services. He had been given the job of building a new brick runway for the aerodrome and, since there was no mechanic in Mongu, he had also to maintain all government transport!³⁹

Sir Herbert Dowbiggin had more general criticism. He reported that in quality the European police, seven officers and 61 inspectors and constables, compared favourably with the police in any country he had visited, but numerically they were far below the strength needed for policing the Territory. The decision to separate the civil police from the military had been sound, but the implications had not been satisfactorily followed up on the civil side. No steps had been taken to properly train African rank and file as policemen. The whole of the police work proper was being carried out by the Europeans assisted by African detectives. On grounds both of policy and expense it was essential to set about training an efficient African force. The aim was only to accept recruits with Standard IV educational certificates or more but insufficient could be found.

As a result of Dowbiggin's report the system of training African police was much improved, Training in crowd control and riot drill was introduced. African recruits now spent 30.95% of their time at Drill and Musketry, 27.8% Law and Police Duties, 11.2% education, 8.5% Baton Drill and Crowd Control, 6.8% First Aid, 8.5% Physical Training, 4.2% Methods of Arrest, with the remaining 2.1% oral tests and revision under the Officer Commanding. Dowbiggin was responsible for the requirement that every European police officer be capable of moving a squad on parade and commanding an armed section in riot drill.

Dowbiggin was very concerned about internal security. Musketry practice had been much neglected. He found one African sergeant who had not fired his rifle since the end of the Great War, and an inspector who, despite having worn his revolver every day as part of normal working dress, had not fired it since joining the Force fifteen years previously. On Sir Herbert's recommendation an annual musketry course was introduced. African police were to fire fifteen rounds with the rifle at up to one hundred yards every six months, while each European was to fire 12 rounds from his revolver every half year. New ranges were to be built for this purpose.

The Force held 324 service rifles. Dowbiggin recommended that twenty rounds be held at each station for each rifle on charge with a reserve of ammunition to be held at each district headquarters. The military 1908 pattern web equipment was to be withdrawn and replaced by a single leather pouch to be worn on the waistbelt when rifles were issued. His recommendation that 10 rifles and 500 rounds be held at each Boma, was not accepted. When in May 1939 the Commissioner of Police asked for 628 new rifles for the Force, his request was refused.⁴⁰

Dowbiggin found riot shields already in use and the system of supply simple. They were of bamboo and each private at each station was required to make three. Tearsmoke was, of course, already available and long bamboo riot batons were in the course of issue. Section 56 of the Northern Rhodesia Police Ordinance authorised the enrolment of special constables when necessary. Dowbiggin recommended that stocks of shields, batons, whistles and armbands be held at stations ready for issue to special constables if the occasion arose.

Sir Herbert Dowbiggin presented the Force with a Sports Team Challenge Cup. This was first competed for at Ndola on 24 July 1937 when the Ndola Detachment team beat teams from Luanshya, Nkana and Mufulira.

As a result of the Dowbiggin Report, the rank of British Constable was abolished with effect from 31st December 1937. All serving constables became assistant inspectors, grade II, although their pay remained on the scale £246-£300 per annum. Bicycle allowance was payable at 2s/6d per month! Those who had already become assistant inspectors were now designated Assistant Inspector Grade I. They retained their rank badges while the humble assistant inspector grade II wore none. Africans were now to be known as "Native Police" and not "Askari" as before and given ranks more suitable to a police force. It will be recalled that privates became "native constables" in 1932 but the old title was soon brought back. Now that there was no risk of confusion with a rank held by Europeans, all privates and junior NCOs became constables. The native police ranks were now:-

- Sergeant-Major, First, Second or Third Class;

- Sergeant, First, Second or Third Class;

- Constable, Merit Class, Long Service Class, First, Second or Third Class.

Merit class constables wore a two bar chevron, gold braid on blue; Long service class a two bar chevron khaki braid on blue; first class constables a one bar chevron, khaki

on blue. There were three grades in each class, a most complicated system! It is said that the titles "corporal" and "lance corporal" continued to be used unofficially.

Constables were paid fifteen shillings a month plus rations, free quarters, uniform and medical treatment. On Dowbiggin's recommendation literacy allowance of five shillings a month was paid to those proficient in English.

Despite the shortcomings found by Dowbiggin a conviction rate of 81.47% was achieved during 1937. D/Const R C Ladell was commended for the successful investigation of a burglary at Victoria Falls. He took plaster casts of footprints and followed a spoor for six miles to the Zambezi Sawmills compound arresting the two criminals concerned within 24 hours of the commission of the offence. The taking of plaster casts was a recent development in police practice. C/Insp Maxwell and Sergeant-Major Malipenga were awarded the Coronation Medal.⁴¹

On 22nd May 1938 the Commissioner and his headquarters staff moved from the Secretariat building to five offices on the top floor of Charter House, Lusaka.

There was now a unified Colonial Police Service. Gazetted officers were to be permitted to transfer from one colony to another, thereby widening the opportunities for promotion and widening experience by cross-fertilisation. In 1938 Inspector Eric Halse obtained a transfer to British Somaliland in the rank of superintendent. There were also plans to institute a common uniform for all forces but these had to be shelved on the outbreak of war in 1939. The only pre-war change in the uniform of the Northern Rhodesia Police as a result of these proposals was the adoption of black gorget patches in place of Force collar badges by the Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Staff Officer.

The Force now had a motor transport fleet of 12 Ford V-8 vanettes, one for each station but one on the Line of Rail. Mufulira, which now had a complement of one assistant superintendent, seven members of the inspectorate, and forty seven native police, had a motor vehicle on charge. In August 1939 the District Commissioner wrote to the Commissioner of Police complaining that twice in the last three days he had been asked to authorise the hire of motor transport for Mufulira Police Station because the station vanette was "worn out, useless, and a danger to the driver and the general public!"⁴¹

During 1938 no less than 36 Europeans, and 128 Africans attested in the Force. All the European recruits had previous police experience either in the BSAP or in Palestine. The net strength increase was 25 assistant inspectors at the end of the year. In January 1936 four newly joined British constables had started a twelve week course of instruction at the Training Depot and such courses for European recruits were to be held in 1946 but recruit training within the Territory for Europeans was not implemented on a permanent basis until 1955 after the opening of the new Police Training School at Lilayi, near Lusaka.

Also in 1938 promotion courses for African police were started at the Depot and the rank of sub-inspector was created for the most experienced and proficient. Mr Pickup handed over the command of the Training Depot to Assistant Superintendent H M L Wilkinson, who, in turn was succeeded in 1939 by Mr T M Davidson. Tommy Davidson was to hold the appointment for the next twelve years. In September the police returned to Kasama with a strength of 1 inspector and 7 African police.

In October 1938 a Photographic Bureau was established at the Headquarters of the Criminal Investigation Department in Livingstone, equipped to develop and enlarge spool film received from stations. The Photographic Bureau also did a considerable amount of work for the Depot for instructional purposes.

While on leave Detective Assistant Inspectors Read and Ladell attended a forensic science course at the Home Office Laboratory at Nottingham. Chief Detective Inspector Deane-Simmons attended the same course in 1939.⁴²

It was in 1939, or shortly thereafter, that native police ceased to wear the brass brassard on the left arm bearing the letters NRP and their identification number. It was replaced by numerals worn above the left breast pocket. These numerals were not the same as the wearer's Force number. This caused confusion as occasionally an irate member of the public would demand a constable's number, and when given it accuse the man of lying since it was not the number on his tunic! The redundant brass brassards were cut into discs and issued to African detectives as a means of identification.⁴³

With a strength of 8 gazetted officers, 5 chief inspectors, 83 inspectors and assistant inspectors, 542 African police, 32 African detectives, 3 European lady clerks and 24 African civilians, the Northern Rhodesia Police was only 3 African police, 5 detectives and 2 African civilians below establishment when war broke out. There were chief inspectors in charge at Luanshya, Nkana and Mufulira and a chief detective inspector with the superintendent at Ndola. A detachment of one European and 26 African police had been established at Chingola.

OFFICERS JOINED 1 APRIL 1932-1945

BALL C H G Const 7.5.32 Ndola 1933

BARBER Douglas Basil b1907 edUppnghm BSAP'29 NRP'33 Insp Zanzibar 12.3.38
Mil Svce'40-Supt sec'd PA'43 PA'46 Sen DC Zanzibar'49 OC Clove Control
Sch'49-50

BAXTER J

CHARLES R H Const promotion exam 1936

ALISON Eugene Alxdr NRP 1.2.34-13.1.40?

GRAVES John Christie 'Paddy' b1909 edUCS London BSAP'29 NRP 25.6.34 A/Supt
Nigeria 1947

PIPE A H Const Luanshya 1935

FRADLEY Norman b3.7.06 BSAP 1930 NRP 1.4.35 Insp Lusaka'46 A/Supt.1.6.53

BEAL Gordon Morris 'Bullet' b19.7.12 SSC RAF 1931 PaIP'33 NRP 14.6.35 RAF

Flyg Trg Cmd SR'40 Bomber Cmd- NRP'46 A/Supt Tanganyika 23.9.50 NRP
21.10.52 rtd'64 SA d1990

SMALLWOOD Harry Kedwards LLB(Hons) Lon b19.11.08 NRP 4.7.35 Insp,
Workmen's Compensation Commr 29.11.45-lve pdg rtmnt 1.8.61

COLLETT Alfd Ross CPM'56 b24.9.11 Croydon BSAP 1934 NRP 27.8.35 A/Supt'51
Supt 1.7.54 S/Supt 1.7.60 rtd 10.62 Oxfd d12.12.97

THOMPSON R G Const promotion exam 1936 Insp Lstone'46-7

WOOD S

PATTEN D B M Const Muf 1935 rsgd'38

ARKELL-HARDWICK G Const 1935 Ndola'36

ROSS John W E 'Kudu' CPM'58 bP'Maritzburg 22.3.11 BSAP 1931 NRP 5.12.35 A/
Supt 1.1.50 Supt 1.1.53 AgS/Supt Lusaka Div 22.6.57 S/Supt Sthn 6.58-rtd 3,61
d1987

BENTLEY John OBE'57 b11.10.09 Bexleyhth ed HMS Worcester Cdt 'Discovery'
Antartic 25-9.9.27 PaIP NRP 7.1.36 Insp to DA PA'46 Sen DC Westn 1.7.57 lve pdg
rtmnt 17.3.62 d.7.1999

MITCHELL Leslie b13.9.11 PaIP 1933 NRP 16.1.36 Supt 20.10.55 Ndola 12.5.62

PROUST Roy E A/Insp Nkana 1940 Insp 1.2.44 A/Supt 28.2.48 Supt Br Somalild P

MULCAHY R J Const dschge 7.36

LADELL R C H BSAP NRP 1936? D/Const'37 Forensic Science Cse Nottghm'38
rsgd'45 Med Studies London, Bristol GP Kloof

SEWARD J L A b21.7.09 NRP 30.7.36 Forestry Dept 15.6.38 Mongu'62

ESPEY Joseph Stuart CPM'57 b29.5.10 CT, BSAP'33 NRP 1936-7 NRP A/I 25.2.40
Insp'47 A/Supt'50 Supt 1.7.54 S/Supt 1.7.59 Central Div rtd 10.62

HELLIWELL John Meade 'Jack' CPM'49 b4.5.13 BSAP'32 NRP A/Supt'46 S/Supt Ch
Cmdt NRPR'52 DCP Nyasald 6.53-58 Chmn Rhodesian Broadcastg Corpn 64-74
Somerset West SA d2.7.94

HORNBY Arthur Lockyer 3379 BSAP 7.5.34 NRP 31.3.37

CULLEN Jack S b10.8.09 Jo'burg BSAP'33 NRP 12.8.37 A/Supt'52 Supt 30.5.57 rtd
19.5.60 Pte Security Lstone

BRIDGER Michael Richd CPM b27.9.11 Durban ed Rondebosch BSAP'32 NRP
30.11.37 A/Supt 1.1.53 Supt 1.7.58 SO FHQ rtd10.62 Somerset W d1986

TAYLOR L J rsgd 26.5.46
POLLARD I dschge 28.3.38
COLLINS E H NRP'38 dschge own requ 31.8.38
ALLAN D M BSAP'33 NRP 14.2.38 D/A/I Nkana rsgd by 7.46 Mines
RUNDLE Henry Leonard CPM'50 B5.12.11 BSAP'34 NRP 7.3.38 Insp'47 A/Supt'47
S/Supt SBHQ 1.7.54 sec'd Fed Int Bureau 15.10.57 tfrd Fed Sevce
HOWELLS Rex E W 3503 BSAP'35 NRP 8.3.38 D/I'46 A/Supt sec'd Fed Min Home
Affrs 1.12.54 rtd'56
WILTSHIRE H Gerald b1910 Hemswh Yks Tpr 4H 13/18H India 3511 BSAP'35 NRP
9.3.38 Insp'46 A/Supt 1.1.52 rtd 10.62 SA d1989
HARVEY Arthur Patk NRP'38 Ndola'39 inv d'81
LEONARD F R 3514 BSAP'35 NRP 11.3.38 dschgeown requ 6.12.38
ADAMS John Felix C A/I'38 sec'd PA'45-1.7.48 Legal Exec Preston & Redman Solrs
Bournemth d2.84
McCRETON Patk Kevin 3716 BSAP'38 NRP 14.4.38
BYRNE A T b12.3.15 A/I II 2.5.38 Insp sec'd Rd Svces Bd 15.11.46 Rd Tffc Insp
FJ'62
BURNHAM Rgnld A A/I II 2.5.38 Insp Maz'46 toWindward Isles P'50 rtd Florida
EXELBY G R A/I II 2.5.38 dschge ownrequ 2.12.38
O'LEARY Bernard Geo CPM'62 b12.2.13 Naini Tal India ed Kgs Cllge London 3549
BSAP'36 A/I II NRP 2.5.38 A/I I'42 Insp'46 A/Supt'50 Supt 4.1.53 S/Supt 1.7.59 ZP
ACP rtd5.67 Salisby SR
DAY Julian Canning 'Jerry' OBE QPM'56 CPM'51 b9.12.13 Southsea ed Blundells
fmg Choma'31 BSAP'34 rubber Malaya'37 A/I II NRP 23.6.38 A/Supt'45 SB'49
Supt'50 OCCID & SB'52 S/Supt'53 ACP(C)'53 SACP 29.4.57 DCP 12.62 Rtd 10.64
Harare d4.90
ROBERTS Fredk Alxdr CPM SBStJ'54 b21.4.14 BSAP'35-7 A/I II NRP 29.6.38 S/
Supt 3.9.56 ACP(A) 29.12.59 SACP 12.62
PHILPOTT Horace Bartlett 'Mike' CPM'59 b25.8.15 Bwayo 3486 BSAP'35 A/I II NRP
2.7.38 A/I I'42 A/Supt'51 Supt 18.6.56 S/Supt 1.7.59 Ndola Dist 10.62-rtd'65
Southbroom Kwazulu Natal d5.10.97
BOLTON Geoffrey T A/I II'38 Insp Lstone'47 Gambia P A/Supt 16.5.49
NORTON Cyril Frank CPM'56 b22.4.12 Cdt MN 3568 BSAP'36 A/I II NRP 4.8.38 A/
Supt l/cMonze by'54 DCIO Westn Supt 1.7.55 CID HQ S/Supt 2.2.59 DCIO Westn 62
SIMPSON Wm Marmaduke 3579 BSAP 9.4.36 A/I II NRP 11.8.38
WALLER Jan L b1.7.13 3636 BSAP '37 A/I II NRP 11.8.38 A/Supt'51 CID HQ Supt
1.7.56 DCIO Central'58 Sthn'61 Lve 4.63 d5.88
MARTIN A T/J A G 3663 BSAP'37 A/I II 15.9.38
ANDERSON Thos Stewart 'Paddy' KPM CPM b25.8.14 BSAP 6.36 A/I II'38 Mil Svce
Sgt 1/2KAR'41? Lt OETP/BMAP Italian Somalild Supt Somalild Consty'46 Dint&Sy'49
Sarawak Consty'53 S/Supt'54 ACP Brunei'57 ACP Sarawak'58 DCP'59 AgCP rtd'63
Co Cmdt USC Lt Col UDR'69-71 IoM d2012
LETCHWORTH Frank H 3701 BSAP'38 A/I II NRP'38 d Blackwater Fever Luangwa
Brdge Gd 1940
FORDE Dennis Joseph CPM'57 b18.6.16 London 3710 BSAP'38 NRP 18.8.38
Insp'46 sec'd Secretariat 12.48-31.6.49 A/Supt '51 Supt 1.7.54 S/Supt 1.7.58 ACP(A)

12.62 DCP d1992

MONTEITH Robt Stuart b6.8.13 3718 BSAP'38 NRP 18.8.38 A/Supt 1.1.52 Supt 1.6.57 S/Supt 25.12.60 Nthn 6.2.62

STUART Stair Johnstone 3580 BSAP 9.4.36 NRP 25.8.38

BLYTH Paul Redman CPM'59 b6.9.12 A'corn NR BSAP'34 NRP 10.9.38 Insp A/ Supt'50 Supt 1.7.54 S/Supt 1.6.59 L pdg rtd 17.6.62 SA d10.1.85

DAVIES J R CPM(G)'45 A/I II'38 sec'd Mil Svce A/Supt Somalild'45 Nborneo

HUTCHINSON Thos A 3696 BSAP 4.4.38 A/I II NRP 12.9.38

CLARK Llewellyn Michael CPM'51 b10.11.18 Houpoort SA BSAP'38 A/I II NRP 13.9.38 Insp 2i/cDepot'42 A/Supt'51 Supt1.7.56 S/Supt'62 Muf Dist'63 s/jn law of RSM Schronen Oudtshoorn d'87

SCULLY Patk Francis Joseph 3702 BSAP 12.4.38 A/I II NRP 12.9.38

SEED Jack Baron b5.9.17 3722 BSAP 1.4.38 A/I II NRP 12.9.38 Stn Insp Muf'50 A/ Supt'52 Supt 26.7.56 S/Supt 1.7.60 Sthn'62

GRIFFIN Raymond C 3621 BSAP'36 A/I II NRP 14.9.38 dschge own requ 10.1.46

BROCKWELL Denis Montague QPM'62 CPM'52 b1.6.16 S'pre ed Ellesmere BSAP'37 NRP 15.9.38 A/I I'43 A/Supt'50 Supt.1.7.54 S/Supt 15.10.57 ACP(C) rtd 1964 d1991

DASHWOOD H K E A/I II'38 D/Insp Lka'48 A/Supt Tanganyika 1950

NEAL Sidney Albt CPM'55 b4.8.14 PalP'37 NRP 5.1.39 Supt 1.1.54 S/Supt 1.5.58 ACP 12.62

GALLIAS Geo H b11.11.11 Mossel Bay SA 3443 BSAP'35 NRP 2.4.39 Insp CID Lka'49 A/Supt 1.1.52 rtd 2.61

IRVIN N M 'Husky' Pal P'35-7 NRP'39 Agric Dept 13.9.46 d1992

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GABB Ronald A/I II Luanshya 1940

GORDON Chas Ongley 3655 BSAP 28.4.37 NRP 7.7.39 Luanshya 1940

STEWART D A D/Insp 31.5.46 still svg 1953

WADE Robt T Insp 16.10.45 A/Supt Nigeria 1946

PATON M A A/I II Ndola 1939

LINDSAY A/I/II

ARRIGONIE Henry Anthony 'Kapyanga' b9.10.13 A'shot Hants s/o Capt ed Manch Centl HS, London U Tutorial Cllge, Pte Kgs Own 22.8.32 PC Met'34 Pal P 28.2.35 2BSgt 8.38 A/I II NRP 30.7.39 S/Insp 1.1.52 l/c Kalomo'55 C/I 1.1.59 DCIO Eastn L1.4.63-rtd 2.64

READ Robt Jeffrey CPM b11.7.15 Twickenham PC Met 1934 3740 BSAP'38 NRP 9.7.39 Insp'47 A/Supt'50 Supt 4.7.53 S/Supt 1.7.57 ACP rtd 10.64 Somerset West SA d11.6.98

BYRNE C G 'Kafupi' b8.9.10 Pretoria SAP 1932 Swazild P'35 NRP 1.1.40 A/Supt 1.1.51 Supt 1.7.58 rtd12.1.62 Mgr Zambezi Boat Club Lstone

NOTES CHAPTER 11

1.Nkhwazi Vol 12 No.1 April 1964 p31

2.Annual report PRO CO/799/11

3.PRO CO799/9

4. Map Nkhwazi April 1964

5. Annual reports Rhodes House & PRO

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8. Annual reports

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Sir Ronald STORRS K(29)CMG 16 CBE 19 b19.11.81 s/o Dean of Rochester
 Chtrhse Camb Egyptn CS Min Fin'04 Mines Sec Customs Audit, Oriental Sec Br
 Agency Cairo'09 LO Mesopotamia, Sec War Cabinet, Lt Col Mil Gov Jerusalem'17
 Gov Jerusalem & Judea'20 Kt'24 Cyprus'26 NR'32 inv'34 d Bury St Edmunds 1.11.55

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Sir Richd Allmond Jeffrey GOODE Kt 28 CMG 24 CBE 18 bNewfoundld 30.4.73 s/o
 Rev, ed Fettes, Sec to Admr NER'00 NWR 08 Sec to Admr NR'11 DAdmr'20 Ch
 Sec'24 Commr for Rlys NR'27 rtd 36 SA d25.5.53

18. Story NRR p106

19. PRO CO/795/45002

20. Sampson "So this was Lusaaka's"; CAP Jubilee Edn 31.7.63;
 Sir Stanley Davenport ADSHEAD MA MArch FRIBA b68 Prof Town Planning L'pool
 09 London 14 designed Ramsgate Pavilion, Carnegie Library Ramsgate, L'pool Rep
 Theatre, Duchy of Cornwall Estate Kenningtn, Worthing Pavilion

21. "The Flag Wagger"; Harry FRANKLIN OBE BA Oxon b06 Insp Natve Edn NR 28
 PA 29 DO 31 Bar Lincoln's, Judcl Dept 36 Secretariat 40 Info Offr War Corres 43-5
 DInfo 46 rtd MLC Min Tpt & Wks 62

22. Exco PRO CO799/19; HRH George Edward Alexander Edmund DUKE OF KENT
 b20.12.02 RAF k flying acc 8.42

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25. Annual report NRR PRO CO/799/14

26. Story NRR p68

Maj Sir Hubert Winthrop YOUNG K(34)CMG 23 DSO 19 b6.7.85 s/o Lt Gov Punjab
 ed Eton RMA 2Lt RA 04 IA 08 A/Political Offr Mespot 15 sec'd FO 19 Colonial Office
 21 Colonial Sec Gib 27 Cnslr to HCommr Iraq 29 Min Plenipotentiary Iraq 32 Gov
 Nyasald 32 NR 34 Trinidad & Tobago 38-42 d20.4.50

27. Arthur Wm BONFIELD BA b5.91 NRGS PS to Admr 13.8.14 ANC Mwinilunga 18
 NC Solwezi 7.7.21 DO Luanshya 35

Sir Glyn Smallwood JONES G(64K60)CMG 57 MBE 44 BA b9.1.08 ed King's
 Chester, Oxon, Asscn Football for Wales; Cdt NR 31 DO'33 Commr Native
 Developmnt'51 PC Westn'55 Sec Native Affrs'58 Ch Sec Nyasald'60 Gov'61 Gov
 Gen Malawi'64-6 Advsr to PM Lesotho 69-71 DChmn Pearce Comm Rhodesia'72

Obsvr Zimbabwe Elections'80

28. John Ellis ROSS b7.6.93 Forest Hill ed Kg's Worcester, Tpr BSAP 15.10.13 No.1
Mob Colm 8.14 RNR

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36. Sir Herbt Layard DOWBIGGIN Kt 31 CMG 26 KPM b80 s/o Rev ed Merchnt
Taylors' Insp Ceylon P'01 ASP'01 Supt'05 IG'13 rtd 1.37

37. Sir Chas Cecil Farquharson DUNDAS K(38)CMG 34 OBE 23 b6.6.84 s/o Vsct
Melville, Clk Elder Dempstr Line 03 Cdt A/DC EA 08 DC 14 Political Offr GEA 16 Sen
DC Tanganyika 20 Sec Native Affrs 26 Colonial Sec Bahamas 29 DGov 31 Ch Sec
NR'34 Gov Bahamas 37 Uganda 40-44 d10.2.56

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39. Nkhwazi April 1964 p37

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