

J.F. What made you - what were the influences - can you just start out and tell me where you were born and when?

K.D. Ja, I'm born on the 5th. September, 1937 in Groningen, north of Holland.

J.F. And were your parents very political at all?

K.D. No (now) you know, I - my father he was in the resistance in Holland, but I don't know him - he - my parents divorced when I was three years old or so - but he has been in the resistance during the Second World War, and he was a planter, or assistant planter in Indonesia, so my parents lived in Indonesia, and he got sacked in the '30s, the crisis, and they came back, but they were - especially my mother - very anti-colonial, in a sense that they had (.....) ideas about - they didn't have these ideas about that the Indonesian was less, or that they couldn't develop without - without Holland and so on, so they were for the time political, critical people - at least my mother, I'm sure - and beside being member of a party, the only thing I know my father - so they divorced when I was three years or so, and so my step-father is - for me is my father, and he was a teacher and the art (?) teacher, and also critical man, but not - not really political, but I would call them social democrats a bit and intellectuals, artists, and they were always very much against the - the actions of the Holland (?) after the war in Indonesia, police actions - polisionele akties - and they voted most of the time Labour Party, you know, but they never were active themselves, but very critical and independent people, you know.

J.F. What akties?

K.D. Polisionele akties in Dutch, and it means police action, and this was in '47 because (?) Holland sent troops to Indonesia to fight against Sukarno, but the strange thing is that my real father he was in the resistance during the Second World War and - and acted against the Nazis, and at the same time, without any problems, he left for Indonesia to fight their - the war (?) to fight against Indonesians, so it was normal (?) he never - and I never discussed it with him because we lost contact and so on, but always I thought how's it possible being in the resistance fighting against fascism, and then fighting a colonial war, and so I think I - I got linked to these problems about use of violence and so on, especially after my return from the embassy, because people refused to make a comparison between the Second World War, the legitimate struggle against Nazi fascism, and the situation in South Africa - they think it's very diff - very different - I don't think it's different - for me it's the same kind of struggle against fascism and against exploitation, against racism, against anti-semitism, but those people who (.....) in our resistance partly was just against the - their people who (?) occupied Holland, the Nazis, and it wasn't a political, a really political thing, because some were - went to Korea afterwards to fight in South Korea, others went to Vietnam, and others like my father and many others went to Indonesia to fight our colonial war, so if I compare it, I think these people who join now the ANC or do something else, they might think the better compares (?) this problem in the Spanish Civil War more than else (?) you know, the people who said : No, the fascism in Spain is impossible, so we going to do something against it because it goes, you know, against every value, every idea about, you know (?) which I have - so I think that's a better comparison, but in Holland you can't use it if you have to explain why you did what you did because Spanish Civil War, most don't know anything about it, and the Dutch government took also the nationality of the people who fought in the international brigade.

J.F. Going back to yourself - that was your father and your step-father - for your own experience, did you grow up in the home with politics being discussed, or any values being discussed that shaped you?

K.D. Ja, my - I think I had kind of (.....) upbringing, taking responsibilities and making choices, not in political thing - as long - even if they didn't agree, if it was my choice it was O.K., we didn't have to (?) defend it - so you make a choice and you are responsible for it, and as long as you're behind it, it doesn't matter if they agree it or not, so being - and I think that's the kind of (.....) (.....) because we are from small child's on, I was educated in the sense that - that the moment I could defend things in my way, or the depending (?) the - the - the age they ask other things - if I stood behind it and explained it, even if they were afraid for it or they didn't like it, the moment I had an argument and they could say ja - even if they didn't like it they - they - I could do it.

J.F. And so you - what did your parents do when you were growing up? Did you grow up in Holland (?)

K.D. No, no, I went to - then my mother left my father when I was one year or so, and then I don't remember anything, but I remember from when I was three years and I knew - I knew my step-father very well (?) and we were living in Deventer - that's at the east of the country, middle east - and he was an artist and he ja - he - he painted and sometimes worked to make posters and things, but then when I was three years old - later on he was an art (?) so I know him only as a art teacher more than that - since the end of the Second World War he was a art teacher till he retired, but he always painted for himself, but when he married a woman with three children - I was the youngest, so he couldn't - he couldn't get no money, so he had - he was forced to take a job as a art teacher.

And my mother, she - what was she - she did school (?) to be a - a - a - just a, ja, primary school teacher, but she didn't like it - she never worked in it (?) and she liked music and she - principally (?) she wanted to do music, cello - never did it when - married very young and left for Indonesia, and she loved living there, but (?) during the - during the - but my two - my older brother and sister were born there, and they came back during the crisis, especially also because they were quite - they didn't fit very well in this colonial Dutch circle, so they were among the first or so to get sacked, and so then they came to Holland and I was born so after the India time, and now ja, then I remember living in Daventer - that's the Second World War, when I was three years the Second World War started, and I remember my first father - I call (?) him my real father - he came then in uniform - he was in the army then, Dutch army, and I remember that he came in uniform, and then I only saw him at the end of the war - he was still - he was then part of the (?) resistance and - and my step-father he was anti - anti-Nazi or so, but he didn't - sometimes he went underground just to hide for - for (.....) for a man (?) who had to work in Germany, but he never - he never was active in the resistance, but he was very anti-Nazi.

And so we lived in Daventer near the railway station, and then we had to go there because it was too dan - the Germans took the house, and then I lived with my grandparents - my grandmother was killed by the Germans at the end of the war - there was fighting and the Ijssel was looming (?) - the Ijssel (.....) was fighting between Canadians and Germans, so my grandmother was killed, and then the war was over, and then we went back to Daventer - I was then eight years old, and just afterwards I left the same year - I left for Haarlem - it's a city 20 kilometres from Amsterdam in the west of the country near the sea, and there I had my schooling, primary schooling, secondary school, and then afterwards I went into the army myself and so I - I hated high school - I went in the army to do something else, and I hated the army even more, and so I started studying social sciences, social political sciences, and it was when I was 20 years old in 1957.

J.F. Do you think that having had the Indonesian exposure in your background had any effect on you in terms of the issue of race?

K.D. My - my - one thing, my parents were not racist at all, so that's all (?) what I know - I don't think my father was, my first father, my - certainly not my mother and my second father, my step-father were not racist at all - they were not anti-semit - they were anti-fascist, so I think there's experience in not thinking in terms of race, ja, but for me it was normal, I never questioned it - it was never - and it was never a point of discussion because it was normal that everybody was on principle equal and - and if - and then ja, you know, it - and now the racist - racism is much more overt (?) because you have a lot of people of Surinaam and, you know, people came back from Indonesia because (?) I was living in Haarlem - I never - there were no black children, there were no - some children from Indonesia, but they were, as far as I know and remember, at least my family we never felt anything, saw (?) oh, there are these Indian - Indian people, Indonesians - never, never any negative remark, and if - so no, I think that ja, racism was something they were - they were completely against, but it wasn't a problem because they (I) never experienced it during my youth, but I went whenever there was a discussion on it when (?) I was a little bit older, then they were very - their (?) stand was very much against racism, so I - I think my - they were intellect - artistic - a bit bourgeoisie boer (?) - they had a very - I was very free in my upbringing and in time (?) that others controlling the kids or so, I could come with girlfriends at home and she could sleep and - and I was free, completely free because now no - no repression, not in sexual terms, not in political, nothing, and justifying (?) I took my responsibilities and that was O.K., I could do what I wanted, so I liked it and - and it's idea (?) that it's more or less extentionalistic (?) upbringing, that's what formed me more than a kind of political (.....)

J.F. And then in '57 you went to study?

K.D. Ja, social sciences University of Amsterdam, and what - what - I was interest because all the stories about Indonesia and how - not my step-father because he never been there, but (?) my mother, and the country and everything - then I thought hey, Indonesia, I want to go, but then '57 was Sukarno and then the relations between Indonesia and Holland were bad, so I started studying social sciences and one of the professors was Wertheim - he's an Indonesia specialist, and there was some time also an assistant, a student of him, and I thought hey, I want to do it because I am so (?) - I would like to go to Indonesia.

My brother went when he was older, 20 years - he went to Indonesia and married a Chinese wife, and that was never a problem for my parents, no - no problem at all, and it wasn't even discussed - I mean it was so normal if you were in love so - with somebody and thought it was a good partner, didn't matter - other reasons perhaps there were - you (?) didn't like a person, not in racist terms.

So my brother went there and - and I was brought up - sometimes we used to even Malay words (?) - being in Indonesia I knew quite a lot of Malay words, and I had some friends who had lived in Indonesia, and my first wife she was born in Indonesia as - from Dutch parents, and had been in a concentration camp, and I studied sociology and took that time - it (?) was an Indonesia specialist and taught (?) also, and then (.....) sociology if my - if I would like to go to Indonesia.

K.D. But then Indonesia wasn't possible because of political problems, and then everybody starved (?) a bit during - ja, then Asia and other countries started to - we became very much interest in China - that was the '60s - China was in time for (?) Mao - and India there were possibilities to work in India, and well, I thought a certain moment (?) I was interest to go to India, but then I met quite a lot of Indians, also students - I didn't like their culture very much so - and the way the woman and men - women and men are separated, and when I was reading more about the (.....) caste situation, and then I went for specialisation to Paris and I met black Africans from the - from French West Africa, and their music, the way of social - the social way they behave - the men, women - women relationships, the parties, and they (?) said I'm crazy if I want to go to India - this is the kind of people I - I like the music, I like the easy - easy social way of behaving, and I - I - I stopped being interested, I thought I want to specialise in Africa, and that was on - just on completely subjective, just that I think (?) ja, that's the kind of people I can laugh with, I can have fun and they - they dance, and one way (?) I like the music I prefer more than Indian music, so - and until now I'm fascinate by - by African, and not on a sentimental way but just the - the - the social - oh well, you know Africans perhaps (.....) but I felt very much at home, very easy, and I loved it so.

And then coming back from Paris I stopped Indian studies and I specialised on - on Africa south of the Sahara, so I did sociology and anthropology and non(.....) sociology and specialised especially on tropical Africa, not - not on South (?) Africa, tropical Africa, and my first job was also I - I - I started writing for newspapers - the De Groene Amsterdammer was a left wing newspaper - it was in '60s - was the time of that we questioned, and we did before (?) and it was also the - the - the whole ja, that you can't - you don't have value-free social science and is impossible (?) that it is linked to engagement, that you just can't study social science without making choices yourself the way it has to grow, and that's influenced by - by their time (?) the same professor, but it was the whole - in the '60s the whole social and the (?) - the - and the discussion point in - in Holland - students before they were in students paternities (?) and politics and society were for later, but for us it wasn't possible, so it was the time of Cuba, of Vietnam, there's some (?) demonstrations, and I was never a member of a political group, but I wrote for a very left wing newspaper, a weekly, De Groene Amsterdammer, and well, that and - and so that influenced me, and because I more and more got interested in Paris also through the contacts I had with ja, the Africa study centre there, so I studied some time in Paris - I did demography (?) first and later African studies, just a bit, because I was studying quite fast, so if I had to do something (?) with my scholarship I am going to Paris and studied there, and I met a lot of people, and that was the gauche proletarienne, the - the proletarian left, so that was the time that Sartre and Simone de Beauvoir took a very left wing activist stand in politics in France and ja, it was the also still in the - at the end of the Algerian war, so it - this whole time forms (?) me, the time in Amsterdam I was freelancing, so I'm writing about - about black Africa, so there were the military coup - I made a story about negritude, and this negritude it's a nigerness (?) how you call it in English - negritude, it was the concept - ideology of - of Senghor that (.....) BC kind of movement in the - started in the '30s and was very important to (?) French speaking countries - I criticised it as an apolitical BC kind of movement what- what was much more a protest against the racist - white racism, and then it has really a liberating kind of force only as a phase I - I thought could be important.

K.D. And they - that was a cultural (?) kind of movement, but often some of these people became very important politically, but so like Senghor, he was talking about negritude and blackness and conscious being black - at the same time he at (?) the high schools in Senegal you had to learn Latin, and if he gave a speech he started with the Greek (?) culture and then influenced the Egypt and then black African country, and so that was his whole strange mixture of French intellectuals and - and African and - and a mystification (?) of what Africa was, so I criticised his kind of African socialism, blackness and so.

And then I did study on - amongst African students in Paris, to find out with (?) their new generation what their ideas were about African socialism or a real socialist transformation in Africa and what more ja- then you had this whole idea - you had this military coup in - one after the other in all the African states, so I started studying that.... (Tape off)

I wasn't active in - in - in a political way, so I mean I was interested in Provo and I observed from a distance, and I agreed with it but I didn't participate - I went to the parties and I sometimes so and - but my circle was more the people around that journal and....

J.F. Which journal?

K.D. De Groene Amsterdammer, which is a weekly, and - and some people - we were afterwards - we went in very different directions - one is a mayor now in Rotterdam and the others are a professor and - and - but at the time we were also (all so) so we all went to visit (?) in Cuba, Vietnam war in (and) the Maories (?) and - and everything, but we were not really - we were quite anti-Soviet Union at the time, ja, the whole - since we heard about Stalin that time - I was still at high school, so when (?) Krushev came as his (?) party's congress, so we didn't want to have anything to do with Soviet kind of socialism - we were much more interested in the experiences of Cuba and - and Mao in - in China and -

But so in Africa it's - so my - my - my interest was for just subjective reasons - was black Africa, and I very - and I did a specialisation in demography in Paris and in Holland, population studies, and before I finished my studies I had already a job at the Africa study centre in Holland, and the moment I finished my studies I left for Tanzania, you know, in '6 - '68 - January, '68 - and in between I was married and had one child and - and I did - I studied for quite a long time, and I didn't mind (?) - I worked together with - we were married quite young (?) - we - and I had always had scholarship and - but I could - I did a lot of things, and I didn't mind studying long time because I found it a very interesting time, so I was - went to Paris and came back, and I did a survey among - among the less paid workers in Holland for - for the socialist - for the Labour Party, under (.....) in practical work my first sociological work for - and with (?) somebody else and - and I - and I think that's it, more or less, so not really political active but about - very critical about every - every existing kind of political movement, and especially from Soviet Union, and then I mean the 50 - '68 with my two-prong (?) career I worked here in Southern Mbeya region - you know that, Mbeya region - it's north of the Lake Nyasa, and I did demographic survey and social and economic factors which (?) influenced the - the level of fertility and- and so on, and that became in the next time quite political point because you had this whole - in the whole conception of the discussion about how to - how to develop underdeveloped countries - the one on the Americans came with a huge propaganda to do it via the population factor, so you lower the birth rate and then everything is fine, and in - in my conception that was the other way round - you can't lower the birth rate before changing the economic and social situation, so you need that source of information before you can do something about fertility.

K.D. And there was - and so we, with some people, also members of the international demographic movement, we - we started a campaign against this American approach of the population factor, so there was a political approach of - of the quite technical thing, and it was - so I was in the '60s very active in it - it's now something (?) which plays (?) in South Africa again - we start with population problems and to control the - the growth rate of the - the South African population because we think it's not a (Interruption)

That's what's going on now, it's more and more - when I was in the embassy newspapers I was studying all - I was saying that it's not the political problem for future of South Africa, it's a demographic problem, the fast growth of the - so they start this now, this new - new department of demography and the (?) specialist and more and more family planning kind of - of - of advertisement, but it has a very clear political connotation, and it's the same we saw all over Africa in the '60s and we - we - we were against it the way they presented it, but we will (?) have the same problems in South Africa now - so that was one of the things I was coming back from Tanzania - I worked on this and published quite a lot of articles also about this kind of problems, demographic problems, and the way they - that was used - misused and - and in - partly in scientific journals and - and partly in - in - also in De Groene Amsterdammer the same - same thing.

So then afterwards because I - I started demography not knowing very much about - I did some specialisation but not enough, and then I realised that I needed more, so I went back to Paris for one year to specialise more in - and there - that was in '71 and so, and it was - I had a scholarship then for a specialisation, and I met again a lot of Africans and I had a very nice time, and there was a lot of new things happening - there was a school of Marxist anthropology with Maor Su (?) and others were very active in Paris - Maor Su (?) that's a French anthropologist at school of Marxist anthropology - was formed at the end of the '60s - and so I was influenced by these discussions going on, and then later on I went myself, some years later - then I was divorced already, and my kids - she found another friend, and my kids stayed with (.....) - stayed with my ex-wife, and I went alone to Senegal, French speaking West African country, to do a research also from (.....) quite a Marxist perspective, neo-Marxist, and saw the social and economic consequences of rural migration from population, and also information (?) studies of projects in this area, and I was - I stayed there for two years, but I wasn't very happy with it because from this - from a progressive perspective doing studies, nobody uses this - you can do it for scientific reasons (.....) and then it's nice, but it - the need (?) for the institute where I was working for they want also practical aspect, but if you make it practical, then you have to use the kind - then it can't be from Marxist perspective because the government was a neo-colonial government in Senegal, very pro-French, dependent of France, and there's - there's a - a policy for the rural areas was a very bad, so if you - you write (?) from - from emancipatory - emancipation kind of view that you take the - take the interest of the rural population as the most important one, and then you can study what you want, but it's never used, so it was quite a - you know, it was a kind of study I didn't like - I had to do some practical things and came in conflict with - with - with - with other with my approach, so I was quite unhappy about - I didn't publish much about - I think I had good data (?) but then - and then I thought hey, next time I want to work in a socialist country because there you have possibilities to link the two together from - if you from Marxist perspective you work and - and then the country's Marxist, then you have much more possibilities that your work is used.

K.D. So that's why I was so much interested to go to Angola, Mozambique or - since '75 they were free, or Guinea Bissau, and during my time in - in - in Senegal, what's north of Guinea Bissau, I worked in the border area with Guinea Bissau and I went with (.....) and that's the - the party - liberation movement of Cabral, and once during the war I went with a group of guerillas, two, three days - you know, I don't remember how many days - I was with a group of guerillas inside in north front, and later, just after independence I came also to visit Guinea Bissau - I was - I was very much influenced by - very much taken by how they - what their plans were for the future and how they saw the war and how they - and the whole transformation they stood for - that's a small country and, you know, that much space to experiment, so I was much more interested to go to a country like Angola or Mozambique, so from that time on I thought gee, if there's a possibility and - and later on I joined the Eduardo Mondlane Foundation, that's in - ja, they were in between to send cooperantes to Angola, Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, and I met then also, it was I think in '77 or so, Ruth First when she was in Amsterdam, the French - French National Institute in Amsterdam, and she gave lectures there, and then I asked already (?) whether - if there were possibilities in (?) the centre - I heard about the centre - Centre du Studies Africanos, and he said ja, perhaps, and so - then later I met - I - then I met Helene, and that was in 1979 or so, and I still had work to do in Holland, so I couldn't - and I lived with my two sons - they were with me at that time - after my stay in Senegal they came to live with me and not with their mother, so it was difficult to - to go away or so - in '79 met Helene, and in between I was sometimes living with other - other girl friend, but never for a very long time, and then I met Helene - we fell very much in - very much in love, and she said oh, well, she was a linguist, specialised in Bantu languages, and had worked and lived in Zaire with her first husband for a long time - most of her children were born there - did research as a linguist in Ivory Coast, and she was, you know, very good in her field, and she had just finished her studies and already published a hell of a lot and she was (.....) so I said I'd like to go to Mozambique, but it was very difficult for sociologists to find a job and the centre seemed to be full, and then (.....) she got a offer - there was a post for a linguist for African languages in Mozambique, and then she took the job, and I went just as houseman, so I went with her, and so that's how we came in Mozambique and....

J.F. Which year?

K.D. That was in - we came there in February, '81, so - and then I came with one son - one stayed then with his mother, and the other went - the oldest came with me, and Helene had four kids and she - she came with four kids and was - and we never lived together before in Amsterdam, but we - and so it was quite difficult, a family of five children and one (?) my son separated from his brother and - and we didn't know - never lived together, was (?) the first time, and then in a new country, a new life and so, so a lot of possibilities that it go wrong (?) and it went wrong, so it's - and - but - and also, ja - and so that was February, '81, and from that moment I - very soon I - first week I was there I contacted the Central Africa Studies, but they didn't have a job, but I could just join in the - in the studies, and I didn't - in principle I had still to work for Afrika Studie Centre to publish certain things, but very - so I was busy with it, but very soon I got very much interested in what they did in Mozambique because they had a linked (?) research really the way I saw it would be necessary, social research linked to the - the - what the country wanted, and then from a more Marxist perspective, the political, it was this strength of the institute that they asked political questions and the (?) research political - from a political point of view, what was meant to help to resolve certain problems of social transformation in Mozambique, and that was damned interesting.

K.D. It was really - I never saw this (?) and it worked really as a team, so I learned a lot there, seeing and participated later on in - also in some of their small projects on contract base (basis) - but then - so I - I - I said I left only for one year, kind of Sabbatical in which time I would use to publish, but very soon I thought hey, I find much more interesting to stay in Mozambique for different reasons, so what they did there at the institute and work in Mozambique itself and - and the whole process that (?) problems of transformation, and very soon we met ANC's - ANC guys who lived there, and we saw the importance for development, the importance of South Africa, so all the links, economic, political links, and the whole process of destabilisation from - from the first moment I was there we were conscious of the role South Africa played - it was -

I came on the 8th. February, and it was the day, I think, that these guys from Matola were - were buried - that was exactly the end of January - we came the day that there was the - the burial, and there were 12 ANCers, commanders, or they said they were commanders, the (?) killed now from that moment until I stayed till (?) the end of '84 in Mozambique, there was not one day we were not conscious of the - the South African destabilisation.

So studying Mozambique and seeing the struggle for socialist transformation you can't - you can't not see - it's impossible not to think about what Mozambique is doing, so I got a job at the ministry of information, worked at the social communication project, and it was a - a - a project of the ministry of information and UNICEF, setting up local radios and other local radios in the aldeas comunais, the community villages all over Mozambique in - from Niassa and Cabo del Gado in the north to Gaza and Inhambane in the south, and I had to sensibilise (?) the people who worked in the villages for how to interview, how to - to - to see what the kind of social and political problems are in the villages, to make kind of bases - very simple bases (?) survey, so that we know how many people there were, kind of problems with the cooperativa, and so all this kind of basic social facts of such a village, so what you needed to know if you wanted to make programmes in these villages who were a bit linked to the realities, but it never went very far because very soon we had this whole destabilisation - Renamo became important, and that's also another factor, so they blew up cars of this project I was working and they plundered and - and - and attacked villages (.....)

So this whole - whole time from '81 till '84 was a continuous process of being conscious of the enormous destabilisation, so you had the attack on the Beira port, these South African soldier what were - what was (?) northern British soldier or (?) Irish, who was killed during blowing up railway line - you had second Matola raid after the Pretoria bomb - Ruth First and the - Slovo's wife was killed, and we knew her, so there's not - when I left with my son on the 12th. December, '84, over the road to Namaacha all the cars who came after me were - the people in it were killed, and so there were the 12 or so on the road who - who were killed just on that day - I heard it only later (?) so - then also at Mtotswe (?) a friend of - a girl friend of my - my son, older son - so from that first day till the last day I can give you examples mostly on - if necessary, daily or monthly of destabilisation, so realising that my being in (?) that Mozambique can't develop without a complete structural change in South Africa, it - and being angry, which is so hurt (?) and so what the hell I'm doing here trying to - to help to - to build up a new society, and they break it - they - they do everything to (.....) it's not far to decide then why not do something to help to get rid of this racist regime what is destabilising not only Mozambique but Botswana and now the whole - whole region.

K.D. And then at same time we, you know - in Maputo there were a lot of ANC-ers living there quite openly, so you met them and they talk about the experience - Indres Naidoo, ten years Robben Island, others about the experience Robben Island - we saw people coming back who were tortured, we heard about people killed, so we knew more about what the ANC stood for - I knew all these things because sometimes when I was in Holland also - before I went to Mozambique I was quite well informed about apartheid, and I was against apartheid, so it's normal - every Dutchman was against apartheid more or less, the majority, for one reason or another, so - and that was not the problem, but it is living it, I think, and then linked to - to ja, a scientific analysis of the situation that Mozambique and - and Zambia and Zimbabwe and Botswana and Swaziland (?) (.....) and Lesotho can't develop if it stays like this.

You were angry because you saw what they do is destabilisation, and being conscious of what the ANC stood for, it is a very small - for me it was a small step then to start hey, man (?) if I can do something I'm ready, so that's how it happened, more or less.

J.F. Are you going to leave it at that, that's how it happened? Can we talk about (Tape off) - specific details I'm not interested in....

K.D. No, meeting as - seeing what's going on in Mozambique, seeing what South Africa's doing, reading the centre study the inter-relationships and also this what's going on in South Africa itself, with people like Dan O'Meara and Rob Davies and all these, so they made these studies and ja, Sipho Dlamini, and they had this - this Africa section - South Africa section, and they've published, talking with ANC guys, reading what's going on a certain moment - I don't - but that is more difficult to say who proposed - certain moment you declare to yourself - I did at least - so why the hell - so we conscious what the ANC's doing is the best thing, also a non-racial democratic society, and then also the means they stood for so and (?) armed struggle, I found I had - I hadn't any difficulty to - to - to accept it - then it's the next step from in certain moment, I think - if you are angry for what you see, then it's - and if you say O.K., if I can do something you let, and they - they - they perhaps give some hints are you (?) and after the all - I don't know exactly how it happened, if it's instigated (?) for me or from them - I don't know, it's probably from both sides, you - you show interest, you talk with them - you want to know more, and they see how you behave and talk, and then you let them - them know that you are in for helping, and so it's a process - I don't know exactly the - the chicken or the egg, but a certain moment then you approach, and I said yes, and that is then ja - that's then for transporting, propaganda and material or so, and you don't (?) know very much and - and then you do it once and it goes well, and you - and then you do it twice, and then in between I went for the first time to South Africa - that was also in '81 I went to South Africa, and Helene had to go to the hospital since she - since she had been in Holland she had an operation for sterilisation or so, and there was chronic infection, and they couldn't find the reason - they were afraid it was something worse - they couldn't treat her, so they sent her to Johannesburg Hospital - or she could go to Holland or Johannesburg, but she didn't want to go so far with the kids in Maputo, so from - from Mozambique we got - and they said you can go to Johannesburg, so I went - we went together - she was in hospital and so we - that was the first time I visited South Africa and - and read the newspapers and talked to people when (?) she was in the hospital and saw the television and walked around and so - then I became even more conscious of the fact that this society that's new (?) it's terrible - I mean the repression and what you heard and the - the - the censorship - well, everything was - was clear.

K.D. So then I had a visa for South Africa, so I said, hey, if you - what I did now before just on a short distance I - I - if you need me, I can go to South Africa too, and that's the so started (?) - so I started working, going to South Africa.

J.F. When was her operation?

K.D. In September, '81, but that is the date what's better - I don't think they know exactly, so it's better that you don't use a date (.....) - so from that time off (?) I started working, doing - and I don't mind - I mean I thought hey, why they ask of (?) why - why not (?) propaganda our money (?) or so, and also why smuggling arms - for me there's no difference - the moment you accept ideas of the ANC and you accept, or you think it's worthwhile to have an armed struggle, I don't think I can make a difference and say : Oh, ja, I want to - to bring propaganda in but arms, no, no, I can't do - for me I think it's hypocrite - if I think it's necessary, then I don't make any difference for why I can't do this and (?) the moment - that doesn't mean that I don't have any criticism, but it is - so I didn't find it difficult to accept doing, ja, being smuggling arms - for me there was nothing (?) - I can't say certain moment : Ja, you can do this, but I just won't - no, I found if it's - if you are behind it, and I was, and then I'm - then - then it's easy to take such a decision, I found- and then I had children, so I thought about it, but I didn't - my wife was still in Holland, so if something would go wrong the children had still one parent, and the same was also true for Helene, I think - that was for me also a decision - if you a couple and you are alone, then it would be probably much more difficult, I don't know.

Another thing was I was always interested in - in - in revolutionary movements, so I studied in time, and I wrote about it also, and about military Cuba (?) revolutionary movements, and I said (?) we - for example, about Guinea I wrote a long time ago about the armed struggle in Guinea, and I told you already I had been there and I - it's very difficult a sociologist or so, or a (?) scientist - you can write about these things, but if you then can participate you get much more data, so also for this for - as a sociologist, participating was the best - it's also the way I work as a sociologist - I do research, ask questions, like you do, but the same time I participate to know better and - and so I thought hey, so political I was informed I was (?) and I agreed - my personal situation was so that I think I - I could do it, the - I was angry enough to see that I - this fear you have (.....) it's impossible (?) what these guys do, and so I ended (?) - so you jump just a certain fence to - to - to - to do this - I was scientific interested, and I must say but (?) that is often criticised - starting doing these kind of things - if it went well and you foxed (?) the boers, so if you did something and (?) you did it well, they'd give you an enormous kick, then that's - and some people think then ja, it's adventurous, but it's also a stimulating factor if you do something well, and you say : Hey, I brought in something and everything went well, and would give you some idea from hey (?) that's great - and I liked that feeling also, but some people don't like this and they say ja, it's adventurous, but for me it's played also a role, together with these other things.....

END OF SIDE ONE.

K.D. so I don't think it is any problem if I ever get it there (?) - no, one thing is I think it's if you are - ja, it's a racist country, so if you are white you're less suspicious - once I was with a load of arms somewhere, and there was a roadblock - I came from a road (?) where in principle it was forbidden to - to drive- that was near a railway - and there was a roadblock and they stopped me, and then they said wait, because there came a car with black people full of - you know, a small bus and full of people, blacks, and they were searched and so, and enormous - they were searched, you know, everything, and body search and under the car and on (in) the car - I stood there in (?) my car, said : What are you doing - and they said ja, it's a roadblock, and where are you from, they asked - I said from Holland - I had a Dutch number plate - a tourist - they said : Oh, but roadblock (?) do you know (?) - do you - do you know - know (?) roadblocks - I said : No, in my country there are no roadblocks - and they laughed and they said - and I watched them and I saw them searching, and then they came to me and say : O.K., do you have something - said : No, well (we'll) open the things - there was nothing, or they didn't - I - perhaps they didn't do even that.

But they were very friendly, and because I was white and I was - and they say : Oh, where are you going - I said : Ja, I'm here in the - near direction of the national park - oh, but then you're on the wrong road - I knew I was on the wrong road, but it was not so far wrong, so they said : Oh, but ja, so you lost your road - I say ja - oh, that doesn't matter, we bring you - so I was with my load with - with - with arms, and they, with police too, police cars, and they bring you more or less to the spot where (?) you didn't want to know, but it was very close to where I wanted to be, so I mean that - it gives enormous kick, and the fact that I'm white and that - and I think - and just behaving quite normal, and I think it's much more difficult for black Africans to - to - to - in this situation of racism you get probably, ja, the reaction of black is - is - is others because it's the ja, boss, no, boss - they are very aggressive, I saw that with them, and very friendly with me, so I mean it is a - you can do much more being white.

And I was searched at - at - at borders and everything and - and sometimes very thoroughly, but if you keep quiet and so on then it's - it's much easier, and so I think being white is - is - is a - I had a visa, I had a - I had my own car, I - so there was a - I had a place too what was very well hidden, so they couldn't find it very easily, and so I think it - it was the easy way to do it - and if you are black and you go over a border or so, or you are driving alone in the region (?) say : I'm camping - which we had, camping for - the whites camp, blacks don't camp - in South Africa they don't - or a visitor far - far off national park they - they will be - they would be suspicious - I wasn't, so I think it's - that was a - a possibility.

J.F. Did you ever think about what would happen if you were caught?

K.D. Sure, already before - well, ja, sure, but we - we know too well what - what happened with a lot of people - a lot of people were tortured, a lot of people were - got long prisons, or were shot when they tried to - to run away or to - to fight back, and sure, it was not (.....) - it was a very well reasoned ja, decision to do - like I said, my upbringing was so, you do choice, you are responsible for whatever you - you - before doing it you think all the possibilities and so on and you say O.K.

J.F. And did you ever think well, because of being Dutch you might get - be in a better position because of being white? Maybe you'd have the Dutch Embassy behind you or....

K.D. Well, at the moment I didn't think about the Dutch embassy.

J.F. But as a Dutch citizen that if you had been taken....

K.D. No, not really, because I knew about people like - I think about David Rabkin - he was English - he got ten years - Breytenbach - he didn't do anything, just walked in and got ten years and was serving (?) in it - I mean the - there's a lot of examples of people who were long time in prison who were foreigners, and so I didn't think - and I've not - I think I - at the time I knew our government - I never thought they were very progressive and they would do anything to - to pressurise to get you loose, and no, that was not - not a problem, but the fact that I was a foreigner means that ja, I could go round as a tourist and - and that is - that was - was easy - easier.

J.F. How did you find the - in the underground structures did you deal with blacks? Obviously in Maputo you dealt with black ANC people?

K.D. Ja, also, ja.

J.F. How did you find they treated you? Did you have any sense that they thought anything particular, like what's he doing this for, or gee, this is great, he's not even South African, or how were you....

K.D. No, they never discussed it - they found quite - I mean in my idea there is - I think being a non-racist was a struggle, but it was already won - I mean it's the ANC that were split - PAC splitted - there were people at the Morogoro - I was in Morogoro conference in '69 or so - who - who were out of the movement because they had other conceptions - I knew these ideas of Frelimo, being a non-racist - non-racial liberation movement is not something was just an acceptance, it's a struggle, and I mean (?) I think the people who were active in it were very much non-racial, blacks, Indians, whites, but it was a struggle also, personal struggle also for people, like women have to struggle inside - in the movement - it's not something - in theory women and men are considered equal partners in the struggle - in the reality there are a lot of things you have to fight for and to show because a lot of it is (?) unconscious (?) like racism, a lot of it is - is even unconscious, and then I think if - and that was very clear that - and we discussed these things, but I never experienced it as - as racism against me, but some people who left after '76 after Soweto, they thought all whites - often they had idea of all whites are our enemy, and it is inside the ANC they got more political way of viewing it, and that you have inside the struggle Indians and whites and that it's a more political than a (?) racial question, but they had to - to learn that.

But I see it now when (?) I came out, the - I saw the black popular (?) and the blacks in the street when I left the - the - the embassy - it was black (.....) black South Africans waving and (?) when I left, the day they left (?) - just say farewell and Amandla and - and so, and that were people I didn't know, just normal workers in centre of Pretoria who passed there and knew about me and came to say farewell, and that was - and - and - and the reaction that a foreigner can be so there, that I'm white - I think that also helped realise people ja, what kind of struggle is going on and - and - and inside the ANC that is an already established something - it's not something that you - and (?) you have to fight - you get new members, you have to fight for it and - and - and - and it's not something that just - just born of a movement - it's not a decision - you have to in practice do that all the time, but the people I met, never any problem, never, never, and that - that - that's great, I think - they just accepted me for what I was, and then I was a bit marginal (?) and that's my - I'm a bit bourgeois intellectual background - bourgeois not in the way - but individualistic, and I remain individualistic, I think, although I got - I -

K.D. I - I got educated also by - by these contacts, by the contacts I had, but I still - I - I like this marginal position of me - I was - I had also a job - I did these things besides - and I'm a foreigner, so I can't be member of the ANC, but I like working with them - I believe in what they do - and same time it gives me possibilities also to participate, to criticise and - and be accepted and - but ja, there's marginal position that - that's something of - ja, that's my - I think my (.....) upbringing also that I have very much difficulties to - to accept the structure completely and work in it, I - I can work in it, but I - I - I - it's myself who makes the decision is it possible or not, I've - that's why when I worked in military service I was a very bad soldier - I didn't like - I had to go to an officers school, and a lot of things I didn't accept and I hurt my head (?) all the time, and I was kicked out of the officers school when (?) I was several times in prison for two, three days during the weekends, so everybody's going home and you sitting there because you did something and so on, because I didn't accept a lot of things and you couldn't discuss them, but in the ANC you could discuss everything, and I was accepted even with my partly marginal position I had - for the things I did I was accepted.

J.F. Did you not ever have any disagreements?

K.D. Oh, sure, ja, but I - I think it's something in my personality I have relationships (?) also - one - one - one like (?) in a marriage and one - one like outside - that's also one of the things that went wrong with Helene, so that's not necessary for this, but I mean just I have - I need a lot of personal space for myself, so I'm completely areligious, I'm never been member of political party, because I'm quite individualistic and I - I was accepted with this bit strange thing, but many people are - we have communists inside, you have very liberal, religious people inside the ANC, and they co-operate and they work together, so I was one of these Western bourgeois background guys, and for what I did I was accepted.

J.F. Did you ever want to join the ANC?

K.D. No - did I ask for it, you mean?

J.F. Ja.

K.D. I don't mind I mean if - no - well, I - I was accepted as somebody who had joined exactly in the same - the same manner, so - but I never thought about it, no - I just - no - for me I - I - I was - when I did things I - I - there I was, but I wasn't - I - I liked the position I had, so....

J.F. But you didn't want to join? You didn't say to them : But shouldn't I join - and they said no, you shouldn't - it just didn't come up? Or did they say to you : Look, don't - you can't join because you're not South African?

K.D. I never asked it - I never asked it and I wasn't really interested to join or not to join - I think it's just you do things and you are accepted for the things you do and - and that was enough for me, and I knew that in principle not - if you are not a South African you can't be, but I mean even the ANC doesn't walk around with membership tickets, so why should they I mean, so - and so it's a - no, I never - but I know that what I did they estimated (?) and that they liked it and they - they - I was, ja, sometimes, sometimes perhaps not, but I - and there was a normal acceptance of my - my role.

- J.F. Did you ever feel in any way kind of used, that they wanted your contribution? Did that ever come into it, that you thought well, you weren't getting any kind of gratitude or anything like that?
- K.D. I think it's the wrong (?) - I wanted to join not for gratitude, because I was so damned angry with this, in my terms, fascist system what use torture, violence, exploitation, racism everywhere (?) you see - I wanted to do these things - I didn't want gratitude - and the fact that when I did things and came home and I was happy that it worked well out, they were happy that it worked well out also, and they didn't - I never felt used, because it was my choice and my responsibility, and I was accepted for what I did and - and that was enough for me.
- J.F. Can we talk a bit about the non-racialism aspect? You had studied negritude, you had critiqued it, you knew about the transformation of Africa, the stages that blacks went through. A lot of the people I interview, South Africans, I ask them when did you first hear this word non-racial, non-racialism. For you was that an issue? Was it something that made you - was part of your reason for being supportive of the ANC? Did you discuss it with them - how did you come to know?
- K.D. I knew - no, I'm non-racial - I'm completely, how do you call it, allergic for racialism, anti-Semitism and so - really I've - I'm - these prejudices in this sense, I'm - I get angry if I see them - also in education with children and at home - that's my upbringing - part of my upbringing - my political formation later made it all more clear what the role (?) of racialism is and - and so - I didn't study it, but I knew the idea of the ANC that it is anti-racist, and the way I was received it was a clear sign that they really were, and the way I cooperated on the same level with black and Indians and whites and everything, so that was never a problem - for me it never a problem because I was never - I think I come from a - a very privileged group - I am white, I am - I had a good education, I had always (?) - I never was exploited in a clear - clear way.

For me there was in general no problem - I didn't know race - I never fight - I had - I never had to - to fight against racist remarks, so for me there was no - no problem, but I saw for the others working there they - they hadn't any problems, and - and I think I'm not - I'm perhaps, you know - it's like feminism and so on - women taught me sometimes that I had quite a lot of elitist male kind of behaviour in certain way, but I was - was conscious of it, so I tried to change it, but I never had these kind of remarks from hey, that's a racist - the kind of statement of that shows that you have a kind of paternalistic attitude and so on and - and so I think ja - in that respect I was forever (?) then in a male/female relationships or - or (.....) more open to say - that's also possible, but I think of what I experienced it (?) that it was for me not a problem, and the way I was received by others from different races inside the ANC, on that level there wasn't any problem at all - never experienced it as a problem.

- J.F. When you were in Mozambique the people you would report back to, obviously those were people who knew you, but when you went to South Africa did you have to deal with any blacks?
- K.D. No.
- J.F. You never never did?
- K.D. No.
- J.F. Were you and Helene teamed (?) at all in....
- K.D. No.

J.F. So you independently were doing your thing, but you knew each other were both involved?

K.D. Ja.

J.F. Did you feel in doing what you did for the ANC that it in a sense - you talk quite honestly about what it did for you personally - it gave you a kick to defeat the boers or outsmart them. Did you ever feel I believe in non-racialism, this is also consolidating non-racialism, it's good that I as a white or as a foreigner am doing this?

K.D. No, because then you are conscious of the fact that you are - no, I - I was very - I think - I think if you ask this question, then it was much more natural in my case - I didn't think - it's only that it was my - I was - it was - anti-feeling of what's going on in South Africa it's impossible - if you believe in democracy, if you believe in non-racialism, if you believe in ending exploitation, if you believe in that - in the just normal things, if you - well, normal well thinking man is believing, then everything goes in completely in South Africa (.....) goes against completely every value I think is important, so I had the idea that I was fighting something what I feel that's against everything I believe in, and this anti-feeling was more important than the positive thing - it was more I am completely against what is happening there and so - and - and if I can do something to fuck them up I'm eager to do it, and I had everything, I had the possibility, I was angry enough, I had the skills, and so I together with (.....)

J.F. You must have been nervous at some times?

K.D. All the time (Laugh) - no, I'm - ja, but I know to hide it quite well.

J.F. Was there any one time that you were most nervous, or was there anything that....

K.D. I was - I think I - I've been hell of a afraid often, often, but I think and I don't believe people who say they are not - it's possible, but I think it make me more alert, it made me more conscious of this is dangerous, isn't there a possibility to do better in a less dangerous way - so I think this - this being afraid helped me - first I didn't - I could overcome it in every situation, I think - I could overcome it in a way that I could control it, and then it made me more alert and thinking all the things that could go wrong, and that's in my upbringing, so what the hell - the choice you make, so what - what can - what can be said against it of before (?) and so on - that suits me find and such certain (?) thing, but I've been often afraid and ja, if I had to say (?) are you frightened it's frightened (?) it's very difficult to say and then (?) I am (?) more frightened than the other way, but ja, once - there were - there's not one trip where I haven't been - not a moment (?) that I haven't been frightened, I think, and - and - but once I was - I just finished something in making a - making a - a DLB - I was just ready, and then they came, black and brown and (?) Indian policemen, and they asked what I was - what I did there alone, and I'd made my tent, and that was near a beach - I said : I'm camping here - they said (?) (.... ..) it's not a good place, it's - it's not safe white (?) here, why you not alone - and then they wanted to see the tent and they thought oh, perhaps he is with a Coloured or a Indian or African woman, so there was nothing, and just - I was just ready with certain things I did, and they were a bit - bit nervous because I was - then they were a bit suspicious and I was nervous about it, but I also knew that it was safe, but - and then I thought if they had been 30 minutes before, then I would have - would be necessary to kill them or just - just say from hey, ja, I'm busy and - and you found me, O.K., it's over - and I was very glad I didn't have to do it and that I wasn't in the situation.

- K.D. But that was more a realisation from what the hell, it's just lucky, so that was a narrow escape, I think. Another time I was in a car and I was just taking things out, arms, and put them on - on the back seat of my car to do something with it, and then there came a - a black policeman with a - armed, with a dog, and he stood five metres from my car and said : What are you doing - I said : Oh, I was sleeping in - in my car and I just - I'm going now - I was very tired - where are you from - I said Johannesburg - and this dog was growling and the man was standing there, but he was black and I was white, and he was policeman but I was white, and still he remained polite and - and bit - I think that helped me also - so I had to go right into town with all the things in my - he said (?) no, you have to go - and then I thought if he comes nearer I have to shoot this guy and the dog, and I can imagine that if you panicking, or if you are less afraid than I am, that you would do it perhaps, and I always think that I'm - can just by talking, I'm very little - I - I don't like violence - it sounds strange but I'm - I never hit people, I - and not because I'm afraid, but I think there are other means in general (?) and here also (?) there was - I can imagine if you are a very well trained soldier just say (?) I killed a guy, I don't want to - but for me I thought hey, I talk and I suggest (?) and it went well, so I never needed to use personal violence and - and there's (?) such a moment I'm frightened, but I always try to overcome it and not to react in panic way, and it went well.
- J.F. I was going to ask you if you carried a weapon, but obviously you were carrying lots of weapons, but were you - did you carry a personal....
- K.D. Ja.
- J.F. Were you trained before to use it?
- K.D. I - I - when I was - I - I've trained myself, ja, I - I was member of a shooting club somewhere.
- J.F. During that period?
- K.D. No, well, for example, when I was in (.....) no, but I think it's better not to say, but I - I - I trained myself - I knew how to - I - I knew how to shoot.
- J.F. So you did imagine that there would - that if you got into a tight spot you'd have to possibly shoot your way out?
- K.D. Ja, it's ridiculous, I think, if you are getting these things and somebody would come even with a catapult and you don't have a personal weapon, then - then you are already - I mean it's ridiculous to carry weapons and they are wrapped so you can't use them, so it's ridiculous - just everybody with a pocket knife could arrest you, for example, so I had a weapon, ja - I knew how to use it.
- J.F. Did you dress differently?
- K.D. Sometimes I cut my hair, sometimes I painted my hair, sometimes I wore a beard, sometimes I was without beards some time, ja, and sometimes I was a (.....) otherwise a kind of hippie kind of, and then (.....) so ja, I cut my hair often and - and ja (.....)
- J.F. We've talked about non-racialism - what about - I told you my other interest of internationalism - did you feel that the ANC was a movement that was non-nationalist? Was that important to you? Did you ever think about it in those terms, that I'm involved, I happen to be Dutch, but this isn't some bourgeois nationalist movement that only wants to have the people of that country working with them, or did you see it as a kind of internationalist show of solidarity?

K.D. No, I did it because I was angry and I thought this country that is going against me personal, everything what I believe in - that was the main reason, and I was accepted for that, and also with all my marginality and - and I - I was accepted, and it's - but I think many more people - I mean for me it was just like somebody I said (?) - I was so brought up that against fascism, against racism, being person - and then I happened to be in Southern Africa, so I don't think from Holland I would go and said : Hey, there's something going wrong, I go there to fight it - so I wouldn't go from here to Nicaragua or to Brazil and - and say from (?) that's what's happening there, I'm so angry from here I think you need some personal (?) - I got personally involved through what I saw - I was always against apartheid and I knew what was going on more or less, but I learned much more when I was involved (?) and it was experiencing what apartheid means and talking to people and being angry what I saw, my work didn't (.....) so that's - that didn't go well these villages - people were killed, I knew, and I saw what was going on in South Africa - I read about it, I heard it, and that was - I was angry and I said : Fuck this regime, and if I can do something - and it was a personal decision, and I didn't think in terms of international things and so and - and I didn't think - I was just there at the moment when I - that happened - I'm an Africanist, I worked in Africa - I couldn't work any more because they made it impossible.

I was interested in liberation movements, I - I - I thought (.....) against apartheid for non-racial democratic society, used the armed struggle - I was completely behind that, and the way they interpreted only attacking economic and military and strategic objectives, I was completely behind that - it's a difference between liberation movement and - and other struggle (Interruption)

J.F. And what?

K.D. And - and other kind of struggle - ja, like the terrorist attack I mean this - this is not - I mean it - the - the conception of the armed struggle in the ANC is - is a very controlled one - it is - they don't - it's not terrorist attacks - I mean even - even during wars often terrorist means are used - I mean actions against civilian population - bombardment of cities during Second World War, not to speak of atom bomb, but also like IRA sometimes bombs in - in general (?) places, part of the - their politics now, not only military but also civilians - FLN in Algeria was more a liberation movement, used also sometimes to also sometimes terrorist attacks - it has been done also by the ANC, but that was never the strategy of the - of the movement, like an attack in a supermarket or so - it's not the kind of - it would be very easy to place a bomb in the supermarket or the cinema in - in Johannesburg or Pretoria and the - the South African government says that that's the - what the ANC does, but it has never been - they could do it very easily, but they don't and they don't want it, and they are against this kind of actions, and I knew that.

So then if you are smuggling weapons, you know it's used in a way, controlled way that you - that - even then you know civilians can die, but it's not a part of - of - of a policy, like PLO sometimes attacks also civilian - civilian objectives and - and also military and so, but ANC is very clear that (?) it doesn't - it doesn't mean it doesn't happen sometimes, but it has never been a part of a policy - sometimes it happened like in - in - near Durban, Amanzimtoti (.....) has been hanged, and he says himself during the trial, very clear, that he knew that wasn't the policy of the ANC, and surely the ANC doesn't drop him (?) then and said : You did something we are completely against because you did it and you know - you understand this anger sometimes that people certain moment do things even they know it's not well, but it's never been a policy.

K.D. So I think even the - they have a kind of conception of warfare with (?) a very controlled one, and even if it can make civil - even civilians can die in crossfire, or sometimes it's misused, I think it's some - I - I don't have any problems with it - I have problems with people killed, civilians killed, but it's really not the conception of the ANC, so this whole conception of armed struggle is one I - I - it's - I completely behind it, so I don't have problems with it, and it's different from - I think in that sense it's a very moder - it's a liberation movement like Frelimo was also and all of the (?) - the whole warfare is different because you can't have liberated zones here and so, but it is the - the kind of armed struggle is one I don't have any problem with, so I - and that's when I - when I come in Holland and they (?) said ja, through you (?) women and - ja, women and children can be killed, that's true, like in every warfare this happens - if they shoot a train this German soldier can kill the driver or so the - the - who is - who is nothing to do with it, you know - he's only driving the train who hasn't - that can happen, so in crossfire people can be killed, especially in - in urban zones like if you attack, for example, security office in Pretoria - it's in the middle of - of the centre, shopping centre, and then (.....) below there's a bar and a restaurant, and besides there's a bookshop, a fascist (?) one, but doesn't matter, and - and there are other shops, so if you would attack it what I think would be a very legitimate (?) aim, objective already through the - the - the windows, flying glass and so you could kill people, and still I think it's - you - you are conscious of it and still I think it would be a good objective and - and that's terrible those people are killed, but in - it's war - I think South Africa's situation is a war situation, and then ja, so.

And it doesn't mean my - I don't make much difference in bringing in arms or doing it - I wouldn't be good - I mean I'm 50 years old now, so I wouldn't be good in - in guerilla warfare perhaps, but I don't think there's difference if I taking arms or explosives (?) I am responsible for what's happening with it (?) even if it's misused it's still my responsibility, I know (?) - I take this responsibility - that's also part of my upbringing that I - I can't say : Oh, I brought it in for attack (?) on a strategic military aim, and now it's used somewhere else - if that happens, I will be very unhappy - I will attack it if it happens and if (?) it was a mistake and I wouldn't have do it (?) but I won't say I'm not responsible for it and - but all these things I thought over before starting and - but now I have to discuss these kind of things in Holland because I'm very much attacked by a lot of people who are against apartheid, but they see it often only in terms of struggle against - ja, a human rights struggle, and the moment a Dutchman shows that he took part in the armed struggle they get - they are very much (?) you are (?) terrorist - in Holland they say you are a terrorist, and then I have to explain why I think it is bit like in Second World War - I think it - I compare them - well, I saw - if you see - in Harare these children who were tortured - you see the exploitation I mean the - the enormous poverty and moans (?) - you see the destabilisation of the frontline states, the - all the - the not - no political rights - for me it's just a fascist - all the - all the things you - deportations - all the things you saw in - during Second World War in - in - done with the Nazis, and then they said : Ja, but they didn't kill six million people - they don't - they - they didn't need the Jews, the Nazis, and the South Africans need the black South Africans - they are the cheap labour power (?) - you don't kill the eggs who lays golden egg, the - the chicken who, or the - kill who lays golden eggs, so I think it's - but still in the 100 years of - of exploitation hundreds of people are killed - there's still famine - that's not necessary - education is different (?) I mean so in - in South Africa there is a fascist regime, and I'm completely against it and I find the very controlled military struggle to control perhaps, or if - at the moment you don't see very much.

K.D. I would like to have a - a harder guerilla struggle personally, I - I have no problem at all with it.

J.F. Can we talk about your arrest now? Tell me - they know it - I don't know if it's in the diary....

K.D. Ja, it is.

J.F. But obviously the police know it, so leaving out whatever you don't want to say about what you were doing, but it was June, 1985....

K.D. Ja, June, 1985 I - I applied for a job at - in Bophuthatswana as a senior lecturer, or assistant professor, or professor in development studies, and I had also a load with ammunition and explosives, and I got the job, but that I heard only later when I came out of prison, and then I was in - I had to see not only board (?) for people who decided (?) can we get a job, but also somebody in Pretoria, and I hadn't expected that - I hadn't much time and I was in a hurry, so I knew Helene lived in Johannesburg and I contacted her and to ask some help, and Helene was being followed - that was also to (?) clear - I didn't know what - she was busy with what she was trying to find a escape route for Ibrahim Ishmail, and they had been followed together, photographed, and her telephone was tapped, so when I contacted her they were after me too, so they were present from with - when I established an arms cache and Helene was there to help me and just to - to - to be - to be there, but we didn't see - they had binoculars with night vision, so then it's clear like day - it was during the night and they could see everything - we didn't see them.

So they - we did that, or I did it, and then I left - I went to the hotel and we were followed - we didn't see it - and they followed a lot of people and so, and then it was at night I went to bed at two o'clock or so and we were (?) stood up at four o'clock to go back soon as possible to - to home, and so I left and I took my car and I drove to Bophuthatswana in Mafeking direction, and I was arrested by three cars - they drove me from the road about 40 kilometres before Mafeking, and I thought perhaps it's just border control that they want to see, but it was more serious - they didn't find anything, and they brought me to Zeerust and there I had to wait and to wait and to wait, and then later on there came Brigadier - then it was Col. Erasmus and Col. du Toit, a captain from - Captain van Wyk came to fetch me and brought me to the - to John Vorster Square, and there I was interrogated in the evening till two o'clock, but not on a very difficult way, but it showed me that - already that they were after us, that they had seen Helene and me, showed that they - showed even a photograph of us, so I knew they - they had been there, and that was the beginning of the arrest, so - and (.....) was there, this fat major, Williamson, Craig Williamson, and Stadtler and some other generals and very, very high people, and Erasmus, and they all asked questions and so on.

So - and they said - I believe then that Helene had been arrested also and - and Brigitte, who lived with Helene, and because I saw the photos and I knew they were after - I believe from the beginning that - that they were arrested also - later I only - much later I heard that they kept her going for five days, or five days still (?) and they followed her, but they didn't arrest her until there was a phone call from (.....) for (.....) and do you know where he is and so on, then she - she got suspicious probably, or they thought she would be suspicious, so then they arrested her too, so that was it.

J.F. Do you think that was your mistake, contacting Helene?

K.D. That was one mist - I made several, but it was one, ja, and - but I think because they were after her, I think as ex-husband I was sure - I would be sure that they would have been after me also, I mean even without - not contacting - then one day I will know that they would have been after me too, ja.

J.F. But you had - you didn't know what she was up to, so you didn't think there was any reason not to contact her?

K.D. No, no, no.

J.F. Why had you left Mozambique?

K.D. Several reasons - I couldn't do my work any more in the countryside - it was impossible - I - my mates (?) we were separated, so I was to stay (?) together wasn't - wasn't really necessary - I got fed up also with the Mozambiquans because of their policy towards the ANC since Nkomati - I think they make an enormous mistake in sending the ANC away - well, I was underground (?) so I didn't - didn't touch me, so I was - I could have stayed if I'd wanted, but no, these were the main factors, and then I got possibility to have a job somewhere else, teacher, temporary - I saw a (?) temporary job and I said I'd go - I - and then also (?) studies, I know, international school's difficult - he had been to Swaziland, my older (?) son, but he was kicked out - he didn't like it - out of (?) the international school in - in Maputo, and it was (?) - it (?) was very free and quite political, and he liked it and they put him in (?) the elite school in Swaziland - he got fed up - he got kicked out very soon - he didn't do anything and he did everything to - to get kicked out, and he was very soon, and so that's one of the - that's my main reason to go to another country and where it was for me easy to get a job where I stayed in the area and where my son could have a quite good education, and that was it.

J.F. You didn't want to go back to Holland?

K.D. No - no, not at all, I - I love Amsterdam and Paris and - and so on and I - in general (?) if - but I'm an Africanist, I - I - I - I like - I like the - the social life of Africa and - and not of South Africa, but that's even - you can have a lot of criticism, and I have - it's a terrible - the bantustans I don't recognise in that (?) and there is a terrible repressive regime - still they have more of the social kind of - of life than - than the rest of South Africa in contact (?) - I mean if you are at university (?) you can have contacts with your students, with black other (either) professors or so, assistants and so on - somewhere there's - it's still more fun, even with the repression, than - than in white South Africa and - but - and they are often even more (.....) Albertini in the prison conditions in - in Ciskei are probably worse than were in - in South Africa, for white especially, but - and they use torture and the - they're terrible, these regimes, puppet regimes, but it is still - that has some for normal life, normal - normal social life it has - it is a bit better, but I - in Zimbabwe I - I liked, so I was underground there too - that was a personal - personal decision for several reasons, and then after three years I've seen in (?) Mozambique - got bit fed up with the situation there, with (?) my personal situation and the - and - and the whole political situation, especially in the attitude towards the ANC, but too (?) the fact to go away with my - was my decision.

- J.F. And when you left did you know you'd be continuing to work for the ANC in Harare? Did you immediately....
- K.D. Ja, what's (?) up to me.
- J.F. But did you have a break for a while and then have to establish contact or did they say : When (?) you go you do this and....
- K.D. That - that's not the way of relationship (?) I had - I was - if I - if I had time I could do things when they were (?) and they liked it, so - and it wasn't so (?) and they send me also send (?) but they didn't (?) - but ja, I could do - I could do as soon (?) or as much as I wanted, ja.
- J.F. And - but did they tell you how to make contact or did you just say....
- K.D. I knew - I knew all these kind of things - it didn't change very much (?) in the way it went before - I didn't - there wasn't very much change in the way it went before....
- J.F. In Maputo to Harare?
- K.D. Ja.
- J.F. But when you made the decision did you think - did you know to yourself that you would continue to do things?
- K.D. Oh sure, ja - no, but that's one of (.....) - did you want to go back to Holland - in January I went for three - three years to Africa and two years back, but I'd given up my job when I - after one year in Mozambique I gave up my Dutch job, so I hadn't a job and - and I was so in - in the South African problems and - and what was going on there that - that ja, I wanted to stay, and ja, sure I liked going back and so - but my son was with me, my - my - my younger son came to visit me sometimes, in Mozambique first and after (?) also in Harare and I - I liked it - and he got - got a girl friend there and he met Beverly (?) so it's - and I didn't want to stay, but in January (?) after some time I would like to go back to the big city like.....

END OF SIDE TWO.

- J.F. before you get to the embassy - working in Harare, was it different than Mozambique in terms of the non-racialism or....
- K.D. Oh, very much....
- J.F. How was it different?
- K.D. Well, the - the - one thing is that the - the whites - the whites live in white areas and the black in black areas, like also in Zambia it's the same - it's less mixed - I - I think they never resolved this anti- (.....) but Frelimo did - Mozambique is very non-racial society, and Zimbabwe is very much a racial society, and I saw it (?) - I haven't lived there for long time, but whites are living in the same areas, black in other areas - you see also quite a lot of racism or (?) racial prejudices from side of black Zimbabweans towards whites, and especial also from whites against blacks still, and I could see that school (?) - I worked at Churchill High School, and it was one of these quite elite schools still in Harare, and I was history teacher, and in the classes there were boys from 17, 18, 19 years, and there were a small group of five white boys and the rest, 35 or 30 were blacks - the whites were sticking together.

K.D. The first question what they asked is are you married, and I said no - do you have a girl friend, so I said right (?) - do you have a girl friend - I said yes - is she white or black - I said white - oh, O.K., they said, because there was a teacher before you who had a black girl friend, so that's the kind of questions you would never - you - you would never have it in - in Mozambique.

And then they - they did different sports still, like in Zimba - like in South Africa and the - the white boys they played rugby, and the black boys soccer - the whole education was completely English I mean, and also for example, the play - the play of the school was a travel (?) of Scott to the South Pole - Scott's travel to the South Pole - they (?) said ja, because they were whites we have - we have to use white students - I said : Why, you can give a black student a mask, isn't it, a white mask, why not - and they looked at me and this - the other professors, they were 90 percent whites and most of them ex-Rhodies, and they found that a ridiculous idea and they found it completely normal to have such a phony play as theatre as - as the travels go to the South (?) so there was a whole play of white boys and with - and I - ja, I said : But there are very good black plays - and they said ja - oh ja - but that wasn't a point of discussion they - they - they ja - they had no good black players (?) at the moment and black player was - a black boy with a white mask that - that wouldn't go (?) so they had (.....)

This education was so linked to the old order the students - there was no political education, not (.....) and then most of the boys what they wanted to do was going into business or a government job - or going into business, the black boys - the white boys they - their humour was different from the black - they didn't like the same music - I saw it with my son - he went to Mount Pleasant - the first day he said - he said : I can make (?) - these whites they completely crazy and racist and so - and then he had immediately afterwards contact with the black boys of the school and he dropped (?) and he was completely - the others - he had no contact any more with the other - other white boys, and he went to other parties and (?) the other music and so completely different - smoked also a bit of hash and so.

But I think they are still very much separated, and even progressive people there, their own children who are political quite good (?) in Zimbabwe independent, and that's good and no problems non-racial society, they don't know how to mix with - with - with black boys - they don't - just keep separated, so I think they didn't resolve the question of racism, and that's because during the struggle it wasn't - it wasn't a struggle inside a party to make a non-racial, a non - a non-racial (?) society an issue, and you see it on every level the way you are behave towards whites also, and that's a very - a completely different atmosphere in that sense than in Mozambique completely.

J.F. What about for your own political work for the ANC - did that change at all, was it different?

K.D. No.

J.F. And how did you feel about taking a job as a teacher when you had been a lecturer and you had done research and just going to high school?

K.D. I liked it, I must say - I don't mind - I mean it's - I - I think I'm quite good teacher, and I liked it - I found quite an experiences - experience, but it learned me a lot also, it's - and that - I mean that if you want to start a non-racial society it was clear, and I knew the ANC and Frelimo did it, but here you saw the result - you have to do it during the struggle and not starting afterwards.

K.D. And it's also with education that if you want another kind of education, you can't wait till you found - till you are independent, but you have to start now already, so this (?) not that that (.....) already - like they do now with people's education besides - in South Africa they have alternative, especially with history and these kind of things - in Zimbabwe they start also with African history quite good books, so the (.....) mistakes (?) but they were the first (?) but that's only for the first and second year and afterwards it's finished.

Political education never heard of - no discussion about it - you can do it in the history lessons yourself, but it depends on the teacher - most of the teachers were just white Zimbabweans - were ex-Rhodies, and so all this - it was a government school, but the morning started as it done always with music on a - on the bagpipe - how do you call it - in the morning with the flag ceremony and music with the bagpipe, then the prayer, and then everybody tells how good they were in sport in a very competitive way - how good they were in sport winning from other schools from every - every morning which boys had had so many points and then which group won from the other schools, very competitive - I mean it is a ridiculous kind of system - I mean they just kept going on and they never did (?) - no political education, but prayer every morning, government school - I found it something amazing, this whole system in Zimbabwe, so then I thought - and I - I know that now in South Africa you are busy - you are trying to do this with all the difficulties they have they never (?) - and mistakes they make - perhaps it doesn't matter, but they are already busy thinking about alternative systems, and that's - that's good, and I - I saw here if you don't - five years after independence - that's 1985 I was there, and it was still Scott's going to the South Pole, prayer (.....) in the bagpipe, and boys and white and black completely separated, sexes separated and (?) boys school, and so it's ridiculous.

J.F. And why did Helene leave and go to South Africa? She was specifically politically doing that.

K.D. No, she - she is a linguist and - and she finished almost her contract-contract, and then she had still six months you can study, and she - she had the contract with that government and - and so you have a basic Mozambiquan salary, and they give a higher salary in Dutch foreign currency what's on the level you would have had in Holland, or a bit more even, so you have six months time to readapt and you can do that at home or somewhere else, and she was busy with a study on African languages and there was a very good professor in Wits, Louw (?) I think was his name, I'm not sure, and - and so she - she wanted to do it there - that was what I thought.

J.F. And then why did you try to get the job in Bophuthatswana? Was that political or was that interest?

K.D. Oh, that - I thought I could do my extra - extra activities from there than from Harare.

J.F. And had you told any people? When you got the job did you think about what people would think of?

K.D. No, the job I got already - ja, people were shocked, but I knew that already because from Maputo, for example, friends - or not friends - people who didn't know me very well, but they knew I was anti-apartheid and they thought I was a - an enormous hypocrite, always going shopping in South Africa and doing things and being anti-apartheid they knew, and at the same time just travelling inside and coming back with things, and they thought I was a huge ja, just - just a enormous hypocrite and so.

- K.D. So when I was arrested one of the first feelings was hey, perhaps now they understand what is behind it - it is that strange reaction that I had it and so, but people didn't understand when (?) I was arrested going to what the hell (?) and I - I needed also some letters to - to get this job for - from my (.....) and people said : No, you in Botswana (?) - a bantustan in South Africa, we won't give you any - we won't give - write - we won't write any letter - I couldn't tell (?) anything so it was difficult, but that's a clear answer not so clear (?)
- J.F. What did you say to people when they said why do (?) you want to go to Bophuthatswana?
- K.D. Oh, I said I can't live on this salary, I have a son and - and my son is too low (?) and I think it's interesting and to know, to study the apartheid in it - I think the - the (.....) you see what apartheid is - the best thing to study it is in bantustan - that's what - what's really apartheid about.
- J.F. And going down for the interviews, that must have been strange to (?) actually go....
- K.D. But they asked me why do you want, and then I said also : Ja, I don't like apartheid, but here there's no apartheid, and certain people say it's even worse and I (?) said : Ja, for me I think I need a better job - and so I tried to explain it in this sense (?)
- J.F. And you applied for a job in what department?
- K.D. What was it, development studies, so I was a research - they needed a professor but it would be a manager kind of job, and I'm nothing of a manager so I wanted a research - a research, so I would be in the countryside, I could work with students, know the situation there.
- J.F. And did you pretend that you were going shopping and when people said - you did make lots of trips down and people always knew you were going or did you not tell them?
- K.D. No, but some - no, I never told them, but people know you go (?) - they see you - a lot of people are driving and they see you at the border post, so you know how that life (?) is from - from - from Maputo, Swaziland and so, so people meet you or they heard somebody saw you or so and so - they know sometimes.
- J.F. So even from Maputo there were people who thought you were a hypocrite that you....
- K.D. Mmm ja, Maputo.
- J.F. And you were just - if they saw you at the border post what would you say you were doing?
- K.D. Ja, spare parts and so if I can meet someone (?) (.....)
- J.F. Back to your arrest. They picked you up after you'd slept in the hotel. At two in the morning they pulled the car over, and then they just right away started interrogating you when they took you, where did you say, to Zeerust?

K.D. Zeerust, no, not - they - they kept waiting - I was there under control (?) but they just - they visited me in the car and then they waited till - that was in the morning very early - I was arrested seven o'clock or so, so in the afternoon people came, the ones I mentioned, and then they started trying to - said : No, you - you had weapons in your car - and they started to - to find out with - with dogs where it was, and they couldn't find anything, and then they start dismantling the car and they found that I had a - ja, a place where I had things hidden - it was empty, but they found my gun, personal gun, and think I bought books (?) and the radio for personal use, but I put it there because I wanted - otherwise I had perhaps to declare it or so (.....) and I had put it there somewhere, so all - all these things they kept.

And then - so then they brought me to John Vorster Square and they started and I was there, I think, from about seven o'clock night till two o'clock at night, and then I was afraid because they - two guys brought me down and I thought hey, perhaps now I'm starting (?) for John Vorster Square and I thought torture and so on, but they just brought me down but they - they - I handcuffed and so and they - I just - they don't say anything - they push you and you go down the stairs, and it was late so it is empty and dark and it looks - it looks terrible, it's - it is grey and some - it's a real prison like and - and (.....) - it looks terrible....

J.F. And whatish?

K.D. (.....) German word for spooky kind of atmosphere and the threatening atmosphere, and it - no sound - it - it's - so they bring you - they're very small staircases and they push you and so on your shoulders and you are - your hands on your back so you don't - and you don't have - you don't have these strings on your - on your - shoelaces, so you go down and so and perhaps they push you and so you - and I was frightened and - but they just brought me to my cell, so before they - they took all the things so - glasses and - and what you call them - belt and shoelaces and everything they took and - watch and everything you wear and - and then they put you in the cell.

J.F. They take your glasses?

K.D. Mmm - mmm, and in the cell there's no (?) (.....) that's it and the cell was a bit - as big as this room, but then with this also, one room, and the lights never goes out, it's always light, and you have television cameras always watching so you have never privacy, and then your toilet - even if you are on the toilet - it was this side, and there's something that you can see, so if - you can't do anything without being not seen, that's - that I found very difficult - and then they had a mat on the floor with some blankets for the rest, and there was thick plastic plates so - there are bars (?) but there are plastic plates before, and then one metre further there was a wall, so it was very dark outside, and it remained also during the day it was very dark - they didn't hear a sound and then they - they keep you there - and then the food they give through a small thing, so you don't see the person - you just get food and you take it there, and it is also without knife and so you - it is plastic bag, small plastic cup, and you - you take your food or you drink it or so, you can't - you have nothing to - to eat with and no, that's it, and that goes on and on and on like this, and sometimes they (.....) - in principle you had 30 minutes a day for walking, and I started walking hard (?) because from the beginning I thought I want to get away here, so then I must be fit, but the cell is too small to - to do things, and so when I have 30 minutes in - in that place it was 50 - around 50 metres going around.

K.D. So I run (.....) - every time I was free I did only running to keep a bit fit - I'm not - I don't like sports at all, but from the beginning I thought I want to get away - and then they interrogate you long time, sometimes (?) 12 hours I'm sure (?) - they can come in the middle of the night or early and any moment, and I wasn't tortured but they used all kind of psychological pressure - physical torture (.....) and also with threat, so I break your nose and you - you - your jaw, and then they sign that you fell off your chair and they try to - to - to say : Oh but (?) go to (?) Harare and I will kill your dogs (?) - because they didn't know my son lived there, and so (.....) at a house I - I said that I lived with an - a Zimbabwean woman who hired the (?) house, but they didn't know we had a relationship (?) so they said : We kill your dogs - and they would send somebody to do that to my son - my son also - also (.....) dogs, and then they threatened - there was one who was very screaming (?) all the time, the other was more kind, and so all these kind of things, and then so they - certain moment I told things because I - certain moments after some days they said ja (?) Brigitte I knew - I believe that Brigitte was the oldest daughter of Helene - Helene (.....) prison (?) and Brigitte tried to commit suicide and put toilet paper in her mouth, and she was pregnant, and I - I believe that could happen, so - but she can be free if - if you tell something.

I was very angry with Helene - I say how she could do (?) - they say : Ja, Helene (.....) all she wants is (?) her daughter to be free, it's only you who keeps - who's doing nothing, and then we keep her in prison and it's terrible and I don't know what - so I told them something (some things) empty place (?) but then it didn't help me very much because they start (?) no, the deal is off (?) - they promised her she could go, fly to Harare, or (?) if she - if I told them something - so two hours, I knew it was planned (?) Brigitte would go - I was arrested on Saturday - what was the day - Sunday morning at seven o'clock - so Thursday she would fly to Harare, Brigitte - it was already planned, she told (?) and so they said - then 12 o'clock or 11 o'clock I - I said O.K., so I told them the half (I have) arms cache, and I think I would do it again, so I never - I didn't make a point of it - I think it's my responsibility, I think the child's more important, so I do it.

So after I had hidden (?) some empty plates, but they were very angry and threatening more and more - I (they) said : No, the deal is off and she can't go and everything - and then the - the brigadier himself promised really that she could go fly away on, and she did, so - but she was never arrested, but they could have arrested her so (.....) Helene was arrested afterwards when she came in Harare and she heard that I never arrived, and then she found Helene, and then Helene was arrested just afterwards because they thought now she's suspicious and so, they took her after.

So five days she was still followed to - probably they hoped that they would find out something, so that was - and that gave probably difficulties also because Helene - then they told Helene that I told things probably, so Helene thought oh, he has telled everything - he told everything, so she was very - so you know how this process - then they use you against each other, so that was also very difficult, and they used that against me also that, so I was sometimes very angry and when I - when I - when she was out, or not out, but when - when she came out of - of - for the trial, then I heard that she was very angry with me because she thought I had told things and so you - and it's difficult so - you know all these things when you started, you know how - what they use, and still you - you - you do - you make the same mistakes and so on, and it's lousy if you -

- K.D. So it's the things you have to think - discuss if it's still possible if both are out and so on - these are (?) terrible things and - and - and especially if you had a relationship where you are already divorced, with a lot of anger and - and - and - and - and pain and so - then this is something that he (?) finds it good - good background for it - for the suspicion and so on - it's terrible.
- J.F. So how many days were you kept at John Vorster?
- K.D. 26.
- J.F. And you were interrogated throughout the whole period off and on?
- K.D. Ja, it depends - sometimes they leave you alone five days and so alone.
- J.F. Did you ever see any other prisoners?
- K.D. Never.
- J.F. You were still in solitary?
- K.D. Mmm.
- J.F. And you were in solitary - in those days did you regret what you'd done?
- K.D. Never - I only got very angry, and I think that anger made me decide also from - they - they are so arrogant - they do as if they broke you, that you never can get away, that they are the best and - and they - that they control everything, and I'm - I can't - I never - I always control my own life in every way so - and I'm very independent individualistic and I can't stand people controlling my life, not in relationships either - I had the same - I need space - I don't mean (?) for myself so to decide my own life, and so I'm completely unfit for - for disciplinary (?) organisation, I'm completely unfit for relationship I think also, because I need a lot of space - doesn't mean that I - I can make choice but I'm better as a friend than as a - than in - in a - in an organisation or in a relationship or in a - so - and - and so I couldn't stand this way - it was a big intrusion of my - my life, and everything went against it, and so I was decided to get away to - to find a way to get out, but then you are - I was frightened also because getting out - I knew from people being shot or getting out, and so you need something, and that was the second mistake I made, but I got the idea that the way to get out is to point out things where I've been, and I decided that that wasn't - couldn't harm anybody because (?) - and in general (?) arms cache is empty, so if it's empty can't harm anybody.

I didn't - I didn't realise that in South African law you - if in Holland you are arrested for - for example (?) arms smuggle - if you smuggle once, twice, three times, four times, five times, six times, it will be the same - same - maximum is four years, for example, three years, but here they accumulate, so for every - everything they know they can give you again ten years, ten years, ten years, so - I didn't realise it so I could have a lot of - if I say one empty one, or two or three or five or five, doesn't matter - that's why - I didn't know that, but I thought that's the way to get away because then - or some things they knew also because they arrested the guerillas who went there to lift it (?) and they were arrested and they found the thing, so I knew some were empty and some they knew, and so then we went (?) with three guys, or sometimes there were 20, so the first time I was with at least 20 guys with the generals and so and I (they) gave out a half half thing, but sometimes you were with three (.....) further.

K.D. And I thought that's the way to get away - I had a plan to get away - and then a certain moment I heard them talk about something what (?) I thought was Mamelodi, Mamelodi cache, and I thought hey, then they know this one also, and I was almost certain it would be empty, and I brought them there, and it was laying - I was 100 metres from there, you could see already and it was in a (?) - so I thought it was set-up more or less, I - in general arms cache is very well hidden, but it was just in the open - it was very strange, so I thought they set me up, but certain people who were there they reacted to this, it was really new for them, and I felt lousy - I thought hey - I didn't understand why it was laying like this, so I was how the - how's it possible that it's laying like that - is it found, is it - is it - I felt very - very terrible - they said (?) Hey, no (now) we didn't know it, and so you are traitor and we believe you if you - if you - if we let you go now we will kill - you will be killed by your own guys, by the ANC, that's how they do - I said: Well, try it - - but they didn't so (.....) let me go.

But still I felt rotten about it because Mamelodi was a - they could use (?) arms, and even if it was - even if it was laying there like this, I was - I - I - the reaction of a certain guy who was there I thought he really didn't know about it, so I - I felt terrible....

J.F. What do you mean laying like this if it didn't unpack (?) - the arms were out or....

K.D. It was in a bag, but it was visible, and it had been hidden very well, and I came there in a field and it was visible - it couldn't be - I never left it like this, so there had - it was all done by police or by the guerillas, or other people had found it for one reason or another (?) but it was exposed in a way nobody would leave it who was really working with the ANC, and still I was more or less convinced that they didn't know it was there, so I was - I was very unhappy and uncertain about it and angry, and they were so arrogant - they said : Now we have you and we broke you, so now you told them everything.

So I came back, and that's difficult things in cell (?) - not the interrogation, because then you are busy defending yourself, and I choose - and that's probably different from other people - it's also against what the ANC said, don't say anything, but I - I - I'm a talker - that's my job - I interview, I try to get things out of people by talking, like you do - see (?) a good interview you - you react, and I thought I go - I tell a story what's quite, quite close to the reality, bit different, and I try to get things out of it, and that's also the way you know what they know and so, but - so that is a challenge to do it, and I think I'm quite good in this process, but here I made a stupid mistake and I think (?) perhaps I was not sure, but I was - I was very unhappy with it and the way they reacted, so arrogant and so proud, and I got so damned angry that I decided ja, now I will get them, I decided - I came with a plan I bring to Pretoria - I do as if I'm going to tell them everything and I go to the embassy, so that's - so the plan was (?)

And at - at that moment my anger overcame my fear because you have always - you need something to - something to - to really - I planned it, so I was there - that was on the Sunday, and Monday I was in my cell and they came and said : Now you don't want (?) to talk, you are finished - we have you and you can't go back to the ANC (?) - I said (?) Ja, I shall tell you things - Pretoria I did some reconnaissance - O.K., we go there tomorrow - that was on Tuesday - we go tomorrow - I said O.K. - and that was the day that I escaped, so I brought them to - to the Voortrekkerhoogte Monument - Voortrekkers Monument - I said just I was (?)...

K.D. I was - had legirons and I had - I needed to walk stairs on (?) staircase because I didn't know how I wanted to escape, but I knew where and - and when - I knew I wanted to be between two and four o'clock in the afternoon in the embassy - I thought that was fine (?) I can go there, it's probably open - I arrived there at a quarter to three at the embassy, but before I wanted to know how it is - I knew already a bit (?) walking, but now I really wanted to know staircases, so I brought them to Voortrekkers Monument and I went up and I said : Here I saw this - I made a photographs of - of the airfield - everybody sees that airfield from the side, it's not difficult.

So I - I was quite fast and very good form, and they had difficulty following me so (.....) I'm a young guy so I'm almos - now 50 - then I was 48, and I could do it good, so and then I said O.K., then we went late in the morning and then we had a hamburger somewhere in town - I said : Now I bring you to - sitting in the car I said : Now I've been to the security branch also - oh, bring us there - so make a (.....) security branch, also in the middle of town - I said : Now very close to here, walking distance, there's the Nedbank, Church Street, and there I did also reconnaissance - oh, they said, and they were guys from Johannesburg - one of Hillbrow Police Station and two from security branch, warrant officer of the - the John Vorster Square and a photographer of John Vorster Square, and they said : O.K., let's take the car - and then the, you know, Nedbank, Church Street, it was also in Nedbank, Church Street where the Pretoria bomb from '83 was - exploded, but that was in front of the - the aircraft security and (?) the security service of the intelligence service of the air force, but it was Nedbank.

But Nedbank, Church Street triggered something off and I knew the embassy was there and they didn't know, so they (?) said : Let's take the car and - and I was afraid car and going around they don't control it any more - I (?) said : No, let - let's go by foot - so then I was very happy - in the morning already I had no laces, and I asked for laces - I don't know how you can walk like this (?) it doesn't matter, and we don't have them - and then I - my shoes (.....) such a thing where the (.....) do something you have your toilet things.

I saw shoes of another prisoner and it had laces, so I took laces - I stole them from him, I put them in my - so I had laces, so I could - could walk quite well, and they didn't mind that I had laces but they didn't want to be bothered to give me some, so - but they didn't mind that, so I had laces.

And then with these legirons - they are here and then something, if you walk you walk like this - you have to hold it yourself, so you walk like this, hunched over, so - but I had to walk the street and it was a bit strange, the guy in the middle of Pretoria walks like this, clang, clang, clang, so they gave me a small rope so I could walk like this - I had it here so I....

J.F. You just walked normally?

K.D. Walked normally, but they didn't see it in the street - people in Pretoria they just walk like this, so they don't - they don't watch some - one out of 20 would say (?) I don't know just was looking (.....) because cling, clang, cling it went, so - and so they went after me, so I walked to the embassy and I - happily I didn't see the fly (?) the - the flag wasn't there and they (?) said : This is Nedbank - so I had to stand in front of the Nedbank, and the photographer went to the other side of street and took a photo for (of) me in front of the Nedbank - above me was this huge sign Dutch Embassy, and I was nervous.

K.D. I thought hey, I didn't see anything - it (?) must be on the photo, me under this - under this thing of the Nedbank - of the sign of - of the embassy - so we entered - where is it - I said second floor - I knew that the entrance of the embassy was on the first floor - I come in in the entrance, you know, where you - through the (?) door - elevators to the right, and you have these signs with all these offices, Nedlands Embassy - I thought oh, God, I'm not staying here, so I'm waiting on the elevator, people are going to round (?) - said (?) here was the left side (?) there was - there was a staircase - said : Let's go up the staircase, it's better walk, takes a long time - so I just start walking and they - I have been very social, talking and so and - and I'm a good sociologist, fieldworker - I know how to interview and so people and get them at ease, like you do - get them at ease, talk and so.

I walked so upstairs and come at the first floor and walk a bit - I see there the door of the Dutch Embassy - I didn't remember where it was - I had been there only once - and here was Nedbank, and it was about 70 metres, so I walk bit in that direction, just follow me, and I said : Look, there is the entrance of the Nedbank where - and there (?) I - I did something - and they all walk around, and I take my things and I run through (?) the embassy, and I hear screaming behind me and I was very tense, but I was in the embassy before they - they could grab me.

But then I was inside and they came in running, door open - I said (... ..) you're a political prisoner (?) (... ..) - ran in with my things and with three guys behind me running and screaming and one waving his revolver and say : Ek moerjou, Ek moerjou - I kill you, I kill you, and this - I was tackled by this young warrant officer at the end of his 20s (?) so like with rugby, you know, you - you - so I was on the floor and I saw two girls sitting there behind this plastic glass, you know, from the embassy with these round things, and they hadn't hear-afterwards they hadn't heard anything because, you know, this thick glass so they saw just forms (?) and chains and so and fighting on the floor and so, and they were shocked, enormously shocked.

So they started grabbing me - I couldn't do anything because three guys and I had legs and they are (... ..) and better trained than I, so I could only a noise and then, but they were very panicked as much, and I was so damned happy, I was so proud that I had had them because man, they were nervous as hell, so I didn't feel the kicks and so I - I was - I say (?) I - I had you, and when I saw the reactions I was so - so - so proud of myself and now I had you - even if it doesn't succeed, the fact that I've been there was enough, I - I felt great, but very - very, you know, adrenalenous of how that works....

J.F. Very what?

K.D. Andre - you know this you - you feel....

J.F. Adrenalin?

K.D. Ja - now but then there came the diplomat (?) - the girls they - they went in the - in the - I couldn't enter the - it was just waiting room, kind of waiting room, but it was really embassy - so then they went out running in - in the corridor of the embassy, and there was the diplomat just coming down, and he went with them and he came, too slowly I thought I (?) was almost already gone again, and he came - what's that and you can't do that - I said : I'm Klaas de Jonge - ja, I heard your name, you must and I'm (?) a political prisoner - I (?) said : Ja, quite, let's discuss it - and very calmly (?) don't you want to come back and so there was Bunting (?) who was a counsellor, but they didn't want to come back so no, no, but they gave their initials.

K.D. And so they brought me then to the headquarters of security branch in Pretoria and where they did their story, and they said oh - they were so frightened and nervous and so, was enormous, and I felt really relieved, I felt marvel - I saw how frightened they were, and they had to go to the highest, and he phoned immediately to Pik Botha, and so that was the beginning of the diplomatic incident.

And then nine days later they brought me back - I didn't know until ten minutes before I - they brought me - I hadn't seen any newspaper - I didn't know that there was such a scandal they were writing about - I didn't know anything....

J.F. You thought that was it that....

K.D. I felt already so great, and the way they behaved towards me such - now they - you were so fast, they said - I'm 48, they were 28 - you were so fast and they said (?) so how did - are you a sportsman - I'm not, but I said ja, sure, so and - and they were - they had nightmares, and then they brought me to some other empty spots (?) I had already told them, and then I had five guys with me, and I had foot chains and - and I was chained at my arms - how do you call it, handcuffs, and the handcuffs were chained to the foot chains and the foot chains were chained to the car, so I was like this, and still they were afraid - there was five guys, and one guy unarmed (?) before me, one guy unarmed behind me, two armed guys at two sides, and the driver, and they didn't let me one time, and I felt they were really panic - that's something what happened, and then I started kind of psychological warfare and so on and so - and then that - I - I loved that time and they were real - they had nightmares - they said also : Oh oh, if you ever come out - they said : Oh oh, do you think the ANC would have us - I said : You, never - never never.

And then a certain moment they have interviewed me - I got so fed up - I was again interrogated 12 hours, and then two hours sleep, and then it's four hours or five hours interrogate, and they they say sign - I said : What sign - sign, they said, you - you're going home - and then I had to sign for this bag and this and this and spectacles, and ten minutes later I was in a car and they delivered me at the embassy, so that was it.

J.F. When you were - you said - just to go back through all those details - they took you for a hamburger in the middle of town?

K.D. Ja, well, you know the - they - you never hear - they (.....) - they are junk food eaters - it's enormous - they eat the whole night and day also and interrogate from (?) these big hamburgers and Coke all day, and they have pocket money to do it, so you - they go to such a stand - you know where you can leave - where you can sit with the car, stay in the car and they give you a hamburger, so I got also a hamburger, cuffed and (.....)

J.F. And people weren't watching very much in the street as you walked through

K.D. Not at all - not at all.

J.F. And when the whole thing happened you didn't expect that the Dutch....

K.D. Never, but also because they said : Hey man, so if we were - if it was the South African Embassy, they would have kept you there - and again the arrogance, their - again the arrogance - and once during this time once there came the Dutch - the Dutch consul from (?) Johannesburg came to visit me and he said : Ja, we don't -

K.D. They wanted my story, so I told them the same thing I told you now, and they said : Ja, ja, there are protests - that's the first time I heard there were protests, and they said the - we don't think that we will let you go, we'll be protested - and this diplomatic incident was two or three days before I was - I was freed, but I - I didn't believe that I would go because they didn't believe it, and that's the first time I heard that Brigitte was in - in Harare and - and that Helene was in prison and - and that I knew, and so that - and then there was this Dutch consul came with his assistant, and he brought me a small plastic bag with one brown banana and - and a chocolate thing, and we were together with some of the security guys said (?) look what they gave me, and it was really a old brown banana and a piece of chocolate - now piece of chocolate was - I don't like chocolate so much, but I've eaten it then, but fruit you got in prison, so once every week you got five - five bananas or some oranges, so I found a ridiculous kind of gesture in this, and I said : I want - I said : Ja, I want to tell you what happened, I said, in - to - to this guy who came, and he said : Is he allowed to general (?) - to (.....) and I (?) said : No, I allow (?) - I want to tell you - I thought I - and he was so polite to this policeman I - I hated it - I found a ridiculous guy, a real diplomat and - and this - this - this brown banana, together with this policeman being laughed about it (?) because I found it such a Dutch kind of - you know, this Dutch are considered to be very difficult with money, so very (.... ..) we say in Dutch, very - I don't know in English - but I found it a typical Dutch.

And afterwards he told everybody he had Helene and me - had offered us a fruit basket and so on (Laugh.....) and it's ridiculous and....

J.F. So he didn't offer any kind of support or encouragement or....

K.D. No, it was just one of these nicely dressed diplomats, he - he was - I think he was much - much more at the South African side than at mine - for most of these guys I'm a terrorist.

J.F. And what was your plan about getting into the embassy? Did you think that perhaps you would - surely they could get you out (.....)

K.D. No, I - I hoped I had time enough to enter also this door, but when I came in I saw already that I was in (?) the first place, and then there's a door besides this - this - where the women are, these two women, but this door was closed and the things you have to point (?) but they were completely - I saw them - they - they were standing like this - I was laying on the floor and trying to get this, and I saw these girls like this, and afterwards they - they - they were - certainly one of these girls, she was a Dutch girl who lived in South Africa, and she saw me as terrible (?) - she thought she had done something terrible because she - she was shocked and went out to see this diplomat - the diplomat came and that started everything off - otherwise if she had nothing done, for example, then I would have been perhaps taken away and nobody would have known who it was.

So she - I - she hated my guts and she walked (?) - when I saw her later in the embassy - that's my interpretation - she walked with a big - I give her hell - hell of a fright and she walked with a big - she - she was very much afraid of me and she - I think she was very much ashamed of herself because she really thought me as a - that I was a terrorist and that I should have handed over to the South Africans, so she was responsible for me being not handed over, so she - she had a very difficult time for herself.

J.F. You had only been to the embassy once before?

K.D. Ja, once before.

- J.F. And had you thought to yourself I must note where this is, or were you just lucky that you remembered? You went just on visa or passport?
- K.D. Ja, I went for a visa - for visa, but then for help to have a visa because I got a refusal for a new visa for South Africa, and I went to the embassy to get help.
- J.F. And they helped you?
- K.D. Ja, they helped me that time, but - but you know, work - doing this kind of work you - you get observant (?) so you - you - you try to remember things, and even if it's not conscious the moment you - you have it somewhere stored, so the moment it was (?) so I remembered where it was.
- J.F. And they weren't - you said they were embarrassed, but weren't they really angry with you after, those SBs that had you?
- K.D. The who?
- J.F. The police that were with you when you....
- K.D. No, there was a strange reaction, they - they were - well, that kind I think they have something really strange - you know, sport is such a religion for them, they saw something - they - somewhere they admired me - at the same time they were angry with me because I gave them a lot of shit, so it was a strange - they didn't - they didn't treat me - they treated me with - with - as if I was a - a enormous dangerous person, and I have to lie because I - I'm no danger at all, and I - I used these kind of things later in the embassy also, so you use - you can use on them (?) psychological warfare, so - and - and no, they weren't - they didn't hit me, they didn't - ja, they left me chained for six or seven hours or so like this....
- J.F. Hunched over (.....)
- K.D. Ja, until everything have in a car (?) and drive to Durban in a car, so I was sitting like this - six hours is a bit (?)....
- J.F. To Durban?
- K.D. Ja.
- J.F. Why to Durban.....

END OF SIDE ONE.

- J.F. You were showing them an arms cache in Durban.
- K.D. An empty one, ja - an empty one, but so that was six hours like this and then six hours back or so (.....)seven, eight.
- J.F. So your plan was only to show them empty arms caches?
- K.D. Ja, so I made a mistake in the beginning and then I (.....)
- J.F. So you were - the reason you were so upset was that what you thought would have been emptied by then wasn't empty?
- K.D. Ja.
- J.F. So you thought no, that was a waste of it?

- K.D. Mmm, but perhaps otherwise I (?) wouldn't have - have this anger and this - this really now I shall have you - perhaps I hadn't had that, and I need always some -something to - to really get triggered off.
- J.F. And before the embassy escape whole thing happened, had you thought to yourself well, I'm going to sit for ten years, or is it going to be five years, or am I going to be traded? Had you gotten that far to think about it or did you still think oh, they won't have a case, or what did you think?
- K.D. Oh, they had a case because they had shown that they were present when I - I had, so I thought I would be in for at least ten years, or 15, ten.
- J.F. And had you started to try to come to grips with that or?
- K.D. No, you are so busy with the actual situation that I didn't think about it, no.
- J.F. But you thought there'd be a trial and?
- K.D. Sure, ja.
- J.F. And did you think it would be linked with Helene?
- K.D. Ja, sure.
- J.F. And so then were you quite surprised when they came and took you to the embassy?
- K.D. Ja, very.
- J.F. And they - did you know when they said you're going home - what did you think was happening?
- K.D. I thought perhaps a plane in a moment with (?) the embassy, but it was so - so unexpected, ten minutes before - after long interrogations and making photographs and again finger prints and so so - you know, it's a bit like when I saw him when he came out of prison to Maputo - he was pale, quite (.....)....
- J.F. Albertini?
- K.D. Albertini, but - but - but a bit - a bit ja, numb, I recall - he didn't talk, he was very - no, I had the same - couldn't believe it.
- J.F. And so then - just tell me a bit - they took you by car, you were still handcuffed, and they brought you to the embassy, or how did it work?
- K.D. Ja, so they brought - I was at Johannesburg John Vorster Square, so they - they were with (?) a car very fast with lights and so, very fast with some - with a captain and so while (?) we went to Pretoria headquarters security branch - from there with Gen. Stadtler and - and another captain, they delivered me at four o'clock on the 19th. June - July - 19th. July they delivered me at the - at the embassy, and then there was (?) a lot of press - I was amazed, I didn't know that there were - that it was in the press that it was such a case, I didn't - I hadn't seen one newspaper, I didn't hear from anybody anything.
- The only thing what they said when I was in John Vorster Square and I - everybody was looking at me and they said : Hey, now you have the flying Dutchman, so the vliegende Hollander (.....) - it made me always - it made me only (?) more happy.

K.D. And then the last day when I heard - when I - just the moment when (?) I came through this - this corridor when (?) I - oh, when I just had heard that I was, or would be free, there was once one of these policemen - this arms cache I did in a night when I was not (?) arrested just after - it was empty already, so they were - they had empty it, but then to make photographs they wanted me to - to - to - to split the (?) to - to work there again as if I was busy, so they made photograph, digging - just to make some photographs from being busy there - they filled it up again- everything was out already, but they just wanted me to dig something so to make photographs for - that's nice (?) so I didn't mind so I did it (?)

And (.....) there I found a - a golden ring, and then the explosive expert who was there said : Hey, that's mine - and I gave him that ring, and he said : Do you get a beer (?) - that's something, a beer in prison, so when I went I (?) said : Hey, when do I get a beer - just when I heard that I was free I said : Now - now you - I never got this beer from you - kakvent, he said, oh, shit, man, and they were so angry and it was in general (?) - it was (?) Gen. Erasmus who said : Klaas, I - I have to greet (?) you - and he was sniffing (?) - I thought he went away (.....) so and I - and he shake my hands and so - he says (?) I have to greet you - I said : Are you sick or some - because he was sniffing and so - said : No, you're going away, so that's when you have to sign you're going away - that was when I heard it from (.....) - they said (?) It's a sad day for me, he said - but it was political decision, so maybe they were there - at John Vorster Square they were angry, angry, angry- they really hated it the fact that they had to - to - that they had to go and let me go.

And so I came in the embassy, and there were some of these young guys making a small dance that I (.....) - everybody had waited there for hours and hours, and the ambassador he thought he would have been conned (?) - they - they didn't believe I would come there before he had already - they had a ultimatum - the ultimatum (?) that I had to be delivered (?) - if not, the ambassador would go back, and he had already packed his suitcase because he didn't believe they would hand me over, and they did.

So everybody was very excited and so I - I found myself - then they said O.K., nice that you are here, this is your room - and there it was, a room and a bed and a room that (?) was full of ja, what was it, folders from how nice Holland is, and films from Holland and dykes from Holland and bulb (?) fields of Holland, and there I was sitting alone - sitting- and some people walking along and I heard talking and they said (?) Oh, we leave you alone for a moment - and I was free, sitting in this office room - that was it (?)

J.F. So who was doing the dancing?

K.D. Oh, one of these young guys from the consulate (?) - ja, it is administrative guys who - who were just very happy - they were so proud to have me back, ja, the (?) Dutch - and there were enormous - I saw when (?) coming there I - they drove me inside the building more or less, in the cour - court - courtyard (?) - what do you call it - and so I saw a lot of policemen all the (.....) brigade and they all with very (?) with young guys, special task force - that was later - South African....

J.F. (.....)

- K.D. Special task force - it is like koevoet, but then (?) the police unit but then for urban guerilla, and they were there and they were on the - on the roofs with - with - they were everywhere, with cars or so, it was full of them, full of them, so I thought gee - and then I saw all these press people when I came in and the flashing flashes, so a bit like a - the same kind of movement as (.....) the day I left (.....) so I thought hey, I was glad I was in between these two security general and this other and I (?) said Hey (.....)....
- J.F. Raised your fist?
- K.D. Raised your fist and so I was - so I came in the embassy and I was delivered, received by Bentenck, who I'd seen already, the same guy....
- J.F. Bentenck?
- K.D. Bentenck - Bentenck, that was the counsellor who came into the corridor when they jerked (?) me away, and as you know (?) his name you can find it (?) B e n t e n c k, Bentenck, a baron (?)
- J.F. And did you have any sense of how long you'd be there?
- K.D. No, I - I was too amazed and then I hadn't thought about it, but I felt great (?) because it was a defeat for them, so I thought hey, but I never thought that it would happen, but I was already glad at the way I had handled it and that it was never thought of that they (?) would do it, so I didn't - then the same afternoon Kathy Satchwell, my lawyer, came - I (?) said hey - she was very much impressed by the fact that I had had them, and then I heard then they came with a lot of newspaper cuttings, and I hadn't an idea that it had been in the press like this - I didn't know of - I didn't know anything, anything, anything, and I thought it was just - I didn't know.
- J.F. And what did she say to you, what did she think?
- K.D. Oh, she said, I'm your lawyer if you want, and it is - and so we talked a bit and she said : I have to come to make your statement because I think you will be handed over later - and they were already saying there, they came with - with two indictments for arms smuggling....
- J.F. She came when you were in prison still?
- K.D. No, when I came - when I was in the embassy - same day they gave - they gave two indictments to....
- J.F. But why did she say you'll be handed over - by the Dutch....
- K.D. Ja, probably, ja one - and so before you are handed over again (.....) she thought that the Dutch would keep me so if (?) - if there's a case we then have to need to prepare it and so, and she thought probably that it, ja, for one reason or the other I would have been handed over, and that almost - they almost did so - it's only because of actions in Holland of a support committee - these lawyers, international experts, who forced the South Af - the Dutch government that they couldn't hand me over, that it was against human rights, and so that made the decision that the government couldn't do so, because they had said that I was arrested under the Internal Security Act Section 29, and Holland had signed an agreement United Nations that these kind of acts are against the human rights and that political exile (?) if it was political, I had to get it because they couldn't hand over a Dutchman to South African government under a law they had declared not acceptable, going against these human laws (?)

K.D. So Holland declared, and that was different with Helene's case, which was helped from the Belgians, and there's - that's the thing they did good and - and that they said : We don't want to hand him over - in principle under the internal (?) - Section 29 of the Internal Security Act, and we are against it - and the Belgians never did, never said these kind of things - they didn't protest against this law, but I think if the South Africans had changed the indictment for arms smuggling only, that they would have handed me over more or less, but they stand - they wanted a political process under internal security law, so I stayed there.

But for Helene (?) they were very much against - I mean we are a pro - anti-apartheid country, but the arms struggle they are against - the Dutch is doing that - they find terrible (?) - even the progressive press was against me when I came back - I considered (?) - I saw that - in Holland a lot of the quite progressive press, the fact that I admitted that I had smuggled arms, oh man (?) that gave them this whole discussion of use of violence - they don't accept it in the case of South Africa - the majority I think is against it - even progressive they're very (?) man, you can't do that - for the ANC it's perhaps good, for blacks who fight for the independence, but the Dutchman who's doing it they consider - a lot of them consider me to be a terrorist and - and not the - the progressive press doesn't use it, but is - is very unhappy about use of violence and - and so we have to (?) trigger off this discussion - one of the reason why I said also - I admitted I did it.

And so it's going on now, but I - for the VARA I was interviewed by Paul Witterman of the (?) socialist - Socialist Broadcasting Corporation, but the - they only want to talk about violence and they start questions : By your actions you could have killed harmless civilians, women and children - same things always the South Africans say, and they don't want to hear of any - and if I said comparison with, for example, that you must consider me like, for example, a Swede or a Swiss, who is during the Second World War in Holland, and he sees fascist methods used and people deported and people exploited and so - so no (now) that's different, they don't want to hear of this comparison - torture, ja, it can be true, but you can't do that, so it's very difficult, and they go on and on and on and it's very difficult to get it through (?) and that's what I want to work on now to (.....) and that's what I did the last two months, trying to mobilise people and to - to make them - make it clear that you can make this comparison with the Second World War in the (?) method used by the fasc - by the African - the - this regime of P.W. Botha - you can compare it very well, I think, with Nazi occupation - they use the same methods.

But it's very difficult and there's a lot of work to do, and that's quite amazing because we are anti-apartheid country, but I think my interpretation is that it's hypocrite (.....) they think about human rights in that sense aparthe - everybody is against apartheid - even the most right wing say we are against apartheid, but that's much more because they don't have the same political rights - it's not the means (?) - you are not allowed to use violence against this regime, so you have to explain what apartheid is and so and you (?) - another way the anti-apartheid movement a mistake (?) I think, and you never saw how difficult it is to get this through - if blacks fight for them, but if a Dutchman fights against fascism (.....) in Germany and Holland, that's O.K., but there don't do it, so I think I - I learned a lot and it's one of the things I want to write about now to make a - and I've thought about it already in - when I was in the embassy, to write a study about discussions of political violence in South Africa, so.

J.F. What do you mean you want to make a study....

K.D. Ja, write a book about the discussions on political violence in South Africa.

J.F. The discussions at home?

K.D. No, in South Africa itself, but I can - I do it for a Dutch - I would do it for the Dutch public then and try to show why the ANC did it and what the churches say and what - what my vision of it (?) - I think it's political relevance, especially for Holland - it is not done yet, it is political relevant and I'm personally - it's a subject what's - what - what (.....)

J.F. So it would be the debates over the decision kind of....

K.D. Ja, the debates on the churches and the state - the churches, the state, the ANC - Gandhi started with - so all these things (?)

J.F. But it would be historical, it would go back to Rivonia and (.....)

K.D. Ja, ja.

J.F. And you're saying even progressives....

K.D. Ja, who were for socialist ja, and they said : Ja, I agree with you, but I have to play the advocate of the - the devil - but they do it so well that nobody knows that it's the advoc - the role of the advocate, and for example, this guy of the socialist broadcasting he hammered all the time so called (?) for objective reasons about these innocent poor women, and so I can explain the strategy of the ANC and I - that mistakes are - can be made, that crossfire is possible, that you have to compare to Second World War, but he didn't want me to develop the things very much - he was attacked very much by other left wing later, but for example, a very much pro - pro - pro a South African government group in Holland - was very glad with this and this is (?) and with this interview, so that shows already that - and that's the socialist broadcasting - and a lot of - but you can ask Karel Roskam because he - he was connected to it also - he was shocked by this reaction, but he has a bit other explanations than I have about it, but - so it's still a subject you still have to discuss, and the aggressiveness also of the BBC when I was asked, so then it - it it's (.....) through your actions as a Dutchman - what the hell are you doing there, and you could have killed by your bombs - you don't do it yourself, but others you - you - by your work (?) innocent women could have been killed, so that - that's the kind of questions they ask, and it is not only just to - to - so it - it's a very - I think it's a subject which really is important to - to explain and - and it's not done until now well enough, otherwise you wouldn't have these problems.

And I - for the Belgian television I had the same - they did it bit better but they came again with these questions, and they asked the wrong questions or they asked the right question but to the wrong person - I said (?) you have to ask it to Botha, this violence, and I tried to explain the structural violence and why don't you ask Botha and these kind of things, but they are (?) - so it - and - and ja, so it - so there (?) was a hell of a lot of - specially because the diary was there (?) and so it was - and that - and it gave a lot of trouble in - in - in Holland.

So I got death threats and police protection in Belgium with (?) - and - and people very angry that I compared with the Second World War, and strange reactions in Holland with the whole debate what has to - has to be started again about the subject, so I learned a hell of a lot.

J.F. Had you thought about that inside already?

K.D. Ja, I got already (.....) even good friends, so they thought oh, I did it only for adventures - I (.....) adventures, but it wasn't the reason - it was a political decision and it was scientif - I was also interest - I'm a sociologist - perhaps I didn't say that, but working - I was interested in revolution movements and working (.....)

K.D. And so what's the best way to study it is participating, so that was a reason, and then I was angry what I saw but (?) a lot of people that (?) I just - it has just for the kick or I will (?) do it for everybody, and so much (?) true - if I would have seen the same kind of injustice in Brazil during general's regime or so, and if I am to (?) - would have worked in Brazil I would have been angry and probably taken the same decision - if I could have helped, I would have helped there too - it's not linked to Africa - I'm not very much interested in South Africa as a country, it's just I - I find it terrible country - it's beautiful, but I mean the whole system, but I think after independence it will - it will - it will still have a lot of problems, but I see things happening I don't like - I'm completely (.....) I hate - I am completely against - goes against everything I believe in, so I get - want to help to get rid of it.

But I think the people who went to Spain didn't do it because they thought Spain was such a nice country and beautiful people, but they thought hey, this fascism we have to - Franco - we have to do something if we believe in it, so - and that's why I think that somewhere the - the example of Spain is a better one than Second World War because I think for ideological reasons a person took part in struggle in Spain and - and not for ideological reasons they took really part in - it was just what the hell these Germans do here in our country that's - you could be extremely right wing and still be anti-German (?) like my father, for example, was in resistance - I don't know my real father he (?) was in resistance, but hadn't any difficulties to go to Indonesia to - to - to - to - to make war against the independence movement there, and I don't think any one of these guys who fought in Spain would, after the Second World War, go to Vietnam to fight there, so this emergency (?) is impossible.

So I think the - the - the - there is a political decision to help the ANC and it is motivated because of what's going on there much more - and I think it's (.....) - and - but now I've tried to find examples (?) like I say (?) Switzerland was (.....) - was neutral, isn't it, and - and Sweden also, so if a Swede or Swiss was living in Holland would it be so strange if sees what fascism means, Nazi means - is it so strange if he would say : O.K., I join the Dutch resistance movement - what's against it.

J.F. When you were in - what do you want to say about during the time you were in the embassy? You told the story up to when they put you in there and you were sitting in that room.

K.D. Ja - oh well, then I didn't know how long it would take, so I started I think - I had the idea that at a certain moment I could be handed over, so I started writing down my experiences in the - in the embassy as soon as possible, also because for people didn't know why my choice (?) so explain why I thought I had done what I did, and also the mistakes I made so I mention to you (?) just in case I would be there that some that I have some - otherwise you have to wait ten years or 20 years and now (?) so I thought hey, write it down, so I was in a hurry I wrote down things very rough and just (.....)

But that's how (?) I started when it took longer - I started to every day write something down about life in the embassy, about books I read, about contacts with the embassy people, with the Dutch military policeman who came there after three weeks to - to - to guard me here, talks with the South African police outside, I - at certain moment I had, and I crawl in my window (?) when they started discussing with me and sometimes they started talking about their beliefs and fears and the work on (.....) and guerilla work and torture and so.

K.D. Took it all on tape and worked it out, and so that - so I wrote in this two years of 1500 pages or so and (.....) bit 160 (.....) selected and small parts, but - and there were (?) sometimes political analyses and reflexes (?) I started reading (.....) again - I (?) said I was - I know I was influenced also by existentialism (?) by birth almost - I was educated in that sense, and then I going back in what were things who influenced me, it was '60s Marxism and neo-Marxism also in the social sciences, but also (.....) so I started - for the first (....) I had time to read his whole philosophical work and ja, that - that's a bit my story.

J.F. Do you understand Afrikaans?

K.D. Ja, very well.

J.F. And do you speak it?

K.D. No.

J.F. Did it help you that you understood it from your arrest?

K.D. Oh ja, sure - well, also this in - they - during interrogation that I - I spoke English because it give (?) - they - for English is for them a second language, so it gives me more power, so - and so they were more clumsy in English, so if you speak English with them then they are forced to - to do that, so that's already my - my English was better than theirs, so that's already good and - but I - I read newspapers, for example, the Beirut and then (.....) and - and often these - these policemen outside they spoke in Afrikaans, I answered in English for the same reason (.....) interrogation, but they spoke in the Afrikaans so - and broken English.

J.F. And during your political work, doing your work for the ANC did it help you that you understood Afrikaans? Was there at any time that anything happened at the border or anything?

K.D. No, the fact that you understand them and you can answer and ja, perhaps I - I'm not really clear, but it - it's (.....)

J.F. And the time you were in the embassy did you get visitors?

K.D. Ja, the first six months only the lawyer and they were - they were shit scared, these diplomats - they didn't want - they had to keep me - they couldn't hand me over, but they didn't like me staying there and they also thought more or less that I was a terrorist, and they were very much afraid to - for the diplomatic relationships and they didn't want to break up the diplomatic relationship, so I had to keep quiet so - and they didn't want to offend the South Africans more than they already did, so they refused everything what they thought perhaps it can offend the South Africans, so they begin with no visitors, no contact with the press - they were - they were scared for everything, so at certain moment I - I became so angry I said it's just like in prison, you - I don't see anybody, and they got very angry and said oh, he becomes (?) - I am very - I am - I'm very social, not - not - not a new guy (?) I'm not very emotional, I'm not ver - I'm person who becomes very sad or very glad or very angry, so I'm bit - little bit with - with like this.

And I got very angry, so angry that they thought oh, he (?) now - now he - he gets a bit mad, and they sent a medical doctor and he said I was completely healthy, and then so they started thinking oh well, perhaps he (.....) and I threatened them I would write a lot of what was going on and why and how and that - that's the only thing I afraid (?)

K.D. Publicity ja, I don't (?) afraid for, so then I got permission to have some visitors and Kathy Satchwell helped me to - to get some friends - I didn't know them but they - they - they became friends, but it took six weeks before they - they were - and then she had to send all the data and then they had to decide in - in The Hague - the ambassador couldn't decide anything, and they can (?) - beginning the whole embassy was there and later they want it moved (?) - when I came in in July - in September the embassy moved to a new building, so they - they had - in principle (?) they had planned to move in May - if that was done (?) then I would have run into an empty - empty building - I didn't know they had planned to move, I didn't know anything, but they were too late.

So they moved and I stayed behind alone, so there was nobody I could talk, only they came with an (.....) a Dutch military policeman, and they came also and thought that's a terrorist and we going (?) and he has to be kicked out, but they liked (?) because they got two months' good salary, two months in Pretoria, and my son could visit the Kruger Park and so and - and so - but being there they changed, so most of them I became quite friendly with - I - I had - and because they even - they - they came with the idea that's a terrorist and terrible and we'll have to kick him out, but not during my stay because I want to stay here two months.

But when they talk with the South African policemen outside and then they talked about the torture and things they - they changed and just by observing and asking questions and reading newspapers and so they - they - they changed, so when they were - when they left, in general they were in my side, but the diplomats I mean the - especially the - the Dutch ambassador oh, he was a crime I mean, he - he didn't - I never saw such a - I - I don't have much trust in diplomats, but this one was really bad.

So they - they didn't - they were afraid - I couldn't have a shower because they were afraid it was - the Nedbank would be against it because (.....) office - and then I was already sleeping there and a (?) policeman was sleeping there, I didn't mind.

J.F. So did you have any contact with the policeman guarding you? Did you speak to them?

K.D. Ja, they - they were very aggressive, South African (?) police - they were from special unit, special task force, and they were the beginning much more, but during the whole time there were 30 persons full time guarding me and so, in shifts - in shifts, so - and costed them hell of a lot of money, thousands rands a day at least, so it was very expensive for them and they were - because they are elite troops it's good to have them there because they couldn't fool around somewhere else, I liked that, but they were very - they were trained to fight the ANC and so and they saw me as a - it's the first time that I saw a bit what racism is, because I was considered to be kaffirboetie and they reacted (?) as if I was a traitor of the volk, as the most terrible commie - communist and murderer of women and childrens and - and they were dammed aggressive in the beginning, and they keep me awake at night and threatening and drawing their pistols and saying this bullet is for you and - and pointing at me and so the whole time, and throwing stones against the window and making this - a special noise with speakers (?) at night and - and - and that went on and on and on, especially the first month.

J.F. And the Dutch couldn't do anything about it?

K.D. They didn't do anything, they were frightened I said (?) you were so frightened - in the beginning they didn't do anything.

J.F. What were they frightened of?

K.D. The - they made, for example - they - we had - they were frightened to do something what they wouldn't like, the South Africans, so that's - they - it's - you know, diplomats are people without initiative in general, so - especially this ambassador and that - that - the others that were (?) some were much better, but the ambassador was hopeless - we had, for example, gate (?) that existed already, and that was close by us, by the policemen - certain moment they have these own keys where they can open every lock, so the special task force they took the lock off and they put their own lock - never been protest - so they just locked us up and there was never a protest from you are the - so now the - the only thing is that we went in - every time we want to in (?) you have to open it, so they did, and they never put acid (?)

They put a lot of barbed wire around the building - even just below my window - they never protested - if I did something or so (?) or - or - or wave to a photographer or so, I was punished immediately - if the South African police when there was - when the curtains were washed once and they could see into my room, and immediately a whole group of policemen came to make photographs of the interior (.....) they never protested, so they were so - they did - they protested if I did something, posters (?) 75 years ANC and so, then they prot - I'm not allowed to make politics - even if I said stop apartheid (?) say : You can't do that, this embassy is not for that - I said it's - stop apartheid is - is our government policy, that's not for you to do this, so and so and so - I didn't mind what I did, how I did it - if I wrote a letter or something was published, I was immediately punished.

J.F. How were you punished?

K.D. They didn't have much things to do, but for example, certain moment they - then they said (.....) was not allowed to phone, Beverly was not allowed to phone, my Brazilian friends was not allowed to phone and what more - for months and months and months people were not allowed to phone, and they threatened me so from - and I would endanger my position and I - and - and if I don't - I wanted to sign that I didn't do that any more, I said : No, I - I'm a lackey (?) for - for not be - I'm not able to say what I want to say - they - they (.....)

Beverly came once - I was again something I had - I had an escape plan and it was frustrated by - they took things away by force, the ambassador, because they - they said no, are you - we are responsible - if you escape we are responsible - they were so afraid that the Dutch - they said they did it for me, but in the reality is that they were afraid that the South Africans would think they'd helped me, so I was very angry with the fact that they took things away from me, and so I had written to a newspaper that - that they had done it, so that was immediately also published in South African newspapers that I had an escape plan and that I was angry with the Dutch that they had so (?) -- that was at the moment that Beverly came and she had already asked a long time before if she could visit me - she had been there two afternoons and they said no (?) there was publicity, go away - so she had to go again, so that was once I - so I hadn't seen her for a year, and she could come five days every day - after two days they (?) said can't come any more, so these ways (?) they - they punished me, and that is - they hadn't much to - to - to punish, but they tried hard - threats and - and - and - but the ambassador, his political - he said : Ja, de Jonge (?) so but Botha wants reform and you have to keep - give him time - you can't force him on the knees (?) than he had - before he had been interrogating (?) and said : If you force them on the knees, then he becomes even more angry, and then you don't get anything - you can't do anything.

K.D. You - give him time and- and it is not so long ago in our country it was bad also, and you see these blacks if you - now they give more (?) money for education, but what do we do - they burn their own schools - he didn't understand a bit what's going on - he was the most stupid bastard you can imagine - really it was - he was a career diplomat - his father had been a diplomat and he - he said also from ja, one man one vote, it's impossible - said they are just coming out of the trees - it's only - said they're - so then to explain....

J.F. He said that?

K.D. Ja, ja, ja.

J.F. What was this thing - somebody once said to me earlier on that there was an idea that you would be sent to Holland to go to prison in Holland?

K.D. Ja, ja, at certain moment they were - they - they asked for a free passage, and they refused, and then they had a meeting in Geneva where they discussed if there were possibilities to have a trial in South Africa and then shoot it out (?) or part of it in Holland, or that they would send me to Holland and I would have been tried there - and even when I come out here now they ask (?) - now the - the (.....) general of...

J.F. The what?

K.D. (.....) - it is the prosecutor general in Amsterdam got from the ministry of foreign affairs and justice in Holland the task to find out if there are things to punish me for in Holland for things I did in South Africa....

J.F. And what did he do?

K.D. He's still doing the research.

J.F. Is he doing the research on it (?)

K.D. I think he got the - I think he won't do it - he would be crazy because we - we would love it - I mean a hell of a lot of lawyers who wants to help me, and we get a political trial in Holland what would show all the hypocrisy of our government, so there would be - I would love everybody who are (?) my friends and - and lawyers I know, they would love it to - to have a place and let them do it, but I don't think they do it - it's just a gesture to the right wing liberals, who said : He costed a lot of money and he did it and he must be punished and so.

J.F. But the government didn't pay anything for you. They didn't pay for your food, did they?

K.D. But the rent was quite high and these policemen costed every - there were two, two policemen they got - costed them a lot of money, but it's the principle - that was also the right wing (.....) and also the common people of Telegraaf readers - send him out, he cost a lot of money and he's a terrorist and so and - but then even van den Broek said no, it's a principle - for principle reasons and that money can't be considered, but every day (?) in the Liberal Party they - and I said when I came back they are a bunch of racist and all they - I (?) don't know what's going on in South Africa, or I could have a fair trial, they thought, in South Africa, so you have to be - and he costs a lot of money and he can have a fair trial, so - so when I come back (?) oh, they don't know what it is in - what it is South Africa, or they behave like these - they cooperate with that regime, so then they - I can't find other explanations, so they were very angry with that statement and so.

K.D. And so ja, that's - that's what's going on in Holland, so I think there's a hell of a lot to do in there and I could - this ambassador it's - he didn't know or didn't understand anything, anything, anything, and he's not racist in normal sense - he is a racist because he's - they can just (.....) racist remark and he believes it, but it is more from his elitist diplomat kind of view, and he knows how to drink with Afrikaaners - they are not so bad- they're cultivated people and he's - that's the circle he knows, and what's going on in the countryside and that is it really so bad, he ask, and - so - and he doesn't understand it, he doesn't want to understand it and - but his - his daughter had been married - married to black West African, so it's not the same (?) and he doesn't mind it, so he says, but it's more the idea from there that the better Boer bad (?) regime and he does - he thinks oh, they are also uncultivated and parvenues (?) - new people not cultural and without culture and just - just developing, but the blacks are even worse, so that's it and - and that's our ambassador of a anti-apartheid nation, so I wrote a letter that we had to get rid of this ambassador, that he was a phony and that he also took things in the way of means (?) - in my - in my opinion he was co-operating with South Africans - it was my responsibility if I want to leave if I'm killed, and it's my responsibility, it's not his.

And so I had a new escape plan I thought would be in December, but so I was - I had a good plan - I gave myself 90 percent chance to get away, so it's - (.....) my first plan was - didn't go because of the - because (?) of the embassy, and I should have done much better, so I think I would have been out anywhere (anyway) but with a bit more risks.

J.F. I was going to ask you how long you thought you'd stay. You were just...

K.D. Kathy thought I could stay - Miss Satchwell (?) - that it was quite possible she - that I could have stayed for 20 years or so, and I think I could have lived it - I had a quite disciplined kind of life, I wasn't really unhappy, I - I had a lot to do, and I had always idea that if I really didn't want to (?) I had the possibility to go away.

J.F. Escape?

K.D. Mmm.

J.F. But what do you mean you had a lot to do, you weren't unhappy? What did you do?

K.D. Oh, I had - what did I do - I read a lot, so I took the whole work, philosophical work of Satcher (?) - I gone through each (?) 1,000 pages, I - I wrote a diary daily, I followed all the - I cut out the newspaper (... ..) so I read everything on South Africa....

J.F. (.....)

K.D. (.....)

J.F. You had a job with them?

K.D. Not - it was forbidden by (.....) - I asked also - they asked me, I said I do it and I told the (.....) I do it, and they said : No, you are not allowed - but I just did it - I found ways to get it out and so I did it, but the - so I followed what was going on in South Africa, I was reading a hell of a lot, I - music I listened to - I got a lot of letters, but I didn't answer them because I hadn't much to write about, my - every day was the same.

K.D. I woke up at about seven o'clock when the black messenger came to - to do a bit of cleaning in the building, and then he brought me the morning newspapers, so I still in bed reading them, listening to the BBC - after a year I got a - radio people - people got the money together for a short wave radio, so listening to BBC, Radio Holland and - and France and - and Moscow, everything - and then I made coffee, I cooked every day on - I became a good cook also - I was already quite reasonable cook, but in there (?) I became a better one - I saw what it is to be a housewife because I sent the Dutch MPs away with a list with shopping every day - they did shopping, and then if something wasn't there they didn't buy something else, but you (?) just came back with it isn't there, so I got - I - I think as a housewife you must have experience these kind of things - if you send your husband away and he says ja, and they can't find an alternative or so, so -

I had some social contact with the military policemen, so playing chess in the evening, watching together television....

J.F. You had a TV?

K.D. They had a TV in their room - they had a - they slept there also, one - one every night there was - day and night there was one person, in the morning they changed - 24 hours, 24 hours.

J.F. So you could go to their room to watch?

K.D. Ja, then we watch together TV, and often we - I made dinner and we have dinner together, but for the rest of the day I was alone in my room and sometimes I got visits, but on visits they wanted to keep the idea that it was an embassy - nobody was live there (?) - everybody knew that it was only an embassy still because I was there - the day after I was there it wasn't an embassy any more, they closed it, so - but they wanted to stick to also office hours, so my visitors could only come during office hours, and they were all working in Johannesburg, very hard working active people, so they couldn't come very much, so this is how these lousy things of - of diplomats who stick to certain rules are not really rules and (.....) - that was typical Dutch - damned scared they were.

I did sports, sport every day....

J.F. Exercising?

K.D. Mmm, ja, exercising.

J.F. Did you ever have contact with black workers who washed the windows?

K.D. Ja, ja - no, they didn't wash windows but the - from the opposite hall - from the opposite side - for example, it was Nedbank - if you see the book you see the - the design of (.....) - there's a - there's a garden roof and there was a guard, South African policeman, but opposite there were lawyers and Nedbank offices, and often they were waving Amandla and also fists and so, and sometimes I was dancing musical all the like (?) music - I like dancing, so I just danced in my - on my - in my - alone - and then for example, I saw in the toilet in the office (?) and they (.....) dancing - I said ja, and then I made also this movement (?) so I had - and I had music, and also O.K. Supermarket Bazaar, so O.K. Bazaars were opposite and when I sometimes I had a kitchen - there was no water in the kitchen, was just a - some small things and - and they - they all knew I was there and everybody, blacks in the street, and they always watched outside if I was there and they wove (waved) (?) and so, and these women also on the opposite, and men - they were the dressing rooms - and then they always - if they saw me they were very, very militant kind of greetings.

K.D. And the blacks in general they were very, very eager to show solidarity, and the whites in general they said make cutting - cutting throats (.... ..) - the black - the blacks outside they were great and that was - it was (?) very important, these kind - small kind of - but no dogs (?) - only when they were - were renovating the building they came also inside and I had some small dogs with people (talks with people) who came (?) but not much because the - the MPs had their - in principle I was not allowed to talk to them (?)

J.F. Did your parents support you when you came out and during it and all?

K.D. Ja, very much - they were frightened like hell, but they were very proud also and they - and they - they - they were accepting what I did and - and even they were 80 years - my mother was 81 years now, and they asked to come and certain moment they said : Oh, ja, perhaps he has his own life now, disciplined life, and perhaps better that we don't come because we would perhaps change his life, it would be short - so I - I sent part of my diary so they knew what I was thinking and reading about, and they wrote regularly and no - no, they were very supportive, very different from some of Helen's family - her mother supported her, but the rest of the family was much oh, we've (?) terrorist in the family, and they didn't want to know anything about it - but my sons and - and parents, brother...

J.F. Your brother had to pay for - did he pay for the food and everything?

K.D. In the beginning, in the first months, and then I asked for social security in Holland and I got it, 350 rands a month.

J.F. So that paid for your food?

K.D. Mmm.....

END OF SIDE TWO.

J.F. What was it you said to me earlier about that the policeman said to you would the ANC ever have us or....

K.D. No, they thought if - if you really escape or get out of here, and then my job is finished at the (.....) special branch, so then I can forget my future - was a warrant officer who wanted to be officer, said then I can forget it and - but I'm good technician, perhaps the ANC will - it was partly joke but partly also it - it is - it's - it suits the idea that they are in general the special - the - the security branch think they are technocrats, apolitical, and that they would function as well now under Botha as under ANC government - they say still - they still need us - we are technicians, we know how to do the job, and they will need us even afterwards - so for them there's not much difference so for whom they work - they do their job, that's all - but partly it could be true if you see in Zimbabwe, where the actual security branch still people who worked under Ian Smith and (.....) and I'm sure the ANC because they are more political than - than - much more political, I think, than Zanu, and I don't think they would do that, but I think it's that belief of being that if - that you could work under the ANC, it wouldn't make any difference - so partly joke, partly it's linked to this whole idea from we do our job and doesn't matter which regime, we do it good.

J.F. And did you feel that your time in the embassy - what did that do to your political views?

K.D. I got more militant out - came more militant - I said I'm bit a person who likes to be a voyeur, and I use the word, so I'm observer and I like to participate - it's a bit in my characters - it's in - in my relationships - I said I don't think I'm very different if it's a political commitment or so - I'm committed but on my terms - I'm committed in a relationship, but on my terms, so very much so - my own choice is my own and my own space, and it's - but I think this time changed me, at least in - not in relationship side because I don't think I would change that side, but political I think I'm - I could commit me if it was necessary, more than before because I got more - I think one of the emotions who kept me going also was this kind of anger, anger was fed (?) on what I heard from these people, how they behaved, the racism, the way they behaved towards me, and it was not the person itself - it was in the system, the way they talked about blacks and the way they talked about the - the - the way they - they didn't know anything about the ANC - they were frightening (?) it - it's a special task force, the elite force of there (?) and they didn't know anything what's going on in the ANC, and they had killed them and they tortured them and they could wipe them out as easy - they were - they considered the other as a complete animal you can hunt, as you can hunt bobajaane, as they said, the same way, so this completely making of the black object and that - and the terrible thing is that it's not only - this is the extreme right wing, so they were pro-Treunict, pro-Afrikanerweerstandsbeweging, this new movement, the Boerebevrydigsbeweging, the BBB.

They were extremely right wing (?) militarised, afraid, and they say : Oh, it's a small group - but it isn't because the same mentality if you hear, for example, this Nico Smith, this ex-Broederbond guy who - who lives now in Mamelodi - you know him - so he said that the first time he had to - to eat at the same table with a black man, it was for him impossible to get one - he couldn't eat - he choked in his food - there must have been something like sitting with a - with - with a dog in the table who - who spits and (.....) - he was - he couldn't - he couldn't - it was so terrible for him the idea to sit with one black, so that is now one of the most progressive Afrikaaners, isn't it, so then you can imagine how in the rest - how the mentality is of the rest - if that is the most progressive Afrikaaner, if that's - the right wing I know, but the rest is in between this guy who couldn't eat with a black man, and now after so many - after thinking religious, being intelligent, having education, having read everything experience, but this is the background, so the rest I think is more or less - this is the most progressive, and now he's still starting to make eating parties for white families and black families, because that's something for him it's (.....) that's why (?) - that's the most left wing, and the right wing are the guys who (?) (.....) and then the whole in between they are all racist in one way or another, and if it is - so that means that that is a very dangerous kind - I understood what racism makes with this whole - this lack of information - they didn't know any - and they asked is Tambo in South Africa, they asked me - they didn't know anything - did you ever meet Mandela, they asked - I said (?) many years already they've life sentence he got for (from) - and then Freedom Charter, they didn't know what it was - one of the guys who was in action Gugulethu and got one of the commands of the ANC there, they talked about these things, they took it on the tape or (?) - he said : I read for the first time the Freedom Charter, but isn't so bad - I said : No, it isn't so bad, it is just - it's something - it's accepted all over the world, only not here - and we discussed these kind of things, and it is - they don't know anything, they - information wires (?) is cut off, they - they really think, and it's not only these policemen but also these - these - my policemen, Dutch who got around Pretoria and got to know girls and so on, they went out.

K.D. One had a girlfriend who had (.....) - I don't know how do you call - the PA (?) and something, and she said - in psychology or so - and she said : No, blacks are stupid, that is - it is proven they are - they have less brains and you - you - you get fucked up by this terrorist in Pretoria and he doesn't know anything, but I lived with them - she had never been (?) - he said : You must ask if she's ever been in black town-ship (.....) - and so it is - they were shocked - I said (?) But they are racist, they - they are policemen who were partly anti-terrorist group in Holland - they are - but they were shocked by what they saw in Pretoria - what they heard, what they saw, what they experienced, so if - it's so easy from people who didn't know anything about politics who came with a lot of prejudices to get - to be shocked for this kind of things, and then you can see what it - what racism is, what it does, what - the lack of information, the brainwashing and the - the stupid lies - I saw every night SABC - every - every night I watched something of the - I saw films about the ANC - I got so conscious of the role of the media, the brainwashing, the films where you see six ANC guys, so-called ANC guys with - from the - you know these balaclavas (.....) and they (?) say : Ja, I was a member of the ANC, but I got the message I must kill as much whites as I want, and I couldn't stand it so I left the ANC, but now they want to murder me - so one after the other had such kind of mess- age, and it is - goes in (?) like cookies I mean so they - they - they believe it and it - it is - it is - I - I - I had learned a hell of a lot - I thought I knew what apartheid was - I thought I knew exactly why I fought for, but being here, getting this racism taught me as a white the first time, because I'm male I'm - I'm became a (?) bourgeois more or less - it's a (?) good job in general, so a background where I've never experienced exploitation, discrimination - for the first time I got this whole wave of more or less racism towards me, and that's only a small part what every black must experience, or women (?) know that already sooner, I think, because they know sexism, so you can perhaps see discrimination, feel what it is better than - than men in my position does, but now I know, and I saw only small part of it, so I got more con- scious and more angry and so more militant and less marginalised than I - even if it is against my personality, so I have to find a way to - but I can't go back to the area, so I don't know what to do, but -

So what I did now coming back is trying to explain what I saw - the vio- lence of the structures, the discussions I had with the policemen, the - the - the enormous manipulation of the press, the discussion and (?) the violence compares (?) to the Second World War, explaining the torture and what they do to children, to people, to their lives (?) the deportation and so, and I heard a hell of a lot (?) there because I was reading and writing it up, things I read in the newspaper, so I have - have a lot of things in my head I can use.

J.F. So you want to write a book on....

K.D. I don't know, I - I hate writing - I only did it because I - I had no way to - I am a talker (?) - I - I prefer to - to discuss things - and I stopped the diary the moment I was out - I didn't do any exercise any more, I did (?) daily exercise - I got fat also - I was eating so much and drinking so much and feeling so happy and so - first time I was in the sun in Harare - first time after two and a half years I had sun - I was no sun in this building, nothing, nothing - first time I was swimming in - so there was no bath, no shower, so (.....)

J.F. How did you bath?

K.D. Just in - just - just - just in a toilet in - in a basin.

END OF INTERVIEW.

J.F. How long were you in Tanzania?

K.D. A bit more than one year.

J.F. And which African study centre was it (.....)

K.D. Africa Study Centre in Laden (?) Leiden (or Leyden), Holland

J.F. (.....) - and how do you spell this Meillassoux?

K.D. That's Marxist.

J.F. Sick (?) in two years at the embassy?

K.D. No - I mean physical?

J.F. Ja.

K.D. No.

J.F. So you never had....

K.D. I had a dentist, but he couldn't do anything, but he - he cleaned because I had smell (.....) (.....) and he cleaned it and that and he - he put a stiffed (?) - a false dent (?) was falling out and he put it back, but he couldn't - couldn't treat me, and I have to have treatment.

J.F. Brigitte spells her name like this?

K.D. Ja, t t e.

J.F. have a routine every day - is that the way you stay sane?

K.D. Ja.

J.F. So you what, you did exercises at a certain time?

K.D. Oh, no, I'm too far (.....) - no, not certain time - every day, but in general in the morning and ja, I had it - and I asked for a cat - I missed. I missed (.....) I - I had always girlfriends also - it's not (.... ..) love-making, but just (.....) that you just have your arm around if you take the hand of somebody and - and I never did it - I had visitors, but they came for one hour and then you were more so's we (?) sitting and ja, a bit talking - before we are not to share history (?) - I knew them only as a visitor, a bit like you know a psychiatrist, you know, or something - you go and you talk to them and so on, and even people who are lovely people and nice, but you don't have the same kind of relationship, so I missed something to - to - to - to be nice with, so I asked for a cat - they refused because cats can't be in office.....

END OF INTERVIEW.