APPENDIX A TO CHAPTER 7 OF THE CASSINGA RAID

PRE- AND POST-STRIKE ANNOTATED AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS OF CASSINGA
(Enlargements of these photographs are available for detailed scrutiny).

1. **Pre-Strike**
   
a. Areas A, B and C indicate designated target areas within the greater target block. Such areas would have been allocated to specific aircraft to attack or to drop bombs on.

b. The numbered point targets are listed as:
   
   (1) North-south road between Cuvango and Techamutete.
   (2) Old vehicle park.
   (3) Forward fox-holes.
   (4) New vehicle park and workshops.
   (5) Concentration of vehicles, including a bus.
   (6) Office building for vehicle park.
   (7) Flat-roofed, new permanent building.
   (8) Flat-roofed, new permanent building.
   (9) Parade square.
   (10) Sports field.
   (11) Largest permanent building, identified as PLAN Headquarters.
   (12) Engineer complex.
   (13) Communication/access trenches.

c. The defensive trenches are indicated by a jagged black line.
2. **Post-Strike**

a. There are now four target areas designated (presumably one for each of the Buccaneers which were to drop bombs on Cassinga). The target area for the fifth Buccaneer (the so-called "recruit camp") is not designated on the photograph.

b. The small circles indicate identified bomb craters, of which there are 23. At least seven bombs appear to have fallen completely wide of the target areas and the "Engineer Complex" received no hits at all. One bomb has fallen wide of the whole of the general target area indicated in the Pre-Strike photograph.

c. The fact that Target Area "A" shows no bomb hits would be explained by the Buccaneer which had experienced a brake-system malfunction prior to take-off, causing a delay which made it impossible for it to participate in the initial strike. As it turned out, Target Area "A" was where the anti-aircraft guns were subsequently encountered by the paratroopers. Had this Buccaneer carried out its bombing run, the guns would in all likelihood have been destroyed or neutralised: a classic instance of *friction de guerre*.

d. The figures (1), (2) and (3) indicate the direction of the bombing runs by the aircraft.

e. The other figures include:

   (4) Smoke billowing from the vehicle park, probably a fuel storage dump which had been hit by the Mirage III strafing run using 30mm high-explosive incendiary shells.

   (5) One of four small permanent buildings which suffered severe damage to its roof, possibly from an Alpha bomb dropped by a Canberra and which went right through the roof.

   (6) A flat-topped permanent structure which had its roof completely destroyed, though the walls are still standing.

   (7) Small permanent and temporary structures which received a direct hit from a 450kg bomb, obliterating both.

   (8) Vehicles which probably suffered damage during the strike (see also Appendix B to Chapter 9, page 9B-5).
The Buccaneer strike with 450kg bombs follows the Canberra strike with Alpha bombs. The explosion on the top right is from the Buccaneer which was to have bombed the "Recruit Camp", but which missed its target. The bomb has exploded on the far side of the river.
Photograph taken by the Mirage gun-camera during an attack on the trenches in the area where the paratroopers encountered the anti-aircraft guns. The curved line of zig-zag trenches is clearly visible across the middle of the picture, just below the cross-hair gunsight.
Smoke and dust start clearing after the initial air-strike.

(Photo: JARIC)
As the smoke and dust are blown away by the fresh breeze, the extent of the devastation in Cassinga becomes apparent. Near the centre of the picture the effect can be seen of a direct hit by a 450kg bomb on two small buildings. Just beyond, the clinic is still largely intact, but the roof of the largest building has suffered considerable damage. Most of the other buildings show at least some damage, while many of the temporary, thatched structures have been completely burnt down, leaving only an outline on the ground. Trenches are clearly visible at the top and bottom left and a few figures can be seen standing in the road.
APPENDIX C TO CHAPTER 7 OF THE CASSINGA RAID

PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN BY PARATROOPERS INSIDE CASSINGA

Part of A-Company exiting a C-160 over Cassinga.

A heavily-loaded paratrooper (believed to be Mike McWilliams), his belly-band already undone, pulls down hard on his lift-webs to avoid landing in the Culonga River.
Paratroopers advance on Cassinga through the bush after grouping.

Paratrooper signaller on the radio after drawing fire.
Uniformed SWAPO casualties  (Photo: Mike McWilliams)

Paratrooper takes cover behind a tree on running into SWAPO fire.  
(Photo: SANDF Documentation Service, Negative No 801-547)
The concrete pillar proclaiming the town's name.

SWAPO dead in one of the trenches.
A-Company HQ move through Cassinga during the battle.

Paratroopers collecting SWAPO weapons from the trenches for destruction after the battle.
B-10 82mm Recoilless Anti-Tank Gun and a pile of AK-47 assault rifles gathered by the paratroopers for destruction before leaving Cassinga.

SWAPO dead on the edge of the parade square.
Wounded paratroopers being treated at the RAP  (Photo: Mike McWilliams)

Col Breytenbach (facing camera) and Brig Du Plessis (back to camera) in discussion with the FACs.  (Photo: Mike McWilliams)
Dead paratrooper on makeshift stretcher made from a ground sheet.

Paratrooper MO and medic treating a woman SWAPO casualty. (Photo: SANDF Documentation Service)
The horrific effects of the bombing. Grotesquely burnt SWAPO corpses.

Paratroopers collect prisoners and weapons.
The remaining buildings are razed by the paratroopers. The largest building at the crossroads burns.

Huts are torched. A dead SWAPO guerrilla lies in the foreground.
Prisoners, including women and children.

SWAPO prisoners, some in uniform, some in civilian dress, some in various states of undress.
A paratrooper armed with an FN 7.62mm MAG light machine gun stands guard over a group of SWAPO prisoners.

Civilian survivors are rounded up by the paratroopers.
ZPU-2 twin-barrelled 14.5mm anti-aircraft gun at Cassinga. Beyond it the trench breastworks can be seen, and beyond that is the mahango field. (Photo: Mike McWilliams).

ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun, thought to have been taken at Cassinga. It is possible that it was put out of action during the air-strike, or by a paratrooper mortar bomb before it could be employed against the paratroopers. Behind the bushes to the left is a ZPU-2. In front lies a cut branch, possibly to help camouflage the gun. Behind the gun appears to be a bunker. (Photo: SANDF Documentation Service).
The first wave of paratroopers prepares to be lifted out of Cassinga.

The Puma helicopters arrive to lift out the first wave.