

**APPENDIX A TO CHAPTER 9 OF  
THE CASSINGA RAID****THE THANKSGIVING OF THE PROFESSIONAL**

I have never ceased to give thanks that life, whatever else it might have in store for me, has brought me not as a mere traveller but as a soldier into this world. Wherever we go we often encounter hostility. The eyes that meet ours are often sullen with a consciousness of grievance and hurt. Even the salesmen, the porters and the others who cheat us and harry us, resent us. But none of it bothers us. It is not we, but they who are the newcomers, the interlopers, the transients. We know it and they know it. We belong to that which is older than any nation. We are the Greeks, the Romans, the Moguls, the Tartars, the Aryans and the Dravidians. We go back to the beginning of history. We are the beginning of history. We are the soldiery.

- Charlton Ogburn

(From a plaque in the Combined Mess of the Parachute Base, Tempe, Bloemfontein, presented by Colonel David James Moore in December 1981).

**APPENDIX B TO CHAPTER 9 OF  
THE CASSINGA RAID****PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN AT CASSINGA AFTER THE RAID**

(Some are copied from Pagano, *The Cassinga File* or Steenkamp, *SA's Border War*, while others were obtained from the National Archives of Namibia in Windhoek).



(Photo: SWAPO - Pagano)

PLAN troops examine ammunition and equipment abandoned by the paratroopers in their haste to get away. Identifiable from the picture are belts of 7.62mm machine gun ammunition, 60mm mortar bomb cases, a bag for field stowage of a parachute and what could be wrapping sheets from a personal weapons container (PWC). In the background is a mealie or *mahango* field.



(Photo: Sven Asberg - Pagano)

Parachutes, collected by SWAPO after the raid. Amongst them can be seen reserve parachutes and it is possible that the white canopy was from a "door bundle", used to drop additional equipment or ammunition. However, there is no record of door bundles being used. Also visible are field stowage bags and suspension ropes. More incongruous are the cardboard and wooden boxes and suitcases. These would certainly not have been brought by the paratroopers.



Ruins of a building destroyed at Cassinga. (Photo: Tor Sellström - National Archives of Namibia)



(Photo: Gaetano Pagano)

All that remained of a large thatched structure which was burned down.





(Photo: Tor Sellström - National Archives of Namibia)

A SWAPO guerrilla walks past a ruined building during cleanup operations after the raid.



(Photo: SWAPO - Pagano)

Protruding through the rubble of a shattered building, on the left, is the barrel of a ZPU 14.5mm anti-aircraft gun.





(Photo: Tor Sellström - National Archives of Namibia)

PLAN fighters next to the small troop-carrier which brought them to Cassinga after the raid to assist with cleanup operations.



(Photo: Tor Sellström - National Archives of Namibia)

The burnt-out bus in the vehicle park, with a South West African registration number for Ovamboland. This is the bus said to have been hijacked by SWAPO and driven across the border with 70 "abducted" schoolchildren.



(Photo: Sven Asberg - Pagano)

A "bakkie" (light delivery vehicle) which received two direct hits, possibly from a 30mm high explosive cannon fired from a Mirage.



(Photo: Gaetano Pagano)

SWAPO survivors outside the burnt-out hulk of the main building in Cassinga.



Mass grave. Two examples of the most widely used photograph which served to permanently brand Cassinga with an indelible notoriety. The woman's body is clearly visible at the bottom left. The bodies of other women can also be identified, but the majority are men who appear to be, for the most part, in uniform. There are no children readily identifiable.

(Photo: Pagano)



(Photo: *Massacre at Cassinga*, SWAPO Bulletin)



(Photo: IDAF - National Archives of Namibia)

Close-up of the mass grave. The body of another woman, possibly even a teenager, can be identified amongst those of the men.



(Photo: Gaetano Pagano)

Another close-up, clearly showing the bodies of two women in civilian dress at the top right with several other corpses dressed in civilian clothes amongst the olive drab and khaki military fatigues.





(Photo: Tor Sellström - National Archives of Namibia)

Group of people surveying the mass grave at Cassinga. Identified as Ortiz, Mango (Mungo), Burakiva (Bwakira), Nanyemba and Schneider. The first three are mentioned in the UNHCR/WHO report on their visit to Cassinga between 24 and 28 May 1978, referred to in Chapter 9. As this was three weeks after the raid, the grave would already, conceivably, have been covered up. This assumption is further substantiated by the fact that although many of the photos showing the destruction of Cassinga were taken by Tor Sellström (also a member of the UNHCR/WHO delegation), he apparently took none of the mass grave.

Nanyemba, in the above photo, is probably the author of the "Report on the Kassinga Massacre".



(Photo: Tor Sellström - National Archives of Namibia)

Unexploded Alpha bomb, marked with a "mine" indicator, inside the remains of Cassinga. Though the bomb appears red, the actual Alpha bombs were apparently black.





(Photos: Hans Human)

The mass grave at Cassinga, covered with a concrete slab, is visited by former South African paratroopers, working for a civilian company involved in demining operations in Angola, during 1997.







(Photo: Hans Human)

Local Angolans recount the events of 4 May 1978 at Cassinga, nineteen years later.





"Cassinga Residence" for students at the University of the Western Cape, near Cape Town, with its commemorative plaque. Photographed in December 2001 and indicative of the ongoing emotions evoked by the Cassinga raid.

(Photos: M. Alexander)

