



Robert van Tonder was born in Auckland Park, Johannesburg, on October 6 1923. After attending the Helpmekaar High School, he then started a second-hand car sales business, a tyre sales company and a real estate agency.

During the Second World War he joined the pro-National Socialist movement Ossewabrandwag (the “Sentinel of the Oxwagon”) and its inner circle, the Stormjaers. Later he was an active member of the Nasionale Party (NP - National Party) until 1961, when he resigned following the decision of dr. Verwoerd to launch a massive British immigration. In 1956 he founded the city of Randburg, in the suburbs north of Johannesburg.

At forty, by that time a millionaire, he retired from business to devote himself to the cause of the Boer nation full time.

In 1963 he founded the Conservative Study Group, the first organisation to openly expose the Nation Party’s deviation from policy.

In 1966 he published his first book “Die Stryd Duur Voort” (in English: “The battle continues”), in which he denounced the deviation of the NP government. The book caused a political earthquake and promoted the founding of the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP – in English: Reconstituted National Party) in 1969. At the inaugural meeting of the HNP Van Tonder introduced a clause on the language, that Afrikaans should be the only official language of the country, into the constitution of the HNP. Robert van Tonder Robert stood as a candidate of the HNP in two general elections of the [RSA](#) .

In 1977 he wrote “[Boerestaat](#)” (in English: “Boer State”) and began to publish occasionally a newspaper, “Die Stem”, in which he condemned the unitary state (the Empire of the RSA) and promoted the liberation of the nations that composed, begin to the Boer one,

[defeat in 1902 by international capitalism through British military force](#) , that would to regain their freedom on the lands that had been of Boer republics. This work had to rediscover to the Boer people its identity, almost forgotten after many years of RSA’s propaganda. The ideas expressed in “Boerestaat” influenced many political movements, which embraced them in part or in full, in particular the

[Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging \(AWB\)](#) , and to a lesser extent the Konserwatiewe Party (KP).

Some nationalist movements that before of Robert van Tonder generally referred to themselves as “[Afrikaner](#)”, were infected by this sentiment purifier, rediscovering their belonging to a

specific nation: the Boer one.

In 1985 Van Tonder entered in the AWB, but came out in December 1986, against the choice of the Movement to rest a extra-parliamentary force, and founded the Boerestaat Party (BSP), which however never participate to RSA elections. For a period "Die Stem" was the official organ of the AWB.



The BSP, with leader Robert van Tonder, cooperated occasionally with the AWB, the KP, the HNP and other small movements.

Robert van Tonder bluntly attacked the idea of [prof. Boshoff](#) (the founder of [Orania](#) ) for an Afrikaner fatherland, calling it "entirely foreign concept", noting how "definition 'Afrikaner' was a misnomer that came into being after the Union [the Union of South Africa. Ed.] in 1910."

"Afrikaners never possessed a state - only the Boers did. Therefore, only the Boers qualified as a nation, and only Boers could be fully paid-up members of the Boer state."

"The Afrikaners of the western Cape could never be part of the Boer nation, because they never shared in the Boer history of the Great Trek, the two Wars of Independence and the Rebellion of 1914 when Boer generals turned against the government of Louis Botha after its decision to fight with Britain in World War One."

In the 1991 he led a Boer delegation to London in order to demand to the British Prime Minister John Major the return of the Boer lands annexed by the British Empire.

He worked closely with Senator Jan de Klerk, the father of FW De Klerk (the last president of RSA). Although he was also a second cousin by marriage of FW De Klerk, he didn't hesitate to define him as "a bloody traitor with no identity" after him had reinstated the "former" terrorist of the [ANC](#) and launched the referendum to negotiate a new constitution with them.

In 1995, during the visit of Queen Elizabeth II in southern Africa, came to bring her tribute to the ANC (the "former" terrorists, political administrators of the new Empire), he had no hesitation in declaring that "Mrs Elizabeth Windsor is definitely not welcome in the Boerestaat of Transvaal and Free State."

Robert van Tonder has committed suicide on August 8, 1999, won by the cancer that afflicted him. He left his wife, six children, a stepdaughter, and seventeen grandchildren. He has published six books and an anthology entitled "Sandspruit se Bloekoms". He loved poetry, and a his great friend, [Eugene Terre'Blanche](#) , recited one of them in his CD "Tolbos".