

THE BOER STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM

1. To understand the Boer struggle for freedom, one must have a clear understanding of the racial history of South Africa.
2. Much too often the position of the conquered Boers is confused with that of whites in South Africa.
3. Being a white people in a black environment, this often leads to accusations of racism when one pleads the Boer cause for freedom and the re-instatement of the Boer Republics taken from us by the British on May 31, 1902.
4. Although being white, not all whites belong to the Boer race. Not all whites are desirous to be free and to see the Boer Republics re-instated.
5. As a covenant people, the Boers have as a binding factor the vow pledged to the Almighty at the Battle of Blood River on 16 December 1838. From that holy incident stemmed the creation of the two Boer Republics. Our founding father, Andries Pretorius, who initiated the vow was also the founder of the Transvaal republic, when the British granted sovereignty to the Transvalers on January 16, 1852.
6. The artificial creation of the Union of South Africa consisting of the the two former Boer Republics and the two British colonies of the Cape and Natal, constituted this Union. Under the supervision of Great Britain, aided and abetted by the South African involvement of political leaders, a major future catastrophe was created by not involving or recognising black aspirations!
7. The Union of South Africa was supposed to be the unification of all whites. An artificial creation if ever there was one. In the words of W.B. Yeats "a terrible beauty was born."
8. The dawning of the Republic of the late Dr Verwoerd, although ridding us from the British yoke, was a mere perpetuation of the artificial Union of South Africa. That institution did not bring freedom for the Boers. The boundaries stayed the same, the flag of the Union became the flag of the Republic, bilingualism remained and we continued with the British Westminster type of government. Even the system of a prime minister, remained as a legacy of the British connection. If we did not leave the Commonwealth out of own volition, we would have been kicked out.
9. Granted, we are still a long way of reaching our goal of total freedom, but there is a growing anticipation that freedom on our own soil is the only way out. For now we may still be a conquered people but our minds are that of a free people. A mere 114 years may have transpired, but our bondage can not last another 114 years.

Piet Rudolph: Secretary Boer Republican Heritage Society
072 419 3516