

DATE : 5.6.70

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

INFORMANT : MAJAHANE DLAMINI

REGIMENT :

AREA : ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Ludlawini

HEARD FROM :

parts marked with pencil outside notation card.
Names listed in catalogue

Mphathwa, my father, was born of King Mswati of Somhlolo of Ludvonga.

Mphathwas was assigned to this area by King Mswati, who gave this land to his wife, LaNyandza, who begot Mphathwa at this very area. I know ~~nothing~~ nothing more than that. The old people came and found Amakazambile, who were never killed - people such as Shongwe and Magagula. Then Mswati started to build villages at Mhuleni, Mjindini at Shishibe, and his brother went to build his home there. He recruited Sotho as his subjects and danced his own incwala dance, whence he was attacked by the Nyatsi regiment of the king. They were to kill the prince across the Mgwenya River.

The Sotho had migrated as far as Mgwenya. The ~~remains~~ remains became Swazi. Mbandzeni never fought blacks.

As you can imagine if the present king dies the wives he has will be distributed to different areas to govern. So it was the case during our forefathers days. That is how we received this land as our share of it, under LaNyandza, the king's wife.

Our neighbours are:- Vusweni - Chief Mahkebeni; Mancibane, Ndzabatelive; at Sikhomkwaneni is Mamilela; Nsangwini people, NginaMadolo people; Ndingeni people; Mgungundlovu people; Nkamazi people; Mdumo people; Ndumo of Mamba people; Mabuza; Vilikati. All these are Ludlawu neighbours.

The Sotho fled during the waring days of Mswati, whilst they had remained content in the days of Somhlolo who was less pugnacious.

Somcuba - danced the incwala ceremony which is a thing never done. Yet he had left here being ambitious and desired to be king. Yet he knew that Mswati his brother was rightful king. Then he recruited Sotho clans and set himself up as a king over them and thence started his incwala rituals, which eventually led to his death. For on hearing that Somcuba had almost more power than himself, Mswati quickly sent the Nyatsi regiment to go and find out. On their arrival they found that it was true. Indeed it was the right season for the incwala celebrations and they found them celebrating, and surprised them with spears.

How the whites got private farms or grazing land

The sheep grazers asked for grazing land for their sheep. The missionaries got the land for school sites, and these small sites became little stands, which enlarged into farms and were then fenced. Some whites built stores and then aquired stands which grew into large farms. Remember that all these people came to the king for permission to use the land, and they therefore claimed that they had bought the ~~ix~~ land. Here at Ludlawu the village was removed from Mahhoye rock because of land being taken over by whites.

? { Mphathwa was born of LaHedzane, whose clan was just across the Mbuluzi River. Her name was Malingoze.

MVEMBILI AREA cont...

I must tell you that Msduka died at ~~my~~ my hands. I was with Hambi. Msduka used to tell me all these stories. In fact he waged no war but once ~~it~~ when they were burning at Mahlanya, across the Mhlambanyatse River. It was a dispute over cattle which were taken from Mnjangu of Gwayimane by the Mshingishingini people. Then ~~Msduka~~ Msduka galloped after them on a horse and returned the cattle of Gwanjimane, which were seized by Matsafeni headmen. They once ran away as far as Bhangeni, when they had a dispute over a lady with Mbandzeni.

QUESTION A

~~As~~ As Msduka fled to Mamba was it because he feared that he had killed his brother and he would be killed too?

Yes, it was that.

* I may say a little - Msduka was returned to Hhohho at Mvembili by the Queen Mother. So he came home.

* During Msduka's self-exile at Mamba, Sihlenu the induna was at home. That was why the matter was reported to the Queen Mother who called him to return.

QUESTION B

Why did Msduka flee to Mamba and nowhere else?

The reason was that he knew he would be killed. He felt he would be safe at Mboke because there was a maiden who used to nurse him when he was a child. That lady finally returned from her married life and died at Msduka's area.

QUESTION C

What caused Msduka to flee from Mamba to Mbuleni?

Msduka's child died at Mamba. The child's name was Luhlobo Lonye Dzinginkhomo. He was the first born. Then Msduka began to quarrell with those people whom he suspected and was very annoyed. The Mamba people could not tolerate him any longer, hence his escape to Mbuleni. At his aunt's ^{place} ~~place~~ of Dlomdlomo the chief was Maquba, and he was given land to settle. His aunt of Mbuleni to whom he had recourse was ~~Konyosi~~ Lonyosi.

In fact Msduka escaped the wrath of the Queen Mother because he sent men to ~~apologise~~ apologise for him. But it is further alledged that while Msduka was assisting the English against the Boers it was felt that he might fall there. Hence people went to report the matter to the Queen Mother, who told them to go and ~~retrieve~~ retrieve him and put him ~~back~~ back at ~~the~~ Mvembili or they would be 'dead' if he fell. So he was returned despite his ~~a~~ former offences and ~~of~~ the killing of his brother. He killed his brother for alledged adultery with his wife.

At the death of Msduka none could rightfully succeed him immediately, because his heir died the following year. Msduka died in 1941, while his son died in 1942. The heir of Msduka's son was Mkhovu, who also died young. By that time there had been a demonstrator by the name of Bosi Hlophe. He was the first demonstrator in agriculture to come into this area. Of course Msduka liked farming. Bosi Hlophe was followed by Mdluli. For the time being there is a chief regent who governs the area for the ~~heir~~ heir of Chief Mkhovu - whose name is Mgewa.

MVEMBILI AREA cont...

The Malambe clan were under the induna, Sihlelo to begin with. The Malambo people came here and fell under Matsafeni. Once they were at Nkamazi. The Malambe quarrelled with Mabuza people until they reported to the king, who later assigned them their chief Msuduka. In reality the Malambe were the forefounders (Makhandvwambili). They are Sotho. I can only remember Hlubane who was one of the Basutho remains in this area - also Mathuvekane, Lomazembe, but they have all perished with no trace today.

Mswati used to fight, and as he conquered the people he built his house in any captured land to signify his seizure of that land. From Hhohho he went to build the royal villages of Mjindini, ~~Mhokani~~ Mbhuleni.

Mvulane was the half brother of Msuduka. In fact Msuduka's mother had died and he was adopted by the mother of Mvulane who was his mother's sister. Later, when Mvulane was grown up his mother valued him more than Msuduka, whose mother was long dead. That was another thorn in the flesh which ultimately led to the quarrell. The mother of Msuduka was Fakudze by surname.

The neighbouring chiefdoms are:-

Magungwane Shongwe; Vusweni Mahelele, Mavibane, Sikasane Makhosezwe, Ndzabalelive, Mnikwa, Mahlasela. The Shongwe came recently, during the days of Matsafeni. Mancibane, the son of Mswati, and Magudulela is also of Mswati's family.

PRAISES OF MSUDUKA

Ngcaba of Ngcovu, so little that can perch on a spear shaft
As many as you are you can be enough for him
Glean, glean, yea, you eat and provide yourself boy of Mswati.
But oh what shall thou eat, what a small pot.
