

4. THE CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

Since 1983 there have been a number of conscientious objectors convicted for their refusal to serve in the SADF.

PHILIP WILKINSON

Convicted : Fourteenth of May 1987

For : Failure to report for a camp

Sentence : R600 fine

“The SADF defends apartheid, which in terms of my Christian understanding is a heresy. For me to participate in the SADF would therefore be a betrayal of all that I know to be good and just.”

CONSCIENTIOUS
OBJECTOR



Philip Wilkinson

THE TRIAL

“Your worship, I have stated my reasons for refusing to be conscripted into the SADF clearly and honestly. If this court should choose to punish me on account of them, so be it. I have in my heart an absolute conviction that what I am doing is right. I will not sacrifice my life or lend my body to the defence of apartheid. Apartheid is a crime against humanity . . .”

CONSCIENTIOUS
OBJECTOR



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THE TRIAL