

Peta Krost and Bronwyn Wilkinson try to discover just where all those South African **EMIGRANTS** have ended up, and what they're doing in the countries they decided to swap for ours. The world map which tells the story appears on Page 8 today. **AMMA OGAN** bemoans the arrival of a new form of tyranny in South Africa: the cellular telephone. **PATRICK BULGER** gives a pocket guide to '95, and **ROBERT GREIG** takes a long, hard and serious look at the issue of the week - privatisation. **ELIZABETH KINGHORN'S** Sunday Media section keeps your finger on the pulse of what's going down in the advertising world, and **RODNEY HARTMAN'S** Sunday Sport section will leave even the most discerning of fans feeling satisfied this festive season

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These are the men who blew up Sasol - and this is how they did it

When it grew dark on the bitterly cold night of May 31 1980, Barney Molokoane had nowhere to sleep.

Audaciously, he and other members of his Umkhonto weSizwe sabotage unit went to the Sasolburg police station for shelter. The police had no idea that the next day Molokoane and nine other guerrillas would carry out the most sensational act of sabotage in the ANC's armed struggle: setting off explosions at key symbols of Pretoria's power, Sasol I and II.

Two days earlier, two units - known as the Solomon Mahlangu squad - had infiltrated South Africa from Swaziland.

Two members, Victor Khayiyana and Faku Senzangakhona, had crossed the border earlier to buy two cars to take the guerrillas to Sasolburg and Secunda. The units would make their way there and carry out the bombings.

The unit that attacked Sasol I would remain in the country for a

10 guerrillas had to squeeze into the remaining vehicle.

David Moise, a member of the Sasol II unit, describes the events. "We crossed the border, just before Piet Retief, in the afternoon. Faku met those going to Sasol I in a blue Ranchero and we were met by Victor in a Chev Firenza. We wanted to open some distance between the Firenza and the Ranchero. We almost capsized at a sharp curve on the gravel ground and decided to wait for the Ranchero, to warn them of the curve.

"After some time we realised they were not coming so we went back ... and saw the Ranchero lying on its roof. They had deployed themselves in the field. We then had to decide whether we would go on or abandon

the mission. We decided to go on.

"We all piled into the Firenza. After some distance Victor dropped our unit off. We waited in the cold in the veld while he dropped the others off at different railway stations."

After Victor had dropped off Molokoane's unit, they travelled separately to the Witwatersrand. Once there, they borrowed another car and continued to Sasolburg.

Part of Molokoane's unit decided to take advantage of police "hospitality" in an open cell. They handed their forged reference books to the police, saying they were looking for work in the area. The next morning the group made a final reconnaissance, and later that afternoon they retrieved their hidden limpet mines.

The dramatic inside story of the armed struggle against apartheid is only now beginning to be told. In this first instalment of a Sunday Independent series, we describe the sabotage attacks on Sasol, through the eyes of those who were there

SPECIAL REPORT



BY ESTHER WAUGH

week; those who attacked Sasol II would drive to the border after the attack.

The plan did not take the fates into account: after crossing into South Africa, the car carrying Molokoane and four others of the Sasol I unit overturned on a gravel road. They had to abandon the damaged car and



David Moise, one of the Sasol guerrillas

koane's unit drove to Sasol I. When they were close to the target, they proceeded on foot.

They were dressed in white overalls and helmets and had been issued false identity cards. Their weapons were hidden in their clothes and they cut their way through the perimeter

fence with wire cutters. One remained at the fence to guard the entry point while the others walked on to the plant, which was manned around the clock.

Four guerrillas, including Molokoane, headed for the refractonating towers. Too many workers were about for the mines to be placed as planned and the unit moved to the tank farm instead to plant them. While they were doing this, a security guard discovered their guard at the fence and challenged him. The guerrilla, "Jackie", opened fire, wounding the guard.

The rest of the unit made their way back to the fence quickly, retrieved their vehicle and drove back to Soweto.

While they were still on the road, the delay mechanisms on the mines triggered the charges. The Sasol inferno began.

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WORLDS APART

The day the ANC

