



INSTITUUT VIR EIETJDSE GESKIEDENIS

Die Universiteit van die Oranje-Vrystaat



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Datum
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Onderwerp nr.
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Knipstel nr.
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Weekend Argus Jg..... Nr..... P. 3 1988, 3: 19. Dat.....

Brilliant, headstrong, reserved,
loving . . . acquaintances describe
alleged bomber.

The hunted loner

Weekend Argus
Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The critically injured little boy admitted to the Johannesburg General Hospital in November 1983 was not a pretty sight.

Mark Vincent was only five years old when a booby-trap bomb exploded in his face on the banks of the Sandton stream, leaving him blind, mutilated and scarred.

But little did Mark know that a man who lovingly helped nurse him through the trauma of his injuries would, a few years later, be accused of causing similar ones.

For Heinrich Grosskopf, a tall blonde man with blue eyes who loved nursing, is now wanted in connection with two bomb blasts which have collectively killed three people and injured 87.

Hein's former wife, Joy, said this week that he was a wonderful nurse aid who could not

do enough for his patients and who adored children.

Individualist

Heinrich Grosskopf was a brilliant young man with all the markings of a member of the Afrikaner elite, except for one thing — he was an individualist who tended to question, rather than accept traditional thinking.

The man who police are hunting in connection with this week's horror car bomb blast in Krugersdorp in which three people died and 20 were injured was described by those who knew him at school as intelligent and headstrong, though somewhat reserved.

Hein Grosskopf passed his matric with three distinctions. Although back trouble prevent-

ed him from playing sport at the Linden Hoërskool, he loved to be part of class discussions and was a leading member of his school's debating team.

Throughout his childhood he regularly attended Sunday school at the Ned Geref Kerk in Linden, but his questioning mind was evident in his decision to withdraw from his catechism classes two weeks before he was to be confirmed.

Mr Grosskopf, 24, comes from a leading Afrikaner family. His father is the head of the Journalism Department at the University of Stellenbosch and a former editor of Beeld, while his uncle is Mr Justice E. Grosskopf, a Rand Supreme Court judge.

"Heavy blow"

Professor Grosskopf was reluctant to talk about his son. "It has been a rather heavy

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1 ... *Corrige* ...

2 *Curriculum*
..... *Vitae*

3 *Grosskopf*
..... *Hein*

4 ... *Polisie*

5 *Condensate*
.....

6 *Bemannings*
..... *Lungo*

7 *Krugersdorp*
.....

8 *Stadelike*
.....

9 ... *Tradisionele*

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blow to my wife and myself and we would rather keep as low a profile as possible and not say anything," he said.

A well-known rather than popular boy at his school, Hein was Johannesburg's Junior Mayor in his 1981 matric year. He spent a year in the United States in 1982 and two years at the University of the Witwatersrand studying for a BA in education.

Although he passed his subjects in 1985, he did not return in the year he married his wife, a nursing sister. Ten months after their marriage, he disappeared.

Miss Karin Twine, whose family lived a block away from

the Grosskopf's in Linden, said Mr Grosskopf was in her school and Sunday school classes from Standard One.

"He was a very clever person, in fact I would say he was brilliant. If there was ever a debate at school, you could be sure that Hein would take part, and he was the kind of person who would never change his point of view," said Miss Twine.

Even at a young age, Hein was somehow "different".

"He was quite interested in politics and for someone at school he knew a lot about it," she said.

Miss Twine said he had one close male friend, but most of his high school friends were girls, and they came from the "elite, wealthy group at Linden".

"He was well known at school and popular with his teachers," she added.

The Rev Gert Erasmus of the NG Kerk in Linden Park said he had been very fond of young Hein Grosskopf and his family.

"Hein was an intelligent boy

and I liked him very much," he said.

An acquaintance who knew him while he was Junior Mayor said his term of office had not been a great success because he had been bedridden with back trouble for much of

the time.

Police net

"Hein seemed to spend more time in hospital than out of it. He was intelligent and a good speaker and debater but he was also shy, very aloof and a loner," she said.

● The net for Mr Grosskopf has spread across the country and police in the Peninsula have followed up several reported sightings of the fugitive.

However, Major Jan Calitz, a police liaison officer, confirmed that all the leads Peninsula police had received turned out to be negative.

Some sources believe Mr Grosskopf fled across the border into Botswana.

Mr Grosskopf, who was held in protective custody in Botswana in 1986 after leaving South Africa as a refugee, could be lying low in Gaborone

before deciding on his next move.

According to informed sources, he has received military training in several foreign countries, although he was exempted from doing national service in South Africa on medical grounds.

These countries are said to include Tanzania and Zambia, and it is known that he visited Swaziland since he "disappeared" in January 1986.

However, security forces have kept a close watch on his movements outside the country and are confident that he will be arrested and face charges

arising out of this week's blast and the Drill Hall blast in Johannesburg in July last year in which 67 people were injured.

The R50 000 police reward for information leading to his arrest still stands.

Police meanwhile are uncovering important new leads and have released identikits of two others sought in connection with the Krugersdorp explosion.

The two men, believed to be in their 20s, were seen driving away in a canary-yellow Volkswagen Kombi minutes after the blast occurred.

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