

DATE : 3.5.70

INFORMANT : MADLOPHA SHONGWE

REGIMENT : LONDOLZI

AREA : HHOHHO

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM : FATHER OF NDLAVELA REGIMENT.

The Shongwe under Matsango were brought here from Bulungu to act as war sentinels. Later Magebhula was sent to watch another part of this area. Later came Prince Msuduka. These people stayed here in peace until ~~to~~ today. There are now border fences that we put there as cattle fences in case of an outbreak of cattle disease. In fact the land of the king extended as far as Mule River and Lusaba. But we have been informed that the authorities are busy on that. The watermen of the king each year fetch water from the confluence of the Mgwenya and Lusaba rivers.

There was once an abortive war fought at Lugogodo mountain.

This area of Matsano has always been devoted to ~~the~~ the Royal Swazi king.

Lugebhula was the heir of Matsamo. The latter lived so long that even Lugabhula reigned in the presence of the former. In fact the Shongwe chieftainship degenerated ~~at~~ at the time of ~~the~~ Magubha. From then there has been no direct and strong chieftainship in this area. Lugebhuta fell ill soon after he had returned from the Transvaal and he died. He was succeeded by Madlozi, who also did not reign for long. Now that our chiefdom is on that side of the border we no longer enjoy any chieftainship as we did in former times. The people who are nearer to the chiefdom respond better than the scattered ones i.e. on that side of the border. ~~Our~~ Our land used to extend as far as Komati Poort.

PRAISES OF MADLOPHA

Oh, Madlomo emerge from the bushy Hhohho
Because you can see the white goat run away from you
You slaughter the males only because the females are dowry
Our black eagle, that is black in the neck
How was it detected; it was detected as it was eaten near the cattle kraal.
It did that so that cowards could fly off.
Ah, Madlomo thou who art too shy to dance for fear of the Ndindane boys
Because those boys of Ndindane will suppress you
Our fine prick herb which molested the shin and calf muscle
Our sulphur compound which cares not for advice
Yes, thou hump of our Mashobeni bull
Yes, you dream and see ~~our~~ our people arming to go to Mdladla
Yes, thou ten spears, while his are ten on men.
Thou mediator of the bulls in the Luguba forest
If you left them they would kill each other
That of Nkhosi and that of Manana
The dew held you khandnada yesterday
Until you crawled on all fours like a child
Thy finger nails are pricking Khandnada because they have mauled men.
Just in one day because they did yesterday.
The child opened the hand and there came our ~~1-2s~~.
You men of Mbojeni because you begrudge Khamanda
So you never eat lying on your belly, but eat crouching like beasts of the forest
Thou who crouches like a ~~sikkingxxx~~ walking bird (like sikhehle)
Just like that bird (~~sikhwehle~~) which when seen is killed for meat.
Thou of Tikhuni
