

**GORDON WINTER – INSIDE BOSS:**

“ The Security Police said Mr. Timol had jumped through the window, But I know the truth about Ahmed Timol’s fall.

I was responsible for his arrest in the first place”

It all started in London in late 1971 when I was the Membership Secretary for the London Freelance Branch of the United Nation of journalists. As I have stated earlier, I took advantage of being an officer of the Union by using their head-office files to compile a long "suspect list" of all left-wing or liberal journalists; and one of the men on the list was Mr Quentin Jacobsen, a freelance press cameraman who had won a photographic contest organized by the British Sunday Times in 1966. From his file I saw that Mr Jacobsen was quite clearly a liberal, and I submitted his name to BOSS, suggesting, as I did with all the names on my suspect list, that he should be watched if he visited South Africa.

When Quentin did visit South Africa, where he set up a photographic studio in Johannesburg, BOSS asked me to dig into his friends and background in London. I made discreet inquiries in London and discovered that Quentin had friends in the ANC, and, furthermore, his twin brother, Henry, had decently made a short visit to London and had smuggled some dagga (marijuana) out of South Africa hidden in a surfboard or a parachute. I flashed this back to BOSS, and they planted, or tried to plant, a Black agent on Quentin at his photographic studio in Johannesburg. **While the police were investigating, they discovered that Quentin Jacobsen was friendly with several young anti-apartheid activists. All were secretly monitored by the Security Police and followed. This led to the arrest of Ahmed Timol.**

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**"The relationship between British intelligence and BOSS is basically simple. They feed each other information about known Communists in both countries, as do other countries in the West such as France, Germany, Spain and Greece. In a nutshell, the attitude of all these countries is that the real fight is East versus West, Communism versus Capitalism. Communism is the mutual enemy, so they all stick together to preserve Capitalism, or, as they would put it, Democracy.**

**British intelligence knows all the BOSS operatives based at the South African Embassy in London under cover of being first or second secretaries. There is no secret on the subject. It's just that the public is not told. British intelligence cannot deny this because their operatives monitor all official BOSS operatives on a man-for-man basis. Alf Bouwer once told me something interesting on this subject:**

**'The man detailed to keep an eye on me is Inspector "Jim". He's my opposite number, so to speak, but he's not opposite to us in his political thinking. In fact he lifts interesting stuff from British security's H and S files and gives it to me.'**

**I asked Alf what 'H and S' meant and he explained:**

**'Hammer and sickle. It's British security jargon for the files kept on people in Britain who are politically undesirable. Another phrase they use is P0 Box 500, the initials "P0" meaning Political Offenders files.'**

**Alf Bouwer once brought me ten pages of a fifty-page typed document, which he said 'Jim' had given to him. This document was headed 'Subversive Activity in Britain' and it listed many left-wing people and organisations active in Britain. Alf told me that Inspector 'Jim' had also arranged some kind of infiltration for BOSS of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement's offices in London's Charlotte Street.**

**The most astonishing allegation I heard about British intelligence and its links with BOSS was that the names of all people who voted Communist in British general elections were passed on to South Africa and other anti- Communist countries. This was told to me in confidence by General H.J. van den Bergh in 1968. This was invaluable to South African intelligence. When British Communists visited South Africa, they were automatically monitored at all times in case they were involved in underground politics.**

**I asked H. J. van den Bergh how on earth British intelligence could obtain all the names of people who voted Communist in British elections. Surely the vote was secret. HJ laughed and said any voter attending a polling station automatically had his name checked on the voters' roll, which naturally gave his residential address. And when he voted he was given a numbered counterfoil. His voters' roll number was written on the counterfoil stub, which bore the same number.**

'It is therefore possible for the voting slip to be related to the counterfoil stub, which then gives the man's number on the voters' roll,' explained Van Den Bergh.

'But all the voting slips are locked in big black metal boxes and locked away after the elections, so how do British intelligence get to them?'

H. J. van den Bergh shook his head sadly as if he was sorry I was such a simpleton. 'That's the answer the British authorities will always give if anyone claims that ballot papers are secretly scrutinised. But let me ask you some very simple questions. First, you agree that the voting slips are placed in boxes and then filed away in some official building somewhere?'

'Yes,' I answered.

'And presumably those boxes are placed in a room?'

'Yes.'

'Does that room have a door?'

'Yes, I suppose so.'

'Does the door have a lock?'

'I should imagine so.'

'Is there a key to that lock?'

'Yes, there must be.'

'Then,' said H. I. van den Bergh triumphantly, 'somebody must look after the key.'

Only then did I realise what he was getting at.

'Those black boxes contain the names of people who voted Communist. In intelligence terms, that's like knowing where there's several thousand tons of gold, which can be stolen without anyone knowing. Can you imagine British intelligence not scrutinising those voting slips? They'd be stupid if they didn't.'