

ROBERT MANGALISO (it means "Wonderful") SOBUKWE: BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS
---Obtained from him on March 18, 1960.

Age: 35; married (to a nurse); 4 children; lives in Council house at Mofolo, Jbg.

Born at Graaff Reinet. Father was a labourer. Sub S was youngest of five brothers. Also one sister. Only 3 brothers still alive. ~~Thaxxaxx~~ Sister also dead. ~~Thaxxaxx~~ One brother is an Anglican priest, another a teacher.

S had his primary education at mission school at Graaff Reinet. Thento Healdtown for teacher training. Did his J.C. and Matric there and ~~continued~~ ~~xxxxxxx~~ started his teacher training. Had scholarship for J.C. and Matric from t Healdtown authorities. Then received a £20 bursary from t department of Education plus a loan bursary of £20 ~~xxxxx~~ (i.e., per year) from t Bantu Welfare Trust -- to attend Fort Hare University College. Went there from 1947 to 1949, inclusive. Did a B.A., majoring in English, Xosa and Native Administration. In 1950, took up a teaching post at Standerton, Tvl. In June, 1954, came to t University of t Witwatersrand, as a "lecturing assistant" in Zulu. (NB S is a Xosa. He learned Zulu while teaching at Standerton).

He has a great love for literature. "I was ~~xxxx~~ introduced to English literature at a very early age by my eldest brothers who had a good library. I was also fortunate in t teachers I had. But especially at Healdtown -- at there was a Mrs Scott who encouraged my reading. It was a love for literature, ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ -- especially poetry and drama.

"I don't think I cared much for politics at t time. It was just a matter of accepting things as they were. It was not until I got to Fort Hare and did Native Administration that my interest in politics was aroused. Even then, it was ~~was~~ t question of t representation of Africans in Parliament -- t made me rebellious against t system. T glaring injustice of it all -- I just cd not bear it.

"In 1948, three of us at Fort Hare did a daily handwritten ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ commentary. Did it at night and put it on notice-boards. Called it "Beware". Favourite topics were: non-collaboration with attacks on Native Representative Council and native advisory boards. This led to an ANC Youth League branch being formed together with Pitje. I was secretary.

"We struck out on our own line, through reading and ~~xxxxxxxxx~~ discussion, developing African nationalism. Later we discovered Anton ~~xxxx~~ Lembede's writings, and fd ourselves largely in agreement with him

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