

821  
192

June 24 1953

The Niao Si of the rain are clouds.  
The thin ~~white~~ clouds from which no  
rain comes. These are male clouds they  
may be white or black or red at sunset.  
of other note in cloud June 24 1953



c/o SWANLA  
Grootfontein  
1.6.53

Dear Mrs Marshall,

I want to thank you and all in your camp for the very pleasant two weeks I spent there. The only disadvantage about travelling on your own is that there is no one to speak to on the topics which really affect one i.e. things which are labelled academic interest. It was therefore somewhat like paradise in the bush to be able to speak freely.

The material I collected with you, on comparison to the vocabulary of ~~22~~ //aukwe or //au/we, turns out to be so similar that one could perhaps (considering that these are languages which would normally be classified as isolating) regard the fact of their similarity as a major linguistic find. However this may be I am very pleased with the material and hope to be able to compare it with the papers Miss Miller still has.

I am more than ever, determined to come back and do research on these languages here. If not sooner then in three years time. I wonder whether one could perhaps toy with the idea of a joint anthropological and linguistic comparative study? As you may know the Bushman languages still occupy a somewhat ephemeral position in linguistic classifications sometimes being put with Hottentot, sometimes (although goodness knows why) with the Sudanic languages and sometimes on their own. Comparative studies as I have done them reveal a basic similarity which places these languages not as mere deteriorations from another ancient language or from the Bantu languages but as a definite linguistic family. By further research it should be possible to reveal the nature of these similarities.

The comparison of your dialect with the Ghansi dialect shows that often there are discrepancies in the nature of the click. As the rest of the word is so similar I can only guess that my hearing was not too accurate. I experience some difficulty in distinguishing (!) and (ʔ). I regard my results at Gauchwe as more accurate. I think this difficulty in hearing aright is responsible for the impression that Bushman languages are totally dissimilar.

well, I am looking forward to being here again in three years time. The news from home is not so good and I may cut my stay short here in Grootfontein although I am very keen on finishing my study of Mbukushu, Kwangari and Kwanyama. These are the half-finished studies. There are many other languages which I have not yet touched upon but these will have to go by the board.

The copies of the "Bushman paintings" are for your delectation. The beauty of the actual drawings can to my mind never be reproduced on paper. These drawings are therefore mere copies of the colour-outlines. Do you think the four people might be gemsbok people?

Incidentally the bird you wanted to identify which was concerned in the ceremonies was shown to Ledimo by Gani one day as we were walking back to the camp. Ledimo might be able to identify it from the bird book and by the Tswana name which he mentioned. Its a bit roundabout but may be useful to you to know this?

Please remember me to everybody in your camp. I hope to see Mr Marshall on his return here on wednesday. If I don't I want to thank him especially for having made the invitation and for the transport there and back.

Yours very sincerely

P.S. My address is JHB  
will be 38 Buys Street  
Kensington ~~the~~ ~~mid-~~  
from mid-June till I  
depart. If I can order  
anything for you I shall do so  
gladly although this is a  
most impractical suggestion considering you intend staying put for 6 weeks.

*Ernest Westphal*

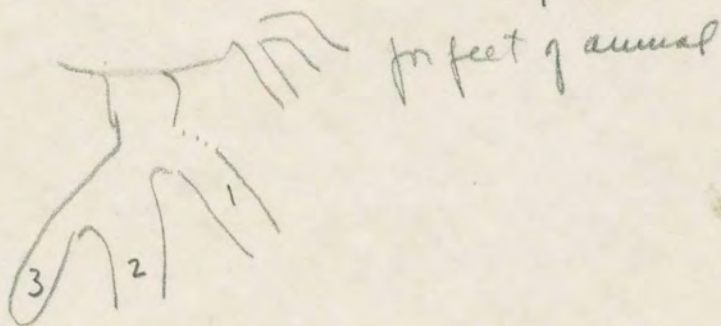


June 23 1953

Mr. Westphal's drawing  
 they never saw any like them  
 Do not know what they are - 2 figures and  
 "gem-bred" <sup>people</sup> Can't make out anything. The other - an  
 animal <sup>they</sup> say it is an animal.  
 gas point out head ears that the 2 <sup>no lines</sup> <sup>legs - 13, 14, 15,</sup>  
 think figure under stomach is a tail  
 Tusher thinks fig. to right is quaff's legs  
 I asked if they thought it might be the  
 animal was <sup>planned</sup> + the lines  
 above were rain. <sup>Heimer</sup> gas says the  
 line may be <sup>the</sup> Maosi. of the rain

The animal figure has a figure under it. looks to  
 be a partially obliterated human figure.

gas thinks  
 1 and 2 are  
 hind feet  
 3 the tail



Ask about Maosi - this is not Maosi

omit -  
 on other  
 page  
 JW



Peka Buntoland  
18.11.52.



These are the paintings that  
might be something like the  
hooped men (gumbak) although  
I was wrong about the horns  
sticking out. *gumbak*.



Reka Bushland

18. 11. 52

The haunting beauty  
of these rock paintings  
can never be reproduced  
on paper. If I do so  
it is merely in order  
to let others have an  
idea and to remind  
myself of them even  
if I can't visit  
them.

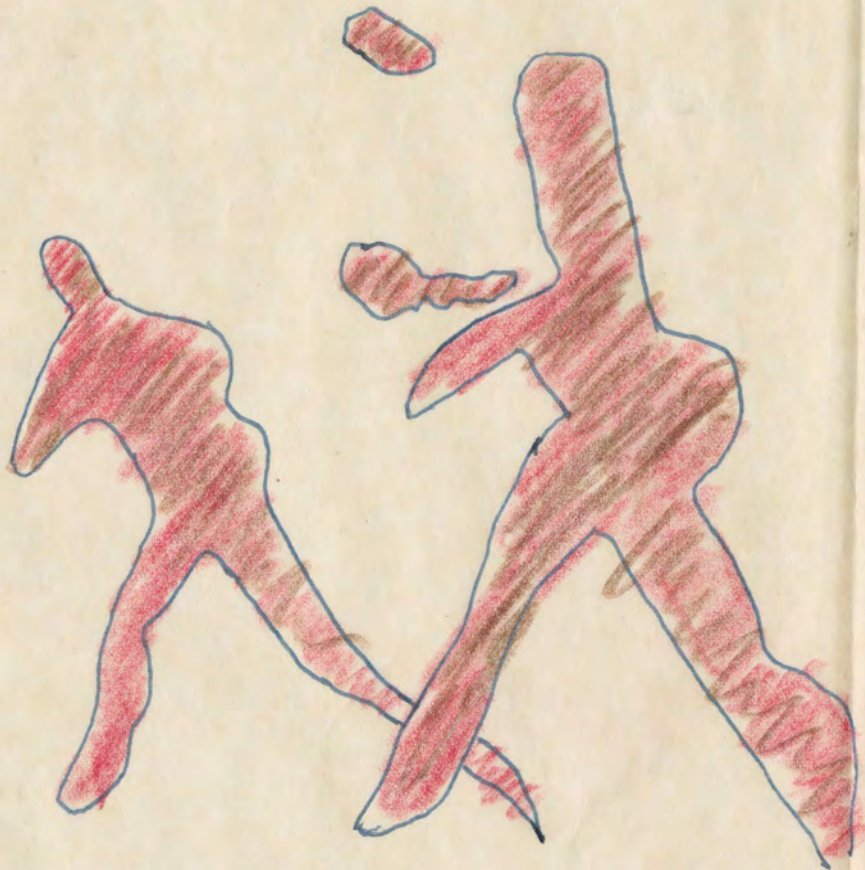
Ernst Westphal



With the exception of  
these two men all the other  
colours are more like  
dried blood. These two  
men are like a lighter colour dried blood.



Peka, Barntoland. 18.11.52



This one must be water, older or is perhaps more exposed. Colours are difficult to distinguish from rock, only colours I could recognise as distinct from the rock colour are shown here and in the others.

Leave for now

This copied  
on orange card for  
bibliography - so  
ignore here



①  
Title →

Atlas de Portugal Ultramarino  
e das  
grandes viagens Portuguesas  
des descobimento e expansão  
(Lisboa 1948)

Publisher - Ministério das Colónias (Junta  
das Missões Geográficas e de  
investigações

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Map showing tribal distribution  
is way out for Nyauka  
Ndonga Mbrunda Mucere  
etc. Or almost looks as if  
somebody has put the  
wrong names into what  
looks like areas with the  
right boundaries.