

CURRICULUM VITAE: BENJAMIN POGRUND

BORN:

Cape Town, South Africa; May 5, 1933.

FAMILY:

Married to Anne Caroline Pogrund; 4 children

EDUCATION:

South African College School, Cape Town.

University of Cape Town 1950 - 1956:

Bachelor of Arts

Master of Arts (in Psychology)

Bachelor of Social Science

University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, 1969:

Bachelor of Arts Honours (in African studies)

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

Secretary, University of Cape Town Students' Representative Council, 1956; member, national executive of National Union of South African students, 1952 - 1955.

POLITICAL ACTIVITIES:

Liberal Party of South Africa:

Member, Cape Provincial Committee, 1955 - 1956;

Transvaal Provincial Committee, 1957 - 1958.

EMPLOYMENT:

Personnel Officer, African Explosives and Chemical Industries Ltd., Johannesburg, 1957 - 1958.

Rand Daily Mail, Johannesburg, 1958 to present time:

Established first African Affairs reporting operation, and covered Black political and other activities; covered neighbouring countries of Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland; wrote extensively also on the church in the framework of apartheid, labour issues, and social problems including malnutrition, housing, education and the "pass" laws, 1958 - 1963.

On leave of absence, did major research into the history of communism in South Africa on grant from Hoover Institution, Stanford University, USA, 1963 - 1964.

Specialist reporter on labour, 1964 - 1965.

Researched and wrote major reports on South African jail conditions, particularly regarding Blacks and political prisoners, 1965, which led to series of Prison Trials culminating in 1969 in conviction of myself and Editor-in-Chief, L.O.V. Gandar, and loss of passport for five years.

Night Editor, 1969 - 1972.

Assistant Editor, 1972 - 1977.

Deputy Editor, 1977.

GENERAL:

Abe Bailey Travel Fellow to Britain, 1957 - 1958.

South African correspondent, The Sunday Times, London, 1964 - 1976.

Jailed for refusing to disclose identity of informant to police, 1961.

As result of Security Police raid, charged and convicted of possessing banned newspapers, 1971 - 1973. This interrupted work on a Ph.D. at the University of the Witwatersrand on the history of African Nationalism in South Africa.

Awarded damages in three defamation actions: vs writer on Government newspaper, 1962; vs State prosecutor, 1967; vs Government newspaper, 1971.

Centre for Research Libraries (CAMP), Chicago, Illinois:
"Benjamin Pegrund Collection of Southern Africa Documentary Sources"

Have lectured extensively on the South African political situation and on freedom of the Press.

Extensive articles, e.g. Spectator, London; Index on Censorship, London; The New Republic, Washington DC; The Saturday Review, New York; The Star, Toronto; Jerusalem Post; The Boston Globe; The Atlantic Monthly.

Worked on Boston Globe, Boston, USA for seven months, 1976.

Honorary Nieman Fellow, Harvard University, 1976.

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