

22 July 1982

Patrol Report From Senior Scout Petros

On the 18/06/82 we were detailed by Warden Conway to go to Mandiboni area with G/Scout Nemangwe Wilson and Ranger Adams. In connection with lions catching cattle in the Communal area, we reached there approximately at 10:30 pm and we slept at Mandiboni Pan. On the 19/06/82 early in the morning we saw a one day old lion's spoor at our base, we then went to the kraals asking about the lions. At the kraals we found that the lions had arrive at night and there was fresh spoor. We then tracked the lion's spoor, at 1030 hrs we found them lying down asleep, then Ranger Adams, shot the big one with a .375 rifle on the front leg. Then the lion ran away, we then tracked the spoor and then looking at the blood, some yards we saw the wounded lion underneath the tree. Then Ranger Adams shot the wounded lion with two rounds of .375 then .375 jammed. Then the wounded lion started to charge us. He took a Shotgun from G/Scout Wilson, he tried to shoot then the Shotgun jammed. He then took a .270 from me and tried to shoot then the .270 jammed. This time I had a Shotgun and the lion was some yards from us, I tried to shoot with a Shotgun still the rifle was jammed. Ranger Adams had a .270 and G/Scout Wilson had a .375 when the lion was within 20 yards within us, Ranger Adams and G/Scout Wilson as the rifle was jammed they started to run away, myself I was busy trying to fix the jammed rifle, looking at the lion the lion was jumping to me, I jumped backwards where the lion was coming, then the lion proceeded to charge G/Scout Nemangwe and Ranger Adams, then the lion smashed G/Scout Nemangwe and he fell down then the lion proceeded forward to Ranger Adams, I then saw Ranger Adams hit the lion on the back with a .270 rifle and the lion smashed him and he fell down, he quickly woke up and the lion woke up too. Ranger Adams ran to the tree and the lion followed him he then ran around the tree and the lion was running after him around the tree.

He was shouting to me on several occasions saying "Petros shoot it!" and I was replying him that "The rifle is jammed". That time Ranger Adams was trying to catch the tongue using both arms, I then shouted to G/Scout Wilson to bring a big rifle .375. I then had to shoot from the North side of the scene. I shouted to G/Scout Wilson , "Do not shoot! You are very far!, I then ran to take the rifle from G/Scout Wilson and ran back to the scene. The lion now had caught Ranger Adams by the leg. I shot the lion, the lion fell. Then Ranger Adams woke up trying to run away, and the lion woke up around the tree they met, Ranger Adams fell down, then the lion opened its mouth to catch his head, some time I shot the lion with the second bullet it then made small cut in the head, because of my shot. I heard Ranger's voice inside of the mouth of the lion. I pulled him out, some seconds another two lions came straight to

us we then frightened them with a jammed rifle. I then made first aid, I have his shirt and Wilson's shirt, I then went back to our base to collect radio and vehicle I then had a breakdown on the way, I then took the radio with me to the scene because there was no communication with Wankie that time at 1400hrs its when we got communication to Wankie Main Camp to contact warden Conway at Chirsa safari Area. For arrangements to collect Ranger Adams. We then carried him to the nearest village about 5 – 7 km. That is the place where we met Warden Conway, and he was taken to Chirisa Safari Area.

SIFILE PETROS
SENIOR SCOUT, CHIRISA SAFARI AREA.ss