



The Johannesburg City Council has agreed to a request by the Polish Cultural Society in South Africa for a copy of the Oppenheimer impala group, which stands on the Standard Bank building site in Johannesburg, to be erected in Poland as a memorial to the South African airmen who died during the Warsaw rising in 1944. The sculptor is Mr. Hermann Wald. Within a few weeks in the mid-summer of 1944, 200,000 Poles were killed in Warsaw and 350,000 deported to Germany. The Russians withdrew to within a few miles outside the city while the Germans attacked the inhabitants. Two South African squadrons and one Polish squadron based in Southern Italy operated an airlift to drop food, arms and ammunition to the desperate soldiers and civilians in Warsaw. Aircraft casualties were appalling. The South African squadrons lost 24 of their 33 Liberator aircraft and the Poles lost 32 crews and aircraft.

I believe in the divergence of the nations of South Africa and in the friendship created by neighbours Dr. H. F. Verwoerd

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