



SOUTH WEST AFRICA ADMINISTRATION

WHITE PAPER

on the

ACTIVITIES OF THE DIFFERENT BRANCHES

for

1976

Nature Conservation and Tourism

Introduction

Various limiting factors, among others the political situation, inflation and especially fuel restrictions had an adverse influence on tourism during 1976. 'The attendance figures of all the resorts and game parks of the Administration show an overall decline of 11% in comparison with 1975 which had been a record year. The decrease in day visitors and caravans was especially conspicuous.

Nevertheless the Division did, once again, show considerable progress in both the fields of nature conservation and tourism. The following problems and highlights characterised 1976:

* New regulations under the Nature Conservation Ordinance were promulgated which provide amongst other things that proper control must be exercised over the collecting of sea bird guano, the night harvesting of game, specifications for game proof fences, pleasure boats on State dams and the registration of various societies which are concerned with nature conservation. As a result of negotiations with the Department of Industries nature conservators and tourism officials have been appointed as sea fisheries inspectors mainly to administer legislation on sea angling at the coast under the Sea Fisheries Act.

Two more farms were purchased which now makes the total area of the Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park 94 498 ha. Camping facilities have been erected and the park was opened for visitors throughout the year.

The Executive Committee on the recommendation of the Constitutional Conference opened those resorts and game parks which were appropriate, to all races. Certain hotels and restaurants which applied were also opened to all races.

* Persons who were prosecuted for illegal hunting were fined to the tune of R57 000,00. The increase in poaching in the Namib Desert gives cause for alarm.

* The Namib Desert Research Institute and the Ecological Research Institute at Okaukuejo are becoming well established in the scientific world, and were visited by 63 scientists during the past year. A large number of scientific publications which are of value to the Territory resulted from these visits.

* During 1975 the South African Institute for Medical Research in co-operation with the Division discovered that the host for the incurable skin disease, leishmaniasis, is the rock rabbit. During 1976, another important break-through was made when it was proved that the sandfly is the carrier of the disease.

The game capture team of the Division concentrated on catching game on farms and overpopulated game reserves and supplying game to farmers. More than 700 head of game were supplied.

A yellow fish, new to science, was discovered in the Hardap Dam. This fish could well become a very popular angling fish and the provinces in the Republic of South Africa are investigating the possibilities of introducing the fish there.

At Henties Bay the Administration took over a holiday project from a private firm, which has been supported by the public this past season.

The larger hotels in the Territory 'Showed a slight increase in their occupation figures but in those of the rural hotels there was a decline. The overall price rises, however, have affected the profitability of the hotels in general. An alarming trend is the number of complaints received about service in the hotels which could possibly be ascribed to untrained staff. During 1977 attention will be given to this matter.

Tourism Statistics

The gross revenue from restaurants in game parks and resorts for 1976 amounted to R362 086,04. 153 187 meals were served, 16 303 fewer than during the previous year. The following tables give a broad outline of the major tourism statistics and the gross 'revenue of the Administration from tourism.

Resort	Touring buses		Caravans		Day Visitors 1976	Visitors from abroad	
	1976	% Change compared with 1975	1976	% Change compared with 1975		1976	% change compared with 1975
Hardap	32	+ 23%	742	-42%	14698	1125	-19%
Okaukuejo	275	-21%	329	-44%	3573	4651	- 8%
Namutoni	170	+36%	445	-69%	10807	3261	- 4%
Daan Viljoen	157	+52%	1549	+13%	55786	833	-48%
Ai-Ais	44	+ 2%	810	-64%	2697	937	+47%
Von Bach	1	0%	7	0%	12452	9	+12%
Cape Cross Seal Reserve	34	-15%	-	-	8950	820	-30%
Lüderitz	-	-	97	-14%	-	133	+99%
Namib Desert Park	-	-	-	-	14044	821	- 7%
Mile 4 Caravan Park	-	-	1405	-42%	-	-	-
Mile 14	-	-	219	- 3%	-	-	-
Jakkalsputz	-	-	523	-35%	-	-	-
TOTAL	713	+ 4%	6162	-42%	113007	12590	-12%

Game Park, camp or resort	Number of visitors	%Change compared with 1975	Number of vehicles	%Change compared with 1975	Average occupancy	%Change compared with 1975	Revenue	%Change compared with 1975
Etosha	35 929	-27%	11 075	-41%	62%	-11%	R 766 977	-18%
Von Bach	12 452	+113%	3 347	+95%	-	-	R 2 483	+105%
Daan Viljoen	77 080	-16%	19 943	-16%	76%	+ 1%	R 114 174	+46%
Hardap	39 771	-23%	11 491	-27%	49%	- 5%	R 224 455	-11%
Ai-Ais	18 708	-13%	5 026	-13%	56%	+21%	R 190 950	+ 1%
Torrabaai	1 116	+37%	231	+ 6%	-	-	R 14 205	+53%
Cape Cross	8 950	- 7%	1 984	+ 2%	-	-	R 3 657	- 4%
Jakkalsputz	3 745	-26%	897	-24%	-	-	R 8 102	+19%
Mile 14	2 027	-25%	432	+13%	-	-	R 4 735	-40%
Mile 4	10 042	-31%	2 918	-37%	11%	-	R 47 919	+ 8%
Swakopmund	21 753	- 5%	6 634	+10%	66%	- 1%	R 262 020	+28%
Dolfynstrand	504	-38%	81	-19%	-	-	R 518	-
Namib Park and Sandvis	14 044	- 1%	3 623	-23%	-	-	R 7 899	-18%
Lüderitz	3 489	+34%	923	+17%	25%	-	R 17 701	+19%
Henties Bay	369	-	-	-	55%	-	R 5 027	-
Naukluft	282	-24%	17	+ 6%	-	-	R 502	-
Fish River Canyon hikers	482	-25%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Visitors	13 656	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mile 72	1 234	-	315	-	-	-	R 6 360	-
TOTAL	265 633	-11%	68 937	-22%	-	-	R1 677 684	- 5%

Game parks and resorts

Etosha National Park

After the ample rains there was no shortage of pasture. 5 Veld fires as compared with 14 in 1975 occurred during the year. 170 000 ha veld was destroyed. Fire control was good and no fires spread to neighbouring farms.

To improve management 3 boreholes were sunk by the Water Affairs Department west of Okaukuejo during the year. These boreholes will be developed in 1977.

Problems caused by elephants breaking down fences and installations were reduced by half. Anthrax again caused sporadic mortality amongst the game.

The research project on cheetah was completed and showed that this predator is not endangered in the park. A map showing the distribution of the plant communities was completed although the relationships must still be determined. The determination of the carrying capacity of the summer and winter grazing areas continues. These botanical research projects are most important for successful management. An officer was appointed to do full-time research on elephants. In order to restrict the elephants to the game park it is necessary to know more about their numbers, migratory habits and diet. Valuable information has already been gained by the reporting of marked elephants by tourists.

Blue wildebeest are still decreasing in numbers. Research in this respect is progressing and all aspects being explored to explain the diminishing numbers of this species and to find a solution. Progress has also been made with the preparation of a distribution and occurrence list of smaller mammals and reptiles.

During July a general air census of Etosha was undertaken which brought to light that the numbers of zebra had declined sharply while those of the springbok had increased. There are now more springbok than plains zebra.

In the game camp for rare animal species at Otjovasandu the numbers have multiplied considerably especially roan antelope, black rhino and black-faced impala.

A guide book entitled "Birds of the Etosha National Park" was published towards the end of the year.

Of the 55 929 visitors to Etosha 14 906 came from S.W.A., 15 579 from the Republic of South Africa and 5 444 from abroad. In addition 101 aeroplanes touched down with an average of 5 persons on board. The number of visitors to Namutoni was 28 3245, Halali 17 787 and Okaukuejo 25 060. The decrease in day visitors - 21% at Namutoni and 52% at Okaukuejo can be ascribed to fuel restrictions. The number of caravans also shows a sharp decline.

The new sewerage system for Okaukuejo and Halali was completed. At both Okaukuejo and Halali a start has been made in the building of 10 additional bus quarters which will be taken into use early in 1977. Two additional ablution blocks were completed for Halali's camping site. A new ablution block was completed at the Von Lindequist and Andersson gates as well as one at Namutoni's caravan park.

Hardap Recreation Resort

Good rains were responsible for excellent pasture. No veld fires occurred. Kudu still over-grazed certain plant species because of which a project was started to solve this problem. Kudu are shot monthly, and the carcasses are examined thoroughly. The meat is delivered at the Division 's restaurants.

Baboons, rock-rabbits, and wild domestic cats are a nuisance in the rest camp and are periodically chased away or destroyed. Activities at the fish hatching farm were mainly limited to construction work, It is expected that the hatching farm will be completed by the winter of 1977. The new yellow fish recently discovered there is already being bred.

This recreation resort was also opened to all races and has already been used by them.

During the year 646 angling licences were sold.

Naukluft Mountain Zebra Park

Here also the pasture was good as result of ample rains. the rainfall figure was 329 mm, which was 85, 5 mm more than in 1975. No veld fires occurred.

This Park was also opened to all races and is now open throughout the year. Previously visitors had been restricted to Fridays and Saturdays.

Daan Viljoen Game Park

Despite the good rains the veld has still not yet completely recovered because of the vast quantities of game which occur there. A veld fire destroyed 180 ha of pasture. To alleviate the pressure on grazing 72 gemsbok were removed. 5 gabions were made to combat erosion.

Good progress was made with the erection of rock-rabbit hutches for research purposes.

Towards the end of the year the dam was almost dry for the first time in many years. This was a great disappointment to the day visitors. Two bungalows for official visitors were built and two ablution blocks at the new caravan park were completed.

A prefabricated house for staff was erected. Work is still being done on new wiring to increase the power supply to the reserve.

Fish River Canyon and Ai-Ais Hot Springs

Excellent rains again caused flood damage to the rest camp. This somewhat delayed the opening date. Negotiations continued to enlarge the game reserve.

An intensive survey of rock engravings and paintings was undertaken at a cave in the Hunsberg and preliminary data indicate that they may be a valuable anthropological find.

Caravan visitors to the Hot Springs have dwindled but day visitors and visitors from abroad have increased considerably. Although the number of groups which went hiking in the Fish river canyon has remained constant there was a decline in the actual number of people.

There is some anxiety about the number of people who attempt hiking through the canyon without the necessary precautions. Steps will be taken during 1977 to rectify this.

Von Bach Recreation Resort

This area also had good rains and the pasture was good throughout the year. No fires occurred.

Many wild donkeys and, to a lesser extent, cattle had to be removed from the game park periodically until the game-proof fence was completed.

Several mountain Zebra have been relocated here.

The building of day camping sites has begun and toilettes and drinking water facilities were completed. Water sports and excellent angling possibilities resulted in a large increase in the number of visitors.

Waterberg Plateau Park

The rainfall was above average and the pasture reasonably good. Regular inspections of the large game proof camp at the top of the plateau showed that the available bush grazing has declined considerably. Accordingly 70 eland have been removed.

The additional consignment of white rhino which arrived from Natal acclimatised very well.

The Division is engaged in a comprehensive project for the provision of a permanent water supply on the plateau. Four dams have already been constructed and approximately 16 km of pipes were laid.

The practicability of opening the park for day visitors is still being considered.

National West Coast Tourist Recreation Area

Swakopmund

Numerous problems were experienced in keeping the standard of cleanliness in the bungalows as high as that of the bungalows in the other camps. Besides the problem of obtaining suitable labour further problems are created by the state in which tourists leave the bungalows. Sand and fog also aggravates the existing problems. Some of the B-type bungalows were cleaned up and renovated.

Of the 21 753 vacationers accommodated here 5 621 came from the Republic, 15 881 from Southwest Africa and 251 from abroad.

The swimming bath was used by 65 391 persons which was 7 515 more than the previous year. The total revenue from bathing was R13 327,30. The sauna baths have been fully in commission since April 1976 and very popular.

Mile 4 Caravan Park

Although Rossing Uranium made use of Mile 4 as temporary accommodation in Caravans for a great part of the year this site was visited by fewer people than in 1975 probably because of fuel restrictions, The sewerage system of the caravan park was linked up with the Swakopmund system.

Several hundred trees, primarily palms, were planted, both for shade and decoration.

Dolfynstrand

As in the past this Coloured coastal resort was poorly supported. This will hopefully improve when the railway line has been built..

Mile 14

Mile 14 was also converted into an international camp. The large decrease in overnight campers, here as well at Jakkalsputz, can probably be ascribed to the tendency of vacationers to go further North, especially to the new Mile 72 where fuel is obtainable, and the angling potential is higher.

Jakkalsputz

The internal roads were improved and the connecting road to Henties Bay was rebuilt.

As mentioned previously, the number of visitors declined by 26%.

Henties Bay

Before this caravan park could be used the 50 parking places had to be gravelled. Among others the park was visited by 30 persons from the Republic. For this caravan park to be economically viable it will have to be changed and extended considerably.

Mile 72

This over-night camping site with 240 parking places was taken into use for the first time in 1976. It was opened to all racial groups. Because fuel was available here many campers were attracted from other sites.

Cape Cross Seal Reserve

The new concessionary at Cape Cross made it possible for touring by bus to look at the seals out of season. It was therefore possible for tourists to visit the reserve virtually right through the year.

Namib desert Park

As a result of the good rains early in the year there was a considerable amount of open water at the end of the year. Pasture was good, unfortunately a few areas were destroyed by veld fires.

Because of game poachers temporary housing was erected for staff as well as stable for horses. Water supply as always remains a problem. Prospecting is carried on in more than 90% of the area of the park.

One application was received for the development of a mine in the park. As soon as there is clarity as to which areas have profitable deposits the park can be replanned and properly developed.

An educational camping site is being laid out at Welwitschiavlake to accommodate air passengers who are visiting the area. The roads in the park are being maintained and a new road from Gobabeb to Vogelfederberg is nearing completion.

Of the 14 044 persons who visited the Namib Desert Park 7 607 went to Sandvis.

Skeleton Coast Park

In this remote park the officials of the Division provide a very necessary service in that they supply daily weather reports. This is of great value to the fishing fleet. The officials have also assisted refugees from Angola in addition to other rescue operations. Aid is also given to the Department of Sea Fisheries while doing coastal surveys.

The road to Torrabaai was scraped and for the first time tourists could reach this angling resort by means of a coastal road and it was therefore better supported than in the past.

Negotiations are under way to open the park to visitors in due course.

Lüderitz

Lüderitz is one of the few places showing an increase in the number of visitors. The tarred road which is under construction evidently facilitated visits.

The bungalow was renovated during the year and new ablution blocks were built in the camp.

Reservation Office

This office is still working under pressure. Consequently a computer is being considered to alleviate this. People who cancel their reservation too late on Simply don't turn up cause difficulties as this often means that accomnodation is standing empty while there is a demand for it.

As predicted last year the demand price of springbok rose steadily from 70c/kg to R1 ,50/kg. The demand remains high.

The harvesting of big game is at present still in its initial stages and research is progressing in the direction of a solution of the concomitant problems. In comparison the night harvesting of small game has become a fine art.

In the past few years good rains fell and on some farms the game reached optimal numbers. The farmers realised the profitability of this aspect of game farming and +- 11 000 fewer springbok were shot during 1976 than during the previous year. The conclusion to be drawn from this is that the farmers wish to allow their game herds to increase. During the year the following game was harvested and exported:

Springbok	7 730
Gemsbok	249
Kudu	110

The gross income came to R244 780 ,00.

Illegal hunting along the roads remains a serious problem. The farmers realise only too well what losses they are suffering and are beginning to co-operate to counteract this. Two game protection societies were established with. The primary purpose of combating game poaching and the conservation and/or economic exploitation of game.

There is concrete information that poaching teams are working on an organised basis in the theft, processing and marketing of game meat. In spite of heavy penalties imposed by magistrates, these operations are persisting as the profits are high. It is estimated that an amount of R124 610,00 was lost by farmers through poaching.

The public does not yet realise how necessary it is to report illegal hunting.

Only a small percentage of cases of game poaching is reported. For that reason actual losses could be as much as 200% more than those calculated. The income of farmers from game can be calculated as follows:

- (a) Animals exported by farmers : R87 320,00 (These prices were given by the farmers themselves);
- (b) Game shot by farmers for sale: R421 831,25 (According to permits issued for the shooting and sale of game);
- (c) Protected game shot by farmers to conserve grazing: R298 536,50 (According to permits issued for this purpose);
- (d) Game harvested on farms at night by harvesting teams: R244 748,00 (gross); (According to permits issued for this purpose)
- (e) Game captured by farmers for sale: 2327 090,00 (at marketing value);
- (f) Game skins exported: 273 025,00.

(As has been mentioned the number of springbok skins handed in by farmers to tanneries and dealers decreased by +- 11 000. The number of kudu skins increased by 15 584. The value of these skins' calculations according to average auction prices or trade prices was R49 046.88).

(g) Income from trophy hunters: 2445 500,00. 152 more trophy hunters visited the Territory than during the previous year. 495 permits were issued for the shooting of animals for trophies. The income derived by farmers was calculated at an average of 900,00 per trophy hunter after certain accounts were inspected.

(h) Shooting for own use: R2 698 775, 75

Game shot by farmers for their own consumption as well as rations for their employees would be calculated in monetary terms. The turnover obtained by farmers from game for the year is therefore calculated by adding (a) - (h) together, which comes R4 645 389, 50.

Revenue of Administration from game:

(a) Levy on the 73 025 skins amounts to	R 13 560,60
(b) Sale of 495 trophy hunting permits	32 473,00
TOTAL	R 25 935, 60

Licensed game dealers exported game to the tune of:
R359 218, 00.

Information and Law Enforcement

During the year there was:

64 cases of illegal hunting involving 127 persons with fines totalling R57 010, 00.

111 other cases with fines totalling R2 120, 00.

39 speed contraventions in game parks with fines totalling R1 258, 00.

Confiscations of 4 rifles, 1 axe, 1 hunting lamp, pears and 3 knives.

Furthermore:

1 Coyote-csetter course was offered;

10 town inspections were carried out;

5 528 farm inspections (including hunting farms) were carried out;

48 meetings attended and/or addressed where 317 people were present;

5 schools at which 261 scholars were present were addressed.

Research

In addition to Swakopmund and Walvis Bay the developing mining industry requires increasing quantities of water. This water comes from the Kuiseb river but it is planned to supplement this with water from the Omaruru river. The danger that these recent developments particularly the: mining industry will eventually exhaust the water supply from the Kuiseb with all the accompanying dangers to the area through which the river flows is thoroughly realised and has led to measures by which the threads were timeously identified. A research project was planned and registered by which several Divisions in the Administration, as well as Departments of the South African government, were jointly involved to determine the cumulative effects of water with drawal from the Kuiseb river.

The project on the ecology and behaviour of the cheetah was completed and the results will be published shortly.

The following projects are still progress:

- (a) A new project was started in the Waterberg Plateau Park which includes the identification of the existing plant communities for better management of the park.
- (b) The project on the rock-rabbit is nearing completion. Most of the field work has been concluded, the remaining laboratory work being concerned with population dynamics, reproduction, nutritional ecology and control. Attention is still being given to the processing of data.
- (c) The kudu research was limited to the testing of two possible control methods. One of the control methods, i.e. using reflectors, has already been instituted. It is hoped that observations on the influence of these on kudu will be done during 1977. Questionnaires have been prepared with which to collect additional information about collisions.
- (d) With the acquisition of new capture equipment good a progress was made with the ringing of vultures as a country-wide project. A considerable number of birds have already been captured and marked in South West Africa.
- (e) The project on the feeding habits of the black breasted snake eagle is continuing. Valuable information in respect of the method and the regularity of the feeding of the young birds was obtained.
- (f) Chromosome analyses is also continuing, and attention was especially given to the identification of cuckoo eggs from other eggs in the same nest.
- (g) Concern because the Damara Tern may be threatened by human activities in their limited breeding areas gave rise to further research. As a result of this it was established that several breeding places along the coast of Southwest Africa were adequately isolated so that this species is not immediately endangered. Measures are being taken to protect some breeding places.
- (h) A new drug was used for the first time in Southern Africa as a tranquilliser for steenbok and duiker and it proved to be exceptionally successful.
- (i) To test the effect of certain poison plants on animals another 10 Springbok were captured. Preliminary results indicate that game have an apparent resistance to these poisonous plants. This project has been undertaken in collaboration with the Veterinary Services Branch.
- (j) The blood-chemistry project is still under way and the Institute for Medical Research gave permission for the use of its equipment for blood-chemistry analyses.

The Ecological Institute at Okaukuejo and the Namib Research Institute at Gobabeb was again visited by many scientists from the Republic and abroad. Gobabeb was visited by 39 scientists and 31 scientific publications appeared on research work done there. In total Gobabeb was visited by 618 persons as well as three film companies and two journalists.

The Ecological Institute at Okaukuejo was visited by 11 scientists from abroad and 13 from the Republic of South Africa, as well as by the State President and the French Ambassador and their wives.

The annual professional meeting was held in the Hardap Recreation Nesort in October and progress reports were submitted on various research projects of the Division.

During the 1976 game capture season the team concentrated game capture operations on farmland and supplying game to farmers. During this time 191 gemsbok, 48 hartebeest, 8 blue wildebeest, 161 mountain zebra, 54 plains zebra, 92 blesbok, 208 springbok, 42 kudu, 22

roan antelope, 34 duiker and 2 steenboks were captured. The total value of the game sold came to R24 750, 00.

The game capture team built detaining camps in the rare game species camp near Otjovasandu, one of the game capture vehicles was converted and provided with another engine and the rhino bomas in the Kuiseb were removed.

The following articles were published:

(a) The distribution of the genus Aloe in the districts of Bethanien, Luderitz and Warmbad, Southwest Africa - Madoqua.

(b) A check list and notes on the birds of Sandvis, South West Africa - Madoqua.

(c) Hand-rearing abandoned Greater Flamingoes *Phoenicopterus ruber* in the Etosha National Park, S. W. A - Madoqua.

(d) Physiological and behavioural ecology of the Cape Cormorant *Phalacrocorax capensis* - Madoqua.

(e) The wind that makes the birds breed - African Wild life.

(f) The capture and translocation of the black rhinocero *Diceros bicornis* Linn to the Etosha National Park - Madoqua.

(g) The capture and care of eland *Taurotracus oryx onyx* (Pallus) using the Boma method - Madoqua.

Publicity and Education

1976 saw the end of the first series of brochures supplies of which were exhausted late in 1975. Rather than order reprints of the first series a completely new series was designed and 60 000 of each (30 000 in all)

Were ordered at a cost of R40 000,00. A reprint of the English version of the tourist guide was necessary and 5 000 were ordered. The Etosha Map, which was not up to Metrication Board Standards had to be re-designed and 60 000 of these were made for the Etosha National Park.

The new series of brochures proved to be very popular and some 77 000 were distributed. The total number of information brochures, including the Tourist and Tariff Guides, was 106 759. The ratio in which the brochures were distributed is not a true reflection of the popularity of the resorts represented in them.

Ai-Ais 1: Daan Viljoen 1 : Etosha 2 ; Hardap 1,4 : Namib 2,1.

Against expectations more German language brochures were distributed as shown below:

Afrikaans 1 : English 1,03 : German 1, 12.

A new annual publication also appeared for the first time. This Tariff Guide to all the Administration resorts, registered hotels, motels and guest farms has proved to be an invaluable aid to tourists. A third guide book "The Birds of Etosha" also appeared in the

shops shortly before Christmas. Maintaining the high quality of the others this one appears to be most popular.

The Land Service camps were once again very popular and 81 children from the various youth movements participated. All the rest camps with the exception of Daan Viljoen Game Park accommodated groups. Thirty-four new films were received, inter alia 21 new titles. Anglia T.V. supplied 12 new titles at a cost of R5 000 while 7 were brought from the National Parks Board for R600, 00. Dr. D. Hughes supplied 2 and a free copy of the film which he made in the Namib Desert Park is expected early in 1977. SATOUR and Anglia T.V. each supplied a free copy of the films made in South West Africa in which the Division had assisted.

During the year 66 films were shown on request to schools, farmers and other groups and at Agricultural meetings. Five lectures were held at Schools and for other groups.

Four articles were prepared for newspaper supplementaries: two were for local newspapers and one each for Cape Town and Durban based papers. A Series of articles on the game reserves and tourist resorts also appeared in a weekly magazine. Information on tourism was supplied to local periodicals and the newspapers.

The Division's exhibit at the Windhoek Industrial Show, with the birds of South West Africa as theme, shared a first prize.

Designs for the alterations to the Berg Hotel's lounge, dining-room and public bar were completed.

Designs were also submitted and accepted for hotel grading plaques, international hotel plaques and grading plaques for pensions.

A water-colour painting was prepared for a Turnhalle publication; a Turnhalle emblem was designed and the "Declaration of Intent" was prepared in ornamental writing.

A new lapel badge was designed for Honorary Nature Con-servators. Various interior and exterior decorations and alterations to the new Gross Barmen rest camp were designed.

Accommodation Establishments

Inspectors of the Division travelled 53 927 kilometres during the year and carried out over 300 inspections of accommodation establishments. During that time 4 hotels and one safari undertaking were graded. One safari undertaking was upgraded from two to three stars. Four establishments have had their registration and

Grading withdrawn and they have been conditionally registered under section 21 of the Accommodation Establishments and Tourism Ordinance of 1973.

This brings the total number of graded establishments in Southwest Africa as on 31 December 1976 to 81, broken down as follows:

55 one-star hotels

9 two-star hotels

- 4 three-star hotels
- 1 one-star safari undertaking
- 2 three-star safari undertakings
- 1 two-star caravan park
- 2 one-star rest camps.

There are still 9 accommodation establishments as well as the caravan parks and rest camps of various municipalities and all rest camps and caravan parks of the South West Africa Administration which do not comply with the minimum requirements.

Expectations are that at least some of these accommodation establishments will qualify for grading during the coming year.

The average occupancy of the 841 accommodation establishments in South West Africa (excluding rest camps and caravan parks of the South West Africa Administration) for the period 1 January to 30 June 1976 was 35, 2%.

The Accommodation Establishments and Tourism Advisory Board met in Windhoek four times during the year. During this time four loans totalling R807 497 for the improvement of accommodation establishments were granted by the Executive Committee on the Board.

Two bursary applications were received and approved.