

- If we die tonight are you within two days to 50 journalists in the street outside your station. CNN and the BBC, and all others will call you to account for that you locked up two of their colleagues so that they would face certain death, I continue.
A mobile phone, it's commandant Cambacos cut the old Nokia. He looks surprised at the number, answer and sits immediately as at attention. It is quite clear that it is a parent. He answers briefly but with great respect. Hangs up and clears his throat, then calling the cut again.

It is Mozambique's most senior police chief and a provincial police chief who has just rung. They seem to have had the same message to the commandant that I just taught him. What incredible timing!

We get our lives back, suddenly we are no longer outlaws. But how Navara take it?

What I did not know then is that the Swedish Embassy in Maputo has made a huge effort. They had managed to convince the so-called embassy police to call the Mozambican police organization already tonight and not tomorrow morning, as they themselves proposed. Thanks to this conversation, I can write this text.

The commandant goes out and tells. Hell breaks out in the interrogation room. We are afraid that Navara will come in with guns drawn. He leaves, however, the station with his gang and are now waiting outside. About 25 of them hanging out at our car. We ask for a police escort to the place in the bush where we live. Cambaco ready until two police officers from the Special Forces, each with their AK-47, but they must return to the station after being escorted us. With the help of SEK 1 500 they allowed to watch us all night.

- Leave town as soon as you can. You would really have been dead now, it's a miracle that you are alive, said Commandant Cambaco next day when he receives money for the night's bodyguard mission. He gives us a special strength that police escorted the six hours of driving to Maputo - and safety.

WAR TO SAVE THE RHINO

Three rhinos are killed every day in South Africa. Most of the poachers come through Mozambique. But now puts the authorities in South Africa hard against hard. From 2008 to last March, has 343 poachers have been killed. Using special forces chasing poachers, but also drones and a special radar that sees poachers several mil into the bush.

Rhino poaching survivor Thandi with her newly born calf in the Kariega Game Reserve near Port Elizabeth, in the eastern Cape Province. (Adrian Steirn, Kariega Game Reserve, AP)

Maputo - Police in Mozambique said on Thursday they had seized 1.3 tons of elephant ivory and rhino horn - the result of killing about 200 animals - in the country's biggest ever find of illegal wildlife products.

An Asian man was arrested on the outskirts of the capital Maputo at a house where the stash was stored. Rhino are extinct in Mozambique, but hunters from the country are often armed by transnational crime



"1.3 tons of poached rhino horn, ivory seized in Mozambique 2015-05-14" – News24

syndicates to kill rhinos and elephants across the border in South Africa.

The police raid on Tuesday discovered 340 elephant tusks, weighing 1 160kg, and 65 rhino horns, weighing 124kg.

"The man lived alone in the house for three months and hid his illegal activity by pretending to be involved in tin can recycling," Emidio Mabunda, spokesperson for the Maputo provincial police, said.

"Some of the tusks still have fresh blood, a sign that some of animals could have been killed recently."

Mabunda clarified earlier reports that the man was Chinese, says he was Asian but his nationality was not confirmed.

South Africa has been hit with a sharp rise in rhino poaching in recent years, with numbers at record levels this year despite renewed government efforts and the use of helicopters and anti-poaching dogs.

Kruger National Park

The 65 rhino horns seized were most likely hacked from animals slaughtered in the Kruger National Park.

Rhino horn is prized in Asia for its supposed medicinal properties in traditional cures for cancer, impotence and hangovers, while elephant ivory is highly valued in China and Thailand in artworks or jewellery.

The cache was reported to have a street value of about \$6.3m.

Police hope that the suspect will lead them to the trafficking gang behind poaching.

They added that the illegal goods were ready to be smuggled out the country.

"It should be destroyed to send a message to the world that... we are shifting to another level of intervention in the fight against poaching," prominent environmental activist Carlos Serra said.

Poaching statistics to date of publishing 19/05/2015
SA Stats +/- 440
Limpopo 36 = 6 wounded & 30 dead
Arrests 54
Weapons 18



Bloedmaan

Onder skemering van volle maan, word in grasveld 'n weg van bloed gebaan.
Nog 'n aanslag op Afrika erfenis, verdwyn met statistieke in duisternis.

Nog 'n gewerskoot wat in verte weerklink, nog 'n reus op eie bodem bloedig vermink.
Byl, mes en assegaai, ingespan om af te maai.

Renosters in lang gras, wit en swart. Salig onbewus van skuilende smart.
Stroppers met gebare van oorlogsgeweld, verander rustig oase in bloedslagveld.

Hou rustig aan met jou sluimerslaap, ignoreer die probleem jou onwetende swaap.
Hoeveel meer bloedoffers moet daar wees? vir horings wat sogenaamd siektes genees?

Gryp die dag aan na die bloedige maan. Beklink ons renosters se voortbestaan.
Die kinders van ons kinders verdien 'n erfenis, van sagmoedige reuse in ons wildernis.

Geskryf deur Hendelene Prinsloo en Jeannette Havenga

Here are the faces behind Kruger's poaching scourge. Swedish journalist Torbjörn Selander describes the village of Massingir, where they are based, as "a lost

society where mafia leaders have taken over". Selander and Der Spiegel reporter Bartholomäus Grill were arrested in February while working on an investigation into rhino poaching in Mozambique. The man in the red beret is Simon Ernest Valoi, aka "Navara", and the man being interviewed by Grill is Justice Ngovene, aka "Nyimpini".

Torbjörn Selander, Expressen employees in southern Africa, life was threatened when he made reportage about the poaching of rhinos in Mozambique. During a harrowing day, he and a German colleague detained in a small village where the powerful gang leader is in control. The two journalists feared being killed by poaching mafia, or by a furious crowd, but was finally released after intervention by the Swedish and German diplomats.

Here's Torbjörn Selander's dramatic story.



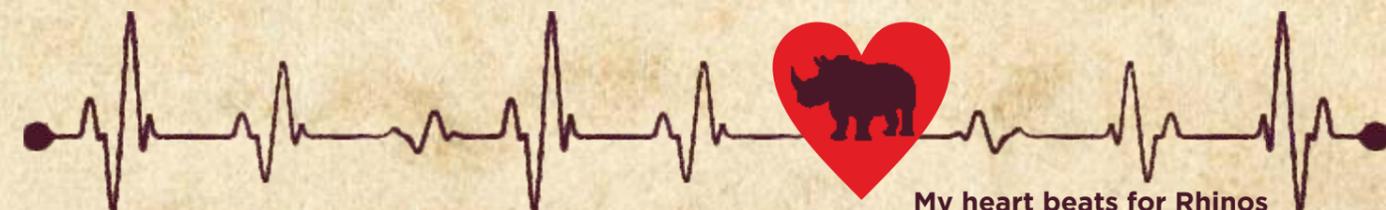
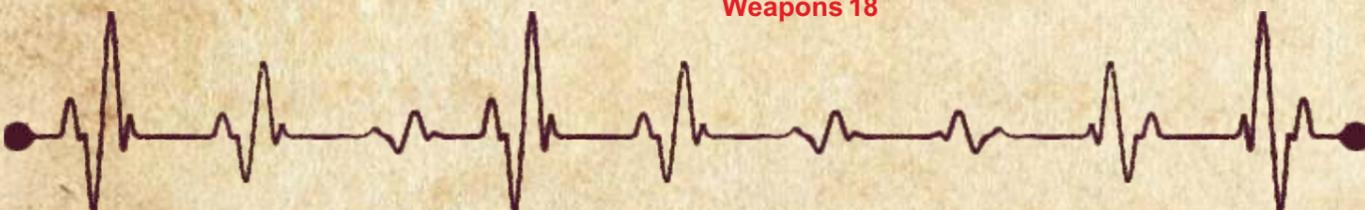
"If you open the door again you die"

Published March 8, 2015

MAVODZE-Massingir-Maputo. Mafia leader Justice "Nyimpini" Ngovene low-key voice cut through my brain and I take only now that we are balancing between life and death.

- If you open the door again you die, the mob has already planned to take you and then kill you right away, he says.

For several hours, we have been interrogated by the poaching mafia leaders and their soldiers in a small room, and already received several death threats. I have over time managed to send secret SMS to my



My heart beats for Rhinos

friend and back-up, Fritz Breytenbach of South Africa, which has a PM with all possible information about who we'll meet where and when.



RHINOS

There are 29 000 rhinoceros in the world. Of those, 25,500 in South Africa and a large part of them in the Kruger Park. The park, together with the Limpopo National Park in Mozambique and parks in Zimbabwe merged into a gigantic nature reserve of 100 000 square kilometers. There will be more than twice the size of Denmark

Fritz has also been given a deadline until eight o'clock in the evening. If he has not heard from me then, he'll call the whole list of those who should be alerted.

I have previously added the deadline for the rescue operation with the fourth one. We have believed that we can negotiate our way out of the nightmare. To send my sms I have been forced to go out on the stairs. There, outside waited an angry mob of nearly a hundred poachers.

Now, just now, Fritz understand that I am not passed the deadline for at 16.45 and that he must begin calling my complete disaster list to save our lives. But is it too late? We are stuck in the village Mavodze in Mozambique, and this is all with the poaching mafia, even the police.

After two and a half hour interrogation conducted by the mafia leaders and a local police say that we should be separated, and go with them Massingir, the closest community. There is a large police station where we'll be locked up. We protest loudly and refuse to be separated.

- It is I who decide, you shall be separated, says the other mafia leader. He called Navara and is wanted by Interpol for murder in South Africa. His gaze burned into my eyes, it looks like he'll explode any second. Navaras colleague Justice says he'll go out and talk to the crowd so that we are living can take us to the cars. He talks to them for a while and they cry indignantly back.



Der Spiegel Bartholomäus Grill mafia leader Justice "Nyimpini" Ngovene. Photo: Torbjörn Selander

We headed out to an uncertain fate. Young men pulling hand over their necks to show that they want to cut our throats. They pushed us. I came from the other side and they pushed me into the car and got in.

The mob pressed and pull on the door handle, but we gases in the road for several SUVs out into the bush. I'm just waiting for them to stay in the middle of the bush and put an end to me, they slaughter a rhinoceros. Or will it be in the police cell last night? Hope is on the way out before the rescue even drawn in again.

German news magazine Der Spiegel gave his journalist Bartholomäus "Bart" Grill and me the task to document the poaching of rhinos. The editor wanted us to follow the whole course of events from a slaughtered rhino in Kruger Park in South Africa through middlemen and smugglers to the black market in Vietnam. Last year alone killed 1215 rhinos in South Africa for their horns. The horns are worth more than their weight in gold. A kilo can cost upwards SEK 700 000 on Hanoi's streets. We decided to take to the center of poaching, Massingir, six hours north of Mozambique's capital Maputo. Here we knew that there were at least six, seven mafia leaders who have a dozen three-man team was. Teams which they send to the Kruger Park when the nights are lit by the moon. The teams are led by the shooter with his AK-47, the number two is the man with the ax to chop off the horn. The third track, and carries supplies.

MEDICINE AND STATUS

Powdered rhinoceros horn has been used as medicine in Asia for thousands of years. Especially against fever and swollen belly. In recent years, the mafia promoted it as a cancer drug, and as a natural Viagra - a miracle drug. Although it only contains keratin, the same constituents as in our nails or hair. The Mafia has also managed to find a new market. As a Vietnamese company wants to give away something really nice for a customer can be a little cube of rhinoceros horn. They use it as a motsvarighet to business presents

There is of course an explanation for all of these young men risk their lives when the South African special forces shoot poachers without

asking first. They live in misery with no future in their villages. A successful poaching can give 15 years' salary. It is a lost society where mafia leaders has taken over. While police, prosecutors and judges are said to be on the payroll.

We hope to meet with mafia leader Justice "Nyimpini" Ngovene in the village Mavodze. Better still, we want to meet Simon Ernest Valoi, the legendary "Navara". He is wanted for murder and said to get patronage from the highest level in Mozambique.

We find Navaras house in Mavodze shouting over the fence at a woman who is his wife. She explains that he is not at home, but call him. He is furious, orders us to take us to the post and the police office and wait for him there. He says he has already sat out a patrol to shoot us if we try to dodge.

Already I have sent a text message to Fritz in South Africa, asking him to be stand-by. We go to the police office. Immediately pops some fifty young men up and surround us. The local police are nearby. After an hour, a huge man in a long black leather coat and a wide brimmed hat along with a horde of bodyguards.



Maffialeadren Simon Ernest Valoi is felt under the name "Navara" and is among other things wanted by Interpol for murder in South Africa.

It is Justice "Nyimpini" Ngovene. He accuses us of being spies or secret police from South Africa. Navara proves to stand beside him. He orders us in the dark office. The two Mafia leaders, bodyguards and police station follow up. Navara has decided that he will notify us of trespassing.

Later I was told that while the lone police with shaking pen receives notification does Navaras bodyguards up plans for what to do with us. In the local language, Shangaan, they say that we should be brought to a hut. There we killed and our bodies burned. But Navara decide that we should be brought to the police station in Massingir.

We are now in a third interrogation and accused of trespassing. On a long bench sits Bart and I along with mafia men Navara and Justice. Opposite sits Massingirs police commandant Cambaco which seem to go in Navaras ligaments. Cambaco calls us "outlaws" (outlaws).

Just a few meters away is the door to the cell. We hear behind us mafia leaders bodyguards say that is where we should be locked up in the night and that is where we will die.

In the meantime, I sit with my mobile phone tucked between his legs and sends text messages to the Swedish Ambassador to South Africa, Anders Hagelberg, a good friend who I know will understand the seriousness. He already knows, because he was the first name of Fritz alarm list.

After a while it awaited the response from Anders Hagelberg:



Special Troops forced to patrol the nature reserves to protect the rhinos from organized poaching. Exoessen Torbjörn Selander detained during a reporting trip in Mozambique. Photo: Torbjörn Selander

"Hello. Received confirmation that both the Swedish and German embassies are working for your cause. They are also in contact now with the police in Mozambique."

Anders rapid response can be the turning point for us. For the fifth time, call the commandant Cambaco us for "outlaws". I realize that now is the time to play the highest game ever - of death. We now know that the embassies jointly reached the authorities in the capital Maputo.

- Mr Commandant, we want to have a private meeting with you, I pray with clear voice.

Navara flies up when it translated and starts screaming and saying that it is not possible.

- Mr Commandant, is it you or Navara in charge here? I ask...

It takes 45 minutes of heated discussion in Portuguese and Shangaan, but every minute is good for us, it keeps the cell door closed. In the end we are brought into the Cambacos office. What I will say to him, I want to avoid at all costs to do with the Navara present. That could trigger him to shoot me on the spot. I warn the commandant to lock us in the cell.

- Right now speak both the Swedish and the German ambassador in Maputo with your president. If we die in the night so you will have problems with your president. He will not like this and it is your responsibility, I say.



Anders Hagelberg, Swedish Ambassador to South Africa.



My heart beats for Rhinos