

THE SOUTHERN RHODESIA 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OCCUPATION OF MATABELELAND COMMEMORATIVE

This one-frame exhibit shows the issued stamp, production, first day covers and use of the Southern Rhodesia Occupation of Matabeleland Commemorative issue of 1943.

BACKGROUND

The occupation of Matabeleland was part of a broader colonial effort to settle what would become Rhodesia. Under royal charter, the British South Africa Company (BSAC) previously entered Mashonaland to the east, peopled by the Shona. Historically the Shona were under subjugation of the Ndebele to the west (Matabeleland). An incident between the Shona and Ndebele in 1893 prompted BSAC to move against the Ndebele. Although well trained and vastly outnumbering the colonial forces, they were no match for the firepower of maxim machine guns. Ndebele's capital of Bulawayo fell November 4, 1893.



First printing
brown & green



Second printing
Sepia-brown & deep green

EXHIBIT PLAN:

- Production
- Un-cacheted FDCs
- Cachet FDCs
- Foreign Destinations
- Use

Items of importance - framed in green

Personal study



PRINTING:

Issued: November 1, 1943

Printing: Screened Rotogravure,
Government Printers, Pretoria

Watermark: South Africa Springbok

Sheets & Cylinders: Sheets of 60 (6 x 10). One cylinder divided into two sheets (Cylinder 1A & 1B)

Withdrawn: October 31, 1944