

OPERATIONS RESEARCH SOCIETY OF SOUTH AFRICA  
OPERASIONELE NAVORSINGSVERENIGING VAN SUID-AFRIKA

NEWSLETTER  
NUUSBRIEF

SEPTEMBER 1974

1. OFFICIAL NOTICES/AMPTELIKE KENNISGEWINGS

1.1 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/JAARLIKSE ALGEMENE VERGADERING

In terms of Article 11.b of the Constitution of the Society, notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Operations Research Society of South Africa will be held at the University of Cape Town during the afternoon of the first day of the Annual Conference, on 21 November 1974.

In terme van Artikel 11.b van die Grondwet van die Vereniging word hiermee kennis gegee dat die Jaarlikse Algemene Vergadering van die Operasionele Navorsingsvereniging van Suid-Afrika gehou sal word by die Universiteit van Kaapstad gedurende die namiddag van die eerste dag van die Jaarlikse Konferensie, op 21 November 1974.

G. GELDENHUYS  
SECRETARY/SEKRETARIS

1.2 NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/NOMINASIES VIR DIE UITVOERENDE KOMITEE

In terms of Article 9.b of the Constitution of the Society, nominations are hereby called for members of the Executive Committee for 1975. A nomination form is attached. In terms of Article 9.c, nominations must reach the Secretary before 8 November and must, in terms of Article 9.a, be signed by the nominee as well as the proposer and seconder.

In terme van Artikel 9.b van die Grondwet van die Vereniging word hiermee nominasies aangevra vir lede van die Uitvoerende Komitee vir 1975. 'n Nominasievorm word aangeheg. Nominasies moet in terme van Artikel 9.c die Sekretaris voor 8 November 1974 bereik en moet in terme van Artikel 9.a onderteken wees deur die benoemde asook die voorsteller en sekondant.

G. GELDENHUYS  
SECRETARY/SEKRETARIS

2. MEMBERSHIP/LIDMAATSKAP

We are pleased to announce the following new associate members:

Ons kondig met genoeë die volgende nuwe mede-lede aan:

|               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| G.A. Meyer    | Uitenhage    |
| A.I. Smith    | Cape Town    |
| M.J. Judelman | Johannesburg |

3. ANNUAL CONFERENCE/JAARKONGRES

The annual conference of the society has been planned for 21/22 November 1974 at the University of Cape Town. Further details will be forthcoming shortly, but in the meanwhile keep these dates free as a stimulating program can be expected.

Apart from the official notices contained in this newsletter, members are also reminded that any proposals for amendments to the constitution must reach the secretary before 21 October 1974.

Die jaarkongres van die vereniging is vir 21/22 November 1974 by die Universiteit van Kaapstad beplan. Verdere besonderhede sal in die nabye toekoms voorsien word, maar in tussentyd hou hierdie datums oop want 'n stimulerende program kan verwag word.

Afsonderlik van die amptelike kennisgewing wat in hierdie nuus-brief verskyn, word lede daaraan herinner dat enige voorstelle vir veranderings aan die grondwet, die sekretaris voor 21 Oktober 1974 moet bereik.

4. STUDENTS GRADUATING IN O.R.

Several students are graduating in O.R. at the end of this year. Members who are interested in employing recent graduates are requested to contact the secretary who will pass on the information to relevant universities.

5. A NOVENNA TO ST. JUDE

This is the final case study in the series from the article by R.E.D. Woolsey, which we reproduce by kind permission of the publishers of INTERFACES, the Bulletin of The Institute of Management Sciences.

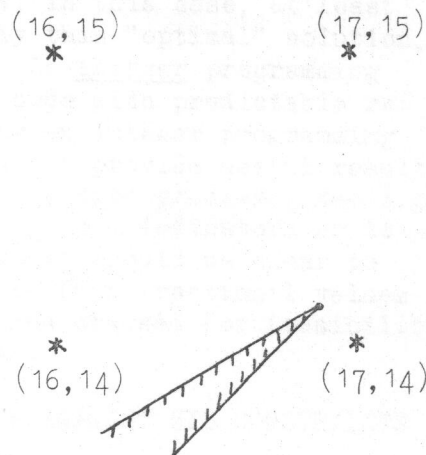
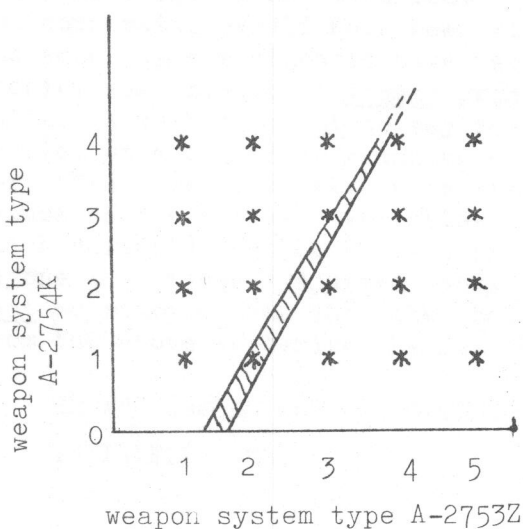
The Lower Slobbovian Air Battle Model Disaster

Once there was an emerging country that decided to build an air battle model that would insure optimum use of their air force against their foes. A number of foreign O.R. analysts were engaged

to develop the model. They were divided into two groups, one to design the objective function to be optimized and the other to design the constraint set of the defensive network that the Slobbovian Air Force had to face.

This model was some three years in the building. And finally there came the time to run it. Everybody was brought into the machine room to see it run, the admirals and the generals and so forth. Everybody gathered around while this thing ran. They loaded it in and the tapes whirled and the printers printed, and it was wonderful. After about 20 minutes it came out and said that all of the planes had been shot down. The Slobbovian Air Command was not overjoyed, particularly since there was a group of admirals who had come to watch who were sitting in a corner snickering. The Slobbovian Air Force panicked. All the admirals were hosed out the door. The O.R. analysts were then told to do it again, and do it right.

So the model was redone. The group that had designed the objective function now got to do the constraints and the group that did the constraints now got to do the objective function. This way, they could immediately eliminate any un Slobbovian things that could possibly have crept into the model. It was run again at two o'clock in the morning with armed guards on the door. With exactly the same result. Again, there was panic in the streets. The grunts were told to find it. And so, every possible combination of planes, weapons system, and sites were plotted against every other possible combination of planes and weapons systems and sites. After about two days, they found it.



View in the neighborhood of where the two constraints come to a point.

NOMINATION FORM/NOMINASIEVORM

|                                   | Nominee<br>Benoemde | Proposer<br>Voorsteller | Seconder<br>Sekondant |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Vice President/<br>Vise President | .....               | .....                   | .....                 |
| Secretary/<br>Sekretaris          | .....               | .....                   | .....                 |
| Treasurer/<br>Penningmeester      | .....               | .....                   | .....                 |
| Editor/<br>Redakteur              | .....               | .....                   | .....                 |
| Elected Members/<br>Verkose Lede  | (1) .....           | .....                   | .....                 |
|                                   | (2) .....           | .....                   | .....                 |

Send to/Stuur aan: Prof. G. Geldenhuys  
P.O. Box/Posbus 462  
STELLENBOSCH  
7600.