

FROM THE SHADOWS OF DEATH!



TO A NEW LIFE OF REAL FREEDOM!

The last two surviving Class 25NC's were prepared for their escape route to Ficksburg. This morning we were fortunate to move the first Class 25NC to on the 100km run from Bethlehem to Ficksburg. It was one of the coldest mornings in the Eastern Free State and we did the last work needed, oiling. At 08H00 we departed from the Bethelhem old steam shed with a Class 34 at the head of the train. Number 3496, oil burner was the first to move and number 3536 will be towed on Tuesday same time.

Below: Numer 3496 safe in the hands of Sandstone Estates.



Below left: Barry, our pilot fitter on number 3496 on her 100km sprint towards safety.

Below right: Just before departure this morning, freeeezing!!!



Below: Running through Bethlehem Station and the 15km 1/40 gradient just outside the town.



Below left: Our Driver and assistant.

Below right. A look towards a better day!



We stopped at several stations to inspect the locomotive for any defects.

Below right: Fouriesburg Station.



Below left: Fouriesburg Station.

Below right: Number 3496 stretching her legs for the last section towards Kommandonek.



Below left: Number 34 056 and 3496 at Kommandonek.

Below right: A safe arrival at Ficksburg, ready for the shunting to get her massive body inside a warmer Sandstone Shed.



The train was run around and after a few shunting moves she was ready for her new home where she will join her sister engines inside the shed.



We shall never forget the locomotives who died in the war against Scrap dealers and Heritage, but we are happy that another Class 25NC escaped the torches and will be in safe hands for ever!

