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# James Randolph Vigne

**2016**

James Randolph Vigne was born in 1928 in Kimberley.

He was a South African anti-apartheid activist, an influential member of the Liberal Party of South Africa, founder member of the National Committee for Liberation, founder of the African Resistance Movement (ARM). (Driver & Sampson 1980, p. 153).

Vigne was attended primary school in Port Elizabeth and did his high schooling at St. Andrew's College, Grahamstown where he enjoyed a spell as head boy at the age of 13 in 1941. That same year he joined the Van Riebeeck Society. He did his higher education at Wadham College, Oxford, after which he returned to Cape Town and served as English editor at the publisher, Maskew Miller until 1964.

Vigne was banned for five years in 1963 under the Suppression of Communism Act, for his activities in Transkei in organising opposition to the Transkei Bantustan. He went into exile in Britain in 1964, where he founded the Namibia Support Committee. For a period he was a member of the Pan Africanist Congress. He wrote widely on South Africa and Namibian politics and history. (Swanepoel 2007, p. 99)

Vigne passed away on 19 June 2016 in Canterbury, England.