

## Major George Richards

Basenjis: The Barkless Dog  
by Veronica Tudor-Williams



"First, we have Major George Richards, of the Sudan Defense Force, who bred Basenjis for many years in the South Sudan in the 1920's and has always been an acknowledged expert and judge. Major Richards's complaint was that we were breeding them too big (over 20 pounds) and that their coats were too heavy in England."

"Since about 1920, Major George Richards, M.C., had kept Basenjis, or, as he knew them, Zande dogs, as pets in the Sudan. Upon his return to England, he decided to bring a pair with him, to ensure a supply of his favourite breed. He was one of the unlucky ones, as his black and white dog was bitten by a jackal just before leaving Egypt, and died of septicaemia in the Mediterranean. The little tri-colour bitch, Nyanabiem survived quarantine, and when shown she was greatly admired for her wonderful coat and exceptionally fine, dainty type. Her death, two years later, from an enlarged spleen caused by malaria was a severe loss to the breed"