

# France: Boer War Satirical: Hyaena Catching Birds

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**Form:** Circular. Bronze and Aluminium medal with attached loop.

**By:** Messrs. Beyenbach of Wiesbaden, Germany

**Date:** 1900

**Ref:** AM: 143; Hern: 324; Laidlaw: 0213b;

Variations:	Size	Metal	Mass	Value
	39 mm	Silver		\$1,200
	39 mm	Bronze		\$480
	39.1 mm	Aluminium	6.4 gm	\$300

**Edge:** Plain. Silver medal stamped: "950"

**Obverse:** Divided into three portions by two horizontal lines. Upper portion in French: "LA GUERRE DES BOERES (in an arc) / 1900 (large letters)". Central wide band, hyena facing left crushing a bird (the OFS) with its left paw while trying to catch a second bird (presumably the Transvaal) with its right. Lower portion in German: "L'assassin dit, vous êtes à moi, / car moi je suis grand et vous / êtes petits (The assassin said, you are mine because I am big and you are small)". At foot, maker's mark: "B" between two five-pointed stars.

**Reverse:** Unofficial emblem of the French Third Republic: double-bladed lictor's axe behind shield tied top and bottom to the shaft with ribbons, bearing: "RF" monogram and on band around: "REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE". The maker's mark: "B" on the shield at bottom of the axe. At top, five-pointed star from which emanate a background of ten lightening bolts. Legend on a scroll: "Vive Transvaal L'accueil du président Krüger en France. \* \* (Long live the Transvaal. The reception of President Kruger in France.)".

**Notes:** This medal was made in Germany by the private mint Beyenbach and sold to coincide with the arrival of President Kruger in France.

A medal with a similar obverse having German text was also made.