

EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN for SOUTH AFRICA

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—For A Free Southern Africa—

JULY

1980

N A M I B I A

THE WINDHOEK OBSERVER on 7 June reported on what has been known for over a year by many throughout the International Territory of Namibia: a Death Squad is in existence and is working its way down a death list of prominent citizens '....90 trained thugs had been organised by the South African Government with the aim to kill certain people'. At the head of the hit list is the name of the Right Rev. Cleopas Dumeni, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran OvamboKavango Church.

The Lutheran Church's publication OMUKWETO several months ago wrote of the widespread fear of the hit squad - which operates under such code names as 'Koevoet (Afrikaans for 'crowbar') and 'One Way'. It consists of 40 white and 50 black men - probably security policemen with some South African Defence Force personnel and members of the so-called homeguards in the hire of Pretoria-installed bantustan chiefs. They pursue their grisly task in the northern regions of Namibia, in and below the army's operation zone in Ovamboland, Kaokoland, Kavangoland and the Eastern Caprivi strip. The hit list includes, beside Bishop Dumeni, other church leaders, businessmen, teachers and even several members of bantustan 'governments'. After killing their victims, the assassins leave behind 'evidence' - such as Soviet-made AK 47s - in a crude attempt to implicate members of the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia, the military arm of the SWAPO liberation movement which is fighting the South Africans for the Territory's freedom.

South Africa's Administrator General Gerrit Viljoen (head of the Afrikaner Broederbond and reportedly destined for high office in Pretoria, perhaps in the newly created post of State Vice President) denounced stories of the hit squad: 'Persons spreading these undermining rumours are also being cautioned that they are busy with a dangerous game.' Hannes Smith, who runs his English-language weekly OBSERVER in Namibia's capital city with frontier flair and muckraking zeal, thereupon challenged Viljoen to call a press conference, with chiefs of the Defence Force and the South African Police present, 'to put all the facts to you about an elimination squad in the presence of all the media'.

The South African occupation in June launched a new wave of arrests and detentions of Namibians in the north - coincident with major assaults into neighboring Angola. Anglican Archdeacon Philip Shilongo was detained on 19 June and is still being held incommunicado at the South African prison/torture camp at Oshakati. He, like so many others picked up in the new sweep, has been detained before, as for a time last year after the army claimed 'highly incriminating papers were found hidden behind the pulpit' of St Mary's mission church - which has no pulpit.

In May 1978, the South African Defence Force attacked a SWAPO refugee camp at Kassinga, 100 km inside Angola, murdering hundreds of men, women and children. The SADF took some 200 prisoners and put them in a concentration camp at Hardap Dam near Mariental in southern Namibia. SWAPO and the Namibia Support Committee in London have over and over again drawn attention to the inhumane treatment of those at Hardap Dam. AG Viljoen as often denied he was holding refugees. It has been reported that two Red Cross officials from Pretoria had visited the secret military camp and said 118 SWAPO members were being held. One official said he could not disclose details: 'We cannot allow the lives of prisoners to be jeopardised'. Red Cross authorities in Geneva also decline to give details.

'Fifty people held hostage has plunged the Western world into a reassessment of policy, into a hunt for military bases, into boycotts, into sanctions, into military action. But thousands of people massacred by racists merit no response other than sanctimonious resolutions without teeth. For every child killed in Soweto, in Namibia, in Angola, responsibility must be accepted by those Western friends of Pretoria who help the apartheid regime to survive, and survive rather well.'

- Angolan Ambassador Elisio de Figueiredo at the Security Council, 26 June 1980

South African Defence Force strikes from occupied Namibia into Angola have this year been mounted with increasing regularity and ferocity, reaching a peak in mid-June with Operation Smokeshell. Ambassador de Figueiredo reminded an urgent session of the UN Security Council: 'As Security Council records show, South Africa has made the People's Republic of Angola a target for constant raids, bombings, invasions and armed aggression' and gave a detailed report of Pretoria's motorized infantry brigade, other battalions, armored cars, and units of 155 cannon, the vaunted artillery piece which the South African regime avers it developed on its own but which was surreptitiously purchased from the United States a few years back - a clear violation of the Council's sanctions edict. 'They have killed over 370 men, women and children. They have wounded more than 255 people, many of whom will succumb to their injuries. They have destroyed vehicles, bridges, houses. They have killed much of the livestock, depriving the remaining populace of its food and livelihood. They have mined roads and fields. In the days ahead they will kill many more barefoot children and women tilling the land.'

The Council condemned Pretoria for the umpteenth time, reiterating a call for implementation of the 1977 arms embargo and terming the persistent invasions of Angola a serious threat to international peace and security - language that sets the stage for a call for full economic sanctions against Pretoria. Britain, France and the United States abstained. Meanwhile, South Africa's military commander in Namibia proudly showed the press tons of equipment, declared SWAPO's nerve center destroyed and insisted that no Angolans were attacked, only Peoples' Liberation Army of Namibia personnel and bases.

There was some ostensible dismay displayed by the five Western powers - the aforesaid big three on the Security Council plus West Germany and Canada - at Pretoria's action. They fretted that their three-year-old plan for UN observed elections in Namibia might be put off track. The US State Department deplored 'the use of violence by any of the involved parties as a means of attempting to resolve the Namibian issue', at once minimizing South Africa's invasion of Angola and equating its military occupation of Namibia with the struggle for independence led by SWAPO.

Pretoria matched its military moves with the political. On 1 July, Administrator-General Gerrit Viljoen installed a new Council of Ministers in Windhoek. The 12-man body, selected from Pretoria's five-year-old concoction, the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, will exercise some executive powers but with Viljoen retaining overall command. A South West Africa Territorial Force comes into being 1 August, a military unit subservient to the South African Defence Force. Dirk Mudge, the new Council's white millionaire chairman, and several colleagues flew in mid-June to London, Paris, Bonn and Strasbourg (location of the European Parliament) to advance their credentials. Pretoria this summer has moved substantially nearer to establishing a South West Africa/Namibia state, confident it can get away with it.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim in May, the South African foreign minister rendered Pretoria's latest stall on the issue of UN supervised elections in Namibia. The document promoted the Council of Ministers with the insistence that 'all participants in the political process must now be placed on an equal footing' and formally introduced Jonas Savimbi's UNITA group from Angola as one of the 'equals'. Furthermore, the letter insinuated the notion that SWAPO be stripped of its official designation as 'the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia', long ago conferred by the UN General Assembly. Immediately, this issue of SWAPO's standing began to be raised by the Five and other western countries in private conversations and official consultations at the UN and elsewhere, as a matter to be seriously considered and re-examined. What seemed at first to be a Pretorian ploy now appears as a wider plan.

SAVE THE CLARK AMENDMENT!

The US Senate has voted to kill the Clark amendment. That piece of 1976 legislation, which bears the name of former Senator Dick Clark, was enacted into law at the height of the war in Angola. It prohibited the United States from 'promoting directly or indirectly.....any nation, group, organization, movement or individual to conduct military or paramilitary operations' in Angola unless or until -

- Congress expressly authorizes such assistance by law - after,
- the President determines that such assistance is in the national security interests of the United States, and,
- submits to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee a detailed recommendation of kinds of such assistance and the identities of proposed recipients, and,
- a certification why this assistance is important to the national security interests of the United States and a 'detailed statement in unclassified form of the reasons for supporting such determination'.

The Clark amendment was urgently needed in 1976. The CIA was heavily engaged in support of Jonas Savimbi's UNITA organization, which along with its South African allies, was trying to destroy the new government of the People's Republic of Angola. The amendment officially stopped US aid to UNITA. It is even more urgently needed now - following the independence of Zimbabwe, the intense focus on Namibia's future, as the upheaval in South Africa grows.

On 17 June, Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) moved in the Senate to repeal the Clark amendment. His action was blatantly timed with South Africa's massive invasion of Angola, Pretoria's continued stall of the UN over elections in Namibia and the imminent installation of the new Council of Ministers in Windhoek. It coincided with that Council's delegation to Europe, and just prior to yet another visit by Jonas Savimbi to Britain and West Germany.

A hastily devised new amendment was inserted in the Senate version of the Foreign Assistance Authorization Act for fiscal year 1981. That it met with Jesse Helms' concurrence is evident from the clever wording. The Washington Office on Africa reports: 'The new language, passed by voice vote, stipulates that no US aid may be given to any group for paramilitary or military operations in Angola "unless and until the President determines that such assistance should be furnished in the national security interests of the United States" It provides further that if the President makes such a determination he must report to the Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee the amount and type of assistance, the identity of the recipient, and a certification that furnishing such assistance is important to the national security interests of the US and the rationale for such a determination.'

Congress loses control over aid to operations in Angola. The President must merely report to the intelligence and foreign affairs committees of each house - in secret. There is no provision for public examination or debate by the rest of the Congress or the American people. Support for UNITA can go ahead. The CIA and other elements are 'unleashed'.

The House of Representatives version of the Foreign Assistance Authorization Act leaves the Clark amendment intact.

The Foreign Assistance Authorization Act (S.2714/HR.6942) now goes to a conference committee to thresh out differences between the two houses of Congress. This conference will start shortly after the recess for the Democratic Party convention which ends 14/15 August.

Please WIRE or PHONE your Senators and Congressperson to support publicly and privately the deletion of the Senate version. Keep the Clark amendment.

Senate	Washington, DC 20510	PHONE: (202) 224-3121
House of Representatives	Washington, DC 20515	" " "

Contact particularly members of the Conference Committee. Their names appear oversheet:

SAVE THE CLARK AMENDMENT!

HOUSE AND SENATE CONFEREES

SENATE

Joseph Biden (Delaware)
Frank Church (Idaho)
John Glenn (Ohio)
S.I. Hayakawa (California)
Jacob K. Javits (New York)
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Lester Wolff (New York) Paul Findley (Ill)
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William Gray (Penn.)

There is a concerted effort by Pretoria and by friends of Jonas Savimbi to convince the world that UNITA is an entity that must be reckoned with, and that UNITA must be a party to discussions over the future of Namibia. The question is often raised - how does UNITA survive in the bush of southern Angola so long after the 1975/76 war and with no country acknowledging that it supports it?

UNITA contingents are trained, equipped and staged for forays into Angola by the South African Defence Force in Namibia. Pretoria keeps up a steady propaganda barrage hailing the alleged military victories of Savimbi's group. Parties with special ideological or pecuniary or other interests engage in the same promotion. A revealing report appeared in THE TIMES of London on 26 July. Mr Paul Fauvet of the Mozambique, Angola and Guine Information Centre in London, Mr Barry Munslow, a lecturer at Leeds University, and Mr Colm Foy of Keele University told the London paper that 'they travelled extensively in areas which Mr Savimbi claims to occupy. They said they found them firmly under government control. "We travelled at night and by dirt roads without danger. It seems that UNITA has been reduced to small isolated bands without a command structure. They are cattle raiding to keep themselves going. The military offensive by the Angolan army from December 1979 to April this year destroyed Savimbi's presence in the area."

'According to the Angolan Government, about 800,000 former UNITA supporters, who fled into the bush in 1975, are now returning to areas of government control. There is a flood of people coming out of the bush", Mr Fauvet said. "They were emaciated, diseased and in rags. They are putting a severe strain on the social services of these areas, and the central government is calling in the Red Cross to assist. It is clear UNITA can no longer provide basic supplies for them."

'According to Mr Foy, UNITA is now based in South African-run camps in Namibia. The South Africans shell and bomb villages in southern Angola and then fly in UNITA personnel by helicopter. UNITA then holds the villages until Angolan forces arrive to drive them back into Namibia. Last month's invasion of southern Angola by South Africa was an attempt to capture the town of N'giva and install Mr Savimbi in it, but fierce fighting at Mongua stopped the South African advance, and the road north from N'giva was kept open, Mr Foy said.

"The aim of the South Africans also seems to be to punish Angola for its support of SWAPO", Mr Fauvet said. "They tried to inflict economic damage on southern Angola. At no stage in the fighting were Cuban troops involved. The Angolan Government quite deliberately decided that in view of the Afghanistan situation they did not want to internationalize the conflict. Mr Fauvet said that despite UNITA guerrilla attacks on the Benguela railway, "although it is not running normally, there is a certain degree of regularity and the Government hopes that by 1982 the railway will be carrying 100,000 tons a month, as it was in Portuguese times."

Another matter Americans should consider. THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH of London notes that at least 500 foreign mercenaries are serving in the South African Defence Force in occupied Namibia. 'Volunteers' come from Britain, Zimbabwe, Israel, Chile. What about Americans? Now that Zimbabwe is independent, the dogs of war have moved to South Africa and Namibia.

ESCALATION OF POLITICAL REPRESSION IN NAMIBIA

These are extracts of a paper prepared for the meeting of the International Committee against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa held in Stockholm, 11-13 April 1980, by the RESEARCH AND INFORMATION DEPARTMENT of the INTERNATIONAL DEFENCE AND AID FUND FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA, London.

LAWS OF REPRESSION

A number of repressive laws are at the disposal of the South African appointed Administrator General in Namibia to curtail freedom of movement, ban meetings, arrest and detain people. The most frequently used are the 'Security Districts Proclamation' (AG 9 of November 1977 and the 'Provision for the Detention of Persons to Prevent Political Violence and Intimidation Proclamation' (AG 26 of April 1978).

AG 9, which empowers the Administrator General to declare any area a security district, was applied throughout northern Namibia in 1977 and has been amended several times to strengthen and extend its provisions and enlarge the areas to which it applies. AG 9, as amended, gives the military powers to search, arrest, question and detain people without a warrant for up to 30 days and hold them incommunicado, and to control the residence and movement of people in the affected areas. For instance, an amendment prohibits anyone to drive or travel in a vehicle or to pick up passengers at night without permission from a Peace Officer or an officer of the security forces. Meetings require 24 hours notice and can be banned under the Riotous Assemblies Act. A new amendment was published on 6 February 1980, stipulating further restrictions on movement in Ovamboland. It empowers the Officer Commanding the South African Defence Force or his representatives to prohibit travel on any road in Ovamboland at times they may specify, or without such escort as the security forces may provide. It also prohibits any person to sell any merchandise from dusk to dawn without the consent of these authorities, who may grant consent after consultation with the cabinet of Ovambo (bantustan government). ((Government Notice AG 8, 6 February 1980))

New security measures have also been introduced in Kaokoland, which borders on Ovamboland, after an admission by the South African Defence Force that SWAPO guerrillas are active there. Kaokoland had been considered free of guerrilla activity and is not part of the 'operational area' on which the South African Defence Force is concentrated. Among the measures considered are the limitation of entry points into Kaokoland and methods to identify aliens in the region. Provisions of Proclamation AG 9 were extended to Kaokoland in December 1979, giving the military powers of search and arrest, control of peoples' movement and to ban meetings.

Proclamation AG 26 empowers the Administrator General to order the detention without trial for an unlimited period of any person believed to 'promote violence and intimidation'. No visits from relatives or lawyers are permitted, and detainees may be held at any place designated by the Administrator General and moved to another place at any time. Section 6 of the proclamation provides that a detainee is to be visited every two weeks under a magistrate, and every three days by a district surgeon. Detentions under AG 26 cannot be challenged in a court of law, and no specific reasons need to be given by the Administrator General, though provision is made for a review committee to consider the grounds for detention. The names of its members are not published, and it has no effective power. This was confirmed recently when the wife of a detainee held under AG 26 brought a court action for the release of her husband. An amendment gazetted on 18 May 1979 provides for the interrogation of those held under AG 26 by a justice of the peace. Under the original provisions a detainee could only be questioned if the authorities were satisfied that a statutory offence had been committed. There were fears for the safety of AG 26 detainees following the publication of this amendment, but it appears that interrogation takes place primarily under the provisions of AG 9.

There are indications that AG 9 and AG 26 are used selectively by the security forces to exert maximum pressure on detainees. People are apparently initially detained under Proclamation AG 9 which provides for 30 days detention for interrogation, and are held at police stations where they suffer severe torture. They are then re-detained under AG 26 and while not physically tortured are subjected to psychological pressure to force them to denounce SWAPO and 'reform themselves'. British MP, Mr Edward Lyons, QC, who visited Namibia in November 1979, stated that while AG 26 detainees did not appear to have been physically tortured, he was convinced that other detainees had received electric shock treatment.

KASSINGA MASSACRE

There is grave concern about the fate of approximately 140 people still held in detention after the South African troops attacked a Namibian refugee camp at Kassinga, 100 km inside Angola. A thousand people are estimated to have died that day, in the most savage massacre of the present war. But those who escaped with their lives were not necessarily fortunate. The South African troops kidnapped about 200 people - mainly women and men in their teens - and brought them back to Oshakati military camp. Three weeks later, on May 29, 1978, 63 of them were released, in a public ceremony which, for the benefit of South Africa's bantustan headmen, praised the 'Christian spirit' of the soldiers who rescued these young people from SWAPO.

Fr Heinz Hunke, a Roman Catholic priest shortly to be thrown out of the country, was in Oshakati at the time: 'To 5 people we could speak freely. All except one had not only been interrogated in connection with their decision to go to Angola, how they reached the border, who helped them, etc, but as long as their answers were not satisfactory to the interrogators of the South African security forces, they were also horribly tortured by both black and white South African policemen. All of them were adamant about the general pattern of torture applied to most of the captives: beatings with fists and/or hard rubber sticks, kicking with boots into kidneys, genitals, and/or other parts of the body, very wide use of electric shocks, hanging on to posts or poles in the camp for up to 4 hours a day...All of them were firmly convinced that the people still in the hands of the security forces are being tortured up to this day.'

That was mid-1978. In mid-1979, two farm labourers were detained briefly at the Hardap Dam camp near Mariental where the Kassinga prisoners had been moved. They reported grotesque mutilations of the remaining detainees: ears, lips, genitals and fingers cut off, eyes gouged out. Some people are alleged to have been completely deformed.

South Africa denies charges of atrocities against the Kassinga detainees. But no lawyers, and not one family member, has been allowed anywhere near them. The evidence tortured out of them has been used to convict several people on charges of aiding 'potential terrorists' to leave the country. Their removal south to Mariental increases their isolation and reduces their chances of liberation by SWAPO. Their situation is tragic: it demands international action.

MORE EVIDENCE OF TORTURE

...In February 1980, Lucia Hamutenya, SWAPO Secretary for Legal Affairs, gave a detailed account of cases she had investigated in Namibia. She confirmed that: In the operational military zones torture has reached astronomical proportions. Thousands of people were rounded up in massive crack-downs carried out by South African soldiers between the months of June-July 1979. Suspected SWAPO supporters were picked up at their homes or arrested at roadblocks put up across the operational areas. Most of these victims of arbitrary arrests were detained under Proclamation AG 9. She said that: 'Trenches are used for detention purposes because of regular prisons having been filled to capacity. Detainees held in these trenches have had their legs and hands tied behind their backs for 24 hours. Here, the victims were first soaked in cold water and then subjected to electric torture. They were then given terrible beatings and those who resisted were beaten to death. Ms Hamutenya told of victims being dropped from flying helicopters or into snake houses. She took statements from a number of victims or relatives about specific incidents of torture:

'I was blindfolded and led into a trench the size of a grave. Later my blindfold was removed by a policeman who asked me whether I was still alive. The night was dark, I could hardly see. After threatening me with death, a policeman told me that I would soon see what was going to happen to me if I did not speak. In a short while, two dark objects were laid in front of me. With a torch the police flashed the light on two bodies of dead men. Both corpses had several bullet wounds, apparently inflicted by a machine gun.'

'One day Kaino and sister, Maria, went to collect caterpillars (a delicacy to some Namibians) The Boer soldier approached and forced Maria to eat the caterpillars alive. When she refused, the fascist soldier took an empty beer bottle and forced it several times into her vagina and anus, leaving it there. At Oshakati hospital she was operated on. She died two days later.'

CHAPLAINCY TO NAMIBIANS IN EXILE

The Christian churches maintain a vigorous pastoral ministry among the thousands of Namibians forced to flee their country. The South African Defence Force, the South African Police, tribal guards in the hire of bantustan leaders, the entire apparatus of occupation make life hideous day and night for men, women and children, especially those living on and working ancestral lands in northern Namibia. Most of these refugees are gathered in camps in Angola and Zambia where they still are subject to recurrent merciless attack from the Pretorian forces.

The chaplaincy to Namibians in exile is headquartered in Lusaka, Zambia. The senior chaplain, Father Erastus Shiwa Haikali, received his theological training at the College of the Ascension, Selly Oaks, in Britain. He was ordained priest by the Right Rev. Colin O'Brien Winter, Bishop of Namibia-in-exile, in July 1979 in Truro, Cornwall. Father Haikali reports:

We are closing this year 1979 with both joy and sadness and opened again the door of 1980 with great expectation, waiting for what God will do. We hope he will bring freedom to his sons and daughters of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. But in the Bible there are words which say God helps those who help themselves, freedom has never been handed over to any country on a plate. It has to be worked for, suffered for, yes!, even died for. No matter what sickness or suffering is laid on our path, we will continue to serve the suffering people of Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa until our God-given victory is won. Until racism, exploitation and the hundreds of cruel racist laws are removed from our land; until all people are free to move about their land as God intended them to be, as free men; until education is the right of all and not the privilege of the wealthy few; until opportunities to develop skills, gifts and talents can be extended to all our children irrespective of the colour of their skins; until UN controlled elections can allow the people to clearly demonstrate to the world who their democratic leaders will be, and then be allowed the freedom to get on with the long overdue task of building up a Just society with human rights and dignity for all Namibians.

Our country has produced many martyrs and heroes, great men and women of vision and courage. One thing binds Namibians together in an unbreakable bond, which is SWAPO of Namibia. SWAPO is uniting us together as One Namibia, One Nation, One Mother, One Country. St Paul says in I Cor 1 - he says be awake to all the dangers, be brave and be strong.

A message to all churches in the world: These lines come to all you fellow Christians who deeply love Namibia or Africa as a whole. They come as crying from both heart and mind. Only a few months time ago I was studying in Britain. It helped me to understand a little better the situation. I have learnt some certain issues. After realising that many countries are enjoying capitalism while we are suffering in the world. Our people are continually forced to leave their own country. The reasons for this terrible necessity are to be found in harsh realities, such as the destruction of ordinary Namibians' homes, made by South African forces to the extent of starvation and disease. Many Namibians are homeless and forced to become slaves of the South African-controlled industries. Their families' lives and culture are destroyed. I wish the churches to take a firm stand, and to dedicate themselves to help the suffering people of Namibia.

The Bible tells us that where one is suffering, all are suffering. My belief is that the churches are one body in our Lord Jesus Christ, and this leads me to appeal to you all to unite and fight together to conquer the burden we all share, the disease of oppression of God's children. It is indeed our duty to commit ourselves to liberate people from their suffering. As we are the body of humanity, as we are the body of the churches, we must know that each part is as important as the other. If God is with us, who is against us.

CHAPLAINCY TO NAMIBIANS IN EXILE

The emergency need to the Chaplain in Angola. In Angola, there has been a great population of women and children from 1978 to 1979. Areas have been raided by South African air raids which caused immense damages on clinics, churches, buildings; medicine and food storage facilities were destroyed. There is urgent need for new supplies as quickly as possible. Clothing, blankets, supplementary food, cooking oil, medicines, transport facilities, shelter and domestic items, tractors, plough tools, bed materials. Because many refugees have increased drastically from Namibia, all the places are full of women, children, old people and youth.

SWAPO education and health centres are settlements. These are places where all young children, women, men and small babies are permanently settled. Where people are in great numbers and also a place of transition for many. That is why the work has been concentrated in these places outside Lusaka and Luanda. There were 1700 Namibian school children who are in Angola only. The programmes of agriculture are developing in model ways. We are also having a great need of building, we have need of enough tents and so on in those settlements where the people have very high spirit and the work is proceeding well.

The chaplain visits all the centres for sharing in the building work, both practically and spiritually. There are Sunday services and Sunday School and instruction for baptism and confirmation. These services are conducted in many places in Angola, Lusaka and many places in communities in western Zambia. The senior chaplain went to Angola for church work as he represents the Lutheran, Roman Catholic, Anglican and other churches. Pastors like Nathaniel Nghatanga has been working among the people in Angola and has worked very hard for two years. Also one pastor Michael Hamukoto who was given power by the Lutheran leader; he is now working among Namibians all over Angola. Angola has many Namibian people, 3,000 mothers; 2,000 old and young people; 10,000 small children.

The chaplain is working with the Christian Refugee Service of the Lutheran World Federation and the Christian Council of Zambia in full cooperation. These two organisations have been helping the chaplain to act efficiently with humanitarian aid to cope with the immense needs of a continuously increasing Namibian population in Zambia and Angola. Angola and Zambia are bordering Namibia, the country occupied by the racist. These two organisations are helping with blankets, material as well as food. Contact is kept daily with these two organisations. The Zambian Government and the Angolan Government have given us forest lands in their countries. In all places we provided different staff for education and health settlements and others like workshops, storage buildings, primary schools, health centres, medical clinics.

I appeal to the church leaders in the world and all organisations, governments and friends to assist the chaplaincy. Namibians outside their country have doubled in number from that of the last twelve months.

AFRICAN MAGNIFICAT SUNG AT FR. HAIKALI'S ORDINATION

Sing out my tongue, God's greatness sing,
None great as He, his deeds confess,
Hope of the poor, the martyr's king,
His name is Truth and Righteousness.

God loves the poor and helpless ones,
The grasping rich he sends away,
Workers for peace he calls his sons
And daughters, to this very day.

The mourners' mouths with laughter swell,
Their burdens with the poor he'll share,
God, rescue prisoners from the hell
Of torture chambers and despair.

The exiles wait for him in trust,
He'll bring them home, their country freed
From tyrants' weapons now all dust
And ashes, useless as their greed.

Come, freedom's children, sing his praise.
God of the poor, the captive's friend,
He'll never fail us in our days:
We'll praise Him still till ages end.

* * * * *

PLUNDER of NAMIBIAN URANIUM

UNITED NATIONS HEARINGS UN Headquarters, New York City 7 - 11 JULY 1980

To mobilize the International Community to support implementation of United Nations resolutions on the International Territory of Namibia and of United Nations Decree No. 1.

To denounce the illegal exploitation and plunder of Namibia's resources - particularly Uranium - and to expose the foreign interests involved in such illegal exploitation under South Africa's occupation of Namibia.

OBJECTIVES OF THE HEARINGS

- To develop information about the exploitation of Namibian uranium; technical and scientific data on mining, processing and exportation thereof.
- To identify firms and countries involved in the illegal exploitation of Namibian uranium.
- To assess financial and economic deprivations suffered by Namibians as a result of the illegal exploitation of their uranium.
- To identify the legal and financial arrangements under which Namibian uranium is exploited and exported.
- To identify the foreign processing firms to which Namibian uranium is sent and the routes by which it is sent, and to pinpoint ultimate purchasers and users.
- To expose the South African role in such plunder to the detriment of the people and the environment of Namibia.
- To discover the effect of illegal mining, processing and exportation of Namibian uranium on Namibia's ecosystem and on the future economic and physical development of Namibia.
- To expose the relation between South Africa's illegal exploitation of Namibian uranium and Pretoria's nuclear weapons capability.
- To make a case study of Rossing/Rio Tinto-Zinc, the principal exploiter of uranium in the International Territory of Namibia.

PERSONS ASKED TO TESTIFY

- Experts from the United Nations family of agencies, including the Center on Transnational Corporations; UN Environment Programme; International Labour Organisation; World Health Organisation; International Atomic Energy Agency.
- Representatives of the Organisation of African Unity and SWAPO of Namibia.
- Officials of companies and organisations connected with Namibian uranium and atomic or nuclear matters, including Rio Tinto-Zinc; Falconbridge Nickel Mines; Westinghouse Electric Company; the Uranium Institute; International Institute for Strategic Studies; ITV-Granada Television of Britain (producer of 'Follow The Yellow Cake Road'); religious denominations; non-governmental organisations; Committee Against the Namibian Uranium Contracts(CANUC); Greenpeace.
- Individuals with special knowledge or expertise, including Sean MacBride, former United Nations Commissioner for Namibia; Barbara Rogers, co-author of THE NUCLEAR AXIS; David de Beer; Ruurd Huisman; Alun Roberts; Ann Seidman; Dr Wolf Geisler; Roger Murray, Joan Lester (British Labour MP); Abdul Minty; a representative of the Navajo native Americans; Namibians connected with uranium mining; etc. (the list is still open).

The Hearings will be conducted like administrative hearings. Participants may bring legal counsel. Participants may be cross-examined. Legal and scientific experts will advise panel.

THESE HEARINGS WILL BE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC WHICH IS INVITED

EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN
for
SOUTH AFRICA



UNITED NATIONS

NAMIBIA GAZETTE No.1

DECREE No. 1

FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF NAMIBIA

Conscious of its responsibility to protect the natural resources of the people of Namibia and of ensuring that these natural resources are not exploited to the detriment of Namibia, its people or environmental assets, the United Nations Council for Namibia enacts the following decree:

1. No person or entity, whether a body corporate or unincorporated, may search for, prospect for, explore for, take, extract, mine, process, refine, use, sell, export, or distribute any natural resource, whether animal or mineral, situated or found to be situated within the territorial limits of Namibia without the consent and permission of the United Nations Council for Namibia or any person authorized to act on its behalf for the purpose of giving such permission or such consent;

2. Any permission, concession or licence for all or any of the purposes specified in paragraph 1 above whensoever granted by any person or entity, including any body purporting to act under the authority of the Government of the Republic of South Africa or the "Administration of South West Africa" or their predecessors, is null, void and of no force or effect;

3. No animal resource, mineral, or other natural resource produced in or emanating from the Territory of Namibia may be taken from the said Territory by any means whatsoever to any place whatsoever outside the territorial limits of Namibia by any person or body, whether corporate or unincorporated, without the consent and permission of the United Nations Council for Namibia or of any person authorized to act on behalf of the said Council;

4. Any animal, mineral or other natural resource produced in or emanating from the Territory of Namibia which shall be taken from the said Territory without the consent and written authority of the United Nations Council for Namibia or of any person authorized to act on behalf of the said Council may be seized and shall be forfeited to the benefit of the said Council and held in trust by them for the benefit of the people of Namibia;

5. Any vehicle, ship or container found to be carrying animal, mineral or other natural resources produced in or emanating from the Territory of Namibia shall also be subject to seizure and forfeiture by or on behalf of the United Nations Council for Namibia or of any person authorized to act on behalf of the said Council and shall be forfeited to the benefit of the said Council and held in trust by them for the benefit of the people of Namibia;

6. Any person, entity or corporation which contravenes the present decree in respect of Namibia may be held liable in damages by the future Government of an independent Namibia;

7. For the purposes of the preceding paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and in order to give effect to this decree, the United Nations Council for Namibia hereby authorizes the United Nations Commissioner for Namibia, in accordance with resolution 2248 (S-V), to take the necessary steps after consultations with the President.

The foregoing is the text of the Decree adopted by the United Nations Council for Namibia at its 209th meeting on 27 September 1974 and approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations at its 29th Session on 13 December 1974.

PLUNDER OF NAMIBIA'S NATURAL RESOURCES

The International Territory of Namibia has been unfair game for foreign banditry for well on a century. As the South West Africa colony of the German empire, Namibia's land was seized and the process of exploiting its wealth began. The Namibian people resisted and were overridden by force of arms. After World War I, when the League of Nations vested the Territory in the British Crown to be administered by the Union of South Africa as a 'sacred trust of civilization', matters didn't change for the better. One colonial master succeeded another. South African and other foreign corporations plunged into the rich Territory for its diamonds and base metals, its agricultural products and offshore fishing. Later came a search for oil - there, but still illusive. But undeniably there and in great quantities is the cynosure of an energy and security mad world - uranium.

Rossing mine, 70 km inland from the Atlantic coast town of Swakopmund, is the largest open pit uranium mine in the world, where a million tons of low-grade ore are removed each week on a round-the-clock basis. The boast is that Rossing will soon become Namibia's largest foreign exchange earner, topping even the Consolidated Diamond Mines gem stone operation at Oranjemund. Rossing is controlled by a United Kingdom corporation, Rio Tinto-Zinc. The Industrial Development Corporation, 100% owned by the South African state, partakes with 13%. Pretoria has further command over the enterprise because things uranium in South Africa and occupied Namibia are governed under South Africa's Atomic Energy Enrichment Act and security laws. Pretoria could, by a stroke of the pen, divert all Rossing's production for its own uses.

Britain in the late 60s was looking for sources of supply for its growing atomic energy program. The Ministry of Technology and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority got together with a multinational corporation well-connected to the British government, Rio Tinto-Zinc, and contracted for 6,000 tons of uranium oxide, which the cabinet of the day was given to understand would come from RTZ's Canadian subsidiary, Rio Algom. Tucked away in a report to the cabinet was a caution that in case Canada could not provide, the order would be transferred to an RTZ firm in South Africa. There was no mention of Namibia. British relations, trade and otherwise, with South Africa were becoming more touchy, and the foreign secretary insisted the cabinet be notified of any change in the deal. In the words of the new book, *THE ROSSING FILE*: 'What the Cabinet were not told was that in March 1968 a group of MinTech officials, with representatives from the UKAEA and RTZ had already agreed that the uranium for the contract in question should come from Rossing.'

The truth got out, of course, due to the diligence of those who take seriously the freedom of Namibia and uphold the rights of the United Nations as the lawful authority over that International Territory. Former and current British officials fell to squabbling amongst themselves and with RTZ executives over who knew what and when, confident, however, that Her Majesty's Government would take no action. (They benefitted, too, from the experience of British petroleum firms which for a decade violated sanctions to supply the Rhodesian rebel regime and suffered no harm.) Last year, the private secretary to Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said: 'The general policy of the British government on trade with South Africa and Namibia....is one of non-interference with normal commercial links....In the case of the contracts to which you refer...the government does not consider that there is any international obligation for it to interfere.' Lord Carrington was an honorary director of RTZ, but of course he resigned upon assuming office.

The issue is still alive. And so is Britain's obsessive commitment to supplies from Rossing, even though it could cancel the contract and there is a glut of uranium in the world today. The UN hearings on the plunder of Namibian uranium and other resources put together a vast amount of evidence about the human, environmental and economic devastation wrought on the International Territory by corporations native to member states of the world organization.. There will be a reckoning.

*THE ROSSING FILE: The Inside Story of Britain's Secret Contract for Namibian Uranium, written by Alun Roberts, sponsored by CANUC (the Campaign Against Namibian Uranium Contracts) and published by the Namibia Support Committee of London, is available from: United Nations Commissioner for Namibia
United Nations DC 328 New York, NY 10017*

