AN EVENING OF
SOLIDARITY
WITH THE
PEOPLE OF
SOUTHERN AFRICA

GIVE SUPPORT TO SWAPO'S
MEDICAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

$3 donation requested upon admission
($1.50 for the unemployed)

HEAR ABOUT NAMIBIA'S FIGHT AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN COLONIALISM

SPEAKERS
MS. PASHUKENI SHOOMBE: official of the Women's Council of the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO), here as part of a national tour to raise funds for a kindergarten/clinic for Namibian refugees.

MR. MIKE MORGAN: deserter from the South African army, participating in the national tour as a representative of the South African Military Resisters Aid Fund.


“GENERATIONS OF RESISTANCE” Chronicling the rise of black nationalism in South Africa, this film provides an historical framework for understanding contemporary South African developments.

(produced by Peter Davis & U.N. - 52 min.)

Saturday, Oct. 4
7:30 p.m.

sponsored by the Philadelphia SWAPO/SAMRAF Tour Coalition
"WE ARE NAMIBIANS AND NOT SOUTH AFRICANS. WE DO NOT NOW, AND WILL NOT IN THE FUTURE RECOGNIZE YOUR RIGHT TO GOVERN US; TO MAKE LAWS FOR US IN WHICH WE HAD NO SAY; TO TREAT OUR COUNTRY AS IF IT WERE YOUR PROPERTY AND US AS IF YOU WERE OUR MASTERS. WE HAVE ALWAYS REGARDED SOUTH AFRICA AS AN INTRUDER IN OUR COUNTRY."

-words of Herman Toivo ja Toivo, founder of SWAPO, during his trial in 1968 at which he was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment on Robben Island.


For more info: VI3-1631 days / 726-5113 evenings
NAMIBIA: YEARS OF OCCUPATION, DECADES OF RESISTANCE

For over half a century, the Africans of Namibia -- outnumbering whites there by 7 to 1 -- have been under the domination of South Africa and its policies of white supremacy and apartheid.

Namibia, formerly known as South West Africa, was first colonized by the Germans after 1884 and occupied by South Africa after World War I; in 1920, under a League of Nations mandate, South Africa was to "temporarily administer" the territory and eventually grant it independence. However, South Africa, in effect, annexed Namibia under its colonial rule, exporting its racist system of apartheid to the territory. This state of affairs means:

- The richest 60% of Namibia's land is owned and controlled by whites.
- Blacks have been forcibly removed by the government to "ethnic homelands," away from fertile land to dry, barren wastelands.
- Due to poverty and lack of services and hospitals, 50% of Namibia's black children die before the age of 5.
- In order to feed their families, men are compelled to leave their homes for 12-18 month periods to work through the contract labor system, at grueling manual labor, for bare subsistence wages. 90% of black Namibian workers earn wages below the Poverty Datum Line set by the South African government for a family of four!
- Black people must pay for their children's education, while white children receive free educations.
- Multinational corporations are exploiting and exhausting Namibia's abundant natural resources: pilchard sardines, base metals, diamonds and uranium.
THE SOUTH WEST AFRICA PEOPLES ORGANIZATION (SWAPO)

More than a quarter of Namibia's population was killed resisting the German colonial regime and this tradition of struggle has continued against South African occupation. SWAPO was formed in 1960 and has led Namibia's independence struggle since then. When the U.N. ended South Africa's mandate in Namibia in 1966 and South Africa refused to withdraw, SWAPO began an armed struggle to supplement its nonviolent efforts and appeals at the U.N. In 1971, SWAPO led a successful strike of 10,000 contract laborers which stunned the country's economy for a month. Today, much of SWAPO's energies are devoted to sheltering, clothing, feeding and educating thousands of refugees who have fled to Angola and Zambia.

In 1972, SWAPO was recognized by the U.N. General Assembly as the "sole legitimate representative" of Namibia's people and it has the support of the Organization of African Unity, the World Council of Churches and liberation movements throughout the world. It is dedicated to building a new society, free from exploitation, racism and other forms of oppression.

South Africa has repeatedly refused to negotiate seriously with SWAPO and is establishing a puppet government in Namibia which would give whites veto power over any legislation. 70,000 South African troops presently occupy Namibia and have repeatedly invaded Angola to destroy SWAPO bases and refugee camps. Over 1,000 Namibian refugees (including hundreds of children) and Angolan civilians were killed in two major raids of 1978 and 1980.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY REFUGEE AID FUND (SAMRAF)

Contradictions have developed within white South Africa itself. Disturbed by what they are asked to do in the interests of the apartheid system, some young men are refusing induction or deserting the armed forces. SAMRAF is encouraging this development and seeking political asylum for white South African war resisters in this country. Taking its leadership from the liberation movements, it has provided an anti-imperialist, anti-racist perspective on draft/war resistance.

THE TOUR

This tour has been initiated by SWAPO and SAMRAF to build political and material support for SWAPO's health and educational projects, especially for a joint kindergarten and clinic for Namibian refugee children in Angola.

CONNECTIONS: SOUTH AFRICA/THE U.S.

The U.S. government shares responsibility for South Africa's actions. Protecting their corporate interests in the raw materials, the U.S. refused to condemn South Africa's invasions of Angola in the Security Council.

Even in our own city, the First Pennsylvania Bank is involved: it has a significant interest in the Space Research Corporation which sold arms to South Africa against international law. These very weapons have been used in the war on SWAPO.

SPEAKERS ALSO APPEARING:

Friday, Oct. 3, 7:30 p.m.
AFCOM Learning Center
25th & Lehigh 225-2911

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2:00 p.m.
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, Pan-African Studies Community Ed Program
after film "Emitai" 787-1998