IS COLONIALISM DEAD? In Namibia approximately one-third of all wealth generated in the country each year is removed from the country by foreign nationals.

IS RACISM DYING? In Namibia, a nation of almost a million people, the rights to vote, to hold public office, to serve in the military and to serve on juries are all denied to black and racially mixed persons -- 86% of the population. This vast majority is "represented" entirely by delegates to the South African legislature elected by the white minority of Namibia.

IS FACISM EXTINCT? Namibians are being subjected to ever mounting repression. Secret police surveillance, political imprisonment and torture, censorship, exile and house arrest, terrorism directed against persons, political parties and churches, and the forced resettlement of people to overcrowded "homelands" are all part of the South African means of control.

Dear Friend,

Today Namibia is faced with a new threat -- dismemberment under the guise of liberation. The Republic of South Africa has set about to confuse world opinion with a plan to divide Namibia into small puppet "tribal" states, leaving the mineral wealth of the country in white hands and making the states themselves poor dependents and reserves of cheap labor for South Africa.

This year, after years of futile negotiation, SWAPO, the South West Africa People's Organization, which has the support of the overwhelming majority of Namibians and which the United Nations has recognized as the legitimate voice of Namibia, resigned itself to the necessity for armed struggle, pitting its will for freedom against the armed might and terror of the Republic of South Africa.

IS THERE ANOTHER WAY? Is the choice only between submitting to the systematic violence of a racist, repressive regime, and resisting that regime by protracted and tragic struggle? For those who hope for and believe in the possibilities of meaningful social change and justice without violence, this is a crucial question and these are crucial times.

We of OPERATION NAMIBIA believe that the answer is YES. There is another way. Rather than believing nonviolence has failed, we believe it has hardly been tried. We believe the eyes of the world have been closed to Namibia, that the cries of suffering have fallen on deaf ears, and that the demands for justice have not stirred the world's conscience.

(OVER)
What do we propose to do? We propose to confront South Africa with what it most abhors, what it most tries to deny or distort -- the truth. We plan to deliver to Namibians books which, through censorships, control of imports, and legal terrorism South Africa has denied to Namibians: literature by and about Africans and Afro-Americans, uncensored texts of South African history, and books by Nobel Peace Laureates Chief Luthuli and Dr. Martin Luther King. We are aware that South Africa may intervene and intercept the books, but only by revealing again to the world the ruthlessness of its control. Furthermore, of all the aid we might have chosen to offer, truth is the one import which South Africa cannot appropriate or pervert for its own purposes.

The "books for a free Namibia" project is an ambitious undertaking by many dedicated people in several countries. But time is short and the need for action is urgent. (Already South Africa has begun a policy of attacking Namibian camps beyond the borders of South Africa and Namibia in what it terms "ruthless action" against guerrillas.)

We depend upon your dollars to "carry it on": to secure a boat for transporting the books, to initiate widespread publicity for Namibia and our campaign, to buy the books, and to prepare for possible legal battles.

Your support is crucial. If you can contribute $1, if you can contribute $5, if you can contribute $10, if you can contribute $100, if you can contribute $1,000, PLEASE send your contribution to:

OPERATION NAMIBIA
4811 Springfield Avenue
Philadelphia, Pa. 19143

WE NEED YOUR FAITH IN A BETTER FUTURE AND YOUR DETERMINATION TO BRING IT INTO BEING.

Yours in peace,

Kenneth K. Martin
for Operation Namibia

P.S. THIS MESSAGE WILL NOT SELF DESTRUCT -- PLEASE PASS IT ON TO A FRIEND.