

On 'exam scam'

ALLOW me to air my views on the 'exam scam'. I am one of the private candidates who wrote the part-time examination. I think it is for us (private candidates) to view with concern the exam scam, which may nullify our examinations or result in a re-write.

In my opinion, I think it is unfair for the exam to be cancelled and made null and void and then re-written. I believe that students who did it because they wanted to do better.

Anyway this kind of exam scam happens at all levels, even at universities, colleges, schools etc. For those who were unlucky enough to be caught, their marks should be nullified, but for those lucky enough not to be caught, then they must be left alone. If this is not the case, then all private candidates should re-write the exam free of charge, because they cannot pay again (especially those who were not guilty of getting hold of papers) although it will still cost the Government a lot of money.

In conclusion, what the Ministry should do is to trace those responsible for selling the papers and to take serious steps against them.

TAU CABIANO
SWAKOPMUND

To policepersons

An open letter to 'Policepersons'

THE letter published on December 9 in The Namibian under the pseudonym 'Policepersons Windhoek' was definitely not written by a member of the Namibian Police. The reason why this is obvious are abundant, but I will confine myself to only a few.

1. A member of the Namibian Police, to whom the safety and security of our people and our country are entrusted, has the guts to state his name and will not hide behind a pseudonym.

2. Most members of the Namibian Police have realised that the Police and their actions are always under scru-

tiny and criticism. However, accepting that ours is an important but difficult task, we have to know whether we have wronged and if, where. The Government and the people have to tell us. They also have to inform us what they expect from us. We - all members of the Police know this - are servants of the people and are loyal to their Government and thus have to conform to their responsible and mature expectations.

3. No member of the Namibian Police is in favour of killing or hurting people. We know, however, that we have to resort to violence under certain circumstances. Such circumstances include the protection of life and property. The police is equipped with weapons to use when the circumstances warrant it. It is the Government which equips the police to enable it to function effectively. Every member of the police, however, knows that there might be an occasion where he or she has to take a life or to hurt some other person.

4. Every professional policeperson accepts the Rule of Law and will defend the independence of our Judiciary. No policeperson doubts the integrity of our courts of law. A policeperson knows that our constitution guarantees every person the right of access to a court. Thus it is clear that no policeperson will accept that any person, individually or in a crowd, has the right to take the law into his own hands.

5. Up to now, not one member of the Namibian Police has condemned me for having written the Letter of Protest of 22 November on behalf of certain members of the Police who are loyal to the Government of the Republic of Namibia. It is out of this loyalty to the State, its people and their Government, that Police-men faced a violent crowd, in spite of threats and attempts to murder them. Everywhere in Namibia, policemen and women would stand up to defend the Rule of Law, the property of the State and the lives of their colleagues. Only a loyal and

diligent policeperson will fully appreciate what is at stake - not somebody who pretends to be a member of the Namibian Police.

6. A policeperson would come forward with concrete evidence proving that I am a "political spokesman" (whatever that may mean), and not with unfounded innuendo and allegations. No policeman would have such little trust and confidence in his Minister and the Inspector General to assume that they would tolerate somebody in the Namibian Police who is disloyal and who is acting in violation of policy and instructions.

The person who pretends to be speaking on behalf of members of the Police, who hides behind a pseudonym and who questions the integrity and authority of the Minister of Home Affairs and the Inspector General of the Namibian Police has only one aim in mind and that is to discredit this Government and its Police which has to ensure peace, stability and security for all people living in Namibia.

S EIMBECK
WINDHOEK

Note: Commissioner Eimbeck says this letter is written in his personal capacity. - Ed.

Amnesty takes off

A WORD of thanks is forwarded to those people who are now getting the publications of Amnesty International and those who responded to our letter published in this newspaper recently.

We appeal to all those who have responded to be patient and the responses will be sent to them as soon as possible. We once again emphasise that the work of Amnesty is based on humanitarian grounds, and it gives relief to:

- prisoners of conscience;
- prisoners awaiting trial;
- people or prisoners subjected to politically motivated extrajudicial killing or the death penalty.

Amnesty is a non-political organisation.