

Falling Victim To Seven Blunders Of The World

I APPEAL to you to publish, every day from now on until real and lasting peace is restored in Namibia, Mahatma Ghandi's dictum of the seven blunders of the world that lead to violence: wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, knowledge without character, commerce without morality, science without humanity, worship without sacrifice, politics without principle (*The Namibian*, Friday January 21, "Quotable quotes").

And I appeal to all readers in Namibia to read these words every day, to reflect upon them and to try and put Ghandi's wisdom to good effect in our own society. By themselves, the words actually identify so many of Namibia's social and political evils, many of which can be traced directly to the culture of fear that is now prevalent in too many parts of our country.

The war that the Swapo leadership has invited into our country will be, unless it is halted in its tracks, the war that will also consume Namibia. Swapo, which of all parties probably had the best chance to act as an honest broker and find common ground between the real MPLA and the real Unita, has now also managed to bring the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) war right into our back yard.

And typically, those who shout encouragement the loudest have not even been to either the Kavango or the DRC, and appear to remember nothing of how Namibia suffered in the liberation war against South Africa.

These reactionaries should have some understanding of the suffering that war inflicts upon the common people who would only like to get on with their own lives, without guns going off all around them and sleeping in fear at night for when armed men will come to the front door.

Instead, I hear the same voices, over and over, calling for more war, more weapons - more death. Citing the false prophets of the warlords, they seemed to have bought into the lie that Unita is about to be destroyed, that their leaders are all dead and running away. But why has Angolan state TV not shown this evidence of thousands of dead Unita soldiers to us and the rest of the world?

Please understand that I am not a Unita apologist: they and the MPLA are cut from the same cloth, and feast at the same table of death and destruction, the misery of mil-

lions of Angolans, and people like you and me.

But to try and force all of us to take sides in their miserable war, just because it would make their friends in Luanda so happy, is to invite death itself to take up permanent residence in Namibia.

Please, stop the war talk, stop the propaganda, and tell the truth. Letting the Luanda warlords bring their war against Unita into our country, conspiring with them in advance of our elections to bring war to Namibia (while you were promising "peace and stability" to the voters) amounts to selling Namibia out to Angola. Do

you think because we were once sold out to South Africa, you now have the right to sell us again?>

Do not delude yourself, friends. Namibia is a small, poor country that functions like a village or a fish bowl: you can see right through everything, including your insane chattering for more war. You will end up sending thousands and thousands of our young people to their deaths, turning our country into something like Angola.

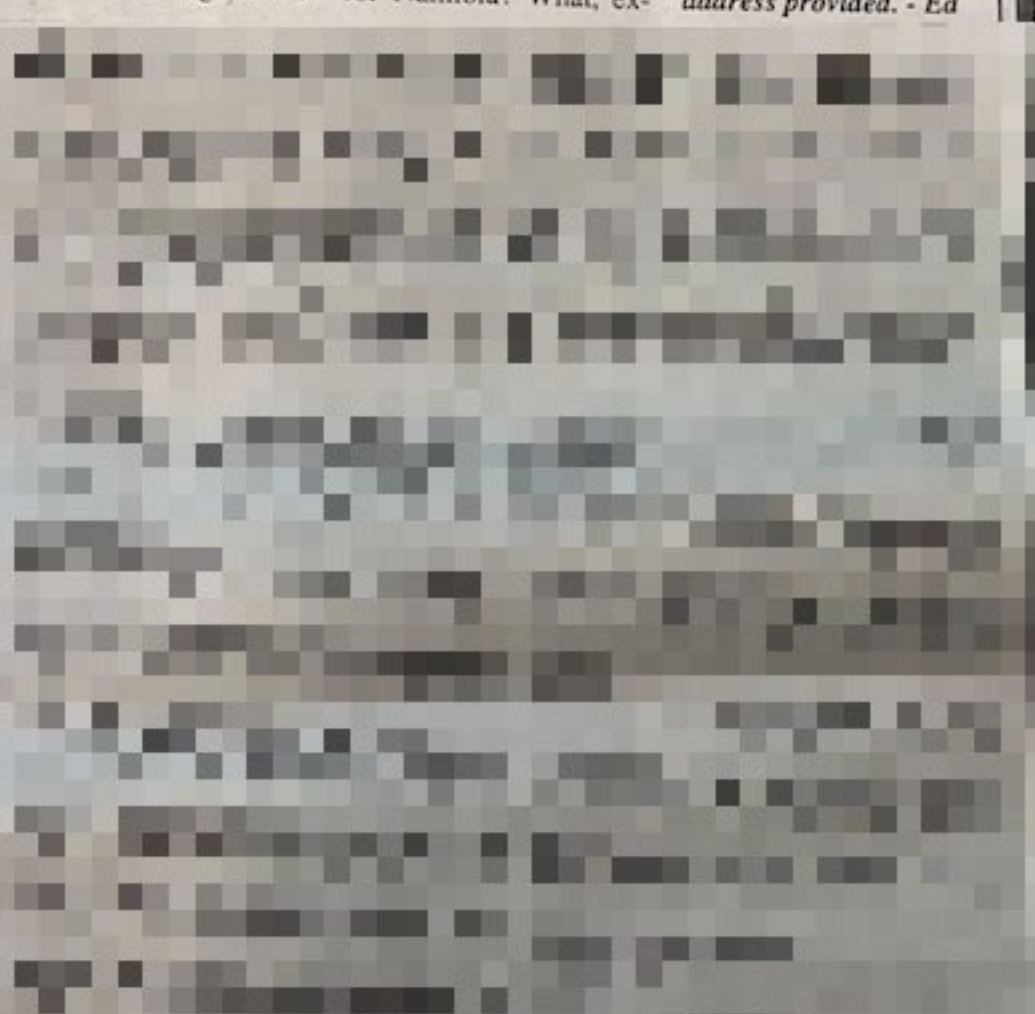
What has 25 years of war in Angola achieved? Nothing but total destruction. Is that what you want for Namibia? What, ex-

cept hundreds of dead soldiers, has been gained from our war in the DRC? And exactly how many Namibian bodies are there amongst those who arrive, on a daily basis, back from the war in Angola?

If you believe I am wrong and you are right, please volunteer for the frontlines so you can see for yourself what horror war brings. And please do not get killed - we need you to understand, come back and share in our suffering.

Worried Patriot
WINDHOEK

Note: This letter has been shortened Real name and address provided. - Ed



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

TENDER INTERNAL REGISTERED STOCK

Tenders are invited for N\$30,000,000 of 12% Internal Registered Stock to be issued on 24 February 2000 and redeemable on 15 April 2002 - GC002.

Tenders must be in multiples of N\$10,000 and with a minimum of N\$50,000 at a Namibian Dollar price per centum to the nearest five decimal places.

Details of the issue are contained in the Prospectus available from the Bank of Namibia, 71 Robert Mugabe Ave., Windhoek

Tenders on the prescribed form must be lodged at the Bank of Namibia, Windhoek by 10h00 on the 22 February 2000. Tenders can also be faxed to the Bank of Namibia on facsimile number (264-61) 2835214.

Any Queries should be directed to:
The Financial Market Manager: Bank of Namibia,
71 Robert Mugabe Ave, Windhoek
Tel.: 9061) 2835111 ext. 5220