

On Peace Corps

PEACE Corps volunteers are employees of the United States Government State Department. It is therefore interesting to note that the first group to come to Namibia is to work in Kavango and in Tsumkwe. One wonders if the United States Governments' interests on the other side of

the Okavango River, where they are providing US \$50 million to support Unita rebels fighting against the Government of the Peoples' Republic of Angola, may have influenced their decision to work in Kavango.

There are numerous examples of Peace Corps volunteers being used for intelligence-gathering and espionage, most notoriously in South East Asia during the era of the Vietnam War. On the other hand, individual, well-motivated Peace Corps Volunteers can do good in working closely with local communities.

All aid comes with strings attached. The important thing is that Namibians become aware of what those strings are.

**UGLY AMERICAN
WINDHOEK**