

# is to the or



that we are all liars or ignorant of the true facts when we say that the SADF and Koevoet are not here to protect us. I do not expect anyone to deny the fact that the so-called protectors are the ones who rob us of our property, plough through out homesteads with their Caspirs, burn houses and shops, and subject us to other atrocities.

Since I am a true Namibian and a resident of the far north, Kierie du Rand does not have the right to tell me about the state of affairs in Ovamboland or who is responsible for things here. We are the ones who suffer.

It is high time and every resident should be on his or her guard. It is time civilians follow the example of Mr Joseph Nambala to defend themselves and their families.

Every normal-thinking Ovambo-speaking person, with the exception of Kautwima, Dan and Nghixulifa, know that the presence of the SADF and Koevoet here will result in the continuation of the present state of affairs.

Namibia appears to have become one of the most chaotic countries in Africa: protectors turn into arch enemies, and sometimes one does not know which is which. Hundreds suffer, but Swapo is blamed.

The so-called protection of the SADF and Koevoet has now turned sour. Their actions have created enmity among Namibians who cannot trust them.

My people, unchain yourselves from bondage. Don't wait for someone else to do it; you are your own liberators.

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## Who's at fault?

WE OFTEN hear of price increases and the reasons offered therefore are the increase in transport tariffs, raw materials, labour costs, etc. Is this a complete list of reasons?

In the "Sake-Rapport" of 31 January 1988, Messrs Andreë Laubscher and Flip Meyer write about an additional factor - shoplifting. They say that shoplifters in South Africa cause a loss of between R700 million and R1000 million annually. This figure represents more than a twelfth of the total sales tax paid in one year. In the same article it is referred to one of South Africa's big chain stores, which, in 1986, lost approximately R20 million in consequence of thievery. According to this store, children are responsible for about 30 percent of the thefts. The aforesaid forces shopkeepers to make certain adjustments to their price structures in order to survive.

We as shopkeepers have to cope with a great problem regarding shoplifting by children. Do we have to punish these children ourselves, should we call in their parents or summons the police? Nowadays I have doubt whether it will be of any avail to contact the police.

On Friday May 20 1988, I had to appear in court to testify in a shoplifting case. After having waited until 10h00 for the case to begin, I overheard an interesting conversation. The magistrate had bought a new Cressida 2,4GL and had to leave urgently to settle matters concerning the sale thereof. He therefore adjourned the court until 11h00.

Eventually, when the court was in session at 11h00, everybody had to leave the court because the defendant was under age. I approached one of the court officials to enquire if I, being a witness in the case, also had to leave the court. After this official had conferred with the state prosecutor, I was asked to leave the court.

After about 5 minutes I saw the defendant leaving the court. The defendant's lawyer then told me that the courts' verdict was "not guilty and dismissed on the basis of there being no defence as a result of absence of witnesses". When I objected, the lawyer told me: "Sorry that's how the

state is".

I would like to ask: who is responsible for another factor in price increases in this case - the thief or the magistrate who spends his working time on private business and the prosecutor who goes about his task superficially?

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## Rössing to north

EMPLOYEES (especially black) at Rössing, are facing a somewhat unstable future with a lot of sinister happenings.

Secrecy on the part of management is the order of the day. Some of these 'highly confidential' memos and talks are fortunately seen and eavesdropped on by some of the employees.

To name but one of these sinister and mysterious actions, the line management are all scheduled to visit the 'operational area'; some have already been, for who knows what?

We, the fortunate to be in possession of this information, felt it necessary not to let these things go unchallenged. That should be all for now. You will hear more from us in due course.

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ALL READERS  
Please ensure  
that all letters  
to the Editor  
are signed and  
accompanied by  
the address of  
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