

Plight of Namibia

NAMIBIAN independence is delayed by the entire western world with their intentions of exploiting our country's natural resources and promoting the illegal occupation of Namibia by the South African Government.

In 1978 the United Nations passed a Resolution (UNSCR 435) which was to pave the way for our independence through UN-supervised elections.

Both Swapo and South Africa had agreed to the implementation of Resolution 435, but when Reagan came to power in Washington, he and South Africa brought in the linkage issue. This is now made a precondition to our independence.

The Cuban Internationalists have been in Angola almost three years prior to the introduction of Resolution 435. They were only found to be a threat after six years.

This is a feeble excuse and ploy by western capitalists regarding Namibia.

We in Namibia have tried on three occasions to bring an end to the shedding of blood and the suffering of our people, but all were in vain. In Geneva in 1981, Swapo was ready to sign a ceasefire and put Resolution 435 into operation, and this was repeated in Lusaka in 1984 and on Cape Verde later that year, but the South African Government turned a deaf ear.

Mr P W Botha told the world that Swapo was the one delaying independence and opting for violence, whereas Swapo had stated often that a ceasefire was the only way to end the war.

If Mr P W Botha could just tell us openly that he is afraid of a Swapo victory if Resolution 435 is implemented. Swapo would win the elections overwhelmingly, which is why the Reagan Administration is backing Pretoria on the Cuban issue.

The South African Government is again playing with us by saying that Swapo must talk to the interim government in Windhoek. Why should Swapo talk to their surrogates? The country is not occupied by Mudge-Shipanga-Katjiuongua, but by Pretoria.

They talk of reconciliation, but Swapo has no quarrel with them.

Katjiuongua, but by Pretoria.

They talk of reconciliation, but Swapo has no quarrel with them.

The people of Namibia want peace and freedom just as any other country in the world.

The Reagan Administration has gone as far as to invite Jonas Savimbi to Washington. He is even supplied with sophisticated weapons like Stinger missiles and the like to cause suffering among the Angolan people. There is now a form of military pact between Pretoria and Washington to build up their self-created Angolan bandit group.

Reagan, with the support of Thatcher in London, attacked Libya recently, killing innocent people of that country. Reagan accuses that country of 'training terrorists', but one need only look at the actions of the US in Grenada, and now in Nicaragua, Angola, Afghanistan and Cambodia.

In the UN debates, it is the very Reagan Administration, along with other capitalist countries, which are vetoing decisions taken against South Africa and Israel. But it never asked capitalist America alongwith its allies, to impose economic sanctions against Poland, Iran and recently, Libya.

They are using the cheap pretext that the majority of blacks would suffer in South Africa, Namibia and the entire southern Africa if sanctions were imposed. This is nonsense, for we gain nothing from the economy of our country. The majority of blacks live in poverty, and it is we who join the call for

sanctions against the South African Government.

It is time that the world turn their attention to the plight of the people of Namibia and South Africa under the apartheid government.

MARTIN KAPEWASHA
GIBEON
