

Concealing truths

THE Namibian media has and is still concealing the truths and obscuring the issues at stake. Over the last four months, reports have appeared in the media suggesting that we should disband - reports in the media are trying hard to discredit Swanu of Namibia.

Needless to say none of the reports which appear in the Namibian media, whether before or after independence, are aimed to inform the Namibian people about Swanu's policy pronouncements and then for the public to make their own judgement.

One only finds reports in the media when it is detrimental to Swanu and the cause it stands for.

To give classic examples, Swanu of Namibia issued a press statement on how the Middle East peace talks should be conducted and to give our international solidarity with the Palestinian people.

The so-called liberal and progressive media did not release this statement. The question is, who is going to uphold the banner of international solidarity if Swanu

of Namibia disbands? Your credentials are questionable. Swanu of Namibia issued press statements on the activities of the Development Brigade while other parties were silent on this issue and it was never released.

A statement was also issued with regard to our position vis-a-vis the Soris Soris community at the then Daan Viljoen and it never reached the eyes and ears of the Namibian public.

We wish to state clearly that we are not interested in polemics with the media and we are not going to reduce ourselves to the body of a lizard.

However, the time has come to tell those men and women who are working for the media to stop prostituting the journalistic profession.

If you are not prepared to release our press statements then you should concurrently stop launching lies and a banal disinformation campaign against Swanu.

The latest episode on Swanu is the article which appeared in New Era (8-14 April 1993) under the headline 'Is Rukoro pondering quitting?' The media has

time and again misread the dynamics of Swanu politics.

Swanu of Namibia was the transmission-belt, the repository of the colonised, exploited and dispossessed indigenous people of this country. Swanu is the custodian of the revolutionary aspirations of our people; it is the caravan of African militancy.

Cde Vekui Rukoro, in his capacity as leader of this Party, has been at the forefront of articulating these fundamentals of the struggle for national liberation.

At present he is making an enormous contribution to the government of the Republic of Namibia within that framework.

We are very proud of him and it is our sincere submission that he has done more homework that any other leader that one can trace in the annals of the history of liberation struggles.

For us in Swanu, he

has and is still making an important contribution that constitutes an inexhaustible source of pride and inspiration.

Late Cde Uatjindua Ndjoze and Uaseta Mbuha are not with us but the struggle for social justice is still continuing.

The same can be said of anyone in Swanu, the struggle is not static but rather dynamic.

If Swanu is irrelevant and if Cde Rukoro is not making a significant contribution, why is it so important to have headlines in the gutter press about him?

The New Era gives the impression that the youth of Swanu want to oust the President. This is a blatant lie.

Our friends and foes alike should take note of the fact that we still have confidence in our leader.

We have confidence in his abilities to tackle issues which are pressing to Namibian society. Swanu is still on a cru-

sade to address education, land issue, housing, unemployment, international solidarity, health, etc, for the sake of social justice.

Cde Rukoro has impeccable credentials and at the moment he is on that mission. We are not new-born democrats, this is inherent in our political culture.

If he decides to step down, the media will be informed, so please stop fantasising.

The media should objectively report the issues at stake and stop rumour-mongering and malicious propaganda.

That is not a good service to the country and its people.

It is counter-revolutionary not to publish policy pronouncements for the betterment of Namibian society but then to get involved in party internal affairs. What pathos!

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Letters to the Editor

