

## Upset with Untag

I WISH to express my heartfelt sadness at the irresponsible attitude of Untag in Namibia from April 1.

I am disappointed in Untag in general and Mr Martti Ahtisaari, for their unwillingness to perform their duties as expected of them by the Namibian people.

On April 1, a peaceful march of the Namibian workers under leadership of NUNW was forcefully stopped by colonial, heavily armed police in the absence of Untag police who are supposed to accompany them. Thanks to the disciplined actions of the workers themselves, injuries and bloodshed was avoided since the colonial police were under strict command to act against the 15 000-strong crowd if they proceeded with the march to hand over a petition protesting privatisation of public property to Mr Louis Pienaar, the Administrator General.

After the well-attended Swapo rally in Windhoek on April 1, Swapo members and supporters on their way back north were shot at by two white vigilantes. Seven people were injured, two seriously. When a local pastor went to report the incident to Untag personnel in Tsumeb, he found the officer in an inebriated.

The most burning issue, which forced me to write this letter, was when civilians when to Untag personnel in Oshakati to report heavy fighting between Plan and the colonial army, the two Malaysian members of Untag took no notice and went on reading their novels. Some of them were seen sipping wine with South African soldiers at Ondangue and Oshakati. I am wondering whether these international peacemakers are really serious about what they are doing in Namibia. I am also surprised that certain countries agree to contribute soldiers when they want assurances of their safety.

I would also like to express myself on the decision by Mr Ahtisaari to allow the notorious 101 and 202 battalions to be reactivated in order to fight Swapo. Mr Ahtisaari's mission was to make peace but instead he agreed to the demands of the colonial governor to allow the same groups to go ahead and continue doing what they have done for years.

Mr Ahtisaari, through his actions, has lost the respect and popularity he has enjoyed since 1978.

I call upon all progressive forces inside Namibia to take united and decisive action. We should always remember the inspiring words of Swapo President, Sam Nujoma, who said "we the Namibians, are our own liberators".

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