

Is Our Democracy In Trouble?

WITH Namibia having completed another round of elections, the citizens of the country should consider the following:-

If a government is unable to provide security, education and adequate health care, it should be removed. If this is not happening one must ask if democracy is in fact working in Namibia.

The privatisation of police services through the booming security industry is the most telling indictment of Government incompetence and misallocation of resources.

The Auditor General's latest report on the lack of financial discipline by

Government departments is further proof that we are well on the way to administrative and financial collapse much in the same way as the local soccer and rugby associations.

We should ask ourselves: "Why are we paying taxes?" Our contribution is squandered in grandiose politically orientated schemes when security, education and healthcare (a Government priority) are going down the tubes.

Democracy in our country is in trouble because politicians have disconnected themselves from the community. The further government

is removed from those they claim to represent, the less representative and, therefore, less democratic it becomes.

Africa has a history of dictatorships. Leaders once appointed refuse to leave office. Traditionally in Africa, once you are a chief, you remain a chief. This is in total conflict with our so-called democracy. The only countries in Africa where leaders have voluntarily relinquished power are Tanzania, Botswana and recently South Africa.

President Nujoma's third term is therefore no coincidence, it is in keeping with African traditions where the lack of a

successor is deliberately orchestrated in order to make the third term more palatable.

Some governments have come to realise that political sovereignty does not mean that they can do what they wish. There is a price to be paid for every political indiscretion. They are in fact an infallible barometer of political, economic and social ineptitude. We suffer the consequences of every move our Government makes which is politically or economically immature.

What society needs now is a small effective government, directly ac-

countable to the discerning public, run by highly trained professional bureaucrats. In this way we will rid ourselves of incompetents and replace them with highly paid and efficient public servants whose first duty will be to serve the public

which employs them.

The citizens of this country should realise that if we arrogate the right to pass judgement upon and seek to interfere in the internal administration of other countries, we are in effect according the same

right of non-judgement and interference by others in our own country.

**Patriot
WINDHOEK**

(This letter has been shortened. Name and address provided-Ed)

Could Not Vote In UK

I WAS one of the people who requested the office in Windhoek to send me a duplicate of my voters card. I called the office in Windhoek on Monday and I spoke to a lady who said they have send all the requested cards to the office of the High Commission. I asked her name but she kept on asking me whether there is someone specific I wanted to speak to and I gave up.

absence because it was personal, whereby he was instructed by the Windhoek official to open it. The only card he found in the envelope was that of the civil servant herself and the other two were not there, meaning we were denied our right to vote. The Windhoek official said he could not help further because he was not a member of the committee which was dealing with the issue of duplicate cards.

Disregard For Human Dignity