



enough for his family to eat.

The President is the long root in the people's revolutionary culture of outspoken courage and patriotic zeal. God bless you as we also wait for our share of the fruits of independence. Long live your name; long live Swapo and long live the workers and peasants.

HUDSON N'EBONGI
WINDHOEK

Only for Windhoek

ALLOW me to air my views about the Government funded newspaper, New Era.

Before the newspaper was launched, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting under which the papers resorts, said it would contain news from all over the country.

When paging through New Era I see that it consists mostly of happenings in Windhoek. Why? Remember that it is taxpayers money that is being used. We as taxpayers want to see news and photographs from Oranjemund in the south to Caprivi in the north east; from Opuwo and Khorixas and places throughout Namibia. We want to see these people in focus, not just people in Windhoek attending state or diplomatic functions.

Recently there were demonstrations in Tsumeb by women against drug and alcohol abuse. It was covered poorly although a reporter from New Era from Grootfontein was present.

Furthermore the newspaper only covers sports events in Windhoek because these are rated the best. Then I see that the newspaper is not for all the people but only Windhoek residents. Please see to it that the sports events throughout the country are covered.

Lastly, we would wish to see changes on NBC TV programmes. There are too many Western-oriented programmes and not enough locally produced films.

We want to see films of African origin such as the one featuring the late President of Botswana, Sir Seretse Khama. Even films such as Biko's 'Cry Freedom' and others concerning the ANC.

In Parliamentary debates, we want to hear directly what the people are saying. Remember we pay R96 a year

G MATHEUS
TSUMEB

Seal slaughter

I UNDERSTAND your country is planning to slaughter more seals in 1992. I hope that this will not go ahead because there is no need to slaughter seals for aphrodisiacs and their pelts, and I hope you will use all your power to prevent this happening.

In 1991 you slaughtered more than 25 000 seals, most of them babies, either by clubbing or spiking, and now there is a shocking number of seals to be killed by these two methods. There is no need for this in this day and age.

I also think that if this news was to be worldwide, then I think your tourism could be hit quite badly by people boycotting Namibian holidays.

DEREK COWIE
SCOTLAND

Note: A campaign against seal culling has been launched, and this newspaper is unable to publish all letters received calling for an end to the cull. We note the receipt of many such letters. - Ed.

Rasta woes

The struggle for the independence of Namibia was greatly supported by the Rastas of Namibia but right now I am shocked and disappointed to see and hear that Rastas are being hunted by the narcotics branch.

There is discrimination against Rastas - the 'old law' of cutting off your dreadlocks to get work is still applied in independent Namibia. With your dreadlocks there is no work, no roof - yet the dreadlocks show the strong devotion of Rastas to their religion.

Ziggy Marley, son of the great Bob Marley, was invited to Namibia for the independence celebrations. As long as I have freedom of speech I must ask whether Rastafarians are allowed in independent Namibia. The number of Rastas are growing and everywhere you go you heard reggae music.

Marijuana is good for meditation and good for asthma and other things.

A C HAINUCA
SWAKOPMUND

Note: This letter has been shortened. - Ed.