

SWAPO OF NAMIBIA

25



YEARS OF
1960

STRUGGLE
1985



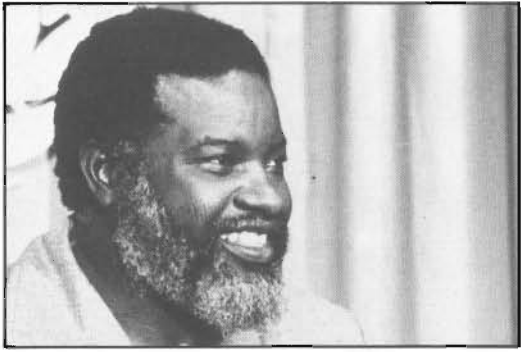
Organised by SWAPO in co-operation with The Namibia Support Committee and Anti-apartheid Movement

SOLIDARITY FREEDOM & JUSTICE
FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE, EUSTON ROAD N1

THURSDAY 18 APRIL 7.30 PM

SPEAKERS: SWAPO, ANC, Malcolm Pitt Kent NUM, Joan Ruddock CND,
Cllr. Diane Abbott, Representatives of other Liberation Struggles

AL 2046/4635 any



“Our struggle has never been against individual minority white settlers . . . it has been against a system.”

Sam Nujoma, President of SWAPO, April 1977



SHAPUA KAUKUNGUA
SWAPO Chief Representative for Western Europe, addressing CND Rally against Trident, on the illegal Namibian uranium contracts.

SWAPO's aims and objectives are as follows:

- (1) To fight relentlessly for the immediate and total liberation of Namibia from colonial and imperialist occupation;
- (2) To unite all the people of Namibia, irrespective of race, religion, sex or ethnic origin, into a cohesive, representative, national political entity;
- (3) To foster a spirit of national consciousness or a sense of common purpose and collective destiny among the people of Namibia;
- (4) To combat all reactionary tendencies of individualism, tribalism, racism, sexism and regionalism;
- (5) To co-operate to the fullest extent with all the genuine national liberation movements, progressive governments, organizations and individuals throughout the world towards complete elimination of the colonial system of imperialism;
- (6) To establish in Namibia a democratic, secular government founded upon the will and participation of all the Namibian people;
- (7) To ensure that the people's government exercises effective control over the means of production and distribution and pursues a policy which facilitates the way to social ownership of all the resources of the country;
- (8) To work towards the creation of a non-exploitative and non-oppressive classless society;
- (9) To ensure that a people's government in an independent Namibia co-operates with other States in Africa in bringing about African unity;
- (10) To see that the people's government works in close co-operation with all peace-loving States towards world peace and security.



GERTRUDE RIKUMBI KANDANGA
Organiser of SWAPO Women's Council, one of a number of banned Namibians.

ONE NAMIBIA, ONE NATION

In 1959, the Ovamoland People's Organisation (OPO) SWAPO's predecessor, drew an explosive response from contract workers all over the country. OPO mounted a campaign in conjunction with local groups against the regime's forced removal of residents of Windhoek to the new black township of Katutura. Pickets and boycotts of services drew mass support. The South African police responded by arresting the protesters. They moved in and fired on the crowd of demonstrators, killing 11 and wounding 54. After this, Namibia's Sharpesville, the nationalist leaders were imprisoned, banned and restricted. The leadership of OPO realised that the struggle must be transformed into a wider battle for independence from colonial repression, and SWAPO was formed the following year, 19 April 1960, the movement's roots

in the Namibian working class firmly established. SWAPO has drawn together the forces of resistance which have found expression among Namibia's youth, churches, traditional leaders, intellectuals, peasants and workers.

The South African regime has responded brutally to SWAPO's attempts to organise. Those who dare to voice their support for SWAPO face imprisonment, torture, detention without trial and continuous harassment. The response of the authorities to attempts at peaceful protest has always been violent. Likewise, peaceful efforts on the diplomatic front are frustrated by the ineffectiveness of the United Nations. The major Western powers, Britain in particular, continues to arms the repressive South African state. Today, the armed struggle is seen as the most effective means of liberating Namibia.

SOLIDARITY WITH SWAPO

The fight for self-determination in Namibia is a direct challenge to British government's policy, as well to the exploitative role of British multinationals. Once we understand the links between racist oppression and exploitation here in Britain and the Namibians' battle to regain control of their own lives and resources, supporting SWAPO becomes part of our struggle here.

End British government collaboration in the repression of Namibians.

SUPPORT SWAPO THROUGH:

1. Campaigns which are directed at exposing and fighting the British government's support for the South African regime and its illegal occupation of Namibia.
2. Working through all practical channels for the implementation of sanctions against South Africa.
3. Mobilising against the illegal exploitation of Namibia's natural resources, particularly the uranium contracts which fuel Britain's nuclear programme.
4. Campaigning for the release of all Namibian political prisoners: There are currently 21 Namibian political prisoners in South African jails – 20 on Robben Island and 1 in Pretoria Central Prison. A further 8 political prisoners are held in South African run prisons in Namibia, while there are 59 known detainees out of hundreds more about whom no details are available.
5. Raise financial support for material aid projects for SWAPO's settlements in exile and for its fighters in PLAN (People's Liberation Army of Namibia).
6. Publicise the situation in Namibia as widely as possible.

For Further Information and campaigning materials contact:

The Namibia Support Committee, P O Box 16, London NW5 2LW. 01-267 1941/2

Anti-apartheid Movement, 13 Mandela Street, London NW1. 01-387 7966.