



SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY/POLICE ATTACK NAMIBIAN WORKERS

South African military and police forces in occupied Namibia have struck again in Pretoria's increasing efforts to crush the Namibian people's thrust for freedom from foreign rule.

In the pre-dawn hours of Friday, 3 July, a combined police/army unit attacked Namibian workers in their single men's hostel at the fishing port town of Luderitz in the south of the country. The Namibia Communications Centre in London reports that the workers' compound was completely overrun by soldiers and police using clubs, whips and guns with rubber bullets to drive the workers from their shacks out into the dark. Their property - money, cameras, tape recorders, sewing machines, other valuables - were looted by the invaders. When townspeople from the 5,000 strong seacoast community gathered at the scene, they too were set upon by the South African troops and police and dispersed by tear gas and rubber bullets.

One worker, a Mr Mandume, 26, was hit in the head by a rubber bullet and is in hospital in a very serious condition. 208 others were detained. The workers are employed in Luderitz's canning, fishing and fertilizer factories. They are from the northern part of Namibia, separated from their families by the contract labor system common for black men in South Africa and South Africa occupied Namibia.

A statement issued on 3 July by Mr MacDonald Ka Ntlabathi, chairman of the Namibian Food and Allied Workers Union, and Mr Barnabas Tjizu, chairman of the national federation, the National Union of Namibian Workers, condemned the attack. 'The raid comes in the wake of strikes and widespread dissatisfaction amongst the severely underpaid and exploited workers at Luderitz. The entire black workforce in Luderitz is unionised under NAFU and NUNW...While the workers of Luderitz have been shocked by this terrorist attack, their spirits are as high as ever. Workers are determined to resist such attempts at intimidating them. NAFU and NUNW note that this is the second attack on workers at their place of residence in a short period of time. If this is to set a trend, then the illegal puppet government and employers can expect stronger worker action in response to such attacks.'

YOUR MESSAGES OF SOLIDARITY for MR NTLABATHI and NAFU and

MR TJIZU and NUNW

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Union man alleges NNTU given money by police

AN ALLEGATION that police provided an amount of R4 000 in cash to the Namibia National Trade Union (NNTU) to contribute to its May Day activities, has been denied by Colonel S Eimbeck of the interim government's Security Secretariat. Mr Veripi Kandenge, Chairman of the NNTU, alleged yesterday that he had been present when the cash amount had been handed to Mr Theo Ngaujake by Colonel Eimbeck to pay for the NNTU T-shirts for May Day. Mr Kandenge said he would be prepared to sign a sworn statement to this effect.

Meanwhile, according to Mr Kandenge, a meeting of the NNTU committee as well as affiliated shopfloor committees this week dismissed Mr Ngaujake, Secretary General of NNTU, from his post for having accepted money from the authorities.

Mr Ngaujake himself, however, has since announced the NNTU's name has changed to Namibia National Allied Unions (NANAU); and Mr

Kandenge said Mr Ngaujake was still present in the NNTU offices late this week. Mr Kandenge and the rest of the NNTU committee is seeking legal advice on the matter.

Mr Kandenge said that on March 20 this year, he had been present at a meeting with Mr Ngaujake, Mr Sean Cleary of Transcontinental Consultancy (the interim government's public relations officer), Mr van Rooyen of Civic Affairs and Mr Moores

Katjuongua, interim government Minister of Health.

The meeting, in Mr Cleary's offices, had examined several aspects of trade unionism, he said, including discussion of who were fulltime members of



THEO Ngaujake

THE NAMIBIAN

Friday June 5 1987

Meat workers strike in Namibia

WORKERS AT abattoirs and meat packing plants in Namibia have gone on strike, crippling the country's meat industry.

The dispute started on 4 May at the Swavleis plant in Windhoek when between 150 and 200 workers at the plant decided to ban overtime. They had not been able to gain clarification from the management on the exact hourly and overtime rates they were being paid, let alone negotiate a pay increase, according to Swapo.

At present workers receive a sum of money without any indication of what it represents.

The *Windhoek Advertiser* reported that workers at Swavleis were getting 60c (20p) per hour for normal working. They are demanding that the basic rate be increased by a further 60c (20p) per hour.

The normal working day is from 7am until 5pm.

An additional demand is the provision of transport to and from the plant in the middle of the night when it is not safe to go on foot and there is no alternative transport available.

All the workers are members of the Namibia Food and Allied Union (Nafau), an affiliate of the National Union of Namibian Workers (Nunw).

Two weeks ago, on Friday, 15 May, 12 workers were fired for allegedly "not completing their work quota".

This was seen as an attempt by management, who have refused to negotiate with the Nunw or its affiliated unions, or for that matter with the workers committees, to force an abandonment of the overtime ban.

In response, the workers at both the Windhoek and Okahandja plants went out on

Police deny giving money to NNTU

Continued from page 1

the Swapo-affiliated National Union of Namibian Workers (NUNW); the question of resources of unions, and the fact that there was a vacuum, since the government had not provided for funds for trade unions in their budget.

Mr Kandenge said that he himself, as well as other officials of the NNTU, had become concerned about a sudden influx of funds, which Mr Ngaujake had attributed to a donation from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. However, Mr Ngaujake had refused to meet with the committee of the NNTU to discuss where the funds had come from.

Mr Kandenge added that he had travelled with Mr Ngaujake, shortly before May Day, to the former Berg Hotel, where Mr Ngaujake said he wanted to give "traffic police" the route their May Day march was to take.

There they had met with a Colonel Eimbeck of the Security Secretariat, who according to Mr Kandenge, had opened a cabinet and taken out R5 000 in cash, R1 000 of which he had taken back, and instructed Mr Ngaujake to pay for the T-shirts which had been ordered by the Union for May Day.

Colonel Eimbeck had also told them they should organise their May Day activities in conjunction with the Government Service Staff Association of Mr Alan Hattle, and the Building Workers Union of Mr Aloysius Yon.

Mr Kandenge said that after the meeting he had expressed concern to Mr Ngaujake about sharing a May Day platform with government trade unions, and had subsequently withdrawn himself from all May Day

activities of the NNTU. He had also expressed concern about a TV interview Mr Ngaujake had given with the SWABC, where he also shared a platform with government trade unions. Mr Kandenge felt this was in conflict with the NNTU's neutral stance.

Last weekend, the committee, with Mr Ngaujake present, had met, but the meeting had erupted into chaos, and there again, Mr Ngaujake said monies had been received from the Konrad Adenauer Foundation.

Mr Kandenge said he had collected the NNTU's bank statements this week, and found that several cheques had been signed for, with apparent signatures of Mr Ngaujake and Ms Othilie Abrahams.

Colonel Eimbeck, when approached, confirmed meetings with the NNTU officials, saying that he had met with various unions because of concerns about possible confrontation on May Day. He said they wanted to "stop all the animosity going on", to promote reconciliation and stop further

polarisation.

He denied however, having given a cash amount to Mr Ngaujake.

Meanwhile the Namibian Peoples' Development Institute, the Directors of which are Ms Othilie Abrahams and Mr Andre Strauss, have issued a statement on their association with the NNTU.

Announcing in the letter that they were severing all ties with the NNTU, Ms Abrahams said the decision had been taken in view of speculation in the media that the NNTU had been supported financially by government.

They said further that it had been made clear to them that "the NNTU is regarded by the public at large as being an organisation which had strong links with the TGNU or is being used by the TGNU (interim government) to destroy the trade union movement".

Ms Abrahams said that the last time she had signed any cheques had been for the holding of a seminar last October, organised by the NNTU. She had not signed any other cheques, she said.

strike, demanding the reinstatement of their 12 colleagues.

The management responded by summarily dismissing all the 597 workers (a Swavleis figure) out on strike at the Windhoek and Okahandja plants and issued a statement saying that they intended to hire and train new workers.

The chairperson of Nafau, McDonald ka Ntlabathi, telephoned the management of Swavleis on behalf of the workforce but was not given time to state the workers' case.

REMOVAL

The workers consider themselves still employed and have refused to remove their belongings from the compounds where they live in spite of a police presence.

They are being threatened with forced removal from the compound and deportation to the north of the country.

They have not collected pay due to them and are insisting that a proper settlement be negotiated before they return to work.

The management has meanwhile flown in some abattoir workers from Cape Town in an attempt to maintain some production.

However, John Pandeni, general secretary of Nafau, made an appeal to South African workers "not to jeopardise the position of local workers by working for Swavleis".

Meat retail outlets throughout Namibia now have very little meat for sale, and the strike is reported to be costing Swavleis about R200,000 a day in lost revenue.

The Council of Churches in Namibia (CCN) has expressed its dismay and concern over the dismissal of the workers, and has also condemned the attempted employment of workers from South Africa or other parts of Namibia.

Nafau is a new and impoverished union and does not yet have a strike fund.

• A member of the workers' committee at the Windhoek power station was shot through the head and killed by the Koevoet counter-insurgency unit last Thursday night as he and fellow workers returned in a minibus from work.

ACTION ALERT

INFORMATION FOR ACTION ON SOUTHERN AFRICA ISSUES

**WASHINGTON OFFICE ON AFRICA • 110 MARYLAND AVENUE, N.E., SUITE 112
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002 • (202) 546-7961**

June 27, 1987

SUPPORT COMPREHENSIVE SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA H.R. 1580 / S. 556

On February 19, 1987 the Washington Office on Africa (WOA) joined with Congressman Ron Dellums (D-CA) and Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA) to sponsor a press conference announcing the introduction of H.R.1580/S.556, comprehensive sanctions legislation against South Africa and Namibia. The Washington Office on Africa believes that speedy passage of comprehensive sanctions is a necessary response to the deteriorating situation in southern Africa. Introduction of this legislation early in the 100th Congress sends an important warning signal to South Africa, the Congress and the Reagan Administration that the anti-apartheid movement remains actively committed to comprehensive economic sanctions against Pretoria. Rev. Leon Sullivan's recent call for the withdrawal of U.S. businesses from South Africa and a trade embargo, has given added impetus to the pressure on Congress to legislate comprehensive sanctions.

H.R.1580/S.556, the Dellums/Cranston bill, mandates complete disinvestment of all U.S. corporations from South Africa and Namibia within six months of passage of the legislation. In addition, all trade with South Africa will be banned. H.R.1580/S.556 is an updated version of H.R.997, the Dellums bill, which passed in the House last July. The bill also includes some of the stronger sections of the present sanctions law, such as, the termination of the treaty permitting air flights between South Africa and the U.S. The section of the current law prohibiting collaboration between U.S. and South African armed forces, is strengthened to prohibit all intelligence cooperation as well.

The present limited sanctions law enacted October 2nd, is an important step towards ending U.S. support for the apartheid government. The Reagan Administration, however, is exploiting the loopholes in the law and weakening some of the stronger provisions of the bill by imposing loose regulations which permit the continued import and export of items prohibited by the legislation. Meanwhile, the South African government is actively seeking and finding methods of undercutting the sanctions by exploiting loopholes in the law.

The victory of the passage of limited sanctions over a Presidential veto is quickly and quietly being eroded by the

passage of conservative legislation which attacks the black-ruled states in the region. Since January, 1987, there have been successful right-wing Congressional efforts to:

- ** Cut U.S. aid to the black-ruled countries in southern Africa;
- ** Continue the U.S. refusal to unconditionally implement U.N. Resolution 435 (the internationally accepted independence for Namibia) and demand the immediate withdrawal of the 100,000 South African troops illegally occupying Namibia;
- ** Maintain U.S. support for the South African-backed UNITA terrorists that are destroying the people and infrastructure of Angola;
- ** and attack the liberation movements of southern Africa by restricting their travel in the U.S.

Passage of comprehensive sanctions is necessary to reverse the dangerous trend in the U.S. Congress.

The Dellums/Cranston bill is not likely to be considered by Congress until after the October, 1987 deadline for certification that South Africa has complied with conditions for abolishing apartheid outlined in the current sanctions bill. Hearings on H.R.1580/S.556 may begin before the August recess.

URGENTLY NEEDED ACTION ON SANCTIONS

We must use the coming weeks and months to begin educating our communities and Members of Congress on the need for strong comprehensive sanctions against South Africa.

*****THE DELLUMS/CRANSTON BILL NEEDS ADDITIONAL CO-SPONSORS IMMEDIATELY. AS OF JUNE 6TH, THERE WERE ONLY 55 SENATE CO-SPONSORS AND ONLY 5 SENATE CO-SPONSORS. IF WE CAN OBTAIN AT LEAST 100 CO-SPONSORS IN THE HOUSE AND 25 IN THE SENATE, WE CAN SEND AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO UNDECIDED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE SERIOUS ABOUT COMPREHENSIVE SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.**

****IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU WRITE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE AND SENATORS NOW URGING THEM TO ACTIVELY SUPPORT AND CO-SPONSOR H.R.1580/S.556!**

****ORGANIZE PERSONAL LOBBYING VISITS TO YOUR LEGISLATORS' HOME OFFICES DURING THE CONGRESSIONAL RECESS;**

*****URGE YOUR ORGANIZATION OR CONVENTION TO PASS A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF H.R.1580/S.556.**

Follow the progress of this and other legislation affecting Southern Africa by calling the **ANTI-APARTHEID ACTION HOTLINE (202) 546-0408.**

ACTION ALERT

June 11, 1987

SENATOR DOLE TARGETS ANGOLA FOR SANCTIONS

On May 19, 1987, Senator Robert Dole (R-KS) introduced S.1228. The Dole bill would impose trade sanctions on Angola, require the U.S. Trade Representative to negotiate with U.S. trading partners the adoption of a trade embargo against Angola, and target U.S. companies and individuals with income earned in Angola for double taxation.

ANTICIPATED ACTION ON S. 1228

The Dole bill has been referred to the Senate Finance Committee. It is highly probable, however, that Senator Dole will try to get his bill attached to the Trade Bill, which is likely to reach the Senate floor by mid-June. Sponsors of the Dole bill include Senators Chiles, Hollings and Symms.

BACKGROUND

The target of the Dole bill is U.S. oil companies and Angolan oil exports to the U.S. The U.S. is Angola's number one trading partner, trade between the two countries has increased, and oil is 80% of Angola's trade with the U.S. Although the Carter and Reagan Administrations have refused official recognition to Angola, the government has continued to seek closer relations with the U.S. Unfortunately, Angolan desires for economic cooperation and negotiations concerning peace in the region have been rebuffed by the resumption of U.S. aid to the South African-backed UNITA rebels and the threat of sanctions. The Administration's rationale for its policy is the Angolan government's reliance on Cuban troops for defence against repeated South African and UNITA attacks.

RIGHT WING ATTACKS ON ANGOLA

S.1228 is one in a series of right wing attacks on Angola. The right-wing agenda, as articulated by the Reagan Administration and approved by a majority of the members of the House and Senate, has been to fund UNITA and impose sanctions on Angola. In March, 1987, members of the House Intelligence Committee were unable to block U.S. aid to UNITA. The New York Times reported (June 11, 1987) an administration announcement that another \$15-17 million in covert military aid has been sent to UNITA. Senator DeConcini (D-AZ) introduced an amendment to the Supplemental Appropriations Bill, which passed 94-0, which encourages the President to impose a trade ban on Angola and set the stage for introduction of the Dole bill. In the House, Rep. Dannemeyer (R-CA) proposed \$27 million in additional aid to UNITA and Rep. McCollum (R-FL) proposed the imposition of sanctions, even stronger than those in S. 1228. Many in the Congress view the situation in Angola in terms of "East-West" competition for domination in Africa. However, South Africa's economic, political and military attacks on Angola and other southern African states are the greatest threat to the people of the region.

ACTION: WORK QUICKLY AND DECISIVELY TO OPPOSE S. 1228

- ** Write or phone your senators immediately and urge them to oppose S.1228 and all other attempts to impose sanctions against Angola.
- ** Tell your senators that you are outraged at the unanimous passage of the DeConcini amendment, oppose aid to UNITA and support the normalization of U.S. relations with Angola.
- ** Visit your legislators' home offices to lobby against anti-Angola bills.
- ** Organize demonstrations to protest against S.1228

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S. 1228 - SANCTIONS AGAINST ANGOLA

The summary of S. 1228, and Sections 1, 2 and 6 appear to be directed primarily against Cuba and countries relating to it. Section 5 refers specifically to Angola and sections 3 and 4 apply to Angola.

Trade embargo on Angola. Section 5 of S. 1228 would prohibit all imports of products grown, mined, produced or manufactured in Angola, and the export of goods and technology from the U.S. to Angola "for the benefit or use of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola." Disaster relief and rehabilitation assistance are excepted from the ban. The language makes it clear that exports for the benefit or use of UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola, the South African-backed rebel movement) are not banned.

The conditions for lifting the trade ban include:

- a concerted effort to comply with internationally recognized human rights.
- negotiations with the non-communist opposition (i.e., UNITA).
- laws assuring full national participation.
- free and fair elections by November 11, 1988.
- the withdrawal from Angola of all troops from communist countries.

The President is required to determine and to certify to Congress that the conditions have been met before the sanctions can be lifted.

International trade embargo on Angola. Section 3 requires the U.S. Trade Representative to negotiate with trading partners to get them to impose trade sanctions on nations, the governments of which are not recognized by the U.S., or which do not have diplomatic relations with the U.S., or which are "terrorist nations."

Double taxation of income from Angola. Section 4 requires the payment of U.S. income tax on income earned in a country that does not have diplomatic relations with the U.S. or which "engages in or supports international terrorism." It does so by designating that income ineligible for exclusion as foreign earned income. This provision could also be used to penalize U.S. entities in other Frontline states, if the administration deems that their support for the African National Congress or the South West Africa Peoples Organization is support for "international terrorism."

SANCTIONS AGAINST COUNTRIES DEALING WITH CUBA

Section 1 would make it illegal for any ship which has called at any port in Cuba to call at a U.S. port within six months of the Cuba visit. It authorizes the seizure and sale of any such vessel.

Section 2 requires the President to penalize a country which receives Economic Support Funds from the U.S. and imports sugar from Cuba by reducing the ESF assistance by an amount equal to the value of the Cuban sugar it imports.

Section 6 directs the President to require the accelerated repayment of all U.S. loans to any country which, after receiving a new U.S. loan, then makes a new loan to Cuba.

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June 26, 1987

OPPOSE DAMAGING AMENDMENTS IN H.R. 1777, THE HOUSE-PASSED STATE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL

During the week of June 16-24, the House passed several damaging amendments to the State Department Authorization Bill (H.R. 1777). The Swindall and Burton amendments are right-wing attacks on the ANC and SWAPO which attempt to undercut the growing U.S. public support for the struggle for justice in southern Africa.

SWINDALL AMENDMENT -- On June 18, Representative Patrick Swindall (R-GA), who represents a district which includes a section of Forsythe County, Georgia, introduced an amendment restricting travel of ANC and SWAPO representatives (as well as the PLO) and specified "communist" nations. The Swindall amendment was passed by a voice vote and is now a part of the House version of the State Department Authorization bill. This amendment would prevent ANC and SWAPO representatives in the U.S. from travelling beyond the limits of cities with ANC and SWAPO missions.

BURTON AMENDMENT -- This amendment cuts off 25% of U.S. funding for U.N. projects "whose primary purpose is to benefit the ANC." Another amendment by Mr. Burton calls for a study of alleged "ANC forced detention camps". House opponents of the Burton "detention camp" amendment were only able to modify it by requiring a similar study of South African Government detention camps as well.

TIME LINE -- The entire State Department Authorization Bill was accepted by the House on June 23. (Just before the final vote, Rep. Walker's (R-PA) amendment prohibiting travel by U.S. citizens to Nicaragua to work on "pro-government projects" was passed.) The Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed their version of the State Department Bill (S. 1394) on June 18. The Senate version does not include the Burton and Swindall language, but attempts could be made to add similar amendments on the floor. Final Senate consideration of the State Department Bill

could occur by mid-July. At that time, a joint House-Senate Conference Committee will convene to work out differences between the two versions of the bill.

STRATEGY -- To ensure that the Swindall and Burton amendments do not become law, we must stop right-wing attempts to add similar language to the Senate version of the State Department Authorization Bill. We must then pressure the Conference Committee to reject the Swindall and Burton language.

ANALYSIS -- The growing international prestige of the ANC and SWAPO and the solid backing they enjoy in South Africa and Namibia, has forced even the Reagan administration to acknowledge the importance of, for example, talking to the ANC. Oliver Tambo's meeting with Secretary of State Shultz in January has infuriated the right wing. The Swindall and Burton amendments are legislative attempts to discredit the liberation movements and undercut the high level of popular support in the U.S. for the ANC and SWAPO. These amendments would further undermine U.S. credibility in southern Africa.

The present presidential election campaign climate in the Congress lends itself to the anti-communist "red-baiting" and right-wing tactics employed by Burton, Swindall and others to obtain passage of their legislation. Because of this climate, without swift grassroots action and concerted lobbying pressure from Congressional colleagues, even some consistent anti-apartheid supporters will not take a strong leadership position against this kind of dangerous right-wing legislation.

WHAT WE MUST DO TO STOP THESE ATTACKS ON THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS:

- * **WRITE, CALL, OR TELEGRAM YOUR SENATORS IMMEDIATELY** and tell them to oppose any attempts to include language similar to the Swindall or Burton amendments in the Senate version of the State Department Authorization Bill.
- * **VISIT YOUR SENATOR'S HOME OFFICE DURING THE JULY 2ND-6TH CONGRESSIONAL BREAK.** Tell them that travel by ANC and SWAPO representatives in the US has not threatened U.S. interests. Ask for what reasons these restrictions should be approved. No such restrictions have been passed to limit the travel of representatives of the racist apartheid regime.
- * **WRITE SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL (D-RI),** Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee, and **SENATOR PAUL SIMON (D-IL),** Chair of the Subcommittee on Africa and Presidential candidate. Urge them to take the leadership in rejecting any right-wing attempts to attack the liberation movements of South Africa and Namibia.

DENVER HOUSE OF STUDIES

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Senator Tim Wirth
1129 Pennsylvania St.
Denver, CO 80203

July 1, 1987

Dear Senator Wirth:

I am shocked and dismayed at the direction which the U. S. Congress seems to be taking in relationship to South Africa and Namibia. Recent developments constitute a threat to our sisters and brothers in Namibia and South Africa who have been waging long-term battles for self-determination and human freedom.

I hope you will oppose two current pieces of legislation. Number one, the Swindall amendment, which I am informed passed the House of Representatives by voice vote. I understand this amendment would restrict staff members of the Southwest African Peoples Organization (SWAPO) and of the African National Congress (ANC) to the city limits of New York city. If this is true, it is a pitiful sign of U. S. paranoia, short-sightedness and weakness. It is also an insult to those of us who have worked for years with representatives of the ANC and SWAPO as we stand with our brothers and sisters from South Africa and Namibia in their long battle for freedom and dignity.

I ask you to oppose the Swindall amendment in whatever way you can. There is a substantial and articulate constituency here in Denver, and in Colorado generally, who know the issues and would be deeply ashamed were the Swindall amendment to pass.

Number two - please oppose Senate Bill 1228, the so-called Dole Bill, which features sanctions against Angola. This I see as part of a wrong-headed, short-sighted and ultimately futile effort to support UNITA and Savimbi, the opportunistic leader of the Angolan rebels.

I do not know what Undersecretary of State Crocker's announced trip to Angola at the end of June has produced in the way of constructive suggestions. I do know that U. S. support of UNITA and Savimbi has damaged our reputation in all of Africa and has placed us on the wrong side of the freedom movements in Namibia and South Africa.

What we need is strong U. S. support for free elections in Namibia under U.N. Security Council Resolution 435. We do not need any more aid to Savimbi.

Again, on behalf of an articulate Colorado constituency which knows what is happening on these issues, I ask you to strongly oppose the Dole Bill, S. 1228.

Sincerely yours,

Peter L. Kjeseth
Peter L. Kjeseth

LOCAL STEERING COMMITTEE:

Rev. Grant Aaseng
Marilynne Alexander
Rev. Nathan Doerr
Rev. Bruce Hermann
Norma Johnson
Rev. Doyle Karst
Rev. Darrel Peterson
Elfie Roen
Bishop Wayne
Wesleybuchler
Leonard Swanson —
Chairperson
David Weiss
Student Representative

ALL WORKERS AT TAURUS ON STRIKE

BY RAJAH MUNAMAVA

MORE TAURUS workers have joined in the strike at the Agra Co-operative yesterday morning bringing production to a total standstill at the company's Luderitz plant.

Talks between management and the local workers committee were scheduled for yesterday afternoon. No details were available at the time of going to press.

A spokesman for the Namibia Food and Allied Workers Union NAFU Mr John Pandeni confirmed the action. He said that the workers were demanding the reinstatement of all the fired workers including Mr Thomas Kalienge who was dismissed a fortnight ago for having failed to put on a protective head mask.

Mr Pandeni said that all shifts workers including drivers were out on strike. He estimated the striking workforce to be over 270. The Director of Taurus Chemical Mr Klaas Bekker could not be contacted for comment.



WORKERS at the Taurus Chemical Plant pictured when John Liebenberg of our staff visited Luderitz earlier this year.

THE NAMIBIAN

Friday June 26 1987 3

Swavleis workers claim assault

BY RAJAH MUNAMAVA

The Namibia Food and Allied Workers Union (NAFAU) is investigating an incident last week in which the police allegedly unlawfully held three Swavleis workers and assaulted them.

A spokesman for the Union, Mr John Pandeni, said they were still investigating the matter. He would not rule out the possibility of legal action against the policemen concerned.

Mr Pandeni related that a group of Swavleis workers on their way home from work were confronted by a

number of camouflaged and plain clothes policemen who demanded their ID's and where they were coming from. The incident occurred near the Windhoek Central Prison last week on Wednesday at about 22h50.

Three men were dragged into a police truck with the registration number POL 1697 and allegedly beaten with

quirts and kicked before being allowed to go. The three men, Erastus Shanika, Uugwanga Johannes and Thomas Shipanga were treated for minor wounds and injuries at the Katutura State Hospital. Mr Shipanga was admitted to hospital before being discharged and is presently being treated as a out-patient.

Mr Erastus Shanika who had a bicycle at the time was taken to the Single Quarters and ordered to produce proof that the bicycle was not a stolen one. An amount of R30.00 in his possession was taken by the police. He was allowed back the bicycle but not the money upon his release, according to the worker.

Mr Pandeni termed the incident "pure intimidation without any provocation or reason". He said that the incident justified the workers demand for transport from and to work.

Mr Pandeni further disclosed that a Swavleis female employee was robbed of her handbag by gangsters in the early hours of Tuesday morning while waiting at a bus stop to go to work. He called on Swavleis management to give serious thought to the question of transport for the workers.

ECSA

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