

Okahandja

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Vice President, Dr. Hage Geingob.

The attraction was a three-year old girl Nghituvali Jafet Shilongo who led members of the SWAPO Party Pioneer Movement with that song again, commanding them to attention and surprising the Founding Father, who later volunteered towards the girl, lift it up and took her to the VIP tent.

Before he introduced the Founding President, Vice President Dr. Geingob told the crowd that seeing such a huge crowd, it was obvious that SWAPO Party was going to sweep the election with a landslide victory.

"Now, I want to introduce to you a person who is unique to Namibia," said Dr. Geingob. "He is an icon of the liberation struggle. He led and steered our struggle for independence

to its logical conclusion. He is not a Ngandjera. He is not a Damara. He is not a Herero. He is not a Kavango. He is a Namibian."

Dr. Nujoma said that SWAPO Party's Election Manifesto was the only one which was scientific, set realistic objectives and implementable in order to accelerate socio-economic development in the country.

"In fact," he said, "the SWAPO Party government does not make empty promises. We have in fact asked your mandate to continue with the development programmes that we have implemented over the past 19 years, while we will also implement new ones."

The Founding President cited various projects initiated and carried out by the SWAPO Party government since independence, such as roads, houses, clinics, hospitals, the deepening of Walvis Bay and Luderitz and the Northern Railway Extension from Tsumeb to Oshikango via Ondangwa.

Katjuongua did not take that lightly and it is one of the reasons he is suing SWAPO Party and Namibia Today.

"There is no case here," said one Windhoek lawyer. "Katjuongua admitted himself that he never resigned from SWANU. It means that when he joined CoD, he was both SWANU and CoD. How can one belong to two political parties?"

Before independence, Katjuongua served in the former South African colonial arrangement in Namibia, the so-called "government of national unity" in which he served as "minister" of housing.

NPF, Katjuongua's political party was one of the internal parties which benefitted from the N\$100 million "slush funds" which the former apartheid colonial regime gave to those small parties in a move designed to deprive SWAPO of its victory in the 1989 UN supervised elections.

SWAPO ended up winning the elections, but the "slush funds" saga came to haunt those small parties as they were grilled by SWAPO Members of Parliament who challenged them to reveal more and tell the nation as to which party got what from the "slush funds."

The case will be defended.

He said that Okahandja Constituency could be enhanced for food production, urging the town's Municipality to allocate land from its town lands to the communities to embark upon vegetable and fruit production to improve their livelihoods.

Plans are underway to build 250 houses in Extension 6 of Okahandja. Oshetu Settlement would soon be formalized with complete sewerage system, water and electricity supply to improve the living standard of the people there.

The development of the upper market housing scheme and golf estate for Okahandja will also be accelerated. Okahandja Hospital had been upgraded, while a new clinic was built at Nau-Aib.

New more development projects for Okahandja are on the way and the Founding President called on the residents of Okahandja to vote for Cde Steve Biko Booys as he was the only candidate who would accelerate socio-economic development in Okahandja Constituency.

"As members of the SWAPO Party," said Dr. Nujoma, "we must enter this By-Election united and with only one common purpose, namely to ensure that SWAPO Party candidate, Cde Booys wins with a resounding victory."

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national security adviser, retired general James Jones, was not so hesitant. "We know that internally [in Iran] there is a very serious problem," he told Fox News Sunday. "We're about to add to that regime's difficulties, by engineering, participating in very tough sanctions, which we support. Not mild sanctions. There are very tough sanctions. A combination of those things could well trigger a regime change—it's possible."

The Obama administration has clearly decided to recalibrate its strategy. In the process, the US is modifying its previous campaign—following Iran's presidential elections last June—in support of the so-called "Green Revolution" led by defeated opposition candidate Mir Hossein Mousavi. By focussing on the Revolutionary Guards, Washington is trying to seek out bases of discontent in the highest echelons of the regime, including those close to Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Clinton's overture has nothing to do with defending the democratic rights of ordinary Iranians. Rather the aim is to consolidate an opposition among layers of businessmen, bureaucrats and even military officers with grievances against the Revolutionary Guard, which has certainly extended its economic and political influence under President Ahmadinejad, but is far from controlling the government. Like Mousavi, the "leading clerics and political figures" to whom Clinton is appealing, all support the Islamic regime and have backed its repressive methods in the past.

Not surprisingly, Tehran publicly rejected Clinton's remarks.

Long Live Namibia! Namibia's 20 Independence Anniversary Logo, which was launched by Prime Minister Nahas Angula on Wednesday.



PM raps German NGOs

DAS and KAS threaten stability

Prime Minister Nahas Angula has condemned two German non-governmental organizations, NGOs, for the manner in which they conducted themselves during last year's National Assembly and Presidential elections.

Speaking at the launch of Namibia's 20th Independence Logo on Wednesday this week, a visibly irritated PM said the two NGOs were "biased" and "abused"

Namibia's hospitality.

The two NGOs are Deutschen Afrika Stiftung, DAS, and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, KAS, which had registered journalists and pub-



Prime Minister Nahas Angula

lishers with the Electoral Commission of Namibia, ECN, disguised as observers.

They issued a report on Namibia's National Assembly and

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Katjuongua

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Having failed to attract people at its meetings, Katjuongua took to the street, talking to whoever he meets but few listened to him. During that campaign, Katjuongua approached the people he knew and those he did not, telling the "what DCN will do once elected to power."

DCN did poorly in those elections and Katjuongua's political future looked bleak. He later joined CoD from which he resigned last year. In their bitter exchanges with CoD President Ben Ulenga, he accused Katjuongua of being "opportunistic, running from one party to another."

Katjuongua did not take this allegation lying down, hitting back that it was a "blooming lie." He said he had never deserted SWANU. "I have never deserted or defected from my political origins—SWANU," he said in a letter to Ulenga. CoD is the first party from which I am resigning."

Zoom In hammered Katjuongua on that one. "By implication this means that he (Katjuongua) was both SWANU and CoD—a political cheat..." read part of Zoom In.

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Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki reportedly "raised questions about the United States military dictatorship in the region", referring to the continuing US-led occupations of Iraq and Afghanistan. "Those who have been the very symbol of military dictatorships over the past decades, since the Vietnam war until now, see everyone else in the same way," he said. President Ahmadinejad warned on Tuesday against further sanctions, saying: "Something will be done in response that will make them [the countries involved] regret it." At the same time, he reiterated Iran's offer to go through with an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) deal reached last year to exchange low-enriched uranium for fuel rods for its research reactor in Tehran. He insisted, however, that the exchange should be simultaneous. Tehran recently warned it would enrich uranium to 20 percent and manufacture its own rods if the deal fell through.

The US has previously rejected any modification to the IAEA agreement. In her comments, Clinton ruled out further negotiations. Speaking in Qatar, she asserted that Iran was constructing a nuclear weapon, then added, "we don't want to be engaging [with Tehran] while they are building their bomb". She provided no new evidence to support her claim, which Iran has repeatedly denied.

While denying that Washington was planning war against Iran, Clinton declared: "[W]e will certainly defend countries in the Gulf who face the greatest immediate threat from Iran." Four Gulf states—Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates—have recently acquired additional anti-missile defence systems from the US.

In a bid to consolidate the sup-

port of the Gulf States behind the US, Clinton warned of the dangers of a nuclear arms race and regional instability if Iran had a nuclear weapon. Students in the audience challenged her cynical declaration that the Middle East should remain free of nuclear weapons. They asked whether the US intended to demand that Israel dismantle its nuclear arsenal.

While Clinton was in the Middle East, General Petraeus was in Saudi Arabia for talks about military cooperation. Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Admiral Mullen visited Israel for talks with the Israeli military before heading to Jordan and Saudi Arabia. Mullen's mission appears to have been to restrain Israel from attacking Iran's nuclear facilities, at least while the US is pressing its diplomatic and political offensive. He warned that any unilateral Israeli strike would be self-defeating.

Top US State Department officials James Steinberg and Jacob Lew have been allocated the task of drumming up support. Lew left last weekend for Egypt, Israel and Jordan. Steinberg is due to travel to Israel next week for talks that are expected to focus on Iran. William Burns, the Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs, will travel to Lebanon and Syria next week. He is aiming to loosen Syria's ties to Iran and also secure Lebanese support for a sanctions resolution in the UN Security Council.

The US has the backing of Britain and France for tough UN sanctions, with indications that Russia is considering its support. Intense US pressure is being applied to the only other permanent UN Security Council, China, to fall into line. Washington is also stepping up its own unilateral sanctions against Iran. Last week the US Treasury Department froze the assets within

its jurisdiction of four companies controlled by the Revolutionary Guards, as well as of a commander, General Rostam Qasemi, who oversees the IRGC's construction and engineering arm, Khatam al-Anbiya.

As if on cue, the American media has begun to swing behind Clinton's new propaganda line. A comment published in yesterday's *Wall Street Journal* entitled "Iran's emerging military dictatorship," chimed in. "Perhaps it is time to consider regime change a possibility," it declared. "Even so-called realists must concede that the Khomeinist establishment, under the emerging leadership of the IRGC, is not the only actor on the Iranian scene. There is another actor: the popular movement for change."

The Obama administration's belligerent stance is encouraging openly militarist sections of the American political establishment to demand even tougher measures. In a comment in the *Wall Street Journal* last week entitled "The case for striking Iran grows," the Bush administration's former ambassador to the UN, John Bolton, declared: "America's central focus must be to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons in the first place. Doing so requires decisive, and likely military, action now, since there is essentially no likelihood that an Obama-inspired 'regime of sanctions' will achieve that objective."

While the Obama administration currently appears intent on pursuing "regime change" in Tehran, it continues to keep all options on the table, including military attacks. Washington's reckless efforts to political destabilise the Iranian regime will only heighten tensions throughout the regime and increase the danger of war. **WSWS**