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the underwater marine sea cable. The West Africa System Cable, WACS, landed on its shores in Swakopmund last month. WACS is a 14,000km undersea telecoms fibre-optic cable laid along the west African coast to allow high bandwidth connectivity for the country and its neighbors, and it is said to change the internet landscape for Namibia forever, once it becomes operational.

“We have a lot of challenges ahead,” said Founding President Sam Nujoma. “We have laid a strong foundation on which future generations will build on. But the most important thing is education. Education has been received with appro- priate solutions.”

“His Honour the Prime Minister and a documentor of the people,” Hugo Derks, a week earlier, had said. “Let us harness this youthful energy and make Namibia the best she can be. Let us dedicate ourselves to the achieve- ment of a shared dream and a common vision to make Namibia a prosperous nation with ample opportunities for all our children and young people to reach their fullest potential.”

“Let us do our utmost best to realize the aspirations of all our people. We will utilize public resources to improve the liv- ing conditions of all our people. We are sharpening our capacity to plan better, to analyze and frame the challenges facing us so that we can provide appropriate solutions.”

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Editorial:
General E-Mail: inform@namibiatoday.com.na
Letters to the Editor: editor@namibiatoday.com.na
Personal:
Queries: subscription@namibiatoday.com.na
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The Minister of Bantu Affairs must be approached. He must consult his advisors here and present that to the Govern- ment and a distinction has to be made between different types of cases.

Another meeting where the is- sue was further discussed took place on February 17, 1960, and was attended by the Secretary of Bantu Affairs, who later joined by the Minister of Bantu Affairs. At that meeting, various scenarios on how to “re- move” Cde Nujoma from Windhoek were weighed.

One option was that Cde Nujoma should be removed from Windhoek on the ground that he did not meet the “requirements” of the Municipal Regulations, which dictated that a person be “legally em- ployed” to live in Windhoek.

Another option was that he should be “removed” on the pretext that he was “collecting money from his tribal groups without proper bookkeeping.”

The plot was to “remove” Cde Nujoma without causing an “international outcry,” and the Windhoek Municipality, which had already received negative publicity internation- ally following the December, 10th, 1959 Old Location mas- sacre, could not take such a decision at that moment.

At that meeting, a certain Dr. Esterhuysen pointed out that “Sam was removed through government action, there would probably be a lot of noise.” And that was what the authorities did not want.

“The question has arisen as to where he should go if he was removed from the location,” minutes of the meetings now reveal. “It is not certain that those chiefs in Owamboland would control him.”

“The possibility of a removal to another place other than the Northern Native territories, namely to the Kush, was men- tioned by the Minister but it was pointed out that such a step would require an order of the Governor-General.”

At that time, South Africa was not yet a republic, and the Head of State was Queen Eliza- beth, who was represented by the Governor-General. Minis- ter of Bantu Affairs was in- structed at that meeting to in- vestigate possibility of getting an order from the Governor- General.

But before such a plot could be carried, Sam Nujoma sneaked out of the country and crossed the border into Botswana, away forever from the jaws of the white oppres- sors. On March 1, 1960 — the day Cde Nujoma crossed the border into Botswana — he defined an elaborate plan by the Boers that could have possibly resulted in his clandestine as- sassination — Brendan Simbwaye style.

“I did not know that they had such a big plan against me in- volving the Prime Minister himself,” said Cde Nujoma. “Just imagine the whole Prime Minister, it was Hendrik Verwoerd at that time, hatching such a dubious plot against me!”

“Apparently I was a trouble maker. I was not a trouble maker. I just wanted my people to exercise their legitimate right to self-determination, freedom and independence.”

“We achieved that on 21st March 1990 when I declared to the world that Namibia was forever, sovereign and in- dependent. That was 30 years later after that plot. I don’t know what would have happened to me if they succeeded in their plan to take me to Kush. Verwoerd was assassinated in 1966.”