

Sending him to Owamboland was out of the question as Owambo chiefs would not be able to "control him," the documents reveal. Having him banished at a place called Kusib, was the only option. But Cde Nujoma sneaked out of the country before that plan could be implemented, defusing a plan that could have ghastly consequences for him.

It is not known exactly where "Kusib" is or whether it is misspelled, but looking at the details and depth of the plan, it would appear that it should be one of the isolated areas where a person could be banished with little room for escaping.

Had the plan been carried out, the possibility existed that Cde Nujoma might have been

assassinated, on the pretext that he was running away. Or he could have simply disappeared without any trace, in the same way SWAPO Vice President Bredan Simbwaye had disappeared.

To date, sources say, only the apartheid regime's security and intelligence officers knew what had happened to Cde Simbwaye. Seeing that Cde Nujoma was rated as a "serious security threat," he could have easily disappeared under mysterious circumstances like Cde Simbwaye.

One meeting where such an elaborate plan was discussed took place on January 26, 1960, and Item No 2 on the agenda was "Disturbances in Windhoek." It was attended by the Prime Minister himself, the Administrator and the Secretary for South West Africa.

lowed by health. Early this year, President Pohamba told a special cabinet meeting which was called to put finishing touches to this year's national budget that proposed budgets for education and health should not be cut.

This year, education, finance and health received N\$8,3 billion, N\$3,6 billion and N\$3,3 billion respectively. The development budget will reach N\$23,8 billion over the next three years.

On many occasions, President Pohamba has called on the nation to work hard to productively contribute to nation-building efforts. Only through hard work by Namibians themselves will Vision 2030 become a reality.

"Our country will not be developed and built by anyone else, but ourselves," he once said. "Let us harness this youthful energy and make Namibia the best she can be. Let us dedicate ourselves to the achievement 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.

"We will do our utmost best to realize the aspirations of all our people. We will utilize public resources to improve the living 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."

Namibia

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the underwater marine sea cable. The West Africa Cable System, WACS, landed on its shores in Swakopmund last month.

WACS is a 14 000km under-sea telecoms fibre-optic cable laid along the west African coast to allow high bandwidth connectivity for the country and its neighbours, 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 is priority number one. We have to invest in education so that we can produce our own scientists, engineers, agriculturalists, quantity surveyors, geologists, medical doctors and other specialists.

"Our young people should stay away from alcohol and drug abuse. We have young people who are ruining their lives and future by indulging in alcohol and drug abuse. You cannot develop a country with drunkards. Young people should be in classes, not in bars."

Education has been receiving the biggest chunk of the budget since independence, fol-



SUIDWES - AFRIKA / SOUTH WEST AFRICA

KANTOOR VAN DIE ADMINISTRATEUR,
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.
WINDHOEK.

Die Hoof-Bantoesakekommissaris,
WINDHOEK

ONSLUTE IN WINDHOEK.

Na aanleiding van ons onlangse gesperk in Kaapstad met die Sekretaris en Minister van Bantoesake, heg ek hierby n afskrif van notas wat ek daaromtrent opgestel het, aan.

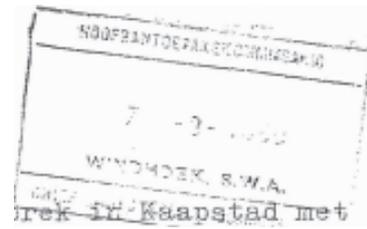
U sal opmerk dat in verband met die aangeleentheid, Sam Nujoma, u Minister versoek het dat u verdere ondersoek instel in verband met sy moontlike verwydering uit Windhoek.

As u verlang kan ons verdere samesprekings voer oor hier-die aangeleentheid. Ek is op die oomblik in aanraking met die Polisie in verband met Marcus Cooper.


KRANTOOR VAN SUIDWES-AFRIKA.

Verwys asb. in u antwoord na:
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No. AS. 107/2.....



"His Honour the Prime Minister," one of the documents reveals, "brought up the issue concerning the banishment of Sam Nujoma. The matter should be dealt with in a delicate manner. There should be a lot of deliberations before taking such a step.

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ments with the farm owner, Hugo Derks, a week earlier, and thought that everything was in order and would proceed to address the workers.

On his arrival, however, he was stopped at the gate and refused entry. Abusive and racial remarks were hurled at him, which he did not take lightly and vowed to fight against such behaviour.

He was told that he had "nothing to do with labour issues" and that he should "just go to the coast for fishing." The workers at the farm had also informed Nguvauva that the Derks family had also told them that "you can go to Kilus or any other minister or Sam Nujoma or Pohamba, nothing will change and nothing will happen to them."

Such remarks infuriated Nguvauva. Cabinet which discussed this incident last Tuesday was equally baffled and perturbed. A media release issued on Thursday said Government viewed such attitude and behaviour not only unacceptable but also disrespectful to an elected representative of the people.

"As a representative of the people, Councilor Nguvauva should have unfettered access

"The Minister of Bantu Affairs must be approached. He must consider all aspects of the issue and present that to the Government and a distinction has to be made between different types of cases."

Another meeting where the issue was further discussed took

place on February 17, 1960 and was attended by the Secretary for Bantu Affairs, who was later joined by the Minister of Bantu Affairs. At that meeting, various scenarios on how to "remove" 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 employed" 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 internationally following the December, 10th, 1959 Old Location massacre, could not take such a decision at that moment.

At that meeting, a certain Dr Eisselen pointed out that if "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 chiefs in Owamboland would control him.

"The possibility of a removal to another place other than the Northern Native territories, namely to the Kusib, was mentioned 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 Elizabeth, who was represented by the Governor-General. Minister of Bantu Affairs was instructed at that meeting to investigate 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 oppressors. On March 1, 1960 – the day Cde Nujoma crossed the border into Botswana — he defused an elaborate plan by the Boers that could have possibly resulted in his clandestine assassination — Brendan Simbwaye style.

"I did not know that they had such a big plan against me involving 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 free, sovereign and independent. 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 Kusib. Verwoerd was assassinated in 1966."

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