

Namibians in Cangamba

A story of brotherhood between the peoples of Cuba, Angola and Namibia that was forged in the fight for independence and against Apartheid.

By JORGE MARTIN BLANDINO

Between 1975 and 1989, a crucial and bloody battle was waged in Southern Africa against the forces of racism and reaction which were determined to drown in blood the aspirations for freedom and independence of two nations in that continent: Angola and Namibia. During those tough years, the friendship between the peoples of these two nations and the Cuban people, who went to aid their brothers and sisters victims of an aggression, became as solid as steel.

A LONG AND JUST STRUGGLE

In 1840, Namibia was occupied by Germany. After Germany was

defeated during the First World War, the League of Nations gave South African rulers the authority over the Namibian territory on which they imposed the Apartheid and where they tried to perpetuate their dominance.

The resistance to the oppressors was led by SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organization) recognized by the United Nations as the legitimate representative of the Namibian people. Having tried every peaceful way, Namibians engaged in the armed struggle. In 1975, the struggle intensified after the independence of Angola that provided a decisive support for the patriots.

The South African regime response was to invade the Angolan territory again. On May 4, 1978, the racist troops massacred hundreds of Namibian senior citizens, women and children who had taken refuge in the Angolan village of Kassinga.

Cuban internationalist fighters who went to assist them also died near that place as a result of the attacks by the enemy air force. By that time, and for many years ahead, the aggressor had air supremacy in Southern Angola.

With some ups and downs, this was the situation prevailing during the 70's and 80's. In 1980, with the extreme right takeover in the

United States, the situation worsened. Angolans, Namibians and Cuban internationalist combatants faced together a long-standing stage of continuing aggressions.

In this context, on August 2, 1983 a powerful group of the South African Army and UNITA attacked the Angolan village of Cangamba that was defended by an inexperienced unit with scarce armaments and munitions under the advice of 82 Cuban internationalist fighters.

The attack was defeated, first and foremost, thanks to the tenacious resistance of the defending

unit, but also as a result of the decisive actions taken by the internationalist aviation and the helilifted landings at the enemy's rearguard.

Here are the testimonies given, almost 26 years later, by two officers—one Cuban and the other one Namibian—who were key actors of that heroic deed.

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LIEUTENANT COLONEL FAJARDO'

In August, 1982, I received 8 guerrilla men from SWAPO in my unit who were supposed to advise us and join us in the fight against South African forces operating in the South of Angola. Very soon, two of them stood out from the group: Nelumbo², always serious and respectful, and Canambula, who was so cheerful and witty that he looked like an ordinary Cuban within that troop of youths.

That half-buried dormitory

Cont on page 5



Plan combatants together with Cuban military advisers in the bush close to the Angolan -Namibian boarder, 17 August 1982



BULK SUPPLY OF CEMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND QUOTATIONS, RFPQ 01/2009

The National Housing Enterprise (NHE) is committed to drastically increase the volume of housing stock in Namibia, both in urban and rural areas, and to give effect to the strategic objectives of the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) with regard to sustainable human development, so as to enhance the quality and value of the lives of all Namibian citizens.

In terms of Vision 2030, which is the GRN's National Development Framework, approximately 47 500 housing units had to be built between 2005 and 2030. This translates to 1 900 housing units every year. The NHE has thus decided on a target of at least 1 200 housing units every year.

Cement constitutes a big component of the building materials, and so the NHE is planning to procure this material on a large scale, with the intention to secure more competitive prices that will have a beneficial effect for the end-user.

This Request For Proposals & Quotations (RFPQ) is thus issued to all interested entities for the supply of cement on a large scale and on a long-term contractual basis.

Sealed proposals must reach the head office of the National Housing Enterprise in Windhoek (7 General Murtala Muhammed Avenue, Eros), not later than 12:00 on Friday, 11 September 2009.

BRIEFING SESSION:

A briefing session will be held with interested suppliers to discuss the RFPQ, at the NHE head office in Windhoek, on Thursday, 20 August 2009 at 10:00.

RFPO Document

A document giving more information is available from the contact details below. The document will also be available at the briefing session.

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LOCAL TENDER BOARD

FOR THE CITY OF WINDHOEK



Tender Invitation

TENDER NO. M 82/09

Title: PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF THE NEW EROS LOAD CENTRE AND THE UPGRADING OF THE OLYMPIA LOAD CENTRE.

Description: The Electricity departments of the City of Windhoek wish to procure consulting services for design and construction supervision of 66/11kV load centres in Windhoek.

Site Inspection: A **Compulsory** briefing meeting will be held on Friday 21st August 2009, 09h00, Electricity Department Board Room.

Closing Date: Friday, 04 September 2009 at 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 17 August 2009 at 11h00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: N\$ 250.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical : Mr. Edward C. Kawesha - Tel: +264 61-290 2473

TENDER NO. M 83/09

Title: SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 11KV METAL CLAD SWITCHGEAR FOR THE NEW LAFREZ DISTRIBUTION SUBSTATION.

Description: The Electricity departments of the City of Windhoek wish to procure an 11k V switch board for its new distribution substation in Lafrenz.

Closing Date: Friday, 04 September 2009 at 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 17 August 2009 at 11h00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: N\$ 250.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical : Mr. Edward C. Kawesha - Tel: +264 61-290 2473

TENDER NO. M 84/09

Title: SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF 8 x 66kV VOLTAGE TRANSFORMERS FOR SYSTEM SYNCHRONISM OF THE 66KV NETWORK.

Description: The Electricity department of the City of Windhoek wish to procure two (08) x 66 kV voltage transformers for load centres in the city of Windhoek.

Closing Date: Friday, 04 September 2009 at 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 17 August 2009 at 11h00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: N\$ 250.00 (Non-refundable)

Enquiries Technical : Mr. Edward C. Kawesha - Tel: +264 61-290 2473

TENDER NO. M 85/09

Description: Supply and Delivery of Electric Cable 1.5 mm² x 2 Core 1000 V PVC SWA PVC (500m Drums) 1.5mm² x 37 Numbered Cores 1000 V PVC SWA PVC (500m Drums.(Two (2) Yearly Tender).

Closing Date: Friday, 04 September 2009 at 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Friday 14 August 2009 at 14h00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: N\$ 150.00 (Non-refundable)

Contact Person: Mr. A.H. Bester - **Tel:** +264-(0) 61 290 2511 / **Fax:** +264 61 290 2278
Cell: 081 240 4980 / **E-mail:** ahb@windhoekcc.org.na

TENDER NO. M 86/09

Title: MANUFACTURE AND DELIVERY OF TRAFFIC LIGHT POLES FOR OVERHEAD SIGNAL INSTALLATIONS, TWO YEARLY TENDER

Description: The tender is to procure over head traffic light installation poles to support signals above the roadway in the form of foundation pillar, pole, cross arm and bracket arms by means of a tender valid for two (2) years from date of appointment.

Site Inspection: Tender briefing meeting will be held on Friday 21st August 2009, 09h00, at the Customer Care Centre, Rev Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Closing Date: Friday, 04 September 2009 at 11:00

Tender Documents: Available as from Monday 17 August 2009 at 11h00 at the Customer Care Centre, Rev. Michael Scott Street, Windhoek.

Levy: N\$ 150.00 (Non-refundable)

Contact Person: Mr. A.H. Bester - **Tel:** +264-(0) 61 290 2511 / **Fax:** +264 61 290 2278
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DELIVERY ADDRESS: Tender Box, Customer Care Centre, City of Windhoek
Rev Michael Scott Street
WINDHOEK

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