

Namibia Today

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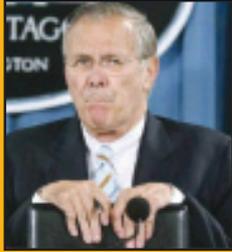
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Nujoma was never agent

Ex-BOSS intelligence official dissects Malan's book

By Asser Ntinda

A former senior intelligence officer in the now disbanded South Africa's Bureau of State Security, BOSS, says there was no way Founding President Sam Nujoma could have been an agent, as had earlier been insinuated by General Magnus Malan in his autobiography, "My Life with SADF."

P. C. Swanepoel's book, titled "REALLY INSIDE BOSS" gives a totally different account of events that surrounded the arrest and subsequent deportation of Founding President Nujoma and President Hifikepunye Pohamba in March 1966 in Windhoek.

Interestingly, Swanepoel's account of events on that day tallies with what Cde Nujoma had written in his autobiography, "Where Others Wavered." The two have neither met nor written their books together, but

their accounts tally in many respects. That leaves Malan's book in question marks.

Cdes Nujoma and Pohamba came to Namibia that year to challenge South Africa's claim that they were in "self-imposed exile" and could come back home any time they wanted and "nothing would happen" to them.

Their arrival in Namibia followed a verdict of the International Court of Justice, which went in favour of South Africa. Upon arrival at JG Strydom In-



President Hifikepunye Pohamba

ternational Airport, they were promptly arrested and taken to the Police cells.

Swanepoel was one of the security police officers who arrested Cdes Nujoma and Pohamba at the airport, and his account of what really happened at the airport that day tallies with what Cde Nujoma said in his autobiography.



Founding President Sam Nujoma

Swanepoel said in his book that shortly after their arrest, they were immediately taken to the Police cells where they were locked up, as the apartheid regime tried to figure out what to do with the two men.

"So, having arrested them," said Swanepoel in his book, "what were we to do with them? Obviously they would



Magnus Malan

have to be charged, and they would be fined and thereafter they would be free to do whatever they wanted."

Uncomfortable with the presence of Cdes Nujoma and Pohamba in "South West Africa," Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, then Prime Minister of South Africa phoned a certain Brigadier Crous from Pretoria that



P.C Swanepoel

very evening and ordered that Cdes Nujoma and Pohamba were to be put back on the carrier which had brought them into the country and returned to "wherever" they came from.

Again, it was Swanepoel and other security police officers who took Founding President

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Pohamba reads riot act for governors

Namibia's first appointed governors have been told to hit the ground running and ensure that services and other essential needs reach the people who are in need of such services promptly.

President Hifikepunye Pohamba told the governors this week at State House that they should not waste time in attending to the welfare of the people and render effective and efficient service delivery.

The President said that governors had a duty to coordinate their activities as well as the development activities in their regions as representatives of the central government and should therefore ensure proper coordination of such activities.

Regional councils and local authorities as well as traditional

authorities should coordinate their activities and work together with governors to cultivate a harmonious working relationship to contribute to the process of nation-building and development.

"This must be done to promote economic growth and wealth creation in their respective regions," said President Pohamba. "It is the only effective manner in which the scourges of poverty and underdevelopment can be successfully tackled.

"The socio-economic chal-



President Hifikepunye Pohamba with 13 Governors at State House shortly after they were sworn-in by Prime Minister Nahas Angula, left. On the right is Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development Minister Jerry Ekandjo. Photo by Levi Upula.

lenges facing our people are many. Thus, they require innovative solutions. They also demand hard work and commitment on the part of the regional governors.

"As regional governors, we expect you to fully implement your mandate with vigour and

determination. We expect that your actions should start to bear fruit and bring about positive changes in the lives of our people."

The President said that he had appointed those governors because he believed that they could deliver on their important

mandates. They should positively contribute to government's efforts to combat unemployment, to improve public service delivery and to achieve national development objectives as outlined in na-

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