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140 RDP members join SWAPO

By Special Correspondent

Katima Mulilo - The opposition RDP suffered a major setback in its disjointed election campaign after 140 of its members joined SWAPO on Saturday.

The defection occurred at the star rally at Sibbinda where SWAPO Party President and the Head of State Hifikepunye Pohamba was the keynote speaker.

RDP membership cards were displayed on a table.

The star rally attracted hundreds of cadres dressed in SWAPO colours of blue, red and green and several Cabinet ministers and traditional chiefs and indunas.

The en-masse defection of RDP was so crippling that it not only involved ordinary members but it involved one of the party's trusted regional organisers Helen Mwabi a

close ally and confidant of Agnes Limbo.

Limbo is the Deputy RDP Secretary General and is among the party's eight parliamentarians.

Mwabi was RDP's Central Committee member, and was among its main political pillars in the Caprivi Region, particularly in Sibbinda Constituency.

Another setback at the star rally came in the form of Ida Lifasi Shozi, the Regional Secretary for RDP Women Affairs, who also defected to SWAPO Party, handing over her RDP membership card.

All in all, 60 RDP members handed over their membership cards and SWAPO Party Caprivi Regional Coordinator, Cde Ignatius Nkunga, said the number of RDP defectors exceeded the 140 who were welcomed at the star rally.

In his address, President Pohamba, who appealed to



RDP membership cards which were handed over at the SWAPO Party star rally

RDP supporters to come back to SWAPO Party, also took note of the disarray in opposi-

tion ranks when he said that recently he saw a grey-haired man addressing a handful of

people at an RDP "rally." President Pohamba said only people who were "not right in

their minds" would vote for the

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Van der Merwe joins SWAPO

By Esau Muzeu and Levi Upula

SWAPO party is growing stronger every day. People all over the country continue to join SWAPO Party. People have realized that they have been misled by those with hidden agendas.



Founding President Dr Sam Nujoma welcoming Van der Merwe to SWAPO Party. Photo by Levi Upula.

They now know that what is being said by the opposition is blatant fabrication. It is manufactured by those who fight for power only. To their surprise, SWAPO Party is even stronger than before as many people are coming back every day to the Party.

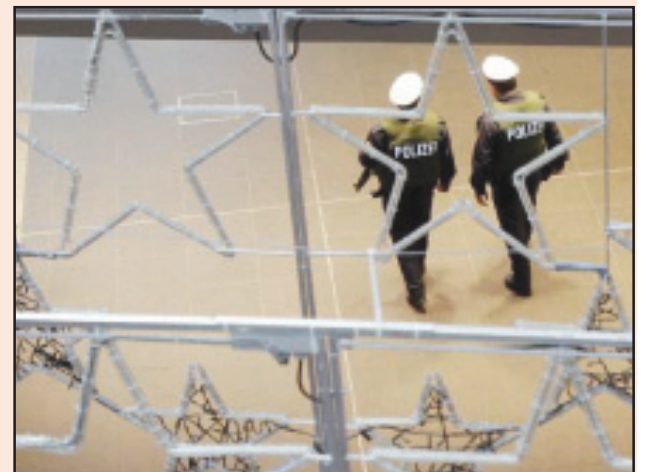
An influential resident of the Gobabis community, Cde *Cont on page 2*

Suspicious package found in Namibia destined to Munich: official

BERLIN,—Baggage containing a suspected detonating device was removed from a Munich-bound plane at Windhoek airport in Namibia by local police Wednesday, German federal crime agency BKA said Thursday.

The bag, which contained batteries with a detonator and a running clock, was about to be loaded on a charter flight with 296 passengers from Windhoek to Munich, operated by LTU/Air Berlin, the BKA said.

All passengers and luggage on the flight were given an additional check after the discovery of the bag before it was *Cont on page 2*



A commuter walks past German police patrolling inside the Hauptbahnhof main railway station in Berlin, November 18, 2010. Germany said on Wednesday it had strong evidence Islamist militants were planning attacks in the next two weeks and ordered security at potential targets such as train stations and airports to be tightened.

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