

SWAPO roars

Holds rallies in all 107 constituencies at one go



Helao Nafidi Town in Ohangwena Region saw thousands of people flocking to a SWAPO Party rally, which was addressed by President Hifikepunye Pohamba. Photo by Levi Upula.

By Asser Ntinda and Levi Upula

In a show of muscles, SWAPO Party has made history over the past two weekends by holding rallies in all the 107 constituencies, and SWAPO Party Secretary for Information and Mobilization, Cde Jerry Ekandjo, says that the trend will continue until the elections are over.

All national and regional leaders both at Party and government levels will be dispatched to all corners of the country every weekend to address rallies and meetings to ensure a landslide victory for SWAPO Party. This weekend, however, will see the scale down of such meetings and rallies because of the State funeral of the

late Hendrick Witbooi, who will be laid to rest on Sunday.

The two major rallies were held at Outapi in Omusati Region and at Helao Nafidi in Ohangwena Region, where tens of thousands of people came out in full force to listen to President Hifikepunye Pohamba, who was the main speaker at the two rallies.

Four people from the Rally for Democracy and Progress, RDP, at Outapi crossed over to SWAPO Party last weekend. Party leaders at Outapi said they could have been many but not all of them could make it to the rally because of a lack of transport.

All the rallies were full. Some people climbed on trees to get a

bird's view of the massive crowds, which prompted some political observers to write off opposition parties,

saying that they should forget about breaking SWAPO Party's two-thirds majority.

In all his speeches, President Pohamba was upbeat in pointing

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Tribute to the National Hero: Cde Dr. Hendrik Witbooi

Dr. T. Elijah Ngurare, Secretary of SPYL

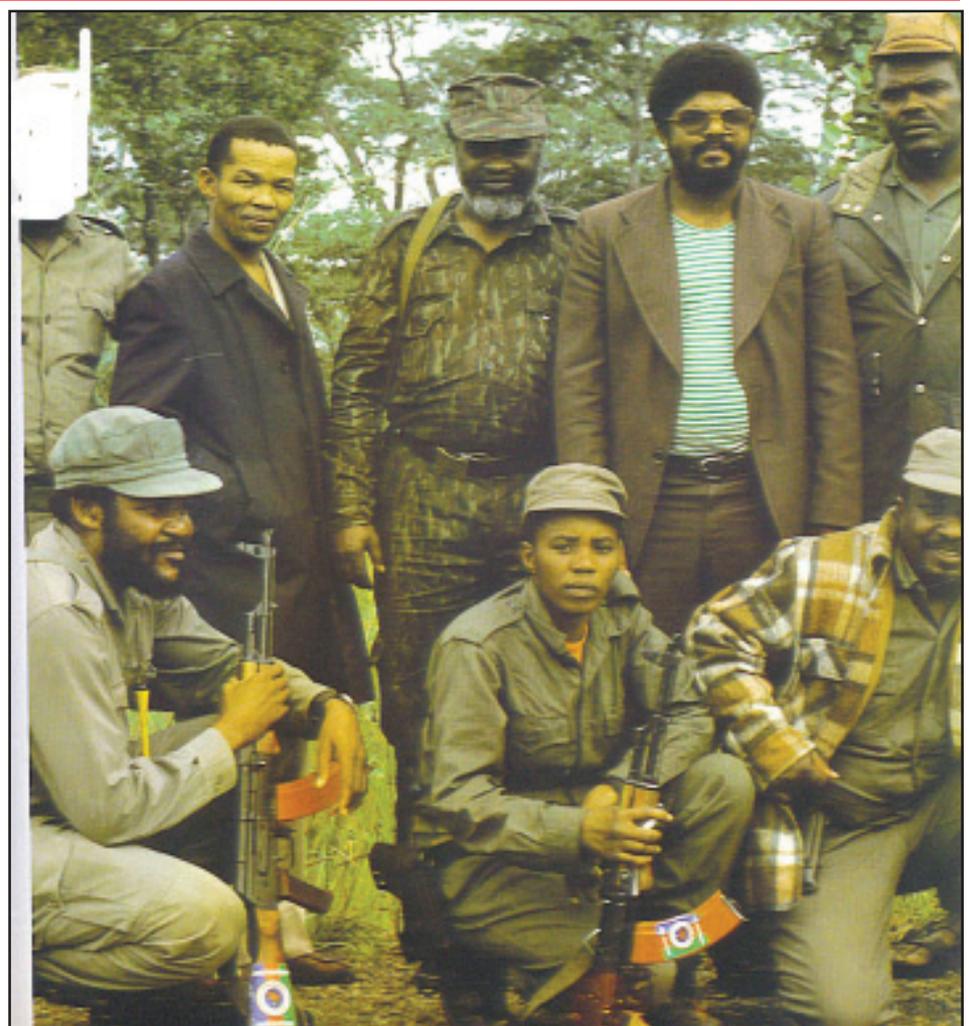
When I visited him at the Roman Catholic Hospital, I found him sleeping and was awoken to be alerted of my visit. He smiled and woke up briefly. Like the rest of the country, I offered prayers for his well being and continued to be in contact with the family about his condition. It was Sunday (11 October 2009) afternoon while at Katjinakatji that I received a sad word about him having gone into a deep coma. That Tuesday, 13 October 2009, just shortly after he passed away, I was there as his lifeless body was on the hospital bed. A cloud of sorrow descended upon the Roman Catholic Hospital and throughout the entire country. A National Hero had fallen, the late Comrade Dr. Hendrik Witbooi, a freedom fighter, former Vice President of the SWAPO Party, former Minister of Labour and Namibia's first Deputy Prime Minister who was Pastor and Presiding Elder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church as well as King of the /Khowese people.

The late Comrade Hendrik Witbooi was a true and dedicated nationalist leader, who cared for all the people of Namibia, he dedicated his entire life to the service of his people using every means at his disposal. It is therefore with utmost humility and great respect

that I pen down this tribute to the late National Hero. He was a National Hero from a royal and yet a humble beginning. The history books speak about his bravery during the liberation struggle inside the country and about his unwavering patriotism. For us all the younger

generation, his life is a library for knowledge and a fountain of wisdom. He was imprisoned without trial, alongside the late Comrade Anton Lubowski and the then Vice President of the Mine Workers Union (MUN) Comrade Asser

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The late Reverend Hendrick Witbooi, first from left, with then SWAPO President Sam Nujoma, the late Dan Tjongarero, the late Dimo Hamaambo, the late Peter Nanyemba, seated from left, Vicky Utoni and the late Maxton Mutongolumbe.. Rev Witbooi, as SWAPO Vice President inside the country, and Tjongarero visited SWAPO military Headquarters in southern Angola during the liberation struggle to exchange views and strategize on military operations.