

Rebels

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February 26 resolution barring the introduction of all arms and munitions into Libya.

"It is our interpretation that [UN Security Council Resolution] 1973 amended or overrode the absolute prohibition on arms to anyone in Libya, so that there could be a legitimate transfer of arms if a country should choose to do that," Clinton said Tuesday.

British Prime Minister Cameron stuck to the same script in parliament Wednesday, declaring, "Our view is that this [UN resolution] would not necessarily rule out the provision of assistance to those protecting civilians in certain circumstances."

Speaking in a House of Commons debate on March 18—the day after the UN Security Council approved the resolution authorizing a no-fly zone—Cameron took the opposite po-

sition, declaring, "The resolution helps to enforce the arms embargo, and our legal understanding is that that arms embargo applies to the whole of Libya."

Legal experts interviewed by the British *Guardian* made it clear that any other interpretation of the UN resolutions could be based only on willful deception. They point out that the March 17 resolution calls for the "strict implementation" of the arms embargo approved in February and that the February resolution demands that any breaching of the ban on arms and munitions receive prior approval from a UN committee established to enforce the measure—and not be carried out unilaterally by one or another government.

If the US moves ahead with arming the anti-Gaddafi forces, it will be defying the United Nations in order to conduct an illegal war no less openly than Bush did in invading Iraq.

One of the persistent ques-

tions arising in response to the proposals for arming the "rebels" is what precise role is played in their operations by Al Qaeda and other Islamist forces.

US Adm. James Stavridis, NATO's supreme allied commander for Europe, testifying at a US Senate hearing Tuesday allowed that US intelligence agencies had detected "flickers" of an Al Qaeda presence within the Libyan armed opposition.

"We have seen flickers in the intelligence of potential Al Qaeda, Hezbollah; we've seen different things," said the admiral. "But at this point, I don't have the detail sufficient to say that there's a significant Al Qaeda presence or any other terrorist presence in and among these folks."

Hillary Clinton brushed off a similar question, declaring, "We don't know as much as we would like to know" about the "rebels."

The US ambassador to

Libya, Gene Cretz, admitted to the *New York Times* that he had no way of knowing whether the "rebels" were "100 percent kosher, so to speak." And former CIA agent Bruce Riedel, now an analyst at the Democratic Party-oriented think tank, the Brookings Institution, allowed that there were bound to be such elements. He said, "The question we can't answer is: Are they 2 percent of the opposition? Are they 20 percent? Or are they 80 percent?"

US intelligence analysts have acknowledged that members of the Libya Islamic Fighting Group are playing a role in the attempt to oust Gaddafi. The organization was founded by Libyan veterans of the anti-Soviet war in Afghanistan and was placed on a list of groups affiliated with the Taliban after September 11.

Newsweek's Afghanistan and Pakistan correspondents Ron Moreau and Sami Yousafzai reported Wednesday that "some of the 200 or so

Libyans operating near the Afghan border may be on their way home to steer the anti-Gaddafi revolution in a more Islamist direction." Among them, the report said, is Abu Yahya al-Libi, who is Al Qaeda's "senior Islamist ideologue and bin Laden's head of operations for Afghanistan." If Yahya is successful in reaching eastern Libya, it added, "he'll be able to operate with relative freedom, without worrying about Gaddafi's secret police."

If the Libyan intervention has demonstrated anything, it is the fraud of Washington's so-called global war on terrorism. In its bid to oust Gaddafi and install a US puppet state in Libya, the CIA and the Pen-

tagon are allied with Al Qaeda against a regime which had placed its secret service at the disposal of the CIA for combating the Islamist movement.

Gaddafi has opportunistically attempted to dissuade the US and other Western powers from attacking him by pointing to the role of the Islamists among the rebels, but to no avail.

The CIA's ties to Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda precede those forged with the Libyan dictator. It has long seen the terrorist movement as a useful tool, first for attacking the Soviets, then for providing a pretext for wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and now as foot soldiers in Washington's bid to re-colonize an oil-rich North African country. **WSWS**

Gweru MDC-T councillors at each other's throats

From Felex Share in GWERU

MDC-T councillors in Gweru are reportedly at each other's throats over a vehicle auction conducted by the local authority late last year with some alleging the sale benefited those close to Mayor Tedi Chimombe instead of the public.

The sidelined councillors are now demanding the same favour from the administration, saying the vehicles their colleagues bought have no defects and were sold for a song.

Gweru City Council auctioned "disused" vehicles, which were supposed to be for the members of the public. However, most of the cars were allegedly sold to councillors and council officials at discounted prices. This was, however, in contravention of local authority procedures.

Mayor Chimombe dismissed the allegations recently, saying council wanted to raise capital to buy new vehicles. He denied reports that they had discounted the vehicles to council officials. "What we needed was money. So council officials could have bought them because I don't know names of people who participated.

"We purchased tractors with that money.

"To us, most of these vehicles had defects not what they claim and we had to dispose them off.

"As for the price, we are not the ones who put the prices so it's not our fault but what I can tell you is that the lowest cars were going for as much as US\$700 and as council, we benefited from the auction," he said. However, a Mkoba councillor who chose to remain anonymous for fear of victimisation, said the vehicles were not cannibalised as purported by Clr Chimombe.

"Not all had defects as they say and the reason why we say so is because those who bought the cars are our colleagues.

"How can a car, which had been advertised for thousands of dollars be auctioned for US\$400?

"We also want the same favour because we are all serving under one council and we should benefit also," he said. A councillor from Ascot added: "They claimed that the vehicles were dysfunctional but we are surprised with what we are seeing." There is corruption and gross incompetence in this council."

If you go to their homes in Mutapa and Mkoba, you will understand what I am saying."

According to the councillors, the management also auctioned the only two compressors council had. The councillors who allegedly bought the cars at discounted prices are: Clr Dzingiso (Mkoba 13, who bought a lorry), Clr Chinene (Mkoba 16 (a pick-up truck), Clr Murerwa who (two tractors and a Mazda 323), director of housing a Maresera (lorry), and Superintendent Kabaya (lorry).

This is not the first time MDC-T councilors have been accused of underhand dealings and gross incompetence. Clr Chimombe and two councilors Lawrence Rutsvara and Taurai Demo were recently fingered in a land scam.

The two allegedly bought commercial stands meant for the general public at below market prices. Clr Chimombe allegedly bought a stand in Gweru CBD for US\$16 400 while clrs Rutsvara and Demo bought stands in Mkoba and the CBD for US\$27 000 each.

It is alleged the stand the mayor bought had a market value of US\$35 000 while the other two are pegged at US\$60 000 each.

Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development



Republic of Namibia

GENERAL NOTICE

OUTAPI TOWN PLANNING AMENDMENT SCHEME NO. 2

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 23 of the Town Planning Ordinance 1954, (Ordinance 18 of 1954), as amended, that the Outapi Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 2, has been submitted to the Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing for approval.

Copies of the Outapi Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 2 and the maps, plans, documents and other relevant matters are lying for inspection during office hours at the Outapi Town Council and also at the Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, 2nd Floor, Room 234, GRN Office Park, Windhoek.

Any person who wishes to object to the approval of Outapi Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 2, should lodge objections in writing to the Secretary, Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Private Bag 13289, Windhoek on/before 15 April 2011.

SWAKOPMUND TOWN PLANNING AMENDMENT SCHEME NO. 44

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 23 of the Town Planning Ordinance 1954, (Ordinance 18 of 1954), as amended, that the Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 44, has been submitted to the Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing for approval.

Copies of the Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 44 and the maps, plans, documents and other relevant matters are lying for inspection during office hours at the Municipality of Swakopmund and also at the Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, 2nd Floor, Room 234, GRN Office Park, Windhoek.

Any person who wishes to object to the approval of Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 44, should lodge objections in writing to the Secretary, Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Private Bag 13289, Windhoek on/before 02 May 2011.

SWAKOPMUND TOWN PLANNING AMENDMENT SCHEME NO. 45

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 23 of the Town Planning Ordinance 1954, (Ordinance 18 of 1954), as amended, that the Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 45, has been submitted to the Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing for approval.

Copies of the Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 45 and the maps, plans, documents and other relevant matters are lying for inspection during office hours at the Municipality of Swakopmund and also at the Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, 2nd Floor, Room 234, GRN Office Park, Windhoek.

Any person who wishes to object to the approval of Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 45, should lodge objections in writing to the Secretary, Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Private Bag 13289, Windhoek on/before 02 May 2011.

SWAKOPMUND TOWN PLANNING AMENDMENT SCHEME NO. 46

Notice is hereby given in terms of Section 23 of the Town Planning Ordinance 1954, (Ordinance 18 of 1954), as amended, that the Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 46, has been submitted to the Minister of Regional and Local Government and Housing for approval.

Copies of the Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 46 and the maps, plans, documents and other relevant matters are lying for inspection during office hours at the Municipality of Swakopmund and also at the Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Ministry of Regional and Local Government, Housing and Rural Development, 2nd Floor, Room 234, GRN Office Park, Windhoek.

Any person who wishes to object to the approval of Swakopmund Town Planning Amendment Scheme No. 46, should lodge objections in writing to the Secretary, Namibia Planning Advisory Board (NAMPAB), Private Bag 13289, Windhoek on/before 02 May 2011.