

What people say

From SWAPO website: www.swapoparty.org

◆ Posted by **Sebby Shilongo**

VIVA SWAPO Party, VIVA all fellow Comrades. I love and trust in the mighty SWAPO Party.

◆ Posted by **Cde. Katusha kaNamibia**
Dear Comrades, Victory is certain in the Supreme Court. SWAPO always victorious! Aluta Continua.

◆ Posted by **Kula Umone**

SWAPO Victorious! Victory belongs to the Great SWAPO Party, People have already spo-

ken clearly and loudly. We have won both the Presidential and National Assembly elections fairly and with overwhelming results that left some power hungry politicians flying out of the country for heart-attack treatments. Let us all as always wait patiently for the last judgement. One wonders were they will run to after the verdict. Fellow comrades, SWAPO will emerge the VICTOR as always, SWAPO is the People and the People are SWAPO!!!

◆ Posted by **Oshilongo shapile kundu.**
Swapo united , victoria and

hard work ,we are looking for ward. Aluuta !!

◆ Posted by **Cde Kanamutenya, Whk**

Comrade Kaujeua you are a hero, you have walked a long journey, and your inspiration are admired by many of us, REST IN PEACE AND MAY ALMIGHTY GOD RECEIVE YOU IN THE ETRNAL LIVE.

◆ Posted by **www.swapoparty.org**
Rest in peace Cde. Jackson Kaujeua. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Israel

from page 2

long history. It is worth recalling another Israeli attack on a vessel in international waters that took place 43 years ago. In that attack, 34 sailors aboard the USS Liberty were killed by Israeli napalm, missiles and machine-gun fire, while another 171 were wounded—the worst casualties suffered by the US Navy in a hostile action since World War II.

An intelligence ship, the Liberty was attacked off the Sinai Peninsula on June 8, 1967 in the midst of the Six-Day War. While Israel called it a tragic “mistake,” ample evidence emerged that the Zionist state attacked the ship because it wanted to stop Washington from listening in to its communications. Intercepts flatly contradicted Tel Aviv’s claim that it was acting in self-defense and revealed that Israel wanted to conceal evidence of its aggressive intentions as it moved to seize Gaza, the West Bank and the Golan Heights, all of which remain under illegal occupation to this day.

Much of the criticism of this week’s attack on the aid convoy, including within Israel itself, has treated it as a “botched” operation, an excessive use of

force and a public relations fiasco. But this is not a matter of a government losing its head. The Netanyahu regime’s policies are directed to a definite socio-political base, composed of religious extremists, right-wing settlers and the most politically reactionary layers within Israeli society. Its orientation is personified by the fascist background and ideology of its foreign minister, Avigdor Lieberman.

Deeply reactionary and in deep political crisis, the Israeli government is driven more and more to act as a global pyromaniac, threatening renewed wars against Syria and Lebanon and, according to a report in the London *Times* this week, sending submarines armed with nuclear missiles to the waters off Iran.

The unconditional support and approximately \$3 billion in annual aid to Israel bestowed by Washington—and continued under Obama—pose a mortal danger to people across the globe. This is not a matter merely of a single outlaw regime, but of a general descent of world affairs into a state of criminality and the disintegration of any semblance of international law, with Israel’s main patron setting the pattern.

The Obama administration continues two wars of aggres-

sion initiated under Bush and has maintained intact a police state apparatus of unlawful detentions, rendition and torture. It has now earned the ignominious designation as the number one practitioner of “targeted killings”—assassinations—through CIA drone attacks that have killed “many hundreds of people” in Pakistan, according to a United Nations report released Wednesday. The report condemned Washington for claiming a “license to kill without accountability.”

The behavior of the US and other governments as if they were the state incarnation of Murder Inc., acts of state terrorism and piracy like that committed by Israel this week, and the constant threats of new aggression have created a global climate that bears ever closer resemblance to the conditions that prevailed on the eve the Second World War.

These developments are driven by the mortal crisis of world capitalism and will not be reversed by either protests or pacifism. Only by uniting the working class, including both Jewish and Arab workers in the Middle East, in a common struggle to put an end to the profit system can a new global conflagration be prevented. **WSWS**



Zoom In

By Asser Ntinda



When you are in government, you always wake up and think about what you are going to do. When you are in opposition, you always wake up and think about what you are going to say. Nothing graphically defines the difference between the two than a piece that appeared in a local daily this week. Once again, the President of the Rally for Democracy and Progress, RDP, Hidipo Hamutenya, did justice to that difference.

After a long time without appearing in public or making public statements, Hamutenya wrote an article this week, carefully crafted to coincide with the Supreme Court’s hearing of last year’s election results which RDP and other eight opposition parties are disputing. This time around, he was not just talking about the elections being “rigged.” He had a mouthful too about how “bad and corrupt” the SWAPO Party government was, saying that the current government “is failing to govern this country ably, productively, justly, transparently and fairly.”

He went on: “Over the last 20 years, the government has failed dismally to come up with tangible, coherent and comprehensive strategy for job creation and economic growth. In other words, it has been incapable of responding positively and forcefully to this basic and crying national need. At the same time, our country’s authorities have allowed corruption to become rampant in public institutions so much so that it is very difficult nowadays to talk about accountability in the country’s public sector management.”

It is a mouthful indeed, but coming as it does from Hamutenya who had held various ministerial positions from independence in 1990 until 2004 when he was fired, it just shows how way off the mark the man is. It was under his nose that the Development Brigade Corporation, DBC, collapsed, with millions of money and equipment going missing without him raising a question. He was instrumental in appointing Simon Shikangala to run DBC. After the collapse of DBC, Shikangala suddenly developed a “short memory” syndrome to evade questions by the Presidential Commission of Inquiry into DBC and could no longer “remember some of the decisions” he took while he was in charge of DBC.

As the minister in charge of overseeing the operations and affairs of DBC, Hamutenya “dismally failed” to do so “ably, productively, justly, transparently and fairly,” to quote his own words. He negligently contributed to what he now describes as “Lack of Accountability: A crippling Ill in Our Public Sector Management.” When DBC collapsed, thousands of people lost their jobs.

Of course Hamutenya does not believe what he says. It is all about opposition politics characterized by fatalistic determinism that as long as SWAPO was in power, it would never do anything good for this country.

But interestingly, when he addressed Namibia’s ambassadors, high commissioners and other diplomats in Windhoek on June 2, 2003, Hamutenya was quick to echo and praise the achievements made by the SWAPO Party government since independence. He said: “During the first decade of our independence, we sought to create a conducive climate for doing business in or with Namibia. Now, at the threshold of this second decade of Namibia’s sovereign existence, we have begun to make significant advances in attracting substantial investment. No doubt, Namibia now has an address in the investment community. We have pulled in the Scorpions of this world through aggressive and highly focused targeting of these multi-national giants.”

A year earlier, on April 19, 2002, Hamutenya told the National Assembly that “contrary to the gloomy picture being projected, (by opposition parties) the economy is likely to register relatively high growth during this fiscal year because of the injection of substantial investments in the mining and manufacturing sectors.”

The remarks quoted above show the two faces of Hamutenya sharply contradicting himself. The last two quotes were made when he was a minister, happily and confidently seeing progress and the economy growing. The first two were made recently by a bored, disillusioned and frustrated Hamutenya, hopelessly sinking deeper into opposition politics and seeing nothing but a gloomy future. Surely, Hamutenya cannot be so blind not to see what is happening in the country. Roads, schools, hospitals and clinics are being constructed every year. Overall, things have improved considerably. Just have a look at the various development projects around the country and you can see progress.

It was you Hamutenya who told the National Assembly in 2002 that “we are committed to see(ing) development taking place in all the 13 regions of our country.” Were you lying, Mr Hamutenya?

Rest assured that our commitment and unmatched resolve to grow the economy remain robust and focused, just as they were when you were a minister. Our long-term objective is to create a better and safer tomorrow. We are heavily investing in that future, cognizant of the fact that resources are limited and the needs are many. Despite limited resources, however, many villages have electricity and potable water. School enrolment has gone up by far.

That is a sign of far-sighted leadership. Namibia needs leaders who can inspire people and offer hope for a better tomorrow against the backdrop of today’s problems of unemployment, poverty and economic inequity.

I know that it is boring being in opposition, more so when one, like Hamutenya, was once at the center of power, but churning out tantrums is no cure for political boredom. Having carelessly relegated himself to the backseat, Hamutenya is no longer forward-looking in his thinking. He is hopelessly stuck in the cul-de-sac of marginal politics. Nothing comes without a price though. Political opportunism, too, comes with a heavy burden – a burden of isolation and loneliness. But as a man makes his bed, so too must he lie.

