The South West Africa National United Front (Swanuf)

PERMANENT OFFICE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

United We Stand



320 EASTERN PARKWAY BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11225

Date February 16th 19.71...

Reference K/M/K/R

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE BLACK LAWMAKERS IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS

H. E. Rep. Charles C. Diggs, H.E. Rep. Robert N.C. Nix

H. E. Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins, H.E. Rep. John Conyers Jr.,

H. E. Rep. Charles B. Rangel, H.E. Rep. Ronald V. Dellums,

H. E. Rep. Ralph H. Metcalfe, H. E. Rep. George W. Collins.

H. E. Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, H.E. Rep. William L. Clay,

H. E. Rep. Louis Stokes, H. E. Rep. Shirley Chisholm,

H. E. Senator Edward W. Brooke

Your Excellencies:

The South West Africa National United Front (SWANUF) presents its compliments to the Black Lawmakers in the United States Congress and has the honour to make the following statement regarding the crucial problem of the international Territory of Namibia (South West Africa).

The South West Africa National United Front is the major freedom movement in our country. Its purpose is to free Namibia from the dangers of South African racist apartheid colonialism. To achieve this end we have among other things appealled to the American public opinion to bring pressure to bear upon the Government of the United States to cease all official and unofficial relationship with the Government of South Africa until such time that the South African racist colonial regime has acceeded to the demand of our people for total independence.

In offering suggestions for possible inclusion in your public and official statements on this question, we do so with deep confidence that Your Excellencies will do everything possible to commit the overwhelming weight of the United States Government behind the independence struggle of Namibia from South African racist colonialism.

Events in Africa are moving at an incredible speed. The year 1971 must see the independence of Namibia. In view of this swift change, American policy on Africa today is divided into two phases: First, political aid to those African States not yet free and independent such as Namibia, and Second, economic assistance to the independent States of Africa.

The South West Africa National United Front (SWANUF) makes the following specific suggestions. Rather than enunciating vague propaganda sounding principles - which can be ambiguously implemented in the hope that these can, with modifications, become part of an American policy towards Namibia we appeal to you to take the following action in our behalf:

- 1. Urge the Government of the United States in the strongest terms to sever all official relationship with the apartheid government of South Africa as long as the latter continues to violate decisions of the United Nations to vacate the international Territory of Namibia.
 - 2. Urge the Government of the United States to warn the apartheid government of South Africa that the United States Government will associate itself with all those powers determined to establish United Nations presence in Namibia in accordance with the decisions of the Security Council and the best interest of the "Rule of Law".
 - 3. Urge the Government of the United States to press the South African racist colonial government to make efforts to reach early understanding with the United Nations for the immediate transfer of governmental powers to the people of Namibia (South West Africa).
 - 4. Urge the Government of the United States to vote on the question of Namibia in the United Nations in accordance with its anti-colonial tradition.

We presented to Your Excellencies in this memorandum the challenge of the Namibian problem to the United States; we call upon your vision, so desperately needed in a benighted Government of the United States; for a sense of urgency, so difficult to stimulate in a lethargic administration; for a decisive government policy of positive action against an illegal racist colonial regime in Namibia which continues to defy international opinion and the decisions of the United Nations General Assembly. Namibia could become the foundation upon which better fraternal relationship between Africa and the United States of America could be built.

It has been a privilege on behalf of the South West Africa National United Front (SWANUF) to submit to Your Excellencies the above-mentioned views.

The South West Africa National United Front (SWANUF) avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellencies the assurance of its high esteem.

Very truly yours,

Verue Mbaeva

Mburumba Kerina

Kahepure - 6 - 10

Kuaima Riruako