

NAMIBIA African States Press

[AN] In almost simultaneous declarations designed to exert additional pressure for a Namibian settlement, the United Nations General Assembly and a six-nation African summit recently called for increased international assistance to the Namibian independence movement SWAPO, which both bodies recognize as the "sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people."

The UN resolution was adopted by a vote of 117-0, with the five members of the Western 'contact group' (Britain, France, West Germany, Canada, and the U.S.) and twenty other nations abstaining.

The summit, hosted in Lagos by Nigerian President Shehu Shagari, was also attended by the leaders of the five 'front-line states' — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe — and by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma. In a communiqué issued after their two-day meeting, the leaders urged the international community to contribute to the defense and reconstruction of Angola, which has been under attack from South Africa since late last month.

The African leaders singled out the U.S. for criticism, saying the Reagan administration's policy toward South Africa amounts to support for racism and aggression. Similarly, the UN resolution, which was sponsored by seventy nations including the 45-member Africa group, without naming the U.S., condemns "the latest maneuvers by certain members of the Western 'contact group' aimed at undermining the international consensus embodied in Security Council Resolution 435 (1978) and depriving the Namibian people of their hard-won victories in the struggle for national liberation."

A few days before the Lagos summit, the Zambian news agency reported a new attack by South African airplanes on civilian and military facilities near Sesheke, in Zambia's Western Province on the border with Namibia. The agency said a South African motorized column had crossed into the area a month earlier.

On September 16, just after the summit, the Luanda daily *Jornal de Angola* reported a new South African air attack on the town of Cahama, approximately 125 miles north of the Namibian border. The Angolan government says South African attacks, particularly from the air, have continued in spite of Pretoria's statement that its troops ended their twelve-day invasion on September 4.

Last week, both governments offered some details on events during the assault. An Angolan military commander told reporters in Luanda that the South African forces failed in their first attempt to take the provincial capital of Ondjiva. Only after 28 hours of fighting and "a massive and genocidal" assault from the air, he said, did the South Africans succeed in occupying the town.

On September 14, at a special news briefing at Oshakati in northern Namibia, the South African army chief of staff Lt. Gen. Jannie Geldenhuys said 1,000 persons had been killed by his troops during the incursion. As a result, he claimed, there has been a sharp reduction in guerrilla activity by the South West African Peoples' Organization (SWAPO).

Reporters were shown some 3,000 tons of captured equipment, most of it of Soviet origin, valued by the South Africans at approximately \$200 million. They were also provided with other indications of Soviet involvement with SWAPO — captured

For Settlement

documents in Russian, maps reportedly taken from a Soviet advisor's office showing the location of SWAPO personnel near Ondjiva, and a list of Soviet advisors stationed in the area that was attacked.

But Geldenhuys conceded that the evidence of Soviet officers' direct involvement in SWAPO combat actions was only "circumstantial." He also said his forces had so seriously damaged SWAPO that it would "take a year or more to recover, although we may read of terror acts committed by specialist groups."

How this assessment of SWAPO's reduced capabilities will affect Pretoria's approach toward the Namibian negotiations is not yet clear. In an interview with the *New York Times* two weeks ago, as the South Africans reported they were pulling out of Angola, American Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig, Jr., said Pretoria had adopted a more flexible stance on key issues. But South African officials later denied that their basic position had altered.

Haig was scheduled to meet with his counterparts from the other 'contact group' nations on September 24 at the UN. And official sources report that the five would be trying to reach consensus on a list of guarantees for preserving white minority and South African interests in Namibia and on a formula for the presence of UN personnel in the territory during the election period along the lines the



Protestors At Police Convention

A group of about 200 protestors stand behind police barricades as President Reagan leaves the Rivergate convention center in New Orleans after speaking to the International Association of Chiefs of Police. UPI Photo

Reagan administration believes Pretoria will accept.

But as U.S. officials report rapprochement with South Africa on the issue, African distrust of the Reagan administration deepens. This was the signal the Nigerian government seemed to be sending by hosting the front-line summit.

Growing Nigerian anxieties over the U.S. stance on South Africa, Namibia, and Angola were also transmitted to senior American officials by Nigerian Vice President Alex Ekwueme, who visited Washington earlier in September.

However, the central purpose of Ekwueme's trip was to attend the annual bilateral economic cooperation talks begun by the Carter administra-

tion five years ago. Ekwueme and Vice President George Bush signed two technical aid agreements and discussed other steps to boost commercial ties. The technical accords, the cost of which is being paid by Nigeria, call for the training of some 250 Nigerian technical educators in the U.S. and for the establishment of American-backed public health projects in Nigeria.

With these steps toward closer economic links, U.S. officials seem confident that Nigeria's concerns over U.S.-Southern Africa policy are taking a back seat to the financial pressures affecting the country. In August, Nigeria, which had resisted intense oil com-

pany pressures for weeks, had to give in and lower its official oil price from \$40 to \$36 per barrel.

Yet, as the UN and front-line resolutions indicate and as American officials concede, pressures for a Namibian settlement continue to mount.

"I think it's very important for critics of contemporary U.S. policies to understand that our judgments have

to be based on what we do that is designed to bring about the objective which we all commonly seek: the earliest possible independence for Namibia," Haig argued in the *New York Times* interview. "We're not where we want to be yet, but we are farther ahead on where we want to be," he continued.

To maintain unity with the allies on the issue, however, he will have to convince the other foreign ministers

ALGERIA An Eye-Opening

Americans rarely associate images of modern industry with Africa, but a visit to Algeria's 18th Interna-

national Fair damages the stereotype. Scott Brunger reports from the country's recently renamed capital:

EL DJEZAIR [AN] Using the royalties from its petroleum exports, Algeria is industrializing and, in the process, creating a dynamic market for sophisticated foreign machinery.

The current five-year plan (1980-1984), maps expenditures of \$90 billion, much of which will go toward the importing of foreign goods. With the adoption of the plan earlier this year, Algeria continues to build its industrial sector, but the emphasis has now shifted from heavy industry to light industry, housing, education, health care and agriculture.

With an eye toward achieving self-sufficiency in a number of areas, the Central Committee of the ruling National Liberation Front is confident Algeria will become capable of using the more complex technology of the advanced industrial countries. And the International Fair, held each year in the capital of El Djazair (formerly Algiers), constitutes an important meeting place for this rapidly industrializing country and its foreign suppliers.

Held from August 26 to September 11, this year's fair boasted 1.2 million attendees who viewed displays from forty different countries and dozens of Algerian firms. A look at both the foreign and domestic exhibits demonstrates clearly that Algeria's ten per cent annual economic growth rate is rapidly transforming the country.

Among the nations represented and the products they displayed: Bulgaria - irrigation and agricultural machinery; Great Britain

assembly lines, land rovers; Venezuela - aluminum kitchen ware, petroleum pumps; Cuba - building materials, sugar products; France - air compressors, rock crushers, hospital trailers, solar pumps; West Germany - cement mixers, earth movers.

USSR - aviation and space technology, mining installations, steel processing factories.

Conspicuous by its absence was the United States, although multinational corporations such as Monsanto, Xerox and Caterpillar were represented through European subsidiaries.

Algerian manufacturers, for their part, displayed a wide variety of goods, including Michelin tires, bedouin handicrafts, steel products, petroleum products such as toys, paints, and fertilizers, and consumer appliances — televisions, air conditioners, stoves, and refrigerators with a sixty-gallon capacity for \$500.

Recent statistics show that Algeria has attained a considerable measure of self-sufficiency in some areas: in 1973 the nation had 339 agricultural engineers and 1,305 agricultural technicians; today the numbers are 3,900 and 7,148 respectively. In 1970, the national petroleum company had 955 employees; last year it had 94,700. Today Air Algeria's personnel are 98% Algerian, including 61 of the 95 captains. And in the next four years, the country will double its consumption of electricity, natural gas and clean water in urban areas.

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