

. . . Semholssm11

April 12, 1989

To: Lennox Hinds

From: Vicki Erenstein

Re: Namibian Elections

This is to summarize our prior discussions regarding support for SWAPO during the election campaign and to suggest some ways to move ahead.

1. Legal advisory group. SWAPO has requested that you

. assemble a group of legal experts to advise it on a variety of legal issues during the election campaign. Prior to your departure for Paris in early March, we drew up a list of the lawyers whom we would invite to participate in this group. To the best of my knowledge, the letters of invitation have not yet been sent. Once the group is organized, I suggest that we arrange for the members to be briefed by SWAPO. In advance of the meeting, we need to find out from SWAPO which questions it wishes the group to address, so that we can assemble pertinent background materials to distribute at the initial meeting.

In addition to responding to specific questions raised by SWAPO, we should consider expanding the purview of the group to play a quasi-monitoring role by developing positions on some of the key issues and circulating them publicly as part of the effort to educate the US public and build support for SWAPO. For example, the South African Administrator General has apparently stated that he intends to keep most discriminatory laws on the books, despite Resolution 435's requirement that discriminatory . laws which would impede free and fair elections must be repealed; he opines that many of the discriminatory laws will not impede the holding of free and fair elections. SWAPO has already compiled a listing of all of the discriminatory laws which it believes should be repealed. We may wish to develop a position on this issue. Of course, there are numerous issues. My point is that we should consider organizing a public affirmative thrust to this effort in addition to the private advisory function.

2. Monitoring teams to be sent to Namibia.

Recruitment. To date, it appears that the IADL has not yet issued an appeal to its affiliates to identify persons who would be willing to participate on monitoring teams. In any event, a more aggressive approach is needed to recruit participants. We need to identify those IADL affiliates and other organizations that could be approached about monitoring, and then we should communicate with them directly on an urgent basis. To start the list: 'Britain-Lawyers Against Apartheid; Black Lawyers Association; International Defense and Aid Fund (a potential funder); Swedish lawyers group--recently hosted a study tour by

ANC and NADEL; Zimbabwe Association of Democratic Jurists; African Bar Association; Commonwealth Lawyers Association (Roger Chongwe is Secretary--supportive); International Commission of Jurists (Geoffrey Bindman of Lawyers Against Apartheid could help here); American Association of Jurists; AAJ Affiliates in Uruguay (eg Alberto Perez Perez, dean of Univ. Law Faculty), Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Japan: Philippines; US--NLG, NCBL, NAACP, Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (?), USSR, GDR, NADEL 5A). There are undoubtedly groups in the Front Line States that would also wish to participate. Fluency in English or a Namibian language is preferred. A list should be drawn up, in consultation with SWAPO legal department and ANC legal department. We need to consider whether to include non-lawyers, such as journalists or public officials in our groups.

_Steps: 1) Prepare list and simultaneously 2) Send out appeal/proposal: 3) Aggressive followup.

2. Logistics. A letter has been faxed to Anton Lubowski, as previously discussed. We can contemplate having to rent a house, renting one or two vehicles, and hiring a part-time liaison in Windhoek. In addition, the question of interpreter and clerical assistance in Namibia must be considered. Security.

3. Fundraising. While we must ask each organization to fund its own monitors, we need to raise as much money as possible for the overall operation. Possible funding sources include IDAF, Sweden, OAU, GDR, US sources. Must start immediately. We need a fundraising proposal, to be sent to potential funders immediately.

4. Implementation. Can we get anything from Brussels? If not, we must assign these responsibilities and set time tables at this meeting.