

THE CITIZEN 12-04-89

Wednesday 12 April 1989

THE CITIZEN

# Health services are threatened by ANC

## — Louw

CAPE TOWN. — Health services were under threat from the revolutionary onslaught, according to the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Gene Louw.

It had been learnt ANC members of the medical profession were organising under the banner of a national health system offering "health for all".

In this way they were launching "a strong medico-political health strategy in which extremist politics are inextricably

entangled with medical principles".

Mr Louw was addressing a congress in Cape Town this week on "Labour Relations in Health Services" organised by the Department of National Health and Population Development.

He predicted increased "political attacks" in the medical field and the appearance of "so-called

health organisations of which the main purpose is purely political".

The National Medical and Dental Association had subscribed to the advertisement "75 years of the ANC" and the ANC had referred to it as a front organisation.

He appealed for the medical profession to be "elevated far above poli-

tics and practised with independence and unsullied professionalism".

This did not mean ignoring political problems that could have a detrimental effect on health care.

"But it does not mean that our solution lies in revolutionary or radical actions. We have to solve these problems soberly and professionally and take them up with the provincial and central governors of the country." — Sapa.



12-4-89

Page 6

## THE CITIZEN COMMENT

### 12-4-89 Swapo (Cont)

IT would be nice to think — as some officials and observers do — that Swapo has been totally discredited internationally and that its chances of winning the South West African elections have been sharply reduced.

Granted that Swapo has been blamed internationally for the fighting in northern South-West Africa, having sent armed insurgents across the border from Angola from Day One of the implementation of United Nations Resolution 435.

Granted, too, that Swapo has been forced, somewhat ignominiously, to recall its insurgents and Sam Nujoma looks like a rash, uncaring and stupid leader who sent his men to their death in an attempt to establish bases inside the territory.

But the international community has not branded him an aggressor, it has not condemned him as a cheat, in the same way as it would have done if South Africa had broken the peace plan.

The comment, in fact, has been remarkably restrained.

Britain has blamed Swapo and so has the United States, which went to great pains to explain in a legal document how Swapo broke the peace agreements.

But neither came out in sharp condemnation of Nujoma or his insurgents.

Although Cuba and Angola have played their part in the Joint Monitoring Commission in arranging for the insurgents to return to Angola, we doubt whether they are as fed up with Swapo as some people make them out to be.

They must have known Swapo was grouping in Southern Angola for incursions into SWA — South Africa had also warned them this was happening — but they did nothing about it.

It is clear that Swapo expected the United Nations Transition Assistance Group would protect its men from any nasty responses from the SWA Police, and that the South Africans, confined to their bases, would be unable to intervene.

Then, having established bases in South West Africa, Swapo would have been able to intimidate voters much as Mr Robert Mugabe's guerrillas, infiltrated into Rhodesia, were able to intimidate voters there so that he could win the election.

The Swapo insurgents, however, came under attack as they crossed the border, Swapo poured more men into the battle in a vain attempt to achieve some kind of victory, lost more than 260 men killed in the fighting, and finally had to agree to pull back.

Even if most insurgents honour the undertaking to hand themselves over and be escorted back to Angola, we can be sure that some of them are going to be left behind and will cache their arms, for use later when Swapo returns legitimately to South West Africa in terms of the peace plan.

The Administrator-General of South West Africa, Mr Louis Pienaar, has stated that Ovambo will be combed for hidden arms, but we can be sure that some of the caches will remain undetected.

To that extent, Swapo will have achieved its purpose and will be able to carry out its intimidatory tactics.

There is also an idea that Swapo has damaged itself in South West Africa. This may be so outside Ovambo, but there are signs already that the insurgents who were killed are being made into martyrs.

Students, churchmen and others are putting out the false impression that the insurgents had no aggressive intentions but were "massacred" by the police, assisted by the South African forces.

President Mugabe has taken this line, too, and we can expect that it will gain growing acceptance in Black Africa.

The only good thing, from South Africa's point of view, is that it has been able to demonstrate its bona fides by complying with the peace plan.

It has also shown that, despite Swapo's treachery, it still stands by implementation of Resolution 435.

At the moment we are the "good guys", a nice position to be in for a change, but whether we continue to be the "good guys" will depend on what happens in the months before the November election.



Wednesday 12 April 1989

## LETTERS TO EDITOR

# ANC holds no THE CITIZEN terrors for 12-4-89 Iron Lady

MAGGIE Thatcher is appalled at the thought of Britain losing her identity as part of a monolithic socialist European super-state. As the person who woke Britain from her 70-year long Socialist trance, her feelings are understandable. What is not as understandable is how she is proud of being responsible for the handing over of the Whites and minor Black tribes of Rhodesia to the not only Socialist, but Marxist Zimbabwe. Even less understandable is the fact that, outside the tinpot dictatorships of the British Commonwealth, her favourite country appears to be Communist Mozambique. It was the Thatcher government that feted Dictator Samora Machel and saw to it that he was decorated by the Queen. Are the ideals of Britain and Mozambique really that close?

When NP chief information officer Con Botha, while visiting Britain, announced that Mrs Thatcher could help South Africa solve its problems, two things should be borne in mind. Firstly the Iron Lady is no miracle worker, having done nothing to stop the slaughter on her own turf — in Ulster. And secondly the thought of the installation of a totalitari-

an ANC government in South Africa holds no terrors for her.

The real problem is that the SA government has run out of ideas, which is why it desperately canvasses its branches for suggestions as to what to do next. When the NP was a grassroots party this was not necessary. In all likelihood the local academics, after their meeting with their KGB approved Russian counterparts, were debriefed to find out if the Russians had any helpful suggestions. I'm sure they did, but that they were not the sort most South Africans would want to hear about, as they would differ little from Mrs Thatcher's alleged secret plan for South Africa.

My guess is that the next great government "breakthrough" announced by the Foreign Minister, or more likely the Minister of Constitutional Affairs, will be that the ANC has renounced violence and will sit down at the negotiating table. Not the "bad" external wing, but the "good, non-communist" internal wing. For the sequence of events after that, just watch South West Africa Namibia.

MS RUSSELL

Kloof





Australian engineers raise the United Nations flag in a thorn tree about 200 m from a South African camp on the Angolan border at Oshikango.

# Adamishin for CT talks

By Brian Stuart  
CAPE TOWN. — Mr Anatoly Adamishin, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister charged with African Affairs, who closely followed the tripartite peace talks, is expected in South Africa in two weeks time for the meeting in Cape Town of the Joint Commission.

There has been no confirmation from Soviet sources that he will be a member of the Russian team of observers, but he has been assured of a welcome.

Diplomatic sources confirmed that Mr Pik Botha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, had issued a personal invitation to Mr Adamishin to visit the country.

The two men reached a friendly footing during meetings in Europe which led to the signing of the Geneva protocol between

South Africa, Cuba and Angola, on Cuban troop withdrawals and the implementation of Resolution 435 in SWA/Namibia.

Three weeks ago, when Mr Botha visited Maputo to meet with President Joachim Chissano, Mr Adamishin was also in Mozambique. Mr Botha is known to have spoken with Mr Adamashin at the Soviet Embassy.

They met again at Mount Etjo last weekend for the extraordinary session of the Joint Commission to discuss the Swapo incursion into Namibia.

Mr Botha and Mr Adamishin visited a game farm, where Mr Adamishin, a wild-life lover, admired the leopards in particular. He is said to be keen to see South Africa's wildlife reserves.

There are almost certain to be more private talks between the two Foreign Ministers if Mr Adamashin is part of the Russian delegation at the meeting of the Joint Commission in Cape Town from April 26 to 29.

Accommodation and conference facilities have already been booked at a five-star Cape Town hotel for the meeting of the Joint Commission, comprising South Africa, Cuba and Angola, with observers from Russia and the United States.