

MESSAGE BY SWAPO OF NAMIBIA TO THE SYMPOSIUM
ON THE LIFE AND WORK OF AMILCAR CABRAL

-- 19/01/83

Comrade Chairman and Prime Minister of the Republic of Cape Verde
Your Excellencies, representatives of the PAICV and the Government
of Cape Verde

Allow me first and foremost to extend to you the warm fraternal and
comradely salutations from the oppressed but fighting people of Namibia.
Secondly, I would like on behalf of the Central Committee of SWAPO and
indeed the entire leadership of our movements, to express our profound
gratitudes and high appreciation for the kind fraternal invitation that
the PAICV and Government of Cape Verde extended to SWAPO to participate
in this important and historic Symposium on Amilcar Cabral.

Comrades and friends, when we Namibian freedom fighters talk about the
name and personality of Amilcar Cabral, we are always reminded of a
great, outstanding political leader of the oppressed masses of the people
of our continent. To us the name of Amilcar Cabral symbolizes a person-
ality of a distinguished commander and guide of the fighters for freedom
National independence and social progress in the African continent and
beyond. Cabral was not a politician, a commander of a limited world out-
look. He was not a simple patriotic nationalist. Cabral was an inter-
nationalist, an ardent anti-imperialist fighter. He was indeed an out-
standing and leading figure in the international revolutionary anti-
imperialist movement.

Cabral was a revolutionary theoretician whose ideas, his practical work
inspired all the oppressed peoples and particularly the ~~the~~ battled
Namibian people.

Comrades and friends, the liberation of Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde
could not have been achieved so soon if it was not the creative political

and ideological work, contribution and the correct guiding character of this great man Cabral. The formidable unity of the people of your two countries could not have been an easy thing to achieve as well. SWAPO of Namibia, the fighting cadres of the peoples Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) pay great tribute to Cabral and we will remain inspired by his revolutionary ideas and work. That is why we Namibians will always take it as our pledge to make sure we carry forward were Cabral ended the struggle, with the prime objective to make that his dreams of the total genuine National with prime objective to rid our continent and peoples the joke of imperialist domination and exploitation for total genuine national and social liberation, for peace, democracy and social progress. It is our task, all progressive and democratic forces and particularly we revolutionaries in the movements for national liberation to ensure the practical realization of the revolutionary ideals and theorization of this great leader, Cabral.

Comrades and friends participants, the struggle against forces of imperialism and reaction, fascism and racism to which Cabral dedicated the whole of life have become even much more aggressive in this continent. This is more particularly to after the defeat of Portuguese colonialism in Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde, Angola, Mozambique and São Tomé.

To day, Angola has become a hot spot of imperialist backed aggressive attacks, occupation and distalization by the racist regime of S.A. which illegally occupy Namibia.

Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, and the rest of the countries bordering the racist South Africa are victims of direct military threat and aggression. Counter revolutionary bandity and terrorist groups are created, trained and armed by the Pretoria regime with the aim to destabilize these independent African countries.

Comrades, Namibium remains under illegal occupation by South Africa in utter defiance of the interest and aspirations of majority of Namibian

oppressed masse and in total defiance of international public opinion. US imperialism, the balwart of world reaction has even become more desperate and vicious. US imperialism has come out in open support of the racist regime and counter revolutionary forces in Southern Africa and they are playing the leading role to prevent attainment of Namibia's independence.

Comrades, this situation demands more efforts on the part of all progressive and democratic forces of an continent and the world at large to consolidate and close our ranks and to intensify moral, political and concrete material support to the movements for National liberation. This is the prime objective to which Amilcar Cabral dedicated his life. This is the task Cabral left us to continue and accomplish.

Finally Comrade Chairman, I would like, on behalf of the SWAPO leadership and of all our oppressed people, to wish the people of Cape Verde more successes in your further struggle for National reconstruction of your country.

A luta continua !

A vitória é certa !