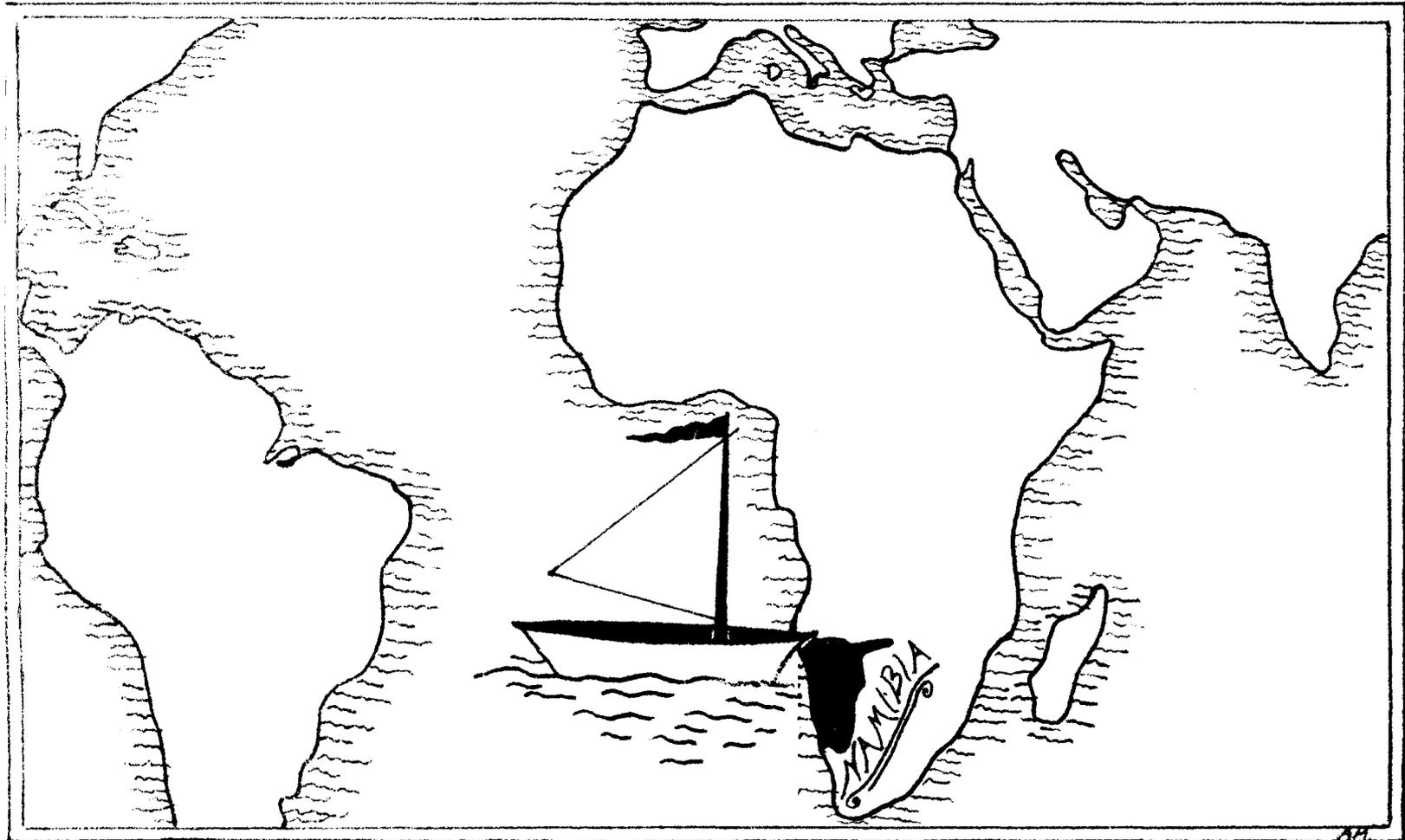


# BOOKS FOR A

# FREE NAMIBIA



## A SCENARIO:

In May, 1976, a boat sets sail from Portsmouth, England, bound for Namibia. It carries a cargo of books wanted by Namibians, but banned or made unavailable by South Africa, which the international crew is to deliver openly into the hands of Namibians who have requested them, without bowing to South Africa's illegally imposed authority.

On the 6 weeks journey to Namibia, the boat stops at various West African ports, where the crew receives hospitality, support and further cargo -- books from African sources. Publicity, which has preceded the launching, continues with progress reports radioed by the crew, and with support actions occurring around the world. By the time the boat nears Namibia, much of the world is watching to see how South

Africa will react, and support groups are ready to respond with immediate direct action to any attempt by South Africa to stop the boat. The crew, committed to nonviolence, is prepared to make continued efforts to get into Namibia with its cargo.

If we succeed in delivering the books, then South African authority in Namibia will have been weakened and the campaign can continue to challenge South African power there. On the other hand, if South Africa, in the midst of world publicity, refuses to let us enter Namibia with the books, it is exposed as despotic for denying a basic tool of self-government to the people it is supposedly encouraging to "develop."

The Books Project, which represents the volunteer labor of many groups and individuals, is only part of a continuing transnational campaign, for we are not so naive as to believe that a small boat, its crew and its cargo of books will transform a situation that has persisted despite many acts of resistance for half a century.

OPERATION NAMIBIA WILL NOT END WITH THE DELIVERY OF BOOKS,  
BUT WITH THE TOTAL WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM NAMIBIA!

T H E " N A M I B I A P A C K E T "

A collection of materials detailing many aspects of the situation in Namibia, including history, economic conditions, U.S. involvements and recent events.<sup>1.25</sup>

Bay Area Namibia Action Group  
611 Frederick Street  
San Francisco, California 94117

Only \$1.00 @ for an order of 10 or more.



## BRINGING YOU UP-TO-DATE

### EXCITEMENTS!

The British Organizing Center of Operation Namibia located and arranged for the purchase of a boat, ending a search that has consumed much time and energy both here and in Europe. Having overcome that hurdle, we are feeling rejuvenated and excited about the momentum the Books project has gained recently, particularly through the endorsements of the American Friends Service Committee, the A.J. Muste Memorial Institute, and the Movement for a New Society. In addition, both the Fellowship of Reconciliation and Sean MacBride, Commissioner for Namibia at the United Nations, have expressed interest in and appreciation for our work.



### NAMIBIA TODAY:

Recent events in Southern Africa have underscored the urgency for world action to prevent further large-scale violence in the area. South Africa has itself described as "ruthless" its campaign to eliminate SWAPO bases outside Namibia. The Assassination of Chief Elifas, who was participating in South Africa's "Constitutional Conference" designed to fragment Namibia into tribal reserves, has set off a new wave of repression.

### BOOKS:

O.N. has been in contact with a group of Namibians inside the country who have requested banned and unobtainable books on political science and contemporary political trends, economics, technological and agricultural development, and social services organization. They have particularly asked for books which deal with the African experience in these areas, such as Kwame Nkrumah's Class Struggle in Africa or Julius Nyerere's Freedom and Development.

We are not asking for individual donations of books because the expense of collecting them and shipping them to England would be prohibitive and because cargo space aboard the boat is limited. However, we will insert a special O.N. Bookplate bearing the name of a donor into each book we send, so if you'd like to "send a book to Namibia" in this way, see page 5 for details.

Now the civil war in Angola has provided South Africa with the excuse to move heavy military equipment into Namibia and to send several thousand men into action in Angola, in hopes of maintaining weak neighboring states which it can dominate and exploit for materials and labor. Furthermore, this invasion allows South Africa to attack SWAPO bases and refugee camps in Angola.

Therefore, we feel more than ever the urgency to keep attention focused upon events in Namibia, which have been overshadowed by the war in Angola but are closely linked to that war. It is to South Africa's advantage to mask her intentions by directing the world's attention to the partisan conflict in Angola; we intend to steer that attention to the fact that South Africa's underlying interests in the conflict are the maintenance of racial and economic oppression.



## C R E W

We are now advertising for an international, multi-ethnic crew of four or five women and men, who can begin nonviolence training and other preparatory work this Spring, and can also continue to be involved with the project through the Summer.

We are looking for people who are committed to the values of nonviolent confrontation and organization, committed to the goals of Operation Namibia, and who have sailing experience. In addition, we are seeking crew members who possess navigational, medical, group-dynamics and radio-operating skills.

PLEASE WRITE TO US IF YOU ARE INTERESTED and would like to receive an application form.

### - IF YOU WANT TO HELP WITH THE BOOKS PROJECT, YOU CAN:

- 1) Organize an Operation Namibia support group.
- 2) Act as an O.N. contact person (by receiving and transmitting literature, information, etc.)
- 3) Help us raise money by speaking to political organizations, church and school groups, etc. (see page 5)
- 4) Carry out local actions to educate people about the Namibia issue and to publicize Operation Namibia and the Books Project.
- 5) Apply for the crew. (see Crew, above)
- 6) Tell your friends about us, and send us their names and addresses for our mailing list.
- 7) Let us know about any funding sources to which you think we could appeal.
- 8) Send us your contribution. (see page 5)

### - OTHER WAYS TO SUPPORT NAMIBIAN FREEDOM

- 1) Protest continuing U.S. military and economic aid to South Africa.
- 2) Insist that corporations which are exploiting Namibian and South African workers either pull out or begin to pay their workers decent wages and provide them with humane working conditions.
- 3) Organize a campaign to discourage tourism in South Africa.
- 4) Protest South Africa's new campaign to sell their gold coins, called "Rands," to buyers everywhere.



DIFFERENT WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE MONEY TO THE BOOKS PROJECT

All who support the Books for a Free Namibia project can involve themselves in its success in a vital way: by sending us money. Now that we have our boat, we need to pay for it. And although our administrative costs are amazingly low (all labor and office space is donated), money is needed for printing, postage and publicity, as well as for running the boat and assembling its crew and cargo -- the books!

1. You might choose to LEND us a large sum to help buy the boat, that money to be returned soon after the project is completed.

(Minimum \$500)

2. You might choose to PLEDGE a small sum, to be sent weekly or monthly, ONLY in the event that the boat is lost or damaged.

3. You might choose to help us get a book to Namibia. Your name would then be inscribed on a book plate, to be placed in the front of your book, as a personal expression of support to those who would receive it.

(Minimum \$5.00)

1. I want to be a guarantor of the Books for a Free Namibia project. I am lending \$ \_\_\_\_\_ which I understand will be returned to me.
2. I want to pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per (week/month) for \_\_\_\_\_ (weeks/months), which I will pay in the event that the boat is lost or damaged.
3. I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help send a book to Namibia.  
Please (do / do not) inscribe my name on a book plate.
4. Enclosed is my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be used as needed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Return with your check to Operation Namibia, 4811 Springfield Avenue, Philadelphia, Pa. 19143 OR to the A. J. Muste Memorial Institute, 339 Lafayette Place, New York, N.Y. 10012. Checks sent to the "Books for a Free Namibia Project--A. J. Muste Memorial Institute" are tax deductible.

