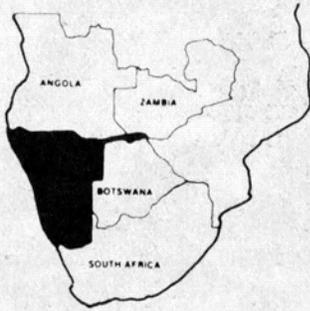




**FREE  
JASON  
ANGULA**

**NAMIBIA -  
INDEPENDENCE NOW!**

IDAF



## FREE JASON ANGULA!

Jason Angula is the Secretary for Labour of the internal wing of SWAPO and an employee of the Council of Churches in Namibia. He was arrested on 6 October 1987. Since then he has been detained without trial. Even his whereabouts is supposed to be a secret, although his friends fear that he is being held at Osire, a notorious detention and torture centre.

Jason Angula is no stranger to such treatment. In 1978, as the key trade union organiser in Namibia, he was detained under the so-called "Terrorism Act" following union protests against bogus, S. African-imposed elections. He was arrested again in April 1979, following a strike at the giant CDM diamond mine. And in 1980, as the regime suppressed all trade union activity, he was held yet again. Upon his release he was issued with restriction orders preventing him from attending meetings, travelling outside his area of residence, or receiving visitors.

Like many thousands of Namibians engaged in the struggle to liberate their country, Jason Angula was not deterred. In June 1986, he told a reporter: "We have done away with trying to play S.Africa's game....We have decided to continue. The National Union of Namibian Workers, registered or unregistered is going to cater for workers." Three months later the NAFU (Namibian Food and Allied Union), the first of five industrial unions affiliated to the NUNW, was launched.

## NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE NOW!

The people of Namibia, Africa's last colony, are locked in a fierce struggle for their freedom. Led by SWAPO, their national liberation movement, they face not only 100,000 S.African troops but also multinational companies, which loot the country's natural resources, enslave its people, and feed the apartheid war machine with their tax payments.

At the heart of this struggle are Namibian workers. SWAPO itself grew out of the campaigns of workers and students against the contract labour system in the 1950's. The 1971-2 contract workers strike, organised by the SWAPO Youth League changed the whole basis of popular resistance within Namibia. During the rest of the 1970s, the National Union of Namibian Workers, founded by the SWAPO Department of Labour, engaged employers and the regime in a series of bitter disputes over wages, working conditions, and the issue of national independence until in 1980 it was effectively crushed: union leaders were imprisoned, funds were frozen, and documents confiscated.

Since 1986, however, the NUNW has fought back hard, founding five industrial unions in the food and retail, mining, metal, transport and public sectors. Despite ferocious repression and severe legal restrictions, these new unions have fought disputes over wages, conditions, and bargaining rights. They have also campaigned actively for S.African military withdrawal from Namibia and the implementation UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978, the internationally agreed independence plan providing for free and fair elections.

MAY DAY RALLY 1988



JOHN LIEBENBERG

## THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

In August 1988, following military defeat in Angola which it had invaded from Namibia, the S.African government announced its intention to withdraw from Namibia and to allow the free and fair elections envisaged by the UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978. While S.Africa may be acting in good faith, there are a number of grounds for caution:

- On 4 May 1978, only weeks after announcing that they would accept the original UN plan, S.Africa massacred over 700 Namibian refugees at Kassinga in southern Angola.

- While S.Africa may be withdrawing its troops from Angola now, there is a massive military build up in northern Namibia.

- The racist S.African government states that it will continue to guarantee "Minority Rights" — a euphemism for the continuation of white minority rule. Failure to do so would incur the wrath of the S.African far-right wing which is already denouncing any possible "sell-out in Namibia".

- Despite all the talk of a settlement, Namibian leaders like Jason Angula remain in prison, while school students attempting to flee the country have been shot down.

## THE LAW AND THE BIG STICK

Jason Angula was arrested under the terms of proclamation AG9. This decree issued by S.Africa's colonial governor in Namibia, the "Administrator General" (AG), allows for detention without charge or access to a lawyer for up to 30 days. Despite claims that Jason would be charged or released after this period, he was in fact transferred to detention under Section 6 of the so-called "Terrorism Act" allowing for indefinite detention without trial.

AG9 and the "Terrorism Act" are just two of the many laws that can and are deployed against Namibian trades unionists. In the summer of 1987, for instance, TCL, a major mining company in Namibia, was permitted by the courts to sack virtually its entire workforce for taking strike action. Since the UN withdrew S.Africa's mandate to administer Namibia in 1966, all S.Africa laws in Namibia are themselves illegal.

As if such "legal" weapons were inadequate, the colonial authorities have also made frequent use of more brutal tactics including attacks by armed police on workers hostels, and the breaking up of trade union rallies.

I/We would like more information about the Free Jason Angula Campaign.

I/We would like more information about the Namibia Support Committee and the Anti Apartheid Movement.

I/We would like a speaker from the campaign.

I/We enclose a donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ to the campaign.

I/We enclose a donation of £\_\_\_\_\_ for Namibian political prisoners and their families.

Please Make cheques payable to the **Free Jason Angula Campaign, c/o AAM, 13 Mandela Street, London NW1 0DW.**

Name: .....

Address: .....

## RELEASE JASON ANGULA

To force S.Africa to free Jason Angula and all the other Namibian political prisoners, and to compel it to comply with the UN independence plan for Namibia will take a massive effort not only by Namibians, but also by trade unionists and others internationally.

Britain bears a heavy responsibility for the S.African occupation of Namibia, and therefore for the fate of Namibians such as Jason Angula.

● **British governments have been in the forefront of attempts to thwart the UN independence plan for Namibia by refusing to impose sanctions against S.Africa.**

● **British companies, including RTZ, ConsGold, and BP dominate the Namibian economy, plundering the country's precious natural resources in defiance of international law.**

## ACT NOW TO FREE JASON

● **Write to the South African Embassy.**

● **Write to Sir Geoffrey Howe demanding that he intervenes on Jason's behalf.**

● **Lobby your MP or MEP.**

● **Collect money for Namibian political prisoners and their families.**

Campaign organised by the Namibia Support Committee, IRSF, CPSA, NUCPS, IPCS, and the Joint Campaign Against the Repression of Trade Unionists in South Africa and Namibia.