

## Mr. Polenz must outgrow paternalistic and imperialistic attitude of wanting to speak for and on behalf of Africans!

Mr Polenz was obviously caught with his pants down and, in an effort to cover his embarrassment, he resorted to the standard tactic of modern German Foreign Office - telling naked lies about his adversaries! Mr Polenz must, however, outgrow this paternalistic and imperialistic attitude and tendency of always wanting to speak for and on behalf of Africans! Those days are gone and we, the Ovaherero and Nama of Namibia will not allow him or his Government to put words into our mouths.

At no stage, ever, has any Ovaherero or Nama official spokesperson of our Genocide and Reparation Movement put forward the proposition of INDIVIDUAL MONETARY COMPENSATION as falsely alleged by Mr Polenz. This is a blatant lie intended to mislead German public opinion as they have done over a hundred years regarding the genocide issue itself! It is a calculated misrepresentation to deliberately discredit our legitimate and justified campaign for restorative justice.

The Ovaherero and Nama demand is on record and has always been for COLLECTIVE REPARATIONS on behalf of the DESCENDANTS of the VICTIM COMMUNITIES who were the subjects of OFFICIAL GENOCIDE committed by the German State. The Ovaherero of today, for example, are the lawful heirs of the 115,830 square miles of land that our ancestors lost to German and other settlers as a direct result of the Genocide and German expropriations without compensation. Such reparations are due and payable to us as a People COLLECTIVELY. Moreover, we are capable of proving that these descendants, THEMSELVES, have been and continue to be VICTIMS of the effects of that German genocide, and hence, as a GROUP of people are entitled to claim compensation!

Finally, it is exactly to prevent such misrepresentations by third parties that our People rightfully demand and insist to be represented by their own leaders at any negotiations involving the German and Namibian Governments on the question of genocide and reparations. This is exactly what Chancellor Konrad Adenauer did when he insisted on discussions with both the Israeli State and representatives of the Jewish people. Why should we Africans be treated differently? The German people must understand one political reality: their cheque book diplomacy has limitations; any agreement which does not include the leaders who represent the overwhelming majority of the affected people, will be totally meaningless! We shall consider it a final declaration of war against us and then Germany must take responsibility for the consequences that will follow such uncalled-for provocation!

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Paramount Chief Ovaherero People