



ANGOLA in ARMS

information organ of the

PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA



No. 6

September/October, 1971

Vol. 2

PLENARY SESSION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF M.P.L.A.

The Executive Committee of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola met in Plenary Session from 27 September to 3 October 1971, under the chairmanship of Comrade Agostinho Neto.

Twenty-two members of the Executive Committee were present. Six members were unable to attend the Plenary Session for reasons of sickness or the impossibility of leaving their areas of activity.

It was confirmed that in the period of time between the last plenary meeting and this one, six members of the Executive Committee had heroically sacrificed their lives in combat.

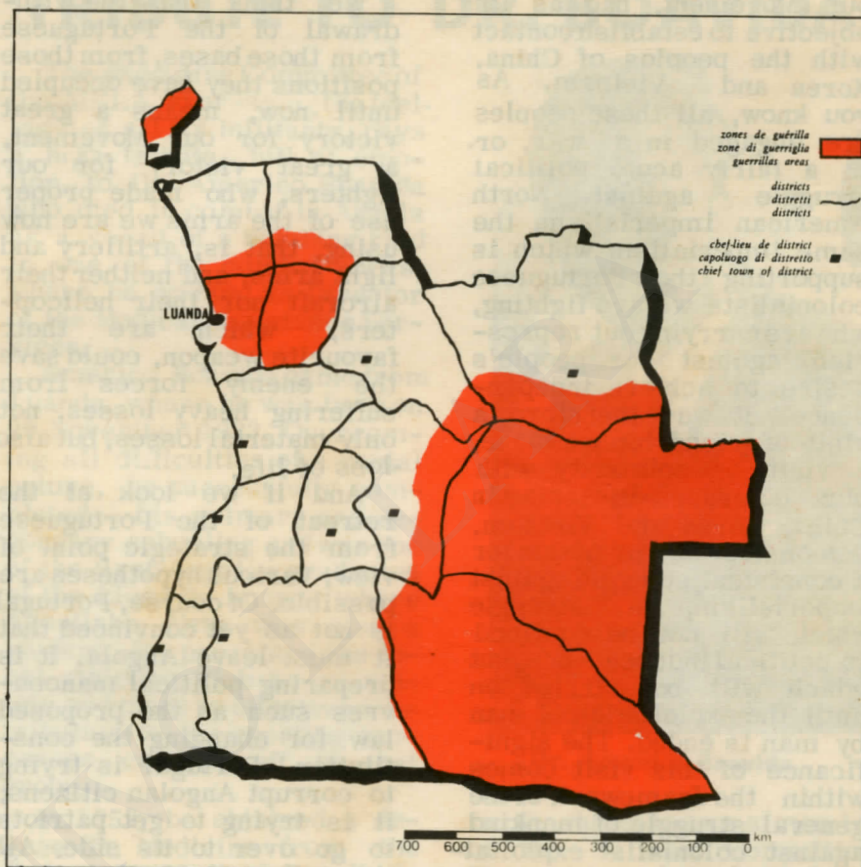
They are: Commander Hoji ia Henda, beloved son of the Angolan people and heroic fighter of the MPLA; Commander Benedito of the First Politico-Military Region; Commanders Janguinda and Kimakienda of the Fourth Region; Commander Cuidado of the Third Region and Political Commissar Levsky of the First Region.

After discussion and the adoption of the agenda, six comrades were unanimously co-opted as acting members of the Executive Committee. Four comrades were appointed candidate members of the Executive Committee.

During this same period there was a meeting of MPLA Representatives in the following countries: Congo (Brazzaville), Yugoslavia, Tanzania, Italy, Sweden, Zambia, Egypt and Algeria.

The Third Politico-Military Region Commands also met at the same time.

At these three meetings, of which the Executive Committee's Plenary Session was the most important, decisions of great importance to the advance of the armed struggle and to the controlled areas were taken.



The fact that the Plenary Session of the EC was organised and held on the Eastern Front is proof of our Movement's vitality.

All decisions were unanimously taken, and during the meeting emphasis was given to the revolutionary character of our struggle, which essentially takes into account the interests of the working classes in our country.

The situation both in the controlled areas and in the areas still under enemy occupation warranted exhaustive analysis, and appropriate decisions were taken for the progress of the struggle.

The elimination of the weak points in our activity was an aspect which prompted criticism of our revolutionary action.

The holding of the next Congress will be the culmination of the steps now taken, which range from the organisation of the armed forces to a new concept of the racial aspect of the participation of Angolans in our liberation struggle.

DECISIONS

Decisions were taken on the following:

1. The enlargement of the Movement's leading bodies, notably the Executive Committee and the Politico-Military Coordinating Committee.
2. The holding of the First National Congress, at a time and place still to be decided, preceded by seminars of the Mass Organisations in each zone and locality.

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INTERVIEW WITH OUR PRESIDENT

:: Comrade President : you have just made a visit to Asian countries. Would you like to give us your impressions and tell us what relations there could be between the peoples of those countries and the Angolan people?

The visit I have just made, together with a delegation of five comrades, militants of our Movement, had as its objective to establish contact with the peoples of China, Korea and Vietnam. As you know, all these peoples are engaged in a war, or in a fairly acute political struggle against North American imperialism, the same imperialism which is supporting the Portuguese colonialists we are fighting, who are carrying out repression against our people's desire to achieve independence. It was therefore a visit of friendship we made, a visit of solidarity with our comrades-in-arms in China, Korea and Vietnam, demonstrating our option for a consistent struggle against imperialism, a struggle which will not be confined to political independence, but which will be carried on until the exploitation of man by man is ended. The significance of this visit comes within the framework of the general struggle of mankind against colonialist exploitation; and we, who were very well received by all the peoples in the countries we visited are glad to establish contact, to establish fraternal relations of friendship which will be fruitful in the future, fruitful in that they mean that our struggle against colonialism and against imperialism will be strengthened.

:: Because of the attacks against Portuguese barracks the enemy have abandoned some of these positions in Angola. What is the strategic significance of this retreat?

In recent times, the Portuguese have evacuated some barracks; and this is a consequence of the violent attacks we have been making this year, which has forced them to spend many days and weeks behind their fortifications, without being able to leave them. In some places they have not even been able to go to the river for water and their life in those barracks has therefore been pretty difficult. In some places their position became untenable and they

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 Interview with our President, Dr. Agostinho Neto, on 21st September 1971, over Radio Tanzania, in MPLA English programme.  
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have evacuated those barracks.

We think that the withdrawal of the Portuguese from those bases, from those positions they have occupied until now, means a great victory for our Movement, a great victory for our fighters, who made proper use of the arms we are now using, that is, artillery and light arms, and neither their aircraft nor their helicopters, which are their favourite weapon, could save the enemy forces from suffering heavy losses, not only material losses, but also loss of life.

And if we look at the retreat of the Portuguese from the strategic point of view, various hypotheses are possible. Of course, Portugal is not as yet convinced that it must leave Angola. It is preparing political manoeuvres such as the proposed law for changing the constitution. Portugal is trying to corrupt Angolan citizens; it is trying to get patriots to go over to its side. All these are signs that it is not yet convinced that Angola should be independent.

However, its retreat could mean a regrouping of forces with a view to a later and more violent attack, in order to do what is always done in this kind of war, which is to burn everything, to leave the earth scorched, killing, destroying every sign of life, as has already been done on a small scale in some villages. But I think that this wish of the colonialists to come back again with big attacks against the population living in the areas under our control will not be effective; and it is certain that we, better armed, better equipped and better organised as we now are, are going to completely shatter the intentions of the colonialists, who will not be able to do anything but retreat ever more until they leave our country. I think that the tactic we are using is just one of the reasons why they are getting out. The people do not support them, they are having a lot of difficulties

in their strategic hamlets and they do not feel secure in our land. Because this is so, our independence will be won sooner and our children, the Angolan people, will have their land, so as to live in peace, without colonial domination.

:: The enemy have not made their usual dry season attack. What does this mean?

This year the enemy have been unable to carry out dry season attacks, or at least they have not made such attacks up to now. It is possible that they are preparing, that they intend to carry out attacks following a different pattern to those made in previous years. But the major factor preventing Portuguese enemy attack during the dry season has been the fact that we took the initiative in attacking their positions. Portugal has found itself prevented, found itself unable to make attacks during this dry season, because we destroyed all their possibilities of manoeuvre, all their possibilities of movement on the ground, and they were forced to hide in their barracks and to withdraw to the rear.

We can take the example of what happened in Zone E of the Third Region, in an area where the Portuguese had started to launch an attack. When we carried out an offensive in the Luetembo area, totally destroying their barracks, the Portuguese found that they were unable to pursue the attack, because the bridges ensuring communications between Luso and Gago Coutinho were completely destroyed.

At the same time, the guerrilla war is advancing, not only in Bie District, but also in Lunda and Malange, and the Portuguese no longer know which way to turn, no longer really know how to defend the positions they still occupy in our territory, faced as they are by such a diversity of attacks being made at different points.

We shall continue to attack and we shall attack with ever greater force, ever greater means, or rather, with more effective means, and therefore these dry season attacks are, I think, already something of the past, so that now it is our initiative which will direct operations in our country. This is yet a further defeat for Portuguese colonialism.

SAM-MPLA's medical assistance



SAM, the MPLA's Medical Assistance Service, is the organisation which has been given the task of providing medico-social care not only for the fighters and all militants, both inside Angola and abroad, but also for the huge population living in the liberated areas of Angola.

Founded in 1961, at the very start of the armed struggle, this organisation has been closely associated with all the events in the history of our liberation movement; led by the MPLA. SAM is a practical expression of the overriding pre-occupation of President Neto and our revolutionary leadership to create a new type of social organisation, at the same time as advancing the armed struggle, in order to provide the liberated people with the benefits of progress and well-being. Although our resources in technical cadres and material means are not very great, rational organisation combined with good criteria for improvement have enabled this organisation, which has been manned exclusively by national cadres up to now, to gain in scope and extensiveness and to establish itself definitively inside Angola, where it is providing inestimable services.

At present, SAM activities are co-ordinated by a doctor who is its national director and who is directly responsible for SAM to the Politico-Military Co-ordinating Committee. Then there is a regional director or doctor in each of the existing politico-military regions. Other doctors are directors of hospital centres set up along the frontiers, their main job being to care for the seriously wounded and supply equipment and medicines to the areas and regions in the interior. At regional level there are Regional Medical Centres entrusted with co-ordinating

and directing the activities of the doctors in the various areas and the First Aid Posts attached to all the detachments. These posts are run by medical assistants, qualified nurses and first aid assistants. Apart from the medical care it provides for the sick and wounded, SAM's present objectives are as follows:

- 1: The rapid training of

first aid assistants and nurses;

2. Further training of the existing personnel through theoretical and practical courses;

3. Launching a vast hygiene, preventive medicine and vaccination campaign among the masses;

4. Mounting a mother and child care campaign;

5. Setting up large medico-surgical units in neighbouring countries.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BOAVIDA

The executive Committee of the MPLA, expressing the feelings of all its militants, pays a high tribute, full of emotion, to Dr. Americo Boavida who died in combat in Angola as a result of a bombing raid in one of the combat areas, where he worked as Director of the Medical Assistance Services.

Americo Boavida came from Luanda, where he was born on 20 November 1923. Overcoming all difficulties of a racial nature, he successfully completed his primary and secondary schooling and was one of the first Angolan graduates of the Liceu de Luanda, where Agostinho Neto was also a student. He presented the local athletics club as an athlete and made an effective contribution to the sporting successes carried off by that group.

In 1952, he obtained a degree in Medicine from the University Medical Faculty in Porto and Lisbon, followed by degrees in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. In both 1954 and 1958 he worked in the clinical hospital of the Medical Faculty of the University of Barcelona and in 1955 he specialised in Gynaecology and Obstetrics at the Institute for Post-Graduate Medical Studies in Prague.

He practised his profession in Angola, in the town of Luanda, where he lived from 1955 to 1960, becoming well known for his qualities, both professional and nationalist. He earned enormous prestige and the esteem of his compatriots.

His nationalist feeling led him to give up his professional activities and to devote himself entirely to the struggle for the national independence and freedom of his people.

In August 1960 he joined the MPLA, where he worked as a member of the Department of Foreign Relations, as President of the Angolan Volunteer Corps for Assistance to Refugees (CVAAR)



Dr. Americo Boavida.

in Kinshasa and as a member of the National Committee. He was one of the first Angolan doctors to respond to our Movement's call to go and fight inside our country.

Throughout his life as a doctor and fighter he had the affection and friendly counsel of his wife, a teacher of Portuguese nationality. The just nature of our struggle made her support and accompany him with courage in all his activities. His widow has made an active contribution to the development of our struggle and devoted herself with all possible enthusiasm and effort to the liberation of both the Angolan people and the oppressed Portuguese people.

Deeply concerned about the evolution of the social and political problems of the Third World, Dr. Boavida made a profound analysis of the Portuguese colonial system, strongly condemning it in various articles published in the international press and in his outstanding book

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MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE REGIONS

Portugal's health policy in its African colonies, and particularly in Angola, since it is most especially a settler colony, has always had as its prime object caring for the health of the European settlers as a means of ensuring administrative, military and economic control. Any problems which had to do with the health of the indigenous population were always looked upon as secondary.

Over the past years since the launching of the armed struggle for national liberation, the Portuguese government has been doing its utmost to show that health services in Angola have improved. The perceptible increase in medical and para-medical personnel is partially a response to this political need, although due especially to the growth of the military forces of occupation, as well as to the pressure of world opinion.

The health position of the vast majority of the Angolan people is still, however, as precarious as it was at the beginning of this century. The appalling infant mortality rate and what has been noted in the zones under our Movement's control by the doctors in our Medical Assistance Service, more than refutes the ludicrous figures put out by the Portuguese occupiers.

The establishment of the colonial health services followed the geographical distribution of the European population, most of which is to be found in the towns along the seaboard (82%), in the rich coffee region in the north and along the three major railways (see maps 1 and 2). The African population, on the other hand, is essentially rural, only about 10% living in the shanty-towns which surround the European population centres.

In 1963, the numbers of doctors and para-medical personnel were, respectively, 261 and 985. In 1967, this number rose to 414 "government" doctors, 21 doctors attached to religious missions and about 1,566 para-medical personnel (nurses, midwives, laboratory assistants etc.)

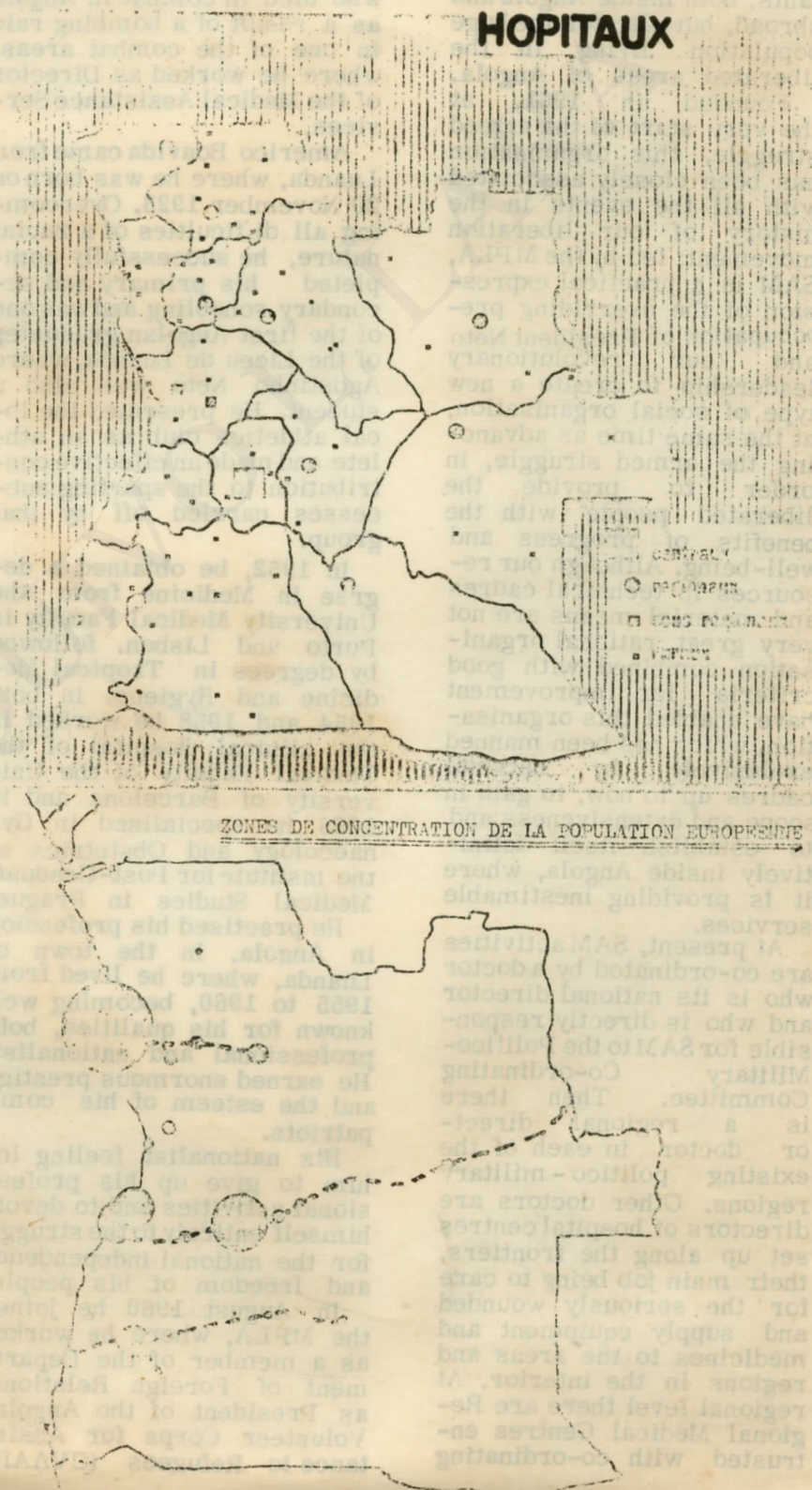
This increase in the number of medical personnel is due essentially to the growth of the Portuguese military and para-military forces (which rose from 7,000 to 70,000 men in the regular army, plus more than 20,000 security agents and settler militiamen). Doctors and other

para-medical personnel in the military forces are called government staff (civil servants) in the statistics, for obvious reasons....

One of the sources from which we have taken our information ("Angola -- Curso de extensao universitaria", Instituto Superior de Alto Estudos Ultramarinos) points out that there are 3 central hospitals with 300 beds, 15 regional hospitals in the district capitals, 57 sub-regional (i.e. rural) hospitals and 26 leper hospitals, involving a total 5,180 beds. In addition to these health centres, there are 304 dispensaries

in suburban and rural areas.

An examination of the geographical distribution of these health centres shows that they are concentrated in the maritime zone which represents the one-quarter of Angola's territory where the European population is most dense. Towards the interior, in the vast region which embraces five districts (Malanje, Bie, Lunda, Moxico and Kuando Kubango), with an area exactly that of France, the number of health centres is infinitesimal: 5 regional hospitals, 16 rural hospitals and 60 field dispensaries. Yet the Angolan population in that re-



UNDER PORTUGUESE OCCUPATION

gion of the country numbers about 2,000,000.

When one studies both Portuguese and international statistics, one finds that there is 1 doctor for about every 13,000 people, which would put Angola in quite a comfortable position, fourth in Africa in the field of health. But let us take a closer look at the situation.

In each rural hospital there are, in principle, 1 doctor and 1 or 2 nurses, and the field dispensaries are run by 1 nurse or medical assistant. These are the doctors and health assistants who care for the health of the 18% of the Europeans who live in small towns in the interior and on plantations, and of the vast majority of the rural (90%) and suburban (10%) African population. Therefore, there are 60 doctors (13.5%) and about 400 nurses (25%) to tackle the health problems of this huge population. On the other hand 86.5% of all doctors (375) treat 80% of the European population and the African minority admitted to the central hospitals and private clinics.

A Portuguese doctor divides his activity between the hospital, his practice and private business (industry, mines...) Monthly incomes range from 1 to 3 million old francs. Military doctors also engage in private business.

It can therefore be said that there is 1 doctor for about every 1,000 settlers (which is excellent) but, on the other hand, 1 doctor for about every 75,000 Angolans, which is catastrophic and puts Angola last among the African countries. The horrifying infant mortality rate among Africans (about 125 out of every 1,000), compared with the low rate among the children of Portuguese settlers (45 out of every 1,000) is a further reason for reflection on the nature of Portuguese medical care in Angola.

It is surprising that the United Nations should see fit to publish the figures issued by the Lisbon government, because they are so absurd. In the period from 1960 to 1964, according to the United Nations Statistical Bulletin already cited, the infant mortality rate in Angola was 19.2 out of every 1,000, whereas in Portugal itself the number amounted to 77.4 out of every 1,000. There is no need to comment on the reliability of the Portuguese government's statistics.

Moreover, since the best facilities for diagnosis and treatment are always concentrated in the central hospitals and private clinics, which have the services of the best medical personnel, the civil servants being treated there, the rural hospitals and dispensaries lack not only skilled personnel but also the most elementary facilities for diagnosis (radiological and biological examinations) and treatment.

The health policy pursued by the colonial government in Angola, despite all its efforts to fool public opinion and international organisations, is selective and racist. Quality is for the European and mediocrity and deficiencies for Angola. Hence the life expectancy of the African is 35 and that of the Portuguese settler 60.

IN THE AREAS UNDER MPLA CONTROL

The MPLA has made available to the Angolan people its medical service (SAM). Its activities date back to 1963, a year of great advance in the armed struggle. The need to provide medical care for the guerrilla detachments obliged SAM to adapt its structure to that of the armed forces. It therefore carries out its activity in the regions, zones and sectors where the war is in progress. At regional level, SAM is directed by a doctor or a medical assistant. The zone comes under a medical assistant or qualified nurse and, finally, the sector under a nurse or nursing assistant.

SAM's cadres are also guerrillas and they take part in combat against the colonialist army. It is very short-staffed and far from meeting the needs of the population in the regions. SAM's present medical personnel is as follows.

- 6 doctors
- 2 medical assistants
- 7 qualified nurses
- 1 pharmacist
- 2 midwives
- 2 laboratory assistants
- 18 first aid assistants
- 3 nursing assistants

In 1969, therefore, cadres had to be trained. To meet this need we set up a school of elementary medical care, which imparts general knowledge on anatomy, physiology, first aid, pathology and hygiene. The first course enabled us to train 14 cadres, 1 nursing assistant and 13 first aid assistants.

We hope to be able to increase the numbers, because the course has been a success and has aroused the enthusiasm of the villagers, even in places still under Portuguese occupation.

As regards health centres, a great deal still remains to be done. At present we have only one somewhat rudimentary hospital in operation at Dolisie (Congo Brazzaville). This hospital has only 12 beds, a small operating room, 2 consulting rooms, 1 rudimentary laboratory and adjoining treatment rooms. We have therefore been able to treat fighters from the Cabinda front and the Angolan population living close to the frontier or on the territory of the People's Republic of the Congo.

On the Eastern Front (third and fourth health regions), which borders on Zambia, the difficulties are tremendous. Transporting medical supplies from Dar es Salaam port is very difficult, owing to the great distance (3,000 kilometres) and SAM's lack of transport facilities. Beyond the frontier medical care is provided by mobile teams accompanying the military columns and in dispensaries set up at our bases. Some villages still cannot have our services because of the shortage of staff and medicines. With the steady advance of the liberated struggle the population and fighters to be cared for are becoming increasingly numerous. The constant bombing raids with fragmentation bombs and napalm are causing a consistent increase in the numbers of people burned and wounded. The surgical equipment at our disposal is very limited. Furthermore the need for more advanced training of our technical assistants and nurses, especially in the field of war surgery, is making itself felt.

ANGOLA IN ARMS (English edition)

Published by the
Propaganda and
Information Dept.
(Delegation in Tanzania)
People's Movement for the
Liberation of
ANGOLA (M.P.L.A.)

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P.O. Box 20793
Dar es Salaam,
TANZANIA

Annual Subscriptions:

Tanzania	Sh 10 00
Africa:	\$2.00
Asia:	\$4.00
USA, Canada:	\$4.00
Latin America	\$3.00

PLENARY SESSION OF M.P.L.A. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

3. The establishment of an Institute of Socio-Economic Studies as well as other bodies to deal specifically with problems of the MPLA and of organising the people.

CONTROLLED AREAS

Taking into account the fact that in the controlled areas the work of national reconstruction has progressed more or less successfully, particularly in the fields of agricultural production, health, education and trade, it was found necessary to increase the degree of responsibility of the organs of people's power, not only in order to carry out planned tasks better, but also, and above all, so that decisive measures can be taken to consolidate our gains.

The mass organisations -- the Youth of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (JMPLA), the Organisation of Angolan Women (OMA), the National Union of Angolan Workers (UNTÁ), the Organisation of Angolan Pioneers (OPA) and the Union of Angolan Students (UEA) -- have important work to do among the people in mobilising them for all the tasks. Special attention must be given to the activity of the underground nuclei throughout the country.

In order to fulfil the great tasks enumerated at the meeting, our organisational structures must be equal to their responsibilities and MPLA militants must clearly understand the strategic and tactical principles which guide our action.

It will be the task of the First Congress to review the MPLA's Statutes and Programme, but as from now, the instruments must be established for ensuring the ideological purity of our Movement's policy, based on absolute unity in the unyielding fight for Complete Independence and Democracy, against all forms of external or internal oppression and exploitation.

THE ENEMY

In the complexity of the present international situation, the most recent events relating to Portugal reflect the embarrassing situation in which the Caetano government finds itself. Its reformist policy, which is moreover contested by a sizeable faction of his "National Popular Action" party, has met with no success whatsoever among the Angolan people in the occupied areas.

All further manoeuvres attempted by the colonialist and fascist Lisbon government will come up against the firm resistance of our people, using the appropriate forms of struggle for Independence.

As far as the Angolan people are concerned, the solution to the colonial problem can be found only by fully satisfying their aspirations for Independence.

The colonialist Caetano government is worried both by the hysteria of some settlers and monopolies which are opposed to any concessions, and by the failure of the reforms among the Angolan masses, which it sees to be a result of increased national consciousness, presaging the resounding failure of its absurd plan.

It is in this light that one must view the manoeuvre of Spiro Agnew when that American leader went from Kinshasa to Lisbon to propose to the Portuguese government that President Mobutu of the Democratic Republic of the Congo mediate in the conflict between the colonialist oppressors and the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 7)

Dr. Boavida

(Continued from Page 3)

ANGOLA CINCOSECULOS DE EXPLORACAO PORTUGUESA (Angola, five centuries of Portuguese exploitation), published in Brazil by Editora Civilizacao Brasileira S.A., Rio de Janeiro.

The Executive Committee of the MPLA considers that Dr. Americo Boavida gave services of inestimable value on the Eastern Front, making himself especially noted for the setting up of a number of dispensaries there, for the way in which he ensured the medical care of the local population and also for the scientific analysis he made towards a solution of the health problems in Angola.

A well known figure internationally, Dr. Americo Boavida stands immortal at the side of all the heroes who have died for the liberation of Angola from Portuguese colonial domination. His example will not have been in vain. Paying with his life for his feeling as a nationalist and revolutionary Dr. Americo Boavida will remain a symbol to all Angolan patriots who are wholly dedicated to the task of transforming Angola into an independent, democratic and free country.

*From his blood
which has been
shed will spring
flowers for
independent
Angola*



**Dr. Americo Boavida
inside Angola.**

PLENARY SESSION OF M.P.L.A.

patriotic forces.

It is in this light that one must view the appointment to Kinshasa of well-known Portuguese Ambassador Marcelo Matias, up to now Ambassador in Paris. Western Europe and American imperialism are thus involving themselves more obviously, manipulating their pawns in Lisbon and Kinshasa in their battle for the neo-colonial occupation of Angola.

The NATO meeting in Lisbon was a manifestation of that organisation's support for Portuguese colonial policy. However, the MPLA appreciates the stand of the countries in that bloc which have come out against the colonial war.

More weight is being assumed in this concert of reactionary forces by the aggressive and expansionist policy of the Racist Republic of South Africa and "Rhodesia", the active protectors of Portuguese colonialism in Angola and Mozambique, where they have given sufficient evidence of their direct participation in military operations against the MPLA, while enjoying the political and belligerent support of a Western Europe which wants to preserve the gold reserves it needs to oppose the American imperialists' monetary policy.

The MPLA's answer to the launching by the Republic of South Africa of operation seduction of African countries must be dynamic armed and diplomatic action. ANY DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AFRICA WHICH IS NOT CONDUCTED THROUGH THE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT IS CONDEMNED BY OUR MOVEMENT.

The isolation of Portugal necessarily means also the isolation of South Africa.

SOLIDARITY

The Liberation Movements in Southern Africa are united in a struggle employing all means to liquidate the colonialist and racist regimes in that part of Africa, pitting against the Caetano-Smith-Vorster alliance the indomitable will of the peoples of Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa to be masters of their destinies.

The Plenary Meeting of the Executive Committee of the MPLA reaffirms its fighting solidarity with the people of South Africa led by ANC, expresses its confidence that the Zimbabwean militants will restore their unity and continues to support the people of Namibia in their liberation struggle.

The Plenary Meeting of the Executive Committee of the MPLA expresses its fighting solidarity with the peoples of Indochina and other people in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East fighting international imperialism led by the USA.

Also supports the Afro-American people's struggle to win their rights.

Also expresses its full support for the progressive Portuguese forces which are continuing to advance their victorious fight against fascism and the colonial war.

The Plenary Meeting also noted an important increase in international solidarity with the Angolan people's struggle.

CONCP.

The Executive Committee of the MPLA will make every effort, together with the sister organisation of FRELIMO and the PAIGC, to give fresh vigour to the CONCP, making it more effective in the struggle against the common enemy.

The Plenary Meeting fraternally hails all the PAIGC and FRELIMO fighters.

Glorious journey of Mozambique people

It was on the 25th of September 1964 that the brother people of Mozambique, under the leadership of the FRENTE DE LIBERTACAO DE MOCAMBIQUE (FRELIMO), rose up in arms to combat against and put an end to the oppressive colonialist rule of Portugal in their country.

Seven years have already passed since that glorious journey. During this period our brothers from Mozambique, fighting under the banner of FRELIMO, have dealt successive and increasingly harder blows to the colonialist soldiery and at the same time built the foundations for a new and brighter future for the people of Mozambique.

The peoples of Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau and Angola are united by the struggle against a common enemy, Portuguese colonialism. They are united by the same determination to crush the enemy and build three free, prosperous and democratic countries where the exploitation of our peoples may be substituted by harmony, hard work and progress for all.

In the struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism our peoples are united with all the peoples of Africa, for the total liberation of our Continent.

The 25th September, therefore, is not just a glorious journey for the struggling people of Mozambique. It is also a glorious journey for all freedom-loving peoples of the world, particularly the African peoples.

On the occasion of the 25th September, the people of Angola, fighting under the leadership of the MPLA, fraternally salutes our gallant brothers of Mozambique waging a fierce struggle against Portuguese colonialists to crush their oppressive rule and substitute it by the rule of the people.

**The People of Mozambique shall win! Long live the fighting people of Mozambique!
LONG LIVE FRELIMO!**

WAR COMMUNIQUE

FOURTH REGION

During the months of June, and July, the Portuguese colonialists attempted to invade our detachments and to dislodge the MPLA guerrillas from our positions in the areas under our control. This was a vain attempt which cost the enemy heavy losses and large quantities of abandoned material.

During this period the enemy set off two explosive devices which killed 3 of them and wounded 1.

On 8 June, a colonialist platoon fell into an MPLA ambush in which they suffered 4 dead.

From 24 June to 1 July colonialist troops ambushed on the banks of the Lula, in the Lumacassai and Dala area, were flagellated by our fighters, who inflicted heavy losses on them: 14 dead and 13 wounded.

On 15 July, owing to the prompt and vigorous retaliation of the MPLA fighters, an encounter between an MPLA patrol and enemy forces caused the colonialists 3 dead and 1 wounded.

THIRD REGION

On 15 August, the Portuguese colonialists suffered heavy losses. A group of Katangese mercenaries accompanying the occupation troops also suffered high losses. The remainder took refuge in the Congo, heading for the Dilolo-Gare frontier.

On 29 September, a group of guerrillas from the Chando Section went out on a mission at the Luiano post. At 11 a.m. on the 30th, near the Mpulu savanna, our guerrillas heard the sound of a moving vehicle and quickly prepared their ambush. At 11.15 a.m. a military truck entered the ambush area and our guerrillas opened fire with bazookas followed by machine-gun fire. The military truck was completely destroyed and

its occupants killed.

Just when our fighters were about to go over to the assault, a second military truck appeared and opened fire in the direction of our guerrillas, who promptly retaliated.

This operation lasted 15 minutes. There were no casualties among our forces.

In the first days of October, a group of MPLA fighters again attacked the Muie post with mortar shells. Six houses were destroyed in this operation. Two of them were occupied by Portuguese troops and the four others by members of the so-called special groups (GEs), who not only serve the colonialist army as cannon fodder, but who are also shockingly discriminated against. Ten Portuguese soldiers and twelve GEs were killed. In addition, an MPLA patrol group attacked a Portuguese troop encampment near the Xicului river. The encampment was totally destroyed and the enemy troop contingent completely put out of action, having virtually not reacted to the unexpectedness and speed with which our guerrillas acted.

There were no casualties among the MPLA fighters.

On 6 October, an MPLA guerrilla Section again attacked the Ninda barracks with heavy mortar fire, inflicting an unknown number of losses on the enemy.

There were no casualties among the members of the Section who carried out the attack.

Having exhausted its manpower but with an abundance of war material supplied by the big imperialist powers, Portuguese colonialism is resorting increasingly to the use of African mercenaries from adjacent countries. As the MPLA forges ahead to liberate Angola, its bullets do not distinguish between the Portuguese fascist enemy and renegades who are traitors to Africa, to their countries

and to the fraternal Angolan people.

with MPLA, victory is certain!

DIP DELEGATION IN TANZANIA

Certain news agencies are trying to insinuate that the bomb which exploded in the Congo Kinshasa mission to the United Nations was an act of protest against the fact that the Congo Kinshasa Government does not allow the MPLA freedom of action in its country.

The Executive Committee of the MPLA declares that, in the first place, it is not the custom of the MPLA to use such methods to solve problems.

The problem of freedom of action for the MPLA in Congo Kinshasa has been put before the OAU and all friendly countries with a view to finding a solution.

The OAU Conference of Heads of State and Government has recognised the MPLA as the only movement which is really fighting Portuguese colonialism in Angola. This fact is causing embarrassment to the colonialists, who are therefore trying to find new ways of continuing exploitation in Angola. To this end, they are contacting certain African Governments with the aim of neutralising the people's struggle led by the MPLA. They wish to discredit the MPLA in the eyes of world opinion.

The Executive Committee of the MPLA stands by its conviction that, through the intermediary of the OAU, the problem of freedom of transit will be solved between the MPLA and the Kinshasa Government in the interests of both peoples.

No imperialist manoeuvre will succeed in making the MPLA depart from its just line or prevent the Angolan people's final victory.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE M.P.L.A.

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