



# ANGOLA in ARMS

information organ of the

PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA



No. 2

April/May, 1972

Vol. 2

## MESSAGE TO THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE FROM OUR PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO

Compatriots,  
Comrades,

Without risking any facile exaggeration, the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola can affirm, with satisfaction and optimism, that the Angolan people are continuing to accumulate victories which are totting up to equate to the promise that the longed-for day of our beloved country's Independence is coming ever nearer.

The mere fact that in eleven years of struggle the well-equipped and technically well-outfitted Portuguese colonialists have not been able to liquidate the various military combat fronts or to break the resistance of the people in the areas under their control, is in itself proof of the vitality of a movement which is constantly growing and changing. But, most important is that the enemy, who are being attacked on every side, feel it would be satisfactory to be able to contain the progress of the guerrilla war in given areas for a while, and not to have disrupting disturbances in the urban areas for the time being.

However, the enemy should have learned their lesson in Cunene, the area to which they had to send large forces to put down the rebellion of the people in that region. This phenomenon will be repeated and the colonialists' few remaining hopes will be extinguished by the realities of our country.

The frail coexistence which still reigns between the enemy, with whip still in hand, and a part of the people who keeps silent out of terror, cannot continue for much longer. And the more intelligent colonialists are well aware of this.

**The colonialist enemy are isolated and the MPLA's prestige is tremendous**

Just as it has done inside our country, the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola has been able to consolidate its position internationally, to such an extent that the Portuguese government is bowing under the weight of all the humiliations of every

kind inflicted on it by its former friends.

To cite just a few recent events, I can refer to the honourable attitude of the Danish, who are going to help the MPLA to build an Institute of Secondary Education, in addition to undertaking projects for medical care and increased production.

An important Dutch political personality has, like others, turned down a Portuguese invitation to visit Angola, on the grounds of not recognising the fascist Lisbon government's right to make such invitations. And it is quite possible that, like so many other foreigners, this same personality will accept an MPLA invitation to visit the areas under our control. The fascist Portuguese government's former friends are understanding increasingly on which side justice and right are to be found.

For most of the countries in the world, for most of the people in any of the continents, the Portuguese government no longer represents and indeed cannot represent the Angolan people, and it cannot put itself forward as being a part of a people of whom an appreciable percentage are oppressed on our national territory. The only true representative of our people, of the Angolan people, personifying their aspirations and their most just interests, is the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

This historic truth is becoming a legal reality to the extent that, regardless of how one interprets the form adopted at the Security Council meeting held in Addis Ababa, the whole world attentively followed the report made by the MPLA delegate who presented our problem before that high international body. The specialised agencies of the United Nations Organisation have rejected Portugal when it comes to the representation of the peoples of Angola and the other colonies. UNESCO is helping us with education. The World Health Organisation is helping in the field of medical care. FAO is helping us to minimise the effects of the criminal use of defoliants and herbicides.

Countries which are members of NATO are more and more openly acknowledging the rights

of our people and the authority of the MPLA, the sole body they seek out when dealing with Angolan problems.

At present the Portuguese government still gets some foreign capital to carry out the hastily conceived economic development plans with which it hopes to throw sand in the eyes of the world. However, five centuries of colonisation, obscurantism and oppression have made it impossible for anyone to be fooled as to Portuguese designs. For this very reason, given our people's heroic resistance, no one can doubt Portugal's inability to maintain its present domination. For this very reason, some of those interested in investing capital in Angola are already coming to contact the MPLA to ensure the future co-operation that will take place in accordance with the decisions made by our people on these matters and with the provisions of our Programme.

**The conditions exist for further developing Revolutionary action.**

No one is unaware that political Independence is inevitable. Neither is anyone unaware that it is only through their true representative — the MPLA — that the Angolan people can make their voice heard.

Therefore, comrades and compatriots, we have solid foundations, both at home and abroad, for continuous progress in our national liberation struggle. We have the foundations for pursuing our action, for carrying out the revolutionary tasks facing us, which can be summed up under two broad headings: unyielding struggle against colonialism, and national reconstruction in the political, economic, social and cultural spheres.

Our enemy are already unable to admit to the tremendous losses they always suffer when their barracks are attacked, as happened, for example, at Chiume and Lumbala, in Moxico district. They are unable to admit to the growing unrest among the population in the hot areas, like Menongue and Luso. They now confine themselves to

(Continued on Page 2)



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO ANGOLAN

(Continued from Page 1)

## PEOPLE

arguing that we have not made any large-scale attacks on positions in the centre of the country or on the seaboard, or that there have been no big operations in urban centres. As any one of our people could tell them, I can assure them that they need only wait — there is nothing to lose by waiting: shells will fall on them in places where they can still sleep peacefully now.

Each criminal act of the colonialists has its appropriate riposte which throws them into despair. The use of chemical agents, for example, exposes whole peoples to the bitterness of hunger for a certain time, but, on the other hand, it permits an even more generous demonstration of international solidarity. Industrial goods are flowing in in greater quantities than before to help our people to face an enemy which is fighting with superior weapons but is incapable of taking a single step forward.

### The MPLA, an invincible force.

There is therefore one fact that we cannot ignore. This is that the MPLA is an invincible force. It is the hope of all Angolans and the politico-military foundation for winning our Independence. There exists in the consciousness of the men and women of our land, and even in the attitudes of children and the aged, the certainty that we will win independence for our land, that we will overcome this heroic phase of our history. There can be no other outcome to the protracted struggle we are waging, with all its vicissitudes, than the complete victory of our people.

The consciousness of independent man is something every Angolan has already acquired, even at this time when the physical presence of the Portuguese occupier is still a fact. This presence is temporary and we all know it.

### The Portuguese colonialists have to find a political way out.

Conscious of its responsibilities both at home and abroad, the MPLA has more than once addressed itself to the Portuguese government, the settlers and all those who support colonial rule, calling their attention to their lack of realism. It is high time that Portuguese face the problem of Angola outside the ossified and narrow view of Lisbon, without at the same time succumbing to the em-

brace of South African expansionism.

Everyone knows perfectly well that bloodshed is not our essential purpose. The blood already shed by young Angolans and Portuguese, and all the cruelties of a war ill-controlled from abroad, are already a high price paid by our people and the Portuguese people to make the Lisbon rulers realise the need to seek a more humane and rational way of finding a solution to the problem.

All Portuguese know that it is not through war that they will gain peace and calm. The war is daily increasing the hatred between two peoples and in future this could jeopardise the very existence of little Portugal in the Europe of the Big Powers. The war is deepening the hatred between two races, between two nations. Future co-operation may become difficult.

The only possible way that the Portuguese can find a solution to this problem, which involves lives and is arousing feelings throughout the world, is to try to find a political way out which satisfies the Angolan people.

The MPLA, which has made statements to this effect on a number of occasions, will do so untiringly in the interests of the Angolan people, in the interests of the Portuguese people and of mankind as a whole.

I am once again going to emphasise the growing difficulties apparent in the life of the Portuguese settlers in Angola in respect of their relations with their metropole. These difficulties are expressed by the balance of payments, the unequal terms of trade with Portugal, the constant rise in the cost of living and the suffocating atmosphere on the foreign exchange market and as regards the transfer of capital. The future holds in store even more difficult conditions for the businessman, who is essentially the settler.

The constitutional change of legal names aimed at camouflaging the shameful word "colony" under a flimsy veneer of administrative structures which, to the outside world, amount to the word "state", cannot solve the problem. The much publicised "administrative decentralisation combined with strong unifying centralism" is a bluff which only those who suffer from political myopia can still accept as a solution to Angolan problems. All these reforms will be rejected wholesale by the Angolan people.

In fact these plans seem to be aimed less at keeping Angola under Portuguese rule than at putting the settlers under the "white"

Southern African influence, under the sway of countries which are more industrialised than Portugal and hungering to control Angola's resources.

In that event, and given the international situation, the military struggle will take on more violent aspects and will have more serious consequences for the Portuguese settlers.

### Only with the MPLA can there be a political solution

Although it might appear contradictory, the only useful solution for the Portuguese, the only way out of the labyrinth of war, is a political solution found with the MPLA, so as to establish the foundations for better future understanding and the kind of relations one would wish to see between independent and sovereign peoples.

The whole logic of the national liberation struggle and the staunch support and growing solidarity the MPLA is getting from the four corners of the world comply with my expressing myself in these terms. History will prove those who become convinced of this fact to have been right.

### Unite all Angolans

Compatriots,

Comrades,

It is true that the Portuguese colonialists and a few people, either misled or out of bad faith, still have doubts about our country's independent and radiant future, in which our people will be free, have democratic institutions and be the masters of their own destiny.

At this time the colonialists and their allies would like to weaken the Angolan people's revolutionary force by dividing them, playing on the ambitions of some and the incompetence of others. Yet "divide and rule" is a maxim which even children in our schools learn is a colonialist rule to be fought against.

### Factionalists, Divisionalists, are always exposed, isolated and rejected.

Our people are achieving ever greater genuine unity in the struggle. THE MPLA has provided the necessary conditions enabling the people to wage a united struggle against their enemy, Portuguese colonialism, and making use of all

(Continued on Page 3)



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from Page 2)

anti-colonialist trends in the country to this end.

## Do away with all misunderstandings and struggle in unity

We do not wish to, we cannot conceal certain difficulties which still exist, not so much in consolidating the foundations of the united combat front on Angolan soil, but principally in doing away with certain misunderstandings within the African family.

A united front is what all Angolans want. The MPLA supports it and is actively working to achieve it. For the MPLA, a united front is a factor essential to winning independence.

## Neighbouring countries should assist our struggle.

At the international level, the MPLA pursues a policy of independence and for the establishment of just relations with all peoples in the world. We are in a position to guarantee to all African countries whose territory can serve as a base for our national liberation struggle full respect for their sovereignty and their internal social standards, and we guarantee non-interference in their internal affairs, in accordance with OAU principles. The MPLA wants help for its activity and nothing more.

On this basis, it continues to place its hope in the farsightedness of all African leaders, especially those in neighbouring countries, trusting that, showing a reciprocal attitude, they will create the conditions for our Movement's formidable military potential to be used effectively by all Angolans, on Angolan territory. The Independence to be shortly won will not be solely for the Angolan people, but for all of Africa too.

We give our most heartfelt thanks for the asylum granted to Angolans who have taken refuge in neighbouring countries, but we wish just as sincerely to express our desire to be able to return to our country organised, in order to fight there, to live or die there, but fighting for our independence. This is the MPLA's supreme wish.

## Unity and struggle.

The MPLA is at this moment capable of removing all the obstacles which still stand in the way of our rapid advance to freedom. The united combat front must become a reality, for it alone will put victory within our im-

mediate reach. We must not weaken the idea of unity with ideological, ethnic, racial or other considerations. Unity first. The common enemy must be fought first.

The MPLA is prepared to take the necessary steps for establishing ways and means of achieving joint action. The MPLA will waste no more time on useless quarrels. For the good of our people, we are ready to meet and solve our problems within the Angolan family.

The subtle activity of the colonialists must, however, be neutralised. The intrigues and constant psychological action carried on among us must be laid bare, for it is through this action that difficulties arise in the liberation struggle.

We can state without fear of error that where there are difficulties in achieving unity, where there is factionalism, there is always either the immediate or distant presence of the colonialists or of other countries.

Because our people, all of us, are united in our desire to fight

for Independence, those who do not give proof of consistently adhering to this desire may be rejected by the struggle itself. It is the struggle that will throw them out.

**Defend revolutionary principles  
Advance because the time is excellent.**

Therefore, in our Movement and in our liberation struggle we are not afraid of consistently defending revolutionary methods of action and principles. In defending them, we are defending our people.

Let us concentrate our united efforts against the enemy, the Portuguese colonialists.

The time is excellent to take strides forward. We are therefore going to use the foundations we already have to deal the enemy blows everywhere and with even greater force.

Wiping out all the sources of differences will be a victory for our people.

The time is also excellent for the colonialists to allow themselves a few minutes for reflection.

**VICTORY IS CERTAIN!**

# APPEAL

In carrying out its education programmes, the MPLA has already been able to count on the active solidarity of a number of individuals and institutions. However, the magnitude and complexity of the tasks to be fulfilled force us to appeal for further manifestations of solidarity, especially in meeting the following needs:

- 1 The construction of a school complex, including five blocks (hostel, primary school, secondary school, secretariat and kitchen), with an approximate total number of 50 rooms.
- 2 Equipment for physics, chemistry, zoology, botany and minerology laboratories, including wall maps.
- 3 Four Land Rovers (or their equivalent), one of them a van.
- 4 Typewriters with a minimum 50 cm carriage and a keyboard adapted for for typing in Portuguese.
- 5 Duplicating machines of the Gestetner type, and accessories.
- 6 Equipment for a hostel: sheets, camp beds, blankets, towels, cutlery, plates, mugs, cooking pots, kettles, tents and rucksacks for 500 persons.

7 School material: exercise books, pencils, ball point pens, erasers, coloured pencils, satchels, drawing cases, rulers, set-squares, protractors, and compasses for use on blackboards.

8 Equipment for agricultural work, including seeds.

9 Sports equipment (football, volleyball, basketball, athletics and chess).

10. An offset litho press and accessories.

11 Three-speed tape recorders.

12 16 mm cine cameras and appropriate projectors and screens.

13 Slide projectors.

14. Two generating sets.

15 Supplementary foodstuffs for children (milk, wheat flour, oil and tinned food).

In considering our needs, we request our friends to remember that consignments for secondary education should be addressed to:

**DEC/MPLA  
B.P. 2353  
Brazzaville  
Peoples' Republic of Congo**

Other consignments can also be sent to:

**DEC/MPLA  
P.O. BOX 20793  
Dar es Salaam  
Tanzania**



# Letter of democratic movement of Portuguese women

Mr. Diallo Telli,  
Secretary-General,  
Organisation of African Unity,  
Addis Ababa,  
Ethiopia.  
Mr. Secretary-General,

On the occasion of 8th March, International Women's Day, the feelings of friendship, unity and solidarity which unite Women from all continents and countries further sharpen the awareness of the countless hardships and misfortunes suffered by those women who, both personally and among their peoples, are victims of war, oppressive regimes, exploitation and repression.

It is on this date and in this connection that, on behalf of the anti-fascist and anti-colonialist women of Portugal, we have the honour to address ourselves to the Secretary-General of the Organisation of African Unity.

We have decided to do so for very precise reasons:—

1. The sanguinary wars ravaging African countries like Angola, Guinea Bissau and Mozambique are the work of Portuguese colonialist fascism, which launched them and is maintaining them, intensifying them and carrying their escalation to progressive independent African countries, while defying resolutions on it which have been passed by the highest bodies of the UN and OAU.

2. The Lisbon-Pretoria-Salisbury alliances are daily becoming more concrete and menacing in content. At the time of writing, we have just learnt the news of the military collaboration between Portuguese and South African troops in repressing the people of Southern Angola and Namibia in their struggle for their liberation.

While the purpose of these alliances is the maintenance of colonialist domination, the attempt to annihilate the Liberation Movements in the Portuguese colonies, the furtherance of South African racism's expansionist aims and the defence of the many imperialist interests, they are contributing to the hardening of South African and Rhodesian policy towards the opposition of the peoples in those countries and to increased violence using the most ignominious repressive methods.

3. This is not the time to tell you about the struggle of the women and people of Portugal against the colonial war. Nor is this the occasion for us to give you evidence of the monstrous barbarism unleashed by Portuguese colonialism and the colonial wars in Africa, although our very detailed knowledge about this would entitle us to do so.



Of course, it is first and foremost up to the peoples and women of Portugal and of the African countries concerned, through all forms of struggle, to develop the "arguments" which will force the oppressors and aggressors to lay down their arms and let go their hold. This valiant struggle is well known.

But, with its force and boldness and with all the attendant suffering, hunger, mourning and the bitter anguish of families split up — by war, police persecution and imprisonment — which accompany such domination, however fundamental this struggle may be, it cannot achieve its goal without the active and staunch participation of all the forces throughout the world which love peace and social justice and of international organisations which represent them and are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that they must intervene.

The OAU's wholly consistent stand encourages us to take this initiative.

4. We consider that International Women's Day, because its celebration represents a vast demonstration of unity, solidarity and friendship, is an ideal day for imparting fresh vigor to our commitments towards joint action by the Women of the whole world on the problems of peace, national independence, the sovereignty of the peoples, women's rights and the happiness of children.

We should like first to let you know, Mr. Secretary-General, how much the anti-fascist and anti-colonialist Portuguese women appreciate and rejoice at all the positions taken by the OAU on the problem of colonialist rule and colonial wars waged by the fascist Lisbon dictatorship in Angola, Guinea Bissau and Mozambique.

We also wish to assure you of

our wholehearted support for all future OAU initiatives which can help to hasten the end of this war and this rule.

Our present aim, on this occasion, is that of addressing an urgent appeal to the UN:

(a) that concrete steps be taken towards putting the Lisbon Government in the position of having to fulfil the UN Security Council and OAU resolutions which concern it;

(b) that effective measures be taken with Marcelo Caetano's Government in order that the concentration camps of Tarrafal and Galinhas, in the Cape Verde Islands, be done away with and that the African patriots imprisoned there be released; and that all the African political prisoners, both men and women, who are in the Caxias or Peniche fortresses in Portugal (among them the Rev. Pinto de Andrade, Honorary President of the MPLA) be released;

(c) that these same steps be taken in respect of the South African and Rhodesian political prisoners — both men and women — detained in prisons and concentration camps in their countries; and that all the women in those countries who have been deprived of their liberty (some under revoltingly arbitrary conditions, as is the case with Mrs. Helen Joseph, National Secretary of the Federation of South African Women) regain their freedom and have their right to recuperate their health and rejoin their families, children and friends respected.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary-General, the assurances of our highest consideration.

For the Democratic Movement of Portuguese Women,  
Maria Luisa Costa Dias,  
Responsible for Foreign Relations,  
Council Member of the Women's International Democratic Federation.



## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL UNION OF ANGOLAN WORKERS

ELEVEN years have indeed passed since the launching of the armed struggle led by the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

The Great Revolutionary Trade Union Centre, the National Union of Angolan Workers (UNTA), looks upon 4 February of each year as a historic day which marks a decisive stage in the struggle of the oppressed Workers against all forms of exploitation, for the recognition of individual freedom, in accordance with Convention 87 of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and with trade union rights.

On the conclusion of eleven years, we should like briefly to sum up the achievements of the socio-economic activities undertaken by UNTA since its headquarters were transferred to the Eastern Front. This retrospective glance at its activities will also make it possible to review past shortcomings.

The success achieved up to now in every sphere, and especially the politico-military developments, have been truly brilliant, but even more brilliant is the future opening up before us.

All this is closely bound up with the programme of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and of National Union of Angolan Workers (UNTA) for developing agriculture, hunting, fishing, handicrafts, trade and other socio-cultural activities in which particular importance is given to raising the level of political consciousness of the masses.

The draft plan drawn up by the Agricultural Workers' Union for the 1972-73 period provides for the most advanced new methods of work. Above all, we can anticipate an increase in the production of maize, cassava, millet, vegetables, meat and fish (.....).

All this has been made possible by the steps also include the Movement is taking to modernise agriculture and to organise it better on the basis of production brigades and committees. These steps also include holding seminars to train co-operative cadres and trade union activists who will make it easier to put the plan into effect.

It goes without saying that, after five centuries, the retrograde concepts of Portuguese colonialism in the field of agriculture had prevented our people from progressing as in other countries of the world. The land was expropriated from the peasants by Portuguese administrators and settlers and by the introduction of the policy of removing Africans from their land and families to work elsewhere.

At the present time, considering the new conditions which have arisen for prolonging the war and generalising it to the whole of our national territory, UNTA is constantly having to face countless difficulties, or it at least lacks the essential means for satisfying the requirements

of the present situation in the liberated areas.

Despite the numerous difficulties encountered in our work, however, during the 1970-71 period the population in the liberated areas responded favourably to the appeal made in a statement by Comrade Neto, President of the MPLA, concerning production.

The members of agricultural brigades are now in a position to act and to understand the ways of settling basic problems on which the advance of the armed revolution depends.

Here we wish to point out once again that we are short of agricultural implements, seeds and goods for the people's shops. We also wish to deplore with the greatest indignation the attitude of the fascist Portuguese forces, the Katangese and South African mercenaries who slaughter our people, spraying chemical agents on vast areas of the land cultivated, by the peasants. And now these same bandits are cutting young cassava and sorghum plants and mango tree branches, leaving the population in misery.

In the regions still under enemy control, the population is forbidden to cultivate individual plots. For purposes of support for the colonial war effort, the people are forced to receive their agricultural implements and seeds from the local administrator, and it is he who takes charge of the harvest, not the peasant who has toiled. We have now started trade union action, and the number of clandestine missions and committees is increasing. Many people in these regions are joining the national liberation struggle.

On the occasion of 4th February 1972, UNTA reaffirms its attachment to the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola and its President, Comrade Neto, to the People's National Liberation Forces and all the production brigades.

The sole task facing us is that of pursuing the war against all the forces of evil and for the development of the war economy. We shall never lay down our weapons so long as Portuguese colonialism and the counter-revolutionaries are not beaten and driven out of Angola.

The National Union of Angolan Workers, UNTA, as in the past, will be unsparing in its efforts to step up trade union activity appreciably, both nationally and internationally. It is, and will continue to be, the sole Revolutionary Trade Union Centre, and the most representative, of the works and peasants in Angola. "Victory is Certain" — that is our motto.

For the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE,

N. MBIDI EMILIE

Assistant Secretary-General  
responsible for International  
Relations.

## Official opening of "Angolan children's house"

On 5 February 1972, in the presence of leaders of "Africa 2000" and the MPLA, the Honourable Mayor of Lusaka officially inaugurated the ANGOLAN CHILDREN'S HOUSE situated in a residential area of Lusaka.

In his brief but significant speech the Honourable Mayor of Lusaka said:

"We are gathered here today to open this significant home for the children of Angola. They are not ordinary children. Some of their parents have been killed by Portuguese soldiers, using NATO weapons".....

... "Their future deserves to be bright because their parents have paid for it with life itself — the highest price that any person can pay for freedom, independence, justice, equality and human brotherhood.

Their Angola will be characterised by self-determination, not foreign domination; by national independence, not colonial subservience; by majority rule by the indigenous people; not by the rule of a greedy minority of foreigners; by cultural freedom rather than by the domination of sick foreign cultures; by free education for all, not by mass illiteracy; by the use of national resources for the people rather than by their exploitation for the benefit of a few rich and grasping men"....

... "You of AFRICA 2000" will be justly proud of having been associated in a small way with the founding of such a future". You have contributed substantially towards the building and furnishing of this home. You will no doubt continue to contribute not just morally but also materially to its maintenance and more particularly to the care of the children for whom it will be "Home" for yet a while".....

... "I remind you in this connection of the words Dr. AGOSTINHO NETO, President of MPLA, used when he addressed "AFRICA 2000" on 11 June 1971: —

"We in the MPLA appreciate very much the efforts of AFRICA 2000 and other similar organisations which are striving to help our country in humanitarian fields. When we receive medicines, when we receive clothes, when we receive food, our cause is helped by strengthening our fighters and giving us confidence in the future before us".

"These evocative and poetic words are the best expression of gratitude I can find to offer you on behalf of all those of us who are concerned with the stirring and deeply painful struggle for the freedom of Southern Africa".



# GEORGI DIMITROV — GREAT PEOPLE

By Petra Radenkova

Candidate of Historical Sciences

The Bulgarian people will soon mark the 90th anniversary of the birth of their great son Georgi Dimitrov who was the epitome of their finest qualities — great diligence, inflexible will, fortitude, deep hatred of the op-

pressors and boundless of love of freedom.

Brought up in the freedom-loving spirit of his people, Dimitrov emerged as a fearless fighter against any kind of oppression, against war and fascism, and for peace

and understanding among all nations. Throughout the whole of his dynamic life, all his thoughts and actions were linked to the interests of the people.

G. Dimitrov was born on June 18th, 1882 in a family of ordinary working people. When he was 12 years old he was forced to leave school and take a job. He became a typesetter's apprentice. However, he continued his studies through self-education and became a highly erudite personality. From his early youth G. Dimitrov was most active in the revolutionary trade union movement in Bulgaria. He constantly toured the country, delivered fiery speeches at meetings in defence of the people's interests, founded and strengthened trade union organizations, rallied and guided the working people. In 1913 he was elected national representative and in 1914, member of Sofia municipal council. In the course of a decade Dimitrov used the rostrum of the National Assembly and of the Sofia municipal council to defend with vigour and perseverance the people's vital interests.

During the First World War he engaged in lively activities in defence of peace and friendship among nations. From the rostrum of the National Assembly he fearlessly declared that the Bulgarian people should not fight for the sake of foreign imperialist interests and that the war should be brought to an immediate end. He urged the government to aid the hungry families of he mobilized men, he fought for the soldiers rights and raised his voice in defence of the prisoners of war. For his anti-war activities he was persecuted and in 1918 was put in prison.

When the war ended G. Dimitrov was again in the front ranks of the struggle against poverty, high prices, the housing shortage and the offensive of the reactionary forces in Bulgaria which culminated in a military-fascist coup on June 9, 1923 and the overthrow of the legally elected government. After the coup which marked the beginning of fascist dictatorship in Bul-



**"The struggle is so cruel and so ruthless!  
It is an epic struggle, as they say.  
I fell! — another one will take my place,  
The person is of little worth today.  
A deadly shot — and worms — forever after!  
That's simple, logical, what can we do!  
Yet in the storm again we'll be together,  
Because, my people, dear, I loved you so!**

**Nikola Vaptsazov**

**23. VII. 1942  
Two hours  
before death**



# SON OF THE BULGARIAN

## OPLE

garia, all Dimitrov's thoughts and energies were devoted to a single aim to liberate the people from fascist oppression. In a number of articles published in the international anti-fascist press he unmasked the anti-popular character of fascism and called upon all democratic forces to rally into a united front for the struggle against fascism. "The united front of labour has become an urgent necessity," Dimitrov wrote in 1923. "Whoever is against it today, is in fact against the interests, rights and security of the working people, against the country's freedom and independence; he is a pitiable tool in the hands of reaction and fascism."

In September 1923 Georgi Dimitrov was one of the leaders of the popular anti-fascist uprising in Bulgaria. The uprising was ruthlessly suppressed and the people's tribune was forced to go into exile. It was a painful moment for Dimitrov to leave his native country, and he was forced to spend 22 years in exile. "No matter where I was during all this time", he said on his return, "no matter what I was doing, I never stopped thinking and working for my Bulgarian people, for their future, for their happiness and prosperity." Whether in Vienna, Berlin, Moscow or elsewhere, Dimitrov always responded to any major event in Bulgaria. He wrote articles and appeals, gave recommendations and advice to anti-fascist fighters or organized campaigns in the country he happened to be against the white terror in Bulgaria.

During his exile Georgi Dimitrov grew into a remarkable international militant; he took an active part in organizing the anti-war, anti-imperialist and anti-fascist movement. At the Second Congress of the Anti-imperialist League in 1929 he was elected member of its Executive Committee. In 1932 he was included in the International Committee of Struggle Against War as a representative of the Balkan peoples.

In 1933 the nazis framed him as an accomplice in setting fire to the Reichstag in Berlin and put him on trial. Thanks to his courage, keen mind and revolutionary optimism, the great son of Bulgaria succeeded in turning the dock into a rostrum from which he laid bare to the world the bestial nature of nazism and warned the peoples of the impending danger of fascist obscurantism.

The faithful son of the Bulgarian people forcefully defended the dignity of his nation. He vigorously protested against the attempts of nazi publications to represent the Bulgarians as "savages" and "barbarians". In the courtroom Dimitrov declared with pride that a people who had lived for 500 years under foreign oppression and have not lost their language and national identity, could not be called savage or barbarian. "In Bulgaria only the fascists are savages and barbarians," he said. "But I ask you, Mr. President, in which country are they not savages and barbarians?" He then uttered the words which have since become famous: "I have no reason to be ashamed of being a Bulgarian, I am proud to be a son of the Bulgarian working class."

After the Reichstag Fire Trial the name of G. Dimitrov became the banner of the fighters against fascism. From 1934 to 1945 the prominent leader of the Bulgarian people lived and worked in the USSR because the Bulgarian fascist

government had refused him entry to his own country.

Dimitrov devoted all his knowledge, his great experience and inexhaustible energy to the struggle against fascism and for the preservation of peace. During the Second World War he supported with all his force the heroic struggle of the Soviet people against nazi Germany, as well as the resistance movement of the patriots in the countries under nazi occupation. Deeply engaged in solving important problems of the international struggle against fascism, Dimitrov at the same time closely and with particular attention followed the life and struggle of the Bulgarian people, guided and inspired his fellow countryman who had risen in arms against fascism, and in defence of their country's freedom and independence.

After Bulgaria's liberation from fascism G. Dimitrov returned to his country warmly welcomed by all the people.

He devoted the last and extremely tense years of his life (1945-1949) to the reconstruction of his liberated country. In 1946 he was elected Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. All great achievements of the Bulgarian people in the field of economy, culture and international relations are connected with the name of the wise statesman. True to Dimitrov's behests Bulgaria today scores fresh successes in her development.





# 3,000 Portuguese soldiers trained by

## Americans

On different occasions and in various information media, international public opinion has been informed that the United States has trained Portuguese officers and soldiers.

And on each of these occasions, the United States embassies are quick to try to deny it, with their characteristic hypocrisy, in spite of the fact that they are the ones actually involved.

In a booklet published by the well-known "Africa Research Group" (Massachusetts) entitled "Race to Power — The struggle for Southern Africa" the following is clearly stated:

... "The U.S. plays an important part in the training of the

Portuguese army through its Military Assistance Advisory Group stationed in Portugal.

113 Portuguese received training under the programme in 1969 and a similar number in 1970. In addition, Portuguese officers come to the U.S. to train.

In 1968, 107 men were trained in the U.S. at the expense of \$ 20,000. In 1970 there were 38 officers training in the US, some of whom were at Fort Bragg studying psychological warfare and counter-insurgency.

To date, Americans have train-

ed nearly 3,000 Portuguese soldiers in the US and in Portugal". ....

On the other hand, in the same booklet there is the following reference to Federal Germany:

... "In the summer of 1965 Federal Germany, Portugal and South Africa signed a military agreement providing for Federal Germany to train officers from Portugal, South Africa and Rhodesia.

In Lisbon, the Permanent German Military Mission offers military trainers and advisors and also has an important say on the utilisation of the Portuguese military budget".

## Dutch "Angolan Committee" denies the right of Portuguese Government to represent Angola

In a letter of 8 March 1972, Ambassador Carlos Fernandes, representative of the colonialist fascist Portuguese government in Holland, invited Dr. Bosgra, a leader of the "Angola Committee" to visit Angola as a guest of his government.

In its reply to the invitation, the "Angola Committee" declared among other things:

... "The Angola Committee is on the side of the Angolan people who have been suppressed and exploited for centuries by your country. The colonialism and the terror perpetrated in Africa by your country are a flagrant violation of the Declaration of Human Rights. They have been repeatedly condemned by the United Nations Organisation and they are rejected with horror by world opinion.

We do not recognise your government as the legitimate representatives of the Angolan people and we deny your government the right to invite to Angola or other Portuguese colonies.

We also request you to take into consideration the fact that you are now living as a guest in a democratic country in which it is not custom as in your country immediately to designate as "communist" those people who reject the fascist and colonialist ideas of your government, in the way you did recently in a Dutch morning newspaper".

This clear expression of proven solidarity with the Angolan people in arms by the "Angola Committee" — which has also launched in Holland an extensive and significant campaign to boycott Angolan coffee — as well as the attitude taken by the Honourable Mayors of Amsterdam and Rotterdam and other Dutch personalities, deserve the highest appreciation and thanks from the MPLA, the legitimate representative of the Angolan people.

## URGENT APPEAL

Unable to halt the expansion of the MPLA's liberated areas in Angola, the Portuguese war criminals have once again begun to spray herbicides and defoliants on our people's crops.

From the effect of these chemicals, they can be identified as:

- 2, 4 D (2,4 dichlorophenoxyacetic acid)
- 2,4,5, T (2,4,5, trichlorophenoxyacetic acid)
- cacodylic acid

-- picloram (made by the Dow Chemical Company under the commercial name of Tordon.

Considerable acres of cassava, maize, sweet potatoes and fruit trees have already been destroyed. Furthermore, cattle and wild life in these areas show signs of poisoning. Fish in the rivers and lakes die in the first few days after the chemicals are sprayed.

These chemicals also have very harmful effects on human beings, causing pulmonary constriction, digestive disorders and mouth bleeding. 2,4,5 T caused congenital malformations in children born of affected pregnant women. Cacodylic acid is particularly poisoning since it contains arsenic, the lethal subcutaneous dose of which is one gramme per kilo of body weight. As for picloran, not only does it destroy vegetation, but it completely stops all growth in the soil for a period of about two years.

As a result of these new crimes, thousands of Angolans in the liberated areas are now in an alarming state of hunger and none of the measures taken to counter this situation can have any immediate effect.

Without urgent assistance, thousands of human beings — men, women and children — will remain in a state of terrible distress while the colonialist criminals intensify their continuous bombing raids.

The MPLA medical Assistance Service (SAM) urgently appeals to all support committees, organisations and people of goodwill to help mount an immediate and a massive campaign for food and seeds for the victims.

SAM also calls upon international organisations, particularly the UN and the OAU strongly to denounce and condemn this new crime perpetrated by Portugal and to seek ways and means of preventing the continued use of such methods.

Food, clothing, blankets and medicines should be sent to the following address.

P.O.Box 20793 MPLA Medical Assistance Service  
Dar es Salaam,  
Tanzania.



# THE TESTIMONY OF A SPANISH

## MISSIONARY

There are two churches in Angola: the one suffers from the situation, while the other praises it. There is the martyred church and the one which collaborates.

Waldo Garcia, a priest of the Holy Ghost Congregation, was for several years a professor at the Major Seminary in Nova Lisboa and one of the directors of the Catholic Institute of Angola.

His attitude of no-collaboration with the Portuguese political police earned him his expulsion from the country. He now lives in Barcelona.

rities. I was not expelled by the church authorities, but by the political police which manipulated them, by the same police which subjected me to all kinds of pressure, which interrogated me countless times on such wild accusations as my being a member of the Italian Communist Party, by the same police which took me to the aeroplane and finally stole from me records which represented three years of work at the Higher Catholic Institute.

### IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BE A PRIEST IN ANGOLA

From the time of my arrival in Angola, I devoted myself to my mission as a Christian priest.

The Portuguese police considered this subversive. The first thing I was told on my arrival was that it was forbidden to speak about the "Pacem in Terris" encyclical in Angola.

My first "subversive" act was to refuse to collaborate with the police, to refuse to act as an informer, a practice which is requested of all white priests. It must be said, unfortunately, that many priests are involved in such collaboration.

Similarly, my work as a director of the Higher Catholic Institute gave rise to problems with the authorities. The first book in our "Coloquios" edition, entitled "The Universal Church in Angola", was seized. In the Portuguese empire one does not speak about the universal church either. A number of events organised by the Institute, seminars and lectures, and including a "youth mass" we wanted to hold in 1968, were simply banned, or else there was PIDE intervention.

But what actually motivated my expulsion was the holding of a series of seminars in which we wished to face the truth in the manner of Christ. The two Portuguese priests who were directing this programme with me — the Reverend Fathers Jorge Sanches and Antonio Fernando dos Santos Neves — were also expelled from Angola, as was Pastor Lawrence Henderson of the Evangelical Church, who was also a director of the Institute.

### THERE ARE TWO CHURCHES IN ANGOLA

There are two churches in Angola. The one suffers from the situation, while the other praises it. There is the church which is martyred by the situation and the one which collaborates because it has sold out to it. Portuguese priests in Angola are paid a salary which amounts to about 18,000 dollars out of the



I should like first to state that my situation as regards Angola is a situation related to the Church.

I belong to the Angolan Church, which is a real church of silence, on the one hand hounded and victimised by the situation and, on the other, sold out to that same situation, in short, a church which is not fulfilling its mission.

I have never engaged in political activities and I have always acted in accordance with the standards which should guide the activity of the church in Angola. Yet I have been expelled for political reasons, although upholding the truth transcends politics.

### TO REMAIN SILENT IN THE FACE OF GENOCIDE

One evening a Portuguese Catholic in a desperate situation came to see me in search of spiritual comfort. He was on the verge of suicide as a solution to his problems. Why was this? Owing to a series of circumstances (which he did not wish to go into for fear of subsequent reprisals) he had to cooperate with the political police (PIDE) in the interrogation of detainees. He told me how the torturers hung up Africans head downwards, cut open their stomachs with razor blades, poured alcohol into their entrails and set fire to them.

To give another concrete case: Portuguese settlers who are members of the "civil defence corps" (and, I must sorrowfully say, among them are Catholics who go to daily mass) have told me that when they went out on patrols in Baixa de Cassanje — one of the most populous regions in the country — they shot all the eldest sons of the African families they found there, in order to "counter" the propaganda of the nationalists, who claimed that their fetishes protected them against Portuguese bullets. These killings, according to them, showed the blacks the true effectiveness of whites!

### MY EXPULSION

I was expelled by the Portuguese authorities, who acted very subtly, however, through the church hierarchy. Unfortunately, the latter collaborates fully with the autho-

budget of the colony's administration.

We would therefore say without fear that there are two churches in Angola, the black and the white, the Portuguese and the African, and this division starts with the congregation, because in Angola, as in South Africa, there are separate churches for whites and blacks. There are parishes reserved exclusively for whites, while blacks go to what are known as missions.

This segregation continues in the hierarchy, since African priests are kept out of all responsible positions. The only black bishop, Monsignor Muaka, is merely the auxiliary of the Archbishop of Luanda, totally under his control and without any real possibility of doing anything.

If further proof were needed, what can be said of all the black priests who are persecuted, detained and the victims of arbitrary acts?

WALDO GARCIA

NOTE: According to the testimony of the Reverend Malcolm McVeigh of the American Methodist Mission, after the repression unleashed by the Portuguese authorities in 1961, of the one hundred and sixty-seven pastors and teachers in the existing missions in the Luanda region, only eleven have been able to return to their posts. Twenty-one, at the lowest estimate, have been killed, and eighty-six have been reported "missing".



## SEMINARS

As a result of decisions taken by the MPLA Executive Committee at the Plenary Meeting held on the Eastern Front from 27 September to 3 October 1971, a series of seminars have been prepared in order to analyse and discuss the many problems inherent in the armed struggle for national liberation.

Between last November and March this year, the following seminars were held on the Eastern Front:

1. Seminar of Organiser - Mobilisers, Political Activists and Peoples Defence members in the Southern Sub-Region.
2. Third Politico-Military Region Teachers' Seminar.
3. Southern Sub-Region Seminar of Action Committees and Groups.
4. Seminar of OMA sections in the Southern Sub-Region.

The first of these seminars discussed political and military questions, organisational aspects and practical activities concerning their functions and obligations.

## 14 April — Angolan Youth Day

14 April is the date commemorated as Angolan Youth Day, on which the highest tribute is paid to Commander HOJI YA HENDA, who fell on the battlefield while he was commanding the attack and final assault on Karipande barracks.

Today that barracks is destroyed. Owing to the effectiveness and tenacity of successive attacks by courageous MPLA fighters, the Portuguese troops were forced to evacuate Karipande. One of the special objectives of Commander HOJI YA HENDA has been attained.

On this 14 April 1972, the fourth anniversary of the death of "the beloved son of the Angolan people and heroic MPLA fighter",

The second dealt with the problems of teaching, education and culture, discussing especially the following themes: Teaching, Political Education, Military Training, Cultural and Organisational problems.

The third seminar dealt particularly with the relations and links between Action Committees, the people and the guerrillas. Other subjects discussed at length were politico-military, administrative and cultural development, participation in the armed struggle, self-defence, supplies, agricultural production and people's power.

The fourth discussed problems related to the objectives of OMA and especially: — Angolan women from tradition to revolution:

- The involvement of women in armed struggle for national liberation;
- the cultural and social education of women;
- organisational aspects of OMA work;
- the future OMA assembly.

Each of these seminars was attended by 30 to 40 delegates sent from the sectors or zones where they are working.

Angolan Youth, together with progressive youth all over the world, continue to honour the memory of the man who has become their symbol.

On this date, his courage, his fighting spirit, his dedication to study, his modesty, honesty, exceptional qualities as a commander, his faithfulness to revolutionary principles and his unbreakable faith in final victory are everywhere especially remembered and honoured by MPLA militants.

For all of them, Commander-HOJI YA HENDA is not dead.

## U.S. grants 500 million aid to Portugal

The United States government has given approximately 500 million dollars in loans and aid to the fascist colonialist Portuguese regime, as a result of an agreement between both parties on the continued use of the American military base of Lajes on Terceira island (Azores) until February 1974.

Specifically this amount includes a loan of 400 million dollars to finance the development of projects including "airports, bridges, railways and hospitals"; 30 million for "social and economic" projects; 1 million to subsidize "education"; 5 million (which can be increased by mutual agreement) for "non-military" equipment; and even a loan for a boat for "oceanographic purposes."

It is clear that this new United States aid to the Portuguese colonialist regime, given at a time when the wars in Angola, Guinea and Mozambique are absorbing the major part of Portugal's resources, will allow the Portuguese government to appropriate this same amount, or more, to maintain its colonial wars.

### "THE REVOLUTION IN ANGOLA"

"The Revolution in Angola: MPLA Life Histories and Documents" written by DON BARNETT and ROY HARVEY has just been published by the ROBBS-MERRILL Company, Inc. Indianapolis.

The facts and documents presented in the book together with the authors' actual experience on one of the MPLA fighting fronts, give this book the quality of explaining various aspects of the Angolan Revolution to the world.

## LIBERATION OF PRISONERS

The national liberation struggle, which has produced heroes among our people, is a just struggle and will continue until final victory, thanks to the tenacity and consistency of sincere patriots who, in the ranks of the guerrilla or in clandestine activities, worthily defend our right to be independent.

Hundreds, if not thousands, of Angolan patriots are held in Portuguese prisons, in Angola, Cape Verde or Portugal. Many others suffer from restraints on their liberty, under restricted residence in various places, either inside the country or elsewhere.

Their lives are in danger.

Only by intensifying the armed struggle and by FULLY MOBILISING INTERNATIONAL OPINION can we secure the liberation of our comrades who are imprisoned inside the country and elsewhere, and save their invaluable lives.

Let us therefore be more active. In our action lies their HOPE.

### 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.)  
All correspondence:  
DIP DELEGATION  
P.O. Box 20793  
Dar es Salaam,  
TANZANIA

#### Annual Subscriptions:

Tanzania .....	Sh. 10.00
Europe .....	\$3.00
Africa: .....	\$2.00
Asia: .....	\$4.00
USA, Canada: .....	\$4.00
Latin America: .....	\$3.00



# War communique

## THIRD POLITICO-MILITARY REGION

### Moxico and Cuando-Cubango Districts.

Under the constant flagellation of MPLA forces, enemy positions are being abandoned by the Portuguese colonialists troops. 4/3/1972 At about 5 p.m., MPLA guerrillas attacked the Lumbala Oeste Portuguese barracks with intense artillery fire, shortly after the arrival there of an enemy company intended for use in future operations against the Angolan people and the MPLA guerrillas.

The violent attack of our brave guerrilla comrades decimated thirty Portuguese colonialist soldiers (confirmed figure).

Four trucks were destroyed and countless houses hit, among them the radio house, the command house, the depot, the dormitory and the bakery, the installations which go to make up the barracks.

According to information gathered, the first cannon shell an-

nihilated nine enemy soldiers. Eight soldiers who were bathing in the Lumbala river were fatally hit in this attack, which lasted 17 minutes.

The Portuguese colonialist forces retaliated more than 15 minutes after the end of the MPLA guerrillas' operation, with absolutely no harmful consequences to our side.

Special mention should be made of the fact that this was yet another operation carried out with the participation of members of OMA (Organisation of Angolan Women) and of the Action Committees, as members of the artillery crew.

## EASTERN FRONT

### Northern sub-region.

21 (twenty-one) enemy soldiers put out of action in two ambushes.

The fighting forces of MPLA continue to harras the Portuguese colonialist army in areas where its presence is felt.

As a result of the introduct-

ion of new fighting methods and the use of new tactics, the enemy forces are losing more and more initiative in action, maintaining the most defensive positions.

At 9 o'clock on February 8, the historic date which 11 years ago marked the beginning of the armed struggle in Angola, a platoon of Portuguese colonialist troops on the way from LUSO fell into an ambush prepared by MPLA fighters, near to the MUANGESI river. The enemy forces suffered 7 (seven) dead and 5 (five) wounded without having the slightest possibility of reacting to the attack.

On the SAME DAY, the presence of MPLA fighters on the banks of the KASAI river, caused the disgraceful and confused flight of enemy forces, the radio operator of the colonialist armed forces was lost in the bush, due to his quick escape from the ambush and he was later recovered and taken away in an Alouette 2 helicopter.

On March 3, at 14.00 hours, a platoon of enemy troops suffered 5 (five) dead and 4 (four) wounded in another ambush prepared by MPLA fighters.







**Sent by :** DIP DELEGATION,  
Box 20793,  
Dar es Salaam, TANZANIA.

**TO :**