



ANGOLA in ARMS

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PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA



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MPLA statement on OAU's withdrawal of recognition of "GRAE"

The Organisation of African Unity has just made a decision which we have no hesitation in considering to be a historic one: the eighth Summit of African Heads of State and Government has withdrawn recognition of the so-called "revolutionary Angolan government in exile" (grae), refusing to accept this puppet body among its members.

The resolution, which does honour to the OAU, is not only the just reparation of a tragic mistake, but it is also a tribute paid to the MPLA militants in their armed struggle for national liberation. This resolution crowns the ceaseless efforts our Movement has consistently made to show that the MPLA alone represents the Angolan people's aspirations for national independence.

Here we briefly recall the main stages which have led to the present situation:

1. On 5 April 1962, two tribally-based political groupings, UPA and the PDA, which had come together nine days previously in a cartel named the FNLA, announced the setting up of a so-called government of the Angolan republic in exile.

2. Immediately afterwards, on 15 April 1962, the Executive Committee of the MPLA addressed a memorandum to the Heads of State to warn them of the dangers implied in recognition of this "government." The conclusions of the memorandum were as follows:

"It is certain that the formation of the alleged provisional government of the republic of Angola will sanctify old factors of division between the Angolan people and introduce and maintain new dividing factors. Furthermore, the Angolan people's aspiration to freedom and the sacrifices they are making to free



themselves from foreign domination are being betrayed. Africa's personality and freedom are also diminished by this intrinsic alienation of the alleged provisional government of the republic of Angola to foreign interests".

3. However, the Organisation of African Unity was created in 1963 and it considered that the liberation struggle should be led by a unitary movement or, in the absence of one, by a united front of all the movements fighting in the same territory.

4. Arbitrarily basing itself on the creation of the FNLA, and at a time when the first meeting of the African Liberation Committee was taking place in Dar es Salaam, on 29 June 1963, the Congo Kinshasa government, through its Secretary for Foreign Affairs, announced its de jure recognition of an Angolan government, but this time a revolutionary one and still in exile: "grae."

5. The second African Summit of Heads of State and Government, meeting in Cairo in July 1964, recommended the recognition of "grae" and called upon this puppet body and the MPLA to "suppress their differences and form a common action front." Furthermore, the resolution "requests the Liberation Committee, aided by Congo Brazzaville, Ghana and the UAR, to use its good offices to reconcile, by all means of persuasion, the revolutionary Angolan govern-

ment in exile and the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola, in order to ensure the establishment of a united front of all nationalist elements in the independence struggle". (AHG/Res 18).

From that time, the MPLA carried on a consistent campaign to explain the unjust nature of the OAU Summit's recommendation. The MPLA nevertheless worked for the unity of Angola's nationalist forces, at the same time developing its political and military activity in the field, against numerous obstacles.

After the last meeting of the "Committee of Three", held in Cairo from 10 to 15 October 1966, the two movements signed an agreement in which they agreed as follows:

(a) The immediate cessation of all forms of hostile propaganda under the supervision of an OAU body;

(b) The immediate release of all members of the two movements detained by one or the other side;

(c) The setting up on an OAU Military Commission of Enquiry to re-evaluate the situation in Angola and to make recommendations on the form of assistance required to intensify the common armed struggle and make it more effective;

(d) Immediately on conclusion of the work of the OAU Commission of Enquiry, a joint MPLA and GRAE

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Statement on 'GRAE'

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committee will be set up with a view to examining practical forms of co-operation between the two movements, in both the military and political spheres."

It would be over-fastidious and superfluous to enumerate the unilateral violations of this agreement which, moreover, was never ratified by the policy-making bodies of "grae." The puppet body has always, in substance, been an obstacle to the Angolan people's liberation struggle.

True to its political line, the MPLA expanded and consolidated military operations in Cabinda, on the north-western front and in the south-east of the country, not without encouraging the reconciliation work of a committee of five member states (Congo Brazzaville, Congo Kinshasa, Ghana, the UAR and Zambia), decided on by the OAU Summit, meeting in Kinshasa in September 1967.

6. The meeting of the Committee of Five for Angola, held in Addis Ababa from 22 to 27 June 1968, adopted a resolution expressly recommending to the Conference of Heads of State and Government to "withdraw the recognition of the revolutionary government of Angola in exile granted to the FNLA as a step likely to promote reconciliation." The Committee of Five had reached this conclusion having noted "that the recognition of the status of government in exile granted to the FNLA had encouraged this movement to rest on its laurels and had considerably weakened its combative enthusiasm." The Committee also "considered that the withdrawal of such recognition might encourage reconciliation between the two movements."

7. Finally, the fifth OAU Summit, meeting in September 1968 in Algiers, one of the prestigious capitals of the African revolution, decided to "reconsider the status of the FNLA as a revolutionary government of Angola in exile."

One fundamental reality -- the control and expansion of the liberated regions in Angola under the sole leadership of the MPLA -- was visibly evident to the OAU

Military Commission which went to an area of the Third Military Region in March 1969.

In the conclusion to its report, the Commission stated flatly that the MPLA was the only force fighting effectively in Angola.

As can be seen, all of this lengthy process has ended in the historic decision taken by the eighth OAU Summit.

Such a far-reaching victory, while made possible thanks to the tenacity of the struggle of the MPLA militants, is also the victory of the governments of those African countries which have never been sparing in their aid to the MPLA, particularly Congo Brazzaville, Zambia and Tanzania. President Kenneth Kaunda, who was elected the current chairman of the seventh Summit, has also been an architect of our triumph.

It is true that the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo still recognises the defunct "grae". This is a decision which falls within the scope of the normal prerogatives of its sovereignty. But it is our belief that the DRC would gain by conforming to the spirit and letter of the OAU resolution. A change in its attitude, which has up to now been intransigent

towards the MPLA, which gets no support from Congo Kinshasa, would be a very important contribution towards completing the liquidation of the colonial presence in Angola. We are prepared to enter into a dialogue on these lines with the DRC authorities.

The dynamic advance of our national liberation struggle is forcing the Portuguese fascist government in collaboration with the racist Vorster government, to reinforce its strategic and military apparatus in order to pursue its genocidal colonial war in Angola. It is therefore essential that all African countries and progressive forces throughout the world increase their aid in every sphere to the only vanguard movement, the guarantor of the Angolan people's aspirations to national independence: the MPLA.

Strengthened by its victory at the OAU and conscious of its historic responsibilities, the MPLA hails the current chairman of the OAU, His Excellency Mokhtar Ould Daddah and all the African peoples fighting for the total liberation of the continent.

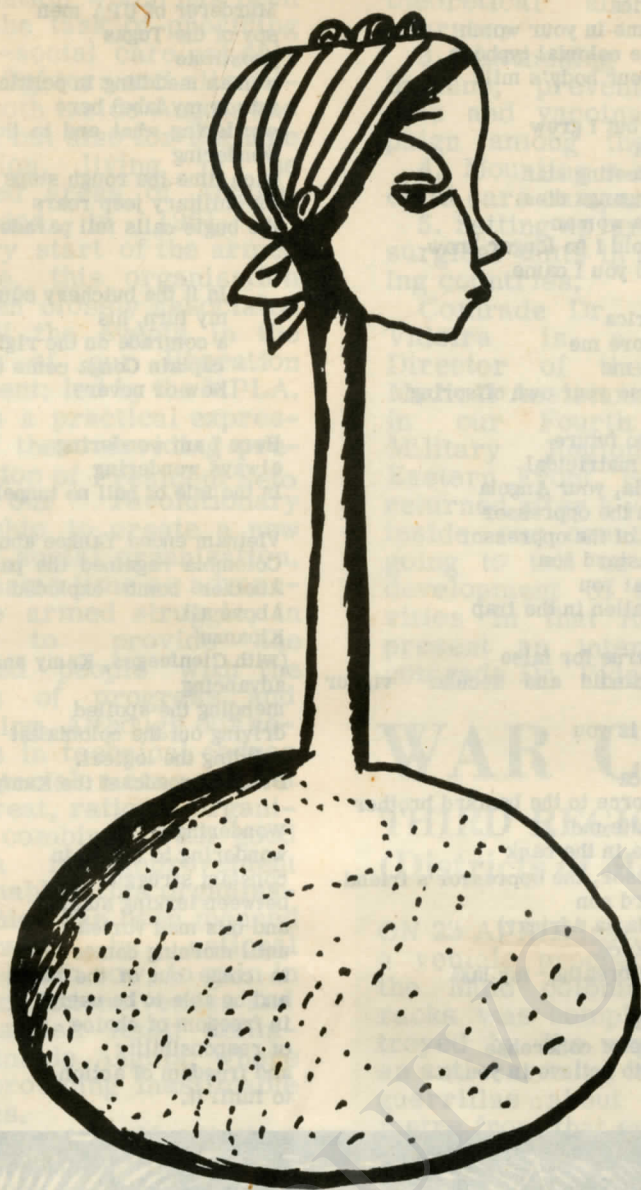
The Executive Committee of
the MPLA

Lusaka, 25 June, 1971.

VICTORY IS CERTAIN



POEMS FROM A DEATH CELL



DEOLINDA RODRIGUES was born in Catete, Angola, in 1938. She did her primary and secondary schooling in Luanda, attending an Evangelical mission school after finishing primary school.

Her father was a Protestant pastor.

In 1959, Deolinda went to Lisbon, Portugal, on her way to Brazil, where she enrolled in a religious education course in Sao Paulo that same year. On completion of the course, she went to the United States to study sociology at the University of New York.

But she soon left this new environment and returned to Africa, to her MPLA, where in 1962 she was a member of the Movement's Executive Committee. She was at the same time a member of the Administrative Council of the Angolan Volunteer Corps for Assistance to Refugees (CVAAR), showing the most fantastic physical stamina for the slight young woman that Deolinda was!

In 1964, she and four other girls joined a guerrilla detachment going inside Angola. On her return after carrying out an extremely dangerous mission, she and her four companions were captured and taken to the Kinkuzu concentration camp, where the traitors

to our people executed them not long after.

The second of March, the day on which Deolinda and her four companions met their death, has been made Angolan Women's Day in tribute to their courage and dignity.

Who was Deolinda Rodrigues?

This is revealed in poetry which broke through the prison bars. In danger of death, she and her companions celebrated the Fourth of February 1968 and she sent a message to MPLA militants in her poem "The Fourth of February":

"...Under the murderers' flag
and in the cell
three militants
pay tribute
to the heroes of February...."

"....Three voices renewed
flung beyond the cell
"With the heroic people"
Angolan Revolution...."

"....Steps sound
MPLA, Victory or Death
three clenched fists violate the cell's
MPLA, Victory or Death!"

In the dungeons of Africa's bastard son, as she writes in one of her poems, Deolinda never lost her courage and was full of dignity up to the end.

When the butchers wanted to take advantage of these young women, having no other defence she asked the MPLA to send her poison, since she and her companions preferred to die rather than be violated by the murderers of our people. And this last recourse to escape from the vileness of the prison was the courageous request of a woman who preferred death to betraying the principles for which she was fighting.

She wanted to live, her youth demanded it, and she wanted to help build her Angola. This is what she tells us in her poem "Wondering":

"...Wondering
Wondering to maintain
Constant struggle
Between lurking suicide
And this mad vortex
Until morning comes
To come out of the death camp alive
And be able to be useful
In freedom of choice
Of responsibility
And freedom of action
To fulfil it".

Prison showed Deolinda most painfully that men, from whatever continent they may come, can only be brothers when they are united by a sublime ideal and when they advance along the same path for the purpose of building a better world, a more humane and rational world. No philosophical current can be real or lasting unless its content transcends racial barriers and continents.

Deolinda felt this bitterly and had the courage to write it in her poem "To Mama".

"...You who bore me
Do not kill me...."
"Do not be matricidal
I am Angola, your Angola.
Do not join the oppressor
The friend of the oppressor
Or your bastard son.
They jeer at you.
You have fallen in the trap
Deceived
Mistaking true for false
In your candid and secular vigour
Blinded
And now it is you
Africa
Mama Africa
Who give force to the bastard brother-
To asphyxiate me
Stabbing me in the back
The oppressor, the oppressor's friend
Your bastard son
(You too, Mama Africa?)
Will all rejoice
To hear me breathe. my last".

Deolinda, a heroic MPLA militant, confirms the correctness of our movement's anti-racial policy. Those who read these poems attentively will see that it is necessary to forge ahead to seek freedom for all peoples and fraternity between them. Only thus can we advance towards harmony in the world.

And when our Angola is free, it will be the land that our heroes saw as their ideal and for which they have given their lives.

May flower petals cover their bodies and may they be gently cradled by their Motherland.

The MPLA will overcome the infernal night of colonialism and the dawn can already be glimpsed ahead....

EUGENIA NETO

CHRISTMAS EVE TO MAMA WONDERING

-- At seven
near the toilet
do not fail, one by one
I have everything ready
to take you to the other bank.
Know only how to run
for the pilot is here waiting.
If you are discovered I am shot
What reward do I get for this risk?

It is past seven.
Jail teaches one to fool oneself;
when the arranged signal does not come
one dreams in anticipation:
tomorrow is Christmas
Christmas in freedom.
Oh! to be with the comrades
breathing the air of dignity
to be myself again.

The signal!
Let's go?
-- Not yet ... later,
first the payment
to be mine here in the grass.
You don't want?
Think yourselves too good?
Right, I'll get you at midnight.

Is it the signal? No.
It is day
A night of vigil
and all in vain.
It is Christmas
Christmas in prison.

FOURTH OF FEBRUARY

The paralytic cell table
is not bare
in the centre an emblem
our emblem
and round the table
three MPLA militants.

Under the murderers' flag
and in the cell
three militants
pay tribute
to the heroes of February

to the anonymous heroes
in the bush, in pld prisons, in exile
tribute to Cienfuegos
special reverence to the young Kamy
martyrs
success to the detachments heading
inside.

Victory to the Angolan people
under the banner of the MPLA.
Victory to heroic Vietnam
to Africa and Latin America.
There is no watch
the minute of silence gone by.

Three voices renewed
flung beyond the cell
"With the heroic people"
"Angolan Revolution"
and the dynamic "Sad history".

Steps sound
MPLA, Victory or Death
three clenched fists violate the cell's
air
MPLA, Victory or Death!
MPLA, Victory or Death!

Africa
Mama Africa
You bore me in your womb
Born in the colonial typhoon
I sucked your body's milk
Grew
Atrophied but I grew
Swift youth
Like the fleeting star
When the nganga dies.
Now I am a woman
Young or old I no longer know
But it is to you I came
Africa
Mama Africa
You who bore me
Do not kill me
Do not curse your own offspring
Else
You have no future
Do not be matricidal
I am Angola, your Angola
Do not join the oppressor
The friend of the oppressor
Or your bastard son
They jeer at you
You have fallen in the trap
Deceived
Mistaking true for false
In your candid and secular vigour
Blinded
And now it is you
Africa
Mama Africa
Who give force to the bastard brother
To asphyxiate me
Stabbing me in the back
The oppressor, the oppressor's friend
Your bastard son
(You too, Mama Africa?)
Will all rejoice
To hear me breathe my last
But Africa
Mama Africa
For the sake of coherence
I want still to believe in you.

Murderer of UPA men
spy of the Tugas
prostitute
woman meddling in politics
this is my label here
wondering what end to this nightmare
wondering
each time the rough steps sound
the military jeep roars
the bugle calls full parade

Is it the butchery squad
my turn, his
a comrade on the right bank
captain Conga come to take us
Now or never?

Here I am wondering
always wondering
In the isle of hell no tunnel.

Vietnam ended Yankee abuse
Colombia regained the path of dignity
Another bomb exploded in Pretoria
Above all
Kipanzu
(with Cienfuegos, Kamy and the others)
advancing
mending the spoiled
driving out the colonialist
building the logical.
Brazza broadcast the Kamy march?

Wondering
wondering to maintain
constant struggle
between lurking suicide
and this mad vortex
until morning comes
to come out of the death camp alive
and be able to be useful
in freedom of choice
of responsibility
and freedom of action
to fulfil it.



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.

Comrade Dr. Mwambaka Videira is a Regional Director of the MPLA's Medical Assistance Service, in our Fourth Politico-Military Region, on the Eastern Front. He has just returned after a year of duty inside our country and is going to tell us about the development of SAM activities in that Region. We present an interview with comrade Dr. Videira:

Q. Comrade Videira, could you please tell us when the Medical Assistance Service was established in the Fourth Region?

A. Medical Assistance has existed in our Fourth Region practically since the time when our first fighters reached there in the Bomboko column, in nineteen sixty-eight. But only in 1969 were we able to provide the Region with a contingent of first-aid assistants, and with medicines to treat not only the guerrillas, but also the numerous members of the population who immediately and spontaneously responded to the MPLA's call to join the guerrilla fighters. Therefore, our great progress was made in the course of 1970, with

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WAR COMMUNIQUE

THIRD REGION

(Districts of Moxico and Cuando-Cubango)

ON 23 APRIL last, at 5 p.m., a vehicle proceeding from the Muie colonialist barracks was completely destroyed by the explosion of an anti-car mine laid by our guerrillas about one kilometre from that enemy post. The colonialists suffered 10 dead and 3 wounded.

Driven to despair by their heavy losses, the colonialists took reprisals against a group of colonial soldiers -- known as GE's, or special groups -- whom they beat up violently, claiming that they were responsible for the GM mine operation.

The enemy have been utterly confounded by the impact and the consequences of our operations which, apart from the losses they are causing them, are bringing to the surface the tremendous contradictions within their criminal ranks.

When the enemy start to carry out reprisals against their own men, the first of the many conclusions one can reach is that our blows are hitting home and that the colonialists are already in the grip of fear and suspicion.

On 2 MAY, an enemy column of 6 military trucks transporting troops from Ninda to Xiume, fell into an ambush set by MPLA forces, who attacked them with bazookas and automatic wea-

pons. This operation resulted in the total destruction of 4 trucks and the enemy left behind 40 dead and wounded soldiers. The MPLA suffered no losses.

On 6 MAY, MPLA guerrillas attacked what remains of the Karipande colonialist barracks, where enemy soldiers are still ensconced. The attack which lasted 10 minutes, was conducted with a battery of 60 mm mortars and destroyed a house. The enemy suffered unknown losses in lives and material.

A colonialist platoon which left the same barracks at dusk to go to the Zambezi to replenish their water supply, hit a mine laid by an MPLA patrol group. The Portuguese colonialists suffered 6 confirmed losses.

There were no casualties among our forces during these operations.

On 22 MAY, MPLA guerrillas led by a group of sappers destroyed a bridge over the River Kapui, in the area of the Xiume colonialist barracks.

Victory is Certain!

SAM-MPLA'S MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

(Continued from Page 5)

the completion of a three-month elementary course for first-aid and nursing assistants, in which nine new medical workers were trained, five boys and 4 girls recruited in that same Region. Training this personnel on the spot made it possible to open new health posts and to expand our network to almost all the detachments in both Zones A and B, thereby strengthening our activity considerably.

Q. What were the greatest difficulties encountered?

A. There were many kinds of difficulties. But of course the great distance between the Fourth Region and our logistic base, together with the shortage of previously trained personnel in the Region are the major obstacles. Lunda is a Region where the colonialists are concerned only with diamond mining. The illiteracy rate

is staggering and it was not easy for us to recruit comrades who were literate enough to follow our courses, although they are elementary. But our persistent search for capable and interested people and our constant appeals finally met with success and now we have about twenty medical workers. The problem of distances and, therefore, of regular supplies of equipment and medicines has also finally been solved, thanks to the co-operation and understanding of the members of the Regional Command and thanks, above all, to the willingness and the efforts of our people, who go long and exhausting distances on foot to get these supplies from our borders.

Q. What kind of colonial medical care was there in that area?

A. It can be said that in the area now liberated by our military forces, medical care was non-existent.

There were just small hospitals and health centres in the big urban centres along the railway, in the district capital and in the diamond company, but these were for the tiny minority of Angolan working directly for the settlers. The whole of the population outside the urban centres who are the overwhelming majority had absolutely no idea of what medical care was. We need only take the example of the Angolans who go for treatment at the Bucaco health centre, on the road from Luso to Saurino, and who are made to work in the medical officer's vegetable garden before or after the consultation and before or after each injection they get.

Q. What diseases do you come across most often in that Region?

A. We can say, in order of frequency, that the cases we come across most often are deficiency diseases, diseases resulting from deficient nutrition, like the well-known kwashiorkor. In children there are, first, various types of anaemia and vitamin deficiency. Second come malaria and intestinal parasites and, third, infectious diseases of an epidemic type, like scabies and conjunctivitis. Finally, there are the war wounded and fractures.

Q. What, in your opinion, is the value of traditional medicine in that Region?

A. Traditional medicine -- so stupidly disparaged during the colonial occupation and unknown to many of us -- is highly developed and of great value in that Region. Unfortunately, it was not possible for me to collate or seriously study the diseases currently treated with plants and roots. This kind of medicine, which is generally practised by tribal elders or specialised healers, has nothing to do with magic or fetishism and is of great social value. One need only mention that in an area which is now having to struggle against tremendous difficulties as far as products for personal cleanliness, like soap, are concerned, the venereal diseases which plague some so-called civilised areas are non-existent there, because they are treated by inges-



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MPLA's MEDICAL ASSISTANCE

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tion, baths or irrigation with products made from certain roots.

Q. How have the people reacted to the introduction of the scientific medicine you are practising?

A. Like all rural people, their initial reaction to anything new is a distrustful and circumspect attitude, but they are profoundly pragmatic. They only believe in thing they can see with their own eyes, in spectacular results. So, in general, when care has been taken to administer the treatment correctly, they flock to us without any hesitation. One has to win their confidence, after which everything becomes easy. The people appreciate scientific medicine, especially for infectious and febrile diseases, where the effects of medicines, and especially of injections, are spectacular and immediate. They appreciate everything having to do with surgery, but they still rely on traditional treatment for diseases which involve a complicated, protracted and repeated cure, like the example of epilepsy I gave before.

Q. What can you tell us about the effects of the chemical warfare that the Portuguese have been using recently?

A. As you know, chemical warfare can be defined as the voluntary use of chemical agents for the purpose of destroying all forms of human, animal and vegetable life. The genocide which has always characterised the Portuguese colonial war is being further proved and aggravated by the ever increasing and more dreadful use of herbicides and defoliants, not only on the crops of the population living in our liberated areas, but also on some of the forests inhabited by the rebellious population.

I have seen with my own eyes the activity of Portuguese aircraft in the Fourth Region, along the banks of the River Luena and on the north bank of the Cassai, especially during the months of May and June 1970 and in January 1971. During these periods, which are the times when the crops are ripe, the enemy come and destroy our food, in the hope of dislodging us and liquidating us through hunger and mass

poisoning.

It is obvious that this criminal form of warfare, which has been unanimously condemned by mankind and in numerous international agreements, will not stop unless public opinion is massively mobilised against Portugal, especially in the countries which supply Portugal with the chemicals used. There is also the fear that because of the steady advance of our struggle, the use of herbicides and defoliants will increase with the increasing despair of the fascist colonial army.

We are aware of this danger, and also of the importance and influence of public opinion in this battle. That is why SAM is preparing the necessary documentation so that, as from now, we can launch an appeal requesting that everything be done to avoid another Vietnam.

Q. What are the chemicals used and what are their effects on the human organism and on plants?

A. We do not yet have the scientific proof of analysis of the chemical agents used, but studies of their effects and of the way in which they act on people and plants has led us to believe that these are the same agents as have already been used in Vietnam. These chemicals are known commercially by the name of "Agent Blue" and it is also possible that in some areas they have been using certain arsenic derivatives, such as Phytar.

As for the effects, we can distinguish two distinct types. In people they produce a chemical burning of the skin and mucous tissues, with irritation of the respiratory system and of the mucous tissues of the eye. On plants there is also a chemical burn without carbonisation, as though they had been subjected to prolonged drought starting with the leaves and then invading the stalk and the roots or tubercles. They finally undergo putrefaction similar to what would happen if they stayed in stagnant water for a long time.

Q. What are the prospects for the future?

A. It can be said without any hesitation whatsoever that the prospects are good. Since the fresh impetus gained over the past year

with the training of new medical workers and the opening of new medical posts, we are getting over the most difficult phase, that of establishing the basic structure. As from now, our progress will be less spectacular, but more solid and durable. It will partly depend on the progress of the organisation as a whole and on the medical care capacity it can give us. We are well aware of the tremendous amount of work still to be done and of the obstacles that will necessarily have to be overcome, but we are ready to face them and optimistic as to the final results.

War Communique

THIRD REGION (North Sub-region)

When the enemy manage to obtain information on the existence of a group of men in a given area of our vast fighting front, they mobilise a huge arsenal of forces, so completely disproportionate that it can only be explained by the fear which is gripping them.

Indeed, in one of the sectors of our Zone A, on the right bank of the Kassai, Portuguese colonialists intending to capture and murder members of the population came repeatedly in 5 helicopters and with numerous heliported troops to carry out their crime.

The MPLA fighters having been warned of the unwarranted and criminal presence of the Portuguese terrorists, a guerrilla group set out immediately and severely punished the enemy in 4 successive battles. The violence of the last battle was such that Caetano's terrorists lost 5 men and suffered 6 wounded. Together with equipment and ammunition, they left behind them eloquent evidence of their precipitous flight.

This battle, which took place on 5 April 1971, greatly increased the number of Portuguese war cripples which the Lisbon government sends to Federal Germany with impossible promises of social rehabilitation.

The people living in the area of the Lumege Barracks, who have selflessly borne the brunt of enemy incursions, were once again subjected to the impotent rage of Portuguese colonialism. After the battle of 5 April, in an act of revenge so characteristic of the enemy we are fighting, 3 Angolans living in the enemy's own strategic hamlets were murdered in cold blood, on the grounds that it was they who had informed the MPLA guerrillas, the liberators of the Angolan people.

Victory is Certain!
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MPLA

THE ORGANISATION OF ANGOLAN WOMEN AND THE REVOLUTION

In these ten years of the Angolan people's struggle against Portuguese colonialism, notable among the MPLA's mass organisations has been the Organisation of Angolan Women (OMA) and the role of women in our Revolution. In Angola, as in Vietnam and all the countries where a true revolution is taking place, women are taking an active part in all tasks.

With each passing day, hour and second of the war, the revolutionary Angolan woman is suffering the most atrocious consequences of retrograde Portuguese colonialism. She is falling under the bombing raids and under the defoliants sprayed by the murderers of our people. This daily experience which

*Nothing makes her retreat,
Fighting with arms in hand,
For a free Angola giving,
Even her life for our land ...*

is imposed on her is making her ever more conscious and accounts for her direct contribution in every sphere.

In a short space of time women have come to be of tremendous importance in the work of mobilisation, carrying out one of the aims of the Organisation of Angolan Women, which is to mobilise all the abilities of women for the Revolution, in order that they may bring a higher consciousness to their work for the rights

and interests of women and children and create favourable conditions for the total emancipation of the women of Angola.

Within the MPLA, OMA feels responsible for the lives of the thousands of innocent children who are advancing with us in the areas liberated by the Angolan people's only vanguard Movement, the MPLA.

On 1 June this year, International Children's Day, the Organisation of Angolan Women appealed to all friends and organisations to show their solidarity with us by donating clothing, shoes, milk, babies' bottles, money, etc. to be sent to the children in the areas liberated by the MPLA.

On this occasion, many of our friends demonstrated their staunchness and friendship by responding to our appeal with generous donations.

The Organisation of Angolan Women (OMA) thanks all those who have once again helped to protect Angolan children from the cold and to stay their hunger.

**VICTORY IS CERTAIN!
UNITED WE WILL WIN!**



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