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### African Agenda, July 1972

African American Solidarity Committee

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# AFRICAN AGENDA

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July, 1972

Monthly 10 cents

## African Party For The Independence Of Guinea And Cape Verde (P.A.I.G.C.)

All national liberation movements must be viewed in the context of the historical, social, and economic conditions which gave birth to them. In this regard, PAIGC was born out of continuous resistance to Portuguese colonialism evidenced in such actions as the 1878-80 struggles of the Felip and Manjak peoples. Throughout the nineteenth and into the twentieth century, the Guinean and Verdian people fought the Portuguese invaders in sporadic rebellions and uprisings.

A new stage of the national liberation struggle in Portuguese Guinea began after W.W. II. In the early fifties, the first efforts to politically mobilize the people were made. The Portuguese government reacted by forbidding Africans any political debate and by banning all political parties and trade unions. This led to a new form of struggle. Urban workers secretly mobilized

largely urban peoples into a loose organization called the Movement for the National Independence of Guinea (MING). In September, 1956 from this organization was formed the Partido Africano da Independencia da Guinee e Cabo Verde (PAIGC) with Amilcar Cabral as Secretary General.

The attainment of national independence was PAIGC's most fundamental objective, and they first employed a non-violent, legalistic-type approach. PAIGC, firstly appealed to the Portuguese authorities in written memorandums. Perceiving that colonialism by its very nature would not respond to reason, the Party leadership began to consider armed struggle along with building a political and economic program as the only open path toward national freedom.

On August 3, 1959 at Pijiguiti, the Portuguese army ruthlessly opened fire on an

cont. p. 4



## Cooperation Between The USSR and Africa

Since the first of the year, 17 independent African countries and the Soviet Union have begun negotiations for economic and technical agreements. In accordance with these negotiations, Soviet aid will help in the construction of 128 projects, 52 of which are already in operation.

Among the industrial plants to be built in Africa are a cement plant in Diamu, Mali; a cannery, sawmill and slaughter house in Guinea; an oil refinery in Assab, Ethiopia; food processing plants in Somali and the Sudan. Also a farm training center in Uganda for 350 students has been completed and a cotton mill is under construction in the city of Lira, Uganda. A Guinean enterprise for producing bauxites (capacity of 2.5 million tons a year) is being built near Kindia. The enterprise will include, be-

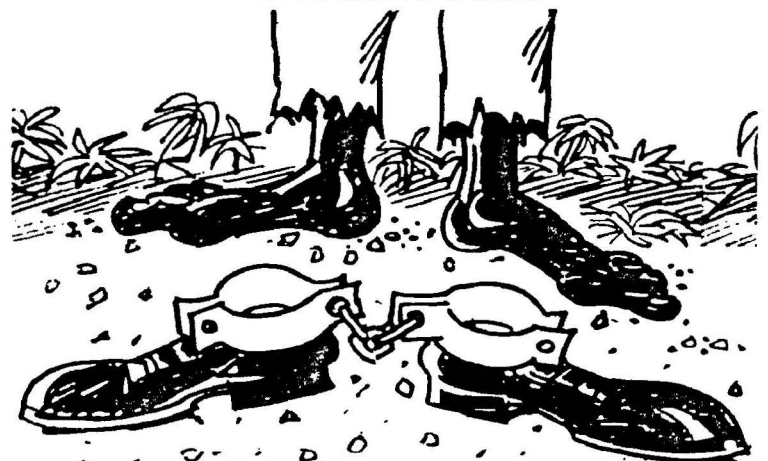
sides the mine, a 60 mile railway line connecting it with the port of Conakry. The enterprise should be in operation by 1973. These are but a few of the 128 projects now underway as a result of Soviet-African economic and technical co-operation.

The importance of these projects will aid in strengthening the national economies of these 17 countries, train skilled workers and specialists, and enable these countries to export raw materials and develop a world market for these goods. In addition to this, millions of dollars in convertible currency will be saved. Neo-colonialism will have difficulty thriving under such conditions.

There is great contrast between aid given to underdeveloped nations by socialist countries and the aid given by capitalist countries. It has been the policy of capitalist

cont. p. 4

Neo-colonialist aid to Africa.



## The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization

The Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) constitutes a powerful mass movement organized to unite and coordinate the struggle of the Afro-Asian peoples against imperialism and colonialism, to accelerate their liberation, and to ensure their economic, social, and cultural development. The Organization brings together on a plat-

form of anti-imperialism, people's parties and mass organizations from the independent countries still engaged in struggle for national independence.

The Organization's structure is composed of: The Conference of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity, The Council of the Organization, The Executive Committee, The Permanent Secretariat,

and The Afro-Asian Solidarity Funds Committee.

The Conference of Afro-Asian People's Solidarity is held once every two years. There have been five AAPSO Conferences: Cairo (A.R.E.) 1957, Conakry (Guinea) 1960, Moshi (Tanzania) 1963, Winneba (Ghana) 1965, and Cairo (A.R.E.) January 10-13, 1972. Other special Conferences have been held in support of emergency situations such as the 1967 Emergency Conference in support of the Arab Peoples and the 1968 Extraordinary Conference in support of the Struggle of the Vietnamese People. These Conferences are the milestones of fourteen years of AAPSO activity.

The Council consists of all heads of delegations or their representatives and constitutes the steering organ during the sessions of the AAPSO Conference.

The Executive Committee is composed of thirty members elected from among the Council members. The Executive Committee interprets the decisions of the AAPSO Conference and decides on the implementation of the Conference resolutions.

The Permanent Secretariat is composed of fifteen members who implement the decisions of the Executive Committee. The headquarters of the Secretariat are in Cairo.

The Afro-Asian Solidarity Fund Committee specifies the needs of affiliated organizations with regard to help and material aid in their struggle against imperialism, and finds means to satisfy these needs and sustain the Fund.

The 1972 AAPSO Conference resolutions demonstrated that the emphasis on building up the political independence of Afro-Asian countries is shifting to the socio-economic sphere. The Conference resolutions also pointed to the need to take the non-capitalist road of development to hasten economic progress.

★ ★ ★

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Sir,

The racist system in South Africa will only survive as long as the big powers prop it up. Both Russia and the United States trade with South Africa despite a United Nations blockade of that country. Until the smaller nations of the world unite they will be at the mercy of these two powers.

A. Abdallah  
Newark, N. J.

## Editor's Reply

Dear Friend,

There have recently been reports of the Soviet Union trading with South Africa. These reports are false. The Soviet Union has voted for and supported all U.N. actions condemning apartheid in South Africa. Soviet foreign trade organizations do not maintain ties with firms or organizations in South Africa.

We have noticed some statistics which quote as the source South African customs officials. Closer investigation reveals that these statistics record only the passage of goods through customs and the countries of their origin but do not list the nationality of the buyer or seller. Soviet goods may find their way into South Africa only as re-exports by some American or European firms.

The Soviet Union not only refuses to "prop up" apartheid as you state in your letter; but actively supports those liberation movements intent on destroying white minority rule throughout Southern Africa.

The Editor

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The Staff of The African Agenda welcomes your comments and any article that is less than 400 words.

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Pass on this copy to  
your shopmate or friend.

## The People's War In Mozambique



The patriots of Mozambique are observing the tenth anniversary of their country's leading party, the Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO).

One of the founders of FRELIMO was Eduardo Mondlane, professor of sociology and outstanding leader of the African national liberation struggle, who was foully murdered by agents of the Portuguese secret police in 1969. The first shot in the fighting against the Portuguese, initiated and led by FRELIMO, was fired in northern Mozambique on September 25, 1964. Today, the Mozambique national liberation army is at least 20,000 strong and has already liberated a fifth of the country's territory. After the murder of Mondlane, the post of FRELIMO Chairman and army commander was assumed by Samora Machael. An organized and effective force, FRELIMO was soon recognized and given assistance by the Organization of African Unity and its Liberation Committee, as well as by a number of independent African states.

Despite its numerical superiority (there are 40,000 Portuguese officers and men in Mozambique), the colonial army is powerless against FRELIMO, which is supported by the broad masses throughout the country. The patriots avoid major battles, preferring to operate in small groups and staging surprise attacks on Portuguese garrisons, forts, vehicles and depots. From December 7, 1971, to February 29, 1972, they killed 197 Portuguese troops, blew up six trains and two bridges, shot down one plane and destroyed 22 lorries in Tete Province alone.

There is no doubt that with the aid of their friends, the heroic peoples of Mozambique and the other Portuguese colonies will finally prevail over the colonialists.



## News Briefs

BEIRUT — A Beirut news agency reports Israeli experts are helping Rhodesian "security forces" establish defense posts along the Zambezi river, according to Anti-Apartheid News. Reportedly the Israelis are also giving military training to wives and daughters of white farmers in areas near the Zambian border. Israeli intelligence also attempted a coup in Uganda toward the end of May and was foiled. The second fiasco suffered by Israel in Uganda inside two months has drawn attention to the heightened Israeli subversion in Africa.

SANTIAGO DE CHILE — A monument to the late Dr. Martin Luther King was unveiled on June 17, 1972 in Chile's capital at a public ceremony attended by President Salvador Allende and members of the Popular Unity government. In his speech at the monument, Allende stressed that King gave his life in the struggle for the rights of oppressed Black people in the United States and in the struggle for world peace.

ANGOLA — The presence of American Green Berets in Angola has been confirmed by Angolan peasants and MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) guerrillas. The initial report was delivered by two Angolan deserters from the Portuguese. The American Green Berets are acting as advisers to the Portuguese in that their attempt to maintain its control over the Angolan people. The role being played by the Berets is similar to the one played in the initial stages of US involvement against the liberation movements of Indo-China. The American Ambassador in Lusaka, Zambia has denied Green Beret participation against the Angolan freedom fighters, but reliable sources estimate the American presence at forty persons.

SOUTH AFRICA — On June 26, African people, friends and sympathisers in and outside South Africa held a meeting and demonstrated to honor South African Freedom Day. This day symbolizes the many different struggles the South African people have engaged in against the oppressive white minority government.

RABAT — The Ninth Summit Assembly of the 41-nation Organization of African Unity gave strong backing to the Egyptian position on the Middle East crisis this past June in Rabat, Morocco. In its resolution on the Middle East, The OAU emphasized the need to carry out all provisions of the United Nations Security Council resolution of November 22, 1967. Israel must withdraw from all occupied Arab territory, the African summit meet stated. The OAU said it welcomed Egypt's persistent efforts to find a peaceful political solution to the crisis, and urged all OAU member-states to render all-around assistance to Egypt. It also called upon all UN member-states to refrain from aiding Israel in any way as long as the illegal Israeli military occupation of Arab lands continues. Egyptian Foreign Minister Murad Ghaleb, speaking at the Assembly, thanked the independent African states for supporting the just struggle of the Arab peoples.



## ISRAEL: JUNIOR IMPERIALIST PARTNER

U.S. Imperialist expansion into Africa looms ever more prominent on the horizon, as it becomes increasingly apparent that the exploitative and genocidal war in Southeast Asia has been successfully repulsed. The courageous struggle of the Vietnamese people, nevertheless, will not deter U.S. capitalists from seeking other outposts for neocolonialist aggression.

But that stunning setback precipitated a strategic shift on the part of the U.S. imperialists: major bourgeois powers will now utilize their junior partners as the primary striking forces. In Africa, Israel's Zionist clique has been given the task by U.S. and other imperialist countries of infiltrating developing states on the continent. "U. S. monopoly groups hankering after Africa, have been strongly advised to use Israel..." notes *International Affairs* correspondent Y. Kashin in a recent article.

Military 'advisers' from Israel, financed by the vast resources of Zionist support in the United States, are conspicuous in their presence throughout Africa. According to analyst Kashin, "the Africans are being induced to adopt the idea of Israel's militarized agriculture and the Kibbutz system as the best mode of farming."

While Israeli capital investments in African countries

do not approach (in sheer numbers) those of the USA or West Germany, it is a fact that the growth of joint Afro-Israeli companies (which already exist in Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Dahomey, and Upper Volta, etc.) aids the development of new markets.

Perhaps the most illuminating signal as to the real intent of Israeli policy was made by Verwoerd, former Prime Minister of the Republic of South Africa, who pointed out that "Israel, like South Africa, is an apartheid state." Moreover, South Africa has long been a favorite outlet for Zionist capital, most notably the Rothschild family who have large investments in South Africa. Now Israeli militarists are expanding military and technical assistance to South Africa in an effort to create a pincer movement against the national liberation struggles in Africa. African publicists and politicians are very cognizant of this motion, as attested by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolutions attacking both states. Progressive people in this country, including democratic-minded members of the Jewish community, must struggle against this policy of alliance between Israel and South Africa which is harmful to the masses of peoples in Africa as well as the Jewish people throughout the world.



### Repression In South Africa

1. One in every 260 South Africans are imprisoned; this is a 100% rise over the past 10 years.
2. Recently, 300,000 Africans have been arrested under the "Pass Laws".
3. Each day over 1300 people are detained because of "Pass Law" offenses.
4. There are over 8,000 political prisoners in South Africa, most of whom are imprisoned for life or long periods because of their opposition to apartheid.
5. Presently, there are 675 people under house arrest or banning orders because of their opposition to apartheid.

Research of the Madison Area  
Committee on Southern Africa

## Recommended Books

### NEW BOOKS FOR THE STRUGGLE — from INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHERS

1. **RACISM AND HUMAN SURVIVAL.** *Claude Lightfoot.* A study of the differing ways in which the two Germanys deal with the legacy of Hitler racism. Paperback \$1.50
2. **NEW THEORIES OF REVOLUTION.** *Jack Woddis.* A profound commentary on the theories of Frantz Fanon, Regis Debray and Herbert Marcuse. The book bulwarks its theses with extensive factual analyses of recent developments in Africa, of the Cuban revolution and of the French upheavals of 1968. Cloth \$10.00; Paperback \$3.65
3. **ON COLONIALISM: Articles from The New York Tribune and Other Writings.** *Karl Marx and Frederick Engels.* Threading this selection of incisive 19th Century Journalism is the Marxist approach to imperialism and national liberation. Cloth \$7.50; Paperback \$2.65.
4. **BLACK WORKER IN THE DEEP SOUTH.** *Hosea Hudson.* An autobiography epitomizing the rise of the Southern black working class, its fight against racism and for organization. Cloth \$6.95; Paperback \$1.95.

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cont. P.A.I.G.C.

assembly of striking Bissau dockworkers. There were 50 people killed and 100 wounded. The final grim lesson that armed struggle was a necessary path to national independence for the people of Portuguese Guinea.

The years 1960-62 were years of organizing, training and preparing for the launching of the armed struggle which was started on January 1, 1963. The nine years since then have seen the Guinean people move to new levels of achievement. None of the gains have been easy ones. The Portuguese have responded to every success with more and more barbarous acts, e.g., the constant phosphorus and napalm bombing of civilians (especially countryside schools and hospitals); the December, 1970 Portuguese, CIA-led invasion of the independent Republic of Guinea and the slaughter there of innocent Guinean citizens; and the 1971 attempt to herbicide all food crops in villages and the countryside of Guinea. All of these acts speak to the desperate nature of the Portuguese fascist forces.

Today the struggle of the Guinea and Cape Verdian people for national independence is one of the most advanced struggles in Africa. From all reports the 10,000 armed freedom fighters in Guinea have limited the Portuguese to several major towns and these remain *only for undamaged use* in an independent Guinea. Commenting recently on his organization's successful

shelling of the town of Bissau, Gil Fernandes, representative of PAIGC to Europe and North America, said, "we were very sorry to shell Bissau, it's a beautiful town and we wish it to be that way when we move into it."

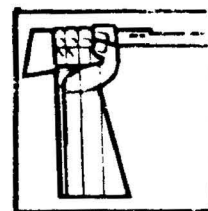
Significantly, the United Nations Committee of 24, recently returned from a visit inside Guinea and having seen the military struggle, the country-wide schools and health programs, the co-operative farms, the local artisan and industry projects, and the people's shops, *publicly declared* that "PAIGC must be recognized as the sole and legitimate governing body in Guinea."

★ ★ ★

### cont. COOPERATION

countries in giving aid to underdeveloped nations, to assist in developing only those resources which will bolster their own capitalist economy and production. "The terms of Soviet aid are remarkably easy. The annual rate of interest is 2.5 to 3 per cent, as contrasted with 6 per cent or more on loans from the capitalist countries."

★ ★ ★



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