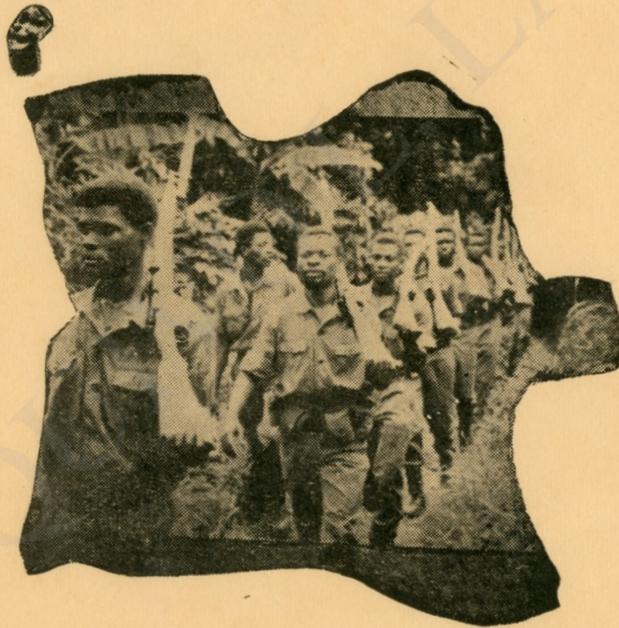


ANGOLA IN ARMS



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MPLA

MOVIMENTO POPULAR DE
LIBERTAÇÃO DE ANGOLA

people's movement for the liberation of
a n g o l a

2/69

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EDITORIAL

After the enemy offensive which took place in the second half of last year, the enemy made propaganda claims that the MPLA's First and Third Military Regions had been completely dismantled. Yet they themselves are not the slightest bit ashamed to announce battles and soldiers killed in their ranks precisely in the First and Third Regions.

These facts mean that the colonialists' offensive did not have the desired effect. They mustered planes and helicopters, innumerable cars, tractors and arms of every kind, while the highest-ranking Portuguese officers were present during operations. The enemy received tremendous assistance from its allies, especially from South Africa, which sent troops and equipment. It was all to no avail. The armed resistance of our people was not overcome. The struggle is continuing and our victory is certain.

We know that Portugal intend to send more soldiers to Angola and is sending more war material.

None of this frightens the valiant MPLA fighters, whose morale is getting higher all the time. And it is precisely this high morale which gives the MPLA invincible superiority.

While the colonialists were carrying out their offensive inside the country, their imperialist allies were making use of the small groups of counter-revolutionaries abroad to create confusion internationally regarding the Angolan people. When the 14th

meeting of the Liberation Committee took place in Dar-es-Salaam counter-revolutionaries supported by the government of Congo Kinshasa tried to put themselves forward as the representatives of our people.

But what counts is the activity inside the country, and today everyone knows that only the MPLA is leading the armed struggle there.

The next enemy offensive against the controlled areas will find us better adapted to that kind of operation. And in the meantime the struggle is being extended. All the places where the colonialists are will be attained by the fire of the revolution.

V I C T O R Y I S C E R T A I N !

REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE _____ IS THE ONLY ROAD TO
COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE

There are two roads which can lead a colonised people to independence: the reformist road, which leads to neocolonialism, and the revolutionary one leading to complete independence.

The puppet groups, led by the American imperialists, are following the neocolonial road. The MPLA is firmly following the revolutionary road which will lead Angola to total and complete independence.

Concretely, the reformist road consists in attacking the colonialists every so often, just to hold the attention of the Angolan people and international opinion, while at the same time engaging in a tremendous amount of diplomatic activity

aimed at the Americans forcing the Portuguese government to "grant" independence. At the same time, to prevent the people from becoming aware of their own strength and by-passing treacherous leaders, the reformist road requires that tribal hatred be instigated to divide and, therefore, weaken the people.

The opposition of Portuguese colonialism itself to any form of independence makes the reformist road totally impracticable in Angola, this being one of the main reasons for the failure of the puppet parties, which are not able to put up any kind of fight against the forces of oppression.

The revolutionary road is certainly a much more difficult one. It requires a strong organisation, a national struggle, a ceaseless battle against tribalism, a dynamic guerrilla war in which higher forms of struggle are developed, a tremendous spirit of self-sacrifice and discipline in all militants, an immense amount of work to raise the consciousness of the masses and active participation by leaders in the concrete tasks to be carried out together with the people.

But the revolutionary road is the only one which will lead to complete independence and the restoration of the dignity of the Angolan People. The Angolan People, who have suffered Portuguese colonial domination for five centuries, will never be prepared to yield to another form of domination, no matter where it comes from.

So let us follow the revolutionary road laid down by the MPLA.

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RELYING ON OUR OWN FORCES

Our struggle must be waged by Angolans. We cannot expect it to be waged by other already independent peoples. It is wrong to believe that other peoples could come and liberate us from the Portuguese colonialist yoke we have suffered for five centuries.

The experience of peoples who, like us, have lived under colonialist oppression, shows that they freed themselves with their own sweat and blood.

We could cite a number of examples, but the one closest to us is that of the Algerian people, who fought for seven years to freed themselves from the French colonial yoke.

They used their own means to fight. The help they received from abroad merely strengthened the means in their possession.

Relying on our own forces is a decisive factor which will lead to the final defeat of the enemy. The MPLA militants fighting in the First Region, in the Dembos, in Nambuanguongo and in Luanda are good examples of the effectiveness of this factor. The comrades in the MPLA's First Region rely entirely on their own forces, so that outside help is in no way a decisive factor in the struggle they are so bravely advancing. And there is no force which can dislodge our people from that region.

MPLA militants should remember that our forces, our means, are without any doubt the determining factor for our victory. We must not wait for help from outside, but fight with what we have. That is why the people must make their own rudimentary weapons and all the other instruments they need to fight with. The people must work and farm so as to feed not only themselves, but also the guerrillas.

The support given by friendly countries is very important, but we should realise that it may or may not arrive. Whereas if we have what is our own on the spot where we are fighting, it is something sure which we can use at any time in the struggle against our enemy Portuguese colonialism.

The whole people must work so that we can rely on our own forces to the maximum. This is the decisive precondition for our victory.

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I IT IS THE ANGOLANS THEMSELVES WHO MUST LIBERATE ANGOLA !

LET US RELY ABOVE ALL ON OUR OWN FORCES!

A FURTHER VICTORY FOR THE MPLA

The 14th meeting of the Liberation Committee was yet another victory for our Movement. The MPLA was one again recognised as the sole organisation which is really fighting inside our country and which is constantly advancing against the enemy's nerve-centres.

Other groups presented themselves to the Committee, but they were regarded as minor or non-existent groups.

The meeting confirmed the withdrawal of recognition of the so-called "grae" in Kinshasa, which had started to use the name FNLA. All the same, this group of bandits, whose sole function is to seize and murder MPLA militants on their way to or from Angola, had the effrontery to present a report saying that they controlled Moxico, Cuando-Cubango, Malange, Uige, Cuanza Norte, etc.

However, when the Military Commission went to Kinshasa to enter Angola with FNLA soldiers, the latter fled and the Commission had no alternative but to turn back. In its report the Military Commission concluded that the FNLA was incapable of waging guerrilla warfare and recommended that the FNLA transfer its headquarters inside the country as the MPLA had done.

The only reason why the FNLA still exists is the support it gets from Congo Kinshasa, which is under imperialist influence. Despite this, the FNLA was defeated at the meeting.

Another counter-revolutionary group supported by Congo Kinshasa which presented itself at Dar-es-Salaam was the group of the adventurer Savimbi, who said in his report that his "army" was made up of 3,000 men, 1,200 of whom were with automatic weapons seized from the Portuguese! He also claimed control over five districts in Angola, with a population of 1,500,000.

This ridiculous claims, which were written in a pamphlet published in Cairo, United Arab Republic, were ignored.

The MPLA's victory is a result of the work carried on inside all the regions of Angola by our organisation's militants.

Nevertheless, we must remember that it is only by maintaining the pace of our activities that we shall progress, leading our people to complete independence.

GENERALISATION

OF THE ARMED

STRUGGLE

At the beginning of 1967, the President of the MPLA announced to world opinion that the struggle of the Angolan people had entered upon a new phase: that of the generalisation of the armed struggle throughout the national territory.

Following this strategic line, the Movement opened a new front in the middle of 1968, the Fourth Region, which includes the districts of Lunda and Malange. That year too the struggle spread to the district of Bié with the opening of the Fifth Region front.

In this way, more than one third of the national territory is controlled by the MPLA or, again, ten of the fifteen districts into which the colonial administration divided Angola are the scene of military operations. The Third Region alone is more than four times the size of Portugal.

"Other regions are still to be developed this year, so that there will no longer be a number of combat fronts, but only one, surrounding the enemy with encirclements which will paralyse them and render them inoffensive. This will be in preparation for the final blow which will culminate in the seizure of political power." This was how our President summed up the whole future line.

This means that the more our war is extended, the weaker the colonialist enemy will become, since they will be attacked from all sides and will therefore have to disperse their forces. Besides, the generalisation of the armed struggle will enable us to attain the nerve-centres of the enemy, the very places where they are most vulnerable.

Therefore, for an MPLA militant the generalisation of the armed struggle is a sacred task which must be carried out with the greatest fervour and under all circumstances, because it is a step of major importance on the revolutionary road which is leading us to total and complete independence.

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LET US REMAIN AT ALL TIMES ON THE OFFENSIVE! LET US ALWAYS HARASS THE ENEMY SO THAT HE IS REMINDED EVERY MINUTE THAT HE IS A FOREIGNER IN ANGOLA!

V I C T O R Y I S C E R T A I N !

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MORE MPLA MEMBERS IMPRISONED IN CONGO KINSHASA

After the defeat suffered by the Congo Kinshasa delegation and its protégé groupings, the government of that country would like to take revenge on our organisation.

Not content with official statements forbidding our militants to cross their territory, they have ordered the imprisonment of 12 MPLA members living in Kinshasa, among them João Sebastião Lengue, who is over 65 years old.

These arrests and incoherent attitudes of the Kinshasa government show its desperation at the diplomatic defeat it has suffered.

All MPLA militants must fight harder so that our comrades who have been incarcerated by the Kinshasa butchers may not be murdered, but released immediately.

FREEDOM FOR THE IMPRISONED MPLA MILITANTS!

* * * * * the mpla's heroic pionner * * * * *

The Angolan people are writing the most glorious pages of their history in blood. There have been repeated acts of courage and heroism by our people since the beginning of the armed struggle under the leadership of the MPLA, adding to the thousands of heroes who have fought for our country from the beginning of the colonial presence in Angola. This time the MPLA wishes to praise the bravery, the heroism, of pioneer AUGUSTO NGANGULA, who was barbarously hacked to death by Portuguese butchers on 1 December 1968, when going from his village to one of the MPLA schools.

AUGUSTO NGANGULA was killed because, when seized by the Portuguese, he refused to show the colonialist assassins where the MPLA school and bases were. He preferred to die rather than betray the glorious cause of the Angolan people led by the MPLA. Pioneer AUGUSTO NGANGULA was barely 12 years old, but his revolutionary consciousness was so high that he preferred to die honouring his country rather than to live betraying his people.

The example of pioneer AUGUSTO NGANGULA must be followed by all Angolans. We must not fear torture or death, because all acts committed against our people by the Portuguese colonialists are doomed to failure, for Victory belongs to the Angolan people and it is Certain.

We must fight fearlessly and avenge the death of our heroes. In view of pioneer AUGUSTO NGANGULA's courage and dedication to our people's struggle under the leadership of the MPLA, the MPLA has decided to confer on him posthumously the title

of HEROIC PIONEER OF THE MPLA, in accordance with MPLA Service Order No.13.

To honour our heroes, all Angolans must fight relentlessly and not tolerate that today in our country the colonialists should go on perpetrating crimes with our people as their target.

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WITH THE MPLA, VICTORY IS CERTAIN!

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MPLA ACTIVITIES AT THE BEGINNING OF 1969

The Portuguese offensive, which took place during the dry season in almost all the regions controlled by the MPLA, did not have the results the colon lists had anticipated. Instead of the guerrilla war being ended, as had been the intention, the guerrilla fighters gained fresh experience in the tactics of resisting the enemy and knowing how to attack them.

The crimes committed by the Portuguese colonialists against the defenceless population of our country have created more hatred for the colonialists, who have shown that they are in Angola to decimate our people on behalf of the big gentlemen who live in the lap of luxury in Lisbon and other European capitals. For this very reason, the hatred of the colonial presence in Angola has increased our people's strength to fight the Portuguese colonialists until final victory.

Our people have proved that there is no force capable of stopping the triumphant struggle of the Angolan people.

During the months of January and February, the MPLA not only normalised its position, but also took the initiative in besieging the enemy wherever they were. Let us take a look at the record of our activities in some of the MPLA operational sectors and zones in the Third Region.

In the Third Region alone, the enemy suffered the following losses:

Enemy soldiers put out of action	339
Puppet troops put out of action	22
Enemy vehicles destroyed or severely damaged	6
Helicopters shot down	1
Vessels sunk	2

VICTORY IS CERTAIN!

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LET US UNITE IN THE FIGHT

AGAINST PORTUGUESE

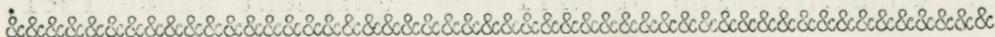
COLONIALISM !

THE ANGOLAN

PEOPLE

SHALL

WIN



* ANGOLAN YOUTH DAY IN MEMORY OF COMMANDER HOJI IA HENDA *

On 14 April it was exactly a year since the great Angolan hero, COMMANDER HOJI IA HENDA, fell in battle during an attack on the Karipande barracks.

Even during his lifetime Comrade Hoji ia Henda had become for all MPLA militants a living example of honesty, courage, fidelity to the Movement's principles and the capacity for analysis and hard work.

The First Assembly of the Third Region paid a moving and heartfelt tribute to Comrade Henda by conferring on him the posthumous title "BELOVED SON OF THE ANGOLAN PEOPLE AND HEROIC FIGHTER OF THE MPLA" and by making 14 April Angolan Youth Day.

That is why all MPLA militants, wherever they may be, should commemorate this day of national celebration in a fitting manner.

Let us organise meetings, work more, fight the foreign invaders harder and renew our vow of fidelity to the just cause of the Angolan People and the MPLA, so as to follow the example of our comrade Henda.

DECISIVE VICTORIES FOR THE LIBERATION OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY ARE ALREADY BEING WON IN MEMORY OF COMRADE HOJI IA HENDA. Proof of this are the heroic deeds performed during the last dry season offensive launched by the colonial army in the First and Third Regions. The enemy hoped to destroy the MPLA or at least to drive it from Angolan territory, so they used the largest concentration of military equipment since 1961.

But their fascist and racist ideology prevented them from assessing the decisive factor - the moral superiority of the MPLA. The MPLA guerrilla are still fighting at their posts in all the regions, strengthened by the heroic example of Commander Hoji ia Henda, and they will continue to do so until final victory.

V I C T O R Y I S C E R T A I N !

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LET US THROW THE CRIMINAL COLONIALISTS INTO THE SEA!

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COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES ALLY THEMSELVES WITH THE ENEMY

From the start of the armed struggle in our country, a large number of counter-revolutionary groups were formed abroad in neighbouring countries, particularly in Congo Kinshasa.

Some of these groups were openly collaborationist, serving the the Portuguese colonialists, while others had indirect relations through Portugal's imperialist allies.

Among these puppet groups was the UPA, which was formed in Kinshasa. The UPA later set up a so-called "Angolan government in exile" which got itself recognised by the OAU. But last year the OAU itself withdrew recognition. UPA action inside Angola is nil, and it continues to exist solely from the support given by its friends in Congo Kinshasa. Availing it-

self of this support, the UPA has seized and murdered MPLA militants trying to cross Congo Kinshasa. More than 12 militants were seized recently, among them old JOAO SEBASTIAO LENGUE, who joined Commander JOAO GONCALVES BENEDITO and comrade DEOLINDA RODRIGUES, leader of the Organisation of Angolan Women, and so many others suffering the slow death of the underground prisons of Kinshasa.

Three deserters from the Portuguese army who went to Congo Kinshasa were arrested by the Congolese authorities merely because they said they wanted to join the MPLA.

The UPA has also set up subsidiary organisations.

Alexandre Taty, who was "minister of armaments" in the so-called government in exile in Kinshasa, joined the colonialists in the district of Cabinda and, using the tribal factor, fought in the enemy ranks against the MPLA and, therefore, against the independence of our country.

More recently, Savimbi, a former "minister of foreign trade" in the above-mentioned puppet "Angolan government", left this group to form his own, which he called "UNITA". It was quite clear that this group, which had only been fighting the MPLA, could not get popular support. So, Savimbi and his group are now seeking collaboration with the Portuguese army against the patriotic forces of the MPLA.

Elements from the so-called "UNITA" are fighting together with the Portuguese forces, thereby showing that counter-revolutionaries always end up by collaborating with the enemy.

We must fight these groups in a serious and organised way.

DOWN WITH THE PUPPETS!

DOWN WITH COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES!

T H E M P L A ' s P O L I C Y A B R O A D

The tremendous progress achieved by the MPLA in advancing the Angolan people's armed struggle for their national independence makes it possible to expect even more substantial victories in the near future and more active solidarity from our traditional allies and from all those throughout the world who defend the rights of the peoples to self-determination and completely unfettered sovereignty.

The MPLA has consistently maintained its foreign policy, which can be broadly defined as follows: strengthening ties with African countries and African liberation movements which are fighting for their national independence; accepting all assistance in so far as it does not impose any restrictions on the Angolan people's right freely to decide on their own political destiny or on the forms of solution to their economic, social and political problems, in accordance with the specific character and interest of their people; isolating Portuguese colonialism internationally and supporting the struggle of the Portuguese people for the elimination of fascism and the transformation of Portugal into a democratic and free country.

In accordance with these principles, the leadership of our Movement has been represented at various African conferences, including the Assembly of African Heads of State which met in Algiers and the Liberation Committee meeting held in Dar-es-Salaam in February this year, and has sent a number of missions to independent African countries- Congo Brazzaville, Zambia, Tanzania, Algeria, Mali, United Arab Republic and Guinea - with the aim of making these countries understand

the difficulties of our struggle and the progress achieved, and to request their material and diplomatic support.

Following its foreign policy line, the MPLA has consistently mobilised help from the peoples of other continents and has for this purpose had meetings with leaders from socialist countries - the USSR, Romania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Democratic Germany. We are glad to say that these countries continue to show the greatest understanding and support by giving the MPLA material and diplomatic assistance, and that world opinion has come out solidly against the Portuguese colonial system, as evidenced by the meetings, the distribution of our war communiqués and other informative material, and the sending of goods such as drugs, clothing and various other things.

The MPLA has demonstrated its active solidarity with all the peoples fighting for their freedom and their inalienable rights, especially the peoples in the Portuguese colonies - so called Portuguese Guinea and Mozambique - in South Africa, Zimbabwe and South West Africa. The heroic struggle of the peoples of Vietnam, Korea and the Latin American countries has been given particular attention by the leaders of our Movement, who on numerous occasions have condemned the intolerable and unacceptable domination of American imperialism over these peoples and supported their victories on the road to complete liberation.

We hail the advances in the struggle of the people of so-called Portuguese Guinea, under the guidance of their vanguard movement, the PAIGC, and express our solidarity with ZAPU and ANC in their just struggle for national liberation.

Our active and full solidarity with FRELIMO was made very clear

by the way in which the MPLA showed its sorrow at the death of their leader, Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, and by the way in which we condemned that brutal and dreadful crime against the people of Mozambique and, through them, against all peoples fighting for national independence and democracy, against hunger and the domination of either the old or the new form of colonialism. Dr. Agostinho Neto, President of the MPLA, attended in person the funeral of our respected and unforgettable comrade in the struggle, Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, placing at FRELIMO's disposal all the facilities of our Movement.

We have also constantly demonstrated our solidarity with the valiant peoples of Vietnam and Korea, as in the message sent to the Prime Minister of North Korea by Dr. Agostinho Neto, President of the MPLA, expressing his admiration and joy at the victories achieved there for the economic, social and political emancipation of the Korean people.

Conscious of the important role of world opinion in the matter of support for the peoples fighting for their liberation, the MPLA was represented at Khartoum by a delegation led by its President, Dr. Agostinho Neto, and made an effective contribution to the final resolutions, which provide for a greater mobilisation of all the political, trade union and social organisations normally prepared to support causes such as that of our people, namely the struggle for national independence and the elimination of all relations of subordination in the exercise of their national sovereignty.

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LET US GENERALISE THE ARMED STRUGGLE THROUGHOUT THE
NATIONAL TERRITORY !

** FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF **
** ANGOLAN YOUTH DAY! **

Since 4 February 1961, the most important dates of the Angolan people are days stained with blood; so much so that there is a growing general awareness and conviction that "the liberation of the homeland requires blood, and the blood of its best sons".

14 April, Angolan Youth Day, is one such date. It was on that date that our valiant comrade Hoji ia Henda, beloved son of the Angolan people and heroic fighter of the MPLA, fell in combat during an assault on the Karipande barracks. For this reason, our heroic youth and the Angolan people throughout Angola and abroad celebrated this date in a worthy manner, with demonstrations of solidarity, meetings and, above all, redoubled fighting against the occupier.

Our people, led by the MPLA, are pleased with the way the young people behaved on this 14 April, the first anniversary of Angolan Youth Day.

The MPLA praises the courage of all the young comrade who, on that glorious day, distinguished themselves in battles against the occupier.

The MPLA is proud of its fighting youth which was able to celebrate this date to the sound of machine-guns, with ambushes and hard and violent blows, avenging the blood of the heroes and giving new force, new violence to the cry which frightens the colonialists and resounds and inspires throughout Angola -
VICTORY IS CERTAIN!

Victory is certain and the colonialists must be feeling of what our courageous and determined youth are capable, burning with hatred and spirit of revenge against the occupier.

The 14 April is a continuous commemoration for our youth and

people. Every day of this year must be an increasingly beautiful and glorious 14 April, on which our youth multiply the acts of heroism and the endless attacks against the colonialists.

The 14 April must be an expression of the growing and renewed force of our people in the face of the exigencies and hard work that our struggle entails.

Commander HOJI IA HENDA's example of courage and dedication will be forever engraved in the consciousness of our people and their youth.

It will continue to be the torch and the inspiration of our people, engaged in the struggle for liberation.

The 14 April must strengthen the whole world's ties of solidarity with our fighting youth and with the struggle of the Angolan people led by the MPLA.

This glorious day terrifies the Portuguese colonialists, who are feeling the advance of an entire people determined to achieve victory, to avenge HOJI IA HENDA and the other fallen heroes and in this way, to liberate their country.

The Angolan people and their heroic youth will make this year a continuous 14 April of battles, hard work and victories. A gigantic advance in the struggle extended throughout the national territory.

V I C T O R Y I S C E R T A I N !

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THE OAU MILITARY COMMISSION VISITS ONE OF THE
AREAS CONTROLLED BY THE MPLA

The Committee for the Liberation of Africa sent a Military Commission to Angola for the purpose of visiting the areas controlled by our Movement and of verifying the actual level of the struggle.

This Military Commission was made up of delegates from Algeria (Chairman of the Commission), Congo Brazzaville, the United Arab Republic (Representative of the OAU Secretariat) and observers from Zambia.

Accompanied by the President of our Movement, Comrade Agostinho Neto, by members of the Executive Committee and of the regional and zonal commands, the Military Commission spent ten days covering scores of kilometres in one of the areas controlled by MPLA guerrillas.

During the visit the members of the Commission were able fully to acquaint themselves with the politico-military situation and the morale of the guerrillas and the population.

They had the opportunity to meet not only leading members of the Movement, but also commanders, responsible members of the Centres of Revolutionary Instruction and the Medical Assistance Service, and a number of people from among the population.

All the members of the Commission, without exception, were enthusiastic about what they saw in this area - which is really controlled by our Movement - by the level of discipline of our guerrilla, by the high morale of both the fighters and the local population and, most especially, by the level of our politico-military organisation.

The Commission did not note in this area the presence of either

the enemy or of any of those puppet elements who, outside the country, proclaim that there are a number of liberation movements in Angola.

The effective presence of the MPLA on the field of battle and the high degree of organisation made a very favourable impression on the members of the Military Commission. Despite the systematic bombing raids so barbarously carried out by the enemy, our population has a high spirit of combat and knows that Victory is Certain.

In their conclusions, in which they did not conceal their confidence in the prospects of our Movement, they expressed the desire to see greater aid accorded to our Movement. The Commission left Angola convinced that the MPLA is today one of the best political organisations in Southern Africa.

The results of this visit come after the fascist dictator Marcelo Caetano passed rapidly through Angola, in the areas still under enemy control, reaffirming the will of the colonialists to continue to supply the criminal aggression and genocide of our People, despite the fact that in eight years they have not been capable of shaking the tenacity of the Angolan fighters.

This is why the visit of the Military Commission has been of far more value, since it represents all of Africa. Its confidence in the MPLA is of great importance, since it will make it possible to acquire what is needed to extend the struggle throughout the national territory more rapidly.

The OAU can now be certain that the MPLA is the sole Movement leading the armed struggle of our country, and it can free itself from the imperialist intrigues aimed at giving credence to the idea that there is a division in Angola nationalism.

A further victory for the MPLA!

V I C T O R Y I S C E R T A I N !

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ARQUIVO L. LARA