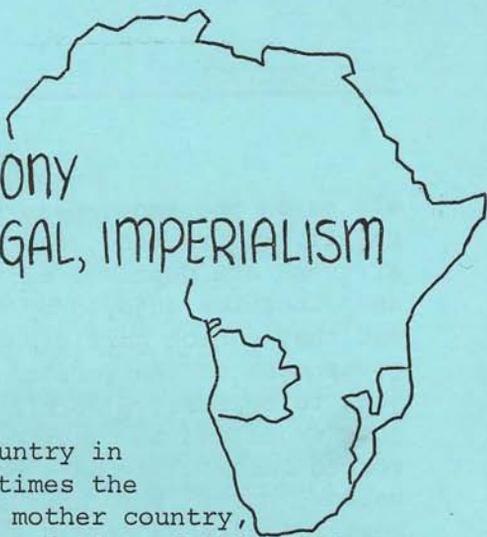


RAPE OF A COLONY ANGOLA, PORTUGAL, IMPERIALISM



ANGOLA

The sixth largest country in Africa, is fourteen times the size of its colonial mother country, Portugal. Angola's population of 5.2 million is one half what it was when the Portuguese began their African conquest five centuries ago. Continued control of Angola demands a troop committment of over 80,000 men from tiny fascist Portugal, weaponry and training from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and extensive investment by the "free world" (especially the U.S. and South Africa) which steps up its rape of the land before it is lost to the Africans.

U.N. REPORT

A United Nations Special Committee study (1964-65) says of the conditions of the Angolans: "In the Territories it administers in Africa, Portugal continues to impose a discriminatory

status on the indigenous inhabitants. As a result, in practice, the great majority of Africans are deprived of the political rights and liberties enjoyed by Portuguese settlers and they cannot participate equally in the government of the Territory. They are subject to oppressive working conditions, unjust wages and to practices which amount to forced labor. They have no right to form trade unions, nor do they have social insurance, health insurance or old age pensions. Because of years of neglect, continued shortage of health facilities and inadequate water supplies, especially in rural areas, ill health and high infant mortality rates prevail. Illiteracy rates continue to be among the highest in the world. Though there have been some token changes, there is a desperate shortage of schools and the whole education system in the Territories under Portuguese administration remains wholly unsatisfactory because it is based on discriminatory practices and does not meet the aspirations of the inhabitants.

"The Portuguese colonial system continues to deny Africans the freedom to choose their own identity and destiny; Africans must accept the Portuguese way of life, be ruled by Portuguese civil law and speak Portuguese if they are to enjoy rights of citizenship in their own country."

FOREIGN INVESTMENT

The Special Committee carried out an intensive study of "...activities of foreign economic and other interests which are impeding implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence in the Territories under Portuguese administration." It found that "...foreign investments have been encouraged by the Portuguese colonial policy and that investments have in turn supported and strengthened Portugal's hold on the Territories." The report went on to note that "...Portugal's policy of increasing foreign investments in the Territories... has coincided precisely with the growth of national liberation movements in Africa. The purpose of this premeditated policy, as experience has shown, has been to gain the financial, material and other support of the human and natural resources, as well as its repression of the growing political aspirations of the peoples in the Territories under its administration."

While the United States delegation to the U.N. General Assembly reflected the Special Committee's report stating that it "...failed to understand how a withdrawal of foreign investment would lead to anything but a more embittered stalemate, a more impoverished population and a more fragile leash on violence." It was easily demonstrated that the United States and other imperialist powers benefitted greatly by their investments in Portugal's African colonies.

The November 1968 Annual Economic Review of Angola, published by the Standard Bank Group, contains some pertinent facts and comments regarding foreign economic interests in Angola. "Until 1961, development in Angola was of a limited nature with unofficial discouragement of foreign investments by the Portuguese, but the outbreak of fighting made the Portuguese authorities realise that their best chance of success (sic!) in their African provinces lies in economic development..."

Agricultural products accounted for about 65% of Angola's exports in 1967. Some two-thirds of its coffee (Angola is the third largest producer in the world) went to the U.S. The mining sector, though it only accounted for 20.3% of exports, is of increasing importance to both Portugal and other foreign investors. The bank report states that: "the exploitation of Angola's mineral, oil, and iron ore resources will probably prove to be the Territory's main growth points for future development." Gulf oil of Cabinda began operations in 1968 at a rate of 30,000 barrels per day. By 1970 this figure should reach 150,000 barrels (7.5 million tons a year) and this should shoot up to 15 million tons a year by 1973 - making Angola one of the major oil producers in the world. Petrangol, with largely Belgian capital, has also discovered a new field in Quen-guela and a refinery is already being built there.

"The other significant mining development in Angola is the large-scale exploitation of iron

ore by the Companhia Mineira de Lobito in the Cassinga Area. According to estimates, reserves of high-grade hematite (64% Fe) ore in this region exceed 100,000,000 tons." Financing for this venture comes from a consortium headed by Krupp of Germany. Exports are expected to reach nearly 7 million tons in 1969, with 70% going to Japan and the rest to Germany, Belgium, Spain, England, and Portugal.

Diamonds, of which Angola is the world's fifth largest exporter, are in the hands of the Angola Diamond Company (DIAMANG). DIAMANG is controlled by the Anglo-American Company through its subsidiary Debeers, and U.S. interests hold a commanding 40% of Anglo-American shares.

"The most important other minerals being produced in Angola are asphalt rock, plaster in stone form, marble blocks, granite and marine salts. There are, however, indications of major copper deposits and these are being surveyed. Gulf oil is also investigating a phosphates mine in Cabinda and at Cassinga Mineira de Lobito have made what appears to be a valuable gold strike."

It is obvious that such valuable economic interests are worth defending -- which is to say, keeping them out of the hands of their rightful owners, the people of Angola. The U.N. Special Committee Report indicates that a good deal of the money invested, is spent for this purpose.

"The interest of foreign economic activities and of the Portuguese government are linked by a system of mutual benefits. On the one hand, the mining companies enjoy a cheap labor, often provided through government assistance, and they are exempt from all or nearly all taxes and permitted to export the raw mineral products overseas: to the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United States of America, France and Portugal and others. On the other hand, the revenues and profits paid by the mining companies to the government help Portugal to continue its control over the Territories and to finance its oppressive measures and military operations against the African inhabitants. The annual reports of the Angola Diamond Company 1961 and 1962 for instance showed that it had contributed towards building military barracks and guard posts. The company's balance sheet for the year ending December 31, 1962, contained an item of 88.6 million escudos for the defence of Angola."

"Again, from 1961 to 1964 U.S. companies gave assistance to the extent of \$500 million to the Portuguese administrations. In December 1963 a fresh loan of \$35 million had been made to the Portuguese government by U.S. banks, and in March 1965 another \$6 million was invested in the Portuguese airline serving Angola and Moxambique so as to aid Portugal in resisting the boycott of the African countries.

U.N. CONCLUSIONS

The report presents the following summary of its conclusions:

- "(A) Portugal has granted concessions to foreign investors without the consent of the African inhabitants who are the only rightful owners of the Territories' natural resources;
- "(B) Foreign economic and other interests are directly or indirectly supporting Portuguese colonialism which makes it possible for them to exploit the human and natural resources of the Territories and to enjoy the profits therefrom;
- "(C) The foreign economic and other interests in the Territories under Portuguese administration, together with the government of Portugal, bear the responsibility for the sufferings of the people of the Territories;
- "(D) By sharing their profits with Portugal, by providing financial and material assistance, these foreign interests are helping Portugal to wage war against the national liberation movements in the Territories and are strengthening Portugal's control over the African inhabitants;
- "(E) Foreign capital holds a dominant position in all sectors of the economic life of the Territories, fostering exploitation of the basic resources without regard to balanced economic development, and

reinforcing Portuguese policy which denies the peoples of the Territories their rightful participation in the economic and political life;

- "(F) These foreign interests are therefore impeding the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence in the Territories under Portuguese administration...

"Only when independence has been attained will the people of these Territories full enjoy the right to dispose of and develop the Territories human and material resources in the interests of the Territories and all their people."

U.N. RECOMMENDATIONS

- "(A) Reaffirm the right of the inhabitants of the Territories under Portuguese administration to self-determination and recognize the legitimacy of their struggle to achieve the rights laid down in the United Nations Charter, The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;
- "(B) Strongly condemn the colonial policy of Portugal which denies to the African inhabitants of the Territories under its administration the sovereign rights over their natural resources;
- "(C) Strongly condemn the government of Portugal for its policy of promoting the activities of foreign and other interests in the Territories under its administration

- which exploit the natural and human resources of these Territories to the detriment of the African inhabitants, and for its participation in such exploitation;
- "(D) Draw the attention of the government of Portugal to the fact that its support of and active participation in the activities of foreign economic and other interests, in disregard of the interests of the population of these Territories, run counter to the resolutions of the United Nations with regard to the Territories under Portuguese administration and are a violation of Article 73 of the Charter, which affirms the principle that the interests of the inhabitants on non-self-governing Territories is paramount;
- "(E) Call upon Portugal to put a stop to its efforts to establish new settlements of European immigrant groups in the Territories under its administration for the purpose of further increasing its control over the Territories which is repugnant to the Declaration and the Granting of Independence to colonial countries and peoples, contained in Resolution 1514 (XV) of the General Assembly;
- "(F) Strongly condemn the present activities and operating methods of the foreign economic and other interests in the Territories under Portuguese administration, which are detrimental to the interests of the African inhabitants, and declare that these activities are contrary to the principles of the Charter of the Declaration contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and are impeding their implementation in the Territories under Portuguese administration;
- "(G) Consider that foreign economic and other

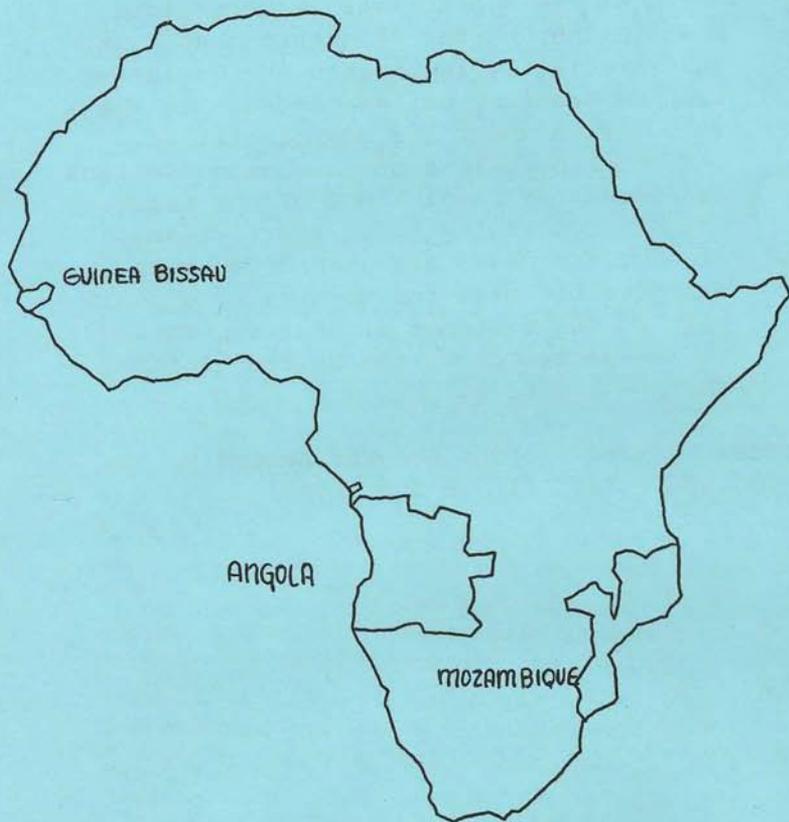
interests are directly or indirectly assisting Portugal by supplying it with financial, material and technical resources which enable it to carry out its colonial policy;

- " (H) Appeal to the governments of the United Kingdom, United States of America, Belgium, France, Federal Republic of Germany, and other powers to exert their influence on those of their nationals who own and operate enterprises in the Territories under Portuguese administration in order to induce them to put an end to their activities in the Territories which under present conditions are detrimental to the interests of the peoples of the Territories;
- " (I) Appeal to all states and, in particular to the military allies of Portugal within the framework of NATO to refrain from supplying arms to that country and all other forms of assistance so long as the Portuguese government fails to renounce its policy of colonial domination;
- " (J) Appeal to all the specialized agencies of the United Nations and in particular the international Bank for Reconstruction and Development, The International Development Association and the International Monetary Fund, and request them to refrain from granting Portugal any financial, economic, or technical assistance so long as the Portuguese government fails to renounce its colonial policy, which constituted a flagrant violation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations;
- " (K) Recommend to the Security Council that it consider putting into effect against

Portugal the appropriate measures laid down in the Charter to ensure that Portugal immediately implements the Declaration on Granting of Independence in the Territories under its administration, and other decisions of the United Nations, including the resolutions of the Security Council concerning these Territories;

- "(L) Request the Secretary-General to take all possible measures to give wide publicity to the contents of this report and to the decisions of the United Nations on this question."

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