

CO-CHAIRMEN
 Donald S. Harrington
 A. Philip Randolph

VICE-CHAIRMAN
 James A. Pike

PRESIDENT
 Peter Weiss

VICE-PRESIDENTS
 Elizabeth S. Landis
 Hope R. Stevens

SECRETARY
 Farrell Jones

TREASURER
 Frederick A.O. Schwarz, Jr.

GENERAL COUNSEL
 Robert Delson

NATIONAL COMMITTEE
 (partial listing)
 Sadie T. M. Alexander
 Thurman Arnold
 James Baldwin
 Roger N. Baldwin
 Stringfellow Barr
 Richard Bolling
 Mrs. Chester Bowles
 James B. Carey
 Marguerite Cartwright
 Allan Knight Chalmers
 Jerome Davis
 Max Delson
 Peter De Vries
 Charles C. Diggs, Jr.
 Harry Emerson Fosdick
 Donald M. Fraser
 Carlton B. Goodlett
 Seymour Halpern
 Henry W. Hobson
 Arthur N. Holcombe
 Sophia Yarnall Jacobs
 Clarence B. Jones
 Sidney Josephs
 George M. Leader
 Rayford W. Logan
 Eugene J. McCarthy
 Robert J. McCracken
 John A. Mackay
 Will Maslow
 Howard M. Metzenbaum
 Wayne Morse
 Reinhold Niebuhr
 F. D. Patterson
 Sidney Poitier
 Paul A. Porter
 Melvin Price
 Ira De A. Reid
 Jackie Robinson
 James H. Robinson
 James Roosevelt
 Robert St. John
 Francis B. Sayre
 George W. Shepherd
 Ralph W. Sockman
 Edward J. Sparling
 Mark Starr
 William E. Stevenson
 C. Sumner Stone, Jr.
 Rex Stout
 Norman Thomas
 Frank Thompson, Jr.
 Howard Thurman
 Mark Van Doren

EXECUTIVE BOARD
 Nelson Bengston
 Paul Booth
 Robert S. Browne
 Lewis Carliner
 Elsie Carrington
 Mark Cohen
 Winifred Courtney
 George Daniels
 Ivanhoe Donaldson
 James Farmer
 Herschel Halbert
 John L. S. Holloman
 Jay Jacobson
 David D. Jones
 Dana Klotzle
 Stanley D. Levison
 Andrew E. Norman
 Frank C. Montero
 Victor G. Reuther
 Cleveland Robinson
 Bayard Rustin
 William X. Scheinman
 Adelaide Schulkind
 Mason Sears
 Richard P. Stevens
 Robert Van Lierop
 Arthur Waskow

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 George M. Houser

ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR
 Marilyn Brown

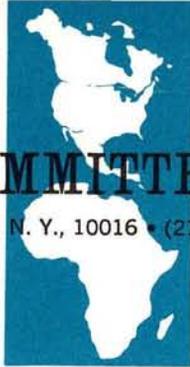
EXECUTIVE ASSOCIATE
 Janet I. MacLaughlin

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR
 Ben Peterson

STAFF ASSOCIATE
 Robin E. Myers

WASHINGTON DIRECTOR
 Gary Gappert

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE
 Blyden Jackson



AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA

164 Madison Avenue • New York, N. Y., 10016 • (212) 532-3700 • Cable AMCOMMAF

February, 1969

Dear Friend:

This letter, to accompany the Annual Report of ACOA's work in 1968, was ready to send to you when, on February third, the tragic news came of the assassination of Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, President of Frelimo, the Mozambique Liberation Front. Dr. Mondlane was killed while at work in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

We cannot yet assess what the effect will be on Frelimo and the whole liberation struggle in southern Africa, for the impact will be wide. What we do know is that the struggle will go on. Others have died, and many more will before freedom is won. His leadership was exceptional, yet there will be other Eduardos, for Frelimo is the stirring of a whole nation.

Our original letter, indeed, called attention to a current movement in Lisbon whose cry is, "End the war in Africa". The movement is broadening. We hope we can contribute to the ultimate success of the struggle for freedom in Africa. Some of our current efforts are described in the insert, "Up-to-Date with ACOA," and additional information is available for those who want to help.

You will hear from us again soon, and we hope to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,

George M. Houser
 Executive Director

P.S. As always, we intend to follow the Annual Report by sending you a copy of our budget and program plans for 1969 in a few weeks; and we hope for your continued support.

Up-to-Date with ACOA

Apartheid Arrives in New York:

South African Airways has secured permission from the Civil Aeronautics Board to inaugurate a new route from Johannesburg to New York starting February 23. The schedule will cut travel time between South Africa and the United States by one day, retaining the present fare which starts at \$784 for the 21-day excursion rate.

SAA, a government agency under the Ministry of Transport, is putting millions into an advertising campaign which is, of course, advertisement for South Africa as well as for its airline. It hopes not only for airline profits but for a boost in American tourism (already growing, with the number from the United States up 23 per cent last year) which will bring political dividends. For tourists will see only the government-sanctioned, pleasant side of South Africa - that which is for whites only. Most of them will not be aware that the beaches, the hotels, the nightclubs - all the wonderful recreational offerings of South Africa - are segregated, for whites only. And they may not realize that the opposition is banned or in prison or in exile; they will have no chance to hear the other side. The suffering of the non-white majority will not be obvious either; transit camps and relocation centers are in barren country far from metropolitan areas; and all nonwhite areas are off limits without an official permit. Visitors may return home to form part of a pro-South African public opinion.

ACOA is attempting to inform the public about the significance of this new link between the United States and South Africa, and it hopes to have the airline's permit for the schedule withdrawn.

U. S. Policy on Nigeria/Biafra

ACOA continues to be actively involved in efforts to get enough relief into Nigeria/Biafra to save millions of lives. Although the media has cut back on famine reports as mere repetition, the tragedy deepens daily. Nigeria has protested exaggeration of conditions, and it is true that increased relief supplies lowered the death toll this fall, but when thousands are dying daily, to debate exact figures is meaningless. Relief is no longer a question of high-protein supplements to save children. Bulk food is running out and a carbohydrate famine is decimating all age groups. Consequently, bulk food supplies are needed; even the expanded airlift which once might have been enough will no longer suffice. ACOA is therefore pressing for an arms embargo, a cease-fire, negotiations, and the massive relief that those conditions will make possible.

There are signs of a slight shift in official U.S. policy both because of public concern and because "quick Nigerian victory" seems no longer to be a feasible alternative. This has meant the sale of four desperately needed aircraft to religious relief organizations which will enable them to double the supplies going in (and four more to the Red Cross, which have not yet been taken up). The U. S. has also been generous in gifts of food and other supplies. But this is not enough. It must use its influence with the major arms suppliers - Britain, France, and the Soviet Union - for an arms embargo which all might now be willing to support, since none had foreseen an endless war in Africa.

The U. S. should also support the proposal that U Thant calls an international conference on relief; and if the U.N. will not act, the U.S. should itself take the initiative for such a conference.

tear and mail

American Committee on Africa
164 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016

Please send me the following material:

- _____ Information about South African Airways
- _____ Memoranda on Nigeria/Biafra
- _____ Face Sheet: Portugal in Africa
- _____ Memo: More American Bases in Portugal - At What Price?

over

Portugal in Africa and the U.S. in Portugal

U.S. relations with Portugal have been determined largely by the presumed need of the U.S. for a military base in the Azores as a staging area. The U.S. has also had three military bases in Spain. Spain, however, is believed to have raised unacceptable conditions for the renewal of the arrangement this year: considerably more money, and more sympathy for her demand for the return of Gibraltar. Portugal has suggested that alternate bases would be available in her country, but she, too, has her price. Since Portugal entered NATO, she has advocated that NATO be extended to the South Atlantic which would, of course, include two of her rebellious colonies, Guinea and Angola. There seems to be support for this viewpoint both in other NATO countries and in the U.S. military, if not further. The extensive oil deposits available in Cabinda, with U.S. companies such as Gulf Oil heavily involved, strengthen the argument.

There is serious danger that agreement may be reached with Portugal before the public is aware of what is at stake; and diplomatic language may not reveal that the U. S. has gone to the rescue of the Portuguese empire. This would be particularly ironic at a time when democratic forces are daring to appear again in Portugal itself and making their key attack against the colonial wars.

Subsidizing South Africa through the Sugar Quota

One of the unnecessary ways in which the United States helps to support the South African apartheid police state is by including South Africa in the U.S. sugar system; sugar in this system is subsidized so that its price is two to three times that of sugar in the free world market.

South Africa was awarded a "permanent" quota of 1.06 per cent by the 1962 amendment to the Sugar Act of 1948. For 1969, this will enable South Africa to export 30,195 tons of sugar into the high priced U.S. market. Under "temporary quotas and prorations" she may be awarded another 25,674 tons for a total of 55,869 tons; in 1968 the final total amounted to 59,854.

Sugar in South Africa is produced on large plantations where about 125,000 African and Indian workers are grossly exploited by miserable living and working conditions and a wage of less than \$1 a day.

At the same time, independent African nations such as Uganda, Zambia, and Tanzania have no quota at all, while that for Mauritius is .33 per cent and for Swaziland, .13 per cent.

The President can suspend or withhold any quota if he finds it contrary to the national interest, but he cannot re-allocate the quota. That is done only by Congressional Amendment to the Sugar Act.

ACTION Needed

On Portugal, and on Nigeria/Biafra: Write to the President. If you have time, or personal contact that would help, write to your Congressmen also.

On South African Airways: Write to John H. Crooker, Jr., Chairman, CAB, 1825 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. and ask for public hearings. Write to publications that carry SAA or tourist ads, if they print readers' letters.

On the Sugar Quota: Tell your Congressmen you want the U.S. to stop subsidizing South Africa through the sugar quota.

February, 1969.

tear and mail

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed:

Comments: