



Madison  
Area  
Committee  
on  
Southern  
Africa

306 North Brooks  
(257-2534)

December 1970

Number 7

#### FRELIMO REPRESENTATIVES IN MADISON

On November 23 and 24, two representatives of FRELIMO, the Front for the liberation of Mozambique, visited Madison. The Afro-American and Race Relations Center, the International Club, MACSA, and WSA were co-sponsors of the visit.

Sharfudine Khan, the FRELIMO representative to the U.N., and Armando Guebuza, FRELIMO central committee member in charge of educational development in liberated territory of Mozambique, arrived in time for a 3 p.m. press conference at the Afro-American Center which was included in the evening news broadcasts of at least two local television stations.

At the 8 p.m. meeting, despite near-zero temperatures outside, the Humanities lecture hall was nearly filled. Both men spoke and seemed to generate

considerable interest. They did not show the new color film "Mozambique" by Dutch television because a NYC television station was using it (and still is) but we hope to bring it to Madison early in 1971 when it becomes available.

About 40-60 people continued discussion with the FRELIMO men informally at a private house until about 1 a.m.

Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> the men spoke at Lincoln Junior High School and at Memorial High School to a total of about 450 students, introducing them to the situation of the peoples of the Portuguese African colonies especially Mozambique.

Mr. Guebuza was in the country for only two weeks, especially concerned to raise extra support from friends and report what had happened in the recent Portuguese

intense search and destroy activities in Cabo Delgado and Tete provinces. Although the Portuguese reported great success, they could not do much more than destroy supplies. The people of FRELIMO and the people of Mozambique are one and the same and every movement of the Portuguese is immediately known. The people are mobile and not easily destroyed. However, bombings by the Portuguese did destroy supplies--medical supplies, school supplies, etc., and money to help them continue their struggle against the Portuguese and to assist the people's development of the areas now under their control.

The co-sponsors of the visit succeeded in raising not only the cost of the two air tickets, but also \$357 which went to FRELIMO to help meet current needs. And MACSA is continuing to collect money, clothing, supplies of various kinds for liberation movements of southern Africa. We hope to send the first shipment about January 15 to FRELIMO. Please take it upon yourself to find out details of what is needed (ask MACSA office) and collect from your circles of friends and contacts. We also need sources of metal drums for packing and if possible donation of shipping costs. Can you help?

\* \* \* \* \*

Halligan, John Hunter, Wandile Kuse, and Marylee Wiley.

It was decided to have meetings second semester designed for internal education.

Sam Norwich of the Israel Forum addressed the group about their opinions of the MACSA pamphlet "Israel and Southern Africa." They consider it to be untruthful and anti-semitic. Their comments will be given to the MACSA committee which is re-writing the pamphlet to revise it and further research it for a second publication date early next semester.

Sharfudine Khan and Armando Guebuza's visit was planned.

\* \* \* \* \*

## MACSA MEETING

Nov. 22--MACSA has been asked to provide a speaker for a Covenant Presbyterian Church youth group in January. Mrs. Southall volunteered.

Rev. Ed. Bier of the Madison Campus Ministry has agreed to distribute a list of topics for church programs which MACSA could provide. The distribution will be throughout the state.

Dave Kinyon reported some progress in talking with a few local doctors about getting medical supplies for FRELIMO. Clothing is being collected in the YW lounge--any good condition usable mens pants, shoes, boots, shirts, jackets and women's clothing are needed.

The POLAROID boycott was announced--see the enclosed flyer.

The Wisconsin pamphlet on corporations doing business in South Africa is under revision and will be reproduced soon. Suggestions are welcome.

A plea was issued for more people to become more centrally involved so that tasks and between meeting decision-making would be more broadly distributed. Those expressing willingness were Marcia Bill and Ruth Linter, Meg Skinner.

NOTICE--Series of educational meetings centred around the theme "Issues of the Sixties" begins January 24<sup>th</sup> in YW lounge 2-4p.m. discussing Roux's Time Longer than Rope. COME . . . LEARN . . . SHARE . . .

## PORTUGUESE ATTACK ON CONAKRY REPULSED

In the attempt to retain control over her colonies in Africa, Portugal seems driven to more and more desperate measures. In an effort to eliminate FRELIMO before construction on the Cabora-Bassa dam reaches a stage vulnerable to sabotage, intensive "search and destroy" missions have been underway in Mozambique since May, 1970, creating an intensified war and upping Portuguese casualties. In Guinea (Bissau) Portuguese control has been so limited that there have been persistent rumors of its abandonment, in order to concentrate troops in Angola and Mozambique.

Instead, Portugal has intensified its efforts against the neighboring countries Senegal and Guinea (Conakry). Occasional bombings or raids across the border have been standard practice for the Portuguese in those two countries, as well as in the countries adjoining Angola and Mozambique (especially Zambia and Tanzania). In Senegal such measures have been partially successful in intimidating the Senegalese government to moderate its support for PAIGC (Partido Africano para a Independencia de Guine e Cabo Verde), the liberation movement fighting in Guinea against the Portuguese. But Guinea (Conakry) under Sekou Toure has been more recalcitrant. Therefore the recent invasion by a mixed force of Portuguese, white mercenaries, and African opponents of Sekou Toure.

Most recent reports now reveal that two months ago, in September 38 Guineans were arrested in Gambia on their way to "Portuguese" Guinea. They claimed to be in the pay of the Portuguese government, and were being trained for an invasion of Guinea. An Algerian government spokesman revealed that Algeria had been aware of the training of this group for some time.

In spite of this advance warning, the initial attack on Conakry seems to have been a surprise. On consecutive nights of November 22, 23, and 24, a group of approximately 500 mercenaries landed from Portuguese warships off the coast, attacking government offices and prisons, the residence of Sekou Toure, and the headquarters of the PAIGC. Reports from diplomats indicate that in the initial stages of the attack, the Guinean Army was not concentrated in Conakry, and the civilian population aided in repulsing the invaders.

Radio Conakry accused Portugal of being responsible for the attacks, which met at first with some scepticism as the international news media was not represented in Conakry to report for itself. The initial United Nations resolution condemned the invasion, but did not specifically mention Portugal, which was denying all responsibility, and, instead of responding to Toure's request for UN troops, sent a five-man fact-finding mission. Nigeria, Egypt, and Algeria responded to the appeal for troops with initially small military missions. By the end of the week, reports from diplomats were confirming that Portuguese prisoners had been taken by the Guinean army. President Sekou Toure reported over Radio Conakry, on the basis of interrogation of prisoners, that the Belgian mercenary Jean Schramme, of Congo "fame" had trained the mercenary group. Portuguese government spokesmen in Lisbon claimed that Schramme was living quietly in Portugal as a "chicken farmer".

(cont'd)

## PORTUGUESE ATTACK ON CONAKRY REPULSED (cont'd)

On the weekend (November 28) a new attack by Portuguese forces, across the northeastern border of Guinea (Conakry) was reported. It was repulsed by the local militia. The UN Mission returned to New York that weekend, and gave its report the following week, confirming in detail the allegations of Portuguese involvement in the invasion. It concluded that the invading force had been composed primarily of African troops from the Portuguese army in Guinea, but had included also dissident Guineans trained and armed in Portuguese Guinea. The ships carrying the attackers had been "manned by predominantly white Portuguese troops and commanded by white Portuguese officers". The mission reported eyewitness accounts not only from Guinean sources, but from others in Conakry, including the American, West German, and Yugoslav Ambassadors. Michel Lange, a Belgian professor in Guinea, was taken prisoner by the mercenaries for some time. He reported that some were Italians and Spanish in blackface..

The full impact of the invasion is not yet clear. But the failure of the initial attacks to gain control has enabled defense to be mobilized and African opinion to be aroused against Portugal. The feelings aroused around Africa will make it more difficult for "moderate" African states to pursue their rapprochement with the white-ruled regimes of South Africa and Portugal. The Organization of African Unity, meeting in Lagos, has decided to substantially increase financial and material assistance to PAIGC, and to provide special assistance to Guinea to aid in recovery. Portugal's attempt to eliminate the guerilla base has backfired, and instead has expanded it.

But even after the reports were verified, the attention given to the invasion by the western press has been minimal. In the United Nations, following the report of the fact-finding mission, it has been impossible for the United States and other western powers to deny the facts of Portuguese involvement. But as usual, they were successful in emasculating any UN action. The Afro-Asian resolution was watered down in an effort to win western support. Then Britain, France, Spain and the United States abstained anyway. Ambassador Yost conceded that he had no reason to question the facts in the mission's report, but felt the resolution went "much too far". He feared that the judgement that Portuguese colonialism "is a serious threat to the peace and security of independent African states" might later give grounds for mandatory UN sanctions against Portugal. Therefore, the United States could not support the resolution. There has been some increased reaction by blacks and other Americans against this American policy. But its impact has been minimal, and the attention paid by press or administration negligible.

At this point, it is important to increase direct support for PAIGC, which suffered losses in the attack on Conakry. Contributions can be given to MACSA for transmission to PAIGC, or sent directly to PAIGC, B.P. 298, Conakry, Guinea. It is also important to be informed about the struggle in Guinea. Two good books, Revolution in Guinea by Amilcar Cabral, and The Liberation of Guinea by Basil Davidson, are basic reading. The July-August issue of Africa Today, entitled "Allies in Empire", focuses on the U.S. and Portugal in Africa. It is available from MACSA for 60¢ (regular price \$1.50).



Did  
Polaroid  
shoot  
every  
South  
African  
black?

It's like opening a present.

**Boycott**

Support the black  
revolutionary workers  
at Polaroid.



**Polaroid**

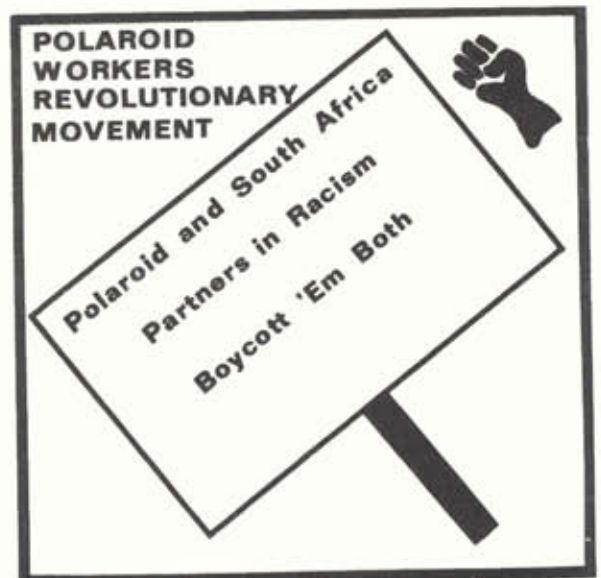
Until all sales  
to South Africa  
are discontinued.

- \* POLAROID has been doing business with South Africa since 1938. They sell film, cameras, sunglasses, and identification systems through a local distributor.
- \* POLAROID admits (Polaroid Newsletter, November 2, 1970) that "the black native is treated as an unwelcome foreigner in his own country. His activities and movements are arbitrarily restricted. He is required to carry a passbook whenever he is in any of the work centers or cities and is subject to imprisonment without trial if caught without it."
- \* POLAROID still does business with South Africa. They say that the ID-2 identification system is not used for the passbooks. BUT since 1967 approximately 65 ID-2 systems have been sold to "industrial users in South Africa for employee identification purposes...and to the South African army and air force solely for identifying military personnel." (Polaroid Memorandum, October 6, 1970)
- \* The POLAROID REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS MOVEMENT is a group of black workers who have come together to act and protest against the sale of Polaroid products in South Africa. They demand:
  1. That Polaroid announce a policy of complete disengagement from South Africa. We believe that all American companies doing business there reinforce that racist system.
  2. That Polaroid announce its position on apartheid publically in the United States and South Africa, simultaneously.
  3. That Polaroid contribute profits earned in South Africa to the recognized African liberation movements.

Polaroid has refused to meet with the PRWM or recognize the demands.
- \* The Polaroid Revolutionary Workers Movement has called for a world-wide boycott of Polaroid products until Polaroid discontinue all sales in South Africa. Support has been growing in the Boston area, where Polaroid has its headquarters. YOU CAN HELP TOO. BOYCOTT POLAROID.
- \* President Edwin Land, of Polaroid, says, "The world is watching us right now. Other companies are saying that 'if Polaroid can't make the grade, none of us can.'" (The Phoenix, Boston, November 10, 1970). EXPOSE POLAROID "LIBERALISM".

SPREAD THE WORD

contact:  
 Polaroid Revolutionary Workers Movement  
 c/o Caroline Hunter  
 46 Longwood Avenue  
 Brookline, Massachusetts, 02146  
 or  
 Madison Area Committee on Southern Africa  
 306 North Brooks  
 Madison, Wisconsin, 53715



SPEAKERS BUREAU

EXPENSES

MACSA is providing more speakers than previously. MACSA people have spoken at Beaver Dam to a statewide Walk for Development meeting (Nov. 28), in Fond du Lac at a coffee house (Dec. 17), in Brazilian Club at UW (Dec. 13), in East High, West Jr. High (throughout the fall), in some local church groups, and local meetings set up by Walk for Development.

It would be good to have more people sharing the speaking. Can you speak? Are you willing to bone up so you could? Is your name on the list of speakers to be asked? Call either Mary Savage (238-7648) or Marylee Wiley(255-2484) to discuss what kind of speaking you would be willing to do and get your name on the list. If you know someone else who would be good, tell us that also.

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HAVE YOU SEEN?

- Africa Today "Allies in Empire, U.S. & Portugal in Africa" 60¢
- Class Struggle in Africa 25¢
- Foreign Investment in the Republic of South Africa 50¢
- Rhodesia: Why Minority Rule Survives 50¢
- South Africa's Defense Strategy 60¢
- Southern Africa A Time for Change \$1.25
- With the Guerrillas in Angola 50¢

AVAILABLE FOR USE:

Film strip on Angola from ISH  
Tape of Khan's speech at Northwestern University, Chicago.  
Contact the office.

MACSA has expenses--Can you help meet them?

1. Work-study help for 2 sem. costs about \$100
2. Newsletter printing, mailing
3. Flyers like GM and POLAROID and MACSA publicity brochure
4. Money on hand is needed for ordering literature even though it is repaid as we sell the literature.
5. Long distance calls to arrange speakers' visits
6. Publicity posters for special films, speakers, etc.
7. Donations specifically to aid the liberation movements or pay expenses of bringing their speakers to campus.

Please make out your check to the MADISON AREA COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN AFRICA (MACSA) and mail or bring it to 306 N. Brooks St., Madison, 53715.

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OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT

Dear President Nixon:

AFRICA should not suffer from the continuing short-sighted crisis diplomacy characteristic of United States foreign relations. It was this same kind of egocentricity which blinded America to the realities of Indo-China and resulted in pain, anguish, and increasing economic hardship for millions of Asians and Americans. Mr. President, you should not remain silent regarding issues important to African peoples: 1) the recent invasions of Guinea financed primarily by the enemies of African freedom; 2) the growing economic difficulties of the independent African States; and 3) the worsening crisis in Southern Africa.

The more than 24 million Americans of African descent have not missed the implications of your Southern Africa strategy. It is very akin to your "southern strategy" for the United States. While unable to meet President Kaunda and our own Black elected representatives, you have repeatedly given

(OPEN LETTER continued):

audiences to officials from the ancestral lands of America's other ethnic groups. As President, you have also visited the ancestral lands of these groups. It is time to recognize, Mr. President, that Afro-Americans have always possessed great concern for the continent of their ancestors. This concern is increasing given the growing racial confrontation in Africa and in the United States.

We call upon you, Sir, to:

- 1) develop a meaningful aid policy for Africa
- 2) accord due respect to all African officials visiting the United States
- 3) disassociate the United States economically and politically from South Africa as long as that country pursues a policy of Apartheid-- a policy which threatens both international peace and security and American domestic tranquility.
- 4) urge the United Kingdom not to resume arms sales to South Africa and not to compromise with the minority regime in Zimbabwe.
- 5) withdraw landing rights granted by the United States to South African Airways in violation of the United Nations General Assembly resolution.
- 6) discontinue military aid to Portugal under the Azores and NATO treaties and thereby make it impossible for her to wage repressive war against the nationalist movements in Africa.
- 7) discourage the publically acknowledged American private investment in Portugal's slave empire.
- 8) honor your pledge in the "State of the World" message to help Africans, (in this case Guinea) to help themselves when they are threatened by outside forces attempting to subvert their independent development.

AD HOC COMMITTEE OF AFRO-AMERICANS CONCERNED ABOUT U.S.  
POLICY IN AFRICA

New York Times, December 13, 1970 (228 signatures including Tom Shick who belonged to our committee last year).





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