LISTEN TO THE PEOPLE!!

QUESTION: Do you think African Liberation Day will have any political implications on the coup in Portugal and how will this effect our brothers and sisters of the African colonies in their struggle for independence?

Robert Van Lierop, Film-maker: "I think it will have a positive world effect against Portugal's move to set up a neo-colonial solution in Mozambique, Angola, and Guinea Bissau, contrary to the popular belief that the war there are almost over."

Dawolu Gene Locke, National chairman of African Liberation Support Committee: "We think the ALD march will have an impact of demonstrating Black people's solidarity with the liberation movements and thus calling clearly for a non-negotiated compromise that would avoid putting the African so-called colonies into a neo-colonial setting. We're calling for the total independence and total liberation of the African colonies & not any kind of federation of African states under Portugal."

Andrew Pulley, Former U.S. Vice-Pres. candidate of Socialist Workers Party: "I think the demonstration and all ALD activities have been a big step toward a movement which mobilizes masses of Black people in the streets to put pressure on the US government to demand that it cease giving Portugal military aid & cease business ties there also."

Angela Davis, Political activist: "I think the African Liberation Day march and demonstration is just that—a march and a demonstration! But the real work and support toward aiding the liberation fighters in Africa will come when we return to our communities and begin to educate & organise the people around issues like the coup in Portugal. Another thing, and one which I am doing now, is to get the people to sign petitions demanding that South Africa be expelled from the United Nations and that the United Nations bring pressure on Portugal to grant independence to the African colonies."

Warren "Jabali" Armstrong, Professional basketball player-Denver Rockets: "I think the ALD is a positive way of showing our solidarity with our brothers and sisters on the African continent, and that our struggle is the same struggle, regardless of where we are located in the world."

Baddif, of South Bend, Indiana: "Although the military coup in Portugal represents the decline of Western Powers, the struggle in Africa, it should not be mistaken for a willingness to grant liberation to the colonized people. It will just change the nature of the struggle from colonialism to neo-colonialism."

The African Liberation Support Committee called a conference on Racism & Imperialism on May 23 & 24, the two days preceding African Liberation Day: The ALSC called on "everyone involved in Black Liberation" to come to this "decisive conference for the theoretical direction of our movement."

Workshop and panel participants included Dawolu Gene Locke, ALSC National Chairperson and Imamu Amiri Baraka. Also Oluwu Sadaukai, Bibi Amina Baraka, Stokely Carmichael, Abdul Alkalimat, Akbar Muhammad Ahmed, Kwadwo Akpan, Nelson Johnson, Ron Daniels, Queen Mother Moore, among others.

The struggle for Nationalism, Pan-Africanism, and Socialism has reached a stage when we must insist on ideological clarity and the conference afforded the-a present the opportunity to clearly differentiate between the various theoretical positions put forth by militant activists in this country.

There were workshops considering the questions of: Labor and the Unemployed, Youth and Education, Women in the Struggle, Justice, Police and Prisons, and Politics. There were also two major panel discussions with ideological statements from each panelist along with questions and dialogue with the members of the audience.

The African Liberation Support Committee is a developing truly progressive Black United Front made up of organizations and proponents of varying ideological tendencies working together around the objective of African Liberation. It was at the panel discussions, especially, that these tendencies were exposed. Both the statements from the panelists and the questions and responses from the audience (along with the modes of dress and behavior) brought out evidences of Revolutionary thought. And its opposition. On the counterrevolutionary side, elitist, opportunistic, atavistic, feudalistic, cultist, dogmatic, metaphysical, chaunvinistic, and mechanical materialistic tendencies and thought, were also in evidence.

It is obvious that conferences of this type are absolutely necessary in our struggle for ideological clarity and that the ALSC Conference on Racism and Imperialism was a progressive move toward the building of a stronger vanguard revolutionary ideology for the ALSC.

On May 25, African Liberation Day, ten thousand Black People from the entire eastern half of the U.S. gathered in Malcolm X Park for a march which went through part of D.C.'s Black community (which actually is the whole city) and past the White House where 100 demonstrators (the legal limit) had been picketing all morning, exposing Nixon and his crimes against Black People and urging that we "Dump the Chump." The White House demonstrators joined the march which continued back to Malcolm X Park where speakers, Dawolu Gene Locke, Imamu Baraka, James Turner and Bill Lucy reiterated our attack of racism and imperialism, our pursuit of the impeachment of Nixon, exposure of the Energy Hoax, and an end to police repression.

The conference and march were well attended by Congress of African People local organizations from Albany, NewArk, South Bend, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Baltimore, Detroit, Bronx, Wilmington as well as members of potential chapters from Camden, Gary, Cleveland, D.C., Elkhart, and Jersey City.

The African Liberation Support Committee's ideological thrust is moving progressively toward an ideology inclusive of Nationalism, Pan-Africanism, and Socialism. There are many minor and some major ideological differences that still remain. But discussions such as those that took place at the conference will enable the African Liberation Support Committee to function as a progressive united front based on the objective fact that the World African Liberation struggle is the key to a new world social order.