
E D I T O R I A L



AN INTERNATIONAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE AFRICAN PEOPLES

Southern African Liberation Movements, by a scientifically historical necessity, are now engaged in armed struggle as the only correct means to achieve freedom and people's democracy. It is now an irreversible process that depends on no man's wishes. The final success, however, will depend on the political consciousness of the oppressed African masses, on their indomitable will to endure in the struggle, on the correctness of the revolutionary line of the parties and leaders and on the correct revolutionary tactics and strategy to be adopted in the process of the struggle. If international imperialism and its agents think that this historical march can be halted, they are very much mistaken.

The conspiracy by international imperialism against the African struggle as a whole is very clear. For instance, imperialism led by U.S.A. imperialism is backing directly the regimes in Portugal, South Africa and Rhodesia. Angola and Mozambique, for example contribute directly and indirectly up to 25 per cent of Portugal's national budget and Portugal's efforts to the colonial war is directly assisted by NATO countries., and its economic links with U.S.A. and Western European countries. This is why Portugal, the poorest European country, with a per capita income of only \$300 a year is able to spend more than 50 per cent of her national budget for the colonial war in Africa and able to support an army of 160,000 troops in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea(Bissau).

However, there is another more subtle and indirect form of international conspiracy against Liberation Movements - the conspiracy of the agents of imperialism, represented by all range of paternalistic good-wishers, arm-chair marxists, pseudo-marxists, pseudo-revolutionaries, pseudo-socialists, pseudo-progressives who still vehemently shout anti-imperialist slogans but in their actions and connections are part of a monstrous and complex of international conspiratorial machinery against the genuine liberation movements in Southern Africa. Because in their words they are radical and progressive they are able to conceal the true nature of their intentions and political motivations. Some of them, since they know that Liberation Movements need propaganda for their actions in Southern Africa, lack of material resources to carry on their struggle, they use the mechanism of support, solidarity to confuse the same movements, to divert them from a correct revolutionary road, infiltrate and consequently, destroy them. Today, the tendency has been to create and promote liberation movements that can be used as instruments of status quo politics in Southern Africa. They are apologists of neo-colonialism and more cunning than imperialism itself. Since they are friends of the African struggle only in words, they are like half-friends, and half-friends as the president of UNITA, Dr. Jonas Savimbi said in Angola this year are more dangerous friends than the enemies themselves. Liberation movements and their leaders should keep vigilant and develop true revolutionary qualities if the struggle has to be successful.

International conspiracy against the struggle of the oppressed people around the world is not a new phenomenon in history. There have been international conspiracies against the heroic people of Vietnam, the Cuban, the Algerian, the Palestinian, Laos, Cambodian people. Therefore, the struggle of the African people in Angola would not be an exception. If they are waging a correct and principled struggle, if their leaders are popular leaders, they must expect conspiracy against their struggles. The pseudo-socialists, the opportunists, the foreign experts, the pundits on African affairs will try to slander them, isolate them from the world opinion, because a genuine struggle and correct leadership is a menace to imperialism, to reformist swindlers and to all sort of apologists of neo-colonialism in Africa.

If there are some people and regimes who oppose UNITA, today, it is not because UNITA is wrong but precisely, because UNITA is right and is waging a correct struggle inside Angola. UNITA became a menace to many imperialist interests in Angola, and by extension, in the whole Southern Africa, because, as a veteran colonial officer said, "Angola is the key to Southern Africa, whoever loses Angola, loses Southern Africa.". This is why a man like Basil Davidson with a reputation of progressive journalist and historian and friend of the African people dares to fabricate lies, to slander UNITA and its leader, Dr. Jonas Savimbi. Does Mr. Basil Davidson realize that Dr. Jonas Savimbi is the ONLY leader in Southern Africa leading the resistance from inside the country? If Mr. Davidson is a true friend of the African cause should appreciate the courage and determination of people, like SAVIMBI.

UNITA does not wish to take much of its precious time in attempting to expose the naked lies of Basil Davidson concerning UNITA, but it is high time to take publicly a definite and principled stand against such filthy propaganda directed against a revolutionary party built up, grew up and ultimately shall triumph through sacrifices. Mr. Davidson, in his famous and tendentious articles about the guerrillas in Angola has consistently confused truth with falsehood. This was observed in the Le Monde Diplomatique, September issue No. 198, Dagens Nyheter of September 1970, Sunday Times of 16 August 1970, and the New Statesman of 30 October 1970.

Mr. Basil Davidson skilfully fabricates lies and create situations in order to accommodate his own point of view. This is immoral and reactionary. Yet, he has a reputation for being progressive journalist and historian, but UNITA thinks that any honest, progressive writer has a duty to respect the facts, to make a sober scientific analysis of any objective and concrete situation. The game of distorting facts, of slandering, is the game of imperialism whose scheme in the art of manipulation and deception is in fact to sow confusion, diversion, provocation and then thwart the revolutionary process of the struggle led by genuine movements. The imperialist strategy is to bring into position of pre-eminence an Angolan or any other Southern African political group which most nearly shows its economic and political views.

A revolutionary struggle follows intrinsic laws that do not depend on any man's lies or views. Neither will the situation in Angola change because of a few baseless propagandistic articles.

To deny the existence of UNITA, as B. Davidson has done is to deny what time and the enemy himself have failed to do. For instance, Urbano Carrasco reporting on the war in Angola wrote in Diario Popular of 21st January 1970: "it was stated that was in 1966 the beginnings of terrorist activity in the Eastern Front of Angola under the leadership of UNITA became noticed." These are the official words of a colonialist newspaper. The presence of UNITA in Mexico, Cuando-Cubango, Malanje, Bie, and Huila is unquestionable.

Imperialist conspiracy is also part of meetings of solidarity, in favour of liberation Movements. On January 18th 1969, the U.S.S.R. through AASPO (Afro-Asian Solidarity Peoples Organization) sponsored a conference for Liberation Movements in Southern Africa. This conference was held in Khartoum and only the "favoured six" were invited. Other liberation movements were deliberately excluded. As a follow up from the first, a Second conference of solidarity was held in Rome on 26th June 1970 in support of Liberation movements in the Portuguese Territories in Africa. Yet again, the "favoured and selected six" were invited, and the others were excluded. Colin Legun writing in the Africa Report of October 1970, Vol.15, No.7 said: "the Russinas are slowly beginning to evolve a political strategy for their support of the Liberation Movements in Southern Africa. They have already picked up their favorite among freedom-fighter - ANC of South Africa, FRELIMO of Mocambique, MPLA of Angola, and ZAPU of Rhodesia."

UNITA made its views clear on the Rome Conference in a statement published in London on 24th June 1970. One of the paragraphs run as follows: ... all those fighting for Total Liberation of Africa under colonialism and neo-colonialism should strive to oppose any move to form international blocks, alliances, or international splinter groups with long term objectives is to undermine the struggle of the African peoples against imperialism, and divert them from a correct course... Today, there is an absolute necessity to unify all our African forces, peoples and movements against international imperialism. UNITA calls on the participants, particularly our African brothers and freedom-fighters to recognize that international diplomacy and shoulder rubbing tactics will not liberate our countries in Southern Africa, neither will it be possible and feasible for an authentic liberation movement to exist solely a la grace of any power bloc"

The Rome Conference, in one of its resolutions appealed for all governments, including reactionary ones, to accept as sole legitimate representatives of the Southern African peoples the "favoured Six". The Conference called for all governments to recognize the "favoured six" as the sole alternative for future governments of the territories concerned. Ironically enough, many of these "favoured six" have not yet fired a single shot or handle a single granade within their own countries, and they are already deciding from Rome who will run the governments and who will carry the future portofolios. In the corridors of the conference hall, foreign advisers and experts of Liberation movements were busy in convincing African delegations that so far no black African country was ever liberated through revolutionary armed struggle, people's war, which only results, as they say, in unnecessary bloodshed, troubles and frustrations. The only effective method, say the advisers, isto bring international pressure upon Portugal, South Africa and Rhodesia by arousing the world opinion against them or by having a dialogue with them.



On the African scene, now ones hears that some African States are ready to an African Summit for a dialogue with the fascist regime in South Africa. The Times of November 9th, 1970 writes: "South Africans are jubilant at signs of first split in wall of hostility erected by Black States," calling for a dialogue with South Africa, as the best ways of bringing pressure to her against apartheid. Of course, the imperialists are overjoyed about this African capitulation, conciliatory attitude of the African states. The imperialist diplomacy appeared to have achieved its results admirably.

The present state of affairs inside and outside the O.A.U. is developing all symptoms of degeneracy and dissolution. Africa is now going back to the times of Monrovia, Brazaville and Casablanca groupings. UNITA consistently has fought for the noble ideals of the O.A.U. by confronting the Portuguese inside Angola, but thinks that any recognition of the South African regime is nothing more, nothing less than to pursue a policy of conciliation with imperialism. Liberation movements, and progressive African states, must take a firm stand before a total sell out of the struggle of the oppressed African is implemented. Any African State which is not committed in words and actions for eradication of all forms of colonialism from the continent of Africa should not be a member of the O.A.U.

UNITA cannot agree more with Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the greatest pioneer of the O.A.U. who once said: "although imperialists are against the idea of political union, they will do nothing to break the O.A.U. It serves their purpose in slowing down revolutionary progress in Africa. This state of affairs is mirrored both in the discouragement of freedom fighters in the remaining colonial territories and South Africa, and in the growing perplexity amongst freedom fighters from the neo-colonial territories. Either we concentrate our forces for a decisive armed struggle to achieve our objectives, or we will each fall one by one under the blows of imperialism in its present stage of open and desperate offensive."