

SWAM

Campaign to stop
the War against
Angola & Mozambique



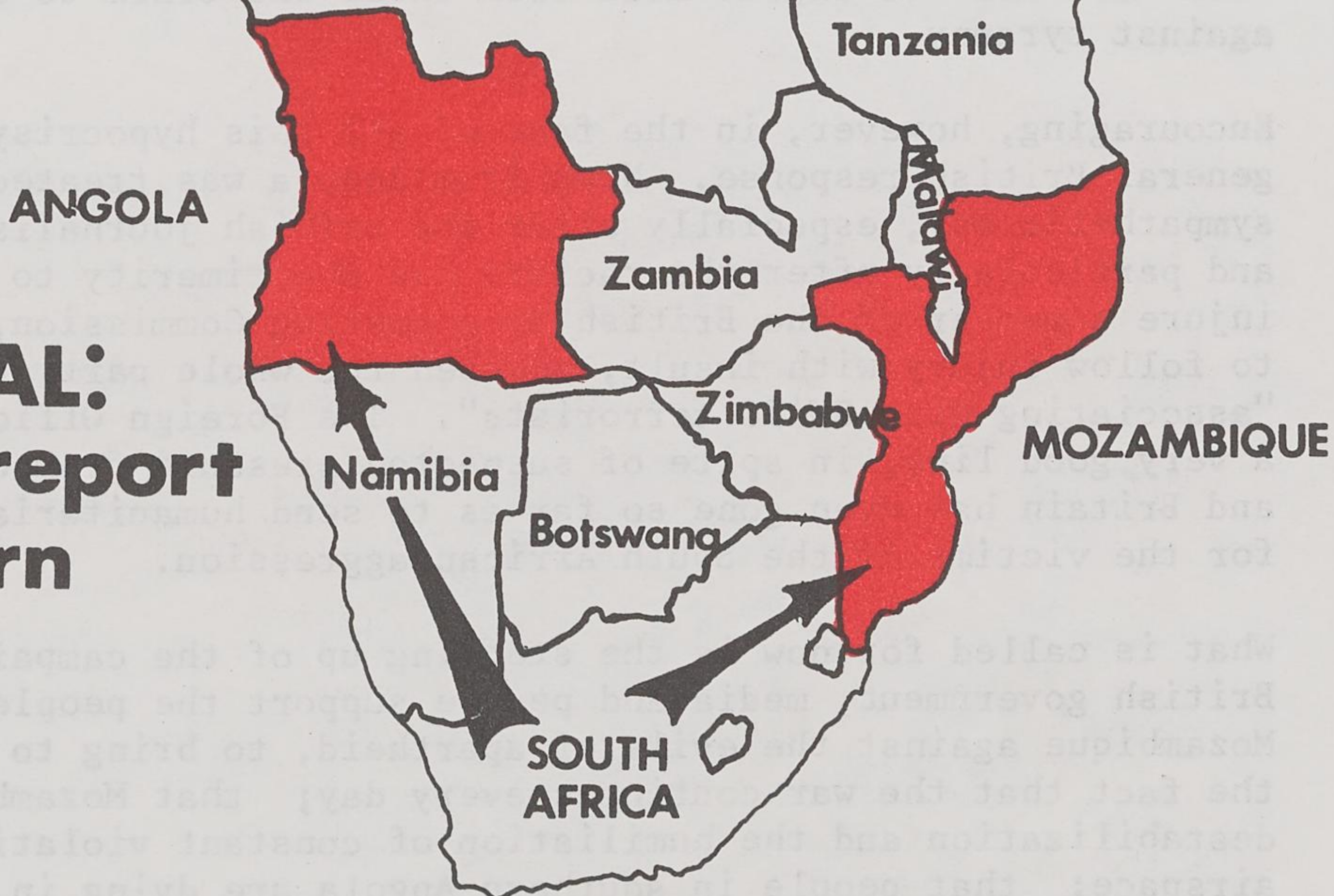
NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 2 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1981

THE WAR

ANGOLA FIGHTS BACK

**INSIDE SPECIAL:
Eyewitness report
from Southern
Angola**



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EDITORIAL

In this issue of the Newsletter we continue to report on the situation created by the latest South African invasion of Angola. In this we are very lucky to have an eyewitness account from someone who was in southern Angola at the time of the invasion and was able to witness at first hand the effect of the South Africans' indiscriminate bombing, of which she herself was very nearly a victim.

The war, for a change, has not gone without coverage in the British and European press - at least as a fact - but analysis has been sadly lacking. In this issue we hope to put some of these problems right. Whatever seems to be said anywhere is the immense courage of the Angolans. This war has been going on ever since independence - threatening to strangle the new nation at birth, and often nearly succeeding.

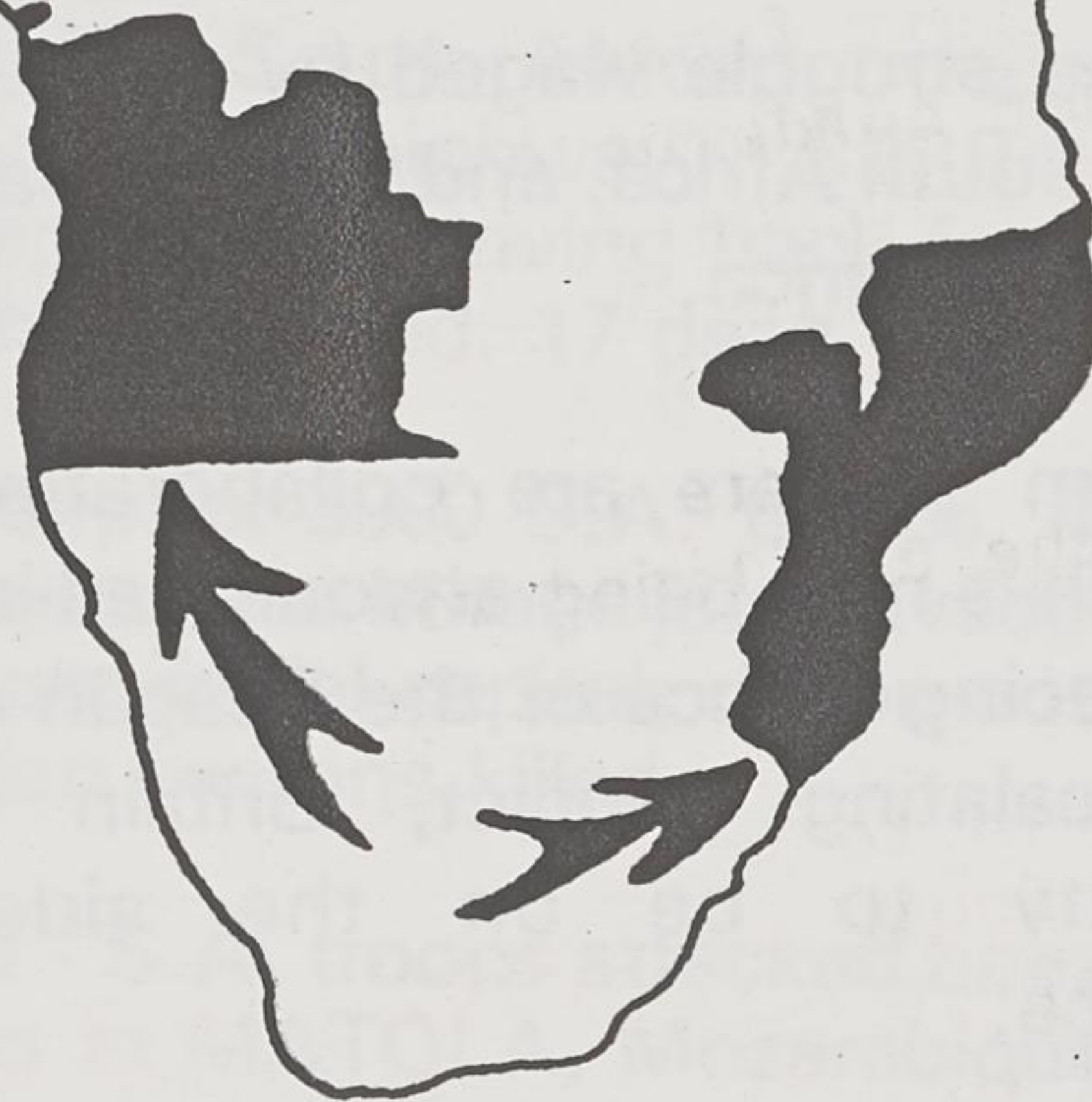
But Angola is not only fighting for itself. For, although the war for Angola is a defensive one, it is nonetheless a war against apartheid which is the enemy of civilisation, of decency, of humanity, of progress, indeed the enemy of all of us. Nowhere else does a civilised nation oppose that odious doctrine with weapons. Nowhere else does any nation defend the rights of the South African and Namibian peoples to their freedom with the blood of its own people. Virtually every nation condemns Apartheid South Africa, at least in words, but only Angola stands armed and under attack in the front line. The People's Republic of Angola, then, fights not just for itself or for the oppressed of South Africa and Namibia, but for all of us. Their soldiers who die under South African fire, die for us all - in defence of the civilised world and in defence of human decency.

President Reagan appears to think that he can excuse at least in part, the presence of South African troops in Angola, on the grounds that Angola is a socialist country which has socialist friends like Cuba, who are prepared to come to its aid in times of need. Morality, apparently, doesn't come into it. Perhaps it was naive, but we should have been able to expect more from those who claim to defend "freedom" against tyranny.

Encouraging, however, in the face of all this hypocrisy, has been the general British response. News from Angola was treated in a most sympathetic way, especially after the British journalists went there and particularly after the racists had the temerity to bomb them and injure a member of the British Broadcasting Commission, and then, as if to follow injury with insult, accused the whole party of journalists of "associating with SWAPO terrorists". The Foreign Office has also held a very good line, in spite of suspected pressure from other quarters and Britain has even gone so far as to send humanitarian aid to Angola for the victims of the South African aggression.

What is called for now is the stepping up of the campaign to make the British government, media and people support the peoples of Angola and Mozambique against the evils of apartheid, to bring to their notice the fact that the war continues every day; that Mozambique suffers from destabilization and the humiliation of constant violations of its airspace; that people in southern Angola are dying in the defence of all that the West is supposed to hold dear.

Stop the War against Angola & Mozambique



**CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE WAR AGAINST
ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE (SWAM)**

President: Rt. Hon. Dame Judith Hart M.P.

**Co-Chairmen: Basil Davidson
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WHY WE MUST CAMPAIGN

The aggression by the South African apartheid regime is a threat to world peace.

The most powerful war machine in Africa is being deployed to massacre civilians in raids which violate all principles of international law.

The people of Angola and Mozambique, struggling to build a new society after centuries of colonial rule, face systematic destruction of their economic resources.

The wealthy white minority regime of Pretoria is carrying out these atrocities and attacks in order to halt the liberation struggle waged by SWAPO in Namibia and ANC in South Africa, and to push back the frontiers of independent Africa.

The Western powers are collaborating with South Africa, which is now being encouraged in its aggression by the menacing stance of the Reagan administration. In this escalating conflict, Britain has a vital responsibility to be on the side of African independence.

SWAM will campaign directly and through existing organisations to inform British public opinion about South African aggression, and to mobilise all forms of opposition to it.

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* AUGUST 1981 - MASSIVE INVASION BY SOUTH *
* AFRICAN FORCES INTO ANGOLA. *
* Brigades, armoured columns, warplanes wreak *
* brutal destruction in southern provinces. U N *
* resolution condemning invasion vetoed by US. *
* Britain abstained. *

* * * * *

THE FACTS OF AGGRESSION

- 23 October 1975 - South African invasion of Angola, 6000 troops occupying whole of centre and south; completely driven out on 27 March 1976.
- 4 May 1978 - South African troops attacked Namibian refugee camp in KASSINGA, Angola; more than 600 dead, mostly women and children.
- 26 September 1979 - South African planes bombed furniture factory, LUBANGO, Angola; factory largely destroyed, 26 workers dead.
- 26 September 1979 - South African planes bombed houses, shops and school, XANGONGO, Angola; 34 dead, 52 wounded, many of them school children.
- 28 October 1979 - South African troops landed on Lubango-Moçâmedes highway, SERRA DE LEBA mountain range; families driving back from Sunday at the beach machine-gunned. 17 dead
- 7 June 1980 - approx 3000 S.A. troops, 40 tanks, 20 helicopters, 3 squadrons Mirage jets, invaded Angola to seize CUNENE provincial capital; driven out on 4 July. Over 320 Angolan civilians killed.
- 30 January 1981 - S.A. troops attacked homes of South African refugees at MATOLA, Mozambique; 13 dead.
- 27 March 1981 - incursion by S.A. troops across Mozambique border, PONTA DO OURO. Driven back by Mozambican army.
- SOUTH AFRICAN AGGRESSION AGAINST ANGOLA IS CONSTANT In operations from 26 May to 3 June 1981, 29 Angolans killed, 22 wounded, 1 bridge and 1 tunnel blown up, 4 vehicles destroyed.

THE ATTACKS CONTINUE

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- SUBSCRIBE** for the SWAM newsletter and campaign information
- INFORM** organise meetings and other events
- CAMPAIGN** mobilise opinion through political parties, trade unions, anti-apartheid groups, the press, etc.
- DONATE** and raise funds for the SWAM campaign.

SWAM CAN HELP by providing speakers, film and photographic exhibitions of South African atrocities, and general information.

Send to: Kate Gifford, SWAM,
34 Percy Street, London W1

- ☐ I enclose £5 subscription to newsletter and other campaign information
- ☐ I enclose £ donation for campaign work
- ☐ I can offer support to the campaign by (please indicate):

.....
.....
.....
.....

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Telephone..... Date.....

Dear Friend,

We are sending you the second SWAM newsletter free of charge. We hope that you found the first one informative, and that when you have read the second one, you will feel that the situation is so grave that you will wish to support the campaign by taking out a subscription. Apart from entitling you to our bi-monthly newsletter, it will provide desperately needed financial support for the campaign. Your support is important if SWAM is to continue its work against S: African aggression. Please complete and return the form below.

Yours sincerely,

Kate Gifford,
Secretary

.....

NAME (inCAPS).....

ADDRESS

.....

.....

I enclose a cheque/PO: for £5.00 as 12 months subscription to SWAM Newsletter and other information.

Please make cheques payable to SWAM.

DATE.....

REPORT FROM THE FRONT LINE

The present South African invasion of Angola has not been a victory for the apartheid régime. As regards propaganda, it has been a disaster for Pretoria. The political objectives were not achieved and, most important, neither were the military objectives.

Pretoria still persists in claiming that this is a war of 'hot pursuit' against SWAPO. But even western journalists now know that the war is against Angola. I travelled with the newsmen from various countries, including eleven Britons, who visited Huila and Kunene provinces in early September. In the Agostinho Neto Hospital in Lubango, capital of Huila, we saw Angolan soldiers and civilians wounded by South African guns and bombs. In Chibia, we saw Angolan civilians in refugee reception centres who had had to flee from parts of Kunene either occupied or bombed. They had come on foot through the bush, many with small children, without food or water in that drought-stricken area. Hundreds were known to be lost in the bush, many dead.

ROCKET ATTACK

It was virtually impossible to travel on the highways, because of the South African Impala, Mirage and Buccaneer aircraft that attacked everything that moved along them. We ourselves were attacked on the road from Lubango to Cahama, an Impala plane firing three rockets at our convoy. In Cahama, a town in ruins and deserted by all but soldiers, we had to take cover five times as planes circled overhead and bombed nearby. Again, on the road back to Lubango later that day, we had to lie still in the bush until the murderous aircraft flew back to Namibia to refuel.

There was little doubt that the South Africans knew they were bombing a convoy which included journalists. The trip was no secret. Yet this did not deter them any more than they had been deterred from bombing clearly marked Angolan ambulances and hospitals, as well as schools, shops and other social centres. What was clear to everyone was that claims that these were SWAPO targets were more than cynical.

In an article in the '*Jornal de Angola*', Kunene Provincial Commissioner Major Ary da Costa asked: "*Were the buses, heavy civilian vehicles of various types, tractors, estate cars, motorbikes, bicycles, furniture, electrical appliances and so forth that the racists took away to Namibia also found inside SWAPO bases?*" South African lying propaganda has been exposed for what it is.

"BUFFER ZONE"

Politically, the Pretoria régime had intended to create a kind of no-mans-land in southern Angola, a buffer zone in which they would have installed the UNITA puppets. UNITA indeed entered Ondjiva with the invading forces, its members mounted on South African tanks and shouting through loudspeakers. But the question people asked was how were they going to remain there after FAPLA had retaken Ondjiva. Pretoria, which persistently claimed that it had withdrawn its troops from Angola, made a lame attempt to explain UNITA's presence in Ondjiva as "*filling the vacuum left by its withdrawing troops*". However, Ondjiva again returned to

Cont'd...

FAPLA hands and UNITA had to scurry back to illegally-occupied Namibia with the other South African army units that occupied the Kunene capital. Xangongo, too, was freed, after being occupied by the notorious 32 mercenary battalion.

Pretoria had long been insisting that UNITA should be included in negotiations on the future of Namibia, and no doubt hoped that through the invasion it would establish the puppets in southern Angola and make it appear that they represented something in Angola. This scheme failed miserably.

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR ANGOLA

The timing of the invasion clearly had to do with forthcoming meetings on Namibia and Pretoria designs to negotiate from a position of strength. Instead, Pretoria was condemned by the Security Council and from all over the world there came expressions of solidarity and support for Angola. Even the western members of the Security Council no longer had a concerted position, the United States alone using its veto in support of South Africa. There is little doubt that the timing indeed had to do with the new U S administration's friendly attitude to South Africa. The intention to repeal the Clark Amendment, which bans U S military aid to UNITA, and to strengthen military ties with South Africa were indications that - just as the Ford Administration had given the green light to the 1975 South African invasion of Angola - there had again been at least tacit U S approval. The U S veto in the Security Council appeared to confirm this.

Again the political effect has been to isolate both South Africa and the United States. Both have been internationally condemned, particularly in Africa.

Militarily, South Africa was able to occupy as much territory as it did - about 40,000 sq km of Kunene Province, only because of the massive use of its air force. In the 1975-76 invasion of Angola, South Africa had occupied the whole of the centre and south of the country with an estimated 6,000 troops. This time more than 11,000 troops, backed by heavy air cover, with over 90 heavy Centurion tanks, over 250 armoured cars plus Saracen and Ratel armoured personnel carriers and 120 and 150 mm long-range artillery, were not able to advance beyond Cahama. Cahama was attacked on various occasions during the invasion, but each time the apartheid army was driven back.

Indeed, all the army officers I spoke to, both in Lubango and Luanda, confirmed that the South Africans were no match for the Angolans on the ground. Ondjiva, for example, had been taken by the apartheid forces only after three days of heavy bombing and shelling, culminating in carpet bombing on 27 August. But this was the last resort, after the racist army had had to retreat three times under heavy fire. Only when the Angolan forces had almost exhausted their ammunition, after the destruction of their ammunition depot during the bombing, had it been necessary to beat a strategic retreat.

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STREET BATTLES

In Ondjiva and Xangongo there had been tank battles between Angolan and South African forces. There was street fighting in Ondjiva, with Angolan soldiers jumping onto Centurion tanks and throwing grenades inside the turrets. Three South African planes were shot down over Ondjiva. In Mongua, An Angolan company had held out for a long time against a South African battalion, shooting down a helicopter and destroying a Centurion tank before they were forced to retreat under the heavy bombing and shelling.

There were countless stories of soldiers who refused to retreat, even after many of their comrades had died, or who retreated and then returned to the trenches once more. This is the war that is hardly known about outside Angola and which made it impossible for the apartheid forces to achieve their political objectives.

ANONYMOUS HEROES

It has its anonymous heroes and also its famous ones. Angolan Major Farrusco was captured and wounded by the South Africans during the 1975 invasion. Escaping from Lubango Hospital despite his lung wound, he and Major Alfonso Maria led guerrilla warfare against the occupying army and liberated Lubango before FAPLA arrived there in 1976. Today Major Farrusco, with only one lung, and Major Alfonso Maria are still leading FAPLA in the southern 5th region.

FAPLA is rightly a source of pride to the Angolan people. Unaided by troops from any other country, they inflicted heavy losses on the South African army - made up in substantial part by mercenaries from all over the world - and prevented the apartheid régime from achieving its objectives in southern Angola.

MARGA HOLNESS

Marga Holness worked for many years in the President's Office in Luanda. She now works in London at MAGIC (The Mozambique, Angola & Guiné Information Centre.) She returned recently from a three-week tour of the southern provinces of Angola with a large group of British journalists.

As part of her work with SWAM, Ms. Holness will be speaking at a number of public meetings - including an extensive tour of the country - to mark the 6th Anniversary of the Independence of The People's Republic of Angola.

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE ADVERTISED IN THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL PRESS

DON'T MISS THE MEETING IN YOUR AREA !

S.A. PLANES OVERFLY MAPUTO

The Mozambique News Agency, AIM, announced on 24th August that 2 unidentified planes coming from South Africa violated the air space of the People's Republic of Mozambique. These events are part of the most recent series of incursions into Mozambique's air-space - the skies of Maputo province are frequently violated by SA aircraft, just as happens further north in Gaza and Manica provinces. This July there were at least 8 violations of airspace over Maputo and 24 incursions in other areas. Chagalana, close to the border with Swaziland, is

another area which has been closely observed.

Many reconnaissance flights over Mozambique are carried out by light aircraft which look like civilian planes but are used for military purposes - some seem to be directly linked to military exercises on the SA side of the border.

Observers in Maputo believe the overflights indicate Pretoria is spying out infiltration routes for armed groups of saboteurs and terrorists trained in South Africa.

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

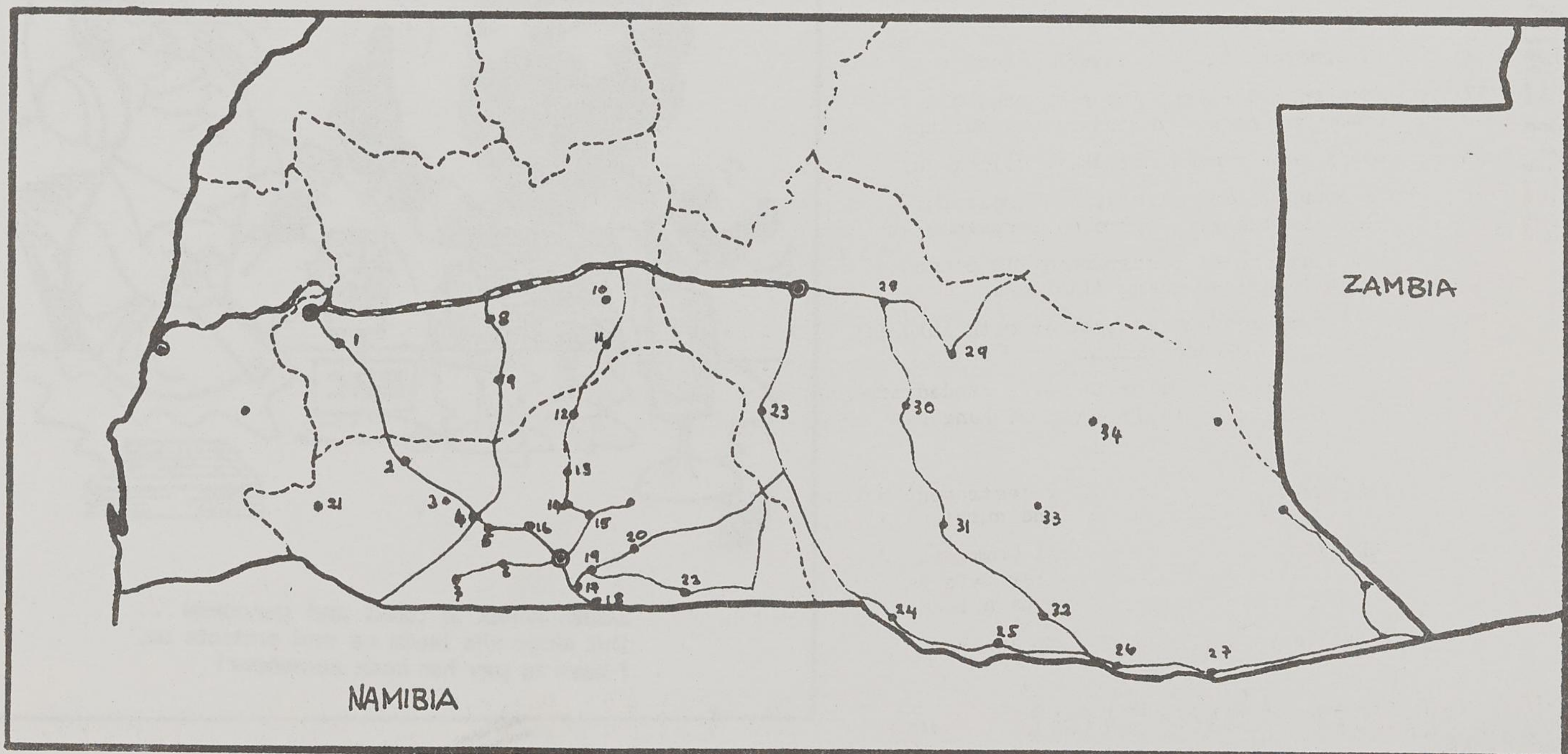
- 15 Fierce fighting between armed forces and SA troops between Xangongo and Cahama - 1 FAPLA & 3 civilians killed. Body of white SA soldier, face blackened, is left by SA troops, and equipment including 9 60ml mortar shells, 12 anti-personnel mines, and 2 hand grenades
- 22 Defence Ministry of Angola warns of imminent SA attack on Njiva, capital of Cunene province
- 23 Reconnaissance flights over Ngiva, Porto Alexandre areas
- 6 Mirage and 2 Buccaneer planes attack and destroy seat of Caham municipality and Tchibembe commune
- 24 2 motorised columns (1 composed of 32 tanks and 82 vehicles) heading for Xangongo and Cahama areas. One column clashes with Angolan armed forces in Xangongo area - fierce fighting. The other column occupies Catequero locality - air support
- 20 - Mirage and Buccaneer planes attack and destroy Cahama and commune at Tchibemba.
- 24 More than 45,000 SA troops and mercenaries mass on Angola/Namibia border
- 24 Telegram from President of Angola to UN Secretary-General warns of impending SA occupation
- 29 Troops mass in Mupa locality. Plane overflies Tchamutete
- 30 Convoy of troops on Mucupe/Kiteve Road - group of FAPLA stopped them, forced them to retreat to Mucupe. Angolan armed forces shoot down Mirage at Cahama
- 31 8 Impala planes bomb locality of Cahama using 500 kg bombs, rockets and 30 mm artillery.
- Permanent reconnaissance flights over Cahama, Cuvelai, Cassinga, Tchamutete, Kiteve, Nehono, Porto, Alexandra, Tchibemba totalling 56 by 103 Impala and Mirage planes, and helicopters
- 1 2 planes bomb Cahama - motorised infantry still occupying Ondjiva, Xangongo, Mongua, Mupa, Caluengue, and Cuamato. Estimated more than 11,000 men, plus sophisticated equipment.
- 3 Bombing of Cahama - medical post destroyed - a number of civilian and military casualties.
- 4 - 9 19 violations of airspace using 25 airforce planes - overflew Cahama, Kiteve, Cuvelai, Xangongo, Humbe & Evale areas
- 5 4 Mirage planes attack convoy Angolan & foreign journalists on way to Cahama - 2 journalists injured bomb attack on military convoy on Lubango/Cahama road - 1 wounded, petrol tanker destroyed
- 11 12 aircraft violate border, bomb civilians (refugees in bush at A Cahama)
- 17 Angolan Red + asks for emergency aid - displaced persons from the south taking refuge around Chibia - more than 2,000 camped on outskirts, further 20,00 affected by invasion expected to seek relief when occupation ends
- 13 Airforce - rocket attack on village of Chicuassee - 1 wounded
- 15 Military planes with air and helicopter support attack Chagalala 15 kms SE of Xangongo - slaughter civilians, stole cattle etc. Strafed ambulance and car in Ulamba area - 3 civilians wounded, car destroyed
- 16 3 violations of border using 10 planes
- 17 more violations using 11 planes
- 18 Troops on horseback together with infantry with dogs, massacre population of Macocoto locality 20kms west of Xangongo, burned village
- During this period helicopters landed troops frequently, using support from Mirage planes, in various parts of country especially south of Xangongo - roads mined, bridges blown up, cattle stolen and vehicles taken
- 11 -
- 18 XANGONGO Partially destroyed Municipal buildings, destroyed 3 bridges, Meeting Hall, Hospital, medical and surgical equipment, civilian homes etc.
- ONDJIVA Provincial Commissioner's residence, Deputy's home, homes of medical staff, Party HQ, ODP (Popular Defence) Provincial Command, Information Office, Command Border Guard troops, etc. FAPLA already in main towns and localities Ondjiva, Mongua, Xangongo
- 21 villages destroyed in air and ground attacks



KEY

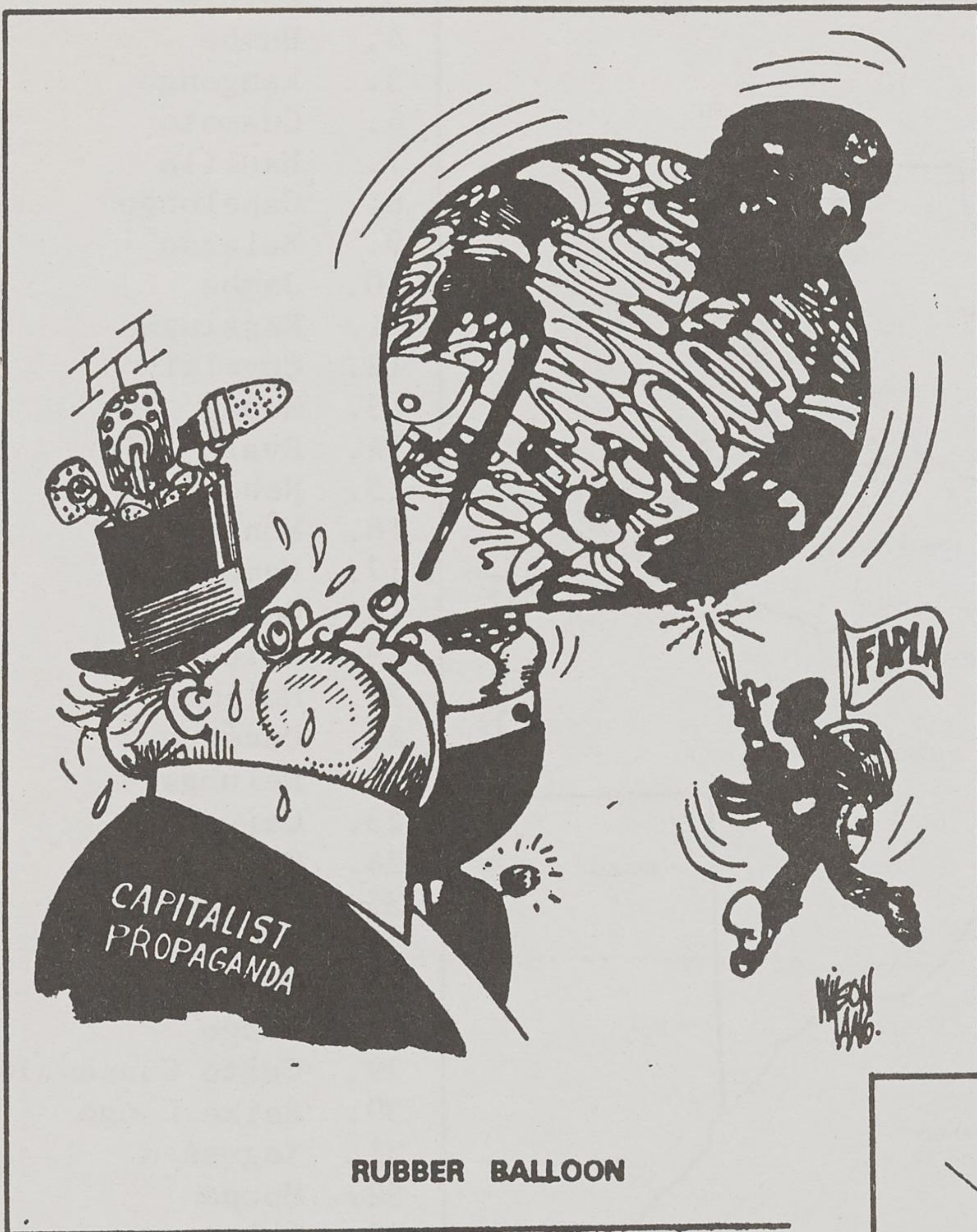
1. Chibia
2. Cahama
3. Chiulo
4. Humbe
5. Xangongo
6. Cuamato
7. Naulila
8. Capelongo
9. Mulando
10. Jamba
11. Kassinga
12. Cuvelai
13. Mupa
14. Evale
15. Nehone
16. Mõngua
17. Namacunde
18. Ochicango
19. Chiede
20. Mulemba
21. Oncôcua
22. Melunga
23. Caiundo
24. Cuangar
25. Calai
26. Dirico
27. Mucusso
28. Longo
29. Cuito Cuanavale
30. Baixa Longo
31. Xeguessa
32. Mpupa
33. Calunga
34. Mavinga

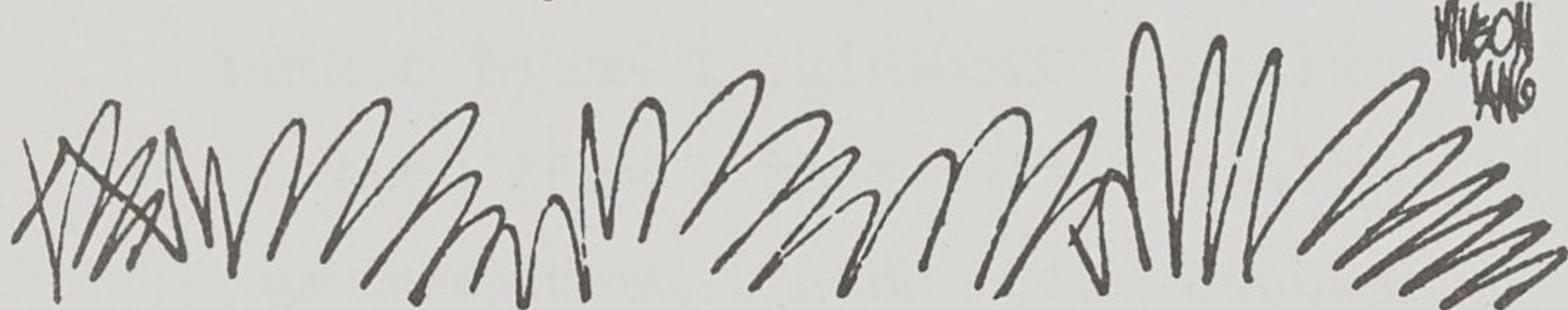
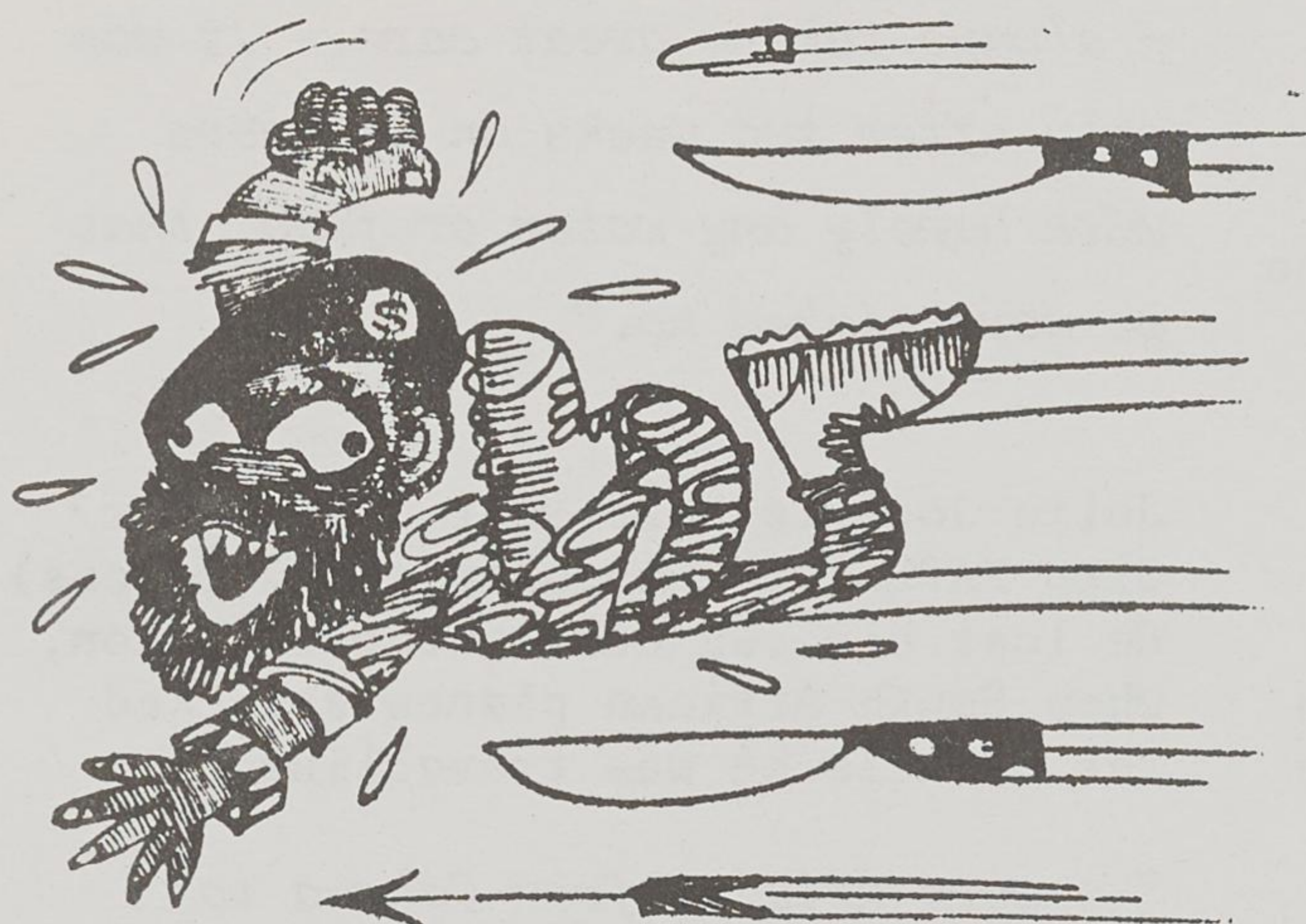
Map of Angola showing provinces and provincial capitals



THE PUPPET

'JUDAS' MALHEIRO SAVIMBI





As you see, I didn't lie on the BBC in London when I affirmed:
«We have a People behind us» . . . !



Here, Mister, just between us, I really represent South Africa !

MEMORIES OF SOUTH AFRICAN AIR RAIDS

By Benjamin Faduco

One week after the South African invasion of Angola's Cunene province had begun, the municipality of Chibia had become a refugee centre - as Angolans fled from the war-torn south. Chibia is in Huila province, 180k north of the town of Cahama, which was razed to the ground by South African air raids.

Many of the survivors who made their way to Chibia had walked 150k. Some had been picked up by military or civilian vehicles in a rescue operation that got under way a few days after the invasion.

Women with young babies on their backs, had spent several days hiding in the bush. Rescuing these survivors was a difficult and dangerous operation. Some of those picked up were in a very poor condition; some died on the way to hospital. The indiscriminate South African bombing of vehicles moving along the Cahama-Lubango road affected even the red cross vehicles carrying the refugees. Many more died or were seriously wounded in these attacks.

I spoke with some of the hundreds of refugees in Chibia. Lena Nyana had fled from Cahama: "The raid started on Saturday," she told me. "I was at home cooking when the bombs started to fall. I ran with my two children and with some other friends and relatives. We slept in the bush for four nights before meeting with the car that took us to Chiyia."

Rosalia Wimbo had come from further south, from Xangongo: "It happened on Saturday morning (August 29th). I was down by the river washing my clothes. I ran back to the house, but when I got there everyone was leaving. They dropped everything. They ran to escape from the air raid. I left Xangongo that night with a lot of other people.

We had to hide in the bush so as not to be seen by the enemy planes. The next day, we began walking north - always taking great care. It was only after two weeks on the move with barely any water or food, that we were picked up."

Julio José is a 25 year old driver with FAPLA (the Angolan armed forces). He lost his leg during the invasion, when South African planes attacked the vehicle he was travelling in.

"We were driving from Cahama to Chibia. Suddenly, I heard a loud noise. After that I must have passed out. When I recovered my senses, I found that I didn't have a left leg any more. I only remember that there was a comrade sitting next to me. He died in the attack. He was in charge of the vehicle. It was all very fast. I can't remember anything else."

Fernando Guicusso is a 22 year old soldier, wounded in an attack near Humbé, on September 3rd: "We were getting up after breakfast", he recalled. "Suddenly we saw an Impala flying in our direction. We ran to take cover in a trench, but at that very moment the plane started firing its rockets. I was hit in the leg and some of my comrades were very badly injured."

These are just a few of many similar cases of wounded civilians and soldiers currently being cared for in the Agostinho Neto hospital in Lubango.

* * * * *

Benjamin Faduco is a reporter on the Maputo daily 'NOTICIAS'. His article is printed by courtesy of FRELIMO.

Interview with SAM NUJOMA

Maputo - 30.9.1981. *"SWAPO is fighting inside Namibia and not inside Angola", said SWAPO President Sam Nujoma, when interviewed recently in Luanda by Benjamin Faduco. "The problem is an internal Namibian one, and the South African government should recognise that fact".*

The Namibian leader stressed that the South African attacks on Angola, as a form of reprisal for Angola's support for SWAPO "are making the situation inside Namibia increasingly explosive. The National Liberation struggle led by SWAPO has already won enormous popularity, and massive demonstrations in Namibia, even at the moment when South Africa invaded Angola, are the proof of this popularity."

When I asked him about the attempts to achieve a 'solution' for the Namibian question, he replied that "South Africa was not being honest when it accepted United Nations Security Council Resolution 435 in 1978: SWAPO will not accept any substantial alterations that destroy the letter and the spirit of Resolution 435. If that happens, it will be rejected by the Namibian people. Together with the Reagan administration, the Pretoria régime is cooking up a constitution which will perpetuate the power of the white minority in Namibia." continued Sam Nujoma. "The racist régime is now stepping up its repression of the Namibian people. Special commando units are being set up inside Namibia. These bands of assassins operate at night. They plant mines in places frequented by the people - near water taps, schools, in residential areas. The same bandits threaten progressive individuals, such as bishops and priests who support SWAPO's struggle."

He also pointed to the régime's forced recruitment of young Namibians into its ranks: "All young people over the age of 16 are forcibly incorporated into the fascist régime's security forces. And while this is happening, the occupying forces allege that it is SWAPO that kidnaps children and plants mines."

Speaking of the development of the Namibian Liberation struggle, the SWAPO President said: "While the South Africans were invading Angola, the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), the armed wing of SWAPO, inflicted heavy defeats in several engagements with the racist forces illegally occupying Namibia".

From Benjamin Faduco in Maputo.

MNR Attrocities

The Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) was set up during the Zimbabwe war by the Rhodesian secret services, as a fifth column operating inside Mozambique. Its membership was drawn from colonialist organisations (such as the Portuguese Secret Police, the PIDE) and from FRELIMO dissidents. After the Lancaster House agreement put an end to the war, the MNR leadership was put in contact with the South African régime, and currently the organisation depends on Pretoria for its weapons, supplies and training. It now operates from the southern part of Manica province, in the district of Mossarize.

TARGETS

There is now an effective alliance between the MNR and the local 'regulos' (traditional chieftains), who lost their powers as a result of the revolution. Acting on information provided by the regulos, MNR bandits resort to terrorist action against local members of FRELIMO or Dynamising Groups (grass roots political structures.) Sometimes the MNR uses assassination, sometimes mutilation - cutting off the lips or ears of its victims.

Other targets for the MNR are any economic centres of a collective nature - cooperatives or communal villages - supply posts and vehicles travelling on the Maputo - Beira road, which passes through Mossarize.

FPLM OFFENSIVES

In 1980, the FPLM (Mozambican armed forces) destroyed the major base of the MNR, situated in the remote Sitatonga Mountains, in Manica Province. However, the low population density of the area, the nature of the terrain and the support provided by South Africa, in particular, allowed various MNR bands to continue operating.

In June this year, the FPLM launched a further offensive to eliminate the bands and to concentrate the scattered population into villages where they would be assured of supplies, protection and support from the FRELIMO

structures. They succeeded in driving the MNR out of the small town of Machaze, some 60k from the border with Zimbabwe. As a result, the people who had fled into the bush began to return, increasing the population of Machaze from a mere 97 in June to 4,000 by September. Shops began to re-open and the people set about the task of building new houses. The local administrator, João Mucumba, said that their aim was *"to transform Machaze into a model town."*

SOUTH AFRICAN REINFORCEMENTS

However, as long as the MNR continues receiving supplies and reinforcements from South Africa, it will be difficult to wipe it out completely. There are still bands in some of the outlying villages and they are taking savage reprisals against the local peasants. The September 13th issue of 'TEMPO' - the Maputo weekly magazine - carries photos of three women whose ears were hacked off by the MNR. The women, Manhasse Mukanda, Isabel Nhamunda and Nedi Naphossa, had come to Machaze because there they felt safe, as well as having all the social services and a guaranteed water supply. But they still had to return to their fields to harvest their crops and on one such journey they were intercepted by three armed men. The men demanded to know why they had moved to Machaze. When they refused to answer, the bandits drew out their knives and slashed the ears off each of their victims. They handed back the severed ears with the words: *"Show these to your Communist friends!"*

TERRORISM AND INTIMIDATION

These are just the latest examples of MNR terrorism and intimidation. 'TEMPO' also reported other cases - both of mutilation and extortion. Men now living in Machaze told how regulos were demanding sums of money from them and if they were not prepared to pay up, the lives of their families were threatened.

One man, Samuel Zibande, refused to make such payments, saying: *"I've already paid my taxes and I'm not*

aware that there are two governments in this country." He was immediately grabbed and while he was pinned down, a dozen armed men forced open his house and stole everything he owned. He was then told to get out of the village and live in the bush. When he refused to leave, the bandits threatened to kill him.

Fortunately, he was rescued by FPLM soldiers, who were launching an offensive on the area and Samuel Zibanda moved to the safety of Machaze.

'TEMPO' also interviewed former members and collaborators of the MNR who had been captured by the FPLM. Some collaborators, such as the regulos, worked with the rebels because they had been promised their old privileges would be restored, once FRELIMO was over-thrown. Others collaborated out of fear. Such was the case of a small trader - Luis Cufene - who supplied food to the MNR. "I have a large family", he explained to 'TEMPO', "How could I refuse to collaborate when I knew they could kill me or my family?" The MNR had also promised to abolish all forms of collective life and production, in favour of the private trader.

MILITARY TRAINING

19 year old Bissarome Filipe told 'TEMPO' that the MNR had kidnapped him from his home in 1977 and had taken him to what was then the main MNR base in Mozambique, in the Sitatinga Mountains. There he had received military training from South African and Portuguese instructors. The weapons the MNR were using, he said, were largely South African. Another prisoner told how former members of Bishop Muzorewa's auxiliaries were now serving as military instructors in MNR camps.

SUPERSTITION

It was not surprising to learn that the MNR made use of superstition. Before military operations, they hold ritual ceremonies, presided over by 'feiticeiros' (witchdoctors). MNR operators are thus made to believe themselves immune to 'the bullets of the Communists!'

get the FACTS from SWAM.

Two pamphlets published by S W A M provide essential briefing on the two most murderous features of South Africa's external policies:

military aggression against front line states and terrorist crimes against militants of the liberation movements.

STOP THE WAR by Jan Marsh (75p) - is to be published in early November. It is a history of the racist régime's aggression against the front line states since Angola and Mozambique became independent in 1975. It sets down the harsh facts which make the SWAM Campaign so necessary: repeated and continuing invasion of Angola; arming of puppet troops; attacks into Zambia, Botswana and Mozambique.

SOUTH AFRICA'S RECORD OF

INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM by Tony Gifford (40p) - published jointly with the Anti-Apartheid Movement, it details the shameful history of kidnapping and murder by South Africa's agents in seven independent states. The objective of the racists is the physical elimination of ANC and SWAPO militants. The pamphlet was commissioned by the United Nations Centre Against Apartheid, whose Director, Mr E.S.Reddy, attended the press launch in London

BE INFORMED

ORDER THESE PUBLICATIONS - NOW!

Order form enclosed.

Model Resolution

A subscriber sent this to us and suggested we print it. We do so here in full. USE ITEMS 1,2,3,4 and 5 as YOUR RESOLUTION to put to YOUR LOCAL BRANCH OF PARTY OR TRADE UNION; YOUR ANTI-APARTHEID GROUP; PEACE GROUP, etc. The text of the letter gives an excellent introduction to the resolution.

Dear Friend,

The latest illegal invasion of Angolan territory by South African and mercenary forces must be condemned by progressive people everywhere. The slaughter of innocent civilians and destruction of villages and crops cannot go unheeded.

As you are probably aware, these attacks are not new, but are the culmination of many which the People's Republic of Angola has suffered since independence. By the end of 1980, according to the Angolan government, South Africa had invaded its territory - since independence - some 2,000 times, killing 1,000 civilians, wounding 3,000 and causing more than 7 billion dollars worth of damage.

However, the Pretoria régime, encouraged by the election of the Reagan administration, has increased its attacks during the last few months, both against SWAPO (the liberation movement of Namibia) and the newly-independent states of Angola and Mozambique, as well as against the front line states.

Many interests converge in Namibia which is why South Africa stations tens of thousands of troops there illegally and Western multinationals daily rob the Namibian people of their country's wealth. The strategic location of the country means South Africa is buffered. However, the increasing capabilities of SWAPO, who are recognised by the United Nations as "the authentic representatives of the Namibian people", combined with the growing military and political vigour of the ANC inside South Africa's own borders, have forced Pretoria to step up its attacks and to increase aid to the rebel Angolan Jonas Savimbi of UNITA, with the hope of establishing a "buffer zone" in the south of Angola under its auspices.

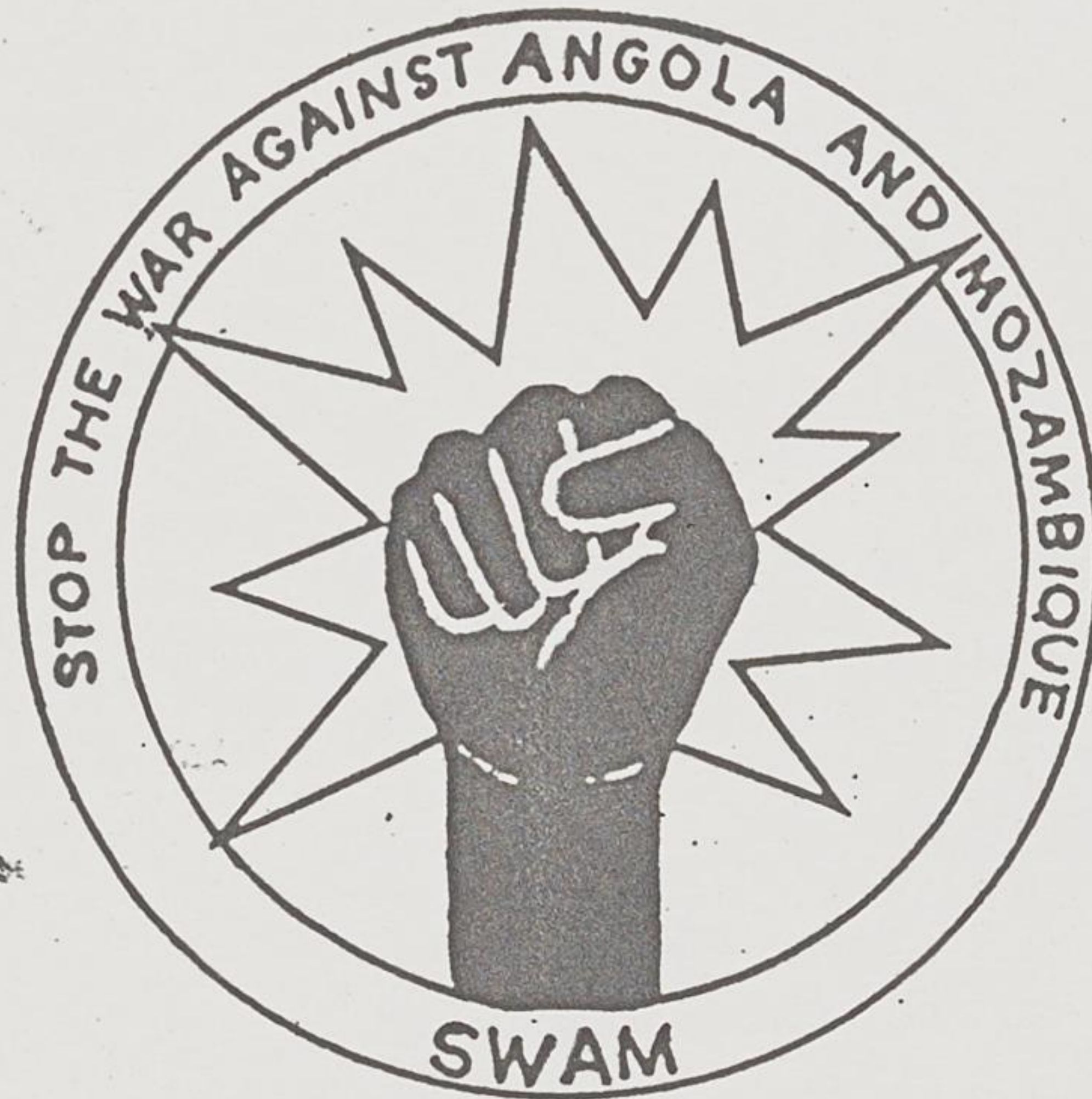
We call on everyone who believes in the right of all peoples to independence and sovereignty; on everyone who believes apartheid to be brutal and criminal, to pass the following resolution in their local party branches, trade union branches, tenant and community groups.....:

- 1) We strongly condemn the South African invasion of the People's Republic of Angola and
- 2) call for the fullest support of Angola's policy of implementing the United Nations and Organisation of African Unity resolution on Namibia;
- 3) deplore the use of the veto by the United States in the United Nations Security Council emergency debate on South African aggression on 31.8.1981 and the abstention of the United Kingdom;
- 4) demand the immediate and complete withdrawal of all South African troops and personnel; and
- 5) reiterate our call on Her Majesty's Government to support mandatory United Nations sanctions against South Africa.

I hope this will be used by all your readers.

Yours fraternally

SWAM BADGE



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Show Your Solidarity!

TEACHING PACK ON ANGOLA

Teachers and educationists with the Manchester group of S W A M are preparing of resource pack for use in secondary schools (3rd and 4th years). Material on Angola in schools is very limited in scope, if it exists at all and it is hoped that his pack would help provide the basis for a short course outlining the background to the present situation in Angola.

It is envisaged that the pack would provide enough material for about 5 and a half hours lesson time, but obviously all the materials could be adapted and/or supplemented by a teacher's own resources.

It is intended that the following areas should be covered, although as yet this is a rough outline only, which will be modified as the project develops and as feedback is received from the teachers and kids using the pack in school.

- a) Geography of Angola - Background information
- b) Historical development; Early colonialism/slave trade; Portuguese colonialism and resistance to it; Independence struggle; the MPLA - its ideology; Foreign intervention.
- c) Political development since independence - socialist aims, economic policy and problems; foreign connections; relationship with South Africa, Namibia; War
- d) Summary: Angola as a developing country; Angola in Southern Africa; links with Britain.

In order that this pack can be produced as attractively as possible, the compilers are appealing for any appropriate visual materials that you may have, which could be incorporated.

If you have any such material on Angola, which you are willing to lend (for copying) or donate, please contact SWAM, 34 Percy Street, London, W1P 9FG. Tel: 01 - 637 1945.

[illegible]

AID FOR ANGOLA

The Angolan Red Cross has asked for emergency assistance for thousands of people forced to leave their homes by the South African invasion.

The response from British aid organisations has been swift and impressive - led by WAR ON WANT, which has launched a national appeal.

£84,000 worth of goods, including a Landrover, medical supplies, mess tins, blankets, soap and tents was flown to southern Angola at the expense of the British government. The goods were donated by H.M.G., Oxfam, CAFOD, Christian Aid and the British Red Cross.

The sending of the aid and the participation of the British government illustrate the changing attitudes of the British public to Angola and the effect of the militaristic campaign by the Pretoria régime.

Not since 1975 has such a level of interest and concern about Angola been registered in this country. The number of people who recognise the justice of the Angolan position and the bankruptcy of the stance in Washington is growing rapidly.

[illegible]

SWAM APPEAL

THERE IS A WAR IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. INNOCENT CHILDREN
ARE DYING AND CIVILIANS FLEEING INTO THE BUSH WITHOUT
FOOD OR WATER

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS SUFFERING? DO YOU KNOW WHAT MISERY THE
APARTHEID TROOPS ARE INFLECTING ON THE INNOCENT PEOPLE OF ANGOLA?

SWAM EXISTS TO INFORM Y O U AND THOUSANDS OTHERS ABOUT THE FACTS IN ANGOLA
NOW. WE MUST WORK IN EVERY POSSIBLE WAY TO REACH THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF PEOPLE.

We all share the responsibility of putting pressure on our government to end
its support of fascism and racism in South Africa and Namibia.

PLEASE HELP US TO DO OUR WORK. JOIN THE STRUGGLE - NOW!

.....

Send to The Secretary, SWAM, 34 Percy Street, London, W1P 9FG - T O D A Y -
 -- -- --

.... I enclose £5.00 donation (which also entitles me to receive the SWAM
Newsletter and other campaign information.

.... I enclose f..... donation to help with the campaign work.

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* * * * *