

E D I T O R I A L

PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO

As we were going to press in celebration of the 70th birthday of Dr. Yusuf Dadoo, Chairman of the South African Communist Party and much loved and respected leader of our national liberation movement, we received the tragic news of the death of Dr. Agostinho Neto, President of the People's Republic of Angola.

At present we have only the first statements issued by our African National Congress and the MPLA-Workers' Party concerning this immeasurable loss not only to Angola, but to the whole of Africa and indeed to the world-wide anti-imperialist movement; to humanity itself.

Comrade President Antonio Agostinho Neto involved himself at an early age in the struggle to liberate his people. Imprisoned on numerous occasions he founded the MPLA in 1956, and became its great guide and dedicated leader through the arduous and difficult years of armed struggle; a bloody and bitter struggle in which his MPLA emerged as the genuine and authentic leader of Angola's people; the undisputed victor over Portuguese colonialism.

It is history that Angola gained its independence under the most trying conditions on November 11th, 1975, in the midst of invasion and counter-revolution. Under comrade Neto's unflinching and principled leadership that precious independence was resolutely defended against its internal enemies, including the Pretoria racists, who were soundly thrashed.

Under Comrade Neto's inspiring leadership the MPLA-Workers' Party was formed, the unity of the nation was consolidated, the armed forces strengthened and the high road to socialism and national advance chartered.

Comrade Neto has tragically passed from the stage but his life's work lives on. He has built firm foundations which are the launching pad for his country's irreversible advance.

An outstanding patriot and true internationalist, comrade Neto was revered throughout the world. He won for his country, through principled leadership, the invaluable solidarity of the socialist countries, newly independent states and liberation movements of Africa and world progressive forces. He was a firm and staunch friend of our African National Congress and people of South Africa. We mourn him deeply and share the blow sustained by our Angolan comrades-in-arms.

At this time of profound sorrow and sad parting we can only say HAMBRA KAHLE Comrade President Agostinho Neto and vow that we will continue the noble struggle to liberate our continent of its deadly foes.

A liberated Africa will be a monument to Comrade Neto, who has made Angola a firm base of the revolution in Africa.

We will emulate his shining example of devotion to duty, dedication, determination, self-sacrifice and clarity of political thought.

HONOUR AND GLORY TO COMRADE PRESIDENT NETO!

GUIDE OF THE PEOPLE, FOUNDER OF THE NATION AND OF THE MPLA-WORKERS' PARTY. A LUTA CONTINUA!

DR. YUSUF DADOO

Shortly before the death of Comrade Neto, our movement was celebrating the 70th birthday, on September 5th, of Comrade Dadoo; a true, authentic and much-loved leader of the people of South Africa. On behalf of all combatants of Umkhonto we Sizwe, "DAWN" extends to Comrade Dadoo our revolutionary greetings. We wish him many more active years service in the struggle and pledge to follow his example as a resolute and tireless fighter for the liberation of our people.

LONG LIVE COMRADE DADOO!

FORWARD TO FREEDOM AND POWER TO THE PEOPLE!

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