

emerged the victor against the racist imperialist forces which sought to throttle this country in its infancy. He was traveling a chartered road mended by the brotherhood of socialism which knew that "all good men must come to the aid of their party".

Today we are having Zimbabwe under our microscope. Which way? The shadows of the People's Republic of Angola are growing taller.

A new wind of national unity was demonstrated at May Day rallies in Luanda, which showed us the spirit sweeping through the Firm Trench of Revolution from Cabinda to Cunene.

We of the African National Congress and the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) of Namibia are in our "liberated zone of the struggle in Southern Africa". We are at home.

A LUTA CONTINUA!

A VITORIA E CERTA!

Fascist Last Kicks in Angola

-Diliza Dumakude

The People's Republic of Angola saw the beginnings of the last kicks of the racist dying war horse when South Africa launched another major invasion into the country on June 7, following more than 500 separate acts of naked aggression into Angola this year alone. The invasion involved the largest deployment of the South African troops since World War Two.

When it ended the attack already involved eight battalions of infantry, 34 long range heavy artillery pieces, 2 Hercules transport planes with paratroopers, 20 helicopter gunships, 3 Squadrons of Mirage fighter-bombers and a battalion of tankers. More than 300 Angolan civilians were slaughtered and hundreds of wounded or abducted. The racists also retreated with thousands of cattle to Namibia. The invasion thus ended without achieving its strategic goals.

his imperialist masters. The attack was also characterised by the destruction of economic installations which the racists did with utmost ruthlessness. On their side the racists admitted the loss of seventeen soldiers, 3 Mirages and a helicopter gunship. However, observers noted that they lost far beyond what they could afford to report.

From its very birth, the People's Republic of Angola has had to fight a permanent undeclared war in defence of her territory from the racist occupationist force in Namibia. The aim of this was to reverse the Angolan revolution or if that cannot be realised to make it impossible for Angola to stand for her political commitments. South Africa knew very well what it means that Angola is the Firm Trench of Revolution in Africa. The war against her then began and has since been conducted in many ways. After her defeat in 1976, racist South Africa decided to prop up UNITA bandits and make them able to conduct sustained acts of banditry against the young People's Republic. Furthermore South Africa does not hesitate to come herself to massacre innocent defenceless civilians and conduct acts of sabotage in the southern part of the country. The object of these attacks is to destabilise Angola & weaken her by forcing the government to divert its resources and cadres to military defence. But the resilience of the Angolan government, the intensification of the struggle by SWAPO in Namibia and the situation inside South Africa itself have finally forced Botha to take desperate measures.

DOOM'S DAY

It is true that the emergence of the new independent state of Zimbabwe completely changed the strategic situation in Southern Africa in favour of the liberation forces. It signalled the end of Front-line Zambezi and it became clear enough for the racists that their days, both in South Africa and Namibia, are numbered. The intensification of the struggle by SWAPO and the present political situation with flames of the SASOL type in South Africa are enough testimony to this effect. But the fascists in Pretoria and international imperialism on their back are no observers. They are certainly not prepared to accept defeat and wait for doom's day in the southern tip of Africa. Instead they are busy formulating strategies with which they hope to buy time and postpone the inevitable victory of the oppressed masses. Hence the infamous Botha's total strategy.

This strategy is intent on weaving the racist economy into the economies of the Front-Line States and make them dependent on South Africa. In such an eventuality Pretoria would then be in a position to blackmail them and force them to renounce their support for the liberation movements. Furthermore the strategy also suggests the physical elimination of the national liberation forces and the extinguishing of internal fires by the creation of dummy institutions and the imposition of puppets on the masses. But the present political situation in the region makes it impossible for Botha to achieve this. The Front-Line States have categorically rejected his concept of 'Constellation of Southern African States' and instead they are taking steps to end their dependence on South Africa.

LIQUIDATION

At the same time they are speedily advancing towards economic stability and this will make them even firmer on their political commitments. The impetus of the liberation struggle also renders every political endeavour by the racists abortive. Therefore, the only remaining option for the racists becomes blackmailing these states by military aggression, something that has become the order of the day in Southern Africa, especially against the People's Republic of Angola.

In spite of all the atrocities committed by the racist aggressors, the Angolan people's support for SWAPO and the African National Congress is unshakeable, and that the people of Angola under the leadership of the MPLA Party of Labour are prepared to sacrifice for the cause of freedom. As stated above, none of the objectives of the invasion was achieved. The gallant combatants of FAPLA once more rebuffed the racist aggressors. Yet the Pretoria racists continue to massacre innocent civilians, destruction of economic installations and committing acts of sabotage against the People's Republic of Angola. This must be stopped. There is only one way of stopping them and that it is the liquidation of the Pretoria boer regime. The people of Namibia led by their vanguard movement, SWAPO, and our people led by our ANC, are displaying with their actions - politically and militarily - that they are committed to their historic mission. The unity of all progressive and peace-loving mankind with the Front-Line States and the liberation movements fighting against the racist regime becomes crucial. The isolation of the racists on all spheres in the international arena and the increasing of material assistance to the liberation movements and the Front-Line States assume urgent necessity.

It is noteworthy that during these p u n i t i v e invasions, which Zambia also faces, hardly a word of condemnation is ever heard from the Western so-called Contact Group. In August, South Africa again attacked and destroyed a town in the Kunene province and intermittent strikes with specific objectives are continuing. Therefore, tight vigilance and combat readiness on our part will always be decisive. Let all who stand opposed to racism and reaction close ranks and strike in unison to crush once and for all to ensure undisturbed progress and peace on the African continent.

Recent history of the liberation struggle in Africa, and Southern Africa in particular has recorded the most resolute revolutionary drive sweeping through the colonial regimes, resulting in the emergence of new independent African states and people's republics. It has in no uncertain terms granted viability to the prospects of armed struggle and further proved the invincibility of united and determined people. More than ever before we have seen reactionary forces forced to withdraw from positions in which they had pledged to fight to the last man. Today South Africa remains the only colonial and racist base and there is no doubt that not long the sun will set never to rise again for imperialism in Africa.

THESE BIRDS OF EVIL

To the memory of 11 African miners shot at
City Deep levels, 11th September, 1973.

They came like
shadows in the night
and drowned my
father in the river
three months before
I was born.

I shared the sorrow
with my mother
by crying from her womb.