

PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO THE PERFECTION OF OUR DEFENCE CAPACITY.

**Declaration of the Polit-Bureau of the Central Committee -
of MPLA-Workers' Party on the 23rd Anniversary
of the beginning of the armed struggle
for national liberation.**

"The Angolan people are preparing for the commemoration of one of the most important days of our history, the 4th February, 1961, the day which marks the beginning of the armed struggle for national liberation, an event which, with the development of the liberation war, permitted us to conquer one of the dearest things — Independence."

The significance of February 4th to the Angolan people and the entire people of the sub-continent will for generations remain undiminishing. It was on this day in 1961 when the people of Angola, led by their tried and tested vanguard, the MPLA, decided to launch armed struggle against Portuguese colonialism.



Paying tribute to martyrs of the armed struggle.

"We are living at a very crucial moment of our history as an independent nation, decisive not only for the future of the Angolan revolution, but also for the end of colonialism and apartheid, and for the development of the struggle for economic independence in Africa" the declaration continued.

"The peoples of the Southern region of our continent, with the support of all the democratic and progressive forces the world over, are engaged in these battles and are certain that they contain the basic premises for a lasting peace in this part of Africa. The Angolan people will thus achieve more favourable conditions to transform the large potential wealth of the country into an effective wealth and advance the revolutionary process more rapidly."

The ascendancy of the MPLA to power aroused the indignation of the entire imperialist world. Racist South Africa, with the full knowledge and encouragement of the United States, and allied with Savimbi's UNITA and Holden Roberto's FNLA, invaded the young republic. In seven months of fighting the South African Defence Force came within fifty kilometres of Luanda before they were routed and put to flight by the heroic Angolan army (FAPLA), assisted by the Cuban internationalist forces.

But that did not mark the end of the war for peace-loving Angolans. *"The MPLA has always been the target of imperialist manoeuvres due to its ideological, political and organisational principles, and the revolutionary approach with which it carried out the Angolan revolution."*

"These attacks intensified with its transformation into a party, with the formation of the People's Republic of Angola, with the proclamation of the socialist way of development, with the growing role played by our state in international relations, respecting the principles of peace, non-alignment, anti-imperialism and proletarian internationalism."

The SADF continued recruiting, training, arming and injecting the UNITA bandits into Angola to destabilise the young republic, cause economic instability and disrupt social order, with the ultimate aim of overthrowing the MPLA government and replace it with a reactionary South African-controlled UNITA government.

The racist regime has also been constantly invading Angola, under the pretext of "hot pursuit" or "pre-emptive strikes" against SWAPO guerrillas. We know this is a blatant lie as the main brunt of the South African attacks is borne by FAPLA, and often the victims are unarmed Angolan men, women and children.

"Thus, the policy of racist South Africa, commanded by the administration of the United States of America, has, as its aim, not only the securing of a neo-colonial solution for Namibia, but also and basically, the destruction of the Angolan revolution and the vanguard of the working class — the MPLA-Workers' Party."

On December 15, at the United Nations, South Africa offered a ceasefire and withdrawal from Angola. Like all previous offers, this one also was meant to pull wool over the eyes of the international public as it was followed by a massive invasion into the People's Republic of Angola. All South African aggressions: Operation Moscow (March 1978), Smokeshell (June 1980), Protea (June 1981) and Daisy (November 1981), have followed this pattern.

"The People's Republic of Angola has given proof of its spirit of goodwill in the search for a peaceful and internationally accepted solution for the Namibian question,

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Scenes like these have become part of the life of the people in the Southern regions of the country.

in the framework of Resolution 435 of 1978. By contrast, racist South Africa, in violation of its recent "wish for peace", carried out a large-scale aggression, in an attempt to broaden the occupation of a major part of our territory. The deaths and destruction which racist South Africa wreaked in the martyred lands of Cunene and Kuando-Kubango are still fresh in our minds...

"The Polit-Bureau condemns the cynicism of the racist regime of South Africa in addressing itself to the Secretary-General of the United Nations proposing a thirty day truce at exactly the moment it was engaged in a new escalation of violent aggression against Cahama, Caiundo, Cuvelai and Mulondo."



Identity cards of a racist soldier killed by Angolan troops during the South African invasion.

According to the Angolan News Agency (Angop), South African planes bombed Caiundo on December 18, killing dozens of unarmed villagers and destroying a school and a hospital. By early January, Angola was reporting that the invading South African force could number 10 000. This makes it the largest South African invasion of Angola since August 1981.

Despite the enemy's vastly superior firepower, the Angolan armed forces (FAPLA) and militia have stood their ground and offered stubborn resistance to the racist invaders. They have successfully held back the onslaught and delivered heavy

blows on the racist enemy. In the recent battle South Africa has lost more troops than in any previous one. Not surprising though, since it is its policy to downplay its losses, Pretoria has only admitted that at least 21 of its troops had been killed.

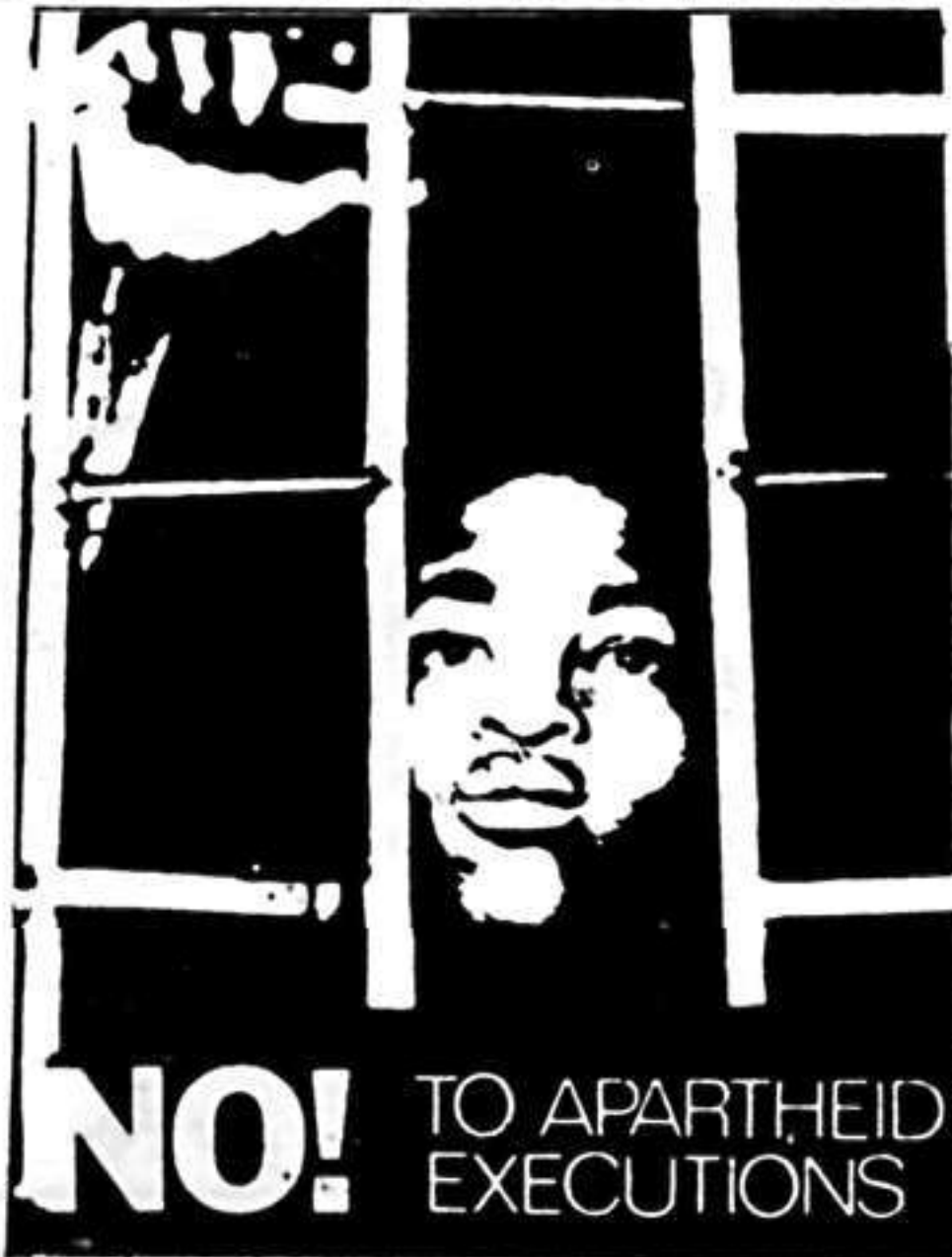
Racist South Africa's determination to play the role of a policeman of imperialist interests in the region, the same way as the United States in the Americas, was aptly summed up by Viljoen, the chief of the SADF, when he sought to justify the incursion into Angola in the following way:

"As little as the United States can afford a Grenada sitting on its doorstep, so little can we allow in our bordering territories the enemies to have a carte blanche."

The declaration continued: *"The aggressive character of South Africa, its massive support for the puppet bandits of UNTA, compels the People's Republic of Angola to continue paying special attention to improving and perfecting our defence capacity... The Polit-Bureau directs the defence and security forces to raise their standard of political and combat preparedness, improve the social conditions of the combatants and perfect the organs of military recruitment, to enable our armed forces to be always in combat readiness, necessary for the defence of our independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and our revolutionary gains"*.

SAVE MOLOISE!

ACT NOW!



STOP

THE

RACIST

MURDER

NO! TO APARTHEID EXECUTIONS