

to recognise its own peoples right to national self- determination.

COUNTER-REVOLUTION IN ANGOLA SOUTH AFRICAN DESTABILISATION

Since MPLA seized state power in 1975, the people of Angola never tasted any peace due to the American/South African/ UNITA counter revolutionary onslaught. On the eve of the victory of the revolution the new People's Republic of Angola (PRA) was invaded by the combined forces of UNITA and SADF from the southern flank while FNLA was attacking from the Zairean border in the north - all this at the instigation of US with former secretary of state Henry Kissinger master-minding the whole operation. Hence the so-called Kissinger's war.

On 23 October 1975 South African regular army troops supported by tanks and artillery penetrated deeply into Angola advancing between 60 and 70 km a day heading towards Luanda. At the request of the MPLA the Cuban party leadership decided to send, with great urgency, a battalion of regular troops with anti-tank weapons to help the new Angolan state to resist the invasion. However Angola was to know no peace as counter revolutionary forces of UNITA and SADF alliance with US support embarked on a protracted program of ruthless destruction of Angola's infrastructure and mass murder of innocent civilians. A series of invasions were launched; each time with intensified ferocity: Operation Protea, Operation mokescreen, Operation Askari, Operation Modular, the list appears endless as forces of counter-revolution unleashed terror against the PRA until the recent mighty battle of Cuito Cuanavale. These brutal aggressions were said to be aimed at SWAPO bases in Angola and sometimes to the ANC's military wing MK.