

AFRICAN LIBERATION SUPPORT COMMITTEE

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE-VERMONT FORMED

A group of 19 students, teachers and Vermont-New Hampshire residents met in Hanover on February 20 to organize a regional African Liberation Support Committee. After a lively discussion, the Committee adopted the following as its charter statement:

The African continent is presently one of the principal areas of struggle between the world-wide forces of national liberation and those of imperialism and neocolonialism. U.S. corporate interests, after sustaining setbacks elsewhere, are turning more and more to Africa as a region in which to seek vast profits through the exploitation of cheap labor and immensely rich natural resources. This drive has been the prime motive for the U.S. government's open alliance with viciously repressive white supremacist and colonial regimes in Southern Africa. Most recently, the same interests have prompted undercover U.S. support for the invasion of Angola by South African and mercenary troops in an unsuccessful attempt the full independence which had been achieved by defeating the Portugese colonialists in a long struggle under the leadership of the MPLA.

Further U.S. involvement in Angola and elsewhere in Africa can only be stopped if the people of the U.S. refuse to support the continued oppression of Africans by U.S.-led multinational corporations and their allies. Working people in particular must recognize that their interests are not served by the exploitation of the people of other nations for the super-profits of a U.S. corporate elite: the inevitable results of such a policy are the steady export of U.S. jobs and the frequent necessity of military intervention to maintain a foreign economic "empire". For the Black people within the U.S., moreover, Africa has a special significance because of their own parallel struggle for liberation at home.

In view of these considerations, it is imperative that local groups be created for the purpose of rallying the public to oppose current U.S. policy toward Africa and to actively support the liberation struggles of all African peoples. The formation of the African Liberation Support Committee of New Hampshire-Vermont is a positive step in this direction.

The Committee has begun a program to acquaint as wide as possible a sector of the New Hampshire-Vermont population with the need to support the African peoples' liberation struggle as genuinely reflecting the aspirations of the working people, poor people, minority peoples and democratically-minded individuals in the U.S. The long-term goal of the Committee will be to raise funds for the dispatch of medical supplies and other forms of aid to oppressed Africans who are struggling for their national liberation. We also plan to launch a clothing drive in this area in the very near future.

Regular meetings will be held for coordinating these activities and to discuss the collection and distribution of literature concerning national liberation movements in Africa. Some members of the Committee have already formed a study group which plans to meet on a weekly basis. We welcome support from all those concerned with the advancement of liberation struggles in Africa and around the world. Inquiries, comments and contributions should be sent to:

African Liberation Support Committee of New Hampshire-Vermont
P.O. Box 172, Hanover, N.H. 03755
(603) 643-2164 or (603) 643-3623