Seventy-seven persons have agreed to sponsor an effort to encourage thousands of American to recognize and support the newly formed Republic of Guinea Bissau. It is believed that this effort is the first time in American history that citizens have directly recognized a foreign government en masse.

The Committee to Support the Republic of Guinea Bissau was created in the summer of 1973 in anticipation of the formal declaration of the new Republic. That declaration was made on September 24, 1973.

The Republic was proclaimed after a decade of armed struggle against Portuguese colonial rule. One-hundred twenty elected representatives convened as the National Popular Assembly in Madina do Boe, Guinea Bissau, proclaimed the Republic, adopted a Constitution, national anthem, flag, and various organs of government. Luiz Cabral was installed as the first President.

Since the U.S. Government is a staunch ally of Portugal, and aids that government's African colonial wars both unilaterally and via NATO, it has flatly refused to join the more than seventy nations which have already recognized Guinea Bissau. Therefore the Committee sees its role in two ways: (1) to organize citizen recognition and support for the new Republic, and (2) demonstrate popular support to the Nixon Administration for governmental recognition of the Republic of Guinea Bissau.

The Committee also supports the continued struggle led by the P.A.I.G.E. (African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde) to liberate the remainder of Guinea Bissau (three-fourths of the countryside is already liberated) and the Cape Verde Islands from Portuguese colonial rule.

The Hon. William H. Booth, president of the American Committee on Africa and former chairman of the New York City Commission on Human Rights, is chairman of the Committee. Prominent among the seventy-seven sponsors are: Bella Abzug, Shirley Chisolm, Julian Bond, Sterling Carey, C. Edward Crowther, Angela Davis, Ron Dellums, Vine Deloria, Charles Diggs, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Vincent Harding, Sandra Levinson, Betita Martinez, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Louis Stokes, Sue Thrasher, Joe Walker, Douglas Turner Ward and Andrew Young.

William H. Booth
Chairman

Robert Maurer
Secretary
Message of Support and Solidarity

To The People and Party of

The Republic of Guinea Bissau

We recognize the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Guinea Bissau.

In this historic moment, we join with the people of Guinea Bissau in celebrating this latest triumph over Portuguese colonialism and its allies.

Guided by the determined leadership of the Partido Africano de Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC), this great expression of the right of self-determination attests to the strength and will of a vigilant people.

Recognizing that newly independent governments have had to resist international pressures aimed at undermining their sovereignty, we pledge our solidarity with you in the face of any pressures.

Be assured that your countrymen and women are welcome among us.

Be assured also that we are prepared to discuss exchanges between our peoples, based on equality and mutual respect.

In the spirit of liberation and good will, we rejoice with you.

distributed by: Committee to Support the Republic of Guinea Bissau
Second Floor
164 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10016

(OVER)
PETITION

I affirm the Message of Support and Solidarity to the People and Party of the Republic of Guinea Bissau. I wish to add my voice to those recognizing and celebrating this newly formed government. I also wish to urge the Department of State to extend full diplomatic recognition to the Republic of Guinea Bissau.

NAME

ADDRESS

RETURN TO: Committee to Support the Republic of Guinea Bissau
Second Floor
164 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10016

(OVER)
COMMITTEE TO SUPPORT THE
REPUBLIC OF GUINEA BISSAU

2nd Floor 164 Madison Ave. New York, N.Y. 10016
(212) 532-3700

William H. Booth
Chairman

Robert Maurer
Secretary

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(Organizations for identification only)

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Isaac H. Bivens - General Secretary for Africa, United Methodist Church
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RETURN TO: Committee to Support the Republic of Guinea Bissau
Second Floor
164 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10016

I enclose $_______ to help defray the printing and postage costs of
this campaign to recognize and support the Republic of Guinea Bissau.

Please send me ________ copies of the Message and Petition and I will
circulate it and return it.

The following organization has agreed to do a mailing of the Message
and Petition to its mailing list. Please send ________ copies
of the document to:

name of organization _______________________
Address ________________________
____________________________

I would like to order a silkscreen poster prepared especially
to celebrate the creation of the Republic of Guinea Bissau.
Enclosed is $1.50. (Poster was done by the Committee for the
Liberation of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea, in Chicago.)

I would like a FREE brochure describing the struggle in Guinea
Bissau and Cape Verde Islands. (Bulk orders: 1-9 at 5¢/copy;
10-100 at 3¢ per copy. Add 15% for postage.)

I would like a list of organizations which have been supporting
the struggles for national liberation in Africa, and a brief
description of what they do.

Name ______________________
Address ______________________
____________________________
(zip)