CULTURAL SOLIDARITY EVENING
FRIDAY, FEB. 6 at COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL
8:00 P.M.

RMS A&B (116 & Amsterdam)
Rev. Kirkpatrick, Eritreans for Liberation in N. America, Cruz Martinez, People’s Democratic Association, Matt Jones, Liberation Support Mov’t [poems from Agostinho Neto], Iranian Students Association, Eugene Oregon Coalition, Progressive Greek Students, others

Donation: $2.00

SUPPORT THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA!
gather at:
HERALD SQ. (34th & 6)
march to:
-S. African Airlines(49th & 5)
-Gulf Oil(51st & 6)
-Times Sq.(rally)

For further info call:
AL 5-0352
724-7075

SATURDAY, FEB. 7 at 1 P.M.
PEOPLE’S MARCH
THE MPLA—A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

On February 4, 1961, militants of the MPLA attacked the central Luanda prison, initiating the armed struggle against the Portuguese colonialists.

The MPLA was formed in 1956 on the basis of uniting all nationalist forces. During the 19 years of anti-colonial struggle that followed, the MPLA mobilized the Angolan people to determine and control their own future and to make Angola’s great resources work for the benefit of the Angolan people, not foreign corporations or small local elites.

The MPLA initiated mass organizations for women, youth, and workers. In addition to MPLA organized People’s militias, collective agricultural projects and medical services.

In contrast, both UNITA and FNLA developed ties with imperialist forces including the U.S., Zaire, and Portugal, never becoming more than ethnically or regionally based. In 1955 Holden Roberto, now president of FNLA, petitioned the UN that the people of his ethnic group, the Bakongo, located in northern Angola, be placed under a U.S. mandate in a manner similar to South Africa’s mandate over Namibia.

Published correspondence between Jonas Savimbi, president of UNITA, and the Portuguese colonial military revealed their collaboration against MPLA. FNLA and UNITA are now relying on mercenary columns and regular troops from South Africa and Zaire.

WHY THE U.S. IS INVOLVED

The real reasons behind U.S. involvement in Angola are the country’s wealth and strategic location. The two biggest investors in Angola are the U.S. and South Africa. The single largest U.S. investor in Angola is Gulf Oil, 10% of whose foreign oil production comes from Angola. Trade between South Africa and Angola increased greatly during the last years of Portuguese colonial rule.

The MPLA’s position is to make Angola’s great resources work for the benefit of the Angolan people and not the banks in the U.S. and Johannesburg. Since the MPLA opposes a neo-colonial solution, the U.S. and its allies want to keep control of Angola from the MPLA by any means.

Angola’s strategic location makes it very important in the attempt by the imperialists to continue their domination and exploitation of the mineral rich southern African countries including Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa. An MPLA victory would be a great blow to imperialism.

THE CURRENT SITUATION

Despite deceptions in the press, the real interventionists in Angola are the U.S. and its allies, South Africa and Zaire. The U.S. supported the Portuguese colonialists against the Angolan people’s struggle, led by the MPLA, for independence and self-determination. Eight days after the MPLA proclaimed the People’s Republic of Angola on November 11, a U.S. naval taskforce, including the carrier Independence (which carries 90 Phantom jets) was placed on contingency orders for Angola and is now on full alert in the Azores. U.S. spotter planes are flying missions over Angola from Zaire. In addition, the U.S. has launched an economic boycott of the People’s Republic.

The People’s Republic of Angola, led by the MPLA, has been recognized by many progressive countries, including 23 African countries. These include: Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Cape Verde, Tanzania, Vietnam, the Democratic Republic of Korea and Cuba. In proclaiming independence, Agostino Neto expressed gratitude for the help rendered by all friendly countries and peoples in the long struggle for independence. Now as the U.S. escalates its attack on the young Republic the need to express the solidarity of all progressive people with the Angolan struggle is more important than ever.

COME TO THE CULTURAL EVENING—FRI.* FEB. 6
COME TO THE PEOPLE’S MARCH—SAT.* FEB. 7
SUPPORT THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA
