1972 LIBERATION CALENDAR
AFRICA
FACES OF LIBERATION
"We of the CONCP are fighting so that insults may no longer rule our countries, martyred and scorned for centuries, so that our peoples may never more be exploited by imperialists - not only by Europeans, not only by people with white skin, because we do not confuse exploitation or exploiters with the colour of men's skins; we do not want any exploitation in our countries, not even by black people..."

Amilcar Cabral, President of the PAIGC, opening address at the 1965 Conference of National Organizations from the Portuguese Colonies (CONCP).

1 1963 Beginning of the armed struggle in Guiné, led by the PAIGC.
3 1968 MPLA announced the shift of its Headquarters from Congo Brazzaville to inside Angola.
9 1963 MPLA opened its 2nd Military Region in Cabinda.
16 1966 First Conference of the Organization of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America (OSPAAL).
25 Day of Solidarity with the Struggle of the Arab People - to support the progressive Arab forces in their fight for the liberation of Palestine against imperialism, racism, reaction and Zionism.
Northern Angola: MPLA preparation for an attack on a Portuguese post. photo: Boubeker Adjali
"One of the major principles which we must rigorously follow is to utilize our own forces in resolving the problems of the revolution. To utilize our own forces in military activity means to arm our guerrillas with the weapons of the enemy; it means to regain the food, clothing, medicine, money and other means necessary for the guerrilla’s existence. And we have the right to do this, not only the necessity. Because everything the colonialists possess...is the product of the labor of our People. It is the result of the exploitation of our People. It all belongs to our People, and must be used in the legitimate interest of our People."

Agostinho Neto, President of the MPLA, Message to the Militants of MPLA, January 1, 1970.

3 1969 Assassination of Comrade Eduardo C. Mondlane, President of FRELIMO.

4 1961 The first revolutionary armed action took place in Luanda. Led by MPLA, the Angolan Revolution had begun.


13 1964 First PAIGC Congress held inside Guinea. Creation of FARP (Peoples Revolutionary Armed Forces), which would include the existing guerrilla forces, a Regular Army and a Popular Militia.

23 1868 Birth of William E.B. DuBois, American socialist, writer, and educator. He was the architect of Pan-Africanism - Secretary of the first Pan-African conference in 1900 and organizer of the second in 1919 to bring the case against colonialism before the Versailles Peace Conference.
"Through the Organization of Angolan Women (OMA), the Angolan woman is actively participating on the battlefield, as well as in other activities related to the struggle, contributing towards the liberation of her country and towards the restoration of her dignity as a member of the Angolan society of the future. In all regions where our people are already living a life of independence and freedom from colonial slavery, there are thousands of women, who, together with their husbands and children, are for the first time in five centuries experiencing the feeling of being human beings with rights that are not subject to colonial repression. For the first time the Angolan woman is wholly involved in the life of her People under conditions of full equality."

1911 International Women’s Day observed by a million women to demonstrate their common struggle for equality and peace. Observance of this day has been continued by women struggling against exploitation and imperialist wars.

1968 FRELIMO began military actions in Tete Province. A major objective is to stop the construction of the internationally financed Cabora Bassa Dam and the plan to settle one million white settlers in the Zambezi Valley.

A fleet of 14 helicopters plus three Dornier training planes, together worth nearly one-and-a-half million dollars, were destroyed by explosives of the Armed Revolutionary Action Group (ARA) at Tancos Air Base, 95 miles from Lisbon. The ARA stated that the attacks were an action “against the shameful colonial wars, contrary to the interests of the Portuguese people, waged by the Portuguese fascists and colonialists against the peoples of Angola, Mozambique and Guiné who are fighting for their independence.”

Zimbabwe Day, a day of rededication to the War of Liberation in Zimbabwe (S. Rhodesia).

Sharpesville massacre. Thousands of Africans gathered in a peaceful protest against the pass laws outside police stations in the areas of Sharpesville and Langa in Cape Town. Police opened fire on the crowd killing scores of people.

1961 An All-African People’s Conference called in Pietermaritzburg, Natal, to mobilize the people for struggle against the plans of the Government to proclaim South Africa a Republic. Nelson Mandela was elected leader of the National Action Council to organize a three-day strike. Massive police actions smashing the strike brought about a reassessment of non-violent mass action as the principle means of struggle.

1960 ANC was banned. A state of emergency was declared throughout South Africa – some 20,000 people, including most of the liberation movement leaders, were held in custody for indefinite periods that year. Of this number, 2,067 were eventually brought to trial.
In the liberated zones of Angola, Guinea and Mozambique the people receive the fruits of their labors - giving a share to the guerrillas as one contribution to the struggle. Those still under Portuguese control are subject to various forms of force labor, i.e. the State can force the African to produce only certain crops which sell at very low prices (average yearly income on cotton: $22 in 1961), or the African can be ordered to work six months of a year on public works projects (such as the Cabora Bassa Dam) at wages of 9¢ a day. Above: FRELIMO harvest in Niassa Province.
"My parents are peasants. In our land we grew cassava, beans and maize. We also grew cotton which we sold to a company. We sold a bag of cotton for between 25 escudos ($0.90) to 50 escudos ($1.80), depending on the quality and the year. In a good year my father must have sold 10 bags. He paid 195 escudos ($7.00) tax. I worked in the fields growing cotton. We didn't want cotton but we had to grow it; we wanted to grow cassava, beans and maize. If we refused to grow cotton they arrested us, put us in chains, beat us and then sent us to a place from where one often didn't come back. When I was a child I knew Chief Navativa; they arrested him and he hasn't been seen since."

RELMIMO interview with Rita Mulumbua (Niassa Province) reported in The Struggle for Mozambique, by Eduardo Mondlane.

April 1964 The strategic Como Island, liberated by the PAIGC since February 1963, was the site of one of the most crushing defeats ever inflicted on colonial troops since the imperialist penetration of Africa. The Portuguese launched an attack against the island and after 75 days of fierce battle, Portuguese troops were forced to retreat, leaving behind 600 dead.

1870 Birth of V.I. Lenin.

1961 CONCP (Conference of Nationalist Organizations from the Portuguese Colonies) founded in Casablanca. CONCP members: RELIMO, MPLA, PAIGC.

1970 U.S. troops invade Cambodia following the CIA inspired coup against Prince Sihanouk. The National United Front of Cambodia (NUF) has now liberated 2/3 of the country.
Apartheid is a scheme, a device and a machinery for keeping a White minority in political and economic power in South Africa. It is also a machinery which serves the interests of international big business. It hinges on the colour of the skin and has placed the entire African population at the economic beck and call of this White minority which in turn, by holding the reins of exploitation, becomes the agent of colonial and imperial interests. On the African continent, the concentration in South Africa of 3 1/2 million Whites holding 15 million Africans in subjugation makes that part of Africa a big prize for overseas investors.


This Man, a welder, is a skilled laborer but Apartheid ensures that he works at the lowest possible wage - which means "super-profits" on South African investments.
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1. **International Day of Solidarity.** First designated as International Labor Day in 1889 by the International Socialist Congress.

5. 1818 Birth of Karl Marx.


18. 1966 MPLA launched the armed struggle in Moxico (3rd Military Region: Eastern Angola).

19. 1890 Birth of Ho Chi Minh.

APARTHEID Tries To Enslave The Black Man's Mind As Well As His Labor.

"Native Education should be based on principles of trusteeship, non-equality and segregation; its aim should be to inculcate the white man's view of life, especially that of the Boer nation which is the senior trustee."

"Racial relations cannot improve if this wrong type education is given to the Native. They cannot improve if the result...is the creation of a frustrated people, who as a result of the education they received, have expectations in life which circumstances in South Africa do not allow to be fulfilled immediately, when it creates people who are trained for professions not open to them..."

31 May - 4 June 1966 First Congress of the League of Mozambican Women.

3 1971 Portugal's telecommunications were cut off by bomb explosions as the NATO Ministers' Meeting in Lisbon opened. The bombing was an act of the ARA which charged that the Lisbon meeting "gives cover and moral support to the fascist and colonialist government of Marcello Caetano... (and that it) is a confirmation of the military and political support of this aggressive bloc for the despicable colonial wars.

6 1969 MPLA opened the 5th (central) Region of Angola, Bié.

7 1960 Massacre of Mueda, Cabo Delgado. More than 500 Mozambicans were killed by Portuguese troops.

25 1962 Founding of FRELIMO

26 1950 South Africa Freedom Day. Declared by the ANC to be a National Day of Protest and dedicated to the people who were slaughtered in the May 1 Strike.

26 1952 ANC launched a campaign for the defiances of unjust laws which had resulted in the imprisonment of more than 8,000 people.

26 1955 The Congress of the People was held in Kliptown, Johannesburg. Some 3700 delegates gathered and adopted the Freedom Charter.

30 1963 PAIGC launched the armed struggle on the Northern Front of Guiné.
LIBERATION SCHOOLS

PAIGC students

Class at the MPLA Center of Revolutionary Instruction (CIR), 4th Region.

FRELIMO primary school at Tunduru.
"The difficulties of our struggle were mainly those inherent in our situation as an underdeveloped - practically nondeveloped - people whose history was held back by colonialist and imperialist domination. A people that started with nothing, a people that had to begin the struggle almost naked, a people that had only 14 university-trained men - this people was surely going to have difficulties in carrying out its armed struggle."

Amilcar Cabral, President of PAIGC, interview given to Tricontinental magazine 9/68.

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17 - 26 1963 PAIGC meeting of cadres and leadership to consider the launching of armed struggle on Cape Verde Island.

1968 The Liberation Committee of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) decided to end support of Holden Roberto's reactionary "GRAE" and to support the MPLA.

1967 Chief Albert Lutuli, Nobel Peace Prize Winner and President-General of the ANC killed in a train 'accident' that remains unexplained.

20 - 25 July 1968 Second Congress of FRELIMO - held in Niassa Province.
HEALTH CARE IN THE LIBERATED ZONES

FRELIMO medical aid bandaging guerrilla's leg.

PAIGC doctor administering civilians.

Doctor in the MPLA Medical Assistance Service (SAM).
In the liberated zones health care is now provided by the movements. Under Portuguese control the people in these areas had never seen a doctor - even though they suffered from many tropical and endemic diseases. They had life expectancies of 28 years and the highest infant mortality rates in Africa.

### AUGUST

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- **3 1959** A PAIGC strike of dock workers of Pidjiguiti in Guinea. Over 50 workers were killed and hundreds wounded by the colonialist Portuguese.

  August 3 is International Day of Solidarity with the People of Guinea and Cape Verde Island.

- **3 1967** South Africa Women's Day. The Federation of South African Women led 20,000 demonstrators to converge on Pretoria from all parts of the country. They sat in front of Government buildings - speeches were made against Government plans to introduce passes for African women, and a massive petition was drawn up. The demonstration under the windows of the "Prime Minister" was organized in the teeth of intense police activity and was seen as a major triumph.

- **13 1967** ANC – ZAPU military Alliance announced. Joint forces successfully engaged enemy forces for the first time to launch guerrilla activity in Zimbabwe.

- **23 1968** MPLA three day conference held in the Eastern Region of Angola. The First Regional Conference held inside Angola.

- **26 1966** SWAPO (South-West African People's Organization) launched the armed struggle in Namibia.
OUR STRUGGLE for the Liberation of Man

PAIGC

FRELIMO
"We are a nationalist organization. We are fighting for national independence. I think that in any struggle (even for national independence) we must respect the interests of the people, and we feel that there are today good conditions for the liberation of man. We believe that it is everybody's interest to fight against the exploitation of man by man - that is to say that the majority of the population will be prepared to establish a society without the exploitation of man by man."

Marcelino Dos Santos, Vice President of FRELIMO, Sechaba Interview, Vol. 4 #11/12.
THE GUERRILLA
These racists and white settlers want to keep South Africa, South-West Africa, Rhodesia, Mozambique and Angola safely in their hands. They want these countries to remain under their control for economic and political reasons. The South African racists know that if Mozambique and Angola become free the liberation forces will use them as base areas from which to attack the apartheid regime. We have already found young South African soldiers among the Portuguese troops. In Bie they use African soldiers to guard the rich foreign-owned Cassinga iron mines. South African helicopters also come to supply their soldiers with ammunition, food, etc. and to do reconnaissance for the Portuguese. There is an agreement between South Africa, Rhodesia and Portugal. They meet every month to study how to carry on counter-guerrilla actions against the liberation movements in the various colonies and neo-colonies.

Commander and MPLA Comite Director Spartacus Monimambu, LSM Interview, March 1968.

12 Proclamation of Independence after the defeat of the Japanese by the Lao-Tian people. The struggle for national independence continued when the French tried to re-establish their colonial rule and later when the U.S. attempted to make Laos its neo-colony. The Pathet Lao leads the resistance against U.S. aggression in Laos.

15 1968 Liberation Support Movement founded in the U.S. and Canada with the objective of providing concrete and meaningful support to national liberation movements and struggles within the U.S.-dominated imperialist system.

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1967 Assassination of Ernesto "Che" Guevara.

Day of the Heroic Guerrilla.
RESURGENCE OF CULTURE

Musical Instrument - Angola

Guine Musician

Mozambican woman dancing - a part of cultural activities in liberated Cabo Delgado Province.

Guitarist - Angola
The Portuguese government attempted to clamp down not only on the political life of the African but also on all other traditional aspects, his art, his language, his customs. (The African traditions) survived as a somewhat subdued 'underground' culture, frowned upon and openly despised by the authorities. With the expulsion of the Portuguese, there has been a natural resurgence...in the schools and in the military camps, traditional songs and dances are practised. In the producers' cooperatives, the arts and crafts are developed. Yet there are a number of new developments...in the camps, the young people are not only practising the songs and dances of their own tribe, but learning those of others, while in the fields of production new ideas and techniques are being introduced both from different areas of Mozambique and from outside. Then, the struggle itself is making its mark in the form of new themes for songs and new themes in art."


1970 Explosions in Lisbon destroyed the U.S. Cultural Center, damaged the Security Police building, and blew up a pile of baggage on a dock, which, except for a weather delay, would have been on board the troop supply ship "Niassa" headed for Africa.

1970 A Portuguese mercenary force of 300 invaded the independent state of Guinea which borders on Guinea. This was an attempt to overthrow the government of President Sekou Toure because of its sympathy and support of the PAIGC. It was also meant to intimidate states bordering on Angola and Mozambique which support the liberation movements. The invasion was decisively repulsed.

1820 Birth of Friedrich Engels.
Part Of The World Struggle

We, the national liberation movements...should be conscious of the fact that our armed struggle is only one aspect of the general struggle of the oppressed peoples against imperialism, of man's struggle for dignity, freedom and progress. We should consider ourselves as soldiers, often anonymous, but soldiers of humanity in the vast front of struggle in Africa today.

Amilcar Cabral. Opening address at the 1965 CONCP Conference.

Angolan youths, students of MPLA's Center for Revolutionary Instruction (CIR) in the outskirts of Luanda, preparing for their role in the Bolivarian Armed Struggle.
DECEMBER

6 1956 Zimbabwe: 156 men and women of all races arrested and charged with "High Treason". They represented the top leadership of the Congress Alliance and their arrest sparked mass demonstrations throughout the country. The notorious Treason Trial lasted four and a half years to end when the accused were eventually acquitted.

10 1956 Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA) founded in Luanda.

14 1960 The UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries & Peoples (resolution 1514 (XV) ) which proclaimed the necessity of "bringing a speedy and unconditional end to colonialism in all its forms and manifestations." The Declaration also said that "immediate steps were to be taken to transfer all powers to the peoples of the colonial countries in accordance with their freely expressed wishes and without any distinction as to race, creed or color."

16 1961 Umkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation - ANC) carried out nationwide sabotage attacks against Government installations announcing the new policy of armed struggle.

17 1961 Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) founded.

20 1962 ZAPU banned.

20 The founding of the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam.

26 1893 Birth of Mao Tse-tung
During 1971 LSM continued to develop its support programs. The Information Center with funds raised by the branches, printed two medical texts, a first-aid handbook and an obstetrical pathology manual for the MPLA Medical Assistance Services (SAM), to be used for training medical cadres. SAM began courses using them in March, 1971. These books have been offered to the Portuguese-speaking Mozambican, Guinean (FRELIMO, PAIGC) and Brazilian liberation forces.

By August (when this calendar goes to press) LSM's branches in Vancouver, Canada and Oakland, U.S., had sent three shipments (about 6 tons) of clothing, technical books, uniforms and over $10,000 in medical supplies to the MPLA of Angola. At least three more shipments of clothing, medicines and tents are anticipated before the end of 1971 (two to MPLA and 1 to FRELIMO). In addition, LSM's "Food for Guerrillas" campaign launched in June will culminate in a shipment of 2 tons of concentrated food for FRELIMO and MPLA.

LSM expanded its practice to include agitational programs to attack the role of NATO countries including Canada in assisting Portugal's colonial wars, as well as the involvement of multi-national corporations in the countries where national liberation struggles are occurring. Corporate targets include DOW Chemical (U.S.), producer of the chemical defoliants used in Angola and Indochina, ALCAN (Canada), participant in the Cabora Bassa dam project in Mozambique, and Gulf Oil (U.S.) with rich concessions in Angola, Venezuela and other oppressed nations.

The LSM Information Center continued its publication of materials on the armed struggle in the "countryside" of the Empire and in the summer began to perform another important function for the movements: reprinting for North American distribution Angola In Arms and Mozambique Revolution, official organs of MPLA and FRELIMO. The work of the Information Center is calculated to assist the support and agitational activities of LSM branches as well as other anti-imperialist organizations.

For further information on Liberation Support Movement:

LSM Information Center
P.O. Box 338
Richmond B.C. Canada

LSM U.S. Distribution Center
Bay Area LSM
P.O. Box 814
Oakland, California 94604
an excerpt from the LSM Constitution:

"Aims and Objectives"

"The major objectives of the LSM are (1) to provide concrete and substantial support, in the form of essential supplies, funds, technical assistance, publicity and information, to vanguard liberation forces fighting colonialism and neo-colonialism in the "countryside" of the U.S.-dominated imperialist system, and (2) to carry out rearguard anti-imperialist programs in the metropolitan centers of the empire so as to increase "urban" popular disaffection, further the moral isolation of the ruling-class regime, exacerbate the strategic military-manpower weakness of the establishment, expose the multinational corporate "mafia" and mobilize progressive metropolitan forces to support the armed spearhead of the anti-imperialist revolution in the "countryside".

"We believe that far too little practical and fraternal assistance has been given in support of National Liberation Movements by North Americans who are both capable and, in theory, desirous of providing such vitally needed support. The Liberation Support Movement was established in order to help resolve this glaring contradiction between theory and practice, between the potentiality and actuality of our own contribution to the anti-imperialist struggle.

"Within North America, vast human and material resources are at our disposal to serve the pressing needs of imperialism's super-exploited masses in their just struggles to achieve genuine political, economic and cultural independence. Such struggles, and the peoples engaged in them, are in a very real sense our own. Though of different national, ethnic and linguistic groupings, we are all one people within the American Empire. The victories against exploitation and oppression achieved by our people in the "countryside" of the Empire serve to hasten the total destruction of the imperialist system. They thus bring those of our people who dwell in the "metropole" of the Empire closer to their own decisive victories and liberation."