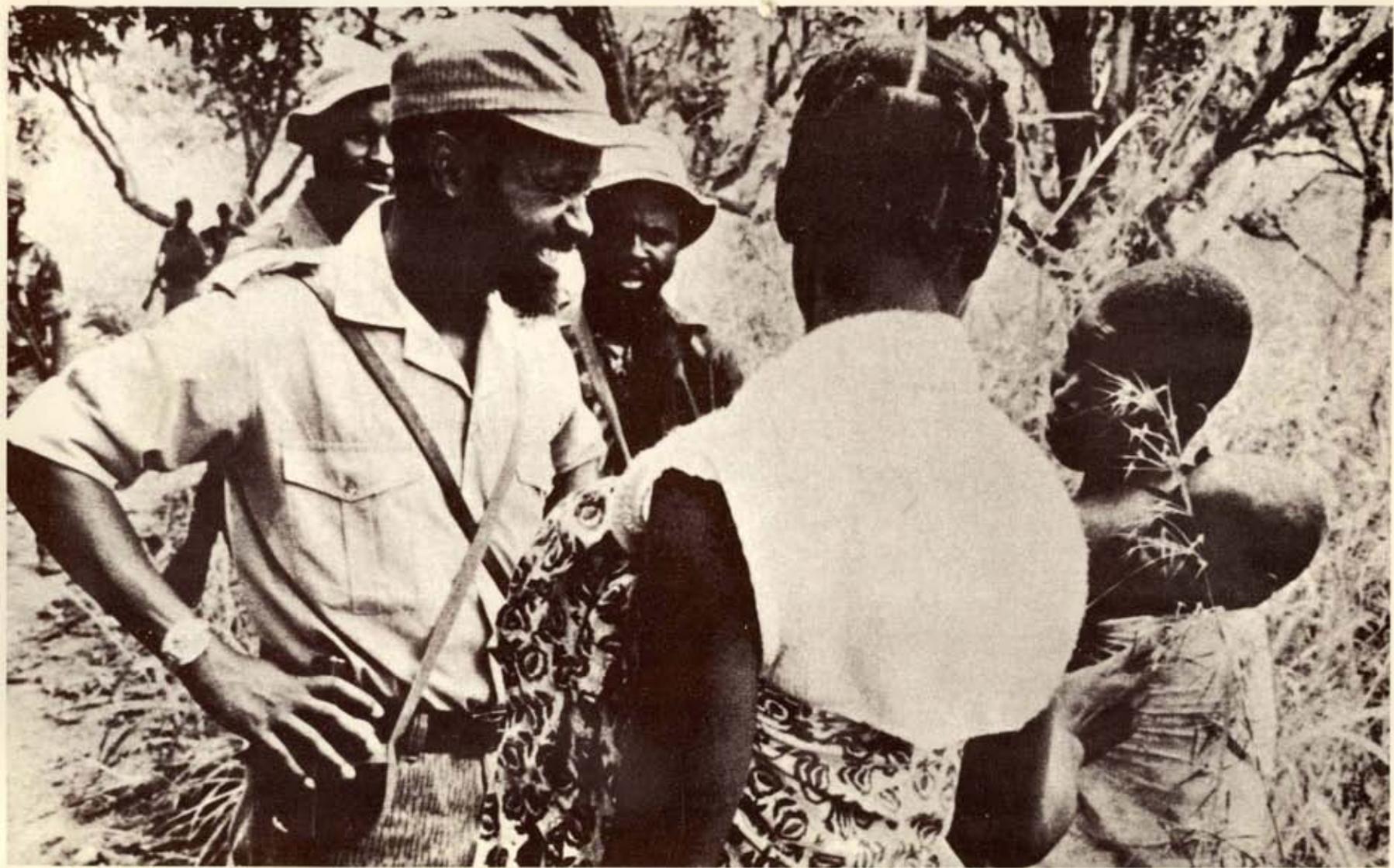


AFRICA Liberation Calendar 1975





A Luta Continua
reconquering the dignity of free men and women
"The time of Revolution is the time of certainty
of hopes realized and it is for us TODAY."
-FRELIMO

JANUARY

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1 1963: Beginning of the armed struggle in Guinea-Bissau. Militants of the Partido Africano de Independência da Guiné e Cabo Verde (PAIGC) attack Portuguese troops deep inside the country.

13 1974: *Namibia*. 156 people arrested on their way to a SWAPO rally in Rehoboth. Days later police raid Katutura African township in Windhoek, arresting another 186. The South African regime continues its illegal effort to crush activities in Namibia.

13 1974: *Mozambique*. Portuguese troops massacre 28 Africans at Chirima, Manica e Sofala province in an intensified terror campaign to counter strong Frelimo advances.

16 1966: First Conference of the Organization of the Peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America (OSPAAAL) in Havana, Cuba. OSPAAAL has become an important tool for strengthening international solidarity and cooperation among revolutionary movements on all continents.

20 1973: Assassination of Comrade Amilcar Cabral, Secretary General of PAIGC, by agents of Portuguese colonialism. Following this heinous crime, PAIGC militants launched decisive military actions breaking the back of Portuguese power in rural Guinea-Bissau.

25 *Day of Solidarity With the Struggle of the Arab People* - in support of revolutionary Arab forces in their fight for the liberation of Palestine and against imperialism, racism, Zionism and reactionary Arab regimes.



Education: A Weapon of the People

The role of education in the revolution is to create a new mentality free from superstition, subservience and other forms of mental oppression - to develop among the masses a capacity to analyze, criticize and carry forth the Revolution.

FEBRUARY

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1 1974: Frelimo starts a three-month political course for cadres in liberated Mozambique. President Samora Machel: "...This course will prepare cadres for our Movement who, like young plants, will be transplanted throughout the whole country with the task of instilling a new consciousness in our people and organizing its vanguard."

3 1969: Assassination of Comrade Eduardo Mondlane, President of Frelimo, by the Portuguese secret police.

4 1961: Armed struggle begins in Angola with the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) launching an attack on the central prison in Luanda, the capital.

8 1974: Racist Rhodesian settler regime steps up army draft in an effort to deal with successful actions of ZANU and ZAPU (the two Zimbabwean liberation movements). The situation is rapidly deteriorating for the white minority.

13 1960: Assassination of Patrice Lumumba, progressive leader of the Congolese people.



MARCH

Apartheid Catching Fire
"A new spirit of resistance and defiance is building us steadily among the masses of our people." -ANC

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4/16 1973: First Conference of Mozambican Women. Attended by eighty delegates engaged in armed action and working in Freilimo schools, hospitals and nurseries. Women are now engaged in all aspects of the Mozambican revolution - fighting, organizing and working in the field of national reconstruction.

5 1974: 104 African workers at Leyland plant in Natal, South Africa, fired for trying to form a union. Most companies still don't recognize the right of African workers to organize. Some 250 non-whites were fired the same week following confrontations with bosses in other Natal factories.

8 1974: Zimbabwe. ZAPU guerrillas attack South African Police camp near Victoria Falls, killing four South Africans and five Rhodesian troops. Several thousand South Africans are stationed along south shore of the Zambezi to help the Smith regime against Zimbabwean guerrillas.

8 International Women's Day. To commemorate the struggle of all women against exploitation, racism and imperialism.

14 1973: The trial of the "Pretoria Six" opens in South Africa. Four African and two white supporters of the ANC were later sentenced to long prison terms for attempting to overthrow the racist South African regime by force.

17 1974: Portugal. Troops stage abortive coup to force the resignation of fascist President Americo Thomaz following long build-up of discontent within armed forces. The reactionary government responds by initiating wholesale purge of anti-fascist officers.

17 Zimbabwe Day. "This is the day we Zimbabweans reflect on our very existence as a people - our relationships, our tasks, our problems, our successes; all the things that make us what we are."

23 1974: As part of an offensive against imperialist interests, fighters of the Eritrean PLF attack and destroy the Ethio-Japanese-owned coppermine at Gobarwa, 20 miles south of Asmara, the capital.

25 1974: MPLA militants capture the important Calo-Engembo barracks near Gulf Oil plants in the Cabinda district of Angola. Colonialist troops suffer 10 confirmed dead and much equipment destroyed. This action is part of recent MPLA offensive in Cabinda.



A New Generation of Women

"The liberation of women is a basic requirement for the Revolution, the guarantee of its continuity and a precondition for its victory." -FRELIMO

APRIL

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7 Mozambican Women's Day. Commemorating the death of Comrade Josina Machel.
 "This is the time we were all waiting for.
 Our guns are light in our hands,
 the reasons and aims of the struggle clear in our minds.
 ...This is the time to be ready and firm.
 The time to give ourselves to the revolution."
 Josina Machel

11 1974: Revolutionary Brigades organization sets off explosions ripping large holes in hull of troop-carrier "Niassa" as it prepares to leave Lisbon with 1,000 troops destined for Guinea-Bissau.

12 1974: Rhodesian settler regime asks South Africa for additional 11,000 troops to help stem the present Zimbabwe freedom fighter offensive. Already some 4,000 South African police and soldiers are stationed in the country.

14 1973: The international UN/DAU-sponsored Oslo Conference ends with a call to all member nations for political and practical support for the African liberation movements.

20 1973: Namibia. SWAPO militants ambush South African platoon, killing 37 of 39 troops.

1974
 Mozambique. Frelimo fighters down two Rhodesian planes over liberated areas in Tete. Responding to Frelimo and ZANU advances, the settler forces have made frequent incursions deep inside Mozambique to terrorize the civilian population.

25 1974: Military coup in Portugal, organized by Armed Forces Movement, topples the fascist Caetano regime. Liberation Movements reiterate their determination to continue the struggle for complete independence.

28 Chimurenga (War of Liberation) Day, observed by ZANU to commemorate all Zimbabwe freedom fighters who have died in the struggle.



Peasants and Workers: Backbone of the Revolution

"Protracted liberation war is not for furious and hence often impulsive men and women - it is for people who are politically motivated and self-disciplined."

-SWAPO

MAY

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1 *International Day of Solidarity.* "The workmen have no country.... United action is one of the first conditions for the emancipation of the proletariat."

10 1974: More than 5,000 people in Bissau gather at the largest political rally ever held in the country. Slogans such as "Long Live PAIGC," "Down With Neo-Colonialism" and "Workers of the World Unite" dominate the rally.

17 1974: Thousands of dockers walk off jobs in Lourenço Marques, Mozambique adding momentum to a wave of strikes paralyzing sectors of the country's economy and holding up work at the Cabora Bassa damsite. The dockers' demands include an 800% wage increase.

18 *Namibian Hero's Day.* Commemorates the death in battle of Tobias Hainyeko, first commander-in-chief of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), SWAPO's military wing.

23 1974: Twenty Ethiopian army trucks hit minefield of the Eritrean People's Liberation Forces (PLF). Three trucks totally destroyed and the remainder of the convoy suffered further losses when ambushed by a PLF unit.

25 *Africa Freedom Day.* "People of Africa unite; you have nothing to lose but your chains, you have a continent to regain."

25 *Africa Liberation Day.* Annual demonstrations by Blacks in North America and the Caribbean against imperialism and in support of African liberation struggles.

1973
Guinea-Bissau. During "operation Amilcar Cabral," avenging the assassination of their first Secretary General, PAIGC forces capture key Portuguese garrison at Guiledje. A turning point in the Guinea-Bissau liberation struggle.



Unity, Struggle, Vigilance

"Let us always be prepared to make still greater sacrifices, overcome the greatest difficulties, gradually rectify our errors and shortcomings, improve our comportment, and strengthen our actions in the political, military and all other sectors of our new nation." -PAIGC

JUNE

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5 1974: Five freedom fighters among 13 captured guerrillas sentenced to death in 1973 murdered by the Rhodesian settler regime. Racists step up measures to counter sustained liberation movement offensive. Government forces report 272 settler forces killed in battle by ZANU and ZAPU guerrillas in 1973.

6 1974: Talks between the new Portuguese Government and Frelimo suspended after General Spinoza's refusal to recognize the right of the Mozambican people to complete independence.

12 1974: PAIGC breaks off talks with Portugal following Spinoza's public rejection of immediate and full independence for the colonies. The talks opened in London but were moved to Algiers due to open interference by US and British imperialists.

16 1960: *Mueda Massacre*. Portuguese troops use automatic weapons and grenades to kill more than 500 Mozambicans at peaceful demonstration. The Mueda Massacre clearly demonstrated the need for armed struggle to liberate Mozambique from Portuguese colonialism.

25 1962: Founding of Frelimo.

26 *South Africa Freedom Day*. National day of protest dedicated to the people slaughtered in the May 1 Strike.

26 1955: Congress of the People adopt the Freedom Charter in South Africa.



JULY

"Imperialism is present on our continent. Neo-colonialism is a fact. Everywhere in Africa there is still the need to struggle for independence, whether politically in some areas, economically in others, or culturally almost everywhere.... Ours is a struggle for political power, for economic independence, for the restoration of cultural life, to end alienation, for relations with all peoples on the basis of equality and fraternity." -MPLA

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7 1974: Frelimo opens new front in Zambezia province, central Mozambique. Control over this province will link northern liberated areas of Cabo Delgado and Niassa to fighting fronts in Tete and Manica e Sofala. In first few days of operation in Zambezia over 2,000 people joined Frelimo's ranks and large quantities of enemy arms and ammunition were captured.

12 1974: After three days of heavy Frelimo attack, Portuguese garrison is evacuated from town Morrumbala, a major urban center in Zambezia province. With Frelimo attacking on all fronts, the Portuguese position in the territory is in chaos.

15 1974: More than 30,000 Angolans march in Luanda funeral procession for victims of settler vigilante attacks. Largest political demonstration ever held in Angola.

22 1973: Final day of PAIGC's Second Congress, held in the liberated region of Boé, Guinea-Bissau. The late Amílcar Cabral was posthumously given the title of "Number One Militant of PAIGC." Aristides Pereira was unanimously elected new Secretary General.

1974
Angola. The Portuguese military assume emergency powers to cope with growing wave of African unrest and political activity.

27 1973: Rhodesian settler troops murder 100 Mozambican villagers in Tete near the Mozambique-Zimbabwe border as part of an effort to depopulate the area and counter Frelimo and ZANU advances.

1974
Portugal. President Spínola is forced by guerrilla successes and internal pressure to state that Portugal will immediately begin handing over power to the people in Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique. Ceasefires proclaimed in Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique but liberation movements remain cautious and sceptical.



Self-Reliance: The Path To Total Independence

"A mango does not become a great tree in its first day. But like a growing mango tree we are deeply rooted in the soil that is our people, and the masses are now tasting the first fruits." -FRELIMO

AUGUST

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3 International Day of Solidarity with the People of Guinea-Bissau and the Cape Verde Islands. To commemorate the Pidjiguiti massacre, August 3, 1959, when some fifty striking dockworkers are shot dead by Portuguese troops.

9 South Africa Women's Day. On this date 1967 the Federation of South African Women had 20,000 demonstrators converge on Pretoria to denounce the plans of the regime to introduce passes for African women.

13 1967: ANC-ZAPU military alliance is announced as the two movements launch a joint guerrilla campaign in Zimbabwe.

26 1966: SWAPO launches the armed struggle in Namibia when its guerrillas for the first time attack South African police units.

26 1974: Portuguese and PAIGC representatives sign joint statement declaring that Portugal will formally recognize the independence of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau as a sovereign state on 10 Sept. 1974. All Portuguese forces were to be withdrawn by 31 Oct. A ceasefire is agreed to and the 11 year armed struggle is at least temporarily halted. Neo-colonialism is now the prime enemy and socialism the goal.



SEPTEMBER

Toward Final Victory

"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." -PAIGC

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7 1974: Frelimo and Portugal sign agreement to make Mozambique independent on 25 June 1975. In the meantime, Frelimo will head provisional government, starting 25 September 1974, the 10th anniversary for the beginning of armed struggle in Mozambique.

9 1956: PAIGC founded in Bissau by Amilcar Cabral, Luis Cabral, Aristides Pereira and other revolutionary leaders.

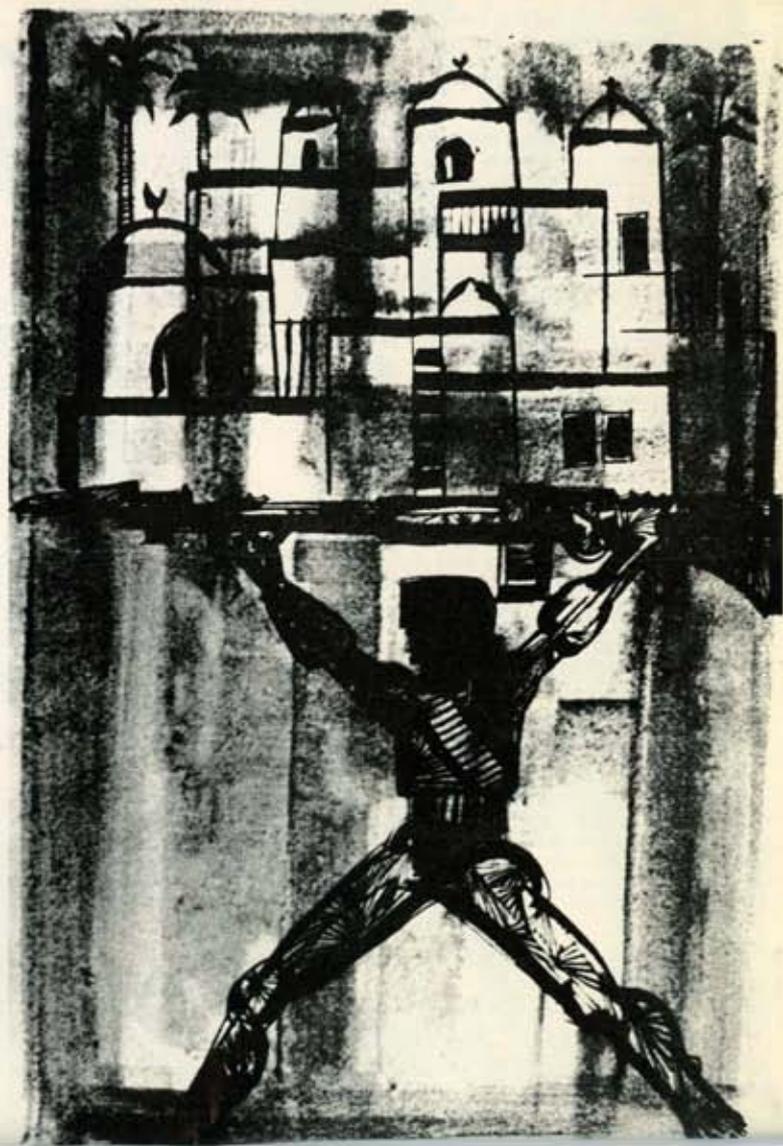
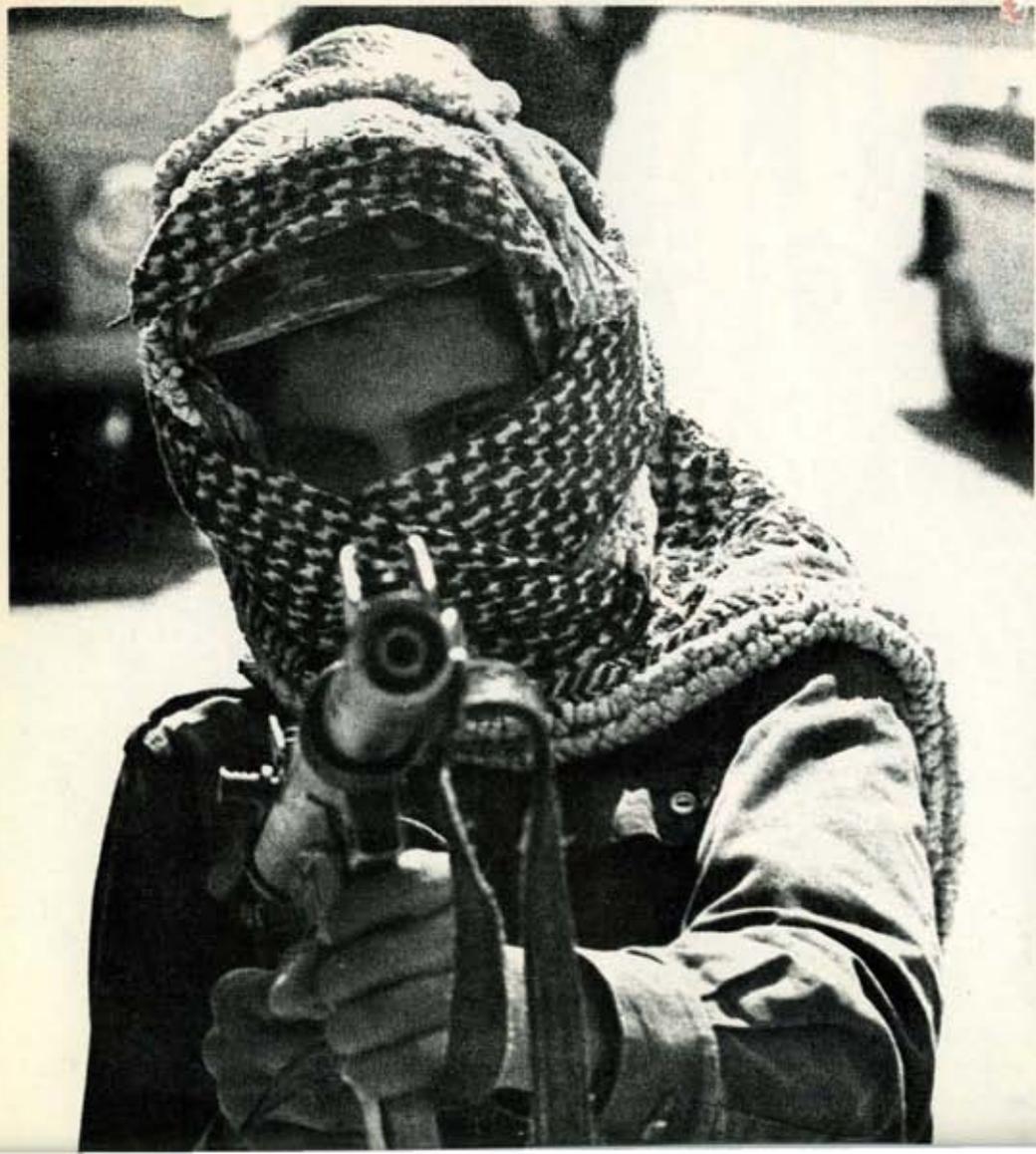
10 1974: Guinea-Bissau independent: 18 years and three months after the founding of PAIGC and after 11½ years of armed struggle.

11 1973: Police open fire in Western Deep Levels mine at Carletonville, South Africa, killing 11 African miners and wounding 27 as workers walked out in demand for higher wages. Western Deep Levels is a "model operation" by *apartheid* standards. Black machine operators earn \$73. a month. The "Poverty Datum Line" is \$115. — what a man needs to barely survive. Since 1968 this mine has yielded more than \$3.8 million a month in profits to Anglo-American Corporation.

12 1973: 600 African dockworkers march on the Governor-General's palace in Luanda, Angola. A wave of strikes nearly paralyzes the capital.

23/24 1973: The People's National Assembly convenes in Guinea-Bissau's Boé region and proclaims the Republic of Guinea-Bissau. Luís Cabral, a PAIGC founder, is elected President. The Republic is immediately recognized by more than 70 member states of the UN.

25 1964: Frelimo launches armed struggle in Mozambique. Frelimo Day of Revolution — observed as a day of international protest against Portugal's wars in Africa.



OCTOBER

Any Victory Over Imperialism Is Our Victory

"There are no boundaries in this struggle to death. We cannot be indifferent to what happens anywhere in the world, for a victory by any country over imperialism is our victory; just as any country's defeat is a defeat for all of us. The practice of proletarian internationalism is not only a duty for the peoples struggling for a better future, it is an inescapable necessity." -CHE GUEVARA

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8 *Day of the Heroic Guerrilla.* To commemorate the death in 1967 of Ernesto "Che" Guevara. "And let us develop a genuine proletarian internationalism with international proletarian armies..."

10 1973: The first wave of new white settlers from Portugal arrive in Tete, Mozambique, to help stem Frelimo's rapid advance. Each family is given land ready for planting, seed, equipment and a monthly allowance.

14 1972: Final day of elections in liberated Guinea-Bissau for the People's National Assembly. The first open election in the country, it took several months to carry out.

15 1969: The Liberation Support Movement founded in the US and Canada to provide concrete and meaningful support to national liberation movements and struggles within the imperialist system. Its goal is international socialism.



Forward to the Armed Seizure of Power

"Our contribution consists in our determined struggle to liberate our country and our commitment to ensure the complete collapse of capitalism within Zimbabwe." -ZAPU

NOVEMBER

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11 1973: MPLA forces attack Portuguese camp in Cazombo in the Northern Sub-Region of eastern Angola, killing 22 colonialist troops in one of the Movement's largest actions since it resumed military operations after suffering political and military problems earlier in the year.

20 1973: A leader of the Portuguese revolutionary underground, Palma Ignacio of Liga de União e de Acção Revolucionária (LUAR), was arrested in the Alentejo province. Ignacio is held responsible for the hijacking of a TAP airliner, bank robbery and several acts of sabotage. He has twice escaped prison.

22 1972: Beginning of sustained ZANU military campaign in north-eastern Zimbabwe. The armed struggle has since spread to cover large areas of the country.

1970
Republic of Guinea. Portuguese mercenary forces attempt to invade the Republic and topple Sékou Touré's progressive government because of its support of PAIGC. The invasion was decisively repulsed.

29 1973: Arab Summit Conference decides to impose strict oil embargo on South Africa, Rhodesia and Portugal in support of African liberation struggles. This embargo will seriously affect fuel supply of the three racist and colonialist regimes.



Toward International Socialism

"Since imperialism has its weakest links in the periphery in Asia, Africa and Latin America, we think that more concerted efforts should be made to defeat imperialism in these areas. Once these areas are liberated they will become bases for the final assault on imperialism at its center... By cutting off the tentacles of imperialism in the periphery, we will deprive the white working class in capitalist countries of their high standards of living they have enjoyed because of the super profits that multi-national corporations reaped in underdeveloped countries. It is only when the exploited working class of both black and white nations realize that they have a common enemy, a common oppressor and a common exploiter that they will unite to overthrow the capitalist system. This is our global strategy against capitalism, racism and imperialism." -ZANU

DECEMBER

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10 1956: The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) was founded in Luanda.

11 1959: *The Windhoek Massacre*. Police kill 13 and wound 60 Namibian demonstrators protesting Bantustan policy. This leads to the formation of SWAPO in early 1960 and the beginnings of a new strategy for national liberation.

16 1972: *Wiriyamu Massacre*. Colonialist troops shoot and burn more than 100 villagers in the village on Wiriyamu in Tete province, Mozambique. Similar massacres have taken the lives of almost 700 Mozambicans since the start of the liberation struggle.

17 1961: Founding of the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU).

31 1973: Frelimo hits the Beira-Umtali rail link, the most important sanction-busting route for the illegal Rhodesian regime.

31 *Zimbabwe*. 960 white emigrants leave during December. Growing rate of emigration and sharp decrease in number of new immigrants is due to the advance of liberation forces which creates uncertain prospects for continued white occupation and rule.

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SUMMARY OF LIBERATION SUPPORT MOVEMENT'S PRINCIPLES OF ANTI-IMPERIALIST WORK:

(1) To accelerate, through various concrete forms of material support, political education and ideological struggle, that revolutionary process whereby vanguard subjugated classes and peoples in the countryside are fighting their way out of the imperialist system and contributing significantly to the emergence of post-capitalist socialist internationalism;

(2) To unceasingly strive to achieve an international socialist content and direction to the various struggles emerging within the metropolitan centers as contradictions there sharpen due to revolutionary successes in the countryside and the resulting decline in imperialist super-profits and ruling-class capacity to sustain "peoples imperialism";

(3) To work toward the formation of revolutionary internationalist structures and forms of effective collaboration across national lines, and at the same time fight against those tendencies which, if not checked, might well lead to a post-capitalist world of unevenly developed, internally stratified and competitive (if not warring) "socialist" countries.

PHOTO CREDITS

- JANUARY: Samora Machel with Mozambican villagers
- T. Ogawa
FEBRUARY: Adult Education in Tete - Frelimo
MARCH: Striking Workers - *Anti-Apartheid News*
APRIL: Education of Angolan Women by CIR (Center of Revolutionary Instruction)
- Medisch Komitee Angola
MAY: Guerrilla Detachment in Niassa - Frelimo
JUNE: PAIGC Guerrilla Detachment in Guinea-Bissau
- T. Ogawa
JULY: Crossing river with a fisherman's boat
- Medisch Komitee Angola
AUGUST: Frelimo Guerrilla and Villager - Frelimo
Harvesting in liberated Mozambique - T. Ogawa
SEPTEMBER: Mixed Detachment in Niassa - Frelimo
OCTOBER: Palestinian graphic - Carlo Vogel
NOVEMBER: Zimbabwe Guerrilla - *The Call*,
Vol.10, No.4, 1970.
DECEMBER: North Vietnamese militia unit passing
old grain silos near Hanoi
- North Vietnam, Marc Riboud

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**New Victory addresses!*

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