



'S ECOLOGY

It Is Destroying The Land



"It was 10 o'clock. Five enemy planes flew low over the banks of the Luena River. Two of the bombers circled the area trying to detect signs of human life. The three other planes began to spray the fields with chemical poisons. From time to time the bombers dropped incendiary bombs on the gardens and camouflaged houses in the forest.

The chemical agents acted very quickly on the cassava leaves and branches and on sweet potatoes, causing them to become completely dry in less than two days. The toxic poisons were also attested to by the badly burned trees in the forest, which looked as if they had suffered a violent fire.

These chemicals, deposited on the leaves (and perhaps those deposited on the soil), penetrated quickly the roots and tubers, causing a progressive deterioration from the exterior to the heart of the plants. Soon the cassava roots and sweet potatoes became soft and mushy; they turned black, as if they had been soaked in bad water for several days.

The results begin to appear about 24 hours after the poison touches the plants — the result being the total destruction of all crops affected.

Tubers eaten in this poisoned condition cause several abdominal colics and diarrhea."

The picture above is a desolate field of cassava ruined by chemical warfare. The picture and the preceding article were submitted to the UN Conference on Human Environment by the Republic of Zambia. Cassava is the main staple diet in Angola, a Portuguese colony in southern Africa. Angola has been fighting for its independence since 1961. In 1972 Gulf Oil Corporation paid \$45 million to the Portuguese for the oil it is extracting in Angola. Gulf's financial assistance enables the Portuguese to fight a costly war which includes spraying herbicides and defoliants such as 2,4 D, 3,4,5,T, Cacodylic acid and picloram. The results are crops destroyed, cattle, wild life and fish poisoned, human suffering, starvation and death. We refuse to support a U.S. corporation which aids and abets such action.

BOYCOTT GULF.....HELP ANGOLA WIN INDEPENDENCE

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