The following New Member Statement of the Chicago Committee for the Liberation of Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau was accidentally omitted from the NAAIC Conference Report and is being printed in full below.

CHICAGO COMMITTEE FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE AND GUINEA-BISSAU (CCLAMG)

Statement of Philosophy and Principles of Work

CCLAMG is an anti-imperialist group which seeks to:
1) provide material, financial and political support to MPLA, FRELIMO and PAIGC;
2) work to end U.S. military and economic support of Portugal, South Africa and Rhodesia;
3) eradicate imperialism and racism, as perpetuated by the U.S.

Imperialism

Imperialism is the economic system by which monopoly capitalism seeks to control and exploit natural and human resources and markets of other countries. The most blatant form of imperialism is the draining of the resources and maintenance of underdevelopment in the countries of the Third World. The profits of imperialism go into the pockets of the possessing classes, especially in North America, Western Europe, Japan and South Africa. Imperialism is maintained through multi-national corporations, defended by military (troops, training, advisors, materials and weaponry) and political means. The capitalist ruling class of the U.S. is the most powerful imperialist force in the world today, protected and defended by U.S. military, political and economic power.

Southern Africa

Geographically, Southern Africa is defined as the following countries: South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Angola. Guinea-Bissau, although located in West Africa, is integral to Southern Africa, because it is part of the Portuguese colonial system.

Southern Africa is a strategic economic and military area in the imperialist system today because it provides many vital minerals for the defense and industry of the western capitalist world as well as an abundant source of labor which is forced by the colonial and racist police states to work and live at subsistence levels. Southern Africa is a strategic geographical area, linking East and West trade routes through control of the South Atlantic and Indian Oceans. This area sits astride the lifeline between South Africa and Europe, and it is critically important for the shipment of Arabian-Persian Gulf oil supplies to Western Europe and North America. The perpetuation of minority racist regimes dependent upon Western interests presents an economic and military threat to the independence of the whole continent of Africa and the rest of the Third World.

Focus on the Portuguese Colonies

The liberation of all of Africa hinges directly on the outcome of the struggles in Southern Africa. Until all the resources of the continent are under the control of the African people themselves, free from both colonial and neo-colonial rule, Africa will remain chronically underdeveloped and a vital area of imperialist exploitation. The armed struggles in Mozambique, Angola and Guinea-Bissau led by FRELIMO, MPLA, and PAIGC represent the most advanced attempts to expel colonialism and imperialism from Africa, and to construct a society based on the needs of the people.

The anti-colonial struggles in the Portuguese colonies cannot be separated from the rest of Southern Africa, nor from the anti-imperialist struggles throughout the world. South African and Rhodesian troops are fighting side by side with Portugal, which is being supplied with arms, training, advisors, and materials as well as economic aid.
by the U.S. and other NATO allies. In order for the struggle to advance southward, sympathetic and progressive governments must be established in the areas now held by Portugal.

We see the struggle in these areas primarily as a political and economic one for control of natural and human resources, and reject the idea that it is solely a racial struggle of black against white.

Principles of Support
Based on our political analysis, we support the liberation movements in Southern Africa which meet the following criteria:

- movements which are anti-imperialist, anti-racist, and international in perspective, that is, which regard their struggle as part of a world-wide struggle against imperialism.
- movements which are fighting inside their countries with the support of the majority of the people.
- movements which are committed to armed struggle as a necessary stage in the process of national liberation from colonial and imperialist domination.
- movements which are actively working to build a new society for their people, based on national institutions which benefit all the people and which are based on an equal distribution of resources.
- movements which are committed to preventing neo-colonial domination after independence.

We specifically support PAIGC (Guinea-Bissau), FRELIMO (Mozambique), and MPLA (Angola) because they are leading the struggle in their countries on the basis of the above principles.

Relation to the Situation in the United States
We see the anti-imperialist struggles throughout the world, including those in Southern Africa, as intimately related to the struggle for a just society here in the United States. We want an economic and political system which serves rather than exploits people, where wealth and resources are fairly distributed, where education and health care are considered to be the fundamental rights of every individual, where each person can develop his or her fullest potential. We seek to build new patterns of relationships which break down traditional distinctions and discriminations based on race, class, sex, color, age, or level of education.

Understanding the situation in Southern Africa sheds light on the situation here in the United States, showing us that the oppressors are the same at home and abroad, and revealing, by comparison, the nature of racism at home, and the relationship between racism and capitalism. Through study of the liberation movements, we can learn from their analysis of racism and from the new models they are developing for building a new society.

Because of the U.S. military, economic and political support of the colonialist and racist minority regimes in Southern Africa, we have a responsibility to raise the political consciousness of Americans in our area, and to mobilize pressure on corporations and the government to end support of these minority regimes.

International solidarity between people within the capitalist countries and the Third World is a vital strength against the forces of imperialism which seek to exploit us all. In Southern Africa, the popular liberation movements and the imperialist forces are engaged in a head-on war; and their victories will contribute to the weakening of the imperialist system as a whole.