

WHAT CAN GULF DO ABOUT ANGOLA?

NEW INDEPENDENCE MOVES IN AFRICA

Read this
article:

LISBON, Feb. 2—This week the Portuguese government announced that negotiations have been completed with its four colonies in Africa that will allow phased, but complete independence for all. The first colony to receive complete independence will be Angola on Africa's southwest coast.

Informed sources have told our international news desk that this move by the Portuguese government was due in large part to intense pressure brought upon it by Gulf Oil Co. over the past year. These sources claim that Gulf had quietly suggested to the Portu-

guese government that the huge Gulf facilities in Angola might be shut down and that Gulf might be forced to withdraw. These behind-the-scenes negotiations were said to have resulted from Gulf's growing displeasure over the colonialist policies of the Portuguese government in Africa.

When asked about the reported Gulf involvement in the Angola situation, President William Royce would say only that Gulf was pleased with the decision to grant independence to the African territories and that Gulf viewed the struggles for freedom in Africa as "clearly analogous to the American struggle for self-determination in 1776."

This article was written by Frank P. White, Director, Corporate Information Center of the National Council of Churches. This unfortunately fictitious "newspaper" article suggests with real insight the role Gulf Oil can play in Angolan independence.

Gulf is the 6th largest private industrial corporation (in profits) in the world with sales larger than the Gross National Product of Portugal. Gulf Oil, actively participates in the most influential lobby in the U.S., - the American Petroleum Institute. In addition Gulf has 3 full time lobbyists of their own! The Mellon family, which controls Gulf (27%) and who Fortune called the richest family in the U.S., ranks #1 in family political contributors to the Republican party.

Despite United Nations support of Angolan independence and condemnation of companies like Gulf investing in the Portuguese colonies, Gulf invested \$150 million in Angola (75% of American private investment). Estimates suggest that Gulf payments in taxes and royalties to Portugal in 1972 will be between \$30 to \$50 million.

WHAT CAN GULF DO? They have many options which with their years of statesmanship they can certainly carry out effectively. In addition to (1) pressure on Portugal leading to possible (2) withdrawal, (3) Gulf could recognize the Angolan liberation government and pay them taxes, (4) Gulf could influence U.S. policy for freedom in Angola for a change, and (5) Gulf could support the United Nations policy regarding Angola. Anyone suggesting that Gulf is not influential with Portugal and U.S. policy either has a closed mind or is not aware of the above facts.

Angolans, who live in the largest remaining colony left in the world, need your support as they struggle toward independence. BOYCOTT GULF!

For documentation and further information contact the GULF BOYCOTT COALITION, Box 123, D.V. Station, Dayton, Ohio 45406 --(513) 276-4077