

# **africa fund projects: angola, guinea mozambique**



Children in land liberated from  
Portuguese colonialism

**THE AFRICA FUND**  
associated with the American Committee on Africa  
164 Madison Avenue  
New York, New York 10016

### The Africa Fund

The Africa Fund is located at 164 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016. (Telephone: (212) 532-3700.) It was organized by the American Committee on Africa as an independent, voluntary organization with tax benefits for donors whose purposes are:

- to defend human and civil rights of needy Africans by providing or financing legal assistance;
- to provide medical relief to Africans, particularly refugees;
- to render aid gratuitously to indigent Africans, whether in the United States, Africa or elsewhere, who are suffering economic, legal or social injustices or displacements and who appear worthy of such aid;
- to provide educational aid or grants to worthy Africans, particularly African refugees;
- to inform the American public about the needs of Africans for charitable and educational assistance; and
- to engage in nonpartisan study, research and analysis of questions relating to Africa and to make the results thereof available to the general public.

The Africa Fund's concern includes the whole of Africa, but since its inception in 1967 it has concentrated on Southern Africa where nearly 30 million Africans are prisoners of colonialism and apartheid. The Fund has thus provided funds for legal defense related to needs in South Africa and Namibia (South West Africa); medical, educational and emergency aid related to Angolan and Mozambican refugees; assistance to prisoners and detainees in Zimbabwe (Rhodesia); and welfare aid to political prisoners' families. Finally, and pertinent to the attached project proposals, The Africa Fund has worked with agencies aiding the growth of new institutions in the fields of health, education, economics and social welfare now being built in areas liberated from Portuguese colonial control.

The Fund has a Board of Trustees who include: Chairman: Theodore Tucker, Vice Chairman: Edler Hawkins, Treasurer: Andrew Norman, and Edward Gray, Marvin Harris, Sophia Yarnall Jacobs, William B. Landis, Kenneth A. McGlane, Frank Montero and Israel Mowshowitz. The Board meets twice yearly in consultation with the Fund's staff, the Executive Secretary, George M. Mouser, and the Assistant Treasurer, Ben Peterson. At the meetings, The Africa Fund budget and general plans for Fund grants are decided. The majority of the projects are located in Africa and are administered directly by the grant recipient (e.g. the Mozambique Institute in Tanzania).

The Africa Fund works closely with other agencies concerned about Africa, particularly church and student groups. It has contributed to the United Nations Trust Fund for South Africa, and on particular projects, it coordinates with other relevant agencies in the field, such as the National Council of Churches, Church World Service, U.N. specialized agencies (U.N.H.C.R.; scholarship programs); International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa. It is registered with the New York State Department of Legal Services and with the Foundation Division of the New York State Office of the Attorney General. The New York State Exempt Organization Number of the Africa Fund is EX-120867, and the Federal Identification Number is 13-6202430.

Funds are raised from small foundations, private sources, direct mailings and literature. Administrative expenses, including personnel, rent, utilities, phone, supplies, audits, printing, postage, etc. (i.e. includes therefore fund-raising), amount approximately 20 per cent of the total budget estimates for the 1971-72 budget. These expenses are paid from general funds and not from earmarked income. The accounts are audited by Garlick and Hoffman, 41 East 42nd Street, New York, New York 10017 and reports are available for inspection. The Africa Fund banks at the Bank of North America and the Bowery Savings Bank, both located in New York City.

Funds received will, as earmarked, be transmitted to the project in Africa. People authorized to handle The Africa Fund monies include: Chairman, Theodore Tucker, National Council of Churches, Room 666, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, New York, 10027; Vice-Chairman, Rev. Edler Hawkins, St. Augustine Presbyterian Church, 834 East 165th Street, Bronx, New York; Treasurer, Andrew Norman, Snedens Landing, Palisades, New York; Executive Secretary, George M. Houser, Skyview Acres, Pomona, New York; and Assistant Treasurer, Ben Peterson, 33 Perry Street, New York, New York.



"Playground" for an Indian child in South Africa, made homeless by the Group Areas Act

A classroom of Angolan refugees in the Congo preparing for the future

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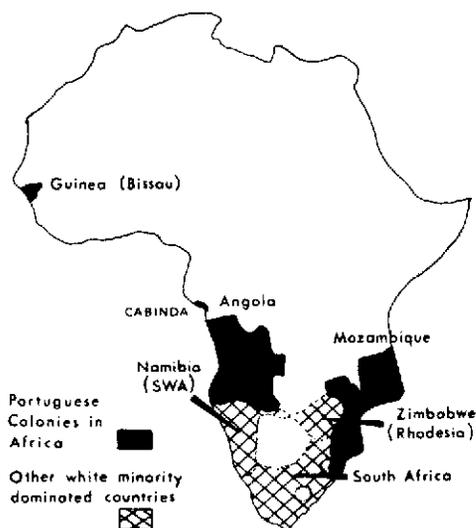
INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN PROJECTS

There are three specific projects included in this Africa Fund proposal. Each project is derived from the needs of the African peoples struggling to be liberated from colonial rule in "Portuguese" Africa. Since the early 1960's the peoples of these colonies, which include Guinea (Bissau) in West Africa, the mineral rich land of Angola and the eastern coastal country of Mozambique, have been searching for freedom. Having resisted centuries of Portuguese tyranny and been subjected to such incidents as the killing of dock workers in Bissau in 1959, the slaughter of villagers in Angola in 1961 and the massacre of more than 500 people in northern Mozambique in 1960, many Africans began to organize more concretely to end the colonial system which oppressed them. That system included an economy which was founded in part on forced labor whereby Africans had to work on European plantations or migrate to mines such as those in South Africa. Benefits went to the coffers in Lisbon or the pockets of other foreign interests. And little or no education, scarce health facilities and no political rights was the fate of the masses of people in Guinea, Angola and Mozambique. Petitions and demands to Portugal calling for political independence, especially stimulated by independence in nearby African countries, proved fruitless. Portugal, in spite of superficial reforms, continued to claim the right to "civilize" its African "provinces" while reaping the benefits of colonial lordship. Thus in each colony more direct action occurred. In February, 1961 groups in Angola led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (M.P.L.A.) tried to free the growing number of political prisoners who had been incarcerated in the capital city of Luanda. On March 15 an armed revolt broke out in the northern Angolan plantation areas. In 1963 the armed struggle began in Guinea after the political party, the P.A.I.G.C., had done careful preparatory work, and in 1964 in northern Mozambique, the forces of the Mozambique Liberation Front (F.R.E.L.I.M.O.) launched the beginning of the struggle there.

Now, then years later, the Portuguese have 150,000 - 180,000 troops fighting on African soil who have been unable to halt the progress of the liberation movements. Although Portugal is spending nearly half of its budget for defense and is heavily subsidized by western allies, including racist South Africa and N. .T.O. partners such as the United States, it has been thwarted in its goal of stopping the drive toward freedom. The various movements in each territory have succeeded not only in physically liberating vast areas from Portuguese control, but have also involved the people in their own personal and community liberation from the colonial experience. In Mozambique, Guinea and Angola, immense zones are de facto outside of Portuguese control, so



Angolan children working under Portuguese rule (from Angola, Mozambique, Guinea, Amsterdam, 1969.)



POPULATION	
Portugal	9,335,000
Angola	5,528,000 (350,000-400,000 white)
Mozambique	7,176,000 (150,000 white)
Guinea	600,000-800,000 (few thousand white)

There are no accurate census figures; estimates vary tremendously. White settlement has greatly increased in recent years after intensified effort by the Portuguese Government to encourage white settlement as a counter to the liberation movement successes. Thus Angola: 79,000 whites by 1950; 209,000 whites by 1959; 400,000 whites by 1968. (Sources: Portuguese Government Information Bureau, *New York Times*, July 7, 1968.)

(from *Africa Today*, Vol. 17, No. 4, July-August, 1970)

groups. Thus the liberation movements and related agencies have been aided by national and international church bodies, such as the World Council of Churches; student groups in Europe, Africa and the U.S.; specialized agencies of the United Nations\*; various kinds of humanitarian groups; and some governmental agencies, especially the Scandinavian countries. Funds raised would thus unite with a truly international campaign to support the peoples of Africa engaged in the dual processes

\*The U.N. Committee of 24 (Special Committee on Decolonization) issues a number of studies on conditions in "Portuguese" Africa including listings of actions and resolutions of the U.N. which have called for the end of Portuguese rule and the cessation of economic and military aid to Portugal.

that the Portuguese military is dependent upon various tactics such as bombings with napalm and herbicides; psychological warfare such as herding people into "strategic hamlets;" limited ground patrols between heavily fortified garrisons and stepped up social services in an attempt to win over the population. Through the armed struggle virtually two-thirds of Guinea, one-third of Angola and almost one-third of Mozambique can be considered liberated from Portuguese rule.

The war is continuing, but at the same time the people in the free zones are laying the foundations for a new life. In these areas where millions of people live, new political institutions of local government, schools, health clinics, agricultural cooperatives, peoples' stores and other institutions have emerged since the recent end of colonial rule. None of these fundamental structures or services existed under the Portuguese, or before the victories of the liberation struggle. The tasks ahead leading to total and complete independence are immense. The projects proposed by the Africa Fund which all relate to life in the liberated areas of Angola, Guinea and Mozambique, are but small parts of a total effort on the part of African people to liberate themselves.

Each agency in Africa which administers the three proposed projects as well as other ongoing programs servicing the people (i.e. the Medical Assistance Services of Angola; the Mozambique Institute; and the Friendship Institute of Guinea), has received some support from international organizations and

of liberation and development. The Africa Fund has made grants to all three agencies in the past and thus has developed a firm working relationship with them.

The needs of the groups are great. There is never enough medicine, enough food, enough money. Although each project described in the proposal has been assigned a relevant figure, the nature of each project would enable the granting of either less or preferably more funds. Thus there is an inherent flexibility due to the size of the needs serviced by the agencies in the general scope of the project proposals. Each project would be administered in line with the instructions and procedures of the African recipient, and each project has been originally determined and requested by that agency in letters and other information transmitted to The Africa Fund.

Our involvement through The Africa Fund or through your programs supports the efforts of the Angolan, Guinean and Mozambican people in the creation of new institutions. We do this in recognition of our mutual responsibilities, and as Americans in recognition of the fact that our own country, as a military ally of Portugal and an economic investor in the colonies, has too frequently delayed the culmination of the liberation struggle in Africa.

#### A DISPENSARY IN FREE ANGOLA

Angola, with a population of five million (500,000 of whom are European settlers) is a potentially wealthy country which includes the enclave of Cabinda north of the Congo River. Rich in diamonds, iron ore, and petroleum, Angola has been the focus of foreign firms bent on the exploitation of its natural resources. These, in addition to lucrative coffee plantations, constitute the foundation of the Angolan economy. Like all colonial possessions the people resisted outside European penetration although centuries of the slave trade dislocated many of the political structures.

The armed struggle for independence has been going on since 1961, and one major movement, the M.P.L.A. (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) has freed one third of the country concentrated in the Cabinda enclave and in the East, provinces bordering on the Republic of Zambia.

Portuguese tactics have included the crowding of people into artificial villages more easily controlled by the Portuguese military, plus the introduction of psychological warfare and new social services. But in May of 1970 an important change occurred in Portuguese policy when the military went beyond the "normal" bombings with napalm, and began to spray vast regions of M.P.L.A. controlled land with herbicides and defoliants. An Angolan doctor described the destruction he saw in eastern Angola:

From time to time the bombers dropped incendiary bombs on the gardens and camouflaged houses. . . the chemical agents acted very quickly on the cassava leaves and branches and on sweet



Angolan woman - victim of a Portuguese air attack

potatoes, causing them to become completely dry in less than two days. . . these chemical agents penetrated quickly the roots and tubers. Soon the cassava roots and sweet potatoes became soft and mushy; they turned black . . . The results begin to appear about 24 hours after the poison touches the plants. The result was the total destruction of all crops affected . . . Tubers eaten in this poisoned condition cause severe abdominal colics and diarrhea. (M.P.L.A., Communique, July 10, 1970).

An urgent appeal was sent to the United Nations and all other interested bodies asking for massive quantities of maize or wheat flour, tinned foods, cooking oil, sugar, salt and other foodstuffs, plus medical supplies. The Portuguese use of widespread herbicide defoliation is obviously a maneuver of last resort and an attempt to destroy the very foundation of peoples' lives - their land and their food. One type of herbicide being used by the Portuguese, picloran, not only kills vegetation but ruins the soil for several years.

One of the main agencies which services peoples' needs in areas devastated by herbicides is the Servico de Assistencia Medica (S.A.M.) or the Medical Assistance Services. S.A.M., made available by M.P.L.A., began its work in 1963, and now functions in the various regions, zones and sectors of the struggle. In 1970 the service had four doctors, seven nurses, eighteen first aid assistants, two midwives and two lab technicians. A nursing school has existed since 1969. People in liberated Angola have medical problems including malaria, parasitic diseases, skin infections, intestinal maladies, dysentery, polio, contagious diseases, leprosy, meningitis as well as universal malnutrition (pellegra, kwarshiorkor, etc.). With the herbicide bombings these conditions, particularly malnutrition, have increased. Sixteen per cent of S.A.M.'s past treated patients have been those with war wounds.

In 1972 S.A.M. expects to maintain the following facilities: two hospitals (one in Congo (Brazzaville) at Dolise already functions); three large dispensaries on the eastern frontier of Angola; one dispensary/office in Zambia; 200 smaller dispensary posts inside Angola; two nurses' training schools connect-

ed with the hospitals with 20 students each, and two nurses' assistants training schools with 20 students each also. The budget estimate for 1972, including the construction of new facilities, some travel, food and storage is \$83,000. (this figure excludes drugs and medical equipment).

This proposal calls for the funding of building costs for one new dispensary to be set up on the eastern frontier. The cost of one dispensary is \$20,000. The S.A.M. personnel for the dispensary will include one surgeon, one laboratory



S.A.M. Medical Assistants treating an Angolan child

technician, one pharmacist, five nurses and one administrator. Its functions will include simple operations, examinations and treatment, place for confinement, training center for assistant nurses and nurses' refresher courses.

The draft plans for the dispensary include the dispensary itself with six beds for post-operational patients, a pharmacy, lab, exam room, waiting room, and operation theater; a store, a hostel for young men and women in the administration (10 persons), a doctor's residence, and bathrooms. A laundry, kitchen, refectory and pantry are also included in the draft plans. The dispensary will be constructed by Angolans using local supplies, bricks, cement, and zinc roofs, with a local power generator. The plan is to build the dispensary within two months upon receipt of the funds.

S.A.M. has two headquarters: B.P. 2353, Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, and P.O. Box 1595, Lusaka, Republic of Zambia. Dr. Eduardo dos Santos is the Director of S.A.M. and in correspondence of June, 1971, he outlined the medical needs and the 1972 budget of the Medical Assistance Services. The services maintains a bank account at Standard Bank Ltd., P.O. Box 1934 in Lusaka.



Angolan doctor examines a student in Free Angola

In the regions most affected by defoliation in eastern Angola (an area six times larger than Portugal), it is estimated, live 250,000 people. It is these men, women and children whom the dispensary will serve. Exact population estimates are difficult, but the rudimentary facilities now existing to serve the people can only be expanded through contributions such as ours.

(Information based on S.A.M. Booklet, 1970 and Needs of S.A.M. for 1972)

#### FRIENDSHIP INSTITUTE

(Project of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands - - - - the P.A.I.G.C.)

"We must accord particular attention to our children, develop their personalities and give them protection against all abuses . . . Our children are the flowers of our struggle. We must reserve for them the best of all we possess."  
(Amilcar Cabral, P.A.I.G.C.)

Guinea and the adjacent islands of Cape Verde so strategically placed off the western coast of Africa, are the smallest of Portugal's colonial entities in Africa. Guinea has a population of 800,000 people in a land about the size of Switzerland, and is wedged between the two independent African states of Senegal and Guinea (Conakry). A slaving center during the pre-twentieth century, the mainland's economy was developed by the mother country to be the mono-culture of growing and selling peanuts. On the



Students in a school inside liberated Guinea

islands, drought and famine are still frequent. Since the beginning of the armed struggle in 1963, the land has been more than two-thirds liberated by the cadres of the P.A.I.G.C. The Portuguese maintain power in the capital coastal city of Bissau, in a few interior urban centers, and one land region north of the capital. The most successful movement against Portugal, the P.A.I.G.C. has built economic coops and peoples' stores in free zones, and the land is being diversified to break the stagnant pattern of the single crop system. For example, the Portuguese have to import rice, but rice is plentiful in Free Guinea. Health and education facilities have grown progressively in the last eight years.

The major agency related to the education of the people of Guinea (Bissau) is the Friendship Institute whose headquarters is located in the capital of the Republic of Guinea, nearby Conakry. Started in 1965, the Institute has three central purposes: the administration of a kindergarten; the running of a primary/secondary pilot school; and the general preparation and training of youth for the future in a Free Guinea and Cape Verde.

Kindergarten of the Friendship Institute



One of the articles of the P.A.I.G.C. program is the "rapid elimination of illiteracy. Obligatory and free education. Urgent training and perfection of technical and professional cadres." Although the goals are still to be

reached, it was a land where less than one per cent of the population was literate under the colonial system and then, only those considered by the Portuguese to be "assimilated," so that it can be seen that the Friendship Institute is filling a tremendous need.

At the Institute in Conakry there is a Pilot Primary School with 100 pupils in grades 1-6 (the latter two grades are secondary school), and the ages of the students run to the mid-teens. There are seven well-trained teachers. All of the students are chosen from the three boarding schools located deep inside liberated Guinea. These interior schools are hand built by the students and are well hidden in the forests to prevent being spotted by the enemy. They must often be moved once discovered by the Portuguese. These boarding schools have four grades and the students in them come from the 150 smaller primary schools which have 15,000 students and exist dotted through free Guinea. In these schools there are 220 teachers. At the Conakry

Pilot school there are about eight buildings for classes, dorms, eating and meeting purposes. The school is administered by a committee of six students and one teacher which changes on a weekly basis. There is also an elected student council for longer time periods. One quarter of the students are girls. The pilot school experiments with new techniques, places emphasis on culture and art as well as math, science, language and history, and keeps in close as linkage as possible with schools in the interior. Also at the Institute there is a kindergarten with about 45 pupils, ages three to seven, with seven teachers. Some of these children are orphans or the war. Fifty students or so are receiving technical training outside of Guinea.

In liberated Guinea there are also programs to combat adult illiteracy. Thus the Friendship Institute with its

programs in Conakry and the extension of these into free Guinea, fulfills one of the chief aims of liberation - to liberate people from "an ignorance imposed by five centuries of Portuguese presence and one century of colonial exploitation." (Friendship Institute circular, 1969).

These educational programs require a number of material goods. The lack of proper food was cited recently by a Dutch doctor who observed malnutrition among students at an interior boarding school. The Friendship Institute has listed the following needs: double decker beds, sheets, clothes' chests, desks, black boards, plates (metal), glasses, utensils for eating, clothes of all kinds, chairs, toothbrushes and toothpaste, soap, pencils, erasers, notebooks, slates, concentrated and powdered milk, salt, sugar, dried foods and canned meat and fish.



Songs of Liberation at the Friendship Institute

A \$10,000 contribution would be a great help to purchase needed supplies for a school year. The address of the Instituto Amizade (Friendship Institute) is B.P. 298, Conakry, Republic of Guinea, and the Director is M. Domingos Brito. The Institute banks at La Banque Centrale de la Republique de Guinee. It receives aid from various international and humanitarian organizations which recognize that the struggle against colonialism involves building new institutions, such as the Friendship Institute, for a new society.

(Information based on the World Council of Churches profile on the P.A.I.G.C., 1971; Friendship Institute publications; P.A.I.G.C. Actualites, "Guinea: Report from a Dutch Doctor, Guerrilheiro, 1971; personal observations).

#### MOZAMBIQUE INSTITUTE SECONDARY SCHOOL AT BAGAMOYO



Mozambique, located on the Indian Ocean, is eight times the size of Portugal. With a population of about seven million of whom 97 per cent are African, Mozambique is the most populous of Portugal's colonies. The economy is based on agriculture, with cotton, rice, sisal, tea, sugar, peanuts, cashews, and oil seeds. The exploration of minerals is recent, and other income is derived from transport agreements with South Africa as well as the repatriated earnings of migrant workers who go there. Like Angola, Mozambique's economy is in foreign hands, and a growing number of western and South African companies have penetrated the country,

sometimes in conjunction with Portuguese interests as in the case of the huge hydro-electric dam scheme at Cabora Bassa. Poverty for the African people is endemic, illiteracy in colonial areas as high as 97 per cent.

Portuguese administrative control was not achieved until this century, and there has always been opposition to colonialism. The struggle for independence is led by the Mozambique Liberation Front (F.R.E.L.I.M.O.), and since 1964, the movement has liberated wide areas in the three provinces of Cabo Delgado, Niassa, and Tete where one million people now live in liberated zones. In these areas the institutions of a free society are being built.

The Mozambique Institute is the primary fund-raising and technical assistance agency which helps finance and assist the educational, medical, economic and social services of the Mozambican people. With its headquarters in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, the Institute relates to educational programs located at Bagamoyo (secondary school), Tunduru (primary school, economic/social welfare training), and other facilities in Tanzania itself. Also there are about 20,000 children in schools in liberated Mozambique. It trains teachers and has



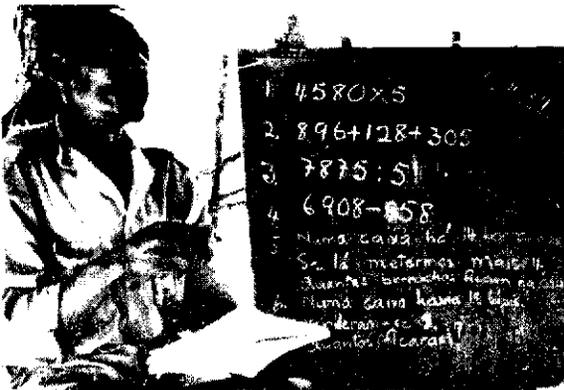
Secondary School at Bagamoyo

set up a printing press to print text books. From education, in answer to impelling needs, it turned to training medical aides, then building a clinic and hospital - first in Tanzania and later in liberated Mozambique where there are now some forty medical outposts. Other social welfare agencies are being developed.

The Bagamoyo school is the only secondary school serving the population of around a million Mozambicans who live in the liberated areas, and because it is in Tanzania, students have to travel long distances and live as boarders away from home. Right now there are only 52 students (with a school staff of 12, and 16 student teachers) but many more of the thousands now in the primary schools established by the Institute would like to join them. And soon there must be secondary education available inside Mozambique as well.

Bagamoyo students work hard and all the time. The eight classroom sessions a day include mathematics, history, biology, Portuguese, English, physics, geography, drawing, chemistry, and politics. Instruction is also given in carpentry, construction, agriculture, sewing, knitting, and physical education, and there are activities in the folk arts. Student teachers receive an intensive six months' preparation before returning to the liberated areas to establish primary school classes and adult education. Student outside activities range from helping with school maintenance, cooking, and the like, to a student newspaper and organization. Life approximates that in the liberated areas to which the students will return, i.e. simple quarters and food, no electricity.

The aim of this proposal is to enable the Mozambique Institute to expand its facilities at the Bagamoyo school. The number of students is expected to double for the 1972 term, with from 110 to 130 students enrolled; much will depend on facilities available. The number of student teachers will increase to 20 to 25. It is hoped that 12 to 15 sufficiently qualified students will be found (together with staff and facilities) to institute a course in book-keeping and accounting, and to teach basic secretarial skills especially for work in commerce. The school has been given land across the road from the present school. The construction cost for the expansion program is \$30,000.



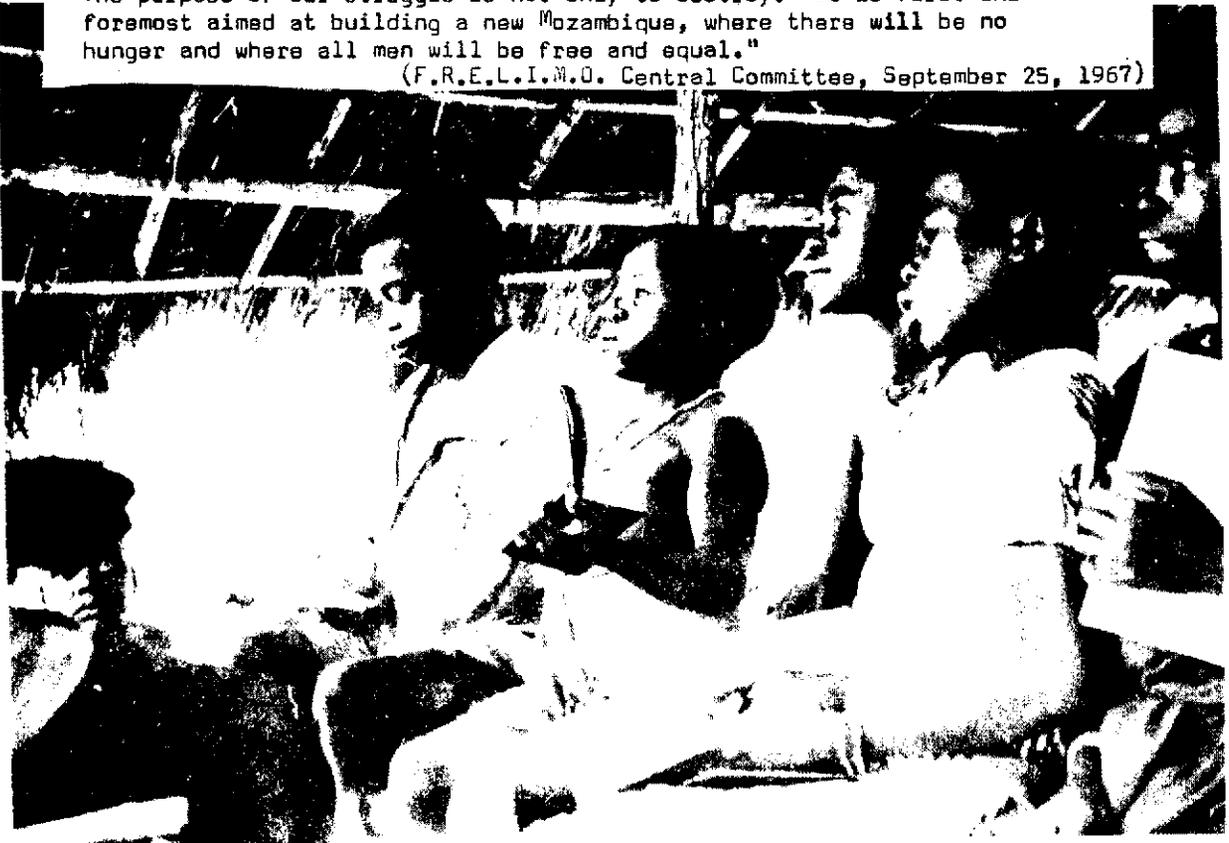
Adult literacy program inside liberated Mozambique



Construction of a boys dormitory

"The purpose of our struggle is not only to destroy. It is first and foremost aimed at building a new Mozambique, where there will be no hunger and where all men will be free and equal."

(F.R.E.L.I.M.O. Central Committee, September 25, 1967)



The total Mozambique Institute budget for 1971 related to all the health, education and welfare programs was more than \$1 million. The itemized budget for secondary education (including food, clothing, supplies and equipment, transportation and vehicles, utilities, furnishings, book acquisitions and salaries was approximately \$120,000. The itemized budget for the expansion program includes construction of classrooms, dormitories, teachers' residence and offices, plus necessary additions of fencing, water system, well, piping and tank.

The Africa Fund has been deeply involved with the Mozambique Institute and its work since 1965, and helped to finance the construction of Boavida Hospital, as well as providing funds for drugs and educational equipment. The Institute is located at P.O. Box 20773, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and its Director is Mrs. Janet Mondlane. It is registered under Tanzanian law, and its Board of Trustees include: Mr. Eliufoo, former Minister of Education in Tanzania; Mr. Mello Swai, East African Community; Mr. Abdulkarim Karimjee, Chancellor, University College; Mr. Al Noor Kassin, U.N.; and Miss V. Junod, Professor, University College, Uganda.

(Material taken from Mozambique and the Mozambique Institute, brochure, 1970, Mozambique Institute Budget, 1971, and correspondence.)