

# LSM NEWS

Liberation Support Movement  
Information Center.

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## WHY LSM NEWS?

SINCE THE FORMATION of LSM and the Information Center in 1969, a major objective has been to increase effective collaboration among organizations in the anti-imperialist struggle for international socialism. Though some progress has been made, much improvement is necessary in communications with groups and

individuals interested in our practice and political perspective.

LSM NEWS IS INTENDED TO help us achieve this goal. As a quarterly newsletter it will contain reports on LSM activities as well as commentaries on some of the problems -- theoretical, organizational and practical -- which we confront in

our daily work and in the implementation of our strategic plans. We hope *LSM NEWS* will stimulate a broader and deeper interest in anti-imperialist activities and open up new avenues for cooperation and the exchange of ideas. Your comments and criticisms will always be welcome!



# Internationalism First!



## LSM Support Activities Increase!!

TWO LARGE SHIPMENTS of medicine, medical equipment and clothing sent by LSM from Vancouver and New York during past six months!

LSM's East Coast Unit has also supplied MPLA with urgently needed radio equipment.

### MPLA Printshop Project Nears Completion!

AN OFFSET PRESS has already been received and \$3,000 raised for additional equipment and supplies!

An LSM cadre will be in Africa for six months to assist the Movement in pre-printing work and training beginning October this year -- hopefully in collaboration with the Dutch Angola Medical Committee. We appreciate the efforts of the Bay Area LSM and all other groups and individuals who have demonstrated their solidarity with the struggle by contributing to this important project!

### FRELIMO Mass Mobilization Button Project.

LSM funds and contributions from supporters, some \$2,300.00, have been used to fulfill FRELIMO's request for 100,000 buttons containing the slogan

ESTUDAR, PRODUIZIR, COMBATER. These will be shipped within a few weeks for distribution in the liberated areas of Mozambique.

We are shooting for another 100,000! You can help through further contributions; also by buying and wearing this button to arouse interest and raise consciousness about the struggle in Mozambique... crucial within the liberation struggle in southern Africa and the international socialist revolution!



### 1974 AFRICA Liberation Calendars Sent to Liberation Movements

OVER A THOUSAND have been sent, with some of the movements using them for political education purposes in the liberated areas. A surplus is now available on request from the Information Center for 25¢ each (to cover costs and shipping) and should be useful in local support activities.

Hundreds of free calendars and other literature have also been sent to prisoners throughout the U.S.



## LSM EAST COAST UNIT FORMED... November 1973!

CLOSE COLLABORATION over three years with comrades in FRIENDS OF HAITI and MEDICAL AID FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA has recently resulted in the formation of an LSM East Coast Unit in New York (P.O. Box 349, New City, N.Y. 10956).

THIS NEW UNIT IS active in material support work as well as in the distribution of LSM publications through their Mobile Resource Center. Currently they are engaged in raising support for a War Surplus Project for FRELIMO, a communications training course for a SWAPO cadre and an MPLA Radio Equipment Project.

## New Information Center Publications

NAMIBIA NEWS AND ZIMBABWE REVIEW have recently been added to LSM's Movement Reprint Series -- now covering the major movements in Angola, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

These bulletins are issued quarterly (\$3.00 @ per year) and subscriptions have increased considerably since 1973. PAIGC is sent 500 copies of each English edition of *PAIGC ACTUALITES* as a form of support work.

## AFRICA in Revolutionary MUSIC...

RESPONSE SO FAR has been very encouraging to LSM's new LP stereo record. FRELIMO head of Information comments that it is "VERY WELL DONE" and ANC's Ben Turok, editorial board member of *Sechaba*, writes that the album is "...THE BEST OF ITS KIND TO DATE."

This year and next we plan to record additional revolutionary music in Africa and another album should be forthcoming in 1975.



## LSM In-Depth Interviews Appreciated

In a personal communication, Basil Davidson writes: "You are doing a very useful job -- notably with the interviews -- for which I am one of many who would like to thank you."

## New PAIGC DOCUMENTS SERIES Begins!

AT THE REQUEST OF PAIGC, the LSM Information Center is now translating and reprinting numerous important PAIGC documents and significant statements and speeches. These will be sent in quantity to the Movement as well as being distributed at 25¢ each in North America. A complete list of available documents will be given in the next *LSM NEWS* (July 1974).

## Life Histories from the Revolution

## RECEIVE ACCLAIM

THE MOST RECENT issue of *Sechaba* (March 1974) contains the following statement. "Another interesting life history has been published by the Liberation Support Movement (LSM) in Canada. This one is about a fighter of the MPLA, the Angolan liberation movement. *The Making of a Middle Cadre - Rui de Pinto*, is a moving account of a young Angolan who gets involved with the PIDE in Portugal, flees to France, and is then recruited into the fighting arm of MPLA. The story is told at first hand and reveals the politicization of the young man who then takes us into the front lines inside Angola. . . This pamphlet is part of a series issued by LSM who are now a major publishing house in the area of liberation struggles in Africa."

THE STORY OF RUI DE PINTO is clearly one of the most fascinating in this remarkable series which has recorded the life histories and experiences of a number of African revolutionaries. . . [It] draws the reader close to the thoughts and ideas, tensions and anxieties, and the maturation of one yearning to become a revolutionary. As such it offers insight into the complexities of the liberation struggle itself -- in the striving for mass rather than elite values, in the reassessment of the mixed alien and indigenous culture, in the desires to become involved in the problems of the people. This story allows for first-hand understanding of the Angolan struggle. . ." (From a review in *Africa Today*, Winter 1974, by Ronald Chilcote.)





# LSM PROGRAMS ACROSS THE CONTINENT



Over the past year LSM teams have criss-crossed North America several times with films and slides on the African liberation movements and struggles. Through some 125 programs, and with the necessary cooperation of numerous progressive groups and individuals, we have reached thousands of people in 25 U.S. states and the Canadian provinces of Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia. In addition to raising awareness and understanding of imperialism and the relation of national liberation movements to international socialism, funds and supplies were raised for concrete support projects and a great deal of LSM and movement literature was distributed. Useful contacts were also made which will clearly broaden the base of future support projects and political actions.

## 1974 FALL TOUR

The LSM East Coast Unit will be conducting a tour of the Northeast from October to mid-December. Many new slides and films will be shown. Detailed information is available to those interested in arranging a program in their area. (Write: LSM/ECU, Box 349, New City, N.Y. 10956)

Overall development and growth of LSM Information Center practice and membership has been very encouraging. Increased interest in our materials has enabled us to expand the scope of our information work considerably. In 1973 we distributed more than 35,000 publications, filmstrips, films, records and posters -- more than twice the 1972 figures. . . and the trend is continuing! Much interest in LSM's practice and theoretical position has been expressed over the past year. People have written us from all over the world and our current range of members, volunteer workers and fraternal organizations clearly reflects our internationalist perspective. In addition to our working relationships with numerous European groups, LSM members are currently drawn from both French and Anglo Canada; East, South and West U.S.; Norway and Haiti. At the LSM headquarters in Vancouver we now have ten full-time workers and some fifteen part-time or volunteer workers who put in from a few hours to a few days a week. LSM members in Seattle, Portland and New York also make a large and very significant contribution to

## Our Praxis: GROUNDS FOR OPTIMISM!

Information Center work. We are confident that 1974 will see a further strengthening of our organization and praxis!

### DEMONSTRATE Socialist Internationalism!

THE AIM OF LSM is to contribute as effectively as possible to the international anti-imperialist and socialist struggle. While acknowledging the progressive aspects of nationalism within the national liberation movements, we oppose the racism and great-nation chauvinism which invariably accompany nationalism (even among radical organizations) in the

advanced and privileged metropolitan centers of imperialism.

Genuine socialist internationalism, however, must go beyond slogan, essay and philanthropy -- often the extensions of liberal guilt or dead "marxist" theory; it must be embodied and developed within a practice and strategy derived from "living" scientific socialist analysis and theory. It is this revolutionary tendency which LSM hopes to accelerate -- in however small a way -- through its work. Our growth and internal development are now enabling us to expand our work from North America and Africa to other parts of the imperialist system. We continue to learn through study and from our practice within North America, but the major test and stimulus for LSM theory and practice derive from our association and work with the masses of imperialism's super-exploited peasants and workers!



# LSM COMMENTARY

## "HUMANITARIAN"

### IMPERIALISM NOT YET TIME

AS CANADIAN IMPERIALISM IS RAPIDLY REACHING maturity the Liberal business-dominated government is running into problems trying to preserve the country's "good-guy" image abroad, particularly in Africa where the advance of the liberation struggles is making it easier for the movements concerned to distinguish friend from foe.

CANADIAN CORPORATE INVESTMENT AND PROFITS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA has more than doubled over the past five years and with the government making every effort to promote such rewarding relationships, Canada has become a major trading partner of both South Africa and "Portuguese" Africa.

However, with southern Africa becoming a focus of world attention, Mitchell Sharp, Foreign Minister and director of some of Canada's largest corporations, has activated his department's PR brains to distract attention from this embarrassing situation and secure continued goodwill among the non-aligned nations. After all, the Canadian economy is very much dependent on foreign trade and investment for its well-being. And nowhere are the pastures more lush than in some of the countries where the masses are taking a solid stand against colonialism and racism in southern Africa.

#### NEW 'SOLIDARITY'

PLAYING HOST TO THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE LAST FALL THE government found an excellent opportunity to proclaim its newly found "solidarity" with oppressed peoples by backing a resolution calling for concrete support for the Liberation Movements. Then, taking precautions left and right, preparations were quietly made to channel "humanitarian" aid to the Movements via non-governmental organizations and to carefully "monitor" its use. Said an External Affairs spokesman: "We want to be sure the money goes for blankets, not bullets!"

#### NO REVOLUTIONARIES

BUT SHARP UNDERESTIMATED THE OPPOSITION. His announcements of the government's plans prompted a flurry of diplomatic activity by Portuguese, South African, U.S. and British diplomats, well-coordinated with racist attacks in the reactionary press against "tacit support for violence and terrorism."

Eventually the case found its way into Parliament where Sharp was questioned by Progressive-Conservative (sic!) Steve Paproski and could do nothing but repeat his earlier assurances that no Canadian funds "have found their way into the so-called freedom-fighter groups." But Paproski was not convinced. "Well, does the Minister also intend to subsidize domestic revolutionaries?" he yelled in a sudden outburst. Replied Sharp: "No! And we don't intend subsidizing foreign revolutionaries either."

AND THERE THE CASE RESTS FOR NOW. A PARLIAMENTARY INVESTIGATION HAS been promised and all funds frozen. Sharp's "humanitarian" cloak was just too much out of step with general policy, while principled direct governmental support for the Liberation Movements is hardly feasible at this time. After all, there's still a lot of profit to be made from business deals with the colonial and minority regimes in southern Africa.

## FRELIMO - SPD

### "NO GROUNDS FOR COOPERATION"

FRELIMO last year declined an offer of "humanitarian aid" from Willy Brandt's Social Democratic Party (SPD). During talks in West Germany the FRELIMO delegation asked that the SPD, consistent with its declared principles, force the FRG government to stop military assistance to Portugal, do whatever it can to withdraw West German investment from the colonies, particularly the Cabora Bassa project, and provide any possible support on a political and not a humanitarian basis.

Support for FRELIMO, the delegation declared, should be based on acceptance that the Movement is correct in its struggle, that colonialism must be eradicated, and that therefore this support should not be conditional and "humanitarian" but global political, as is already the case with other Social Democratic Parties in Europe.

SPD rejected all of FRELIMO's requests, stating among other things that the Cabora Bassa project would be useful to an independent Mozambique. Finding no grounds for cooperation with the SPD at this time, the FRELIMO delegations broke off the talks, stating that the SPD, "shows great contempt for our personality and sovereignty. The SPD wants to teach us, the Mozambican people, what is good for us.... Moreover, it is FRELIMO's position that we cannot establish relations with any organization except on a correct political and moral basis." (Mozambique Revolution, #56)

## LSM Supporter FRAMED

Frank Giese, long-time radical activist in Portland, Oregon and a steady LSM supporter and volunteer worker, was arrested last month on a false six-count charge in connection with the January 1973 bombings of two military recruiting centers. He is presently

free on \$75,000 bail and the trial is scheduled for 30 September. A defense committee has been formed in Portland. Inquiries and contributions can be sent to: Giese & Cronin Defense Committee, K. House, Portland State Univ., Portland, Ore., 97207, U.S.A.



Page 5 - FAIGC  
 Page 3 - Rick Sterling (LSM on tour)  
 Bottom: Tadhao O'Connell in Mozambique  
 Page 2 - Top: FRELIMO  
 Far right: Medtsoh Komitee Angola (Militant MPLA)  
 Right center: FAIGC  
 in Mozambique  
 Page 1 - Left: and left center: Tadhao O'Connell  
 Cover photo - from 'The People of Vietnam will Triumph'

PHOTO CREDITS:

FRELIMO - SPQ  
 THE CHAIRS FOR  
 COOPERATION



LSM Information Center

P.O. BOX 94338,  
 RICHMOND, B.C.,  
 CANADA.  
 V6Y 2A8

**IMPORTANT VICTORIES IN  
 GUINEA-BISSAU**

PAIGC FORCES WON ANOTHER IMPORTANT VICTORY ON 12 FEBRUARY WHEN the Portuguese abandoned the large fortified camp of Copa in the north-eastern part of the country.

THE OPERATION STARTED on 3 January with the Liberation Movement laying siege to the Camp. By 15 January all civilians in the surrounding strategic hamlets had been released and the PAIGC artillery went to work. The structures of the camp were completely levelled by the second week of February.

SURVIVING COLONIAL TROOPS, attempting an escape through the bush, were ambushed and 22 killed. Other Portuguese forces, in numerous attempts to break the siege of Copa, lost one Fiat G-91 fighter-bomber, 14 vehicles and at least thirty-two troops killed. PAIGC forces captured two trucks, large quantities of arms and ammunitions, foodstuffs and other equipment.

(PAIGC Communique, 19 February, 1974)

