

UNITA and SWAPO

Last week's article pointed out that during the civil war between the three major Angolan liberation groups, two of them—the Angolan National Liberation Front (FNLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA)—collaborated with Washington and with a South African expeditionary force that invaded Angola.

Such collaboration “put the Angolan independence struggle in serious danger,” the article said, pointing out that the *Militant* had condemned UNITA and FNLA for this action.

Prior to the civil war, the UNITA had been allied with the South West Africa People's Organization

(SWAPO) in neighboring Namibia. SWAPO is fighting for Namibia's independence from South African rule.

After its defeat in the civil war, the UNITA turned against SWAPO. According to *Washington Post* correspondent Leon Dash, UNITA President Jonas Savimbi told him this summer that “we will never let them [SWAPO] operate against the South Africans again. Never! Not unless we are defeated.”

Any attempt by the UNITA to obstruct SWAPO's efforts to free Namibia would be a stab in the back to the independence movement and a blow against the Black freedom struggle throughout southern Africa.

—O.M.