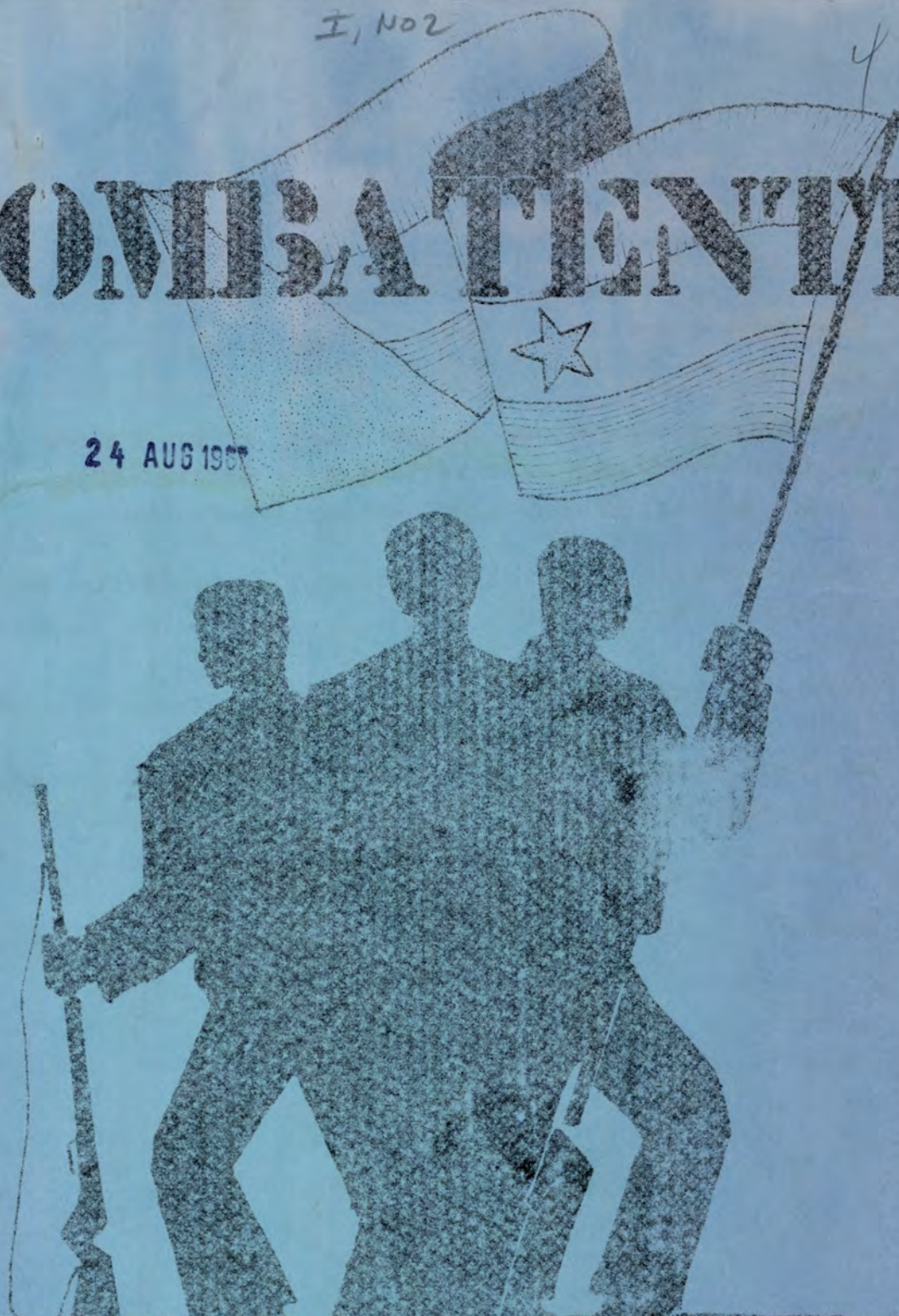


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O COMBATE TENENTE

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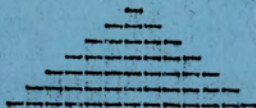
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EDITORIAL

THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION IN MOZAMBIQUE AND THE U.N.C.

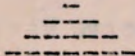
For the past six years the people of Mozambique have been beriddled with all sorts of talks and promises of Independence being granted under the so-called "pressure of the United Nations". For years now have we adnauseam heard resolutions being passed on Mozambique filling the statute books of the United Nations. For years now has the talk for independence for Mozambique been the gossip in the corridors of the U.N., and other capitals of the world. And all this has just been talk, and talk.

Tired with this politics of Talk, which seems to have become the daily diet of many so-called Mozambican revolutionaries the true and genuine revolutionaries, the politically conscious and honest cadres in Mozambique, filled with a insatiable desire for freedom and independence decided to stop the politics of Talk and enter the phase of the politics of Action. Accordingly in 15th June 1965 the revolutionary people of Mozambique gave birth to a lusty and healthy baby, now fully mature and fully grown, nurtured by its intense desire for only one thing--- Independence and Freedom -- COREMO.

Here, at last, with the formation of Coremo, have our people in Mozambique removed the veil that was covering their sights which was continually directed at the UNO for salvation. Here, for the first time had the people cast away illusions and prepare for Action.

If we now and then appear before the UN committees it is solely because we find it a useful propaganda platform. As Mr. Melecele, chairman of the UN Committee of 24 himself so aptly and clearly stressed: It is only the people of Mozambique, the teeming millions of workers and peasants, of patriots and revolutionaries, who will free themselves. Any other assistance is only a help, and can never be substituted for the real thing. We fully agree with this view.

Our view is that only through an armed struggle -- which we have now committed ourselves to, and we are now carrying out will we be able to drive the Portuguese Colonialists out of our country and set up a genuinely independence and free country. This is what we stand for. No outside forces will liberate our country... We are our own liberators.

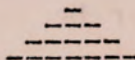


THE STRUGGLE NOW WAGED BY THE PEOPLE
OF MOZAMBIQUE AGAINST PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM,
IS A CONTINUATION OF THE RESISTANCE
WAR WAGED BY OUR FOREFATHERS

Great were the wars of resistance fought by our valiant forefathers. Great were the martyrs and leaders in our turbulent history of continued resistance against colonialism and reaction. The present struggle now being waged by our people is the natural follow-up of these great battles that our forefathers fought. To fully understand our present struggle it is absolutely essential that we recap briefly the battles and experiences which our forefathers encountered.

When our country, which lies in the Eastern coast of mother Africa, was invaded by the Portuguese colonialists during the 15th Century, it was Vasco da Gama during his so-called exploratory journey to India, who became the first portuguese exploiter and adventurer to set foot on our mozambican soil.

Following hot-foot on this precursor's heels, thousands upon thousands of portuguese "explorers" flocked into our country with just one aim -- to kill, slaughter, subjugate, exploit our wealth and expand the portuguese empire. But this policy of colonial subjugation and exploitation was easier said and discussed in the Royal chambers in Lisbon, than carried on the mozambican soil.

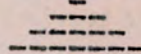


Surprised at the stubborn resistance put up by our warriors under the leadership of the chiefs, against their armed invasion, the Portuguese marauders used various tactics. They bribed they plundered, they used divide and rule tactics, they used religion. As far as the latter is concerned, the Portuguese colonialists dispatched convoys of priests to various parts of our country. The insidious and treacherous role played by the missionaries in our country can fill many a page. This aspect by itself needs a special article. Suffice to say that religion was used to cool down the ardour of resistance of our people.

In all these battles, the people stood foursquarely behind their chiefs. Great were these Chieftain leaders. In the Southern Region, General MAGIGWANA, a fearless and great strategist routed on numerous occasions the colonial forces under the command of Antonio Enes and Mouzinho de Albuquerque. In the Central Region, Chiefs MAKLOLO, MAKUMBE, and MCNCMOTAPA completely routed the invading colonial troops in spite of their being equipped with the most modern arms during that period. In the Northern Region, Chief MATAKA reigned supreme, teaching the colonial troops many a military lesson.

If eventually the Portuguese colonial troops temporarily defeated our Chiefs and fearless warriors, it was not because our forefathers were afraid or what, but because the European invaders had far better and superior military hardware, and because of the lack of a cohesive ideology among the various tribes at that time.

But now, thanks to the formation of Coremo, our people have a cohesive political ideology and movement. Coremo, in invoking, the great names of MAGIGWANA, MAKLOLO, MAKUMBE, MCNCMOTAPA and MATAKA, pays homage to these great heroes and martyrs. We pay homage to their military tactics and skill, we pay homage to their great love for their motherland. We pay homage to their intense hatred of the invading Portuguese Colonialists. In rededicating ourselves to unrelentlessly and courageously continue our struggle until every colonial soldier and settler is swept out of Mozambique, we pay homage to these great and inspiring Chiefs.



Now, at last the time has come for us to redouble the struggle and answer the injunction of history to revenge our forefathers, our myriad heroes and martyrs.

Now at last history has enjoined us not to fail its call. For in our new found unity, we can and will drive terror into the feinthearted Portuguese colonialists, all the imperialists, neo-colonialists and reactionaries. We will not fail, we dare not fail.

THE SO CALLED NON-RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
POLICY IN THE PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES

Never in the history of colonialism has there ever been equality between the coloniser and the colonised. never before in the body politic of colonialism and its attendant manifestation oppression, has there ever been equality between the oppressor and the oppressed. Wherever and whenever nations exploit, degrade and humiliate others do you find inequality and as such its natural concomitant—revolt. It was a wiser man who observed long ago that the oppressor himself is enslaved as long as he keeps in oppression. Such are the lessons of history.

In Africa we have an added problem in regard to colonialism and oppression. It is the question of colour. Colour discrimination. Colour being used as an excuse for greater oppression and exploitation, adds even more indignities and humiliations.

Racial discrimination between the white settlers and colonialists on the one hand and the indigenous African peoples on the other, is rampant especially in Southern Africa. The territories temporarily under Portuguese occupation is an example in mind. The Portuguese colonialists have invoked the spirits of the gods in the high heavens to prove that her policy of colonialism is human and for the good of the African people

in the territories temporarily under her occupation. But the whole civilised world knows—and there is no doubt ^{about} it — that the most blatant and cruel forms of racial discrimination is the order of the day in her colonies.

This discrimination is practised in many fields. The so-called non-discriminatory society in Mozambique is divided into the following apartheid groups: The whites who are the *BHANA-MKUMBA* (big bosses), the mulattos and others, and then the Africans. Besides; to aggravate the situation, the Africans are subdivided into the following ethnically discriminatory groups: Assimilados, Non-indigenous and Indigenous. The Assimilados are encouraged by the colonial administrators to lock down upon the other two groups — Non-indigenous and Indigenous as backwards, uncivilised and inferior. The non-indigenous group is also encouraged to lock down with contempt on the indigenous group. This divide and rule of the Portuguese colonial administrators has set back our struggle for quite a while. The net result having been that the Africans would fight among themselves, direct all their energy at belittling each other, and thus leaving the main enemy — the colonial Portuguese — to entrench themselves in Mozambique.

This situation would have reached unmentionable and insoluble heights had not the most oppressed group — the Indigenous group — decided to bring to an end this oppressive and slave situation. Now, thanks to the emergence of the national liberation movements, with Coremo, in the vanguard, the former warring group now look at the evil system of oppression through the same look glass. They have seen and realised that racial discrimination or apartheid is only the visible excuse of the Portuguese colonialists to exploit and oppress further and longer the African people of Mozambique. They now realise that racial discrimination is only the natural result of colonialism and that once you remove and destroy colonialism, racial discrimination will also naturally go.

LET US TABULATE SOME FIELDS IN WHICH DISCRIMINATION IS WIDELY PRACTISED:-----

In work:

The first privilege goes to the whites, then to the mulattos and so, down the ladder of discrimination. This in complete disregard of the standard of education and the actual qualification one has in the particular field. The policy is and still remains - The white man first. As regards wages and salaries, the same system prevails. Except that the African works harder and longer to earn one quarter of the wage that the white worker earns.

Discrimination in schools, hotels, hospitals etc:

In theory there is no discrimination in these fields. However, one immediately sees discrimination in practice, when one knows the prices and fees involved. Prices and fees are so exorbitant, that only the most privileged group can afford to send their children to schools, to stay or go to hotels, to go for treatment to the hospitals. And, of course, the whites receive the highest and biggest salaries and as such are the privileged few who enjoy these amenities.

In the judicial sector:

Naturally there is no fair play in the judicial sector for Africans. Whilst the whites are tried in the regular courts, africans are tried in private courts known as "TRIBUNAIS PRIVATIVOS" private courts. Any one who ever witnessed any cases being tried in these Tribunais Privativos can bear witness to the arbitrary illogical and commonly inhuman decisions churned out by these courts.

In the administration:

The African population numbers over eight and half million (8½ million) and the settler whites about 198,000. In spite of this big difference in population there is not even one African administrator. All are imported from Portugal direct.

That is the official policy of the Portuguese colonialists. In this way do they hope to retain all aspects of the administration in settler hands, and use this as an excuse that Africans are inferior.

This in short illustrate briefly and to some extent the fields in which racial discrimination is widely practised. However we must not think that all discrimination is so open. There are myriad other forms of racial discrimination, too numerous to mention, but which brings its heavy hand down on the oppressed African peoples of Mozambique. The only way to wipe away this cancerous and dangerous growth is to apply effective surgery. That is to wipe out Portuguese colonial domination completely. This is the only answer. Colonialism must go, as it will in Mozambique.

VICTORIES AND SET-BACKS

The beginning of this year, witnessed many victories and some set backs for our Party. In the course of this year, which we can rightly claim to be year of our offensive against the Portuguese fascist troops, the districts of Tete, Manica e Sofala and Zambezi, were scenes of fierce battles. In these offensive battles 126 Portuguese troops were killed and many wounded. In the district of Tete alone, 69 Portuguese troops were killed, in Manica e Sofala 31 and Zambezi 26. At the same time, military trucks and bridges were destroyed, and 89 rifles, machineguns and a big amount of ammunition captured by our freedom fighters. These were our immediate gains and victories.

In the course of this offensive campaign we suffered certain losses. 32 of our armed revolutionary forces were killed and 46 were wounded. Among those heroes from our liberation forces who laid down their precious lives for our noble cause were two of our stalwarts --

comrades JOSE TAMBARA and LUCAS FERNANDO MTAMBO. We will always remember the vows these two comrades of ours made in 1965. Their stirring and heartrending words still linger in our minds... "We will never lay down our arms before Mozambique is completely free from colonialism and imperialism. Never, until we can safely and honestly say that Mozambique is truly ours". These heroic and defiant words have become the rallying call of our freedom fighters now. We salute these comrades whose names now are engraved in our heroes and martyrs roster with blood and tears. We will always remember them. They need not fear.

When our freedom fighters carefully studied the serial numbers and makes of the weapons which were captured and destroyed, we were left in no doubt that these war materials which the Portuguese fascist troops were and are using in her unholy and colonial war in Africa, found its way from NATO countries - the U.S.A., Britain, West Germany, Italy and France. Yet these are very same countries who with great piety and ad nauseum assure the U.N.O. that the weapons supplied to Portugal ^{by} NATO were for use against "external" aggression and not for murdering the African people.

If we for a moment believe^{ve} that this hotch-potch story is true, then how we ask, does all these weapons with NATO find their way into the Portuguese colonies and as such into our hands???

We equally hold these supplier countries responsible for the war of genocide that the Portuguese colonial troops are carrying out in Mozambique and the other Portuguese colonies. They are equally responsible for the murder, pillage, rape and sundry atrocities which our people are daily suffering under by the Portuguese colonialists. They are equally responsible for the misery and hardship that our people are suffering from today at the hands of the Portuguese colonial settlers. Their hands are equally bloodstained.

And ^{as} such they must equally expect to face the wrath and anger of our people. This fate they cannot escape, if they insist to pursue the path of all out support for the Portuguese colonialists.

In the whole of our country, the death rate of our people has increased by 28.6% since the beginning of this year. Many of our children die before they see the age of two. Those of our people who are admitted to the hospitals find themselves experimented on as guinea pigs by unqualified Portuguese doctors who are sent to Mozambique yearly to study tropical diseases.

The fate of political prisoners are even worse. Concentration camps swell with prisoners, subjected to the worst forms of torture, reminiscent of the Nazi hey-days, they die like flies. Tortured, maimed, experimented on. And all this is done in the name of preserving western civilisation. Which in fact is another name for the continued exploitation and oppression of the people and wealth of Mozambique. In the rural areas a well calculated campaign of extermination is the order of the day. Food and water poisoning is mostly used in the rural areas where the majority of the entire indigenous African population live, including Government and private enterprises which employ forced labour.

These are the cruel and inhuman methods used by the colonial Portuguese regime to cow and intimidate the people of Mozambique. But, we can assure these colonialists that in spite of all the methods of barbaric oppression which they are using and think in terms of using in the future, they will never intimidate, never cow, they frighten and destroy the revolutionary will of the people of Mozambique.

The set backs suffered by us are temporary ones. We have the support of the African people in our country. Our cause is just.

Na Região Central, os Regulos MAKOLCLO, MAKOMBE e MCNCOMOTAPA travaram guerras sangrentas derrubando porém os colonialistas Portugueses em muitas batalhas.

Na Região Norte, o Regulo MATAKA, notabilizou-se em muitas guerras contra os agressores Portugueses, nas quais o seu povo, atentamente seguiu a retina do seu comando.

MAGIGNANA, MAKOLCLO, MAKOMBE, MCNCOMOTAPA e MATAKA; arrojados pelos seus povos, derrubaram forças inimigas em muitas partes do país; e estes, vencidos em diferentes batalhas, tinham de pedir mais reforço do seu país.

Foi, depois de muitas guerras sangrentas os agressores portugueses conseguiram assenhorear-se de todo o território.

Durante todo o domínio português, os Moçambicanos têm sofrido as mais cruéis prisões e muitos outros, condenados a morte por, simplesmente, terem protestado contra o governo estrangeiro com as suas táticas inumanas.

Hoje, todo o povo moçambicano continua e continuará com o mesmo dever de lutar contra os colonialistas portugueses.

A luta iniciada pelos nossos antepassados continua hoje pela presente geração que somos nós. Hoje, o Comité Revolucionário de Moçambique (COREMO), enciado pelas massas populares lutará incansavelmente e invencivelmente para a liquidação total do colonialismo português de que temos sofrido a quase quinhentos (500) anos.

A nossa presente arma poderosa, capaz de varrer o colonialismo português; É a Unidade de todo o povo Moçambicano; Pois em Moçambique, camadas de massas populares falam da independência imediata do País e da formação dum Governo da maioria que terá como um dos seus princípios; velar pelos interesses de todas as classes populares.



PORTUGAL NUMA SITUAÇÃO EMBARAÇOSA

Portugal é um país pequeno situado no extremo sudoeste da Europa e é o único País europeu que ainda tem vastas colónias em Africa. Estas colónias levantaram a pouco, guerras armadas contra a dominação secular portuguesa. Elas têm sido o viveiro de Portugal, donde este; executa a exploração humana para preencher as necessidades de que o povo português carece em todos os sentidos.

As tropas que tem a manter o odioso colonialismo português em Moçambique, Angola e na Guiné dita Portuguesa, têm o causado grandes esforços no esgotamento económico, tanto em Portugal como nas suas colónias. O povo português tem-se enervado perante este facto; por essa razão a situação tem-se tornado cada vez mais crítica; é lamentável. Salazar, perante este facto real, resolveu jogar o baralho de cartas com as grandes potências da OTAN - a Inglaterra, E.U.A. e a Alemanha ocidental.

Este facto na verdade, torna Portugal uma absoluta colónia destas potências imperialistas. O velho fascista, tem descaradamente proclamado e afirmado ao mundo inteiro que nunca em vida, cederá um passo a retaguarda na questão colonial que ele mesmo, considera as colónias; parte integrante de Portugal continental. O mundo, que não vive de meiguices, tem-se perguntado: será que esse pequeno país atrasado em tudo consiga manter o seu odioso colonialismo em Africa? Consequentemente, o governo de Salazar autoriza os membros da OTAN a estabelecer bases militares nas diferentes partes do chamado "mundo português" porque pensa Salazar de que os seus co-membros na OTAN, o ajudarão a tornar nulo os esforços nacionalistas afim de perpetuar o seu colonialismo em Africa; mas, pelo contrário; a sua ilusão jamais tornar-se-á em realidade. Este facto foi aprovado quando a grande potencia europeia - França - abandonou a Algéria.

Será que Salazar entende fazer uma nove história? As grandes potências sómente dizem sim para estenderem as suas maos ás mananciais riquezas da Africa.

O velho fascista, muito rodeado de problemas resolveu entregar-se ás aves de rapina (os imperialistas) julgando que estes, ajudariam-no, manter o seu colonialismo em Africa; mas pelo contrario, isto, nao passa dura soluçao inadequada á situaçao económica quase critica de Portugal, visto os Africanos estarem decididos a lutar para a liquidaçao total do colonialismo.

Nao resta dúvida de que os exercitos de agressao, enviados a Moçambique, Angola e para a Guiné dita portuguesa, seo os causadores de critica situaçao económica de Portugal.

Segundo a informaçao publicada no jornal de Benguela (Angola), de 20 de Fevereiro ultimo; o governo do Salazar "solicitou a Organizaçao Internacional para a indenizaçao de 10 milhoes de libras de prejuizo causado a economia de Moçambique durante o ano transacto de 1966, devido as sançoes aplicadas contra a Rodésia!" A informaçao continuou a dizer: " Se o conselho de segurança pretende impôr a Portugal a applicaçao de sançoes económicas contra a Rodésia, tem pelo menos, de fazer previamente o pagamento do montante solicitado".

Como facto verdadeiro, em Moçambique hoje, as vias ferroviárias e rodoviárias incluindo veiculos militares, têm sido postos fora de aççao, o mesmo acontecendo em Angola e na Guiné dita portuguesa. Finalmente a situaçao embaraçosa e critica de Portugal, tem se manifestado pela clara divisao do próprio povo português neste sentido; Enquanto o grupo Salazarista segue uma linha politica de fixaçao em Africa, os seus adversários e o povo, têm se mostrado com uma politica mais ou menos moderada ao problema colonial.