

## Angola: Freedom for the Members of the MPLA



**S**oldiers of the reactionary regime of Mobutu, in close collaboration with elements of the so-called FNLA, have made additional arrests of members of the People's Movement of Liberation (MPLA) in the Congo (L).

According to recent news dispatches, 12 (twelve) members of the MPLA were imprisoned in underground cells in "Kinshasa" at the beginning of the second half of February. At the same time, the military equipment belonging to the combatants of the MPLA was once again seized.

The new criminal act against the Angolan revolutionaries, which only tends to slow down or block the development of the armed

struggle of the Angolan people led by MPLA took place just a few days after the holding of the 14th session of the Committee of Liberation of Africa in Dar-es-Salaam. This constitutes, to say the least, a flagrant challenge to the many decisions made with reference to the jailing of members of the MPLA by the organization of the OAU of which Congo (L) forms a part.

Such actions against the Angolan nationalities are frequent occurrences in the Congo (L) and expose the incapacity of the OAU to enforce its resolutions.

At present a hundred members of the MPLA are imprisoned in the KINKUZU camp, among others. Included among the prisoners are Major JOAO CONCLACES BENEDITO hero of the first days of the war in Angola— and 5 young women, DEOLINDA RODRIGUES, ENGRACIA DOS SANTOS, IRENE COHEN, LUCRECIA PAIM AND TERESA ALFONSO, all of whom hold positions of responsibility in the Angolan Women's Organization.

Once again it has become necessary for international public opinion to intervene firmly concerning the constant persecutions, arrests and repression that the members of the MPLA are facing in the Congo (L), to energetically denounce the situation and to pressure the Mobutu regime, in every possible way, to release immediately all the Angolan combatants, whose only "crime" is to wish to combat Portuguese colonialism, to gain their national independence through armed struggle and to thus contribute to the complete liberation of the African continent.

Therefore, everyone should assume their responsibility regarding this matter.