

# Africans Urged to Back Luanda Regime

By MICHAEL T. KAUFMAN  
Special to The New York Times

NAIROBI, Kenya, Dec. 29—With two weeks to go before leaders of the Organization of African Unity meet to take up the Angolan question, supporters of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola have launched a diplomatic effort to get a majority of African nations to recognize its Luanda-based government.

Despite lobbying by the United States and African opponents of the Popular Movement to counter such a development, the movement, which is supported by the Soviet Union, was considerably bolstered when it received the diplomatic recognition last week of Ghana and Burundi. They became the 16th and 17th of the 47 O.A.U. states to establish ties with the Popular Movement.

No countries have recognized the two other factions, the National Front for the Liberation of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, which have received support from the United States in their opposition to the Popular Movement.

The nations that recognized the Popular Movement did so in defiance of the still existing O.A.U. policy that all member states not recognize any single liberation group as the government of Angola and that the battling factions form a government of national unity.

## Nigeria Turned Tide

Soon after the Portuguese left Angola, their last African colony, on Nov. 11, six African countries, all of them generally regarded as leftist, recognized the Popular Movement. But it was not until Nigeria, a giant and a traditionally pro-Western state, announced its recognition that the old O.A.U. position began to crumble.

Nigeria explained its action by saying that the involvement of South Africa on the side of the National Front and the National Union invalidated their claims to legitimacy. This reason was also given over the weekend by the Ghanaian leader, Col. Ignatius K. Acheompeng, when he announced that his country would recognize the Popular Movement.

Another indication of the way the O.A.U. meeting—the first extraordinary session in the organization's history—may go, came yesterday when President Idi Amin of Uganda, the group's president, declared in Kampala, "We should not allow ourselves to be brainwashed by Western powers into believing that the presence of Soviet technicians in Angola is an indication that the Soviets want to colonize Africa."

Mr. Amin had earlier taken a hard line on Soviet involvement in Angola, claiming that the weapons it supplied had murdered 30,000 Angolans. He even temporarily severed ties with Moscow, angered by what he said were Soviet demands that he recognize the Popular Movement.

In his comments yesterday, however, Mr. Amin said it was the West that was helping South Africa and Rhodesia, who were the true enemies of Africa. A month ago the mer-

## As O.A.U. Session Nears, Campaign Is Begun for Diplomatic Recognition

curial Ugandan heaped praise on the Western powers, even writing to President Ford to compliment him on the United States position on Angola.

Yesterday Mr. Amin said he would continue to withhold Uganda's recognition from any faction until after the O.A.U. acted. However, there was an implication that the organization's vote would make it possible for his government to endorse the Popular Movement.

As a possible move to counter this groundswell, South Africa was reportedly ready to withdraw her troops from Angola. According to the Johannesburg Sunday Times the Government was preparing to pull back its soldiers, thus encouraging the O.A.U. to approve a resolution calling for the end of all foreign intervention in Angola.

While such a resolution served as the convening call for the conference that is to be held in Addis Ababa on January 10th, recent maneuvers indicate that there will be an attempt by supporters of the Popular Movement to make the issue of South African involvement paramount and to slow down Soviet and Cuban participation. Presumably some countries will seek to have the organization reverse itself and back the Popular Movement as the single government of Angola and to drop its demand for a coalition.

## Opponents Rally

Opponents of the Popular Movement have been attempting to marshal support against such an effort. Such countries as Zambia, Zaire and most of the conservative former French colonies such as Senegal, Gabon and Ivory Coast are pressing among the so-far uncommitted for a general condemnation of all foreign involvement.

At the same time, William E. Schauffele Jr., the newly confirmed United States Assistant Secretary for African Affairs, is visiting five West African countries and has reportedly been pressing to hold the line against full recognition of the Popular Movement.

As matters are shaping up, the issue may be decided by the Arab members of the O.A.U. Except for Algeria and the Sudan, which have recognized the Popular Movement, none has yet committed itself.

According to William Eteki Mboumoua, the Secretary General of the O.A.U., the countries that have recognized the Pop-

ular Movement, in addition to Ghana and Burundi, are: Liberia, Cape Verde, Congo, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Equatorial Guinea, Somalia, Tanzania, Sudan, Nigeria, Madagascar, Mozambique, Benin, São Tomé and Mali.

## U.S. Hopeful of O.A.U. Accord

By DAVID BINDER

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29—A high-ranking United States official said today that in the last few days the Administration had begun to hear from African countries that have already recognized the government proclaimed in Luanda by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola that they would support a resolution by the Organization of African Unity calling on all foreign forces to withdraw from the former Portuguese colony.

An O.A.U. resolution on Angola would have no more than moral impact since the organization has no official international authority or any force to back up its decisions. But the Administration believes a resolution on the withdrawal of foreign troops could have substantial influence on the interventionist powers.

The Administration official, who said he was not in a position to speak on the record, remarked that such a "consensus resolution" was gaining support despite the fact that "18 or 19" African countries had already extended diplomatic recognition to the Popular Movement government.

The resolution, he said, "would probably condemn all outside intervention in Angola, with the South Africans by name, but demanding that everybody else to stop supplying arms to factions in Angola."

The official added that it would also probably "appeal to all parties to lay down arms" and would propose the dispatch of a conciliation commission or perhaps cease-fire observers who might also "police the departure of foreign interlopers."

He said that several African governments had advised the United States that they had recognized the Popular Movement authorities in Luanda "because the intervention of South Africa was intolerable to them," but that they "still would like to see a negotiated solution."

## Storms Batter Australia

BRISBANE, Australia, Dec. 29 (Reuters)—Floodwaters and fresh rains battered Queensland and Victoria States today, leaving hundreds stranded and whole townships cut off.

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