

Cover Page

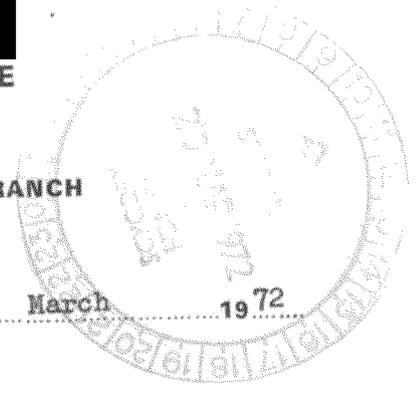
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S.B. No. 1 (Plain)

METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report

SPECIAL BRANCH



INDEXED
Date: 14/3 Initials: [redacted]

14 day of March 1972

SUBJECT West
London Anti-
Apartheid Group

Reference to Papers
400/72/28

1. Submitted herewith is a leaflet advertising a public meeting which is being organised by the West London Anti-Apartheid Group for Monday, 20 March 1972 at 8pm at the Ecumenical Centre, Denbeigh Road, W11. The subject will be "The Fight Against Portuguese Colonialism".

2. The meeting is also being advertised as a Sharpeville Memorial Meeting and the speaker will be Tony GIFFORD. In addition, a film, 'Behind the Lines', will be shown.

3. Tony GIFFORD is the subject of RF 405/ Privacy

S23

2

HN338
Detective Constable

3

Submitted

[redacted]
HN294
[redacted] Chief Inspector

4 [redacted]

2. Cl. [redacted] A. Squad to see please
[redacted] (to note)

7 [redacted] D.I. [redacted] to see

9 [redacted]

4. P.A.

5
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT

[redacted]

WAR ON 3 FRONTS

The last African colonies

Three important African countries, Angola, Guiné and Mozambique are still colonies. The colonial power, Portugal, is the most underdeveloped country in Europe and has herself been a police state for more than forty years. The people of her colonies live under a racist and authoritarian regime which has systematically suppressed all peaceful movements for reform. Since 1961 the African peoples have been fighting for their independence and now 150,000 soldiers and 50% of Portugal's budget are not enough to block their path to freedom.

Angola

On the 4th of February 1961 the first shots against Portuguese colonial rule were fired in Angola. Reprisals were swift and brutal – an estimated 30,000 Africans were massacred in the following months. Even the international press took notice then, and the Portuguese regime was unable to conceal events under the usual smokescreen of censorship and distortion.

The People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) was able to regroup its forces, and since 1962 has been following a policy of protracted armed struggle, linked with intensive educational and organisational programmes. The movement controls almost two-thirds of the countryside in semi-liberated zones and since 1968 has maintained its headquarters inside the country.

Guiné

Next to take up arms in the struggle was Guiné. The African Independence Party of Guiné and the Cape Verdes (PAIGC) was formed in 1956. The war began in 1963, after years of

preparation underground.

The people have stood firm against napalm and phosphorous bombing, against the Portuguese military policy of burning villages and indiscriminately killing civilians, and they have begun to build themselves a new life. Colonial rule – forced labour, no freedom of speech or association, prison and deportation without trial – has ended in two-thirds of the countryside. In 1968 a PAIGC unit was able to attack the airfield of the capital city, Bissau; in 1969 several of the remaining Portuguese bases were destroyed and many "protected villages" were freed.

Mozambique

The Mozambique Liberation Front (FRELIMO) launched the armed struggle on 25th of September 1964. Since then they have gained control of the northern fifth of the country and are making new advances westward, and strategically capturing the province of Tete (site of the Bassa Dam).

In the liberated regions the first steps towards national reconstruction are beginning. Land which had belonged to foreign-owned concession companies has been redistributed and agriculture is being reorganised on a co-operative system.

Though short of supplies and equipment, bush primary schools have been set up: 20,000 children are beginning their education. First aid posts and medical centres care for the sick and wounded, and preventive medicine campaigns are in operation.

More than nationalism

All three movements are committed to a policy of profound social change.

The people of the three countries are aware that this struggle will not end with formal independence which might only substitute one exploiter for another: their objective is to bring about a total revolution in town and country. The people must control their own destiny; development must be planned for the benefit of the whole population.

The new colonialism

British and other Western interests in the Portuguese colonies and Southern Africa are strong. They benefit from continued collaboration with Portugal in extracting the wealth of these countries.

The white fortress

The white minority regimes are in unholy alliance. Through Mozambique's ports of Beira and Lourenço Marques flow supplies of oil and other goods for the illegal Smith regime in Rhodesia. Portugal's African presence is vital to Smith's survival.

Mozambique and Angola act as buffer states to white South Africa against independent Africa and provide valuable investment opportunities for South Africa's expanding economy. South African troops fight alongside the Portuguese army in both countries, as they fight in Rhodesia.

The airbase built on Sal, one of the Cape Verde islands, provides a valuable staging post for the South African Airlines, which have been forbidden the use of African mainland airports.

We are all involved

Without economic support from her Western allies Portugal would not be able to afford her African wars. Without NATO weapons and NATO-

trained soldiers Portugal could not maintain her army.

Portugal depends on external aid, and is vulnerable to external pressure. This pressure must be applied, to force her to change her African policies. It is imperative that we in Britain do everything possible to mobilise public opinion in favour of consistent action by our government to end racialism and minority rule in Africa, whether in Rhodesia, South Africa, South-West Africa or the Portuguese colonies. The forces of liberation in Africa are fighting their battle; we must join them on our battlefield in Europe.

What you Can Do

Brief yourself on developments in Mozambique, Angola and Guine: subscribe to *Guerrilheiro*, a bi-monthly newsletter about activities on the three fronts in Africa and in Europe.

8/- per year..£.....s.....d.

read *Mozambique Revolution*, the bi-monthly FRELIMO bulletin.

15/- per year..£.....s.....d.

Demand action on the Portuguese colonies in organisations, local parties, trade unions, youth groups, etc. to which you belong

Call for British action at NATO, EFTA and the UN in support of UN resolutions on the Portuguese territories and colonialism

Help the liberation movements in their fight for economic reconstruction, social welfare and education in the liberated areas. Funds, equipment, medical and educational supplies are urgently needed..£.....s.....d.

Committee for Freedom in Mozambique, Angola and Guiné

531 Caledonian Road

London N7

phone 01-607 2170

West London Anti-Apartheid Group

SHARPEVILLE MEMORIAL MEETING

MONDAY 20 MARCH

8:00 pm

THE FIGHT
AGAINST
PORTUGUESE COLONIALISM

film - BEHIND THE LINES

speaker - TONY GIFFORD

Chairman, Committee for Freedom in
Mozambique, Angola & Guine

Ecumenical Centre
Denbigh Road, London W11

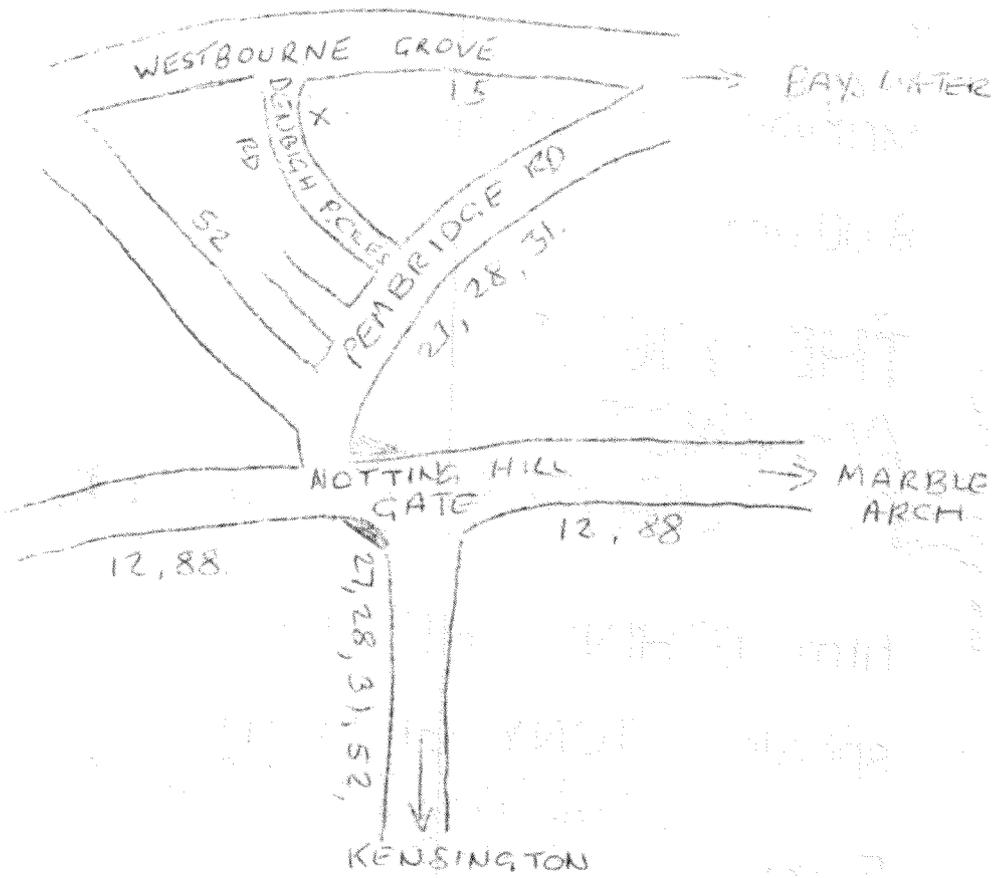
Nearest tube: Notting Hill Gate (Central, Circle
District lines)

Buses : 12, 15, 27, 28, 31, 52 & 88

(Map on back)

Release ✓

HOW TO GET THERE



Buses - 12, 15, 27, 28, 31, 52, 88

Tubes - Central line)
 Circle line) to Notting Hill Gate
 District line)