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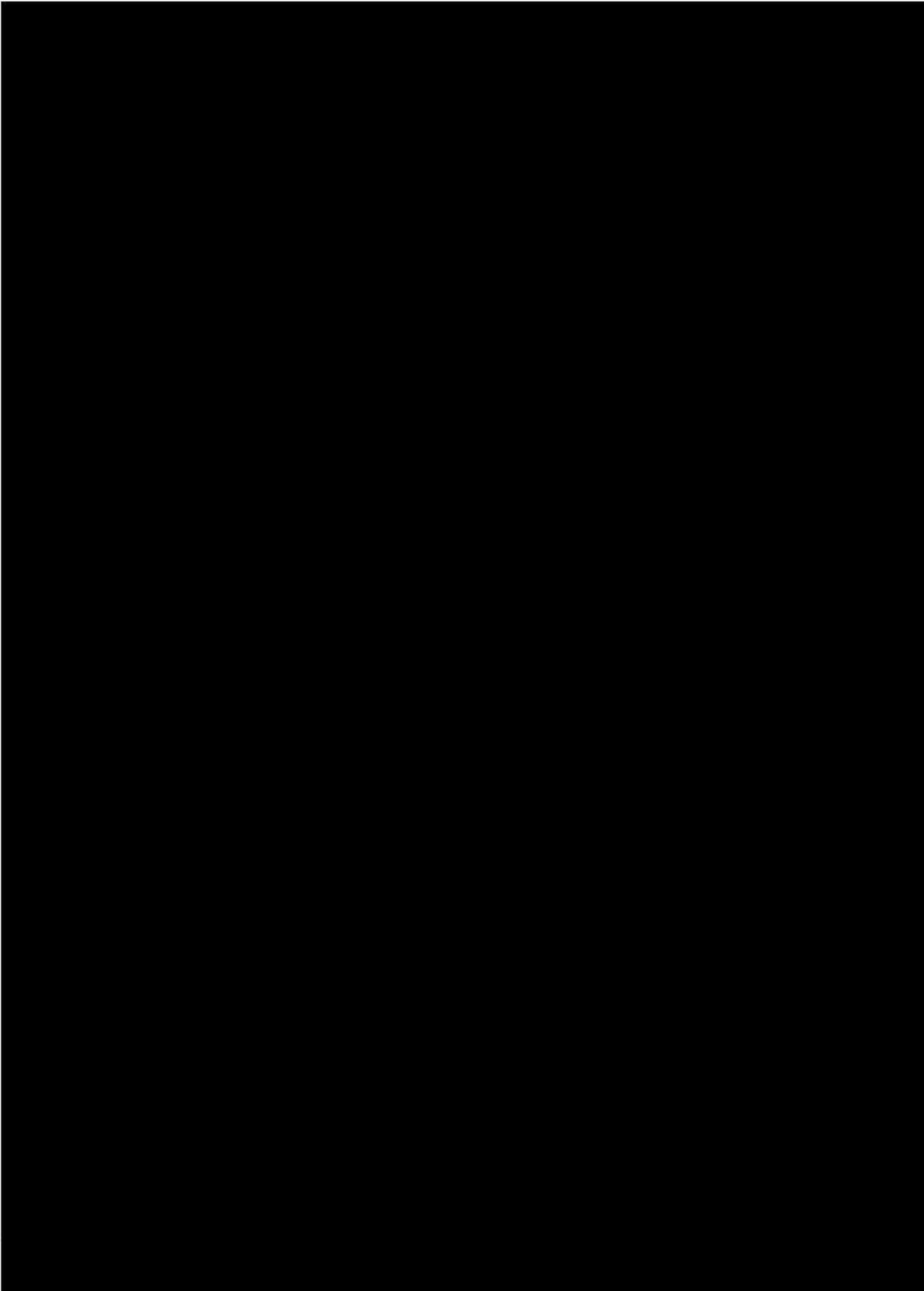
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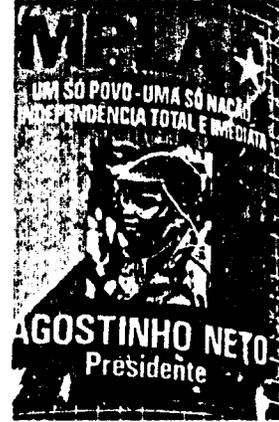
Angolan Groups Prepare Plans for Independence



National Union poster depicts Jonas Savimbi

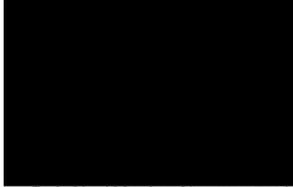


National Front leader Holden Roberto, late August



Popular Movement

The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola and the National Front for the Liberation of Angola reportedly are preparing to join in a provisional government that would declare Angola independent. The Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola is expected to do the same.



Savimbi said he thought a government

of the National Union and the National Front could win a reasonable amount of international support.

Savimbi, while in Paris, was reportedly told by French officials that the Popular Movement intends to declare independence on Sunday. The French reportedly urged Savimbi to declare sovereignty jointly with the National Front on Saturday.

Savimbi was to discuss the issue with National Front leader Holden Roberto in Kinshasa this week. The two groups, which have cooperated militarily for some time, established a study group earlier this month to consider the mechanics of establishing an independent government.

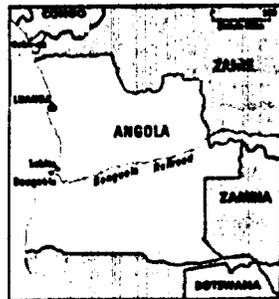
The Popular Movement's leaders are reliably reported to have concluded that they will not be able to persuade Lisbon to transfer sovereignty to the Popular Movement alone on November 11.

Movement leaders also apparently believe that the present military situation in Angola is critical and that a proclamation of independence should be made as soon as possible in order to establish a prior claim to legitimacy.

The fighting will continue no matter who declares what independent or when. All three liberation groups reject a pre-independence coalition. The National Front and the National Union intend to launch major offensives before November 11. They want to discredit Popular Movement claims to control all important areas of Angola.



The official has reservations about the National Union's future relations with the National Front, however, and those reservations are undoubtedly shared by Savimbi himself. Relations in the field between troops of the two movements are frequently strained and if these differences



were to worsen, it would seriously impede operations against the Popular Movement.

The Savimbi group believes an ultimate political settlement must include all three liberation groups, since no single group or combination of two groups can expect to govern a country as divided tribally as Angola. The National Front appears determined to destroy the Popular Movement

