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HENRY J. TAYLOR

Report From Portugal's 'Vietnam'

Portugal is our NATO ally. Her Angola Governor General Camilio A. Robeche Vaz, highly respected by U. S. General Andrew Goodpaster, is in Lisbon to report to President Americo R. Tomas on the renewed insurrections in Portugal's Angola, Mozambique and Guinea.



These insurrections are another Red-promoted clash and the Red strategy packs a double punch.

It continues to weaken this NATO ally by forcing Portugal to commit 80,000 troops to far-off Africa, just as we were pinned down in far-off Vietnam. Portugal's troops, in total, have been successfully drawn off from the defense of Western Europe.

AT THE SAME TIME the Red strategy drains away funds that otherwise could improve Portuguese and native living conditions. President Tomas stated that "about 45 per cent of our nation's entire budget now goes for military costs."

Black soldiers, loyal to Portugal, already account for about 40 per cent of the Portuguese Army in Guinea. The force totals 26,000 men. Lisbon is also distributing thousands of weapons to black civilians there to ensure their adequate defense against attacks by the Communist-backed PAIGC attackers.

Behind the scenes, the Red putsch is being directed from Leipzig, East Germany.

OUR OWN Central Intelligence Agency finds, and has reported to Portugal's PIDE counterintelligence, that Red Chinese instructors, as well as Russian, are in the field with the attacking guerrillas. The Portuguese, in turn, have captured several Red Chinese army officers

The tools the Russian instructors use are African natives. Between 6,000 and 8,000 are constantly undergoing training as guerrilla cadres in Leipzig and Bautzen, East Germany; Prague, Czechoslovakia and in Castro's Cuba. In fact, the CIA reports that the Soviet has now opened an additional training center in Odessa.

Zambia, sometimes called the cockpit of Africa, borders Angola, and the Red strategy uses Zambia as the sanctuary-equivalent of Laos.

Previously the British Protectorate of Northern Rhodesia, Zambia is slightly larger than Texas, and the Soviet has now expanded the former Royal Air Force airdrome at Lusaka, the capital. Russian Ilyushin airliners are off-loading military equipment from the U.S.S.R and satellite countries, chiefly Czechoslovakia.

GOVERNOR GENERAL Vaz's Angola is scattered across an area nearly half the size of Western Europe and he reported to President Tomas that he and the Republic of South Africa have set up a joint frontier patrol.

The epicenter of the Red attack is along the Benuela Railway, vitally linking the central African copper regions and the Atlantic seaboard. And now the Red putsch is performing an expansion which is — typically — the very essence of all that is inhumane.

The great Cunene River, blessed with its marvelous Ruacana Falls, forms part of the Angola-South West Africa border. Called the Cabora-Bassa project, a joint Portuguese-South African undertaking is building a 500-foot dam and a tremendous hydroelectric complex there. In fact, President Tomas stated it could attract perhaps a million foreign settlers and lift living standards immeasurably. I have confirmed this among U. S. experts.

The Reds' Leipzig headquarters is now making the Cabora-Bassa project its prime target. U. S. intelligence in Lisbon quotes the Leipzig brain trust as saying "we shall either destroy the dam or make it completely uneconomical."

The human betterment that the Cabora-Bassa project represents? Oh, to hell with that.