

armed attack on its African allies, especially Angola, Mozambique, and Libya. A *Pravda* statement of April 18 warned that "imperialists, trying to pit African against African," are planning an assault on Angola, and coverage in the Soviet armed forces newspaper *Red Star* declared that the "purely local conflict" in Zaire is being exacerbated "to reinforce NATO's political and military positions in Africa."

The USSR, Iraq, Libya, and Angola have begun campaigning to clarify that the crisis in Zaire is the result of a NATO effort backed by Israel and South Africa, the arch-enemies of the Arab-African sector. This cooperative push against the USA's surrogate war-makers is showing up the connection between the National Security Council's "breakaway ally" war scenarios in the Middle East and southern Africa. *Pravda*, quoting an Iraqi newspaper, stated, "Those Arab capitals fighting against the peoples of Zaire play the same role as the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia in relation to the liberation movements." Another Soviet statement blasted Egypt's President Sadat for "subversive activities against liberation movements in Africa."

Such propaganda is isolating the few Arab and African states which have dared to lend support to the French-NATO Zaire operation. The influential Nigerians, who initially adopted a position of foolish "neutralism," are beginning to swing against France. The Nigerian *Daily Herald* yesterday blasted France for its involvement in Zaire, following a visit to Czechoslovakia and East Germany by Nigeria's foreign minister. A Nigerian swing away from neutrality would almost certainly bring a majority of Africa into line against the NATO buildup in Zaire.

A significant sign of real opposition to the Carter offensive in Africa came from Iraq. According to the Soviet government daily *Izvestia*, the Iraqis plan to call for an Arab League meeting immediately in Cairo to denounce the complicity of Morocco and Egypt in the Zaire operation. The possibility of such a meeting has further

terrified the Egyptian regime, which is already scrambling to protect itself in the wake of universal domestic revulsion against Sadat's cooperation with the U.S. and France in Africa. (See *Middle East Report*.)

African Vietnam

This week Morocco's primordial King Hassan II — an outright stooge of Atlanticism — gave his royal blessing to the French-U.S. scheme against Angola, citing a Cuban-led Angolan invasion of Zaire. This frontal attack on Cuba and Angola, both nations under the Warsaw Pact defense umbrella, is doubtless considered by the Soviets to be an intolerable provocation to the strategic position of the USSR in Africa.

Thus the Soviets are carefully tracking the National Security Council operation to transform Zaire into a base from which Rockefeller can build a military stockpile and manpower pool to open a second front against the African states and guerrilla movements now in a showdown against the South African and Rhodesian minority regimes. According to African diplomatic sources, the Carter Administration intends to establish a deployed capability to wage an escalating, "Vietnam"-style offensive in the region.

The attack on Angola has already begun. According to the *Christian Science Monitor*, brainwashed cannibals of the tribal UNITA group — left over from South Africa's 1975 war against independent Angola — have renewed attacks on Angolan positions from bases in South African-occupied Namibia. The Angolan government has counterdeployed search-and-destroy missions against the UNITA-South African forces.

In addition, there are growing reports that a "vengeful President Mobutu of Zaire" may order reprisal raids on Angola by the French-Moroccan brigades in southern Zaire. The *New York Times'* military correspondent Drew Middleton solemnly warned two days ago, "The Moroccans may get restless. They may wish to prove themselves by some striking offensive operation."

East Bloc Press Tears 'NATO's Zaire Adventure'

'NATO's Adventure in Zaire'

Red Star, April 17, "NATO's Adventure in Zaire," by Major Y. Gavrilov:

The conflict in Zaire was caused by strictly internal reasons, reflecting deep internal contradictions. The foreign press has particularly stressed the dissatisfaction of the population of Shaba and other regions with the worsening economic situation, the dominance of foreign monopolies, and the growth of corruption.

However, despite the obvious facts, certain circles in NATO countries and in Zaire itself are trying to give the conflict an international character....

This is all being done in order to hide the attempts of the imperialist circles in NATO countries to use the purely internal conflict in Zaire for their own goals, to

justify military intervention by the West into the affairs of this African country. And this is increasing every day. The world noted well the haste with which the U.S. and other NATO countries responded to the request of the leadership of Zaire for military aid....

It is notable that the imperialist circles are leading things toward a dangerous internationalization of the internal Zairean conflict, drawing into it other African states. France has provided transfer for Moroccan troops to the region of military activity. The foreign press is reporting negotiations on drawing Egypt and the Sudan into the Zairean events on the side of the Kinshasa regime....

Along with this, the U.S. and Western Europe are actively leading a campaign to recruit mercenaries to fight against the insurgents. The American press notes that

the CIA has most often come forward in the role of recruiter....

Certain NATO circles are trying to use the purely internal conflict in Zaire to strengthen their military-political position in Africa. Some people in the West, for example, would have no objection to seeing Zaire as a springboard for subversive activities against Angola and other member countries of the Organization of African Unity, to create a new international problem, yet another hot spot of dangerous tension in the world. By pulling other African states into the conflict, these circles hope to split the unity of the peoples of the continent in the struggle against racism and imperialism. In particular, noted the Algerian *El Moudjahid*, they would like to distract the attention of world and African public opinion away from the South African situation, to give breathing room to the racist regime to strengthen its position.

The adventurist actions of the NATO countries in Zaire are threatening the peace and security of the African peoples. Such actions once again confirm that the imperialists have not given up their bankrupt policy of using local conflicts in "Third World" countries to interfere in their internal affairs. The experience of the past, however, has demonstrated the shortsightedness and danger of such a course, which contradicts detente.

As concerns the position of the USSR, a recently published Tass release stated that the leading circles of the Soviet Union consider the interference of any foreign forces in Zaire to be intolerable. "Each nation itself," stressed the statement, "and only that nation, can decide its own internal affairs."

East German Party Daily: 'Zaire Owes U.S. Banks Billions'

Neues Deutschland, April 19: "For the banks, a good \$400 million is at stake," said a recent *Financial Times* commentary on the situation in Zaire. "These \$400 million are part of some \$800 million due them from Zaire which are not guaranteed by the Exim Bank or export credit institutions of other countries."...

Despite enormous natural wealth, the foreign debt of Zaire, according to a report in the (West Germany) *Sueddeutsche Zeitung*, comes close to \$3 billion. Its creditors include, according to Western publications, a consortium of 40 banks led by ten big finance empires....

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, the U.S. is both the biggest capital investor in Zaire and the biggest purchaser of Zairean raw materials. In this connection, the *New York Times* reports that the investment of U.S. firms in copper alone amount to half a billion dollars.

'West's Monopoly Interests Are Behind Zaire Invasion'

Red Star, April 19: According to reports reaching here, Moroccan and Zairean troops have succeeded, under massive air cover, in advancing 40 kilometers to the

Brezhnev: 'Stop And Think About The Consequences'

The following is taken from General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party L.I. Brezhnev's speech welcoming Syrian President Hafez Assad to Moscow, published in Pravda April 19:

We have already spoken of this, and I would like to stress once again: if a new and dangerous source of tension arises in the center of Africa, then all responsibility for this lies with those who violate one of the fundamental principles of interstate relations — the principle of noninterference in internal affairs. We are resolutely against such actions wherever they occur. Those who enter into the affairs of others and conduct a line of growing conflict in Zaire and around it ought to stop and think seriously what consequences this could bring...

The struggle for further improvement of the international climate, for the consolidation of international security and the progress of detente is not, of course, limited to the elimination of existing armed conflicts and hotspots of tension. It is no less important not to create such hotspots.

Today this must be said especially of attempts by imperialist forces and their henchmen to interfere into the internal military conflict in Zaire.

northwest of the mining center of Shaba-Katanga province.

The Paris papers *Matin de Paris* and *Humanité* report that French military servicemen are participating in the suppression of the popular uprising. According to *Matin De Paris*, Colonel LeBlanc of the French Army is commanding their actions. The same newspaper writes that French pilots are taking part in reconnaissance and bombing flights in Mirage fighter-bombers.

Speaking on the radio, General Secretary of the French Communist Party Georges Marchais decisively condemned France's interference in the internal affairs of Zaire, which, he noted is in gross violation of the French Constitution.

Red Star, April 19: The West is acting with haste and nervousness, and using military intervention, in its efforts to put down the uprising in Zaire. There are very particular reasons for this, writes the Yugoslav weekly *Nin*.

Private American capital investments in the Zairean mining industry alone exceed \$1 billion. These means are invested in mines which produce seven percent of world copper production and 67 percent of world cobalt. Substantial reserves of manganese, zinc and uranium are located in Shaba province and diamonds in neighboring Kasai.

It is well known that precisely this is one of the main reasons for the Western interference in the internal af-

fairs of Zaire. In this distant African country, the West is upholding the vital interests of its monopolies by force of arms.

'Shadows Over the Red Sea'

Izvestia, April 16: The progressive Arab and African press have recently been reporting with great alarm the stepped-up activity of imperialist forces and their agents in the Red Sea region....The basic method to which these forces resort in order to establish their rule over the region (stresses the Aden paper *As-Sauri*) is "enflaming hostilities between the peoples of the Red Sea."...

It is widely known that the imperialist circles of the USA have in recent years preferred to act in many regions of the world — Africa, Asia, and the Middle East — through the hands of others, while themselves remaining behind the scenes....

Primarily in certain circles in the Arab countries the term "Arab lake" has become current in relation to the Red Sea, patently smelling of nationalism, and all the more so since not all the coastal countries are Arab....The stress on the Red Sea as an "Arab lake" is necessary to some, in order to play on nationalism and to set the Arab countries against Ethiopia, which has a 625-

mile coastline and for whom this strip is the sole outlet to the sea.

The nationalistic campaign around the "security" of the Red Sea is combined in the reactionary press with a no less violent campaign against Ethiopia, which is undergoing a difficult period in setting up a new independent, progressive power....

Saudi Arabia is playing an active role in all of these Red Sea affairs. The French bourgeois paper *Aurore* wrote that Saudi Arabia is striving to forge a bloc of Arab countries of the Red Sea region, and "proposes to give these countries significant financial aid."...

The Egyptian paper *Al-Ahram*, which has recently been defending American interests more than Egyptian ones, has put forward a whole program for the creation of a military bloc in the Red Sea, through the organization of a unified command of the naval powers of all the coastal states "on the model of the allied command existing within the framework of NATO." What could be clearer!...

The uproar raised around the threat to the security of the Red Sea region, which allegedly has been aroused by rivalry of the two superpowers, has not only anti-Soviet motives, but also the job of splitting the anti-imperialist unity of the Arab states, detracting their attention from the basic task: the elimination of the consequences of Israeli aggression....

Yugoslavs On Africa Border Wars: A Strategy Against The Non-Aligned

The Yugoslavian daily Vjesnik published this analysis of the African situation on April 15, under the headline, "They Make War For Others":

An Ethiopian-Somalia armed conflict was not unexpected. Reasons for disagreements, crises, and even sporadic flare-ups between the two nations have existed for many years — although never as intense as the one now occurring in the Ogaden province. Through the will of previous colonialist forces the province became Ethiopian, but Somalia thinks that it belongs to Somalia, and is constantly demanding its return from Ethiopia.

Thanks to the recognition by Ethiopia, Somalia, and the Organization of African Unity that changing the presently existing borders would start a chain reaction on the whole continent, there were never any intense

conflicts there. However, what is happening presently on certain African borders (Somalia-Ethiopia, Angola-Zaire, Morocco-Algeria, and Algeria-Mauritania) — and there are threats that soon this will occur in other regions as well (Uganda-Kenya, Senegal-Gambia, Somalia-Djibuti, Benin and its neighbors) — indicates that there are those who are forgetting the catastrophic scale of the consequences which would ensue as a result of border wars in Africa.

Certainly this did not occur primarily through the will of African politicians. Old disagreements — tribal, ethnic, religious, territorial — were all calculated and fabricated, frequently to the benefit of outside forces, in order to destabilize independent, sovereign Africa, which has been united for almost 10 years. In that special war against Africa's sovereignty, there are attempts to divide Africa up both ideologically and politically. This inevitably polarizes Africa, a situation which does not correspond to its vital interests but only to those outside interests who are causing the polarization. Their goal is clear: Africa must be divided up and then divided again on the ruins. If these attempts succeed...the Non-Aligned movement would be broken up, or would be skewed from its present policy....