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Group Says Clinton Policy on Angola Proves Dangerous Double Standard African American Leaders Criticized for Pushing Recognition

The Clinton Administration's recent recognition of the MPLA Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola government demonstrates a dangerous shift in American foreign policy, according to Kalina and Horace Cooper in a *National Policy Analysis* just published by The National Center for Public Policy Research.

President Clinton extended recognition to Serbia, praised its commitment to democracy and human rights, and urged the Bosnians for blocking progress for peace in the Balkans. Congress would begin hearings tomorrow on whether he was fully competent to hold office. That's exactly what the president's Communist government in Angola, they write.

What hurt was the words that he was with recognition," said Dr. Vinnie Hines, an official of the resistance group UNITA (National Council for the Total Independence of Angola) recently in Washington. He said that it was a reward for democracy and human rights? We are Africans, most of us may be black, but we're not stupid."

According to the analysis, President Clinton acted on information from the pro-Libya lobby in the State Department, which argued that UNITA resumed fighting the civil war after its leader, Jonas Savimbi, died in a supposedly "free and fair" election held last November...no candidate won an outright majority..."

Cooper, an African American, said American black leaders to be for their support of the Angolan regime. "Apparently the tens of thousands of black Americans doesn't bother America's leadership — as long as it's led by other blacks. Ironically, the MPLA is now hiring South African mercenaries, and of the more than 2000 political prisoners, the whites and mixed-race prisoners have been released," he says.

offensive to exterminate its political opposition.

"Police and mobs of supporters armed by the MPLA slaughtered civilians suspected of supporting the rebels. UNITA's two chief negotiators were tortured and executed. The mobs launched an 'ethnic cleansing' campaign against groups generally supportive of UNITA. The Catholic Church estimates 20,000 or more have been killed. Two thousand political prisoners, including UNITA's elected members of parliament, are still being held without adequate food or medical care," writes Kalina.

Kalina and Cooper assert that extension of diplomatic recognition and all of the political and economic benefits that accompany it have undermined efforts to find a peaceful resolution to the country's eighteen-year civil war.

The report says that "UNITA has few friends in the U.S. State Department. Foreign policy sophisticates were never comfortable with the Reagan Doctrine's support for anti-communist insurgencies like UNITA. They are more interested

in Angola's \$3 billion oil industry, which exports 75% of its output to the U.S. Recognition effectively repeals the Grassley amendment, which denied foreign tax credits to companies doing business in Angola."

The report further charges that "it was African American activists, including the Congressional Black Caucus, who pressured Clinton into extending recognition...African American leaders have always opposed UNITA, if for no other reason that Ronald Reagan supported it. Savimbi was backed by South Africa and described communism as more oppressive than apartheid — a politically incorrect sentiment that won him few friends in the Congressional Black Caucus."

Charles Kalina is a research associate at The National Center for Public Policy Research. Horace Cooper serves as legislative director for Congressman Dick Amodeo, and is a leading Advisory Committee member of The National Center's Project 21, a program designed to promote the views of a new generation of African American civic leaders.

Chuck Davis to be Presented Monarch Award

Chuck Davis, founder and artistic director of the African American Dance Ensemble (now based in Durham), will be presented the Monarch Award by the National Council for Culture and Art on Sunday, September 26, at Sardi's Restaurant in New York.

Davis will be honored for his contributions to the performing arts as a leading exponent of African dance traditions and as artistic director of the Brooklyn Academy of Music's DanceAfrica program. On the same evening, the council will also honor actor, dancer and singer, Ben Vereen, and the renowned jazz percussionist, Max Roach. The Monarch Award recognizes distinguished African Americans for their life long contributions to the visual and performing arts.

Past Monarch award winners have been Geoffrey Holder and Carmen Delavallade; Alvin Ailey; Jacob Lawrence; James Earl Jones; Gwendolyn Brooks; Simon Estes; choreographer Ulysses Dove;

director Vinnie Carrol; opera singer Marvis Martin; and Gregory Hines.

The National Council for the Arts supports through scholarships and local productions the work of emerging artists in the visual and performing arts.

Unemployment Benefit Goes Up This Month

RALEIGH — Newly unemployed North Carolinians will see more money in the benefit checks starting this week. Officials with Employment Security Commission of North Carolina (ESC), announced an increase in the maximum weekly unemployment insurance benefit. The maximum amount eligible North Carolinians can collect will go up \$15.00 a

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Poverty Separates African Americans Politically, Researchers Find

The social isolation suffered by African Americans in the poorest, most highly segregated neighborhoods has profoundly affected their political attitudes and separates them politically not only from whites but also from more affluent African Americans, contends a University of Chicago political scientist.

Because they feel isolated, the poorest blacks are less eager to participate in the political process. Political leaders have not understood the difference between the viewpoints of poor and more affluent blacks, and have failed to develop an effective agenda to overcome urban poverty, says Michael Dawson, associate professor of political science at the university.

Because blacks from impoverished neighborhoods see the political system differently from other blacks, they are less able to get their issues on the political agenda, the researchers contend.

Dawson's co-researcher is Cathy Cohen, assistant professor of political science at Yale University. The two discuss the results of their examination of data from poor Detroit neighborhoods in "Neighborhood Poverty and African American Politics," published this summer in the *American Political Science Review*.

Theirs is one of the first studies to look at the political consequences of severe urban poverty and segregation among those African Americans usually considered part of the underclass.

"What surprised me most was that there is an extraordinary threshold effect that occurs in neighborhoods of severe poverty," Dawson says. "The African Americans who live in extremely poor neighborhoods are quite consistent in their political attitudes, and those differ from the opinions held by African Americans who live in more affluent neighborhoods."

The researchers found political attitudes to be markedly different

from more affluent blacks in Detroit African American neighborhoods where more than 31 percent of the residents are below the poverty line. In addition to participating less frequently in the political process, blacks at that level of poverty are more likely than other African Americans to support black nationalism and income redistribution proposals, Dawson says.

The authors use data gathered in the 1989 Detroit Area Study, a project conducted by the University of Michigan, as well as census information. In the survey, nearly 1,000 people, including 448 African Americans, were interviewed about their attitudes, including their political views.

Dawson found many indicators of social isolation in extremely poor neighborhoods, including the fact that people in those neighborhoods are much less likely to belong to a church. "Thus, living in a neighborhood with high levels of economic devastation leads to greater isolation from (those) social institutions that are most involved in black politics, such as the black church and organizations dedicated to racial affairs," Dawson says.

People's experience with crime and their apprehension about their communities also increases in extremely poor neighborhoods. "At the highest level of poverty, the

probability of one's viewing crime as a serious problem rises by 44 percent (as compared with the views of residents of low-poverty neighborhoods)."

People in extremely poor neighborhoods also have little contact with politicians, he says. The residents of the poor Detroit neighborhoods are 17 percent less likely to discuss politics with their families than are residents of more affluent neighborhoods. "Families in such neighborhoods may have what they perceive to be more immediate and important issues dominating their discussions. Residents in extremely poor neighborhoods were 12 percent less likely than residents of more affluent neighborhoods to attend a meeting dealing with political issues."

"The social and economic isolation African Americans in the poorest neighborhoods has led to a different pattern of beliefs about who has the correct degree of influence in America, many African Americans in extremely poor neighborhoods also believe that labor unions, working-class people and middle-class people all have too much influence in American society."

Despite isolation of blacks in the poorest neighborhoods, some political leaders have been able to

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Want To Give Your Pooch A Bath? Show Its 'Smarts'?

Saturday, August 7, is the day.

Wellspring Grocery parking lot on Ninth Street is the place.

It's the 6th annual Dog Wash.

Dog Owners can get their pooches clean without the hassle usually connected with the job.

There will also be Pooch and Owner contests. At 11 a.m., Best Trick Contest; 12 noon, Longest Tail Contest; 1 p.m., Pet & Owner Look-Alike Contest; 2 p.m., Smallest Dog Contest.

Those interested in entering the contests should arrive promptly at the times listed.

All proceeds will go to the Animal Protection Societies in Durham and Chapel Hill.

The same events will be going on in Chapel Hill in the parking lot of First Citizens Bank across the street from the Chapel Hill Wellspring Grocery on Elliott Road.