

New Directions

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Editors Notes

Editorial Staff

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From the Editors Notebook

2 The Angola Question

More than in other previous editions, this issue of *New Directions* brings to you one of the most written of, most talked about events in recent months. The topic is Angola, an African country almost the size of New York, Texas and California combined, with a population of approximately six million.

Needless to say, Angola is now free of 400 years of colonial domination; its people are well on their way to shape the destiny of their mineral-rich but war-scarred country.

Beginning on page four, you will find not one, not two, but three articles on Angola and the scramble by the international power brokers for a piece of the action.

The first article, by Charles Cobb, is an analysis of the crisis and provides a capsule history of the struggle for independence by the Angolan liberation movements. Cobb describes how the MPLA, which now rules the country, UNITA and FNLA came into being and the ideological/personality differences among their leaders.

The second article, by Courtland Cox, details the role the United States played in collusion with South Africa—Africa's number one enemy—to exploit the differences/weaknesses of rival Angolan leaders and to curb the Soviet-Cuban influence in the area.

The third article, by Ronald Walters, is a commentary which raises some key questions involving the stability of Southern Africa. Walters touches on the role independent Africa should play in the long campaign for a majority rule in Southern Africa. Also, he raises the question of South Africa possessing a nuclear arsenal, and the possibility of a nuclear blackmail by South Africa against independent states of Africa.

After you have read the articles on Angola, we hope you will have gained new insights into the Angola question—Portugal's last colony in Africa.

Charter Day '76

This year's Charter Day Dinner commemorating the 109th birth of Howard University, was a smashing success. The March 1 event at the Sheraton-Park Hotel was presided over by Senator Edward W. Brooke of Massachusetts, who also delivered the Charter Day Convocation address in the university's Cramton Auditorium on March 2.

If by chance you happen to be one of those who were not able to make it to the \$100-a-plate fund raiser, you may have missed the year's most colorful event. But worry not, it is bound to be repeated next year—thanks to the cooperation of the corporate community, alumni, staff and friends of Howard University.

As in every year, five graduates of the university who distinguished themselves in their respective fields received this year's Alumni Achievement Award. Those recognized included two men who served the university and the community for almost a century. They are JAMES THEODORE CHAMBERS, who as coach and teacher devoted 56 years of outstanding leadership in athletics, and G. FREDERICK STANTON, who served under three presidents for 38 years before retiring in 1971 as vice president, secretary of the university and secretary of the Board of Trustees.

The other three honorees are, DR. JAMES PIERPONT COMER, one of the nation's leading psychiatrists, MAJOR-GENERAL BENJAMIN LACY HUNTON, the first Black general in the United States Army Reserve, and ROXIE ROKER KRAVITZ, a distinguished actress who is seen weekly as Mrs. Willis in the CBS-TV series, "The Jeffersons."

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