

# UCAH News

INFORMATION BULLETIN ON HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE IN ANGOLA

28 November-30 December 1996

## *1996 in Review...*

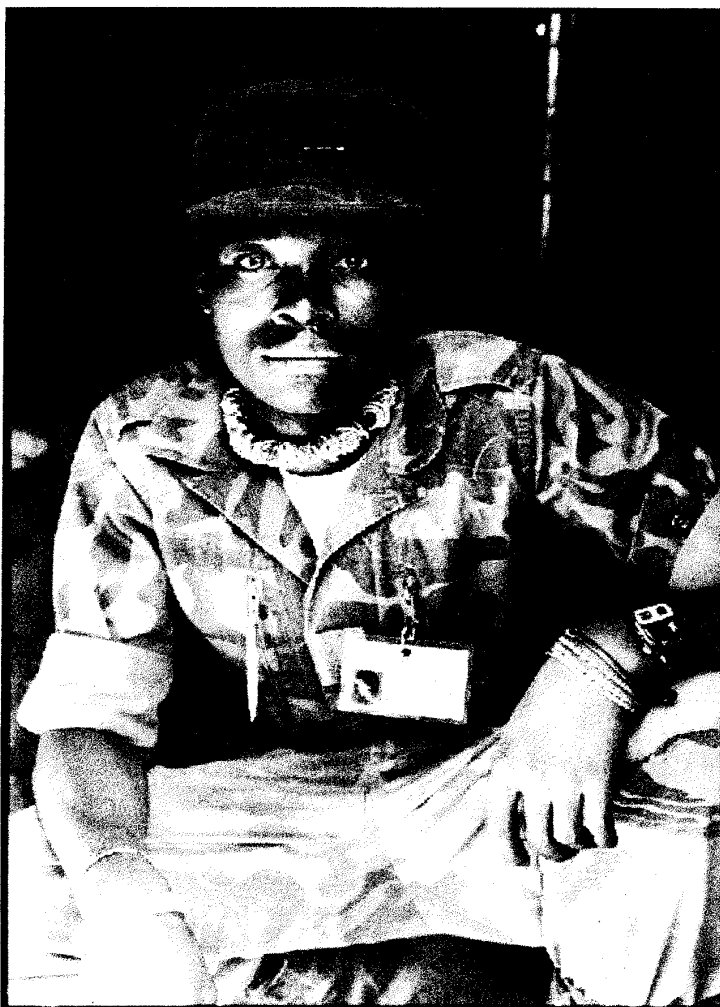


Photo: Giovanni Diffidenti for MOVIMONDO-Molise

***Demobilization of Underage Military from Vila Nova starts on September 24, 1996. The first underage personnel begin their journey home to various provinces in Angola...by 20 December 830 Underage Military personnel are demobilized....(see inside for more details)***

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### ***1996 in Review..***

As the end of 1996 draws near, UCAH reviews the highs and lows of the past year including demobilization, humanitarian assistance and progress towards the peace process.

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## 1996 in Review...

*1996 saw the humanitarian situation in Angola improve dramatically with the opening of road routes and repairs of bridges resulting in the extension of humanitarian assistance through a network of aid agencies and allowing access to previously out of reach areas. By December 1996 over 85% of humanitarian assistance was being provided by road convoys in comparison to 50% in 1995. The peace process moved forward with the start of the quartering of UNITA troops in February 1996. By 20 December, 1996 some 70,500 soldiers were quartered in 15 quartering areas with over 120,000 family members. 11 NGOs and the UN managed a comprehensive humanitarian programme within the quartering areas for both soldiers and their 120,000 dependents successfully maintaining health and nutritional standards throughout the quartering phase. Demobilization of Underage Military started in September and 830 Underage were reunited with their families through the demobilization process by 20 December. Below are some of the highs and lows experienced throughout the year.*

- 1 January Government and UNITA issue a new timetable to implement the Lusaka Protocol, including the liberation of prisoners, the quartering of UNITA soldiers and a third encounter between President dos Santos and Dr. Jonas Savimbi.
- 15 January Three new QAs in Londuimabali, Negage and Quibaxi (Piri) Quartering Areas are declared opened for quartering of UNITA troops. The first QA in Vila Nova was opened in November 1995.
- 17 January First National seminar on Human rights is organized by the Ministry of Justice and UNAVEM with participation of Government, Parliament, UNITA and the international community.
- 22 January The Central Mine Action School (CMATS) begins training in Kuito with 22 students. This is the first demining course organized by UN, UNAVEM and CMATS. By end of 1996, 6 brigades with 65 deminers in each brigade are trained and 6 are deployed in Bie, Malange, Moxico, Huambo, Uige and Kuando Kubango.
- 28 January The NGO CARE carries out a nutritional survey in Huila Province and reveal 11.4% global malnutrition rates in Jamba. CRS in Benguela carry out similar nutritional study that reveals 14% global malnutrition in Balombo. Near end of 1996 these rates diminish radically due to NGO nutritional interventions.
- 31 January WFP carries out the first road convoy ever from Luanda to Gonguembo in Kwanza Norte province. WFP announces Huambo-Chicama route adequate for humanitarian convoys and WFP and SWEDRELIF begin preparing to rehabilitate Malange-Saurimo-Luena route. Overland transport of relief items by WFP now averages 60%.
- 8 February The UN Security Council approves the extension of UNAVEM's mandate for an additional 3 month period.
- 15 February The first Humanitarian convoys by road in the province of Huila begin with the transportation of food aid, essential medicines and basic education material to Cuvango and Cinquenta. UN/NGOs are now able to reach populations who have been deprived of assistance since 1992.

- 1 March** President Eduardo dos Santos and Dr. Savimbi meet in Liberville, Gabon for the third time since the signing of the Lusaka Protocol.
- 12 March** Joint Commission declares QAs in N'Gove and Quibala officially opened. 12,000 UNITA soldiers are registered in the 4 previously opened QAs.
- 14 March** Joint Commission declares QA in N'tuco opened and postpones opening QA in Andulo.
- 25 March** Overland access is reported to be greatly extended and humanitarian agencies are now able to deliver 70% of humanitarian assistance by road as compared to 1995 when 70% was delivered by air. The emergency situation across Angola begins to stabilize due to the increased access to needy populations.
- 19 March** IOM transports over 200 people from camps in Viana, Luanda to their communities in Cacuso, Malange. This is the first series of convoys to transport 3,000 IDPs back to Malange province. In addition humanitarian organizations report the successful re-integration of 5,200 IDPs from Dondo to Sao Pedro de Kilemba in Kwanza Norte.
- 3 April** An ambush on the Benguela-Huambo road results in the death of 2 UN observers and an OXAFM expatriate. Traffic on the route is suspended and the impact on the humanitarian relief community is extremely negative as the incident is a clear indication that road access is still a risky option at least in some parts of the country.
- 8 April** A total of 17,831 soldiers are registered in the 5 operating QAs of Vila Nova, Negage, Londuimbali, Quibaxe and N'Gove.
- 12 April** Andulo QA is declared opened.
- 16 April** The 1996 UN Updated Consolidated Appeal for Angola is launched in Luanda. The SRSG Maitre Beye, MINARS and UCAH present the request for \$187 million of which \$58 million is already pledged by the donor community. This financial gap will last towards year end causing difficulties for organizations carrying out humanitarian programmes in the QAs and delay UNDP preparations for the post-demobilization (reintegration) stage.
- 19 April** Catala QA is declared opened and over 22,400 UNITA soldiers are reported registered in 6 of the 9 opened QAs.
- 25 April** UCAH reports that World Vision has completed the resettlement of some 7,500 IDPs in Kwanza Norte province.
- 29 April** Quartering of UNITA troops starts in Andulo and Chicuma and 10 quartering areas are now operational with a total of 23,000 soldiers registered.

- 30 April** A rapid field assessment takes place in Soyo, Sumba and Quelo, Zaire province after reports of deteriorating conditions among the population. The mission reported evidence of insufficient food, high disease incidence recommending immediate assistance.
- 5 May** WFP/FAO crop assessment is completed and the findings indicate a projected shortfall of over 400,000 mts in food production and alternative sources of food. WFP plans to continue food aid support for emergency interventions, IDPs, refugees and demobilized soldiers and dependents.
- 6 May** A total of 30,567 UNITA troops are registered in the 10 open QAs and the quartering areas of Chitembo and Caiundo are ready to receive ex-soldiers. The SRSG raises concern over the delays in starting demobilization as quartering has now reached its intended duration.
- 17 May** Caiundo and Chitembo quartering areas declared officially opened.
- 22 May** During an Extraordinary session of the Joint Commission the Technical Working Group for Demobilization is established including UNITA, GRA, UCAH, NGOs and chaired by the SRSG. The main task of this working group is to prepare a proposal for a national demobilization and reintegration programme which has the support of all signatories to the Lusaka Protocol.
- 29 May** Organizations and institutions involved in health meet for the first time under UCAH/WHO auspices with both UNITA and GRA personnel to develop health strategies for Angola .
- 30 May** MSF(F) and SCF(UK) close nutritional centres in Huambo city after evidence of improved nutritional conditions.
- 3 June** UCAH emergency task force (ETF) begins registration of Military War Disabled in Boa Vista near Quibaxe.
- 6 June** An outbreak of bloody diarrhoea in the quartering areas is brought under control after UNICEF/UCAH/NGOs intervene with extensive medicines and sanitary/water control interventions.
- 8 June** The opening of the Luena-Leua road allows relief agencies to access 7,000 people for the first time in several years. Women and children in the area had not received vaccination for over 10 years.
- 10 June** The Quartering Area at Licua is officially opened. 43,768 ex-UNITA troops now registered in 13 QAs.
- 19 June** The QAs in Negage, Vila Nova, Londuimbali and N'Gove are officially "closed" (ie. no new registration will be carried out) by the Joint Commission. On the same day the SRSG officially hands over the data base developed by UCAH and a new phase of selection for reintegration to FAA begins.
- 4 July** The selection of UNITA soldiers for integration to FAA begins in the QAs of Negage, Londuimbali, N'Gove and Vila Nova.

- 18 July** The awareness campaign on selection, demobilization and reintegration begins in the quartering area of Vila Nova, Londuimbali, N'Gove and Negage within the framework of UCAH's Civic Training Programme
- 23 July** Representatives of the Joint Commission Technical Working Group on Demobilization travel to Mozambique to analyze the positive and negative aspects of quartering, selection and demobilization process in that country. Based on the lessons learned the Government of Angola prepares its plan of Demobilization .
- 27 July** 2 Zimbabwean UNAVEM soldiers are killed and 4 injured in a mine accident on the Cacolo-Surimo road --The NGO GOAL subsequently suspend operations in the immediate vicinity until authorities confirm the road cleared of mines.
- 30 July** Registration activities begin in the 15th and last Quartering Area of Muxinda and the quartering process is scheduled to end in all QAs by end August.
- 9 August** The Joint Commission endorses the draft National Plan for Demobilization proposed by the Government of Angola as well as the first set of recommendations concerning demobilization and reintegration. The date for the start of demobilization for Underage Soldiers is set at 26 August.
- 10 August** The National Polio Vaccination Campaign begins throughout Angola coordinated by UNICEF, WHO and the Ministry of Health with participating NGOs. By the end of the campaign the Ministry of Health announces that 80% coverage was attained.
- 10 August** 25 UNITA soldiers are injured on the Luena-Lumege road following a mine incident while being transported by UNAVEM to the Lumege quartering area. UNITA regional commander suspends all NGO/UN movements until 22 August.
- 12 August** UCAH holds a 2 day workshop to strategize on projects for the reintegration of ex-combatants.
- 14 August** An extraordinary meeting is held with agencies working in the health sector to define a strategy to deal with the meningitis outbreak throughout the country.
- 15 August** The Seeds and Tools campaign begins coordinated by SCF(UK) and assisted by FAO/MINADER with EU and ODA donated seeds and tools and 40 participating NGOs. In total 305,000 families are targeted.
- 16 August** The Council of Ministers approves the final document of Angola's National Programme for Demobilization and Social Reintegration for ex-combatants.
- 22 August** The IDPs and Refugees Sub-committee held their first workshop to review and analyze the status of IDP programmes and possible scenarios for their return to areas of origin. UCAH/UNICEF/WFP and NGOs participated at the workshop chaired by MINARS.

- 24 August** The road connecting Huila and Kuando Kubango (Kuvango-Cuito Canavale) is demined. This ends operations of MECHEM in the south of the country.
- 30 August** The first commercial convoy arrives from Luanda in Suarimo with 700 mts of food stuff. The convoy, escorted by UNAVEM is the first commercial convoy to arrive in Lunda Sul since 1992.
- 5 September** A decrease of humanitarian activities is experienced due to an increase in security incidents in Moxico, Bie and Uige provinces, including psychological and physical harassment of relief workers. The UNAVEM security chief reports that cease-fire violations are increasing.
- 9 September** The National Institute of Statistics(INE) concluded a UNICEF/UNDP funded survey on IDPS, reporting that 292,000 IDPs are registered in 52 camps in 8 provinces (Moxico, Bengo, Kuanza Norte, Kuanza Sul, Benguela, Huambo, Huila and Kuando Kubango). The number of IDPs is 50% higher than expected.
- 9 September** 5 UNITA Generals arrive to Luanda to be incorporated into the FAA. The first group is lead by General Ben Ben, former Chief of Staff of the UNITA Military Forces.
- 10 September** The UCAH sponsored workshop with IRSEM/Minars and UNDP/SeCor, initiating a six week long debate on Reintegration Strategies is held with participation of 15 International NGOs.
- 14 September** The second phase of the National Polio Vaccination Campaign begins, by the end of the campaign it is estimated that 70 % of the population is covered against polio.
- 14 September** The last 2 quartering areas are closed in N'tuco and Muxinda bringing the registration activities of the quartering phase to an end. A total of 61,465 soldiers are by then registered, but there remain groups of FMU personnel still waiting for transport and the issue of UNITA police is still to be dealt with.
- 24 September** Demobilization begins with the first 485 underage soldiers starting to be demobilized from Vila Nova QA. The demobilization of the Underage Soldiers is being undertaken in spite of the fact that FMU generals are not yet integrated into FAA, selection is not completed and there is no agreement on a calendar for the formation of a Government of National Unity and extension of territorial administration.
- 1 October** Nearly 18 hours after the inauguration of the bridge over the River Cassai, in the province of Moxico, the first WFP humanitarian convoy arrived in Luena from Luanda transporting 753 mts of food in 53 trucks.
- 2 October** SADC summit takes place in Luanda to discuss the status of the implementation of the peace process in Angola. UNITA leader, Jonas Savimbi does not attend summit citing security and political concerns.
- 4 October** LWF reports that 11,0000 IDPS from inside Luena have resettled 14 kms north of Luena in newly rehabilitated villages assisted by WFP and LWF.

- 9 October** In spite of problems registered with ongoing demobilization from Vila Nova, the commencement of demobilization of Underage Soldiers from Londimabali and N'Gove continues.
- 11 October** Four additional UNITA Generals arrive to Luanda to integrate FAA.
- 11 October** The UN Security Council expresses its concern over the pace of events of the peace process in Angola and extends the UNAVEM mandate until 11 December.
- 29 October** The Governor of Bie Province, UNICEF and the Swiss Cooperation inaugurate the newly rehabilitated water supply system in the city of Kunje, in the vicinity of the provincial capital, Kuito town.
- 1 November** UNHCR reports that in October over 5,000 refugee returnees arrived in Moxico province. By this date and since the beginning of 1996, 28,249 refugees had returned to Angola.
- 7 November** Due to problems and delays faced in the demobilization of Underage soldiers, demobilization comes almost to a standstill. UCAH presents an analysis of the situation and the Technical Working Group develops a set of policies, principles and recommendations presented to the Joint Commission for approval before further demobilization takes place.
- 13 November** After almost one month of delays, demobilization of underage soldiers begins from Negage quartering area. To date only 571 underage are demobilized from Vila Nova, Londuimbali, N'Gove and Negage against a total of 2,400 underage registered.
- 19 November** The Seeds and Tools campaign is completed with all agricultural inputs delivered to the provinces.
- 20 November** The Government, UNITA and the United Nations review the schedule of political and military tasks on the 2nd Anniversary of the Lusaka Protocol. The Joint Commission congratulates all signatories of the Lusaka Protocol for the completion of about 80% of the tasks stipulated in the Protocol, albeit the timing reflects the slowness and difficulties surrounding its implementation.
- 25 November** The UNDP/SeCor sponsored seminar on Reintegration Initiatives begins with national NGOs.
- 28 November** UNAVEM reports that 7,000 kms have been demined throughout Angola since demining began.
- 2 December** The United Nations Secretary General issues his report to the Security Council and indicates his concern with the slow implementation of the political and military tasks. The SG also announces the start of draw down of the UNAVEM III military battalions.
- 10 December** UNITA declares that all its military tasks have been completed including quartering the handing over of all weapons and ammunition and the preparation of the security detail for its leader.

- 10 December** The Joint Commission in their 44th regular session received guarantees from the Government that political issues will be concluded by 31 December including the return of UNITA deputies to the National Assembly, the formation of a Government of national Reconciliation and Unity, extension of state administration throughout the country and special status for UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi.
- 11 December** The United Nations Security Council issues their report urging all parties to adhere to the agreements stipulated in Lusaka and recalls the need for a meeting between President dos Santos and UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi.
- 13 December** UNAVEM issues a statement declaring that UNITA has completed all tasks save for 1) remaining command posts in Andulo and Bailunda, 2) the quartering of the 463 UNITA police, 3) the return of 15,372 deserters, 4) the handing in of communications equipment, and 5) 74 remaining checkpoints.
- 20 December.** The official ceremony integrating the UNITA Generals and other senior military officers into FAA is held in Luanda.
- 20 December** Demobilization of Underage soldiers in Andulo quartering area is scheduled to begin but is postponed by UNITA Regional Commanding Officer.
- 21 December** Demobilization of Underage Military starts in Catala and Chicuma quartering areas. To date only 830 underage soldiers have been demobilized from Vila Nova, N'Gove, Negage and Londuimbali and 70,498 ex-UNITA troops are now registered in the 15 QAs.

## Overview

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### National Reconciliation

#### *UNITA declares all tasks completed*

On 10 December UNITA declared to the Joint Commission the status of the implementation of tasks. In the declaration UNITA states i) all troops and police have been quartered, ii) UNITA has handed over to UNAVEM all artillery, 3) 463 police still awaiting quartering will be quartered soon (according to agreements made at the Joint Commission) and that bodyguards for the UNITA President are present and deserve special status.

#### *UNAVEM declares completion of UNITA Quartering*

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After verification by UNAVEM of areas vacated by UNITA and all the 15 quartering areas, UNAVEM III declared on 13 December 1996 that :

- 65,692 UNITA soldiers and 4,644 police have been quartered--Of these 15,372 were deserters;
- 37,375 pieces of different weaponry of which 60% is serviceable and 883 tons of various types of ammunition had been handed over and, per UNITAs declaration, there were no more weapons;
- That out of 37 locations indicated by UNITA, 34 were verified by UNAVEM and found to be non-functional while 3 locations in Andulo, and 2 in Bailundo continued to be operational;
- 110 check points had been lifted by UNITA out of a total of 184 known to UNAVEM.

#### *Check Points Removed in Uige Province*

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Check points have been removed by the Government and UNITA in Uige province except for 2 UNITA check points in Quitexe and Maquela and one Government point in Calumbo. As a result movement between Uige, Songo, Sanza Pombo and Negage has improved.

#### *UN Secretary General Reports /Security Council issues Resolution 1087*

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On 2 December the UN Secretary General presented his report to the Security Council on the situation in Angola. In the report the Secretary General states that substantial progress has been made in carrying out the major tasks outlined in the Security Council Resolution 1075. However, the SG expresses disappointment with the slow progress in the implementation of Lusaka Protocol and states that it is imperative for all parties to carryout their obligations prior to 11 December. The SG also recommends the withdrawal of UNAVEM Military Units to resume in February with a view to a complete drawdown within 6-7 months. At the same time the SG recommends the formation of a Rapid Response Force to provide a safety net during the drawdown. Taking into account the present situation and the progress of the military and political tasks, the SG extended the mission of UNAVEM III to 28 February.

On 11 December, The Security Council adopted resolution 1087. In the resolution, the Security Council approves the Secretary-Generals recommendation to initiate withdrawal of UNAVEM III and stresses that both parties begin to cooperate on integrating selected UNITA officers and troops into the FAA; urges the GRA to avoid military offensive operations; recalls the need for the President of Angola to meet with the President of UNITA at the earliest opportunity, demands the safety of humanitarian organizations and call upon both parties to intensify demining efforts.

## Overview by Sector

### Health

#### *Health bridges For Peace Starts*

The first of three "Health Bridges for Peace" convoys left Lubango for Jamba municipality on 28 November. Under this programme UNICEF plans to provide assistance to 700,000 people most affected by war. Huila, Namibe, Kunene and western parts of Kuando Kubango are included and the project will vaccinate women and children against polio, tetanus, measles and meningitis. The next convoy will be covering the northern part of Huila and is programmed to start in January.

The UCAH Field Advisor in Uige reports that the main diseases affecting the population continue to be malaria, TB and Trypanosomiasis, the latter being an especially serious problem in Uige province. Currently MSF(F) is assisting TB and Trypanosomiasis patients in the north of the province while CARITAS and Angotrip support programmes in the southern region. MDM is in the planning stages of an assessment on the extent of TB in the Uige and Negeage area. More assistance is required to fight Trypanosomiasis including improved vector control.

The first vaccination campaign to be carried out in Kunda dia Base municipality took place during the week 9-16 December. This area has been isolated for some time without assistance of any kind. UNICEF with EPI-Caculama and EPI/Malange carried out vaccination activities, installed a vaccine cooler and the municipality is now under the vaccine refurbishment programme of UNICEF/EPI. During the campaign the UNICEF/EPI team noted the poor health and nutritional situation.

Five GOAL/MOH clinics continue to serve the population of Saurimo town and recent reports indicate that there is an increase of attendance at the clinics from populations arriving from outside Saurimo. Formal education sessions continue for all nursing staff and special training in focused on the prevention and transmission of HIV/AIDS. All practical nursing skills are supervised by an expatriate nurse. Following an assessment of the Provincial hospital in Saurimo, GOAL will initiate a programme in the Pediatric department, providing essential drugs, logistical assistance, staff training and management support. GOAL will commence rehabilitation work in January 1997.

#### *In short*

Within the framework of Health Bridges for Peace, UNICEF will also be rehabilitating clinics in 15 Municipalities of Huila province between December 1996 May 1997. ■

During the week of 16 December UNICEF Uige representative traveled by Helicopter to Quelo in Zaire province to assess the situation in the area. UNICEF reports that there is a great need for assistance in all sectors especially health and vaccination activities. ■

An AFRICARE mission was undertaken in Kuito Cuanevale and AFRICARE reports the need of intervention in the health sector for the 20,000 people situated in the area. ■

UNICEF/Malange, CCF, EPI/Malange and the NGO Action Nord Sud (ANS) carried out a joint mission to Kambundi Katembo, Malange Province with the objectives of supervising vaccination posts, initiating family tracing for the Underage soldiers and the possibilities of opening a ANS health project. ■

There is a reported outbreak of whooping cough in the southern part of Lunda Norte in Kitapa village. UNICEF reports that the epidemic is not yet confirmed and access to the area is only possible through Kmanbondi Katembo in Malange during the dry season. Populations coming from the area report that the health situation is serious. ■

CARE/UNICEF and Public Health opened the newly rehabilitated MCH centre in Catabola, Bie Province on 5 December. ■

## Agriculture / Food Security.

***Seeds and Tools for Uige Arrive***

The seeds donated by the EU finally arrived in Uige in late November. The delays had some serious implications in the province including the fact that the late arrival will not enable some of the intended recipients to plant this season. Although some families may retain seeds until the next season, it is expected that a number of the seeds will be consumed. Most of the farmers targeted were the most vulnerable and did not have tool and tools for distribution did not arrive until after the seeds. Despite the difficulties CARITAS and the NGO IERA are working hard to ensure that as many people as possible benefit from the distribution. The 2 NGOs are assisted by UNAVEM, UCAH, Danish Refugee Council, GOAL and FHI.

ICRC activities during the past months have been concentrated in the provinces of Huambo and Benguela and Huila where more than 78,000 families from various localities were assisted with food and seeds. As regards the supply of seeds, ICRC was reintroducing the cultivation of sorghum due to its resistance to drought as well as stimulate the local production of peanut for oil.

*UCAH joins all humanitarian partners in expressing their grief and extending their deepest sympathies and condolences for the family of Mr. Jorge Leitao head of WFP sub-office in Ndalatando. Mr Leitao was killed by unknown persons on 11 December while on mission in Kwanza Norte Province. The SRSG Maitre Alioune Beye and the Joint Commission have publicly condemned the killing. An investigation of the incident is still underway with the assistance of UNAVEM team site in the area who are instructed to report to the SRSG.*

Following a delay of two months the 10th Provincial Humanitarian Coordination group meeting was held in Uige Province. During the meeting issues were raised regarding NGO reports to UNITA and the Government as well as concern that CARITAS is distributing seeds and tools only to Catholics. It was clarified that the latter accusation was false but this issue highlights the need for transparency in UN and NGO work.

During 1996 WFP transported 23,812 mts relief food by air and 72,548 mts by road for a total of 96,360 mts. However due to hyperinflation still being negative and the consequent market distortions, WFP reports that delivery costs remains high as before.

***In short***

Between 26 November and 16 December the World Food programme has delivered 5,419.81 mts of humanitarian cargo by road convoys. ■

LWF/WS is continuing to assist farmers with the transport and planting of manioc, and in giving technical assistance for the proper drainage of field. The area to be covered by this programme is 120 hectares. ■

In Saurimo, LWF distributed groundnut seed to over 4,800 families in the area during the past month. The seed distribution was also accompanied with a distribution of tools to the same amount of families. Also in Saurimo, LWF with the cooperation of the displaced community and MINARS planted over 200 trees in villages near Saurimo to assist in soil erosion. WFP assisted with this project with food for work. ■

The World Food Programme is in the process of finishing their deliveries of seed protection food to municipalities throughout Angola. WFP is targeting the 246,000 most vulnerable families with seed protection food. This will complement both the EU/ODA seeds and tools campaign and other seed deliveries from SCF(US) AFRICARE and others. ■

WFP is supporting the re-opening of roads around Luena (Moxico) to facilitate the return of displaced to their home areas. Six kilometres of road have been opened and declared mine free. WFP is providing food-for-work and hand tools to support these projects.

## Human Rights

***Human Rights seminar in Huambo/ Amnesty issues Report***

A seminar on Human Rights jointly sponsored by the United Nations and the Angolan Ministry of Justice was held on December 13 and 14 in Huambo province. The seminar gathering members of the Joint Commission examined the situation on Human Rights in the country's central provinces and looked at ways to consolidate a state of law. The Seminar also discussed issues linked to the contribution of the church in the consolidation of Human Rights and peace in Huambo province. Recommendations at the end of the seminar included the consolidation of a democratic and just state; the free movement of people and goods; the effective promotion of human rights; and instruction through special institutions.

Amnesty International appealed to the United Nations to put Human Rights at the top of the agenda for Angola. The report issued by Amnesty on 5 December urges the United Nations to provide a mechanism for human rights protection in Angola following the withdrawal of UNAVEM. In the report Amnesty states that the formation of an impartial, independent and effective human rights mechanism in Angola will give a clear message that human rights violations will not be tolerated

***Donor support***

On the 9 December the Charge D'Affaires for the Norwegian Embassy and Ms. Judith Lewis Assistant Director for UCAH signed an agreement for a contribution of \$1.1 Million dollars for demobilization and reintegration activities. The donation is to be used for 2 projects appealed for in the 1996 Consolidated appeal. \$500,000 is pledged towards settlement support for the reinstallation of War Disabled Soldiers and 550,000 USD will be used to provide return and reintegration assistance to demobilized soldiers and their dependents. The latter project is to be implemented by UCAH's partner, IOM who will be in charge of the transportation of all demobilizing soldiers to their home locations and for the distribution of demobilization kits.

Recently the Swedish Embassy in Angola announced a generous contribution from the Swedish Government of \$140,000 USD for support to UCAH's Field Coordination activities in Malange Province. UCAH's presence in Malange will be key in facilitating the coordination of humanitarian assistance programs implemented by UN Agencies and NGOs; as well as promoting the implementation of the Provincial Humanitarian Coordination Group (PHCG) which aims to bring together UNITA and Government counterparts in the discussion of humanitarian

***In short***

The Human Rights Committee for Namibe province visited prisons in the region on the occasion of the International day of Human Rights, 10 December. ■

On 12 December an ad hoc task force on Human Rights was created by the Joint Commission following its 44th session held in Luanda. The Group will include UNAVEM, Government, UNITA and members of the Troika Observer states and is expected to follow up on Human Rights activities in Angola and investigate complaints of Human Rights violations. ■

interventions at Provincial level. For 1997, UCAH plans to have a strong network of Field Advisors placed in Uige, Malange, Moxico, Huambo, Benguela, Huila and Kuando Kubango provinces. The Swedish Government has targeted Malange by providing funds to agencies involved in capacity building and rehabilitation activities. This contribution to UCAH is in addition to previous commitments to fund National and International NGOs through the ASDI/UCAH Mechanism.

Mine Action

***Halo Trust looks for permission to start survey in Andulo***

Halo Trust has ten demining teams currently working in Angola, 5 in Bie Province based out of Kuito and 5 in Huambo based out of Huambo and Bailundo. Halo Trust currently has a mobile team based on the Planalto, in November survey operations took place and our continuing into December in Eastern Benguela, Huambo and Bie provinces. Halo Trust reports that extensive negotiations with UNITA authorities regarding the commencement of survey operations in Northern Bie, around Andulo and N'hrea were not successful this year. However, it is hoped that permission will be obtained in early 1997 and this will facilitate the work of other Humanitarian Organizations.

A survey was carried out by Corpo de Apoio aos Deslocados (CAD) that shows the major cause of mine accidents in Huambo is attributed to children playing with unexploded objects (OXOs). 60% of all the accidents registered at Huambo hospital involve children playing with UXOs, 24% are due to the use of unknown paths and 8% due to farming activities. The survey also indicates that the lack of blood in the hospital is a cause of a large part of the deaths due to mine accidents.

***In short***

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) welcomed their Deputy Director, on 9 December who arrived in Angola for a visit to assess the demining activities in Angola and review other aspects of the humanitarian operation. Mr. Baccetta visited Huambo and Bie provinces looking at demining and some projects for potable water and sanitation.

Every morning in Huambo the provincial Radio transmits a mine-awareness programme, aimed at sensitizing the local population. This is an initiative organized by UNICEF mine awareness partners GAC and CAD in cooperation with Halo Trust.

28 November- 30 December 1996

## Demobilization and Reintegration

### Demobilization starts in Chicuma and Catala

- **Quartering Area Status as of 19 December**

FMU troops registered	70,522
UNITA Policemen registered	4,638
Dependents of FMU Troops	111,590
Dependents of UNITA Police	2,600
Troops present in SDCs	49,432
UNITA Police present in SDC	4, 274
Troops selected for integration to FAA	19,001
Police selected for incorporation into ANP	460

- **Demobilization of Underage Military**

As of 19 December 832 Underage Military had been Demobilized from the 4 quartering areas of Vila Nova, N'Gove, Londumbali and Negage. On 21 December the demobilization of Underage Military started in the Quartering areas of Catala and Chicuma with a total of 103 underage demobilized from these 2 quartering areas by 22 December. Demobilization of Underage Military from Andulo has been postponed.

- **Registration and medical evaluation of Military War Disabled**

As of 20 December The status of Military war Disabled in Special Centres was as follows:

Special Centre	Total registered	
	MWDs	Dependents
Biongue Special Centre	1,037	4475
Mavinga Special Centre	541	2881
Jamba and Kavaleka	405	2909
Cangola	143	417
Bonga	300	1382

*The Plan of Action for the Demobilization of Military War Disabled was reviewed by the Joint Commission on 5 December. The finalizing of the plan is currently underway while the Government reviews the modalities in an inter-ministerial committee.*

- **Update on TWGDR**

The Thirty Second session of the Technical Working Group was held on 23 December at the Joint Commission. The meeting focused on the *United Nations Operational Support Plan for the Demobilization Phase of the Government of Angola's National Program for the Demobilization and Reintegration of ex-Militares*. Discussion centered around the time schedule outlined in the document for the demobilization of ex-UNITA troops and the responsibilities of the parties involved in the management of the SDCs. The Director of UCAH, Mr. Ramiro Lopes da Silva reiterated the need to clarify the responsibilities of all partners to allow the demobilization process to move ahead without further delay. Specifically, the timely provision of the SEAR payment and the handing over of the *Certificado de Licenciamento* and *Cedula* must be assured by the Government; IOM must be prepared with adequate transport and demobilization kits and WFP should ensure the provision of food for the demobilizing soldiers and their families. Dialogue also focused on the issue of the transfer of the management of SDC's to the integrated FAA and the Government of National Reconciliation and Unity (GNRU) in the new year.

**Financial Shortfalls****UCAH, WFP, UNICEF and IOM request for urgent funding ...**

In November, UN agencies and IOM presented their *Urgent Funding Requirements from Quartering to Demobilization* document to donors to cover requirements for the remainder of the quartering phase. The appeal cautions the donors that due to the delays in the demobilization process and the continuation of the quartering of ex-UNITA soldiers, conditions in the QAs/SDC's need to be maintained to keep up the level of services to the quartered soldiers while they remain *in situ*, avoiding a possible tense situation. The document emphasizes that the ability to carry out these humanitarian activities is key to an organized and disciplined demobilization. Non-availability of resources will possibly determine the premature cessation of these activities with withdrawal of NGO staff and suspension of WFP food assistance and UNICEF medical supply support. In this regard, UCAH has initiated, within the TWGDR, a debate on a rapid demobilization scenario, now that conditions established in the Lusaka Protocol have been declared "achieved" and a new FAA General Staff (incorporating former FMU Senior Officers) is in place, in order to plan an organized exit strategy and/or prepare that the QAs/SDC administration is eventually transferred to the newly integrated FAA. The financial requirements outlined in the UCAH issued "appeal" amounts to some 19.1 million USD.