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Cuba & Angola; fighting for Africa's freedom and our own.

Castro, Fidel and Raúl Castro, Nelson Mandela et al.

Pathfinder Press, ©2013 144 p. \$12.00 DT611

978-1-60488-046-5 Between 1975 and 1991 some 425,000 Cubans fought in Angola, newly independent of Portugal, on the side of the government led by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) against Western-backed forces that included, at various times, apartheid South Africa, Zaire (Congo) under the dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, and the domestic National Movement for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). This Cuban intervention was viewed as a heroic act of international solidarity on the part of many in the anti-imperialist camp around the world; a view that is given articulation here in this documentary reader by presenting speeches and writings about the issue from Fidel Castro and his brother Raúl; Nelson Mandela of the African National Congress; senior Cuban military leaders involved in the conflict; and members of the Cuban 5, who fought in Angola and now languish in prison in the US, having been convicted of attempting to infiltrate Cuban exile counterrevolutionary organizations and US government facilities in Florida, although the fairness of the trial and numerous other issues have been raised by Cuba and many other international actors. (Annotation ©2013 Book News Inc. Portland, OR)