

out. For example, of eight of the major strategic minerals in world trade, Africa produces over 37% of the total world output based on figures for 1968-69. For two of these minerals, Africa's output is 64% and 71% respectively of world production. These figures will gain added significance when the unfolding situation in Southern Africa reaches its inevitable resolution, with African majorities controlling their own affairs.

For these reasons it is incomprehensible that a commission which claims to deal with America's critical choices can overlook what is clearly one of the most crucial areas confronting American policy for the next decades.—*Franklin H. Williams, President, Phelps Stokes Fund. [Washington Post, 7/7/74]*

NEW U.N. YEARBOOK, 25th EDITION, IS OUT

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., June 30—The United States led the world in the production of automobiles and tractors, in the publication of books and the consumption of energy, according to the *United Nations Statistical Yearbook, 1973*, which was published today.

The yearbook, a 4-pound 12-ounce compilation of statistical information, is widely regarded as the most authoritative source of international data, and the 9,000 copies published annually are usually grabbed up quickly by governments, libraries, and companies. [*New York Times, 7/1/74*]

PORTUGAL STARTS TO FREE COLONIES

President Spínola, in a televised broadcast to the Portuguese nation, announced yesterday that decolonization of Portugal's African territories had begun "from this moment." He has promulgated a decree recognizing the right of the peoples of Angola, Guinea-Bissau and Mozambique to "take into their own hands their own destinies."

He described this as "immediate recognition of their right to independence," but did not specify when or how independence would be achieved.

The president abandoned his military uniform for the occasion and sat at his desk as a benign civilian, his famous monocle replaced by half-moon reading glasses. The decision, he said, was "faithful" to the program of the Armed Forces' Movement and was "a victory over ourselves, over our errors and over our contradictions."

The announcement comes appropriately in time for tomorrow's expected arrival of **Dr. Kurt Waldheim**, the first UN secretary-general ever to visit Portugal.

The new decree replaces a law of 1933 which declared that all the overseas territories were part of metropolitan Portugal. **President Spínola** said he hoped Portugal in future would remain united with the new nations in a "co-existence without preconceptions"—a phrase taken to mean some kind of Portuguese-speaking commonwealth. [*Jose Shercliff, Sunday Times (London), 7/28/74*]

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