

COALITION TALKS LIKELY IN ANGOLA

Third Rebel Group Agrees to
Cease-Fire This Week

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LUANDA, Angola, Oct. 13—Talks are expected to begin soon between the Portuguese and Angolans on the formation of a predominantly black coalition government, in preparation for the independence of this largest and richest of Portugal's African territories.

While no date has been set for negotiations—in which Portugal, Angolan guerrilla groups and the territory's white minority will be represented—it is expected that talks will follow a formal cease-fire Tuesday between Portugal and the strongest of the three guerrilla movements, the National Front for the Liberation of Angola.

The guerrilla organization's president, Holden Roberto—who announced the cease-fire yesterday in Kinshasa, Zaire—has said that he would enter talks with the Portuguese only after a cease-fire.

Angola's two other guerrilla movements, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, both agreed to cease-fire some weeks ago.

Guerrilla Leaders Meet

The cease-fire was announced by Mr. Roberto in a broadcast in Kinshasa after two days of informal talks between guerrilla leaders and the Portuguese that were described as "exploratory." Those "first contacts" have apparently led to the cease-fire and the beginning of formal talks.

A major question remains, however, about the role that Agostino Neto, the president and founder of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, will play in the negotiations or the new government. Dr. Neto was not in Kinshasa for the exploratory talks.

Dr. Neto's organization, based in the Congo Republic, has been seriously split during recent years. A meeting of the organization last month sought to end the dissension by naming Daniel Chipenda and the Rev. Pinto Andrade—as vice presidents.

The meeting also authorized Dr. Neto to agree to closer cooperation between the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola. But no meetings have taken place.

There has been very little fighting between the 70,000 Portuguese soldiers here and the guerrillas since the coup in Lisbon in April. Portuguese soldiers here generally admit that they are marking time until they can return to Portugal.

Fernando Falcão, Angola's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has predicted that a coalition government will be set up here by the end of the year.

Soares Hails Cease-Fire

LISBON, Oct. 13 (Reuters)—Foreign Minister Mario Soares of Portugal hailed today the promised suspension of hostilities by the National Front for the Liberation of Angola as a step toward the "complete decolonization" and independence of the African territory.