

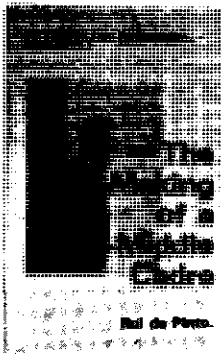
# What Does It Mean to be a Revolutionary ?

## Read LSM 's LIFE HISTORIES FROM THE REVOLUTION Series

Africa's liberation struggles are becoming more and more well-known. We hear about their victories in the news and sometimes see their participants on the TV screen. The people we become the most familiar with are their leaders. But every revolution is made possible only by the concerted efforts of the masses, many of whose heroes never have the opportunity to share their life experiences. LSM's Life History Series attempts to provide just such a medium. A medium through which we can get to know revolutionary individuals firsthand and through them learn about the struggles, setbacks and victories that are part of the revolutionary process.

These stories illustrate the interdependence of struggle and oppression in Africa and Canada. A common thread runs through them: men and women, who have endured hardships such as forced labor, reservation life and cultural disintegration, turn to armed revolution and fight against their oppressors to build a new life.

While the liberation struggles of Native Canadian Indians, South Africans and Angolans are leaping to the forefront of human history, the human element is all too often forgotten. These personal accounts help bridge the gap created by our geographical, political and cultural isolation and provide a welcome relief to the superficial and distorted reports of the bourgeois media.



Angola/MPLA \$1.50

### **The Making of a Middle Cadre:**

Story of Rui de Pinto

"When I look back, I think I have changed very much since my Paris days. In France I was already involved with the MPLA and I had some strong ideas about our struggle - feeling that it was very good and necessary. But the reality of our revolution was very far away. Coming here to Angola, many things changed in my mind. I found that there were plenty of things that I had had only romantic ideas about. But the reality of our struggle, and especially the contact I have had with our people, have made me feel even more sure, more strongly, about the necessity for our revolution and the certainty that we will win."

### **From Shantytown to Forest:**

Story of Norman Duka

"After a night of forced marching we found ourselves near a dam. It was still dark but we decided to rest, drink and fill up our canteens. When morning came we realized it wasn't a good spot. There was little cover - no tall trees and the bush was sparse. Before we could leave, however, a comrade picked up the faint sounds of planes and lorries. 'Listen!' he said. 'The enemy is coming!' Soon we saw the lead lorry approaching, then five more filled with troops. There was no time to run. We took up ambush positions, camouflaging ourselves as best we could in the available bush. The lorries drew near. We were only fifty yards from the road as they drove past. I saw an African soldier on the back of the first lorry manning a huge machine-gun."



South Africa/ANCSA \$1.95

### **Breaking Contract: Story of Vinnia Ndadi**

"An old man then wanted to know what kind of a struggle I was talking about - war? 'Yes, there is probably no way we can gain our independence except through armed struggle. We must be prepared to fight with anything - guns, bows and arrows, spears ... anything! War is a serious conflict - South Africa must not be allowed to oppress us forever. We must fight back and win our freedom.'

"The old man's face glowed, 'That's all I wanted to know,' he said. 'You lead, we're prepared to fight. At first I thought you meant only to continue struggling with words.'"



Namibia/SWAPO \$1.95

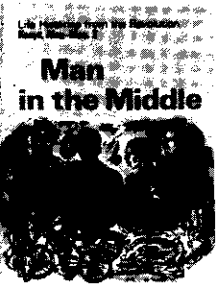


Kenya/MAU MAU 1  
\$1.50

### The Hardcore: Story of Karigo Muchai

"The camp commandant ordered us to sit on the ground and once again asked, in a tone sarcastic rather than sincere, 'Well, are you ready to work now?' Kiburi answered to no avail that we were prepared to return to work peacefully.

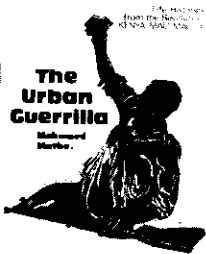
"As we sat we were surrounded by two rings of askari. The inner circle was armed with clubs and shields while the outer group held rifles which they kept trained on us. Moments later the camp commandant blew his whistle and the guards and warders set upon us like wild animals with their clubs, feet and fists. They continued to beat us for quite some time; I don't know exactly how long it was as I was too busy trying to protect myself against the club-swinging madmen to be concerned with time."



Ngugi Kabiro.  
Kenya/MAU MAU 2  
\$1.50

### Man in the Middle: Story of Ngugi "Solomon" Kabiro

"Mau Mau fighters had acquired six weapons, the Asian and his European partner had earned 800 sh/ and I was both 200 sh/ richer and an active participant in the Kikuyu struggle for land and freedom. However, I was in a rather dangerous position. On the one hand, Kinyua might somehow find out about my self-calculated commission, putting me in hot water with Mau Mau fighters and thus endangering my life. And on the other hand, the CID or Special Branch might get wind of our transaction and I knew what that meant."



Kenya/MAU MAU 3  
\$1.50

### The Urban Guerrilla: Story of David 'Mohamed' Mathu

"Karanja then told me to remove my clothes and shoes. He pulled two rounds of ammunition out of his pocket and rolled two balls of dampened soil between his hands. He ordered me to put my hands behind my neck and bend forward from the waist. A bullet and a ball of soil were put in each of my hands and then they bound my wrists with reed.

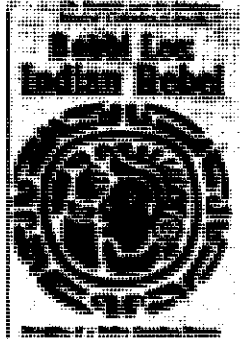
"In this position, standing naked under the high trees in the narrow rays of the afternoon sun, I took the Kindu oath. I repeated the following vows spoken by Karanja while the other men slapped my back and buttocks with the flat sides of their simis, an action intended to strengthen the courage the oath was supposed to instill in me."



Zimbabwe/ZAPU \$1.95

**The Organizer: Story of Temba Moyo**

"At times I find it hard to stick with the struggle, not knowing when it will end or even if it will bring the hoped-for results. I'm not sure at those times whether I will be able to persist through to the end. But then I ask myself, 'What if you decide to abandon the struggle? Will it be better then? Will it benefit the people? . . . What is the reward of living in comfort when the masses of my people still suffer in poverty and degradation.'"



CANADA/Internal Colonies  
\$1.95

**Bobbi Lee: Indian Rebel,  
Struggles of a Native Canadian Woman**

"I remember going to this girl's house - she was my first friend at school and very nice - and when her mother saw me she blew her stack. Right there in front of me she said: 'What do you think you're doing bringing this Indian into the Lynn residence? Don't you know we don't want Indians here . . . ?'"

**"Order a life history for yourself and  
send one to a friend."**

Write to:  
**LSM Information Center, Box 94338, Richmond, B.C., CANADA V6Y 2A8**