cance to the U.S., both nations belong to the category of "middle-income countries"—a group whose importance Blumenthal stressed in his address before the two international organizations.

The industrial countries must insure that these medium-sized countries can obtain the capital they need to expand their economies, he said. "To sustain this flow [of credit]," he added, "the borrowing countries must demonstrate they can use this capital productively, and that they can maintain an encouraging investment climate."

Nigeria has sought to attract additional American investment, as has Egypt, and the Carter administration has been trying to help. In addition, Nigeria has borrowed heavily in the international financial market.

Because of its oil income, Nigeria is able to raise large loans from banks, but Egypt has had to depend on friendly governments, primarily Saudi Arabia and the U.S., along with the International Monetary Fund, to meet its need for funds.

Two other African nations whose delegations met with Bergsten—Zaire and Ghana—are also looking towards the IMF for financial help.

Blumenthal had scheduled a meeting with the South African finance minister, Owen Horwood, for September 25. The South African request for the session "sparked speculation that a major South African financial policy change is in the offing," the Johannesburg *Sunday Times* reported.

But the meeting never took place, partly because President Carter's speech before the financial gathering conflicted. The Blumenthal/Horwood session was cancelled, and Horwood departed the following day to attend the party caucus election of a new South African prime minister.

One South African official told *AFRICA NEWS* the request for the meeting was "routine" and involved only a "courtesy call" on Blumenthal. But Treasury officials were never quite sure what the South Africans had in mind.

"There are some worries," the *Times* reported before Horwood's arrival here, "that whatever Mr. Horwood has up his sleeve may involve pressuring the United States into some kind of concession as a price for keeping American-South African ties just the way they are."

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ANGOLA

MPLA OPPONENTS TO BE FREED

[AN] Angolan President Agostinho Neto has announced the imminent release of hundreds of prisoners.

In a major speech in Cabinda on September 15, President Neto described three main categories of prisoners to be freed: hundreds of persons who collaborated with the opposition movements FNLA (National Front for the Liberation of Angola) and FLEC (Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda); Angolans involved in the 1974 Eastern Revolt (Active Revolt) inside the MPLA; and others who supported the leaders of the May 1977 coup attempt in Luanda.

Neto emphasized that the release of the former political opponents is part of the current effort to bring about both a greater degree of internal unity and a genuine peace with neighbor states such as Zaire. Those being released, he said, would go freely and "contribute, as certainly they themselves desire, to the reconstruction of the country."

Speaking about continuing security problems, however, the Angolan leader reiterated his frequent condemnation of South Africa for its support of anti-MPLA activity by guerrillas of UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola). Angola and South Africa have continued to trade charges of incursions across the Namibia/Angola border throughout September.

Likewise, Neto made no mention of freeing UNITA collaborators, stressing instead that the government would still be hard on those caught waging armed combat in the country.

The main theme of the MPLA leader's speech, however, was the need for Angolans to move from the anti-colonial phase to a new period of intense national reconstruction. Acknowledging shortages of food, housing, schools, medical supplies and transport, Neto said that every community should attempt to analyze and work to resolve these problems on the local level.

September, in fact, has been a particularly active month for several Angolan organizations involved in the national development effort. An organizing seminar of the ruling MPLA party met during the first week of the month; the national youth organization is preparing for a general meeting; and the Organization of Angolan Women completed its national assembly on September 24, laying plans for the future after analyzing the past three years' activities.

In addition, UNTA, the national trade union organization, has been laying the groundwork for a countrywide convention. There it plans to reconstitute the first post-independence unions and re-organize the workers committees that were closed down in the aftermath of the 1977 coup attempt.

Jornal de Angola

Angolan President Neto (right) with Mozambique's President Samora Machel.