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A pagina 24 di *The Fuzileiros: Portuguese Marines in Africa, 1961–1974* Di John P. Cann si citano come fotografi Anne Gaüzes e Dante Vacchi

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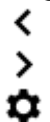
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Di John P. Cann

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A fuzileiro operation from Santo António do Zaire; note the effects of

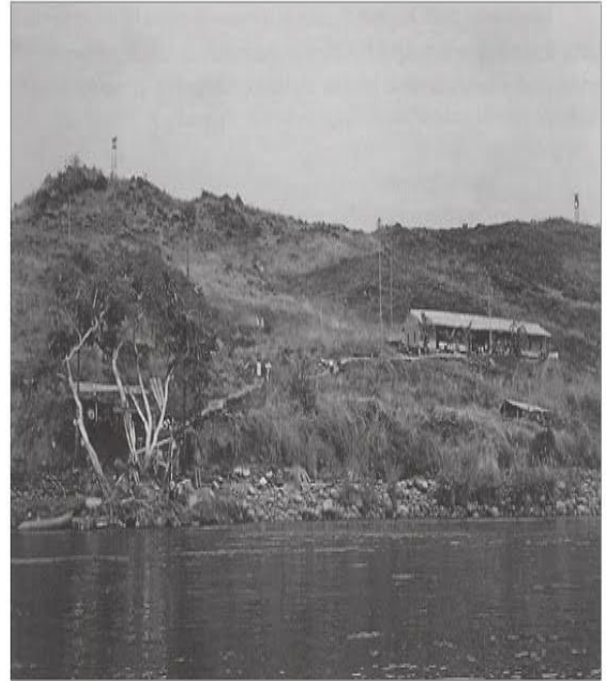


A squad of fuzileiros launching from Santo António do Zaire.
(Source: Anne Gaúzes and Dante Vacchi)





The post of Quissanga in September 1965.
(Source: Estado-Maior da Armada and *Revista da Armada*)



The post of Macala; note the twin lookout towers on the hilltops (left and right) and the pier (lower-left).
(Source: Estado-Maior da Armada and *Revista da Armada*)

would become available to tighten frontier security.¹⁷ Initially, each post would have two sections of fuzileiros (or about 24 men), two sergeants and an officer; however, these numbers would change as conditions changed.¹⁸ The numbers of DFEs in Angola built to four by September 1963, and as conditions on the Zaire improved, they were transferred to other areas where they could be more productively deployed. The number declined in March 1965 to three and then to two in December 1966 until the end of the conflict.

Planning work began on the bases with army support in June 1962, and by July, actual site excavation and construction were progressing. The task of carving four support bases from the virgin wilderness of the riverbanks was daunting in its difficulty, particularly with the limited labor available. Land had to be cleared of underbrush, and large stones removed by hand in the grading process. Building material then had to be landed on the riverbank in each case and moved to the construction sites. Each post consisted of a small headquarters building that was

This feverish activity resulted in the first post being completed at Puelo in mid-August. Macala was finished by the end of September and Quissanga by the first week of December. Trident (the final post) was completed three days before Christmas, and the system between Fetish Rock and Noqui now had the potential to tighten the riverine frontier.

At the same time, arrangements for the logistical support of this base structure were under way. The ready source of electrical power at the naval radio stations of Luanda and Santo António do Zaire translated into handsome cold storage facilities at both, but moving the chilled victuals to the posts presented a problem. Unfortunately, there were too few available resources. This situation put severe strain on all naval vessels, but particularly on the scarce landing craft that were in high demand to move troops and their equipment for military operations. It also presented other problems, as cold storage on both the landing craft and the launches was limited or non-existent. This

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