

Le Monde says Africans' silence is surprising 19/7/73

From Our Own Correspondent
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The relative silence, even among African leaders, about Portuguese military operations in Africa was surprising, *Le Monde* said in a leading article this week.

Alone among the French press, *Le Monde* is paying more attention to the reports of atrocities than to the visit of Dr Caetano, the Portuguese Prime Minister, to London.

"The revelations in the international press on the massacres . . . have provoked a very understandable storm of protest in British public opinion, especially in Labour and Liberal circles", the newspaper said.

"The motivations of the Labour opposition are obviously not disinterested. And one may well imagine that the spokesmen of the liberation movements in the Portuguese colonies of Africa have not missed this opportunity of drawing the attention of international opinion, ill-informed by reason of the almost total black-out imposed by the Portuguese authorities."