

Civil Courage

Steadfast Resistance to Evil at Great Personal Risk

The Newsletter of the Northcote Parkinson Fund

67A East 77 Street, New York, NY 10021 • Tel: 212.737.1011 • Fax: 212.737.6459 • www.civildcouragprize.org

In Speech Accepting 2006 Prize, Marques Attacks Public and Private Abuse and Corruption in Angola

Characterizes Country as “Tragic” Victim, Dominated by Institutionalized Repression

In a forceful speech to over 100 attendees at the Civil Courage Prize Award Ceremony on October 18 in New York, **Rafael Marques de Morais**, the Angolan journalist, educator and winner of the 2006 Prize, described in vivid terms the struggle he and colleagues have waged to achieve reform of the corrupt practices marking Angola’s public and private sectors. “Our people,” he said, “have always yearned for peace but instead experienced foreign-sponsored civil war, exploitation of its natural resources, and international indifference.”

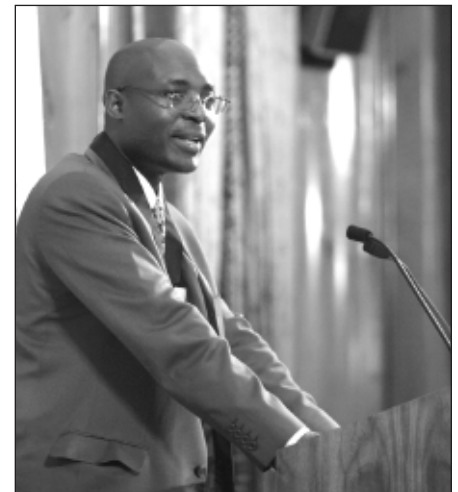
Statements by the government of Angola of late have tried to project a more positive image, with a focus on GDP growth derived from an increase in oil production and prices, he noted. But despite thriving business activity by multinationals, ordinary people have not benefited.

False promises have marked the period since independence, he continued; the West, for example, never followed up on pledges to hold a conference on rebuilding the country. And Angola awaits fulfillment of Chinese promises to improve infrastructure.

Recalling that 60 percent of Angolans live on a dollar and a half a day, Marques said that infant mortality is the second highest in the world. Yet, luxury housing projects have been realized for the wealthy.

“What is happening today,” he said, “is a legal and political process of privatizing the State for the benefit of the current ruling class. To do so,” he added, “the regime counts on the full support of the foreign powers in need of Angolan oil, diamonds and other natural resources.”

Citing Martin Luther King’s assertion that “if we are to speed up the coming of the new age we must have the moral courage to stand up and protest against injustice wherever we find it,” Marques said that, “with the country at peace, Angolans can address this long history of disenfranchisement of the individual by civil war, by the current policy of winner takes all, and lastly, by institutionalized corruption.”



2006 Prize-winner
Rafael Marques de Morais

Moscow Assassin Kills Winner of 2005 Prize

Anna Politkovskaya, a winner of the 2005 Civil Courage Prize who was a strong critic of the Russian government and the war in Chechnya, was found dead in her Moscow apartment building on October 7. Those responsible have not been identified, though the pistol used is typical of a contract killing.

At the 2006 Civil Courage Award Ceremony on October 18, tribute was paid to her by Musa Klebnikov, widow of American

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Anna Politkovskaya
2005 Winner

Anna Politkovskaya Murdered in Moscow

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journalist Paul Klebnikov, who was murdered in Moscow in 2004. Mrs. Klebnikov recalled that “Last year we were all riveted by Anna Politkovskaya... Her words seemed quite incredible and provocative. She said, ‘It is in fact a miracle that I am alive and not in prison.’... We all felt so excited to be part of her passionate quest to be a voice for truth, we felt committed to her dream of improving Russia. Sadly, neither this award, nor many others, were able to protect her.”

Mrs. Klebnikov continued, “...certainly journalists and Russians feel it as another proverbial nail being hammered into the coffin of civil society. Many journalists have been killed in Russia in the last 10 years, mostly in wars, but, shockingly, at least 13 were contract murders.... Was this a political murder?”

“President Putin’s awkward reaction has enhanced Anna’s status as an opposition hero,” she said. “World reaction has been one of outrage.”

Hodding Carter, Keynoter at Ceremony, Hails 2006 Winner Marques, Recalling Societies’ Need To Resist Challenges to Our Civilization’s Values

The Hon. Hodding Carter III, Professor of Leadership and Public Policy at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, prize-winning journalist, and former U.S. Government official, spoke stirringly at the Award Ceremony of the Civil Courage Prize on October 18 in New York, condemning “public silence on issues of great moment.”

Carter recalled the keynote speech some years ago by Sir Michael Howard, the British historian and strategic thinker, who said, “Trouble-makers, yes. Maddening, most certainly. Disturbers of general opinion and public tranquility, absolutely.” Yet, Sir Michael continued, “these are the people on whom the values of our civilization ultimately depend: lonely, unpopular and isolated... bearing witness... in season and out of season.”

Recalling also the keynote speech in 2002 of the South African jurist, Richard J. Goldstone, Carter noted that Goldstone had spoken of his concern about “instances of apparent disregard for the law and for the protection of civil liberties in the United States in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks, and the wide acceptance of that approach by so many people in this country.”

Rafael Marques, the 2006 Civil Courage Prize Winner, Carter said, “knows what it is to be held without charge, incommunicado. He knows what government death threats smell and feel like. He knows that a Government that holds itself above the law is lawless. He also knows that a nation that tolerates such abuses is not an open society, not a free society, not a nation in which civil society can flourish.... He, like his predecessors at this podium, makes real the meaning of the word, ‘hero’, so regularly de-based by its promiscuous application in this country.”

“What is permanent, however,” Carter continued, “in the building and preserving of a decent civil society is the need for the individual voice of conscience, demanding to be heard, demanding that oppression be lifted, and demanding that human rights be restored... All this most assuredly in Angola or Burma or Russia where the reaction can be lethal. But also assuredly in the United States, where it is not yet truly dangerous, nor likely to be tomorrow. But where it could be soon enough if we stand mute as an overweening state flaunts the rule of law, national and international, in the name of society.” In closing, Carter said, “Rafael Marques, you are our exemplar, our reminder that bearing witness is the first requirement of an open society.”



Keynote Speaker
The Hon. Hodding Carter III

Notables Attend Civil Courage Prize Award Ceremony for Rafael Marques

Leaders from Human Rights Organizations, Media, and Academia Join to Applaud Winner



L to R: Margaret Beaver, CCP Event Coordinator; 2006 CCP Honoree Rafael Marques de Morais; Molly Hickok, Northcote Parkinson Fund office; Barbara Becker, President of Equal Shot Public Relations



Mr. Marques and Musa Train Klebnikov



Mr. Marques, R, greets friends David Fuhr, L, and Tafadzwa Pasipanodya, Center



L to R: NPF Trustees Enid C.B. Schoettle and John Train; honoree Rafael Marques; NPF Trustees Virginia Armat Hurt and Ann Brownell Sloane; NPF Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Ariadne Calvo-Platero



Former Ambassador Nicholas Platt speaking with David Mitchell



NPF Founder-Chairman John Train



The Civil Courage Prize Ceremony, Oct. 18, 2006, at the Harold Pratt House, New York City



Rafael Marques greets John Fleming, former Reuters reporter in Angola



CCP Honoree Rafael Marques de Morais with the Hon. Hodding Carter III, the CCP 2006 award ceremony's keynote speaker



Mrs. John (Francie) Train speaking with Mrs. Richard (Lois Chiles) Gilder



Mr. Marques with Deborah Harding, former Vice President of the Open Society Institute

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Prize-winner Marques Meets with Senior Figures While Touring Washington, Boston and New York

In connection with his October 2006 visit to New York to receive the 2006 Civil Courage Prize, **Rafael Marques** traveled also to Washington and Boston under the auspices of the Northcote Parkinson Fund for meetings with media representatives, human rights groups, Congressional figures, Administration officials and academics.

- **New York:** At *Columbia University*, Marques was interviewed before faculty, students and others at the School of International Affairs, the School of Journalism and the Masters Program in Strategic Communications. At the *Council on Foreign Relations* he spoke at a meeting presided over by James Zirin and met with Vincent Mai, the Council's former chair of its Preventive Action Commission on Angola. At the *Business and Human Rights Resource Center*, he conferred with Joanne Bauer on his report on the Angolan diamond industry. *Global Information Network* hosted a round-table where Marques was interviewed by Milton Allimadi, publisher of *Black Star News*.
- **Washington:** *The Washington Post* ran an op-ed article by Marques. *BBC*, *Voice of America* and *All Africa.com* interviewed Marques and the last gave a luncheon for journalists covering Africa. At the *State Department* he met with Dan Mozena, of the African Bureau, and with *USAID's* African staff. At the *National Security Council* he met with Ben Leo, Director for African Affairs. At the *Capitol*, he met with members of the staffs of Senators Clinton and Feingold.
- **Boston:** At *Harvard University*, Marques delivered a speech to faculty and students at an event sponsored by the *Human Rights Program* at *Harvard Law School*, *International Legal Studies* and *HLS Advocates for Human Rights*.

Growing Concern over Fate of Opposition Leader:

Min Ko Naing, 2005 Prize-winner, Arrested in Burma

Reports from Burma in September 2006 confirmed the re-arrest of **Min Ko Naing**, a winner of the 2005 Civil Courage Prize. He and four other 88 Generation Burmese student opposition leaders were seized in their homes. On Nov. 5, 2006 the five were charged under article 5J of the Emergency Provision Act in absentia at a court in Rangoon. The arrests took place just before the 18th anniversary of the detention of Nobel laureate and opposition leader Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Civil Courage Prize

The Civil Courage Prize of the Northcote Parkinson Fund is awarded annually by the Trustees to honor civil courage—steadfast resistance to evil at great personal risk—rather than military valor. The acts that the Prize recognizes should have taken place deliberately over time. It may be awarded posthumously. By increasing awareness of civil courage, the Fund's trustees hope to encourage that virtue. The value of the Prize is \$50,000 for a living recipient.

The Fund, which supports economic and political liberalism, has provided grants also for public television programs espousing free enterprise and played a significant role in the evolution toward democracy of Eastern European countries.

NOMINATIONS for the Civil Courage Prize are solicited primarily from non-profit, non-governmental organizations worldwide. The office of the Northcote Parkinson Fund and The Civil Courage Prize may be reached by email via the Nominations page on our website: www.civildcouragprize.org.