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THE ANGOLITE began in 1953 as a weekly eight- to twelve-page tabloid newspaper under the hand of William “Old Wooden Ear” Sadler. In 1975 it was converted to a magazine format and began the most significant experiment in prison journalism.

Its editorial mission is to educate, inform and enlighten readers about criminal justice, the world of prison, and the lives of the people who work, live and die there. The Angolite searches for depth, insight, perspective and the human aspect of the stories that support its editorial mission. It is written, edited and produced by inmates, writing and reporting from a perspective that is inaccessible to mainstream media. It is America’s boldest experiment in journalism and freedom of expression in the world behind bars. The result is a relevant, bi-monthly, nationally circulated news magazine that has earned some of the nation’s most coveted press awards.

THE ANGOLITE has been a National Magazine Award finalist, recipient of the George Polk Journalism Award, the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award, the 2007 Thurgood Marshall Journalism Award, the 2011 PASS Award in Journalism from the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, and is a three-time winner of the APEX Award of Excellence for Magazine and Journal Writing.