

ANGOLA - GENERAL

1993

JANUARY - FEBRUARY

200 rebels die in battle in Angola

STAR 4/1/93
LUANDA — Government troops drove rebels from a strategic town in southern Angola yesterday, killing at least 200 rebel soldiers and capturing a top rebel general, news reports said.

Angolan national radio said government soldiers backed by armed civilians attacked after rebels tried to take control of Lubango, a town some 670 km south-east of Luanda and site of a government military air base.

General Padrinho Pilartes, Unita military commander for southern Angola, was seized after government troops killed a protective force of some 100 rebel soldiers and captured a Unita headquarters in central Lubango, the radio report said.

The Angolan news agency Angop was quoted in Lisbon as saying that Unita forces tried unsuccessfully to capture the local television station and they continued to shell Lubango airport, a key air force base, after fighting in the city had ended.

Many shops and vehicles in

the city had been looted or destroyed, it said.

A radio journalist in Lubango said by telephone that armed civilians were fighting alongside government forces in the city.

Fighting was concentrated around Unita installations, there had been loud explosions in the city and air force jets had flown overhead, he said.

In a statement released yesterday, Unita said its forces in Lubango presented no military threat and that they were attacked by the government without provocation.

United Nations negotiators have been trying to prevent a return to civil war in Angola since Unita leader Jonas Savimbi rejected the results of September's multiparty elections and reassembled his rebel army.

Government forces last week recaptured Caxito and Ndalando, two towns occupied by rebel troops within 200 km of Luanda, and Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim warned that further attacks would provoke civil war. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Angola: 100 dead in new hostilities

CT 4/1/83

LISBON. — Fresh fighting erupted in southern Angola, leaving 100 people dead yesterday, a day after the former rebel movement Unita told the United Nations it wanted immediate talks with the government to put the peace process back on track.

Both sides blamed each other for starting a battle in Lubango city, but Unita's secretary for information, Mr Jorge Valentim, said UN forces intervened and imposed a ceasefire.

A journalist at the local radio station in Lubango said the fighting had centred on Unita installations in the city and many armed civilians were fighting in support of government forces.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi told the UN's Special Representative for Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, on Saturday that he was prepared to resume peace talks with the government immediately.

Ms Anstee flew to Dr Savimbi's headquarters in Huambo in a last-ditch effort to prevent Angola sliding into full-scale war following Unita's rejection of its defeat in elections last September.

Dr Savimbi told Ms Anstee that senior officials from Unita and the ruling MPLA should meet next week, Mr Valentim said.

But he said the government should first stop trying to recapture the northern cities of Caxito and Ndalatando.

He said it was important to put the peace process back on track so the UN would have grounds for renewing the mandate of its peace-keeping forces in Angola, which expires at the end of January. — Sapa-Reuter

Generals (5) turn their backs on Savimbi

009 4/2/93

LUANDA. — Six captured Unita generals have joined the growing band of rebel officers rejecting the renewed war of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, saying they want to honour 1991 peace accords and rejoin the government's armed forces.

The six Unita generals said yesterday they wanted to return to the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA), which they left in October under Dr Savimbi's orders after he rejected the results of September's parliamentary and presidential elections.

"In the spirit of peace, we are returning to the FAA," General Peregrino Wambu told a news conference.

"This war is not in anyone's interests."

But while the six said they wanted peace, fighting raged in several provinces and the government said it was preparing to reorganise its defence against the rebels.

State-run radio said the government captured two South African mercenaries around the town of Huambo, Unita's central highland headquarters where a fierce battle for control has been under way for nearly a month.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports. — Sapa-Reuter.

7 BIPAM 5/1/93

Unita accuses gov't

UNITA rebels yesterday accused the government of launching a military campaign to wipe out rebel sympathisers in the Angolan provinces, after a weekend battle with government troops in Lubango, 670km southeast of Luanda, left about 200 dead.



URGENTLY TO RESTORE NATIONAL CONFIDENCE.

focus on Angola

Sowetan 5/1/93

The Angolan government has started a major offensive to regain control of towns taken over by Jonas Savimbi's rebels, who refused to accept defeat after UN-monitored elections last September:

(5)

LISBON - The Angolan government said its forces had driven the former rebel movement Unita out of the southern city of Lubango in a one-day battle that left more than 100 people dead.

It also said it had regained control of the northern city of Ndalatando after nearly a week of fighting.

Each side blamed the other for starting the fierce battle in Lubango on Sunday. But it bore all the hallmarks of a government counter-strike following Unita's creeping takeover of several towns in the interior.

Regained control

A government military communique, reported by Portuguese state television RTP on Sunday night, said the government had regained full control of the city following a Unita attack.

A journalist in Lubango, the capital of Huila province, said the gunfire had subsided by nightfall and only sporadic shooting could be heard.

The journalist said most Unita personnel in Lubango had been unarmed and the fighting had been concentrated on Unita offices and residences in the city.

A Unita official at the movement's headquarters in Angola's central city of Huambo said shortly afterwards he had no recent information about the situation in Lubango.

"We have not had any contact with Lubango since this morning when they said fighting had begun, provoked by the government," he told Reuters in Lisbon by telephone.

The Angolan state news agency, *Angop*, said more than 100 people died in the battle for Lubango, most of them Unita officials killed in fighting around the hotel where they lived.

The journalist told the Portuguese radio station, TSF, by telephone that armed civilians had fought alongside government police and soldiers.

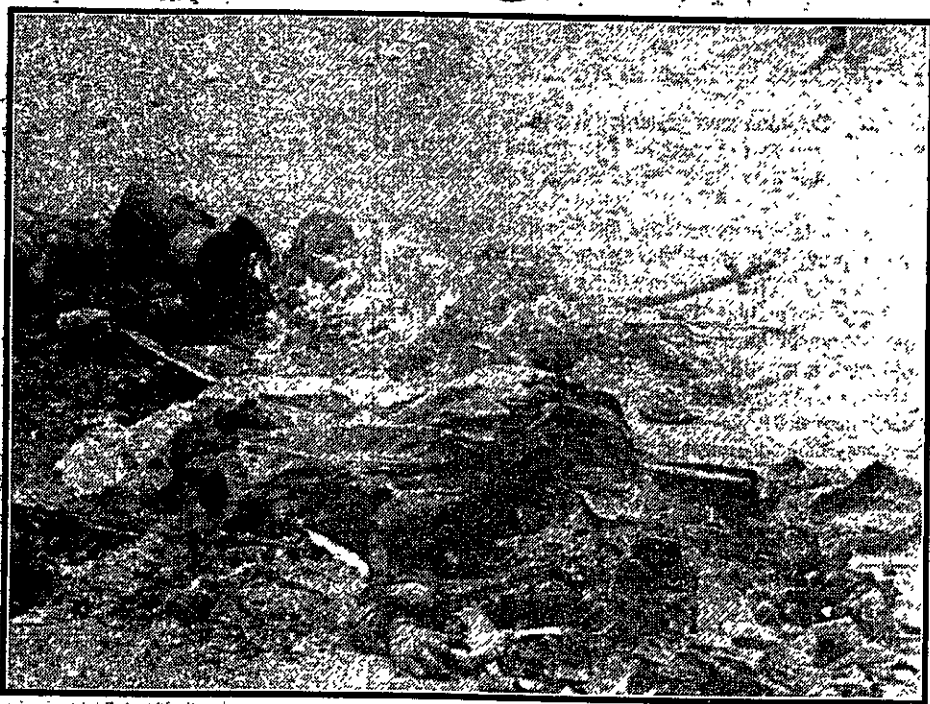
Unita crushed

This also happened in Luanda two months ago when the ruling MPLA crushed Unita's presence in the capital in a four-day battle that left several thousands dead.

Unita, which signed a peace agreement with the ruling MPLA in 1991, stressed that it did not have large combat forces in Lubango to mount an attack on the government.

"It should be pointed out that Unita did not have military forces in the city that could pose a threat," Unita secretary for information Jorge Valentim said in a statement faxed to Reuters.

He accused government forces of resisting several attempts by UN peacekeeping troops to stop the fighting. Valentim called for an immediate inquiry by the United Nations, the United States, Russia and Portugal, the official observers of the 1991 peace agreement.



Flashback to November 1992: The bodies of Unita soldiers lie burning in the Cassenda district of Luanda after a clash with government troops.

This ended a 16-year civil war in the former Portuguese colony between the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola), which was backed by Cuba and the Soviet Union, and Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), which received support from South Africa and the United States.

Peace accord threatened

But the peace accord has been on the verge of breakdown since Unita leader Jonas Savimbi rejected his defeat by the MPLA in UN-supervised elections last September. Alleging massive fraud, he retreated to Huambo and Unita forces began occupying a string of towns in the interior.

The government struck back after Christmas, launching an offensive to recapture Caxito and Ndalatando, two large towns near Luanda, and expelling Unita from Lubango.

Angolan state radio said on Sunday night that the police had brought the situation in Ndalatando, the capital of Cuanza Norte province, under control.

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Unita Information Secretary Jorge Valentim

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said many people had died in the fighting in Ndalatando, which Unita occupied in early November.

Valentim told Reuters by telephone from Huambo on Sunday morning that government forces were still attacking Ndalatando and Caxito with planes and tanks and that government ground forces were very close to the two cities. - Sapa-Reuters.

Angola says 30 killed, not 100

⑤ CT 5/11/93

LISBON. — The Angolan government yesterday said about 30 people were killed in a weekend battle — not over 100 as reported — when troops ousted Unita from the southern city of Lubango.

Mr Dumilde Chagas Rangel, the governor of Huila province, said "no more than 30" people died in Sunday's fighting in the provincial capital.

He said damage had centred on Unita installations and the property of Unita sympathisers. He also confirmed the arrest of Brigadier Padrinho Pilartes, Unita's commander in the province.

Denying suggestions the MPLA had deliberately armed its civilian supporters to take part in the fighting, he said many civilians kept arms at home.

Several reports from Lubango spoke of armed civilians fighting alongside government police and soldiers in the city.

However, Unita said yesterday that government forces massacred more than 200 of its supporters when they attacked the hotel where they lived in Lubango. — Sapa-Reuter

Unita 'driven out of city'

5 ARG 4/1/92

100 killed in fierce battle

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Angola on the brink of a return ⁽⁵⁾ to civil war

LUANDA — Angola is plunging back into civil war, just as direct peace negotiations neared.

Fighting, which started late last month in the northern provinces of Bengo and Cuanza Norte, is spreading farther south along the coastal provinces of Benguela and Namibe.

Fierce clashes were reported to have broken out in the coastal towns of Benguela and Lobito early yesterday.

By late afternoon, conflict was reported to have spread farther south to the traditionally peaceful and neutral town of Namibe, where the two belligerents — the rebel Unita and the governing MPLA — met last November and signed a ceasefire agreement.

It appeared likely on Monday night that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos would resume peace talks in Namibe on Friday.

Angola has been edging back towards civil war since the September elections.

Savimbi lost the first-round presidential contest to Dos Santos, but the latter failed to take the 50 percent majority to avert a second round.

Unita dismissed the election results as "fraudulent" and its troops were violently driven out of Luanda, but came to control some 60 percent of the country.

Though offered one full portfolio and four deputy posts in a new government, Unita spurned MPLA overtures.

Prime Minister Marcolino Moco has been quoted as saying the country is now in a state of undeclared civil war.

In yesterday's editorial, the pro-government daily newspaper, *Jornal de Angola*, said war was imminent. It said the long-promised withdrawal of Unita troops from Uige and Negage had taken too long.

Referring to the capture of a government delegation by Unita on Monday in an apparent retaliatory move against a government raid on Lubango at the weekend, an MPLA delegate on the joint political and military commission, General Higinio Carneiro, said: "With this stand, we have stepped backward to a more complicated situation and, naturally, we will not fold our arms."

As early as last month, Defence Ministry official General Alexandre Rodrigues warned that his government could go on the offensive against Unita, when calling in Harare for a regional summit on the crisis. — Sapa-AFP

'Troops drive Unita out of major towns'

STAR 7/11/93
 LUANDA — Angolan police announced a dusk-to-dawn curfew yesterday in the south-western province of Benguela as the government claimed to have recaptured key provincial towns from Unita in a general offensive.

Military officials here said police would enforce the curfew after government troops repulsed Unita forces from the province's coastal town of Lobito.

More than 1 000 deaths were reported yesterday in one coastal town as fighting between government troops and Unita rebels spread to seven major cities.

Angolan national radio said door-to-door fighting and continued heavy shelling by Unita has killed 1 000 in Benguela, a port town 400 km south of Luanda, and casualties were high in neighbouring Lobito as government troops, backed by armed civilians, fought the rebels in

the streets.

Officials also said government forces had recaptured Caxito, 60 km from Luanda, and Ndalatando, capital of the neighbouring Cuanza Norte.

Unita took control of the two cities in November, after losing elections in September and being driven out of Luanda a month later.

Unita was driven out of Cunene province on the border with Namibia after clashes broke out in the capital, Ondjiva, this week, government radio reported. It added that Unita had also been repulsed yesterday from the border town of Namacunde.

In Cuito, the capital of Bie province, fighting started when troops from Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's own bodyguard tried to storm the headquarters of the local police chief.

Unita later launched an attack on the town's central hospital where injured military police were being taken, a correspondent of the Angolan news

agency Angop reported.

General staff spokesman Brigadier-General Jose Manuel Jota said military police were still in control of Cuito and its airport but ran into stiff Unita resistance.

Jota said soldiers would be sent as reinforcements if necessary.

Military sources said fighting could break out at any time in Huambo, the capital of the central province of the same name, where Savimbi and his senior aides have holed up after losing the elections.

In Namibe province on the southern coast, heavy fighting was reported in Tombua, Bibala, Camucuo and Virei, outside the provincial capital Namibe. Unita was said to have the upper hand in Tombua.

State radio said police in the central Malanje province, MPLA's stronghold, were preparing an attack on Unita in the Cangandala area. — Sapa-
AFP-AP.

Unita's ceasefire offer rejected

STAR 8/1/93

LUANDA (Angola) — Government forces are besieging two rebel-held towns, and have rejected a ceasefire offer by Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi as fighting was reported throughout Angola.

Angolan national radio said yesterday that government forces had recaptured the port cities of Benguela and Lobito, and quoted the army chief of staff as saying thousands of rebel troops had been captured.

The government and Unita signed a peace treaty in 1991, ending 16 years of civil war, but renewed fighting broke out after Savimbi refused to accept his party's defeat in post-war elections last September.

Prime Minister Marcolino Moco said that parliament would meet next week to consider imposing emergency measures.

Ten weeks of fighting have left thousands dead.

In Benguela alone, the government said, 1 000 people were killed this week.

Moco has rejected Savimbi's call for a ceasefire.

"Unita has no business making proposals," he said.

"They should limit themselves to complying with peace accords."

Government troops were yesterday shelling Savimbi's headquarters in the central town of Huambo, the government radio said.

It added that the army was besieging two rebel-held towns — Caxito, 48 km north of the capital Luanda, and Ndalatando, 200 km to the east.

Rebel forces were on the move in eastern provinces and fighting had spread to every corner of the country, Angolan army spokesman General Jose Jota told national radio.

Embattled

Casualty reports from recent fighting have been sketchy.

Almost all communication between Luanda and the embattled provinces had been cut, diplomats said.

Savimbi had earlier asked Washington to help arrange a meeting by today between government and rebel military leaders, US Assistant Secretary of State Jeffrey Davidow said yesterday.

"I think the government has adopted a militaristic stance ...

that is the principal cause for the breakdown in talks," Davidow said.

The government's chief of staff, General Joao de Matos, said yesterday that he would meet Unita only if they ceased their attacks.

"If this is not done, the Angolan armed forces will use all of their might against Unita forces in every corner of the country," De Matos warned

"We offered a very workable peace plan to Unita and the government two weeks ago, but it never got off the ground," US liaison spokesman Joseph Schreiber told reporters.

"The government has gained some ground militarily, and they now want to see Unita disarmed and out of occupied territories before getting down to negotiations," Schreiber said.

He added that he had not spoken to Davidow, who was in Washington, and he was not sure whether the US would convene fresh talks.

During the Cold War, the United States and South Africa supported Savimbi's forces in the civil war against the formerly Marxist ruling party, which was backed by the Soviet Union and Cuba. — Sapa-AP.

MPLA takes back two cities

W. Mail 8/1-14/193
GOVERNMENT troops took back the two Angolan cities of Caxito and Ndalatando in heavy fighting with Unita this week and seem set to reclaim five other key cities and coastal towns.

In a turnabout, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi yesterday requested a full ceasefire with the ruling MPLA, said US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Jeffrey Davidow.

Angolan Premier Marcelino Moco welcomed any request for talks to end the renewed civil war.

But Unita representative Jaime Fortado this week threatened: "We are going to respond, and eventually the world will have another destroyed country — another Somalia."

The fighting follows a major MPLA thrust aimed at driving Unita from the areas it occupied after its defeat in the September elections.

This week the fighting spread to seven major cities and towns, destroying hopes of peace talks planned for today.

In the coastal town of Benguela just 400km from Luanda, about 1,000 people were killed when government troops backed by armed civilians fought Unita troops in the streets, claimed a local radio station.

— Sapa-Reuters

Weak UN abandons democracy in Angola

Guardian 14/11/93

THE United Nations secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, late last month asked President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos of Angola to meet the former rebel leader, Jonas Savimbi, in Geneva. Dr Savimbi has refused to accept the results of the September elections, certified as free and fair by the UN. Mr Boutros-Ghali threatened that if the Geneva meeting were not held, the UN would withdraw its monitoring group from Angola.

The secretary-general's initiative follows three months in which thousands of Angolans have been killed and tens of thousands ousted from their homes. The new government which emerged from the multi-party elections has been prevented by a vast military offensive on the part of Dr Savimbi's Unita troops from exercising its administration in roughly three-quarters of the country.

The government has repeatedly told the UN that a 20,000-strong Unita army, trained in Morocco and Zaire, was infiltrated into camps in east and northern Angola for this offensive.

The secretary-general's own report to the Security Council about a month ago, after an emergency visit by his top peacemaker, Marrack Goulding, said the situation had undergone a "catastrophic deterioration". Since then it has worsened daily, according to sources in Luanda, Malange, and Huambo.

In Benguela province alone, more than 80 people at various levels in the administration and the majority MPLA party have been killed or detained by Unita. In Huambo, Dr Savimbi's military fief, among the many buildings destroyed have been orphanages and old people's shelters, whose inhabitants have fled to the countryside.

In all other provinces largely under Unita military occupation, telephone and radio communications have been cut. The only information to reach Luanda comes from the anecdotal evidence of those who have managed to flee. The level of human suffering, from the terror of forcible dislocation, hunger and lack of medical care for the many wounded, is incalculable.

By offering Dr Savimbi, who refuses to meet President Dos Santos in Luanda, a meeting in Geneva, Mr Boutros-Ghali is effectively colluding with the Unita leader's refusal to abide by the democratic process, which gave the MPLA 57.8 per cent at the polls. Ninety-one per cent of Angolans voted in the election, believing it heralded the end of the 17-year war fought and funded by South Africa and the United States to oust the MPLA.

Mr Boutros-Ghali's invitation ignores the flagrant illegality of Dr Savimbi's behaviour — particularly since the elections. He has maintained and ruthlessly deployed

Unita's military machine in violation of the peace accords, signed in Bicesse in May 1991, that were to be the basis of the transition to peace and pluralism. Unita withdrew from the new national army days after its senior officers had pledged allegiance to it on the eve of the election.

This latest move by the UN follows the pattern set by the secretary-general's special representative, Margaret Anstee. Ms Anstee, both before and since the election, has been at pains in public statements to place Unita on the same footing as an elected government, 21 per cent of whose members are from parties other than the MPLA, which is trying legally and constitutionally to defend its citizens against Unita.

There can be no justification for the secretary-general's putting the prestige of his office behind a US proposal that President Dos Santos travel abroad to meet an Angolan citizen who refuses to comply with the laws of his own country.

President Dos Santos won more of the popular vote (49.57 per cent) than Bill Clinton (43 per cent), and is committed to holding a run-off election, though Unita's military offensive makes this impossible.

How would US citizens feel if President Bush demanded, under threat of violence, a leading role in Mr Clinton's administration?

US officials maintain that their long history of support for Dr Savimbi ended with the peace process. Herman Cohen, the assistant secretary of state for African affairs, told Congress on October 8 that Washington would establish diplomatic relations with the government of Angola once the UN certified the elections. On October 30, the UN Security Council's resolution 785 endorsed those elections as free and fair.

But the US is still withholding recognition, and is promoting the right of the defeated election candidate to hold negotiations on his personal future.

The collapse of authority in Angola is directly due to the UN's failure to check Unita's military offensive, and to declare Dr Savimbi's demands illegal. The UN has 210 military observers and 77 police observers in a huge country at war. This is not even the authorised strength of 350 and 316 respectively. More than 10 times this number have been sent to Mozambique and a hundred times more US troops to Somalia.

The UN's weakness in Angola has visited a tragedy upon the country in what should have been its first period of peace in three decades. Mr Boutros-Ghali's proposed meeting in Geneva can only compound the problem created by the US's refusal to give up its oldest cold war client in Africa.

By Victoria Brittain

Angolan govt rebuffs Unita

LUANDA. — Angolan Prime Minister Mr Marcolin Moco rebuffed a call yesterday for an immediate cease-fire by rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi as government troops besieged two towns near the capital and Unita rebel headquarters in central Angola.

"Unita has this mania for proposing talks every time they lose

territory. We are sick of this attitude. Unita has to learn that neither side benefits from war," Mr Moco said after a cabinet meeting.

"If Unita wanted to comply with peace accords we wouldn't need a cease-fire," Mr Moco said.

Dr Savimbi, whose troops were defeated this week in two

major western cities, had earlier asked Washington to help arrange a meeting by today between government and rebel military leaders, said US assistant secretary of state Mr Jeffrey Davidow yesterday.

"I think the government has adopted a militaristic stance... that is the principal cause for the breakdown in talks."

Army boss claims capture of rebels

AP/G 8/11/93
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LUANDA — Chief-of-Staff General Joao de Matos claims the Angolan army has captured thousands of Unita rebels in a week-long offensive and that a ceasefire is being sought.

He was quoted by Angolan television last night as saying Unita had suggested a meeting at its Huambo base between him and its military chief, General Demostenes Chilinguita, to discuss a ceasefire.

"Taking into account the present situation, the meeting will take place, but not in Huambo," the television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, quoted the general as saying.

Diplomats said the meeting had been suggested by Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

General De Matos warned that if the rebels did not halt their operations, the army would use "all of its might against Unita in every corner of the country."

Diplomats said yesterday at least 1 000 people had been killed in fighting around the city of Benguela and that government forces had captured several towns and cities.

General De Matos said Unita had been driven out of Lubango, Matala, Quiungo, Que and other areas of Huila province, and from Namibe, Tombua and other areas of Namibe province.

He said Unita leaders in Benguela, Lobito, Baia Farta and other areas of Benguela province had been taken prisoner, along with thousands of their men, and that there was heavy fighting in Bie Province.

Diplomats said on yesterday Unita had been overcome in its coastal stronghold Lobito, and had apparently also withdrawn from Caxito, 60 km north-east of Luanda, which it had occupied since November.

The diplomats said the government appeared to be on the verge of retaking another provincial capital, Ndalatando.

"The government has been fairly successful in rooting out Unita," said one Western diplomat, but he added that Unita might be regrouping.

Radio reports that Unita leader General Pachitengo Nunda had deserted to the government side could not be confirmed. — Sapa-Reuter.

Cuito might have fallen
to Unita, says minister

Confusion as Angola seethes

STAR
9/11/93.

LISBON — The Angolan government had lost contact with its forces in the central city of Cuito, which might have fallen to Unita, Interior Minister Andre Pitra Petrof said yesterday.

"The situation in Cuito is worrying. We have lost contact with the city," he told reporters at a news conference in Portugal.

Petrof said a garrison of 220 police and an unspecified number of soldiers faced a Unita force of 7 000 men in Cuito.

He could neither confirm nor deny whether the city had fallen to Unita after two days of fighting.

Training

If Cuito had fallen it would mark Unita's first major victory since heavy fighting broke out in several parts of Angola last week.

Petrof, who has been in Lisbon to seek closer co-operation with Portugal in training police, said Cuito was the only city in Angola where fighting was believed to be continuing.

The coastal cities of Lobito, Benguela and Namibe were now quiet and under government control, as were the southern cities of Ngiva and Lubango.

However, Unita still controlled the north-western cities of Ndalantando and Caxito.

AFTER two days of fighting, lines of communication with Cuito are down and the situation is unclear, reports ROBERT POWELL.

Unita, which signed a peace agreement with the ruling MPLA in May 1991, also controlled more than 100 local government areas, including most of the southern province of Huila and all of the central province of Huambo bar its capital, he said.

Rebel leader Jonas Savimbi established his headquarters in Huambo after rejecting defeat in UN-supervised elections in September.

His movement has a strong military presence in the city, where it co-exists with a government garrison.

Petrof, denying that government forces were attempting to surround Huambo city, said the situation there remained calm.

He countered Unita allegations of government brutality in the fighting by accusing the movement of massacring thousands of civilians in areas under its control.

However, he refused to give figures for casualties sustained in the recent fighting or to say how many people had been detained.

Diplomats in Luanda say at least 1 000 have died in Benguela while

hundreds have been killed elsewhere.

Petrof said the government would agree to resume talks with Unita only if the movement "ceased offensive actions" and agreed to abide by the terms of a 1991 peace agreement, which included accepting the results of the September elections.

"It is just a question of respecting the democratic process," Petrof said.

If Unita failed to meet these conditions, the government could ask parliament to decree a state of emergency when it convened in the second half of January.

Declining to say what extra powers this might give the government, Petrof said Unita could be banned as a political party if it refused to disarm.

Bore brunt

Unita had about 29 000 men at arms — 7 000 in the north of the country, 7 000 in the east and about 15 000 in the central highlands, its traditional heartland of support.

The interior minister said he would visit Spain next week to seek additional arms and training for the government's paramilitary police, which bore the brunt of recent fighting.

Spain trained and equipped this force, which Petrof put at less than 30 000-strong.

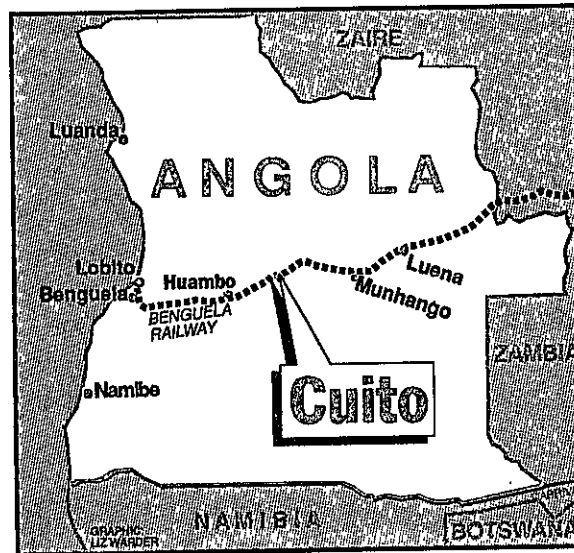
"We will study the possibilities (of supplying arms) but it is mainly about training."

He had not sought arms from Portugal because the country was unable to provide them.

The government had not yet decided whether to seek renovation of the mandate of UN ceasefire monitors in Angola when their current one expired at the end of January. Their role would have to be reviewed in the light of election results, Petrof said.

He opposed upgrading the UN presence to a full-scale peacekeeping force.

"Personally I am against this. We are Angolans and have to solve our own problems." — Sapa-Reuter.



CUITO: If the city has fallen it would mark a major victory for Unita.

Angola is braced for all-out war

CT 9/1/92

LUANDA. — Fighting raged in central and northern Angola yesterday with many dead and wounded lying unattended in the streets of Cuito, state radio reported.

Battles between rebels and government forces had spread from the provincial capital to the city of Saurimo.

Ruling party sources in the capital said authorities may be considering a general mobilisation, signifying all-out war.

The Angolan army said on Thursday it had captured thousands of Unita guerillas. Unita forces were expelled from a string of cities and towns across the country in a week-long offensive, forcing the rebels to request a ceasefire, it added.

Unita had been driven from the city of Cuito, capital of Bie province, where there had been heavy casualties after two days of fierce fighting.

The cabinet met yesterday and sources in the ruling MPLA said ministers were likely to discuss declaring a state of emergency and a general mobilisation.

Armed Forces commander General Joao de Matos said on Thursday Unita had suggested a meeting at its central Huambo headquarters between him and one of its commanders, General Demostenes Chilinguita, to discuss a ceasefire.

But observers here were sceptical discussions between Unita and the government would go ahead.

Diplomats said at least 3 000 people have died since fighting first broke out in early November.

● The aid group Doctors Without Frontiers said yesterday it was pulling volunteers from strife-torn Angolan provinces. — Sapa-Reuter-AP

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Corpses litter Angolan streets

ANGOLAN government forces defeated about 6,000 rebel troops in a battle that left the streets of the central city of Kuito strewn with hundreds of bodies, reports said.

The Unita rebels on Friday called for UN intervention, but UN peacekeepers were reportedly preparing to abandon the country.

The rebels, meanwhile, moved reinforcements to strengthen their hold on Ndalatando, 150 km south-east of Luanda. Angolan radio reported government and rebel troops also battled in Saurimo in the north-east.

Vincent van Crox, a spokesman for the French humanitarian agency Doctors Without Borders, said the fighting in Kuito was fierce and medical workers had to abandon the city leaving behind "many, many dead and injured".

Portuguese TV said that after the Kuito battle, Unita forces were regrouping 13 miles outside the city. — Sapa-AP

Rebels lose big battle for city

ST. TIMES
10/11/93
LUANDA: Government forces defeated about 6 000 rebel troops in a battle that left the streets of the central city of Kuito strewn with hundreds of corpses.

The Unita rebels called for UN intervention on Friday, but peacekeepers were reported to be preparing to abandon the country.

The rebels, meanwhile, moved reinforcements to strengthen their hold on Ndalatando, 144km south-east of Luanda, said Angolan National Radio. It added government and rebel troops had also clashed in Saurimo in the north-east.

Portuguese TV said that after Friday's battle in Kuito, Unita forces were reported to be regrouping about 21km outside the city.

Marcos Samondo, Unita's representative to the UN, sent a letter to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Friday, asking the Security Council to push for a ceasefire.

The letter said President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's government had launched an offensive "to destroy Unita as a political force and impose a one-party dictatorship on Angola".

Unita's Paris representative, David Georges Sanguende, also urged France to intervene, saying the government offensive "has turned into a veritable genocide".

The number of dead since September is at least equal to those of 16 years of war.

Vincent van Croix, of the Doctors Without Borders humanitarian agency, said the fighting in Kuito was fierce and medical workers had to abandon the city, leaving behind "many dead and injured". — *Foreign Desk*

Rebels driven out in battle for Huambo

Savimbi 11/1/93
■ Savimbi escapes as HQ is captured:

LUANDA - Government troops captured the headquarters of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi after defeating his rebel forces in a street-by-street battle on Saturday.

Savimbi apparently escaped from his base in the central Angolan city of Huambo before fighting broke out, said government general Jose Maria. "When fighting ended, there was not a single member of Unita left in town," he said. "We have to assume their leaders managed to leave before the conflict began."

Unita spokesman Jorge Chitendo reported casualties of more than 100 in the battle for Huambo. - Sapa-AP

Army, Unita battle for Huambo

810 AM 11/11/93
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LUANDA — Angolan army and Unita troops were still fighting for control of Huambo yesterday, despite a government announcement that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's stronghold had been captured and he had fled.

Unita forces were reportedly still in control of the Huambo residential areas where most of its leaders lived. Unita said its leadership was still in the city.

"Government forces are still under fire and have sustained heavy human and material losses," it said.

An army communiqué late on Saturday said government troops had captured Savimbi's headquarters, a villa known as "The White House," near Huambo Airport and his supporters were fleeing.

Military observers said fighting was raging in Huambo at the same time as the government was claiming victory. Both

sides say more than 100 people have died in the battle for the city, a provincial capital 500km southeast of Luanda.

There was no independent word on Savimbi's whereabouts. It was unclear whether his private DC-8 aircraft had escaped fighting around the airport.

The Angolan army's Gen José Maria said on Saturday night fighting in Huambo had stopped and it was under total government control. "There are numerous dead spread around the city but it is too early to give a figure," he said.

He claimed that Savimbi and other Unita leaders had fled before the attack.

Observers in the Angolan capital said it was hard to believe that Angola government forces could take Huambo as easily as they claimed. Unita is estimated to have 20 000 soldiers in Huambo and 8 000 to 10 000 armed civilians. — Sapa-Reuter.

Star 19/8/93

Govt troops move towards Huambo

LUANDA — Government forces are advancing towards Huambo, Angola's second city which Unita rebels captured two weeks ago, the official Jornal de Angola paper said yesterday.

Television footage has shown the city, once home to 400,000 people, to be a smouldering wreck after weeks of heavy fighting.

Huambo fell to Unita early this month after 56 days of fierce fighting with government forces. An estimated 12,000 people were killed and 15,000 wounded as a result of direct combat in the battle for the city where Unita set up its headquarters after it was defeated in the Sep-

tember polls. (5)

Quoting military sources, the official newspaper reported that government troops were in control of Cubal town, which Unita claimed to have taken last week, and were moving towards Huambo.

Unita artillery was bombarding the town of Menongue, but government troops were holding out, the sources added.

● The United Nations World Food Programme said that about 1,500 Angolans fleeing from Huambo have reached the western coastal city of Benguela, after a 400 km trek through the bush. — Sapa-AFP.

I am at my post, says Unita leader⁵

1975 11 11 1975
JOHANNESBURG. — Angolan opposition leader Dr Jonas Savimbi said today he was in the central city of Huambo, the stronghold of his Unita movement.

An army communique at the weekend said government troops had captured Dr Savimbi's headquarters, a villa known as the "White House" near Huambo airport, and that his supporters were fleeing.

But Dr Savimbi, in a speech broadcast on Unita radio this morning, said: "It is a lie that my house is in MPLA (government) hands. I am talking to you from Huambo. Our soldiers and officers have behaved with bravery and resolve, as during the last attack. I am at my post and will remain here."

The Unita leader said his organisation was ready to talk with the ruling MPLA whenever they wanted to.

The Portuguese news agency Lusa reported from Luanda last night that fighting was continuing in Huambo between government forces and Unita.

Lusa said that, according to an armed forces communique, the army was in control of the military situation in Huambo and in the towns of Luena, Cuito and Saurimo.

"Unita continues to fire on some zones of Huambo with long-range artillery," the communique said.

Unita rejected the results of the presidential and parliamentary elections held in Angola in September last year. — Sapa-Reuters.

Battles rage on but who is winning?

STAN 12/11/73

LILANDA — As fighting escalated between government and rebel troops in central Angola yesterday, downed communications to embattled fronts left in doubt the whereabouts of rebel chief Jonas Savimbi and which side had the upper hand.

Angolan national radio reported government troops repelled counterattacks in provincial capitals Kuito, Luena and Bile but said Unita rebels continued to threaten from the surrounding highlands.

Savimbi, speaking on Portuguese TSP radio late last night, said he and a force of rebel troops still held his headquarters in Huambo, despite aerial and artillery bombardment.

"We are in command of a great part of the city, and the support of the people of Huambo for Unita is growing," Savimbi claimed.

But Angolan national radio reported Savimbi had arrived in Kinshasa on a South African plane late last night for a meeting with the Zaire president, Mobutu Sese Sese.

TSP said the interview with Savimbi was done over portable satellite phone, leaving no way to verify Savimbi's location.

However US Assistant Secretary of State, Jeffrey Davidson told Associated Press he doubted very much that Savimbi would be in Zaire. "That is the kind of story the government puts out periodically to discredit Unita," Parliament will meet this

week to consider a declaration of open war against Unita, Prime Minister Marcelino Moco said on radio, adding that a bid for peace talks broke down when the two sides could not agree on a site.

Fighting broke out on October 31 after Savimbi rejected the results of September multiparty elections that were intended to put an end to Angola's 16-year civil war.

The rebels lost a parliamentary majority to the ruling MPLA and Savimbi trailed President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in the first round of the presidential voting.

When fighting resumed, rebel forces occupied more than half the country, including diamond-rich territory in the north and several towns near Luanda.

Moco has accused Unita of attempting a military overthrow of the government, but Savimbi maintains the government is trying to wipe out its political opposition. Both government and rebel sources say "hundreds" were killed in the battles that broke out in eastern provinces over the weekend.

Information is sketchy. Communication is embattled areas is only possible over military radio, fighting has downed telephone lines between Luanda and all but three of Angola's 18 provinces.

Diplomats from the United States, Portugal, and the former Soviet Union have urged government officials to hold peace talks before the UN peacekeeping mandate in Angola expires on January 31. — Sapa-AP



Day-dreaming . . . a child watches the world go by outside the Democratic Party's Johannesburg office which was opened yesterday. Picture Joao Silva

CAPE TOWN — A Democratic Party meeting in Guguletu ended in chaos last night when alleged Azanian Peoples Organisation supporters shouted down other members of the 200-strong audience.

DP youth regional chairman Colin Douglas declared the meeting closed barely 10 minutes after it had started in the Umtu Hall in Guguletu, about 20 km from Cape Town.

Senior African National Congress members present denounced the ANC from the fringes in which several people were slightly injured, a banner torn and DP pamphlets thrown around.

Violence broke out shortly after DP youth spokesman Siyathemba Malinga appealed for an end to fighting.

He was shouted down by a large group of hecklers in the back of the hall who filled in shortly before the meeting began at about 7 pm.

A man who claimed he was from the Azanian Youth Organisation and refused to identify himself chanted "down settlers, Ziela Dubase, chairman of the ANC's 'Unity Zone', called on ANC supporters to leave the hall and shortly after 7.15 pm Douglas said: "This meeting is over". — Sapa.

The DP yesterday opened an office in central Johannesburg as part of its recruitment drive to reach all South Africans.

DP leader Dr Zach de Beer said his party had an important role to play in the new South Africa.

Unita regroupes to attack cities

B/DAM 12/11/93

LUANDA — Unita yesterday counter-attacked from the highlands around three eastern Angolan cities after a military strike over the weekend killed hundreds and left rebel headquarters in government hands, news reports said.

Unita regrouped in the hills after defeats in provincial capitals of Luena, Kuito and Huambo, and attacked the cities at dawn with heavy artillery, Angolan radio reported.

Unita radio claimed victory in Kuito, 325km southeast of Luanda, and said government troops had fled, leaving hundreds dead in the streets. Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, in a recorded announcement, said he continued to command Unita from its Huambo headquarters.

"It is a lie that my house is in MPLA hands. I am talking to you from Huambo. Our soldiers and officers have behaved with bravery and resolve, as during the last attack. I am at my post and will remain here," Savimbi said.

The battle for Huambo, Angola's second most important city, has been raging for three days, with little independent information reaching the outside and both sides issuing wildly conflicting claims.

Diplomats in the capital, Luanda, believed the government had the upper hand and most Unita troops had retreated to the outskirts of the city.

Savimbi also said Unita was ready to talk to the MPLA. Diplomats said Unita and the government had already held talks at military commander level which indicated talks at a higher level could be on the cards.

Government chief of staff Gen. Joao de Matos denied the Unita reports and said government troops held the towns and continued to drive the rebels into the deserts of eastern Angola.

Parliament would meet this week to consider a declaration of open war against Unita, Prime Minister Marcelino Moco said on radio, adding that a bid for peace talks broke down when government and Unita leaders could not agree on a venue.

Government troops continued besieging Ndalatando, a town which has been occupied by rebels since fighting began.

A US diplomat said Unita's hold on Ndalatando "is a good sign that militarily they are still quite strong".

Diplomats urged government officials to hold peace talks before the UN peacekeeping mandate in Angola expires on January 31.

□ In Pretoria SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha said he was deeply disappointed and concerned with the war in Angola.

He feared the war might damage Angola's infrastructure to the extent that recovery would be impossible. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

DNAL NEWS Angolan government doubts if Savimbi is still in Angola

Unita leader ready for talks

LISBON - Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has said he was ready to take part in a second round of presidential elections and to meet his rival President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Geneva.

Savimbi, interviewed on Monday night by TSF radio, said he was speaking from the central Angolan city of Huambo, where he has had his headquarters since losing elections last September.

He also spoke of "hundreds of dead" in fighting that has swept Huambo in recent

Savimbi says he is prepared for a 2nd round elections: (5)
13/1/93
Sovetom

days, charging that the government was using aircraft and heavy artillery.

The Angolan Defence Ministry on Monday denied a claim by Savimbi that he was still in his Huambo headquarters but conceded it did not know his whereabouts.

Savimbi said: "Jose Eduardo dos Santos believes he is the president. He is not. He won only 51 percent of the vote in the first round of elections."

"Because of this we must hold a second round."

He also said he was ready to meet the Angolan president in Switzerland, "in Geneva, as the secretary general of the United Nations suggested, and never in Luanda".

But Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura ruled out any immediate meeting between Savimbi and the president.

De Moura said: "We do not now know if Savimbi is the head of an opposition party or the head of a rebellion against the democratic state."

De Moura said the government was not ruling out an eventual meeting with Savimbi "under an overall plan of resuming conversations between the two parties."

"I do not understand why it should take place in Geneva, since Savimbi says he is in Angola, which I currently doubt."

Sapa-AFP

Fierce clashes as Unita battles to retake city

STAR 13/1/93 (5)

LUANDA — A major battle was raging in Huambo yesterday after opposition Unita troops fought their way back into their former stronghold, Western aid sources said.

Government MiG fighters were carrying out waves of bombing runs over the city, concentrating on the area around the house formerly occupied by Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, they said.

They had been in contact with their colleagues in the besieged city by radio.

Unita was reported to have launched its assault to retake Huambo on Monday, at a time when the Angolan Defence Ministry was saying the city centre was firmly under government control.

The government had admitted that Unita troops remained in the south of the city and said they were raining artillery fire on the central area.

The aid workers said there had been a high casualty toll in the attack, and that a foreign member of the United Nations monitoring force had been badly wounded.

Unavem, the UN verification mission, was reported to be trying to evacuate its personnel from the city.

Huambo, capital of the central province of the same name, is of great symbolic importance for both sides in the renewed civil war which has erupted over the past week.

It is where Savimbi made his headquarters after disputing the results of September elections and pulling his troops out of a combined army.



Armed to the hilt . . . in a picture taken from television, armed civilians backing Angolan government troops are seen patrolling in the town of Benguela after heavy clashes with Unita forces this week. Picture: AP

The government says Unita was driven out of Huambo city centre on Saturday, a claim which UN military sources in Luanda said they accepted.

The aid workers also confirmed yesterday that Unita forces had retreated from the city centre, but said they had fought their way back in.

Savimbi said in an interview with Portugal's TSF radio late on Monday that he was still in Huambo, denying a government statement that he had abandoned the town with his chief aides.

Sources close to the government said he had gone to Zaire,

where he had received a promise of military help from President Mobutu Sese Seko.

The Western aid workers, employed by a number of different non-governmental organisations, said reports from their colleagues in other parts of the country showed the situation to be tense and fluid.

Government sources reported heavy fighting at Luena in the eastern Moxico province, with more than 150 people dead and at least 100 injured.

A spokesman for Aviation Sans Frontieres said that on Monday they had evacuated 11 foreign nuns from Zaire prov-

ince in the north of the country.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has evacuated its staff from the neighbouring provincial capital of Uige, where "everybody is waiting for more war", he said.

Radio reports said heavy fighting had occurred in parts of Zaire province, and that five oil rigs at Picotados, about 20 km from the oil town of Soyo, were destroyed.

Casualty figures since the fighting erupted in many parts of the country just more than a week ago are expected to run into the thousands. — Sapa-AFP.

Bombs batter Huambo as aid workers pull out

BLDAY 13/1/93

(5)

LUANDA — A major battle was under way yesterday for the rebel Unita stronghold of Huambo as the countrywide death toll mounted rapidly and some foreign organisations began evacuating personnel.

Western aid sources said colleagues in the besieged city had radioed them to say waves of government MiG jets were bombing the city, concentrating on the area formerly occupied by Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi.

On Monday, as the Angolan defence ministry said Huambo's city centre was firmly under government control, Unita reportedly began a new assault from the city's southern outskirts after raining artillery fire on the central area.

Huambo, capital of the central province of the same name, is of great symbolic importance to both sides in the renewed civil war which has erupted over the past week.

It is where Savimbi made his headquarters after disputing the September election results and withdrawing his troops from a combined army.

Savimbi told Portugal's TSF radio late on Monday that he was still in Huambo, denying a government statement that he had fled with his chief aides to Zaire to receive promises of military help from President Mobutu Sese Seko, a past Unita ally.

Aid workers, meanwhile, have reported a high casualty toll in the Huambo attack — including the serious wounding of a UN monitoring force member.

CARE, International aid agency said in London yesterday that Angolan agency programme manager Fernando Pires had been shot dead by a civilian in Huambo on Friday, just hours before the government attack began.

Western aid workers, employed by several non-governmental organisations, said reports from colleagues in

other parts of Angola showed the situation to be tense and fluid.

Government sources reported heavy fighting in the eastern province of Moxico, with more than 150 dead at Luena, and state radio reported raging battles in parts of Zaire province. Casualty figures, since fighting erupted in many parts of the country just over a week ago, are expected to run into the thousands.

Both sides blame each other for the renewed fighting, but Western observers see it as a government offensive to reestablish authority after Unita took a number of urban centres in the wake of September's disputed presidential and parliamentary elections.

As fighting raged in Huambo, the UN verification mission was reportedly trying to evacuate its personnel yesterday.

On Monday, an Aviation Sans Frontieres spokesman said it had evacuated 11 foreign nuns from northern Zaire province and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees reported it had evacuated its staff from the neighbouring provincial capital of Uige, where "everybody is waiting for more war", according to a UNHCR spokesman.

In other developments:

□ A BBC-monitored state radio report said other rebels had destroyed five oil rigs used by foreign companies at Picotados in the far north on Monday;

□ In Brussels, Zaire strongly denied Savimbi was in Kinshasa or that Zaire had given any material support to Savimbi;

□ Angolan military sources accused Unita of concentrating elite troops in northern Angola; and

□ Russia yesterday expressed concern at the renewal of civil war, said it recognised the MPLA as the legitimate government, and said Russia stood by the May 1991 peace accords and recognised the election results. — Sapa-AFP-Reuter.

Huambo battle rages

5 OCT 13 11 43

LUANDA. — A major battle was raging in Huambo city yesterday after Unita troops fought their way back into their former stronghold while government MiGs carried out waves of bombing runs over the city.

The jets attacked an area around the house formerly occupied by Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, aid workers said.

They had been in contact with their colleagues in the besieged city by radio.

Dr Savimbi claimed in a Unita radio broadcast on Monday to be still in

Unita fights back

govt attack on

Savimbi's 'home'

Huambo, a claim denied by the defence ministry.

The government has said Unita troops ousted from a number of other urban centres around Angola were making their way to Huambo to join the fight.

Unita was reported to have launched its assault to retake Huambo on Monday, at a time when the Angolan defence ministry was saying the city centre was firmly under government control.

The government admitted that Unita troops remained in the south of the city and said they were raining artillery fire on the central area.

Captured Unita leaders in Luanda called for a ceasefire and a negotiated peace in a prepared statement read at a news conference in the defence ministry by Unita secretary for foreign affairs Mr Abel Chivukuvuku, who arrived on crutches.

He was flanked by Unita's chief of military intelligence, General Pergrino Huambu. — Sapa-AFP

Fighting spreads in Angola

at 4/1/93

LUANDA — Unita rebels said yesterday they controlled Angola's largest province but the government said a fierce battle was still raging for the provincial capital.

As fighting spread, officials here said they were optimistic talks between Unita and the government to get their May 1991 peace accord back on track could begin within days.

Unita radio said that the rebels were in control of the Cuando Cubango province in south-eastern Angola.

Military officials here said government troops and Unita forces began a battle for the provincial capital Menongue early yesterday.

The officials said many people had been killed in the town, some 300km south-east of Huambo. — Sapa-Reuter

Rise and fall of rebel who fell for his own myth

8/10/81 14/1/93

UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi is back where he was 17 years ago — fleeing into the remote southeastern part of the country from a government military onslaught.

But there the similarity ends. In 1976, he began from the forests a remarkable fight which brought him to the brink of victory three months ago in Angola's first general election. This time Savimbi, 58, looks doomed. Political circumstances have changed and Savimbi has in recent years increasingly behaved in an erratic and bizarre fashion.

In 1975-76, Cuba and the Soviet Union poured soldiers and weapons into Angola to help their client, the then Marxist-Leninist MPLA, establish control over Angola, and to quash elections due when Portugal quit its colony.

Savimbi, an admirer of Mao Tse-Tung led his followers on a remarkable Long March, and the Russians and Cubans became bogged down in an apparently endless conflict in the sparsely populated Angolan forests and savannahs.

The more confidently Unitas's challenge grew, the more support Savimbi won from Western countries. He also won support from SA, which was gradually sucked into full-scale warfare in Angola and

wore down the Cubans and Russians.

The election should have been Savimbi's crowning glory. His victory was widely predicted and he enjoyed the mythical aura attached to any successful guerrilla leader. The MPLA had an appalling human rights record, had presided over a drastic deterioration of the once-buoyant Angolan economy, and had finally conceded the justice of the elections Savimbi had been demanding for 17 years.

But things had begun to go critically wrong within Unitas from the mid-80s. Savimbi, a highly intelligent, dynamic and charismatic man, had skilfully used the cult of personality to maintain peasant support and to recruit young village men for his army, which at one time was probably 50 000 strong. Music, dance, poetry and drama were used to fire the morale of his followers.

But it slowly became evident that Savimbi had begun to believe his own myths. All poetry bar his own was banned in Unitas-controlled areas. All ideas other than "Savimbi thought" were outlawed. When some of his brightest officers displayed independence of mind, he cracked them down hard. Amnesty International said that on at least two occasions, the wives and children of Unitas dissi-

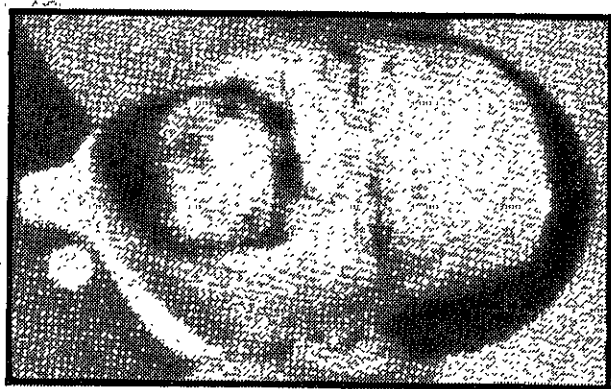
FRED BRIDGLAND

dents were publicly burned on bonfires at Jamba.

His gravest error was to order the execution of his popular foreign secretary, Pedro Tito Chingunji, who did more than any Unitas diplomat to carry Savimbi's arguments into liberal and black circles in the US.

Chingunji's death last year caused an international outcry. Shortly afterwards, Tony Fernandes, the co-founder of Unitas with Savimbi, and the movement's long-serving secretary-general, Miguel N'Zau Puna, quit the movement in protest against the executions.

The MPLA, which had by now abandoned Marxism-Leninism and adopted most of Savimbi's laissez-faire economic ideas, drew maximum propaganda advantage from reports of Chingunji's execution, winning back the reluctant support of wavering who had been inclined to give Unitas a chance. The execution of Chingunji and several other bright young men robbed Savimbi of the very people who could most effectively have carried Unitas's arguments into Luanda during the elec-



□ SAVIMBI

tion campaign. The defeat in the presidential and parliamentary elections shocked Savimbi, who protested that the polls were rigged, withdrew from the capital and ordered his troops to take over several towns outside Luanda.

He left most of his key officials in Luanda to negotiate with the MPLA. But when Unitas troops fought their way into two northern towns, the MPLA turned on the rebels' top brass in Luanda. Unitas vice-president Jeremias Chitunda and chief negotiator Elias Salupeta Pena were murdered. Chingunji's successor as Unitas's foreign secretary, Abel Chivukuvuku, was badly wounded. At least 10 generals, including the rebels' intelligence chief, were taken prisoner.

With the Cold War now over, Savimbi has no hope of gaining help from the new Clinton administration. His behaviour since the election has cost him his painfully built image as a champion of democracy. If he is now losing his military grip as well as diplomatic acceptability, he can no longer dream of taking power by force.

If a second round of presidential voting is ever called, Savimbi's action in tipping Angola back into war would probably cost him dearly among voters. Not so long ago, he was seen by many observers as one of the brightest hopes for a new beginning in Africa. Now he seems destined for a place only in the continent's rogues' gallery. — Daily Telegraph.

Fierce battle rages for ^(S) Angolan town

STAN 14/1/93.

LUANDA — Unita rebels said yesterday that they controlled Angola's largest province, but the government said a fierce battle was still raging for the provincial capital.

As fighting spread, Luanda officials said they were optimistic that talks between Unita and the government to get their May 1991 peace accord back on track could begin within days.

Unita radio, the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cock-erel, said the rebels were in control of Cuando Cubango province in south-eastern Angola.

Military officials in Luanda said government troops and Unita forces began a battle for the provincial capital of Menongue early yesterday.

The officials, quoted by Portugal's Lusa news agency, said many people had been killed in the town, some 300 km south-east of Unita's central highlands stronghold of Huambo.

Heavy artillery fire was reported throughout Menongue, which was one of the few large towns left untouched by the fighting that broke out about two weeks ago.

The officials, contradicting Unita's claim, said government police were in control of the situation there. Fighting was still under way, State radio added.

Unita's bush headquarters before the peace agreement was at Jamba, a sprawling encampment in the far south-east of Cuando Cubango close to the Namibian border.

State radio also said Unita had set fire to oil wells in northern Zaire province.

But the Belgian oil company Petrofina SA, whose Fina unit owns the wells, denied yesterday that any had been destroyed.

In another development, about 300 Unita supporters issued a statement in Luanda urging an immediate end to the fighting. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita and govt battle for control of Angola's biggest province

LUANDA — Fighting spread further in Angola yesterday with fierce battles erupting for control of Cuando Cubango, the country's largest province.

Unita said it controlled the southeastern province, but the government said a fierce battle was still raging for the capital.

As the fighting spread, Luanda officials said they were optimistic, talks between Unita and the government could begin within days to get the May 1991 peace accord back on track.

Military officials in Luanda said government troops and Unita forces began a battle for the provincial capital Menongue early yesterday. They said many people had been killed in the town, about 300km southeast of Unita's central highlands stronghold of Huambo.

The officials claimed government police were in control of the situation.

State radio said Unita had set fire to oil wells in northern Zaire province. But the Belgian oil company Petrofina SA, whose Fina unit owns the wells, denied that any had been destroyed.

Meanwhile, the battle for Huambo raged on yesterday. UN personnel were being

evacuated from the worst-hit areas.

The Red Cross also hoped to evacuate non-essential personnel from Huambo.

Members of international aid organisations in Luanda in touch with their colleagues in Huambo by radio said they were unable to venture from their houses.

In Paris, US Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger expressed frustration over the continued fighting in Angola and said Unita, a one-time US ally, was largely to blame.

Eagleburger, in Paris for the signing of a treaty to ban chemical weapons, commented while posing for photographers with SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha.

He said the US and SA had had little success in trying to persuade the MPLA and Unita to work out their differences.

"It is unfortunate that the situation has deteriorated as it has. And we've made it clear to Savimbi that we think he bears the greatest part of the responsibility."

Botha said it was unfortunate that the US and SA governments had been unable to persuade Unita and the MPLA to work out their differences. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP-AP.

● See Page 6

Unita sets conditions for peace talks

STP
LISBON — Unita will not attend peace talks with the Luanda government in Addis Ababa, according to a Unita statement yesterday.

The statement came as fighting raged between Unita and government troops in several regions of Angola.

Earlier yesterday, state radio in Luanda announced that General Higinio Carneiro would lead a government team in talks with Unita in

15/11/93
the Ethiopian capital at the weekend or early next week.

However, the chief UN negotiator in the country, Margaret Anstee, was quoted as saying no talks could be expected this weekend.

In the statement, Unita said that what was needed was not a meeting between military officials from both sides, but one between political leaders.

Unita laid down five condi-

tions for talks. *(S)*

They were that they should be held "under United Nations mediation", that a UN intervention force should be deployed, that the UN should guarantee the safety of participants, that peace corridors should be set, and that a summit should be organised between Unita leader Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. — Sapa-AFP.

Black cockerel or scarlet pimpernel?

WIMOND 15/1-21/1/93

As the Angolan conflict escalates and the government army drives rebel forces out of towns and cities, the whereabouts of *Unita* leader Jonas Savimbi is uncertain, reports **CHRIS MCGREAL**

WHERE is Jonas Savimbi? If *Unita*'s Voice of the Black Cockerel radio station is to be believed, he is leading a stunning reversal of the Angolan government victories of recent days. If you listen to the ruling MPLA, Savimbi was sent scurrying for his life in the face of an intense attack on his Huambo headquarters and is now holed up in Zaïre. Both claims appear unlikely.

If Savimbi remained in Huambo city after the government took control, he must have used a very good disguise. But the *Unita* leader has not shown himself prone to fleeing abroad. He was distinguished from other guerrilla leaders during the war for independence from Portugal by his insistence on remaining in Angola and fighting, while his fellow leaders co-ordinated their campaigns from neighbouring African capitals. The commitment to remaining beside his troops carried through the 16-year civil war against the MPLA.

The government's attack on Huambo was the last of the hammer blows of the MPLA offensive on *Unita* rebels in Angola's major towns and cities. The speed with which government forces were able to sweep *Unita* from most urban areas surprised no one more than the rebels themselves.

Lobungo fell in less than a day, conflict in Lobito and Benguela dragged on for more than two, but Lobito had voted overwhelmingly for *Unita* in the elections and resistance was always going to be stiff.

The bloodiest battle was for Cuito. Nearly four days of brutal fighting left bodies strewn in the streets.

By comparison, and to the immense embarrassment of *Unita*'s leadership, the defence of its headquarters in Huambo folded rapidly. The rebels



Smoke break ... *Unita* soldiers take an early morning rest while protecting a food convoy in south-eastern Angola

were in full flight in just one afternoon. Huambo has become a symbolic test of strength for both sides. *Unita* has attempted to recover it, and its reputation, with a large counter-attack. The rebels were able to move back into the city on Wednesday in larger numbers than the force that was expelled, and with heavier weapons. Fierce battles with government forces prevented *Unita* taking the centre, but it was able to recover its wrecked headquarters with few problems.

The rebels were soon to discover why. After government forces pulled back, waves of air attacks pounded the *Unita* positions, making it unlikely that the rebels will hang on for any length of time.

The MPLA aimed responsibility for the fighting in Huambo on *Unita*, as it has done for battles across Angola over the past two weeks. The rebels do carry responsibility for provoking the return to civil war by occupying large swathes of Angola after losing the September elections, in an attempt to hold the government hostage to power-sharing demands. But the ruling party's spindles snapped and it decided confrontation was inevitable. Government forces launched pre-emptive strikes on *Unita* positions.

The strategy appears to have paid off. *Unita* has been routed from most cities. The Angolan army did not pursue rebel forces beyond the city limits in most cases, and rebels who escaped have regrouped outside the cities and are harassing government forces with artillery attacks. But so far, *Unita* does not appear to be making a concerted effort to retake lost urban ground.

The rebels still occupy large parts of rural Angola, and have the capacity to fight on. Savimbi probably has more than 30,000 men at his disposal, armed with weapons he failed to surrender under the disarmament accord. But *Unita* must now ask itself what it is fighting for, if outright victory and the seizure of power are out of the question, and its claim to stand for democracy has been exposed by its

refusal to abide by the results of the country's only free election. Savimbi's elusiveness has lifted a great weight from those Angolans who lived in dread of what *Unita* might do. Fatigue has replaced fear for the first time since rebels started bristling at the first election results. *Unita* is seen to be on the defensive. The government which stood by as the rebels seized large parts of Angola unhindered, to the ire of MPLA backers, has now hit back.

But Angola's future looks bleak. Both sides admit openly they cannot hope to win a war, yet the prospects for a negotiated settlement are worse than ever. Even those MPLA leaders who were once willing to share some power have hardened. Amid the bitterness and distrust it is hard to see *Unita* embraced in a coalition government, or as the loyal opposition. And even if the government was willing to reach an accommodation, could it offer enough to satisfy Savimbi's thirst for power? Some MPLA leaders believe they may not have to deal with one *Unita* for very much longer. Savimbi's strategic failures are costing him support among some aides, who question the value of pursuing the military option. In the past, *Unita* dissenters were sidelined or murdered. Today, some are beyond Savimbi's reach.

The MPLA recently paraded captured senior *Unita* officials to denounce their leader's continuation of the military campaign. *Unita*'s foreign minister, Abel Chivukuru, his left leg smashed by six bullets before his capture, limped into the room accompanied by the rebels' counter-intelligence chief, General Peregrino Wambu. Both were imprisoned after the Halloween weekend battle in Luanda. After 10 weeks under the protection in the defence ministry, they had been persuaded of the merits of peace.

The captured *Unita* leaders insisted they were still loyal to the organisation, but called on their fellow rebels to return to the peace accords and disarm. Otherwise, they warned, the war would go on for another 10 years.

Comeback pledge by Savimbi

By Chris McGreal
in Luanda

THE whereabouts of the Unita leader, Jonas Savimbi, remained a mystery on Monday. Despite the evidence that he was forced to flee for his life during an intense attack on his headquarters in the central Angolan city of Huambo, Unita continued to insist that Dr Savimbi is co-ordinating a stunning reversal of the government's victories of recent days.

Unita's Voice of the Black Cock-erel radio claimed Dr Savimbi is leading the charge from the head-quarters the Angolan army says are firmly in its hands. Dr Savimbi broadcast a taped message asserting that the government's claims are fictitious. A few minutes later, Unita radio claimed the rebels had retaken Cuito, a city that fell to government forces after three days of fighting which left bodies strewn through the streets.

But independent sources inside Huambo, including an official with the United Nations aid agency, said the area of the city in which Unita had been concentrated is generally quiet and there is no longer any sign of the rebels.

Skirmishes are continuing in the south of the city and heavier fighting is reported on occasions on the outskirts, including shelling by Unita.

It is a pattern seen around other cities from which the rebels were expelled in recent days, including Cuito, Luena, and Suarimo. The Angolan army did not pursue rebel forces beyond the city limits in most cases.

Those rebels who escaped have regrouped outside and are harassing government forces with artillery attacks. But Unita does not appear to be making a concerted effort to retake the cities.

Agreement on Angolan talks

⑤ 9/15/11/93
LUANDA. — The Angolan government agreed yesterday to meet Unita rebels for peace talks, but fighting continued to rage throughout the country's provinces.

In the first positive sign of peace since fighting broke out at the end of October last year, UN special representative Ms Margaret Anstee said both the government and Unita had agreed to send military officials to the Eth-

opian capital of Addis Ababa to discuss "the legalities and procedures of a ceasefire".

Both sides consented to the talks, Ms Anstee said in a statement after she met with Prime Minister Mr Marcolino Moco yesterday, but neither the date of the meeting nor the delegates had yet been decided.

"We hope and expect the talks will begin this weekend," UN official Mr Peter Scott said.

Unita spokesman Mr Jorge Valentim said via satellite telephone from Huambo in central Angola that Unita wanted political as well as military representatives to attend the talks, which he said should be mediated by the UN.

Meanwhile, a second UN ceasefire monitor was wounded as fighting continued for rebel headquarters in Huambo, 530km south-east of here. — Sapa-AP

SA involvemen⁽⁵⁾ in Angola dismissed

WASHINGTON. — New claims by Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos that the SADF is actively supporting Unita were yesterday quietly dismissed by UN Security Council members as diplomatic gamesmanship.

In a letter to UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Mr Dos Santos charged that "the South African army has been involved in military actions against the Angolan people" and called for an urgent Security Council meeting.

The move was seen as an attempt to hurry council deliberations on the fate of the UN force in Angola (Unavem) and to counter Dr Boutros-Ghali's suggestion that it be withdrawn unless the MPLA and Unita come to terms before April 30.

The council yesterday considered the UN chief's recommendations, which also include the immediate scaling back of Unavem from 550 to 60.

Dr Boutros-Ghali said increased fighting had already obliged the UN to withdraw from 45 of its 65 posts around the country and that \$5.8 million (about R17.4m) worth of equipment had been lost.

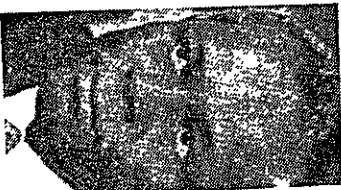
His threat of UN withdrawal was seen as a bid to put pressure on both parties to agree to a ceasefire. The US administration, meanwhile,

Security Council

considers

cutting

UN force



CLAIMS ... Eduardo dos Santos

reacted cautiously to Mr Dos Santos' plea for recognition in a letter to President Bill Clinton. The matter was "under review", a State Department spokesman said.

Angolan Foreign Minister Mr Venancio da Moura, who had been expected to see senior US officials in Washington this week, postponed his visit to lobby at the UN.

Immediate US recognition of Angola does not appear likely. US diplomats appear anxious to retain the option as leverage to persuade to parties to cease hostilities and resume preparation for the runoff presidential elections.

Congressional forces sympathetic to Unita have urged Mr Clinton to trade recognition for some sovereignty to the UN, allowing it to send in a major new contingent to demobilise the warring parties.

Meanwhile, troops battled for a key rebel base yesterday as leaders from both sides arrived in Ethiopia for peace talks aimed at halting Angola's renewed civil war.

The start of the three-day talks in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, was postponed until today because the Unita delegation arrived late. UN officials said. They were delayed after fierce fighting shattered a cease-fire around their embattled base in Huambo, in central Angola.

In Namibia, an air charter company said yesterday that nearly a million people in rebel-controlled south-eastern Angola are cut off from emergency food aid because of a government ban on flights over Namibian air space.

The UN Food Programme stopped its relief program in southern Angola in October when the civil war resumed. Private groups, however, had continued to deliver food to the region, much of it controlled by the rebels. — Own Correspondent, SAP

10 injured in prison rampage

Staff Reporter

FIVE warders and five long-term prisoners were injured yesterday when inmates went on the rampage at the Helderstrroom prison near Caledon.

Inmates smashed windows, ripped metal bars from beds, broke neon lights and attacked warders after refusing to vacate a cell the warders wanted to search for dangerous sharpened objects about 4.40pm, a Correctional Services spokeswoman said last night.

"Order was immediately restored when a teargas canister was fired," the spokeswoman said. Sharpened objects found in the cell were confiscated. The incident would be investigated.

All the injured had received medical treatment and were in a satisfactory condition, the spokeswoman said.

Blast at shop: Five in court



WORLD

Govt, Unita plan to hold peace talks

LUANDA — ^{BIDBY} The Angolan government agreed yesterday to meet Unita for peace talks, but fighting raged uninterrupted throughout the provinces.

^{15/11/93} In the first hope for peace since fighting broke out at the end of October, UN special representative Margaret Anstee said the government and Unita had agreed to send military officials to the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa to discuss "the legalities and procedures of a ceasefire".

Both sides agreed to the talks, Anstee said in a statement to reporters after she met Prime Minister Marcolino Moco yesterday, but neither the date of the meeting nor the delegates had been decided.

UN official Peter Scott said: "We hope the talks will begin this weekend."

However, Unita set conditions yesterday for holding talks.

Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim said in Huambo, central Angola, that Unita wanted political as well as military representatives to attend the talks, which he said should be mediated by the UN.

He said talks should take place outside Angola and include discussion on a UN peace-keeping force for the country, and the establishment of humanitarian corridors for delivering relief

supplies to the country's population.

Valentim said the venue for the meeting would not necessarily be Addis Ababa, as suggested by the government.

But he said that Unita was ready for immediate talks.

The organisation, he said, planned to send Gen Demostenes Chilingutilla as its military representative and a "Gen Manivacola" as its political representative.

Valentim said fighting continued in Huambo and several other parts of Angola on Thursday, and Unita held the upper hand.

He said Unita had given UN personnel trapped by the fighting in Huambo safe conduct to leave by road towards the port of Lobito and they had left the town yesterday morning.

Valentim repeated Unita claims that government forces were killing Unita supporters indiscriminately.

He was unable to give a death toll, but diplomats estimate that more than 1 500 people have died in the past two weeks of fierce clashes.

In Lisbon, the independent Portuguese television station SIC reported that Unita headquarters in Huambo had been reduced to "dust" by shelling. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Rebels force UN exodus⁵ ARG 16/1/93

■ UN personnel retreat from Angola in the wake of renewed violence which threatens peace plans.

LUANDA. — The United Nations pulled its observers out of more than half their bases in Angola because of renewed civil war as UN special representative Margaret Anstee struggled to keep planned peace talks on track.

UN personnel have been withdrawn to safe havens from 39 of their 67 bases, "greatly hindering our efforts to mediate" between the government and the armed opposition National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), a spokeswoman for Anstee said.

She said an evacuation of the fiercely contested central city of Huambo had begun by road convoy and helicopter, and two wounded UN observers had arrived in Luanda.

The men, one shot in crossfire and the other wounded in a grenade blast, were in satisfactory condition, she said.

Huambo, where Unita leader Jonas Savimbi made his headquarters after contesting his defeat in the September elections, has been the scene of some of the bloodiest fighting in Angola.

Government air strikes and rebel artillery were reported to have been used in the struggle for control of the city.

Unconfirmed reports said fighting continued in M'banza Congo, capital of the northern Zaire province, which Unita claimed to have taken.

Ms Anstee's spokeswoman said she was still trying to organise a ceasefire meeting between military leaders of both sides in Addis Ababa under the auspices of the UN.

Both sides agreed to the meeting. The talks centred on a mutually acceptable venue.

A UN suggestion that Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, be used had been agreed on, the spokeswoman said.

Unita's Vorgan radio said the movement would attend only if the meeting covered political as well as military issues.

Ms Anstee's office said that while the government had provided a list of its delegates, Unita had not done so.

Nor had the movement discussed practical details of getting their military chiefs from the embattled country to Addis Ababa, a trip which the United Nations has offered to facilitate.

The meeting between the two sides had been planned for this weekend or early next week. — Sapa-AFP.

UN teams quit Angolan bases

5 OCT 16 11 93
LUANDA. — The United Nations pulled its observers out of more than half their bases in Angola because of renewed civil war as UN special representative Ms Margaret Anstee struggled yesterday to keep planned peace talks on track.

Unita will not be attending planned peace talks with the government in Addis Ababa, according to a Unita statement on Thursday.

The statement by Unita spokesman Mr Jorge Valentim came as fighting raged between Unita forces and government troops in several regions.

He said that what was needed was not a meeting between military officials from both sides, but one between political leaders.

Unita laid down five "basic" conditions for talks.

They were that the talks should be held "under UN mediation", a UN intervention force should be deployed, the UN should guarantee the safety of participants, peace corridors should be set up to guarantee deliveries of emergency aid and a summit should be organised between Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos.

● The South African Council of Churches yesterday called on the international community to pressure warring parties in Angola to "desist from the wanton destruction" of life and property. — Sapa

Angola sinks further into war

LUANDA, Angolan gov- ernment forces pounded Unita's headquarters in the central city of Huambo with artillery as hopes for peace talks this weekend faded.

Prospects of a ceasefire were also set back as 39 of the 67 UN stations abandoned embattled towns after three monitors were injured in heavy cross-fire

and attacks by armed mobs this week.

"The crowds surrounded UN camps and shouted things like, 'Get out or you're dead,'" said a Luanda-based diplomat.

With the UN peacekeeping mandate in Angola due to expire on January 31, its representative, Margaret Anstee called the proposed talks "the last chance to

stop the slaughter" (S)

She said: "If hostilities don't cease, there is no sense in the UN staying here."

Unita officials meanwhile repeated on Angolan National Radio their rejection of peace talks — saying that they opposed any talks unless political grievances were on the agenda. — Foreign Desk

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UN evacuating Angola peace monitors

M'BANZA CONGO (Angola) — The United Nations is intensifying its evacuation of peace monitors from provincial outposts as the government and Unita rebels continue to battle over three key Angolan cities.

Diplomats said the possibility of peace talks planned for Addis Adaba this weekend had faded following the government's re-

jection of conditions by Unita.

UN officials said the government was trying to win control of southern Menongue and was pounding with artillery and air might Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands.

The officials said more than half of the organisation's 59 provincial outposts — normally

staffed by two or three people — had been closed.

There was an exchange of fire on Saturday in M'Banza Congo, near the north-western border with Zaire.

Some military experts believe Unita has 30 000 to 50 000 men and enough stockpiled weapons to fight another six to eight months. — Sapa-Reuter.

Whites 'fighting for Unita forces'

LUANDA. — White men are fighting for Unita forces in northern Angola, the government-owned Jornal de Angola alleged yesterday.

The paper gave no more details, but state media recently accused South African soldiers and mercenaries of assisting Unita in resumed hostilities.

Angola's crisis deepened still further at the weekend as peace talks were postponed and government troops

were said to be virtually surrounded in Huambo, where fierce battles involving artillery and air strikes continued.

In Soyo, a major town in Angola's northern Zaire province, police alleged that Zairean army commandos had infiltrated Angola with Unita forces.

Sources said Soyo, which houses big oil installations, was almost encircled and a Unita attack was imminent.

Sapa-AFP

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Unita surrounds major oil town

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LUANDA — Angola sank deeper into crisis on Saturday as hoped-for peace talks were postponed, government troops were said to be virtually surrounded in Huambo and Unita forces encircled the town of Soyo.

Government military sources in Luanda said a Unita attack on Soyo, in Zaire province, northern Angola, was imminent.

Oil installations belonging to five foreign companies — Petrobras of Brazil, Elf Aquitaine of France, the US company Texaco, Agip of Italy and the Belgian company Fina — are all based in Soyo.

Military sources said Unita troops had taken up positions around Sumba, 30km from Soyo, at Kindeje and Quelo, south of Soyo, and at Ambrizete to the southwest.

A police spokesman in Soyo said troops from the Zairean army had "infiltrated" Angolan territory and were fighting with Unita.

Independent sources said on Saturday the regions of Tomboco, Nzeto, Noqui and Cuimba in Zaire province were under Unita control.

In Huambo, central Angola, fighting between government forces and Unita was continuing.

Unita is now reported to be surrounding the town, with its troops concentrated in Cachiungo to the northeast, Ekunha to the northwest, Kalenga to the southwest and Caala to the south.

A well informed military source in Luanda said there was fierce fighting

involving air strikes and artillery in the town and Unita troops were virtually surrounding government forces.

Fighting was also reported to be continuing on Saturday in Menongue, main town in the southeastern Cuando-Cubango province.

Meanwhile, sources at the UN mission in Luanda said UN special representative Margaret Anstee was still trying to bring government and Unita military chiefs together in Addis Ababa. Even if agreement to meet was reached, logistical difficulties would make it impossible to arrange a meeting before next week.

Local ceasefires would have to be arranged and UN transport organised for Unita military leaders to leave for the Ethiopian capital, where it had been hoped ceasefire talks would begin at the weekend.

The UN was also intensifying its evacuation of peace monitors from war-racked provincial outposts.

The officials said more than half of the organisation's 59 provincial outposts — normally staffed by two or three people — had been closed since fierce fighting erupted across the country more than two weeks ago.

In M'Banza Congo, UN helicopters rescued three observers of the now-tattered 1991 peace accord. The observers had been trapped for nearly a week. "Day and night we were under fire. I feared we'd never get out alive," said Brazilian police sergeant Dagoberto Goncalves Rets, who spent most of the week lying on the floor of a building pockmarked by mortar fire. — Sapa-AFP-Reuter.

Six days of horror in Huambo

LUANDA — A Swiss Red Cross worker described yesterday six days of horror in the embattled Angolan city of Huambo, as the UN continued pulling its personnel out of bases around the country.

Isabelle Buttica, 33, was trapped in Huambo when fighting erupted there 10 days ago between government forces and troops of Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

For the next six days she was unable to venture outdoors, sleeping in the basement and listening to almost continuous small arms fire, punctuated by artillery shells and government air strikes raining down on the city.

Buttica was described by Red Cross delegation chief Vincent Nicod as "a very brave woman".

She was head of the local Red Cross mission, which

included five Swiss, three French and a Briton, who were trapped in small groups in separate houses.

Nicod said: "The hospital is not functioning, the medical personnel cannot work for security reasons.

"That means wounded are not cared for. People are dying without any possibility of assistance.

"All public services have broken down. There are food and water shortages, the city is paralysed."

Buttica and the other expatriate Red Cross staff were evacuated by road convoy with UN personnel on Thursday. They said they would return as soon as possible.

In a statement issued in the Ivory Coast, Unita said yesterday "more than 500 people were killed on both sides and an unknown number injured" as government

forces were "virtually wiped out".

Meanwhile, the UN Angolan mission Unavem announced yesterday it had pulled its personnel out of 40 bases around the country. Fewer than 30 bases were staffed now, it said.

A statement from the office of special representative Margaret Anstee also indicated growing impatience with Savimbi over attempts to hold a ceasefire conference.

The statement said Savimbi was supposed to call Anstee personally at the weekend to discuss Unita's new demand that political as well as military matters should be on the

agenda, but the call had not come through.

Unita said "murderous fighting" at the weekend had left only a "little pocket of (government) resistance" in Huambo, where Unita said it had destroyed 12 T-55 tanks.

The pilot was captured.

Unita's West Africa representative, John Marques Kakumba, told AFP he had spoken by telephone yesterday to Savimbi, who was still in Huambo.

Meanwhile, Portugal's vice-consul in Luanda said foreigners were evacuated yesterday by ship from the Angolan oil town of Soyo because of fighting nearby. — Sapa-AFP-Reuter.

Teargas at Malawi rally

POLICE fired teargas after a pro-democracy rally in Zomba, Malawi, but meetings by about 200 000 people supporting an end to one-party rule were mostly trouble-free, opposition sources said yesterday.

The weekend meetings in Blantyre, Mzuzu and Zomba were to demonstrate support for a "yes" vote in a March 15 referendum on whether opposition parties should be allowed in Malawi for the first time in 25 years.

The opposition Alliance for Democracy accused police of firing teargas at students chanting anti-government slogans. Alliance spokesman Aaron Longwe said several people were slightly hurt.

President Kamuzu Banda, who banned opposition groups in 1966, agreed to a referendum under strong pressure from political opponents, Western donor nations and human rights groups concerned that Malawi was not following an African trend towards greater political freedom.

Longwe's wife Alice said people had stayed away in droves from a pro-government rally staged by the ruling MCP in Mzuzu over the weekend.

The alliance has demanded guarantees that the referendum would be free and fair and urged the government to set up an independent commission to lay down rules on media access.

It also wants an amnesty for Malawian exiles, an end to political trials and the immediate and unconditional release of political prisoners. — Sapa-Reuter.

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INTERESTING AUCTION OF VALUABLES THE AUCTION IS TO BE HELD AT THE OLD EDWARDIAN CLUB, 11 9th AVENUE, HOUGHTON, ON THURSDAY 21 JANUARY 1993 AT 7.30 pm

Estate Late Freda Solomon, Master of the Supreme Court Ref No 1683/92; Estate Late Adele Julie Drechmeier, Master of the Supreme Court Ref No 16550/90.

In conjunction with the above the Aucor Group will supplement and sell also per instruction LADD INVESTMENTS (PTY) LTD, t/a Gold and Finance. Being the secured party holding valuable jewellery in trust in terms of certain loan agreements. Per instruction the acting attorneys in an urgent matter. Per instructions the repossessing bank.

Duly instructed as above Aucor will sell as follows:

SUPERIOR INVESTMENT DIAMONDS AND GEMS:

Certificated 2 ct "D" flawless diamond, a certificated 1 ct brilliant cut "D" flawless diamond, 2.40 ct diamond set in an 18 ct gold dress ring, a certificated 1 ct "D" flawless emerald cut diamond, a 2.10 ct diamond set in an 18 ct gold lady's dress ring, 1.50 ct blue sapphire and diamond ring and more.

NOTABLE SILVERWARE:

A three-piece teaset by Asprey, Mappin & Webb canteened set of cutlery, an exquisite hallmarked silver pocket manicure set, an important hallmarked silver art nouveau mantel clock, canteened set of hallmarked silver fruit knives, a superb silver plated tray with gallery work etc.

EXQUISITE JEWELLERY:

A magnificent 18 ct yellow and white gold rope chain with matching bracelet, a pair of diamond earrings, pocket watches, lady's Gucci dress watch, gent's 18 ct gold bracelet (mass 80 gms), a magnificent 80 mm hand-carved cameo brooch, silver filigree jewellery, lady's dress ring set with Lapis Lazuli, gent's and lady's watches, 18 ct Italian chains, pearls, bangles, bracelets, pendants, earrings, chains and more.

COLLECTABLES AND SUNDRY ITEMS:

A superb DAUM crystal statue of great significance, a lady's scent bottle with hallmarked 18 ct gold top, 2 fine hour glasses, 0.25

World in brief

Unita HQ destroyed

LUANDA — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday that government forces had destroyed its headquarters in Huambo but that it had shot down a government jet and knocked out 12 tanks.

Unita said more than 500 people — mostly its members — had died during the past week in fighting at Huambo. Angolan state radio meanwhile reported clashes around the oil town of Soyo, the supply base of a mainly onshore oil field that accounts for a third of Angola's 500 000 barrels per day production. Unita forces encircling Soyo were receiving support from Zairean troops ferried across the nearby border by boat.

Sowetan 19/1/93

UN 'at end of tether' ⁽⁵⁾ APR 19/1/93 in Angola

LUANDA. — Angola is embroiled in a full-scale civil war and the United Nations is running out of possibilities for intervention, says UN special representative Ms Margaret Anstee.

Backtracking by the opposition Unita movement on an agreement to hold a ceasefire conference in Addis Ababa at the weekend was described by her yesterday as a "very severe blow".

"I really did feel that this meeting in Addis Ababa was, if not exactly a last-ditch, very near to the end of our possibilities," Ms Anstee said at her Luanda headquarters.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi had been due to telephone her at the weekend to discuss his new demand that political as well as military issues be on the agenda at the meeting "but the call did not come through".

Ms Anstee's remarks came against a background of Unita claims to have taken the key central city of Huambo from government forces, and a government acknowledgment that one of its planes had been shot down over the town, which it said was besieged by 10 000 Unita troops.

Ms Anstee said her latest information was that the fighting in Huambo was "still extremely violent and intense, and it seems to be spreading to new areas as days go by".

"Time is running out," she said, noting that the mandate for the UN Angolan mission — Unavem — expired at the end of the month.

The Security Council is due to take a decision before then, perhaps early next week, on whether to renew the mandate.

Ms Anstee said both sides had said that neither could win the war. — Sapa-AFP.

STAR 19/11/93 (5)

Aid worker tells of Angolan horror

LUANDA — A Swiss Red Cross worker yesterday described six days of horror in the embattled Angolan city of Huambo as the United Nations continued pulling its personnel out of bases around the country.

Isabelle Butticaaz (33) was trapped in Huambo

when fighting erupted there 10 days ago between government forces and troops of Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

For the next six days she was unable to venture outdoors, sleeping in the basement and listening to almost continuous small-arms fire, punctuated by artillery shells

and MPLA air strikes raining down on the city.

"When the fighting is that heavy you cannot work. You just try to hide and protect yourself," said Butticaaz, described by Red Cross delegation chief Vincent Nicod as "very brave".

It was impossible to guess how many people

had been killed or wounded in the fighting, Butticaaz added.

Foreigners had been evacuated by ship from the important Angolan oil town of Soyo because of fighting nearby, Portugal's vice-consul in the capital Luanda said yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Unita attacks 'intensifying'

(5) 19/1/93

LISBON. — Unita rebels were yesterday reported to be laying siege to the strategically important coastal oil town of Soyo and stepping up their onslaught against government forces in the central city of Huambo.

Portugal's foreign ministry said about 200 Portuguese and a couple of hundred other foreign nationals in Soyo, north-western Angola, had taken refuge aboard an oil rig supply ship standing offshore.

And the United Nations' Angolan mission, Unavem, said yesterday that it has withdrawn its personnel from 40 bases around the country.

French state radio said a French mechanic died when his helicopter was shot at in Soyo, whose mainly onshore oilfield produces a third of Angola's 500 000 barrels a day.

Angolan state radio said Soyo's oilfields were badly damaged in fighting.

In a statement faxed to Lisbon Unita conceded that government forces had destroyed its headquarters in

Huambo, but claimed that Unita had shot down an air force jet and destroyed 12 tanks.

Unita claimed it had driven government forces in Huambo into an indefensible fallback position.

The Unita statement also said the military conflict was changing in Unita's favour and Unita would teach the government a military lesson before resuming negotiations.

But the statement did say Unita wanted an end to the renewed civil war, which broke out two weeks ago.

Angolan state radio yesterday said a Unita force of 10 000 men had surrounded Huambo and was pounding it with heavy artillery.

It also said Unita had captured Cuito-Cuanavale in southern Cuando-Cubango province.

In a statement issued in Luanda yesterday Portugal, the United States and Russia, who are monitoring implementation of the 1991 peace agreement, accused Unita of obstructing proposed peace talks in Addis Ababa.

— Sapa-Reuter

US troops leave Somalia

MOGADISHU — Hundreds of US troops left Somalia yesterday after a bittersweet tour.

The 202 Marines aboard the first chartered jet to leave cheered loudly as attendants locked the door and pulled away the stairs leading into the plane. Minutes later, the plane took off, an hour ahead of schedule.

"We've accomplished so much here," said Lt-Col. Jim Walsh, commander of the first combat unit to return home from Somalia.

"When we arrived this country was on its back and since we've been here we've got it back up on its feet. It's a real pleasure to see all the food flowing in, kids going back to school, the towns fairly stable again. The elders are starting to form a government again on their own."

"I feel that we did a good job," said Lance-Cpl Shane Reaux. "I'm not sure that the mission is complete. I hope the people come out of starvation. I see the way that we live and the way that they live. Big difference." Somalia had lost 350 000 people to famine, fighting and disease in the past year. Another 2-million were at risk.

With the departure of the first Marines, the US was moving toward transferring military control of Somalia to a UN Command, perhaps within two weeks, a US military spokesman said on Sunday. — Sapa-AP.

Govt launches air strikes on Unita

8:00 PM 20/1/93

LUANDA — The Angolan government had launched air strikes against Unita surrounding the vital oil-producing town of Soyo and was moving reinforcements into the area, government and UN sources said yesterday.

The UN Angolan mission reported that heavy exchanges of fire were taking place around Soyo in the northern Zaire province, which accounts for a third of Angola's production of 500 000 barrels a day.

The UN mission also confirmed air strikes in the area, while a source close to the government said reinforcements were pouring into Soyo.

The government-owned Jornal de Angola repeated charges yesterday that white mercenaries and soldiers from Zaire were fighting alongside Unita in the area.

Foreigners have been evacuated to ships standing offshore because of the fighting, and diplomats said they expected Unita to try to capture Soyo in the next few days.

Several international companies operate in Angola, including Texaco of the US, Elf-Aquitaine of France and Belgium's Fina. Fina plant at Pangula near Soyo has been wrecked, says government radio.

Oil officials said Fina's 27 000 barrels a day onshore production and Texaco's 64 000 barrels a day offshore output had been halted after expatriate staff were evacuated after fighting on Monday.

A Texaco official said Texaco had safely evacuated all workers. Texaco had suffered no damages to offshore installations. Elf Exploration's local director-general

Roman Gonzalo said technical staff had been evacuated to offshore platforms and administrators had headed for Luanda.

UN sources said they believed there was still fierce fighting yesterday at the key central highlands town of Huambo, where Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has set up his political headquarters. The government late on Monday confirmed Unita's claim that it had shot down an air force plane there. The army said Unita troop movements had been detected in the north of Huila province, close to Huambo, and a new attack was expected.

The UN said there were sporadic artillery and mortar exchanges in Luena, capital of the eastern Moxico province, and intermittent clashes with small arms in Saurimo, capital of neighbouring Lunda Sul province. Fighting had intensified near the border with Namibia and two Angolan policemen and a Namibian civilian had been admitted to a Namibian hospital at Oshakati in the north.

The UN has reported no progress in attempts to broker a ceasefire meeting in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa. UN special representative Margaret Anstee said the UN-sponsored process to end 16 years of civil war in Angola was "in tatters". Savimbi had failed to contact her after making a new demand late last week that the ceasefire meeting should consider political as well as military issues.

The UN Security Council will have to decide soon whether to renew the mission, which expires on January 31. — Sapa-AFP.

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Unita hits at heart of oil industry

⑤ AUG 20/1993

LUANDA. — Unita rebels, having captured most of Angola's northern diamond area, have struck a blow against the country's vital oil industry, the lifeblood of the government they are battling.

Rebels claimed yesterday that they had captured the important oil town of Soyo, in the north-west, while the government admitted that it had lost contact with its troops there.

Portuguese nationals among the scores of foreigners evacuated from Soyo to Luanda after two days of intense fighting said Unita appeared in control of the mainly offshore town, which accounts for about one-third of the country's 500 000 barrels a day of oil production.

"The oil city of Soyo fell to Unita today," said a Unita communique faxed to Lisbon last night. "Many foreigners, most of them Portuguese, were captured."

Angolan General Higino Carneiro said troops had been in control of Soyo until late afternoon, when armed forces com-

manders lost communications with them.

"The situation is grave," he said. "Whether we lost contact because of technical problems or because Unita overran Soyo we still don't know."

Soyo is second to Cabinda, further to the north, in producing oil, which accounts for 90 percent of Angolan export revenue. Soyo is vulnerable because much offshore oil is bunkered onshore.

Unita has already seized most of the country's northern diamond mining areas and such an attack against the oil industry would be an economic and psychological blow, diplomats said.

Oil officials said they were jolted by the ease with which Unita had attacked Soyo and expressed concern about the implications for Cabinda.

"Everyone in the oil industry was surprised by how quickly the situation developed," said an official.

Fighting also intensified around Huambo, Unita's base.

— Sapa-Reuter.

Battle for oil as Unita takes town

⑤ 0120/1193

LUANDA. — Unita troops have shot their way into the important Angolan oil-producing town of Soyo and fierce fighting has reached the petroleum camp there, oil industry sources said yesterday.

And unconfirmed reports said an oil storage tank had been blown up at the nearby oil terminal at Kefokena.

The terminal, along with Soyo, is reported to be in Unita hands.

UN sources said the Angolan government had launched air strikes against the rebels and was moving reinforcements into the area.

Meanwhile the government-owned Jornal de Angola repeated charges yesterday that white mercenaries and soldiers from neighbouring Zaire were fighting alongside Unita in the area.

Unita is also reported to have left the town of Cabinda, which is separated from the rest of Angola by a strip of Zairean territory, for the surrounding bush. Military sources are predicting an imminent attack.

There have also been unconfirmed reports of government bombing not far from Benguela city, and the UN observer's office has reported clashes in Saurimo, capital of Lunda Sul province.

The UN has meanwhile reported no progress in attempts to broker a ceasefire meeting in Addis Ababa.

UN observer Ms Margaret Anstee said Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi had failed to contact her after making a new demand late last week that the meeting should consider political as well as military issues. — Sapa-AFP

We control vital oil town ⁵ Unita

STAR 20/1/93

LUANDA — Unita rebels, having captured most of Angola's northern diamond area, have struck a blow against the country's vital oil industry.

Yesterday the rebels claimed they had captured the important oil town of Soyo, in the north-west, while the government admitted it had lost contact with its forces there.

Portuguese nationals, among the scores of foreigners evacuated from Soyo to Luanda after two days of intense fighting, said Unita appeared to be in control of the town, which accounts for about one-third of the country's oil production.

Revenue

A senior general in the Angolan armed forces, Higinio Carneiro, told Reuters government troops had been in control of Soyo until late afternoon, when commanders lost communications with the town.

"The situation is very grave," he said. "Whether we lost contact because of technical prob-

lems or because Unita overran Soyo we still don't know."

Soyo is second to Cabinda, further to the north, in producing oil. This is Angola's main export, accounting for some 90 percent of revenue.

Unita has already seized most of the country's northern diamond mining areas and a successful strike against the oil industry would be a big economic and psychological blow, diplomats said.

Oil officials said they were jolted by the ease with which Unita had attacked Soyo and expressed concern about the implications for Cabinda, which is guarded by thousands of troops.

"Everyone in the oil industry was surprised by how quickly the situation developed," said one official of Fina Petroleos Angola.

Fighting yesterday also intensified around Angola's second city of Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands. The government claimed Unita had sent in thousands of rein-

forcements and diplomats said it appeared that rebels pounding the shattered city with artillery had the upper hand.

"The situation is very serious," Carneiro said.

At Soyo, dozens of foreigners linked to three big oil companies — Texaco Panama Inc Angola, Elf Exploration Angola and Fina — were evacuated to boats and offshore oil platforms.

Unita radio said the rebels were holding 16 foreigners.

An oil company official said 23 people — 14 Portuguese, one Italian, one Briton, one Argentinian and six Angolans — were left behind as gunmen fired on a rescue helicopter on Monday.

State radio reported activity practically paralysed at Soyo.

Joaquim David, of the state oil company Sonangol, told state media that it was too early to estimate damages but they were believed extensive.

Fighting in Angola resumed in earnest this month after Unita rejected the results of the September elections. — Sapa-Reuter.

PEOPLE'S LIVES Now they're saying it's an Apla a day that will keep the settler away

Unita rebels under fire

UANDA - The Angolan government launched air strikes against Unita rebels surrounding the vital oil-producing town of Soyo and was moving reinforcements into the area, government and United Nations sources said yesterday.

The UN Angolan mission, Unaven reported that heavy exchanges of fire were taking place around Soyo in the northern Zaire province, which accounts for about a third of Angola's production of 500 000 barrels a day. Foreign oil-workers have been evacuated.

Unaven also confirmed air strikes in the area, while a source close to the government said strong reinforcements of men and equipment were pouring into Soyo.

The government-owned *Jornal de Angola* repeated charges yesterday that white mercenaries and soldiers from neighbouring Zaire were fighting alongside Unita in the area.

Foreigners have been evacuated to ships standing offshore because of the fighting and diplomats said they expected Unita to try to capture Soyo in the next few days. *Sapa-AFP.*

from oil-producing town of Soyo:

AIR STRIKES Foreigners evacuated to ships

5 AUG 21/1973

Unita deals Angolan government hard blows

LUANDA. — Angolan rebels have dealt the government a double blow, taking the second most important oil centre and firmly defending their headquarters at Huambo in the central highlands, diplomats said.

The government relies on oil for 90 percent of foreign revenue, and the mainly offshore Soyo centre in the north-west, now in the hands of Unita rebels, accounted for about a third of the 550 000 barrels a day Angola produces.

It is the second biggest oil centre after Cabinda, further to the north.

"The government is getting severely pushed in Huambo, and Soyo was a big blow," said one diplomat.

Unita overran Soyo and nearby oil installations after two days of fierce battles.

Production had been disrupted since then and several wells might have been set on fire, diplomats said.

The rebels have captured 17 foreigners working for the Fina Petroleos de Angola oil company.

Unita leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi told the British Broadcasting Corporation that some would be freed in the next few days.

The political centrepiece of the fighting is Huambo, Angola's second city in the strategic central highlands, where Dr. Savimbi withdrew after disputing the results of elections in September.

For nearly two weeks the government has been bombarding the city from the air and with artillery, destroying Dr. Savimbi's villa.

But the guerrilla leader was reported to have withdrawn to the bush and his men were staying in their ground. — Reuter.

Unita seizes Soyo, captures foreigners

STAR 2/1/93

LISBON — Unita troops have seized the important Angolan oil-producing town of Soyo from government forces, guerilla chief Jonas Savimbi said in a radio interview broadcast in Portugal late on Tuesday.

The Unita leader said some foreigners were being held. In Brussels, the Belgian Petrofina company announced yesterday that Unita had taken 16 foreign oil workers prisoner.

Off-shore production at Soyo in north-west Angola accounts for about one-third of the country's output of oil, Angola's main source of revenue.

Speaking on the BBC's Portuguese service broadcast by private TSF radio, Savimbi said he had personally taken command of Unita troops.

His own generals in the field had been complaining of his hesitancy, after Unita's defeat in September's general election, Savimbi said. On the other hand, the government was accusing him of militarism.

"I was losing on both counts, though I had been holding back the party and the troops to stop the civil war starting again," Savimbi said.

"So yesterday (Monday) I put on my general's uniform again."

The foreigners captured by Unita included 13 Portuguese, one Argentine, a Briton and an Italian, according to Petrofina's statement.

Of 46 Angolan and foreign Petrofina workers in the Soyo region, 28 were evacuated by helicopter on Monday.

Two of those who re-

mained ⁽⁵⁾ all foreigners — managed to escape and Unita seized the 16 others, whose families have all been informed, the company said.

Savimbi told the BBC his headquarters in the central highlands town of Huambo, called Casa Branca (white house), had been pulverised in the latest battles there.

The order to destroy the building could only have come from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Savimbi said.

The Unita leader said Dos Santos was accusing him of waging war rather than face defeat in a second round of presidential polling, which the renewed fighting had prevented from taking place.

Savimbi said his movement was ready for peace talks provided the other side showed unequivocally it was willing to negotiate a settlement. — Sapa-AFP.



In the footsteps of
reproduction of Mic
Catholic Church

Unita seizes oil town

Soefar 21/1/93
LUANDA Unita troops have seized the important Angolan oil-producing town of Soyo from government forces, guerrilla chief Jonas Savimbi said in a radio interview broadcast in Lisbon on Tuesday night.

He said some foreigners were being held. In Brussels the Belgian Petrofina company announced yesterday that Unita had taken 16 foreign oil workers prisoner. Off-shore production at Soyo in north-west Angola accounts for about one-third of the country's output of oil.

Foreigners held by Unita 'are healthy'

⑤ CT 22/1/93

LUANDA. — Seventeen foreigners captured by Unita troops in northern Angola's oil town of Soyo were reported to be well, an oil company spokesman said yesterday.

The spokesman for Belgium's Fina oil company in Luanda said diplomats who had contact with Unita had been assured that the captives were well taken care of and healthy.

The men, who were captured as the Fina camp fell to Unita on Monday, are 14 Portuguese, an Italian, a Briton and an Argentine.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, has said some of them could be released within days.

Unita's offensive on Soyo, which is also a back-up town for the oil industry in the Cabinda enclave farther north, is coupled with a rebel hold on diamond-producing zones.

All onshore and some offshore oil production in Soyo has stopped.

A spokeswoman for UN special re-

presentative Ms Margaret Anstee said "vigorous efforts" were continuing to broker a ceasefire conference but no firm progress could be reported.

The Angolan government, hard-pressed by recent Unita gains, has also accused white mercenaries of involvement in the fighting and charged South Africa with continuing to supply Unita.

Envoy Mr Manuel Augusto said before leaving for Pretoria on Wednesday that he would ask the South African government to explain its continued support for Unita.

South Africa has denied accusations that it is continuing to supply Unita through flights to its southern base at Jamba.

● In Strasbourg, France, the European Parliament called yesterday for an immediate ceasefire in Angola to allow it to hold a second round of presidential elections. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

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Bloubaai	Southern Life Building 57 Marland Street 9301 Southern Lewensgebou Marlandstraat 57 9301	313		5-4763
Cape Town Kaapstad	14th Floor S A Reserve Bank Building 30 Hout Street 8001 14de Verdieping S A Reserwebank-gebou Houtstraat 30 8001	880		25-4470
Durban	1st Floor Southern Life House 88 Field Street 4001 1ste Verdieping Southern-Lewensgebou Fieldstraat 88 4001	45		501-9751
East London Oos Londen	5th and 6th Floors Barclays Building Union Street 5201 5de en 6de Verdiepings Barclays-gebou Unionstraat 5201	195	5200	2-4864
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Port Elizabeth	Southern Life Building 76 Main Street 6001 Southern-Lewensgebou Hoofstraat 76 6001	431	6000	52-1480
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Unita holds
four more
foreigners

LUANDA — Angolan rebels said yesterday they had captured four more foreigners in the northern oil town of Soyo and threatened to open fire on oil rigs and other installations within 24 hours.

The radio of the rebel movement Unita said it had found a German, a Briton and two Indonesians hiding in Soyo, which fell to Unita earlier this week.

Unita now holds 20 foreigners — 13 Portuguese, two Britons, a German, an Argentine, a Mozambican and the two Indonesians.

It originally caught 16 foreigners, not 17 as reported earlier, the radio said.

In Luanda a statement from the Angolan Armed Forces command confirmed that government forces lost Soyo, on the Atlantic coast 300 km north of Luanda, after two days of intense fighting.

The Soyo area produces about a third of the 550 000 barrels of oil a day that Angola produces and its loss will be a major blow to the government's financial position. — Sapa-Reuter.



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The child killers who 'cleansed' Angola

2/21/93
A Portuguese word, *limpeza*, meaning 'cleansing', is being used to describe the Angolan army's four-day killing spree against Unita supporters.

CHRIS MCGREAL reports
from southern Angola

HIDDEN in the back of an empty beach house along the 25-mile stretch of Angola's southern coast between Benguela and Lobito are three men. Conditions are rough, with no clean water and intermittent food deliveries, but better than the chicken coop in which they hid through the first few hours of the pogrom.

As the men fled their Catumbela home, even teenage children were kicking in doors and letting loose with Kalashnikovs.

People around the city of Benguela and the neighbouring small town, Catumbela, have a Portuguese word to describe the four days of killing the week before last: *limpeza*. It means "cleansing".

Those being cleansed were supporters of Unita, the rebel turned political movement that has gone back to rebellion after losing Angola's first free election in September.

It started on the Tuesday morning as the government moved to drive Unita from cities it had occupied or terrorised across Angola. The battle for some, such as Huambo, still rages. But in Benguela and Catumbela the rebels have fled.

Unita commands sizeable support in the two towns, although not the majority as in Lobito, Angola's best port, where the rebels took two-thirds of the vote in September's elections.

In all three places the fighting was heavy. Unita offices were blown apart, spewing party membership cards on to the pavement among the smashed glass and rubble.



Flashback ... Unita soldiers surrounded by their MPLA captors and members of the press

Once the Unita soldiers and officials had been dealt with, the government's forces, led by the police, turned on Unita's civilian sympathisers.

From a house in Catumbela, a woman watched the killing. "They gave the children guns, some only 12 or 13. The police showed people where the homes of the Unita supporters were. A lot of people here were killed.

"Near to the church is a house, it's painted green. That woman there was a Unita supporter. They just shot her and the other people in the house fled. How many died I can't say," she said.

The estimates of the number of dead in Benguela and Catumbela vary between 1 000 and 2 000 killed in the street fighting and *limpeza*.

About 150 people were burnt alive after the police fired rockets at an articulated lorry carrying two contain-

ers packed with fleeing Unita supporters.

In Catumbela, some bodies were dumped in the river. Others were left on the streets for a day or more.

Unita murdered civilians, too. It mortared civilian areas known to sympathise with the ruling MPLA.

In Catumbela a mixed-race woman was beaten to death by rebel soldiers. People of mixed race are often the target of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's racist tirades. He has tried to portray the Benguela killings as racial, but politics appears to have been the main motive.

"This was much more disgusting than the war. Everybody's speaking about *limpeza*. They smile when they talk about it. They didn't just kill men, they killed families. They walked into a house. They didn't shoot for a long time. Just a short burst, and they'd

Photo: SOUTHLIGHT

killed a family," said Jean Martens, a relief worker with the medical aid agency, Medicins sans Frontieres.

The three men in the beach house were living close to the Unita office in Catumbela, set in a valley between the sandstone hills of the Angolan coast. They are not wealthy.

The home was shared with their wives, children, parents and sisters. As the mob went from door to door the women fled to the chicken coop. The women thought they would be all right if the men were not around.

But when the banging on the door came their nerve broke and they fled out of the back. The mob burst in, turned the place over, missed the coop and left.

At dusk, the family crept to their two cars. One of the women drove ahead to check that the way was clear. The father drove behind with the three

men crouched in the back and the two sisters sitting upright to shield them from view. They made it to the home of a friend, who helped them escape to the beach house.

The banner declaring, "The vote is secret. Vote without fear", still hangs in Benguela.

The government and Unita, in the midst of civil war, are still talking about a second round of presidential elections. It is hard to see how Angolans in Catumbela can ever again be convinced that an election is not a life-threatening experience.

Some Unita supporters know that Unita is at fault for dragging Angola back to war but they cannot excuse the betrayal of the promise that they were free to wear their political colours without fear.

There is talk now of sending UN peace-keepers if a ceasefire can be agreed.

It might keep the armies apart but it will not prevent the inevitable retribution and deepening hatred. The *limpeza* is not over.

Many Unita supporters have fled or gone into hiding. Many young men in Catumbela are gone, perhaps to return with Unita guns to haunt the MPLA.

Other young men are snatched by the police and army from the streets of Benguela. If they are cleared, they might be press-ganged into the military. If they cannot convince their interrogators of their loyalties, it is worse.

At Benguela airport two young men about to board a flight to Luanda were pointed out by an airline official and dragged away by soldiers. One tried to break free. He was belted across the back of the head with a gun.

With blood streaming down his shirt, he and his friend were frog-marched to a shed and surrounded by more than a dozen uniformed men. Voices were raised and guns waved.

The passengers milling around the airport tarmac looked anywhere but at the shed. — The Guardian

Savimbi to try peace talks again

⑤
ARG 23/1/93

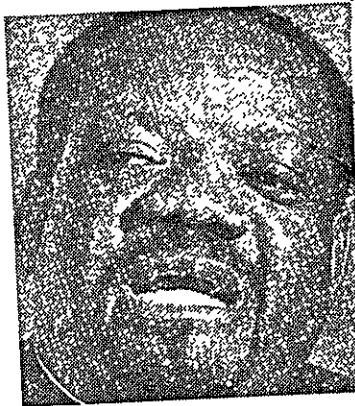
■ As the delicate balance of forces in the struggle for post-election Angola begins to look more favourable to Unita, Dr Jonas Savimbi now says he is prepared to move from a military agenda back to the negotiating table to talk with the Angolan government about reviving the peace process.

LUANDA. — Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi agreed to open UN-sponsored peace talks with the Angolan government next week, a UN official in Luanda said yesterday.

Dr Savimbi said he would send Unita military representatives to talks scheduled for Monday in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, said the UN official.

Mr Alfonso Van Dunem M'Binda, Angola's UN ambassador, met UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali on Thursday and said his government would attend the talks, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

The announcement came at



Jonas Savimbi

the end of a week in which Unita rebels defeated government troops in the battle for a key petroleum town and threatened to overrun an oil-rich enclave and diamond mines in northern Angola.

Government troops were defeated in a two-day battle for Soyo, a town 300 km north of Luanda crucial to crude oil production in Zaire province.

Unita troops were also reported to be gathering some 30 km east of Cabinda, capital of the oil-rich Cabinda enclave. An attack was expected soon, Angolan state radio said.

The Cabinda enclave is wedged between Congo and Zaire on the Atlantic coast and accounts for more than half of Angola's oil.

Oil exports generate 90 percent of Angola's foreign currency earnings.

Rebels were also reported to control the countryside around Saurimo, a northern provincial capital that controls access to diamond mines, and to be within 30 km of the city. Diamonds are Angola's second most important source of hard currency.

Government and rebel troops have been at war since October 31, after Dr Savimbi accused the government of rigging multiparty elections that were supposed to restore peace and unity after 16 years of civil war.

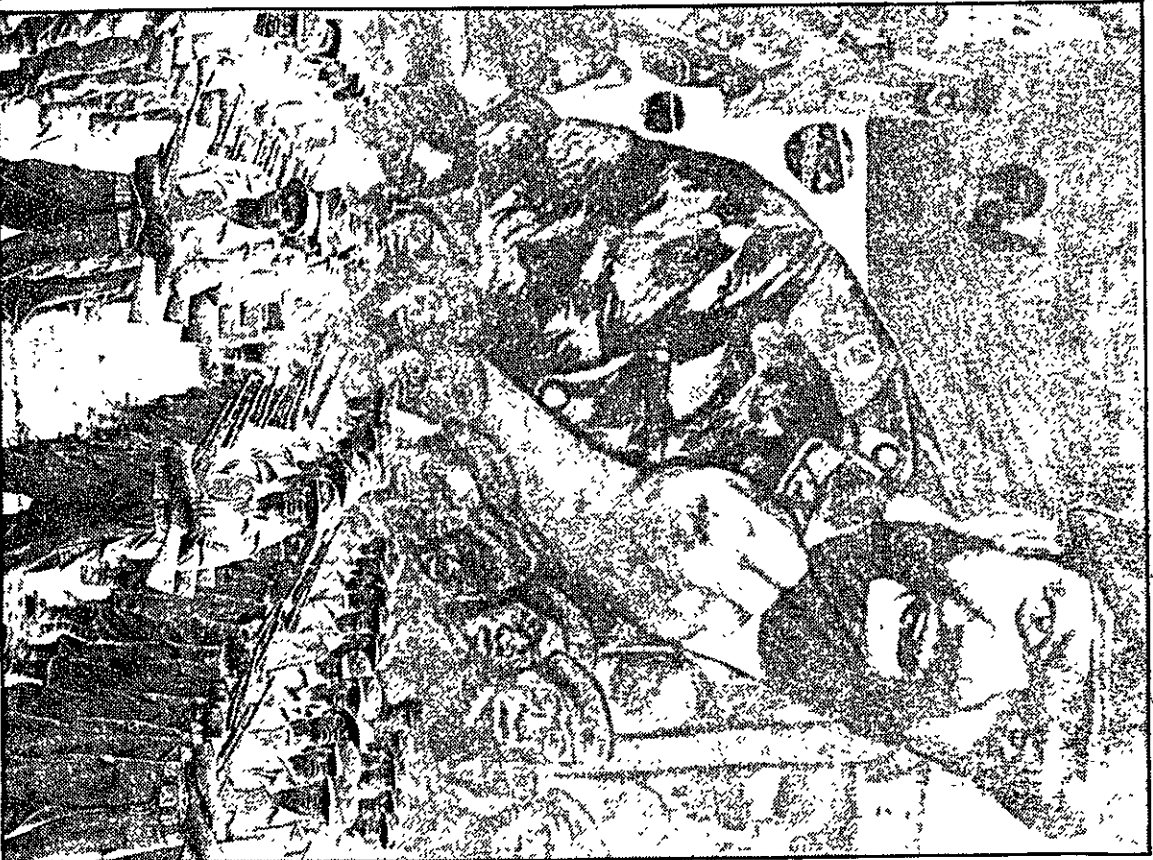
UN monitors judged the elections generally free and fair.

Dr Savimbi withdrew to the central city of Huambo, where he reassembled his rebel army and quickly seized military control of more than half the country despite a costly defeat in Luanda.

The government launched a counter-offensive on January 3 and defeated Unita in Huambo and two coastal cities. But Dr Savimbi warned if fighting continued, he would "strike where it hurt most" and leave the country "without petroleum, without a single diamond".

Fierce fighting has been reported in the past 10 days in Huambo, Angola's second-largest city. Unita radio said government aerial bombardment had killed at least 1 000 people. — Sapa-AP.

Savimbi agrees to UN peace parley



BUSH PARADE: Unita soldiers take part in a 1984 rally in front of a huge poster of Jonas Savimbi at the rebel movement's old Jamba headquarters. Unita is reported to have agreed to peace talks with the MPLA government.

LUANDA — Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has agreed to United Nations-brokered peace talks with the Angolan government next week, but violence continued throughout the war-torn country yesterday.

The announcement of the talks came at the end of a sobering week for the government during which rebel forces defeated government troops in a key northern oil town and threatened to overrun the oil-rich Cabinda enclave as well as diamond mines in north-eastern Angola.

A UN official in the Angolan capital, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Savimbi said he would send representatives to the talks next week in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

A specific date has yet to be set for the talks to end the fighting that broke out on October 31 after Unita lost parliamentary and presidential elections to the ruling MPLA party. Savimbi claimed the country's first multiparty elections were rigged, although UN observers called them generally free and fair.

STW 23/1/93
Merchants attacked

In Luanda, armed mobs attacked merchants believed to be from neighbouring Zaire in several city markets, apparently in response to government reports that Zairean troops were fighting alongside Unita rebels in northern Angola.

Personnel at several Luanda hospitals said at least 10 people had been killed in the attacks and many more were injured. It was not possible to confirm these figures with police or city officials.

Angolan national radio said yesterday Unita troops were gathering in Caxito, some 60 km northeast of Luanda, and government troops were bracing for an attack.

At the UN headquarters in New York, spokesman Joe Sillis said UN special representative Margaret Anstee had confirmed that a "ceasefire in principle" had been agreed to by the government and Unita.

Minutes before leaving for New York, Anstee told reporters there was no confirmed date for the talks but said she was ready to go to Addis Ababa "at any moment."

Anstee was to meet in New York with secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali and members of the UN Security Council to discuss extension of the UN mandate in Angola that is due to expire on January 31. — Sapa-AP.

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Savimbi says Unita will attend peace talks

LUANDA. — Unita rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi has agreed to open United Nations-sponsored peace talks with the government next week, a UN official here said yesterday.

Dr Savimbi said he would send Unita military representatives to talks in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa next week, said the UN

official, who asked not to be named. Although talks are being arranged for next week, a day has not been specified.

The news came as SA Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha said yesterday it was of crucial importance that the UN's presence in war-torn Angola be extended. In addition, European Commun-

ity governments urged government and rebel forces in Angola to end the fighting.

The announcement of the peace talks came at the end of a sobering week for the government. Rebel forces defeated government troops in the key petroleum town of Soyo and threatened to overrun an oil-rich enclave as well as northern

Angola's diamond mines.

Unita troops were also reported to be gathering about 30km east of Cabinda, capital of the oil-rich Cabinda enclave. An attack was expected soon, Angolan state radio said.

United States oil giant Chevron began airlifting "non-essential" staff out of Cabinda yesterday.

• Meanwhile, in Cape Town, former Angolan prime minister Mr Lopo Fortunato do Nascimento said yesterday a political solution had to be found for the conflict in Angola because neither the MPLA government nor Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement could achieve a military victory. — Sapa

Angola compromises to stop war

STimes 24/1/93

LUANDA — The Angolan government has given in to key Unita demands, offering immediate peace talks after suffering a series of military reversals near key oil and diamond-producing centres.

The concessions came as diplomats expressed concern over the fate of 17 foreigners being held by Unita after the rebel movement took control of an oil platform offshore from

Soyo. The 17 workers — 14 Portuguese, one Argentinian, one Briton and one Italian — had taken refuge on the rig off Angola's second most important oil centre after government forces lost a two-day battle for control of the town.

Angolan state radio said Unita troops were also gathering about 30km east of oil-rich Cabinda and controlled the area around Saurimo, a northern cap-

ital controlling access to diamond mines.

Repeated attempts by UN special representative in Angola Margaret Anstee to bring both sides to the bargaining table have failed until now.

But the state-run radio reported yesterday that the government had put forward a five-point proposal for immediate talks in Addis Adaba, giving into Unita demands for political as well as military matters to be discussed.

The proposal called on Unita to respect May 1991 peace accords, honour an immediate ceasefire, accept the results of September elections, allow the

free circulation of people and goods and respect the UN role in the country.

Unita, which scuppered earlier talks by setting last-minute conditions, said it had not been given enough time to prepare for the meeting.

But a UN official in Luanda speaking on condition of anonymity, said Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi would send representatives to talks next week in the Ethiopian capital.

A UN spokesman in New York confirmed that a "ceasefire in principle" had been agreed to by both parties, but no date had been set. — © Foreign Desk

Unita (5)

moves
C/Pren 24/11/93
**in on oil
fields**

THE operators of Angola's biggest oil field, Cabinda, said this week they were evacuating scores of expatriate staff following the takeover by Unita rebels of the Soyo oil town further south.

A Cabinda official said there appeared to be no threat of an imminent Unita attack, contrary to reports in the state-run media.

"We are temporarily reducing staff levels as a protective measure and have contingency plans to be put into force quickly if needed. Everything is anticipated," the official said.

Cabinda's 300 000 barrels a day offshore output - about two-thirds of Angola's most vital export - remained unaffected, he said.

Oil industry sources could not confirm reports heard by diplomats that Unita rebels had taken or attacked an offshore platform there.

The Angolan government this week proposed peace talks by the two sides' military commanders, giving in to rebels demands to include political matters.

Unita said it needed time to prepare for the talks, which the government proposed be held in Addis Adaba under UN auspices.

Diplomats said the government was on the defensive after losing Soyo and its inability to take Unita's central highlands headquarters in Huambo.

- Sapa

Hope for new Angola talks

810AM 25/11/93
LUANDA — Angola's warring parties have agreed in principle to hold talks in Addis Ababa later this week, diplomatic and UN sources said yesterday.

They said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi still needed to agree formally, but it was hoped that the talks could begin midweek.

Both parties are under strong international pressure to negotiate — with the UN threatening to pull out of the country altogether, and the US warning Unita off its oil interests in Angola.

The government has agreed to Unita's insistence that political as well as military questions should be discussed — a demand which scuppered plans for ceasefire talks last week.

The state-owned Jornal de Angola said

the government had set a number of preconditions of its own for the talks. These include a reaffirmation of peace accords signed in May 1991 and an acceptance of the results of September elections.

The government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos also wants Unita to allow free movement of people throughout the country and acceptance of UN mediation at the talks.

Diplomats are playing down the preconditions, however, pointing out that the government is under such military pressure at the moment it needs the talks to go ahead.

On Saturday, Unita forces had occupied the town of Zenza Itombe less than 200km east of Luanda, Angolan government radio

□ To Page 2

Angola

810AM 25/11/93
reported. It said Unita troops were advancing westward in Cuanza-Norte province whose provincial capital, Ndalatando, they seized in early December.

The Angolan media has also reported a massive military build-up by Unita in the town of Caxito, the provincial capital of Bengo province about 60km from Luanda. The reports said Unita was preparing to launch an offensive against the capital and Unita spies were reported to have infiltrated the capital to prepare the offensive.

Mobs of Angolans, irate at reports that Zaire was helping Unita, went on a rampage of rape, arson and lynching in and around Luanda on Friday. The Zairean embassy said at least 62 people were killed. Other reports put the number killed at 200.

The mobs beat, stabbed and shot Zaireans and people they thought were Zairean, many of them Angolans who had re-

turned from living there, slum residents said on Saturday.

The embassy has protested to the Angolan government.

Meanwhile, SA authorities have denied knowledge of a plane shot down in Huambo province. Luanda radio reported at the weekend that the plane — a Hercules C-130 freight plane — was carrying equipment for Unita.

The SADF in Pretoria said none of its planes were in Angola, and a spokesman for Foreign Minister Pik Botha said he was not aware of the presence of any SA planes in Angola.

"They have made claims of this kind before. We would require evidence to back up this claim," the spokesman said.

Unita also denied the report yesterday and insisted it was not receiving logistical support from SA. — Sapa-AFP-Reuters

□ From Page 1

WORLD NEWS Minister Pik Botha says Luanda must produce evidence

No SA planes in Angola - SADF

Sowetan 25/1/93
■ Denial after Angolan claim of shooting down transporter: (5)

THE South African Defence Force has denied that any of its planes were in Angola.

This is in response to an earlier claim by the Angolan government that it had shot down a South African transporter.

The Angolan government said it had downed a South African Hercules C-130 transport plane carrying supplies for troops belonging to the rebel Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) near Jamba, its old headquarters.

A South African Government spokesman said he was not aware of the presence of any South African planes in Angola.

"They have made claims of this kind before. We would require evidence to back up this claim," the spokesman said.

Foreign Minister Pik Botha said the Angolan government should release more details, including the registration number of the plane.

Angolan president Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, in an interview with the Christian Science Monitor, said he had no doubt South Africa continued to support Unita.

"I do not want to accuse the government of South Africa... I do not want to accuse President de Klerk but there are high-ranking army officials in South Africa who continue to carry out operations logistically to support Unita.

"Maybe they do this against the knowledge of the government and the president and this support is directed to the south-east or to Jamba or to the north via Zaire."

Meanwhile, rebel Unita forces were on Saturday occupying the town of Zenza Itonbe, less than 200km east of the capital Luanda, Angolan government radio reported.

It said the Unita forces were advancing westward in Cuanza-Norte province, whose provincial capital they seized in December.

US gives Savimbi tough warning

CABINDA — The United States government has warned its former Angolan proxy, Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement, against attacking American companies in the country's major Cabinda oilfields.

The warning was issued after Unita forces, fighting in an undeclared renewal of a 16-year civil war, seized the country's second oil centre, Soyo, last week.

But diplomats said signs were emerging that Unita and Angolan government military commanders might meet in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa this week for oft-postponed talks on reviving May 1991 peace accords.

Edmund DeJarnette, head of the US liaison office in Angola, flew to Cabinda yesterday to tell operators of the oilfields, Cabinda Gulf Oil, that Washington would not tolerate assaults on its citizens or firms.

"Our message is clear: These are our people and hands off Cabinda, Dr Savimbi," he said. "Any attack in Cabinda or anywhere else against American installations will prompt the strongest condemnation by the American government — with the gravest implications."

Angola's state media says Unita forces are poised to attack Cabinda, an Angolan enclave sandwiched between Zaire and Congo.

Cabinda Gulf officials have begun to evacuate more than 200 non-essential expatriates as a protective measure.

Yesterday Unita Information Secretary Jorge Valentim said on the movement's radio, Vorgan, that Unita did not intend harming oil companies. — Sapa-
Reuter

Angola claims 'South African' POW

5 Oct 26 11 08

PRETORIA. — Angola's state radio said a South African had been captured in fighting between Unita and government forces as South Africa emphasised again that it was not helping the rebels.

The report came as Mr Lopo do Nascimento, a former minister and senior member of the MPLA, said yesterday that unidentified individuals and organisations operating out of South Africa were supplying mili-

tary aid to Unita.

However, President F W de Klerk had given an assurance at the weekend that the government was not involved, Mr Nascimento said at a briefing here. He had asked Mr De Klerk to ensure that South Africa was neutral towards Angola.

He said proof of the aid to Unita lay in reports by Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana of incursions of their

airspace between South Africa and Angola.

Meanwhile, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha said that in a telephone conversation yesterday, Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi had told him he was willing to conclude a ceasefire agreement.

Mr Nascimento said neither the MPLA government nor Unita could win the war.

"We can win battles, but not the

war," he said.

Angola's state radio reported relentless battles over Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands, and in southern Menongue and central Kuito.

The Security Council scheduled debate late yesterday on the UN's role in Angola, from where it has threatened to withdraw its monitors because of the relentless fighting.

Sapa-Reuter

US policy shift looms in Angola

© Argus 26/1/93

HUGH ROBERTON, The Argus Foreign Service

WASHINGTON. — The Clinton administration is actively considering formal recognition of the government of President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos of Angola.

Officials confirmed what amounts to a drastic review of policy following 12 years of US support for Unita under presidents Reagan and Bush.

The review comes in the wake of Unita military action against American oil installations and personnel in Angola in recent days, and follows a personal letter to President Clinton from Mr Dos Santos in which he appealed to the United States to recognise his government and the outcome of last year's elections.

White House and State Department officials confirmed receipt of the Dos Santos letter yesterday. A State Department official said: "We are giving serious consideration to the question of recognition".

He said the new Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, had assured Congress last week that recognition of the election results, and of the Dos Santos government, were "under active review".

The Bush administration had refused to recognise the Dos Santos government.

Meanwhile, the new US administration warned Unita that further attacks on US oil and other installations in Angola, and on the employees of US companies, would lead to "the gravest implications".

But an official added that "we continue to believe there is no military solution to Angola's crisis" and urged Unita and the MPLA to attend UN-sponsored talks in Addis Ababa.

In a weekend statement, a State Department official had expressed deep concern at the escalation of the civil war in Angola.

Luanda swelters without water

BLDMY 26/11/93 (5)
LUANDA — The Angolan capital was without mains water for a second day yesterday after Unita sabotaged the supply system and left the sweltering city of 2-million people with only bottled supplies.

The UN Security Council scheduled a debate later in the day on the UN's role in Angola. It has threatened to withdraw its monitors because of relentless fighting between government troops and Unita forces.

Diplomats said UN peace observers were trying to bring the military commanders of the two warring sides together in Addis Ababa this week to discuss tattered May 1991 peace accords, but nothing firm was set.

"Both sides have indicated their willingness to meet but nothing has been confirmed yet," said a diplomat, adding that Unita had been hedging on setting a date.

Luanda residents suffering in the summer heat washed with bottled mineral water or in the sea because of what police said was Unita sabotage of a supply system just outside the city on Sunday.

State radio said it could be a few weeks before water was fully restored to the city.

The radio reported relentless battles in Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands, and in southern Menongue and central Kuito. It said government forces had captured a Unita general and a South African, but there was no independent confirmation of the report.

Angolan Minister Without Portfolio Lopo do Nascimento said in Pretoria that the Angolan war was impossible to win.

"Neither the government nor Unita

can win the war," he told a news conference.

UN sources in Luanda said the Security Council debate would focus on Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's proposal to reduce the organisation's presence to a minimum and to withdraw peace monitors if fighting persisted and there were no firm steps towards peace.

The Angolan government fears a UN withdrawal will lead to more fighting, and has sent Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura to New York to lobby for the UN to stay.

Diplomats believe the government is more willing to talk now it is on the defensive after the loss of the second most important oil centre, Soyo, and its inability to take Huambo despite two weeks of intense bombing.

State media reports say Unita is preparing to attack Cabinda, which produces two-thirds of Angola's 550 000 barrels a day of oil accounting for 90% of its foreign revenue.

The US government, a former supporter of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, on Sunday warned him not to touch US companies or citizens in Cabinda.

The head of the US liaison office in Angola, Edmund Dejarnette, flew to Cabinda on Sunday to tell the operator of the oilfields, Cabinda Gulf Oil, that Washington would not tolerate assaults on its citizens or firms.

"Any attack in Cabinda or anywhere else against American installations will prompt the strongest condemnation by the US government — with the gravest implications," he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita information secretary Jorge Valentim said on the movement's radio Vorgan on Sunday that Unita did not intend harming oil companies. — Sapa-Reuter.

US approval for Dos Santos likely

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau

STAR 26/1/93
(5)

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration was considering formal recognition of the government of President Dos Santos of Angola, officials said today in a drastic review of policy after 12 years of US financial, military and diplomatic support for Unita under former Presidents Reagan and Bush.

The review comes in the wake of Unita military action against American oil installations and personnel in Angola in recent days, and follows a personal letter to President Clinton from Dos Santos in which, it is believed, he appealed to the US

to recognise his government and the outcome of last year's UN-supervised elections.

White House and State Department officials confirmed receipt of the Dos Santos letter today, but declined to discuss its contents. However, a State Department official said: "We are giving serious consideration to the question of recognition."

He said Secretary of State Warren Christopher had assured Congress last week that recognition of the election results, and of the Dos Santos government, were "under active review".

The Bush administration steadfastly refused to recognise the Dos Santos government, even after it won a decisive victory over Unita in last year's UN-supervised elections.

A State Department official

said today that oil production in the Soyo region had been halted and that Unita forces had also destroyed Luanda's water system. He noted that both parties had indicated their willingness to send delegations to Addis Ababa to begin discussions on political and military issues.

"We are urging both parties to get these talks under way immediately," he said.

Responding to questions, the official said the US had no information regarding reports that the Angolan government forces had shot down a South African transport aircraft near Jamba, but noted that both the South African Government and Unita had denied the claim. The US also had not seen evidence to support claims that South African military support was going to Unita.

For Angola, just read S Africa

Star 26/1/93
THE guns are once again doing the talking in Angola and the drama unfolding in that God-forsaken country holds serious consequences for the whole region, and for South Africa in particular.

Angola is merely a trial run of what could happen here. The political landscape in Angola is similar to South Africa's in many ways. Both countries are in a state of transition after many years of one-party oppressive rule. Formerly banned groups are back competing for power. Both countries are lacking the one important ingredient necessary to make a settlement stick: outside mediators that could threaten and dragoon them to seal a deal and abide by it.

But of course SA has had a decisive say in the destiny of Angola. With the enthusiastic support of the US it built Jonas Savimbi into a little African god and put whatever he needed at his disposal.

There are politicians in our midst who look as though they have been cut out from the same cloth as Savimbi — the personality cult, the short fuse, the dubious doctorates. They have been feathered and pampered by Pretoria and mollicoddled by the right-wing governments of the '80s to a point where their egos tend to blind their visions. They have, so to speak, been travelling first class on a second-class ticket. They will pull down the house at the slightest threat.

The aborting of the electoral process in Angola — and let it be said, Savimbi is to blame — and the rigging of the Kenyan elections by Daniel arap Moi's party have coincided with the break-up of meetings by certain groups in our townships. Ah, you see, say our one-eyed commentators, these people are not ready for democracy!

Trouble is when you're one-eyed, you tend to have great difficulty noticing the speck in your own eye. PW Botha is a name that most South Africans will be familiar with. As a National Party organiser, this fellow made a name for himself by breaking up United Party meetings. Nobody at the time even suggested that the Afrikaners were not ready for democracy. In fact, PW was so successful at it that his climb to the top in the National Party was very swift.

Out of Africa

BARNEY
MTHOMBOTHI



What is apartheid after all, if not the highest form of political intolerance? You don't just break up meetings; you use brute force to crush your political opponents. Intolerance is therefore not uniquely African. It has been the policy of the land for decades.

It can be argued that Savimbi's actions have a lot to do with his nannies in Pretoria. After all, they have sacrificed young South African lives for his cause. They would be prepared, he must have reasoned, to see this thing through, to see him finally installed in Luanda as president of Angola.

Pik Botha, of course, went over as a "peacemaker". One didn't know whether to laugh or cry. After visiting such horrendous damnation on the country, you offer yourself as a peacemaker. Such cynicism simply defies comprehension. And the MPLA, fools that they are, swallowed the line.

Now the Angolan government says peace was never the subject in Botha's discussions with Savimbi. We have no way of knowing. Savimbi's subsequent actions are not of a man desirous of peace. And we have been lied to so often by this government to believe their protestations.

But what is envisaged in Angola by Savimbi supporters fits in with what certain politicians in this country describe as a power-sharing arrangement. They want to remove the idea from the public mind that the vote or ballot is the source of political power. Losing an election does not necessarily mean losing political power. You can negotiate a power-sharing arrangement after losing free and fair elections as long as you have guns on your side. Angola and Mozambique later this year will be a testing ground for this theory.

The United Nations has given the parties until April to start negotiations or it will pull out. What, one may ask, exactly is there to be negotiated? Savimbi lost the elections. He should accept the results or be treated as an outlaw. □

FW to probe Unita aid claims

Blomy 26/1/93. (5)

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — President FW de Klerk had promised to investigate allegations that certain non-governmental organisations in SA were continuing to supply the Unita movement in Angola, it was disclosed at a news conference yesterday.

Former Angolan head of state Lopo do Nascimento publicised a letter sent to US President Bill Clinton at the weekend telling him De Klerk had undertaken to probe allegations of aid to Unita.

The letter was signed by five dignitaries representing the Interaction Council — an organisation of former government heads which has been meeting in SA. It stated De Klerk had reaffirmed his support for reconciliation in Angola and "assured us of the cessation of the SA government's support for military action in Angola". He had promised to investigate allegations of support for Unita from non-governmental sources in SA, the letter said.

The signatories, who appealed to Clinton to stop the war, were former British prime minister Lord Callaghan, Zambia's Kenneth Kaunda, Portugal's Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo and Olusegan Obasanjo of Nigeria. These five Interaction Council members met in Cape Town last week to discuss bringing Africa back into the international mainstream.

A spokesman for the State President's Office said De Klerk had met Interaction Council members last week, but was not willing to disclose details of the discussion.

After last week's meeting, De Klerk said while he did not have any indication Unita was being supplied from SA, he would "not hesitate to act on any concrete evidence".

Meanwhile, Foreign Affairs has denied that a C-130 supply plane from SA was shot down in Angola's Huambo province, as claimed by MPLA officials. A department

spokesman said neither the SADF nor Saffair, the only two organisations in SA with access to C-130s, had reported any such aircraft missing.

TIM COHEN reports from Cape Town that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi yesterday assured Foreign Minister Pik Botha he was ready to conclude a ceasefire agreement and participate peacefully in the Angolan political process.

Botha said that in a telephone conversation Savimbi had mentioned he would be sending a delegation to peace talks in Addis Ababa with Angola's MPLA government.

Botha said he welcomed this development and urged both parties to reach a negotiated settlement.

Savimbi told Botha he had no knowledge of the C-130 aircraft claimed to have been shot down. Botha said he had asked the Luanda government to furnish Pretoria with particulars of the aircraft.

● See Page 5

Angolan peace talks due to start

LUANDA — Delegations from the Angolan government and Unita, at war on several fronts at home, will fly to Addis Ababa today to discuss a ceasefire and the peace agreement they signed in May 1991.

Fierce battles were continuing in the central city of Huambo, the southern city of Menongue and Cuito in central Bie province, the state-run radio said on Monday night.

Diplomats said the government, after losing ground to Unita on the battlefield, had offered concessions to make the talks possible. It had agreed, for example, to put political matters on the agenda.

The high-level negotiators are expected to gather in the Ethiopian capital today with UN, Russian, US and Portuguese peace accord observers, diplomats and the radio said.

Diplomats said the government delegation was expected to include Gen Higino Carneiro and Deputy Interior Minister Fernando de Piedade Dias dos Santos "N'ando".

The diplomats said they believed Gen Demostenes Chilingutula of Unita was already in Addis Ababa.

They could not say how the Unita delegation, which is expected to include the moderate official Jaka Jamba, planned to reach Ethiopia.

The meeting would be the first high-level contact since November, when they met in the southern Angolan city of Namibe, agreed on a truce and pledged to honour the 1991 agreement to end the civil war.

But Unita immediately overran two cities and other territory across the country in protest at the results of elections held in September.

Full-scale war has resumed over the past month.

Diplomats said the government was probably more willing to talk

now that it had suffered military humiliations, such as losing the north-western oil town of Soyo and failing to take Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands, despite more than two weeks of air raids and artillery bombardment.

It suffered another reversal when Unita cut off running water to the capital Luanda by blowing up a water supply centre about 20km away.

The ruling MPLA has repeatedly said it would prefer dialogue to fighting, which has already killed thousands of people and devastated several provincial capitals.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has given the talks extra urgency by proposing to withdraw UN peace monitors if there is no progress on a ceasefire by April 30. The UN Security Council is expected to begin informal discussions on Angola later today.

Some Angolan government officials say the country might plunge into chaos if UN observers pull out.

In Washington, the new US administration is considering recognising Angola diplomatically whether or not it holds a second round of presidential elections, State Department officials said on Monday.

They also said they would support a threat by the UN secretary-general to reduce the number of UN peacekeepers in Angola.

The US was set to accord diplomatic recognition to Angola immediately after elections last September, whether the winner was Unita, which Washington had backed for years, or the ruling MPLA, once given assistance by Moscow.

But recognition was withheld when Unita leader Jonas Savimbi refused to accept the election results that showed him losing to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan bid to end war

5

CT 27/1/93

LUANDA. — Delegations from the Angolan government and Unita rebels, at war on several fronts at home, were to fly to Addis Adaba yesterday to discuss a ceasefire and the peace agreement they signed in May 1991.

Fierce battles were continuing in the central city of Huambo, the southern city of Menongue and Kuito in Bie province, the radio said.

Diplomats said the government, after losing ground to Unita on the battlefield, offered concessions to make the talks possible. It had agreed to put political matters on the agenda.

The high-level negotiators were expected to gather in the Ethiopian capital along with UN, Russian, US and Portuguese peace accord observers, diplomats, and the radio said.

The radio said a ceasefire was a top priority for the talks but diplomats said an agenda had not been worked out.

They said the government delegation was expected to include General Higinio Carneiro and Deputy Interior Minister Mr Fernando de Piedade Dias dos Santos "N'ando". Diplomats said they believed General Demostenes Chilingutilla of Unita was already in Addis Adaba.

The meeting would be the first high-level contact since November, when they met in the southern Angolan city of Namibe, agreed to a truce and pledged to honour the 1991 agreement. The 1991 agreement ended a civil war which had lasted since independence from Portugal in 1975.

But Unita overran two cities and other territory across the country in protest at the results of elections held in September. — Sapa-Reuter

ANC rejects pledge by Pik

JOHANNESBURG. — Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha's assurances that South Africa was not involved in the Angola war were rejected by the ANC yesterday as "totally inadequate".

"Given the South African regime's devious past record, and straight-faced denials until bodies started coming home, it is totally inadequate for Pik Botha to say South African forces are not involved," the ANC said.

If 32 and 31 Battalions were not confined to barracks "suspicions will remain that they are used to bolster up Unita forces." — Sapa-AFP

UN-backed bid in Ethiopia aimed at ending renewed war

⑤ AUG 27 11 1993

Angola summit today

ADDIS ABABA. — An eight-man Angolan government delegation arrived in Ethiopia today for talks with its Unita adversaries to end undeclared civil war.

The head of the delegation, Mr Faustin Muteka, said the talks could end "the fratricidal war" if there was goodwill on both sides.

He said the team was mandated to discuss both political and military issues, in an apparent concession to Unita. Previously the Luanda au-

thorities said they would discuss only military topics.

Representatives of Unita were expected later in the day and an opening round of talks was tentatively scheduled for late afternoon.

It will be the first significant contact between the two sides since November, when they pledged to honour a truce and 1991 peace accords that ended a 16-year civil war. An attempt to bring the two sides from the battlefield to the conference table in Ad-

dis Ababa failed two weeks ago amid renewed fighting and rhetoric.

The discussions have been given added urgency by the spread of fighting and discussion by the United Nations Security Council of a proposal

SADF denies fighting alongside Unita

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Defence Force has reiterated its "categorical" denial that South African troops are operating in Angola, after fresh claims by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos that they are fighting alongside Unita rebels.

A spokesman said the only circumstances in which the SADF would consider any entry into Angola would be at the express request of the government to train Angolan soldiers, for humanitarian purposes — such as a search and rescue mission after a disaster — or in an international peacekeeping role under United Nations leadership.

to withdraw the UN monitoring presence in Angola to avoid its staff getting caught in the crossfire.

Addis Ababa diplomats said the meeting could discuss a new ceasefire.

Russian, Portuguese, American and UN peace accord observers will also attend the talks, which are being held under the auspices of the world body.

Fighting has flared since Unita rejected the results of the September elections, which were supposed to heal the wounds of civil war and create a democratic state.

Security Council recommended to pull plug on Luanda

NEW YORK. — United Nations Secretary-General Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali recommended that the United Nations reduce its presence in Angola to a minimum and withdraw completely if no progress on a ceasefire is achieved by April 30.

The 15-nation Security Council, however, reached no consensus about whether to accept his recommendation

The Security Council scheduled more consultations on Boutros-Ghali's recommendations for this afternoon.

Despite the problems, Ambassador Jose Jesus of Cape Verde said the UN would not throw in the towel on Angola.

"We have a unanimous view that we should not give up," he said. — Sapa-AP.

● Angolan Foreign Minister Mr Venacto da Moura is to meet the new United States Secretary of State, Mr Warren Christopher, and other officials of the Clinton administration in Washington later this week as part of a determined bid by the MPLA government of President Eduardo Dos Santos to win official recognition from Washington.

The meeting follows a letter to President Clinton from Mr Dos Santos appealing for US acceptance of the results of last year's UN-supervised elections in Angola and statements yesterday by senior officials of the new administration that recognition of the Dos Santos government was under "active review". — The Argus Foreign Service.

'Angola situation STAR tangled, 27/1/73 complex'

By Mike Littlejohn

NEW YORK — The United Nations Security Council is expected to meet tomorrow to consider what the British delegate termed the "very complex and tangled situation" in Angola.

But the session is more likely to concentrate on the future UN role there than on Luanda's charges of South African military involvement.

That complaint would simply become part of a general discussion, diplomats said. No evidence had been offered to support Angola's statement that a South African military aircraft was shot down by government forces — something Pretoria has emphatically denied.

SA ambassador Jim Steward will interrupt a winter holiday to return to New York in time for the debate, officials said. It was not known if he would address the 15-nation body.

Angola was the sole topic of discussion in preliminary consultations among council members in executive session yesterday.

Britain's Sir David Hannay said afterwards that all agreed that the UN could not and should not turn its back on Angola, but should be ready to strengthen its presence.

There was concern for the safety of UN personnel in Angola in the present state of what he termed "near civil war".

Sir David emphasised that UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali and his special representative for Angola, Margaret Anstee, were doing their utmost to get the Angola government and Unita around the conference table.

In a gloomy report to the council, Boutros-Ghali said the UN had had to evacuate from 45 locations with considerable losses of equipment, including a helicopter.

In the process, UN personnel had been harassed and assaulted "by officials and supporters of both sides".

He questioned whether the UN should continue to intervene, but ambassador Hannay's remarks made it clear that the UN must remain, even if the operation is confined to the capital, Luanda.

Unita fails to arrive for talks

LUANDA — Government troops battled for a key Unita rebel base in central Angola yesterday as government and rebel leaders were scheduled to begin the first round of UN-brokered peace talks in Ethiopia.

The government delegation and international observers have already arrived in Addis Ababa but reports said Unita delegates were delayed in transit somewhere between their embattled base in Huambo and the Ethiopian capital.

Although a temporary ceasefire was negotiated in Huambo to allow a UN plane to pick up the Unita negotiators, fierce fighting continued around the city 530 km from Luanda, UN officials said.

UN special representative Margaret Anstey, in Addis Ababa to co-or-

STYL 28/1/93
 dinates the talks, declined to comment on the whereabouts of the Unita group.

Thousands have been reported killed in three weeks of battle for Huambo, the central highlands city where Unita leader Jonas Savimbi set up headquarters following defeat in Angola's first multiparty elections last September.

"If the Unita delegates aren't in Addis Ababa, it's only a problem with transportation, not will," said a diplomat who did not want to be named.

Savimbi refused to take part in talks set for January 16, saying Unita would only negotiate for long-term changes in Angola's government and not just for steps to re-establish a ceasefire first agreed on in May 1991.

Government and Unita forces renewed fighting on October 31, after Savimbi rejected the re-

sults of the elections that were intended to unite the country after 16 years of civil war.

Both the government and Unita have appealed to the UN to keep its ceasefire monitors in Angola beyond Sunday's expiry date of their mandate.

But a recommendation on Tuesday by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali that the UN reduce its presence in this southern African nation and withdraw altogether if a solid ceasefire is not in place by April 30 is not expected to have much effect either on the fighting or the negotiations.

Unita has taken control of an estimated 75 percent of Angola. Its forces recently advanced to within 25 km of Luanda and destroyed a water purification plant that supplies the city of 2 million people. — Sapa-AP.

Battle for Huambo rages as peace delegates gather

3100m 28/1193 (5)
LUANDA — Government troops battled for a key Unita base in central Angola yesterday as a Unita delegation arrived in Addis Ababa for UN-brokered peace talks with government.

While a temporary ceasefire was negotiated in Huambo to allow a UN plane to pick up Unita delegates, fighting continued around the city, UN officials said. A government delegation arrived in the Ethiopian capital earlier. Thousands have been reported killed in three weeks of battle for Huambo, where Unita leader Jonas Savimbi set up headquarters in September.

Both parties have appealed to the UN to keep ceasefire monitors in Angola beyond the January 31 expiry of their mandate.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's recommendation that the UN reduce its presence in Angola, withdrawing if a ceasefire was not in place by April 30, was expected to have little effect on fighting or negotiations.

Meanwhile, **STEPHANE BOTHMA** reports that Foreign Minister Pik Botha said yesterday Angola's government had failed to substantiate its allega-

tions that SA was continuing military assistance to Unita.

"Apart from anything else it would be stupid . . . there are sufficient intelligence services, including the British, which know whether we do it or not," Botha told BBC World Service.

SA's government would under no circumstances allow military involvement in Angola. UN observers had confirmed that they were not aware of any SA involvement or assistance to Unita.

Referring to claims by Angola that government forces at the weekend had shot down an SA-registered Hercules transport aircraft, Botha said he had asked for particulars, but "they say they don't have them".

The SAAF and local freight carrier Safair — the only operators of Hercules in SA — denied flying over Angola. "We ceased our operations in Angola after the elections in September," Safair MD Braam Loots said. Two Safair transport aircraft were being leased to Angolan carrier Taag, but were not being operated by Safair, he said. — Sapa-AP.

● Comment: Page 8

Goodwill appeal (5)

ADDIS ABABA - An eight-man Angolan government delegation arrived in Ethiopia yesterday for talks with its Unita rebel adversaries to end undeclared civil war.

Mr Faustion Muteka, head of the delegation, said the talks could end "the fratricidal war devastating the country" if there was goodwill on both sides. *Sawefan 28/1/93*

Angolan ⁵ CT29/1/83 peace talks give hope

ADDIS ABABA. — Angola is back on the road to peace after the government and Unita yesterday discussed a four-point plan to declare a ceasefire, the United Nations' special representative said.

But the Angolan government and Unita rebels waged fierce battles in central and southern Angola yesterday, even as their representatives met in distant Addis Adaba to discuss a ceasefire in their renewed civil war.

The UN's top official in Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, told reporters the talks, which started on Wednesday, were "progressing in a positive atmosphere" and an end to fighting was top of the agenda.

Flanked by leaders of both the government and Unita delegations, Ms Anstee said: "Both sides have come to the peace talks with firm determination to renew a ceasefire and return to the peace process."

She said the points under discussion were a restructuring of a now-defunct ceasefire, the conclusion of peace agreements already under negotiation, the role of the UN in bringing about peace, and the freeing of prisoners of war.

The talks are the first significant contacts since the two sides signed a ceasefire and peace agreement in November to end fighting which flared when Unita challenged the results of a general election in September.

They are being held under a virtual news blackout. Journalists are barred from the grounds of the Africa Hall conference centre where the delegations are meeting.

Ms Anstee, who is UN secretary-general Dr Boutros-Boutros Ghali's special representative for Angola, apologised about the news blackout and asked that reporters "understand the seriousness of the situation and bear with us".

At Unita's insistence, the talks have been shrouded in secrecy. Conference sources said the rebels objected to the large number of journalists in the government team.

Unita's delegation arrived on a chartered flight 12 hours later than expected and in disguise to escape the attention of reporters.

The government delegation is led by Mr Faustion Muteka, a special adviser to President Eduardo dos Santos. Unita's team is headed by Mr Eugenio Manuvakola, the group's secretary-general. — Sapa-AFP.

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 33- 1 Seal Ring, Flying Catch
 40- 1 Mighty Crystal, Midnight Run
 66- 1 Stag Hunter, I'm Livania
 100- 1 Conception, Ludwig's Music, Pact Of Steel, Brief Affaire, I'm Me

● What the tipsters say
 — Page 3
 ● Met favourites have a fair record — page 20

MPLA downed mines' plane

LLOYDS of London are believed to have received a claim from the Angolan mining exploration company, Endima, for a C-130 aircraft shot down by MPLA forces on January 22 this year. Endima is an Angolan government-owned company. According to UN sources, the aircraft was fired at and hit by an RPG-7 rocket after take-off from Luena and the pilot was able to carry out an emergency landing. The Angolan government has claimed its troops shot down a C-130 belonging to the South African government on the same day. At first they said it had been shot down near the Unita stronghold of Jamba but this they later changed to Huamba province. Despite requests from South Africa to identify the aircraft, no details were supplied.

● Angolan peace talks give hope — Page 5

Iron Age find in grave search

JOHANNESBURG. — Police and journalists searching for further evidence of an alleged mass grave of missing detainees near Rustenburg yesterday stumbled on a previously unidentified 18th Century Sotho/Tswana settlement. Witwatersrand University archaeology professor Tom Huffman said several rock formations were old settlement walls from the late Iron Age. "This is far more interesting than anything else," Prof Huffman said, after finding shards of pottery and a walled kraal. Police returned to a remote bushveld site on the SA/Bophuthatswana border to extend an earlier search for graves former municipal policeman Mr Johnny Mokaeleng claimed contained the bodies of detainees tortured and murdered by police in 1989. On Monday police dug a swimming pool-sized hole in search of bodies in the Kgale trust lands. On Tuesday they excavated the back of the Welverdiend police station, but no evidence was found to corroborate Mr Mokaeleng's claims.

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Price of being a superpower

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STAR 29/1/93

LAST YEAR Margaret Anstee, the head of United Nations operations in Angola, paid a discreet visit to Washington to warn US officials of her concern that the UN did not have the wherewithal in Angola to adequately monitor compliance by the MPLA and UNITA with the accords which both signed as a prelude to the country's first election.

Her pilgrimage in search of money, helicopters and technical support went unrecorded in the US media, but it was an early signal that the Bush administration's projection of US power around the world, using the UN as a diplomatically acceptable instrument, was reaching its practical limits.

Today, of course, Angola bears tragic testimony to the breach of those limits, and they have become an area of crisis in US foreign policy as the Clinton administration grapples with the consequences of the \$327 billion (\$981 billion) deficit it inherited from George Bush.

It costs \$700 000 (R2.1 million) a day to enforce the no-fly zone over southern Iraq, with fewer of the Gulf War Allies willing to endorse the policy, or pay for it. Over and above the direct costs of the war — \$200 billion (R600 billion) — which other countries have helped to finance, the US alone has sustained a multitude of ancillary costs, such as the \$55 billion (R165 billion) of cancelled debts to Egypt as a reward for leading much of the Arab world into the alliance against Saddam Hussein.

Even Bush's "parting shot", the firing of 40 Tomahawk cruise missiles at an Iraqi factory complex — cost \$80 million (R240 million) in missiles alone. By way of comparison, that amount, puffed away in 20 minutes, was equal to the total US aid to South Africa last year.

When Bush announced the deployment of 28 000 American troops in Somalia, the cost estimated by the White House for a

90-day operation was \$680 million (R1.6 billion), excluding transport, food and medical relief supplies and other non-military expenditure. Since then, it has been acknowledged that the United States will be in Somalia for far longer than originally projected.

There are some 80 000 United Nations troops and thousands more non-military UN personnel deployed around the world, from Cyprus to Cambodia, Bosnia to Angola, Iraq to South Africa. Soon a further 8 000 will be sent to Mozambique, probably all but a few of them Americans. The costs are astronomical and the United States bears a vastly disproportionate share of the burden.

If American power is to be projected around the world, the most logical vehicle through which to do it is the UN, and Bush deserves credit for having moulded some difficult alliances there. But the new world order (or disorder, depending on which country you happen to live in) is filled with the

unpredictable eruption of ancient hatreds and deadly rivalries, and there is no leader anywhere who can say with confidence what the UN's role might be.

That is a dismaying prospect for the world's only superpower, and a nightmare for those in its leadership who must square UN intervention with the US budget. One is a finite amount which, financial prudence dictates, must be tightly controlled if the US economy is to thrive. The other is a capricious unfolding of events over which the US has limited control at best.

Clinton has given an assurance that he will continue to work with the UN in the pursuit of peace, and that the US will continue to fulfil its obligations internationally. What he has not said, because he could not do so, is what the limits might be of those obligations in a quixotic new world.

Clearly the US cannot continue to shoulder the sort of burden which, in a large measure, contri-

buted to the deficit which now bedevils every aspect of the Clinton presidency, some 80 percent of which was run up in the free-wheeling Bush and Reagan era. Somewhere, something's got to give and almost certainly it is going to be the US budget.

Clinton told foreign ambassadors last week that the foundation on which his foreign policy would be built was a strong and vigorous American economy. Both his domestic agenda and the budgetary realities which now impinge on foreign policy more sharply than ever before suggest that economic strength will transcend all other considerations.

Without it, as the grim events in Angola demonstrate, the UN's capacity to play an effective peace-keeping role will be stretched beyond reasonable limits, in spite of the very considerable accomplishments of gifted and committed diplomats like Margaret Anstee.

No doubt there is money to be saved within the UN's notoriously corrupt and profligate bureaucra-



Anstee ... warned US officials about UN costs in Angola.

cy, and there is copious opportunity for other industrialised nations to contribute more to UN operations. But this aside, what the UN will — or will not — be able to achieve during the Clinton era will depend far more than it ever did during the Bush presidency on what Washington can — or cannot — afford. □

UN achievements depend on what Washington can afford, reports Hugh Robertson

Price of being a superpower

LAST YEAR Margaret Anstee, the head of United Nations operations in Angola, paid a discreet visit to Washington to warn US officials of her concern that the UN did not have the wherewithal in Angola to adequately monitor compliance by the MPLA and Unita with the accords which both signed as a prelude to the country's first election.

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Downed plane was Angolan

Star Africa Service

The "South African" aircraft that the MPLA government claimed to have shot down in Angola has turned out to be an Angolan plane, owned by the state diamond mining company, Endiama.

At the same time the South African Government has repeated its denial that South African Defence Force planes have made unauthorised flights over neighbouring states, but pointed out that if private planes deviated from flight plans after leaving South Africa, these deviations could not be monitored from the country.

The Angolan government announced last Fri-

STAR 29/1/73
day that a South African C-130 Hercules transport plane had been shot down while flying out of Jamba, the former Unita headquarters in south-eastern Angola.

The claim was advanced by the Luanda government as evidence to support its allegations that South Africa was continuing to give military support to Unita, which is again locked in combat with the MPLA after the collapse of the peace accord.

However, the plane has been revealed as an Angolan one through an insurance claim submitted by Endiama to Lloyds of London, diplomatic sources said.

(S)
The plane is now said to have been shot down after taking off from Luena, about 800 km north of Jamba.

South Africa's denial that it is giving military support to Unita has been repeated by Foreign Minister Pik Botha in a letter to United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Again rejecting allegations of unauthorised South African flights across neighbouring states, Botha said the government remained satisfied, after investigations by civil aviation authorities as well as the South African Defence Force, that no unauthorised flights by military aircraft had taken place.

4-point proposal sets Angolan talks rolling

ADDIS ABABA — The Angolan government and Unita rebels discussed a four-point plan yesterday to declare a ceasefire and put the nation back on the road to peace, the United Nations special representative said.

Margaret Anstee told reporters that the talks, which started late on Wednesday, were "progressing in a positive atmosphere" and that an end to fighting was top of the agenda.

Flanked by leaders of both the government and Unita delegations, Anstee said: "Both sides have come to the peace talks with firm determination to renew a ceasefire and return to the peace process."

She said the points under discussion were a restructuring of a now-defunct ceasefire, the conclusion of peace agreements already under negotiation, the role of the UN in bringing about peace, and the freeing of prisoners of war.

The talks are the first significant contacts since the two

STAR 29/1/93.
sides signed a ceasefire and peace agreement in November to end fighting which flared when Unita challenged the results of general elections in September.

They are being held under a virtual news blackout. Journalists are barred from the grounds of the Africa Hall conference centre where the delegations are meeting.

Anstee apologised about the news blackout and asked that reporters "understand the seriousness of the situation and bear with us".

Angola has slid from skirmishing between Unita forces and government troops to a state of undeclared civil war.

The rebels have captured the important oil town of Soyo and resisted a ferocious attack on their central headquarters in Huambo. The capital, Luanda, is virtually without water because of a rebel attack on the pumping network.

Anstee said the two sides held two hours of talks late on Wednesday to review procedural

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matters, then attended a plenary session yesterday morning to approve the four-point agenda.

Angolan television and Portuguese Catholic Radio Renascença said Wednesday's meeting took place in a very friendly atmosphere.

The radio quoted government officials as saying both sides "acknowledged the need for an immediate ceasefire in the whole of Angola".

At Unita's insistence, the talks have been shrouded in secrecy. Conference sources said the rebels had objected to the large number of journalists in the government team.

Unita's delegation arrived on a chartered flight from Johannesburg 12 hours later than expected on Wednesday and in disguise to escape the attention of reporters.

The government delegation is led by Faustino Muteka, a special adviser to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Unita's team is headed by Eugenio Manuvakola, its secretary-general. — Sapa-Reuter.

MPLA 'shot down its own aircraft'

STEPHANE BOTHMA

ANGOLAN government forces shot down their own aircraft on January 22 — and not an SA freighter supplying military aid to Unita, as alleged by the Angolan government, sources said yesterday.

They said Lloyd's of London had received a claim from Angola's state-owned mining exploration company Endima for a C-130 Hercules transport aircraft hit by an MPLA-fired RPG-7 rocket after take-off from Luena on the same date.

Angola has repeatedly claimed the downed aircraft was SA-registered and operated by SA authorities for Unita.

Initially, Angola claimed the aircraft was shot down near Jamba in the south, but later changed the location to central Huamba province. Luena is well east of both sites.

Despite repeated requests from SA for Angola to produce identification of the aircraft, no details were supplied.

In a letter to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday, SA Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha gave the categorical assurance that government was not supporting Unita militarily or in any other way. He also denied claims that SA was supplying Unita with ammunition for G-5 artillery.

Botha said decisive and urgent action by the Security Council was needed to avert disaster in Angola. He pledged SA's full support for UN initiatives, and added that

□ To Page 2

Plane downed

maintaining a UN presence in Angola was of the utmost importance.

According to diplomatic sources, the Security Council is today likely to approve Boutros-Ghali's recommendation that the UN reduce its peacekeeping force, Sapa-AP reports. The secretary-general had proposed that UN personnel in Luanda be scaled down to 64 from 714. And if the fighting persisted, the entire operation should be shut down by April 30.

Even as the warring parties met in Addis Ababa yesterday to discuss a ceasefire, fierce fighting continued at home, Sapa-Reuter reports. Diplomats and state radio reported clashes in Menongue, capital of southern Cuando Cubango province, and in

Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands 500km southeast of Luanda.

UN special envoy Margaret Anstee said late yesterday that the government and Unita representatives were discussing a four-point plan to put Angola back on the road to peace. Under discussion were a restructuring of the ceasefire, the conclusion of peace agreements already under negotiation, the UN role in bringing about peace, and freeing prisoners of war.

The talks were being held under a virtual news blackout. Anstee asked reporters to "understand the seriousness of the situation". The next step might be for the meeting to split into two committees to discuss military and political issues.

□ From Page 1

Dos Santos w/Max 29/1-4/2/93. speaks out for peace

What are the prospects for peace in Angola? **JOHN BATTERSBY** speaks to Angolan leader José Eduardo dos Santos (5)

IN the first interview he has granted since democratic elections were held in Angola, President José Eduardo dos Santos appealed to the United Nations not to back out of the country and insists Unita is still receiving support from South Africans — but not from the government.

Q: Since the elections four months ago the prospects for peace seem to have receded steadily. Are you still hopeful that the May 1991 (Bicesse) peace accord can be restored and a negotiated settlement found to the current impasse?

A: I continue to be an optimist despite the fact that Unita has rejected the results of the elections that were verified by the United Nations as being free and fair. Despite everything, Unita has not formally denounced the Bicesse accord.

But, an issue of major concern to us is that the war is being carried out by a radical wing of Unita — the illegal army of Unita (Fala) that is led by Jonas Savimbi.

Q: Two weeks ago, it looked as though the government forces had the upper hand on the military front. But in the past week the government has suffered some serious setbacks. Do you feel Unita is gaining the upper hand in the war?

A: No. Despite the fact that Unita has got this fighting capacity — because it has the military means — the truth is that Unita is suffering from a general revolt from the local population ... We have managed to maintain the balance in various areas where we had the police force and the civilian population as well as the army. In the northern part of the country, Unita could carry out its activities with some success because it is there that the restructuring of our command and logistics systems are still very delayed ...

We did not have the capacity to cater for all regions of the country ... A lot of our forces were trained in a hurry and they did not have the necessary combat cohesion ... It's a war that is being carried out by Savimbi to enable him to impose a dictatorship because he is a tyrant ... He is not going to abide by any understanding because what counts for Savimbi is only his objective to become the president of Angola one day ...

Q: You have referred to Unita's military capacity. One reads daily in the Angolan press about allegations of South African military support for Unita. Do you have evidence?

A: There is no doubt that South Africa continues to support Unita ... I do not want to accuse the government of South Africa ... I do not want to accuse President FW de Klerk ... but (there are) high-ranking army officials in South Africa who continue to carry out operations logis-



José Eduardo dos Santos ... The international community has a responsibility towards guaranteeing peace in Angola

Photo: JOHN LIEBENBERG, Southlite

tically to support Unita.

Maybe, they do this against the knowledge of the government and the president and this support is directed to the south-east or to Jamba (Unita's bush headquarters) or to the north via Zaire.

Q: How do you see the way forward?

A: We have two options: either to get rid of that radical wing of Unita by military means or (to do so) through democratic pressure on that wing to abandon ... the military way. This political pressure should be (applied) internally as well as internationally.

The United States has a great responsibility in pacifying Angola. Former US Secretary of State James Baker told me during the signing of the Bicesse peace accords that the US had all the means to guarantee the implementation of the accords and also to prevent the accords being violated. But experience has shown that Unita could hide an army which had a great number of men. Now, I feel that the US and the UN should assist the Angolan people to solve the problem.

Q: How do you see the role that the US and the UN could play in finding a solution to your country's problems?

A: I feel that the international community should act towards Angola with a sense of justice. The Bicesse peace agreement is being systematically violated by Savimbi. The US, Portugal and Russia established themselves as the guarantors of this accord. Therefore, the international community — and particularly these authorities — should take a position.

What is more serious is that the military actions of Unita today have acquired a terrorist nature. (Dos Santos cites Unita's kidnapping of foreigners in Soyo, the bombing of public buildings in Luanda and the assassination of intellectuals in Huambo.)

Q: What specifically should the international community do?

A: Terrorism is condemned by the international community and by the UN. It's a crime

against humanity. Why don't they declare the radical military wing of Unita as a terrorist organisation? Why don't they prevent these people (Unita) from travelling through several Western countries where they have representatives and where they keep large bank accounts? ...

If comprehensive sanctions are applied against the white minority government in South Africa — because of the apartheid regime — why can't the same be done against Savimbi's radical wing?

Q: The US has cited the failure to hold a presidential ballot and your government's lack of control over the territory of Angola as reasons for not recognising your government. What is your response?

A: I feel that these positions are unfair because they encourage violence and give an advantage to Savimbi and the radical wing of Unita. There hasn't been a second round of the ballot yet because Savimbi has decided to go back to war. There is no control over the whole territory because Savimbi managed to occupy some of the territory by violating the Bicesse accords of which the US are guarantors.

To maintain a position which does not recognise Angola, means to favour Unita. The government is ready to organise a second round of (presidential) elections but how can it do so in a war situation and in the position that Unita is in today?

Q: Given the traumatic experience of the first ballot do you think you can persuade Angolans to take part in a second round?

A: According to our law, the possibility of not holding a second round of elections is realised when a candidate refuses to go for the second round. Right now, neither of the two candidates supposed to take part in the second round have refused to do so yet.

Apart from that, the High Court could also proclaim one of the candidates as not eligible to take part ... It will take a long time to create the conditions for holding a second ballot. But it is a principle that we must hold elections.

● This is an edited transcript of an interview given to the *Christian Science Monitor*.

Bully or buddy? Africa tests US role

CLOSER ties with the African National Congress, increasing disengagement from Angola's Unita rebels and a scaled-down role in Somalia — these are the key policy shifts on Africa expected from the administration of United States President Bill Clinton.

A US state department official who has been in close touch with the Clinton transition team in recent weeks says Somalia, Angola and South Africa top the Africa list of the new president.

Responsibility for US policy on Africa will be the job of George Moose, assistant secretary of state for African affairs. Moose, an Afro-American in his early 60s, is a career diplomat described by colleagues as a careful, widely experienced professional. He has had ambassadorial posts in Africa and at the United Nations, where he was the US deputy chief delegate.

Somalia, Angola and South Africa top the Africa list of President Bill Clinton — and they may end up defining the nature of his entire foreign policy.

By **ARTHUR GAVSHON**

The state department source, whose views match those of Commonwealth officials and British diplomats, said the expectation in Washington was that policy-making under Clinton was likely to be cautious, even slow, in the initial stages, with bold adventurism avoided.

Secretary of state Warren Christopher and national security adviser Tony Lake share years of diplomatic experience, an aversion to megaphone politics and a conformist approach, he said. "Any activism they display will be imposed on them by the president himself."

The Clinton administration is considering reducing its role in Somalia and handing over prime responsibility for managing the country's longer-term nation-building to the UN. This would run counter to the view of an influential policy-making group which argues that, as the world's only superpower, the US should assert its authority and go it alone in order to secure vital national and strategic interests.

"The Somali intervention was a test case," the state department source said. "On the outcome of the current argument, the nature of Clinton's entire foreign policy will be defined."

The issue amounts to this: will the US join other member states of the UN in helping resolve local, regional and even continental crises, or will it choose to act as a world policeman.

man, irrespective of the feelings of friends and foes alike?

Clinton has reportedly developed a positive relationship with ANC leader Nelson Mandela, whom he first met during the mid-1992 convention of the US Democratic Party. Mandela was the only leading South African politician to have been invited to the president's inauguration last week, and Clinton took the trouble to stay behind at one of four inauguration balls on January 20 to meet Mandela for a brief talk.

The state department source said if the ANC's understanding with the National Party continued to strengthen to the point that, after elections, a government of national unity was formed, it would be able to count on Clinton's wholehearted support.

There was recognition, he added, that Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi could, and probably would, create mayhem in the future. But in Washington's view, Buthelezi faces the danger of sidelining himself, along with other recalculators of the far-rightwing.

He said that unless elections were held within a year for an all-party government, the South African economy would be in danger of total collapse, leaving the contenders to fight it out in a wilderness of devastation.

Washington's patience with Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels was wearing thin even before Clinton took office. For years the repository of former presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush's hopes, Savimbi has disenchanted his US backers by repudiating last year's election results, by breaching successive ceasefire agreements and, most recently, by defying explicit American warnings to keep his troops, and the white mercenaries who lead them, out of the Cabinda oil enclave. Chevron, a major US oil company, and several European producers earn about 90 percent of Angola's foreign revenue from Cabinda's resources.

More damaging for Savimbi, even among his friends in US Republican ranks, is the mounting evidence of the backing Unita appears to be getting from freelance South African groups and Zaire.

US and British officials do not doubt Angolan claims that a South African Hercules C-130 supply plane was downed in Angola while on a mission last weekend, or that Zairean soldiers have been captured.

These officials say their information is that South African rightwingers, using mercenaries, are supporting Savimbi. Absolving the South African Defence Force of blame, they nonetheless want to know why President FW de Klerk's government has failed to prevent missions of this kind through more effective airport control.

The British officials are convinced the South Africans are being paid by Unita with diamonds mined in Angola's uncontrolled fields.

Dos Santos speaks out for peace

What are the prospects for peace in Angola? JOHN BATTERSBY speaks to Angolan leader José Eduardo dos Santos

In the first interview he has granted since democratic elections were held in Angola, President José Eduardo dos Santos appealed to the United Nations not to back out of the country and insists Unita is still receiving support from South Africans — but not from the government.

Q: Since the elections four months ago the prospects for peace seem to have receded steadily. Are you still hopeful that the May 1991 (Bicesse) peace accord can be restored and a negotiated settlement found to the current impasse?

A: I continue to be an optimist despite the fact that Unita has rejected the results of the elections that were verified by the United Nations as being free and fair. Despite everything, Unita has not formally denounced the Bicesse accord.

But, an issue of major concern to us is that the war is being carried out by a radical wing of Unita — the illegal army of Unita (Fala) that is led by Jonas Savimbi.

Q: Two weeks ago, it looked as though the government forces had the upper hand on the



Photo: JOHN LIEBENBERG, Southette

Jose Eduardo dos Santos ... The international community has a responsibility towards guaranteeing peace in Angola

Maybe they do this against the knowledge of the government and the president and this support is directed to the south-east or to Jamba (Unita's bush headquarters) or to the north via Zaire.

Q: How do you see the way forward?

A: radical wing of Unita by military means or (to do so) through democratic pressure on that wing to abandon ... the military way. This political pressure should be (applied) internally as well

against humanity. Why don't they declare the radical military wing of Unita as a terrorist organization? Why don't they prevent these people (Unita) from travelling through several Western countries where they have representatives and where they keep large bank accounts? ... Comprehensive sanctions are applied against the white minority government in South Africa — because of the apartheid regime — why can't the same be done against Savimbi's radical wing?

Q: The US has cited the failure to hold a presidential ballot and your government's lack of control over the territory of Angola as reasons for not recommending your government. What is

First round in Angolan talks

Sovetan 29/11/93

■ **FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE** Foes meet to try

civil war spreading into total conflict: (S)

ADDIS ABABA — Angolan government representatives and their Unita foes held a first round of talks here late on Wednesday in an attempt to end a widening civil war.

Angolan television and the Portuguese Catholic radio Renascença said the two sides met for two hours to discuss procedural matters and were due to meet again yesterday.

They said the talks took place in "a very friendly atmosphere".

The radio quoted government officials as saying both sides "acknowledged the need for an immediate ceasefire in the whole of Angola".

It was the first major meeting between the two sides since fighting flared anew this month after Unita had rejected the results of last September's landmark general elections.

The television said Unita's delegation arrived in the Ethiopian capital on a chartered flight from Johannesburg 12 hours later than expected and in disguise in order to escape the attention of reporters.

Conference officials said Unita wanted the talks held in complete secrecy.

The two delegations met separately with the United Nations special envoy for Angola, Mrs Margaret Anstee.

African diplomats said the talks were a last chance to stop undeclared civil war-widening into total conflict.

Officials at the talks said Unita objected to the presence in the Angolan government delegation of a large number of journalists and said they feared a distorted report of proceedings would get back to their country. - Sapa - Reuter

5 JUL 30/1/93

Battles rage in Angola

Angolan provincial capitals are beset by fighting between government troops and rebel forces.

LUANDA. — Battles between government troops and rebels raged on in four provincial capitals yesterday, in spite of predictions by a negotiator at peace talks of a ceasefire.

The rebels have seized three-quarters of Angola since the renewed fighting began on October 31. They control rich oil and diamond regions in the north and have come within 24 kilometres of Luanda, the capital.

Government artillery has been pounding rebel headquarters in the central town of Huambo, Angola's second largest city, 530km southeast of Luanda.

Thousands have been reported killed in three weeks of battles for Huambo since government

Rebels storm toward Luanda

troops attacked on January 9, trying to drive rebel leader Jonas Savimbi from his base.

Angolan chief of staff Joao de Matos said yesterday that government reinforcements had arrived. Speaking on radio, he said the government held strategic access routes throughout the highlands around Huambo and was hitting rebel positions in the city centre.

Mr De Matos said he had ordered a counter-attack after a rebel artillery offensive.

Heavy shelling also continued between government and rebel fighters in Kuito, the capital of neighbouring Mexico province, and Luena, 800km southeast of Luanda. Rebels shelled the airport and the centre of Menongue, the capital of south-east Cuando Cubango province, the radio reported.

However, Joao Pincock, a government represen-

tative at UN-sponsored peace talks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, was optimistic that the fighting was about to stop. Mr Pincock said he expected a ceasefire by tonight, according to Angop, the official Angolan news agency.

It was the third day of talks in Addis Ababa, and officials said they were negotiating troop withdrawals from the capital and around Huambo.

Peace accords signed in May 1991 were supposed to have ended the 15-year war between the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) and the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

But war flared again after Savimbi rejected the results of multiparty elections last September. His Unita rebels finished second to the ruling party in parliamentary elections and he lost the first round

of presidential voting to President José Eduardo dos Santos.

Delegates to the talks in Ethiopia have divided into two committees — one to discuss military issues and the other political ones, said UN special representative Margaret Anstee.

Under a proposal being reviewed by the military committee, government forces would evacuate Huambo, according to sources who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In return, rebel troops would pull back from Luanda and the oil port of Soyo, where looters from neighbouring Zaire reportedly have ransacked buildings abandoned by foreign petroleum workers.

The political committee is discussing ways to share power and set up a second round of presidential voting. Observers from Russia, the United States and Portugal are attending the talks. — Sapa-AP.

Second African country faces collapse

STAN 20/1193
LUANDA — Battles between government forces and rebels raged on in four provincial capitals yesterday, despite predictions by a negotiator at peace talks in Ethiopia of a ceasefire by day's end.

The rebels have seized three-quarters of Angola since the renewed fighting began on October 31. They control rich oil and diamond regions in the north and have come within 25 km of Luanda, the capital.

Government artillery has been pounding rebel headquarters in the central town of Huambo, Angola's second-largest city, 530 km south-east of Luanda.

Reinforcements

Thousands have been reported killed in three weeks of battles for Huambo since government troops attacked on January 9, trying to drive rebel leader Jonas Savimbi from his base.

Angolan Chief of Staff Joao de Matos said yesterday that government reinforcements had arrived late on Thursday. Speaking on State radio, he said the government held strategic access routes throughout the highlands around Huambo and was hitting rebel positions in the city centre.

De Matos said he had ordered a counter-attack after a rebel artillery offensive the day before.

— Sapa-AP.

Angola: War heats up

⑤ CT30/1/73

LUANDA. — Battles between government troops and Unita rebels escalated in four provincial capitals yesterday despite predictions by a negotiator at peace talks in Ethiopia of a ceasefire by day's end.

Government and Unita representatives continued closed-door talks in Addis Ababa while sources in Luanda said rebels were shelling air force positions near the airport to the north of the capital.

Government artillery was reportedly pounding rebel headquarters in Huambo, Angola's second-largest city.

The Angolan army said on state radio that it held strategic routes throughout the highlands around Huambo and was hitting rebel positions in the city centre.

The radio also reported heavy shelling between government and rebel fighters in Kuito, Luena and Menongue.

Despite the renewed battles Mr Joao Pinnock, a government representative at the UN-sponsored talks in Addis Ababa, was yesterday optimistic the fighting was about to stop.

Mr Pinnock said he expected a ceasefire to be agreed by late last night after a third day of talks.

Delegates have divided into two committees — one military and the other political — to discuss ending hostilities, power-sharing arrangements and the holding of a second round of presidential elections.

Under a proposal before the military committee, government forces would evacuate Huambo,

according to sources who insisted on anonymity.

In return, rebel troops would pull back from Luanda and the oil port of Soyo, where looters from neighbouring Zaire have reportedly ransacked buildings abandoned by foreign petroleum workers.

● The UN Security Council was last night expected to renew the mandate of the UN force in Angola, maintaining current strength but redeploying most personnel to Luanda for security reasons.

● The heavy fighting in Angola is hampering emergency food flights to stricken areas and more than one million people may face starvation soon, a UN official said yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP-AP

Peace talks as Angolan battles rage

CT/12/95 (5)

ADDIS ABABA. — Angola's government and Unita rebels are back talking peace but only time will tell if deeply-held distrust will give way to a truce, diplomats said yesterday as fighting continued.

"We have achieved a lot. But there is a great deal more to do," United Nations special representative Mrs Margaret Anstee said after four days of talks in the Ethiopian capital.

In Angola, fighting still raged across the country.

The most serious battle was for Huambo, Angola's second city and the rebel headquarters. Unita said government troops were surrounded but the government said they were putting up stiff resistance.

The Addis Ababa parley was the first time the two sides have sat down together to talk since fighting flared in November after Unita rejected the results of a September election meant to end 16 years of civil war.

They failed to reach agreement on silencing the guns immediately but a hard-won final statement said they would continue to discuss a ceasefire at a new round of talks in Addis Ababa starting on February 10.

"If we meet again, that means a lot of hope," Mr Eugenio Manuvakola, Unita secretary-general, told a press conference.

"I do not consider the next 10 days as days of war but days of reflection to solve our problems," he said.

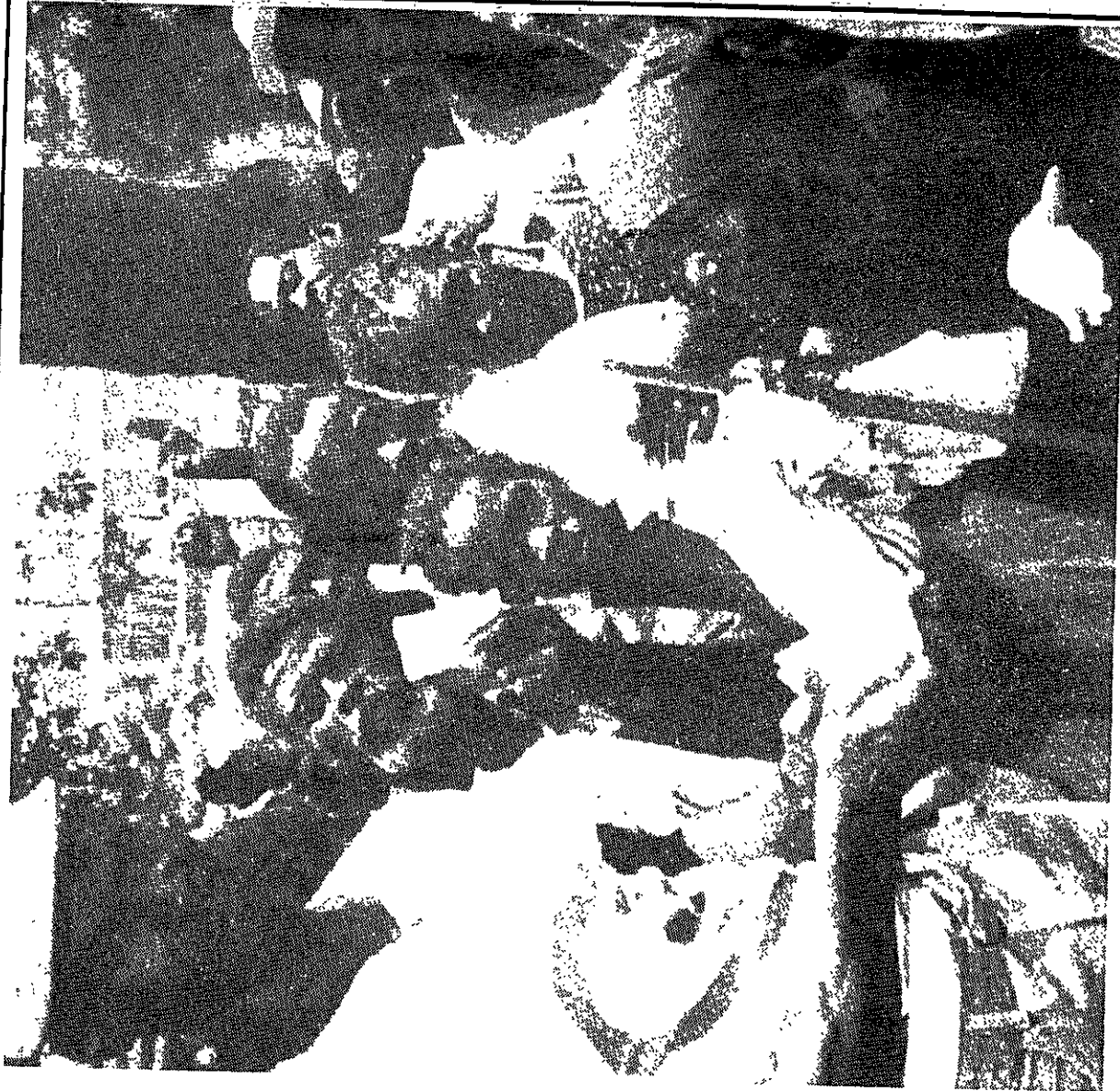
But Angolan government officials, Unita delegates and diplomats cautioned that much remained to be done before the fighting could stop.

"There's a great deal of mutual mistrust, a great deal of hostility and we've seen both sides trying to gain the upper hand militarily in recent weeks," said a diplomat.

During the talks government delegates leaked documents purporting to show that Unita was being helped by South Africa and Zaire, charges the rebels have consistently rejected.

On Saturday South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha denied the allegations. He said South Africa had asked the Angolan government for evidence to back up their claims but none had been forthcoming.

● The UN Security Council on Friday unanimously renewed the mandate of UN peacekeepers in Angola until the end of April providing security in Angola does not deteriorate further. — Sapa-Reuter



HUNGRY REFUGEES ... Angolan war refugees surround a government worker to show him their numbered cards in order to receive food being distributed at a refugee camp outside Luanda. The refugees fled fighting between government and Unita forces in the city of Caxito, 60km north of the capital.

Picture: AP

Star 112193

Unita blitz on Luanda feared after failed talks

LUANDA — Unita rebels are expected to increase their pressure on Angola's capital now that the peace talks in Addis Ababa have failed, diplomatic and military sources said yesterday.

"The Angolan people can prepare for the worst," chief government negotiator at the talks, General Higinio Carneiro, was quoted in an official newspaper as saying.

The general added that Unita would now step up its campaign. Unita forces are believed to control nearly 80 percent of the country.

The head of the Unita

delegation at the talks, General Eujemo Manuvakola, said an agreement to resume talks on February 10 did not imply there would be a ceasefire in the meantime.

Diplomats here believe Unita will not launch a direct attack on Luanda, but will try to strangle the city of 2 million people into submission.

Last week Unita forces wrecked a waterworks 30 km away, cutting off supplies to a large part of the capital.

Forces of the ruling MPLA are closely guarding the city's two main

power stations.

Officials are also worried that Unita might hit Luanda's oil refinery, now almost the sole source of foreign earnings for the government.

According to a government bulletin on Saturday, the two sides were engaged in a major battle for Huambo, Angola's second city and formerly the stronghold of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

● The government yesterday announced a drastic devaluation of Angola's currency in a desperate measure to shore up the country's economy.
— Sapa-AFP-AP.

Unita sets ⁵ its sights on Luanda

LUANDA — Unita rebels are expected to increase their pressure on Angola's capital now that the peace talks in Addis Ababa have failed, diplomatic and military sources said here.

"The Angolan people can prepare for the worst," said General Higinio Carneiro, the government's chief negotiator at the talks which ended on Saturday. **Aug 11, 1975**

The general added that Unita would now step up their campaign. They are believed to control nearly 80 percent of the country.

General Eujemo Manuvala, head of the Unita delegation at the talks, said an agreement to resume talks on February 10 did not imply a ceasefire.

Diplomats here believe that Unita will not launch a direct attack on Luanda but will try to strangle the city of 2 million people into submission.

Luandans received a taste of this on January 24 when Unita wrecked a waterworks 30km away, cutting off supplies to a large part of the city. — Sapa.

AFP.

Angolan ceasefire still out of reach ⁽⁵⁾

ADDIS ABABA — Angolan government negotiators and Unita failed to agree on a ceasefire after four days of talks, a communique said on Saturday. But the two sides agreed to meet again in the Ethiopian capital on February 10 to try to end an undeclared civil war.

"The two delegations . . . have examined the underlying problems of the crisis and reiterated their commitment to finding . . . lasting solutions for the consolidation of peace and democracy," it said.

Meanwhile, the Angolan government recalled its ambassadors from Zaire and the Ivory Coast for consultations in protest against alleged interference in Angola in support of Unita, Angolan radio said.

Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda told the radio station Zaire had 2 000 troops in Angola.

"The Zairean army has sent an estimated 2 000 men currently operating in northern Angola, in particular in Angola's Zaire province. Ivory Coast is also granting political and other support to Unita."

He said the recall of the ambassadors should be seen as a protest against interference, but emphasised that it was not a break in diplomatic relations.

"There is no rupture yet, nor do we want to follow that path. Nonetheless, the behaviour of those countries — whose leaders vaunt themselves as patrons of African unity — has not been correct toward us".

Also at the weekend, Foreign Minister

Pik Botha again denied allegations that SA was aiding Unita.

He was reacting to Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura's claim at the UN Security Council in New York on Friday that SA was involved in the conflict.

Pretoria had also asked the Angolan government to provide evidence of the alleged involvement but to date nothing had been forthcoming.

Botha pointed out it had been established that a Hercules C-130 aircraft which had been shot down on January 22 in southern Angola belonged to Endiama, an Angolan government organisation involved in diamond mining.

The Angolan government had claimed at the time that the plane belonged to the SA government or a SA company. Botha had immediately denied this at the time.

Regarding De Moura's claim that four SA DC6 aircraft were based at Rundu on the northern Namibian border, Botha said the Angolan foreign minister had admitted that the four aircraft "are operated by private companies".

As far as could be ascertained, the four aircraft operated on behalf of a German relief organisation, Hilfe in Not, he said.

The Security Council on Friday unanimously renewed the mandate of UN peacekeepers in Angola to April 30, but allowed the UN to scale down its presence if security in the country continued to deteriorate.

— Sapa-Reuter.

SA chopper 'seen near Unita'

AP Wirephoto
3/21/73

LUANDA. — A Puma helicopter believed to belong to the South African Air Force was spotted near rebel Unita positions in the central southern Angolan province of Huilla, it was reported yesterday.

South Africa has repeatedly denied supporting Dr. Jonas Savimbi's movement.

Angolan government military sources said the helicopter was supplying the Unita forces in

the Matala district.

Meanwhile, fighting intensified yesterday as government and Unita forces battled for control of strategic cities two days after both sides committed themselves to further peace talks.

Angolan national radio reported heavy gun and artillery battles for control of the central city of Huambo and the southern city of Menongue.

Diplomats say it is impossible to accurately assess the military situation in Huambo as the withdrawal of UN observers and foreign aid workers from the front lines has deprived the diplomatic community of accurate and independent information.

Fighting was also reported in the east and south of the country with armed civilians reportedly aiding government forces in the southern provinces of

Benguela and Mocimedes.

Three days of peace talks between the government and Unita in Addis Ababa ended at the weekend without the signing of a ceasefire. However, both sides agreed to return on February 10 to resume talks.

It is understood they deadlocked over whether political and military issues should be settled separately or be included in a single agreement. — UPI, Sapa-AP

Steir 212193 (5)

'Unita rebels kidnapped 15 oil workers in Cabinda'

LONDON — Fifteen Angolan oil workers were reported to have been kidnapped by Unita rebels in the country's Cabinda enclave last night, according to a bulletin on Portuguese Catholic radio.

About 10 Unita rebels, wearing Angolan Armed Forces uniforms, ambushed three vehicles belonging to Gulf Oil and seized

the workers, a military source in Luanda was quoted as saying.

The radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said it was not known where the workers had been taken.

The tiny, oil-rich Cabinda enclave is sandwiched between Zaire and Congo.

Angolan President Jose

Eduardo dos Santos said yesterday that his government would not give up trying to reach a ceasefire agreement with Unita rebels despite the failure of peace talks in Addis Ababa at the weekend.

But he warned that the country's renewed civil war could last "a long time".

Unita and the ruling MPLA

(Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) signed a peace accord in May 1991 ending 16 years of war and paving the way for elections last September.

Fighting flared again after Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rejected the poll results. — Sapa-Reuter.

20 trapped in rebel town

5
#ICT 3/2/93

SA denies gun-running for Unita

LUANDA. — Attacks by government fighter planes on Unita positions in northern Angola yesterday stymied attempts to evacuate foreign oil workers trapped since the rebels overran the key oil town of Soyo two weeks ago.

Unita rebels in their central Angolan stronghold of Huambo, meanwhile, said government forces had withdrawn

tanks and ceased aerial bombardments after a weekend of fierce fighting, according to their Lisbon-based spokesman Mr Luis Antunes.

All regular communication with the country's second city 500km south-east of Luanda is impossible, and it is difficult to monitor government and rebel strengths in the region.

Government military sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that their aircraft had stepped up activity over

THE Minister of Defence, Mr Gene Louw, repeated assurances yesterday that neither the South African government nor the SA Defence Force were giving military support to Unita in Angola.

He said at a media briefing that South Africa was also not involved in alleged violations of Angolan airspace.

Investigations had shown that 16 aircraft which Angola claimed were used to ferry supplies to Unita from South Africa, in fact operated from Namibian

soil.

According to a Windhoek press report, airlifts from Rundu in northern Namibia to Luanda in Angola were sponsored by the German humanitarian organisation. The Namibian government has since instructed the airlifts to be terminated.

SADF chief General Kat Liebenberg said if there was any evidence of gun-running to Unita from South African territory, the SADF would take immediate steps. — Sapa

Soyo, 300km north of Luanda, near the mouth of the Congo River.

The Brussels-based oil company Petrofina has had a plane waiting in Libreville, Gabon, since January 20 to pick up about 20 workers who missed evacuation when Unita troops overran Soyo.

Portuguese ambassador to Angola Mr Antonio Monteiro said Petrofina was waiting for Unita's authorisation to land in Soyo. But added that this seemed unlikely

as long as government air attacks on the city continued.

Medical officials in Luanda said the latest threat to the war-weary capital is an outbreak of cholera that could reach epidemic proportions, the official daily *Jornal de Angola* said yesterday.

The latest round of peace talks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, failed to produce a ceasefire in the renewed civil war, estimated to have killed 10 000 people since November. — Sapa-AP

King case: LA tense

AFRICA AT WAR... AFRICA AT WAR.



MONEY TALKS: A currency dealer at work in Luanda yesterday ahead of a government dollar auction that is expected to send the price of imported goods soaring.

APR 31 1993 (5)

20 die in Angolan city as shelling hits church

LUANDA — Stepped-up fighting has been reported from several areas of Angola, with at least 20 civilians reported killed in the shelling of a church in the strategic city of Huambo.

The embattled government said United Nations envoy Ms Margaret Anstee planned to seek a truce agreement from the opposition Unita before peace talks resume a week today.

Government military sources here said that the civilians died when a shell hit a Seventh Day Adventist church in the centre of Huambo, where fighting intensified after a lull.

The sources blamed the incident on Unita. There was no independent confirmation of the report.

However, independent sources did say that fighting was so heavy in the central city, Angola's second biggest,

that bodies were being buried in batches, sometimes next to houses, because the residents could no longer get to cemeteries.

Government radio said Ms Anstee was planning to ask Unita leader Dr Jonas Sayimbi to declare a truce ahead of a new round of talks this month in Addis Ababa between government and Unita forces.

But several Western sources said that they doubted the likelihood of a ceasefire as long as neither side had gained a military advantage.

Peace talks in Addis Ababa ended on Saturday without agreement, although both sides said they would meet again on February 10.

Among other reports, the government army said Unita troops had partially destroyed an airstrip in Menongue, in the southern province of Cuango-Cubango yesterday. — Sapa-

Angolan battles rage in wake of failed talks

BIDA 3/2/93
LUANDA - Fighting raged across Angola yesterday as oil executives reported Unita-led vehicle ambushes in Cabinda just days after peace talks failed. (S)

State-run media reported that battles continued unabated in Huambo, Unita's central highland headquarters, and flared in southern Namibe province as the government tried to retake towns under Unita's control. The southern provincial capital of Menongue was pounded by heavy Unita shelling.

Oil company officials said heavily armed Unita gunmen stopped three taxis outside Cabinda, near Angola's oilfields. They made off towards Zaire's border with two of the vehicles after releasing passengers and drivers.

Meanwhile, in Cape Town Defence Minister Gene Louw repeated assurances yesterday that neither SA's government nor the SADF were giving military support to Unita. Investigations had shown that 16 aircraft Angola claimed were used to ferry supplies to Unita from SA were operating from Namibian soil.

Airlifts from Rundu to Luenda, sponsored by German humanitarian organisation Hilfe In Not, had been terminated on instructions from Namibia's government.

□ Angola's Finance Minister Salomao Xirimbimbi denied yesterday that his government was about to devalue the kwanza or renegotiate foreign debt. Foreign news reports had misinterpreted central bank plans to put up about \$10m tomorrow in the first of a series of auctions to set the kwanza's value in the market and end exchange rate distortions, he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita may be banned

CT 4/2/93

LUANDA. — Top government officials drew up plans yesterday for a state of national emergency in the face of an advancing Unita rebel army.

The capital is also threatened with a cholera epidemic which has taken hold since Unita destroyed a water purification plant two weeks ago.

As government and rebel troops continued to battle, the 12-member permanent council of parliament met in a special session to draft state-of-emergency decrees.

Measures under consideration were mandatory military service, emergen-

cy medical mobilisation, and banning Unita, government sources said.

The proposals are expected to be voted on when parliament convenes tomorrow.

Prime Minister Mr Marcolino Moco said his government was searching for a way to end the war that was "devastating" the country, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported. He called for greater foreign involvement.

● Meanwhile, six Unita generals yesterday asked to rejoin the Angolan army, which they left in October over an electoral dispute. — Sapa-AP

Generals quit Unita in 'spirit of peace'

LUANDA — Six captured Unita generals yesterday said they wanted to rejoin the Angola national army they quit to fight for Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

Fighting intensified in several provinces across the vast country as the generals, in civilian clothes, told a news conference of their desire for peace.

They said they had informed the government of their wish to rejoin the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) — which they left in October over an electoral dispute — to help revive tattered 1991 peace accords.

"We want to return (to the FAA) to meet our responsibilities ... in the spirit of peace," said General Peregrino Wambu.

"This is a significant step in efforts to find a peaceful solution. The war is in no one's interests," Wambu said.

He was flanked by generals Andrade Santos, Zacharias Samondondo, Adriano Mackenzie, Renato Mateus and Arturo Bomba.

The six were among several Unita men captured in renewed fighting in November. They said they made the decision to return to the national army freely.

The FAA, formed under the peace accords which ended 16

years of civil war, was to merge the former enemy armies.

The six, and five other generals believed to be in the bush with Savimbi, left the new unified army in protest against September elections which Unita lost.

Soon after, Unita began expelling local authorities from 75 percent of the country and fighting broke out in earnest after battles in Luanda in early November.

Asked whether they would be willing to fight against their former Unita colleagues, Wambu would only repeat: "We hope this position will help efforts to end the war."

As he spoke, state radio reported fighting in Benguela, Bie, Huambo, Cuando Cubango and Malanje provinces.

Unita men destroyed part of the airport runway in southern Menongue, killed 20 people when they bombed a church in Huambo and were trying to take the airport in central Kuito, according to the radio reports which could not be independently confirmed.

Peace talks in Addis Ababa at the weekend failed to produce a ceasefire, but President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said this week the government would try again for a truce at another round on February 10, and in further talks if necessary. — Sapa-Reuter.

Generals (5) turn their backs on Savimbi

APR 12 1993

LUANDA. — Six captured Unita generals have joined the growing band of rebel officers rejecting the renewed war of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, saying they want to honour 1991 peace accords and rejoin the government's armed forces.

The six Unita generals said yesterday they wanted to return to the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA), which they left in October under Dr Savimbi's orders after he rejected the results of September's parliamentary and presidential elections.

"In the spirit of peace, we are returning to the FAA," General Peregrino Wambu told a news conference.

"This war is not in anyone's interests."

But while the six said they wanted peace, fighting raged in several provinces and the government said it was preparing to reorganise its defence against the rebels.

State-run radio said the government captured two South African mercenaries around the town of Huambo, Unita's central highland headquarters where a fierce battle for control has been under way for nearly a month.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports. — Sapa-Reuter.

ousands evacuated in volcanic eruption

No Pontius Pilate plea from Angola

Sowetan 4/2/93.

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LUANDA — The Angolan government, under military pressure from Unita rebels, asked the international community yesterday not to abandon the country to civil war.

■ ASSUME RESPONSIBILITIES

MPLA pleads with world not to abandon country to civil conflict:

National radio said fighting continued unabated yesterday between government forces and Unita (the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), which rejected the results of elections last September.

The areas of conflict included the provinces of Bie, Huambo, Benguela and Cuando Cubango, it said.

Prime Minister Mr Marcolino Moco, in a statement published by the state-run media, said: "The international community followed Angola's peace and democratisation process, in which the government and political parties met their obligations.

"Therefore, we demand that the international community assume its responsibilities... it cannot, in face of the current crisis, wash its hands as

Pontius Pilate did."

The United Nations, as well the United States, Russia and Portugal, played an important part in arranging a peace agreement between Unita and the ruling MPLA party in May 1991.

The agreement brought to an end a civil war which broke out on independence from Portugal in 1975.

The elections were meant as the next stage in a peace process but Unita said the parliamentary elections were rigged.

Fighting broke out before a second round of voting to decide between the two leading presidential candidates — incumbent President Jose Eduardo

dos Santos and Dr Jonas Savimbi of Unita.

Some international aid workers say 10 000 people may have been killed in Angola since November.

The UN Security Council has extended until April 30 the mandate of a now reduced UN mission monitoring the peace agreement. But the organisation will cut its presence further if security continues to deteriorate.

US diplomats in Luanda are vague about President Bill Clinton's intentions. The Bush administration said it would recognise the government only after the second round of voting for a president. - Sapa-Reuter

Starvation 'inevitable' in dry, war-torn Angola

B/DAM 4/2/93

CHANGE — The combination of civil war and drought had made widespread hunger inevitable in southwestern Angola, relief workers said yesterday.

Although rains had been good in the north of the Unita-controlled southern province of Huila, farmers had been unable to harvest or move their scant produce to market.

"Since the government won't let the nongovernmental agencies send food into Unita-controlled areas, starvation is becoming very acute," said a Care relief agency official.

Unita has penned government forces inside provincial capitals in many parts of Angola. Aid agencies are unable to move freely in the Unita-held countryside to deliver food.

UN world food programme officials said they were flying to only a handful of provincial capitals be-

cause of renewed fighting. They estimated that 2-million people were in danger of starving.

In southern Huila, where government troops controlled the roads, making travel safe, six years of drought had taken their toll.

"The whole district is dry," Gambos assistant administrator Joaquim Antonio Nuauywhamena said. "We have 92 water holes and they're all dry." The 300 tons of food aid delivered to Gambos in December ran out before half the district's 80 000 residents received anything.

While aid officials did not expect hunger to be a problem in southern Huila as relief shipments could get through, the situation in the north was grim.

One said: "Even Unita has trouble getting food for its troops. They go into villages asking for chickens or

corn. People give it to them — or they'll be killed on the spot."

Meanwhile, as national radio reported intensified fighting in southern Menongue and Huambo yesterday, the government asked the international community not to abandon the country to civil war.

Unita men damaged an airport runway and about a dozen houses in Menongue. About 60 died in fighting in Huambo, Kuito and the provinces of Benguela and Kwanza Sul.

Prime Minister Marcolino Moco said: "The international community followed Angola's peace and democratisation process, in which the government and political parties met their obligations. We demand that the international community assume its responsibilities . . . it cannot, in face of the current crisis, wash its hands." — Sapa-Reuter.

War veterans hold up convoy, steal food aid

B/DAM 4/2/93

MAPUTO — A group of veterans who fought in Mozambique's war of independence against Portugal blocked a road in the central province of Zambezia on Tuesday, held up trucks and stole 90 tons of food aid, state radio reported yesterday.

The food, which belonged to the British charity Save the Children Fund, was destined for displaced and destitute peasant families in the western Zambezia district of Murrumbala, where deaths from starva-

tion have been reported.

Food to the district passes from the provincial capital, Quelimane, through the village of Licuare, which is inhabited exclusively by former guerrillas dependent on government pensions, and their families.

The war veterans stopped traffic on Tuesday and detained 37 vehicles, looting 90 tons of maize.

The veterans justified their behaviour on the grounds that the govern-

4/2/93

ment had not given them any food aid, but veterans who receive government pensions are not entitled to free food aid anyway.

Government and donor agencies try to restrict free food distribution to those who really cannot produce or buy their own food, such as the displaced, returning refugees and those whose harvests have been completely wiped out by the southern African drought. — Sapa-AFP.

Cabinda digs in as Unita forces advance

From SI Times 14/2/93
**Judith Matloff
in Cabinda** (5)

PEOPLE living in Angola's biggest oilfields at Cabinda are anxiously watching the civil war spread menacingly towards the country's economic lifeline.

UN peace observers have dug trenches at their compound, hundreds of foreign oil workers have been pulled out and Angolans have stockpiled food "just in case".

"People are anxious," said managing director of Cabinda Gulf Oil Bob Connon.

Last month's capture by Unita of Soyo, an oil town 60km south, sent insurance premiums rising and shivers down many spines.

Contingency plans for a "controlled evacuation" are well in hand.

Fears were partly allayed three weeks ago when Washington warned it would not tolerate attacks on its citizens or interests in Cabinda, which accounts for two-thirds of Angola's oil production of around

Rebels gain in Huambo clash

LUANDA: Unita rebels were in control of large parts of Angola's second city of Huambo after a month of devastating fighting and were close to winning the most symbolic battle of the country's renewed civil war, diplomats said.

They said the movement appeared to have wrested back several key areas, including an area near the airport and the government's armed forces command. But there were still pockets of resistance.

500 000 barrels a day.

But on Tuesday Unita vice-president Antonio Demba repeated threats that the rebel group might strike at Cabinda, where the government has some 5 000 troops.

The government is confident it can defend the enclave, sandwiched between Zaire and the Congo.

"I am confident in the capacity of government forces to respond," provincial governor Augusto da Silva Tomes said this week.

The government claimed its defences are stronger than in Soyo, which paramilitary riot police abandoned as Unita advanced.

"Our forces are better organised in Cabinda," Prime Minister Miccolino Moo said in a report.

Authorities said Unita is already carrying out low-key operations in Cabinda and recently ambushed three vehicles, seizing two. No one was hurt.

Cabinda Gulf, which has evacuated some 200 non-essential expatriate employees, has told its remaining staff to travel only by helicopter or boat between Cabinda town and nearby Malongo base.

Some diplomats believe the fear of an assault on Cabinda is preventing the administration of US President Bill Clinton from recognising the formerly Marxist MPLA government which won the September elections.

— Foreign Desk.

Unita bombs airfield as fighting continues

⑤ CTS/2/93

JOHANNESBURG. — Unita attacked a second provincial airfield with artillery fire yesterday as fighting continued in several provinces, Angolan radio reported.

The radio said damage to the airstrip at Kuito, 550km south-east of the capital Luanda, had made it impossible for aircraft to land.

Foreign diplomats based in Luanda were unable to confirm the report, saying the withdrawal of UN observers from the front lines had deprived them of accurate information about the military situation.

Diplomats said if the reports were accurate, it appeared as if the rebels were attacking the airstrips to prevent

the future deployment of government troops by air.

Fighting was also reported in the central city of Huambo, much of which has been reduced to rubble after 27 days of fighting.

Diplomats say more than 10 000 people have died in the 14 weeks of fighting.

Three days of peace talks to end the civil war ended on Saturday without the signing of a ceasefire, but both sides agreed to resume negotiations next Wednesday.

● Unita's shadow finance minister, Ms Fatima Roque, left Angola yesterday for Portugal after being held in government custody for three months.

— Sapa-Reuter-UPI

Star 5/2/93

Unita supporters massacred — reports

LUBANGO — Reports that government-armed civilians massacred hundreds of unarmed Unita supporters throughout Angola recently have laid bare a new level of brutality in a civil war that has claimed 360 000 lives since 1975.

Non-partisan residents of this provincial capital 674 km south of Luanda say that on January 3 armed gangs — most of them recently demobilised soldiers who received guns from the government — killed between 300 and 500 people during a

house-to-house search for suspected supporters of the political party created by the Unita rebel movement.

In some cases, entire families were gunned down, the residents say. — Sapa-Associated Press.

Gangs 'kill hundreds of Unita supporters'

LUBANGO. — Reports that government-armed civilians have massacred hundreds of unarmed Unita supporters throughout Angola have laid bare a new level of brutality in a civil war that has claimed 360 000 lives since 1975.

Non-partisan residents of this provincial capital 674 km south of Luanda say that early last month gangs — most of them recently demobilised soldiers who received guns from the government — killed between 300 and 500 people during a house-to-house search for suspected political supporters of Unita.

In some cases, entire families were gunned down, the residents say, adding that most of the bodies were buried in a common grave. This could not be verified.

Mr Ben Penglase, spokesman for the Washington-based Africa Watch, said his organisation had been unable to monitor the situation in Angola systematically and had no knowledge of the incident.

The first word of the alleged massacre came from pro-Unita Protestant missionaries who fled to Namibia after the incident.

According to news reports, they estimated some 600 people had been killed.

"It was a massacre," said one resident. "The police did nothing to stop it."

In one confirmed case, a Unita supporter was shot to death in the UN compound after he sought the protection of the unarmed UN observers who have been stationed here since before the disputed September elections.

UN officials pleaded with the gunmen, who then dragged another Unita member out of the compound. He is presumed dead.

A demobilised soldier on guard duty outside Unita's demolished headquarters said Unita started the fighting when some of its supporters set an army vehicle on fire.

The heavily armed man, who would not give his name, said there had been house-to-house searches for Unita sympathisers.



ABOVE: Young Angolan militiamen yesterday in Malange, 380km east of Luanda. Volunteers organise themselves into neighbourhood units to fight Unita rebels.
BELOW: An armed civilian guards the ruined Unita office in Lubango yesterday.

There have also been reports of atrocities committed by Unita forces.

An official for the London-based human rights organization Amnesty International said the group had government reports of Unita attacks on villagers in areas loyal to the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola party.

But the official said the organisation had no independent reports because he did not know anyone "who's gone into Unita-held territory and got back out".

Government forces hold Luanda and most provincial capitals but the rebels now control an estimated 75 percent of the country.

Civil war broke out in Angola in November 1975 on the eve of independence from Portugal.

Some 350 000 people died until peace accords in 1991 brought an end to the fighting.

In phase two of the Angolan civil war, another 10 000 people have perished. — Sapa-AP.



SA denial on war

THE South African representative office in Lusaka has vehemently denied SA involvement in the Angolan civil war.

In a statement issued in Lusaka and broadcast on Radio Zambia yesterday, deputy South African resident representative Mr Willem Swanepoel said: "South Africa is not supporting Unita as claimed by the Angolan government. The war weaponry being used is neither of South African origin or manufacture." He dismissed the accusation as baseless. — *Sowetan Correspondents and Sapa* (S)

Sowetan 9/2/93

Fighting obstacle to Angolan revival

LUANDA — Reducing Angola's big balance of payments deficit and stabilising prices was a top priority for government, but renewed civil war was complicating nursing the economy back to health, Treasury director Antonio Furtado said yesterday. *Blom 5/2/93*

The government was concerned about inflation — which hit 530% last year — Angolans' diminished purchasing power and weak production.

He told state-run *Jornal de Angola* the government had to trim its big balance of payments deficit and spending by the bulky state sector.

The government should also adjust exchange rates and open up the once state-controlled economy to private and foreign interests, Furtado said.

However, renewed fighting with Unita would make it hard to reduce defence spending and ensure economic growth.

He said dollar auctions, scheduled to begin this week, were intended to narrow the gap between the official exchange rate of about 585 kwanza to the dollar — in which some business transactions were carried out — and the so-called parallel rate of 9 250, which closely tracked the currency's black market value.

The balance of payments deficit widened to \$1.25bn in 1990, the last available figures, from \$6m in 1985. Economists said the deficit had since deteriorated further.

Expectations had been high that 1991 peace accords between the government and Unita would lead to rebuilding the economy, devastated by 16 years of war and failed Marxist experiments.

But renewed fighting since Unita disputed the results of September elections have further destroyed infrastructure and investor confidence, ruining hopes of an early economic recovery. — Reuter.

AFRICA

By VICTORIA BRITAIN
WITH a million people facing starvation as war bites deeper across the Angolan countryside, the 2.5-million inhabitants of the capital have started their second week without water. They now face a Unita threat to sabotage electricity supplies as well.

At least 16 000 people have been killed during the latest Unita attacks, according to United Nations sources. Tens of thousands of people are fleeing from towns taken over by the rebel movement, which the government says is being resupplied from South Africa and Zaire for the biggest offensive of its history.

The worst is yet to come in Angola

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w/mca 512-112193

Destruction of factories, hospitals and homes dwarfs the previous 16 years of South African and United States-aided war.

And the worst is yet to come, according to a government general, Higinio Carne, who this week warned Angolans "to prepare themselves for the worst". Speaking after the failure of the latest peace talks in Addis Ababa, Carneiro said: "We came prepared to sign a ceasefire immediately, but the Unita delegation didn't

show the minimum interest in accepting peace." Epidemics threaten Luanda, where people are increasingly using untreated water sold on the streets. Over the weekend residents were warned it would be another month before the sabotaged pumping station could be repaired. Queues of cars 45km long stretch from the edge of the capital to the nearest treatment plant at Kicuchi.

The capital is swollen with refugees from towns taken by Unita in the three-month offensive which began after the rebels refused to accept the results of last September's elections. To add to the misery, prices rose sharply this week after a drastic devaluation which cut the kwanza to about a 14th of its value. The government announced the devaluation on Sunday, acknowledging the deep economic damage caused by Unita's seizure of the diamond-producing regions and part of

the oil fields. Rebel leaders have vowed to ruin the economy and reduce Angola, potentially one of the richest countries in Africa, to the level of Somalia.

Philippe Borel, head of the World Food Programme in Angola, said ruined infrastructure, danger and lack of permission to fly over Unita-controlled territory meant he was delivering only one-sixth of the aid allocated before fighting worsened last month.

"More than one million people — one-tenth of the population — now face malnutrition," he said. The Guardian News Service.

Star 6/21/93

I am fed up with Unita and Angola govt, says Botha

CAPE TOWN — Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said yesterday he was fed up with Unita and Angola's MPLA government.

South Africa was no longer involved in providing military aid to either grouping, he told reporters at a parliamentary media briefing.

"I fail to understand why people can't accept that it would be foolish for South Africa to be militarily involved in Angola."

It was an insult to the intelligence of his department to say it would make such a tactical and strategic mistake, Botha said.

The South African Government supported all United Nations efforts to return the process in Angola to a parliamentary democracy.

Destruction

"The United Nations is fed up with both Unita and the MPLA, and I am reaching that stage too."

It was in South Africa's interest that the destruction of Angola's infrastructure ceased, he added.

Of a meeting before the Angolan elections last year in Pretoria between Unita leader Jonas Savimbi and South African Government members, including Defence Minister Gene Louw and SADF chief General Kat Liebenberg, Botha said Savimbi had visited to "thank us for



SAVIMBI: Visited Pretoria to say thank you for support.



DOS SANTOS: His government's claims seen as an insult.

the sympathy over the years and that sort of thing".

This event was typical of the courtesy and culture of his African friends, and no more than that, he said. — Sapa.

...the spokesman said. — Sapa-Reuter

Star 6/2/93

Unita to free 17 captives

BRUSSELS — Angolan Unita rebels are tomorrow expected to release 17 employees of a Belgian oil firm they have held for several weeks, a spokeswoman for the firm said yesterday. The workers were seized last month after Unita rebels captured the oil town of Soyo in northern Angola. The captives are 14 Portuguese, one Argentinian, one Italian and one Briton. — Sapa-Reuter (5)

30 killed in new attack on Huambo

LUANDA. — Fighting raged in the Angolan provinces yesterday and an attack on Huambo claimed the lives of 30 Unita soldiers, state radio said.

Water was restored in the capital Luanda where rebels sabotaged the main waterworks two weeks ago.

In neighbourhoods that remained disconnected yesterday residents collected water from tanks that brought in supplies.

National radio continued to broadcast hourly warnings about cholera.

The radio said many rebels fled the scene of the attack on Huambo, leaving behind an assortment of weapons.

Intense artillery attacks by Unita forces advancing towards the airport in Kuito, capital of central Bie province, sent panicked residents fleeing from their homes, the radio said.

In eastern Luena, the government launched clean-up operations against Unita.

The reports could not be independently verified.

Military experts say the fighting since Unita rejected UN-supervised elections last September has become more intense than it was during the earlier war and has killed countless thousands and turned several cities into ghost towns.

Peace talks under UN auspices in Addis Ababa last week failed to produce a ceasefire. The two sides are due to meet again on Wednesday.

● Unita will tomorrow release 17 employees of a Belgian oil firm they have held for several weeks, a spokeswoman for the firm said yesterday.

A Petrofina spokeswoman said official notification from Unita had been received to this effect. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola: Pik now 'fed up'

SOUTH African Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Pik Botha said yesterday he was becoming fed up with both sides in Angola's civil war — the MPLA government and the Unita movement.

South Africa was no longer involved in providing military aid to either, he told journalists.

● One of two alleged South African mercenaries captured in Angola is apparently a Namibian citizen.

The Angolan Army announced on Radio Angola this week it had captured Carolus Izaka, 35, and Ian Cristoffer, 23, near the Unita stronghold of Huambo, and claimed the two men were members of South Africa's 32 Battalion.

But a relative of Mr. Izaka, Mr. Sias Swartz of Gobabis, said Mr. Izak was a Namibian citizen who had lived at Gobabis for the past 30 years. — Sapa

(5) CIPress 112193

Unita vows to continue fighting

THE Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday it was postponing fresh peace talks with the government and would continue fighting until the government was prepared to make concessions.

Accusing Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of winning "irregular and fraudulent elections" the Unita statement said: "He does not deceive us, he does not propose a truce, simply a policy of victors and vanquished."

"It is only in this context that we took our manly decision to resist."

Star 8/21/93

Angolan talks put off as battles rage

LUANDA — Peace talks between Unita and the Angolan government have been postponed indefinitely amid a resurgence of fighting in several regions.

Hundreds of government infantrymen battled Unita yesterday for access to the strategic highland city of Huambo.

The two sides had been set to meet for a second round of talks in Addis Ababa on Wednesday after a first round at the end of last month in the Ethiopian capital had proved fruitless.

The announcement of the postponement followed a broadcast on Saturday by Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, who said he was not sure whether his movement would attend the new talks.

A UN observer mission spokesman said it had been informed by Unita of "difficulties" in attending the talks.

The first round broke up when the two sides failed to agree on a cessation of hostilities that resumed in November after a fragile peace that had lasted little more than a year.

While artillery barrages rained into embattled Huambo,

530 km south-east of the capital Luanda, a government battalion clashed with rebel troops at Caimbambo, 190 km to the west.

Caimbambo is the first of several towns the government must take if it is to open a supply route from the coast.

Huambo is Angola's second-largest city and government military officers consider the battle to be the most critical since the country's civil war flared up anew on October 31.

The city was a long-time Unita stronghold until government forces launched an assault in early January, unleashing a back-and-forth battle that has reportedly left Huambo in ruins. Battle casualties total about 800 dead and thousands wounded, according to government estimates.

"The number of civilian deaths is incalculable," central front senior adviser General Armando da Cruz Neto said.

● Twenty-one foreign oil company workers who had been held by Unita rebels in the northern oil town of Soyo for three weeks were airlifted yesterday to Libreville, Gabon.

— Sapa-AFP-AP.

MPLA manoeuvres for position in peace talks

6/10/93 8/21/93
CATUMBELA — The Angolan army plans to force open a corridor to Huambo, the country's second-largest city, as part of a major offensive against Unita headquarters before a second round of peace talks convenes.

Parliamentary deputy Paulo Rangel said on Saturday the corridor from Catumbela on the Atlantic coast through the Unita-held towns of Cubal and Ganda was necessary to reinforce and supply government troops in Huambo.

"We have to win Cubal at any cost," he said. "The strategic position you have going into the talks will determine how the talks go."

The second round of UN-sponsored peace talks between the government and Unita was to have begun on Wednesday in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

But Unita spokesman Adalberto Da Costa Junior said in Lisbon the group had asked the UN to postpone the meeting because its negotiating team had not yet returned from the first round that ended in a stalemate.

Unita's request may stem from confusion in its top ranks that was illustrated by a Unita radio broadcast on Saturday. The broadcast said a call from Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim for a federal constitution represented his own

views and not those of Savimbi.

The MPLA government said it was not surprised that Unita postponed peace talks.

"The government is accustomed to this type of attitude on the part of Unita," government spokesman Gen Higinio Carneiro said.

Diplomats said Unita's statement, accusing government of failing to make concessions and vowing to continue to fight until it was offered conditions for peace, indicated that it was not committed to a negotiated solution.

Carneiro said Unita was merely trying to avoid a dialogue. "It is just an argument. We have information that the Unita delegation left Addis Ababa on Tuesday."

MPLA acting secretary-general Joao Lorenc0 said on Saturday the situation in Angola was critical.

"Just four months into the confrontation, the country is already experiencing a high death toll and the destruction of infrastructure," he said during a visit to military commanders in Catumbela.

Lorenc0 said government was willing to sign an immediate ceasefire, but did not believe Unita was interested.

Unita agreed to attend the first round of talks in Addis Ababa only if political issues were also placed on the agenda. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Colin Legum says US should grant diplomatic recognition to MPLA

Angola's fate in Clinton's hands

STAR 9/29/93. (5)

If anything at all can be done to rescue Angola from its impending new catastrophe, it is in the hands of US President Bill Clinton to do it. After the collapse of the latest attempt in Addis Ababa to achieve even a ceasefire, the American factor has become crucially important.

The card that Clinton has to play is to grant immediate diplomatic recognition to the MPLA government of President dos Santos. This would send a signal to Dr. Jonas Savimbi that he has forfeited American support.

Despite suspicions in Luanda, there is no evidence that South Africa is continuing to support Savimbi's Unita. It is not in South Africa's own interest to do so, for three main reasons.

First, because the De Klerk Government needs political stability in southern Africa.

Second, because the Government and the business community already have economic interests in Angola, with opportunities for more investment and trade, as well as a cheaper source of oil.

And third, because the Government cannot afford to start a new area of disagreement with the ANC, which supports the MPLA.

Whatever justification there might have been for Washington's refusal to recognise the MPLA since 1974, all the reasons have fallen away: Angola is no longer an arena of the Cold War, the Dos Santos government has abandoned its commitment to Marxism and has shown itself receptive to a number of US demands.

Above all, Dos Santos established his legitimacy by winning the recent internationally supervised elections, a result endorsed by the United Nations and American observer teams. Therefore, by normal international diplomatic standards, the MPLA has established its right to be recognised as the legitimate government.

South Africa has virtually acknowledged this by establishing diplomatic relations with Luanda.

On the other hand, Jonas Savimbi has lost any right he might

once have had to be favoured by the US and South Africa. Having bound himself by treaty to end the civil war and to take part in internationally-supervised elections, he broke his word by refusing to accept the result of the elections.

He chose instead to launch a new military offensive.

What would be the position even if Savimbi were to succeed in militarily paralysing the MPLA? There is no way he could hope to take over the government through what would, in effect, be a military coup.

At best, he could hope to force fresh elections. These should not necessarily be ruled out provided there was some assurance that he could be more prepared to accept a fresh defeat than before.

His military strength cannot be ignored; nor can the fact of his substantial electoral support be disregarded. A way must be found to achieve a political settlement; but this time on terms that, if fresh elections should again go against him, he would not be able to resort to a military option.

This time, it would be necessary, not simply to rely on a ceasefire, but to make as a prerequisite the surrender of weapons by Unita, as well as the MPLA.

However, it would be impracticable to insist on the MPLA government disbanding its police auxiliary security force which is necessary to ensure law and order during a fresh election campaign. It was because of Savimbi's insistence at the abortive Addis Ababa meeting that the government should disband its auxiliary security force that led to the breakdown of the talks.

The time has come for the international community, but especially for the US and South Africa, to lean on Savimbi. The first step is to grant full diplomatic recognition to the MPLA government. Unless Clinton is prepared to do this, the US will be seen to be siding with Unita — and this would jeopardise any hope of rescuing Angola from further disaster. □

War-torn Angola renews call-up

LUANDA — The Angolan government, whose army is under-equipped for escalating war with Unita, yesterday began preparing to reinstate conscription.

Conscription was dropped after the May 1991 peace accords appeared to have brought an end to 16 years of civil war.

Angola's parliament will shortly ratify plans to conscript all men aged between 18 and 30, according to reports here. Government infantry yesterday contin-

ued fighting to open a corridor from the coast to the central city of Huambo.

Army chief of staff General Joao de Matos called the fight for Huambo "the greatest battle in the history of Angola."

"There are 6 000 wounded in the military hospital and at least 2 000 dead. There is no electricity, no water and very few medical supplies," General de Matos told a Portuguese radio station.

Units is believed to occupy most of the area surrounding Huambo, which is

mostly under government control.

The Angolan army was reduced from 116 000 to 16 000 men under peace accords signed last year. With fresh recruiting, it now numbers some 35 000 men.

Units apparently ignored provisions in the accords compelling it to demobilise its estimated 50 000 fighters.

● Unita yesterday asked for a postponement of peace talks due to resume tomorrow in Addis Ababa. — Sapa-AP

Star 9/2/93
Angola to reinstate draft ⑤

LUANDA — The Angolan government yesterday prepared to reinstate mandatory military service. The draft was dropped after May 1991 peace accords appeared to have brought an end to 16 years of civil war. Parliament was expected to ratify the new plan to make all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 30 liable for military service once the Cabinet approves it.

Bloody fighting in battle for Huambo

(5) ANC 1/2 193
LUANDA. — Unita has encircled Huambo, Angola's second-largest city, and outnumbered government troops are struggling to break out.

The army's chief of staff called the fighting the "greatest military battle in the history of Angola".

The chief of staff, General Joao de Matos, said that at least 2 000 people had died and 6 000 had been injured in the month-long fight for Huambo, headquarters of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

The army, trying to punch a supply route from the Atlantic coast into Huambo, is believed to be vastly outnumbered by Unita forces and the government is preparing to reinstate conscription.

Meanwhile a second round of talks between the two parties appears to be imperilled.

Unita representative Mr Marcos Samondo, in a letter yesterday to United Nations Secretary-General Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said Unita delegates who attended the first round of talks last week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, had not been able to cross battle lines to confer with Dr Savimbi.

It was unclear whether they would attend talks planned for this week.

Life in Huambo has become increasingly miserable as the fighting rages.

"There is no electricity, no water, very few medical supplies — they are living through very bad times in Huambo," General De Matos told the Portuguese radio station TSF.

The situation is similar in other parts of the country, with the army caught inside provincial capitals while Unita controls the roads in and out.

Huambo's airport, which is within range of both rebel and government artillery, is a shell-pocked war zone, government sources said. Unita troops are believed to occupy most of the area surrounding the city, which had 400 000 inhabitants late last year.

Fighting broke out between government troops and Unita supporters on October 31. Since then an estimated 10 000 people have been killed.

The 50 000 Unita fighters are widely believed to outnumber the army, which was reduced from 116 000 to 16 000 under the peace accords. With renewed recruiting, it now numbers around 35 000. — Sapa-AP.

Escaper jams in slot

MELBOURNE. — Police had to rescue a prisoner who got stuck halfway through a meal-tray slot in a cell wall while trying to escape, a police spokeswoman said. — Sapa-AP.

A "substantial" amount of money and dagga was also found at the hostel, police said.

Soweto police spokesman Colonel Tienie Halgryn said security forces raided the hostel after a tip-off.

It was believed the suspects were arms dealers and that the money would have been used to buy more arms.

He said: "It is clear that some elements are planning something to end the relative peace and spirit of cooperation that has been seen in Soweto over the past few months."

Meanwhile senior ANC officials go to Durban today to question a further six detainees in connection with an arms haul at the Swazi border last week.

A police spokesman said no request had yet been received from the ANC for such interviews and he could not confirm the arrest of the six men.

The officials, led by ANC lawyer and negotiator Mr Mathew Phosa, interviewed three detained MK members — Mr Siphio Sithole, Mr Vusumuzi Ngobese and Mr Mandla Makhoba — for almost 10 hours in Middelburg yesterday.

Mr Phosa said the ANC team had established "beyond reasonable doubt" that the organisation's national executive committee (NEC) and the southern Natal regional executive committee were not involved in the alleged smuggling of arms.

It was also satisfied that the ANC "military headquarters" in Johannesburg as well as the "military command in southern Natal" had no part in the operation.

The ANC team, which includes MK chief of staff Mr Siphwe Nyanda and southern Natal chairman Mr Jeff Radebe, will make recommendations to the NEC on "how to handle the matter politically".

EDITORIAL

U.S. Should Recognize Dos Santos

THE new American administration is caught in some of the same hesitation on Angola that marked the old. In elections given full marks by international observers, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won the parliament; Jose Eduardo dos Santos fell just short of the 50 percent required to be seated as president. The challenger, Jonas Savimbi, responded by boycotting a presidential second round and renewing the war. Mr. dos Santos turned to Washington for recognition. After all, he had sacked the Cubans, cut off the Kremlin, abandoned Marxism, turned to the West, set up a multiparty system, and conducted re-

spectable elections. But the Bush administration declined to recognize him, and the Clinton administration still has the question "under review."

The trouble is not conspiracy but confusion. Angola, which spent a decade and a half being ground up in the Cold War, is again a battlefield. The right-thinking idea of arranging a package settlement including recognition of the MPLA regime tugs at diplomats in Washington. Holding off on recognition, it is suggested, keeps a useful line open to Mr. Savimbi.

Meanwhile, unfortunately, Mr. Savimbi happens to be doing well in the war. The government,

playing on his past ties to South Africa and the C.I.A., has tried to paint his progress as the product of foreign connections. In fact, Western intelligence indicates that most of his weapons were stockpiled or are captured. It is the government with its oil money that buys arms abroad. Three white South Africans who were located in a hospital in Namibia turned out to be the hired gunmen not of Mr. Savimbi but of an oil company.

What is most important, however, is that Mr. dos Santos in the latest phase played fair. An American administration that professes to support new democracies looks awfully odd (and lonely) withholding recogni-

tion. No one charges that the United States, or South Africa, is still secretly channeling aid to Jonas Savimbi. But Washington is slow to get the message it sends by standing off. It tempts Mr. Savimbi to think he can get away with challenging democratic process. It encourages ethnic strains: Losers in Third World elections invariably play the ethnic or tribal card. Worse, it could put the idea of ignoring a far but disappointing electoral result in the heads of others bound for the polls in the new southern Africa — Mozambique for one, South Africa for another. Policy should be to recognize Mr. dos Santos, and get Mr. Savimbi back to the table.

Angola - A Lesson In How Not To Do It

WHEN it was signed in May 1991, the accord that ended Angola's 16-year civil war was hailed in capitals from Washington to Moscow as a model for post-Cold War peace-making.

A nation that had been Africa's bloodiest playground for super-power adventurism had fashioned a largely home-grown peace that offered an "opportunity to show the world that a multi-party democracy can be built where before there was destruction and mistrust," then-Secretary of State James A. Baker had said.

But today the peace has exploded and the nearly two-year-old taunts ring hollow. More than 20,000 people are estimated to have been killed, including more than 10,000 in one battle alone, since a renewal of fighting last October. Angola's meticulously detailed 63-page peace accord has become an object lesson only in what to avoid. It is seen as flawed in conception, flouted in execution, overdependent on the unifying potential of a winner-take-all first presidential election, and undermined by the weak monitoring role of outsiders who, having spent billions of dollars on Angola's war, hoped to get away with paying pennies for its peace.

"The world tried to do this one on the cheap," said Margaret Anstee, the embattled United Nations' envoy here, who complained from the outset that her mandate was too modest and resources too thin. "Certainly, that's one of the reasons things came apart."

"There was so much euphoria that Angola was going to have its first democratic election that a lot of us were guilty of not making sure that all the necessary preconditions to an election had been met," said Joe Schreiber, spokesman for the United States Liaison Office here.

The lessons of Angola's peace meltdown are already being applied — but elsewhere in southern Africa. In Mozambique, another former Portuguese colony that became engulfed in civil war following its independence in 1975, the United Nations has authorized 7,500 troops to monitor a demobilization, compared with 450

unarmed U.N. military observers who served in Angola.

Moreover, the U.N. envoy in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, has insisted that an election set by the peace accord for this October be delayed because the demobilization is behind schedule. In Angola, Anstee did not have the power to take such a step.

Angola's shadow is less obvious, but arguably more important, in South Africa. There, the two main political rivals — the white-minority government and the opposition African National Congress — recently agreed in principle that a government of national unity serve for up to five years following the country's first nonracial election, expected in 1993.

"If you want to know the best argument for not having a winner-

By Paul Taylor in Luanda

take-all first election, check out Angola," said one ANC official.

Whether Angola itself can profit from the lessons of Angola is more problematic. The United States, which along with Russia and Portugal serves in a formal troika of observers, has just launched a new diplomatic initiative — a meeting in Ivory Coast with mid-level representatives of the guerrilla National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. UNITA was a U.S. client during much of the 1975-91 war against the Soviet- and Cuban-supported government of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola (MPLA).

The United States has been acutely embarrassed by the actions of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, who took up arms after losing an election for president last September. He claimed the election was stolen, despite assertions from international monitors that it was free and fair.

Diplomatic sources here said the State Department is moving toward a policy of recognizing the MPLA government. But before it takes that step, sources said, it is hoping to use the leverage created by the anticipated change of policy to explore with both sides a framework for a cease-fire and a new round of

elections. These would be designed to give all parties an assured slice of power through some combination of regionalism and proportional representation. "The shame is that nobody insisted on that the first time around," one diplomat said.

Despite the detrimental role of foreign powers, many diplomats here say the primary burden for Angola's peace debacle lies with the belligerents themselves.

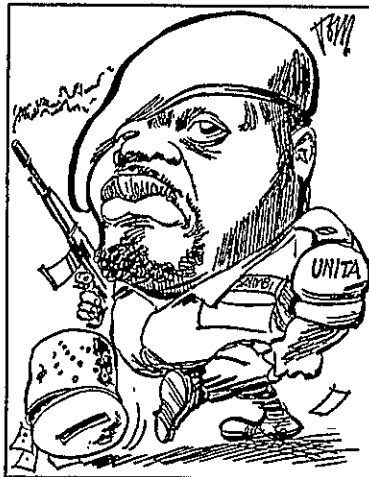
The peace accord — sponsored by the United Nations and brokered by the United States, the then-Soviet Union, and Portugal — called for a demobilization of both sides' armies and creation of a unified military force, while the two antagonists prepared for presidential and legislative elections. The United Nations sent what Anstee reportedly called "the world's cheapest peace-keeping operation" — 400 military observers to monitor the stand-down.

But it was the MPLA that insisted on a weak international monitoring presence, out of concerns about its sovereignty. Both armies openly ignored the demobilization plan: the MPLA simply shifted 10,000 to 20,000 of its elite troops into a paramilitary police force, and UNITA kept its heaviest weapons and 25,000 or more of its best fighters hidden in the bush. The generals on both sides failed to set up the prescribed new unified army of 40,000 men, except on paper.

Most fateful of all, Savimbi, after nearly two decades of ingratiating himself in the West as Africa's foremost freedom-fighting, anti-communist democrat, failed at the most basic task of democracy — the willingness to accept defeat.

"Any time you have someone who still has an army under his command and announces before an election that if he loses, it will be because it was stolen, you have an explosive situation on your hands," said Onofre dos Santos, an independent, third-party politician who was brought back from 16 years of exile to run Angola's first election.

Dos Santos, no relation to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, said that "everybody knew the demobilization was a farce" but noted that it would have been difficult for anyone to hold the election hostage to force compliance. "The problem was that everybody thought Savimbi was going to win, and he was the one who wanted the election as soon



Savimbi — now an embarrassment

as possible. So if anyone had tried to delay it, it would have been seen as a political maneuver favoring the MPLA, and fighting might have broken out then."

In hindsight, the widespread expectation that Savimbi would win the September 1992 election played havoc with lots of diplomatic calculations. "Watching the demobilization, it was clear that Savimbi was cheating more than the government, but if you're figuring on a Savimbi victory, you keep your fingers crossed and hope it will all work out alright," said one diplomat.

One of the ironies of the campaign was that President dos Santos, a soft-spoken, wooden, Soviet-trained petroleum engineer, turned out to be far better-versed at electoral politics than Savimbi,

the charismatic populist.

Dos Santos hired a Brazilian polling and media company that correctly advised him to paint his billboards, brochures, and rhetoric in shades of pastel. After nearly 30 years of conflict, including guerrilla opposition to Portuguese colonial rule, Angolans above all wanted peace, the polling firm convinced Dos Santos.

Savimbi mistakenly assumed that his nation wanted a traditional African strongman, tough enough to undo 16 years of communist corruption and disastrous economic mismanagement. His speeches became progressively more bellicose. "His basic message," quipped one diplomat, "was, 'Vote for me or I'll blow your head off!'"

Although marred by episodic violence and despite daunting logistical challenges, the electoral process went smoothly. Registration topped 90 percent in a country that had never voted before. The two days of balloting were free of violence. The police stayed off the streets, and both UNITA and the MPLA had at least two poll-watchers who verified the count at each of the 6,000 polling stations. Turnout also topped 90 percent. Angolan peasants walked for miles and waited in line for hours to cast their first ballots.

The trouble began when the returns began to trickle in.

When the final numbers were certified 18 days later, they showed that dos Santos led the presidential balloting by 49.6 percent to Savimbi's 40.1 percent (minor party candidates divided the rest), and the MPLA won 129 seats to UNITA's 70 in the 220-seat parliament. Because dos Santos was held to under 50 percent in the presidential voting, a runoff was to have been held. It has not yet been held.

In the tense days immediately after the balloting, however, as first returns came in from the cities where dos Santos was strongest, the government-run television showed him winning by a landslide. It took days for a clearer picture to emerge, but by then Savimbi had pulled his generals out of the joint army, given an angry speech charging fraud, and was on the path back to war.

"I can see, given the understandable paranoia of the situation, why in the first few days Savimbi thought he was being robbed," said Onofre dos Santos. "But we asked them to present credible evidence of fraud, and they never could."

The United Nations certified the elections as "generally free and fair" in mid-October, but by the end of the month, after a series of UNITA-provoked military flare-ups around the country, full-scale fighting broke out in Luanda.

Since then, Anstee's relentless efforts to arrange a cease-fire have been unavailing — in part because the military situation keeps saw-sawing, with no clear battlefield victor in sight.

U.N. Sets Up Force For Somalia

UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council, last week formally set up a multinational U.N. force of at least 28,000 peace-keeping troops to take over from the U.S.-led troops in war- and famine-ravaged Somalia.

The resolution, which provides for a "prompt, smooth, and phased" transition, will allow all but about 9,000 U.S. soldiers to come home by the end of April. The new mandate is the most ambitious effort ever undertaken by the United Nations to rebuild a country whose government and social institutions have collapsed.

The Bush administration dispatched U.S. troops to Somalia December 9, promising they would be home by the end of January.

U.S. commanders moved cautiously, limiting their troops to providing security for food deliveries to towns where Somalis were dying by the thousands of starvation.

But U.S. officers soon saw the need to begin disarming gang leaders, which U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had insisted on from the outset. While U.S. officers in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, have complained about the slow pace of U.N. moves toward the handover, officials here on both sides consistently have praised the transition as a model of new ties between Washington and the United Nations.

"With this resolution, we will embark on an unprecedented enterprise aimed at nothing less than

the restoration of an entire country as a proud, functioning, and viable member of the community of nations," said U.S. Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright. But Washington, she added, is "soberly conscious" that the United Nations is undertaking "the most comprehensive assistance ever given to any country... with few lessons and no models to guide our path."

The seven-page resolution falls under Chapter 7 of the U.N. charter, which codifies the terms for enforcing Security Council decisions. The original mandate is for six months, and the huge operation is projected to cost more than \$800 million, to be paid by contributions from U.N. member countries to a special fund.

By Julia Preston

The U.N. force, UNISOM II, will operate throughout Somalia, unlike the U.S.-led foreign intervention forces, which have been limited to the central and southern regions. It will have the same task as the U.S. troops of maintaining security to ensure the delivery of humanitarian relief to starving Somalis.

But UNISOM II also will monitor a cease-fire among feuding warlords and gangs, disarm them, sponsor peace talks and possibly prepare the way for elections. In addition, it will rebuild local police forces and civil governments, as well as enforce a U.N. arms embargo and prosecute Somalis who attack relief operations or commit other violations of international law.

Unita traps govt forces in Huambo

Star 9/1/73

LUANDA (Angola) — Unita rebels have encircled Huambo, Angola's second-largest city, and outmanned army troops are struggling to break out.

The army's chief of staff calls the fighting the "greatest military battle in the history of Angola."

The chief of staff, Joao de Matos, said yesterday that at least 2,000 people had died and 6,000 had been injured in the month-long fight for the central city of Huambo, the traditional headquarters of Jonas Savimbi.

bits Unita rebels.

The army, trying to punch a supply route from the Atlantic coast into Huambo, is believed to be vastly outnumbered by Unita forces. To boost its ranks, the government is preparing to reinstate military conscription.

Meanwhile, a second round of rebel-government talks appeared imperilled.

Unita representative Marcos Samondo, in a letter yesterday to UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, said rebel delegates who attended the first

round of talks last week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, had not been able to cross battle lines to confer with Savimbi.

"There is no electricity, no water, very few medical supplies... they are lying through very bad times in Huambo," De Matos told Portuguese radio.

The situation is similar in other parts of the country with the army caught inside provincial capitals while Unita controls the roads in and out. Reports say the city itself is held by the army.

Rebel troops are believed to be occupying most of the area surrounding the city, which had 400,000 inhabitants.

● A report from Manila says the fate of two Filipino workers kidnapped by rebel forces in Angola last month remained uncertain here today following the release of 21 other foreign hostages at the weekend. The unidentified workers were abducted by Unita last month, prompting Manila to order the evacuation of all Filipino workers in Angola. — Sapa-AP-AFP

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February 16.

Star 10/2/93

16 die in Unita bombardment (5)

LUANDA — At least 16 civilians were killed in Huambo yesterday in fighting between Angolan government forces and Unita rebels for control of the city — long the citadel of the Unita leader, Jonas Savimbi.

The armed forces general staff said the 16 died in a Unita bombardment of a residential building in the city centre.

The army claimed 39 Unita men were killed yesterday.

Huambo had been "reduced to rubble", the army statement said. — Sapa-AFP.



Star 10/2/93
Unita frees 21 hostages ⑤

BRUSSELS — Twenty-one former Unita hostages arrived at Brussels airport yesterday from where they were to return home to Portugal, Britain, Italy, Indonesia and Argentina.

Battle for Huambo goes on

⑤ ARG 10/2/93
LUANDA. — At least 16 civilians have been killed in Huambo in fighting between Angolan government forces and Unita for control of the city, which has been the headquarters of Unita.

The army said the 16 people died in a Unita bombardment of the city centre. It added that 39 Unita soldiers were also killed yesterday.

After 31 days of fierce fighting for control of the central highlands provincial capital, Huambo had been "reduced to rubble", the army statement said.

A senior Unita official said yesterday that his movement remained "fully committed" to peace talks although no new date had been set for returning to the negotiating table. Talks due to resume today in Addis Ababa have been postponed indefinitely.

Mrs Margaret Anstee, the special envoy of UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said she had not yet been in touch with Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi to try to set a date for a second round of negotiations. — Sapa-AFP.

2 000 die in raging battle for Huambo

LUANDA — Unita rebels have encircled Huambo, Angola's second largest city, with the government army's chief of staff calling the fighting the "greatest military battle in the history of Angola".

Blom 10/2/93.
Chief of Staff Joao de Matos said yesterday at least 2 000 people had died and 6 000 had been wounded in the month-long fight for Huambo, the traditional headquarters of Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels.

The Angolan army, trying to punch a supply route from the Atlantic coast into Huambo, is believed to be vastly outnumbered by Unita forces. To boost its ranks, the government is preparing to reinstate military conscription.

Meanwhile, a second round of rebel-government talks appeared imperiled.

Unita representative Marcos Samondo, in a letter yesterday to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said rebel delegates who attended the first round of talks last week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, had not been able to cross battlelines to confer with Savimbi. It was unclear whether they would attend talks planned for this week.

Samondo told Boutros-Ghali Unita could never agree to a ceasefire until the armed anti-riot police had been disbanded.

Life in Huambo has become increasingly miserable as fighting rages. "There is no electricity, no water and very few medical supplies. They are living through very bad times in Huambo," De Matos said.

The situation is similar in other parts of the country with the army caught inside provincial capitals while Unita controls the roads in and out. Reports say the city

itself is held by the army. (S)

Huambo airport, in range of both rebel and government artillery, is a shell-pocked war zone, government military sources said. Rebel troops are believed to occupy the area surrounding the city, which had 400 000 inhabitants late last year.

The Angolan parliament is expected to quickly ratify the plan that would make all able-bodied men between the ages of 18 and 30 years old liable for military service.

The draft was dropped after May 1991 peace accords appeared to have brought an end to 16 years of civil war.

Savimbi called the Unita military back to arms after rejecting the results of last September's UN-monitored elections that were meant to unify the country.

Savimbi charged fraud after his rebels failed to win a parliamentary majority and he came in second in the presidential poll to his rival, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Renewed fighting broke out between government troops and Unita supporters on October 31 last year. Since then an estimated 10 000 people have been killed.

Unita fighters are widely believed to outnumber the army, which was reduced from some 116 000 men to 16 000 under the provisions of the peace accords. With renewed recruiting, it now numbers around 35 000. Unita was supposed to have demobilised its guerrilla wing, but apparently never did. Rebel forces have an estimated strength of 50 000.

Civil war first broke out in Angola in 1975. More than 350 000 people died before UN-brokered peace accords were signed in May 1991. — Sapa/AP.

NEWS

Star 11/2/93

Talks bid as fight for Huambo rages

LUANDA — The battle for Huambo intensified yesterday as government and Unita forces slugged it out for control of Angola's badly battered second city.

UN officials tried to contact Unita to set up fresh talks on reviving tattered 1991 peace accords but special UN representative Margaret Anstee said she did not know where rebel leader Jonas Savimbi was.

Heavy fighting on Tuesday killed nearly 60 people in Huambo — 16 civilians, 39 Unita men and three government soldiers — State-run media reported.

The media said Unita had bolstered its forces in the partly flattened city, where diplomats reported that the government had gained some ground over the past week.

However, there was no sign of victory for either side after more than a month of fighting that has killed thousands, diplomats added.

Anstee said she was trying to get in touch with senior Unita officials to organise peace talks originally planned for yesterday in Addis Ababa, but the whereabouts of Savimbi and several Unita negotiators were unknown.

"The government is

ready for dialogue and we are waiting to see when the next round will be held," Anstee told reporters after meeting President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

"I am doing everything possible to ensure it takes place as soon as possible ... I hope that over the next hours it will be possible to open communications (with the Unita leadership)."

The battle for Huambo is the centrepiece of the war which resumed after Unita rejected its September electoral defeat and began to expel local authorities from 75 per cent of the country in violation of 1991 peace accords. — Sapa-Reuter.

The ruin that follows the rebels

By CHRIS MCGREALS ^{W/M} 12-11/2/93
ROSA BONIFACIO'S daughter never had a roof over her head. She lived with her mother in the corner of a lone rural shop gutted by war and rendered almost indistinguishable from many of the other concrete shells for miles around.

A roof might have saved Mimi, aged three, but there was nothing to stall the mortar that soared silently overhead and announced its presence as it stole the child's life.

Rosa Bonifacio lost her only daughter to Angola's Unita rebels. The attack served no purpose beyond terror and harassment, a single contribution to the renewed destruction of a region of Angola where there is little left to destroy.

The road from tiny Cacula, south to the Namibian border and north to embattled Huambo, is an almost unbroken chain of ruined buildings.

The destruction began as the South Africans smashed their way through Angola in the 1970s. It is being continued with a vengeance today by Unita.

Past the colonial homes and razed villages, clumps of people cling to their belongings. Some have just arrived, fleeing the renewed terror on the land to which they had braved the mines to return.

Others stayed next to the road for years, finding a modicum of comfort in numbers.

Some in the international community still believe the rebel leadership favours peace and democracy, although the numbers are diminishing. It is a pattern of Unita's negotiating style to continually throw up new obstacles to agreement while continuing to press its military attacks. Around Cacula, Angolans do not doubt the cost Unita is prepared to inflict in its blind pursuit of power.

Rosa Bonifacio's shop-turned-home is set a mile or so from Cacula town. She does not know who owned it; she arrived at the abandoned building as a teenager one day in 1983, after walking for two days.

The war had driven her family from their land. Her father disappeared, her mother has since died. Brothers and sisters have dispersed to the cities, except for a young sister who shares the dwelling.

They had seen Unita rebels many times before, at war and in the 18 months of peace. But they thought they had seen the last of the fighting.

When it returned earlier this month, there was no warning. "There weren't any soldiers here, some policemen, but the soldiers had all gone to Lubango," Rosa said. "I heard the explosions. I was outside collecting water and I put the water down carefully and went to look for Mimi. I didn't think anything could have happened to her.

"The men that killed her walked into the room. I was covered in Mimi's blood. They didn't say anything. I was too scared to accuse them. Then they went away."

The attack was not a concerted effort to take the town. The rebels did not even enter it. Their killing was limited to a handful of innocents on the outskirts, easy targets with relatives and friends who will spread the word that Unita is still around and still to be feared. — The Guardian News Service

Shelling kills 16 civilians

LUANDA — At least 16 civilians were killed in Huambo on Tuesday in fighting between Angolan government forces and Unita rebels for control of the city, long the citadel of Unita chief Jonas Savimbi.

The Angolan armed forces general staff said the 16 died in a Unita bombardment of a residential building in the city centre.

The army said 39 Unita men had also been killed on Tuesday, including three colonels of the rebel army.

After 31 days of fierce fighting for control of the central highlands provincial capital, Huambo had been "reduced to rubble" the army statement said.

Meanwhile, a military source said Unita had captured the towns of Bocoio and Caimbambo in the south east of Benguela province in the south of the country.

A Unita official said on Tuesday his movement remained "fully committed" to peace talks, although no new date has been set for returning to the negotiating table. Talks due to resume yesterday in Addis Ababa have been postponed indefinitely. — Sapa-AFP

Chemical weapons found in Angola

5
12/2-18/2/93

Two German aid workers have called on the UN to conduct a survey of Angola's ammunition dumps following their discovery of a stock of lethal chemical weapons.

By GRAHAM HOPWOOD

TWO German aid workers who discovered dangerous chemical weapons at two sites in southern Angola fear more could be located at ammunition dumps throughout the country.

Hendrik Ehlers and Uwe Sigle found highly toxic grenades and toxic material in the fuel of Sam missiles after being asked by the Angolan government to investigate ammunition dumps late last year. Ehlers and Sigle announced their finds in Windhoek this week and appealed for interna-

tional help to arrange the controlled destruction of the weapons.

While the governments which armed Angola's warring sides during the civil war have always denied bringing chemicals into the country, there have been persistent allegations that South Africa, the former Soviet Union, and Cuba supplied their allies with such arms.

Sigle, a weapons expert, said he feared there were "many more" dumps in Angola which contained such weapons and called on the Unit-

ed Nations to undertake a survey of all possible chemical weapons sites.

Ehlers and Sigle work with the Ger-

man emergency aid agency, Cap Anamur, which mostly runs medical projects, but which has been assisting the Angolan government in mine sweeping operations since July last year.

Sigle has previously worked in mine sweeps in the Middle East and South East Asia where similar chemical weapons to those found in Angola have been used.

"At an ammunition dump near Xangongo he found 18 phosgen grenades designed to release a gas which attacks the lungs on detonation. Sigle is also

"90 percent sure" he identified grenades containing a toxic substance known as "lost" which destroys human skin and tissue.

The MPLA officials who accompanied him on the ammo dump inspection near Xangongo would not let him investigate the "lost grenades" further, saying the place where they were was infested with snakes.

Sigle said these chemical weapons are similar to ones developed during World War I and have been produced, often in the Middle East, and used in several conflicts since.

The two aid workers also found 60 Sam-5 missiles at the Quadrant weapons depot near Cahama. While the missiles did not have warheads, Ehlers said they still contain fuel of which a quarter is a very toxic substance, a by-product of Sarin. According to Sigle contact with 800mg of the liquid would kill a human.

These weapons are lying unidentified in ammo dumps as the Angolans do not have the expertise to deal with them since the departure of the Cubans and Russians, according to Sigle and Ehlers.

Ehlers said there are real dangers that other ammunition near the weapons could explode, that forest fires could reach the dumps, or that the weapons over time will simply leak, eventually entering local water systems producing "a horrible catastrophe".

Both dumps are situated in well populated areas near to the Kunene River which supplies tens of thousands of people in southern Angola and northern Namibia.

Ehlers said it is not clear whether the grenades came from Unita or the MPLA, as weapons from both sides were dumped at such sites after the peace accords of 1991. The Sam-5's, he said, were Fapla's. He added: "The point is not to blame anyone, but something must be done for the sake of the local population".

According to Ehlers and Sigle the safe destruction of the weapons is a highly specialised and expensive process which will require international action.

Since renewed fighting broke out in Angola there has been no conflict near Xangongo or Cahama. But the German aid workers are worried that at the moment anyone could take the weapons, and either deliberately or accidentally contaminate large areas.

THE battle raging for the central Angolan town of Huambo is a disgrace — not just for Jonas Savimbi, the bad loser of last September's elections, but for the international community that is standing by and watching it happen.

The reputation of the United Nations, in particular, has been badly bruised by the Angolan debacle. It should be seeking to avoid all costs a replay in South Africa.

Angola shows that the international community cannot keep the peace unless the internal parties are really committed to reconciliation and not, like Savimbi, to self-aggrandisement.

The settlement in South Africa will, hopefully, be the result of a much more sophisticated process of negotiation — and a much clearer path of transition once the election is completed — than the Angolan deal.

The UN and the other observer teams have an essential role to play, in conjunction with the Peace Accord structures, in ensuring that South Africa's elections are equally free and fair, and that no party has recourse to crying foul if its vote, like Savimbi's, is lower than it expected.

Yet a dark cloud is moving over the involvement of international monitors. The UN team, and the other observer missions, continue to be forbidden access to Bophuthatswana. In Ciskei there is only limited access.

This means that the UN observer mission is not able to fulfil its already limited mandate — to have free access to all places and to be at liberty to meet with whom they like.

The heads of all four missions — the UN, the European Community, the Commonwealth and the Organisation of African Unity — wrote to Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha on January 27 warning that Security Council Resolution 772 had been threatened and calling on Botha to facilitate their access. No reply has been received yet.

If the UN can't get access to Bophuthatswana, what hope is there for rival political parties? At the moment, there is virtually no freedom of political activity in Bophuthatswana, Ciskei and the self-governing homeland of KwaZulu.

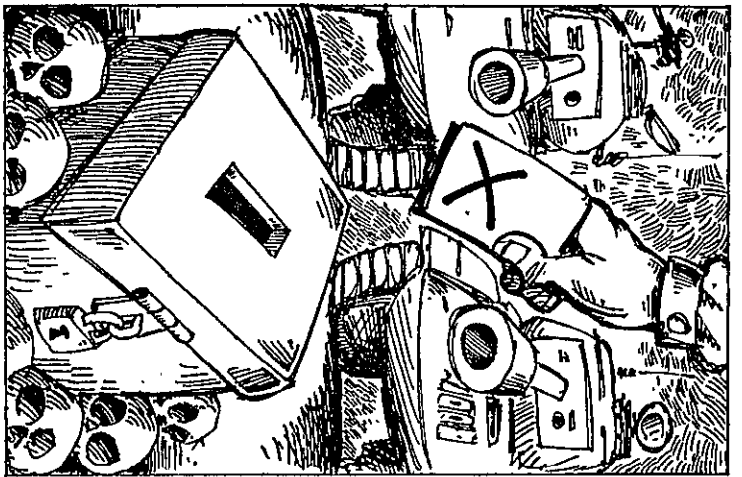
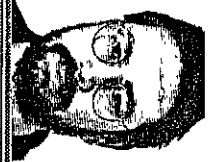
The UN team will be hard-pressed to effectively monitor political interference by bully boys in the townships, for instance, if they are toothless in dealing with authoritarian homeland regimes.

Let there be no doubt that every voice counts. Home Affairs Minister Louis Pienaar released some interesting census figures last week. Of the estimated 22.5-million South Africans expected

The art of airbrushing out what we'd rather forget

The failure of the United Nations to keep the peace in Angola is a warning to South Africa, where the international community is already being thwarted in its attempts at facilitating free and fair elections

By PHILLIP VAN NIEKERK



to be eligible to cast their ballot on March 7 next year, some 70 per cent will be black.

Proportionately fewer blacks are likely to mark their X than voters in the more seasoned white electorate. Even under the assumption that the proportions will be same, the African National Congress would have to get 60 per cent of the black vote to capture only 42 per cent of the total vote.

The future of the TBVC countries is being addressed at the bilateral talks between the government and the ANC. The government has already agreed that they be reincorporated, and that the inhabitants of the homelands be allowed to vote as South Africans, but how long will this take to become meaningful? The election campaign is already under way, yet Lucas Mangope and Oupa Gogo are showing a marked reluctance to acquiesce to the new South Africa.

If the international community remains shut out of key parts of the country, it should force the South African government to bring the homelands into line.

Democratic Party leader Zach de Beer (whom the Nkts are doing a lot of listening to these days), says that for years he was asked what he would do

with the TBVC countries if he ever came to power. "The first morning I was in office," he replied, "I would send a telegram to each one of them saying they are perfectly at liberty to keep their independence — as long as they pay their bills from the next morning."

Angola's tragedy has unfortunately been used by everyone for their own purposes. This week the Inkatha Freedom Party attempted to paint the ANC as the Savimbi of South Africa selection process following the MK arms seizure.

That, the failure of Angola was the failure to disarm. In Angola, the MPLA army had melted away by the time of the election. The Unhate regulates bided their time in the demobilisation camps without, as has now become apparent, handing in their huge stockpiles of weapons.

The big lesson is that, after a civil war, a unified army needs to be created before elections. It is a lesson that best fits Mozambique, which is entering its own election campaign and where the opportunity exists to do it right. The difference with MK is that the liberation movement failed to launch a real war even at the height of the struggle. For the ANC to resort to military action if it

loses the election would be to use the weakest weapon in its arsenal.

In the farthest of worlds the comparison between Savimbi and a South African politician is not with ANC president Nelson Mandela, but with someone closer to Ulundi.

However, the problem of the MK arms remains. Mandela, at least, seems prepared to admit that the ANC has to accept blame. In a startling admission, he told Portuguese journalists this week: "I met Mr De Klerk at one point and I told him you don't control the security forces. They are killing our people. He turned to me and said: 'That is your problem too.' I immediately withdrew the accusation."

The ANC's real problem, as it manoeuvres into a deal with the regime, is the threat of wild fires in the regions involving its grassroots activists. There is an onus on the ANC to discipline its wild cards, but it still has a constituency to serve. Before the government can really ransom negotiations with MK arms, it should act against the aggravation caused by oppression in Bophuthatswana, Ciskei and KwaZulu.

The Czech author Milan Kundera described in *The Book of Laughter and Forgetting* how the Communist leader

Klement Gottwald stepped out onto a Prague balcony in 1948 to greet the hundreds of thousands of citizens well-wishing communist rule.

It was a cold day and, as he stepped out, Gottwald borrowed the hat of his comrade Clementis. Four years later, Clementis was hanged for treason. The propaganda section of the party airbrushed him out of the picture that was to become known to millions of Czech schoolchildren.

Where Clementis once stood in the picture, wrote Kundera, there is only bare palace wall. All that remains of him is the hat on Gottwald's head. Joe Slovo would appreciate this anecdote, and not just because of his long-time affection for the cronies of Gottwald. South African politicians, of all sides, are practised in the art of airbrushing history. It is all supposed to be for a good cause: to foster negotiations by giving politicians the flexibility to drop hard and fast positions.

Talks, for instance, the debate over sunset clauses. It is now believed that Joe Slovo was the architect of the historic "power-sharing" compromise that was the basis of the ANC's strategic perspectives document and laid the foundations for the impending ANC-government settlement.

In fact, there is little that is original in Slovo's paper. The details were spelled out by Thabo Mbeki to a briefing of foreign correspondents in February last year — a full seven months before Slovo's "earth-shattering" paper.

One accepts that there were tactical reasons for the ANC to make Slovo the man to run with the ball, to better ensure the victory of the compromise perspective among skeptics on the left. And there are tactical reasons for the NP to pretend that they have not reneged on power-sharing — even if what De Klerk is now talking about as "power-sharing" bears little resemblance to the policy he had been pushing for 18 months.

One can imagine him disguising the retreat because no one wants another white referendum. If De Klerk wants to airbrush out the NP's 1991 constitutional proposals, let him. But when the airbrushing becomes too much its when the NP, notorious throughout the world for their violations of human rights, paint themselves as the proponents of human rights.

Perhaps, in these heady days when a new divergence between politicians and people is emerging, it is necessary to remind oneself of the words of Milan Kundera, that the struggle of man against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting.

Unita may be winning in Huambo

ET 13/2/93 ⑤

LUANDA. — Fierce fighting for control of the central Angolan city of Huambo entered its 35th day yesterday with reports that Unita had gained the upper hand in the battle.

Unita claimed in a radio broadcast that its troops had seized the airport and the headquarters of the paramilitary police.

State-controlled radio confirmed that Unita troops were gaining ground, but did not say if government troops had lost control of the airport and police headquarters.

"Fierce clashes have taken place on the outskirts of the government palace and the military academy," the radio reported.

Diplomats based in Luanda said Huambo could fall to Unita within the next two days.

The government yesterday repeated unsubstantiated claims that Unita forces were being aided in the battle for Huambo by white mercenaries and South African-made armoured vehicles.

The South African government has repeatedly denied charges of involvement in Angola's renewed civil war.

An estimated 350,000 civilians are trapped in Huambo, Angola's second-largest city, and are in desperate need of food and medical supplies.

The United Nations was trying to negotiate a truce yesterday to allow mercy flights to land at Huambo's airport. However, UN special representative to Angola Ms Margaret Anstee had been unable to contact Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, whose whereabouts are unknown. — UPI

Star 13/21/93 Angola's second city set to fall to Unita

LUANDA — The Angolan government said the situation in the rebel-besieged second city of Huambo was critical yesterday. Diplomats said it could fall within 48 hours.

"The situation is fluid but it looks very bleak for the government. It is possible that Unita (rebels) could take control within the next two days," a Western diplomat said.

The battle for the city is the centrepiece of the war which resumed after Unita rejected its September electoral defeat and began to expel local authorities from 75 percent of the country in violation of 1991 peace accords.

Aid workers said thousands of wounded were trapped in the

central highland city where the government and Unita rebels have been fighting for more than a month.

United Nations officials were trying to arrange a truce to allow mercy flights of food and medical aid to be flown into the city devastated by armour, artillery and air attacks. But UN special representative Margaret Anstee had been unable to contact Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, whose whereabouts were unknown.

Rebel radio said Unita forces had seized Huambo airport and captured the riot police barracks after heavy fighting. "The airport and the barracks of the notorious riot police have been under the total control of

the armed forces for the liberation of Angola since early this morning," Unita's Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel reported.

The government said its hard-pressed troops were resisting a Unita onslaught led, it said, by white mercenaries in South African-made armoured cars.

"Fierce clashes have taken place on the outskirts of the government palace and the military academy," it said in an official statement carried by state radio.

The government said 11 Unita rebels had been killed and one taken prisoner.

A second round of peace talks between the government

and Unita should have taken place in Addis Ababa on Wednesday, but was called off at the last minute by the rebels.

Diplomats said they believed Unita was trying to capture Huambo, its former headquarters, to place itself in a position of strength at the negotiating table.

Fighting has raged around the city with an intensity unseen before. Prime Minister Marcelino Moco told reporters earlier this week it was impossible to calculate the number of casualties.

"There has been no truce so that a proper evaluation can be made," he said. "All we know is that many, many people have died." — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita likely to overrun Huambo city

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APR 13/2/93

LUANDA. — The Angolan government said yesterday that the position of rebel-besieged second city of Huambo was critical and diplomats said it could fall within 48 hours.

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UN officials were trying to arrange a truce to allow mercy flights of food and medical aid into the city devastated by armour, artillery and air attacks.

But UN special representative Margaret Anstee had been unable

■ As bitter fighting continues in Angola, diplomats there are saying that rebels are trying to take Huambo, the country's second city, to strengthen Unita's position at the bargaining table. Thousands of wounded are said to be trapped in the area.

to contact Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, whose whereabouts were unknown.

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"There has been no truce so that a proper evaluation can be made," he said.

"All we know is that many, many people have died." — Sapa-Reuter.

War fears spread to Cabinda

CABINDA. — People living in Angola's biggest oilfields at Cabinda are anxiously watching the civil war spread menacingly towards the country's economic lifeline.

United Nations peace observers here have dug trenches at their compound, hundreds of foreign oil workers have been pulled out and Angolans have stockpiled food "just in case".

"People are anxious," said Mr Bob Connon, managing director of Cabinda Gulf Oil Co.

Last month's capture by Unita of Soyo, an oil town 60km southwards, sent insurance premiums rising and shivers down many spines.

Contingency plans for a "controlled evacuation" are well in hand.

Fears were partly allayed three weeks ago when Washington warned it would not tolerate attacks on its citizens or interests in Cabinda, which accounts for two-thirds of Angola's oil exports of around 500 000 barrels a day.

But Unita vice-president Mr Antonio Demba repeated threats that the rebels might strike at Cabinda where the government has some 5 000 troops.

The government is confident it can defend the enclave, sandwiched between Zaire and the Congo.

The government says its defences are stronger than in Soyo,

which paramilitary riot police abandoned as Unita advanced.

Authorities say Unita is already carrying out low-key operations in Cabinda and recently ambushed three vehicles, seizing two. No one was hurt.

Cabinda Gulf, which evacuated 200 non-essential expatriate employees, told remaining staff to travel by helicopter and boat only between Cabinda town and nearby Malongo base.

Some diplomats believe the fear of an assault on Cabinda is preventing the administration of United States President Bill Clinton from recognising the formerly Marxist MPLA government, which won a September election. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola 'must disband ninjas'

LUANDA. — Unita will only lay down arms once the Angolan government has disbanded its secret police called the "ninjas", the organisation announced at the weekend.

The government must also accept Unita's allegations that the September elections were a fraud.

Meanwhile, a 50-vehicle Angolan army convoy is pushing towards the belea-

guered city of Huambo, while Unita troops destroyed a key bridge in an effort to slow the column's advance.

The situation in the central highland city of Huambo, a traditional Unita stronghold 530km south-east of here, is reportedly critical, with neither side able to take control after more than a month of intense shelling and infantry clashes.

Unita spokesman Mr Francisco Antonio said Unita supported calls by Zim-

abwean Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Nathan Shamuyarira for both Unita and government troops to be disarmed.

● Unita "is mainly responsible for the resumption of the war in Angola", ambassador Mr Antonio Monteiro, the Portuguese representative in the "troika" (Portugal, Russia and United States) of observers in Angola, said in an interview in the Portuguese weekly Expresso. — Sapa-Reuter

⑤ # CT 15/2/93

Troops in thrust to Huambo

Star 15/2/93

(5)

CATENGUE (Angola)
— A 50-vehicle Angolan Army convoy pushed towards the beleaguered city of Huambo yesterday while Unita rebels destroyed a key bridge to slow the column's advance.

The convoy of Soviet-built armoured personnel carriers, rocket launchers, homemade armoured trucks and other vehicles met only light resistance as it approached Catengue, 60 km south-east of the government-held port city of Benguela from where they had departed, soldiers said.

Five government soldiers were wounded, and two Unita guerillas were killed and three wounded in skirmishes on Saturday in Caimbambo, the next major town on the road to Huambo, said Mateus Waumba (25), a government soldier who was wounded while on a reconnaissance mission.

The situation in Huambo, a traditional Unita stronghold 530 km south-east of Luanda, is reportedly critical, with neither side able to take control after more than a month of intense shelling and infantry clashes.

An estimated 10 000 people have been killed since Angola's civil war flared anew in October.

A round of UN-sponsored peace talks in Addis Ababa ended on January 30 without agreement.

Government commanders scouting the route ahead by helicop-

ter said small Unita units remained in the Catengue and Caimbambo areas, but that the principal force had withdrawn east of Cubal, occupied by Unita since October 29 — two days before Angola's civil war ignited anew after 18 months of peace.

"They've blown up the bridge and abandoned the town," said General Armando da Cruz Neto, one of two senior officers running the operation.

Government officers fear the column will be stalled if rebels destroy the six other bridges between the coast and Huambo.

The United Nations, Red Cross and the government have called for a five-day truce in Huambo. But General Luis Faceira, the other senior commander on the central front, said the government did not expect Unita to agree to a halt in the fighting.

In the meantime, the government is desperate to get fresh troops and supplies into the city. The convoy, which began its journey on Saturday, expects to hit the greatest resistance once it crosses the Cubal River and moves east towards Ganda.

Government officers will not say how many troops make up the column and its scout units. But an estimated 1 000 soldiers as well as special police troops called Ninjas were seen gathering and receiving ammunition at a staging area in Benguela on Friday.

— Sapa-AP.

Govt forces race to break stranglehold on Huambo

CATUMBELA — Government troops in a column 2,5km long broke into Unita-held highlands on Saturday in a desperate attempt to open a supply corridor to the embattled city of Huambo.

The 50-vehicle convoy met light Unita resistance in Coruteva, a village 75km southeast of operational headquarters at Catumbela air base on the Atlantic coast, said Gen Luis Faceira, one of two senior commanders of the campaign.

"This is not the ideal thing — we are doing what we have to do," Faceira said in an interview. "There is no other way and no more time."

Huambo, long a Unita stronghold, has been the scene of ferocious fighting for more than a month, with reports of hundreds killed, thousands wounded and civilians starving in Angola's second largest city.

Unita vowed on Saturday to annihilate government forces under siege in Huambo, warning that they could expect no mercy.

"Government troops in Huambo are about to collapse... This time the enemy forces will not escape our siege of annihilation," Unita's radio

station said.

Angolan state radio said government troops were holding on to some positions after resisting a thrust by Unita forces surrounding the city.

The government, UN and Red Cross have called for a five-day truce in Huambo to bury the dead and to evacuate the wounded and civilians.

But the generals directing government operations on the central front put little stock in chances of a truce, and say artillery exchanges continue daily in Huambo.

Faceira said he could not predict how long the operation might last.

"They don't have the forces to stop us," he said. But he added that between the column and Huambo there were seven bridges vulnerable to Unita attacks. Each bridge destroyed would add between four and five days to the operation.

The UN said it was urgently trying to contact Unita to discuss reports it had rejected a proposed truce to allow mercy flights of food and medicine to Huambo.

Relief workers say thousands of wounded are without food or medical treatment in a city flattened by air

attacks, artillery barrages and tank fire.

"We hope to have a response later on," said a spokesman for UN special representative to Angola Margaret Anstee, who has been trying to contact Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

The diplomats believe Unita will resume peace talks with the government only after it occupies Huambo.

Unita cancelled the second round which had been scheduled to start last Wednesday, saying it was recalling its delegation for consultations. Rumours are sweeping Luanda that the real reason is Unita's delegation head Eugenio Manuvakola has defected.

Meanwhile, in Luanda, two school children were killed when a bomb exploded on Saturday in a secondary school as children were leaving classes, a police statement said.

On Friday, a small bomb exploded about 15m from the UN building in the capital, seriously injuring a passerby, another police statement said.

No further details were available and authorities did not say who was responsible for either bomb. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Israeli decision 'a step in right direction'

JERUSALEM — The Israeli government said it hoped that Middle East peace talks could resume after a UN statement welcoming its attempt to resolve a row over its mass deportation of Palestinian militants.

But Palestinian negotiators insisted all of the 415 alleged Islamic militants exiled to Lebanon must be allowed back before they would return to the negotiating table.

The UN Security Council said on Friday that an Israeli decision to let the deported Palestinians return to their homes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip within a year was "a step in the right direction" towards ending the crisis.

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said he hoped all parties to the peace talks would now make every effort to resume negotiations.

But Palestinian negotiator Hanan Ashrawi said the UN statement failed to address the central issue of the illegality of the deportations.

Israel expelled the Palestinians in December on grounds that they had links with militant Islamic groups which had killed Israeli soldiers. Israel said 101 of them could return immediately and the rest would be repatriated within a year.

The 396 remaining deported Palestinians, stranded in a tent camp in no

man's land in south Lebanon, rejected the compromise reached after consultations with US representatives. Their spokesman, Abdul Aziz al-Rantisi, said the UN statement was an attempt to bypass Security Council resolution 799, which called for the immediate return of all the deportees.

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher is due to start a Middle East tour tomorrow in an effort to get the peace talks started again.

Arab leaders were engaged in a flurry of diplomatic activity to coordinate positions in advance of Christopher's visit. — Sapa-Reuter.



TEARS FOR FEARS: Paulo Tomaz, 15, bids farewell as colleagues leave Benguela, 500km south of Luanda, to join Angolan government troops on the frontline.

'Stop war' ultimatum to Savimbi

ART 15/2/93

LUANDA. — The United States, Russia and Portugal has issued an ultimatum to Unita, saying they had given the rebels three days to stop fighting and return to the negotiating table.

The three countries, which co-signed the peace agreement between the Angolan government and Unita in 1991, said in a statement that if Unita did not agree to cease fire and negotiate by Wednesday, they would "not fail to draw the necessary conclusions."

The ultimatum shows the three countries are fast losing their patience with Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, who renewed Unita's armed fight for power in Angola after losing September elections to the ruling MPLA, led by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Meanwhile Unita appeared poised to win a major victory by driving government troops from their few remaining positions in Huambo, the country's

second city, Western diplomats said.

"The government hasn't been able to regain much ground. If it continues like this it will be a just a matter of days until Huambo falls," said one diplomat.

More than 6 000 people have been killed in the battle between government forces and Unita rebels for Huambo, a source in the government military command said yesterday.

Fighting was still raging in central Huambo, the source said.

Both sides sent reinforcements to the central highlands city, many parts of which have been pounded to rubble in the most significant battle of the southern African country's renewed civil war.

A military official, speaking from Huambo on state-run radio, said hundreds of bodies were lying in the streets and the wounded could not be treated properly because there was no water or electricity. — Sapa-Reuter.

6 000 killed in fighting ^{Star 16/2/93} ⑤ over Huambo

LUANDA — The Angolan government said yesterday it had regained ground from Unita rebels in the decisive battle for the second city of Huambo but at least 6 000 civilians had died.

Diplomats said the government's position was precarious and they believed the rebels still controlled large parts of the smashed city.

"The government will need to regain a lot of ground to prevent Unita from taking control," said one Western diplomat.

Fighting was raging around the governor's palace and army installations, the government said.

More than 6 000 civilians were killed in the five weeks of combat and those who remained were short of food and water, it said. Hundreds of bodies were littering the streets, military officials in Huambo said on national radio.

There was no independent confirmation of the reports but foreign aid officials believe the death toll is in the thousands.

Angolan military sources said both sides had sent reinforcements to the central highland city, which has been pounded to rubble in many parts. Fighter planes took off from Luanda at the weekend towards Huambo.

State-run media yesterday repeated government claims that Zaireans and South Africans were helping Unita. A South African company had rented three DC-3 planes to Unita, it claimed.

The battle for Huambo, former headquarters of Unita, is the most significant in the civil war which resumed after rebel chief Jonas Savimbi rejected

his defeat in elections in September and began to expel local authorities from 75 percent of the country.

The war has resumed with unprecedented intensity, turning several cities into ghost towns and displacing hundreds of thousands of people.

International aid organisations say they are unable to reach the worst stricken areas. Unita has rejected a UN proposal for a brief truce in Huambo so that food and medicine can be rushed to thousands of wounded civilians.

The United Nations has failed to revive May 1991 peace accords which ended 16 years of war between Unita and the MPLA government, ruler of Angola since independence from Portugal in 1975.

Talks in Addis Ababa in late January failed to produce a ceasefire. Unita cancelled a second round planned for February 10 on the grounds that its delegation had not returned to Angola. Unita refuses to set a new date.

Many diplomats believe Savimbi wants control of Huambo before negotiating. Then he will seek a power-sharing agreement, a notion rejected until now by the MPLA, which was legitimately elected.

Peace accord observers Portugal, Russia and the United States demand that Unita agree to a new date by tomorrow night. But diplomats admitted they had little clout.

Military sources said a column of government troops heading from Benguela in the west had still not reached Huambo and some had turned back after clashes on the way.

— Sapa-Reuter.

NEWS PAC secretary-general says the ANC and Government have agreement

Power-sharing deal a reality — Alexander

By Themba Molefe
Political Reporter

Sowetan 16/2/93

THE Pan Africanist Congress yesterday insisted that the Government and African National Congress had agreed on a power-sharing deal.

PAC secretary-general Mr Benny Alexander said the diplomatic corps inside and outside South Africa confirmed that both parties will share power until 1999.

"It is with deep regret that the PAC has to indict the ANC for selling out the struggle at the table of convenience of a few elite," Alexander told a Johannesburg

■ Diplomatic corps confirms that Govt-ANC want joint rule: Press conference.

"This deal was reported for six days before they (Government and ANC) started responding to its negative publicity and perceptions."

"Deputy Minister of Constitutional Affairs Mr Fanus Scheeman confirmed the power-sharing deal on Friday and again yesterday. Mr (Mohammed) Valli Moosa of the ANC added on Saturday that the deal included agreement on a two-thirds majority vote at a constitution-making body." He said the presidents of the NP and

ANC contradicted their colleagues when they denied the deal.

"The ANC national executive committee accepted the (Joe) Slovo power-sharing proposals and their negotiators were, therefore, fully mandated to bind the ANC on the matter."

"The National Party caucus already decided to accept power-sharing and their negotiators, too, were fully mandated to bind the regime on the matter."

"They furthermore leaked the deal to test the responses of their opponents and the diplomatic corps."



6 000 die in

Huambo

Sowetan 16/2/93

■ MPLA gains ground in city:

LUANDA — The Angolan government said yesterday it had regained ground from Unita rebels in the decisive battle for Huambo.

Diplomats said the government's position was precarious and they believed the rebels still controlled large parts of the city. Fighting was raging around the governor's palace and army installations, the government said.

More than 6 000 civilians were killed in the five weeks of combat and those who remained were short of food and water, it said. Angolan military sources said both sides had sent reinforcements to the central highland city, which has been pounded to rubble in many parts. - Sapa-Reuter

Govt wins ground back from Unita in Huambo

LUANDA — The Angolan government said on Monday it had regained ground from Unita in the decisive battle for the second city of Huambo but at least 6 000 civilians had died in more than a month of fighting.

Diplomats said the government's position was precarious and they believed Unita still controlled large parts of the smashed city.

"The government will need to regain a lot of ground to prevent Unita from taking control," said one Western diplomat.

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1991 peace accords which ended 16 years of war between Unita and the MPLA.

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Many diplomats believe Savimbi wants control of Huambo before negotiating. Then he will seek a power-sharing agreement, a notion rejected until now by the MPLA, which was legitimately elected.

Peace accord observers Portugal, Russia and the US demand Unita agree to a new date by tomorrow night. But diplomats admitted they had little clout.

Military sources said a column of government troops heading from Benguela in the west had still not reached Huambo and some had turned back after clashes on the way. — Sapa-Reuter.



Government soldiers in Benguela, Angola, at the weekend preparing for departure to the front lines.

Brazilian general takes Mozambique post

MAPUTO — A Brazilian general took up his post yesterday as commander of UN forces overseeing Mozambique's transition to democracy, UN sources said.

So far only 100 UN peacekeepers are in Mozambique, but when the international force reaches full strength Maj-Gen Leito Goncalves da Silva will have more than 7 000 men under his command. The UN force will include five infantry

battalions, three companies of military engineers, an air unit, and support and logistics units.

UN operations will have three regional commands in place. *B/D/N/7 16/2/93* The northern region will be headed by a Bangladeshi, the southern by a Zambian and the central region by an Italian. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola: aid crew under fire

Sowetan 16/2/93

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LUENA, ANGOLA — THE Antonov 12 transport plane dodged shells as it descended rapidly towards the provincial Angolan airport of Lucna.

It was to bring in relief food and to airlift out the latest civilian casualties of Angola's renewed civil war.

■ A million could starve if relief efforts are hampered:

Policemen and civilians armed with AK-47 rifles advised relief workers from the UN's World Food Programme aboard the plane to unload the food quickly and be off. But the workers

wanted to make sure that 160 refugees, many gravely wounded, got safely out to Luanda. Aid workers take risks to get food and medical supplies to communities stricken by fighting. - *Sapa-Reuter.*

MPLA 'holding on' in Huambo

AACT/6/2/93

LUANDA. — Angolan government (MPLA) troops appear to be holding fast in defending the devastated central city of Huambo, which almost fell to Unita rebels last week.

But fierce fighting was raging, and control of what was once Angola's second city and Unita's headquarters was far from assured, diplomats said.

After being on the verge of defeat on Friday, the government troops were reinforced and appeared to have regained ground, particularly around the airport.

But the situation was fluid and the month-long battle — the most decisive in the renewed civil war — could shift back dramatically to Unita's favour, they said.

"They seem to be holding fast and the generals seem fairly upbeat," said one Western diplomat. — Sapa-AP.

Angolan govt troops head for hotspot

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LUANDA. — About 10 000 Angolan government troops in two columns headed for the battle-torn city of Huambo to try to turn the tide in a decisive battle against Unita, military sources said yesterday.

One column left the coastal city of Benguela on Friday and was due to arrive in Huambo in the central highlands today. The other column left the south-western town of Lubango on Saturday, but had run into unexpected difficulties, the sources said.

Diplomats said Unita appeared to be on the verge of outright victory in Huambo last week, but government forces regained some lost ground at the weekend.

Angolan state radio said on Monday night that Unita had rained more than 2 000 artillery shells on Huambo in two days, forcing civilians to flee.

Refugees travelling west towards the nearby town of Caala had been

attacked by Unita and more than 1 000 had been killed, the radio added.

A major battle has been raging between government forces and Unita in Huambo for the past six weeks and the city has become the centrepiece of Angola's renewed civil war.

Few independent reports have emerged of the fighting, which according to the government has killed more than 6 000 people.

The government says Unita has 12 000 fighters in Huambo.

"It is a war behind closed doors," Mr Vincent Nicod of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Angola, told the Portuguese daily, *Publico*.

Relief agencies have begged for a truce to allow food and medicine to reach the civilian population in Huambo, where decomposing bodies litter the streets and water and electricity supplies have broken down.

Unita has turned down the request, saying the government would only use a ceasefire to reinforce its tenuous military position. — Sapa-Reuter



Resurgent doves may at last soar above a warring flock

Star 17/2/93

(5)

UNITA'S military advances are close to turning the political situation in Angola on its head, forcing almost all the parties — including the major foreign powers — to do a re-think.

A Unita victory in the crucial battle for the city of Huambo would probably put this beyond doubt.

It would strengthen the hand of the doves in the governing MPLA party at the expense of the hawks, who have been calling the shots since the election last September blew up into a resumption of the civil war.

This in turn would boost the chances of peace returning to Angola, although much would depend on the attitude of Unita's own hawks, whose position has been strengthened by the battlefield advances.

But both MPLA and Unita must face the fact that a continuation of the civil war would probably leave them without outside backing and little chance of outright victory.

Unita would have almost no prospect of outside supplies of arms, ammunition and petrol, except perhaps on a limited scale from a few sympathetic African governments.

Likewise, the MPLA could not rely on outside aid, least of all from its former backers. The Soviet Union no longer has the means or the inclination to resume its support and Cuba does not have the means even if it has the inclination, and that is doubtful.

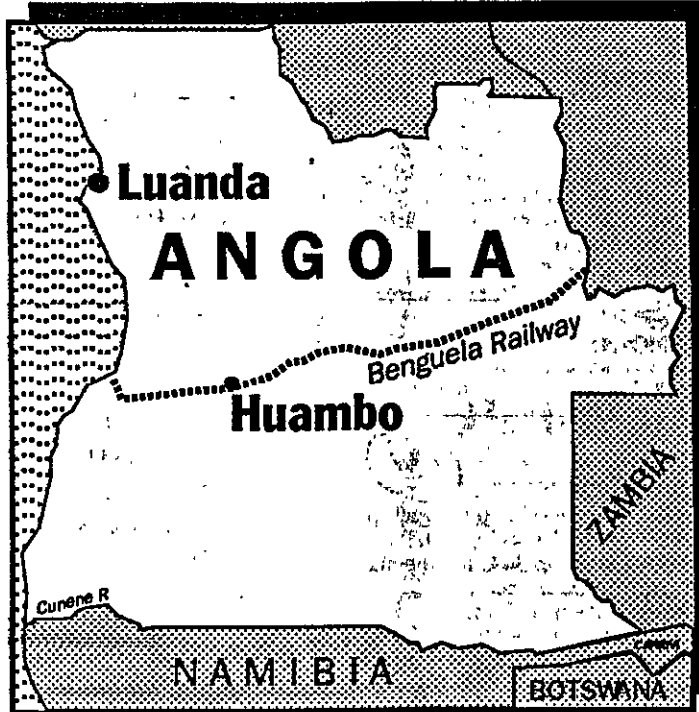
There have been suggestions that the United States or other Western powers might give military aid to the MPLA in the hope of ending the conflict through Unita being cowed or crushed.

That option seems unlikely to win support in Washington given Unita's probable capacity to sustain guerilla operations unaided for a long time.

Another proposed option is to increase foreign political pressure on Unita, presumably to force it to accept its election defeat and a reinstatement of the peace accords signed at Bicesse in Portugal in 1990.

One form of pressure advocated is for Washington to end its long-standing refusal to recognise the MPLA government. In this scenario it is presumed

The battle for Huambo may be the last fling for Angola's hawks, writes GERALD L'ANGE, Editor of The Star Africa Service.



GRAPHIC:LIZ WARDER

Unita would feel so politically lonely that it would agree to stop fighting and accept a minor position in the new government, in terms of the September election result.

But the movement has already accepted its defeat in the election — while continuing to insist the poll was fraudulent — and has signalled its readiness to abide by the Bicesse Accords.

It had little option but to accept the election outcome, given the virtually unanimous acceptance of it by the outside world, despite strong evidence that the poll was indeed flawed.

The reason it continued fighting, according to its spokesmen, was not to overturn the election result but to defend itself against the MPLA's offensive and to obtain guarantees of a fair stake in the government of national unity offered by the MPLA.

Whether this is a true reflection of Unita's attitude is uncer-

tain. But it must be viewed in the light that the Bicesse Accords had little to do with the rules of the election, including the arrangement for a run-off for the presidency if neither candidate won more than half the votes (which neither did).

Those arrangements were made in a separate agreement between the MPLA and Unita. The Bicesse Accords dealt with such matters as the disarmament of troops, the formation of a joint army and the creation of conditions conducive to a fair election.

Once the fighting resumed, all pacts went out the window. The hawks became ascendant and the doves took a back perch. An estimated 10 000 deaths were added to the toll of 16 years of civil war.

If blame for this is to be laid anywhere, then it must be at the feet of the hawks.

First at the talons of the Unita hawks who, when it seemed that they would be

asked to accept defeat in the election, withdrew their commanders from the joint army that was being formed in terms of the Bicesse Accords.

That rash and rather pointless action was a tempting opportunity for the MPLA hawks to crush Unita as an effective military or political force by wiping out the top commanders vulnerably assembled in Luanda, and by staging a pogrom against Unita's civilian supporters.

That, however, was an equally senseless action, for the elimination of those Unita commanders did not in fact emasculate the movement, which took advantage of the ceasefire to dramatically widen the area under its control to about 70 percent of the country.

It was then able to seize control of the diamond fields, capture the important oil-producing centre of Soyo and cut Luanda's water supplies.

The MPLA may have had right on its side in the eyes of the world, but Unita had a fair measure of might. This dictated its attitude when the conflict came down to the battle for Huambo, which had been held by the MPLA during the war but which had been taken over by Unita during the peace on the strength of its strong political support in the region.

When peace talks were arranged in Addis Ababa, Unita sent a delegation to the first round to present a serious desire for peace and the reinstatement of the Bicesse Accords.

It was not surprising, however, that Unita then stalled in attending the second round, for it made tactical sense for it to try to win the battle for Huambo before returning to the negotiating table.

Last weekend the three nations responsible for overseeing the Bicesse Accords — the US, Russia and Portugal — gave Unita a deadline of today to return to the negotiating table at Addis Ababa but did not outline the consequences for failure to do so.

Ultimatums of this sort mean very little to Unita, for there is not much the European powers can do to enforce them. This is one of the ironic effects of stopping aid to Unita. □

Star 17/2/93

Unita rejects peace talks 'ultimatum'

LUANDA — The rebel Unita movement yesterday rejected an ultimatum to name a date for peace talks with the government by this evening, as Angolan government troops raced to relieve troops trapped in the country's second city.

Up to 20 000 government troops were battling yesterday to reach the strategic central highland city of Huambo, where weeks of fighting has left an estimated 8 000 people dead.

Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Chicoti has said 10 000 people have died and 15 000 have been injured.

Meanwhile, in Luanda Joao Albuquerque, a spokesman for the UN mission to Angola, said of the talks: "Unita needs three days to suggest a date."

Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim has rejected the deadline as a "worthless ultimatum".

The talks date deadline was set at the weekend by Portugal, the US and Russia, the three guarantors of the Angolan peace accords signed in 1991.

Failing a reply, the foreign representatives would "draw the necessary conclusions", they stated.

Valentim said the Unita delegation to the peace talks in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa had finally reached Huambo and would contact UN mission head Margaret Anstee.

The delegation spoke to Anstee yesterday and was due to give her a date for a fresh round of talks with the government, but did not say when.

The first round of negotiations failed to break the deadlock and end the latest round in the 16-year civil war.

Albuquerque said Unita would also study a UN call for a ceasefire, particularly in Huambo, where Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has his headquarters.

A major battle has been raging between government forces and Unita in Huambo for the past six weeks.

Relief agencies have begged for a truce to allow food and medicine to reach civilians in Huambo, where decomposing bodies litter the streets.

Unita has said the government would only use a ceasefire to reinforce its tenuous military position. — Sapa-AFP-Reuter.

● Resurgent doves may soar above warring flock — Page 13

focus on Angola

LUANDA — Unita's military advances are close to turning the political situation in Angola on its head, forcing almost all the parties — including the major foreign powers — to revise their thinking.

A Unita victory in the crucial battle for the city of Huambo would probably put this beyond doubt.

It would strengthen the hand of the doves in the governing MPLA party at the expense of the hawks, who have been calling the shots since the election last September blew up into a resumption of the civil war.

This, in turn, would boost the chances of peace returning to Angola — although much would depend on the attitude of Unita's own hawks, whose position has been strengthened by the battlefield advances.

However, the days of the hawks on both sides would seem to be numbered, simply because the military options have now been reduced to a virtually untenable level — and this would apply regardless of who won the battle for Huambo.

Both the MPLA and Unita have now to face the fact that in a continuation of the civil war they would probably have no outside backing and therefore neither side is likely to be able to win convincingly.

Unita would have almost no prospect of outside supplies of arms, ammunition, and petrol, except perhaps on a limited scale from a few sympathetic African governments.

Outside aid

The MPLA, likewise, could not rely on outside aid, least of all from its former backers, the Soviet Union, which has neither the means nor the inclination to resume its support, and Cuba, which does not have the means even if it has the inclination, and that is doubtful.

There have been suggestions that the United States or other Western powers might give military aid to the MPLA in the hope of ending the conflict through Unita being cowed or crushed.

That option seems unlikely to win support in Washington or any other capital, given Unita's probable capacity to sustain guerrilla operations unaided for a long time.

Another option that has been proposed is for foreign political pressure on Unita to be increased, presumably to force it to accept its election defeat and a reinstatement of the peace accords signed at Bicesse in Portugal in 1990.

One form of pressure that has been advocated is for Washington to end its long-standing refusal to recognise the MPLA government. The thinking behind this proposal is that it would make Unita feel so politically lonely in the world that it would agree to stop fighting and accept a minor position in the new government in terms

The battle for Huambo might mean the end of the line for hawks on both sides of the conflict in Angola. The contestants must sooner or later return to the negotiating table.

Gerald L'Ange, Editor of the *Sowetan Africa News Service*, reports on the rapidly developing situation:

Sowetan

17/2/93

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Unita chief Jonas Savimbi ... determined to fight.

of the September election result.

For Unita, however, that probably would seem like asking it to commit political suicide. The movement has already accepted its defeat in the election, while continuing to insist that it was fraudulent, and has signalled its readiness to abide by the Bicesse Accords.

Election outcome

It had little option but to accept the election outcome, given the virtually unanimous acceptance of it by the outside world despite strong evidence that the poll was indeed flawed. The

reason it continued fighting, according to its spokesmen, was not to overturn the election result but to defend itself against the MPLA's offensive and to try to get guarantees that it would be given a fair shake in the government of national unity offered by the MPLA.

Whether this is a true reflection of Unita's attitude is uncertain. But that attitude must be viewed in the light of the fact that the Bicesse Accords had little to do with the conduct of the

● To next page

P.T.O

Victory at Huambo is vital to both sides

● From previous page

election, including the arrangement for a run-off for the presidency if neither candidate won more than half the votes (which neither did).

Those arrangements were made in a separate agreement between the MPLA and Unita. What the Bicesse Accords deal with is matters such as the disarmament of the troops, the formation of a joint army and the creation of conditions conducive to a fair election.

Once the fighting resumed, all pacts went out of the window.

The hawks became ascendant and the doves took a back perch.

An estimated 10 000 deaths were added to the terrible toll of the past 16 years of civil war. If blame for this is to be laid anywhere, then it must be at the feet of the hawks.

Pointless action

First, at the feet of the Unita hawks who, when it seemed that they would be asked to accept defeat in the election, withdrew their commanders from the joint army that was being formed from both sides under the Bicesse Accords.

That rash and rather pointless action opened a tempting opportunity for the MPLA hawks to crush Unita as an effective military or political force by wiping out the top commanders vulnerably assembled in Luanda and by staging a pogrom against Unita's civilian supporters. And they seem to have exploited this chance with great zeal.

That, however, was an equally senseless action, for the elimination of those commanders did not in fact emasculate Unita. The movement had taken advantage of the ceasefire to dramatically widen the area under its control to about 70 percent of the country.

It was then able to seize control of the diamond fields, capture the important oil-producing centre of Soyo and cut Luanda's water supplies when hostilities broke out again.

The MPLA may have had right on its side in the eyes of the world but Unita had a fair measure of might on its side.

This dictated its attitude when the conflict came down to the battle for Huambo, which had been held by the MPLA during the war but which had been taken over by Unita during the peace on the strength of its political support in the region.

When peace talks were arranged in Addis Ababa, Unita sent a delegation to the first round, for its spokesmen insist that it is serious about wanting peace and about reinstating the Bicesse Accords.

It was not surprising, however, that Unita then stalled in attending the second round, for it made tactical sense for it to try to win the battle for Huambo before returning to the negotiating table.

Last weekend the three nations responsible for overseeing the Bicesse Accords — the United States, Russia and Portugal — gave Unita a deadline of Wednesday this week to return to the negotiating table at Addis Ababa but did not say what they would do if the the deadline was not met.

Ultimatums of this sort mean very little to Unita, however, for there is not much the European powers can do to enforce them. This is one of the ironic effects of the stopping of aid to Unita. And the stronger its military position becomes the less effective are the ultimatums.

As this was being written the battle was still raging for Huambo.

In addition to its strategic position on the central transport routes, possession of the city (Angola's second largest) is of enormous psychological importance to both sides.

Victory for either side would therefore boost the influence of its hawks. But Huambo might be the end of the line for the hawks on both sides. Since Unita appears to be capable of resisting military and political pressure as long as it chooses to do so, sooner or later the conflict must return to the negotiating table.

The issue then will be how the disarmament and other provisions of the Bicesse Accords are to be completed and how the September election result will be applied in the formation of a government.

Which way matters were peacefully heading until the hawks torpedoed the peace last September — except that Unita may now be in a stronger bargaining position.

Angola adopts tough economic measures

By 17/2/93

LUANDA — Mired in a crippling civil war, its oil and diamond based economy in shambles, Angola has adopted tough economic measures that threaten the hopes of most of its citizens for even a humble existence.

The government is to hold its second currency auction in eight days tomorrow. The first auction on February 11 saw the kwanza devalued from an official rate of about 580 to the dollar to 7 000 to the dollar in just a few hours. The impact is easy to see at Luanda's Angoy Franca department store where a clerk earns about 250 000 kwanzas a month. A week ago that salary was worth about \$30. On Monday it was worth about \$38.

A refrigerator in the same store that went for 2.5-million kwanzas two weeks ago now sells for 6.8-million kwanzas. One clerk said that at these prices there were no buyers.

The hope is that the currency auction will increase government revenues, and the incoming hard currency will help businesses put the country back to work. The drawback is that prices have risen quickly and the formerly Marxist government is scrambling to control the damage.

A few days after the first currency auction, the national airline, TAAG, raised international and domestic airfares by ten times or more. Not surprisingly, the airline had not been making money operating Boeing 737s on the Luanda-Lubango route where the 674km trip cost 32 000 kwanzas.

But the air price hikes were politically risky. Unita has occupied about 75% of Angolan territory since fighting flared up on October 31, and

airplanes are the only way for people to get from Luanda to provincial capitals like Lubango that are still in government hands.

Finance Minister Salomao Jose Luheito Xirimbi quickly denied that TAAG had been given permission to raise domestic fares and branded the hikes an act of managerial "discipline" — although the finance ministry was fully aware the hikes were coming. Twenty-four hours after the new prices went into effect, TAAG knocked domestic fares back to pre-devaluation levels.

"Given the situation in the country and the closure of the roads, airline prices are political decisions," said one official in President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos' office, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Other prices, especially on food and imported goods, are expected to skyrocket.

Following May 1991 peace accords between the government and Unita, hopes were high for the Angolan economy, as the country has enormous oil and diamond resources. But the fighting that broke out again laid waste to much of the recovery effort.

Government diamond production, \$250m last year, has been slowed by the fighting, which has had an even more telling effect on diamond smuggling. De Beers estimates \$500m in Angolan diamonds mined mostly in the northeastern part of the country were smuggled out last year before fighting restarted.

Oil extraction, normally at about 500 000 barrels a day, has fallen 13% since Unita took the petroleum-rich area around Soyo in northern Zaire province last month. — Sapa-AP.

NEWS IN BRIEF

African peacekeeping force
ADDIS ABABA — African foreign ministers meeting in the Ethiopian capital yesterday discussed setting up a peacekeeping force to police conflicts on the continent. *By 17/2/93*

A special report on how such a force would be funded and constituted is expected to be presented to the annual OAU summit in Cairo in June.

IBM entices workers to leave

NEW YORK — IBM has outlined a plan to encourage workers to leave voluntarily, but warned it might lay off staff to meet its goal of 25 000 job cuts this year.

IBM, which lost almost \$3bn in 1992, said that based on a worker's years with the company, it would pay up to one year's salary and one year of paid medical benefits to those who opted to leave voluntarily. *By 17/2/93*

Chinese herb to fight AIDS

HONG KONG — A Danish-based company said here yesterday it had developed a Chinese herb-based medication that could fight AIDS.

Finehandle said Milingwang was still in the "experimental stage", but 200 HIV-positive patients in Scandinavia and 50 in Africa had been taking the medication "with encouraging results" since 1992.

No respite for Prince Charles

LONDON — "Just don't mention Di," excited schoolchildren were told before meeting Prince Charles at Greengates British school in Mexico City this week.

But 11-year-old Maria Pia forgot her manners when she tried to take a picture and Charles told her: "I don't photograph very well." Maria blurted out that Princess Diana did.

Charles was reported to have winced and walked away quickly, although an unrepentant Maria told reporters, "Well, Diana is better to look at. I'd much rather take a picture of her."

REPORTS: Sapa-Reuter-AP.
Own Correspondent.

Unita rejects ultimatum to name date for talks

LUANDA — Unita has rejected an "ultimatum" to name a date for peace talks with the government by tonight, as Angolan government forces raced to relieve troops trapped in Huambo.

Up to 20 000 government troops were battling to reach

the strategic central highland city, where weeks of fighting has left an estimated 8 000 people dead.

Angolan deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Chicoti, speaking on Angolan radio, put the death toll as high as 10 000, adding that 15 000 had been injured.

THE gruesome battle for Huambo is likely to end with the virtual destruction of Angola's second-largest city. Government troop reinforcements are unlikely to reverse the city's fate.

Last Friday, government sources admitted that Fapla's crack commando units, known as the Ninjas, had been almost wiped out and their commander captured by Unita. More than 4,000 government troops face a final onslaught by 15,000 Unita fighters, among them the rebel movement's best Moroccan-trained troops. In fact, observers in Luanda are surprised that it has taken Unita leader Jonas Savimbi this long to retake a city which can be termed the "capital" of the Ovimbundu, Savimbi's main support base.

According to diplomatic sources in Luanda, the sheer scale of Unita's offensive suggests heavy support from SA and Zaïre. Says a French diplomat: "The current offensive would be unthinkable without a major operation to supply Unita with a very wide range of goods from ammunition to food and communication equipment."

The movement has deployed heavy artillery, tanks and the controversial Stinger ground-to-air missiles in the battle for Huambo. Two government planes have been shot down with the missiles, which were supposed to have been handed back to the US in accordance with secret deals signed in the context of the December 1988 New York Agreement between the MPLA and Unita. Either those agreements were violated or Unita has been resupplied with the missiles.

A large amount of Unita supplies seems to be moving via northern Namibia, particularly Rundu, where of late "private" air traffic has become "incredibly intense", according to a foreign aid worker based there. A Namibian-registered company, Namibia Commercial Aviation, is reported to be rearming in much of this activity. In Windhoek, the Portuguese com-

Angolans demand foreign intervention to rein in Unita

B/DPM 17/2/93.

PIERRE BEAUDET in Luanda

munally is abuzz, and Unita middlemen are buying vast quantities of material, ranging from four-wheel drive vehicles to food and clothing. Journalists who have tried to investigate these activities have been threatened with their lives. French sources in Luanda say the operation to supply Savimbi is visible to foreign powers, notably the US. "They can detect it with their satellites," says one diplomat. "It would take 10 minutes for Washington to expose the whole deal. But obviously, at this stage, the Americans do not want to weaken Savimbi."

The capture of Huambo would leave Savimbi with the strongest cards — and several options. Most Angolan cities are in MPLA hands, but they are islands dotting the Unita-controlled countryside. Observers here expect Savimbi to now try and sew up his control of the east and south by pushing for Menongue, southeast of Huambo. This would fit a Unita move to "federalise" Angola. Forced federalisation would cut Angola in half, with the eastern part from Lunda Norte to Khando Kibango under Unita's control. But another flashpoint might be Cabinda, the oil-rich northern enclave that constitutes the country's economic lifeline. Two weeks ago the US warned Unita that Cabinda should remain "off limits". Never-

theless, rebel troops are massing across the Congo River, at Soyo. An assault on Cabinda, however, will depend on Zaïre, whose territory separates the enclave from the rest of Angola. According to diplomats in Kinshasa, the embattled Mobutu Sese Seko is desperate to buy himself some time. The opening of a front in Cabinda might do just that, by regionalising and perhaps even internationalising the Angolan crisis. Last week the official newspaper, Journal de Angola, reported that Unita's vice-president was already in Cabinda preparing the next battle.

In Luanda, people are very distressed. Food supplies are running low, with water and electricity in very short supply. The economy is in a shambles. Beyond the misery of daily life, a palpable discontent reaches all the way into the ranks of the top officials and military officers who make up the core of the MPLA. "President Dos Santos fell into the trap laid by the US," says one senior officer. "He believed that the US would force Savimbi to comply with the agreements, but that was not true." MPLA supporters are also furious with the UN, whose contingent had to preside over the transition

period and ensure the demobilisation of the two armies. The military complaint that, while the MPLA's Fapla army was effectively demobilised (it was reduced from 120,000 troops to 30,000), the bulk of Unita's army remained intact.

MPLA hardliners are pointing to these aspects and accusing Dos Santos of naivety and timidity. But it is unclear whether a more militant approach could make a difference. It does not require a trained eye to notice the population is tired of war. "Nobody is sure that people will now take up arms against Savimbi," says a veteran Angola intellectual. "Corruption has undermined the credibility of this government. People know that a few politicians are still making lots of money on the backs of the people."

The government's call last week for a general military call-up perhaps reflects the fact that the army is not exactly being inundated with volunteers. The recent uncovering of vast fraud affecting demobilised soldiers has not helped matters. It was disclosed that government officials had "diverted" billions of kwanzas intended to help reincorporate former soldiers into civilian life. And yet the MPLA holds several strong cards. Its most significant strength is perhaps Unita's relative weakness. In the past, the rebels'

military successes have not proven resilient and large-scale battles such as the Huambo offensive are a new development. If it can be demonstrated that the capture of Huambo occurred thanks to foreign military support, Unita might suffer another round of embarrassment in the international arena. And the MPLA, along with reconstructing its army, might be able to request military aid.

Then there is the question of legitimacy. Unita was clearly defeated in elections which the international community declared free and fair. Ordinary Angolans might take the government to task for being "a bunch of crooks" but in Luanda one still hears the familiar saying: "The MPLA robs us, Unita kills. We prefer to live, even if poor."

In the meantime, Angola again appears locked into a protracted and costly war. In Luanda alone 12,000 civilians have been killed since October. But the destabilisation of Angola could easily threaten the fragile transition processes under way elsewhere in the region — in Mozambique, Zaïre and, certainly, SA.

Sensitive to this, Luanda intellectuals are furious about what they perceive as a total lack of regional interest in the Angolan crisis. "Who won the battle of Cuito in 1988? Who forced the SADF to retreat from Namibia? Who precipitated the events that led to the release of Mandela in 1990?" they ask rhetorically.

Last week, the Journal de Luanda reported Mandela's comments on the Angolan situation, citing his "concern" and his opposition to any SA military intervention.

But, says one Angolan sociologist, non-intervention is not enough. "We want intervention, on our side, to recognise the legitimate government, to threaten and to discipline Savimbi. If he is not stopped, it is going to be another 1975, but this time in reverse. Our victory then initiated another era in southern Africa. Our possible defeat now will have a similar impact, but this time it will push us back to where we were before then."

SPOT DESK

Beaudet is a correspondent for Le Monde Diplomatique.

run ninth-wicket partnership.
The South Africans again appeared to have come so close yet so far — until Pringle slammed in the final nail. — Staff Reporters and Sapa
● Fantastic fightback — Back Page

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Unita members⁵ defy their leader

CF 18/2/93

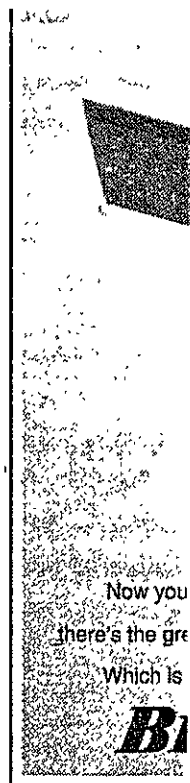
LUANDA. — Dissident Unita members defied their leader Mr Jonas Savimbi yesterday and took their seats in parliament in a sign of a split in Angola's rebel movement.

Their decision came as Unita rejected a deadline of 10pm last night from Portugal, the United States and Russia to say when it will resume peace talks with the government.

The rebel movement told UN officials here it would respond to international calls for peace talks by tomorrow.

But foreign diplomats based here said Unita's response was unsatisfactory and could be seen as a delaying tactic to give its troops time to strengthen their position in Huambo. — Sapa

● Unita hints at Huambo truce — Page 5



Angolan peace talks put off

⑤ CT 8/2/93

LUANDA. — Peace talks between the Unita rebels and the Angolan government have been postponed indefinitely, Angolan national radio announced yesterday.

The two sides had been tentatively set to meet for a second round of talks in Addis Ababa on Wednesday. A first round of talks at the end of last month in the Ethiopian capital was fruitless.

The announcement of the postponement followed a statement on Saturday by Unita saying it would not attend planned peace talks with the government in Addis Ababa next week and would continue to fight until the government was prepared to make concessions.

Unita, which rejected its defeat by the ruling MPLA in UN-supervised elections last September, also announced that it would release foreigners captured in the northern oil town of Soyo.

The announcements were contained in a statement issued on

Unita vows to fight for concessions

behalf of Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

Unita said it could not attend a fresh round of peace talks with the government, which was due to start in the Ethiopian capital on February 10, because its delegation to a first round of talks in Addis Ababa from January 27 to 30 had not yet returned to Unita headquarters in the central Angolan city of Huambo.

The statement said a senior Unita official, Mr Jaka Jamba, would maintain contact with the UN special representative for Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, to agree on fresh dates for a meeting.

But it accused the government of failing to offer concessions to Unita and said the rebel movement would continue to fight until it was offered conditions for peace.

The Unita statement also bitterly attacked dissidents in the rebel movement who had defected to the government.

It also said that a statement by Unita's official spokesman Mr Jorge Valentim last week proposing a federal structure for Angola with considerable powers devolved to provinces did not reflect the movement's official policy.

The statement said Mr Valentim had merely floated the idea in a personal capacity.

● Angolan armed forces bombed the airport in Uige in northern Angola, delaying the evacuation of 17 employees of a Belgian oil firm being held by Unita rebels, a Unita spokesman said yesterday.

However the runway was repaired and the 17 were later flown to Gabon. — Sapa-Reuter

MPLA may get foreign military aid

STAR 18/2/93

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LUANDA — The US, Russia and Portugal may let the Angolan government receive foreign military help against Unita rebels, diplomats said yesterday.

Peace accords signed in May 1991 stipulated that neither the government nor Unita could receive outside military aid.

But the three countries, together with the United Nations, are losing patience with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, who has resumed civil war and refuses to take part in ceasefire talks.

Senior US, Russian and Portuguese officials plan to meet in Lisbon next week, the sources said.

"One possible topic would be opening the door to supplying the MPLA government with military aid," said one source who requested anonymity.

Government and Unita forces

are currently locked in heavy fighting for control of Huambo in the central highlands, Angola's second city and once Unita's headquarters.

The government says at least 10 000 civilians have been killed and 15 000 wounded in several weeks of fighting there.

The diplomatic sources said military aid to the MPLA was most likely to come from western European countries.

The sources said the three observer nations would make a statement criticising Unita's request for more time to set a date for fresh peace talks.

They originally asked Unita to give an answer last night but senior Unita officials told the UN special representative in Luanda, Margaret Anstee, that the movement needed another three days to consider the matter. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita given new deadline to start peace talks

1972/93
LONDON — International observers have given the Unita rebel leaders until tomorrow to schedule renewed peace talks with Angola's MPLA government in Luanda, Portuguese Catholic Radio Renascenca reported late yesterday.

The observer countries, Portugal, the United States and Russia, originally said Unita had until last night to set a date for new peace talks in Addis Ababa.

According to the radio report, monitored by the BBC, the extension was granted one minute after the first deadline expired at 10 pm yesterday.

It said the observers regard putting into practice a ceasefire agreed in principle in United Nations-backed peace accords as a priority.

Earlier yesterday an MPLA spokesman said heavy fighting continued in Huambo, Angola's devastated second city.

An estimated 10 000 people have been killed and 15 000 wounded in fierce battles for control that have raged since January 9.

Up to 20 000 government troops are rushing to the city in a bid to prevent it falling to Unita. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Unita hints at Huambo truce

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LUANDA. — Unita told UN officials here yesterday it might grant a UN request for a truce in Huambo, where more than 6 000 people were reported to have died in 40 days of fighting.

The statement came as government troops rushed to reinforce units trapped in the city, and heavy fighting continued.

Armed forces spokesman Mr Jose Manuel Jota said yesterday the two sides were battling for control of the airport, while other fighting focused on the provincial government palace, where government troops were holding out.

"The situation is being maintained," he said. "I cannot say we have the advantage in Huambo, but we are doing all we can to defend the positions we have."

Much of Huambo, formerly Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi's headquarters in the central highlands, has been destroyed in the bitter fighting. Deputy Foreign

Palace and airport key battle sites

Minister Mr Jorge Chicoti has said at least 10 000 civilians have been killed and 15 000 wounded in several weeks of fighting.

Unita's Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel radio said on Tuesday its forces had pinned down government troops in the governor's palace and an attempt by columns of reinforcements to relieve them was "bound to fail".

Military sources in Luanda said 10 000 men in two relief columns were heading for the city where the government said Unita had 12 000 fighters.

State media also reported fight-

ing in the provinces of Bie, Huila, Cuando Cubango and Moxico in the centre, south and west of the country.

State radio said two senior Unita officials, Mr Jaka Jamba and the secretary-general, Mr Eugenio Manuvakola, had contacted UN special representative Ms Margaret Anstee on Tuesday asking for three days to set a date for renewed peace talks.

The request followed a decision last weekend by the observer countries overseeing a May 1991 ceasefire agreement — Portugal, the United States and Russia — giving Unita until yesterday to set a new date for talks.

Peace negotiations in Addis Ababa late last month failed to produce a ceasefire and Unita cancelled a second round due to have started a week ago.

In Luanda, parliament met to consider draft legislation for conscription, heightened national security and an economic programme for the war-shattered country. — Sapa-Reuter

Peace talks deadline for Unita extended

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APR 18/2/93

LUANDA. — The United States, Portugal and Russia have given Unita rebel leaders until tomorrow to name a date for peace talks with the Angolan government — extending an original deadline by two days.

The three countries trying to end Angola's renewed civil war did not say what they would do if Unita failed to respond.

But diplomats in Luanda said they might allow the MPLA government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to receive foreign military help against the rebels. The United States was one of Unita's backers in the war that began in 1975.

The three countries said unwillingness by Unita to set a new date for peace talks with the government was unsatisfactory and urged the movement to name a time by tomorrow — they originally gave it until last night to set a date.

Senior Unita officials on Tuesday told the UN special representative in Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, that they needed three more days to consider the matter, but the observer countries said this was a disappointing answer.

The 1991 peace accords stipulated that neither the government nor Unita could receive outside military aid.

But the three countries, together with the United Nations, are losing patience with Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, who has resumed civil war with unprecedented intensity.

• Ten of the 70 Unita deputies elected in last September's general election defied Dr Savimbi and took their seats in parliament yesterday in a sign of a growing split in Angola's embattled rebel movement. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN halts all aid to Bosnians

NEW YORK. — All relief supplies to Bosnia-Herzegovina have been halted by the head of the United Nations High Commission for Refugees.

Ms Sadako Ogata took the decision yesterday in an attempt to overcome Muslim and especially Serb intransigence.

The move surprised the Security Council, which demanded that all warring parties in Bosnia-Herzegovina allow supplies to be distributed immediately, particularly to hundreds of thousands of Muslims in Eastern Bosnia.

In a statement read at a formal meeting, the council also alluded to a protest from the Bosnian government to stop aid to Sarajevo until Eastern Bosnia had received supplies.

Britain's ambassador, Sir David Hannay, said: "I think Ms Ogata brought into very sharp focus an absolutely appalling situation in which people have been playing political games with humanitarian relief — and that is really quite intolerable, whoever does it."

"The council has made that quite clear and has now strongly

backed the need for all parties now to give her the guarantees she needs."

Some security council members appeared taken by surprise and angry, even though the stage was set on Friday when the Muslim-led government of Bosnia refused to allow UN convoys into Sarajevo because Serbs were preventing convoys trying to get through to remote villages.

Russian UN ambassador Mr Yuli Vorontsov said he was taken aback by the UN decision.

"We shall look into this matter thoroughly. That was a rather unexpected move. Maybe we will be able to correct it a bit.

"My personal opinion is that we shouldn't stop abruptly. We should be more insistent and we should pull all necessary convoys through."

Mr Peter Kessler, Ms Ogata's spokesman in Bosnia, said UNHCR had also shelved a pact with Serb fighters to start running convoys into central Bosnia from Serb-held territory in the north unaffected by the fighting. — Sapa-Reuter.

UK Labour man on his way

LONDON. — British shadow foreign secretary Dr Jack Cunningham will attend the ANC's international solidarity conference in Johannesburg this weekend.

He will represent the Labour Party and the Party of European Socialists.

"I feel sure the deliberations

of the conference will help to direct our efforts to ensure the full participation of the UK government in assisting the transition to democracy and prosperity in the new South Africa," said Dr Cunningham.

He said he would be extending especially warm greetings to Mr Nelson Mandela.

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Unita rejects talks date ultimatum

Sowetan 18/2/93

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LUANDA - UNITA HAS REJECTED an "ultimatum" to name a date for peace talks with the government by last night, as government troops raced to relieve troops trapped in Huambo.

Up to 20 000 government troops were battling on Tuesday to reach the strategic central highland city of Huambo where weeks of fighting have left an estimated 8 000 people dead.

Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Chicoti put the number of people killed as high as 10 000, with 15 000 injured.

Meanwhile, in Luanda, Joao Alburquerque, a spokesman for the

■ TROOPS TRAPPED Diplomats

fear deadlock until Huambo is won:

UN mission to Angola, said of the talks: "Unita needs three days to suggest a date."

However, speaking on rebel Vorgan Radio, Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim rejected the deadline as a "worthless ultimatum".

The deadline was set at the weekend by Portugal, the United States and Russia, the three guarantors of the Angolan peace accords, signed in May 1991 at the end of the 16-year civil war.

Failing a reply, the foreign representatives would "draw the necessary conclusions", they stated. Washington long supported Unita against the MPLA government but has now lost patience.

Government and diplomatic sources fear Unita may not be prepared to return to the negotiating table until it has recaptured Huambo, where the movement's leader, Jonas Savimbi, had his headquarters. — Sapa-AFP.

Talkings On 'Toothless Watchdogs'

STAR 11/3/93

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has issued a challenge to the United Nations and the three observer nations in Angola, writes GERALD L'ANGE, Editor of the Star Africa Service.

RECENT events have left the international participants in the Angolan peace process facing a credibility crisis.

The latest developments have been discomfiting both for the United Nations, which has prime responsibility for steering the country back to peace, and for the three observer nations — the United States, Russia and Portugal — who are supposed to be playing a major backup role.

The troika were called "toothless watchdogs" in the latest edition of the London news-letter, Africa Confidential, after Unita spurned their ultimatum to return to the negotiation table in Addis Ababa.

Unita called their bluff and the situation remained unchanged," the newsletter said.

Now Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has raised the stakes by capturing the key city of Huambo and then imposing tough conditions for resuming negotiations. He demanded that the venue be shifted from Addis Ababa to Geneva and that the British diplomat, Margaret Arstee, be replaced as UN representative in Angola.

At the same time he warned that if any effort were made to recapture the Soyo oilfields — as a major oil company is reportedly plotting to do through a mercenary force — Unita's response would be "violent and extensive", which is another way of saying the oil installations would be blown up.

Both the conditions for the resumption of talks and the Soyo warning pose a challenge to the international community, especially to the UN and the troika. The world will be waiting with interest to see how they respond.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali is in a dilemma. Agreeing to shift the talks to Geneva may be politically feasible but agreeing to replace Anstee would make him out to be caving in to the rebels' demands and would very likely in-

flaminate the MPLA government in Luanda.

The troika are also in a difficult position. In effect, Savimbi has responded to their "or else" with an even bigger "or else".

The MPLA, too, has been placed in a bit of a bind. Either it must compromise with Savimbi or it must find the strength to throw Unita out of Huambo and put it on the defensive elsewhere in Angola.

In stating his terms in a radio broadcast this week, Savimbi called on former Unita fighters to return to ranks, saying Unita had plenty of arms and supplies. It remains to be seen whether in doing that he is engaging in a bit of a bluff of his own or whether he seriously envisages escalating the conflict to force his demands on the MPLA and its international backers.

In deciding how to react to these developments, the foreign players must assess the military prospects. Unita are able to deny the government control over about three-quarters of Angola. But by taking Huambo they have committed themselves to defending the city, thereby departing from their traditional guerrilla warfare role and engaging in conventional warfare, for which it is ill-equipped and inexperienced.

In capturing Huambo, however, Unita defeated the MPLA forces in a conventional battle, which seems to show that it can fight in this way, at least for a relatively short period.

The Unita and MPLA forces are probably about equally matched in numbers of men. The MPLA have the theoretical advantage of armoured vehicles and a relatively strong air force

but may not be able to maintain their tanks and planes without major foreign assistance.

Whether such assistance will be provided is one of the main questions awaiting answers. Since the MPLA forces have always used Soviet weaponry, the obvious source of re-supply is Russia, which has plenty of spare arms to sell. But can the MPLA afford to buy them, even from what is left of its oil wealth? Or might the world witness the supreme irony of the United States buying weapons from Moscow for the MPLA?

Washington is being urged to recognise the MPLA government as a means of putting pressure on Unita. It is difficult to see how this would bother Unita, however, provided it has the means to continue fighting. The troika's ultimatum was ineffective mainly because Unita

has nothing to lose, or very little to lose, especially since the UN ruled that it had been defeated in the election last September.

Unita would be badly hurt politically if it were thrown out of the Western countries in which it maintains offices for lobbying and propaganda purposes. But that would not affect the situation on the ground in Angola.

A more realistic option would appear to be for the troika and the UN to focus on Unita's expressed willingness to return to the negotiating table and to deal there with the movement's stronger bargaining position.

According to Unita's London representative, Brigadier Isaiah Samakuya, the movement still accepts the peace accords signed at Bicesse in Portugal, under which the September

election was held. But from its new position of strength it wants to widen the provisions of the Bicesse pact.

Unita, according to the brigadier, accepts the UN declaration of an MPLA parliamentary victory in the election, while still saying the poll was fraudulent. And it is willing to take part in a runoff election for the presidency. But first the country must be returned to a condition conducive to a free poll.

Samakuya said Unita envisages a broader UN role and a strengthened UN presence in Angola in order to ensure that the opposing armies are disarmed and disbanded and a joint force formed.

(The UN has been widely blamed for the failure of the Angolan peace process by trying to do it on the cheap, with too few monitors and too small a peacekeeping force).

In addition, according to Samakuya, Unita wants to negotiate something not in the Bicesse accords: the installation of a tri-

bally based federal system that will take account of Angola's ethnic divisions and ensure that all political power is not exercised from Luanda.

This vision reflects Unita's traditional obsession with ethnicity. One of its watchwords is the promotion of its "Negritude". And in calling his followers to arms this week, Savimbi said the purpose was to "bring dignity to the Bantu people in their land of origin".

Unita's vision might be viewed with admiration in Pretoria, matching as it does President de Klerk's own ambitions for the future South Africa.

Pretoria appears to have been able to resist the temptation to foster the spread of that vision by resuming material aid to Unita. That is not to say that others in South Africa have been equally scrupulous.

For the moment, however, Pretoria is on the sidelines of the Angolan contest. If the ball is in anyone's court it is in that of the UN and the troika. □

Angola claims Unita plans Luanda attack

⑤ 122 CT 19/2/93

ADDIS ABABA. — Unita guerillas are planning to attack Luanda, the Angolan capital, from neighbouring Zaire, Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Mr. Pinto Chicoti said yesterday.

He said Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi planned the attack because his headquarters in Huambo were under government assault.

Mr Chicoti described the attack as a "diversionary tactic to reduce government military pressure" on Huambo.

The government has used thousands of troops in its attack on the town.

Meanwhile, international observers have given Unita leaders until today

to schedule fresh peace talks with the MPLA government in Luanda, it was reported.

The observer countries — Portugal, the US and Russia — originally allowed Unita until Wednesday night to set a date for the talks.

But two senior Unita officials contacted UN special representative Ms Margaret Anstee on Tuesday and asked for an extension of the deadline.

The extension was granted soon after the first deadline. — Sapa-Reuter

Angola war ● 'Godfathers' switch to uranium, arms

Unita leaders get peace deadline

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Sowetan 19/2/93 (5)

■ LAST DAY Rebels must name date for talks with government:

LUANDA — The United States, Portugal and Russia have given Unita rebel leaders until today to name a date for peace talks with the Angolan government, extending an original deadline by two days.

The three countries trying to end Angola's renewed civil war did not say what they would do if Unita failed to respond.

But diplomats in Luanda said they might allow the MPLA government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to receive foreign military help against the rebels. The United States was one of Unita's backers in the war that began in 1975.

The three countries said unwillingness by Unita to set a new date for peace talks with the government was unsatisfactory and urged the move-

ment to name a time by today.

The three countries—observers to 1991 peace accords designed to end 17 years of civil war—originally said Unita had until Wednesday night to set a date for new peace talks in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa.

On Wednesday they issued a statement one minute before their deadline for the rebels to announce a date.

Senior Unita officials on Tuesday told the UN special representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, that they needed three more days to consider the matter but the observer countries said this was a disappointing answer.

The 1991 peace accords stipulated that neither the government nor Unita could receive outside military aid.

But the three countries, together with the United Nations, are losing patience with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi who has resumed civil war with an unprecedented intensity.

Senior US, Russian and Portuguese officials planned to meet in Lisbon next week, the diplomats in Luanda said. "One possible topic would be opening the door to supplying the MPLA government with military aid," said one diplomat who requested anonymity. — Sapa-Reuter.



Peacekeepers to hold Angola crisis summit

5 APR 19/1/93

LISBON. — The troika of states guaranteeing the Angolan peace accords — Portugal, Russia and the United States — is to meet here on Tuesday to discuss the Angolan crisis.

"The observers will analyse the development of the situation in Angola and study the position they should take as part of their mission," a Foreign Affairs Ministry statement said.

The troika has extended until today the deadline issued to Unita last weekend to set a date for peace talks between itself and Luanda.

Patience with the rebel movement is wearing thin after Unita refused to accept the results of UN-monitored elections last September. — Sapa-AFP.



Zaire's premier faces the sack

APR 19/1/93

KINSHASA. — Zaire's interim parliament resumes its search for a new government for the crisis-stricken country today amid reports that it could sack prime minister Etienne Tshisekedi.

The High Council of the Republic (HCR), the interim parliament created to smooth Zaire's transition to democracy, met in plenary session yesterday but failed to agree a solution to the political crisis gripping the country.

No official statement was released but a source close to the HCR said there was growing support for moves to sack Mr Tshisekedi.

However, no decisions had been taken and intense horse-trading between the various factions within the HCR was continuing late last night said the source.

Earlier this month, 300 people died when troops mutinied over receiving wages in large denomination banknotes, part of a power struggle between President Mobutu Sese Seko and Mr Tshisekedi.

Informed political sources say the virtually unanimous support that existed for Mr Tshisekedi after Mr Mobutu first tried to sack him last December has all but evaporated, with the HCR now evenly split on the premier's future. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita 'plans to attack Luanda'

BIDAM 19/2/93

(5)

ADDIS ABABA — Unita is planning to attack Luanda from neighbouring Zaire, a senior Angolan official claimed yesterday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Pinto Chicoti told a news conference that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi was planning the attack because his headquarters at Huambo were under a government assault.

"Jonas Savimbi is preparing to attack Luanda as a diversionary tactic to reduce government military pressure on the central town of Huambo," he said.

Unita has repeatedly denied receiving any assistance either from Zaire or SA.

The Angolan government has poured thousands of troops into an attack on Huambo, where Unita has its main base.

The minister was speaking after an OAU ministerial meeting which called on Unita to return to the negotiating table.

Unita has declined to attend a second round of peace talks in Addis Ababa this month but is under pressure from the US, Portugal and Russia to respond by Friday to an invitation to go to the meeting.

The three countries said unwillingness by Unita to set a new date for peace talks with the government was unsatisfactory and urged it to name a time by today. The original deadline was Wednesday night.

Senior Unita officials on Tuesday told UN special representative in Angola Margaret Anstee they needed three more days to consider the matter. The observer countries said this was a disappointing answer.

But diplomats in Luanda said they might allow the MPLA government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to receive foreign military help against Unita.

The Angolan official welcomed these reports. "This is most welcome, because while Unita was receiving the latest weapons from SA and Zaire, the Luanda government ... was in serious difficulties," Chicoti said.

The three countries are observers to the peace process which was supposed to have ended Angola's civil war and elected a democratic government in September last year. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola urges pressure on Unita

the southern Cuando Cubango province.

Unita also claimed yesterday that 23 Angolan government troops had defected to their side in the decisive battle for Huambo.

● Relief must be allowed immediately into Huambo, the UN World Food Programme said yesterday. — Sapa-AFP

lands city of Huambo.

Unita radio Vorgan reported that the rebel movement had not yet responded to UN and International Committee of the Red Cross calls for a ceasefire in Huambo to allow humanitarian aid into Angola's embattled second city.

The radio also reported continued fighting in Menogue, in

Angola's three power-brokers, the United States, Portugal and Russia, Unita failed to suggest a date for peace talks to the UN monitoring mission here.

Instead it reported the seizure of more territory and continued fighting in various parts of the country as well as in the crucial central high-

LUANDA. — The Angolan parliament passed a resolution yesterday calling on international observers to pressure Unita rebels to stop fighting and resume peace negotiations with the government amid continued clashes around the country.

Hours before the expiration of a new deadline issued by

ANC: Accept new govt

20/2/93

JOHANNESBURG. — The ANC yesterday called on Unita to desist from "waging war" on fellow Angolans and to accept their democratically-elected government.

After elections in Angola in September, Unita claimed there had been irregularities and full-scale war erupted.

Following its National Executive Committee meeting here, the ANC

called for Unita to respond positively to the United Nations' and the Angolan government's requests for peace talks.

The ANC called on the international community to stop assistance of any kind to Unita and said it should take all necessary action to stop Unita pursuing a course of action designed to "subvert the efforts of the people to achieve democracy, — Sapa

War-ravaged Angola verges on total collapse

HARARE — Angola is on the verge of a total breakdown with 3 million people at risk from hunger and disease, the World Food Programme (WFP) said yesterday.

The WFP is the only relief agency fully operational in Angola. It has lost five of its members in the savage fighting, including the base manager in Huambo, who was shot in the street and a radio operator who was killed in the WFP office in a separate attack. The building was destroyed by artillery fire.

SRM
20/12/73
ROBIN DREW
Africa News Service

The director of operations in Luanda, Philippe Borel, said the WFP was ready to fly food and aid into the flat-topped provincial capital, which had a population of 400,000 people. "We do not know how or if they are surviving," he said.

On Wednesday, Borel himself was in an aircraft that was fired on by Unita forces as it was flying into Malanje.

The same day in Luena, a WFP team which flew there found the airport remaining with hundreds of bleeding, wounded government troops pleading to be evacuated to Luanda.

Borel said about 300,000 people had sought refuge in Malanje. Unita troops were only 8 km away, and there was little food in the markets.

War has disrupted work on the land throughout Angola and little food will be harvested. In Luanda itself, there is scarcely any food available in the markets. "We are looking at twice the

number of people in need of food assistance than before the elections, maybe as many as 3 million," he said.

The WFP did not have enough food stocks in the country and was examining ways of bringing more food in quickly. Lack of security and power failures in Luanda meant that only 5,500 tons of maize could be unloaded last month.

Currently, WFP is airlifting food to Lobito, Benguela, Uige, Luena, Lubango, Cazombo, Sawimbo, Mbanza Congo, Makela de Zombo, and Toto.

Angola on edge of total breakdown

ARC 20/2/93

ROBIN DREW, Argus Africa News Service
HARARE. — Angola is on the verge of a total breakdown with three million people at risk from hunger and disease, according to the World Food Programme.

The WFP is the only relief agency fully operational in Angola. It has lost five of its members in the savage fighting, including the base manager in Huambo, who was shot in the street, and a radio operator who was killed in the WFP office. In another attack, the building was destroyed by artillery fire.

The director of operations in Luanda, Philippe Borel, said WFP was ready to fly food and aid into the flattened provincial capital which had a population of 400 000 people.

"We do not know how or if they are surviving,"

LUANDA. — Relief must be allowed immediately into Angola's besieged second city, Huambo, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) said yesterday.

"WFP is ready to fly food and other aid into the flattened provincial capital whenever it is granted clearance to land and unload."

A WFP release said a relief worker who fled Huambo in early January reported that the city's hospital, which has a capacity of 1 500 patients, had 5 000 patients and was running out of medicine and food.

"The government now estimates there are 15 000

■ The post-election war in Angola is claiming thousands of lives, not only with violence, but also hunger and illness. The World Food Programme struggles to bring food into the country

it said.

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3 million people at risk from hunger and disease

wounded and 10 000 dead," said the WFP.

Mr Philippe Borel, WFP director of operations in Luanda said: "Huambo has a population of about 400 000 and we simply do not know how or if they are surviving."

WFP also said 100 000 displaced people had swollen the population of another Angolan centre, Malange, in the last two weeks.

"Most people, residents and displaced alike, depend on food airlifted by WFP and handed out by the Catholic relief agency, Caritas. There is little food in the markets and Unita troops are a mere 8km from town."

Meanwhile, the WFP team has been inspecting crops in what is a traditionally fertile, food-producing area and found that no harvest can be expected of maize, rice and cotton. Only about a third of the normal crop of cassava and peanuts is forecast.

"The programme is looking into ways of bringing more food into the country quickly," the release added.

"However, lack of security and power failures in the port of Luanda are hampering the discharge of food." — Sapa.

Unita ignores a call for peace ^(S)

SI Times 2/12/93

LUANDA: The Angolan parliament has passed a resolution calling on international observers to pressure Unita rebels to stop fighting and resume peace negotiations amid continued clashes around the country.

Hours before the expiration of a new deadline issued by the United States, Portugal and Russia, Unita failed to suggest a date for peace talks to the UN monitoring mission.

Hopes for new talks in Angola

CT 25/1/92

LUANDA. — Angolan government and Unita rebel negotiators will probably meet again this week to try to halt a renewed civil war which has killed 15 000 people, UN officials said yesterday.

Government troops were hanging on to Huambo, scene of the worst battle in nearly two decades of conflict, but a relief column was still several days' march away, state radio said.

A UN spokesman said there was "an 80% chance" the sides would meet midweek in Addis Ababa though Unita has not set a date.

A first round of talks in Addis Ababa in late January failed to produce a ceasefire.

The May 1991 accord signed by the government and Unita to end 16 years of civil war collapsed after rebel chief Dr Jonas Savimbi refused to accept defeat in elections last September.

About two-thirds of the 15 000 who died since then were civilians killed in Huambo. — Sapa-Reuter

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**Fresh bid for
peace in Angola**

STAR 22/2/93
LUANDA — Angolan government and Unita rebel negotiators will probably meet again this week to try to halt a renewed civil war, United Nations officials said yesterday.

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A UN spokesman said there was "an 80 percent chance" that the two sides would meet midweek in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa. — Sapa-Reuter and Star Bureau.

right through prime-time sport. As with his speeches to adults, Mr Clinton pulled no punches in addressing the concerns of children.

It was a stroke of political genius since it accentuated the underlying philosophy of Mr Clinton's austerity package delivered to Congress last week — that drastic changes needed to be made to secure a safe, healthy and prosperous future for coming generations.

ahead of us and we would not like to disclose it to the press," veteran team leader Mr Nikita Smidovitch said in Manama, Bahrain, before a UN plane took the team to Baghdad.

Mr Smidovitch said this visit, involving 20 experts in all types of weapons banned by the UN Security Council, would be a short one.

"We have a number of unresolved questions ... data we would like to receive."

can be lifted.

Mr Smidovitch said this team did not have as an objective to pass a final judgment.

He had last come out of Baghdad on January 29, announcing that the Iraqis had finally agreed to discuss the key question of the suppliers of its chemical, biological and ballistic missile programmes.

But it was not clear whether this visit would focus on that question. — Sapa-Reuter.

week ago, two 10-year-old boys

Angolan talks set to resume

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Government troops were hanging on to the central city of Huambo, scene of the worst battle in nearly two decades of conflict in Angola, but a relief column was still several days' march away, according to state radio.

A UN spokesman said there was "an 80 percent chance" the two sides would meet this week in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa — even though UNITA has so far refused to set a date.

UN special representative Ms Margaret Anstee had been in contact with UNITA at the weekend, the spokesman said. She was working on a plan to satisfy UNITA's concerns about security and transport problems. — Sapa-Reuter.

Smoking link with leukaemia seen

co-author Ross Brownson, director of chronic disease prevention at the Missouri Department of Health in Columbia.

The studies could only demonstrate that smoking was associated with leukaemia, not that cigarettes cause the disease. Some unknown factors may be partly responsible for the association. — Sapa-AP.

for about 14 percent of the nation's adult leukemia cases, researchers said.

The estimated 30 percent increase is relatively small. A longtime smoker runs about a 1 000 percent increase in risk of lung cancer, for example.

—Still, the leukaemia link "gives you one other good reason not to smoke," said study

Blacks back Tyson

Happy 118th birthday

Angolan talks ⁵ set to resume _{APR 22 1973}

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I'm ready to agree to Angola ceasefire, says Unita leader

ARG 28/4/93

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi says he is ready to agree to a ceasefire and that the principle can be "wholly taken for granted".

Unita leader Dr Savimbi was speaking on television after a meeting with Ivory Coast Foreign Minister Amara Essy in the Angolan town of Huambo, held by Unita.

Dr Savimbi said Unita and the government side, which had been holding peace talks in the Ivory Coast capital Abidjan under UN auspices since April 12, were "on the way to accepting a definitive ceasefire."

Unita forces took up arms anew after losing parliamentary and presidential elections in September, in spite of signing a ceasefire and peace plan in May 1991 after 16 years of war.

"All we want is guarantees that Angolans no longer have to put up with war," said Dr Savimbi.

The declaration came after Mr Essy made a lightning visit to Angola to meet the Unita



Jonas Savimbi

chief and Angolan government leaders.

The mission, according to UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque, had "very encouraging results for everyone."

Mr Essy said the Angolan peace talks should end in a protocol for an agreement before April 30, the date when the UN mission in Angola is set to end.

● In New York the UN Security Council has condemned an alleged Unita missile attack on a Russian Antonov-12

cargo plane flying relief supplies for the World Food Programme.

Council President Jamshed Marker said the organisation's members "strongly condemn this outrageous hostile act," saying it undermined international relief efforts in Angola.

One crew member died and another was seriously wounded in the attack on the aircraft near Luena in eastern Angola.

"The members of the Council demand that Unita takes all necessary measures to prevent a recurrence of such acts of violence against international humanitarian agencies and their personnel," he said.

People who committed such acts should be held personally responsible, he added.

Unita has denied responsibility for the attack.

John Kakumba Marques, Unita representative in West Africa, said in Abidjan that the Angolan rebels were not involved in the attack.

Mr Kakumba said this was not the sort of attack Unita would make. He said government troops had attacked the plane to scare humanitarian organisations. — Sapa-AFP.

Angola in peace bid

■10 senior figures defy Unita's Savimbi:

UNITED Nations observers say a second round of peace talks between the government and Unita rebels could take place in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa next week.

Angolan national radio reported yesterday that the Angolan Foreign Minister, Venancio de Moura, had given assurances that the government side was ready to attend. *Southern 22/2/93*

Unita declined to suggest a date by the Friday deadline set by Portugal, Russia and the United States, who are observing peace accords signed in 1991. — *Sapa-Reuters*.

School in request for more sponsors

TAFELBERG Remedial School in Sea Point — the only English-medium school exclusively for learning-disabled children in the Western Cape — desperately needs sponsorship to meet the overwhelming demand for its services.

Since moving to its new premises in 1990, the school has grown from 205 pupils to its current 350 — and has a waiting list of 250 children.

Speaking to the Review last week, Mrs Caro Smit, for the school, said it needs sponsorship for teachers and numerous projects.

"We also require finances to buy more computers and up-to-date technology with specialised programmes for people with learning disorders or dyslexia. We're a new school too and need help to stock the virtually empty library," she said.

Intelligence

"Learning disabilities have nothing to do with lack of intelligence," she stresses.

"Only children with an above-average IQ are accepted at the school."

She said: "These children just learn differently and can't cope with the usual school programme. It pays to remember that Albert Einstein was dyslexic."

This year the school has its first batch of matrics which has also been an exciting development for the unique institution.

"Poor spelling is not marked down and if the child is very weak at reading, a scribe may even read the questions to them," said Mrs Smit.

"These people build up the children's self-esteem and make them whole again after their difficult experience in mainstream schools."

Petrol bill

Children are transported to and from the school from different parts of the Peninsula including Fish Hoek, Hout Bay and Bellville creating the additional worry of a heavy petrol bill to be met by the school's coffers.

Extra mural activities are encouraged and tennis, swimming, volleyball, table tennis, soccer, chess and calligraphy are just some of the more popular subjects offered to the pupils.

● Ryan Davis of Tafelberg School was presented with the Willards "Sportsman of the Week" award yesterday.

Savimbi in SA — claim

⑤ CT 23/2/93

JOHANNESBURG. — Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi is being sheltered on South African soil, the SA Communist Party central committee claimed yesterday.

The allegation was quickly rejected by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The SACP central committee said it had received "well-sourced reports that Savimbi is, at this very moment, being sheltered on South African soil".

Official South African government comment, has been requested.

The SACP's central committee also "noted persistent reports to suggest ongoing involvement by the De Klerk regime in support of Savimbi's war".

It charged there were "regular nightly flights from Mmabatho (in Bophuthatswana) of Antonov transport planes, leased to Safair. These supply flights are made to southern Angola and south-western Zaire".

Foreign Affairs denied this.

The party's 30-member central committee met at the weekend in Johannesburg. It called on "all governments to recognise the democratically elected government in Luanda" and on the OAU to take "more decisive initiatives".

The committee resolved to organise lunch-hour demonstrations in the major cities of solidarity with the MPLA, beginning on March 1.

● Unita said yesterday it had destroyed a government convoy rushing reinforcements and supplies to comrades trapped in the war-torn city of Huambo. However, an Angolan government official denied this and said the relief column was pushing on.

The UN special representative to Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, said yesterday that Unita and the Angolan government would hold talks in Addis Ababa on Friday. — UPI, Sapa-AFP

Unita halts army march on Huambo

STAR 23/2/93, (5)

LUANDA — Unita soldiers have halted a column of government troops seeking to relieve the strategic city of Huambo.

And in another development, the United Nations special representative to Angola, Margaret Anstee, said the rebel movement and the Angolan government would hold talks in Addis Ababa on Friday.

The rebel radio, Vorgan, reported that Unita forces had killed more than 100 government soldiers and seized weapons in a battle at Cubal.

Reliable military sources in Luanda said another column of reinforcements had been blocked at Balombo, west of Huambo.

The government and the Angolan army would not confirm a Unita claim in Washington that a general commanding one of the columns of reinforcements had been killed.

Anstee told journalists that Unita had agreed to transport and security proposals made by the UN peace monitoring mission in Angola, and that its delegates would

fly to the Ethiopian capital on Thursday.

Renewed civil war broke out late last year after Unita dismissed as fraudulent United Nations-supervised general elections it lost in September.

Little progress towards peace was made at a meeting between the warring parties in Addis Ababa last month.

UN officials said on Sunday that the government was ready to attend peace talks at any time. The international body has been seeking to bring Unita back into talks.

UN sources and the International Committee of the Red Cross have described the fighting in Huambo as worse than at any time during Angola's civil war of 1975 to 1991.

The fighting was mainly around the governor's residence, seen as the symbol of Luanda's authority in Huambo, Angola's second city.

The government says more than 10 000 people have been killed and 15 000 wounded. Most of the injured have no hope of medical aid. — Sapa-AFP.

SA denies sheltering Savimbi

STAR 23/2/93, (5)

By Brendan Templeton

Angolan rebel Unita leader Jonas Savimbi is being "sheltered" in South Africa, according to the South African Communist Party.

The SACP claimed yesterday that "international" sources had told it Savimbi was in South Africa, but refused to identify the sources.

According to Sapa, SACP central committee member Jeremy Cronin also accused the Government of continuing to support Unita secretly in its war against the Angolan government.

There were "regular nightly flights from Mmabatho (Bophuthatswana) of Antonov transport planes, leased to Safair", he said.

But the South African Foreign Affairs Department last night denied the claims. "The department knows nothing about Savimbi being in South Africa at the moment and is unaware of any unauthorised flights to Angola," a spokesman said.

Safair spokesman Coenie Meyer said Safair did not lease Antonov aircraft and had no flights operating from Mmabatho. The company did have some Hercules aircraft flying in Angola — but only for the Angolan government.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS One-sided claim cannot be y

Unita is making gains

Sowetan
23/2/93
5

LUANDA — The Angolan rebel movement, Unita, said yesterday it had completely destroyed a column of government troops heading towards the central highlands city of Huambo, at the heart of Angola's renewed civil war.

"Unita forces caused heavy casualties, including the commander of the column," it said in a statement signed by Unita General Arlindo Chenda Pena "Ben Ben".

There was no independent confirmation of the Unita claim.

Angolan state radio said on Sunday

■ Rebels claim they destroyed entire government column

the army column, which left the coastal city of Benguela, 250km west of Huambo, last week, had met almost no resistance along the way.

"Our (Unita) troops captured 57 vehicles carrying war material, food and medicine for 4 000 men for 30 days," Unita said.

An estimated 10 000 people have been killed in a six-week long battle for Huambo, which has become the central battlefield of renewed conflict in An-

gola between the government and Unita.

The two sides fought a 16-year civil war after independence from Portugal in 1975, which ended with the signing of a peace agreement in Lisbon in May 1991.

UN diplomats say the Angolan government and Unita will probably meet in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa this week to restart peace talks. — *Sapa-Reuters*.

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SA pilots for Unita 'named'

5-15/1975
CT 24/1975

HARARE. — The Angolan embassy here has repeated accusations that South Africa is supplying the Unita movement with arms and food in its renewed fighting against the MPLA government.

The embassy yesterday gave the names of 16 South Africans, including pilots and engineers, allegedly involved in illegal air incursions into Angola in support of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

A South African Foreign Affairs spokesman in Pretoria denied that the aviators were members of the SA Air Force and said they were employed by a Namibian aviation company.

The embassy charged that three cargo planes, two jet planes and nine light aircraft had transported military hardware and food provisions from South Africa to Unita positions throughout Angola.

The 14 planes, with registration numbers provided, comprised three four-engined Douglas cargo aircraft, eight Cessna light planes, two Learjets and one Beachcraft Kingair.

'Vehement protest'

The embassy said Angola's government had irrefutable proof of South Africa's support to Unita, which had now assumed a new aggression.

"Faced with this picture, the Angolan government presents its vehement protest and demands immediate cessation of this intervention in its internal affairs and alerts the international community on the negative consequences that might derive from this situation for peace and stability and the democratic process in Southern Africa."

When Angola has raised similar accusations against South Africa in the past, Pretoria has denied giving any support to Unita and challenged the Luanda government to produce incontrovertible proof.

The embassy also said the Angolan government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had information that showed Dr Savimbi was not prepared to participate in the second round of presidential elections for fear of another humiliating defeat.

"So, he prefers his old plan of creating a new Angola in the south, including the diamond-rich zones of Luanda's provinces.

Govt won't agree

"This separatist project, contrary to the majority wishes of the Angolan people, must be put in execution with a gradual transfer of illegal Unita troops, reinforced eventually by 'volunteers' of the SA Buffalo Battalion to south of the Benguela rail line.

"On this territory, these troops will aim to capture and strengthen military control of provincial capitals, including what was supposed to be the future capital, to proclaim in due course the so-called south Angola," said the embassy statement.

The embassy stressed the Luanda government would not agree to this Unita plan.

● Unita yesterday set terms for Friday's peace talks with the government, but failed to mention a ceasefire. In a radio broadcast, Unita demanded the evacuation from the capital of senior Unita official Mr Abel Chivukuvuku, badly wounded in fighting in Luanda last November. — Sapa-Reuter, UPI

Angolan claims of SA planes rejected

RAY HARTLEY

FOREIGN Affairs yesterday dismissed renewed claims by the Angolan government that SA was secretly flying military hardware to Unita in southern Angola.

The Angolan embassy in Harare claimed it had a list of 16 people believed to be South Africans involved in supply operations using 14 cargo and light aircraft. But the Foreign Affairs spokesman said: "We have been aware of this list of 16 names for a number of weeks and we're satisfied that the majority of those listed are Namibians flying for a Namibian aviation company." The others listed could not be identified.

It has been established that two of those named — J C Thornley and N G Weber — were directors of Namibian Commercial Aviation, which regularly operated commercial flights into Angola.

At least two of the aircraft mentioned belonged to the airline, while a third had been ferrying "non-government organisation personnel" to and from Angola, a well-placed source said. The source added that a fourth plane listed in the document was, in fact, grounded and being used for spare parts in Rundu, Namibia.

Sapa-Reuter reports from Lisbon that diplomatic sources say Portugal, Russia and the US, observers of Angola's 1991 peace accord, may allow the Angolan government to receive outside military aid to defeat Unita, but will first give Friday's peace talks in Addis Ababa a chance.

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Minister

Peacekeepers get tough in Angola

5

APCT 24/2/93

LISBON. — Angola is a catastrophe in the making, American, Russian and Portuguese diplomats said yesterday, promising to apply maximum pressure to warring government and rebel forces at peace talks this week.

And they warned of international repercussions against any side that continued fighting.

Portugal called the meeting of the diplomats — guarantors of Angola's failed 1991 peace accords — to discuss strategies to end the civil war, in which hundreds of thousands have been killed and millions brought to the verge of starvation.

Portuguese State Secretary Mr Jose Manuel Briosa e Gala refused to specify what international sanctions were dis-

cussed during the meeting with Assistant Secretary of State for African affairs Mr Herman Cohen and Mr Gregory Karassine, Russian Secretary for African Affairs.

Asked if the US would grant diplomatic recognition to the Angolan government as a means of speeding a peace agreement, Mr Cohen said it was being considered.

He said the US would carefully consider Unita's response to any reasonable suggestions made at peace talks scheduled for Friday in Addis Ababa.

● Fighting raged on in Angola yesterday as Unita rebels reported fighting north-west of its bush headquarters at Jamba.

Unita radio also reported fighting at Sangondon, where three government tanks were destroyed. — Sapa-AP-AFP.

Unita leader ^⑤ urges ceasefire

CT 25/1/93

LISBON. — A leading member of the Unita movement yesterday called for a truce in Angola, blaming the government for fighting in the central city of Huambo.

"A total ceasefire is urgent and necessary," said Ms Fatima Roque, Unita's "economic minister", in a statement issued here.

Ms Roque left the Angolan capital Luanda at the beginning of February after being held by the government in protective custody in a hotel for three months.

"The ferocious and destructive fighting in Huambo and other parts of Angola contributes nothing towards peace and democracy. But it was government forces and not Unita which attacked Huambo," she said.

Ms Roque's call came as the Angolan government urged international observers yesterday to take a strong position against Unita and said their call for a ceasefire was not enough.

Observer countries of the now tattered May 1991 peace accords — Portugal, Russia and the

'Govt to blame for new battle'

United States — said in a statement after meeting here on Tuesday the two sides should agree to a timetable for a ceasefire and revive the peace pact.

But Angola's MPLA government said this was not enough.

"The meeting did not meet expectations," said a commentary on state-run radio. "They did not launch anything new."

Mr Joao Lourenco, MPLA information secretary, said the three countries should exert more pressure on Unita. "What we expect of the troika is a very firm and clear position against Unita."

General Higino Carneiro, a senior government negotiator, told state-run radio he had a

"certain pessimism" about the talks.

● Suspected Unita rebels have kidnapped a Jordanian official serving with a UN monitoring group in the northern Angolan oil enclave of Cabinda, the national Angop news agency reported yesterday.

The government military command in Cabinda said Mr Faez Shadaifat was kidnapped by Unita on Tuesday in the Chiazi region, eight kilometres from Cabinda town. The kidnappers also took his UN vehicle, Angop said.

Angop added that it was unable to obtain confirmation of the report from the headquarters of the UN mission in Angola in Luanda.

Renewed civil war has broken out between Unita and government troops since the rebels lost a UN-supervised general election in September.

The UN has arranged a new round of peace talks between the warring sides tomorrow in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa. The last talks collapsed with no agreements being reached. — Sapa-Reuter

'UN must flex muscles to restore Angola peace'

STAR
Star Africa Service 25/2/93

The resumption of the peace process in Angola will require a greatly increased United Nations role but it is uncertain whether the international community would be prepared to pay for that, says a report by the Economic Intelligence Unit.

The report says the UN's failure to fully disarm the opposing sides and its attempt to monitor the election "on the cheap" were factors in the collapse of the peace process last year. Failure to ensure an adequate UN role in another

presidential election would again put the peace process at risk and make a lasting peace in Angola even more elusive.

The report on Angola's prospects for recovery was released this week. It says neither the MPLA nor Unita can triumph militarily and neither could govern effectively without the participation of the other.

Both parties accept the need for some form of coalition government but the crucial issue is how the power is divided, the report says. Related to this is the question of whether and how a second presidential election is held.

Angola set for new peace bid

ARCT 25/2/93

⑤

LUANDA. — The Angolan government and Unita rebels today prepared for peace talks as fighting intensified in the decisive battle for Huambo.

Tomorrow's talks, the second round in a month in Addis Ababa under UN auspices, are aimed at reaching a ceasefire and reviving May 1991 peace accords, which broke down after Unita rejected its September electoral defeat.

But some diplomats were sceptical that a truce could be reached and state-run media reported increased fighting in Huambo, once the country's second city and Unita's headquarters.

The three observer countries of the peace accords — Portugal, Russia and the United States — repeated calls for a ceasefire at a one-day meeting in Lisbon.

The UN special representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, flew to the Ethiopian capital yesterday to prepare for

the meeting, which had been long-delayed by Unita, state radio reported.

The peace accords briefly ended 16 years of civil war, but Unita violated the pact after the elections.

Since the fighting resumed in November at least 15 000 people have died and hundreds of thousands more have been displaced. The worst fighting has been in Huambo, where the

UN monitor kidnapped

LUANDA. — The Angolan government has accused Unita of kidnapping a United Nations official in northern Angola.

UN monitor Mr Faez Shadifat of Jordan disappeared outside the city of Cabinda, capital of the Cabinda enclave 380km north of Luanda.

"We are very worried about him," said Mrs Margaret Anstee, UN special representative in Angola. — Sapa-AP.

government says at least 10 000 civilians have died since early January.

● Angola's President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has sacked Finance Minister Mr Salomao Xirimibi and the director of the National Bank of Angola, Mr Sebastiao Lavrador, the Portuguese news agency Lusa said.

Trade and Tourism Minister Mr Manuel Carneiro would stand in as finance minister for the time being, and former vice-president of the central bank Mr Generoso de Almeida as National Bank of Angola director.

● The Argus Foreign Service reports from Washington that Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi was spending about \$600 000 (R1,6 million) a year until the end of last year to improve the image of his organisation in the United States and to solicit government and private aid, according to a non-partisan public interest lobbying group, Common Cause. — Sapa-Reuters.

Top Unita official calls for truce

BIDN 25/2/93
 LISBON — A leading Unita member called for a truce in Angola yesterday, blaming the government for fighting in the central city of Huambo.

"A total ceasefire is urgent and necessary," Unita economic minister Fatima Roque said in a statement issued in Lisbon.

Roque left Luanda at the beginning of February after being held by the government in protective custody at a hotel for three months.

"The ferocious and destructive fighting in Huambo and other parts of Angola contribute nothing towards peace and democracy.

"But it was government forces and

not Unita which attacked Huambo," she said.

Peace accords signed in 1991 to end a 16-year civil war in Angola between Unita and the ruling MPLA collapsed when Savimbi rejected his defeat in September elections.

Roque is regarded as one of the more moderate members of Savimbi's movement.

Unita and the MPLA officials are due to meet in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa tomorrow to discuss a ceasefire.

Portugal, Russia and the US, observers of the 1991 peace accord, told both sides in the civil war on Tuesday

to stop fighting or face an international response.

Meanwhile, suspected Unita rebels have kidnapped a Jordanian official serving with the UN in the northern Angolan oil enclave of Cabinda, the national Angop news agency reported yesterday.

The government military command in Cabinda said Faez Shadaifat was kidnapped on Tuesday in the Chiazi region, 8km from Cabinda. The kidnappers also took his UN vehicle, Angop said.

Angop added that it was unable to obtain confirmation of the report from the headquarters of the UN mission in Angola — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Keep out of Angola, UN observers warn

Sowetan 25/2/93 (5)

■ Other countries urged not to obstruct peace process:

LUANDA — The United States, Russia and Portugal, the three observer nations in the Angolan peace process, have warned countries in the region against obstructing the peace process.

"We have urged all governments in the region, including the South African Government, to make sure that their territory is not used for aggressive acts against the territory of Angola," US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Mr Herman Cohen said after a

meeting with his Portuguese and Russian colleagues in the observer group in Lisbon.

Moscow was represented by Grigori Karassin.

Cohen told a news conference: "We received assurances from the South African Government. However, we can't exclude that private interests, in South Africa or in any other countries in the region, are selling arms to one or to both parties." — Sapa-AFP.

500 civilians killed in Huambo

LUANDA — At least 500 civilians were killed on Wednesday evening by fighting between government troops and Unita rebels in the Angolan city of Huambo, military sources said here yesterday.

Artillery fire set 15 buildings ablaze in the city centre and an unknown number of residents, who were unable to leave because of bombing, were killed in their homes, the sources added.

The fighting came as Angolan President

Jose Eduardo dos Santos sacked Finance Minister Mr Salomao Xirimambi and Central Bank governor Mr Sebastiao Lavrador for devaluing the national currency.

Angop news agency reported a note from the president's office said the two had "exceeded their powers" when they devalued a devaluation of "at least 1,196%" of the new kwanza on February 5, without the "permission" of Prime Minister Mr Marcolino Moco.

● Meanwhile, British Deputy Foreign Minister Baroness Lynda Chalker stressed yesterday the urgent need for Angolan rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi to return to the peace table.

"He must not be permitted to gain by force what he lost through the ballot box under international supervision," she said in Johannesburg in an address to the South African Institute of International Affairs. — Sapa-Reuter

26/2/93

Tragedy in Angola — UN leader

5 STAR 26/2/93

By Mike Littlejohn
Special Correspondent

NEW YORK — A tragedy of grave proportions was developing in Angola, United Nations Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali said on the eve of new peace talks starting today in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

He said up to 3 million people in Angola were

affected by conflict, hunger, drought and disease.

Sapa-AFP reports that at least 500 civilians were killed on Wednesday night as government troops and Unita rebels continued fighting in Huambo in the central Angolan highlands.

Boutros-Ghali appealed to the Angolan government and Unita to make all possible efforts

to reach a compromise over their differences and agree to a ceasefire.

"This is necessary to enable the resumption of the political dialogue as well as, and equally importantly, to ensure that humanitarian help can be delivered to millions of suffering Angolans," he said.

Noting that many thousands of people had

been killed in the past four months, he said children and the elderly now were at greatest risk.

While UN and other relief agencies were ready to begin providing help immediately, this must depend on a ceasefire being implemented.

"The Addis Ababa talks thus mark a crucial watershed," the secretary-general said.

Finance chiefs sacked for devaluing currency

LUANDA — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has sacked Finance Minister Salomao Xirimimbi and Central Bank governor Sebastiao Lavrador for devaluing the national currency.

A note from the president's office said they had "exceeded their powers" when they decreed a devaluation of "at least 1,196%" of the new kwanza on February 5, without the "permission" of Prime Minister Marcelino Moco, ANGOP news agency reported.

The Central Bank had decided to sell US dollars at public auction early this month in a move that devalued the new kwanza from 530 to 7 000 to the dollar.

The two officials had made the decision "without consulting different sectors of government and without respecting constitutional law," the president's office said.

Trade and Tourism Minister Emanuel Carneiro would provisionally take over the finance ministry and Lavrador would be replaced by Central Bank deputy governor Generoso de Almeida. Moco became prime minister after UN-supervised general elections last September.

Angolan military sources said yesterday that at least 500 civilians were

5 killed on Wednesday by fighting between government troops and Unita in the central city of Huambo.

Artillery fire set 15 buildings ablaze in the city centre and an unknown number of residents, who were unable to leave because of bombing, were killed in their homes, the sources said.

Unita has been fighting government troops for control of Huambo for seven weeks.

Meanwhile, the search continued for a UN monitor who disappeared in northern Angola two days ago.

The government claims he was abducted by Unita rebels.

Army and police units have joined UN officials in the hunt for Faez Shadaifat of Jordan, who disappeared outside the city of Cabinda.

UN special representative for Angola Margaret Anstee was in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, for peace talks scheduled for today between government and Unita delegates and was unavailable for comment.

Despite the promised resumption of peace talks, fighting continued in Huambo, the city that has become the key battle in the renewed civil war.

Government officials estimate 10 000 people have been killed since the battle for Angola's second largest city began on January 9.

5 Humanitarian workers have repeatedly pleaded for a ceasefire to allow the evacuation of 15 000 wounded.

Government and rebel troops have been at war again since Unita leader Jonas Savimbi refused to accept defeat at the polls in September.

Unita, whose rebel army is judged superior to the government military, is believed to hold military control of 75% of the country, including the key coastal petroleum town of Soyo and parts of diamond mining regions in the north.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a January report to the UN Security Council, condemned the "outrageous harassment and physical abuse to which UN personnel have been subjected by officials and supporters of both sides but especially Unita."

Since November, one UN monitor has been killed by crossfire in the fighting for the northern military town of Uige, and several wounded by shrapnel.

Butros-Ghali told the Security Council last month there were 247 military monitors, 87 police observers and nine electoral/political observers in Angola.

More than 360 000 people have been killed in Angolan fighting since 1975. — Sapa-AP.

Millions of Angolan lives at risk as war sows havoc

KATHRYN STRACHAN

THE war in Angola had taken the country to the verge of total breakdown, with hunger and disease threatening the lives of more than 3-million people, the UN World Food Programme (WFP) reported.

WFP spokesman Mercedes Sayagues told a media briefing in Johannesburg that the ongoing war had prevented humanitarian aid from reaching towns crowded with displaced and wounded people.

Because war had disrupted work on the land, prospects for this year's harvest were very poor, she said. And economic life was completely disrupted, compounding the problem. People had already eaten their food reserves and seed stocks, and by August there would be very little left.

Added to this, overland transport was unsafe, except near Luanda. Only expensive WFP airlifts — also at risk of being shot down by Unita — were supplying provincial capitals with food and medicine.

Priests had been called to negotiate with Unita for clearance to fly in supplies to avoid being shot down, she said.

"Angola is a disaster. And it is going to get much worse as the year goes by." Sayagues said the country could become "another Somalia", but to avoid this the

WFP was trying to place food stockpiles at ports in Luanda, Lobito and in Namibia. However, the lack of security and problems at the port of Luanda would continue to hamper food distribution.

She said many rural centres, including Malange and Uige, had become ghost towns as people fled to the countryside without food, blankets or medical help.

Turning to Mozambique, Sayagues warned that the country was threatened by destabilisation unless the process of demobilising soldiers was speeded up and food was distributed immediately.

The WFP was ready to distribute food, she said, but Renamo would only allow distribution once demobilisation began, now set for April 1. Because the process was constantly being postponed, banditry had increased. The threat of landmines was also jeopardising the relief effort.

In Malawi relief was in sight. Previously the country faced the greatest risk of famine, but the gap in commercial food supplies could be partially bridged by borrowing more than 23 000 tons of food from WFP shipments for refugees, she said.

Russian planes based at Mmabatho airport may be transporting Armscor weapons to Angola via Zaire.

By GAVIN EVANS, DAVID ZARING and EDDIE KOCH

RUSSIAN Antonov transport planes, based at Bophuthatswana's Mmabatho airport, are being chartered by Armscor to ferry arms to Zaire and other African countries, according to a senior official in South Africa's Directorate of Civil Aviation.

There are fears that these arms are finding their way to Unita forces fighting pitched battles with government troops in Angola.

The *Weekly Mail* this week visited the airport and found an Antonov 12, with a capacity of 17 tons, parked and ready for use. The aircraft had just returned from a trip to Kinshasa, Zaire.

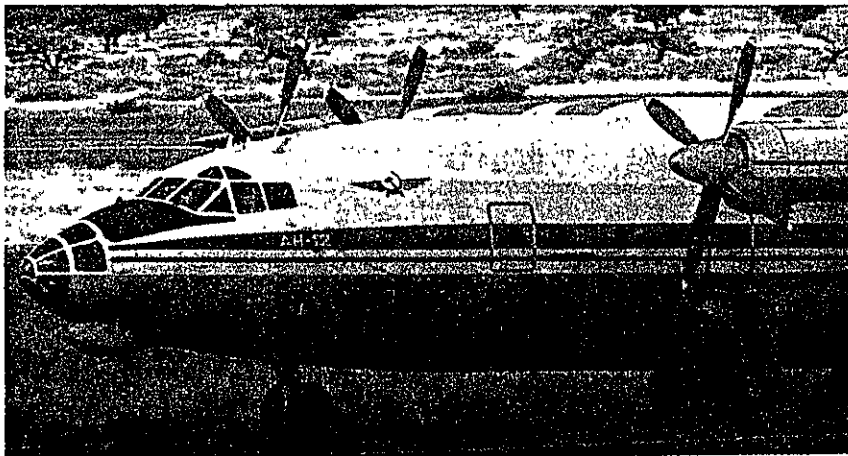
Another senior source in the aviation industry, who asked to remain anonymous, said: "There are a lot of operations out of Mmabatho airport. Funny things are happening there. There are a lot of Antonovs flying into Zaire."

Asked about the cargo on these flights, the source said: "You can use your imagination, but it's obviously armaments."

Armscor spokesman Henry Abdoll yesterday acknowledged that the state-owned armaments company was involved in the sale of arms and other equipment to African countries, but

Bop planes 'ferrying arms to Unita forces'

Witness 26/2-4/3/93



Ready for use ... A Russian Antonov 12 stands at Mmabatho airport

Photo: KEVIN CARTER

denied that the Bop-based Antonovs had been used for this purpose.

The South African Communist Party this week said it had been informed by foreign diplomats that Safair, South Africa's main cargo aviation company, was chartering the Antonovs to deliver

arms to Unita.

This appears to be incorrect. Safair yesterday issued a statement saying it had never leased any Antonov aircraft and that it would "under no circumstances whatsoever violate any foreign country's airspace".

But the disclosures by the South African civil aviation official, who spoke off the record, may provide some backing for the SACP's claims that "regular nightly flights from Mmabatho airport of Antonov transport planes" were made to south-western

Zaire with the purpose of supplying arms to Unita.

The evidence indicates that the Antonovs flying out of Mmabatho belong to a company called Africa Aeroftot. A spokesman for the firm confirmed that the Antonov seen at Mmabatho this week had been flying to Zaire. He denied it had been chartered by Armscor and said it was flying "on purely commercial missions" and had returned to Mmabatho "because it developed technical problems".

The spokesman added that he had heard of another Antonov, not owned by his company, which was doing "non-commercial work from Lanseria, maybe for Armscor".

Bophuthatswana's Civil Aviation Director, Dermott MacLaughlin, claimed the homeland had given permission for the Antonovs to be used for, among other things, cargo haulage and "mercy missions" to Sudan, Ethiopia and Mozambique, under United Nations auspices.

Ten Africa Aeroftot-owned cargo aircraft have at various times flown to and from Mmabatho since May 1992, using Russian crews and equipment. MacLaughlin said such equipment is cheap but "not energy-efficient."

He did not explain how the notoriously petrol-hungry Antonovs could fly as far as north Sudan, nor why the UN had chosen an unrecognised homeland as its base for mercy missions so far afield.

Comment from the UN's World Food Programme responsible for flying relief aid to famine-stricken parts of Africa was not available at the time of going to press.

Africa Aeroftot was given permission to use Mmabatho airport by Rowan Cronje, Minister for Defence, State Affairs and Civil Administration in the Bophuthatswana government.

MacLaughlin confirmed that C130 cargo planes, "chartered by mining companies and aid agencies", had flown from Bophuthatswana to Angola before last year's elections.

The Africa Aeroftot spokesman, a Russian called Mark who refused to give his surname, said his company was working closely with the UN and the Red Cross, and that they had four planes in Mozambique.

South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs said it was "unaware of any unauthorised flights to Angola".

According to the South African civil aviation official, the Antonovs are given landing rights and parking by the Bophuthatswana government, "and are being chartered directly by Armscor and by other African countries to fly Armscor-produced arms out of the country and to other African countries."

"This is useful to Armscor because it means their arms are being transported by Russian aircraft, which are far less conspicuous. Their crews are always waiting on standby. Because they are based in Bophuthatswana, they don't need South African work permits or South African pilot's licences, and we have no jurisdiction over them." He would not say to which African countries the arms were being ferried.

The route passes over Bophuthatswana, Botswana and northern Namibia, and does not include South African airspace, allowing the South African government to claim ignorance of these operations.

Mmabatho airport is fast gaining a reputation for being a gun-running centre. The *Weekly Mail* reported last year that international gunrunners had chartered a Ugandan Boeing 747 to fly Armscor weapons into Yugoslavia and that the plane had landed at Mmabatho to pick up the cargo.

Savimbi: Angola's Black Pimpernel

LUANDA. — They seek him here, they seek him there. Angola's Black Pimpernel, elusive rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, is rumoured to be everywhere.

Southern African communists insist Dr Savimbi is there. One diplomat believes he was in Zaire recently and another says he may be in Ivory Coast or Morocco.

Then there are those who believe

Dr Savimbi never left Angola and is directing the renewed war against the Luanda government from jungle hide-outs, his satellite-phone equipped aides at his side.

After breaking 1991 peace accords and provoking the worst fighting in three decades of Angolan bloodletting, the flamboyant guerrilla leader has disappeared from sight.

Luanda is a city of gossip and little

reliable information. It is overflowing with propaganda, disinformation, rumour, distortion, unconfirmed reports and downright lies.

"Savimbi is like Elvis Presley — he's everywhere. Except shopping malls," quipped one Western diplomat.

However, few believe the UNITA leader is dead. Comparisons to Alexandre Dumas's elusive Scarlet Pimpernel would be more accurate.

The South African Communist Party claimed on Monday that Pretoria was sheltering Dr Savimbi, a charge quickly dismissed by the South African government.

Some Angolans will tell you he escaped, possibly dressed as a woman, and walked the 60km to Caxito city to lead fighting there. — Sapa-Reuter

27/10/93

Govt warns 'dogs of war'

CT 27/12/93
 (5) *[Handwritten initials]*

By GUY OLIVER
DEFENCE MINISTER
Mr Gene Louw issued a stern warning yesterday that SADF personnel who enlist as mercenaries face a R5 000 fine or two years imprisonment or both.

The warning came within hours of a Harare press conference by Angola's Zimbabwean ambassador Mr Aristides van Dunem disclosing that two white South African "soldiers" had been captured by government forces under siege in Huambo, Angola. The two combatants, attached to the rebel movement Unita, were not named.

Last night Colonel Jan Breytenbach, founder of the 32 "Buffalo" Battalion forged during the South African/Angolan war, said he had received inquiries from several SADF soldiers, and an ex-Rhodesian SAS member, on "where they report to fight in Angola."

"Evidently there is recruiting taking place for Angola. I do not know who, but somebody is recruiting in South Africa," he said. "I cannot see a man packing up his equipment and going up there alone. There must be a link be-

tween Unita and South Africa," the legendary colonel said.

In a statement to be distributed to all members of the Defence Force, Mr Louw quoted the 1987 Defence Act that a member of the Permanent Force, Citizen Force, Commandos — including national servicemen — the Pf

were operating in the renewed Angolan civil war.

Mr Van Dunem said the South Africans had been captured "roughly" a month ago but was unable to give their names "because the situation in Huambo (where the men are being held) is very difficult".

The Angolan government has repeatedly accused South Africa of involvement in the war, alleging an SAAF helicopter had been sighted in the southern Angolan province of Huila.

South African Foreign Affairs spokesman Mr Patrick Evans said yesterday the accusations had "come thick and fast" and were "irritating us somewhat".

"We once again appeal to the Angolan government to provide us with details to support their accusations, to enable us to act on them," he said.

Col Breytenbach — who cynically referred to Dr Savimbi as the "Angolan emperor" — said the expertise of South African mercenaries in heavy weapons could turn the tide at Huambo.

He said 32 Battalion hated Unita and the "recces hate them even more".

But soldiering was a trade and if Dr Savimbi was offering US \$10 000 (about R30 000) a month "they will go. They have experience in that part of the world".

32 Battalion will be disbanded on March 28 and its members integrated into the SADF, a Defence Ministry spokesman said.

ANGOLA'S BLACK PIMPERNEL — PAGE 2

Reserve, the Active Citizen Force Reserve, or the National Reserve voluntary nursing service may "not bind himself to serve or render service as a mercenary".

People attempting to recruit in these categories would be liable for a fine of up to R10 000 or five years imprisonment or both.

Mr Louw said "in the interests of South Africa, and of peace and stability in Southern Africa, the government will not tolerate a situation where Defence Force members are recruited as mercenaries".

He said "strict action" would be taken against transgressors. A Defence Ministry spokesman denied any SADF personnel



'Pimpernel' Savimbi nowhere to be seen

SPAN 21/2/93

JUDITH MATLOFF



LUANDA — They seek him here, they seek him there, Angola's Black Pimpernel, elusive rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, is rumoured to be everywhere.

South African communists insist Savimbi is in their country. One diplomat believes he was in Zaire recently and another says he may be in the Ivory Coast or Morocco.

Then there are those who believe Savimbi never left Angola and is directing the renewed war against the Luanda government from jungle hideouts, his satellite phone-carrying aides at his side.

After breaking 1991 peace accords and provoking the worst fighting in three decades of Angolan bloodletting, the flamboyant leader has disappeared from sight.

Those who know where he is aren't telling — but that doesn't stop the rumour mill. Luanda is a city of gossip and little reliable information. It is overflowing with propaganda, disinformation, rumour, distortion, unconfirmed reports and downright lies.

"Savimbi is like Elvis Presley — he's everywhere. Except in shopping malls," quipped one Western diplomat.

However, few believe the Unita leader is dead. Comparisons to Alexandre Dumas's elusive Scarlet Pimpernel would be more accurate.

The South African Communist Party

claimed on Monday that Pretoria was sheltering Savimbi, a charge quickly dismissed as nonsense.

Many people believe Savimbi left his headquarters in the central city of Huambo soon after fighting erupted there nearly two months ago.

He could still be in the province, along with aides who maintain contact by satellite telephone with UN officials trying to silence the guns. Huambo is in the land of his people, the Ovimbundu, Angola's largest ethnic group.

The Luanda rumour mill is also putting out conflicting reports about the fate of one of Savimbi's relatives and top military men, General Artindo Chenda Penda, also known as "Ben Ben".

The government says "Ben Ben" was killed when Unita was run out of Luanda in heavy fighting in early November.

State television showed remains said to be his, but since then his name has been resurrected on various rebel communiqués.

Some Angolans will tell you he escaped, possibly dressed as a woman, and walked the 60 km to Caxito city, to lead fighting there.

Others say he has been sighted elsewhere in Angola.

"I don't believe anything here unless I can see and touch it," said one Western diplomat. "And that includes the whereabouts of Dr Savimbi." — Sapa-Reuter.



JONAS SAVIMBI: Some think he has slipped out of Angola.

Angola army chief 'held'

(5)
ARG 28/2/93

LUANDA. — As Angolan peace talks were scheduled to get underway later yesterday in Addis Ababa, Angola's rebel movement Unita claimed it had captured an army chief at an MPLA military base at the battlefront in Huambo.

Unita's radio, Vorgan, reported that its forces had captured Colonel Mateus Chitayi, the second-in-command at the Huambo military centre, during Thursday morning's heavy fighting which left 500 people dead.

But a government military source contacted by AFP denied its colonel had been captured.

He said the colonel at the Huambo base was Jack Raul, who was still alive.

The government reported yesterday in the Journal de Angola that about 1500 mortar bombs had been fired into Huambo. Streets were littered with decomposing bodies.

Government also reported that one of its helicopters was damaged by Unita before it escaped to Caala, south of Huambo city, during fighting on Thursday.

Meanwhile, another government military source told AFP government troops from the northern Cabinda province started leaving for Catumbela in Benguela province on Thursday, en route to Huambo.

Although he could not say how many troops were involved, the government had an army of 15 000 men stationed in Cabinda after the September elections.

One government army column

has been trying for nearly two weeks now to reach Huambo from neighbouring Benguela province. This week it was reported to be about 150 km from the city.

Angolan peace talks were due to open in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, later yesterday.

A chartered aircraft carrying part of the government delegation left the capital yesterday morning at 02h00 local time. The rest of the delegation was to go to Ethiopia from Lisbon.

It could not be established yesterday whether the Unita delegation had left for the talks.

Unita complained this week that government forces were bombing all airports in provinces under its control in a bid to make it impossible for its representatives to fly out for the talks.

Two SA soldiers 'captured' in Angola

HARARE. — Angolan government forces in the besieged central city of Huambo are holding two white South African soldiers captured fighting on the side of the rebel Unita army, an Angolan diplomat said here.

Mr Aristides van Dunem, Angola's ambassador to Harare, said the two had been captured a month ago, but he was unable to provide further details because of the difficulty of communicating with the city.

"The situation is very difficult," he said.

Angola repeatedly has claimed South Africa is supporting Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi in his resumption of hostilities after losing elections last year to the ruling MPLA party. — Sapa.

Angola peacemakers arrive

ADDIS ABABA. — An Angolan government delegation arrived here yesterday to resume peace talks with the rebel movement Unita, while diplomatic sources voiced doubts about the chances of a positive outcome.

Mr Mutekla Faustino, special adviser to President José Eduardo dos Santos, is leading the 14-member team.

The Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) delegates were due later in the day on a plane chartered by the United Nations. Margaret Anstee, UN special envoy to Angola, was also due here.

The government team said the main objective of the talks would be to restore a ceasefire, as the priority was to stop the fighting which has cost tens of thousands of lives, according to official figures.

A first round of talks in the Ethiopian capital at the end of January failed to agree on a ceasefire.

The United States, Russia and Portugal, which underwrote Angola's May 1991 peace pact, warned earlier this week that "appropriate" international action would be taken against whichever party persisted in blocking moves to peace.

The three observer countries said a date for a ceasefire had to be fixed at the new round of talks.

Despite that pressure, diplomats expressed reservations about a ceasefire being set up.

Unita has been stalling for weeks on resuming negotiations and the diplomats noted that the movement's radio station, Vorgan, had been broadcasting a separate agenda for the talks which could bar progress towards a ceasefire.

Unita wants to raise the issue of political prisoners and have responsibility for the resumption of fighting established. — Sapa-AFP.

Labrador is America's top dog

NEW YORK. — America's favorite dog is the Labrador retriever, followed by the Rottweiler and the cocker spaniel.

The American Kennel Club, the leading dog authority in the United States, has just issued a list of the 10 most popular dogs. It is based on the number of AKC pure-bred puppies registered in 1992.

America's fourth most popular breed is the German shepherd, and the poodle lies in fifth place.

The rest of the list is:

- 6 Golden retriever;
- 7 Beagle;
- 8 Dachshund;
- 9 Shetland sheepdog; and
- 10 Chow. — Sapa-AP.

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ANGOLA

Peace talks falter

Accusations fly as Unita delegates fail to arrive at Angolan peace talks, reports
ANDREW HILL in Addis Ababa

TALKS to stop the bloodshed in Angola appeared to have collapsed yesterday when Unita rebels said a government attack had prevented them from sending negotiators.

Two Unita delegates who reached the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, accused the government of stepping up the bombing of their former headquarters at Huambo in a deliberate attempt to torpedo the second round of UN-sponsored peace talks.

"The deliberate intensification of aerial bombardment is to frustrate Unita's attendance at the peace talks and to make Unita responsible for the failure of the talks," they said in a statement.

The talks were supposed to have hammered out a ceasefire in a conflict which erupted last November after Unita rejected the results of internationally-supervised polls which re-elected President Eduardo Dos Santos.

Angolan government delegates who arrived in Ethiopia on Friday declined to comment publicly pending UN efforts to organise transport for the Unita delegation from Angola.

Fighting

But privately they scoffed at the idea that the Unita team was even in Huambo, and said it was common knowledge that Jamba, close to the Angolan border with Namibia, was the current headquarters.

Diplomats involved in the peace process also reported considerable doubt about whether the Unita negotiating team was in Huambo, the scene of 47 days of increasingly intense fighting.

"I don't think they're coming at all, if, in fact, they ever intended to," said one diplomat.

There was widespread belief that Unita thought it was on the verge of taking Huambo completely, thereby increasing its bargaining power at any peace talks.

Unita's UN representative, Marco Samondo, and its London official, Isasias Enrique Samakuya, denied any responsibility for delaying the start of talks.

They said Unita "remains committed to the peace process".

Delegates to the talks said UN special representative Margaret Anstee was in touch with Angola to clarify the situation. — Foreign Desk

MPLA recruits former enemies for war in Angola

COOR WITHIN NOW

SI Times 28/2/93.

FIG FIGHT UNITA

By EDYTH BULBRING
Political Correspondent

ANGOLA's embattled MPLA government is secretly recruiting members of South Africa's elite Special Forces — once the sworn enemy — to fight against Unita rebels.

And in a bizarre reversal of roles, Pretoria is now battling to prevent the South African mercenaries from going to Angola.

The Sunday Times has established that the soldiers of fortune are being drawn from the soon-to-be-disbanded 32 Battalion, the dissolved Civil Cooperation Bureau and Military Intelligence's controversial Directorate of Covert Collection.

The men are to be deployed to recapture oil installations in the Unita-controlled town of Soyo, 60km south of Cabinda. SI Times 28/2/93

Killing

They will also be used to launch an assault on Unita territory in the southwest of the country. Ironically, many of them spent years defending the same territory for Unita in the 80s when South Africa was supporting the rebels.



gence's controversial Directorate of Covert Collection.

The men are to be deployed to recapture oil installations in the Unita-controlled town of Soyo, 60km south of Cabinda.

Killing

They will also be used to launch an assault on Unita territory in the south-west of the country. Ironically, many of them spent years defending the same territory for Unita in the 80s when South Africa was supporting the rebels.

At the same time, Unita has also started recruiting mercenaries in South Africa, raising the prospect that old comrades-at-arms might soon be killing each other as the mineral-rich country disintegrates into warring factions.

Angola's representative in South Africa, Mr Manual Augusto, denied his government was recruiting from this country, saying the claims were "absolute nonsense".

But the SA government is so worried about the situation that on Friday night, Defence Minister Eugene Louw took the unusual step of issuing a public statement warning SADF members that it was a criminal offence to sign up as mercenaries.

Intelligence sources say two former 32 Battalion members — one named as Queros and the other as Rui Janguiera — are involved in the recruitment, with the help of MPLA government agents.

The same intelligence sources disclosed that Angolan government representatives had held meetings with 32 Battalion members in Pomfret this month.

MPLA agents also met Special Forces members at the Mmabatho Sun to discuss an attack on Jamba, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's stronghold in south-western Angola.

Payment

Sources said six members of 32 Battalion, led by a Sergeant Tshaka Ernesto, were being housed at the home of the Angolan ambassador in Botswana before leaving for Luanda.

Three members of 32 Battalion were also picked up in Springbok this week, ostensibly leaving the country for a hiking trip to Luanda.

For the offensive against Jamba, the MPLA is looking for 25 commanders and five instructors — to be paid US\$5 000 a month for a three-month contract.

They have been asked for their bank account numbers so that half the money can be deposited. They will be flown from Jan Smuts to Windhoek, and then on to Luanda.

The offensive against

□ To Page 2

CCB mercenaries in Angola

Reenen, Buks Buys, Wj Bosman (Special Forces), G Mylie, JP Potgieter, Christo Olivier (Special Forces) and Deon Gerber (ex-Covert Collection). They are heading for a base called Caboledu, south of Luanda, where they will be joined by other recruited mercenaries. It is believed 20 of the recruited men are serving members of the SADF and SAP.

Two doctors who are Special Forces members will leave the country on March 4. They are being paid more than R60 000 for the job.

The disclosures come amid a welter of accusations and counter-accusations by the warring parties in Angola and outside.

The Bophuthatswana and Russian governments will also face protests because of their alleged collusion in flying arms from Bophuthatswana to Unita via Zaire, using Russian Antonov cargo planes.

● The MPLA also claimed it had evidence of Zairean involvement in supporting Unita.

The ANC, meanwhile, has condemned the "criminal war" being waged in Angola by Unita. It proposes a series of demonstrations against the SADF "because of its support for Unita".

Intelligence sources believe the recruitment is happening with the full compliance of American and French oil companies.

On February 24, seven mercenaries left Jan Smuts to travel to Angola via Windhoek. Kitted out with backpacks, they said they were on a hiking trip. These men are V van

former senior CCB operative mentioned in connection with dirty tricks.

The payment of these men is being handled by Eben Barlow, a former member of 32 Battalion and the Directorate of Covert Collection, through a private company.

The mercenaries will be registered as employees of major oil companies operating in Angola and will be paid over R40 000 for the job.

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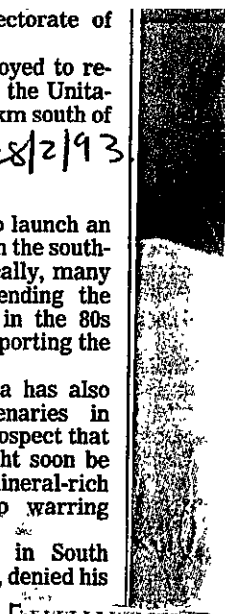
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ST Times 28/2/93



Stop backing Unita, ANC tells govt

CIT 2812193
THE ANC is to hold a series of lunchtime placard demonstrations calling on the government to recognise the results of last year's Angolan elections "and to stop supporting Unita".

"The focus will be on the SADF because of its continuing support for Unita," the ANC said yesterday. (AA) (3)

The Department of Foreign Affairs has repeatedly denied claims that SA is involved in the renewed civil war in Angola.

The Bophuthatswana government will also face protests, the ANC said.

ANGIOLA — GENERAL

1993

MARCH — ~~MAY~~ APRIL

Mercenary soldiers

REPORTS from both factions involved in the civil war in Angola are that former SA Defence Force members have turned mercenary and are fighting for Unita and that country's government forces — at a price.

The Ministry of Defence has reported.

Sowetan 1/3/93

edly released the names of at least four soldiers of fortune who have left the country to fight in Angola's renewed civil war.

That country was plunged into civil war again after Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi refused to accept the outcome of elections in Angola last October.

Defence Minister Mr Gene Louw warned that any members of South Africa's permanent or citizen force who became mercenaries were violating the country's laws.

PAC, Govt to meet in Gaborone today

Sowetan 11/3/93

■ Crucial issue of Apla high on agenda:

By Themba Molefe
Political Reporter

THE Pan Africanist Congress and the Government meet in Gaborone today in a face-to-face encounter which includes the Azanian People's Liberation Army (Apla) high command and South Africa's securocrats.

The PAC's armed struggle will be at the top of the agenda, both sides have confirmed, with the Government describing Apla's insurgency as "terrorist".

The one-day meeting precedes a multiparty planning conference in Johannesburg on Friday which already hangs in the balance after attempts to woo both the PAC and the Azanian

People's Organisation floundered last week.

This follows the African National Congress's unsuccessful attempt at shuttle diplomacy which tried to get a commitment from both Azapo and the PAC.

Azapo has indicated it would not be at Friday's talks which it sees as an attempt to revive Codesa. The organisation wants a united front of the ANC, PAC and itself before facing the Government.

The Government's team at today's meeting with the PAC will be led by Law and Order Minister Mr Hernus Kriel, whose delegation will comprise Deputy Minister of Justice and of Defence Mr Danie Schutte and

Deputy Minister of Constitutional Development Mr Fanus Schoeman.

The SAP, SADF and National Intelligence Service will be represented by their most senior generals while Apla chief commander Mr Sabelo Phama and Apla political commissar Mr Romero Daniels will lead their delegation from Tanzania.

PAC secretary-general Mr Benny Alexander will be joined by foreign affairs secretary Mr Gora Ebrahim, political affairs secretary Mr Jaki Seroke, legal affairs secretary Mr Willie Seriti and national organiser Mr Maxwell Nemadzivhanani.

The reason for the talks being held outside South Africa was to facilitate the attendance of Apla chiefs.

VAT Budget alarm

Sowetan 11/3/93

■ Committee won't support increase in VAT:

By Ike Motsapi

THE Co-ordinating Committee on value added tax will hold an urgent meeting today to discuss the Government's Budget to be presented to Parliament on March 17.

The meeting, which will be attended by representatives from the Congress of South African Trade Unions, National Council of Trade Unions, African National Congress, Pan Africanist Congress, small business organisations, churches and

many other bodies, will start at 9am at the Johannesburg Hotel in Johannesburg.

Key speakers will be Mr Jay Naidoo, general secretary of the Congress of SA Trade Unions, and Mrs Ina Perlman, executive director of Operation Hunger.

Dr Bennie Fanaroff, chairman of the co-ordinating committee, said the meeting was necessary because the committee was concerned about continuing poverty and the Value Added Tax on food and basic services.



News in brief

Girlfriend gang-raped

FOUR men — two of them armed with knives and one with a firearm — tied up a man and raped his 29-year-old girlfriend when they parked at The Wilds near Hillbrow, Johannesburg, at the weekend.

Police spokesman Warrant Officer Andy Pieke said Hillbrow police were investigating. He appealed to couples

not to park in deserted places and to lock their car doors if they did.

Mercenary soldiers

REPORTS from both factions involved in the civil war in Angola are that former SA Defence Force members have turned mercenary and are fighting for Unita and that country's government forces — at a price.

The Ministry of Defence has reported.

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Defence Minister Mr Gene Louw warned that any members of South Africa's permanent or citizen force who became mercenaries were violating the country's laws.

Sowetan 11/3/93

SADF members 'take leave to fight in Angola'

Political Staff

ARC 1/3/93

A HOUSE in a quiet Verwoerdburg street was the nerve centre of planning for the South African mercenary operation to Angola, which took off last week.

According to sources, the residence of former CCB operative Mr Lafras Luitingh was the meeting place for many of the 80 men who have been recruited by alleged Angolan government agents to go and do battle with Unita in south-eastern Angola, Unita's traditional bush stronghold.

Other sources believe that about 10 to 12 of the 80 men who have gone to Angola are current members of the SADF, who have taken leave to join the operation.

The SADF has been unable to confirm whether any of its current members are involved. In an ambiguously worded statement, media liaison sources said: "We reiterate our denials that the SADF has deployed any soldiers in Angola."

However, sources in the SADF have said that there is "an awareness" that members might be involved without official sanction.

Further, Minister of Defence Gene Louw has issued a warning that any present or reserve members of the force found to be acting as mercenaries would be punished under the Defence Act.

The motley bunch of former CCB agents, Directorate of Cover Collectors members and those of the soon-to-be-disbanded 32 Battalion appear to have been motivated to accept the Angolan overtures predominantly by money.

The South African Foreign Affairs department insisted no South Africans should "fan the flames of conflict elsewhere in the region" and said the matter was under investigation.

Star 1/31/93

We'll cancel talks, UN warns Unita

ADDIS ABABA — The United Nations yesterday gave Angola's rebels an ultimatum to send a representative to peace talks in Ethiopia or they will be called off.

UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque said if the rebels had failed to respond by 8 am today "no one is going to wait for Unita after the deadline".

The ultimatum followed meetings between the UN representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, and Unita representatives in London and New York, the Angolan government delegation and observers from the United States, Portugal, and Russia.

The talks were scheduled to begin on Friday, but the rebels said their key negotiators were unable to leave the southern city of Huambo because of heavy bombardment by government forces.

On Saturday, Anstee proposed a nationwide truce beginning at midnight Angola time and offered to send two helicopters and senior UN officials to pick up Unita representatives at a place of their choice.

The Unita officials were to be flown to an undisclosed destination and later to Kinshasa, Zaire, where a UN plane was waiting to fly them to Addis Ababa for today's talks.

Albuquerque said the United Nations was insisting that Unita take Anstee's offer.



UN's Margaret Anstee . . . gone to extraordinary lengths to accommodate Unita.

Yesterday was the second time the rebels have failed to attend scheduled talks. Last month, both parties held inconclusive talks and agreed to meet on February 10. The rebels said fighting prevented them from travelling to Ethiopia.

Huambo, 530 km south-east of Angola's capital, Luanda, has been the centre of a six-week battle.

The back-and-forth fighting in Angola's second-largest city has killed more than 10 000 people since it began on January 9, according to the government.

Thousands more Angolans have been killed and hundreds of thousands forced to flee the fighting elsewhere.

Rebels from Jonas Savimbi's opposition Unita movement intensified their shelling of

Huambo yesterday morning, Angolan national radio reported. It said Unita had also brought in new reinforcements from Bie province.

The renewed hostilities began after Savimbi rejected results of elections in September. The elections were a result of a United Nations-brokered agreement last year.

Two Unita delegates who travelled to Ethiopia from London and New York said yesterday they, too, were awaiting the response of their negotiators, but they were not very optimistic.

"I have to say I'm getting pessimistic. The government controls Gove and we don't want to see any more of our leadership killed. It's a bit like using honey to trap a fly," said Marco Samondo, Unita's UN representative.

"We will wait and see what they say. But I think we may have to seek a postponement."

Members of an observer delegation from the United States, Portugal and Russia, who have been trying to steer the peace process back on track, were non-committal about chances of the Addis Ababa talks getting off the ground.

Of the three nations observing, Portugal is Angola's former colonial ruler. Washington backed Savimbi in 16 years of civil war and Moscow backed the socialist government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Star 113193

Arms claims

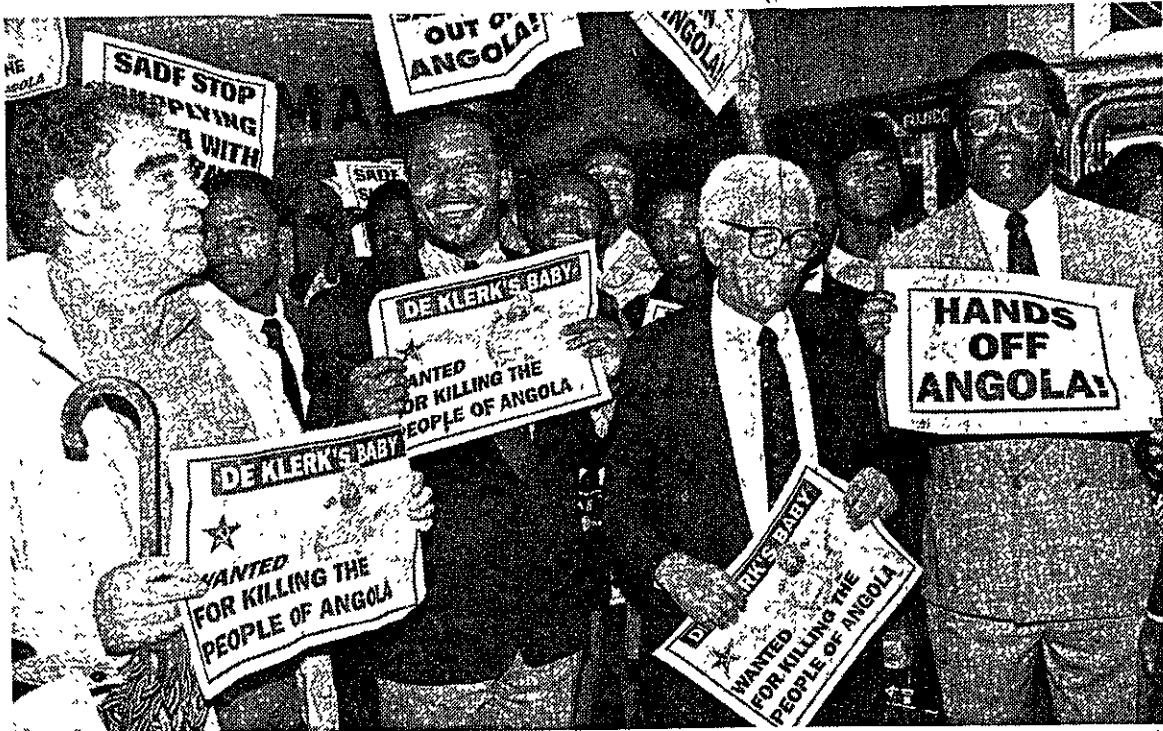
regrettable

Russian envoy

The Russian Federation's ambassador to South Africa, Eugeny Goussarov, yesterday rejected allegations by the Weekly Mail that Aeroflot Moscow aircraft were ferrying firearms from Bophuthatswana to Zaire which might find their way to Unita in Angola.

He said in Pretoria that the allegations were "very regrettable mis-information".

Unless a retraction and apology were forthcoming today, an interdict against the newspaper would be sought tomorrow. — Sapa.



Hundreds of ANC supporters accompanied ANC deputy president Walter Sisulu, second from right, and NEC members Ronnie Kasrils, left, and Steve Tshwete, right, to Johannesburg's US consulate yesterday. Picture: BRIAN HENDLER

Angola denies recruitment of 'mercenaries'

PRETORIA — Soldiers from SA's 32 Battalion had been applying for documentation to return to Angola on a daily basis, Angolan representative Manuel Augusto said yesterday.

Augusto, who said he had been in contact with the Foreign Affairs Department and SADF chief Gen Kat Liebenberg concerning the inquiries, said the soldiers had not been recruited as mercenaries by the Angolan government.

He confirmed that up to 30 battalion members had already approached the embassy for assistance.

"It is important to remark that if not the whole then at least the majority of 32 Battalion is Angolan-born. It

6/10/93 2/3/93
ADRIAN HADLAND

is normal that people want to go back. They are worried about the future now that the battalion is to be demobilised."

The soldiers had also encountered considerable hostility from the community, Augusto said.

A Foreign Affairs spokesman said the department had no objections to the Angolan office facilitating the return of the soldiers.

Foreign Affairs' southern Africa chief director Gert Grobler said: "If they want to return, we cannot stop them."

Grobler said SA would do all in its

power to prevent the hiring of mercenaries, the unauthorised export of arms or the illegal use of private SA aircraft in the Angolan civil war.

STEPHANE BOTHMA reports that the SAP said it was concerned about information received and allegations which indicated that South Africans were being recruited as mercenaries in Angola. Any person with information about a recruitment drive was called on to come forward in an attempt to prevent "this campaign".

Sapa reports that the US embassy yesterday denied the US government was involved in the recruitment of SA mercenaries for Angola.

UN says Angolan talks have 'failed'

CT 2/3/93

(5)

LUANDA. — The Angolan government said yesterday Unita rebels had stepped up an offensive on its positions as United Nations-sponsored ceasefire talks in Addis Ababa were called off.

The government said Unita killed 45 people on Sunday in the Mongonena area of Huambo province and threw the bodies into water reservoirs.

Two Dominican nuns were raped in the suburb of Aviacao in Huambo and 10 houses in the suburb of Santo Antonio were destroyed.

Rebel Radio Vorgan said government troops shelled Huambo.

In the Ethiopian capital, a spokesman for UN special representative to Angola Mrs Margaret Anstee said yesterday efforts to arrange peace talks

between the Angolan government and Unita had failed.

"It's all over," the spokesman said. "We can't wait until Christmas."

Unita representative Mr Marcos Sasmondo had pressed for a postponement of the talks so the Unita delegation could be brought to Addis Ababa.

The Angolan government team in Addis Ababa told Mrs Anstee it planned to leave yesterday unless there were some new developments.

Government delegates in Addis Ababa said nothing prevented Unita from leaving Huambo and claimed the rebels were looking for a "pretext" to avoid taking part in the talks.

● In Menongue, capital of Cuando Cubango province, Unita claimed to have killed 10 government troops. — Sapa-AFP

32 Battalion men apply to go 'home'

Own Correspondent

PRETORIA — Soldiers from South Africa's 32 Battalion had been applying for documentation to return to Angola, that country's representative Mr Manuel Augusto said yesterday.

Mr Augusto said the soldiers had not been recruited as mercenaries by the Angolan government.

He confirmed that up to 30 battalion members had approached the embassy for assistance.

"It is important to say that if not the whole, then at least the majority, of 32 Battalion is Angolan-born. It is normal that people want to go back."

The Angolan government denied recruiting mercenaries from South Africa, he said.

Star 2/13/93

Angolan peace talks called off ⑤

LUANDA — The Angolan government yesterday said Unita rebels had stepped up an offensive on its positions as UN-sponsored ceasefire talks in Addis Ababa were called off.

The government army stated that Unita killed 45 people on Sunday in the Mongonena area of Huambo province and threw the bodies into water reservoirs.

Two Dominican nuns were raped in the suburb of Aviação in the central highlands city of Huambo, scene of fierce fighting for more than seven weeks.

The rebels' Radio Vorgan meanwhile reported that government troops continued to shell Huambo.

In the Ethiopian capital, a spokesman for UN special representative to Angola Margaret Anstee said efforts to arrange peace talks between the Angolan government and Unita had "failed".

Unita had pressed for a postponement of the talks, so that the Unita delegation could be brought from Huambo to Addis Ababa. — Sapa-APF

Troika to consult on Angola

03/193 ⑤

LUANDA. — The troika underwriting Angola's peace pact, accused by Luanda of being too lenient with the Unita rebels, will consult soon to decide on a joint position to the renewed Angolan war.

Spokesmen for the US and Russian missions here yesterday said their representatives would meet in a few days to give their reaction to the aborted peace talks in Addis Ababa.

The UN and Portugal, the former colonial power and third member of the troika, have already blamed Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita for the failure of the talks.

Announcing the cancellation in the Ethiopian capital, UN special envoy to Angola Ms Margaret Anstee said the decision was "a grievous setback to prospects for peace in the near future".

Meanwhile, Angolan government soldiers are resuming their march on the besieged city of Huambo because of the abandonment of the talks.

At least 10 000 people have been killed here in two months of fighting, it was reported.

The two sides have pounded Huambo to rubble and aid workers believe the government estimate of a death toll of 10 000 is conservative.

Meanwhile, it was reported that the

country has the world's highest child mortality rate, with one child dying every two hours in Luanda alone.

Dr Luis Bernardino, head of pediatric services at Hospital Pedriatico de Luanda, was quoted in the Journal de Angola as saying a child dies every two hours at the hospital, mainly from tetanus, malnutrition and cholera.

He said 90% of children with tetanus and 40% of those suffering from malnutrition that were brought to the hospital died. Drugs were inadequate.

In the UN Children's Fund (Unicef) report this year on the world's children, Angola topped the list of the under-5 mortality rate.

An attendant at the city's Camama cemetery said about 300 children were buried there daily.

Post-independence advances in health have been reversed in Angola due to civil war.

Unicef estimates about 331 000 children would not have died had there been no war between 1980 and 1988.

A UN report in 1989 estimates that between 15 and 25% of primary health and education care units were destroyed during the war.

Recurrent cholera epidemics have also hit Luanda and other cities due to the huge population increases which have strained amenities like water, sewerage and sanitary services. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

Expert warns on farm milk

BLOEMFONTEIN. — South African consumers are at risk from the increasing volume of unpasteurised and ineffectively packaged milk sold directly by farmers and informal distributors, says food scientist Professor Piet Jooste of the University of the OFS.

Prof Jooste said yesterday deregulation in the milk industry should not mean a drop in hygiene standards. He said consumers of fresh farm milk ran the risk of contracting diseases such as brucellosis, salmonella-type infections, food poisoning and tuberculosis.

— Sapa ③ 5/3/924

Star 3/13/93
**Marching ⑤
to Huambo**

LUANDA — Government relief columns are resuming their march on the besieged Angolan city of Huambo where at least 10 000 people have been killed in two months of fighting, national television reported late on Monday.

It quoted military sources as saying the march was resuming because Unita had failed to turn up in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Unita said fighting for Huambo was so intense that its delegates were unable to depart for the talks. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola appeals to world for food aid

ARG 4/3/93 (5)

LUANDA. — The government announced an emergency relief plan and appealed for foreign aid to save millions of Angolans at risk of starvation in a country devastated by drought and civil war.

Mr Norberto Castro, Minister for Social Assistance, said fighting between government and Unita rebel troops had forced more than 1.7 million people from their homes and almost completely halted food distribution to hard-hit northern and central provinces.

A further 500 000 people are fighting starvation in the arid southern provinces, where drought has dried up already meagre crops, Mr Castro said.

"We need immediate help, if the tragedy of our people is not to become the world's," Mr Castro said. He pointed out that fighting and poverty already has forced about 300 000 Angolans to flee the country.

Unita Radio reported that government forces bombed the southern town of Caluquembe,

causing heavy civilian casualties.

Angola needs 24 tons of relief food a month, Mr Castro said.

Without giving specifics, Mr Castro said the government's relief plan would also attack the most difficult problem — transporting food over roads mined by rebel troops and flying over countryside guarded by rebel anti-aircraft guns.

A special allotment of food and medical supplies has also been established for immediate airlift to civilians trapped for two months behind battlelines in Huambo, 530 km southeast of Luanda, in the event of a ceasefire, Mr Castro said.

UN special representative Margaret Anstee says Angola is in a "pre-Somalian" state, citing a World Food Programme report that the vast Southern African nation's ruined agriculture has put 3 million people in immediate risk of starvation. — Sapa-AP.



2 million Angolans displaced by war

LUANDA. — Angolan Social Assistance Minister Mr Norberto do Santos told a news conference yesterday two million Angolans had been displaced by war and famine, 300 000 of whom had sought refuge in Zaire and Zambia.

And inflation in Angola topped 500% as prices jumped 30.4% in January, the government newspaper Jour-

nal de Angola said yesterday.

It quoted the National Statistics institute as saying inflation over the 12 months to January was 526.2%.

Meanwhile, a cholera epidemic which hit the Angolan capital when it went for two weeks without water after Unita rebels destroyed its main water-pumping system has so far claimed 17 lives out of a total of 670

victims, the co-ordinator of the Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases, Dr Izilda Neves, said.

It has also been reported that Unita rebels have accused Namibian and Zairean opposition forces of providing military backing for the Angolan government in the country's renewed civil war.

Unita made the claims late on

Thursday as a government team returned home from Addis Ababa, where talks were aborted this week after Unita failed to send a delegation.

From Pretoria, it has been reported that the 32 Battalion Association, a social club based in Pretoria, has disassociated itself from the alleged recruitment of individuals to fight in Angola. — Sapa-Reuter

#C74/3/193 (3)

Angola 'wants to recruit soldiers' (5)

By Brendan Templeton

Shadowy figures from a "non-existent company" were trying to recruit 32 Battalion members for the war in Angola, former members of the unit claimed last night.

A fax sent to The Star from the 32 Association, claiming to represent the majority of the battal-

ion's former members, said it was not involved in the recruitments.

Reports in Sunday newspapers revealed that some men had already left for the war-torn country.

But the 32 Association called the recruitment attempts by the company "a heavy-handed, last-ditch attempt by a

faltering communist regime to bolster its inept fighting ability".

Association chairman Donald Brown said he believed large multinational corporations in Angola had initiated the recruitment. He had not been able to confirm that some of the unit's members in Pomfret, Cape, had accepted.

Star 4/3/93
**Angolan inflation
running at 500%**

LUANDA — Inflation in Angola, plagued by renewed civil war, has topped 500 percent with prices jumping 30.4 percent in January.

The Angolan kwanza, meanwhile, slipped to 7000 from a previous fixed official rate of 550, at what was supposed to be the first of a regular series of bank sponsored foreign exchange auctions.

President José Eduardo dos Santos sacked finance minister Salamao Xirimbinbi and central bank governor Sebastião Bastos Lavrador in protest at the sudden devaluation. — Sapa-Reuters.

UN is asked to denounce Unita rebels

Star 5/3/93

LUANDA — The Angolan government yesterday threatened to violate a Security Council resolution and enlist foreign military support in the renewed civil war if the United Nations did not formally denounce Unita rebels by next week.

A government spokesman, General Higinio Carneiro, said if the UN did not show support for the Angolan government by Tuesday "there will be no alternative but to secure external military assistance," Portuguese news agency LUSA reported.

"We will use all viable means to see that it is the guilty party in this conflict that is punished," Carneiro said.

Earlier yesterday Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura said the government would appeal directly to the UN to repeal the ban on military aid to Angola.

But Jeffrey Davidow, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, said providing weapons was not even being considered by the three countries monitoring Angola's failed peace accords.

"We understand the government's great frustration, but it is clear that what Angola needs is peace — not more arms," Davidow said.

Before peace accords were signed in May 1991, the United States and South Africa supported Unita in its 16-year battle to topple the then-Marxist government, backed by Cuba

and the Soviet Union.

The steady flow of weapons turned Angola into a Cold War proxy battlefield, killing more than 350 000 people and devastating this once prosperous and fertile southern African nation.

The peace accords called for demobilisation of the rebels' army and creation of a unified military, and banned the sale of lethal weapons to Angola until a new government was formed by democratic election.

But fighting broke out before the country's first multiparty elections, held in September, could be completed.

After Unita lost a parliamentary majority to the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi lost the first round of presidential polling, the rebels seized control of three-quarters of the country.

● Unita yesterday accused the Angolan government of having hired five South African mercenaries to assassinate Savimbi.

In a statement issued in Paris by the French representative of Unita, rebel spokesman Jorge Valentim said the Luanda government had taken the mercenaries from Namibia to Huambo, the embattled town in central Angola where Savimbi has his headquarters. Valentim gave the mercenaries' surnames as: Borman, Buys, Gerber, Renens, and Olivier. Unita has also accused Luanda of using Namibian forces and Zairean mercenaries. — Sapa-AP-AFP.

Angolans poised for war as Unita attacks continue

LUANDA — Unita bombed Luanda's main water pumping station for the second time but caused no damage to the plant, an employee of a water treatment company said yesterday. *B/DAY 5/3/92*

The attack on the water station at Kixagando, 42km north of Luanda, took place late on Wednesday.

Fighting was meanwhile continuing between the government and Unita troops on the outskirts of Huambo city, according to a statement from the Angolan army, FAA.

In central Huambo the government, which claims control of the city, said it resisted attacks, killing several and capturing one of Unita's soldiers.

However, other parts of the country remained quiet.

FAA spokesman Joao do Matos, speaking from Huila province this week, urged Angolans to brace themselves for war following the failure of the peace talks with Unita, adding that the military situation was very dangerous.

Meanwhile, UN special envoy to Angola, Margaret Anstee, was expected to leave Angola today for New York where UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali was expected to make a decision on the country's political situation.

The Angolan government has called on the UN Security Council to take energetic measures against Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, to coerce him to observe the 1991 Bicesse peace accord.

Anstee has blamed Unita for the breakdown of a second round of Angolan peace

talks which were due to take place in Addis Ababa last week, after it refused to travel to the venue despite absolute security guarantees offered by the UN and the government.

In a lengthy interview with state radio, deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Chicoti, a former member of Unita, said Savimbi could no longer be referred to as a political leader but as a terrorist.

Following the outbreak of a "unilateral war started by Unita", the government would consider taking legal action against Savimbi for all the atrocities committed after the September elections.

Regarding military support of Unita, Chicoti, who was in Unita for 22 years, alleged that Zaire was directly helping Unita.

Early yesterday the government announced an emergency relief plan and appealed for foreign aid to save millions of Angolans at risk of starvation in a country devastated by drought and civil war.

Social Assistance Minister Norberto Castro said fighting between government and Unita troops had forced more than 1.7-million people from their homes and almost completely halted food distribution to hard-hit northern and central provinces, Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

Another 500 000 people are fighting starvation in the arid southern provinces, where drought has dried up already meagre crops, Castro said.

"We need immediate help," he said. — Sapa-AP.

5 SA mercenaries ⁽⁵⁾ ARG 5/3/93 'hired to kill Savimbi'

PARIS. — Unita has accused the Angolan government of hiring five South African mercenaries to assassinate its leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi.

A statement issued here by Unita's French spokesman, Mr Jorge Valentim, said that the Luanda government had taken the mercenaries from Namibia to Huambo, the embattled town in central Angola where Dr Savimbi has his headquarters.

Mr Valentim gave the mercenaries' surnames as: Borman, Buys, Gerber, Renens, and Olivier.

Unita, which revived its 16-year-old rebellion after losing the United Nations-supervised elections last September, has also accused Luanda of using Namibian forces and Zairean mercenaries.

Meanwhile the Angolan government threatened to violate a Security Council resolution and enlist foreign military support if the United Nations did not denounce Unita by next week.

Government General Higinio Carneiro said if the UN did not show support for the Angolan government by Tuesday "there will be no alternative but to secure external military assistance," Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

Earlier, Foreign Minister Vanancio de Moura said the government would appeal directly to the UN to repeal the ban on military aid to Angola.

Mr De Moura called on the United States, Portugal and Russia to "adopt urgent means to defend the people and territorial integrity of Angola."

But US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr Jeffrey Davidow, said providing weapons was not even being considered by the three countries monitoring Angola's failed peace accords.

"We understand the government's great frustration, but it is clear that what Angola needs is peace — not more arms," Mr Davidow said.

"Jonas Savimbi has the power and the military capacity to keep fighting in various parts of the country due to the fact that he never demobilised his men," Government Chief of Staff Joao de Matos said yesterday.

Mr De Matos, speaking in the southeastern city of Lubango during a review of troops bound for the front, warned the country to prepare for a long war.

Relief workers say the civil war has destroyed the agricultural base of this once fertile southern African nation. They warn that continued fighting could cause a tragedy similar to that in Somalia. — Sapa-AP/AP



Water station bombed again

(5) CTS/3/95

LUANDA. — Unita bombed Luanda's main water pumping station for the second time this year but caused no damage to the plant, a source in a water-treating company said yesterday.

The attack on the water station at Kixagando, 42km north of Luanda, took place late on Wednesday.

The first attack took place in January and cut off the water supply for two weeks.

Fighting was meanwhile continuing between the government and Unita soldiers on the outskirts of Huambo, according to the Angolan army (FAA).

The government, which is claiming control of Huambo, said it killed several Unita soldiers and captured one.

Other parts of the country remained quiet.

FAA spokesman Mr Joao do Matos, speaking from Huila pro-

Flight mystery resolved

Political Staff

THE mystery of the Russian-registered aircraft which flew out of South Africa last weekend without a flight plan appears to have been resolved.

The owners of the plane said it carried an emergency supply of diesel to Zambia for a construction project and the Directorate of Civil Aviation said

its non-compliance with the regulations was due to ignorance rather than intent to contravene them.

The DCA rejected reports that there was virtually no control over South African skies and airports.

It said there was extensive control and monitoring of all flights not only by South Africa but its neighbours as well.

vince, urged Angolans to brace for war following the failure of the peace talks with Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita, adding that the military situation in the country was very dangerous.

The United Nations special envoy to Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, was expected to leave Angola today for New York where UN Secretary General Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali was expected to make a decision on future steps.

The Angolan government has called on the UN Security Council to take measures against Dr Savimbi to oblige him to observe the 1991 peace accord.

Ms Anstee has blamed Unita for the breakdown of a second round of peace talks which were to take place in Addis Ababa last week, after it refused to travel to there despite security guarantees from the UN and the government.

— Sapa-AFP

Star 5/31/93

Unita bombs water station

LUANDA — Unita bombed Luanda's main water pumping station Kixagando, 42 km north of Luanda, for the second time late on Wednesday but caused no damage to the plant.

(5)

Unita's diamonds of war

w/m c/l 5/3-11/3/93
(5) ~~5/3-11/3/93~~ ~~AWB~~

ANGOLA'S Unita rebels are helping fund their guerrilla war by selling hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of illegally mined diamonds to international buyers.

Intermediaries have made payments to Unita officials for diamonds smuggled across Zaire's southern border, many of which have ended up in the hands of the De Beers cartel.

In the last week of January, Unita officials were paid \$400 000 (about R1,2-million) in cash by dealers in the Zairean town of Tshikapa, about 100 kilometres from the frontier with the Angolan state of Lunda Norte, the heart of the country's diamond mining, according to sources close to the deal. Lebanese dealers working as licensed traders in Tshikapa say that about one-third of the diamonds they handle are from northern Angola, almost all of which is in Unita hands.

"The cross-border trade has been on

its Tshikapa buying office was closed in January because of unrest in Zaire and that it has no knowledge of any \$400 000 parcel of diamonds.

"The buying offices are open to all comers and unless an offerer of diamonds openly showed his affiliation we wouldn't be aware of it. We have no arrangement with Unita to buy diamonds illegally exported from Angola," said De Beers spokesman Tom Tweedy.

Aside from its mining contracts, De Beers has long bought up illegally mined diamonds in the name of "market stability. Dealers in Tshikapa say that although De Beers maintains that the first it knows of the transaction is when it views the diamonds it is about to purchase, the cartel usually has knowledge of a major deal from early on because it wants to ensure high quality gems did not stray into competitors hands.

Others in the industry say De Beers cannot be in any doubt about the source mercenaries.

of diamonds which experts can determine. Kevin Kartun, a Johannesburg mining analyst, said: "In some cases they can tell from which mines diamonds came from. Anything it doesn't buy through regular channels De Beers calls an open market transaction and it wants those Angolan diamonds. One of De Beers' key roles is regulating the market. You can't have a lot of rough gems washing around the market. They have to go in and mop it up."

The Lebanese dealers were unable to say if the cash went to individual Unita members or the organisation as a whole. Although \$400 000 is a small proportion of the estimated \$500-million De Beers spent last year to buy up legally and illegally mined diamonds from Angola, the cash would go a long way toward supporting Unita which has watched its funds diminish since the peace process began in 1991. Unita needs cash for weapons, food, fuel and mercenaries.

French venture

AN unusual combination of two African National Congress members, two South African Police officers, a kwaZulu Police officer and a policeman from Lebowa are visiting Paris to study crowd-control methods.

It is the first time the ANC has taken part in a venture like this with the SAP. The group left last week and will return to South Africa on March 15.

The delegation was invited by the French government as a follow-up to a report on crowd-control at mass demonstrations released by a committee of the Goldstone Commission. Apart from crowd-control the delegation will also study French police training methods.

The ANC members are John Jeffrey and Sidney Matumadi. The SAP officers are Major General AF de la Rosa and Major NM Nieman. Major NE Mbatia represents the KZP and Major LS Molomo the Lebowa Police.

Unita founder is new MPLA ambassador ^{Wilson} 5/3-11/3/93. (5)

By ARTHUR GAVSHON, London

THE Angolan Government has named one of the founders of Unita — who has since quit Jonas Savimbi's rebel movement — as its new ambassador to Britain.

The surprise appointment of Antonio Fernandez, once portrayed as Unita's "foreign minister", was seen by British, American and other Western diplomats here as a major setback for Savimbi's political cause. Other senior colleagues also have deserted Savimbi in the recent past. But one British authority on Angolan affairs commented cautiously:

"As Unita's hierarchy goes on disintegrating, Savimbi can be expected to rely more heavily on using force to preserve himself and his movement and that can only mean spreading still more havoc in a land already stricken with killings."

The post of Ambassador at the Court of St James is widely held to be a diplomatic plum. For the sophisticated Fernandez, a politician reputed to be something of a playboy who enjoys gambling, it could prove challenging because of his country's urgent need for international help and his government's need for understanding in its current crisis.

Fernandez parted from Savimbi over a human rights scandal. Two top Unita officials — Tito Chingunji and Wilson Dos Santos — had been murdered. There were allegations that Savimbi himself may have been implicated despite his denials.

● A harrowing new study has appeared detailing some of the suffering, damage and dangers wrought by the hundreds of thousands, even millions, of mines planted in Angola since 1975.

The report, by New York-based Africa Watch, paints a grim picture of the future that awaits nine million Angolans even if peace were magically to be restored overnight. According to the study, entitled "Landmines in Angola", at least 15 000 men, women and children are amputees as a result of stepping on landmines.

The report savagely indicts the governments of former presidents PW Botha, Ronald Reagan and George Bush for their roles in the Angolan tragedy. But other countries also are assailed — among them Italy, Cuba, the former Soviet Union and West Germany — for allowing their manufactured mines to reach the combatants and be used against civilians.

Weekly Mail Reporters

REVELATIONS that Soviet aircraft were illegally shipping arms out of Mmabatho airport to various African states have led to the first official acknowledgement that clandestine consignments of food and weapons from South Africa may be reaching Unita forces in Angola.

The admissions were made at a confidential meeting called by the Department of Foreign Affairs last Friday after *The Weekly Mail* published a report that Russian Antonov cargo planes were ferrying covert consignments of food and arms to countries in Africa.

Present at the meeting were members of the National Intelligence Service, the army, the air force and the Department of Civil Aviation. Some officials said Antonovs based in South Africa might well be ferrying food, fuel and arms to places in Africa where the supplies could be picked up by Unita.

The Pretoria News this week quoted Foreign Affairs sources as saying it was "more than likely" that covert cargoes of food, medical supplies, fuel and weapons were finding their way out of the country with comparative ease.

Officials at the emergency meeting expressed the view that responsible reaction from the South African government late last year could have prevented the war in Angola from escalating.

"There was reportedly alarm at the meeting as the penny dropped and as it appeared increasingly likely that South Africa was — albeit indirectly and illegitimately through individuals — fuelling the war in Angola," the report said.

"It was heard in the forum that far from having its airspace covered with

Antonov flights acknowledged by SA officials

WMA 513-1113193

surveillance, the military and civil aviation between them control only sections of the airspace — with great pockets particularly towards the northwest (in the direction of Angola) left uncovered."

Aviation sources have also confirmed that at least one Russian-registered Antonov operating in South Africa has been grounded on suspicion of carrying out unauthorised flights to southern Zaire.

The Antonov — which carries the Russian registration number CCCP 48059 and used to have the Aeroflot logo on its fuselage — is currently standing on the tarmac at the Durban airport while DCA officials conduct an investigation into the activities of a local firm based in Vereeniging that leases the aircraft from a company in Russia.

The Weekly Mail has learnt that the company under investigation is Del Industries and that it recently used facilities at the Mmabatho airport in Bophuthatswana for its Antonovs.

One of Del's directors, David Lechtman, confirmed his aircraft was under investigation by the DCA for flying arms out of the country illegally. He denied that the plane had carried war

material and said the suspicion had been aroused because his company had "forgotten to file a flight plan".

In response to queries about which aviation firms were using Russian aircraft at the Mmabatho airport, the government of Bophuthatswana named a company called Africa Aeroflot.

"To date, Africa Aeroflot is the only company that uses Russian aircraft at the Mmabatho International Airport. None of the (other) newly independent Soviet states have so far approached Bophuthatswana to operate from Mmabatho," said a press release from the homeland government this week.

Africa Aeroflot, however, disputes the suggestion that their Antonovs have been involved in clandestine flights out of Mmabatho and have asked *The Weekly Mail* to state that there is no evidence linking their aircraft to arms supplies.

Investigations are now under way to determine whether deliberate attempts have been made to use the name of the company as a smoke-screen for illegitimate flights out of the country by Antonovs which carry the Aeroflot logo.

International relief organisations have also denied claims from civil aviation officials at Mmabatho that Russian aircraft carry relief supplies from the airport to states in Africa under the auspices of the UN and the Red Cross.

"UN mercy flights are carefully controlled and recorded. No cargo has been lifted for the World Food Programme from Mmabatho airport to the site of any WFP relief operation nor has the WFP ever used Mmabatho as a base for its relief operations in Africa," said a statement from the UN relief organisation.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has also denied that any of its relief operations have a connection with the Mmabatho airport.

"The ICRC has no air operations within the Republic of South Africa or the homelands or from the RSA to other countries. In Mozambique the ICRC sometimes uses a Russian aircraft for relief flights; this aircraft is based in Mozambique and chartered from a local company," said a spokesman for the ICRC in Pretoria.

After discussions with Africa Aeroflot, *The Weekly Mail* this week issued a clarificatory statement saying that there was no direct evidence that Africa Aeroflot was the company responsible for the covert arms supplies to other African countries.

"*The Weekly Mail* wishes to make it clear that the newspaper has no evidence linking Africa Aeroflot to the supply of arms to African countries, more particularly Zaire and Angola.

"*The Weekly Mail* regrets any inconvenience caused to Africa Aeroflot Airways in so far as the article might have suggested that Africa Aeroflot Airways was involved."

Unita is blamed as Angolan talks fail

Guardian W. L. W. M. M.
By Victoria Brittain 5/3-11/3/93

UNITED NATIONS officials in Addis Ababa called off the attempt to start peace talks with Angolan rebels on Monday after their delegation refused to attend.

As fighting continued in the key town of Huambo, UN officials admitted defeat in their diplomatic initiatives to halt renewed civil war in Angola and referred the future of the UN mission in Angola to the secretary-general, Boutros Boutros-Ghali, and the Security Council.

"This outcome is a bitter disappointment to all of us engaged in the Angolan process, particularly the Angolan people who continue to be the victims of this savage war," the UN envoy for Angola, Margaret Anstec, said in Addis Ababa.

She had been waiting since Friday for the Unita delegation, and had given it a last chance deadline of 6am GMT on Monday. "Its cancellation represents a grievous

setback to prospects for peace in the near future," she added.

Unita was also blamed by the US, Russia, and Portugal which have been monitoring the peace process since the accord they organised at Bicesse in May 1991. Officials said they would consult their governments about the next moves.

Unita's UN envoy, Marco Samondo, who went with the representative of Unita's London office to Addis Ababa to meet the delegation, said the group wanted to continue peace negotiations and had sought a postponement of two days to a week to let it reach Ethiopia "by its own means".

Mr Samondo said he knew Unita would be held responsible for the collapse of the talks, but he claimed the Angolan government might attack planes offered by the UN to take the delegation from Huambo to Addis Ababa.

The world's biggest battle

W/Mant ST3 - 11/3/93

5

As the death toll in the bloody battle for Huambo mounts daily there is no sign of an end to the conflict.

ANDY MELDRUM reports from inside Angola

LARGELY unheralded by the international press, the battle for the strategic Angolan city of Huambo dwarfs any of the world's current conflicts.

More than 10 000 people have died in the two-month battle for Angola's second, central city. The stench of decomposing bodies last week reached 1 200m to a helicopter flying over the embattled city, according to United Nations sources.

"Right now Huambo is the world's biggest battle," said a Western military source in Luanda. "More people have died in Huambo than anywhere else in the world so far this year."

About 3 000 government troops are now pinned to two city blocks surrounding the governor's palace, completely encircled by some 6 000 Unita troops. Both sides are shelling the city and the government forces are supported by daily bombing and strafing by the MiG jets of the Angolan air force.

While casualties on both sides are reported to be high, the civilian death toll is far worse. The once-handsome city has been reduced to rubble, and the population of some 400 000 has been without water or electricity since January. Bodies rot in the streets and buildings where they fall.

The news media cannot gain access or interview people who have witnessed the battle — if you are in Huambo, there is no escape.

The government troops are fighting for their lives, as Unita does not appear to be taking prisoners. It is not known how long their food and ammunition can hold out.

The government is sending a relief column of 3 500 troops to the embattled city from the port of Benguela, but their progress is hobbled to about 10km a day because of debilitating Unita attacks, particularly at the bridge in Ganda, about 150km west of Huambo. Unita apparently had an easier time resupplying its forces from the eastern Bie province.

"Both sides have blundered by placing so much emphasis on Huambo," said a military expert. "Otherwise Unita has done very well by hitting the government where it hurts.



Jonas Savimbi ... 'He doesn't care if the whole country is in ruins'

Unita has control of Angola's diamonds and has threatened the oil production."

Western military sources say it is unlikely Unita can sustain the battle without fresh supplies of ammunition. Although there is no hard evidence, they say "logic points to continued supply to Unita from sources inside South Africa". The level of outside support to Unita may well decide the fate of Huambo and of the entire war.

Both sides are thinly stretched across Angola's vast territory. The government is estimated to have 20 000 troops and some 4 000 Emergency Police. Newly trained and armed by Spain, the special police, nicknamed "Ninjas", have a fearsome reputation.

Unita boasts a larger force of 30 000 to 50 000, the result of the lopsided demobilisation before the elections in which 90 percent of the MPLA army was disarmed and dismissed while most of Unita remained in camps under arms.

If Unita were to win Huambo, it would be a Pyrrhic victory for Jonas Savimbi, as Unita may well have squandered far too much of its

resources on the city. In any case continued government air attacks would make it impossible for him to administer his conquest.

Until Huambo falls, Angola is frozen in a military stand-off. The government holds the cities, but Unita has besieged these urban enclaves. Unita has disrupted central control of about 75 percent of the countryside.

This leaves Angola's civilians to suffer the brunt of the war. Already 20 000 people have died in the new war. The cities are swollen with refugees, but cut off from access to food in the countryside.

Already there are reports of severe malnutrition in Luena. The United Nations World Food Programme, the only international agency to remain active throughout Angola, warns that within six months some three million Angolans will not have enough food. Some of the besieged cities will face starvation.

WFP airlifts, by chartered Russian and American aircraft and crews, are running into opposition from Unita, whose tactic is to starve out the government centres. UN officials say that hunger, chaos and death in Angola could easily dwarf the problems in

Somalia and Sudan.

Both sides have committed atrocities. Unita has executed officials and relief agency personnel as well as any whites and mulattoes in the cities it has taken, according to survivors. For its part, the MPLA government has armed civilians to go on deadly "limpeza" (cleaning) sprees in which they kill suspected Unita supporters.

What can bring an end to this ghastly new war? The government is ready to negotiate but the question remains: What does Savimbi want? It appears the Unita leader will not be content with partition and control of the south — he is fighting for the entire country, a prize denied him in last year's elections

Said Honorio van Dunem, a top Unita official who has defected to the MPLA: "Savimbi thinks that if he can win Huambo, he can go on to take Luanda and then the whole country. He doesn't care if the whole country is in ruins." Van Dunem, who leads a handful of former Unita members in parliament, attacked Savimbi as an "evil man who is crazed for power". Repeating allegations that the Unita leader had executed top Unita members and their families, he appealed for an international arms embargo against Unita.

Unita is expected to step up its sabotage attacks on Luanda to hamper government support for its provincial enclaves. Eventually, under such pressure, the government would collapse. The other scenario is that, slowly and painfully, the government will gain ground. Enforced conscription would enable it to match Unita's numbers. With its substantial oil revenues, the MPLA could purchase more weapons on the international market.

Either prospect suggests fighting throughout 1993 and continued heavy casualties.

Much like the television crews that are unable to get to Huambo, the international community stands idly by. The small, ineffective UN monitoring team is scheduled to leave at the end of March.

The United States appears to have little contact with, let alone influence over its former client Savimbi. The Clinton administration has taken no steps to recognise the Luanda government.

Most likely Angola will not become a priority for Clinton until Huambo's horrors hit the television screens. By then it may be too late for thousands more Angolans.

see original for...
UN urges immediate
ceasefire in Angola

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CT 6/3/73
LUANDA. — The United Nations is urging an immediate truce in Angola's renewed civil war while it decides how to proceed after the collapse of peace talks.

The UN special representative in Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee, says she cannot see any possibility of talks in the near future between the government and Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement.

Her report to UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros Ghali will contain recommendations for future UN resolutions.

More than 350 people were killed and 1 500 injured in a battle between Unita and Angolan government forces in the city of Huambo on Thursday.

The government army said Unita forces, with reinforcements from several battalions from Benguela, Bie and Cuando Cubango provinces, rained about 2 000 artillery shells on the city in the battle. The government positions were all adequately protected, it said. — Sapa-Reuter

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Dead pupils: Police seek 4

MARYTUBURG. — Four more youths are being sought by the police in connection with the a gun attack on Tuesday in which six pupils were killed and six injured.

The four who police believe are en route to the Transkei, have been identified by SAP headquarters in Pretoria as So Mkhize, Magawe Zulu, Sashe and someone "possibly known as Mchunu".

"The youths are armed and should be considered extremely dangerous," said the police.

PRETORIA. — It appeared that South Africans were indeed serving as mercenaries despite Defence Minister Mr Gene Louw warning SADF members of penalties, Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha said yesterday.

Mr Botha said South Africans offering their services as mercenaries were contravening the Defence Act and faced prosecution.

"Furthermore, should they get into any difficulties while serving as mercenaries it will be practically impossible for

'SA mercenaries serving'

the Department of Foreign Affairs to come to their assistance," Mr Botha said.

The South African Medical Service denied yesterday that there were patients from the present Angolan conflict in military medical institutions in South Africa.

The SAMS was reacting to rumours, including that of Unita patients "arriving by the plane-load" at Military Hospital.

In the past Unita and MPLA members had been treated at 1

Military Hospital, a the SAMS said.

The last admission of Unita patients had been on November 30 1992 and did not originate from the present conflict.

There were 16 people, mainly women, children and old men, all of whom had been ready for repatriation for about six weeks, but were still in South Africa because of "the total lack of opportunity to return them to Angola".

"They are probably better off so." — Sapa.

Plan for talks within 30 days

CT 6/3/73

Political Staff

JOHANNESBURG. — Full-blown negotiations will get back on track soon with the multi-party planning conference poised to accept a resolution calling for their resumption within a month.

But in spite of consensus on this yesterday the conference descended into near farce amid a mix-up over how decisions would be taken and what procedures should be followed. After an extraordinary and rambling debate on a resolution urging the speedy resumption of talks which was tabled by Transkei ruler Major-General Bantu Holomisa, it was decided that leaders of the 26 delegations at the World Trade Centre would meet last night to thrash out the issue.

Late last night the delegates emerged to say the issue had been resolved and it was "all systems go" for today's closing session.

Earlier yesterday delegation

leaders had delivered a series of bullish seven-minute speeches to the meeting in which all committed themselves to a resumption of talks.

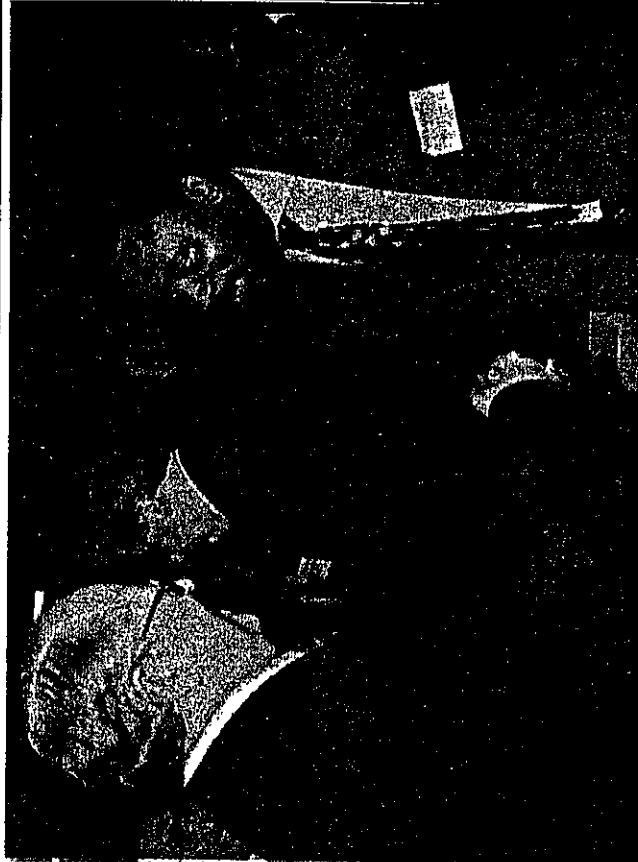
Present for the first time in such a forum were the Conservative Party and the Afrikaner Volksunie.

Also there were the Pan-Africanist Congress, the KwaZulu government and traditional leaders from the Cape, Transvaal and Free State — making it the most representative political meeting ever in South Africa.

Afterwards Local Government Minister Mr Tertius Delpoort said: "We have moved forward tremendously today. Anything can go wrong but I don't think it will."

And fears that Inkatha might disrupt proceedings proved to be unfounded with delegate Mr Joe Matthews saying the organisation wanted a process that would "bring democracy quickly".

In spite of the upbeat mood it was



TALKS . . . ANC general-secretary Mr Cyril Ramaphosa greets Mr Andries Beyers of the Afrikaner Volksunie at the multi-party planning conference in Johannesburg yesterday.

Picture: AP

clear that when the constitutional talks do resume there will be some serious differences. One of the most serious will be the objection of In-

'SA fighters in Angola' to 'crash' final parade

By GUY OLVER

SOUTH AFRICAN mercenaries "appeared" to be operating in Angola, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha said yesterday in a statement.

It was the government's first official acknowledgment of South African nationals fighting in the renewed 16-year civil war and came a week after the Minister of Defence Mr Gene Louw warned SADF personnel that they would

face strict penalties should they enlist as soldiers of fortune.

The police are investigating. Earlier yesterday Unita's French spokesman Mr Jorge Valentim told a press briefing in Paris the Angolan government had recruited five South Africans to assassinate their leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

Mr Valentim alleged the MPLA death squad comprised of former CCB and directorate of Covert

Collection operative Mr Buks Buys, former 32 Battalion member Mr Christo Olivier, ex-Covert Collection Mr Deon Gerber, and ex-special forces members a Mr Borman and a Mr Renens.

Colonel Jan Breytenbach, founder of 32 Battalion, dismissed the mission as "impossible".

● UN urges immediate ceasefire in Angola — Page 3

By GUY OLVER

COLONEL Jan Breytenbach, founder of 32 Battalion, is going to gatecrash the battalion's final parade on March 26 when it will be disbanded, he said.

He claims he hasn't been invited because he condemned President F W De Klerk's decision to disband the crack battalion.

Forged during the early years of the South African/Angolan war, the Portuguese-speaking battalion evolved into the most effective fighting unit the SADF possessed.

SA mercenaries? No, just oil well guards

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S Times 7/13/83

MORE than 100 ex-SADF men — and several tons of supplies and equipment — have been flown to Angola in the past fortnight.

However, the man in charge of the operation, international security consultant Eeben Barlow, said this week there was no truth to reports that the men were fighting as mercenaries on the side of their former enemy, the MPLA, against South Africa's erstwhile allies, Unita.

He said they had been recruited as security guards by an international oil company to protect installations in northern Angola. Some of the men had also been deployed on off-shore oil rigs.

Mr Barlow — one of the men identified last weekend as being involved in the scheme which the government warned contravened the Defence Act — was an officer in the controversial 32 Battalion, which consisted largely of disaffected Angolan troops, and is a former agent of the SADF's Civil Co-operation Bureau.

Trained

He said his company, Executive Outcomes, was approached towards the end of January by representatives of the oil company — which he would not name — and asked to put together a team of security guards.

"We had to act quickly and get the men there as soon as possible. Recruitment was by word of mouth, and the company was particularly interested in employing trained soldiers who were out of work.

"The company insisted that none of the guards should have any further commitments to the SADF, and those who are now in Angola are all former members of 32 Battalion, the CCB or the Special Forces," he said.

The men have flown to Windhoek on SAA flights from Jan Smuts airport in small groups of four or five since last Monday.

Their reservations are made through Nedtravel Holidays in Brooklyn, Pretoria.

By DE WET POTGIETER

ia, by a close corporation import/export agency, Berdel Marketing, run by a former SADF-colonel, Lani Keller, in Doringkloof, Verwoerdburg.

Colonel Keller is in Germany, and could not be reached for comment, but Mr Barlow confirmed that Berdel was an associate company of Executive Outcomes.

Nedtravel manageress Rhoma Lombard confirmed yesterday that the firm had made more than 80 reservations for

Berdel in the past two weeks.

"The first group left on February 22. The flights had to be spread over a period of several days as the men did not want to leave in a large group," she said.

On arrival in Windhoek, some of the recruits spent a night at the Safari Hotel before being flown to Angola in a light aircraft chartered from Pro Pilot, owned by Windhoek aviator Cobus Bezuidenhout, who could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Mr Bezuidenhout has also made a number of charter flights carrying supplies for the group from Grand Central airport

thick permanent marker pens in red, black and blue, a pair of "No 8 plakkies for one of our local helpers", a pair of size 9 hiking boots and a pair of dark brown size 8 velskoens — "to create good relations".

The message also asked for "money for two cases of Bells whisky given to pilot".

Also on Friday's flight were nearly R5 000 worth of cigarettes, sweets, meat-sticks, cigars, soft drinks, spices, canned food, rice and meat.

Among the equipment already flown to Windhoek by Mr Bezuidenhout is a sophisticated portable satellite communication system, bought by the oil company for R495 000, to allow the men to stay in touch with Mr Barlow's company in Pretoria and to talk to their families once a week. They have also taken medical supplies worth R56 000 with them.

Before leaving South Africa, they spent R32 000 on clothing at a Pretoria store, Trappers Trading.

Armed

"They told us they were going to Kenya on a hiking trip," said the salesman who filled the order. "There were about 85 of them altogether, coming into the store in groups of four or five at a time, and they all bought olive green shirts and pants, khaki caps and hiking boots," he said.

Mr Barlow said the men were under strict instructions "not to take anything military with them".

"This is a civilian operation and they took no weapons," he insisted.

However, he said he had been informed on Friday by the oil company that the men had now been issued with firearms.

"The client told me the men have been ordered to retaliate if the oil installations are attacked," he said. He could not give details of the weapons issued to the men.

● See Page 11

RADAR COVER RAISES SMUGGLING CONCERN

By CHARMAIN NAIDOO

said. There are 156 municipal aerodromes in South Africa, of which 17 have air traffic control.

Most smaller aerodromes shut for the night at around 7pm, after which pilots can take off and land without detection.

The Directorate of Civil Aviation's chief director, Mr Stuart Huckwell said that while it was true that not all aerodromes had 24-hour ATC services, "... the licensee is responsible for all movements and control of his aerodrome and generally monitors flights when the ATC is off duty."

The concerns with unmonitored airspace were sparked after a Russian-screwed Antonov 32 aircraft flew from Vereeniging to Rand Airport then to Zaire

last Sunday — without authorisation.

It returned, having filed an incorrect flight plan and hopped between Rand Airport, Pietersburg and Durban due to bad weather.

The incident was reported to the DCA and this week David Lechtman, the Russian director of the Vereeniging-based company, Del Technologies, spent two days being grilled about his aircraft's unauthorised flight.

"Our crew made a mistake. We have explained ourselves to the DCA and they have accepted our explanation."

But Mr Huckwell took a rather dimmer view of the mistake.

"No indication was found of any intent to contravene the regulations. Rather, ignorance was the reason. The matter has been handed over to the police."

at Midrand to Windhoek. The last consignment left on Friday following an urgent fax from the mercenary for earplugs, 100 "thick, very strong plastic garden refuse bags", 30

IFP set to force talks clash

Act 13/93
Political Staff

THIS week's multi-party planning conference appears destined for a showdown as Inkatha insists that the meeting should decide what form of state South Africa should have.

Inkatha Freedom Party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi warned at the weekend that the IFP would not continue in "negotiations on other issues" until an agreement on the shape of a future government.

AFRIKANERS AND ZULUS JOIN HANDS

See PAGE 2

Yesterday the IFP's central committee endorsed its negotiators' agreement with the government and the ANC that the conference should go ahead on Friday and Saturday.

It had been anticipated that the conference would review Codesa I and II and plan "the way ahead", skirting major constitutional issues.

And last night IFP national chairman Dr Frank Mdlalose emerged from the central committee meeting to confirm that the IFP would insist that federalism be debated at the conference.

"That has been our position all along," Dr Mdlalose said.

The meeting was addressed by Constitutional Development Minister Mr Roelf Meyer and the Local Government Minister Dr Tertius Deipoot.

CIA linked to SA mercenaries

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BY GUY OLIVER

A LONDON-BASED COMPANY, with the possible backing of America's Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), has recruited South African soldiers to fight as Angolan government troops, a source claimed yesterday.

In an exclusive interview with the Daily Dispatch the source, a former SADF member who claimed to be involved with organising mercenaries for the company, yesterday disclosed preparatory details of an operation planned for the end of March.

About 100 white mercenaries would be commanded by a colonel to fight in MPLA uniform to liberate oil assets in the Unita-controlled town of Soyo, 60km south of Cabinda, he said.

Their mission was "to target and secure assets of a multi-national taken over by the enemy and to hand the target over to a brigade of the host country", the source said.

The group had left from Jan Smuts for a staging area in Windhoek and was to have been flown to Angola by a presidential jet, he said.

The mercenaries' handler was former 32 Battalion member and Directorate of Covert Intelligence operative Mr Eben Barlow, the source said.

The group was a "pretty mixed bunch" because Mr Barlow was "getting desperate", the source said.

However, "this is very professional. A planned operation", he said.

Mr Barlow could not be contacted last night.

The CIA were believed to be involved as the mercenary force would have daily intelligence, including sophisticated "thermal image air photographs", the source said.

CEASEFIRE DELEGATES 'TRAPPED'

— Page 5

The majority of the force comprised former SADF members but there were some current members of the SADF involved who had taken long leave.

Spokesmen for the South African government could not be contacted last night.

Meanwhile, some relief organisations have cancelled long-term contracts with Africa Aerojet Airways as a direct result of media claims that the carrier ferried arms to Zaire for Arnsco, the airway said yesterday.

The carrier's demand for a retraction and apology by the Weekly Mail newspaper was scolded by the Russian ambassador to South Africa at a news conference in Freetown, and a retraction were not forthcoming by today.

Africa Aerojet is a joint venture between Africa Airways and Moscow Aerojet.

An informer was also in place in Soyo, he added.

It is believed the MPLA mercenary recruitment is being orchestrated by a former recee and 32 Battalion soldier, known only as Queros.

32 Battalion founder Colonel Jan Breytenbach told the Cape Times last night that Angolan-born Mr Queros left the defence force about four years ago for Lusanda and established an import export fishing company with former 32 Battalion soldier Mr Tony Vieira.

Yesterday the SADF confirmed they were aware of an MPLA government mercenary "recruitment drive" by two Angolans, both former members of the SADF, targeting elite troops including former and serving 32 "Buffalo" Battalion soldiers, paratroopers, special forces soldiers, and former CCB operators.

The SADF said they had headed two names to the SADF.

The sea-borne assault to be launched from a ship would be backed up by a helicopter to ferry casualties to an on-board hospital, the source said.

ADULTY QUINING IN RAINBOW NATION

Staff Reporter

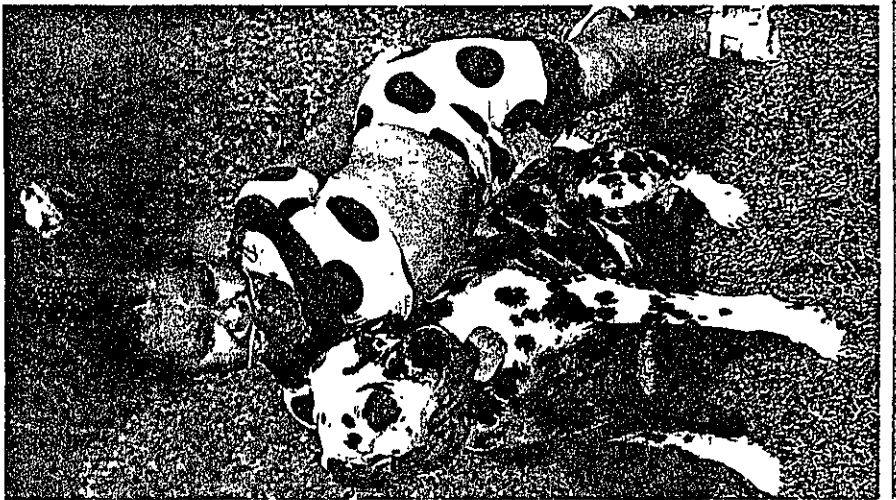
DALMATIAN owners raised R1 150 for Red Nose Day when 115 of the spotted dogs were taken five-kilometre walk from the Point Health at quiet Club to the Sea Point Pavilion yesterday.

"A total of 115 dalmatians turned up for the walk to break the Western Cape record for the dalmatians together at one time," said Mr Cassar, M-Net regional co-ordinator for Red Nose Day.

He said the turnout had surpassed the organisers' hopes of getting together 101 dalmatians to the Walt Disney film of the same name.

Mr Cassar said each entrant had to pay R10 part in the walk. The money raised would go to Child Welfare for Red Nose Day on March 11.

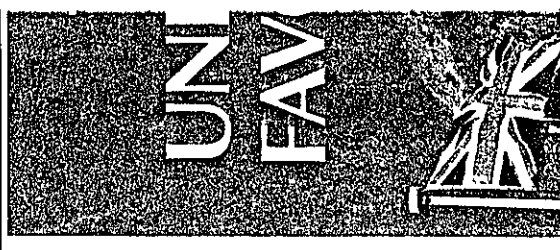
The walk was filmed by M-Net and was screened on Red Nose Day.

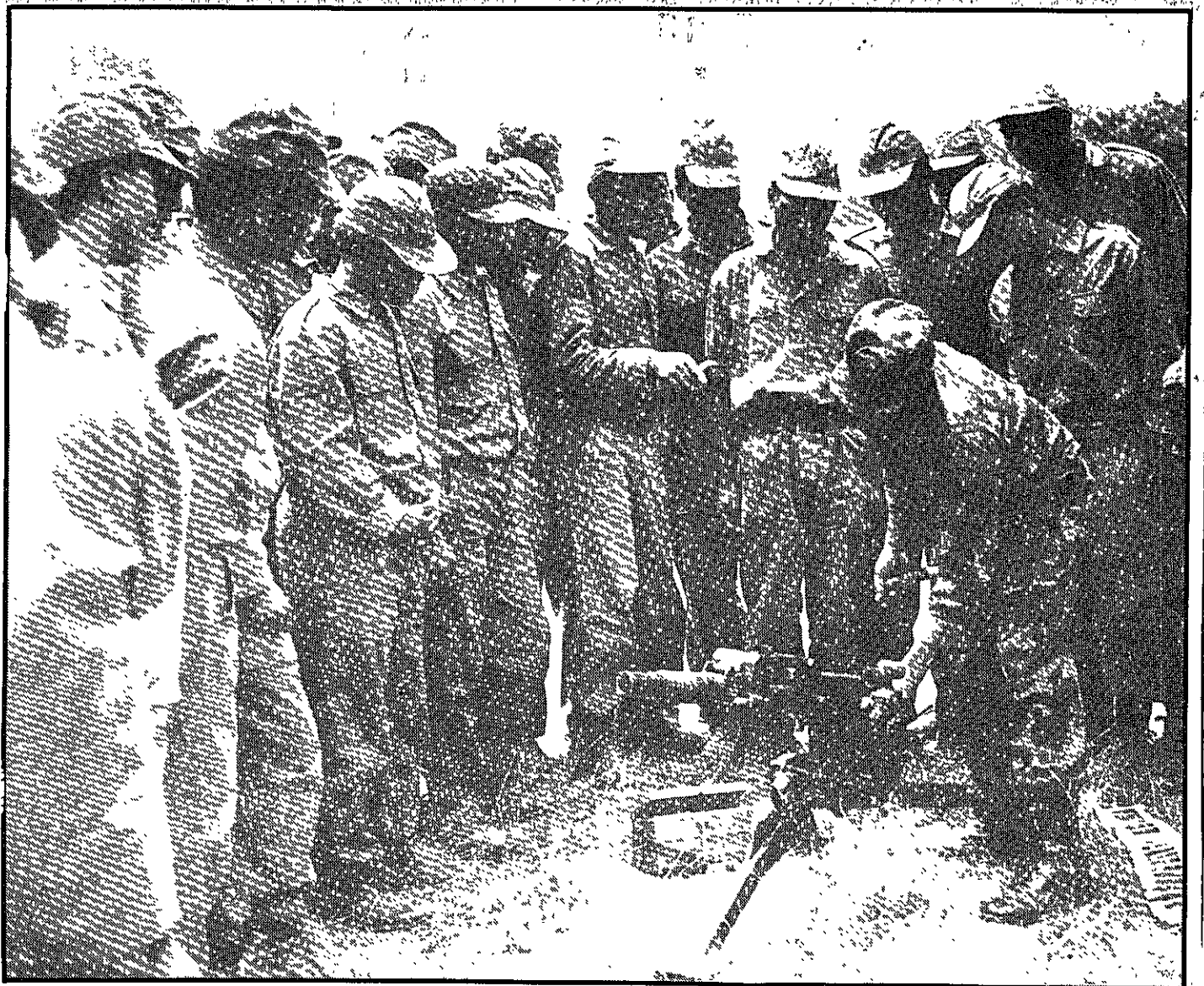


Picture: BENNY GOOD

DOG HAS ITS DAY

... Gabi Ljman, 3, of Hout Bay with her dalmatian "Spunkte" prepares for yesterday's 5km walk from the Point Health and Racquet Club to the Sea Point Pavilion to raise money for Red Nose Day. The walk raised R1 150 and is to be screened on M-Net.





OLD DAYS . . . MK soldiers receiving firearms training at the ANC's Mgagawa camp in Tanzania in 1991. Many MK men have returned – minus their weapons which have been stashed in the north.

MK wants Savimbi to send its cache elsewhere

By **JOHANNES NGCOBO**

HOPE springs eternal for Umkhonto we-Sizwe commander Joe Modise.

He has suggested that "anyone' who comes to power" in Angola better not mess with the ANC's arms stash.

Modise said this in an interview with City Press at MK's military headquarters in Johannesburg this week.

The MK leader went further, saying that any "new ruler" must send the ANC's possessions to wherever the ANC wished them to go.

If he's referring to Unita leader Jonas

Savimbi, Modise might be deluding himself. *City Press 11/3/93*

Indeed, Modise and former MK chief Chris Hani's comments last week were an indication that the MK leadership has doubts as to whether the MPLA will be able to stave off Unita's push for power in the war-ravaged country.

~~SAF~~ Return to sender

Modise added: "If anyone who comes to power has a problem with the ANC arms, they are at liberty to dispatch them – but to a destination requested by the ANC."

He said that those who meddled with

ANC property would have to explain their actions.

Earlier this week, Hani said on Radio Transkei that the ANC's arms in Angola would have to be retrieved as they would be of use to security forces in the new SA.

Modise said MK would fetch its Angolan cache "when the time is ripe".

Before the unbanning of the liberation movements in 1990, the ANC ran training camps in Angola.

In terms of a peace agreement entered into between the ANC and the government, the ANC suspended its warfare.

Angolan leader rejects truce

ANGOLAN President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has rejected a UN truce call and appealed for an arms embargo to be lifted so he can fight on in a renewed outburst of his country's civil war.

But Mr dos Santos also said he backed UN peace efforts and would consider allowing UN peacekeepers to try to restore order.

"The most important thing is that there should be an agreement between the two sides on a ceasefire and that there should be mechanisms to guarantee respect for the ceasefire," he said.

"Maybe we can discuss with the United Nations how they can send a peace-keeping force and what kind of mandate this force should have," he added.

Peace talks between the government and Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebel movement collapsed when Unita failed to send a delegation to a second round of UN-sponsored negotiations in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Mr dos Santos said he

From ^{5/11/93} 7/3/93.
Robert Powell
in Luanda

was still committed to a negotiated settlement and would consider giving Savimbi a government post as part of an eventual peace settlement.

But he rejected a proposal by the UN Special Representative to Angola, Miss Margaret Anstee, that both sides should declare an immediate truce.

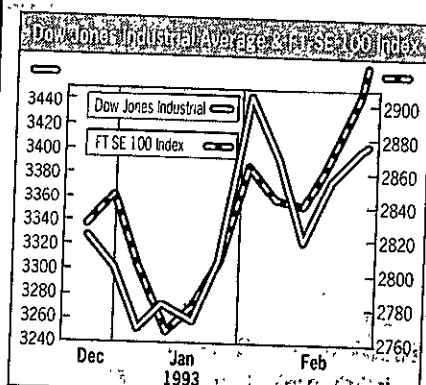
"How can we accept that Unita will react favourably to this proposal of a

truce when it didn't even bother to go to Addis Ababa?" he said.

"It doesn't seem to us that this is a very apt proposal or that it is realistic at the moment."

Mr dos Santos appealed for an international arms embargo on the government and Unita, written into a collapsed 1991 peace agreement, to be scrapped.

"We think that this clause must be abolished because we now have a legitimate government elected by our people," he said. — Foreign Desk



Graphic LEE EMERTON Source HNET

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FRIDAY'S
NEW YORK
GOLD CLOSE:
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FRIDAY'S
HONG KONG
GOLD CLOSE:
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Unita claims city and lays down talks demands

LISBON — Unita, after claiming victory in a two-month battle for the key city of Huambo, had set conditions for the resumption of talks to end civil strife in Angola, Portugal's Lusa news agency reported yesterday.

Lusa, quoting a statement from a Unita representative in Washington, said Unita was ready to meet Angolan government representatives provided the talks took place in Geneva and government planes stopped bombing Huambo.

Unita wanted "an open dialogue not limited to the Addis Ababa agenda", Lusa quoted Unita's Jardo Muekalia as saying, referring to talks scheduled for the Ethiopian capital last month. These were cancelled after the Unita delegation failed to attend.

Unita also demanded that the government delegation to future talks not include former members of Unita, Lusa said.

Muekalia was not immediately available by telephone to confirm the Lusa report.

Unita's Vorgan radio reported that Unita forces took control of Huambo, Angola's second city, on Saturday.

The radio said Unita fighters had

taken control of the governor's palace, symbol of government authority, at 1pm.

Civilians gathered at the palace to watch Unita's army commander in Huambo, Demostenes Chilungutula, raise the organisation's flag over the building, it said. Government troops had reportedly fled.

In Abidjan, Unita permanent representative for West Africa John Marques Kakumba said Unita had taken "5 000 prisoners and seized an enormous quantity of weapons, especially tanks".

He said the fighting caused "heavy losses on both sides" but no casualty figures were available. An estimated 12 000 have died in the past eight weeks.

The Angolan state radio said fighting continued in Huambo and did not confirm the Unita claim.

Huambo is vital to Unita in that its leader, Jonas Savimbi, established new headquarters there soon after the September UN-monitored general elections, which Unita lost and later alleged were rigged.

It is a stronghold of Savimbi's ethnic group, the Ovimbundu, who make up more than 60% percent of the country's 10.5-million people. However, the heavy fighting is said to have

reduced the city to ruins.

UN special envoy to Angola Margaret Anstee left the country for New York on Friday to report on the situation in the country.

The UN withdrew its team of ceasefire monitors from Angola's oil-producing territory of Cabinda after one was wounded in a grenade and machinegun attack by unknown assailants, a UN spokesman said.

Meanwhile, Sapa-Reuter reports that President Jose Eduardo dos Santos appointed a conservative white Angolan as finance minister on Friday after firing reformist Salamao Xirimbimbi, who engineered a sharp devaluation of the local currency.

In a mini reshuffle, the president also named a new central bank governor to replace Sebastiao Lavrado, whom he fired with Xirimbimbi last week, and appointed new ministers of commerce and information.

Diplomats said the new finance minister, former commerce minister Emanuel Carneiro, 59, was widely regarded as a man who has the confidence of the mainly white and mixed-race business community.

They said the new governor of the National Bank of Angola, Generoso de Almeida, was unlikely to undertake reforms. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

UN pull out of troubled town

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8/3/73

LUANDA. — The United Nations has evacuated its staff from the northern Angolan enclave of Cabinda, while the government here denied the embattled central city of Huambo has fallen to Unita rebels.

The move came as Unita, following a report by rebel Vorgan radio that Unita forces had taken control of Huambo, proposed holding peace talks this week in Geneva.

"We are ready to meet (with the People's Liberation Movement of Angola or MPLA), no longer in Addis Ababa, but in Geneva," said spokesman Mr Marcellino Georges Sanjaende.

UN spokesman Mr Joao Lins de Alburquerque said unidentified gunmen, armed with automatic rifles and grenades, attacked the UN Verification and Monitoring Mission in Cabinda, wounding one staffer, a Dutch policeman, in the arm, on Saturday.

The UN then evacuated the mission to Luanda where the staffer was treated and is reportedly in a stable condition.

Unita offers peace talks in Geneva this week

The government has issued no official comment on the rebel radio claim, but a government military source denied the report, saying fighting was still going on.

Mr Sanjaende added "the agenda of the talks should be open and unconditional".

The talks could not be held unless the Angolan government "stops the air raids of Huambo city".

Huambo has been "bombed by government aircraft" since Saturday, Mr Sanjaende said. "The city is constantly bombed by four MiG-23," he added.

The government and rebels forces have fought a major battle

for the city since January at the cost of thousands of lives, with each side reportedly deploying thousands of fighters.

Mr Alburquerque said the Cabinda separatist movement, FLEC, has promised to release UN observer Mr Jordanian Faez Shadaifat, kidnapped two weeks ago.

Mr Shadaifat will be handed over to the UN at a news conference in the Zairean capital Kinshasa today, said the spokesman.

The UN has had to close all but five of its 67 offices across the country since the fighting revived. It still has observer missions in Luanda, Lubango, Benguela, Namibe and Sombe.

UN-sponsored peace talks in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, should have been held on February 26. But they were cancelled after Unita failed to attend.

Analysts had said prospects for the peace talks depended on the outcome of the bitter battle for Huambo.

If Unita's control of the city was confirmed, it would strengthen leader Dr Jonas Savimbi's weak negotiating position. — Sapa-AFP

Unita has taken Star 8/3/93 Huambo ⑤ — Luanda

LUANDA — Government troops have surrendered Angola's second-largest city to Unita rebels after a two-month battle, government military officials said yesterday.

The Armed Forces General Staff announced over Angolan state television that government troops had withdrawn from Huambo after 56 days of fierce fighting.

Defeat in Huambo, 530 km south-east of the capital, Luanda, is a serious setback for the government.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said yesterday the government would seek foreign military assistance to help subdue the rebel army, which has taken control of three-quarters of the country.

Unita General Demostenes Chilinguita, speaking on rebel radio, said the insurgents had overrun the last two Angolan army garrisons in Huambo and captured 5,000 government soldiers, including officers.

Immediately after claiming control of the city, the rebels announced they would resume peace talks if the government stopped bombing Huambo.

Marcellino Georges Sampaio, the rebels' representative in Paris, said the rebel group was willing to begin peace talks with the government next week in Geneva.

UN-sponsored talks on February 28 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, were cancelled after Unita delegates failed to arrive.

Officials estimated two weeks ago that more than 10,000 people had been killed since the battle for Huambo began on January 9.

● An armed band yesterday attacked the encampment of UN ceasefire monitors in the oil-rich Cabinda enclave, 400 km north of Luanda, Portuguese news agency Lusa reported. It was not known if the attackers were Unita troops. No one was injured, but UN officials in Luanda announced that all monitors would be evacuated from the region.

Haunted by a mother's look

Star 8/3/93

(5)

(S)

HIS nightmare started 15 years ago — on a day he had to perform mercy killings for the SADF.

He pulled a crying infant from the arms of his dying mother, her intestines hanging from her abdomen. Then lifted an AK-47 and aimed it at her bleeding body.

He will never forget her eyes as he pulled the trigger.

Nor the screams of the child as she was taken away by medical personnel.

On the fourth day of May 1978, at Swapo's Cassinga refugee camp in southern Angola, this highly decorated South African soldier broke down and cried.

His life was never the same again.

'I am a soldier, but that day in Cassinga I killed in cold blood. I did it because I was instructed to kill those who couldn't live.'

On that day in Cassinga, he went — in South African parlance — *boosies* (became mentally and emotionally unstable).

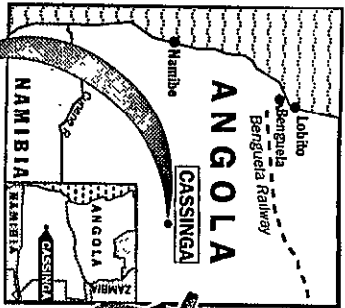
But it was only three years later that a psychologist discovered that he was suffering from post-traumatic stress syndrome (PTSD) — the so-called Vietnam syndrome.

The Pretoria psychologist, who for professional reasons cannot be identified, said last week that 10 years ago he diagnosed the soldier as suffering from PTSD.

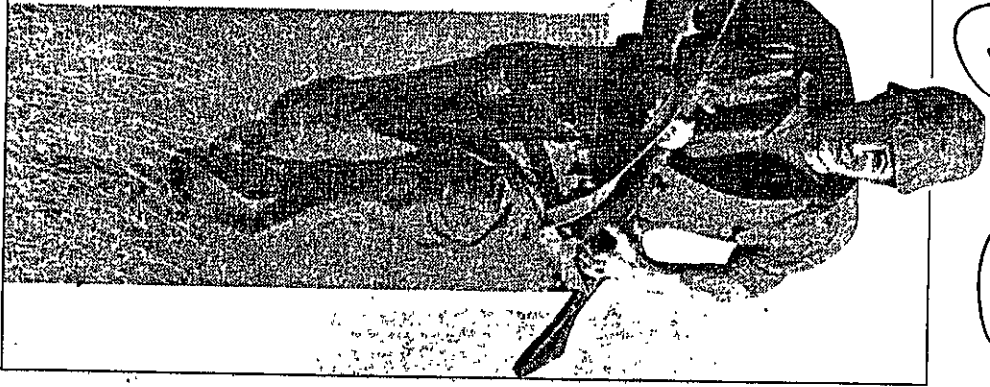
"I remember the case well because it was so emotional and dramatic. The disorder was caused by the fact that the soldier took part in a series of battles, but it was finally triggered by the incident of the mother and her child."

There is another, unknown, side to the operatives of Military Intelligence — men purged from the security forces and now said to be considering mercenary options in Angola.

One such former operative, a hardened and decorated soldier, told JACQUES PAUW of the dark monster in his life: he suffers from "Vietnam-syndrome" because of what he was asked to do for the South African Defence Force. The soldier, whose name is known to The Star, asked not to be identified.



Aftermath . . . mass grave at Cassinga after the raid on May 4 1978.



the rubbish dump".

"Everything we did, every project we executed, had the full blessing and knowledge of our superiors. They knew exactly who we were spying on and we always reported back fully. I don't want to go to jail, I am finished with this. I want to forget and start a new life."

But the soldier will never be able to forget that day in 1978. Daybreak over Cassinga started with the screaming sound of M16s and Camberra jets, dropping thousands of tons of bombs on the men, women and children below.

Cassinga Day is still celebrated in Namibia as a public holiday, where it is remembered as the day South Africa massacred 867 refugees. South Africa has always maintained that Cassinga was never a refugee camp, but a training base for Swapo terrorists.

Whatever the camp's true nature, various parties — including the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the World Health Organisation — have claimed that the majority of the corpses were those of women, children and elderly people. Some had the mercy bullets

of the soldier in their bodies when they were later buried.

One of those who died was the young mother. The soldier does not know what happened to her child.

He says that after the battle, army doctors reported that they couldn't cope with all the wounded and that some survivors were so badly mutilated they wouldn't survive.

The soldier says: "We were in enemy territory and had to get the hell out of there as quickly as possible. There were just too many wounded. We could have

'We found this woman clutching her screaming baby. There was no hope for her. I had to shoot her . . . I can never describe what it did to me.'

left them on the battlefield to die in pain and agony. We couldn't.

"I was given an AK-47 and instructed to kill those who couldn't be saved. I had to decide who was not going to live. I was the company leader, so I had to take the lead.

"I don't know how many people I shot that day. Some were conscious, some were not. Some were making sounds, others not.

"We found this woman clutching her screaming baby. It was only when we tore the child away that we saw the terrible wounds inflicted by an Air Force bomb. There was no hope for her. I had to shoot her. She looked at me. I can never describe what it did to me. It was too much. Iaker broke down."

It was only three years later that the psychologist positively diagnosed the soldier as suffering from PTSD.

It is described by psychologists as an illness that has left

some soldiers emotionally scarred after every battle and even years of therapy do little to exorcise the ghosts war.

Post-traumatic stress syndrome, following military combat, is characterized by severe guilt, episodes of rage and violence, psychic numbing, alienation of one's own feelings, doubt about whether one can ever love or trust someone else again, and pessimism about the very nature and purpose of life itself.

The psychologist says the soldier suffered from a "classic case of the Vietnam syndrome".

He describes the man as a dedicated and tough soldier, a "man's man" who will always long for the excitement of the bush and the camaraderie of army life.

He says that although the soldier has learnt to live with his trauma and battle experiences, the memory of Cassinga can never be removed.

After serving some years in Military Intelligence, the soldier is now destitute — and very bitter.

"Some of my former colleagues don't talk to me any more. My family has been terribly hurt and members of the public see us as a bunch of right-wing lunatics who tried to sabotage the negotiations process."

"We did what we were told. I was conscripted on what I did. I was valuable until I became politically expendable. It is not fair." □

**KENDRA CHEMICALS LTD
SUGGESTED SOLUTION**

cash flow statement for the year ended 31 December 1990

Notes
1990
R'000

3. Taxation paid is reconciled to the amounts disclosed in the income statement as follows:
Amount unpaid at beginning of year

look

of the soldier in their bodies when they were later buried.

One of those who died was the young mother. The soldier, does not know what happened to her child.

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The soldier says: "We were in enemy territory and had to get the hell out of there as quickly as possible. There were just too many wounded. We could have

some soldiers emotionally scarred after every battle in every war. Some never recover and even years of therapy does little to exorcise the ghosts of war.

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23 705
(4 825)
800
51 680

(25 600)
(1 000)
2 500
(29 080)
(53 190)

Depreciation	
(Profit) on disposal of fixed assets	
Interest paid	

used to increase working capital	
use in stocks	
use in debtors	
use in listed investments	
use in creditors	

Unita talks offer a joke, says govt

BIOM 9/3/93
LUANDA — Unita's proposal to hold a fresh round of peace talks after seizing Huambo was "a joke", Angolan Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda, said yesterday.

While government troops have retreated from Huambo, Angola's second largest city, after two months of fierce fighting with Unita rebels, the government dismissed the peace talks offer.

"The war is not over and Huambo is not lost," Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda said after the government admitted it had withdrawn from the central highlands city for "strategic reasons".

"Government forces simply left positions they were defending to occupy other more advantageous positions," he said.

Two columns of government reinforcements, totalling some 10 000 men, were fewer than 100km from the city yesterday, military sources in Luanda said.

The 56-day battle for Huambo, where Unita leader Jonas Savimbi set up his political base last year, has left more than 12 000 dead, according to officials.

Observers have considered the outcome of the fighting crucial to the future of the Angolan peace process. Huambo is in the heartland of Savimbi's Ovimbundu people.

Few expected Savimbi, who went to Huambo after Unita refused to recognise the outcome of UN-supervised general elections it lost last year, to consider sitting down at a peace table without controlling the town.

The government had remained silent for 24 hours after Unita's rebel radio Vorgan

announced that the city had fallen and said the black cock flag of the movement was flying over government buildings.

On Sunday, Unita representative in Paris Marcellino Georges Sanjaende said the rebels were willing to talk to the ruling MPLA this week in Geneva.

He added that "the agenda of the talks should be open and unconditional". The talks could not be held unless the Angolan government stopped air raids on Huambo.

The city had been bombed by government aircraft since Saturday, Sanjaende said.

"It is constantly bombed by four MiG-23s," he said.

Huambo, once the relatively prosperous capital of the high plateau region, was reported to be in ruins. The UN and relief agencies had repeatedly pleaded in vain for a truce to get emergency aid to thousands of people, including many injured without hope of succour.

Miranda said the government considered that after Unita's failure late last month to show up for peace talks in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa, any forthcoming negotiations should be held on "national territory".

The rebels turned down a UN offer to guarantee the safety of their delegates at the talks, despite pressure from the international community to end the fighting. Margaret Anstee, head of the UN monitoring mission in Angola, was to present a report on the aborted talks to UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita threatens to 'neutralise' vital Angolan oil plants

5
ARG 9/3/93

LUANDA. — Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement today threatened to "neutralise" vital oil installations in northern Angola if government forces tried to recapture them.

"In the case of an attack, the (Soyo) oil sector will be neutralised," Unita's Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel radio announced.

Soyo was producing about a third of Angola's output, then totalling 550 000 barrels a day, when Unita forces overran the town in January.

The radio quoted a senior Unita officer in Soyo as saying: "Our response (to any attack) will be violent and extensive".

Government coffers have been hard hit by the loss of Soyo's oil, needed to earn foreign currency to bankroll the war, and it has been widely reported that the government was recruiting mercenaries to help recapture Soyo.

The Angolan government has pledged to hold on to its fields in the strategic Cabinda enclave, 60km north of Soyo, between Zaire and Congo.

Meanwhile the fall of Huambo to Unita could mean Angolans must brace themselves for fiercer fighting in the renewed civil war.

The government said it had withdrawn its troops from Huambo for "strategic planning purposes".

But analysts in Luanda said the forces could have been driven out by Unita, which brought in reinforcements early last week.

Observers here believe the government's military supplies have been depleted.

Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda said yesterday "Huambo is not lost" and dismissed as a "joke" an offer Unita made on Sunday — after announcing the town's capture — to hold peace negotiations this week in Geneva.

Two government troop columns totalling 10 000 men have been heading to the rescue of Huambo in the central highlands, slowly advancing from the west and south-west.

The situation in Huambo remained unclear. It was not certain yesterday when relief flights would carry medicine and food to the injured and hungry who lived through two months of fighting.

— Sapa-Reuter-AFP.



FAREWELL: Singer-bandleader Billy Eckstine has died. He was 78. In this picture he does his first soft-shoe routine in Las Vegas in 1956. Eckstine sang romantic ballads in a vibrant baritone and was America's most popular vocalist in 1949 and 1950. He was the first black singer to be featured on the cover of Life magazine.

Angola 'no' to Unita's talks offer

LUANDA. — The Angolan government yesterday dismissed a Unita offer of peace talks and denied it had surrendered Huambo to rebels.

"The war is not over and the town of Huambo is not lost," Deputy Foreign Minister Mr Joao Miranda said yesterday in the wake of Sunday's government admission that it had withdrawn from the central highlands city for "strategic reasons".

"Government forces simply left positions they were defending to occupy other more advantageous positions," Mr Miranda claimed.

The government had remained silent for 24 hours after Unita's radio Vorgan claimed the town had fallen to Unita after a bitter two-month struggle that claimed at least 12 000 lives.

Mr Miranda told Portuguese radio Unita's offer of new peace talks was "a joke". "We must not give much importance to this proposal," he said.

Yesterday two government relief columns totalling about 10 000 men were less than 100km from Huambo, military sources here said.

Huambo's status is seen as crucial to peace moves. It lies in the heartland of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Ovimbundu people and Unita is unlikely to consider peace talks without controlling it.

On Sunday, Unita's Paris representative, Mr Marcellino Sanjaende, said Unita was willing to open talks this week in Geneva if the agenda was "open and unconditional". — Sapa-AFP

Angola waits for peace proposals

LUANDA — Angola is awaiting fresh peace proposals from Unita leader Jonas Savimbi following his movement's capture of Huambo, the country's second largest city.

Unita radio said yesterday Savimbi would broadcast to the nation at 1 pm today to outline his ideas on future peace negotiations and the organisation of aid for victims of the conflict.

The government conceded on Sunday night it had lost Huambo in the central highlands, spiritual capital of Unita and the Ovimbunde tribe which provides the backbone of its support.

It was the government's biggest military setback since Angola's civil war resumed in earnest two months ago.

Unita radio said government forces had been routed in Huambo on Saturday and large numbers of prisoners, tanks and artillery pieces captured.

A military communique issued in Luanda on Sunday night said "Government forces withdrew in an organised manner and for strategic reasons from the positions they occupied to defend the city."

Diplomats and aid workers in Luanda said they were waiting to see what proposals Savimbi would make for returning to the negotiating table.

President José Eduardo dos Santos may find some of the

new conditions Savimbi is likely to set difficult to swallow, they said.

Unita failed to turn up for the last round of UN-sponsored peace talks in Addis Ababa at the end of last month.

It signed a peace agreement with the ruling MPLA in 1991, after 16 years of civil war, but returned to the battlefield after losing UN-supervised elections in September.

A diplomat connected with the peace process said Unita was "pretty strong in about 70 percent of the country, which is half the size of western Europe" and had an army of 50,000 which had never been properly demobilised.

The government, on the other hand, controlled most of the main towns, has a powerful air force and was using the revenue from Angola's 550,000 barrels per day oil production to fly in arms and ammunition bought on the international market.

The end of fighting in Huambo has raised hopes that aid agencies may soon be able to restart programmes in the central highlands.

The government estimates 1.7 million of Angola's 10 million people have been forced to leave their homes because of the fighting and a further 500,000 are suffering from drought in the far south. — Sapa-Reuters

By STEPHEN JOHN STEDMAN

SOUTHERN AFRICA has a dire security crisis on its hands: the renewed civil war in Angola.

According to humanitarian relief organisations, the resumption of fighting places up to three million civilians at risk of famine and disease. If the fighting continues, a giant exodus of refugees will cross into Namibia and Zambia.

This added burden may undermine Namibia's fragile progress since independence. The 300 000 refugees who have already reached Zambia may overwhelm that country's nascent experiment in multiparty democracy.

Eventually, displaced Angolans could reach South Africa, as Zairians have already arrived here fleeing their country's chaos.

South Africans must understand that events in Angola have a direct impact on their own economic, political and military security. South Africa, reeling from economic depression, needs healthy neighbours.

Change required

Moreover, the resumption of war in Angola has robbed South Africa of a new important trading partner and market. South Africa, like the region to which it belongs, has a stake in ending the conflict in Angola.

This new regional crisis and the domestic political changes under way in South Africa require Southern Africa's leaders to re-evaluate old approaches to the region's security. Instead, there has been a marked tendency to hold fast to old assumptions, dogmas, and doctrines.



harbour!"

SA has a stake in ending the Angolan conflict

CT 10/3/93



WAR RESUMED... Dr Jonas Savimbi, whom Pretoria has denied supporting in the resumed fighting in Angola.

For example, recently in Namibia the United Nations held a conference on confidence and security-building in Southern Africa.

Many of the participants from Southern Africa — mostly government officials and high-ranking military officers — argued that apartheid was the cause of interstate conflict in the region. Therefore, regional security would emerge naturally when an interim government was in place in South Africa. Mutual confidence and trust, they insisted, were not key issues for the region's security.

This view, however, misunderstands the nature of the South African transition. Change will be protracted; the old South Africa will co-exist uneasily with the new for a long period, perhaps five years, maybe longer.

Old tensions

The old SADF and Foreign Ministry, with both their considerable talents and overwhelming ideological baggage, for better or worse will be part of the new dispensation. Institutional legacies, habits and commitments will die slowly.

South Africans who will serve together in a new SADF and Foreign

Ministry need to be brought together, as do South Africans and their regional counterparts, in defence and security matters.

The current crisis in Angola provides an opportunity to build trust and confidence in the region. The renewed war in Angola has brought to the fore all the old tensions and worries between Southern Africa and Pretoria. States in the region, as well as parties within South Africa, accuse Pretoria of complicity in supporting Jonas Savimbi and Unita; accusations the government has vigorously denied.

The South African Government has, of course, publicly condemned Savimbi's return to war.

Pretoria's sincerity should be tested — this is how trust and confidence are built. The South African Government, with co-operation and participation from the ANC, should approach the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and ask it to form a committee of three, four or five military officers from the region who are knowledgeable about supply and logistics.

This committee should tour SADF facilities that have been mentioned in

conjunction with the re-supply of Unita. It would be granted the kind of access that was instrumental in establishing peace and security in Europe. It could request and be given site inspections, receive briefings about SADF threat perceptions involving Angola, and discuss a common approach to halting weapons shipments to Savimbi.

Why exemption?

For example, the region's military people could co-operate in monitoring flights from anywhere in South Africa (including the homelands) that travel to Angola and Zaire. Such co-operation would enable Southern Africa as a whole to cut private flows of equipment to Unita.

Some will argue that such joint security consultation and action are inappropriate until a government of transition is in place. But every state in the region, including Zimbabwe, has engaged in talks about economic co-operation with South Africa before the transition has started.

Why should problem-solving regarding regional security be exempt? In South Africa, some in the government may support this suggestion as long as members of the ANC are not included. This will prove remarkably short-sighted: South Africa needs a base of mutual trust and confidence on which to stand.

If there is political will, then this exercise can begin the forging of a new SADF and Foreign Ministry and, indeed, a new Southern Africa.

The human tragedy in Angola will not wait for an interim government in South Africa; it demands the region's attention now.

Because this is so, all of Southern Africa's energy and creativity should focus on this issue. If current SADF and Foreign Ministry officials who will be part of the new South Africa and their counterparts in the region can co-operate on Angola, then a small corner of trust and confidence will be built for the future.

Heaven knows, the region needs it.
□ Stephen John Stedman is a visiting Fulbright research fellow at the Centre for Southern African Studies, University of the Western Cape.

(2) (a) and (b)

It is still the intention to phase out the functions and activities of the SA Development Trust Corporation on 31 March 1993, where it is practically feasible. Arrangements have, however, been made for the said corporation to continue carrying out its project functions and activities should it not be possible for a recipient organisation to take over timeously. The phasing out of the corporation is therefore synchronized with the transfer of the projects concerned.

Depending on the advice of the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation and negotiations between the RSA and KwaZulu regarding the utilization of, *inter alia*, the sugar farms near Eshowe in Natal, it is in the meantime intended to transfer the management of the project concerned to the KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation.

As result of a report by a bilateral working group regarding the future status of the Rust Der Winter farms it is the intention of the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation to hear evidence in this regard shortly. The findings and advice will thereafter be submitted to the hon the State President for consideration. In the meantime it is intended to entrust the management of the Rust Der Winter project to the KwaNdebele Agricultural Company.

LBS countries/RSA: constitutional future

*3. Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development:†

- (1) Whether (a) Lesotho, (b) Swaziland and (c) Botswana have at any time been invited to take part in talks with a view to a new constitutional dispensation for Southern Africa, if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B312E

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) No. These states are not involved in South Africa's internal constitutional process. Their relationship with South

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Africa is one in terms of the international law, which will have to be addressed by way of diplomatic channels. I am not aware of any interest shown by any of these countries regarding participation, in the wider sense, in the South African constitutional changes.

(2) No.

Political party: changing of name

*4. Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:†

- (1) Whether his Department has received an application to change its name from a certain political party, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) when and (b) what is the name of this party;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B313E

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) No. (a) and (b) fall away.

(2) No.

Minister Pik Botha: undesirable person in Angola

*5. Mr J M BEYERS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

- (1) Whether he paid a visit to Angola recently; if so, what was the (a) purpose of and (b) cost involved in this visit;
- (2) whether he or the South African Government has since been informed that he has been declared an undesirable person in that country; if so, (a) why has he been declared an undesirable person and (b) in what manner was he or the Government informed of this action;
- (3) whether he is still regarded as an undesirable person in that country; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details? B317E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) I paid two visits to Angola during October 1992.

(a) (i) These visits took place between 12 and 17 October and 19 and

20 October 1992 respectively and were undertaken at the request of both the Angolan Government and Unita to act as mediator in the post-election crisis between the two parties. I was initially hesitant to do this while I was aware of the deep-rooted distrust which existed within the ranks of both parties. After the request to act as mediator had been supported by various governments, I nevertheless decided to endeavour, for the sake of peace and stability, in Southern Africa. After five days I succeeded in obtaining an agreement from the two leaders to meet each other on 19 October 1992. Agreement was also reached that the two leaders would at this meeting both commit themselves to a peaceful resolution of their differences and to co-operating to promote the economic rebuilding of Angola. I have no doubt that if that meeting could have taken place, Angola could have avoided the destruction and bloodshed which followed later. Unfortunately advisers of the leaders suggested at the last moment that delegations of the two leaders should first meet to draw up an agenda.

This delay led to a shooting incident in Luanda which was the spark that ignited the powder-keg.

(ii) The two trips to Luanda and back from Luanda to South Africa, as well as the two trips from Luanda to Huambo and back to Luanda, amounted to approximately R13 000 per person. The accommodation costs of my delegation were carried by the Angolan Government.

(2) I have never been declared an undesirable person in Angola. This was incorrect speculation on the part of the media. The South African Government

has been assured of this on two separate occasions: (i) On 16 November 1992 Mr Venancio De Moura, the then Angolan Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, now Minister of Foreign Affairs, assured the South African Representative in Luanda of the invalidity of such reports.

(ii) The former Angolan Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr "Loy" van Du-nem, who reportedly made the original statement, assured my Department during his visit to Cape Town on 10 February 1993 that the media reports in this regard were unfounded.

(3) Falls away.

Mr Lolo Sono: disappearance

*6. Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 3 on 20 May 1992, the investigation by the South African Police into the circumstances surrounding the disappearance of Mr Lolo Sono has been completed; if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that it will be completed;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B332E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes. (a) and (b) Fall away.

(2) Yes. The case docket is at present in the hands of the Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand. This investigation into the disappearance of Lolo Sono is part of the controversy concerning Mrs Winnie Mandela and her so-called "soccer club". The appeal by Mrs Mandela against her conviction on a charge of the murder of Stormie Seipei is to be heard on 24-26 March 1993. The Attorney-General will decide on the matter of Lolo Sono after the appeal of Mrs Mandela has been heard.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Savimbi sets conditions for talks

NICOSIA. — Angolan rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi yesterday demanded a change of venue and the replacement of the UN mediator as the price of his participation in peace talks with the government.

"We do not want talks to be held in Addis Ababa any more. We shall only attend the talks if they are held in Geneva," he

said on Unita's radio station.

Dr Savimbi also demanded the withdrawal of Ms Margaret Anstee as UN representative in Angola. "As long as she is here, there will be no negotiations, because she has no experience in African affairs. She should leave," he said.

Meanwhile, Angola's military chief has warned Angolans that the renewed civil war

— which culminated at the weekend with the rebel's capture of the central city of Huambo — has made a "protracted war" unavoidable.

And the US warned Unita yesterday to keep its hands off US oil installations in Angola.

The US was reacting to a warning by Unita rebels yesterday that foreign oil companies could expect a "violent

and extensive" response if the government attacks rebel-held areas of petroleum-rich northern Angola.

"We've directly advised Unita to keep their hands off US oil installations ... we'll not accept that kind of threat," a spokesman for the US liaison office in Luanda said. — The Telegraph plc London, Sapa-
Reuter (S) 10/3/93

Angolans facing Star 10/3/93 all-out war again

(5)

Angola is facing a return to all-out war following an appeal by Jonas Savimbi, the Unita leader, to his guerillas to return to the bush and prepare to continue fighting.

Angola has had 30 years of war, the last 15 the fiercest and most destructive Africa has ever seen.

The peace accords signed in May 1991 are irretrievably broken and the country, potentially one of the richest in Africa, faces a long drawn out war of attrition between the government and Unita forces. The main victims will, as before, be civilians, many thousands of whom will starve.

Savimbi yesterday called for his guerillas, who should have been disbanded under the peace accords, to return to their units.

"I am launching a general appeal to all Unita armed forces ... to gather together in their old areas.

"We have uniforms, arms, ammunition, bombs, and food ... we will immediately order the reorganisation of your units in order to continue with the battles for the sake of bringing dignity to the Bantu people in their land of origin."

But the Unita leader has also indicated he is willing to resume talks with the Angolan government again on condition the United Nations representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, is removed and the venue of the talks is changed.

But the government appears to be hardening its position on talks, and it may reject the offer.

The UN-observed election process collapsed following the resumption of the civil war, when Unita tried to take over some government-run areas. Since then the two sides have alternated between talking and fighting.

The warring sides were due to meet in Addis Ababa last week but Unita did not show up.

Meanwhile, its forces were trying to capture the strategic town of Huambo in the central highlands. They succeeded at the weekend and, as expected, Savimbi promptly announced his readiness to talk.

But he wants the talks moved from Addis Ababa to Geneva and the UN special representative, former British diplomat Anstee, sacked.

Anstee blamed Unita for the breakdown of the peace talks when they failed to come to Addis Ababa and said that the movement must take responsibility for the suffering of millions of ordinary Angolans.

But the government appears to have lost patience with Unita's dual strategy of war and talk.

The deputy foreign minister, Joao Miranda, said: "We must not give much importance to this proposal, which is, once again, a joke." — The Independent News Service.

expanding export operations for \$530 million, with record projects.

Angola's diamond output shattered

Star 11/3/93

LUANDA — Angolan diamond production, worth about \$600 million last year, has been cut back to a trickle by renewed civil war and the rainy season, trade sources say.

But extraction rates could rise sharply in April and May as rivers fall at the onset of the dry season, making Angola's alluvial deposits easier to work.

The rebel movement Unita controls the main diamond mining area along the Cuango river in Lunda Norte province in northeastern Angola, but it is probably selling only about \$2 million or \$3 million worth a month in neighbouring Zaire. Diplomats say diamonds are

one of Unita's main sources of revenue now that the United States and South Africa have cut off official aid to the movement.

Unita signed a peace agreement with the government in 1991, but returned to the battlefield after losing UN-supervised elections last September.

The sources say Angola exported \$250 million worth of diamonds through official channels last year, of which \$220 million came from large industrial mines at Kalandu and Luzamba on the Cuango river. But a further \$350 million of diamonds were stolen from the large mining companies or mined illegally by small-scale prospec-

it regarded highly.

tors and sold across the border in Zaire.

De Beers, which dominates the world diamond market, is the end buyer of three-quarters of the smuggled diamonds after they have passed through several middlemen, the sources say.

Unita is believed to have seized about \$10 million worth of diamonds when it invaded the Cuango river mines at the end of October and may have recovered more from gravel piles awaiting treatment.

About \$30 million worth of diamonds were sold through official channels last year from a smaller mining region between Dundo and Saurimo near the border with

Zaire.

This area still appears to be in government hands, but the destruction of local power lines has brought official mining activity there to a virtual halt.

The industrial mines on the Cuango river were extensively damaged by looting after the Unita occupation.

Experts say that in peacetime Angola could produce up to \$1 billion a year of diamonds by sitting through gem-rich gravel in the river valleys in the northeast.

But there may also be potential for mining even large volumes of diamonds from kimberlite pipes. — Sapa-Reuters.

...not so had



Unita rebels fire on UN plane carrying food and medical aid

CUBAL — Unita rebels shot at a UN plane carrying food and medical aid to Cubal in western Angola as it tried to land yesterday, a Reuter reporter on the plane said.

No one was hurt in the shooting but the plane, clearly identified with a World Food Programme logo on the side, returned to Luanda without delivering its cargo.

Cubal lies 150km west of the central city of Huambo, which fell to Unita at the weekend after two months of heavy fighting.

Meanwhile, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi yesterday accused Portugal of plotting his assassination and implied that Portuguese citizens living in Angola could fall victim to retaliatory attacks.

Savimbi, speaking over the clandestine Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel radio monitored by the Portuguese news agency Lusa yesterday, lashed out against Angola's former colonial rulers.

"The assassination plans made in Portugal against me could create completely irreversible situations," Savimbi said, adding that while he is not in Portugal, there are many Portuguese in Angola.

Meanwhile, a Cape Town newspaper reported yesterday that a large group of highly trained SA mercenaries were set to take over Savimbi's headquarters within the next two weeks and kill him or take him captive.

The mercenaries, numbering about 100, are former members of 32 Battalion, the Ovambo Battalion and other special fighting forces, according to Die Burger sources. The report said many of them are already in Angola.

The "very strong group" — supported by the US intelligence service, the CIA, are being paid by an oil company and operate under cover that they would be protecting oil installations, it said.

Some of SA's more experienced soldiers were at the head of the group, including three black Angolans who fought in the bush war against the MPLA and Swapo, the report said.

Group members recently bought a large amount of equipment and clothing from a Pretoria store.

There is concern in defence and security circles that if the mercenaries are captured they could say they acted with the support of the SADF and the SA government. — Sapa-Reuter-AP.

Angola asks Mugabe to denounce Unita

HARARE. — Angola's government yesterday appealed to Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, as chairman of the frontline states, to convince the international community to denounce Unita.

Lieutenant-General Alexandre "Kito" Rodrigues, of the Angolan armed forces, visiting Zimbabwe to deliver a message from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, said Mr Mugabe was the only person who could pressure the United Nations to give moral support to the MPLA government.

"There is no one else but him that can denounce Unita and put pressure on United Nations secretary-general

Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

"We expect moral support, especially to convince the public and the international community the Angolan situation is not similar to that in Somalia because in this country there have been free and fair elections and a government was elected."

General Rodrigues said the situation was deteriorating each day because the Unita rebels preferred war, after their defeat in last year's elections.

The situation was aggravated by the presence of foreigners helping Unita, he added. — Sapa-Reuter

2 plots to kill Savimbi

5
ET 11/3/93

Staff Reporter

ANGOLAN rebel Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi is the target of two separate assassination plots, it was claimed yesterday.

While one report said the ruling MPLA government was gathering a highly trained South African mercenary force of over 100 men, with CIA backing, to kill Dr Savimbi, the Unita leader himself said in a radio broadcast that Portugal was plotting his death.

Dr Savimbi's death would bring Unita to "a grinding halt", said Colonel Jan Breytenbach, founder of 32 Battalion, from which the MPLA has allegedly drawn many recruits.

Dr Savimbi, speaking on the clandestine Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel (Vorgan) radio, warned Angola's former colonial rulers that Portuguese residents in Angola could suffer in retaliatory actions.

Meanwhile, SA mercenaries were reportedly assembling in Angola to assassinate Dr Savimbi at his Jamba headquarters within the next two weeks.

Experienced

Dr Savimbi has ordered the summary execution of any mercenaries captured.

The "very strong group" — supported by the American CIA — are being paid by an oil company and operate under cover of protecting oil installations, it was learnt.

Some of South Africa's more experienced soldiers are in the group, including three black Angolans who distinguished themselves against the MPLA and Swapo. They include A.M.R.G. Queros, awarded the Honoris Crux for his part in the failed 1985 sabotage mission to the Cabinda enclave led by SADF Captain Wynand du Toit.

Each recruit's contract, signed by Major-General J. Matos on behalf of the MPLA, involves an initial payment of US\$10 000 (about R30 000), followed by \$5 000 a month.

The chief executive of Windhoek-based Pro Pilot, Mr Krause Steyl, said his company had been contracted to fly passengers to Angola by former 32 Battalion member Mr Eben Barlow.

Star 11/2/93

Mercenaries in Namibian hospital beds

WINDHOEK — Three white mercenaries allegedly wounded in fighting in neighbouring Angola were under treatment yesterday in a private hospital in Windhoek, national television reported last night.

The Namibia Broadcasting Corporation said local police identified the men as South African mercenaries, possibly travelling on British passports.

The television showed pictures of the three men at the privately owned Medicity hospital facility on the main news.

They were bedridden and one was bandaged and appeared seriously hurt.

The TV report said the men were flown from Luanda, indicating they were wounded with beleaguered government troops fighting against Unita rebels.

The station said its news crew had been shut out of the hospital by staff who attempted to conceal the men in a children's ward.

A Cape Town newspaper yesterday said the Angola government had recruited about 100 South African-based mercenaries to assist in its battle against Unita. — Sapa-AP.

Unita's threats to destroy oil installations ring hollow in a world that has changed

Star 11/21/93

Savimbi still living in the past

IN HIS demand for the replacement of the UN's special Representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, the leader of Unita, Jonas Savimbi, has asserted that "she knows nothing about Africa".

In doing so he has invited an assessment of his own ignorance of Africa, the world, the UN, and above all of the country which provided him with succour for so long, the US.

Perhaps his problem is that he has been in the bush fighting for so long that he has lost touch with all reality except the dark rituals of death. He wages war, devastates the countryside, wrecks roads, bridges and railways, brings death to thousands in order to conquer a city, all to no avail when it comes to winning the one battle he has lost already — the battle for legitimacy.

It is a battle which has come to Africa late, but it is perhaps the central political reality facing leaders and governments on the continent as they come to terms with the fact that they are no

longer the prizes in a Cold War struggle for influence, and that the surviving victors of the Cold War are insisting with ever greater urgency on the advent of democracy and political legitimacy all over the continent.

Savimbi might reflect on the fate of his most powerful regional benefactor, the South African Government. It commanded by far the largest and most effective military force in Africa. It had at its disposal an efficient and sophisticated armaments industry. There was no prospect of it being overthrown by force, yet it was defeated by its lack of legitimacy.

Could he escape the same fate? Could he present the world with a military fait accompli, in defiance of the outcome of last October's UN-monitored elections in Angola, and gain recognition, or legitimacy, through the barrel of a gun? Almost certainly not. Africa and the world have changed.

Today President Clinton, and all his spokesmen, stress that the advancement of democracy and human rights is the cornerstone of

Hugh Robertson



their foreign policy. Clinton's staunchest supporters in Congress applaud the policy and so do virtually all foreign leaders who visit Washington. It has also become the battle cry at the UN, and is being taken up — albeit waveringly — by the OAU.

Only last week, the new chairman of the House of Representatives Africa sub-committee, Harry Johnston, called for the formal recognition of the MPLA government and urged the US to tell Savimbi that "enough is enough". He called, too, for the organised deposing of Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko, one of Savimbi's abiding allies. His views reflect not only those of the sub-committee, but of a majority in Congress. Is it feasible that in such a cli-

mate, after so much political energy has been expended by the US and the UN on seeking a democratic solution to Angola's war, that the US, the UN, or the OAU, would accept as legitimate a government in Angola which defied the wishes of the Angolan people as expressed in an election widely accepted as having been reasonably fair? Whether Unita conquers Luanda itself, the chances of it winning legitimacy would seem to be less than zero.

Judging from Savimbi's emotional broadcast after the fall of Huambo, he believes that his control of the US-operated oilfields in Cabinda is his trump card. If he warned, they would destroy the oil installations. That was a further revelation of Savimbi's capacity to miscalculate. Trying to emulate Saddam Hussein is not the way to retain the affection of those Americans who might still have some residual admiration for him.

As it is, even some of them respond with embarrassment to

what is happening in Angola, and they concede with great sadness that the palky explanations they have received so far for the murders of such Unita luminaries as Tito Chingunji, the organisation's former US representative with whom they developed a fraternal closeness, have left them filled with doubts and not a few regrets.

But this aside, the oil threat is based on the same naive reasoning which used to persuade the Botha regime in South Africa that because the country was the world's major producer of certain minerals essential to the prosperity of the industrialised world, this somehow granted that government immunity from blame for its frequently abhorrent behaviour and offered it protection from international retribution.

Destroying Angola's oil installations would gravely damage Angola's own economy, just as the devastation already wreaked by Unita elsewhere has done. But it would not bring about a change of heart in Washington, or New York, or Addis Ababa, and it

would not advance Unita's cause militarily, politically or economically. In the end, whoever emerges triumphant in Angola would face the cost of a massive rehabilitation — but in drastically transformed world conditions.

They are conditions in which Africa increasingly is being sidelined — especially those parts of Africa regarded as inherently unstable — in favour of investment in, and aid to, countries in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. If the temporary loss of Angolan oil is the price to pay for doing the right thing politically, then the choice facing the US and other countries would seem to be an easy one.

What, then, was the battle of Huambo all about? To satisfy the political egos of Savimbi and the Unita leadership? Or did it all have much more to do with Savimbi knowing too little about Africa and the new world emerging from the stalemate of the Cold War? Perhaps, with due humility, he might learn a thing or two at the knee of Margaret Anstee. □

Savimbi ^{Star 11/3/93} under fire from US

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau

⑤

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration has warned Unita's Jonas Savimbi that it views "with the gravest concern" his threat of attacks against American and other foreign oil operations in Angola.

It has also criticised his call for a general military mobilisation. A State Department official also rejected Savimbi's criticism of the UN's special representative in Angola.

Today's comments came in the wake of a broadcast by Savimbi this week in which he threatened to order attacks on US oil installations in Cabinda.

They also follow demands from Congress for the formal recognition of the government of Angola, and increasingly sharp attacks on Savimbi by US politicians, including the chairmen of both the senate and the House of Representatives' Africa sub-committees.

Savimbi's once vocal conservative supporters in Washington have remained silent in the face of these attacks.

● More reports - Pages 16, 17

Star 11/31/93

Talking on 'toothless watchdogs'

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has issued a challenge to the United Nations and the three observer nations in Angola, writes **GERALD L'ANDE**, Editor of the Star Africa Service.

RECENT events have left the international participants in the Angolan peace process facing a credibility crisis.

The latest developments have been discomfiting both for the United Nations which has prime responsibility for steering the country back to peace, and for the three observer nations — the United States, Russia and Portugal — who are supposed to be playing a major backup role.

The troika were called "toothless watchdogs" in the latest edition of the London newsletter, Africa Confidential, after Unita spurned their ultimatum to return to the negotiation table in Adids Ababa.

"Unita called their bluff and the situation remained unchanged," the newsletter said. Now Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has raised the stakes by capturing the key city of Huambo and then imposing tough conditions for resuming negotiations. He demanded that the

venue be shifted from Adids Ababa to Geneva and that the British diplomat, Margaret Anstee, be replaced as UN representative in Angola.

At the same time he warned that if any effort were made to reconquer the Sopo oilfields — as a major oil company is reportedly plotting to do through a mercenary force — Unita's response would be "violent and extensive", which is another way of saying the oil installations would be blown up.

Both the conditions for the resumption of talks and the Sopo warning pose a challenge to the international community, especially to the UN and the troika. The world will be watching with interest to see how they respond.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali is in a dilemma. Agreeing to shift the talks to Geneva may be politically feasible but agreeing to replace Anstee would make him out to be caving in to the rebels' demands and would very likely in-

fructuate the MPLA government in Luanata.

The troika are also in a difficult position. In effect, Savimbi has responded to their "or else" with an even bigger "or else". The MPLA, too, has been placed in a bit of a bind. Either it must compromise with Savimbi or it must find the strength to throw Unita out of Huambo and put it on the defensive elsewhere in Angola.

In stating his terms in a radio broadcast this week, Savimbi called on former Unita fighters to return to ranks, saying Unita had plenty of arms and supplies. It remains to be seen whether in doing that he is engaging in a bit of a bluff of his own or whether he seriously envisages escalating the conflict to force his demands on the MPLA and its international backers.

In deciding how to react to these developments, the foreign players must assess the military prospects Unita are able to deny the government control over about three-quarters of Angola. But by taking Huambo they have committed themselves to defending the city, thereby departing from their traditional guerrilla warfare role and engaging in conventional warfare, for which it is ill-equipped and inexperienced.

In capturing Huambo, however, Unita defeated the MPLA forces in a conventional battle, which seems to show that it can fight in this way, at least for a relatively short period.

The Unita and MPLA forces are probably about equally matched in numbers of men. The MPLA have the theoretical advantage of armored vehicles and a relatively strong air force

but may not be able to maintain their tanks and planes without major foreign assistance.

Whether such assistance will be provided is one of the main questions awaiting answers. Since the MPLA forces have always used Soviet weaponry, the obvious source of re-supply is Russia, which has plenty of spare arms to sell. But can the MPLA afford to buy them, even from what is left of its oil wealth? Or might the world witness the supreme irony of the United States buying weapons from Moscow for the MPLA?

Washington is being urged to recognise the MPLA government as a means of putting pressure on Unita. It is difficult to see how this would bolster Unita, however, provided it has the means to continue fighting. The troika's ultimatum was ineffective mainly because Unita

has nothing to lose, or very little to lose, especially since the UN ruled that it had been defeated in the election last September.

Unita would be badly hurt politically if it were thrown out of the Western countries in which it maintains offices for lobbying and propaganda purposes. But that would not affect the situation on the ground in Angola.

A more realistic option would appear to be for the troika and the UN to focus on Unita's expressed willingness to return to the negotiating table and to deal there with the movement's stronger bargaining position.

According to Unita's London representative, Brigadier Isahak Samakiva, the movement still has a few months and too small a peacekeeping force).

In addition, according to Samakiva, Unita wants to negotiate something not in the Bicesse accord: the installation of a tri-

partite federal system that will take account of Angola's ethnic divisions and ensure that all political power is not exercised from Luanda.

This vision reflects Unita's traditional obsession with ethnicity. One of its watchwords is the promotion of its "Negritude". And in calling his followers to arms this week, Savimbi said the purpose was to "bring dignity to the Bantu people in their land of origin".

Unita's vision might be viewed with admiration in Pretoria, matching as it does President de Klerk's own ambitions for the future South Africa.

Pretoria appears to have been able to resist the temptation to foster the spread of that vision by resuming material aid to Unita. That is not to say that others in South Africa have been equally scrupulous.

For the moment, however, Pretoria is on the sidelines of the Angolan contest. If the ball is in anyone's court it is in that of the UN and the troika. □

Talkings On 'Toothless Watchdogs'

STAR 11/3/93

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In deciding how to react to these developments, the foreign players must assess the military prospects. Unita are able to deny the government control over about three-quarters of Angola. But by taking Huambo they have committed themselves to defending the city, thereby departing from their traditional guerrilla warfare role and engaging in conventional warfare, for which it is ill-equipped and inexperienced.

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A more realistic option would appear to be for the troika and the UN to focus on Unita's expressed willingness to return to the negotiating table and to deal there with the movement's stronger bargaining position.

According to Unita's London representative, Brigadier Isiah Samakuya, the movement still accepts the peace accords signed at Bicesse in Portugal, under which the September

election was held. But from its new position of strength it wants to widen the provisions of the Bicesse pact.

Unita, according to the brigadier, accepts the UN declaration of an MPLA parliamentary victory in the election, while still saying the poll was fraudulent. And it is willing to take part in a runoff election for the presidency. But first the country must be returned to a condition conducive to a free poll.

Samakuya said Unita envisages a broader UN role and a strengthened UN presence in Angola in order to ensure that the opposing armies are disarmed and disbanded and a joint force formed.

(The UN has been widely blamed for the failure of the Angolan peace process by trying to do it on the cheap, with too few monitors and too small a peacekeeping force).

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bally based federal system that will take account of Angola's ethnic divisions and ensure that all political power is not exercised from Luanda.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS Unita blamed for violence ● 1

US may back MPLA

UNITED States officials, critical of truce violations by Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels, are studying possible recognition of the Angolan government.

First priority however goes to ending violence in the southwest African country. The United States still hopes to get the parties talking about an acceptable compromise package, Assistant Secretary of State Herman J Cohen testified to a House panel.

Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola "is continuing to violate" the US-brokered

■ Americans upset by Jonas Savimbi's insulting remarks:

peace agreement with the formerly communist government in Luanda, Cohen said.

The United States was a major arms supplier for Savimbi before the 1991 accord, which broke down in renewed fighting last October.

"We are also very upset by Unita's insulting remarks" against Margaret Amstee, personal representative of UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Cohen added. Savimbi has de-

manded the dismissal of Amstee, who cancelled talks in Ethiopia last month after Unita delegates failed to appear.

Cohen was asked under what conditions President Clinton's administration would recognise the Luanda government headed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The administration is "now in process of a review of Angola policy and recognition is part of that process", said Cohen. — *Sapa-AP*.

Sowetan

12/3/93

focus on Angola

Sowetan 3/11/93

A YEAR after Luanda's "three-day war", in which Unita supporters were hunted down, necklaced and shot in the streets, new evidence from a wide range of witnesses suggests that more than 10 000 bodies lie in mass graves, most of them victims of secret executions conducted at that time.

Eyewitnesses say victims were Unita members, other political opponents of the MPLA government, southern Ovimbundus and northern Bakongos.

One witness, Dr Aurora Tito, who fled to Johannesburg earlier this year, told how she was dragged to an execution site on October 31 1992. Tito, who was a Unita candidate in the Angolan elections, said that at the killing-grounds in the suburb of Calemba she saw a mass grave containing "hundreds, if not a thousand, corpses of men of all ages, young people of both sexes and women, most with babies in their arms or on their backs".

Confronted with this evidence in Lisbon recently, the leader of the MPLA parliamentary caucus, Mr Joao Lourenco, said his government had nothing to hide.

"We are not criminals," he said. "The world saw everything — we kept an open book. BBC correspondents, CNN, were there filming. Nothing was hidden."

However, Ms Candida Pinto, of Portugal's SIC television, said there were only two foreign crews present, who were unable to film at the height of the killings, and later only in downtown Luanda. She said she saw piles of bodies, in streets, on trucks and in a hospital morgue and thought a toll of 10 000 to 15 000 was plausible. A Luanda source said secret lists compiled by community leaders set the toll at between 13 000 and 14 000.

Amnesty International has renewed calls for judgment of both Frelimo government and Unita leaders accused of human rights violations. Amnesty has demanded an inquiry into the Luanda deaths, as well as into the execution of Unita dissidents Dr Tito Chingunji and Mr Wilson dos Santos at Unita's headquarters at Jamba in 1991.

Unita claims that when the fighting began at the end of October it had fewer than 1 000 armed men in Luanda, but it may have been double that. Under the peace accord, Unita's soldiers could protect the movement's leaders, buildings housing its committees and hotels were the leaders lived. Their heaviest arms were mortars, RPG-7 rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns.

When the fighting broke out government troops and civilians armed by the government moved principally against these buildings, but also against other opposition party buildings. The MPLA claimed Unita had attempted a coup but has produced no credible evidence.

On Sunday, October 31, Tito's house was invaded by riot police, commanded by a man called Tony. She was eight months pregnant and alone with her two children — her husband, also a doctor, was on duty at a city hospital. With her

Unita's reluctance to lay down arms is based on massacres like those after the peace process collapsed last year. Freelance journalist **Jill Jolliffe** reports for the *Sowetan Africa News Service*:



Unita's Jonas Savimbi.

neighbour, a Unita supporter called Adronito, she was taken to the execution site but saved at the last moment when a commander realised her husband had once helped his daughter. Adronito was shot in her presence.

Later that day Unita leaders Mr Salupeto Pena and Mr Jeremias Chitundu were captured and shot as they attempted to flee Luanda. From best accounts Chitunda was shot near his car, while Pena was taken to a police post and shot there. Angolan government television (TPA) film showed both bodies had close-range shots in the head — that which killed Chitunda was fired upwards from under the car.

Joao Lourenco says they "died in combat", but Amnesty International classified their deaths as "extra-judicial executions".

On the Monday the national radio called for the killing to stop but it did not and police and military officers were still seen directing operations.

That day, Father Adelino Simoes protested to police at Viana, 30km from the city, over arbitrary executions — in the town square, in backyards — of people accused of being Unita leaders or Ovimbundus or Bakongos. He later wrote: "I know I will be accused of supporting Unita (as I have previously been accused of being MPLA). My job ... is to speak the truth. I cannot see people through the eyes of Unita or the MPLA."

Leaders of four opposition parties were imprisoned. They included former MPLA commerce minister Paulino Pinto Joao. Four days later they read "confessions" of complicity with Unita on TPA television. These were filmed in prisons, not by TPA crews but by President dos Santos' own television team.

Mr "Jo-Jo" Saraiva Baptista, an aid worker,

At the military police barracks a woman called Commander Betty told Tony:

"There's no room here. Do what we do — shoot them"

was also arrested on the Tuesday, accused of supporting Unita. Tony was again the commander. Baptista was taken on a macabre tour of Luanda as his captors searched for a prison, first at the military police barracks, where a woman called Commander Betty told Tony: "There's no room here. Do what we do — shoot them."

A second prison was also full and as the car turned, its headlights fell on a mound of about 15 dead bodies, says Baptista. The driver wanted beer, so they drove to the suburb of Palance, where the car had to swerve to avoid the bodies of Bakongos. Around midnight, Baptista finally entered Catete Road prison, with well over 1 000 prisoners, some of whom were taken out in batches for execution in the next few weeks.

The killing continued throughout the week. A highly-placed source described the command-centre of the operation, at the military police barracks in the Avenue Ho Chi Minh. Here, President dos Santos' special adviser, General Jose Maria, liaised with the chief of staff, General Alberto Neto, deputy chief Leal Monteiro and Generals Franca N'Dalu and Ary da Costa, among others. They communicated with Dos Santos by telephone.

Jose Maria was also seen in the streets directing operations, but there was friction between him and Interior Minister Mr Piedado Santos, who controlled the MINSE secret police. Both had hot lines to the president and it is not clear who wielded more power. Both suffered political reverses later.

Unita's ammunition ran out after three days and the "War of Luanda" was over but on November 9 a diary kept by the left-wing opposition party *Frene para a Democracia* recorded: "There is a permanent execution squad at Samba. The search brigades bring their prisoners here. They are buried in a mass grave at Morro da Samba."

A blast for the Father of Independent Africa

Wolmar 12/3-18/3/93

A renowned Nigerian author and academic has attacked the corruption plaguing post-colonial Africa — and has been forced to flee his own country. Kole Omotoso spoke to CHRIS LOUW

"We would rather misgovern ourselves than be governed properly by others!"

THESE sentiments were voiced by Kwame Nkrumah, first premier of Ghana, itself the first African country to shake off the yoke of colonialism in 1956. As one African country after the other took up the struggle for independence from European rulers during the 1960s, Nkrumah's pronouncements became conventional wisdoms all over the continent

Now, almost four decades later and with most African countries economically devastated, a respected Nigerian academic and author has made it his task to expose the sayings of the Father of Independent Africa as falsehoods. And he has chosen to launch his controversial attack from South African soil.

To add to the irony Professor Kole Omotoso, author of the highly acclaimed novel *Just Before Dawn*, has also chosen an Afrikaans publishing house to launch the book in which he disavows many of the sacred cows of pan-Africanism. Tafelberg Uitgewers, with its close links to the National Party, has gained the rights to publish Omotoso's novel, provisionally titled *The Season of Migration to the South*.

Omotoso, who has a doctorate in Arabic and Islamic studies and now holds a chair in the English department at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) in Cape Town, left Nigeria at the beginning of last year after threats from the military government following the publication of his last book.

He chose South Africa after having met the Afrikaans poet, Breyten Breytenbach, and Idasa's Frederik van Zyl Slabbert at international conferences "Up to that point I had always believed that it was in human nature to justify oppression whenever it was to your advantage. I still find it amazing that Slabbert could leave parliament and join the extra-parliamentary forces. From the Nigerian perspective it was almost impossible to see that whites could ever join the ranks of those fighting for liberation."

Of his first day in South Africa, he vividly remembers the moment when the plane landed at Jan Smuts airport. Stepping on to the tarmac,



Kole Omotoso ... 'Africans have no right to misgovern themselves'

"I had goosepimples all over my body. But in a strange way everything seemed so normal.

"There was no one to arrest me. Paradoxically, I felt as if I was getting out of jail. Van Zyl came to fetch me. As we were driving to his house and I looked around me, I wondered: why was I deprived of all these things for so long?"

His new life in South Africa, he says, cannot only be attributed to the threats that made him leave his home country but also to his revulsion with the pervasive corruption that plagues post-colonial Nigeria. It was his thinly disguised references to present and past Nigerian political figures in *Just Before Dawn* that led to court actions and personal threats from the regime.

His pride in Africa's liberation from the colonial yoke — "an incredible story of human achievement" — is jarred by the social, political and economic failures that accompanied independence. "Africans have achieved their freedom, but they have no right to misgovern themselves," he says with anger. (The chapter dealing with the question of what happened after liberation is significantly headed: *Operation Successful, Patient Dead*.)

The ultimate failure of Africa, according to Omotoso, was due to the fact that the political leaders never looked beyond liberation, preferring to isolate themselves from the continent's intellectuals. But everything that went wrong

in Africa was not self induced. Compounding the problems was the hostility that was always shown by the Western world

He fears that an African National Congress-led government may not learn the lessons of Africa. The ANC comes in for some severe criticism in *Season of Migration*.

The result of Africa's "right to misrule itself" is equally relentlessly exposed.

Omotoso describes how in Nigeria after independence, basics such as water and electricity could not be taken for granted. "In spite of massive earnings from petroleum products, not one metre of rail was added to what the British left in 1960. Roads hastily constructed and never maintained were soon reclaimed by the ever-anxious tropical creepers and undergrowth. Civil war was followed by the most scandalous waste of resources. By 1983, it was clear that there was no other way for Nigeria to go except down ... more than 90 percent of Nigerian trained brains went out of the country to the accusation of lack of patriotism. They obviously did not believe that Africans had the right to misrule themselves, no matter how patriotic they might be."

Omotoso situates the moment of his own intellectual liberation at the point where he saw Nkrumah's dictums "as sham", "as statements to be contested and ultimately rejected" and as "an insult to the ordinary people of African countries".

Trying to find a way out of the dead end, Omotoso sets out to reinterpret the history of the past 30 years, and to put these insights into a new historical context, beginning at the first meetings between blacks and whites on the African continent. Unlike pan-Africanists he does not believe that these contacts can only be seen as one-sided invasions. "There is historical proof that many blacks in fact welcomed the white man and that the initial contacts, before the period of unscrupulous imperialism, were in fact mutually beneficial."

Once an ardent believer in the pan-Africanist ideal, Omotoso now has come to the conclusion that a democratic South Africa in the end may have the best potential to "point the way" for the rest of Africa. "I am here to learn where we went wrong and how we can regain the right path to sanity and meaningful existence."

His belief that South Africa may lead the rest of Africa out of the abyss, does not presuppose an uncritical approach to this country. "The signs of apartheid are still all-pervasive ... The lack of decent transport to the townships, the absence of theatres in townships. And the amount of cul de sacs in white suburbs must surely qualify for an entry in the *Guinness Book of Records*."

BENCHMARKS 

This week's review of law and the courts is by guest columnist PAUL BENJAMIN

Adding insult to injury

THE compensation of workers who suffer occupational injuries or disease is not high on the South African political agenda. For this reason two Bills the government hopes to push through parliament this year have received little attention. If they become law, both will severely restrict the compensation paid to many people whose lives are affected by industrial injury and disease.

The first is the draft Injured Employee's Compensation Bill. It is intended to replace the Workmen's Compensation Act (WCA) which has remained in much the same shape since 1941 (the name indicates its antiquity). The Bill contains a major progressive reform in overhauling the system for compensating occupational diseases. This is much needed as the present system is so restrictive that a minute proportion of the thousands of workers who are afflicted by work-related illnesses each year are able to claim compensation.

The Bill also makes a number of changes that will limit benefits. This is ostensibly to eradicate "problems" in the Act. Unfortunately, no attempt is made to deal with the major problem faced by injured workers: the inordinate time taken for their claims to be settled. In fact, the Bill may make things worse by introducing a clause requiring secrecy of officials; hardly conducive to more efficient administration.

The most drastic change will reduce the number of families of workers killed in accidents who can receive pensions. Presently pensions are paid to dependants, most importantly widows and children, who are wholly or partly dependent on the deceased worker.

This will change. Only widows and children who are wholly dependent on the deceased worker will get pensions. This will dramatically reduce the number of pensions paid. Any independent income, be it from growing crops, keeping cattle or a part-time job will mean that a widow is not wholly dependent on her husband and no pension will be paid.

It is not clear why this change has been proposed. The Workmen's Compensation Commissioner has not reported problems with the payment of pensions in annual reports and the Accident Fund is currently running a surplus with employer's contributions exceeding payments to injured workers by more than R80-million last year. The drafters of the Bill have not highlighted this change in their explanatory memorandum published with the Bill (the usual practice with significant amendments).

Two conclusions can be drawn. Either it is a sly attempt to slip this wide-ranging amendment through without it being noticed or it is an error. Hopefully the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner will shortly announce that the words "or partially" were left out by mistake.

The same favourable interpretation cannot be placed on the Occupational Diseases in Mines and Works Bill published in November for comment by the Department of Health. The Bill will remove overt racial discrimination from the system for compensating occupational diseases in the mining industry.

This is the last expressly racist law on our statute books with the compensation being paid to white miners being up to 13 times greater than that paid to their black colleagues. While the Bill's ostensible aim is to remove racial discrimination, it uses this pretext to reduce significantly the benefits paid to mineworkers. Many seriously ill miners will either receive no compensation or trivial amounts. The proposed benefits are well below those paid by the WCA.

For years, the mining industry has hidden behind these laws. Although publicly it has opposed racism, it has never considered making additional payments to black workers to equalise the compensation system. Now, it has found an ally in the Department of Health whose major concern seems to be to minimise the costs of compensation for occupational disease to the mining houses. The mining unions take health and safety and compensation issues seriously and this could become extremely explosive.

Paul Benjamin is an associate professor at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies.

MADAM & EVE
BY S FRANCIS, HUGHMORE & RICO

HELLO. THIS IS DANIE DU TOIT, CEO OF TELKOM. LATELY I'VE BEEN BEGGING YOUR FORGIVENESS FOR OUR TERRIBLE TELEPHONE SERVICE IN A SERIES OF CLOYING TV ADVERTS ...

... BUT SO FAR, NOBODY'S BUYING IT.

YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN, DANIE!

I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING... BEGGING... PLEADING... HUMBLE SINCERITY... EVEN MAULDIN VIOLIN MUSIC -- BUT SO FAR, NOTHING WORKS!!

I MEAN, HOW MANY TIMES MUST I APOLOGISE BEFORE YOU FORGIVE US?!!

AND SO, AFTER MANY EMOTIONAL MEETINGS WITH OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS CONSULTANTS, WE HERE AT TELKOM HAVE COME UP WITH A FINAL SOLUTION.

AS YOU CAN SEE, I AM NOW HOLDING A LOADED 45 HANDGUN TO MY HEAD, AND I WILL PULL THE TRIGGER IN EXACTLY SIXTY SECONDS...

ONLY YOU, THE CONSUMER, CAN SAVE ME... BY DIALLING OUR SPECIAL TOLL-FREE "I FORGIVE TELKOM" NUMBER AT THE BOTTOM OF YOUR SCREEN. MY FATE IS IN YOUR HANDS...

FIFTY-NINE... FIFTY-EIGHT... FIFTY-SEVEN.

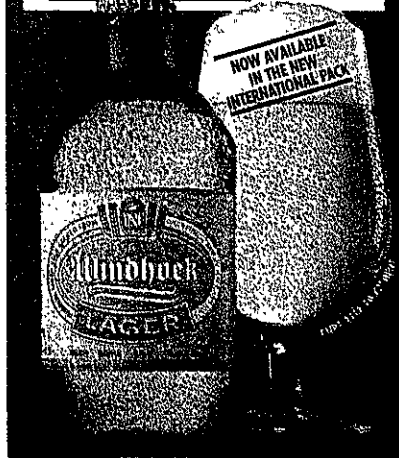
QUICK EVE! HELP HIM!!

CHOKO: PLEASE... ISN'T THERE ANYONE OUT THERE WHO FORGIVES US?!!

BLAM!... THUD!

THE PHONE'S OUT OF ORDER

SOUTH AFRICA'S FAVOURITE IMPORTED BEER



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BUSINESS

The model flies into flak

Derek Keys' structural adjustment programme, released this week, is a step forward to broadening economic debate. But as a working model it is seriously flawed, argues
REG RUMNEY

THE spectre of discredited supply-side economics and International Monetary Fund structural adjustment programmes haunts the government's new economic programme.

Moreover, at least one of its recommendations puts it on a collision course with labour, which has already hit out at a "tendency to attack workers' standards and centralised bargaining".

Not only are the familiar themes of exports and free market principles interwoven in the document released this week by Finance Minister Derek Keys and his special adviser Japie Jacobs. The Normative Economic Model specifically adopts a broad-brush macro-economic approach, focusing on disciplined government finances and efficient free markets, though mitigated by human development and safety nets.

It does not focus, as does the Nedcor-Old Mutual Professional Economic Panel, on the institutional change and specifics needed for reshaping the economy.

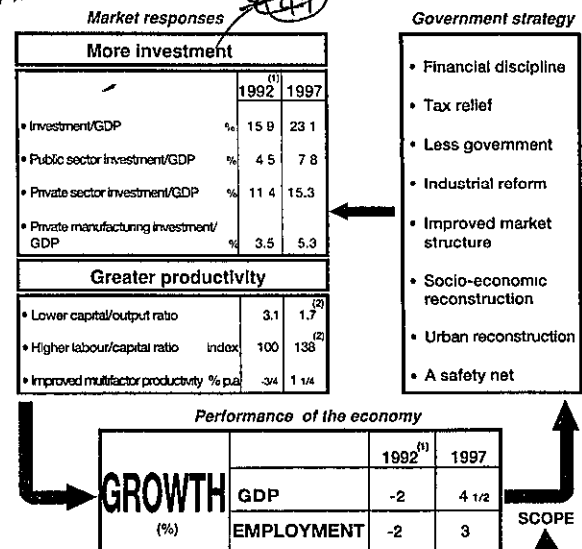
To be fair, as Keys says in a foreword to the main 300-page document, this is a discussion document, representing the best advice of government economic advisers rather than a grand plan. However, as with scenarios, any idea that it is not prescriptive must be taken with a pinch of salt.

Again, in the government's favour, the programme — for that is what Jacobs called it — doesn't rely on a trickle-down of wealth from the rich to the poor to cater for social problems.

Certain central recommendations will be widely welcomed. One such is the elimination, by degrees, of government "dis-saving" — borrowing to finance current expenditure. Another is the commitment to macro-economic discipline. There is general agreement that a lack of discipline would harm growth.

But at the same time it ignores completely the various "kick-start" and job-creation plans that have been proposed, arguing that economic growth is paramount.

"Large-scale upliftment programmes in a stagnating economy, which are not aimed at



How the jigsaw fits together

promoting sustained economic growth and result in extensive redistribution of income, which in turn has a negative impact on saving, will inevitably restrict economic growth."

By contrast, continue the authors, measures such as training and more efficient production techniques will allow the benefits of growth to reach a larger proportion of the labour force in a growing economy. And they will also promote employment-creating growth.

While calling for training and slating the shackles apartheid placed on the economy, the document comes out strongly against features of the economy which distort prices, including anti-competitive behaviour by business and the price of labour. Higher productivity and wage restraint are seen as essential. So central bargaining is condemned as an inefficient pricing mechanism.

Supply-side-type tax cuts to spur investment are a significant feature of Keys' document. The authors note the gap between nominal and effective corporate tax rates of 25.1 percent between 1979 and 1984 — yet concentrate on a reduction in nominal company

rates from 48 percent to 40 percent by 1997. On the flip side of this, the implication of a heavy emphasis in cutting spending is conveniently ignored — that is user charges or a heavier burden on the very middle class supposed to benefit from an eventual three percentage point decline in the top tax rate to 40 percent in 1997.

The authors also put a lot of faith in greater investment as an engine of growth, aiming at an increase of investment as a percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) from 15.9 percent to 23.1 percent by 1997.

A cornerstone argument of this and many other conventional economic approaches is that savings need to be encouraged, among other sources of finance, to provide the necessary investment for growth.

"Of course," the document states, "the mere availability of the necessary finance will not ensure the desired level of investment... The investment environment or climate, which determines the inducement to invest, plays a critical role in investment decisions." Of course. But the programme still puts the cart before the horse by concentrating on the finance for investment before creating the conditions

Several fundamental assertions made by the government's economists, for instance the degree of capital intensity in industry or how much of imports represents capital goods, must be questioned.

One is that monetary policy has indeed suppressed inflation.

The document omits to mention that the recent lower than 10 percent year-on-year inflation rate as measured by the consumer price index has been achieved after years of recession. The document suggests an inflation rate declining gradually from where it is now to around five percent by the turn of the century. However, if labour and business don't play ball on keeping a lid on prices, the wished for average growth rate will just fade away as the Reserve Bank steps in with punitively high interest rates to keep inflation in check.

But then the document's main figures have that familiar fairytale feeling that suffuses scenarios.

Indeed, Jacobs, asked how realistic the projected 4.5 percent real economic growth figure for 1997 was, replied that various scenarios doing the rounds merely plucked the figures out of the air. But if the necessary preconditions were met, that growth was attainable.

The 4.5 percent real GDP growth figure, or the 3.6 percent a year real average growth until the end of the decade depend on, for instance, an annual average growth in formal employment of 2.9 percent and an average decline of 0.5 percent a year in the capital-labour ratio.

Competition is the key

W/M Mail 12/3-18/3/93.

Weekly Mail Reporter

THE Keys model not only insists on higher labour productivity — it is strongly critical of the lack of competition in South African business.

And the document recommends the final decision on matters brought before the Competition Board be taken out of the hands of the government and put before a "competition tribunal" backed up by a special competition appeals court.

"With regard to the structure of the market, economic concentration, mainly in the form of oligopolies, is a salient feature of the South African economy. These conglomerates are characterised by interlocking directorships and cross-shareholding."

The authors go on to say the existence of concentrations of power cannot be held solely responsible for the lack of effective competition. And they accept the argument that such concentrations could even be an advantage in international competition.

"However, this does not mean that concentrations of power are always in the interests of the community," say the authors. They can lead to uncompetitive behaviour like price determination not based on supply and demand.

Hence the structure and behaviour of the market should be monitored to see that restraints on the entry of new participants and illegal practices like horizontal price collusion should be eliminated.

Among other suggestions, the document

recommends:

● Price collusion, market sharing, maintenance of resale prices and collusion on tenders should be declared illegal in terms of the Competition Act, and the competition tribunal should be able to declare other forms of anti-competitive conduct illegal on an ad hoc basis.

● On all prospective acquisitions of a predetermined size, or which could lead to predetermined levels of concentration in specific markets, notice to the authorities should be compulsory.

● Acquisitions, restrictive practices, statutory rights and government concessions which could result in monopolies should be evaluated more critically without sacrificing efficiency.

● Company legislation and tax measures should not restrict competition between conglomerates.

● Higher fines for infringements should be considered.

The document balances calls for regulation with calls for deregulation to remove impediments to entering and participating in the market system. Deregulation, the document adds, does not apply solely to government departments but all government institutions. So decreasing tariff protection is also a form of deregulation.

Foreign competition is often the only source of competition in the small domestic market. The protection of local businesses through protective tariffs or surcharges should be guarded against.

UN prepares for rebel showdown

By ARTHUR GAVSHON London

THE United Nations Security Council is bracing for a showdown with Angola's Unita rebels whose leader Jonas Savimbi is defying the world body's peace programme with his full-scale assault against the Luanda government.

Meeting in informal session the council on Wednesday discussed a report on the turbulence wracking the country from Margaret Anstee, special representative of UN secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who had hurried back from Luanda this week.

That report, according to British and American diplomats, indicted Savimbi for abandoning the UN peace programme, the Bicesse peace accord and the outcome of the national elections last September won by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The purpose of Wednesday's secret session, according to British Foreign Service sources, was to consider a series of options for dealing with the explosive situation, and if a consensus emerged formally to adopt relevant resolutions for announcement later in the week.

One of Savimbi's latest demands has been the dismissal of Anstee — which the council could hardly contemplate.

The mood within the council, according to the British, is one of deepening impatience with Savimbi's defiance and intransigence and his blank refusal to accept the electoral defeat he sustained.

The Americans are regarded as the country holding the key to any decisions that the council needs to take. In that context something less than unanimity seems to exist in Washington. One reason is that not all of former president George Bush's officials have yet left their posts.

Before and immediately after taking office, President Bill Clinton's aides spread word that the administration would soon be according formal recognition to the MPLA government. Some opposition to this seems to have developed largely because Savimbi's military offensive has raised questions among influential Americans over whether he could yet succeed in toppling the Dos Santos government in which case the US would need to deal with him.

That, however, is not a view held by western European and Asian members of the council. One British official this week characterised Savimbi's broadcast threats and demands as no more than "pre-showdown bluster".

The anti-Savimbi mood at UN headquarters reportedly deepened when news came through that Unita forces had shot at a UN food relief plane west of Huambo. The plane was forced to land without delivering its cargo.

The body has come under increasing attack for not doing more about the situation in Angola. Earlier this week a crowd of women dressed in black demonstrated outside the UN's offices in Luanda.

British and other European diplomats listed some of the options for action that the UN does have:

- To impose an embargo on the supply of arms and other aid to Unita
- To reassess whether the current UN embargo on weapons supplies to the MPLA government should be lifted
- To consider the dispatch of a stronger UN military peacekeeping force to Angola with Organisation of African Unity reinforcements.

Meanwhile, two other developments were disclosed by well-placed authorities.

Britain has quietly authorised private firms to help repair and service some of the MPLA government's aircraft. This action circumvents the UN embargo.

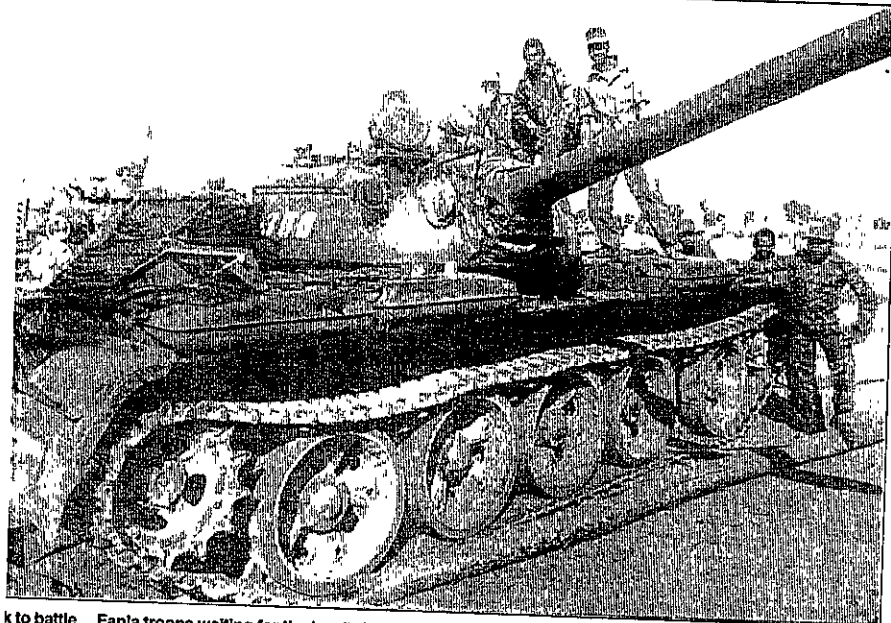
American and French oil companies operating in Angola have begun recruiting ex-soldiers and others in Europe to defend their installations in the Cabinda enclave and elsewhere against Savimbi's threats of attacks.

The MPLA has also been recruiting mercenaries. *Die Burger* reported this week that about 100 ex-members of SADF special units such as 32 Battalion and the Owambo battalion had been hired through an oil company to attempt a takeover of Savimbi's headquarters — and, allegedly, to assassinate the rebel leader.

The report said this "very strong group" is being actively supported by the CIA and is operating under a cover that they will be protecting oil installations.



ly remains ... All that is left of a Unita household destroyed during the fighting in Luanda last year



k to battle ... Fapla troops waiting for the inevitable confrontation with Unita Photos: JOHN LEBENBERG, Southlight

ing the land mines

in Angola's soil during 18 years of civil war. Britain last year sent two two-man teams to train Angolans in modern mine clearance techniques for a 45-day period; in fact total training because of various delays amounted to two-and-a-half days. United States liaison officials in Luanda dismissed the British performance as a "public relations exercise".

A US group, called Equator Bank, is also in the competition. It has sought to interest the Angolans in contractual use of its mine clearing services.

It has offered newly developed equipment, known as the S-STRON Cast System, as an experimental ground comparison survey method for a three-month period at a cost of \$5.6-million. Both the British and the US State Department expressed opposition to the proposal. Too costly, too untried.

Another proposal came from Germany's Cap Anamur humanitarian organisation which wanted to bring a number of decommissioned Soviet tanks for mine clearance. But Africa Watch says it makes no sense to bring more unwanted tanks into a country that already has a surplus of them. The Africa Watch verdict of such initiatives amounted to just this: cynical commercialism.

Helping where nobody else helps

By ANDY MELDRUM and EDDIE KOCH A LITTLE known German non-governmental agency, *Hilfe in Not* (Help in Need), has turned up as a supplier of food aid to Unita-controlled areas of southern Angola.

The organisation's activities help to explain something that has long baffled observers of the war in Angola: how Unita's guerrillas have been able to wage long and effective battles against the MPLA government's troops.

The German NGO's motto is "Help where nobody else helps" (*Helpfen, wo keiner hilft*), and they are proving true to their word by trying to supply areas controlled by Jonas Savimbi. The organisation flew food aid into southeastern Angola from Namibia until the Angolan government and the United Nations intervened to stop the illegal flights across the formally closed border.

Hilfe in Not president Dietrich Kantel protested to the Angolan government calling its position "cynical" and outside "the community of civilised administrations".

In response the United Nations rejected any association with *Hilfe in Not* and stated that its distribution of food aid is carried out through

political agencies like the Catholic church and the Catholic charity, Caritas.

Hilfe in Not has said they are working to get food to the hungry people of southern Angola. The Angolan government has countered that the aid is supporting Unita's war.

Hilfe in Not's credibility as a non-partisan operation took a further knock this week when Kantel told *The Guardian* newspaper that he intends to open a *Hilfe in Not* office in Jamba, the longstanding Unita base.

Commodity brokers in Harare confirm that *Hilfe in Not* has purchased maize, maize seeds, other food products and blankets to be delivered into southern Angola from Namibia. *Hilfe in Not* receives funding of 10-million German marks from the German government and the European Community, according to Kantel.

It is also becoming clear that Unita is purchasing the consumable items that allow its troops to wage war with massive amounts of revenue earned from selling diamonds it has plundered from independent diggers and the state-owned diamond company, Endiama. Last week it emerged that the rebels sell

hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of stolen diamonds to international buyers and use the money obtained in this way to buy arms, food, ammunition, medical supplies and fuel for their troops from suppliers based in Zaire and South Africa.

Diamond buying agents in Zaire have paid Unita officials vast amounts of cash for diamonds smuggled across the central African state's southern border with Angola. This week figures released by South Africa's diamond mining giant, De Beers, indicate that the corporation spent R900-million last year mopping up extra and illicit diamonds on the Angolan market in a bid to stabilise the international price of the gems.

Although the bulk of Unita's diamonds appear to end up in the hands of De Beers, the company insists that it is not aware of the source of these supplies. De Beers said in a statement: "The buying offices (in Zaire) are open to all comers and unless an offerer of diamonds openly showed his affiliation we wouldn't be aware of it. We have no arrangement with Unita to buy diamonds illegally exported from Angola."

A war without witness

LUANDA — Survivors of the battle for Angola's second city Huambo have begun reaching government lines but aid agencies see little hope for an early start to relief operations in the battered city.

A government newspaper said yesterday Wilham Tonet, an Angolan journalist who had been trapped with the isolated garrison in Huambo, had reached government lines after an exhausting 150km trek.

International relief agencies are anxious to start work in Huambo, capital of the rebel-controlled central highlands, which fell to Unita last weekend after a bitter two month battle.

Hundreds of thousands of people are said to have fled their homes due to fighting which reduced much of the city to rubble.

But aid workers fear both the government and Unita will resist their demands for free access to distribute food and medicine and restore safe drinking water in Huambo, which in peacetime had 500 000 people.

"It will take at least three weeks to get started in Huambo and initially the main problem will be

getting Unita permission to work there," one aid official predicted.

"It will take Unita a week to clean up the bodies in Huambo before they allow anyone in, and at least another two weeks to persuade them to allow us to monitor food distribution there," he added.

The government allows United Nations planes to fly food and aid into three Unita-held towns in the north and east of Angola, but may deny authorisation for relief flights into Huambo, they said.

The government estimates 1.7 million people have been displaced since early January in Angola's renewed civil war. A further 500 000 are suffering from drought in the south and southwest.

Angola's Roman Catholic bishops warned both sides on Friday that a resumption of the civil war would lead nowhere.

"Our history shows this kind of war only leads to negotiations. Tomorrow will be too late. Every day represents lost years for the development of our country," they said in a statement.

Diplomats see little prospect of early peace talks following UNITA's demand for replacement of UN mediator Mrs Margaret Anstee, who has been leading efforts to bring both sides together.

'No-one knows the number of wounded, the number of dead, or the state of the airport. Huambo has become the most dangerous of all battle conditions: a war without witness.'

— Christophe Harnisch, the Red Cross director in Angola

director in Angolaf

The UN Security Council on Friday threatened unspecified action against Unita over the renewed fighting and for failing to participate in peace talks.

The government has been preparing to recapture the northwestern oil town of Soyo, which fell to Unita in January.

Workers on offshore oil rigs near Soyo have seen government planes and helicopters flying over the town for the past week.

Diplomats said one recent government attempt to retake Soyo apparently failed due to poor coordination between air and seaborne forces.

The loss of Soyo has barely dented oil production of 550 000 barrels per day (bpd), the government's main source of income. Only 27 000 bpd of offshore production has been shut down.

The Angolan government called on South Africa and Zaire to stop funding Unita war machinery and instead contribute to peace and economic efforts in Southern Africa, Angolan deputy foreign affairs minister Mr George Chikoti said in Lusaka.

According to Mr Chikoti, property worth \$3 billion (about \$9 billion) had been destroyed during the last two months of fighting.

Unita forces in the Angolan central city of Huambo were using Pretoria supplied G2, G5 and G6 field guns and 100mm, 120mm and 140mm mortars, he claimed.

The Angolan government grounded all relief flights yesterday as it reportedly launched all-out air attacks against Unita in the central highlands.

"There are 90 000 refugees from the countryside in desperate need of food in Luena. It is a city, super-populated with wounded and displaced per-

sons surrounded by hostile troops, cut off from food and the outside world. We can only reach them by air," said Mr Philippe Borel, director of the World Food Programme's office in Luanda.

"Many people subsist day-by-day like this in Angola. If a flight doesn't come for one day, three days, how can these people survive?" Mr Borel said.

A relief official reported heavy fighting at Malange, adding that as of a week ago — the most recent information available — Unita forces were 12km outside the city.

Refugees and members of the government's so-called ninja troops scrambled to get on planes out of the city, but officers forced them off, the relief official said.

Mr Christophe Harnisch, the Red Cross director in Angola, said he interviewed all refugees who were said to have information about Huambo, but no-one had first-hand knowledge.

"Where did everyone go? Are there 400 000 people trapped within the city? Did people flee into the city or out of it when fighting began? We have no idea what kind of misery we will find when we get there." — Sapa-Reuter-AP

Desperate bloody combat

5 RRC 13/193

LUANDA. — Fierce fighting raged throughout central Angola in a desperate government attempt to prevent Unita rebels from consolidating their grip on the interior highlands and launching attacks on the coast.

Relief officials who fly food aid around the country said there had been heavy fighting this week in the central cities of Kuito and Luena, reports confirmed by a Western diplomat with good government contacts.

The diplomat said two government convoys left from Chibal, 100km east of the coastal city of Benguela, towards

■ Fighting intensifies in Angola as government forces try to stop Unita reaching the coast.

Huambo, a key city further inland where Unita claimed victory last weekend after two months of bloody combat.

The diplomat said the government must, at all costs, contain Unita in the central highlands. Should Unita breakthrough to the coast, the rebels would be able to resupply easily and focus attacks on Luanda.

The rebels occupy about 75 percent of the country, with the government's control firmest in a string of cities running down the coast.

The diplomat also said government forces were massing near the rebel-held city of

foreign Press and has issued no battle reports to local media.

Past reports of fighting from both the government and Unita have proved to be exaggerated, incomplete or false, but reporters have no access to battlefields for first-hand accounts.

Joao Miranda, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, indirectly confirmed reports of fighting yesterday, however, when he lamented the violence, especially in Huambo and Soyo.

The Western diplomat said government warplanes had been bombarding Huambo.

Aid agencies have been desperate to fly relief supplies into Huambo and evacuate wounded and starving civilians. Neither Unita nor the govern-

resolution calling for a Unita-government meeting at the "highest possible level."

Unita did not show up for planned peace talks in Ethiopia last month.

■ JOHANNESBURG. — A four-man African National Congress alliance delegation, led by ANC secretary for international affairs Thabo Mbeki visited Luanda and were briefed by President Dos Santos.

"We went to try to find out what the situation is, because obviously that process has an impact on us here, in particular with regard to the fact that Unita resorted to arms when it lost the general election last September," Mr Mbeki said yesterday. "We don't want that kind of thing happening here."

The MPLA government continues to be preoccupied with allegations of South African involvement in the renewed civil war.

The public should take up the issue as it was in South Africa's interest to support Angola's democratisation process, Mr Mbeki said.

The Goldstone Commission yesterday declined to comment on an Angolan government appeal to investigate the alleged involvement of South African mercenaries in the civil war.

Controversy surrounds three South Africans discharged from a Windhoek private hospital this week after being treated for injuries reportedly received in Angola. — Sapa-AP.

gear fault: circles city

Staff Reporter

ying 82 passengers had to circle yesterday when its landing action system failed after take-off at Airport.

Tony Thirsk, said the failure at 7.40am, and he was forced to circle before he could activate the system manually.

Ms Jani van Vuuren said: "The crew members were not in a panic."

There is no question of running out of fuel or carrying enough extra fuel to change in destination.

Ms Hesley Harmse, said: "The most harrowing idea wouldn't come out — or would it."

Secret probe launched into Tollgate Holdings

By PETER DENNEHY

A SECRET commission of inquiry into the affairs of Tollgate Holdings Limited, which is now under liquidation, and all other companies in its group, was convened yesterday by order of the Supreme Court.

Mr Justice H L Berman granted an order to this effect after an application was placed before him by Mr Lambertus Bester and Mr Tjaart du Plessis, who are liquidating Tollgate.

Mr Bertrand Hoberman, SC, will be the commissioner of the inquiry, to be held under Section 417 of the Companies Act.

CT 13/3/93

He will be empowered to summon before him former Tollgate director Mr Julian Askin — except that Mr Askin is still in Britain.

Others the commissioner will be able to summon are: Mr Mervyn Key and Mr G L McIntosh, who were also Tollgate directors, and Mr A Wilmot-Sitwell, Mr Nigel L Tose, and Mr Dave McGregor, who were all directors of Tollgate or of other companies within the group.

The inquiry follows the secret inquiry late last month into Fetlar Foods, a liquidated Tollgate Holdings subsidiary.

Don't miss sports news

DON'T miss Monday's Cape Times for a complete wrap-up of a bumper weekend of sports highlights.

These include:

● The South African Formula One Grand Prix — first event on this year's world championship calendar.

● Western Province's opening tour rugby match against Western Australia in Perth.

● England Premier League soccer match between Manchester United and Aston Villa.

● The final day of the Giro del Capo international cycling tour.

Mandela calls for united peace force

CT 13/3/93

Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela has called for an internal national peace force to be established to combat the violence.

No single armed force had the confidence of the whole population, Mr Mandela told residents at two meetings in Wembezi, Estcourt, and Bruntville, Mooi River, yesterday.

The peace force's commander should be appointed by the United Nations, with other international organisations, like the Organisation of African Unity and the European Com-

munity, controlling him, Mr Mandela said.

"This peace force must be comprised of people committed to peace and security in South Africa."

He would discuss the idea with UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali and hoped he would accept and support it.

The first day of Mr Mandela's trip to Natal was marred by a scare when the plane in which he flying developed engine trouble — and by the news later that the car of an ANC official

To page 2

Angola calls on Goldstone

CT 13/3/93

THE Angolan government has appealed to the Goldstone Commission to investigate involvement of alleged South African mercenaries as the SA Police announced yesterday they had opened a docket into mercenaries and mercenary recruiters here.

The SADF has said they are aware of 25 South Africans fighting in Angola.

The Angolan government disputed that the wounded former SADF members, Mr Nico Bosman (earlier named as Basson), Mr Hermanus Ferreira and Mr Geoffrey Lansberg were fighting for the MPLA and said they were Unita mercenaries.

The claim has been supported by 32 Battalion founder Colonel Jan Breytenbach.

A former SADF Military Intelligence officer known to the Cape Times has been recruiting mercenaries for Unita.

● Unita support claim — Page 2

Pik, Magnus

CT 13/3/93 (S)

'helping Unita'

LUANDA. — Angola yesterday claimed South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha and former Defence Minister Mr Magnus Malan were helping to provide cover for secret supply missions to Unita by South African charter company Wonder Air.

The South African government has consistently denied involvement in Angola.

Angola accused the company, based at Wonderboom airport near Pretoria, of flying the supplies nightly in November and December from the airport. It said the airline used DC-3, DC-4, DC-6 and C-130 Hercules transport planes to fly food, medicine, weapons and ammunition.

The flights were switched in January to a private airstrip near Wonderboom after several countries complained of overflights, it claimed.

The plane, registration number Z5-WAA, was listed as coming from South Africa.

In Pretoria Wonder Air owner

ANC team meets Dos Santos

JOHANNESBURG. — A four-man ANC-alliance delegation this week visited Luanda, where they were briefed by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos about the situation in the war-torn country.

The delegation, led by ANC secretary for international affairs Mr Thabo Mbeki, included uMkhonto weSizwe commander Mr Joe Modise, Cosatu assistant general secretary Mr Sam Shilowa and South African Communist Party central committee member Mr Essop Pahad.

They spent Thursday in Angola, and will report back to the ANC alliance leadership next week.

"We went there to try to find out what the situation is, because obviously that process has an impact on us here, in particular with regard to the fact that Unita resorted to arms when it lost the general election last September," Mr Mbeki said in an interview on his return to Johannesburg yesterday.

The MPLA government "continues to be preoccupied" with allegations of South African involvement in the renewed civil war — "whether militarily or otherwise, and whether linked to the (SA) government or not", he said. — Sapa

Mr Gert de Klerk yesterday dismissed as "absolute nonsense" allegations of his company's involvement.

He said Wonder Air repaired and maintained aircraft, and did not own aeroplanes. However, affiliated companies owned aircraft.

The last time his business was involved with Angola was last year when it flew food supplies into Angola on behalf of the Angolan government, he said.

Meanwhile, fierce fighting was

raging throughout central Angola in what diplomats said was a desperate government attempt to prevent Unita from consolidating its grip on the interior highlands and launching attacks on the coast, it was reported yesterday.

But the defence ministry was silent about the reports.

● Unita released two Namibian insurance company employees detained in dungeons in south-eastern Angola for a week, a Namibian newspaper reported yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter

Press 14/3/93

Angola slams 'SA-Unita links'

ANGOLA has accused a South African airline of flying secret supply missions to the rebel movement, Unita, and said three South African mercenaries, injured while fighting for Unita, were flown to Namibia.

A government communique accused charter company Wonder Air, based at Wonderboom Airport near Pretoria, of flying food, medicine, weapons and ammunition to Unita nightly in November and December.

The communique also

alleged the flights were switched in January to a private airstrip near Wonderboom after several countries complained of overflights.

The Angolan military high command said in a separate communique that three South African mercenaries fighting for Unita were injured in the battle for the central city of Huambo and flown to Windhoek on March 7 on a plane chartered by Unita.

The communique said the plane, registration number Z5-WAA,

was officially listed as having come from SA.

It named the three men as Nico Johannes Bosman, 25; Hermanus Johannes Ferreira, 34; and Geoffrey Mark Landenberg, 33; and said they were accompanied by South African doctor Francis Edwin Smith, 34.

The government communique said SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha and former Defence Minister Magnus Malan were helping to provide cover for these flights.

"The Angolan government urges President

FW de Klerk to use his influence to stop this criminal action," the communique said.

SA has repeatedly denied it is continuing to support the movement since fighting resumed several weeks ago.

This week, the Security Council told the UN chief to set up a summit meeting between Angola's government and the rebel Unita movement in a bid to stop the civil war and salvage the UN peace plan. — Sapa-Reuter-AP

Angolan fighting scuttles LTA deal



ANDY DUFFY

(5)

CONSTRUCTION group LTA has scrapped plans to buy into Constrei, the contractor owned by the Angolan government.

LTA says it has now drawn up alternative acquisition plans in other, unnamed, southern African states.

The terms of the Constrei deal had been agreed, but the recent upsurge in fighting in Angola killed the sale.

Although talks between LTA and the MPLA government have now been closed, LTA refused to detail the terms of any proposed deal.

BIDAM 15/3/93

LTA group MD Colin Wood said the group was still considering the plan.

But shareholder Anglo American Industrial Corporation (Amic), which is to increase its stake in LTA to 72% at the end of this month, confirmed the deal was off. "There is no question of going ahead," said Amic chairman Leslie Boyd. Neither Boyd nor Wood would comment further.

Talks between LTA and the Angolan government had been under way since last year. The contractor wanted to use Constrei — Angola's largest contractor — in its strategy to seek work outside SA as a cushion against a declining domestic work.

LTA's cross-border operations are based in Lesotho and Botswana.

● See Page 2

Unita takes over Cubal S

Sowetan 15/3/93.

■ Government forces overrun as rebels gain advantage:

LISBON — The rebel Unita movement says it has taken the strategic town of Cubal in south-western Angola from government forces.

"Unita forces took the strategic city of Cubal in Benguela province, the frontline of the defence of Huambo," the Portuguese news agency *Lusa* quoted.

Unita claimed it also captured two helicopters and many armoured cars and weapons, *Lusa* said.

Cubal, in the front line of government troops heading towards

Huambo, which was taken by Unita last weekend, is located about 150km west of Huambo.

Unita fought a 16-year civil war against the ruling MPLA government which ended with the signing of a peace accord in Portugal in 1991.

But the accord crumbled when Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi rejected his defeat by the MPLA in UN-supervised elections.

In a statement received by *Lusa*,

information secretary Jorge Valentim said the MPLA government was receiving arms from Portugal, Russia, Brazil, South Africa and Spain, in violation of a clause in the 1991 peace accord stipulating neither side could receive arms — the so-called triple zero option.

"Giant Antonov 124 planes fly constantly into Catumbela to carry war materiel for the MPLA," *Lusa* said. — *Sapa-Reuter*

Unita loses oil centre to govt

⑤
CT15/3/93

LUANDA. — Angolan government forces yesterday recaptured the northern oil centre of Soyo which had been in the hands of Unita rebels since January, army sources said here.

Soyo is the country's second-largest oil production centre after the Cabinda enclave on the Atlantic coast.

Unita had threatened reprisal attacks on Cabinda if Soyo was attacked.

Meanwhile Unita said yesterday it had recaptured the central garrison town of Cubal, which it lost to government forces four weeks ago.

And diplomatic sources said the government had begun an offensive to recapture Caxito, the capital of Bongo province, 70km from Luanda.

The Defence Ministry has issued no official comment on the fighting for days, but a military officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that government jets were attacking Unita positions in Caxito.

Angolan head calls on UN

LUANDA. — Angolan President Eduardo Dos Santos has written to the United Nations condemning what he calls South Africa's "logistic support" for Unita rebels battling his government.

In a letter addressed to UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Mr Dos Santos attacked specifically the South African air freight company Wonder Air, which, he claimed, had been making nightly deliveries of weapons, food and medicine to Unita.

liveries of weapons, food and medicine to Unita.

Mr Dos Santos recommended that President FW de Klerk mandate the Goldstone Commission to look into South Africa's "promotion of violence and destabilisation" in Angola.

His letter, dated March 11, repeated allegations contained in a statement by the Angolan government on Friday. — Sapa-Reuter

At a camp on the outskirts of Luanda, some of the 33 000 refugees who fled Caxito in the last five months watched smoke rising from the direction of Caxito.

"I want to go back to my home, not to a hole," said Mr Monteiro Papuseko, a mechanic who fled the city with his wife and three children.

"If there is no other way to drive away Unita, then it will have to be." The military official was guardedly optimistic about the success of the government military advance, however, re-

peating earlier warnings that the rebels may be intentionally withdrawing from Soyo to return to the bush.

The military officer said there was heavy fighting near the central cities of Malange and Luena, in the south-eastern city of Menongue, and north of Cubal, a key town on the road between the coast and Huambo.

The government on Saturday barred relief agencies from flying supplies into many rebel-surrounded cities. The government said the ban would extend until Wednesday. — Sapa-AP

should rule the country — but it will now have no legal validity. He could also attempt to impose emergency rule. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita forces 'pushed out'

1975-15/3/75
LUANDA. — A government military offensive continued to push Unita rebels from a strategic oil town in northwestern Angola while intense clashes in the interior highlands forced thousands of refugees to flee the fighting.

Rebel resistance was all but overcome in Soyo, a coastal city 300 km north of Luanda, crucial to Angolan petroleum exports, but some shelling continued near the airport and along the road inland.

As government MiG-23 fighter jets raced overhead, Luanda residents watched a column of smoke rise over the vicinity of Caxito, 50 km to the northeast, which has been held by rebel forces since November.

Sapa-AP

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Star 101343
MPLA denies

Unita took 5 garrison town

LUANDA — Unita rebel claims that the key garrison town of Cubal in the central highlands had been captured were denied by the Angolan government yesterday.

It was also announced that key oil installations in the north-western town of Soyo, retaken by government forces at the weekend, were intact.

"Cubal remains under the control of government forces although there was fighting nearby at the weekend," the Defence Ministry said.

A ministry spokesman said government forces killed more than 30 Unita guerillas in the sea and air assault for the recapture of Soyo, an offshore oil supply base.

He said Unita forces looted the oil facility and had destroyed Soyo's electricity generator before fleeing by boat to Zaire on Saturday.

But the airport at Soyo and the town's large storage tanks for crude oil were undamaged. The government would now press on to recapture other areas of northern Angola which fell to Unita in January.

However, a government newspaper said yesterday that Unita had blown up a storage tank at Texaco's Kwanda base near Soyo and burnt down warehouses and generators.

Unita radio said heavy fighting was still under way in Soyo and accused government forces of being supported by South African and Cuban mercenaries. — Sapa-Reuter.

APSA

Pik leaves tonight for UN talks on Unita

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ARC 16/3/93

JOHANNESBURG. — Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha will meet United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in New York this week to discuss accusations that South Africa is supporting Unita.

Mr Botha leaves Johannesburg for the United States tonight, Foreign Affairs spokesman Awie Marais said.

"Regional issues" and allegations by Angola's President Jose Eduardo dos Santos against the South African government would be discussed.



EXPLAINING: Mr Pik Botha **MEETING:** Mr Boutros-Ghali

Mr Botha's trip to the US was arranged more than a month ago and topping his

agenda would be a meeting with US Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

He also planned to meet American legislators before returning to South Africa on Saturday, Mr Marais said.

In a letter to Mr Boutros-Ghali, President Dos Santos condemned what he called South Africa's "logistic support" to Unita rebels battling his government.

He specifically attacked Pretoria-based air freight company Wonder Air, which, he claimed, had been making

nightly deliveries of weapons, food and medicine to Unita.

The letter also claimed that Wonder Air director Gert de Klerk had "very close personal connections" to Mr Botha and former Defence Minister Magnus Malan.

The South African Foreign Affairs Ministry disclosed on Friday it had warned several air operators, including Mr De Klerk, that they could face investigation if they disguised the destination of their flights.

Mr De Klerk last week denied his firm had been flying supplies to Unita. — Sapa.

Record low

US storm

Food prices keep PPI low

FALLING food prices helped to keep the producer price index (PPI) for January at a low 7.4%, in spite of high increases for some products and for electricity and water.

Figures released by the Central Statistical Services (CSS) yesterday showed that the PPI rose by only 0.2% between December and January.

● PPI creeps up on higher energy costs — Page 9

Car thieves tie driver to tree

Staff Reporter

A KLEINVLEI man was robbed of his car and tied to a tree by three men with a pistol, in Mitchell's Plain yesterday.

Police said the men hijacked Mr Anthony George's white Nissan bakkie, forcing him into the back and drove to the False Bay coast, where they tied him to a tree and sped off.

No arrests have been made as yet. The bakkie's registration number is CY 150568.

BUSINESS BRIEF

Gold (Ldn) (close)	\$328.75
Gold (NY) (close)	\$329.25
Dollar	R3,1980/95
BD 100	5738/0
FT index (100)	2922.4
Dow Jones	3442.4
Nikkei	18086.1

CAPE TOWN MON-FRI



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Deadlock: Strike by teachers looms



A NATIONAL teachers' strike of black and coloured teachers is looming following a deadlock in the salary talks between President FW de Klerk and the SA Democratic Teachers Union (Sadtu) yesterday.

Sadtu president Mr Shepherd Mladlana told a press conference yesterday that the refusal of Mr De Klerk to budge on his 5% pay increase offer meant teachers would have to act.

Sadtu is demanding a 25% increase.

Regional chairman Ms Vivienne Carelse confirmed last night that a strike ballot would be completed in two weeks.

If the vote is in favour, it is expected most of Sadtu's 60 000 members will strike.

Meanwhile, white teachers have also become increasingly militant about the 5% offer.

The SA Teachers' Association (Sata) has warned of abandoning responsible negotiations and resorting to

REPORTING BACK ... Secretary-general of Sadtu Mr Randall van den Heever (right) reports on Sadtu's talks with President FW de Klerk yesterday. With him is Mr Shepherd Mladlana.

Picture: ANNE LAUNG

"other strategies" to resolve the dispute.

The giant Union of Teachers' Associations of SA (Utasa) also rejected the 5% increase, but would not say yesterday if it would consider striking.

The government and Sadtu reached

To page 5

'Trim gov't and save

By ANTHONY JOHNSON Political Correspondent

REDUCTIONS to the burgeoning bureaucracy could result in Budget savings of at least R5.5 billion, the Democratic Party said yesterday.

Recent revelations on wastage and maladministration had confirmed there was scope for greater efficiency, DP finance spokesperson Mr Ken Anderson said.

Reductions in staffing levels were also necessary, but not in the essential services such as teachers and police.

The abolition of own affairs departments and the rationalisation of services "should result in savings of at least R5.5 billion", he said.

- Other Budget proposals he outlined were:
 - The equalisation of social pensions.
 - The government spend the same amount on education — about R20bn — but more wisely.
 - A R300 million fund to assist new farmers.
 - An additional R600m for crime prevention.
 - Job creation and programmes for the poor.
 - An extra R500m for poverty/starvation relief.
 - Zero-rating VAT on medical services.

● VAT hike: Motor sales 'still slow'

Budget to be televised

TOMORROW'S Budget speech, expected to contain increases in the fuel price and VAT, will be televised in a direct broadcast from Parliament.

The announcement of the new Budget by Finance Minister Mr Derek Keys will be broadcast on TSS from 2.15pm to 4pm.

The announcement of the new Budget by Finance Minister Mr Derek Keys will be broadcast on TSS from 2.15pm to 4pm.

Plane stowaway dies

JOHANNESBURG. — The body of a 16-year-old youth was pulled from the wheel bay of a Malaysian Airline Boeing 747 after it landed at Jan Smuts Airport yesterday morning.

Police believe the boy climbed into the right rear wheel bay before flight MH201 took off from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The cause of death is to be determined by post mortem. But at minus 52° Celsius and at 12 000m, the boy almost certainly died of cold and oxygen starvation, aviation experts said.

The body was discovered when a foot was seen hanging from the wheel bay, a police spokesman said.

One of the youth's legs was crushed above the ankle, probably by the retracting undercarriage.

The incident follows one in which a man recently tried to stow away in a wheel bay of an Egypt Air flight, but fell to his death when the pilot lowered the undercarriage.

Malaysian Airline general manager for southern Africa Mr Helmie Daud declined to comment. — Sapa

Soyo dead may be local men

⑤
CR16/3/93

By GUY OLIVER

SOUTH African mercenaries may have died in an audacious air and sea assault by Angolan forces on Soyo, the strategic oil town retaken from Unita at the weekend.

Angolan government defence ministry spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel "Jota" yesterday told journalists government forces killed more than 30 Unita rebels in the assault on Soyo, an offshore oil supply base in the north-west of Angola.

He also mentioned unconfirmed reports that "several white men" died in the battle.

Unita and the MPLA government have repeatedly accused each other of using former SADF elite troops as mercenaries, prompting a South African police investigation.

Details of a CIA-backed plan for an air and sea assault on Soyo were leaked to the media earlier

'White men killed' in oil town

this month. The plan called for 100 mercenaries to "target and secure assets of a multi-national (in Soyo) taken over by the enemy and to hand the target over to a brigade of the host country".

Unita radio said heavy fighting was continuing in Soyo, and alleged government forces were being supported by South African and Cuban mercenaries.

But Brig Jota said the town and its oil installations were under full government control and all Unita forces had withdrawn.

He repeated government accusations that Unita itself was using mercenaries in Soyo.

"We did not manage to capture any mercenaries or find any bodies, although local people said several white men had died in the fighting," Brig Jota said.

Press leaks named former 32 Battalion and Military Intelligence Directorate of Covert Collection operative Mr Eben Barlow as recruiter for the Soyo operation. He has also been linked to three alleged South African mercenaries wounded while fighting for Unita.

The Clinton administration has warned Unita it views attacks on US and other foreign oil operations with "gravest concern".

● Sapa-Reuter reports that Brig Jota also denied Unita had captured the key garrison town of Cubal in the central highlands.

The army would now move to recapture other areas of northern Angola that fell to Unita in January, Brig Jota added.

● Yesterday government jet bombers screamed low over Luanda, heading towards Caxito.

Botswana troops shine in Somalia

5 (S) MOCADISHU 16/3/93

MOGADISHU — When it came time to clear Mogadishu's biggest weapons market, the "Bots" got the call.

When patrols were needed for the Bermuda Triangle, one of the city's roughest neighbourhoods, the Bots got the call.

When riots threatened a hotel housing foreign reporters, it was again time for the Bots.

One of the smaller contingents in US-led Operation Restore Hope is from Botswana. Nicknamed the Bots, the 300 soldiers have earned a reputation for being tough and fair as they try to tame the streets.

Major General Charles Wilhelm, the marine commander under whose command the Bots fall, calls them the "all-stars" of the coalition charged with safeguarding aid shipments.

The task force comprises 11 600 US troops and 14 000 soldiers from 22 other nations.

After dictator Mohammed Siad Barre was ousted in January 1991, the country had fallen into anarchy and famine.

Given only five days' notice, the first Bots arrived on December 16 and were given the task of guarding part of the airport perimeter. Soon they were protecting food convoys on the roads to Baidoa and Baledogle.

Next came the "Bermuda Triangle", where people were



On patrol . . . two Botswana army soldiers patrol the "Bermuda Triangle" area of Mogadishu yesterday. It was one of the city's most dangerous neighbourhoods before the "Bots" arrived. Picture: AP

rumoured to disappear without a trace. Today, children wave and call out "Botswana" as the Bots cruise by. They are rarely targets of the stone-throwing that plagues other countries' military contingents.

When riots last month threatened the hotel where most foreign journalists stay,

the people at the checkpoints, then we found our way through their roadblocks.

"I told them if they opened fire, they might kill one or two of my men, but we would kill a lot of them. They understood that."

The reasons for the Bots' success are primarily their discipline, training and man-

date. All volunteers, the soldiers train for nine months as officers for a year. Masisi is also given wider discretion in command decisions than other coalition forces.

"I make myself very flexible," Masisi said. "My two goals are minimum casualties and to complete the mission we have. — Sapa-AP."

Star 17/3/93

Horror of Huambo recalled

LISBON — The first witness to escape and describe the savage two-month battle for Huambo said yesterday that what used to be Angola's second largest city had now been razed to the ground.

Angolan journalist William Tonet, who walked about 400 km through forest, scrubland and dusty plains, said Huambo had become the Beirut of Africa during fighting between Unita rebels and government forces.

Dodging

"There were very few people left in Huambo. The great part had left with the withdrawal of government troops, at least those who lived in the area under government control," Tonet said on arrival at Lisbon airport.

He said it took him five days to walk from Huambo, 530 km south of Luanda, to the coastal city of Benguela, dodging the fighting that continued en route as two government army columns retreated through Unita-controlled territory.

Huambo fell to Unita on

March 6 after 55 days of fighting. Aid agencies have been desperate to enter the city ever since, but have not received permission from either side.

Tonet did not say how many people had been killed. United Nations officials, citing Unita and government reports that cannot be confirmed, estimate 15 000 battle fatalities plus thousands more wounded.

Before leaving Angola, Tonet was interviewed on national television. He said the "dimension of the fighting in Huambo was indescribable, horrible in every aspect".

He said non-Unita civilians had fled the city, which once had a population of at least 400 000.

A column of between 4 000 and 5 000 Huambo refugees, travelling on foot, were halfway to Benguela in the area of Ganda, Benguela Governor Paulo Jorge told Lisbon's independent radio station TSF.

Tonet's testimony is the first reliable information about the battle, which has caused near-panic among relief officials trying to feed and minister to the victims of a civil war that has

raged for most of the past 18 years.

"Where did everyone go?" Christophe Harnisch, the Red Cross director in Angola, questioned at the weekend.

"Are there 400 000 people trapped within the city? Did people flee into the city or out of it when the fighting began?"

"No one knows the number of wounded, the number of dead or the state of the airport," Harnisch said. "Huambo has become the most dangerous of all battle conditions — a war without witnesses."

Tonet, who has worked for the Voice of America (VOA) and Portuguese media, was scheduled to give an account of the battles later yesterday on Portugal's independent television channel SIC.

Unita has from time to time branded him a government spy, but former VOA employers consider him a reliable, unbiased reporter.

During much of the Angolan civil war, he was the only Angolan journalist who was able to work in both government and rebel-held territory.

Tonet looked drawn and walked with a limp, apparently

from a wound received in the fighting. He was in Huambo — a long-time rebel stronghold — when the fighting began, he said.

He confirmed reports from government military officers that the fighting in Huambo had a particularly fratricidal edge to it because soldiers on both sides came from the same ethnic group, the Ovimbundu, who compose about one-third of Angola's 10 million inhabitants.

Government officers say many Ovimbundu soldiers from Huambo returned home after being demobilised from the government army during the 18-month peace that followed the signing of accords in May 1991.

The accords led to national elections, in which Unita leader Jonas Savimbi lost the first round of presidential voting to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

Savimbi accused the government of fraud, fell back on Huambo and reassembled his army.

When the government tried to force Unita from Huambo, many demobilised Ovimbundu

soldiers took up arms on behalf of the government, whose main base is among the Kimbundu people of northern and coastal Angola.

"So those who died were the very same Ovimbundus," Tonet said. "There were very few Kimbundus."

The government and some diplomats have accused Savimbi of exploiting ethnic tensions in order to seem more African than his MPLA rivals.

Cold War

Huambo was seen as a key battle in the renewed civil war, which first broke out on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975 and came to a halt with the peace accords.

About 350 000 people were killed in the first phase of the war, which became seen as a Cold War proxy battle with the Soviet Union and Cuba on the one side and the United States and South Africa backing the other.

The fighting was renewed on October 31, with Unita swiftly taking control of about 75 per cent of the country. — Sapa-AP.

Claim: France in Angolan war

JOHANNESBURG. — Unita rebels yesterday claimed France has become involved in Angola's renewed civil war and supports the Angolan army in the country's northern oil-rich provinces.

French fighter planes and helicopters were attacking rebel troops at the town of Soyo and a group of white soldiers wearing French uniforms am-

bushed rebels in the region, Unita said.

A senior French diplomat in South Africa denied the charges. "There is no French (military) engagement of any sort," the diplomat said.

The Angolan government also dismissed the claims.

The latest claims suggested France was protecting its in-

terests. The French company Elf-Aquitaine is one of five foreign companies mining Angola's oil reserves.

Meanwhile, Unita claimed it unearthed proof that Angola's first democratic elections were rigged to ensure a government victory.

The organisation said its soldiers found thousands of bal-

lots favouring Unita, but kept from the final tally by the incumbent government, hidden in the governor's palace in Huambo, the country's second largest city.

Government troops yesterday were in control of the strategic town of Cubal in the Benguela province, a military spokesman said. — Sapa-AFP, UPI

NEWS ANC poised to bring peace

Angolan war: Mbeki steps in

Sowetan 18/3/93
Sowetan Correspondent

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■ MOVE FAILS

Anger at SA's role
as Pik flies to US:

THE African National Congress could be poised to bring peace to Angola following an initiative by ANC international affairs head Mr Thabo Mbeki to mediate between the parties in the crisis.

Pursuing this regional diplomacy, Mbeki saw members of the Angolan government in Luanda and Gaborone last week and representatives of Unita in Abidjan.

On Tuesday night Mbeki travelled to Portugal, where he will discuss the plan with that country's Foreign Minister, Mr Jose Manuel Durao Barroso.

According to Mr Yusuf Saloojee, ANC spokesman for international relations, both Angolan parties had welcomed the initiative, which would also include President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast, a long-time ally of Unita.

"This seems a much more creative response to the Angolan crisis than the one attempted previously," said Professor Peter Vale, co-director of the Centre for Southern African Studies, referring to earlier South African attempts to broker peace by Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha.

Vale pointed out the important difference this time was that the ANC initiative was not unilateral.

The attempt to mediate in the crisis is in its infancy and Saloojee pointed out that contact with the guarantors to the Angolan peace accord — Portugal, the US and Rus-

sia — had to be ongoing.

"If we are to play a mediating role we have to know the thinking of others," said Saloojee. "There is nothing concrete yet and we will have a better idea by Friday."

He confirmed that the ANC had informed the South African Ministry of Foreign Affairs of its initiative. In the absence of Botha, who is presently on his way to New York for a meeting with United Nations secretary-general Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali later today, a spokesman was unwilling to comment on the SA Government's reaction to the initiative.

Deadly stalemate

The ANC move could be significant in the stalemate that now holds Angola in a deadly grip following the failure of other parties to intervene. Botha tried last year to no avail to bring the warring parties together. Following this failed initiative South Africa now stands accused by the Angolan government of supporting Unita and lacking the political will to control any supplies that might be reaching Unita from South African soil. Botha has denied this repeatedly.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Punish SA' call

MOZAMBICAN National Assembly Speaker Marcelino dos Santos, in Maputo, called on the UN Security Council to punish SA and other African countries for what he termed their continued support for Mozambique's Renamo movement, Zimbabwe's Ziana news agency reported on yesterday.

Dos Santos said Mozambique had "proof" that some countries supported Renamo even after they had signed a peace accord with the Frelimo government.

BIDAY 18/3/93

'Twin' law societies

SA's Association of Law Societies and Namibia's law society are to work to foster closer co-operation between the two organisations.

Both societies have agreed to join the International Bar Association's "twinning" programme.

BIDAY 18/3/93

Zero-rated foods

BOPHUTHATSWANA has added to its list of zero-rated VAT foods, with the new list coming into effect at midnight on April 6, the homeland's information service announced yesterday.

Additional foods which no longer attract VAT include raw vegetables, fruit, vegetable oil, cultured milk, brown wheaten meal, eggs and edible legumes.

BIDAY 18/3/93

ANC works for peace

The ANC was trying to resolve the situation in Angola, spokesman Carl Niehaus said yesterday.

He said ANC international affairs head Thabo Mbeki had met Angolan government and Unita representatives recently to propose a peace plan.

Mbeki travelled to Portugal this week to enlist the support of Portuguese Foreign Minister Jose Barroso.

BIDAY 18/3/93

Workers and TPA sign

A RECOGNITION agreement had been signed between the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) and the TPA, the TPA said in Pretoria yesterday.

Procedures for the regulation of labour relations are included in the agreement.

REPORTS: Sapa, Business Day Reporters

18/3/93

Failure to enforce fiscal discipline, complains ANC

BIDAY 18/3/93

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN - Finance Minister Derek Keys was criticised by ANC economics chief Trevor Manuel yesterday for failing to introduce measures into the Budget to enforce fiscal discipline.

"There is no indication in the Budget that discipline goes beyond aggregate expenditure cuts. Poorly targeted and inefficient delivery of social services will, by and large, continue through wasteful apartheid structures," Manuel told a media briefing on the Budget.

He criticised the absence of clear objectives which would allow the measurement of performance. He said the nature of the internal budgetary process encouraged departments to build fat into their estimates.

"The budgetary process undermines the good intentions the Minister may have on exerting fiscal discipline," he said.

Manuel challenged Keys to provide the ANC with all the relevant data that went into the calculation of the Budget so that it could produce a costed development plan for social expenditure within three months.

He said the theme of the Budget - discipline and growth - was inappropriate at this stage.

Furthermore, there was nothing on the revenue side of the Budget which would promote economic growth. The effective personal tax rate had been increased and the higher VAT rate and excise duties would contribute to the contraction of consumer spending. These measures would contribute to a 2% rise in inflation.

At the same time, government expenditure would be kept constant or decline slightly in real terms and as a proportionately higher amount would be used for interest payments, expenditure on goods and services would be reduced in real terms. Neither would the change in company tax have the



desired supply-side impact on economic growth, Manuel said.

Our political staff reports that opposition parties slammed Keys's Budget for further milking taxpayers while failing to curtail government expenditure.

Government efforts to relieve unemployment were also criticised.

But there was praise for the equalisation of pensions for all races and efforts to stimulate the growth of emerging and small businesses.

The DP said the Budget came as "a great disappointment" because the government had placed the burden "almost entirely on the public's shoulders".

DP finance spokesman Ken Andrew said the "glaring omission" in the Budget was the "totally inadequate way in which the massive and dangerous problem of unemployment" was addressed.

The CP said the 16c/l fuel price hike and the increase of VAT to 14% meant that the "ordinary man-in-the-street" would have to dig much deeper into his pocket.

CP finance spokesman Casper Uys said no allowance had been made for fiscal drag or bracket creep.

Cosatu secretary-general Jay Naidoo lashed out at government for unilateral decision making and criticised Keys for missing an opportunity to address corruption.

Sapa reports he said the 40% VAT increase was the most significant feature of the Budget and would have a major effect on society. But he said Cosatu supported progressive taxation.

COMPANIES

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Anglo offers talks with Namibia

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WINDHOEK — Anglo American Corpora- tion had offered to negotiate with the Namibian government over participation in the Namibian diamond industry, deputy chairman Peter Gush said in Windhoek yesterday. *BIDAY 18/3/93*

"We believe these negotiations will be on sensible and reasonable bases and will not reflect past trends in Africa," he said.

Speaking at a conference on mining investment in Namibia, Gush said his company also had major exploration programmes in the country.

Gush told about 300 delegates from 25 countries that a central theme in successful economies was sensible and non-excessive regulation.

Entrepreneurship, he said, and a free market economy were robust in many spheres.

"But in some key areas they are delicate flowers which need to be nurtured and tendered with understanding."

Failure to recognise this had resulted in much of Africa being marginalised with little chance of foreign investment.

"There are some notable exceptions such as Botswana and, hopefully, Namibia," Gush said.

As well as a climate of confidence, foreign investors sought stability, a non-punitive tax regime, no super taxes and non-discrimination between existing and new investments.

"There must be free remittability of profits, no threat of expropriation whether by blunt nationalisation or other more insidious methods," Gush said, adding that companies were not looking for super profits but for a reasonable return on investment.

— Sapa.

Excessive debt, losses drag Unihold into red

BIDAY 18/3/93

MARCIA KLEIN

AN EXCESSIVE debt burden and ongoing losses in two divisions caused Unihold to reduce attributable income by 78% to R1,9m (R8,8m) in what directors described as a bleak year to end-December.

The engineering supplies manufacturer reported an attributable loss of R18,2m (income of R8,8m) after a R20,2m extraordinary item, which reflected mainly management's decision to discontinue the operations of UniCast Steel Foundry.

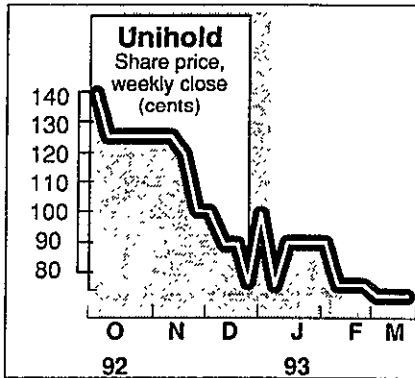
Turnover rose by 32,7% to R286,7m (R216,1m), but operating income declined by 40% to R11,6m from R19,4m previously.

Chairman Bob Arthur said despite additional turnover and the contribution from recent acquisitions, the group experienced substantial losses in the UniCast Steel Foundry division and the luminaire division of U-Lite Holdings.

Reduced profitability, acquisitions and high capex were reflected in a 44% increase in the interest bill to R10,5m (R7,3m), which resulted in a dramatic decline in pre-tax income to R1,2m from R12,1m in the previous year.

Earnings fell to 3,3c from 22,4c a share, and no dividend was declared. Arthur said the balance sheet was "unacceptably geared" at 106,5%. Since year-end steps had been taken to reduce gearing.

In a cautionary announcement, the



Graphic LEE EMERTON Source I-NET

group said agreement in principle had been reached for the sale of its wear parts division to Ozz Industrial. The sale of a parcel of group-owned properties for R24m was being negotiated.

Arthur said gearing would be below 40% on completion of the deals.

The disposal of the wear parts division would enable Unihold to enlarge the remaining divisions. U-Lite's restructuring was almost complete. The division was trading profitably. Arthur said all divisions should operate profitably in 1993 and the group "should return to higher levels of performance" in the coming year.

U-Control, whose only investment was a 53,7% interest in Unihold, had not declared a dividend.

ahead of FBI investigators, who had already arrested one man.

It said the men fled from the United States within 48 hours of the arrest of the first of two

drown, 42, has been indicted on charges of obstructing justice and fraud. The latter charge stems from the discovery of five falsified passports in his Brooklyn flat.

The newspaper reported that

associate of Mr Salameh's, was named in the report.

But neither South African Airways nor consular officials would confirm the report, which was also emphatically denied by New York's FBI chief, Mr James Fox.

Two towns recaptured from Unita

LUANDA. — The Angolan government claims to have recaptured two more towns from rebel movement Unita.

The official news agency Angop said government forces pushing towards the rebel held central highlands recaptured Chongoroi in Benguela province.

And American sources said another task force, which recaptured the northern oil town of Soyo last weekend, marched into Mbanza Congo, the capital of Zaire province.

The recapture of Mbanza

Congo has not yet been publicly announced by the government, but the sources said the government had told United Nations World Food Programme representatives they could resume relief flights there from today.

The whole of Zaire province fell to Unita in mid-January.

Diplomatic sources said the re-establishment of government control in the extreme north of Angola and the army's success in seizing a town from Unita near its stronghold in the central highlands showed a re-

covery in the government's offensive capacity.

It was a blow for the government when Unita routed its garrison in Angola's second city Huambo, in the central highlands, on March 6.

Unita signed a peace agreement with the government in 1991 that ended 16 years of civil war in the former Portuguese colony.

But Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat by the ruling MPLA in UN supervised elections. — Sapa-
Reuter.

ARG 18/3/93

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Angola rejects Savimbi talks

LUANDA. — Hopes for a peaceful settlement in Angola receded further yesterday as President Jose Eduardo dos Santos rejected a UN call to hold peace talks with rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

The Angolan government "does not find" that a meeting between the two men "is a solution to the Angolan crisis", presidential spokesman Mr Aldeiro da Conceicao said.

Last Friday the UN Security Council adopted a resolution condemning Unita's persistent violations of 1991 peace accords and called for a meeting "at the highest levels" between the government and the opposition within seven weeks.

Since losing general elections last September, Unita has fought government troops around Angola.

Angolan army chief of general staff General Joao de Matos said the army is in "a phase of reorganisation" to improve its fighting capability.

Many government troops were demobilised under 1991 peace accords. A law introducing compulsory military service for males aged 20-45 was passed this week by the Angolan parliament that emerged from the UN-supervised polls in September.

On Portuguese television yesterday Mr Dos Santos appealed to the international community for weapons, in spite of an embargo covering both sides in Angola. He said sending arms would be the best way for the world to help Angola "defend democracy".

Mr Dos Santos said he would accept talks with an "open agenda" but "without putting into question the peace accords of 1991" or last year's election results.

● A Jordanian UN observer kidnapped in Cabinda on February 23 has been released, the UN said yesterday. — Sapa-AFP

Huambo is 'razed to the ground'

LISBON. — The first independent eyewitness to the savage two-month battle for Huambo said yesterday that Angola's second largest city has been "razed to the ground".

Angolan journalist Mr William Tonet, who walked 400km over five days to the port city of Benguela, said Huambo became the "Beirut of Africa" in fighting between Unita rebels and government forces.

Huambo fell to Unita on March 6 after 55 days of fighting.

"There were very few people left in Huambo. Most left with the withdrawal of government troops," Mr Tonet said on arrival in Lisbon.

UN officials estimate 15 000 war deaths in Huambo, which once had 400 000 residents. About 5 000 Huambo refugees travelling on foot are halfway to Benguela, Angolan officials said. — Sapa-AP

Two towns recaptured from Unita ⁵

LUANDA. — The Angolan government claims to have recaptured two more towns from rebel movement Unita.

The official news agency Angop said government forces pushing towards the rebel held central highlands recaptured Chongoroi in Benguela province.

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covery in the government's offensive capacity.

It was a blow for the government when Unita routed its garrison in Angola's second city Huambo, in the central highlands, on March 6.

Unita signed a peace agreement with the government in 1991 that ended 16 years of civil war in the former Portuguese colony.

But Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat by the ruling MPLA in UN supervised elections. — Sapa-Reuter.

Dos Santos rejects demand for talks

Star 18/3/93

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ANGOLA — The prospect of a peaceful settlement in Angola receded further yesterday as President Jose Eduardo dos Santos rejected a UN demand that he hold peace talks with his rival, Jonas Savimbi.

The Angolan government "does not find" that a meeting between Dos Santos and Savimbi "is a solution to the Angolan crisis", presidential spokesman Aldemiro da Conceicao told the Jornal de Angola.

The UN Security Council adopted a resolution on Friday condemning Unita's persistent violations of 1991 peace accords and called for a meeting "at the highest levels" between the government and the opposition within seven weeks.

Since losing a general election last September, Unita has been fighting government troops loyal to Dos Santos and the MPLA.

Since government forces lost the strategic central highlands city of Huambo early this month, but later recaptured the key northern oil town of Soyo, chief of general staff General Joao de Matos has several times declared that the army is in "a phase of reorganisation" which will leave it with a better fighting capability.

Many government troops were demobilised under the 1991 accord signed in Portugal.

A law introducing compulsory military service for males aged between 20 and 45; and allowing women to join up as volunteers, was passed this week by parliament.

On Portuguese television yesterday, Dos Santos appealed to the international community for weapons, in spite of an embargo covering both sides in Angola. — Sapa-AFP

MPLA⁵ close to Huambo

CT 19/3/93

LUANDA. — Government forces are advancing towards Huambo, captured by Unita rebels two weeks ago, the official Jornal de Angola paper said here yesterday.

Quoting military sources, the paper reported government troops were in control of Cubal, which Unita claimed to have taken last week, and were moving towards Huambo, Angola's second city.

Unita artillery was bombarding the town of Menongué, but government troops were holding out, the sources added.

The prospect of a peace settlement between the two sides receded further on Wednesday when President Jose Eduardo dos Santos rejected a UN demand that he hold talks with Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

The UN Security Council adopted a resolution on Friday condemning Unita's persistent violations of the 1991 peace accords and called for a meeting "at the highest levels" between the government and the opposition within seven weeks.

US Secretary of State Mr Warren Christopher wrote to Dr Savimbi last week, inviting him to meet African affairs specialist Mr Geoffrey Davidow, diplomats said yesterday.

Mr Christopher warned Dr Savimbi that unless he showed a real willingness to return to the negotiating table, the United States would recognise the formerly Marxist government in Luanda, and lift an arms embargo against it.

Dr Savimbi had sent a non-committal reply. — Sapa-AFP

Star 19/8/93

Govt troops move towards Huambo

LUANDA — Government forces are advancing towards Huambo, Angola's second city which Unita rebels captured two weeks ago, the official Jornal de Angola paper said yesterday.

Television footage has shown the city, once home to 400,000 people, to be a smouldering wreck after weeks of heavy fighting.

Huambo fell to Unita early this month after 56 days of fierce fighting with government forces. An estimated 12,000 people were killed and 15,000 wounded as a result of direct combat in the battle for the city where Unita set up its headquarters after it was defeated in the Sep-

tember polls. (5)

Quoting military sources, the official newspaper reported that government troops were in control of Cubal town, which Unita claimed to have taken last week, and were moving towards Huambo.

Unita artillery was bombarding the town of Menongue, but government troops were holding out, the sources added.

● The United Nations World Food Programme said that about 1,500 Angolans fleeing from Huambo have reached the western coastal city of Benguela, after a 400 km trek through the bush. — Sapa-AFP.

ANGOLA: Residents of the Angolan town of Cubal say it makes little difference whether government or rebel troops are in charge. In either case the townspeople lose.

They say UNITA rebels who occupied Cubal for nearly three months and government forces, which recaptured it in mid-February, stole food and belongings. Residents who resisted were shot or beaten.

Carlos Bernardo, 19, who lay in the mission hospital with a bullet wound in his foot, said he had been shot by two soldiers who entered his house one night and stole his bicycle and clothes.

"They told me to get out of the house and as I went they shot at me," he said.

In the next bed lay Vidal Lourenco, 25, who had been hit on the head with a machete by UNITA fighters who robbed him of maize he bought in Cubal market.

"I was attacked by three bandits, two of whom were in uniform, which I recognised as being that of UNITA," he said.

Drought has added to the misery of this small town, halfway between the Atlantic coast and the wrecked second city of Huambo.

Devastation of the essential maize harvest has left an estimated 120,000 people in the surrounding area short of food.

"We can say there has been virtually no maize harvest and the sorghum crop has been only half its normal size," said Sister Generosa Iturri, a Spanish nun at the local Roman Catholic mission.

"In a month's time people will have virtually nothing left. Most of what they had has already been stolen," said Jeronimo Emiliano, the local director of the church charity Caritas.

The surrounding plain, pierced by rocky outcrops, is still green due to late rains, but everywhere the maize plants have withered before producing grain.

The government estimates that 500,000 people are suffering from drought in southern Angola and a further 1.7 million have been made homeless by the fighting.

With Huambo in rebel hands, Cubal has become the base for government forces pushing back into the central highlands.



GUNLAW: An armed militiaman of UNITA.

UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) signed a peace agreement with the ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) in 1991.

But the rebels took up arms again after rejecting their defeat by the MPLA in U.N.-supervised elections last September.

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) has begun flying food aid into Cubal, but UNITA is still active in the surrounding countryside. One WFP plane was fired upon recently by rocket-propelled grenades, which missed their target.

The main road that links Cubal to Lobito and Benguela on the coast 160 km (100 miles) away is closed to normal traffic.

In Cubal, even the police are short of rations, a factor which may account for some of the extortion and robbery.

UNITA left Cubal without firing a shot on February 17 to make a stand against advancing government troops at Ganda, 45 km further east.

But the rebels took with them every available vehicle and all the food and medicines at a hospital which had been run by the French medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres.

They also blew up a strategic bridge over the Catumbela river and left slogans daubed in green paint on buildings in the town centre.

Only the Roman Catholic mission has been spared the violence and looting in Cubal.

As a result, it has become a refuge for several hundred people fearing the wrath of one side or the other.

But local residents say murder, rape and robbery by rogue policemen is on the wane and prices in the local market are dropping as food aid trickles in.

Many actively support the government and dozens of former government soldiers who were demobilised under the 1991 peace accord have come forward to re-enlist.

One is Celestino Catumbela, 24, who said UNITA officials made him eat his MPLA party card and government passport during the rebel occupation.

Many youngsters who did not fight in Angola's first 16-year civil war also are eager to join.

"Six hundred of us have volunteered to join the army," said a grinning 20-year-old as he boarded a helicopter for Benguela to receive military training. — Sapa-Reuter.

CIVIL WAR

Angolan civilians the real losers

APR 19/3/93

(5)

Thousands brave mines to flee 'graveyard' city Refugee 'hell-run' ⁵

ARCT 19/3/93

BENGUELA (Angola). — The first relief shipment of food and medicine has arrived here for thousands of refugees from the savage battle for Angola's second-largest city, described by one man as "a graveyard".

Refugees arrive daily from Huambo after a 320 km walk across barren plateaus. With sun-cracked lips and bandaged feet, they spoke of running for their lives through huge minefields.

Filipe, a 21-year-old soldier with the government forces routed by Unita rebels in a two-month battle, lost a leg in

a minefield.

"We knew there were mines there — I didn't care," he said. "Running was better than staying behind."

Filipe described the city as "a graveyard" with Unita firing into the city from the hills.

Like other refugees, he declined to give his last name for fear of reprisal.

Based on sketchy reports from the two sides, UN officials estimate that 15 000 people were killed in intense combat in the central city before Unita claimed victory on March 6.

Relief agencies have been negotiating with the rebels and

the government for access to Huambo, where there is reported to be an alarming shortage of food, water and medical supplies.

In the meantime, the UN World Food Program delivered eight tons of medicine, corn meal, tents and clothing to the refugees in Benguela who have survived heat, fatigue, and fire-fights between government and rebel troops.

William Tonnet, an Angolan journalist who escaped Huambo and arrived in Portugal this week, said the city had been virtually razed and most of its 400 000 residents had fled.

Maria, 11, arrived alone in

this seaside town, where she waited for help on a dusty, sun-scorched encampment with other children.

She hadn't seen her mother since they fled the city a week ago, after surviving 56 days of combat, living off sugarcane and grain. Her brothers went out foraging for food one day and never came back.

"Soldiers told people they were going to leave. My mother told me to follow the soldiers and not stop," Maria said.

Relief workers in Lobito, north of here, said refugees also continued to arrive from other cities. — Sapa-AP.

AFRICA

By CHRIS MCGREAL: Soyo
IT was an unusually frank admission for an Angolan general — the kind you might hear from a battle-weary foot soldier, only to draw outright denials from the military hierarchy.

General Eusebio Brito Texeira, army commander for Angola's northern region, casually commented that in the week-long battle for the foreign-run strategic oil facilities at Soyo, his men took no prisoners. It is policy.

"In this war, nobody's interested in taking prisoners. There's no room for it," the general said.

Texeira's view finds sympathy among those who endured Unita's two-month occupation of Soyo until government forces recovered the town last weekend. The physical evidence of the looting of shops and private homes is still plain. The abuses went far beyond that, though much of this evidence has been discarded.

Jaça Barbosa, an oil worker, said: "We had a problem because Unita thought we were hiding soldiers in civilian clothing. They threatened us. They said if we were lying they would kill us. If you were known as an MPLA member and you were caught, they took you away. No one knows

Angola's absurd

American connection

12/13/93 - 25/3/93

bloody war for control of Huambo, which fell to Unita as the government launched its effort to recapture Soyo. But it was an important enough MPLA government victory for Unita to try to overshadow it by falsely claiming to have seized the town of Cubal, west of Huambo.

Angolan army officers are buoyant from their success, detailing each blow of the battle as the rebels were forced back until they turned tail and fled. But it was not so easy. The first attack nearly turned to disaster.

A joint air and sea assault on a beachhead close to the main oil storage tanks began with 120 government troops dropped by helicopter at dawn on to the sands below Unita's positions. But communications failed, and it was another five hours before the main force of more than 1,000 men arrived by sea. In the interim, the rebels over-

battle, overshadowed by the extended and

looking the beachhead reinforced their positions. Fighting their way up towards the ridge, the Angolan army left a trail of discarded kits, live ammunition and bodies. The corpses have been removed, but the boots, sleeping bags and a Russian tank are still scattered across the sands.

The government forces took the American-run Quinfaena oil storage tanks intact, but nearby pumping facilities were badly damaged after they were hit by government shellfire. The generators exploded and hundreds of metres of piping were warped.

At the port, Kwanda, buildings still smoldered from Unita's sabotage efforts. Spent ammunition covers the dockside, expended on Unita troops fleeing by boat across the Congo.

Soyo is quiet now. On display beside the wrecked weapons of war and the graves of their victims is the shift of allegiances since Angola's peace accords were signed nearly two years ago. Standing at the entrance to the Quinfaena facilities are Angolan soldiers manning Russian tanks to guard American oil installations from attack by American-armed rebels.

Texeira noticed the absurdities. "You see, we saved this for President Bill Clinton," he said.

SA mercenary 'killed in Angola'

20/3/93

JOHANNESBURG. — A South African mercenary has been shot dead in Angola and five others have been wounded, the Afrikaans newspaper Beeld reported yesterday.

Beeld said the corpse of the unnamed dead mercenary would be flown home yesterday.
It gave no source for the report and a foreign ministry spokesman could not confirm or deny the information.

Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha has conceded that some South African mercenaries are serving in Angola despite warnings of prosecution in South Africa.

Beeld said white South Africans fought with Angolan government troops to recapture the oil town of Soyo from Unita last weekend.
It said the South Africans were re-

cruited on the understanding they would guard oil installations but on arrival in Angola had been told they were required to attack Unita.

● Unita said yesterday government forces were gearing for a major offensive in southern Angola.
Unita radio alleged Angolan units aided by mercenaries and Namibian troops were massing in the southern Cunene and Huila provinces.

Namibian armoured cars and tanks were crossing into Angola and grouping near Caluque, Unita claimed.

● Unita envoys are due in Ivory Coast on Sunday at the start of a multi-nation tour to put their view of the Angolan crisis, Unita said yesterday. They will also visit Washington for talks with the Clinton administration. — Sapa-Reuter

No US gun to Unita's head

LISBON: Angola's Unita rebels have denied a report that Washington had threatened to recognise the government in Luanda if guerrilla leader Jonas Savimbi failed to show willingness to return to the negotiating table. (S)

US sources in Luanda said the American warning was part of a letter from Secretary of State Warren Christopher inviting Dr Savimbi or a personal representative to meet State Department Africa specialist Geoffrey Davidow.

"The Reuter report is patently untrue," Jardo Muekalia, Unita's envoy in Washington, said this week.

"The Secretary of State and the Unita president, Dr Savimbi, recently exchanged correspondence to further the joint commitment of the United States and Unita to resolve the Angola crisis by creating a durable peace, fostering national reconciliation and institutionalising real democracy through negotiations," he said.

Threats

"There were no threats levelled by the Secretary of State either in reference to the recognition of the MPLA government or ending the arms embargo.

"The Luanda dateline is a clear indication of the source of the disinformation," said Mr Muekalia.

The MPLA government had misled Western journalists with state-controlled newspapers and radio, said Unita.

Western news outlets "routinely print material from these sources without subjecting them to close scrutiny", it added.

The report quoted diplomats and US sources.

"There was a strong hint that if he (Savimbi) continued on his current course there would be increasingly heavy pressure, which we would eventually find impossible to resist, to recognise the government and end the Triple Zero Option (arms embargo)," one US official said this week. — Reuter.

One of them was lying down on the back seat. The driver was a fat

by the four men and forced to accompany them on the school bus was and raid.

□ To Page 2

investigating massive corruption in the now defunct Department of Develop-

account for a monthly pay-

□ To Page 2

Burglars raid Foreign Affairs offices

OFFICES of the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria were burgled this week and it is believed that files on South African mercenaries in Angola were stolen.

Senior police sources told the Sunday Times that the break-in was a "professional job" and that the apparent aim of the burglars was to remove material relating to mercenaries.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Patrick Evans confirmed that the offices of the Africa Directorate in Arcadia were broken into and that the doors to some offices had been smashed down.

SITimes 21/3/93.
By DE WET POTGIETER
and SHARON CHETTY

However, he said, no classified documents had been stolen. "The SAP and other security services are investigating," Mr Evans said.

It is uncertain, however, whether the intruders were able to photocopy documents they found in the building.

In another development this week, the Sunday Times obtained documentary proof that Angola's MPLA government was behind the recruitment of "security consul-

tants" in South Africa. Despite recent denials by the MPLA that it was involved in the recruitment, the document proves that Sonangol, the state-run oil concern in which the MPLA is the major shareholder, contacted South African security experts to recruit men.

The "consultants" were to visit oil installations and give security advice.

"These personnel will be expected to assist in the actual guarding and securing of such sites as necessary," said a letter signed by Sonangol general manager Joaquim David, dated February 1 this

year. The letter was sent to Executive Outcomes and Berdel Marketing, the Pretoria-based firms which handled the recruitment of the roughly 100 men who were sent to Angola.

Executive Outcomes managing director Eben Barlow said this week that he had co-operated fully with senior SAP officers investigating the matter.

A group of 10 of the men in Angola asked to return early after the death of one of their colleagues; former 32 Battalion member Buks Erasmus, in a Unita rifle-grenade attack.

Unita may talk to US

5

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — The US Secretary of State, Warren Christopher, has exchanged letters with Unita's leader, Jonas Savimbi, and a Unita delegation is expected to meet a team of US officials in the next few days to discuss a resumption of peace talks, a State Department official has disclosed.

He said the administration's interest in meeting a Unita del-

egation had been conveyed to Savimbi, but that a time and venue for such a meeting had yet to be determined, as well as who would participate in the meeting.

A State Department spokesman said: "We have encouraged Unita to send authoritative representatives who can effectively present the views of that organisation."

The meeting with US officials is widely seen here as an eleventh hour opportunity for Unita to rescue its tattered image in Washington and agree to a resumption of talks with the MPLA government, failing

which, many believe, the Clinton administration would be left with no choice but to move closer to formal recognition of the MPLA government.

That would probably mean a simultaneous lifting of restrictions on military and other assistance to the government, although officials here suggest there would be reluctance to take any step which would increase the risk of further fighting.

The administration would have to be persuaded that there was no other way to proceed before becoming involved in further military action in

Angola.

A State Department official said Christopher had written to Savimbi and that the Unita leader had replied. He declined to reveal the contents of their exchange.

"The focus of our diplomatic efforts is to get the parties back to the negotiating table," he said.

Pressed on the issue of US recognition of the MPLA government, the official said: "Of course, the question of recognition is out there and has been for some time. Our efforts now are directed at getting the parties back to the table."

Angola: Unita claims oil town is in flames

LUANDA. — Angola's Unita rebels said this weekend that the northern Angolan oil town of Soyo was in flames but a journalist who flew over the town said it was not burning.

Mr Robert Powell said Soyo's oil installations were intact and he did not see flames when he flew over the town.

The Unita radio station earlier said Soyo was in flames due to bombing by government forces and shelling by Unita rebels.

The town and its outskirts were under heavy shelling.

The Angolan press said on Saturday

that government forces had taken the north-western provincial capital of M'Banza Congo from rebel control.

Quoting military sources, the Jornal de Angola said the army general staff would soon confirm that government troops have taken M'Banza Congo, capital of Zaire province.

M'banza Congo and the neighbouring town of Tomboco are strategically located as providing a possible security cordon around the oil base at Soyo.

Meanwhile, 116 Unita soldiers were killed in combat in several different parts of Angola, specially at the of Murima and Caxito in Bengo province, the army said. — Sapa-Reuter

By COLIN LEGUM

THE situation in Angola is as grave as that in amputated Yugoslavia. Already the casualty rate and the level of suffering is greater than in Bosnia, with the imminent prospect of still worse to come.

Over 10 000 people have already been killed in the last few months; this is over and above the estimated 300 000 who have died since the beginning of the civil war. There are a million Angolans in exile, and scores of thousands locally displaced from their homes. Famine on the scale of Somalia is on the horizon. "Angola is a disaster," warned Mercedes Sayagues of the World Food Programme. "It is going to get much worse as the year goes by... We have not yet reached the Somalia situation, but it has the potential," she said.

While the international community has at least responded to the tragedy in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and has acted determinedly in Somalia, the crisis in Angola is still on the back-burner of the international agenda. Ultimatums have been given to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, by the UN and the tripartite guarantors of the peace process — the United States, Portugal and Russia; but he has paid no serious attention to the threats.

External intervention

What can the international community do to save the Angolan people? The situation there is easier to confront than in Bosnia on two scores. First, there is a legitimate government which is entitled to expect support, and second, there are only two parties engaged in the conflict — the government and Unita.

However, the problem of external intervention in civil war situations is fraught with difficulties. Taking sides can compound the problems. There are strong reasons to support the view that, on the whole, it is wiser to avoid external intervention in civil war situations until the conflicting parties have reached the point of attrition, even if it should mean a great loss of life and destruction of valuable resources.

But there are exceptions — and Angola is one. Even before the latest resumption of fighting, the government forces and Unita had virtually reached the attrition point which is the reason why they agreed to end the fighting and to resolve their differences through the ballot box.

When the elections — which were internationally supervised — went against Savimbi, he again resorted to war even though, when he signed the peace accord, he solemnly vowed that Angolans had suffered too much and should never again be subjected to war.

Callously reneged

Savimbi, though, is not a man of his word; this he has demonstrated repeatedly. His paranoid behaviour and determination to let nothing stand in his way until he gets what he wants, which is a decision in his favour, makes him a difficult man to negotiate with.

He has callously reneged on his acceptance of the peace treaty. He has contemptuously rejected the findings of the international observers that the recent elections were reasonably fair. He has traduced the admirable UN representative, Margaret Anstey. He has played ducks and drakes with the repeated UN efforts to get negotiations under way — meanwhile using the time to increase his military stranglehold. And now he is threatening to destroy the installations which produce two-thirds of the country's vital oil revenues if any attempt is made to dislodge his force at Soyo, thereby showing that for him victory is more important than the future of his country.

Already, the Belgian company, Petrofina, suspended operations in mid-January after several of its wells were immobilised; Texaco's offshore operations have been temporarily halted; and Chevron's operations in Cabinda

World must act on Angola disaster

are under threat. The diamond industry production, normally worth \$600 m (about R1.8 bn), has been cut to a trickle.

Like Samons, Savimbi seems recklessly committed to wrecking the pillars of Angola's economic structures, besides jeopardising millions of lives through fighting and starvation, rather than to accept the verdict of the ballot box.

Worst of options

There was a time when, arguably, Savimbi had some right on his side. But he has squandered the goodwill that won him support from the United States, South Africa and several African governments. He is now a rogue elephant who, somehow, must be stopped. The question is how.

Renewed external military intervention is the worst of all options although the government, in co-operation with the multinational oil companies, has recruited 100 mercenaries — many of them professional soldiers from South Africa who are defying their own government's repudiation of their role.

The time is over-ripe for Savimbi to be internationally isolated. The Clinton Administration should extend full diplomatic recognition to the Luanda government, and the South Africans should return their diplomats to Luanda. Important as these steps are, they are not enough.

The UN Security Council should follow the precedent it set over Bosnia when it labelled two Serbian leaders as war criminals and proposed, when the right opportunity presents itself, to arraign them in a Nuremberg-style trial.

War Crimes Court

The argument against such a step is that once a leader is named a war criminal he would then have no alternative but to fight on regardless of cost. This persuasive argument can be met in the case of Savimbi by giving him an ultimatum that unless, by a certain time, he agrees to end the fighting and to return to the negotiating table, he will be branded a war criminal and be brought to trial. This international threat could greatly add to his sense of international isolation.

The Security Council is due shortly to vote on procedures to implement its threat to establish a War Crimes Court to deal with Serbian leaders. It should at the same time enlarge this mandate to establish a permanent international criminal court — an idea that goes back to World War I and the Treaty of Versailles which proposed to arraign Kaiser Wilhelm, a proposal never followed up.

However, the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials after World War II established the precedent for trying war criminals.

Jonas Savimbi is a war criminal and he alone is responsible for the new tragedy unfolding in Angola. It lies within his power, and his alone, to decide the fate of Angolans. It is time for the international community to make clear its verdict on Jonas Savimbi.

There is still suspicion about SA's involvement in Angola, reports Colin Legum

Star 22/3/93

Can Pretoria be believed?



LAST week a message went from Abidjan in the Ivory Coast through a Unita agent directly to Jonas Savimbi proposing a fresh initiative to end the fighting and return to the negotiating tables. Within days a positive reply came back. His quick response was remarkable since for more than a month he has cut himself off from all contacts with Pretoria, Lisbon and Washington, which has led to suspicions about his whereabouts.

The message from Abidjan was signed by Tiabo Mbeki, the ANC's foreign affairs spokesman, who was on a different mission in Abidjan. In essence it warned Savimbi of total world isolation if he continued the war and put off returning to negotiations.

Savimbi's reply was that he would respond to a new initiative if it was proposed by President Houphouët-Boigny, King Hassan of Morocco and Nelson Mandela. The first two are long-time supporters of Savimbi, while Mandela has been a staunch supporter of the MPLA government in Luanda.

Savimbi's proposal is now being followed up through diplomatic

channels.

The ANC's involvement has come about through its concern about Luanda's allegations that the Pretoria regime is still engaged in clandestinely sending arms to Unita. Before visiting Luanda to learn more about the MPLA's grounds for suspecting South African involvement, Mbeki is known to have had exploratory talks with the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Pretoria to get an explanation of its current policy towards the Angolan conflict.

Whether or not he was convinced by Pretoria's denial of any involvement is not known, but he was told that the South African Government had emphatically informed Savimbi before the recent elections that he could expect no further assistance from them.

The question is why, despite Pretoria's disavowal of support for Savimbi, the Luanda government still remains unconvinced. A spokesman for the South African Foreign Ministry told me it understood why Luanda should remain suspicious in view of the substantial support it had given, militarily and otherwise, in the build-up

of Unita's strength in the past. This suspicion was strengthened by the fact that shortly before the elections, Savimbi had paid a visit to South Africa. His explanation of the visit was that he had come to thank President de Klerk personally for the help he had received in the past. He surprised De Klerk by his confidence that he would win the elections.

This confidence was not supported by South African military intelligence, which reported to De Klerk that Savimbi was unlikely to win. But Savimbi brushed aside De Klerk's warning that he should not take his victory as a foregone conclusion.

Relations between Savimbi and Pretoria appear to have cooled off after Savimbi's defeat at the polls. The last communication Pretoria received from him was a telephone message on January 27.

Nevertheless, it remains a fact that a number of air and other operations have taken place from South African soil. These have taken two forms — aircraft privately South African registered air-craft carrying supplies, and the recruitment of mercenaries.

South African air operations have been conducted by commercial firms ostensibly enlisted by international aid agencies to fly in food under the World Food Programme. It seems some operators gave false destinations for their flight operations and of the cargoes they were carrying.

One company was under suspicion since it has in the past been contracted by the South African military to fly supplies to Unita during the time they were engaged in supporting Savimbi. When reports were received that this company was flying into Angola, Pretoria stopped its flights.

However, the South African Government has failed to stop all flights going to Angola because of the large number of private airfields in the country and because of the falsification of destinations reported by air operators.

The recruitment of mercenaries is a different matter since they are all destined to go to support anti-Unita forces and have been recruited by a well-known company in Pretoria which has confirmed that it had instructions from an agent acting for multina-

tional oil companies operating in Angola who were seeking security guards to protect their properties after Unita had occupied Soyo and other key areas in the oilfields.

When documentary evidence was produced to show that the recruitment of mercenaries was taking place, 300 had already left the country. President de Klerk ordered that an immediate stop be put to this recruitment.

However, there was a hitch when the Angolan embassy in Pretoria insisted that a number of former members of the 32 Commando, which gained notoriety in the war in Angola, were Angolians of Portuguese origin who had asked to be repatriated. He said they had a right to return.

Meanwhile, too, the 32 Commando Association, which represents the interests of its demobilised members, condemned the recruitment of its former members to go help "communists" in Angola against whom they say they had fought and suffered in "the cause of democracy". But, clearly, the offer of \$10 000 a month (R30 000) was too tempting for these "anti-communists" to turn down.

It seems likely these mercenaries were engaged in the successful operation to drive Unita's forces out of Soyo.

My own inquiries lead to the following conclusions. First, that clandestine operations originating from South African soil have gone to support both sides in the Angolan conflict.

Second, that despite Pretoria's interest in wishing to live down its past support for Unita, it failed to stop private commercial operators from flying in supplies to Unita territory because they misrepresented their destination and because some had initially been contracted by international agencies to carry food to Angola.

Third, that the South African Government seems genuinely concerned not to become involved in the Angolan conflict and supports United Nations and ANC efforts to help end the fighting and achieve a negotiated settlement.

Since the Angolan government does not accept Pretoria's bona fides, it would help to clarify the situation if the South African Government were to agree to a UN observer mission examining the allegations on the ground. □

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Star 22/13/93

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Govt gains in Angola claimed

LUANDA — The Angolan army has regained territory from Unita in recent fighting near the capital Luanda, military sources said yesterday.

They said the government would announce soon that Caxito, the capital of Bengo province, 70km north-east of Luanda, and surrounding areas had been recaptured after a six-month occupation by Unita.

Unita radio has reported government air strikes and military bombardment of the town, but has not mentioned any withdrawal.

The attack on Caxito appears to be part of a government drive to push Unita out of all of north-western Angola, where rebel forces are relatively weak.

The army recaptured the coastal north-western oil town Soyo on March 12, with its offshore supply base and onshore production and storage facilities virtually intact. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan⁵ town seized from Unita

APR 23/93

LUANDA. — Angolan government troops have recaptured the town of Caxito, 70km north-east of the capital Luanda, state radio said.

The radio said Caxito, capital of Bengo province, was seized from the rebel movement Unita early yesterday.

Military sources said earlier it was recaptured several days ago after being occupied by Unita for nearly six months and government troops had advanced about 40km beyond it.

Government troops, backed by air strikes, launched an offensive to recapture Caxito about 10 days ago, the sources said.

Diplomatic sources said they believed Unita withdrew several days ago. Unita radio has reported government air strikes and military bombardment of the town, but has not mentioned any withdrawal.

The attack on Caxito appeared to be part of a government drive to push Unita out of north-western Angola, where rebel forces are relatively weak.

Defence ministry spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel said yesterday that retreating Unita forces set fire to one oil well about 25km east of Soyo.

Sapa-Reuters

h 23 1993

City captured from Unita

Star 23/3/93

⑤

Angolan government troops have recaptured the town of Caxito, 70 km northeast of the capital Luanda, state radio said yesterday.

The radio said Caxito, capital of Bengo province, was seized from the rebel movement Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) earlier in the day.

The attack appeared to be part of a government drive to push Unita out of northwestern Angola, where rebel forces are relatively weak.

The army recaptured the coastal north-western oil town of Soyo on March 12.

Unita radio says there is still fierce fighting in Soyo and that its oil installations are in flames.

But this correspondent visit-

ed Soyo after its recapture by the government and observed limited damage to oil installations.

Defence ministry spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel "Jota" said yesterday that retreating Unita forces set fire to one oil well about 25 km east of the town.

Unita signed a peace agreement in 1991, ending 16 years of civil war, but took up arms again after rejecting its defeat by the ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Total Liberation of Angola) in UN-supervised elections last year.

Jota said Unita shelled Menongue, capital of Cuando-Cubango province in southeastern Angola yesterday, but the military situation in the rest of the country was stable. — Sapa-Reuter.

War that changed Africa

STAR 23/3/93
5
The War for Africa:
Twelve Months that
Transformed a Continent
by Fred Bridgland
(Ashanti)

First published as a hardback in 1990, and again in 1992, this is the paperback version of the most important record yet of the Cuban-South African clash in Angola.

Bridgland, the talented southern African correspondent for the London Sunday Telegraph, leaves no one in doubt as to the importance of the Angolan War. He believes "it spelled the end of the last great neo-colonial attempts at African conquest, by Cuba and the Soviet Union. It made possible the dismantling of apartheid in South Africa and the beginning of the end of one-party dictatorship in black Africa."

These high claims are sustained by his text. As much as anything, however, the restraint with which the South Africans carried on their side of the war is startling.

Once the days of the almost comic-book "dash to Luanda" in 1975 were over, the political constraints dictated that this became one of the most closely managed wars of modern times.

While this may have prevented some victories, it also ensured that neither South Africa nor its enemies in the field were sucked into a mammoth confrontation which could have spelled disaster for all.

SA 'mercenaries' held in Angola.

WINDHOEK — ^{BIDAY 24 3/93} Fourteen former SA soldiers, who were hired to protect oil installations in northern Angola, were reportedly being held in isolation after refusing to take part in military operations against Unita at Soyo. (5)

The Afrikaans daily, Die Republikein, reported in Windhoek yesterday that the men, hired by the companies Ranger Oil and Sonangol as security guards, were being kept at Cavaleiro.

They had refused to take part in the operation as they had insisted they were hired as guards and not mercenaries. One South African has reportedly been killed in

fighting around Soyo after being shot in the head with a rifle grenade.

The newspaper said the first South African to complete his contract in Angola, Ivan van der Merwe, passed through Windhoek last Thursday while a second group of 35 were on contract until July 3.

Quoting informed sources in the "mercenary community", the report said heavy fighting took place in Angola at the weekend at Soyo, Cuito, Chongori, Caimbambo, N'Dalantando and Caxito.

The report said SA's Foreign Affairs Department said steps could not be taken against these security guards as there was no proof they were mercenaries. — Sapa.

'Unita men Star 24/2/93 beheaded captives' ⑤

LONDON — Horrific stories of atrocities committed by Unita soldiers on civilians fleeing the bush war are emerging.

One report from Caimbambo in central Angola tells of rebels advancing on Huambo, beheading civilians and dumping the frail and injured in rivers to drown.

In Huambo itself, Unita troops are said to have murdered all the wounded in one of the city's two hospitals.

Chris McGreal of The Guardian quotes one refugee, Alvaro Ammidi Rivera, as claiming Unita systematically murdered captives, including several women, near Ganda.

"Those who were captured or wounded were beheaded," Rivera said. "They lay down on a piece of wood and one of Unita men put his foot on the person's back to stop them moving and chopped their head off with a machete."

"Some of the wounded they threw into the river alive and they couldn't swim," he said. — Star Bureau.

SA guards (5) 'being held in Angola'

Star 24/3/93

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One South African has reportedly been killed in fighting around Soyo, after being shot in the head with a rifle grenade. Plans were being made to take his remains home to South Africa via Lisbon and Harare.

The newspaper said the first South African to complete his contract in Angola had passed through Windhoek on Thursday and a second group of 35 had been sent on contract, provisionally until July 3.

Quoting informed sources in the "mercenary community", the report said heavy fighting took place in several areas of Angola at the weekend. It said clashes occurred at Soyo, Cuito, Chongori, Caimbambo, N'Dalantando and Caxito.

At least five South Africans have received medical treatment for injuries sustained in Angola so far this month.

● Angolan government troops have recaptured Caxito, the capital of Bengo province, in a counter-offensive aimed at winning back major towns in the country seized by Unita rebels, informed sources reported on Monday. — Sapa-AFP.

cal Office-bearers Pension Scheme Act, 1984 (Act No 112 of 1984).

Under section 8, 9 and 12 of Act 112 of 1984 a pension for the period 14 September 1989 to 19 September 1989 was awarded to the present State President. This pension was cancelled under section 16 of Act 112 of 1984 with effect from 20 September 1989.

On vacating the office of State President the present holder will be entitled, under section 13 of the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act, 1983 (Act No 110 of 1983), to a pension only.

New question:

Relations between RSA/Angola

*1. Mr T ABRAMHAMS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

- (1) Whether, in the light of the State President's pledges of acceptance of certain agreements signed on 31 May 1991 and following the result of the United Nations monitored September 1992 elections in Angola for a government of national unity, the Government has given recognition to the duly elected Angolan government; if not, why not; if so, when;
- (2) whether the Government has as yet established diplomatic relations with the Angolan government; if not, why not; if so, when;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? C61E

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (Dr T G Alant) (for the Minister of Foreign Affairs):

(Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

- (1) The South African government believes that the peaceful resolution of disputes is the only acceptable way of finding solutions to political problems. It therefore supports negotiation in respect of all disputes and rejects violence as a means of achieving political objectives. In the case of Angola, the parties to the Bicesse agreements of 31 May 1991 committed

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themselves to a peaceful democratic process to elect a new government for Angola. South Africa endorsed these agreements. South Africa also accepted the results of the presidential and parliamentary elections which took place in Angola on 29 and 30 September 1992, as certified by the United Nations. During October 1992 I personally, at the request of both parties, became involved in efforts to get the leaders of both the MPLA and UNITA together in an attempt to avoid violence and to proceed with the peace process. The current situation in Angola does not offer much hope for a speedy return to a democratic and peaceful process. South Africa fully supports the peace initiatives of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in that country. I personally submitted a letter to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 17 March 1993, which reads as follows:

"Dear Mr Secretary-General

In view of the deteriorating situation in Angola and renewed allegations by the Government of the Republic of Angola regarding continued logistical support for UNITA from South Africa, I deem it necessary to once again place on record the South African Government's position in this regard.

I would like to state categorically that the South African Government does not support UNITA militarily or in any other way. The South African Government also does not support any party which opts for a military solution. It will also not support any party which attempts to obtain advantages inconsistent with the democratic process. In fact the position of the South African Government in this regard has been amply expounded in previous communications to you, and which have been widely published also as official documents of the Security Council.

I wish to stress that South Africa's interests would be ill-served by conflict, destruction and instability in the Southern African region; consequently

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South Africa's interests coincide with the interests of the people of Angola in a negotiated peaceful future. It is difficult to conceive what strategic or other South African interest could be served by becoming embroiled in a conflict which is not only detrimental to bilateral relations but also to the region and the continent as a whole.

In the past, when the world was a different place, a number of other states, including the United States and South Africa supported Dr Savimbi with the overall objective of enabling him to participate in a democratic process in Angola, which would establish an elected Government and bring to an end years of internal strife. That objective was achieved, although subsequently vitiated, when elections were held in Angola at the end of September 1992 in terms of the Bicesse Accords of 31 May 1991. The considerations of earlier years obviously no longer have relevance.

The South African Government, in its contacts with both President Eduardo dos Santos and Dr Jonas Savimbi and in its public pronouncements has consistently and strongly advocated the following:

- the obligation of the parties to honour the terms of the Bicesse Accords;
- the obligation of the parties to accept the results of the September 1992 election which were declared "generally free and fair" by the Secretary-General's Special Representative in Angola and which was formally accepted by the South African Government;
- the need for the leaders of the two main parties in Angola to enter into dialogue to solve the impasse;
- the total rejection of force as a way of achieving political ends in Angola; and,
- support for the Security Council and Secretary-General of the United Nations in their efforts to sal-

vage the peace and support for a continued and strong United Nations presence in Angola.

The South African and Angolan governments have, until recently, been steadily strengthening mutually beneficial relations and had exchanged Representative Offices in each other's capitals. Agreements, subsequently interrupted by the resumption of hostilities, had been reached on co-operation in a wide range of fields such as mine-lifting, manpower training centres and medical training and assistance. The South African Government had every hope of continuing and expanding this promising relationship. The South African Government has also consistently advocated closer economic ties between South Africa and Angola. South Africa's interest lies in promoting peace and economic development, not only in Angola but in the whole of the sub-region.

The South African Government has initiated a number of concrete and tangible steps to ensure that South Africa does not become embroiled in the tragic conflict in Angola, which I would like to enumerate hereunder:

- The Minister of Defence issued a statement on 26 February 1993 pointing out that in terms of existing legislation, it was a punishable offence for members of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve to render service as mercenaries or to recruit people to render service as mercenaries. In view of reports that a number of South Africans had already left for Angola, the South African Police are currently investigating possible transgressions of the applicable legislation. (Appendix A)

I also issued a statement in this regard on 5 March 1993 warning South Africans, who are members of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve, against recruitment as mercenaries for service in neighbouring countries. I stressed the fact that this was an il-

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legal act and that this was being done at their own risk. (Appendix B)

- The Minister of Defence issued a statement on 2 March 1993 rejecting allegations that South Africa was supplying arms to UNITA. He further pointed out that the Armaments Development and Production Act determined that no armaments may be exported from South Africa without a marketing and export permit, issued by the Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Amscor). He added that the Government would prosecute any transgressors. (Appendix C)
- The Civil Aviation authorities issued a renewed directive to all private air operators on the question of unauthorised flights beyond South Africa's boundaries on 26 February 1993. (Appendix D)

— The State President, Mr F W de Klerk wrote to President Eduardo dos Santos on 1 March 1993 in response to certain alleged activities of a Namibian registered company, "Namibian Commercial Aviation" (NCA) in support of UNITA. (Appendix E)

— Due to the above-mentioned measures, the Department of Transport, announced on 4 March 1993 that legal action had already been instituted against an offender violating the prescribed civil aviation procedures. (Appendix F)

— On 5 March 1993 I requested the relevant government departments to take additional steps to prevent unauthorised private flights to neighbouring countries.

— The South African authorities have also notified several private air operators in South Africa of the implications of unauthorised flights beyond South Africa's borders.

The South African Government shares the concern of the UN at the failure of recent efforts to arrange peace talks

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between the Angolan Government and UNITA in Addis Ababa. We are disappointed at the failure of UNITA, although it may have had certain security concerns, to attend the peace talks particularly in view of the elaborate and accommodating measures taken by Mrs Margaret Anstee, the UN Special Representative for Angola, to enable the UNITA delegation to travel to Addis Ababa.

It remains the South African Government's firm belief that the only way ahead in Angola is the one proposed by the United Nations Security Council, amongst others in Resolution 811 adopted by the Security Council on 11 March 1993, which provides for dialogue between the two parties under the auspices of the United Nations. The Bicesse Accords remain the only meaningful framework within which peace can be restored to Angola. The Bicesse Accords should be reactivated as a matter of urgency with a view to their full implementation. We believe that the dialogue that was begun in Addis Ababa in late January 1993, deserves continued support from all parties and we urge both parties to demonstrate their commitment to peace by resuming substantive talks as a matter of urgency. Decisive action by the international community is now required to get the parties back to the negotiating table.

As mentioned to you before, I believe that the presence of a large contingent of UN peace-keeping forces in Angola, is essential for the implementation of a lasting ceasefire as well as for the success of the peace process as a whole. I would also like to state that we have full confidence in Mrs Margaret Anstee and the role she has played in the search for a peaceful solution in Angola.

The suffering of the innocent civilian population in Angola constitutes a major tragedy. The ongoing destruction of the economic infrastructure in Angola is senseless and counterproductive. The South African Government

is therefore also concerned about threats made by UNITA regarding further destruction of the economic infrastructure and appeals to UNITA to refrain from any further such action in the interest of the country and its people.

The South African Government remains willing to assist the international community, including the United Nations and the observers to the Peace Accords, to resolve the crisis in Angola. These efforts will, however, require decisive leadership and state-manship by both parties. The South African Government urges both parties to stop the bloodshed that has tragically claimed thousands of lives over the past several months and to commit themselves anew to dialogue and national reconciliation.

Please accept, Mr Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

R F BOTHA

His Excellency Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations Plaza
NEW YORK
17 March 1993

APPENDIX A:

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, MR GENÉLOUW

26 February 1993

SERVICE AS MERCENARIES

As a result of allegations that South African citizens are recruited by other countries for service as mercenaries, I would like to point out that it is a punishable offence for members of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve to render service as mercenaries or to recruit people to render service as mercenaries.

They are apparently recruited under pretexts but the obvious aim is to fight as mercenaries.

In terms of Section 121 A of the Defence Act, Act 44 of 1957, a member of the South African Defence Force, the Reserve or the auxiliary or voluntary nursing service may not "bind himself to serve or render service as a mercenary".

This applies to all members of the Permanent Force, Citizen Force, Commando's, including National Servicemen, the Permanent Force Reserve, the Active Citizen Force Reserve and the National Reserve and includes all members between the ages of 17 and 65 years. A person convicted of a contravention of this subsection is liable to a fine not exceeding R5 000 or imprisonment not exceeding two years, or both.

In addition anybody who tries to influence a member of the Defence Force "to bind himself to serve or to render service as a mercenary", shall, if convicted of a contravention of this subsection, be liable to a fine not exceeding R10 000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both.

The South African Government supports all international peace efforts as well as such efforts in the Southern African region.

As an example the State President as well as the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed on several occasions recently—inter alia in letters to President Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi of Unita and Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary General of the United Nations—the South African Government's full support for the peace process in Angola.

The South African Government therefore supports the current UN initiative which has the objective of getting the parties to the negotiation table without delay in order to put an end to the military violence in that country as soon as possible.

In the interests of South Africa and of peace and stability in Southern Africa the Government will not tolerate a situation where Defence Force mem-

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Hausgard

WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 1993

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bers, as described above, are recruited as mercenaries. Strict action will be taken against anyone who transgresses the relevant clauses of the Act.

APPENDIX B:

PRESS RELEASE

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pk Botha, today (5 March 1993) announced that despite the Minister of Defence, Mr Gene Louw's earlier statement warning persons not to join up as mercenaries in neighbouring countries it seems like some individuals are indeed doing so.

It needs to be stressed that those who are doing it, are doing it illegally and at their own risk. Should they get caught South Africa's hands will be tied as we are not in a position to obtain Consular access or render other assistance to them.

APPENDIX C:

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, MR GENE LOUW

2 March 1993

EXPORT OF WEAPONS

From time to time rumours and reports circulate that instances in South Africa supply armaments to instances and countries in contradiction with existing legislation and regulations. Recently it has been alleged that South Africa supplies armaments to UNITA.

I reject these allegations.

The Armaments Development and Production Act determines that no armaments may be exported from South Africa without a marketing and export permit, issued by the Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Amscor).

Anyone who exports armaments without the required permit in contradiction with the Act, is guilty of an offence and upon being found guilty, is punishable with a fine not exceeding

R10 000, or imprisonment not exceeding 10 years, or both.

As the Minister responsible for the administration of this Act and regulations, I would like to point out that the Government will prosecute any transgressors.

APPENDIX D:

ADVISORY TO PILOTS

Conveyance of armaments on board civil registered aircraft. The Department of Transport brings to the attention of pilots that in terms of the Convention of International Civil Aviation drawn up in Chicago during December 1944 and to which South Africa was a signatory and further adopted by the Aviation Amendment Act 1947 (Act No 42 of 1947) and including any amendments and/or additions thereto—it is an offence to convey any armaments on board a civil aircraft without the written permission of the Minister of Transport or the Commissioner for Civil Aviation as described by Government Notice No R901 of 4 May 1984. Pilots contravening the above law will be dealt with to the full letter of the law.

APPENDIX E:

Dear Mr President

Thank you for your letter of 29 January 1993 in which you expressed concern about certain alleged activities of a Namibian registered company, "Namibian Commercial Aviation" (NCA).

In view of the seriousness of these allegations, our mutual desire for peace in Angola, as well as our desire to maintain friendly relations, I had your concerns investigated. It transpires that NCA had been in existence for nearly 15 years prior to Namibia's independence, and is a well-established commercial aviation company operating independently in the Republic of Namibia. It further emerged that none of the men listed in your letter is employed by the South African Air Force.

Hausgard

WEDNESDAY, 24 MARCH 1993

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In view of the fact that NCA is a Namibian registered company, I would respectfully suggest that you pursue your enquiries directly with the Namibian Government. Various allegations regarding the activities of the company have to my knowledge been reported upon in the Namibian media in recent months.

According to these reports, a number of the crew members listed in your letter have on previous occasions been arrested by the Angolan authorities, and subsequently released after proper investigation. It is my understanding that flights were undertaken by NCA into Angola for humanitarian reasons, airlifting food and medical supplies to areas in need in Southern Angola, many of which flights were chartered by international food relief organisations. In addition, it is my understanding that such commercial flights were also chartered by media representatives and businessmen, wishing to engage in bona fide activities in Angola.

I would like to reiterate that the South African Government is in no way engaged in activities supporting UNITA, and that South Africa has no control over any flights from countries neighbouring Angola, such as Namibia, if flights originating from these countries have as final destination locations in Angola. As for privately chartered commercial flights originating in South Africa and flying to neighbouring countries, I can assure you that the South African Civil Aviation authorities scrupulously adhere to internationally prescribed procedures, as well as South African legislation, in insisting that all flights leaving South Africa airspace file proper flight plans. In the event of flights not adhering to these procedures, the necessary legal steps will be taken against them.

You will understand that when such aircraft leave South African airspace, no further control can be exerted upon them. In addition, any attempts by Government without proper cause to

inhibit or frustrate private commercial concerns from engaging in their legitimate day-to-day business in Southern Africa, including commercial transactions with Angola, run the risk of legal proceedings being instituted against the South African Government.

The South African Government will not support any party which opts for a military solution in your country, nor will it support any party which attempts to obtain advantages which are inconsistent with the democratic process.

It is also my opinion that the only way ahead in Angola at this juncture, is for the two parties to engage in dialogue, under the auspices of the United Nations, and that the Bicesse Accords be urgently reactivated with a view to their full implementation.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

F W DE KLERK

His Excellency
Mr Jose Eduardo Dos Santos
President of the Republic
of Angola

ANGOLA

APPENDIX F:

MEDIA RELEASE BY DEPARTMENT CIVIL AVIATION

MONITORING OF CIVILIAN FLIGHTS WITHIN THE RSA AND OVER BORDER FLIGHTS

With reference to recent press reports implying that flights within the RSA and across its borders can take place in an uncontrolled manner, the Department of Transport would like to inform the public of the regulatory requirements pertaining to all pilots.

A flight plan shall be filed in respect of—

- (a) all flights to be conducted in controlled or advisory airspace: Provided that this requirement shall

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not apply in respect of a local flight, a flight crossing an airway or advisory route at right angles or a "Visual Flight Rules" flight entering or departing from an aerodrome traffic zone or control zone, from or to an unmanned aerodrome, and where no other controlled or advisory airspace will be entered during the flight;

(b) an international flight;

(c) all flights in the public transport operation or public transport of cargo operation categories; and

(d) a flight for which alerting action is required.

These flight plans have to be filed not later than 30 minutes prior to departure with an Air Traffic Control centre. In respect of over-border flights, any State may define additional requirements such as an application to land or overfly its territory up to 7 days prior to departure.

It is also a requirement in terms of both the Domestic and the International Air Services Acts that any proposed air service to be carried out for reward may only take place once a license has been issued by the appropriate body.

It is therefore not true to state that there will be no record of movements at all although some information may only be obtained after the fact.

It is of course true that the Civil Aviation Authority is not able to prevent people from breaking the law. However when this happens incidents are investigated and where appropriate prosecutions are made. In addition there are formal communication channels to pilots for example the Notice to Airmen (Notam) system whereby on 27 February 1993 pilots were reminded of regulations pertaining to the conveyance of armaments on board civilian aircraft. The industry is to a large extent also self-regulating in the sense that unauthorized operations are reported when they occur.

The Department therefore wishes to disagree in the strongest possible terms with the sentiments expressed in recent newspaper reports on this subject.

Mr T ABRAHAM: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, I want to know whether the problem which has arisen out of relations with the new Angolan government has been the subject of bilateral discussions with other political parties such as the ANC.

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I want to ask the hon member to place that question on the Question Paper, so that the hon the Minister can reply to it directly when he is available.

For written reply:

Own Affairs:

Services at schools under Department Education and Culture:

(1) How many pupils enrolled at (a) primary and (b) secondary schools in each of the regions under the control of his Department during the first school term of 1993;

(2) whether any new services will become available at the above schools in the current year; if not, why not; if so, (a) what services, (b) in which regions, and (c) when, in each case;

(3) whether any existing services are to be terminated at the above schools in 1993, if so, (a) what services, (b) in which regions, and (c) when, in each case;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter? C44E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Pupil statistics for the first school term only become available when form VRE 76 is submitted at the end of the first term. The information request is thus not available yet.

(2) Yes.

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(a) Service

Humansdorp S/S	Port Elizabeth
Electric City P/S	Beilville
Spandau S/S (substitution)	Middelburg
Brandvlei P/S & Hostel	Springbok
Beheldsdorp S/S No 4	Port Elizabeth
Gambie Street S/S (Toilet facilities)	Port Elizabeth
Hawson S/S	Worcester
Reigerpark S/S	Johannesburg
Arcadia P/S No 2	Port Elizabeth
Mandalay P/S	Wynberg
Mitchell's Plain P/S 54	Mitchell's Plain
Harold Cressy S/S	Wynberg
Voorwaarts P/S	George
De Aar S/S No 2 (Hostel)	Kimberley
Groobkrivier S/S	George
Heidelberg S/S	Worcester
Mount Pleasant P/S	Worcester
Danville P/S	Kimberley

(3) No.

(a) Not applicable

(b) Not applicable

(c) Not applicable

(4) No. A statement is not deemed necessary.

Standard 10 examination written by teachers in 1992

13. Mr C I NASSON asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(a) How many teachers at schools under the control of his Department who previously did not have a Standard 10 qualification wrote the Standard 10 examination in 1992 and (b) how many of these teachers (i) passed this examination with (aa) matriculation exemption and (bb) a school-leaving certificate, and (ii) failed this examination, in that year? C52E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(a) The Department does not, for statistical purposes, keep records of teachers writing the Standard 10 examination.

(b) Not applicable in view of (a).

Per capita expenditure on education

14. Mr C I NASSON asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

What was the per capita expenditure, (a) including and (b) excluding expenditure of a capital nature, on pupils or students at State, (i) pre-primary, (ii) primary and (cc) secondary schools, (iii) colleges of education, (iv) technical colleges, (v) technicians and (vi) universities during the financial year 1991-92 and the financial year 1992-93 or the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available? C53E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Financial year 1991-92

(a) (i) (aa) 505,48

(b) (bb) 1 846,68

(cc) 3 144,1

(ii) 18 668,23

(iii) 6 818,14

(iv) Not available. Technicians—autonomous

(v) Not available. Universities—autonomous

Unita 'killed wounded, beheaded civilians'

⑤ ARG 24/3/93

GARNER THOMSON
The Argus Foreign Service

LONDON. — Horrific stories of atrocities committed by Unita soldiers on civilians fleeing the bush warfare are beginning to emerge here.

And, according to those monitoring the accounts, the consistency and detail of the accounts leave little doubt that they are true.

One report from Caimbambo, central Angola, tells of

rebels advancing on Huambo, beheading civilians and dumping the frail and injured in rivers to drown.

In Huambo itself, Unita troops are said to have murdered all the wounded in one of the city's two hospitals.

Chris McGreal of The Guardian newspaper said a refugee, Mr Alvaro Ammidi Rivera, claimed that Unita systematically murdered captives, including several women, near Ganda.

The share of CEF (Pty) Ltd in Sasol III was sold for R2,9 billion. The payments schedule is as follows:

21 January 1991	750
21 January 1992	400
21 January 1993	400
21 January 1994	400
21 January 1995	400
21 January 1996	550
Total	2 900

Interest is calculated at a fixed rate of 16% on the balance outstanding.

Up to 2 January 1993 a sum of R1,55 billion, together with interest, had already been paid to CEF (Pty) Ltd.

(b) (i) 1988/89 to 1992/93.

(ii) Information already provided under part 1 (a) of the question.

(c) The proceeds from the sale of strategic supplies were spent on a large variety of socio-economic projects.

The proceeds from the sale of state enterprises were utilized as follows:

1988/89	R million
Development Bank of Southern Africa	371
Local Authorities Loan Fund	100
Small Business Development Corporation	50
South African Housing Trust	45
Emergency housing	34
1989/90	
Redemption of public debt	2 994
1992/93	
Part financing of expenditures, as budgeted	168
	3 762

The amount of R44 million paid into the Revolving Fund in 1990/91 from the proceeds of the sale of National Sorghum Breweries was utilized for the upliftment of Black communities.

The proceeds from the sale of Sasol III are being used mainly for the financing of Mossagas.

(2) No.

New questions:

*1. Mr H D K van der Merwe—National Education and Culture.]

Cultural/minority groups identified

*2. Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:†

- (1) Whether he intends introducing legislation to make provision for identifying and defining (a) minority and (b) cultural groups in the Republic; if not, why not; if so, when;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B316E

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) No. The hon member is referred to my predecessor's reply to the hon member's Interpellation question regarding "groups" during the 1991 session of Parliament (Hansard: col 1121 of 23 April 1991).

(2) No.

†Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I want to remind the House that 1991 is a very long time ago. If the hon the Minister talks about cultural groups in the constitutional discussions, how is he going to determine those cultural groups?

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, if the hon member had paid attention to the reply he received in that interpellation debate, he would have seen that it is the standpoint of the Government that cultural groups should form themselves spontaneously and not by way of definition in terms of the law. That spontaneous formation is modelled on the basis of voluntary association, which is included in the Government's Declaration of Fundamental Rights, which will be on the agenda in the negotiation process.

†Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, am I correct to understand him to be saying that a people, like the Afrikaner people, could then identify itself and could it

self determine who is a member of that cultural community and who is not?

†The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, broadly speaking the hon member is correct, but I would not like to leave the matter of determining who is an Afrikaner solely in the hands of the hon member! [Interjections.] I think there are many more of us who are Afrikaners. [Interjections.] The fact of the matter is, yes, cultural groups will be able to identify themselves and to decide for themselves how they want to protect their interests and how they want to associate with one another. I personally believe that we should include the concept of dissolution in the concept of association.

Angolan peace negotiations

*3. Dr C P MULDER asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

Whether he (a) was involved in the peace negotiations in Angola in 1992 and (b) is involved in these negotiations at present; if not, why not; if so, in what respects, in each case? B394E

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes, in an indirect manner. The hon member will be interested in the contents of a letter which I personally handed to the Secretary-General of the UN on 17 March 1993, and which reads as follows:

Dear Mr Secretary-General

In view of the deteriorating situation in Angola and renewed allegations by the Government of the Republic of Angola regarding continued logistical support for UNITA from South Africa, I deem it necessary to once again place on record the South African Government's position in this regard.

I would like to state categorically that the South African Government does not support UNITA militarily or in any other way. The South African Government also does not support any party which opts for a military solution. It will also not support any party

by which attempts to obtain advantages inconsistent with the democratic process. In fact the position of the South African Government in this regard has been amply expounded in previous communications to you, and which have been widely published also as official documents of the Security Council.

I wish to stress that South Africa's interests would be ill-served by conflict, destruction and instability in the Southern African region; consequently South Africa's interests coincide with the interests of the people of Angola in a negotiated peaceful future. It is difficult to conceive what strategic or other South African interest could be served by becoming embroiled in a conflict which is not only detrimental to bilateral relations but also to the region and the continent as a whole.

In the past, when the world was a different place, a number of other states, including the United States and South Africa supported Dr Savimbi with the overall objective of enabling him to participate in a democratic process in Angola, which would establish an elected Government and bring to an end years of internal strife. That objective was achieved, although subsequently vitiated, when elections were held in Angola at the end of September 1992 in terms of the Bicesse Accords of 31 May 1991. The considerations of earlier years obviously no longer have relevance.

The South African Government, in its contacts with both President Eduardo dos Santos and Dr Jonas Savimbi and in its public pronouncements has consistently and strongly advocated the following:

- the obligation of the parties to honour the terms of the Bicesse Accords;
- the obligation of the parties to accept the results of the September 1992 election which were declared "generally free and fair" by the Secretary-General's Special Representative in Angola and which

was formally accepted by the South African Government:

— the need for the leaders of the two main parties in Angola to enter into dialogue to solve the impasse;

— the total rejection of force as a way of achieving political ends in Angola; and,

— support for the Security Council and Secretary-General of the United Nations in their efforts to salvage the peace and support for a continued and strong United Nations presence in Angola.

The South African and Angolan governments have, until recently, been steadily strengthening mutually beneficial relations and had exchanged Representative Offices in each other's capitals. Agreements, subsequently interrupted by the resumption of hostilities, had been reached on co-operation in a wide range of fields such as mine-lifting, manpower training centres and medical training and assistance. The South African Government had every hope of continuing and expanding this promising relationship. The South African Government has also consistently advocated closer economic ties between South Africa and Angola. South Africa's interest lies in promoting peace and economic development, not only in Angola but in the whole of the sub-region.

The South African Government has initiated a number of concrete and tangible steps to ensure that South Africa does not become embroiled in the tragic conflict in Angola, which I would like to enumerate hereunder:

— The Minister of Defence issued a statement on 26 February 1993 pointing out that in terms of existing legislation, it was a punishable offence for members of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve to render service as mercenaries or to recruit people to render service as mercenaries. In view of reports that a number of South Africans had already left for An-

gola, the South African Police are currently investigating possible transgressions of the applicable legislation. (Appendix A)

— I also issued a statement in this regard on 5 March 1993 warning South Africans, who are members of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve, against recruitment as mercenaries for service in neighbouring countries. I stressed the fact that this was an illegal act and that this was being done at their own risk. (Appendix B)

— The Minister of Defence issued a statement on 2 March 1993 rejecting allegations that South Africa was supplying arms to UNITA. He further pointed out that the Armaments Development and Production Act determined that no armaments may be exported from South Africa without a marketing and export permit, issued by the Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armscor). He added that the Government would prosecute any transgressors. (Appendix C)

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— On 5 March 1993 I requested the relevant government departments

to take additional steps to prevent unauthorised private flights to neighbouring countries.

— The South African authorities have also notified several private air operators in South Africa of the implications of unauthorised flights beyond South Africa's borders.

The South African Government shares the concern of the UN at the failure of recent efforts to arrange peace talks between the Angolan Government and UNITA in Addis Ababa. We are disappointed at the failure of UNITA, although it may have had certain security concerns, to attend the peace talks particularly in view of the elaborate and accommodating measures taken by Mrs Margaret Anstee, the UN Special Representative for Angola, to enable the UNITA delegation to travel to Addis Ababa.

It remains the South African Government's firm belief that the only way ahead in Angola is the one proposed by the United Nations Security Council, amongst others in Resolution 811 adopted by the Security Council on 11 March 1993, which provides for dialogue between the two parties under the auspices of the United Nations. The Bicesse Accords remain the only meaningful framework within which peace can be restored to Angola. The Bicesse Accords should be reactivated as a matter of urgency with a view to their full implementation. We believe that the dialogue that was begun in Addis Ababa in late January 1993, deserves continued support from all parties and we urge both parties to demonstrate their commitment to peace by resuming substantive talks as a matter of urgency. Decisive action by the international community is now required to get the parties back to the negotiating table.

As mentioned to you before, I believe that the presence of a large contingent of UN peace-keeping forces in Angola, is essential for the implementation of a lasting ceasefire as well as for the success of the peace process as

a whole. I would also like to state that we have full confidence in Mrs Margaret Anstee and the role she has played in the search for a peaceful solution in Angola.

The suffering of the innocent civilian population in Angola constitutes a major tragedy. The ongoing destruction of the economic infrastructure in Angola is senseless and counterproductive. The South African Government is therefore also concerned about threats made by UNITA regarding further destruction of the economic infrastructure and appeals to UNITA to refrain from any further such action in the interest of the country and its people.

The South African Government remains willing to assist the international community, including the United Nations and the observers to the Peace Accords, to resolve the crisis in Angola. These efforts will, however, require decisive leadership and state-manship by both parties. The South African Government urges both parties to stop the bloodshed that has tragically claimed thousands of lives over the past several months and to commit themselves anew to dialogue and national reconciliation.

Please accept, Mr Secretary-General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

R F BOTHA

His Excellency Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali

Secretary-General of the United Nations
United Nations Plaza
NEW YORK

17 March 1993

APPENDIX A:

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, MR GENE LOUW

26 February 1993

SERVICE AS MERCENARIES

As a result of allegations that South African citizens are recruited by other

countries for service as mercenaries. I would like to point out that it is a punishable offence for members of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve to render service as mercenaries or to recruit people to render service as mercenaries.

They are apparently recruited under pretexts but the obvious aim is to fight as mercenaries.

In terms of Section 121 A of the Defence Act, Act 44 of 1957, a member of the South African Defence Force, the Reserve or the auxiliary or voluntary nursing service may not "bind himself to serve or render service as a mercenary".

This applies to all members of the Permanent Force, Citizen Force, Commando's, including National Servicemen, the Permanent Force Reserve, the Active Citizen Force Reserve and the National Reserve and includes all members between the ages of 17 and 65 years. A person convicted of a contravention of this subsection is liable to a fine not exceeding R5 000 or imprisonment not exceeding two years, or both.

In addition anybody who tries to influence a member of the Defence Force "to bind himself to serve or to render service as a mercenary", shall, if convicted of a contravention of this subsection, be liable to a fine not exceeding R10 000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years, or both.

The South African Government supports all international peace efforts as well as such efforts in the Southern African region.

As an example the State President as well as the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed on several occasions recently—inter alia in letters to President Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi of Unita and Dr Bontros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary General of the United Nations—the South African Government's full support for the peace process in Angola.

The South African Government therefore supports the current UN initiative which has the objective of getting the parties to the negotiation table without delay in order to put an end to the military violence in that country as soon as possible.

In the interests of South Africa and of peace and stability in Southern Africa the Government will not tolerate a situation where Defence Force members, as described above, are recruited as mercenaries. Strict action will be taken against anyone who transgresses the relevant clauses of the Act.

APPENDIX B:

PRESS RELEASE

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, today (5 March 1993) announced that despite the Minister of Defence, Mr Gene Louw's, earlier statement warning persons not to join up as mercenaries in neighbouring countries it seems like some individuals are indeed doing so.

It needs to be stressed that those who are doing it, are doing it illegally and at their own risk. Should they get caught South Africa's hands will be tied as we are not in a position to obtain Consular access or render other assistance to them.

APPENDIX C:

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE, MR GENE LOUW

2 March 1993

EXPORT OF WEAPONS

From time to time rumours and reports circulate that instances in South Africa supply armaments to instances and countries in contradiction with existing legislation and regulations. Recently it has been alleged that South Africa supplies armaments to Unita.

I reject these allegations. The Armaments Development and Production Act determines that no armaments may be exported from South Africa without a marketing and

export permit, issued by the Armaments Corporation of South Africa (Armscor).

Anyone who exports armaments without the required permit in contradiction with the Act, is guilty of an offence and upon being found guilty, is punishable with a fine not exceeding R10 000, or imprisonment not exceeding 10 years, or both.

As the Minister responsible for the administration of this Act and regulations, I would like to point out that the Government will prosecute any transgressors.

APPENDIX D:

ADVISORY TO PILOTS

Conveyance of armaments on board civil registered aircraft. The Department of Transport brings to the attention of pilots that in terms of the Convention of International Civil Aviation drawn up in Chicago during December 1944 and to which South Africa was a signatory and further adopted by the Aviation Amendment Act 1947 (Act No 42 of 1947) and including any amendments and/or additions thereto—it is an offence to convey any armaments on board a civil aircraft without the written permission of the Minister of Transport or the Commissioner for Civil Aviation as described by Government Notice No R901 of 4 May 1984. Pilots contravening the above law will be dealt with to the full letter of the law.

APPENDIX E:

Dear Mr President

Thank you for your letter of 29 January 1993 in which you expressed concern about certain alleged activities of a Namibian registered company, "Namibian Commercial Aviation" (NCA).

In view of the seriousness of these allegations, our mutual desire for peace in Angola, as well as our desire to maintain friendly relations, I had your concerns investigated. It transpires that NCA had been in existence for

nearly 15 years prior to Namibia's independence, and is a well-established commercial aviation company operating independently in the Republic of Namibia. It further emerged that none of the men listed in your letter is employed by the South African Air Force.

In view of the fact that NCA is a Namibian registered company, I would respectfully suggest that you pursue your enquiries directly with the Namibian Government. Various allegations regarding the activities of the company have to my knowledge been reported upon in the Namibian media in recent months.

According to these reports, a number of the crew members listed in your letter have on previous occasions been arrested by the Angolan authorities, and subsequently released after proper investigation. It is my understanding that flights were undertaken by NCA into Angola for humanitarian reasons, airlifting food and medical supplies to areas in need in Southern Angola, many of which flights were chartered by international food relief organisations. In addition, it is my understanding that such commercial flights were also chartered by media representatives and businessmen, wishing to engage in bona fide activities in Angola.

I would like to reiterate that the South African Government is in no way engaged in activities supporting UNITA, and that South Africa has no control over any flights from countries neighbouring Angola, such as Namibia, if flights originating from these countries have as final destination locations in Angola. As for privately chartered commercial flights originating in South Africa and flying to neighbouring countries, I can assure you that the South African Civil Aviation authorities scrupulously adhere to internationally prescribed procedures, as well as South African legislation, in insisting that all flights leaving South Africa can dispense file proper flight plans. In

the event of flights not adhering to these procedures, the necessary legal steps will be taken against them.

You will understand that when such aircraft leave South African airspace, no further control can be exerted upon them. In addition, any attempts by Government without proper cause to inhibit or frustrate private commercial concerns from engaging in their legitimate day-to-day business in Southern Africa, including commercial transactions with Angola, run the risk of legal proceedings being instituted against the South African Government.

The South African Government will not support any party which opts for a military solution in your country, nor will it support any party which attempts to obtain advantages which are inconsistent with the democratic process.

It is also my opinion that the only way ahead in Angola at this juncture, is for the two parties to engage in dialogue, under the auspices of the United Nations, and that the Bicesse Accords be urgently reactivated with a view to their full implementation.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

F W DE KLERK

His Excellency

Mr Jose Eduardo Dos Santos
President of the Republic
of Angola

ANGOLA

APPENDIX F:

MEDIA RELEASE BY DEPARTMENT CIVIL AVIATION

MONITORING OF CIVILIAN FLIGHTS WITHIN THE RSA AND OVER BORDER FLIGHTS

With reference to recent press reports implying that flights within the RSA and across its borders can take place in an uncontrolled manner, the Department of Transport would like to

inform the public of the regulatory requirements pertaining to all pilots. A flight plan shall be filed in respect of

(a) all flights to be conducted in controlled or advisory airspace: Provided that this requirement shall not apply in respect of a local flight, a flight crossing an airway or advisory route at right angles or a "Visual Flight Rules" flight entering or departing from an aerodrome traffic zone or control zone, from or to an unmanned aerodrome, and where no other controlled or advisory airspace will be entered during the flight;

(b) an international flight;

(c) all flights in the public transport operation or public transport of cargo operation categories; and

(d) a flight for which alerting action is required.

These flight plans have to be filed not later than 30 minutes prior to departure with an Air Traffic Control centre. In respect of over-border flights, any State may define additional requirements such as an application to land or overfly its territory up to 7 days prior to departure.

It is also a requirement in terms of both the Domestic and the International Air Services Acts that any proposed air service to be carried out for reward may only take place once a license has been issued by the appropriate body.

It is therefore not true to state that there will be no record of movements at all although some information may only be obtained after the fact.

It is of course true that the Civil Aviation Authority is not able to prevent people from breaking the law. However when this happens incidents are investigated and where appropriate prosecutions are made. In addition there are formal communication channels to pilots for example the Notice

to Airmen (Notam) system whereby on 27 February 1993 pilots were reminded of regulations pertaining to the conveyance of armaments on board civilian aircraft. The industry is to a large extent also self-regulating in the sense that unauthorized operations are reported when they occur.

The Department therefore wishes to disagree in the strongest possible terms with the sentiments expressed in recent newspaper reports on this subject.

Nonmember: Inquest

*4. Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Justice:†

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply of the Minister of Law and order to Question No 8 on 17 June 1992, an inquest has taken place in respect of the death at or near Noentepu in the Kalahari in November 1991 of two persons, whose names have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if not, why not; if so, (a) what was the result of this inquest and (b) what are the names of the persons concerned;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B429E

THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(Reply partially laid upon the Table with leave of House):

The details regarding this question are well known and can be found in official court documents. I could easily follow the usual practice of simply telling the hon member that these court documents are accessible to him and leave it at that, which would perhaps not be very courteous of me, as I know he is very busy and does not have the time to do that little bit of research. Whatever the case may be, I should like to point out the following facts in answer to the hon member's question.

- (1) Yes. The Attorney-General, Kimberley declined to institute a prosecution after studying the relevant dockets and an inquest into the circumstances of the deaths therefore had to be conducted.

Regional Magistrate C T G Jacobs was appointed to hold the inquest. The formal inquest in terms of the Inquest Act, 1959 (Act 58 of 1959), was finalized on 12 November 1992.

(a) and (b)

The findings of the regional court magistrate in terms of section 16 of the Inquest Act, 1959, as reflected by the record of the proceedings, are supplied hereunder with regard to the three persons killed in the event:

- (i) JURGEN MATTHEWS WHITE, a 22 year old male
- (a) Date of death: 7 November 1991.

(b) Cause or likely cause of death: Loss of blood due to penetrating projectile wounds through the chin and body obtained during an armed encounter with the South African Police who lawfully pursued the armed deceased.

(c) Whether the death was brought about by any act or omission prima facie involving or amounting to an offence on the part of any person: In the light of the fact that there was no acceptable evidence of how the wound under the chin of the deceased was sustained, the court was not in a position to make a finding as to who caused or administered it.

- (ii) JOHANNES JURGENS GROB-BELAAR, a 19 year old male.
- (a) Date of death: 7 November 1991.

(b) Cause or likely cause of death: Rupture of the brain, neck, pectoral girdle and lung due to various bullet wounds sustained during an armed encounter with the South African Police who lawfully pursued the armed deceased.

- (c) Whether the death was brought about by any act or omission

No formal SA links with Angola

(3047)
SA had not yet given recognition to Angola's elected government nor had formal diplomatic links between the two countries been established, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha told Parliament yesterday.

Although formal relations did not exist, an agreement was concluded last year for the exchange of representatives between SA and Angola, Botha said.

REPORTS: Business Day Reporters, Political Staff: 25/3/93

B10M

people must "maintain a high revolutionary vigilance and combat readiness so they can smash any provocation of the US imperialists and the South Korean puppets in time", it said.

REPORTS: Sapa-Reuter-AFP

left wing and religious legislators.

Weizman, who takes office on May 13, succeeds Chaim Herzog, who is retiring after serving two five-year terms.

The post of Israeli president is largely ceremonial. — Sapa-AP.

Senior US official slams Unita threat to attack dam

BIDAM 2573193

WINDHOEK — US Deputy Secretary of State Clifford Wharton had deplored Unita's threat to attack the Ruacana Dam which supplies water and electricity to northern Namibia, Namibia's foreign affairs ministry said on Wednesday.

Foreign Affairs Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab and Wharton met in Washington on Monday to discuss issues of common concern, including the conflict in Angola.

Gurirab outlined his government's concerns over the potential impact the conflict in Angola might have on Namibia.

In particular, Gurirab raised the recent threat by Unita to sabotage the Ruacana Dam, on the Kunene River bordering both countries, that supplies most of the water and electricity to northern Namibia.

During discussions, Wharton expressed the US's continued support for the democratic evolution in Namibia and the country's contribution to the UN relief operation in Somalia.

"The governments of Namibia and the United States shared the view that the continuing tragic conflict in Angola requires both sides to cease hostilities and return immediately to face-to-face negotiations," the statement said.

Diplomats in Luanda said efforts to patch up an Angolan peace accord were to resume this week, but talks between Unita

and a top US envoy might be shifted to Morocco.

A senior Africa specialist at the US State Department, Geoffrey Davidow, was expected to meet spokesman for the rebel Unita movement Jorge Valentim in Ivory Coast today, the diplomats said. But they said the meeting's date and venue could be changed, with the Moroccan capital Rabat a likely alternative.

Namibia's State House in Windhoek has confirmed President Sam Nujoma is to attend a Frontline states emergency summit at Harare in Zimbabwe on April 2, Namibc radio news reports.

Namibia's delegation will include Gurirab.

Although no details have been released, political observers believe the summit has been called specifically to discuss the regional implications of the Angolan conflict.

The latest developments in SA are also expected to be discussed.

□ A 30-year-old Namibian, Frans "Buks" Erasmus, was the first security operative to die guarding oil installations in northern Angola, Windhoek newspaper Die Republikein reported on Wednesday.

He was killed in a Unita mortar attack on an installation near Soyo in north-western Angola last week while employed by Executive Outcomes. — Sapa-Reuter.

with your needs, so please keep in touch

By Hugh Robertson
Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — A high-level US delegation is to meet representatives of Unita's leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, in Abidjan today amidst growing concern in Washington about the humanitarian crisis developing in Angola, and fears that the fighting could soon spill over into Namibia.

Namibia's Foreign Minister, Theo-Ben Gurirab, ended talks at the State Department yesterday in which he raised his government's concern about a Unita threat to sabotage or destroy the Ruacana Dam.

In a statement after the talks, a State Department spokesman said the US deplored threats to "any neutral third party" in the fighting, and reiterated the US view that the conflict required

Fears Angola war could spill into Namibia

Star 25/3/93

both sides "to cease hostilities and return to face-to-face negotiations".

That is likely to be the core of the message which Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Geoff Davidow will convey to Savimbi's representatives, who have already arrived in Abidjan.

With it will go a message Davidow cannot avoid sending to Savimbi — that the administration is under pressure from both houses of Congress to take an unambiguous stand and ac-

cept the results of last October's election and recognise the MPLA government.

A simple choice would thus face Savimbi. Continue fighting and face a political and diplomatic rout, or begin serious negotiations. Analysts point out that Unita could still play a crucial role in any future administration.

Meanwhile as the fighting rages on, a State Department official said the US had received reports "of growing humanitarian needs throughout Angola".

He added that the US had no independent information about reports of civilians in Huambo being attacked while fleeing the city, or of aid workers being killed.

"However, we have appealed to both sides in the conflict to respect international humanitarian law regarding the treatment of civilians, and to allow food and aid deliveries by relief convoys to all areas in need."

There is concern in Washington that the fighting has made the sowing of crops virtually impossible in many parts of the country, and that the only certain consequence of this will be large-scale hunger and starvation by the end of the growing season.

Meanwhile on Capitol Hill, pressure continued for the recognition of the MPLA government, with the Africa sub-committees of both houses, and their chairmen, actively lobbying the White House on the issue.

Luanda SA's most likely nuclear target

Star 26/3/93

IF South Africa had ever used its nuclear bomb, the most likely target would have been Luanda, the Angolan capital, analysts believe.

It was intended primarily as a political rather than a military weapon — as a means of countering the perceived threat to South Africa from the march of communism in Angola — but there is uncertainty over whether the development of the weapon was justified.

When South Africa extricated itself from the Angolan battlefields some took the view that her army and air force had been beaten, but others argued that the full power of the SADF had never been fully exerted.

Strategy

President de Klerk revealed on Wednesday that South Africa did have the bomb and the capability to use it. The Government has insisted that the decision to develop the weapon in the mid-1970s was based more on a strategy of deterrence than on blowing up enemy capitals.

But given the perception, which existed for nearly 20 years, of a desperate battle being waged against the "total onslaught" from the East-bloc countries, the question of whether Pretoria would actually have used it on Luanda — wiping out more than a million people — will always remain a matter of intriguing conjecture.

Professor Deon Fourie, head of the Department of Strategic Studies at the University of South Africa, believes South Africa would have been able to transport the bomb by ship off Luanda and fire it into the city using a missile.

But he believes it highly unlikely that South Africa would have gone as far as actually using its nuclear capability.

In the mid-1970s, when the decision to develop the bomb was taken, South Africa did not have a formidable military capacity. "At that time our conventional forces were badly equipped and would not have been able to stem the flow across the border if they (the Cubans) had decided to flood Angola."

By the 1980s South Africa had developed a powerful conventional fighting capability that lessened the need for a nuclear

HANS-PETER BAKKER of The Star Africa Service reports that South Africa's nuclear capability was intended primarily for political gain.

deterrent, Fourie says.

"In any case, the use of nuclear weapons would have been politically very unwise. We would have been confronted by the world at large. The United States, the Soviet Union, the French, the British — everyone would have turned against us."

Fourie does not believe South Africa did anything wrong by using nuclear weapons in international power politics. "By neither denying nor admitting that we had nuclear weapons, the Government did the right thing. The essence of deterrence was the uncertainty."

But he does not believe the cost of the bombs — estimated at about R700 million — was justified, since what counted was the belief in South Africa's nuclear capability and not physically owning a bomb.

Fourie says South Africa gained strategically from the world's uncertainty about its nuclear capability. "It is possible that the fears caused the rest of the world to follow a policy aimed at keeping us calm and unflurried."

Journalist Fred Bridgland, an authority on the Angolan conflict and author of a definitive book, *The Battle for Africa*, on the latter stages of the conflict, thinks that Luanda, as "the fundamental base of international communism in the region," would have been the most obvious target if South Africa had used the bomb.

South Africa was experiencing difficult times near the end of the 1980s. Sanctions were biting deep into an already beleaguered economy. It was isolated and carried the label of pariah of the world.

In Angola, the war was intensifying as Cuba increased its forces, with massive material backing from the Soviet Union, and South Africa was facing increasing pressure from the liberation movements at home.

Bridgland believes that "in the

long run they (South Africa) were on the losing end." The South African Air Force had lost its dominance of the skies above southern Angola — more due to the difficulties of replacing or repairing lost or damaged aircraft than to the prowess of the Angolan air force.

According to Bridgland, South Africa had not committed a really strong force to the Angolan conflict, but was very conscious of its inability to fight an extended war and to take heavy losses in men and weapons.

"The main problem was resistance at home among parents of boys who fought on the border. I think the Government was stretched, politically and militarily."

The United States and western Europe had problems of their own and were in no mood to do anything about what was happening in South Africa. "In Israel — and in South Africa — there existed a kind of Masada philosophy: if the end was coming they would pull down all the pillars of the temple. From speaking to South African officers I learnt there was absolutely no way they were going to surrender."

Stubbornness

In spite of the determination of the military and the stubbornness of the politicians, Bridgland does not believe South Africa would have gone as far as dropping the bomb.

"I don't want to be an apologist for P W Botha or Magnus Malan, but they were not totally unreasonable. And the outcry against South Africa would have been enormous. All the slaps on the wrist would have gone to South Africa."

But if they wanted to, would they have been able to transport the bomb to the Angolan capital? Bridgland believes they would have succeeded, but many planes — sent along to protect the lethal cargo — would have been shot down.

Peace has been achieved in Namibia, the war rages on in Angola, the bombs have been dismantled and the enriched uranium stored under international supervision, but, according to Fourie: "People are saying if we had it once, we can always have it again". □

Sapa-Reuters

61004 26/3/93 (5)

Fighting rages as US makes final bid for Angolan talks

LUANDA — The US made a last-ditch attempt yesterday to relaunch Angola's shattered peace process, asking Unita to return to the negotiating table.

But fighting raged on in the renewed civil war. Government forces were recapturing lost ground in northwestern Angola and Unita tightened its siege of the central city of Cuito.

Diplomats said Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Geoffrey Davidow was due to meet senior Unita envoy Jorge Valentim in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, to explore the possibility of fresh peace talks.

Diplomats said it was a last-ditch attempt to relaunch a dialogue to end the conflict. If it failed, Washington would probably recognise the Luanda government and lift an arms embargo against it.

Unita failed to attend the last round of UN-sponsored negotiations in Addis Ababa aimed at a rescuing a collapsed 1991 peace agreement late last month.

Defence ministry spokesman Brig Jose Manuel Jota said an army offensive had forced Unita to withdraw from Ndlatando, capital of Kwanza North province, 200km southeast of Luanda. Ndlatando would be occupied by government forces within days, Jota predicted.

The government launched an offensive three weeks ago to recapture large areas of northwestern Angola and siezed the coastal oil town Soyo, and Caxito, a provincial capital 70km northeast of Luanda.

Unita radio also reported fighting near

Ndlatando and said its forces overran government positions in Cuito, capturing large amounts of weaponry.

Cuito is the government's last stronghold in the central highlands, where Unita draws strong support from the Ovimbundo tribe of its leader Jonas Savimbi.

The nearby city of Huambo fell to Unita on March 6 after a fierce two-month battle during which the rebel movement brought in reinforcements from other parts of Angola. Jota said Unita appeared to have launched a similar offensive in Cuito.

It had brought in more long-range artillery and was shelling Cuito airport. Supply planes had been unable to land there for several days. Jota said there was heavy fighting in Cuito on Wednesday, but all Unita attacks on the city suburbs were repelled.

The two sides signed a peace agreement ending 16 years of war in May 1991 but Unita took up arms again after losing last year's elections to the ruling MPLA.

Full-scale civil war resumed three months ago but Washington and Pretoria withdrew their official support for Unita.

Diplomats said the US, Portugal and Russia — official observers of the 1991 peace agreement — and the UN would try to convene fresh peace talks if Davidow's meeting with Valentim gave rise to fresh hopes for a negotiated settlement.

"We will be really surprised if Unita does agree to negotiate, but we have to give it one more chance," a US official in Luanda said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Star 26/3/93

Fierce clashes in Angola

LUANDA — Fierce fighting flared at two major localities in Angola yesterday between the army and Unita. Military sources said the main battle was for Mbanza Congo, a strategic northern town with the country's best military airport whose capture would give access to Unita-held Negage in Uige province. The other upsurge in fighting came in south-central Bie province. (5)

US 'may back MPLA if Unita blocks talks'

5 CT26/3/93

LUANDA — The United States made a last-ditch attempt to relaunch Angola's shattered peace process yesterday, urging Unita rebels to return to the negotiating table.

US diplomats said Mr Geoffrey Davidow, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, was due to meet senior Unita envoy Mr Jorge Valentim in Ivory Coast to explore possible fresh peace talks.

They said failure of this "last-ditch" effort to restart peace talks would probably cause the US to recognise the MPLA government and lift an arms embargo against it.

Unita failed to attend the last round of UN-sponsored negotiations in Ethiopia in late February.

Meanwhile, fighting raged on as government forces recaptured ground in north-western Angola while Unita closed in on the central city of Cuito.

Defence ministry spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel Jota said yesterday an army offensive had forced Unita to withdraw from Ndlatando, capital of Kwanza North province, 200km south-east of Luanda.

Unita radio said Unita had overrun several government positions in Cuito, the MPLA's last stronghold in the central highlands. — Sapa-Reuter

Brutal struggle for Angola's oil town

Guardian | W. in W. | Man. | 263-114193.
By Chris McGreal in Soyo

IT WAS an unusually frank admission for an Angolan general: the kind of thing you might hear from a battle-weary foot-soldier, only to draw outright denials from the military hierarchy. But General Eusebio Brito Teixeira, commander of Angola's northern region, casually commented that in the week-long battle for the foreign-run strategic oil facilities at Soyo his men took no prisoners.

It was policy. "In this war, nobody's interested in taking prisoners. There's no room for it," the general said.

Another officer said there had been three Unita prisoners but all had died of their wounds. Gen. Eusebio's view finds sympathy among those who endured Unita's two-month occupation until government forces recovered the town last weekend. The physical evidence of the looting is still plain. But the abuses went beyond that.

Joao Barbosa, an oil worker, spent a week in hiding after Unita arrived before he ventured out when food stocks ran low. "We had a problem on my street when Unita thought we were hiding soldiers in

civilian clothing. They threatened us. They said if we were lying they would kill us. (S) (S)

"Whenever these guys came they looked for the big wheels from the MPLA [government]. If you were known as an MPLA member and you were caught, they took you away. No one knows what happened to them," he said.

Other residents said corpses were left on open land or dumped in the Congo. On the river bank, stray dogs fed on two rotting bodies. They appeared to be men in civilian clothes. One had raised his arm to protect his head, a futile last effort to deflect death.

Gen. Eusebio claims four white mercenaries are buried with Unita's dead, and that Zaireans fought with the rebels before fleeing across the Congo to their homeland.

Soyo residents also point the finger at Zairean civilians, accusing them of collaborating with Unita and participating in the looting.

After the rebels fled, it cost some

their lives. "Maybe they got in the way of the shooting, or they didn't have documentation, or they didn't speak our language," said Mr Barbosa. "There is a lot of resentment against them. The Zaireans were responsible for a lot of the looting and they were doing deals with Unita."

Army officers are buoyant from their success, but it was not easy. The first attack nearly turned into disaster when communications failed during a joint air and sea assault by 120 men on a beachhead close to the main oil storage tanks. It was another five hours before the main force of 1,000 arrived. In the interim, the rebels overlooking the beachhead reinforced their position.

Soyo is quiet now. On display beside the wrecked weapons and the graves of their victims is the shift of allegiances since peace accords were signed nearly two years ago.

Standing at the entrance to the US-run Quinfuquena oil facilities are Angolan soldiers manning Russian tanks. Gen. Eusebio sees the absurdities. "You see, we saved this for Bill Clinton," he said.

Police probe Unita embargo buster

By ARTHUR GAVSHON and STEPHEN LAUFER
SOUTH AFRICA has informed United Nations secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali that it is taking action against a Vereeniging air operator accused of violating a ban on supply flights to Unita.

In a four-page letter to the UN, Foreign Minister Pik Botha says the Department of Transport has instituted legal action against an offender violating the prescribed civil aviation procedures.

"On March 5 I requested the relevant government departments to take additional steps to prevent unauthorised private flights to neighbouring countries," he writes.

The letter also goes to some lengths to reassure the UN of South Africa's continuing support for the Angolan peace process, saying that it will not

tolerate the recruitment on its soil of mercenaries for duty in Angola.

It is clearly part of the government's current push to win friends and influence the international community in the run-up to multi-party negotiations.

Civil Aviation Directorate sources say that the Vereeniging operator used a Russian-registered Antonov 32 cargo aircraft with a Russian crew which have been stationed at Rand airport for several months to fly at least two missions between late February and early March to southwestern Zaire, long a supply route favoured by Unita.

The first mission, the sources said, was a reconnaissance flight to look for suitable landing areas.

The second took several tons of specialised fuel for heavy construction equipment to a drop-off point in

an area adjoining Angola. The fuel had been cleared through South African customs.

The sources said the flights were in clear violation of South African and international aviation procedures, because the operator involved was not registered to provide air services. A flight plan had also not been filed, as required.

The matter is now in the hands of the police, who have been told by the air operator that he was unaware of the regulations he is said to have breached.

The Antonov 32 is a turboprop cargo plane with powerful engines. It is designed specifically for operation from high altitude airfields with short or poor runways and is described by industry sources as a workhorse particularly well suited to the Unita supply mission.

People v rhinos

By GAYE DAVIS: Cape Town
FORMER residents of Riemvasmaak in the northern Cape have accused the government of valuing animals more than people following the announcement that land in the area is to be set aside for the re-establishment of the endangered Cape rhino.

Riemvasmaak residents, who farmed the land from 1923 until they were forced out under the Group Areas Act in the 1970s, want to return and have told the government's Advisory Commission on Land Allocations they intend applying for the land to be restored to them.

Riemvasmaak residents were resettled in Marchand in the northern Cape, Khortgas in Namibia and Welcomewood in Ciskei. Their land was later taken over by the South African Defence Force.

Deputy minister of Defence and Environment Affairs Wynand Breytenbach announced recently that the land would be divided into two sections: 60 000ha to be managed by the National Parks Board mainly to re-establish the Cape rhino and a 15 000ha training area for mechanised battalions.

W/Max 26/3 - 1/4/93

UN aid agencies face grim task in war-ravaged Angola

Relief workers face hidden dangers as they try to help victims of Angola's civil war. SCOTT PETERSON travelled with an aid column in Caimbambo, some 160km east of Huambo, on the road to the port of Benguela

Angolan journalist William Tonet, who took five days to walk some 400km through forest, scrubland and dusty plateaus to get to safety in Benguela, said Huambo had become the Beirut of Africa during fighting between Unita rebels and government forces.

Plea for airdrop

Tonet, who has worked for the Voice of America and Portuguese media, said the "dimension of the fighting in Huambo was indescribable, horrible in every aspect".

refugees would swarm over them. "They are all over the road up ahead," he shouted. "They are starving and desperate."

Instead, the refugees and soldiers cheered as the convoy drove past with blue UN flags flying. But the joy was shortlived as lorries began to unload at points across the town.

Soldiers trying to ward off thieves started a noisy gun battle near a church, in which everyone with a weapon joined in, firing into the air. Other soldiers stole sacks of maize.

But the violence attending food distribution was a welcome change from the hazards of the road for most refugees. They told terrifying stories about the two-month battle for Huambo and of Unita atrocities.

Though the city voted in favour of Unita during last September's election, more than 10 000 people are thought to have died, and the city is flattened.

THE mine looked small — just an anti-personnel mine laid by Unita rebels — but it was reinforced underneath with two mortars and an anti-tank device.

A man called Unamehne, 20 years old, with six years experience in the Angolan army, was chosen to defuse it.

Behind him waited a column of soldiers protecting a convoy of relief food meant for the thousands of refugees fleeing renewed war in central Angola.

The United Nations World Food Programme had prepared 300 tons of food in 12 lorries, destined for Caimbambo, but the road was considered almost too dangerous for travel.

As Unamehne worked on the mine it exploded, blasting pieces of flesh and uniform 30m and leaving one more gaping crater in the road. They buried Unamehne's head in a ditch nearby under a pile of stones.

Fellow soldiers filed past the hole, staring in reverence and terror, carefully keeping to patches of asphalt, a reminder that Angola is again at war with itself.

But Unamehne's death is also a foretaste of the dangers faced by the UN and other relief agencies in Angola as they begin to feed and heal the displaced and wounded in isolated regions where fighting is heavy and front lines fluid.

Regional head of the WFP in charge of the convoy Leo Pavillard said the UN expected fighting between Unita and the government this year would displace more than two million people.

"This is now an emergency," said British-born Mr Pavillard.

"We are back to the same situation as in 1990, when the peace agreement was signed. But this time it is a lot worse."

The flood of tens of thousands of refugees from the central city of Huambo, which fell to Unita two weeks ago, is beginning to pour towards Cubal, Caimbambo and the "safe" coastal towns of Benguela and Lobito.

The refugees, more than 10 000 of whom have already reached Caimbambo — twice as many as the WFP expected — must follow the same dangerous road as the food convoy.

We found three mines en route, and groups of refugees limping slowly along, their feet bruised, blistered and bloody with the effort of walking in fear for up to 15 days.

As the food convoy and military escort reached Caimbambo, Mr Pavillard warned the vehicles not to stop in the town because hungry city is flattened.

LUANDA: The Angolan government has urged the United Nations to airdrop food to a quarter of a million people trapped in the besieged city of Cuito.

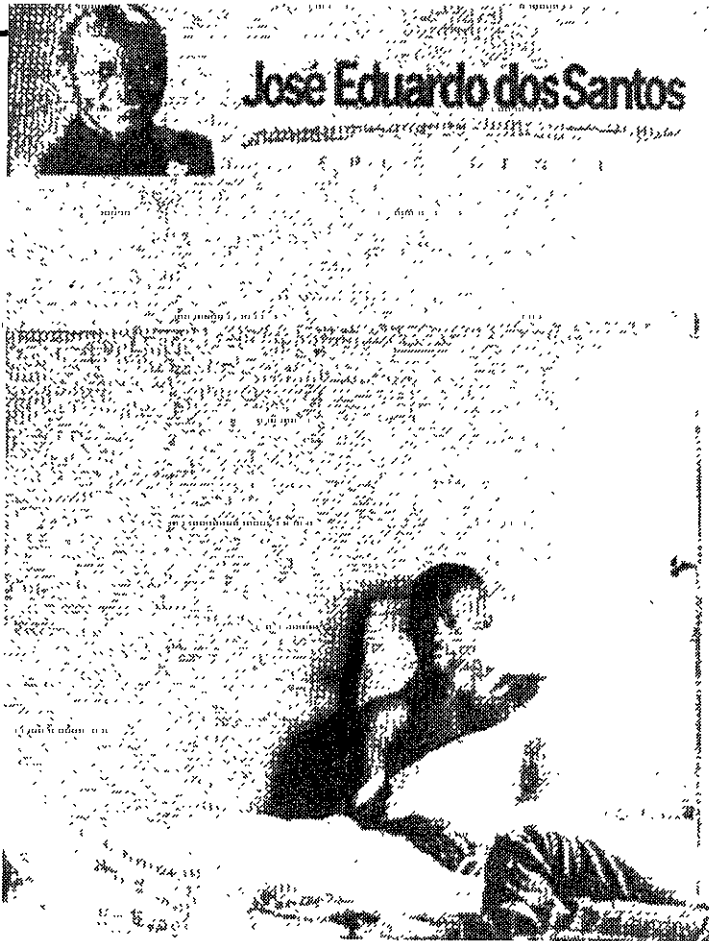
Cuito is cut off from air supplies and aid agencies there ran out of food for distribution a week ago. The UN estimates that 70 000 people in the city — its normal population is 250 000 — are on the verge of starvation.

General Joao de Matos, chief-of-staff of the armed forces, told state radio that the situation in central Angola had reached "alarming proportions", especially in the towns of Cuito, Menongue and Cubal, which are besieged by Unita rebels. — *Reuter.*

the south this month, Angolan forces hit back in the north, driving the rebels from the strategic oil town of Soyo.

The Unita rebels acknowledged their defeat by firing their last desperate rounds from canoes as

S Times 28/3/92



VICTIM: An injured MPLA soldier in Luanda's military hospital sits under a poster of Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos

they fled across the Congo River to Zaire.

Unita overran Soyo, an oil town in the far north-west of Angola, two months ago when rebels and government forces re-ignited Angola's 18-year civil war after a

brief lull. Soyo accounted for five percent of Angola's massive oil output, and offshore installations owned by American and Belgian companies for a third of total production — a perfect prize for the cash-strapped armies of both

“We are back to the same situation as in 1990, when the peace agreement was signed. But this time it is a lot worse”

sides.

Now government tanks protect the few undamaged oil storage tanks and make a mockery of the UN-sponsored peace plan which culminated in September's elections.

No one kept a count of the civilian casualties, said Colonel Pepe de Castro, who met the first group of foreign journalists to visit the town since it was recaptured earlier this month. He claimed 45 rebels died as against only four government troops.

“We are not interested in taking prisoners in this war. There is no room for them,” said General Teixeira de Brito, a northern Angolan commander.

“We did capture a couple who were wounded,” he said as an afterthought. “But they died.” — © *The Telegraph, London.*

SACP warns on 'Angola fate'

By SEKOLA SELLO (5)

THE tragedy unfolding in Angola is a foretaste of what some Pretoria securocrats could be planning for SA, warns the SACP.

In a document analysing the civil war in Angola, the SACP paints a picture of high intrigue, international collusion and impotence by the UN.

Events in Angola, contends the SACP, are part of what they regard as Pretoria's comprehensive and broad strategy for the entire region.

With elections due in SA early next year, the SACP contends that the

Angolan scenario may repeat itself here.

In Angola Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi lost elections which the UN certified as reasonably free and fair, then resorted to arms. The SACP believes losers in SA may do the same.

It claims the likely losers - principally Inkatha, Bophuthatswana and Pretoria, abetted by the US - may employ similar tactics in efforts to reverse the election outcome.

An estimated 15 000 people have already died in Huambo, Angola's second largest city.

Until it was captured

by government forces a few weeks ago after fierce battles with Unita, Huambo was Savimbi's stronghold and military headquarters.

Quoting unnamed Western diplomatic sources, the SACP says SA has placed a private jet on 24-hour alert to ferry Savimbi out of trouble. The same diplomats claim Pretoria has been using a variety of aircraft to ferry supplies to Unita areas - a charge the government has repeatedly denied.

Although the government says it has disbanded secret organisations

like the CCB, the SACP claims covert operations are still being run by "private" organisations.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry has denied these allegations. A spokesman, J Malan, also said it is not true that Savimbi's visit last year in September was kept secret.

Malan acknowledged that Savimbi was met at Wonderboom airport by Pik Botha and further stated that the meetings with President De Klerk and army commanders Liebenberg and Van Der Westhuizen were also made known to the press.

Unita appeals for UN relief aid to Huambo

ANGOLA — Unita has called on the UN special representative in Angola to organise the dispatch of urgent humanitarian supplies to the country's second largest city, Huambo.

Unita, which early this month captured the central highland city, appealed for a relief air bridge to be set up by today. However, the aid plan would have to be approved by the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

A statement from the UN operation in Angola said UN special representative Margaret Anstee had held talks on Saturday with a delegation from the International Red Cross in Luanda and UN relief organisations.

In a telephone call to Anstee on Friday evening, Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim called for medical aid for the survivors of the bitter battle for Huambo, which has virtually destroyed the city and has killed an estimated 12 000 people.

In Lisbon, the Portuguese news agency Lusa said on Saturday Unita wanted to meet the Luanda government for negotiations on April 15. The move came as Unita troops fought for control of the central city of Cuito while talks went ahead with the US to

revive a tattered Angolan peace pact. "(Unita) is ready to negotiate with the MPLA (government)," Lusa quoted a list of eight proposals for the peace process in Angola as saying.

A Unita delegation was meeting senior US officials in the Ivory Coast for the third day on Saturday to discuss ways of reviving a 1991 peace agreement between Unita and the Angolan government.

Diplomats said Valentim had presented an eight-point proposal on the peace process. Lusa said it had access to the list of proposals, which included the date April 15 for talks on the peace accords.

One US official said in Luanda that Washington had difficulties in accepting some of Unita's proposals, put to a team led by US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Geoffery Davidow, but did not identify them.

"The two essential points (on the list) are the formation of a transition government — I have heard a period of two years being bandied about — and what Unita calls administrative decentralisation, presumably a codeword for some form of regional autonomy," one US official said. — Sapa-AFP-Reuter.

27/3/91
81071

Unita kills 2 SA 'recruits' at oil plant

(5) MAR 29/3/93
PRETORIA. — Two South African-based soldiers recruited to protect oil installations in northern Angola were killed in an attack by Unita, according to the Pretoria company which recruited them.

The two men were part of a team of South Africans, who are protecting Sonangol assets in the Soyo area.

Mr Eben Barlow, spokesman for Executive Outcomes, said a group of Unita rebels had attacked one of the Soyo installations on Saturday night.

Mr Cornel Frank Taljaard, 32, and Mr Philip Robert Smith, 35, a British citizen, were killed.

According to Mr Barlow, he received the information via satellite from the group commander of the South African contingent and details were sketchy.

The men were apparently inspecting the installation when Unita attacked.

Their bodies were removed by the rebels.

Executive Outcomes had been approached in January by a British-based oil company and asked to recruit guards to protect oil assets in Angola.

The Angolan government owns 51 percent of the shares of the Soyo operations. — Sapa.

SA men

killed

Star 29/3/98

in Unita

attack

Two South African-based soldiers recruited to protect oil installations in northern Angola were killed in an attack by Unita on Saturday night, according to the Pretoria company which recruited them.

The two men were part of a team of South Africans which is protecting Sonangol assets in the Soyo area.

Eben Barlow, spokesman for Executive Outcomes, told Sapa "a substantial group of Unita rebels" had attacked one of the Soyo installations.

Thirty-two-year-old Cornel Frank Taljaard and 35-year-old Philip Robert Smith, who is a British citizen, were killed instantly.

Barlow said he had received the information via satellite from the group commander of the South African contingent, and details were sketchy.

It was understood the men had been inspecting the installation when Unita attacked, and they were killed in the ensuing firefight.

Their bodies were removed by the rebels.

Executive Outcomes had been approached in January by a British-based oil company and asked to recruit guards to protect oil assets in Angola.

Barlow said he was not able to reveal how many more South Africans were in Angola because this intelligence could fall into the hands of Unita.

Their contract is due to expire at the end of April and if the men were required for a longer period this would have to be renegotiated, said Barlow. Sapa

Star 303193

Relief bid abandoned

LUANDA — Aid agencies cancelled plans to fly relief supplies to the war-ravaged city of Huambo yesterday after neither the government nor Unita rebels gave the go-ahead. (5)

Unita 'captures two foreigners'

⑤ ET 20/3/93
LUANDA: — Unita captured several oil workers, including two foreigners, during renewed fighting near the oil town of Soyo, the army said yesterday.

Brigadier Jose Manuel "Jota" said Unita held a British worker near Soyo on the weekend.

He gave no further details, but other reports said two South Africans guarding oil installations

were killed in a rebel raid near Soyo on Saturday.

Brig Jota said "the military situation is critical" in north and central Angola. State forces were resisting a Unita offensive on Cuito, while rebels were shelling the airport at Menongue, a besieged highlands city.

The government said on state radio it would not guarantee the safety of aid flights to Huambo,

which fell to Unita earlier this month. Aid workers said this ruled out international relief flights to Huambo after a request for such aid by Unita.

● The government yesterday rejected Unita peace terms which included a new provisional government. A spokesman said "those who lost the elections" cannot "set terms through force of arms". — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

mitted to the Deputy Minister (to whom the authority has been granted) who takes a decision on the application. This procedure is followed in all cases, including Pretoria.

(2) Although no specific procedure for consulting the public is prescribed in the Act, the above-mentioned procedure is in most cases preceded by a wide and inclusive consultation process, which can include, amongst others the holding of public meetings where all interested parties can make their point.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

Document sent to Chief of Army

*9. Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Defence:

- (1) Whether, with reference to certain information and a copy of a certain document which have been furnished to the South African Defence Force for the purpose of the Minister's reply, a certain handwritten document was sent to the Chief of the Army; if so, (a) by whom was it signed and (b) what was the response of the Chief of the Army to this communication;

- (2) whether this document was discussed by the State Security Council or its Secretariat;
- (3) whether a certain professor was consulted on the plan set out in this document; if so, why;
- (4) whether this professor was a member of or served as an adviser to any committee, subcommittee or body forming part of the State Security Council network at that time? B566E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) to (4). The hon member is referred to the State President's reply to an unprepared question of the hon member for Alfa Park on 24 March 1993. The inquest in this regard is in process and therefore I am not prepared to reply to any questions concerning the matter at this stage.

Informal settlements: schools

*10. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Training:

- (1) Whether any schools were provided by his Department in informal settlement areas in 1992; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many and (b) in which areas;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B568E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING:

(1) Yes.

(a) Twelve

- (b) Daveyton, Benoni
Kwa-Guqa, Witbank
Embalenhle, Secunda
Kathlehong, Alberton
Khayelitsha, Wynberg (two schools)
Philippi, Wynberg
Orange Farm, Vanderbijlpark (two schools)
Kutwanong, Oledandastrus
Mogeleng, Ficksburg
Thabong, Welkom.

- (2) At the eleven primary schools and the one secondary school which have been provided, there are 253 classrooms for primary pupils and twenty for secondary pupils.

SADTU/NAPTOSA: recognition

*11. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 4 on 19 February 1992, he has given consideration to recognizing the South African Democratic Teachers' Union (SADTU) and the National Professional Teachers' Organisation of South Africa (NAPTOSA) for the purposes of negotiation on education; if not, why not; if so,
- (2) whether these bodies have been so recognized; if not, why not; if so, (a) when, (b) under what conditions and (c) what number of teachers is represented by each;
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B569E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

- (1) Yes.
- (2) Yes.
- (a) NAPTOSA was recognised in May 1992.
- SADTU was recognised in November 1992.

(b) Recognition, in terms of Section 1 of the National Policy for General Education Affairs Act, 1984 (Act No 76 of 1984), is granted with the concurrence of the Ministers of departments of State responsible for education. This concurrence has, in some cases, been preceded by agreements which may contain conditions between these teachers' organisations and the education departments. In considering recognition, I took cognizance of the need for the organisation to represent a substantial number of educators employed by the State and that the organisation has a constitution that can ensure that it is correctly managed and is able to serve the best interests of its members.

- (c) NAPTOSA represents approximately 116 500 teachers. Final, verified membership figures for SADTU are not yet available. However, SADTU claims a membership of 60 000.

(3) No.

Philippi: murders/assaults

*12. Mr R V CARLISLE asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether a certain person whose name has been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, was in any way implicated or referred to in any (a) inquests and/or (b) criminal proceedings relating to (i) deaths, (ii) assaults and/or (iii) the use of firearms in the Philippi area during the period 1 January 1980 to 31 March 1993; if so, what are the relevant details? B571E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (a), (b) (i-iii) Yes.

On 15 February 1989, Mr Bock shot and killed a man who was stealing vegetables on his farm with a shotgun. An inquest found that no person was responsible for the death of the man, because Mr Bock was protecting himself and his property.

On 2 November 1992, Mr Bock caught a man who was stealing potatoes on his farm. The man ran away, whereupon Mr Bock wounded him with a firearm. The person was charged and found guilty of attempted theft.

On 21 February 1993, Mr Bock, after noticing that potatoes were being stolen from his farm, lay in wait for the suspected thieves, and caught them redhanded whilst they were stealing potatoes. He approached and warned them, whereupon they ran away. He fired a shot at each of them and killed two men and wounded another two. A murder docket is currently with the Attorney-General for a decision. Mr Bock's firearm was seized and referred for ballistic investigation. A case of attempted theft is being investigated against the two wounded suspects.

Note:
Details of cases which occurred before 1989 are not available, as records in this regard have, according to instructions, already been destroyed.

Transnet: accommodation in Transnet Park

*13. Mr R V CARLISLE asked the Minister of Public Enterprises:

What was the occupancy cost to Transnet of accommodation leased at Transnet Park as at the latest date for which figures are available? B572E

The MINISTER FOR PUBLIC ENTERPRISES:

The Managing Director of Transnet Limited has furnished the following reply to the hon member's question:

The rent for February 1993 amounted to R467 913.

RSA mercenaries in Angola

*14. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Defence:

- (1) Whether the Government has taken or

- intends taking any steps to prevent (a) South African citizens and (b) other persons resident in South Africa from participating as mercenaries in hostilities in Angola; if not, why not; if so, what steps;
- (2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B573E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) and (2) The stipulation in section 121 (A) of the Defence Act (Act No 44 of 1957) is very clear concerning members of the South African Defence Force and the Reserve, viz that these persons may not enlist or serve as mercenaries.

I made a statement in this regard on 26 February 1993 and the hon the Minister of Foreign Affairs issued a further statement on 5 March 1993.

Steps to restrict the freedom of movement of South African citizens and other persons resident in South Africa does not fall within my jurisdiction.

Namibia: RSA citizens deported

*15. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

- (1) Whether any South African citizens were deported from Namibia recently; if so, (a) how many, (b) when and (c) for what reasons;
- (2) whether he or his Department has made any representations to the Namibian government in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what was the (a) nature of these representations and (b) response of the Namibian government thereto? B574E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) No. A number of South African citizens were, however, requested by the Namibian authorities to regularise their permanent residency status from outside the borders of the Republic of Namibia in accordance with Namibian immigration laws.

(2) Yes.

(a) I requested the South African Representative in Windhoek to establish

best possible clinical care. Such persons will, in most instances after diagnosis, receive appropriate care, counselling and support from health workers.

(2) no.

Registrar of Patents and Trade Marks: appointment

*17. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Trade and Industry:

- (1) Whether he recently appointed a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, as the new Registrar of Patents and Trade Marks; if so, when;
- (2) whether, in making this appointment, he took into account that this person had been found guilty of misconduct by the Pretoria Bar Council, had been expelled from the Society of Advocates and is currently facing a Supreme Court application by the General Council of the Bar for the removal of his name from the roll of advocates; if not, why not; if so, whether he will comment on this appointment in the light of the Government's stated commitment to promote integrity in the public service;
- (4) whether he will reconsider this appointment; if not, why not; if so, when? B578E

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY:

- (1) Yes, the person assumed office on 22 February 1993.
- (2) The Department of Trade and Industry was aware of the findings of the Pretoria Bar Council. The fact that the General Bar Council of South Africa had brought an application to the Supreme Court for his removal from the roll of advocates after his appearance before a selection committee of the Department of Trade and Industry which considered applications for filling the vacancy came to the Department's notice at the middle of March 1993.
- (3) Press statements regarding the matter

were made by the Department of Trade and Industry.

(4) This matter will be considered in the light of the judgment in the opposed court application.

Bophuthatswana: aid

*18. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 1 on 22 April 1992, any additional specific assistance was given to Bophuthatswana in the 1992-93 financial year; if so, what assistance? B579E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

- Yes.
- A. *Direct Financial Assistance*
- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Budgetary aid | R1 023 510 000 |
| Incentive scheme for industries | 14 703 153# |
| (# claims are being prepared for payment before 31 March 1993) | |
| | <u>R1 038 213 153</u> |
- B. *Transfer payments*
- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Tax compensation | R 147 000 000 |
| Customs-union share | 1 087 471 000 |
| Common monetary area | 16 421 340 |
| | <u>R1 250 892 340</u> |

C. *Project aid*

- (i) *Loans*
- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Temba cell block | R 61 210 |
| Odi Prison Agricultural Project | 62 467 |
| Community classrooms | 1 648 830 |
| Police housing | 574 062 |
| Bophelong Hospital (X-ray unit) | 11 642 |
| Supreme Court | 438 320 |
| Police Stations | 2 158 511 |
| Thaba Nchu Magistrate's office | 99 764 |
- (ii) *Grants*
- | | |
|---|-------------|
| Kgomotso police station and housing | R 1 375 232 |
|---|-------------|

5702 31/3/93

Unita victim was former SA recce

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — A South African "mercenary" killed in Angola was a former member of a Reconnaissance Regiment at Langebaan, the army has confirmed.

The former "recce", Cornel Taljaard (32), was killed with British citizen Robert Smith (35) at the weekend in a Unita attack on oil installations at Soyo, a northern town the Angolan army recaptured from the rebel movement earlier this month.

Army headquarters spokesman Major Merle Meyer yesterday confirmed Taljaard had been "an ex-non-commissioned officer" attached to the Langebaan recce unit.

Angola plans to revalue kwanza

LISBON — Angola is about to revalue the kwanza, following the sacking of senior officials who presided over a 92% devaluation last month, Angolan banking sources said this week.

The sources said the Angolan cabinet decided on Friday to revalue the kwanza from its official rate of 7 000 to the dollar to a new rate of between 3 500 and 5 000. *BIDAM*

This proposal would be submitted to parliament which is meeting to discuss the budget. *31/3/93*

The kwanza was fixed at 550 to the dollar before it plummeted to 7 000 on February 4 at an experimental foreign exchange auction.

It currently trades at 11 170 a dollar on Luanda's flourishing parallel market, operated mainly by women waving bundles of bank notes at passersby in the street.

President José Eduardo dos Santos, annoyed by the extent of last month's devaluation, sacked Finance Minister Salomao Xirimambi and central bank governor Sebastiao Lavrador who presided over the move, and suspended all further foreign exchange auctions.

Banking sources acknowledged the foreign exchange auction was poorly managed and resulted in a much stiffer devaluation than anticipated.

But the success of the planned revaluation would depend on the government's willingness to resume a regular supply of foreign currency to commercial banks to pay for private sector imports. — Reuter.

Cabinda's fight goes on

CABINDA — Orange gas flares from Cabinda's offshore oil rigs light up the horizon at night. Onshore, the spirit of independence flares in people's hearts. Separatist sentiment is rife in this coastal enclave of 200 000 people, cut off from the rest of Angola by Zaire's narrow corridor to the sea.

When Angola held its first free elections last September, only seven percent of Cabinda's electorate turned out to vote.

"The people of Cabinda never had the intention to integrate with the rest of Angola," said Hilario Martinho Bala, a member of the Support Committee for the Independence of Cabinda.

The separatist guerilla movement Flec (Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda) has been fighting a low-level guerilla war for the independence of this former Portuguese colony for the past 30 years.

Flec urged an election boycott and the people of Cabinda paid heed.

Ironically the conflict has hotted up since the government signed a peace agreement with Angola's main rebel movement, Unita, in 1991.

Flec's rival factions now control much of Cabinda's jungle interior, paralysing road traffic.

Flec felt left out by the 1991 peace accord and began ambushing civilian vehicles and kidnapping foreigners who were held for ransom.

But the government controls Cabinda city, where nearly half the

■ Angolan province wants autonomy for its population:

Savimbi 31/3/93



Jonas Savimbi

population lives, and Cabinda's offshore oil industry, which Flec and Unita have both refrained from attacking.

Oil was discovered in Cabinda in 1966 when it was still a Portuguese colony. The Cabinda Gulf Oil company, which is owned by the US Chevron Corporation, produces 315 000 barrels a day from offshore wells — 60 percent of Angola's entire output.

Cabinda had a different colonial statute from the rest of Angola and was administered by Portugal as a separate entity until 1956.

"We are a different people and we

5
demand a different statute. We were arbitrarily annexed by Angola under the Alvor agreement (between the mainstream Angolan nationalist movements and Portugal) at independence in 1975," Martinho Bala said.

"The ideal option would be to have a referendum so that the people of Cabinda could say democratically what they want," he told *Reuters*.

The government has opened a dialogue with Flec's different factions to discuss the possibility of an autonomy statute that would guarantee Cabinda a percentage of local oil revenues.

"Cabinda is a special problem that needs special treatment," said provincial governor Augusto Tomas, who has proposed that 10 percent of all oil revenues from Cabinda should be spent in the territory.

At present prices and production rates, this would amount to more than R300 million a year.

Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat by the ruling MPLA in last year's UN-supervised elections but has remained militarily inactive in Cabinda.

Flec, on the other hand, occasionally stages hit-and-run attacks on the province's sleepy capital.

— Sapa-Reuter.

Recognise Angola govt, Clinton told

Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — Prominent members of the US senate representing both major political parties have introduced a resolution calling on the Clinton administration to recognise the MPLA government in Angola.

The move was made known yesterday by Senator Paul Simon, chairman of the Africa sub-committee, during a hearing to confirm the appointment of George Moose as Assistant Secretary of State for Africa.

Simon revealed that the resolution was being sponsored by some of the most important former supporters of Unita leader, Jonas Savimbi.

A similar resolution is expected to be sponsored by members of both parties in the House of Representatives later this week, and follows a call for the US to recognise the government in Angola by the Africa sub-committees of both houses of Congress.

Simon told Moose there was "a limit to the patience of Congress which was fast running out" regarding the attitude of Unita to the election result.

Unita victim a former recce soldier

STEFAANS BRÜMMER
Staff Reporter

A SOUTH African mercenary killed in Angola was a former member of 4 Reconnaissance Regiment at Langebaan, the army has confirmed.

Mr Cornel Taljaard, 32, and Briton Mr Robert Smith, 35, were killed at the weekend in a Unita attack on oil installations at Soyo, a northern town the Angolan army recaptured from the rebel movement earlier this month.

An anonymous caller to The Argus yesterday said Mr Tal-

jaard was from Strand.

Army spokesman Major Merle Meyer yesterday confirmed Mr Taljaard had been "an ex-non-commissioned officer" attached to the Langebaan Recce unit.

Mr Taljaard and Mr Smith, employed as "security guards" at installations of the state oil company, Sonangol, were ambushed by Unita forces outside Soyo.

Many South Africans recruited for Sonangol have allegedly been expected to fight "as mercenaries" against Unita, a charge repeatedly denied by Mr Eben Bar-

low, managing director of Executive Outcomes, a South African company.

Meanwhile, a United Nations World Food Programme spokesman in Luanda reported three UN workers trapped in Cuito, the capital of Bié province under siege by Unita forces, were alive.

Spokesman Mr George Fanlo said the two food programme workers and a UN development programme worker were in a sector still controlled by government troops, in spite of claims by Unita it had conquered Cuito.

Angolan oil production expected to rocket

LUANDA — Angolan oil production would rise to more than 600 000 barrels a day (bpd) next year from about 535 000 at present, said state oil company Sonangol director-general Joaquim David. *610AM 11/4/93*

“I am convinced that in 1994 we will produce more than 600 000 barrels a day,” he said this week.

David said production had increased by at least 10% a year for several years and he expected this trend to continue.

In addition to new discoveries in traditional offshore waters up to 200 metres deep, Angola expected production from new deep water blocs to be opened for development, he said.

“We hope that from 1997 or 1998 the exploration programme we are implementing in deeper waters will start to yield fruit.”

He estimated Angola's proven oil reserves under development onshore and in shallow water to be at “just over 2-billion barrels”.

Sonangol signed its first exploration contracts for deep water blocs off the coast of Cabinda with Shell and Elf in December. It is negotiating with a consortium led by Chevron Corporation subsidiary Cabinda Gulf Oil Company for another bloc.

A Cabinda Gulf Oil representative said he expected his company's production to rise to about 350 000 bpd in 1995 from 310 000 at present.

“In two years' time a major development about 70km offshore will give us a substantial increase in production,” he said.

David said a two-month occupation of the northwestern oil town of Soyo by Unita had reduced Angola's pro-

duction by about 35 000 bpd, but output would soon recover.

The government recaptured Soyo on March 12 and David said preliminary surveys showed facilities had suffered only slight damage. “We reckon it will be possible to recover about 90% of lost production within a month, perhaps less,” he said.

David said Angola was also looking at several options to boost refining capacity, including the construction of a second refinery.

“We must look at plans for building another refinery in Angola, the possibility of building small topping plants — small refineries in the areas of highest consumption — and at the possibility of buying shares in modern refineries outside Angola,” he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Frontline states to discuss Angolan crisis

HARARE— Leaders of seven southern African Frontline states would meet in Zimbabwe tomorrow to discuss ways of securing peace in Angola, official sources said yesterday.

There are a number of issues on the agenda but the war in Angola is top of the list, a source said. "We are agreed as a region that we have an obligation, both as neighbours and as African states, in helping to find a lasting solution to the bloodshed in that country."

A Zimbabwean government official said the one-day summit of the presidents of Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Namibia, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe was likely to approve a fresh peace mission.

But Harare-based political analysts said it would produce "nothing new beyond the tradi-

tion of international solidarity pact" with the Luanda government in its war against Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

At an emergency summit last December, the Frontline states sanctioned a peace mission to Angola led by their chairman, President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, which was established two months before by the OAU.

The three-member team, including OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim and Cape Verde President Antonio Mascareñas Monteiro, travelled to Luanda, but abandoned plans to broker peace after refusing to meet Savimbi at his Huambo base. The team said it would only meet him in the Angolan capital or in any other Frontline state city.

"With that kind of approach, they are not going far. I don't see the summit producing any-

thing new," University of Zimbabwe political lecturer Jonathan Moyo said. African diplomats sources said some Frontline states had been hosting Unita officials in recent weeks, despite protests from the Harare meeting, and may have proposals from Unita, which to end the war. They said the Harare meeting had been called at the request of Luanda, which earlier this month asked Mugabe to help it with international support in its war against Unita.

In Luanda, the Angolan government denied Unita's claim to have captured the central city of Cuito after a two-month siege, but said there had been clashes on the city's outskirts on Sunday and Monday. "Cuito remains under the control of government forces," a defence ministry spokesman said. — Sapa-Reuters.

Govt claims to control Cuito

5 CTI/4/93
LUANDA. — The Angolan government yesterday denied a rebel claim to have captured the central city of Cuito after a two-month siege.

"Cuito remains under the control of government forces," Defence Ministry spokesman Mr Jose Manuel "Jota" said.

But there had been fierce clashes on the outskirts of Cuito, a city of 280 000 people, on Sunday and Monday, he said.

Unita's radio station said on

Monday night that Unita forces had captured the last government stronghold in Cuito, the capital of Bie province, and were in full control of the city.

Unita radio yesterday acknowledged there were still clashes in Cuito, but said government forces no longer controlled the city.

Mr Jota said the army had killed 29 Unita soldiers and seized weapons, including anti-tank missiles, during the last two days of fighting.

The government and Unita

radio also reported continued fighting around the besieged city of Menongue, on the south-eastern fringes of the central highlands where Unita has established its main power base.

Unita has been shelling Menongue airport for several weeks to try to prevent government planes from resupplying the city of more than 80 000 people.

Angola relapsed into war three months ago following the breakdown of an agreement between Unita and MPLA. — Sapa-Reuter

NEWS IN BRIEF

Angola sets conditions ^(S)

LISBON — The Angolan government set out three conditions yesterday for resuming peace talks with Unita to stop the country's renewed civil war.

Senior government negotiator Gen Higinio Carneiro said the government wanted any future negotiations with Unita to be based on the 1991 peace accord that ended Angola's first civil war. It also demanded that Unita accept the results of last year's UN-supervised elections, won by the ruling MPLA, and that Unita comply with all UN resolutions on Angola, he said.

8/17/93
B. 1000-2/4/93

Cameroon meetings banned (8)
YAOUNDE — The government of Cameroon accused the opposition on Tuesday of trying to destabilise the central African country and banned all public meetings which could lead to violence. Scores of people have been killed in Cameroon in protests and ethnic clashes over the last three years. In a television interview, Information Minister Augustin Kontchou said the Union for Change opposition group — which is opposed to President Paul Biya's 11-year rule — was plotting "a diabolical scheme for the systematic destabilisation of Cameroon", including bomb attacks, the abduction of foreigners and assassinations. — Sapa-Reuter *w/mca 2/4-7/4/93*

w/mca 2/4-7/4/93
Guardsmen overpowered (8)
MAPUTO — Seven mutineers were wounded when commandos stormed the barracks of the Mozambican presidential guard in an outer Maputo suburb on Tuesday, according to a government statement published this week. The commandos overpowered the

AFRICA BRIEFS

w/mca 2/4-7/4/93
guardsmen, who mutinied over pay and demobilisation benefits, and took control of the barracks using light arms in an operation that lasted about half an hour. — Sapa-AFP

23 militants killed (8)
ALGIERS — Special army troops tracking down Muslim fundamentalists who slaughtered 18 soldiers in the bloodiest attack in over a year of violence in Algeria have killed 23 militants, the government announced. It said the fundamentalists, assisted by four soldiers, had slipped into Bougzoul barracks 100km south of Algiers to try to seize arms. It was the worst single attack on security forces since a state of emergency was decreed in February 1992. APS also quoted the paramilitary gendarmerie as saying that 211 other "terrorists" — the official name for fundamentalists — had been killed since December 4 when a partial amnesty expired. — Sapa-Reuter *w/mca 2/4-7/4/93*

'Government controls Cuito' (5)
LUANDA — The Angolan government denied this week a rebel claim to have captured the central city of Cuito after a two-month siege. "Cuito remains under the control of government forces," Defence Ministry spokesman Jose Manuel "Jota" said. But there had been fierce clashes on the outskirts of Cuito, a city of 280 000 people, on Sunday and Monday, he said. The government and Unita radio also reported continued fighting around the besieged city of Menongue, on the southeastern fringes of the central highlands where Unita has established its main power base. — Sapa-Reuter

Botswana's biggest (8)
GABERONE — Botswana's largest diamond has been found at the Jwaneng diamond mine, owned by a subsidiary of DeBeers. The 446-carat stone will take its place in the record books among the biggest in the world. — Sapa *w/mca 2/4-7/4/93*

EDITORIAL

U.S. Should Recognize Dos Santos

THE new American administration is caught in some of the same hesitation on Angola that marked the old. In elections given full marks by international observers, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won the parliament; Jose Eduardo dos Santos fell just short of the 50 percent required to be seated as president. The challenger, Jonas Savimbi, responded by boycotting a presidential second round and renewing the war. Mr. dos Santos turned to Washington for recognition. After all, he had sacked the Cubans, cut off the Kremlin, abandoned Marxism, turned to the West, set up a multiparty system, and conducted re-

spectable elections. But the Bush administration declined to recognize him, and the Clinton administration still has the question "under review."

The trouble is not conspiracy but confusion. Angola, which spent a decade and a half being ground up in the Cold War, is again a battlefield. The right-thinking idea of arranging a package settlement including recognition of the MPLA regime tugs at diplomats in Washington. Holding off on recognition, it is suggested, keeps a useful line open to Mr. Savimbi.

Meanwhile, unfortunately, Mr. Savimbi happens to be doing well in the war. The government,

playing on his past ties to South Africa and the C.I.A., has tried to paint his progress as the product of foreign connections. In fact, Western intelligence indicates that most of his weapons were stockpiled or are captured. It is the government with its oil money that buys arms abroad. Three white South Africans who were located in a hospital in Namibia turned out to be the hired gunmen not of Mr. Savimbi but of an oil company.

What is most important, however, is that Mr. dos Santos in the latest phase played fair. An American administration that professes to support new democracies looks awfully odd (and lonely) withholding recogni-

tion. No one charges that the United States, or South Africa, is still secretly channeling aid to Jonas Savimbi. But Washington is slow to get the message it sends by standing off. It tempts Mr. Savimbi to think he can get away with challenging democratic process. It encourages ethnic strains: Losers in Third World elections invariably play the ethnic or tribal card. Worse, it could put the idea of ignoring a far but disappointing electoral result in the heads of others bound for the polls in the new southern Africa — Mozambique for one, South Africa for another. Policy should be to recognize Mr. dos Santos, and get Mr. Savimbi back to the table.

Angola - A Lesson In How Not To Do It

WHEN it was signed in May 1991, the accord that ended Angola's 16-year civil war was hailed in capitals from Washington to Moscow as a model for post-Cold War peace-making.

A nation that had been Africa's bloodiest playground for super-power adventurism had fashioned a largely home-grown peace that offered an "opportunity to show the world that a multi-party democracy can be built where before there was destruction and mistrust," then-Secretary of State James A. Baker had said.

But today the peace has exploded and the nearly two-year-old taunts ring hollow. More than 20,000 people are estimated to have been killed, including more than 10,000 in one battle alone, since a renewal of fighting last October. Angola's meticulously detailed 63-page peace accord has become an object lesson only in what to avoid. It is seen as flawed in conception, flouted in execution, overdependent on the unifying potential of a winner-take-all first presidential election, and undermined by the weak monitoring role of outsiders who, having spent billions of dollars on Angola's war, hoped to get away with paying pennies for its peace.

"The world tried to do this one on the cheap," said Margaret Anstee, the embattled United Nations' envoy here, who complained from the outset that her mandate was too modest and resources too thin. "Certainly, that's one of the reasons things came apart."

"There was so much euphoria that Angola was going to have its first democratic election that a lot of us were guilty of not making sure that all the necessary preconditions to an election had been met," said Joe Schreiber, spokesman for the United States Liaison Office here.

The lessons of Angola's peace meltdown are already being applied — but elsewhere in southern Africa. In Mozambique, another former Portuguese colony that became engulfed in civil war following its independence in 1975, the United Nations has authorized 7,500 troops to monitor a demobilization, compared with 450

unarmed U.N. military observers who served in Angola.

Moreover, the U.N. envoy in Mozambique, Aldo Ajello, has insisted that an election set by the peace accord for this October be delayed because the demobilization is behind schedule. In Angola, Anstee did not have the power to take such a step.

Angola's shadow is less obvious, but arguably more important, in South Africa. There, the two main political rivals — the white-minority government and the opposition African National Congress — recently agreed in principle that a government of national unity serve for up to five years following the country's first nonracial election, expected in 1993.

"If you want to know the best argument for not having a winner-

By Paul Taylor in Luanda

take-all first election, check out Angola," said one ANC official.

Whether Angola itself can profit from the lessons of Angola is more problematic. The United States, which along with Russia and Portugal serves in a formal troika of observers, has just launched a new diplomatic initiative — a meeting in Ivory Coast with mid-level representatives of the guerrilla National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. UNITA was a U.S. client during much of the 1975-91 war against the Soviet- and Cuban-supported government of the Popular Liberation Movement of Angola (MPLA).

The United States has been acutely embarrassed by the actions of UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi, who took up arms after losing an election for president last September. He claimed the election was stolen, despite assertions from international monitors that it was free and fair.

Diplomatic sources here said the State Department is moving toward a policy of recognizing the MPLA government. But before it takes that step, sources said, it is hoping to use the leverage created by the anticipated change of policy to explore with both sides a framework for a cease-fire and a new round of

elections. These would be designed to give all parties an assured slice of power through some combination of regionalism and proportional representation. "The shame is that nobody insisted on that the first time around," one diplomat said.

Despite the detrimental role of foreign powers, many diplomats here say the primary burden for Angola's peace debacle lies with the belligerents themselves.

The peace accord — sponsored by the United Nations and brokered by the United States, the then-Soviet Union, and Portugal — called for a demobilization of both sides' armies and creation of a unified military force, while the two antagonists prepared for presidential and legislative elections. The United Nations sent what Anstee reportedly called "the world's cheapest peace-keeping operation" — 400 military observers to monitor the stand-down.

But it was the MPLA that insisted on a weak international monitoring presence, out of concerns about its sovereignty. Both armies openly ignored the demobilization plan: the MPLA simply shifted 10,000 to 20,000 of its elite troops into a paramilitary police force, and UNITA kept its heaviest weapons and 25,000 or more of its best fighters hidden in the bush. The generals on both sides failed to set up the prescribed new unified army of 40,000 men, except on paper.

Most fateful of all, Savimbi, after nearly two decades of ingratiating himself in the West as Africa's foremost freedom-fighting, anti-communist democrat, failed at the most basic task of democracy — the willingness to accept defeat.

"Any time you have someone who still has an army under his command and announces before an election that if he loses, it will be because it was stolen, you have an explosive situation on your hands," said Onofre dos Santos, an independent, third-party politician who was brought back from 16 years of exile to run Angola's first election.

Dos Santos, no relation to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, said that "everybody knew the demobilization was a farce" but noted that it would have been difficult for anyone to hold the election hostage to force compliance. "The problem was that everybody thought Savimbi was going to win, and he was the one who wanted the election as soon



Savimbi — now an embarrassment

as possible. So if anyone had tried to delay it, it would have been seen as a political maneuver favoring the MPLA, and fighting might have broken out then."

In hindsight, the widespread expectation that Savimbi would win the September 1992 election played havoc with lots of diplomatic calculations. "Watching the demobilization, it was clear that Savimbi was cheating more than the government, but if you're figuring on a Savimbi victory, you keep your fingers crossed and hope it will all work out alright," said one diplomat.

One of the ironies of the campaign was that President dos Santos, a soft-spoken, wooden, Soviet-trained petroleum engineer, turned out to be far better-versed at electoral politics than Savimbi,

the charismatic populist.

Dos Santos hired a Brazilian polling and media company that correctly advised him to paint his billboards, brochures, and rhetoric in shades of pastel. After nearly 30 years of conflict, including guerrilla opposition to Portuguese colonial rule, Angolans above all wanted peace, the polling firm convinced Dos Santos.

Savimbi mistakenly assumed that his nation wanted a traditional African strongman, tough enough to undo 16 years of communist corruption and disastrous economic mismanagement. His speeches became progressively more bellicose. "His basic message," quipped one diplomat, "was, 'Vote for me or I'll blow your head off!'"

Although marred by episodic violence and despite daunting logistical challenges, the electoral process went smoothly. Registration topped 90 percent in a country that had never voted before. The two days of balloting were free of violence. The police stayed off the streets, and both UNITA and the MPLA had at least two poll-watchers who verified the count at each of the 6,000 polling stations. Turnout also topped 90 percent. Angolan peasants walked for miles and waited in line for hours to cast their first ballots.

The trouble began when the returns began to trickle in.

When the final numbers were certified 18 days later, they showed that dos Santos led the presidential balloting by 49.6 percent to Savimbi's 40.1 percent (minor party candidates divided the rest), and the MPLA won 129 seats to UNITA's 70 in the 220-seat parliament. Because dos Santos was held to under 50 percent in the presidential voting, a runoff was to have been held. It has not yet been held.

In the tense days immediately after the balloting, however, as first returns came in from the cities where dos Santos was strongest, the government-run television showed him winning by a landslide. It took days for a clearer picture to emerge, but by then Savimbi had pulled his generals out of the joint army, given an angry speech charging fraud, and was on the path back to war.

"I can see, given the understandable paranoia of the situation, why in the first few days Savimbi thought he was being robbed," said Onofre dos Santos. "But we asked them to present credible evidence of fraud, and they never could."

The United Nations certified the elections as "generally free and fair" in mid-October, but by the end of the month, after a series of UNITA-provoked military flare-ups around the country, full-scale fighting broke out in Luanda.

Since then, Anstee's relentless efforts to arrange a cease-fire have been unavailing — in part because the military situation keeps saw-sawing, with no clear battlefield victor in sight.

U.N. Sets Up Force For Somalia

UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council, last week formally set up a multinational U.N. force of at least 28,000 peace-keeping troops to take over from the U.S.-led troops in war- and famine-ravaged Somalia.

The resolution, which provides for a "prompt, smooth, and phased" transition, will allow all but about 9,000 U.S. soldiers to come home by the end of April. The new mandate is the most ambitious effort ever undertaken by the United Nations to rebuild a country whose government and social institutions have collapsed.

The Bush administration dispatched U.S. troops to Somalia December 9, promising they would be home by the end of January.

U.S. commanders moved cautiously, limiting their troops to providing security for food deliveries to towns where Somalis were dying by the thousands of starvation.

But U.S. officers soon saw the need to begin disarming gang leaders, which U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had insisted on from the outset. While U.S. officers in Mogadishu, the Somali capital, have complained about the slow pace of U.N. moves toward the handover, officials here on both sides consistently have praised the transition as a model of new ties between Washington and the United Nations.

"With this resolution, we will embark on an unprecedented enterprise aimed at nothing less than

the restoration of an entire country as a proud, functioning, and viable member of the community of nations," said U.S. Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright. But Washington, she added, is "soberly conscious" that the United Nations is undertaking "the most comprehensive assistance ever given to any country... with few lessons and no models to guide our path."

The seven-page resolution falls under Chapter 7 of the U.N. charter, which codifies the terms for enforcing Security Council decisions. The original mandate is for six months, and the huge operation is projected to cost more than \$800 million, to be paid by contributions from U.N. member countries to a special fund.

By Julia Preston

The U.N. force, UNISOM II, will operate throughout Somalia, unlike the U.S.-led foreign intervention forces, which have been limited to the central and southern regions. It will have the same task as the U.S. troops of maintaining security to ensure the delivery of humanitarian relief to starving Somalis.

But UNISOM II also will monitor a cease-fire among feuding warlords and gangs, disarm them, sponsor peace talks and possibly prepare the way for elections. In addition, it will rebuild local police forces and civil governments, as well as enforce a U.N. arms embargo and prosecute Somalis who attack relief operations or commit other violations of international law.

Food crisis growing in Angola

CT 2/4/93
JOHANNESBURG. — The number of people in Angola needing food aid is growing daily, the World Food Programme said yesterday.

WFP official Ms Mercedes Sayagues told journalists here her organisation had managed to keep bases open in several Angolan towns but it was difficult to say how long this could continue.

Additional food donations were needed urgently.

Ms Sayagues said the WFP was able to airlift and truck food to towns now under Unita's control.

The organisation would run a convoy of trucks to Huambo today to deliver much-needed food.

But she said fighting in Cuito — 165km from Huambo and surrounded by Unita forces — was

making it difficult for relief to reach 70 000 displaced people.

It had been reported that residents were fleeing from Cuito's outskirts to the relative safety of the town centre.

● The Angolan government yesterday set out conditions for resuming peace talks with Unita to end the country's renewed civil war. — Sapa

War crimes, massacres in Angola reported

ET 3/4/93

LUANDA. — Reports of war crimes and civilian massacres are emerging in Angola as its civil war rages on.

However, the International Committee of the Red Cross says it is difficult to confirm the reports because little information from disrupted areas reaches here.

A relief worker said Unita troops had entered a hospital and ordered outside all patients able to walk. They killed those who remained.

A church official reported that some tribes had been persecuted by government officials. — Sapa



Picture: LEON MÜLLER, Weekend Argus.

□ **MOURNING HER HUSBAND:** Mrs Gillian Taljaard, with her six-year-old daughter Nicole on her arm, after a memorial service yesterday for her husband, Cornell.

Family waits for Unita to hand over body of ex-SADF freelance soldier

HENRI du PLESSIS, Weekend Argus Reporter

AN international effort is being made to have the body of a Cape Town man and his British colleague returned to South Africa after they were killed in an attack by Unita guerillas on an Angolan oil installation.

The dead were Mr Cornell Taljaard, 32, of Table View, and the Johannesburg-based Mr Robert Smith, 35. They were recruited to work as security men for the Angolan oil company, Sonangol, and were on an inspection of an oil installation near the northern Angolan town of Soyo last Saturday evening when Unita soldiers attacked.

Mr Taljaard, a former reconnaissance trooper in the South African Defence Force, and Mr Smith were recruited for Sonangol by Mr Eben Barlow's Pretoria-based company, International Outcomes.

After a memorial service for Mr Taljaard at the Roman Catholic Church in Bothasig, his brother Jacques said efforts to have his body returned to this country were being made through a Unita brigadier based at the movement's offices in London, as well as the South African Department of Foreign Affairs.

The International Red Cross's help would also be canvassed, he said.

Unita soldiers removed the bodies of the two men after the attack. Battles around the town last weekend appeared to have ended inconclusively, with about 150 Angolan government troops and an unknown number of Unita soldiers dead.

Mr Jacques Taljaard said the chances of a recovery of the bodies seemed good.

"The matter is in the hands of Foreign Affairs, Unita, Sonangol and the Red Cross."

Meanwhile, according to friends at the memorial service yesterday, Mr Cornell Taljaard knew it was going to be his last adventure.

About 100 friends and family members, including a large number of his former colleagues in the "Recces", met at the church for the service.

"Before he left he gave his flat's keys to my brother and told him to take his four surfboards. Cornell told my brother the surfboards were his bequest to him," said a friend who did not want to be named.

Wife praying pilot will come home

Weekend Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — The wife of a Pretoria pilot who has been held by the Angolan Government for nearly two weeks prays for his safe return.

Mrs Lynne Frayne of Eldorado desparately hopes her missing husband, Rick, and his father will be home soon.

Mr Frayne and his father, former South African Air Force pilot, Mr Fred Frayne, were last heard from on March 23 when they flew to Luanda in a DC-3 with airbags to free a commercial aircraft stuck in the mud.

They were working with Professional Aviation based at Lanseria in Randburg.

Mr Bob Garbett, owner of the company, said the two men had flown a "routine" commercial flight to Luanda to deliver the airbags to another aviation firm whose plane had overshot the runway and was stuck in the mud.

"They were then apparently arrested and are being held in a Luanda hotel," he said.

He said he had appealed to the Red Cross and the Department of Foreign Affairs to help get the men freed.

Mr Garbett said nobody had been able to find out why the pilots had been detained.

It is believed the Angolans suspected the pilots of dropping supplies to Unita because they were late arriving in Luanda, which Mr Garbett said was "ridiculous".

P rugby fans pay it VAT — 'it's law'

Revenue officer Mr Roy Mason sympathised: "I'm a season ticket-holder myself, and while each holder has the right to feel unhappy, legally there is nothing wrong with what the Province Union has done."

Then he explained: "They are providing a service and not goods, and the proposed amendment act (B 80-9/3 GA) in the Government Gazette stipulates that the service is being provided after the implementation date.

"The ticket-holder has until April 20 to pay and this is after the April 7 increase date. It makes no difference if the ticket-holder pays his fee before April 7," said Mr Mason.

"Had the letter stated payment be made before March 17, then the union would have been compelled to charge the old 10 percent VAT charge.

"However, for whatever reason, the union waited until now and legally are in the right," Mr Mason added.

The four percent VAT increase means that the season ticket-holder will be paying R10 extra.

A spokesman for the WPRFU said it was unfortunate and had it been up to the union they wouldn't have charged the ticket-holder any more than was necessary.

"It's the law and we have to comply with it," he said.



WAR ZONE . . . Angolan mothers flee to the city centre to escape the fighting which has so far claimed 20 000 lives in five months.

Angola's little children are dying like flies

By **SUSAN NANJI**

SOME 300 infants are dying from disease every day at Luanda's main hospital.

Angola has become the most dangerous place in the world for children.

This is according to the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (Unicef) figures on child deaths in the last three months.

Even more child deaths go unreported in other centres as health and so-

cial services take a back seat since civil war began again in October.

"Burials of children can be anything up to 300 a day at the main Camama Cemetery in Luanda," says Elidio Machado, a cemetery attendant.

Social and economic standards, already poor after Angola's 16 years of civil war, have worsened during the past three months.

This followed Unita's

refusal to accept defeat at the polls in an election judged to be acceptable by the United Nations.

Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975. Unita immediately waged war after Portugal failed to organise general elections for a smooth transfer of power to the majority.

That war ended in 1991 when the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) party and Unita signed

the Bicesse Peace Accord.

Elections were held in September 1992. Unita lost, refused to accept the result, and resumed the war.

5
Filthy

The violence has led to an estimated 20 000 deaths in five months. Another 1.7-million people fled their homes into urban centres.

The influx to the towns and cities has resulted in

severe overcrowding. The Luanda streets are filthy and most of the city's population live in refugee settlements where sanitation is almost non-existent. Those in high-rise apartments live with their livestock in overcrowded conditions.

Piped water, when available, is untreated. Mineral water is expensive and few ordinary Angolans can afford it.

Angolans sank deeper into poverty last month

after their currency, the Novo Kwanza, was devalued from 530 to 7 000 to a US dollar. This led to another steep rise in the price of food.

Most of the food is imported. With the government committing all its money to defence, severe shortages of food are imminent.

Ordinary people no longer buy goods in shops and supermarkets. They depend on Roque Santeiro, a huge open air

market, where "everything" is on sale - from fresh meat to refrigerators.

Despite these problems, life goes on. The main activity of young and middle-aged Angolans, apart from the war, seems to be drinking.

"I drink and enjoy myself as much as I can because I never know where I might be tomorrow," said Alfredo Neto, a clerk at a Luanda government department.

CIPress 44493

Call for US to accept MPLA

ST Times 4/19/93

HARARE: The Frontline states this week urged the United States to formally recognise the MPLA as the Angolan government, but failed to come up with any new peace initiative for the war-torn nation.

A communique issued after a summit in Harare on Friday said recognition by President Bill Clinton's administration of the "democratically elected government of Angola" would help "advance the democratic process in that country".

Recognition by Washington has been one of the Luanda government's most cherished aims for more than a decade, in the hope that it would facilitate investment and boost the economy.

The US has held off granting recognition of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's MPLA government, arguing that it would be able to wield greater influence over Unita by not being fully allied with Luanda.

Thousands seek safety in a ravaged city under fire

SJ TIMES 4/4/93
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MALANJE, 400km east of the Angolan capital of Luanda, is a city besieged by an invisible enemy that lobbs shells by night and snipes at military outposts by day.

The city of 100 000 people lies at the heart of a green, fertile plateau that once exported grain, coffee and cotton.

But the road and railway to the capital have been cut by the Unita rebel movement for nearly six months.

From Robert Powell in Malanje, Angola

Meanwhile, people from surrounding villages flock to Malanje for safety. About 1 700 refugees trekked in and set up camp in a disused pottery works after Cacuso fell to Unita on March 3.

Mateus Diogo, a student who walked for three days through the bush, claimed Unita had systematically

killed government supporters in Cacuso.

"Some were burnt alive in their homes and others were shot," he said.

Aid workers estimate that 41 000 refugees have flooded into Malanje from the surrounding countryside to escape persecution by the rebels.

With its swelling population, the city relies on rice, oil and beans flown in by the UN World Food Programme to survive.

People talk nostalgically of the brief period of peace and reconciliation in 1991 after Jonas Savimbi's Unita and the government signed a peace accord.

Now fear and distrust are written on the faces of government officials and military officers.

Unexplained rifle shots ring out during the day and more frequently at night, when Unita mortar and artillery shells often thud into the suburbs.

"The Unita forces are about 20km to 30km away. There is no direct fighting, but the enemy often uses long-range artillery," said Pedro Sebastiao, deputy governor of Malanje province.

The city and a small swathe of farmland around it are now the only government-controlled areas in the sparsely populated province.

Residents say the government has stopped men younger than 40 from leaving, as they are potential recruits for military service. But Information Ministry officials deny this. —

Reuter

Senior Unita officer held

WINDHOEK. — The Namibian Home Affairs Ministry yesterday disclosed details of the arrest of a senior Unita officer, being held in a Windhoek jail, saying he had been arrested while trying to cross the Botswana border illegally.

Brigadier Jorge Valentim, son of Unita's Information head, Dr Jorge Valentim, was handed to Namibian immigration officials by Botswana police, Home Affairs Permanent Secretary Ms Frieda Williams said.

He had been served with a deportation order and would be sent back to Angola unless another country granted him asylum, she said. — Sapa

Unita now ready to resume peace talks

JOHANNESBURG. — Angola's Unita rebel movement has agreed to resume talks with the government aimed at ending the country's renewed civil war, diplomats said yesterday.

The United Nations-sponsored meeting has been scheduled for Monday in Abidjan, capital of the Ivory Coast, a western diplomat, who requested anonymity, said.

Unita's representative to the UN, Mr Marcos Samondo, notified UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali late on Monday of Unita's willingness to talk peace, reports said yesterday.

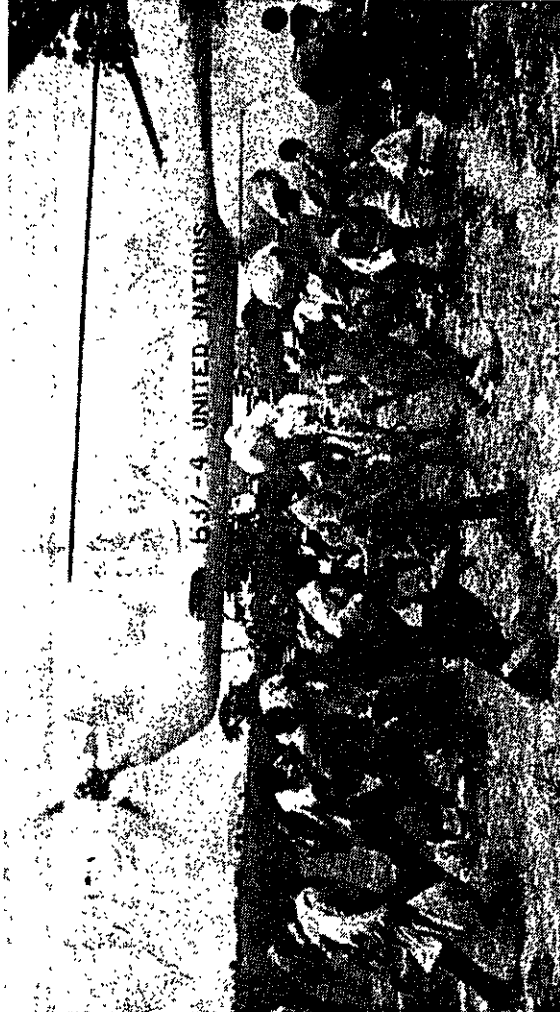
Luanda-based diplomats said the Angolan government was also eager to talk peace.

The talks were abandoned on March 1 when Unita failed to send a full delegation to a meeting in Ethiopia.

Previous peace efforts have failed to end five months of vicious fighting which has claimed 20 000 lives and left three million people at risk from disease and hunger.

Unita and the government appeared to have side-stepped their previous pre-conditions for peace talks, diplomats said.

The government earlier said rebel demands were an attempt to negate Unita's defeat in last September's elections, while Unita maintained the government demands ignored the military situation in Angola, where the rebel movement claimed it had the upper hand. — UPI



RACE TO ESCAPE . . . Refugees fleeing fighting in Caimbambo, southern Angola, rush towards a United Nations helicopter waiting to airlift civilians to safety.

Picture: AP

'Recognise govt in Angola' Star

Star Africa Service

51493

HARARE — Leaders of the seven southern African Front-line states have urged the United States to recognise the democratically elected government of Angola.

A communique at the end of a one-day summit in Harare said that recognition of the Luanda government by the US "would advance the democratic process in Angola". They called for an enhanced UN role in Angola to ensure the complete disarmament of Unita's army before the holding of a second round of presidential elections.

Angola releases detained pilots

PRETORIA. — Three South African pilots, detained in Luanda last week, returned to Johannesburg early yesterday following their release from Angola, Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha confirmed.

The three, Mr Fred Frayne, his son, Rick, and Mr Herman Heim, are employed by Trans-Afrique, a private air company. (S)

Following their detention, top-level diplomatic talks about their release were held between South Africa and Angola at Jan Smuts Airport last week. — Sapa *CT 5/4/83*

Unita shoots food aid plane

JOHANNESBURG. — Unita rebels shot at a UN World Food Programme (WFP) plane carrying aid to Uige airport in northern Angola and injured a Russian crew member yesterday.

A WFP spokesman in Harare said the Antonov-32 had the necessary clearance to land and the incident could threaten future flights to Unita-held areas. *5 Oct 4/93*

Meanwhile, Zairean authorities had

detained about 300 Angolan policemen who fled across the northern border into Zaire during combat with Unita rebels, the Angolan news agency Angop reported yesterday.

Angop, monitored in Johannesburg, quoted a Luanda newspaper as saying the policemen had sought refuge after battles in the northern Angolan towns which the government recently retook from Unita. — Sapa-Reuter

Ntsanwisi's successor

Sowetan 7/4/93

■ Minister of Works Nxumalo is new Chief Minister:

By Don Seokane

GAZANKULU Minister of Works Mr SWD Nxumalo on Monday became the homeland's second Chief Minister following the death of Professor Hudson Ntswanisi.

Nxumalo was elected during a sitting of the Gazankulu legislative assembly at Giyani.

Former lawyer Mr SC Mhinga, who has since been struck off the roll of attorneys for neglecting his practice, contested the position with Nxumalo.

Nxumalo gained 76 votes while Mhinga

got only five votes.

Mhinga's relative, Mr Edward Mhinga, became acting Chief Minister when Ntswanisi was taken ill in July last year.

Ntswanisi died at the Johannesburg Hospital on March 25.

After his election on Monday, Nxumalo said he was pleased to be able to lead Gazankulu. He said he believed the vast experience he had gained while working with Ntswanisi would help him shape Gazankulu's future.

He appealed to the people of Gazankulu to be united for the development of their region.

Unita man's mystery trip

Sowetan 7/4/93

■ Brigadier in jail after trying to enter Botswana illegally

THE NAMIBIAN Home Affairs Ministry yesterday revealed details of the arrest of a senior Unita officer currently being held in a Windhoek jail, saying he had been arrested trying to cross the Botswana border illegally.

Brigadier Jorge Valentim, son of Unita chief negotiator and information head Dr Jorge Valentim, had been handed to Namibian immigration officials by Bot-

swana police, Home Affairs Permanent Secretary Ms Frieda Williams told Namibia Broadcasting Corporation radio.

She said Valentim had never asked for asylum in Namibia, despite having visited the country several times prior to his arrest at the Buitepos border post.

He had been served with a deportation order and would be taken back to Angola unless another country granted him asylum.

Prison gang fight leads to killing

Sowetan 7/4/93

ALONG-TERM prisoner died after a fight between two members of the Big Five Gang in Pretoria's Central Prison on Monday night, according to a prisons spokeswoman.

Lieutenant-Colonel LJ Weppenaar of Correctional Services said yesterday that

■ Prisoner knifed to death:

Johannes Ramakgala, who had been in prison since October 27 1988 serving a seven-year sentence for housebreaking and theft, was stabbed during the fight and died later in hospital. - Sapa.

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

INTERNATIONAL NEWS Savimbi holds out another olive branch • Talks in Ivory Coast

NEW YORK — The armed opposition Unita has agreed to resume direct, United Nations-sponsored talks with the Angolan government on April 12 in Abidjan, a Unita representative here said.

Mr Marcos Samondo said in a written statement that Dr Jonas Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, had notified UN Secretary-General Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali of his decision on Monday.

A top-level Unita delegation would arrive at the Ivory Coast economic capital one day ahead of the talks but

Unita agrees to peace talks

COY BOY TOP-LEVEL Unita delegation heading for Abidjan

Will not include Angolan leader Dr Jonas Savimbi: (S)

Savimbi himself will not participate, Samondo said.

The UN chief's representative to Angola, Mrs Margaret Anstee, the US State Department and the other observer countries to the Angolan peace process,

Russia and Portugal, were also notified of Savimbi's decision, the Unita official said.

Fighting between the rebels and government forces in Angola resumed after Unita was defeated in UN-monitored general elections in September last year. According to some estimates, about 20 000 people have been killed and 2 million others have been displaced by fighting.

Late last month authorities in Luanda

rejected Unita terms for talks, particularly the formation of an interim government, and insisted the rebels abide by the election results.

The UN World Food Programme said Unita rebels badly injured the Russian crew member aboard one of its supply planes by shooting from both sides of the runway as the aircraft was landing on Monday with six tons of rice at the northern town of Uige. — Sapa-AFP.

Wage rise could scuttle promising reform plan

LUANDA. — One month into a promising economic reform plan, the government is now adopting measures that financial experts say will re-ignite runaway inflation and destroy any hope of international credit for war-ravaged Angola.

Finance Minister Emanuel Carneiro increased the minimum wage by 30 percent on March 26. Further increases are planned for the coming weeks, said a ministry official speaking on the condition of anonymity.

The Finance Ministry also plans a 40 percent increase in the exchange rate of the national currency, the kwanza, the official said. Finance Ministry spokeswoman Magdalena Rabalho would neither confirm nor deny the report but said several new economic policies were being considered.

The apparent policy shift follows the March 7 firing of Finance Minister Salomao Jose Luheco Xirimibimbi, who championed a market-oriented reform plan designed to reduce inflation, which last year hit 485 percent.

Locked in civil war with the Unita rebel group, the Angolan government has lost much of its oil- and diamond-based revenue and is in desperate need of cash.

The Xirimibimbi economic plan, which included aligning official exchange rates with black market rates, was approved on January 7 and had won vital approval from the International Monetary Fund.

The IMF, which provides financing for poor countries attempting economic stabilisation, is now assessing whether Angola qualifies for economic recovery loans and the refinancing of its estimated \$10 billion foreign debt.

But after a currency auction of \$10 million lowered the official value of the kwanza from 550 per dollar to 7 000 per dollar — roughly equivalent to the black market price — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos fired Mr. Xirimibimbi.

President Dos Santos said that while the government had approved important elements of the economic plan, Mr. Xirimibimbi had "exceeded his competence" by implementing it before advising the government of its details.

Within three weeks after Xirimibimbi was replaced, the black market value of the kwanza fell 35 percent relative to the dollar. — Sapa-AP

Angola's untold agony

Censorship blurs truth of Africa's bloody story

HANS-PETER BAKKER
Argus Africa News Service #AG 7/14/83
CIAMBAMBO (Angola). — This small highland town has become the frontier of the war in Angola.

For two days it rained steadily, slowing a United Nations effort to evacuate some of the thousands of people displaced by heavy fighting further east and leaving the concentration of government troops in the area bogged down and unable to advance across swollen rivers.

Late last week the town — darkened because the government could not cut off the power supply to Unita-held areas without also affecting the towns on the frontline — shook when Unita launched an offensive on the government's positions 10km from Ciambambo. Heavy detonations lasting almost two hours rattled windows and sent MPLA commanders rushing around at 2am.

The commanders said the rebel forces were driven back.

It is difficult to gauge the truth of the ebb and flow of this war. The military's spokesman in Luanda continues to insist that the strategically important town of Cubal, 30km from Ciambambo, is still firmly in the hands of the government, but here on the frontline nobody tries to hide the fact that the town fell to Unita forces more than two weeks ago.

Most of the people being evacuated from Ciambambo fled the fighting in Cubal and, according to Mr. Leo Favillard of the UN's World Food Programme, about 30 people arrive every day and about 2 000 still await evacuation by helicopter.

A week ago the WFP succeeded in bringing through a heavily armed road convoy — which brought food in and took displaced people out — from the large coastal town of Benguela. A second was planned for last week but was cancelled because of Unita rebels in the area.

The war in Angola is ruthless. One UN official described it as a lot worse than anything Angola had experienced.

"This is a war in which neither side is holding back," the UN official said.

Stories of vicious atrocities committed by both sides are commonplace.

It is a war without prisoners and largely without witnesses as journalists are not tolerated in Unita-held areas and are barred by the MPLA from the

battlegrounds until the fighting is over. Then the media is treated to carefully controlled victory tours — the dead buried or hidden.

Survivors tell hideous tales and indications are that both sides are guilty of war crimes, possibly even outdoing those being given wide TV and newspaper coverage and leading to international outrage over the former Yugoslavia.

Displaced people arriving in Ciambambo from Cubal tell of how Unita soldiers shot at the feet of fleeing civilians to stop them undertaking the long walk out.

One man said he saw Unita troops firing into the backs of women — many of them with babies on their backs — as they tried to cross the flooded Cubal river. He said he saw about 20 women killed.

Although strenuously denied by the government, indications are that Unita has the military upper hand and may soon be in a position to take Benguela on the coast.

That possibility is fiercely refuted by government spokesmen. They insist that Benguela is too well defended and that the MPLA is in fact poised to retake Huambo, Angola's second city.

But even government officials admit that the heavy rains drenching the Benguela and Ciambambo areas have given Unita, with its guerrilla tactics, an advantage over the government's more conventional forces.

According to a military analyst in Luanda, "Unita likes to fight in the rainy season because the government troops don't".

If Unita succeeds in breaking through the heavy concentration of MPLA hardware and troops around Ciambambo, and if the government's trump card — its air force — fails to stop the advance, Unita may just bring its forces to bear on Benguela before the rainy season ends in June.

If Unita succeeds in taking Benguela, Angola would be cut in half with Unita controlling much of the interior, the northern diamond areas and virtually everything south of the Benguela railway line — an outcome which Unita has long sought.

It would give Unita a harbour and a strong negotiating position and leave the government holding only the area around the capital Luanda and a few islands in the interior which are surrounded by Unita, such as Malanje, Luenha, Cuito, and Sauro.



VICTIMS: Civilian refugees wait to board a UN helicopter at Ciambambo in Angola where they fled to escape the battle between Unita and MPLA forces in the strategically important town of Cubal, 30km away.

Wage rise could scuttle promising reform plan

By Sapa-AP
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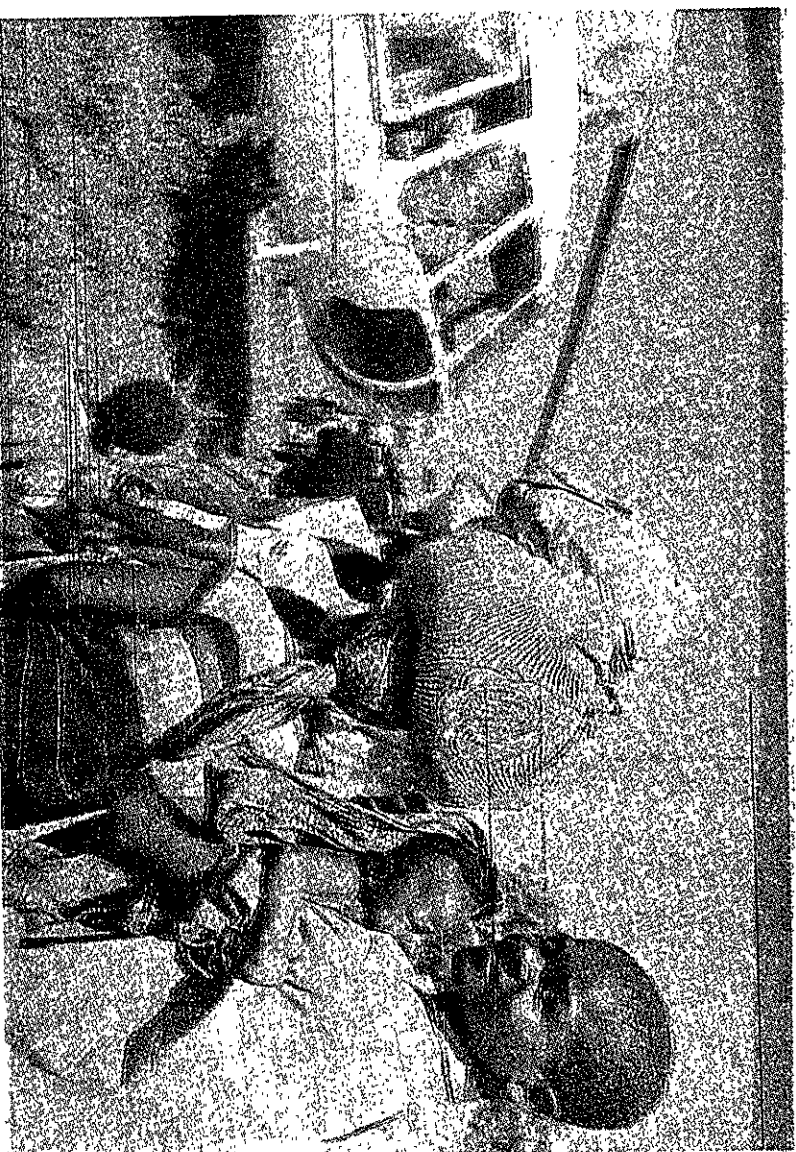
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Angola's UN

Censorship blurs truth of Africa's bloody story



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told agony

HANS-PETER BAKKER
Argus Africa News Service

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Unita agrees to resume peace talks

NEW YORK — Unita had agreed to resume direct, UN-sponsored talks with the Angolan government on April 12 in Abidjan, a Unita representative said.

Marcos Samondo said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi had notified UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali of his decision on Monday. *BIDM 71493*

A top-level Unita delegation would resume the talks but Savimbi would not participate personally, Samondo said.

Fighting between Unita and government forces in Angola resumed after Unita was defeated in elections in September. According to some estimates, about 20,000 people have been killed and 2 million others have been displaced by fighting.

Late last month, authorities in Luanda rejected Unita terms for talks, particularly the formation of an interim government, and insisted the rebels abide by the election results, which they rejected, and by a 1991 peace agreement.

Meanwhile, the UN World Food Programme said Unita badly injured a Russian crew member aboard one of its supply planes by shooting from both sides of the runway as the aircraft was landing on Monday with six tons of rice at the northern town of Uige.

UN officials cancelled further flights to the region. — Sapa-AFP.

UN rescues Huambo refugees

LUANDA — About 4 000 refugees fleeing Angola's rebel-held second city Huambo have been flown to safety after walking more than 100km through the bush to a UN refugee site, the state news agency Angop said.

Angop reported yesterday that the refugees, mainly women and children, some of them badly wounded, were flown from the town of Caimbambo last week by helicopter mercy missions organised by the UN.

The refugees, flown to the nearby cities of Benguela and Lobito, had trekked to Caimbambo after Unita captured Huambo last month following weeks of fighting which killed more than 10 000 civilians.

The battle for Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the heart of the country, was the biggest in the civil war which resumed after the rebels rejected their September electoral defeat.

The UN has been unable to send emergency medical and food aid to the stricken city due to lack of guarantees of safety by both Unita and the Angolan government.

The government expected US recognition soon and saw it as a key bargaining chip in talks in Ivory Coast with Unita, diplomats said yesterday.

B/DAM 8/4/93
5
terday.

They were optimistic the formerly Marxist MPLA government would soon be recognised by the US after years of support for Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

"We expect US recognition any day now," an Angolan diplomat said.

"The government would be buoyed up by the prospect or even the promise of recognition by Washington," said a Western diplomat.

Angola said US President Bill Clinton had set a deadline of tomorrow for his policy team to explain Washington's refusal to recognise the Angolan government.

The UN said in a Luanda communique that the Angolan foes were willing to meet over a possible ceasefire and the implementation of 1991 peace accords which broke down after Savimbi rejected his September electoral defeat.

UN special representative in Angola Margaret Anstee reiterated her appeal for a ceasefire, arguing on Tuesday that this would improve the climate at talks and allow aid to reach thousands of war wounded.

Unita said its delegation would arrive in Abidjan on April 11. Savimbi would not be attending.

The government sent senior negotiators Gen Higinio Carneiro and Faustino Muteka to SA for a series of high-level meetings on Monday.

They met ANC President Nelson Mandela on Tuesday and were due to hold talks with George Moose, newly-appointed US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Affairs.

"We are very concerned about the situation in Angola ... there should be full recognition by the US of the MPLA government," said ANC spokesman Gill Marcus.

According to Angolan state media, Moose's deputy Jeffrey Davidow told a Mozambican radio station that Washington was carrying out an intense review of its Africa policy.

Davidow was quoted as condemning Unita for returning to battle following "free and fair elections".

Unita, supported by the US and SA during its 16-year war against the Soviet-backed MPLA, has driven government authorities out of about two thirds of the country. Namibia offered on Tuesday to mediate and urged the two sides to agree to a ceasefire. — Sapa-Reuter.

Vanquished rebels' trail of destruction

MABUBAS (Angola) — When the government forces expelled Unita from Caxito, the capital of Bengo province, the rebel soldiers seemed to withdraw without much resistance — but not without having first sabotaged the sluices in the nearby Mabubas Dam wall and blown up the dam's hydroelectric generators, leaving Luanda without power.

That was nearly three weeks ago. Since then power to Luanda has been restored from an alternative source, but the dam has filled up and, with the sluices blocked, a solid wall of water broke over the dam. This made repairs impossible until the rains subside and the water level in the dam drops.

Along with the turbines and generators, Unita also blew up the bridge over the Dande River, about 10 km south of Caxito.

Overlooking the damaged dam wall, about 5 km east of Caxito, is the small settlement of Mabubas, which has been turned into the military headquarters of Bengo province.

HANS-PETER BAKKER of The Star Africa Service reports from the frontline in the Angolan civil war.

Brigadier Coelho da Cruz Faisca, officer commanding the forces in the province, said Unita offered very little resistance when the government forces attacked. He said only three of his troops died in the offensive, but at least 200 Unita soldiers were killed.

According to the brigadier, 15 Unita soldiers were captured, most of whom have been returned to Luanda, with the rest having elected to stay with the government forces. Asked about charges of atrocities against civilians when the government retook Caxito, he admitted: "A lot of people took the law into their own hands, but we soon controlled them".

He said the government had secured a 30 km radius around Caxito, but that he expected Unita to reorganise and try to retake the town. He vowed that the rebel forces would not succeed.

Caxito is strangely empty of life. Only a few soldiers lounge in bullet-scarred houses. According to the soldiers, the residents fled into the dense forests, or found their way to Luanda and are waiting for the situation to stabilise before daring to return.

Meanwhile, news that the warring sides have agreed to meet on Monday in the Ivory Coast has been greeted with scepticism by many people in the capital.

According to a United Nations press release, the UN's special representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, appealed to both sides to consider ceasing hostilities before the meeting started, so as to create an atmosphere more conducive to agreement and to make it possible for humanitarian aid to reach a larger number of people.

All the people questioned laughed at the idea of an immediate cessation of hostilities and said they expected Unita to make demands at the meeting which the government would be unable to grant, and that the war would continue unabated.

Refugees long walk is over

Oct 14 1993

LUANDA. — About 4 000 refugees fleeing Angola's Unita-held second city Huambo have been flown to safety after walking more than 100km through the bush to a UN refugee site.

The news agency An-gop said yesterday the refugees, mainly women and children, were flown from the town of Caimbambo last week by helicopter mercy missions organised by the United Nations.

The UN has suspended food aid to the city. — Sapa

Unita will 'definitely' be at talks

(S) APR 8/11/93
ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — An official of Angola's Unita rebels said the movement would definitely attend peace negotiations in Ivory Coast next week, unlike abortive February talks when the rebels failed to turn up.

Mr John Marques Kakumba, Unita's Abidjan-based secretary for African affairs, said there would be no repeat of February's flop, when Unita said it was unable to reach talks with Angola's MPLA government in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

"This time they will arrive, we are 100 percent sure," he said.

The delegation was expected to arrive tomorrow with talks opening on Monday.

Names of delegates had not yet been finalised, he said, but the team was likely to include Unita information secretary Mr Georges Valentine and military advisors.

Mr Kakumba expected the talks to be in several stages, with pauses for consultations by both sides with their leaders in Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita threat condemned

ARCT 10/4/93

NEW YORK. — The UN Security Council has condemned Unita rebel radio for threatening the life of the chief UN official in strife-torn Angola and has rejected apologies by the group as insufficient.

The Security Council added its voice to earlier protests by UN Secretary-General Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, the United States, Russia and Portugal against the verbal attacks on Mrs Margaret Anstee, a Briton and veteran UN official.

A statement read by Security Council president Mr Jamsheed Marker of Pakistan said Unita leaders attempted to dissociate themselves from the broadcasts although the attacks were part of a pattern the UN had criticised previously.

"The council does not think this is

good enough. Given these precedents and the sensitivity of the situation in Angola, the council takes a very grave view of these broadcasts and the allegations."

Unita's Radio Vorgan called Mrs Anstee corrupt and a prostitute who was being bribed with "diamonds and mercury". It said "one stray bullet" could hit her.

The main complaint of the broadcast was that Mrs Anstee diverted, for political reasons, badly needed humanitarian aid she had previously promised for the Unita-controlled Huambo area.

Unita's UN observer, Mr Marcos Somando, said in a letter to Dr Boutros-Ghali that his organisation was "profoundly disturbed" by the broadcast. — Sapa-Reuter.

A South African's perspective of how we became involved in a fest of wils with the Soviet Union

Events that shaped Angola's present-day conflict

SM 12/4/93

(5)

AS THE Angolan cauldron boils over once again, it is time to consider the events which led up to the present situation.

The story of South Africa's intervention in the region has been ably detailed by Fred Bridgland, in *The War for Africa*. Now at last we have the record of the events leading up to that intervention, told by the man most qualified to explain them from a South African perspective.

Dr Willem ("Kaas") van der Waals, SD, SM, served in Luanda as a vice-consul for almost four years in the early 1970s. His position was akin to that of a defence attaché at an embassy: responsible for military liaison with a then-friendly government. For although the material in this book first saw the light of day as a doctoral thesis in a necessarily rather dense form — the author is by training a military man... a paratrooper who retired recently with the rank of brigadier.

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Portugal's War in Angola 1961-1974 by W.S. van der Waals (Ashanti, R75.95)
Reviewed by JAMES MITCHELL

In a way it is appropriate that Van der Waals and Bridgland should have both written books on conflict in Angola, for it was Bridgland, reporting for a British newspaper, who first spotted, deep inside the territory, young white troops who answered his queries in strongly accented English... and so the story of South African involvement was blown. Also present that day, it now seems, was Van der Waals, by then again serving with the SADF.

The main thrust of the book covers from the uprisings of 1961, through the limited revolutionary struggle of 1962-66, to the extended war period running from 1967 and which was only ended by the Lisbon coup of April 25, 1974. Two introductory chapters set the scene, with an unbiased description of the changes in Portuguese official thinking regarding their colonies (or "overseas provinces") together with analysis of how this thinking diverged from reality.

Though there had been plenty of advance warning, the bloody 1961 revolt of the Bacongo in the north came as a surprise to the authorities. Radio Leopoldville had repeatedly broadcast such slogans to Angola as "Russia will provide weapons and Lumumba will help us. Let us kill the whites." Six months before, propaganda stations in China, Prague and Bucharest initiated the theme.

After the preliminary butchery and a rather slow reaction, the Portuguese began to fight back with growing success. As they developed counter-revolutionary strategies, South Africa took a close interest. Resettle-

ment, as used by the British in Malaya, was tried.

Van der Waals depicts the SADF as responding in a way far removed from the commonly portrayed image of unimaginative things. "On occasion General (Alan) Fraser of the SADF lodged serious protests and even threatened a withdrawal of South African support if the Portuguese coercive measures continued...

"The benefit of *aldeamentos* must be seen to be a reward and a consequence of security — not a bribe, and certainly not a punishment."

Although Van der Waals describes extremely well the weariness that helped lead to the April 1974 revolution, he also documents his reasons for believing that it had been long-planned to benefit overall Soviet intentions. And he repeats that as early as 1960 the SADF had identified the potential danger to South Africa. (It was interesting to hear at

the launch of this book, public comments to the effect that South Africa's politicians should remember what happened to the Lisbon regime when it required sacrifices from its military without considering how the loyalty of its armed forces could best be retained.)

These days it is fashionable in some quarters to say that the USSR and its Cuban surrogates only operated in Angola in response to South African interference there. It may suit present gullible complexes, but Van der Waals shows how wrong an explanation this is.

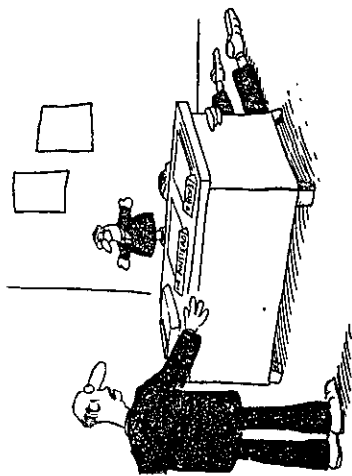
Communist involvement had been planned long beforehand, as noted above. In essence, the SADF fought a long delaying action, one which enabled South Africa to outlast a hegemonist, imperialist state, Soviet Russia, until the inevitable contradictions within the communist system brought the whole house of cards tumbling down.

This, of course, is no comfort to the poor Angolans. But it should please South Africans, enabled to manage their transition to majority rule in relative peace.

Portugal's War in Angola is not the full story. Classified material still remains buried in the archives. But it goes a long way towards filling a major gap in our understanding of the changes in southern Africa.

Although Van der Waals thanks "Ted Suttén-Pryce" (actually Suttén-Pryce) for his assistance in "transforming an academic study into a more readable manuscript", it is unclear who was responsible for referring to the "Winds of Change" Prime Minister as "Mac Millan" (Macmillan) or the infamous way in which the text changes from the third to the first person within succeeding sentences. There are also omissions from the index. A book of this importance deserves more professional editing. □

by David Wainglass
Gordon Coulthart



55/Coulthart

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11-26

He has our cash, claim charities

By June Bearzi
Star Line

silver tongue"

Last year Tanzarelo Jones joined the Shepherd's Flock mission — a Venetian post organisation which shelters the destitute — to help raise money.

However, Shepherd's Flock founder Margaret Jones said Tanzarelo was dismissed from the organisation within a few months as he had failed to hand over funds collected from the public.

After his dismissal, Tanzarelo apparently established his own

operation, Bread-for-Life, in Westdene, Johannesburg. According to sources, he also failed to channel the Bread-for-Life funds into organisations that assisted the needy.

Three years ago Tanzarelo was live-in manager at the Quirinale Hotel in Kotze Street, Hillbrow. The hotel was labelled at the time as a "vice den".

Messages left for Tanzarelo have not elicited a response.

Star 12/4/93

Angolan peace talks spark fresh hope

HARARE — Representatives of the Angolan government and the armed opposition Unita movement are set to meet today in the Ivory Coast capital Abidjan amid hopes for an eventual truce after five months of vicious renewed civil war in Angola.

Both sides have expressed desire for a ceasefire. Angolan presidential spokesman Valdemiro da Conceicao said an end to the fighting was the basic aim of the talks, while the UN mission in the country said the foes were willing to discuss a ceasefire.

Two attempts earlier this year in Addis Ababa to get

the two sides to stop fighting failed.

At the first meeting in the Ethiopian capital, government and Unita representatives could not agree; and the second time, Unita negotiators failed to turn up.

Fighting has been raging in much of the country. An estimated 20 000 people have been killed, many more thousands wounded and 2 million displaced during the past five months.

That civil war which started soon after Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975 formally ended in the 1991 Bicesse peace accord.

But it resumed after Unita, led by Jonas Savimbi, lost last September's UN-supervised general elections to the ruling MPLA party.

While the Angolan government, which is seeking its recognition by the US government, has accepted Unita's offer for the resumption of talks in Abidjan, it has rejected its demand for the formation of a new, interim government.

Unita's decision to meet with the MPLA government came after the UN Security Council called for a resumption of dialogue at the highest

level between the two sides. Among the government's terms are a reaffirmation of the Bicesse peace accords, signed on May 31 1991, as still valid.

It also wants Unita to accept the September election results, which Savimbi maintains were fraudulent.

But this round of talks is not expected to bring about an immediate ceasefire. Unita's Abidjan-based secretary for African affairs, John Marques Kakumba, reportedly said they would take several stages, with both sides consulting their leaders back home in Angola. — Sapa-AP.

Angolan talks in Abidjan today

(5) CT 12/4/93
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Fighting has been raging in much of the country since Unita

refused to accept election results last year. An estimated 20 000 people have been killed in the past five months.

It has been claimed that Unita now controls some 70% of the country. Analysts say the conflict has been much more intense than during the previous 16-year war. — Sapa-AFP

Unita fails to arrive for Ivory Coast peace talks

ABIDJAN — Unita claimed to have launched a new assault on the eve of UN-sponsored peace talks and failed to arrive on schedule in the Ivory Coast capital yesterday, delaying the opening of negotiations.

UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque told Associated Press that rebel radio reports of "fierce battles" in the provincial capitals of Kuito and Luena, between 670 and 800 kilometres southeast of Luanda, were "rumours ... I think it's a lot of talk".

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's government, whose representatives arrived on Sunday for the talks in the West African capital of Abidjan, has reported fighting only in northern Angola, near Uige town.

Conference sources said they did not believe the rebels would boycott the negotiations, stalled since the guerrillas failed to attend talks in Ethiopia in February.

Chief rebel spokesman Jorge Valentim was to lead the delegation, while the government is represented by former Cabinet Minister Fernando Faustino Muteka.

"We have some new signs that lead us to believe that the talks will proceed," UN negotiator Margaret Anstee said in an interview on Portu-

guese independent radio yesterday.

If the delegation from Jonas Savimbi's Unita did not arrive by early afternoon, the talks would be put off until today, said Albuquerque.

A plane sent by Ivory Coast to fly the Unita delegation from Kinshasa, Zaire, appeared to have logistical problems, he said.

Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny has been a staunch supporter of Savimbi and it was hoped his influence combined with pressure from the US would produce a cease-fire agreement.

Anstee met with Houphouet-Boigny yesterday morning.

UN and US negotiators said it was imperative the warring factions agree to allow distribution of relief aid. About 3-million people face starvation in the nation's 18th year of a war that has killed 400 000.

Anstee said she did not expect rebel death threats against her to hinder negotiations.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday called for an immediate ceasefire.

He repeated warnings that if no progress was made the UN would withdraw its 700 peacekeepers sent to Angola to monitor the country's

first multiparty elections after peace agreements were signed in May 1991.

Continued UN involvement in war-torn Angola depends on progress in fresh peace talks which were due to start in Ivory Coast yesterday, Boutros-Ghali said.

Boutros-Ghali said Angolans were responsible for solving their own conflict and international aid could only be effective when warring parties were committed to peace.

"I attach particular importance to a successful outcome of this present meeting which will be a major determinant in whether I can recommend to the Security Council a continuing role for the UN in the consolidation and maintenance of peace in Angola," Boutros-Ghali said.

The UN chief called for an immediate ceasefire throughout Angola to encourage negotiations and allow delivery of relief supplies.

Anstee was appointed to monitor the elections last September and became the chief peacemaker when the contenders went back to war on October 31, with Savimbi charging balloting was rigged. UN observers said it was generally free and fair.

The US, Russia and Portugal, Angola's former coloniser, are observers at the talks. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Angola talks on the road

ABIDJAN — Unita and Angola government delegations surprised observers by giving each other warm welcomes when talks opened here yesterday on the civil war.

Speaking for Luanda, Faustino Muteka said the talks should "respond to the Angolan people's expectations and those of the international community".

Unita's Jorge Valentim said he hoped "realistic proposals" would give Angolans a "glimmer of hope".

After yesterday's opening session, the talks proper were to begin today, said United Nations spokesman Joao Albuquerque.

Discussions are to follow a nine-point agenda set by the UN and the three observers — the United States, Portugal and Russia — and include implementation of a ceasefire, the release of all prisoners and observation of the Bicesse peace accord of May 1991.

● Unita said from Sao Tome and Principe that its forces attacked government installations in the northern oil-producing enclave of Cabinda yesterday. Targets included the television station, the military hospital and a police station and "heavy damage on life and property" was inflicted.

— Sapa-AFP-Reuter.

MPLA set for ceasefire as ⁵ARG 13/4/93 hunger worsens

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — Angola's government and Unita rebels have begun face-to-face peace talks after six months of renewed civil war, and the government says it is ready to agree to a ceasefire.

The two sides met yesterday and said they were committed to ending the civil war, and a UN envoy hinted that 700 peacekeepers in the country might be withdrawn if the negotiators did not make progress.

UN and US officials insist that both sides agree quickly to allow aid distribution. About 3 million Angolans face starvation after 18 years of civil war, in which about 400 000 people have died.

"Angola is tired of war," said Fernando Faustino Muteka, who heads the Angolan government delegation. "My delegation is ready to resume dialogue with our brothers and reach peace."

Chief rebel delegate Jorge Valentim said: "We are here with our minds open . . . with the profound desire that Angola should have peace."

He said the two sides "should take this opportunity in order to present realistic solutions, no matter if they are modest, in order to give hope to the Angolans and a sense of security."

A government statement on Angolan radio called for a ceasefire, and

said the government was open to discuss other issues that could lead to peace.

But the statement said the results of last September's elections must be respected. Peace accords signed in 1991 broke down last October after rebel leader Jonas Savimbi claimed the vote was rigged. UN observers said the vote was generally free and fair.

UN special envoy Margaret Anstee opened the talks between the rebel Unita movement and the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The negotiations were scheduled to continue today.

● Soldiers were sent yesterday to guard two hospitals on Namibia's border with Angola after reports that the institutions were threatened with attack by Unita forces.

Police in Windhoek said the Engela and Odibo hospitals were being guarded by the Namibian Defence Force after police asked for army assistance. Sources confirmed news reports that the threat came from Unita.

Police could not confirm reports that Oshakati Hospital also faced possible attack as Angola's civil war, which resumed in October when Unita refused to accept the results of the country's elections, spilled over into Namibia.

The latest threat follows a series of border crossings by Unita soldiers and acts of violence against Namibians living near the frontier. — Sapa-AP.

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The latest threat follows a series of border crossings by Unita soldiers and acts of violence against Namibians living near the frontier. — Sapa-AP.

Unita calls for end to fighting

ABIDJAN — Under more pressure than ever before, Angola's warring factions prepared for hard bargaining at peace talks yesterday, with Unita calling for a temporary halt to fighting. (S) 10/14/73.

Sources in the government delegation said they were unhappy about a nine-point agenda agreed to when the talks opened on Monday, saying it favoured Unita.

UN mediators said discussion would centre on mechanics such as setting up commissions for military, political and humanitarian issues.

"This morning is the hard part of the meeting because we are going to talk about the logistical nature of these talks," said Joao Albuquerque, spokesman for UN special envoy Margaret Anstee.

"A suspension of hostilities, it's what we will defend today," Jorge Valentim, chief delegate of the Unita team, told reporters. But he added that a ceasefire was not possible because of complicated political issues in Angola's renewed civil war.

UN and US officials insist that both sides agree quickly to allow aid distribution. About 3-million Angolans face starvation

after 18 years of civil war, in which about 400 000 people have died.

Albuquerque said a UN relief official arrived in Abidjan yesterday from Sudan to discuss "how to implement humanitarian aid as soon as possible".

Ivorian government sources said a message from UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali was "an ultimatum".

Anstee opened the talks on Monday with Boutros-Ghali's warning that a successful outcome would be "a major determinant" in whether he would ask the Security Council to renew the UN mandate in Angola, which expires on April 30.

A government statement on Angolan radio on Monday night called for a ceasefire. It said the government was open to discuss other issues but that results of last September's elections must be respected.

The open-ended talks began on a conciliatory note on Monday with both sides saying they were committed to halting the fighting and quickly adopting an agenda led by a ceasefire.

Other points include national reconciliation with increased power for Jonas Savimbi's Unita. — Sapa-AP.

Star 144193

Bargaining at Angola talks

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● World news reports — Page 4

Angolan talks stalemated

5 OCT 14/4/93

LISBON. — The Angolan peace talks in Abidjan stumbled at the first hurdle yesterday when the government and Unita delegations failed to secure a ceasefire agreement at the top of their nine-point agenda, Portuguese radio reported.

Emerging from the first full day of United Nations-brokered talks in Abidjan, the two delegations said they had reached a stalemate after seven hours of negotiations.

The ruling MPLA is insisting on an immediate and open-ended ceasefire agreement, but Unita is demanding a temporary "suspension of hostilities".

Angolan government spokesman General Higinio Carneiro said: "For Unita, suspending hostilities means stopping the shooting. But 'suspending' means stopping now and starting again

Suspension or ceasefire main hurdle

tomorrow. We want an effective ceasefire which brings peace to Angola."

Unita General Eugenio Manuvakola said his movement was ready to enter an agreement on suspending hostilities and was trying to find "common ground" between the two sides.

Mr Jorge Valentim, head of the Unita delegation, said earlier: "We are seeking a suspension of hostilities, which is much more practical, much more realistic than a ceasefire, which would im-

ply mechanisms and other complicated factors."

General Carneiro said on Portuguese television: "How can you provide humanitarian aid if roads are blocked or mined? We need to put all that right and to do so we need a different climate, not a climate of suspense.

"If Unita believes that the Angolan conflict is political, it means that if we do not reach a political agreement then the fighting will carry on."

The radio report said Unita was prepared to commit itself to a temporary halt in the fighting to allow the two sides to discuss a package of political measures surrounding a ceasefire deal.

Observers from the United States, Russia and Portugal are also at the fifth round of talks since Angola was plunged into a renewed civil war in October after Unita refused to accept the outcome of the country's first democratic elections. — UPI

Deadlock in Angolan ⁽⁵⁾ ceasefire negotiations

ARC 14/4/93

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — The Angolan government said ceasefire negotiations with Unita rebels were deadlocked over procedural matters but did not abandon hope for the peace talks.

The truce is intended to allow humanitarian aid to reach some of the three million Angolans threatened with starvation.

General Higinio Carneiro said delegates were "not in a position to say that things were going well or badly".

He said Unita's proposal for a suspension of hostilities, which it has linked to the question of relief aid, should fit into a wider ceasefire package.

"We see Unita's proposal as empty. It does not address the whole issue. It is like setting the

cart before the horse," said General Carneiro.

Unita wanted an immediate ceasefire, with terms of a permanent peace to be worked out later, said rebel delegate Mr Jardo Muekalia.

The government wants the ceasefire agreement to include terms for delivering humanitarian aid to the ravaged country, including determining responsibility for rebuilding bridges and removing mines from roads.

Members of the government delegation also complained that the nine-point agenda favoured Unita. They did not elaborate.

The agenda calls for broader Unita participation in interim administrations at national, provincial and local levels. — Sapa-AP.

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Star 15/493

⑤ Ceasefire obstacle in Angola talks

ABIDJAN — The Angolan government and Unita rebels failed to reach agreement on a ceasefire yesterday, but pressed on with talks as UN officials said both sides wanted to overcome the obstacles to peace.

"We're moving directly on to the second point" on the UN agenda for the talks, UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque said between negotiating sessions. This point is implementation of the initial peace accord signed in Portugal in 1991.

Jorge Valentim, delegation chief for Unita, said: "We agreed today that it was impossible to implement a ceasefire because of the complexity of the situation."

The ceasefire issue will come

up again, however, as participants pointed out, since the May 1991 Bicesse accords provided for a UN-monitored ceasefire, the presidential and parliamentary elections held last September and the formation of a single, joint army.

The negotiations were blocked earlier when Unita called for an "immediate suspension of hostilities", but the government demanded a "ceasefire, in the full meaning of the term", sources said.

Renewed civil war began after Unita refused to accept it had lost the UN-supervised general elections to the MPLA, in power since 1975.

In the presidential poll, the incumbent Jose Eduardo dos

Santos narrowly missed winning enough votes to avoid a run-off round with his main rival, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

Unita General Eugenio Manuvakola said suspending hostilities would be a "sort of gentlemen's agreement", which would enable us to consider all the issues in a favourable climate".

Valentim complained that the Bicesse accords provided for "no referee".

"It was like a football match but there was nobody to blow the whistle for fouls."

This approach was categorically rejected by the government team, however, which considers that the ceasefire had already been signed at Bicesse. — Sapa-AFP.

Ceasefire problem for Angolan talks

B10AM 15/4/93

ABIDJAN — Representatives of the Angolan government and Unita resumed peace talks in Ivory Coast yesterday but remained divided over terms of a ceasefire.

"We are going very well," a beaming Jorge Valentim, head of the Unita team, said as he began the second full day of talks.

But he cautioned that progress towards a full ceasefire, as sought by the government, could take time.

"This will take months," Valentim said.

Jonas Savimbi's Unita, which has recaptured swathes of Angolan territory since the civil war erupted again, is calling for "a suspension of hostilities" while substantive political and military negotiations continue.

Angola's government delegation, led by Faustino Muteka and Gen Higinio Carneiro wants a global ceasefire package, with international guarantees and addressing all main sticking points.

It is a matter of interpretation. "There is no fundamental disagree-

ment," Valentim added about the ceasefire issue.

The senior Portuguese official at the talks, Antonio Monteiro, denied the factions were bogged down in semantics over what constitutes a ceasefire — the first item on a comprehensive nine-point agenda.

"It is not semantics. These are substantial points," he told reporters.

Unita radio has reported serious fighting in several provinces since the meeting began on Monday evening.

The US, Russia and former colonial power Portugal are the three official observer countries overseeing the 1991 Angolan peace accords and are represented in Abidjan.

The accords ended the first civil war, which began in 1975, but collapsed after last September's UN-supervised elections.

Unita rejected its defeat at the polls and now appears bent on renegotiating fundamental aspects of the 1991 accords and extracting significant power-sharing concessions from the government. — Reuter.

Afreximbank wins funding pledge

B10AM 15/4/93

ABIDJAN — Potential shareholders in the new African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank) had pledged more than \$100m in equity, enough to ensure the project got off the ground, the African Development Bank (AfDB) said.

African central and commercial banks agreed in Cairo in January to set up the bank with capital of \$500m, to boost trade within the continent and with the rest of the world.

In the latest issue of its bimonthly newsletter, the AfDB, the project's

main sponsor, said potential shareholders in Afreximbank had signed letters of intent pledging equity contributions totalling more than \$100m.

It said the AfDB would soon consider the bank's own investment.

The new project aims to help exporters hamstrung by Africa's weak commercial banking network and the high cost of outside financing.

AfDB officials say it would aim to boost official intra-African trade to about 20% of the continent's total trading volume. — Sapa-Reuter.

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AFRICA WORLD

No observers at Angolan meeting

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast. — Angolan rebel and government negotiators met alone yesterday without mediators or observers on the fourth day of peace talks to end their 18-year-old conflict.

They were expected to discuss a wide range of issues in their nine-point agenda after failing to agree on a temporary halt to renewed fighting in the war that has claimed 400 000 lives.

Unita wants a temporary "cessation of hostilities" before a total ceasefire. The MPLA government wants a final truce before halting fighting.

On Wednesday, negotiators debated future elections and restructuring the military in the presence of UN mediator Mrs Margaret Anstee and observers from the United States, Russia and Portugal.

Delegates refused to comment before beginning

private negotiations. Anstee said the meeting without outsiders was a "positive development".

The Angolan government announced yesterday it had sharply revalued the kwanza national currency from 7 000 to the dollar.

see the Mass - In-
formants

⑤ CT 16/4/93

Unita wants ⁵ more power in government

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — Angolan Unita rebels said they had convinced their enemies to enlarge the government to ensure that they would have better representation.

A ceasefire topped the agenda when peace talks began on Monday but — after failing to agree — negotiators have moved on to other topics, including future elections, restructuring the military and forming a government of national unity.

"The government that was chosen by the prime minister doesn't represent the desire of the people. The ministry they gave us was a joke," said rebel negotiator Mr Jorge Valentim.

Unita was given the Ministry of Culture portfolio last year. — Sapa-AP.

Food aid suspended to Angola town after attacks on aircraft ⁵

LUANDA. — The UN World Food Programme (WFP) is suspending aid flights to the eastern Angolan city of Luena after Unita rebels killed one of its employees and attacked another of its aircraft.

The WFP said one of its guards was killed and another wounded at the weekend.

On Wednesday, Unita shot at a WFP Beechcraft with long-distance artillery while it was evacuating international aid workers ferrying food and medicine to the besieged city, the statement said.

The aircraft, which had clear UN markings, made it back to the capital, Luanda.

Unita has laid siege to Luena since January and shot at several WFP flights.

Food has practically run out in Luena, whose 115 000 population has been swollen by thousands of refugees fleeing fighting elsewhere in the country. They depend on the WFP flights to survive.

On April 5, the WFP cancelled all flights to the northern city of Uige after Unita rebels shot at an aircraft carrying aid, injuring a Russian crew member.

Namibia sets out to woo manufacturers

WINDHOEK — Namibia yesterday announced a bold set of incentives for private sector investment in its manufacturing sector, saying they made the country the most attractive manufacturing investment opportunity in southern Africa.

President Sam Nujoma told a media-briefing Namibia's challenge for 1993/94 was to industrialise and modernise. Most importantly, he said, the country's trade structure had to be changed by encouraging increased exports of manufactured goods.

The primary agent of manufacturing development had to be the private sector, Nujoma said. To this end, government had decided income tax would not be raised beyond 40%. *BIDM 16/4/93*

Special incentives approved by the cabinet on Wednesday for manufacturing enterprises included a 50% tax rebate on taxable income for five years, to be phased out at 5% a year over the subsequent ten years.

The government would allow accelerated write-off provisions for buildings erected by manufacturers, and concessional loans for the establishment, expansion and diversification phases of manufacturing enterprises.

This would include seed capital for small industries, working capital for manufacturing purposes, revolving fund financing and assistance with feasibility studies.

Also available were cash grants of 50% to cover real costs of export promotion and marketing expenses, and exporters' allowances up to 75% in the form of extra deductions as a percentage of listed expenses.

The Namibian government would provide a 125% training cost deduction.

To encourage manufacturers to use more labour intensive processes, wage costs relating directly to production would classify for a 125% deduction.

Nujoma said a special small industries incentive package was being worked out.

The government would maintain a non-resident shareholders' tax rate of 10%, no tax on dividends accruing to companies and a facility to fully write off plant machinery and equipment over three years.

Investors in manufacturing would also have access to tax-free importation or acquisition of manufacturing machinery and equipment and the facility to write off building infrastructure at 20% in the first year and at 4% over the next 20 years. — Sapa.

Angolan negotiations for peace continue in private

ABIDJAN — Unita and Angolan government negotiators met yesterday without mediators or observers on the fourth day of peace talks. *BIDM 16/4/93*

They were expected to discuss a wide range of issues on their nine-point agenda after failing to agree on a temporary halt to renewed fighting.

Unita wants a temporary "cessation of hostilities" before a total ceasefire. President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' government wants to settle first on a final truce agreement before halting fighting.

On Wednesday, in the presence of UN mediator Margaret Anstee and observers from the US, Russia and Portugal, negotiators debated future

elections and restructuring of the military.

Delegates refused to comment before beginning yesterday's private negotiations. Anstee said the meeting without outsiders was "a very positive development". *(S)*

Portuguese observer Antonio Monteiro had said observers would take a more active role in the talks because Angola was "facing probably the worst situation" in terms of confidence between the two warring factions.

The UN has warned that the success of the peace talks will determine whether 700 UN peacekeepers sent before the elections will remain in Angola. Their mandate expires on April 30. — Sapa-AP.



Talks progress but Unita fights on

ABIDJAN. — Angolan peace talks yesterday entered their fourth full day with only Unita rebels reporting progress.

And with delegates so far unable to agree on a ceasefire, fighting in Angola raged on.

Unita delegation head Mr Jorge Valentim said the ruling MPLA had offered the rebels key cabinet posts during closed-door talks on Thursday.

"This is already accepted formally," he told reporters as he arrived for the morning session.

He also said the government had agreed to grant special status to Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, giving him immunity from prosecution and guaranteed freedom of movement.

● Unita rebels have destroyed seven electrical pylons supplying the Angolan capital in the second sabotage of Luanda's energy supply in two months, the state news agency Angop reported yesterday.

Angop said Unita troops had been sighted 120km south-east of Luanda before the attack.

Similar sabotage in Cambambe two months ago plunged Luanda into darkness and alternative sources of energy have been working only sporadically since.

It was not clear how much power was operating in the city this time. — Sapa-Reuter

Big boost for Unita

Luanda government agrees in principle to share power

⑤ ARG 17/4/93

ABIDJAN. — Angola's government and Unita rebels said yesterday they had agreed in principle to share power, but a Unita delegate said a full peace accord looked a long way off.

A joint statement said that at closed-door talks this week the government agreed to improve a 1992 offer of minor government posts for Unita members.

"The government of Angola and Unita agreed that the principle of a larger participation of Unita in the government at the national, provincial and local levels is accepted," the statement said.

Unita delegation head Mr Jorge Valentim said specific government posts would be negotiated later but would have to be positions of real influence.

"There are key ministries ... prime minister, minister of defence, minister of the interior, minister of foreign affairs, minister of the interior. They should look (at) some of them for Unita.

"Minister of culture, vice-minister of coffee, prime minister of football, these are not the most important," he said.

He added that Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi would not seek a cabinet post but the government had agreed to guarantee his freedom to run as a candidate in a second round of presidential elections, to be held at an unspecified date.

The issue of Unita participation in government was item three on a nine-point agenda agreed on Monday and the first on which there was any agreement.

"These issues are complex, we don't expect to solve all the problems in the first round," Unita delegate Mr Jardo Muekalia said.

Top of the agenda was a halt to the fighting in Angola, which continues to claim lives as the delegates talk.

Mr Muekalia said the next subject to be addressed would be how to get humanitarian aid through to civilians in his war-torn country, then talks would probably turn to law and order and freedom of the Press.

The thorniest problems, such as a ceasefire and updating of 1991 peace accords, would be left until last, he said.

"Once we get to the end (of the agenda) we'll come back to the beginning," he said.

In Luanda, Unita rebels destroyed electrical pylons supplying the capital in the second sabotage of the city's energy supply in two months, the state news agency Angop reported yesterday.

Angop said Unita troops had been seen around Cambambe, 120km southeast of Luanda before the Thursday attack.

During the week, Unita intimidated residents of communities in the area and ambushed two vehicles, kidnapping the occupants of one, Angop said.

Similar sabotage in Cambambe two months ago plunged Luanda into darkness and alternative energy sources have worked sporadically since. — Sapa-Reuter



□ GRIM PATROL: Israeli soldiers check their weapons after a patrol in the Beit Hanun area. The army has arrested hundreds of Palestinians since sealing off the occupied territories.

Car bomb kills 2 Arabs: 8 soldiers hurt

JERUSALEM. — A car bomb detonated between two buses in the occupied West Bank has killed two Arabs and injured eight soldiers, according to Israeli radio.

Army radio said one of those killed yesterday worked at a snack bar at the site, in the Mehola settlement at the northern edge of the West Bank, and the other's identity was not immediately known.

The wounded were said to be only slightly injured.

Reports said a car packed either with explosives or butane gas exploded between two parked buses, one military, the other civilian.

The blast sent both buses up in flames and immediately killed an Arab man who worked at the snack bar, and another Arab who was not identified.

Police earlier thought it might have been a "suicide" car bomb — which would be a

major escalation in Palestinian violence — but there has been no confirmation of that.

"There was a blast and I was thrown into the kitchen," snack bar owner Motti Gross said on Israel radio. "Then I heard sounds that sounded like pops of gunfire."

Gross said an Arab he has employed for four years died in the bombing.

The explosion came during a more than two-week closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip intended to prevent a rash of attacks on people within Israel.

However, the restrictions do not prevent Israelis from traveling to the occupied territories; they only block Palestinians from entering Israel.

● In Damascus the PLO said it wanted a delay in the resumption of Middle East peace talks because a crisis over Israel's deportation of Palestinians had still not been solved.

Yasser Abed-Rabbo, leader of one of three PLO factions directing the Palestinian peace negotiators, told reporters the PLO would propose the delay when Arabs met later yesterday to decide whether to attend the talks in Washington on Tuesday.

"We are considering the postponement of the talks for a short period until the issues which were not solved yet are solved," Abed-Rabbo said.

"We did not say we are leaving the peace process. We are not quitting," he added. "All we are saying is let us postpone for a short period of time, we insist a short period of time, in order to reach a compromise."

The peace talks were suspended last December after Israel expelled 415 Palestinians it accused of supporting violent Islamic groups.

● Palestinian sources said they were disappointed that

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak failed to secure concessions when he met Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Wednesday.

● A Palestinian deportee was wounded by shrapnel yesterday when an Israeli tank shell crashed near about 400 exiles marching on Israel's lines in south Lebanon, witnesses said.

The deportee was hit in the chest by flying debris when an Israeli tank shell slammed into rocks about 30 m from exiles shortly after they resumed their march.

Reporter Nadim Ladki said the wounded man was taken to a car and driven back to the deportees' medical tent for treatment at their camp in a south Lebanon no man's land.

"It is clear we cannot go any farther," a deportee leader said before leading the men back — Sapa-Reuter-AP.

ST Files 18/4/93
Angola moves towards new ceasefire

ANGOLA took a major step towards a ceasefire this week when the MPLA government made major power-sharing concessions to Unita.

A joint statement issued during peace talks in Abidjan, capital of Ivory Coast, said the government agreed to improve a 1992 offer of minor government posts for Unita.

The rebels appear to be taking advantage of unprecedented successes in the civil war to win political concessions. Unita now controls two-thirds of the country.

According to the joint statement, Unita would participate at executive level of national,

By MICHELLE FAUL and STEVE WEIZMAN

provincial and local government.

Unita delegation head Jorge Valentim said specific posts would be negotiated later but would have to be positions of real influence.

He said the movement expected to be considered for at least some top ministerial posts like the premiership, defence, foreign affairs and interior administration.

The two sides, joined at most sessions by UN mediators and US, Russian and Portuguese

observers, spent the week seeking general points of agreement in a nine-point agenda, with specifics like a ceasefire agreement to be left to further talks.

A UN spokesman said decisions on the release of prisoners and the provision of humanitarian aid were likely to be announced soon.

In return for guarantees of physical security and unspecified immunities, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has agreed to join a second round of presidential elections "as soon as the necessary conditions are met".

—Sapa-Reuters-AP-AFP

Star 19/4/93

Angolan peace talks resumed ⑤

ABIDJAN — Angolan peace talks resumed in Ivory Coast yesterday after government delegates returned from an overnight visit to Luanda for private consultations with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

As fighting in Angola continued despite claims of progress, MPLA government team leaders resumed talks with UNITA rebels. But they declined to comment on the reason for their trip home, and whether they were seeking presidential views or approval on specific proposals. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan talks on after consultations

ABIDJAN — Angolan peace talks resumed in Ivory Coast yesterday after government delegates returned from an overnight visit to Luanda for private consultations with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

MPLA team leaders Faustino Muteka and Gen Higinio Carneiro resumed talks with Unita after returning to Abidjan early yesterday. *BIDAN 19/4/93*

They declined to comment on the reason for their trip home and whether they were seeking presidential views or approval on specific proposals.

Meanwhile, Unita delegation leader Jorge Valentim played down the gravity of Saturday's shooting at a relief plane in northern Angola by Unita troops.

"There is not good organisation. I think

it is a lack of information," he said. ⁵

Once Unita established the plane was carrying rice for refugees it was allowed to unload and return to Luanda, he said.

It was the second such incident since the Abidjan talks opened on April 12, and has raised doubts about Unita's commitment to reaching accord on a ceasefire.

The UN's World Food Programme suspended aid flights to the eastern city of Luena a day after Unita shot at one of its aircraft — evacuating aid workers after one was killed — on April 11.

Fighting has continued in Angola despite claims by both delegations that their meeting has made progress.

A second round of talks is expected this week. — Sapa-Reuter.

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Angolan peace talks go on despite shooting

⑤ CT 19/4/93

ABIDJAN. — Angolan peace talks resumed in the Ivory Coast yesterday after government delegates returned from an overnight visit to Luanda for private consultations with President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos.

The leader of the rebel Unita delegation here played down the gravity of Saturday's shooting at a relief plane in northern Angola by Unita troops.

He said that once the rebels established the plane was carrying rice for refugees they allowed it to unload and return to Luanda.

The incident, the second since the Abidjan talks opened on April 12, has

raised doubts about Unita's commitment to reaching an accord to end the fighting, which erupted after Unita lost last September's elections.

The UN's World Food Programme (WFP) suspended aid flights to the eastern city of Luena last week, a day after Unita shot at a WFP plane.

The plane was evacuating international aid workers from Luena after Unita shelling killed a local WFP employee.

Fighting has continued in Angola despite claims by both the Unita and government delegations that talks have made progress. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan ceasefire stalemate

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — Angolan rebel and government delegates have completed preliminary discussions on a nine-point peace agenda, still unable to reach a ceasefire accord to end their 18-year war.

Delegates have debated future national elections, restructuring the military, a national unity government, the release of prisoners of war and a ceasefire.

"They want peace. It will come," said United Nations spokesman Mr. Joao Albuquerque at the end of the seventh day of talks. Discussions were to resume today.

Representatives from the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita began peace talks saying a ceasefire was the top priority so that relief supplies could be taken to three million starving rural people.

The government wants a definitive ceasefire, while rebels demand an immediate halt to hostilities until a formal ceasefire can be hammered out.

"There is still mistrust," said rebel negotiator Mr. Jardo Muekalia. "We are looking for guarantees." — Sapa-AP.

Unita stalls peace talks

⑤ CT 20/4/93
ABIDJAN. — Angolan peace talks entered their second week yesterday with little sign of progress after being adjourned at the request of Unita, who wanted to refine their proposals.

"Unita asked ... for more time to analyse documents and come up with more constructive ideas," UN spokesman Mr Joao Albuquerque said.

The Angolan government delegate, General Higinio Carneiro, said: "If it's a good reason then it's positive."

The talks resume today.

● The Angop news agency reports from Luanda that the engine of a plane carrying relief supplies to the town of Malanje was hit by gunfire yesterday, as police fired in the air while trying to disperse crowds attempting to loot its cargo.

A World Food Programme spokesman dismissed the incident as "minor". — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

Angolans in fresh peace bid today

ARG 20/4/73

ABIDJAN. — The Angolan government and Unita will hold a joint session today in the second week of their peace talks in the Ivory Coast capital.

A member of the government delegation said the meeting, initially announced for yesterday afternoon, was postponed until today "at the request of Unita".

The two sides have been meeting at Abidjan's Ivoire hotel since April 12.

Mr Joao Albuquerque, spokesman for special United Nations envoy to Angola Margaret Anstee, who is presiding over the talks, said the delegations had planned to present each other with their conclusions after last week's first reading of a nine-point agenda.

By Sunday, the two sides had achieved a series of agreements in principle but were unable to compromise on how to stop the fighting in which 20 000 have died since September.

The government had made all points of agreement conditional on a binding ceasefire, but Unita argued that it was too early to discuss more than a suspension of hostilities.

Initial agreement has been announced on increased political participation by Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita at national, provincial and local level.

Both sides are also prepared for the second round of a presidential election. The incumbent, Mr Jose Eduardo dos Santos, won a UN-monitored first round in September but not with enough votes to avoid a run-off against Dr Savimbi.

Renewed civil war broke out after Unita refused to accept that general elections it lost to the MPLA were fair and free.
— Sapa-AFP.

In Warsaw
Thousands
rising.



Battle vows . . . Savimbi, said to have personally led Unita forces in the battle for Huambo, vows his people "will never be humiliated again".

Star 2/14/93

Unita conquers city of rubble

Huambo was largely destroyed in what was perhaps the bloodiest battle of the Angolan civil war. JILL JOLIFFE, one of the first journalists to enter the city afterwards, reports for the Star Africa Service.

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ANGOLA'S civil war has been fought largely in sweeping, wheeling actions in the bush, but in the battle for Huambo the opposing sides stood and slugged it out in the streets in a fight that was closer to the trench warfare of World War I.

In the end, it was decided in hand-to-hand fighting between MPLA and Unita troops in the rubble of what had once been houses and shops.

By the time Unita was able to claim victory on March 6 after 55 hellish days, the death toll was estimated at about 12 000. Large parts of Angola's second largest city had been shattered by shelling and bombing, and whole streets were nothing but rubble.

Unita, geared for guerrilla rather than conventional warfare, has seldom attempted to capture and hold cities. But because of Huambo's strategic and political importance to the movement — as the capital of its supporting Ovimbundu tribe — Unita made a determined effort to seize control.

"When I surrendered I had fought for 55 days in the same uniform and it was crawling with lice," said a captured MPLA officer, Lieutenant Colonel Alvaro Chimbabindu. "My men had very little food and water, and we were recycling spent bullets as our ammunition began to run out."

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's residence bore the brunt of the bombing and shelling by the MPLA. Government aircraft pin-pointed the building for

continuous bombardment, making their efforts by dropping a half-ton bomb in the backyard.

But Savimbi last week emerged phoenix-like from the ashes.

Speaking to the first foreign journalists to enter the town since the start of the battle, Savimbi said: "The Ovimbundu people will never be humiliated again. There came a time in history when the Jews said 'no more' and that is our position now."

According to Unita, Savimbi personally directed his troops in the battle, which began on January 9, trapping thousands of civilians in the city.

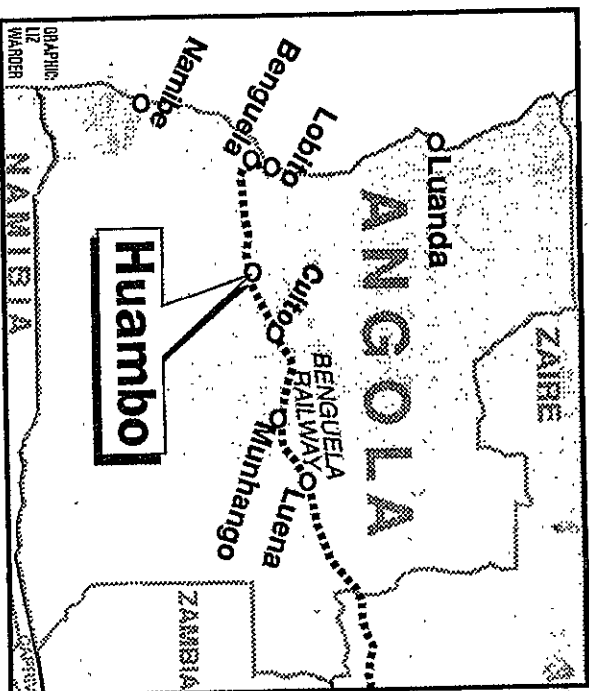
The civilians were caught in tank, artillery and small arms cross-fire between the two sides. They were subjected to daily aerial bombardment from Mig and Sukhoi aircraft, which pounded the city with conventional and cluster bombs.

"We're still suffering from Mig psychosis in Huambo," said pharmacist Maria da Fátima de Castro.

Burned-out tanks now stand in the streets of the once-grand city and there is barely a building that is not pock-marked from bullets or shrapnel. Nothing remains of the former UN headquarters except a few twisted metal beams.

In the residential areas of Fátima and Sao Joao, there are entire rows of houses without roofs. One house was blown away together with its occupants.

Packs of starving dogs roam



the city, raising fears of rabies. A few weeks ago they were feeding off the corpses in the streets.

The precise death toll in the battle is difficult to ascertain.

Unita's operational commander, Lieutenant-colonel Afonso Pinto, told the journalists that between 12 000 and 15 000 government soldiers had taken part in the battle and that only 800 had escaped from

the city. The others had either been killed or captured or had deserted.

Independent sources said the number of MPLA troops in the town was much less.

Unita admitted to holding 300 prisoners in Huambo, but a Portuguese source in the city estimated that there were more, hidden from view.

Questioned at his campaign headquarters near Kuito, capital of Bie province where a new

battle is being fought, Unita's military chief of staff, General Athindo "Ben-Ben" Pena, said he calculated the death toll in the battle for Huambo at more than 12 000. Colonel Pinto had earlier said the civilian death toll was "more than 1 000 and perhaps as high as 6 000".

Twelve-year-old Martins Bimba was one of the victims of the cluster bombs that were dropped by government planes over Chiva, a residential suburb where the MPLA thought Unita leaders might be hiding.

Cluster bombs, shot out small grenades that explode individually to scatter shards of metal. When a Sukhoi SU-25 dropped a cluster bomb on February 8 over Chiva 30 civilians were killed instantly.

Martins Bimba was blinded, as was 40-year-old Eduardo Chik. Alice da Graça was hit in the head but survived. Many other residents of Chiva have fragments of cluster bomb in their bodies.

Both Chik and Bimba could have their sight restored if the drugs and equipment were available for an operation. But there are none and neither are there painkillers, so they wait in agony for the time when these might become available. □

Unita claims fierce fighting in Angola

SAO TOME. — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday it was engaged in heavy fighting with government forces in several parts of southern Angola.

Unita radio said the government had launched an offensive in Cunene province. It also reported fighting in other provinces including Huila and Moxico.

Unita accused government forces of killing civilians in Cunene.

The Angolan state radio made no reference to the fighting yesterday.

The latest reports of fighting come as the two sides hold UN-mediated peace talks in Ivory Coast to try to arrange a ceasefire.

The peace talks lost their diplomatic edge yesterday with a government delegate accusing Unita of deceit and suggesting UN sanctions against the rebels if there is no breakthrough in the deadlocked talks.

Victory isn't enough for Savimbi

Unita has emerged militarily strengthened from the victory of Huambo while the army of the ruling MPLA suffered its heaviest losses since it seized power in 1975.

JOHN BATTERSEY
spoke to Unita leader
Jonas Savimbi

WEARING a bullet-proof vest under a brown safari suit and walking with the aid of a stick Unita leader Jonas Savimbi fielded questions for nearly two hours in a house which serves as one of his rendezvous points on the outskirts of the shattered city of Huambo. His palatial residence on the other side of town was destroyed during the 55-day battle for Huambo which has emerged as a turning-point in the civil war after Unita rejected the United Nations-sanctioned outcome of Angola's first democratic elections last September.

Q—Has Unita accepted the results of the elections?

A—All members of Unita are convinced that there was massive election fraud. But, to avoid war and destruction, we prefer to accept the result and maintain our reservations.

Q—Unita has lost most of its international support since it rejected the election result. What is your comment?

A—Yes, that is true. In the 34 years of my political career I won some (support) and I lost some ... because you cannot dominate them. They have to deal with an evolving situation and also how outsiders perceive the situation here. But it (loss of international support) will not stop us from achieving our objectives if we are doing the right thing in terms of our own evolution.

Q—What is the significance for Unita of the victory in Huambo? Will Huambo be the capital of a truly independent Angola?

A—No, I don't think we want to make Huambo a capital. I made a declaration saying that this will never happen. No one wants a division of this country. It was not Unita that decided to attack the government or the MPLA in Huambo. What choice did we have after what happened in Luanda (October 31, November 1, 2), Sumbe and Benguela. We had to fight back. And we won. That is all. We have been humiliated for 500 years within our own country. We have been suppressed for 16 years. We have suffered massacres. Now we say with determination: never again. We have to be accepted equally as Angolans.

Q—Is it possible to negotiate with the MPLA after events in Luanda and the battle in Huambo?

A—If we don't come up with any idea of how to get out of the crisis (at the Abidjan talks), this country is going to fall apart. To avoid that, we have to do all we can to reach an agreement even with (President Jose) Dos Santos.

Q—Both the MPLA and Unita in the past have been very critical of United Nations Special Envoy Margaret Anstee. What is your attitude towards her?

A—We are critical about her and we remain critical about her.

Q—Why did Unita propose a suspension of hostilities and not a ceasefire?

A—All the soldiers of Unita are totally opposed to any suspension (of hostilities) or ceasefire. But we think we gain something — if we suspend the war so that humanitarian aid is given to those who need it. Maybe — from that suspension — we can move bit



Jonas Savimbi ... 'We had to fight back. And we won'

Photo: TREVOR SAMSON

'I have nothing because I have no power'

JONAS MALHEIRO SAVIMBI is confident that Unita can dictate the terms of a political settlement following a major military victory in Angola.

"We have been humiliated for 500 years within our own country," said Savimbi, identifying closely with the central and southern Ovimbundu tribe which accounts for about 30 percent of Angola's 10-million people.

An estimated 12 000 people, about half of them civilians, died in a battle which has destroyed half of Huambo.

"We had to fight back. And we won. That is all," Savimbi said.

He said international support would not dictate the course of Unita action.

"The loss of international support will not stop us from achieving our objectives if we feel we are doing the right thing in terms of our own evolution."

Unita is one of Africa's most powerful and efficient guerrilla armies. It now controls more than 70 percent of the countryside including four of the country's 17 provincial capitals — Huambo

(Huambo), Uige (Uige) N'dalatando (Kwanza Norte) and MBanza Congo (Zaire).

According to top Unita generals it is poised to seize four more provincial capitals — Luena (Moxico), Malange (Malange), Kuito (Bie) and Menongue (Cuan-do Cubango).

Further military action will depend on the outcome of the Abidjan talks, they said.

Unita also controls the diamond fields in the north-west of the country, has encircled the north-eastern oil fields in Soyo and begun a build-up around Cabinda, the Angolan enclave in Zaire which produces four-fifths of the country's oil.

Savimbi said that he had learned that control of the economy was vital to achieving Unita's objectives.

Asked if he did not already command all the power he needed, Savimbi replied: "I have nothing because I have no power."

Unita's powerful military faction, which persuaded Savimbi to pursue the military option after top Unita officials were ambushed

and killed in Luanda last October, has sanctioned a return to talks now taking place in Abidjan.

Savimbi made clear that Unita will agree to a suspension of hostilities to facilitate the flow of humanitarian aid to Unita-held and besieged Angolan towns and cities. But he will not enter into another formal ceasefire without a UN peacekeeping force and guarantees of a decentralisation of power in a provisional government lasting two to three years.

Unita then seeks a second round of elections under, what Savimbi says, would be both freer and fairer conditions.

Savimbi made clear that the MPLA massacre of Unita supporters in Luanda at the end of October had seriously deepened divisions between Unita and the MPLA.

He said a decentralisation of power was now the only way to avert a tribal war which would tear the country apart.

But he insisted that he did not seek a division of the country with Huambo, Angola's second biggest city, as the capital of an Ovimbundu state.

Q—Could you comment on reports that you are receiving military help from South Africa and Zaire and what evidence do you have that the MPLA is getting any military help from the outside themselves?

A—I have a letter from South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha — dated 5/4 — asking me to send the remains of SA mercenaries killed in Soyo. What other proof do you need? He is admitting that there are mercenaries there of SA origin. On the Unita side, what they call mercenaries — and you have seen them here — are Namibians who came to make business. We cannot get armed support from South Africa. I want to give you an example which is dramatic. (I would prefer not to disclose it because it is personal, but I have to.) Every time my wife has a baby, she

has to have an operation. When she was four months pregnant I called Botha and asked him if my wife was allowed to go to the hospital in South Africa. He assured me: yes. When my wife was eight months pregnant he called me and said: you cannot come unless you get permission from Dos Santos. My wife was operated on yesterday by the nurses and I got a boy. That it was done by the nurses I am a happy man but, on Botha's side, it's the end.

Q—There is growing pressure on the United States administration for the recognition of the MPLA government. How do you see the US role?

A—I think that within Unita we don't think that the prospect of recognition by the US is dramatic. I think that — sooner or later — they will recognise that regime and we in Unita are con-

vinced that this will be a fact. So, it will not change our position regarding the peace process in Angola. But we wanted the US — as a leading power today with the disappearance of the Soviet Union — should always play a role in Angola, even if they do recognise the role of the MPLA. It is true that the meeting in Abidjan (in March) went very well ... very encouraging. I am for it. Let people have a say in their affairs. I am strongly backing that position. Decentralisation means for us that we should have a say in the affairs of our own country.

Q—What is Unita's vision of decentralisation?

A—I think it's better, to ensure progress at the negotiations, that people from the north, like the Bakongo and so forth should also say something in the affairs of this country ... as well as the Kimbundu and we and other people ... that is the only way I see that we will maybe, one day, get to forget what has happened ... not by tanks, not by guns.

Q—What about the Bicesse peace accord?

A—We cannot change its parameters. It's like a soccer match. The goal has been scored. We are not going to change the parameters now. But the goal has been scored so, what we have to do, is to adapt ourselves.

Q—Unita has a dismal human rights record. The families of Chingunji and Santos have said they will sue if you come to power. Comment?

A—They will not find my fingerprints on that. But then I am also going to sue people who killed Chitunda and Salpeta (Luanda end-October) I am prepared to go before the court as long as it is impartial. When they produce the proof they will find that some are with the MPLA and some are with Unita. Let the law take its course.

Q—What role would you like to play in a provisional government?

A—I don't want any particular portfolio. I want to continue to lead my party. As I am an old man (elder), the old man is also a qualification. I want just to give advice to the people ... even to Dos Santos. But Dos Santos does not want my advice.

Q—What about demobilisation of Unita forces? Are you prepared to proceed according to the Bicesse accords?

A—What they call emergency police is an army which has to be disbanded. Also, we don't want to keep our army ... for what? It has no purpose. If our security is guaranteed, then I don't think that we need to have other armies.

Q—Why is it that Unita controls two-thirds of the country? Is it because Unita has more troops?

A—It is true we control more areas than the MPLA. During this period of peace when the Unita people knew the result of elections, the local populations chased away all the administrators of the MPLA and the police so that we remain with larger areas than the MPLA too. Our troops are less in number than the MPLA but they are better in quality. This is because the MPLA is recruiting soldiers of 14-16 years old and they are giving them training of 20 days ...

Q—Are you buying weapons?

A—Up to now we have not bought even a single bullet. Also, the MPLA are giving us heavy weaponry and also the technicians to man the guns.

Death haunts a city shattered by battle

Guardian/W
in witness
23/4-29/4/93

By our Correspondent

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DEATH still hangs over Angola's shattered central highlands city of Huambo. Burnt-out tanks lie among glass and rubble in deserted streets, and by night near-naked children can be seen in the moonlight, huddled together in the doorways of ruined buildings.

Many of the shattered houses have been optimistically marked *ocupado* (occupied) by fleeing owners who hope to return one day to this ghost city.

By day, human scavengers sift through the piles of rubble and war debris — thousands of live and spent cartridges of every size and description. Unexploded mines claim innocent victims almost daily.

Patients with gangrenous limbs and festering sores wait at the Central Hospital for as long as 10 weeks for surgery. Medicines and food are in short supply.

There is no electricity, no running water and no telephone communication. There are no safe road routes, so the only entry is with the resilient Unita rebels.

Huambo, Angola's second largest city, has been the arena of a relentless, 55-day battle between forces of the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and rebels of Jonas Savimbi's Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

Unita proclaimed victory on March 6, after the rout of government forces. Most were killed. Some were captured. A few fled.

There are no reliable statistics for the number of deaths in the

battle, but reports from doctors, health workers and MPLA prisoners suggest at least 12,000 to 15,000 dead, of whom at least 5,000 were civilians.

A group of western correspondents, who became the first outsiders to see the devastated city since the war ended, entered after a 60-hour journey in an armed convoy.

Jonas Savimbi, whose palatial home was destroyed by bombers and tanks in the opening days of the battle, emerged at the end of a week-long visit to field journalists' questions. Mr Savimbi vowed that Unita would not be "humiliated" again. "We have been humiliated for 500 years within our own country," he said. "Now we say with determination: Never again!"

Unita is pushing for humanitarian aid, a suspension of hostilities, decentralisation of power to Unita areas, and a two or three-year provisional government to level the playing field before another election.

Unita is now well placed in military terms to stick to its guns. It controls more than 70 per cent of rural Angola as well as four of the 17 provincial capitals.

According to Unita military sources, it is poised to take four more provincial capitals — Luena, Menongue, Kuito and Malange — which would be crucial gains after the significant victory in Huambo.

A special correspondent for the Guardian was among a group of journalists invited by Unita to be flown from Zaire to the Angolan diamond town of Cafunfo and then driven for several days to Huambo.

Angolan truce still uncertain

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — Peace talks to end Angola's 18-year conflict reached a critical point yesterday as the warring factions studied a compromise proposal to end renewed fighting.

(S) AR 6 24/93
"It's an indication that they are very near to signing," said UN spokesman Mr Joao Albuquerque.

However, negotiations between representatives of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Mr Jonas Savimbi have bogged down in arguments about how to carry out a ceasefire. — Sapa-AP.

Star 26/4/93
'Progress' in peace talks

ABIDJAN — The UN reported "substantial progress" in Angolan peace talks as government negotiators flew back to Luanda taking a draft peace treaty to President Jose dos Santos.

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Ivory Coast to go directly to Savimbi

A **BIDJAN** — Ivory Coast, impatient at the snail's pace of the Angolan peace talks it is hosting, plans a direct appeal to Unita rebel leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi, delegates said on Saturday.

They said Ivorian Foreign Minister Mr Amara Essy would fly to Savimbi's headquarters at Huambo yesterday or today to seek his support for a peace compromise.

Essy's mission, which could be called off if there is a breakthrough at the Abidjan talks, underlined the deadlock on a ceasefire and other key issues since Unita and the MPLA government's delegation started negotiations on April 12.

Diplomats following the talks said only Savimbi could authorise concessions by Unita (National Union for the

Sowetan 26/4/93 **PEACE MISSION** Step underlines con-

tinuing deadlock between Unita/MPLA:

Total Independence of Angola), whose delegation chief, Mr Jorge Valentim, was still optimistic after Saturday's session. If he goes to Huambo, Essy will take the 35-point accord drawn up by observers Russia, Portugal and the United States at the UN-brokered talks.

Delegates said it was a compromise document between the Unita and MPLA positions but was based on the 1991 Bicesse peace accords which collapsed after last September's elections.

Unita rejected the MPLA's victory and has made significant military gains in the fighting which followed. Mr Joao

Albuquerque, the UN spokesman at the talks, had earlier kept up his consistently optimistic assessment.

"We are coming nearer to an acceptance of the ceasefire," he told reporters.

Although both the Angolan government and Unita rebel delegations say they want to stop the fighting, they have been divided over the terms of a ceasefire agreement. Albuquerque said both sides wanted the United Nations to have a stronger role in Angola than the advisory and monitoring one they had before the 1991 peace accords collapsed last year — *Sapa-Reuter*.

Optimism, pessimism on chances for Angolan truce

Star 26/4/93

ABIDJAN — A United Nations official at Angolan peace talks has reported progress towards a ceasefire declaration, but a senior government delegate does not share his optimism.

"We are coming nearer to an acceptance of the ceasefire," Joao Albuquerque, the spokesman for the UN-brokered talks in Ivory Coast, told reporters.

Although both the Angolan government and the Unita rebels say they want to stop the war, they have been divided over a ceasefire pact.

After Saturday morning's ses-

sion, the senior military officer in the MPLA government's delegation had his doubts about prospects for a ceasefire.

But, added General Higinio Carneiro, the parties both approved about 80 percent of a peace package.

Albuquerque said both sides wanted the United Nations to have a stronger role in Angola than the advisory and monitoring one it had before the 1991 peace accords collapsed last year. — Sapa-Reuter.

● Peace talks, war moves in Angola — Page 15

Sar 26/4/93

Peace talks, war moves in Angola

(5)

While the world watches Angola's peace talks in Abidjan, the warring sides are preparing to launch new and desperate offensives in the event of negotiations breaking down, reports HANS-PETER BAKKER in Luanda, for The Star Africa Service.

THE WAR in Angola has slowed down as the opposing sides try to reach agreement on peace, but military observers say both sides are poised to unleash heavy offensives within days if the talks break down.

Many people will die in the first few weeks if the talks in Abidjan fail and another bloody phase in the contest for power in Angola is unleashed.

More than 20 000 have already died since the tenuous peace accepted in Bicesse, Portugal, in 1991 collapsed after disputed elections in September last year.

If the talks succeed — and few people in the Angolan capital expect that to happen — Unita will have won a significant say in regional and national affairs and its leader, Jonas Savimbi, will have another shot at the presidency in a second round of voting. In the first round, incumbent President Jose Eduardo dos Santos narrowly missed securing an absolute majority.

Before balloting for a second round can begin, however, the two sides will have to agree on an interim government while another attempt is made to disarm the two armies and merge them into a single, national defence force.

But a much more likely scenario, according to UN and military observers in Luanda, is a breakdown of talks and an escalation of fighting.

From the limited factual information available from the hinterland, it appears Unita has the upper hand and that the



On guard . . . a heavily armed government soldier in Caimbambo, Angola. Picture: Joao Silva

next big offensives will occur on the Huambo-Benguela axis.

It is wrong to think of the war as consisting of clearly demarcated front lines over which soldiers clash.

The truth is that although both sides do have a nucleus of regular soldiers, motley bands of militia and armed civilians make up a sizable part of their forces and are said to be behind many of the atrocities. They are often leaderless and their actions haphazard.

The government forces consist essentially of the brown-uniformed Angolan Defence Force (FAA). Many of these are conscripts who have had their fill of war and are not well trained to

operate the heavy war machinery, reportedly being shipped into the country in spite of a ban on such trade in terms of the peace accord of 1991.

On the other hand Unita's regular troops, in well-spun green uniforms, expect nothing but war. They are well trained and see themselves as engaged in a struggle for survival.

Military analysts believe Unita will have to take the port of Benguela to enable it to continue supplying its war effort. According to one military specialist, Unita succeeded in taking the central city of Huambo because it had seized large supplies of fuel when it captured the northern diamond mining areas.

That supply is dwindling and the supply line is becoming too long to sustain the war nearer the coast, says the specialist.

Unita has consolidated its regular forces around Huambo, about 500 km from the coast. So far it has succeeded in capturing Cubal, a mere 120 km from the sea, and guerilla bands have paralysed the road between Benguela and the government front-line town of Caimbambo, 30 km from Cubal.

The government, with many of its troops massed around

Caimbambo, in turn is aware that to regain the initiative it will have to retake Huambo.

Earlier, when the battle for Huambo was raging, it sent a convoy of more than 100 vehicles from Benguela to relieve the city. What happened to that convoy has become a mystery.

Government spokesmen claim it is intact somewhere around Caimbambo, waiting to continue its drive to Huambo. But other sources claim Unita destroyed many of the vehicles and captured intact 57 supply trucks when the government troops were expelled from Cubal.

Meanwhile the government is preparing its defence of Benguela and is shipping in tanks and artillery pieces to make a drive towards Huambo when the rainy season ends at the end of May and if the talks fail.

If the government retakes Huambo — and Unita is sure to throw in most of its resources to hold it — the rebel organisation will be forced back into the bush.

Such a defeat would weaken its negotiating position, but it would not end the war. In a conflict with strong tribal aspects, Unita's military defeat will not make it simply go away. It will continue to represent the only option to millions of rural Angolans, especially for the Ovimbundu of the southern regions.

The rebel movement could maintain a low-level guerilla war for many years.

On the other hand, if Unita hold Huambo and — in spite of a lack of long-distance artillery and an air force — succeed in occupying Benguela, the government, with a small air force and no navy to talk of, will be unable to stop supplies being shipped in.

The only undisputed territory in the government's hands will then be the area around the capital Luanda, and Savimbi will be able to take a strong hand to any future talks.

But for now, the world is still basing its hope for an end to the bloodshed on the negotiations in the Ivorian capital. It would be inappropriate to accept an escalation of the war until the talks are concluded, either in success or failure. □

NEWS IN BRIEF

Commandos kill hijacker

AMRITSAR — Paramilitary commandos stormed a hijacked Indian plane yesterday, freeing 140 people on board and killing the gunman, who had demanded to be flown to Afghanistan, officials said.

The National Security Guard took just 10 minutes to end the 11-hour drama which started when a domestic Indian Airlines flight was hijacked soon after take-off from Delhi on Saturday afternoon.

The hijacker had said he was from the Hizbul Mujahedin militant group in Kashmir.

UK pledges to use force

COPENHAGEN — Britain pledged at an EC meeting in Denmark at the weekend to use military force to rescue 150 Canadian UN troops if they were trapped by fighting in the besieged Bosnian town Srebrenica.

An official said Britain had not ruled out the use of air strikes or of its 2 300 troops in former Yugoslavia to save the Canadians.

British Foreign Minister Douglas Hurd said military action would be considered only if the situation in Srebrenica deteriorated drastically.

Eritreans go to polls

ASMARA — A UN-supervised referendum, which ended yesterday, was widely expected to deliver independence from Ethiopia for former Italian colony Eritrea, after 30 years of civil war.

About 1.3-million registered voters were believed to have voted.

Eritrea has enjoyed de facto independence since rebels defeated the remnants of the army of fallen Ethiopian dictator Mengistu Haile Mariam in May 1991. A provisional government agreed not to declare independence unilaterally.

Kasparov's luggage ransacked

MOSCOW — World chess champion Garry Kasparov's luggage had been ransacked at a Moscow airport and some of his belongings stolen, Itar-Tass news agency said yesterday.

REPORTS: Sapa-Reuter.

Ivory Coast plans direct approach to Savimbi

ABIDJAN — Ivory Coast, impatient at the slow pace of the Angolan peace talks it is hosting, planned a direct appeal to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, delegates said on Saturday.

They said Ivorian Foreign Minister Amara Essy would fly to Savimbi's headquarters at Huambo yesterday or today to seek his support for a peace compromise.

Essy's mission, which could be called off if there is a breakthrough at the Abidjan talks, underlined the deadlock on a ceasefire and other key issues since Unita and the MPLA government's delegation started negotiations on April 12.

Diplomats following the talks said only Savimbi could authorise concessions by Unita, whose delegation chief Jorge Valentim was still optimistic after Saturday's session.

If he goes to Huambo, Essy will take the 35-point accord drawn up by observers Russia, Portugal and the

US at the UN-brokered talks. Delegates said it was a compromise document between the Unita and MPLA positions but based on the 1991 Bicesse peace accords which collapsed after last September's elections.

Unita rejected the MPLA's victory and has made significant military gains in the fighting which followed.

Joao Albuquerque, UN spokesman at the talks, had earlier kept up his consistently optimistic assessment. "We are coming nearer to an acceptance of the ceasefire," he told reporters.

Although both the Angolan government and Unita delegations say they want to stop the fighting, they have been divided over the terms of a ceasefire agreement.

Albuquerque said both sides wanted the UN to have a stronger role in Angola than an advisory and monitoring one. — Sapa-Reuter.

US and Japan agree on trade push

TOKYO — The US and Japan have agreed on a three-year co-operative trade promotion programme aimed at boosting American exports to Japan, which declined last year.

Officials said the agreement came during a dinner between US Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown and Japan's International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori.

Under the five-point agreement, the two countries will exchange trade data, conduct market research and hold trade fairs while co-operating in specific trade expansion initiatives.

Brown and Mori agreed that the programme would enhance independent trade promotion programmes and encourage the business communities of both countries.

Brown said the new plan incorporated "elements" of a previous joint trade expansion programme while adding more specific co-operative efforts based on recent trade initiatives by both governments.

The joint programmes had proven "an excellent mechanism for co-ordinating US and Japanese trade promotion efforts." — Sapa-AFP.

MPLA rejects key clause

LUANDA. — Unita rebels shot down a relief plane while the Angolan government rejected a key peace accord clause prohibiting either side from buying weapons or enlisting foreign troops.

Foreign Minister Mr Venancio de Moura said continued rebel attacks led to the government decision on troops and arms

which will set back peace talks due to resume in Abidjan today.

Unita condemned the decision.

A plane used by the UN World Food Programme was shot down by a missile yesterday, seriously wounding the Russian pilot and six others on board after it was forced to land in a minefield, the WFP said.

The Russian pilot was in a critical condition after carrying out an emergency landing in a minefield near Luena, capital of Moxico province in eastern Angola, a WFP spokesman said from Harare.

● Unita reportedly released two Namibians who cannot get out of Huambo because of the fighting there. — Sapa-AP-AFP

SEP 27/4/93

Aid agencies ground relief flights after Unita attack

LUANDA — Aid agencies grounded their relief flights to embattled Angolan cities yesterday after a Unita attack forced a relief pilot to land in a minefield in the eastern part of the country. One crew member was killed by a mine.

Sapa-AP reports UN officials halted all flights while they investigated Monday's shooting of a World Food Programme (WFP) plane delivering emergency supplies to Luena, 800km southeast of Luanda. UN officials said UN workers would not evacuate WFP crew stranded in Luena until Unita gave a guarantee of safety.

The WFP Antonov 12, with a crew of six Russians and one Angolan, was hit by a missile as it crossed rebel-held territory outside the city. The pilot was forced to land in a minefield.

Flight technician Viktor Neisprenko died after losing both legs in a mine blast. Flight captain Andre Orlov was in critical condition, said WFP spokesman Mercedes Sayagues. "The daily survival of hundreds of thousands of Angolans depends on relief food. But we have to have assurances our crews won't be killed while trying to assist them."

Sapa-Reuter reports Unita admitted it had shot down the relief plane.

Unita radio said the plane did not carry UN markings and accused it of taking food supplies to government forces in Luena, the capital of Moxico province.

The Russian foreign ministry has described it as an "act of banditry by Unita" and demanded that the UN take urgent measures to prevent such incidents.

KATHRYN STRACHAN reports that about 2-million Angolan civilians will need food assistance in the next few months.

WFP Luanda operations director Philippe Borel warned yesterday that if the war continued, the figures would climb.

Borel said the food requirement for the civilians during the next year stood at 350 000 tons. He compared the situation to that of Sudan, which required 324 000 tons of food for the rest of the year. But if many parts of the country continued to be unreachable, the WFP estimated it could deliver only about half of the requirements.

Meanwhile, Sapa-AP reports from Abidjan that UN mediators met Angola's factions yesterday, beginning a third week of talks to salvage peace accords.

Unita remained confident that some agreement would be reached this week. Chief Unita delegate Jorge Valentim was unapologetic about the shooting down of the Russian aircraft. He repeated charges that the UN was ready to take risks to reach government-held territory and not rebel-held areas.

UN chief Boutros Boutros-Ghali has warned that if no agreement is reached the UN may withdraw from Angola.

□ Sapa reports from Cape Town that Defence spokesman Das Herbst said yesterday Monday's claims by Transkei leader Maj-Gen Bantu Holomisa of SA complicity in the Angolan war were "substantially disinformation".

Holomisa said he had seen a document indicating Unita leader Jonas Savimbi was given the SA government's assurance of support last year if he restarted military operations after the Angolan elections.

Herbst said the only substance in Holomisa's statement was that Savimbi had been in SA for a courtesy visit during September 1992.

Angola claims 'are ludicrous'

GENERAL Bantu Holomisa's latest claims of South African complicity in the present Angolan conflict were so ludicrous that they did not justify comment, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

On Monday the Transkeian leader released a document at the multi-party talks containing allegations that Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi was given assurances by the government last year that they would support him if he re-started military operations after the Angolan elections.

Sapa et 28/4/93

I'm ready to agree to Angola ceasefire, says Unita leader

ARG 28/4/93

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast). — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi says he is ready to agree to a ceasefire and that the principle can be "wholly taken for granted".

Unita leader Dr Savimbi was speaking on television after a meeting with Ivory Coast Foreign Minister Amara Essy in the Angolan town of Huambo, held by Unita.

Dr Savimbi said Unita and the government side, which had been holding peace talks in the Ivory Coast capital Abidjan under UN auspices since April 12, were "on the way to accepting a definitive ceasefire."

Unita forces took up arms anew after losing parliamentary and presidential elections in September, in spite of signing a ceasefire and peace plan in May 1991 after 16 years of war.

"All we want is guarantees that Angolans no longer have to put up with war," said Dr Savimbi.

The declaration came after Mr Essy made a lightning visit to Angola to meet the Unita



Jonas Savimbi

chief and Angolan government leaders.

The mission, according to UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque, had "very encouraging results for everyone."

Mr Essy said the Angolan peace talks should end in a protocol for an agreement before April 30, the date when the UN mission in Angola is set to end.

● In New York the UN Security Council has condemned an alleged Unita missile attack on a Russian Antonov-12

cargo plane flying relief supplies for the World Food Programme.

Council President Jamshed Marker said the organisation's members "strongly condemn this outrageous hostile act," saying it undermined international relief efforts in Angola.

One crew member died and another was seriously wounded in the attack on the aircraft near Luena in eastern Angola.

"The members of the Council demand that Unita takes all necessary measures to prevent a recurrence of such acts of violence against international humanitarian agencies and their personnel," he said.

People who committed such acts should be held personally responsible, he added.

Unita has denied responsibility for the attack.

John Kakumba Marques, Unita representative in West Africa, said in Abidjan that the Angolan rebels were not involved in the attack.

Mr Kakumba said this was not the sort of attack Unita would make. He said government troops had attacked the plane to scare humanitarian organisations. — Sapa-AFP.

Scepticism over talk of Angola 'ceasefire'

Star 28/4/93

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LUANDA — Aid agencies grounded their relief flights to embattled Angolan cities yesterday after an attack by Unita rebels forced a relief pilot to make an emergency landing in a minefield in the eastern part of the country. One crew member was killed by a mine.

And on the peace talks front, Ivory Coast Foreign Minister Amara Essy said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi had agreed to a ceasefire, but other sources were sceptical.

Essy, who flew to Angola on Monday and met with Savimbi, refused to give any details about his announcement at the beginning of a third week of peace talks mediated by the United Nations.

Angolan government General Higinio Carneiro expressed scepticism. "There is no consensus yet," he told reporters.

Negotiators for Unita and President Jose Eduardo dos

Santos had bogged down over government demands for an immediate ceasefire.

Unita, keen to cash in on unprecedented battlefield victories, had been adamant that it would agree only to a temporary suspension to fighting while political and military issues were negotiated.

Other sources at the talks, who requested anonymity, said both sides presented new demands late yesterday, after Essy's announcement. Two sources said Unita appeared the most rigid. Observers from the United States were meeting with them last night in a bid to persuade them to compromise, one source said.

UN mediator Margaret Anstee said earlier that she was cheered by Essy's report, but a lot of work remained to be done. "We can't say yet that a full agreement has been reached, but it does seem that much nearer as a result," she said.

Meanwhile, UN officials

have halted all flights while they investigate the shooting on Monday of a World Food Programme (WFP) plane delivering emergency supplies to Luena, 800 km south-east of Luanda.

Until Unita gives a guarantee of safety, UN workers will not even evacuate the WFP crew stranded in Luena, said a UN official who requested anonymity.

The WFP Antonov-12, with a crew of six Russians and one Angolan, was hit by a missile fired as it crossed rebel-held territory outside the city. The pilot tried to return to Luena but was forced to make an emergency landing in a minefield.

Flight technician Viktor Neisprenko lost both legs to a mine and died on Monday night. Flight captain Andre Orlov suffered a serious chest injury and was in critical condition, said WFP spokeswoman Mercedes Sayagues. — Sapa-AP.

SAP 29/4/93

Angola accord imminent

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast) — Close to signing a truce in their 18-year conflict, Angola's warring factions yesterday jockeyed for last-minute advantages in the UN role in their peace process.

"We hope to sign something soon," chief rebel delegate Jorge Valentim said.

Joao Albuquerque, spokesman for UN mediator Margaret Anstee, said any differences "could be overcome in the next few hours if goodwill exists between the two delegations".

The government continued to express scepticism about Jonas Savimbi's announcement on Tuesday that he had

agreed to a ceasefire. (5)

Conference sources said US observers talked late into Tuesday night with the rebels they used to support, applying pressure for them to sign.

Unita had been adamant it would agree only to a temporary suspension to fighting while political and military issues were negotiated.

The talk yesterday was only of a ceasefire. Valentim confirmed that, but refused to say it was a concession.

Unita delegate Jardo Muekalia said they discussed the role of UN peacekeepers and how the UN could help in the formation of a national army. — Sapa-AP.

Star 29/4/93
Commander

hurt in blast

MAPUTO — The commander of the Uruguayan battalion serving with the United Nations monitoring force in Mozambique has been wounded in a landmine explosion.

Lieutenant-Colonel Jorge Puentes was wounded in the legs when the mine went off while he was inspecting a proposed camp site for his force near Vilanculos. Puentes was not seriously injured. — Star Africa Service.

Refugees slip into Cape

CT 29/4/93 (5)

Staff Reporter

REFUGEES from war-torn Angola are using small ports along the Cape coast to slip into the country illegally.

This was said yesterday by the Chief Director of Cape Nature Conservation, Dr Johan Neethling.

In an interview before he spoke at an occasion marking the move of the South African Police Waterwing Unit from Simon's Town

to Kalk Bay harbour, Dr Neethling said it was reported to him that about 80 Angolans had entered the country illegally at Hout Bay recently.

Dr Neethling said the unit could play an important role in combating illegal entry.

He said the unit could assist in rescue and emergency work and with the policing in the area.

He said the new charge office and the 24-hour police presence

in the harbour had already resulted in a decline of theft and crime.

General D du Toit of the SAP said it had become necessary for the Waterwing Unit to move because they found the crime rate at Simon's Town was lower than at Kalk Bay and that they did not have enough office space at Simon's Town.

A new charge office was opened and the unit's deep-sea T-Craft vessel will be based at the harbour.

Urgent action on refugees

ARG 29/4/93 (5)

HANS-PETER BAKKER
Argus Africa News Service

WINDHOEK. Namibian and United Nations officials are taking emergency action to cope with a sudden influx of refugees from Angola who are apparently fleeing from advancing Unita troops.

About 1 000 refugees have reported to UN officials and many more are believed to have crossed the border in the past few days. More are expected.

The situation was described as "frightening" by Francesca Okaya, the Namibia coordinator of the UN High Commission for Refugees, as UN personnel began rushing tents, blankets and food to the northern part of the country.

At present there is only one

formal refugee centre in the area, at Osire, near Otjiwarongo. Many of the refugees have arrived there, having apparently walked the entire distance of about 250km from the border. At a UNHCR reception centre set up at Eenhana, north-east of Oshakati and close to the Angolan border, the number of refugees grew from 52 to 270 in three days.

UNHCR officials are planning to open three new refugee camps in northern Namibia to cope with the influx.

There have been no reports of fighting in the areas from which the refugees came, which had formerly been occupied by forces of the MPLA government.

The refugees, mainly women, children and elderly people, ap-

pear to be fleeing for fear that advancing Unita forces might harass them.

Many are suffering from tuberculosis and malaria. A massive outbreak of malaria has been reported from the border region.

On Monday rioting was reported in the refugee camp at Osire. Journalists who tried to go there were warned by Namibian government authorities to stay away but this ban appears to have been relaxed today.

According to unconfirmed accounts, the rioting was sparked by Zaireans who had been held in the camp after being arrested for illegally entering Namibia in search of jobs.

Star 3014193

Pessimism on Angola talks

ABIDJAN — UN-sponsored talks in Ivory Coast on the Angola conflict resumed yesterday on a pessimistic note as a Unita rebel leader accused the government of being out for revenge and of using humanitarian aid as a weapon in negotiations

(5)

(226)

Pik quizzed on SA role in Angola

CT 30/4/93
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By BARRY STREEK

THE Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, was yesterday challenged by the Democratic Party's foreign spokesman, Mr Colin Eglin, to tell the full story of South Africa's involvement in Angola.

This was needed because of the doubts and suspicions which lingered, Mr Eglin said in a speech read on his behalf by Mr Peter Soal (DP, Johannesburg North) during the debate on the foreign affairs vote.

He said a few months ago South Africa found itself in the invidious position of having its foreign minister being declared *persona non grata* by the Angolan government.

Mr Eglin wanted to know whether South Africa had given Unita any financial assistance during the Angolan election campaign and what the nature and extent of this assistance was.

He also wanted to know the extent and nature of discussions held between the South African government

Unita, MPLA agree on terms of ceasefire

LISBON. — Representatives of the Angolan government and the Unita rebel movement agreed on Wednesday on the terms of a ceasefire agreement to end seven months of fighting that has killed an estimated 20 000 people, the Portuguese radio station TSF reported.

Portugal's President Mario Soares, speaking in the British parliament during a state visit, disclosed he had been informed of the agreement by telegram on Wednesday morning, TSF said.

TSF reported on Wednesday afternoon that the agreement had not yet been signed by the two delegations at the UN-brokered talks in Abidjan, the capital of Ivory Coast.

The ceasefire dispute, at the top of a nine-point agenda, has been the main obstacle to an agreement during the talks, which began on April 21. — UPI

and Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi in September 1992.

Mr Eglin asked on whose invitation Mr Botha had travelled to Angola in August last year.

● Mr Botha said last night that he had been invited by Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos to go to Angola last year to help mediate a settlement there.

He had also been encouraged by Western governments to go to Angola.

Angolan refugees are 'slipping into SA ports'

CAPE TOWN — Angolan refugees are using small ports along the Cape coast to slip into the country illegally, Cape Nature Conservation chief director Johan Neethling has said.

Neethling said he had received reports that about 80 Angolans had entered the country illegally at Hout Bay recently.

He said the police water wing could play an important role in combating illegal entries.

Angolan peace talks resumed in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, yesterday on a pessimistic note as a Unita leader accused the government of being out for revenge and of using humanitarian aid as a weapon in negotiations.

Unita delegate Jorge Valentim said before entering yesterday's meeting he was not hopeful a ceasefire agreement would be reached anytime soon.

He said the UN must not try to accelerate talks as such a move could lead to a collapse in negotiations.

The government's apparent refusal to negotiate dimmed hopes of a resolution to the conflict.

The negotiations suffered a setback late on Wednesday when a government representative said it would not accept "peace at any price" but wanted a fair and lasting peace. "We must find an absolute consensus," said Gen Higinio Carneiro.

He said "fundamental differences" remained between the government and Unita on Press freedom, the withdrawal of Unita forces from current positions and power-sharing terms for Unita.

Yesterday Valentim said some of the issues the two sides disagreed upon were over humanitarian aid and the formation of a new national army. He said the government had indicated it would allow humanitarian aid to proceed only after a political accord was signed and zones occupied by Unita were reclaimed.

The government wanted to include in a new army 120 000 to 200 000 of its soldiers against only 3 000 to 4 000 Unita followers.

A 1991 protocol prepared by the three observer countries — the US, Portugal and Russia — called for the army to be divided equally in numbers between government and Unita troops. — Sapa-AFP.

ANGOLA - GENERAL

1993

APRIL - ~~SEPT~~ DEC.

MPLA denies Unita's claim of city capture

■ Cuito remains in government hands:

Sowetan 11/4/93
LUANDA — The Angolan government yesterday denied a rebel claim to have captured the central city of Cuito after a two-month siege.

"Cuito remains under the control of government forces," Defence Ministry spokesman José Manuel Jota said.

But there had been fierce clashes on the outskirts of Cuito, a city of 28,000 people, on Sunday and Monday, he said. Unita's radio station said on Monday night its forces had captured the last government stronghold, Cuito, the capital of Bie province.

The radio acknowledged yesterday there were still clashes in Cuito but said government forces no longer controlled the city.

Angola relapsed into civil war three months ago following the breakdown of a 1991 peace agreement between Unita and the MPLA. — *Sapa-Reuter*.

UN peace mission to Angola in jeopardy

St Times 215193

By PETER JAMES SPIELMANN

WITH the United Nations chief threatening to pull UN peacekeepers out of Angola unless progress is made in peace talks, the Security Council has extended their mission for only one month.

The council voted unanimously on Friday to let the peacekeepers remain in Angola until May 31 and to re-evaluate their mission based on the outcome of peace talks under way between the Angolan government and Unita rebels in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali was asked to report his recommendations on the future of the mission before the end of May.

The Security Council also demanded a halt to attacks on humanitarian relief

flights in Angola, and urged both parties, "in particular Unita", to ensure the safety of flights and of UN personnel.

Unita has accused the government and the UN World Food Programme of using food as a weapon and Unita forces have attacked UN relief aircraft four times in as many weeks. The World Food Programme said it had cancelled all relief flights after a Unita missile brought a plane down on Monday. The Russian pilot died.

Unita claims food is only being distributed to government-held areas, and that the planes are being used to carry weapons and strategic supplies to government forces, allegations that the World Food Programme and other relief agencies deny. — Sapa-AP.



A pro-communist supporter is attacked by an officer of the special militia unit during a demonstration in Moscow on Saturday. Several thousand pro-communist supporters took part in a march through the streets of Moscow that ended with a major clash with militia forces.

Sowetan 31/5/93

Battle rages in city

■ **REBEL MOVEMENT** Unita reports it

is still in control after bombardment:

SAO TOME — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday there had been heavy fighting in N'Dalatando but added that it still controlled the northern city.

Unita's Vorgan radio, monitored on the nearby island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said government troops had tried to recapture the city, capital of Kwanza Norte province, and continued to shell it with long-range artillery.

The radio reported 30 dead and hundreds wounded, many among the civilian population that was trying to flee the city across rivers swollen by heavy rain.

State radio news bulletins, which on Saturday reported the recapture of

Waku Kungo on the northern edge of the rebel-held central highlands, made no reference yesterday to the situation in N'Dalatando.

State radio said there were 45 000 displaced people in Saurimo, capital of Lunda Sul province in the diamond-producing north-east of the country. Provincial governor Goncalves Mandumba said 15 000 of these refugees had not been given even preliminary first aid due to lack of food and

medicines.

Unita has fought the ruling MPLA since independence from Portugal in 1975.

The two sides signed a peace agreement in 1991 but Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat by the MPLA in UN-supervised elections in September last year.

A UN mediator is trying to negotiate a ceasefire at peace talks in the Ivory Coast. — Sapa-Reuter.

Engen lands Angolan oil exploration rights

EDWARD WEST

AS PART of an international consortium, Engen has been awarded oil exploration rights in Angola.

The other members of the consortium are Shell, Pecten and Maxus. Pecten is a US-based subsidiary of Shell and Maxus a US oil company.

Angolan Petroleum Affairs Minister Albina Assis said the site bordered on the Cabinda oil fields. She confirmed the rights had been granted, during an Angolan national radio broadcast on Saturday.

Engen exploration director Adrian Nel said yesterday the group had not received official confirmation of the deal, but the consortium had been negotiating for the rights for some time. He declined to comment further until confirmation was received.

Industry sources said the deal could improve relations between SA and war-torn Angola. Diplomatic relations between the two countries were strained after SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha was declared persona non grata in Angola earlier this year during the current hostilities. *B100M 4/5/93*

The move also represented an acceleration by Engen into upstream operations. Engen announced a 25% stake in consortium with Shell in an exploration concession in Namibia's offshore Kudu block in April. It acquired a 10% interest in the BNukha gas-condensate field in Oman in the same month.

Engen has interests in Chevron's exploration activities in Namibia and those of Total in Gabon.

In the North Sea the company has a 2.2% stake in the Alba oil field operated by Chevron. It is expected to pump 70 000 barrels a day in the fourth quarter. The field is underlaid by a reserve of natural gas, the Britannia Field, in which Engen also has a stake.

SA diplomats set to return to Luanda

Star 5/5/93

By Chris Whitfield
Political Correspondent

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CAPE TOWN — South Africa is to send its diplomatic representatives back to Angola after an absence of six months.

This follows a meeting in Pretoria on Monday between Foreign Minister Pik Botha and General Franco Ndalú, security advisor to Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos.

South Africa withdrew the officials at its representative office in Luanda late last year as fighting swept Angola.

Botha, responding to questions yesterday, said Ndalú had asked to see him and they had discussed the "still tense" situation in Angola.

"We will be sending our officials back to the office at least to have more direct communication with Angola," he said.

South Africa would "explore the possibility of seeing what

we can do to assist in the peace process there". This would be aimed at establishing "whether there is room for the two parties (MPLA and Unita) to move towards a ceasefire and implementation of the peace agreement".

South Africa wanted to assist but this would be done "only if we are reasonably sure this time that our efforts will not be distorted by one of the two parties".

Botha was last year accused of siding with Unita after its efforts to mediate between the two parties. He had become involved when fighting broke out after the September election results were announced.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Awie Marais stressed that diplomatic relations between the two countries had not been severed as a result of the withdrawal, which was done primarily for security reasons.

SA diplomats back to Angola

SOUTH AFRICA was to re-establish a diplomatic presence in Angola, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said yesterday.

This decision followed a meeting in Pretoria with the former Angolan Minister of Defence, General Ndalu, he said.

1/2/93
The officials were withdrawn in December last year because there were fears for their safety, but the diplomatic links were not broken.

Mr Botha said South Africa would explore what it could do to help the peace process there and assist the MPLA government and Unita to move rapidly to an agreement. — Sapa

Bid to break deadlock

ABIDJAN — Top delegates representing Angola's warring parties held talks at a secret venue yesterday in a bid to sort out obstacles to the peace process, Angolan government sources said here.

(5) CTS/5/93
The peace negotiations are stalled on six points of a 47-point "memorandum" proposed to the government and Unita delegations by the troika that first underwrote an Angolan peace settlement in May 1991 — Portugal, the United States and Russia.

The main sticking points are the formation of a unified national army from government troops and Unita, the neutrality of the police force and the extension of central administration into zones where Unita has taken control, sources said.

● About 2 000 cases of cholera a week are being detected in the Angolan capital where at least 60 people died of the disease last month, aid agency sources in Luanda said yesterday. — Sapa-AFP

attack highway

Sawetun 5/5/93

28 die in attack

LUANDA (5) Angolan rebel movement Unita said it killed 28 government troops in an attack on Monday as peace talks in the Ivory Coast dragged on.

The Unita radio station said the attack occurred on a highway between the government-held towns of Sumbe and Waku-kungo. The latter town was controlled by the rebels until March.

Sapa-AP

e Unita asked to remove troops

ABIDJAN. — Unita has been asked at peace talks here on Angola to withdraw its troops from towns and villages it has occupied, a senior government negotiator has said.

General Higino Carneiro said yesterday the withdrawal of Unita forces, as requested in a UN Security Council resolution, was being discussed.

He hinted that his delegation might return to Luanda for consultations, but emphasised that he did not yet have a draft peace pact to show the MPLA government.

"We are getting to the point of understanding," Unita's chief negotiator, Mr Jorge Valentim, said.

• The Namibian government was helping to arrange a meeting between the South African and Angolan governments, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, said yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter

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**Namibia,
Angola
and SA
may meet**



Botha . . . met Gurirab.

Political Staff (5)

CAPE TOWN — A mini-summit could soon take place between the foreign ministers of South Africa, Namibia and Angola in Windhoek. ~~(3/2)~~

This was announced after a meeting yesterday between Foreign Minister Pik Botha and Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab. The three-way meeting was suggested by Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio Demoura.

Regional security, allegations of Namibian and South African involvement in the Angolan war, and aid to war victims will probably be discussed at the meeting.

Gurirab has been in South Africa to attend Oliver Tambo's funeral.

Optimism as Angola talks are adjourned

ABIDJAN. — The Angolan government delegation to peace talks has returned to Luanda for consultations and negotiations are scheduled to resume on Saturday, diplomats said today.

The talks were focusing on a call for the withdrawal of Unita troops from towns and villages they had occupied, said senior government negotiator General Higinio Carneiro.

"I am convinced we will find a formula," he said.

The government does not want Unita to be allowed to keep control of areas it has captured since the civil war erupted again after United Nations-supervised elections last September. Unita has since made significant military advances and last month captured Angola's second city, Huambo.

The two sides signed a peace agreement in 1991 but Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat in the polls.

"We are getting to the point of understanding," said Unita chief negotiator Jorge Valentin. "We will do everything possible to reach an agreement." — Sapa-Reuter.

SABC to hold public hearings

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — Short-listed nominees for the new SABC board would be interviewed at public hearings, the board selection panel announced yesterday.
 Representations from interest groups and individuals had emphasised the need for selection procedures to be transparent, the panel said.
 The panel — headed by Co-dean Judges Mr Justice Ismail Mohammed and Mr Justice Piet Schabert — held a public hearing at the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park on Wednesday to discuss the criteria for election.
 It said it would consider the merits of nominees and called for written objections to be lodged with the panel's secretary by May 11.
 A short list would then be published and nominees would be interviewed at public hearings emphasised that the SABC board should be non-partisan.
 The panel would then make media and interested parties.

Fighting rages on as Angolan talks falter

ABIDJAN. — Protracted Angolan peace talks in Ivory Coast went into a 48-hour recess yesterday with the warring factions still divided on key military issues.
 As fighting raged on in Angola, the MPLA government delegation flew back to Luanda from Abidjan on Wednesday night for consultations with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.
 The stalemate is over Unita's refusal to pull out its forces from townships it holds, as demanded in UN Security Council resolutions and stipulated in a memorandum drafted by the official observers at the talks, the United States, Russia and Portugal.
 Unita delegation chief Mr Jorge Valentin admitted on Wednesday that "the negotiations are at a dead-end".

10 Palestinians shot by Israelis

JERUSALEM. — Israeli soldiers shot and wounded 10 Palestinians, including a five-year-old boy hit in the eye, on the Gaza Strip yesterday, Palestinian sources said.
 Meanwhile a Palestinian pumped five bullets into an Israeli policeman at Rehovot, near Tel Aviv, police said. The officer was seriously wounded in the chest and arm as he sat in his patrol car.
 At Shati refugee camp on the edge of Gaza City, Mr Nidal M'Hassen was hit in the eye as he returned home from kindergarten, Palestinian sources said. Troops opened fire on stone-throwers, wounding two youths in the camp.
 Soldiers also shot and wounded seven Palestinians during clashes at Maghazi camp, south of Gaza City.
 Since Sunday eight Palestinians have died from Israeli bullets and more than 100 have been wounded. — Sapa-AFP

AFRICA UN Security Council resolution

Pull-out of Unita troops key issue

Sowetan 7/5/93

A **BIDJAN**—The Angolan government delegation to peace talks has returned to Luanda for consultations and the negotiations are scheduled to resume tomorrow, diplomats said yesterday.

The marathon talks are focusing on a call for the withdrawal of rebel Unita troops from towns and villages they have occupied, a senior government negotiator said on Wednesday.

General Higinio Carneiro said "withdrawal of Unita forces from towns and villages currently occupied", as requested in a UN Security Council resolution, was the key issue under current discussion.

Carneiro had earlier hinted that his delegation might return to Luanda from the Ivorian capital Abidjan on

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■ MARATHON TALKS Angolan peace

negotiations resume tomorrow:

Wednesday night for consultations but stressed he did not yet have a draft peace pact ready to show the MPLA government.

"I am convinced we will find a formula," he said.

The government does not want Unita to be allowed to keep control of areas it has captured since the civil war erupted again after UN-supervised elections last September.

Unita has since made significant military advances and last month captured Huambo, Angola's second city.

The two sides signed a peace agree-

ment in 1991 but Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat in the polls.

"We are getting to the point of understanding," Unita's head negotiator Jorge Valentim said. "We will do everything possible to reach an agreement."

Delegates did not say if any further points had been agreed on in a draft peace accord called the Abidjan Protocol, the latest version of which was prepared by US, Russian and Portuguese observers at the weekend after three weeks of talks. — *Sapa-Reuter*.

Deadlock again in Angola peace talks

ABIDJAN — Angolan government and Unita peace negotiators have become bogged down after more than three weeks of talks, although there is only one outstanding point to settle.

The stalemate is over Unita's refusal to pull out its forces from towns it holds, as demanded in UN Security Council resolutions and stipulated in a memorandum drafted by official observers at the talks, the US, Russia and Portugal.

Unita delegation chief Jorge Valentim admitted late on Wednesday that "negotiations are at a dead end".

Unita, which claims to hold 70% of the country, wanted "symmetrical" demilitarisation of the towns, with government troops pulling out as well as Unita's.

To leave the army in its positions would be an invitation to start the war again", he warned.

Gen Higinio Carneiro, of the government side, said there was no way the Security Council resolutions could be ignored.

Faustino Muteka, head of the government delegation at the talks, met Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos in Luanda yesterday.

The two sides have agreed on a range of other issues including release of prisoners of war, delivery of humanitarian aid to war victims, and the resumption of state administration in Unita-controlled zones.

Negotiations were scheduled to resume in Abijan tomorrow, diplomats said.

Unita radio said yesterday its forces had killed 19 government soldiers in an am-

B/DAM 7/5/93
bush near the diamond mining town of Saurimo in northeastern Angola.

It said Unita had also killed six government troops defending the besieged city of Cuito in the central highlands on Tuesday.

Unita troops have been besieging Cuito, capital of Bie province, for the last four months and appear to have advanced into the outskirts of the city.

Unita said its forces had discovered a mass grave near Cuito prison containing the bodies of more than 100 people who had been shot by the government.

The bodies appeared to be at least a year old and many of them had fractured bones indicating that they were ill-treated before execution, Unita said.

Angolan state radio has not commented on the military situation in recent broadcasts, but on Wednesday night said 15 policemen had been arrested for involvement in a crime wave sweeping the coastal cities of Lobito and Benguela.

State radio said there were an average of eight murders a day in Benguela province, many of which were committed by criminals wearing police uniform.

Recent victims of the violence include two Angolan radio journalists shot dead on a beach near Lobito by unknown attackers on Monday night.

Many civilians in Lobito and Benguela are heavily armed with weapons distributed by the government during fighting with Unita forces in neighbouring cities last November. — Sapa—Reuter.

DATEL

**Unita pulls
out of talks**

STIMES
915193
ABIDJAN: Delegates from Angola's Unita rebel movement are pulling out of peace talks in Ivory Coast "for consultations". (5)

Unita chief delegate Jorge Valentim would not say when his team would return to the talks from Huambo.

The move appeared to be a tit-for-tat delaying tactic as negotiations dragged to the end of a fourth week.

New clashes in Angola

LUANDA. — Unita rebels yesterday accused the army of launching an offensive to retake a guerilla-held diamond mining region as peace talks have ground to a standstill.

Unita's radio station quoted a statement by the Unita military command as saying guerilla and government forces had clashed several times over the weekend in the Luzamba area, Angola's second richest diamond-mining zone.

During one of the battles a government helicopter was hit, the com-

mand said without providing details. It said the overall offensive was mounted by special commando forces.

Unita has held Luzamba since late last year.

Last month the two sides began their third attempt in just over a year to negotiate peace.

But the discussions have hit an impasse due to Unita's refusal to withdraw from the towns it occupies as called for under two UN resolutions.

— Sapa-AFP

SC 10/5/93

Spin project

Diamonds: Bid to win back mines

11/5/93

(5)

LISBON. — The Angolan government has launched attacks to recapture the diamond-mining areas of north-eastern Angola from Unita rebels.

Diplomatic sources here and in Luanda said the government appeared to have launched the offensive with helicopter-borne troops on key mining regions of Lunda North province last week.

Unita radio had said that such attacks had been rebuffed and a Russian-built Mil Mi-8 helicopter had been shot down, they noted.

The radio also reported that rebel forces killed 19 government troops when they ambushed a military column near Saurimo, the capital of Lunda North, last Wednesday.

These were the first reported clashes in the diamond-mining region for several weeks and the first word of a government drive to expel Unita forces from the north-east.

"I am sure the government has not yet seized control of the area," one Luanda-based diplomat said.

Diplomats say the government is anxious to deny Unita access to the diamonds as a potential source of rev-

SA diplomats in Luanda

LUANDA. — A South African team arrived here yesterday to prepare for the re-opening of Pretoria's diplomatic representation in Angola.

The Angolan Foreign Ministry welcomed the team, headed by Pretoria's Southern African affairs chief, Mr G J Groleer. But Unita rebels said they viewed the re-opening "badly". — Sapa-AFP

enue. The government depends on more than \$3,5 billion (about R10,5bn) a year in oil revenues to finance its own war effort.

Sources estimate Angola produced about \$600 million (about R1,8bn) worth of diamonds last year, only \$250m (about R750m) of which were exported through official channels.

Unita has controlled most of the diamond mining areas in Lunda North and Lunda South provinces since a 1991 peace accord began to break down last October.

● The Abidjan peace talks have been adjourned until tomorrow while the Unita delegation flies home for consultations with rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi on the last major sticking point, the government's demand that Unita withdraw immediately from the cities which it currently occupies. — Sapa-Reuter

Star 11/5/93

SA men on Angola mission

A 10-man Foreign Affairs mission has flown to Luanda to re-establish a diplomatic presence in Angola after an absence of six months. The team is led by the Department of Foreign Affairs' chief director for southern Africa, Gert Myburgh, and includes several administrative and technical assistants. — Own Correspondent. (5)

SA reopens Angolan mission

Blom

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(5/11)

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — SA reopened its diplomatic mission in Angola yesterday, signalling a return to the gradual normalisation of economic and political ties between the two countries, said a Foreign Affairs spokesman.

The return of SA diplomats, almost six months after Angola collapsed back into its civil war, was a vote of confidence in the UN-brokered Angolan peace negotiations under way in the Ivory Coast, the spokesman said. SA diplomats were evacuated in December last year when deteriorating conditions in Luanda threatened their safety.

It was also confirmed that Foreign Minister Pik Botha would be meeting newly appointed Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura to discuss bilateral issues, said Botha's spokesman, Awie Marais.

While no date had been set for the meeting, expected to take place in Namibia, Marais said it was likely to happen sooner rather than later.

SAA spokesman Leon Els said the airline was optimistic that regular passenger services to Luanda would also be resumed.

"We are now just waiting for clarification of the situation from the Luanda authorities," Els said.

Senior SA diplomat and former Foreign Affairs operational services head Roger Ballard-Tremeer has been appointed the new resident mission head in Luanda.

He was accompanied to the capital yesterday by non-resident head of mission Gert Grobler and four diplomatic officials.

A priority of the re-established mission was the provision of support for SA business concerns in Angola as well as the facilitation of investment opportunities, the spokesman said.

He added, however, that if the situation deteriorated to conditions comparable with December last year, the diplomats would be withdrawn again.

Sapa-Reuter reported from Lisbon yesterday that the Angolan government had tried to recapture the diamond-mining areas of northeastern Angola from Unita. Diplomatic sources said the government launched the offensive with airborne troops last week on mining regions in Lunda North province.

Diplomats said the government wanted to deny Unita access to the mines as a potential revenue source. The government depends on more than \$3,5bn a year in oil revenues to finance its own war effort.

The Angolan government stopped commenting on military developments in the interior when it began a fresh round of peace talks in Ivory Coast four weeks ago. Diplomats said it was difficult, therefore, to get a good idea of developments in the interior.

The peace talks have been adjourned until tomorrow while the Unita delegation consults its leader, Jonas Savimbi on the last major sticking point, the government's demand that Unita withdraw from cities it is occupying at present.

UK lifts Angola arms embargo

LONDON — Britain yesterday announced it was lifting its arms embargo on Angola, citing the Luanda government's right of self-defence against Unita.

The Foreign Office cited the assessment of the UN's so-called Angola troika overseeing peace accords — the US, Russia and Portugal — which said the Luanda government had a "legitimate right of self-defence" in its struggle with Unita.

It also noted that the UN Security Council had held Unita responsible for the resumption of civil war in Angola.

Meanwhile, fighting raged yesterday in the besieged Angolan government stronghold of Cuito and state radio said 150 people died during the day.

It said residents were trapped in homes without food and many dead probably remained uncounted.

The commander of government forces in Cuito, Alfredo Kussuma, told the radio he had no news of the city's Roman Catholic bishop Pedro Luis Antonio and 30 missionaries who were reported to have been captured by Unita.

Unita radio gave no fresh news from Cuito but said government planes had dropped six large bombs and fired hundreds of rockets on Huambo, a city of 500 000 people, on Sunday, and Huambo's main hospital had treated 560 bomb victims, mostly children, in the past week.

Hospital director Nataniel Chimuku said most suffered burns and shrapnel wounds and many required amputation, the radio said. It gave no figure for deaths caused by the air raids.

Government soldiers have been pressing towards Huambo on two roads from the coast.

Unita radio said its troops killed 26 government soldiers at Gabela in western Kwanza South province at the weekend and dozens more in the nearby town of Waku Kungo.

Large quantities of weapons were captured in these and other clashes in Kwanza South, it added. The area is just north of the region through which government forces are trying to reach Huambo. — Sapa-AFP-Reuters.

SA to stop illicit arms shipments to Angola

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PRETORIA — SA had promised Luanda it would prevent illicit military support from reaching either side involved in Angola's conflict, an SA Foreign Affairs spokesman confirmed yesterday.

The spokesman said the promise had not formed any part of a deal by which SA's diplomats returned to Luanda this week.

"We have been concerned, since allegations were first made that support from SA was reaching Angola, that this would contribute to an escalation of the conflict," he said.

The promise to tighten security, prevent airspace violations and discourage the hiring of mercenaries showed SA was committed to the peace process in Angola, he said.

Sapa reports that SA's non-resident head of mission Gert Grobler said in Luanda on Wednesday that neighbouring countries had been asked to report any non-authorized flights from SA to Angola.

Grobler arrived in Luanda on Monday along with several other diplomats to reopen the SA office which had been closed since December.

ADRIAN HADLAND

Meanwhile, Angolan government delegates and observers at the peace talks in Abidjan waited with mounting frustration yesterday for Unita to return to the negotiating table.

Sapa-Reuter reports the talks in the Ivory Coast capital were adjourned last week on Wednesday when government negotiators went to Luanda for consultations. They returned on Sunday.

Unita delegates left Abidjan at the weekend for their headquarters in the central Angolan city of Huambo, saying they would "not stay long".

Unita radio said on Tuesday the delegation was on its way back to Ivory Coast and talks should resume on Wednesday.

Unita also said it had killed dozens of government troops in recent clashes in the oil-producing enclave of Cabinda.

□ Brazilian diplomat Sergio Vieira de Mello is to replace Britain's Margaret Anstee as UN special envoy to Angola, diplomats said in New York, reports Sapa-AFP.

Irritation rises at Unita delay

ABIDJAN, — Delegates and observers at Angolan peace talks waited with frustration yesterday for Unita to return to negotiations. (S)

Unita radio said on Tuesday the delegation was on its way back to Ivory Coast, but there was still no sign of its members yesterday. (S)

Negotiators for the MPLA, UN officials and Portuguese, US and Russian observers were left in rising irritation at the delay. — Sapa-Reuter.

news i

Govt makes a pledge

THE South African Government has pledged firm action to thwart any military support for Angola's Unita rebels, the Angolan state agency *Angop* said yesterday. *Sowetan 14/5/73*

Mr Gert Grobler, South African Foreign Ministry director for Southern Africa, said in Luanda on Wednesday that Pretoria would tighten security measures to prevent arms supplies to the guerrillas and the recruitment of mercenaries.

Angola 'accepts' agreement

ABIDJAN. — The Angolan government said yesterday it accepted the entire text of a preliminary peace agreement being negotiated in Ivory Coast, a UN spokesman said.

Angola's sluggish month-long peace talks resumed here in plenary session yesterday after a 10-day break for delegates to consult their top leadership, and immediately ran into trouble.

After three hours of discussions, government delegation chief General Higinio Carneiro said the rebel movement Unita had hardened its position, which could cause the parley to collapse.

His Unita opposite number Mr Jorge Valentim confirmed Unita was sticking to its refusal to pull troops out of towns it holds. That was the final outstanding point to

be settled when the talks in the Ivory Coast adjourned on May 5.

⑤ CT 15/5/93
Diplomatic sources said on Thursday UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali was expected to recommend to the Security Council that the UN's observer mandate in Angola should not be renewed if there was no significant progress at the talks.
— Sapa-Reuter

Things fall apart in war-torn Luanda

3/10/93 18/5/93
LUANDA — Off for a bit of shopping in downtown Luanda? That machine gun will have to stay in the car.

The Angoy-Franca, one of the few surviving department stores, had to post a "no guns allowed" sign at the front door to make sure everyone got the message.

Since war resumed in October, after the collapse of a 1991 peace accord between the government and Unita, Luanda has been critically short of food, water, medicine, electricity — everything except weapons.

The glut of guns is the result of a government decision to arm civilians in late October during a three-day battle with the rebels after they refused to accept defeat in Angola's first multiparty national elections.

Government forces won the battle, but thousands of pistols and automatic rifles remain in circulation.

A police lieutenant said his department records about 30 gun-related deaths each week and that many more probably are not reported. When asked how many killers were caught, he simply shrugged.

Many Luandans are less concerned about the abundance of guns than by the lack of everything else.

The war has drained Angola of the means of making things work. Traffic is snarled because the lights do not work. Sewer pipes in buildings break. Electricity frequently fails, creating havoc in hospitals, where doctors face a record number of cholera cases and deaths. "If this were a military base, there would be sirens and red lights flashing," said Dr Vitor Vemba, head of health services in Luanda. "We are in a state of maximum emergency."

Cholera spread through the city of 4-million when 2 000 bodies were left rotting on the streets after the October fighting. Half the residents have only untreated water because the rebels blew up a purification plant.

What appears to keep Luanda going is a thriving black market. Groups of women on street corners fan themselves with thick wads of the local currency while waiting to buy dollars at far above the official rate.

Other women sell Brazilian shirts or chicken grilled over charcoal in car hubcaps.

"No one could survive on the salaries they pay in Luanda," said a finance ministry official. "People go to work for one day and spend the rest of the week doing business on the street." — Sapa-AP.

Container volumes to Luanda increasing

POLITICAL uncertainty and conflict has had a negative effect on road and rail freight into Angola, but access by sea is booming.

Grinrod-Seafreight GM Paul Horsfall says the dramatic increase in container volumes to Luanda has continued unabated since last year.

"In the first five weeks of this year the number of containers sent in amounted to about one-third of total 1992

container traffic handled by us into Angola." (S) (21)

And in Mozambique, the road links with the former Portuguese colony are now reported to be completely safe.

Local forwarder Walon reports that it recently took a convoy from Johannesburg to Maputo, unescorted by the military.

It is also reported there is hope for the rehabilitation of

Mozambique's east/west routes. The World Bank and donor countries are negotiating the upgradings. Delmas Mission Commandant Jean Marie Viger says a decision is expected soon.

The Africalink service, established by Grinrod with partners SCAC Delmas Vieljeux, offers the most extensive service in Africa — reaching 34 African and Indian Ocean destinations, says Horsfall.

Star 19/5/93
Angolan boost

NEW YORK — President Bill Clinton has decided to recognise the Angolan government after years of hostility by previous US administrations, The New York Times reported yesterday.

The paper said an announcement could be made this week. — Sapa-Reuter (6)

Angolans 'rush home'

ABIDJAN. — Angolan government delegates rushed home during the night to consult their president about the refusal by rebels to sign a plan to bring peace to Angola.

Two top government representatives spoke with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and returned here yesterday, where more than five weeks of UN-sponsored peace talks have failed to produce a solution for ending the

civil war.

The consultations with President dos Santos came as the clock ticked down on a deadline for reaching agreement on a peace plan.

A government official, General Higinio Carneiro, on Monday gave rebels two days to accept a UN-mediated peace plan. He implied that government bargainers would leave the talks unless the rebels signed the plan.

5 Aug 19/5/93

US set to recognise Angola — report

⑤ APR 19/5/93

NEW YORK. — President Clinton has decided to recognise the Angolan government, the New York Times reported today.

It said that Mr Clinton would recognise the administration of President José Eduardo dos Santos, which is locked in a struggle with Unita.

The Times said Mr Clinton had withheld recognition of the Dos Santos government in the

hope of fostering peace talks between it and Unita.

Administration officials were quoted as saying they were losing hope that Unita would continue with peace talks, reports Sapa-AP.

Washington might signal its intention to recognise Angola as early as Friday.

● Political Correspondent Michael Morris reports that

South Africa has so far refrained from recognising the MPLA government formally pending the outcome of the UN-brokered peace process in Angola, but has established diplomatic relations with Mr Dos Santos's administration.

A foreign affairs spokesman in Pretoria said today that nurturing the peace process was South Africa's main diplomatic objective in Angola.

US recognises Angolan govt

Star 2015/93

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration yesterday recognised the government of Angola after the US had refused to do so for more than 15 years. (5)

Clinton said he tried to use the prospect of recognising Angola as "leverage" to end a civil war between the democratically elected MPLA government in Luanda and Unita rebels.

But in Abidjan, Ivory Coast,

the recognition failed to pressure Unita to sign a peace plan.

While Clinton was announcing his decision, the warring sides failed again to reach agreement. The talks broke off late yesterday and are scheduled to end tomorrow.

A rebel spokesman criticised the US decision to back a government that previous Republi-

can administrations once sought to topple. (34)

The Angolan government — headed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos — said yesterday that it was pleased by a move it felt was long overdue.

● The South Africa Communist Party welcomed the US decision, saying that the move would hopefully lead to an end to the civil war. — Sapa-AP.

Angola 'certain' of US recognition

27 2015/93

LUANDA. — The Angolan government said yesterday it was certain of diplomatic recognition by the United States.

“Recognition is a given fact, whatever the results (of Ivory Coast peace talks),” a senior Angolan official said yesterday.

US Secretary of State Mr Warren Christopher said President Bill Clinton might make a statement on Angola within 24 hours.

US officials said Mr Clinton was likely to announce formal recognition of the MPLA government.

The Angolan official said recognition meant big economic and political advances for Angola. Diplomats said the US was impatient with Unita's reluctance to sign a peace accord.

Yesterday UN Secretary-General Mr Boutros Boutros-

Ghali gave peace negotiators “until Friday”, when talks are due to end, to agree on peace.

Angola said “everything now depends on Unita”, which refuses to sign a peace protocol drafted by the US, Russia and Portugal that compels Unita to withdraw from occupied towns.

● Cholera in Luanda is killing 600 victims weekly, aid sources said. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

ANC hails Clinton's Star 21/5/93 recognition decision

By Kaizer Nyatumba
Political Correspondent

The ANC yesterday welcomed US President Bill Clinton's decision to recognise "the democratically elected government of Angola", and said the recognition was long overdue.

US recognition of the Angolan government, elected after President Jose Eduardo dos Santos beat Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi in elections last year, comes after successive US administrations had refused to recognise the MPLA government.

Instead, the US and South Africa supported Savimbi's rebel Unita

movement financially and militarily until the signing of a tripartite agreement involving Angola, Cuba and South Africa a few years ago.

The ANC said the US recognition would help bring the civil war in Angola to an end. It hoped that the US would provide substantial aid to Angola.

"This decision reflects the high priority our administration places on democracy," Clinton said in Washington on Wednesday.

The Angolan government said yesterday that it hoped the US decision would encourage a peaceful settlement with Unita.

US gives up on Savimbi

By PAUL STOBER and
Sapa-Reuter

BY recognising Angola's MPLA government, the United States has given up all hope of persuading Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels to agree to the United Nations-sponsored plan to end the Angolan civil war.

The move represents a stunning reversal of past US policy, which saw millions of dollars of aid injected into Unita as an alleged democratic bulwark against the "Marxist" MPLA.

Announcing the move at a meeting with South Africa's Archbishop Desmond Tutu on Wednesday, US President Bill Clinton said the MPLA, "which has agreed to sign that peace agreement, has sworn in a democratically elected national assembly and has offered participation by Unita at all levels of government", had more than earned US recognition. He expressed the hope that Unita would take its place in the government.

Yesterday, the MPLA quietly celebrated its recognition by the US. "It closes a long chapter of misunderstanding in ... relations between the two countries," said a statement.

Unita attacked the decision. "It's a sovereign decision but ... I say it's not a correct one," a spokesman said.

Previous Republican US administrations and South Africa backed Unita politically and militarily during the 16-year civil war. The US is reported to have pumped at least US\$300-million into the movement between 1985 and 1991.

After a peace deal brokered by the US and the former Soviet Union, the MPLA beat Unita in the elections for a national assembly, which were supervised and declared free and fair by the UN. Rather than face a run-off with MPLA leader Jose Eduardo dos Santos for the Angolan presidency, Savimbi took his movement back to the bush. Over the past seven months, the rebel movement has captured up to two thirds of the country.

The UN brokered a new round of peace talks in Abidjan which foundered on proposals that Unita withdraw from territory captured since the elections.

US recognition boosts Angola government

② APR 21/5/93

THE recognition of the government of Angola, announced this week by President Clinton, indicates that the United States has removed the final vestige of support for the Unita rebel movement and will strengthen the hand of the government at the peace talks in Abidjan, capital of Ivory Coast.

Until a few weeks ago, US officials said Washington would recognise the Luanda government only when it reached agreement with Unita. They also appeared to be using the "threat" of recognition to persuade Unita to reach a ceasefire agreement. But Wednesday's statement indicates that they have become exasperated with Unita's intransigence.

The talks in Abidjan are held up by Unita's refusal to withdraw from towns it has seized since relaunching the civil war in October. Unita resumed fighting after it lost the United Nations-monitored elections in September, which it denounced as fraudulent. The UN and the US ac-

RICHARD DOWDEN of The Independent reports



RECOGNITION:
President Clinton.

cepted the results but Unita troops attacked government forces throughout the country and fighting is reported to be continuing in the north and east.

Mr Jorge Valentim, leader of the Unita delegation at the peace talks, said: "The US decision will embolden the MPLA's negotiators in Abidjan and give them the impression they can now stall the negotiations."

But observers at the talks said it was Unita that was holding up the talks, and the movement's desperation is reflected in Unita Radio's re-



REBEL: Unita leader
Jonas Savimbi.

cent appeal against US recognition. It said the elections were rigged, and added: "US standards of justice are not consistent with recognition of the fraudulent, Communist and genocidal Luanda government."

But Mr Clinton, announcing recognition, said: "It is my hope Unita will accept a negotiated peace settlement and it will be part of this government."

Recognition also closes an unfortunate chapter of US policy in Africa, in which it backed a movement it be-

lieved to be democratic and to have majority support, but which refused to accept the results of an election which it lost.

From 1975, when the US-backed movements, Unita and the FNLA, were defeated by the Cuban-backed MPLA, Washington refused to recognise the MPLA but the Clark Amendment banned US military support for Angolan political movements. Washington said it would not recognise the MPLA until Cuban troops were removed from Angola.

Then, in 1985, the Clark Amendment was repealed, allowing the Reagan administration to give Unita up to R60 million worth of military equipment including Stinger anti-aircraft missiles.

When Luanda agreed to dispense with its Cuban allies and talk to Unita, the price of US recognition was changed to include democratic elections. When these were held, there was no recognition even when the MPLA accepted the results and Unita rejected them.

MPLA hails US move on recognition

© 21/5/93

LUANDA. — Angola's formerly Marxist MPLA government celebrated its recognition by the United States yesterday, but Unita rebels said the US decision would complicate peace negotiations. The reaction came as Angola's warring factions met with mediators yesterday in an effort to agree on a peace plan before a UN deadline expires today.

"We have made certain headway in the sense that we are still talking and both sides are trying very hard to find a solution," said UN mediator Ms Margaret Anstee following separate meetings with both sides.

Reacting to the US recognition, the government said: "It was a just decision. It closes a long chapter of misunderstandings in the history of relations between the two countries."

Unita said the US move announced on Wednesday by President Bill Clinton could set back efforts to end Angola's renewed civil war.

Counter-productive

"The US decision will embolden the MPLA's negotiators in Abidjan and give them the impression they can now stall the negotiations," said Unita peace delegation leader Mr Jorge Valentim on Wednesday night in Ivory Coast.

"It would be extremely counter-productive if the MPLA were to gain the impression that US recognition signals approval for intransigence at the peace table," said Mr Valentim, a key lieutenant of Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

The ANC also welcomed the US decision, saying the step "will make a positive contribution and help bring the civil war to an end".

The ANC said it hoped the new US administration would provide substantial aid to help Angola recover from the debris of a civil war. "The long-suffering people of Angola deserve a peaceful and democratic future."

Mr Clinton said the MPLA government had more than earned its recognition by taking strides towards democracy.

Washington had been withholding recognition, hoping to exert leverage over Unita which resumed its insurrection after rejecting electoral defeat by the MPLA in September polls. — Sapa-Reuter

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Unita sulks as US recognises govt

LUANDA — Angola's formerly Marxist MPLA government yesterday celebrated its recognition by the US, but Unita said the American decision would complicate peace negotiations.

"It was a just decision," the government said. "It closes a long chapter of misunderstandings in the history of relations between the two countries."

Unita, formerly backed by Washington, said the US move announced on Wednesday by President Bill Clinton could set back efforts to end Angola's civil war.

"The US decision will embolden the MPLA's negotiators in Abidjan and give them the impression they can now stall the negotiations," Jorge Valentim, leader of the Unita delegation at the peace talks, said in Ivory Coast.

Both sides said little progress was made during Wednesday's talks as the clock ticked down on a Friday deadline imposed by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali. UN mediators will probably seek a new round of talks if the current session fails to produce an agreement.

Previous US administrations backed Unita during much of the 16-year civil war.

US support for the guerrillas ended with May 1991 peace accords. But Washington withheld recognition, hoping to exert leverage over Unita which resumed its insurrection after rejecting electoral defeat by the MPLA in September polls.

The Angolan government said Clinton's decision "corresponded to our continually expressed desire" to establish full diplomatic relations and had implications for the entire continent. "US recognition of a democratically-elected government in Angola is an encouraging factor in the pro-

cess of democratisation in Africa, and in particular southern Africa."

On Wednesday, Clinton said the government of President José Eduardo dos Santos had "more than earned" recognition by holding a 1992 election that was considered free and fair by international monitors.

He made the announcement during an Oval Office meeting with Archbishop Desmond Tutu, who promptly declared himself "over the moon" at a development he had planned to raise with Clinton.

Tutu said the decision could have more far-reaching effects on the African continent. "I'm certain it will help the process in our continent where not all countries have had a good record of human rights."

Clinton said: "Since taking office on January 20, I have tried to use the possibility of US recognition as a leverage for promoting an end to the civil war and hostilities, and hopefully the participation of all relevant political groups in the government of Angola."

Portugal's foreign ministry yesterday hailed Washington's decision, saying the move should help end the war.

In Johannesburg, the ANC and SACP yesterday welcomed the US decision.

The ANC said it was sure the step "will make a positive contribution and help bring the civil war in Angola to an end".

SACP spokesman Essop Pahad called on the SA government to follow the US move and "recognise the legitimate government of Angola".

SA Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha will meet his Angolan counterpart Venancio de Moura for talks in Windhoek on June 4, Namibian foreign affairs officials confirmed yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Bid to end Star 2115192 Angola

impasse

ABIDJAN — International observers at the stalled Angolan peace talks are to consider slightly amending the final peace plan document in a bid to unblock negotiations, a spokeswoman said yesterday.

UN envoy Margaret Anstee said the US, Russia and Portugal, which are overseeing the talks, would consider the amendment to overcome Unita opposition to withdrawing its forces from towns it controls.

The peace talks, which began on April 12, and which must end today, have been stalled over Unita's refusal. — Sapa-
AFP

US nod for MPLA

Sowetan Foreign News Service

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton, announcing formal recognition by the United States of the MPLA government this week, blamed Unita for resuming the civil war in Angola. However, he added he hoped Unita would become part of the new government.

"Since taking office on January 20 I have tried to use the possibility of US recognition as leverage towards promoting an end to the civil war and hostilities and hopefully the participation of all relevant political groups in the government of Angola," Clinton said.

"Sadly, the party that lost the election, Unita, resumed the fighting before the

■ WON'T SIGN President scolds Unita for breaking off talks to resume civil war:

electoral process could even be completed. And Unita has now refused to sign the peace agreement now on the table.

"The Angolan government, by contrast, has agreed to sign that peace agreement, has sworn in a democratically elected national assembly, and has offered participation by Unita at all levels of government. Today we recognise those achievements by recognising the government of Angola," Clinton said.

Meanwhile, the US recognition of the MPLA has failed to pressure Unita into signing a peace plan.

While Clinton was announcing his decision, talks the two warring factions broke down in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, late on Wednesday.

The African National Congress yesterday welcomed the decision to recognise the MPLA.

An ANC statement said the organisation was positive that the step "by the United States will make a positive contribution and help bring the civil war in Angola to an end". It said it hoped the new US administration would provide substantial aid to help Angola recover from the debris of a civil war.

Sowetan 2/15/93

(5) (324)



Angola talks at stalemate

In Wilmall Guardian 2/15 - 27/5/93. (5)

By Victoria Brittain

TALKS between the Angolan government and the rebel movement, Unita, under United Nations auspices in the Ivory Coast capital, Abidjan, have reached stalemate following a Unita announcement that it will not withdraw from the towns and villages it has occupied since restarting the war last October.

The announcement was made on Unita's clandestine radio just before its delegation failed to return to Abidjan for talks which should have restarted on Wednesday last week.

Although the talks are still scheduled to resume, they have become largely a matter of face-saving for their UN sponsors, and Western diplomats believe that a long war

and a humanitarian crisis worse than any other in Africa are now inevitable.

The new declaration puts Unita on a collision course with the UN Security Council which passed a resolution in January urging the rebels to withdraw from the territory they have occupied since the elections. (Under the terms of the US-sponsored peace agreement which led to the elections they are also required to give up all territory taken earlier.)

Unita has also announced that the group will not accept the appointment of a Brazilian who has been tipped to replace Margaret Anstee as the UN secretary-general's special envoy.

US cancels half of Africa's debts, page 21

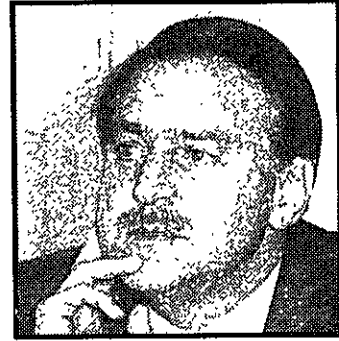
SA-Angola talks in Namibia

WINDHOEK. — South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha will meet his Angolan counterpart, Mr Venancio de Moura, here on June 4 in an attempt to normalise relations between their governments, Namibian Foreign Secretary Andreas Guibeb has announced.

Mr Botha played a central role in negotiations between the MPLA and Unita after the latter rejected the outcome of

elections last September. But Mr Botha was declared *persona non grata* in Angola after Luanda accused South Africa of helping Unita in the conflict.

Mr Guibeb said he would meet South Africa's representative to Namibia, Mr Stephanus Aldrich, and Angolan Ambassador Alberto Ribeiro today to finalise the agenda for the meeting. — Sapa-AFP.



Mr Pik Botha

TIONAL

ANC welcomes US decision on Angola

JOHANNESBURG. — The ANC has welcomed the decision by the United States to recognise the Angolan MPLA government.

On Wednesday the Clinton administration recognised the Angolan government — after refusing to do so for more than 15 years.

US President Bill Clinton said the decision to recognise

the government was a bid to end the civil war there, and came after Unita rebels refused to accept a peace plan.

An ANC statement said the organisation was positive the step "will make a positive contribution and help bring the civil war in Angola to an end".

The ANC said it hoped the new US administration would provide substantial aid to help

Angola recover from the debris of civil war.

"The long-suffering people of Angola deserve a peaceful and democratic future."

Meanwhile, Unita said it was disappointed by the US decision to recognise the Angolan government.

The rebel movement said it would remain committed to working with the US and other

observer countries to achieve peace in Angola.

Dr Jorge Valentim, head of the Unita delegation to peace talks in Abidjan, said recognition of the Angolan government meant the US had taken responsibility in ensuring that the MPLA respected political and human rights and continued to negotiate with Unita in good faith. — Sapa.

1 world

Star 21/5/93

Pik to meet MPLA Minister

Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha will meet his Angolan counterpart Venancio de Moura for talks in Windhoek on June 4, Namibian Foreign Affairs officials confirmed yesterday. Foreign Affairs Permanent Secretary Andreas Guibeb said he would meet SA representative to Namibia Stephanus Aldrich and Angolan ambassador Alberto Ribeiro today to discuss details of the meeting and finalise the agenda. — Sapa (5)



Ilha do Sal to discuss the offer with the South Africans, and records his observations in this extract from his book *High Noon in Southern Africa*.

IN October 1984, Angola put forward a proposal that could have led to an early end to the war in south-western Africa had it been fully explored. Unfortunately, the South African government was divided. Voices of reason were not strong and the machinery for rational decision-making had collapsed. Former US Secretary of State Dr Chester Crocker perceived this when he flew to

THE problems became evident when I flew to Cape Verde at the end of October to share the MPLA peace offer with the senior South African negotiating team. Their reaction to the MPLA plan was predictably scathing. It was "a war plan". Mandela aimed to use Resolution 435 "as a means to destroy Unita", which would use its SADF support up-front while the Cubans remained on to help the MPLA or the indefinite future.

But, at the same time, the South Africans quickly recognised that the very fact of the Angolan proposal fundamentally changed the situation. The bidding over

ANGOLA:

Peace was

at hand, but

the Pretoria

gang were

too busy making a spectacle of themselves...

STIMES 23/1/93.



WAR GAMES... Magnus Malan and cabinet colleague Pik Botha share a lighter moment with an RPG-7 rocket launcher in 1988

terms and principles had started. For the first time in years, the ball was now in South Africa's court.

The new situation changed the character of our bilateral discourse with South Africa. Before, we were with the South Africans in pressing Luanda to make a bid. Now, we would distance ourselves from the negotiating positions of both

sides, align ourselves with the process itself, and ardently defend the integrity of our formula.

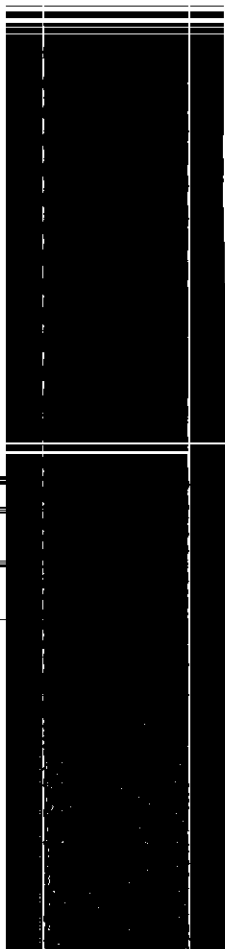
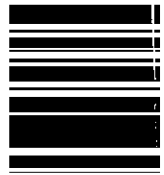
Quickly sensing the changed situation, the South Africans immediately began to insinuate that my colleagues and I were deviating from previous positions by merely presenting this lopsided Angolan bid.

But the chilling thing about the Cape Verde meeting was the chemistry within, and the behaviour of, the South African delegation.

American officials found their motives openly questioned in side conversations. Why didn't we want Savimbi to become the president of Angola (as if this objective were within the grasp of American,

or South African, decision-makers)?

Revealing his agenda in an unguarded moment, Defence Minister (Magnus) Malan asked me: "Why don't you get involved in Angola and Mozambique?" My special assistant, Robert Cabelly, probed SADF military intelligence boss Pieter van der Westhuizen about the signals being sent by his covert operations far north of the border. "It tells the MPLA you want to kill them, not do a deal," Cabelly noted. "I agree," replied the man we had nicknamed "the ratcatcher of Southern Africa".



State President FW Botha, habitually sought some room to manoeuvre between Pretoria's baronies and the local Namibian political forces. Under the incumbent Administrator-General, Dr Willem van Niekerk — a hardline gynaecologist-politician whose dream was to abort Namibia — this became a menace.

He and his people gleefully informed us that the Multi-Party Conference had written to PW Botha proposing that Resolution 435 be altered to require a constitutional conference before elections.

There was also talk of a "deadline", after which unspecified events would occur and Resolution 435 would lapse.

The saner heads from Pretoria knew that these rumblings were idle. In the real world, South Africa could not unilaterally settle the Namibian problem. But there was a risk of myopic miscalculation. Such mischief-making only served to place us on the defensive and discredit the settlement exercise in the eyes of others.

We used the Cape Verde meeting to send some messages of our own. In particular, we warned the South Africans that the growing township unrest and their response to it were becoming a more serious political issue in the United States.

We came down hard on the importance for South African, as well as American, interests of avoiding official brutality at home and of making the regional peace process work with Mozambique and Angola.

The Pretoria-organised talks between the Maputo government and Renamo had

just collapsed in mysterious circumstances. Botha reported to us the story of Renamo's Evo Fernandez being called away from the table for an unidentified overseas phone call, after which he broke off the talks. These were painful exchanges. A clearly frustrated Botha put up a good story, but he was probably beginning to accept that we knew far more than we could share with him about the contradictory, self-destructive policies of his own government.

The Cape Verde encounter served as a warning of things to come.

One wondered about the "policy process" among grown men who took such evident delight in making spectacles of themselves in the

presence of foreigners, strangers and their own young countrymen (and women) from South African Airways.

We watched in amazement as a member of the South African cabinet wilfully delayed a SAA Jumbo jet and then tried to intimidate its outraged commander into silence.

It reminded me of another time when Gabon's president, Omar Bongo, held a UTA Jumbo on the ground in Libreville for two hours during a refuelling stop in order to conduct a conversation with me.

THESE African leaders, white and black, represented a laboratory for Lord Acton's dictum about absolute power. Some members of the Pretoria gang, when free of the scrutiny that normally accompanies high office, behaved as if South Africa and everything in it were their personal possessions.

At a deeper level, this mixture of self-indulgence and bullying was adolescent. Could these guys get their act together when times got tough and fundamental choices were needed?

● *High Noon in Southern Africa: Making Peace in a Rough Neighbourhood* by Dr Chester A Crocker is published by Jonathan Ball and will be released in South Africa tomorrow.

THERE were many such unguarded moments during those two long days and nights on Sal Island, the windswept moonscape where South Africa had constructed the Cape Verdeans' international airfield.

We met at the Morabeza hotel and sports complex on the north-eastern shore of Sal, a meeting site frequented by a motley array of airline crews, sport fishermen and windsurfers.

The Morabeza did its best to maintain a business-as-usual atmosphere for its regular clientele. But this was not easy. Twenty or so of the top ranks of Pretoria's national security establishment set a tone somewhere between Club Med and an adult-style *Lord of the Flies*.

There was rampant strife in their ranks. Pik Botha, the official delegation leader and spokesman, confided to me that he had brought this horde along in order "to implicate" them. (Four departments and agencies plus the Administrator-General's office in Windhoek were represented on Botha's team.)

Like paint remover, the non-stop alcohol intake stripped away any veneer of Afrikaner solidarity. They disagreed about everything: Savimbi's prospects in Angola, the relative importance of the Angolan war for South Africa, the role being played by the United States, the hopes for Namibia's internal parties, how to handle growing black unrest at home, and the right course in Mozambique.

So deeply did they disagree about Mozambique that Botha excluded Van der Westhuizen from

our restricted discussion on that topic.

Later, when Cabelly approached the fuming "Wessy" to compare notes, he growled: "You're wasting your time talking to them (Botha, Malan, Fourie, Barnard, Geldenhuys) — *I run Mozambique*."

After our presentation of the MPLA proposal, another debate broke out among the South Africans over the Angolan military balance. This "lively conversation", as one participant delicately described it, focused on the standard SADF military intelligence line that the MPLA was on the verge of collapse.

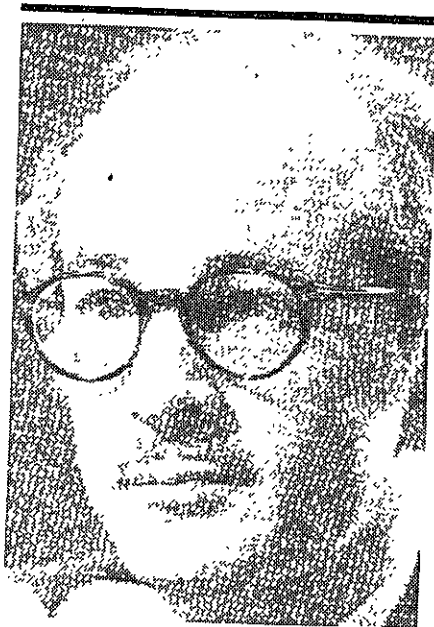
Savimbi would soon seize power. Why listen to Luanda and the Americans? Just play along and wait until after the US election. We know how to organise our "friends" and "Unita's friends" in the West for a change in US policy.

Pretoria's veteran statesman, Brand Fourie, offered a caustic comment on the rosy nonsense about Savimbi's impending victory: "Sure, sure, maybe six months, maybe six years." There was nothing remotely approaching a consensus on Angolan policy within the government.

Namibia fared no better.

The official Department of Foreign Affairs line remained one of solid adherence to South Africa's responsibilities under Resolution 435.

But the Administrator-General and his staff in Namibia, who reported directly to



At a deeper level, this mixture of self-indulgence and bullying was adolescent. Could these guys get their act together when times got tough and fundamental choices were needed?

— Chester Crocker

Unita is out in the cold

Star 22/5/93

GERALD LANGE
Editor, Africa News Service



AFTER giving the MPLA government the cold shoulder for 18 years, Washington has at last decided to recognise it, and in so doing has put a new political complexion on the Angolan conflict.

US President Bill Clinton's decision reverses American support for Unita, leaving South Africa the last of the rebel organisations' major allies.

However, that stance is likely to change soon, for Pretoria seems to have little to gain by refusing to follow the United States' lead, especially as South Africa recognises the MPLA's victory in the Angolan election last November and has opened low-level diplomatic relations with Luanda.

Pretoria has been rejecting strong overtures from Luanda to upgrade those relations to full diplomatic level, but this might change when Foreign Minister Pik Botha meets his Angolan counterpart, Venancio de Moura, in Windhoek on June 4 to review relations.

Clinton's decision to recognise the MPLA government has left Unita isolated diplomatically.

Full recognition by South Africa would leave Savimbi befriended only by Morocco, Zaire and a few other African states.

Clinton's decision will make little immediate difference on the ground in Angola.

Units will remain well armed and able to continue fighting, obtaining supplies through its African friends and on the black market. Recognition of the Luanda government has important economic implications.

By withholding recognition, Washington had given at least indirect support to Unita's cause, which it openly backed with arms while Moscow was arming the MPLA during the height of the civil war.

Washington has signalled to Luanda that it might be ready to pump millions of dollars of aid into government coffers.

Clinton's decision also clears the way for US investment by lifting the double taxation on American business operations in Angola.

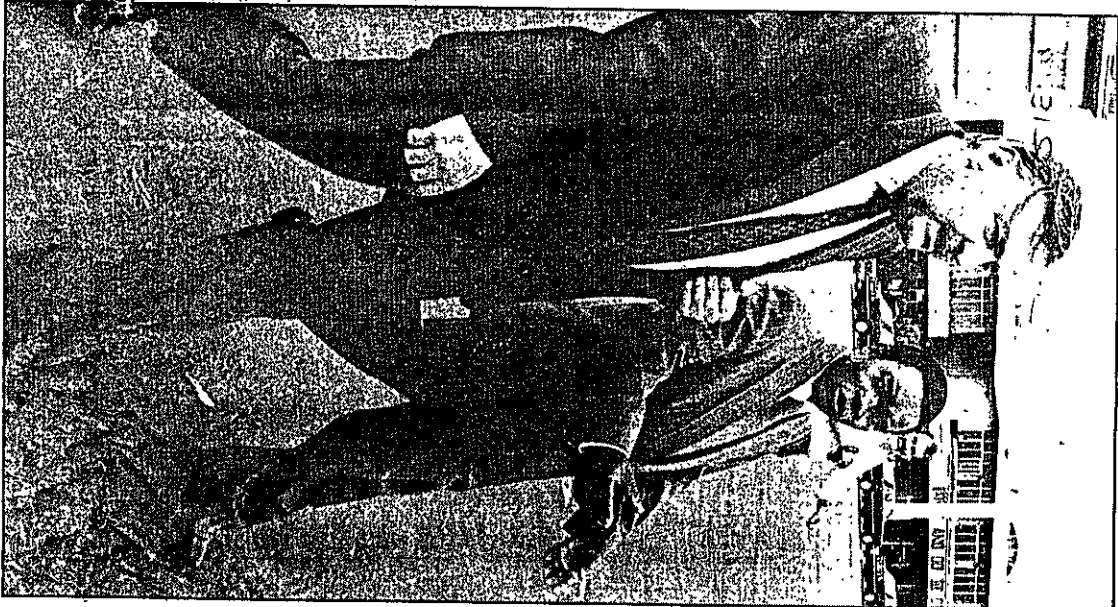
Even if investors are put off by the continued fighting between government and Unita forces, this could have an immediate and major effect through American purchases of Angolan oil.

Should the peace fall, Abidjan fell and the fighting continues, the MPLA cannot expect Washington's recognition to lead to American arms supplies, for these remain barred by the "triple-zero option" in the peace accord signed at Bicesse in Portugal.

What Luanda could probably expect from Washington in the event of the fighting continuing is help in crimping Unita's foreign aid.

American satellite information and other intelligence, combined with Washington's international diplomatic and economic influence, could put a stranglehold on Unita's external links and make it difficult for the rebels to maintain a guerrilla war.

At the same time, however, Clinton appears to have indicated to the MPLA government that in return for



HAPPY DAYS: Pik Botha and Angolan Foreign Minister Pedro van Dunem at the time of Angola's peace settlement. ● Photograph: KEN VERNON

its recognition (and perhaps economic aid) Washington expects Unita to be given a meaningful part in Angola's government — something more than the cultural portfolio that the MPLA insultingly tossed to Savimbi after winning the election.

In saying that he hoped Unita would become part of the government, recognised by the United States,

Clinton appeared to have been hinting strongly to the negotiators in Abidjan that they look at a fair sharing of power as the means to bring peace to Angola.

At the end of this week the Abidjan negotiators were separated from agreement by only one issue: Unita's refusal to give up the towns and territory it seized after the election.

Clinton's recognition statement portrayed Unita as intransigent on this point, ignoring rebel demands for a reduction in MPLA military strength in return for abandoning its own military gains.

The Clinton administration is obviously going to continue recognising the validity of the MPLA's election victory despite evidence to support Unita's claim that there were enough irregularities in the poll to make the outcome questionable, if not invalid.

Like the UN and most of the international community, Washington has portrayed Unita as a sore loser rather than an injured party.

Clinton's policy is apparently going to be based on this view.

Yet it was almost certainly Unita's conviction that the election was unfair that made it reject the result. That and perhaps also a belief that the MPLA had plotted to wipe out the Unita leaders trapped in Luanda after the election.

Believing this, and having in the post-election fighting won more territory than it had before the election, Unita is understandably reluctant to abandon its gains if they are not matched by guarantees that it will not subsequently be threatened with annihilation by government forces.

At the Abidjan talks, Unita has demanded a halt in hostilities, with both sides maintaining their positions until UN troops are in place to monitor the disarmament and demobilisation of both armies.

Stand fast

The disarmament, it says, should include the government's 35 000-strong special police unit, nicknamed the Nundas, whom Unita blames for starting the post-election fighting.

In recognising the MPLA government, Clinton is inviting it to stand fast on its demands at Abidjan and twisting Unita's arm to compromise.

In return, it seems Unita is being offered a worthwhile part in the government.

Unita will want some kind of guarantees that it will get such a role, and it remains to be seen whether Washington has the means to ensure that it does.

The US, through the Reagan administration and its Africa chief Chester Crocker, was a prime mover in bringing Angola to the peace agreed on at Bicesse.

That fell apart when the responsibility for implementing it was handed over to the United Nations.

Clinton and his Africa chief, George Moose, have been left to help pick up the pieces.

They have begun by recognising the MPLA government, but it is too soon to know whether that will be enough to bring Unita to heel.

Unita troops advance into streets of Cuito

LISBON. — Unita troops besieging the central Angolan city of Cuito broke through government defences yesterday and were advancing in street-by-street battles against government soldiers and armed civilians, news reports said.

Unita troops had occupied positions in the centre of Cuito, capital of Bie province, 670km south-east of Luanda, and were battling toward the airport and the military base, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported. — Sapa-AP

Star 22/5/92

Angolan peace talks break down

ABIDJAN — Angolan peace talks ended in failure yesterday despite an ultimatum set by the United Nations secretary general, UN envoy Margaret Anstee said.

The government and UNITA delegations had been called into an 11th-hour plenary session in hope of meeting a deadline set for yesterday by secretary general Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

But the talks failed to produce an agreement to end hos-

tilities, Anstee said after the 90-minute final meeting, adding that it was a tragic result for the people of Angola.

She said she hoped the talks, which began in Abidjan on April 12, could resume elsewhere at a future date.

The peace talks were aimed at ending the fighting which resumed last October after the rebel movement UNITA refused to accept its defeat in the previous month's UN-super-

vised general election. The voting was held under a May 1991 peace agreement that was supposed to end 16 years of civil war in the former Portuguese colony.

Yesterday's ultimatum by Boutros-Ghali was seen as aimed directly at UNITA, after an earlier "summons" from the UN chief to rebel leader Jonas Savimbi — who was not at the talks — to sign a protocol agreement or addendum to the 1991 accord. — Sapa-AFP.

No SA recognition yet for MPLA govt

LINDA ENSOR (5)

CAPE TOWN — SA's government would not follow the example of the White House in recognising Angola's MPLA government, a Foreign Affairs spokesman said at the weekend. (510m 2415793)

Government supported the UN peace process, which required that a second election be held. SA would recognise only a "permanent government", he said.

Unita has disputed the validity of the election last September in which the MPLA won a majority vote in a poll foreign observers accepted as free and fair. Unita leader Jonas Savimbi declined to take part in the second election for the presidency and resumed the civil war.

Sapa reports that ANC president Nelson Mandela on Saturday called on government to follow the lead of the US and recognise Angola's government.

Speaking in Ladysmith, Mandela congratulated President Bill Clinton on recognising the MPLA government's legitimacy and said he hoped other nations would do the same. "In particular, we hope the government of SA will without delay recognise the Angolan government."

An SA government spokesman said: "We feel it is not appropriate at this point to recognise one party over another prior to the conclusion of the peace process and the holding of a second election."

Foreign Minister Pik Botha's meeting with Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura on June 4 had been scheduled for some time. The talks were intended to support the UN peace process and were not geared towards normalising relations between SA and Angola.

The US policy shift towards Angola — Unita had the backing of previous US administrations for about 15 years — was announced by Clinton last week, a move hailed by the ANC as a positive step.

Clinton said he was using US recognition as a lever in promoting an end to the civil war, and had taken his decision after Unita refused to accept the peace plan.

Sapa-AFP reports from Abidjan, Ivory Coast, that Unita called for new peace talks with the Angolan government on Saturday, the day after six weeks of negotiations ended in failure. But Unita, which controlled about 70% of Angola, stuck to its demand to remain in the cities and towns under its command.

Farmers fancy redistribution

HARARE — The Namibian National Farmers' Union is pushing government to adopt land acquisition measures similar Zimbabwe's to correct imbalances in land ownership created by colonialism, says union director Hudson N'embongi. (221)

N'embongi was in Zimbabwe with 16 Namibian farmers to study the Zimbabwean experience, national news agency Ziana reported. (25)

Ziana quoted him as saying on Saturday that his organisation would lobby the Swapo government to act decisively on the "burning" land question which, he stressed, was central to the armed struggle that led to Namibia's independence from SA in 1990.

"Our view, based on the profiles from Zimbabwe, is that land must be acquired and must be redistributed. We urge the government to do it now while the cake is hot," he said. — Sapa. (510m 2415793)

United States reverses 18 years of support for Unita

CF 24/5/93

SCOTT PETERSON of the Daily Telegraph explains the significance of US Recognition of the MPLA government of Angola.

PRESIDENT Bill Clinton's recognition of the formerly Marxist Angolan government of José Eduardo dos Santos, reverses 18 years of American support for the Unita "freedom fighters".

The policy change came on the eve of a United Nations deadline which requires the government and rebels to make progress in month-old talks to end the renewed civil war. The peace talks, held in the Ivory Coast capital of Abidjan, have been stalled over the rebels' refusal to heed government and UN demands to withdraw from recently captured territory.

Mr Clinton's decision is designed to increase pressure on Unita, led by veteran guerrilla leader Jonas Savimbi, to accept a peace plan put forward by UN negotiators and already fully accepted by the Angolan government.

The decision also demonstrates Washington's deep unhappiness with Mr Savimbi — despite carte blanche support for nearly two decades — for rejecting results of elections last September, and for plunging Angola back into a bloody civil war after 18 hopeful months of peace. President dos Santos's Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won 49% of the September vote.

Mr Clinton said this week: "This decision reflects the high priority our administration places on democracy. Since taking office, I have tried to use the possibility of US recognition as leverage toward promoting an end to the hostilities, and I hope the participation of all relevant political groups in the government of Angola."

Embarrassing

Instead, Mr Savimbi has rejected the results of UN-sponsored elections, has reignited the civil war and has refused to sign the Abidjan peace agreement. By contrast the government, Mr Clinton said, had agreed to the peace plan, had sworn in a democratically elected parliament, and had offered Unita participation "at all levels".

"Today we recognise those achieve-

ments by recognising the government of the Republic of Angola. It is my hope that Unita will accept a negotiated settlement and that it will be part of the government," he said. The decision is a blow to Mr Savimbi who, since 1975, has fought the Marxist, Soviet-backed MPLA in a civil war that turned Angola into a Cold War battlefield. Thousands of Cuban soldiers fought with the MPLA, while South African troops fought alongside Unita, and the US Central Intelligence Agency funnelled cash and weapons — including sophisticated Stinger anti-aircraft missiles — to the rebels.

Former President Reagan told Congress in 1988 that America supported Unita "freedom fighters" because "their cause is our cause — freedom". That past support is embarrassing now, US officials in the capital Luanda admit, since Mr Savimbi seems to have proven himself to be the only man in Angola who isn't a democrat.

The renewed fighting has left 30 000 Angolans dead and a third of the 10 million population threatened with famine. Since October Unita has taken control — during some of the bloodiest battles seen in 18 years — of at least 70% of the country. A tiny UN mission of 150 observers, its hands tied because of a narrow UN mandate, has watched helplessly as war has returned to Angola.

Never win support

Despite private warnings from the US that Unita risks becoming a "pariah out in the bush" if it doesn't accept and abide by a peace agreement, Unita has reacted angrily to the American decision.

Unita's UN representative in New York, Marcos Samondo, said US recognition would "complicate even more negotiations and would make the government start dragging its feet. The government can buy weapons and get aid from the US,



JONAS SAVIMBI: Plunged Angola back into a bloody civil war.

and may not see the need to talk to Unita. That would be a mistake, because Unita has never been stronger on the ground".

Like the Bosnian Serbs, however, observers say that even if Unita was able to conquer militarily, it could never win the support of all Angolans, or the international community.

Nevertheless, the UN-imposed arms embargo on Angola has been broken by

PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS: Won 49% of votes in the September elections.

both sides and Mr Savimbi's reluctance even to agree to a ceasefire, "in principle", causes observers to believe that war will continue. Fighting this week has been heavy in Angola's most important diamond mining area in the north-east. Unita announced that it had repelled a government offensive on Cafunfu town and had killed 200 MPLA soldiers. — © The Telegraph plc, London.

Star 24/5/93

Unita seeks new talks but sticks to demands

ABIDJAN (Ivory Coast) — Unita called for new peace talks with the Angolan government on Saturday — the day after six weeks of negotiations here ended in failure — but stuck to its demand to remain in the cities and towns it controls.

“We hope to come back to Abidjan in two or three weeks for a second round of negotiations,” said Jorge Valentim, who heads the Unita delegation.

The talks began in Abidjan on April 12 and were suspended indefinitely on Friday after Unita refused to sign a peace protocol

requiring the rebels to withdraw their forces from urban areas they control. Unita controls about 70 percent of Angola.

“Unita cannot and will never be able to leave the cities and villages it conquered with the blood of its best children,” Valentim said. “We cannot abandon them and let them be massacred by government forces.”

General Higinio Carneiro of the Luanda government delegation said it did not demand that the Unita political organisation withdraw from the cities, but that its soldiers return to their barracks. On their side, the government forces would respect

the ceasefire, he said.

Despite the failure of the talks, “the government remains open to dialogue”, he added. “If Unita thinks we can meet again in two weeks, we are prepared to think about it.

“But we don’t want to come back to Abidjan to do the same propaganda exercise,” Carneiro warned. “We will come back if we are really going to resolve the Angolan problem.

“In the absence of an agreement, it is logical that the war will continue. We cannot rule out an intensification of military activities.” — Sapa-AFP.

IRA 'ready to attack British mainland'

Unita calls for new bid of peace talks

Sowetan 24/5/93

A ⁽⁵⁾ **BIDJAN** — The Angolan rebel movement Unita, has called for new peace talks with the Luanda government, the day after six weeks of negotiations here ended in failure, but stuck to its demand to remain in the cities and towns it controls.

"We hope to come back to Abidjan in two or three weeks for a second round of negotiations," said Mr Jorge Valentim, who headed Unita's delegation.

The talks began in Abidjan on April 12 and were suspended indefinitely on Friday after Unita refused to sign a peace protocol requiring the rebels to withdraw their forces from urban areas they control.

Unita controls about 70 percent of Angola.

Blood

"Unita cannot and will never be able to leave the cities and villages it conquered with the blood of its best children. We cannot abandon them and let them be massacred by government forces," Valentim said.

General Higino Carneiro of the Luanda government

REBELS ADAMANT:

Vow to remain in cities and towns of Angola:

delegation said it "does not demand that the Unita political organisation withdraw from the cities, but that its soldiers return to their barracks. On their side, the government forces will respect the ceasefire," he said.

Despite the failure of the talks, "the government remains open to dialogue," Carneiro added.

The breakdown came only two days after the US government announced recognition of the MPLA government, a step seen as a major boost for the Luanda government and a blow for Unita.

Valentim has threatened an intensification of the war until agreement is reached. — Sapa-AFP



SKR 251593

SA won't recognise MPLA

South Africa will not grant official recognition to the MPLA government in Angola until a fully representative administration is in place, said a Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman in response to a call by the ANC's Nelson Mandela that the government be recognised. — Sapa (5)

Apr 25 1973

Unita seizes oil town in 5 hours

ABIDJAN — Fighting flared anew in northern Angola and Unita rebels said they seized the strategic northern oil town of Soyo in a five-hour battle yesterday, just days after peace talks collapsed.

"We surrounded the town days ago and our troops launched the attack just before dawn. At 10 o'clock, Soyo fell,"

said John Marques Kakumba, the Unita representative for West Africa.

The Ivorian capital was the venue for 40 days of UN-mediated talks that broke down on Friday over Unita's refusal to withdraw from captured towns and villages. It came two days after the United States formally abandoned the

rebels it used to arm by recognising the former Marxist government of President dos Santos.

Kakumba said the rebels had taken a number of prisoners in the fight for Soyo but gave no casualty figures. "We're doing mopping up operations at the moment," he said in an interview. — Sapa-AP.

LIBREVILLE PROVINCE

Savimbi 25/5/93

Peace talks 'disrupted'

LIBREVILLE — President Bill Clinton's decision to recognise the MPLA government in Angola disrupted the delicate balance of peace talks which collapsed just two days later, former UN Ambassador Andrew Young has said.

Young, shortly after arriving for a conference of black Americans and African leaders in Gabon, said the administration's move probably hardened the stand of Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi.

brief

SA holding back

SOUTH Africa will not grant official recognition to the MPLA government in Angola until a fully representative administration is in place. (S) (207)

A Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman, responding to a call by ANC leader Mr. Nelson Mandela that the Angolan government be recognised, said it would be inappropriate to grant recognition until a fully representative government was in place. (S) (207)

Angola opens its consumer goods market

21/07/93
25/5/93
LUANDA — Angola would throw open to free-market competition contracts for co-ordinating consumer goods imports, Trade Minister Celestino Dias said on Sunday.

The decentralisation programme would take effect in July.

In a free-market economy the trade ministry could no longer retain a monopoly on the importation of basic consumer goods, Dias stressed in an interview with the daily *Jornal de Angola*.

Contracts for importing consumer goods would be awarded on the basis of "public competition" to determine which agents were best qualified for which sector, he said.

The decentralisation would apply throughout the west African country, torn apart by an 18-year civil war between government forces and Unita.

Announced as the kwanza's unofficial exchange rate plummeted from 15 000 to 18 000 to the dollar in 24 hours, the reform came after US President Bill Clinton decided last week to recognise the Angolan government.

He was the first US leader to do so since Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975. — Sapa-
AFP.

SACP criticises 5) et 25/5/93 govt on Angola

JOHANNESBURG. — The SA Communist Party criticised the South African government yesterday for refusing to recognise the MPLA government in Angola, claiming the decision confirmed support by President F W de Klerk's administration for Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement.

"It is disgraceful that even after the Clinton administration has finally recognised the Angolan government, the De Klerk regime should pretend that it is taking a balanced approach," said SACP head of international affairs Mr Essop Pahad.

"This failure can only serve to encourage Savimbi's flouting of the elections results and his return to war."

Unita said yesterday it had recaptured the northern oil town of Soyo, which it occupied between January and mid-March.

Unita said many of the government's 2 000 troops in Soyo had been killed and rebel forces had knocked out three government warships and several tanks.

A government source in Portugal said there had been a report of fighting in Soyo yesterday, but she said there was no confirmation that Unita had retaken the town. — Sapa-Reuter

Millions *Star 26/5/93* face hunger *5* in Angola *24/1*

ROME — More than two million people in drought-stricken Angola will need emergency food aid in the next year, although fighting threatens to block aid shipments, a United Nations agency said yesterday.

“Angola has recently experienced a rapid intensification of civil strife, which apart from threatening crop production, has made relief food distribution to large expanses of the country impossible,” the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) said.

Two million people affected by drought and fighting would need food aid in the next year.

“The food supply situation has deteriorated in Angola, where escalating hostilities, drought and shortages of inputs have seriously reduced production,” the FAO said in its monthly world food outlook.

It warned of additional food shortages in Mozambique. “The collapse of the infrastructure and widespread internal displacement have meant that much of the population continues to be vulnerable,” the agency said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita takes oil town as talks fail

26/5/93

ABIDJAN. — Fighting flared anew in northern Angola and Unita rebels said they seized the strategic northern oil town of Soyo in a five-hour battle yesterday, just days after peace talks collapsed.

"We surrounded the town days ago and our troops launched the attack just before dawn, around 5am. At 10 o'clock Soyo fell," Mr John Marques Kakumba, the Unita representative for West Africa, said here.

The Ivorian capital was the venue for 40 days of UN-mediated talks that broke down on Friday over Unita's refusal to withdraw from captured towns and villages. The attack came two days after the United States formally abandoned the rebels it used to arm, recognising the former Marxist government of President José Eduardo dos Santos.

Control

Unita now has little to lose from the collapse of talks.

It has seized control of about 70% of Angola, twice the extent of territory it previously held, including valuable diamond fields.

There was no confirmation of Unita's claim to have taken the town, which is strategic because oil production has kept the government's war effort afloat.

Unita captured Soyo earlier this year, then lost it to crack police troops called Ninjas, who were replaced by inexperienced, poorly armed soldiers as the government became harder pressed, diplomats said. — Sapa-AP

Safair resumes Angolan run

STEPHANE BOTHMA

CARGO carrier Safair has resumed operations into Angola, eight months after the civil war forced the withdrawal of aircraft from the country.

Safair MD Braam Loots said yesterday the carrier was in the process of extending its interests by establishing maintenance facilities at Luanda which would be operated on a joint-venture basis with Angola.

Six aircraft were back at work in Angola, but this time on a strictly cash basis, he said.

Angola owed Safair about \$10m for work done before the election and subsequent civil war — debt which was partly to blame for the company's poor financial state.

Loots said he had no doubt the debt would be recovered.

Safair was earlier this year forced to retrench 33% of its staff after the collapse of several African contracts as a result of civil unrest and wars. The Angolan war alone had resulted in a R20m loss in annual turnover.

However, Loots was very upbeat about Safair's prospects for the next financial year starting in July.

The rationalisation and restructuring of Safair into three business units had resulted in massive savings, he said.

Zambia fears Unita attack

SAO TOME. — Zambia has deployed troops along its 850km border with Angola to stave off a possible Unita invasion, Zambian defence minister Mr Ben Mwila said in Lusaka yesterday. He was speaking at the start of a five-day Zambia/Angola Joint Permanent Defence Commission in the Zambian capital.

Mr Mwila said thousands of refugees were fleeing war-ravaged Angola into Zambia, and

his government wanted to stop this as it constituted a security risk. (S) (24)

The meeting is being attended by top military and police officials, and the two countries' defence ministers are reviewing bilateral defence issues affecting the two countries.

● Unita yesterday accused oil companies in the captured north-western Soyo region of helping to arm the government

and threatened to take reprisals against them.

Unita radio said they were also blocking Unita's attempts to buy arms. CT2716793

Unita recaptured Soyo, a base for offshore oil operations, on Monday after occupying it for six weeks earlier this year.

"Unita advises the multinationals to reconsider their investments at the risk of appropriate reprisals," it said. — Sapa

Unita threatens 'reprisals' against oil multinationals

SAO TOME — Unita yesterday accused oil companies in the captured Soyo region of helping to arm the government, and threatened to take reprisals.

Unita Radio, monitored on the island state of Sao Tomé et Príncipe, said the oil companies operating in the Soyo area of northwest Angola were helping to finance the government's war effort.

It said they were also blocking Unita's attempts to buy arms.

Unita recaptured Soyo, a base for offshore oil operations, on Monday after occupying it for six weeks earlier this year.

"For 15 years they have been taking away Angola's underground wealth with little or no benefit to the Angolan people," the radio said in an editorial.

"Unita advises the multinationals to reconsider their investments at the risk of appropriate reprisals."

The first rebel occupation of Soyo this year stopped 25 000 barrels per

day of onshore oil production, but offshore output of about 200 000 bpd continued virtually unaffected with platforms pumping oil directly on to tankers moored alongside.

Unita did not specify what reprisals it might take against the oil companies, but several platforms would be in range of shore-based artillery.

The main operators in Soyo are the US-based Texaco and France's Elf Aquitaine, which control offshore production, and Belgium's Petrofina, which runs the onshore wells.

The Soyo area accounts for a third of Angola's 530 000 bpd production, the rest of which comes from offshore wells near the Cabinda enclave.

On Tuesday, Petrofina said in Luanda it was holding off plans to resume onshore production at Soyo, following reports that Unita had retaken the town.

Petrofina director of human resources Arlindo Ferreira said the company had no direct confirmation that Unita had recaptured the town.

"We don't know what has happened," he said.

Foreign sources close to Unita had predicted an assault on the northern oil-producing areas since the collapse last week of the Abidjan peace talks.

Meanwhile, Zambian Defence Minister Ben Mwila said in Lusaka yesterday that Zambia had deployed troops along its 850km border with Angola to stave off a possible Unita invasion.

He was speaking at the start of a five-day Zambia-Angola Joint Permanent Defence Commission in the Zambian capital.

Mwila said the war in Angola caused columns of refugees to flee into Zambia daily and his government regarded these border crossings as a security risk.

The Lusaka meeting is being attended by top military and police officials and the two countries' defence ministers will review defence issues affecting their two countries. — Sapa-Reuter.

BLOM 27/5/93.

(5)

U.S. Poses Angola Puzzle

By Paul Taylor

Guardian/W in Wmail
2815 - 3/6/93
JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — The Angolan tragedy deepened last week as marathon talks to end the renewed civil war there collapsed and the nation most likely to force a peace — the United States — may have lost some of its leverage.

U.N.-sponsored peace talks in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, between the Angolan government and the UNITA rebel movement broke off last Friday over a dispute about the mechanics of a cease-fire. There is no indication when or whether they will resume.

Two days earlier, the Clinton administration announced it was formally recognizing the Angolan government. In taking the long-awaited step, President Clinton praised the government for accepting the Abidjan peace plan drafted by the United States, Russia and Portugal and noted that UNITA — Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — had rejected it.

Clinton's move has defused mounting criticism at home and abroad that he had inherited the Bush administration's inclination to be soft on Savimbi, a Cold War client of the United States who discredited himself last October when he claimed Angola's first democratic election was stolen from him. Civil war — which raged from the time of independence from Portugal in 1975 until a peace pact was signed in 1991 — resumed in short order.

But however warranted in terms of support for democratic values, recognition of Angola's formerly Marxist government may have weakened the United States' hand

as a potential peacemaker. As Clinton himself noted, his administration had spent four months holding out the possibility of recognition as a carrot for the government and a stick against UNITA in the hope of coaxing both toward peace. By recognizing the government, he has tacitly acknowledged that the ploy did not work.

Some analysts now fear that the United States and the rest of the world will abandon Angola — and that the fighting, which had been relatively restrained during the six weeks of talks in Abidjan, will flare anew.

United Nations special representative Margaret Anstee predicted last weekend that the fighting will "probably intensify" and that the main victims will be Angolan civilians, two million of whom — about one-fifth of the population — already have been displaced and face food shortages.

In a worst-case scenario, the Angolan government could mount a major military offensive to retake Huambo, the central provincial capital that UNITA captured in March after a fierce two-month battle in which an estimated 12,000 people were killed. And UNITA could strike at American-owned oil installations in Cabinda, which are the bedrock of the Angolan economy and the source of credits the government uses to purchase weapons. "The more you isolate Savimbi, the more dangerous the situation becomes," said Sean Cleary, a former South African diplomat who has served as an adviser to UNITA.

The case for recognition was that it was a step the United States had pledged to take after free and fair

elections — and that failure to do so mocked its commitment to democracy. The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won the most seats in September's legislative election, and its leader, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, outpolled Savimbi in the presidential race.

"The best case for recognizing now is that there is no evidence that holding back has moderated Savimbi's behavior," said Gerald Bender, an Angola analyst at the University of Southern California.

The harder question is what recognition will do to the prospects for peace. Some government hard-liners coveted the legitimacy conferred by U.S. recognition because they considered it crucial to their strategy of buying more weapons and achieving a military victory.

The United States has pledged not to supply weapons to either side and to discourage other nations from doing so. Clinton has said recognition will not affect that commitment.

Angola is awash in arms, with the United States and the Soviet Union having sent billions of dollars' worth between 1975 and 1991, when the Soviet Union and Cuba backed the MPLA government and the United States and South Africa backed the putatively pro-democracy UNITA.

Stripped of its Cold War pretext, the fighting has resumed on more of an ethnic basis, with UNITA drawing support from the Ovimbundu, Angola's largest and poorest tribe, and the MPLA backed by the more middle-class Kimbundu. An estimated 30,000 Angolans have been killed since hostilities resumed, many in ethnic pogroms by both sides.

AFRICA

New sheen from southern touchstone

UNITED States President Bill Clinton's diplomatic recognition of the Angolan government last week has opened a new phase in the war which has devastated southern Africa.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi and his ally President Mobutu Sese Seko, of neighbouring Zaire, now face the most difficult choices of their careers: they can take the Idi Amin option and accept the lifeline offered by retreat to a comfortable government villa, probably in Rabat or Abidjan, or continue an ethnic war of attrition which could still lead to Savimbi's threatened "Somalia-isation" of his potentially wealthy country.

For the West and the South African military, Savimbi's defeat at the polls by the MPLA last year should have been a watershed. But, because Angola's future is the political touchstone for the whole region—from Kinshasa to Cape Town, from Luanda to Maputo—the West abetted one last clandestine effort to keep the MPLA from power.

Clinton's reversal last week came with recognition couched as a warning to all those in the region who believed that the West's new fashion for democracy in Africa was selective and that former US clients, from Savimbi and Mobutu to Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, could still play by the old violent rules.

The next test for the US is what it does on the ground in Angola and with the Kamitina base in

With the reversal of US policy towards

Unita comes a clear warning to

southern African leaders who still want

to play by the old violent rules.

VICTORIA BRITAIN reports

southern Zaire, which was for years the centre for the CIA, Israeli and South African support for Unita.

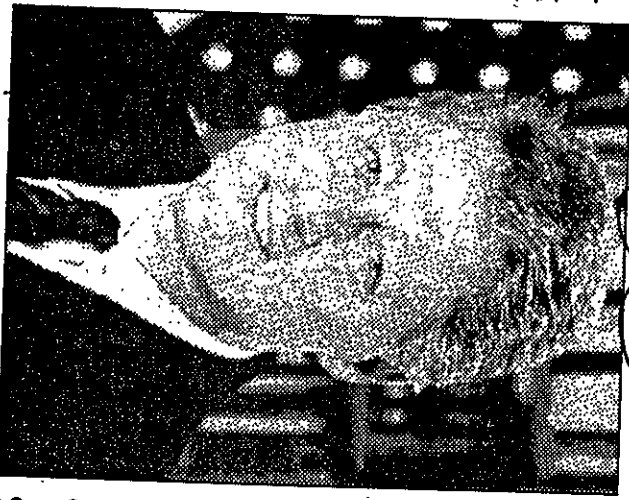
Savimbi still has huge reserves of arms and ammunition, and control over the diamond areas which are funding the Zaire operations of his 50 000-man army. Fuel supplies are his weakest spot. US logistics could do much to help disrupt supply lines and will deter the South African network which started flying in men and material last October.

Washington has been on the verge of annulling US visas for Mobutu and considering, with France and Belgium, seizing his personal fortune, which may be worth as much as \$10-billion. Decisive action, and US support for the reformist Zairean government led by Prime Minister Etienne Tshisekedi, could end the kleptocracy which is responsible for the collapse of the state in Zaire, as well as for so much of Savimbi's logistics.

All Angolan men aged between 20 and 22 were called up last Friday for military service. In Luena, a town in the east of the country, 100 people were killed and wounded on the same

U/M and 28/5-3/6/93

(5) (\$36) (\$37)



Decisive action ... Bill Clinton

Photo: AP

day. The wounded will almost certainly die, as Luena has been under siege by Unita for four months and is a paralysed and destroyed town.

The town's original population of 100 000 is swollen with uncounted thousands of refugees. Its embattled administration and small military force have no resources to maintain a semblance of order.

There is no economy, no money in the bank,

no electricity, no clean water, no medicines, few doctors, and food had practically run out a month ago before United Nations aid flights were stopped after Unita troops brought down a World Food Programme plane with a ground-to-air missile.

Luena's tragedy is the whole country in microcosm. Even Luanda, the capital, has been without regular electricity or water for months, hundreds of new cases of cholera are registered every week and inflation is rocketing.

After Clinton's move, it is now up to the UN to take the next logical step. For six weeks the credibility of the UN as overseer of the transition to peace has been mocked, as talks in Abidjan saw Unita officials refusing to accept either a ceasefire or the base line of the Bicesse Accord of May 1991, when they pledged to withdraw from the territory they occupy and to demobilise their forces.

The UN, like the Americans until this week, opted for the wooing and face-saving of Savimbi. In a travesty of justice the UN has overlooked or minimised Unita's strategy of violence in an effort to appear neutral between the two parties.

The policy backfired badly as it fed Savimbi's intransigence and allowed him to paralyse relief efforts. Now the UN can shift gear and, with US back-up, start a vast humanitarian supply programme which cannot be held to ransom by an insurgency condemned by the whole world. — The Guardian

Star 28/5/93

SA soldiers killed, captured

Star Africa Service (5) or captured.

Several South Africans guarding oil installations at Soyo, in northern Angola, were killed or captured when Unita forces seized the town on Tuesday, according to a Unita official in Lisbon.

The official, interviewed yesterday on Portuguese radio, did not say how many South Africans had been killed

(24) A number of former SADF soldiers, mostly veterans of 32 Battalion and the Special Forces units, were recruited in South Africa earlier this year to protect oil installations at Soyo.

They were said to have been recruited on behalf of a British oil company by a South African agency, Executive Outcomes.

Most of them were recruited after Unita, which first captured Soyo in January, was ousted by MPLA government forces six weeks later.

The disclosure that the former SADF men had been hired to guard installations at Soyo led to complaints that they were operating as mercenaries, contrary to South African law.

However, the co-ordinator of the operation, former SADF major Buks Buys, denied in an interview with Namibian television that the men were mercenaries.

● Unita forces have taken the town of Ebo, in Angola's Kwanza-Sul province, killing 30 government troops, rebel radio Vorgan reported yesterday.

APR 28 1973

SA guards killed in (5) Unita raid

Argus Africa News Service

JOHANNESBURG. — Several South Africans guarding oil installations at Soyo in northern Angola were killed or captured when Unita forces seized the town, a Unita official said.

The official, interviewed yesterday on Portuguese radio, did not say how many South Africans, former Defence Force soldiers recruited last year, had been killed or captured.

● Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Pik Botha moved closer to recognising Angola's formerly Marxist government, but said he was not optimistic about peace in the war-shattered country.

Mr. Botha said Pretoria's recent decision to reopen its mission in Angola indicated a level of recognition. — Sapa-Reuter.



THE collapse of the marathon Angolan peace talks threatens to plunge the southern African state back into civil war.

According to UN special representative Margaret Anstee, the 40-day negotiations failed this Friday on one point: the refusal by Unita to sign a peace protocol under which it would have to withdraw from the towns it conquered when fighting resumed last October.

The Luanda government delegation signed the protocol, which was drawn up by the three peace-brokering powers:

Russia, Portugal and the US.

But Unita claimed that such a withdrawal - which the UN Security Council had also demanded - could only occur if government forces simultaneously returned to barracks and UN peacekeeping troops were deployed in Angola.

Angola on brink of war again, say UN experts

In a statement after the collapse of the talks, the three powers blamed Unita for the failure and praised the "good intentions" of the government.

Luanda's good standing had already received a tremendous boost earlier this week when US President Bill Clinton decided to recognise the An-

golans government. It was the first time since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975 that the White House recognised the Luandan authorities as the government.

Unita's forces control about 70 percent of Angola and, though they may be isolated internationally, military experts be-

lieve they have more than enough equipment to continue the war in the short term.

Anstee predicted the war would "probably intensify."

The apparent cause of its revival was the refusal by Unita leader Jonas Savimbi to accept that his faction had been beaten in the UN-supervised elections last September.

The victims are the residents. Already, some two million Angolans - about one fifth of the population - have had to flee their homes, becoming refugees in their own country. - Sapa-AFP

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Anstee soldiering on for desperate Angola

Star 29/5/93

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MIKE LITTLEJOHN
Foreign News Service

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NEW YORK — About 1 000 people are dying every day as a direct result of the conflict in Angola, most of them women, children and the elderly, yet the world at large remains unconcerned by this "desperate situation", the UN representative in Angola, Margaret Anstee, has said.

Anstee told reporters in New York that about 2 million Angolans were starving or undernourished and most deaths were from malnutrition.

Deploing international indifference to a crisis worse than those of Bosnia and Cambodia, she said part of the problem was that fighting prevented television crews from recording images that might spur universal concern.

"Africa is not something which is quite as pressing in people's

minds as similar situations in Europe," she said.

Asked about reports of South African and Zairean military involvement, she said this was impossible to verify because the UN presence was small and the country was as large as Germany, France and Spain together.

Safe corridors

She said Angola was of enormous strategic importance, not only to southern Africa but to the entire continent.

After the "interruption" of the Abidjan peace talks, she had written to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi proposing "safe corridors" so that hu-

manitarian aid could be delivered.

Anstee said she had asked at the end of last year to be relieved of her position for personal reasons. But an official nominated to succeed her was now not going to be appointed.

"At the present time I am soldiering on until further notice but it is still my wish, if I can go in a responsible way, that I should be relieved of my functions."

In a report, UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali said Anstee enjoyed his "fullest confidence".

Anstee said she would preside at a meeting in Geneva next Thursday at which governments would be asked to raise more aid for Angola.

SAA resumes Angolan run

By AUDREY D'ANGELO (5) *CT 29/5/93*

SOUTH African Airways (SAA) is resuming its regular service to Angola on Monday June 7, in association with TAAG Angola Airlines.

The service was introduced in April 1992 with two flights a week. It was suspended in October when fighting broke out.

To begin with there will only be one flight a week, leaving Johannesburg at 9,15am on Mondays and leaving Luanda at 2,15pm the same day.

Senior public relations manager

Leon Els said: "The two flights a week used to be filled to near capacity and we have no doubt that Luanda will still be a very popular destination. We expect demand to grow."

"Passengers on that route are mostly business people, and Angolans coming to SA to shop."

SAA will use an Airbus A300 with 247 seats, and a large cargo capacity, for the service.

Els said this would supplement the cargo service for which SAA was currently using Russian freighters.

Angolan rebels warn Zambia

LISBON. — The Angolan rebel movement Unita has warned Zambia over its build up of troops on the frontier and said that it would not tolerate any provocations.

Unita also accused Namibia of sending troops to provide rear support for an Angolan government offensive in the southern province of Cunene.

The Zambian government, which viewed Unita with sympathy during much of its 1975-1991 bush war against the ruling MPLA, said on Wednesday it had deployed troops along the border to ward off possible

Unita attacks.

Unita said in a statement yesterday that it was "very surprised by the massive presence of Zambian troops and police on the frontier of the Cazombo salient".

Unita controls all of eastern Angola's 850km frontier with Zambia, including the Cazombo salient, a square block of Angolan territory jutting into Zambia.

The statement said Unita had no hostile intentions towards the people and government of Zambia. — Reuters.

REC 29/6/93

Yesterday on a live...
UNITA WILL...
UNITA WILL...
UNITA WILL...

Angola pleads for arms to fight war

LIBREVILLE, Gabon — Angola appealed for arms at a summit of African and black American leaders on Friday, giving a hard punch of reality to a mainly feel-good rally to foster business and cultural ties.

The call came after a week of heavy fighting in Angola during which Unita won control of the major oil-producing town of Soyo and attacked a passenger train in the south killing more than 100 people.

Soyo is in Angola's second most important oil-producing region after the Cabinda enclave, and serves as a logistics base for foreign oil companies.

Unita also captured Cafunfu and Luanda in the eastern diamond-producing province of Luanda Norte.

The UN this week decides on whether to scale down its mission from 140 to 50 after UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali reported that Angola's prospects for peace and prosperity were worse than ever following the collapse of the Abidjan talks.

"War again engulfs almost the whole country and has penetrated many towns that survived the earlier long years of fighting unscathed," he said in a report to the UN Security Council released on Wednesday.

In her report, the UN representative in Angola, Mrs Margaret Anstee, said that the fighting and war-induced malnutrition were killing about 1 000 Angolians daily.

"We often get the feeling that it's a total

ly forgotten tragedy," she said, attributing the death toll to estimates by humanitarian agencies active in the field.

Fighting that erupted again last October has been bloody. About 50 000 people have died, 15 000 of them in the battle during which Unita captured the central city of Huambo. A total of 400 000 people have died in the 18-year conflict that began on the eve of the southern African nation's independence from Portugal in 1975.

There are about two million war refugees roaming Angola. Another three million people have been brought to the point of starvation by the fighting.

Speaking at the Afro-American summit

in the Gabonese capital. Prime Minister Marcelino Moco said: "Our army deserves support from all of you."

More than 1 000 African-Americans and 11 African heads of state attended the five-day summit that ended on Friday, the second of its kind organised by human rights activist the Reverend Leon Sullivan.

Delegates called African nations to give citizenship to African-Americans.

They also urged cancellation of Africa's \$255-billion foreign debt as reparations for the slave trade, and an end to tough economic reforms imposed by international lending institutions. — *Sapa-Reuters-AP-APF*

Star 3115193

Many die in Unita attack on train

Unita rebels yesterday claimed responsibility for an attack on a passenger train in southern Angola which killed many people. Unita radio claimed that 50 government soldiers were killed and large quantities of military equipment captured in the raid

on Thursday about 100 km east of Lubango in Huila province.

⑤ The United Nations said on Friday it believed that about 100 people were killed and 100 seriously injured. — Sapa-
Reuter

Unita rebels admit they attacked train

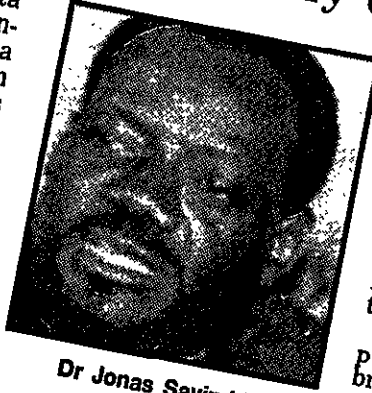
□ Soldiers killed and military equipment seized

JOHANNESBURG. — Unita rebels have claimed responsibility for an attack on a passenger train in southern Angola which killed scores of people.

Unita's "Vorgan" radio claimed that 50 government soldiers were killed and large quantities of military equipment captured in the raid on Thursday about 100km east of Lubango.

"No manoeuvre by (government armed forces) designed to fan the Angolan war is left unchecked by the red berets of the Fala (Unita forces)," said the broadcast, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation.

"We attacked a government train carrying military equipment and Fapla soldiers on the Lubango-Olivenga line. The troops and the equipment were to be used in attacks against



Dr Jonas Savimbi

Unita areas in Huila province," the radio added.

The United Nations said it believed about 100 people were killed and 100 seriously injured.

The rebel strike was the most dramatic yet in Huila province, which is one of the few areas where the government still controls territory. Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola)

has overrun about 75 percent of the country.

Unita signed a peace pact two years ago ending 16 years of war with the ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) government. But it resumed fighting after rejecting its defeat to the MPLA in UN-supervised elections last September.

Fighting has intensified since peace talks in Ivory Coast broke down about a week ago.

● Meanwhile the war of words between the Zambian government and Unita raged on yesterday with political analysts predicting it could explode into a bloody confrontation on the border between the two countries.

Zambian Defence Minister Ben Mwila has reiterated a warning to Unita, saying "Zambia will not hesitate to hit hard the Angolan rebel movement if we are attacked". — Sapa-Reuter.

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A diplomatic blunder or

did the US

have little choices?

WAS Washington's formal recognition of the MPLA government in Luanda earlier this month a contradiction of the Clinton Administration's stated policy, was it a blunder ... or was it a calculated act of diplomacy executed in the pursuit of democratic goals? Political Correspondent MICHAEL MORRIS reflects on the reasons behind President Clinton's first decisive foreign relations move in Africa.

5) APR 31/5/93

NONE other than the outspoken former US ambassador to the UN, Andrew Young, was among the first to tilt at Clinton's move, accusing Washington of upsetting the delicate power balance in the Abidjan peace talks.

He was quite frank in suggesting that the US recognition of the Eduardo Dos Santos government was probably a factor in the collapse, two days later, of the peace talks with Unita in the Ivorian capital.

The effect on Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi was entirely imaginable: he must have been bitterly disappointed at the reversal of years of US support for his rebel outfit.

But did it mean Washington had blundered into disaffecting "the other" key factor in the Angolan equation? And was it a contradiction.

President Clinton's man in Africa, Assistant Secretary of State George Moose told the Africa sub-committee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on April 22 that the US could not "intervene in every dispute ... (but) must use creative diplomacy, working with Africa's leaders and Africa's friends, to prevent conflicts before they are inflamed".

The clearest indication of the US's policy on Angola came in a speech Moose made on April 29 to a trade and investment in Africa conference in North Carolina.

Here, he said: "In cooperation with the UN and other observers, we will continue our efforts to encourage a sustained and serious dialogue, until the peace Angolans worked so hard to gain is once again a reality."

On neither occasion did Moose even hint at the short-term prospect of US recognition for the MPLA government, an act which arguably runs counter to the commitment to "encourage a sustained and serious dialogue".

Yet, diplomatic sources in Cape Town argue that Washington's neutrality was becoming increasingly unsustainable, and the shift in its position was wise.

"Clearly, the US started out



George Moose ... creative diplomacy difficult in Angola.



Unita leader Jonas Savimbi ... increasingly embattled.

with a neutral stance, as a facilitator," one source said.

"But once Unita clearly showed it had no intention of being reasonable and simply dug in its heels, Washington saw no reason to delay recognising the government which won at least the first round of a UN-supervised elections and which has remained committed to being part of a multi-party government, and to pursuing a peace settlement.

Western diplomats in Cape Town wonder how long the US could have legitimately sustained a role as a neutral facilitator in the face of Jonas Savimbi's intransigence.

One observed: "As long as there was a prospect of getting a negotiated settlement and stopping the fighting, it was politically legitimate for the US to persevere as a neutral facilitator, but in the later stages of the talks in Ivory Coast, it became clear this was an untenable position.

"The Americans bent over backwards to give Unita a chance, but Savimbi spurned these opportunities."

It was obvious Unita had been kept fully informed of the thinking in Washington, but still chose to resist a peace agreement and an offer to take seats in a multi-party government.

He noted that it was important to acknowledge that Washington was not recognising the MPLA as a political power, but a democratically elected transitional government.

"It is a question of recognising a democratic process, and also acknowledging that MPLA is still prepared to offer Unita places in the government."

Diplomats add that the US remains committed to encouraging the peace process and "being helpful" in establishing a multi-party government in Luanda.

George Moose, who remarked recently that "it is difficult to talk about Africa without seeming either a cynic or a romantic", will now have the decidedly unromantic task of pursuing creative diplomacy at its most difficult in Angola.

Yet, tactically, the tide has to swing in President Dos Santos's favour in a conflict with an increasingly embattled Dr Savimbi.

Luanda will be able to deploy greater resources and can call on the support of the majority of Angolans and that, as one diplomat put it, "does not look like a winning formula for Unita".

Washington clearly hopes Dr Savimbi will see it that way too.

Unita, Zambia 'war looming'

⑤ CT31/5/93

LUSAKA. — The war of words between Zambia and Angola's Unita rebels raged on yesterday with observers saying it threatens to explode into a bloody crossborder confrontation.

Zambian Defence Minister Mr Ben Mwila reiterated a warning that "Zambia will not hesitate to hit hard the Angolan rebel movement if we are attacked".

On Friday Unita slammed an alleged Zambian troop deployment inside Angola.

Unita was also angered by a Zambian/Angolan government joint defence commission meeting here on Friday. The commission allegedly discussed a strategy to attack Unita in the countryside it occupies along the Angola/Zambia border.

On Friday up to 100 people were killed and another 100 wounded in an attack on a train by suspected Unita rebels in southern Angola, reports said.

The attack came as tension rose and fighting escalated in Angola after the collapse two weeks ago of UN-monitored peace talks between the government and Unita in Ivory Coast.

Unita repels attack

UNITA troops had smashed a government offensive about 100km northeast of Luanda on Sunday night, Unita radio said yesterday.

(4)

Buss day 11/6/95

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Big Unita battle success claimed

SAO TOME. — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said it had scored a major victory over government troops near the capital, Luanda.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said yesterday rebel forces had smashed a government offensive about 100km

west of Ndalatando, the capital of Kwanza North province on Sunday night. **SAPA 1/6/93**

It did not name the town, but it could have been Ucuja in Bengo province, about 100km north-east of Luanda, where Unita radio reported heavy fighting yesterday.

The radio said rebel forces dispersed several battalions of government troops, capturing three tanks, two armoured cars, a bulldozer, nine other vehicles and 30 000 litres of fuel.

"Many dead lie scattered in the bush," it said. — Sapa-Reuter.

'Zaire ready to attack Angola'

CT 1/6/93 (5)

LUANDA. — Zaire has deployed six army battalions at the border with the oil-rich Angolan enclave of Cabinda in preparation for an offensive, the Angolan government daily Jornal de Angola reported yesterday.

The newspaper stated that "some units" of the Angolan rebel Unita movement were sta-

tioned with the Zairean troops, ready for an attack.

Unita planned "to fight for control of Cabinda and Zaire province" in the far north of Angola following the collapse of peace talks between the rebels and the Luanda government, the paper charged.

Unita said yesterday it had

scored a major victory over the government near Luanda.

Unita radio said rebel forces had smashed a government offensive about 100km west of Ndalatando, the capital of Kwanza North province on Sunday night.

Unita's secretary for information Mr Jorge Valentim went

on the air to defend the rebel attack on a train at Quipungo in southern Angola on Friday. The attackers killed more than 100 passengers and wounded about 150 others.

Mr Valentim denied charges that Unita had massacred civilians, saying the train was packed with government soldiers. — Sapa-AFP

Unita rebels claim important victory

Star 11/6/93

SAO TOME — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday it had scored a major victory over government troops near the capital Luanda.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said rebel forces had smashed a government offensive about 100 km west of Ndalatando, the capital of Kwanza North province on Sunday night.

It did not name the locality, but it could have been Ucuca in Bengo province, about 100 km north-east of Luanda, where Unita radio reported heavy fighting.

The radio said that rebel forces dispersed several battalions of government troops, capturing three tanks, two armoured cars, a bulldozer, nine other vehicles and 30,000 litres of fuel.

"Many dead lie scattered in the bush," it said, without giving precise casualties.

The broadcast said Unita

was resisting another government offensive at Cacuso, a town in Malanje province in northern Angola which fell to rebel forces in February.

Cacuso lies on the main road and railway linking Luanda with Malanje city and Unita radio said government forces there appeared to be on the verge of withdrawing towards Luanda.

Unita radio said rebel forces had killed 30 government troops in recent fighting in another hotspot in Cunene province near the Namibian border in southern Angola.

It said the army began an offensive in the area 10 days ago and government troops raped children and old women when they overran a Unita hospital at Kanduya.

Unita's secretary for information Jorge Valentim went on the air to defend the rebel movement's attack on a train at Quipungo in Huila province in southern Angola on Friday. — Sapa-Reuter.

Blue collar workers down on their luck

Star 11/6/93

By Bunty West
When most people think of the homeless, they have a mental picture of a low income group without trade or profession, but for Lieutenant Basil Meintjies of the Salvation Army in Krugersdorp it is the blue collar worker who has now fallen on hard times.

As the man in charge of Goodwill House, where shelter for the homeless is provided, he sees the dark side of life and is trying hard to bring a little self-respect back into the lives of the jobless who have reached rock bottom.

"The families who come to us now are often artisans or professional people who, in the past, earned a good living and were comfortable.
"As retrenchments began, these people first lost their jobs, then their homes and, lastly, their self-esteem.
"We provide accommodation and meals for as many as we can.
"But the situation is getting worse."
Around 50 people stay at

Goodwill House and 8,000 meals are provided monthly for residents and those who queue outside.

In addition, 900 children, black and white, from six schools, are fed daily with sandwiches, fruit or mealie meal and stew, depending on what is available.

Lease

Three months ago, Krugersdorp Town Council offered the Salvation Army a 10-year lease on a hectare north of town which had been earmarked for sale.

It had previously been a police station and had some dilapidated buildings on it.

Lieutenant Meintjies jumped at the chance to be able to house families in proper units and accepted the offer.

"We had hoped to work on the buildings before we housed anyone, but the need was so great that families moved in immediately, and we cleaned up and knocked down as we went along.

"The units are two, three-

them, for which they must pay us back. This takes time and the families need nurturing.

"It is not only the parents but often the children who need to see that someone else cares.

"Those who do not have jobs must spend one day per week cleaning or doing something at the mission. The other days they are out hunting for jobs."

Generosity

"We have not had a preference here, and at present there are black, Polish, Indian, Afrikaans and English people housed with us, and their jobs range from accountant to artisan. The units are all furnished — sparsely — and the communal eating area does need a lot of work, but we are getting there, thanks to the generosity of private individuals and companies."

If you can help with anything, including old clothes and furniture, contact Moya Hay at (011) 953-1739.



Transnet interested in Angola

Buss. Day 11/6/93

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — Transnet had signed a letter of intent indicating its interest in working with a Portuguese company in redeveloping Angola's transport infrastructure, a project estimated to cost billions of rands.

In an interview during the World Economic Forum proceedings last week, Euro-Atlantica Investimentos e Comerciosa (Eiac) president Pedro Coelho said he had met Transnet, Barlow Rand and other SA companies during his visit to discuss reconstruction projects in Angola.

He said extensive work was required to reconstruct the country's railways and harbours. Coelho expected the projects would be financed by the World Bank, the European Development Bank and private banking consortiums.

Coelho was not optimistic about Angola's prospects, but said recent US recognition of the MPLA government and international consensus that the government was legitimate were positive developments. It was not strategically wise in the long term, he said, to abandon a country in trouble.

Meanwhile, our Cape Town correspondent reports that SAA is resuming its regular service to Angola on Monday June 7, in association with TAAG Angola Airlines. The service was introduced in April 1992 with two flights a week. It was suspended in October when fighting broke out. To begin with there will now be only one flight a week.

**UN reduces
Star 2/16/93
Angola team**

UNITED NATIONS —
The Security Council decided yesterday to withdraw some of the UN monitors in Angola (5)

The council blamed Unita rebels for the failure of the accords (2)

The United Nations has 236 monitors and officials in Angola, but the Security Council accepted a recommendation to reduce their number "for the time being" to 194.
— Sapa-AP.

Unita says foreign oil safe despite seizure

CT 2/6/93 (5)

SAO TOME. — Unita said yesterday it would not attack foreign oil firms despite its seizure of the northern oil base, Soyo, two weeks ago.

"Unita will not try to attack targets which are not directly involved in the conflict," said Unita radio.

The radio also reported clashes with government troops in the north-eastern diamond-producing region, and said 20 government soldiers were killed there in two separate attacks.

A Unita artillery shell fell last week

within 400m of an offshore oil platform near Soyo, operated by the US firm Texaco Inc. It was widely interpreted as a rebel warning to foreign oil companies.

Last week, Unita radio accused international oil companies in Soyo of backing the government's war effort and threatened reprisals.

But yesterday's broadcast said the Angolan government was spreading a lie that Unita wanted to attack US oil firms. — Sapa-Reuter

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Summit on Angolan ties

Bus day 216193

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — The upgrading of SA's diplomatic status in Angola and the possibility of full recognition for the MPLA government were likely to be discussed at a foreign ministers' summit to be held in Windhoek on Friday. (5)

In a meeting brokered by Namibian Foreign Minister Ben Gurirab, SA Foreign Minister Pik Botha would be holding talks with Angolan counterpart Venancio de Moura on all aspects of relations between the two countries, a spokesman said.

The return of SA diplomats to Luanda in April, following a six month absence as a result of security reasons, had been seen as a positive action by the Angolan authorities, the spokesman said. (2/2)

This, together with the brokerage of Namibia's foreign minister, had paved the way for this week's talks between SA, Angola and Namibia. (2/2)

Among topics likely to be discussed were the extension of SA's diplomatic representation — possibly to full ambassadorial level — and full recognition of Angola's MPLA government, a source said.

A recent Foreign Affairs statement said SA, unlike the US administration, had not "explicitly withheld any form of recognition" for Angola. (2/2)

Meanwhile, PETER DELMAR reports that delegations from 24 African states are expected in Johannesburg later this year for the largest gathering of the continent's business and government leaders in SA yet.

Organisers of the Africa Initiative said yesterday official ministerial delegations from Mozambique, Gabon, Cameroon and Ivory Coast had confirmed their participation. The number of official government delegations could climb to 10 or 12 and indications were that Angola would soon decide to send a ministerial team.

The initiative, to be held at Nasrec outside Johannesburg from August 30 to September 3, would include nine exhibitions and 10 conferences.

Africa Initiative project director Andrew Clare said yesterday up to 700 business delegates were expected to come from Africa and 15 000 South Africans would attend.

Our political staff reports that Deputy Trade and Industry Minister David Graaff is in Maputo to discuss prospects for greater business co-operation between Mozambique and SA. He would meet senior government officials and business leaders, his office said yesterday.

Unita's Luanda threat dashes hopes of peace

CT 3/6/93

(5)

LONDON. — General Arlindo Pena, commander-in-chief of Angola's rebel Unita forces, has dealt another blow to hopes of peace by threatening to capture the capital of Luanda.

His threat to take power by force if peace talks underway in Ivory Coast failed to stop the renewed civil war was made in an interview published in Janes Defence Weekly here yesterday.

In direct contradiction of Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi's public commitment two days earlier to a negotiated peace, Gen Pena said his army had the capacity to take Luanda and "I think we have to keep this option open".

Gen Pena was speaking near Unita's frontline at Kuito, capital of Bie province, where he has his battle headquarters.

● Meanwhile fire has broken out at

Angola, SA hold talks

WINDHOEK. — Angolan Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Valencia de Moura arrived here yesterday for talks with his South African counterpart Mr Pik Botha, who is due on Friday.

Mr De Moura was welcomed by Namibian Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Theo-Ben Gurirab, who said discussions would focus on Southern Africa and relations between the three countries.

Bilateral meetings will be held between Angola and Namibia and Namibia and South Africa to enable Namibia to familiarise itself with each country's position before tripartite discussions begin. — Sapa

the Kifuquena onshore oil storage tanks near Soyo in north-western Angola, but the cause of the blaze was unknown, Portuguese state television RTP reported yesterday.

Unita rebels yesterday claimed Angolan warships had shelled the oil town of Soyo, setting storage tanks of a

US oil company ablaze but the claim was disputed by diplomats. — Own Correspondent, Sapa-Reuter

SA may follow US in recognising Angola

(S) ARG 3/6/93

□ Pik Botha to attend Windhoek mini-summit

MICHAEL MORRIS
and **DALE LAUTENBACH**
Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA could soon follow the United States in granting full diplomatic recognition to Angola's MPLA government.

This emerges as diplomats prepare for tomorrow's mini-summit in Windhoek between Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha and his Angolan and Namibian counterparts, Mr Venancio da Moura and Mr Theo-Ben Gurirab.

One diplomatic source said that "we feel formal recognition is the route to follow".

Other sources in the Department of Foreign Affairs have confirmed that a protocol was being prepared for discussion between Mr Botha and Mr Da Moura and for possible signing tomorrow afternoon.

While it is uncertain whether the upgrading will go as far as full ambassadorial status, indications are that South Africa is considering this as a feasible option.

South Africa held back from formal recognition for fear of unduly angering Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi and prejudicing the peace talks. But the talks have since broken down.

South African and Angolan diplomatic missions in Pretoria and Luanda have the status of offices of representation.

The Windhoek summit marks a major step towards normalisation of relations.

Tension arose following Dr Savimbi's rejection of September's Angolan election results, but began to ease after talks between Mr Botha and General Franca Ndalu, security adviser to President Eduardo Dos Santos.

South Africa immediately reopened its office in Luanda and expressed a willingness to assist in the Angola peace process.

Unita offers to resume talks with government

LISBON. — The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) is willing to resume talks with the Angolan government towards ensuring a "lasting peace" in the troubled country, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported.

The offer came yesterday nearly two weeks after peace talks between the two sides broke down in the Ivory Coast capital Abidjan.

Unita also called on the United Nations to "continue to play its peace-keeping role" in the negotiations between the two parties.

The UN should move rapidly and positively towards encouraging the two sides to reconvene in Abidjan, "to finalise the document that will bring renewed peace to Angola," Unita said.

Negotiations under UN auspices to end the conflict, which dates from Angola's independence in 1975, began on April 12, but were broken off on May 21 after Unita refused to withdraw its troops from towns it occupied.

Unita charged in its statement that government forces killed 30 000 of its members between October, 1992, and January, 1993. — Sapa-AFP.



IN TROUBLE: Guatemala Vice-President Gustavo Espina at a news conference yesterday when he announced he was taking over as president.

UN monitors to quit Angola

NEW YORK — The Security Council decided on Tuesday to withdraw some of the UN monitors in Angola two years after peace accords had raised hopes of ending one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars.

The council, by a vote of 15-0, blamed Unita for the failure of the peace accords and pledged continued UN efforts to settle the conflict.

The UN has 236 monitors and officials in Angola, but the Security Council accepted Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's recommendation to reduce their number to 194. The rest will stay until July 15, when it is hoped it will be clear whether they should all be sent home, or a new larger force should be sent to monitor a new peace accord.

UN-sponsored peace talks in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, collapsed last month. Since then, Jonas Savimbi's Unita has launched blistering attacks, further consolidating its military advantage over beleaguered government forces.

According to UN estimates, about 350 000 people have died in the war that broke out in 1975 following independence from Portugal.

Portuguese television reported yesterday that fire had broken out at the Kifukuena onshore oil storage tanks near Soyo in northwestern Angola, but the cause of the blaze was unknown.

The Soyo area was captured by Unita last week.

Because of fighting around Soyo, Kifukuena has been out of action since January. It normally handles about 25 000 barrels per day of onshore production by Petrofina and 65 000 barrels per day of offshore output by Texaco Inc of the US.

This was the first reported damage to oil installations in Soyo since Unita recaptured the onshore oil base on May 24.

Unita last week accused foreign oil companies in Soyo of helping the government's war effort and threatened reprisals against them, but it backtracked on Tuesday.

Diplomatic sources said that last week Unita forces in Soyo lobbed an artillery shell at Texaco's offshore platform. It landed 400m away. The sources said it appeared to have been a warning shot. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

Angolan road link ^⑤ opened

LUANDA. — Angolan government troops have lifted a five-month blockade of a major road link between Luanda and the south-western industrial town of Benguela, the *Jornal de Angola* newspaper reported yesterday.

Military sources here meanwhile said the army was engaged in an operation to recapture from Unita rebels the northern town of Soyo, as reports reaching Luanda said oil installations

there had been "considerably" damaged. *CT 4/6/93*

The government issued a statement blaming Unita for "ecological disaster" at Soyo.

The government newspaper reported that the army took Canjala at the weekend after a week's heavy fighting.

The town is in the Canjala corridor between Luanda and Benguela. Unita's occupation of Canjala had put the road out of general use. — Sapa-AFP

Relations thaw as Angolan minister invites Pik to visit

WINDHOEK: Strained relations between Angola and South Africa thawed this week when Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura invited Pik Botha to Angola.

Mr de Moura blamed "media distortions" for the "misconception" that Mr Botha had been declared persona non grata in Angola in January amid allegations that South Africa was supporting Unita in the civil war.

Mr Botha, who was in Windhoek for a meeting with Mr de Moura and Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab, accepted the invitation and said he would make the trip as soon as possible.

In a joint statement known as the Windhoek Declaration, the South African and Angolan ministers said both sides were now "satisfied with the present state of relations" and would give "further attention" to upgrading the offices they have established in each other's capitals.

And, in a surprise development, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi tried to reach Mr Botha by telephone during the talks, a move delegates said indicated a possible willingness to talk peace. No contact was made, but Mr Botha later said he was willing to meet Dr Savimbi and broker a settlement in Angola.

Mr Botha added that this week's meeting could pave the way

for a meeting of heads of state.

He and Mr de Moura said they would continue to support regional development, particularly economic relations. A trade boom between South Africa and Angola collapsed last year with the renewed outbreak of civil war.

The three ministers agreed that southern African countries should pool their resources and forge common development strategies.

They reviewed southern African security and agreed to convene a regional meeting of civil aviation directorates to co-ordinate and control sub-continental airspace.

The ministers agreed that co-operation between regional law enforcement authorities should be explored for security and to combat weapons and diamond smuggling.

And Mr Botha said South Africa would make medicines available and help establish training centres.

A senior Unita delegation plans to visit Washington this week as the rebel movement launches a diplomatic offensive aimed at stalling moves to lift an arms embargo on the Angolan government.

Unita was looking for guarantees from the international community that any future ceasefire would be supervised by the United Nations. — Sapa-AFP

Pope tells Angolans to end absurd war

VATICAN CITY — Pope John Paul yesterday appealed for an end to what he called the absurd civil war in Angola.

The Pope visited Angola last year and secured promises from both President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and his rival, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, that they

would not take up arms again, whatever the results of the September 1992 elections.

Unita resumed an offensive after losing the elections.

Reminding Angola's leaders of their promises, the Pope said the life and death of an entire nation depended on them. — Sapa-Reuter

Flights to Luanda resume

JOHANNESBURG. — South African Airways resumes its service to Luanda today as relations between South Africa and Angola thaw.

An Airbus A300 will leave Jan Smuts airport at 9.15am and is scheduled to leave Luanda at 2.15pm to return at 6.40pm.

SAA said the service would initially be operated once a week.

At a meeting with his Angolan and Namibian counterparts in Windhoek on Friday the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, promised all possible aid for the Angolan peace pro-

cess. (S) CJ 7/6/93

In a surprise development, Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi tried to reach Mr Botha by telephone at the talks, a move delegates said indicated possible willingness to talk peace.

Mr Botha said South Africa was willing to support attempts to alleviate the plight of an estimated two million Angolans facing what the ministers described as a "humanitarian crisis".

South Africa was training Angolans in lifting landmines and would make available medicines and help establish training centres. — Sapa-Reuter

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99 government troops killed in city attack, claims Unita

LUANDA. — Unita guerrillas attacked government forces in Angola's inland city of Luena, killing 99 soldiers, rebel radio said.

(5) RAG 7/6/93
The attack on Saturday lasted four hours and left many wounded on the government side, said Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel radio, monitored by the BBC.

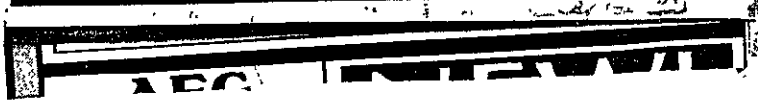
Unita forces also captured vehicles, arms and ammunition, it said.

● Angola has issued an ap-

peal for international aid to halt a river of oil spilling into the sea from the rebel-held town of Soyo, warning of a potential ecological disaster.

Fishing Minister Maria Fatima Roque said Unita had set the stage for an environmental catastrophe by detonating explosives on May 30 at a Texaco oil depot with storage tanks holding 800 000 barrels of crude oil.

Unita has accused the Angolan air force of bombing the tanks. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.



SA Airways resumes Star 116193 flights to Angola

By John Miller

~~216~~ Flights resumed in April last year after a break of 17 years.

South African Airways resumes scheduled flights to Angola today after a seven-month break because of the civil war in that country.

SAA spokesman Zelda Roux said the weekly flight would be a joint venture with TAAG Angola Airlines. 5

Flights were resumed between the two coun-

tries in April last year after a break of 17 years. Services were disrupted when the civil war in Angola resumed.

The airlines will offer a return economy ticket for R2 009 as well as a six-day to one-month excursion at R1 446.

During the latest break, SAA continued cargo flights into the country, using its fleet of Russian-leased aircraft.

Sowetan 8/6/93

Air link is back on track 5

SA Airways said yesterday it had re-established direct flights to Angola which were suspended last November during a diplomatic row. SAA, in conjunction with the state-run TAAG airline, plans to operate one flight a week initially but may extend the service, a SAA spokesman said.

Angolan army

⑤ CT8/6/93

consolidates

LISBON. — Angola's Chief of Staff, General Joao de Matos, said yesterday his embattled forces were recruiting, re-arming and preparing to re-establish government authority across the war-torn nation, now mostly occupied by Unita rebels.

And Angolan Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Velancio de Moura said in Windhoek yesterday the Angolan government would buy arms from South Africa if it had the money.

He made no reference to a United Nations arms embargo against South Africa.

Mr De Moura would not confirm or deny reports from Luanda yesterday that General Joao de Matos had accused South Africa of continuing to arm Unita rebels through Zaire.

However, he said South Afri-

MPLA may 'buy arms' from SA

can Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Pik Botha had admitted it was possible individuals in South Africa continued to supply Unita.

In another development related to South Africa-Angola relations, a diplomatic source in Luanda said the Angolan government had set democracy in South Africa as a condition for formal diplomatic ties.

Meanwhile, in a further blow to peace prospects in the strife-torn country, Unita said yesterday last

year's multi-party elections could not be the basis for a peace accord, but it was still prepared to do a deal on power sharing with the ruling MPLA.

The Unita statement appeared to mark a hardening of Unita's negotiating stance, following fresh victories on the battlefield after the collapse of peace talks in Abidjan last month.

● Nine members of Unita were arrested at the weekend by Namibian police for being in possession of 10 AK-47 rifles and 26 handgrenades, Nambe reported yesterday.

● The interruption of diamond mining in the Luzamba and Kafunfu areas, in eastern Angola, has already cost at least R900 million in lost output over a six-month period, the Angolan diamond company Endiama announced yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter

Unita shelling: 50 civilians die

SAO TOME — Heavy shelling of Cuito in central Angola killed more than 50 civilians yesterday and the government was close to losing control of the besieged city to Unita rebels, Angolan state radio reported.

The city of Menongue, some 200km south of Cuito, also continued under siege and Unita said it would shoot down any government plane that tried to drop in supplies.

Angolan state radio, monitored in the nearby island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said Unita had lobbed more than 500 shells at Cuito with long-range artillery, killing 50 women, children "and other civilians" by mid-morning.

"The government could lose control of this city at any time," state radio said.

Menongue, capital of Cuando Cubango province, also continued under siege and 30 people were dying daily from hunger and lack of medical care, state radio said.

Unita radio, also monitored in Sao Tome, said the government was trying to drop in supplies by parachute.

Any plane nearing the city would be considered a military target, Unita radio warned. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan govt reports heavy Kuito losses

3
10/6/93

LUANDA. — The Angolan government reported heavy casualties in the central town of Kuito yesterday as Unita announced they were exercising strong military pressure to force a political deal.

More than 100 people have been killed in Kuito in 48 hours and at least 25 people were seriously wounded during overnight shelling by Unita, the government said.

The rebels meanwhile claimed "military successes" in seizing the northern oil town of Soyo and taking control of Luzumba, Kafunfu and other mining zones in eastern Angola.

● Namibia has granted political asylum to 12 Unita troops who deserted and crossed the border, Home Affairs Permanent Secretary Ms Frieda Williams confirmed yesterday. — Sapa

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UNITA NEWS SERVICE

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25 died as school hit, says Unita

5 AKG 10/6/93

LISBON. — Unita rebels and the Angolan government traded accusations over dozens killed in the upsurge of fighting in the central province of Bie.

Unita's Voice of the Black Rooster radio claimed that 25 people were killed and 40 more wounded when government forces bombarded a seminary on the outskirts of Kuito, the provincial capital.

The radio, monitored by the BBC in London, said the seminary on the eastern side of the city had been under rebel control for some months.

Angolan state radio, monitored in Luanda, quoted military sources as saying forces of Jonas Savimibi's Unita had rained at least 500 shells on Kuito on Tuesday, killing at least 50 civilians and wounding 100.

The government's air force, which Angolan defence officials say has been refurbished, stepped up action against Unita positions around Kuito, to provide cover for supply aircraft landing in the city, radio said.

The claims came a day after the United States, Russia and Portugal met in Washington and warned the rebels they risked retaliatory measures if military actions against government troops did not stop. — Sapa-AFP.

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Heavy casualties as Unita attacks

LUANDA — The Angolan government yesterday reported heavy casualties in the central town of Cuito as Unita rebels announced they were exerting strong military pressure to force a political deal.

More than 100 people had been killed in Cuito in 48 hours and at least 25 were seriously wounded during overnight shelling by Unita, government-owned radio said.

The rebels were shelling the Roman Catholic cathedral in Cuito, where most of the town's surviving inhabitants had taken shelter. Children had been killed and food and medicines were in short supply.

Shells had made craters in the cemetery opposite the cathedral, blowing up the graves of those just buried on Tuesday, the radio said.

The rebels' Radio Vorgan meanwhile cited Unita's "military successes" in seizing the northern oil town of Soyo and taking control of Luzumba, Kafunfu and other mining zones in eastern Angola.

The aim was to "oblige" the government to "choose a political solution" to the conflict by depriving it of control of the "main economic resources of the country", Jonas Savimbi's movement declared.

The rebels' policy statement came after the UN Security Council called on Unita to halt "criminal" attacks on civilians, warning that those responsible would be held accountable.

The council on Tuesday condemned a May 27 attack by Unita on

a civilian train between Quipungo and Matala that killed 225 and wounded several hundred.

In Washington, the observer nations that underwrote the peace pact — Portugal, the US and Russia — raised the possibility of using force to compel Unita to stop fighting.

UN Security Council president Juan Antonio Yanez Barnuevo called the train attack "a clear violation of Security Council resolutions and of international humanitarian law".

The council reiterated its appeal to the government and Unita to resume talks with a view to the full implementation of peace accords, initially signed in May 1991.

Unita said yesterday the Angolan army had been obliged to step up military co-operation with Portugal, the former colonial power, reiterating that acquiring military equipment had been one aim of a recent visit to Lisbon by the chief of staff Gen Joao de Matos.

Portugal has denied the allegation, but Angolan military chiefs have not hidden the fact that the military advantage currently lies with Unita, which resumed fighting after rejecting the outcome of UN-supervised elections it lost last September.

The army's supply chief, Gen Afonso Garcia, told the armed forces' Military Review that supplying troops was hard or "impossible" because of a Unita strategy of encircling "several military targets".

UN-sponsored peace talks collapsed last month when Unita refused to accept key clauses of an agreement. — Sapa-AFP

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Law to bolster property claims

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CAPE TOWN — Far-reaching legislation was introduced yesterday to provide almost all victims of forced removals with the right to apply for restitution, providing hope for former Page View and District Six residents.

The long-awaited Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Amendment Bill substantially broadens the scope of existing legislation, which deals only with undeveloped, rural land.

Victims of forced removals who held land in urban areas will now also be permitted to apply to the Advisory Commission on Land Allocation for restitution.

However, restitution will take place only with the concurrence of the local authority.

The commission, formerly an advisory body, will be empowered to issue orders regarding certain land.

This will significantly speed up the process of restitution, a Regional and Land Affairs official says.

The legislation also allows the commission to make recommendations about alternative land in cases where the original land of a prejudiced party has been developed.

DP land affairs spokesman Peter Soal said the fact that the commission would no longer be merely an advisory body was a "great extension

TIM COHEN

to the powers and functions".

Its authority to determine whether anyone was prejudiced was also to be welcomed.

Granting the commission control over its staff was also significant.

However, the requirement that local authorities would have to approve applications for restitution would cause unnecessary delays. The DP would seek to have this clause removed, Soal said.

The Bill also provides for the occupier of a property to apply to a court for transfer of ownership from a nominee owner within 30 months after the commencement of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act of 1991, reports Sapa.

The Bill extends the application period from the six months stipulated in the 1991 Act.

That Act had amended the Group Areas Act which had made such transfer of ownership from the nominee owner to the occupier illegal.

The new 30-month period is to apply with retrospective effect and is reckoned from the implementation date of the 1991 section.

Provision is also made for the period to commence after the finalisation of an estate if the nominee owner had died since the closing of the transaction.

20 die, 15 hit in Unita attack

LUANDA. — At least 20 people died and 15 were wounded yesterday in the latest Unita attack on the central Angolan town of Kuito, it was reported here.

The artillery attack came after a lull in fighting that broke out on Wednesday and left more than 100 dead over two days.

Most of the town's inhabitants took shelter in the local Roman Catholic cathedral.

At least 25 people earlier this week were seriously wounded in artillery shelling in the centre of the town. — Sapa-AFP

⑤ CT 12/6/93

IN A field outside Luanda, six men are digging a grave. The grey truck that delivered the corpse is parked behind them.

As the bereaved family wait in the back of the open truck, red dust churned up by the spades engulfs them and blows over the dead man's face.

The hole is too shallow for the makeshift coffin, which could easily be dug up by scavenging dogs or rats.

It is an informal cemetery, one of many on the city outskirts. The four legal burial sites in the war-ravaged Angolan capital — Kamama, Santama, 14 and Alto das Cruces — are either too expensive or ordinary people ... or ill.

In this dusty graveyard in the district of Futungo, there are no records or costs, and nobody knows how many people are buried here.

Mounds of earth, so close together that they almost touch, stretch to the horizon — and they alone mark these thousands of final resting places.

A city with an infrastructure designed to support 500 000 inhabitants is bursting at the seams. The

Mineral-rich Angola is the second largest exporter of hydrocarbons south of the Sahara and in 1990 legitimate diamond sales

amounted to \$240-million. But as the country's 18th year of civil war rages, two million people

are close to starvation. The estimate of war orphans is 250 000. And more than a million

people have died in the past 10 years. Yet, in the capital of Luanda, life goes on — at a

price. JAMES BRITAIN reports

estimated current population is more than four million.

And so the illegal burial of Luanda's thousands of clandestine dead has become one of many pragmatic compromises for a society shattered by 18 years of civil war.

With an estimated two million refugees from the war-torn provinces seeking safety in the coastal city, Luanda is a mere speck of its colonial past.

Magnificent Portuguese buildings have crumbled and decayed, their tiled walls pockmarked with bullet holes from the battles that raged in the streets between the ruling

shrens blare out to signal lunch, and the daily halt to formal business.

In Rua de Tenete, a quiet road behind the harbour, clients throng the El Campho bar, which has been in business since 1956. Ornate tiles and peeling green wallpaper hint at a once grander place, where European expatriates rested in the heat of the day.

Now the guests are shop owners, local businessmen and government officials, who take their midday meal from metal plates at broken tables.

A meal of fish and rice, washed down with a single cold Castle, costs 75 000 kwanzas — about R56 at the current exchange rate.

This is about one-sixth of an average monthly salary.

Outside the red peeling facade of El Campino, street vendors are busy, and many commodities — from toothpaste to cigarette lighters — are changing hands.

Goods are a lot cheaper on the street or in open markets than at the few supermarkets still in operation. A tub of margarine can cost up to 40 000 kwanzas (R30) and a litre of fruit juice goes for 25 000 kwanzas (R18).

Four barefoot teenage

LIFE AMONG THE

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S Times 13/6/93

DEAD

OF WAR-SHATTERED LUANDA



THE DYING DAY ... the city is slowly illuminated as dusk falls over Luanda

boys, wearing nothing but fatty shorts, try to shift books about Angola. The price is 25 000 kwanzas (R18) and the publications paint a rosy picture of wildlife and hydro-electric schemes.

"It's like this in peacetime," says one of the vendors, Daniel Henriques, pointing to a colourful centrefold.

Daniel lives in a suburb called Samba, where there is no running water. He

sells anything he can find. On a good day, he says, he can afford the 2 000 kwanzas (R1.50) for bus fare home and 10 000 kwanzas (R7.50) for a loaf of bread.

But that doesn't happen often.

Next to the boys, three women — Maria da Conceicao, Joana Antonio and Anna Domingos — sell sar-dine-sized fish called carapau.

This is a more lucrative business than selling tour-

ist books, and can bring in up to 150 000 kwanzas (R112) a day between the three women, but that doesn't happen often either.

Between 2.30pm and 3pm, people begin to drift

back to work, and the pavement trade subsidies. Luanda seems to exist in such cycles.

At the height of this year's cholera outbreak in April, at least 700 new cases a week were being reported at the city's main hospital, Josina Machel. The cooler weather has eased the crisis, but it will escalate again when the rains come next year.

Another ceaseless pulse governs information and misinformation about the war. What really happens beyond the city's precincts is a mystery to most.

In a single week, the Journal de Angola, Luanda's daily newspaper, reported that the northern coastal oil town of Soyo had fallen to Unita, and had been abandoned by the MPLA general in command of the area.

Neither government officials nor diplomats could say what was really happening, and all seemed accustomed to the confusion.

While the homeless have not yet taken to living on the streets, Luanda has become a city of squatters.

On the Rua de Salvador Torreira, a former government building gutted by an explosion has become home to 150 people.

The tenants have improvised flats inside the shell with makeshift divisions and doors.

Manuel Diego da Silva is unemployed and lives on the first floor with his wife, Joana, and son, Ricardo. Inside the flat, there is neither running water nor electricity, but the place is immaculate.

There is a fish-tank brimming with goldfish, pot-plants and a guitar. Joana pays the rent of 2 200 kwanzas (R1,65) a month by working as a secretary.

"It is very dirty here, and noisy at night but we have a roof," says Manuel.

"We don't think about the war or what is going on in the country. Of course we want peace, but we think only of living."

That evening, as the sun disappears behind the Armed Forces Museum on the southern side of Luanda bay, a wedding procession snakes its way through the dirty streets.

With blazing horns and flashing hazard lights, the cars head for a celebration on Ilha da Luanda. Everyone is smiling. As the convoy passes, spectators stop and wave.

In the last vehicle, a blue station wagon, the bride and groom clasp one another in a warm embrace.



NO FORMALITIES . . . another roadside funeral gets under way at an unofficial burial site on the outskirts of Luanda

Pictures: HERBERT MABUZA

Patients died as nurses stole drips to sell on the streets

S Times 13/6/93

AT THE height of a cholera epidemic in Luanda two months ago, when up to 716 new cases were being treated each week, no one could explain why most patients were dying at night.

Doctors from Medicines Sans Frontieres (MSF), a European relief organisation, discovered the answer.

Ward nurses on night shift at Josina Machel, the city's main hospital, were stealing the drips.

The vital solutions of salt, sugar and iron were being taken from the ward stores by staff after hours and sold on the streets.

"It was a terrible thing. When we discovered what was happening, there was a big fight, and they stopped doing it," said MSF Belgium co-ordinator Dr Vincent Vercruyse.

Throughout April and May, when the epidemic peaked, up to 115 victims were dying each week.

But in the past few weeks, the rains have stopped, temperatures have dropped and the situation has become manageable.

The root of the epidemic is dirty water. Broken and leaking pipes in an antiquated network allow bacteria to contaminate the city's entire supply.

"No work has been done to the water system since 1975. Millions of people — up to half the people living in Luanda now — don't have access to running water. And half of the water circulated to the rest of the city is believed lost through leakage," Dr Vercruyse said.

The situation was exacerbated earlier this year by battles raging in and around the Angolan capital.

Luanda's main purification plant at Kifangondo on the Bengo River was sabo-

taged — apparently by Unita — in January.

Water that was not pure to start with, was sullied further by an estimated 30,000 war refugees from the nearby town of Caxito, whose domestic refuse and sewage were spewed into the river near the plant.

As water shortages increased, private contractors thrived.

Unregistered trucks transported thousands of litres of polluted water from the river to residential areas, where a thirsty population paid 3 000 kwanzas (R7.50) a litre.

MSF took emergency steps, and in March and April dropped more than 27 000 chlorine blocks into the same number of water tankers.

But at Josina Machel hospital, though the numbers have dropped for the moment, cholera victims are still in danger of dying.

Hospital director Dr Pedro Saldanha de Magalhaes confirms that crisis conditions are the norm for the facility.

"The hospital is third grade because of the shortage of all drugs. Luanda is a cholera endemic zone. We need everything for this disease."

In the half-light behind the bars of the adult cholera section, formerly a prison ward where criminals were housed when they fell ill, there is neither running water nor drainage.

The patients' vomit and excrement is collected in blue buckets and tipped outside the door. Corpses — extremely contagious — are left to lie on stretchers in the ward or a doorless antechamber for hours on end.

Last week, as new patients were admitted, the dead were carried out.

No place for wives as trade mission gets down to work

WHEN South Africa reopened its Angolan mission last month, the three-man diplomatic team travelled alone.

Their predecessors had evacuated their homes and offices on December 5 last year when fierce fighting broke out in Luanda after Unita leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi refused to accept the MPLA victory in the country's first election since independence.

The situation is still volatile, so the wives and children of South African diplomats remain in Pretoria, but trade between Angola and South Africa is already returning to normal.

Head of mission Roger Ballard-Tremmier expects a deluge of visa applications and his staff — Stefan van Heerden and Glen Faure — are preparing to process up to 700 a week.

Relations between the two countries warmed last weekend after Foreign Ministers Pik Botha and Venancio de Moura signed the Windhoek declaration with Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab.

The tri-lateral talks agreed that economic and political relations would be developed between the three countries.

Mr de Moura also invited Mr Botha to visit Luanda to discuss how the South African diplomatic presence could be strengthened.

Mr Ballard-Tremmier rejects any suggestion of South African military intervention to help the MPLA secure peace.

At the same time, he denies that the South African government continues to supply Unita with either weapons or food, though he is aware of "clandestine flights" from South Africa to Angola.

"There is not a shred of evidence to suggest that these flights were sanctioned by the government," he said.

South African Airways resumed regular weekly flights to Luanda on Monday after suspending them last October.

While the world's elite plays, locals fight for survival

STimes 13/6/93

IT IS a Sunday afternoon. Two tanned young couples sidle in and settle down on beachfront deck-chairs. The men wear shorts that would cost a fortune on the Via Veneto, polo-shirts and Ray-Bans. The women are chic in culottes and gold jewelry. They order a round of drinks — beer, gins and sparkling waters — and a waiter in a starched white coat and polished shoes places their glasses on a table beneath a canvas parasol. This is the Barracuda bar, on an island in the bay of Luanda — a restaurant for the rich (payment strictly in US dollars) at the far end of a narrow sandbar that runs parallel to the city's seafront. In a city where normality has been all but destroyed by war, it is a haven of tranquillity for United Nations observers and other foreign elite. As a clear sea gently laps a neatly combed white beach, the four young people chat. There are lip-sticked cigarette butts in the ashtray, and quarters

of lime in the beer bottles. A motorboat speeds by, and friends wave. On a wall-mounted colour set, satellite TV offers the latest world headlines. A small steak with egg is on offer for US\$11 (R35). A seafood platter costs US\$24 (R77) and shellfish and rice, US\$45 (R144). American, French, Portuguese and English voices mingle gently in the breeze. Beyond the lines of parked cars at the Barracuda — the German luxury models are punctuated by vehicles bearing the distinctive UN livery — the prostitutes of Luanda are earning their living. As night closes in, an endless queue of vehicles forms, the occupants patiently waiting their turn for a shot of commercial love. On the beach opposite, from the shanty town that is Luanda's biggest brothel, fisherman emerge from their makeshift reed shelters to push their boats out for the first time that night. They, too, will work till dawn.



STREET BATH . . . three young children wash in a stormwater drain opposite the Ministry of Social Affairs building in Luanda

Gathering news here can be a hazardous occupation

S Times 13/6/93

WORKING as a journalist in Angola can be hazardous to one's health.

Electricity stops and starts at will. Water runs haphazardly. Traffic generally moves on the right-hand side of the road, but there are few rules and many potholes, so it's every driver for himself.

Traffic lights have been out of order for months, and in downtown Luanda, policemen direct cars from platforms at the intersections.

Before you've even stepped from your car, you're surrounded by street vendors and young boys demanding money to either wash it or look after it — but they could be the least of your troubles.

Driving alone from the harbour to the city at about 9.30 one night, I was stopped and hauled out of the car by two uniformed policemen wielding AK-47s and demanding to see my papers.

Those appeared to be in order but, unfortunately, I'd left my driving licence at the hotel, so out came the handcuffs.

A translator hastily summoned from a nearby hotel explained the situation, but it took an hour of negotiating and a cash payment of 100 000 kwanzas (R30) before I was released.

Money is confusing in Angola. At the bank, US\$100 gets you 400 000 kwanzas.

Right outside the door, you can get up to five times the official rate.

Lining the pavements along the city's main street, the Avenida de Paulo Dias de Novias, moneychangers brazenly wave wads of kwanza notes.

But even in Angola, there are some things not even money can fix.

Colleague Herbert Mabuza was invited by the MPLA to visit the recently liberated town of Dondo, in Quanza Norte province, an hour's flying time south-east of Luanda.

The rendezvous was at 8.30am, but it was another hour before the party set off for the Ministry of Defence.

There, another hour passed while military and media officials negotiated.

Finally, the party arrived at the main military air base, to wait and negotiate some more before eventually being ushered to a helicopter of Russian origin that looked at least 30 years old.

The pilot climbed in and turned the key, but nothing happened.

After several abortive attempts, a tractor trundled across the tarmac, towing a large generator.

A mechanic took two giant jump-leads from the generator and stuck them into the chopper's engine.

The generator grunted into action, the chopper started, and the rotors turned . . . once. The jump-leads were disconnected. The blades ground to a halt.

A squadron of mechanics tinkered with the engine, but on that day, that chopper was not destined to get airborne.

Four-and-a-half hours later, the trip was called off. As the passengers and crew stepped back on to the runway, 11 MiG 3 jets on the far side of the apron were being armed for combat.

Unita officials reject criticism

UNITA officials rejected international criticism of their movement on Friday and appealed to United States officials for help in resuming negotiations with the Angolan government. *St. Times*

Two Unita leaders exiled in Portugal have been meeting with US officials in an effort to regain their country's sympathies. 1316193

"We are ready to go to the table as soon as possible," said Fatima Roque, Unita's shadow economics minister. 5

The US now recognises Angola's former communist government and, with Russia and Portugal, is discussing retaliation against Unita for its continued military operations.

Luanda may
call emergency

LISBON — The Angolan government might declare a state of emergency today as fighting with Unita rebels intensified across the country, Portugal's TSF radio said yesterday.

Angolan Prime Minister Marcelino Moco would address parliament today.

TSF radio reported heavy fighting in Menongue, capital of southeastern Kwanza Cubango province, and Cuito, 200km north. State radio said Unita had killed 25 civilians in Menongue in the past 24 hours.

Unita radio said its troops shot down a government supply plane over the north-eastern oil town Soyo on Saturday, killing all crew. Sapa-Reuter (5)

Angola emergency?

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⑤ OCT 14/81/93
Angolan Prime Minister Mr Marcelino Moco will address parliament today and could declare a state of emergency, the radio's correspondent in Luanda quoted sources close to the prime minister as saying.

TSF radio reported heavy fighting in the cities of Menongue, capital of south-eastern Kwanza Cubango province, and Cuito, 200km to the north,

which Unita troops have besieged for four months.

Angolan state radio, monitored in the nearby island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said Unita was shelling Menongue and had killed 25 civilians in the past 24 hours.

TSF radio also reported fighting in Bengo province, which surrounds Luanda, and in neighbouring Kwanza Norte province.

Angolan state radio accused Unita of massacring 20 people on Friday night near Cambambe in Kwanza Norte, saying they were killed as they tried to flee Unita-controlled areas. — Sapa-AFP

Angola set to declare emergency

14-12-93 16/93

□ Bitter fighting intensifies

LISBON. — The Angolan government may declare a state of emergency today as fighting with Unita rebels intensifies across the country.

Angolan Prime Minister Marcolino Moco will address parliament today and could declare a state of emergency, Portugal's TSF radio correspondent in Luanda reported, quoting sources close to the prime minister.

Unita signed a peace agreement with the ruling MPLA in 1991 that was supposed to end 16 years of civil war following independence from Portugal in 1975.

But Unita returned to the battlefield after rejecting its defeat by the MPLA in UN-supervised elections last September.

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Unita radio said its troops shot down a government supply plane over the north-east oil town Soyo on Saturday. The plane plunged into the sea, killing all the crew.

Unita recaptured the oil town from the government on May 24. — Sapa-Reuter.

Red Cross returns to war-ravaged Huambo

ARC 1616193 (5)

PRETORIA. — The International Committee of the Red Cross resumed humanitarian aid to civilians in the Unita-held city of Huambo, four months after being forced to leave because of the war.

A Boeing 727 chartered by the ICRC made two flights to Huambo yesterday with 12 tons of food, two tons of medicines and other essential supplies for the main hospital.

A Red Cross official equipped with a vehicle accompanied supplies and is to open an office in Huambo to assess

the needs of civilians.

The Angolan government authorised the flights after an ICRC contact mission to the central highland city 10 days ago, during which Unita agreed in principle to the resumption of Red Cross aid.

The ICRC said it hoped its renewed presence in Huambo would herald the resumption of its assistance and protection for war victims throughout the country.

Unita seized Huambo in early March after a fierce two-month battle that reportedly devastated the city. — Sapa.

Unita has new hope for talks

PARIS — Unita said yesterday it hoped to resume peace talks immediately with the Angolan government after receiving a crucial message through a third party in Paris.

Unita said Sao Tome and Principe President Miguel Trovoada handed a high-level Unita delegation a "very important message" for its leader Jonas Savimbi. ⑤

"The meeting allowed the two sides to revive chances for an immediate resumption of talks between the MPLA and Unita," a Unita statement said.

It was not clear whether the message given to Unita was from Trovoada or whether he had delivered a message from the Angolan government.

Talks to end the 16-year-old civil war between Unita and the Luanda government collapsed last month in Abidjan.

The government this week pledged to drive Unita out of cities they had occupied since returning to arms after their September electoral defeat.

Hundreds of thousands of Angolans have been displaced and thousands killed in the new fighting. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola mobilises defences

11/18/69

LISBON — Angola's parliament yesterday declared a mobilisation of all national institutions as the United States took another step toward full diplomatic ties with the government.

Parliament voted to adopt a resolution urging political parties, civilians and all national institutions "to mobilise for the active defence of democracy and the integrity of the national territory".

In Windhoek yesterday Namibian Prime Minister Mr Hage Geingob, at a meeting of southern African defence chiefs, placed much of the blame for Angola's renewed war on United Nations "penny-pinching". — Sapa-
Reuter-AP

Help Mozambican refugees, says OAU

By Joe Latakomo
Star Africa Service

CAIRO — The Organisation of African Unity Council of Ministers has appealed to the international community to assist Mozambique in the repatriation of over 1,5 million refugees and the integration of more than 4 million displaced persons within the country.

The council resolved at the weekend to call upon the par-

ties in Mozambique to scrupulously observe the spirit and letter of the General Peace Agreement as an essential condition for the restoration of lasting peace.

On the situation in Angola, the council said it was deeply concerned about the catastrophic situation faced by the population due to the resumption of war by Unita's army.

The OAU has once more called on Unita to accept the re-

sults of the elections of September 1992 and "strongly condemns Unita for its escalation of military actions and for the persistent occupation of towns and villages which endanger the peace process".

The council appealed to Unita to return to the peace talks with the Angolan government, and to sign a durable ceasefire in order to ensure the implementation of the peace accords.

● SA under OAU spotlight
— Page 7

Unita now controls 2 more cities

LUANDA. — Angola's Unita rebels seized control of two northern cities yesterday as fighting in the south forced thousands of people to flee towards the capital, a government military official said.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, confirmed a Unita report that Dr Jonas Savimbi's rebel army had driven government troops from Ucuá and Quibaxe, both about 150km north of here.

The rebel advance came a day after Angola's parliament issued an international appeal for arms and urged all political parties and civilians to unite against Unita.

OCT 19/69
Control

The military official stressed that the rebel victories in the north posed no immediate threat to the capital.

"Unita is consolidating areas where they already had control.

"These cities were not hotly contested," he said.

International military observers said that the government air force's strike capacity meant Unita would need to launch almost all of its military strength, estimated at some 50 000 troops, for an attack on Luanda. — Sapa-AP

STRETCH 'EM: Walter Withoff, a fitness and aerobics professional from Europe, believes in getting straight down to business. He is giving a series of workshops, has been to Bloemfontein, Kimberley, Cape Town and Durban, and arrives in Johannesburg today. ● Photograph: JOHN WOODROOF

Star 1916193 5 50 die in Angolan shelling

LUANDA — At least 50 civilians have been killed in two days of shelling of the central highlands town of Kuito by Unita rebels, Angolan government radio reported yesterday.

The town has been under siege by Unita rebels since January.

Unita also gained further ground yesterday by seizing control of two northern cities, while fighting in the south

forced thousands of people to flee towards the capital, a government military official said.

The military official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, confirmed a Unita report that Jonas Savimbi's rebel army had driven government troops from Ucuva and Quibaxe, both located some 150 km north of Luanda.

The rebel advance came a day after Ango-

la's parliament issued an international appeal for arms and urged all political parties, civilians and national institutions to unite and resist the rebel movement.

The military official stressed, however, that the rebel victories in the north posed no immediate threat to the capital.

"Unita is consolidating areas where they already had control," he said.

"These cities were not hotly contested."

International military observers have said that the government air force's strike capacity meant Unita would need to launch almost all of its military strength, estimated at some 50 000 troops, for an attack on Luanda.

Meanwhile, Unita forces also stepped up fighting in the south. A

● TO PAGE 2.

Star 1916193 5 Angola

● FROM PAGE 1.

supply convoy was attacked Thursday en route to Caimbambo, 480 km south of Luanda, the military official revealed.

Thousands of refugees who had fled to Caimbambo from the interior of the country have abandoned their camps and fled north toward the capital, the official said.

The government reinstated mandatory military service two months ago and since then has been rapidly training draftees to build up its estimated 35 000 active troops.

Peace talks last month in the Ivory Coast broke down when Unita refused to withdraw its troops from occupied territories and demanded the disbandment of the government paramilitary police.

The UN Security Council blamed Unita for the collapse of talks, and the United States, a



SAVIMBI: No answer to US request for a meeting on Tuesday.

former Unita ally, sent a clear rebuke to the rebels by granting diplomatic recognition to the Angolan government.

US Under-Secretary of State for African Affairs George Moose is scheduled to arrive in Luanda on Tuesday for two days of meetings with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and government officials.

Moose has also requested a meeting with Savimbi, but Unita has not given an official reply, a US state department official said. — Sapa-Reuter AP—AFP

Frontline wants UN to discipline Unita

Star 1916193

WINDHOEK — Defence ministers from the Frontline states yesterday urged the United Nations and the international community to take firm and decisive action against Unita to force it to accept the democratic process in Angola.

Concluding a defence and security meeting in Windhoek, the seven ministers condemned alleged continued logistical support for Unita by South Africa and Zaire.

In a joint communique released after the two-day conference, Unita was urged to accept and abide by the Bicesse peace accord and return to the negotiating table.

In a closing address to the conference, read on his behalf by Namibian Home Affairs Minister Hifikepunye Pohamba, Namibian Prime Minister Hage Geingob said delegates had agreed they should collectively and individually give assistance to the MPLA government to enable it to defend Angola's democratic process.

The ministers welcomed the recent United States recogni-

tion of the Angolan government and urged the US and "any other country" to ensure no further support was given to Unita.

The signing of the Rome peace accords between Mozambique's Frelimo government and Renamo rebels was welcomed, but the ministers expressed grave concern at Renamo's "apparent delaying tactics".

They appealed to the UN to take "adequate measures" to prevent developments in Mozambique from deteriorating into uncertainty and chaos.

The ministers noted positive political developments in South Africa regarding negotiations and the tentative April 27 election date. However, they deplored the attitude of "right-wing elements" who refused to join negotiations.

The meeting was attended by defence and security chiefs from Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Tanzania, Botswana, Angola and Mozambique as well as military representatives of the ANC and PAC. — Sapa.

'Death came

Mines take their toll on civilians

TO OUR homes, to our camps, to the beaches, to our fields ... we shall return. So said Dr Agostinho Neto, the MPLA's first liberation struggle leader, in 1960.

But after 13 years of liberation struggle, followed by 18 years of civil war, thousands of families can never go home again.

Angola's camps, beaches and fields are littered with an estimated 20-million landmines, which have maimed at least 55 000 people throughout the country.

One such victim is mother-of-two Anna Bella, 28. One of her legs was blown off in 1985 by an anti-personnel mine outside Cazombo — a village in Angola's eastern Moxico province — and her arms are scarred from walking with crutches.

In the back yard of the Bendinha Neves amputee centre in Luanda, as carpenters hammer, saw and tap out her new leg, Mrs Bella recalls that fateful morning.

"I was walking into our field near the house to get



MENDING PEOPLE ... an amputee centre worker checks an artificial leg Pictures: HERBERT MABUZA

cassava. I don't remember what happened after that.

"I first went to Luena hospital, then came here last year. I feel happy and safe here, and I have a lot of friends."

Her children, Amelia and Dorcas, are stranded in Luena, now held by Unita. She doesn't know how they are or how she will provide for herself.

"It will be hard to get a job like this," she says, pointing to the stump of her thigh.

Throughout the years of liberation struggle in Angola, civilians have been targeted by landmines. They have been maimed in village gardens, on football pitches and on riverbanks.

There are 43 victims like

Anna Bella at the Bendinha Neves centre, built by the Swedish Red Cross in 1988 and designed to house no more than 20 at a time.

Run by the Red Cross in conjunction with Angolan officials, the centre produces around 65 wooden limbs each month.

Pointing to a big cardboard box full of shoes which once covered living feet, Dr Timoteo Francisco Joao says: "We give them new shoes when they come, but since the war started again last year, fewer people are coming for legs.

"It's because people can't get here. All the roads are impassable. If we get another period of peace, the place will be overflowing with people."

By JAMES BRITAIN
LYING in a shattered heap on the concrete floor of Caimbambo hospital, a frail old woman is dying as flies buzz over her wounds and face.

Kuyela Ndumbila has been shot at close range through the knees and elbows, but in this small rural clinic deep in southern Angola — 12km from the frontline — there are no doctors, medicine, beds or food.

A survivor of a Unita rebel massacre two nights before, it seems miraculous that Kuyela is still alive.

Her cousin, Soma Mateya, 65, tells the story: "They (Unita) came at eight o'clock at night. We were sleeping. They did not line us up. They killed us as we were getting out of the house. One by one.

"Some of us ran out and hid in the trees."

A younger family member, Jean Cahala, continues: "There were 20 of us in the house — and eight were killed."

Attack

"There were about 50 uniformed soldiers. I think they came to look for food, but they didn't find any and stole some clothes instead."

Inside the clinic, as the sound of automatic gunfire rattles the window frames, Philippe Gomez, the 20-year-old MPLA soldier in charge of the place, looks down at his boots.

"There is nothing I can do," he says. "I did have some painkillers, but they are all finished, and the food that we are given must go to the soldiers."

Caimbambo's military chief, Colonel Rafael, claims Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels are retreating to Cubal, but the recent night attack inside the town perimeter belies his story.

The threat of attack has kept international relief organisations from the town for more than two months.

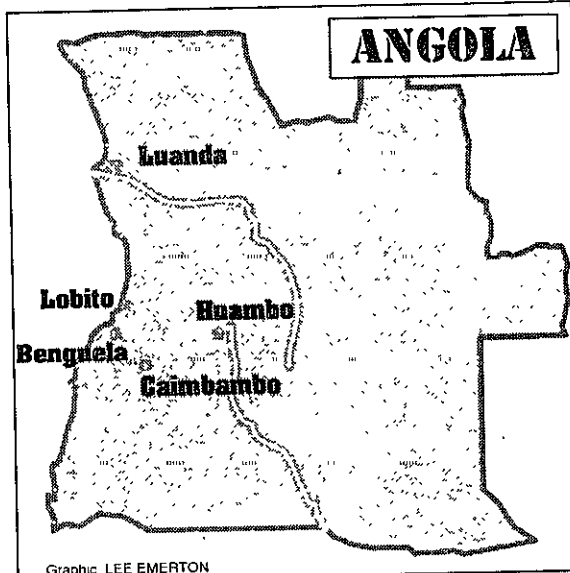
The World Food Programme was the last to

UN food aid hits snags

LAST month, the United Nations could deliver food to only a tiny fraction of Angola's war-ravaged and starving population.

Distribution was restricted to the coastal municipalities of Luanda, Sumbe, Lobito and Lubango. In total, the World Food Programme moved 1 800 tons of food to 153 000 civilians.

An estimated two million people are believed close to starvation in Angola. But, since one of the programme's supply aircraft was shot down near the south-eastern town of Luena on April 26, only a skeleton service has been possible.



Graphic LEE EMERTON

WAR ZONE ... a map showing the war-ravaged tiny village of Caimbambo deep in southern Angola

as we slept'

(5)

LEARNING BY THE GUN

By JAMES BRITTAIN

IN war-torn Angola, schoolchildren learn to count with the aid of AK-47s.

Pages torn from a primary-school textbook show a big figure 4. Underneath is a line of four Kalashnikov assault rifles. On each page of the book, up to the figure 10, the illustrations are the same.

Oranges, apples and birds are nowhere to be found ... but then, neither are pupils, these days.

Since the renewed outbreak of fighting towards the end of last year, pages of textbooks are used to wrap bread. The school in Caimbambo, a little town in south-western Angola, is closed and children roam the streets armed with automatic rifles and rockets.

"It is the way here," says Caimbambo's vice-governor Francisco Camati.

He says the children were given weapons by MPLA troops who re-took the town from Unita in January. The adult defenders are at the front line, and only the young are left to defend the town.

At the beginning of June, the government introduced a minimum conscription age of 20, but in Caimbambo every able-bodied boy seems to be toting an AK-47.

Joao Caxilola is 15, and says he has been guarding the village for a year.

"I have been in 15 battles," he says.

"I don't know if I have killed or not because I could not see the soldiers. I was just firing. I am not afraid to do this."

While peace held between May 1991 and October last year, he went back to school. Now, sitting in the main street, he cuts a waiflike figure in a T-shirt and military webbing.

"It was happy here. I was going to school in Caimbambo. I don't know what I want to be when I am older, but I want to learn."

His friend, Jose Luis, also 15, sits beside him. Earlier in the day he was

bring food, and all qualified doctors from the French agency, Medecines Sans Frontieres, pulled out in January.

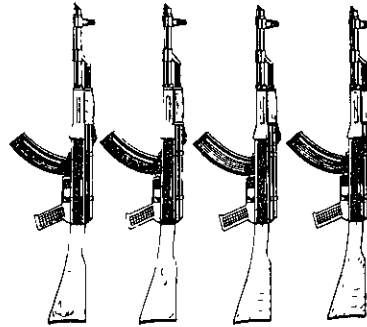
Now 15 000 refugees, some with severed arms and legs blown off by mines, have flooded in on foot to escape the fighting.

The tiny town previously housed 55 000 people and the refugees sleep in doorways, already overcrowded houses, between buildings and under trees.

At the market behind the main street, food supplies are extremely limited. And anyway, money is scarce.

Rows of hopeful vendors try to sell portions of rice, sugar and oil, but only the soldiers can afford them.

Raoul Bonge trekked 23km from the town of Cubal, where he used to be a businessman, on foot. Recent fighting claimed the lives of his wife and six



4



CHILLING ... an AK-47-strewn page torn from a school text book

having his boots polished by refugees in the market.

He wears combat gear and says he is "not afraid" of being a soldier.

"I am the oldest child and I want to fight. I want to be a doctor when the war stops."

He cannot, or will not, say if he has killed.

On guard at the steps of the vice-governor's house is Adelino Ndombo. He claims he is 22, but looks closer to 16.

He has grown up in Caimbambo and seen much fighting. In between, he, too, went to the town school, "preparing for my future to be a doctor or a driver".

"Then came January 23. When Unita came we hid in rocks on a hill. We fought for a time, but we ran out of bullets. I was nearly killed many times," he says, his AK-47 resting between his knees.

"There is nothing I like about this war. I know many people who have died here and I want it to finish."

sons.

Now, sitting in a makeshift reed surgery in the Caimbambo market, he sells an array of pills and medicines. Many of the packets and bottles are unmarked, and Raoul is not a pharmacist.

No one can remember when war first came to this little town.

Vice-governor Francisco Camati, 47, says Caimbambo fell to Unita soon after hostilities resumed last October.

Battles

Savimbi's forces held out until January, when the MPLA recaptured the town. Since then, there have been many battles, and Caimbambo is scarred.

White and pink Mediterranean-style houses stand bombed out and derelict. Every building is shot through with bullets.

The former hotel, a three-storey villa with high ceilings and windows, is smashed and doorless. Inside, refugee families huddle around fires.

It has been renamed "Hotel De Guerra" — Hotel of War — as a sign in red paint testifies.

Crack MPLA troops — there are two battalions stationed outside Caimbambo — are pushing on Cubal, strategically placed between Huambo and the coast.

On the second night of our stay, there is particularly heavy fighting. At 10am the next day, three prisoners — we are told they are Unita soldiers — are brought into the town square.

They are the military trophy of the previous night's battle. Their hands and feet are tied behind



WAR CHILD ... a young soldier, ready for action, the Angolan town of Caimbambo

their backs, their faces bloodied. They are there to be publicly humiliated, but Caimbambo residents seem uncertain whether or not to join the ritual.

Some are angry and shout abuse. Some walk off in disgust. Others ignore the spectacle, and a few approach the vehicle.

Then, for 10 minutes, cursing men and uniformed soldiers take turns at punching and kicking

the captives. Children pull their hair and noses in a frenzy.

Suddenly, a soldier in charge deems it enough. The truck starts up and pushes back towards the road.

The shadow cast by the truck passes briefly over the emaciated body of an old man resting against a tree. Two friends bend over and pick him up. In the midday sun, they carry him up the hill to the clinic.

St. Times
20/6/73

US set to step up role in Angola

LISBON: America looks set to play a greater role in Angola this week after besieged US oil companies in the northern state of Cabinda called for protection against Unita attacks. US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa George Moose is due in Luanda on Tuesday for talks with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's government.

He has also requested a meeting with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi. US Defence Department officials are also due to visit Cabinda this week to plan the possible evacuation of remaining Americans in the event of an emergency.

Hundreds of US oil company employees have already been evacuated because of the war and Angola is now battling to honour contracts as a result of lost production.

Meanwhile, Unita took control of the northern cities of Ucuva and Quibaxe and stepped up attacks in the south on Friday.

Bombs killed 80 civilians yesterday during a battle with Unita for the central town of Kuito, Angolan government radio announced. Fifty civilians were killed in fighting in the town on Friday. —

Sapa-Reuter-AFP
See Page 13

Star 21/6/93

Angolan toll rises to 215

LUANDA — The death toll rose to 215 as fierce fighting continued yesterday between government troops and rebels over the central town of Cuito, official radio reported.

The radio report said the toll was only for people killed in the centre of the town, which has been besieged by rebels in the Unita movement since January.

It was impossible to obtain any casualty toll outside the town according to the report, which said that survivors had been forced to bury the dead in gardens.

The 215 were killed between Thursday and yesterday. Armed civilians were fighting alongside government troops against Unita. — Sapa-AFP.

Angolan cities come under renewed attack

LISBON — Two besieged cities in Angola's interior had come under renewed artillery bombardment by Unita and might not be able to hold out for much longer, the Angolan government said yesterday. *BlDay 2/16/93*

A Red Cross official said Unita had delayed the evacuation of several hundred foreigners trapped in the city of Huambo, Unita's self-appointed capital.

Unita had told the International Committee of the Red Cross it could begin evacuation flights this weekend, but now said these cannot begin until tomorrow or Wednesday at the earliest, the Red Cross' chief delegate in Angola Christophe Harnish told Portuguese radio at the weekend.

Many diplomats believed Unita would try to prevent the UN from delivering food to Cuito and Menongue until the cities fell to its forces.

Angolan state radio said yesterday more than 200 people had died over the past 24 hours in a Unita artillery bombardment in Cuito, capital of Bie province in central Angola.

Washington's Africa expert, Assistant Secretary of State George Moose, was expected in Angola today to discuss the devastating civil war, US diplomats said.

The visit will be his first since the Clinton administration recognised the Angolan government a month ago. Moose plans high-level talks with the MPLA government, Unita and UN peace observers, the diplomats said. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

(5)

215 killed fighting over Cuito

LUANDA. — The death toll rose to 215 as fierce fighting continued yesterday between government troops and rebels over the central town of Cuito, official radio reports said.

Reports said the death toll was only for those killed in the centre of the town, which has been besieged by Unita rebels since last January.

It was impossible to obtain any casualty toll outside the town, the report said, and survivors were forced to bury the dead in gardens.

Reports said civilians were fighting alongside government troops against Unita.

In another development, Unita postponed the release of 300 Portuguese nationals held in the

city of Huambo that had been planned for yesterday, the International Committee of the Red Cross delegate, Mr Christophe Arnich, said here.

507/16/93
He said Unita sent a letter to the Red Cross headquarters in Geneva saying they would be released tomorrow and Wednesday. — Sapa-AFP

US in Angola

THE American flag was raised for the first time over a US embassy in Angola yesterday as the United States established full diplomatic ties with the war-torn country in a reversal of Cold War policy. *Sowetan 22/6/93*
US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs George Moose met Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Luanda to mark the upgrading of US representation.

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Refugees stranded at De Aar

DE AAR. — A Portuguese refugee family from Angola, who lost their travel documents in a robbery, have been stranded at the railway station here for eight days.

Mr Daniel de Castro Txala, 35, his pregnant wife, Esperanca, 31, and their five children were robbed of their clothing, money and documents in Hillbrow, Johannesburg. The family decided to travel to Windhoek but had to abandon their journey at De Aar because they did not have travel documents.

Camped

While the authorities investigated their circumstances the Txalas camped in the station waiting room, where Spoonnet kept the coal stove remained stoked up day and night.

The De Aar welfare office and residents provided mattresses, blankets and meals.

A welfare spokesman said the family would be able to leave for Windhoek this week. — Sapa

Bid to save kin in Angola war

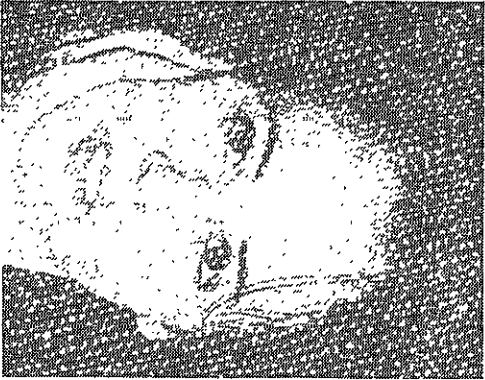
Staff Reporter

A SOMERSET WEST woman has appealed to South African and Portuguese government authorities as well as the International Red Cross to help secure the release of her parents and three other relatives who are trapped in a war-torn area of Angola.

Representatives of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Portuguese embassy confirmed yesterday that Miss Sandra Lopes had asked for official help to rescue her parents, Mr and Mrs Adalberto Lopes, and her 27-year-old brother Luis and his two young children.

The Foreign Affairs spokesman, who pointed out that the same appeal had been sent to the International Red Cross headquarters in Geneva, said it was unlikely that South Africa would be able to do much "because Unita has severed links with South Africa".

He explained that the Lopes family were trapped in an area of



CONCERNED ... Sandra Lopes

the town of Menongue that is under control of Unita forces.

He said Menongue is about 300km north of Ruidu. Miss Lopes told the *Gape* Times last night that she was prompted to take such "drastic steps" as

appealing to state departments after finding out that her 85-year-old grandfather and 24-year-old sister-in-law had already died in Menongue.

"My grandfather and sister-in-law evidently died nearly five months ago, but I only learned of it last week when I received a message that had started out as a radio report from Catholic Church officials in Menongue to their regional headquarters in Luanda," she said.

Miss Lopes said the church authorities in Luanda had evidently passed the information on to a South African government official in Luanda who, in turn, relayed it to Pretoria for her information.

"My family emigrated to South Africa from Angola in 1975, but my father was deeply involved in the church and decided to move back last year to carry out missionary work in Menongue," she said.

"It is virtually impossible to get any news through from Menongue," she said "and I am terrified about my family's safety."

MPLA troops 'prepare to attack Soyo'

SAO TOME. — Unita said yesterday that government troops were massing in the northern enclave of Gabinda for an attack on the rebel-held oil town of Soyo.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said Unita would not hold itself responsi-

ble for any loss foreign oil companies might suffer as a result of such an attack. US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, Mr. George Moose, visited Gabinda yesterday and expressed concern about the security of US companies and citizens working there, Angolan radio said.

Mr. Moose pledged US support in restoring peace to Angola, diplomats said. However, this did not mean Washington would provide Angolan troops with military aid. Luanda-based US spokesman Mr. Michael Metelits said. Mr. Moose signed an accord normalising diplomatic rela-

tions with Angola on Monday. ● Two people died and two were wounded when a South African-made F-1 grenade was hurled into a crowded market in the southern Angolan city of Lubango on Monday, the official news agency Angop reported yesterday. Sapa-Reporter, UPI

CT 2316135

Angola stops international aid flights

⑤ ARG 23/6/93

LISBON. — Angola's beleaguered government has grounded all international aid flights, snatching hope away from hundreds of thousands of desperate civilians trapped by recent fighting.

The decision to ban the World Food Programme (WFP) flights was an apparent response to Unita's refusal to allow WFP aircraft into two government-held cities besieged by the rebel movement.

The United Nations-sponsored programme had resumed its airlift of food and medicine to war-battered cities on Monday after a two-month suspension, said WFP spokesman Mercedes Sayagues.

The government announced the ban before any flights could leave Luanda yesterday.

On Monday flights got through to three cities — government-held Saurimo and Luena and Unita's central stronghold of Huambo.

But the rebels refused clearance for landing in central Kuito, where about 90 000 civilians are said to be trapped and lacking basic supplies, and eastern Malanje.

UN officials estimate that more than two million Angolans have taken refuge in cities since fighting in the 18-year

□ Thousands hit by ban

civil war erupted anew last November.

The UN representative in Angola, Ms Margaret Anstee and Mr Philippe Borel, WFP head in Luanda, were negotiating with both sides to break the impasse, said Ms Sayagues.

The WFP stopped its flights after Unita shot down an aid aircraft near the eastern city of Luena in April, killing two Russian crew.

Diplomats and relief officials have accused both government and rebels of using humanitarian aid as a weapon as Unita has advanced to seize about 80 percent of the once-prosperous country and made overland travel impossible.

Kuito governor Luis Paulinho dos Santos has warned that thousands of civilians could die of starvation and lack of water if aid does not arrive soon in his city.

Mr Dos Santos claimed that 400 people had died in two days of Unita shelling last weekend in Kuito.

The government, although it has won diplomatic support, is seemingly weak on the military front. — Sapa-AP.

Tories fend off Labour fi

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Star 23/6/93

Angola grounds aid flights

LISBON — Angola's beleaguered government yesterday ordered all international aid flights in the war-torn nation grounded, snatching hope away from thousands of desperate civilians trapped by recent fighting.

The move to ban the World Food Programme flights was an apparent response to Unita's refusal to allow WFP planes into two government-held cities.

On Monday, flights got through to three major cities — Saurimo, Luena and Huambo.

But the rebels refused clearance for landing in central Kuito, where some 90 000 civilians are said to be trapped. — Sapa-AP.

Foreigners to leave rebel-held Angola city

APR 24/93
LUANDA. — The evacuation of hundreds of foreigners from the rebel-held Angolan city of Huambo was due to begin today.

Portugal, the United States and Russia — observers to the now tattered 1991 peace accords — said in a statement they expected the first evacuees to be flown to the island state Sao Tome and Principe today.

The statement, quoted by the official news agency Angop, said conditions laid down by Unita rebels had been accepted and the Angolan government had guaranteed the flights.

It called on all parties to guarantee the success of the operation, to be supervised by international aid organisations.

"The peace process observers repeat that all the foreigners held against their will in Angolan territory should be evacuated, and call on all those involved to guarantee the necessary safety conditions for the evacuation operations," it said.

About 360 Portuguese and scores of other foreigners including Spaniards, Brazilians and Cape Verdeans have been stranded in Huambo since the central highlands city fell to Unita in March after a fierce two-month battle.

The battle for Huambo was the heaviest so far in the civil war which resumed after Unita rejected its defeat in UN-supervised elections in September.

● African states at the UN World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna have urged the adoption of a special declaration on Angola in response to attempts by Islamic nations to push the case of Bosnia.

They said failure to accept a tough statement on Angola while allowing one on Bosnia would be a "grave decision" — Sapa-Reuter.

**US promise ^(S)
to woo Unita**

CT-24/6/93
LUANDA. — The US is to try and persuade Unita to resume peace talks with the Angolan government, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr George Moose, said here yesterday.

With Russia and Portugal, the US would work to get them to resume negotiations, he said.

Observers said yesterday the evacuation of hundreds of foreigners from the rebel-held city of Huambo would begin today. — Sapa-Reuter

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Own Correspondent

much to conserve increasingly scarce food aid resources."

He calculated about two-million tons of grain were at sea throughout the world at any one time. An initial reserve of this amount would be advisable in the short term, building up to a reserve of four-million tons.

UN Food Aid Programme CE Catherine Bertini told delegates that "relatively few" people in southern Africa would need food aid this year.

She said widespread rains in March should result in good crops in Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Tanzania. The crop position in Mozambique and Botswana was also brighter, even though the rains were delayed in both countries.

The world was not fully aware of the success of last year's international famine relief programme in southern Africa, she said.

An estimated 18-million people had faced starvation in "the worst drought to afflict southern Africa in living memory." But millions of tons of food aid were delivered to landlocked countries such as Botswana, Malawi, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. — Daily Telegraph.

Amnesty for Malawi exiles

B. Day 24/6/93
HARARE — Malawi's life president, Kamuzu Banda, yesterday declared an amnesty for thousands of political exiles, inviting them to return home for the first democratic elections since independence 29 years' ago.

The announcement, reported the official Malawi News Agency, came two days after Banda's Malawi Congress Party and opposition groups formed a joint committee to run the country until the presidential and parliamentary elections later this year.

Malawian voters last week rejected Banda's one-party rule in a referendum, demanding a Western-style democracy.

Afterwards, Banda spurned calls for him to resign and form a coalition government, but promised democratic elections.

Malawi's parliament meets on Tuesday to repeal clauses in the constitution outlawing opposition parties.

Those laws were temporarily lifted to allow campaigning for last week's referendum.

The main opposition groups, the Alliance for Democracy and the United Democratic Front, have offered to make Banda a ceremonial head of state. — Sapa-AP.

Angolan food aid flights halted

B. Day 24/6/93
SAO TOME — The Angolan government said yesterday it was stopping relief flights to the rebel-held city of Huambo until Unita allowed relief flights to three besieged towns held by the government.

Social Affairs Minister Norberto dos Santos told state radio that Unita had refused to let the UN World Food Programme (WFP) fly food and medicines to the besieged towns of Cuito, Menongue and Malanje until next week.

The government had therefore decided to suspend authorisation for relief flights to Huambo until aid could be flown into

these towns, he added.

Diplomats say Unita is close to taking Cuito and Menongue, two provincial capitals on the fringes of the central highlands. They have been under siege for nearly six months.

Unita accused the Angolan government of trying to use food aid as a political weapon.

The partial suspension of aid flights is a blow to the WFP, which only resumed a full-scale food distribution programme on Monday after Unita shot down one of its planes in April. — Sapa-Reuter.

4 Cape Times, Friday

Mercy flight

to Huambo

A RED CROSS transport plane flew to the UNITA-held Angolan city of Huambo yesterday to evacuate hundreds of trapped foreigners.

But Somerset West woman Ms Sandra Lopes held out little hope that her parents, Mr and Mrs Adalbero Lopes, and her brother Luis and his two children had escaped from Menongue, about 250km south-east, to rendezvous with the mercy flight. — Staff Reporter, Sapa

CRS/6/93

First foreigners make it out of Huambo hell

By TONY SMITH: Lisbon

JUBILATION was mixed with despair yesterday as the first group of evacuees from the ravaged Angolan city of Huambo landed at Lisbon's military airport.

"My husband, dead? Oh, my poor Marcelino," sobbed one woman, clinging to her cousin who delivered the bad news after arriving with 113 other refugees from Huambo, Angola's second city.

But Luisa Costa was grinning as she rummaged through a pile of donated clothes for something to fit her three grandchildren. "I'm just so glad to be out of there with the children," she said.

The evacuees — Portuguese and Brazilians who were flown by Red Cross plane from Huambo to Sao Tome and Principe on Thursday — arrived at Lisbon's Figo Maduro military airport from the island nation on board a Portuguese air force C-130 transporter plane.

They were the first foreigners to leave Huambo since it fell in March to Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels after a bitter siege in the latest upsurge of bloodshed in Angola.

Roads from the central city are impassable, and Unita has allowed only one relief flight in and the evacuation flight out.

The evacuees' accounts seemed to support



ECSTASY AND AGONY ... Huambo evacuees are reunited with loved ones in Portugal **Picture: AP**

Red Cross estimates that 12 000 people died in the 56-day battle for Huambo.

"Bodies are being buried in backyards and the road to Caala was lined with corpses," said Luis, an Angolan who was allowed to leave with his mother because she is Portuguese.

Another 150 or so foreigners are still stranded in Huambo, awaiting a second evacuation flight.

A Red Cross spokesman in the capital, Luanda, said the organisation was in contact with Unita rebels, but it was unlikely the next flight would be before next week.

Meanwhile, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs George Moose gave a vote of confidence to Angola's embattled government this week, further distancing the US from Unita, its one-time ally.

"I leave Angola with a great deal of confidence in its government," he said at the end of a two-day state visit to establish diplomatic ties between the US and Angola.

He urged the government and Unita to resume negotiations to end the country's civil war. — Sapa-Reuter-AP

Unita blocks bid to rescue foreigners

APR 28/6/93

SAO TOME. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) plans to send a second aircraft to evacuate foreigners from the rebel-held city of Huambo today, Angolan state radio said.

But the radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said the rebel movement Unita would not allow any nationals of Sao Tome, or Cape Verde, who account for many of the foreigners left in Huambo, to board the flight.

The ICRC flew more than 100 evacuees from Huambo to Sao Tome on Thursday. Most were Portuguese and Angolans related to Portuguese residents in Angola, but the group also included four Brazilians.

An estimated 360 Portuguese and up to 200 other foreigners were trapped in Huambo, a city of half a million people in the central highlands, when it fell to Unita in March after a two-month battle.

A second evacuation flight was planned for Thursday, but this was cancelled after the first aircraft landed in Luanda due to technical problems and the evacuees were transferred to another aircraft to continue their journey to Sao Tome.

Unita accused the Angolan government of forcing the aircraft to land in Luanda for political reasons and ICRC officials said the evacuation programme would have to be renegotiated from scratch. — Sapa-Reuter.

Seven parties for Malawi

LILONGWE. — Seven political parties are being formed in Malawi to compete in the country's first general elections in three decades.

The parties will contest 146 parliamentary seats, said the Rev Emmanuel Chinkwita, acting chairman of the loose alliance of opposition movements in Malawi, the Public Affairs Committee (PAC).

The Malawi parliament is scheduled to meet on June 29 in the former capital Zomba to revoke section 4 of the constitution, which enshrined one-party rule.

This will pave the way for the formation of other parties following a 63 percent victory for multi-partism in the June 14 referendum.

President Kamuzu Banda's Malawi Congress Party (MCP) has been the sole ruling party since independence from Britain in 1964. — Sapa-AFP.

Repatriation aid appeal

JOE LATAKGOMO
Argus Africa News Service

CAIRO. — The Organisation of African Unity Council of Ministers has appealed to the international community to help Mozambique repatriate more than 1.5 million returning refugees from neighbouring countries and integrate more than four million displaced people within the country.

The Council of Ministers resolved at the weekend to call upon the parties in Mozambique to "scrupulously observe the spirit and the letter of the commitments made in the General Peace Agreement as an essential condition for the restoration of a lasting peace."

The OAU, while regretting the delay in the implementation of the agreement, expressed satisfaction with the end of military hostilities in the country.

Pilots call for linter ban

5-29-73
Vatican agrees to aid
peace search — Unita

SAO TOME. — The Roman Catholic Church had agreed to become involved with the search for peace in Angola, the Unita said yesterday.

Unita radio, monitored on Sao Tome and Principe, said the Vatican had communicated its acceptance of a Unita invitation to become involved in the peace process.

The proposal was delivered to Pope John Paul II by Unita's information secretary, Mr Jorge Valentin, at an audience in Rome last week, the radio added. — Sapa-Reuter

BRIEFS

UN's 'new colonialism'

CAIRO — Sudanese military ruler Omar Hassan al-Bashir told an African summit the United Nations was the tool of a new colonialism and its peacekeeping troops should leave Somalia. "It is about time to ring the bells of alarm and alert the people and countries of Africa about the necessity of fighting colonialism, which as soon as it left through the front door as a result of armed struggle returned to try and enter through the back door," he said. — Sapa

Toll spirals to 31

MOGADISHU — The UN death toll in Somalia rose to 31 when a second Pakistani was reported killed in a raid on a suspected ammunition dump. — Sapa

Elections rigged

BRAZZAVILLE — The Congolese Supreme Court said there were irregularities in the organization of the country's recent general elections whose results were challenged by the opposition and sparked unrest. — Sapa

Dawn of democracy

ZOMBA — Malawi's parliament, spurred by a huge popular vote for multi party democracy, adopted laws to end one-party rule and allow exiled dissidents to return home. — Sapa

Embargo lifted

WASHINGTON — The United States has lifted a domestic arms embargo against Angola, allowing the sale of non-lethal military equipment, the US State Department said. — Sapa

Islamic scholar endorses killings

w/m mail 2/7-8/7/93

By Deborah Pugh: CAIRO

ONE of the world's leading Islamic scholars, Sheikh Muhammad Ghazali, has shocked Egyptians by effectively endorsing the extra-judicial killing of anyone who opposes the implementation of Islamic law, known as the Shari'ah.

Sheikh Ghazali's views were given while testifying at the trial of Islamic militants accused of murdering the Egyptian author, Farag Fouda.

They brought strong criticism this week from the Egyptian Organisation for Human Rights, which said that his testimony was "tantamount to the excommunication of a large section of Muslim society, as well as a clear invitation to murder. It is a legitimisation of the various acts of terrorism and violence that have afflicted this country in recent times".

Sheikh Muhammad Ghazali was called on to give evidence last week by the defence, which is attempting to prove that the accused were acting in accordance with Islam by assassinating Fouda in front of his office in June last year. When asked if someone who opposed the application of Islamic law was an apostate, Sheikh Ghazali told the court: "Yes, he is an apostate".

The Sheikh then went on to explain that the death penalty was generally accepted by Muslim jurists as the punishment for apostasy, to be carried out by the state, although he thought life imprisonment was sufficient.

Liberal Muslims argue that in early Islam apostasy meant treason against

the young state and not rejection of the rigid legal code of Shariah, which became codified over the centuries and goes beyond the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad and the Quran.

Sheikh Ghazali told the court, from which all journalists working for the international media were barred, that "the application of the punishment is obligatory" even if the state did not apply the Shari'ah.

The Sheikh was then asked whether, as in the case of Dr Fouda's murderers, there was an Islamic punishment for those who took the law into their own hands and carried out the punishment. "I cannot recall any", Sheikh Ghazali replied.

As one Egyptian journalist wrote after reviewing the case: "When I say that this statement from the Sheikh permits the murder of all of us (who do not believe in the implementation of the Shari'ah), I am not exaggerating."

Since President Anwar Sadat's ruling that the Shari'ah would be the main source of law in Egypt there have been moves to force all of Egypt's legal system to comply with the Shari'ah. There has been no official comment from the Egyptian authorities on the issues raised by this and similar cases on which there has been no final verdict.

Liberal Egyptians are concerned that the judiciary will accept the verdict of Sheikh Ghazali, who has received Saudi awards for his services to Islam and is extremely influential.

— The Guardian News Service

To page 24



Unita 'hostages' fly out

LISBON. — The International Red Cross flew back into rebel-held territory in central Angola yesterday to evacuate the last of hundreds of foreigners believed to have been held hostage by Unita rebels.

The foreigners, mostly Portuguese and Brazilian citizens, have been trapped in Huambo, Angola's second largest city, since Unita captured the city in March.

A second and final flight scheduled for later in the day was cancelled by Unita, raising fears that the foreigners would not be permitted to leave.

● An investigation has been launched into allegations Namibians were abducted at gunpoint by soldiers and forced into Angola to fight Unita. — Sapa-Reuter-AP

SECRET 2/17/93

Recruiting for Angola denied

WINDHOEK. — The Namibian government has dismissed claims by four opposition parties that Namibians had been conscripted at gunpoint for the Angolan army.

Home Affairs Minister Mr Hifikepunye Pohamba said on Friday the claims referred to 43 Angolan illegal immigrants rounded up in the Kunene region.

The opposition parties had alleged that Namibian soldiers and police were working with Angolan soldiers to round up people who had no identity papers. — Sapa-Reuters

5 OCT 5/7/13

Past month sees '300 Unita men die'

LUANDA — About 300 Unita soldiers were killed last month in an Angolan government offensive to push them away from the besieged northern city of Malanje, the official news agency Angop said at the weekend.

Angop quoted Gen Matias Coelho "Nzumbi" as saying government soldiers and police seized weapons and destroyed eight rebel vehicles in fighting between June 1 and June 23.

But Nzumbi said the situation in the area was worrying as Unita still

controlled many towns. Much depended on how fighting developed in the nearby provinces of Bie, Huambo and Kuanza-Sul — which are largely Unita-controlled.

The government said it had pushed Unita back about 30km from Malanje, which had been under siege since November. However, its offensive to retake diamond mines in the nearby northeastern provinces of Lunda Sul and Lunda Norte had so far been unsuccessful. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola resumes search for oil

LONDON. The Angolan government is ready to award two new contracts for oil exploration shortly, in spite of the country's civil war and disrupted production.

Ms Albina Africano, the country's energy minister, said western oil companies were preparing to invest more than \$1 billion in oil exploration. (S)

In May Unita captured the oil town of Soyo where they destroyed oil storage facilities and halted onshore oil production.

Ms Africano said. Onshore oil output of 30 000 barrels a day had stopped since January, and some offshore production had been suspended.

Ms Africano, in London for meetings with the British government in an effort to persuade ministers to put pressure on Unita to return to the negotiating table, said 60 000 barrels a day of offshore output had been halted, but she was confident this could be resumed within months if storage facilities offshore could be expanded. — Financial Times.

'Worst war in the world' claims 1 000 lives a day

5 ARK 9/7/93

LONDON — Representatives of the United States, Russia and Portugal have met in Moscow to try to resolve the world's worst war.

In Angola more than 1 000 people are dying every day from war and starvation, says the United Nations. But the country is low on the international agenda and this new phase of the war has gone largely unreported, even though more people are dying now than at any time since fighting began 30 years ago.

Most of the deaths are caused by shells, hunger and disease in crowded towns under siege from the forces of Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita.

In spite of an agreement that has allowed the UN to fly food to all areas for the past three weeks, Unita has now stopped relief aircraft reaching Cuito, Malange and Menongue.

The new UN special representative in Angola, Mr Aloune Blondin Beye, a former Malian foreign minister, said: "Even the most optimistic of statistics

□ Angolan conflict plumbs new depths

put at 1 000 the number of people killed directly or indirectly by war in Angola every day."

The tripartite meeting in Moscow yesterday coincided with Mr Beye's first visit to Dr Savimbi at his Huambo headquarters to try to persuade him to return to the negotiating table.

In Moscow, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr George Moose, discussed with his Russian and Portuguese counterparts what, if any, pressure could be put on Unita.

Both sides in Angola recently sent delegations to Europe and the US to seek support. Unita's delegation withdrew "for consultations" after it was made clear that it would be met only by junior officials in Europe.

This week Angolan Oil Minister Al-bina Africano delivered a letter for the British Prime Minister to Mr Tim

Eggar, minister at Britain's department of trade and industry. The letter is expected to ask Britain to help persuade Unita to resume peace talks.

The accepted wisdom about the civil war in Angola, acknowledged by all parties, is that neither side can win. But if the war continues at this level, there will be mass starvation and Angola could become like Somalia.

Several attempts at restoring the peace agreement have foundered on Unita's refusal to allow the government to take over and administer towns captured by the rebels since the election took place.

Unita, which lost many senior members in a shoot-out in the capital when fighting broke out last November, is insisting on guarantees of safety and a UN-supervised withdrawal from the towns it holds. — The Independent

IT'S A FUNNY

Rainier's vintage cars for an hour

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New move to end

Star 10/1/93

LONDON. — Representatives of the United States, Russia and Portugal are meeting in Moscow to try to resolve the world's worst war.

In Angola, more than 1 000 people are dying every day from war and its consequent starvation, according to the United Nations.

But Angola is low on the international agenda and this new phase of the war has gone largely unreported, even though more people are dying now than at any time since fighting began in the country 30 years ago.

Most of the deaths are caused by shellfire, hunger and disease in crowded towns which are under siege from the anti-government forces of Jonas Savimbi's UNITA. Despite an agreement which has allowed the UN to fly food to all areas for the past three weeks, UNITA has now stopped relief planes flying to Cuito, Malange and Menongue.

Persuade

The new United Nations special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, a former Malian foreign minister, said this week: "Even the most optimistic of statistics puts at 1,000 the number of people killed directly or indirectly by war in Angola every day."

The tripartite meeting in Moscow coincides with Beye's first visit to Jonas Savimbi at his Huambo headquarters, to try to persuade him to return to the negotiating table. At the same time in Moscow, George Moose, the US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, will be discussing with his Russian and Portuguese counterparts what, if any, pressure can be



JONAS SAVIMBI: Laying ambushes and stopping relief flights.

Shellfire,
hunger
kill 1 000
each day

THE United Nations is pressing Jonas Savimbi to negotiate as the Angolan conflict plumbs new depths, writes RICHARD DOWDEN.

brought to bear on UNITA.

Both sides have recently sent delegations to Europe and the US to seek support. UNITA's delegation withdrew "for consultations" after it was made clear that it would only be met by junior officials in Europe's foreign ministries.

This week, Albina Africano, Angola's Oil Minister, delivered a letter to Prime Minister John Major and to Tim Eggar, Minister at Britain's Department of

Trade and Industry. The letter is expected to ask Britain to help persuade UNITA to resume peace talks.

The meeting in Moscow brings together the three international signatories of the Bicesse Accords, signed in May 1991, which established a peace agreement in Angola.

The agreement fell apart after UNITA lost the elections in September last year and restarted its 16-year guerilla war.

The accepted wisdom about the civil war in Angola, accepted by all parties, is that neither side can win.

But if the war continues at this level there will be mass starvation and Angola could become like Somalia. Several attempts at restoring the peace agreement have "foundered" on UNITA's refusal to allow the government to take over and administer towns captured by UNITA since the election took place.

Insisting

UNITA, which lost many senior members in a shoot-out in the capital when fighting broke out last November, is insisting on guarantees of safety and a UN-supervised withdrawal from the towns it holds.

The UN military mission in Angola, UNAVEM II, is now down to 119 people and it is unlikely that more will be sent until there is a peace agreement.

The Angolan government is ambiguous. It has offered UNITA safety, but one of its ministers called for the trial of Savimbi for war crimes.

After a fierce battle earlier this year, UNITA now controls Huambo, the provincial capital of the central highlands, Soyo, the main centre for onshore oil production and a handful of other towns.

ANGOLA carnage

By mining roads and laying ambushes, UNITA prevents normal government access to about three-quarters of the country. But about 65 percent of Angola's 10 million people are now in and around towns, about one-third of them displaced by the war.

UNITA has also seriously damaged Angola's oil production and the government has lost control of one of the diamond regions. According to sources in the diamond industry, UNITA representatives are selling diamonds on the Antwerp market. The Independent, London.

Unita under pressure to resume peace talks

STimes 11/21/93

LUANDA: Diplomats have turned up the pressure on Unita rebels to return to peace negotiations.

The new UN special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, said he told Unita leader Jonas Savimbi in a meeting this week that peace talks "would have to resume immediately and urgently".

Beye is operating under what could be a one-week deadline to hammer out a ceasefire between Unita and the government.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has threatened to remove all UN personnel from Angola if progress hasn't been made on peace talks by July 15.

At the same time Savimbi was meeting with Beye, Unita forces mounted an attack on Gabela, a major government military outpost 250km south-east of Luanda.

The provincial government said Unita forces had tried to occupy the town, but

government troops were still in control.

Unita's representative in Britain, Isaias Samakuva, yesterday criticised a statement by observer countries that recognised the Angolan government's right to defend itself during the renewed civil war.

The observer countries of the Angolan peace process — Russia, the US and the former colonial power, Portugal — met in Moscow on Thursday.

A joint statement called on Unita to end military action and condemned it for seizing territory in Angola.

The UN said about 1 000 people were dying in Angola daily.

Meanwhile, although Angola's main towns have escaped the worst of the renewed civil war, they are in the throes of a wave of armed robberies and murders, with some police suspected of complicity.

— Sapa-Reuter-AP-AFP

Unita may face arms embargo

3 NEW YORK. — The UN Security Council will threaten Unita with a worldwide arms embargo unless it honours Angolan peace accords by September 15. A resolution also renews the mandate for the small UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem) for two months until September 15.

⑤ ART 14/7/93

Unita rebels attack beleaguered Kuito

Star 14/1/93

LUANDA — Armed Unita rebels attacked the local government headquarters in the heart of the disputed central town of Kuito yesterday, the official local radio said, one day after intensified shelling of the town.

Two battalions of rebel forces infiltrated the town early yesterday but were beaten back by government forces, said the radio, adding that forces loyal to Luanda still controlled the town. About 83 soldiers belonging to Jonas Savimbi's Unita had been killed in two days of fighting, the radio said.

On Monday, Unita stepped up its shelling of the town, and the reports described how a pall of dust caused by exploding bombs

had hung over the town, making it impossible for the army and officials to rescue the wounded and collect the dead.

Kuito has not received provisions since rebels surrounded it in January.

In June, the government suspended aid activities throughout the country after Unita refused to guarantee the safety of United Nations planes.

A date for their resumption has still to be fixed.

UN special representative Blondi Beye said yesterday he was convinced that relief flights could begin to all Angola's war-torn regions, following talks with Angola's Social Assistance Minister Norberto Dos Santos.

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Unita attacks in Cuito

LUANDA. — Armed Unita rebels attacked the local government headquarters in Cuito yesterday, the official local radio said, the day after Unita intensified shelling of the town.

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UN arms embargo threat faces Unita

8/Day 15/7/93

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NEW YORK — The UN Security Council will threaten Unita with a worldwide arms embargo unless it honours peace accords by September 15, according to a draft resolution being considered yesterday.

The resolution, expected to be adopted later in the week, renews the mandate for the small UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem) until September 15.

The draft calls on Unita and the Angolan government to restart, as soon as possible, talks on establishing a ceasefire and implementing peace pacts.

Unita took up arms after it lost elections last October, contending they were fraudulent. It controls most of the countryside.

In an apparent effort to pressure Unita, the draft says the Security Council would be ready to impose sanctions "on the sale or supply to Unita of arms and related materiel and other military assistance to prevent Unita from pursuing its military actions".

The move towards sanctions would be dropped if Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali reported by September 15 that an effective ceasefire was in force and that agreement had been reached on "full implementation" of peace accords signed

in Lisbon in May 1991.

It was not certain what impact an arms embargo would have. Some weapons are delivered by mercenaries involved in the civil war. Angola is also rich in diamonds, other minerals and oil.

Unita was once supported by successive conservative US administrations and SA, while Russia and Cuba helped the leftist government.

The Clinton administration recently recognised the Luanda government.

Unavem has been reduced to 45 civilian staff members, 50 military observers, 18 police observers and 11 military paramedics spread across five locations.

In a report to the Security Council, Boutros-Ghali said humanitarian assistance was needed and urged Unita to allow access to several besieged cities.

Unita said on Tuesday it had signed an accord with UN officials for aid to be delivered to Huambo, Bie province, the central towns of Luena and Jamba and the southeastern town of Mavinga.

An emergency UN aid programme began on June 21 but Unita denied access to the cities of Cuito, Menongue and Malange. The government then suspended aid flights until secure conditions were established. — Sapa-Reuter.

'200 Unita troops killed in Cuito battle'

81 Nov 16-1983
LUANDA — Government troops killed 200 Unita soldiers in the current battle for the central town of Cuito, the Angolan general staff said.

The troops destroyed four tanks belonging to the Unita rebel movement, the general staff said in a statement issued on Wednesday.

(5)
Nine government soldiers were killed in the battle, but the town was still under Luanda's control, the statement added.

The World Food Programme said in Harare yesterday it had resumed humanitarian flights in Angola.

Food and other aid was delivered to the eastern town of Luena and Mbanza Congo in the north, as well as to the central Huambo city after an 11-week suspension following attacks on relief aircraft.

A World Food Programme spokesman said the organisation was also going to undertake assessment missions to Mavinga in the southeast and besieged Cuito in central Bie province.

The month-long relief airlift plan will include about 15 destinations. An estimated 1.9-million people require food aid in Angola. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita rebels fire on relief plane

CP 16/7/93

(5)

LISBON — A UN plane carrying emergency food supplies to civilians trapped behind battle lines in northern Angola was shot at yesterday, causing airlifts to be suspended on the first day they were resumed.

The plane, operated by the UN-sponsored World Food Program, was came under automatic rifle fire as it tried to land in the Unita held city of M'Banza Kongo, 300km north of Luanda, WFP spokeswoman Mercedes Sayer said.

Flights to three other cities — Kuito, Luena and Mavinga — had landed without incident, but further flights would be grounded until the WFP could determine the cause of the attack.

The attack came hours after relief workers, trying to prevent a tragedy in Angola on the scale of Somalia, resumed emergency food airlifts following safety guarantees from Unita leaders.

Unita forces in the city were believed to have been responsible for the attack. WFP flights had been grounded since April, after Unita shot down a relief plane. The WFP estimates that up to two million Angolans are threatened by starvation. Aid officials say Angolans are facing the same food crisis in both government and rebel-held cities.

Meanwhile, government troops claim to have killed 200 Unita rebels in the latest battle for government-held Kuito. — Sapa-AFP

UN sanctions threat to Angolan rebels

The Argus Foreign Service ARG 16/1/93
NEW YORK. — The United Nations Security Council has threatened sweeping sanctions, including an arms embargo, against Angola's Unita rebels.

The unanimous resolution also condemned Unita's attempts to grab more territory and demanded it withdraw its troops to UN-monitored areas pending full implementation of the peace accord with the Luanda government.

About 400,000 Angolans are said to have died in the civil war.

Proposal that Angola become a federal state

LUANDA. — Organisers of a conference on Angola's future proposed yesterday the country should become a federal state.

Forum spokesman Mr Nzuzi Domingos said a federal system would give governing autonomy to each component state and a well-defined political status. The conference will be held next month.

The World Food Programme's (WFP) aid flights here will remain grounded for at least two days after one of its planes was attacked on Thursday, a spokesman said.

Meanwhile, the UN warned it may impose an arms embargo on Unita if it does not observe a ceasefire by September 15. — Sapa-AP

Namibia calls for UN help in Angola

THE UN should establish a presence in Angola, said Namibian Foreign Affairs Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab at a meeting with Security Council members this week.

He also called for the international community to start thinking about the war-battered country's reconstruction.

He said Angola had suffered massive destruction of cities, its economic infrastructure, mines, public utilities, hospitals and schools. And reconstruction would go a long way to convince the warring parties that there was a better future in peace.

Mr Gurirab added that the Security Council should also take strong and effective measures to deny Unita arms.

He said the international community should realise that the Unita leadership was prepared to sit the UN out, adding that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi had distinguished himself as the only obstacle to peace. —

Sapa-Reuter

VIVA MOMD



By LEN KALANE

IMAGINE him, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, dressed in full police uniform with handcuffs, knobkierrie and even a whistle!

Imagine too, Mandela the gardener, shortly before the Rivonia trial when police were searching high and low for him. The gardener in disguise, working on the lawns of the Riviera home of Cecil Eprile, then editor of *Drum*, later thought to be a CIA agent (he wasn't).

Picture him too, Mandela, the chauffeur in disguise, Mandela, the black pimperl. And lest we forget, Mandela, the up and coming boxer in amateur ranks, keeping trim and fit at a Fordsburg gymnasium.

None of this is fiction. It really happened.

Indeed, Mandela was once a cop - a mine policeman.

This, according to Mary Benson's book *The Far Cry*, was after the 22-year-old Mandela had run away from the Transkei to escape an arranged marriage. According to Benson the only job the young aristocrat and university student could get in Johannesburg was as a mine policeman.

"I sat at the compound gate," says Mandela in the book (with a hearty laugh) "and watched people come and go. I wore a uniform and carried a knobkierrie and whistle!"

In the Transkei he had been brought up as a son of a chief in the royal kraal of the Tembu people. At night around the fire the young Mandela would listen fascinated to tales told by tribal elders of the days when the land was theirs, long before the wars against invading Europeans.

Walter Sisulu rescued him from the humiliating job at the mine and "pushed" him into studying law. In 1944 he and Oliver Tambo were encouraged by Sisulu to join the ANC. With other young nationalists they formed a militant Youth League. The Defiance Campaign, repeated bannings, imprisonment and the Treason trial all followed.

By then a completely different Mandela had been moulded. He was Number One on the Special Branch's wanted list, and had managed to elude the police for more than a year. Mandela the gardener, the chauffeur, the black pimperl!

Take Mandela's account of his narrow escape while underground and on the run as described in Benson's biography: "I was waiting on a corner in town,

75 years on
and Mandela
is still
champion of
the world

wearing that chauffeur's outfit when the car due to pick me up failed to arrive.

"Then coming towards me I saw one of the Special Branch - an African member I knew by sight. He looked straight at me. I thought, well, it's all up! But he went on by. And as he did so, he winked and gave the ANC salute!"

The incident - which he regarded as an example of the hidden support the ANC had, even among the police - made Mandela roar with laughter.

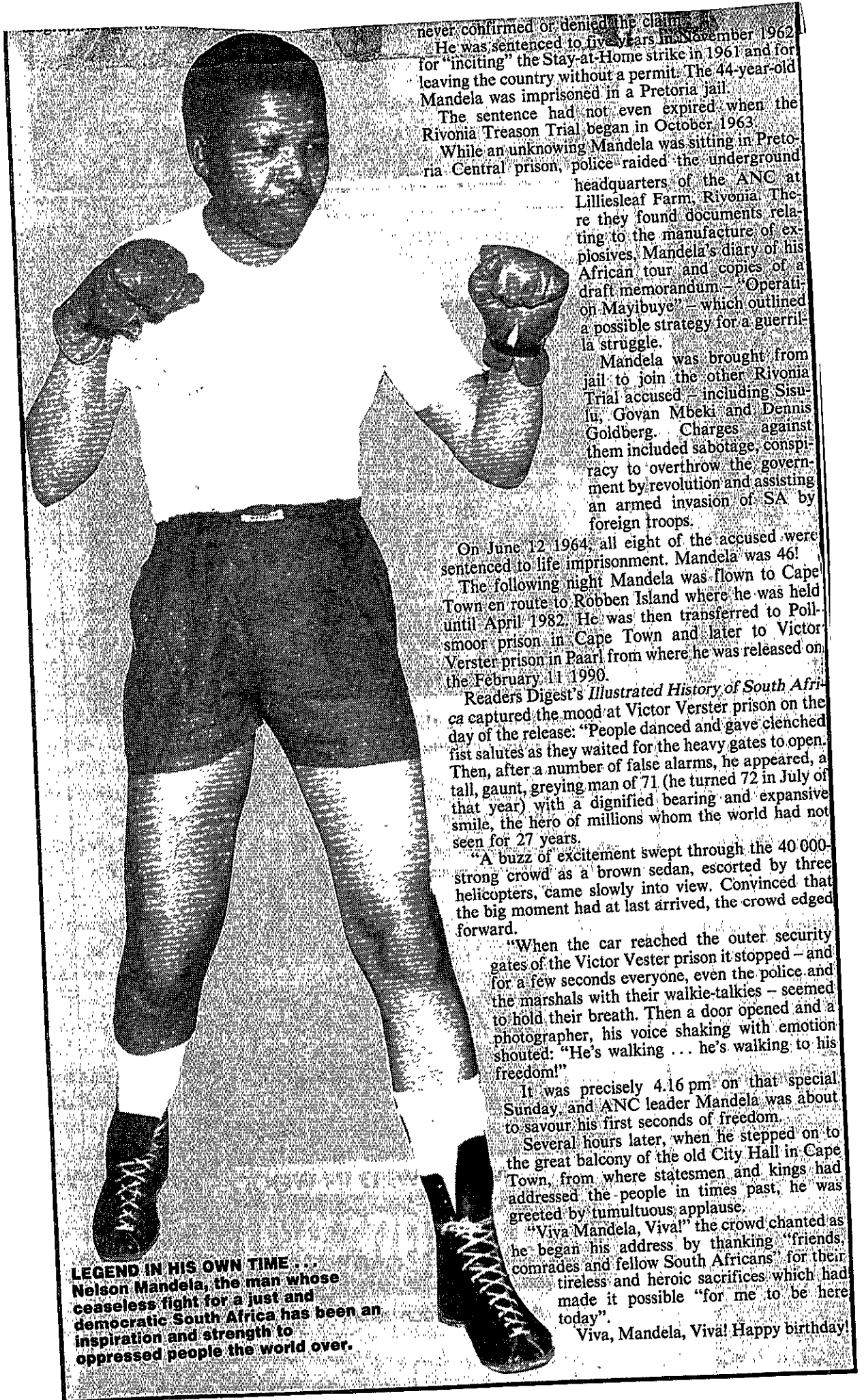
A few weeks later, on December 16, the launch of Umkhonto weSizwe saw acts of sabotage undertaken in Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Durban.

After this Mandela slipped out of the country to tour the world organising for the ANC and mobilising for Umkhonto. From then on Mandela was to remain an heroic symbol of black resistance.

A few days after his secret return to SA in August 1962 the net finally closed in on the black pimperl when he was captured in Howick, Natal. In 1986 a retired American CIA operative - who had been stationed in Durban under diplomatic cover at the time - disclosed that he had given the police the tip-off which led to Mandela's capture. The CIA has

CIPress 18/1/93

11



never confirmed or denied the claim.
He was sentenced to five years in November 1962 for "inciting" the Stay-at-Home strike in 1961 and for leaving the country without a permit. The 44-year-old Mandela was imprisoned in a Pretoria jail.

The sentence had not even expired when the Rivonia Treason Trial began in October 1963.

While an unknowing Mandela was sitting in Pretoria Central prison, police raided the underground headquarters of the ANC at Lilliesleaf Farm, Rivonia. There they found documents relating to the manufacture of explosives, Mandela's diary of his African tour and copies of a draft memorandum - "Operation Mayibuye" - which outlined a possible strategy for a guerrilla struggle.

Mandela was brought from jail to join the other Rivonia Trial accused - including Sisulu, Govan Mbeki and Dennis Goldberg. Charges against them included sabotage, conspiracy to overthrow the government by revolution and assisting an armed invasion of SA by foreign troops.

On June 12 1964, all eight of the accused were sentenced to life imprisonment. Mandela was 46!

The following night Mandela was flown to Cape Town en route to Robben Island where he was held until April 1982. He was then transferred to Pollsmoor prison in Cape Town and later to Victor Verster prison in Paarl from where he was released on the February 11 1990.

Readers Digest's *Illustrated History of South Africa* captured the mood at Victor Verster prison on the day of the release: "People danced and gave clenched fist salutes as they waited for the heavy gates to open. Then, after a number of false alarms, he appeared, a tall, gaunt, greying man of 71 (he turned 72 in July of that year) with a dignified bearing and expansive smile, the hero of millions whom the world had not seen for 27 years.

"A buzz of excitement swept through the 40 000-strong crowd as a brown sedan, escorted by three helicopters, came slowly into view. Convinced that the big moment had at last arrived, the crowd edged forward.

"When the car reached the outer security gates of the Victor Vester prison it stopped - and for a few seconds everyone, even the police and the marshals with their walkie-talkies - seemed to hold their breath. Then a door opened and a photographer, his voice shaking with emotion shouted: "He's walking ... he's walking to his freedom!"

It was precisely 4.16 pm on that special Sunday, and ANC leader Mandela was about to savour his first seconds of freedom.

Several hours later, when he stepped on to the great balcony of the old City Hall in Cape Town, from where statesmen and kings had addressed the people in times past, he was greeted by tumultuous applause.

"Viva Mandela, Viva!" the crowd chanted as he began his address by thanking "friends, comrades and fellow South Africans" for their tireless and heroic sacrifices which had made it possible "for me to be here today".

Viva, Mandela, Viva! Happy birthday!

LEGEND IN HIS OWN TIME ...
Nelson Mandela, the man whose ceaseless fight for a just and democratic South Africa has been an inspiration and strength to oppressed people the world over.

Star 197/92

Unita troops battle to control city

LISBON — Unita rebel troops laying siege to Kuito in central Angola broke through government defences yesterday and were advancing in street-by-street battles against government soldiers and armed civilians, news reports said.

Control of Kuito would give Unita — National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — control of the military airfield used to supply government troops in central Angola.

It would also consolidate Unita's hold on the area around Huambo which is now Unita military headquarters.

United Nations officials estimate that more than 100 000 Angolans have been killed in the past eight months, and warn that as many as two million civilians could be in danger of starvation. — Sapa-AP.

Unita troops advance into streets of Cuito

LISBON. — Unita troops besieging the central Angolan city of Cuito broke through government defences yesterday and were advancing in street-by-street battles against government soldiers and armed civilians, news reports said.

Unita troops had occupied positions in the centre of Cuito, capital of Bie province, 670km south-east of Luanda, and were battling toward the airport and the military base, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported. — Sapa-AP

Unita moves into key town

LISBON — Unita rebel troops laying siege to a central Angolan city broke through government defences at the weekend and were advancing in street-by-street battles against government soldiers and armed civilians. **SAPA**

Unita troops had occupied positions in the centre of Cuito, capital of Bie province 670km southeast of Luanda, and were heading towards the airport and the military base, news agency Lusa reported. **20/1/83**

Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebel army, which seized control of some 80% of Angola after civil war resumed in October, has been laying siege to Cuito since January. **(5)**

Civilians in Cuito had been issued guns and were backing troops in fighting that was "hand-to-hand, street-by-street," Lusa reported. — Sapa-AFP.

Angola town littered with rotting bodies

LUANDA — Hundreds of decomposing bodies yesterday lay in the streets of Kuito, a central Angolan town that has been the site of fierce clashes between government troops and Unita rebels, a military spokesman said.

The spokesman, who was quoted by the government-controlled radio station in Luanda, said government troops still controlled the town which has been under siege by Unita since January.

The radio said fresh fighting had also erupted in the south-central town of Menongue after a brief lull over the weekend.

It added, citing government sources, that Unita rebels had been seen gathering near the town for a possible offensive.

Both Kuito and Menongue are said to be in dire need of humanitarian aid.

Aid missions to "dangerous areas" in Angola were suspended after a World Food Pro-

gram plane was hit during fighting on Thursday in Mbanza-Kongo, northern Angola, a region under Unita control.

The United Nations special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondi Beye, has said the flights would not resume before Unita explains the incident. The explanation was expected to be forthcoming by today.

Despite the suspension, more than 100 000 people in the "less dangerous" areas of the country have received food since Thursday, UN spokesman Joao de Albuquerque said yesterday.

Meanwhile, the government announced in a communique yesterday that fighting had ceased in the town of Gabela in Kwanza-Sul province south of Luanda.

Last Thursday the government announced that it had defeated Unita rebels in Gabela and neighbouring Waku-Kungo.

Yesterday's communique said that the rebels had been expelled from both towns. — Sapa-AFP.

Hundreds of bodies in streets of Cuito

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Hundreds are killed in new Angola fighting

ARG 21/7/93

LISBON. — Angolan government troops are struggling to hold a central Angolan city against an onslaught by Unita rebel forces that has killed hundreds in four days of street battles.

Troops loyal to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi advanced on Kuito, 670km southeast of Luanda, and occupied all but the airport and military barracks, Angolan National Radio said.

Civilians were trapped in the crossfire, and the streets of the city were strewn with hundreds of corpses, the Kuito police commander said.

Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura appealed urgently to Washington for military assistance.

Mr De Moura yesterday had talks in Washington with US Assistant Secretary of State for African Af-

□ MPLA faces fresh Unita onslaught

fairs George Moose to request financial assistance and weapons.

Despite recently reversing years of Cold War policy and granting diplomatic recognition to the formerly-Marxist Angolan government, the US has until now refused to provide direct military assistance.

Unita has driven government troops from more than 80 percent of Angola, including economically-crucial oil and diamond regions.

Dr Savimbi's troops were also reported to be moving west toward Benguela, a city 420km south of Luanda on the Atlantic coast. The coastal strip is one of the few regions still under government control.

Civil war first erupted 18 years

ago, when three liberation groups fought for control after Portugal granted Angola independence in 1975.

Peace accords signed in 1991 halted the fighting between the surviving groups, Unita and the ruling MPLA, but war broke out again 18 months later when Unita refused to accept defeat in multiparty elections.

UN officials estimate that 100 000 people have been killed in fighting since October, and two million more are in danger of starvation.

The Angolan parliament began debating yesterday whether to push for face-to-face talks between Dr Savimbi and Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos as a last ditch effort to negotiate a settlement. — Sapa-AP.

Civilians starve as war intensifies in Angola

SAO TOME. — Fighting has intensified in and around the cities of Menongué and Cuito in southern Angola, where citizens are starving, Angolan state radio reported yesterday.

It said more than 1 000 people had been killed by a Unita assault, including civilians caught by stray bullets while on the streets looking for food. Cats, dogs and rats were being eaten, it said.

Unita had stepped up shelling of Menongue and hand-to-hand fighting was taking place in Cuito, which was also being pounded by long-range artillery, the radio reported. — Sapa-Reuter

HE was once one of the stormy petrels of the political scene — a man with the dubious record of having been the country's most-frequently detained activist.

Today, Mr Mukhuseli Jack, most recently deputy chairman of the African National Congress in London, looks younger than his 36 years and more relaxed than when he left the country for a 2½-year stint at Sussex University.

Is this owing to lack of political tension? "Ah yes, the English lead a good life," he banters.

The good life, however, has not stopped him feeling homesick, judging by the patriotic lecture he delivered to a sceptical London taxi driver earlier. The driver just could not believe that any black man would voluntarily return to "that hell hole".

At a time when the election countdown death toll is approaching 200, Mr Jack is decidedly optimistic and very chuffed with his academic results. He came high in the top half of his class.

"Not bad for the barefoot boy from Humansdorp in the Eastern Cape," he chuckles.

Coming from a family of eight children, he began school only at 10 and got his first pair of shoes at the age of 17.

Mr Jack holds the unfortunate record for being the most frequently detained activist in South Africa — with 12 spells behind bars totalling six years — without ever being charged.

But, he bears no grudge. "I have seen the security police who tortured me in detention — but it is now time for reconciliation," he says.

Mr Jack first became politically active during the 1976 uprisings and moved quickly through the United Democratic Front ranks to become president of the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress (Peyco), a position he held for seven years. He also served on the United Democratic Front regional and national executives.

Asked about his political role on his return to South Africa, he says: "I won't return to the youth movement. I want to pass on the opportunities I had to younger people in Peyco. I want to get involved in the business sector."

Mr Jack plans to study toward his MBA at the University of Cape Town, next year.

In Britain, as ANC deputy chairman, Mr Jack has been an exceptional performer. A popular speaker at meetings throughout England, he has played a key role in the ANC campaign to raise R210 million to contest the elections. Within the ANC, Mr Jack plans to push the notion that foreign investment is the key to the country's future economic well-being.

"Potential investors are being invited to invest as soon as a transitional executive has been installed and parliament has legislated against the old apartheid system. We have to be sure the process of democracy is not reversible."

He is quick to dismiss the "doom and gloom-mongers" and says that once elections have taken place, investors will flock to South Africa as they did in Mexico.

He recognises that mass expectations of what can be delivered are too high and that unions, politicians and business need to work in partnership.

He also agrees that the problem of crime and political violence will have to be solved, or at least improved, before there is much hope of an economic turn-around. But, as with most things, he is optimistic.

"Political violence will abate with elections. My view is that most South Africans respect public opinion. The disillusioned groups on the left and right will lose popu-

A firebrand comes home a moderate

■ One-time, firebrand Eastern Cape youth leader Mr Mukhuseli Jack is back in South Africa with a message of moderation and an honours degree in economics in his suitcase, reports Weekend Argus correspondent **PAT DEVEREAUX**.

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□ **ACADEMIC:** Economics honours for Mr Mukhuseli Jack on graduation day, right... now he plans an MBA at UCT.

□ □ □

□ **AT HOME:** Mr Mukhuseli Jack and his wife, Karen, relax at home, below.



negotiations. The sooner the structures are normalised the sooner those with political ambitions can pursue them."

He acknowledges the ANC is having problems campaigning and trying to reach a settlement at the same time.

He says: "From 1990, time was wasted and now we have to devote our efforts to election campaigning as well."

"But, I have no doubt the ANC will sweep the boards in the elections. The people of South Africa will recognise the need to reward the ANC for its role in liberating them and forcing the government to negotiate."

He predicts the ANC will get at least 60 to 67 percent of the vote.

Asked whether his sojourn in Britain has changed his views at all, Mr Jack says: "Studying there gave me a window to the world. There are many things I admire about Britain. I have always believed law and order is fundamental to the stability of the country and I long for the day when our citizens can walk the streets at any time of the day or night without fear."

"When I travelled around Britain and Europe I saw what I had suffered for and that objectives like health, welfare, education and housing for all could be obtained."

He also expresses admiration for many other aspects of British society: Its tolerance, politeness, "and the fact that nobody steals your milk from the doorstep"

As a British Council scholar, Mr Jack admits that going back to study has been difficult. "It was a great shock going back to school as I had been toy-toying more than studying and I'd had a very haphazard Bantu education."

"I also had to get vac jobs to survive. During one holiday, I was a chamber maid at a Brighton resort — it was a bit of a dive," he laughs.

"I was advised by the British Council to take a year's bridging course because I would be up against people who'd completed A-levels in economics, but I decided not to and am very pleased with the way things have worked out."

His results surprised his sponsors — in particular, his top grades for his dissertation on unemployment.

"I chose to study economics because I heard many complain about whites monopolising the economy."

"That's why I decided to move into this sphere about which I knew nothing. It was a huge risk and, at one stage, I even felt like dropping out, but I knew I could never face those back home if I did."

Mr Jack's wife, Karen, is six months pregnant with their first child.

larity."

He says the most problematic violence is that related to unemployment. "But, the ANC will try to alleviate this through business incentives for labour-intensive programmes.

Drastic measures also need to be taken to improve social welfare," he says.

He believes the ANC can control the youth: "We have their support, but they are obviously restless with the footdragging in

Cuito strewn with rotting corpses

SI Times
25/7/83

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Graph

LUANDA: Corpses rotted in the besieged central Angolan town of Cuito this week as it came under heavy shelling following renewed clashes between government forces and Unita rebels, the town's radio station reported.

The town, besieged by Unita rebels since January and the focus of incursions for the past two weeks, is now littered with hundreds of corpses of civilians and soldiers at the mercy of marauding dogs, the radio reported.

Survivors issued an appeal on Friday to the international community for emergency aid, and Angolan officials of the Red Cross pleaded for medicines to treat the wounded, adding that refusal to treat them would be "criminal".

Meanwhile, Angola's deputy foreign minister, Georges Chicoti, has called on the international community to mobilise against Unita to force it to reach a peace agreement.

He also called on the United States, France and "other key countries" to give material, military and humanitarian aid to help the authorities in Luanda defend themselves against Unita attacks.

He said Angola had not been informed officially of a mediation attempt by the Ivory Coast, Morocco and the ANC to organise a summit between Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

He said he welcomed any initiatives aimed at getting peace negotiations going, as long as they did not "sell off cheap" the outcome of last year's elections.

Angola plunged back into civil war last September after Unita rejected the results of the elections.

— Sapa-AFP

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larity."

He says the most problematic violence is that related to unemployment. "But, the ANC will try to alleviate this through business incentives for labour-intensive programmes.

Drastic measures also need to be taken to improve social welfare," he says.

He believes the ANC can control the youth: "We have their support, but they are obviously restless with the footdragging in

negotiations. The sooner the structures are normalised the sooner those with political ambitions can pursue them."

He acknowledges the ANC is having problems campaigning and trying to reach a settlement at the same time.

He says: "From 1990, time was wasted and now we have to devote our efforts to election campaigning as well.

"But, I have no doubt the ANC will sweep the boards in the elections. The people of South Africa will recognise the need to reward the ANC for its role in liberating them and forcing the government to negotiate."

He predicts the ANC will get at least 60 to 67 percent of the vote.

Asked whether his sojourn in Britain has changed his views at all, Mr Jack says: "Studying there gave me a window to the world. There are many things I admire about Britain. I have always believed law and order is fundamental to the stability of the country and I long for the day when our citizens can walk the streets at any time of the day or night without fear.

"When I travelled around Britain and Europe I saw what I had suffered for and that objectives like health, welfare, education — housing for all could be obtained."

He also expresses admiration for many other aspects of British society: Its tolerance, politeness, "and the fact that nobody steals your milk from the doorstep".

As a British Council scholar, Mr Jack admits that going back to study has been difficult. "It was a great shock going back to school as I had been toying more than studying and I'd had a very haphazard British education.

"I also had to get vac jobs to survive. During one holiday, I was a chamber maid at a Brighton resort — it was a bit of a dive," he laughs.

"I was advised by the British Council to take a year's bridging course because I would be up against people who'd completed A-levels in economics, but I decided not to and am very pleased with the way things have worked out."

His results surprised his sponsors — in particular, his top grades for his dissertation on unemployment.

"I chose to study economics because I heard many complain about whites monopolising the economy.

"That's why I decided to move into the sphere about which I knew nothing. It was a huge risk and, at one stage, I even felt like dropping out, but I knew I could never face those back home if I did."

Mr Jack's wife, Karen, is six months pregnant with their first child.

11
ARG 24/1/93

Unita ~~Star~~ 26/1/98 steps up pressure on Cuito

LUANDA — Unita rebels attacked the central Angolan city of Cuito on three fronts yesterday, the government radio reported, with the situation of defending government troops deteriorating.

The situation "could become complicated within the next few days", according to the radio report. ⑤

Independent sources in Luanda said that about 10 000 people had died in Cuito from the fighting, which broke out in January, as well as from hunger and a shortage of medical treatment and facilities.

Meanwhile, on the northern front, government forces have taken up positions within the Cabinda Gulf Oil Company compound following intelligence reports that Unita rebels were preparing an attack on the oil-rich Cabinda enclave, officials said here.

Angolan Army spokesman Lieutenant-General Hilario Nguma Capita said on Saturday that Unita forces and "mercenaries" were massing in south-west Zaire.

He said this pointed to the relaunching of their offensive on the Cabinda enclave, where a subsidiary of the US oil firm Chevron has extensive oil exploitation rights.

Capita accused the Zairean government of supporting Unita forces, whose guerillas hold at least 60 percent of the Cabinda enclave. — Sapa-AFP.

'Unita aiming for Cabinda'

LISBON. — Hundreds of Unita rebels are preparing to attack the oil-rich Angolan enclave of Cabinda, Portuguese radio station TSF reported yesterday.

Scr 2/11/93
"According to military sources, hundreds of Unita troops are concentrating in Zairean territory, ready to invade," TSF's correspondent in Angola said.

The Unita rebels were equipped with heavy artillery, he said.

'Napalm bombs' turn Cuito into inferno

SAO TOME. — Unita yesterday accused the Angola government of bombing the city of Cuito with napalm, turning it into a raging inferno.

The government has only said it repelled a rebel attempt to overrun the city of 250 000 people, which has been under siege since January.

Angolan state radio said government forces had repelled Unita's latest attempt to occupy Cuito.

But in Lisbon, Portuguese state television quoted a military source as saying that Unita was on the verge of complete victory in Cuito. — Sapa-Reuter

Outside pressures are nudging Angola closer to all-out civil war, says Gerald L'Ange

Too much stick and no carrot

FINDING a way to end the fighting in Angola was a heartbreaking task that was too much for Margaret Anstee of Britain. She gave up, weary and disillusioned, and earlier this month handed over the job of United Nations special representative to Alloune Blondin Beye of Mali.

There is nothing to encourage hopes that Beye will be any more successful. Rather than finding peace, Angola seems destined to return to all-out civil war as soon as the MPLA government has completed a current crash-programme to strengthen its army.

Beye's first move was constructive enough: he went to Unita's headquarters in Huambo to talk to the movement's leader, Jonas Savimbi, in an effort to persuade him to make peace with the MPLA government.

But he seems to have had nothing to offer Savimbi that would convince him to stop fighting.

Here lies the core of the tragedy that has gripped Angola since the collapse of the peace process last September. Neither the UN nor any other potential mediator seems to have understood that Savimbi is continuing to wage war

in Angola essentially because nobody has come up with a good reason for him to do otherwise.

Largely because of Anstee's ruling that the election lost by Unita last September was generally free and fair, Unita has come to be regarded internationally as the villain of the piece and to be blamed for the continuing violence.

The approach of the international community has therefore become one of all stick and no carrot and this was exemplified in the resolution adopted by the UN Security Council last week for a mandatory international arms embargo against Unita, unless it implements a ceasefire by September 15.

But Unita is likely to pay as little attention to that as it did to the Clinton administration's decision to recognise the MPLA government in Luanda, reversing Washington's long-time support for Savimbi.

Rather than bringing Unita to heel, coercive measures like these are more likely to stiffen Unita's resistance at a time when it is in a stronger position militarily than ever before, and controls more of Angola than it did before the abortive September election.

Diplomatically, Unita finds itself more isolated than ever. The UN, the Organisation of African Unity, the Frontline states, the Western powers and Russia have all demanded that Savimbi accept his defeat at the polls, recognise the legitimacy of the MPLA government and work with it.

Savimbi has said that Unita is in fact ready to do all these things, even though it still thinks the election was unfair. But it is not prepared to do them until it gets guarantees that the MPLA will not attempt to wipe out Unita's armed forces and decimate its civilian supporters once Unita has agreed to a new ceasefire and begun surrendering its arms.

Unita says it wants to avoid a repetition of the attacks by the MPLA after the collapse of the election and the pogrom against its supporters, in which thousands were killed.

The two sides came close to agreeing on a new settlement when they met in Abidjan in May under the auspices of the "Troika" of observer nations: the US, Russia and Portugal.

Agreement was reached on all but two items of a 38-point protocol, both concerning Unita's de-

mand for security guarantees.

The failure to close that seemingly narrow gap resulted in an escalation of the fighting, which has been more destructive in some ways than the years of civil war that preceded the peace accords signed in 1991.

Whereas the previous conflict had largely been conducted outside urban areas, the latest fighting has been in and around towns and cities. The result is that civilian casualties and infrastructural damage have been much greater.

Under the so-called Triple-Zero clause of the Bicesse agreements, the Troika is supposed to refrain from providing military hardware to any side in Angola.

At a meeting in Moscow on July 8, the Troika pledged full observance of Triple Zero but at the same time recognised the MPLA government's right to self-defence and "viewed sympathetically its efforts to acquire the means to defend itself."

Unita claims that both Russia and Portugal are supplying arms to the MPLA regardless of Triple Zero. However, a number of other countries, including Israel and Brazil, are able and eager to supply sophisticated armaments to

the MPLA, according to sources.

The MPLA government is reported to be spending furiously from its oil revenue to re-stock its arsenal in preparation for yet another attempt to crush Unita.

By recognising the MPLA government, the Clinton administration has lost the leverage over Unita that the threat of recognition has always provided. It has, however, opened the way for Washington to put pressure on Unita in other ways, such as leaning on those countries, like Zaire and Morocco, which are still sympathetic to Savimbi's movement.

At its Moscow meeting the Troika envisaged other screws to turn on Unita, through the Security Council.

These included, in addition to an arms embargo, the denial of entry visas to Unita representatives seeking to visit countries outside Angola and the expulsion of its representatives in Washington, Lisbon, London and elsewhere.

Thus the international community is moving to solve the Angolan problem by isolating Unita and re-arming the MPLA for renewed military offensives.

This ignores the probability that Unita would be able to return to guerrilla warfare and sustain it for a long time, which in turn makes it highly unlikely that a military solution would be found.

Unita is increasingly being pushed into a position where it has nothing to gain by ending the fighting and nothing to lose by continuing it.

Finding itself increasingly alone in the world, it appears not unexpectedly to have decided that its best course is to strengthen its bargaining power by seizing more territory and by weakening the MPLA through actions such as cutting Luanda's water and electricity supplies.

All of which offers little hope to ordinary Angolans, only the prospect of even more misery.

Finding some way to satisfy Unita's demands for security in a ceasefire and demobilisation would appear to be cheaper than lives and money — than re-arming the MPLA for escalated warfare.

Gerald L'Ange is editor of The Star's Africa News Service.

Govt forces make gains

5002/27 207/92
LUANDA — Angolan

government forces have recaptured the town of Cubal, west of the Unita rebel stronghold of Huambo, the army said.

An army statement said government troops inflicted heavy losses on Unita during the attack on Cubal on Tuesday. News of town's recapture came as Angolan chief-of-staff General Joao de Matos told reporters in the eastern city of Luena that the MPLA government expected to regain the initiative on several fronts in the next few days. 5

Govt troops win back rebel town

⑤ of 30/7/93
LUANDA. — Angolan government forces have recaptured the town of Cubal, west of the Unita rebel stronghold of Huambo, the army said.

An army statement said government troops inflicted heavy losses on Unita during the attack on Tuesday.

News of the town's recapture came as Angolan chief-of-staff General Joao de Matos said the MPLA government expected to regain the initiative on several fronts in the next few days. He gave no details.

Cubal was originally captured by government forces in February, but was retaken by Unita the following month.

Military sources confirmed on Wednesday the situation in the central city of Cuito, which has been under siege by Unita forces for the past six months, remained substantially the same.

There has been no word on the resumption of the UN aid which targets Cuito as a priority area in need of food. The airlift was called off earlier this month following a Unita attack on an aid plane. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan battle

THE Angolan government said yesterday its forces were advancing on the rebel capital Huambo and were holding their ground in two besieged cities. *S Times*

State radio said government forces killed 28 Unita rebels and captured three in a battle on Friday. (5) 11/8/8

3 Angolan towns fall to MPLA

SAO TOME — Angola's rebel movement Unita admitted yesterday it had lost three towns to government forces advancing on its capital, Huambo, in the central highlands. ~~Star~~

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said the army had taken Cubal and Ganda, half-way along a main road to Huambo from the government-held coast.

The radio also admitted that Bocoio had fallen to government troops advancing towards Huambo along another highway. 318 193

The government said last week it had taken Bocoio and Cubal and defeated Unita forces in a battle on the road from Cubal to Ganda. (5)

The government tried unsuccessfully to march on Huambo earlier this year after the city of half a million people fell to rebel forces in March.

Unita said the government's latest advance was of minor significance and pledged to defend Huambo, capital of the large Ovimbundo tribe from which Unita draws most support.

Although government forces are advancing on Huambo from the coast, Unita is tightening its grip on Cuito and Menongue, two besieged provincial capitals in the interior. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita loses ⁵ three towns

SAO TOME. — Unita admitted yesterday it had lost three towns to government forces advancing on its capital Huambo.

Unita radio, monitored in Sao Tome, said government troops had taken Cubal, Ganda and Bocoio.

Meanwhile, Unita is tightening its grip on Cuito and Menongue, two besieged provincial capitals in the interior.

Angolan state radio said heavy fighting continued in the two cities, which have been under siege for seven months.

It said 55 civilians had died in fighting in and around Menongue.

Also in Cuito many civilians died in weekend fighting. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan diamond production slashed

LUANDA — Angola's state diamond company Endiama says Unita's occupation of northeastern diamond areas has cost it 50% of production in the key Lunda Norte province. *Biday*

Company officials quoted by Angop at the weekend said only 20 000 carats were being produced monthly in the province, half the level before Unita took over important mining areas.

The Angolan government has been battling to retake diamond mines captured by Unita since September.

Angola produced alluvial diamonds worth about \$600m last year, many of which were sold illegally in neighbouring Zaire. *(S)*

Diplomats say Unita needs the diamond area to finance its war effort. — Sapa-Reuter. *3/8/93*

61 Day 3/8/93

Unita loses three towns

ANGOLA'S rebel movement Unita yesterday admitted losing three towns to government forces advancing on its capital, Huambo in the central highlands.

Unita radio said the army had taken Cubal and Ganda, halfway along a main road to Huambo, from the government-held coast. The radio said Bocoio had also fallen to government troops advancing towards Huambo along another highway. (5)

NEWS IN BRIEF

^{B/Daw} Ninety die in Unita attacks

LISBON — More than 90 civilians have died since the weekend in Unita attacks on the central Angolan cities of Cuito and Menogue. 4/8/93

National radio reported that government forces still controlled the two besieged cities. More than 60 civilians were killed in Cuito after Unita troops shelled residential areas. Unita had pledged to try to capture the city "as a birthday present to their leader (Jonas Savimbi) tomorrow", the radio said (5)

Angolan planes bomb Unita HQ

(S) APR 5 18 1973

LUANDA. — The Angolan Air Force has destroyed the headquarters of the rebel Unita movement in Huambo, a government spokesman claimed today.

The air force bombed several Unita targets yesterday, including two rebel bases outside the city and its headquarters, the spokesman said.

This followed reports of earlier bombings from Unita and the International Committee of the Red Cross, which said its own mission in Huambo had been destroyed in air

raids, but that its staff had escaped unhurt.

The ICRC said it was "extremely concerned by the indiscriminate attacks."

The government spokesman said today the attacks would continue until Unita called for a ceasefire.

But diplomats here say the government's recent successes on the battlefield have put Unita leader Jonas Savimbi in no mood to return to the negotiating table. — Sapa-
AFP

P16 RACING P18 SPORT P18, 19 and 20

Angolan govt vows to take Unita-held city

CT 6/18/93

LUANDA. — The Angolan government said yesterday it had staged more than 30 air raids on Unita-held Huambo and vowed to keep up the campaign until it took control of the central city.

Armed forces spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel Jota said military positions and columns were destroyed during the raids on Wednesday. "The targets were bombed and destroyed."

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), whose office in Huambo was destroyed by two rockets on Wednesday, called for a halt to air attacks against civilians.

Brigadier Jota said he regretted the

incident, which he said happened accidentally in an attack on the nearby headquarters of Unita's military command.

He said the air campaign to drive Unita rebels out of the city would continue. "The Angolan Armed Forces is carrying out defensive action to consolidate its position."

The rebel movement insists it is still strong, despite the army's recent capture of three towns on roads to Huambo from the coast and Unita's failure to take Bie's capital Cuito and the southern city of Menongue after a seven-month siege. — Sapa-Reuter

Court reinstates expelled teacher



CT 6/18/93

Supreme Court Reporter

A KHAYELITSHA high school teacher, expelled because he allegedly had an affair with a Std 9 pupil, has been reinstated by the Supreme Court pending a review of the decision by the Parent Teacher Student Association to expel him.

Mr Justice D M Williamson made the order after Mr Leslie Collin Julies brought an urgent application against the principal of the Matthew Goniwe High School, the PTSA, the Minister of Education and Training and the director-general of the Department of Education and Training.

In terms of the court order the principal and the PTSA were interdicted and restrained from interfering with Mr Julies pending the outcome of review proceedings.

NEWS

Warplanes blast Huambo base

LUANDA — The Angolan air force had destroyed Unita's headquarters in Huambo, a government spokesman said yesterday.

The government said it had staged more than 30 air raids on Huambo and vowed to keep up the campaign until it took control of the city.

Armed forces spokesman Brig Jose Manuel Jota said military positions and columns were destroyed during the raids on Wednesday. "The targets were bombed and destroyed."

The International Committee of the Red Cross, whose office in Huambo was destroyed by two rockets on Wednesday, called for a halt to air attacks against civilians. Red Cross employees were not hurt in the bombing.

Jota said he regretted the incident, which he said happened accidentally in an attack on the nearby headquarters of Unita's military com-

mand. "This is war. It is next to the Unita chief of staff," Jota said of the Red Cross building.

He said the air campaign to drive Unita out of the city would continue. "The Angolan armed forces are carrying out defensive action to consolidate their position."

Unita radio has reported high material and human losses in the air attacks. (S)

Angop news agency said other raids carried out on Tuesday had destroyed Unita positions in Huambo and nearby Bie province.

Unita insists it is still strong, despite the army's capture of three towns on roads to Huambo from the coast and Unita's failure to take Bie's capital Cuito and the southern city of Menongue after a seven-month siege.

An Angolan diplomat in Pretoria said the US had cut off Unita's vital satellite telephone communications on July 16. This could have

added to Unita disarray, he said.

The Angolan government said 100 people were dying a day in Cuito from the war and lack of food and medicine.

Unita has waged a bush war against the ruling MPLA since independence from Portugal in 1975. The two sides signed a peace accord in 1991 but Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat in UN supervised elections last September.

Meanwhile, UN special envoy Alioune Blondi Beye said he was confident he would be able to relaunch peace negotiations before the mandate for the UN mission expired on September 15. The warring parties could reach a consensus to resume negotiations in the next five weeks, he said.

But diplomats in Luanda are sceptical after the failure of two rounds of peace talks in Addis Ababa and Abidjan. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

UN wary after Angola fiasco

Political Staff

276/8/93

THE UN would not verify the results of South Africa's elections next year unless all security forces were brought under joint control and joint responsibility, the director-general of Angola's electoral commission, Dr Onofre dos Santos, warned yesterday.

The UN would not do this because of the precedent set in Angola, where Unita reverted to war when it lost the elections.

He was speaking at a seminar in Cape Town organised by the Independent Mediation Service of South Africa.

However, he added: "You need some authority that explicitly and implicitly certifies that these elections are free and fair."

Unita in 'mass kidnapping'

LISBON. — Unita rebels have detained a Roman Catholic bishop and at least 30 foreigners and other civilians hiding from government air attacks in central Angola, a news report said. The government called the incident a mass kidnapping.

D Luis Pedro Antonio, bishop of Bie province, and the civilians were hiding in the bishop's residence in Kuito when Unita troops arrived and took them to an undisclosed location, said Portuguese independent radio TSF. — Sapa-AP (S) 20/9/73

Angolan military steps up bombing

LISBON — Angola's military announced at the weekend that it had expanded its bombing campaign against Unita rebels to the war-battered central highlands.

Brig José Manuel Jota told Angola's state news agency, ANGOP, that raids were now being carried out in Huambo province, as well as in Huambo and Cuito, the capitals of two adjacent regions.

Angolan state radio said 50 people had been killed since Friday in fighting around Cuito, where rebels were reportedly advancing into the city centre. Shelling had increased and hand-to-hand combat had been reported in parts of the city.

Portuguese media reported that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi was preparing to broadcast a message over the rebels' Voice of the Resistance of the Black Rooster radio. There has been widespread speculation about Savimbi's whereabouts since government planes bombed Huambo, Unita's central base, last week.

The air raids have been a key element in the government's long-awaited counter-offensive against the rebels, who hold about 80% of Angola. Government ground forces have mainly lost to Savimbi's better-trained and better-armed troops.

But Jota claimed his men were consolidating their positions in the Benguela province — the coastal bridgehead for attacks on Huambo and hotly contested Cuito, Angop said.

Angolan television said three Unita officers and three government soldiers died in fighting near Menongue, about 820km south-east of Luanda. It appeared

Unita intended to step up its operations in this region, particularly to the north and southeast of the town.

In an interview with Lisbon daily Publico, Gen. Higinio Carneiro, another top government military official, said the offensive was "temporary and designed to bring Unita back to dialogue". (5)

But he acknowledged there was split within the government military between moderates who wanted resumed peace negotiations and those who were pushing for a military solution. — Sapa-AP.

Angola: UK lifts embargo on arms

⑤ CT10/8/93

LONDON. — Britain announced yesterday it was lifting its arms embargo on Angola, citing the Luanda government's right of self-defence against Unita rebels.

Meanwhile Unita guerillas abducted the Catholic bishop of Cuito, Bishop Dom Pedro Luis Antonio, on Sunday, diplomats said yesterday.

The Foreign Office cited the assessment of the United Nation's so-called Angola troika overseeing peace accords — the United States, Russia and Portugal — which said that the Luanda government had a "legitimate right of self-defence" in its struggle with Unita.

Fighting raged yesterday in the besieged Angolan government stronghold of Cuito and state radio said 150 people died during the day.

"The city is under intense fire. There are many corpses in the streets," said the radio.

It said residents were trapped in homes without food and many dead probably remained uncounted.

The commander of government forces in Cuito, General Alfredo Kussuma, told the radio Unita would only take the city of 250 000 people over his dead body.

He said he had no news of Bishop Antonio and 30 missionaries who are reported to have been captured by Unita rebels.

"We are not surprised this has happened. Unita has been able to mount guerilla operations in Cuito several times in the past few months," said one source.

The official Angolan news agency Angop said at the weekend that Unita had in recent days kidnapped several churchmen, including Brazilian and Italian priests, in Cuito. — Sapa-Reuter

UK lifts Angola arms embargo

LONDON — Britain yesterday announced it was lifting its arms embargo on Angola, citing the Luanda government's right of self-defence against Unita.

The Foreign Office cited the assessment of the UN's so-called Angola troika overseeing peace accords — the US, Russia and Portugal — which said the Luanda government had a "legitimate right of self-defence" in its struggle with Unita.

It also noted that the UN Security Council had held Unita responsible for the resumption of civil war in Angola.

Meanwhile, fighting raged yesterday in the besieged Angolan government stronghold of Cuito and state radio said 150 people died during the day.

It said residents were trapped in homes without food and many dead probably remained uncounted.

The commander of government forces in Cuito, Alfredo Kussuma, told the radio he had no news of the city's Roman Catholic bishop Pedro Luis Antonio and 30 missionaries who were reported to have been captured by Unita.

Unita radio gave no fresh news from Cuito but said government planes had dropped six large bombs and fired hundreds of rockets on Huambo, a city of 500 000 people, on Sunday, and Huambo's main hospital had treated 560 bomb victims, mostly children, in the past week.

Hospital director Nataniel Chimuku said most suffered burns and shrapnel wounds and many required amputation, the radio said. It gave no figure for deaths caused by the air raids.

Government soldiers have been pressing towards Huambo on two roads from the coast.

Unita radio said its troops killed 26 government soldiers at Gabela in western Kwanza South province at the weekend and dozens more in the nearby town of Waku Kungo.

Large quantities of weapons were captured in these and other clashes in Kwanza South, it added. The area is just north of the region through which government forces are trying to reach Huambo. — Sapa-AFP-Reuters.

Star 10/18/93

CUITO UNDER FIRE: Fighting raged around the besieged Angolan government stronghold of Cuito last night and reports said 200 civilians had been killed in three days of heavy shelling. Another 200 civilians had been wounded "with little chance of survival". In London, the Foreign Office has announced it is to lift Britain's arms embargo on Angola, citing Luanda's right of self-defence.

RLD

Unita tightens hold on Cuito with new push

B/D Day 11/8/93

SAO TOME — Angola's resurgent civil war has intensified with a new push by Unita against the besieged city of Cuito and government attempts to pound into submission Unita guerrillas in their Huambo stronghold.

The government said 14 000 people had been killed in the seven-month-long Unita onslaught against Cuito. If confirmed, the death toll would make the battle for the city the most deadly of the civil war.

Unita said yesterday it had seized part of Cuito, where the government said rebel shells had killed more than 200 civilians in the past few days.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said Unita had smashed a government battalion as it forced its way

into the city on the eastern fringe of the central highlands.

Angolan television, saying Unita had embarked on an "extraordinary offensive" against Cuito, accused the rebels of shelling areas with the highest concentration of civilians.

While Unita tightened its stranglehold on Cuito, rebel radio said government air raids on the nearby Unita capital Huambo had killed more than 200 civilians in the past week.

The number of dead in Huambo, 100km west of Cuito, was rising rapidly owing to lack of medicines, blood and clean water to treat the wounded, it said.

(5)
Unita took Huambo, Angola's second city, with a population of 500 000, in March after a siege in which an estimated 12 000 people

were killed.

Diplomats in Luanda said about 2 500 government soldiers and paramilitary police were defending Cuito against a much larger, well-armed Unita force.

State radio did not mention Cuito in its morning news bulletins yesterday, but said government troops had killed dozens of guerrillas in clashes in Kwanza South province near the coast of central Angola.

Commander of government forces in Cuito Alfredo Kussuma told the radio he had no news of the city's Roman Catholic bishop and 30 missionaries reported to have been captured by Unita soldiers.

Kussuma added that Unita would take the city of 250 000 over his dead body. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita puts pressure on besieged Cuito

SAO TOME. — Angola's resurgent civil war has intensified with a new rebel push against the besieged city of Cuito and government attempts to pound into submission Unita guerillas in their Huambo stronghold.

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Unita said yesterday it had seized part of Cuito, where the government says rebel shelling has killed more than 200 civilians in the past few days.

Rebel radio, monitored here, said Unita forces had smashed a battalion of government soldiers as they forced their way into the city.

Angolan television, saying Unita had embarked on an "extraordinary

offensive" against Cuito, accused the rebels of shelling "those areas with the highest concentration of civilians", wounding at least 200.

While Unita tightened its stranglehold on Cuito, the rebel radio said government air raids on the nearby rebel capital Huambo had killed more than 200 civilians over the past week.

The number of dead in Huambo was rising rapidly owing to lack of medicines, blood and clean water, it said.

Unita took Huambo, with a population of 500 000, in March after a siege in which an estimated 12 000 people were killed.

Diplomats in Luanda say about 2 500 government soldiers and paramilitary police are defending Cuito against a much larger force of well-armed Unita troops. — Sapa-Reuter

'Most deadly' in civil war

Bodies pile up in bloody Cuito battle

Star 11/8/93

5

Luanda — The Unita rebels last night claimed to have seized part of Cuito.

Angolan television, saying Unita had embarked on an "extraordinary offensive" against the town, accused the rebels of shelling "those areas with the highest concentration of civilians", wounding at least 200.

"Given the serious shortage of medicines, such wounds are practically death certificates."

The government says 14 000 people have been killed in the seven-month onslaught against Cuito, a town of 250 000. If confirmed, such a death toll would make the battle for the city the most deadly of the civil war.

State radio said Cuito was under intense fire. "There are many corpses in the streets," it said, adding that many residents were trapped in homes without food and many dead probably remained unaccounted for.

And the number of dead in Huambo, 100 km west of Cuito, was also rising rapidly due to lack of medicines, blood and clean water to treat the wounded, the radio reported.

Unita took Huambo, Angola's second city with a population of 500 000, in March after a siege

UNITA has launched an "extraordinary offensive" for the town and 14 000 lives are thought to have been lost in seven months.

in which an estimated 12 000 people were killed.

Diplomats in Luanda say about 2 500 government soldiers and paramilitary police are defending Cuito against a much larger force of well-armed Unita troops.

State television said government forces were carrying out "mopping-up operations" in Cubal, Benguela province, to eliminate pockets of resistance by Unita soldiers there. It broadcast an appeal to Unita troops to give themselves up.

The commander of government forces in Cuito, Alfredo Kussuma, told the radio he had no news of the city's Roman Catholic Bishop Pedro Luis Antonio and 30 other missionaries who were reported to have been captured by rebels in the past fortnight. — Sapa-Reuter.

based charities said.

statement said

Savimbi call to end fighting dismissed

LUANDA. — The Angolan government said today it could not give any "credibility" to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's reported call for an unconditional ceasefire.

ARG 12/8/93

Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda said on state radio that the government was used to Dr Savimbi's "empty promises".

"Jonas Savimbi must order his troops to cease fighting immedi-

ately and Unita must put an end to its hostile propaganda," said Mr Miranda, responding to reports that Dr Savimbi had called for an unconditional halt in the resurgent civil war.

Mr Miranda said Unita should order its troops to stop fighting and agree to sign the Abidjan protocol, a draft peace pact between the two sides drawn up last May.

Meanwhile the government said it had repelled Unita rebels from central areas of the city of Cuito, where military sources say 14 000 people have been killed in a seven-month siege.

Hundreds of people have been killed since the rebels began a new push against Cuito last week and state radio said that today alone Unita fired 1 500 artillery shells into the city of 250 000 people. — Sapa-Reuter.

MATRIC MATHS TUTORIALS

Concentrated Revision Classes

Revision Maths tutorials for Matriculants will be held on Saturday mornings at UCT (Zoology Building, LT2) starting on Saturday August 14 (09h15 Standard Grade/11h15 Higher Grade) and on Sunday afternoons at Camps Bay High School starting on Sunday August 15 (14h00 Standard Grade/16h00 Higher Grade). The tutorials will be on key areas of the syllabus and are designed to ease the way of the hard-working matric student. There will be separate sessions for Higher Grade and Standard Grade students.

A full programme containing Dates, Times and Topics to be covered is available on request by telephoning 54 5311 (ask for Mr Melzer) or 438 7171 (a/h) or by writing to

OUT OF AFRICA



1 500 Zaireans flee renewed fighting

ARG 12/8/93

KAMPALA. — At least 1 500 Zairean refugees have fled into Uganda after renewed clashes between Zairean government troops and rebels in eastern Zaire, said the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) representative, Ahmed Farah.

The fighting between government troops and Peasants and Workers Movement (MOP) rebels had claimed at least 120 lives on the government side, he said.

Rebel spokesman Muhammed Nassur said yesterday that clashes between the government and the rebels were continuing.

He said many civilians had been killed, but did not give details. Thousands of other Zaireans fleeing the fighting were on their way to Uganda, he added. — Sapa-AFP.

World reviews arms to Angola

Bill Day 12/8/93

MOSCOW — The Russian foreign ministry said yesterday it was negotiating with the Angolan government over a request for military help against Unita rebels.

"At the moment there are talks being held between Russia and Angola, which could be turned into deeds at any time," foreign ministry official Gennady Balba said.

"Up to now, Russia has not been delivering arms to Angola, but the latest Unita actions have forced us to reconsider our position," he added.

Balba said the Angolan government had asked many countries, including Russia, for help against Unita attacks.

Britain said on Monday it was lifting its arms embargo against Angola because of the renewed fighting.

The British government added that international negotiators the US, Russia and Portugal felt the government in Luanda had a right to defend itself against a Unita which had returned to the bush war in rejection of the

government's legitimate win in UN-supervised elections last September.

And France is considering following Britain's lead and lifting its arms embargo against Angola because of renewed fighting there, the foreign ministry said yesterday.

"It is being studied," a ministry spokesman said when asked if Paris would shift its policy to arm the government in Luanda. The ministry said Paris had begun studying the possibility of arming Angola's government only recently and a decision could be expected soon.

Meanwhile, Unita responded to an OAU peace initiative yesterday by saying leader Jonas Savimbi would meet OAU officials only in the provisional rebel capital Huambo.

Marcos Samondo, Unita's representative at the UN, told Portugal's TSF radio the movement had received a letter from OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim proposing a meeting between Savimbi and OAU officials.

Diplomats said the OAU was unlikely to accept Savimbi's proposal since Angolan gov-

ernment planes had been bombing the central highlands town for the past 10 days.

The Angolan government said on Tuesday night it was unaware of any fresh move by the OAU to meet Savimbi.

Presidential spokesman Aldemiro da Conceicao told Portuguese state radio RDP that the authorities in Luanda were "totally unaware of such a proposal being put forward".

Diplomats in Lisbon said Savimbi's refusal to leave Huambo to meet peace envoys also boded ill for another embryonic peace initiative by the Unita leader's long-time friend and supporter King Hassan of Morocco.

They said Hassan had sounded out several governments about the possibility of a reconciliation summit between Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Morocco.

This possible summit would be co-chaired by Hassan, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast and ANC President Nelson Mandela. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita pounds city after truce pledge

⑤
ARCT 13/8/93

□ Savimbi peace offer termed 'bluff' by Luanda

LUANDA. — Angola's rebel Unita movement pounded the besieged city of Cuito with artillery in spite of an unconditional ceasefire offer from its leader Jonas Savimbi.

An Angolan radio correspondent in the central city estimated 3,000 shells had landed in the previous 48 hours. He gave no casualty figures.

Officials said the shelling was so heavy that people could not recover bodies lying in the streets and the wounded were dying from lack of basic medical care.

In an interview in Huambo, about 150km from Cuito, Dr Savimbi said he was ready for an

unconditional ceasefire.

But Prime Minister Marcelino Moco told state radio Dr Savimbi's offer was not to be taken seriously.

"If Savimbi's remarks had been serious he would have presented them to the United Nations, who negotiate peace in Angola," he said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Chicoti said at a news conference in Lisbon: "I don't think Unita wants to negotiate anything. If Unita had enough strength it would take power by force of arms."

Joao Miranda, another deputy foreign minister, said on state radio that the government was used to empty promises from Dr Savimbi.

Military sources say 14,000 people have been killed in the seven-month siege of Cuito. The death toll, if confirmed, would be the highest in a siege since the civil war resumed.

Hundreds of people have been killed since the rebels began a new push against Cuito last week.

Military spokesman Jose Maria reacted sceptically to Dr Savimbi's call for peace. He denounced it as a bluff and said the Unita leader had in fact ordered a fresh assault on Cuito.

France said it was considering following Britain's lead and lifting its arms embargo against Angola because of the renewed fighting. — Sapa-Reuters.

Angolan govt dismisses Unita offer

LUANDA — The Angolan government has dismissed an unconditional ceasefire offer from Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, saying he was paying lip-service to peace while stepping up an onslaught on Cuito.

Unita guerrillas were lobbing 60 shells an hour into the city on Wednesday, officials said. The shelling was so heavy that people could not recover bodies lying in the streets, and the wounded were dying from the lack of basic medical care. *Bi Day*

In an interview in Huambo, about 150km from Cuito, Savimbi said he was ready for an unconditional ceasefire. *13/8/93*

Prime Minister Marcolino Moco told state radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, that Savimbi's offer was not to be taken seriously. "If they

(Savimbi's remarks) had been serious, then he would have presented them to the UN, who negotiate peace in Angola," he said.

Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda said on state radio the government was used to empty promises from Savimbi.

"Jonas Savimbi must order his troops to cease fighting immediately and Unita must put an end to its hostile propaganda."

Unita should also agree to sign the Abidjan protocol, a draft peace agreement drawn up in May. *(5)*

Military sources say 14 000 people have been killed in the seven-month siege of Cuito. The death toll, if confirmed, would be the highest in a siege since the civil war resumed. Hundreds have been killed at Cuito in the past week. — Sapa-Reuter:



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'No-win war destroying Angola'

Own Correspondent
Lisbon

ANGOLA was being destroyed by a civil war that neither the government nor Unita rebels had the military strength to win, Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos told Portuguese TSF radio at the weekend.

But he said the civil strife that has left as many as two million Angolans on the brink of starvation will continue until rebel leader Jonas Savimbi's troops put down their arms.

"The military field is now level, but famine worries

me as much as war," Mr Dos Santos said.

UN officials estimate that as many as two million Angolans — a fifth of the country's population — could starve within months if a peace settlement isn't reached.

The Angolan President's comments came a day after Mr Savimbi appealed for an immediate end to the war while simultaneously step-

ping up rebel attacks on three central cities.

"I don't believe there will be serious negotiations in the near future," Mr Dos Santos said. "Savimbi himself said he had military superiority — these are not words of conciliation."

Unita has taken control of more than 80 percent of the country and is reported close to capturing provincial capitals Luena, Menongue and Cuito.

Residents of these cities and hundreds of thousands of others trapped behind

battle lines have been cut off for months from steady supplies of food and drinking water.

Government military spokesman José Manuel said that more than 14 000 people had been killed since Unita launched its attack on Cuito in March.

Government troops have launched an air and infantry offensive to try to rescue the besieged government forces in the cities, and to penetrate to the Unita stronghold in the highlands city of Huambo.

Angola to root out smugglers

LUANDA — The Angolan government said yesterday it would expel foreigners engaged in illegal commercial activity.

A rise in illegal trade was fuelling already high inflation by setting exorbitant prices for consumer goods, a government official said. *BISAY*

Among those who would face expulsion were illicit dealers from Lebanon, Zaire, Mali and the Congo.

The former director of the National Direction of Immigration and Frontiers, Francisco Neto, was suspended pending an investigation into a racket involving the issue of residency cards to illegal aliens, the state news agency Angop said. *718193*

Smuggling and black-marketing in Angola have flourished since the resumption of civil war.

It was also reported yesterday that government troops battled Unita soldiers for the central Angolan town of Cuito after a weekend when more than 6,000 shells were fired on the city. *(5)*

The local government radio station reported clashes yesterday had left at least 15 dead and 37 seriously wounded. Thirty people were dying of hunger every day. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Angola wins back towns

LUANDA. — The Angolan army said yesterday it had won back two towns in Benguela province as part of a push towards Unita rebel headquarters in the central highlands city of Huambo.

Troops retook Ganda and Alto Catumbela, about 180km from Huambo, on Monday.

On the northern front, where Unita holds the regions of Uije, Zaire and Kwanza-Norte, military sources here said the army was mounting an operation to take back Quipedro, a key loca-

tion in southern Uije.

In other reports, the military said Unita killed six civilians and a traditional chief at Kassanguidi in Lunda-Norte province in the north-east last week, and the Jornal de Angola newspaper said the rebels had slaughtered 50 youths at the major northern oil town of Soyo because they refused to join them.

The UN was meanwhile awaiting Unita's response to proposals to resume humanitarian relief operations suspended a month ago. — Sapa-AFP

OCT 18/8/93

133 Unita troops killed in the battle for Ganda

Biday 19/8/93

LUANDA — Angolan government troops pushing towards Huambo killed 133 Unita fighters in a battle for the strategic town of Ganda which they captured this week, a military spokesman said yesterday.

Brig Jota Manuel said the army had captured one ton of ammunition, hundreds of mines, 104 AK-47 rifles, nine 60mm mortars and grenades during the two-week battle which ended on Monday.

Ganda lies halfway between the government-held coast and Huambo, Unita's headquarters in the central highlands.

Manuel said government forces were still holding out in the besieged city of Cuito, 150km east of Huambo, but Unita forces controlled half the town.

Unita captured Huambo, Angola's second largest city, in March after a two-month battle. But last month the army began a new drive to capture Huambo, marching from the coastal city of Benguela 300km away, and bombing it from the air.

Elsewhere, the military command in the southern province of Cuando Cubango reported that government forces had killed 60 Unita troops around the provincial capital Menongue in the first half of August.

Angop reported that Unita had staged attacks on civilians in the diamond-rich northeastern province of Lunda Norte, where the government had recaptured the town of Cambulo and three villages at the weekend.

Meanwhile, a senior Unita member would meet UN peace mediator Alioune Blondin

Beye to discuss Unita's call for a ceasefire and fresh negotiations, Unita radio said yesterday.

Unita Radio said Paulo Lukamba Gato had left Angola to meet Beye in an unspecified African country.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi called for an immediate cessation of hostilities and a resumption of peace talks without preconditions last week.

Beye, who took over as UN Special Representative in Angola after the collapse of the Abidjan peace talks, is trying to get the two sides back to the negotiating table.

He met government peace negotiators Higinio Carneiro and Faustina Muteka in Luanda on Tuesday.

The OAU has rejected an invitation to peace talks with Savimbi in Huambo.

"The OAU is prepared to meet Unita leaders, but a meeting in Huambo is not feasible," OAU spokesman Ibrahim Dagash said yesterday.

Unita had invited an OAU team to Huambo earlier this month in response to an attempt by OAU Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim to revive peace talks, Dagash said.

A special OAU mission led by President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe had invited Savimbi to Harare this month, but Dagash said Unita had not responded. The OAU refused to go to Huambo because it wanted to discuss the Angolan conflict on neutral ground. — Sapa-Reuter.

Fresh aid for Angolan civil war victims

LUANDA.— The Angolan government said people were starving in the besieged city of Cuito and yesterday signed an agreement with the UN that will allow fresh aid to civil war victims. **BISAY**

The UN World Food Programme said in a statement it would mount a six-month \$56.7m emergency operation for nearly 2-million people in Angola. **2018193**

"In spite of all the difficulties, the programme will continue to do its utmost to ease the suffering of the Angolan people," it said of the operation, one of its largest in Africa.

The programme has suspended flights to many cities, including the central highlands city of Cuito, because of attacks on its planes by Unita troops who control about 80% of Angola.

But the agency is increasing overland deliveries. Last month it sent 6 350 tons of

food to half a million people in government-held pockets near the coastal cities of Luanda, Benguela, Sumbe and Namibe.

State radio said on Wednesday people were starving to death in Cuito, under siege by Unita for seven months.

The radio also said government forces had killed 20 Unita fighters in the city. Nineteen people were killed and 31 wounded in Unita shelling of government-held areas of the city in which 250 000 people live. **(5)**

Military sources said at least 14 000 people had died in the siege. If confirmed, the toll would make the battle the most deadly since Unita resumed its insurrection following its defeat in UN-supervised elections last September.

The government has launched a counter-offensive to retake nearby Huambo, which Unita captured in March. — Sapa-Reuter.

Aid for starving Angolans

Star 2018 lag

Luanda — The Angolan government said people were starving in the besieged city of Cuito and signed an agreement with the UN yesterday for fresh aid.

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) said it would mount a six-month R190 million emergency operation for nearly 2 million people in Angola.

(S)
The WFP has suspended flights to many cities including the central highlands city of Cuito because of attacks on its planes by Unita rebels, who control about 80 percent of Angola.

But the agency is increasing overland deliveries. Last month it sent 6 350 tons of food to half a million people in government-held pockets near the coastal cities of Luanda, Benguela, Sumbe and Namibe.

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Military sources say at least 14 000 people have died in the siege. If confirmed, the toll would make the battle the deadliest since Unita resumed its insurrection following its defeat in UN-supervised elections last September.

Meanwhile, the government has launched a counter-offensive to retake nearby Huambo, once Angola's second largest city of half a million people, which Unita captured in March.

Unita radio said on Wednesday a senior Unita member would meet UN peace mediator Alioune Blondin Beye soon to discuss the rebels' call for a ceasefire.

Angola in an abyss worse than Bosnia

Star 21/8/93

GERALD L'ANGE and SAPA-AP

LARGELY ignored by the rest of the world, Angola is sinking ever deeper into a morass of death, destruction and misery, the like of which has seldom been

known in Africa. While the eyes of the world are turned to Bosnia, it is estimated that 1 000 people are dying each day in Angola as the MPLA government and the UNITA rebels move back into civil war after the collapse of the peace accord.

This staggering toll is made more appalling by the fact that many of the casualties are not soldiers. What is going on in Angola is not trench warfare or set-piece engagements on remote battlefields where large numbers of troops are expected to die. It is largely street fighting in which civilians are at the receiving end of shells and bombs being rained on disputed cities.

Rotting

Many civilians also die from hunger, illness or untreated wounds as the fighting makes food, hospital care, electricity and even clean water increasingly difficult to provide. At times it has been impossible even to remove the bodies of those killed in the streets where they have lain rotting.

No clear reports of the tragedy are emerging, because few journalists have been able to get to the battlefronts: neither side seems willing to help them do so. But the brief glimpses that can be obtained from the accounts of international relief agencies and from official communique reflect a situation of the

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graph: MYKEL NICOLAU

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Angola

Star 21/8/93

ber, according to UN sources.

● FROM PAGE 1

utmost horror in the areas worst hit by the fighting.

In a report from Lisbon, the Portuguese news agency LUSA quoted government sources as saying that Angolan government forces struck at the heart of the UNITA rebel army yesterday in a major offensive to drive the rebels from their stronghold in the war-torn country's second-largest city.

Government chief of staff Joao de Matos said government fighter planes and infantry were in the midst of "a massive attack against rebel positions in the outskirts of Huambo".

Amnesty International has accused both sides of flagrant disregard for civilian rights in the latest outbreak of war. In a report released yesterday, the international human rights organisation said "many hundreds" of civilians, including women and children, were victims of revenge killings by both UNITA and the government.

In addition to the revenge killings, combat has claimed more than 100 000 lives since Octo-

ber, according to UN sources. And relief workers warn that 2 million Angolans — a fifth of the population — could die of starvation in coming months if a peace settlement isn't reached.

The emphasis in the fighting has switched to control of politically important towns, notably Huambo, Angola's second-largest city on the central plateau and the capital of the Ovimbundu people from whom UNITA draws most of its support. Though again driven out of Luanda at the resumption of the fighting in October, UNITA in March seized control of Huambo — at a reported cost of 12 000 lives — in which it has set up its headquarters.

Possession of Huambo gives UNITA prestige and credibility, and provides it with a political and military axis from which to extend its control more widely in southern Angola.

UNITA has pounded Cuito with artillery shells and government officials claim 14 000 people have been killed in the city since the siege began. Meanwhile, government warplanes have blasted Huambo with 500-kg bombs.

Morass of misery!

ARC 21/8/93
⑤

■ In spite of an attempt to move towards peace, Angola continues to be racked by war. And it's mainly civilians who are victims.

Argus Africa News Service

JOHANNESBURG. — Largely ignored by the rest of the world, Angola is sinking ever deeper into a morass of death, destruction and misery the like of which has seldom been known in Africa.

While the eyes of the world are on Bosnia, it is estimated that 1 000 people are dying each day in Angola as the MPLA government and the Unita rebels move back into civil war after the collapse of the peace accord.

This staggering toll is made more appalling by the fact that many of the casualties are not soldiers but civilians. What is going on in Angola is not trench warfare or set-piece engagements on remote battlefields where large numbers of troops are expected to die.

It is largely street fighting in which civilians are at the receiving end of the shells and bombs that are being rained on disputed cities, and it's the local populace who are caught in the machinegun fire that rips through their suburbs.

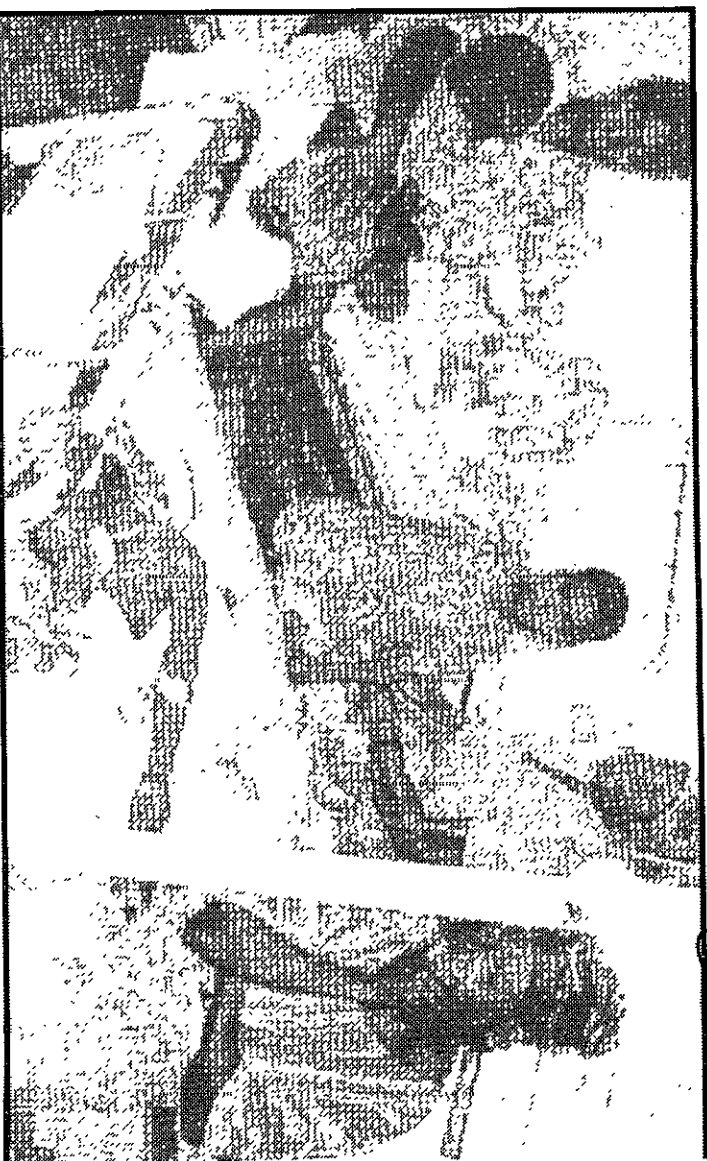
Many of the civilians are dying of hunger, illness or untreated wounds as the fighting makes food, hospital care, electricity and even clean water increasingly difficult to provide. At times it has been impossible even to remove the bodies of those killed in the streets and they have lain there rotting.

No clear reports of the tragedy are emerging because few journalists have been able to get to the battlefronts, since neither side seems willing to help them do so. But the brief glimpses that can be obtained from the accounts of international relief agencies and from official communiques reflect a situation of the utmost horror in the areas worst hit by the fighting.

Even relief agencies such as the Red Cross and the World Food Programme have been hampered by the fighting in getting help to the civilians, who include many women and children.

Since the 1991 peace accord the emphasis of military control has switched to politically important towns, notably Huambo.

Possession of Huambo gives Unita prestige and credibility and gives it a political and military axis from which to extend its control wider in southern Angola. It apparently aims to capture



□ **YOUNG VICTIM:** Relatives in a Luanda hospital gather around a child wounded in fighting between Unita rebels and government forces. A thousand people are dying in Angola every day.

more cities in the region, especially Lobito port, which would possibly enable it to bring in supplies by sea.

As much as it is important for Unita to take and hold the strategic cities, it is also important for the MPLA to prevent this, and so the fighting has raged in urban areas to a degree never before experienced in the 16 years of the civil war.

Unita has also pounded Cuito with artillery shells and government officials claim that 14 000 people have been killed in the city since the siege began.

Meanwhile, government warplanes have blasted Huambo with 500 kg bombs.

The international community's involvement in efforts to end the fighting has been fitful. Since the collapse of peace talks in Abidjan the Western nations and Russia have cleared the way for resumed arms sales to the MPLA. They apparently reckon that Unita will not resume peace talks until the MPLA is seen to be too strong to suffer further

military setbacks.

Various efforts to get the parties back to the negotiating table have been launched, including one involving ANC leader Nelson Mandela, Morocco and Ivory Coast. At present the initiative is being left to the Organisation of African Unity, but with the new United Nations special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, making parallel if not related efforts.

Ceasefire proposals by Unita have been ignored or viewed sceptically by the MPLA and in the international community. A similar reception has been given to Unita's declarations that it is willing to make peace provided it is given guarantees that when it lays down its arms its troops and its adherents in the Ovimbundu tribe will not be wiped out by government forces.

It is inevitable that a ceasefire will again be agreed on and that negotiations will resume. But that will be too late for the number of victims that has reached horrific proportions and may become much larger.

A neighbour's dilemma

By JURIE VAN DER WALT

CIPRES

22/8/93
Unita to return to the peace process

THE continuing carnage in Namibia's neighbouring Angola has resulted in calls for Namibia to search for ways and means to mediate in the war between the MPLA government and Unita.

Namibia played a crucial role in the provision of humanitarian aid to Angola in the past, but the fierce fighting in southern Angola has made any assistance from Namibia impossible. (5)

Acting head of the World Food Programme (WFP) in Namibia Hiro Matsumura said there were no immediate plans to supply Angola with much-needed foodstuffs from Namibia.

Efforts to reach starving Angolans in south-eastern Angola from Namibia were brutally stopped when Unita downed a WFP plane near Luena in April, killing its Russian crew.

Namibian Foreign Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab, backed by the OAU, called on the UN Security Council in mid-July to send a clear message to

The Namibian government is coming under increasing pressure to mediate between the two warring parties in Angola.

Namibian President Sam Nujoma had on several occasions invited Unita leader Jonas Savimbi to Namibia for talks. The Namibian government has also indicated its willingness to meet Savimbi anywhere else for a "friendly dialogue". However, Savimbi has refused all invitations.

The instability caused by the continuing Angolan war as well as the multitude of Angolan refugees streaming into northern Namibia on a daily basis are cause for great concern for the Swapo government. Unita has also warned that it would attack the Ruacana hydro-electric and Calueque water schemes in northern Namibia should it be "provoked" into doing so.

Swapo is caught in the middle of a sensitive diplomatic battle: on the one hand a Unita demanding a policy of neutrality from Namibia, on the other the MPLA government relying on Namibia to support an old ally.

Troops advance on Huambo

(5)

Lisbon — Angolan government forces advancing on the rebel capital Huambo expect a tough battle with the guerillas at defence lines about 100 km from the city.

Armed forces spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel Jota said on Saturday that troops marching from the coast to the mountains would run into strong opposition from Unita

rebels at Tchinenje.

The present position of two advancing government columns is 40 km to the west.

Jota said government forces had killed, captured or wounded about 1 500 Unita fighters since starting the drive to recapture Huambo early last month. Government jets had been bombing it for the past three weeks.

Unita radio said on Saturday that fires had broken out in Huambo after bombings.

Portuguese media quoted military sources in Luanda as saying helicopters dropped government commandos behind Unita lines last week to attack the enemy from the rear. Some landed near Huambo and others near Cuito. — Sapa-Reuter.

Mandela joins Angola peace plan

APR 24 1975
JOHANNESBURG. — African National Congress president Nelson Mandela has announced a new African initiative to forge peace in strife-torn Angola.

Thousands of Angolans have died in a civil war involving the MPLA-led Angola government and the Unita rebel movement.

Mr. Mandela announced this at a transport policy indaba here.

He and two other African leaders had penned a joint letter to Angolan president Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, urging them to attend the peace summit in Rabat, Morocco.

Mr. Mandela said he, Morocco's King Hassan and Ivory Coast president Houphet Boigny had sent the letter.

"We want peace to reign, not only in South Africa but in the entire region. Based on this commitment I have been deeply moved by the tragic events in Angola.

"It is now possible to report that King Hassan of Morocco, President Houphet Boigny of the Ivory Coast and I have written a letter inviting President Dos Santos of Angola and Dr. Savimbi of Unita to meet together with the three of us in Rabat." — Sapa.

Unita 'shaken' by Angolan army push

LUANDA — The Angolan army's push against Unita positions in central and southern regions this month had shaken the rebel movement, the *Jornal de Angola* newspaper said yesterday. *BISAY*

Government successes in the field had apparently forced Unita to start talking about resuming peace talks, which were broken off in May, the paper said. *24/8/93*

It cited the army's recapture two weeks ago of Bocoio and Ganda, two towns of strategic importance in the army's advance on Huambo, the central highlands town where the rebels have their headquarters. *(5)*

An army spokesman confirmed that the military was maintaining pressure on Unita positions in the east of Benguela province, on the approaches to Huambo.

The paper said Unita's latest diplomatic shuttle of envoys in Europe was aimed at bringing a halt to the army offensive against Huambo. With the same aim, Unita chief Jonas Savimbi had invited President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe to visit Huambo in his capacity as chairman of an OAU mediating body. Mugabe has turned down the invitation.

It was reported from Harare yesterday that Mugabe held talks with Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura yesterday and was later to meet a special UN envoy in a renewed bid to end Angola's rapidly worsening civil war.

"The government of Angola is holding consultations with Mugabe to see if he can help restart peace talks with Unita," De Moura said after the meeting. "We want Unita to come

back to the negotiating table and abide by the various peace accords that it has signed."

Alioune Blondin Beye, the UN special envoy on Angola who arrived in Zimbabwe at the weekend, said he would meet Mugabe later yesterday and they would hold talks today.

Beye has already said he wants UN-sponsored peace talks between the Angolan government and Unita, which collapsed in Ivory Coast earlier this year, to resume as soon as possible.

He said these talks were expected to start either in Zimbabwe's capital Harare or another African capital by September 15 at the latest, when the UN Security Council is due to review the Angolan situation.

Meanwhile, Angolan state radio said yesterday Angolan government forces had retaken the town of Camanongue in eastern Angola from Unita.

The radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said government troops had inflicted dozens of casualties on Unita fighters in the weekend battle for Camanongue, 52km from the previously besieged city of Luena.

Camanongue is on the road north from Luena, capital of Moxico province, to Saurimo, capital of Lunda South province, which has been under siege by Unita for several months.

The World Food Programme resumed aid flights to Luena and Saurimo last week. It suspended them after Unita fired at a UN plane in northwestern Angola in mid-July. Unita occupied Camanongue last October when it went back to war. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Caltex says it can't be sued by widow

CALTEX OIL South Africa brought an urgent interlocutory application in the Supreme Court yesterday alleging claims of R7.5m against it are invalid because it cannot be directly sued.

The case follows an explosion on a French barge in Cape Town harbour in December last year which resulted in the death of a shipyard worker, Mr Lionel Jones.

Caltex said that under French law any claims should be brought by the insurers of the barge, not the owners of the Barracuda, and Mr Jones' widow. — Sapa

Shill: 1,4m homes needed

Own Correspondent
CT 24/8/93

sues and to acquaint himself with local conditions.

The chief minister was accompanied by other senior KwaZulu officials.

Mr Shill, recently appointed to ministerial rank, is visiting housing areas throughout the country. He will also inspect overall housing needs the better to assess the different requirements of the various regions and population groups.

He said housing was one of the government's top priorities.

DURBAN. — About 1,4 million housing units are needed for the lower income groups and more than 330 000 houses will have to be provided every year if the backlog is to be eradicated over the next 10 years.

This was announced by National Housing Minister Mr Louis Shill, who visited KwaZulu yesterday for talks with KwaZulu Chief Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi on housing is-

No frills domestic airline hopes to be roaring soon

Own Correspondent
CT 24/8/93

DURBAN. — A new "no frills" domestic airline, Lionair, hopes to introduce half-price daily flights between Durban and Johannesburg before the end of the year — with tickets available at local supermarkets and airports.

At R150 one-way to Johannesburg, the proposed fare is exactly half the price of a normal economy-class ticket on SAA or Flitestar, and also cheaper than Comair's R211 single fare introduced recently.

On the Durban-Cape Town route, single fares will be set at R299 (economy), R200 (standby) or R100 (Z-class). The Cape Town-based airline group applied for an operating licence yes-

terday. The group says landing slots at Jan Smuts have already been approved.

Negotiations are under way with a large supermarket chain to enable passengers to book tickets and alter reservations using a self-service automatic teller machine.

Airline president Mr Neil Robertson said yesterday Lionair hoped to get off the ground in early November, although this could be delayed if Flitestar and SAA lodged objections with the department of transport.

"Both airlines have already stated they welcome the competition from us — and it will be interesting to see whether that welcome extends to not opposing our application."

Camanongue taken from Unita rebels

SAO TOME. — Angolan government forces have retaken Camanongue in eastern Angola from Unita rebels, according to Angolan state radio.

The radio, monitored on Sao Tome and Principe, said government troops inflicted dozens of casualties on Unita fighters in the weekend battle for Camanongue, 52km from the previously besieged city of Luena.

Camanongue is on the road north from Luena, capital of Moxico province, to Saurimo, capital of Lunda South province, which has also been under rebel siege for several months.

Unita occupied Camanongue last October.

State radio and Unita radio both reported that government and rebel representatives were due to take part in a series of meetings in Harare today to resurrect the peace process. — Sapa-
Reuter

CT 24/8/93

OUT OF AFRICA



ARG 25/8/93

NIGERIA: Military ruler Ibrahim Babangida will step down tomorrow, state radio said. Pro-democracy campaigners organising three days of civil disobedience to demand the presidency be handed to Moshood Abiola, the man widely believed to have won June's annulled election, said the demonstrations would still start today.

ZIMBABWE: Lord Carrington, who chaired a conference that ended white minority rule in Zimbabwe, said he hoped President Robert Mugabe and white farmers would end a dispute over the forced redistribution of their land to blacks. (S) (25/8/93)

SOMALIA: Nearly 400 US special forces will be sent to Somalia to help quell mounting violence around Mogadishu but Pentagon officials denied their mission was to seize warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid.

ANGOLA: The government rejected an attempt by Nelson Mandela and King Hassan of Morocco to arrange a peace summit between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi. (S)

Mandela's Angolan peace plan rejected

LISBON. — Angola rejected ANC leader Mr Nelson Mandela's proposal for fresh talks as government forces yesterday claimed military advances in a southern province and moved to pincer key Unita rebel positions in the central highlands.

Three African leaders appealed to Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita chief Dr Jonas Savimbi to attend a fresh round of peace talks in Morocco.

But Mr Dos Santos' spokesman, Mr Aldemiro Vaz de Conceicao, rejected the proposal by Mr Mandela, Moroc-

co's King Hassan II and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast, saying it was bound to fail.

The United Nations have set a September 15 deadline for peace talks to resume and UN representative in Angola, Mr Alioune Beye, warned yesterday that 1 000 Angolans were dying daily because of the war.

Government forces claim to be closing in on Huambo, Unita's central stronghold, from the south and west, in an attempt to pincer the rebels. — Sapa-AP

5 CT 25/8/93

Explosion close to airport

LUANDA — An Angolan air force weapons depot exploded close to the local civilian airport at Lubango in the southern Huila province, the pro-government *Journal de Angola* reported yesterday. Tuesday night's blast, which left no casualties but spread panic among Lubango's residents, was caused by a

fire, the paper said.

It also reported heavy fighting was taking place on Tuesday between government troops of the rebel movement Unita for control of the town of Cacula in Huila province. Unita controls seven towns in Huila, including Cacula. — Sapa-AFP.

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ANC offered work to colonel

PORT ELIZABETH. — The ANC offered work to retired SADF Colonel Lourens du Plessis shortly before he told a newspaper that the signal ordering Mr Matheu Gonwiwe's "permanent removal" was a death order.

Col Du Plessis told the Goniwe inquest yesterday that ANC intelligence chief Mr Joe Nhlantsha had offered him work as an ANC adviser, shortly before the New Nation published the secret SADF signal.

He refused to reply to allegations that he stole and sold documents, as he did not want to incriminate himself.

He conceded he had a sporadic drinking problem, but when SADF counsel Mr Anton Mostert, SC, said a sure way of recruiting someone with "drink and financial problems" was with "promises of money", he replied: "I had no work."

His purpose in testifying was to assist "this inquest following appeals by the attorney-general for witnesses", he said.

Mr Mostert: "Not only did you betray General Van der Westhuizen, you also accused him falsely."

"Of what?"

"That he was the author of the signal."

"No, it was me who sent the signal, but on his instructions."

Mr Mostert queried a R15 000 deposit in Col Du Plessis's account around the time he met ANC officials, General Bantu Holomisa and New Nation staff, but Col Du Plessis denied it came from the ANC.

Col Du Plessis also said:

● He was offered "R1 000 a minute" for TV interviews on the Goniwe murders.

● Gen Holomisa had introduced him to Mr Nelson Mandela, and had given him R600 on one occasion.

● The inquest continues today.

Double murderess 'deserves death'

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — Cradock murderess Letitia Erasmus deserved the death sentence as she had cold-bloodedly murdered her two husbands, prosecutor Mr Malherbe Marais said in the Supreme Court here yesterday.

Each murder was premeditated and well-planned to create the impression of suicide, he said.

Erasmus was found guilty yesterday of killing Mr André Nel and Mr Petrus Erasmus, her first and second husbands, respectively.

She will be sentenced today — her 57th birthday — for shooting the two in the head in the space of four years.

Defence advocate Mr Fanus Louw insisted that the first murder was a "mercy killing". Of the second murder, he said there was evidence to suggest that Mr Erasmus had forced himself on Erasmus sexually.

He said Erasmus did not deserve the death sentence and asked that she receive a suspended sentence for the murder of Mr Nel — or that the sentence at least run concurrently with the other sentence.

Unita shelled in Huambo advance

LUANDA. — Government troops pushing for rebel-held Huambo are shelling Unita lines 120km from the city, army sources said yesterday.

They said artillery was pounding Unita's defence line to cover advancing ground troops.

Government troops have been advancing on Huambo from the coast since early July. The air force has bombed Huambo almost daily for the last three weeks.

The sources said Unita forces were responding with artillery fire. There had also been clashes between ground troops.

● The army confirmed the government's loss of Ambriz, a coastal town 150km north of Luanda.

● A UN official said estimates of 1 000 Angolans dying daily might be too low. People were starving as street battles raged. — Sapa-Reuter

Push to retake Huambo

SI Times 29/8/93

ON THE dry scrubland of the central highlands, scene of the fiercest battle in the Angolan civil war, government forces are steadily advancing towards the rebel capital, Huambo, with new-found resolution.

A recruitment drive and fresh foreign military aid appear to have invigorated the army, which was thrown into disarray when Unita,

By JUDITH MATLOFF
Ganda, Angola

defeated in elections last September, again took up arms. More than 50 000 people have been killed since October.

Diplomats say they cannot be sure that the government will win within months but it is clear that

the army is slowly clawing back territory in Unita's heartland.

"We are advancing slowly and will eventually recapture Huambo," said Colonel José Manuel de Sousa, field commander at the Ganda front, halfway to Huambo.

He looked out over earth scorched in recent fighting

and warned visitors to watch out for landmines.

It was a quiet day at the camp, about 22km west of the border between Benguela and Huambo provinces, and his men were about to search the bush for dispersed Unita bands.

Unita controls up to 80 percent of Angola and surrounds many of the 18 provincial capitals. It has been shelling them from a distance and trying to cut off food and other supplies.

International aid organisations believe up to 1 000 people a day are dying from the direct or indirect effects of the war and that more than two million — a fifth of the population — are displaced and threatened with famine.

Killed

In the past week the military has been trying to push Unita back from besieged cities such as Luena and Menongue and expel it from diamond-producing areas in the northeast.

But the emphasis is on retaking Huambo, which was once the country's second city, with half a million people.

The government lost the city last March in a battle which killed about 12 000 people. Last month it launched air raids in an attempt to recapture it.

Another aim is to recapture Cuito, 140km to the east, where up to 14 000 people have been killed in a rebel siege which has lasted seven months.

Witnesses say Unita now holds part of the city despite massive devastation from government air strikes.

Yesterday the government appeared to have made new advances on a second front at Balombo, north of Ganda. Military sources expect two more fronts to be opened soon in the push towards Huambo.

— Sapa-Renter

Star 29/8/93
Angola rejects summit bid

Sao Tome — The Angolan government has rejected an attempt by ANC leader Nelson Mandela and King Hassan of Morocco to arrange a peace summit for the war-torn country.

⑤
Mandela said yesterday that he, King Hassan and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of the Ivory Coast had tried to arrange a peace summit. But a spokesman for Luanda said this would be a waste of time.

The UN special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, said the situation in Angola was catastrophic, with more than 1 000 deaths each day linked to the civil war.

Angolan national radio said 11 foreigners, five of them Portuguese, had been killed in the latest fighting in the besieged Angolan city of Cuito.

The city has been under siege by Unita rebels for eight months. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita attacks aid convoy

LISBON. — Unita rebels have attacked a UN humanitarian aid convoy in central Angola, killing two people and destroying two vehicles in the convoy, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported yesterday.

Lusa quoted Angolan government military sources as saying the rebels over the weekend had attacked the World Food Pro-

gramme convoy carrying 1 000 tons of badly needed food as it passed close to government military positions near Cambambo in the coastal province of Benguela.

There was no official confirmation of the report.

Meanwhile, north-east of Huambo, Unita has closed in on

an embattled garrison of government troops defending Cuito, where some 90 000 people are said to be trapped by the fighting and corpses are reported littering the streets.

Lusa reported intensified fighting for the city yesterday. The military sources claimed Unita were battering Cuito with long-range artillery. — Sapa-AP

OCT 30 1973

'US satellites used against Unita'

LISBON — US satellites were providing Angolan forces with intelligence, increasing the accuracy of its attacks on Unita, diplomats and military analysts said.

"The Americans ... have been furnishing the Angolan government with such information since soon after (US President Bill) Clinton switched sides," a diplomat said, quoting Angolan military sources.

Military analysts said government forces had achieved several successes during the past few weeks, including air attacks on Unita's Huambo headquarters.

Angolan diplomatic mission head in SA Manuel Augusto said he was not in a position to confirm or deny the reports. US diplomats would not comment.

"The main reason for our success is the reorganisation of the army. Stories of US spy satellites could be an attempt by Unita to explain its setbacks," Augusto said.

A Luanda-based diplomat said the Angolan air force had used US satellite intelligence to destroy a Unita convoy 150km from Huambo. He said "people who ought

to know" said the US was supplying "high-technology advice".

Another diplomat said the besieged city of Cuito had been resupplied with ammunition from the air this week.

The US State Department said in June it was lifting an arms embargo against Angola, following US recognition of the MPLA government in May and the withdrawal of support for Unita. (5)

Military analyst Helmut Röhmer-Heitman said the Angolan government forces' recent successes meant improved reconnaissance.

Meanwhile, the Portuguese foreign ministry and the International Red Cross, responding to a Portuguese man's desperate plea for evacuation from Cuito, said rescue might be impossible until the government and Unita gave the go-ahead.

Antonio Martins told Angolan radio on Saturday that he and 14 families had been trapped since January.

"We are trapped here in a bunker. There is no food. There is little chance of survival," Martins said. — Sapa-Reuter-AP.

Gaza, anti-

'2 000 Unita fighters killed'

LUANDA. — Angolan government forces pushing towards Unita's capital Huambo in the central highlands killed more than 2 000 Unita fighters over the past week, the government newspaper Jornal de Angola said yesterday.

The newspaper quoted a military source as saying the casualties were inflicted on three fronts in battles for the towns of Tchidjenje, Monte Belo, Balombo and Qui-lengue.

Government forces are advancing on Huambo along two main roads.

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Unita general killed — claim

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LUANDA — Angolan government forces pushing towards Unita stronghold Huambo in the central highlands had killed more than 2 000 Unita fighters in the past week, the government newspaper Jornal de Angola said yesterday.

The newspaper quoted a military source as saying battles raged for the towns of Tchidjenje, Monte Belo, Balombo and Quilengues.

It said the dead included “Katu”, a Unita general. (S)

Government forces are advancing on Huambo from the Atlantic coast. Other columns are approaching from the south. The forces advancing from the coast were less than 100km west of Huambo, the paper said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Government forces shell Huambo's defence lines

LUANDA — Angolan government troops pushing towards the Unita capital of Huambo were shelling defence lines about 120km from the city, military sources said yesterday.

The sources said government artillery was bombarding Unita's main defence line near the village of Ngola to cover the advance of ground troops.

Military strategists said Unita was probably dug in on ridges overlooking the main road to Huambo.

Government troops have been advancing on the central highlands city from the coast since early July. The

air force has bombed Huambo almost daily for the past three weeks.

The military sources said Unita troops were responding with artillery fire and there had been several clashes between ground troops in the area.

Armed forces spokesman Brig Jose Manuel Jota meanwhile confirmed the government's loss of Ambriz, a coastal town 150km north of the capital Luanda.

Jota said government marines protecting Ambriz withdrew on Monday due to "insistent attacks and Unita's military supremacy".

— Sapa-Reuter.

Star 1/9/93

US 'fuels Angolan war'

BY GERALD L'ANGE
STAR AFRICA SERVICE

International efforts to end the fighting in Angola are being sidelined as major powers back the MPLA government in its military offensive aimed at crushing the Unita rebels or forcing them to sue for peace.

In the process, civilian casualties and sufferings are becoming horrific in what the London newsletter Africa Confidential describes as "the worst war in the world".

In its latest issue, the newsletter says diplomats and relief agencies claim the fighting in Angola is the world's bloodiest conflict.

The UN has estimated that about 1 000 people are dying daily in the fighting or from hunger — their plight largely ignored by a world pre-occupied with Bosnia.

Civilians are becoming casualties more than be-

fore because the current fighting is in and around towns rather than on rural battlefields.

"The horrendous conditions in Cuito, where dogs feed on corpses in the streets and medical and power supplies are virtually non-existent, would shock even those viewers acclimatised to film of atrocities in Bosnia-Herzegovina," says Africa Confidential.

Bitter

The current fighting is centred on the MPLA's efforts to drive Unita out of Huambo, Angola's second city, and to beat off a Unita attempt to take Cuito, further to the east. There is bitter fighting elsewhere.

The Luanda government is being encouraged in its new military offensive by political, moral and military support from European and other countries.

Despite Unita's professed readiness to resume negotiations, these countries see it as the intransigent party and believe it will be persuaded to negotiate by military setbacks only.

Unita has recently been hard hit by the new ability of the MPLA's planes and artillery to hit targets with accuracy.

The US has refused to comment on reports that this has been made possible by information obtained by US spy satellites and passed on to Luanda.

Africa Confidential repeats the allegation. It adds that the MPLA is using America's sophisticated Global Positioning System, an electronic guidance system which can be used to pinpoint aerial attacks or parachute drops.

The newsletter says the MPLA is receiving military aid from Russia and Israel, encouraged by Washington.

Angolan govt to talk to rebels

LUANDA. — The Angolan government intends opening talks in the next few days with rival factions of the Cabinda Enclave Liberation Front to restore peace to the oil-rich territory, diplomatic sources said here yesterday.

Meanwhile, Angolan government forces have advanced deep into Huambo Province towards the rebel capital.

— Sapa-Reuters

Oct 19 1993

Angola govt denies US satellite aid

CF 2/9/93
LUANDA — Angola's government yesterday denied international press reports that US spy satellites were providing its air force with intelligence in the war against Unita.

"It is false," armed forces spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel "Jota" said.

Officials at the US embassy here blamed "disinformation" for the reports. "The armed forces are performing better partly because they are being reorganised," said one.

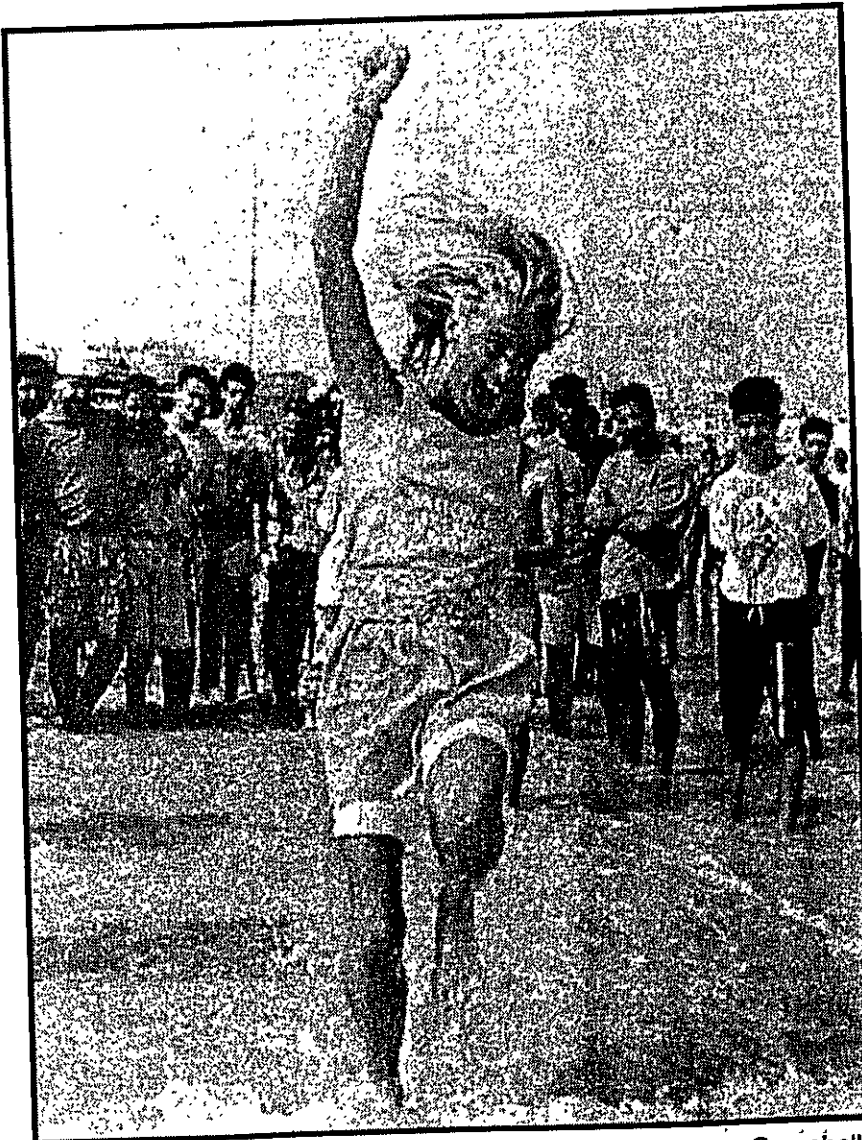
The press reports said the US satellite information was dramatically increasing the accuracy of Angolan air force attacks. — Sapa-Reuter

Evacuation plea from war-torn Angolan city

5

ARC 2/9/93

□ Nothing to eat, say desperate Portuguese families



WALK OVER AFRICA: British long-distance walker Fyona Campbell shouts for joy after completing her two-year walk across Africa yesterday. Miss Campbell, 26, became the first woman to trek the length of Africa when she completed her 16 000km journey, which started in Cape Town and ended in the sea on the coast of Tangier, Morocco.

British defence chiefs in arms talks with government and ANC

LONDON. — The British Defence Ministry said today it had discussed possible arms sales with the African National Congress and the South African government ahead of the expected lifting of the worldwide arms embargo.

"We have had talks with the South African government and the ANC in recent months which suggests South Africa will be a market for the future," said a ministry source speaking on condition of anonymity.

"Discussions are at a very early stage and mean nothing until the embargo is lifted and there is a new government," the source said.

"The ANC are likely to be partners

in any South African government of the future," the source said.

The London newspaper, The Independent, said the talks also involved British arms companies.

Jonathan Aitken, the defence procurement minister, said in a speech yesterday that in 1992 Britain became the world's second largest arms exporter after the United States, providing one-fifth of global arms sales.

British arms exports in 1992 were worth more than R20 billion.

The ANC and the South African government are thought to have opened discussions with a number of foreign governments on military sales. — Sapa

LISBON. — Portuguese citizens trapped in the rebel-besieged central Angolan city of Cuito have issued what they say is a life-or-death appeal for their evacuation.

But intense combat between Unita rebels and government forces throughout central Angola made a rescue operation unlikely, said Portuguese Secretary of State for African Affairs Jose Manuel Briosa e Gala.

Antonio Augusto Martins, speaking on behalf of 14 Portuguese families trapped in Cuito, 670 kilometres south-west of Luanda, said they had little hope of survival if they were not evacuated soon.

"This could be our final appeal," Mr Martins said in an Angolan National Radio broadcast from Cuito.

"We have nothing to eat and when the rains come the situation will become impossible."

He appealed to the International Red Cross and Portuguese president Mario Soares and prime minister Cavaco Silva to evacuate the 32 Portuguese, who were residents of Cuito before Angola erupted into civil war in October.

State radio said more than 16 000 people had died in combat and from famine in Cuito since the city was surrounded by Unita seven months ago.

Government troops have been unable to approach the city, but have launched a major ground and air offensive at the rebel power base of Huambo, 130 kilometres south-east of Cuito, in an attempt to draw away Unita troops.

Angolan Chief of Staff Joao de Matos said government troops had penetrated to within 80 kilometres of Huambo.

The government has turned down offers of both an African peacekeeping force and negotiations with the Unita leadership.

Angola's civil war, fought for 16 years before peace accords were signed in 1991, erupted again in October when Unita leader Jonas Savimbi called his forces back to arms after the movement was defeated in multiparty elections.

More than 100 000 Angolans have died since fighting resumed and relief workers say Angola is on the brink of a nationwide famine that could kill a fifth of the population. — Sapa-AP.

Angolan general killed by Unita⁵

CT 3/9/93

LUANDA. — Unita rebels killed the commander of Angolan troops in the central town of Cuito yesterday only hours after he was promoted to general.

Officials said General Alfredo Kussumua was killed by grenades thrown by Unita troops.

Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos had only just announced General Kussumua's promotion.

Unita forces have been shelling Cuito daily for several weeks and there is hand-to-hand fighting in the streets of the ruined city, which has a peacetime population of 250 000.

The United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross

have so far failed to persuade the Angolan government and Unita to allow normal aid flights into Cuito.

The Angolan air force has occasionally managed to airdrop military supplies into Cuito but no aid has been sent to its civilian population. An estimated 14 000 have died from shelling or starvation.

The Portuguese community in Cuito has appealed repeatedly for Lisbon to organise its evacuation.

A short-lived peace agreement signed in 1991 broke down after Unita rejected its defeat by the MPLA in UN-supervised elections last September. — Sapa-Reuter

'Ex-CCB men recruiting SAAF pilots for Angola'

Staff Reporter

⑤ CT 17 9/93

A RECRUITING drive for experienced SADF personnel to fight as mercenaries in Angola was now targeting battle-hardened SAAF pilots, according to reports.

The recruiting is apparently also being done by former members of the CCB (Civil Co-operation Bureau).

Responding to reports that members of the permanent force and citizen force were being recruited by the MPLA to fight Unita, an air force statement said yesterday: "The Air

Force suspects, but does not have confirmed information, that members are being recruited to render operational service outside the Republic."

A report yesterday said former CCB operatives were working from illegally obtained SADF personnel lists and targeting battle-hardened fighter plane and helicopter pilots.

Nearly R9m in US dollars had been brought into the country to pay for recruitment, the report said.

The SAAF said there had not been an abnormal amount of resignations from the air force recently.

Savimbi makes new peace bid

⑤
AKC 4/9/93

LISBON. — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi last night renewed his call for an early ceasefire in the country's civil war, saying he was ready to lay down arms on a date to be set by the United Nations.

Dr Savimbi telephoned Portuguese President Mario Soares — one of the few European heads of state with whom he retains cordial relations — to announce the offer.

The Portuguese presidency said in a statement that Dr Savimbi told Dr Soares he would telephone UN Secretary General Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali to formalise the peace initiative.

"The president of Unita told the President of the Republic that he would telephone the Secretary General of the United Nations, Boutros Boutros-Ghali this very day to express his desire to end the war in Angola through a ceasefire whose date of implementation could be determined by the United Nations itself," the statement said.

Dr Savimbi's Unita movement has fought a bush war against the ruling MPLA since Angola's gained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Portugal brokered a peace agreement in 1991, but it broke down last year after Unita rejected its election defeat by the MPLA. Dr Savimbi first offered to sign an immediate halt to fighting three weeks ago.

He offered the olive branch as government forces rolled towards Unita's capital Huambo in an offensive that threatened the military advantage that

Unita had enjoyed for most of this year.

But, Dr Savimbi coupled his first truce offer with a demand for peace talks without preconditions, a move that Luanda rejected.

The Angolan government said Unita had to accept the terms of the 1991 peace agreement as well as a further protocol recommended by the UN in May, before the two sides could resume talks.

Unita's refusal to accept key elements of the May protocol — drafted by the United States, Russia and Portugal and endorsed by the United Nations — triggered the collapse of the last round of peace talks in Ivory Coast.

Diplomats said both sides faced mounting pressure to resume talks before the UN Security Council debated Angola on September 15.

The Security Council must decide whether to renew the mandate of its Special Representative in Angola, Aloune Blondin Beye, and a small force of UN observers.

Mr Blondin Beye has been engaged in talks with Angolan government leaders, heads of state of neighbouring countries and Unita envoys over the past three weeks.

But, during a visit to Sao Tome and Principe on Thursday he gave no hint of a breakthrough.

Dr Savimbi told Dr Soares yesterday that he would guarantee the safe passage to Sao Tome of the small Portuguese community trapped in the besieged city of Cutto. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola toll mounts in 'world's worst war'

Argus Africa News Service

JOHANNESBURG. — International efforts to end the fighting in Angola are being sidelined as major powers back the MPLA government in a new military offensive aimed at crushing the Unita rebels or forcing them to sue for peace.

In the process, civilian casualties and suffering are mounting in what the London newsletter Africa Confidential describes as "the worst war in the world".

In its latest issue the newsletter says diplomats and relief agency officials believe the fighting in Angola to be "the world's bloodiest conflict".

The United Nations has estimated that about 1 000 people are dying daily in the fighting or from hunger, their plight largely ignored by a world preoccupied with Bosnia.

Civilians are becoming casualties more than before because the fighting is in and around towns rather than on rural battlefields as in the past.

"The horrendous conditions in Cuito, where dogs feed on corpses in the streets and medical and power supplies are virtually non-existent, would shock even those viewers acclimatised to film of atrocities in Bosnia-Herzegovina," says Africa Confidential.

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Angola 'no' to Savimbi peace offer

LUANDA. — Angola has rejected a ceasefire offer by Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi on the grounds it was made outside the framework of 1991 United Nations-supervised peace accords.

In a statement the Angolan government said "the resumption of a ceasefire should conform with the Bicesse (peace) Accords and pertinent resolutions of the UN Security Council.

"The Angolan government believes all Unita's declarations made outside this forum for a mere suspension of hostilities are only meant to fool public opinion and do not represent any valid contribution to a just solution," it added.

Dr Savimbi told Portuguese President Mario Soares last week that Unita wanted a ceasefire. He said Unita was also ready to help evacuate Portuguese citizens trapped in Cuito, which has been besieged for eight months.

Several diplomats in Luanda expressed scepticism about the initiative, noting it was made only days before the UN Security Council meets to discuss measures against Unita.

"If he is truly interested in peace he should have contacted the UN, not Portugal," said one diplomat.

Unita and the government signed the peace accords in May 1991 to end 16 years of civil war.

The war resumed after Unita rejected its defeat in UN-supervised elections last year. — Sapa-Reuter

Star 6/9/93

Unita's truce initiative shot down

Luanda — Angola's government has rejected a ceasefire proposal by Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi on the grounds that it was made outside the framework of UN-supervised peace accords.

"The Angolan government believes that the resumption of a ceasefire in the Angolan war should conform with the Bicesse (peace) Accords and pertinent resolutions of the UN Security Council."

"The government believes that all of Unita's declarations made outside this forum for a mere suspension of hostilities are only meant to fool public opinion and do not represent any valid contribution to a just solution to the conflict. (S)

Savimbi informed Portuguese President Mario Soares last week that Unita wanted a ceasefire. It was also ready to help evacuate Portuguese citizens trapped in Cuito.

Diplomats in Luanda were sceptical about the initiative, noting it was made days before the Security Council meets to discuss possible censure of Unita. — Sapa-Reuter.

RICA

Unita renews assault

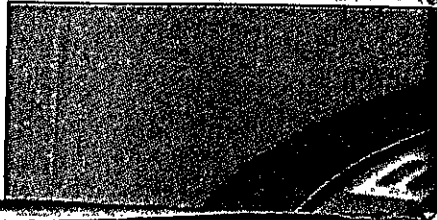
SAO TOME — Unita threw hundreds of fresh troops into a renewed assault on the besieged Angolan city of Cuito yesterday in a bid to crush eight months of bitter resistance by its army garrison. *Biday*

Angolan state radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tomé e Príncipe, said Unita sent three battalions of fresh troops to attack the southern part of Cuito after lobbing more than 1 000 artillery shells into the ruined city overnight. *(5) 7/19/92*

The broadcast said the shelling killed at least 50 more civilians in Cuito, a provincial capital on the fringe of the central highlands, where at least 18 000 people are believed to have died from fighting, disease and starvation. Government forces defending the city killed a further 20 Unita fighters yesterday, it added. — Sapa-Reuter.

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WELCOME



50 civilians die in Cuito

LUANDA — At least 50 civilians were killed yesterday in Cuito, in the centre of Angola, in a battle between government forces and those loyal to Unita.

Fighting intensified throughout the day in the south of the town, where government forces were fighting off three battalions of Unita soldiers.

The latest assault on Cuito comes days after a call by Unita leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi for an immediate cease-fire and a resumption of often-abandoned peace talks.

The call has been dismissed by the government as a cynical attempt to win a favourable hearing during the UN Security Council's September 15 review of the Angolan conflict. — Sapa-AFP

UN group to meet over Angola war

LISBON. — The disbanded commission of Portuguese, Russian and American diplomats who monitored Angola's failed peace accords said yesterday it will reconvene this week to debate new strategies for ending the country's civil war.

The talks, scheduled for tomorrow in Lisbon, will focus on new peace initiatives as well as possible UN sanctions against Dr. Jonas Savimbi's Unita, the Portuguese foreign ministry announced.

The commission will make recommendations to the UN Security Council on how to end the fighting that has killed as many as 100 000 Angolans in the past 10 months and left another three million facing starvation.

The commission disbanded in July after 10 months of negotiations failed to make significant steps towards restoring the peace that the three countries originally helped negotiate in May 1991 and will be withdrawn if peace talks do not start before September 15. — Sapa-AP

Thursday, September 9 1993 ★

56 rebels die as battle for Cuito rages

LUANDA. — Heavy fighting raged between government forces and Unita troops in Cuito, where authorities said 56 rebels had been killed.

"The fighting has been much heavier in the past two days and is concentrated in the southern quarter of the town," a Western military attache based here said.

Angolan national radio said street fighting was taking place in some districts of the town.

Unita had deployed three battalions and heavy artillery around Cuito, the chief town of Bie province in the central highlands, the radio said.

Some estimates claimed 15 000 people had been killed since the rebel siege of Cuito began in January.

The fierceness of the fighting may indicate that Unita is determined to take the town at any cost, winning a

CT 9/9/93 (5)
further military advantage on the ground before the UN Security Council meets to discuss Angola again on September 15.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi telephoned UN Secretary-General Mr Boutros Boutros-Ghali and US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Mr George Moose on Tuesday, to explore the possibilities of "a renewal of dialogue".

Last Friday, he telephoned Portuguese President Mario Soares to propose a ceasefire arrangement.

The Portuguese foreign ministry said yesterday it would not receive a Unita delegation due to go to Lisbon during the week.

● Yesterday Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha said South Africa would do its utmost, if given the opportunity, to assist in resolving the Angolan situation. — Sapa

Unita ready to negotiate peace, says top general

B/Day 10/19/93

LISBON — As fighting raged in Angola, Unita chief of staff Gen Arlindo Pena said yesterday his movement was ready to return to the negotiating table as soon as a ceasefire was established in the war-ravaged country.

Speaking after a meeting with Portuguese President Mario Soares, Pena said Unita was ready "from one moment to the next" to resume talks with the Angolan government once a truce was in place. He said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi had asked UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in a letter to name a truce date.

But Angolan Prime Minister Marcolino Moco maintained his government's line that new peace proposals were useless because Unita had rejected all previous peace initiatives and had returned to war.

About 100 000 people have died since Angola was plunged back into bitter warfare a year ago after a brief, 18-month period of peace that led to multiparty elections.

Savimbi refused to accept defeat in the balloting and called his troops back to arms.

Pena, usually known by his nom-de-guerre Ben-Ben, gave Soares a letter from Savimbi which he said laid out Unita's desire for fresh talks.

"We want new talks but without gunfire," he said.

Moco, speaking on Portuguese radio, said new initiatives made no sense, because "the principles that should create the conditions for peace in Angola have already been established".

Moco's government insists that Unita must accept electoral defeat and withdraw its troops to allow the restoration of government authority across the war-torn nation.

The UN has set a September 15 deadline for a resumption of negotiations, but as fighting has intensified, neither side seems willing to talk peace.

The last attempts to revive the peace process failed in May when talks in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, collapsed after Unita refused to accept an internationally brokered peace plan. — Sapa-AP.

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WDM 10-16/9/93

Angolan army advances on rebel HQ

Mark Hubbard in Luanda

ANGOLAN government troops have consolidated at least two new fronts in their advance on the army headquarters of Unita rebels in Huambo, but are seriously impeded by overstretched supply lines and a shortage of trained soldiers.

Government sources have confirmed that fighting has intensified in the past three days near the town of Balombo, 60 miles north-west of Huambo.

The capture of Unita's headquarters is now the government's main military objective.

However, Western diplomatic sources in Luanda believe the government is struggling to achieve its aim of creating a new national army.

The next four weeks, before the onset of heavy rains slows the military campaign, are regarded as critical.

"The government is not going to be able to defeat Unita militarily at every spot in this country," one Western diplomat said. "Even if they take some major towns, Unita will return to the bush and the war will go on forever."

The Angolan government army, the FAA, has now recruited up to 60,000 soldiers, a Western military source in Luanda said yesterday.

FAA commanders at the frontline town of Ganda and in the eastern, FAA-held, town of Luena said that many of their troops were former Unita fighters who deserted when the civil war resumed in October.

Diplomats in Luanda say the speed of the FAA advance into Huambo

province has been deceptive, and that Unita is attempting to draw them into the forested central highlands, where the rebels are more accustomed to fighting.

"This view is ridiculous," said the FAA commander at Ganda, Colonel Jose Manuel de Souza. "We know the mountains just as well as Unita."

Ageing helicopters bearing Aerosol insignia carry the wounded from the front to Benguela and return with young, nervous troops, many of them civilians without uniforms and barely familiar with their AK-47 machine guns.

"Although this war isn't winnable, it's certainly a war in which the FAA can deal Unita a blow," a military observer said.

"The government is training a lot of

troops, but they have serious logistical problems which they are only slowly overcoming. The tide will slowly turn in favour of the government."

Unlike those in Ganda, FAA troops at Luena were well-equipped with new AK-47s, boots and uniforms. Tanks and multiple rocket launchers were sited at strategic positions and troops were dug in to sophisticated networks of trenches surrounded by minefields.

The local FAA commander, Com-mandante Marques Correia, said the FAA destroyed a Unita supply base 25 miles from Luena at the weekend, suggesting that the government's security cordon around the town had been steadily expanded.

According to the South African rep-

resentative in Luanda, Roger Ballard-Tremer, Unita has continued to be supplied from South Africa.

He said that South African companies have contacted his office asking how they can send supplies to Unita. Supplies from Durban and Johannesburg have been transported over-land through Namibia.

He added that goods with adequate paperwork only became "illegal" once they crossed into Angola without permission from the Luanda government.

Despite Britain's decision to lift its arms embargo on the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) government, no foreign powers have donated arms to it.

Military sources have confirmed that Portuguese military rations are readily available at some army posts, but new Jeeps, guns and other supplies have largely been bought from countries of the former eastern bloc.

MPLA lure for SADF troops

WM 10-16/9/93

Jan Taljaard

FORMER South African Defence Force special forces members are already in Angola or on their way there to be employed as a mercenary vanguard of the MPLA government's final onslaught against Unita, says a well-placed source.

The source, a former member of the security forces with wide-ranging contacts in special force circles, said he had received an offer, but had decided to turn it down. He said as many as 600 people had received similar offers.

The mercenaries were recruited from a pool of ex-soldiers, as well as members currently serving in the SADF special forces. They were offered a year's contract with a salary of \$10 000 a month.

While the SADF would not comment on the claims, a spokesman for the army confirmed there had been "some resignations among members of the special forces but not to a degree that concerns the army. The army is not aware of the intentions of these members after they leave the service."

According to the source, the mercenaries will on this occasion not be used to "protect" oil installations behind the front line, but will form part of a complete battle group that will include helicopter and fighter pilots, intelligence operatives and combat troops.

See Pages 13 and 20

Angola evacuates children

LUANDA — The Angolan air force has evacuated hundreds of starving civilians from Menongue after driving back Unita rebel troops that had seized the town's airport, military officials said yesterday.

Evacuated children at a military hospital had bellies bloated by malnutrition. Some had lost their feet in mine explosions.

Doctors said many of the evacuees, who were brought out on five military aircraft, were suffering from dehydration and tuberculosis and some of the injured needed operations.

The south-western town of Menongue, about 1 000km from Luanda, has become relatively calm, military officials said. — Sapa-AFP

⑤ CT 11/9/93

to India's Minis - 11

Angolan civilians evacuated

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LUANDA. — The Angolan air force has evacuated hundreds of starving civilians from Menongue in the south-west after driving back Unita rebel troops that had seized the town's airport. ARG 11/9/93

The Luanda central military hospital took in dozens of children on Thursday, their bellies bloated by malnutrition. Some had lost their feet in mine explosions.

Doctors said many of the evacuees, who were brought out on five military aircraft, were suffering from dehydration and tuberculosis.

Some of the injured needed operations, including further amputations, said the medical staff.

The town of Menongue, about 1 000 km from Luanda, has become relatively calm, said military officials.

Government troops carried out mopping-up operations after destroying a Unita military base a few kilometres from Menongue.

Angola's renewed civil war, which is killing about 1 000 people daily, according to best estimates available to relief workers, flared up again after Unita refused last October to accept the outcome of general elections it lost. — Sapa-AFP.

ANGOLA

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DOGS and cats are their food. Doors and window frames are their fuel. These are the people of Huambo and Quito in Angola — and this is Africa's forgotten war.

As the world's attention focuses on Bosnia and Somalia, the only link the civilians in these war-ravaged towns have with the outside world are United Nations representatives and a lone journalist working for the government news agency, Angop.

The situation was graphically described by the UN's special representative to Angola, Aloune Blondin Beye, who told German television:

"The humanitarian situation is catastrophic. There are three million people affected by war and, in certain areas with active conflict, people have not been supplied with food for eight months.

"What happens in the conflict areas is absolutely horrible. In Quito they don't even have time to bury the dead. They don't have anything to make a fire because they have all ready cut all the trees and eaten all the roots and leaves. Now they are taking out all the doors, windows and furniture to make fire to cook something.

Collapse (5)

"While the attention of the international media is concentrated on Bosnia and Somalia, the world's most savage war, with astronomical casualty figures, is unfolding largely unnoticed in Angola."

The Angolan war began soon after the collapse of the government of national unity following Portugal's abandonment of its African colonies in 1975. It has claimed about 400 000 lives as the MPLA government and Jonas Savimbi's rebel Unita movement fought a ferocious war until the signing of the Bicesse peace agreements in May last year. The death

The shame of Africa's forgotten bloodbath

By TENDAI DUMBUTSHENA

toll has been exceeded since peace talks between the MPLA and Unita collapsed following the latter's rejection of elections in September last year which it considered fraudulent.

The war received high profile coverage from the international media because it was perceived as an East-West proxy war, with the former Soviet Union and the United States backing the MPLA and Unita, respectively. With the collapse of the Soviet Union and a succession of abortive peace talks, the Angolan war became a forgotten one.

Given South Africa's history of involvement in the Angolan war and its location within the southern African region, the paucity of coverage by the local media of a war that reportedly claims 1 000 lives a day is difficult to fathom.

Emboldened by diplomatic recognition granted by the US following Unita's rejection of elections and its intransigence at peace talks in Abidjan, the MPLA launched a major military offensive which led to an upsurge in the number of war casualties. The government offensive was, however, a response to a major military onslaught by Unita.

The number of deaths have also soared because of the inaccessibility to relief agencies of many besieged cities to which people have fled the Unita-controlled countryside. With little food in the rural areas because of the dry season, people have become almost totally reliant on

handouts. The fields are also mined, thus further reducing the people's ability to feed themselves.

The government is determined to destroy Unita's stronghold in a 30km radius around Quito where the rebels also have a military presence in the northern part of the city.

Equally crucial to the government is the removal of Unita from its central headquarters of Huambo, which would be a psychological coup de grace. But, according to diplomats and journalists who have visited Angola, these objectives are not militarily attainable.

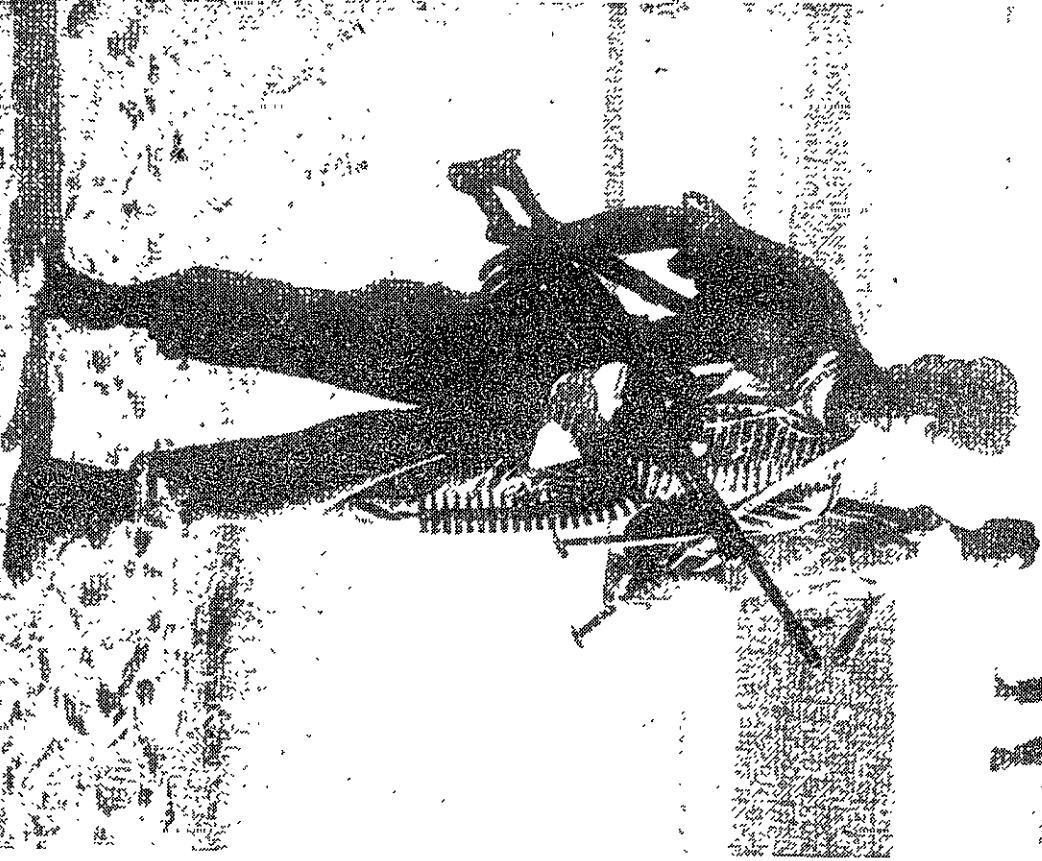
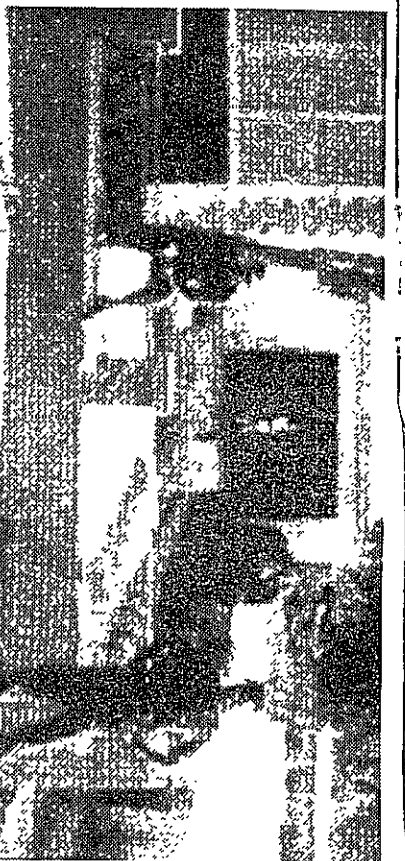
Sanctions

The United Nations Security Council meets on Wednesday to discuss the Angolan crisis but there is little hope that the international body has the political will and material capacity to come to grips with the world's most ferocious civil war.

Sapa-Reuter reports that the US, Russia and Portugal this week accused Unita of stepping up the civil war and demanded UN sanctions against the rebel movement.

The three countries, official observers of the collapsed 1991 peace agreement, toughened their stand against Unita and expressed support for the Angolan government at a meeting of senior officials in Lisbon.

But the officials ignored Unita's latest call for an immediate ceasefire and a resumption of peace talks without pre-conditions. They also refused to meet a delegation of senior Unita officials.



VICTIM OF WAR... a child plays in the shadow of a heavily armed soldier in a street in government-held Calimbarombo
Picture: HERBERT MABUZA

Sowetan

14/9/93

Unita hammers Cuito

LUANDA — Angolan rebels are on the verge of overwhelming the besieged government garrison at Cuito after attacking from three fronts, Angolan state radio reported yesterday.

“There is a general fear in Cuito about our capacity to resist since the Unita troops are using all means possible and are making the situation unbearable and desperate,” the radio said.

The Government has said Unita wants to seize Cuito — which foreign aid

workers have described as a “forgotten Sarajevo” because of the desperate conditions there — as a propaganda coup before the UN Security Council meets to discuss Angola.

Unita’s military chief, General Arlindo Chenda Pena “Ben Ben”, told the Lisbon daily *Publico* that Unita forces had been besieging the garrison in the central highland city for eight months in order to keep them bottled up.

“Ben Ben” denied Unita was fighting

all out to capture the city.

The state radio correspondent raised his estimate of the casualty toll in Cuito to 20 000 dead, 18 000 missing and 18 000 severely wounded.

The battle for Cuito, which had a peacetime population of 250 000, has become the centrepiece of Angola’s renewed civil war since a government offensive into the rebel-controlled central highlands ran out of steam at the end of August. — *Sapa*.

⑤
Unita will declare
ceasefire' next week

CT 149193
ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast. — Unita will declare a unilateral ceasefire from September 20, its military chief-of-staff, General Arlindo Pena, announced here yesterday.

General "Ben-Ben", as he is known, announced the decision at a press conference putting forward a new peace plan from Unita to end the civil war, which broke out again last October.

The plan foresees "the declaration of a ceasefire in situ from September 20 to allow humanitarian aid into the country, to let foreigners leave and allow talks to begin", he said. — Sapa-Reuter

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UN trying to arrange Angola peace summit

SAO TOME. — The United Nations is trying to arrange an African summit in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe to restart peace talks aimed at ending Angola's civil war.

The move came as Unita offered to declare a unilateral ceasefire from September 20 to ease the distribution of humanitarian aid and to resume peace talks to end the 18-year conflict that has cost more than a million lives.

Unita issued statements in Lisbon and Abidjan calling for immediate peace talks after

the offered truce to discuss forming a new national army and police force, decentralising Angola's administration and guaranteeing freedom of expression.

(5) APR 14 1992
The government sources said UN special representative in Angola Alioune Blondin Beye would visit Sao Tome tomorrow for talks with its president Miguel Trovoada, which could fix a date for the planned peace summit.

A short-lived peace treaty was signed by the two sides in 1991. — Sapa-Reuter

FW, Mandela named

OSLO. — President F.W. de Klerk and Mr. Nelson Mandela have been nominated for the 1993 Nobel Peace prize.

The news surfaced yesterday when it became known that the nominations for the 1993 prize closed on February 1 — leaving peacemakers Mr. Yassar Arafat and Mr. Yitzhak Rabin outside the deadline. Other nominees include Czech President Mr. Vaclav Havel, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

"I expect that we shall see the most recent events in the Middle East reflected in the nominations for the peace prize," said Mr. Geir Lundestad, director of the Nobel Institute.

"But the deadline for nominations for the 1993 prize closed on February 1."

There were 120 nominations for this year's award, worth R2.89 million. The names of the recipients will be announced on October 15.

UIF call to farmers

BLOEMFONTEIN. — Free State farmers should not fulfil their obligations to the Unemployment Insurance Fund, said Dr. Pieter Gous, president of the Free State Agricultural Union.

Contrary to previous information given to farmers, the fund had serious financial problems, he said yesterday.

As farmers were not responsible for this crisis, which could lead to big increases in premiums, they

could not be expected to make the fund liquid and healthy. Dr. Gous said the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) had already asked for registration to be postponed until 1994.

There were urgent negotiations under way with the Department of Manpower and to strengthen the hand of the SAAU farmers should wait for further developments.

Those who had already registered were advised not to pay the increase of 0.9% to 1%. — Sapa

Tourist shot dead in Miami

MONTICELLO, Florida. — A British tourist was shot dead and another wounded yesterday at an interstate highway rest stop in northern Florida — nearly a week after a German tourist was killed in Miami.

Police said a man was killed and a woman was wounded in their car by two young men who went up to the vehicle in an apparent robbery attempt.

The man died at the scene. The woman was airlifted to hospital, where she was in satisfactory condition. The man was the ninth foreign visitor to Florida to be killed in the past year. — UPI

Unita closes in as truce call is rejected

JOHANNESBURG. — Rebel forces closed in for the kill around the besieged Angolan city of Cuito yesterday as the government rejected a Unita ceasefire offer.

The government demanded international sanctions against Unita and said its truce call was a propaganda ploy before a United Nations Security Council debate on the renewed civil war.

The rebels poured artillery fire into Cuito and there was fighting on all defence lines, Angolan state radio said.

"A thick pall of smoke makes it difficult for the sun's rays to get through. The number of dead is incalculable. They must be several hundred," the report said.

"The city is being put to the torch and the sword."

The central highland city — described by foreign aid workers as a "forgotten Sarajevo" because of its appalling suffering — has been under siege for eight months.

The total death toll is estimated at 20 000 people.

Unita military commander, General Arlindo Chenda Pena "Ben Ben", on Monday presented proposals for a unilateral ceasefire from next Monday.

Diplomats expressed scepticism about the offer, saying Unita had repeatedly violated the 1991 peace accords since returning to war after losing elections last September to the ruling MPLA. — Sapa-Reuter

Call to punish rights violators

JOHANNESBURG. — Perpetrators of human rights violations during the apartheid era should be brought to book, three prominent political figures said on last night's Agenda.

The TV programme, featuring former Progressive Federal Party MP Mrs. Helen Suzman, Nobel Peace Prize-winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Azanian People's Organisation's Dr. Aubrey Mokoape, centred on the ANC's recommendation that a Commission of Truth be established. A fourth guest, Pretoria bomb blast victim Mr. Neville Clarence, said it would be more practical to simply wipe the slate clean.

Archbishop Tutu and Mrs. Suzman said people who had committed atrocities on both sides should be brought to book. Mrs. Suzman emphasised compensation for families, and Archbishop Tutu stressed the need to deal with the past to start with the future.

Besieged Cuito set to fall to Unita

Star 15/19/92
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Angolan national radio said: "A thick pall of smoke makes it difficult for the sun's rays to get through. The number of dead is incalculable. There must be several hundred."

The central highland city — described as a "forgotten Sarajevo" — has been under siege for eight months. The death toll is estimated at 20,000 people.

The radio report said earlier that it was believed the rebels wanted to capture Cuito before the Security Council meets today.

In the capital Luanda, Deputy Foreign Minister Joao Miranda said Unita should not talk about a truce until the rebels respected the 1991 peace accords which were supposed to end 16 years of civil war.

The UN special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, flew to Sao Tome and Ivory Coast yesterday to try to arrange a summit which both President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi would attend. Sapa-Reuter.



THE HOLE TRUTH: Framed by a bullet hole, a mother and her child arrive at a feeding centre in Melange, Angola. The World Food Programme is flying food to the besieged city but only about 40 percent of the need is being met.

UN twists Unita's arm to end civil war

NEW YORK. — The Security Council has imposed an arms and oil embargo on the Angolan rebel group Unita but allowed a 10-day grace period before sanctions take effect in the war-ravaged nation, where 1 000 die daily.

Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had asked for the delay in the hopes of forging an agreement by telephone with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

But the sanctions will go into force automatically on September 25 unless Mr Boutros-Ghali notifies the council that an effective ceasefire is in place and that an agreement has been reached on full implementation of peace accords signed

in Portugal in 1991.

Some envoys admit the measures are largely symbolic as Unita has stockpiled weapons for some time and Angola itself is an oil producer.

But they serve as a warning

to neighbouring countries, such as Zaire, which shares a long border with Angola.

However, the resolution, adopted unanimously, promises to impose stiffer sanctions against Unita on November 1

— including a sweeping trade ban and travel restrictions on its key members — unless the war ends by then.

Unita presented a new peace plan on Monday, starting with a unilateral ceasefire from September 20, but at the same time its forces have continued to shell the city of Cuito, which has been under siege for eight months.

Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura told the council that people in Cuito "had to nourish themselves with human flesh" to survive.

Blaming Unita and Dr Savimbi for "horrendous massacres", he said the time had come for mandatory sanctions to be imposed. — Sapa-Reuter.

Mandate in doubt, UN warns

Argus Africa News Service

⑤ ARG/16/9/93

MAPUTO. — The United Nations special representative, Aldo Ajello, has warned that the Security Council may be unwilling to renew the UN mandate in Mozambique if there is no further progress in implementing the peace accord.

Meanwhile opposition parties have rejected a deadline by the Frelimo government to the conference drawing up election rules.

The conference has been deadlocked for six weeks over a demand by Renamo and eight smaller parties that they should appoint the majority of the members of the commission that will run the election.

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Star 16/9/93

Angolans eat human flesh

New York— The United Nations Security Council imposed an arms and oil embargo on Angolan rebel group Unita yesterday, but allowed a 10-day grace period before sanctions take effect in the war-ravaged nation where 1 000 die daily.

The move came amid reports that the starving inhabitants of Cuito, besieged by Unita, have resorted to cannibalism to survive.

UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali had asked for the delay in the hope that he could forge an agreement

during his recent telephone negotiations with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

But the sanctions will go into force automatically on September 25 unless Boutros-Ghali notifies the council that

► To Page 3

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Star 16/9/93

Angolans become cannibals

◀ From Page 1

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Unita presented a new peace plan on Monday, starting with a unilateral ceasefire from September 20, but at the same time its forces have continued to shell the city of Cuito, which has been under siege for eight months.

Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura told the Security Council that people in Cuito "had to nourish themselves with human flesh to survive". Blaming Unita and Savimbi for "horrendous massacres", he said the time had come for mandatory sanctions to be imposed on Unita to force them to stop the war and resume a frank and serious dialogue. Sapa-Reuters.

Savimbi has 8 days

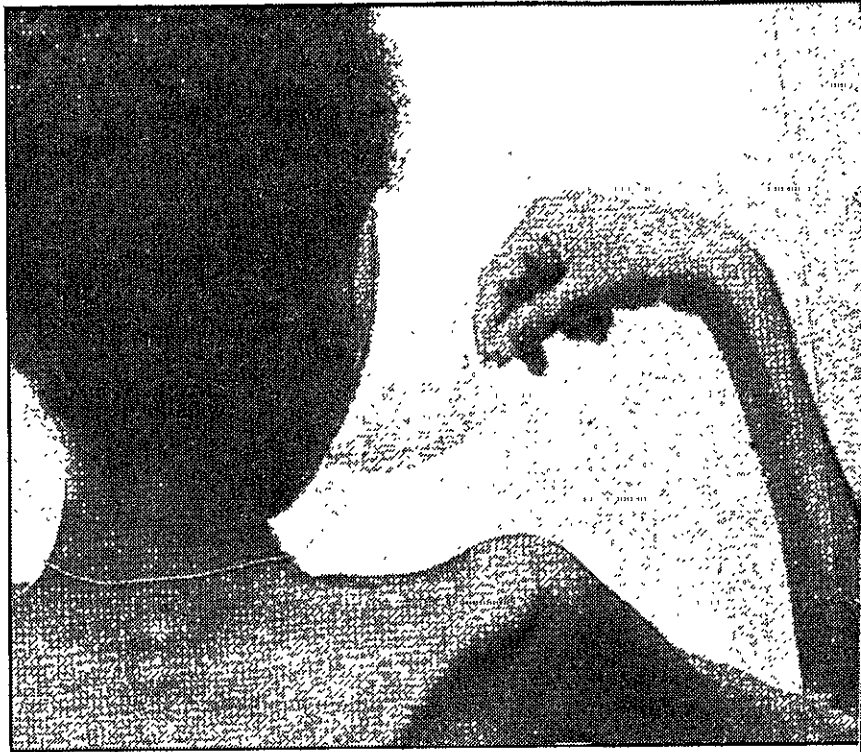
TRADE and travel restrictions could follow an arms and fuel embargo for Angola's rebel movement

Luanda — The Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi has eight days to agree to an unconditional ceasefire and the resumption of negotiations with the government before UN sanctions on arms and fuel supplies take effect.

The move came amid reports that the starving inhabitants of Cuito have resorted to cannibalism to survive.

The Security Council's decision late on Wednesday to delay the sanctions by 10 days was a victory of sorts for Savimbi, who had urged UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali and Portuguese President Mario Soares to block the UN action. (5)

His rebel movement, which restarted Angola's civil war last October after losing UN-supervised general elections, has come under increasing pressure from mobile commando units of the Angolan armed forces. Savimbi declared a unilateral ceasefire to take effect on Monday in an apparent attempt to



Food at last . . . a starving child eats a free meal at a Catholic feeding centre in Malange, Angola, on Wednesday. Severe malnutrition is rife because of the continuing war in the country. PICTURE: AP

stave off the sanctions.

The council said that if Unita did not obey its order by November 1, it would impose more stringent sanctions, including travel restrictions on Unita officials and a trade embargo.

The rebels earn millions of dollars from diamond mines they control.

The council's delaying action, however, has irri-

tated the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola and appeared to mark a retreat from the position worked out last week by Portugal, Russia and the United States, the troika of countries which sponsored the May 1991 peace accord.

The Angolan civil war has become one of the world's most destructive

conflicts, claiming up 1 000 lives a day.

Between 2 and 3 million Angolans have been forced to flee from their homes.

The heaviest fighting is around the central highlands city of Cuito, to which Savimbi's forces have laid siege for the past eight months. — The Independent News Service.

'Besieged residents eating human flesh'

(5) 9/17/93
SAO TOME. — Angolan rebels yesterday shelled the besieged city of Cuito where the government said starving people were eating the flesh of the dead to survive.

State radio said Unita guerillas, who failed to seize Cuito in an all-out attack ahead of Wednesday's UN Security Council meeting on Angola, were shelling Cuito from a distance.

Cuito has been under siege by Unita for the past eight months. Angolan Foreign Minister Mr Venancio de Moura told the UN Security Council that some of its beleaguered inhabitants had been forced to eat the flesh of corpses to survive.

Unita has said it will impose a unilateral ceasefire on Monday to assist the resumption of peace talks.

The UN Security Council imposed an arms and oil embargo on Unita on Wednesday for its refusal to abide by the terms of a collapsed 1991 peace agreement. But it delayed the application of the embargo for 10 days to see if fresh peace talks can be convened.

— Sapa-Reuter

'Ex-CCB men recruiting SAAF pilots for Angola'

Staff Reporter

A RECRUITING drive for experienced SADF personnel to fight as mercenaries in Angola was now targeting battle-hardened SAAF pilots, according to reports.

The recruiting is apparently also being done by former members of the CCB (Civil Co-operation Bureau).

Responding to reports that members of the permanent force and citizen force were being recruited by the MPLA to fight Unita, an air force statement said yesterday: "The Air

Force suspects, but does not have confirmed information, that members are being recruited to render operational service outside the Republic."

A report yesterday said former CCB operatives were working from illegally obtained SADF personnel lists and targeting battle-hardened fighter plane and helicopter pilots.

Nearly R9m in US dollars had been brought into the country to pay for recruitment, the report said.

The SAAF said there had not been an abnormal amount of resignations from the air force recently.

⑤ CT 17 9/93

Unita's ^{AP 19 1993} hopes for peace rise after talks

ABIDJAN. — Angola's Unita rebels were optimistic today about their peace plan after a day of talks with a US delegation in the West African state Ivory Coast.

Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim said they would meet more foreign delegates later in the day, but gave no details.

He was confident the international community would put pressure on the MPLA government in Luanda to respond positively to Unita's declaration of a unilateral ceasefire from Monday.

"Our head of delegation General 'Ben Ben' — Arlindo Chenda Pena — is getting many telephone calls from MPLA military commanders encouraging him to go ahead with peace," said Mr Valentim.

He said Unita's talks with a US delegation led by Edward Brynn, deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, were more or less finished but the Americans would be available later in the day for any further talks.

Unita renewed its onslaught on the besieged city of Cuito yesterday but Mr Valentim said the attacks were aimed only at keeping government



SUFFER THE CHILDREN: Four-month-old Elaine, malnourished from near-famine conditions, in a Melange hospital. Her mother died in fighting in the city, which is under Unita siege.

troops from Unita's stronghold Huambo.

"It is not our intention to take Cuito but to keep the MPLA busy to stop them taking Huambo," he said.

Cuito, 400 km east of the Atlantic port of Lobito, has been besieged by Unita for eight months.

Angolan state radio said Unita stepped up its artillery barrage against the ruined city in the central highlands and threw fresh waves of troops against its defence lines.

Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura told the UN Security Council on Wednesday that some of the city's starving inhabitants were

eating the flesh of dead people.

The council agreed to impose an arms and oil embargo on Unita but established a 10-day grace period before implementation to give Unita a final chance to stop fighting and resume talks on reviving a collapsed 1991 peace agreement. — Sapa-Reuter.

Jets strike Unita at Cuito

SAO TOMÉ. — Angolan jets struck rebel lines in an effort to break Unita's stranglehold on the starving city of Cuito, reports said yesterday.

Supplies were also dropped by parachute into the central highland city, where up to 20 000 people are believed to have died of war, hunger or disease in the eight-month rebel siege.

Angolan radio said Unita artillery was bombarding Cuito despite a UN threat to impose sanctions on Unita unless it stopped fighting.

Angola said Unita had also thrown fresh waves of rebels against Cuito defence lines.

The government says Unita wants to capture Cuito before declaring a unilateral ceasefire

on Monday.

Foreign Minister Mr Venâncio de Moura said earlier this week that starving Cuito residents had been forced to eat the flesh of dead people.

● Unita radio said government jets had bombed Unita headquarters at Huambo, 150km west of Cuito on Thursday. — Sapa-Reuter

CT 18/9/93

Government jets hit Angolan rebel lines ⁽⁵⁾

SAO TOME. — Angolan government jets struck Unita rebel lines in an effort to break the stranglehold on the starving city of Cuito yesterday.

Planes also dropped supplies by parachute into the central city, where up to 20 000 people are estimated to have died of war, hunger or disease during the eight-month rebel siege.

Angolan state radio said the rebels were keeping up the pressure on Cuito despite a United Nations threat to impose sanctions on them unless they stopped fighting.



MOTHER'S LOVE: A boy shot in the face near Menongue sits in the hall of an overcrowded Luanda hospital with his mother yesterday.

Hospital horrors for Angola injured

⑤ APR 20/19/93
LUANDA. — Airlifted to Luanda's crumbling, overcrowded hospitals, the wounded defenders of besieged Menongue lie on filthy mats or rags on the floor and beg for handouts to buy medicine and food.

"It wasn't even this bad back in Menongue," said Corporal Mateus Kodinho, one of about 100 gravely wounded soldiers who were airlifted last week out of the rebel-besieged city 800km south-east of the capital.

As he spoke, he cradled the stump of his newlyamputated right leg in the crook of his arm to relieve the throbbing pain. Pus oozed through his soiled bandages. The stump had been cleaned once in five days.

But while the 48-year-old career soldier and others like him suffer, doctors at the Josina Marcel Military Hospital have few resources with which to treat them. Most of the wounded soldiers are amputees.

"I do what I can, but without money that is often little more than listening to moans," said a North Korean physician identified only as Dr Kim who came to Angola in 1987 under a co-operative programme between his country and Angola's then-Marxist government. He said he would not leave because "there is no one else to do the work".

Hospital officials said lack of funds and rampant looting meant patients must buy their own food and medicine. — Sapa-AP.

Unita shelling kills 50

⑤ APR 20/19/93
LONDON. More than 50 civilians died during Unita shelling of the besieged central Angolan city of Cuito, Angola radio said.

"The fighting is practically hand-to-hand and it is taking place throughout the city," it reported yesterday in a broadcast monitored by the BBC.

"Powerful shelling continually rocks the city, to the extent that Unita's shells are cracking the ground open and pushing dead and buried people into the open again," the state radio said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Mugabe slates white farmers

⑤ APR 20/19/93

□ Court threat sparks outburst

ROBIN DREW
Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Whites' confidence in Zimbabwe has been dealt a blow by the latest tirade from President Mugabe against what he called a "greedy bunch of racist usurpers".

In his first reaction to the disclosure that six farmers had begun court proceedings to halt government plans to acquire their land, Mr Mugabe made a bitter attack on white farmers generally when he addressed his party's central committee.

Denouncing the move to take the land issue to the courts, Mr Mugabe said this was "an exercise in futility". The government would remain firm and unyielding and the interests of the majority would always remain paramount.

He accused "settler racists" of running exclusive clubs, playing exclusive games and striving to maintain their own exclusive schools and other amenities.

"The racists do not belong to Zimbabwe and the sooner they go to their Rhodesia, wherever it is, the better it will be for us Zimbabweans who want

a society of equality and non-racial harmony."

He said some whites still dreamed of a restoration of power in a "resurrected Rhodesia" under a black stooge government, which was why they were sponsoring the opposition Forum party.

Mr Mugabe said the land occupied by white farmers was held by virtue of conquest and not by way of purchase from the ancestors of Zimbabweans.

If it was argued that conquest gave title, it could be argued that blacks could have taken the land when they defeated the whites in 1980.

"Perhaps our weakness has been the fact that we have tried to act morally and legally when they acted immorally and illegally. We have tried to be gentlemen guided by principles, while they defied these principles and acted as inhuman plunderers, guided by nothing more than the law of the jungle," said Mr Mugabe.

He said the people who were resisting the Land Acquisition Act on legal or constitutional grounds were the direct descendants or inheritors or successors of the land and power grabbers of 1890 and subsequent periods.

OUT OF AFRICA



ZIMBABWE: The Congress of Trade Unions called on the government to cancel recent fuel and electricity price rises of up to 40 percent, threatening "nationwide campaigns".

● South Africa deported more than 11 000 illegal Zimbabwean migrants in the past eight months, police said in Harare.

SOMALIA: US helicopter gunships shot dead two armed Somalis after a sniper shot and wounded a Pakistani peacekeeper inspecting a suspected mine in Mogadishu today.

EGYPT: About 200 people were rounded up for questioning in the past week, with Muslim militants again taking aim at tourists after a lull of several months, security sources said.

KENYA: Officials advised workers in Mombasa to ignore calls by the banned radical Muslim organisation the Islamic Party of Kenya for a strike today.

ALGERIA: Muslim fundamentalists killed two policemen and three civilians, bringing to 15 the number killed in violence in the past week.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: The turnout was only around 50 percent in the second round of presidential and parliamentary elections.

Reports: Sapa-AFP-Reuter.



Sowetan 20/9/98

Malanje's living on empty

MALANJE, Angola - In this city under siege, the images of famine abound.

A woman crippled by fever and a mine-shattered leg tries to nurse a skeletal infant. Her own child has died. She found the new one strapped to a corpse.

Soldiers use automatic rifles to drive off a mob when grain spills from a sack. They stuff it in their own pockets.

Stick-legged children leap for speeding aid trucks, trying to climb aboard and slice loose some food.

Malanje, a city in the heart of Africa's richest farmland, has been cut off by civil war. Its 350 000 inhabitants are among two million Angolans, a fifth of the nation's total population, starving or on the verge of starvation.

War is nothing new to Angola. Peace accords signed in 1991 ended 16 years of what has been called the bloodiest fighting in African history. The country plunged back into war a year ago.

"But even at the worst times, there was fighting but never people dying by the day of hunger," said Antonia Mejia Reza, a Mexican missionary who runs one of Malanje's 28 feeding centres for only the most malnourished children.

She points to the swollen bellies, glazed eyes and cracked, ashen skin of the listless children waiting for their three-weekly ration - a single sardine and a dollop of rice.

Outside the gate wait dozens of children who haven't been admitted. They wait to replace the five to six children who, despite getting the ration, die between feeding days.

If there isn't an infusion of aid soon in massive amounts, what you are seeing is the

FAMINE IMAGES Hungry brave minefields

in search for edible roots:

beginning of a hideous story," said Carlos Melendez, local manager for the UN World Food Programme.

Relief flights began arriving in Malanje, southeast of Luanda, four days ago. But no flights arrived last Friday, and UN special envoy Alouine Blondin Beye announced the aid shipments to Malanje were suspended until today at the earliest because of the threat of advancing Unita troops.

Even with no delays, Melendez said, the thrice-weekly shipments of corn and rice hardly feed 50 000 - one in seven of Malanje's starving people.

Malanje, along with the cities of Menongue, Kuito and Luena, has been under siege for eight months by Unita, the rebel force of Jonas Savimbi that has overrun about 80 percent of the country. About 100 000 people have died since war resumed when Savimbi refused to accept an electoral defeat.

The United Nations has accused Unita of blocking or even plundering food aid destined for government-held enclaves like Malanje, packed with refugees fleeing the countryside.

Those refugees now brave minefields planted by both sides in search of edible roots and other food.

Many end up in the Malanje Hospital, which lacks antibiotics, sheets and bandages. More than 120 women have been admitted in the last two months, wounded by mines.

Among them was Maria. Racked by bouts of fever and delirium, her leg mangled, she cradles in her arms four-month-old Elana, a shriveled infant with an old woman's face.

Hospital officials say Maria found the baby strapped to a dead woman's body. Her own infant daughter died of malnutrition two months ago.

The relief flights present their own grim drama. When a sack of corn burst open during one recent arrival, soldiers fired into the air with their AK-47s to drive back a hungry crowd, then rushed in themselves to scrape up loose kernels, stuffing handfuls into their pockets.

Long after the shipment was carried off in trucks, soldiers were still on their knees, using the flat palms of their hands and leafy twigs to scrape together individual kernels on the hot tarmac.

En route to feeding sites, the fast-moving trucks are besieged by stick-legged children. A few youths manage to scramble up, gash the sacks with homemade tin knives and scoop handfuls of rice into their pockets before the armed soldiers throw them off.

At the distribution point, more than 3 000 people wait in a silent semi-circle. There is food for 1 200.

Isabel Antonia Fernanda (42) with cheeks and eyes sunk into her pale face, whispers from the back of the pack that she rarely manages to get even a handful of corn or rice. - *Sapa-AP.*

If there isn't an infusion of aid soon in massive amounts, what you're seeing is the beginning of an hideous story

Savimbi tells his troops to stop fighting

LUANDA — Unita leader Jonas Savimbi announced yesterday a unilateral ceasefire, and called on his troops to lay down their arms from midnight, after both sides reported further heavy fighting. **8/20/78**

In a message broadcast on Unita's Radio Vorgan, he said he expected the Angolan government to take a similar step to enable peace talks to resume.

Unita had, however, stepped up its offensive early yesterday against the besieged town of Cuito, in central Bie province, said official Angolan news agency Angop. **21/9/78**

In recent weeks, Unita has thrown several new battalions into the fight for the town. **5**

Fighting is reported to have cost the lives of more than 18,000 civilians there since January.

The Unita radio for its part accused government troops of killing hundreds of people in weekend shelling of Huambo, where Savimbi's movement has set up its headquarters.

The Angolan government dismissed an earlier ceasefire offer by Unita as a ploy. — Sapa-AFP.

Savimbi: © ‘I ordered a ceasefire’

21/9/73

JOHANNESBURG. — Angolan rebel leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi said his Unita movement had ordered a unilateral ceasefire yesterday. However, the government said heavy fighting continued.

“We proclaimed a ceasefire throughout national territory at zero hours on Monday,” Dr Savimbi said in a speech on Unita radio monitored in Sao Tome.

He said the aim of the ceasefire was to improve the atmosphere for fresh peace talks, but the government and many Western diplomats were not convinced the rebels really wanted peace.

Angolan state radio said rebel forces were still attacking the besieged southern cities of Cuito and Menongue and the northern city of Malanje.

“Unita troops are continuing to attack,” Angolan state radio correspondent Mr Abel Abriao reported from Cuito six hours after Dr Savimbi’s ceasefire time.

The radio said Dr Savimbi’s truce offer was a bluff to avert international condemnation after the UN Security Council last week said it would impose an international arms and fuel embargo if Unita did not agree by next Saturday to resume peace talks.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said last week his government would fight Unita until it accepted the rules of democracy.

In a war the UN now calls the world’s worst, at least 50 000 people have been killed and a fifth of Angola’s population driven from their homes in the renewed conflict. — Sapa-Reuter

Guns of war fall silent at Cuito

ARG 21/9/73

HANS-PETER BAKKER
Argus Africa News Service

LUANDA. — The guns fell silent at Cuito, the main battlefield of the Angolan war, as Unita apparently implemented its promised ceasefire today.

In a broadcast from the besieged city, Radio Angola reported that the shelling of Cuito, which Unita has been trying to capture from its MPLA government defenders, ceased this morning.

□ Ceasefire promise believed kept by Unita

It was not immediately clear whether the lifting of the bombardment was part of the promised Unita ceasefire or merely coincidental.

The government reacted sceptically to the announcement by Unita leader Jonas Savimbi yesterday that the unilateral ceasefire would go into effect at midnight last night. The government has similarly dismissed Unita's offer to re-

sume negotiations.

The official Angolan news agency Angop reported today that Unita had this morning stepped up its offensive against Cuito.

Then came the Radio Angola announcement that the shelling had stopped.

It is not known whether Unita has stopped firing elsewhere in Angola where its

forces are in action.

Even if Unita institutes a ceasefire it will be pointless if government forces continue to attack, forcing Unita to defend itself.

The Radio Angola reporter in Cuito said that when the shelling stopped today he leaped out of his bunker for the first time in days and sang a song.

Cuito has become the scene of horrific human suffering among civilians, who have had to go without drugs or medical treatment in spite of heavy casualties. Many have died of starvation and some are reported to have resorted to cannibalism to survive.

The Security Council has given Unita until Saturday to resume negotiations, threatening otherwise to end the operations of its representatives in foreign countries.

Ceasefire but Unita fights on

⑤ CT 22/9/93

LUANDA. — Heavy artillery pounded the beleaguered central Angolan town of Cuito yesterday as Unita rebels battled government troops well beyond a unilateral ceasefire-deadline set by Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

Dozens of civilians were killed in just a few hours and the fighting had intensified throughout the town under rebel siege since January, government military officials here said.

The Cuito correspondent of Angolan official radio said the artillery fire had raised a pall of dust over the town, where there had been no respite in the fighting since Unita's deadline passed at midnight on Monday.

At least 18 000 civilians are believed to have died in the battle for Cuito, while on Monday Unita accused government troops of killing hundreds of people in shelling of the central highlands city of Huambo.

Meanwhile Unita has apologised to the Zambian government for issuing threats to attack Zambia in January this year, the Lusaka government confirmed yesterday. — Sapa

□ Unita rebel forces 'ignoring their own ceasefire offer'

⑤ ARG 22/19/93

Fighting rages in Angola

LUANDA. — Unita rebels are ignoring a unilateral ceasefire they declared this week and are still fighting to capture the besieged city of Cuito, the Angolan government has said.

State radio and diplomats reported clashes in other parts of Angola, ranging from Quiquengues in the southern province of Huila to Caxito, only 60km from the capital Luanda.

"The situation has not changed at all since Unita declared its unilateral ceasefire," the radio said.

"On the contrary, Unita has launched attacks on Quiquengues and has intensified the battle for Cuito."

"There is some heavy fighting going on. So much for ceasefires," said one Western diplomat.

Unita radio insisted the ceasefire was being observed and urged the United Nations to begin a fresh round of diplomatic contacts aimed at restarting peace talks.

But government military

spokesman Brigadier Jose Manuel Jota said Unita's ceasefire offer was a sham designed to avert further international condemnation of the rebel movement.

"We have past experience of identical statements by Unita leaders, who later step up their action, attacking in order to obtain stronger posi-

tions before restarting negotiations," Brigadier Jota told the state radio.

"The government will respond violently until Unita abides by a real ceasefire," he said.

The radio's correspondent in Cuito reported fighting all over the city, the capital of Bie province in the central highlands.

Correspondent Abel Abriao said Unita was using all its military potential to intensify the fighting and shelling.

Brigadier Jota said the government would only accept a truce based on Unita's agreement to respect a collapsed 1991 peace accord and its defeat in Angola's first multiparty elections a year ago. — Sapa-Reuter.

Catholic bishop 'missing'

LUANDA. — The Roman Catholic bishop of Bie and some 50 missionaries are missing in Cuito, Angolan national radio has reported.

The radio said Bishop Pedro Luis Antonio and the missionaries had been in his residence in the battle-torn chief town of the central Bie province since Unita rebels laid siege to it in January.

They went missing yesterday, the radio reported, but gave no further details. — Sapa-AFP.

IT'S A FUNNY

A retired British coffin-maker pleaded guilty to being drunk in charge of his motorised wheelchair and was given a conditional discharge yesterday. Fred Wood, 64 of Sussex, was three times over the alcohol limit for drivers.

OLD WORLD

Mozambique demobilisation soon

Argus Africa News Service

MAPUTO. — The long-delayed demobilisation of the opposing forces under Mozambique's peace accord now seems set to begin next month.

Both the Frelimo government and Renamo have accepted in principle a proposal by United Nations special representative Aldo Ajello that the opposing forces begin moving next

month into the assembly points from which they will be demobilised.

Renamo appears to have dropped its earlier threat to keep its men under arms until the various private forces formed to guard industrial and agricultural projects are disbanded.

● Maputo has run dry after up-country peasants diverted a river to irrigate their crops.

ARG 22/19/93

Temporary lull in Cuito

Sowetan 22/9/93

■ **UNITA PROMISE** Savimbi announces

intention to cease hostilities in Angola:

5
LUANDA — The guns fell silent yesterday at Cuito, the main battlefield of the Angolan war, as Unita apparently implemented its promised ceasefire.

In a broadcast from the besieged city, Radio Angola reported that the shelling of Cuito, which Unita has been trying to capture from its MPLA government defenders, ceased this morning.

It was not immediately clear whether the lifting of the bombardment was part of the promised Unita ceasefire or merely coincidental.

The government reacted sceptically to the announcement by Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi that the unilateral ceasefire would go into effect immediately. The government has similarly dismissed Unita's offer to resume negotiations.

The official Angolan news agency Angop reported today that Unita had this morning stepped up its offensive against Cuito. Then Radio Angola announced

shelling had stopped.

It is not known whether Unita has stopped firing elsewhere in Angola where its forces are in action.

Even if Unita was to institute a ceasefire it will be pointless if government forces continue to attack, forcing Unita to defend itself.

The Radio Angola reporter in Cuito said that when the shelling stopped today he leaped out of his bunker for the first time in days and sang a song.

Cuito has become the scene of horrific human suffering, with civilians suffering heavy casualties and having to go without drugs or medical treatment. Many have died of starvation and some are reported to have resorted to cannibalism to survive. The Security Council has given Unita until Saturday to resume negotiations, threatening otherwise to end the operations of its representatives in foreign countries.

WORLD



Russian leader Boris Yeltsin announcing Tuesday night. He also called new elections.

Unita troops get ceasefire threat

LUANDA — Angola's military chief has warned that the army will step up operations against Unita soldiers who fail to implement the unilateral ceasefire announced by their own leaders. *8/Day*

General João de Matos also accused Zaire and SA of supporting the guerrillas but gave no details to back the allegations. *23/9/93*

The military command for central Angola meanwhile accused Unita of attacking government units on Tuesday at Monte-Belo and Chongorol in the coastal Benguela province. *5*

The rebel offensive was pushed back and 19 Unita soldiers were killed, military officials said, adding that the rebels had also attacked at Alto-Capaca and Alto-Catumbela in Benguela province.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi on Monday broadcast a unilateral ceasefire announcement, ordering his soldiers to lay down their arms from midnight that day.

The Angolan government meanwhile said the UN special envoy to Angola, Alouine Blondin Beye, had on Tuesday presented it with a Unita peace plan but gave no details.

Officials said the government was ready to help Beye in his bid to get new peace talks off the ground, by facilitating his contacts in parts of Angola which are currently spared conflict. — Sapa-APF

Angolans 'eat human flesh' in city under siege

5

WM 24-30/9/93

Victoria Brittain

NHABITANTS of Cuito have been reduced to eating human flesh to survive, according to a radio journalist Abel Abriac, who has been broadcasting from the city throughout the eight-month Unita siege. In a report close to desperation last week he said that Unita has thrown fresh soldiers, including the presidential guard of the Unita leader, Jonas Savimbi, into the battle.

An estimated 20,000 people have died in the siege, many of them from hunger or from untreated wounds. The town ran out of medicines months ago. Bodies lie in the streets

unburied as Unita artillery barrages and mortar shells have rained down for months.

People in Cuito had to nourish themselves with human flesh to survive, the Angolan foreign minister Venacio de Moura, told the United Nations Security Council debate on sanctions against Unita in New York on Wednesday night.

The UN secretary-general, Boutros Boutros Ghali, surprised Security Council members with a request to delay the implementation of a resolution imposing an oil and arms embargo on Unita while the UN tried to restart the peace process. A ten-day delay was agreed.

The Angolan president, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, said last night his government would continue to fight the Unita rebels until they accepted the rules of democracy.

The survival of our nation depends on our capacity to oblige Unita to behave like a political force and not like a military force within the present democratic framework," he said on state radio.

Mr Boutros Ghali spoke to Mr Savimbi by satellite phone several times on Wednesday.

According to sources in New York, Mr Savimbi said: "Look at what is happening between Rabin and Arafat — do the same with President Dos

Santos. Peace can be made, make it." The Security Council resolution unanimously condemned Unita for its continuing military action since losing elections a year ago and demanded it withdraw its troops from the areas it has seized.

The council said it intends to impose further sanctions, including trade measures by November 1 unless a ceasefire is established and agreement has been reached on a peace accord.

A handful of countries, including the United States, France and Morocco urged the UN not to isolate Mr Savimbi to prevent a return to the 1991 peace accord.

atives are underway across southern Africa to keep Unita from pariah status and they may result in delaying the sanctions yet again.

These include an attempt by the secretary-general's special representative in Angola, Alloune Blondin Beye, who has been trying to convene a conference in either the Gabonese capital Libreville, or in Sao Tome or Abidjan, early next week for Mr Savimbi to meet several African heads of state.

The proposed UN meeting was intended to persuade Mr Savimbi that there is no alternative for Unita but to accept the election results and return to the 1991 peace accord.



Angolan government refuses to meet Unita

ARG 25/9/93 (5)
SAO TOME. — The Angolan government refused to attend peace talks with Unita rebels in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, but sent a written proposal with a UN representative instead.

Nigerian General, Chris Garuba, head of the UN monitoring force in Angola, arrived here yesterday and said he would deliver the government proposals to a Unita delegation there.

Diplomats were making a last ditch attempt to get the negotiations started to end the war in Angola.

Angola rejects peace proposal by Unita rebels

CT 25/9/93

LUANDA. — Angola rejected yesterday a peace proposal by Unita rebels, insisting that a ceasefire be established immediately and the terms of the May 1991 peace accord be respected.

The Angolan government demanded that Unita withdraw from all territories taken by force since they rejected the result of elections last year.

Luanda insists that Unita accept the result of the elections and respect the country's laws.

On Monday, Unita proclaimed a unilateral ceasefire which, according to the Angolan military, has not been observed. Unita, which on Tuesday presented a peace "plan" to the Angolan government through a UN envoy, has indicated that it intends to hold on to the areas that it currently controls — some 70% of Angolan territory.

Meanwhile, diplomats in São Tomé said that government and Unita representatives were due to meet there later yesterday for ceasefire talks.

Unita on receiving end

Sowetan 27/9/93
A UN oil and arms embargo against the Angolan rebel movement Unita went into effect at midnight yesterday, 10 days after being voted by the Security Council. In the absence of any notification from UN Secretary-General Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali about an effective ceasefire or Unita's willingness to abide by past peace accords, the sanctions took effect automatically under

the terms of Resolution 864 of September 15. The sanctions are the first in the history of the UN to target a political movement as opposed to a UN member state. Unita fought the formerly Marxist Angolan government for some 15 years until the two sides concluded a shaky peace in 1991. Fighting, however, resumed after Unita lost the presidential elections. — Sapa-AP (S)

'Sanctions for Unita not enough'

LISBON — Angola's government welcomed the imposition of UN sanctions against Unita rebels yesterday but demanded stronger action against the recalcitrant movement.

Unita failed to convince the United Nations it had called a ceasefire in the renewed civil war and would return to a 1991 peace accord, triggering an embargo on oil and arms supplies from yesterday morning.

The UN Security Council had given Unita a 10-day period of grace after deciding on the embargo on September 15.

The MPLA government wants to isolate Unita diplomatically by closing its missions abroad and restricting movements of its officials as well as freezing its bank accounts.

The Security Council intends to impose further measures by November 1 if no progress is made in ending the war which the UN now describes as the worst in the world.

UN officials say more than 1 000 Angolans are dying each day because the war prevents food and medicine reaching civilians.

Unita announced a unilateral ceasefire last week and sent a delegation to the African island state of São Tomé and Príncipe for peace talks.

The Angolan government refused to send a delegation, insisting Unita stick to the 1991 accords. It dismissed the ceasefire as a sham.

Angola's deputy Foreign Minister Mr Jorge Chicoti said on Saturday Unita had started fresh fighting in the southern province of Benguela and rebel forces were advancing towards Caxito, about 120km north of Luanda. Sapa-Reuter

Deal close - Luanda

'SA army may train Angolans'

Star 27/19/93

BY HANS-PETER BAKKER
STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Luanda — The SADF could participate in the Angolan conflict again, but this time on the side of its former enemies, according to Angola's top military man.

Angola's chief of staff, General Joao Baptista de Matos, said Angola and South Africa were close to concluding an agreement to train Angolan soldiers in South Africa and to use SADF "advisers" in Angola in the war against Unita.

De Matos said he would soon visit South Africa, at the Government's invitation, to finalise an accord.

South African Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Jacques Malan said South Africa was still adhering to the previous agreement.

In terms of the agreement, South Africa may give no military support to either Unita or the Angolan government.

De Matos dismissed Unita's claim of respecting its unilaterally declared ceasefire.

**ENVOY says SA
is sticking to
policy of no
military support
for either side** (5)

De Matos said sanctions would hurt Unita only if they were applied universally.

He claimed that Unita still enjoyed logistical support from some groups in South Africa — particularly from former Military Intelligence agents and in certain political circles.

"We don't have conclusive proof that South African arms are still getting to Unita, but many of the arms we have captured in battles with Unita have been brand new and of South African origin."

He said the newly appointed SA representative to Angola, Roger Ballard-Tremeer, had assured him that the South African Government would do everything in its power to limit Unita's logistical support from South African territory.

UN clamps sanctions on Unita

NEW YORK — UN sanctions against Unita came into force yesterday with the US voicing disappointment the two sides in Angola had failed to agree on a ceasefire in time to stop them.

The UN Security Council decided on September 15 to impose an arms and oil embargo on Unita with a grace period that ended yesterday, unless a ceasefire and 1991 peace accords were respected.

If no progress is made by November 1, the council intends to impose further measures, such as limiting travel of Unita officials or freezing the group's assets abroad.

But US State Department spokesman Michael McCurry in Washington noted Unita had complied with a request from the UN secretary-general's representative for

Angola for military talks with the Angolan government and had sent a delegation to Sao Tome island for that purpose.

"The government of Angola did not." The new sanctions, however, are largely symbolic. Unita gets much of its supplies from Zaire in exchange for clandestinely mined diamonds.

Within Angola, Unita has access to some onshore Angolan oil wells, which, however, have been damaged. But fuel remains a problem since SA cut off supplies.

However, Portuguese envoys in Lisbon believe the threatened November sanctions of closing Unita delegations abroad, restricting travel and freezing foreign assets, could hurt the movement more than the oil and arms embargo. — Sapa-Reuter.

SADF to step up its aid to the MPLA

CAPE TOWN — SA will soon step up training and advice to the Angolan defence force — but not at the expense of its former Unita allies, the government said yesterday. 28/9/93

Political Staff

visit SA. Biday
It is understood that the Angolan defence force chief has also expressed interest in visiting SA but no invitation has been sent.

Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Jacques Malan said co-operation between the SADF and the MPLA could be stepped up following an invitation to the Angolan navy and military intelligence chief to

Malan said SA had a military representative in Luanda and that liaison had become "routine" (S)

"But there is no question of SA getting involved in

the war against Unita. Training of MPLA soldiers would be for non-offensive purposes, he said.

It was reported earlier that Angolan chief of staff Gen Joao Baptista de Matos said the two countries were close to concluding an agreement that would lead to Angolan soldiers being trained in SA and SADF "advisers" being used in the war against Unita. (S)

Savimbi wants peace talks

5 OCT 28/9/73

LUANDA. — Unita chief Dr Jonas Savimbi reportedly sent Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos a message yesterday proposing fresh peace talks, as the government charged the rebel force with preparing a new offensive.

Mr Dos Santos discussed a renewal of peace negotiations with the leader of another former Portuguese colony, President Miguel

Trovoada of Sao Tome and Principe.

Reliable sources said Mr Trovoada had handed Mr Dos Santos a message from Dr Savimbi proposing a face-to-face meeting and expressing his readiness to create the conditions for renewed dialogue.

Four weeks ago the Angolan government rejected a Unita offer of talks, saying the rebel movement should contact the government via the UN rather

than via newspapers.

Meanwhile, government military officials accused Unita yesterday of undertaking a major redeployment of troops in the south of the country in defiance of UN sanctions.

Redeployments on an intensive scale had begun at Kuvango in Huila province, close to the borders of two rebel-held provinces, Bie in central Angola and Cuando Cubango in the south, the military said. — Sapa-AFP

SA to train MPLA
but not to hit Unita

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

CJ 28/5/53
SOUTH AFRICA will soon step up training and advice to the Angolan Defence Force — but not at the expense of its former Unita allies.

Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman Mr Jacques Malan said yesterday co-operation between the SADF and MPLA may intensify following an invitation to Angola's head of Naval and Military Intelligence to visit South Africa.

But he said there was "no question" of Pretoria's involvement in the war effort against Unita. Any training "would not be in an offensive" capacity.

AFRICA

Unita cocks a snook at UN sanctions

Biday 28/9/93

LUANDA — Unita had begun a major redeployment of troops in the south of Angola, preparing for fresh combat in defiance of UN sanctions, government military officials said yesterday.

At the weekend, Unita attacked Qui-pungo, Matala and Cacula in the southern Huila province, and the army captured six Unita anti-aircraft missiles, they said.

Redeployments on an "intensive scale" had begun at Kuvango in Huila province, close to the borders of two provinces held by Unita, Bie in central Angola and Cuando Cubango in the south. The government holds only the chief town of Cuando Cubango, Menongue, while the chief town of Bie, Cuito, has been under Unita siege since January.

The Unita troop movements came within two days of the enforcement on Sunday of a Security Council arms and oil embargo against Unita to press it to return to negotiations. The redeployment also follows days of relative calm.

Unita forces fired artillery at Kiteculo on the outskirts of Cuito at the weekend, the officials said. The military said Unita had kidnapped a group of 15 women near Cuito. Bie's provincial governor, who has taken refuge in Luanda, said the women had been foraging for food.

Angolan police, meanwhile, said that one of their senior officers, Gustavo Ma-

tias, was reported killed in a Unita attack on Saturday at Kulango in the southwestern Benguela province.

On the diplomatic front, the president of Sao Tomé was expected in Luanda for talks with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. President Miguel Trovoada was also due to meet UN special envoy to Angola Alouine Blondin Beye, who at the weekend said there had been a "real massacre" in Cuito, adding that only dogs were not hungry in the town "because they had all the dead bodies to eat".

Trovoada had already met Beye in Sao Tomé two weeks earlier to try to set up a meeting between government and Unita representatives in a bid to end the war that broke out again almost a year ago when Unita rejected the outcome of UN-supervised general elections.

Government military officials refused to go to Sao Tomé to meet Unita's military chief of staff, Gen Arlindo Pena, known as Gen Ben Ben, because they said Unita had failed to abide by the terms of the Bicesse peace pact signed in Portugal in May 1991. Unita had also failed to implement a ceasefire Ben Ben himself announced, which was supposed to take effect a week ago.

The UN estimates that the war, disease and famine are claiming 1 000 lives daily, while hundreds of thousands of Angolans have been displaced and face starvation. — Sapa-AFP.

Clinton acts against Unita

⑤
CF 29/9/93

WASHINGTON. — President Bill Clinton, outraged at Unita's refusal to abide by the results of last year's democratic election in Angola, has prohibited Americans from selling arms, ammunition or petroleum to Angola.

Mr Clinton issued an order declaring that Unita forces had repeatedly attacked United Nations personnel providing humanitarian assistance and had made several attempts to seize additional territory.

He said the rebels also had failed to withdraw troops from the locations that they had occupied since the resumption of hostilities.

"The measures we are taking express our outrage at Unita's continuing hostilities and failure

UN warns of asset freeze

to abide by the outcome of Angola's democratic election," Mr Clinton said.

The move comes a day after the United Nations decided Unita had failed to implement a meaningful ceasefire in the country's civil war and imposed a largely symbolic arms and oil embargo against the rebels.

The UN, however, has threatened harsher sanctions, includ-

ing freezing the overseas assets of Unita, if a working ceasefire is not in place by November 1.

In another development, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos sent a hand-delivered message to Portuguese Prime Minister Mr Anibal Cavaco Silva yesterday outlining the military situation in Angola and presenting his government's conditions for peace talks.

Mr Dos Santos said Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels were not obeying their September 20 unilateral ceasefire.

● Angola yesterday accused Zaire of violating the newly imposed UN arms and fuel embargo against Unita.

A report said a large quantity of arms for Unita had been unloaded at a Zairean port. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP, UPI

Unita stonewall tactics continue

Sciptan 30/9/93

SAO TOME — Sao Tome and Principe's President Miguel Trovoada sought to revive Angolan peace talks yesterday — but privately officials were pessimistic about his chances of arranging an early ceasefire (5)

Trovoada has been in the Angolan capital Luanda since Monday trying to persuade Angolan government leaders to resume talks with the rebel movement on this island state off the coast of Gabon.

Sao-Tome officials criticised the UN Security Council for not giving the sides more time to resume talks before imposing an arms and oil embargo on Unita at the weekend.

They said the Security Council's imposition of the largely symbolic sanctions after granting a 10-day grace period for peace talks to resume had hardened positions on both sides.

Angolan Prime Minister Marcolino Moco told Angolan state radio after talks with Trovoada on Tuesday that Unita had not come forward with any worthwhile new peace proposals despite its declaration of a unilateral ceasefire on September 20. — Sapa-Reuter.

MPLA 'ready to talk'

LISBON. — The Luanda government is ready to resume peace talks with Unita rebels "as soon as the international community gives the signal", Angola's Minister for Public Administration Mr Antonio Pitra Neto said here yesterday.

But he emphasised that any resumption of the talks depended on Unita accepting the UN Security Council

resolutions on Angola, the Bicesse peace pact signed in May 1991 and the outcome of last September's UN-supervised elections.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi said yesterday that his movement had lost ground militarily since it declared a unilateral ceasefire on September 20. Unita will decide tomorrow whether to maintain the unilateral truce. — Sapa

(5) ACI 30/9/93

NEWS UN arms and oil embargo goes into effect

Zaire is 'violating arms ban'

Sowetan 30/9/93

SAO TOME — Angola this week accused Zaire of violating a newly imposed United Nations arms and fuel embargo against the Angolan rebel movement

Unita.

Angolan state radio said a large quantity of arms for Unita had been unloaded at the Zairean port of Matadi.

Part of the consignment was being transported by plane to the Unita-held town of Maqueia do Zombo in northern Angola, it said in a broadcast monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe.

The rest was being sent in small boats to the rebel-held port of Ambriz on the Atlantic coast, 120km north of the capital Luanda, it added.

Diplomats say Zaire has consistently supported Unita in the 18-year-old Angolan civil war which restarted last year after Unita reneged on a 1991 peace agreement with the government.

They say that although Unita no longer receives official support from the United States and South Africa, it continues to obtain supplies from Zaire, paying for goods with illegally mined diamonds.

The United Nations Security Council imposed a largely symbolic arms and oil embargo on Unita on September 15 after the rebel movement failed to stop fighting or agree to abide by the 1991 peace agree-

ment.

The embargo took effect at the weekend after the expiration of a 10-day grace period for Unita to resume peace talks.

Unita took up arms again after rejecting its defeat by the ruling MPLA in UN-supervised elections last year.

Since then it has refused to commit itself fully to the 1991 peace agreement, but it tried to avert the threat of UN sanctions by declaring a unilateral ceasefire on September 20.

The government denounced this as a sham and said fighting continued. Diplomats in Portugal, which once ruled Angola, said the intensity of clashes appeared to have diminished.

Angolan state radio reported on Tuesday that 13 Unita fighters and four government soldiers had been killed in a clash near the besieged southern city of Menongue.

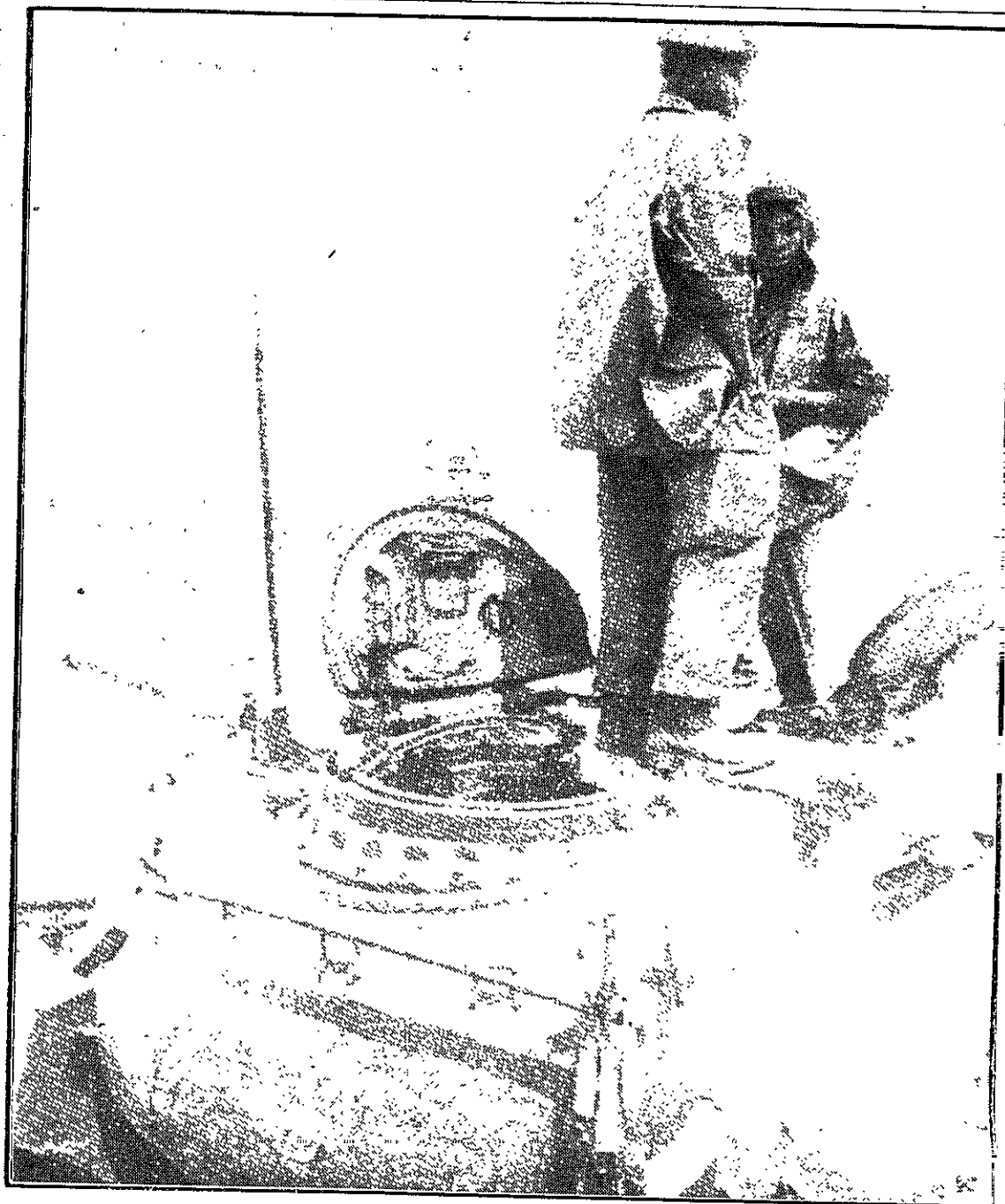
Unita forces continued hostile manoeuvres round Cuito, another besieged city in central Angola, it added.

Cuito, which has been isolated for nine months, has been the main focus of recent fighting, but the government has reported only sporadic clashes there since Unita declared its ceasefire. The rebel movement said on Monday the unilateral truce would remain in force for the time being but its leadership would issue a fresh statement on Friday. — Sapa-Reuter.

■ AIDING UNITA Angola claims large quantities of arms are being unloaded at Matadi and airfreighted to rebels:



A young refugee of Angolan civil war huddles against an earthen home in a refugee settlement on the outskirts of Luanda on Tuesday. Pic: AP



Angolan soldiers on a tank in Mabubas.

Even death is expensive in Luanda

Le Monde

Georges Marion

THE COUNTRY'S only daily published a cartoon last month which cruelly sums up the extent of the disaster. It showed a man, driven to despair, standing on a chair with a rope around his neck and about to hang himself, when his wife screams at him: "Are you crazy? Don't you know what coffins cost?"

Everything is outrageously expensive in Luanda these days. Even death. The economy was never very buoyant, but in a few months it has suffered an unprecedented slump as the dollar keeps rising in the parallel market, which is the only one accessible to ordinary Angolans. In early July the dollar was trading at 22,000 kwanzas. A month later, the rate was over 40,000 and two weeks later shot up to a record 50,000 kwanzas. The Angolan national bank fell in with the trend and immediately issued banknotes of the same value.

The national bank appears to be pessimistic, for a new 100,000 kwanza note is said to be on the point of appearing. "It's a Zairean process," noted an economist who says the inflation rate will very probably be over 1,000 per cent for 1993. And prices are keeping pace with the dollar's growing value, thereby hastening the impoverishment of a people affected by a general breakdown of urban living conditions.

There are more and more power cuts, the health service is wrecked, transport is chaotic and the schools system is dying. Luanda's population has been swollen by an influx of hundreds of thousands displaced persons fleeing their provincial homes to escape the fighting between government troops and Jonas Savimbi's Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) guerrillas.

"Luanda the Beautiful" as it was once known has now become "Luanda the Leprous", a city of refuse-littered, potholed streets crawling with homeless children and beggars which is incapable of looking after the needs of all those crowding into the slums ringing around it.

In the capital's markets, five potatoes are sold for 40,000 kwanzas, which is one-third the minimum wage. How most Luandans manage to

(5) WMI-7/10/93
survive is a mystery, or they have to be fiddling. There are no funds, no spare parts, no initiative and no hope in a country facing a disaster even worse than what it has known before. Local businesses are merely ticking over, paying their employees in devalued banknotes or basic necessities. Public services are a distant memory to which thousands of haggard government employees are clinging as they spend their time looking for that extra job to see them through the day.

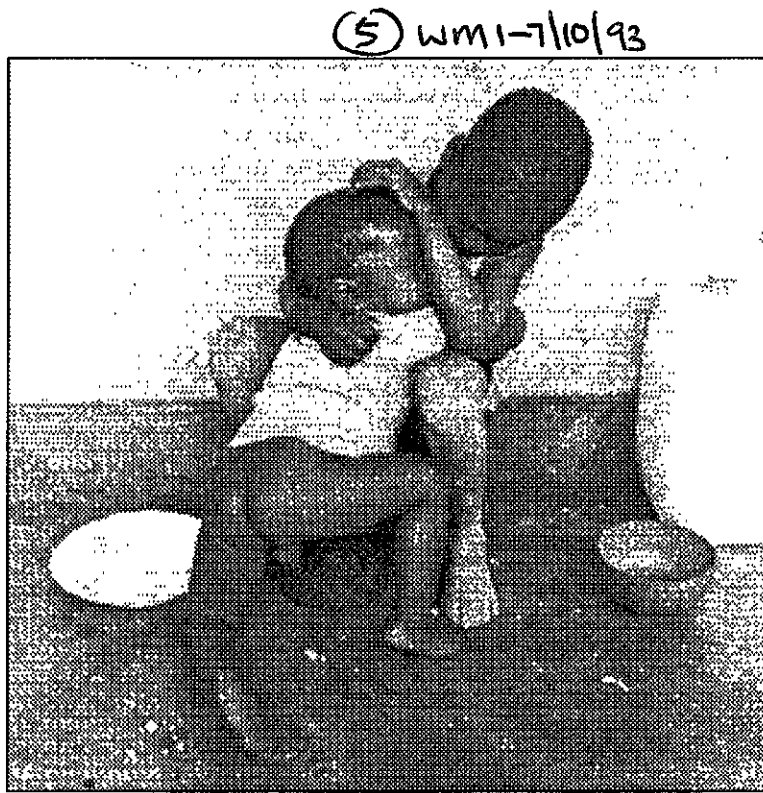
Raggedly-dressed youths roam the streets trying to hawk anything they find — usually cigarettes and batteries but also, depending on the containers looted in the port, TV aerials, car seat covers, telephones, blister-packed contraceptive pills, drinking glasses and electric tin-openers.

There seems to be no dearth of staples and luxury goods, but they are all out of reach of a people whose wages have lost their purchasing power. Much the same thing is happening in the provinces where the UN Food Aid Programme for displaced persons is now opening soup kitchens for more and more undernourished townspeople. "It's the war," was the explanation given by Angolan prime minister Marcelino Moco, who works out of a small ochre-and-white government building facing the sea. "The war is imposing on us a regime which is gobbling up all our resources."

A valid enough argument. Since fighting resumed last autumn with the breakdown of the electoral process intended to put an end to 16 years of civil war, the Luanda government has had to remobilise an army it had disbanded, procure arms and other material, and readjust budget priorities. It would be even more effective if the corruption eating away at the system was less greedy. The corruption is blatant and its beneficiaries have no hang-ups about flaunting their wealth.

Hundreds of luxury vehicles can be seen in the capital's streets. They are hard-currency imports from the United States, Japan and Germany. And driving them are representatives or allies of the handful of families which supply the elite forming the government apparatus, army and former single party, the MPLA (People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola).

Though the government is unable to satisfy its people's basic needs and



Two brothers cower in fear at the sound of gunfire in a refugee camp in Luanda last week

PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN MOORE

has creditors breathing down its neck (with a total population of 10 million, the country's foreign debt now hovers between \$8.5 billion and \$10 billion), it recently presented everyone of its deputies with a brand new Audi car, which has earned the country's National Assembly a nice nickname, the Auditorium.

Huambo, Jonas Savimbi's stronghold and rebel capital situated 500 kilometres southeast of Luanda, is withering away. Retaken from government troops in March after two months of street fighting, this city in the high plateaux looks almost tidy today now that the rubble has been cleared. The traffic is sparse, limited to the odd vehicle carrying Unita soldiers or officials. In a city holding its breath, residents walk silently in single file under the gaze of armed men casually standing on guard outside houses which the new administration has requisitioned.

People aren't yet dying of hunger in Huambo, but they're having serious food supply problems. Geronimo Wanga, the Unita-appointed governor of Huambo province, says the last rainy season produced good harvests which are helping to feed the rural

population, though shortages do exist. But gasoline and transport shortages prevent food supplies from reaching the provincial capital where all economic activity has practically ground to a halt.

Salaries are no longer paid and means of payment are becoming rare. Huambo is gradually reverting to a barter system — a chicken for an item of clothing, a few vegetables for some cooking oil or table salt. Worst affected are children and old people who are showing signs of incipient undernourishment. "The people are tired," sighed a nun. "There's nothing to eat, there are no medicines. The first who gets here with food supplies will be hailed as a liberator, whatever his politics."

Indeed, this is what is worrying Unita which, for the first time since it was formed, is having to run a city of 500,000 residents who are just about existing. "Luanda is hoping to smother us and prod the people into rising up," said an angry Savimbi.

For its part, Unita is preventing humanitarian organisations from taking aid to cities it is besieging, like Cuito, where fierce fighting has been going on for more than eight months.

Unita attacks as sanctions are imposed

(5) WMI-7/10/93

Victoria Brittain

UNITED NATIONS oil and arms sanctions came into force last Sunday against Unita after the Angolan rebel movement failed to meet the UN's deadline for a ceasefire and the beginning of negotiations.

New Unita offensives were reported on several fronts.

The Angolan government welcomed the sanctions as a first step. "These sanctions adopted now will to a certain extent make things harder for Unita in terms of its military capacity. We hope all countries will apply them," a government spokesman, Aldemiro da Conceição, said on Portuguese radio. "But on the other hand we consider the sanctions as insufficient. They don't yet go as far as we wanted."

Unita is estimated to have enough arms to continue the war for months, or even years, and is receiving clandestine supplies of both weapons and fuel from Zaire.

Diamonds and fuel reserves in areas of Angola occupied by Unita are smuggled into Zaire for sale, and this traffic will be unaffected by the UN sanctions. Their significance lies in the psychological impact, since they represent unequivocal international condemnation of Unita. Even the United States, for many years Unita's backer, has joined in the condemnation.

"We are deeply disappointed that Unita did not initiate efforts for a ceasefire and renew negotiations until the end of the two-month period allowed by the UN," a State Department spokesman said.

Last week US officials tried to organise new negotiations between Unita and the government in São Tomé, whose president, Miguel Trovoada, is a close ally of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi. In São Tomé two weeks ago Unita revealed a new plan for negotiations on a new basis which would disavow both the peace agreement of two years ago and the UN-monitored elections last year and produce a power-sharing agreement based on military occupation. Further UN sanctions, which will expel Unita representatives from foreign capitals and freeze Unita's assets if it refuses to stop the war, will be imposed on November 1.

INTERNATIONAL

Medicines urgently needed as children lie dying in Unita stronghold

HUAMBO. — Deserted streets and a hospital ward full of dying children are the legacies of the battle for Angola's rebel stronghold here.

Journalists flown to Huambo, headquarters of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, found the city ominously silent at the weekend.

In the former government hospital, now run by Unita, 56

emaciated children, many of them orphans, wailed softly or waited listlessly to die.

The United Nations has delivered an average of 30 tons of food a day to Huambo in the past 10 days — but it came too late for these children.

Representatives of the international aid organisation Care said after visiting the hospital that most were doomed to die

said medicines, blankets, seed and agricultural equipment were the most critically needed supplies after the World Food Programme food deliveries.

"We've been sent food, but we need farming equipment," said a Unita officer.

In Huambo, Mr Savimbi's villa — the once-lavish White House — and the homes of Un-

ita officers lay ruined by government bombs during raids that ended a month ago.

But the empty streets were clean and the hospital wards were neat, with children and adults in beds and cots.

Parks, private gardens and every vacant lot had been ploughed and planted with maize and other food crops.

Western diplomats estimate



Federico Fellini
Stars pay
one of the world's greatest creative minds

lated bodies have been recovered before he fell to the

Muslim forces fired at the United Nations-controlled air-

the question of how the UN could call off its manhunt for

NEWS Where soldiers are better-fed than children and thousands die of hunger

Angola — where food is a weapon

Sowetan 1/11/93
CIVIL WAR People eat pets and

grass in one Africa's richest countries:

MENONGUE — Little Pedro Cativo weakly swallowed a spoonful of porridge, neither knowing nor caring that his first real meal in weeks was also a weapon in Angola's civil war.

The skeletal boy, who looked half his 13 years, lay on a urine-stained floor of Menongue's only hospital alongside dozens of other children starved during a nine-month rebel siege.

Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rebels had two weeks earlier allowed the first United Nations' food flights into the city, where at least 5 000 people have died since the siege began.

Nurses were forcing their weak charges to eat quickly to restore their strength in case the airport was shelled again and food supplies were cut.

"Many lives have been saved with the resumption of aid flights. But thousands will die if they are stopped," Dr Domingos Aguiar Vicente said.

As the renewed civil war enters its second year, food is becoming a political weapon used by both the government and Unita to starve each other out.

"Food is power," said Mr Philippe Borel, head of the UN's World Food Programme operation in Angola.

Many war victims have been in besieged provincial capitals in the interior — including Menongue, Cuito, Luena and Malange.

They are like multiple Sarajevo — islands in Unita territory where the only access is by air.

lost a UN-supervised election in September last year and abandoned a peace accord which had brought a brief respite.

WFP officials, who risk their lives flying supplies to the isolated areas, say they are fighting their own battle to feed millions of Angolans and avoid mutilation by the two foes.

"Unfortunately people are starving because of the political situation," said Borel, whose agency spearheads the international humanitarian effort.

"It is very dangerous but we must get the food to these people," he said.

His planes and convoys have been attacked many times, nearly always by Unita.

Aid workers estimate about one-third of Angola's 10 million people are refugees. Perhaps 100 000 were killed from direct or indirect effects of the war.

Many of these victims — the UN estimates that more than 1 000 die daily — were civilians who ran out of food or fell ill, their resistance weakened by malnutrition.

Aid workers, who try to ensure that the armed men who meet their flights do not run off with the food, said soldiers invariably look better fed than the starving civilians.

"We try to control where our food and medicine end up," said one. "But the government and Unita feed the troops first with their own supplies."

Those in Unita territory are suffering also, with the government sometimes

denying aid workers permission to fly to rebel areas. Aid workers who visited the rebel headquarters of Huambo last week described widespread malnutrition.

The worse case by far was Cuito, where 30 000 people are estimated to have died from wounds, illness and starvation during a Unita siege which began in January. Civilians survived by eating pets, roots and grass, organising groups of 100 to 500 men who shot their way past snipers to forage for food in nearby fields and rivers.

A woman evacuated from Cuito to Lisbon backed reports that some people had resorted to cannibalism.

Resuming aid flights to Cuito and Huambo was an integral part of delicate negotiations pursued by the UN special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, who is mediating exploratory peace talks this week in Lusaka.

"The relaxing of the political situation has helped the humanitarian situation," Blondin Beye said in Luanda.

Many diplomats believe Unita only allowed the flights to resume to Cuito and other areas because of a UN Security Council oil and arms embargo declared last month and threats of further sanctions in November.

Aid workers said they were trying to fly in as much aid as possible while this window of opportunity existed.

"We fear the doors could close again any day. If that happens, it will be a catastrophe." — *Sapa-Reuter*.

The two men at the centre



Unita's Jonas Savimbi



MPLA's Eduardo dos Santos

The country is potentially one of Africa's richest, blessed with vast fertile land and well-stocked rivers and streams and other natural wealth.

But landmines in the lush green fields and the depletion of refugees' stocks

means mass starvation on the scale of Somalia is in the making.

The war fought since independence from Portugal in 1975 has been waged with even greater ferocity since Unita

Angola talks fail to deliver goods

Star 7/11/93

Lusaka — UN representatives and Angolan rebel leaders left Lusaka on Saturday after five days of talks failed to reach agreement on a timetable for resumed peace negotiations.

A Unita delegation headed home for consultations with rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, and top aides and UN mediator Alouine Beye returned to Luanda for contact with the Angolan government.

Beye, the UN special envoy in Angola, gave no details of his talks in Lusaka with Unita and a team of Angolan government observers who refused to meet the rebel group headed by senior officials Jorge Valentim and Gen-

eral Paulo Gato.

Last Monday, at the start of a week of shuttling between hotels occupied by Unita and the government observers, Beye had said he was optimistic that a date and venue would be agreed to for a new peace summit.

Beye imposed a news blackout on the talks, and neither of the warring sides was prepared to say why it was unable to make progress.

The last face-to-face negotiations broke down in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in May.

The government has said it wants Unita to recognise its victory in multiparty elections last year. — Sapa-AP.

focus on Angola

Sowetan 3/11/93

A YEAR after Luanda's "three-day war", in which Unita supporters were hunted down, necklaced and shot in the streets, new evidence from a wide range of witnesses suggests that more than 10 000 bodies lie in mass graves, most of them victims of secret executions conducted at that time.

Eyewitnesses say victims were Unita members, other political opponents of the MPLA government, southern Ovimbundus and northern Bakongos.

One witness, Dr Aurora Tito, who fled to Johannesburg earlier this year, told how she was dragged to an execution site on October 31 1992. Tito, who was a Unita candidate in the Angolan elections, said that at the killing-grounds in the suburb of Calemba she saw a mass grave containing "hundreds, if not a thousand, corpses of men of all ages, young people of both sexes and women, most with babies in their arms or on their backs".

Confronted with this evidence in Lisbon recently, the leader of the MPLA parliamentary caucus, Mr Joao Lourenco, said his government had nothing to hide.

"We are not criminals," he said. "The world saw everything — we kept an open book. BBC correspondents, CNN, were there filming. Nothing was hidden."

However, Ms Candida Pinto, of Portugal's SIC television, said there were only two foreign crews present, who were unable to film at the height of the killings, and later only in downtown Luanda. She said she saw piles of bodies, in streets, on trucks and in a hospital morgue and thought a toll of 10 000 to 15 000 was plausible. A Luanda source said secret lists compiled by community leaders set the toll at between 13 000 and 14 000.

Amnesty International has renewed calls for judgment of both Frelimo government and Unita leaders accused of human rights violations. Amnesty has demanded an inquiry into the Luanda deaths, as well as into the execution of Unita dissidents Dr Tito Chingunji and Mr Wilson dos Santos at Unita's headquarters at Jamba in 1991.

Unita claims that when the fighting began at the end of October it had fewer than 1 000 armed men in Luanda, but it may have been double that. Under the peace accord, Unita's soldiers could protect the movement's leaders, buildings housing its committees and hotels were the leaders lived. Their heaviest arms were mortars, RPG-7 rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns.

When the fighting broke out government troops and civilians armed by the government moved principally against these buildings, but also against other opposition party buildings. The MPLA claimed Unita had attempted a coup but has produced no credible evidence.

On Sunday, October 31, Tito's house was invaded by riot police, commanded by a man called Tony. She was eight months pregnant and alone with her two children — her husband, also a doctor, was on duty at a city hospital. With her

Unita's reluctance to lay down arms is based on massacres like those after the peace process collapsed last year. Freelance journalist **Jill Jolliffe** reports for the *Sowetan Africa News Service*:



Unita's Jonas Savimbi.

neighbour, a Unita supporter called Adronito, she was taken to the execution site but saved at the last moment when a commander realised her husband had once helped his daughter. Adronito was shot in her presence.

Later that day Unita leaders Mr Salupeto Pena and Mr Jeremias Chitundu were captured and shot as they attempted to flee Luanda. From best accounts Chitunda was shot near his car, while Pena was taken to a police post and shot there. Angolan government television (TPA) film showed both bodies had close-range shots in the head — that which killed Chitunda was fired upwards from under the car.

Joao Lourenco says they "died in combat", but Amnesty International classified their deaths as "extra-judicial executions".

On the Monday the national radio called for the killing to stop but it did not and police and military officers were still seen directing operations.

That day, Father Adelino Simoes protested to police at Viana, 30km from the city, over arbitrary executions — in the town square, in backyards — of people accused of being Unita leaders or Ovimbundus or Bakongos. He later wrote: "I know I will be accused of supporting Unita (as I have previously been accused of being MPLA). My job ... is to speak the truth. I cannot see people through the eyes of Unita or the MPLA."

Leaders of four opposition parties were imprisoned. They included former MPLA commerce minister Paulino Pinto Joao. Four days later they read "confessions" of complicity with Unita on TPA television. These were filmed in prisons, not by TPA crews but by President dos Santos' own television team.

Mr "Jo-Jo" Saraiva Baptista, an aid worker,

At the military police barracks a woman called Commander Betty told Tony:

"There's no room here. Do what we do — shoot them"

was also arrested on the Tuesday, accused of supporting Unita. Tony was again the commander. Baptista was taken on a macabre tour of Luanda as his captors searched for a prison, first at the military police barracks, where a woman called Commander Betty told Tony: "There's no room here. Do what we do — shoot them."

A second prison was also full and as the car turned, its headlights fell on a mound of about 15 dead bodies, says Baptista. The driver wanted beer, so they drove to the suburb of Palance, where the car had to swerve to avoid the bodies of Bakongos. Around midnight, Baptista finally entered Catete Road prison, with well over 1 000 prisoners, some of whom were taken out in batches for execution in the next few weeks.

The killing continued throughout the week. A highly-placed source described the command-centre of the operation, at the military police barracks in the Avenue Ho Chi Minh. Here, President dos Santos' special adviser, General Jose Maria, liaised with the chief of staff, General Alberto Neto, deputy chief Leal Monteiro and Generals Franca N'Dalu and Ary da Costa, among others. They communicated with Dos Santos by telephone.

Jose Maria was also seen in the streets directing operations, but there was friction between him and Interior Minister Mr Piedado Santos, who controlled the MINSE secret police. Both had hot lines to the president and it is not clear who wielded more power. Both suffered political reverses later.

Unita's ammunition ran out after three days and the "War of Luanda" was over but on November 9 a diary kept by the left-wing opposition party *Frene para a Democracia* recorded: "There is a permanent execution squad at Samba. The search brigades bring their prisoners here. They are buried in a mass grave at Morro da Samba."

Peace hope for Angola

NEW YORK. — The United Nations yesterday announced a breakthrough in truce negotiations between the Angolan government and Unita that would lead to the resumption of peace talks.

Unita had "accepted in writing" the principle of withdrawing its troops from vast territories they occupied after losing UN-supervised elections in September last year, a UN spokesman said.

In response, the Angola government

⑤ OCT 11 1993
"reacted positively" to declaring a ceasefire and peace talks were expected to resume soon in Lusaka, he said.

Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, the special UN representative, is attempting to conclude a ceasefire agreement to end the devastating civil war that has cost thousands of lives.

Diplomatic sources in Luanda said direct talks between the two sides could take place as early as next week.

— Sapa-Reuter

Star 4/11/93

Angolan peace talks optimism

■ STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Lusaka — UN mediation is believed to have achieved a breakthrough in the proximity talks in Lusaka between the warring Angolan parties, and more talks are likely from Monday.

Alfoune Blondin Beye, UN special representa-

tive in Angola conducting the negotiations, said they were very successful and had laid a foundation for substantive negotiations.

His optimism was reflected in Lisbon yesterday by a Portuguese government official who said direct talks between the MPLA government and Unita could begin within

the next few days.

The MPLA government demands that Unita accept without reservation the MPLA's victory in the election last year, that it implement a ceasefire, that it surrender the territory conquered since the election, and that it submit its forces to disarming and demobilisation.

UN: Unita willing to leave captured areas

CF4/11/93 (5)

□ 'Government ready to declare ceasefire'

NEW YORK. — The United Nations has announced that Angola's Unita rebels have agreed to withdraw their forces from vast territories they captured in fierce fighting over the last year.

UN officials said that in response, the government of Angola was prepared to declare a unilateral ceasefire similar to the one already announced previously by Unita.

Alioune Blondin Beye, the special UN representative, would then organise meetings with both parties to conclude a formal ceasefire agreement and continue work on implementing peace accords broken a year ago.

Yesterday a UN official gave November 15 as the date Mr Beye hoped to restart the negotiations in the Zambian capital Lusaka.

Mr Beye conducted separate talks with both sides in Lusaka last month. But the Luanda

government had refused to talk to Unita directly until the rebels agreed to withdraw troops from territories they occupied over the past year.

UN spokesman Joe Sills yesterday read a statement saying Unita had agreed in writing to paragraph eight of a September 15 Security Council resolution.

This provision demanded that the rebels withdraw troops from areas they occupied since war resumed and send them to UN monitored areas pending full implementation of peace accords.

The United Nations at the moment has no monitored areas, having withdrawn most of its peacekeepers from Angola.

The statement said the government had "reacted positively" to Mr Beye's proposal that it declare a unilateral ceasefire and talks on a ceasefire would resume shortly.

Unita, the Portuguese acronym for the Union for the Total

Independence of Angola, has been fighting the government since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975.

A 1991 peace agreement led to an 18-month lull in the conflict until last September. But renewed fighting broke out after Unita lost UN-supervised elections, with about 1 000 people dying daily in one of the world's worst conflicts.

The UN Security Council clamped an arms and oil embargo on Unita in September and threatened to increase sanctions by freezing bank accounts of rebel leaders such as Jonas Savimbi, as well as to prohibit travel abroad.

But the council on Monday delayed any new measures until mid-December to see if the peace talks were successful.

Diplomats in Portugal, Angola's former colonial power, advocate that a government of national unity, with some kind of power sharing, could help to restore and keep peace in Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.

Children the victims of Angolan corruption

By SCOTT PETERSON in Luanda

IN THE packed children's ward of the Jansina Machel Hospital, where victims of fighting and hunger twiddle with the stained bandages that wrap their amputated stumps, it is clear who is bearing the brunt of the renewed Angolan civil war.

Of the three to four hundred children admitted here each day, a third are severely malnourished, and 15 die each day of war wounds or diseases easily prevented in other countries.

The mortality rate is already twice that of last year, said Dr Luis Bernardino, head of the children's unit. He spends 80 percent of his time not at the operating table but tracking down and buying medicines for the hospital on the black market that have been spirited away by thieves at the port.

Even in the relative sanctuary of the capital, where the nearby war is often easily forgotten over a few beers or after a day at the beach, suffering is now plain, and corruption — at the expense of war and famine victims — is growing.

Doctors describe extortion by port officials that blocks critical equipment for the hospital for months. The left arm of five-year-old Arturo, who now contemplates the stubby remainder from a hospital bed that he shares, might have been saved if the hospital had had a working X-ray machine.

The X-ray arrived at the port from South Africa last November, but Dr Bernardino could not get it away from the customs guards until this week.

Medicines disappear, stolen by bandits who carry their loot to the rogue Sentelro

market and sell to doctors at extortionate prices.

"We don't receive anything from the government any more," said Dr Bernardino. "We must rely on relief agencies, but that is sporadic."

"I have milk for the most malnourished children only until the end of the month. We can't afford to feed the mothers."

Conditions are now so hopeless in the Jansina Machel and other hospitals — especially with no end of the fighting in sight despite United Nations-sponsored "peace talks" underway in Lusaka, Zambia, since Monday — that doctors fear they will be "swamped without more support."

"Our case in Angola is now forgotten," said German nurse Syfille Dolker, a nutritionist at the hospital for two years. "Every day I came here, and cried."

UN officials estimate that a third of Angola's 10-million population risk starvation.

An ultra-modern new hospital built by the European Community — and outfitted with the latest equipment — is empty of patients because the authorities have demanded \$1-million (R3-million) a month for "maintenance".

The entire Jansina Machel Hospital budget for a year is \$18-million (R54-million).

The government has signalled other priorities: President Eduardo dos Santos has commissioned a multi-million-dollar presidential palace, and ministers and top military men have been given hundreds of new luxury cars. — © The Telegraph, London

ANGOLA

Massacre

Secret executions, Unita bodies

Angolan peace efforts are hung up on Unita's reluctance to bow to international pressure to lay down its arms and give up its conquered territory. This pressure ignores Unita's apparent obsession with not becoming vulnerable to more massacres like those that took place after the peace process collapsed last year. New evidence of those killings has been uncovered by Lisbon-based freelance journalist JILL JOLLIFFE, who reports here for The Argus Africa News Service.

A year after Luanda's "three-day war", in which Unita supporters were hunted down, necklaced and shot in the streets, new evidence from a wide range of witnesses suggests that more than 10 000 bodies lie in mass graves, most of them victims of secret executions conducted at that time.

Eyewitnesses say victims were Unita members, other political opponents of the MPLA government, southern Ovimbundus and northern Bakongos.

One witness, Dr Aurora Tito, who fled to Johannesburg earlier this year, told how she was dragged to an execution site on October 31 1992. Dr Tito, who was a Unita candidate in the Angolan elections, said that at the killing-grounds in the suburb of Calemba she saw a mass grave containing "hundreds, if not a thousand, corpses of men of all ages, young people of both sexes and women, most with babies in their arms or on their backs".

Confronted with this evidence in Lisbon recently, the leader of the MPLA parliamentary caucus, Joao Lourenco, said his government had nothing to hide.

"We are not criminals," he

said. "The world saw everything — we kept an open book. BBC correspondents, CNN, were there filming. Nothing was hidden."

However, Candida Pinto, of Portugal's SIC television, said there were only two foreign crews present, who were unable to film at the height of the killings, and later only in downtown Luanda.

She said she saw piles of bodies, in streets, on trucks and in a hospital morgue and thought a toll of 10 000 to 15 000 was plausible. A Luanda source said secret lists compiled by community leaders set the toll at between 13 000 and 14 000.

Amnesty International has renewed calls for judgment of both Frelimo government and Unita leaders accused of human rights violations. Amnesty has demanded an inquiry into the Luanda deaths, as well as into the execution of Unita dissidents Tito Chingunji and Wilson dos Santos at Unita's headquarters at Jamba in 1991.

Unita claims that when the fighting began at the end of October it had fewer than 1 000 armed men in Luanda, but it may have been double that. Under the peace accord, Unita's soldiers could protect the movement's leaders, buildings housing its commit-

tees and hotels where the leaders lived. Their heaviest arms were mortars, RPG7 rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns.

When the fighting broke out government troops and civilians armed by the government moved principally against these buildings, but also against other opposition party buildings. The MPLA claimed Unita had attempted a coup but has produced no credible evidence.

On Sunday, October 31, Dr Tito's house was invaded by riot police, commanded by a man called Tony. She was eight months pregnant and alone with her two children; her husband, also a doctor, was on duty at a city hospital. With her neighbour, a Unita supporter called Adronito, she was taken to the execution site but saved at the last moment when a commander realised her husband had once helped his daughter. Adronito was shot in her presence.

Later that day Unita leaders Salupeto Pena and Jeremias Chitunda were captured and shot as they attempted to flee Luanda. From best accounts Mr Chitunda was shot near his car, while Mr Pena was taken to a police post and shot there. Angolan government television (TPA) film

of the 10 000

5 ARG 8/11/93

iled into mass graves in Luanda's '3-day war'



FLASHBACK: Bodies of Unita soldiers burning in the streets of the Cassenda district of Luanda after post-election fighting in November last year between MPLA government soldiers and opponents.



Catete Road prison, with well over 1 000 prisoners, some of whom were taken out in batches for execution in the next few weeks.

The killing continued throughout the week. A highly-placed source described the command-centre of the operation, at the military police barracks in the Avenue Ho Chi Minh. Here, President dos Santos's special adviser, General Jose Maria, liaised with the chief of staff, General Alberto Neto, deputy chief Leal Monteiro and generals Franca N'Dalu and Ary da Costa, among others. They communicated with President dos Santos by telephone.

General Maria was also seen in the streets directing operations, but there was friction between him and Interior Minister Piedado Santos, who controlled the MINSE secret police. Both had hot lines to the president and it is not clear who wielded more power. Both suffered political reverses later.

Unita's ammunition ran out after three days and the "War of Luanda" was over but on November 9 a diary kept by the left-wing opposition party Frene para a Democracia recorded: "There is a permanent execution squad at Samba. The search brigades bring their prisoners here. They are buried in a mass grave at Morro da Samba."

showed both bodies had close-range shots in the head; that which killed Mr Chitunda was fired upwards from under the ear.

Mr Lourenco says they "died in combat", but Amnesty International classified their deaths as "extra-judicial executions".

On the Monday the national radio called for the killing to stop but it did not and police and military officers were still seen directing operations.

That day, Father Adelino Simoes protested to police at Viana, 30km from the city, over arbitrary executions — in the town square, in backyards — of people accused of

being Unita leaders or Ovimbundus or Bakongos.

He later wrote: "I know I will be accused of supporting Unita (as I have previously been accused of being MPLA). My job ... is to speak the truth. I cannot see people through the eyes of Unita or the MPLA."

Leaders of four opposition parties were imprisoned. They included former MPLA commerce minister Paulino Pinto Joao. Four days later they read "confessions" of complicity with Unita on TPA television. These were filmed in prisons, not by TPA crews but by President Santos's own television team.

"Jo-Jo" Saraiva Baptista,

an aid workers, was also arrested on the Tuesday, accused of supporting Unita. Tony was again the commander. Mr Baptista was taken on a macabre tour of Luanda as his captors searched for a prison, first at the military police barracks, where a woman called Commander Betty told Tony: "There's no room here. Do what we do — shoot them."

A second prison was also full and as the car turned, its headlights fell on a mound of about 15 bodies, says Mr Baptista. The driver wanted beer, so they drove to the suburb of Palance, where the car had to swerve to avoid the bodies of Bakongos. Around midnight, Mr Baptista finally entered

Unita rebels 'attacking' ⁽⁵⁾

09/11/93

LUANDA. — The Angolan government said yesterday Unita rebels were attacking in the central highlands despite the approach of peace talks.

"The troops of Dr Jonas Savimbi have intensified attacks, shelling and other military actions over the past few days against civilians and military positions," a government statement said.

It said: "The aim is to gain ground and create insecurity among the people."

The statement said Unita fired long-distance artillery at government troops this weekend near the town of Ukuma, in rebel-controlled Huambo province.

In nearby Benguela province, Unita ambushed a supply convoy, killing some people, it added.

The reports could not be independently confirmed.

The UN announced last week that Unita had agreed to withdraw its forces from areas it had captured since resuming civil war a year ago.

UN officials said the Angolan government was prepared to declare a ceasefire and resume peace talks in the Zambian capital Lusaka next week.

But government officials now say they doubt Unita is interested in negotiating a lasting peace.

● Twenty civilians were killed and 10 seriously injured yesterday when the truck in which they were travelling struck an anti-tank mine near Malange in northern Angola. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

Star 10/11/73
Unita grabs town

Luanda — Unita rebels have captured Mawengwe town, near Cacula in southern Angola's Huila province, wounding eight government soldiers in the battle, a military spokesman said yesterday.

⑤
Meanwhile, Unita denied bombing the Malanje airport in the country's north and blamed the "State terror network".

— Sapa-AFP.

Mugabe briefed on Angola

HARARE. — Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos has sent a special message on the Angolan peace process to Frontline States chairman and Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe.

SECRET 11/13
The message was delivered to Mr Mugabe yesterday by Angola's deputy foreign minister Mr Joao Bernardo Miranda, who briefed the president on recent peace talks in Lusaka between the Angolan government and Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement.

The UN announced last week that Unita had agreed to withdraw its forces from vast territories captured during fighting last year.

"We cannot say the Lusaka talks were a success, it was an exploratory meeting," Mr Miranda said.

"It is a complex situation, but we hope to get a lasting peace solution in Angola."

He said it was difficult to estimate the death toll in Angola, but an estimated 2 000 people were dying every day because of the war. — Sapa

News blackout on latest Angola peace talks bid

LUSAKA — A UN envoy launched peace talks between delegations from the Angolan government and Unita rebels yesterday. *BISAY 16/11/93*

The talks opened behind closed doors after a last-minute switch of venue, to keep a total news blackout.

UN special representative on Angola Alioune Blondin Beye said: "These are secret talks. Nobody, repeat nobody, will give you any bit of information at all on what is going on because we have all agreed that nothing will come out."

Beye had exploratory meetings with the two sides in the Angolan civil war last month but on that occasion he shuttled between the delegations, which did not meet face to face.

This time the government and Unita are expected to talk directly but it was not immediately clear if this would happen yesterday. The Angola talks are open-ended.

A Zambian official source said he believed Beye was first holding informal talks with the delegations, to be followed by face-to-face talks later.

Diplomats from the three observer states — the US, Russia and Portugal, Angola's former colonial ruler — are also attending the meeting. They declined to comment on the talks yesterday.

Diplomatic sources have said the main agenda item is whether Unita is prepared to stop fighting and give up territory it controls, almost two-thirds of the country.

Foreign aid workers and the UN say at least 1 000 people a day are dying in the war — the highest fatality rate for any current conflict.

Hundreds of thousands of Angolans have been displaced and 3-million are in need of urgent food aid.

Diplomats said it would be extremely difficult for Beye to bring about a negotiated settlement. But they noted that Unita had recently pledged to withdraw from territory it controls.

The Angolan government itself faces a crumbling economy and is also under pressure to talk peace, they said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Sowetian 16/11/93

Angola peace talks start

■ CLOSED DOORS Envoy says

delegates can't work in glare of Press:

LUSAKA — A UN envoy launched peace talks between delegations from the Angolan government and the rebel movement UNITA in the Zambian capital Lusaka yesterday.

Mr Alhousse Blondin Beye, the UN special representative on Angola, said: "These are secret talks. Nobody, repeat nobody, will give you any bit of information at all on what is going on because we have all agreed nothing will come out."

added. Beye had exploratory meetings with the two sides in the Angolan civil war last month but on that occasion he shuffled between the delegations, which did not meet face to face.

Diplomatic sources have said the main agenda item is whether Unita is now prepared to stop fighting and give up territory it controls — almost two thirds of the country. — *Sapa-Reuters*.

The talks opened behind closed doors in Mubungushi Hall after a last-minute switch of venue from a Lusaka hotel, apparently to help maintain a total news blackout.

Written agreement from Unita (5)

Victoria Brittain

UNITED Nations officials have announced that new face-to-face talks will begin later this month between the Angolan government and Unita rebels after a written undertaking from Unita to withdraw from the territories it has seized since elections were held a year ago.

The apparent breakthrough, announced in New York, was greeted with a measure of scepticism by Western diplomatic sources.

It is a critical test for Alioune Blondin Beye, the special UN representative who has been trying for months to persuade Unita to end its war. Unita's promised withdrawal came in discussions with Mr Beye over last weekend and was sufficient to avert, at least until mid-December, the enforcement of the additional UN

sanctions due to start last Monday, according to diplomatic sources in New York.

The UN Security Council imposed a largely symbolic arms and oil embargo on Unita in September, and later threatened to freeze the bank accounts of the Unita leadership, including its head, Jonas Savimbi, and barring their travel abroad if peace talks did not start.

UN spokesman Joe Sills reported that Unita had agreed in writing to paragraph eight of the September 15 Security Council resolution. The paragraph demands that the rebels withdraw troops from areas they occupy. In response to the Unita promise, according to UN officials, the government of Angola was prepared to declare a ceasefire.

A partial ceasefire has been in force for a few weeks, though Unita is still

enforcing a blockade of several Angolan cities, including Cuito, Malange, and Luena, and preventing the starving and the wounded from being flown out for treatment in Luanda.

The Unita forces around Cuito in particular, but also around the other cities, are laying new minefields which make it impossible for the towns' inhabitants and the thousands of refugees to work in their fields. New victims of mines are daily being brought into hospitals without medical personnel or equipment. Dependence on air transport for food aid is now almost total in all the towns.

A UN official gave November 15 as the date Mr Beye hoped to restart negotiations in the Zambian capital Lusaka. Mr Beye, and an American special envoy, Paul Hare, held talks with Unita in Lusaka last month.



Unita's Jonas Savimbi: Will he keep his word this time?

All Britain offers is medicine

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W.M. 19-25/11/93

OPINION: Victoria Britain

TEN British nurses and 33 tons of medicine were Britain's contribution to Angola this week. Seventy thousand children are to be vaccinated this month in Unita-occupied Huambo and in the nightmare city of Cuito, where one third of the population have died by starvation and Unita shelling. It is, of course, an uncontroversial gesture which may save many young lives. But it entirely misses the point of Angola's need.

Britain, like the rest of the international community, is guilty of gross negligence, and a failure to follow through on its responsibility for Angola's failed transition from the 17-year war.

In the aftermath of a UN-supervised election, the losing party, Unita, defied the international community and launched an ambitious war, with considerable help from outside the country, to reverse the choice made at the polls. Now, every week, as the social and economic tragedy worsens and the country sinks into barbarism, the international community is going ever further down the cul de sac of duplicitous negotiations which, for nine months, have provided the cover for the war waged by Unita on a largely defenceless population.

Unlike the tangled internecine ethnic power struggles of Somalia, Burundi or Bosnia, the war in Angola has a simple root: an attempt to seize power by military means after a failure to get it by democratic means. As in Haiti, there is no doubt who won the election, or the fairness of the election.

In response to the renewed outbreak of fighting, the United States, the United Nations and South Africa began placating Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, whose democratic credentials they had lauded for decades. Today, despite toothless UN sanctions, that placating is still going on as Savimbi holds Angola to ransom.

The UN in Bosnia has sought, ineffectually, to punish war criminals. In Angola the UN needs to find the courage to put the same concept into place against Savimbi before it is too late and he has, as he promised, destroyed the country and rendered those vaccinations futile.



Empty bowls: Angolan children in the besieged city of Malanje, where more than half suffer from malnutrition PHOTOGRAPH: MARCO VERCRUYSE, AP

UN envoy to Angola under fire

Chris McGreal

AS THE Angolan government and Unita rebels met this week in Zambia for a new round of peace talks, the United Nations special envoy overseeing the negotiations, Alioune Blondin Beye, was meeting strong criticism from colleagues.

UN officials in Luanda accuse him of autocratic tendencies and express disquiet at his use of humanitarian aid as a bargaining tool at the expense of a relief operation crucial to millions of Angolans.

The sharpest differences have risen with the UN World Food Programme and its flamboyant chief in Angola, Philippe Borel. Shortly after his arrival in Luanda in June, Mr Beye ordered that Unita's permission be sought to deliver aid to nine cities at risk of starvation. In effect, he gave the rebels a veto over food shipments even to

areas where they posed no serious military threat.

Mr Beye has been accused of over-centralising the UN operation in Angola and increasing bureaucracy. He ordered that his office approve all convoys carrying UN supplies, even those run by independent agencies.

Relations deteriorated further last month when Mr Beye asked the WFP to provide him with first-class tickets to fly him, his wife and his bodyguard to a donors' conference in Rome. The WFP objected, saying its rules allowed it to pay only for Mr Beye.

Mr Beye has also been criticised for bowing to pressure from Unita. He agreed to a ban on a WFP information officer talking publicly about what he had seen in the besieged city of Cuito. When questioned about this approach, Mr Beye told a reporter: "You people lie and misconstrue the truth. The less we tell you the better."

UPI

News blackout on Angola peace talks

(5) 2/16/11/93

LUSAKA. — A UN envoy launched peace talks between delegations from the Angolan government and Unita rebels here yesterday.

The talks opened behind closed doors in Mulungushi Hall after a last-minute switch of venue from a Lusaka hotel, apparently to help maintain a total news blackout.

Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, UN special representative on Angola, said: "These are secret talks ... We've agreed that we can't work in the glare of the press." Mr Beye had exploratory meetings with the government and Unita officials last month but the two sides did not meet face-to-face. Now the antagonists are expected to

talk directly — but it was unclear if this would happen yesterday.

An official Zambian source said Mr Beye was first holding separate informal talks with each delegation, to be followed by face-to-face talks later.

Diplomats from the three observer states — the US, Russia and Portugal — are also attending the meeting.

Diplomatic sources said the main agenda item is whether Unita is now prepared to stop fighting and give up territory it controls — almost two thirds of the Angolan countryside.

Foreign aid groups and the UN say at least 1 000 people die in the war each day — the highest fatality rate in any current conflict. — Sapa-Reuter

'Autocrat' and 'Rambo' clash over Angola

The Argus Foreign Service

LONDON. — Alioune Blondin Beye, United Nations special envoy in Angola, is coming under increasing fire over what colleagues call his "autocratic" tendencies, a British newspaper reported.

And the deteriorating relationship between Mr Beye and Philippe Borel, head of the UN World Food Programme, is threatening the distribution of aid in an operation crucial to millions of Angolans.

According to a report in The Guardian, Mr Beye is seen by officials working in Angola as "a typical African leader, an autocrat".

Mr Beye is accused of hampering operations by insisting on increased centralised control and by using humanitarian aid as a negotiating tool.

His most spectacular run-in so far has been with Mr Borel, nicknamed "Rambo" because of the

flamboyant tactics he uses to get the job done.

In June, Mr Beye ordered that Unita's permission be sought by all UN agencies to deliver aid to nine starving cities, essentially granting the rebels a veto over food shipments.

Mr Borel sidestepped the manoeuvre by hiring private air companies and using independent aid agencies to handle aid, claiming it was not a UN operation.

⑤ ARLT 17/11/93

Angolan ⁵ peace plan on the cards

21/11/93

LUSAKA. — Secret Angolan peace talks here reached a critical stage yesterday as Luanda despatched a top military delegation to the Zambian capital amid reports of a ceasefire accord by the end of the week.

The Angolan government and Unita rebel movement resumed UN-mediated talks behind closed doors yesterday after a recess on Tuesday.

Neither diplomats nor sources close to the meeting would give precise details, but indications were that a tentative agreement had been reached on a bilateral ceasefire plan.

Army sources in Luanda said the government sent a military team — led by chief of staff General Joao de Matos — yesterday to join the negotiations.

Unita chief of staff General Arlindo Pena, known as Ben Ben, is already with the rebel delegation led by deputy Unita leader Mr Antonio Dembo.

The ceasefire, due to take effect Saturday, is said to have been stalled over differences regarding the ways of encamping the rival armies in line with the initial Bicesse peace accord of May 1991.

Military experts in Luanda said there was disagreement over the number of men each side had under arms. Unita suspects that the government has more than 60 000 troops — excluding civilians — who have been armed and organised into combat units in areas threatened by the rebels.

Unita has called for the disbanding of special police forces created before and after UN-supervised elections it lost in September last year.

UN agencies said the war is costing about 1 000 lives daily. — Sapa-AFP

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MPLA stalls peace talks

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CF19/11/93

LUSAKA. — Talks to end Angola's civil war hit a snag yesterday when Unita rebels rejected a government demand that their civilian supporters should hand over their weapons, diplomatic sources said.

One source said that the issue had delayed a plenary session of the talks planned for yesterday.

"After agreement had been reached on most issues to be discussed, the Angolan government delegation introduced at the last minute an item that civilian members of Unita should be disarmed," another source said.

"Unita opposed this, saying that the issue of disarmament was a global one which should involve the government.

"Unita said the government actually had tens of thousands of

US in peace force pledge

Own Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — The Clinton administration was ready to back a UN peace-keeping force on the scale of the Namibian independence operation if the current talks between Unita and the MPLA government in Lusaka bore fruit, Assistant Secretary of State for Africa Mr George Moose told Congress this week.

He said the administration was committed to supporting "whatever agreement is reached" between the government and Unita.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for African Affairs Mr James Woods said he believed Unita was genuinely willing to withdraw from territory it had occupied since the fighting resumed, but only if forces were replaced by UN or other neutral troops.

armed civilians, including about 700 000 in the capital, Luanda, alone," the source added.

UN special envoy Mr Alioune Blondin Beye is hosting the open-ended talks which began here on Monday to try to end a war which kills an estimated 1 000 people a day.

More than three million Angolans are now in need of urgent foreign food aid.

The source said the MPLA's demand for a weapons hand-over had stalled the plenary session which had been due to take place yesterday.

"I am given to understand that Mr Beye is consulting the government team and they in turn are talking to Luanda so maybe there is hope they will iron out their differences," he said. — Sapa-Reuter

Angola's peace bid in balance

5 AUG 19 11 1972
LUSAKA. — Angolan peace talks hung in the balance today after Unita rejected fresh government demands to disarm the rebels' civilian followers.

United Nations envoy Alioune Blondin Beye held crisis talks to try to resolve the last-minute snag threatening the negotiations, which began in the Zambian capital on Monday and had appeared to be making progress towards ending the 18-year civil war.

"After agreement had been reached on most issues to be discussed, the Angolan government delegation introduced at the last minute an item that civilian members of Unita should be disarmed," said one diplomatic source.

"Unita opposed this, saying the issue of disarmament was a global one which should involve the government. Unita said the government actually had tens of thousands of armed civilians, including about 700 000 in the Luanda alone."

One source quoted a member of Unita as saying his group considered the government demand to be an obstacle to peace.

There has been no official comment on the snag from the Angolan government, Unita or the UN, in line with a news blackout imposed by Mr Beye. — Sapa-
Reuter.

Luanda drops demand for disarming Unita civilians

5 APR 20/11/93

LUSAKA. — Talks here to end Angola's civil war were back on track yesterday after government negotiators dropped their demand that civilian supporters of the Unita rebel movement be disarmed, diplomatic sources said.

A scheduled session was scrapped on Thursday after Unita objected to the government demand. It was eventually held yesterday morning and more talks are planned.

The resumption followed urgent meetings between UN special envoy Alioune Blondin

Beye, Angolan government negotiators, and diplomatic observers from the United States, Russia and Portugal.

The latest effort to negotiate an end to a war the United Nations calls the world's worst began in the Zambian capital on Monday.

A peace accord in May 1991 brought a brief peace but war flared again when Unita lost UN-supervised elections in September last year.

More than 1 000 people are dying each day, say foreign aid officials. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan talks aiming for peaceful Christmas

5 APR 22/11/93

LUSAKA. — Achieving and implementing a ceasefire — possibly by Christmas — in Angola's 18-year-old civil war is the make or break issue at today's peace talks here.

"The ceasefire question tops the agenda of today's session. This is a make or break meeting," said a diplomatic source monitoring the slow-moving negotiations between the Angolan government and its Unita rebel foes.

Diplomatic sources said UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye had told both sides to move rapidly and declare a truce, most likely to take effect before Christmas, to end the world's deadliest conflict — which is killing more than 1 000 people a day.

"Beye has made it clear time is fast running out and that both delegations should come prepared for hard decisions," one source said.

The talks, held in secret since they began in the Zambian capital last Monday, adjourned for the weekend on Friday to allow negotiators to consult their superiors back home.

But Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos said on Saturday, at the end of a visit to Namibia, that he was sceptical about the outcome of the negotiations.

The war has left more than three million Angolans in urgent need of food aid.

Both the government and Unita say they want a truce but have to overcome mistrust and broken promises.

The government accuses Unita of bad faith by relaunching the war after losing UN-monitored general elections last year.

Unita charges that the government detained scores of its officials after the elections. Sapa-Reuter.

Make-or-break talks today

Angolan truce by Christmas the goal

Star 22/11/93

Lusaka — Achieving and implementing a ceasefire — possibly by Christmas — in Angola's 18-year civil war is the make-or-break issue at peace talks today.

"The ceasefire question tops the agenda of tomorrow's session. This is a make-or-break meeting," a diplomat monitoring the slow-moving negotiations between the Angolan government and Unita said yesterday.

Diplomatic sources said UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye had told both sides to move rapidly and declare a truce, most likely to take effect before Christmas, to end the world's highest-fatality conflict, in which more than 1 000 people are killed daily.

"Beye has made it clear that time is fast running out and that both delegations should come prepared for hard deci-

sions on Monday," a source said.

The talks, held in secret since they began in the Zambian capital last Monday, adjourned for the weekend on Friday to allow negotiators to consult their superiors.

The government and Unita say they want a truce but have to overcome mistrust and broken promises.

The MPLA government accuses Unita of bad faith by relaunching the war after losing the UN-monitored general election last year, and of breaking a unilateral ceasefire which the rebels declared two months ago.

Unita charges that the MPLA detained scores of its officials after the poll and that it failed to reciprocate its truce.

The sources said US President Bill Clinton wanted a truce in place

before December 25.

Washington, Moscow and Lisbon, brokers of 1991 accords which briefly stopped the war, have sent observers to the Lusaka negotiations.

"They are also involved in subtle arm-twisting to ensure the talks move ahead," a source said. (5)

Beye, worried that his peace drive might run into trouble under the glare of the world's media, has imposed an unprecedented news blackout on the talks.

The sources said although the negotiators had generally discussed the ceasefire last week, today's meeting was devoted to tackling the details of how to achieve and implement it.

At Friday's plenary session, the teams approved giving the UN a greater mandate in Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolans strike peace-talks deal

⑤ CT22/11/93

WINDHOEK. — Angolan government and Unita negotiators have reached consensus on an agenda for peace talks due to resume in Zambia today, although there were still obstacles in the way of an agreement, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said at the weekend.

Achieving and implementing a ceasefire — possibly by Christmas — is the make-or-break issue.

Speaking here at the end of a two-day consultative meeting with Namibian President Sam Nujoma, he said he was sceptical about the results of the talks but remained committed to national reconciliation and an end to the bloody civil war.

This could only be achieved by all parties respecting the 1991 Bicesse Accords and last year's election, which Unita claimed was rigged.

Mr Dos Santos said the solution to the conflict lay not in negotiating a new power-sharing agreement but in accepting the election results.

He dismissed the possibility of a

transitional government, saying this would nullify the results of the election which international observers said was largely free and fair.

The government delegation to the talks in Lusaka had been instructed to study ways to integrate Unita.

● Mr Dos Santos has accused conservative South African groups of continuing military support to Unita.

Gun-running

He said private South African air transport companies in particular were channelling weapons and food-stuffs through Zaire to Unita-held territory in Angola.

Some of these companies could be using bases in Namibia to supply the rebel army, he said.

● Angolan Liberal Democratic Party deputy Mr Carlos Simeao died of a bullet wound to the head at his home in Luanda. Mr Simeao's wife, Analia, has not ruled out suicide, reports said, as her husband died from a shot fired from her pistol. — Sapa-AFP

Progress in Angola

WINDHOEK — Angolan government and Unita negotiators have reached consensus on an agenda for peace talks due to resume in Zambia today. *Sowetan*

However, there were still "heavy obstacles" in the way of an agreement, Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos said at the weekend. *22/11/93*

Speaking in Windhoek at the end of a two-day consultative meeting with Namibian President Sam Nujoma, he said he was sceptical about the results of the talks but remained committed to national reconciliation and an end to the bloody civil war. *(5)*

However, this could only be achieved by

all parties respecting the 1991 Bicesse Accords and last year's election, which Unita claimed was rigged before resuming hostilities. Dos Santos said the solution to the conflict lay not in negotiating a new power-sharing agreement but in accepting the election results.

He dismissed the possibility of a transitional government, saying this would nullify the results of the election which international observers said was largely free and fair. "We want to discuss the conflict seriously and find solutions in terms of democratic selection of leaders, not by arms." — *Sapa*.

New attempt to negotiate Angolan ceasefire

LUSAKA — Negotiators from the Angolan government and its Unita foes yesterday opened crucial talks to hammer out a ceasefire in their 18-year-long war, one of Africa's longest and the world's highest-fatality conflict.

Diplomatic sources said the negotiators were debating how and when to bring about the truce they want supervised and enforced by the UN.

UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye has imposed a sweeping news

blackout on the meeting, saying he wanted the negotiators to work without distraction from the media.

The talks began after Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos took an uncompromising stance against Unita at the weekend, demanding that the rebels first accept the legitimacy of his government.

He also ruled out accepting a Unita demand that there be an interim transitional administration including Unita, but said he was open to dis-

cussing how to bring into the government some opposition politicians.

The talks are racing against time after US President Bill Clinton signalled to the negotiators he wanted a ceasefire in place before Christmas.

Both Unita and the government say they want a ceasefire to end a war that is killing more than 1 000 people a day, but a chasm of distrust and broken promises separates them.

— Sapa-Reuters.

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German aid group offers hope for forgotten Angolan province

BIBEM 24/11/93

XANGONGO — While battles rage and Angola's warring parties stumble pessimistically through new peace talks, the debris and decay left behind by several wars continue to plague Cunene, described by aid workers as "the forgotten province".

Landmines and leftover high-explosive ammunition pose a daily threat to the weary civilian population. Roads are so bad that the few functioning vehicles generally ignore them. Health care collapsed years ago, leaving some areas with no child vaccinations for the past 15 years.

And in Namacunde, just north of the Namibian border, American food aid is one of the few items on sale in the local market, where the Angolan kwacha trades at 70 000 to one US dollar.

The deadly legacy of minefields and unguarded ammunition dumps has cost scores of lives in Cunene.

Hundreds of tons of mostly East bloc explosives lie where they were left when the battles moved on. Some are underground in wooden bunkers threatening collapse from termite rot. All are waiting to explode.

But a healthy dose of hope comes from Cap Anamur, a radical German humanitarian organisation. Known as the German Emergency Doctors, Cap Anamur has been engaged for the last year in mine-lifting and ammunition destruction.

Using converted high-tech east German military gear, they have cleared 75 000 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, and removed 60 000 bombs, missiles and shells and more than 200 tons of small-calibre ammunition from unguarded dumps.

All the munitions are destroyed in massive controlled blasts.

"We are using the weapons of war to fight war on war... a nice concept don't you think? We love destroying arms," says project manager Hendrik Ehlers.

In this way, the team of four Germans and their Angolan sappers enforce their commitment to disarmament, making the province safer for vulnerable locals and facilitating critical infrastructural recovery.

Fields abandoned for 15 years are again being cultivated as mines are removed and trust returns to peasant farmers.

Cap Anamur runs the only func-

tioning workshop for 200km and uses its surplus white-painted former military vehicles for bridge-building and transporting medical supplies.

"All they know here is food, war, filthy weather and malaria," says Edith Fischnaller, a Cap Anamur nurse who rehabilitated an old hospital in Oncocua which now serves 100 000 people over a 300km radius. She arrived a year ago to find the hospital a shell destroyed in 1981 by SA forces, with untreated disease laying waste to the largely nomadic population of six tribes in the area.

The government has since sent three nurses and eight assistants, but few medicines reach Oncocua except those from German public donations. When Fischnaller arrived, hundreds of people were dying of a measles epidemic. None has died so far this year.

She has learnt basic surgical techniques, performing amputations where necessary. And with the help of a doctor from Germany, she recently delivered a child by emergency caesarian section, proudly showing off a healthy mother and baby who would otherwise be dead. — Sapa.

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RE

Renewed

fighting

(5)

CTZ5/11/93

in Cuito

LUANDA. — Fresh fighting has erupted between Unita rebels and government forces in the devastated Angolan city of Cuito, forcing the evacuation of Western aid workers, diplomats said yesterday.

The evacuated foreigners included nine

British nurses sent to Angola by Britain's Overseas Development Agency, several French workers for Medecins Sans Frontieres, and a handful of officials working for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees.

This came after a claim by Portuguese radio that quotes Angolan government sources as saying 35 civilians were killed in the country's civil war last week despite ongoing peace talks with Unita rebels.

The rebels say the government is preparing a massive counter-attack.

The aid workers had been helping thousands of Angolans who survived a nine-month Unita siege of the city.

Mr Nick Syrate, first secretary at the British embassy in Luanda, said fighting broke out on Monday after the government mistakenly dropped food by parachute to positions held by Unita around the shell-blasted city.

Diplomats said government attempts to recover the supplies were fiercely resisted by Unita. A decision was made to fly out all foreign aid workers because of the rapidly de-

Foreign
welfare
workers
flown out

teriorating situation.

None of the foreigners was wounded in the fighting.

Meanwhile military chiefs of the Angolan government and Unita met for a third straight day yesterday to hammer out details of a truce to end 18 years of civil war.

The session of the military commission, set up on Monday in UN-sponsored peace talks, had been scheduled to end late on Tuesday.

It was unclear what was holding up debate by the commission, chaired by a UN army general and including Unita military chief General Arlindo Chenda Pena "Ben Ben" and senior Angolan army General Higino Carneiro.

UN mediator Mr Alioune Blondin Beye has imposed a news blackout on the talks, saying this would help negotiators work without distractions from the press.

Both sides agree that the UN should have a greater mandate to enforce the ceasefire than it did after the now tattered 1991 peace accords.

No dates have been set for the proposed truce, but sources say President Bill Clinton has indicated that a ceasefire by Christmas would be a good present for the country, which has known little peace since independence from Portugal in 1975. — Sapa-Reuters, UPI

Angola truce talks near end

LUSAKA — Military chiefs of the Angolan government and Unita rebels met for a third straight day yesterday to hammer out details of a truce to end 18 years of civil war.

The session of the military commission, set up on Monday in UN-sponsored peace talks on Angola, had been scheduled to end late on Tuesday.

Sowetan 25/11/93
“They are meeting again this morning to try to put finishing touches to their agreement, which in turn has to be presented to a plenary session of the full meeting, possibly

this afternoon or tomorrow,” a diplomatic source said. **(5)**

It was unclear what was holding up debate by the commission, chaired by a United Nations army general and including Unita military chief Mr Arlindo Chenda Pena “Ben Ben” and senior Angolan army General Higinio Carneiro. The sources said the military panel had all but completed its work — examining details such as implementation, verification and enforcement of the truce to end a war that is killing at least 1 000 people a day — the world’s deadliest war. — *Sapa-Reuter*.

Making Cunene safe again

Sowetun 25/11/93

■ **HIGH HOPES** *After 15 years fields are being cultivated as mines are removed:*

By Jonathon Rees

XANGONGO — While battles rage and Angola's warring parties stumble pessimistically through new peace talks, the debris and decay left behind by several wars continue to plague Cunene, described by aid workers as "the forgotten province."

Thousands of landmines and tons of left-over high explosive ammunition pose a daily threat to the weary civilian population.

Roads are so bad that the few functioning vehicles generally ignore them.

Health care collapsed years ago, leaving some areas with no child vaccinations for the past 15 years.

And some must walk 40km to draw water from a dirty river.

Town and villages

In towns and villages, once splendid colonial buildings lie in piles of rubble. Post offices, hospitals and schools rot as roofless shells.

In Namacunde, just north of the Namibian border, American food aid is one of the few items on sale in the local market, where the Angolan kwanza trades at 70 000 to one US dollar.

Military hardware and burnt-out tanks are interspersed with civilian vehicles destroyed by landmines along the sides of the rutted roads, while huge areas of wasteland bear testimony to exploded ammunition dumps.

Although there is relative peace in Cunene, travellers on some roads are still waylaid by bandits using landmines as a crude and savage weapon of armed robbery.

Two weeks ago, seven Namibians

were killed when their minibus hit a newly-laid anti-tank mine. "Mines don't have friends," says a military lieutenant in Cahama, an old site of battle between South African forces and the MPLA and Swapo.

The deadly legacy of minefields and unguarded ammunition dumps have cost scores of lives in the province. Hundreds of tons of mostly East Bloc explosives lie where they were left when the battles moved on.

Termite rot

Some are underground in wooden bunkers threatening collapse from termite rot. All are waiting to explode.

But a healthy dose of hope for Cunene comes from Cap Anamur, a radical German humanitarian organisation.

Known as the German Emergency Doctors, Cap Anamur has been engaged for the last year in mine-lifting and ammunition destruction as preventive health care.

Using converted high-tech East German military gear, they have cleared 75 000 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines, and removed 60 000 bombs, missiles and shells and more than 200 tons of small calibre ammunition from precarious unguarded dumps.

Controlled blasts

All the munitions are destroyed in massive controlled blasts.

"We are using the weapons of war to fight war on war... a nice concept don't you think? We love destroying arms," says project manager Mr Hendrik Ehlers.

In this way, the team of four Germans and their Angolan sappers enforce their commitment to disarmament, making the province safer for vulnerable locals and facilitating critical infrastructural



Angola is left with a legacy of debris and decay after several wars.

recovery.

Fields abandoned for 15 years are again being cultivated as mines are removed and trust returns to peasant farmers.

Cap Anamur runs the only functioning workshop for 200km and uses its surplus white-painted former military vehicles for bridge-building and transportation of medical supplies in a region desperately lacking transport.

Shitty weather

"All they know here is food, war, shitty weather and malaria," says Ms Edith Fischnaller, a Cap Anamur nurse who rehabilitated an old hospital in Oncocua which now serves 100 000 people over a 300km radius.

She arrived a year ago to find the hospital a shell destroyed in 1981 by South African forces, with untreated disease laying waste to the largely nomadic population of six tribes in the area.

The Government has since sent three nurses and eight assistants, but few medicines reach Oncocua except those from German public donations.

When Fischnaller arrived, hundreds of people were dying of a measles epidemic.

None have died so far this year.

She has learnt basic surgical

techniques, performing amputations where necessary.

And with the help of a doctor from Germany she recently delivered a child by emergency Caesarian section, proudly showing off a healthy mother and baby who would otherwise be dead.

Care International and the UN's World Food Programme truck tons of food aid into needy areas of the province, where war and drought have reduced grain stocks and threatened starvation.

Recovery is just starting in Cunene, an abandoned province laid to waste by war. But hope runs high, as a UN-mediated ceasefire looms in the north and minds and money turn from fighting to fostering the potential of a rich and beautiful region. — Sapa.

“The deadly legacy of minefields and unguarded ammunition dumps have cost scores of lives in the province”

Stalemate in Angolan peace talks as envoy accuses Unita of renewed military attacks

LUSAKA — Talks to end Angola's civil war appeared to be in trouble after an Angolan envoy accused Unita rebels of launching renewed military attacks while talking peace in Lusaka.

Angolan ambassador to Zambia Pedro Fernando Mavunza broke a news blackout to say the peace talks had produced nothing and that Unita was only trying to distract public opinion.

He accused Unita of renewed military action, saying it was attempting to extract concessions from the government at the slow-moving negotiations, which started on November 15.

"In the past two weeks since the peace talks started Unita has intensified the fighting in the central province of Huila, in Moxico in the east and in Bie and Cuando Cabango in the south," said Mr Mavunza.

"They are doing this in order to put pressure on the government so that it grants them their demands at these talks."

"They want to share power with the government or are trying to set up a separate state within a state."

A government statement earlier accused Unita of recent attacks in seven provinces, killing 30 people, wounding 48 and kidnapping 20 others.

Meanwhile, Western aid workers were evacuated from the besieged city of Cuito after fresh fighting erupted there following almost two months of an uneasy truce.

The evacuees, who included British nurses and several workers of Medicins Sans Frontieres, said they had not been threatened by Unita and could return soon.

But they wanted to leave as fighting broke out on Monday after the government mistakenly dropped food by parachute to positions held by Unita in the shell-blasted city.

There was no immediate comment from Unita to Mr Mavunza's accusations, but a rebel source in Lusaka expressed dismay at the remarks.

AP 25/11/93

"We came here ready for a ceasefire. There is a news blackout on the talks and yet the government uses tactics such as these."

"Of course they will say Mr Mavunza is not part of the negotiators by parachute to positions held by Unita in the shell-blasted city."

Mr Mavunza's aggressive rhetoric came as negotiators debated key technical details of a proposed truce to end Angola's war, which is killing at least 1 000 people a day.

A diplomatic source said: "It's going to be hard to have confidence-building measures if we have this sort of invective in the middle of these talks." — Sapa-Reuter.

Agreement on Angola ceasefire

Lusaka — A joint Angolan government and Unita military council has agreed on the terms of a ceasefire which it is expected to present today, diplomatic sources said. *Star*

The sources said the council members had agreed on how the truce should be implemented and monitored, and that the UN should be given a greater mandate to enforce the ceasefire than it was given in the ill-fated 1991 accord. *26/11/93*

The agreement is expected to be tabled for discussion by negotiators who are also expected to address unresolved issues such as the integration of the warring armies. ⑤

An Angolan government delegate, however, cautioned that the talks had reached a crucial stage and that anything could disrupt them. "Until the signatures are on paper, we have no reason to celebrate," he said. — Star Africa Service.

Forced integration unlikely in small towns

Bill to placate CP

Star 26/11/93

BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The redrafted Local Government Transition Bill is likely to guarantee that small towns will not be compelled to institute fully nonracial councils during the course of next year, *The Star* has been informed.

A critical amendment to the Bill's provisions for pre-interim local government has been included to accommodate Conservative Party councillors.

It has been agreed to in talks between the ANC and the CP-aligned Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) and will be put to the Negotiating Council, probably on Monday.

The Bill is likely to draw a distinction between larger towns and municipalities of grade 8 and below when it comes to the powers of the Administrator to impose a model of pre-interim government.

In each newly demarcated local government area, during the first phase of reform, a multiparty negotiating forum will have the right to choose between replacing racial local authorities with a nonracial appointed council, or retaining racial councils and creating an overarching nonracial structure with specific powers. The Administrator becomes

important only where negotiating forums cannot reach sufficient consensus on which model to implement. In the amended Bill, upon deadlock in the forum, the Administrator may impose one or another model in local authorities graded 9 and up.

But in smaller towns, the over-arching structure will automatically be implemented if no consensus is reached in the negotiating forum.

Further talks on implementing reform will be held next week between the TMA and ANC and in the Local Government Negotiating Forum management committee.

Hopes rise in Angola peace talks

LUSAKA, Angola's civil war enemies met over breakfast here yesterday without their UN minders, raising hopes for a breakthrough in difficult ceasefire talks.

"The two delegations met at the hotel where the government side is staying to discuss some political issues that could affect the truce," a conference source said.

"There was a common understanding and desire to achieve peace and clearly the signal from both sides was that a compromise was possible," he said.

The government said fighting was still raging in the devastated central Angolan city of Cuito.

State radio quoted military sources as saying street battles and shelling by Unita rebels on Thursday killed a woman and wounded two children in the government-held part of the city.

Local government military sources accused Unita of digging trenches around the town, which it has surrounded for 10 months, and receiving supplies at an airstrip 80 km away.

A press freedom watchdog body said at least 10 Angolan journalists had been killed in the southern African country's civil war over the past year.

The French-based monitoring group, Reporters sans Frontières (RsF), alleged that both the government and the rebels were involved in the killings and disappearance of journalists.

But it said the figures gathered by the fact-finding mission earlier this month were much lower than those published by the Luanda government, which reported that 45 journalists had been killed. — Sapa-Reuter

Families are livin

ALAN ROBINSON
Weekend Argus Foreign Ser

LONDON. — The families of the young killers of James Bulger are living in scores of threats have made to "get even" with primary schoolboys who this week found guilty of killing the toddler in February.

The parents of Robert Thompson and Jon Venables have been moved to secondary schools (Merseyside pool) and may have to return again after the court ruled their sons be identified.

Less than 48 hours after the trial of the child killers James Bulger's uncle threatened to kill them in a phone-in national television programme.

Ann Thompson and her former husband, who have lived apart, were moved to secret locations under cover of darkness.

Police are worried that the boys locked away in institutions, angry men in the public might seek revenge on their parents.

Leave killers alone says judge

PRESTON. — The judge sentenced two 11-year-olds to life imprisonment for murdering toddler James Bulger in a case which shocked the world, has ruled that the boys must leave Britain's streets alone.

Judge Michael Morland said the court in Preston must ensure that media intrusion does not adversely affect their education and their places

Optimism as SA and US press Unita to seek ceasefire deal

S Times 28/11/93

By JOHN EDLIN, in Harare

ANGOLAN rebels will resume talks with the government tomorrow as both sides in Africa's bloodiest civil war come under increasing pressure from South Africa and the US to find a settlement.

"Essentially nothing has been agreed but we're talking again tomorrow," a spokesman for Unita leader Jonas Savimbi said from Lusaka. "But it's a healthy sign that everyone's still talking."

Western diplomats in Lusaka said Pretoria and Washington — Dr Savimbi's main backers until elections in October last year — had sent envoys to the guerrilla chief.

He was told there would be no more support, and that he should cut

a deal with the government, which won the first presidential and parliamentary elections since independence from Portugal in 1975.

Top officials from both sides met in Lusaka on Friday to discuss critical political questions that could derail a proposed ceasefire.

It was the second meeting in a week between the two that did not include UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye, who has chaired Angolan peace talks since November 15.

Diplomatic sources said Mr Beye and observers from the US, Russia and Portugal had been greatly en-

couraged by the talks.

Another source said: "They made such progress that I expect when they resume talks they will be looking at how to integrate their armies."

The two sides later met twice and briefed Mr Beye. One source said the sessions "advanced their earlier good meeting."

Since October, when Dr Savimbi rejected the poll result and sent his fighters back to war, 100 000 people have been killed and millions more have died of starvation.

Meanwhile, the government said this weekend, fighting was raging in the central city of Cuito throwing doubt over the return of evacuated aid workers. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan foes wining, dining way to peace

LUSAKA. — Angola's civil-war foes have been getting closer socially on the sidelines of peace talks here with activities ranging from wining, dining and dancing to celebrating a birthday party together.

It all began last Wednesday when both sides had dinner with

Zambian President Frederick Chiluba at State House, his offi-

cial residence here. ■ Government and Unita negotiators held an unscheduled meeting in Lusaka yesterday to speed up peace talks. "They wrapped up details on a ceasefire," said a source.

"It was all laughter and wine and everyone was happy. They happily waved goodnight at each

other as they were driven back to their respective hotels," said a State House source. (S) ARLT 29/11/93

On Friday the rival Luanda government and rebel Unita movement had breakfast together before meeting for the first time directly without the presence of United Nations mediators to sort out their differences on ceasefire proposals. — Sapa-AFP.

Many die amid stench and corruption

Hellish conditions in Luanda hospital

Star 29 Jul 93

Luanda — In Angola's central hospital, surgeons operate without anaesthetics, patients eat their food without cutlery and amputees arriving from the battlefield are lying on the floors of crowded corridors.

The hospital, which, in addition to regular patients from the Angolan capital, takes in victims of the country's civil war, comes low down on the list of priorities for corrupt officials and an indifferent government.

Medicine, when available, must be bought on the black market, and the crumbling Josina Machel Hospital does not have a single ambulance. Several hundred additional

patients are expected in the next few days from Cuito, a killing field in southern Angola where about 30 000 people have died in the fighting since January.

The hospital has 800 beds, but more than 2 000 patients are crammed behind its walls in rudimentary sanitary conditions.

"Many people die here," said hospital director Pero Saldanha Magalhaes, who studied in the Croatian capital Zagreb.

Those who make it to the hospital can be considered the lucky ones. Staying in the provinces adds up to almost certain death.

Underneath a soiled sheet, Marcos Fuxi, complains he has eaten nothing for a day. The 37-year-old teacher shares a stench-ridden room without windows with 20 men, covered in flies, amid old dressings covered with blood. He was wounded in the legs by Unita soldiers.

Many of the hospital staff are losing heart as they struggle in conditions where hardly even the most basic hygiene conditions are met, Magalhaes says.

He is paid about R85 a month for working in what appears more like hell than a 20th century hospital. — Sapa-AFP.



Desperate . . . some of the thousands of Angolans wounded in the civil war between the MPLA and Unita lie on the floor of a Luanda hospital. PICTURE: AFP

WORLD NEWS Bid to end long civil w

Talks now inching towards truce

Sowetan 29/11/93

LUSAKA — Angola's civil war foes took a weekend break on Saturday after talks without their UN mediator suggested they were inching towards a truce to halt the world's bloodiest conflict.

Diplomats monitoring the secret talks, which began in Zambia's capital Lusaka on November 15, said the weekend breather would allow negotiators from Unita rebels and the Luanda government to consult their superiors back home.

"They made such progress that I expect when they resume talks today they will be looking at how to integrate their rival armies," one source said.

The two delegations met for breakfast in Lusaka on Friday to debate political questions that could derail the proposed ceasefire.

It was the second meeting in a week between the two sides that did not include

UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye.

The sources said Beye and observers from the United States, Russia and Portugal — Angola's former colonial ruler — had been impressed by the unprecedented one-on-one talks at a hotel where government negotiators are staying.

Rival sides

"They (the rival sides) had their best day. If the excellent mood that we had continues, then I think the signals are that they are on the home stretch," one source said.

Later on Friday, the two sides met twice in a full plenary sessions lasting six hours.

From all accounts it appeared technical details of the proposed truce to end Angola's 18-year-long civil war, which the UN says is killing at least 1 000 people a day, had been wrapped up. — *Sapa-Reuter*.

Angola moves to attract investment

CAPE TOWN — Angola was revising its oil code in a bid to attract foreign investors in spite of the country's continuing war, Petroleum Minister Albina Africano said yesterday.

"The government is proceeding with a revision of the oil code to make it more flexible to market demands and to attract foreign investment and capital," he told the oil conference.

Africano appealed to the international community to continue humanitarian aid for the victims of the civil war and help stabilise the country so it could attract international

investment. 30/11/93
Oil companies continued to operate and increase their participation in Angola in spite of the war.

Part of the reason investors continued to take the risk in Angola was the quality of the country's oil. "We are a source of light oil," he said.

State-owned oil company Sonangol deputy GM Joao de Faria said Angola's oil production had tripled over the past three years to half a million barrels a day in 1992.

The internal market had doubled over the period to 18 000 tons in 1992, he said. — AP-DJ.

Angola peace talks in vital stage

Sowetan 30/11/93

■ **FINAL LAP** UN negotiator wants to wrap up in camera talks this week:

LUSAKA — Talks to end Angola's civil war entered a critical stage yesterday with negotiators trying to integrate rebel and government armies and wrap up discussions by week's end.

"They are on the final lap home and everything succeeds or fails this week," a diplomatic source said.

The sources said negotiators, now in their third week of talks, had virtually closed debate on a ceasefire to end the world's bloodiest war, killing more than 1 000 people a day.

But they said UN envoy Alioune Blondin Beye, who has imposed a news blackout on the talks, has not announced when the truce would take

effect.

Diplomatic sources monitoring the slow-moving talks in Zambia's capital Lusaka said Beye wanted the meeting to end this week.

The sources said Unita, which has fought a brutal war against the government since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975, wanted its guerrillas to form 50 percent of a new national army.

But the government, which won elections judged free and fair by the UN last year but which Unita disputes,

held out for a much smaller rebel input, they said.

"As everything else they have to work out a compromise," one source said.

The negotiators also discussed the role Jonas Savimbi's Unita could play in a new Angolan government.

The Angolan and Unita officials held unscheduled talks on Sunday during breakfast — the third time in a week they have met without Beye — to try to speed up the peace process. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita doesn't want my journals around

Star 2/12/93

IT takes days to get permission to visit Unita country and minutes to throw us out, writes Karl Maier

As a forklift lifted bags of maize into a silver Boeing 727, barefoot young boys and teenagers clutching tins and plastic jugs scrambled on the tarmac in search of grain.

The government and Unita must all approve, or at least raise no objection. It took four days to arrange permission for myself and a Reuters cameraman.

A flight crew of Americans, Europeans and a Filipino stretched their legs while sweaty young stevedores arranged the cargo. Thin white mums scurried about, badgering pilots about delivering their Catholic Church relief to the right destination.

As the plane circled for its final approach after a 30-minute flight, the World Food Programme representative on the ground rallied his colleague on board to report that the Unita authorities had decided that the journalists could return to Luanda on the same plane.

But for an hour no planes landed or took off. Helicopters rattled overhead and a MiG-23 fighter jet roared past, as cleaning women battled in vain to protect the red carpet from the dust and smoke blowing across the runway. A motorcycle policeman raced into the VIP section to announce the imminent arrival of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who was flying to Namibia that day.

The message, in typical fashion, carried no responsibility for the sudden decision. It was Unita-speak for "you are not welcome".

The presidential band sauntered out in their smart blue uniforms and gave a weary rendition of the national anthem. The president arrived in his motorcade, waved and departed, allowing Luanda's February 4 international airport to reopen.

The Boeing landed and a band of stevedores, even scuffier than those in Luanda, began unloading the maize, as well as the soap, cooking oil and blankets brought by the plane. A Unita official explained that because it was a weekend, his superiors would not be prepared to receive visitors until the following Monday. He mentioned that the decision had something to do with "operations" and left.

A few hundred metres away, the engines revved on massive Ilyushin transport aircraft and C-130s, some with military equipment, others with fresh recruits dragooned by the army. It is not uncommon to see soldiers chasing the drafted youngsters across the airport.

Discussions with local residents at the airport gave a clue to Unita's sudden change of heart on our visit. It turns out that Saturdays often bring flights from neighbouring Zaïre, carrying cargo, most likely weapons and ammunition, that no one, especially journalists, is allowed to see.

Back at Luanda's airport, it was business as usual. Forklift drivers ignored the stunning red sunset and continued to load up the next aid flights. The little boys and young men were back, straining their eyes through the fading light to pick up the tiny grains. They had been joined by a man twisting and turning on a tarpaulin on which the maize bags had rested before the forklift loaded them. The man, attempting to sweep up not grains but the dust of the departed maize, pulled himself around by his hands. His legs had been blown off by a landmine. An empty wheelchair stood nearby. The Independent News Service.



Dos Santos ... everything stops until the president has gone.

2-million Angolans ⁽⁵⁾ 'urgently need aid'

LUANDA. — More than two-million Angolans are in urgent need of humanitarian aid, the UN's aid co-ordinator there has said, adding that the world body is incapable of feeding everyone by itself.

Manuel Aranda da Silva told journalists that relief operations were continuing throughout the strife-torn country, which has been torn by almost continuous civil war since 1975.

But, he said: "The scale of the humanitarian problem is such that it cannot be tackled by the UN alone."

He emphasised the need for continued help on the ground from non-governmental aid organisations, seven of which were operating in the town of Huambo, which was deprived of international assistance for several months.

He said the Belgian branch

of Medecins sans Frontiers (Doctors without Borders) was preparing to resume working in Quito.

Aid flights to that city were broken off last week due to renewed fighting.

Meanwhile the Angolan government general staff has charged that — in spite of peace talks under way in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, with its civil war foes, Unita — rebels had stepped up their military activities throughout the country.

Mr Da Silva said food reserves were still adequate thanks to efforts by World Food Programme officials, but health problems remained serious, with a continuing shortage of water, medicine and special foods for acutely malnourished children. — Sapa-AFP.

Young Pioneers 'being disarmed'

Argus Africa News Service

BLANTYRE. — The process of disarming the Malawi Young Pioneers, the youth wing of the ruling Malawi Congress Party, is going ahead as planned.

Opposition leader Shyley Kondowe told this to the National Consultative Council yesterday.

He said that the 1 500 members of the movement — notorious for enforcing President Hastings Banda's decrees and for attacking those opposed to government policy for years — might be considered for the police force.

The Young Pioneers were for decades accused of gross human rights violations.

Talks to map out a rough road to truce

Sowetan 2/12/93

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■ **CIVIL WAR** Angolan government
and Unita in bid to end bloody conflict:

LUSAKA — Military chiefs from Angola's government and the rebel Unita group held talks yesterday in an attempt to map out the rough road to a truce to end one of the world's bloodiest civil wars.

Meeting under the auspices of a military commission headed by a United Nations army general, the negotiators debated issues such as a disengagement date, location and size of guerilla and army cantonments and how to supply these during any truce.

Diplomatic sources monitoring the closed-door talks in Zambia's capital Lusaka said both sides hoped progress on these issues could open the way to resolving two more crucial matters — whether both sides should pull back from offensive positions and when to disarm.

Debate on these two issues was rolled forward after inconclusive sessions on Monday and Tuesday.

The sources said government negotiators had been adamant that their forces, forced out of 80 percent of Angolan territory by Unita since it lost elections last year, should remain on the front line.

— Unita (National Union for the Total

Independence of Angola) rejected this, calling for a simultaneous pullback.

The government also wanted rebel forces to be disarmed on arrival in designated cantonments or temporary camps. Unita demanded disarmament only after selection of which troops would be demobilised and which drafted into a new national army.

Yesterday's talks took place as UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye and foreign observers held sideline bilateral talks with each Angolan delegation on finding a compromise on the two issues.

"If agreement is reached (on the truce timetable), then the full conference will go back to the issues of disarmament and movement of troops," a source said.

The observers are diplomats and military attaches from the United States, Russia and Portugal — Angola's former colonial ruler. The three negotiated 1991 peace accords between Unita and the government.

These crumbled last year when Unita rejected results of Angola's first multiparty elections which returned the government to power.

The sources say the observers are using subtle diplomatic pressure to get the two sides to narrow their differences and end a war which the UN says is killing at least 1 000 people a day — currently the world's highest fatality conflict. — Sapa-Reuter.

Mediator set to announce yet another Angola truce

9/12/93 ARG 97
6

LUSAKA. — Angola's government and its Unita guerrilla foes have cleared the way for an announcement of a ceasefire to try to end the world's bloodiest conflict, diplomats close to the talks said.

The two sides, meeting in the Zambian capital yesterday, had approved all practical steps needed to implement a truce and it was now up to United Nations mediator Alioune Blondin Beye to decide when to make an announcement, the diplomats said.

But Mr Beye, who has imposed a sweeping news blackout on the talks, apparently wanted outstanding political issues resolved

before any announcement was made, they said.

The two sides were expected to debate these issues later.

"All modalities and practical steps on effecting the ceasefire were adopted by a plenary session of the peace conference this evening," a source said.

"These deal with the time-scale of movements of troops into barracks and who will supervise these movements up to the formation of a new national army."

The civil war, which resumed after Unita rejected defeat in the country's first multiparty election in September 1992, is killing about 1 000 people a day.

Patchy start to demobilisation

Argus Africa News Service

ARG 97
9/12/93

MAPUTO. — A few hundred Renamo soldiers have arrived at United Nations assembly points in northern Mozambique for demobilisation under the peace accord but none have reported in central or southern parts.

At the present rate of reporting by Renamo and Frelimo troops, it will take until the second week of January to fill the assembly points, says the Mozambican news agency, Aim. Only 20 of the 49 assembly points are operating.

There is controversy over the figures reported by the UN, which the government maintains are too low at 2 605 government and 675 Renamo troops.



Ex-Koevoet troops recruited for Angola

□ SA firm signs up soldiers to fight Savimbi

JOHANNESBURG. — Elite counter-insurgency troops who served with the South African security forces in Namibia are being recruited to help the Angolan army in its war against Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebel movement.

A security company based in Pretoria has been signing up former members of the notorious Koevoet unit and of 32 Battalion, a force made up largely of Angolans commanded by South Africans and foreign mercenaries which once fought alongside Unita.

"A lot of Angolans were in Koevoet, and they are good because they speak the language and have family back in Angola," said Eden Barlow, head of the security company, Executive Outcomes. The men would be used to train Angolan soldiers.

The Namibian government, led by the South West Africa People's Organisation (Swapo), which used to fight the South African-commanded Koevoet during its independence war, has been worried that recruitment of mercenaries for the Angolan conflict could involve Namibia in the war.

■ The Angolan government said Unita rebels were shelling its positions near the town of Tchingenge in Central Huambo province and mobilising troops in other areas.

Military sources said heavily armed rebels were on the road between the besieged northern city of Saurimo and the diamond town of Lucapa, 150 km further north. The radio said the rebels had carried out ambushes and recently killed civilians there.

This month Namibian police detained and deported a man who claimed to be working for Executive Outcomes, after he was found recruiting ex-Koevoet members in the north Namibian town of Oshakati. Mr Barlow denied anyone working for his company had been detained and suggested that other recruiters had been using his company's name when they got into trouble with the authorities.

Large numbers of foreign soldiers, purportedly employed by "security companies", have been turning up in the Angolan capital, Luanda, since the country returned to full-scale civil war in October 1992 following Dr Savimbi's refusal to accept

defeat in a general election the previous month.

The companies range from the established Defence Systems Ltd based in Jersey, whose employees guard United Nations installations, to rather shady firms that claim to have links with senior officials of the ruling MPLA.

Earlier this month Luanda said it had expelled 18 employees of a security company called Ango-Segu Ltd and run by a former colonel in the Israeli intelligence agency, Mossad. Next day gunmen raided the company's warehouses. The government said the company had hundreds of illegal weapons. Western military sources in Luanda said Ango-Segu Ltd was suspected of passing military intelligence to Unita.

The South African Defence Force showed recently its displeasure at the recruitment drive by temporarily grounding a plane owned by a Swiss-based company as it was about to leave Lanseria airport, outside Pretoria, for Luanda with 18 ex-SADF troops. Last month a plane landed at Lanseria with one dead and one wounded soldier on board, apparently from shrapnel. Two other men fled before they could be questioned. — The Independent.

ARG 31/12/93

Angola peace in sight

LUSAKA — Angola and UNITA agreed to a ceasefire in their 18-year war yesterday, an authoritative diplomatic source said. *Star 4/12/93*

"All requirements for the ceasefire, including the question of disarmament of UNITA guerillas, have been resolved. It's now up to (UN) envoy Alioune Blondin Beye to announce the ceasefire," the source said.

Beye gave no immediate confirmation on the truce. The envoy, a former Malian government minister, imposed a news blackout on the peace talks which opened in Zambia's capital on November 15. ⑤

Another diplomatic source said he believed Beye would press on with outstanding political questions and what role UNITA would play in a future government. — Sapa-Reuter.

Ceasefire in 'world's deadliest war'

LUSAKA — The Angolan government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) rebels agreed yesterday to a ceasefire in what the United Nations calls the world's deadliest war, a diplomatic source said.

All requirements for the truce, including the difficult question of how and when to disarm the Unita rebels, were resolved in several hours of

talks in Zambia's capital, Lusaka, the source said.

"We expect the details to be made known later. All I can say now is that a ceasefire has been reached," he said.

The government and Unita have fought since independence from Portugal in 1975.

The war stopped after a peace accord in May 1991 but Unita, led by Jonas Savimbi, took up arms again after dis-

puting its defeat in elections supervised by the UN in September 1992. (S)

At one stage this year UN officials said at least 1 000 people were dying each day either in the fighting or from its effects.

The diplomatic source said it was now up to UN envoy Alioune Blondin Beye to choose the time to announce the truce. — Sapa-Reuter.

CIP 1000 5/12/93
Angola, Unita sign truce

NEGOTIATORS from the Angolan government and Unita formally adopted a truce yesterday to end their 18-year-long civil war, diplomats said.

"At a plenary session this morning, the two delegations and (UN envoy) Alioune Blondin Beye formally adopted the ceasefire. ⑥

"There is no going back on this now," one diplomat told journalists.

"They agreed on all points on the ceasefire and then went on to discuss formation of a new army. When they reconvene next Monday they will discuss a few military aspects but mostly political issues," another diplomat said.

We agreed to truce, says Unita

Angolan govt disputes ceasefire

Lusaka — The Angolan rebel movement Unita insisted yesterday that it had agreed to a ceasefire with the government, but the government in Luanda said more than two weeks of talks in the Zambian capital Lusaka had not produced any agreement.

The Angolan news agency Angop quoted the government's chief negotiator, Faustino Muteka, as saying: "No understanding was reached." He was speaking on arrival in Luanda from Lusaka.

The agency quoted its sources in Lusaka as saying there had been "an understanding on some aspects of a ceasefire but not on the practical implications".

In Lusaka, Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim broke a news blackout imposed at the talks by UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye and disputed the government's account of events.

"There is no question of doubt that agreement was reached on the ceasefire. This happened in a full plenary session ... which was attended by observers from the United States, Portugal and Russia, and Mr Beye. Let's not be afraid of the ceasefire. Let's support it," he said.

Diplomats close to the talks said they too were puzzled by Muteka's denial of an agreement.

"All issues pertaining to the ceasefire proper, minus the political questions which will be discussed later, were agreed upon

DIPLOMATS are puzzled by the Angolan government's denial of a ceasefire reached with Unita at talks in Lusaka (5)

first on Friday and then ratified on Saturday," a senior Western diplomat said.

Another source said: "It is difficult to see what can be gained when issues agreed upon are now somewhat being denied — that is if Mr Muteka is being reported correctly."

Diplomatic sources said the government statement could reflect concern in Luanda over certain details of the ceasefire.

"It is significant that it took the government side quite some time to make its views known, and then only after the government delegation returned home," said one source.

Muteka and his team are expected to fly back to Lusaka today.

Unita has said it wants half the ministerial seats in a future Angolan government, especially when it comes to key portfolios such as defence, interior, foreign affairs, information and finance.

The government has made it clear that the rebels, who resumed the war last year after a respite of about a year, must accept its legitimacy and right to govern. — Sapa-Reuter.

Talks falter as war goes on in Angola

APR 18/12/73 (5)

□ Observers voice concerns

LUSAKA. — Angola's civil war foes have accused each other of intensifying military strikes, dramatically raising the temperature at peace talks in Zambia aimed at halting the world's bloodiest conflict.

African and Western diplomats monitoring the closed-door talks expressed concern at the heightened war mood in the midst of the latest UN-sponsored peace initiative, billed as the last chance to end a war killing an estimated 1 000 people a day.

"If it is a question of trying to gain military advantage at this time, it is unfortunate because this will not help the peace conference at all," said a diplomat, echoing anxieties of others watching the slow-moving talks, which opened in Lusaka on November 15.

Yesterday Angola's government accused Unita rebels of increasing military attacks in the past two weeks in central, southern and northern Angola, and said 38 people had been killed and 86 wounded.

In a statement issued by Angola's embassy in Lusaka, the

government expressed disappointment at the "military actions and offensives" of the rebels while peace talks were in progress.

Unita, it charged, had also "buried alive" at least 50 government members in the northern Huila province.

It said the government had been forced to respond, killing 150 rebel troops and capturing nine.

For its part, Unita listed what it said was a series of bombings by government MiG jets in the past week in several towns in the central Huambo province.

"Is the government's main objective to negotiate or to continue to apply the military option?" a Unita official attending the Lusaka talks said.

The war of words came as military negotiators from both sides discussed how to merge their rival armies into a new national army.

Sources following the discussions, under the auspices of a military commission chaired by a UN army general, said some progress was being made. The talks would continue today. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola govt, Unita agree on peace

Star 9/12/193

Lusaka — Angola's government and Unita rebels agreed on final details yesterday for implementing a ceasefire in the world's deadliest war, diplomats said. (5)

No date for a ceasefire was announced, but one diplomat said: "All modalities and practical steps on effecting the ceasefire were adopted by a plenary session of the peace conference this evening."

UN-brokered peace talks between rebels and the government took place in Zambia's capital Lusaka. The conflict is now killing an estimated 1 000 people a day. — Sapa-Reuters.

Mediator set to announce yet another Angola truce

9/12/93 ARG 97
6

LUSAKA. — Angola's government and its Unita guerrilla foes have cleared the way for an announcement of a ceasefire to try to end the world's bloodiest conflict, diplomats close to the talks said.

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The two sides were expected to debate these issues later.

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Argus Africa News Service

ARG 97
9/12/93

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Unita: Peace deal has been signed ^{or 12/19/93} ⑤

LUSAKA, Zambia. — Unita said yesterday it had signed a detailed ceasefire agreement with the Angolan government.

There was no immediate comment from government negotiators, who on Sunday denied Unita claims that a breakthrough had been reached after three weeks of protracted bargaining at United Nations-sponsored peace talks in Zambia.

A Unita negotiator in Zambia, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the truce agreement had been signed in closed session late on Wednesday. He indicated it included a time frame for ending shooting in Africa's bloodiest war.

Sources said the negotiators were to discuss possible ministerial posts for rebel leaders and "privileges and status" for Unita chief Dr Jonas Savimbi in a power-sharing arrangement.

While negotiators were talking, the Angolan embassy in Lusaka accused Unita of mounting continued military offensives. — Sapa-AP

Truce agreement signed, says Unita

Star 10/12/93

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The UN estimates that fighting, famine and disease are costing 1 000 lives a day in Angola.

Sources said the negotiators were set to discuss possible ministerial posts for rebel leaders and "privileges and status" for Unita chief Jonas Savimbi in a power-sharing arrangement. — Sapa-AP.

Timetable for integration discussed

Angola and Unita set to unite forces

Star 13/12/93

Lusaka — Angola's government and its Unita rebel foes reached agreement at the weekend on how to merge their forces into one national army, taking another step towards ending almost two decades of war, diplomatic sources said.

Negotiators, concluding a fourth week of peace talks in Zambia's capital Lusaka, tackled the timetable for integrating their forces after they move into barracks under a ceasefire agreement reached last week.

"A plenary session of the talks approved all steps that will be followed to create the new national army, but I can't give any details," said one source monitoring the closed-door peace conference.

Another said: "All military issues have been dealt with. On Monday, when the meeting resumes, they will be discussing political issues."

No date has been announced for the start of the truce because UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye wants outstanding political issues resolved first.

Chief among these is Unita's demand for an equal number of government ministerial posts, especially in key ministries.

A BOOST for peace emanates from talks as the two sides in the world's deadliest conflict agree to merge their armies



A 1991 peace accord halted fighting that had raged since independence from Portugal in 1975, but Jonas Savimbi's Unita took up arms again after losing a UN-supervised election in September 1992.

The government has said the rebels will have to accept its legitimacy and right to govern, implying Unita will have to accept whatever posts it is given.

On Friday night the rivals approved principles relating to the formation of the proposed armed forces, which will be composed of equal numbers of soldiers from the government and Unita, diplomatic sources said.

"The fact that they have agreed on a ceasefire and now the formation of the army shows that both sides are serious," one source said.

The talks are described as the last chance to end the world's

deadliest war, in which 1 000 people are estimated to die each day from combat or indirect effects such as starvation.

It was crucial for Britain, France and Portugal — countries that were charged with training a new Angolan army in 1991 and are likely to be again — to ensure they devoted time and resources to this, the source said.

The negotiators want the UN to take a leading role in enforcing the truce by deploying thousands of peacekeepers across the nation.

A famine brought on by the war threatens at least 3 million people — 40 percent of the population. The conflict has also displaced hundreds of thousands and ruined the economy of one of Africa's potentially richest countries, endowed with huge deposits of oil and diamonds.

■ A house and at least 14 cars were destroyed in a bomb explosion in central Luanda overnight, police said on Saturday.

There were no casualties.

On Wednesday, the vice-president of the local sporting club, Jose Augusto, was killed by an explosion at his home on the coast. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Talks crisis as Savimbi strafed

Star 14/12/93

Lusaka — Angola's marathon peace talks broke down yesterday, just as a ceasefire seemed imminent, after the rebel Unita movement alleged the government had tried to assassinate its leader Jonas Savimbi.

"The attempt on our leader has disturbed us completely ... It is not a good signal and the situation is very serious," said Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim.

He said government planes rained down bombs on a rally which Savimbi was addressing in the town of Cuito on Saturday.

"A number of civilians were killed and Dr Savimbi's bodyguards were injured. To us, an attempt on our leader's life is a matter of life or death to the entire Unita," he said.

He said that whether the peace talks would continue was a matter to be handled by the UN

special representative to Angola, Alouine Blondin Beye. Beye declined to comment. (S)

Negotiators from Unita and the MPLA government have been meeting in the Zambian capital since last month to try to end renewed hostilities in Africa's bloodiest civil war to date.

The UN estimates that the war, which broke out again after elections last year, when Unita refused to admit that it had lost, is costing 1,000 lives a day, while at least 2 million people are threatened by starvation.

UN mediators and observers from Portugal — the former colonial power in Angola — the US and Russia were frantically trying to find ways of reviving the talks, which after a month had progressed into agreements on a ceasefire and plans to merge the two warring armies. — Sapa-AFP.

Govt denies bombing

Unita rally

15/12/92
LUANDA — The Angolan government denied yesterday that its forces bombed a rally in the central town of Cuito presided over by rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, in what Unita said was an assassination bid.

Unita made the accusation on Monday, saying some civilians were killed and Savimbi bodyguards wounded when air force planes bombed the meeting last Saturday. The rebels broke off their marathon peace talks with the government, being held in Lusaka, capital of neighbouring Zambia. — Sapa-AFP

Unita threat over alleged Luanda strike against Savimbi

camp. — Sapa-Reuter.

LISBON. — The Angolan rebel movement Unita today threatened to break off peace talks with the government unless Luanda explained an alleged attempt to kill Unita leader Jonas Savimbi in an air raid.

"If the government does not provide an explanation in conformity with the facts, the leadership of Unita will give orders for its delegation to withdraw from the talks in Lusaka," Unita's political commission said in a statement.

The Angolan government denies Unita charges that it deliberately tried to kill Savimbi in an air raid on Unita positions near the besieged central city of Cuito last Saturday.

But Unita said: "If the government persists in this attitude of lies and diversionary tactics, Unita will convene a press conference with foreign journalists within 72 hours to display proof and present witnesses of the treacherous attack."

A spokesman for Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said Unita's threat to withdraw from the UN-mediated talks in Zambia was aimed at blocking the month-old negotiations.

Spokesman Aldemiro Vaz da Conceicao said Unita's threat was "a smokescreen to hide the impasse they want to create in the negotiations."

The threat came as the UN Security Council was due to meet in New

York today to consider the situation in Angola and whether to proceed with UN efforts to restore peace to the former Portuguese colony.

5 APR 15/12/93

The United States, Russia and Portugal, the official observers of a collapsed 1991 peace agreement, expressed concern at an upsurge in fighting and urged both sides to "suspend offensive military activities".

Sapa-Reuter.



Star 16/12/93 Explain attack or we halt talks, Unita warns

Lisbon — The Angolan rebel movement Unita threatened to break off peace talks with the government yesterday unless Luanda explained an alleged attempt to kill Unita leader Jonas Savimbi in an air raid at the weekend.

⑤
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But Unita said in its statement from Huambo: "If the government persists in this attitude of lies and diversionary tactics, Unita will convene a press conference with foreign journalists within 72 hours to display proof and present witnesses of the treacherous attack." — Sapa-
Reuter.

UN bid to rescue Angolan talks

Lusaka — United Nations Special Envoy Alioune Blondin Beye tried frantically last night to prevent a collapse of the Angolan talks currently suspended due to the latest Unita boycott. ⑤

Beye convened a plenary session at which Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim protested against the use of the word

"boycott", saying the movement had just suspended talks to protest against the Angolan air force's "deliberate bombardment" of a meeting addressed by Jonas Savimbi last Saturday in Cutto, which injured civilians and Savimbi's bodyguards. — Star Africa Service.

► Bombs in Luanda — Page 6

— and there. —
sounds outside his home in Margate
was assaulted while investigating
On Wednesday Mr J S Pretorius
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sault, 57 for
tack, police said.
yesterday, apparently of a heart at-
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survivors said during a recent visit there.

"Here, we ate anything, leaves, roots, rats, dogs, cats and some even ate human flesh," one person said.

Cuito, set in the central plateau province of Bie, was besieged for nine months by rebel Unita forces.

It was bombarded day and night with unparalleled ferocity even by the standards of what is considered one of the world's most vicious civil wars.

On some days up to 4 000 projectiles hit the town in the space of 24 hours.

At least 25 000 people are estimated to have died during the siege from wounds but also from hunger and thirst as the town's suffering went largely unreported in the wider world.

Survivors buried their dead anywhere they could, in gardens and on waste ground and most of the graves are unmarked.

Today, there is no water, food, electricity or fuel in the town and most of the houses have no roofs to protect their inhabitants from the rains which have just started to fall.

Cuito is unique in that it is the only spot in Angola where Unita and government troops are so close they can talk to each other across the road.

Since a shaky truce came into force in September, the town is controlled in part by government forces and partly by men of Unita.

About 40 percent of Cuito is in government hands, the remainder is controlled by Unita. In many cases enemy troops are separated only by a street or a few houses and incidents frequently happen. It only takes one shot to set off a sustained 15-minute burst of automatic firing.

About 45 000 people are still living in Cuito, but when humanitarian aid finally reached the town it was already too late for thousands of children and war casualties.

The population is ethnically mainly Ovimbundu. Bie and Cuito massively supported Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, also an Ovimbundu, in elections a year ago. Some government and Unita men are from the same families.

This did not stop Unita destroying the town, but it has helped survivors establish a working relationship with its men.

People living in the more heavily-populated government zones habitually go over to Unita sectors to barter anything they can salvage for some food.

Unita commander General Consagrado, said during a tour of the town's empty streets, that Cuito could be an example for the rest of Angola. "If peace holds here, it will hold anywhere," he said.

Flanked by tightlipped bodyguards in dark glasses, General Consagrado showed journalists the invisible "demarcation" lines. Such and such a house is government territory, nearby, another heap of rubble is a Unita base.

The two sides fought street by street and even house by house and barricades made of junk, rusting chairs, pieces of car bodywork, old tyres and bricks, still block the streets.

"We defended democracy, but words cannot suffice to describe what we suffered," said a government soldier nicknamed "Rambo."

The only non-governmental organisation operating in Cuito, the Belgian branch of Medecins sans Frontiers had to leave a few days ago because of insecurity but has now returned with reinforcements.

"Cuito is now the most sensitive spot in Angola," said aid co-ordinator Josse Gillijns. "It is the only place where the two sides are face to face without fighting." — Sapa-AFP.

Heavy fighting in Angola with talks on ice

THE Angolan government yesterday reported heavy fighting with Unita rebels north of Luanda and in other parts of the country as peace talks remained locked.

Military sources said there were intense clashes 100km north-east of Luanda near the strategic town of Canacassala, which was captured by Unita earlier in the week.

The sources also reported fight-

ing in Mona Quimbundo in eastern Lunda Sul province, near the besieged provincial capitals of Cuito and Menongue. *SI Times*

No more details were available and the reports could not be independently confirmed. *19/12/93*

Diplomats said month-long peace talks with Unita in the Zambian capital Lusaka were still locked.

They said there was not much chance of any agreement being reached before Christmas. **5**

Over the past week Unita has boycotted the negotiations aimed at ending nearly 18 years of war.

It accused the government of trying to kill its leader, Jonas Savimbi, in a bombing raid near Cuito last weekend.

— Sapa-Reuter

Fresh fighting erupts in war-torn Angola

LUANDA. — Fresh fighting erupted between Unita rebels and government forces yesterday north of here, but UN mediators expressed confidence that peace talks would resume next week in Lusaka after a holiday break. (S) CT 20/12/72

Loud explosions shook the area near the strategic village of Canacassala in Bengo province, according to reports by diplomats and Angolan government officials.

Diplomats said the area had been the scene of heavy clashes over the past 10 days. — Sapa-Reuter

New bid to end Angola civil war

ARC 20/12/93 (5)

□ UN mediator for Zimbabwe talks

HARARE. — International efforts to end Angola's 18-year civil war shifted to Zimbabwe as African leaders and a United Nations mediator gathered for a one-day summit to review stalled peace negotiations.

Talks between Angola's government and Unita rebels were broken off last Monday when Unita walked out, accusing the government of trying to kill its leader Jonas Savimbi in an air raid on the central town of Cuito. The government denied this.

Alioune Blondin Beye, chairman of the UN-mediated peace talks in Zambia, flew to Zimbabwe's capital yesterday to meet President Robert Mugabe.

"Mr Beye is briefing Mr Mugabe on what is happening at the talks before Mr Mugabe chairs a meeting of the frontline states in Zimbabwe (today)," one diplomatic source said.

Another said: "The frontline states want to see what action, if any, they can take to help Angola's peace pro-

cess forward. This will be the focus of their discussions."

Mr Mugabe is current head of the frontline states.

The sources said they expected investigators from the UN, Portugal, Russia and the United States — who flew to Angola last week to investigate Unita's claims — to return to Zambia at the weekend to brief the rival negotiators.

"We now expect the peace talks to resume on Monday," one source said.

The UN recently estimated that 1,000 people a day were dying in Angola's conflict, making it the world's most costly war in terms of lives.

Mr Beye has imposed a news blackout on the talks in Zambia. Diplomats said before the talks were broken off that the two sides had agreed on a ceasefire and the formation of a new national army.

Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi was among the first leaders of the frontline states to arrive in Harare. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan call-up for ex-SA troops

WJM 30/12/93
6/1/94

Former members of Koevoet are being recruited by a South African company to serve in Angola, writes **Graham Hopwood**

A SOUTH AFRICAN "security" company is recruiting Namibians formerly serving in the South African security forces for a military role in the Angolan conflict.

The company, Executive Outcomes, has approached the Namibian government for permission to take former members of the counter-insurgency unit, Koevoet, to Angola. The Pretoria-based outfit, run by Eben Barlow, has been recruiting former Koevoet members in the north of Namibia for the past two months for a security role in Angola.

The company claims that the men will be used to train a national Angolan army. In March this year Executive Outcomes recruited former members of the SADF, mainly from 32 Battalion, to act as security guards at the oil installations at Soyo before the town was recaptured by Unita. The company was then apparently operating with the permission of the Angolan government.

Barlow this week refused to give any details on his company's latest operations, saying only that the *Mail &*

Guardian should speak to the Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos as he was the company's client.

The Namibian government has become increasingly concerned about the activities of Executive Outcomes in Namibia. Last week an employee of the company, Wouter Kok, was deported from Namibia after going on a recruiting drive in the Oshakati area.

Kok had apparently registered some 120 ex-members of Koevoet before he was called in by Namibian security police for questioning in Oshakati on December 13. The Security Branch officer who questioned Kok said he did not have the authority of the Namibian government to recruit Namibians for a role in Angola. Kok was not charged but warned to stop his activities. He was finally deported on December 21 as his recruitment work contravened the terms of his visitor's permit.

An official in the Namibian Home Affairs Ministry said the recruitment issue was "very sensitive" and had been referred to the cabinet. He said the government did not want "to be seen as providing a passage for support to either side in the Angolan conflict".

In November another former Koevoet officer and employee of Executive Outcomes, Johan Mostert, recruited 67 ex-members of his unit in the Kavango region. According to the home affairs official the 67 were then gathered at a farm near Windhoek while Executive Outcomes approached the Namibian government for permission to take the group to Angola. Home affairs then asked Executive Outcomes for evidence of their official link with the Angolan government. So far the company has failed to provide any contract or letter indicating Angolan government approval for their operations, he said.

An official in the Angolan embassy this week also denied knowledge of Executive Outcomes, saying that the Angolan army did not need foreigners to train it.

Corazza's cooking

If you've been wondering if *Mail & Guardian* food writer Marino Corazza is as cheerful and amiable as his columns, you can find out tomorrow night — New Year's Eve — when he debuts as a television chef on TV1. He'll be braising line-fish and crayfish in a special foodie insert on *Top Billing*, which begins at 6.20pm.

ANGOLA - GENERAL
1993

Angola seeks probe into mercenaries

Star 1/10/93

BY NORMAN CHANDLER

Angola last night said it had asked the SA Government to look into claims that South African mercenaries were involved in renewed fighting in the country.

It also claimed South Africa was the channel through which fuel and food supplies were continuing to reach Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement.

But Angola's Pretoria representative Manuel Augusto said the Ango-

lan government was not aware of any South African military "advisers" involved with the MPLA or Unita forces in the renewed fighting there. There could however be mercenaries fighting on the side of Unita (S)

A spokesman for the South African Defence Force said last night that the only way South Africa would become involved would be through the provision of humanitarian aid, training, and being part of an internal security force.

MPLA agrees to talks

LISBON. — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has agreed to meet rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi at a proposed peace summit in the Gabonese capital Libreville, Sao Tome and Principe President Miguel Trovoada said yesterday.

Portugal's TSF radio said Mr Trovoada made the announcement in the Angolan capital Luanda after four days of talks with the government. It was not clear whether Unita

leader Dr Savimbi had also agreed to attend the Libreville meeting.

Mr Trovoada has emerged as a key figure in efforts to end the 18-year-old Angolan civil war which flared again last year following the collapse of a 1991 peace agreement.

The Angolan government failed to send a delegation to planned talks with Unita on establishing a ceasefire last weekend. — Sapa-Reuter

Rebels mass for new attacks in Angola

LUANDA: — The Angolan government says it has recaptured three southern towns but Unita rebels are massing forces for new attacks.

An offensive launched in September led to the recent recapture of Quilenques, Cacula and Caluquembe, said Dumilde Rangel, governor of the southern province of Huila.

He said yesterday the offensive was accelerating to destroy rebel positions in the province's north and east.

"The objective is to limit Unita's combat capacity to liberate the remaining municipalities of Chicomba, Jamba, Cuvango, Caconda and Chipindo," Mr Rangel said.

The official news agency Angop said Unita had lost 20 men, including its commander, Major Orlando, in recent fighting.

In a dispatch from Benguela province on the central coast, Angop said government troops killed five rebels and captured numerous weapons on Thursday after a Unita attack near the village of Kassiva, outside Cubal.

Colonel Ingles Neto of the central military front, which holds the coastal region facing the rebels' main stronghold around the city of Huambo, told the agency that many Unita men were massing around the town of Chongoroi.

The government reports could not be independently confirmed.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi said this week his movement had lost ground militarily because of a unilateral ceasefire it announced on September 20. He warned that the truce might not be maintained.

Unita's ceasefire declaration was rejected by the government as a sham. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola slams SA connection in fighting

Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Angola last night said it had asked the government to look into claims that South African mercenaries were involved in renewed fighting in the country.

It also claimed South Africa was the channel through which fuel and food supplies were continuing to reach Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebel movement.

However, Manuel Augusto, Angola's representative in Pretoria, said the Angola government was not aware of any South African military "advisers" involved with the MPLA or Unita forces in the renewed fighting there but that there could be mercenaries fighting on the side of Unita.

There have been numerous reports in recent weeks of South African mercenaries being involved in the fighting, but these have not been confirmed. It is understood that some mercenaries have been offered up to R35 000 a month.

A spokesman for the South African Defence Force said last night that the only way South Africa would become involved would be through the provision of humanitarian aid, training and being part of an internal security force.

Colonel Les Weyers, of the SADF's public relations directorate, said: "The SADF is not involved in Angola."

Mr Augusto told a media briefing that Angola had protested formally to Foreign Minister Pik Botha about South African involvement and that his government had been assured that South Africa was not involved.

"I was told that the South African government is still committed to co-operation with Angola," Mr Augusto said.

The South Africa connection appeared to be through mining houses, particularly those with branches in Zaire, and that, in the main, fuel was the major export assisting Unita.

"Zaire is the number one channel for Unita. South Africa could be one of the channels being used for armaments. We are not saying that they are but we are concerned that there may be border violations (between Botswana and Zaire and involving South Africa).

"Our information is that some mining companies working in Zaire are using South Africa to assist Unita in terms of logistics.

"More than arms, the problem for Unita is that of fuel and you do not have to be an expert to know that South Africa is the only source in the area for oil products.

"We have had assurances from South Africa that it is trying everything in its power to stop this trade. We hope they are doing everything in their capacity to prevent this."

Mr Augusto said Unita had deliberately broken the terms of the ceasefire which ended the original Angola war, and that it had continued to flout the terms.

The Angolan government urged withdrawal by Unita, the rendering of humanitarian aid to thousands of victims of the war, and called on Unita to embrace unequivocally the result of the 1992 Angola elections and to agree to negotiations.

Waiting for death in their mud huts

Star 4/10/93

(5)

AFTER eight months of siege, relief flights resume to Menongue, where farmers get blown up by landmines in their fields

BY HANS-PETER BAKKER
STAR AFRICA SERVICE

Menongue — Relief flights have started flying supplies into the small, besieged Angolan provincial capital of Menongue, which has been cut off from the outside world for more than eight months.

In the Angolan capital Luanda, about 800 km north-west of Menongue, news from the town has been skeletal. What one did hear from the government-controlled media was horrific: inhuman attacks on civilian targets by Unita, starvation on a biblical scale and hundreds of rotting corpses in the streets.

The last plane to take off from Menongue did so under fire. It was hit several times by the attacking Unita troops and only just made it to safety. That was on January 15.

Now, more than eight months later, with Unita's guns falling silent on the day of its unilateral ceasefire, two aid organisations — the World Food Programme (WFP) and Caritas, a Catholic organisation — have started relief flights.

On one such flight, as the cargo plane drops sleepily, WFP logistics officer Pierre Honnorat looks down nervously at the approaching lines of trenches surrounding the airport and says: "If they are going to shoot, it will be now."

But nothing happens and the chartered 727 lands safely.

In contrast to the terrible stories and the tense drop out of the sky, Menongue itself at first appears to be a picture of tranquility. Government soldiers



War wounded . . . in the besieged town of Menongue, those who go in search of food are often maimed by landmines. PICTURE: JOAO SILVA

laze around and smile gaily at the unusual sight of outsiders.

There are no dead people lying in the relatively clean streets, and most of the buildings — although marked by shrapnel and bullets — appear to be intact.

But it soon becomes evident that the roughly 60 000 people of Menongue have, and still are,

suffering severely.

There are no food centres. Relief organisations have been flying into Menongue for only a week.

And so far not much of the food they have brought has reached its target.

Here the dying are found waiting in their mud huts. Without any food in town,

why should they venture out at all?

While the town was under siege, the fields surrounding Menongue were left untended. Many of those who brewed the countryside in search of food have either died or lost a leg from the many anti-personnel mines buried around the town.

Smells of putrefaction greet

one even before one enters the town's only hospital. In every room and in every passage of the hospital, children with all the symptoms of famine and severe malnutrition whimper softly or simply stare blankly.

The only doctor in town, Dr Aguilare Vicente, wrings his hands in despair. "We have not received any new stocks of medi-

cine for nearly two years. We are doing amputations without anaesthetics."

At the graveyard, a few kilometres from town, gravediggers can be seen working every morning before it gets too hot. With hoes they hack out the shallow rectangular graves, AK-47 rifles slung over their shoulders.

UN Aid flown in to besieged Angolan city

MENONGUE, Angola. — The United Nations has begun flying food aid into this besieged provincial capital which has been cut off from the world for eight months and ravaged by starvation, disease and destruction.

Several thousand people have died in Menongue since renewed civil war stopped flights and road convoys in January, the Catholic bishop of the southern Cuando Cubango province told the first group of journalists to visit the town since then.

Bishop Jose de Queiroj Alves said some estimates put the death toll at 10 000 in a town of 60 000.

Red Cross spokesmen estimate 30 children are dying in Menongue daily. — Sapa-AFP

Angolan forces retake mining town of Jamba

CT 5/10/93 (5)

LUANDA. — Angolan forces yesterday retook the mining town of Jamba, ending a year of occupation by Unita, military sources here said.

At least 10 rebels were killed and one soldier captured during more than an hour of fighting to recapture the town in the southern province of Huila, where the government has stepped up an offensive against Unita.

Provincial governor Mr Dumilde Rangel confirmed that the government is continuing its efforts to prise towns in Huila away from Unita.

Government troops have retaken Quilengues, Cacula and Caluquembe from Unita, but are now targeting Cu-

vango, Caconda and Chipindo, the Journal of Angola said.

But Unita has resumed shelling the southern city of Menongue after relaxing its siege for two months, state radio said yesterday.

It said Unita was shelling the city from a distance with 125mm guns.

Unita was bringing in troops from other parts of southern Angola for an all-out assault on Menongue, capital of Caondo Cubango province.

Government troops pushed Unita forces 50km back from Menongue in August and September. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP

Mandela ready to mediate in Angola

LISBON. — ANC president Nelson Mandela has arrived here ready to mediate in the Angolan conflict, if asked.

If the people of Angola want the ANC to mediate we will consider that very seriously, he told a news conference.

Mr. Mandela will visit Belgium and Britain before flying home next week.

Both Mozambique and Angola are a matter of grave concern to us, because what happens in Angola has an immediate effect on what is happening in South Africa, said Mr. Mandela.

Diplomats here confirmed that the ANC, Morocco and the Ivory Coast were jointly involved in Angolan peace efforts.

According to another source the Portuguese government needs a peace settlement in southern Africa because it fears a flood of Portuguese returning to their homeland.

Portugal's president Mario Soares hosts a dinner for Mr. Mandela today when the ANC leader will brief him on events in South Africa and discuss what Portugal could do for the country.

He said the ANC expected the large Portuguese community in South Africa, estimated at around 500 000, to play an important role in the transformation process.

He dismissed a question about links between sections of the Portuguese community in South Africa and the right wing.

Whatever affiliations or relations they have with certain political parties in the country it is our duty to speak to every one to join the multiparty forum and be part of this transformation? — Sapa

Unita now accepts poll and peace deal

Star 7/10/93
5

Abidjan — Angola's rebel Unita movement yesterday decided to recognise the outcome of last year's general election and the "validity" of the May 1991 Bicesse peace accords, an official Unita statement said.

In a communique Unita said the decisions were taken at an "extraordinary meeting" of its political commission held between September 28 and Wednesday this week.

Angola plunged back into civil war when the rebel movement last October refused to accept that it had lost a UN-supervised general election held the month before.

The rebels called for a "rapid resumption of negotiations with the government".

The accords, signed in Portugal, provided for an immediate ceasefire in the civil war, which

had raged since independence in 1975, the holding of free presidential and general elections, and the demobilisation and merger of Unita troops and Angolan government forces into a single army.

The latter never happened, but international observers said the elections had been free and fair.

The Bicesse accords are monitored by a "troika" comprising Portugal, the former colonial power, Russia and the United States.

Unita said yesterday talks with the government should be held on the basis of the Abidjan protocol, drawn up by the troika, which the rebels rejected in May after six weeks of talks in the Ivory Coast economic capital. Sapa-AFP.

Passions were further in port. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita 'preparing to break ceasefire'

SAO TOME. — The Angolan government said Unita rebels were preparing to break a self-proclaimed ceasefire and attack three besieged towns in the interior.

Angolan state radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said last night that Unita was moving troops and weaponry into position for fresh onslaughts against Cuito in the central highlands, Menongue in the south and Luena in the east.

Unita said after a special meeting of its leadership at its Huambo headquarters it would maintain its ceasefire and that it wanted to resume talks with the government as soon as possible.

It said it was prepared to accept disputed elections and the validity of a 1991 peace accord, but was not prepared to trade land for peace.

Any agreement "must reflect the present position of Unita and other opposition forces", it

said in a statement sent to Lisbon and the Ivory Coast capital Abidjan.

Unita controlled three-quarters of the 10 million population lived in government-held areas.

State radio said the Unita deployment suggested the rebels were preparing attacks in spite of the ceasefire they declared on September 20. The government said the truce was a sham.

The radio said Unita forces had been shelling Menongue from a distance since Sunday and two people had been killed.

Unita was also using a C-130 Hercules transport plane to bring in troops and weaponry from Huambo in the central highlands for a fresh assault on the city, it added.

The radio said the plane had landed "red beret" special forces and weapons at Kapunde airstrip, 150km from Menongue. — Sapa-Reuter.

Mandela appeals to Europe for aid

BRUSSELS. — African National Congress president Nelson Mandela began a two-day visit here this morning by addressing a joint sitting of the European parliament, where he appealed for aid.

He arrived in the Belgian capital from Portugal on the second leg of a four-nation European tour late last night.

In Brussels he will meet, among others, Belgian King Albert II and Prime Minister Jean Luc Dehaene, European Community commission president Jacques Delors, west European parliamentarians and leading business people.

Mr Mandela thanked the European Community for its support in the fight against apartheid, but urged the EC to continue its assistance.

He reiterated his call for the EC to get involved in the April 27 election, and "to step up its capacity to monitor the election process and the election it-

sent to ensure that no single organisation can make the election unworkable or refuse to accept the election results".

The ANC leader was addressing a joint sitting of the African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries and the EC.

Mr Mandela said apartheid destabilisation had contributed to the destruction of southern Africa's economy.

The role of the EC in the southern region was crucial and required continuous expansion.

"For our part, we will upgrade our current level of participation in the Southern African Development Community (SADC)", he said.

The ANC hoped the upcoming mission of the EC to South Africa and the Transitional Executive Council "will share ideas on the best possible form our relationship can take". — Sapa.

Blacks in Congress

INTERN

Even friendly Unita men run on empty

LUANDA — The UN oil embargo against Unita was being so strictly observed in Luanda this week that even dissidents of the group could not buy fuel. **BINA**

A state-run newspaper reported yesterday that a petrol pump attendant refused to sell fuel earlier this week to Unita member of parliament Norberto de Castro on the grounds that he would be breaking the embargo. **7/10/93**

"De Castro pulled out his card showing he was a member of parliament but the most he got was a refusal by the attendant," the daily Jornal de Angola said.

De Castro, Unita's former deputy director of information, and other dissidents have separated themselves from rebel chief Jonas Savimbi since he resumed fighting a year ago. **(5)**

The oil and arms embargo was imposed last month in protest at Unita's refusal to abide by the terms of a collapsed 1991 peace agreement that was to have ended 16 years of civil war. — Reuter.

'Elections were valid' — Unita

CT 7/10/93 (5)

ABIDJAN. — Angola's rebel Unita movement yesterday decided to recognise the outcome of last year's general elections and the "validity" of the May 1991 Bicesse peace accords, a Unita statement said.

In a statement sent to AFP in Abidjan, Unita said the decisions were taken at an "extraordinary meeting" held between September 28 and October 6.

The political commission of Dr Jonas Savimbi's movement, meeting in Huambo, decided also to "reaffirm the validity

of the Bicesse Accords as the basis of the peace process in Angola", the statement said.

However, the accords would have to be "brought up to date", Unita added.

Unita said it accepted the "validity of the results of the elections of September 29 and 30, though they were fraudulent", but added that the "institutions resulting from these elections should reflect the current position of Unita and other opposition forces".

The rebels called for a "rapid resumption of negotiations with the government" at a date to be fixed by

Rescued mother back soon

Staff Reporter

A SOMERSET WEST woman who organised a relief flight for her family out of the besieged Angolan city of Menongue will soon be reunited with her mother.

Miss Sandra Lopes, 25, said she last saw her family about "a year and a half ago" when they moved to Menongue to do missionary work. Since then, Unita had besieged the city and pounded it with bombs.

She said her mother Mrs Manuela Lopes, 49, brother Jason, 8, and sister Sandra, 4, were flown to Portugal by the International Red Cross.

However, her father Mr Adalberto Lopes, 52, and brother Luis decided to stay behind. They are making a living by repairing government vehicles.

Mrs Lopes is expected in South Africa in two weeks.

UN special envoy to Angola Mr Alouine Blondin Beye.

Earlier, Angolan state radio said Unita was shelling the besieged southern city of Menongue yesterday and preparing to tighten the noose round the eastern city of Luena.

Unita rebels have killed at least 20 civilians in renewed shelling of Menongue after seven weeks of relative calm, military officials said yesterday. They also accused Unita of "infiltrating" its troops among government positions in the town. — Sapa-AFP

Angolan govt 'to talk peace'

LUANDA. — Angola's government has agreed to resume peace negotiations with Unita, a UN spokesman said here yesterday.

OCT 8/10/92
He said government delegates had told the UN the government was ready to meet the rebels following Unita's announcement on Wednesday that it would accept the result of last year's elections. Unita resumed fighting after alleging the poll was rigged. — Sapa-AFP

WORLD

Luanda agrees to talks with Unita

B/D ay 8/10/93

LUANDA — The Angolan government had agreed to resume negotiations with Unita, a UN spokesman said yesterday.

Government delegates told UN special envoy Alouine Blondin Beye that they would meet Unita representatives after the movement said on Wednesday they would accept last year's election results.

The negotiations would be based on the 1991 Bicesse peace accords, the Abidjan protocol and UN Security Council resolutions, the UN said.

It said Unita had given Beye an official declaration of its readiness to accept the "validity" of the election results and the Bicesse accords.

However, a Unita communiqué issued on Wednesday after a meeting of the movement's political commission made no reference to withdrawing troops from areas they had seized, which was one of the government's main conditions for talks.

Moreover, Unita's offer to end the fighting is viewed with scepticism by diplomats who say Unita has made and broken similar pledges before.

"There is no breakthrough. Unita has conceded nothing. Only people blinded by ignorance or hope would see this as a promising sign," a Western diplomat said.

"It is another example of how des-

perate people are. All (Unita leader) Jonas Savimbi is doing is trying to buy himself time again and appear reasonable." (5)

Yesterday Angolan media accused Unita of trying to tighten its nine-month siege of the eastern cities of Luena and Menongue.

Earlier, the government had rejected as a sham the ceasefire declared by Unita last month.

"It's naive to think Savimbi wants to stop the war. He wants to stop the embargo," another diplomat said, referring to a UN oil and arms embargo imposed last week.

He said Savimbi was probably regrouping during the rainy season, traditionally a period of consolidation since civil war erupted in 1975 following independence from Portugal.

"Unita does this time and again. They sit talking peace while mobilising on the battlefield," said a Western diplomat.

Another diplomat said one test of Unita's sincerity would be whether it allowed humanitarian aid into the besieged central highland city of Cuito, where an estimated 20 000 people had died during a nine-month siege.

The UN said it had government authorisation to fly in relief, but was still awaiting security guarantees from Unita. — Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

Star 9/10/93 People are dying in Angola, but how many?

THE war in Angola is not only the world's worst, it is also the world's most inaccessible and under-reported.
HANS-PETER BAKKER of the Africa News Service reports.

5

LUANDA — It is estimated that 1 000 people die every day in Angola and that in at least one besieged town the starving people have begun eating their dead.

But who really knows? While journalists are able to get into the thick of it in places like Yugoslavia and Somalia, in Angola most of the war — and the atrocities — occur without witnesses from outside. UNITA takes journalists only on carefully orchestrated trips, and relief agencies flying into UNITA-held areas have strict orders to bar journalists.

The MPLA government is only marginally better. A few journalists get military accreditation, which promises the world but delivers little. The government allows the media to accompany relief organisations, but aid is flown only into fully secured areas where the military controls one's every move.

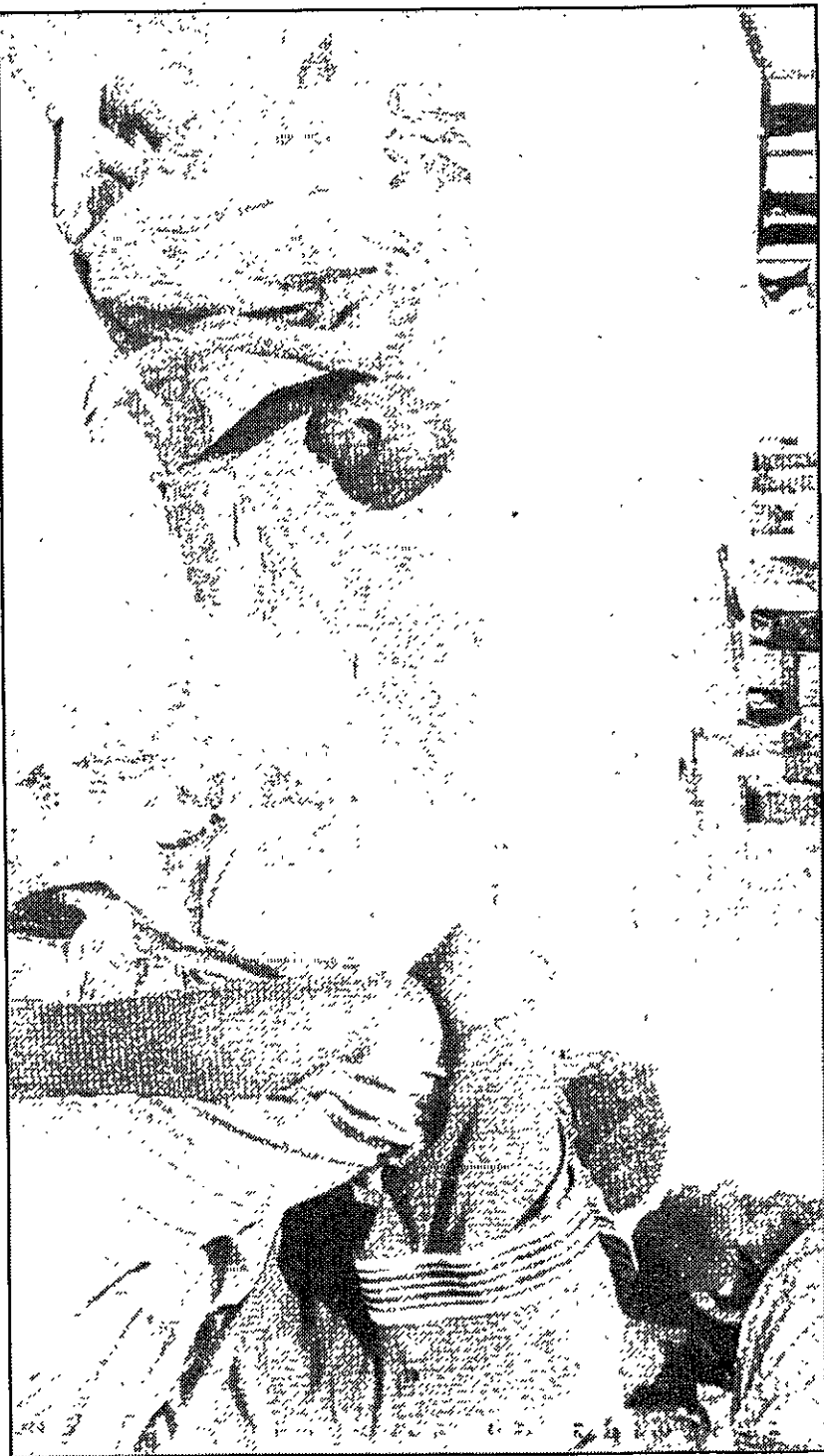
Angolan Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Joao Baptista de Matos says: "It's a question of culture: my commanders would probably commit suicide if a journalist was to be killed in their area."

But maybe the Angolans are just better at doing what all armies at war would like to do — controlling every bit of information that leaves the country. The government controls and abuses Angola's newspapers, television and radio stations, while UNITA does the same with its radio station.

Sadly much of the news reaching the outside world comes either from these doubtful sources or from government or UNITA publicity agents.

Those UN and other non-government agencies that have continued to work in the country are about the only credible source of information.

But they have a limited presence on the ground because many of their people were taken out of



PITY THE YOUNG: A child too weak to walk crawls on all fours at the entrance of the hospital in Menongue. The area has a high child mortality rate. Famine is imminent in large parts of the country because the war has played havoc with agriculture.

conflict areas. In addition, their work depends heavily on good-will from both sides, so they generally refuse — understandably — to say or do anything that might jeopardise their relief operations.

Are people eating their dead comrades in Cuico? Maybe they are, but that claim — which the international media have lap-ped up without question —

was made by the Angolan foreign minister in an address at the United Nations when he appealed for pressure against UNITA.

Are 1 000 people a day dying in Angola? Who knows? It is at best a well-informed guess by the UN.

But whether 100 or 2 000 people a day are dying, there is no doubt Angolans are suffering on a monu-

mental scale, and that widespread famine really is imminent.

Hospitals in the capital and provincial towns are overflowing with wounded and emaciated people.

And vast numbers of civilians have lost their lives or their limbs to the indiscriminate planting of anti-personnel mines by both sides.

All Angola's available resources are ploughed into the war. Inflation in

Luanda is soaring. A few months ago a dollar bought 5 000 kwanzas, now it is closer to 50 000 kwanzas. The prices of goods, most of which are imported, have kept pace with the rocketing value of the dollar.

The living standard of more and more people in Luanda is dropping below the breadline. Young men are forced against their will into the army. Many join the badly paid police

force to escape the front and then turn to extortion to make a living.

At Luanda airport the number of young, mostly orphaned boys who have nowhere else to go is growing every day.

At night they sleep together on a pile of old aircraft tyres and during the day, whenever a relief flight is being loaded up, they scramble under the loaders in a frantic search for split food.

Star 11/10/93

Unita troops shatter truce

Luanda — Unita rebels have attacked government troops near Cuito in violation of a ceasefire agreement, authorities said yesterday.

They said the attack occurred on Saturday on a road between Cuito and the town of Kunje, causing an unknown number of injuries.

It was the first clash in

Cuito since September 20, when Unita declared a unilateral ceasefire.

According to local press reports, more than 18 000 people had been killed in the region between January and last month. The UN said Unita last week refused to authorise a team of experts to travel to the region to evaluate the food situation. — Sapa-AFP.

SA dismisses Angolan MP's claim over arms

Oct 13 110193

Political Staff

A CLAIM by an Angolan MP that former SADF officers were supplying weapons and arms to Unita was dismissed yesterday by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

"When it comes to these unsubstantiated rumours, we do not react," a spokesman said.

"If he comes with the facts, we will investigate immediately," the spokesman added.

The MPLA MP, Mr Joao Melo, said at a news conference in Cape Town yesterday that daily flights from South Africa were ferrying arms and equipment into Angola to bolster the rebel Unita forces.

Soldiers stave off Unita assaults

Star 14/10/93
**Hungry Angolans
eating dogs, cats** (5)

Luanda — Angolan soldiers fought off new attacks by Unita rebels, the military announced yesterday, as a UN aid worker told how people are starving to death in a town where a mouse to eat costs about R8.

Angolan and Namibian customs officials have also stated that cargo planes believed to be carrying military equipment for Unita had breached the airspace of the two countries in defiance of a UN arms and oil embargo.

A representative of the UN Children's Fund (Unicef) said many people were dying in the rebel-besieged south-eastern town of Menongue, where thousands of civilians were trying to survive by eating

**STARVING people
make meal of mice
as conditions
deteriorate**

dogs, cats and mice.

A captured mouse sold on the local market for 10 thousand new kwanza (R8,50) at the very least, the Unicef official said in a report published yesterday in the government's *Jornal de Angola*.

A shortage of medicines in Menongue hospitals had led to 453 deaths in the past nine months, while the paediatric unit, made for a maximum of 50 patients, had 144 at the last count, the official said.

Hundreds of small children

and adolescents with swollen bellies were out on Menongue streets day and night, desperately searching for something to eat, he said.

Food handed out to the organisation Caritas de Angola was far from enough to supply all the starving people in the town, the official said, calling for an emergency feeding centre and other relief units to be installed.

Among other regions where the humanitarian situation was critical was Caxito, about 60 km from Luanda.

Relief workers believe more than 2 million Angolans are at risk from starvation and disease in a war the UN estimates is claiming 1 000 lives each day. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita attack on Cuito

LUANDA — Rebels from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) have attacked government troops near the central town of Cuito in violation of a ceasefire agreement. *Sowetan*

Angolan authorities said the attack occurred on Saturday on a road between Cuito and the town of Kunje, causing an unknown number of injuries. The reported clash was the first such incident in Cuito since September 20 when UNITA declared a unilateral ceasefire. *W/10/93*

According to local press reports, more than 18 000 people were killed in the region during fighting between January and September. *(5)*

The UN special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, said UNITA also refused last week to authorise a team of experts to travel to the region to evaluate the food situation.

MI 'waging campaign'

CT 15/10/93 (254) 5

JOHANNESBURG. — A company recruiting former SADF members to train Angolan government troops claims Military Intelligence is waging a smear campaign against it.

It was reported yesterday that an Antonov 12 plane ferrying the former SADF soldiers to Angola was grounded at Lanseria airport and its eight Russian crew members arrested.

Executive Outcome officials said that since they began the Angolan

operation, the company had been targeted by certain SADF "elements".

In a news release shortly before the plane was grounded, Executive Outcome said they were being branded mercenaries — a claim they denied.

The firm also claimed death and other threats were levelled at them.

The arrest of the Russians was immediately denied by the SADF, which said the Russians were asked to accompany them to the air force mess to settle accommodation fees.

UN flies food aid into Cuito

THE United Nations flew the first food aid to the Angolan city of Cuito yesterday, too late for 30 000 people killed in a nine-month rebel siege described by aid workers as an apocalypse. *S Times*

"The situation is catastrophic," said Philippe Borel, director of the UN World Food Programme in Angola. *17/10/93*

"My colleagues who went to Cuito said thousands of people were starving, without water, without medicine. The city is in

ruins," Mr Borel said by satellite telephone from Luanda.

"People are still too scared to leave their houses. There are lots of weapons lying in the streets and 99 percent of the buildings have been damaged or destroyed."

A second flight was expected to carry more food and 800kg of medicines to the central city before Monday. — *Sapa-
Reuter* (5)

Food aid to Cuito

LUANDA — United Nations planes yesterday flew more food aid to the starving Angolan city of Cuito, where up to 30 000 people are believed to have died in a nine-month rebel siege. *Sowetan 18/10/93*

UN officials also hoped to arrange the evacuation of trapped Portuguese residents during a rare truce. Aid workers managed to visit the central highland on Friday for the first time since the siege began and described a catastrophic situation.

"It was much, much worse than anyone had imagined," a World Food Programme official said in Luanda yesterday. (5)

More aid pours into 'hell city'

JOHANNESBURG. — UN planes flew more aid yesterday to Cuito, a besieged and starving Angolan city of dying children, thousands of graves and floating bodies that have poisoned its river water.

Up to 30 000 people are believed to have died in a nine-month rebel siege of what has become Angola's "hell city".

UN officials hoped to arrange the evacuation of trapped Portuguese residents during a rare truce. Aid workers managed to visit the central highland on Friday for the first time since the siege began.

Mr Robert Sanchez of the World Food Programme (WFP) said: "It's apocalyptic. Everything has been destroyed. There are graves everywhere."

"Thirty to 40 children are dying every day. There is a lot of sickness. People are drinking from the river but there are so many dead bodies in the water it is unfit to drink."

A first food shipment was flown in on Saturday. The WFP flew three more plane loads of 18 tons of food yesterday, the official said by telephone.

⑤ CT 18/10/43

Star 12/10/92

Now it's 'Apocalypse Cuito'

The United Nations flew the first food aid in nine months to the Angolan city of Cuito on Saturday — too late for 30 000 people killed in a nine-month rebel siege described by aid workers as an apocalypse. (5)

"You've seen the movie *Apocalypse Now*? That title could describe Cuito. The situation is catastrophic," said the UN World Food Programme's Angolan director Philippe Borel.

He said 99 percent of the buildings were damaged or destroyed. The streets were deserted. People are still too scared to leave their houses. There are lots of weapons lying among the rubble.

An Antonov-12 plane flew to Cuito early on Saturday with 12 tons of food, including cooking oil, beans and maize, Borel said.

A second flight was expected to carry more food and 800 kg. of medicines before today.

A school building serving as the city's only hospital was packed with 1 300 war victims, many wounded by landmines.

"The health situation is catastrophic. They are cutting off legs with no painkillers. Gangrene has set in," Borel said.

UN workers reported that Cuito, which is the capital of Bie province, was divided, with Unita controlling the western sections and the government the airport, centre and east. — Sapa-Reuter.

No way out of 'hell city'

UNITA soldiers are preventing foreigners, including UN relief officials, from leaving Angola's starving "hell city" of Cuito, where aid officials estimate up to 30 000 people have died in a nine-month siege by Unita.

State radio, monitored by the BBC, said yesterday the foreigners included the World Food Programme's Mercedes Sayagues who on Saturday helped ferry aid to the city, gripped by the most savage fighting of the resurgent civil war.

Aid officials said hunger, wounds or disease had killed an estimated 30 000 people. Thousands were starving and about 50 people were dying each day from hunger.

They said bodies were lying unburied in shell-blasted streets. Virtually no building had escaped the pounding by Jonas Savimbi's Unita artillery and heavy mortars.

UN officials had hoped to arrange the evacuation of trapped Portuguese residents and any other foreigners during a rare truce after aid workers reached the central highlands city on Friday for the first time since the siege began.

State radio yesterday quoted UN special representative for Angola Alioune Blondin Beye as expressing surprise that Unita had

not allowed foreigners to leave areas it controlled after having itself requested the UN operation.

"Unita demanded that we bring in aid, and in return it would allow foreigners stranded in Cuito to leave," Blondin Beye was quoted as saying.

"We secured permission from the Sao Tomean authorities to receive those foreigners. We secured the necessary permission from the government to ensure that the aircraft would be allowed to go to Cuito and from there to Sao Tomé.

"To my great surprise, Unita has neither allowed foreigners to leave its areas, nor given us a list of the names of foreigners stranded in its areas, nor yet allowed our aircraft to carry out those aid missions."

Journalists in Angola said it appeared foreigners were being prevented from leaving because of a Unita demand that it be allowed to collect food aid from the city's airport, which is in the hands of government forces.

A first food shipment was flown in on Saturday but aid officials said flights had been suspended on Sunday because of the dispute with Unita. — Reuter.

UN mercy flight cleared

5) ARG 19/10/78
LUANDA — The Angolan rebel movement Unita has given the United Nations clearance to fly into the starving city of Cuito today to deliver food and medicine and to rescue three UN officials stranded there since Sunday.

Unita said it would guarantee safe passage for the flight in response to an appeal from the UN special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, a UN official said.

Mr. Beye met UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali in Mozambique yesterday to brief him on the situation in Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN plane gets Unita clearance

Star 19/10/93

Luanda — The rebel Unita movement has given the UN clearance to send a plane to the starving city of Cuito today to deliver food and medicine and rescue three UN officials stranded there since Sunday.

Unita said it would guarantee safe passage for the flight in response to an appeal from the UN special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, a UN official said yesterday. ⑤

Beye met UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali in Mozambique yesterday to brief him on the situation in Angola.

Ghali said the UN hoped to begin a new round of peace negotiations with the government and the rebels "within the next few days".

The three UN officials went to Cuito on Sunday and had to stay there because Unita refused to guarantee safe passage for a second plane later in the day.

Relief agencies warned that the horror of the world's "forgotten war" was not confined to Cuito, with the war and disease claiming increasingly dreadful tolls in other centres.

Two British aid agencies said yesterday that children were dying of hunger and common illnesses in many Angolan towns besides Cuito.

"Horrific events on a similar scale, if not worse, are taking place in Huambo, Luena, Menongue — wherever the war is at its most vicious," said Marialice Emboava of the Catholic charity Cafod.

"People are dying on the streets even in Luanda and Benguela, which aren't cut off by fighting and have access to the coast," added Emboava, who has just returned from Angola. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN plane to evacuate officials left in Cuito

LUANDA. — A UN plane left here yesterday to evacuate three stranded relief officials from the Angolan town of Cuito, where thousands of people are starving in a Unita siege, UN officials said.

The flight left after negotiations between UN staff and Unita in Huambo. (S) CT 20/10/93

The UN officials have been trapped in Cuito since Saturday, when the UN World Food Programme flew in food and medical aid for the first time since the siege began in January.

A UN team was still in Huambo yesterday to obtain Unita's permission to fly an unspecified number of other foreign nationals, particularly Portuguese, out of Cuito. — Sapa-AFP

Star 20/10/93

Angolan talks set to resume

Maputo — Peace talks between the warring parties in Angola are about to be resumed, according to United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

He said he had been told by his special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, that President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi would start new talks within the next few days.

The MPLA government and Unita have not conducted substantive negotiations since the breakdown of peace talks earlier this year in Ivory Coast.

The government, which won last year's election, is demanding that Unita give up the territory it has conquered. — Star Africa Service. 5

Do not forget Angola — Slovo

South 22/10 - 26/10/93

While war continues to grip Angola, food supplies are taking a nose-dive. Last week a visiting group of Angolans reminded Cape Town of their country's devastation, reports (5)

QUENTIN WILSON:

IT IS not so much the fighting which is crippling Angola. The widespread starvation of its people is the bigger challenge facing the Angolan government, says former Angolan prime minister and current general secretary of the governing MPLA, Mr Lopo do Nascimento.

Speaking at the University of the Western Cape last week, Nascimento said three million Angolans faced the prospect of starving to death over the next few years.

He said the Angolan civil war, which broke out again last October after the Unita opposition refused to accept an election defeat, was being "ignored" by the world.

Do Nascimento was in Cape Town with a group of 10 Angolans to meet South African counterparts to look at future co-operation and development between the countries.

It was the first time on South African soil that a representative group of Angolans and South Africans exchanged views on possible co-operation between the two countries.

Before the workshop Nascimento told of the enormous similarities facing the Angolan and South

African people.

"Angola seems to be a laboratory for South Africa. Experiments are tried in Angola, only to be applied in South Africa.

"We hear the same sort of arguments in Angola as you do in South Africa.

"We also have people calling for federalism based on ethnicity; the same people call for power sharing and believe that elections will not bring a solution."

He said the MPLA government had been caught out by Unita's military onslaught last October.

"During the Angolan peace process before last year's election, it was agreed that our armies should be demobilised. We did that, but Unita did not.

"After they rejected our win in the election and used their armed forces, all our soldiers had gone home, leaving us vulnerable.

"The international community was more concerned with the election than the agreements made before. They were so sure that Unita would win the election, they did not pay attention to the agreements broken by Unita," Nascimento said.

He talked of the misery caused by the South African government during years of invasions into Angola, but hoped for a mutually beneficial relationship after next year's election.

"We think a democratic South Africa could be an important political and economic base in the region. A solid economic relationship between the two countries depends on how South Africa views Angola.

"You can either see us as a true, honest partner or just as a potential market to exploit for South Africa's products. We hope you will see us as an honest partner."

Mr Joe Slovo, SACP national chairperson, reminded the UWC



AT LAST: The Angolan delegation who came to discuss future co-operation with South Africa

audience of Angola's "critical role" in defeating — together with Swapo and Cuban forces — the South African army in 1988.

"As we take our final steps towards democratic elections, it is in place for us to salute Angola's contribution in changing the political face of the southern African region, which helped us to reach where we are today," Slovo said.

He argued that the South African government had thrown "everything it had" into the Angolan war, only to be defeated. It marked the end of South Africa's iron grip on the southern African region, Slovo said.

"The massive support Angola gave to MK laid the basis for the intensification of our armed struggle in the seventies and eighties. It is a debt we owe the MPLA for the rest of our lives," Slovo said.

One contribution South Africa could make in the short term, he said, was to root out clandestine aid allegedly being given by certain sections of the SADF to Unita.

"One of the first tasks of the Transitional Executive Council's sub-council on defence must be to investigate and put an end to these private, clandestine networks.

"Furthermore, the TEC sub-council on foreign affairs must

explore ways of using South African resources and influence to bring about peace in Angola.

"Even though we are in the middle of our own problems, we must do everything possible to prevent the war in Angola from being a forgotten war. Not only because of the suffering of the Angolan people and because of the sacrifices they have made in our struggle — but we owe it to ourselves and our liberation struggle," Slovo said.

He said the Angolan conflict was the "bloodiest war" in the world. Though more people were being killed in Angola than in Somalia and Bosnia, the world was not giving enough attention to Angola.

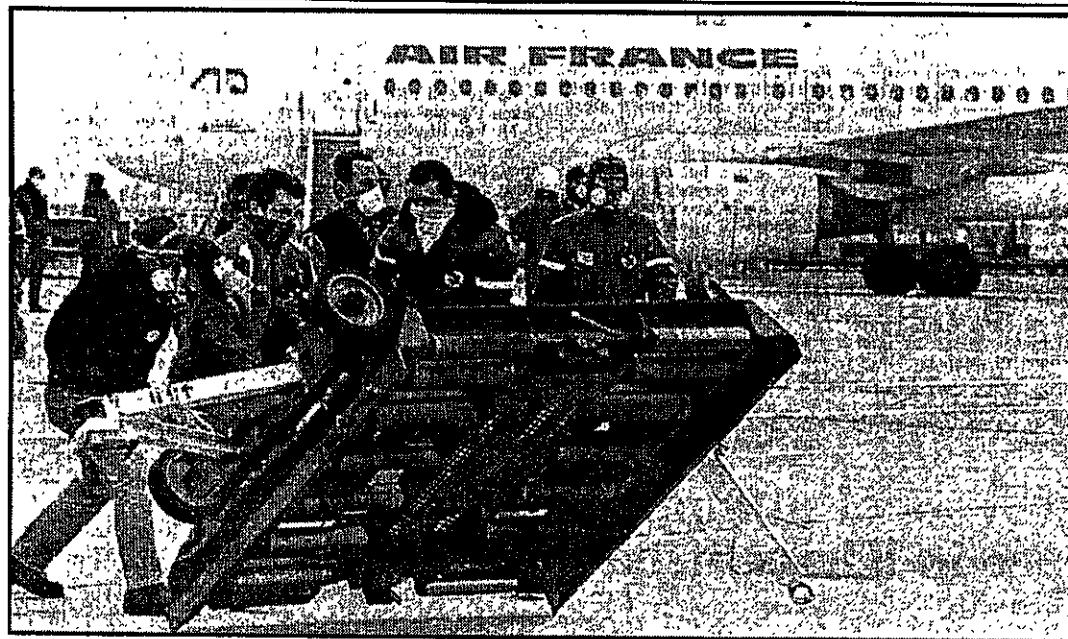
"If past events in Angola were of critical significance to events in South Africa, present events there are of equal importance here."

"The origin of the war came from those who refused to accept the election results. We can't allow a precedent in Angola which will encourage those in South Africa wanting to follow the same course after our election.

"We are not too short of Savimbis ourselves," Slovo warned, in reference to Unita's leader, Mr Jonas Savimbi.

UN evacuates civilians from besieged Cuito

ARC 23/10/93



□ **AIRPORT ACTION:** Masked, striking Air France employees, above, overturn a maintenance trolley to block aircraft on the tarmac from taking off at Orly Airport during the fourth day of protests that have caused havoc in air traffic operations in the French capital. Right: A masked, striking Air France employee throws a Molotov cocktail at policemen.

French airline strike 'costs R40-m a day'

PARIS. — More than 1 000 striking Air France staff were teargassed yesterday when they hurled stones at police on the runways at Orly airport after voting to continue their action for a fifth day.

Police fanned out across the runways as the strikers headed towards the tarmac. Striking ground staff tried to occupy the runways on Thursday, but were driven off by police using water cannons and tear gas.

The strikers hurled stones at police, who responded by showering them with teargas, witnesses said.

Hundreds of strikers at the Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport blocked traffic on the main A-1 motorway north of Paris, causing huge jams for the second day in a row.

The strike, in protest at Air France austerity plans to cut bonuses and axe 4 000 jobs, appeared to be spreading. Unions representing staff at the domestic Air Inter airline, an Air France subsidiary, have called a stoppage on Tuesday, a company spokeswoman said.

Air France says it is losing R40 million a day because of the strike. — Sapa-Reuter.



LUANDA. — The United Nations has evacuated scores of mainly Portuguese foreigners trapped for nine months by a Unita rebel siege of the starving Angolan city of Cuito.

A plane sent from Luanda touched down in Cuito, in the central highlands, collected the foreigners and headed for the nearby island state of Sao Tome and Principe.

UN sources declined to reveal the exact number of evacuees, saying only that they numbered around 100.

The evacuation follows delicate negotiations between Unita and the UN World Food Programme, which recently resumed its first aid shipments since the siege began.

Aid workers who visited the city earlier in the week estimated that 30 000 people had died in Cuito from wounds, disease and hunger.

They said witnesses described the once thriving city as a virtual cemetery, where dogs had fed on bullet-riddled bodies lying scattered in the streets.

■ In Menongue, the only city of southern Cuando Cubango province still in government hands, 5 000 people have died in a nine-month Unita siege.

Aid workers say flights carrying tons of medicine and food over the past two weeks have averted a disaster on the scale of Cuito.

Military and church sources say Menongue is still surrounded and thousands more civilians could die if the rebels tighten their grip and prevent the UN from flying in.

"If the flights stop, thousands will die. Menongue's future is uncertain. We are completely dependent on outside aid," said local Bishop Jose de Queiros Alves.

The airport landing strip is pocked by mortar bombs and buildings in the city centre have been damaged by repeated shelling. Attacks on the town have diminished over the past month but Unita is still lobbing in artillery rounds.

The province's only hospital, designed for 150 patients, is packed with three times that number of war victims, who lie groaning in the urine-stained corridors waiting for a bed.

Many have lost legs from the necklace of mines planted by Unita around the city. Hundreds of weak children in the clinic and streets are emaciated and close to starving.

Many victims, like 17-year-old Domingas Manuel who lost a leg scavenging for food in the minefields, ask in despair why Unita resumed its 16-year insurrection. — Sapa-Reuter.

Prisoner-swop in Sarajevo shelved

SARAJEVO. — The Red Cross suspended a mass release of Bosnian Croat and Muslim prisoners of war yesterday, saying both sides had reneged on security guarantees for removing detainees from combat zones.

Before the setback was announced 1 080 of the 5 500 detainees designated for release were freed from internment camps in southern Bosnia in a prisoner exchange unprecedented in the country's civil war.

An International Com-

mittee of the Red Cross (ICRC) statement, issued here said the Muslim-led army and separatist Croat forces had failed to guarantee safe conduct for vehicles to evacuate prisoners from the divided city of Mostar, the next phase of

the swop.

"The operation due to take place on Wednesday had been postponed for Thursday. But, it could not take place as the ICRC convoys were prevented from moving in the city," it said. — Sapa-Reuter.



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UN evacuates civilians from besieged Cuito

APR 23/10/93

(5)



RAVAGED . . . as the civil war drags into a second year, thousands of Angolans face starvation daily. On Friday UN mercy flights resumed to Menongue where 5 000 people have died in a nine-month rebel siege

are outnumbered four to one, and will only be saved from a rebel takeover by a signed, countrywide peace. Peace talks collapsed in April and May, and as each side jockeys for advantage,

there is no indication that calm will return soon to Angola.

Is victory certain? "Who knows," shrugs policeman Jose Joao Gaspar, who, like all the men here, has

been called upon to help bolster the army.

Menongue is surrounded by 3 000 rebels, according to local commanders, and the siege went unbroken for nine months until two

weeks ago, when the United Nations made its first assessment mission.

Another 1 000 troops are said to be on their way from the Unita stronghold of Huambo.

Similar dramas, taking a high toll in casualties, are playing themselves out across Angola.

In Cuito, site of the fiercest fighting in Angola during months of siege, some 25 000 people are believed to have died; witnesses describe starvation and horrific piles of bodies. UN relief workers were only allowed back into the city last week.

Unita controls 70 percent of the country, but 65 percent of the population lives in government areas: a mixture that has proven lethal.

Gunfire and the odd arc of tracer bullets punctuate the night sky in Menongue. Unita are at least 18 km away in each direction, but they infiltrate the city.

A recent bomb planted by Unita destroyed half of a luxury hotel.

The roofs of most buildings have been shattered by incoming shells, but survivors stroll about the town in the morning with briefcases, conducting their business. Armed "popular militia" men also patrol the streets: every male has a gun.

A better indication of how critical the military situation is now — and how imminent the next Unita attack — are the heavy ar-

tillery positions inside the city.

Cannon barrels on top of a hill point toward the enemy, but they fire over the suburbs, from where the gunners on quiet days can hear the sounds of a school, and of children at play.

General Gouveia Joao Sa-Miranda, 35, commander of Kuando Kubango province, is frank: "All I can do is keep digging in with defensive positions, because there isn't an option and no will to make war.

"I'm in no doubt that they have the military capability to take Menongue, and they want it. When you've got troops moving, you wait for nothing but war."

The irony, Gen Sa-Miranda said, is that in the election, Menongue and the Kuando Kubango province voted three to one in favour of Unita: "Today they are killing the people who voted for them."

There has been an uneasy quiet this month, following a unilateral ceasefire by Unita that the government of President Eduardo dos Santos considers to be a ploy to avoid sanctions. Already Unita have been hit with a symbolic UN arms and oil embargo, but more stringent curbs are expected on November 1.

The lull in the fighting, said Gen Sa-Miranda, has given Unita a chance to increase supply flights from Zaire and South Africa to Unita strongholds of Huambo and Cuito Cuanavale, before the sanctions take effect.

When Unita attempts next to advance on Menongue, most likely UN aid flights will be forced to stop, and the city — like so many others in Angola — will quietly be awash with war, and hunger.

Bishop Don Jose Queros endured the nine-month siege of Menongue, and knows how close the town came to disintegration. Some 5 000 people died of hunger and wounds.

He said: "If the UN flights had not been resumed, we would have had a greater catastrophe. Thousands more would have died". — © *The Telegraph, London*

▶ **ATELINE**

THE frontline tanks are dug into the sand, and the trenches snake through the bush like an ever-moving latticework: one that has become an all-too-familiar pattern of bush warfare in Angola.

The young men sport new uniforms, and put on a show of jocular ease at the front, but even the youngest — all of 12 years old, and at ease with their assault rifles — know that this war should be over.

A year ago, Angolans queued expectantly at polling stations to elect a new government and end 16 years of brutal civil war.

Instead of peace, however, the war is now back in full swing and even more bloody and hopeless than before. The Menongue front, and so many other lines of battle, have opened

Angola's misery as war drags on

SI Times 24/10/93

By **SCOTT PETERSON** in Menongue, Angola

up across the country as government forces try to keep Unita rebels at bay.

Rebel leader Jonas Savimbi rejected the election results, in which he was narrowly defeated, gathered his supporters and opened sealed weapons caches to plunge Angola back into civil war.

Already some 100 000 people are believed to have died in the renewed fighting, and one-fifth of the country's 10-million people have been displaced.

On the ground, those fig-

ures translate into unprecedented suffering and misery, as both armies — now thought to number 60 000 each — engage in medieval siege warfare, targeting cities and towns and terrorising civilians.

The new trenches around this besieged city are sadly reminiscent of those used by both sides during the civil war: damp sand, dug by boys with nothing better to do in war-

time, littered with discarded trash and 'ins.

Weeds have grown up between the tracks of the tanks, and a broken bicycle wheel adds to the rubbish strewn upon a pile of shells.

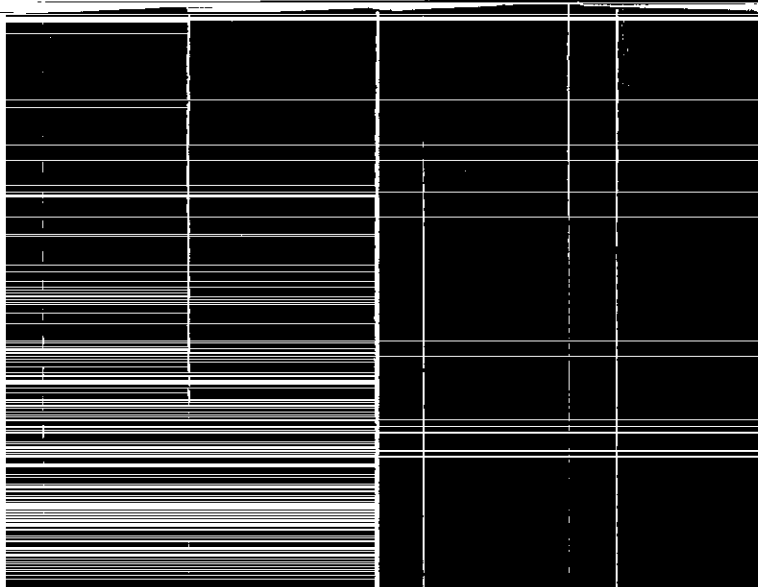
"Unita are watching us," says the front commander, as government MiG fighters shriek overhead and — crash — drop a single bomb on a nearby hillside. The men charge for cover, then laugh nervously at the

billowing column of smoke when sure that it came from "friendlies".

The last war ended in stalemate, as will this one. The futility of the entire effort shows on the faces of the soldiers, as they travel along the road to the front, weaving between holes blown by mines, and destroyed vehicles.

"They don't want to be here. They voted not to be at war again," says the commander.

The men also know that, at least on this front, they



UN in bid to revive Angolan peace talks

⑤ CT 25/10/93

LUANDA. — The UN said at the weekend it was organising exploratory contacts in Zambia between Unita rebels and the Angolan government to discuss reviving peace talks in Angola.

A UN official said the contacts would be made today in Zambia's capital Lusaka but the two sides would not necessarily meet face to face. The UN special representative in Angola, Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, would act as mediator.

Mr Blondin Beye has been involved in intensive behind-the-scenes negotiations.

Analyst Mr Moises Venancio, of the Portuguese Institute for Strategic and International Studies, was sceptical about the contacts. "Unita is still far too strong militarily to compromise," he said.

NEWS FEATURE 75 000 people have died in Angola's civil war but it could get worse

LUANDA — Angola's resurgent civil war enters its second year next week with peace still-elusive and millions threatened by famine and more savage fighting.

No one knows how many people have died in the renewed fighting but aid workers say the death toll from the war, starvation and disease is at least 75 000.

The United Nations, warning of an even greater catastrophe in the making, has managed, after weeks of lobbying, to get Unita rebels and the MPLA government to agree to exploratory talks in the Zambian capital Lusaka today.

But many Western diplomats in Luanda are sceptical that the talks will achieve anything and are not convinced that either side is ready to lay down its arms.

Press demands

A UN official said the two sides may not even meet directly in Lusaka and could press their demands through UN special envoy Aline Blondin Beye, who will act as mediator.

"It's hard to imagine a lasting peaceful resolution for now," said a diplomat, "they may go to the negotiating table but come out with nothing durable."

The diplomats said they

Peace eludes Angolans

Sowetan 25/10/93

YAKKITY YAK Politicians talk,

soldiers fight and civilians die starving:

of the country. It allowed aid flights to begin to the starving city of Cuito where an estimated 30 000 people have died during a nine-month rebel siege.

"One can question Unita's sincerity. They always seem to be interested in talks when they're hurting," a diplomat said.

Some diplomats believe Unita is determined to press on with its three-decade struggle for power — first against the Portuguese colonial power and then against the formerly Marxist MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) which came to power upon 1975 independence.

But they believe the 35 000 to 60 000-strong rebel force is over-

stretched and hurting from dwindling fuel supplies.

The diplomats cited reports of supply problems by aid workers who visited the rebel headquarters at Huambo, in the central highlands, over the past week.

It appears Unita is determined but fraying a bit at the edges," said a diplomat. — *Sapa-Reuter.*

remained to be convinced that Dr Jonas Savimbi, leader of Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), was ready to halt his push for power or that the government was willing to curb its military offensive.

The government, which was caught by surprise by the resumption of the war last year, has been steadily gaining strength by recruiting an estimated 60 000 men and buying arms.

"The government is in much better shape, it knows time is on its side," said a diplomat, noting recent gains by government forces advancing from the Atlantic coast towards Huambo, the rebel headquarters. Several days ago the government troops were at Ukuma 80km west of Huambo.

One fifth of Angola's 10 million people have been displaced by the war since Unita rejected its defeat in UN-supervised elections in September 1992.

Resume talks

The UN, which oversaw 1991 peace accords which briefly halted 16 years of civil strife, has had a flurry of meetings over the past two weeks with Unita and Angolan officials to urge them to resume peace talks which broke down in May. One of the main points of contention is the government's demand that Unita withdraw from areas it seized after the elections and this dispute is unlikely to be easily resolved.

Some diplomats believe Unita may now be willing to revive the negotiations in order to be seen to be acting in good faith and head off more UN sanctions on top of the ban on oil and arms sales to the rebels imposed last month. A unilateral ceasefire declared by Unita last month has held only in parts

Angolans snub new peace talks

LISBON. — Angolan government officials will not take part in new proposed peace talks to end Angola's 18-year-old civil war.

The United Nations representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, is scheduled to meet Unita rebels in Lusaka, Zambia, today.

In a statement broadcast on Angolan state radio, monitored by the BBC in London yesterday, the government said it would send only an observer delegation to the talks.

Mr Beye's original plan was to have separate meetings with Unita and Angolan government delegations to discuss the possibility of a fresh round of face-to-face peace talks. He left Angola for Lusaka yesterday.

There was no immediate UN response to the Angolan government's decision.

A Unita delegation, headed by top officials Jorge Valentim and General Paulo Gato, arrived in Lusaka on Saturday.

Angolan officials said they would be "closely following the meetings in Lusaka", but not taking part. — Sapa-AP.

Star 25/10/93
New bid for peace in Angola

Luanda — The special UN mediator in Angola said yesterday he hoped to revive the peace process in the war-shattered country in exploratory contacts in the Zambian capital Lusaka today.

Alioune Blondin Beye said there would be a total media blackout during the talks and he would not reveal any details about the contacts so as not to jeopardise

the delicate process. (S)

The MPLA government and Unita signed peace accords in 1991 which briefly ended 16 years of civil war since 1975 independence from Portugal. War resumed a year ago after Unita rejected its defeat in a UN-supervised election.

Since then, various rounds of peace talks have collapsed, the last of them in May.

The planned Lusaka contacts follow the resumption over the past week of UN humanitarian aid to the rebel headquarters of Huambo and to the nearby city of Cuito.

Unita last month declared a unilateral ceasefire which the government claims was a ploy to try to prevent UN sanctions. — Sapa-
Reuter.

500 000 may have died in Angolan war

LIMASSOL — Angolan deputy foreign minister George Chikoty said yesterday that as many as 500 000 people — one-twentieth of the population — may have been killed in the country's latest civil war.

The estimate was the highest yet of the tolls since the conflict erupted again. A 1991 peace accord collapsed when Unita refused to accept defeat in elections.

Chikoty was in Cyprus to lobby support at the Commonwealth summit.

Chikoty also expressed cautious scepticism about assurances from the SA government that it is no longer involved in

supplying heavy armaments to Unita.

Unita, meanwhile, pounded cities with long-range artillery. "If these (guns) are coming from private companies, they (the SA government) should be able to control them," said Chikoty. 2b110193

He said the Angolan government would take part in a new attempt to get peace talks started only if the UN mediator, Alioune Blondin Beye, could get a written pledge from Unita to give up rebel-held territory.

Beye was to meet Unita yesterday in Lusaka, Zambia. — Sapa-AP.

New SA govt 'could stop Angola war'

CT 25/10/93 (5)

From CHRIS BATEMAN

LIMASSOL, Cyprus. — A new government in South Africa could solve Angola's war crisis by identifying which privatised Armscor companies were supplying sophisticated weaponry to Unita, Angola's deputy foreign minister, Mr George Chikoty said here yesterday.

Mr Chikoty said he accepted his South African counterpart Mr Pik Botha's word that Pretoria was not currently involved in supplying arms to Dr Jonas Savimbi's estimated 50 000 rebels.

However, he suggested that disaffected former South African army generals, many of whom remained close friends of Dr Savimbi from South Africa's Angolan war days, might be controlling the privatised Armscor companies.

While he did not name anyone, he offered this as an explanation as to why Pretoria seemed so helpless in putting a stop to the alleged arms flow.

Neighbouring air traffic controllers (ATC's) were constantly monitoring "strange flights" over their territories with pilots naming Livingstone, Zaire as their destination. However when this was checked, Livingstone's ATC's knew nothing of their intended or actual arrival.

Mr Chikoty said most arms came through strife-torn Zaire and were landed at the large Unita-controlled and South African-built airstrip in south east Angola.

Sowetan 26/10/93

Angola death toll

LIMASSOL, Cyprus — Up to half a million people — five percent of the total population — may have died in the past year as a result of the war in Angola, the country's Deputy Foreign Minister, George Chikoty, said yesterday.

⑤ The Angolan government did not believe South African assurances it had stopped supplying Unita rebels who restarted the civil war after losing a 1992 election, he said at news conference at the Commonwealth summit.

Chikoty, at the summit to lobby for support, said about 1 000 people were

Sowetan 26/10/93
dying each day from the fighting, hun-
ger and disease. ⑤

Optimism over Angola peace talks

(S) APR 26/10/93
LUSAKA. — The United Nations envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondine Beye, said here he was optimistic something positive could come out of discreet exploratory talks he held with the two sides in the country's civil war.

"Bearing in mind the 17 years of pain and frustrations by the Angolan people, I can say I am optimistic but not naive that something positive will be achieved at this meeting," he told a news conference.

"I would not like to make any prognosis of the result of the talks but I hope Lusaka will be a stepping stone to better things to come."

His talks with representatives of the Luanda government and the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), which resumed hostilities a year ago after losing presidential and general elections, would remain confidential.

"I regret that what had been planned to be a secret was revealed and everyone knows that we are meeting here.

"But this is where it stops," he said.

He declined to give the composition of the delegations nor the agenda of the meeting.

— Sapa-AFP.

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UN man in Angola slams Unita for holding up aid

5 ARG 12/10/93

LUANDA. — The UN mediator
in Angola criticised the rebel
movement Unita for holding up
aid flights to war victims and
said it should withdraw imme-
diately from land it has seized
since losing last year's general
election.

"Unita must rapidly accept
the legal framework in Angola
and immediately withdraw its
forces from the zones they oc-
cupy," Alioune Blondin Beye
said yesterday.

The UN special representa-
tive said he had not yet
achieved a settlement to end 18
years of civil war in the for-
mer Portuguese colony.

He expressed irritation at
Unita's failure to accept Ango-

la's 1991 peace agreement and
subsequent UN resolutions.
Last week Unita said it would
accept an updated agreement.

President Jose Eduardo dos
Santos said yesterday his gov-
ernment would only agree to
resume peace negotiations with
Unita if the rebels clearly ac-
cepted the accords.

● A bomb was discovered
and defused yesterday in the
headquarters of Angola's na-
tional radio station, informed
sources said.

It was the fourth bomb inci-
dent in Luanda in the past six
months. In September a blast
in the central Prenda market
killed two women and a child.
— Sapa-Reuter-AFP.

'Free society needs a free media'

Argus Africa News Service

ARG 12/10/93

MAPUTO. — Countries emerging
from totalitarian rule are discovering
that a free society cannot exist with-
out freedom of the news media, said
an African newspaper editor here.

He was speaking at the opening
yesterday of a Southern African jour-
nalism centre in Maputo to be run
jointly by the 10 member states of the
Southern African Development Co-ordi-
nation Community (SADC) and the
four Nordic countries.

In the keynote address, editor Al
Osman of the Financial Weekly of
Malawi said there had often been
greater freedom of expression under
colonial rule.

"Around the world, countries like
Malawi that have recently emerged
from totalitarian rule are discovering
that a free political society cannot ex-
ist without free news media," he said.

Obstacles to press freedom included
state monopolies over printing pres-
ses and the imposition of high news-
print tariffs, Mr Osman said.

"We all know that the real editors
of some of the public newspapers in
our region are the ministers of infor-
mation."

OUT OF AFRICA

AFRICA: Luc Montagnier, who dis-
covered the Aids virus, appealed in
Paris for financial aid to help stop
the epidemic in Africa. "We can't just
abandon Africa," the French scientist
told a news conference. "We must
stop the world from being divided
into two zones — one where people
are treated the other where things
are allowed to degenerate into a
catastrophe."

ZIMBABWE: The leader of the oppo-
sition Democratic Party, Dr Davison
Domo, has called for the immediate
disbanding of the country's intelli-
gence service, which he described as
the political arm of the ruling Zanu
Party.

SWAZILAND: The final round of the
first free parliamentary elections in
20 years ended peacefully. Results
are due today.

● A strike that closed all four Sun
hotels in Swaziland has been ended
with a wage agreement.

MALAWI: President Kamuzu Banda
is being treated for depression after
an operation in Johannesburg to
drain excess fluid from his brain.

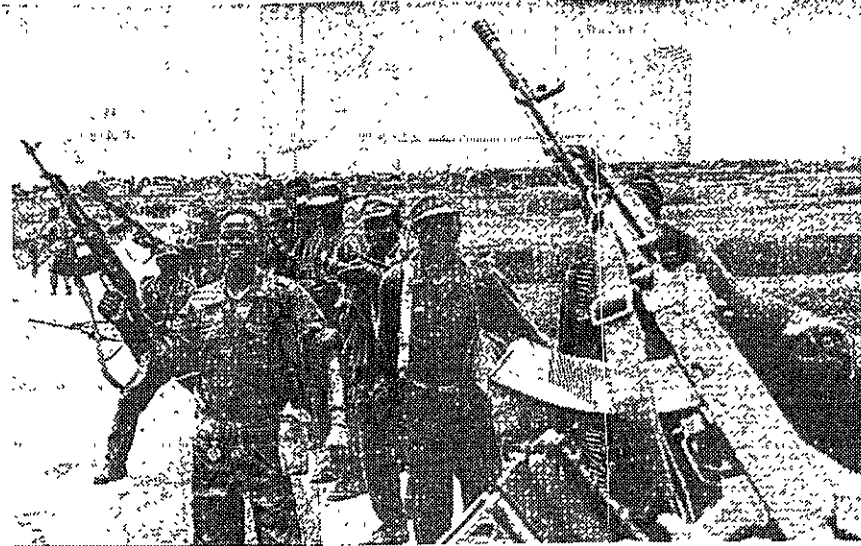
TANZANIA: President Ali Hassan
Mwinyi opened a private bank, end-
ing nearly three decades of state
banking monopoly.

SA challenges Luanda

LUANDA. — Pretoria yesterday challenged Luanda to produce evidence to back its accusations that South Africa is providing logistical support to Unita.

A statement by the South African mission here said South Africa was backing all UN Security Council decisions on Angola.

It dismissed as "ridiculous" an allegation by Angola's deputy foreign minister that SA Air Force pilots had signed on for Unita. — Sapa-AFP



GAINING GROUND Angolan government troops hold up their rifles while marching near Kubel city in central Angola on Sunday. The government, whose military is slowly gaining back ground from Unita, has insisted it will not talk peace until the rebels lay down their weapons.

Picture: AP

Call to give Unita time

NEW YORK. — UN Secretary General Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali yesterday asked the Security Council to delay new sanctions against Unita to give peace talks in Angola a chance to succeed.

Oct 30/1993
The Security Council in imposing an oil and arms embargo on Unita in September, had threatened further sanctions against the rebels unless by November 1 an effective ceasefire was established.

"I am of the view that additional measures should be imposed against Unita," said Dr Boutros-Ghali.

However, he said any new sanctions should be delayed until December 1.