

ANGOLA - GENERAL - 1994

Angolan war ^{CT 1/1/94} the world's 'worst' in '93

JOHANNESBURG. — UN officials trying to bring peace to Angola labelled the country's renewed civil war as the worst conflict in the world during 1993, while the Angolan government called the conflict the world's "forgotten war".

UN officials and foreign diplomats estimate that at least 100 000 people have died in the 14-month-old conflict between the Angolan government and Unita guerillas.

It is estimated that at times as many as 1 000 people were dying daily either as a direct result of the fighting or through shortages of medicine and food. The Angolan government claims that the overall body count could be more than four times that estimated by the international community.

Despite the soaring death toll, the world community had largely ignored Angola, choosing to concentrate on the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina and the UN relief operation in Somalia, Angola's Foreign Minister Mr Venancio de Moura has said. And former UN envoy to Angola Mrs Margaret Anstee said the international community was simply ignoring the Angolan conflict.

The UN has a restricted team of 76 officials and military observers in Angola.

● Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said in a New Year message peace would come soon to Angola, but added that there would be no stability until Unita rebels were disarmed and the 1991 peace pact was implemented. — UPI, Sapa-Reuter

Savimbi: We'll be at talks

LUANDA. — Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi said his movement would return to peace talks scheduled to resume in Lusaka on Wednesday.

In his New Year's message, Dr Savimbi said a Unita delegation would arrive in Lusaka today.

Before the temporary suspension of the talks on December 24, UN special envoy in Angola Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye said he had received "guarantees" from both sides that they would be present.

3/1/94 Reconciliation

Before the holiday break, the two sides had reached agreement on military issues.

Discussions will now focus on political issues, such as national reconciliation, the distribution of cabinet portfolios and the restoration of government administration over zones controlled by Unita.

A possible "special status" for Dr Savimbi will also be discussed.

Mr Beye met President Miguel Trovoada in Sao Tomé yesterday to discuss the Angolan peace process. — Sapa-AFP

Military commanders to meet

Sao Tome set to host Angola talks

Star 4/11/94

Sao Tome — Military commanders of the Angolan government and Unita will meet in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe on Monday to discuss military aspects of a planned peace settlement, a source close to Sao Tome President Miguel Trovoada said yesterday.

The date was agreed to on Sunday between Trovoada and Alioune Blondin Beye, the UN special representative in Angola. Beye has been mediating talks between the Angolan government and Unita in Lusaka since November to end 18 years of civil war.

The Lusaka talks are due to resume this week after a two-week break.

Beye last week broke a news blackout imposed since the talks began to say legal and military deals had been finalised, but issues such as power-sharing and Unita's withdrawal from certain areas remained to be settled.

Diplomats said earlier the two sides had agreed on a ceasefire. But no date for its commencement was announced.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi said on Saturday his movement would return to Lusaka and wanted to hold "serious discussions". He said Unita would be ready to sign a ceasefire immediately to allow humanitarian aid to continue.

Unita had earlier threatened not to return to negotiations because it suspected the government was planning an offensive.

DESPITE more peace talks scheduled for Zambia and Sao Tome in the next fortnight, fighting rages unabated in Angola

Despite the peace talks, fighting rages unabated in Angola. The United Nations says more people are dying there of wounds and starvation than in any other ongoing conflict. Tens of thousands of people have perished over the past year.

On Friday, Angola's national news agency Angop reported Unita attacks near Luanda and in eastern Moxico province.

Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said in a New Year message that peace would come soon to Angola, but there would be no stability until Unita rebels were disarmed and a 1991 peace pact was implemented.

"The war has brought destruction, pain and suffering to millions of Angolans but I believe it will end soon," he said in a speech carried by State media on Thursday.

The Sao Tome source said the Sao Tome meeting would deal only with military aspects of a peace settlement. It was not clear whether the talks would take place after the completion of negotiations in Lusaka or in parallel with them.

Beye declined to confirm or

deny that talks would be held in Sao Tome, a twin-island state off the coast of Gabon.

"The most important thing is not the date or the place, but it is good when the two sides get together to try to end the war," he told reporters before leaving Sao Tome yesterday.

Beye will return to Sao Tome on Sunday, the Sao Tome source said.

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■ Angola's oil output was unaffected by Sunday's mortar attack on a US support base for offshore production in the Cabinda enclave, Cabinda Gulf managing director Robert Connon said yesterday.

Three mortar bombs hit the base early on Sunday, wounding a worker and damaging vehicles and buildings, he said.

"It was psychological terrorism. It had no effect on production," said Connon, denying Portuguese reports that personnel had been evacuated from the base after the attack.

Connon said he had no idea who carried out the attack.

The onshore base at Malongo in northern Angola provides services for 300 000 barrels a day of offshore production by Cabinda Gulf Oil Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Chevron Corporation.

Last year Unita seized the oil support base of Soyo, 80 km south of Malongo, and closed down 27 000 barrels a day of onshore production by Belgium's Petrofina. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan threat to attack Unita

LUANDA. — The Angolan military, on the eve of peace talks, threatened to strike against Unita for alleged attacks, including a mortar raid on a US oil support base in Cabinda. (S)

The government said two soldiers were killed and an unspecified amount of damage was caused. (S) 5/11/94

Unita has denied responsibility for Sunday's attack on the Cabinda Gulf Oil Company base.

The oil company's managing director, Mr Robert Connon, said yesterday production was not affected by the attack.

Angolan forces threaten to strike back against Unita

LUANDA — The Angolan military, on the eve of planned peace talks, threatened to strike back against Unita for alleged attacks, including a mortar raid on a US oil support base in Cabinda.

"Unita's bellicose initiatives, especially during a period when negotiations are under way, will not go unpunished. The Angolan Armed Forces will launch retaliatory actions," the military said yesterday.

Cabinda's provincial government accused neighbouring Zaire of helping Unita.

"The attackers came from Zaire and fled towards there after government troops reacted. This confirms yet again Zaire's involvement on the side of Unita in the Angolan conflict," it said on Monday.

Unita has denied responsibility for Sunday's attack on the Cabinda Gulf Oil Company base in the country's prime oil area which the government says killed two soldiers and caused unquantified material damages.

The government blamed Unita and also accused it of attacking a government military base in northern Malange, the southern city of Menongue and villages in the strategic central highlands and diamond-rich northeast.

Unita and the government, at war for almost two decades since independence from Portugal in 1975, are due to resume peace talks in Lusaka Zambia, today.

There was no independent confirmation

immediately available of the government claims.

Cabinda Gulf officials declined to speculate on who carried out the attack on the onshore base in Malongo, which provides services for 300 000 barrels per day of offshore production for the wholly-owned subsidiary of Chevron Corporation.

The company's MD Robert Cannon told Reuters production was not affected by the attack.

Angolan Oil Minister Albina Assis told the state news agency Angop on Monday staff had returned to work on the base but were demoralised by the "surprise" attack.

Unita has carried its civil war to almost every part of Angola except Cabinda. So far it has not acted on threats to attack the enclave which accounts for two-thirds of Angola's 530 000 barrels per day oil output, the country's chief export.

But separatists of the fractured and small Front for the Liberation of Cabinda Enclave (FLEC) have been waging a low level guerrilla struggle in the territory separated from the rest of Angola by Zaire's corridor to the sea.

UN special envoy in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, who is mediating the Lusaka talks, said on Monday he expected the talks to resume as planned and that all agreements reached before the holiday break would hold. — Sapa-Reuter.

Fighting threatens Angolan peace talks

ARC 7/1/94

LUSAKA. — Renewed fighting between Angolan government and Unita rebel forces could jeopardise the country's fragile peace process, UN Angola mediator Alioune Blondin Beye warned as talks resumed.

Mr Beye made an impassioned appeal to both sides to cease hostilities and put a stop to a recent upsurge in fighting between the two sides, said diplomats monitoring the talks.

Continued fighting could imperil the latest round of the peace talks, which began in the Zambian capital on November 15 and which had already yielded an agreement in principle on a ceasefire and the formation of a joint army, said Mr Beye.

The statement by the UN special representative "was very strong and kept stressing that they should refrain from further active hostilities to save the peace process," said a diplomat.

Mr Beye reiterated his appeal to the warring sides to act on commitments made when they agreed on the principles of a ceasefire last month.

"He told them that even if there was no formal signing, there could be a de facto ceasefire in Angola, because as things are the people inside the country are not taking the Lusaka talks seriously," another diplomat said.

Both sides pledged to work for peace in their opening speeches at the plenary session, and assured mediators that they were in Lusaka to "achieve positive results," another diplomat said.

UN force in

Unita back at talks

LUSAKA — Unita said yesterday it was resuming Lusaka peace talks with the Angolan government "with open hearts" after a two-week break. **8/15/94**

Yet, Unita blamed the government on Wednesday for recent shelling in the northern city of Malange and for a mortar attack on a US oil installation. **5**

Angola's state news agency yesterday reported more fighting with Unita guerrillas near the eastern city of Luena. **7/11/94**

Key Unita demands include equal distribution of future government posts, especially in key ministries such as defence, and an amnesty for Unita members.

Among Angolan government demands are that Unita accept the results of 1992 UN-sponsored elections, which the government won. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita officials and US congressmen hold talks

HARARE. — Four US congressmen held talks with Unita officials yesterday in Zimbabwe's northern resort of Victoria Falls, Western diplomats said.

They said the Democratic congressmen, led by Mr Harry Johnston of Florida, who is chairman of the House of Representatives sub-committee on Africa, talked to the officials attending peace talks with Angolan government negotiators in Zambia.

Diplomats gave no details of yesterday's talks, but Mr Johnston earlier said Washington may contribute up to 5 000 troops to a proposed UN force that would implement a truce. — Sapa-Reuter

SA right 'helping Unita to fight'

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CTU/1/94

WINDHOEK. — Right-wing extremists in South Africa are sending mercenaries and aid to the Unita movement in Angola, the Angolan ambassador to Namibia, Mr Garcia Bires, said yesterday.

Mr Bires said there was "solid evidence" that South African right-wing groups were sending equipment and mercenaries to Unita via Zaire.

Citing Angolan government reports, he said white mercenaries, believed to be from South Africa, were fighting alongside Unita in north-eastern Angola.

Mr Bires would not name the extremist groups involved.

He said the Botswanan, Zimbabwean and Zambian governments had all confirmed airspace violations by South African aircraft.

The claims come as Unita and the Angolan government resumed negotiations in the Zambian capital Lusaka to end their civil war.

Mr Bires, who took up his post as Angola's ambassador to Namibia in December, said he believed the talks would produce a lasting peace if Unita negotiated in good faith.

The South African government supported Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita during the civil war that followed independence in 1975, but distanced itself from the rebels when renewed fighting broke out after the movement lost a UN-supervised election in September 1992.

The present talks in Lusaka, which began on November 15, are focused on the political aspects of reconciliation, including power-sharing and government decentralisation. — Sapa-AFP

US 'ready for ceasefire role'

LUSAKA. — Unita said yesterday the United States was ready to help demobilise troops from Angola's warring sides after a ceasefire had been enforced, the movement's spokesman, Mr Jorge Valentim, said.

The rebel movement, whose representatives met a US Congress delegation at the Zimbabwean border town of Victoria falls on Sunday, said the discussion was "fruitful".

They said their former civil war backers pledged full support for peace talks, which continued here yesterday. — Sapa-AFP

Fighting intensifies in Angola conflict

LUANDA — Fighting had intensified in Angola and peace talks with Unita rebels in Zambia had made no progress, Angolan state media said yesterday.

① CT 12/1/94
“There has not been any progress at the negotiating table. It is only the war that has continued,” state radio said. “The war in the interior has increased in intensity,” it added.

It said Unita attacked the town of Libongos, 100km northeast of Luanda, the towns of Tchingoenge and Ucuma in the central province of Huambo and unnamed locations in western Cuanza Sul province and central Bie province.

“Shelling in these places caused a considerable number of deaths and injuries,” the radio said. Independent confirmation was not available. — Sapa-Reuter

**'Progress' in
Angolan talks.**

27-14/1194
LUSAKA. — Govern-
ment and Unita negotia-
tors have agreed on prin-
ciples to govern the re-
organisation of the
police force, a source
said yesterday. (S)

They agreed that Un-
ita would be represent-
ed at all levels of the
force, the source said.

Remaining issues in-
clude the distribution of
cabinet posts and the de-
mobilisation of the riot
police. — Sapa-Reuter

Patients
CT 15/1/94 (5)
starving
in Angola'

WINDHOEK. — Patients in south-east Angola are starving to death because of a ban on cross-border food movements, Namibian police yesterday quoted Unita rebels as saying.

The rebels begged Namibian police to let maize move across the frontier and offered to pay customs dues on it.

Police said they were investigating charges of smuggling against two Namibians after 101 bags of maize were confiscated on the banks of the Okavango river on the Namibian-Angolan frontier.

Shortly after the maize had been seized, a boat arrived with Unita soldiers who begged the police to release the grain, apparently destined for hospitals. — Sapa-Reuter

Unita attacks before talks

LUANDA. — Angolan government troops repulsed Unita rebel attacks around the besieged northern city of Malange, killing more than 50 guerillas.

The fighting took place as the two sides prepared to resume talks on settling nearly two decades of civil war.

Malange is one of several government-held cities in the interior under siege.

One guerilla was captured and weapons, including 43 machineguns, were seized. Sapa-
Reuter 18/11/94

Slow progress in Angolan talks

LUSAKA — Angolan peace talks made limited progress yesterday when Unita conditionally gave way to the government's insistence that the special anti-riot police force not be disbanded, diplomats said. *BISOM 19/11/94*

But at the same time, Unita warned in a radio broadcast that the civil war was bound to go on and accused the government of preparing to mount an offensive.

Disagreements over the future of the police, especially the riot unit, had proved a stumbling block in the latest round of talks, which began in the Zambian capital in November.

Unita had wanted the unit disbanded, arguing that it operated more like a military than a normal police force and served to "terrorise" people rather than keep the peace.

Unita told mediators it wanted to contribute men to make up half the numbers

in the riot unit, set up by the government before UN-supervised elections in 1992.

The Angolan foes still have to agree on matters of power-sharing, national reconciliation, the decentralisation of government, and the completion of the second round of presidential elections suspended after Unita went back to war.

In its radio broadcast, Unita charged that the government was making "efforts for the continuation of the war" at Cambambe, the only place in Cuanza Norte province still under Luanda's control.

The military was preparing for an offensive on Unita forces holding most of Cuanza Norte and the two other northern provinces of Uije and Zaire, the broadcast declared.

The government also talked war yesterday on official radio, warning that it would use "all its resources" against rebel forces "if Unita persists in its lack of readiness for dialogue". — Sapa-AFP.

Cuba ready to fight in Angola

LUSAKA. — Cuba has threatened to send its troops back into Angola if it detects any foreign intervention in the current civil war, according to reports here.

(5) OCT 21 1974
Cuban Foreign Minister Mr Roberto Robaina said on Wednesday his country was watching the situation and the negotiation process.

"We have no confidence in Unita promises," he said.

Mr Robaina described the Lusaka talks as directionless, and said Cuba was ready to redeploy its army. — Sapa

Emergency food for ⁵ Angolans

FRG 24/1/94

HARARE. — An emergency food programme for 2,1 million Angolans was announced today by World Food Programme director Catherine Bertini.

The programme will deliver 167 340 tons of food at a cost of \$84,6 million (R287,6 m), including transport costs, she said.

Since July 1992, two months after the start of a brief ceasefire between the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi's rebel Unita movement, the WFP has delivered R340 million in humanitarian aid to Angola.

Ms Bertini said the programme was aimed at 892 000 displaced people, 840 000 people affected by war, 105 000 people hit by drought and 99 000 refugees from Zaire and Zambia.

Should peace talks between Unita and the MPLA government be successful and delivery of food by road become possible, the WFP would substantially expand its aid operation, Ms Bertini said. — Sapa.

One rate *Star 24/1/94* for Angola

Luanda — The Angolan government is abolishing differential exchange rates for foreign currency and introducing a single exchange rate. (S)

Prime Minister Marcelino Moco said on state television banks would adopt a single floating exchange regime.

National radio said the buying and selling of foreign currency outside authorised mechanisms, including sale on the street, was immediately illegal.

"The changing of foreign currency outside the authorised channels can be punished with up to two years in prison and a fine of up to five million new kwanzas (about \$45 at current black market rates)," state radio added.

Before the announcement the banks offered three rates. The "official rate" on was 6 500 kwanzas to the dollar, the "floating rate" at about 55 000 to the dollar, and the "free market rate" at about 115 000 to the dollar. — Sapa-
Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS Minor breakthrough in Angolan talks

UN to police Angola

Soweto 27/11/74

■ **JOINT FORCE** Unita wants at least 40

percent representation in police force:

LUSAKA, Zambia—Angola's warring sides have accepted a plan for the United Nations to supervise policing during their war-ravaged nation's transition to peace, negotiators said yesterday.

The negotiators said the two sides also agreed the Angolan government's feared riot police, blamed for hunting down Unita rebels and sympathisers, will be confined to barracks and disarmed of "any excessive weaponry" as part of a ceasefire.

Unita had demanded the complete disbanding of the riot police, but the government refused to meet that demand.

"The concessions made so far represent a minor landmark," one official in the talks said.

Aloume Blondin Beye, the UN special representative to Angola who is mediating the talks in Lusaka, imposed a news blackout on participants.

The talks have been bogged down over the composition of a police force for Angola after the end of the 18-year civil war.

Existing police

According to sources in the talks, Beye proposed having UN personnel take control of the existing police force until a UN presence in Angola was no longer necessary.

Both sides accepted the plan for a transition period, but have so far failed to reach consensus on the composition of a new police force.

The government has proposed that Unita provide 5 000 men for a 30 000-strong force, but Unita wants its men to comprise at least 40

percent of civil police and 50 percent of the paramilitary riot police.

Unita — the Union for the Total Independence of Angola — also rejected a government plan to incorporate only ex-military men into the police.

Negotiators previously worked out broad details on the formation of a unified army and drafted a ceasefire in the talks that began on November 15.

Participants say the ceasefire cannot be implemented.

They say questions on policing, regional governorships and overall power sharing must first be resolved. — *Sapa-AP*.

Angola to host peace summit

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APG 28/1/94

□ Talks with Mandela, Chissano

LISBON. — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos will host Nelson Mandela and Mozambique President Joaquim Chissano for talks he called crucial to peace in southern Africa.

The meeting, scheduled for next Wednesday and Thursday in Luanda, will focus on ways to avoid an eruption of mass violence after elections this year in Mozambique and South Africa.

"South Africa's elections will be, without doubt, the most important event on the African continent," an aide to Mr Dos Santos said yesterday.

Mr Dos Santos hopes trade alliances and accelerated economic development will end the region's history of poverty and civil strife, the aide said.

The three leaders were united for years by Marxist ideology, and by their mutual struggle against the South African government, which supported rebel movements in Angola and Mozambique and attempted to wipe out Mr Mandela's African National Congress.

All three have since come out in favour of free market systems.

Mr Mandela and Mr Chissano, like Mr Dos Santos last year, are leading candidates in elections in their countries.

A date has not yet been set for Mozambique's elections. United Nations election monitors are proceeding cautiously, hoping to avoid the return to fighting that tarnished Angola's first democratic elections in September 1992. — Sapa-AP.

Drive against Unita claimed

LUANDA. — Angolan government troops have launched an offensive in the north of the country which has put delicately-balanced peace talks in danger, the rebel Unita movement has announced.

The government offensive was aimed at the northern provinces of Uige and Zaire and parts of the Bengo region controlled by Unita, the movement's vice-president, Antonio Dembo, said on rebel radio Radio Vorgan. He gave no details of casualties or damage.

The attack comes as government and rebel forces meeting in

Lusaka try to agree on the make-up of a future Angolan police force, the remaining stumbling block to a ceasefire in the country's 18-year civil war.

Unita radio also said it was prepared to call on the United Nations to end Russia's role as one of the three countries monitoring the peace process.

Unita says German authorities have uncovered a shipment of Russian amphibious combat tanks destined for the government army. — Sapa-AFP.

Star 2/2/94

Angolan govt and Unita 'close to peace'

Lusaka — The chief United Nations envoy to Angola said yesterday that a peace accord would soon be signed, after 18 years of war, but added that mistrust and continued fighting were the main barriers to a

settlement.

At a rare news conference in Lusaka, Alioune Blondin Beye said he believed the Angolan government and the Unita rebel movement were on the verge of a breakthrough.

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Beye told reporters the warring sides had agreed to six out of 10 crucial points on the agenda of the UN-brokered talks.

He declined to be specific about when an agreement could be

struck.

"The continued fighting is not acceptable at this stage. The two sides have already agreed on the general principles of a ceasefire, and the fighting must stop," he said. — Sapa-AP.

Cheers greet Angolan police 'breakthrough'

LUSAKA. — The Angolan government and Unita rebels yesterday agreed on a re-organisation of the national police force, a breakthrough in finding a settlement to their long war, sources close to peace talks said.

The agreement, which will allow Unita to participate in the force, was greeted with applause by negotiators at the UN-sponsored talks here.

"This is an important breakthrough in the negotiations because what they have decided is not the police for the

(5) 11/2/94
government or Unita but a police for the Angolans," one source said.

Composition of the force was a main stumbling block to finding a settlement to end 18 years of civil war.

Negotiators now turn to "national reconciliation" issues, including the status of Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi and opposition parties, press freedom, amnesty, economic policy and Unita demands for government positions. — Sapa-Reuter

Talks, but still Angola battles

LUANDA. — Fighting between government forces and Unita intensified around Angola last weekend, despite peace talks.

A source close to the military said clashes took place in Quingenge, 90km west of the Unita-held city of Huambo, and in other parts of the country.

State media said yesterday both sides had made a significant advance at peace talks in Lusaka with agreement on a national police force. — Sapa-Reuters

Angola's leader goes home empty-handed

France has placed conditions on Dos Santos's appeal for arms, reports **Marie-Pierre Subtil**

Le Monde

FRANCE will not supply Angola with military hardware or personnel until negotiations are completed between the Angolan government and rebels of Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).

That was the message the French authorities gave Angolan President José Eduardo Dos Santos when he visited Paris this week. But are relations between the French and Angolan governments based on a misunderstanding?

At a dinner in honour of the visiting Angolan president, Minister of Co-operation Michel Roussin made it clear that the current hostilities had to end before aid could be considered, while Dos Santos said he hoped that his visit would "dispel any possible ambiguities and help to restart bilateral relations".

The Angolan leader clearly expected much from the visit. "The involvement of other countries doesn't always work towards calming the dispute and helping the search for a lasting peaceful solution," he said.

"Unita is heavily supported by South Africa via Zairean territory. Nothing is being done to interrupt this flow of aid. The United Nations has approved sanctions, but they are very hesitantly applied." Dos Santos said he was counting on France and "his knowledge of Africa".

The Angolan people are the victims of an injustice, he said, "for support continues to be given to a party which once claimed to be democratic and is now breaking all the rules of democracy and getting away with it." His reference was to the support that Unita has in France which has led Paris to refuse the lifting of an embargo on supplying military equipment. Last summer Washington and London lifted the ban on non-lethal weapons, but France, on the other hand, considers the ban is still implicitly in force within the 1991 Bicesse peace agreement.

Asked what he expected from his forthcoming meeting with Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, Dos Santos answered: "If we're expecting anything, it is in the law and order area, or, more precisely, in politics. We'll need help in training executives, technical assistance and the supply of equipment."

Although one faction of Jacques Chirac's Rassemblement Pour la République (RPR) and the Department of Co-operation were sympathetic to the request (particularly because Elf Aquitaine is operating in Cabinda), it is highly unlikely that any action will be taken in the immediate future.

Both the Elysée and the defence ministry in fact consider that wrapping up the Lusaka peace agreement is necessary before military equipment can be delivered to the Angolan government.

Luanda considers this position is the result of the pro-Savimbi lobby's



Looking for peace: Angola's president José Eduardo Dos Santos went to Paris seeking support

influence in Paris. "We'd love to get to know the people in this pressure group to be able to explain the situation to them," said Dos Santos, pointing out that "there's a whole range of business possibilities in Angola".

The visiting Angolans said they were very grateful that Dos Santos was unable to meet either Jacques Chirac (who was in Monaco, according to the Paris city council) or Defence Minister François Léotard. The ties

binding Savimbi to Léotard, honorary president of the PR, are an open secret.

"There's an ambiguity which does no credit to French politicians," said a member of the Angolan delegation. "How can France, which continues to defend democracy, continue to support this gentleman (Savimbi)?" To which French officials retort that the very fact that Dos Santos has been received in Paris is a boost for the Luanda regime.

Savimbi calls for 'global ceasefire' in Angolan war

LISBON. — Dr Jonas Savimbi has called for a "global ceasefire" in Angola and said Unita wants peace talks to succeed.

In a Saturday interview on Portuguese TV Dr Savimbi repeated recent assertions by other Unita leaders that a military solution to the Angolan war was "a futile undertaking as no one will win this war".

"The ideal solution would be to reach a global ceasefire," he said.

Dr Savimbi denied reports that Unita wanted to buy more arms as its

CT14/2194
arsenal would be empty within two years.

"That is completely untrue. We have no need to buy war equipment (as) the South Africans, when they were our allies, delivered tons and tons of material into Angola," he revealed.

He said Unita would continue peace talks in Zambia with "the same determination" as the government.

● Angolan state radio reported renewed fighting in Cuito, where it said 100 civilians had been killed in 48 hours. — Sapa-AFP

Angola⁵ in 'arms build-up'

APG 7/2/94

Argus Africa News Service

JOHANNESBURG. — Unita claims the Angolan government is making large purchases of arms from Brazil for a major offensive — in spite of the peace talks in Lusaka.

According to Unita, Angolan army chief Joao de Matos said in Lisbon yesterday the Luanda government was "preparing large-scale offensive operations" against Unita.

General De Matos, who was on his way to Brazil, said the United Nations-mediated Lusaka talks were a waste of time, Unita said.

It alleges the main purpose of General De Matos's trip is to buy weapons and said the Luanda government had bought R405 million worth of armaments in the past six months, including surface-to-surface missiles with ranges of up to 60km.

Unita said they were ready to discuss a general ceasefire with the MPLA.

● Sapa-AP reports from Lisbon that fierce battles between Angolan government forces and rebel Unita soldiers have killed more than 50 people around a key rebel-besieged city, government sources said.

Fighting broke out early on Saturday, then slacked off overnight, leaving the government in control of about 80 percent of Cuito, 670km southwest of Luanda, according to the sources.

The government said it decided to launch its attack out of frustration with the course of peace negotiations in the Zambian capital Lusaka, and concern about Unita troop movements around Cuito, which has been besieged by rebel forces for the past 13 months.

But Unita called the government's claim "propaganda".

Star 7/2/94

50 killed in Angola battles

Lisbon — Fierce battles between Angolan government forces and rebel Unita soldiers have killed more than 50 people around a key rebel-besieged city.

Fighting broke out early on Saturday, then slackened overnight, leaving the government in control of about 80 percent of Cuito, 670 km south-west of Luanda, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported yesterday, citing government sources.

The government said it de-

ecided to launch its attack because it was frustrated by the course of peace negotiations in Lusaka and concern about Unita troop movements around Cuito, which has been besieged for 13 months.

A Unita spokesman in Washington dismissed the government's claim as propaganda and accused it of staging the battle to justify aerial bombardment of Unita positions.

The government also said it was bombing Unita posi-

tions in the oil-rich enclave of Soyo, 300 km north of Luanda, because of increased Unita activity. (5)

Confirmation of either side's claims is impossible in the war-torn country, where the fighting has driven most independent observers from the field.

Relief workers with the UN World Food Programme in Luanda were evaluating the situation to see if flights this week would have to be cancelled. — Sapa-AP.

Unita reconsiders ceasefire

LUANDA. — Leaders of Angola's Unita rebels met in the central town of Huambo yesterday to discuss re-establishing a ceasefire for nearby Kuito, scene of fierce clashes between rebels and government forces on Saturday.

In a statement broadcast by a Unita radio station, a spokesman said the rebels were looking at "possibilities of pursuing negotiations in Lusaka", citing some progress there. Talks in the Zambian capital opened

on January 6.

The state radio put the death toll from Saturday's violence at 48, with a further 62 injured. The radio added that yesterday afternoon government forces were in control of some 85% of Kuito territory.

On Saturday, a government spokesman at the Lusaka talks said on returning to Angola that Luanda was "ready for a ceasefire" provided it was verified by the United Nations. Sapa-AFP

⑤ 07/2/94

WORLD

Malawian foreign currency controls go

B Day 7/2/94

BLANTYRE — The Malawi Reserve Bank said on Saturday that it had scrapped foreign currency controls and introduced new measures in the financial sector.

Reserve Bank governor Francis Pelekamoyo said the bank would eliminate exchange controls and introduce a market-determined exchange rate for the Malawian kwacha from today.

Foreign exchange outlets would open in major cities across the country.

Under the new system imports of goods and services will no longer be subject to prior approval by the Reserve Bank, with the exception of some financial services.

Pelekamoyo said under the new regulations, Malawi residents would no longer have to sell any foreign currency they had to authorised banks.

Exporters and other residents receiving foreign exchange on a regular basis would be allowed to open foreign currency accounts, he said.

With effect from today, authorised banks would be allowed to buy and sell foreign exchange at market-determined rates. Malawi residents travelling abroad would be allowed to buy up to the equiv-

alent of US\$3 000 for holiday expenses, \$4 000 for medical expenses and \$5 000 for business purposes.

President Kamuzu Banda held a referendum in June in which an overwhelming majority of the country's 9.7-million people voted to end Banda's autocratic, one-party rule. In its place they wanted a multiparty democracy.

Aid has since started to flow again after the government announced that the country's first multiparty elections were scheduled for May.

A combined effect of the freeze on aid worth \$250m, widespread industrial unrest and the worst drought of the century in much of southern Africa crippled Malawi's agricultural-dependent economy.

Businessmen and economists said Malawi's inflation had shot up to 30% in 1993 from 12% in 1992.

Business leaders said the resumption of aid should help breath new life into Malawi's export sector, where several factories were on the verge of closing down.

They had been hit by the unavailability of raw materials and cuts in lines of credit by suppliers because of the shortage of hard currency in the country. — Reuter.

30 killed as Unita artillery blasts Cuito

B Day 7/2/94

MORE than 30 people were killed in renewed fighting between government troops and Unita forces in the central Angolan town of Cuito on Saturday, the state radio reported yesterday.

The radio, monitored by the BBC in Johannesburg, said most of those killed and injured were children and the elderly.

Unita forces were using guns and mortars to "decimate Cuito residents and reduce the city to ashes", the radio said.

It said government forces had sworn to avenge the death of their commander, Lt-Gen Alfredo Kussumue.

The upsurge in fighting came a few days after Angola's state-controlled media said peace talks with Unita were going well and making progress.

A UN mediator, too, said problems had been resolved.

But the Jornal de Angola warned peace was still some way off. — Reuter.

Unita makes new advances

LUANDA. — Fierce fighting between Unita and Angolan government forces spread in the central town of Kuito yesterday as the Angolan military acknowledged new losses to the rebel movement.

Unita meanwhile charged that Angolan warplanes had bombed its central stronghold of Huambo, but an official military spokesman immediately denied this.

The military announced yesterday that the town

of Jamba-Mineira in the southern province of Huila and the central district of Babaera had been taken by Unita troops

⑤ OCT 8/2/94

Concerning the Kuito fighting, the Angolan military said in a statement that Unita forces were bent on "taking up new positions on the ground" in order to "raise obstacles" at the peace talks in Lusaka — Sapa-AFP

Angolan peace talks jeopardised by bombs

Star 8/2/94

Lisbon — Government bombs fell on Unita headquarters in central Angola and rebel positions in Huambo yesterday, straining touch-and-go peace talks in Lusaka.

Government planes unleashed heavy bombing of Huambo, stronghold of Unita, said a Western diplomat.

Rebel positions were also hit in the city and the hills around neighbouring Cuito, 670 km south-east of Luanda.

"Unita is firing right back with very heavy artillery," the diplomat said. (5)

Radio contact has been lost, with United Nations and humanitarian aid officials taking cover in trenches.

All emergency food supplies to Cuito's 60 000 trapped civilians were halted.

At least 50 people were believed killed in weekend fighting in Cuito. There has been no word from Huambo.

— Sapa-AP

Govt claims conquests in Cuito

LISBON — Fierce battles between Angolan government forces and Unita soldiers have killed more than 50 people around a key Unita-besieged city, according to news reports.

Fighting broke out early on Saturday then slackened off overnight, leaving the government in control of about 80% of Cuito, southwest of the capital Luanda, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported, citing Angolan government sources.

Angola's state radio, monitored by the BBC, said government forces had killed 47 Unita soldiers and taken over some outlying areas that had been under Unita control.

The government said it had decided to attack out of frustration with the course of peace negotiations in the Zambian capital of Lusaka, Lusa said. It said it was concerned that Unita might be preparing an offensive in Cuito, which has been besieged for the past 13 months, Lusa said.

The government also said it was bombing Unita positions in the oil-rich enclave of Soyo, north of Luanda, because of increased Unita activity in the area.

A Unita spokesman in Washington called Angola's claim propaganda and accused it of staging the battle to justify aerial bombardment of Unita positions in Cuito and elsewhere, Lusa reported.

Confirmation of either side's claims is impossible in the war-torn country, where the fighting has driven most independent observers from the field. SIDOM 812194

Relief workers with the UN World Food Programme in Luanda were evaluating the situation to see if flights would have to be canceled, Lusa reported. 5

The Angolan civil war claimed about 350 000 lives between 1975 and the peace accord of 1991. In renewed hostilities since then, another 100 000 people are believed to have died.

Humanitarian workers estimate that 3-million Angolans live on the brink of starvation because of war-related scarcity. — AP-DJ.

NEWS Bid to reach peace settlement • Rabid anti-monarchist remanded



American contemporary jazz musician Kenny G holds the award he received for being named favourite adult contemporary artist at the 21st annual American Music Awards. Kenny G, whose real surname is Gorejlek, said he was overwhelmed at being chosen ahead of singers Whitney Houston and Michael Bolton. PIC: AFP

Go it alone move by Angolan rebels

LSBON — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday it would declare a unilateral truce in the central city of Cuito where fighting flared at the weekend.

Unita's political commissioner said in a statement faxed to Reuters in Lisbon that rebels would also stop attacking Malange, a government-held city besieged by Unita in northern Angola.

Unita "will declare yet another unilateral ceasefire, not just in Bie (another name for Cuito) but also in Malange in order to allow the peace negotiations in Lusaka to reach a definitive settlement for peaceful co-existence", it said.

Angolan state radio said on Monday night that 175 people had died and 350 had been injured in three days of fighting in Cuito which has been be-

RENEWED FIGHTING Unita to declare a unilateral truce in Cuito:

sieged and partly occupied by Unita forces for 13 months. The radio accused Unita of pumping 5 000 artillery shells into Cuito on Monday and said the city had become an inferno.

Surprise attack

The Unita statement blamed government forces for starting the fighting with a surprise attack on Saturday supported by artillery fire and air strikes. Unita said government forces had temporarily succeeded in dislodging the rebels from some of the positions they occupied in Cuito but these had subsequently been recaptured.

There had been an uneasy truce between government and Unita forces in Cuito since September when Unita first declared a unilateral ceasefire in the city.

Sporadic clashes have taken place since then but the airport reopened and aid agencies were able to fly in food and establish field hospitals in the ruined city. At least 20 000 people are believed to have died in Cuito as a result of fighting, famine and disease.

Unita said the government offensive in Cuito had been followed by an air raid on the rebel capital, Huambo, 150km to the west, on Monday morning. — Sapa-Reuters.





Stop it . . . these youngsters say it all with their placard. The UN describes Angola's civil war as the world's worst conflict. PICTURE AFP

'New future' turns into a nightmare

Star 9/2/94
 It has taken just one year to push many middle-class families to the brink of starvation, writes Karl Moler (5)

A 3 she prepared lunch for her extended family of 16. Maria Sasafates stood on a patio surrounded by piles of rubble left by two 225 kg bombs that had fallen out of the sky one morning, and said: "We will stay here forever."

Somewhere her apartment block and snack bar on 1 May Avenue survived the bombing raid by Russian-hired jets last September but the buildings on either side were flattened. One of the bombs hit exactly where her parents had been sitting until 50 minutes before the attack, when they went inside to play cards.

Sasafates (22), was serving soup to customers when the warplanes roared overhead. "We were used to it, so what we heard the sound of the MIG we ran and hid. None of her family was hurt, but one pedestrian and an elderly storekeeper were killed in the raid."

The attack near Sasafates' home was part of the last round of air raids carried out by President Jose dos Santos' government against the central highlands city of Huambo, stronghold of the rebel leader Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement. That is, the last until Monday morning, when the jets returned to drop at least six bombs on the city.

The renewed bombing raids came as serious fighting erupted at the weakened in the government-controlled territory has 150 km east of Huambo. They are expected to disrupt international aid efforts to help feed thousands of starving people in the central highlands, home of

the staunchly pro-Unita Ovimbundu people, Angola's biggest ethnic group.

Also in jeopardy are the UN-brokered peace negotiations between Unita and Dos Santos's MPLA government that have been going on for the past three months in Lusaka.

They are aimed at ending a civil war that the UN has called the world's worst conflict. Fighting resumed after an 18-month ceasefire when Savimbi refused to accept defeat in the September 1992 election.

Unita forces captured Huambo in March 1993 after a 55-day siege that left much of the town in ruins and smashed the local economy. Fading graffiti on bullet-riddled walls promise Unita supporters "a new future" but for the 300,000 residents of this once picturesque city, known to the Portuguese colonists as New Lisbon, it has been a nightmare journey back to zero.

The international oil embargo on Unita-controlled territory has left the streets empty of all but a few cars, mostly owned by Unita officials, the Catholic church and a handful of international aid agencies. Urban salary-earners

have been devastated, moving from modest lifestyles to the brink of starvation in just a year. Elizabeth Casinha (42), lived comfortably with her husband Antonio, a mechanic, and six children in the lower-class neighbourhood of Bom Pastor until the war for Huambo started. Then his workplace was destroyed in the fighting and they soon exhausted their savings.

Last November Mr Casinha and several of the children began to suffer severe malnutrition and Mrs Casinha went to the market to sell off household goods and clothes to buy food. By Christmas there was nothing left to sell, and the youngest child, Erickson (4), was starving.

Mrs Casinha said: "I gathered whatever I could find in the house - a chair or a shirt, and went to the market to see if I could sell it for some maize. Usually for a nice shirt I could get one kilo of maize."

For the past month she has taken Erickson to a Save the Children Fund feeding centre and his health is improving.

It would be a great pleasure if this war would stop. No one understands why the fighting continues," said Mrs Casinha, thereby echoing a cynicism widespread in Huambo and other Angolan cities, whether government or rebel-controlled.

It is a cynicism fostered by a government that bombs its own cities and by an opposition movement willing to sacrifice thousands of civilians to pursue its leader's thirst for power. — The Independent News Service.

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apart from the series of public scandals in which
the government has become embroiled.

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Unita calls for truce in Cuito, Malange

LISBON. — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday it will declare a unilateral truce in the central city of Cuito, where fighting flared at the weekend.

Unita's said in a statement that rebels would also stop attacking Malange, a government-held city besieged by Unita in the north.

The ceasefire was called "to allow the peace negotiations in Lusaka to reach a definitive settlement for peaceful coexistence," Unita said.

But it said there could be no military solution to the 18-year-old civil war, which has raged since Angola's independence in 1975.

Angolan state radio said on Monday that 175 people had died and 350 had been injured in three days of fighting in Cuito, which has been besieged and by Unita forces for 13 months. — Sapa-Reuter

CT 9/2/94



Unita to halt siege of Cuito

Star 9/12/94
Lisbon — The Angolan rebel movement Unita said yesterday it will declare a unilateral truce in the central city of Cuito, where fighting flared at the weekend.

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Unita said in a statement faxed to Reuters in Lisbon that rebels would also stop attacking Malange, a government-held city in northern Angola.

Unita "will declare yet another unilateral ceasefire, not just in Cuito but also in Malange in order to allow the peace negotiations in Lusaka to reach a definitive settlement for peaceful coexistence," it said.

Angolan radio said on Monday that 175 people had died and 350 had been injured in three days of fighting in Cuito, which has been besieged and occupied by Unita forces for 13 months.

The radio accused Unita of pumping 5 000 artillery shells into Cuito on Monday and said the city had become an inferno.

Unita said government forces had temporarily succeeded in dislodging the rebels from some of the positions in Cuito, but these had been recaptured.

There had been an uneasy truce between government and Unita in Cuito since September, when Unita first declared a unilateral ceasefire in the city.

Sporadic clashes have taken place since then, but the airport reopened and aid agencies were able to fly in food and establish field hospitals. — Sapa-Reuter.

► 'New future' turns into a nightmare — Page 15

Angolan civil war 'stupid', says Savimbi

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi says the Angolan civil war was stupid and could have been avoided.

Today he recommitted himself and his movement to the Lusaka Agreement, which provides for elections to be held in Angola by February 1997.

Dr Savimbi told a Press conference in Cape Town that the main reason for his visit to South Africa was to learn how this country had achieved national reconciliation.

Unita's commitment to peace was total.

Dr Savimbi, a guerrilla fighter for 30 years, said there had been three stages to the conflict in his country.

The first was the fight against Portuguese colonialism, and there had been no alternative to an armed struggle. The second phase, involving global super-powers and South Africa, had left no room for negotiations.

But the third, of only Angolans versus Angolans, had been stupid. "We could have avoided it."

● Dr Savimbi confirmed he had been approached while in Cape Town by the families of members of Executive Outcomes, the South African mercenary group operating in Angola, about missing relatives.

Angola aid halted mid new fighting

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APR 11/2/94

ANGOLA. — The Angolan government has suspended aid to areas controlled by the Unita movement amid reports of renewed fighting between the two sides.

Assistance and Social Reintegration Minister Norberto dos Santos said yesterday that the suspension would be lifted only if Unita stopped fighting in the central town of Cuito.

Civilians in Cuito, where heavy fighting broke out last Saturday, were running out of food and medical supplies.

Mr Dos Santos added that Unita had stopped fighting on Wednesday to allow the withdrawal of foreign officials of humanitarian organisations, but the fighting had resumed yesterday.

Four officials of the Irish humanitarian agency Concern, and 30 others working for Belgium's Doctors Without Borders organisation, arrived in Luanda from Cuito.

Mr Dos Santos dismissed as

The United Nations Security Council expressed deep concern at the intensification of fighting in Angola and has urged the government and Unita rebels to conclude a comprehensive peace accord.

"propaganda". Unita plans to call a new unilateral ceasefire as it did last September.

At least 300 civilians have been killed and 400 wounded in the Cuito fighting, Angolan radio reports. The figures have not been independently confirmed.

Cuito was the scene of vicious clashes last year when conflict and famine left more than 25 000 dead and the city in ruins in what was viewed as the worst battle in Angola's civil war.

The government and Unita have been holding peace talks in the Zambian capital Lusaka since November. Unita declared a truce at the end of September. — Sapa-AFP.

Cuito bombed as govt retaliates for shelling

LUANDA. — Unita rebels have shelled government positions in the central Angolan city of Cuito, and Luanda's forces retaliated with bombing raids, diplomatic sources said yesterday.

State-run Jornal de Angola quoted Mr Luis dos Santos, governor of Bie province of which Cuito is the capital, as saying 300 people had been killed in the city since last Saturday.

The paper also reported fighting in Chimbuandi in Cabinda.

Aid flights to Cuito were suspended

last Saturday when the fighting started. 5 OCT 21/94

The government said on Thursday it had suspended permission for aid flights to the Unita-held city of Huambo in central Angola until the rebels allowed aid to be flown to Cuito.

Peace talks in Lusaka have been stalled since the UN mediator Mr Alioune Blondin Beye left last week for Ivory Coast for the funeral of President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. He has returned but Unita negotiators have not. — Sapa-AFP

Savimbi is now prepared to meet Dos Santos

ANGOLAN rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi has called a meeting from tomorrow of his Unita movement after an agreement on a cessation of hostilities.

The Portuguese journal de Noticias reported, quoting a statement from Unita, that "more than 1 000 delegates from all the country's provinces" would gather in central Bialundo.

It said the meeting would last until Friday, but did not give further details.

Yesterday Angolan news agency Angop said that Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had received a letter sent several weeks ago by Dr Savimbi agreeing to a meeting.

President dos Santos said Dr Savimbi had told him he was ready for a face-to-

face meeting, their first for several years.

Dr Savimbi did not turn up in the Zambian capital Lusaka in November for the signing of a UN-brokered accord ending 19 years of civil war.

He said then that his life would be in danger.

The summit would "restore the confidence of the Angolan people and initiate national consolidation as well as seek solutions to consolidating peace and national reconciliation", the agency said.

The latest developments came after Angola's military chiefs and Unita agreed to a complete cessation of hostilities on Friday. This has kept on track the precarious Luvanda peace accords, which ended the 20-year civil war in November.

A joint statement prepared by United Nations specialists after the two-day talks agreed on a complete ceasefire. Troops would be regrouped in five zones to avoid further confrontations in breach of the November 20 accords.

The breakthrough came after face-to-face talks between Angolan chief-of-staff General Joao Baptista de Matos and his Unita counterpart, General Arlindo Chlenda Pena "Ben-Ben", at Waku-Kongo, in the west of the country.

They agreed to disengage their troops facing each other at Life in the north and Huambo in the centre between February 15 and March 15.

The document also allows for an improvement in the chain of communi-

ST 5/2/95

tions, setting up regular meetings between both sides' regional military chiefs. These were aimed at avoiding further clashes.

The two sides also agreed to co-operate on the lifting of an estimated 20-million landmines laid since an upsurge in the fighting in October 1992.

Lists of prisoners-of-war on both sides will be given to the Red Cross to facilitate their early release.

British troops may be sent to Angola to pave the way for a proposed UN peace-keeping operation there, The Times of London reported yesterday.

Officials confirmed they were considering sending a logistics battalion of 700 troops after a request from the UN. — Sapa-Renter

Luanda asks France to help stop war

ARG 16/2/94

□ Curbs on Unita arms sought

PARIS. — Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos will ask France to help end Angola's bloody civil war by persuading Zaire to halt arms deliveries to Unita rebels, diplomatic sources say.

Angolan ambassador Boaventura Cardoso said Mr Dos Santos's official visit to Paris next week was intended to "seek the solidarity of France".

He made clear Mr Dos Santos was not asking for military support from France, but for Paris to put pressure on Unita and Zaire to bring the 19-year war to an end.

"We hope France can intervene with Zaire and contribute to stopping it interfering in the Angolan conflict," Mr Cardoso said.

Diplomatic sources said weapons and ammunition, bought with diamonds mined from Unita-controlled areas, were reaching the rebels through Zaire in spite of an arms embargo.

Unita and the Luanda government have been locked in civil war since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975. A peace deal signed in 1991 broke down after Unita leader Jonas Savimbi rejected his defeat in 1992 presidential elections.

Mr Savimbi has said he favoured continuing the three-month-old peace talks in Lusaka, which resumed this week, as neither side could win the war and the conflict could go on for years.

Mr Cardoso said Angola would make "a symbolic gesture" on its \$40 million (R137 million) debt to France in the coming weeks. He did not elaborate, but diplomatic sources said Angola would make a small repayment to France.

The source said Mr Dos Santos would be accompanied to Paris by his ministers of finance, foreign affairs, oil and co-operation and the governor of the central bank.

He was scheduled to meet President Francois Mitterrand, Prime Minister Edouard Balladur and the heads of French companies in Angola, including oil giants Total and Elf-Aquitaine, and telecommunications companies Alcatel and Thomson-CSF. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola talks going well, says Unita

LUSAKA. — Angola's rebel Unita movement said today good progress was being made in UN-mediated talks with the government on national reconciliation.

"The exchange of views between Unita and the government was very friendly," Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim told reporters, referring to talks yesterday.

UN mediators presented 10 general principles on reconciliation.

"We agreed on four of the 10 principles and today we are expecting another document from the mediators because there are amendments to be made," Mr Valentim said, without giving details. "We are finding common ground."

The talks are due to move on to specifics once general principles on issues like government decentralisation and political and ethnic tolerance have been agreed to.

The negotiations are continuing in spite of renewed clashes near the northern town of Malange, where Unita was reported to have captured a village. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola a 'lesson' to war mongers

CT 18/2/94 (5)

JOHANNESBURG. — A 10-member ANC delegation returned from a three-day visit to Angola to warn the right-wing of the ravages of civil war.

Angola has seen 18 years of civil war in which thousands of people have been killed and the economy has suffered severely.

At a media briefing Mr Tokyo Sexwale advised the right-wing, "both black and white", to reconsider their stand.

Civil war had to be avoided at all costs or the country could face chaos similar to that in Angola. "In Angola we saw the future according to the right-wing — it does not work."

The recent spate of bomb attacks on ANC offices was a right-wing "terrorist tactic", he said.

Asked whether he thought South Africa was in the initial stages of civil war Mr Sexwale said: "Thirty bombs have already exploded in two months — I don't know what we should call that."

The delegation met Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos, army generals and Members of Parliament, and expressed the ANC's support for talks between the MPLA government and Unita.

Mr Dos Santos had expressed a keen interest in pursuing business in South Africa, Mr Sexwale said, so too had Angolan businessmen.

Returning to the issue of the right-wing threat, Mr Sexwale said negotiations with the Freedom Alliance and other right-wing parties were no longer negotiations. "What the Freedom Alliance is in fact doing is to make demands with a pistol pointed at our heads and that pistol is civil war." — Sapa

Progress made in peace talks

LUSAKA, Zambia. — Angola's factions agreed yesterday on the main principles for sharing power after their 18-year war ends, participants at the peace talks said.

After three months of haggling, the way was almost clear to a ceasefire, observers said.

The government and Unita did not disclose details of their agreement, saying only they had reached common ground on the involvement of Unita in the "political and economic administration and the decentralisation of power".

Unita has demanded control of some key ministries and provinces reflecting its control of over half the country.

Unita also wants "special status" for Dr Jonas Savimbi. — Sapa-AP

Angola peace just 'week or two away'

⑤ ARC 18/2/94

LUSAKA. — Angola's Unita and government negotiators have agreed on all but two of 10 general principles on national reconciliation at peace talks here, diplomats said.

The diplomats monitoring the three-month secret talks also said they were progressing well in spite of fresh fighting in Angola's 18-year civil war.

They said that apart from freedom of the Press and guarantees of individual freedom of expression and association, the two sides agreed on the other principles which were mainly Unita's political demands.

"They have reached a common ground to adopt eight of the 10 principles and when they resolve the remaining two, they will go into specifics after which they will discuss the modalities . . . we are talking about a week or two before

■ The Angolan government suspended aid flights to the northern town of Malanje after a United Nations relief plane was hit by bullets, allegedly fired by Unita. The UN considers Malanje one of the regions worst-hit by starvation in Angola. It has a population of 80 000 and 10 people are said to die of hunger each day.

this issue is closed," said a source.

Topping the agreements was the principle that Unita should be allowed to take part at various levels in the political, administrative and economic institutions of the future Angolan government.

They also agreed that there would be "an effective decentralisation and deconcentration of power". — Sapa-AFP.

Angolan mercy flights suspended

BIDAY 18/2/94

LUANDA — Humanitarian aid flights to the northern Angolan town of Malanje have been suspended following an upsurge in fighting in which a UN relief plane was hit by gunfire, Angolan Social Aid Minister Norberto dos Santos said yesterday.

Ten flights due into the town yesterday were called off because of the intensity of the fighting, which the Luanda authorities have blamed on Unita.

The UN had wanted to pursue its aid operation to the town — described by Norberto as the “biggest humanitarian operation in Angola — in spite of Wednesday’s incident.

The UN Boeing 727 was hit during take off but was able to make an emergency landing at Luanda.

The UN operation in Angola targets about 36 000 victims of Angola’s 18-year-old civil war, which flared up again more than a year ago.

Meanwhile it is reported from Windhoke that an airlift of critical food aid to Angola, destined a year ago for Unita-held areas in southeastern Cuando Cubango province, is finally scheduled to leave Namibia.

The MPLA government suspended all food flights from Namibia more than a year ago, saying relief aid had to be channelled through government areas.

This left 2 000 tons of food aid stranded in Rundu on the Namibian border.

Permission was granted last month for a Namibian aviation company to fly the maize, oil and salt into Ngiva, a town situated in the Cunene province in southern Angola.

Namibia Commercial Aviation owner Chris Schutte said it would take 135 flights in two DC-6 freighters to deliver the food over six weeks.

The food was donated by a German humanitarian organisation, and the airlift financed by the EC.

Care International, an American emergency food distribution agency operating in Cunene province, would take charge of distribution once the food had landed, he said.

After finally getting flight clearance from Angola, the airlift was delayed yesterday by an expired export permit on the Namibian side.

Schutte was, however, confident that the food flights could start by this morning at the latest.

The UN estimates that up to 1 000 people are dying daily of starvation, injury and disease in the Angolan civil war.

Hostilities resumed in December 1992 after an 18-month ceasefire when Unita contested the results of the UN-supervised elections which it lost. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita spells out demands for top government posts

By Day 23/2/94

LUSAKA — Unita has demanded immunity for its senior officials and a share in the attribution of ministerial posts as conditions for its agreement to Angola's national reconciliation plan.

In a position paper handed to UN mediators, Unita said its officials should be granted the same immunities as Angolan members of parliament and that it should hold high positions in the country's strategic economic industries.

Government posts to be allocated to Unita should be determined at peace talks under way in Lusaka, it said.

"The participation of Unita in central government should ensure that they are ministries of sovereignty, ministries in the productive sector, secretary of state."

Unita also demanded diplomatic representations, special security, diplomatic passports and "appropriate" accommodation for its top officials.

"In order to cement national reconciliation, members of Unita should participate in the strategic enterprises of the country, particularly in the organs of management and administration," the paper said.

The industries in which Unita is demanding participation include oil company Sonangol, diamond concern Endiam, banks, electricity company Sonefe, the national airline TAAG, and the ports of Lobito, Luanda, Namibe and Soyo.

Unita demanded that once political stability returned to Angola, elections be held to fill the posts of "governance at the provincial local levels".

The paper, under consideration by

UN mediators and the government negotiators, made no mention of the fate of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, a topic likely to be dealt with in the next stage of the peace talks. ⑤

This stage will consider the holding of the second round of presidential elections, suspended when Unita went back to war after rejecting the results of the 1992 elections.

The Unita paper stressed the need for free, non-partisan media and access to the state media.

The demands came against a background of escalating conflict inside Angola and at a crucial juncture in the three-month peace talks, which both sides have described as the last chance for peace in Angola.

Last week the two sides agreed on the general principles of national reconciliation. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita demands immunity

(5) CT 23/2/94

LUSAKA. — Angola's rebel Unita movement has demanded immunity for its senior officials and a share in the attribution of ministerial posts as conditions for its agreement to a national reconciliation plan, it said in a position paper issued here.

In the paper handed to United Nations mediators, Unita said

its officials should be granted the same immunities as members of parliament and high positions in industry.

Government posts to be allocated to Unita should be determined at the peace talks under way here, it said.

The rebels also demanded

diplomatic representations, special security, diplomatic passports and "appropriate" accommodation for its top officials.

The industries in which Unita is demanding participation include the oil company Sonangol, the diamond firm Endiam, banks and the electricity company Son-ele. — Sapa-AFP

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Angola's govt battling to quell financial anarchy

BISCAY 25/2/94

LUANDA — The formerly Marxist government of Angola — potentially one of Africa's richest nations — has made halting moves to pull its economy back from disarray.

However, independent economists and diplomats say distortions and financial anarchy still run deep.

Nearly 18 years of civil war and inefficient socialist experiments have devastated the economy and driven most financial transactions outside the formal sector.

Despite being blessed with oil, diamonds and fertile land, Angola's agriculture and industry are virtually paralysed and the government cannot properly feed a third of its 10-million people. Few Angolans use the banks and corruption is rampant.

The government has in the past two months taken a number of seemingly half-hearted steps to liberalise the economy, including allowing commercial banks to change foreign currency at free market rates and devaluing the kwanza twice in the past two weeks.

President José Eduardo dos Santos said this week that more such measures were to come and proposed a series of "adjustments" to cut public spending and a big budget deficit.

However, independent economists and diplomats questioned whether these good intentions would materialise and impose the financial discipline desired by foreign creditors owed about \$8bn.

Said a diplomat: "The IMF could not have written a better speech. Who could disagree with budgetary discipline? But they have been talking about these things for years."

Most Angolans use open air markets rather than shops and the streets rather than banks. Inflation is officially just less than 2 000% annually. Large sections of the population live on food handouts.

Authorities recently announced a crackdown on street hawkers lacking licences and black market money changers, threatening a way of life for thousands in Luanda.

Multiple exchange rates have been available as a form of selective subsi-

dy to different sectors of the economy since independence. These "subsidies" made it cheap for the government elite to import flashy foreign cars and other luxuries.

The government has said the subsidies would be phased out and that the two devaluations were part of moves towards a free-market system.

Distortions in Angola's economy mean two litres of petrol cost Luanda motorists the equivalent of one US cent. A return flight to Brazil, before the devaluations, cost an Angolan resident the equivalent of \$150. On Monday the same ticket cost just more than \$300.

For ordinary Angolans, who lack electricity and running water, the devaluations have limited impact other than the knock-on effect of higher petrol prices, economists say.

The government blames the economic mire on the war. However, one economist said past economic policies were as much to blame.

"This is the story of a catastrophe foretold," he said. — Sapa-Reuter

WM 25/2-3/3/94
Media watchdog a
'toothless poodle' (5)
(243)

Bruce Cohen

SEVENTEEN journalists have either been killed or have vanished without trace since the collapse of the Angolan peace accord in October 1992, according to a report.

The constant threat of death and intimidation is just one aspect of life for Angola's shackled journalists, says the report, commissioned by the Media Institute of Southern Africa (Misa). "Blatant, as well as more subtle control of the country's media institutions by the warring factions is another."

The report follows a visit by a Misa task force to Angola recently to assess the impact of the civil war on the country's media.

The task force found media freedom in ruins. "It is patently clear that both the press and the electronic media are effectively muzzled by the ruling MPLA and the government." In areas controlled by Unita, says the report, conditions are similar if not harsher.

Chief executives of the country's state-run radion, TV, news agency the the only-mass circulation daily newspaper are appointed by the

cabinet, and "tend to act more like civil servants than journalists", says the report.

It describes the media council, the country's media watchdog, as a "toothless poodle".

The report says that an apparently private and independent media does exist, but even these have close ties with the ruling MPLA. Several private radio stations and a weekly newspaper appeared before the abortive September 1992 elections, and it is widely believed they have been financed by the MPLA.

Another factor highlighted in the report is the poor pay received by journalists (about R200 a month) as well as the lack of job opportunities which gives journalists little choice but to toe the line.

In spite of the enormous problems, the Misa report notes that Angolan media employees have created several initiatives which could be the "seeds of a genuinely independent and pluralistic media". However, the report notes, "these seeds have fallen on a devastated landscape and need a great deal of nurturing".



Angolan offer 'a joke'

CT 2/3/94
LUSAKA — Unita rebels yesterday accused Angolan government negotiators of not taking their demands for political power seriously in the long-running peace talks to end nearly two decades of civil war. (5)

Unita spokesman Mr Jorge Valentim told reporters that the government had offered Unita only one governorship out of the 18 provinces and insignificant ministerial posts.

"They are not taking the subject of national reconciliation seriously because this is one of the key items ...

the response we are getting is a political joke," Mr Valentim said.

Unita is demanding key government portfolios including those of defence and information and involvement in the management of strategic economic enterprises specifically in the oil, electricity and diamond sectors.

An Angolan newspaper quoted government sources as saying that the Lusaka talks, which began in November, had been slow but progress had been made. — Sapa-Reuter

A rebel almost without a base

(5) ARG 8/3/94

Unita guerrillas still regard the central city of Huambo as their stronghold of power, though it has changed hands several times during the 19-year civil war against the MPLA government. A reporter for the ECONOMIST sketches the realities of the situation.

JONAS Savimbi, the rebel leader, smiles down from a giant poster promising "peace and democracy".

It tells visitors to Huambo that they have reached the "capital" of the other Angola. This is the heart of Unita territory, land held or won by Savimbi's men since they took to arms again after losing the election in 1992.

Campaigning for votes, Savimbi promised "a new future". Here is the wretched reality.

None of the crowds, hawkers of cheap imports, traffic jams and rotting rubbish that overwhelm the government's capital, Luanda. Instead, the charred ruins of homes and offices, flattened first by a bloody 55-day siege that ended a year ago, when Unita won control of the city, and recently by government bombing raids. There is no electricity, and water is short.

Unita tells its supporters they must feed themselves. Empty spaces in the city have been sown with maize.

But a severe drought last year has helped to push hundreds of thousands to the brink.

The swollen bellies of children speak of widespread kwashiorkor, a condition produced by chronic protein deficiency. Until the next harvest in late March and April, things can only get worse.

The International Committee of the Red Cross says 200 000 people around Huambo (out of 1.5 m) risk starvation. Missionaries say they have never seen hunger on this scale in these usually fertile central highlands.

Food is available on the black market — at a price. But few people have paid employment, so few can afford it.

The sprawling Sao Pedro market on the edge of town is strewn with old beds, clothes and electronic gadgets sold by people ready to give up anything for a kilo of maize.

The pharmacy at the central hospital is bare; most medicines end up on the black market. Skin-and-bone children, who need constant feeding, have no milk, sugar or salt, and neither the strength nor drugs to fend off infection or malaria.

The United Nations imposed an embargo on sales of fuel to Unita-controlled areas last year, after the rebels took to arms again. The few cars on the streets belong to Unita officials, aid workers, the Catholic church and a handful of businessmen making handsome profits from hard times.

Yet supplies do come in. Sympathetic traders lead convoys out to neighbouring Zaire and Namibia to fetch basic items (and beer). Unita keeps its own treasury replenished by smuggling diamonds, timber and ivory from territory it controls.

But, busy fighting, Unita has left foreign relief agencies to worry about feeding the people. Their work is uncertain and risky.

Aid flights may be suddenly cut off, and government bombs do not distinguish aid workers from rebels.

Government attacks have intensified in recent weeks — enough to provoke South Africa's ANC to urge restraint.

The UN's man in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, says the rising violence will not derail the peace talks that have been trundling slowly along in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, for more than three months.

But Huambo reveals little ground for optimism.

Unita has set up its own "government" there, complete with so-called ministries of education, humanitarian affairs and housing. The rebels do not plan to withdraw from the two-thirds of Angola they have won by force.

Unita's strategy seems to be to accept a UN peacekeeping force, which would separate the belligerents, and then consolidate control on its side.

Beye's challenge, if such a force were provided, would be to disarm Unita troops before that happened. That looks difficult.

As if to express the rebels' view of the UN, the only piece of UN military equipment left in the Huambo camp its people used to monitor the 1992 election — a Russian-built helicopter — has been turned into a public toilet.

UN votes to extend Angola mission

ARG 17/3/94 (5)
NEW YORK. — The Security Council has voted unanimously to extend until May 31 the mandate of a UN mission in Angola.

The mission comprises about 80 military observers, police and medical personnel.

The council also said it was

ready in principle to consider authorising an increase to 490, plus support staff.

That was the original authorised strength of the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) when it was set up in 1991 to help monitor an accord ending 16 years of civil war.

The increase will take effect

when UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali reports that the Angolan government and Unita rebels have reached an agreement and that conditions are right to deploy the additional personnel.

UNAVEM was sharply reduced early last year when fierce fighting erupted after Unita refused to accept defeat in elections in September 1992.

Dr Boutros-Ghali has recommended that the council approve UNAVEM's restoration to its original strength so that, once an overall settlement is reached, additional personnel can quickly be deployed in advance of a fully-fledged peace-keeping force. — Sapa-Reuter.

wm 18-24/3/94 (5) 258

Angolan refugees flood the Ark

Michel Muller

RELIEF organisations in Cape Town are frantically trying to accommodate an estimated 400 refugees who have fled from Angola, Burundi and Somalia.

"Nobody in the Western Cape has an agenda to pick up refugees," said Father Declan Collins, spokesman for the Don Bosco Hostel for street youths. "There is no refugee organisation, so we keep passing them on to different places. There is no specific organisation to take up their cause."

The Ark, formerly a derelict TB hospital which houses the destitute and indigent, is temporarily accommodating 60 Angolans, mainly young men.

"There is nowhere for them to go," said Black Sash advice office co-ordinator Bastienne Klein. "In the past three weeks there have been two, three, sometimes five a day arriving. We're dealing with people with nothing."

"The situation is going to become worse and there are no facilities. The problem is, whose responsibil-

ity are they?" she said.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), by virtue of two agreements signed last year, is custodian of refugees to South Africa, along with the Department of Home Affairs, which handles the paperwork.

UNHCR official Phillip Karani spent four days in Cape Town last week holding talks with relief organisations and Home Affairs. But UNHCR chief of missions Kallu Kalumiya said: "I do not foresee a refugee camp being set up by the UNHCR in the western Cape. We seek to keep refugees in their country of asylum rather than moving them on."

Declan said though the UNHCR had attended refugee committee meetings, it could not "come up with cash. It's only advice at the moment. The UN has a certain format, but they are conscious of the problem. They told us to get our act together and get a proposal to them."

Home Affairs media officer Elija Mathebula confirmed the refugees did not receive support "other than

permission to reside temporarily in South Africa".

Declan said the Angolans were avoiding the UN refugee camp in Osiri, Namibia, where conditions were said to be "bad", and coming to Cape Town. He said the first group of Angolans was referred last October to the Trauma Centre in Cowley House, Woodstock, a former stopover for exiles.

The Angolans at the Ark, fleeing what has been described as the biggest and bloodiest war in the world, said a lot of women get caught by the MPLA or Unita. They related rumours from Osiri that it was "going very badly with people there".

"Something nasty is going on up there in Angola and Namibia. We get horrifying stories of women being beaten and raped," said Declan.

Kalumiya responded: "The refugee camps are not five-star hotels."

"At least Namibia has put resources aside to handle refugees. Conditions may not be ideal, but we do have monitors there."

Biday 23/3/94

Angolan peace talks alarm

LUANDA — Angola's state media said yesterday peace talks between the government and Unita could break down, but diplomats in Luanda played this down.

The Angolan media said the four-month-old talks in Lusaka could collapse unless the two sides broke an impasse over sharing posts in a future government.

The state-owned daily *Jornal de Angola* said: "Unconfirmed reports in the Zambian capital say the UN could shortly decide on the breaking off or suspension of the negotiations if the sides continue to be inflexible."

But diplomats dismissed the reports.

"As far as we know there have been no ... indications they may break off the negotiations," one said. "The government would possibly like to put some pressure on Unita."

An African diplomat in Lusaka said last Friday Unita had accepted a government offer of places in a new administration, although bargaining was continuing.

State media reported fighting in different parts of the country since Saturday, but there were no details or independent con-

firmation.

Jornal de Angola said yesterday Unita had accepted what the government offered but wanted more — including the interior or communications ministries.

It said that Unita also wanted additional governorships, including the western province of Benguela and the central provinces of Huambo and Bie. (S)

If these were combined with the governorships already offered to Unita, the northern province of Uige, the eastern province of Lunda Sul and the southern province of Cuando Cubango in the south, it would create a continuous strip from the Atlantic coast to the Zambian border in the east.

The two sides have already reached agreement on legal and military issues and the political agenda is seen as the last hurdle to peace after nearly two decades of civil war.

Diplomats said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's position remained a thorny issue. "That is an issue they are going to have to work around," said a diplomat. — Sapa-Reuter.

City set for refugee surge

ARCT 26/3/94

(25) (5) (25) (25)

WILLEM STEENKAMP

Weekend Argus Reporter

HUNDREDS, possibly thousands, of political refugees from countries including Somalia, Zaire, Mozambique and Angola are streaming to South Africa following an agreement between the United Nations and the government.

And, many of these refugees are making their way to Cape Town because the city is relatively safe compared to other centres and also because word has spread that free accommodation is readily available hereto refugees.

Senior immigration official Jaco Duckitt, known as "Mr Refugee" because of the work he does among refugees who arrive in Cape Town, said the numbers of refugees arriving had increased alarmingly.

"More than 10 refugees arrive in Cape Town a day. We already have more than 100 male Angolans — many with children and wives — in Cape Town. Where they previously arrived in dribs and drabs, they are now arriving in groups.

"We have about 35 refugees from Somalia and the number is increasing: Four from the Sudan, 15 from Zaire and we even have one from Liberia."

Mr Duckitt said an agreement was reached between the government and UN officials in September last year under which the government agreed to allow political refugees into South Africa.

Conditions were also set out under which people would qualify for refugee status.



Picture: OBED ZILWA, Weekend Argus.

□ **NEW HOME:** A group of political refugees who fled to Cape Town because of civil war in their respective countries have found a new home at The Ark, a haven run by Christians at Westlake.

Home Affairs officials get training from the UN on how to handle and process refugees.

Mr Duckitt said that under this system people first would be questioned as to their reasons for coming to South Africa. If they qualified as political refugees they would be given temporary permits to live and work here.

"We try to encourage political refugees to find work to support themselves and their families as there are no funds available from the government to support these people.

"These political refugees can later apply for political asylum. But, should the situation in their respective countries

improve, we would ask them to be voluntarily repatriated to their countries of origin. In such cases, we would supply them with some cash and a free ticket."

Mr Duckitt said that if political refugees refused to return voluntarily to their country of origin, steps would be taken against them under the Aliens Act.

Many of the refugees that arrive in Cape Town find a haven at The Ark in Westlake, run by Pastor Greg Grobler. They stay free of charge. The Ark does not get any money from the government and is dependent solely on donations to do its work.

At The Ark many refugees learn basic skills such as carpentry, welding, panel-beating to enable them to support themselves.

As the word spread that under the UN agreement with the government political refugees would not be summarily returned to their countries of origin, the number of refugees has increased.

Mr Duckitt said he had been monitoring and processing political refugees under the new system for three weeks now. Since then, there had been a vast increase. Most of them fled their countries of origin because of political strife and war.

Angola prepares for social reconstruction programme

LUANDA — Angola's central bank said on Tuesday it would have enough banknotes by July to cover implementation of its 1994 economic and social programme. (S)

Central Bank vice-governor Paixao Junior said in a speech reported by the state daily *Jornal de Angola*: "We are going to have enough banknotes to cover the government's economic programme. From next July the bank will have enough banknotes... things will have settled down."

A Luanda-based economist commented: "They are saying they will have enough banknotes available for their requirements but not so much as to give an added boost to inflation."

Officially, the annual inflation was calculated in January at about 1 760%, a reduction of about 80% from December.

The economic programme, approved two

weeks ago by parliament, has been interpreted by independent economists as a first step towards implementation of a structural adjustment programme.

A "technical team" is scheduled to visit Washington at the beginning of April and an IMF team is due in Luanda in May.

Central Bank governor Generoso de Almeida said on state radio on Monday: "The government will shortly be discussing with international institutions a possible rescheduling of the debt" — about \$9.5bn.

Paixao Junior said: "A system of cleaning up and making viable the large strategic state enterprises will shortly be implemented as well as (accelerating) privatisation of small and medium companies."

The economic and social programme sets control of inflation and reduction of the budget deficit as key objectives.

8/13/94
Central to the programme is abolition of differential exchange rates. Four devaluations in two months took the official exchange rate from 6 500 kwanzas a dollar to 35 000 a dollar. The government says it will continue the devaluations until "equilibrium is reached."

A dollar fetches about 130 000 kwanzas on the street and in the banks.

The official rate has been available to selected sectors as a form of state subsidy financed with oil. — Sapa-Reuter.

Government in new bid for peace with Unita

Luanda — The Angolan government has made fresh proposals for power-sharing with Unita in a bid to reactivate peace talks on the future of the country, a press report said on Saturday.

A government envoy passed details of the offer on Friday to the UN envoy mediating the talks with Unita to show "flexibility" in an attempt to "prevent the breakdown" of negotiations, the official daily *Jornal de Angola* said.

The document contained new propositions from Luanda on Unita's participation in government institutions, the daily said, without giving further details.

It was presented to United Nations mediator Alouine Blondin Beye in the Zambian

capital Lusaka — where the peace negotiations are taking place — by Carlos Feijo, an envoy of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The talks, which were temporarily suspended last Monday after the two sides became deadlocked over power-sharing arrangements, resumed with a debate on the second round of presidential elections.

Government and Unita delegations agreed that no timetable would be fixed until after an earlier ceasefire accord had been honoured and a "lasting peace" secured in the war-torn south-west African state, the newspaper said.

Meanwhile, reports emerged of a downturn in fighting in the north and east of the country. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita knocks out power lines to Luanda

LISBON — Luanda was without electricity and low on drinking water yesterday after Unita rebels knocked out high-power lines to the Angolan capital. **LISBON 5/4/93**

The attack on the lines between Luanda and a major power station in Cambambe came as peace talks in Zambia appeared stalled and the UN Security Council considered further sanctions against Unita.

Angolan officials said the rebels had closed in on areas southeast of Luanda at the weekend, sabotaging the lines and occupying two towns.

The rebels last carried out a major sabotage attack against the capital in January 1993, just before both sides abandoned

talks and mobilised for war.

Government troops counter-attacked, moving to secure the area around Cambambe. They began heavy bombardment of Unita positions in Soyo.

Fighting also erupted in the central city of Cuito after months of uneasy calm.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi said recently that he had the arms, money and manpower to wage war for another 10 years.

The UN Security Council was meeting last night to decide on further sanctions, which could include freezing Unita funds abroad and restricting the movements of Unita representatives or even expelling them from major capitals. — Sapa-AP.

SAPA 5/4/94

Luanda in the dark after Unita sabotage

Lisbon — Luanda was without electricity and low on drinking water yesterday after Unita rebels knocked out powerlines to the Angolan capital.

The attack on the lines between Luanda and a major power station in Cambambe to the south-east came as peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, appeared to have stalled and the UN Security Council prepared to

consider further sanctions against Unita.

The Portuguese news agency Lusa reported that rebels had closed in on areas south-east of Luanda at the weekend, sabotaging the lines and occupying the towns of Zenza de Itombe and Maria Terese between Luanda and Cambambe. (S)

Government troops counter-attacked immediately after the

Unita assault, moving to secure the area around Cambambe.

Government troops also bombarded Unita positions in the northern coastal town of Soyo. Oil production in Soyo ceased last year after the rebels first took the town. It has since changed hands several times.

Fighting also erupted in the divided central Angolan city of Cuito after months of uneasy calm. — Sapa-AP.

He who has the money buys the guns, says Unita general

MICHELLE FAUL of Sapa-AP reports from Andolu, a Unita stronghold in central Angola.

AR 6/4/94
(5)

the government said it had uncovered a coup plan by rebel forces.

Roman Catholic Church officials said 20 000 people, mainly of Savimbi's Ovimbundu people, were massacred.

The fighting spread and Unita won Huambo and wrested more than two-thirds of the country — more territory than it had ever held — from government troops.

Today, government control is confined to a narrow strip along the Atlantic coast and to provincial capitals usually encircled by Unita-held countryside.

A key gain for Unita's war effort were the north-eastern diamond fields that De Beers says could hold the world's fourth largest deposits.

The South Africa-based diamond company says 'the mines could produce more



Scotch whisky, German beer and South African wine are served in houses of Unita officials, while ordinary folk rely on aid flights and the buses flown to Andulo on the charter flights.

The International Committee of the Red Cross files 2 500 tons of corn beans and dried fish to Huambo every month from the government-controlled coastal city of Benguela.

Huambo's estimated 400 000 inhabitants theoretically can

for the party faithful.

In this traditional Unita stronghold the rebels have set up their own government after winning a three-month battle for the city that ended in March last year with a Unita victory and 10 000 killed.

Unita men drive round in jeeps, while war-weary residents cart bags of coal and bundles of wood on bicycles, on their heads, and in makeshift wooden wheelbarrows.

"These sanctions above all punish the civilian population and not Unita itself," said Jeronimo Elvoao Wangá, Unita governor of Huambo province.

He spoke to six foreign journalists who flew to Andulo from Kinshasa, Zaire on the plane chartered by Unita from Trans-Service Airflit of Belgium.

Savimbi optimistic on signing lasting peace

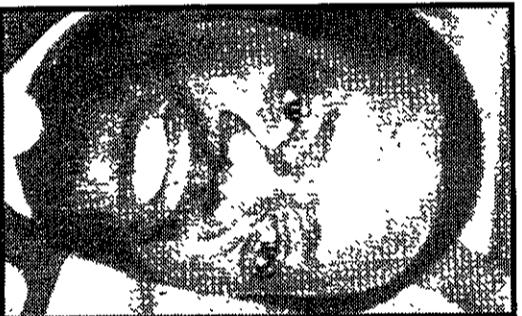
Sapa-Reuter reports from Chinguar in Angola.

JONAS SAVIMBI, head of Angola's Unita rebel movement, has said his organisation is on the verge of signing a lasting peace agreement with the government.

"In a couple of days time we will sign the agreement. I am optimistic," said an upbeat Dr Savimbi in an interview with foreign journalists flown by Unita into rebel-held territory to meet him.

UN-sponsored peace talks between the two sides aimed at ending 18 years of civil war recently appeared to be faltering, with both sides suspending discussion of the obstacles to national reconciliation because they were leading nowhere.

But Dr Savimbi brushed such suggestions aside. He insisted progress made during talks in the Zambian



JONAS SAVIMBI: "I am a candidate for president . . . I will run again."

ITS cabin lights dimmed, the unmarked cargo plane flew over the Zairian border into Angola. An hour later, it landed on a remote dirt airstrip in highlands where one of the world's bloodiest conflicts is underway.

Small, chartered planes such as the Lockheed 188 Electra landing this weekend regularly carry food, other basics and, Angola's government says, guns to Unita rebels who control Andulo and the surrounding area of central Angola.

The flights are a lifeline for the rebel movement which, despite a United Nations embargo on fuel, arms and ammunition, is continuing its 19-year civil war against Angola's government.

Fighting between Unita — the National Union for the

Unita claims up to 50 SA mercenaries killed

Sapa reports from Luanda

UNITA says up to 50 South African mercenaries, fighting on the side of the Angolan government, have been killed in the Angolan civil war.

Unita's New York-based director of information, Mr Malik Chaka, was quoted as saying that a former member of the SADF's Fourth Reconnaissance Regiment had been shot dead yesterday morning.

Mr Chaka said Unita had not yet captured any South African mercenaries. He said the mercenaries were the responsibility of the South African government and that their presence was threatening the peace process in Angola.

A spokesman for a Pretoria-based security firm, Executive Outcomes, confirmed that an employee had been killed in a Unita attack.

He said the man, who he would not name, was killed when a training camp was attacked. He is apparently the second former South African special forces soldier to have been killed in Angola in the past two weeks.

The spokesman said another four employees had gone missing during the attack.

They were all part of a team which was sent to Angola to help train government forces, he confirmed.

The former commanding officer of the now disbanded 32 Battalion, Colonel Jan Breytenbach, has called on the South African government to investigate claims of South African mercenaries fighting in Angola.

Colonel Breytenbach said that between 300 and 400 former members of units like Koevoet, 32 Battalion, the parabats and reconnaissance regiments were in northern Angola.

He said they were engaged

in operations with the Angolan MPLA Government and were involved in a campaign to finally crush the Unita resistance movement.

Col Breytenbach, himself a veteran of the Angolan/South African war of the '70s and '80s, said the campaign was doomed, and with it the South African soldiers.

He said the soldiers had been misled into going to Angola.

A South African-based company, run by former members of 32 Battalion and the shadowy Civil Co-operation Bureau, had recruited the soldiers ostensibly to guard oil installations in Angola, but they ended up fighting in the civil war, he said.

At least one, Steyn Marais, had either been kidnapped or killed by Unita, he said.

Colonel Breytenbach called on the government to investigate the company and bring the South Africans back as a matter of urgency.

position to be set up in Angola.

And he said he was in favour of a proposal to stage the second round of presidential elections suspended in September 1992 when Unita repudiated results giving MPLA leader Eduardo dos Santos a first-round lead.

The rejection of those results triggered a bloody MPLA crackdown on Unita representatives in Luanda and ended the brief peace the former Portuguese colony had enjoyed in the wake of 1991 peace accords.

"I am a candidate," said Dr Savimbi. "Dos Santos is not the elected president of this country. He remains a candidate. I will run again." But he said he did not think the country would be ready for a new poll until 1996 at the earliest.

'50 dogs of war dead'

NEW YORK. — Unita says up to 50 South Africans fighting for the Angolan government have been killed.

Reports quoted Unita's New York information director Mr Malik Chaka saying an ex-member of the SADF Fourth Reconnaissance Regiment was shot dead yesterday.

Pretoria-based security firm Executive Outcomes confirmed an employee died in a Unita attack. A spokesman would not name the man — the second former SA special forces soldier re-

ET 6/4/94 (5)
ported killed in Angola recently.

Another four employees went "missing" during the attack, he said.

● Ex-commander of the now disbanded 32 Battalion, Col Jan Breytenbach, yesterday called on Pretoria to bring home mercenaries from Angola.

Col Breytenbach said 300-400 former special forces members were in northern Angola fighting a "doomed" campaign after being misled into going to Angola by a company run by ex-32 Battalion and CCB members. — Sapa

Few men, but women, children stroll streets

Prize Unita city almost at peace

Star

Huambo (Angola) — Eighty kilometres from the clash of combat, shouting kids play a spirited soccer game, women pound corn for supper and a man whistles tunelessly as he sweeps a street devastated by jet bombers a year ago.

A year ago Huambo was the worst battlefield in Angola's 19-year war and an estimated 10 000 died in fierce fighting. Now it is the headquarters of Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels.

Savimbi and his 50 000-strong rebel army, out to take over one of Africa's potentially richest countries, no longer bivouac in the bush or hide in this southern African nation's badlands.

Headquarters is in this city of tree-lined boulevards and pastel-painted cottages, where the rebels raised their black rooster banner after a stunning defeat of government troops in a three-month battle.

Huambo is a city of older people, women and thousands and thousands of children. Teenage girls strolled the streets with babies on their hips. "All our men are fighting at the front," they said.

For now, only a handful of armed fighters are visible.

But "minders" and interpreters of Unita, always accompanied a half dozen inter-

national reporters the rebels invited into their territory.

The city became a prize for both sides after Savimbi dashed a 1991 peace treaty by accusing the government of rigging his defeat in Angola's first elections in September 1992. Savimbi fortified a mansion, pulled his troops from the unified army, and called Huambo, where his Ovimbundu people reside, his own.

The guerillas have since managed to set up a basic administration in Huambo.

"We've reopened schools, got the city cleaned up, but we have to pay teachers and sweepers," said an official. "You know, this is a new experience for us because all our fighters are volunteers."

Relief supplies

Pablo Alveiro, sweeping papers and leaves on October 5 boulevard, said he was paid. "It's not enough to survive, but better than nothing at all," he said.

But thanks to UN relief supplies, no one is dying of hunger in the city as they are elsewhere in the country.

Eight planeloads of food fly to Huambo every day in an airlift begun in January by the Red Cross after Savimbi and

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos agreed to allow aid into enemy territory. (5)

Country people are not so fortunate.

"There's no medicine for the kids," said Victorina Nanjinji of Kunhinga, 160 km north-east of Huambo. She pointed to children with infected eyes buzzing with flies, with hacking coughs and torn T-shirts giving little protection against a biting dawn cold.

The UN estimates that three million Angolans — a third of the nation — are endangered by a famine that could become as devastating as Somalia's.

But the Unita brass, like the government officials they often call corrupt, lacks little. Despite a fuel embargo imposed by the UN in September, chartered aircraft fly nightly from Kinshasa, Zaire, to dirt strips in rebel territory with fuel and other goods.

At least 500 000 Angolans and probably more have died since a remote African conflict became a proxy Cold War battle. Cuban and Russian troops fought for Dos Santos and South African soldiers helped Savimbi, who was armed by the United States.

Today, Unita and the government fight it out alone. — Sapa-AP.

In a bizarre switch of sides, former SADF soldiers have replaced their old enemies, the Cubans, in the Angolan government forces now locked in yet another bid to crush Unita, reports Gerald L'Ange of Star Africa Service

Angolan peace talks 'largely sham'

Star 18/4/94

(5)

For the past five months Angola's MPLA government and the Unita movement have been engaged in peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, that have every appearance of being serious but may well be largely sham.

The really serious business is being conducted on the battlefield in Angola — where South Africa mercenaries are now fighting in a bizarre change of sides.

While the United Nations-backed negotiations have made some progress, they have failed to reach any agreement that would end the fighting. Neither side has yet reached a point where it would see its interests best served by a political solution. Though ordinary Angolans continue to suffer horribly, neither political party is hurting badly enough to settle.

The MPLA at present has the advantage politically through the international support that followed its declared victory in the 1992 election. It is trying now to seize the military advantage as well.

Unita, increasingly friendless in the world, is now dependent on military successes to give it bargaining power in the negotiations or, alternatively, to fulfil what some analysts believe is the continuing ambition of its leader, Jonas Savimbi, for a partner that would give him control of a new republic in the south.

Undismayed by their long history of failure to smash Unita, the hawks in the MPLA see in the present situation yet another chance to win total victory, even without Cuba's help. They are going all out for a military solution, pushing the doves for the moment into the background.

The hardliners were emboldened by the United States's decision to reorganise the MPLA government and by the international sanctions imposed against Unita. While the sanctions have made it difficult for Unita to get munitions and petrol, the MPLA has been spending millions of dollars of its oil revenue on strengthening its armed forces.

More than R3 500 million is reportedly being spent on buying weaponry from Europe, Brazil and China. The Lisbon newspaper O Independente says the MPLA is in addition buying R350 million worth of missiles and armoured assault vehicles from North Korea.

According to the London newspaper Africa Confidential, R140 million of the MPLA's military expenditure has gone on a contract with the Pretoria-based firm Executive Outcomes to help train commando units in counter-insurgency warfare. It is presumably under this contract that the firm has hired the 500 former SADF soldiers who are now reported to be serving with the MPLA in Angola.

When the South Africans first appeared on the MPLA side they were said to have been engaged only as security guards to protect strategic points such as the oil installations at Soyo (which has since been captured by Unita) and Cabinda, and they certainly were once involved in this way. However, some have recently been reported killed in action in areas far removed from known security points.

Unita said, for instance, that 12 South African mercenaries



Jonas Savimbi... can hold out for years.

were killed on March 16 in an action in Lunda Norte province, between the Loyige and Lusaka rivers, an area far from Soyo or Lusaka. This claim, if true, would indicate the involvement of South African mercenaries in the MPLA's current efforts to drive Unita out of the diamond-mining area of Katifo in Lunda Norte.

Unita says the South Africans are also being used in an offensive against Soyo and that in both areas they are using North Korean weapons, among others. It puts the number of South African mercenaries at 2 000, but this could include Angolans who formerly served with the SADF's 32 Battalion and with Koewev in Namibia.

Executive Outcomes' manager, Leftra Ludington, was recently quoted as saying: "The success that the government soldiers in Angola have had against Unita are undoubtedly due to the South Africans who are involved there." He may have been

referring to training, but the details of the South Africans' involvement that they are doing more than that.

It seems clear that former SADF soldiers who once fought alongside Unita against the MPLA and the Cubans are now fighting against Unita for the MPLA in a combat as well as a training role. In effect, they are doing for the MPLA what the Cubans once did, but on a smaller scale.

Africa Confidential says the new MPLA commando units, 2 000 men strong, are being used in an aggressive strategy, employing long-range reconnaissance and self-sustaining platoons reminiscent of the Rhodesian Scouts.

It might have added that these are equally reminiscent of the SADF Becece units that operated with conspicuous success against the MPLA and Cuban forces in Angola.

The MPLA's current offensive appears to have two main objectives in the north: first to drive Unita out of the Katifo diamond area and so deprive it of what is now its main source of revenue; second, to cut or restrict Unita's supply lines from Zaïre. And in the centre, the aim is to drive Unita out of Huambo, to where it has moved its capital from its former headquarters in the bush at Jamba near the Caprivi Strip.

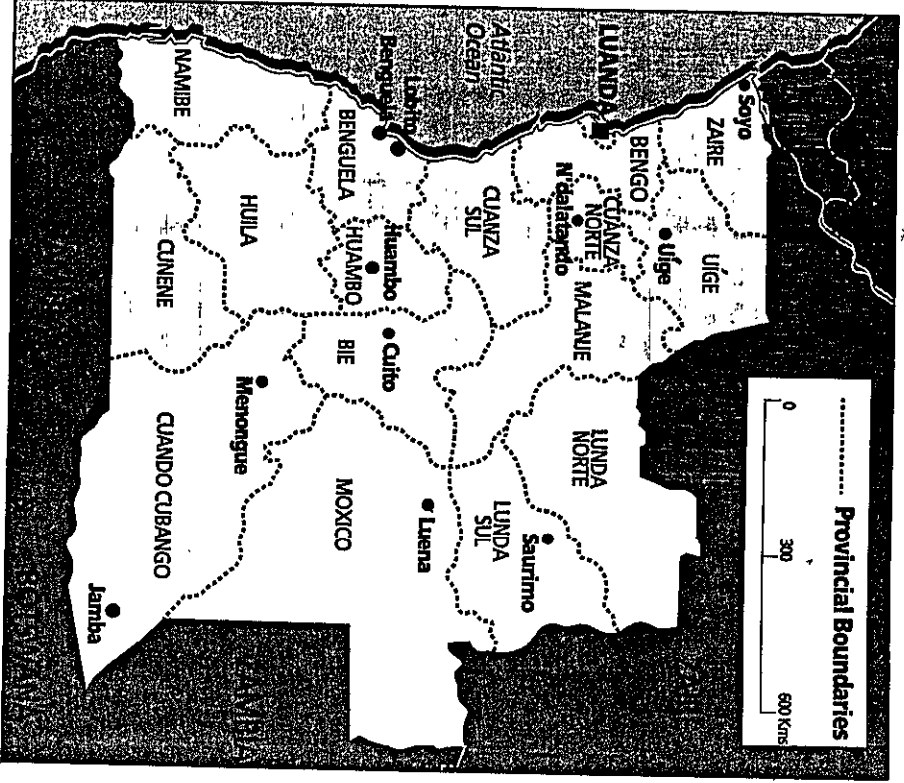
Unita's diamond mining and military operations in Lunda Norte province are at present beyond effective range of MPLA aircraft, and to overcome this disadvantage the MPLA has reportedly been improving the airfield at Santarimo. While Unita is believed to

have enough weaponry to wage a guerrilla war for several more years, it will find it increasingly difficult to take on the MPLA in conventional warfare or to hold the few cities it now controls. The MPLA probably aims at least to drive its enemy back into the bush, lessening its political clout and its ability to demand concessions in the negotiations. The new commando units might be especially useful at this stage.

So far, the MPLA offensive has produced no substantial gains. Nevertheless, Unita's vulnerability to the MPLA tactics may have been exposed when it made important concessions in the negotiations, beginning with an acceptance of the fact, if not the manner, of its defeat in the 1992 election.

Concessions have been made by both sides in the Lusaka talks, and significant progress has been made on military and political issues. But the MPLA has steadfastly rejected Unita's demand for the gerrymandering of the provinces in which it won the majority of votes in the election. Since these include the southern provinces of Huambo, Benguela and Cuando Cubango, the MPLA understandably fears that control of them would enable Unita to succeed.

Never far from the centre of the negotiations is the old problem of how to fit the ambitious and strong-willed Dr Savimbi into a new dispensation that must inevitably be built around a government dominated by the MPLA. But that, too, will probably have to await the outcome of the struggle now being waged on the battlefield.



Angolans sign deal on presidential elections

⑤ ARG 2/14/94

LONDON. — The Angolan government and Unita rebels signed an agreement in principle for holding a new round of presidential elections, Angolan state television reported.

Yesterday's agreement was a rare sign of progress in talks to end Angola's nearly two decades of civil war. There was no sign of a ceasefire in the fighting, however.

Peace talks between the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi's Unita have been going on for six months, with one setback after another.

The document was signed in the presence of observers and the United Nations special representative in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, in Lusaka, the Zambian capital, the television broadcast said.

The accord was on general principles. Negotiations on specific principles concerning election procedures will continue at Lusaka today, the report added.

The broadcast said that the accord covered the "reinstatement of state administration throughout Angola, guarantees of security, freedom of expression for citizens, and resumption of air and ground communications throughout Angola to ensure the free movement of people and goods."

The United Nations will be responsible for monitoring the situation and for declaring whether the right conditions have been created to hold the second round of presidential elections, it reported.

Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi will be the candidates.

Earlier yesterday, the Portuguese news agency Lusa reported that Mr Dos Santos had left Angola for Brazil to attend a secret meeting with Dr Savimbi.

The meeting was to be mediated by UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said the report, quoting an unidentified Angolan government source. — Sapa-AP.

Savimbi waits for Angola to fall into his lap

5
 13M 29
 4-5/5/94

Unita seems confident of the Angolan war's outcome, writes **Jean-Karim Fall** from Huambo

The Washington Post

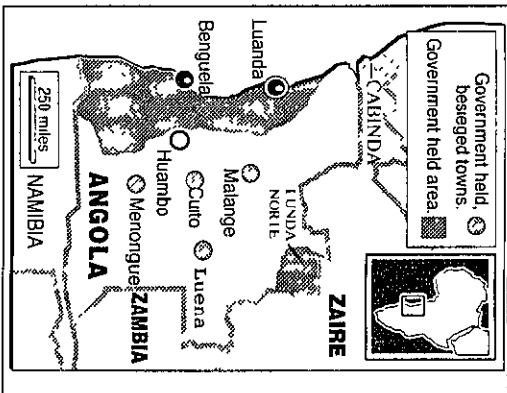
THE Lockheed Electra glided through heavy cloud with all lights out. The altimeter indicated 13,000 feet. The commander, a fiftyish Belgian Air Force veteran, listened nervously to the radio, switching to several frequencies, particularly that used by the Angolan government army which is vainly trying to enforce the September 15 United Nations oil and arms embargo on Unita (Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola).

"Angolan air force MiGs don't normally fly at night," the commander assured us. At 2 am, the pilot reduced speed and prepared to descend. Lights came on abruptly, illuminating the makeshift landing strip 150 km north of Huambo. But they were switched off again as soon as the Lockheed's wheels touched the ground.

In the darkness, silhouetted figures approached. Some 100 Unita soldiers, muffled in vast grey cloaks — the temperature at this time of year on Angola's high plateaux drops to below 10°C — unloaded the plane's cargo in record time. Ten tons of salt, cartons of cooking oil and soap, goods unobtainable in regions under Unita control.

The scene is repeated several times a week. UN Security Council Resolution 864 is blithely ignored and sanctions seem to have no effect on Savimbi's rebel movement. He has hard cash — including dollars.

"I control demand. Angola's demands are in my hands. When you have the money, everybody comes to



you," he said mockingly. He now controls 80 per cent of Angolan territory. Governor Jeronimo Elavoko Wanga of Huambo, the country's second largest city, which fell to the rebels after 55 days of fighting and an official death toll of almost 12,000, also confirmed that UN sanctions were ineffective. Businessmen were pulling out all the stops to get goods through, he said. "The sanctions have penalised the civilian population most, not Unita as a political and military organisation."

Unita officials live in luxurious colonial villas, suffering few shortages. But it is a different story for the city's 500,000 inhabitants, who survive on international aid handouts.

Two C-130s chartered by the Red Cross arrive at Huambo airport every day bringing in maize. In the markets of a city without water, electricity or telephones, barter rules — a chicken for some paraffin, a goat for a bag of sugar. In the diamond mining regions, even uncut stones are exchanged for a few feet of cloth or a kilo of salt, according to an aid organisation employee, who said malnutrition was now acute among children. "A humanitarian disaster has been



Jonas Savimbi: Angola's demands are in my hands'

narrowly averted," said Philippe Lazarini of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which has become the leading employer in this martyred city once known as the "pearl of the Portuguese empire".

"Huambo for political reasons, and today buildings have been torn apart by shells, and once neat pavements are littered with rubble and tripped up by tank treads.

Unita's logistical centre is in Huambo, and the rebels are determined to defend the city and its region. "Nobody will take a single millimetre from me," said Savimbi.

The same assurance was shown by Brigadier General Antonio Manuel Urbano, nicknamed "Chassanha". "If there's one force that can win, it's

ceeded in occupying some localities, they are having problems controlling the surrounding bush. Airlifts are therefore necessary to supply isolated army bases as land routes cannot be used

Unita's military drive has, however, stopped short in Cuito, 180 km from Huambo, where government troops are showing fierce resistance. Since Unita's unilateral ceasefire on September 20, the two sides have eyed each other warily. One employee of a military organisation said they were sharing food supplies air-dropped by the UN and the Angolan government. The same thing is happening in Malange — the last barrier before the capital — which the government is defending tooth and nail, and in Menongue, whose fall would enable Savimbi to control the whole of southeastern Angola.

This is the background against which the Luanda government and Unita have been negotiating in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, under the chairmanship of UN representative Alloune Blondin Beye of Mali. While Beye continues to make optimistic noises about the talks, only a couple of weeks ago UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali expressed his "impatience" and called for fresh momentum.

"I'm optimistic. In a few days we're going to sign the agreement," said Savimbi. "I recognised the elections, but I said they were fraudulent." He added that he challenged the first round on September 29 and 30, 1992 which the United Nations ruled were "free and fair".

"What I'm asking for is a place for the opposition, a framework in which it can express its views," explained the rebel leader. He said he was still a candidate for the second round of the presidential election. "I don't want to make a triumphal return to Luanda as the victor, but I don't want to go there as a slave either."

Vehicles used for recreation banned from SA beaches

□ Damage to ecosystems, nuisance to beachgoers

JOHN YELD
Environment Reporter

VEHICLES have been banned from South African beaches in terms of regulations promulgated by Environment Affairs minister Japie van Wyk.

However, exceptions will be allowed in specially demarcated areas under a permit system.

The regulations, gazetted last week in terms of the Environment Conservation Act, could resolve one of South Africa's most hotly-debated and longest-standing environmental problems.

The regulations apply only to vehicles used for recreation and do not affect those being driven on official business, during emergencies or for approved scientific projects and diamond mining activities.

The introduction to the

schedule of the regulations says that the use of vehicles for recreation in the coastal zone is increasing.

"This use is often associated with increasing damage to coastal ecosystems and historical and palaeontological sites and it diminishes the quality of the recreational experience of other beachgoers.

"The use of vehicles on the beach is an emotional as well as an ecological issue. The local community concerned must be consulted before vehicle access to a beach area is permitted."

Coastal areas which must be closed to vehicles include:

- Bathing areas where facilities have been provided;
- Beach areas adjacent to bathing areas which are used by the public for walking;
- Ecologically sensitive areas such as dunes, estuarine salt marshes adjacent to estu-

aries, estuarine inter-tidal sand and mud flats, bird and turtle nesting sites, beaches with steep gradients "or any other ecologically sensitive area";

● Protected areas specifically established to conserve the coastal environment such as national parks, nature reserves and wilderness areas; and

● Any historical or palaeontological sites falling outside the above-mentioned areas.

According to the regulations, vehicles permitted to use the coast in terms of a permit will have to display additional tokens to aid law enforcement.

The number of access points to demarcated areas must be limited and vehicles will be restricted to the "wet sand" area between the low and high water marks.

This means all access could be banned for a certain time preceding and following high tides.

ARC 4/5/94

Unita loses fierce battle

Sowetan 10/5/94
LISBON — Unita, the Angolan rebel movement, has acknowledged the loss after fierce fighting of Ndalatando, a provincial capital in northwestern Angola.

It has, however, played down the strategic importance of the battle.

Unita said in a statement from Washington at the weekend that the capital of Cuanza North province, 250km east of Luanda, fell to government forces last Wednesday.

But it quoted Unita's representative in the United States, Jardo Muekalia, as saying: "Towns have changed hands often in the course of fighting between the two sides ... neither side can win a military victory.

"The government's taking of Ndalatando does not change the fact that the Angolan conflict can be resolved at the negotiating table," Muekalia said.

Unita radio reported on Sunday that heavy clashes were still taking place in and around Ndalatando, which government radio said was in army hands.

Unita (National Union for the Total Liberation of Angola) has been fighting a bush war since independence from Portugal in 1975. A 1991 peace agreement fell apart after Unita rejected its defeat in UN-supervised elections a year later.

The United Nations has been mediating fresh peace talks between Unita and the government in Lusaka since last November. — *Sapa-Reuter*.



Rwandan refugees at the Beneco camp in Tanzania are given haircuts. About 250 000 refugees are crammed into the camp after fleeing Rwanda's civil war. Picture: AP

Weary and wartorn Kuito waits on talks

B/S ay 11/5/94

KUITO — Three months after the last bullet was fired across the front line in Kuito's divided downtown, fighters on both sides still wait for an end to Angola's 19-year civil war.

Government soldiers and Unita troops chat and joke across the line cutting the city in two. In a few areas cleared of landmines, civilians from both sides organise bicycle races.

Mutual mistrust has snagged peace talks that began last year in Lusaka, Zambia. But in a sign of progress, negotiators for the government and Unita agreed last week to terms for a second round of presidential elections.

Multiparty elections were held in September 1992 as part of a 1991 peace accord, but led to the latest round of fighting. Unita lost the parliamentary ballot and leader Jonas Savimbi trailed incumbent Jose Eduardo dos Santos in the first round of the presidential vote.

Refusing to acknowledge defeat, Savimbi accused the government of fraud and returned to war. International observers said voting was generally fair.

An estimated 100 000 Angolans have died since, bringing the death toll to about half a million since war broke out on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975. Reminders are everywhere of the death and devastation that have made this one of Africa's bloodiest conflicts.

In Kuito, mounds of hundreds of makeshift graves rise haphazardly in the backyards of bombed out, once pretty Portuguese colonial houses in the heart of Angola's fertile central highlands. The jagged facades stand in a landscape of shell, mortar and landmine craters.

"We're tired of war, we just want peace," said one government fighter as he leaned his AK-47 against a stucco facade

on the government side of the front line.

At Unita headquarters, a stone's throw away across the line, the local commander said: "We want peace, but we don't want a traitorous peace."

The 34-year-old brigadier became known on the government side as "Sammy the Terrible" for his troops' reputedly brutal conduct during Unita's siege of Kuito that began in January 1993.

When international aid workers first reached the city, they reported 20 000 people killed and 60 dying daily from starvation, wounds or disease. Food had run out and there were even unconfirmed reports of cannibalism.

Aid flights resumed three weeks ago and are reaching the government controlled airport outside the city. But getting the aid to those who need it is difficult. The strategic map of government and Unita controlled areas looks like a leopard's skin.

All humanitarian food aid reaching the airport is divided in two equal parts. Half leaves the airport in white government vehicles. The other half goes in red Unita vehicles. Government planes continue to drop food, guns and bullets to their troops by parachute. The airdrops often cause sporadic firefights when supplies land between lines in more tense areas.

Unita trucks profit from the lull in fighting to roll up to the front line. They broadcast propaganda and urge government troops to surrender.

At the same time, trade between the two sides goes on, albeit clandestinely. Each day peasants carrying precious firewood approach the front line in a long column. Marching in single file to avoid land mines, the women and children sell the wood, scoured from Unita-held territory, to Unita troops who turn around and sell it to government soldiers. — Sapa-AP.

Star 1215/14

'Solution must be found or no ceasefire'

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
PRETORIA BUREAU

A ceasefire in the Angola conflict could only be implemented if a political solution could be obtained, the country's president, Eduardo dos Santos said in Pretoria yesterday.

Opening the new Angolan embassy, Dos Santos said that he had

not discussed the previous South African government's assistance to Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi when he spoke to President Mandela.

It was hoped that "a government of national reconciliation" could be formed in Angola as soon as possible and that talks towards this were continuing.

The latest round — which involved the Unit-

ed Nations, Portugal, Russia, the US and Namibia — was taking place in Lusaka.

"But one cannot be over-enthusiastic as far as Unita is concerned because they change their stance at various times," Dos Santos said.

Angola expected relations between itself and South Africa to strengthen considerably and that

these would include co-operation in the military field.

He did not expect that Angola would want to purchase weapons but would be looking for peace and co-operation.

Earlier, Dos Santos cut a ribbon at the entrance to the new embassy in the Brooklyn suburb of the city and drank a toast to the new South Africa.

Angolans ducking final solution to weary war

ARG 17/5/94 (5)

LUSAKA. — Peace talks to end nearly two decades of civil war between the Angolan government and Unita rebels are faltering as both sides dodge a lasting solution, diplomats say.

The talks under way in the Zambian capital for the past six months have made little progress in resolving the main issue of Unita's participation in a future administration of the southern African country.

This, and increased activity by both sides on the battlefield, blocks an end to one of Africa's bloodiest civil wars, which has raged almost continuously since 1975 independence from Portugal and has killed tens of thousands of people.

"These talks have stagnated and need some boosting if progress is to be made. Both sides need to re-examine their positions," said one African diplomat.

"There is need for greater flexibility in the interest of national reconciliation and that has always been lacking in Angola."

Political analysts said flexibility was also required from chief UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye, who has insisted that no ceasefire be signed pending a compromise on all political issues.

"This strategy has proved to

be disastrous because there has been continuous fighting inside Angola," said an uncommitted local political observer.

"Maybe it is time the mediation looked at the possibility of having the two sides sign a ceasefire and then continue with national reconciliation."

The war, which has devastated the potentially rich oil-producing country, erupted when the formerly Marxist MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) seized power upon independence.

Accords signed in 1991 brought a brief peace, but fighting resumed after Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) rejected its defeat in UN-supervised elections in late 1992. Various rounds of peace talks since then have all collapsed.

Unita spokesman and negotiator Jorge Valentim said the current problem was that soldiers still wanted to fight.

Western diplomats close to the talks doubt that either side has the political will to negotiate an end to the war.

"The talks are not going anywhere at the moment," said one well-placed diplomat.

"Distrust and hatred run very deep." — Sapa-Reuter.

THIS WEEK

More landmines than Angolans

ANGOLA has more anti-personnel mines than it has people. *S Times 29/5/94*

The International Red Cross is so concerned about the nine million mines in place in the country that it is asking for a worldwide ban on production of mines or steps to curb sales.

Angola is not its only worry. There are an estimated 200-million mines throughout the world and at least half are in place.

By **CHERYLYN IRETON**
in London

The threat to life is serious but the disabling injuries that the mines cause put a permanent strain on society and the economy. They engender a climate of fear and immobilise large areas of land, raising the cost of reconstruction.

In its World Disaster Report the International Committee of the Red Cross says 51 countries have post-conflict mine problems.

In Angola, it warns, there is a real potential for a rapid increase in the impact of mines. Already one out of every 470 Angolans has had a limb amputated. This is double the level of Mozambicans and five times higher than in Vietnam.

The report says three clinical patterns emerge from mine injuries. Mines set off by foot pressure blow away the foot when the charge is small and the lower leg or lower legs with a larger charge. Amputation is often required.

Other characteristics are multiple fragment

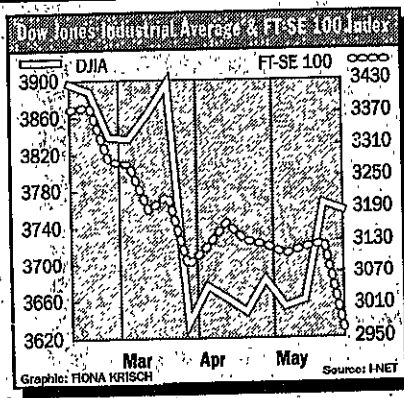
wounds and upper limb, chest and face damage caused by handling. Dirt is often forced into the wounds, making surgery and treatment difficult.

In Angola, where the mines are planted in rural areas, first aid is usually available within two to six hours and the waiting time for hospital treatment is around 36 hours.

A recent study shows private companies and government agencies in at least 37 countries manufacture mines. More than 20 are exporters.

● *Reuter* quotes Unita leaders as saying that talks to end the civil war have yet to resolve the issue of what role Unita will have in a new government.

"We expected that the government would give us some information on this to show us where we stand, but we have been waiting for two months now for a response and up to today there is no formal reply," Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim said.



FRIDAY'S
DJ IA CLOSE:
3757,14

FRIDAY'S
FT-SE 100
CLOSE:
2966,4

FRIDAY'S
NEW YORK
GOLD CLOSE:
\$384,70

YESTERDAY'S
HONG KONG
GOLD CLOSE:
\$384,85

Unita rebels still to approve

Angola govt agrees to UN peace plan

Star 11/6/94

New York— The Angolan government, after months of negotiations, has agreed to a key plan on rebel representation in a new administration, said UN officials yesterday.

Blondin Beye, the UN mediator conducting peace talks in Lusaka, Zambia, has received "unconditional acceptance by the Angolan government on the distribution of government offices", one envoy said.

The officials were briefing the Security Council shortly before it was to renew the UN mission in Angola for three months.

The Lusaka talks, aimed at ending nearly two decades of fighting, began six months ago and were stalled over the question of representation in a new government by the rebel Unita movement.

The power-sharing plan was first submitted to the current government for ap-

FIGHTING spreads in central region as relief workers come under fire from both sides (5)

proval and will now be presented to Unita.

An initial peace agreement in 1991 fell apart after Unita lost UN-supervised elections in 1992.

But yesterday, UN planes trying to evacuate relief workers from the bitterest battle zones came under fire from both government and Unita forces as fighting spread in central Angola.

Fierce artillery and bombing attacks since the weekend forced the UN to suspend humanitarian aid operations to the major cities of Malanje, Cuito and Huambo, and to

evacuate staff, said World Food Programme spokesman Mercedes Sayagues.

Despite granting safe passage, rebel troops encircling government-held Malanje shelled the airport as relief workers sprinted for the clearly marked UN plane.

Hours later, government fighter jets bombed the rebel-held city of Huambo in the central highlands during another evacuation mission.

And rebel artillery has killed 125 people and wounded at least 300 more in a five-day barrage of Cuito.

State radio said Monday's attack on Cuito was as fierce as the worst days of last year's battle for Huambo, which the rebels captured after two months of fighting.

The UN calculates that more than 500 000 Angolans have been killed in all — 150 000 in the past 18 months alone. — Sapa-Reuter-AP.

Bloody battles as UN warns Angola

Star 216194
Luanda — Government forces struck at a key petroleum production centre and at Unita rebel headquarters as an offensive gathered force despite a warning that the UN is losing patience with the war in Angola, a government military official said yesterday.

Fighter planes bombed rebel positions near Soyo, 300 km north of Luanda, the capital, as the government pushed to retake the city that was a centre of Angola's onshore oil production, the official said. (5)

Fleeing refugees confirmed the report, telling of bloody battles around Soyo.

Bombs also fell on Unita's headquarters city of Huambo, 530 km south-east of Luanda, the official said.

Both the government and rebels are staging major offensives in the bitter civil war in defi-

ance of a strong UN warning and the possibility of reaching peace accords after seven months of peace in Lusaka, Zambia.

On Tuesday, the UN Security Council warned: "The patience of the international community is wearing thin."

The council voted to extend the UN mandate in Angola for another month. Most of the 80 UN personnel there are unarmed military observers.

But the UN, frustrated by nearly two years of fruitless mediation, said it would consider ending its mission in Angola and withdrawing peacekeepers if there was no progress.

The peace talks in Lusaka have resolved all but two issues — rebel representation in the government; and legalisation of the rebels' underground radio station, the Voice of the Black Cockrel. — Sapa-AP.

2/INTERNATIONAL

Unita tightens grip on Angolan cities

Victoria Britain

HEAVY fighting has spread in Angola as Unita tightened its sieges of key cities and government forces retaliated with a bombing raid on its headquarters at Huambo in the Central Highlands.

The intensified fighting reflects Unita's attempt to gain a quick military advantage against the background of increasing isolation since the South African elections cut off one of its sources of supplies and support. Unita is also under pressure from the United States to accept government concessions offered in peace talks which resumed in the Zambian

capital, Lusaka, this week.

In the city of Cuito, in the Central Highlands, the World Food Programme (WFP) manager, Hans Peter Vokler, and a team from Médecins Sans Frontières have spent almost a week holed up in the International Committee of the Red Cross bunker.

In a radio report they said there were few hills in the Unita shelling, and that the situation was very serious for civilians in the small government-held area. "There are a lot of wounded and we are running out of medicines," the report said. The WFP food store has been hit and what food there was left destroyed.

Unita artillery has killed 125 people and wounded at least 300 more in a

five-day barrage of Cuito, Angolan radio reported. There has been no clearance from either side for the United Nations to attempt an evacuation.

Despite a promised safe passage, a clearly marked white UN plane trying to evacuate relief workers from the encircled town of Malange came under fire from Unita artillery on Tuesday and aid workers had to sprint across the tarmac before it took off hastily.

In what aid officials described as a fit-for-tat response, government planes bombed the airstrip at Huambo, minutes after another UN plane touched down. The staff of Save the Children Fund, Caritas and WFP

were brought out successfully.

Twelve days of bombardment of Malange by Unita have prevented food deliveries. Aid officials warn that the shortage is so critical that women are likely to begin looking for food in the heavily mined fields outside the city.

"The casualty rate will rise again to the hundreds of casualties we saw before the massive aid operation started late last year," an aid official said.

Late on Tuesday, the Security Council unanimously approved extending the mandate of the 80-member UN mission in Angola, but for one month, not the three requested. The council said it would reconsider the role of the mission if a peace agree-

ment was not reached in Lusaka by the time the new UN mandate expired. The talks, under UN auspices, have been going on unsuccessfully for six months.

The government has offered Unita four cabinet positions, two deputy ministers and three provincial governors' posts. It has also agreed to reintegrate Unita troops into the government army.

The future status of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi is still undecided, and the official suggestion by the UN that a second round of elections could be held is considered unrealistic by aid agencies whose work is paralysed by the war.

As an additional lever, against Unita, the Security Council reiterated previous threats to consider trade and travel restrictions on Unita, in addition to the largely ineffective arms and fuel embargo imposed last September.

SWM 3-9/6/94

All Unita MPs to take up seats

Star 13/6/94

Lusaka — The Angolan government and rebel Unita movement agreed in the Zambian capital Lusaka on Saturday that Unita would take up all 70 parliamentary seats it had won in the 1992 general election, sources close to the talks said.

"In the context of national reconciliation, all the first 70 deputies elected on the list of Unita candidates in the September 1992 legislative elections shall be installed in their functions in the National Assembly," a document approved by the two warring factions, but ob-

tained from the sources, said.

"All the deputies in the National Assembly shall enjoy the rights, freedoms, guarantees, immunities and privileges provided for by the law," it added. (5)

Unita, which had rejected the results of the 1992 United Nations-supervised election, had taken up only 10 seats in the National Assembly, arguing that this had been forced on it by the government, which had arrested some members of parliament after fighting broke out over the poll results.

There are a total of 220 members of parliament in the two-tier — provincial and national — assembly.

The two sides are expected to continue discussing Unita's participation in the country's administration and the status of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

Angola's civil war erupted after the southern African nation's independence from Portugal in 1975. A brief peace following 1991 accords ended when Unita rejected defeat in the election in late 1992. — Sapa-Reuter.

Furious assault by Unita guns

Angolan city left in flames by barrage

Star 16/6/94

Luanda — Government troops were holding out yesterday against a furious rebel artillery barrage that has killed dozens of people and left the encircled city of Cuito in flames, national radio reported from the city.

Hand-to-hand battles broke out on the city's southern extreme where penned-in government troops were trying to prevent a rebel breakthrough.

"The city is in flames and Unita has not let up on the shelling," said a radio correspondent.

The correspondent estimated 50 civilians had been killed by artillery fire since the weekend.

The rebel onslaught against the city, 670 km south-east of Angola's capital of Luanda, was reportedly the fiercest since major offensives resumed a month ago.

The World Food Programme announced yesterday that it had suspended all relief flights to Angola earlier this week following the renewed fighting.

This means at least 1.4 million people dependent on food from the WFP are now stranded. The most hard-pressed cities were Cuito, Huambo and Malange. The last relief flights took place

RENEWED fighting forces abandonment of food aid on which 1.4 million people depend, but peace talks progress (5)

on Saturday.

Manuel Aranda da Silva, the UN's humanitarian aid director in Angola, was scheduled to fly to the rebels' central highlands headquarters yesterday to try to win security guarantees from the rebels so that emergency aid flights could resume.

Revenue

Fighting was also reported on six other fronts, one of them a critical oil enclave where rebels had formed an alliance with guerrillas of the Cabinda Liberation Front/Armed Forces of Cabinda (FLEC/FAC) and attacked government positions in the northern Cabinda enclave, a military official said.

Virtually all the government's revenue comes from Cabinda, the enclave wedged between

Zaire and Congo where American petroleum company Chevron runs a 310 000 barrels-a-day pumping operation.

Unita keeps its own war chest flush with revenue from occupied diamond fields in northern Angola.

The military official said the government military had deployed its top commando unit to reinforce Cabinda.

Although the armed separatist group FLEC/FAC reckons its forces only in the dozens, compared to the rebels' estimated 60 000-strong army, their collaboration gives Unita vital ease of movement through the Cabinda jungles.

Meanwhile, rebel artillery battered the besieged city of Malanje, 350 km south-east of Luanda, and battles flared around rebel territory in diamond-rich Lunda-Sul province, along coastal Benguela, southern Cunene and central Huambo provinces.

The renewed fighting comes as government and rebel negotiators in Lusaka, Zambia, were reportedly making rapid progress towards a settlement to end the war that has been raging since 1975. — Sapa-AP.

Angolan warriors defy UN peace bid

LUANDA. — A United Nations envoy pursued peace efforts in Angola amid a surge in fighting in the nearly 20-year war between the government and Unita rebels.

UN special representative Alioune Blondin Beye was in the capital Luanda to consult government officials after meeting rebel leaders in their central highland headquarters of Huambo on Saturday.

No details were available of either meeting but diplomats in Luanda expressed scepticism about prospects for peace.

Fighting has increased across the country in recent weeks, including renewed government bombing of Huambo.

State-run radio said rebel shelling killed 39 civilians in the besieged government-held town of Cuito yesterday. It said the situation was critical in the northern city of N'dalatando after four days of heavy fighting in which more than 100 civilians were killed.

"It seems surreal," a senior aid official in Luanda said. "What they are talking about in Lusaka and what I am seeing on the ground here are two different realities."

The two sides have been meeting in the Zambian capital Lusaka for seven months.

Some diplomats see the intensified fighting as an attempt by both sides to gain as much ground as possible before a peace deal is signed.

Others believe neither side is truly committed to the peace process and is instead intent on pursuing the military option.

"I just don't see the basis for a smooth agreement," a Western diplomat said.

The government launched an offensive in the north after recapturing N'dalatando city earlier this month, moving slowly towards oil and diamond areas held by Unita. — Reuter

Surge in Angolan fighting

⑤ CT 20/6/74
LUANDA. — A UN envoy pursued peace efforts in Angola yesterday amid a surge in fighting in the nearly 20-year war between the government and Unita rebels.

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Hopes high ⁽⁵⁾ for Angola peace talks

APR 22/6/94

□ Scores die in renewed fighting

LUSAKA. — Angolan peace talks resumed with diplomats saying rival negotiators from the ruling MPLA and Unita appear set to resolve the issue of power-sharing still blocking the seven-month peace process.

But as hopes rose for a breakthrough, intensified fighting left civilians in dozens of places across the country without aid and in the firing line.

The fresh round of negotiations began yesterday after UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye met Unita and government leaders in Luanda and Huambo at the weekend.

A western diplomatic source said: "Mr Beye appears to have received good news and before they went into their meeting both sides looked ready for a positive result."

Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim said the envoy's meeting with rebel leader Jonas Savimbi centred on two issues — Unita participation in government and escalating war.

Mr Valentim said Dr Savimbi told Mr Beye he could expect an answer on power-sharing before the end of the month, after he had consulted fellow leaders.

"Our leader considers the negotiations here positive with only 10 percent left and encourages the finishing of the remaining points as soon as possible," said Mr Valentim.

In principle, the agenda is virtually exhausted, but the two sides still have to deal with the modalities of national reconciliation.

Under pressure from the in-

■ Unita attacked a United Nations food aid convoy in central Angola yesterday, destroying 15 lorries and wounding an Angolan aid worker. The World Food Programme said the convoy of 20 lorries was attacked as it moved inland from the central port of Lobito towards the town of Bocoio.

ternational community, the foes have little time left to iron out the problems.

The mandate of the UN mission in Angola, UNAVEM II, expires on June 30 and diplomats close to the talks said coming days will be critical.

Meanwhile, official radio said 15 people were killed in Cuito yesterday and 50 more died in the hotly contested provincial capital of Ndalatando, 200km east of Luanda, on Monday and yesterday.

For days, Unita artillery has been pounding Ndalatando

Unita's Radio Vorgan said government forces had shelled the Kapindi-Kamulemba district in the Luanda-Sul diamond field, killing 50 civilians.

It claimed Unita had shot down a government military helicopter and destroyed 10 armoured vehicles near Ndalatando.

The civilian death toll from the bitter civil war is rising. Fierce battles have for almost a month prevented the supply of international food aid to Malanje and Uige in the north, and Cuito and Huambo in the central highlands. Malnutrition is affecting most children in Huambo, said Radio Vorgan. — Sapa-AFP-AP.

Angola peacebrokers call in Mandela

LUSAKA — President Mandela is to meet the United Nations Angolan peace mediator and Russian and Portuguese observers in Cape Town today to discuss ways to end the Angolan civil war.

“Yes, we are travelling to Africa”, UN mediator and UN chief Beve said yesterday to discuss the Angolan government and UN since last November.

A source close to the peace talks said Mr. Beve and the observers would meet Mr. Mandela to discuss how to

and UN officials welcomed the visit and said they saw Mr. Mandela as having a role in finding a solution to the negotiations.

“Since South Africa has started well June 30 deadline for a peace agreement, but fighting for a peace agreement, UN Security Council has set a deadline for a peace agreement.”

The UN envoy seeks ‘special boost’ in resolving its critical problems, it should play a positive role in the pacification of the rest of southern Africa,” said UN spokesman Jorge Valentim.

“As we see the situation of Angola, it needs a special boost from Mr. Mandela, and Angolans should believe they have every solution. They need help from other leaders.”

“This is a recognition that Mr. Mandela was wise in resolving the South African problem.”

South Africa was deeply involved in the Angolan civil war in the 1980s, backing UNITA in its fight against the Angolan government and Cuban forces. The time was primarily spent in the South West Africa, concerned at the time to defend its position in the South African West Africa.

South Africa pulled its troops out of Namibia in 1990 and the withdrawal of its army from the province of Angola led to the government of power-sharing over its stronghold, the central highlands of Huambo.

Mr. Valentim said it was important that UN leaders should also meet with Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos at the Organisation of African Unity summit in Tunis.

A spokesman for the Luanda government said Mr. Mandela could help to resolve the Angolan crisis.

The two groups are deadlocked over the question of power-sharing, with the government of power-sharing over the province of Huambo.

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Mandela for Angolan talks

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela agreed yesterday to meet Angolan leaders in a bid to end that country's 19-year-old civil war.

This surprise move followed a meeting at Tuynhuys with the UN's chief peace broker on the Angolan conflict, Dr Maitre Beye.

Mr Mandela and Dr Beye told a press conference after their meeting that the end of the

Angola conflict could bring significant economic benefits to South Africa and the rest of the sub-continent.

However, Mr Mandela expressed reservations about South Africa becoming intimately involved in the dispute, saying he did not want to appear to be "taking over" peace initiatives launched by other countries.

But after representations from

Dr Beye and ambassadors to Zambia from the US, Russia and Portugal, he agreed to throw his weight behind the faltering Lusaka-driven peace initiative.

He said he had agreed to meet Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi for the first time and could send an envoy to liaise with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, with whom he has discussed the Angolan crisis several times.

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ACT 24/6/94
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UN proposes tougher curbs against Unita

NEW YORK — Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali proposed yesterday that the Security Council tighten sanctions against Unita in Angola if they fail to accept United Nations peace proposals already agreed to by the Angolan government.

The additional sanctions would include a trade embargo against Unita (the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) and travel restrictions on its key members.

The recommendation was made to the council suggesting a three-month extension of the mandate of the 30-member UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem II), which for the past seven months has been trying to broker an accord between the two sides at talks in Lusaka.

The council extended Unavem II's last mandate for only one month, until June 30 in a bid to speed the negotiations. They are struggling over the extent of Unita's participation in government affairs. The main problem is Unita's insistence on the post of governor of the province of Huambo.

Mr Boutros-Ghali said if Unita "persists in its refusal to accept in their entirety the proposals which the government has already accepted, the council could consider implementation of measures" threatened, but not imposed, when it enacted an arms and oil embargo against Unita last September.

If Unita gave an "unequivocally positive response to the proposals," the council would not for the time being impose those further measures, but would again declare its readiness to consider doing so if developments required.

"At the time of writing, it is not yet possible to say that both sides have demonstrated the necessary political will to reach a comprehensive peace agreement, although they are probably closer to such an agreement than they have been since implementation of the Bicesse Accords broke down in late 1992," the secretary-general said.

He was referring to a peace agreement ending 16 years of civil war which Unavem II was set up to help implement but which broke down when Unita refused to accept defeat in UN-supervised elections in September 1992.

Mr Boutros-Ghali said if agreement was reached in Lusaka, he would immediately send a reconnaissance mission to Angola to make recommendations on reintroducing Unavem II.

It had an authorised strength of some 350 military observers, more than 100 police and additional support personnel but was sharply reduced early last year after heavy fighting again erupted.

Mr Boutros-Ghali said the military situation in Angola continued to be a cause of serious concern. — Reuter

Mandela cautious on peace moves

APR 25 | 6/94

World powers are now counting on the "Mandela magic" which helped bring peace to South Africa to do the same for war-torn Angola, but frontline observers of the conflict are divided on the chances of success.

TOS WENZEL
Diplomatic Correspondent

In a desperate bid to end the conflict in Angola, the world has turned to African "messiah" President Nelson Mandela for help.

Mr Mandela has agreed to try to make a contribution to the peace efforts and has agreed to meet the leaders in the conflict, President Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

He announced this at Tymburgs this week after a meeting with the United Nations mediator in Angola Altonne Blondin Beye and the US, Portuguese and Russian ambassadors in Zambia who are involved in the efforts to bring about peace in Angola.

Mr Mandela indicated that he and the government were somewhat reluctant about getting involved. "We do not want to appear to be taking over initiatives which have been started by other countries in Africa." Observers are none too hopeful that he can put it off.

Mr Mandela revealed that he had discussed the situation several times with Dr Dos Santos, but he had not yet met Dr Savimbi. It was possible that he would meet both in South Africa or send an envoy to Dr Dos Santos.

One western diplomat, in a telephone interview with



ANGOLAN TALKS: President Mandela greets the United Nations' chief mediator in Angola Altonne Blondin Beye. Mr Beye was in Cape Town to discuss the mediation role Mr Mandela can play in the Angolan war.

Agence France Presse from the Angolan capital said: "He is an important figure in the region, a man of great stature. Top-level representatives of the government and the rebel Unita movement have been talking peace in Lusaka for nearly eight months."

Nine killed as shells hit Angolan clinic

LUANDA. — At least nine civilians were killed when shells hit a medical clinic during fighting between government troops and Unita rebels in the central city of Cuito, government radio reported.

The radio gave no indication of who was responsible for the shells yesterday.

They have reached agreement on a number of issues, but the fighting has continued — and has recently escalated. Another western observer who has been closely involved in relief efforts in the war-torn country is pessimistic about Mr Mandela's chances.

"There are two reasons," she said, asking that she not be identified. "Firstly, although the (white-minority) South African government used to support Unita, it no longer does, so Mr Mandela cannot threaten to cut off supplies.

"Secondly, if the UN is banking on Mr Mandela's charisma, they've got no chance. I don't think even the Virgin Mary or Jesus Christ would work on Savimbi. He only wants peace on his own terms."

Another difficulty in the way of successful mediation is that Mr Mandela has said he would like to meet Dr Savimbi in South Africa, while diplomats point out that the Unita leader rarely leaves his headquarters in the central Angolan city of Huambo.

Even if Mr Mandela were prepared to risk visiting the ravaged city, a UN agreement said heads of state should not do so because this would accord Huambo the status of a second Angolan capital.

"I think Beye is desperate. He's looking for Mandela to work a miracle," the aid expert said.

One thing in Mr Mandela's favour, say sources close to the Angolan government, is that his offer to see Dr Savimbi will soothe the rebel leader's ego, which has been hurt in the past by the refusal of other African heads of state to talk to him.

Canadians on Clinton hits at

INTERNATIONAL

The Argus

Besieged Cuito staring at catastrophe as supplies run short

LUANDA. — A resumption of heavy fighting in the besieged central Angolan town of Cuito has left it with hundreds of wounded and insufficient food or medical supplies, Red Cross officials said.

Two Swiss delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Cuito said in a radio interview the town was on the verge of catastrophe. "Food is completely out and medical

supplies as well," said ICRC delegate Dominique Henry.

"Apparently some people have died from lack of food and, of course, no medicine," he said.

Unconfirmed reports say that between 25 000 and 50 000 people have been trapped in a government-held area of Cuito, by Unita rebels since the beginning of last year.

The Angolan conflict has raged al-

most continually since the country's independence from Portugal in 1975. A fragile peace accord collapsed when Unita leader Jonas Savimbi rejected defeat in the country's first multiparty elections in 1992.

The Red Cross delegates said Unita and Angolan forces were firing at each other from neighbouring buildings in Cuito, just metres apart.

Delegates said they had decided to

remain in reinforced bunkers in Cuito when nine relief workers were evacuated by a UN plane three weeks ago.

Sanitation engineer Nicholas Randin said hygiene in Cuito had become a major problem with so many people in concentrated areas and the lack of water.

"The problems are especially in terms of access to water ... civilians have been killed by snipers when going to fetch water. — Reuter.

27/6/94

Diamond smugglers could foil Angolan reconstruction scheme

GARNER THOMSON
The Argus Foreign Service

LONDON. — Advisers to the Angolan government have put forward a \$25 billion (R90 billion) five-year reconstruction plan based on foreign sales of oil and diamonds.

But Luanda will have to confront the growing problem of diamond smuggling, which, it is estimated, is costing the country at least \$500 million a year.

2
FAR 28/6/94

The plan outlined in the latest issue of the London-based financial and political bulletin, Africa Analysis — depends even more heavily on oil, which already provides 90 percent of Angola's foreign earnings.

In spite of the war and Unita's attacks on key installations, oil output has been little affected. Output, controlled by Chevron, Elf and Texaco, amounts to about 500 000 barrels a day. Development of more fields by Elf is

expected to yield up to 250 000 barrels a day.

But, warns Africa Analysis, "the speed of development over the next few years must depend on Angola's political outlook and the perceived reliability of deals now in force between the Luanda government and the foreign oil companies."

The continuing failure of peace talks has reinforced the fear that the government of President Eduardo dos Santos

may disintegrate under renewed Unita attacks, leading to total anarchy.

Oil and diamonds, Angola's second natural asset, will drive at least half of the reconstruction plan.

"But there is a strong belief that any future government will now find it almost impossible to rein in the local miners, whose stones are now flooding into Europe," according to Africa Analysis.

Plan on crises in Angola, Lesotho

CT 29/6/94

Political Staff

SOUTH AFRICA has been formulating contingency plans with frontline states in case armed intervention in either Lesotho or Angola is needed.

Disclosing this, Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise said the SANDF was "always in a state of readiness".

Talks had been held with the frontline states, and "we are waiting to get instructions", he said. Earlier, he said South Africa did not intend sending combat troops or support personnel to Rwanda.

Replying to a question from DP Senator Mr Errol Moorcott, he said the government was committed to supporting "all mediation and other efforts by the international community to ensure a peaceful and lasting solution to the problems of Rwanda".

He said the government would donate humanitarian aid such as emergency food, medical supplies and other relief items as specified by the UN.

Mr Modise said the government was negotiating with the UN about the possible lease of 50 armoured personnel carriers for use by UN forces in Rwanda.

Asked by Senator Moorcott whether the government might reconsider if the genocide in Rwanda continued, the minister said "we have problems here at home and need to concentrate on them." "I think the Rwanda situation will be taken care of by forces from the UN and France."



REFUGEE CAMP . . . Hutu militiamen patrol the grounds of the Santa Famille Church in Kigali, which has become a crowded camp for refugees of Rwanda's civil war. The gunmen are feared by the minority Tutsis and have been accused of massacring refugees.

Picture: AP

OJ judge asked to veto TV bid

LOS ANGELES. — Both sides in the O J Simpson murder case on Monday requested the judge to prevent NBS Television from broadcasting evidence relating to a beating Simpson gave his then-wife Nicole, 35, in 1989.

They asked Judge Ray Hart not to release a sealed envelope containing the police investigation report, letters to the court from a

psychiatrist and photographs taken of Nicole Simpson immediately after the hearing.

In a separate development, the Los Angeles district attorney filed a motion asking that Simpson, the former football great, who faces charges of murdering his ex-wife, and Mr Ronald Goldman, 25, provide a hair sample to see if it matches hair found at the crime scene.

Simpson has pleaded not guilty to stabbing the two to death on June 13.

A judge scheduled an emergency hearing for 9am yesterday on a defence request that prosecutors make blood samples and other evidence available for examination and photography. The hearing will decide if there is enough evidence for a full trial.

— Sapa-Reuter

UN to threaten new sanctions against

... but Jonas Savimbi says there will be 'no further concessions'

NEW YORK — The United Nations Security Council will today threaten to impose further sanctions on the Unita rebels in Angola unless they accept by July 31 UN-backed proposals for power-sharing already agreed to by the Angolan government.

A draft resolution worked out during private consultations yesterday will also extend the mandate of the 80-member UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem) until September 30.

The UN secretary-general's special representative for Angola, Alloune Blondin Beye of Mali, has been trying for seven months to broker an accord between Unita and the Angolan government at talks in Lusaka, the Zambian capital.

The government has already accepted proposals for power-sharing and national reconciliation and the main point of contention is Unita's insistence on the governorship of Huambo province, the movement's stronghold.

The Security Council, which imposed an oil and arms embargo on Unita last September to force it to the negotiating table, has several times threatened to add a trade ban and slap travel restrictions on key Unita members.

In today's resolution, the council declares its determination to impose additional measures against Unita if by July 31 Unita has not formally accepted the complete set of proposals on national reconciliation.

"The peace talks in Lusaka are the latest since a 1991 accord ending 16 years of civil war broke down after Unita refused to accept defeat in UN-supervised elections held in September 1992.

30/6/94

The Angolan government said in Luanda yesterday that its troops had taken control of the central highland city of Cuito, ending an 18-month siege by Unita rebels.

Angolan state-run radio reported from the shattered city that the barricades that had divided Cuito between rebel and government sides for many months were no longer in place.

"The barricades which divided the city ceased to exist from yesterday." — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita

Situation in Angola worsens

LUANDA, Angola. — In spite of government military gains and diplomatic efforts to end a brutal civil war, disease and famine are spreading as humanitarian aid to embattled zones in Angola remains suspended.

In a joint statement released yesterday, relief agencies in the Angolan capital, Doctors Without Borders, Oxfam and Save the Children, said at least 20 people died daily and more than 500 were wounded in the central highland city of Kuito.

Kuito has not had relief supplies since late May.

In the rebel headquarters of Huambo, an estimated 700 000

people lived without the humanitarian assistance, the release said.

The group called for "respect for the neutrality and impartiality of humanitarian assistance" and "an immediate halt in the shelling which is devastating the civilian population".

A senior official of the World Food Project (WFP), speaking on condition of anonymity, said relief flights to some safe zones have restarted.

The government said yesterday that an air force relief flight was able to land at Malanje airport in spite of coming under fire from

Unita.

5 APR 23/94
But hopes for re-establishing the full relief operation were only "guardedly optimistic," said the WFP official.

"In the places we can reach now we are trying to deliver a buffer stock in the event that the flights are again grounded," the official said.

"That might come after July 7."

President Nelson Mandela is scheduled to meet the Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Cape Town on Monday to discuss the war-torn nation's peace process. — Sapa-AP

AFRICA

Mandela leads bid to strike Angolan peace deal

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — South Africa dons its regional power cap here tomorrow when President Mandela steps into the chair and tries to broker a peace deal for Angola.

Officials expect three other presidents besides Mr Mandela to be at the talks in the Union Buildings.

Angola's President Jose

Eduardo dos Santos and President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique will arrive tomorrow morning. President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire has also indicated he will be present.

This South African-led bid to break the stalemate in the Angolan peace talks is at the behest of United Nations mediator Alouine Blondin Beye.

It is understood that a major sticking point in the negotia-

tions involves rebel leader Jonas Savimbi's desire to become governor of Huambo, which is controlled by his Unjita movement.

The Angolan government appears unwilling to grant this.

Dr Savimbi, having seen how he lost the 1992 election, appears to have opted for plan B, said a diplomatic source. This push for a regional option is

not unlike the stance of Mangosuthu Buthelezi in South Africa.

Tomorrow's talks are not expected to yield a final solution. After meeting through the morning, the presidents and their delegations will have a working lunch. They might have an opportunity to speak to the media before leaving tomorrow night. There is no plan to extend this session beyond tomorrow.

(S) ARG 6/7/94

Angola: Mandela meets presidents

5 CT 7/7/94

JOHANNESBURG. — President Nelson Mandela will hold meetings in Pretoria today with the presidents of Angola, Zaire and Mozambique before a plenary session aimed at ending Angola's civil war, the president's office said yesterday.

The talks involve Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos, Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi will not be present. Diplomatic sources expect Mr Mobutu to convey the sentiments of Dr Savimbi, who receives substantial support from Zaire.

Mr Mandela's office said the talks were to help find a peaceful settlement to the Angolan conflict, with specific reference to relations between Angola and Zaire. — Sapa

Mandela asks Unita leader to peace talks

5 JUL 7/7/94

□ Savimbi's team here next week

PRETORIA. — Unita leader Jonas Savimbi will be invited to South Africa for talks with Nelson Mandela aimed at ending the Angolan civil war, a spokesman for the president, Mr Joel Netshitenzhe, said today.

A Unita advance team would be in South Africa next week to prepare for the Unita leader's visit, he added.

Dr Savimbi is not attending a summit today between Mr Mandela, Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko, Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The summit started with a meeting between Mr Mandela and Mr Chissano before the other leaders joined them.

Mr Mandela has joined a United Nations-sponsored peace effort aimed at ending the 19-year civil war in Angola.

A draft agreement ending the conflict by offering power sharing to Dr Savimbi is on the table. If it is not accepted by July 31, the UN will impose sanctions on Unita.

This could involve a blockade of Unita supply lines, a development which could have major repercussions for Mr Sese Seko, whose state is Dr Savimbi's staunchest ally and provides him with logistical and military support.

The Pretoria talks are aimed

■ The Internal Stability Unit moved on to the Union Buildings lawns today to keep Zairean protesters away from the Angola summit. About 150 members of Zaire's opposition Union for Democracy and Social Progress chanted and danced to demonstrate their opposition to the invitation of President Mobutu Sese Seko to the talks.

at pressuring Mr Sese Seko — who rules with an iron fist and who has resisted calls to surrender power to a democratic regime — to withdraw his support for Dr Savimbi.

In return, he will avoid the spillover effects of sanctions on Unita and boost his depleted international respectability.

Mr Sese Seko was expected to detail the Unita leader's case at today's summit and convey its conclusions to him.

A diplomatic source said the UN-sponsored draft agreement, which provides for power-sharing, a regionally devolved form of government and shared diplomatic postings, was close to being accepted by Dr Savimbi and Mr Dos Santos.

"All that is lacking is a bit of political will," he said. "The hope is that Mr Mandela can use his personal ability to try to make both parties see the usefulness in the agreement."

The summit is Mr Mandela's first intervention in peace-making efforts in Africa. Sapa.

Mandela in bid to end Angolan war

⑤ CT8/7794
PRETORIA. — President Nelson Mandela's first attempt at peacemaking in Africa ended in apparent success yesterday when the Angolan and Zairean governments agreed to meet to discuss an end to the Angolan civil war.

Although Mr Mandela stressed he was not acting alone but in support of the UN peace initiative, he managed to get the Angolan and Zairean leaders to agree to meet after chairing a meeting between them at the Union Buildings here yesterday.

Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano also attended yesterday's talks.

Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos and Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko will meet after preparations have been made by a joint defence and security commission.

Relations between the MPLA government of Mr Dos Santos and the government of Mr Mobutu have bordered on hostile in the past few years.

The relations have been embittered by the massacre of Zairean refugees by MPLA-aligned militias in Luanda after Angolan elections in September, 1992, and Angolan claims that Zaire was massing its troops on their common border in preparation for an invasion.

In retaliation, Mr Mobutu has openly supported Unita in the Angolan war.

Preparations were being made for Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi to travel to SA and meet Mr Mandela, a spokesman for the president said. — Sapa

Hard work begins on peace in Angola

5
AUG 8/7/94

□ Leaders' Pretoria summit ends with tense smiles

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Officials in South Africa, Angola, Zaire and Mozambique knuckle down to the hard work today of forging peace in Angola after their leaders' successful summit ended with tense smiles in Pretoria.

Immediately in prospect are two sets of talks at official level between Unita and South Africa and between Angola and Zaire. These will lead to further summits.

President Mandela's peace-brokering debut achieved its limited objective yesterday of getting presidents Jose

Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire talking again.

The massacre of Zairean refugees in Angola and Zaire's support for the rebel Unita movement have soured these relations.

Not only did the Angolan and Zairean leaders sit down face-to-face in Pretoria yesterday, but they agreed to revive meetings of their joint Defence and Security Commission.

Relevant ministers and officials from these two countries will meet to prepare a summit between Mr Dos Santos and Mr Mobutu.

When the Unita officials ar-

rive here next week, they will be preparing the way for Mr Mandela to meet their rebel leader Jonas Savimbi.

Unita has joined in support for Mr Mandela's mediation role, which he insists should be seen as complementing the United Nations peace efforts.

In the longer term, Mr Mandela will have to offer more than hospitality and his miracle touch, diplomatic sources say.

The first pressure point being applied by the UN could well be a blockade of Unita supply lines. The consequences of this would be serious for Zaire.

Mr Mobutu was left in no doubt South Africa would support a blockade to stop the war.

On the other hand, Dr Savimbi's desire to become governor of Huambo is being seriously considered as an entry point for further negotiations.

Mozambique's role in this process remains flexible. As a trusted friend of Mr Dos Santos, President Joaquim Chissano could also play a mediation role. His presence at yesterday's summit, officials said, followed Mozambique's earlier involvement in the initiative. His personal experience gained during the peace process in Mozambique could also be usefully applied.



SHOULDER TO SHOULDER: Presidents Dos Santos, Mandela, Mobutu Sese Seko and Chissano in Pretoria.

SA expects Unita by end of week

⑤ ARG 12/7/94

JOHANNESBURG. — Representatives of Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi are expected in South Africa towards the end of this week, a foreign affairs official in Pretoria said today.

The representatives from Huambo, where Unita has its headquarters, will prepare for a meeting between Dr Savimbi and President Mandela on peace in Angola.

"We have sent a message to Unita representatives in Washington who inform us that the representatives will arrive in South Africa at the end of this week," the foreign affairs official said.

Dr Savimbi was expected to meet Mr Mandela "within the next two weeks", he said.

Hopes for an end to nearly 20 years of civil war were raised by talks in Pretoria last week between Mr Mandela, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko and Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano.

Mr Mobutu and Mr Dos Santos agreed to revive meetings of the Defence and Security Commission which include ministers from both Zaire and Angola.

But Mr Mandela said after the talks that peace could not be found in Angola without Dr Savimbi's participation.

The foreign affairs official said the next meeting between Mr Dos Santos and Mr Mobutu would take place today or tomorrow. — Reuter.

Nzo meets Unita negotiator in bid to broker peace

DALE LAUTENBACH
Foreign Editor

APR 17/94

PRETORIA. — Foreign Affairs Minister Alfred Nzo met the chief Unita negotiator in the first follow-up to President Mandela's efforts to assist the Angolan peace process.

Dr Jorge Valentim, who has led the Unita delegation to the Lusaka peace talks for eight months, spent about two and a half hours with Mr Nzo, his deputy Aziz Pahad and senior officials of the department yesterday.

A statement released by Mr Nzo after the meeting revealed little other than that it had happened.

The peculiar sensitivities surrounding the talks have seen Mr Mandela at pains to appear supportive of the agreements already reached in Lusaka at the United Nations-sponsored talks rather than sweeping in with a new initiative.

Parties to the Lusaka talks have insisted that the agreement is almost done between Unita and the Angolan government but the outstanding mat-

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Moreover, with little change in the pattern of fighting in Angola, most observers have questioned the political will of both sides to reach a settlement.

The international community and certainly the UN, was enthusiastic about Mr Mandela entering the Angolan fray.

His intervention began on a careful note when he brokered a face-to-face between presidents Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Mobutu Sese Seko, of Angola and Zaire respectively, in Pretoria the week before last.

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Mandela, Savimbi set to meet

SA steps up bid for Angola peace drive

Start 19/7/94

■ BY NORMAN CHANDLER
PRETORIA BUREAU

A South African government team led by Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo yesterday laid the groundwork for a potential peace initiative in Angola.

It could lead to a meeting as early as next week between President Mandela and Jonas Savimbi, leader of Angola's Unita rebel movement, in a bid to find a peaceful settlement to the civil war raging in that country.

Conduit

Nzo met Unita negotiator Dr J Valentim as a follow-up to a four-nation summit in Pretoria last week at which Mandela held talks with his counterparts from Zaire, Mozambique and Angola as part of a joint United Nations and Organisation of African Unity drive to end the 19-year-long war.

One important outcome of that meeting was that Angola and Zaire agreed to hold further talks about claims by Angola that the Zairean government was acting

FOREIGN Minister Alfred Nzo meets Unita representative as moves to end war gather steam

as a conduit for materiel which had been shipped to the rebels. (5)

The MPLA, led by Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos, officially won the Angolan general election almost two years ago.

However, after initially accepting the result, Unita decided to resume the war.

South African troops, under the previous SA government, were involved in the Angolan conflict on the side of Unita.

They withdrew as part of the negotiations which resulted in the independence of the former South West Africa, now known as Namibia.

Nzo's office said yesterday's Pretoria meeting had taken place "in the

context of efforts to reach a settlement in the Angolan conflict.

"The United Nations initiative undertaken in Luanda, together with observers from the United States, Portugal and the Russian Federation, has, after eight months, reached an advanced stage and South Africa is anxious that they have a positive outcome," he said.

While there is no indication as yet whether Mandela will meet Savimbi, it is believed in Pretoria diplomatic circles that this meeting could take place next week.

State visit

Nzo will by then have returned to South Africa from an official visit to London, where he is to attend celebrations marking South Africa's return to the Commonwealth.

Mandela is expected to hold further discussions on the initiative with President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique during a three-day state visit he is making to Maputo, starting from tomorrow.

S Africans in Angola 'as long as wanted'

(5) ARG 26/7/94
JOHANNESBURG. — A Pretoria company sending South Africans to aid the Angolan government military has said its men will remain there as long as the Luanda authorities want them to.

"We will withdraw only when the Angolan government

tells us to," said Eben Barlow, head of Executive Outcomes.

Up to 12 specially trained South Africans aiding the Angolan military have been killed while working there this year guarding strategic installations or training troops, the company said.

In the latest incident, two South African men were captured by Unita rebels in the north-eastern diamond region after their Swiss-built Pilatus PC-7 was shot down.

The rebels threatened to execute the South Africans in public. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola: SA is 'morally obliged to act'

APR 30 17 1974
DALE LAUTENBACH

Foreign Editor

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SOUTH Africans operating as mercenaries in Angola will have to be acted against if South Africa's efforts to assist its neighbour in finding a peaceful solution are to be consistent.

"There is a sense that we are morally obliged to take action to clamp down," said Foreign Affairs director general Rusty Evans yesterday.

He said it had become very clear that the South Africans in Angola were involved in more than the "oil security guard" mantle of the operation — known to be run by the Pretoria-based company Executive Outcomes.

President Mandela's cautious but sincere efforts to broker a peace between Unita and the MPLA government run the danger of appearing ludicrous if citizens from his country are involved in the intensification of hostilities.

While Mr Mandela has been careful not to appear the peacemaker for Angola and has stressed that his involvement does not represent a new initiative but one strictly supportive of the United Nations brokered peace talks, his moral authority on the continent carries a huge burden of expectation.

Furthermore, the bringing together of Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos and Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko was the first time Zaire's crucial role in the Angolan conflict was brought into the spotlight at summit level.

Mr Evans said his department had also instructed its mission to the UN to back a move by UN special representative to Angola, Alouin Blondin Beye, that a Security Council resolution threatening further sanctions against Unita and due for debate tomorrow be postponed by a month "to give current initiatives a chance".

Mr Evans said he expected a communication from Unita leader Jonas Savimbi soon and that a visit by him to Mr Mandela had not been ruled out.

South Africa would urge that the postponement be granted to allow consultation to continue. Mr Evans said South Africa would also recommend a ceasefire for the period of the postponement to enable talks to continue "in a positive spirit".

South Africa would urge also that "all other parties desist from doing anything to contribute to hostilities".

Clearly, that is a message in part to Zaire — whose territory is reportedly used as a transit point for supplies to Unita. By the same token, South Africa will have to be seen to tackle the problem of its citizens perpetuating a war on foreign soil.

Unita offers compromise at peace talks

□ Hopes of Angolan settlement

LUSAKA. — Unita, which is negotiating to beat a United Nations deadline for acceptance of a peace package, has offered a partial compromise on its demand for control of its Huambo province stronghold.

A Unita source said yesterday that it had rejected a Zambian compromise proposal at Angolan peace talks in Lusaka that a politically neutral governor should be found for Huambo province.

But he said Unita would swap the governorship of another province in which Unita leader Jonas Savimbi was strong, for control of Huambo.

"There were two proposals by the Zambian government. These were the neutral governorship of Huambo or an exchange of Huambo for another province where Unita has support," said the source.

"Unita is not keen on neutral governorship of Huambo because it does not trust that arrangement. It would rather exchange with another province."

The United Nations had given Unita a deadline of yesterday for acceptance of a peace deal already approved by the government to end more than 18 years of civil war.

The package included a proposal that Unita would govern three of Angola's 18 provinces — Cuando-Cubango, Uige and Luanda South — and appoint vice-governors in five others.

Unita had insisted at UN-led peace talks in Zambia that Huambo should be added to the list of provinces it controlled.

The rebel source said Unita had now offered to accept Huambo instead of one of the others where it did well in the 1992 election, rather than in addition to the other three.

Until now, it had not been clear what proposals Zambia, which sent an envoy to meet Dr Savimbi, had put forward. Diplomatic sources had repeatedly mentioned the option of a neutral governor in Huambo.

Earlier yesterday, UN chief negotiator Alioune Blondin Beye denied radio reports from Angola saying the Lusaka talks had broken down.

"That information is not right and I am not aware of anything like that," he said.

Asked what would happen about the UN Security Council's to Unita to accept the peace package by yesterday, Mr Beye replied: "The meeting of the Security Council is not obligatory and it is better for us to verify the position first."

are so much larger than others

Youths make a clean sweep in Guguletu

VUYO BAVUMA (S) AUG 1/1994
Staff Reporter

MORE than 150 youths using plastic bags, spades and rakes launched a clean-up campaign in 12 polluted Guguletu streets.

The enthusiastic youths, who were recruited from schools and youth clubs, were helped by a refuse removal truck from Ikapa Town Council.

The weekend clean-up campaign was organised by Work to Win, a township-based environment group, and had the blessing of the provincial department of environment.

In the past few weeks, the group had consulted various

street committees, political organisations and parents about the campaign and was given the green light.

Co-ordinator of Work to Win, Zamanda Biyana, said the clean-up was a first step to make environment issues more visible.

"Instead of holding workshops and delivering speeches, we think this hands-on approach is the most viable strategy.

"We also wanted to encourage people to have high regard for clean areas."

Mr Biyana said the next project would be to restore parks in the townships.

"We are going to negotiate with Ikapa about restoring our parks so that children have places to play."

Before the clean-up, African National Congress provincial MP Mampie Ramotsamai said subjects dealing with the environment and tourism should be included in school curriculums.

Miss Ramotsamai said it was important that township residents should take a keen interest in these issues which were no longer white preserves.

The clean-up should be successful so that it could serve as a "test-case" for other township residents, she said.

Lagos paralysed as all-out strike begins

ARG 3/8/94

□ Government offices deserted as crisis grows

LAGOS. — Nigeria's biggest city, Lagos, was at a standstill today, the first day of a general strike called to press the military government to free opposition leader Moshood Abiola.

Many government offices in the city, including the federal secretariat where most officials work, were deserted.

"Workers have not come in today, maybe because of the strike," said a security man at the secretariat.

Mr Abiola, undeclared winner of last year's annulled presidential vote, was due to appear in court in the capital Abuja today on charges of treason for proclaiming himself president.

The general strike, called by the umbrella Nigeria Labour Congress, adds to pressure on

the government brought by oil workers who are now in the fifth week of a strike.

It was not immediately clear if the strike was being observed in the north, where some local chapters of the NLC have dissociated themselves from the action as politically motivated.

In Lagos, youths stopped vehicles from moving about.

Banks and many other businesses have long closed in Nigeria because of a fuel shortage caused by the oil strike, and there is bound to be further misery if the general strike lasts for long.

Yesterday General Sani Abacha, the military ruler, presided over a meeting of the Armed Forces Consultative Assembly, the ruling junta, to discuss the growing political and economic crisis. No statement was issued after the talks.

The oil strike was begun by Nupeng, the blue-collar oil-workers' union, on July 4 and it was later joined by white-collar workers from the sister union, Pengassan. The production of Shell, which extracts half the country's oil, has fallen by one third.

Nupeng president Wariebe Agamene warned those who intended to carry on working: "If they don't stop their treacherous activities, the next option will involve bodybags. We are prepared to deal with these people violently."

A Shell spokesman said local workers but not expatriates had been intimidated so far.

The economy is being suffocated by the strike and more and more investors and traders are being frightened off by the possibility of a catastrophic political explosion. — Sapa-Reuter-The Independent.

Debate over Angolan 'mercenaries'

LEGAL action was being considered against Executive Outcomes, a Pretoria-based company which hires former defence force soldiers out to the Angolan government, Department of Foreign Affairs acting director-general Rusty Evans said today.

Although the Angolan government insists the 500 Executive Outcomes employees are utilised as guards and instructors, Unita alleges they are in Angola as mercenaries.

Addressing the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Dr Evans said the matter had

been referred to the Department of Justice.

"There is prima facie evidence that that particular operation is transgressing South African law and that steps must be taken against them," he said.

Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister Aziz Pahad told the committee the government had intervened to save the lives of four South Africans employed by Executive Outcomes who had been captured by Unita, which had threatened to execute the men.

Although it was not clear whether the execution had

gone ahead, there had been no news and it was presumed they were still alive.

Mr Pahad said the government opposed mercenaries being recruited from South Africa.

"We are trying to ensure that South Africans do not get involved as mercenaries."

Mr Pahad said South Africa was approaching the Angolan question within the framework of the United Nations peace initiative. However, an invitation had been extended to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi to visit South Africa. — Sapa.

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Angola ⁵ poised on verge of peace

Aug 17/8/94

LUSAKA. — Angola's government and Unita rebels are tantalisingly close to completing their peace talk agenda, but an end to almost 20 years of civil war is still snagged on who will govern Huambo province.

Frustration is growing among diplomats on the sidelines of the negotiations, which began nine months ago in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, because of the failure to break the deadlock over the future of the Unita stronghold.

Negotiators and international mediators, led by UN special representative in Angola Alioune Blondin Beye, have postponed discussions on power sharing until the issue can be resolved.

The government, which offered Unita the governorships of Lunda Sul, Uige and Cuando-Cubango provinces, has ruled out Huambo as a topic of discussion.

It believes the rebels should relinquish the province because they occupied it by force when, after a brief lull, they resumed fighting following their refusal to accept their defeat in 1992 UN-supervised elections.

The ruling MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) accuses Unita of using Huambo to wreck the talks and only wanting to govern the province for tribal reasons.

"There is no question of us not getting Huambo. The solution for positive results is to give us Huambo," Unita spokesman Jorge Valentim said last week.

Unita attaches great importance to Huambo, where it won more than 80 percent of the vote in 1992 and where leader Jonas Savimbi's Ovimbundu tribe is based.

The province has strategic significance with of its location in the central highlands.

"Unita recognise that if they do not put their foot down, politically they will crumble," one African diplomat said. "Basically Unita feel that if they capitulate on this issue at this time, there will be no future opportunity to have it addressed as a fundamental political issue." — Reuter.

Angolan pact 'just days away'

AN AGREEMENT ending Angola's civil war could be signed within days, says US special envoy Paul Hare.

Speaking from Washington yesterday, Hare said Angolan government and Unita negotiators in Lusaka had reached the last issue on their agenda, the relatively uncontroversial subject of the UN's future mandate in the country. *B1 Day*

"It could be days, not weeks or months", before agreement was reached, he said. *17/8/94*

The fact that both parties had continued to negotiate for more than eight months indicated good faith on both sides, but potential problems could still arise, he told journalists at a teleconference arranged by the US Information Service.

Some key elements of the agree-

ADRIAN HADLAND

ment, including the disputed right to nominate the governor of Huambo, the allocation of civil service jobs as well as Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's future role in a government of national unity, had been set aside for inclusion in an agreement annex.

"I don't think any of the remaining issues are beyond the wit of man or diplomats to overcome — if there is an interest in reaching a solution."

President Nelson Mandela's agreement to become involved in the Angolan mediation process at the request of the UN had been a wise, positive and courageous decision. *(S)*

There was a risk, however, that Mandela's involvement would have little effect on ending the civil war as

nobody could force the two parties to overcome their problems.

But the risk was worth taking, Hare said.

He added the UN was likely to employ substantially more resources in peacekeeping, demobilisation and election preparation than was the case during the last Angolan election in September 1992.

The UN security council would decide on the logistics for the next phase only once an agreement had been signed.

Meanwhile, the 19-year civil war in Angola continued to ravage the country and its populace, exacting a "devastating cost", Hare said.

In this Mandela could help by pushing Savimbi at their imminent meeting for a commitment to peace.

Battered Angolan civilians now face starvation

LUANDA. — Unita rebels have enlisted a banned, age-old weapon in their battle for Angola — starvation — and it is wiping out helpless civilians.

A United Nations report issued yesterday said dozens — perhaps hundreds — of Angolans were starving to death every day in two cities, which besieging rebel guerrillas have cut off from UN emergency food supplies.

As many as 250 civilians could be dying every day in Malanje, once an agricultural hub 350km southeast of Luanda, which is now stripped of food and has been the victim for the past three months of a rebel no-fly zone.

"Because of Unita's refusal, the World Food Programme has not been able to airlift desperately needed food to the region," the report said. The besieged regions are cut off from

overland access and have poor communication links, making it uncertain how many people had died of hunger.

Mmanuel da Silva, head of the UN Humanitarian Aid Unit, which issued the report, said last week that if aid was not forthcoming, "people in Malanje will be dying in the streets".

Mr Silva estimated that the death toll could rise to 250 people a day, matching the worst days of the siege before the rebels allowed airlifts last year.

WFP flights were halted in May after UN emblazoned planes were hit by rebel small-arms fire during food airlifts.

An attempt to resume the operation three weeks ago had to be abandoned when a relief plane was winged by a missile as it approached Malanje. The last food shipment made it to

Malanje 11 days ago, when the Catholic relief organisation Caritas risked a flight to deliver 17 tons of rice, beans and cooking oil.

Cuito, in the heart of rebel territory 325km south of Malanje, has been under siege for more than a year and also faces mass hunger after more than two and a half months without food supplies, the report said.

The government has also restricted food flights to the rebel base in the central highlands city of Huambo, allowing only 60 tons of food to be delivered instead of the usual 300 tons, but the deprivation has not nearly equalled that of Malanje and Cuito.

As the rebels and the government continue their 19-year war, as much as a third of the population — three mil-

lion people — are left fighting a day-to-day battle for survival against hunger and disease.

More than 500 000 Angolans have been killed since Unita — the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — and the government went to war in 1975.

A peace treaty in 1991 briefly laid the conflict to rest, but the rebels picked up their arms again after they lost parliamentary elections 18 months later and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi fell behind in the presidential race.

The two sides returned to the negotiating table in Lusaka, Zambia in November, but 10 months of peace talks have yet to yield a ceasefire and have recently been slowed by repeated stalling by Unita. — Sapa-AP.

Prime Minister Ntso Mokhehle on Wednesday, published an order yesterday taking over the powers of the



US threatens Unita sanctions

LUSAKA. — The US has threatened additional sanctions against Angola's Unita rebels if they reject power-sharing proposals to end nearly two decades of civil war, according to a letter obtained on Saturday.

67-2218/24
The letter, seen by journalists, was sent to Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi on August 17 by US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Mr George Moose.

It warned Unita international patience was running out with the deadlocked peace talks and unless demonstrable progress was made on outstanding issues the US would support a trade ban and slap travel restrictions on key Unita members. — Sapa-
Reuter (5)

Unita threat to pull out of talks if sanctions are tightened

LISBON.—The Angolan rebel movement Unita threatened today to withdraw from peace talks with the government if the UN Security Council imposed additional sanctions against it.

The warning was issued in a communiqué released by Unita's representatives abroad after a two-day meeting in Paris with General Paulo Lukumba Gato, a special envoy of Unita

leader Jonas Savimbi.

"The eventual application of a second package of sanctions would lead to an alteration of the present political framework, and the *de facto* annulment of Bicesse and the negotiating process in Lusaka," the Unita envoys said in a statement faxed to Reuters in Lisbon.

Bicesse is a Lisbon suburb where Unita signed a short-

lived peace agreement with the ruling MPLA in 1991, which was intended to end a long-running civil war in the former Portuguese colony.

The United Nations is mediating talks between the two sides in the Zambian capital Lusaka to try to revive the Bicesse peace agreement.

But the Lusaka talks have dragged on for nine months

while fighting continues on the ground and the UN Security Council has threatened to impose additional sanctions against Unita by the end of the month unless the negotiations make rapid progress.

The United Nations imposed a first set of sanctions against Unita in September last year, including a ban on fuel and arms sales.

It blamed the rebel movement for resuming the civil war after rejecting its defeat by the MPLA in UN-supervised elections in September 1992.

Western diplomats said the proposed second package of sanctions was still being discussed, but it was likely to include travel restrictions on Unita officials and the closure of Unita offices abroad. — Reuters.

Police investigate 'MI aid to Unita'

South African operatives are allegedly still assisting Unita rebels in Angola, reports **Stefaans Brümmer**

CLAIMS are being investigated by police that renegade Military Intelligence operatives are still supplying Angola's rebel Unita forces, and waging an undercover campaign against a Pretoria company backing Angolan government forces.

SAPS spokesman Major Burger van Rooyen said this week: "We can confirm that certain information has been given to the SAPS. We are in the process of verifying it."

Details of the alleged web of operations — some run "from within a state agency" and some by "splinter groups on the periphery of that agency" were revealed this week by Eben Barlow, managing director of Executive Outcomes, the Pretoria-based company that says it trains Angolan government troops, but is widely regarded as recruiting "mercenaries" who actively engage Unita.

The state agency against which the allegations are being made is reliably understood to be Military Intelligence.

Barlow claimed to have information on groups within the state agency and on its periphery, who "help Unita with propaganda, the supply of equipment and smuggling diamonds and ivory".

He said the information had been handed to police investigators.

Barlow said he had also given police information on a group of about 40 operatives of the state agency, commanded by a senior officer and operating from Pretoria premises, whom he claimed wanted to sabotage and "discredit" his company. He and two colleagues had received death threats, he said.

Barlow — himself once a career soldier, Military Intelligence operative and CCB member — claimed he had sympathetic sources inside the group. He said he had a document originating from the group instructing operatives how to hack into Executive Outcome computers, and tape recordings of operatives trying to persuade his employees to pass information to the group. Military Intelligence had assured him there was no official policy to investigate Executive Outcomes, he said.

Although military aid to Unita by the National Party government was officially terminated before the 1992 all-party Angolan elections, allegations of government help to the rebel movement have surfaced several times since Unita rejected the election results and went back to war.

Last year the Angolan government alleged South African military aircraft were flying into Unita-held territory. The claims were backed by the governments of neighbouring countries,



Executive action ... Executive Outcomes members assist MPLA forces in Angola

PHOTO: JOHN LIEBENBERG

who said their radar had picked up unauthorised flights.

But should the latest allegations prove true, they would point to an inability on the part of the new government — with traditionally strong ties to Angola's MPLA government — to stamp out renegades still supporting Unita within its own bureaucracy.

Barlow said a typical supply operation to Unita would be set up by satellite phone from rebel headquarters in Huambo. Supplies would be purchased in South Africa and a legitimate flight plan would be filed from South Africa to the Zairean cities of Lubumbashi or Kinshasa.

Zairean authorities — known to support Unita — would issue a false end-user certificate as "proof" that the

supplies were destined for Zaire. The aircraft — belonging to a private South African company — would then fly to Huambo, where the supplies would be exchanged for "commodities", often contraband.

If possible, the commodity would be sold in South Africa — or else in one of a number of European countries which have no laws against the possession of uncut diamonds.

Diamonds are known to be Unita's main source of income to fund its war effort, and of late many of the major battles have been over the control of strategic diamond-producing areas.

A National Defence Force spokesman, denied the allegations.

■ See PAGE 15

MPLA 'mercenaries' will not be executed

Stefaans Brümmer

ANGOLA's rebel Unita movement has given a qualified assurance it will not execute captured South African "mercenaries" after an appeal for clemency by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

At least two South Africans working for the Pretoria-based company Executive Outcomes — whose personnel ostensibly train soldiers of the MPLA government — fell into Unita hands in Angola's northern diamond-rich province Lunda Norte on July 15 when their Angolan government aircraft was shot down by the rebels.

Executive Outcomes has refused to name the captured men — a pilot and an administrator — saying their families did not want their identities known. It disputes Unita claims that "about five" men were travelling in the light aircraft and that three survivors were being held.

The company's managing director, Eben Barlow, said this week the downed aircraft was a Swiss Pilatus turbo-trainer, which carries only two people. He said it had been shot down while on a routine flight to a training camp, and the Angolan government and Executive Outcomes had launched a massive search. "If we find them, we will get them out."

Fears for the men's safety were based on previous statements by Unita that it would "publicly execute" any South African mercenaries it captured.

After Mbeki's appeal Unita's Lisbon representative Jaema Bento told the *Mail & Guardian* this week: "They will not be executed if the South African government accedes to get them (Executive Outcomes personnel) all out of Angola."

Pressed on Mbeki's appeal, he conceded: "He (Mbeki) asked for it. We

have already said we will not kill them."

Bento would not reveal the captives' whereabouts, but said he believed they were well. He said their release would be subject to negotiations and that "as far as I know" this was the first time Unita had captured Executive Outcomes personnel.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Jacques Malan sketched a less rosy scenario. "We did make contact with Unita, but to get that information filtered down to the ground where they are being held can be difficult, even for Unita.

"It is hellishly difficult to assist these people; that's why we previously warned them, 'If you get into trouble, you're on your own'."

He said Foreign Affairs was awaiting feedback from Unita after a high-level meeting of its leaders in Huambo, the rebel headquarters, this week.

Meanwhile, Unita radio claimed

this week to have killed 50 Executive Outcome personnel in battles in Lunda Norte between July 18 and 25, and a total of more than 125 foreign mercenaries in the past 15 months.

Barlow dismissed this as propaganda and said that only 15 of his employees had died — of malaria, in training accidents and in Unita attacks.

Two Cape Town diamond divers were released by Unita on Tuesday after 16 days' captivity. Douglas van der Merwe and Riaan Richter were captured by the rebel movement apparently while working a riverbed on the border between Zaire and Angola.

Van der Merwe's father, CP van der Merwe, said a "private person" had secured their release after the families were advised "it's best to do it the African way". He said the two men were safe in Zaire.

Proposals by Unita rejected

LUANDA. — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has rejected the latest Unita proposals on governing Huambo province.

He told the Council of the Republic yesterday that "the government cannot depend — on this question of sovereignty — on the agreement of an opposition party." (S) CT 3/9/94

Unita has said there will be no agreement unless it governs the province.

It accepted this week that the government could choose the governor, but said Unita must first agree on his nomination.

Mr Dos Santos said the Angolan government must have "the capacity to assert its authority".

He said the army would force Unita "to negotiate an end to the armed conflict". — Sapa-AFP

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Angolan talks stall over raid

Lusaka — Talks aimed at ending Angola's 20-year civil war have hit another snag but diplomats say troubles for Unita rebels make it unlikely they will collapse.

Unita last week boycotted the 10-month-old UN-mediated talks in the Zambian capital Lusaka after a government bombing raid on the rebels' central headquarters, Huambo.

Diplomats said Unita could use the strike, which by some estimates killed four people and according to others killed 28, to reverse the offer of a compromise to end an impasse over who will govern Huambo province.

The government has been cool towards Unita's proposal that the Luanda administration be allowed to name the governor of Huambo if rebels had veto power over the decision.

Diplomats said Unita was being obstructive — but it had little power to derail the talks completely due to shrunken foreign military support and growing impatience within the international community, particularly



Savimbi . . . Unita leader.

its former US backers.

"Unita are in a difficult situation. The military balance is in the government's favour and their former military backers have abandoned them," said a Zambian government official.

"One can't be overly optimistic about Angola but we remain cautiously optimistic that for the first time they (Unita) will feel disadvantaged and take the offer for peace."

Unita seems to respond to

threats of UN sanctions. A ban imposed by the Security Council a year ago on arms and fuel sales forced it back to the negotiating table.

Threats of further sanctions if no progress was made by the end of August seemed to have pushed Jonas Savimbi's rebels to stand down on its past refusal to allow the government to appoint Huambo's governor.

"It has always been felt that Unita and the government will exercise their military muscle to the last day of the talks, but it is hoped that the government's bombing of Huambo will not be taken as a challenge for Unita to reconsider its position or retaliate militarily," one foreign observer said.

Huambo, which is part of the crucial national reconciliation question, is one of the last points on the agenda before a ceasefire can be reached.

The two foes agreed in December that Unita would disarm before taking up the administrative positions on offer. — Sapa-Reuter.

focus on AFRICA

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Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) seems to respond to threats of UN sanctions.

Sowetan 5/19/94
Efforts to ease the war in Angola have reached a deadlock following the recent bombing of Unita's headquarters in Huambo. But diplomats are cautiously optimistic that peace may finally be achieved. **Chola Chimbano** reports:

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The two foes agreed last December that Unita would disarm before taking up the administrative positions on offer.

These included four ministerial, seven deputy ministerial, six ambassadorial and three provincial governorships.

UNITA, which has been fighting nearly con-

tinuously since the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) seized power after 1975 independence from Angola, has been largely blamed for the breakdown of the brief-lived 1991 peace accords.

The movement returned to the bush after rejecting its defeat in the September 1992 UN-sponsored elections.

Tens of thousands of people have since died in fighting which various rounds of peace accords have failed to resolve.

With the government gaining strength militarily, foreign observers believe an accord reached in Lusaka would stand a better chance compared to past agreements.

But they are sceptical about the political will on both sides after decades of hatred and distrust.

"The talks are nearing conclusion. The government's action takes away the little political will by either side to see this peace process through," an African diplomat said.

"Angolans should learn a lesson from what happened in Somalia... The UN will only go so far in trying to help. If the political will is not there, they will pull out". Sapa-Reuter

Impasse in talks ended ⁵ by Unita

LUSAKA. — Angola's Unita rebels have definitely dropped demands to govern their stronghold province of Huambo, breaking an impasse in talks to end nearly 20 years of civil war.

A letter handed to United Nations mediators said Unita had agreed to all points proposed by them for a power-sharing arrangement, including allowing the government to name the governor of the strategic province.

The letter made no mention of previous demands, rejected by the Angolan government, that Unita have a veto over who was named to govern Huambo.

"The Unita delegation to the Lusaka negotiations has appreciated the mediation's suggestions and is in agreement with the proposals," read the letter.

Unita was offered the mayorship of Huambo city, governors in Lunda Sul, Cuando-Cubango and Uige and vice-governors in Huila, Lunda, Bengo, Kuanza Sul and Benguela provinces.

The rebels were also offered four ministerial, seven deputy ministerial and six ambassadorial posts in addition to municipal and local posts.

Sources close to the talks said it appeared Unita felt it was under pressure because of UN threats to impose more sanctions on top of a year-old oil and arms embargo if the rebels did not accept the proposed power-sharing package.

The sources said the Angolan government was not entirely happy with the letter. But the mediators felt it was sufficient to move forward the peace talks, which have been under way in Lusaka for 10 months. — Reuter.

Angolan govt and Unita agree on UN policing

LUSAKA — The Angolan government and Unita took another step towards peace yesterday, agreeing on how the UN would police a truce. *5 Day 14/9/92*

The agreement signed was part of a peace plan expected to be completed by the end of the month. But the two sides still have to discuss the delicate issue of how they will share power in post-war Angola.

Under yesterday's agreement, UN peacekeepers are to monitor a ceasefire and oversee the demobilisation of fighters. The two sides asked the UN Security Council to determine how many troops should be sent. The government had proposed 7 000 and Unita 10 000. *(S)*

Fewer than 1 000 UN peacekeepers were in Angola to police a 1991 ceasefire that led to the country's first democratic elections in 1992. Unita lost and, charging election fraud, resumed fighting. Unita had refused to disarm during the 1991 truce, claiming the government was building up special police forces.

With the agreement on the UN role concluded yesterday, only a few issues remain on the agenda of peace talks that have dragged on in Zambia for nearly a year.

The most important of the remaining issues is the role of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi. Unita insists Savimbi is one of the nation's top leaders, but the government has resisted promising Savimbi a significant post in a post-war coalition government. Former allies like the US have softened support for Savimbi since his 1992 election loss and his decision to return to battle. — Sapa-AP.

White Paper on agriculture

PROPOSALS for a new-look agricultural marketing system, with strictly limited government intervention, were outlined in a draft White Paper released yesterday.

The document also called for affirmative action programmes focused on people previously denied access to farming opportunities, stricter control over drought aid, and recognition of the role of farm labourers in agricultural production.

Deputy Director-General of Agriculture Dr Chris Blignaut said it was hoped the document would soon be ready.

The department was already holding back draft legislation to ensure it fitted in with principles of the White Paper.

Angola peace accord remains elusive

Luanda — Angola's government has dampened hopes that it is close to reaching an accord with Unita rebels on ending the civil war, a state newspaper said yesterday.

Jornal de Angola quoted Prime Minister Marcolino Moco and a senior negotiator as saying there were still obstacles impeding an immediate conclusion of peace talks in Zambia.

Neither Moco nor General Higinio Carneiro, head of the government negotiating team at the Lusaka peace talks with Unita, could say whether a deal would be signed this

month in line with a UN Security Council deadline.

"There are some obstacles still blocking a ceasefire agreement," Moco told Jornal de Angola.

An editorial by the daily also held out little hope for an accord this month — a prospect raised by delegates last week. "Peace is not as near as the progress at Lusaka would have us believe," the paper said.

Angolan negotiators, saying a peace deal was close, left the Zambian capital on Friday for consultations with their leaders.

Sources close to the talks

26/9/94
said the trips to Luanda and Huambo by government and rebel delegations were a clear indication that an accord would be signed this month.

UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali requested the government and Unita to complete peace talks by September 30.

The Lusaka talks have dragged on for 10 months.

A political analyst in Luanda who declined to be identified said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi would sign anything put before him, but an agreement would not be easily implemented.

Diplomats said it would also be difficult to disarm the warring factions after an accord had been signed.

A negotiator who declined to be named said talks had progressed smoothly in the past two weeks after the capitulation of Unita rebels over the governorship of Huambo province and the reported offer of the post of vice-president to Savimbi. (5)

■ At least 70 people were killed and 74 injured when a train was derailed in an accident in southern Angola on Thursday, Jornal de Angola reported yesterday. — Sapa-Reuter.

Urgent ⁵ ARG 15/3/95 summit on Angola

DALE LAUTENBACH

The Argus Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG. — Southern Africa's heads of state have earmarked Saturday for an emergency summit to address the deepening Angolan crisis.

The gathering, in Harare under the auspices of the Southern African Development Community, has yet to be finally confirmed.

Foreign Ministers of the region recommended a summit 10 days ago and since then the situation in Angola has worsened.

Yesterday the United Nations military chief in Angola, Chris Garuba, said both Unita rebels and the government army were failing to keep to the November agreements for withdrawing forces.

General Garuba also accused the government army of occupying territory previously occupied by Unita and said the conditions necessary for peace to be truly declared had not yet been met.

The Angolan government yesterday denied it had invaded UN buffer zones in northern Uige province in defiance of the November agreement.

"The government is not occupying any areas where it is not supposed to be. It is a question of interpretation," said government representative Higinio Carneiro on state radio.

He was responding to a claim by General Garuba on Monday that government troops were violating the accord by moving into areas left by Unita.

The clock is ticking fast for Angola. UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali has warned that if there is not a demonstrable peace between the two sides by March 25, the UN will delay its decision to deploy 7 000 peacekeepers to the country in May.

The timetable is already falling behind as the logistical support for these blue helmets is supposed to be on the ground by the end of this month.

Meanwhile, the SADC heads of state are consulting as to how best they might intervene. The parties in Mozambique at the time of the election in October, most particularly rebel chief Afonso Dhla-kama, took seriously a strongly worded communique from the SADC leaders and stepped back into line.

It is unlikely the Angolans will respond similarly.

One of the greatest challenges for the regional leadership is to involve Unita leader Jonas Savimbi in attempts to find a solution.

So far Dr Savimbi has been completely isolated, his only interlocutor being UN special envoy to Angola Alouine Blondin Beye.

Known for his unflinching optimism about reaching a peace in Angola, even Mr Blondin Beye has been sounding doubtful recently. He called this week for an urgent increase in the UN monitoring of arms supplies to both sides in 20-year conflict. — Sapa-Reuter.

Unita rebels offered an olive branch

(5)

ARLT 27/9/94

□ Urged to 'live in democracy'

NEW YORK. — The Angolan government has offered Unita rebels an olive branch to break the deadlock over how to share power after two decades of civil war.

"We want Unita to become a political party, to live in democracy," Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura told the United Nations General Assembly.

"It is not our intention to destroy Unita militarily," he said, calling for the rebels to work with the government to "put an end definitively to the war and restore peace".

The UN Security Council has pleaded with the two sides to conclude their protracted negotiations in the Zambian capital of Lusaka by the end of the month.

Rebel spokesman Joaquim Valentim said yesterday that his leader, Jonas Savimbi, had given them a mandate to complete the truce during weekend talks in Angola. Government negotiators also consulted their leaders in Angola over the weekend, and returned yesterday to Lusaka.

The nearly year-long talks have repeatedly stalled over procedural matters and minor

issues, keeping the negotiators from tackling the power-sharing question.

The rebels have insisted that Dr Savimbi be given a major role in any post-war administration, and the government is reported to be willing to make Dr Savimbi a vice president if Unita gives up its demands for the governorship of a crucial province it controls.

Unita has been at war with the government since 1975, when the fight for independence from Portugal turned into an armed power struggle between two anti-colonial guerrilla groups.

After 16 years of war in which more than 350 000 Angolans have been killed, the two sides signed a peace treaty in 1991. But fighting resumed 18 months later when Dr Savimbi accused the government of rigging Unita's defeat in the country's first democratic elections.

Yesterday, Mr De Moura pleaded for an end to the violence and for the rebels to accept a package re-establishing peace and national reconciliation.

Otherwise, Mr De Moura told the UN delegates, Angola faced "a sombre future". — Sapa-AP.



Angola hopes to sign peace pact soon (5)

Argus 4/19/94

LUANDA. — The Angolan government has said it hopes to sign a peace agreement with the Unita rebel movement before the end of the month.

In a statement issued in Lusaka, Zambia, a government spokesman said he thought the accord would be signed even though "important" decisions on national reconciliation had still to be taken.

The government and Unita have been taking part in peace negotiations in Lusaka since November 1993.

Civil war broke out in the former Portuguese colony soon after independence in 1975. A peace accord was signed in 1991, but the two sides plunged back into war in 1992 after Unita rejected the results of United Nations-sponsored elections which it lost.

The key question still to be settled before a peace agreement could be signed was the future political status of Unita chief Jonas Savimbi, said the government spokesman, Higino Carneiro. On June 27, the two sides agreed to leave aside the question of Dr Savimbi's status to allow progress on other questions. — Sapa-AFP.

■ In spite of persistent denials by Unita, an Angolan provincial governor insisted that rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, above, was seriously wounded in an attack by members of his guerrilla army.

Governor Paulo Jorge of Benguela province said the attack happened in June or July in the Unita stronghold of Huambo. Mr Jorge said Dr Savimbi was first evacuated to Morocco for medical treatment and has been convalescing in Zaire for a week.

Rumours have been swirling for weeks that Dr Savimbi is dead. Mr Jorge's comments at a conference in the town of Sintra near Lisbon were the first by an Angolan government official on the fate of the Unita leader.

Unita awaits government response

Halt in Angolan peace indaba

Lusaka (Zambia) — Unita rebels said yesterday that talks to end Angola's 20-year civil war were far from concluded, and negotiations had been suspended until the middle of the week while the government delegation consulted its leaders in Luanda.

Unita's spokesman Jorge Valentim said the rebels' negotiating team had postponed travelling to its own headquarters in Huambo, central Angola, for a meeting that was originally scheduled for October 10-13 to ratify peace proposals.

"We cannot go to Huambo because we have to wait for the government

to come back from consultations in Luanda," he said. "We can only resume the negotiations on Wednesday." (5)

Sources close to the UN-mediated talks say the two sides, which have been meeting in the Zambian capital Lusaka since November, were close to completing a protocol for a peace accord and that an agreement could be signed before the end of the month.

But the sources stressed that distrust was rife between the foes after nearly 20 years of civil war, and last-minute snags could emerge.

Valentim said the government delegation,

which left Lusaka for Luanda on Friday and was expected back tomorrow, had not fully informed Unita of its position on the remaining 11 municipalities to be allocated to the rebels under a power-sharing formula.

"There has been a lot of confusion. We think we have done what we had to do. If only the government side can tell us their position on the remaining municipalities, we would know how to respond. Now we are just waiting," he said.

Unita has, under the agreed power-sharing deal, been allocated 30 municipalities. — Sapa-
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Angolan govt, Unita agree on peace treaty

(5) # C/18/10/94

LUSAKA. — Angola's government and Unita rebels have agreed on a peace treaty, the chief UN negotiator announced yesterday.

The pact would try to end a civil war that has survived despite previous peace treaties, a national election and international pressure.

The agreement covered 10 points, including a ceasefire, the withdrawal and disarming of rebel forces and creating a new national army with fighters from both sides. — Sapa-AP

Angolans wary of new peace accord

□ 'Nobody is celebrating yet'

(5) AWT 18/10/94

LUANDA. — "Listen to that silence," an aid worker said, after UN mediators announced an agreement in principle to end nearly two decades of civil war in Angola.

"No celebrations. That is your indication of how much optimism there is."

A policeman in the Angolan capital said he had heard news of an agreement between the government and Unita rebels reached in Zambia, but people hardened by a war that has devastated their country would believe in peace only when they saw it.

"Nobody is celebrating because nothing has happened yet. We will wait until they sign it and then, yes, we will celebrate," the policeman, Andre, said.

"There are not going to be the same parties as there were last time (in 1991). We are going to wait and see."

"But this news is a good thing, of course it is. Everybody is tired of war," he said.

UN mediator Alloune Blondin Beye told a news conference in the Zambian capital Lusaka, where peace talks have been under way since last November, that the warring sides had agreed in principle on a new peace pact.

Diplomats monitoring the talks said the agreement appeared to have fewer loopholes

than a 1991 accord that broke down when Unita refused to concede defeat in UN-monitored elections late the following year.

But they added that years of war and distrust would be hard to overcome.

Andre said he was afraid for the future.

"If this agreement is going to be signed, it is the last chance for Angola. If not, this country is going to hell. They will never be able to stop the war again."

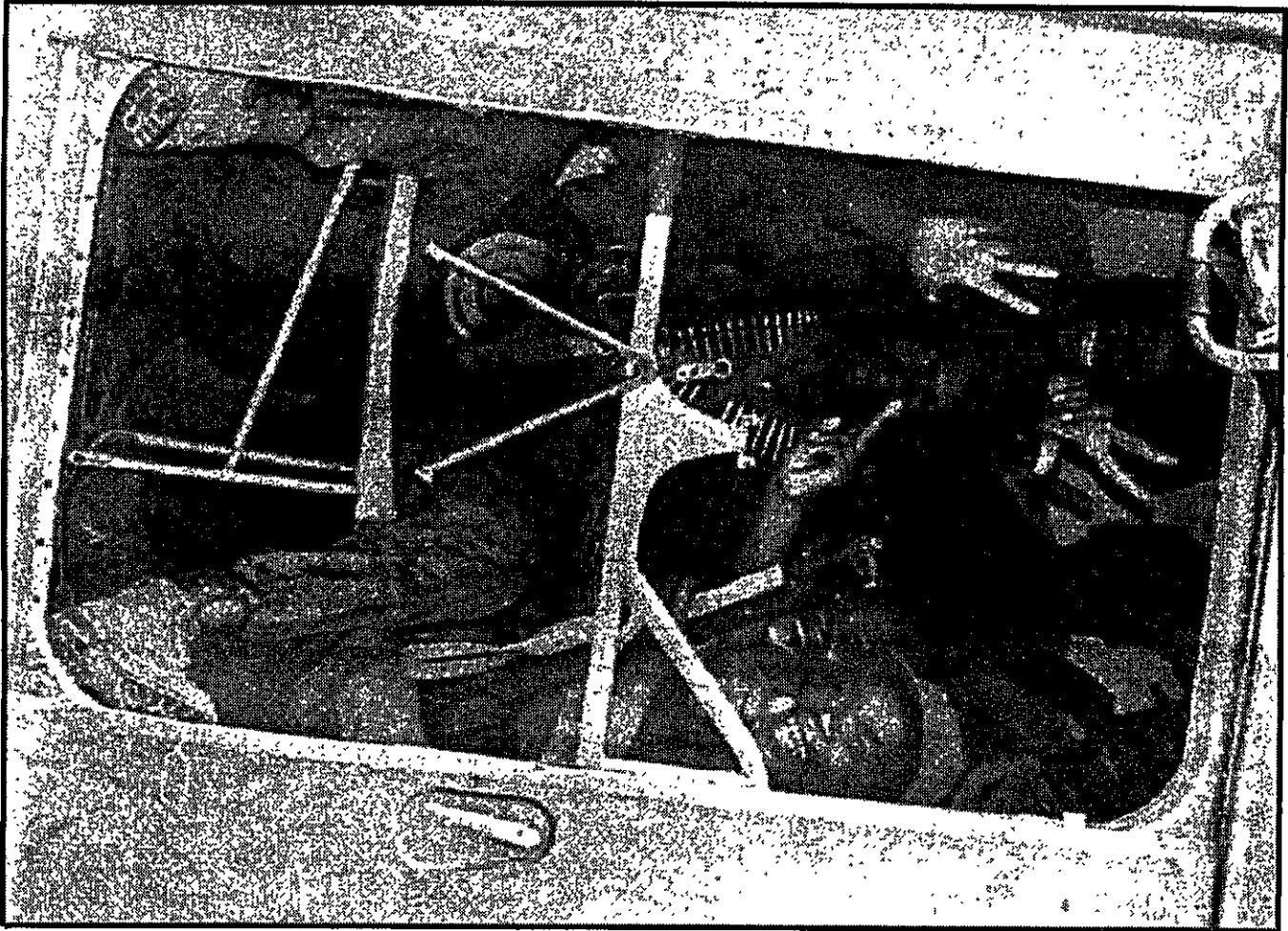
"A peace agreement? I have not heard about it," said Maria, a street seller grilling chicken pieces.

Another policeman said people would accept Unita's presence in Luanda again despite heavy fighting in the capital and other cities after the collapse of the earlier accord.

"We will let them back. But they had better behave themselves properly this time. They will have to do it our way. We will not let them come back with their guns," he said.

An aid worker who had been in radio contact with colleagues in the central city of Huambo said there were signs of optimism in the rebel capital.

"It sounded like some of them are walking with a little spring in their step. I think some of those people are hoping they can get out of there and see their families again." — Sapa-Reuter.



WAR GAMES: Angolan government soldiers flash victory signs as they leave in a helicopter from Benguela, 420 km from Luanda, to fight Unita rebels.

STAX 19/10/94

Treatment for wounded Unita leader ^(S)

Sao Tome — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi, who has not appeared in public for three months, received emergency medical treatment in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe two weeks ago, a source in the medical team that treated him said.

The source said Savimbi had been seriously wounded, apparently from an explosion, on his right side but had not lost the use of his limbs and appeared mentally sound.

Undisclosed

Sao Tome President Miguel Trovoada called in the medical team to treat Savimbi for what appeared to be fresh wounds, the source said.

He said Savimbi flew into Sao Tome on the night of October 2 in a large aircraft with US markings. Savimbi was treated on the island before leaving a few hours later for an undisclosed destination, he added. — Reuter.

► Fresh clashes — Page 8

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'Savimbi wounded in explosion'

SAO TOME — Angolan rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, who has not appeared in public for three months, received emergency medical treatment in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe two weeks ago, a source in the medical team that treated him said.

The source said Dr Savimbi had been seriously wounded, apparently by an explosion, on the right side of his body but had not lost the use of his limbs and appeared to be "mentally sound".

Sao Tome's President Miguel Trovada called in the medical team to treat Dr Savimbi for what appeared to be fresh wounds, the source said. He said the leader of Angola's Unita movement flew into Sao Tome on the night of October 2, in a large aircraft with US markings. Dr Savimbi was treated at the island's Agostinho Neto Hospital before leaving a few hours later for an undisclosed destination. A diplomatic source in Lisbon said

the Portuguese foreign ministry believed that Dr Savimbi had recently made a secret visit to South Africa. Sao Tome, like Angola, is a former Portuguese colony and President Trovada has used his good personal relations with both Dr Savimbi and the Angolan government to assist international efforts to mediate in the conflict.

The twin-island state lies to the north-west of Angola, 200km off Gabon. There have been a series of unconfirmed reports in recent weeks that Dr Savimbi had been wounded, either in a government bombing attack on his headquarters Huambo in the central Angolan highlands or in an assassination attempt.

After last Monday's draft peace accord between the government and Unita, there is renewed pressure on Dr Savimbi to appear in public or make a radio broadcast to comment on the deal.

Angolan radio yesterday reported heavy fighting in the west of the country as government and rebel leaders met in the Zambian capital Lusaka to thrash out a peace timetable.

The radio said government forces and Unita rebels were clashing in the Chanza Sul province and said the rebels had attacked government positions in Chibal, some 100km east of the port of Benguela. — Sapa-Reuter



INURED ... Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi was reportedly treated for "serious injuries" in Sao Tome recently.

The Angolan peace agreement, poised for the signing, needs southern African diplomat muscle and UN commitment. Foreign Editor Dale Lautenbach evaluates the accord's chances.

Foot-dragging Angola incurs wrath of region

Star 24/10/1994

5

From the Zambian capital last week came the news of an Angolan peace accord, while on the battlefields of Angola the blood of new offensives flowed.

Expressing an impatience with the Angolan crisis, executive secretary of the Southern African Development Community Dr Kalre Mbuende, told the press that if the leadership of the opposing sides did not ratify the agreement, the region would have to rally and act.

Sanctions, suggested Mbuende, are possible — and not just against Unita but against the Angolan government too. Further, a diplomatic initiative along the lines of the one which resolved the conflict in Lesotho is also on the cards.

Both sides in Angola seem to have no idea of how out of step they are with their neighbours.

Angolan government officials seek the comfort of condemnation of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi from the regional governments. Instead they get a President Mandela who says he would welcome Savimbi to Pretoria. And ever since independence in Namibia the Swapo government has irritated Luanda by not playing ball and joining in the fight against Unita.

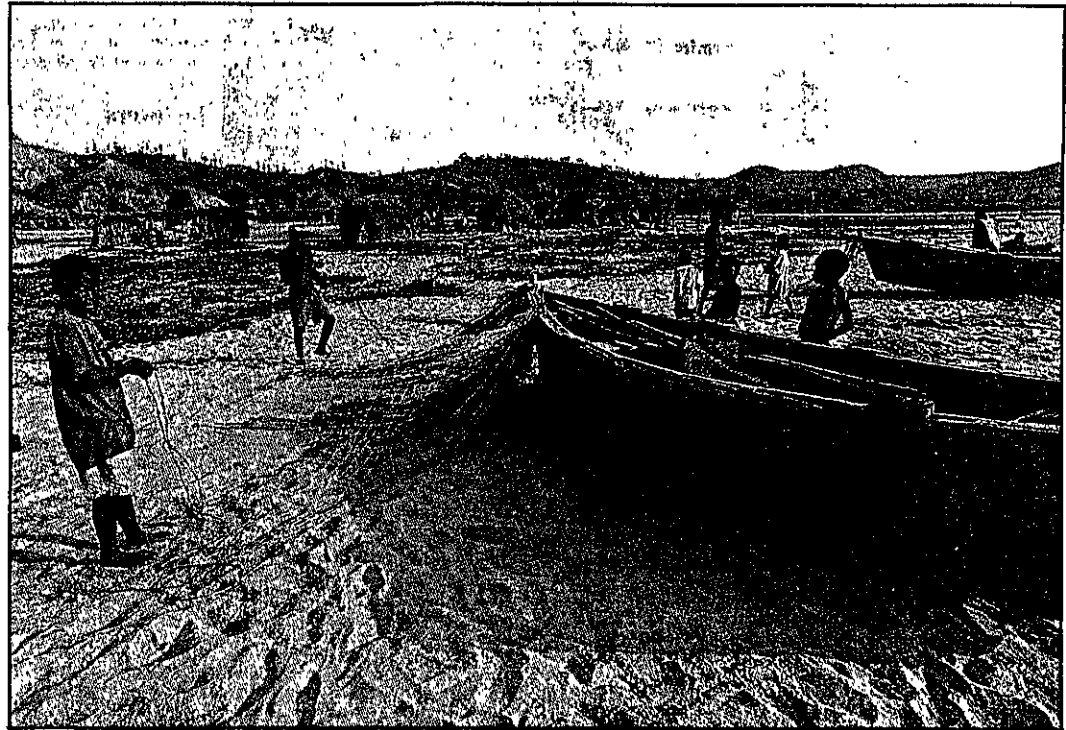
Isolation

On the other side, one can only guess at Savimbi's attitude now. He has been holed up in Huambo since the resumption of the civil war in October 1992. In the heyday of the original war he was feted by cold-war sycophants in Pretoria and Washington. One wonders whether the intervening isolation has reduced him to an anachronistic warrior.

Thus, in Angola, the cold-war demonisation of absolute enmity persists, while all around it southern Africa has embraced conflict resolution. Even in Mozambique a pragmatic dialogue between the leadership of the former warring sides has emerged.

The protracted effort in Lusaka, where the latest Angolan peace deal has been hammered out, has been curious from the start. In essence the talks sought to bring back from the dead that former peace accord, Bicesse as it is known, which underwrote the end of the 15-year civil war and took Angola through 18 months of relative peace to workable elections in 1992.

Why no one asked whether the resurrection of Bicesse was a wise thing, remains a mystery. In 1992 it was less than perfect. In the form of a rehash after two



Waiting for peace . . . while the bloodshed continues, life goes on, and the ordinary people are longing for their country to join the southern African sub-continent's move away from war. PICTURE: RUVAN BOSHOFF

years of conflict which have probably been more brutal than the 15-year-war in total, it is even less perfect now.

When Bicesse was conceived it was underpinned by the troika of the Soviet Union, the US and Portugal. The Soviet Union fell away with Russia a pale substitute and the US, having recognised the Angolan government following the elections, is not trusted by Unita.

Portugal is seen to be driven by self-interest and a desire to remain a party to the talks for reasons ranging from post-colonial vanities to business prospects on offer.

The fact that the UN, in the person of its special representative to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, has become the mediator at the latest negotiations probably has more to do with the obvious inability of the troika to effect this role than with the talents of the UN for the task.

For almost a year now those talks have dragged on in Lusaka bearing seemingly little relationship to the actions of the generals in the opposing headquarters

of Luanda and Huambo.

Regional government members who might have at least historical sympathies with the MPLA have reached new levels of impatience with the lack of political will of the Angolan government to grasp the peace that Mandela has offered to assist with.

The turning point seemed a meeting of regional foreign ministers in Windhoek earlier this year where the Angolan foreign minister, Venancio da Moura, gave an account of the process and was subsequently found less than forthright by his colleagues.

Further, the apparent lack of creative thinking in South African foreign affairs circles has stymied any continuing role Mandela might have played beyond the invitation to Savimbi who has said he wants to come but, for reasons of security or lack of faith, has not.

South Africa has also still to prove willing to solve the problem of a group of its citizens allegedly acting as mercenaries with the Angolan government army. This group, by its own

boast, has boosted the government military capacity. There are also unconfirmed reports that the group will be involved in a fresh offensive this weekend.

So when and if the paper that bears the 10 so-called Lusaka protocols is signed by Unita and the MPLA, all this will have to change. That paper will need the most extraordinary support or it will be just more tinder for Angola's flames.

Vehemence

The UN support has to be money and personnel. This has to be clear from the start for if the region shows, as it must, an interest in guaranteeing this peace, the international community must equally not react by saying, OK, let them do it. Logistically the region cannot provide anything but a token blue helmet force of specialists perhaps. Its role must remain diplomatic authority.

There have been suggestions that Onumoz, the UN force due to leave Mozambique within two weeks of the completion of the

election process which begins on October 27, should ship straight across to the other lusophone problem.

Onumoz will not like it but it will be the only necessarily fast securing of any Angolan peace.

As for the region, it has to take Mbuende's vehemence and translate it into clever diplomatic support. It must be regional but it must obviously include South Africa, Namibia, Zambia and perhaps Zimbabwe would be the obvious complement to the team and if this became a protracted guarantorship and things went well in Mozambique, a Portuguese-speaking colleague would be an asset.

Details like the ceasefire, the formation of a new army and the nature of government involving the two sides are all sketched in the Lusaka protocols but are insignificant if they are not underpinned by a greater will.

The region can manufacture, manipulate and wheedle that will into existence now. It is southern Africa's greatest challenge yet and Angola is all but lost if this fails.

Angola all set to sign peace accord

ARG 27/10/94

□ But 143 die as battles rage

LUANDA. — A senior Angolan negotiator says the government has told him to initial a peace accord with Unita rebels to end nearly 20 years of civil war.

Both sides at the same time reported continuing fighting in Angola, with Unita saying yesterday that 143 people, including a Spanish priest, had died in two days of heavy battles in the southern province of Huila.

"We have received the mandate to initial the protocol," said Higino Carneiro.

Government and Unita negotiators are to initial the agreement in the Zambian capital Lusaka, where peace talks have been dragging on since November last year.

Mr Carneiro said some issues still remained to be resolved.

"If our worries are addressed in the coming days, particularly the calendar of implementation of the Lusaka protocol and the security status of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, we will be obliged to initial the protocol," he said.

The two sides, meanwhile, reported continued scattered fighting in Angola, where civil war has raged with only a

brief break since independence from Portugal in 1975.

Unita radio, monitored in the nearby island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said the 143 died over the last 48 hours in heavy fighting around the towns of Cacomba and Caluquembe in Huila province on the southern fringe of the central highlands.

The radio said government troops were attacking Unita positions and destroying entire villages.

It also accused them of killing a Spanish Catholic priest, whom it did not name, in Caluquembe.

The radio said in a commentary that the fighting endangered the signing of the peace accord, agreed in principle this month.

UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye said in a statement on Tuesday the peace teams were expected to initial the accord soon after they returned to Zambia before October 31.

He said the formal signing would take place in Lusaka 15 days after the parties initialled the agreement.

Unita and the ruling MPLA signed an earlier peace accord in 1991. — Reuter.

SA groups still help Unita, claims general

(5) Wm 30/9-6/10/94

An Angolan intelligence chief alleges South Africans are still involved in covert support of rebel movement Unita.
By Stefaans Brimmer

SOUTH AFRICAN companies continue to supply Angolan rebel movement Unita with military equipment in contravention of a United Nations ban and South African government policy, claims the Angolan intelligence service.

Angolan government armed forces intelligence chief "General Itha" this month gave the *Weekly Mail & Guardian* a list of companies, individuals and aircraft he claimed were involved in "covert support" of Unita "in spite of the transition to democracy in South Africa".

Itha alleged food, medicine and military means from South Africa have been flown mostly to Zaire — whose president, Mobutu Sese Seko, is known to support Unita leader Jonas Savimbi — from where it is redirected to Unita bases inside Angola.

Aircraft registrations provided by Itha list Zairean, Namibian and South African-registered aircraft. Itha said information on aircraft had been communicated to the South African government "through the right channels". The "channel" is understood from sources in Angola to be South Africa's National Intelligence Service. NIS operatives this week declined to comment. A South African Department of Foreign Affairs spokesman denied any recent communication on

the matter from the Angolan government — but said it was "logical South African agencies would want to monitor" whether South Africans were involved with Unita.

The spokesman added: "If there are people sending to Unita, it would be small operations. One comes across certain names." He claimed only "consumer products" would be transported — and pointed out that the UN embargo on Unita instituted in September last year proscribed only military supplies, military assistance and petroleum products.

But the spokesman acknowledged it was possible illegal flights could take place. "There is a difficulty in the region as far as monitoring of aircraft is concerned. If a flight operator files false flight plans, there is nothing we can do."

Inquiries in the private aviation industry confirm the possibility of flights in support of Unita still taking place in contravention of the UN embargo or, in the case of goods not prohibited by the embargo, without flight clearance from Angolan authorities.

One operator flying from Lanseria airport near Johannesburg said he knew of a company that had flown fuel to Unita after the embargo, and that his company had been approached by various people who wanted diesel delivered to Unita.

Another Lanseria-based operator said he had recently been approached by someone who had wanted him to fly a large amount of Unita cash out of Angola. Inquiries in aviation circles about companies, individuals and aircraft



General Itha: Names companies and individuals

PHOTO: STEFAANS BRIMMER
alleged by Itha to be involved elicited investigations that some of them have been involved in murky dealings. There were allegations of one com-

pany on Itha's list having disregarded its flight plan after flying to an African destination north of South Africa, while another company named by Itha was said to have been started by Daniel Coetzer, a South African widely rumored to be a former KGB spy. Coetzer was not available for comment, but a close friend denied he would help Unita and said rumors he had worked for the KGB were " rubbish". She confirmed he had aviation interests elsewhere in Africa.

One aircraft registration supplied by Itha was traced to Niemoller Pharmaceuticals in Uppington. The owner, Johan Niemoller, was overseas and not available for comment, but a company spokesman confirmed the aircraft belonged to Niemoller and that the aircraft had been flying to Angola, but denied it had been in support of Unita.

Niemoller is a former Civil Co-operation Bureau agent, found by a Namibian inquest court earlier this year to have been, on prima facie evidence, involved in the plot to assassinate Swapo activist Anton Lubowski.

A spokesman for South Africa's national air control service, ATNS, said there were "ways and means" for aircraft operators to circumvent air controls by, for example, diverting from a domestic flight destination, for which no flight plan was required, to an external destination.

● The Wm&G has the names of two South Africans allegedly recruiting South African soldiers or former soldiers as mercenaries for Unita. Remuneration of up to US\$10 000 has been mentioned. The Foreign Affairs spokesman said it "would not surprise me" if South African soldiers were involved with Unita, but said his department had no information

Angolan foes endorse accord to end conflict

LUSAKA. — Angola's civil war enemies have endorsed a pact to end one of the continent's bloodiest conflicts three years after a similar accord fell apart within months.

The pact, mediated by United Nations envoy Alioune Blondin Beye, was initialled last night in the Zambian capital, where delegations from the Luanda government and the Unita rebel movement had negotiated for 12 months.

"Peace to Angola, thank you Zambia, viva President Dos Santos, viva Dr Savimbi," Mr Beye said after he and representatives of the two sides had initialled the six-page document.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi are expected to sign the pact formally later this month.

Faustino Muteka, leader of the government delegation, shook hands with his Unita counterpart, Eugenio Manuva-

kola, after the ceremony, which was attended by representatives of the United States, Russia and Portugal, the guarantors of the pact.

The initialling was delayed for several hours by a last-minute dispute over security arrangements for Dr Savimbi, who launched his guerrilla war against the MPLA government in 1975 when Angola gained independence from Portugal.

Asked if the security issue had been settled, Mr Beye replied: "All the questions have been resolved. That is why we have initialled the document."

Military leaders of the two sides are due to meet on Thursday to discuss details of a ceasefire.

But in Luanda, diplomats, aid workers and ordinary people have expressed caution about whether the pact will hold.

An Angolan businessman said mistrust between the two

sides would impede implementation of an agreement.

A diplomat said he thought Unita would avoid laying down arms.

"They do not want to accept in reality what they have got out of Lusaka," he said.

"They will keep holding the process up because they do not want to disarm. They do not trust the other side."

● In New York, UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali praised the combatants in Angola for initialling the peace accord.

Dr Boutros-Ghali said he hoped talks between Angolan military delegates would be brought to a speedy conclusion so a formal agreement could be signed in mid-November.

"A long-lasting peace in Angola will be possible only on the basis of compromise, genuine national reconciliation, tolerance and security for all Angolans." — Sapa-Reuter.

Peace deal for Angola

(5) CT 1/11/94
LUSAKA. — Angolan government and rebel negotiators yesterday initialled a peace agreement to end 20 years of civil war, a UN spokesman said.

Mr Joao Albuquerque said a formal announcement of the long-awaited accord would be made by UN mediator Mr Alioune Blondin Beye.

Peace talks here have dragged on since November.

The formal signing and proclamation of a ceasefire is expected by November 15.

A last-minute row over Unita's over-

seas missions and the number of bodyguards Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi would be permitted to retain, had threatened to wreck the process.

"The government argued Unita could have an unnecessarily big number of armed men in the name of Savimbi's bodyguards," said one source close to the negotiators.

Unita and government leaders ratified the peace pact at their meetings in Huambo and Luanda respectively last week. — Sapa-AFP

Angola's dates with destiny

APR 2/11/94 (5)

1974 — Left-wing revolution in Portugal spells end of Lisbon's 500-year-old African empire.

1975 — January 15: Angola's three main guerrilla groups — Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), the Marxist Movement for the Popular Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and the National Liberation Front of Angola (FNLA) — take equal shares in transitional government.

August 29: Transitional government collapses.

November 11: Independence Day. Last Portuguese forces withdraw, leaving MPLA in control of Luanda with support of Cuban troops and Soviet arms. South Africa backs Unita.

1976 — MPLA crushes FNLA and drives back Unita.

1979 — MPLA leader Agostinho Neto dies, replaced by Soviet-trained Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

1987 — South African force enters south-east Angola to thwart MPLA and Cuban offensive against Unita.

1988 — August: South Africans withdraw after United States mediation.

December: Angola, South Africa and Cuba sign accord linking Namibian independence from South Africa with withdrawal of Cuba's 50 000 troops from Angola by mid-1991.

1989 — June 22: At an African summit in Zaire, Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi agree on ceasefire which collapses in August.

1990 — April 28: Portugal announces first direct "exploratory contacts" between Unita and MPLA.

October 26: MPLA Central Committee approves multi-party democracy after 15 years of one-party rule.

1991 — April 28: MPLA ditches Marxism-Leninism for social democracy to prepare for general elections.

May 1: MPLA and Unita initial peace pact in Portugal providing for elections between September and November 1992, a de facto end to fighting and formal ceasefire.

May 31: Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi sign peace accord in Lisbon.

1992 — September 29-30: Angolans vote in country's first multi-party UN-monitored elections for president and 223-seat national assembly.

October 6: Unita withdraws from the newly unified armed forces accusing government of election fraud.

October 17: MPLA wins 53,7 percent and Unita 34,1 percent of national assembly vote. Mr Dos Santos takes 49,6 percent and DR Savimbi 40,1 percent of presidential vote, forcing second round.

UN certifies polls generally free and fair.

October-November: Fighting flares, more than 300 people killed in Luanda as Unita refuses to accept election results.

1993 — January: MPLA offensive against Unita in major cities with heavy casualties. Fighting continues through year.

November: UN-sponsored peace talks between Luanda government and Unita open in Zambian capital, Lusaka.

1994 — June 23: UN asks South Africa's President Mandela to help end war.



AP



PRESIDENT MANDELA ... was asked to help end the war.

July 7: Mr Mandela, Mr Dos Santos and presidents Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire and Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique meet in Pretoria to discuss ways to end war.

August 29: Southern African Development Community (SADC) says government and Unita agree on 7 000-member UN peacekeeping force for Angola.

Fighting in Angola continues through October.

October 5: Unita rejects government claim that rebel leader Jonas Savimbi seriously wounded in assassination attempt.

October 18: UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye announces agreement in principle between government and Unita to end war.

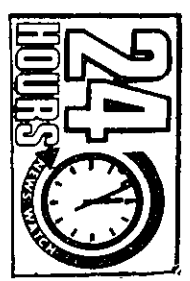
October 31: Government and Unita negotiators initial peace accord in Lusaka.

War and

ARL 2/11/94

(5)

peace



He rules over a disintegrating state

He masterminded the civil war for 19 years

ANGOLA'S President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has presided over a country disintegrating under the devastation of almost two decades of bitter civil war with its Unita rebels.

Year-long peace talks sponsored by the United Nations in the Zambian capital of Lusaka finally paid off on Monday when negotiators from the two sides initialled an accord to end the fighting.

Mr Dos Santos and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi are expected to formally sign the peace agreement in Lusaka in mid-month in the presence of other southern African leaders.

A previous May 1991 peace agreement broke down when Dr Savimbi refused to accept defeat in the country's first multi-party elections, sponsored by the United Nations, in late 1992.

Unita resumed the war it had waged against the formerly Marxist government since independence from Portugal in 1975.

Mr Dos Santos, first regarded by many as a colourless technocrat, took over leadership of the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) in 1979 after the death of Angola's first charismatic leader Agostinho Neto.

The shy and reserved Soviet-trained engineer was chosen partly because of his uncontroversial qualities. With no real power base in the MPLA, he was not thought a threat to the traditional party bosses of the Luanda administration.

But he quietly steered the MPLA away from Marxism, setting in motion moves to a market economy and democracy demanded by Dr Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).



PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS quietly steered the MPLA away from Marxism.

Mr Dos Santos also presided over the end of a bitter regional conflict which put South African occupying troops into the south of Angola in the 1970s and 1980s. Relations with Pretoria then began improving.

He also relinquished the support of 50 000 Cuban troops who buttressed his 150 000-strong army in its fight against Unita.

The phased Cuban pullout, linked by Pretoria and Washington with a South African withdrawal from Angola and neighbouring Namibia, was completed ahead of schedule in May 1991.

After he became president, Mr Dos Santos slowly increased control

over the Luanda administration. In December 1982 the party's central committee unanimously granted him special powers.

Less than two years later he stopped holding regular cabinet meetings and created a nine-member Defence and Security Council to take all major policy decisions.

Although officially commander-in-chief of the armed forces, Mr Dos Santos originally made his name as a technocrat.

He was born in a working-class family in Luanda. His father was a mason. He entered politics at 19, just before the MPLA launched its armed struggle against Portuguese rule in February 1961.

With thousands of other Angolans escaping the ensuing repression, he fled north to Zaire.

In 1962 he joined the MPLA guerrillas in the field but his first experience of the bush war was brief and he left for Moscow on a Soviet scholarship a year later.

In Moscow he graduated in petroleum engineering and stayed to train as a military telecommunication expert, experience he used back in Angola working as a radio operator for the MLPA.

When the last Portuguese troops withdrew in 1975 and Mr Neto proclaimed the independence of the People's Republic of Angola, Mr Dos Santos became the new state's first foreign minister.

He subsequently took charge of economic development, although Angola's resource-rich economy now lies in tatters from the war.

He married a Russian while he was studying in Moscow and they had two children, but he was divorced by the time he became president.

JONAS SAVIMBI, the burly, bearded chief of Angola's Unita rebels, masterminded a devastating civil war against the Luanda government for almost two decades.

Peace hopes have risen with the initialling of an accord by Unita and government negotiators on Monday after year-long talks sponsored by the United Nations.

An earlier ceasefire in May 1991 brokered by Angola's former colonial ruler Portugal broke down when Dr Savimbi rejected defeat in the country's first multi-party elections sponsored by the United Nations in late 1992.

Mr Dos Santos's Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) won 53.7 percent of the vote for the 223-seat National Assembly and Dr Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) 34.1 percent.

In the presidential poll, Mr Dos Santos won 49.57 percent and Dr Savimbi 40.07 percent, calling for a later run-off election which so far has not been held.

Mystery surrounded Dr Savimbi's health and whereabouts as the Lusaka talks reached a climax after the 60-year-old Unita chief was reported to have been treated in a hospital on the island state of Sao Tome for wounds to his right side.

But UN peace mediator Aloune Blondin Beye subsequently met Dr Savimbi at Unita's Huambo stronghold in central Angola and said he was "alive and well". He made no mention of injuries.

The ebullient Unita chief has been fighting for the past 30 years, first against Portuguese colonial rule before Angola's independence in 1975 and since then against the formerly-Marxist MPLA government in Luanda.



JONAS SAVIMBI ... ebullient leader fighting for the past 30 years.

During the bush war in the 1970s and 1980s, Dr Savimbi received support from South Africa and the United States as part of the Cold War battle against communism in Africa.

But this support dropped away with the end of the Cold War and Dr Savimbi came under increasing pressure to reach an accommodation with Mr Dos Santos and end a civil war in which hundreds of thousands of people have died and millions driven from their homes.

A charismatic leader with a reputation for ruthlessness, Jonas Maitheo Savimbi was born in the central town of Munhango on August 3, 1934, son of a railway station master.

He studied medicine at Lisbon University and political science at the University of Lausanne.

During that period, he became both the foreign minister of the Angolan government-in-exile and vice-president of the Angolan Peoples' Union (UPA) — a Zaire-based organisation which launched the first guerrilla attacks on white farms in northern Angola as a prelude to the war for independence.

He left in 1961 to form his own party, Unita, which he says was born as an army of "12 people with knives".

By the time war with Portugal had ended, he boasted 5 000 guerrillas and — by his ethnic links with the Ovimbundu, Angola's largest tribe — the support of 40 percent of Angola's six million people.

In 1975 the rival liberation leaders set up a transitional government.

It collapsed the same year after a series of battles and Unita started its bush war against the MPLA, setting up a provisional capital of tatch houses at Jamba in remote southern Angola, where Dr Savimbi lived with his wife Vinona.

Angolan forces retake ^⑤ oilfields centre from Unita

ARC 2/11/94

□ UN mediator urges peace accord be implemented

LUANDA. — Angolan government forces have recaptured the country's main on-shore oil centre from Unita rebels in heavy fighting, state media reported fewer than 24 hours after the two sides initialled a peace accord.

Unita General Paulo Lukamba Gato reported that government planes bombed Caala, 30 km southwest of Huambo, and said such attacks threatened implementation of the pact. The Caala attack could

not be independently confirmed.

In Lusaka, United Nations peace mediator Alioune Blondin Beye said at a ceremony marking the accord: "The time for fighting is over and time for peace has come. I urge the government and Unita to show military restraint to alleviate the suffering of the people.

"My wish is that starting today we will see the delivery of Angola from war," he said in the Zambian capital where the pact was hammered out during a year of talks.

Initialled by both sides on

Monday night, it is intended to end the civil war that began on independence from Portugal in 1975.

Diplomats said they expected a surge in fighting as the two sides tried to gain territory before the ceasefire which is due to start 48 hours after a formal signing of a peace agreement, expected around November 15.

Angolan newspapers reported yesterday the army had retaken the northwestern oil town of Soyo, captured by Unita last year.

"Heavy fighting is going on in the municipality of Soyo after its re-occupation by the Angolan army," it said.

It said government troops were also advancing on Unita's headquarters at Huambo in the highlands of central Angola.

A government source said fighting took place on several central fronts on Monday as troops advanced towards Huambo.

He said a government thrust from Benguela was only 40km from Huambo, but was being held up by Unita minefields. — Reuter.

'Huambo has been taken by Angolan govt'

(5) CT 7/11/94
LUANDA. — Angolan government troops have taken control of the rebel Unita headquarters and stronghold of Huambo, a government military source said late last night.

The source said the country's second city fell to government troops after a morning air raid in which Unita retaliated, destroying a MiG fighter jet.

State radio reported that the northern oil-rich town of Soyo has also fallen to government troops.

No independent confirmation of the recapture could be obtained.

Earlier, one aid source in radio contact with staff in Huambo said Unita reported capturing the pilot of a government MiG shot down in the morning.

Fifty foreign aid staff trapped in the city were reported to be in high spirits.

The government, which initialled a peace accord with Unita last month to end nearly 20 years of civil war, said earlier it did not intend to capture Huambo itself but to take adjacent positions.

The two sides are due to sign the accord formally on November 15 and a ceasefire would follow two days later.

'Peace still on course in Angola'

Biarritz, (France) — Angolan Prime Minister Marcelino Moco insisted yesterday that the peace process was still on course despite his government army's claim to have captured Huambo, stronghold of the Unita rebels.

Moco made contradictory statements at a news conference in south-west France when asked whether government forces had or had not captured Huambo, as the Luanda army spokesman had claimed earlier yesterday.

Speaking on the eve of the Franco-African summit, Moco said the MPLA government was "totally committed to peace" despite fighting which he said was raging throughout the central African country.

He said he had brought invitations to several African leaders coming to Biarritz to attend the planned signing of the peace accord in Lusaka on November 15.

The ceremony, scheduled after 11 months of negotiations with Unita in the Zambian capital,

appeared in grave jeopardy because of the latest fighting.

Aid sources in Luanda, quoting foreign aid workers in Huambo, said yesterday that government forces were still thought to be about 10 km from the devastated city in the central highlands. (5)

Moco, speaking Portuguese, said at one point that the army controlled Huambo.

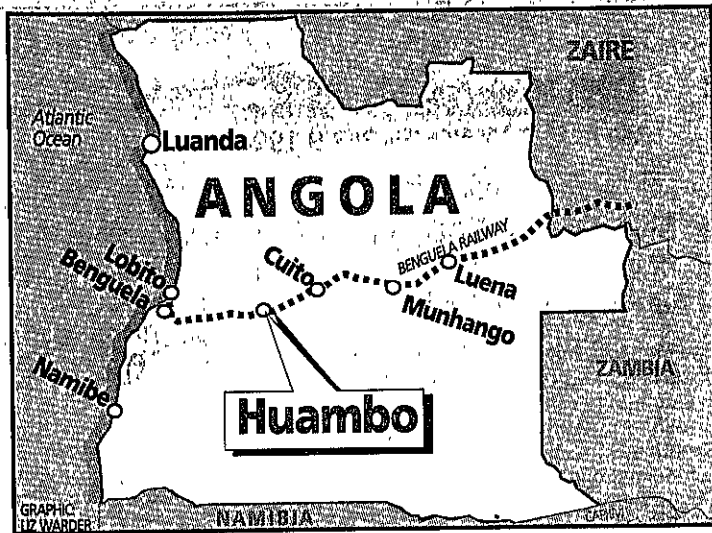
He added: "At the moment government forces are recording successes at Huambo but Unita is doing the same in other regions."

Earlier, at the same news conference, he said he had no specific information about particular war fronts.

"The war is generalised," Moco said.

He said he was unaware of reported threats by Unita to withdraw from the peace process if Huambo fell.

"Threats are the common currency of those who make war," he said, adding that government forces were merely defending themselves from Unita attacks. — Reuter.



From thriving city to war-torn, shattered shell

Huambo, the embattled headquarters of Angola's Unita rebels, was once a prosperous city. Now it is a shattered shell.

Almost every building has been hit by fighting and by air strikes. Thousands of citizens have fled. Those who remain are ragged and starving.

By Monday, government troops had advanced close to the western outskirts of the city and heavy combat was taking place.

Huambo has been one of the most potent symbols produced by the two decades of civil war. The rebels have controlled it since they seized it from the government in March 1993 after months of street fighting.

Rebel chieftain Jonas Savimbi set up his headquarters in the city, in the heartland of his Ovimbundu tribe.

His colonial-style white villa has since been bombed to rubble. He and his aides operate from bunkers in the basements of the few intact buildings.

Lying on a plateau in the central highlands, Huambo is surrounded by some of Angola's most fertile land.

It was the breadbasket of the nation during the years of Portuguese colonial rule.

But fighting since independence in 1975 has wrecked the main thoroughfare, where walls are pock-marked with shrapnel, shop windows have been blown out and blasted buildings have folded in on themselves.

Shells have punched big holes in the roofs and modern blocks of flats. Not a pane of glass is intact.

HUAMBO was once the centre of a region that was Angola's prosperous breadbasket, writes Nicholas Shaxson



President dos Santos ... his forces are on the attack.

Huambo has been the centre-piece of the war which broke out again after Savimbi bridled at his defeat in the United Nations-sponsored elections and withdrew to the city to set up his headquarters.

The population, once numbering 500 000, has over the past two years shrunk by more than half. Aid workers say thousands of civilians fled on foot over the past two weeks to escape renewed shelling and air raids by government forces.

Those who remained hide when government fighter planes pass overhead, venturing out to till their small plots of land during lulls in attacks.

The city is almost empty of vehicles. Most shops are closed and after sunset residents disap-



Jonas Savimbi ... his villa has been bombed to rubble.

pear from the unlit streets. Huambo becomes a ghost town and only armed men venture out.

Aid workers who visited the city recently reported rampant malnutrition and disease among the ragged population who survive on airlifts by international aid organisations.

The government in Luanda has been putting the squeeze on Unita by periodically suspending emergency aid flights to rebel-held areas following renewed fighting around the city.

— Sapa-Reuter.

Sowetan 10/11/94

Savimbi's appeal

UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi appealed over rebel radio yesterday for foreign intervention to halt an Angolan government assault on Unita's stronghold of Huambo.

A broadcast statement from Savimbi, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, indicated that continued fighting would wreck peace accords due to have been signed on November 15.

The Voice of the Black Cockerel Radio, accusing the Luanda government of "inhuman genocide", said:

"Our president has already solemnly called on the United States, the Zambian president (Frederick Chiluba) and United Nations special representative Alioune Blondin Beye to intervene to stop the offensive on Huambo.

"If there is a definitive battle for the occupation of Huambo, the international community will have to understand us, because the violation of the protocol initialled in Lusaka on October 31 is neither acceptable nor tolerable."

Unita said on Tuesday that government shelling of the central highlands city had killed hundreds of civilians. The government said it had killed 1 500 Unita soldiers. There was no independent confirmation of either claim.

Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos were due to sign a peace accord initialled by representatives of the two sides in Lusaka on October 31 after 11 months of negotiations in the Zambian capital. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola peace deal is off, says ^{B/Day} ^{11/11/94} Unita

LUANDA — Saying "all is lost" as government troops overran their headquarters, Unita rebels announced yesterday that a peace deal to end 19 years of war was off and leader Jonas Savimbi would not sign a truce next week as scheduled.

In its morning broadcast, Unita's Radio Vorgan announced that rebel military leaders would not attend today's scheduled meeting with UN mediators and government officials in Lusaka, Zambia.

"All is lost ... the government has plunged us back into war," said the radio. It said Savimbi would not sign a UN-brokered truce on November 15 unless government troops withdrew from Huambo, the rebels' central Angolan base.

But far from retreating, government troops were consolidating control of the city of 400 000, about 530km southeast of Luanda, the media and diplomats said.

There was no confirmation of the government claims from the UN mission in Angola. But Western diplomats and aid workers said the government appeared to have effective control of Huambo.

There was no indication of the whereabouts of the rebel leadership, which until early on Wednesday had been contacting Unita offices abroad from Huambo.

Meanwhile, Paul Hare, US President Bill Clinton's special representative to the

11-month peace talks in Lusaka, said he still expected the rebels to turn up for a military meeting to finalise details of the peace treaty.

Since war erupted on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975, fighting has killed more than half a million Angolans and millions are threatened by starvation and disease.

The latest treaty was to be signed on November 15 in Lusaka by Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. A ceasefire was to kick in two days later.

The government, distrustful of Unita and determined to negotiate from strength, has ignored several appeals by the UN, the Pope, the US and other countries to call off the Huambo assault.

Rebel radio said UN representative Alioune Blondin Beye was no longer considered a trusted mediator and blamed SA, Russia, Portugal and Brazil for arming the government troops.

Beye, who suddenly postponed his departure for Lusaka on Wednesday, was still in Luanda yesterday. But UN sources said he was ready to return to the peace talks at any time.

A group of 56 aid workers trapped in Red Cross headquarters outside Huambo since the building was looted by marauding troops on Tuesday were reported safe but still stranded yesterday. — Sapa-AP.

Soldiers mass

(5)
CT 12/11/94

WINDHOEK. — A 400-strong group of soldiers was gathering yesterday on the Namibian border ready to attack Unita military headquarters at Jamba in southern Angola, Namibia's main opposition party alleged.

Build-up for attack on Jamba claimed

But in a conflicting report, a source close to the Angolan MPLA government said the men had been recruited in South Africa to assist Unita's defence of Jamba against an expected MPLA attack. Neither report could be independently verified.

According to reports late last night, 50 foreign aid workers were evacuated earlier from the central Angolan city of Huambo once a Unita stronghold.

Angolan state media said the government now had "absolute control" over Huambo. Angolan television showed pictures of the airport and some suburbs of the city with almost deserted streets and few civilians.

Aid workers at the airport said the city was calm when they left. But Mr Toby Lanzer of the UN Coordinating Unit for Humanitarian

Affairs declined to say who was in control.

"We cannot say very much at the moment," he said. "I am very pleased to be out."

In a last-ditch bid for peace, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday he would personally attend an urgent summit of Southern African leaders on Angola.

The summit was proposed by Zambian President Frederick Chiluba, after the virtual collapse of the Angolan peace initiative.

Mr Mandela is also consulting President Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe and other leaders in the region about ways to rescue the peace process.

The Angolan government spokesman said a Unita newsletter this week had used as a smokescreen allegations that the men were assisting the MPLA. "They are there

in preparation to assist Unita in Jamba," the source said.

Namibian DTA president Mr Mishaake Muyongo, citing "very, very reliable sources", told a press conference the soldiers, of various nationalities and including 300 white men, had been transported to Rundu in northern Namibia by the Namibian Defence Force.

Executive Outcomes, a Pretoria-based company training government soldiers in Angola, said yesterday it was not involved in the build-up of troops.

Executive Outcomes said the troops were former South African soldiers, led by former SADF officer Colonel Jan Breytenbach. But this was denied by Col Breytenbach.

There was no immediate comment from the Namibian government.

Last night South Africa's Department of Foreign Affairs declined to comment on the reports of the military build-up.

A spokesman said the reports were mere speculation at this stage and it served no purpose to comment on them.

Unconfirmed reports from journalists said a successful reconnaissance raid had been carried out on Jamba on Thursday night in preparation for the main attack due at the weekend.

But the government announced a cessation of hostilities around the war-battered Unita headquarters yesterday, in an effort to get the rebels to sign a peace treaty to end 19 years of civil war, Angolan state radio reported. The signing was set for Tuesday next week.

Unita had called off the peace deal as government troops report-

edly overran the Huambo rebel base in a massive assault this week. Unita said on Thursday it still held the central highlands city where its leader Dr Jonas Savimbi has his headquarters.

Earlier a top Zambian official said the Angolan government had agreed to halt fighting with Unita rebels and a ceasefire in Angola should follow.

He said the Lusaka government was proceeding with arrangements to send a representative to meet Dr Savimbi at an undisclosed location.

A South African government source earlier said South African intelligence believed Dr Savimbi had left Huambo for Jamba.

The Zambian official said a UN plane had left Lusaka for Kinshasa to pick up a Unita military delegation, which was expected in the Zambian capital last night.

Asked whether Dr Savimbi was expected to come to Lusaka for the formal peace signing if his military team arrived, the source said: "Yes. We are optimistic again and have decided to leave all the arrangements as they stand."

Talks between the government and Unita had been due to start in Lusaka on Thursday to finalise military aspects of a ceasefire and other aspects of a peace accord, but the Unita side failed to appear. — Sapa-Reuter

Unita to sign treaty

ANGOLAN rebel leader Jonas Savimbi reportedly assured a US diplomat that he would sign a treaty ending 19 years of war despite a government offensive that overran his headquarters.

Savimbi on Friday called Madeleine Albright, the US ambassador to the United Nations, and told her he would be going to Lusaka, Zambia, for the treaty signing on Tuesday, Albright said.

Asked whether Savimbi would sign the document, Albright declined comment. But a Unita rebel spokesman said Savimbi had assured Albright he would sign the treaty. **CIPRO**

Angola's war rivals were expected to hold talks in the Zambian capital Lusaka yesterday to prepare for a ceasefire, a Zambian government official said. **13/11/94**

The Zambian official said a Unita military delegation was due from Zaire for talks with the Luanda government on technical details of a ceasefire.

The UN said it had definite word that the Unita delegation would arrive yesterday. It had been due on Thursday but said it could not talk peace while the government was trying to wipe it out on the battlefield.

The treaty, to be co-signed by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, caps 11 months of painstaking negotiations.

A nationwide ceasefire was to come two days later, followed by a power-sharing deal between the government and Unita.

Unita had called off the deal as government troops overran Savimbi's stronghold of Huambo, 530 km southeast of the capital, Luanda, in a huge assault this week. The rebels had demanded government troops pull back from the city. — Sapa-Reuter-AP **(5)**

ARG. 15/11/94 (5)

'Military intervention' if peace bid crumbles

LUSAKA. — African leaders meet in Zambia today in an urgent attempt to keep Angola's faltering peace accord on track.

The meeting of southern Africa's frontline states followed a last-minute postponement to Sunday of the signing of the accord, painstakingly negotiated by UN mediators over 11 months.

The leaders were drafting a tough statement telling Angola's warring sides to stop the bloodletting, conference officials said.

"The message is that enough is enough. Angolans want peace and the leaders will do all they can to ensure this is done," one official said.

"I think after this meeting anyone standing in the way of peace will be viewed and treated as Enemy Number One."

South Africa's Deputy President Thabo Mbeki has already warned that the leaders will take action — widely seen as including military intervention — should the latest Angolan peace bid crumble as others before it.

Although UN officials declined to give reasons for putting off the signing ceremony from today, conference sources said it was because Angola's Unita rebels had refused to sign while the government intensified the war.

In the past two weeks, after both the government and Unita had initialled the pact, Angolan army troops overran Unita's stronghold of Huambo in central Angola, throwing the peace process into doubt.

Unita, Jonas Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, has accused the government of

violating the tentative accord by launching the offensive. The government says the war is not yet over, although it is prepared to declare a truce ahead of the actual accord.

UN officials said military panels of both Angolan sides met in Lusaka yesterday to work out the details of implementing the truce and when it would take effect.

The delegations were later joined by UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye, chairman of the Angolan peace talks, apparently after some disagreements between them.

The original plan was to have the truce in force from November 17, two days after formal signature of the pact.

"The two delegations have agreed to discuss, as a priority, the cessation of hostilities, especially by fixing the date and the time for the implementa-

tion of the ceasefire," UN spokesman Joao Albuquerque said.

● President Mandela was notified of a postponement in the signing of the peace pact ahead of his departure for the Zambian capital Lusaka yesterday, his spokesman said.

"He left on schedule at 6 pm. Before he left the indication was that the signing would not take place today but later in the week," Parks Mankahlana said by telephone.

"In that event, the president received word that the meeting of the heads of state of southern Africa would take place.

"It is impossible to force the parties to sign but the heads of state will meet to confer on finding ways to persuade them to sign," Mr Mankahlana said.

The spokesman said M. Mandela was due back in South Africa at 3pm today.



ARG. 15th. 94
5

'100 000 civilians killed in past two years'

LISBON. — About 100 000 civilians have been killed in Angola since the country's civil war resumed two years ago, Human Rights Watch has said.

The New York-based organisation said in a report that both sides had been guilty of torture, summary executions and the recruitment of child soldiers.

It urged the United Nations

to enforce an arms embargo against the two sides.

The report, released on the same day as the Angolan government and the rebel movement Unita had been due to sign a new peace agreement, also demanded that the United Nations deploy human rights monitors throughout the country.

An upsurge in fighting since

the peace accord was initialled on October 31 has meant that the planned signing in Lusaka has been delayed until Sunday.

The report, entitled "Angola: Arms Trade and Violations of the Law since the 1992 Elections," said the Angolan government had become the biggest arms importer in Sub-Saharan Africa, buying more than \$3,5 billion (R11,5b) of mil-

itary equipment over the past two years.

"The government is believed to have mortgaged the next seven years of oil production to finance this huge build-up of weaponry," it said.

The report named the government's main military suppliers as Russia, Brazil, North Korea, Spain, Portugal, Bulgaria, and Uzbekistan.

Unita back to hammer out accord

CT 15/11/94 (5)

LUANDA. — Unita rebels returned to peace talks yesterday, to hammer out with the government's military final details of an accord to end 19 years of civil war, but said the treaty would only be signed next Sunday.

A Unita military delegation, headed by secretary-general Mr Eugenio Manuvakola, arrived in Lusaka, Zambia, where preparations were still continuing for the signing, originally scheduled for today.

But Unita spokesman Mr Marcus Samondo said Unita and government delegations had agreed yesterday with UN mediator Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, to postpone the signing until November 20.

President José Eduardo dos Santos and rebel chief Dr Jonas Savimbi are to sign the document. It is to lead, two days later, to a nationwide ceasefire and the start of a power-sharing agreement brokered painstakingly by Mr Beye in nearly a year of talks.

The rebels had called the deal off after government troops overran their stronghold of Huambo last week, but they later agreed to sign, apparently seeing the treaty as the best way to salvage some power.

Mr Samondo said by telephone that Unita and government delegations were meeting yesterday evening in Lusaka to finalise details of a ceasefire and details of security to be provided for Dr Savimbi under the accord.

After the last, failed peace accords of 1991, Dr Savimbi arrived in Luanda with a mini-army of bodyguards.

Mandela on peace mission

PRETORIA. — President Nelson Mandela left Waterkloof air force base shortly after 6pm yesterday for talks with Frontline leaders in Lusaka on the Angolan situation.

A spokesman for his office confirmed that the signing of a peace accord between the Angolan government and Unita, initially scheduled for today, had been postponed to next week.

He said Mr Mandela would meet Frontline leaders today to help facilitate the Angolan peace process.

The accord is the result of 11 months of negotiations in the Zambian capital.
— Sapa

This time, the government wants to limit that number and integrate Unita security into the national police.

But Mr Samondo said he thought all problems could be resolved by November 20. "Then there's the signing — the invitations are in the mail."

US Assistant Secretary of State Mr George Moose told reporters here the US was "deeply concerned" by a continuing offensive by government troops, and particularly by their capture of Huambo.

Western diplomats say the government is risking US sanctions by continuing the offensive. — Sapa-AP

16/11/94

Angola government, Unita sign a pre-ceasefire truce

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The Argus Foreign Service

LUSAKA. — The Angolan government and Unita have finally signed a truce in Lusaka, giving the country fresh hope of ending 20 years of war that previous peace efforts have failed to stop.

It will come into effect at 8pm Angolan time (9pm SA time) today.

The truce will last until midnight on Tuesday by which time the ceasefire, to be signed on Sunday, will have come into effect.

"I see this as the beginning of a light at the end of a long tunnel and I hope that this historic event will mark a significant milestone in our quest for peace in Angola, said Chris Abutu Garuba, chief military observer for the United Nations Angola Verification Mission.

It is hoped that by 9pm today all Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) and Unita military units on the ground in Angola will have had orders to refrain from carrying out attacks on each another.

"This period of truce will significantly benefit the environment in which the general staff will hold their

meeting to discuss other issues which precede the signing of the Lusaka protocol and the consequent re-establishment of the ceasefire, as envisaged and agreed upon under the protocol," the agreement read.

General Pedro De Morais Neto signed on behalf of the Angolan government and General Eugenio Ngolo "Manuvakola" for Unita.

Unita has suffered militarily in the past 16 days during which the the FAA launched a massive offensive, taking the town of Huambo, Unita's central highlands stronghold.

The government drive recovered much of the ground it lost when Unita resumed the war in September 1992 after its leader Jonas Savimbi rejected his loss at the polls.

It was agreed in October that the ceasefire agreement would be signed yesterday.

But after Unita pulled out of the deal in protest against the government offensive, it was postponed to Sunday.

Approached for comment all government negotiator General Neto would say was: "Am I happy? Any other attitude would be incorrect."



NEWS OF PEACE? Angolan government soldiers recovering from war amputations listen for news of a truce agreement between the government and Unita.

16/11/94
6

Fears of Huambo massacre

LUANDA. — Fighting rages on in Angola amid fears that more than 200 people may have been killed by Unita rebels as they fled their Huambo stronghold, state radio said.

"More than 200 people died in a massacre in Huambo. The bodies were found in wells.

"Yesterday a campaign began to pull the bodies out. The number of dead could rise."

A television cameraman said he saw bodies being pulled from wells and residents told him they had been supporters of the ruling MPLA who had remained in Huambo when Unita captured the city early last year.

A government offensive against Huambo, which started more than two weeks ago, has cast a shadow over peace accords between the two sides already initialled and due to be signed on Sunday.

"The military situation in Huambo is stationary. The FAA (Angolan armed forces) are in control," the radio said.

It reported fighting near the town of Chinguar, 75km east of Huambo.

Cameraman John Liebenberg, in a letter from Huambo, said: "Huambo is eerie and quiet. Yesterday there were still many shots fired around the city."

He said the shots were all fired by FAA soldiers.

"No sign of Unita, but there are some Unita prisoners in our camp, barefoot and hungry. The military is all around the city."

Aid workers who stayed in a Red

Cross compound east of Huambo during its capture reported a flood of civilians moving eastwards as the government army advanced through Caala, some 20km south-east of Huambo, and then into the city itself.

Few of the original 250 000 civilians have remained in Huambo.

United Nations and Red Cross officials said they feared for the newly-displaced civilians.

"We do not know exactly where they all are and how we can reach them now," Ursula Eugster of the Red Cross said.

Liebenberg said he saw bodies in the streets.

"Many civilian dead lying around town, seemingly executed at the last moment by Unita. A strong smell of death around.

"I witnessed three bodies being taken out of a water hole, three people executed three days ago by hanging, detained last week when the FAA were in Caala," Liebenberg said.

"There is no real new damage in town. The locals here were expecting a heavy fight, but Unita just withdrew. They seemingly did not expect such a rapid response from the FAA.

"They blew the bridge to Huambo," Liebenberg said.

The bridge is over the Cunhongama River, some 10km east of Huambo.

"The FAA put down an army bridge and came across with tanks and artillery. This morning I inspected captured Unita weapons, tons of ammunition and rockets plus two American-made rocket launchers." — Reuter.

Embattled Savimbi holds key to peace in Angola

⑤

JOHANNESBURG. — Veteran guerrilla leader Jonas Savimbi, who has eluded his enemies for 30 years, holds the key to war or peace in Angola.

Military analysts said Dr Savimbi almost certainly engineered a delay in the signing of an historic peace pact in the Zambian capital Lusaka this week after government forces launched a push against, and overran, his headquarters at Huambo in central Angola.

A truce took effect last night and the peace pact signing was now scheduled for Sunday but unless Dr Savimbi gave the nod the war would continue, they said.

"He so overshadows everybody else in the public eye that he is an essential element of it," said analyst Helmoed

Rohmer Heitman.

He said 60-year-old Dr Savimbi was under severe military pressure and needed to buy time.

"Something can happen without him but I don't think the process will really function well without him," said Rohmer Heitmann, Southern African correspondent of Jane's Defence Weekly.

The bearded and burly Dr Savimbi is a veteran of guerrilla warfare and has been fighting for over 30 years, first against Portuguese colonial rule and then against the formerly Marxist MPLA government in power in Luanda since 1975 independence from Portugal.

For much of the civil war, Dr Savimbi directed his forces from his remote bush headquarters at Jamba in south-

eastern Angola and was reported to have returned there since the fall of Huambo.

Jamba, a complex of thatched huts and underground bunkers about 120km north of Angola's southern border with Namibia, is remote and Dr Savimbi's safest bet, Romer Heitmann said, describing the Jamba move as an interim measure "to get him out of the line of fire".

Dr Savimbi was believed to have been treated in a hospital on the island state of Sao Tome earlier this year for wounds to his right side received during government bombing of Huambo.

But when UN officials visited him in Huambo in October they saw no sign of any wounds.

Unita has frequently accused the MPLA government of try-

ing to assassinate Dr Savimbi.

Military analyst Willem Steenkamp said Dr Savimbi had suffered a "psychological setback" through the loss of Huambo.

"The one direction he can move into is to make a deal with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos," said Mr Steenkamp, the author of several books on South Africa's involvement in the Angolan conflict during the 1970s and 1980s.

Hundreds of thousands of people were killed and millions displaced in the war which erupted on independence from Portugal in 1975.

The war was briefly halted by 1991 peace accords but resumed with greater ferocity after Dr Savimbi rejected his defeat in UN-sponsored elections in 1992. — Reuter.

ARGUS 17/11/94

Army expected to enforce nationwide truce

LUANDA. — Angola's army was today expected to enforce a nationwide truce reached in its victorious war with Unita rebels to allow the signing of a peace treaty ending 19 years of civil war.

Mistrustful Unita rebels appealed for the rapid deployment of UN observers to monitor the ceasefire.

Chief of Staff General Joao de Matos yesterday ordered his troops to lay down their guns and respect the ceasefire "scrupulously."

As the ceasefire deadline passed, the government commander of the main, southern front, said his men were holding their fire as ordered.

"We are maintaining our positions and not advancing," said Brigadier Macedo Amarel.

He said there was no sign of rebel troop movement but warned: "We are on our guard."

The truce was the first step in disengaging the warring armies. Rebel and government delegations were meeting in Lusaka to finalise details before Sunday's signing.

The ceasefire agreement was reached on Tuesday and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi are to sign the treaty in Lusaka, Zambia.

Meanwhile, military officials said the northern city of Uige, the last provincial capital under Unita control, had fallen to government forces. There was no independent confirmation.

Fighting raged around Uige in the hours before the truce.

⑤ Observers have been guarded about whether the truce will hold. Previous efforts have failed to stop the war, which erupted on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975.

Unita, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, said the government ceasefire order was meaningless unless the United Nations guaranteed that the guns remained silent.

A rebel statement released in Lisbon urged the rapid deployment of UN military observers to Uige and the central highlands around Huambo, the rebel base seized in a huge government assault last week.

● In Cape Town, Deputy-President Thabo Mbeki has ruled out Southern African mil-

itary intervention to enforce the peace process in Angola.

Responding to questions in parliament, Mr Mbeki dismissed reports that the South African government had considered joining a regional force to enter Angola when it appeared that a peace accord would not be signed.

Mr Mbeki said President Mandela and fellow leaders from the region who met in Lusaka on Tuesday had not discussed military intervention.

"The statement that was made was that the South African government, with other governments in southern Africa, would take all the necessary steps to persuade the parties in the conflict in Angola to sign the peace agreement." — Sapa-Reuter-AP.

Angola orders its troops to cease fire

(5) CT 17/11/94

LUANDA. — Close to military victory over Unita rebels, Angola's army yesterday ordered its troops to hold fire so a peace treaty could be signed to end 19 years of war.

But with their forces pressed in the war-torn north, the mistrustful rebels appealed for a rapid deployment of UN observers to monitor the truce.

Chief of Staff General Joao de Matos, in a statement broadcast on state radio, called on his troops to lay down their guns at 8pm and respect the truce "scrupulously".

The ceasefire was called to allow President José Eduardo dos Santos

and rebel chief Dr Jonas Savimbi to sign a formal peace treaty on Sunday in Lusaka, Zambia.

In the hours leading up to yesterday's deadline, fighting raged on around the northern city of Uige, the last provincial capital still in rebel hands, military officials said.

A permanent ceasefire is due to take effect two days after the signing.

● There was no truth in press reports that South Africa would intervene militarily in Angola if the peace agreement between the MPLA and Unita was not signed on Sunday, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said.

After the war ... A shattered peace



While attention focused on the signing of an Angolan ceasefire in Lusaka, **Phillip van Niekerk** visited the scene of the battle — and found a city that resembles Dresden in 1945

THE Angola "story" achieved some prominence again this week, in a strangely disembodied way. The rest of the world, alerted by the trigger-word "peace", finally sat up and took notice, but they had first to be reminded that an awful war was underway.

Last week I walked among the rubble of Cuito, a provincial capital east of Huambo in Angola's central highlands. A visit here is disturbed by blasts. Not artillery shells, but the sound of people treading on landmines or children picking up handgrenades. Relief workers say four or five people blow themselves up each day.

Angolan government troops drove Unita rebels out of Cuito in July. The city of 140 000 was left with one of the highest amputee populations in the world and a skyline that resembles Dresden in 1945.

It is a pocked city littered with rubble. There is not a tree without bullet holes. The facades of the once lovely Portuguese villas look like they have been bashed by a gigantic sledgehammer. Perhaps, one might imagine, such devastation is to be expected after 20 years of war. But it has taken only two years to destroy Cuito and most medium-sized cities in Angola. It took much longer to wreak less destruction in former Yugoslavia.

What has gone missing is an understanding of what has happened here. Until the October 1992 elections, the Angolan war was fought mostly in the bush, touching a handful of urban settlements in the south-east of the country. During a brief window of peace in 1992, Angola was still intact.

When Unita leader Jonas Savimbi went back to war at the end of 1992 he seized the cities. These have become ferocious battlegrounds during the past year as the war has turned in favour of the government. Unita has been dislodged from one city after the other in struggles more reminiscent of Stalingrad than anything encountered before in Africa.

These names mean nothing in the West: N'dalatando, Milanje, Sauremo, Huambo. They were each home to hundreds of thousands of people and now they are ruins. Only Luanda, Lobito-Benguela and Lubango have survived.

For 18 months, the frontline in Cuito was Joaquim Kapango Street, the main street, named after an anti-colonial guerrilla hero. Ten metres of tar separated Unita from the MPLA.

For nine months there was no humanitarian assistance. No one will go on record but it is widely known that some people resorted to eating corpses. The same people who tell you this say the dogs were eaten. Indeed, there are no dogs left in Cuito.

The rest of the world may have been in the dark, but it was not without its contribution. At last count, 68 different kinds of explosives from 23 nations have been found in the rubble of Cuito — even British handgrenades of early World War II vintage.

The biggest threat is to the children. A cluster bomb looks like a shiny toy. Every day those who are lucky enough to survive have limbs amputated at the Fellini Hospital — so named by the French doctors who opened it in February on the day when the great Italian film director died.

The inhabitants of Cuito are camping in the husks of former apartment blocks, in tents and in a destroyed football stadium. Not wanting to risk more of the living by crossing minefields to bury the dead, makeshift cemeteries — little mounds with wooden crosses and flowers — have been constructed in people's back gardens.

The government appears to have abandoned all pretence at serving its people in favour of pursuing a war that the hawks are increasingly confident they can win without having to compromise to the terms of a peace treaty. The Angolan army has been rebuilt at vast cost to the country's oil reserves and with the help of South African soldiers from Executive Out-



Ceasefire: Angolan government soldiers recover from war wounds

PHOTOS AP



Huambo residents clear the bodies of civilians allegedly executed by Unita soldiers as they retreated before the advance of Angolan government forces

comes, who have played a major role in turning the war around.

It has been left to the international NGOs to take over the distribution of food, medical care and the welfare of the Angolan people.

The human rights group, Africa Watch, this week charged both the MPLA government and Unita of human rights violations, including summarily executing opponents. The government's armed forces, Faa, also stands charged of indiscriminate aerial bombardment of population centres, while Unita is accused of mass abductions and starving civilians by attacking relief operations, mining agricultural fields and killing those tending their fields.

That this catastrophe has gone largely unreported is partly the fault of the competing armies, who have kept journalists away from the frontlines. It is also the fault of the news agency format that is a conduit for every piece of war propaganda uttered by the two sides. The resulting slew of contradictions are usually far too confusing for foreign editors, let alone the man in the street, many thousands of kilometres away.

Angola is bad television. It is a fertile country. If the crops are not planted, there are always

roots or wild berries to eat. People are starving in Angola, but it cannot compare to the Horn of Africa, the misery of which is a familiar image in the jaded consciousness of the Western viewer.

Ten days ago I visited one of the worst sites of misery that aid workers have been able to get to. Balombo is a small town 112km west of Huambo. It has changed hands between Unita and the MPLA five times since 1975, last being recaptured by the MPLA in October 1993.

Encircled by the rebels and with a short, battered runway that prevented relief flights from getting in, it was cut off from the rest of the world until four weeks ago when government forces mended the runway.

Since January, 928 people out of a population of 17 000 have starved to death. It is a town of stick figures, of emaciated people. In a room that serves as a clinic, skeletal children and puffy "kwashiie" babies cling to their mothers' breasts that have been sucked dry of milk.

Unlike what would have been the case in Sudan, the situation has improved dramatically since flights started coming in. With the rainy season weeks away, and Unita pushed out of the surrounding territory, peasants were out

planting the seeds that reached them just in time.

Luanda absorbs all the shocks that strike the interior. Refugees fleeing this war of a thousand fronts are packed tightly into slums, or bairros, built on former market gardens, in factories or in city parks. One rose on what used to be Luanda's rubbish dump where the stench has never quite dissipated.

A city that was built for 600 000 people at most now holds anything up to three million — almost a third of the Angolan population.

Luanda is a city of hard times where nothing is cheap. The minimum wage is 240 000 kwanzas a month — about half an American dollar. It costs twice that a month to send your child to private lessons, which is the only way he or she will be educated; a quarter of your month's wage for a loaf of bread; one eighth for a bucket of clean water; one sixteenth to shit in private.

Women sell in the markets in a desperate scramble to keep up with inflation, estimated by the World Bank last year at 1 800 percent.

But what is there to sell in this city? Anything that has the slightest economic value. One family is in the toothpaste business. The children rummage through the rubbish dumps for spent toothpaste tubes that the adults scrape out until they have a full tube to sell in the market.

But Luanda is not a life. Out of the debris of ideologies that have brought destruction, the only comfort is the preaching of the evangelical pastors on Sunday. The people who cram into the bairros believe that when the war is over, they will go home, to Milanje, to Zaire province, to Bie and Lunda Sul, and to Huambo.

Those returning to the countryside have the best hope of restarting their lives. Those going back to the provincial cities will find devastation.

Cuito has been so badly damaged that some officials have suggested it be written off and a new city constructed alongside. Even while they dither, the people have themselves started rebuilding. In Cuito, the street market is bustling again. On sale were onions, car parts and, significantly, rows of nails neatly sorted into different lengths. The World Bank officials in Luanda, wary of stepping on mines, haven't even travelled to Cuito yet to revise the costs of reconstruction but the people of the city have started the enormous process of rebuilding their lives.

Among the war's greatest victims, the peasants, there is an almost mystical optimism that this time the fighting is over, contrasting with a worldly wise cynicism in Luanda. News of the peace talks travels by radio and bush telegraph. Everyone in the villages around Balombo, even those who cannot tell you their age, know the latest from Lusaka.

If they had the time, they might reflect that they are not just victims of the MPLA and Unita warmongers. One of the pities that this war has gone unreported is it lets off the hook international players who need their noses rubbed in the fly-ridden rubble of Cuito. Like the Portuguese, who created the original mess, and the Americans and the Russians who used Angolan lives as pawns in their global chess game.

Then there is the United Nations, which forged ahead with an unrealistic election date, ignoring warnings that Savimbi still had an army, because it didn't want to waste more money on an unsexy Third World country. For that mistake, at least 100 000 more Angolan civilians have died. The UN stood back feebly while Savimbi took the country back to war. The government had largely demobilised and was left without an army.

This makes the revamped Faa's offensive in recent weeks, its instinct to go for the kill rather than another treaty with a doublecrosser, its willingness to rely on its own strength rather than on international guarantees, at least understandable.

Most importantly, South Africa — in particular the militarists of the National Party government — have a lot to answer for. They spent millions of our tax rands to build up and defend Savimbi, providing him with the power base to hold his country to ransom and destroy it for the sake of his personal ambition.

Yes, we paid for it. We all had a role in reducing Angola to beggary. Still, the darkness permits us to ignore it.

Phillip van Niekerk is the Southern Africa correspondent of the Observer

Savimbi 'won't make signing'

5

HUAMBO. — Unita rebels, claiming their forces were under government air attack in Angola, said yesterday their leader Dr Jonas Savimbi could not leave to sign a treaty to end Angola's 19-year war as planned tomorrow.

The government's chief negotiator at the talks in Lusaka, Zambia, warned the rebels not to miss "the greatest, last opportunity for peace".

The rebels stayed away from the talks for the second straight day, claiming government troops were violating a truce called on Wednesday.

Unita General Eugenio Manavukola said communications between Lusaka and Dr Savimbi had broken down. The delegation would not return to talks until

Govt raids put treaty in question

they heard from Dr Savimbi.

Unita representative in Brussels, Mr Alcides Sakala, said Unita forces in Angola were under their third day of bombardment.

"We maintain our good intentions (to sign), but we don't have the conditions to leave the country," he said.

Capping nearly a year of UN-brokered negotiations, the pact was to have ended fighting that has killed more than half-a-million Angolans since 1975 and led

CT 19/11/94

to a power-sharing deal between government and rebels.

The United States expressed displeasure over reports that the government was still fighting despite the truce agreement.

General Pedro Neto, the Air Force chief heading the government delegation, said Unita "should not make an issue of the truce because there was no legal ceasefire".

The truce was called on Wednesday night to allow tomorrow's ceremony to go ahead. But a permanent, formal ceasefire was to take effect only two days after the signing.

The official Journal de Angola accused the rebels of bombarding the airport of Cafunfo on Thursday and of attacking the outskirts of Menongue, capital of southern Cuando Cubango province. — Sapa-AP

ARGUS 19 20 11 194

War-weary civilians fear talks won't end 19-year struggle

(5)
DUNCAN GUY

Weekend Argus Foreign Service

LUSAKA. — If history can repeat itself in pleasant ways — unlike the habit Angolan peace efforts have of backfiring — the Frontline States (FLS) meeting in Lusaka could bring back hopes for peace in Angola.

But, it might be very difficult to return the optimism expressed by FLS chairman Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe, President Mandela and others last week when Unita and the Angolan government substituted their intended ceasefire agreement with a truce. The ceasefire was postponed until tomorrow.

"They will have to come prepared for setbacks," a diplomatic source said yesterday in the Zambian capital

where negotiations for a ceasefire agreement during the truce lasted only a day this week.

If FLS and other international community efforts fail to make this round of talks a success, Angola's 19-year war that has wrecked the country since independence from Portugal in 1975, is set to linger on.

People in the streets of Lusaka were filled with cynicism about the prospect of peace.

"(Unita leader Jonas) Savimbi will always go back to war," said a Lusaka resident.

"And Unita will carry on raiding villages in the west of Zambia for food."

Others believed it suited illegal diamond buyers who represented a cross-section of Zambian, Zairean and Angolan society, crossing barriers of political office and class.

Since Unita accused the government of continuing the offensive it launched last week — having agreed to sign the ceasefire on Tuesday — the rebels have given meetings at the Mulungushi International Conference Centre a miss.

"They are not receiving calls from the Press," said the receptionist at Lusaka's luxury Pamodzi Hotel yesterday, refusing to put calls through to Unita secretary-general Eugenio Ngolo Manuvakola.

"They are communicating only with their headquarters in Angola." The headquarters and leader Dr Savimbi, are presently "somewhere in the province of Huambo".

Unita's loss of the provincial capital, with the same name, was a heavy setback during the government offensive.

By yesterday, both sides were accusing one another of breaking the truce.

General Manuvakola's government counterpart, General Pedro de Morais Neto, said it appeared that Unita, instead of giving orders for its combatants to engage in a truce, "told them to do the opposite, to intensify the war".

He accused Unita's military delegation, which arrived in Lusaka only on Monday, of not having any intention of signing the ceasefire.

Savimbi trapped in Angola — Unita

ARG. 19-26/11/94

5

HUAMBO, Angola. — Unita rebels, claiming their forces were under government air attack in Angola, said yesterday their leader, Jonas Savimbi, could not leave to sign a treaty to end Angola's 19-year war as planned tomorrow.

The government's chief negotiator at the talks in Lusaka, Zambia, warned the rebels not to miss "the greatest, last opportunity for peace".

The rebels stayed away from the talks for the second consecutive day, claiming government troops were violating a truce called on Wednesday.

General Eugenio Manavukola said his delegation had received no instructions from Dr Savimbi that there would be a signing tomorrow.

He said communications between Lusaka and undisclosed Unita positions in Angola where Dr Savimbi was staying had broken down. The delegation would not return to talks until they heard from Dr Savimbi, he said.

Unita's representative in Brussels, Alcides Sakala, said Unita was under their third day of heavy bombardment by the government air force.

"We maintain our good intentions (to sign), but we don't have the conditions to leave the country," he said.

Capping nearly a year of United Nations-brokered negotiations, the pact was to end fighting and lead to a power-sharing deal between government and rebels.

It was to be signed by Dr Savimbi and President José Eduardo dos Santos tomorrow before a host of African leaders.

But, Unita delegates walked out of the talks on Thursday, accusing government forces of violating a truce, before the ink had dried, with offensives in central and northern Angola.

The United States expressed displeasure over reports that the government was still fighting, in spite of the truce agreement.

"The signing of the Lusaka protocol is therefore again very much in ques-

tion," said State Department Press officer David Johnson in Washington.

The government blamed Unita for the talks' collapse, possibly setting the stage for a final assault against the rebels.

General Pedro Neto, the air force chief heading the government delegation, said Unita "should not make an issue of the truce because there was no legal ceasefire".

The truce was called on Wednesday night to allow tomorrow's ceremony to go ahead. But, a permanent, formal ceasefire was to take effect only two days after the signing.

"This is the greatest, last opportunity for peace," said General Neto. "The action Unita has taken is unjustified."

He said it was up to the international community to force the rebels back to the negotiating table.

Unita on Thursday alleged the government was attacking the northern city of Uige, the last provincial capital in Unita hands. The government claimed it captured Uige before Wednesday's ceasefire kicked in.

Artillery fire was heard around Huambo on Thursday, but local commanders insisted they were observing the ceasefire.

With their foes weaker than ever, hawks in the government military are said to be pressing Mr Dos Santos to allow them to finish the rebels off. Observers say they are gambling on world opinion blaming Unita for the talks' collapse.

Diplomats think Dr Savimbi left the combat area well before Huambo's fall, but acknowledge he could be trapped in central Angola near the key rebel airstrip of Andulo.

Mr Dos Santos, however, insists he will sign the accord and was expected to leave for Lusaka today for a possible summit of frontline states.

But, with hardliners ascendant in the military command, it is not clear whether Mr Dos Santos has the clout to stop his generals. — Sapa-AP.

Peace accord

CTZ/11/94 ⑤

But Savimbi's absence alarms



BRIEF APPEARANCE ... Superstar Whitney Houston, who made a disastrous debut in Cape Town at the weekend, had to rely on husband Bobby Brown and mother Cissy Houston to help her. She kept the thousands of fans waiting for 20 minutes before appearing, apparently upset. Whitney was unable to complete her show and left before the end of the finale, I'm Every Woman. Picture: BENNY GOOL

LUSAKA. — The Angolan government and Unita rebels signed an accord yesterday to end one of the world's longest and deadliest conflicts.

But diplomats and ordinary Angolans remained sceptical about the prospects for peace, particularly as Unita chief Dr Jonas Savimbi failed to attend the signing ceremony here.

Dr Savimbi is expected to become a deputy president as a result of the agreement.

The belligerents put their signatures to a wide-ranging accord that will ensure Unita participation in the government and envisages a ceasefire from tomorrow.

As they met, Unita radio claimed fighting was still going on, with government troops attacking rebel positions.

Delegated

A senior government military source confirmed fighting in two centres and added that Unita forces near their former headquarters in Huambo were under artillery fire.

Unita secretary-general Mr Eugenio Manuvakola, delegated to sign by Dr Savimbi, hugged Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos after the ceremony attended by representatives of 29 governments, including several Southern African leaders.

It had been delayed since last Tuesday by unrelenting military clashes.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said on his return from Lusaka yesterday a multi-national task force may help implement the Angolan accord.

He told journalists that Southern African foreign ministers will meet this week to plan their role, in co-operation with the UN, in enforcing the long-awaited accord.

A multi-national peacekeeping force, involving a host of African nations, was on the cards, but the level of external involvement in Angola had yet to be decided.

Mr Mbeki played down Dr Savimbi's absence from the signing ceremony.

He said the original draft had allowed for authorised representatives

to sign the document and that the accord had already been accepted into Angolan law, accompanied by various presidential decrees granting amnesty and promoting reconciliation.

Mr Mbeki was confident the peace would hold.

In addition to appointing Dr Savimbi deputy president, the accord also calls for:

- A formal ceasefire to take effect within 48 hours.

- A second-round vote to complete the 1992 presidential election in which Mr Dos Santos fell a fraction short of the 50% needed for outright election. Dr Savimbi took about 40% of the vote.

- The appointment of Unita representatives to the cabinet and in virtually all government institutions.

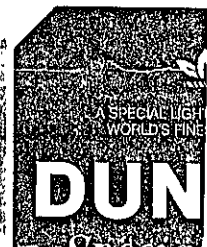
- The integration of Unita forces into Angola's armed forces.

- An expanded UN role in supervising, monitoring and verifying implementation of the ceasefire.

- The establishment of a commission to oversee implementation of the political and military accords — Sapa-Reuter

Dunhill proud

A new dimension
in a special Me



Renamo has accepted poll

CT 21/11/94 (5)

MAPUTO. — Fears of renewed war in Mozambique have receded with former rebel leader Mr Afonso Dhlakama's acceptance of defeat for his Renamo movement in last month's first multi-party general elections.

Mr Dhlakama said on Saturday he accepted the results which gave victory in the October 27-29 poll to his civil war foes, President Joaquim Chissano and the Frelimo party, which has ruled since 1975 independence from Portugal.

But he insisted that final results announced by the independent National Electoral Commission on Saturday contained irregularities and were not free and fair as declared by international observers.

Fears of renewed war fade

"We accept the election results. But they were not fair," Mr Dhlakama told reporters in the garden of his Maputo residence.

He added however that he would play a constructive role as head of the opposition in parliament, adding: "I send a message of peace to the Mozambican people."

The results gave Mr Chissano 53,3% and Mr Dhlakama 33,73% of the 5,4 million votes cast in the presidential election.

UN representative Mr Aldo Ajello, who has been overseeing an October 1992 peace accord that ended 16 years of civil war between Renamo and the formerly Marxist government, gave his seal of approval. So did the Organisation of African Unity and the European Union.

The UN spent \$1 million (about R3,5m) a day overseeing the poll.

Diplomats said the risk of fresh conflict now seemed remote.

"Dhlakama had to say there were irregularities to save his pride. But Mozambicans are tired of war. He knows there is no point going back to the bush," said a Western diplomat. — Sapa-Reuter

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LUSAKA — The Angola government and Unita yesterday signed a peace treaty although their leaders did not put their names to the document — heightening fears that it would fail to end 19 years of civil war.

The agreement was signed by Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura and Unita secretary-general Mr Eugenio Manuvakola before representatives from 29 countries.

“With the spirit of national reconciliation, all Angolans should forgive and forget the suffering from the conflict,” said Manuvakola, who hugged Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos after the signing ceremony.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi’s failure to show up in Lusaka, despite pleas from world leaders, was seen by Angolan and other African officials as a snub.

Savimbi, citing security concerns, on Saturday decided not to attend the signing in person. He sent Manuvakola, one of Unita’s top generals in the war which he claimed had killed one-million people, maimed 100 000 and displaced five-million others.

US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Mr George Moose said Savimbi’s absence did not mean Unita was not committed. “But obviously we would have all preferred that he be here.”

Unita Radio reported that fighting continued in southern Angola, saying government forces had suffered heavy casualties in clashes around the cities of Cuito Cuanavale and Menongue in southern Cuando Cubango province.

Unita said it had agreed to sign the accord despite the fighting as a demonstration of its

goodwill. The report could not be independently confirmed.

Peacemakers, including UN chief negotiator Alioune Blondin Beye, could barely hide their anger at Savimbi.

“This protocol can’t stop the fighting,” one Angolan state negotiator said. “It has no value because Savimbi has not signed it.”

But a Zambian official told Reuters the accord could still end Angola’s war, which has been fought since independence from Portugal in 1975.

Peace efforts

Beye, who negotiated the accord in Zambia over the past year, praised Savimbi and Dos Santos for their peace efforts.

Beye warned, however, that there would be peace only if the two sides really wanted to end the war.

Zambian President Frederick Chiluba told delegates, including Zaire’s President Mobutu Sese Seko, who has been accused of backing Unita, that the occasion was a landmark. (5)

“What we are here to witness is no doubt an epoch mark of a peace agreement between the MPLA and Unita,” he said.

Yesterday’s accord is the climax of tortuous negotiations to stop a war that has brought the oil- and diamond-rich southern African country to its knees.

The peace accord was to have been signed last Tuesday but the ceremony was postponed after Unita accused the Angolan government of violating a November 15 truce with a military offensive against rebel strongholds. — Sapa-Reuters.

SANDF may help to monitor accord

(5) CT 22/11/94

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

THE "form and content" of involvement by the frontline states in UN-sponsored Angolan peacekeeping operations will be discussed at an envisaged meeting of Southern African foreign ministers soon.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's spokesman Mr Thami Ntenti emphasised yesterday that no decision had yet been taken to send SA soldiers to Angola.

If SA forces were sent to Angola, they would fulfil peacekeeping and monitoring roles and not go into battle, he said.

The proposed meeting of the frontline foreign ministers comes against the background of an approach from UN secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali to South Africa, Zambia

and Zimbabwe to assist in a new UN initiative to implement the Lusaka peace agreement signed by the Angolan government and Unita at the weekend.

SA Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise yesterday played down the prospect of any bold new thrust by the SANDF outside the country's borders.

However, he said South Africa might be prepared to send soldiers to Angola as part of a regional peacekeeping force.

Such possible involvement would hinge on developments in recently troubled Lesotho and South Africa's own internal stability.

Earlier Mr Ntenti said: "There is a perception that South Africa has unlimited resources, but we have our own problems to resolve. We have obligations to Africa, but we also have obligations to our own people."

Unita rebels 'on the attack'

CT 22/11/94 (5)

LUANDA. — Unita rebels launched a wave of attacks against government forces, Angolan military and civilian authorities said last night.

The reported attacks came a day after the two sides signed a peace pact to end their long-running civil war.

In a statement issued here on the eve of the scheduled implementation of a ceasefire under the terms of the pact, Luanda authorities accused Unita of sparking artillery duels by mounting an offensive to re-take the northern town of Uije, which government troops occupied five days ago.

Unita soldiers also attacked Cacolo in eastern Angola on Sunday, the government added.

The government called on the international community to pressure Unita into ending hostilities that "are endangering the implementation of the peace accord".

Govt tells of renewed conflict

In a separate report, the government armed forces' chief of staff Mr Joao Baptista de Matos said four soldiers had died after their vehicle was blown up by mines laid by Unita on a road linking Monakimbundo and Cafunfu in the east of the country.

Regular troops repulsed a Unita attack in the central town of Vista-Alegre, while others were ambushed at Quessua in the north and at Caala in the same sector, where four civilians and one soldier died, Mr De Matos said.

Eight more civilians died in an

attack at Quimpaxi in the south-west, while Unita troop movements were spotted in the eastern diamond-producing region of Kwango, he added.

Meanwhile, the army's local command reported a Unita offensive at Longo, near Balombo, also south-west Angola.

Sunday's peace accord follows almost 20 years of armed conflict.

● Earlier yesterday, as the countdown to a formal ceasefire was continuing, hospital sources said at least 27 people died and 187 were injured by bullets while Luandans celebrated the newly-signed pact.

Civilians were reportedly felled by random shots in the shabby port capital.

Police put the death toll at 24, with 60 wounded, and said 30 soldiers and armed civilians had been arrested for opening fire.

Angolan state radio and Unita station Vorgan both broadcast appeals for peace and reconciliation. — Sapa-AFP

Uncertainty mars the peace

(5)
CT 23/11/94

LUANDA. — One of the world's longest and cruellest civil wars ended in Angola at 1pm yesterday when the government said it had ordered its troops to cease fire against Unita rebels.

Or the conflict was still on. The UN was not sure, and nor were the Americans, the British or the Angolan people, the primary casualties in the 19 years of strife.

The foreign affairs ministry told *Jornal de Angola* yesterday that the historic ceasefire agreed to in Lusaka on Sunday would come into effect at "zero hours today".

This was variously interpreted as being midnight Monday or midnight yesterday, before being contradicted on state radio by an army spokesman who said the guns would fall silent at 1pm yesterday.

Did the ceasefire happen?

"Perhaps after 19 years of civil war, a few hours here or there don't matter that much," said a Western diplomat in Luanda.

"In any case we will not know for days whether the ceasefire has in fact taken effect."

A common refrain among diplomats and officials here yesterday was: "It is very difficult."

Colonel Tsoyushi Harada of the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM) said he had "no infor-

mation" on how the UN would monitor the ceasefire with a total of 80 observers scattered around five non-combat areas in a country twice the size of France.

In Lusaka, the capital of neighbouring Zambia, military chiefs from the government and the rebel Unita were still discussing details of the ceasefire.

Unita said the ceasefire provided for in the peace protocol could take effect before the talks were completed, but the government delegation was not so sure.

Rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi did not turn up to sign the Lusaka protocol, which was penned by Unita secretary-general Mr Eugenio Manuvakola.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who went to Lusaka, accordingly delegated his foreign minister to sign the pact. — Sapa-AFP

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Angolan war is over . . . maybe

BID ay 23/12/94

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Col Tsoyushi Harada of the UN Angola Verification Mission said he had no information on how the UN would monitor the ceasefire with 80 observers scattered around five non-combat areas in a country twice the size of France.

In Lusaka, Zambia, military chiefs from the government and Unita discussed the ceasefire's details. One delegate said Unita leader Jonas Savimbi should personally make a ceasefire declaration "to create public confidence". — Sapa-AFP.

SA troops poised for Angola

SAO TOME. — South Africa last night seemed poised to send troops into Angola.

Defence Minister Mr. Joe Modise made it clear at a defence exhibition in Johannesburg that South Africa was under pressure to contribute troops to a peacekeeping force.

He said it would be difficult to refuse a UN request for troops. "It appears as if it's going to be very difficult for us to avoid participation in the keeping of peace in that area," he said.

The UN has said it wants South Africa, Zimbabwe and Zambia to contribute forces. Peace in Angola and Mozambique

was directly in South Africa's interests, Mr. Modise said.

But Unita leader Dr. Jonas Savimbi, who gave his backing last night to the Angolan peace agreement, said South Africa should not participate in the peacekeeping force "until all their mercenaries have been withdrawn from Angola".

Deputy Defence Minister Mr. Ronnie Kasrils said the government was "totally opposed" to South African mercenaries operating in Angola.

"Legislation will have to be tightened to prevent this sort of thing." It was a well-known fact the Pretoria-based firm Executive Outcomes employed South Africans as mercenaries in Angola.

The issue was "complex" because the Angolan government was satisfied with their services.

Unita Radio said Dr. Savimbi had agreed to meet President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

It also broadcast a communique ordering all rebel forces to respect the ceasefire.

Dr. Savimbi announced his endorsement of the accord and his willingness to meet the president in a letter to Ms. Madeleine Albright, US ambassador to the UN and this month's president of the Security Council.

Last night the day-old truce between the government and Unita seemed to be holding.

Guns remained silent as government and Unita officials finalised details of the UN-brokered power-sharing deal signed in Lusaka on Sunday. UN mediator Mr. Aloune Blondin Beye said: "As far as we know the ceasefire is being observed by both sides."

Government forces spokesman Brigadier Joao Manuel Jota spoke of a general "cooling down" of the hottest front around the northern city of Uige.

Mr. Beye said a joint commission of government, Unita and international diplomatic officials overseeing the peace deal would move from Lusaka to Luanda in the next few days. — Sapa-Reuter-AP

5 CT 24/11/94

Unita leader agrees to meet Dos Santos

Savimbi endorses peace deal

Sao Tome — Jonas Savimbi, leader of Angola's rebel movement Unita, has given his backing to the latest peace agreement with the government and agreed to meet President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Unita radio said yesterday.

Savimbi, who failed to attend the signing of the accord in the Zambian capital Lusaka on Sunday, announced his endorsement of the pact and his willingness to meet Dos Santos in a letter to Madeleine Albright, US ambassador at the UN and this month's president of the Security Council, the station said. It was Savimbi's first public comment on the UN-brokered peace accord since it was signed.

The radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, also broadcast a communique by Unita chief of staff Arlindo Chenda Pena "Ben Ben"

ALTHOUGH Unita's chief of staff orders all rebel forces to respect the ceasefire, government troops allege violations

ordering all rebel forces to respect a ceasefire which came into effect on Tuesday.

Meanwhile in Luanda, the Angolan military general staff yesterday accused Unita of violating the ceasefire.

In a statement broadcast on official radio, the army said the rebels had attacked the small town of Catengue in the southwestern Benguela province after the ceasefire took effect.

The military also claimed that a government soldier was killed

when Unita troops attacked Sakassange in the eastern Moxico province.

A joint commission established by the government and Unita to oversee the implementation of the peace accord will hold its first meeting in Luanda on Tuesday, the government spokesman at the Lusaka talks said yesterday.

General Higinio Carneiro also said the two sides had agreed Savimbi should have 150 bodyguards during a transition period before the establishment of a government of national unity including Unita members.

The peace protocol published in Lusaka on Tuesday gives Unita four Cabinet portfolios — mining, trade, health and tourism — and the governorships of three of Angola's 18 provinces: Lunda-Sul in the north-east, Cuando-Cubango in the south-

east and Uige in the north.

The 70 Unita deputies returned to parliament in 1992 in national and provincial polls — against 129 for the MPLA and 21 for small parties — will take up their seats in Luanda and a second round of presidential elections will finally be held under the accord.

Demobilisation

Dos Santos defeated Savimbi in the first round of the poll, but at 49.57 percent fell just short of the half of all votes cast needed to avoid a second, run-off round.

The Lusaka protocol says Unita should furnish 5 500 men to join a national police force of 25 000 and provides for demobilisation and the formation of a joint new army with matching numbers of men from both sides. — Reuter, Sapa-AFP.

Unita expected in Luanda in days

⑤
CT 25/11/94

LUANDA. — A top government official said yesterday he expected Unita rebel leaders to return here next week for the first time in two years to start implementing a power-sharing agreement.

Battle fronts remained quiet but tense following a truce that took effect on Tuesday. Unita's Radio Vorgan accused government troops of several military actions across the country but said rebel troops were still respecting the ceasefire.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said the Joint Political and Military Commission, set up to oversee implementation of last Sunday's peace accord, would meet in Luanda next week.

There were no claims of truce violations from the government side, nor any verification of Unita claims by the UN mission, which plans to deploy a 7 000-strong peacekeeping force only once the truce is seen to be holding.

Peacekeeping 'risk'

PORT ELIZABETH. — Deputy President FW de Klerk warned yesterday South Africa would be taking a risk if it sent peacekeeping troops into Angola but said he did not oppose the idea.

The Democratic Party, however, said it was filled with alarm at the prospect and warned strongly against sending troops.

Mr De Klerk said there was a risk because of SA's previous military involvement in the country.

DP foreign affairs spokesman Mr Colin Eglin said the police and security forces had to combat lawlessness in South Africa before setting off on foreign ventures. — Own Correspondent, Political Staff

Chief government negotiator Gen Pedro Neto said the first item at next week's talks would be establishing military regroupment centres around the country for rebel soldiers to surrender their arms and be demobilised or integrated into the army or police.

Talks in Luanda would be a step toward allowing Unita's leadership, including rebel chief Dr Jonas Savimbi, back into the capital. — Sapa-AP

AR6 25/1/94
5

Unita will meet government in spite of ceasefire violation claim

LUSAKA — Angola's rebel Unita movement said it planned to meet government representatives in Luanda next week in spite of its claims that government forces have violated the latest ceasefire agreement.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tome and Principe, said yesterday that the Joint Political and Military Commission, set up to oversee implementation of last Sunday's peace accord to end 19 years of civil war, would meet next week.

The radio accused government troops of attacking Unita forces in the northern province of Uige, the southern province of Huila, Bie province in the central highlands, the western province of Benguela

and the diamond-mining provinces of Lunda North and Lunda South in north-eastern Angola.

Unita reported three separate incidents near Cuito, the capital of Bie province, on Wednesday and said two civilians were killed in one of them.

The radio said a Swiss-made PC-7 spotter plane and a Russian-built Antonov transport plane dropped leaflets on the Unita-controlled town of Andulo announcing government plans to enter the town.

There was no immediate government reaction to the Unita statements. Each side has accused the other of ceasefire violations.

On Wednesday Unita radio said rebel leader Jonas Savimbi backed the new peace

deal, thrashed out over 11 months in the Zambian capital Lusaka, and agreed to meet Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. No date has yet been set.

Mr Savimbi, who has not been seen or heard in public since mid-year, failed to attend the Lusaka peace accord signing on Sunday.

The radio also broadcast a statement from rebel chief of staff Arlindo Chenda Pena "Ben Ben" ordering all Unita forces to respect the ceasefire.

In Lusaka, sources close to the UN-mediated peace talks said yesterday that negotiators had been unable to agree on where to house Unita guerrillas under terms of the accords.

Unita was also unhappy about the government's placing

of paramilitary riot police in the cities of Uige and Huambo, which government forces seized in an offensive launched just before the October 31 initialling of the accords.

The Lusaka talks on technical aspects of the ceasefire, among them the security of Dr Savimbi, wound up on Wednesday with broad agreement on issues including the demobilisation of the rival forces and the incorporation of Unita fighters into a unified police force.

The UN, which plans to send 8 000 peacekeepers to Angola, expects the accords to take up to a year to implement and a joint commission overseeing them will meet in Luanda next Tuesday. — Reuter.

ARG, 28/11/94

Cabinet to discuss troops for Angola

304 (A) 6

DUNCAN GUY
The Argus Foreign Service

CABINET is to meet this week to discuss how South Africa might assist peacekeeping efforts in Angola following a United Nations request to provide troops.

The UN Security Council is expected to pass a resolution allowing for the dispatch of an international peacekeeping force of up to 7 500 once there is convincing evidence of peace holding in the country.

Yesterday Chris Streeter, spokesman for Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo, confirmed that the matter was "absolutely on the agenda" when Cabinet meets on Wednesday.

He backed a SA National Defence Force denial that troops were already on standby, as was reported yesterday.

"You cannot have a force on standby before a decision has been made by Cabinet," he said.

Mr Streeter said if SANDF troops went into Angola, specific details would first have to be worked out.

"Nobody doubts that it will be a

fragile operation and one would have to look very carefully into how it would be done."

Army spokesman Colonel John Rolt said the SANDF had done "some contingency planning pending a decision from the government of national unity about South Africa's possible involvement in Angola".

"Contingency planning is a routine part of the SANDF's normal process," added colonel Rolt.

Meanwhile in Angola, Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi has indicated his willingness to meet with President Eduardo dos Santos.

Dr Savimbi was not present at the signing ceremony having claimed it would have been difficult for him to leave Angola because the airfield from which he would have left had been destroyed by fighting.

Both sides have been claiming that the other has broken the ceasefire, the latest report being from the government claiming Unita shot down a helicopter on Saturday, killing 22 people and holding four hostage.

Reuter reports that the Angolan government is demanding the release of the four.

Angola — army waits for decision

CF 28/11/94 (5)

JOHANNESBURG. — The SA National Defence Force yesterday denied it had soldiers on standby for Angolan peace-keeping duty.

Chief Director of Communication Lieutenant-Colonel Margie Neethling, reacting to a Sunday newspaper report, said the force had done some contingency planning pending a government decision on South Africa's possible involvement.

"There are, however, no troops on standby," she said, adding the front-page report was "pure speculation".

"Involvement in Angola will be decided by the government and not the SANDF. Contingency planning is part of the SANDF's normal process."

The cabinet will on Wednesday discuss a United Nations request that South Africa join the peace-keeping force to prop up the peace accord signed in Lusaka a week ago.

● Explosions and artillery fire shook part of central Angola at the weekend, battering the fragile truce.

Government soldiers in Huambo, from which Unita forces were driven earlier this month, identified one large blast on Saturday as a bomb dropped by one of their own aircraft — in violation of the ceasefire.

Civilians and aid workers said the explosions were the first sounds of battle since the ceasefire was signed.

Yesterday the air force threatened Unita with retaliation if it did not free

four crewmen it said Unita captured after a helicopter was downed with the loss of 22 lives.

The government said the helicopter was ferrying wounded from a battleground near the rebel-held town of Cuito-Cuanavale. Unita denied shooting it down and said it must have crashed.

Unita accused the government of attacking civilians in villages and massacring 200 of them in central Bie province for supporting Unita.

Rebel radio also said that in Huambo province Luanda's soldiers were killing and robbing rebel sympathisers.

The government retook Huambo earlier this month after a brief battle, ending an almost 19-month Unita occupation.

Denial

But the colonial-style city that was Angola's second biggest under Portuguese rule is devastated by two years of almost constant battle.

Rusting tanks line streets pocked with shellholes and almost every home has been looted, first by fleeing rebels, then by vandals and most recently by returning government troops.

● The Portuguese government on Saturday denied selling arms to Angola but said the head of an aircraft repair firm that had assisted Angolan armed forces would resign. — Sapa-Reuter

Namibia 'harassing Angolans'

SHITEMO, Northern Namibia. — Angolans trying to cross the now-closed Namibian border have been harassed, shot at and even killed, witnesses allege.

Thousands of Angolans are reportedly facing starvation since their main source of food from Namibia has been shut off.

President Sam Nujoma recently ordered police and soldiers to open fire on anybody crossing the

Kavango River illegally.

The border was closed along a 550km length of mainly Unita-controlled territory at the end of September after an attack, blamed on Unita, on Namibian soil that left three dead (5) CT 5/12/94

Malnourished and dressed in rags, Angolans who survived the crossing said it was better to brave the river than starve at home.

They and local Namibians alleged that a number of Angolans had been shot dead in or near the river.

And hundreds of people have been arrested since the border was closed.

Rundu shopkeepers and Kavango tour operators said the border closure and troop presence had affected business. — Sapa

Angola Africa's top arms buyer

Own Correspondent

Unita team arrives in Luanda

LONDON. — Angola was Africa's biggest arms market for the past two years and would be paying off its arms bill for the foreseeable future, says the latest issue of the journal Africa Confidential.

Military analysts estimated that the Angolan government bought weapons worth \$2,5bn (R8,75bn) in 1993 and purchases from January to July this year were estimated at a further \$1bn (R3,5bn).

"Government arms purchases have been mortgaged against future oil production," the journal said, adding that the Angolan government drew on annual oil earnings of about \$3bn (R10,5bn).

Russia and Brazil were thought to be the biggest arms suppliers to the Angolan government.

Unita, it said, drew on diamond smuggling income of \$500m (R1,75bn) a year after its capture of Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul. It also relied heavily on foreign sources for armaments, much of which were from private sources rather than governments.

The journal alleged that "the De Beers diamond cartel and other international dealers bought diamonds mined in violation of Angolan law in Unita-held territory".

LUANDA. — A joint commission tasked with implementing the Angolan peace accords held a belated first meeting yesterday after the arrival of Unita envoys.

UN officials said the two sides would discuss a timetable for implementing the November 20 Lusaka protocol.

The leader of the three-member Unita team, Mr Isaias Samakuva, said the military situation in Angola was "still tense".

But UN special envoy Mr Alioune Blondin Beye said the arrival of the Unita team was proof the peace agreement was being implemented. — Sapa-AP-AFP

Cabinet 'agrees' to UN request

PRETORIA. — The cabinet agreed in general to a UN request that South Africa assist in Angolan peacekeeping operations, but had taken no final decision cabinet secretary Professor Jakes Gerwel said yesterday. (S) CT 8/12/94

He said at the Union Buildings the cabinet committee examining the issue had not finished consultations and would report to President Nelson Mandela and the two deputy-presidents, Mr Thabo Mbeki and Mr F W de Klerk.

The committee, comprising Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Alfred Nzo, Finance Minister Mr Chris Liebenberg and Defence Minister Mr Joe Modise, was to have reported to the cabinet at its final meeting for the year yesterday.

The UN has asked South Africa to assist in the peacekeeping process in Angola after the recent signing of a peace agreement between the Angolan government and rebel Unita movement.

Prof Gerwel said there was "general agreement that the UN should get a positive response" and that South Africa should consult its neighbours. — Sapa.

The cabinet had a lengthy discussion on the draft Budget and Budget priorities and Mr Mandela made some "incisive and decisive" contributions, Prof Gerwel said.

Unita, MPLA allege ceasefire violations

CT 9/12/94 (5)

LUANDA. — The Angolan government and the rebel Unita movement reported renewed clashes across the country yesterday and Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi said he would not attend a summit unless the government called off its military operations.

Radio Vorgan, the Unita station, reported government offensives and troop deployments in several parts of the country in spite of a ceasefire agreement signed by Unita and the government of President José Eduardo dos Santos in Lusaka last month.

The truce called for UN observers to be sent to the area concerned. The United Nations has only 80 observers in Angola.

The government claimed Unita had carried out raids in a number of places in recent days, leading to the deaths of seven civilians at one town.

UN sources said on Wednesday that the clashes did not call into question the survival of the ceasefire. Once it is firmly established 330 UN observers will arrive in the country.

Radio Vorgan said Dr Savimbi would only agree to a meeting with Mr Dos Santos if the government "ended its military operations" against Unita. It also quoted him as setting as a second condition the withdrawal of South African mercenaries Unita accuses the government of using.

Mr Dos Santos said on Monday he was ready to meet Dr Savimbi "at any moment". — Sapa-AFP

Both sides accused of treaty violations

'Blue helmets vital for peace in Angola'

Star 13/12/94

Luanda — As accusations of peace treaty violations mounted yesterday, both the government and Unita rebels warned that Angola would soon be back at war if UN peacekeepers were not deployed soon.

Government and rebel troops stationed just kilometres apart throughout the country have engaged in dozens of firefights over the past few days, according to rebel Vorgan radio.

Unita also claimed the government army was massing troops to attack the rebel-held military airstrip in Negage in defiance of the UN-brokered ceasefire.

"These operations are a danger to military restraint and should show that UN interven-

tion is needed at once," the rebels said.

Brigadier Jacques Raul of the government army said roving rebel squads were raiding coastal refugee camps and diamond fields near the Zaire border.

He said seven people had died in a Unita ambush in Lunda Norte province on Saturday and eight in Huila province. (5)

"Three weeks have passed since the ceasefire began but not a single blue helmet (UN peacekeeper) has arrived," said an editorial in the State-run Jornal de Angola. "It is a dangerous situation that could threaten the accords."

The ceasefire went into effect on November 22, two days after

Unita and the government signed a treaty in Zambia agreeing to end 19 years of civil war.

But about 200 000 government and rebel soldiers are still armed and at battle posts throughout the country. The UN has not been able to pull together a peacekeeping force to interpose between the lines and ultimately demobilise both armies.

The UN special mission to Angola has dispatched military observers to eight locations across the country. The unarmed observers, who are trying to avoid provoking either side, have refused to lay blame for violations and have issued only general reports about levels of military tension. — Sapa-AP.

UN gets tough on Angolans

ARG 17/118/12/94

(5)

LUANDA. — As persistent combat threatened to scuttle a peace treaty signed by the Angolan government and Unita rebels, the United Nations demanded that both sides "honour their word" and implied that sanctions would follow if they did not.

"The UN will not sit with its arms folded as information about ceasefire violations mounts," Joao Lins Albuquerque — UN spokesman in Angola — said yesterday.

"We are again insisting that both parties honour their promise to the Angolan people and not disappoint the international community," Mr Albuquerque said.

Unita and the government have accused each other of continuing to fight in violation of the treaty the two sides signed on November 20 in the Zambian capital, Lusaka.

The treaty was celebrated as the final stroke in ending Africa's longest and bloodiest civil war.

But with hostility and mistrust still running high, Unita and the government have kept their troops in battle readiness, often only kilometres apart.

This week unarmed UN military observers were trapped for hours in a crossfire after a battle erupted between government and rebel patrols in central Angola.

"Those patrols should not have been near each other," Mr Albuquerque said. "Only resupply and medical missions are permitted and those must be UN-supervised."

UN special envoy Alouine Blondin Beye has requested a 7 000-strong force of armed peacekeepers to supervise Angola's return to peace after 19 years of civil war.

But the UN is reportedly having trouble mustering support for an operation that could cost an estimated \$100 million (R3.6 million) and require at least a two-year peacekeeping presence.

Angola has been at war for more than 30 years, since an anti-colonial battle against Portugal turned into a civil war between rival guerrilla armies after independence in 1975.

The fighting has killed more than a 500 000 Angolans and bled the once-thriving nation of food and money. Civilians are so desperate for food that after a Red Cross plane crashed Thursday relief aid was looted while the wreckage was still smouldering, aid workers said.

Unita said yesterday that government troops had executed 84 Unita sympathisers in the northwest province of Uige in the latest violation of a ceasefire agreement.

Unita radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tomé and Príncipe, said an army brigade attacked Embala village in Uige on December 10 and shot dead 84 people suspected of being rebel supporters or sympathisers.

There was no independent confirmation of the report.

The radio also accused the government of building a secret jail for Unita supporters near oil installations of the French company Elf-Aquitaine at Soyo on the northwest coast of Angola. — Sapa-AP-Reuter.

The government recaptured Soyo, an important shore base for offshore oilfields, shortly before it signed the

Lusaka peace agreement with Unita, rapping and robbing civilians in Huambo, which the government recaptured shortly before the ceasefire came into effect on November 22.

The UN, which plans to send about 7 000 peacekeepers to Angola, has delayed their deployment until it is sure that both sides are serious about peace.

The world body has deployed some military observers in Huambo, but it relies on the rivals to report ceasefire violations.

Attempts to broker a peace accord failed in 1989 and 1991.

'Sanctions' if war in Angola goes on

(5) CT 19/12/94

LUANDA. — The United Nations has threatened sanctions if both sides in the Angolan conflict do not honour their commitment to the ceasefire.

Persistent combat is still threatening to scuttle the recent peace treaty signed by the Angolan government and Unita rebels.

UN spokesman in Angola Mr Joao Lins Albuquerque said at the weekend: "The United Nations will not sit with its arms folded as information about ceasefire violations mounts." Unita and the government have accused each other of continuing to fight in violation of the treaty the two sides signed on November 20 in Lusaka.

With hostility and mistrust still running high, Unita and the government have kept their troops at battle positions, often only kilometres apart.

On Wednesday unarmed UN military observers were trapped for hours in crossfire after a battle erupted between government and rebel patrols in central Angola. "Those patrols

should not have been near each other," Mr Albuquerque said. "Only resupply and medical missions are permitted, and those must be UN-supervised."

UN special envoy Mr Alouine Blondin Beye has asked for a 7 000-strong force of armed peacekeepers to supervise Angola's return to peace.

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Angola has been at war for more than 30 years. An anti-colonial battle against Portugal turned into a civil war between rival guerilla armies after independence in 1975.

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Angolan army still 'pursuing civil war'

PARIS — Unita rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi yesterday accused the Angolan army of pursuing civil war and waging an offensive against Unita in breach of a ceasefire. (5) CT22/12/94

Dr Savimbi cast serious doubt on the ceasefire and political settlement signed last month by the government and Unita, saying pieces of paper were not enough to bring peace.

"Across the country, in the south-east and in the north, government forces are on the offensive," Dr Savimbi said in an interview.

"The desire of the government to make peace is in question. The MPLA has not changed its philosophy. It is still reconciliation through force."

On the the peace accord signed in the Zambian capital Lusaka on November 20, he said: "First of all the government must show it is committed to agreements that have been made. It is not enough to sign a piece of paper." Sapa-AP

ANGOLA - GENERAL

1995

Savimbi says Unita is divided and humiliated

Sao Tome — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi said in a New Year message on Sunday that his Unita movement was divided, humiliated and going through its worst crisis ever.

Speaking on Unita radio for the first time since June, Savimbi said he remained committed to a peace agreement signed with the government on November 20, but warned that it could easily collapse.

"Unita does not just have one opinion, but is a current of opinions," he said, admitting there were splits within the movement that has seen two earlier attempts to make peace with the government collapse.

Savimbi accused the

Angolan government and the international community of trying to humiliate Unita and warned President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to moderate his tough approach to the rebel movement if he wanted the peace agreement to work.

Savimbi did not mention any plans for an early meeting between the military chiefs of the government and Unita, which UN peace mediator Alioune Blondin Beye has been trying to arrange to shore up the shaky ceasefire.

Neither did he mention any plans to meet Dos Santos. The two were due to meet in Lusaka for the signing of the latest peace accord but Savimbi failed to turn up.

Reuter.

(5) SAN 3/1/95

Savimbi casts shadow over Angola's peace

By NICHOLAS SHAXSON
Luanda

ANGOLA'S charismatic and unpredictable rebel leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, has emerged from six months of silence, ending widespread rumours of his death.

But his end-of-year speech, broadcast on Unita's Voice of the Black Cockerel radio, and an interview given to the French newspaper Liberation have cast a shadow over the Lusaka peace agreement his movement signed with the government on November 20.

"Jonas Savimbi abandoned the labyrinths of silence he was buried in and revealed his pessimism about the future," the government radio station in Luanda reported.

The Unita leader described the result of the Lusaka agreement as ephemeral and warned: "I'm not obliged to follow the wrong path when my conscience tells me that the path is wrong."

His words appear to be out of step with a joint gov-



JONAS SAVIMBI
Returned from the dead

ernment and Unita commission which has started preparing the ground for demobilisation and the eventual creation of a unified Angolan army.

But Dr Savimbi warned he was not prepared to demobilise his forces, saying the UN could not control the Luanda government which wanted to kill him and destroy Unita.

His words have frightened many Angolans, who still clearly remember the collapse of the 1991 accord, when Dr Savimbi started a new, more brutal, phase of the country's civil war after being defeated in UN-sponsored elections in September 1992.

But Dr Savimbi's power to influence events has begun to fade.

Unita has lost its central highland stronghold of Huambo, there are desertions and a split in the rebel movement, and Dr Savimbi faces ferociously armed government forces which are continuing to rearm and which could retake more

territory if war broke out again.

Dr Savimbi admitted to Liberation that his movement was divided — "mine is not the only opinion in Unita," he said.

Three generals: Lukamba Gato, Vinama and Demosthenes Chilinguita, are now gaining a special influence.

During Dr Savimbi's long silence last year — caused he said, by his fear the government was trying to assassinate him — General Gato began to appear more frequently as the public face of Unita.

But General Gato and others are currently not a direct threat to the man they call "the president".

Dr Savimbi has defined the movement since creating it in 1966 and they know that without him, Unita would lose its coherence and identity.

The rising stars are considered hardliners and, along with Dr Savimbi, have often expressed their dismay at the government, the UN and the peace process itself.

But Unita cannot afford to pull out (and in the past year of starvation sieges, cluster bombings and massacres, the movement leaders have been offered every excuse to do so) because a renewed war would be worse.

The government also knows that Unita, despite its current weakness, cannot be fully beaten should Dr Savimbi decide to return to the bush for a new guerrilla war, so now would be as good a time as any to stop. But there are those on both sides who have risen to positions of influence through the fighting. It is by no means clear that they are ready to see the end of the war.

Reviving Angola's coffee growing

⑤
Sapa
10/11/95

UIGE — The Angolan army commander pointed down a slope to a dark mass of vegetation 300 metres away on the muddy outskirts of the northern city of Uige. "See those plants under the tall trees? That was all coffee," he said. "But we can't get to it."

Uige once lay at the heart of an industry that made Angola the world's fourth largest coffee producer. But 19 years of civil war between the government and Unita rebels cut production to a tiny fraction of its former output.

Before independence from Portugal in 1975, Angola produced more than 20 000 tons of coffee annually. Latest figures from the National Institute of Statistics put that closer to 1 000 tons today.

Angola's robusta coffee, grown mainly by Portuguese landowners, was regarded as second only to Brazil's coffee due to its consistent quality.

"The land around Uige now is like a forest," said Vicky Matesso, country director of Angola's National Coffee Institute. "The farms are abandoned. The trees are all old, most of them more than 30 years. They have not had attention since the wars started. There is a lot of work to do."

Matesso said that if a peace agreement signed last November worked, Angolan coffee could be rehabilitated. "We want to rehabilitate 120 000 hectares of the old land. I would like to see 40 000 to 50 000 tons produced annually by Angola in three years' time," he told *Reuters*.

But the ceasefire is fragile and diplomats and ordinary Angolans have expressed pessimism over the prospects for lasting peace.

Uige itself, a government-held town surrounded by Jonas Savimbi's Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), has been described by UN peace monitors as a potential flashpoint.

"We are still not in a position to know what exactly has happened to the coffee around Uige. Nobody from our side is able to cross the lines yet," Matesso said.

"I know some of the coffee was burned while Unita was here, partly to make charcoal, partly to make way for food crops.

"But I do not think more than seven or eight percent has been destroyed around Uige. The rest is intact, and it will be reasonably easy to rehabilitate."

The Marxist-Leninist MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) government, which took over at independence, nationalised all the farms and coffee production rapidly declined as smallholders turned from cash to food crops.

Local people in Uige said that since 1975, a few traders had continued to buy small amounts of coffee from peasant farmers in the area, taking it north to Zaire for sale.

"We want to organise these rural markets so they are working again," Matesso said. "This will of course be a priority not just in Uige, but all over Angola, as well as in the northern enclave of Cabinda."

Coffee was also produced in the provinces neighbouring Uige — Malange, Kwanza Norte, Kwanza Sul and Zaire, as well as oil-rich Cabinda, separated from the rest of the country by Zaire's outlet to the Atlantic.

Matesso said these lowland areas used to produce robusta coffee, accounting for 98 percent of national production. The remaining two percent came from the central highlands in the provinces of Huambo, Benguela and Bie. They produced arabica coffee, more sought after today on world markets.

Matesso said the rehabilitation would mainly cover robusta coffee. "I cannot see arabica making up more than five percent of Angola's production," he said.

The long-term plan, he said, was to introduce larger-scale commercial coffee production, but that was a few years away.

"Private enterprise now can buy coffee from the producers if they want, but they will have to respect the minimum price set by the National Coffee Institute. These minimum prices are for the defence of the producer."

"But the whole infrastructure has been destroyed. We need electrification, water. This will take a long time," Matesso said. — *Sapa-Reuters*.

Chinese man 'was unlawfully abducted'

Supreme Court Reporter

A CHINESE man, detained in Pollsmoor Prison pending deportation to Taiwan, has brought a Supreme Court application to declare that his "abduction" from Malawi to South Africa by police was unlawful.

Ko-Chiang Chu wanted the court to declare that he was not properly and lawfully arrested and that he was "unlawfully abducted" from Malawi in breach of international law.

He wanted the authorities interdicted from stopping him leaving the country.

According to court papers Mr Chu was arrested in May 1991 on a charge of abducting a Rondebosch restaurant owner.

He was released on bail but fled the country in April 1992 and a warrant for his arrest



Angola's MPLA government and the army, to disengage their troops in the far north, Angola's army chief, General Garuba.

Angola military chiefs agree to end long war

LUANDA. — Angola's top military commanders have agreed to cease fire and disengage their troops after 19 years of civil war, the United Nations said here.

Army general Joao de Matos shook hands with Unita rebel general Arlindo Chenda "Ben-Ben" Pena on Tuesday on a plan to evacuate their troops immediately from the country's hottest battle areas, UN military adviser Chris Garuba said in a communique.

UN special envoy Aluino Blondin Beye applauded the generals' pact as "the greatest relief of tension in a war-torn country imaginable".

The Mali diplomat told reporters in Luanda: "After nearly 20 years, the people of Angola can breathe without the threat of gunfire around them."

Soldiers and guerrillas would withdraw at once from the provincial capitals of Huambo and Uige and soon afterwards evacuate six other cities, General Garuba's communique said.

During the day-long meeting near the rebels' conquered central Angolan capital of Huambo, the army leaders also agreed to "assure the immediate and total cessation of hostilities throughout the national territory".

Mr Beye said he was now concentrating on a reconciliation meeting between rebel chief Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

"Besides calming the country, the future status of Savimbi in the government will be decided face to face between the two men," Mr Beye told the Portuguese daily Diario de Noticias.

Although Unita — the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — signed a peace treaty with the government on November 20, troops have remained dug in and tense at their battle posts.

Some of the 200 000 government and rebel troops are separated by only a few kilometres or, in cases such as

the divided city of Uige, by two city blocks.

A shortage of UN observers, coupled with a lack of provisions for the guerrillas and poor communication with their base camps, has sparked several skirmishes that have threatened to upset the treaty.

General Garuba said UN peacekeepers would begin arriving on February 8 but he would not specify the size nor the nationality of the first contingent.

More than 7 000 armed soldiers are expected eventually to arrive and separate government and rebel troops who have been at war since Angola's eve of independence from Portugal in 1975.

A 1991 treaty broke down after Unita lost the country's first democratic elections and returned to arms.

Diplomats blame inefficient UN peacekeeping measures for the return to a war in which more than 500 000 Angolans have been killed. — Sapa-AP.

5 ART 12/11/95

Angola's finance minister sacked

⑤
Savimbi
20/1/95

LUANDA — Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has sacked his finance minister and replaced him with a provincial governor, state media reported yesterday.

No reason was given for the sacking of minister Alvaro Craveiro and his replacement by Cabinda governor Augusto Tomas, although Dos Santos has been heavily critical of the poor performance of the war-burdened Angolan economy.

In a speech last month Dos Santos blamed his economic team for the country's woes, but economists say the huge cost of the two-decade long Angolan civil war and continuing military spending has done immeasurable harm to the economy.

Despite a shaky November 20 peace pact between the Luanda government and

Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels, military analysts say the Angolan military is still bolstering its stocks of arms and other military equipment, mostly paid for in hard currency. The government's economic reform programme, launched last March, has made little headway and month-on-month inflation is soaring.

Unofficial figures quoted in Angolan media put monthly inflation at 58 percent in December, more than double the latest official figures which quote the October rate at 28,35 percent.

Annual accumulated inflation in October was 815,07 percent compared to 831,67 percent for the year to September, according to the National Institute of Statistics. Later figures are not available. — Sapa-Reuter.

SA's military help needed in Angola

(5) Somerset 24/11/95

HARARE — Zimbabwe feels that South Africa must participate fully in any peacekeeping operation in Angola.

This was made clear yesterday by Zimbabwean Defence Minister Mr Moven Mahachi, speaking to reporters at the start of a joint workshop to examine peacekeeping operations in Africa.

Mahachi said Zimbabwe was prepared to send troops to Angola but felt it essential that South Africa, as a regional power, also participate and send men and materials as part of a peacekeeping force.

Brigadier Tobie van Schalkwyk, director of operations in the South African National Defence Force, is heading the two-man South African delegation to

■ SEEKING PEACE Workshop

looks at future peacekeeping plans:

the workshop. His colleague is Colonel Vusi Nkabinde.

Van Schalkwyk told reporters that despite Mahachi's call, Angola had made it clear it did not want the participation of South Africa. He said South Africa had offered to send a battalion to southeastern Angola and logistical support but Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos had vetoed this proposal.

Mahachi, however, said the United Nations — not parties in Angola — should decide who should take part in the force.

The workshop, being attended by 19 African states, is to examine the con-

duct, practices and principles of peacekeeping and peace support operations. It is being hosted jointly by Zimbabwe and the British government.

Chief of the defence staff of Britain, Field-Marshal Sir Peter Inge, said the workshop was intended to be a concrete exercise to establish practical military lessons and proposals that should be drawn on for future peacekeeping operations.

Both Inge and Mahachi ruled out any suggestion of a permanent peacekeeping force, saying this would be too expensive to maintain. — *Argus Foreign Service.*

Angola has refused to let South African troops enter its territory to police the peace, reports Star Foreign Editor Dale Laubenbach

Thanks, but no thanks, SA

⑤ SHAW 26/1/95

Renewed urgings from Zimbabwe that South Africa take part in a peacekeeping force to Angola ignore one important fact: Angola has said a curt "no, thank you".

At a conference in Harare this week on peacekeeping in Africa, Zimbabwe Defence Minister Moven Mahachi said it was essential that South Africa, as a regional power, take part in the Angolan operation.

It would send "the wrong signals" if it did not, he said. Late last year, the SA Cabinet agonised over whether or not it should commit the country's fledgling national defence force in the interests of a neighbouring state.

Finally, the Cabinet agreed that South Africa would indeed

support the Angolan peace process but would not send combat troops. Instead, it offered logistical support and personnel from other fields of expertise, with which the SA National Defence Force is comparatively richly endowed.

But at roughly the same time that this decision was being reached in Pretoria, Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos was writing to United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Chali rejecting any form of South African support for Unavem III, the third incarnation of the UN Angola Verification Mission.

"I wish to inform you that the Angolan government would not find it acceptable, for reasons you also understand, to include contingents in Unavem III from

countries that have been involved, directly or indirectly, in the Angolan conflict," wrote Dos Santos.

The letter is dated December 5 and it is curious that a South African Government delegation was in Luanda the following day and was not informed of the Angolan attitude.

Indeed, it was only several days later that the contents of the letter filtered through to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

"It's not as if the Cabinet decision was an easy one," said one official who had been involved in the deliberations.

The various Foreign Affairs officials who worked on the proposal to the Cabinet that South African peacekeeping in Angola was unavoidable, but should not include combat troops, also

stressed throughout that the South African contribution should be co-ordinated with neighbouring states.

Combat troops

Zimbabwe has offered 1 000 combat troops and Zambia has also indicated its readiness.

The South African view was that in the light of new-found regional co-operation, UN peacekeeping could also be co-ordinated at regional level.

The Zimbabwe view is similar, as Mahachi duly indicated at the conference.

He was equally keen that Botswana should take part and dismissed the Angolan rejection of the South African offer.

It was the UN which should decide the who's who of Unavem III, he said.

Meanwhile, on February 8, the UN Security Council must decide whether to vote Unavem III into existence or whether to extend the present Unavem II, with its wispy-waspy mandate and force of about 500 military and police observers in a country bigger than South Africa.

The UN insists it will not send a peacekeeping force to Angola until there is a peace to keep.

Many observers, including SA Foreign Affairs officials, are despondent, though, that this is a Catch-22 situation and Angola will not reach a peace unaided.

Also, it is impossible at present to verify whether there is a peace or not as the only sources of information are the belligerents, both renowned for their war propaganda.



Dos Santos . . . balked.

Savimbi is now prepared to meet Dos Santos

ANGOLAN rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi has called a meeting from tomorrow of his Unita movement after an agreement on a cessation of hostilities.

The Portuguese journal de Noticias reported, quoting a statement from Unita, that "more than 1 000 delegates from all the country's provinces" would gather in central Balhundo.

It said the meeting would last until Friday, but did not give further details.

Yesterday Angolan news agency Angop said that Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had received a letter sent several weeks ago by Dr Savimbi agreeing to a meeting.

President dos Santos said Dr Savimbi had told him he was ready for a face-to-

face meeting, their first for several years.

Dr Savimbi did not turn up in the Zambian capital Lusaka in November for the signing of a UN-brokered accord ending 19 years of civil war.

He said then that his life would be in danger.

The summit would "restore the confidence of the Angolan people and initiate national consolidation as well as seek solutions to consolidating peace and national reconciliation", the agency said.

The latest developments came after Angola's military chiefs and Unita agreed to a complete cessation of hostilities on Friday. This has kept on track the precarious Luanda peace accords, which ended the 20-year civil war in November.

A joint statement prepared by United Nations specialists after the two-day talks agreed on a complete ceasefire. Troops would be regrouped in five zones to avoid further confrontations in breach of the November 20 accords.

The breakthrough came after face-to-face talks between Angolan chief-of-staff General Joao Baptista de Matos and his Unita counterpart, General Arlindo Chlenda Pena "Ben-Ben", at Waku-Kongo, in the west of the country.

They agreed to disengage their troops facing each other at Life in the north and Huambo in the centre between February 15 and March 15.

The document also allows for an improvement in the chain of communi-

ST 5/2/95

tions, setting up regular meetings between both sides' regional military chiefs. These were aimed at avoiding further clashes.

The two sides also agreed to co-operate on the lifting of an estimated 20-million landmines laid since an upsurge in the fighting in October 1992.

Lists of prisoners-of-war on both sides will be given to the Red Cross to facilitate their early release.

British troops may be sent to Angola to pave the way for a proposed UN peace-keeping operation there, The Times of London reported yesterday.

Officials confirmed they were considering sending a logistics battalion of 700 troops after a request from the UN. — Sapa-Renter

Crucial congress for Unita

(6) CT 7/2/95

LUANDA. - Angola's Unita movement opens a crucial congress today to discuss the country's fragile peace accord and unify different factions within the rebel group, a senior official said yesterday.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi will open the five-day congress which will be held in the central highlands town of Bailundo.

Both Unita and the Angolan government have accused each other of violating the most recent ceasefire.

A government source said yesterday Angolan police in the northern oil rich enclave of Cabinda had de-activated two bombs at the weekend. - Reuters

A tormented city in a place where people ate old leather and tree bark and, some say, other people to survive one of the bitterest sieges of Angola's 20-year civil war.

Once a charming provincial capital of 100 000 people, dotted with pastel colonial homes and criss-crossed by palm-lined boulevards, it now looks like a ghost town. Virtually every structure has been damaged or destroyed — silent testimony to the ferocious nine-month battle that ended in July after some 30 000 people were killed.

Building after building is roofless and shrapnel-scattered. Some have been bombed to a pile of bricks, and some to dust.

A ragged girl plays with a dead rat in a sewage-drenched street. The desolate scene stinks of misery.

Angola's war has been called Africa's forgotten conflict.

Gradually ebbed

At its worst in 1993 and 1994 — after Unita rebels returned to battle after losing multi-party elections — the United Nations estimated 1 000 people were dying daily from war, hunger and disease.

Although it is potentially among the continent's richest countries, endowed with oil, diamonds and fertile land, Angola today is wasted and exhausted.

Maybe too exhausted to fight on. Amid faint signs of peace, Angolans are daring to ask themselves: could this really be the end?

Unita signed a peace accord November in Lusaka, Zambia with the formerly Marxist government. Fighting has gradually ebbed, and aid workers say the guns have been nearly silent nationwide since January.

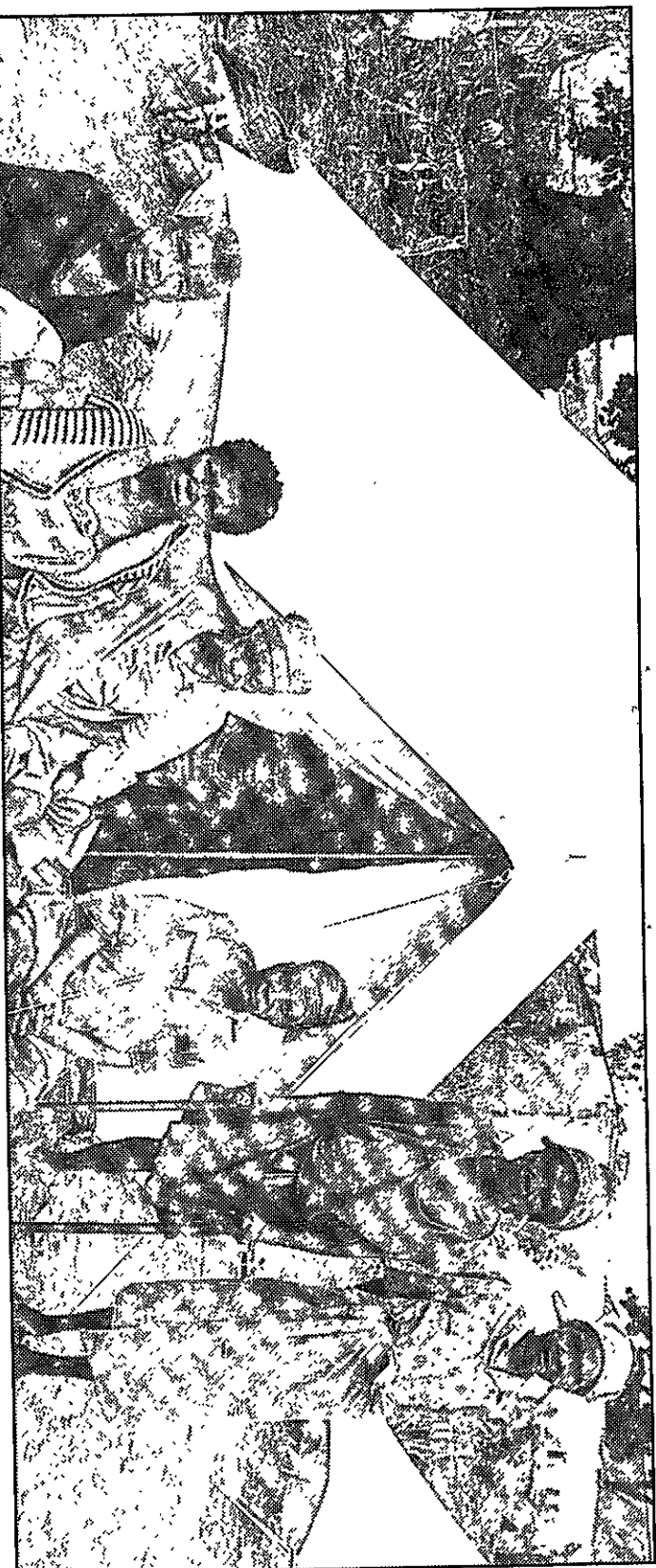
The two sides' military chiefs have met twice to try to strengthen the truce, and President Jose Eduardo dos

'Here we all cried', says the graffiti, testimony to the awful war that has ravaged

Angola, reports John Daniszewski

Star 7/2/95

Exhausted Angolans ask: Can this really be the end?



War victims . . . after the ordeal of mines, displaced people are forced to live in camps.

Santos and Unita's Jonas Savimbi have swapped letters about a possible meeting.

The UN Security Council is to vote tomorrow on sending 7 000 peacekeepers — most likely from Zimbabwe, Jordan, Brazil and India — to cement

the shaky truce and help implement a complex power-sharing agreement.

UN mediator Alioune Blondin Beye — the effervescent Malian who bullied, admonished and cajoled the foes to sign — is promising enough

UN blue helmets to make the truce stick.

"They need to believe in peace and to know that the international community is not sidelining Angola," he said in a recent interview. But countries around the

world seem reluctant to commit troops. Diplomats believe the UN resolution will be approved, but that the troops themselves will be deployed slowly because governments want more proof the sides really want peace.

Two generations have come of age during the war, which began in the early 1960s as a revolt against the colonial power, Portugal. After independence in 1975, fighting persisted between rival liberation movements and became a

proxy battle in the Cold War. The government received Soviet and Cuban backing, while Unita was supported by South Africa and the United States. The Reagan Administration feted Savimbi as a freedom fighter, and Unita is thought to have received \$250 million (about R875 million) in covert aid.

The result: at least 500 000 people died, millions are stalked by disease and hunger, and tens of thousands, including tiny children, have been maimed by the estimated 10 million land mines planted by both sides.

Even with peacekeepers in place, reconciling the two sides will be a monumental task. Mistrust runs deep and weaponry is plentiful.

Unita failed in its commitment to demobilise under the last peace deal. In 1991. Instead of going into opposition after losing the 1992 vote, Savimbi ordered his soldiers back to arms and quickly seized more than two-thirds of the country.

Sympathy

The government won international sympathy and morgaged more than R10.5 billion a year in oil revenues to buy weapons and pay for South African mercenaries. The oil-lay turned the tide of battle and forced Unita to sign the latest accord.

But Savimbi did not attend the Lusaka signing ceremony and has attacked the deal in recent interviews.

Although militarily weakened and abandoned by former sponsors, Savimbi might still hope to summon the resources for another round of war. The government, buoyed by its strongest standing, in years, could opt for one more offensive to try to finish off Unita for good.

Graffiti chalked on one of Kuito's pockmarked houses could speak for the entire nation. It says in Portuguese: "Here we all cried." — Sapa-AP.

NO SA troops for UN force in Angola

(5)

But offer to help lift millions of landmines

JOHANNESBURG. — South Africa said today it would not send troops to Angola as part of a United Nations peacekeeping force trying to end Africa's longest war.

But it offered to help lift millions of landmines scattered across the country.

President Nelson Mandela has offered South African army sappers to help find an estimated 26 million mines in Angola, according to Angolan ambassador Alexandria "Kiko" Rodrigues.

"We discussed sending soldiers to help in the demining process. We will decide how many soldiers will go next week," Rodrigues said after meeting Mandela in Pretoria.

South Africa said on Thursday it would not send troops to Angola as part of a 7 000-strong UN peacekeeping force authorised by the UN Security Council yesterday in its second effort to end the country's civil war.

"It is very clear that South

Africa will not send troops," Foreign Affairs Minister spokesman Jacques Malan.

Mr Rodrigues said South Africa was committed to help the Angolan peace process. "We will see how South Africa will be able to help."

The United Nations has estimated that there are 2.5 landmines an inhabitant in Angola, which has a population of 10.5 million.

Mr Malan said South Africa could also consider lending logistical support to its neighbours Botswana and Zimbabwe whose troops are being considered as part of the peacekeeping force.

"It is very much in the beginning stages... it could mean logistical support if requested by some of the regional armies," he said.

South African Foreign Affairs Minister Director-General Rusty Evans told state radio earlier that South Africa had not been party to agreements setting up the UN force.

"In the original agreement, the so-called Bicesse Accord negotiated with Portugal, the parties debated and agreed on what countries would be invited by Angola to participate in the process and South Africa wasn't one of them and that remains the case."

Mr Evans said South Africa held discussions with Zimbabwe and Botswana on joint assistance programmes.

"If they are to deploy troops in Angola, we are looking at the possibility of South Africa supporting a regional effort there," he said.

Reuter



SEEKING PEACE: Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, centre, arrives in the rebel-held Angolan town of Bailundo for Unita's eighth National Congress this week. Dr Savimbi told journalists at the congress that he wants peace.

NO SA troops for UN force in Angola

MAY 9/2/95

(5)

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'SEEKING PEACE' — Unita leader Jonas Savimbi arrives in the rebel-held Angolan town of Bailundo for Unita's eighth National Congress this week. Dr Savimbi told journalists at the congress that he wants peace.

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SA will help in Angola peace

NEW YORK. — South Africa is prepared in principle to play a role in maintaining peace in Angola, Foreign Minister Mr Alfred Nzo told the UN Security Council yesterday.

Declaring that the peace process had entered a crucial phase, he said: "It urgently needs to be consolidated and strengthened."

One of 11 foreign ministers in New York for a day-long debate on proposals to deploy 7 000 UN peacekeepers in Angola, Mr Nzo said only an expanded UN force with a broadened mandate would be able to bring the necessary support to a process that remained fragile.

A peaceful settlement of the Angolan civil conflict was not only essential for Angolans, but also of major importance for the political stability and economic development of Southern Africa.

While praising the pivotal role of UN special representative Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, Zambia, the host for negotiations and the "troika" of Portugal, the US and Russia, Mr Nzo said it was the Angolan government and Unita that deserved particular congratulations on reaching a truce.

"We must accept that the durability of the peace process in Angola is largely dependent on the political will of the Angolans themselves," he said.

South Africa was encouraged by the prospects for a meeting between President Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, which would further enhance the peace process.

● Meanwhile in Angola, Dr Savimbi yesterday gave a qualified endorsement to the latest peace accord between the government and Unita. He denied being "humiliated" by recent military defeats.

In a rare interview at his headquarters in the refugee-crammed, bombed-out town of Bailundo, where his guerilla army retreated in November, Dr Savimbi said he wanted peace.

And, he said, he would acknowledge the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos — under conditions of mutual respect.

The agreement, signed on November 20 in Lusaka, came after a year of UN-brokered negotiations. Dr Savimbi didn't appear for the signing ceremony, implying he did not fully support it.

Throughout the 40-minute interview, Dr Savimbi seemed to hedge about the peace accord, suggesting it would be hard for him to persuade Unita's followers to accept it.

War re-ignited in Angola in late 1992 after Unita lost the first round of national elections brought about and supervised by the UN.

The UN said the vote was free and fair, but Dr Savimbi said it was riddled with fraud. The two sides disagree over who started the hostilities again, but the international community largely blamed Unita. — Sapa-AP

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BOTH sides will be under sustained and intense pressure to maintain the truce this time

United Nations — The Security Council yesterday authorised more than 7 000 peacekeepers for Angola in its second effort to end Africa's longest-running war.

Unspecified South African support was offered by Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo as the UN Security Council moved to guarantee implementation of the truce called last November between the government of Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi, leader of the Unita rebels.

The vote to send peacekeepers was a unanimous 15-0, following a marathon debate that included foreign ministers from South Africa, Angola, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Tunisia, Botswana and Zambia.

The council's resolution approves 6 450 infantry troops, 265 military staff, 350 military observers, 260 civilian police, 65 mine clearance experts and at least 100 civilian staff at a cost of \$383 million (about R1,35 billion) annually. The mission is expected to be in Angola for a maximum of two years.

But the bulk of the troops will not be deployed until the government and rebel Unita forces disengage and designate "quartering areas" for Unita soldiers as well as carry out other tasks.

The resolution, at the suggestion of the United States, also reserves the council's right to abort the mission at strategic intervals if peace accords break down.

South Africa was prepared,

▶ To Page 3

UN forces for Angola

◀ From Page 1

in principle, to play a role in maintaining the peace in Angola, Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo told the UN Security Council yesterday, reports Mike Littlejohn in New York.

Nzo said only an expanded UN force with a broadened mandate would be able to bring the necessary support to bear on a process that remained fragile.

Praising the pivotal role of UN special representative Alouine Blondin Beye, Zambia, the host for negotiations, and the "troika" of Portugal, the US and Russia, Nzo said it was the Angolan government and Unita that deserved particular congratulations on reaching a truce.

An expanded UN presence would be able to count on the practical support of the South African Government, "which, in principle, remains prepared to play a role when called upon to do so".

If the operation goes well, the bulk of the UN troops should be deployed in three months from Brazil, Uruguay, India, Pakistan, Romania and Zimbabwe. Britain is expected to send about 500 logistics experts in two months. Officials said this was the first time that governments had offered more troops than were needed.

Judging from the statements made during the council debate the two sides will be under sustained and intense pressure to maintain the truce.

US ambassador Madeleine Albright told the Security Council: "Our message to all parties is very clear: do not make a serious mistake at this crucial time." She noted, referring particularly to Savimbi that "the parties are sometimes reluctant to carry out their agreements. This recalcitrance must end". — Sapa-Reuters, Star's Foreign Service.

7 000 peacekeepers authorised

SA ready to play role

5 Star 9/2/95

12

UN forces set for Angola

Nzo in OAU group to push for Angola peace

PETER FABRICIUS
The Argus Foreign Service

NEW YORK. — South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo and three other members of a special OAU ministerial delegation are to meet Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos to persuade him to accept the United Nations peacekeeping plan for Angola.

The move is being seen as further evidence of the growing co-operation between African, especially Southern African, countries in resolving regional conflicts.

Mr Nzo disclosed the plan to meet Mr Dos Santos here yesterday after taking part in the UN Security Council debate which culminated in a decision to deploy 7 000 UN peacekeeping forces in Angola to monitor the ceasefire.

In the debate, Angola expressed concerns about three aspects of the UN operation, to be called Unavem 3.



Alfred Nzo

It was worried about plans to establish an independent UN radio station in Angola during the transition; to include human rights observers in Unavem 3, and to insist that the Angolan government and Unita should both stop acquiring arms while Unavem 3 was in the country.

Mr Nzo, who is part of an Organisation of African Unity appointed ministerial delegation to support the Unavem 3 plan, said in an interview that four foreign ministers from the delegation would be visiting Mr Dos Santos, probably on Monday.

The special delegation would comprise him and the foreign ministers of Namibia, Malawi and Zambia.

It would report to Mr Dos Santos about the Unavem 3 debate "to ensure that, from the very beginning, everyone is marching in step."

"We must all understand this may very well be the last chance. I don't think the UN will be prepared to think in terms of a Unavem 4."

That was the same message which the OAU delegation drove home in the Security Council debate this week.

Mr Nzo said that the OAU ministerial delegation had come to New York "to impress

upon the world how seriously we take this matter and that we are determined to solve our problems."

He said the OAU intervention at the UN augured well for Africa's ability to solve other problems together.

South Africa will probably not be part of Unavem 3. The cabinet decided in December that it was ready to contribute logistical support but not combat troops.

But the Angolan government has made it clear that it does not want any contribution from countries which participated in the Angolan conflict. The then South African government supported the rebel movement Unita.

However South Africa remains ready to help if asked.

Mr Nzo said Unavem 3 "will be able to count on the practical support of the South African government, which in principle remains prepared to play a rôle when called upon to do so."

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5 ARG 10/2/78

Landmines: SA to help Angolans

CT. 10/2/95

(5)

PRETORIA. — The thousands of landmines scattered across Angola are to be removed with South Africa's assistance, the government confirmed yesterday.

The Department of Foreign Affairs said the offer had been made at a meeting between President Nelson Mandela and Angolan ambassador Mr. Kito Rodrigues here yesterday.

There was an "urgent need" for the lifting of anti-personnel mines and South Africa's expertise in this field was acknowledged.

"President Mandela indicated that we would be willing to place this expertise at Angola's disposal provided all parties agree," the statement said.

The statement said the approval by the UN Security Council on Wednesday to deploy a UN peace-keeping force was also discussed.

The Security Council approved the deployment of more than 7,000 troops, police and civilian peacekeepers over a three-month period to monitor the country's peace agreement.

The infantry units will not be deployed if the Angolan government and Unita do not accomplish certain essential tasks, chiefly the continuation of an effective ceasefire.

In Angola government forces and Unita have begun their military disengagement, UN General Chris Garuba said in Luanda yesterday.

Government and Unita troops have started pulling back from confrontation lines at Huambo in the centre and at Uije in the north, under the terms of a ceasefire agreed to last week by military leaders of both sides.

After an inspection tour of the region yesterday, Gen Garuba, a Nigerian general heading the military operation, said the disengagement was running smoothly.

The Angolan government has welcomed the UN's decision to deploy peacekeepers in the country after almost two decades of civil war, the state radio said yesterday.

A spokesman for President Eduardo dos Santos said the presence of the UN force was necessary for calm to return to Angola.

The deployment was also welcomed by the leader of the Angolan Democratic Party, Mr Alberto Neto.

"Only the deployment of the 'blue helmets' is a guarantee of peace in the country," Mr Neto said.

The UN has maintained a presence in Angola since 1988 but withdrew most of its forces in late 1992 after the results of a general election were rejected by Unita's Dr Jonas Savimbi.

Clashes between both sides have killed hundreds of civilians and dozens of soldiers since last November's peace agreement, but a tentative ceasefire is holding — Sapa-AFP



MY VIEW ... Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi gave his qualified earlier this week to an Angolan peace accord and denied being "ed" by recent military defeats.

NEWS 7 000 UN forces set for Angola • Round th

Govt and Unita forces disengage

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some ran 10/2/95

LUANDA — Angolan government forces and Unita rebels have begun their military disengagement, UN's General Chris Garuba said yesterday following UN's decision on Wednesday to deploy more than 7 000 peacekeepers.

Government and Unita troops have started pulling back from confrontation lines at Huambo in the centre and Uije in the north under the terms of a ceasefire agreed last week by military leaders from both sides.

Garuba, a Nigerian general heading the operation, said the disengagement was running smoothly.

The Security Council gave the green light for the immediate implementation of the operation, dubbed Unavem III. The infantry units will

■ PEACE NEARS Deployment of peacekeepers in Angola welcomed:

not be deployed until the Angolan government and Unita accomplish certain essential tasks — chiefly the continuation of an effective ceasefire, inventory of all relevant military material and the designation of all barracks zones.

A spokesman for President Eduardo Dos Santos said the government welcomed the decision to deploy peacekeepers. The deployment was also welcomed by leader of the Angolan Democratic Party, Alberto Neto, who came third in the aborted 1992 presidential elections. The

peacekeepers' mission over a three-month period is to monitor the peace agreement.

The UN has maintained a presence in Angola since 1988 but withdrew most of its forces in late 1992 after Unita leader, Jonas Savimbi, rejected results of the general elections.

Clashes between both sides have left hundreds of civilians and dozens of soldiers dead since last November's peace agreement.

However, a tentative ceasefire is holding between the government and Unita. — Sapa-AFP.

Angolan forces disengage as UN arrives

LUANDA — Angolan government forces and Unita rebels have begun their military disengagement, the UN's General Secretary said yesterday, after the UN Security Council decided to deploy more than 7 000 peacekeepers.

Government and Unita troops started pulling back from confrontation lines at Hambo in the centre and

Uije in the north, under the terms of a ceasefire agreed last week by military leaders from both sides. Garuba, a Nigerian general heading the military operation, said the disengagement was running smoothly after an inspection tour of the region.

The Angolan government meanwhile welcomed the UN's decision to deploy the peacekeepers in the south-west African country after almost 20 years of a bloody civil war, state radio said yesterday.

However, SA yesterday said that it would not send troops to Angola as part of a UN peacekeeping force trying to end Africa's longest war.

But it offered to help lift millions of landmines scattered across the country. President Nelson Man-

deia yesterday offered SA army sappers to help find an estimated 26-million landmines deployed in Angola, Angolan ambassador Alexandra Rodrigues told Reuters.

"We discussed sending soldiers to help in the demining process. We will decide how many soldiers will go next week," Rodrigues said after meeting Mandela in Pretoria.

Foreign Affairs spokesman Jacques Malan said that SA could also consider lending logistical support to its neighbours Botswana and Zimbabwe, whose troops are being considered as part of the peacekeeping force.

"It is very much in the beginning stages... It could mean logistical support if requested by some of the regional armies," Ma-

lan said.

A spokesman for Angolan President Eduardo Dos Santos said the presence of the UN force was necessary for calm to return to Angola.

The deployment was also welcomed by Angolan Democratic Party (ADP) leader Alberto Neto, who came third in the aborted, UN-supervised presidential elections held in 1992 before an upsurge in the civil war.

"Only the deployment of the blue helmets is a guarantee of peace in the country," Neto said.

The UN has maintained a presence in Angola since 1988 but withdrew most of its forces in late 1992 after the results of general elections were rejected by Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, and the previous peace ac-

cord collapsed.

Clashes between both sides have killed hundreds of civilians and dozens of soldiers since last November's peace agreement which was aimed at ending almost two decades of civil war, but a tentative ceasefire is holding between the formerly Marxist government and Unita.

The UN Security Council on Wednesday approved the deployment of more than 7 000 troops, police and civilian peacekeepers to Angola over a three-month period for a mission to monitor the country's peace agreement.

In a resolution adopted unanimously, the 15 members gave the green light for the immediate implementation of the operation dubbed Unavem III. The infantry units will

not be deployed if the Angolan government and Unita do not accomplish certain essential tasks, chiefly the continuation of an effective ceasefire, an inventory of all relevant military material and the designation of all barracks zones.

The current operation has a six-month mandate that will expire on August 8. The mission is expected to end in February 1997.

The UN is hoping that a second round of the 1992 presidential election, which was scrapped in the resumption of hostilities, will be held in 1996.

Dos Santos fell just short of the 50% majority needed to win outright, while Savimbi took just more than 40% of the votes. Neto headed the list of runners-up, but was way behind the leaders with just 2% of the votes. — Sapa-AFP.

20/10/2/96

5) AUG 13/2/95

Unita agrees to lay down arms and endorse peace pact

BAILUNDO (Angola). — Unita has approved recent peace plans and its leader Jonas Savimbi says they are ready to become a political party and lay down their weapons.

Unita formally endorsed the Lusaka Agreement to end nearly 20 years of civil war in the former Portuguese colony on the final day of its eighth congress, and welcomed the proposed deployment of UN peacekeeping troops to support it.

Unita generals retreated from an earlier position of rejection of the November 20 peace accords signed in the Zambian capital Lusaka, providing certain conditions are met.

Dr Savimbi said in an interview yesterday that Unita demanded a general amnesty for the whole of the 19-year civil war and wanted guarantees that its soldiers would not suffer.

The congress, which agreed to encourage a meeting between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Dr Savimbi when conditions were right, issued a statement of approval.

"The eighth congress approves all the peace plans for Angola," read the final document.

The 21-point document also approved "all steps towards national reconciliation".

"This is Unita's final position," said Dr Savimbi. The congress, at Unita's central highlands headquarters of Bailundo, also welcomed last week's approval by the UN Security Council to send 7,000 peacekeeping troops to Angola.

The Lusaka Agreement aims to revive 1991 accords which collapsed when Unita rejected defeat in elections in 1992 and returned to war. — Reuter.

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Unita will abide by peace accord

(5) CT 13/2/95

LUANDA. - Angola's Unita rebel movement agreed at its national congress yesterday to keep to a peace accord it signed with the government three months ago aimed at ending Africa's longest and most costly civil war.

Unita, led by Dr Jonas Savimbi, said it adopted resolutions backing the peace process on the last day of its congress held in its central highlands headquarters of Bailundo.

The peace accord had been in doubt because of Dr Savimbi's failure to attend its signing in the Zambian capital of Lusaka in November and subsequent accusations by both sides of ceasefire violations.

Dr Savimbi, under pressure from hardline elements in Unita, had previously declined to express full support for the agreement or to reject it outright.

"Following an exhaustive debate, the congress adopted the following resolutions: The congress approves all plans for peace in Angola; the congress approves all steps towards national reconciliation," a Unita statement said.

The congress gave its backing to a meeting between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Dr Savimbi when the conditions were right. The two men have not met for several years.

Unita has welcomed last week's approval by the UN Security Council of the deployment of 7 000 peacekeeping troops in Angola.

But it said it would have to be consulted over which countries took part in the peacekeeping operation. - Sapa-Reuter

AFRICA

Unita officials back shaky peace accords

⑤ BD 13/2/95

LISBON — The national congress of Angola's Unita movement overruled military hardliners on Saturday by confirming its acceptance of shaky peace accords to end 19 years of civil war against the government.

Unita Radio Vorgan said 2 000 delegates meeting in the central Angolan town of Bailundo approved 21 resolutions backing the peace deal signed in November in Lusaka, Zambia, and welcoming the impending dispatch of 7 000 UN peace keepers.

But the report said military hardliners in Unita ranks had gone along with the plan only after "decisive persuasion" from Unita chief Jonas Savimbi.

Savimbi spoke out on Friday for rejection of the accords and a return to war. The truce that followed the accords has been tenuous but observers judged his belligerent stance to be mostly political bluff.

Unita has never been militarily weaker and the accords, while not perfect for Unita, offer the possibility of power-sharing with the government.

The UN-brokered accords have eased fighting but both sides have said the truce could be cemented only by blue-helmeted UN troops.

The security council approved the 7 000-strong force last week but did not say when

troops could start arriving in Angola.

Announcing the eighth national congress' decisions on Radio Vorgan, top Unita general Paulo Lukamba Gato also said delegates had approved a meeting between Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Unita was willing to participate in a transitional government but that if "a shared platform" could not be agreed, Unita would prefer to go into opposition.

The congress voted to expel all Unita members who had agreed to enter the national assembly in Luanda and demand the readmission of other deputies who had remained loyal to the leadership.

Unita considers the assembly government-controlled. Some Unita moderates and some held prisoners by the government agreed to take their seats in parliament following September 1992 elections that they lost.

Then Savimbi ordered his troops back to war. Government police and armed civilian bands staged a witch hunt in Luanda, killing top Unita leaders and thousands of suspected Unita supporters.

The congress, which was scheduled to close yesterday, also voted to demand a general amnesty throughout the once-prosperous African country to promote national reconciliation. — Sapa-AP.

Peace deal won't feed ⁽⁵⁾ the starving Angolans

ARG 16/2/95

MALANGE (Angola). — The heat in the warehouse-cum-refugee centre on the outskirts of this eastern Angolan city is merciless.

In spite of the stifling temperatures, dozens of men, women and children cluster half-naked around cooking fires, preparing their first maize rations of the day.

"People are not so hungry any more. But the situation may worsen as the roads open. We have new people every day," said Antonio Francisco, a primary school teacher who acts as spokesman for the 1 613 refugees living in the camp.

Unlike feeding centres run by international organisations such as Irish Concern and Belgian Medecins Sans Frontieres (Doctors without Borders), here there are no toilet facilities or running water. The smell of unwashed bodies is overwhelming.

"But at least we have a place to come to," said Mr Francisco, who left Sanga, a village about 150 km away, in October.

His is a story heard time and again in the war-weary region: "When the government troops

came, the enemy (Unita rebels) ran to the jungle. They killed those ... who would not come with them, and forced us to work with no food," he recollects.

Crouched by a fire, a halo of black smoke surrounding her head, Engracia Domingo tastes a spoonful of maize porridge. "Everyone left the town. We had no more food, so we finally came here," she said.

"Peace? There is no peace. People are still getting killed all over, and especially in Sanga," said Mrs Domingo, scoffing at the ceasefire accord, signed in Lusaka in November.

Many agree with her. Everywhere there is news of hostilities: new mines, gun battles, and accusations of murder.

"So far, we have had no contact with Unita," said Andrews Dickerboom, the Norwegian regional commander of the United Nations Angolan Verification Mission.

Mr Dickerboom is one of 50 international observers sent to Angola in recent weeks to assure the world the Lusaka protocol is underway.

Part of his job is to supervise the opening of the road to the capital, Luanda, 300 km away.

"The bridges are completely bombed out. Also, the roads are heavily mined. I say it will take at least a month before we are able to move small traffic up to Luanda," he predicted.

The peace accord may have brought some hope but it has not brought food.

Optimistic that the government will demobilise funds from the war to feed its starving populace, some aid agencies have already closed feeding centres.

As the news of the peace agreement reaches the interior, people make their way into the larger urban centres.

In January alone, Mr Caculo's office saw 700 new refugees from Cacuso and Kibunda, former Unita strongholds.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been killed and millions displaced since the Angolan civil war erupted on independence from Portugal in 1975. — Sapa-Reuter.

Savimbi prepared to head Angolan opposition

CT16/2/95

LISBON. — Dr. Jonas Savimbi, leader of Angola's rebel movement Unita, said he is ready to head the parliamentary opposition if the ruling party rejects a joint policy platform. (S)

In an interview here, Dr. Savimbi said that a Unita congress which ended last Saturday decided that the party would not join in a national unity government unless a joint programme was drawn up.

"If we cannot take part in the drafting of a government programme, there will be no national unity government," he said. "What use would it be to join the government if we cannot, for example, prevent the persecution of people and journalists?"

He was referring to the January 17 assassination of the editor of an independent newspaper, Mr. Ricardo de Mello — an outspoken critic of the government who was shot dead in the Angolan capital of Luanda.

Dr. Savimbi said he was "of course" willing to lead the parliamentary opposition.

A spokesman for the ruling MPLA, Mr. Joao Lourenco, on Tuesday ruled out drawing up a joint programme with Unita.

Yesterday an Angolan official accused Unita of "daily violence" in the country's interior, despite accepting a ceasefire to end two decades of civil war. — Sapa-Reuter

Angolan peace holding

(5) WM 17-23/2/95
Chris Simpson in Luanda

THE Lusaka Protocol cleared a big hurdle with its endorsement at Unita's eighth congress despite reports that military bosses of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) had serious reservations about the three-month old peace pact.

The congress, which ended on Sunday in the town of Bailundo, backed "all the Lusaka peace plans" and "all steps leading to national reconciliation."

It also encouraged a meeting between Unita boss Jonas Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos when all the right conditions were in place and explicitly welcomed the sending of Blue Helmets, the only caveat being that the Unita leadership should be consulted on which countries would send troops.

But Unita "condemned vehemently the culture of violence and exclusion" in Luanda and demanded the immediate disarmament of the civilian population in the capital and other cities in the country under the supervision

of a mixed commission.

Unita parliamentarians who had stayed on in the capital to take their places in the national assembly after the rebel group rejected the results of UN-supervised general elections in 1992 were summarily expelled.

The congress also demanded the liberation of the bodies of Unita leaders killed in Luanda in late 1992.

The overall tone and content of the final resolutions are likely to be a relief to the United Nations and others involved in bringing peace to Angola. Said one senior member of a joint commission overseeing the peace process: "We were looking for a strong, positive signal, and it seems to have gone ok."

He expressed relief that Unita had not jettisoned its chief of staff, General Arlindo Chenda Pena 'Ben Ben.' However, other senior Unita posts changed hands.

Savimbi, inevitably, stays firmly in charge of the movement he founded in 1966. In a three-hour speech opening the congress and in subsequent remarks to journalists, he stepped boldly back into the public eye. — IPS

Unita, govt forces cease hostilities

CT 17/2/95

CUITO. — Government and Unita forces have disengaged successfully in central Angola, scene of bitter fighting in the run-up to the November peace accords.

Army chief General Ingles Neto said yesterday the warring parties had pulled back in the Huambo region, where Unita has its headquarters.

He said the army would now turn its hand to clearing mines sown by the two sides during 19 years of civil war.

The troop disengagement is part of the Lusaka peace accords signed in the Zambian capital last November.

Huambo city had served as Unita's headquarters, but the movement was driven out in a government offensive days before the peace accords.

Unita then moved its headquarters to Bailundo, 65km north of Huambo.

Military leaders from the two sides agreed three weeks ago to set Wednesday as the deadline for disen-

gagement, but the process appeared to be delayed in some other areas.

A government spokesman said on Wednesday that Unita was continuing attacks in the northern province of Uige bordering Zaire.

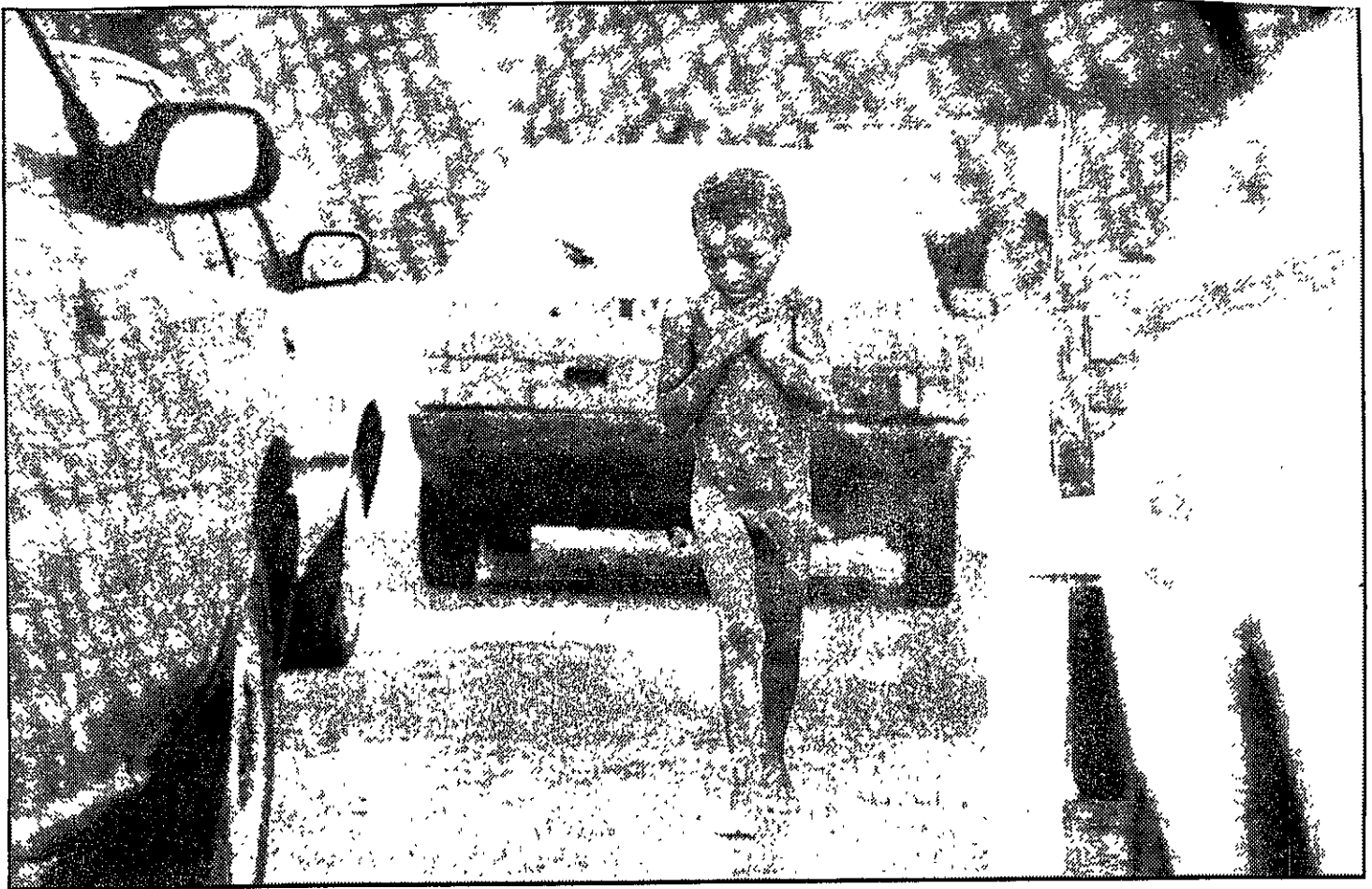
He expressed scepticism about Unita's commitment to the peace process.

A Unita congress at Bailundo last weekend said the movement accepted the Lusaka accords.

Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi said he was committed to peace, but he voiced certain conditions for its implementation.

The UN's special representative in Angola, Mr Alouine Blondin Beye, said, however, he was "not worried about the violence reports in Uige".

Diplomatic sources have blamed some of the continuing violence on communications problems between commanders and the men in the field.— Sapa-Reuter



Lost soul . . . a naked Angolan child begging for money on a busy street in the Angolan capital of Luanda moves through heavy traffic during a rainstorm. Thousands of Angolan children, displaced or orphaned as a result of the 20-year civil war, live on a day-to-day survival basis in the streets of the city. PICTURE: AP

STORY 20/2/95 (5)

Angola comes back to life

Cuito — Life is seeping slowly back into villages in central Angola, which suffered severely in fighting preceding November's accord aimed at ending two decades of war between government and Unita forces.

At the weekend, a military convoy made the first trip by road in the past two years between this shattered city in central Uige province to Chingueia, 70 km to the south.

"This is truly the first pragmatic step towards peace we have seen in this part of the country since the authorities signed the peace agreement in November," said Miguel Felipe, a native of Cuito who works for the UN's World Food Pro-

gramme.

"It means people will now be free to trade their produce and depend less on the international community."

While life in Cuito, site of a nine-month stand-off between government forces and Unita, remains treacherous because of thousands of buried landmines, residents and UN officials are still optimistic.

"There is food in the countryside, and we will be able to get it now at a more accessible price," Felipe said.

To try to ensure that the peace accord signed in the Zambian capital Lusaka holds, the UN Security Council has authorised more than 7 000 troops, ci-

vilians and police monitors for duty in Angola.

But residents of Cuito already voice confidence that their lives will soon change for the better.

"People were forced to eat banana roots to survive.

"I made tea out of avocado tree leaves, and ate that as a main course several times," said Justino Pires, a former school-teacher.

"The biggest problem with the war was that people lost everything — not only their families, but their work, their selves."

"Slowly we will rebuild some of that," said 47-year-old Pires, who now works as a driver for the UN Children's Fund.

Some UN sources say that de-

spite successful troop demobilisation in some areas, in northern Uige thousands of people are still exposed to Unita attacks.

"We will have to see full disarmament before we are able to believe the peace is serious," one source said.

Underlining the frailty of the Angolan peace, a UN helicopter was brought down and damaged in western Angola last week while flying above Unita-held territory.

A UN official said the helicopter, which was on its final approach to the town of Quibaxe, was hit by rifle fire, but it landed without injury to the crew or passengers. — Sapa-Reuter.

UN general in Angola civil war crossfire

ARL 21/2/95

⑤

□ *Unita refuses to set up buffer zone*

LUANDA. — The United Nations chief military observer in Angola was caught in crossfire between Unita rebels and government troops who are supposed to have stopped fighting under three-month-old peace accords.

"We were in a house having a meeting with Unita, but had to stop the conversation because of the crossfire," General Chris Garuba said after the incident in Uige, northern Angola.

The Lusaka protocol, a UN-

sponsored peace agreement, was signed last November in the Zambian capital to try to end the 19-year Angolan civil war.

General Garuba, a Nigerian, explained that the case of Uige was "quite complicated". The city is controlled by the government and surrounded by Unita.

"Under the Lusaka protocol, Unita must back off 15km and create a buffer zone for the UN blue helmets, since the government troops have nowhere to go," said General Garuba.

The shooting yesterday came

as no surprise.

In spite of optimistic reports of troop demobilisation in the central Huambo region, an attack on a UN helicopter last Monday left some scepticism as to the role of the 7 000 UN personnel scheduled to arrive in three months.

"I will go to Uige every day of this week until I am satisfied that Unita has actually moved out of the city limits," said General Garuba.

Full troop disengagement was supposed to have taken place by February 14. — Reuter.

Concern at threat to Angolan peace deal

(5) APRIL 28/1975
LUANDA. — United Nations sources have expressed concern at the status of Angola's peace accords after a government threat of action against the opposition Unita.

The sources, who did not want to be identified, said a permanent peace appeared further away now than it did earlier this month when the UN agreed to send 7 000 blue helmets to help implement a peace accord signed in Lusaka in November.

A possible scenario is that both armies are using Lusaka to gain time in order to up-scale and return to war at full force, a source said.

The sources spoke yesterday during a break in a meeting between UN representatives and the warring parties, called to

review a government military communique issued on Sunday.

The communique accused Unita of violating the Lusaka protocol and said government troops had advanced in response.

● Gunmen killed five people in an ambush in the province of Lunda Sul, state radio reported late yesterday.

There were no other details and it was not clear when the ambush took place. The radio said it was not known to which organisation the gunmen belonged.

Mineral-rich Lunda Sul is largely-held by Unita which vowed to respond in kind if government forces carried out threats to teach it a lesson for ceasefire violations. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan peace a tricky prospect

5 Wm 3 - 9/3/95

Chris Simpson in Uige

THE Unita officer was still offering explanations and excuses last week, but the UN General was impatient.

"We are wasting our time, you are backing out of what was agreed. If we were doing things the way you want them done we'd be here 20 years," he said.

In the rain, the United Nation's chief military observer, Nigerian General Chris Garuba, ordered his aides, observers and attendant jour-

nalists to depart for Uige airport.

The final showdown came late last week near the village of Guicala, in Unita territory, 10 kms east of the government-held city of Uige.

It concluded a tense week which highlighted the roadblocks the Angolan peace process is running into, as the UN tries to supervise the disengagement of rival armies. Uige, 230 kms north of Luanda, was described recently by Garuba as "the most difficult place in the whole of Angola".

Once the centre of a rich coffee

belt, the city was captured by Unita in late 1992 as the UN's first efforts to broker a settlement collapsed.

The Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) regained control of Uige in November 1994 on the eve of the signing of the Lusaka peace pact, provoking an outcry from Unita. But Savimbi's movement retained control of nearby Negage and its strategic air base and most of the rest of the province.

The UN's primary concern has been to create a buffer zone between the two sides, with Unita troops mov-

ing out leaving the vacated areas to be patrolled by UN observers.

At a meeting of the rival chiefs of staff in Waco-kungo on February 3, it was agreed government soldiers would remain in Uige while Unita's west and Quitexe to the south-west.

The process was to be carried out between February 5 and 15, with a parallel disengagement in the central province of Huambo. While it was completed ahead of schedule in Huambo, Uige has lagged, with the northern city becoming the focal point of the peace process.

With similar disengagements planned for the eastern provinces, the UN urgently needs proof of progress from Uige. Hence Garuba's

regular trips north over the past fortnight.

Garuba told IPS in Uige that "all these deliberate obstacles, all these delays, all these buttering eggs" were going to postpone the deployment of UN blue helmets. "Under the current circumstances there is no way that the international community will allow peace-keeping troops to come into Angola because the process is being stalled, is not moving, is not progressing as it should."

Unita spokesman Brigadier Isaias Samakruva told IPS: "Everyone's saying Unita doesn't want to disengage from Uige, but Unita has reasons for this." He warned of serious shortcomings in the disengagement process, with steps being jumped. — IPS

Peace is as bad as war for Angola's battered people

(5) ST 3/5/95

By CHRIS SIMPSON: Luena, Angola

"WHY are they still doing this? Unita is planting land mines, the government is planting land mines. We should be allowed to move around freely now. Instead, people are still getting blown up."

Casino Orinea, 58, lifts the blanket from his hospital bed in Luena to reveal a bloody, poorly bandaged stump. He lost his left leg to a land mine as he went looking for food. There are few drugs at the hospital, no nurses and no clean water supply.

Although Luena, 640km east of Luanda, remained in government hands throughout the war, Unita guerrillas kept the city under siege.

More than three months after the signing of a peace agreement by the Angolan government and the rebel Unita movement, Luena remains isolated and dangerous.

"There is no way you can talk about people moving around freely," says hospital administrator Francisco Maris. "If anything, things have got more difficult since the Lusaka agreement. Just days ago we had more than 20 people killed when their truck hit a land mine on the road north, just 8km out of the city."

Luena, like most provincial cities in Angola, now has a UN observer mission in residence to monitor the ceasefire. But

the observers are increasingly sceptical of the chances of a real, lasting peace.

UN insiders say the peace process is running dangerously behind schedule and that February was the worst month yet. Even UN special representative Alioune Blondin Beye has abandoned his customary optimism to warn both sides that the delays are unacceptable.

The problems are multiplying. In the northern province of Uige, where government and Unita troops have kept up a battle for territory, a promised Unita disengagement has been repeatedly postponed. UN chief military observer General Chris Bafuba broke dramatically with the UN's normal code of diplomacy, warning Unita commanders: "You're wasting my time, you've got to show you're serious about this process."

While the UN has criticised Unita publicly for denying observers access to the areas it controls, the government has inevitably gone further, accusing Unita of systematic ceasefire violations and of having no intention of abiding by the peace agreement.

From the other side, Unita has complained of constant government troop movements — and has warned that it will respond to provocation.

There is clear evidence that both sides are ready to pursue the military option if the peace agreement fails.

Appeal as Angola's crisis deepens

(5) STAN 6/3/95

■ BY DALE LAUTENBACH
FOREIGN EDITOR

Harare — African foreign ministers have urged a meeting of heads of state to stave off a crisis in Angola.

This followed a bleak briefing in Harare at the weekend, during which Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio da Moura said the peace protocol was in jeopardy, alleging that Unita leader Jonas Savimbi had no intention of honouring the accord.

South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo acknowledged that it was difficult to distinguish fact from propaganda in the continuing war of words, at which

both sides in the Angolan conflict were so adept.

He called for an urgent meeting between Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

"It is critical that Savimbi has to be part of the solution," he said, adding that although South Africa had tried and failed to include Savimbi in the dialogue, it would try once again.

Meanwhile, the conflict in Angola is sliding further into a war of hostile words, accompanied by an increasing number of ceasefire violations.

A Namibian delegate to the Harare meeting of foreign ministers said the younger brother

of Dos Santos had reportedly been killed in one of the incidents — "and this obviously doesn't help".

Nzo said the international community had to urgently deploy the 7 000 troops earmarked for peacekeeping in Angola.

"We're afraid that if there's a delay, it will be back to square one, and the likely result is that the UN will then not implement the resolutions."

A resolution was passed in New York on February 8 to provide 7 000 peacekeeping troops for Angola, but conditional upon an established peace accord in the country prior to deployment of the troops.

In climate of mistrust, Unita troops regrouping

Angola ceasefire cracks

Lusaka — Angolan government troops and Unita rebels have resumed fighting around the northern town of Uige and in other parts of the country, sources close to the United Nations mission said here yesterday.

Uige, the capital of the province of the same name, was the last provincial city to fall to government forces before a ceasefire came into effect late in November when a peace protocol was signed in the Zambian capital, Lusaka.

Fighting was reported in the Uige region after Unita recently refused to withdraw its forces to the town of Negege, some 60 km distant. In a climate of distrust, some rebel troops have regrouped about 15 km from the state capital. Clashes have also been reported elsewhere. The German relief organ-

sation Cap Anamur said that three of its aid workers had been murdered in southern Angola, where they were taking part in mine-clearing operations.

The bodies of a 31-year-old German, Michael Lingg, and his two Angolan colleagues, whose names were not known, were found near the port of Benguela after they failed to return to the town of Cahal as planned on Thursday.

A spokesman for Cap Anamur, said in a telephone interview, that the three men had been shot dead.

Lingg was the first employee of the agency to be killed in Angola.

Another Cap Anamur staffer, nurse Helmut Henrichse, lost both feet in a mine explosion in Somalia in June 1991. He and his Angolan colleagues had been taking part

span 7/2/95

in a second operation to lift mines in the Benguela region. During their first mission which began two years ago, almost 63 000 anti-tank mines, more than 30 000 anti-personnel mines and some 300 tons of abandoned ammunition were destroyed, according to Cap Anamur.

Millions of mines are still scattered across the country.

The spokesman said Cap Anamur was reconsidering its position in Angola, where civil war raged between government forces and Unita rebel fighters after independence from Portugal in 1975.

Unita's Radio Vorgan yesterday said the government had reinforced its troops in Uige on Saturday, while its aircraft were landing at the airport of the town, with supplies.

An informed source said UN observers were yesterday seeking to verify reports of

the clashes, which threaten the peace established elsewhere in the sprawling country by the protocol signed in Lusaka in November.

The fighting came in spite of an agreement by the government military chief, General Joao Baptista de Matos, and his Unita counterpart, General Arlindo Chionda Pena, Ben-Ben, to separate their armies by February 15.

The peace pact provides for the demobilisation of the rival armies, the formation of a new joint defence force and a political settlement giving Unita some government and administrative posts.

UN special envoy Alouine Blondin Baye has blamed Unita for the failure to disengage its forces at Uige and on Wednesday gave both sides one week in which to pull back their armies. The international commu-

nity would otherwise draw its conclusions, he warned.

The UN Security Council has voted to deploy some 7 000 peacekeeping soldiers but made this contingent on a total end to hostilities.

On Friday, ministers from the group of Frontline states, initially formed to combat apartheid in South Africa, met in the Zimbabwean capital Harare and recommended a regional summit to try to save the peace in Angola.

Jonas Savimbi's rebels plunged Angola back into civil war in 1992 after losing UN-supervised general elections, held under a previous peace pact, to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's ruling People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

Seventy Unita MPs were returned to the 220-seat parliament in the elections. Sapa-AFP.

WORLD

Treaty violations slammed

Angola calls for hard line on peace

⑤
stan 8/3/95

Luanda — Hit by almost 200 Unita rebel attacks a month, Angola's government yesterday called for the UN to set — and enforce — a deadline for peace.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos asked the UN to set a date for full compliance with a treaty signed by the two sides in November and to impose sanctions on violators.

Dos Santos said rebels had fooled UN peacekeeping monitors by switching from conventional warfare to hit-and-run "low-intensity combat."

"Unita has begun ambushes, kidnappings and sniper attacks" despite the agreement which was to have ended 20 years of civil war, he said.

General Higino Carneiro said more than 300 Angolans had been killed by Unita since the signing.

Despite promising some 7 000 armed troops to shepherd Angola back to peace, the UN has so far put fewer than 40 unarmed monitors into the country's battle zones.

Ang UN chief Boutros Bou-

tros-Ghali warned on Monday he would not recommend the deployment of peacekeeper infantry to Angola until government and rebel forces complied fully with the ceasefire.

Anxious to avoid a repetition of Somalia, where fighting erupted during what should have been a humanitarian mission, the UN has said it will send troops to Angola only if it can verify that the truce is holding.

The first infantry units are scheduled for deployment in May, but Boutros-Ghali said the move would be delayed unless government and rebel troops were sent back to barracks and demining operations got under way.

Power struggle

Angola has been at war effectively since 1962, when anti-colonial guerillas began fighting for freedom from Portugal.

After independence in 1975, two rival factions locked in a power struggle which has devastated the once-prosperous nation and killed more than 500 000 Angolans. — Sapa-AP

War curtails oil output

LUANDA — A 20 000 barrel per day (bpd) expansion at Angola's Offshore Platform Two near Soyo planned for the beginning of next year depended on peace and stability in the country, a petroleum industry official said yesterday.

With an output of 60 000 bpd, Offshore Platform 2 — operated by Petrobras, Texaco, Total and Sonangol — produces at only 60% of its capacity. *BO 8/2/95*

"We would like to see the project develop, expanding production to at least 80 000 bpd," said Cesar Muniz, Petrobras technical manager.

The Angolan economy relies heavily on the oil industry which finances most of the country's defence purchases. — Reuter.

State Mr Warren Christopher arrives in the region in a bid to revive them.

Even before the meeting at

Palestinians — though not the three million refugees of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war — but never specified a timetable. — Sapa-Reuter

tor Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam and his family had been granted Zimbabwean citizenship.

Angola calls on UN for peace deadline

CT 8/3/95

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Mr Dos Santos said the rebels have fooled UN peacekeeping monitors by switching from conventional warfare to hit-and-run "low-intensity combat" — despite the agreement which was to have ended 20 years of civil war.

"Unita has begun ambushes, kidnappings and sniper attacks," Mr Dos Santos said.

Government General Higinio Carneiro said over 300 Angolans have been killed by Unita guerillas since the treaty signing.

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armed UN troops to shepherd Angola back to peace, the UN has so far put less than 40 unarmed UN monitors into the Southern African nation's battle zones.

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The first infantry units are scheduled to be deployed in May, but Dr Boutros-Ghali said on Monday the move will be delayed unless government and rebel troops are sent back to barracks and demining operations get underway. — Sapa-AP

Maize harvests hit by drought

CT 8/3/95

HARARE: Southern African states face dwindling supplies of maize — the staple food — in the 1995/96 marketing year after drought sharply reduced harvests this season, regional food experts said yesterday.

Officer seized in Lesotho

MASERU: Soldiers in Lesotho had seized a senior defence force officer and were holding him hostage, state radio reported yesterday.

Riemvasmakers going home

CT 8/3/95

WINDHOEK: The repatriation of hundreds of Riemvasmakers from Namibia to South Africa began yesterday after a delay by floods in the desert areas where they were forcibly moved to in 1974.

— Sapa-Reuter

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Angola asks UN to step in

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Government Gen Higinio Carneiro said guerrillas had killed more than 300 Angolans since the treaty.

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And UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali warned on Monday he would not recommend the deployment of peacekeeper infantry to Angola until both sides complied fully with the ceasefire.

The first units are scheduled to be deployed in May, but Boutros-Ghali said the move would be delayed unless troops were sent back to barracks and mine-lifting operations were under way. — Sapa-AP.

UN extends Angola deadline

(6) ARG 10/3/95
LUANDA. — The UN has extended a troop disengagement deadline for Angola's civil war rivals.

United Nations special representative to Angola Aljouné Blondin Beye said rebel Unita forces and the government had been given another week to next Thursday to complete troop disengagement in terms of the Lusaka agreement aimed at ending civil war.

"We will know by next Thursday whether Unita and the Angolan armed forces are complying with our instructions," Mr Blondin Beye told a

news conference late last night.

So far troops have not been withdrawn.

Mr Blondin Beye declined to comment on reports during the past three weeks that both Unita and the government had built up arms stockpiles and were deploying troops.

Mr Blondin Beye met Unita leader Jonas Savimbi on Wednesday in Unita's northern Bailundo headquarters and met Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos yesterday.

He declined to say what they discussed. — Reuter.

Angola now 'closer to war than peace'

DAVID TUCKER

ANGOLA, under a shaky ceasefire for three months, is closer to war than peace as government troops and UNITA rebels lick their wounds and look for new gains, say military analysts.

"It looks as though the peace will fall apart. Angola is closer to war than peace," Bill Sass, a senior analyst at the Johannesburg-based Institute for Defence Policy, said yesterday.

"The United Nations doesn't want to send in peacekeeping troops until there is peace. That is never going to happen until they are there," said the former army brigadier.

The UN wants to send more than 7 000 troops to Angola to consolidate the fragile peace brought about by November's accord hammered out in Lusaka, Zambia, but it first wants an assurance that both sides are committed to peace.

While peace may be on the lips of both UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, their men on the ground appear to be working to another agenda.

UN sources report almost daily flights of government troops to supposedly demilitarised areas, in breach of the accord.

Sav 11/2/95
Positions from which UNITA forces have withdrawn are quickly occupied by government forces in defiance of the UN, which freely admits it is unable to adequately monitor movements.

In the Uíge battlefield north of Luanda, a UN observer said earlier this week that newly recruited government troops made no secret of their presence.

"There are plenty of new army recruits here too," he said. "They just stand around, and tell us outright what they are."

The government has accused UNITA of repeated ceasefire violations, saying it has lost more than 200 soldiers in clashes with the rebels since the accord.

Because there were no peacekeeping troops in Angola and only a handful of hard-pushed observers, said Sass, small incidents were escalating.

"Clashes between individuals become clashes between patrols, then platoons and so on," said the analyst.

Richard Cornwell, military analyst at the Pretoria-based Africa Institute, said Savimbi, unhappy with the terms of the Lusaka accord, was increasingly turning towards hawks for advice.

There have been unsubstantiated reports that UNITA was recruiting foreign mercenaries.

"Savimbi demoted his advisers who negotiated the Lusaka accord," said Cornwell. "It was considered too conciliatory."

The Angolan news agency ANGOP yesterday quoted Dos Santos as saying UNITA hardliners were threatening to wreck the accord because it was not in their interests.

Cornwell said he thought Savimbi was trying to stall the process in the hope the government would lose its appetite for any fight and run out of funds.

He said it was widely known that Angola had sold forward at least two years of its oil production to fund the war.

UNITA this week accused the government of buying new tanks from Russia and other military equipment from Israel.

Hundreds of thousands of people were killed and millions displaced by the Angolan civil war.

A peace accord in 1991 brought a brief respite, but UNITA took up arms again in 1992.

Cornwell said that if UNITA did embark on a push to regain ground lost to the government while last year's peace accord was being worked out, it would probably start in the diamond-rich areas of Lunde Norte and Cufunfo. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angola 'closer to war than peace'

JOHANNESBURG. — Angola, under a shaky ceasefire for three months, is closer to war than peace as government troops and Unita rebels lick their wounds and look for new gains, military analysts said.

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pen until they are there," said Mr Sass.

The UN wants to send more than 7 000 troops to Angola to consolidate the fragile peace brought about by last November's accord, but first it wants a commitment to peace from both sides.

While peace may be on the lips of both Unita leader Jonas Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, their men on the ground appear to be working to another agenda.

UN sources report almost daily flights of government

troop reinforcements to, supposedly demilitarised areas, in breach of the Lusaka accords.

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AIRG 11/3/95

Urgent ⁵ ARG 15/3/95 summit on Angola

DALE LAUTENBACH

The Argus Foreign Service

JOHANNESBURG. — Southern Africa's heads of state have earmarked Saturday for an emergency summit to address the deepening Angolan crisis.

The gathering, in Harare under the auspices of the Southern African Development Community, has yet to be finally confirmed.

Foreign Ministers of the region recommended a summit 10 days ago and since then the situation in Angola has worsened.

Yesterday the United Nations military chief in Angola, Chris Garuba, said both Unita rebels and the government army were failing to keep to the November agreements for withdrawing forces.

General Garuba also accused the government army of occupying territory previously occupied by Unita and said the conditions necessary for peace to be truly declared had not yet been met.

The Angolan government yesterday denied it had invaded UN buffer zones in northern Uige province in defiance of the November agreement.

"The government is not occupying any areas where it is not supposed to be. It is a question of interpretation," said government representative Higinio Carneiro on state radio.

He was responding to a claim by General Garuba on Monday that government troops were violating the accord by moving into areas left by Unita.

The clock is ticking fast for Angola. UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali has warned that if there is not a demonstrable peace between the two sides by March 25, the UN will delay its decision to deploy 7 000 peacekeepers to the country in May.

The timetable is already falling behind as the logistical support for these blue helmets is supposed to be on the ground by the end of this month.

Meanwhile, the SADC heads of state are consulting as to how best they might intervene. The parties in Mozambique at the time of the election in October, most particularly rebel chief Afonso Dhla-kama, took seriously a strongly worded communique from the SADC leaders and stepped back into line.

It is unlikely the Angolans will respond similarly.

One of the greatest challenges for the regional leadership is to involve Unita leader Jonas Savimbi in attempts to find a solution.

So far Dr Savimbi has been completely isolated, his only interlocutor being UN special envoy to Angola Alouine Blondin Beye.

Known for his unflinching optimism about reaching a peace in Angola, even Mr Blondin Beye has been sounding doubtful recently. He called this week for an urgent increase in the UN monitoring of arms supplies to both sides in 20-year conflict. — Sapa-Reuter.

Angolan inflation huge

CT 17/2/95
LUANDA: Annual inflation in Angola topped 1 000% in January for the first time since mid-1994, the National Statistics Bureau said.

In figures released yesterday, it reported annual accumulated inflation of 1 085.3% in January from 972% in December, on the back of a 38.6% monthly rise in the consumer price index. The month-on-month inflation rate in December was 58.3%.

But a government economic analyst said the rate should ease in February as a result of less local currency on the Angolan streets. — Sapa-Reuter

Summit on Angola peace postponed

SMC 17/3/95

■ BY DALE LAUTENBACH
FOREIGN EDITOR

The emergency summit of southern African leaders seeking to save the Angolan peace has been "postponed indefinitely".

Diplomatic sources said late yesterday that it was apparently the wish of Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos that the meeting, originally scheduled for tomorrow in Harare, should no longer take place.

Earlier this month, a meeting of southern African foreign ministers in Harare recognised the frailty of the Angolan ceasefire and suggested a summit.

Two weeks ago Angolan women made a significant breakthrough right across party lines at a meeting held outside Pretoria.

Labelling South Africa a "cradle of reconciliation for Angolan women", delegates from both the ruling MPLA and the rebel Unita urged an instant moratorium on all arms sales and the ejection of all mercenaries from Angola.

(320) Sometan 23/3/95 (5)

'War must end' — Jonas

■ **HAD ENOUGH** Savimbi says the Angolan war should not resume.

LISBON — ANGOLA'S JONAS Savimbi, antagonist of Africa's longest civil war, said he was committed to giving up guerrilla warfare after 20 years of fighting and 500 000 deaths.

Savimbi said in an interview yesterday he hoped the United Nations would send armed peacekeepers to secure a four-month-old treaty between his Unita rebel movement and the Angolan government forces.

"I am committing all that I have to see that neither side resumes fighting," he told Portuguese daily newspaper *Diario de Noticias*.

Savimbi said he had asked his "close friends in the US Congress" — Republican Senators Jesse Helms, Robert Dole and Nancy Kassebaum — to lend their support to an Angolan peace operation.

Once a favourite with anti-communist leaders because of Unita's battle against the then Marxist Angolan government, Savimbi said US sena-

tors still consulted him by satellite telephone.

"The war must not begin again," the 60-year-old rebel leader told a *Diario de Noticias* reporter in an interview at Unita's central Angolan headquarters.

Savimbi's pledge came as UN chief Boutros Boutros-Ghali prepared to announce tomorrow whether he will commit 7 000 international peacekeepers to supervise Angola's transition to peace.

Savimbi said his 70 000 fighters had been ordered to cease fire.

But government and Unita weapons still blaze daily in constant skirmishes.

An uncharacteristically subdued Savimbi said the suffering of the Angolan people convinced him the time had come to accept the treaty.

"The war has gone on so long that the instigators have finally become sensitive, and have begun working on viable solutions," he said. — *Sapa-AP*.

Peace accord could hold... but it might collapse, says Savimbi

Star 23/3/95

(5)

Unita blows hot and cold

Lisbon (Portugal) — Angola's Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi said in an interview published yesterday that the country's fragile peace agreement could still collapse, but he was hopeful it would hold.

Fifa said he shared US fears that the November agreement to end the nearly 20-year civil war in Angola might crumble.

"I am convinced that the American worries are well founded," Savimbi said in the interview, conducted on March 17 and 18 at Bailundo, his headquarters in Angola.

But he added: "There is a very strong conviction, on our side at least, that the accord can hold." There have been numerous

ceasefire violations since the UN-brokered peace accord was signed four months ago, and Unita and the government have not yet begun disarmament their forces.

Savimbi appealed for stronger international support for the peace process, particularly from the US, which will foot up to 40% of the bill for a 7 000-strong UN peacekeeping force in Angola.

Mandela meeting

He also said Unita wanted to improve its strained relations with Portugal, the former colonial power in Angola, and with South Africa, which switched its support from Unita to the ruling

MPLA after the fall of apartheid.

Savimbi said he wanted to hold a long-delayed meeting with President Mandela, and wanted Pretoria to play a bigger role in the Angolan peace process.

South Africa offered logistical support to the peacekeeping force after Unita said SA troops would not be welcome because of the large number of South African mercenaries working as military instructors for the Angolan government.

Savimbi said he did not associate Mandela personally with the dispatch of South African mercenaries to Angola.

"I want to tell President Mandela directly that I don't associate him with the mercenaries.

We want him to use his enormous experience, influence and prestige so that we in Angola can learn from his example," he added.

Civil war

Savimbi founded Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) in 1966 to fight Portuguese colonial rule, but Unita began a civil war with the rival MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) at independence in 1975. — Sapa-Reuter.



Unita's Jonas Savimbi

THE WORLD

Misery in 'land at end of the world' as 800 wait to go home

Restrictions on movement until mine clearing project starts

AP 4/14/75

(5)

MENONGUE (Angola). — Four months after a peace pact was signed to end the Angolan civil war, hundreds of refugees are waiting in misery in the southern town of Menongue to be allowed to go home.

"We were forced to walk a whole day from our homes when the sieges began last year," said a woman at the refugee centre which holds nearly 800 people.

"Now we must wait until those people at the top decide it's fine for us to go home."

The government and Unita signed a UN-sponsored peace agreement last November in the Zambian capital Lusaka to end Africa's longest war.

Both sides charge the other has not complied fully with troop disengagement under the Lusaka protocol, which is almost four months behind schedule and has been beset with dozens of relatively minor violations of the ceasefire. Hundreds of thousands of

people have been killed and millions displaced since the war between Unita and the country's formerly Marxist rulers erupted in 1975 after independence from Portugal.

The woman, who declined to give her name, said guerrillas of the Unita movement attacked her village and others last year. They forced hundreds of villagers to move to the relative safety of Menongue in search of shelter and food.

attacked, or my children. But you hear the noise in the distance and you know it's bad, and your heart — it beats faster and faster," said the mother of five.

Menongue lies in the least populated of Angola's 18 provinces, Cuando Cubango, on the border with Namibia. It is known as "the land at the end of the world".

The province was a game reserve in colonial times. Most of the dry, sandy territory is controlled by Unita,

with the exception of the garrison towns of Menongue, Cuchi, Longa and Cuito Cuanavale.

The area around Menongue has been heavily mined in the past three years and movement of people and goods will be restricted until a mine clearing project begins.

"I truly don't care who wins what war," said Maria Helena, head nurse of Menongue children's hospital.

"Every day we get from 10 to 15 new malnourished children. — Sapa-Reuter.

'Sympathisers of Unita executed'

SAO TOME: Angolan security forces have executed several sympathisers of the rebel Unita movement in western Cuanza Sul province, Unita Radio said yesterday.

(5) CT6/4/95
The radio, monitored in the island state of Sao Tomé and Príncipe, said security forces dragged Unita sympathisers from jail, shot them and flung their corpses into a river.

The security forces had executed some sympathisers on Tuesday, it added.

The radio also said Angolan troops killed six people travelling from Benguela City to Calongo village on March 25. — Sana-Reuter

Angolan war examined

⑤ Sowetan 10/4/95

ANGOLA has been torn apart by conflict for decades. In 1992 the elections provided a glimmer of hope, but this unfortunately disappeared in yet another orgy of mayhem and violence.

Last week Dr William Minter, an American specialist on southern Africa, examined the war in Angola at a seminar hosted by the South African Institute of International Affairs.

"What went wrong?" he asked. There are, of course, no easy answers — but Minter was adamant that Unita, headed by Dr Jonas Savimbi, should bear the brunt of the blame.

"The return to war was possible because the armies had not been demobilised," he said. "[But] Unita was far better prepared to return to war, and took advantage of that."

Minter also referred to what he described as the Savimbi factor: "I don't think any party headed by Savimbi will ever accept any share of power except 100 percent."

"The particular character of Savimbi has a great deal of relevance and misestimation that can lead to fundamental mistakes."

He argued that there was a need to apply "more serious pressure" on Savimbi. Unless this was done, he felt, the chances were slim of a lasting settlement being implemented.

Minter said it was necessary for the United Nations to become involved in a far more effective way: "Enforcement implies pressure of some kind."

This could take the form of targeted sanctions (he mentioned confiscating the bank accounts of leaders which violated human rights as an example).

He felt South Africa and the United States, particularly, were obliged to help resolve the Angolan conflict because of their past role.

"The US was very actively involved in promoting war in Angola, beginning at least in 1975," said Minter, and added that there was "openly acknowledged clandestine action" from 1985.

He stressed: "From a moral and political point of view, those outside powers which had a role in promoting war in Angola have an obligation to bring peace and reconstruction."

"A great deal of the damage that was done was ours (the US and South Africa). "And the impact of the war in Angola is comparable to the damage caused by World War 2."

Minter added that US policy was earlier based on ignorance: "Few US policy-makers had any knowledge of the forces they were backing in Angola."

"I don't think they had much understanding of Savimbi, and at some levels showed really astonishing ignorance about fundamental things."

For example, he said, the US over-estimated Unita's military strength, and also disregarded reports of human rights violations which came to light as early as 1979.

"Unita was an extraordinarily totalitarian movement until the first peace accord in 1991," Minter argued. But, he believes, there is now

Dr William Minter, an American specialist on southern Africa, feels South Africa and the United States, particularly, are obliged to help resolve the Angolan conflict, reports Features Writer **Tyrone August:**



There is no end in sight to the ugly war in Angola.

cause for hope.

"After that, control began to break down for the first time," he said, and pointed out that there was an increasing rejection of Savimbi's leadership.

He predicted this was likely to accelerate: "It is fundamental to make a distinction between Unita and Savimbi in terms of the future."

He said the MPLA-led government recognised that Unita supporters must be incorporated, and commended its past policies of assimilation.

Minter pointed out that the FNLA, which was once opposed to the MPLA just as fiercely as Unita, was defeated in the mid-seventies.

"Yet in 1978 the MPLA was able to offer fairly generous terms of incorporation for FNLA soldiers and political cadres," said Minter.

"Assimilation has been a fundamental part of the MPLA's political strategy. It has been a consistent threat since independence (in 1975), and should be taken into account."

Minter is not blind to the recalcitrant role of some elements in the MPLA government, but insists that Unita remained the more hostile of the two parties. "I remain to be convinced that the militarists on the government's side are an equal obstacle to peace as Unita."

"It is not at all clear that it is in their interests to trust Savimbi and the international community."

He said there was a history of betrayal by them in the past.

For this reason, Minter provocatively believes that the government should not rule out the military option as a means to resolve the conflict. "I don't regard mediation or a negotiated solution — whoever is doing it — as automatically the best solution," he explained. "It should be encouraged to the maximum."

"But I don't automatically assume that peace is best brought by negotiation. Peace may be best brought by a military victory in Angola."

"It's rational for the MPLA to leave the military option open." Nevertheless, the idealist in him could not resist adding: "But it should be made more rational for them to adopt peace."

Minter returned repeatedly to the role of Savimbi: "If he retains effective command over the core of armed Unita people, then you have to take into account his intentions."

At the moment, no end to the Angolan conflict is in sight. The international community has a role, but this can only be on the terms of the Angolans.

Not even South Africa, widely regarded as a beacon of hope in southern Africa, can just barge in and assume the mantle of leadership, he said.

"It has to be very modest in assuming it necessarily knows the best way," cautioned Minter. Also, because of its past, there is ambivalence in Angola about South Africa's role.

It will still take a long time for the legacy of the past to be overcome. And, in the meantime, the war drags on.

UN calls for summit between Dos Santos and Savimbi

Peace drive in Angola

6 SHW 15/14/95

FOLLOWING a UN Security Council call, a meeting between the rival Angolan leaders could take place within a month, report ANNE LE COZ, MIKE LITTLEJOHN and REUTER.

GBADOLITE (Zaire) — A summit between Angolan leader Jose Eduardo Dos Santos and rebel chief Jonas Savimbi could take place by the end of the month, Savimbi indicated here yesterday.

This follows a call by the UN Security Council yesterday that "as a matter of urgency" there should be a face-to-face meeting between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and UNITA chief Jonas Savimbi to improve trust between the two sides and give "new impetus" to the peace process in Angola.

While not having the authority of a resolution, a statement by the council is regarded as a directive to the parties concerned.

In public

Savimbi's appearance in this Zairean town was the first time he had appeared in public outside Angola in an official capacity since the civil war there erupted again in October 1992.

Savimbi told journalists that the summit would take place "before the arrival of blue helmets".

The summit between Dos Santos and Savimbi may be held in an unspecified African country at a date to be fixed.

Savimbi yesterday met the UN special envoy for Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye of Mali, as well as Amara Essy, the Ivory Coast Foreign Minister and acting president of the UN General Assembly.

Also attending the meeting was Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko, whose home town is Gbadolite.

Beye said a meeting of Savimbi and Dos Santos was important for its psychological impact inside Angola. "The Angolan

people will never believe in peace unless they see the two together," he added.

Savimbi said the meeting with Dos Santos would prove that both sides trusted the international community.

"We must do what we can to see ourselves as they see us, to show that we can work together," said the UNITA leader.

The Security Council also welcomed a decision by Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali to proceed with preparations for the phased deployment, beginning next month, of infantry battalions that will form the bulk of a UN peacekeeping force for Angola. The statement said a ceasefire was generally holding — a condition for the deployment of UN peacekeepers.

The UN plans to deploy more than 7 000 troops in a force called the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM III) to help implement a UN-sponsored peace agreement signed in Lusaka, Zambia, in November.

Only about 530 UN troops and police are now in Angola. Full deployment of UNAVEM, especially its 6 450-man infantry element, has been delayed by failure of the parties to comply with the peace agreement, but arrangements are being made to send in logistics and support units to pave the way.

Concern

While the council welcomed confirmation that the ceasefire was generally holding, and that the level of violations had remained relatively low, it said a number of developments gave cause for concern.

These included reports of continuing military actions and preparations, particularly an Angolan Air Force attack on an airstrip at Andulo. — Sapa-AFP.

Sanity amid madness of Angola war

Stan 19/1/75

From amid the suffering and devastation of Angola comes the unlikely tale of Lumbala n'Guimbo town.

The hospital works, no one is starving and surrounding areas are considered relatively safe to travel — not things to be taken lightly in a country at war with itself for so long.

After nearly 20 years of civil war and years of drought and deprivation, the people of this remote town have learnt how to use limited resources to improve their quality of life.

"I saw a lot of commitment, these are people you can trust," said an Rome-based aid worker visiting the town in southern Moxico province.

"Unlike other places in Angola, if you give them something, they are not going to sell it."

The official said Lumbala n'Guimbo is an example of how a community has used scarce

A REMOTE town is an unlikely success story, rising from the ashes left by 20 years of internecine strife. Cristina Muller reports

resources to improve life.

The town is populated by young women with babies slung across their backs and old men, who tend neat rows of sweet potatoes dug beside sturdy straw huts and swept clay tracks.

There is little sign of the civil war which has torn Angola apart since 1975.

The ruins of colonial buildings put up by Angola's former Portuguese rulers and the absence of young men are the only obvious signs of war in this town controlled by Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels.

"Our hospital has all departments: paediatrics, maternity, surgery, laboratory, and gen-

eral practice," said Nurse Tito proudly, waving his hand towards the cluster of huts serving as a clinic.

Outside the paediatrics unit, dozens of mothers and young children waited their turns to receive medicine against whooping cough.

"We have a whooping cough problem right now — five cases in the past three days, but no deaths so far," said Tito, doling out medicine.

In the "administration" building, a round grass structure furnished with bamboo benches on one side with a long table and chairs on the other, the town council extolled its virtues.

"What you see here is what we have done with the materials you have sent us. The municipality has 19 health posts and 15 communal hospitals," explained an official.

Inhabited by an estimated 25 000 people, the municipal area has 34 townships surrounding the main town.

Aid officials expect the population to swell if last November's peace accord between the government and Unita holds and news of it percolates through to refugee camps in neighbouring Zambia, where thousands of Angolans live.

The civil war was briefly halted by 1991 peace accords, which collapsed the following

year when Unita rejected its defeat in UN-supervised elections and returned to the bush. Tens of thousands of people who fled to neighbouring states are still there, waiting to see if the November accords can be translated into a permanent peace.

The UN, too, is hedging its bets, holding back more than 7 000 peacekeeping troops until it is sure both sides are committed to peace.

"It would be very good if the new agreement were to work, because then we would see the free circulation of people and goods across the region," said Nurse Tito.

The local Unavem (UN Angola Verification Mission) contingent said travel by car was fairly safe from Lumbala n'Guimbo to Ninda, 30km to the south, and 80km north to Lucusse. — Reuter.

SA 'THE MAJOR MIRACLE'

Wars changing face of Africa

CT5/5/95

LONDON: Destructive wars are changing the political shape of Africa. **LINDA ENSOR** reports.

WARS in Africa had taken on a new, sinister dimension as African states, created more than 100 years ago by colonial powers, imploded on all fronts, the International Institute for Strategic Studies said in its Strategic Survey for 1994-95.

A "major miracle" would be required to stop the destruction and return African countries to normality, the survey, released yesterday, said.

There was a war or violent armed and organised rebellion in 26 of Africa's mainland states last year while conditions exist in Chad, Kenya, Senegal, Nigeria, Zaire and other countries for rebellions to break out.

All the wars last year were within states, though most spread across national borders. Political negotiations were rarely successful in bringing them to an end because there was no constitutional context in which to secure and



GOING HOME: The Kibeho refugee camp where the last occupants this week are being forced to pack up and go home to avoid starvation. The ethnic war in Rwanda has destroyed the country. **PICTURE: AP**

guarantee agreement. The wars had little ideological element and rapidly degenerated into meaningless atrocity and terror.

In many places the implosion had been accompanied by the destruction of the economic infrastructure and the rapid disintegration of social systems.

"Through the bloodshed, chaos and mass movements of people, it

is not yet clear what will take the place of the states. But as frightened, vulnerable people take refuge among their kith and kin, there is a reassertion of older, deeper loyalties and hierarchies."

The disintegration of states no longer able to buy support or provide security for their citizens had been accompanied by a rise in the power of warlords. This power was

regionally or ethnically based and the warlords were fighting, not necessarily for independence, but against the state or the ethnic group which controlled it.

Regarding South Africa, the survey said that bringing the country to the point it had now reached had required a miracle ...

"As it struggles to come to terms with its future it will need more than the efforts of one man to ensure the miracle endures."

The survey's authors detected a sense of sluggishness in government and an inability to give effect to its decisions.

The major beneficiaries were not the homeless or the unemployed, but the rapidly growing ranks of the black bourgeoisie.

The survey identified the major dilemma facing the ANC as being its unwillingness to transform itself from a liberation movement into a political party with all the responsibilities of government.

"To do so would involve a loss of support. The desire to maintain unity resulted in an insistence on the widest possible consensus before the most elementary decisions were taken, slowing the processes of government."



Lesotho king visits Britain

MASERU: King Moshoeshe II, making his first overseas trip since his return to the throne, left for Britain yesterday to attend the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Allied victory in Europe in World War II.

Angolan meeting uncertain

(5)
CT5/5/95

LUSAKA: Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and his rival Unita chief Dr Jonas Savimbi both failed to show up in the Zambian capital yesterday, before today's talks about peace in their homeland, officials said.

But UN officials and diplomats remained confident the two leaders would go ahead with their planned meeting to end nearly 20

years of civil war in Angola.

A Western diplomat said the arrival in Lusaka yesterday of the UN's chief military observer for Angola was a hopeful sign.

Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi were due to meet six months after the government and Unita rebels signed a peace accord in Lusaka.

Zambian officials laid out a red carpet and chairs for Mr Dos San-

tos at Lusaka airport in time for his 3pm plane to land. Disconsolately, they rolled the carpet up again a couple of hours later.

Government sources said Mr Dos Santos would only arrive in Zambia after Dr Savimbi, to avoid being wrong-footed twice.

At a previous meeting Dr Savimbi failed to show up citing security reasons. — Sapa-Reuter

(5)
Angolan
president
pulls out
of summit

ARJ 515195
LUANDA. — Angola's President Jose Eduardo dos Santos today cancelled a Lusaka peace summit with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi hours before they were to meet, a source close to the presidency said.

"The meeting has been cancelled due to inconsistencies on the part of Dr Jonas Savimbi," the source said.

He said Dr Savimbi, who arrived in Lusaka this morning for the summit after a tour of African countries, "felt it was more important to visit other African nations than to meet President dos Santos".

"The government continues to be committed to the peace process, but we want guarantees that Dr Savimbi is also interested," he added.

Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi had been due to meet in Lusaka for key reconciliation talks six months after the two sides signed a peace accord there to end two decades of civil war.

Each side has accused the other of violating the accord.

A radio statement by Mr Dos Santos blamed the cancellation on confusion over whether Dr Savimbi would show up.

Mr Dos Santos apparently also objected to charges by Dr Savimbi that the government would try to assassinate him during the talks.

A diplomat in Luanda said the government was apparently angered by statements from Dr Savimbi during his tour of African states in which, the diplomat said, he had declined a government invitation to join a unity government.

Angolan ambassador to Washington Jose Patricio accused Dr Savimbi of having changed the summit programme.

The meeting had been expected to set the stage for UN forces to move in to Angola to maintain peace while Unita forces disarm. — Reuter.

Angolans embrace peace



FRIENDS AT LAST ... Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita's Jonas Savimbi Picture: AP

Festive mood as former enemies meet

By CHRIS SIMPSON and
ANGUS SHAW: Lusaka

ANGOLA'S two most powerful leaders concluded a crucial summit yesterday by embracing and pledging to work together to end the 20-year civil war.

The festive atmosphere following three hours of talks in Lusaka between Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi was similar to past celebrations of peace that later collapsed.

But a changing political landscape in southern African and the realisation that neither side could ever vanquish the other militarily made the promises and smiles yesterday seem more enduring.

The two leaders decided to meet again on an unspecified date and committed themselves to work together to implement the Lusaka Protocol, negotiated and signed by their subordinates last November at a summit hosted by the Zambian President, Frederick Chiluba.

"These men are agents of peace and not merchants of war," Mr Chiluba declared.

It was the first meeting between the Angolan leaders in over two years, the culmination of weeks of negotiations involving the Zambian government and an increasingly exasperated United Nations.

There was no mention of a government role for Dr Savimbi or of holding elections to choose a new government — two issues that had been considered likely to come up.

By endorsing the agreement, the two men have secured the deployment of a 7 460-troop UN force to provide security while Unita fighters disarm.

"It is most important we express in a clear fashion a good political will," Mr Dos Santos said, inviting Dr Savimbi to visit him in Luanda.

The Unita leader stormed out of the capital in October 1992 after refusing to accept defeat at the polls.

Dr Savimbi was also conciliatory. "I have told the president he is president of my country, therefore he is my president," he said.

He said he and Mr Dos Santos would speak to each other direc-

ly in future to avoid any misunderstandings.

"We want Angolans to know stability," he said. "We are going to build a very happy future for our people."

The talks, postponed for a day because of a boycott by Mr Dos Santos, were the first between the two since 1991 and gave the strongest signal to date they might be ready to quit fighting.

The two men have twice before shaken hands and declared peace but failed to stop the fighting that has claimed 500 000 lives during the past two decades.

The Lusaka agreement is considered more likely to succeed where other efforts failed because it was brokered in a new political landscape in southern Africa — with Mozambique holding successful elections after years of war and South Africa ending apartheid.

Unita still has grievances against the government, particularly concerning the use of South African mercenaries.

But most observers believe Unita is in no position to dictate terms.

watched groups of survivors, many

I remember like it was yesterday

pen again. — Reuter

Smiles as Angolan peace hopes rise

LUANDA: Rare smiles lit Angolan faces yesterday after a positive meeting between the country's warring parties but many in the capital were wary of allowing their hopes to rise too high.

About three million Angolans have been displaced from their homes by the war since independence from Portugal in 1975.

The cost has also included hundreds of thousands of deaths

through fighting and famine, destruction of villages and towns and devastation of the economy.

A peace accord was signed in Lusaka in November, but President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and his rival, Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi, met only on Saturday to seal the pact.

They embraced after the meeting in Zambia, their first in three years, and pledged co-operation

concerning the accord.

Many Angolans doubt Dr Savimbi will accept a secondary role in the government. But at the weekend he told reporters after the meeting: "I accept this man (Dos Santos) as my president."

A Luanda-based diplomat said: "Savimbi has finally realised the only way in which he will effectively care for the people of his country — his ultimate goal — is

through compromise."

Analysts said before the weekend meeting the international community, which provides the aid keeping Angola barely afloat, was growing weary of Angola's halting peace process.

An Angolan military source said co-operation between the Angolan and Unita armies should increase considerably after the meeting. — Reuter

Serbs bomb Sarajevo

SARAJEVO: Shells slammed into a mainly Muslim district here yesterday, possibly killing up to 10 people.

Nato intervention would worsen military tension inflamed by Croatia's recapture of a rebel Serb-old poog plivom 2011

SA firm lands R20m contract for UN armoured cars in Bosnia

JOHANNESBURG: The UN has

Olfantfontein, Managing director of the firm said the award

UN troops in Angola as peacekeepers

CT 10/5/95

LUANDA: Portuguese troops flew to Angola yesterday as part of the deployment of more than 7 000 UN peacekeepers to monitor the implementation of a pact ending 20 years of civil war.

UN special envoy Mr Alioune Blondin Beye said the Portuguese would reinforce logistical teams already in the country, including 679 British military engineers.

The deployment comes after Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi held UN-brokered talks on Saturday, aimed at reducing mistrust after their two sides signed an accord last year.

All logistical units should be deployed by the end of May, the

Portuguese responsible for communications, Rumanians to operate hospitals and Argentines to provide naval support, as well as the British engineers.

Infantry troops from Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Uruguay and Zimbabwe would be deployed from June, Mr Beye said.

Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi, after their meeting in Lusaka on Saturday, declared they were ready to work together for peace.

"The meeting was a big success and the result was beyond my expectations," Mr Dos Santos said.

Dr Savimbi said he had been moved by the cordial atmosphere and was "going back a very comfortable man". — Sapa-AFP

Action plan for Moz approved

MAPUTO: Mozambique's government won a fresh political victory yesterday when the nation's first multi-party parliament approved its five-year plan of action with no major amendments.

Frelimo holds 129 of the 250 seats in parliament, the ex-guerrilla Mozambican National Resistance has 112 and the Democratic Union, nine seats.

Prime Minister Mr Pascoal Mocumbi said yesterday the five-year plan pointed the direction for government, society and the business community to follow. Its key policy themes are to reconstruct and extend Mozambique's social and economic infrastructures, to continue economic liberalisation and reinforce its forces of law and order.

CT 10/5/95
The Mozambican parliament will approve the government's economic and social programme and budget for 1995 before closing this week. — Sapa-AFP

Talks 'turning point' for Angolan peace process

PRETORIA — UN special envoy to Angola Alioune Blondine Beye flew into Pretoria yesterday to brief President Nelson Mandela on the first meeting in years between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

The weekend meeting was a turning point in the Angolan peace process and the implementation the Lusaka peace agreement had begun, Beye said.

About 670 British logistical personnel were already deployed as part of the UN peacekeeping force in Angola. Beye was speaking to reporters at Waterkloof Air Base near Pretoria after meeting Mandela.

He said the three-hour Angolan meeting was conducted "in very good conditions" and included face-to-face talks for two hours between Savimbi and Dos Santos.

"The basis of the Angolan crisis is

mistrust and mutual suspicion. I would not say the mistrust has disappeared, but the wall of mistrust has been pushed back. This is a turning point."

With the support of other African heads of state, especially Mandela, things were going to move fast.

Beye said UN peacekeeping battalions could now be deployed and the implementation of the Lusaka protocol would continue. The protocol provides for the demobilisation of the rival armies and the formation of a new, joint national defence force under UN supervision.

He thanked Mandela, "who is always available to take the necessary action", and said a visit by Savimbi to SA would soon take place.

"It is not a problem, but just a question of timetables."

The British logistical unit which arrived in Angola on Friday would be followed by three other support units,

including a Portuguese communication component and a labour unit from Argentina, by the end of the month. Six battalions would also be deployed in six military regions in Angola.

"Everything is going as planned. We have some constraints, but only logistical ones. This is not due to a lack of political will. We have the political will," said Beye.

He said SA had played an important role in helping to clear parts of Angola of landmines. It had provided maps and equipment.

"SA is waiting for more details so that it can bring massive support for mine clearance."

Beye said the matter of mercenaries in Angola was under discussion by all the parties concerned.

Portuguese UN troops were due to fly to Angola yesterday as part of the deployment of more than 7 000 UN peacekeepers.

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BD 10/5/95

UN special envoy briefs Mandela

Go-ahead for peace mission in Angola ⁽⁵⁾

stan 10/5/95

Angola's wartime rivals have committed themselves to peace and thousands of UN peacekeepers can now be sent to Angola to monitor the peace accord, UN special envoy Alioune Blondin Beye said yesterday.

He was speaking to reporters at Pretoria's Waterkloof air force base after an hour-long meeting with President Mandela.

"The UN battalions can now be deployed and we are going to continue the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol," he said.

The United Nations mediated a new peace protocol — overseen by Portugal, Russia and the United States, in the Zambian capital Lusaka — which was signed on November 20.

The protocol provides for the demobilisation of the rival armies and the formation of a new, joint national defence force under UN supervision.

On the political front, it provides for the entry into parliament of elected Unita MPs and for the former rebels to be given a number of government, administrative and diplomatic posts.

Portuguese UN troops were due to fly to Angola yesterday as part of the deployment of more than 7 000 UN peacekeepers.

Beye said the Portuguese soldiers would reinforce teams already there, including 679 British military engineers.

In Lisbon, a military spokesman said five Portuguese soldiers would leave today by cargo plane, accompanying several dozen vehicles and containers of equipment and supplies.

A further 96 troops will leave Portugal later this week.

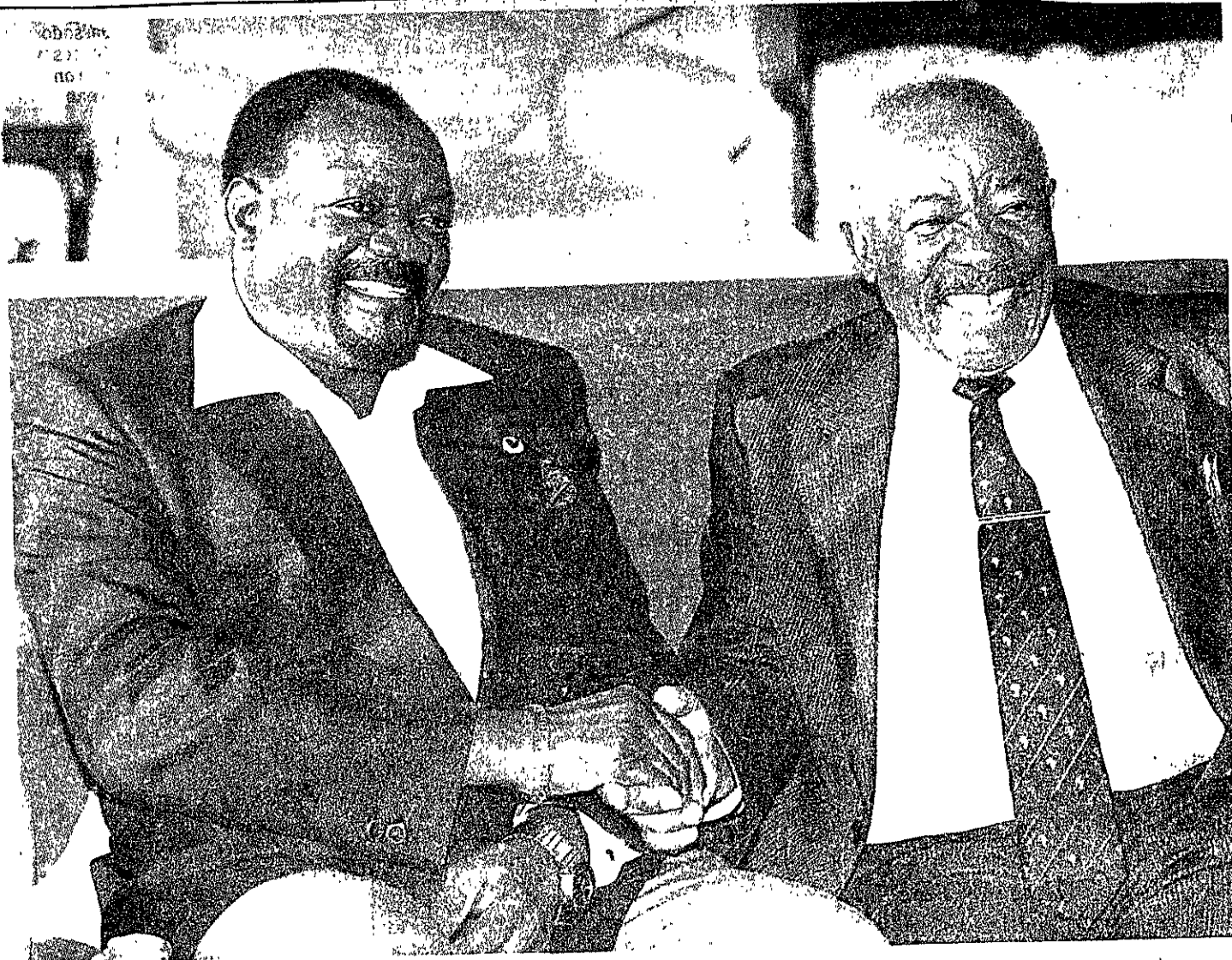
Over three or four months, starting from June, infantry from Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Uruguay and Zimbabwe will be de-

ployed to make up the bulk of the UN force, Beye said.

The UN Security Council agreed to the deployment of the new UN Angola Verification Mission in February, authorising the immediate departure of logistical units but making the deployment of infantry contingent on a total cessation of hostilities between the two sides.

"Dr Savimbi and myself displayed during our discussions good political will to move hand in hand to consolidate the peace process . . . the meeting we held was a big success and the result was beyond my expectations," said Dos Santos.

Savimbi, who has led Unita for almost three decades, said he had been moved by the cordial atmosphere which prevailed during their meeting and the reception Dos Santos had given him. — Sapa-AFP.



WARM WELCOME: Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, left, is welcomed by Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo during a visit which will include meetings with President Mandela and other South African leaders, aimed at bringing peace to Angola.

Mandela: No peace without Savimbi

Political Staff and Sapa-Reuter

THERE will be no peace in Angola until Unita leader Jonas Savimbi is included in that country's government, President Mandela said today.

He was speaking at a media briefing at his Tuynhuys offices shortly before meeting Dr Savimbi, who heads the Angolan rebel movement Unita. Dr Savimbi, on a rare visit to South Africa, was due to meet Mr Mandela this afternoon.

Mr Mandela has been closely involved in attempts to end the Angolan civil war, which broke out afresh after disputed presidential elections in late 1992.

He met Angola's President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Pretoria last year and recently held talks with the United Nations special representative Alouin Blondin Beye.

Mr Mandela said Dr Savimbi would brief him on his meeting last week with Mr Dos Santos. He wanted to speak to Dr Savimbi about his role in Angola.

He added: "There can be no peace until he actually is a member of the cabinet of that country".

Earlier Dr Savimbi said he hoped to learn from this country's example of national reconciliation during talks with Mr Mandela.

"I am here because we want to get advice from the government of South Africa on how it succeeded in solving its own problems, so that we can do the same," said Dr Savimbi.

Unita and the Angolan government signed a peace pact in November and have been working to consolidate a shaky truce. A force of United Nations peacekeepers has been arriving this month to

help ensure an end to the country's 20-year civil war that has claimed an estimated 500 000 lives.

Dr Savimbi said he "definitely" believed Angola's peace accord could succeed and that he would be discussing the possibility of taking part in a coalition government under Mr Dos Santos.

He also planned to brief Mr Mandela about the May 6 talks in Lusaka, Zambia's capital, between himself and Mr Dos Santos.

But Dr Savimbi said he would not raise the topic of white mercenaries contracted to a South African company called Executive Outcomes, who had been helping the Angolan government in its battles against Unita. (5) ARG 17/5/95

Dr Savimbi has previously blamed Executive Outcomes for his movement's military setbacks.

Savimbi acknowledges Dos Santos as president

CT 18/5/95 (5)

UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi acknowledged rival Mr José Eduardo dos Santos yesterday as the undisputed president of Angola and said his own role in a national unity government had still to be decided.

"We are going to share responsibility with the government in building the country and consolidating peace in Angola," Dr Savimbi told a news conference after talks with President Nelson Mandela and his deputy, Mr Thabo Mbeki.

Unita's participation in the government was dealt with in his meeting with Mr Dos Santos in Lusaka on May 6, he said.

"Now the point is what role Savimbi is going to play. That's what we are going to discuss in the next days with President Dos Santos."

Optimistic

"We have a president in my country. I am an Angolan. My position is not contesting his position. It is to say I am at the disposal of my country and what position President Dos Santos will give me."

Dr Savimbi told reporters earlier that he was optimistic about an end to the war, which has dragged on since Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975.

A 1991 peace accord halted the fighting briefly but Unita took up arms again after losing UN-supervised elections the following year. The latest peace accord was reached in November but both sides have accused each other of violating a truce and a UN peace-keeping force is still waiting to be deployed.

Dr Savimbi and Mr Dos Santos pledged after their Lusaka meeting to co-operate in a national unity government.

President Mandela urged Dr Savimbi when they met earlier yesterday to take a place in the government.

"Any agreement which is not going to be



PEACE AT LAST?: Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi and President Nelson Mandela at Tuynhuys yesterday. "I am at the disposal of my country and what position President Dos Santos will give me," Dr Savimbi said.

PICTURE: NIC BOTHMA

reflected in the actual structure of government in Angola cannot bring about peace," he told Dr Savimbi in front of reporters in the garden of Parliament in Cape Town.

Dr Savimbi said he had come to assure Mr Mandela of his commitment to the latest UN-mediated peace initiative in Angola.

Mr Mbeki said he and Dr Savimbi would meet again today to discuss the role South Africa could play in monitoring an Angolan peace. — Reuter

Angolan civil war 'stupid', says Savimbi

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi says the Angolan civil war was stupid and could have been avoided.

Today he recommitted himself and his movement to the Lusaka Agreement, which provides for elections to be held in Angola by February 1997.

Dr Savimbi told a Press conference in Cape Town that the main reason for his visit to South Africa was to learn how this country had achieved national reconciliation.

Unita's commitment to peace was total.

Dr Savimbi, a guerrilla fighter for 30 years, said there had been three stages to the conflict in his country.

The first was the fight against Portuguese colonialism, and there had been no alternative to an armed struggle. The second phase, involving global super-powers and South Africa, had left no room for negotiations.

But the third, of only Angolans versus Angolans, had been stupid. "We could have avoided it."

● Dr Savimbi confirmed he had been approached while in Cape Town by the families of members of Executive Outcomes, the South African mercenary group operating in Angola, about missing relatives.

NEWS Savimbi should be included in the Angolan go

Mandela backs Savimbi

Sowetan 18/5/95 (5)

Sowetan Correspondent

UNITA leader Dr Jonas Savimbi leaves South Africa today with President Nelson Mandela strongly backing his inclusion in a government of national unity in Angola.

Savimbi, who was on his first visit to a post-apartheid South Africa, held talks with Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki at their Tuynhuys offices yesterday.

The talks will continue this morning,

with attention focusing on the role which South Africa can play in bringing about an end to the Angolan conflict.

Savimbi is scheduled to address a press conference at 11am before returning to Angola.

Savimbi's Unita has been locked in heavy fighting with Angola's MPLA government since 1976, a conflict that was briefly interrupted in late 1992 during elections that Savimbi later claimed were unfair before he resumed the war.

Mbeki said after meeting Savimbi that South Africa was willing to play its

part in international peacekeeping efforts in Angola at the request of the United Nations.

He said Savimbi had given a "clear commitment" to implementing the arrangements agreed to in talks with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in the Zambian capital of Lusaka last week.

In terms of that agreement, Savimbi said, his movement's followers would be offered senior posts in a new government. Earlier Mandela said Savimbi had to be included in government.

Savimbi pledges to free all SA prisoners

5) CT 19/5/95
meet Mr Dos Santos soon to discuss his and Unita's role in the government.

SOUTH AFRICANS being held prisoner by Unita would be freed and the bodies of those killed in fighting returned to South Africa, Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi announced yesterday.

He said he would ask his chief of staff to establish the whereabouts of any prisoners or bodies of South Africans captured or killed in the Angolan conflict.

Emphasising his commitment to peace and participation in a government of national unity in

Angola, the rebel leader said attempts to apportion blame for the 30-year civil war were futile and the time had come for forgiveness.

"Forgiveness — that is the lesson we are taking home from South Africa. We will mobilise all our energies to build tolerance and understanding to bring about a permanent peace in Angola."

He said Angola's 30-year civil war was "stupid" and could have been avoided.

Dr Savimbi said the Lusaka Protocol signed between his movement and the Angolan government in November last year laid the basis for consolidating the ceasefire.

Talks between himself and President José Dos Santos in Lusaka on May 6 had focused on Unita's participation in a new government of national unity.

"If there is a willingness to share responsibility, I am at the service of my country." He would

meet Mr Dos Santos soon to discuss his and Unita's role in the government.

Asked what role South Africa could play, he said President Nelson Mandela's prestige as an African leader could help ensure that implementation of the Lusaka Protocol was not derailed.

SA had also indicated its willingness to assist the United Nations peacekeeping force in Angola. — Special Correspondent, Sapa

SA joins forces with Europe to aid Angola's reconstruction

By JOHN FRASER
ARGUS FOREIGN SERVICE

Brussels — Europe and South Africa have agreed that Angola will be the focus for their first co-operation in foreign policy.

This follows last week's visit to SA by European Union commissioner Joao de Deus Pinheiro, who

is responsible for EU relations with sub-Saharan Africa.

A spokesman for Pinheiro told journalists in Brussels yesterday that the commissioner had held extensive discussions about Angola with South African leaders, including President Nelson Mandela and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

"Both the European Union and South Africa are committed to a smooth transition in Angola," said the spokesman.

"We will contribute to reconstruction in Angola, as will South Africa."

He said an operation to lift landmines planted across Angola would be the first priority for co-

operation between Brussels and Pretoria.

The EU would probably provide finance for the work which would mainly be carried out by South Africa.

Pinheiro and his travelling entourage went on to Mozambique after their stay in SA, and again

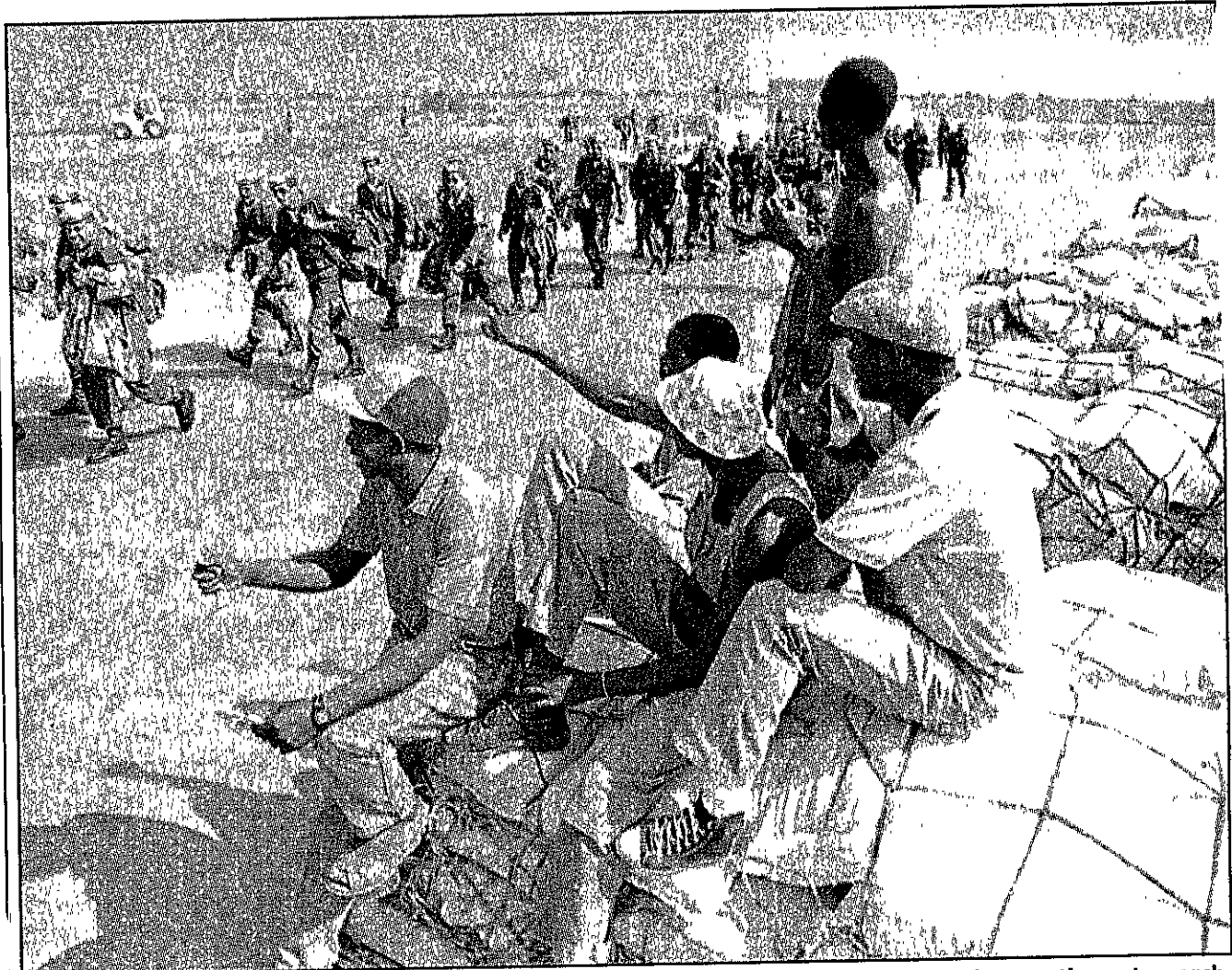
identified a need to help with the lifting of mines.

"We see South Africa as the powerhouse for regional integration," said the EU spokesman.

and President Mandela confirmed that he does not want South Africa to be an island of prosperity in an ocean of misery."

(5) Star 20/5/95

Edited by Ebrahim Jogee



Taking up positions . . . Uruguayan soldiers, who will be part of the UN peacekeeping contingent, march past Angolan workers at Catumbela Airport, about 600km south of Luanda, yesterday. PICTURE: AP

UN troops arrive in Angola to disarm rebels ⁽⁵⁾

Lobito (Angola) — Lightly armed but with plenty of bravado, the first contingent of UN blue-helmeted infantrymen arrived yesterday to face a daunting mission — to help end two decades of fratricidal bloodshed in Angola.

It was the UN's second try to halt Angola's 20-year war.

The 380 Uruguayans were met with cheers and backslaps by 650 British technical troops who have been preparing the devastated coastal town to be the launching

point for an advance into rebel territory in the central highlands.

"It's a good sign that the first in-country troops are here," said Georgina Yates, spokeswoman for the British.

"Seeing these blue helmets and blue scarves will calm people who feared the war would never end."

Unita rebels and the government signed a UN-brokered peace treaty in November to end a civil war that

first erupted on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975.

The latest cease-fire has generally held, but firefights have erupted over closely dug-in battle lines.

In northern Angola, hostile troops are deployed less than 5km apart, and rebel patrols still range freely across the central highlands.

Even seasoned peacekeepers were awed yesterday by the damage to Lobito,

where every building still standing bears the scars of rocket blasts and machine-gun fire.

A third of the buildings are flattened, and the city is crowded with refugees; its population quadrupled in the last year to more than 100 000.

"It's worse than Mozambique, worse than Cambodia," said Private Luis Sanchez (30), a veteran of former UN operations. "It looks nuclear." — Sapa-AP.

STAR 7/16/95

Angolans celebrate peace

UIGE (Angola).— Joyously crying "Long live the UN!" Angolans welcomed peace in the form of government and rebel officials walking arm-in-arm through this northern city, split between hostile armies just a month ago. (5) APR 3/6/95

Led by United Nations representative Alioune Blondin Beye, the mixed government and Unita rebel contingent carried a symbolic olive branch through the streets of this militarily strategic city.

The city is still armed and tense despite a peace accord signed six months ago.

Things are supposed to change now.

The UN have started to dispatch a 7 460-strong peacekeeping force to separate the former foes and help bring an end to two decades of civil war.

And judging by the reaction of ordinary Angolans, who have seen about 600 000 countrymen perish in the war since independence from Portugal in 1975, the effort for peace could not have come a moment too soon.

Crowds of dancing and singing Angolans, some waving flowers and palm fronds, lined the 30 kilometers of once-mined road from Uige to rebel-held Negage to cheer the convoy of white UN jeeps, their blue flags snapping in the breeze. — Sapa-AP.

Angolans feel pinch as fuel subsidies end

LUANDA. — Huge increases in Angolan fuel and gas prices have come into effect in line with plans to end subsidies on petrol.

(6) ARL 14/16/95
The price of gasoline a litre will go from 3 000 kwanzas to 420 000 kwanzas, diesel will go from 500 kwanzas to 220 000, and natural gas will increase from 13 000 kwanzas to 275 000, the state oil company told Angola Radio.

A litre of petrol now costs about 90 SA cents in a country where the average worker earns less than R22 a month.

"We realise this will be tough on consumers but it is necessary to stabilise the Angolan economy."

Scrapping subsidies is part of a reconstruction and development plan.

Angolan government offers Savimbi vice-president post

ARG 21/6/95 (5)
LUANDA. — The Angolan government has officially invited Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi to become a vice-president in a future government of national unity, state radio reported today.

"The Angolan government has decided to extend an invitation to Jonas Savimbi ... that he share the country's vice-presidency with a member of the (ruling) MPLA," the radio quoted a letter from President Jose Eduardo dos Santos as saying.

It said the letter was presented to a Unita delegation during talks with government officials in Luanda yesterday.

The Unita delegation, headed by the rebel movement's political adviser Abel

Chivukuvuku, is in the Angolan capital for talks centred on the role of paramilitary police and terms for troop demobilisation called for in last November's Lusaka peace pact between the warring sides.

Diplomats said demobilisation of an estimated 75 000 Unita troops and around 100 000 Angolan Armed Forces (FAA), and the creation of a single 70 000-man strong army was one of the greatest obstacles to peace after nearly two decades of war.

The MPLA said at the weekend Mr Savimbi would be invited to become one of two vice-presidents on condition he disbanded the Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) army. — Reuter.

Leakey's party launched

WM 23-29/6/95 (5)

Peter Smerdon in Nairobi

KENYA'S new opposition party, Safina, applied for registration this week — the first step in its challenge to President Daniel arap Moi.

The party's chairman, human rights lawyer Muturi Kigano, and its secretary general, Richard Leakey, the environmentalist denounced as a racist and colonialist by Moi, applied for registration at the attorney general's office.

Leakey said Safina, which means Noah's Ark, would unveil its platform in a few days. Asked about its chances at the polls, he said: "It's too early to say."

Party officials said the application was timed five weeks before a meet-

ing between Western donors and Kenya in Paris on July 24.

The government could come under international pressure if the party's application is rejected.

Leakey, a leading scientist and former head of Kenya's wildlife service, provoked a storm from Moi and his ruling Kenya African National Union (Kanu) when he announced on May 7 that he was setting up a party to fight corruption, human rights abuses and official incompetence.

The strength of the onslaught suggested the government feared Leakey's influence on donor countries.

The new party is the strongest challenge to the 70-year-old Moi and Kanu since the elections in 1992, the first multi-party polls in 25 years. — *Reuter*



Richard Leakey: Donor influence

Aids: Angola's war in peace

□ Shattered country's greatest fight

(5) (S)

SAURIMO (Angola). — Dangerous ideas fly around an Angolan army campfire — sex with a virgin is a miracle cure, condoms cause impotence, girls can't get Aids and a smelly root paste will clear it right up, anyway.

Soldiers relaxing with beers shout agreement — unaware that they and their comrades are likely to kill more of their compatriots in the coming years of peace than they did during 20 years of civil war.

Two decades of relentless fighting has turned Angola into "a lethally perfect petri dish for HIV (human immunodeficiency virus, which causes Aids)," says Eben Moussi of the World Health Organization, who predicts more teenagers will end up in Aids wards than in high school.

Combat killed 500 000 Angolans; the first years of peace may kill one million, Dr Moussi says. "Psychologically, physically, economically — An-

gola is not prepared for a disease that will hit with epidemic force."

Also at risk are more than 7 000 international troops and tens of thousands of aid workers from around the world who will soon be deployed under a UN reconstruction plan.

Soon-to-be demobilised government and UNITA rebel troops pose the greatest threat. According to the Center for International and Strategic Studies (CISS), infection is so high among African soldiers that they run a far greater risk of dying from Aids than from warfare.

Dr Moussi believes: at least 100 000 Angolan government and rebel troops — half the fighting force — are HIV-positive. Dr Moussi calls them "lambs for the slaughter".

Angolan Public Health Director Antonka Hembe said sexual taboos that would help restrain spread of the disease had broken down.

"And when you warn people about Aids, they shrug. Danger to them are mines, bandits, starvation. Aids is at the end of the list."

Political urgency also is missing.

"We show the government a map of Africa with flags marking Aids hot zones — Angola is surrounded, but we can't convince them there's no escape," WHO's Dr Moussi said.

Experts estimate at least 10 percent of Angola's 10 million people already harbours the virus.

But with the country divided by war for 20 years and laboratories in ruins, health workers have been unable to do any Aids testing.

WHO Aids-awareness trainer Ana Figueiras said the rape and prostitution that trailed combat and helped spread the disease were further aided by sexual myths specific to Angola.

"Legend has it that sexual relations with a virgin girl can cure a man with a sexually transmitted disease."

Young Angolan girls are now five times as likely to be infected as boys of the same age. "And people believe these tribal healers who tout a noxious ointment they say will cure Aids, which they call 'war fatigue'," Dr Figueiras said.

The disease is not strictly a health issue. Because Aids attacks the country's most productive members — people aged between 16 and 35 — it will cut right to the heart of reconstruction efforts. — Sapa-AP.

RLY 6/7/95

UN chief sees hope for Angola peace

(5) ST 16/7/95

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL Boutros Boutros-Ghali, under fire for the UN handling of crises around the world, said yesterday that he was optimistic about the prospects of lasting peace in Angola despite frequent violations of a shaky ceasefire in the devastated country.

"I am reassured because the war is finished," Dr Boutros-Ghali said at the presidential palace in Luanda.

Despite reported violations, he said the ceasefire was holding. "We

will now all set about reconstructing peace and national reconciliation.

"The success of the Angolan peace process can serve as an example to other countries in Africa and across the world which are ravaged by conflicts," the UN boss said, with perhaps just a nod to the crises in Rwanda, Burundi and in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Angola has been riven by war since it won independence from Portugal in 1975 apart from an 18-month

respite between 1991 and 1992 after a peace agreement signed between the Unita rebel movement and the government under UN pressure.

The country was plunged back into civil war in 1992 when the rebels of Jonas Savimbi's Unita rejected the results of UN-sponsored elections in September 1992 after they showed the ruling MPLA, led by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, had overwhelmingly won. — *Sapa-AFP*

Angola's odd man out

LONDON – Angolan rebels are grossly violating the Lusaka peace accords, say campaigners who are calling on Western governments to apply concerted pressure on Jonas Savimbi and his rebel army to abide by the protocols of the 18-month-old truce.

They charge that the main obstacle to lasting peace is the refusal of Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) to honour its pledges under last year's accord and hand over weapons and encamp its fighters at United Nations-designated sites.

"More pressure on Unita by the West is the only thing that can force it to honour the principles of the Lusaka accords," says Ben Jackson, director of London-based Action for Southern Africa.

"They have not handed in weapons and are delaying the quartering of their troops. They are committing these and other gross violations of clauses in the accords with impunity. Peace can only be achieved in Angola when Unita begins to comply with the Lusaka agreement."

According to UN sources in London, at least half of the estimated 40 000 Unita "fighters" who have so far been registered at the 11 UN quartering sites around the country are not frontline guerrillas.

Confirmed claims

The UN has also confirmed claims by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) government that only about a third of them arrived with weapons of any sort, and these were mainly small arms.

"Unita has not even begun a serious effort towards disarming and demobilising, 18 months after the Lusaka accords," the UN source said. "And there is no sign of any change in their attitudes."

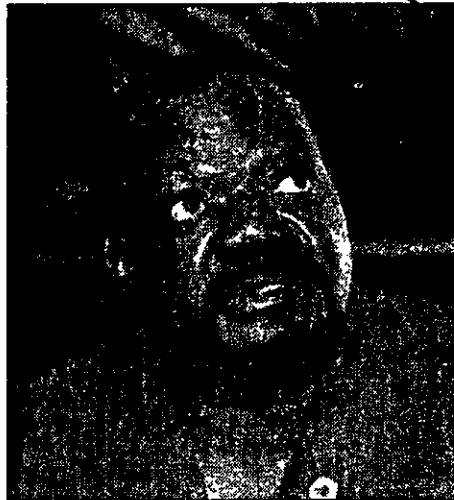
These perceived "delaying tactics" by the rebel movement have led to doubts as to whether ongoing moves to select and incorporate 26 000 Unita fighters into the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) – begun in June – will be completed by the end of July, the deadline set by FAA commander General Joao de Matos.

The unified national army had been billed to replace the UN military contingent – the upkeep of which is costing over R1.43 million a day. To date only about 20 Unita officers have been inducted into the FAA.

And, with the UN Security Council itself questioning the commitment of Unita to the Lusaka accords, many observers maintain it would be irresponsible for the UN force to pull out.

Savimbi and his top lieutenants have been frequently accused of scuppering successive peace initiatives in the country's two decade-

Some observers believe Jonas Savimbi plans to resume hostilities if the Angolan peace process unfolds in a manner he finds unacceptable. **Lahal J Samboma** discusses the issues involved...



Jonas Savimbi ... whose party is accused of being the main obstacle to lasting peace in Angola.

long civil war, notably in October 1992 when, following an 18-month ceasefire, the rebels relaunched the war after losing elections which international monitors ruled free and fair.

For the duration of that ceasefire, as now, Savimbi had dragged his feet over the disarmament and encampment of Unita fighters.

Some observers believe Savimbi plans to resume hostilities again – if not immediately then sometime in the future – should the peace process unfold in a manner he finds unfavourable.

His steadfast refusal to occupy the vice-presidency in the government is seen as another indication that he is keeping his options open. Ironically he had been very insistent on it during the talks leading to Lusaka.

As Jackson said: "Even in March Savimbi, at the talks in Gabon with (Angola's President Jose Eduardo) Dos Santos, said he was going to take up the post. Why this change of heart? It makes you wonder."

The MPLA had also offered Unita several ministerial, ambassadorial and other top positions in government.

Savimbi's game plan is bound to remain largely hidden until at least August, when Unita holds its congress. The rebel leader said this week that it is then that the decision on whether

to join the government will be taken.

Many analysts, including UN sources, perceive this as another delaying tactic.

Meanwhile, international human rights activists say that abuses by both sides are being committed. There are numerous allegations of police brutality and arbitrary arrest in areas controlled by the government, while Unita has been accused of killings, torture and "disappearances".

Angola's conflict started immediately after independence from colonial Portugal in 1975, when Savimbi's Unita, funded and armed by the then apartheid state of South Africa and backed by Portugal and the United States, pledged to remove the popular, left-wing MPLA government.

All that changed in the nineties with the ending of the Cold War, the dismantling of apartheid and the MPLA's defeat of Unita in the 1992 elections.

Diamond sales

However, despite the current UN embargo on the rebel movement, arms and fuel supplies – for which it pays with proceeds from illegal diamond sales – continue to be flown in to Unita via neighbouring Zaire.

Although there are signs that Washington, London and other Western governments are using diplomatic pressure to try to persuade Savimbi to bring an end to his marathon war, campaigners say they are not doing enough.

Britain dismisses this claim. "While we cannot speak for other governments," says British Foreign Office spokesman Clive Thompson, "the British government has kept up pressure on both sides for a more rapid implementation of the Lusaka accords at every opportunity."

Jackson said: "Unita will not budge until intense, coherent and concerted pressure is applied by the West. They should start by making the sanctions work and that means taking action on Zaire, which is violating UN sanctions by allowing supplies to reach Unita through its soil and airspace.

"When you look at how international sanctions are hitting Iraq and Libya, you can see that the West is not doing enough. When they want sanctions to work, they make them work. There is a lot more they can do to force Unita to respect the Lusaka accords." – *Sapa-IPS*.

(5) Sowetay
25/7/96

Leakey warns of demonstrations in Kenya

Own Correspondent (5)

NAIROBI — Richard Leakey warned yesterday that he would organise public demonstrations in support of his political party, Safina, unless the government agreed to register it.

Twenty eight days, the period in which the government was expected to make its decision about the party, passed with no word as to whether the application had been accepted.

"This delay is a blatant example of the Kanu government's continuing suppression of rights; the people of Kenya are entitled to choices in the political arena and to deny them is contrary to the foundations of democracy," Leakey said.

"In the present situation, we feel

20/19/7/95
that we might soon be forced to invite the people themselves to demonstrate their support for the registration of Safina," he said.

Asked whether he was advocating a civil disobedience campaign he said the form of demonstrations would be announced later. Stressing that the party did not intend to be "needlessly confrontational", he raised the spectre of political violence.

Leakey, renowned as a palaeontologist and conservationist, took the authorities by surprise when he announced in May his venture into opposition politics, vowing to "stop the rot" in a country he said was sliding into corruption and chaos. President Daniel Arap Moi accused him of seeking a return to colonialism.

Earlier this month the government published a Bill aimed at stopping Safina's registration process, and which observers say would greatly restrict the activities of all opposition parties. The Bill has yet to be tabled in parliament.

Safina had hoped to force a decision on party registration before next Monday's donors' conference, at which Kenya's sluggish progress towards political and economic reform will come under harsh scrutiny.

But the government is not to be forced. Legal grey areas leave room for some interpretation over the handling of the registration process. Silence may be the government's chosen response until after the donors' conference.— © Telegraph plc.

311 000 Angolans to be sent home

(5) OT 21/7/95

LUSAKA: Refugee officials met here yesterday to work on plans to repatriate more than 300 000 Angolan refugees.

The two-day meeting in the Zambian capital is the first involving officials from Angola, including the government and Unita, Zambia and the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Zambian Home Affairs Minister Mr Chitalu Sampa appealed for assistance for thousands of refugees in Zambia who have settled outside designated camps.

Apart from 26 000 Angolan refugees in two camps, another 74 000 were scattered along the border areas between Zambia and Angola, he said.

The meeting is part of preparations for a 30-month programme to repatriate about 311 000 refugees from mid-1996, at a cost of \$44 million (about R160m).

Transport, border crossing points, where refugees will go, access to land and security matters such as areas sown with landmines are among topics to be discussed.

UNHCR information officer Mr Yusuf Hassan said the repatriation of the Angolans would be the second largest exercise of its sort in Africa after the return of 1.7 million Mozambicans from six countries.

The UNHCR will concentrate on rehabilitation of roads, schools, bridges and other social services inside Angola in the next few months. — Reuter

vice-presidential post for Savimbi

BO 19/7/95
LUANDA — The Angolan parliament approved a constitutional amendment yesterday creating two vice-presidential posts, one for Unita leader Jonas Savimbi.

The Angolan government and Unita signed a peace agreement in November to end 20 years of civil war, but fighting has continued and other disputes have held up implementation of the peace accord.

Savimbi and Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos met on May 6 and signed another agreement pledging to end the war. During a weekend visit by UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Savimbi said he was willing to take up a vice-presidential post once he received an official invitation from government.

The creation of the vice-presidential post for Savimbi is a step towards creating a national unity government, with Dos Santos at the helm backed by vice-presidents from his People's Liberation Movement of Angola (MPLA) party and Unita.

In its resolution approving the constitutional amendment, the Angolan National Assembly recognised the "validity" of the current chief of state.

Unita deputies were pleased but support for the resolution was not unanimous. Opposition deputies from four parties left the parliament conference room to protest against the decision. The MPLA holds a majority of seats in the legislature.

Nfulumpinga Nlandu Victor, a leader of the Democratic Party for a National Alliance, described the amendment as a "coup d'etat against democracy".

The Dos Santos administration has not defined Savimbi's role in the future government. Unita has said it does not expect Savimbi to be limited to a strictly ceremonial role. — Sapa-AFP.

Angola's new enemy is AIDS, and the best way to escape is to head south

(5) ST 23/8/95

By CHRISTOPHER McDUGALL: Saurimo, Angola

DANGEROUS ideas fly around an Angolan army campfire — sex with a virgin is a miracle cure, condoms cause impotence, girls can't get AIDS and a smelly root paste will clear it up anyway.

Soldiers relaxing with beers shout agreement — unaware that they and their comrades are likely to kill more of their com-

patriots in the coming years of peace than they did during 20 years of Africa's bloodiest civil war.

Relentless fighting has turned Angola into "a lethally perfect petri dish for HIV," says the World Health Organisation's Dr Eben Moussi of the virus that causes AIDS.

"Combat killed 500 000 Angolans; the first years of peace may kill one million. Psychologically, physically and economically Angola is not prepared for a disease that will hit with epidemic force," he says.

The danger of an AIDS outbreak in Angola poses a serious threat to South Africa. With more than 2 000 South African mercenaries stationed in Angola, and hundreds of businessmen now flying back and forth to Luanda, the risk of bringing the infection home is dramatically increased.

Due to political isolation, just 5 000 cases of HIV infection were reported in South Africa in 1990. But with the explosion of post-apartheid travel, the figure in the past five years has leapt to 1.3 million. That figure is likely to increase as South Africa becomes more involved with its neighbours.

Some 300 former South African commandos, members of the 2 000-strong Executive Outcomes force stationed in Angola since 1993, are based in Saurimo near the northern border, which has seen a steady traffic of diamond smugglers, refugees and rebel troops during the war.

Because of the city's proximity to Zaire and the explosion of prostitution, Saurimo has become one of the most vulnerable areas in Angola.

The most dangerous disease-carriers are believed to be government and Unita troops. Infection is so high among African soldiers that they run a far greater risk of dying from

AIDS than from warfare, according to the Centre for International and Strategic Studies.

At least 65 percent of army hospital beds in Uganda and Zaire are filled by soldiers with AIDS. More than half of Zimbabwe's soldiers are infected with HIV, according to the centre's study.

Dr Moussi believes at least 100 000 Angolan government and rebel soldiers — half the fighting force — are HIV-positive. They are marching home to civilians so war-weakened and vulnerable to disease that Dr Moussi calls them "lamb for the slaughter".

But political urgency is missing. Says Dr Moussi: "We show the government a map of Africa with flags marking AIDS hot zones — Angola is surrounded — but we can't convince them there's no escape."

Experts estimate at least 10 percent of Angola's 10 million population already carries the virus.

But with the country divided by the war and laboratories in ruins, health workers have been unable to do any AIDS testing, even in the military.

Thousands of boys as young as 13 were drafted into the armies and received sex education from platoon mates on the march. Condoms and chastity were not prominent

topics, says Ana Filgueiras, an AIDS-awareness trainer for the World Health Organisation.

And the rape and prostitution that trailed combat and helped spread the disease were further aided by sexual myths.

"Legend has it that sexual relations with a virgin girl can cure a man with a sexually transmitted disease," says Mrs Filgueiras.

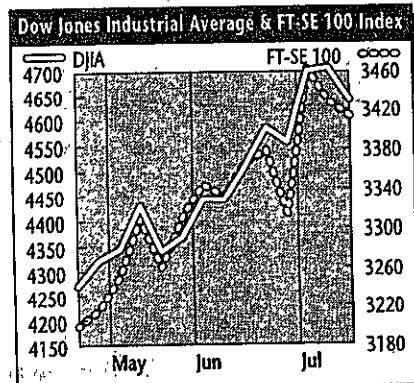
Young Angolan girls are now five times as likely to be infected as boys.

"And people believe these tribal healers who tout a noxious ointment they say will cure AIDS, which they call war fatigue," Mrs Filgueiras adds.

Unita's top medical officer, Dr Anastasio Sikato, contacted government doctors two days after the peace treaty was signed in November last year to ask for help battling the spread of AIDS among his troops.

"I am more fearful for the boys' lives now than ever before," Dr Sikato says, adding that transfusions for wounded rebels have been arm-to-arm, with no screening for HIV.

Dr Moussi predicts that the future will see more teenagers in AIDS wards than in high school; half the armed forces wiped out by the disease; famine as farms fail; collapsed industries through lack of managers; and, a wild scramble to emigrate.



Graphic: FIONA KRISCH

Source: I-NET

FRIDAY'S DJ IA CLOSE: 4641,55
 FRIDAY'S FT-SE 100 CLOSE: 3413,1
 FRIDAY'S NEW YORK GOLD CLOSE: \$386,35
 YESTERDAY'S HONG KONG GOLD CLOSE: \$386,35

COMBAT ZONE

Angola's war may have ended but the nation still teeters on

29/1/95

(S) Stan

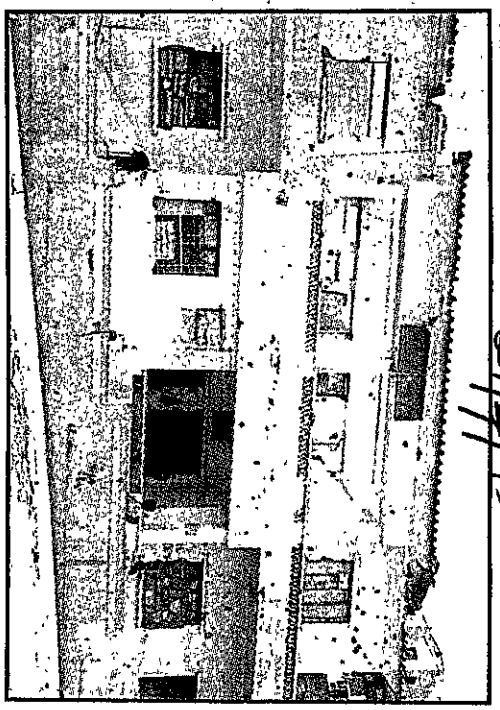
The United Nations secretary-general's recent peace-promoting visit may have looked good but there is scepticism about the UN's ability to deliver and lasting reconciliation being achieved, reports **TOM WILTSHIRE-ROBBINS** of the Independent Foreign Service

Luanda — Mr Good News, aka UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali, looked like a presidential candidate on the campaign trail during his recent whistle-stop tour of Angola. But some scepticism remains

about the chances of this country attaining a lasting peace and about the UN's ability to deliver on its commitments. UN leaders are typically staid, but not the secretary-general in Luanda earlier this month. Scenes of an animated Boutros-Ghali repeatedly chanting "Viva Angola!" at a peace rally were given major coverage on state television. Boutros-Ghali, however, has little option but to project an upbeat mood. The failure of the United Nations mission in Somalia and serious setbacks in Bosnia have made UN donor nations wary.

Granted, the war has stopped. But the process is far from on track. The ceasefire may have been signed in November and a few Unita leaders now sit down regularly with government leaders in a Luanda-based negotiating forum, but, significantly, Jonas Savimbi is yet to venture here. Unita troops are still not confined to their quarters (which are not even ready yet), neither are the "government's" special police, dressed in midnight blue and known as the Ninjas, reserved for their classic policing techniques.

And, of course, both sides are still armed. Gunshots are still a common night-time sound in Luanda and a night I spent in the central highland city of Huambo, where some of the fiercest confrontations took place, was punctuated with machine-gun fire.



BATTLE SCARRED: Bullet-riddled buildings are silent testimony to Angola's war PHOTOGRAPH TOM WILTSHIRE-ROBBINS

Crime and corruption exacerbate the state of instability. Police frequently demand bribes — the average civil servant earns only about \$50 a month. Landmines litter the countryside, affecting access and agriculture. In sum, a total picture which inspires scepticism. South African ambassador Roger Ballard-Tremear would not stick his neck out on the chances of Angola attaining long-term peace, saying they were "50-50". Political analysts are equally noncommittal. The UN has to be more upbeat. A Unita source told me he was optimistic about the process and said relations between the two parties in the joint commission were good. But he said

he was wary of Unita becoming a toothless dog in a government of reconciliation.

MPLA member of parliament Roberto de Almeida said: "We have a few problems but agree on most things." He agreed that there was a possibility that Unita leaders were still not safe in government-controlled areas but said: "I believe there is freedom of movement for ordinary Unita members."

Then there is the question of the vice-presidency. The MPLA government has offered Savimbi one of two vice-presidencies. The Unita leader says he is still waiting for a formal invitation before taking up the position. And he will not take the job if it is to be a rubber stamp to Presi-

dent Jose Eduardo dos Santos. The belligerent leader is no F W de Klerk. He is more akin to his former political master P W Botha.

That said, Dos Santos, paraded here as the "President of Peace", is no Mandela, and has failed to reassure Savimbi, the general population and the international community.

But reconciliation may be difficult with powerful army generals breathing down the president's neck, wondering why positions in government, the military and now a vice-presidency are being offered to Unita so soon after almost every large city was captured by the government. They believe they had it in their sights to crush Unita.

the brink of peace

■ The UN Secretary-General's recent peace-promoting visit to Angola may have looked good but an inefficient UN deployment on the ground is threatening the process, reports **TOM WILTSHIRE-ROBBINS** of our Foreign Service vice from Luanda.

Bad time ahead for Mr Good News?

(5) *ARC 29/1/1995*

DURING his whistle-stop tour of Angola Mr Good News, aka Boutros Boutros-Ghali, looked like a confident presidential candidate on the campaign trail.

But some scepticism remains about the chances of this country attaining a lasting peace and about the UN's ability to deliver on its commitments.

UN leaders are typically staid but not the secretary-general in Luanda this month. Scenes of an animated Boutros-Ghali repeatedly chanting "Viva Angola!" at a peace rally were given major coverage on state television, even after he had left.

But the image of a small crowd waving white peace flags at the former Egyptian Foreign Minister could not dispel the impression that this was more of a stage-managed show for international media audiences than a spontaneous response from the Angolan people.

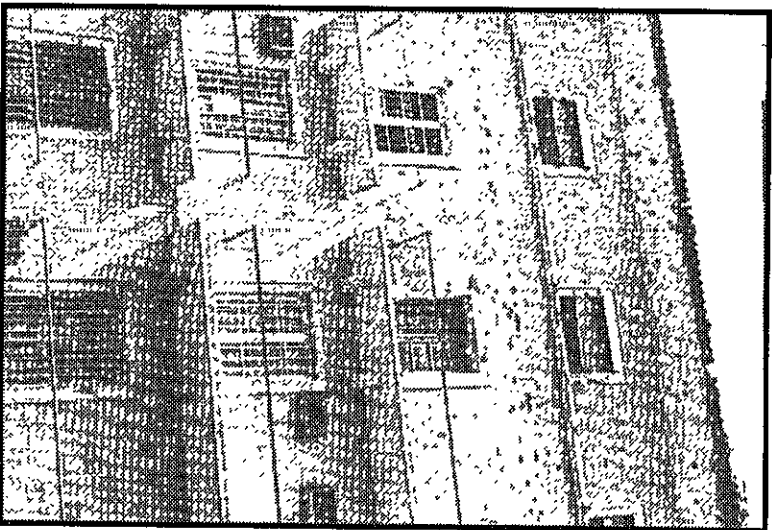
And the SG has little option but to project an upbeat mood. The failure of the United Nations mission in Somalia and serious setbacks in Bosnia have made UN donor nations wary.

To compound matters the American right, with its mission to steer clear of costly involvement in international peacekeeping missions, is on a warpath that could see it occupying the White House come 1996. It has though pledged to support the UN peace process in Angola.

Still, Angola is a hard mission to sell and to date the US, despite its pledges backed even by rightwing Republicans, has not come forward with its 30 percent share of the projected peace-keeping budget for this fragile nation.

Granted, the war has stopped. But the process is far from on track. The ceasefire may have been signed in November and a few Unita leaders now sit down regularly with government leaders in a Luanda-based negotiating forum but, significantly, Jonas Savimbi is yet to venture here.

Unita troops are still not confined to their



Picture: TOM WILTSHIRE-ROBBINS

BULLET-riddled buildings are silent testimony to what the Angolan capital has endured over the past two years.

quarters (which are not even ready yet), neither are the government's special police, dressed in midnight blue and known as the "Ninjas", revered for their classic policing techniques.

And, of course, both sides are still armed. Gunshots are still a common night-time sound in Luanda and a night I spent in the central highland

city of Huambo, where some of the fiercest confrontations between the warring sides took place, was punctuated with machinegun fire.

This was described as "just the usual fireworks" by a resident of the UN military camp in Huambo. Further, old Luanda hands would consider a shot-free night in the capital something of a curiosity where most of the gunfire is linked to criminal activities and a fairly desperate populace using AK-47s as shopping accessories.

ACCORDING to the Lusaka Protocol a government of national unity should already have been installed and Unita supporters should be openly walking in this city of decayed, but beautiful Portuguese buildings and slum-like modernist concrete slabs built to house the Mediterranean country's surplus peasants.

Crime and corruption exacerbate the state of instability. Police frequently demand bribes — the average civil servant earns only R35 a month. In this climate Unita leaders say they do not yet feel secure enough to return their organisation to the sewage-smelling downtown streets of the capital.

Landmines litter the countryside, affecting access and agriculture. In sum a total picture which inspires scepticism.

South African ambassador Roger Ballard-Tremer would not stick his neck out on the chances of Angola attaining long-term peace, saying it was "a 50-50 situation".

Political analysts are equally non-committal. UN officials have to be more upbeat.

A Unita source told me he was optimistic about the process and said relations between the two parties in the joint commission were "good". But he said he was wary of Unita becoming a toothless dog in a government of reconciliation.

MPLA member of parliament Roberto de Almeida said: "We have a few problems but agree on most things." He agreed that there was a possibility that Unita leaders were still not safe in government-controlled areas but said: "I believe

there is freedom of movement for ordinary Unita members".

WORLD Food Programme country director Andrew Toh said there was, apart from the real problem of security, also a "perceived problem of security".

After nearly 20 years of war that is not surprising. The slow arrival of UN peacekeeping troops has also cast a shadow of doubt over the process. The 7 000-plus blue helmets should already have taken up their positions but due to "logistical problems", such as mined roads and blown bridges, they have not and only a third have arrived so far.

But at least they are coming and in promised greater numbers than the paltry 700-odd who tried to secure the last peace process in 1992.

Another problem is the question of the vice-presidency. The MPLA government has offered Savimbi one of two vice-presidencies. The Unita leader says he is still waiting for a formal invitation before taking up the position. And he will not take the job if it is to be a rubber stamp to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

The belligerent leader is no F W de Klerk, being more akin to his former political master, P W Botha.

That said, Dos Santos, paraded here as the "President of Peace", is no Mandela and has failed to reassure Savimbi, the population and the international community.

But reconciliation may be difficult with powerful army generals breathing down the president's neck, wondering why positions in government, the military and now a vice-presidency are being offered to Unita so soon after almost every large city was captured by the government. They believe they had it in their sights to crush Unita.

But most analysts consider Angola's an unwinnable war. The generals will not fade away completely but a political solution remains the best option and Savimbi also has much to gain from a unity government because he may find himself with no other place to turn.

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to be-
er. —

with foreign political leaders
— including French President
Jacques Chirac and German
Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel

to stay of his August 17 execution
to give him time to complete
his appeals. — Reuter.

Unita leader appointed Angola's vice-president

LUANDA. — Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi is now the country's vice-president.

The 61-year-old bush fighter agreed to abandon the rebellion he led for 20 years and join the government as vice-president in charge of economic affairs, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos announced here.

President Dos Santos will also appoint a second vice-president from his own party to work in conjunction with Mr Savimbi, modeling his new government after President Nelson Mandela's successful racial reconciliation experiment in South Africa.

Diplomats, journalists and airport workers cheered when Mr Dos Santos made the announcement at Luanda airport yesterday on his return from an emergency meeting with Mr Savimbi.

Surprised by the unrestrained emotion, Mr Dos Santos smiled before adding: "It was a very peaceful meeting."

The two leaders met on neutral territory earlier yesterday to discuss a flare-up of fighting between their troops that threatened to rupture a November treaty halting Angola's civil war.

Diplomats have said the leadership Mr Savimbi demonstrated by building his National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) from a scraggly band of guerrillas into a skilled and powerful army was just the skill needed to rebuild the war-blasted country.

Mr Dos Santos first suggested Mr Savimbi for vice-president soon after a May meeting between the two rivals. — Sapa-AP.



Jonas Savimbi

Ruling party youths beat Kenya's Leakey

(5) ARC 11/8/95

NAIROBI.— Youths from Kenya's ruling party beat opposition politician Richard Leakey and police later joined in to whip and club opposition activists and journalists, the victims and witnesses said.

Mr Leakey, a white Kenyan and renowned conservationist whose move into opposition this year enraged President Daniel arap Moi, showed his back covered in red weals at a news conference.

Mr Leakey, who is secretary-general of the Safina (Ark) party, showed his bruised hands and said he was struck on the head.

Youths identified as members of Mr Moi's Kenya African National Union attacked him yesterday morning outside the court in the provincial town of Nakuru.

Mr Leakey, who lost both legs in a plane crash in 1993 and uses artificial limbs, was whipped and clubbed by a dozen youths as he shielded a woman party official and limped to his car.

Louise Tunbridge, a British

journalist for London's Daily Telegraph who was beaten in a later incident, asked policemen watching the attack on Mr Leakey why they were doing nothing.

"They just smirked and smiled."

Mr Leakey said he went to Nakuru to drop off parliamentarian Paul Muite and another Safina member to visit jailed dissident Koigi wa Wamwere.

The Rift Valley provincial police said in a statement Mr Leakey and other Safina activists had tried to address a hostile crowd which "went wild" until police fired two shots in the air.

Mr Leakey denied he tried to address the crowd. He said he believed the attack was orchestrated to justify the government's refusal to register his party.

Mr Moi has repeatedly berated Mr Leakey, accusing him of being a white racist and a colonialist and has vowed that he will never be allowed to become a political leader. — Reuter.



Backlash . . . Richard Leakey shows the weals to the opposition.

PICTURE: AP

Kenyan

youths' club

Leakey
Star 11/8/95
 Nakuru (Kenya)

Kenya's renowned conservationist-turned-opposition politician, Richard Leakey, was whipped and clubbed by youths from the ruling party when he tried to visit a jailed dissident yesterday, witnesses said.

Leakey, a 50-year-old white Kenyan who had both legs amputated after a plane crash and uses artificial limbs, was attacked along with other activists and journalists outside the law court in the town of Nakuru.

Local reporters identified the assailants as Kenya African National Union (Kanu) youth wingers.

Other activists from his Safina (Ark) party and several Kenyan and foreign journalists were also attacked.

Leakey and colleagues went to Nakuru to visit Koigi wa Wamwere, Kenya's leading dissident and a Safina member, who is in prison accused of raiding a police station in 1993.

Leakey, former head of the Kenya Wildlife Service, announced plans to establish a new political movement in April, with an alliance of young Kenyans, to campaign for political reforms.

Safina applied for registration as a party in June but the government has yet to accept it. The government late last month accused Safina of plotting anarchy in Kenya, saying Leakey's party planned civil disobedience. — Reuter.

British to inquire into mob attack on Leakey

(5) STW 12/8/95

Nairobi - The British High Commission called yesterday for authorities to investigate the beating of white Kenyan conservationist Richard Leakey, other members of his opposition party and journalists.

Condemnation of the attack on Thursday by a mob wielding rubber whips and pick-axe handles in the central town of Nakuru came from the Kenya Law Society, opposition politicians and the Foreign Correspondents Association of East Africa.

Police meanwhile claimed that Leakey and other members of the Safina (Noah's Ark) party had been planning to address a rally, and that lack of prior notification "made it difficult for police to prevent the violence."

Among the journalists beaten was Louise Tunbridge, a British correspondent for the Daily Telegraph and the BBC.

"I've got whip wounds that are bloody and swollen," she said yesterday, adding that she was beaten on the head, back, buttocks, chest, arms, hands and legs by youth wingers of President Daniel arap Moi's ruling Kenya African National Union

and security forces in riot gear.

"We are concerned about reports of politically motivated violence which took place in Nakuru," said the British statement. "A British citizen was injured in the disturbances, which we view very seriously."

We are asking the Kenyan authorities to investigate the incident quickly and to bring to justice the perpetrators."

Tunbridge was also abused by the mob, with a reporter for the local Daily Nation quoting one man as yelling "Beat this BBC whore" in Swahili.

Leakey, a 50-year-old who had both legs amputated below the knee after a plane crash, displayed a dozen livid scars on his back to journalists on Thursday.

He blamed the attack on the ruling party, adding that he and other members of the Safina party had gone to Nakuru, 160km north-west of Nairobi, for a court case and to visit a dissident in prison, not to address any rally.

Safina member Paul Mutie, a lawyer and member of parliament, told journalists he had recognised police in plain clothes

among the mob, which he estimated at more than 300. He said the commandant of Nakuru prison had distributed pick-axe handles and that prison warders took part in the attack.

"We haven't any doubt at all that it was state-instigated violence," he said.

Law society chairman Paul Wamwe said it was time Kenyans were told there was no rule of law in the country, and members of the opposition Ford-Kenya and Democratic parties issued a statement saying: "There is no way one can exonerate the government from this primitive and cruel act considering the heavy presence of police in anti-riot gear who only supervised the beating."

The foreign correspondents' association termed the attack on journalists "heinous, unwarranted and irresponsible."

The incident comes at a time of fragile relations between Britain and Kenya following a visit by aid minister Baroness Lynda Chalker last month during which she linked development aid to Kenya's human rights record. - AFP

PRICE OF OPPOSITION



SHATTERED: Conservationist Richard Leakey of the opposition party Safina, addresses a press conference in Nairobi on Thursday, after having been attacked by a group of people wielding pick-axe handles and rubber whips in the Rift Valley town of Nakuru

PHOTOGRAPH: AP

Angola's agony

Summit is inconclusive, but boosts the perilous peace process

(5) AR4 12/18/95

LUANDA. — Angola was on the threshold of peace after a summit between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and erstwhile rebel leader Jonas Savimbi that produced qualified agreements, according to both sides.

"The meeting was very constructive," Mr Dos Santos said on his return to the Angolan capital Thursday evening from Franceville in Gabon, where discussions on the political future of the country took place between the president and Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

Both sides pledged after the summit to implement peace accords drawn up last November in Lusaka aimed at ending 20 years of civil war in Angola.

But the final statement issued by Mr Dos Santos and Mr Savimbi after Thursday's talks remained vague, and full agreement on the key political issue of Unita's role in the democratic process has yet to be announced.

The statement said merely the two men had "decided to adopt special measures... to assure the most effective and realistic implementation

■ Pledges on both sides to implement peace accords signed last November raise hopes that Angola's war may soon be over.

of the Lusaka accords.

Angola's government has sought through the Lusaka accords to reintegrate Mr Savimbi and Unita by offering the former rebels one of two newly created vice presidencies.

But Unita has sought clarifications that the post should devolve to the organisations in general and not to Mr Savimbi specifically.

Mr Savimbi said after the summit there would be two vice presidents in a new Angolan administration, one representing the ruling Angolan People's Liberation Movement (MPLA) and one for Unita.

"There will not be a first or second vice president," he said.

But Unita sources added Mr Savimbi and his partisans were still seeking guarantees on the vice presidency issue, which is to be the subject of continued negotiations.

Mr Dos Santos said on his return from Franceville that the two sides had agreed in principle to the establishment of the vice presidencies, but Mr Savimbi had still not formally accepted the post earmarked for Unita.

Angola has been ravaged by civil war since independence from Portugal in 1975, apart from an 18-month respite in 1991 and 1992 following a peace deal between Unita and Dos Santos' MPLA.

Civil strife broke out again in September 1992 when Mr Savimbi refused to accept an MPLA election victory.

The Lusaka talks in November broke the deadlock, and the final agreement granted Unita a string of ministerial and ambassadorial posts as part of a peace deal.

On the military question, Mr Dos Santos announced that both sides had agreed to a "global incorporation" under UN supervision of Unita and government forces into a new national army.

The army will comprise around 90 000 troops, with the remaining forces on both sides being demobilised.

Two battalions have taken positions in northern and central regions. — Sapa-AFP.

Angola on brink of peace after summit

(5) Sapa 12/8/95

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The statement said merely that the two men had "decided to adopt special measures to assure the most effective and realistic implementation" of the Lusaka accords.

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Dos Santos said on his return from Franceville that the two sides had agreed in principle to the establishment of the vice-presidencies, but Savimbi had still not formally accepted the post earmarked for Unita.

Dos Santos also said both sides had agreed to a "global incorporation" under UN supervision of Unita and government forces into a new national army.

— Sapa AFP

Attack on Leakey to be probed

Nairobi — Kenya's legal supreme has ordered an inquiry into the recent beating of Kenyan conservationist Richard Leakey, other members of his opposition party and journalists.

Attorney General Amos Wako said late on Saturday that he had asked police to open a "thorough and comprehensive investigation" into Thursday's attack by a mob wielding rubber whips and pick-axe handles in the central town of Nakuru, the official KNA agency reported.

Wako appealed to all people who had any evidence to "co-operate and submit such evidence to the police".

"The culprits must be brought to justice in the interest of the maintenance of law and order," he said.

Leakey blamed the attack on the ruling party and accused the police of complicity in the attack.

In their defence, police said the party had been planning to address a rally, and that lack of prior notification "made it difficult for police to offer protection or prevent the incidence of violence".

But Leakey said he and other Safina members had gone to Nakuru for a court case and to visit a dissident in prison, not to address any rally. — Sapa-AFP.

UN sure of Angolan peace

LUANDA — The UN, blamed for watching helplessly while Angola slid back into civil war in 1992, is upbeat that this time around it can usher in a lasting peace in the devastated African country.

With the memories of troubled UN missions in Rwanda and Somalia still fresh, the UN special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, is nonetheless confident Angola could finally put two decades of inter-necine fighting behind it.

"I think we have enough factors and parameters which indicate the possibility of having peace is larger than the resumption of war," Beye said last week.

Beye's optimistic assessment came as President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi met in Gabon on Thursday to thrash out the major points of a political settlement.

Although the talks ended inconclusively with both sides reluctant to trumpet outright accord on Savimbi's political role in Angola's future, the UN appears committed to playing a major role in the Angolan peace process.

Besides directly mediating in this latest round of talks, the third UN Angola Verification Mission is to oversee a ceasefire and supervise the withdrawal, encampment

and demobilisation of Unita and government troops.

The UN mission appears determined to avoid a repeat of October 1992, when its unarmed observers were powerless to avoid a resumption of hostilities between dos Santos' MPLA and rebel Unita.

An 18-month truce following a 1991 peace deal was broken after Unita refused to accept an electoral defeat by dos Santos' MPLA.

The UN mission, which then was composed only of observers, without peace-keeping infantry troops, said the root cause of the deterioration of the situation was the incomplete fulfilment of key provisions of the 1991 Bicesse accord.

Under the new Lusaka accords, where dos Santos and Savimbi forged an agreement in May, the UN is to disarm and demobilise some 190 000 soldiers between the two rivals, and supervise the formation of a new 90 000-strong joint army.

However, the UN mission, which is deploying its peacekeepers in phases across Angola, is being frustrated by destroyed bridges and mined roads.

As a result of the war, Angola is littered with an estimated 10-million landmines. — Sapa-AFP.

UN optimistic in Angola

LUANDA – The United Nations, blamed for watching helplessly while Angola slid back into civil war in 1992, is confident that this time around it can usher in a lasting peace in the devastated African country.

The memories of troubled UN missions in Rwanda, Somalia – and even former Yugoslavia – still fresh, the UN special envoy to Angola, Mr Alioune Blondin Beye, is nevertheless confident that Angola could finally put two decades of internecine fighting behind it.

“I think we have enough factors and parameters which indicate that the possibility of having peace is larger than the resumption of war,” he said recently.

Optimistic assessment

Beye's optimistic assessment came as President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and erstwhile rebel leader Dr Jonas Savimbi met in Franceville, Gabon, last Thursday to thrash out the major points of a political settlement.

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Multi-national mission

In a sign of its commitment, the mission has boosted its threadbare 800-strong operation to a multi-national mission with nearly 8 000 personnel that will last until February 1997.

Unavem-III appears determined to avoid a repeat of October 1992, when its unarmed observers were powerless to avoid a resumption of hostilities between Dos Santos' People's Movement for Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

Brutal civil war

Since Angola gained independence from Portugal in 1975, the two factions have waged a brutal 20-year civil war which has left more than 600 000 dead and displaced three million more.

An 18-months truce following a 1991 peace deal was broken after Unita refused to accept an electoral defeat by the MPLA.

The following months saw the situation deteriorate with an estimated average death rate of 1 000 people a day, either from the direct or indirect result of combat.

The UN mission, which then was composed only of observers without any peacekeeping

Last week's talks ended inconclusively between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and rebel leader Jonas Savimbi. But the United Nations remains hopeful of peace in Angola, reports **Susan Njanji**

(5) Semetan 16/8/95



Jonas Savimbi ... discussing his future political role in Angola with the government.



Eduardo dos Santos ... negotiating a political settlement with Unita.

infantry troops, said the root cause of the deterioration of the situation was the incomplete fulfilment of key provisions of the 1991 accord.

Among the failures were the less than effective demobilisation and storage of weapons, and delays in the creation of a unified army.

Failure to set up a neutral police force to replace the rapid reaction force in place and the lack of efficient administration in many parts of the country were also blamed for the relapse.

Under the new Lusaka accords, named after the Zambian capital where Dos Santos and Savimbi forged an agreement in May after a peace deal in November, the UN will disarm and demobilise some 190 000 soldiers between the two rivals, and supervise the formation of a new 90 000-strong joint army.

The UN will also disarm civilians and verify the formation of a neutral police force.

However, the UN mission, which is deploy-

ing its peacekeepers in phases across the country, is being frustrated by destroyed bridges and mined roads.

As a result of the war, Angola is now polluted with an estimated 10 million landmines.

Major hazard

Outgoing UN force commander Chris Garuba says both parties to the conflict are relaying mines on roads that have been cleared, in an effort to attract attention and sabotage food supply convoys.

“My major worry, however, is that in some cases roads that are declared safe are mined overnight, and this is likely to affect the peace process and demoralise the troops,” Garuba said last week.

He added that he would appeal to Unita and MPLA forces to stop planting anti-personnel mines. – *Sapu-AFP*

Dying young from war, disease

LUANDA. — Nearly 100 children under the age of five die every day in Angola from both the direct impact of civil war and diseases, giving the country what may be the highest infant death rate in the world.

In a report assessing the state of children in a country wracked by two decades of civil war, the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) said with 94 children dying every day, "It is estimated that Angola today has the highest mortality rates in the world."

"Although direct exposure to conflict is a major killer of children, malaria, diarrhoeal diseases, measles and acute respiratory infections also inflict a heavy toll on the lives of young children," Unicef said.

Angolan government forces and Unita guerrillas fought for 20 years after the country attained independence from Portugal in 1975.

Severe malnutrition took a heavy toll on children in outlying areas, particularly in the central provinces of Bie and Huambo, which were cut off from humanitarian aid for months during continued fighting between 1992 and 1994.

In addition the country's health sector suffered drastic cuts in state funding at the ex-



CHILDREN OF WAR: Starving children wait for a meal at a feeding centre. Nearly 100 Angolan children under five die every day from the effects of civil war and disease.

pende of military spending in recent years. But survivors have not been totally spared the other effects of one of Africa's longest running conflicts. Apart from the general psychological war trauma, Angola has some of the highest numbers of disabled, orphaned or abandoned children. Many children at Luanda's

main orphanage, Lar Kwzola, have lost one or more limbs from anti-personnel mine explosions or have missing eyes due to shrapnel wounds.

With an estimated 10 million mines laid across Angola, the UN says the statistics translate to 5.5 mines for every Angolan child under the age of five.

Luzia Inges, director of Lar Kwzola, said the most traumatised children received at the centre were from the central provinces, particularly Bie where fighting was particularly intense during the renewed war from 1992.

Last week, she had received a new intake of 30 children from Bie who she described as severely traumatised.

Among the millions of Angolans forcibly displaced by war are an estimated 1.5 million children living in extremely difficult circumstances.

At least 4 000 children have been found to be living in the streets of central Luanda where they are subject to sexual abuse, forced labour and early military conscription.

Efforts by children's aid organisations to find homes for some of the 1.5 million children have not scored much success.

16 AFRICA

The white man

Richard Leakey was a hero when he saved Kenya's wildlife from poachers. But now he has declared war on corruption, the ruling Kanu party has turned on him.

Chris McGreal reports from Nairobi

Of all the charges barraging Richard Leakey — of being a neo-colonial racist, traitor, atheist, Ku Klux Klan collaborator — the one he finds hardest to shake is the suspicion that Kenya's most famous white citizen harbours an ambition to become president.

"He's been telling me since he was 14 years old he wants to be president," says Philip, his younger brother — and foe. "He's told people all over the place he wanted to be president. He used to get very angry when people laughed. So when he says he doesn't want to be president he's not being very sincere."

After years of fighting off Kenya's corrupted political system from the sidelines, the renowned palaeontologist and conservationist — who made his name with the discovery of the oldest human skull yet found and reinforced his reputation by rescuing Kenya's elephants — has stepped into the centre of the arena.

Leakey's is the most prominent name in a new political party which has caught Kenya's attention as much for his presence as its promises to combat rampant graft, police brutality and shambolic public services.

Leakey (50) denies he is looking to become his party's presidential candidate. It is, in any case, doubtful that Kenya is ready for a white president, especially one as controversial as Leakey, whom many respect but fewer like. But any party which includes a man renowned for running one of the country's few recent successes, the Kenya Wildlife Service, without permitting its rulers to bleed it dry has a distinct advantage over a divided and compromised opposition.

Whatever Leakey's ambitions, Pres-

ident Daniel arap Moi has responded to the threat. Having so far refused to permit registration of Leakey's party Safina — Swahili for Ark — he embarked on a nationwide tour to vilify the man he has made a point of saying was never his friend, even after a 30-year association.

He has denounced Leakey as a front for Western governments, a racist who would submit Kenya to a new colonisation and a foreigner, despite his Kenyan passport. "We in Kenya are ready to share with everyone, including foreigners ... So let foreigners participate in everything in Kenya but not in political leadership. That we will not have. No, no, no," Moi told one rally.

What he really means is that whites should keep out of opposition politics, as there are a number of whites in the ruling Kanu, including Philip Leakey.

Kanu's secretary-general, Joseph Komotho, is as frequent in his denunciations as the president: "Even if you go to Germany, you get people who are still practising Nazism in the middle of millions who do not want to see the resurrection of Nazism. That's the way we look at Leakey."

Moi's mouthpiece, the *Kenya Times*, accused Leakey of consorting with the Ku Klux Klan. It published a poorly faked letter supposedly signed by one John Stone Bad, who offered financial backing from the KKK for the new party, provided a white man is its presidential candidate. "It is a painful reality that the politicians both in Kanu and opposition parties are Africans with an inferiority complex, egocentric and disoriented. What Kenya needs ... is a saviour and a saviour can only be a white man and recolonialism. Isn't it factual that most Africans in Kenya are more wretched now than they

Presidential ambitions? Richard Leakey took on Kenya's poachers and won. Now he's challenging Kenya's corrupt government

PHOTOGRAPH: TOM STODDART/KATZ

who would be king of Kenya

(5) Wm 28/7-3/8/95



Philip Leakey: Brother and foe



Arap Moi: Won't register Safina

would have been under the pleasant white British colonial rule?" the "letter" asked provocatively.

The KKK has not been heard about since. Perhaps it was discouraged by Moi's subsequent accusation that Leakey is also in league with Islamic fundamentalists and Uganda-based rebels, or the denunciation of his atheism. But the sharpest attacks are now against the foundations of Leakey's reputation, his tenure as head of the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS).

When, six years ago, Moi appointed him to oversee nearly all of Kenya's 51 national parks, they were on the brink of collapse. Poachers were killing three elephants a day and the herds were close to eradication. Corruption was rife. Government revenue from tourism had virtually dried up.

Leakey beat off the poachers, won a worldwide ban on ivory trading and drew in hundreds of millions of dollars of foreign conservation aid. Above all, the KWS was seen to be clean. "There was lots of pressure on me, for many years in many situations," he says. "Could we make sure that this contract goes to this place, and couldn't I arrange for this person's cousin to get a job and turn a blind eye to this particular set of problems? Or State House would like this done. Never the president, always State House. It was a little euphemism. I always said

sorry, but no."

Ultimately his resistance led to his downfall. A plane crash in 1993, which cost Leakey his legs, took him out of the picture long enough to leave him vulnerable. After his resignation last year, Leakey said his final battle had been to block one Cabinet minister's scheme for an oil pipeline through a national park. Another wanted to start a mine.

Even after that resignation, Moi still had praise for him. No more. And Komotho has joined Moi in discrediting Leakey's tenure: "He has never accounted for, fully, all the money he has raised externally. And the way this money was spent was in a very discriminatory manner because a lot was used to fence the farms owned by white Kenyans to protect them from wildlife. But he did not build a single kilometre of fence to prevent the destruction of small-scale farms owned by Kenyan Africans."

But is it not generally recognised that Leakey did a good job? "He did a lot of talking. Nobody doubts that something happened in terms of stoppage of poaching but then he cannot

claim credit as an individual. It was a collective effort by the whole government," Komotho said.

Leakey's years at the KWS have brought another favoured accusation — racism. He ran the place with a rod of iron. By his own admission he is a bully. His shoot-to-kill policy against poachers was decreed by Moi but the enthusiasm of his enforcement has given ammunition to his detractors. Some say his attitude to humanity in general, not black Africans in particular, is the problem. They say for him animals came before people, no matter what the circumstances. "I was made director of wildlife, not director of social services, not director of agriculture," he said. "The animals have no representation. The economy is highly dependent on a successful animal industry. I was put there because the animal industry around tourism was on the verge of collapse."

Racism is one of the few issues on which Leakey's brother, Philip, comes to his defence: "He's a difficult guy, he's not a racist. Arrogance — he is very arrogant — always comes across as a type of superiority and that's interpreted as racist" — Philip Leakey

That is as far as the defence goes. Philip was a Kanu MP for 15 years and briefly a Cabinet minister, until he lost his seat in 1992. The brothers fell out years ago. Although Philip donated a kidney to Richard in 1979, the rift remained. After Richard launched into the political fray, and one of Moi's attacks raised the question of whether Leakey and his fellow whites are Kenyans at all, it sent a shudder through the tiny but wealthy white community. Philip led 88 white

Kenyans to pay homage to Moi and to denounce Richard. "My brother entered politics as an individual and whatever his political fate at the end of the day is entirely his problem," he told Moi and the assembled whites.

He explained later: "Some were starting to think of us as a potential target and we felt it was necessary to prevent ourselves from becoming a target by clearing the air and getting the response we got from the president — that we should carry on being good Kenyans as we've been."

His brother scorns the mission: "It's an amazing phenomenon, 88 people claiming to represent the community. People who spend most of their time bitching about collapsed services, corruption, overtaxation. And then pledging their total support for a system they bitch about seven days a week."

A few of those who attended say they were duped. They thought they were emphasising their neutrality but found they were used to side with Kanu. Philip denies it.

Moi has since made a number of speeches to reassure the broader white community but his attacks on Leakey's patriotism have become more focused. The strength of Moi's attacks makes Leakey say: "If Safina is irrelevant because the people don't want a *mzungu* (white) to get involved in politics, why's he excited about it? Is he getting a feedback from his intelligence sources that the country is ripe for something new? Is he worried about my external contacts and possibility of being able to give a different story to his that would be at least given the time of day? Is it that I'm going to raise huge sums of money? Well, no countries that I know can match the money that Kanu can raise through its various tentacles."

Safina, like the rest of the opposition, may yet prove not to amount to very much. In the mire of Kenya's ethnic politics, it is already tainted by the perception of domination by Kikuyu.



Richard Leakey: Elephants' friend

PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM TURNER

A clash of egos has led to one prominent member storming out and others acting on their own accord. But it has one Kenyan believing it is a force to be reckoned with — President Daniel arap Moi. — *The Guardian*

Tribe of terror

A Kenyan politician is using land grievances among the Masai to fuel ethnic cleansing, reports Chris McGreal

(5) WIM 28/12-3/18/95

WILLIAM OLE NITMAMA thanks God that the Roman Catholic Church does not hold the keys to heaven — otherwise, he says, the Masai people are doomed. The church doubts that, whoever holds the keys, Nitmama will be welcome.

Kenya's local government minister bears a resemblance to the Inkatha warlords in South Africa, who exploit Zulu nationalism for political control.

Nitmama has taken a genuine grievance over Masai land claims and, his critics say, exploited it to conduct vicious ethnic cleansing aimed at purging his constituency of opponents. A proud warrior culture has been twisted into an instrument of political terror.

But he poses as a saviour. "The Masai have just woken up," he said. "They've just got consciousness of their land rights. Whatever I say in Parliament or in public, it's not incitement. I consider it public education. It's informing the Masai of their rights."

The Catholic Church accuses Nitmama of organising the ethnic cleansing of large tracts of his Narok constituency in the Rift Valley using Masai

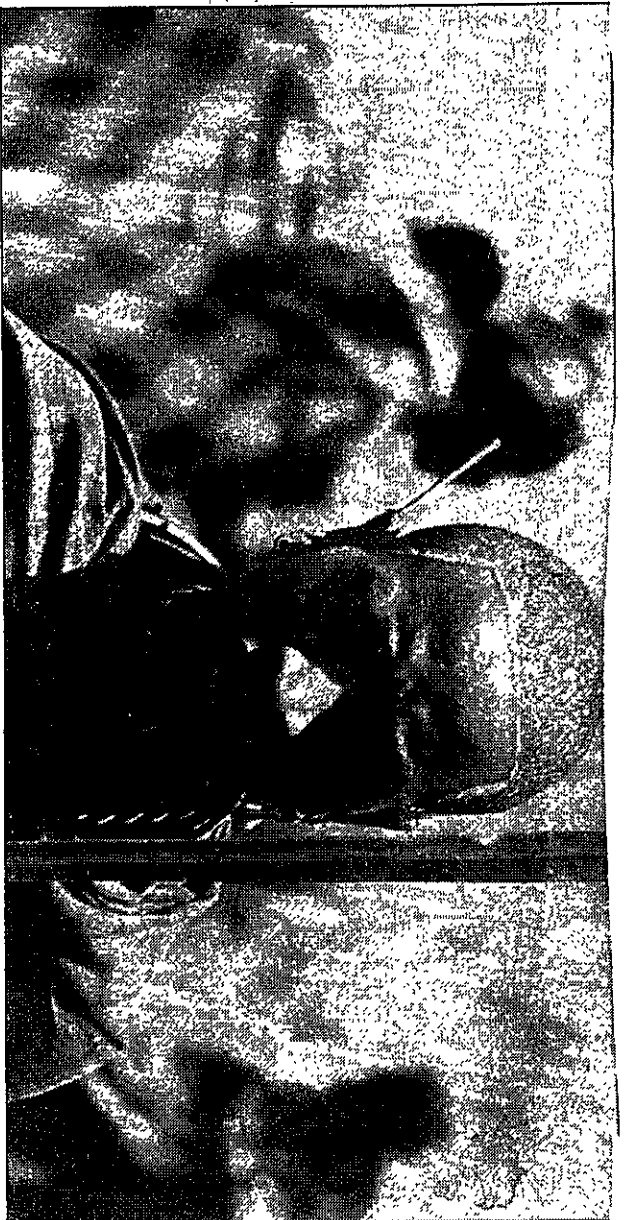
warriors known as the "Moran". The expulsions, principally of Kikuyus who have lived there for decades, began when President Daniel arap Moi violently exploited Kenya's ethnic divisions during multi-party elections two years ago.

But the church's Justice, Peace and Reconciliation Commission (JPC) says that evictions are continuing in Narok. Eric ole Keso, the local JPC coordinator and himself a Masai, describes public meetings to promote expulsions.

"Nitmama told the Masai to occupy lands, and those who are not Masai should go, and the Masai should inherit their land, it is their birthright," Keso said. "They were told to do away with non-Masai. When Nitmama wants to clear an area he uses the Moran because they are not known locally, they live in seclusion."

"They are armed — with clubs and knives. They are very aggressive. Usually they give people two or three days to leave. Threats and beatings take place at night, and they raid for cattle."

The JPC says that in recent weeks hundreds of families have been evicted and dozens killed in such attacks. Enabelbel community has been systematically purged of Kikuyus since March. Homes were destroyed, cattle stolen and victims beaten. Local officials are subject to Nitmama's authority and have not intervened.



Masai warrior: The Moran are being incited to expunge Kikuyus from Narok

"This is just political," Keso said. "Nitmama wants the land to be occupied by the Masai because he's focusing on the 1997 election and it's time to clear the obstacles to his return to his political throne."

At stake is not just a parliamentary seat. Nitmama controls Narok's council, which secretly administers revenues from the Masai Mara park. Few know where the funds go.

Nitmama fought a bitter battle with Richard Leakey for control of the park and won with the backing of Moi.

And then there is the patronage from reallocating abandoned land through chiefs and political cronies.

Few deny that the Masai have a gen-

erine grievance. British colonisers forced treaties depriving the Masai of their best land. After independence, President Jomo Kenyatta encouraged Kikuyus to move into the Rift Valley. Many Kikuyus driven from their land can produce title deeds, but Nitmama views them as squatters and part of a conspiracy.

"If they have title deeds it's because some suspicious exercise was done in land allocation in Nairobi which made it possible for these aliens to get their title deeds," he said. "Most of the land allocation officers come from one ethnic group, Kikuyu. It's the same with the church. It is a conspiracy."

working with the Kikuyus and trying to stir up a situation because it's upset at losing some parishioners."

Sometimes Nitmama uses the Moran as a private army. In May thousands invaded the high court in Nairobi to disrupt a private prosecution of him by a political opponent who accused him of inciting expulsions.

"They only came to court to listen to a case that involved their leader," Nitmama said. "But then we were called primitive, savages and uncivilised. I don't know what they mean by civilisation. Does it mean doing drugs or dumping your children on the street? We are the civilised ones here." — *The Guardian*

SA expertise to help Angola restore natural heritage

Iona conservation project

■ OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Angola's wildlife resources have been "absolutely devastated" by years of civil war, and at least 21 of its 275 mammal species — including gorillas, chimpanzees, black rhino and giraffe — have been pushed to the brink of extinction.

But a pilot project in the huge 1,5-million-hectare Iona national park on the border with Namibia could pave the way for the eventual rehabilitation of that country's rich biological heritage, and foreign donors will soon be asked for about R10,8-million to fund the project for five years.

That's the assessment of National Botanical Institute chief executive Brian Huntley after a recent visit to Angola, at the request of the Luanda government, to plan a conservation programme for their wildlife, flora and national parks.

Professor Huntley began working as an ecologist in Angola in 1970 but had to flee when fighting broke out two years later, and it was only in 1992 that he was able to return.

He said conservation prospects in Angola had not improved since 1992, when a team had produced a "reasonable assessment" of the country's natural heritage.

His recent visit, his first since 1992, had been hamstrung by his inability to move about the country freely.

"There is conventional peace in that armies aren't engaged in tank warfare, but there are still real security problems and it's extremely difficult to move out of any of the major towns or cities.

"So I couldn't do much in the way of reconnaissance — you can't get in by road and they wouldn't let me fly over some of

the areas."

Angola's state secretariat of the environment was serious in its attempt to get guidance on how to re-establish itself, he said.

"But it knows full well there are no finances to do it, so we have to be realistic."

He has recommended that international donors be approached to fund a pilot project in the desert park of Iona, in the south of Angola on the border with Namibia.

"It is spectacular desert scenery and there should still be some game there — springbok and oryx and maybe even one or two elephant.

"It's very inaccessible so you can control access easily, and my proposal is to use it as a pilot project to develop Angola's game rangers and warder staff — first in Iona itself and then for the other national parks.

(5) SPW 29/8/95
"There are simply no trained field staff in Angola, so that's the first thing to do."

Iona could be easily restocked with game flown in from Namibia, Huntley said.

"It's an ideal international project, and I will be putting a proposal to the World Conservation Union or the World Bank to support it.

"It probably needs about \$3-million (R10,8 million) to get it into gear. That's an achievable goal, but the donors will have to be prepared to be committed for at least five years — that's how long it will take to get it to work."

South Africa could assist with management expertise, he added. "We've got substantial expertise in the management of national parks . . . and I think we have a moral obligation to do something to help in Angola."

Defeated Unita still believes it can dictate the terms

By CHRIS SIMPSON, Andulo

THE Unita airport manager looked on approvingly as the UN plane from Luanda unloaded its cargo of syringes, blankets and medicines, all ready for the first vaccination campaign in Andulo in three years.

"At last you people are helping us!" Unita took over Andulo in October 1992 as Angola drifted back to civil war after the country's first multiparty elections. But Unita has always regarded the central highlands as its heart-

land. Even the loss of Huambo has not dented its belief in its right to rule this part of Angola.

Dr Jonas Savimbi's movement has been a dormant force in surrounding towns and villages for years, the main political reference point for a largely rural Umbundu-speaking population.

Unita officials, constantly contrast the dignified, rural stability of the central highlands, where Unita claims to be at one with the population, with the corruption and chaos of Luanda.

While Unita is nominally committed to implementing the peace agreement it signed more than nine months ago, merging its army with the government's and accepting a political accommodation, officials still sound as if they are dictating terms rather than grappling with the reality of defeat.

It is difficult to gauge the real level of support for Unita in places like Andulo, not least because people are reluctant to give political opinions. But the movement shows little readiness to

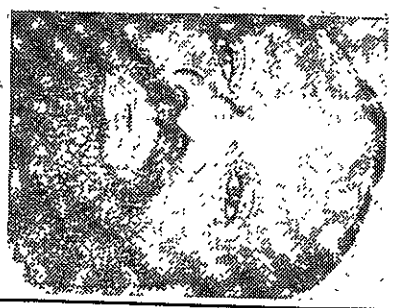
let people vote with their feet. Andulo "governor" Fernando Soy says free circulation from Unita into government areas and vice-versa will happen only when the troops from both sides are safely quartered and when UN peace-keeping troops are on the ground.

Despite having recently allowed five government health workers into Andulo to carry out vaccination programmes, Mr Soy is not ready to back a similar mission for Unita workers in government areas.

The lack of urgency is partly because, according to Mr Soy, the movement controls enough territory and has access to enough resources to run an autonomous economy.

But lack of purchasing power and shortages of key items like soap and salt have left the rural population vulnerable to disease and malnutrition. Unita help. But its request for humanitarian assistance comes with the warning that this does not mean surrendering sovereignty.

(5) ST 10/9/95



UNITA'S JONAS SAVIMBI

McNally meets ANC to discuss hit-squad allegations

264
276

WTM 22-28/9/95

Ann Eveleth

BELEAGUERED KwaZulu-Natal Attorney-General Tim McNally met with African National Congress provincial leaders this week after calls by the party for his resignation.

A joint statement released after the meeting on Wednesday between McNally and the ANC delegation, led by ANC provincial leader Jacob Zuma, said the ANC had expressed its concerns over the "collapse" of the system of justice in the province and the low level of prosecutions relating to crimes of political violence.

"The ANC delegation also expressed the view that where crimes have been committed, people should be prosecuted across the board, irrespective of political affiliations," the statement said.

The statement said McNally had "confirmed his commitment to prosecute any matter in which sufficient evidence existed," and that he had supplied the ANC with a memorandum setting out his strategy and

legal reasons why senior IFP leaders had not been called as witnesses in the Durban hit-squad trial of KwaZulu Police killers Romeo Mbambo, Gcina Mkhize and Israel Hlongwane.

"The ANC took note of this (and) acknowledged that some movement had been made with regard to hit-squad cases. The ANC was also happy that the attorney-general and the Investigation Task Board were working closely together. While points of disagreement still exist, the meeting was frank, constructive and cordial," the statement said.

The meeting, at McNally's invitation, followed an attempt by McNally two weeks ago to repair relations with the ITU through a "meeting of reconciliation" after McNally fired the senior public prosecutor attached to the unit.

● McNally signalled his intention last week to sue the *Mail & Guardian* for R250 000 after reports detailing criticism of his performance.

My struggle, PAGE 29

Last battle of Angola's 19-year-old



The diamond-rich Lundas are the last battlefield in Angola's civil war. **Philip van Niekerk** reports on a deal that is brokered to share the diamonds among the warring parties

AFTER sundown the town of Saurimo in northern Angola is alive with gunfire — the rattle of AK47s and pistol shots. A non-chalant United Nations peacekeeper sips his beer and waves his hand dismissively. "What you hear now is people getting drunk," he says. "Everyone here has a gun."

The last battle of the 19-year Angolan civil war is being waged amid the crazy diamond rush in the provinces of North and South Lunda in Africa's wild west.

As the rest of the country moves slowly into line with last year's Lusaka Protocol between the Unita rebels and the government MPLA, the Lundas are the last contested areas. The region is crawling with barndits, diamond dealers and mercenaries — and Unita and army troops. Only 20 yards separate their front lines across the Chicapa River. One UN peacekeeper said that in July alone the army lost 153 troops.

A two-hour plane ride away, in the Angolan capital of Luanda, a deal is

being brokered by the UN to bring peace to the Lundas. No one will talk about it publicly because they are embarrassed — the rebels and the government are carving up the diamond fields of the Lundas. The mercenaries will get their share; the poor will not.

The talks are well-advanced, but the Lundas are still volatile. Here it is not peace protocols that rule, but diamonds — although, except for the posh pink headquarters of the state diamond company in Saurimo, it would be difficult to tell that this was the entry point to one of the richest gem-fields.

Twelve miles north, in the Luachimo river diggings, a boy no older than 11 scratches at the ground, shovelling dirt on to a mound. This is put into a bag by a man and given to another man to carry 100 yards down to the river. There, a fourth person is sifting sand with a makeshift sieve, searching for the tell-tale sparkle.

"Here we have found 12 stones," says Manuel Pedro, aged 39, sweat

glistening on his shoulders. But the proceeds have to be shared with the boss, who automatically takes the largest cut. The boss emerges from the pit, his camouflage uniform frayed and caked in dust. He is Jose Nganga, an officer in the Angolan army.

The Unita diggings are only 12 miles upstream; diamonds have paid for the rebels' war. "If a mango falls from a tree you don't just leave it to rot," said a Unita official at the joint monitoring commission.

That is the sticking point. In the Lundas, the UN has been unable to secure peace because it cannot prise the warring sides from their diamonds.

General Chris Garruba, head of the UN peacekeeping force, says: "We hit a wall in the Lundas. The parties themselves created a gentlemen's agreement to remain where they are. When the time comes, Unita are supposed to go straight to the quartering areas (where they are to be demobilised). But I think we're going to have problems."

Unita sees no reason why it should vacate its diggings. "Why must Unita withdraw if higher ranks from the Angolan government are digging on the other side?" says a UN mediator. "Unita also needs money to pay its bills."

Unita soldiers want guarantees

(5) um 22-28/9/95

before they abandon the diamond mines and go into the quartering areas — the crucial step to end hostilities. The formula the two parties are searching for in Luanda is one in which Unita can exploit the diamonds legally. The mechanism by which Unita can hold on to its mines has already been worked out.

Fernando Faustino Muteke, the chief government negotiator in Luanda, says the only condition is that Unita will have to create enterprises or front companies and register with the government. "Concessions will be given to companies Unita sets up," he says.

But it is apparent that the carve-up is more extensive. Katangese mercenaries, from the southern province of Zaïre, and South Africans from Executive Outcomes, who helped the Angolan government inflict heavy defeats on the rebels last year, are also to be rewarded with concessions.

But before Unita and the MPLA can implement any under-the-table deal, they need to restore law and order. At the market in Saurimo, snappily dressed Malians and Senegalese hold out uncut diamonds in grubby newspapers. They carry their own miniature scales which they whip out to "test" carat levels.

The diamond dealers are a source of great anxiety for De Beers, the South African company that controls the world diamond market through its Central Selling Organisation.

Diamonds have been flooding out of Angola since last year's ceasefire signalled the start of the diamond rush. Even though De Beers pays dollars, no questions asked, to any Angolan who shows up with a diamond, most of the stones continue to evade the net. "The majority are still getting out illegally," says Ken Kempson, Angolan director of De Beers. "This is a source of enormous concern. It is clearly affecting the market."

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola agrees, saying earlier this month that restoring control to the diamond diggings remained his priority. He says that state revenues from diamonds amounted to about \$5-million a month, but that \$350-million to \$400-million was leaving the country illegally.

The government has announced a clean-up operation in the north. However, talk of 20 000 troops moving into the Lundas has prompted a new crisis because Unita fears they could turn into a military operation against it. "If the army went in to clean up the area, even to chase the bandits into

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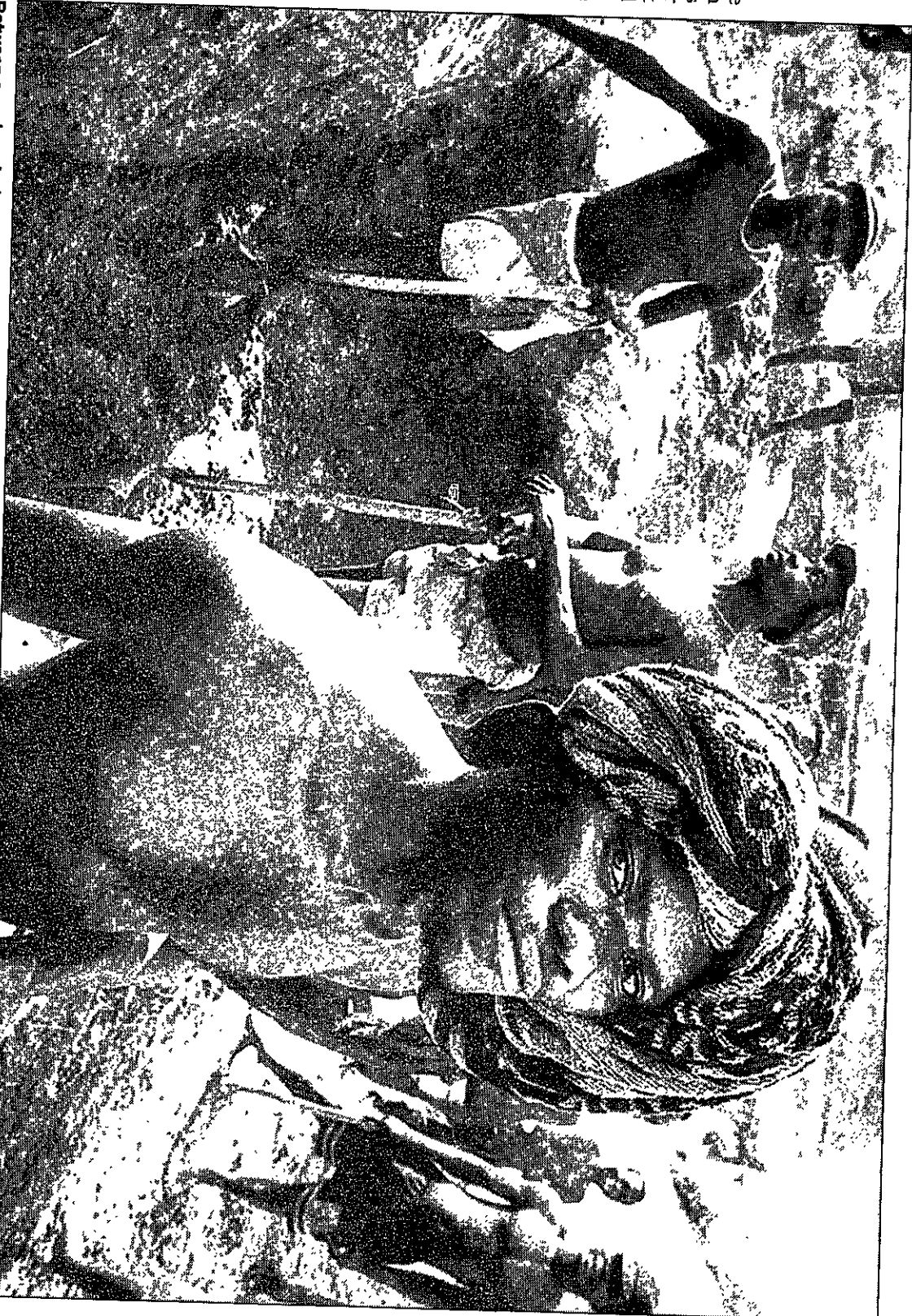
the bush, it wouldn't be long before they find themselves in confrontation with Unita's diggings," says Isias Samakwa, Unita's chief negotiator in Luanda. "If the government attacks Unita, the Lusaka Protocol may collapse."

The object of the operation is to chase all illegal foreigners out of the Lundas. "We want to create an environment in which Angolan citizens, state companies and foreign companies will be able to work in peace," says Muteke, the government negotiator.

There is still deep distrust between the parties. But the one thing Unita and the MPLA agree on is that whoever gets the diamonds it should not be gangsters from Zaire, Senegal and South Africa.

Ordinary Angolans, however, have been excluded from a share of the spoils. The war has reduced millions to homelessness and beggary. A general strike is planned in Luanda this week against unemployment and the rise in crime.

The voices of those cut out of the deal are starting to make themselves heard. "There's a lot of hatred and bitterness from the last two years that is almost impossible to eradicate," says a development worker who has lived in the Lundas for four years. "Poverty is worse, prices are shooting up." — *The Observer*



Between a rock and a hard place: Diamond miners at Kapemba in northern Angola work all day to dig for the gems that threaten to stall a return to law and order in the Lundas

PHOTOGRAPH: HARRIET LOGAN

Dos Santos, Savimbi to ask West for R2,5bn

LUANDA. — Angola's government and opposition leaders will jointly appeal for \$700 million (about R2,52bn) in aid in Brussels next week to help reconstruct their country, diplomats said.

The two-day round table session with Western donors, opening on Monday, will be the third meeting between President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and opposition Unita leader Jonas Savimbi since a peace agreement was signed last November.

Diplomats said Dr Savimbi might take the opportunity to accept the role of second vice-president in a government of national unity, offered to him in June.

■ A round-table session with Western donors, starting next week, will be the third meeting between Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi since a peace agreement was signed last November. (E)

The two leaders will together appeal for \$700m for a two-year emergency fund to reconstruct Angola's basic infrastructure, destroyed by 19 years of civil war and neglect.

They said that because Angola had been an East-West battleground during the Cold War, with the Soviet bloc supporting the Luanda government and the United States backing Unita, Angolans felt they had a

claim on the international community.

"Both President dos Santos and Jonas Savimbi appear united in a belief that the international community must help them rebuild Angola through a kind of mini-Marshall Plan," said a Western diplomat who asked not to be identified.

"Angolans feel that they are victims of East-West geopolitical interests and now they are asking us to pay up for the suffering caused to them."

But some diplomats question how much aid will be forthcoming at the Brussels talks, which the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is organising with the Luanda government.

"On the basis of the last donor response to an emergency humanitarian aid appeal, they're not going to come away with \$700 million in their pockets," one source said.

Sources noted that major international donors were pouring money into the UN-run peacekeeping operation in Angola, which was about six months behind schedule, and were unlikely to fund other projects at this point.

Diplomatic sources said donors were also likely to tie aid to a clean-up of corruption in the country.

The presence of both Mr Dos Santos and Dr Savimbi in Brussels is expected to have an important symbolic impact.

The two men met in May in the Zambian capital, Lusaka, where the government and Dr Savimbi's Unita signed an accord to end the civil war last November. They met again in Brazzaville last month.

— Reu ter.

'Don't leave peace to politicians, soldiers'

HARARE. — Peace activists from 10 southern African states have urged people in the region to support peace initiatives in Angola, saying their pressure could be the key to lasting stability.

The activists, at the start yesterday of a two-day conference on ways of promoting the Angolan peace process, said previous peace attempts lacked popular participation.

"We can help Angola to achieve lasting peace and stability by ensuring that ordinary people in the region, including most importantly the Angolans themselves, become part of a big peace movement," said Vasu Gounden, director of the Durban-based African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (Accord).

"Their participation will give the process the vital pressure it will need to succeed," he told the conference, saying similar force in South Africa had helped to destroy apartheid.

The Harare meeting has

brought together more than 70 government officials, church leaders, academics, peacekeepers and non-governmental peace activists from Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Lesotho, Namibia, Zambia, Tanzania, Swaziland, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Several speakers at the conference, organised by the private Harare-based Southern African Regional Institute for Policy Studies (Sarips), said peacemaking should not be left to soldiers and politicians alone.

"The discussion on Angola has been dominated by attempts to reconcile political forces who understand the (peace) process as another way of consolidating the struggle for political power," said Sarips delegate Horace Campbell.

Angola's civil war raged for 19 years before a fragile peace took hold after the signing of an accord in Lusaka last November by the government and Unita guerrillas. — Reuter.

Promise to potential donors

Savimbi pledges an end to war

(5) Stav 26/9/95

Brussels - Angola opposition leader Jonas Savimbi pledged yesterday never to restart the disastrous civil war which devastated the country, killing hundreds of thousands of people and creating millions of refugees.

"I am here to tell you that I will never again take to the path of war, nor will my organisation," Savimbi told the opening session of an international aid conference.

Savimbi, seated next to one-time bitter foe President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, told the conference of potential donors that the days of war were well and truly over.

Dos Santos said a reconstruction programme of R2.5-billion requested by Angola was much more than a simple aid package. It was aimed at rehabilitating and rebuilding communities shattered by 19 years of civil war, and to anchor the new peace process.

He said he wanted to see the money channelled into infrastructure projects, and not be handed over in the form of direct grants.

The two-day conference, which has been held under the auspices of the European Union, brought together about

400 possible donors.

Angola is potentially one of Africa's richest countries, but annual inflation is running at 1 737%, and there is a widening gap in the US dollar/kwanza rate in a country where 90% of food and retail goods has to be imported.

The Luanda government faces a mountainous debt ratio of 365% of gross domestic product, with per capita GDP at just R1 500 - half that of five years ago.

Countries such as Sweden, with R22-million, and South Africa, with R27-million, have already come up with aid for strife-torn Angola. The United Nations has promised more than R360-million to help demobilise about 100 000 troops.

"If both parties in this conflict demonstrate their true commitment to peace, then it will be possible for us to intervene through our governments and request monies for reconstruction," said delegation member and former Belgian prime minister Wilfred Maartens.

An earlier ceasefire in 1991 fell apart in bloodshed the following year when Savimbi lost to Dos Santos in presidential elections. - Reuter.

Angola appeals for help

International aid is urgently needed to rebuild the war-torn country

6 SOWETAN 26/9/95

BRUSSELS - The two Angolan leaders pledged their commitment to the peace process and in return asked the international community to step up aid.

Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi took a united stance at the launch of a conference in Brussels.

The meeting is being organised by the EU and the UN to coordinate international aid to Angola.

"Three decades of war have gravely damaged our economy and our entire society," said Mr dos Santos.

"Today, finally, we can say the fighting has stopped and our number one priority is reconciliation." He added that support from the

international community is "indispensable" to the reconstruction of Angola.

And he said that as well as economic rebuilding, efforts are needed to clear mines, to return troops to barracks and to resettle displaced persons.

"The people of Angola call for your support and solidarity," he concluded.

"With your support and understanding, our people will construct the new and prosperous Angola of the future."

For Unita, Savimbi went out of his way to support the President's

speech and the Angolan government's programme for reconstruction. "People think that I am going to turn back to war," he said.

"I can promise you that will not be the case," he added, to loud applause. "Unita has come here to reaffirm its willingness to contribute to peace."

"The President of the Republic and I have learned to trust each other again. We both want the ceasefire to be respected."

Earlier, Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene argued that Angolans and their Southern African neighbours should copy the EU.

He said that just as the EU was built from the ruins after World War II, Southern Africa can perform a similar economic miracle now.

"All factors are in place to promote greater integration," he suggested.

EU Commissioner Mr Joao de Deus Pinheiro said the international community is willing to help Angola. However, he said this will require "a commitment to peace, and the respect of principles of good governance, transparency and efficiency for a sustainable absorption of the funds that will be made available."

This plea for peace and cooperation was addressed both to the Angolan government and to Unita. *The Independent Foreign Service, Brussels.*



SHAKE ON IT: Dr Jonas Savimbi (left) with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos at a conference in Brussels yesterday. **PICTURE: AP**

Optimism for Angola

(5) CT 26/9/95

BRUSSELS: Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos expressed optimism yesterday that his country would not slide back into war and welcomed the positive approach of opposition Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi.

"The government and Unita have shown a clear political will to follow through with the programme of rehabilitation," Mr Dos Santos said on the first day of a conference to raise money to heal the scars of Angola's civil war.

He praised the international

community's role in resolving the Angolan conflict.

Earlier, Dr Savimbi pledged not to restart the bitter civil war which devastated his country.

Meanwhile, Belgium announced it was offering \$19 million (about R69,5m) towards reconstruction and the EU's humanitarian arm said it would make available over \$9 million (about R33m) for emergency relief.

Angola has requested a reconstruction package of \$700m (about R2,56bn). — Reuter

Jamba: Land at the end of the Earth

□ Widows, infirm beg for food aid

(5) AUG 27/9/95

The Argus Foreign Service

JAMBA (Angola). — The Portuguese used to call it "the land at the end of the Earth" and that's the way Jamba feels these days.

The herds of elephant from which the former Unita military headquarters took its name have been killed or moved on in search of precious waterholes. And it's been three years since rebel leader Jonas Savimbi visited this bush camp in southern Angola near the Namibian border.

Once the centre of Unita's operations where South African aircraft flew in supplies and tens of thousands of guerrillas trained, Jamba now has a lonely air of isolation. With Dr Savimbi and his military chiefs now installed in Unita-held Bailundo, members who have remained in Jamba sit in limbo.

Once fed and armed by Washington and South Africa, Unita has been badly hurt by two years of United Nations sanctions. Jamba's proud population has been reduced to begging for food aid from international humanitarian organisations which fly in sacks of mealie meal and beans to feed a population whose biggest complaint is hunger.

The people of Jamba are particularly angry about Namibia's closing of the common border and say security is not guaranteed for them to go back to their homes elsewhere in the country.

"The situation is getting worse and worse," complained Jamba's deputy governor, Alfred Kacunda.

"The blockades are unfair. The international community should do more. When there are two belligerents and an arbitrator, the arbitrator should lift the yellow card. But it hasn't."

He and other Unita officials in Jamba were eager for news of Luanda and about an expected summit in Brussels between Dr Savimbi and Angola President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. They expressed caution about the peace process, remembering the previous truce which broke down in 1992.

"One worries this peace will go the same way," said Mr Kacunda.

The men in Jamba say the biggest obstacle to peace is Executive Outcomes, the South African company which has provided military aid to the MPLA government. Its "mercenaries" include former members of the South African Defence Force who once supported Unita and this provokes a particular bitterness.

"Traitors," spat one Unita man.

Diplomats say Executive Outcomes has set up front companies, allegedly working in sectors such as security, transport and medical supply across the country. They believe perhaps troops are on standby.

Now that most Unita troops have gone "up north", international aid workers put Jamba's population at around 45 000, many of them widows or the infirm.

Few residents were spotted during a recent visit to the base. At Freedom Square in the central camp, where Dr Savimbi used to stage joyous rallies inspiring his supporters with long speeches and festivities, a handful of amputees sat listlessly in wheelchairs.

Gone are the Afrikaans-speaking advisers who schooled Unita troops in the fine art of military life. The only foreigners are a couple of aid workers who live in a separate section known as the "hotel" and who deliver polio vaccinations and meals rather than arms.

Journalists, who in the old days were periodically flown in by the planeload for well-orchestrated rallies, are now an anomaly. A visitor is greeted with some wariness and credentials studied are intently.

Unita members declined to take me to the movement's old factories where propaganda was printed, uniforms were stitched and war materials repaired.

Fuel is hard to come by and a request to visit other parts of the settlement, which consists of various camps of huts made of elephant grass sprawled over a large area, were politely declined.

The market offered scant fare — a few bags of sugar, a couple of wilted cabbages and miniscule tomatoes. The only protein in sight was some fly-coated red meat ribs identified as "cangary", or spring hare.

The 20-year civil war between the MPLA (Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola) government and Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) officially ended last November. But incidents still occur across the country and both sides agree their truce is still fragile.

Demobilisation of Unita's estimated 70 000 troops is yet to take place and the government is training elsewhere.

Jamba was established in 1978 in a clearing in the jungle. Many of the remaining residents were among the thousands who trekked hundreds of kilometers from the central plateau for months on end to reach their new promised land.

Among them was Aurelio Motadi. He was born in Huambo province where Dr Savimbi and the leadership have returned. Now he awaits instructions, hoping to be recalled there.

"This place should be a museum to the struggle one day," he said, showing the photographs and billboards of Dr Savimbi which are omnipresent all over the camp. In many respects, it already is a museum.

\$1-bn pledged to help Angola

(5) Nov 28/9/95

Brussels - A show of unity from the two leaders of Angola has won them a \$1-billion bonanza. Pledges announced on Tuesday night from an international donors' conference for Angola are expected to exceed the \$1-billion mark (about R3,68-billion).

The conference was organised in Brussels by the UN and the European Union - and aimed at raising \$700-million for Angola.

However, UN representative Alioune Blondin Beye revealed yesterday that pledges for reconciliation and restoration in Angola have reached \$786-million.

On top of this, there have been pledges of humanitarian assistance of \$207-million.

However, the UN believes that further pledges are in the

pipeline - to push the total over the \$1-billion mark.

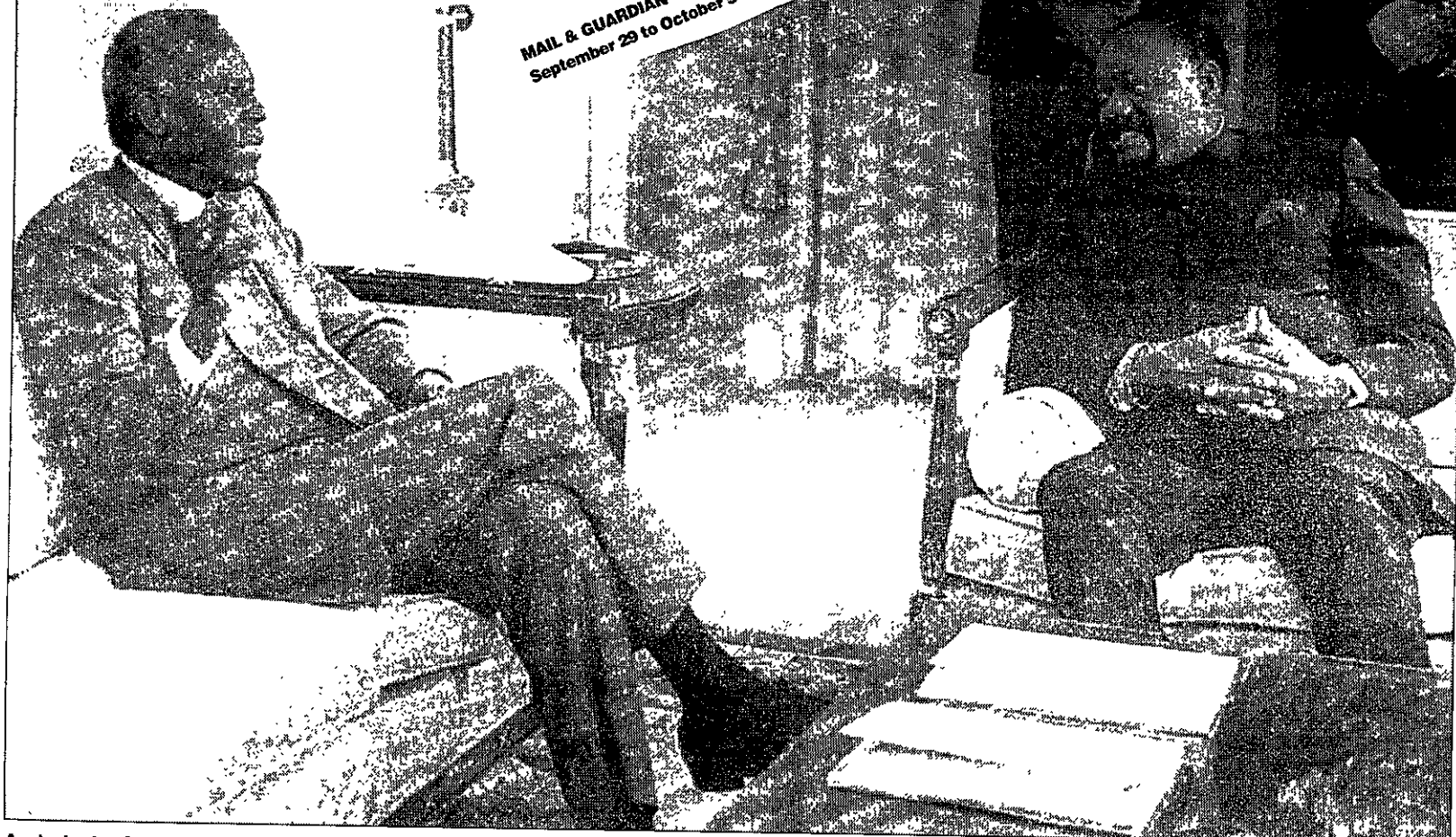
The conference saw a memorable meeting between Angolan President Jose Edouardo dos Santos and UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi.

Both agreed on a united front, and claimed the civil war was firmly over.

EU Commissioner Joao de Deus Pinheiro, a former Portuguese foreign minister, played an important role in bringing the two Angolan leaders together. Angolan Social Affairs Minister Albino Malungo welcomed the outcome of the Brussels meeting.

"We are very happy," he said. "The chances of a permanent peace have been improved, and I hope Angola can now look to a bright future." - Independent Foreign Service.

MAIL & GUARDIAN
September 29 to October 5 1995



Arch rivals: Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos (left) and Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi attended a donors' conference organised by the United Nations and the European Union in Brussels this week

PHOTOGRAPH AP

Angolan enemies want to rebuild

Stephen Bates in Brussels

THE two leaders in Angola's long-running civil war sat side by side in Brussels this week, begging for funds to rebuild the country their followers have shattered.

Jonas Savimbi, the opposition Unita leader whose United States — and South African-backed rebels prolonged the 20-year conflict and ruined Angola, killing thousands, promised that he would never again resort to arms.

Sitting next to his bitter rival, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, for only the third time since last November's

ceasefire, Savimbi was cheered as he told the opening session of a two-day conference: "I am here to tell you that I will never again take to the paths of war, nor will my organisation."

More than 400 participants, including government agencies, aid organisations, international bodies and private companies, are attending the conference, called by the European Commission to organise a £500-million rebuilding programme.

The commission has given almost £90-million in aid over the last two years, though only about a third has been for rehabilitation projects.

Joao de Deus Pinheiro, the Portuguese EU commissioner in

charge of relations with African countries, promised nearly £50-million in reconstruction aid this year, rising to more than £80-million by the end of 1997, with additional funding for humanitarian projects.

Dos Santos claimed that Angola did not need just an aid programme but rehabilitation, to make last year's peace settlement more secure. He called for the money to be channelled into reconstruction projects, not handed over in cash.

Angola's inflation rate is 1,737 percent, 20 percent of its population are refugees, and at least 500 000 people were killed in the war.

Last year it had debts of more than

£7-billion, three and a half times its export earnings. The country is thought to be littered with 10-million mines.

Among the projects proposed were training for adults to help children suffering from stress caused by the war, improved drainage, water and sanitation facilities, and agricultural development programmes.

Jean-Luc Dehaene, the Belgian prime minister, said of the two leaders: "Their presence in Brussels is irrefutable proof that the war in Angola is no more than a memory, and that all the Angolan people are now set on a future of peace and development." — *The Guardian*

(5) WM 29/9-5/10/95

Angola accord sought (5) on forming national army

ARG 18/10/95

NEW YORK. — United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has called on the Angola government and Unita to conclude "without delay" discussions on forming a new national army.

Unless an equitable, practical accord was reached soon, the issue could become a serious obstacle to the quartering of troops.

It could also jeopardise the peace process, he said, in a report to the Security Council, scheduled to consider it behind closed doors today.

But, Mr Boutros-Ghali said continuing dialogue, including meetings between the factions, was generating greater mutual trust, although there was tension at lower levels in certain regions.

It was important they continued to back declarations with concrete action.

"They should refrain from troops movements or military activities that might create tension or lead to renewed hostilities," he said. — The Argus Foreign Service.

'Highest office in land is peace'

Savimbi offers peace pledge

Star 16/10/95 (5)
UNITA leader upbeat after tour to promote his new image in the region's states

Lusaka - Angolan former rebel leader Jonas Savimbi said yesterday that he regretted plunging his country back into civil war in 1992, saying that if he had been as committed to peace then as he was today, a resumption of hostilities could have been avoided.

At the end of a tour of southern Africa to promote his new image as a man of peace, Savimbi told a press conference that he no longer felt disappointment at not being elected president in 1992.

He said he was happy with the post he has been offered.

"I am not disappointed with the turn of events but what I regret deeply in my 37 years of fighting is the fighting we began in 1992, because this could have been avoided had we exhibited the same political will as today," said the 61-year-old leader of the main opposition National Union for the Total Independence of

Angola (Unita).

He added: "The highest office in our country is to have peace, and my troops and officers have all accepted that it is better to play a constructive role than to have the post of president."

After the Lusaka protocol for peace signed last November, he has been offered the second vice-presidency in the country by his war-time rival, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, in a government of national unity to be set up in January.

Unita will also have four cabinet and seven deputy ministerial posts.

Savimbi has been visiting southern African states to seek support for his commitment to peace and confidence in the Lusaka protocol, which is running behind schedule at almost all stages.

He returned to his Bailundo headquarters in the central Angolan highlands saying he was a "very happy and satisfied" man and that his tour had enriched his relations with southern African heads of government. - Sapa-AFP.

Horror amid the beauty

Photographer Mykel Nicolaou recently visited southern Angola as a guest of the Red Cross. His images and impressions are 'a few realities of the daily life' in this war-ravaged land

A six-hour flight from Lanseria Airport took our King Lear into Lobito, south of Luanda. The Red Cross uses Lobito as a distribution centre for the area.

The airport is well maintained, like most military bases. The town, by contrast, is run-down and almost devoid of any amenities. Raw sewage floods on to the streets and mounds of domestic refuse pile up in this most beautiful coastal resort town.

The gracious colonial buildings, shaded by tall palm trees, bear mute testimony to the savage war that has raged for more than two decades, their facades pockmarked from rifle fire and hardly a pane of glass to be seen in any of the still-intact window frames.

The presence of my camera drew close scrutiny from the military, and Red Cross workers continually reminded me that I could be arrested for taking any un-

Suffering of war ... a young landmine victim walks along the peninsula at Lobito. As many as 10-million mines still lie unexploded in Angola.

PICTURE MYKEL NICOLAOU

authorised pictures.

After a 30km "overland drive" which took three hours we arrived at the northern town of Catumbelo, a small coastal village which boasts a bustling market, railhead and refugee centre.

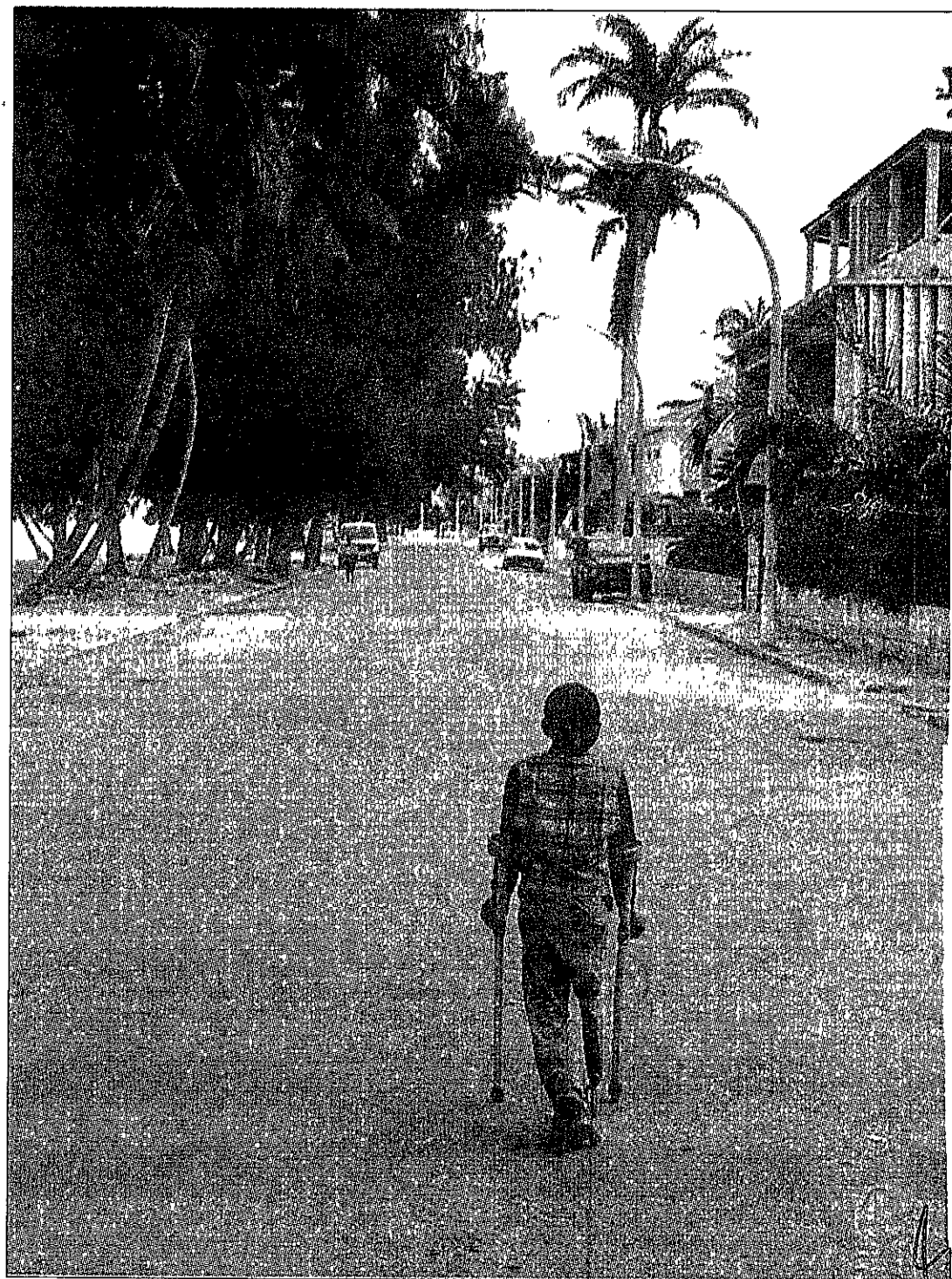
After a frustrating hour-long tour of the camp, again under continual scrutiny by the military,

we headed back to the Lobito headquarters of the Red Cross, a lot wiser but unable to record adequately any of the heart-rending scenes at the camp.

Also frustrated, by flight delays, were the Red Cross helpers trying to get to Ganda' - an hour's flight inland and home to a large refugee population - where

much-needed food, medical supplies, blankets, water containers and other basic humanitarian needs are distributed.

The refugees did finally receive their supplies a few days later, but too late for me to accompany the mission, as connections back to South Africa could not be delayed.



Angolan oil production set to grow

BY CHRISTINA MULLER

CT (PR) 24/10/95 ^{REUTERS}

Luanda — Angolan oil production is expected to grow by at least 15 per cent next year, rising from 635 000 barrels a day to more than 730 000.

Joaquim David, the managing director of state oil company Sonangol, said: "Investments in new offshore fields as well as reconstruction of infrastructure destroyed by war in Soyo will bring our production of crude up by at least 95 000 barrels a day," said.

David said the largest increase would be in Angola's northern Cabinda enclave, responsible for 60 per cent of the country's output, and where liftings are projected to rise from 400 000 barrels a day to 450 000 barrels a day in the course of next year.

Blocks 2 and 3 should also increase production, he said.

Producing 60 000 barrels a day, liftings in Texaco operated Block 2 are forecast to rise to 90 000 barrels a day by the middle of next year, while Block 3 — operated by Elf Aquitaine — produces 180 000 barrels a day and will grow slightly to 190 000 barrels a day.

"For Angola, a reason for pride is production in Block 4.

"It is the only block operated by Sonangol, and we have completed two more fields," David said.

"Liftings there should go from 5 000 to 10 000 barrels a day by the beginning of the year."

But he said that the success with Block 4 did not mean that the Angolan government would enter into large-scale operations in other oilfields to be found among about 20 blocks still being prospected.

Offshore production, he said, would remain confined to the Soyo region next year.



A new generation ... but will these Angolan children in Lobito, a coastal town south of Luanda, live through more peaceful times? They were photographed as Angola celebrated the 20th anniversary of its independence from Portugal at the weekend.

Angola calls for SA investment in reconstruction

(5) Star 13/11/95

BY NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

Angola desperately needed a massive injection of South African investment and would be suggesting ways it could be assisted in reconstruction after the end of the civil war in that country, according to Angolan Ambassador Manuel Rodrigues.

He said in an interview with The Star that efforts were being made to improve trade relations between the two countries, particularly with regard to oil, diamonds and coffee.

The Luanda government believed that roads, bridges and farms were priorities for rehabilitation in

order to allow Angola to achieve its goal of national unity, he added.

"Independence celebrations this weekend have been more important to the country than any over the last 20 years," he said. "For the first time since our fratricidal war, all our peoples are represented in the government as a result of the Lusaka Accord signed between the MPLA and Unita. This 20th anniversary is of great importance."

Angola intended to ensure that the peace would be a lasting one, and to that effect President Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi held regular discussions.

Rodrigues said his country would welcome back former Por-

tuguese colonialists who had fled the land as a result of the war and would provide opportunities for them to participate in the rebuilding process. Angolan-born Portuguese and other nationalities can opt for Angolan nationality.

"We would also like South Africans to look at Angola as a potential country in which to live and invest. Your country has the technical know-how and the expertise to play a major role and we look forward to that assistance."

Rodrigues admitted there were "some security problems" in the remote northern parts of the country but did not believe that isolated incidents would cause a breakdown -

"we have never reached such a stage of peace before. Dos Santos and Savimbi exchange views regularly, and the United Nations is now deployed here which means that peace can be maintained.

"We do not think that Savimbi will stop the peace process, which we are sure will not go backwards."

He gave as his reasons the fact that the southern African region was "different now to what it was previously. Namibia is democratic, there is a new South Africa, peace has come to Angola and Mozambique, and democracy is on the march in Zambia".

"If problems do arise, then we will stop them ourselves," he added.

BUSINESS

Angolan poverty trap spawns a return to slash and burn

By 11/14/95

HIAMBO — During Angola's 20 years of war, farmers imagined all they needed was peace to heal the scarred landscape and reap the bumper harvests that had once made the country one of Africa's major food producers.

Now, it seems, it is not as simple as that. The chaos of the 1974-94 civil war spawned a return to the ecologically disastrous method of slash and burn, as peasants in this huge southern African country grew food wherever they could simply to survive.

Heinz Fichtmuller, an agronomist with the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC), said: "The soil has had no proper care in 20 years; it is very sandy and does not hold enough moisture because of slash and burn. The trees were cut and there is no shade."

In slash and burn farming, peasants clear an area of forest, burn the trees where they fall and cultivate a crop in the ash-enriched soil. When fertility declines, usually within a couple of seasons, the peasants move on and clear more forest.

Forests, sugar cane crops and natural grasses are regularly burned, destroying the soil's natural pro-

tection from sun, wind and rain. The result is erosion and desertification.

And mere lack of fighting is not enough to reverse the process. As long as millions of Angolans are caught in a poverty trap, they may continue to use the slash and burn method because it requires little or no infrastructure or hard cash.

Fichtmuller said Angola still had enough arable land to support its relatively small population of 10.5 million, but population growth of 2.8% "may bring problems since lower soil quality means lower yields per hectare."

Many factors — most of them related to the war — have contributed to the deterioration of the ecosystem across Angola.

Fichtmuller said, absence of labour meant traditional areas of arable land had been left untended, as men left their villages to fight or hide rather than

sow and reap.

The shortage of cultivated food led to the severe depletion of domestic and wild animals, as people ate virtually anything that moved to survive.

In Huambo province, once rich in cattle, this means there is little manure, which was long a key fertilizer, further contributing to the decline in the quality of soil. People no longer have any money to buy synthetic fertilisers either.

"At least here rainfall has so far been sufficient to wet the ground for farmers to prepare for planting. But it is essential the people begin to use compost and store food and seeds," Fichtmuller said.

Another major problem was the absence of a cash crop for trade purposes, he said.

"There is no significant production of sisal, coffee, or sesame for oil and that means families have nothing to trade for soap, clothes and shoes."

Poverty is also a government-level problem. Despite the warnings of experts, the Angolan government recently listed its forests as a natural resource available for exploitation through foreign investment, raising fears more forests will be cut down, causing further environmental damage in the search for cash.

Aid donors have made several attempts to put Angola's agriculture back on its feet.

The ICRC has distributed 1 300 metric tons of beans, maize, ground nuts, assorted vegetable seeds and tools to 150 000 families in central Angola over the past six weeks in an effort to move from emergency to development aid.

"Short of warning people to store seeds and teaching them how to plant trees, there is not very much we can do. This may be our final seed distribution in Angola," Fichtmuller said.

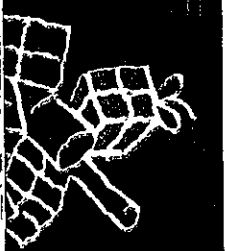
To combat desertification, the ICRC has begun research for a reforestation project and has set up a tree nursery for planting indigenous acacias in Huambo.

Like the imported eucalyptus, popular with the wood pulp industry, the acacia provides shade and helps with moisture retention. It also has the advantage that unlike the Australian species, its leaves decompose in the soil, returning essential nutrients.

But as Angola's millions of poor struggle to survive, the fight to restore ecological balance is a race against time.

Fichtmuller said a family of five needed 450kg of maize and 250kg of beans to survive for six months. To grow this requires half a hectare.

Using slash and burn methods, that would mean each Angolan family in the countryside could be depending the equivalent of up to four football fields of fertile land a year. — Reuter.



Don't miss the boat

Unita hoodwinking UN, warn Angolan generals

ST 19/11/93

By CHRIS SIMPSON: Luanda

WHEN the war broke out in late 1992, Maria de Rosaria fled her home in the city of N'dalatando and walked 200km to the capital, Luanda. "I was pregnant at the time," she recalls.

While N'dalatando is now safely back under government control and has seen no fighting in over a year, Maria is in no hurry to return. "What if Unita and the government fall out again? Do you think I'm going to go through all that again?"

Mrs de Rosaria's views are echoed by Angolans living in government and Unita areas. One year on from the signing of the Lusaka protocol, the Angolan peace agreement still generates little enthusiasm from those it was meant to benefit.

But even the sceptics among those trying to implement it concede that things could be an awful lot worse. There were many observers at the time of the signing who believed the peace would collapse in a matter of months, falling victim to Unita's bloody-mindedness, the government's arrogance or the United Nations' incompetence. But the Lusaka protocol has proved remarkably durable.

Suspensions, however, remain and Unita's intentions are far from clear. Eugenio Manuvakola, who signed the peace agreement for the movement as its chief negotiator, is reportedly under house arrest at Unita headquarters in Bailundo. While Jonas Savimbi has now met three times with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, stressing each time his willingness to come in from the cold, the Unita leader's constant emphasis on "peace with dignity" suggests he still wants more than the government will offer.

Unita's record of co-operation with the UN peacekeeping operation has been mixed. Tensions could be greatly eased if Unita delivers on its promise to send thousands of troops into specially designated "quartering areas". The government has made it clear it will only deal with Unita as a demilitarised political movement.

The government's attitude to the peace process is ambiguous, with a section of the military complaining that the UN is simply being hoodwinked by Unita.

"They've achieved nothing so far," a general recently said. "It will work when Unita is finally finished as a military force. But don't hold your breath".

'Real sign that Angola accord⁽⁵⁾ observed'

ARC 22/11/95

LUANDA. — Unita fighters have moved into a United Nations-supervised holding area in central Angola, one of the first real signs that the country's enemies are meeting the terms of a peace accord signed a year ago.

UN envoy Alioune Blondin Beye, observers and members of a joint peace commission witnessed the movement of the fighters into the Vila Nova assembly area in the central highlands province of Huambo, state radio reported.

More fighters are due to move into the assembly area and into another quartering camp in the province, at Londuimbali, until between 4 000 and 5 000 are in each.

Fifteen camps have been established for Unita, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola.

In another development aimed at underpinning the fragile peace, UN peacekeepers inspected assembly areas being set up for the government's special paramilitary police in terms of the peace accords that halted the nearly two decades-long civil war.

The Angolan news agency, Angop, reported that 10 quartering camps had been earmarked for the paramilitaries and the Angolan government had given permission for quartering to begin.

Angop quoted Unita's representative on the joint peace commission, Isaias Samakuva, as saying that implementation of the Lusaka accords was far behind schedule.

Mr Samakuva said last week that Unita would announce four nominees for posts in the unity government and the vice-presidency by Christmas, but added that this was too early.

"It will be at least seven months before the government of national unity happens, and we don't see how having a list of names can be useful," he said.

The posts have still to be decided. Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has been conditionally offered one of two vice presidencies.

In spite of the accords, Unita fighters and government soldiers and their leaders are deeply suspicious of each other and there have been dozens of violations of the ceasefire, although mostly on a limited scale. — Reuter.

Unita troops trickle into (5) camps

By CHRIS SIMPSON

ST 26/11/95

“YOUR presence here signals the beginning of a new era which is beginning for your country. This is an era full of promise for you, your parents and your children.” With UN special representative Alioune Blondin Beye's effusive welcome ringing in their ears, 60-odd Unita troops finally came in for quartering at Vila Nova, the first of 15 camps to open its doors to Jonas Savimbi's soldiers.

If all goes to plan, Unita soldiers should be coming into Vila Nova at a rate of 900 a week. Weapons are to be handed in to Uruguayan peacekeeping troops and uniforms swapped for civilian clothing. Along with items like razors, toothpaste and soap, Unita's recruits should also be receiving a modest “civic education”, with the emphasis firmly on “national reconciliation” and how to build a better Angola. The UN hopes Vila Nova will provide an inspiring test case for the other camps, which should all be open by the end of the year.

The UN insists the quartering areas are “Unita's camps”, with the UN and relief organisations playing only an auxiliary role. But for all Unita's rhetoric about self-help and discipline, UN insiders warn that Unita's co-operation is by no means secure.

“With Unita you simply never know what is coming next,” one senior UN official complained. “You can have a discussion one day and think everything is resolved. Then you come back the next day and their position has changed out of all recognition.”

This was exemplified at the farcical “peace ceremony” which marked Vila Nova's opening. Having demanded a special meeting on procedures for the ceremony and engaged in a bitter row with government representatives, Unita eventually agreed to hand over a lone AK-47 to the UN, a “symbolic gesture” which left the peacemakers bemused and embarrassed.

But for all Unita's misgivings about quartering its troops, the movement insists it is playing ball and that it is the government which is currently souring the peace. There has been a rash of fresh accusations against the government, focusing on new troop movements in the northern provinces of Uige and Zaire, with further claims that South African mercenaries have been involved in the fighting.

The four South African nationals Unita captured in October are now rumoured to be at Unita headquarters in Bailundo, but there have been no confirmed sightings. Unita has yet to deliver on its promise to display the four to the UN and the international press.

Angola 'peace': Unita (5) won't disarm

ARG 6/12/95
LUANDA — Angola's fragile peace accord was dealt another blow when Angola's Unita rebel movement said it would no longer take part in the disarmament of its forces, in response to an offensive by government troops.

A statement issued at Unita's headquarters in Bailundo in the central highlands yesterday said Unita had decided to stop forthwith the "quartering" of its troops in United Nations assembly areas under Angola's November 1994 peace accord forged in Lusaka.

Under the accord, "quartering" areas are assembly camps where Unita troops are to be disarmed and processed before they are demobilised or absorbed into the Angolan army.

The statement said Unita had decided to "re-evaluate the whole application process of the Lusaka protocol."

It added: "The peace process in Angola is seriously compromised at this time. The attitude of the leadership of the government armed forces cannot be tolerated by Unita."

The statement said government troops had occupied several areas of the country in violation of the accord aimed at ending nearly two decades of civil war.

A joint peace commission monitoring implementation of the accord condemned the government offensive for the first time.

"The joint commission has condemned the recent government actions. These military operations are not allowed," UN special representative Alfoúne Blondin Beye said, noting the offensive began as Unita started sending its guerrillas to the assembly camps.

The joint commission requested "an immediate halt" to the government offensive and would be sending a mission to the northern Zaire province of Angola to assess the situation, he said. It was not immediately clear why government representatives were condemning the government offensive.

Government troops last week captured the town of Quinzau and other positions near the Angolan oil town of Soyo on Angola's northern coast, Unita said in the statement.

The offensive began the same day that Unita troops began assembling at UN-supervised assembly camps. — Reuter.

Angolan parties due to meet at home

(5) BD 7/12/95

LUANDA — President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had invited Unita leader Jonas Savimbi for a face-to-face meeting on Angolan territory on December 20, the president said yesterday.

Dos Santos, speaking to reporters before embarking on a visit to Washington, said he had invited Savimbi in the hope of getting the flagging Angolan peace process back on track.

Since the government and Unita, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, signed peace accords in November 1994, the two leaders have met only in other African nations and at an international donors conference in Brussels.

The invitation came after the

UN and the US harshly criticised a government offensive against Unita last week in oil-rich, northern Zaire province.

Dos Santos moved to diffuse criticism on Tuesday by backing plans to free some 140 Unita prisoners still in government jails, start demobilising riot police units in Luanda and pull back troops from around a UN-monitored demobilisation camp for Unita troops in central Angola.

But Unita announced it was suspending demobilisation, warning that the peace process was "seriously compromised".

Half a million Angolans have died since civil war erupted on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975. Millions more have

been left maimed, homeless and threatened by disease and starvation in this once prosperous southern African nation.

During a meeting of his top advisory Council of the Republic on Tuesday, dos Santos dispatched two trusted officials, Higinio Carneiro and Faustino Muteka, to Unita headquarters to invite Savimbi to the December 20 meeting.

The venue for the invitation was not disclosed. Dos Santos declined to say yesterday whether Savimbi had in fact responded.

The invitation was extended a day after UN special envoy Alioune Blondin Beye slammed the government for last week's offensive on the town of Sumba and five other localities. — Sapa-AP.

DOS SANTOS 'WON'T RENEW CONTRACT'

ET 12/12/93

SA mercenaries are to pull out of Angola

JOHANNESBURG: Executive Outcomes is reviewing its position following President Eduardo dos Santos' statement that he is to order its military advisers to leave.

SOUTH AFRICAN mercenaries working as military advisers to the Angolan army are to be withdrawn, their Pretoria-based company says.

Claiming that they had "helped end one of the bloodiest civil wars in Africa", Executive Outcomes said yesterday its decision followed reported remarks made by Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in Washington on Friday that he was ordering the men out of Angola and cancelling the contract with the company.

"In view of the statement released by President Dos Santos ... the time has come for Executive Outcomes to begin rationalising its

activities according to the market demands in Angola," the company said in a statement released through its lawyer.

Angola's year-old peace accord is looking increasingly shaky.

Diplomatic sources said it was believed that Mr Dos Santos had made his statement to meet President Bill Clinton's demands for bold steps to underpin the peace process.

Executive Outcomes did not say when it would withdraw its men, believed to number several hundred, and officials in Luanda were not available for comment.

The company said it had always made it clear it would leave

Angola "when advised by the Angolan government that it had fulfilled its contract to (the Angolans') satisfaction".

Military analysts have said that Executive Outcomes, which employs veterans of South Africa's apartheid wars in Angola and then South-West Africa, played a key role in transforming the Angolan army into an effective fighting force against Dr Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels.

The Angolan army, aided by the South Africans, launched an offensive against Unita last year, driving it out of most major towns and cities, including its Central Highlands stronghold of Huambo.

At least 10 South Africans have disappeared in fighting in Angola in the past two years. Most, if not all, are thought to have been killed. — Reuter

Angola's commitment to peace is questioned

NEW YORK. — The failure of warring factions in Angola to honour a ceasefire has called into question their commitment to peace in the nation, according to a United Nations report.

The report said the "repeated failure by both sides to honour their undertakings has cast doubt on the reality of that commitment" to the peace accords signed by Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

"The government and Unita must demonstrate through concrete action that they are indeed committed to peace and that they are ready to correct these negative factors," UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said.

The UN Verification Mission has designated 8,000 peacekeepers to make sure the truce is respected. — Sapa-AFP.

Unita rebels to 'push for peace'

Sawetan 19/12/95 (5)

PARIS — Angola's former rebel movement favours talks between its leader Jonas Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to push forward the peace process in the war-devastated country, Unita has declared.

In a statement issued from its base in Bailundo and received in Paris yesterday, Unita called for appropriate conditions for the meeting "to produce concrete results for consolidating peace in Angola".

Unita declared that the permanent committee of its political commission had met to "examine in depth the crisis that has developed in the country since the offensive by government forces in Zaire province and an increase in government troop movements" in the provinces of Lunda-Norte, Lunda-Sul and Bie in eastern and central Angola.

UN officials are trying to persuade Unita to keep its troops at Vila-Nova in central Angola. Both sides are demobilising their forces under a peace accord reached in November last year. But Unita suspended the operation at the beginning of this month after government soldiers attacked its positions.

Savimbi and Dos Santos set to meet on December 20

The UN special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Bete, last Thursday confirmed that the UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem III) had noted that government troops had begun to withdraw from Unita strongholds.

Unavem III is responsible for supervising implementation of the peace plan, which provides for a political settlement, the demobilisation of the rival armies and the formation of a joint national defence force.

However, the head of the Unita delegation in a joint commission, Issaias Samakuva, said last week that he had

no indications from his aides that government troops were pulling back.

Beye warned that a "crisis of confidence" could shake Angola's foreign partners if both sides continued to put obstacles in the way of a peace settlement and expressed "serious concern" at ceasefire violations by both sides. The UN has confirmed many violations by government forces in the north and by Unita in the eastern Lunda-Norte province.

The rival sides appeared to be vying for control of mineral-rich zones in Angola, potentially a wealthy nation whose oil-based economy has been wrecked by the civil war since 1975. Dos Santos has proposed to meet Savimbi on Angolan territory on December 20. — *Sapa-AFP*.

APR 30/12/95

Angola and UN in urgent meeting to resolve peace accord 'crisis'

LUANDA. — The Angolan government has held urgent talks with the United Nations special representative and diplomats over a "crisis" in the country's peace process.

The talks focused on the faltering Lusaka peace accord signed by the government and the rebel Unita movement 13 months ago.

They were concerned with "an actual crisis in the application of the Lusaka Protocol", a report said.

Jonas Savimbi's Unita movement halted the demobilisation of its fighters last month, following the occupation by government troops of five towns in Unita-controlled areas in the northern Zaire province.

The government's deputy chief representative on the joint peace commission, General Higinio Carneiro and UN special representative Alioune Blondine Beye took part in the talks, which included the ambassadors of Russia, the United States and Portugal.

The government and Unita have accused each other of renewed military actions over the past weeks, in contravention of the peace agreement.

Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) has accused Angolan government forces of attacking its forces at the town of Quitexe in the northern Uige province.

The government has denied the accusations and, on Thursday accused Unita of stepping-up operations against civilians in Huila, Namibe and Cunene provinces in the south.

It was reported late on Thursday that UNITA was concentrating troops and equipment in the town of Camacupa, northeast of its central highlands stronghold of Huambo.

Mr Beye flew to Huambo for the second time in a week on Thursday where he held talks with Dr Savimbi.

The UN representative told reporters on his return to Luanda that he had discussed aspects of the peace process with Dr Savimbi, but refused to divulge details.

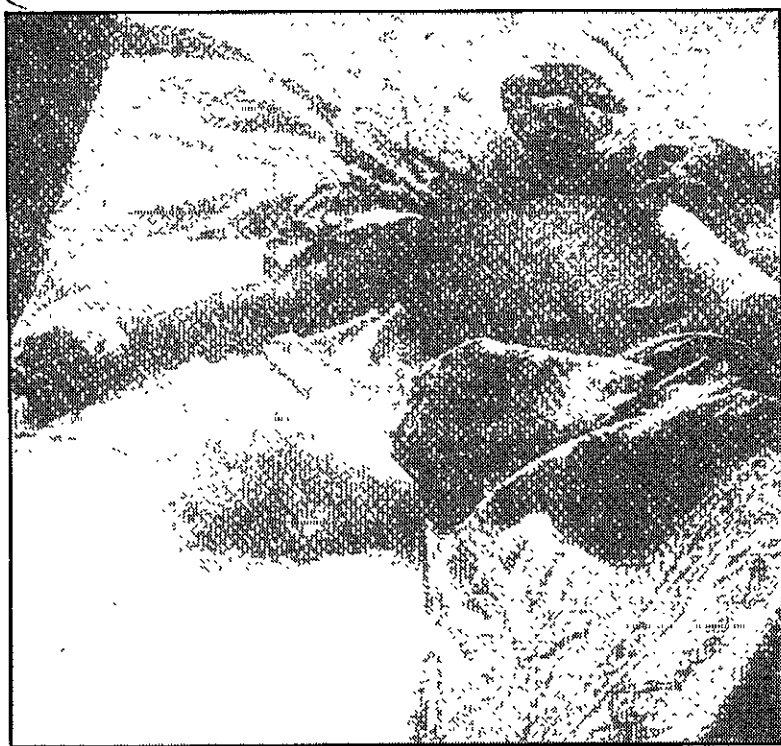
The UN security council earlier this month expressed growing impatience at delays in carrying out key parts of the peace accord. The UN has sent more than 6 000 troops to Angola to help implement the peace accord.

Planned talks between Dr Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos have been called off several times during the past few weeks. State radio said the two men could meet early next year.

Tens of thousands of people were killed and millions displaced in the war which erupted after independence from Portugal in 1975. — Reuter.

ANGOLA - GENERAL

1996



A place to die ... Angolan hospitals like this one in the diamond mining town of Saurimo are filthy places without drugs or equipment. War and corruption have completely destroyed the government health system. The UN and some NGOs do provide basic services in some areas.

Centre of hope for thousands

HUAMBO – First you pass rows of bombed, bullet-riddled houses. Then, walk along a pitted, pot-holed road that has very clearly been mined at some stage.

Finally, at the edge of town, you reach a small, unremarkable building that seems to have been missed by the whirlwind of violence that destroyed almost everything else in the vicinity.

This is the orthopaedic centre of the International Committee of the Red Cross, where a handful of Angolans and expatriates are trying to aid the thousands of people who have been disabled by landmines in Angola's 30-year war.

The centre once supplied artificial limbs to 14 000 Angolans in the 1970s and 1980s, but had to be abandoned when the war peaked in the early 1990s.

Small group

Since then, a small group of men and women who worked at the centre have filtered back – along with a new Red Cross team that is trying to build the centre up from scratch again.

Patrick Smaja, an energetic orthopaedic limb specialist from France, leaps up in the air and flips his legs behind him as he describes the task at hand.

"Attack! We have to provide limbs to 700 patients, immediately if possible. After that, we can be certain to have thousands more people at our door for another 15 years!"

Angola is believed to have the world's highest number of amputees, largely a result of the 15 million-odd

landmines laid by government and rebel forces, as well as South Africans and Cubans.

Many can be seen in the streets of Angola's cities, using wobbly canes or crutches to help them walk. Many beg for a living – their disabilities render them incapable of carrying out labour or farm jobs.

But Red Cross-made orthopaedic limbs have, in the past, allowed many of these people to be mobile and employable.

"When we are operating at full capacity, we can give a person a new set of legs, and maybe a life too, at the cost of \$25 (about R90). Private companies can never do this in First World countries, and they probably wouldn't want to," says Smaja.

The centre will eventually include physiotherapy and fitting facilities, as well as departments to mould various components of the artificial limbs in 180 degree Celsius ovens.

A point of pride for the project's organisers is that all the components are built in Angola. And a few artificial limbs have already been given to several test patients in Huambo.

This reporter watched as the centre's staff eagerly fit a set of limbs to the centre's first amputee with both legs missing, since it reopened.

But even now, more than a year after a peace accord was signed between the government and Unita, the centre's organisers have not been able to establish contact with people in Unita zones to find out how many civilian amputees live there.

Coping with a painful present

(5) Sowetan 4/2/96

These are the first in a series of stories on Angola by **Glenn McKenzie**

LUANDA – Nestled among elegant Portuguese-style mansions, this city's only mortuary is a potent reminder of Angola's wealthy past and painful present.

The building itself is dirty and infested with flies but it is almost empty. Outside, a dozen bloated corpses lie rotting in the midday sun. Of the morgue's eight original freezers, only one remains.

"Why should Angolans waste any effort on the dead when the living have so little?" asks Marli Pinto, a project officer with the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef).

Angola, a former Portuguese colony that has been ravaged by more than 30 years of civil war, was once one of the richest countries in Africa.

Even now, oil giants like Texaco and Chevron pump millions of barrels of black crude from offshore rigs. In the interior, Brazilian, Russian and South African mining firms harvest more than two million carats of diamonds every year.

An elite class of Angolan and international business people is still visible in the country's decaying cities. In the capital of Luanda, glamorous models parade designer fashions and Ray-Ban sunglasses in exclusive nightclubs for rich clients who pay with American dollars.

South African mercenaries

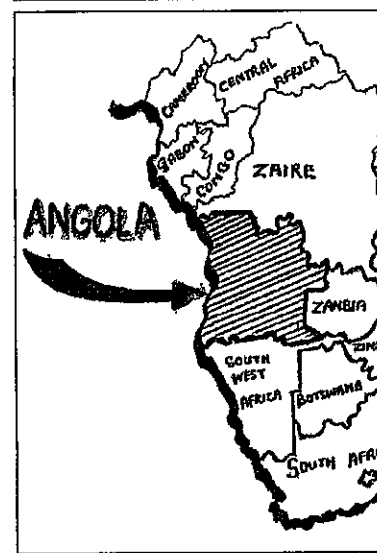
In several frontier towns, British diamond buyers, Russian pilots and South African mercenaries rub shoulders at drinking establishments where bottles of whiskey sell for up to \$100 (about R360) each.

Despite its apparent wealth, Angola's economy and health infrastructure have been almost completely destroyed by war. The country has the world's highest child mortality rate, with one in three children dying before the age of five. Malnutrition is still common in isolated rural communities.

The country's currency, the kwanza, is so devalued that middle-class merchants carry their money home in shopping bags. The exchange rate, when compared to the American dollar, changes by as much as 25 percent a day.

Many international observers blame feuding political factions for the country's collapse. The government, which is controlled by the formerly Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), spends more than \$1,7 billion (R6,1 billion), or 50 percent of its resources, on the military. In contrast, only two percent of the budget is spent on health services.

In many areas controlled by the



rebel group Unita (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola), a movement that was supported by the United States until the early 1990s, health services are non-existent.

Corruption has also taken its toll. Expensive hospitals, built with international money in decades past, sit virtually empty, robbed of all equipment and drugs.

Government doctors, most of whom are paid the equivalent of \$20 (R72) a month, sell their services to the highest bidders. In Saurimo, a remote diamond-mining town in northwest of the country, a Caesarean section operation costs \$300 (R1 080), or 20 times the average monthly wage.

"When there is war, there is corruption," concedes Benjamin N'dambuka, a government health official from southern Angola. "Our hospitals will only begin saving people when there is peace."

Unicef delegate Christian Voumard believes the international community has a responsibility to lobby both the government and the rebels to end hostilities and begin rebuilding the country's ailing health infrastructure.

Despite signing a peace accord in late 1994, the country is still divided into militarised zones. Army roadblocks and minefields make land travel extremely dangerous, if not impossible, in many parts of the country.

"Unicef and the international community in general have the credibility to convince the government to mobilise its own resources to restore health services," says Voumard. "We are working with the government to accomplish this goal."

But UN agencies like Unicef have their own detractors. Some develop-

ment workers quietly accuse the UN of gross mismanagement and corruption.

According to an internal report, about 40 percent of the \$21 million (R76 million) that Unicef spent in Angola in 1994 went to "cash" expenses. The rest was spent on supplies.

In Luanda's black market, stolen Unicef drugs are sold openly in corrugated iron booths, alongside imported European and South African medicines.

"The UN agencies are so big they are out of control," says one aid worker. "They do good work but they also lose a lot of money in some pretty funny ways."

Voumard defends Unicef, saying it has accomplished many of its aims, despite ongoing conflicts in several regions of the country.

Most relief supplies must still be transported by air, which is an extremely expensive form of travel. And the agency has supplied many technical experts to the government, which has few skilled employees.

Shocking state of health

Despite Angola's shocking state of health, aid workers say the situation has improved slightly over the past year.

The International Committee of the Red Cross, which specialises in providing relief to war-torn countries, recently opened a major new supply route between the port of Lobito, and the besieged city of Huambo, where malnutrition had killed thousands of children.

"Angola's health needs are somewhat different from what they were last year," says Sue Featherstone, a Red Cross information officer.

"In 1994, we were doing almost purely emergency relief. Now we are starting water projects and supporting local clinics. We haven't seen peace yet but we're seeing some positive developments."

Both the government and Unita continue to talk about peace, but the two party's leaders have never met inside the country's borders. And both sides still accuse the other of fomenting war.

A previous peace agreement, followed by democratic elections in which the MPLA won a landslide victory in 1992, resulted only in Unita resuming hostilities. Isaias Samakuva, a senior Unita negotiator, is optimistic about Angola's long-term future but admits the fate of average Angolans is not likely to improve soon.

'Advisers' quitting Angola won't be prosecuted

(5) Star 5/1/96

By LARA SMITH

Former defence force members employed by the Pretoria-based company Executive Outcomes - implicated in mercenary activities in several African states - would not be prosecuted on their return to South Africa from Angola as there was no evidence linking them to such activities, a source at the Transvaal attorney-general's office said yesterday.

South Africa's laws prohibit its soldiers from working as mercenaries.

The source said: "There have always been rumours, but we cannot take steps unless someone comes forward and declares

under oath that they were in fact mercenaries."

Police sources also said they could not arrest alleged mercenaries unless a formal charge was laid, and the matter should be referred to the military police if there had been a breach of the Defence Act.

The act states: "... any person who is a member of the South African Defence Force or the Reserve or an auxiliary or voluntary nursing service established in terms of this act, and who binds himself to serve or renders service as a mercenary ... shall be guilty of an offence."

It also stipulates that anyone who "does anything with intent

to advise, encourage, assist, incite, instigate, suggest or otherwise persuade" any defence force member to serve as a mercenary will also be guilty.

Executive Outcomes disclosed this week that it was withdrawing its employees from Angola, where they have been serving as "security advisers" to the Angolan government.

Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos revoked the former soldiers' contracts following pressure from the United States.

However, Executive Outcomes spokesman Nico Palm said no soldier employed by a legitimate government could be called a mercenary.

Education campaign unveiled

(5) 80 9/1/96
 Kevin O'Grady

THE ANC-led national co-ordinating forum on education yesterday announced a campaign, intended to speed up the transformation of education, that will end by focusing on the 20th anniversary of the June 1976 Soweto students' uprising.

The forum, consisting of the ANC, Cosatu, the SA Democratic Teachers' Union, the SA Communist Party, the Congress of SA Students, the SA Students' Congress and ANC provincial education MECs, held a workshop at the weekend to consider the current state of education in SA.

Announcing the campaign at a news briefing in Johannesburg yesterday, ANC deputy secretary-general Cheryl Carolus said the campaign included:

- Democratisation of the governance of SA's schools and other educational institutions;
- The pursuit of free and compulsory education for all children;
- Improving the quality of education through, among other things, curriculum development, in-service education and training for teachers and rebuilding a culture of learning and teaching;
- Supporting the education department's initiative on adult basic education and training; and

□ Actively taking part in broad transformation forums at all higher education institutions, particularly on the issues of exclusions, fees, governance structures and the recently announced government bursary and loan scheme.

Chief among the immediate concerns of the campaign was the "perennial crisis" faced by schools at the beginning of each year.

All structures of the tripartite alliance and the democratic movement would work towards ensuring that schools reopened and functioned normally as soon as possible.

The forum came out in support of government plans for the redeployment of teachers from provinces where there was a surplus to regions where they were needed, and said provincial education departments should only re-trench teachers as a last resort.

The current situation was that retrenchments would take place only if there was resistance to redeployments.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports KwaZulu-Natal education officials had called in extra staff to end delays — due to marking errors — in processing matric results affecting more than 8 000 former Department of Education and Training candidates, provincial examination task team member Craig Lancaster said yesterday.

Poverty stalks war-torn Angola

(5) CT(BR) 11/1/96

By GLENN MCKENZIE

Luanda — Nestled among elegant mansions, this city's only mortuary is a potent reminder of Angola's wealthy past and painful present.

The dirty building is almost empty, while outside a dozen bloated corpses lie rotting in the sun. Of the morgue's eight original freezers, only one remains.

Angola was one of the richest countries in Africa before being ravaged by 30 years of civil war. Even now, oil companies like Texaco and Chevron pump millions of barrels of crude oil from offshore rigs. In the interior, Brazilian, Russian and South African mining firms mine more than 2 million carats of diamonds every year.

An elite class of Angolan and international businessmen is still visible in decaying cities.

Despite its apparent wealth, Angola's economy and health infrastructure have been almost completely destroyed by the war. The country has the world's highest child mortality rate, with one in three dying before they are five.

The exchange rate of the currency, the kwanza, to the dollar changes by as much as 25 percent a day.

Many international observers blame feuding political factions for the country's collapse. The government, controlled by the MPLA, spends more than \$1.7 billion, or 50 percent of its resources, on the military. Only 2 percent of the budget is spent on health.

In many areas controlled by the rebel group, Unita, health services are non-existent.

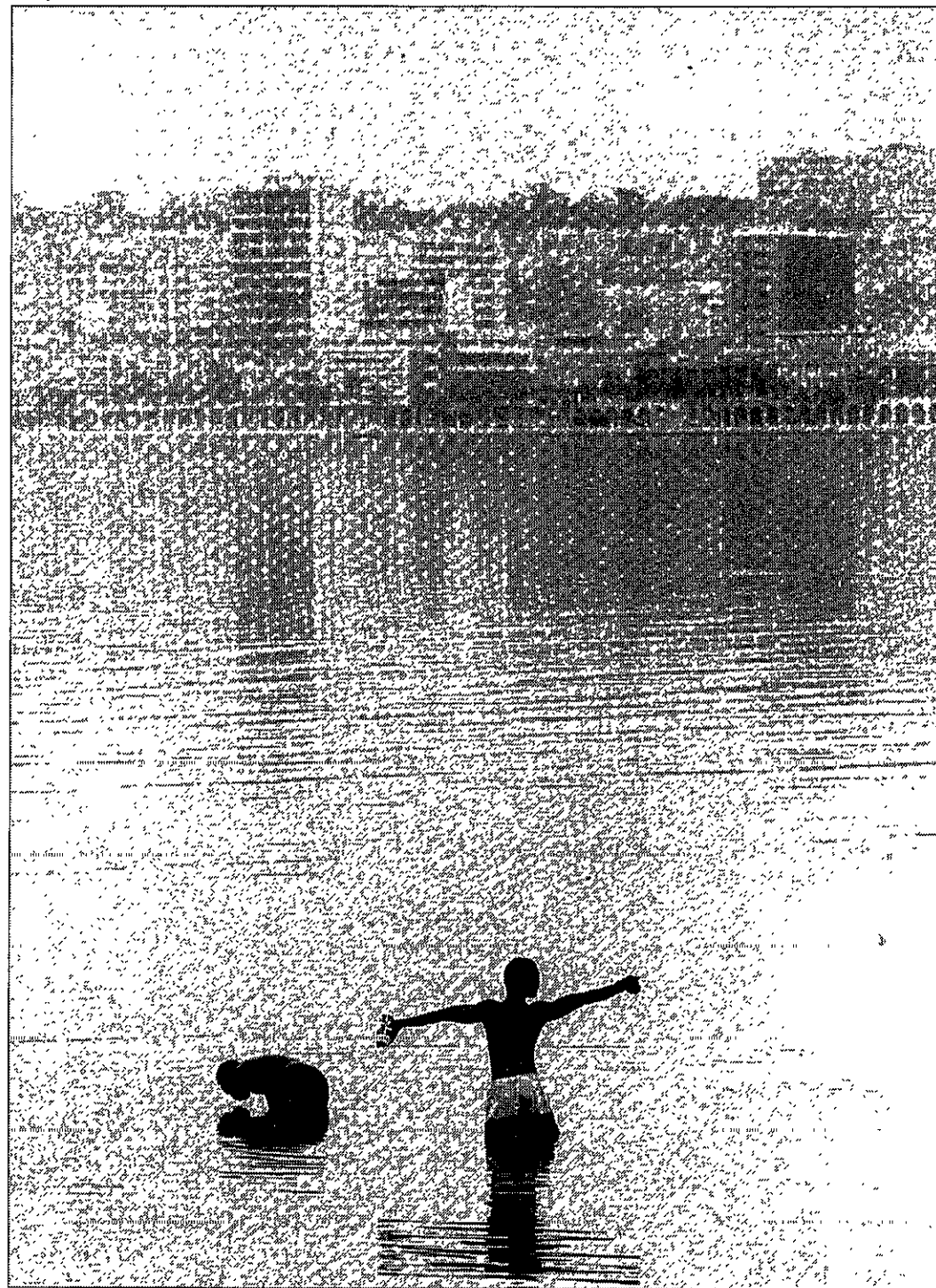
Corruption has also taken its toll. Expensive hospitals, built with international money in decades past, sit virtually empty, robbed of all equipment and drugs.

United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) delegate Christian Voumard believes the international community has a responsibility to lobby the government and the rebels to end hostilities and begin rebuilding the health infrastructure.

"Unicef and the international community in general have the credibility to convince the government to mobilise its own resources to restore health services," says Voumard.

"We are working with the government to accomplish this goal."

But UN agencies like Unicef



AT PLAY Young men bathe in Luanda. Once a rich nation, Angola has been ravaged by war PHOTO PAUL WEINBERG

have their detractors. Some development workers quietly accuse the UN of gross mismanagement and corruption. An internal report says about 40 percent of the \$21 million that Unicef spent in Angola in 1994 went to cash expenses. The rest was spent on supplies.

Voumard defends Unicef, saying it has accomplished many of its

aims, despite conflicts in several regions.

Aid workers say the situation has improved slightly over the past year and the International Committee of the Red Cross recently opened a supply route between the port of Lobito and the besieged city of Huambo.

Isaias Samakuva, a senior Unita

negotiator, is optimistic about Angola's long-term future but admits the fate of average Angolans is not likely to improve soon.

"We are still in a mini-war state. We believe Angola will see peace and prosperity eventually, but perhaps not in the near future," says Samakuva. — Independent Foreign Service

Last Executive Outcome members leave Angola

(5) ARG 13/11/96

PRETORIA. — Executive Outcomes — the controversial company which has been providing military instructors to Angola — said the last of its members have now left the country.

In a statement in Pretoria it said its last members in the country had left Cabo Ledo, Angola, at noon on Thursday, ending the company's contract with the Angolan armed forces.

The company's contract with the Angolan government had initially been for a year.

"But due to the satisfaction of the Angolan armed forces, the contract was extended for a further 12 months, and then on a month-to-month basis for a final four months," the company said.

The last South Africans to depart were seen off by senior Angolan army officers.

"Executive Outcomes is proud of the role it was able to play in Angola in order to end one of the longest civil wars in Africa," the company said.

"This fact was confirmed by Angolan commanding officer General de Matos in his farewell speech to members of the corporation."

Executive Outcomes said it hoped the Angolan rebel movement Unita would keep its

promise to repatriate all hostages it had taken, whether they be dead or alive.

An Angolan army spokesman on Thursday reportedly said more than 300 "mercenaries" had been repatriated to South Africa.

In terms of a peace agreement in November, any mercenaries in Angola are to be repatriated. — Sapa.

Pushing for a serious peace in Angola

Just months short of his retirement from politics, Portuguese President Mario Soares has paid his first visit to the country. Could he become another Jimmy Carter?

By JOHN FLEMING
Luanda

After a 20-year-old civil war, Angola's future remains uncertain as potential conflict still hangs over the country despite a peace accord signed some 14 months ago in Lusaka.

A United Nations contingent of some 6,000 troops is growing impatient as it waits for the leaders of the warring factions to get serious about peace. Until a few days ago, there was little sign of that as the government and Unita guerrillas accused each other of launching military attacks, and neither showed any real interest in demobilising the 200,000 soldiers from each side.

Enter, then, the outgoing Portuguese President Mario Soares—who has chosen Luanda for his last official trip abroad.

"I think Soares is genuinely trying to bridge the gap between the two sides," said Antonio Mateus of the Portuguese news agency, Lusa, in Johannesburg.

"Soares has told everyone that he is getting out of politics forever but who knows? He might become another Jimmy Carter, at least for Angola," said Mateus.

Soares might be thinking just that. Last Wednesday, after his arrival in Luanda, as if testing the water, Soares broke with protocol at a public ceremony and waded into a welcoming crowd of well-wishers.

Soares has made it his business while serving as president to get around to all of Portugal's former colonies in Africa, including Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Sao Tome and Principe. But in all his 10 years in office not once has he set foot in Angola. And now here he is, a few days short of the national election that will decide his successor, and two months before his departure from politics, visiting Angola.

The question is, why now? "Angola has been at war for many years, and it has not been possible for President Soares to meet all sides in the conflict," said Clara Lopes, of the president's office in Lisbon. "Now he sees an



(5) Star 15/1/96

JOAO SILVA

Angola's legacy ... poverty stricken Angolans have to live with the destruction caused by the 20-year war. Does President Soares want to help to bring about peace and put an end to this carnage?

opportunity to meet all sides, to work toward peace in Angola." Although Soares met with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi refused to come to Luanda from his inland base at Bailundo, citing security problems. But Soares did

meet with a delegation of Unita representatives, including the chief envoy of Savimbi, Abel Chivukuvuku.

It seems clear that Soares' urging in Luanda to put the war behind and move on to a serious peace has helped to shake both sides into action. Chivukuvuku announced last week that Unita and the government had agreed on a new timetable to implement the peace accord.

The government, meanwhile, announced that the notorious anti-riot police, known as "the Ninjas", would be returning to their barracks. This had been a major sticking point in the implementation of the military aspects of the Lusaka peace accord.

Chivukuvuku also announced that Savimbi was prepared to meet with Dos Santos.

Cynics say that Soares' trip could be for other reasons, namely financial. Since the end of the Cold War, the Angolan civil war has been kept afloat by, more than anything else, the enormous mineral resources of the country. The oil fields of Cabinda on the Atlantic coast have fed the government while the diamond fields of the interior have kept Unita going.

"If this war ever does end, and that is a big if, there will be enormous money to be made and a lot of contracts given out for the reconstruction of the country," said Richard Cornwall of the Pretoria-based Africa Institute. "I think that Soares wants to make sure Portuguese companies are in line for some of those contracts."

Soares had wanted to make this trip to Angola for some time now, but was delayed for various reasons, including security and not being able to meet all parties. But, in fact, the MPLA government had not warmed to the idea of Soares visiting Angola because he has for years been seen as being cozy with Savimbi.

The question then is, why has the MPLA chosen this time for Soares to come visiting? Part of it can be seen in the recent image-building that the government has embarked upon. Dos Santos visited the United States last month where he met President Bill Clinton, the head of the International Monetary Fund, and other business leaders.

It could be that the MPLA wishes to shore up its relationship with Soares while it still has time. Soares is a well-respected figure in the Lusophone world and a visit from him carries much more weight than either of his two likely successors—Jorge Sampaio and Cavaco Silva.

Darker suggestions are that Dos Santos and his generals are laying the groundwork for moving against Unita. In December, the military did not hesitate to attack Unita positions in the north-west of Angola on the eve of Dos Santos' trip to the US.

"Dos Santos is going to need many friends in the near future," said the Africa Institute's Cornwall. "Things are going to get a lot rougher in Angola before they get better."

The Angolan leader's generals have felt for a long time that they could crush Savimbi, and there will come a time, soon, when they will say to Dos Santos: "Okay, we've tried it your way—now it is time to try it our way."

But others prefer to see a well-respected president exiting with nothing but dignity and good intentions. — Independent News Service.

Angola ... country in deep trouble

By Glenn McKenzie

MY FIRST INSIGHT into the political and economic travails that plague Angola came one minute after I stepped off the plane at Luanda's international airport.

A customs official placed a stamp on my documents certifying that I had been immunised against cholera. The fact that I had not received any injections and indeed that immunisation for this disease is outdated and useless, was beside the point.

Now, whether I liked it or not, I was officially protected against cholera and had the stamp to prove it (the procedure cost me R50).

Long queue

Several hours later, after waiting in a long queue and after another official had given up trying to pry \$125 (R475) out of me, apparently because I had broken a serious Angolan law that prohibits using passports that have even the smallest rips or wrinkles, I left the airport and drove into town.

Here I was confronted with another clue that this is not a healthy country.

Three boys, all under the age of 15, sat begging for money in front of the hotel where I had decided to hide myself. This in itself was not unusual. But each child was missing one or both legs.

Inside the hotel, waiters wearing tuxedos stood to attention in an almost completely empty restaurant.

Rundown hospitals

During my two-week trip I saw many shocking health problems in the streets and clinics and public hospitals that were broken down, filthy and without even the most basic equipment.

In the coastal city of Benguela, south of Luanda, a beautiful private

Broken-down hospitals and cops who moonlight as robbers

Patients who did not have money (or influence) were left to die

pharmacy had been built on the grounds of a hospital that is without drugs of its own. Only the rich can afford the services of the pharmacy.

In the town of Saurimo, Vietnamese doctors charged exorbitant rates for surgical procedures. Patients who did not have money (or influence) were left to die.

I had to remind myself that I was in a former communist country that had only recently been converted to capitalism. Like Russia and other Eastern bloc nations, it was inevitable that Angola would experience growing pains.

But I could not imagine another country where poverty and disease had affected average people so severely as here.

The entire country is propped up by international aid organisations which, to their credit, have prevented mass starvation and epidemics on an enormous scale.

Meanwhile, the government spends only two percent of its budget on health care and almost none of that money makes its way to the people. In contrast, almost 50 percent of government spending goes to defence.

But who is the government defending? Many police officers (local residents call them "ninjas") are paid \$20 a month (about R75). These pitifully low salaries force them to rob

innocent civilians and foreigners.

I received first-hand proof of this late one night when I was forced to walk home across Luanda (taxis are rare and English-speaking taxi drivers are even harder to find).

On a dark, quiet street, I was stopped by several policemen, wearing dark clothes, in a dark coloured four-wheel drive vehicle. Suddenly I understood how they got their "ninja" nickname.

The officers searched me thoroughly, looked through my papers and gave everything back to me, minus the \$20 that I had been carrying.

Several minutes later, I was stopped by another roving band of policemen. They politely asked me for money, gently prodding me with their guns for effect.

"Your friends have my money," I said.

I am not sure if they understood. If they did, they did not believe me. They told me to take off my shoes and proceeded to search my feet for hidden bank notes. Eventually they let me go.

Robber cops

Part of me sympathises with these police officers-cum-highway robbers.

Their government expects them to serve the country on starvation wages. Meanwhile, rich oil barons, diamond miners, corrupt politicians and foreign aid workers flaunt wealth that appears beyond their reach.

International workers for some very reputable aid organisations live in veritable mansions. It was difficult to fathom the incredible contrasts between the rich and poor and to cope with the daily threat of theft and corruption. How much more difficult must it not be for the average Angolan to tolerate his miserable plight.

Hospital is for dying

By Glenn McKenzie

IN the sleepy mining town of Saurimo, deep in the diamond-rich Lunda Sul province, a handful of relief organisations assists a population of perhaps 150 000 people, most of whom are unemployed and without means to make a decent living.

The hospital here, which was originally intended to serve the entire province, is filthy and almost completely empty. So most people turn to Goal, a small Irish organisation which equips and supervises several primary health care clinics in the surrounding townships (or *bairros*).

Tackle big tasks

Unlike some other non-government organisations in Angola, Goal operates on a small budget - about R1.75 million last year. But they tackle big tasks.

Goal's Irish staff, volunteers who receive only a small living allowance, have worked for the past two years teaching disease prevention, providing supplementary feeding for undernourished children and providing treatment for common ailments like malaria,

The town will only begin to stand on its own when peace has finally arrived

diarrhoea and respiratory problems.

Another bright light in Saurimo's bleak list of health services is a tuberculosis clinic, operated for the past six years by private missionaries from the United Kingdom.

"The health services in Saurimo are bad, even by Angola's standards. Most of these people have nothing, and sending them to the hospital is like giving them a death sentence," says Mary Stewart, who runs the clinic.

Another organisation which has contributed enormously to Saurimo's development is Save the Children, an American NGO which distributes food, seeds and supplies.

Thanks to this organisation, whose Saurimo staff is almost

completely Angolan, 1996 will be the first year in more than a decade that residents will harvest at least a few crops, grown in tiny plots that have been cleared at the edge of the community.

"We hope to gradually phase out our food distribution programme as the people become more self-sufficient," says Gabriel Tiburcio, Save the Children's base manager in Saurimo.

Need for peace

Some aid workers believe the town will only begin to stand on its own when peace has finally arrived and when average citizens are given the means to make a living.

Recently the government clamped down on illegal diamond miners, many of whom are poor peasants.

These people have returned to their homes, but are unable to farm as much of the countryside surrounding Saurimo is still off limits due to landmines and political divisions between the government and Unita forces.

Although organised diamond mining still continues, average folk see very little of the profits.



Braving untold hardships ... Average Angolans put up with corruption, poor health services and a high cost of living. War and the fall of communism have contributed to the plight of these people, while politicians and foreign mining company executives continue to live comfortably.

Waiting for peace ...

IN Huambo, a former Unita town that has seen some of the worst violence in Angola's 20-year civil war, the International Committee of the Red Cross has provided disaster relief to war victims when all other organisations could not enter.

But during Angola's 1992 elections, when peace seemed just around the corner, the Red Cross withdrew many of its projects.

War flared up

When the war flared up again, the ICRC had its fingers burnt fairly badly and was obliged to return - with great difficulty and at considerable cost - because equipment that had been left behind was predictably stolen, and 30 vehicles were lost to Unita forces.

Now, after two years of renewed hostilities, a new peace agreement has emerged and Huambo has experienced another lull in the fighting.

Fiona Cunningham, a Red Cross medical coordinator from Britain, says the organisation is slowly moving away from emergency aid, while putting more emphasis on short-term development projects that can be taken over by other NGOs when real peace finally arrives.

Residents hope that will be soon. A year ago, no roads were open to Huambo. Now a ground route from the port of Lobito is regularly travelled by ICRC aid convoys. Seeds, tools and medical supplies can now be more readily brought in.

Huambo's markets are also starting to show signs of life.

Local nurses provide basic malaria, diarrhoea and respiratory disease treatments along with immunisations for young children.

"It is really amazing to see the change in this place. But we only hope that it is permanent this time," says Cunningham.

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Unita taken to task by UN

LUANDA. — The United Nations has taken Angola's Unita opposition to task for failing to keep to a peace timetable, saying promises are no longer enough. ARG 19/1/96

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said separately that planned peace talks between himself and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi had been postponed at Unita's request. US ambassador to the UN Madeleine Albright and UN special envoy to Angola Alioune Blondine Beye had harsh words for Unita during a rare public session of the country's joint ceasefire commission.

"When you make an agreement, you make an agreement," Mr Beye told Unita delegates, referring to a January 15 deadline to begin demobilisation which the movement has failed to meet. — Reuter.

Distrust as SA 'mercenaries' leave Angola (5)

Executive Outcomes is closing shop in Angola, but not all its 'mercenaries' have boarded the planes back to South Africa. **Stefaans Brümmer** reports

SOUTH AFRICA'S much-lambasted "mercenary" outfit Executive Outcomes is withdrawing from Angola, but many of its soldiers are staying behind.

The United Nations Verification Mission III in Angola confirms Pretoria-based Executive Outcomes appears to be closing shop in Angola. The withdrawal has silenced many who said the company's continued presence violated the November 1994 Lusaka Protocol peace agreement, which forbids mercenary support for the MPLA government or its Unita rebel counterparts.

But the fact that many Executive Outcomes soldiers — employed to "train and advise" the Angolan government armed forces — are still in Angola, gives new force to Unita's charges, initially made a year ago, that "the Angolan government has decided to retain the strike capacity available to it through Executive Outcomes throughout the transition period".

Executive Outcomes first entered Angola in February 1993, contracted by oil concerns to repulse Unita rebels from their installations around the north-western town of Soyo.

That September, Executive Outcomes started the first of two consecutive 12-month contracts with the Angolan government, each worth about \$20-million plus a similar amount for logistics. The company's strength in numbers was never disclosed, but a maximum of 500 men is thought to be accurate.

The involvement of South Africans — mostly from specialist units of the old South African Defence Force who fought alongside Unita in the bush war — brought criticism from the South African government, which said it impaired South Africa's credibility as an impartial peace-maker.



Joao Do Matos, chief of Angola's armed forces, with Eben Barlow, GM of Executive Outcomes

Unita claimed Executive Outcomes soldiers were directly involved in the fighting, a charge the company denied, although it admitted to battle planning and advice on the battlefield.

Morality apart, the Executive Outcomes gamble is widely accepted to have paid off for the Angolan government. From July 1993 government troops, trained and directed by Executive Outcomes, reclaimed strategic centres from Unita — probably the reason Unita accepted the peace conditions of the Lusaka Protocol.



Backing their former enemy: Executive Outcomes personnel in Angola

PHOTOGRAPH JOHN LIEBENBERG

After the protocol was signed, pressure by the United States and others increased for Executive Outcomes to leave. But the company entrenched itself in a series of "business units", among them the gold and diamond mining company Branch Energy, the air charter company Ibis Air and Saracen International, a security company which was again helping oil companies secure their interests in Soyo. These "business units" appear to be part-owned by Strategic Resource Corporation (SRC), Executive Outcomes' holding company, and partly by Angolans.

A year ago, about the time Saracen was starting up in Soyo, Unita claimed it had information Executive Outcomes, in response to pressure to withdraw, was transferring key military capabilities to a "public enterprise security company" staffed with new "mercenaries"; and that several hundred existing Executive Outcomes personnel would be repatriated in a public display to appease calls for the company's withdrawal.

Saracen appeared during a visit by reporters in April last year to be partially staffed by new recruits and partially by employees transferred from Executive Outcomes' original Angolan operations.

As in the Unita charge, Saracen is registered in Angola as a "public enterprise security company", legally entitled to the possession of arms. Legislation allowing for the creation of these "PESCs" was adopted by the Angolan parliament when the Lusaka Protocol outlawed mercenary activity.

Late last year, a push by government soldiers around Soyo — a United Nations-certified violation of the protocol — was claimed by Unita as the reason it was halting the demobilisation of its soldiers, causing another delay in the peace process.

Not long afterwards an embattled President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos announced during a visit to Washington that he was abandoning the Executive Outcomes contract, which by then was being renewed monthly. That the government violation had been committed in Soyo, where Saracen is based, clearly increased Unita's distrust of Executive Outcomes' commercial spin-off companies.

When Executive Outcomes sent 178 men back to South Africa last week, the company's Angolan head, "Brigadier" Nick van den Berg, said: "We are withdrawing the last of our men, but some are staying on to farm and others have decided to stay and do business in their personal capacities."

It appears, though, that many are remaining in Angola in the SRC fold. One SRC source said this week only about half the Executive Outcomes men had been brought back to South Africa. Others were allocated to Executive Outcomes operations in other countries, while more "may" have been given jobs with Saracen. Another SRC source confirmed many personnel had been reassigned to the "existing business units".

Executive Outcomes spokesperson Nico Palm confirmed the business units would stay in Angola, but said Executive Outcomes had withdrawn "completely" and that suggestions of sinister motives behind the business operations were "politicking" by Unita.

● Meanwhile, this week's coup in Sierra Leone, where Executive Outcomes has a contract to support government forces in its fight against Revolutionary United Front guerrillas, may present the company with problems of credibility.

Executive Outcomes has always maintained it will only work for "legitimate governments", and defended its contract with Sierra Leone's military ruler, Captain Valentine Strasser, on the grounds that he was committed to democratic elections next month.

Angola looks to oil to spearhead recovery

A YEAR after a peace settlement ending 20 years of civil war, Angola is moving quickly to expand its oil output to finance its rebuilding, with a target of one million barrels a day by the turn of the century.

Black Africa's second producer after Nigeria, Angola produced 630 000 barrels a day last year compared with 286 000 a decade earlier.

Next year's target was more than 700 000 barrels a day, rising in ensuing years by eight to 10 percent a year until 2001, said state oil company chief Joaquim David. Output would then breach the symbolic barrier of one million barrels a day.

"Our strategy is to open up the industry yet further and give free rein to competition," he explained,

noting that the major oil companies from America, Europe and Japan were already operating in Angola.

Prospecting and production had been successful, and now the state oil firm Sonangol wanted to do equally well in refining and distribution.

Current production is centred on the Cabinda enclave and shallow offshore fields in the Gulf of Guinea.

Hopes for the future are being placed in deeper offshore sites sometimes more than 1 500 metres deep compared with wells closer to the coast at depths of less than 200 metres.

The government opened up the new region to prospecting three years ago, and initial soundings have been promising with most of the big oil firms putting in tenders.

Shell was doing tests on its find at Bengo, Elf of France was doing a second round of drilling in its bloc, while the Americans Chevron and Exxon were exploring other areas, David said.

He expected them to be joined very soon by Mobil and Amoco which were on the point of finalising contracts on production shares.

Output is also to be boosted at Cabinda, where Chevron leads the field, from last year's 380 000 barrels a day to 450 000 by the year 2000, thanks to new investment.

David said Angola had 12 to 15 years of reserves at current rates of production, or some three billion barrels. But that potential could be considerably increased by what deep offshore prospecting located. Oil and its revenues are vital for

recovery in this war-ravaged land of 11 million people. Oil income accounts for 85 percent of foreign exchange earnings and about 50 percent of gross domestic product.

"Our oil industry has managed to survive the worst crises," David recalled. "In 20 years of war, production multiplied five times and all other activities of the sector made progress. We were able to create a profitable environment for foreign firms, and are continuing that policy."

In Cold War times the then Marxist-Leninist government broke off diplomatic relations with the United States, but Chevron continued its Angolan operations, in spite of the fighting between the Soviet and Cuban-backed government forces and the rebels of Jonas Savimbi

who had help from South Africa and America.

And today most of the oil is still sold to the United States "for purely commercial reasons," David said. Deep offshore prospecting needs enormous sums of money and the most advanced technology, so the government has prepared new contracts on shares of production to encourage the foreign oil firms to keep up exploratory work.

David said Sonangol's monopoly on distribution had been indispensable during the war but was not a lasting solution.

The government was considering allowing foreign firms to join in, with Sonangol keeping 30 to 40 percent of the market and supplying neighbours, David said. Sapa-APF

(5) ARC 24/1/96

War-torn Angola's face of despair

(5) ET 24/1/96

ROBIN HALLETT

IT IS just over a year since one of Africa's bravest journalists met his death. On the night of January 17, 1994, Ricardo de Melo was gunned down by a still unidentified assassin in his home in Luanda.

De Melo was founder and editor of *Imparcial Fax*, Angola's only independent newspaper. Angola is riddled with corruption and De Melo's paper was brilliantly investigative. So he made many enemies both in the MPLA and Unita, some of whom phoned in with death threats.

His murder and the later harassment of journalists working on his paper cast a sombre light on the prospects of any form of democracy emerging in a country that has the material resources to become one of the most prosperous in Africa.

The outside world is meagrely informed about Angola. Certainly in all the scores of press-cuttings that I work through every year I have never come across an extract from *Imparcial Fax*. Most of the time all the outside observer can hope to do is trace the tortuous peace process in a country that has suffered grievously from war over the last 30 years.

Consider one horrendous fact: there are at least 10-million land mines - some estimates double that figure - waiting to be cleared. Daily the mines claim new victims

to add to the country's 70 000 amputees. But at least a start has now been made on clearing the mines.

The mines were not manufactured in Angola. They were provided by the foreign powers - the Soviet Union, Cuba, United States, South Africa - whose intervention made the civil war between the MPLA and Unita even more life-destroying.

In 1991 pressure by the outsiders induced the two sides to accept a ceasefire. The United Nations sent in a special force to assist in demobilisation and the conduct of elections.

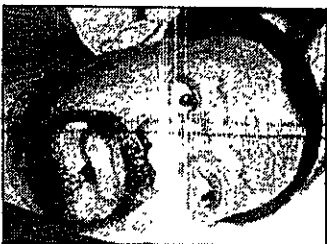
Elections were held in September 1991: they were as free as could have been expected and resulted in a clear victory for the MPLA. But Unita's leader, Dr Jonas Savimbi, strangely regarded by his champions in the West as an embodiment of democratic values, refused to accept this result.

Angola is falling deeper into social crisis. The government has never been so weak or discredited - Guardian journalist

Unita started up the war again with unprecedented ferocity and gained control of two-thirds of the country. But the MPLA, drawing on revenues from oil to purchase fresh weapons, struck back with surprising effectiveness.

Eventually, after lengthy negotiations, the two sides agreed in Lusaka in November 1994 to accept a new peace agreement.

So now Angola is back to where it was in 1992 but with two significant differences: the United Nations is present in much greater force - 8 000 peacekeepers compared



JONAS SAVIMBI: Despite atrocities, the Unita leader is strangely regarded by his champions in the West as an embodiment of democracy.

with fewer than 1 000 in 1992, and the country is in a far worse state than ever it was.

"Angola is falling deeper into social crisis," wrote the Guardian's Victoria Britain after visiting the country last August. Britain has been covering Angola for 20 years: she has an accumulated knowledge and a range of contacts that few other outsiders can rival.

"The government has never been so weak or discredited. Foreign aid agencies and the UN are virtually running the country."

She went on to point to the many symptoms of collapse seen in the capital, Luanda: most people exhausted after two decades of war, widespread bitterness about "the small elite of super-rich in power", genuine fear of Unita's potential to resort to terrorism.

The national health service has collapsed - one recent estimate put the infant mortality rate throughout the country at one in three.

School enrolments and standards have fallen sharply. In Luanda's university four of

the six faculties are "closed or partly closed".

The inflation rate is put at 1 700%. Real wages have fallen to an impossible level: R75 a month for a university teacher, R3 for a nurse. Inevitably more and more professional people are leaving government service for jobs with the aid agencies or private enterprise where salaries are 100 times higher. Meanwhile, the government uses scarce foreign exchange to fly in doctors and teachers from Vietnam, Korea, Bulgaria and Portugal.

For many of the people of Luanda, a city one-fifth of whose 2.5-million inhabitants are refugees from the interior, conditions are far worse. For many that is the only way to survive. Well-paid foreigners on short-term contracts are obvious targets.

In Huambo, the once gracious provincial capital of the Central Highlands, conditions are still worse. The town was in government hands until 1993 when Unita captured it after a 55-day siege which caused many deaths.

Many more people died as they fled from the city. In November 1994 the government recaptured Huambo. Survivors speak of a reign of terror during Unita's occupation, with many "disappearances" and removals to forced labour camps. Before leaving Unita looted all the stores of the aid agencies.

Britain quotes what she was told by a senior aid official who lived through this experience. "The Unita leadership was then,

as now, a collection of utterly paranoid individuals, extremely repressive, and with no civilian organisation or capacity whatsoever... Their leaders, clever articulate men in their nice Cardin outfits with shiny shoes, may sound good in Europe but, seeing them here with the peasants, it is laughable to say they have the slightest interest in them or their problems."

Huambo was the home town of many of the MPLA's leading intellectuals, some the descendants of Portuguese settlers. Genuine idealists, they dreamt of making their country into "an example of successful non-racial socialist transformation".

Their number included David Bernardino and his friend Fernando Marcelino. Bernardino was a medical doctor, founder of a rural clinic - and "one of the rare citizens of the MPLA from the inside".

For many people in Luanda theft is the only way to survive. Well-paid foreigners on short-term contracts are obvious targets.

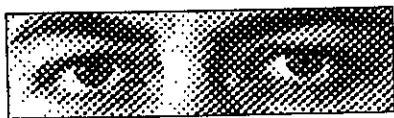
Marcelino was internationally known for his work at the Chingaga agricultural research centre. Both men were murdered by Unita in late 1992. And Chingaga lost most of its expensive scientific equipment after being looted by government troops when they recaptured Huambo in November 1994.

These are the sort of brutal realities that drive so many Angolans to the point of utter despair. If the outsiders now pouring into the country really want to work effectively, they will have to look many hard and painful facts squarely in the face.

With peace, Angolans talk of diamonds

MTG 26/1-1/2/96 (5)

EYEWITNESS



David Beresford in Luanda

SITTING on a hotel balcony, the ambassador recounted with gleaming eyes how a diamond prospector had invited him to grab a random handful of gravel from a river bed, and had then picked three precious gemstones from the palm of his hand.

Below, in Luanda's stinking, garbage-strewn streets, a street-urchin kicked his legs in the air for balance as he rooted through a roadside bin, and some men scavenged through rubbish with absent-minded indifference.

In a country where inflation stands at more than 3 000%, money has little more than a notional value, at least to the mass of its inhabitants. But that is not to say there is no wealth. This is a get-rich-quick country and the carpet-baggers are in town — many easily identifiable by their thick forearms and pot bellies which testify to a lifetime's love affair with Boer cooking, boerewors and beer.

For all their girth they are fit men, ex-soldiers and naval frogmen who have abandoned South Africa and the vicissitudes of affirmative action in pursuit of dazzling fortune. Dia-

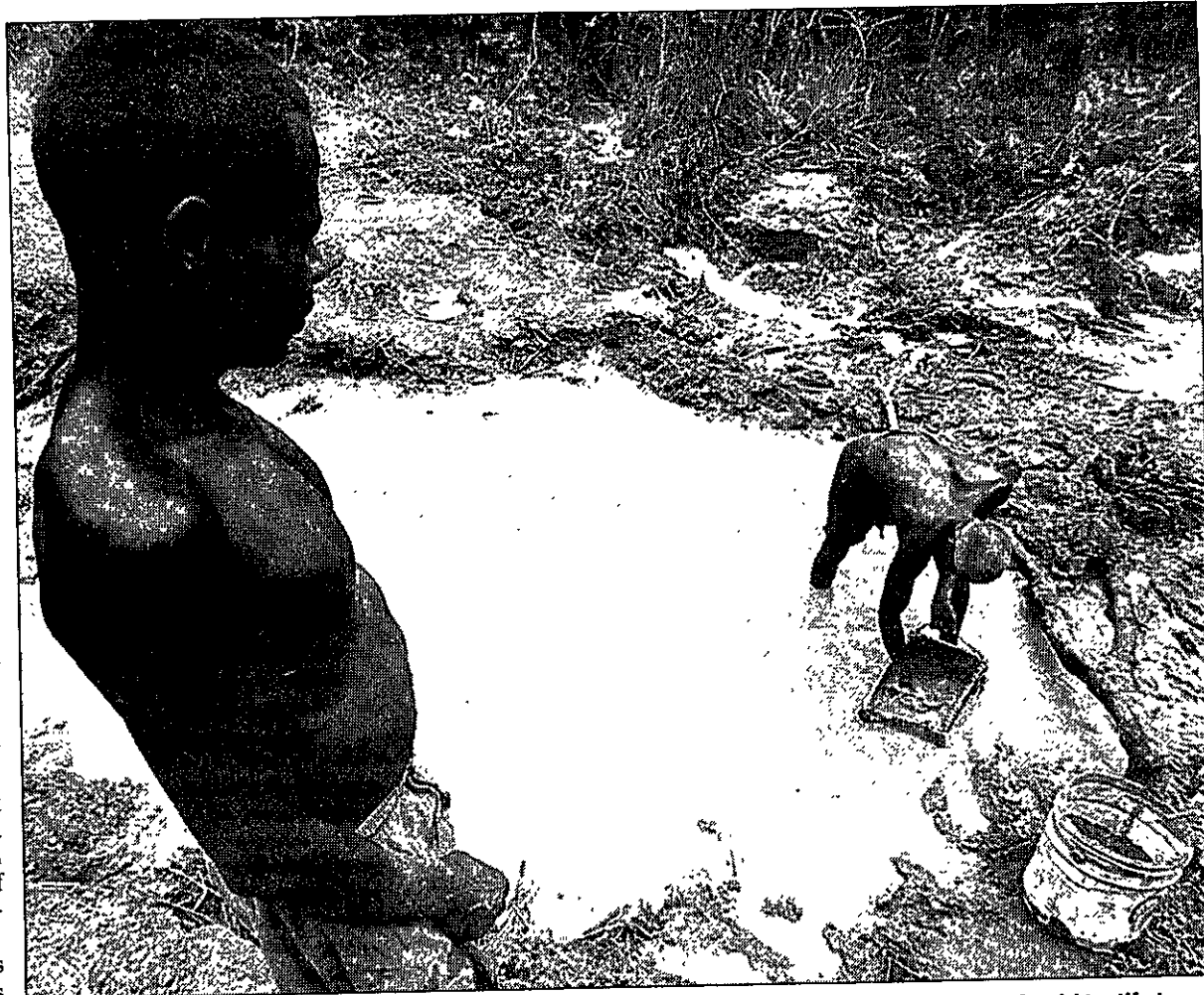
monds — alluvial and maritime — are the lure and the stories about them are legion. They speak of the fabled Cuango Valley, financing Unita's war to the tune of an estimated R108-million a month, and of Catoca, reputed to be the biggest diamond-bearing kimberlite pipe in the world, bigger even than Kimberley itself.

It was the lesson of Kimberley that the dealer, not the digger, is king. In recognition of this, De Beers and rival buyers are taking uncut pebbles off the street at top prices with no questions asked.

Testament to the riches in this country of the poor, a giant rig squats massively in Luanda Bay, undergoing maintenance. The black gold pumped out of Angola at the rate of some 635 000 barrels a day has financed the governing MPLA during 20 years of civil war, as well as generating sufficient profit to have the world's oil corporations jostling at the troughs.

There is yellow gold as well, waiting to be discovered, and a host of other minerals which have never been tapped. Angola's reserves are impossible to quantify, as is the potential of other sectors of the economy. But, before war blighted it, this was Africa's second-largest food producer and the world's fourth-largest coffee exporter.

The economic potential offered by peace is obvious. But the chances of peace being established are far more uncertain, resting superficially on the round shoulders of Alioune Blondin



Human cost: Angolans are still paying the price for 20 years of civil war, but diamonds, oil and gold testify to the country's untapped wealth

PHOTOGRAPH: KADIR VAN LOHUIZEN

Beye, the United Nations special representative.

The temptation is to characterise the base for the UN mandate for peacekeeping in Angola — Univem III, inconveniently and inexplicably situated some 35 minutes' drive away from the city centre along narrow and pot-holed roads — as a Tower of Babel. But "Vila Espa" is a flat, sprawling complex of container boxes, humming to the buzz of air-conditioning units under a baking African sun.

Beye seems to carry Univem by sheer force of enthusiasm. But the impracticability of the whole operation is reflected in the fact that Beye,

who hails from Mali, is French-speaking in a Portuguese-speaking country, heading an operation which is administered in English. He even uses a translator to speak to his chief spokesman.

Angola is a get-rich-quick country and the carpet-baggers are in town

The contribution of mediation to the resolution of conflict is always debatable: more often than not, peace is the product of a convergence of circumstances over which the UN presides as a master of ceremonies.

Ten days ago the diplomatic corps was talking excitedly about such a convergence. There was apparently a new spirit of co-operation between Unita and the MPLA in supervising the ceasefire and moving

towards military integration. The South African mercenaries working as military advisers had been given their marching orders by the government. The notorious "ninjas", the police rapid reaction force, were being restricted to base and political prisoners were being released.

But, by the weekend the endless cycle of optimism and pessimism that has accompanied 20 years of civil war was turning once more.

Jonas Savimbi had again called off a summit with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Unita's troops were failing to turn up at UN assembly points. Diplomats were sounding grave warnings of a pull-out by Univem. And amid the garbage of Luanda the talk was of diamonds.

Nzo to meet Dos Santos and Savimbi during Angola visit

BY DALE LAUTENBACH
Foreign Editor

Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo travels to Angola today for a meeting with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and senior Unita officials in Luanda.

Nzo, whose visit represents the first to Angola by a senior member of the Government, said his work there would be preparatory to a visit later in the year by President Nelson Mandela.

He stressed that his mission was strictly in support of the peace process.

He strongly denied that South Africa would make any attempt to "facilitate" solutions to

some of the problems which have locked the peace process, now 10 months behind schedule, into a series of delays.

Nzo took a similar position on Swaziland, saying South Africa was not about to "ram down the throats of people what to do".

Unlike the earlier example of preventive diplomacy in Lesotho, Swaziland had not requested assistance. In fact, Swaziland's attitude to foreign intervention appeared rather hostile.

From Luanda, Nzo will travel to Morocco where he will discuss the ongoing impasse with the Polisario Front over Moroccan-occupied Western Sahara.

(5) Nzo confirmed that Mandela had been willing to extend diplomatic recognition to the Polisario state - the Saharawi Democratic Republic - but that United Nations secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali had asked him to withhold it, and to support the UN-sponsored process of a referendum on Western Sahara instead.

The Polisario Front, allies of the ANC during the South African struggle, are known to be deeply disappointed at this and have persistently lobbied the Government for its recognition.

Nzo will attempt to address this in part when he travels from Morocco to Algeria and meets the Polisario leadership in their

exiled headquarters in Tindouf.

On the subject of Angola, Nzo said he would raise the issue of Executive Outcomes, which was a question of "very serious concern to the South African Government".

Although the company was supposed to have withdrawn from Angola in terms of the peace process, "we are not sure all have returned", Nzo said.

He added that South Africa would be putting forward its own point of view on the Angolan peace process.

However, Nzo was at pains to bring across that this should not in any way imply a South African intervention in that fragile accord.

Star 30/1/96

Nzo lashes out at SA mercenaries in Angola

Star 1/2/96

(5)

Soldiers for hire are an embarrassment to the Government, foreign minister asserts during talks

REUTERS
Luanda

Pretoria-based mercenaries operating in Angola were an embarrassment to his government, Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo said in Luanda yesterday.

Nzo, who is on a two-day visit to Angola preparing for a visit next month by President Nelson Mandela, yesterday met Angolan government and opposition Unita officials as well as United Nations special envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye.

He was briefed separately by all three parties on Angola's 14-month-old peace process, which began in November 1994 with the

signing of a pact between the Angolan government and Unita to end two decades of fighting.

Unita signed the accords after months of battlefield reverses at the hands of government forces advised by the South African mercenaries who supported Unita during the apartheid era.

The Angolan government recently repatriated the mercenaries, working for the Pretoria-based company Executive Outcomes at Unita's request.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi has said the mercenaries did not leave the country and had been absorbed into a company he named as Alpha 5, operating in the north-eastern part of the country. Nzo said Unita's Luanda rep-

resentative, Abel Chivukuvuku, had raised the issue of the mercenaries during talks.

"As far as the question of Executive Outcomes is concerned, we informed Unita that in the course of our discussions with the Angolan government ... we were informed that all contracts have been cut, even though it is going to leave the (Angolan) government with certain financial liabilities," Nzo told a news conference.

He said he had appealed to Unita to release four South Africans it had captured in the north of the country last year.

Nzo also said he had been encouraged during the talks that Angola's peace process was proceeding well.

Nzo speaks out on mercenaries

LUANDA: South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo yesterday said Pretoria-based mercenaries allegedly operating in Angola were an "embarrassment" to his government.

(S) CT 11/2/96
Nzo, who is in Angola to prepare for a visit in March by President Nelson Mandela, met with Angolan government and opposition Unita officials as well as the UN special envoy to Angola, Mr. Alioune Blondin Beye.

Sapa-Reuter

Unita speeds up troop disarming

NEGAGE (Angola). — Unita is accelerating the disarming of its fighters under the terms of a 1994 peace pact with the Angolan government.

Less than a week before the United Nations decides whether to renew its peacekeeping mandate in the country, the first Unita soldiers began reporting to the Negage assembly point on Saturday.

A UN official said after 427 Unita fighters were disarmed by UN peacekeepers that an additional 500 troops were waiting to be brought in.

At Vila Nova and Quibaxe camps in Huambo province more than 1 600 Unita fighters have already been disarmed, with about 1 500 troops massing in the area.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi promised the international community he would disarm 16 500 of his claimed total of 72 000 fighters by February 8 to show his commitment to peace.

Peace observers said however they were concerned at the lack of ammunition being handed in. They said the youngest Unita soldier registered at Negage camp was 11 years old.

— Reuter.

(5) ARGS/2/96

Time running out for precarious Angola peace process

Government and Unita forces accuse each other of duplicity and hardliners would prefer another round of war rather than submit to a power-sharing arrangement

(5) *Mark* 6/1/96

LOS ANGELES Times News Service
Vila Nova, Angola

Past bombed-out buildings and burned-out cars, near grim skull-and-crossbones signs for roadside minefields, a dusty cluster of military tents here hold the hopes for lasting peace in Africa's longest civil war.

But Angola has dashed such hopes before. And despite a shaky 15-month ceasefire after two decades of death and devastation, it may be doing it again.

Jonas Savimbi, the mercurial leader of the rebel Unita forces, has promised to deliver 16 500 soldiers and their weapons, or about a third of his army - by Thursday to the demobilisation camp here and at three other sites run by the United Nations. But only 1 600 men have sur-

rendered since mid-November, and many arrived barefoot and in rags, looking suspiciously like village youths and peasant farmers.

"We are ready," said Molly Kamara, the UN administrator at Vila Nova, surveying scores of empty tents. "But it is going very slowly."

The Thursday deadline is critical because the UN Security Council will vote that day on whether to renew the mandate of what is the UN's largest peacekeeping force, now that Ntalo has taken over military operations in the battered remnants of the Yugoslav federation.

The 6 625-member force of blue berets, as the UN troops are known, military observers and others was sent to Angola last year to verify implementation of a peace accord signed in November 1994 by the government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and

Savimbi's Unita, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola.

An extension of several months is likely for the \$1-billion-a-day (about \$3.6-billion) effort. But the UN special representative in Angola, Aloune Blondin Beye, warned that "the international community rightly has become impatient after months of stalling and broken promises".

The last serious fighting ended on December 31 when the government, under heavy pressure from Washington and other Western powers, halted a surprise offensive against Unita positions in the north. But the two armies remain fully armed, and officials fear that the fragile truce could quickly collapse.

"The current situation cannot last," Beye said in an interview at UN headquarters outside Luanda, the capital. "So either they change by peaceful

means, going by their agreement, or they return to confrontation."

In the past, Beye has often called the peace process "irreversible" and was publicly upbeat. No longer. "When the soldiers are disarmed, then we can call this irreversible," he

We have no war, but there is no peace either

said in frustration.

"In Angola, there are always doubts. We are never sure of anything. That's why the conflict has lasted so many years."

Diplomats say both the government and the Unita forces accuse each other

of duplicity and that hardliners on both sides may be secretly preparing for another round of war rather than submit to the power-sharing arrangement envisioned in the 1994 accord.

"What we are seeing is the legacy of two decades of fighting and killing," US ambassador Donald Steinberg said. "There is tremendous mistrust on both sides."

Michel Dufour, head of an international committee of the Red Cross delegation, noted that Unita had surrendered mostly assault rifles and small arms, not the mortars, tanks and artillery believed hidden in the bush.

"So far the weapons being handed in are not credible," Dufour said. To be sure, Angola has come a long way in the last year. Before the ceasefire, the UN estimated 1 000 people were dying every day from war-related injuries, starvation and disease.

One of the largest and most expensive relief efforts in history was mounted to feed and shelter about 3 million internal refugees - nearly one-third the country's population. About 1.4 million people are still being provided with food.

Most humanitarian supplies now move by truck convoy, not planes, as dynamited bridges are repaired and major roads are cleared of countless land mines and unexploded shells. In some areas, farmers rush in behind the mine-removal crews to plant seeds.

But life has hardly returned to normal. Many cities and towns are in ruins after bombings, sieges and house-to-house combat.

Roving bands of soldiers and police have turned to banditry. Infant mortality rates remain among the world's highest. "We have no war, but there is no

peace either," said Andrew Ton, director of the UN World Food Programme's largest relief programme.

Angola first went to war in 1960 when liberation groups tried to oust the Portuguese colonial rulers. When independence was granted in 1975, full-scale war erupted among the competing forces.

The country soon was a Cold War battleground. The United States sent covert aid, and South Africa invaded to prop up the nominally pro-West Unita.

The then Marxist government was backed by Cuban troops and aid from the Soviet bloc. A peace pact led to UN-supervised elections in 1992. Although both sides agreed to demobilise and disarm their armies, neither did. And when Savimbi lost the election, he alleged fraud and ordered his troops back to war.

SA exhorts UN to enforce (5)

Angolan peace

Star 7/2/96

New York - South Africa has blamed Unita for slow progress in the implementation of the Angola peace process and warned of a tragedy if discord with the government led to termination of the United Nations mandate.

Under a recommendation by secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali, 6 500 UN peacekeepers will be retained in Angola probably until August 8. A Security Council vote is expected tomorrow. South African delegate Khiphusizi Jele told the council that members should send a "clear and unambiguous message" to Unita that its failure to implement agreements made with the Lunda government was "totally unacceptable".

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi must be urged to comply fully with the agreement on the quartering of troops, Jele said.

South Africa welcomed the release of political prisoners by the government and hoped that Unita would take similar steps but a climate of trust between the two sides was elusive.

Jele said it was vital that President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita chief Jonas Savimbi meet soon to iron out their differences.

At the council meeting, US ambassador Madeleine Albright reported that she had telephoned Savimbi to express concern that the quartering of his troops was behind schedule. - Independent Foreign Service.

UN puts pressure on Angola to

5

New York - The United Nations Security Council on Thursday said it would withdraw its peace-keeping troops if Angolan troops failed to turn in their weapons.

The Security Council unanimously voted to extend the UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem), but by three months instead of the six months requested by UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali. The council also asked the UN chief to report monthly on the progress of a UN-backed peace

process. Most importantly, the council asked the Angolan parties, especially the rebel Unita, to speed up the quartering and disarming of their soldiers.

US ambassador Madeleine Albright, the Security Council president, had this week threatened not to extend the more than 6 000 UN troops if Unita stalled on sending its 62 500 estimated fighters to UN cantonments where they may be retired.

At the time of Albright's threat, Unita had sent in only about 4 000 soldiers, and monitors complained that most of that total were children with old weapons or no weapons at all.

But as a result of the council's prodding, Unita leader Jonas Savimbi promised to turn more than 16 000 fighters into the cantonments by this week-end.

On Tuesday, several African envoys led a growing chorus among UN diplomats not to cut

off the mission, which has helped protect a fragile ceasefire that has lasted since November 1994.

Despite low-level fighting, the peace is probably the greatest stability Angola has enjoyed since Angolans fought Portugal for independence in 1961. Unita, a former US ally, has fought the Soviet-backed Angolan government since independence in 1976, and broke a ceasefire in 1992 after losing UN-brokered elections.

The council renewal of Unavem comes as Human Rights Watch accused several nations of maintaining a flow of arms to both sides in exchange for diamonds and oil.

A Human Rights Watch report released on Thursday named Russia and Ukraine as arms suppliers for the government, while it cited Zaire and Congo as shipment points for arms sales to the rebels who control much of Angola's diamond wealth. The rights group

has called for an arms embargo to all sides, although the council so far has only placed weapons sanctions against Unita.

The renewal also coincides with the release of a report from the United Nations Association of the United States of America (UNA-USA) commending UN efforts in Angola.

The report, based on a visit in November to Angola by a 10-person delegation led by UNA-USA vice-chairman Michael Sonnenfeldt, cited Angola as "one of

disarm troops

Star 10/2/96

the best examples of co-operation and effective division of labour between the UN and the US in a peacekeeping mission".

The report cited accounts from several diplomats in Angola that the peace process, while not irreversible, was stronger than before. "In spite of the impatience of the international community, the peace process has a good chance of succeeding," the report asserted.

"War weariness on both sides, the congruence of inter-

ests between international actors, and the determining role of the UN special representative (Alioune Blondin Beye) are among the most important elements," it added.

The UNA-USA emphasised that, for Unavem to be deployed effectively, the UN must place more effort to demine Angola's roads. With a possible 20 million mines, Angola may surpass Afghanistan as the world's most heavily mined nation, the report said. - Sapa-IPS

Strict timetable for Angolan peace process

Luanda - The Angolan government and Unita rebels have accepted to stick to a calendar to implement the flagging peace process, Portuguese President Mario Soares said yesterday.

Soares, on an official four-day visit to the former Portuguese colony, said he had received assurances from both sides that they were interested in salvaging the 13-month-old peace deal to end two decades of civil war.

The peace process reached a stalemate in the last month following ceasefire violations by the army, which prompted

Unita to call off negotiations.

"They have elaborated a strict calendar for 1996 for meetings, quartering of troops, demining, etcetera," Soares said.

On Tuesday, Soares had received a Unita delegation in Luanda after rebel leader Jonas Savimbi had not been able to travel from his central highlands headquarters of Bailundo to meet the Portuguese president.

The delegation leader, Abel Chivukuvuku, said after his meeting with Soares that Savimbi was prepared to meet with President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who has asked the Unita

leader for a summit meeting three times since the peace deal began crumbling early last month. Chivukuvuku would not confirm whether the meeting would take place in Luanda.

Meanwhile, the government took a step to show its commitment to the peace process by beginning the demobilisation of its anti-riot police force yesterday.

The quartering of the police force will be followed by the departure of a group of South African military advisers today after the government cancelled its contract with the SA security firm Executive Outcomes. - Sapa-AP.

(5) Star 11/2/96

Defence chief in Angola for 'new era' talks

(5) ARG 13/2/96
Political Staff and Reuter

The Chief of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF), Georg Meiring, has arrived in Angola for talks amid suggestions in parliament that South Africa will become actively engaged in the United Nations peacekeeping operation there.

He said he would discuss military co-operation with his opposite number, Joao Baptista de Matos, and Deputy Defence Minister Pedro Sebastiao.

"It is not just a new era for Angola and South Africa, but a new era in the Southern African region."

In parliament there has been growing speculation that South Africa's role in Angola — at present confined to logistical support and the removal of land mines — could be significantly increased, possibly to the point where SANDF troops may be stationed there as part of the peacekeeping effort.

Local businessmen flock to Angola

(5) CF (BR) 26/2/96

By WINNIE GRAHAM

Luanda — South Africa's traditionally conservative businessmen are flocking to Angola to investigate business opportunities in the once Marxist-controlled country as the Angolan government encourages investment.

South Africans in Luanda are looking at establishing a number of small industries, including a plastics factory, and are considering the construction of townhouses, a lodge and a hotel.

Other businessmen are involved in a project to relaunch Kissama, one of Angola's most beautiful national parks near Luanda.

Paulino Baptista, the Angolan deputy minister of commerce, trade and tourism, says that Angola would welcome South African involvement.

He said last week that the country needed people of good will. "We would like South Africans to come and help us prosper.

"South Africans and Angolans can talk to each other directly without government interference. Only when a project has to be started from scratch and land is needed is it necessary to approach the state."

The South African ambassador in Luanda, Roger Ballard-Tremeer, has been promoting trade between

South Africa and Angola. He says interest is considerable.

He fields regular calls from businessmen and industrialists and has prepared an advisory to assist them.

Ballard-Tremeer says that the kwanza, the Angolan currency, has been devalued 3 000 percent in the past year. Business in the country is now conducted almost exclusively in dollars. He is optimistic that joint ventures can, and will, work.

"Angola can offer us food security, petrol and water," he said. "They, in turn, need our expertise and finance. We need to co-operate." South African interest in Angola is all the more remarkable because the 15-month-old peace process is precarious.

Jonas Savimbi, the leader of the rebel Unita forces, has been slow to surrender his arms. Neither side trusts the other and United Nations officials fear that the fragile truce may not last.

In Luanda, however, the government is going ahead with plans to rebuild the country's economy that is based on its oil fields and diamond mines.

There is talk of re-establishing the coffee plantations and launching a tourist industry. It will not be easy. Angola's towns and cities have been battered by years of neglect. The buildings are dilapidated. No

one pays for municipal services such as water and electricity. The infrastructure is in desperate need of upgrading. In many quarters it is nonexistent.

Unemployment is a major problem. The government faces enormous difficulties, not the least of which is crime.

Car hijackings and theft have become a way of life, leading to the growth of yet another industry — security.

Most wealthy local people employ guards to protect their property.

None of this deters South Africans.

Franz Piller of Somerset West, whose firm, Austral, is already well established in Luanda, has had plans prepared for the construction of

64 townhouses on a promontory overlooking the harbour on one side and the beach on the other. The project, which will involve importing most of the fixtures and fittings from South Africa, is expected to cost R150 million. It will be known as Floresta da Ilha Luanda.

Piller has no doubt he will find takers for the townhouses.

"Businessmen coming to Angola need a base in Luanda," he said. The complex will be completed by

the end of next year.

Gideon Swart, a Pretoria business consultant from Echo Vida South Africa, dismisses the problems. He sees only the potential of a country hungry for peace and development. He says about 45 percent of Angola's land is arable, compared with 6,5 percent of South Africa's.

He is involved in a feasibility study of Kissama National Park to assess the cost of restocking, fencing and upgrading the camps.

"We are negotiating with the Kruger National Park to buy elephants and other game," he said.

Architects have already been to the reserve to look at a site for a lodge that will overlook the sea and the Kwanzi river — an ideal fishing spot where 90kg tarpon are regularly hooked.

John Chrysomallos of George is involved in negotiations for the construction of another hotel. He was less keen to discuss plans. "Negotiations are not complete," he said. "But we are very hopeful."

If peace holds, there is no doubt Angola will flourish.

'Angola can offer us food and petrol. They need our expertise and finance'

AFRICA

Britain denounces speed of Angolan disarmament

(5) BD 22/2/96

LUANDA — Angolan former rebel leader Jonas Savimbi has said he needs to meet President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to discuss implementing their peace settlement and the political future of the country.

"I need to see the president. I can't go on carrying out political activity from Bailundo," the headquarters of Unita, Savimbi said late on Tuesday.

He was speaking after talks with British Minister of State for Overseas Development Lynda Chalker, who denounced the slowness of the disarmament process after arriving here Monday and said the international community could no longer afford to waste money.

A Unita military delegation arrived in Luanda yesterday to resume talks with the army on the formation of a new joint defence force. The talks were suspended in January because of ceasefire violations.

A meeting between Savimbi

and Dos Santos has been on the cards for weeks.

On February 8, the UN Security Council renewed the mandate of the UN Angola Verification Mission for three months to monitor the peace process, particularly the disarming and encampment of Unita's 63 000 soldiers.

So far, about 15 000 have been disarmed in line with the peace pact signed in Lusaka, Zambia, in November 1994 to end almost two decades of civil war following independence from Portugal.

During talks with Chalker, Savimbi said the Luanda government should be more "open" and agree to negotiate on the formation of a "transitional government" before Dos Santos's mandate expires in November.

During a recent congress of the ruling People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), Dos Santos ruled out negotiations on this subject with Savimbi and renewed his Lusaka Protocol commitment to give Unita four

cabinet portfolios and seven vice-ministerial posts.

The MPLA defeated Unita in general elections held in 1992 and Dos Santos beat Savimbi in the first round of a presidential poll, but fell just short of the 50% majority needed to avoid a second round. That was never held because the country plunged back into civil war after Unita alleged vote-rigging by the MPLA.

Unita and the government have agreed that 26 300 former rebel soldiers will be integrated into a new joint army of about 90 000 men, but have different views on the general staff. Unita wants 40 posts but the government has offered only six in addition to five given to senior Unita officers in Luanda since the resumption of hostilities.

The return of the Unita delegation will "relaunch the peace process", the government army's chief of staff Gen Higinio Carneiro said yesterday. — Sapa-AFP.



Makeshift education ... with reed huts for classrooms (left) and sticks as an aid to counting (above), Angola's schools are woefully under-equipped.

In a country where poorly paid teachers don't know if they will get their salary at all, parents go to great lengths to ensure their children are well educated

The Star February 28 1996

Angolans head south for schooling

By WINNIE GRAHAM

Literally hundreds of Angolan children are attending top private schools in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Cape Town and Bloemfontein.

Wealthy Angolans who previously sent their children to Portugal to study have reversed the trend to make increasing use of South Africa's finest educational facilities. Good education, in fact, is becoming one of South Africa's most saleable commodities. South Africa's ambassador in Luanda, Roger Ballard-Tremier,

confirmed his embassy was issuing an increasing number of visas "for study purposes" to Angolans. "The children are accepted at private schools only when they will not displace South African children," he added.

Luanda residents say rich Angolans are not only sending their children to boarding school in South Africa, but many are buying homes in upmarket suburbs so that they do not have to leave their children alone in a new country. "As in all African countries, education is seen as the gateway to success," an Angolan business-

man said. "Parents will naturally go to great lengths to ensure their children are well educated, and South Africa is nearer home than Portugal. English, too, is regarded as an important commercial language, so your country is ideally placed to offer the kind of education we are looking for".

After more than 20 years of civil war, Angola's education system is in danger of collapse. To accommodate pupils, schools run three sessions a day: in the mornings, afternoons and evenings,

when adult education is made available. Hard-pressed teachers work long hours. In recent months, many local children have had no schooling at all because teachers have been striking for more money.

Until recently, the average teacher earned the equivalent of US \$60 (about R228) a month. This has now been increased to about US \$90 (about R342) and teachers have returned to classrooms. But local residents are sceptical about the increases, saying the government cannot afford to pay. They predict the strike will flare up again when teachers realise that the promised pay rise cannot be met.

English is the language of commerce

The education of Angola's young pupils has long occupied the minds of residents - both local and foreign. When

Cubans and Russians were in Luanda they too, tried to remedy the situation by offering bursaries to bright pupils. Several hundred left to study both in Cuba and in Eastern bloc countries.

However, when communism collapsed, many were stranded overseas, their hard-pressed parents unable to pay for their return. The average Angolan struggles for survival. Many workers in Luanda earn just US \$10 a month (about R36), with cabinet

ministers qualifying for US \$40 monthly (about R152). Locals claim government officials travel frequently, largely because their overseas allowances enable them to live more comfortably abroad than at home. Angola's monetary unit, the kwanza, was devalued last year by 3 000%. Local currency is regarded as worthless, and despite government insistence that payment in dollars is illegal, most large transactions in Luanda are done in US dollars. But even as the teachers returned to work, the nurses have

come out on strike. Medical care in Angola is rudimentary and though several private clinics have opened, all emergencies are attified to South Africa.

This, too, is becoming a source of revenue for medical clinics in this country. Medical attention at private clinics in Angola is expensive, making it the prerogative of the rich. The result: the infant mortality rate is among the highest in the world and the life expectancy of Angolans among the lowest.

Savimbi agrees to be Angolan vice-president

(6) Jan 23/96
Libreville - Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and opposition leader Jonas Savimbi issued a joint communique late yesterday, saying they had agreed on a unity government and a unified army by July.

Savimbi, leader of the Angolan rebel movement Unita, accepted the post of vice president offered to him by the president, reports quoting the communique said late last night.

The two men issued the statement after their fourth summit talks in the Gabonese capital.

The report, if correct, signifies peace in a land that has endured more than 20 years of internal conflict which has seen thousands slaughtered - Sapa/dpa

War-damaged oil field starts up in Angola

FROM REUTERS

Luanda — Onshore oil production had resumed around Angola's northern town of Soyo at the weekend, two years after output was halted during the country's 20-year civil war, the Jornal de Angola reported yesterday.

The newspaper said Belgium's Petrofina, the main operator of the onshore field near Soyo, was the first oil company to begin production again.

Angola's Prime Minister Marcolino Moco officially inaugurated the start of

production at Pangala during a visit to the country's Zaire province at the weekend.

He agreed to give \$2 million a month for the development of the region, the newspaper said.

Two crude-oil storage tanks, each holding 400 000 barrels, burned in a fire lasting four months after Unita rebel forces attacked the town in 1994.

The area, including the oil pipelines, has recently been cleared of landmines and explosives from the guerrilla war.

Soyo is Angola's second-largest oil producing region after Cabinda, with at

least 30 percent of oil production onshore.

Before oil production was halted, the area produced 90 000 barrels of crude a day onshore.

Petrofina has a 32,6 percent share in fuel feeding Soyo's crude stream. Its Angolan assets include 64 percent of the 32 million barrels a day at the Petrangol refinery near Luanda.

The government holds the remaining 36 percent.

Most of Angola's production of 640 000 barrels a day comes from offshore drilling platforms off Soyo and Cabinda.

J (BR) 5/3/96 (5)

Angola's hope

CHRIS SIMPSON of International Press Service reports from Libreville, Gabon, on the signs of progress in Angola's halting peace process which emerged from the meeting there on Friday between the MPLA and Unita and reviews the prospects of final agreement.

(5) ARG 5/3/96

If all goes according to plan, the next meeting between Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi will be on Angolan soil. If for any reason Savimbi balks at an Angolan venue, the two men can expect a warm welcome back here to Libreville.

Gabon's President Omar Bongo would like nothing better than to see the future peace of Angola secured in his opulent presidential palace with Bongo himself at the peace table.

Bongo appeared to be well satisfied with Friday's summit here between Savimbi and dos Santos; and he was not alone.

Hailed as the summit which could transform the peace process, Libreville succeeded in delivering a new agenda and strong commitments from both leaders.

UN Special Representative Aloune Blondin Beye got what he wanted: military issues resolved and a switch to the political plane.

According to the final communiqué approved by both sides, a new national army should come together by June, with provision for a new Government of Unity and National Reconciliation in June or July.

Unita has submitted its list of ministerial nominees as agreed under a peace protocol the two sides signed in November 1994 in Lusaka, Zambia.

A fresh invitation has been made to Savimbi to take up the vice-presidency.

Libreville, in short, picked up from the last meetings in Franceville (Gabon) and Brussels,

neatly glossing over five months of bitter accusations and counter-accusations and serious shortcomings in the peace process which even the United Nations had painfully acknowledged.

No mention here of assassination attempts against Unita generals, of child soldiers and rusty weapons being delivered to the quarantering areas, or of South African mercenaries lurking in Lunda North and South provinces.

The meeting was almost suffocatingly polite, the only disputes being between rival camera crews and journalists struggling to record the platitudes for posterity.

The new timetable, regardless of the delays which may occur in its implementation, should win the UN mission in Angola, due to end in May, another stay of execution.

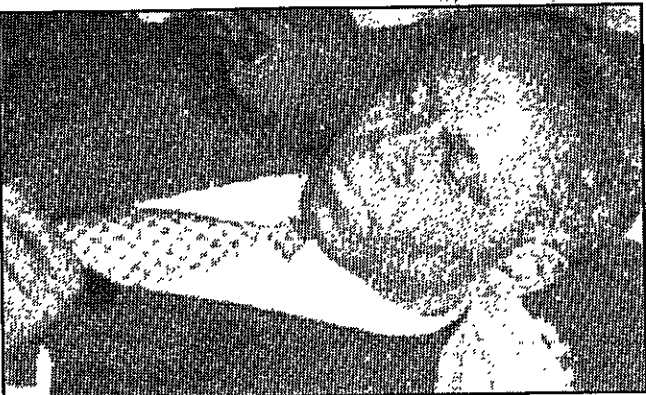
Unless there are serious disruptions or backsliding by either party over the next 10 weeks, the UN Security Council should be able to meet in May to renew the peacekeepers' mandate.

The emphasis now is on fulfilling monthly targets.

January saw the government sending home its South African "military trainers" and quartering its rapid intervention police (PIR). February saw Unita troops moving into four of the UN-supervised quarantering areas.

March should see four more quarantering areas full of Unita soldiers.

South African President Nelson Mandela is to join a long list of visiting dignitaries, which has so far included Portuguese President Mario Soares, US Ambassador to



President Dos Santos. He has repeated his offer of the vice presidency to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, but there has been no public reaction so far.

ly held, with the United Nations reporting a continuing decline in the number of violations.

But while there has been a steady opening of major roads, combined with expanding demining operations, pockets of real instability still exist, particularly in the north-eastern diamond regions.

Both the government and Unita remain loath to discuss their respective stakes in Angola's diamond wealth.

Quizzed on the issue in Libreville, Dos Santos chose to duck, talking instead of how a government of national unity (in which Unita gets the mining portfolio) would address issues concerning Angola's minerals.

Only three days before Libreville, the government confronted Unita over a plane crash close to the diamond centre of Luacapa.

Jumping in advance of a UN independent inquiry, the Chief of Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces issued a communique stating the plane had been shot down and warning of a full investigation into a "tragic and repugnant act".

"It's dangerous as hell out there and the UN doesn't want to know," one senior diamond industry source complained.

"They're making exactly the same mistakes they made in 1992", when an earlier peace pact fell apart.

While the ceasefire may be secure, the quarantering is not.

With more than 16 500 Unita soldiers not registered, the quarantering is now being considered a qualified success.

But the misgivings expressed by relief organisations and others

about issues like the number of child soldiers, provisions for the families of ex-combatants and the endless logistical problems encountered, not least because of the UN's own incompetence, are not going to go away and may grow stronger if the UN forces through a rushed opening of new quarantering areas.

While tensions have eased and UN officials at camps like Vila Nova and Negge point to a growing climate of cooperation, horror stories still abound elsewhere of water supplies not being ready and of Unita commanders still awaiting instructions from headquarters.

There have also been unconfirmed reports of Unita recruiting campaigns in rural areas.

"We're never going to get to talk to these soldiers properly, so what's the point?" one aid worker complained, claiming that independent dialogue with child soldiers was actively being discouraged.

Even if the military issues are resolved, the long-awaited political accommodation is unlikely to be trouble-free.

According to Blondin Beye, Savimbi accepted the vice-presidency months ago.

News of a fresh formal invitation in Libreville brought immediate speculation that this time, at last, nine months after the idea was originally floated, Savimbi would give his public assent.

But he didn't, falling back on a now familiar series of quips about privacy and his reply being for the Sapa-IPS

Farmers give SANDF damages ultimatum

Louise Cook

BD 7/3/96

FARMERS along the Limpopo River have given the SA National Defence Force (SANDF) a week to settle a R60m claim for herbicidal damage to crops, or face court action.

However, the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Association of SA, representing the agricultural chemicals industry, said the March 14 deadline was too soon for a proper investigation.

Transvaal Agricultural Union representative Gert Ehlers confirmed that a group of vegetable farmers along the river held the SANDF responsible for damage to crops when herbicides were sprayed in a fight against bush encroachment in a side hedge.

The farmers refused to comment because, they said, they were negotiating with the SANDF about the matter.

Chemicals association executive director Jan Kleynhans said a joint probe into farmers' complaints by his organisation, the Agricultural Research Council and the poison working group of the SA Endangered Wild Life Trust had started. However, the matter could end in a legal battle because more time was probably needed for the probe.

Kleynhans said abuse of chemicals or herbicides was a criminal offence.

Sapa reports at least 10 farmers along the Limpopo said labels of three types of herbicides found in soil samples on their farms and along the river specified that the herbicides should not be used near water or irrigation lands.

Savimbi set to take No 2 post

- Dos Santos

5 Star 11/3/96

Lisbon - Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said yesterday he believed Unita leader Jonas Savimbi would accept an offer to become vice-president in a government of national unity.

"In Libreville Dr Savimbi showed his firm commitment to peace and to seeking every way to achieve national reconciliation," Dos Santos said in Lisbon after meeting Portugal's President Jorge Sampaio, who was sworn in on Saturday.

"One of these ways is his participation in government to inspire confidence in the peace process, so that all Angolans believe in the work we are doing for the sake of peace and reconciliation in Angola. For this reason I don't believe that he won't accept (the vice-presidency)," Dos Santos said.

He added: "We mustn't be impatient. My letter to invite him formally to occupy the post of vice-president was delivered just a few weeks ago. So we ought to wait some time."

The Angolan government and Unita agreed in Libreville earlier this month to set up a government of unity and merge their armies by July. Under the agreement, Unita must nominate a vice-president, possibly Savimbi. - Reuters.

Illicit prospecting rife as Angolans make diamond scramble way of life

BD 14/3/96

LUCAPA — The guest house at the Sociedade Mineraria de Luacapa (SML) was brimming with officers from the Angolan army's most feared unit, the Comandos. They were in this small but crucial mining town in Angola's diamond belt for a clean-up operation, to rid prime SML land of illegal miners, called "garrimpeiros".

Angola's government is trying to eliminate wildcat prospecting, or "garrimpo", to boost revenues from its sagging diamond production in the provinces of south and north Lunda. Diamond sector sources estimate that illegal operations yield five times more than government production.

One insider said that last year illegal production yielded 3.9-million carats worth \$460m. Official production is estimated at 535 000 carats, worth slightly less than \$150m.

Last September President Eduardo dos Santos introduced a scheme to stimulate the diamond sector. Among its measures was to clamp down on garrimpeiros panning on government concessions. Diamond mines held by the Unita rebel movement were exempted from the scheme.

SML, a joint Portuguese venture associated with Angola's state company, Endiama, has invested millions of US dollars in mining equipment but only one of its seven mines is operating, due to lack of security.

The first military clean-up operation last November eliminated garrimpeiros from an SML digging site. Seen from a helicopter, the deep scars left by the garrimpeiros along the river banks look like abandoned anthills turned inside out.

Mining experts argue the garrimpo endangers national diamond reserves, since industrial exploitation is no longer economically feasible on the polluted land left by the illegal miners while erosion and siltation intensify. The price for the cleanup is paid in

human lives. Both the military and SML say the garrimpeiros are warned well in advance, with megaphones, and through leaflets dropped out of a helicopter; that traditional chiefs called "sobas" and garrimpeiro gang leaders are told, and so are the handful of UN military observers in Luacapa.

Those who defy the warning and remain, risk their lives. Casualty estimates vary from more than one hundred, by local missionaries, to just a handful of deaths, according to local military and mining officials.

As the warnings come through, before the red-beret Comandos march upon the digging sites, burning settlements, the garrimpeiros, although themselves heavily armed with AK-47s, start moving out.

From the helicopter, one can see brand-new equipment, painted bright yellow, sailing slowly down the reddish river in search of safer waters. "They have no shame," a mining official laughed wearily.

Not all the garrimpeiros are poor local peasants. From above, expensive equipment worth tens of thousands of dollars can be seen — as well as thousands of bare-chested, ragged men who look for diamonds with little more than a pan and a shovel.

Garrimpeiros started streaming by the thousands into the Lundas after 1991, when market liberalisation, weakening of state authority and relaxation of controls in this formerly infertile province opened access to wildcat prospectors from as far afield as Brazil and the Philippines.

Many fled when civil war flared up again in November 1992 and Unita occupied large areas of the Lundas, obtaining rich diamond fields and abandoned mining installations. Others remained, making deals with Unita to surrender part of their diamonds in exchange for protection. This is a violent land, Angola's wild

West, where people get on with their daily lives armed with enough firepower to conduct a terrorist campaign.

Yet small theft and muggings are insignificant compared to Luanda, the capital. People walk in the market wearing gold chains and watches, or carrying plastic bags full of diamonds. Cars and homes are left unlocked.

Miners and traders offer diamonds worth many thousands of dollars without looking over their shoulders — as one would in Luanda if carrying only a cheap camera.

"People go to the market with \$2 000-\$3 000 in their pockets to do the weekly shopping and don't get mugged. But let one person not honour their word, or play dirty, and he is a dead man," explained Alberto Lumbua, Luacapa's municipal administrator.

Yet, for the garrimpeiros, finding diamonds worth several hundred dollars each does not amount to wealth. On the contrary: goods are five times more expensive than in Luanda. A beer goes for \$5 in government-held areas, and for \$15 in Unita-held areas. A 50kg bag of mealie-meal costs \$100.

And, although the land is lush and green, only a few scattered "machambas" or plots of beans and cassava can be seen from the helicopter. Women plant those while the men feverishly dig for diamonds.

Whether Unita or Angola's government controls a diamond area is irrelevant to the welfare of locals and garrimpeiros. At the market in Calonda, 30km from Luacapa, a ragged, bare-foot garrimpeiro offers a diamond for \$200, just 20% of its final price.

With this money he is able to buy two 50kg bags of mealie meal. "I dig and dig all week, I find diamonds and still cannot eat meat," he complained.

It is a crazy place, where a child in rags walks into a makeshift shop stocked with only the most basic goods and pulls out \$600 from his pocket —

enough to buy mealie meal, dried milk, rice, soap, toilet paper and cocoa.

This is the life of the garrimpeiros. Traders have a different view. At the Calonda market, a trader or "kaman-gusta" offers three small diamonds at \$1 000. "What do I care if I spend \$100 or \$200 in food daily if I am making \$1 000 to \$2 000 every day?" he said.

This kamangusta crosses between government and Unita-held areas, buying diamonds. He says that, because in Unita areas people are less knowledgeable about prices and quality, he can drive a hard bargain and get cheaper prices.

"Aqui tudo garrimpo, tudo (everybody is digging)," he said. "Army, police, comandos, they all do it." A mining official agreed. "The police may say they have 100 or 150 men, but in fact they will only have 50 on duty while the rest are looking for diamonds," he said.

Although by law only Angolans are allowed to deal in diamonds, Malian, Senegalese, Lebanese, and Belgian traders ply the Lundas, both in government and Unita areas, buying Angola's beautiful diamonds.

"Luacapa's diamonds have a lovely colour, large size and good weight, and are considered to be the best in the world for making jewellery," said Jose Gomez, a diamond expert.

Yet, because of Angola's long-running civil war, which began before independence in 1975, the diamond industry has only skimmed the surface of Angola's wealth.

There are diamonds all over Angola, whose provinces have not yet been prospected. The reserves will last well into the 21st century," Gomez said.

Garrimpo is taking place, albeit at a small scale, along the rivers of Bie and Kuando Kubango province. As the war-induced economic crisis pushes more Angolans into destitution, garrimpo becomes more attractive. — AIA

Diamond fever

BOB DROGIN of the Los Angeles Times reports from Luacapa, Angola, on the wild and dangerous diamond rush under way in the remotest regions of Angola, and on the political and strategic consequences

LIKE most towns deep in the Angolan wilds, this squallid sprawl of earthen-walled huts and tin-topped shanties sits along muddy tracks and open sewers. Naked children play amid heaps of rotting garbage.

Unlike most poor villages, however, huge satellite dishes scour the sky. And the latest Sony televisions and VCRs are hawked in the open-air market.

Life is even more surreal in Dundo. In that remote northern town, insists a recent visitor, only one form of currency is accepted: the \$100 bill.

And in Saurimo, another boomtown in the bush, a furtive man appears on the runway moments after a reporter climbs off a UN plane. Without further ado, the man sticks out his tongue. Something sparkles on it. "Diamond!" he hisses. Then he scribbles the asking price: \$500.

As Angola enters its 16th month of an uneasy ceasefire after Africa's longest-running civil war, what may be the world's richest - and wildest - diamond rush is roaring in the country's northeast frontier.

Experts estimate that amateur diggers scoop and scrape more than \$600 million worth of alluvial diamonds from the muddy riverbeds each year. And that treasure is slim pickings compared to what's still untapped underground.

"Angola has the finest reserve of two-carat, gem-quality diamonds in the world," said an economist at a Western embassy in Luanda, the capital. "Nothing else compares." That's obvious. Unlike miners of

major diamond deposits in Australia, Botswana, Russia and South Africa, free-lance fortune hunters here routinely suffer crocodile bites, cerebral malaria, deadly land mines and predatory police and soldiers.

Especially soldiers. This is the last battleground in the still-smoldering conflict between the elected government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the rebel movement led by Jonas Savimbi. "They're fighting for the wealth in the area," said Indian Captain Ravi Murugan at UN offices in battle-scarred Saurimo. "They're fighting for the diamonds."

The result is a Klondike with a difference. Although government generals have profited, diamond smuggling keeps Savimbi's Unita alive as a fighting force, paying for food, oil and weapons.

That means diamonds may be impeding efforts to bring lasting peace to Angola after more than 20 years of war.

Glittering gems are not mentioned in the pact the two sides signed in Lusaka in November 1994. The United Nations' largest peace-keeping operation, costing \$1 million a day, has struggled for more than a year to enforce the accord, which calls for disarming Unita and power-sharing in government.

But the rivals may prefer to share the spoils. When Savimbi and Dos Santos met in private last year, "they talked about diamonds and how the revenues will be divided," the Western envoy said.

The secret plan collapsed when the government sent troops to chase

out thousands of amateur diggers and armed smugglers. Many were working for Unita. And there was another problem. "The soldiers doing the cleanup operations began to dig for diamonds." Colonel Roque Gallego, the Uruguayan commander of UN forces in the region, said with a laugh.

Local officials then tried a novel approach to frighten outsiders: They announced an outbreak of ebola, the dreaded, incurable virus that killed about 250 people last year in neighbouring Zaire.

"It was just to keep people away from the diamonds," said Annie Tully, an Irish nurse who runs health clinics near Saurimo for Goal, a Dublin-based aid group. "We have the only health statistics. And there wasn't a hint of ebola."

To be sure, chaos and corruption aren't unique here in the diamond fields. Although mineral-rich Angola is potentially one of Africa's wealthiest nations, its people are among the poorest. The economy is such a shambles that inflation topped 3,500 percent last year.

Oil should be the country's life blood. Each year, the government exports about \$3.5 billion worth of crude oil. Most goes to the United States. But the money is unaccounted for.

"The oil revenues are off budget," said the Western economist. "We don't know where it goes."

Even less is known about the diamond trade. Unlike oil, gems are easy to hide - on the tongue, if necessary. The government reported only \$60 million in legal dia-

mond exports last year, a fraction of the illicit trade. Most of the rest apparently is smuggled across the border to Zaire, long the source of Unita's weapons and supplies, en route to world diamond bourses in Antwerp.

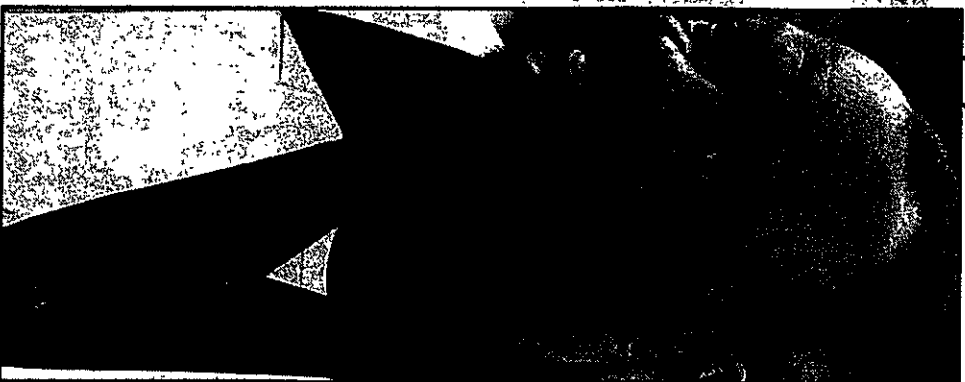
Diamonds may be a symbol of love and luxury elsewhere. Here they are clawed out of the rough by barefoot boys and haggard men using picks and shovels in tiny holes under the baking sun. A few strike it rich. But many more have died.

During the war, relief teams reached cut-off mining camps to find men dead of starvation but with "thick wads of \$100 bills in their pockets," said an American aid worker.

For now, Luanda Norte and Luanda Sul provinces, the main mining region, are a no man's land. Land mines litter most roads and hundreds of bridges have been bombed. Drunken soldiers, use checkpoints to rob passers-by. Bandits are common. Most diggers are armed. "If you stop them, they kill you," said Sawelley, the UN military observer.

The diamonds are along three main river systems. Unita holds the Chuango, to the west. Government forces nominally control rivers near Luacapa and farther east around N'zaji. But in some areas, the two armies are side by side.

The only formal mining is near Luacapa, where Endiama, the state diamond company, has a small operation. The rest is a free-for-all.



Unita leader Jonas Savimbi. A dispute over diamonds is one of the main reasons why peace in Angola is so tenuous.

6) ARS 15/3/96

Diamonds could be forever in Angola

Star 19/3/96 (5)

Although rich in sparkling gems, the Luanda government will remain impoverished so long as its mining industry remains in tatters

WINNIE GRAHAM
Luanda

The toddlers in rural Angola are as beautiful as babies anywhere – but close up they display the typical signs of kwashiorkor: distended bellies and reddish hair.

The streets of Luanda are crowded with good-looking, slender young people – but few have jobs. Petrol is cheap and hijacking is as much a problem in Angola as it is in South Africa.

The main streets are tarred – but in heavy rain many are impassable. Stormwater drainage is non-existent.

Rural people who came to Luanda for protection during the 20-year war huddle together in rough dwellings but there is no sanitation, electricity or stormwater drainage in the large shantytowns. Efforts have been made to deal with garbage, but rubbish still litters the streets.

The buildings are dilapidated and shops virtually non-existent, though one or two upmarket boutiques have opened in recent months.

There are some fine Angolan restaurants but the food is expensive, and there are certainly no fast-food outlets for office workers foolish enough to leave their lunchpicks at home.

Angola has all the problems of poor African countries: not enough schools and underpaid teachers, inadequate health care and impoverished nurses, a shaky peace accord but no work for demobilised soldiers.

Yet diamonds could make Angola one of the richest countries in Africa.

Unfortunately, the precious stones which are the key to the country's prosperity are, as yet, more of a threat than a help.

Today, a little over a year after the Lusaka Protocol put Angola on the path to peace, the former rebel movement Unita still controls 50% of the diamond diggings in the Cuango valley in the north-eastern province of Lunda-Nord, while MPLA government generals hold concessions at many other diamond sites.

It is no secret that diamonds, which should be funding much of the rehabilitation of the country, are in the wrong hands. The country has had to rely on donors for some \$99 million (about R400 million) for humanitarian and development aid – money desperately needed for education, health and housing.

Instead, much of Angola's mineral wealth is being exploited by armed groups of illicit diggers who smuggle their stones through Kinshasa into neighbouring Zaire.

So rough has life become in the diamond provinces that they have been dubbed "the wild west" – a no-go area where the

struggle to control the wealth results in almost daily violence.

And Angola, one of the world's most heavily indebted countries, struggles on without much-needed cash. Most of the state's revenue comes from its offshore oilfields. After Nigeria, it is sub-Saharan Africa's most important producer of oil. The resource earns the country valuable foreign exchange – just as diamonds could if the mining industry was better managed.

Jim McLuskie, a consulting engineer who represents the interests of De Beers and the Anglo American Corporation in Angola, believes that the government there gets only between 5 and 10% of the total diamond revenue because the industry is not properly controlled.

"That's the trouble," he says.

other military generals make money, the chances of them being exploited for the benefit of the country – rather than for personal gain – remain remote.

There are a few diamond mining companies in Angola. The state diamond mining company is Endiama. A Brazilian civil engineering company has an interest in diamonds, and the Portuguese mine in the Lucapa area. Even the Russians have mining interests in Angola.

De Beers mined diamonds in Angola in the 1970s and 1980s, but, as the civil war escalated, operations became too dangerous and the corporation withdrew. However, because Angola's diamonds are every bit as good as Namibia's and South Africa's (more than 90% are gem quality), De Beers is keen to resume

mining which makes for efficient mining."

But, for whatever reason, Angola is proceeding very cautiously with De Beers, preferring to deal with a less experienced (and inadequately financed) Brazilian company.

McLuskie believes this is a natural reaction: Brazil was the first country to recognise Marxist Angola. The peoples speak a common language, Portuguese, and therefore share some common values.

Nonetheless, McLuskie remains hopeful that De Beers will eventually be given permission to prospect.

If it were to find rich deposits, it would negotiate to share mining rights with the state diamond-mining company.

And if De Beers were to identify new diamond areas, its operations could do much to change the living conditions of Angolans.

As a start, one mine could employ several thousand people – but more than that, the revenue generated would certainly help boost the economy.

An Angolan office worker commented: "Perhaps we'd get sewerage then – or perhaps street lights."

Most of the diamonds mined in Angola at present are of the alluvial type. The richest deposits are found in rivers that flow north to the Congo River in Zaire.

Experts believe that they were originally kimberlites which found their way into loose gravel when the rock eroded. Diamond deposits are found mainly in two provinces – Lunda Nord and Lunda Sud.

"With rough diamonds averaging at between \$250 and \$350 a carat (about R1 000 to R1 300), a pocketful of those could set a man up for life," McLuskie muses. "Diamonds are light – and very transportable – easy to smuggle."

It is estimated that the overall value of diamonds found in Angola is round \$600-million a year – half of which probably comes from the Cuango valley, where Unita controls many of the fields.

Satellite pictures reveal that mining is done both by hand and machine.

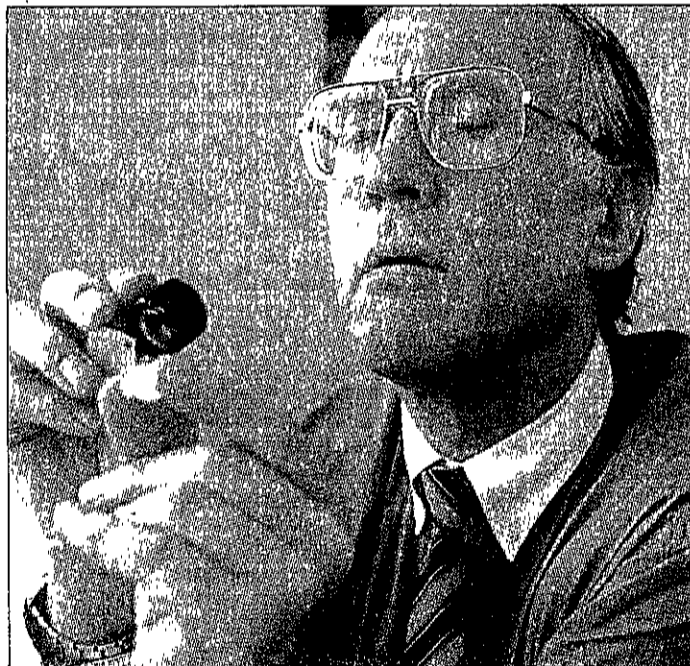
A number of South Africans are working on legal contracts for various Angolan commissions (many of which are owned by MPLA generals) in the Lucapa area. The diamonds they find are sold and the profits shared.

Local residents say, however, that the South Africans who do the work and supply equipment, food and stores are the ones who take all the risks, and that the military men merely use their troops to protect the diggings.

Danger is ever present, yet there is no shortage of diggers. Diamond fever does that.

But, as yet, diamonds do little for the poor of Angola.

ANDREAS VLACHAKIS



Gemstones ... De Beers' Jim McLuskie examines one of the precious stones that could make a difference to Angola's budget.

"In terms of a law passed in Angola in 1992, artisans on diamond diggings are allowed to take diamonds from the fields. In South Africa, on the other hand, there are very tough laws prohibiting the sale of rough diamonds.

Angolans say that although Unita troops are supposed to be incorporated into the Angolan army, few have actually reported for duty. And though no one has pointed fingers at Unita's leader, Jonas Savimbi (who doggedly maintains that he is sick of war and will not fight again), there is a feeling that he will not readily surrender either his troops or his diamond fields.

"He needs both for survival. The diamonds pay his men's wages, buy them uniforms, food and transistors. The troops, in turn, are needed to guard the diamond diggings."

There is little prospect of Savimbi retiring while he has the diamond fields. Yet while he, and

prospecting, and has been involved in negotiations with the state. However, talks stalled some months ago.

McLuskie said this week: "We are waiting for the authorities to call us back to the negotiating table." He believes the alluvial deposits are nearly all worked out and says, in any event, that De Beers is not interested in competing with existing diamond mines.

However, it is interested in buying diamonds from Angola, and wants to prospect for kimberlite diamonds which are found well beneath the surface. In fact, the organisation is prepared to spend \$70million (about R300-million) on "just looking" for the sparkling gems.

"Diamonds are our business," McLuskie said. "We have had years of experience in prospecting for them and mining in South Africa, Canada, Botswana, China, India, West Africa, Zaire and elsewhere and have developed tech-

slices, until grave evidence on DNA blood

Terreblanche dumps reconciliation strategy

Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging leader Eugene Terreblanche yesterday said he could no longer commit himself to promoting reconciliation because nearly two years of passive resistance against the Government had proved fruitless.

"I am no longer prepared to act as a peacemaker while waiting for amnesty to be granted to our people," he told reporters in Pretoria before the burial of

EU finalises trade offer to SA - still protectionist, but progress

Brussels - European Union ambassadors agreed yesterday on the details of a trade offer to South Africa, ending months of wrangling and dissension.

Now EU chiefs are waiting with bated breath to see whether SA will agree to negotiate on the basis of the offer - which contains a strongly protectionist strain.

The trade strategy goes before EU foreign ministers in Brussels on Monday, when it is hoped it will be endorsed with-

Luanda dry after water system damaged

The Angolan capital Luanda ran out of piped water yesterday, forcing many of its 3 million people to queue for supplies ferried in by lorry.

The city's water company, Empresa Provincial de Agua de Luanda, said the situation is very serious. Luanda has no water, not even in its three reserve tanks, and I don't foresee that

the problem will be resolved before next week. He said the city water system had been affected since Tuesday, when heavy rain damaged the main electricity line providing power to pump water from a water station north of Luanda.

Trucks ferrying water from stations on the Bengo River stood in queues in the city's streets as women and children collected containers. - Reuters

South Africa will have to ask itself whether it is interested in a so-called free trade agreement, from which so much agricultural trade is excluded. However, EU officials sounded out their SA counterparts before the latest "hit list" of excluded agricultural products was agreed upon.

EU commissioner for SA João de Deus Pinheiro is set to fly to SA in May to relaunch negotiations. His spokesman João Vale de Almeida said Pin-

heiro would meet Minister of Trade and Industry Trevor Manuel then in order to formally launch the new round.

Abdul Minty, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Foreign Affairs, gave a cautious welcome to the news, warning that SA still has the option of refusing the EU trade offer once it has been formally presented. "We will have to see what space is left for our negotiators," he said. - Independent Foreign Service

Star 23/3/96

Star 23/3/96

Star 23/3/96



Visiting hell for a slice of paradise

(5) / MAR 26/3/96

Though war-torn and poor, Angolans are beginning to realise that their country holds great promise for the future not only through its mineral wealth but the sheer majesty of its beaches and birdlife

By WINNIE GRAHAM
Luanda

Angola is planning to become the playground of Africa. In time it hopes that newly created resorts along its beaches will rival those in the Caribbean, the Indian Ocean and even the Mediterranean Sea.

The decision to capitalise on its coastline - which stretches from Namibia in the south to Zaire in the north - is part of a deliberate strategic plan by the Angolan government which sees its white sands and warm coastal water as a major tourist drawcard.

Angola's beaches, in fact, are ideal for all water sports, ranging from scuba-diving and wind-surfing, to deep sea fishing and yachting. Though Angola is only just emerging from a debilitating 20-year war, it believes it must start planning now to create the infrastructure needed for a world-class tourist industry which will probably reach maturity only in the next century.

Paulino Baptista, the deputy Minister of Commerce, Trade and Tourism, said in an interview that the Angolan government had decided to concentrate on the coastline, rather than on its wildlife, because Africa already had its share of game parks.

"We will not neglect our wildlife reserves, but we see no point in trying to compete with Tanzania's Serengeti Reserve or South Africa's Kruger Park," he said. "Instead, we will encourage developers to help us make the most of our greatest natural resource, our beaches."

The Star's meeting with the deputy minister was arranged by South Africa's ambassador to Luanda, Roger Ballard-Tremeer, who believes Angola has enormous potential as a tourist destination for South Africans. He also invited Ken Newman, one of South Africa's top ornithologists, to visit Angola both to experience the bird life and assess the country's possibilities in the areas around Luanda. The wetlands there attract a wide range of birdlife.

There is no doubt that Angola, despite its shaky peace accord, land-mined countryside and embryonic facilities, has tourist appeal - but the infrastructure will need considerable improvement. There are some reasonable hotels and restaurants but they are expensive, and while it is possible to hire motor vehicles, security is a concern.

As in South Africa, hijackings and crime is commonplace with large-scale



Attracting tourists ... Paulino Baptista, deputy Minister, Trade, Commerce and Tourism in Angola.

employment adding to the problem.

Baptista, however, is looking ahead - and determined to open his country to tourism.

He said Angola this year became a member of the World Tourism Organisation in Paris, an organisation which had offered to help his government "revive and rehabilitate" its tourist industry. It had made technical assistance available and would train key personnel.

At least two hotels, funded by South African interests, were in the pipeline.

"The coastal waters of South Africa are cold in comparison with Angola's," Baptista said. "That is why we believe we can offer the region something special. However, it will need considerable investment. We would like marinas built. We need fishing fleets to encourage tourists to come. We want scuba divers and water-skiers. The creation of facilities is a top priority."

Luanda, he said, was centrally situated and therefore well placed in Africa to provide venues for congresses, fairs and events.

"Please tell South Africa that most hotels in Angola have been privatised and are being run by Angolan businessmen," he said. "If there are South Africans who want to talk to people in our hotel industry they can go straight to them. Only when land is needed to start new projects, is it necessary to work through the Angolan government."

Baptista said South African businessmen had the technical and financial knowhow, as well as the funds, and he would welcome their help in making

his country prosper. Angola would be exhibiting at the Durban Indaba, South Africa's tourist showplace. In addition, there were regular flights to and from Luanda each week.

He described tourism as "the industry of peace" and said Angola had much to offer holidaymakers. Its cultural resources, craft markets and carnivals were great attractions.

Asked if Angola would be willing to forgo visa requirements for South African citizens, the minister said this was a matter of sovereignty - and reciprocity - to be settled between the two heads of states. He, however, was not in favour of lifting all controls for two reasons. Firstly, he had heard that some Angolans had been mistreated in South Africa and he was unhappy about this.

Secondly, most of the drugs in Luanda were coming into Angola through Brazil and South Africa.

"That is why I believe controls should remain in place," he said.

South African ambassador Ballard-Tremeer, believes Angola could become a new destination for South African travellers once the fragile peace had consolidated.

"When holidaymakers are able to move freely, they will have much to see and do," he said.

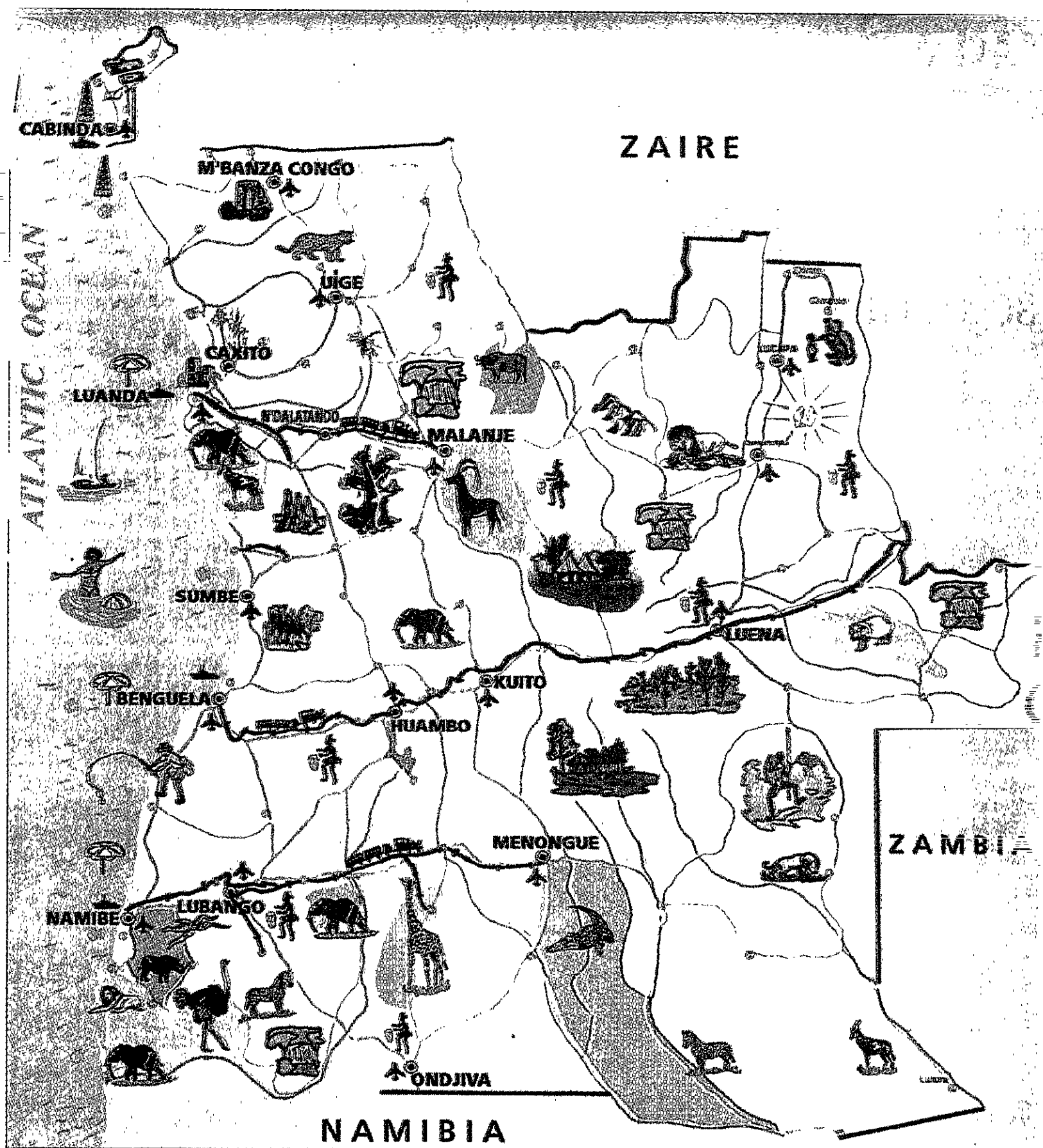
A South African group, he added, was negotiating to build a lodge on the Kwanza River where game fish weighing between 60 and 90 kilograms could be pulled from the water. Just nearby was the huge Kissama National Park which accommodated a number of villages where subsistence fishermen had survived, unchanged for centuries, on fish they speared in the wetlands.

Most South Africans who visited Angola, he said, arrived by air but there was no reason not to do the journey overland, especially if groups travelled together. They could cross into Angola from Namibia at the St Clara border where the road was now being redone.

"I would suggest that visitors can go at the border and travel to Lubango the next day," he said. "There is a hotel there which does not cost the earth. The third night could be spent at Lobito, a lovely little port with some small hotels."

He advised travellers on their own to wait for a convoy when travelling from Lubango because there had been incidences of highwaymen holding up lone vehicles.

"It's not worth taking unnecessary risks," he added.



A birdwatcher's dream, but landmines are a bother

By Ken Newman

One of the "big five" most wanted-to-be-seen birds for most South African birders is probably the palm nut vulture, so-named for its predilection for the fruits of the raffia palm *Raffia australis*.

The most southerly breeding locality for this unusual raptor is the little town of Mtunzini on the KwaZulu Natal coast where a small population has eked out an existence in a small stand of raffia palms for many years.

Imagine my surprise then, during a brief visit to Angola, to discover that this "vulture" was the most common raptor in the vicinity of the numerous pans and lakes that exist in the floodplains of the Cuanza River.

The term "vulture" is something of an enigma when applied to this striking black and white bird having been given originally, one assumes, for its habit of foraging on river and coastal shorelines



Birder's delight ... the striking black and white palm nut vulture, also known as vulturine fish eagle.

for dead fish and other stranded aquatic creatures in addition to the vegetarian diet that is also reflected in its name. However the bird does have the alternative name of vulturine fish eagle. Since a group of us witnessed such a bird swoop down to the waters of a lake and catch a fish in the manner of a fish eagle, the alternative name would seem to be the more appropriate.

Angola, lying as it does in west cen-

tral Africa, and having a diverse range of tropical habitats, boasts an interesting variety of birds not seen south of the Cunene River. Sadly, so many of the habitats that are home to these "Angola specials" are still no-go regions for the visiting birder, thanks to numerous uncleared minefields.

Engineering units of the Brazilian Army, under the auspices of UNO, are busy clearing these areas, but for the time being one treads lightly in ready-made footprints.

The coastal regions from Luanda southwards are fringed by a number of slender peninsulas running parallel to the main shoreline which create large, lagoon-like waters open to the sea and subject to tidal fluctuations. These shallows are feeding grounds for a host of wading birds from the smallest sand-plovers to huge pelicans and long-legged flamingoes.

Further inland attractive undulating green hills liberally studded with giant

baobab trees revealed Monteiro's hornbills, Steppe buzzards and white helmet shrikes plus flocks of olive bee-eaters, another species rated as rare and localised in the south.

In the few scattered villages that we passed through ever-busy lesser striped swallows were building their mud nests on pock-marked buildings and tottering street lamps, while grey-headed sparrows drank from puddles and Familiar Chats flicked their wings from perches as bizarre as the rusting chassis of some derelict vehicle; reminders of the recent civil war that has ravaged the country.

For the time being do-it-yourself birding trips into the interior would be difficult and not without some risk. Perhaps one day there will be a well organised Luanda-based tour company to surmount the present obstacles, but until that time the forests and the special birds must remain tantalisingly out of reach.

Angolan teachers on strike again over pay

CF (BR) 10/4/96 (5) (18)

By LESLEY WROUGHTON

Luanda — Thousands of teachers at Angolan state schools went on strike on Monday, accusing the government of failing to honour a wage deal thrashed out during a month-long stoppage earlier this year.

Schools stood empty in the capital as pupils also stayed away, ignoring a weekend state television plea by education authorities for children to attend classes.

Teachers in Huila and Namibe provinces were on strike while some in Benguela and Malange threatened the same over working conditions and salaries, teachers' union officials said.

"We ... decided to strike ... until an agreement on payment of teachers' salaries (with members of the government is honoured.

"Teachers have not been paid since January," said Anabela Cadete, a senior member of the Sinprof union, which claims about 7 000 members from Luanda's 12 000 teachers.

Education in Angola was badly hit by 20 years of civil war. More than 60 percent of classrooms were destroyed or damaged during the fighting and teachers hoped for improvements when they negotiat-

ed big increases in January after a month-long strike.

The government had agreed to a deal that would increase teachers' pay from about \$10 a month to at least \$115, after a decade in which their income had not changed.

But teachers at just a handful of Luanda's 500 schools have been paid since then, Cadete said.

Government officials were unavailable to comment on the strike, but Cadete said the education ministry had scheduled a meeting for yesterday.

Teachers at privately owned schools in Luanda earn about \$1 000 a month, while the average Angolan citizen survives on about one dollar a month.

Cadete said the pay issue was one of several massive problems facing education in Angola after two decades of civil war, which ended with the signing of a peace pact between the Angolan government and the opposition Unita movement in 1994.

In 1992, 12 percent of the national budget was spent on education. By last year it had fallen to 4 percent of the total.

"In a morning session, teachers have between 250 and 300 children. There are no books and in most classes children sit on the floor," Cadete said. — Reuter

Union claims state reneged on deal to increase salaries from \$10 to \$115

Greens to save Angolan game reserve in Noah's Ark project

BY LESLEY WROUGHTON

Quicama, Angola — Two decades of civil war have devastated Angola's game parks, but environmentalists and business people have launched a plan that will bring back big game to the country's largest reserve in a modern-day version of Noah's Ark.

Elephant, buffalo and other species were hunted by local people and soldiers during the war and disappeared from the Quicama park.

But plans call for replacement animals to be shipped from South Africa at the end of this year.

"It will be like a Noah's Ark. We will ship the animals to the mouth of the Cuanza River where they will be set free," said Gideon Swart, one of the South African developers.

"We plan to introduce game into the park at the end of the year, which will be brought from the Kruger National Park and also private game parks in South Africa, but before we can do that the park has to be reconstructed," he said.

The fighting has destroyed most of the small villages and towns around the Quicama park, but the birds and vegetation managed to flourish.

The re-opening of roads between Luanda and the outlying areas has encouraged people to explore Quicama and see what remains of the countryside after the war between the government and

rebel forces of Unita.

The park covers about 1 million hectares between the Cuanza and Longa rivers and unlike the rest of Angola's countryside, it is largely free of landmines.

The road is open along the coast between Luanda and the port city of Lobito through Quicama, though government soldiers still guard the Cuanza River bridge and search vehicles.

A thin, rusty pipeline at the edge of the road carries oil from wells in the south to the main refinery outside Luanda.

Local people complain that water is scarce and oil, which bubbles to the surface in some places, is plentiful.

Oil

"If you drill for water just a few metres down you get oil," said a local fisherman.

Ken Newman, an ornithologist, recently visited Angola. He spotted 93 different species around Quicama, including rare sightings of ospreys, olive bee-eaters, red-rumped swallows and chestnut-banded plovers.

"The types of species here are not a lot different from those found in the rest of southern Africa, but I have seen some new ones," Newman said, during a two-day excursion which took him to Quicama and east to the marshes around Calomboloca.

(5) CT(BR) 10/4/96

He said the lagoons along the coast south of Luanda provided feeding grounds for a host of wading birds from the smallest sand plovers to huge pelicans and flamingoes.

Angola's agricultural ministry and conservationists from the University of Pretoria have formed the Quicama Foundation to develop the park, which is about 60km south of Luanda.

The Quicama Association (Ecovida) will look after the park's commercial interests and create jobs for the local population of more than 6 000.

Construction has started on the first of four camps at the old homestead of Angola's first president, Agostinho Neto.

The camp, which overlooks the Cuanza River and a swamp area to the northeast, will include about 20 cottages and a restaurant.

One of the proposed plans' first developments is to turn the camp into a 50-room lodge at the mouth of the Cuanza River and close to the beach.

The development would be a perfect weekend getaway for people living in Luanda.

"The Cuanza has record fishing and lots of hippo. There are also large Nile crocodile," Swart said.

The foundation hopes to train demobilised soldiers and the local population in Quicama as game rangers to protect the animals against poachers. — Reuter

Kenyan bourse calls for reform of pension funds

(5) CT (PR) 11/4/96

By MANOAH ESIPISU

Nairobi — Jimnah Mbaru, the chairman of the Nairobi Stock Exchange, yesterday called for pension funds to be reformed to increase savings and raise the bourse's liquidity.

Mbaru said the bourse suffered from a lack of big institutional investors.

"Though the insurance companies have the ability to mobilise savings, existing legislation is discriminatory thereby limiting their active participation in the stock market," he said.

In a letter to Stephen O'Brien, the head of the World Bank mission in Nairobi, Mbaru said a new broad-based pension fund system would have a catalytic effect on the market, improving its liquidity.

Kenya's liquidity was low, at 3.45 percent last year, compared with 11.5 percent for Zimbabwe and 8.5 percent for South Africa.

Mbaru said an extensive, elaborate and thorough reform of pension funds would raise national savings through mandatory contributory schemes.

"It would be futile to continue clamouring for increased investment if no attempt is made to increase the savings base.

"As fund managers would have to invest a portion of the funds in fairly liquid instruments, our stock market would end up being more liquid and vibrant and it would

thus become a viable source of long-term equity capital," he said.

The government's policy framework paper on economic reforms for 1996-98, issued last month, was prepared in collaboration with the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

The government forecast savings at 24.5 percent of GDP in 1998 from 20 percent last year.

Under the reforms proposed in the paper, the National Social Security Fund would be converted into a pension fund and privatised.

Mbaru said the fund's proposed reforms meant greater efficiency, less intervention by government and professional management, but fell short of solving pressing problems in the pension fund sector.

He said the country had more than 200 privately managed pension fund programmes that covered regular income earners. However, people who were self-employed, farmers and small businesses were not covered.

"The net result of lack of these retirement vehicles is that individuals try to invest in land as a ... retirement or insurance programme against old age," Mbaru said.

"The regulation of these fund managers is not clear, their investment strategies are not standardised and their performance in many cases is questionable and little information is available to the public about them." — Reuter

Angola's largest oil producer targets 450 000 barrels a day

New fields to lift Cabinda

BY LESLEY WROUGHTON

Luanda — The Cabinda Gulf Oil Company, Angola's largest oil producer, said it aimed to produce 450 000 barrels a day within three years on its block zero concession.

The company has also said it aims to exploit four new fields off the Cabinda enclave.

The Cabinda Gulf Oil Company is a partnership between Angola's controlling petrol company, Sonangol, which has a 41 percent stake, Chevron, 39,2 percent, Elf Petroleum Angola, 10 percent, and Agip Angola, 9,8 percent.

"A year ago, we had just passed 400 000 barrels a day, today we are producing 420 000 barrels and are targeting 450 000 barrels in about three years on block zero," said Mark Puckett, the director-general of Cabinda.

The oil industry is key to Angola's war-battered economy. The country produces about 640 000 barrels of crude oil a day.

Puckett said production would begin on the new offshore Sanha N'dola fields on block zero next year.

The company has signed a

Paris — Elf Exploration Angola has made the third deep water oil discovery in the Gulf of Guinea off west Africa, Elf Aquitaine, its parent company, said yesterday.

It said Girassol, a discovery well, struck good quality oil in 1 365m of water, 200km northwest of the Angolan capital Luanda. Tests at the site produced 2 800 barrels a day of good crude oil through a reduced choke, Elf said. The discovery is Elf's third well in the Gulf of Guinea following the Nkossa and Moho fields of offshore Congo. Moho is seen as one of the most important finds in an area in which there was record exploration activity last year.

Elf Exploration Angola is the operator of the block 17 drilling licence off Angola, granted by Sonangol, a state oil company. It holds a 35 percent stake. Other partners are Esso Exploration, with 20 percent, BP Exploration, with 16,67 percent, Den Norske Stats Oljeselskap, with 13,33 percent, Norsk Hydro, with 10 percent, and Fina Exploration with 5 percent. — Reuter

\$100 million contract with South African-based Intershore and its partners, Murray & Roberts Holdings, Dorbyl and Amec, to build the platforms.

"We are hoping to produce up to 50 000 barrels a day at Sanha N'dola," Puckett said.

He said Cabinda Gulf hoped to produce about 70 000 barrels a day on each of another two new fields at Lomba-Nemba, also on block zero. Operations will begin next year.

Last year, Cabinda Gulf acquired block 14, adjacent to block zero. It is busy with a \$15 million seismic programme on the 1 million hectare deep water area.

"We are hoping to begin prospecting on block 14 this year, and hope to drill two or three new wells next year," Puckett said.

On block 14 Cabinda Gulf company has a 31 percent share, with partners Sonangol, 20 percent, Agip, 20 percent, Total SA,

20 percent and Petroleus de Portugal SA, 9 percent.

Puckett said a 16-month-old peace pact between the Angolan government and the opposition Unita movement had triggered new interest abroad in the oil-rich country.

"This is the longest period of peace in 35 years. Our operations closed down for a brief period during independence and since then there have been many security incidents, some serious, others tragic, but we were able to work through those.

"What I see is a whole lot of interest, not only in Angola, but pumping down the coast of western Africa, particularly in the deeper water," he said.

Puckett said the burden of high risk carried by investors during Angola's civil war had lessened since the signing of the Lusaka peace pact in November 1994.

"After the Lusaka Protocol, I saw an almost immediate perception of lesser risk and people willing to make investments.

"So that particular burden on our activities has lessened a little bit." — Reuter

(5) CT(BR) 11/4/96

Noah's ark

5) ARTS 11/4/96

LESLEY WROUGHTON of Reuter in Quicama, Angola, and **MOYIGA NDURU** of International Press Service in Nairobi report on efforts to rehabilitate two of Africa's most splendid game parks from the ravages of war.

Two decades of civil war devastated Angola's game parks, but environmentalists and business people have launched a plan to bring big game back to the largest reserve in a modern-day version of Noah's Ark.

Elephants, buffalo and other species were hunted by local people and soldiers during the war and disappeared from the Quicama park. But plans call for shipping replacements in from South Africa at the end of 1996.

"It will be like a Noah's Ark. We will ship the animals to the mouth of the Cuanza River where they will be set free," said one of the South African developers, Gideon Swart.

"We plan to introduce game into the park at the end of the year, which will be brought from the Kruger National Park and also private game parks in South Africa, but before we can do that the park has to be reconstructed," he told Reuters.

While the fighting destroyed most small villages and towns around the Quicama park, birds and vege-

tation have flourished.

Reopening of roads between the capital Luanda and outlying areas has encouraged people to explore Quicama to see what remains after the war between the government and UNITA.

The park covers about one million hectares between the Cuanza and Longa rivers and unlike the rest of Angola's countryside, it is largely free of landmines.

The road between Luanda and the port city of Lobito along the coast through Quicama is open, although government soldiers still guard the Cuanza River bridge and search vehicles.

A thin, rusty pipeline at the edge of the road carries oil from wells in the south to the main refinery outside Luanda.

Angola's agriculture ministry and conservationists from the University of Pretoria have formed the Quicama Foundation to develop the park, about 60 km south of Luanda.

The Quicama Association (Ecovida) will look after commercial interests and create jobs for the park's

estimated population of more than 6 000.

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One of the first developments, according to proposed plans, is a 50-room lodge at the mouth of the Cuanza River and close to the beach, which will be a weekend getaway for people living in Luanda.

The foundation hopes to train demobilised soldiers and the local population in Quicama as game rangers to protect the animals against poachers.

Moyiga Nduru of International Press Services reports from Nairobi that for close to a decade, Garamba National Park in north-eastern Zaire had been safe from poachers. Now, thanks to the automatic weapons pouring in from strife-torn Sudan along with hungry refugees, all that is changing.

The park close to the Sudanese border, is a Unesco World Heritage Site of 4 900 sq kms with the last known wild population of just 30 white northern rhino. It is also home to Zaire's densest elephant population (11 000) and its only herds of giraffe.

"The park has faced increasing pressure from poaching, as the effects of the 12-year civil war in neighbouring southern Sudan spill over into Zaire, and the Zairean economy continues to deteriorate," says Dr Jean-Pierre d'Haut, regional representative of the Nairobi-based World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) for eastern Africa.

With an estimated 80 000 refugees settled around the park in the three reserves of Mondo Misa, Ganga na Bodio and Azande, arms are easily available with the result that both local people and Sudanese refugees are poaching wildlife for "bushmeat" for sale in the local market.

"Despite the local poaching activities, the greatest threat is from across the border, where rebel

armies need food. Men armed with automatic weapons, hand grenades and equipment that attest to their origin are systematically poaching within the park," says d'Haut.

According to the WWF, buffalo, whose numbers have dropped from about 53 000 in 1976 to 25 000 in 1995, are the main target for food. But elephants are also being shot for ivory and in January, tusks from 26 elephants were recovered in the park.

And now, for the first time in 12 years, two of the remaining white rhinos have been killed.

"This is a tragic loss," says WWF-Director General Claude Martin. "With less than 30 individuals left, each animal poached is a severe blow to the chances of survival of this species. The government of Zaire has to do everything in its power to stop poaching that is pushing this species to the edge of extinction."

Martin says he is sending a letter to Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko appealing for his personal intervention.

Canadian aid revives Kenyan oil exploration

By Joe KHAMISI

Nairobi — Kenya is back on the oil exploration trail following a Canadian injection of more than \$500,000 for a study on petroleum exploration in the country.

Six other sub-Saharan countries — Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Seychelles and Mauritius — will be awarded Canadian aid worth an estimated \$4.2 million for similar studies.

An agreement signed in Nairobi between Kenya and Canada last month is part of a regional hydrocarbon study project to assess the country's oil and gas potential and attract the needed international petroleum exploration investment.

The project will be country specific, but reports compiled in

each country will be integrated into a comprehensive evaluation presenting the exploration opportunities in the entire region.

Preliminary studies have indicated the six African countries have substantial oil reserves that remain untapped.

More than 30 wells have been sunk in Kenya since 1954.

International firms including America's Amoco and France's Total Exploratie en Produktie and Shell have tried their luck mainly in the country's semi-arid northern and eastern provinces.

While traces of crude have been found, none of the wells has proved commercially viable.

Because of the high cost of searches, most investors who had rigs, both onshore and offshore, have dismantled their equipment and left. Some left before full

evaluation of production had been completed.

Kenya imports petroleum oils and other products worth an estimated \$8 million a year — an equivalent of a third of Kenya's foreign exchange earnings.

Any oil discovery will mean huge savings for a country that relies heavily on agriculture and tourism.

Petroleum products in Kenya are some of the most expensive in the region because of the liberalisation of the industry and high tariffs charged on imported petroleum products.

The situation in Tanzania, which like Kenya sources their products from the Gulf region, is not different.

In sub-Saharan Africa, Nigeria and Angola are the leading producers of petroleum products.

Overall, the region is said to have an estimated 5 billion barrels of recoverable reserves.

But experts say the region is losing about \$1.4 billion annually in revenue through inefficiency in procurement, refining and distribution methods.

The figure represents 15 per cent of the \$10 billion in oil production.

The study, conducted by the World Bank two years ago, said the region could save most of the lost revenue by changing government policies and shifting business away from government monopolies to private companies.

Most African governments still control the importation and marketing of their petroleum products. — Independent Foreign Service

(5) JCB 11/4/96

Angola needs reform to halt its slide into poverty

(5) BA 11/4/96

**MICHELLE WRONG
in Luanda**

EXPATRIATES call it "The City of the Thousand Smells". There is the stink of urine in public buildings and the whiff of sewage as the rain-flooded drains empty their contents. There is the stench of rotting rubbish piled on the roadside, a sun-baked buffet for rats, dogs and street children.

For the capital of Africa's second largest oil producer and the world's fourth largest diamond producer, Luanda is in bad shape. In a continent of collapsing cities, few have disintegrated more dramatically.

Huge sections of town are plunged into darkness at night as the electricity fails. Water supplies are sporadic and tainted, triggering yearly outbreaks of cholera. In the squalid suburbs, the residents' red-dening hair attests to malnutrition. At every traffic light, multitudes with stumps left by landmines compete with urinals for handouts.

The youths loitering on the sea-front, whose colonnaded Portuguese colonial buildings retain some faded elegance, are in better shape but face an equally bleak future. With 45% of the population under 15 and unemployment soaring, they are unlikely to find work. Their average life expectancy is 46.5 years.

"Angola," says a diplomat, "has among the worst socioeconomic indicators — not just in Africa, but in the world." The official explanation is the

war with Unita. Two decades of civil strife and superpower interference forced the authorities to channel oil revenues into maintaining an enormous army, put large sections of the country off limits to farmers, prevented the free movement necessary to trade, created a population of refugees and lost the authorities control of Angola's lucrative diamond-producing areas.

However, as negotiations with the guerrilla movement grind on and peace begins to seem a real possibility, some observers are looking further for explanations of the extent of the decline.

"Perhaps the highest cost of the civil war is that it has taken attention away from the disastrous economic policies that have impoverished the people," says an African economist. "So much has been squandered."

On assuming power in 1975, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) followed the Marxist route, introducing a system of centralised planning modelled on the Soviet Union in an economy short of skilled labour after 90% of its Portuguese settlers had fled the country.

Inefficient state-owned companies and a cumbersome bureaucracy stifled initiative, artificially low prices kept the urban population happy but penalised business, foreign debts piled up and money was recklessly printed to cover yawning

budget deficits.

By the late 1980s it was clear reform was badly needed and in 1990 the government announced the adoption of a market-driven economy. Price controls were lifted, the kwanza devalued and companies prepared for privatisation.

The 1992 resumption of the civil war, and increasing resistance from insiders who saw their privileges being whittled away, dealt these plans a big blow. However, critical scrutiny started to focus on the system whereby a small elite with ministerial access was allocated foreign ex-

change, allowing massive profits to be made on the differential between official and black market rates.

The arrangement whereby state oil company Sonangol serviced credit lines contracted by the government with oil deliveries, bypassing the finance ministry and central bank, also began to be seen for what it was — a parallel system of public finances offering unrivalled opportunities for corruption.

In recent years the government has shunned backwards and forwards, as reformers supported by the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) push for change and former socialists warn of the danger of street riots. "But each time the constituency

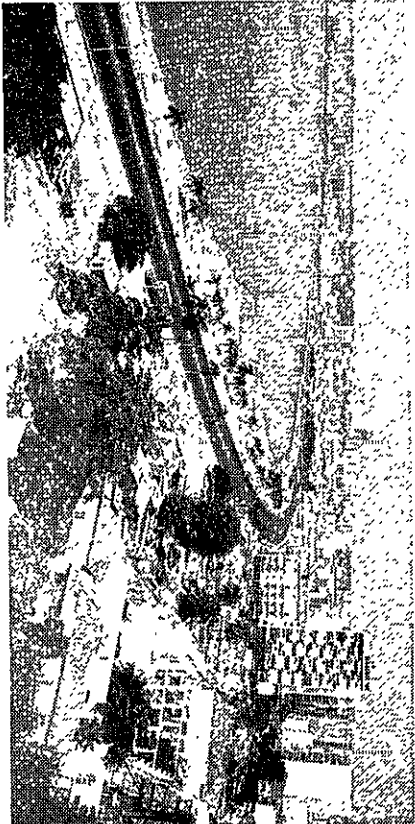
that believes reform cannot be shelved is getting bigger and more vocal," says one economist.

Last year's economic performance, the worst on record, strengthened the reformers' case. Inflation hit 3 700%. A fifth of the population was dependent on aid for survival. A government think-tank is now working on a new reform package for approval this month.

Unless the MPLA takes drastic measures, it will remain cut off from structural adjustment support from the IMF, ruling out a rescheduling of its massive official debts. The \$1bn in aid promised by donors last September to rebuild the country could also be compromised. "The one billion could be a pie in the sky or a pie on the table, depending on two factors: peace and economic reform," said a donor representative.

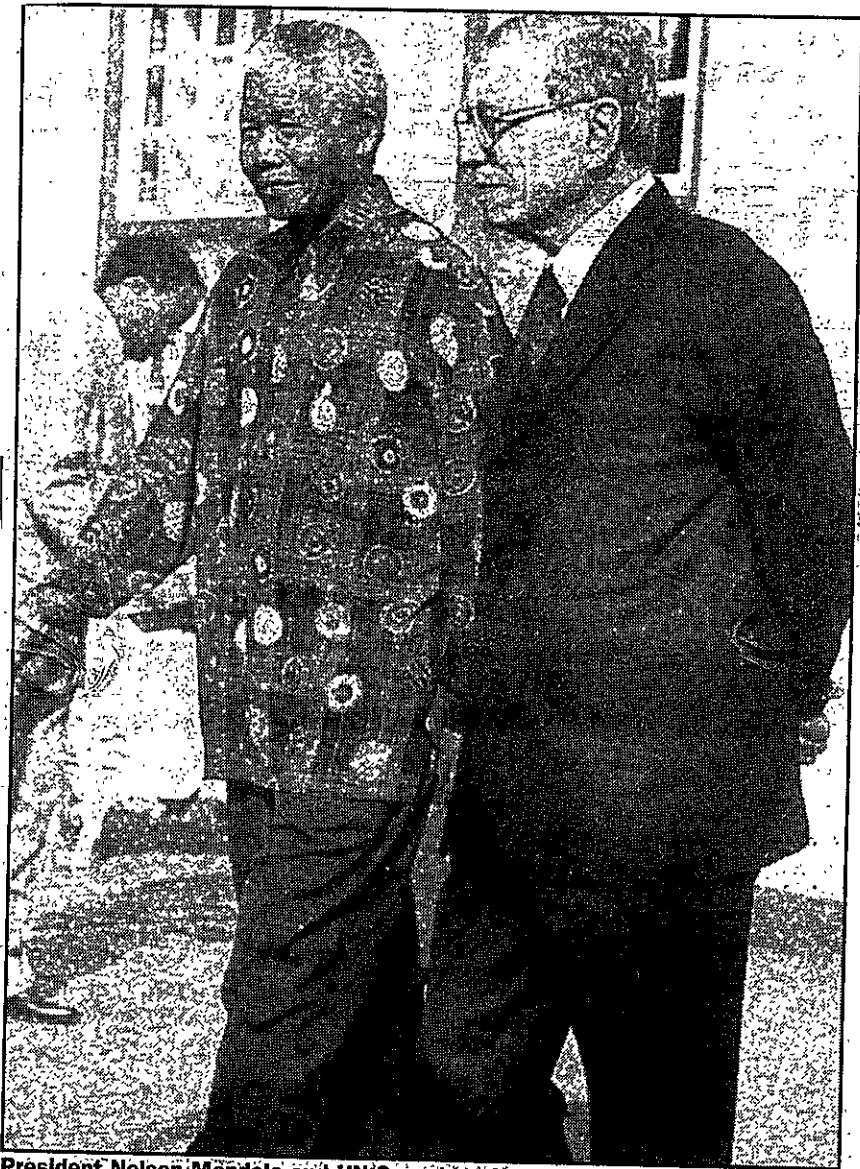
If Angola's slide gets any steeper, the MPLA risks playing into Unita's hands as it prepares a new future as a political opposition movement. Unita leader Jonas Savimbi did, after all, win the support of 40% of the population in the 1992 polls.

"The MPLA knows its management of the economy means it could run a serious risk of defeat in the next elections, especially if the war is not there to scare the population," says a Western diplomat. "The party is going to have to deliver something more than peace and security if it wants to win. To do nothing is akin to suicide." — Financial Times.



LUANDA

LETTERS



President Nelson Mandela and UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali at a ceremony in Pretoria on Friday where South Africa donated R1 million towards peace efforts in Angola.

PIC: PAT SEBOKO

S Africa gives UN R1-m for refugees

Sowetan 29/4/96

It is a contribution towards the refugee crisis and the peace process in Angola

By Coudjoe Amankwaa

PRESIDENT NELSON MANDELA at the weekend presented two cheques totalling R1-million to UN Secretary General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali towards the refugee crisis and the peace process in Angola.

"South Africa made its commitment towards peace in the region, by making available R913 000 to UN High Commissioner for Refugees for the transfer of UNHCR vehicles and equipment to Angola from Harare, where they are stored after use in UN Mozambique operations," Mandela said at the presentation.

The presentation, held at the presidential residence in Pretoria, was attended by senior UN delegates and top government officials.

After receiving the money, Boutros-Ghali paid tribute to Mandela.

"Mandela is the godfather of Africa, and the godfather of myself," he said to a thunderous applause from the delegation.

Last month, South Africa acceded to the 1951 refugee convention, its 1967 Protocol and the 1969 OAU Convention on Refugees in Africa.

The essential purpose of the UN Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol is to provide for a legal regime which ensures protection for refugees.

Amongst others things, the convention

provides that those who are outside their countries of origin or of habitual residence because of well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion should enjoy protection.

The Convention also provides that once a refugee is recognised, identity and travel documents are to be issued by the contracting state.

Forced repatriation or non-refoulement as well as expulsion of refugees is prohibited, unless the refugee is regarded as dangerous to the security of the country of asylum, or has been convicted by a final judgment of a serious crime against humanity.

Cessation of refugees

It provides cessation of refugee status once the legal requirements governing refugees have been flouted.

The OAU Convention on Refugees in Africa recognises the need for an essentially humanitarian approach towards solving the problems of refugees.

It asserts that the problems of the continent must be solved in the spirit of the Charter of the OAU.

The UNHCR office in South Africa has congratulated Mandela for acceding to the conventions.

Angolan peace process under pressure as UN reviews its role

(5) BO 7/5/96

LUANDA — Angola's peace process comes under pressure this week as the UN reviews its peace-keeping role in the country which has been racked by two decades of civil war.

The UN mandate expires tomorrow and secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who has strongly criticised delays in implementing the 1994 peace accord, wants the mission to Angola renewed for only two months.

The mission, which costs about \$1m a day, includes 6 500 peacekeepers overseeing an agreement between the Angolan government and Jonas Savimbi's former Unita rebels, intended to end Africa's longest-running civil war.

"We cannot say that the process is going smoothly ... any peace process is like a long and turbulent river. It is a complex process, you cannot expect anything less after 20 years of war," UN chief mediator in Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, said.

The UN Security Council extended the mandate in February for three months, but warned Angola's rival leaders it was fast losing patience.

In the run-up to the February decision, Savimbi pledged to disarm 16 500 troops, but fell far short of that figure by the deadline. Last week he promised to disarm another 30 000 troops in time for tomorrow's UN decision.

Unita, with an estimated 62 000 fighters, has disarmed 27 000 soldiers at 10 assembly camps since January, for demobilisation or integration into a united national army. A major problem appears to be a lack of trust between the long-time enemies.

Isaias Samakuva, Unita representative on a joint peace committee, said things often went wrong just when the process appeared to be going well, and although the rivals continued to talk to each other, there appeared to be hidden issues that were not addressed.

Government representatives suspended their participation in the peace commission last week, accusing Unita of dragging its boots over disarmament, and saying they would return only when more rebels had been demobilised.

"Until Unita disarms the majority of its troops, there will never be real peace because the govern-

ment, and the people for that matter, will always be looking over their shoulders," a Western diplomat said.

"The one thing we learned in guerrilla life is that the rifle is sacred ... it is earned and we even say it is our second wife. Today our soldiers are asked to give up their rifles to strangers. Psychologically that is something very big," Samakuva said.

He said Unita believed the UN's role was crucial to the process. "We would like it if the UN extended its mandate for another six months. It plays several roles ... also as an obstacle to bad intentions," Samakuva said.

Unita's Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos agreed in talks in March to set up a government of national unity by July, but the UN's Beye said the immediate priorities lay elsewhere.

"For now let's not set deadlines.

"Let us concentrate on the quartering of troops and rapid intervention policy, conclusion of a single army, free circulation of people, demining and the disarming of the civilian population," Beye said. — Reuter.

'THE RIFLE IS SACRED'

Angolan peace fragile as UN reviews its role

(5) CT 7/5/96

LUANDA: The UN-mandate in Angola may be extended for another two months when it comes under review tomorrow — but the Security Council is losing patience with the slow progress of peace talks and disarmament.

ANGOLA'S peace process comes under pressure tomorrow as the United Nations reviews its peacekeeping role in the country.

The UN mandate expires tomorrow and secretary-general Dr Boutros Boutros-Ghali, who has strongly criticised delays in implementing the 1994 peace accord between the Angolan government and Dr Jonas Savimbi's former Unita rebels, wants the mission renewed for just two months.

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A major problem appears to be a lack of trust. Mr Isaias Samakuva, Unita representative on a joint peace committee, said things often went wrong just when the process appeared to be going well, and although the rivals continued to talk to each other, there appeared to be hidden issues that were not being addressed.

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"Until Unita disarms ... there will never be real peace because the government and the people for that matter, will always be looking over their shoulders," a Western diplomat said.

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Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos agreed to set up a government of national unity by July, but Beye said the immediate priorities lay elsewhere.

"Let us concentrate on the quartering of troops and rapid intervention policy ... a single army, free circulation of people, demining and the disarming of the civilian population." — Reuter

WORLD

Unita demobilises 30 000 fighters

LUANDA — Unita met its promise to disarm 30 000 fighters by yesterday as the UN's Security Council began a review of its peacekeeping mandate in Angola, a UN official said.

The rebel movement's leader Jonas Savimbi had pledged he would reach the target by the time the UN assessed its mission to Angola, to show his commitment to ending two decades of fighting.

"The latest figures we have show that Unita had quartered 29 386 troops, but this would have gone well over 30 000 by today (Wednesday)," an official said.

Unita has a total estimated number of 62 000 fighters. Disarmed troops are housed at 10 assembly camps around the country.

At the same time Angola's National Assembly, where the MPLA government holds a majority of 129 seats out of a total of 220, was expected to pass amendments to an amnesty law yesterday.

The changes are expected to pave the way for Unita officials and fighters to return to Luanda to take part in a national army and coalition government by July.

The government and Unita signed a peace accord in Novem-

ber 1994 to end almost 20 years of war which erupted on independence from Portugal in 1975.

Unita has proposed that the amnesty covers the entire conflict from 1975. The law covers the conflict from 1992 when Unita lost elections and returned to war.

Western diplomats said yesterday they doubted the UN would extend its mandate beyond three months, to keep pressure on the government and Unita to complete the process.

"Many people are pushing for two months until the end of July when the unity government is meant to be in place, but bureaucrats are pushing ... for pressure on both sides to complete the peace process quickly," one diplomat in Luanda said.

The UN envoy to Angola, Alioune Blondin Beye, this week met Savimbi and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos separately to deliver a message from UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali ahead of May 8. The message is believed to have urged both men to speed up the implementation of the peace process which is costing the international community \$1m a day.—Reuter.

20 9/5/96

SPARKLERS IN THE MUD

Diamonds are worth far more than the lives of those raking them out of Angola's eastern rivers, writes PETER De IONNO

ST 26/6/96

WHEN South African Cicero Combrinck went for a bath in Angola's Chiumbe River, the first promising sample of a joint diamond-mining venture literally went down the drain.

Stones weighing four carats and worth \$4 000 (about R17 440), which he was looking after, swirled downstream, heading north to Zaire in the muddy current.

The Angolan partners, an army brigadier and a chain of connections from the filthy backstreets and teeming tenements of Luanda, who stumped up \$50 000 to buy the diamond concession along the river, were remarkably understanding. They simply told Mr Combrinck he could pay them the \$4 000 from his share of production.

Now, after almost six weeks without another diamond being found, frustration has turned into desperation.

The South Africans, isolated and under virtual house arrest in Fucuama, in north-east Angola, have started fighting among themselves. And Cicero admits that a wedge has been driven between the Angolans and the South Africans.

But the reality is that whatever their unspoken suspicions, the Angolans need the South Africans, both for their mining expertise and the minimum R1-million capital required to exploit a concession.

The dream of striking it rich is all that makes life in the wild and brutal diamond fields almost bearable.

At Fucuama, Cicero and six other South Africans are watched night and day by a motley gang of ex-soldiers armed with automatic weapons, two-way radios, sharp eyes and suspicious minds.

Any trip away from the concession, even a stroll to the market, is impossible without at least one AK-47-toting thug insisting on joining the outing. And these war-hardened characters use their guns at the slightest excuse. Three weeks before we arrived, one of the guards awoke in the middle of a nightmare and shot his two companions. One lost a leg.

Movement further afield to Luanda or home to South Africa is out of the question. The South Africans have not seen their passports since they arrived at Dondo airport, via an overnight stop, sleeping on their machinery on the tarmac, at Luanda five weeks before.

Diver Gert Potgieter is growing impatient. He blames Cicero for the lack of progress and talks of selling his old bakkie, his contribution to the partnership, to pay the security guards and buy a ticket home.

He and Nicholas Robertson, a diamond diver at Port Nolloth for 10 years, are living on pap and beans.

"We brought enough food for two months, but because the guards weren't paid we had to share it with them. I don't know what we will do when the coffee runs out."

Food in the diamond fields is almost as scarce as the gems, and all of it is flown in.

DANGER

Sharp entrepreneurs are making fortunes with a Coke costing R6, an egg R8 and chickens starting at R100.

Isaac Inkom, a boilermaker and machinery operator from Vryburg, says he is there because he was promised R8 000 a month. At home he was earning only R1 500.

"I have not been paid, but I have to keep working because until we find the diamonds there's no money."

The partners do not have a boat to use as a mobile platform on the Chiumbe or sonar to search for crevices in the riverbed where the diamonds, heavier than other stones, accumulate as the current slows. They find likely sites by following the *garimpeiros* (diggers).

"They don't stay in an area unless they are finding diamonds. They only pull a bucket of gravel at a time. There is plenty left after they move on," says Gert.

"With our equipment, pumps and breathing equipment, we can shift 20 tons a day.

"If you hit a sweet spot you can pull out eight carats or more a ton. Then you are really in business."

It sounds easy, but underwater, with visibility little more than zero, the divers battle to stay alive.

"The river is raging down there," says Nicholas.

"Even with a 50kg weight belt, you have to wrap your legs around the pump nozzle and hang on for dear life or you will end up being washed into Zaire."

The deadly river, up to a kilometre wide, is the least of the dangers.

In Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul, Unita attacks, fights among peasant diggers, gangsters, kidnappings and ambushes are as much of a risk as the endemic malaria.

It's a big, empty country way beyond the reach of the underpaid, corrupt and disorganised police.

Rob van Rensburg, a diver from Johannesburg, said he had seen a Polish miner "shot to pieces" by Unita as he crossed a rope bridge. "Bodies without heads and arms come floating down the river all the time," he said.

But the dangers make little difference to the Angolans, Zaireans, Israelis, and now the South Africans, who are scrambling over each other to get a piece of the action.

As we left Dondo, more get-rich-quick opportunists were arriving.

First down the steps of a battered cargo plane was Christopher "Kit" Bawden, the former Rhodesian who led the South African Defence Force team which bombed ANC safe houses and blew up a hired driver in Harare in 1988. Bawden fled and left his companions to be jailed.

"I am here to dive, that's all. Just forget you've seen me," he said, as he crossed the runway.



HUNGRY . . . diver Nicholas Robertson is living on pap and beans while diamond

Jewel lust in Angola dust

THE scramble for Angola's diamonds serves as an apt metaphor for the chaos in that war-ravaged country.

After Unita's rejection of the 1992 election results, the rebels grabbed the richest diamond areas along the Cuango River in Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul, using revenues estimated at more than \$1-million (about R4,3-million) a day to restart the civil war.

The move decimated government income from diamonds, cutting officially declared production to around \$6-million a month. The other 90 percent is smuggled out of the country or mopped up for cash by De Beers' agents on the diamond fields.

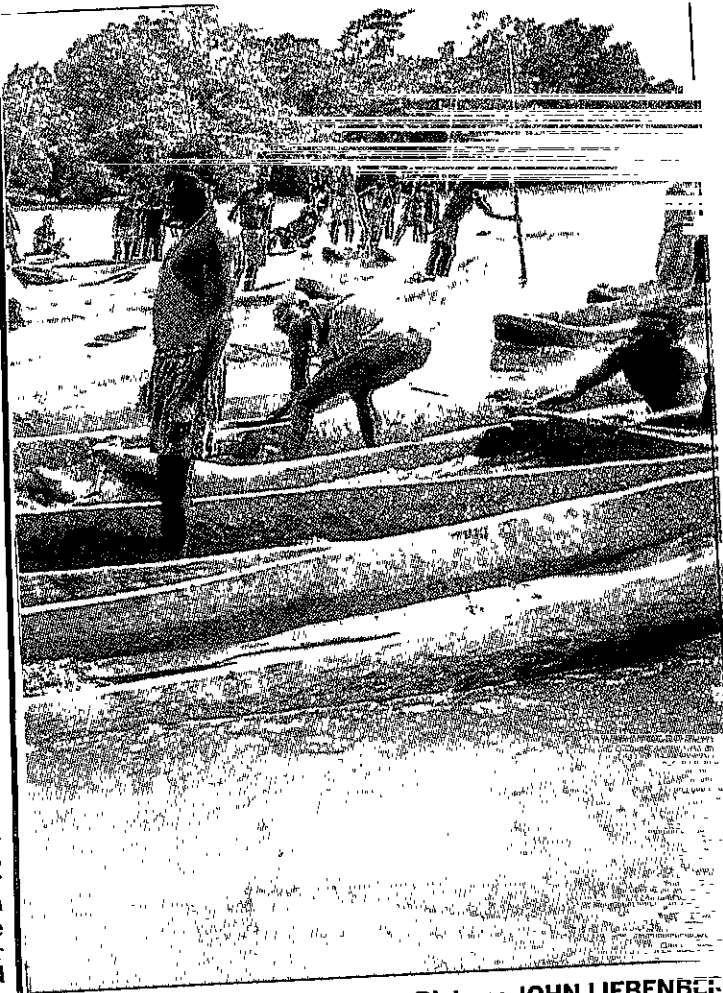
Since a law was passed in 1992 allowing individuals to own or sell diamonds, the Lundas have been swarming with *garimpeiros* (diggers), who, with a shovel over one shoulder and an assault rifle over the other, have turned river banks into cratered moonscapes.

They dig huge pits to reach deposits of alluvial gravel or simply hold their breath and dive from dugout canoes into the fast-flowing rivers to scoop up gravel, a bucket at a time.

On the Chiumbe River we found more than 200 *garimpeiros* on a river bend. They were border-hopping Zaireans and ex-soldiers, teachers and government workers, who had abandoned jobs in Luanda because they weren't paid.

Bloody turf battles are expected now that the MPLA government is selling off concessions, usually to government officials and generals.

The intensity of diamond fever can be seen at Luanda airport where dozens of hopefuls clamour for scarce places, at up to \$150 a time, on daily cargo planes.



Angola's Chiumbe River

Picture: JOHN LIEBENBERG

Why Dos Santos sacked Angolan govt

Months

Country on the verge of collapse, says president as inflation soars to 3 700% a year

5) MAY 16 1996

REUTERS
Luanda

Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has sacked his government as a first step to rebuilding a country crumbling around him, political analysts said yesterday.

The president fired the government and the central bank governor on Monday in a bid to tackle a deep economic crisis, saying the country was on the verge of collapse.

Poverty was extreme, social breakdown was widespread and people were becoming desperate, Dos Santos told the nation.

He issued a decree appointing national assembly president Fernando Franca van Dunem as

prime minister to replace Marcolino Moco.

"The change is definitely aimed at reform and he (Dos Santos) is trying to get a grip on the economic chaos of this country," a political analyst in the capital Luanda said.

"The president has slowly been isolating himself from his party and from the people, and this is an attempt to regain power."

A lawyer by profession, Van Dunem was prime minister for a year from 1991. He has also held posts as ambassador to Belgium, Spain and Portugal and as vice-minister of foreign affairs, justice minister and planning minister.

"Van Dunem is a political realist and a much stronger character

than Marcolino Moco.

"We can expect to see several ministers go when Van Dunem chooses his new government within five days," the analyst said.

Another political observer said Moco had long been a critic of the style of his president, who has become something of a recluse since the signing of a peace agreement between his formerly Marxist MPLA government and UNITA rebels to end 20 years of civil war in November 1994.

The sacking of Marcolino Moco does not come as a surprise considering he has been a critic of Futuango de Belas (the presidential palace) for some time now. He has sought more power as prime minister. He was fired of being sup-

pressed ... and told to sit down and be quiet.

Van Dunem has been prime minister before ... he is an able technician," the analyst said.

Van Dunem has been given five days to appoint a cabinet and while some members of Moco's cabinet might be kept on, Finance Minister Augusto Tomas and Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura are expected to go.

Some provincial governors were also likely to be fired, the analyst said.

The sacking of Antonio Futuado, head of the central Banco Nacional de Angola, was largely symbolic, and a sign that something would be done to fight inflation, currently running at over 3 700%.

"It is time that a lid is put on inflation and steps are taken to control the economy so that the country's wealth can benefit the people and not just a few," said one economist.

Angola, rich in oil and diamonds, was one of the world's largest exporters of coffee, but the economy was shattered by nearly 20 years of proxy war between the Soviet and Cuban-backed government and UNITA rebels supported by South Africa and America.

Foreign governments have called on Angola to take concrete steps to fight inflation and liberalise the economy, including scrapping a system of dual exchange rates, cutting subsidies to inefficient businesses and slashing the budget deficit.

Employees at the Angolan consulate in Johannesburg have not been paid for up to five months, leaving many scrambling for handouts, vice-consul Narciso do Espirito Santos said yesterday.

The cash-strapped Angolan government owes some South Africans employed by the consulate three months in wages, while regular staff, including the consul and vice-consul, are owed about four months of pay.

"This isn't a secret for anybody," Do Espirito Santos said. "It is quite a few months they (the government) are in arrears for our salaries."

He said they had contacted the Angolan government two weeks ago but only got loose guarantees that they would be paid soon.

"It could be tomorrow or next week or in the near future when we get paid but I am confident the issue will be resolved."

About 11 employees at the consulate - a barren office in the

Some need handouts to feed their families

Do Espirito Santos said the consulate staff tried to help where they could, but they had to wait for real financial help from their government.

"The consulate knows that it is difficult to work on an empty stomach. Now and then we give them a little financial help."

An employee at the Angolan embassy in Pretoria who requested anonymity also said he was owed money in unpaid salaries. The embassy had recently been moved to a less expensive area of Pretoria from its upmarket location at Brooklyn.

Officials at the embassy were not available for comment.

"Angola is going through a transition period but I believe it will only be for a short period of time," Do Espirito Santos said.

In February, more than 45 sickly Angolans getting medical treatment in South African hospitals were booted out of a hotel because they owed more than R1.6 million in accommodation bills.

Under its socialised medical system, Angola pays for citizens suffering from critical ailments to be treated in other countries.

Madeleine Hotel owner Chuchu Weinbeck said yesterday the Angolan government still owed her R600 000 in unpaid bills. "They have told me they will pay but I just don't know when," - Sapa.

Without pay for diplomatic staff

THE SAKS REPORT, TIME 5 1996

Angola to form new government

By Lesley Wroughton

ET(BR) 5/16/96

Luanda — The Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos sacked his government as a first step to rebuild a country crumbling around him, political analysts said yesterday.

The president fired the government and the central bank governor on Monday to tackle a deep economic crisis. He said poverty was extreme, social breakdown was widespread and people were becoming desperate.

He issued a decree appointing the national assembly president Fernando Franca van Dunem as prime minister to replace Marcelino Moco.

Van Dunem was prime minister for a year from 1991. He has also held posts as the ambassador to Belgium, Spain and Portugal and as the vice-minister of foreign affairs, the justice minister and the planning minister.

An analyst said Moco had long criticised his president's style. Dos Santos had become something of a recluse since the signing of a peace agreement between his formerly Marxist MPLA government and the Unita rebels to end 20 years of civil war in November 1994.

Van Dunem has been given five days to appoint a cabinet. Some members of Moco's cabinet might be kept on, but the finance minister, Augusto Tomas, and the foreign minister, Venancio de Moura, were expected to go.

The sacking of Antonio Furtado, the head of the central Banco Nacional de Angola, was a sign that something would be done to fight inflation, which is running at more than 3 700 percent.

Angola was one of the world's largest exporters of coffee, but the economy was shattered by 20 years of a proxy war between the Soviet and Cuban-backed government, and the Unita rebels supported by South Africa and the United States.

Foreign governments have called on Angola to fight inflation and liberalise the economy, including scrapping a system of dual exchange rates, cutting subsidies to inefficient businesses and slashing the budget deficit.

The economists said there had not been any sign of what action Van Dunem would take in these areas. — Reuter

Angola's Dos Santos misses his pet scapegoat

(5) AD 6/6/96

THE sacking of Angola's cabinet and the governor of the central bank by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has confirmed what most Angolans suspected: that the government in Luanda is as much to blame for their plight as Jonas Savimbi, leader of rival Unita.

In an attempt to tackle the worsening economic crisis, the president dismissed Prime Minister Marcelino Moco and all his ministers on Monday and suspended foreign exchange trade.

For two decades, Angola has been locked in civil war and the refusal by Savimbi to recognise the government's legitimacy has provided the ruling party, the formerly Marxist MPLA, with a convenient scapegoat.

How could the economy be restructured, the politicians argued, when the war required the maintenance of a huge army, when much of the interior remained cut off from the capital, when thousands of refugees needed support and when the lucrative diamond mining areas remained firmly in Unita hands?

But with the laborious peace process presided over by the UN showing signs of achieving lasting peace, the weaknesses of the MPLA's position and the marked absence of a

"peace dividend" are becoming obvious. The government's failure to see through reforms, which are being introduced with some success by other African nations, has been thrown into stark relief.

Diplomats warned recently that public dissatisfaction with official corruption and mismanagement had reached levels where a civil up-

MICHELLE WRONG in Luanda

rising, rather than second thoughts by a fickle Unita, constituted the biggest threat to peace.

Few visiting Luanda today would guess it is the capital of Africa's second largest oil producer, an offshore asset the government has been able to tap throughout the war.

The coastal city, still graced by the elegant buildings of the Portuguese colonial era, has become a symbol of Third World decay, awash with rotting garbage and swarming with crippled fighters and street children begging for alms. At night much of the city is without electricity; water supplies were halved more than a month ago.

Last year's economic performance was the most disappointing on record, with Angola logging some of the worst socioeconomic indicators in the world. Inflation hit 3 700% and a fifth of the population relied on aid to survive. The national currency, the kwanza, now changes hands at 220 000 to the dollar, compared with 43 000 just a month ago.

The fact that such misery is not shared by all — in particular an os-

tentiously wealthy political elite that has profited from exchange controls and oil dealings — now constitutes the main threat to Dos Santos's presidency.

Always nervous at signs of popular discontent, the president cancelled a trip to Japan last month when he heard that youths in one of Luanda's poorest areas were plan-

ning a demonstration and that anti-government pamphlets were being circulated.

Fernando Franca van Dunem, named as the new prime minister by presidential decree, was given five days to form a new government. Its mandate will be to revive reforms recommended by the IMF and World Bank. These have been launched repeatedly in the past, only to be undermined by official foot-dragging.

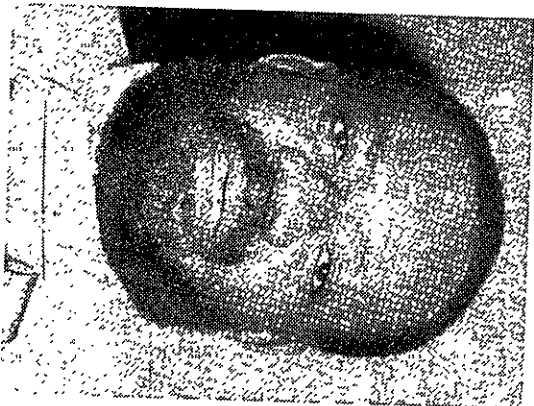
While Van Dunem, the former Speaker of parliament, is hardly regarded as a radical, there are reasons to believe the attempt to move towards a free market economy will be embraced more rigorously now.

Although the peace process is running behind schedule, a government of national unity, with key ministries allotted to Unita, is due to be formed at some stage this year. While Unita remained an outcast rebel movement and the country was at war, the MPLA could appeal to Angolans' patriotism.

But now that Unita, which won 40% of the vote in 1992 elections, is about to become a legitimate political player capable of trouncing the MPLA in future polls, the government can no longer afford a disappointing record. — Financial Times



DOSSANTOS



SAVIMBI

LETTER

Angola suspends all banking transactions in restructuring bid

(6)
AR 6/6/96

LUANDA— Angola's national bank has suspended its activities temporarily until a new governor is appointed, a bank official has said.

"There is nothing going on in the bank. All foreign transactions and trading has been stopped. We are waiting for the government to appoint a new governor. Until that time the bank's activities are suspended," the official said.

This follows Angolan president José Eduardo dos Santos' sacking of bank governor Antonio Furtado along with Angolan prime minister Marcolino Moco.

He named Fernando Franca Vandunem, president of the national assembly, as new prime minister. Mr Vandunem has five days to name a new cabinet or reshuffle the existing one.

Economists said they expected the announcement of a new medium- to long-term economic policy soon after the forming of a new cabinet.

In an address to the nation Mr Dos Santos spoke of a complete breakdown of infrastructure, hyperinflation of 3 000 percent, a worsening budget deficit and the existence of two money exchange systems which had discredited banking activities.

"The country is in a very grave crisis. Social breakdown is evident, the poverty of the population is extreme," he said.

An economist said government efforts to redress the economic situation over the past three years had been fruitless because of a breakdown in administration.

"We have seen the government trying to take some steps to improve the situation. It has been a technical victory, but nothing that shows popular reform," an economist said.

Steps taken this year to improve the country's economic crisis included the creation of an oil account register, the cutback of subsidies on petrol and the implementation of a new management structure for the State's treasury.

The economist said an economic policy that promoted fiscal discipline, eliminated the current 155 percent gap between the official and parallel exchanges, liberalised commerce and cut subsidies would be welcomed.

The government subsidises oil products, energy, water, telecommunications and air transport, mostly with its annual oil revenues of \$1,6 billion (R6,9bn).

The country has been paralysed by a 20-year civil war between the government forces and Unita rebels under Jonas Savimbi and millions of landmines have prevented people from resuming agricultural production.

Both sides are implementing a peace pact signed in Lusaka, Zambia in November 1994.

"It is hard to speculate what the government will do. This country needs very basic economic steps that will



FIRED: Angolan Prime Minister Marcolino Moco.



CHANGE NEEDED: Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos said the country needed profound political change.

start the process moving.
"Fiscal discipline should be one of the biggest steps of the new policy because it will promote monetary discipline," an economist said.

Angola puts freeze on national bank

By Lesley Wroughton

(5) CT (BR) 6/6/96
new cabinet.

Luanda — Angola's national bank has temporarily suspended its activities until a new governor is appointed, a bank official said yesterday.

"There is nothing going on in the bank. All foreign transactions and trading have been stopped," the official said.

On Monday, the Angolan president Jose Eduardo dos Santos sacked the governor of the bank, Antonio Furtado, together with his prime minister, Marcolino Moco.

He named Fernando Franca van Dunem, the president of the national assembly, as Angola's new prime minister. Van Dunem was given five days to name a new cabinet or reshuffle the existing one.

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The country has been paralysed by a 20-year-old civil war between the government and the Unita rebels. Millions of landmines have prevented people from resuming agricultural production.

Both sides are implementing a peace pact signed in Lusaka in November 1994.

A World Bank report in 1990 recommended a combination of shock treatment and a gradual approach for economic reform.

It said reform should involve price and wage adjustments, a depreciation of exchange rates, more flexibility in allocating foreign exchange and more accountability for public enterprises. — Reuter

Angolan crisis: Mandela calls off visit

(6) MTG 7-13/6/96

Gaye Davis

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela has called off his visit to Angola in the wake of President José Eduardo dos Santos's sacking of his Cabinet and the governor of the central bank.

Mandela was to have left South Africa on Tuesday for a largely symbolic visit, during which he would have addressed the Angolan Parliament. It was intended as a gesture of goodwill to send a signal that the United Nations-brokered peace process was working and to boost confidence in the region.

"The president sent a note to President Dos Santos this morning asking that the visit be rescheduled due to prevailing circumstances," said presidential spokesman Parks Man-kahlana.

"The president feels it would be inconsiderate to impose a state visit of this magnitude on the Angolan government while they were undergoing a period of transition."

In the letter Mandela assured Dos Santos of his full support in addressing the problems which had led to the dissolution of the government and said he was committed to ensuring the success of the peace process.

Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo will travel to Angola on Monday to convey a personal message to President Dos Santos from Mandela.

On Monday, Dos Santos axed prime minister Marcolino Moco and all his ministers and suspended the country's foreign exchange trade.

"He is getting rid of the people blamed for the economic crisis in the country," said Institute for International Affairs researcher Glenn Oosthuysen. "He could be making

them scapegoats, however. Angola is run by the military — the generals have their finger in every economic pie. Civil society doesn't really exist."

By presidential decree, Dos Santos named Fernando Franca van Dunem as the new prime minister. Van Dunem now has five days to form a new government, which is expected to make better headway in pushing through economic reforms.

Oosthuysen said he expected Unita would "make a meal of it" should the new government comprise only members of the ruling party, the MPLA, but said this would only be of rhetorical value. "It is too early to expect Unita to come into the government."

A government of national unity, with key ministries for Unita, is due to be formed at some stage this year.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi's troops were not yet demobilised and each side was accusing the other of rearming. It was unclear what progress had been made on the integration of the two forces, due to have begun on June 1.



Alfred Nzo: Planning to take over where Nelson Mandela left off

Few fresh faces in Angolan cabinet

(5) 00 10/16/96
LUANDA — A new government took office on Saturday as part of Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos' plan to find solutions for the ailing economy.

But the cabinet showed few fresh faces and a number of veterans from previous governments.

Dos Santos sacked former Prime Minister Marcolino Moco and central bank governor Antonio Furtado last Monday, blaming them for Angola's economic ruin.

But new Prime Minister Fernando Franca Van Dunen has changed only four ministers in a cabinet of 24 despite Dos Santos' message of the need for deep political change to stop the economy sliding further.

Incoming Finance Minister Mario de Alcantara Monteiro and central bank governor Sebastiao Lavrador both held these posts at the beginning of the decade.

The health, mining and public works departments were left without ministers. The posts are expected to be filled when a government of national unity is formed with Unita rebels after July 31.

Unita — the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola — expressed on Saturday its "horror for the re-nomination of the same men".

Dos Santos' reshuffle was considered to be a gesture to stem the social unrest that has been brewing over the past 15 days.

Several pamphlets were circu-

lated in Luanda urging protest against low wages, miserable living conditions and widespread corruption. One youth group called on Angolans to participate in a mass "demonstration against destitution".

Government responded by banning the demonstration, placing anti-riot police on the streets and arresting several activists, including a Catholic priest from Germany who wrote and distributed one of the pamphlets.

Lavrador said on Saturday all foreign exchange transactions would resume today. Dos Santos had suspended foreign money transactions last week until a new government had been elected.

On the informal exchange market in Luanda, the readjusted kwanza strengthened against the dollar ahead of the announcement of the new cabinet. Government said last week it would begin circulating new 500 000 and 1-million kwanza notes this week, which economists said would increase the inflation rate.

Inflation is running at an annual rate of 4 000%, while running water to the capital was halted one month ago and electricity goes off at night.

But as Angola edges towards peace after two decades of fighting, the former Marxist government can no longer blame the poor economic situation on war efforts.

— Sapa-AP, Reuter.

Diamond deal talks held in Angola ⁽⁵⁾

ARG 13/6/96
LUANDA. - Talks on the future of Angola's rich diamond provinces, largely left out of the country's peace deal, have been held at the bush headquarters of Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi.

The discussions at Bailundo brought together Dr Savimbi and Paulino Neto, director of the state-controlled Angolan diamond company Endiama.

The future of diamond-rich Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul, controlled mainly by Dr Savimbi's forces, had largely been

untouched in peace talks between the former Angolan rivals who signed an accord in 1994 to end 20 years of civil war.

Under the Lusaka peace pact, Unita has to withdraw its fighters from the Lunda provinces and disarm them at UN-supervised assembly camps by July.

Dr Savimbi controls large tracts of diamond-rich country. It has been estimated that he earns between \$200 million to \$500 million a year from diamonds and is said to be reluctant to give up this control. - Reuter.

Angola's economic troubles continue

(5) *Lawrence* 13/6/96

IN THE shadows between war and peace, economic turmoil has been festering in Angola.

Last July, when the government lopped three zeros off the currency, it took 2,500 of the readjusted kwanza to buy one dollar.

Today, Luanda the capital, once an elegant city, has had no running water for over a month. Its policemen and civil servants

have been unpaid for even longer. Behind his guards in a hill-top palace, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos is not wholly sheltered from this chaos.

On June 3, desperate to do something, he sacked his prime minister, Marcelino Moco, the whole cabinet and the governor of the central bank.

The new government will be led by Fernando Franca van Dunem, president of the national assembly and a loyal

friend. Few expect him to do better.

The purge was partly intended to deflect public blame from Dos Santos, who would like to be seen as the decisive father of the nation.

The Politburo of his once-Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) had been getting anxious that hardship might turn into unrest on the streets. The government has twice recently sent out its riot

police in Luanda, just in case

Dos Santos also saw threats from his friends - not least Moco, a sometime critic. There were rumours too that the army was getting restless.

At best, the purge can put only a temporary lid on the economic troubles. The IMF has refused to lend; it is monitoring events until September, when it will think again. But around half of all government spending does

not go through the treasury

Supposedly, by the end of July, a new government is due, with ministers from both the MPLA and Unita, the guerrilla movement it fought from 1975 until 1991, and again from 1992 until a fresh peace deal was put together in November 1994. No one expects the deadline to be met.

On paper, Unita has complied with the peace deal. It has put about half its 70,000 soldiers into United

Nations supervised camps. Not all who turn up are genuine soldiers; nor do the rusty rifles some hand in mean any real surrender of weaponry.

Yet a dozen Unita officers have just been sworn in to a new, integrated army. Much, as ever, depends on Jonas Savimbi, Unita's leader. He has been offered the vice-presidency, with undefined powers.

Bush headquarters

But he will not even leave his bush headquarters for Luanda, fearing for his life. An aide, Isias Samakva, does have an office in Luanda, and has been working on a UN-supervised MPLA-Unita peace commission, set up to implement the 1994 deal.

President Nelson Mandela will be visiting sometime this year, hoping to meet both Dos Santos and Savimbi.

With Mozambique and South Africa now largely at peace, Angola is the one element in southern Africa's peace jigsaw yet to be set in place. - *The Economist*



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Angola: The Brazil of Southern Africa

(5) M+G 14-20/6/98

Many Angolans draw parallels between Angola and Brazil, where the chasm between rich and poor is vast. **Victoria Britain reports**

NEGAGE, in the northern highlands of Angola, was once the government's main airbase. Now, under the nose of United Nations personnel who are supervising the peace process until a unified national army takes over at the end of July, its airstrip is key to Unita's diamonds-for-arms trade, worth \$1-million a day. The trade severely threatens the future of the peace process.

At Negage, dozens of teenagers — some of Unita's many child soldiers — sit outside their UN tents playing cards and waiting for orders. They are among the 40 000 men and boys and their families, whom Unita is assembling in a dozen such quarters across around the country under the UN blueprint for normalisation. Unita discipline in all the camps is harsh, with casual brutality, corporal punishment and summary executions reported by UN personnel.

Asked what they would like to do next, the boys give the same answer as the Unita colonial in charge of Negage: "If I am ordered to demobilise I will do it, if I am ordered to go to the countryside or to Luanda I will do it, if I am ordered to remain in the army I will do it."

Unita's primitive fascism, which holds Angola in thrall, is one legacy of the Reagan Doctrine, and of the apartheid regime in South Africa. For years, the United States withheld diplomatic recognition from Angola's MPLA government because it was socialist and had Cuban troops to defend it from South Africa. Washington

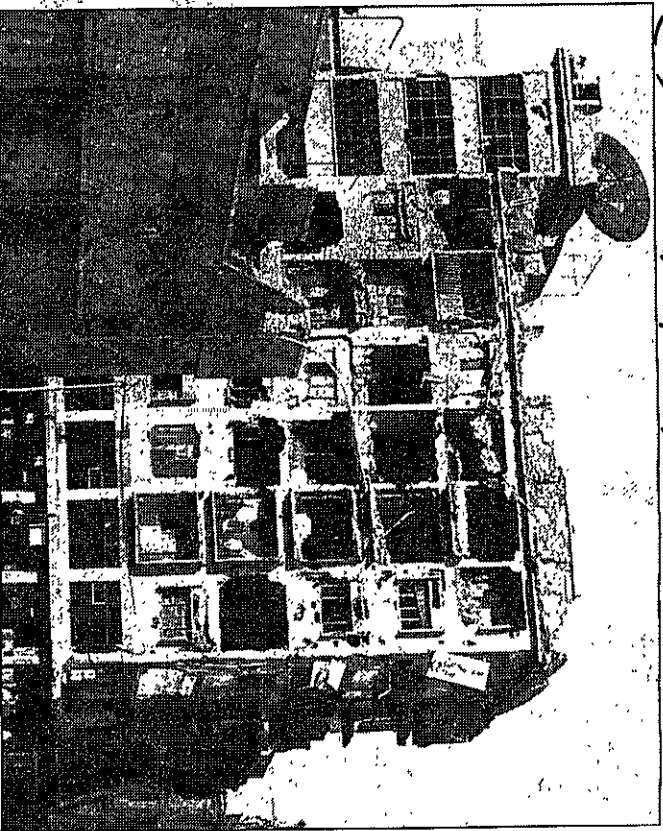
Angola

1975: Portuguese hands over power to MPLA
1976: Unita returns to war
1991: UN brokered ceasefire
1992: UN supervised elections

The parallel with Brazil is one many Angolans make. The ostentatious luxury of the cars, houses, foreign health-care and education of the families of the rich has never been so evident and so bitterly discussed. The president's dismissal of the government recently removes some corrupt people. But Franca van Dunen, the incoming prime minister, faces institutionalised corruption and weighty vested interests. Also, he is bereft of support from the MPLA. The party's countrywide framework of educated leaders to support the state administration is gone.

Oil, the main foreign exchange resource, earns \$10-million a day, though much of this never appears in the national budget, going straight into foreign bank accounts. A two-tier foreign exchange rate — with 80 000 kwanzas to the dollar for the favoured, or an unofficial rate of 240 000 kwanzas to the dollar for everyone else — has been one motor of corruption. Fortunes are made buying at one rate and selling at another. The president has promised reform on this front, which will be key to Van Dunen's ability to check the economic catastrophe. The annual inflation rate is more than 3 000%.

So desperate is the struggle to survive that morality has been eroded. A nurse will let a child with meningitis die, keeping the prescribed drug to sell in the market. Salaries for nurses, doctors, teachers, professors and top civil ser-



Ruined city: Cuito was destroyed by a 15-month Unita siege
PHOTOGRAPH: VICTORIA BRITAIN

economic crisis. Unita remains in control of well over half the country's territory — though much less in population terms. Anibal Rocha, the former minister of territorial administration, estimates that 74 of 163 municipalities are occupied by Unita. The ceasefire's de facto partition of the country has also left Unita in control of much of the diamond-rich areas of the Lunda provinces of the northeast. Diamonds are being flown out daily from there through Zaïre, with the government controlling only an estimated \$150-million worth, or less than one-eighth of annual sales.

The Lundas have become a wild west, where the sources of military control are shadowy. Because of the ceasefire at the end of last year, the army's held back from retaking militarily the diamond areas or the coffee-rich Uíge province from Unita. Every month's delay in completing the peace process and handing all territory back to the government is worth millions of dollars to Unita, allowing it to continue importing arms and to keep a military option in play in parallel with negotiations.

Savimbi's strategy since 1992 has been to delay every step of the peace process, to weaken the government. In late 1992 and 1993, more infrastructure was destroyed, and government control became more tenuous than in even the worst years of South African participation on Unita's side. The UN, with its limitless patience for Unita's delay in implementing the Lusaka agreement made 18 months ago — on disarmament of soldiers and freedom of movement — has allowed this strategy to unfold.

Today, Unita's control of its airstrips, and hence its continuing arms supplies, is unchallenged by the UN. Its control of the population in its areas in the north, east and south remains total.

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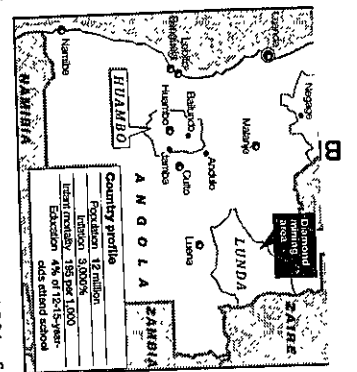
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no one can live by these jobs. The flight to leave them has brought the administration to the verge of collapse. "This is the most sombre phase of our economic history. Never have we seen such brutal problems: between

the 5 to 10% of the very rich, and the rest who have nothing at all, there is an accelerating gap — it's unsustainable," the former planning minister, Pedro de Morais, said. Last month, an unusual rash of leaflets appeared in Luanda denouncing the government's inability to provide a living wage, water, electricity, education or health-care, and calling for peaceful demonstrations.

The call in this tightly controlled society was denounced on the radio, and no one turned out. The author of one of the pamphlets, a German priest called Konrad Liebscher, was arrested.

The social tension — with its clear message to Unita to keep delaying the peace process — triggered the government sacking and the president's cancellation of a trip to Japan. A meeting of all government financial officers was called, and the media was saturated with appeals for belt-tightening, more competent administrators and an understanding that the root of the crisis was the long war. But the uneasy peace since the ceasefire at the beginning of the year has brought a new dynamic to the



main player in Angolan politics during 20 years of military and diplomatic support for Savimbi — the timing of the UN peace process, with the Unita leader installed as vice-president in Luanda, was intended to secure a foreign policy triumph ahead of the November presidential election. Coca-Cola and Citibank, top US diplomats, military officials, teachers and experts on every subject from democracy to agriculture are highly visible in the dilapidated capital, Luanda. But no amount of US optimism can knit together the catastrophic unravelling of this society. In Luanda, small beggar boys cling to car windows at traffic lights, huddling at night in shelters made of broken car parts, plastic bags and cardboard. By the roadside, people wash in broken sewers. In the best areas of town the water supply comes on once or twice a week, and electricity cuts are routine. Car hijacking and robbery are an everyday occurrence.

In the shanty towns which ring the capital and have swollen it to about 3-million people — a quarter of Angola's population — the conditions are, as one Angolan put it, "sub-human, worse than anything you

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Savimbi hosts meeting on the future of diamond areas

By Lesley Wroughton

Luanda — Talks on the future of Angola's rich diamond provinces were held at the bush headquarters of Unita leader Jonas Savimbi on Wednesday.

The provinces were largely left out of the country's peace deal.

The discussions at Bailundo brought together Savimbi and Paulino Neto, the director of the state-controlled Angolan diamond company Endiama.

The future of diamond-rich Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul, which are mainly controlled by Savimbi's forces, was largely untouched in peace talks between the former Angolan rivals, who signed an accord in 1994 to end 20 years of civil war.

Under the Lusaka peace pact, Unita has to withdraw its fighters from the Lunda provinces and disarm them by next month at assembly camps supervised by the United Nations.

Higino Carneiro, the government peace negotiator, and Isaias

Samakuva, the Unita representative in a joint ceasefire commission, attended the talks.

"We prefer not to comment on the discussions," Carneiro told reporters on his return to Luanda and before going to talks with Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan president.

Savimbi controls most of the Lunda Norte diamond area along the Cuango River. It has been estimated that he earns between \$200 million and \$500 million from diamonds and he is believed to be reluctant to give up this control.

A World Bank report in 1990 said that about \$50 million worth of diamonds left Angola unofficially every year. They were either smuggled across the Zaire border for sale on the open market or smuggled to Lisbon.

Mining officials said the government had offered Unita at least three options to resolve the diamond issue. These included offering Unita diamond concessions; the creation of Unita's own diamond company, which would have shares

in Endiama; and joint projects with international companies.

"It is also known that Unita has been pressing to have a representative on the board of Endiama," an official said.

Mechem, a South African company, is removing landmines from the main stretch of road between the city of Malange and Saurimo in Lunda Sul so that Unita troops can be withdrawn from the area.

"It still has to be decided where the Unita troops in the Lunda provinces will be disarmed. The chances are good that it will not be inside the Lunda provinces, but in the neighbouring Malange province," a peace observer said.

"It is also a guess as to how many troops Unita has in the Lunda provinces and if it will relinquish its control. This is a very sensitive issue."

Unita has already disarmed more than 45 000 of its troops at 13 assembly camps in Angola. Tomorrow is the deadline for Savimbi's promise to disarm a total of 50 000 soldiers. — Reuter

(5) CT (PR) 14/6/96

Cabinda is still fighting for freedom

(5) Rowena 17/6/96
Child soldiers want the war to end so that they can live normally

By Louis Okamba

CUTO, ANGOLA — It's a war whose echoes rarely reach the outside world, but for the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda (FLEC-FAC), theirs is a do-or-die struggle to free their territory from the rest of Angola.

Die they do, although there are few reliable body counts. And some of the victims are child soldiers like 16-year-old Cristiano Massanga, in this small village of about 500 people in the Cabindese forest.

Cristiano and a few of his comrades were keeping watch as the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA), posted just about 800 metres away, fired at Cuto with 82mm cannons.

"They are poor shots," the youth told journalists. "They can't even hit the chicken coops. They shoot at us every day but people are not afraid. Only the chickens — they hide every time those playthings (the cannon) make a noise."

"But the day we get some, things will be different because we know the bush. It's our territory. And we know exactly where the enemy is."

Fighting really tough

Cristiano will never see that day — he and another young combatant were cut down by Kalachnikov bullets recently during a firefight with an FAA unit just about 100 metres from Cuto.

"The fighting was really tough," said FLEC-FAC military operations chief Boniface Tchikaya. "Our forces defended themselves well and were able to contain the 'invader'."

Cabinda, a 7 200-sq km enclave just south of Congo, is separated from the rest of Angola by a narrow band of Zairean territory.

The 300 000 Cabindans, who make up less than three percent of Angola's population of 10.5 million, have more in common culturally and by way of language, with their neighbours to the north than with other Angolans, a fact the rebels like to point out.

During Angola's war of liberation from Portuguese rule which ended in 1975, the FLEC sought independence for Cabinda, whereas the MPLA, which now governs Angola, has always opposed the separation of the oil-rich enclave.

While the 19-year-war between the FAA and the main Angolan rebel force Unita ended in 1994 following protracted negotiations brokered by international mediators, the conflict in Cabinda has dragged on, attracting little attention outside of the enclave.

FLEC, which later became FLEC-FAC, has stuck to its original demand. Unlike other groups that accepted the autonomy offered to the territory by the MPLA government, it wants nothing short of independence for Cabinda and claims to have freed 340 sq kms of the enclave, mainly forested areas such as Cujo.

But its leaders have tended to play down the fact that many of the combatants they depend on to carry the struggle that has lasted more than two

decades are children. During visits to the insurgents' camps, *Sapa-IPS* saw quite a few teenagers bearing arms.

"From the time they go to primary school, they are educated on the need to sacrifice themselves for the 'nation'," explained one man who gave his name as Clement B.

"As a result, they don't balk at anything and disregard any physical danger. Dying for Cabinda is their contribution. Moreover, their parents encourage them to make that supreme sacrifice and they are proud of it."

Some start at a tender age: Antoine Sita (21) said he had been carrying out "suicide" missions since he was 11 and bagged his first FAA soldier two months after he joined up.

"I had to make up my mind to kill so as to live because the enemy was aiming at me," he said. "Now I don't hesitate when I put my finger on the trigger. It doesn't make me happy, but I kill to survive and to free my country from occupation."

Sylvestre Tongo (15) also chose to risk his life in a war decided by adults and almost lost it. He was wounded in the leg by shrapnel in Katabuanga.

According to Dr Alexandre Batchi, head of FLEC-FAC's health wing, Sylvestre needed to be evacuated to a border hospital in Zaire.

"Our health centre lacked everything and we had to evacuate the wounded boy quickly to save his leg from amputation," Batchi said. "Naturally, since there is no road, he was carried by his colleagues. We lost a lot of people because of the lack of health facilities and drugs."

Many of the young people fighting in FLEC-FAC are school dropouts who felt they had little option but to join up. Raoul do Carmo Buity (18) did so five years ago.

"I quit school for social reasons," he said. "My parents are poor. I had no choice but to take up arms for my country. In the army I am looked after and I am useful to the community."

Studies in the bush

Others continue their studies in the bush, dividing their time between the front and the schools run by the rebel group.

Said Alphonse Poaty (17): "When things get rough, I take up my gun to defend my country. But I have to say it's never quiet for long here in the bush. We spend more time fighting than in school."

While the youths spoke freely about their exploits, they clammed up when asked about living conditions in the rebel camps, most of which are villages of about 100 people, in which any male able to carry a gun is a combatant.

One source did, however, say that the children usually kept watch at night, while their older companions, who did most of the fighting during the day, slept.

But one child soldier, who asked not to be named, insisted that they also took part in attacks, especially when the force needed to get more Kalachnikovs and pistols from the FAA. He said they had to attack to get weapons since they did not get foreign assistance. — *Sapa-IPS*.

Corruption rife in Angola's ruling party

The ailing Angolan president is turning his back on his own party, reports the latest edition of Africa Confidential

PRESIDENT José Eduardo dos Santos's recent sacking of Prime Minister Marcelino Moco and his Cabinet was a belated attempt to rally his troops before they have to start doing business with Jonas Savimbi's political cadres in Luanda.

The merging of government and rebel armies is meant to be finished within three months.

But Angolans are sceptical: Dos Santos is widely seen as heading a weak, divided and discredited party.

Fernando Franca Van-Duinen, whom Dos Santos has chosen to revitalise the government, does not stand out as a beacon of reforming zeal.

And Dos Santos himself seems seriously weak. Diplomats in Luanda have been trying to discover just what is wrong with him. Since he was treated at a private clinic in France in April, he has rarely been seen in public and has received few visitors at the Futungo de Belas palace. There are rumours circulating that he has prostate cancer.

There is uncertainty everywhere, especially around the peace process. The Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola (Unita) has tentatively begun to move its troops into quarters, but its commitment to peace remains highly ambiguous.

Most importantly, the ruling Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA) is on the brink of collapse. In 1992 Dos Santos campaigned on his own merits, aided by a slick Brazilian-run advertising cam-

paign, and since then put a distance between himself and the party.

Dos Santos relies heavily for advice on a small group of friends and family. The United States has invested a great deal in its relationship with the president. An important channel has been former assistant secretary of state Herman Cohen, whose consulting company has worked closely with the Dos Santos government.

Dos Santos has recently failed to give a consistent political lead at home or abroad; to many he appears more interested in his private affairs than in running the state.

Diplomats fear that Dos Santos may reject the advice of the poster at Luanda airport proclaiming "Angola no coracao [Angola in the heart]" and might leave for Brazil and a wealthy retirement. Ill-health and his growing fear of plots have made the presidency tougher than ever. But senior MPLA officials work hard to keep him going. They fear bloodletting in the party if he quits.

The MPLA is regularly attacked from inside. Lucio Lara, the former secretary general, recently called the party "old and tired". It has not held a congress since 1991 and the central committee decided in February to postpone the next congress to 1997. The apparatchiks do not want to draw attention to the division, corruption and weakness of the party.

For a year after Bloesse Accords, in May 1991, the MPLA failed to meet the challenge of Unita, which lost the

multi-party elections of September 1992 mainly because of Jonas Savimbi's threatening campaign, rather than the MPLA's merits. The MPLA was stimulated to pull itself together by Unita's rejection of electoral defeat and its return to armed struggle.

Even before the Lusaka Protocol in 1994, the government army, Forcas Armadas Angolanas (FAA), clearly had the military advantage over Unita forces. But this is not the same thing as the MPLA having the military advantage. FAA officers such as General Joao de Matos have shown open contempt for the party. De Matos himself never joined the MPLA.

The MPLA of old started dissolving in the run-up to the 1992 elections, when many members started moving their families out of Angola and got as much money out as they could. That process has never been reversed and the party has not been renewed. Now MPLA officials seem intent on pursuing their private interests and leaving the growing urban poor in the hands of United Nations agencies and foreign non-governmental organisations.

State power is supposed to be concentrated and co-ordinated in the Council of Ministers. In practice ministers look after their own ministries and governors after their provinces. Strategic decisions are made mainly by the president's Futungo palace.

Futungo overrules Cabinet frequently. For example, in September 1995 it stopped the issue of new banknotes by Finance Minister Augustinho Tomas. There is almost no talk of post-



5) MTC 21-27/6/96
José Eduardo dos Santos: Could be suffering from prostate cancer

war reconstruction. Futungo's longest perspective is the two-monthly renewal of the mandate of the UN Angola Verification Mission.

The rulers' main energies go into their own business affairs. Minister of Agriculture Isaac dos Anjos recently got a bank loan to set up a fruit factory in which he is the shareholder-owner. He told the press that he had to look after his own interests first. There are more than 70 foreign security firms in Luanda, protecting senior people's interests. Meanwhile teachers are paid about \$3 per month; a bottle of beer costs \$1. The foreign-exchange value of the Kwanzas fell by 3,608% in 1995.

The government announced in May that it is planning measures to ease the crisis. After the reshuffle, it is rumoured there will be pay increases for state employees. Without sound public finances, that can only spur inflation. Crime is pervasive. The authorities

have banned several demonstrations, broadcasting warnings on the radio and stationing rapid-intervention police (the infamous "Virijas") to deter would-be demonstrators.

The government cannot truly trust the active army and the regular police, some of whose senior officers sympathise with the discontented civilians.

The government tries to hold the loyalty of senior serving officers by allocating profitable enterprises to them. The MPLA hopes this will increase its influence, because they need party patronage if they are to make profits. But some officers have set up on their own accounts. In Luanda Norte, at Calonda, a diamond concession is run by Tricorn, which is linked to Chief of Staff Joao de Matos and other officials.

Unita, too, is becoming a business alliance. Of Angola's total output of diamonds, estimated by Western intelligence reports to be worth up to \$690-million, Unita mined and smuggled out \$430-million in 1995. The alluvial diamonds of Luanda Norte are almost worked out. In 1996 Unita brought in equipment and skilled staff from South Africa to work the Chuango riverbed.

Savimbi and his Unita associates may even be worried by Dos Santos's reported illness. They do not respect the president, but regard him as a stabilising influence. The government's senior officers and the MPLA's cadres envy Unita's hold on diamond-rich areas. Business could bring the rivals together—or in the unrest that would follow Dos Santos's departure, set them at each others' throats again.

Angolan war thrives in Cabinda.

(5) m+g 31/5/-6/6/96

Nana Rosine Ngangoue

WHILE there is peace in most of Angola now, the war continues in the Angolan enclave of Cabinda.

Women in Cabinda are used to the sounds of war but the boom of artillery fire is still frightening to most.

"It's the Angolans who use heavy artillery," explained Silou Tchibinda, a member of the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda (FLEC), referring to the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA).

"We cannot respond because we don't have weapons like that," she adds. "They have more sophisticated, deadlier weapons than our people. We have been subjected to this since the Seventies. That's because we have dared to demand our independence from Angola."

Cabinda, a 7 200km² enclave just south of Congo, is separated from the rest of Angola by a narrow band of Zairean territory. About 300 000 Cabindans make up less than 3% of Angola's population of 10,5-million.

During Angola's war of liberation from Portuguese rule, which ended in 1975, the FLEC sought independence for Cabinda whereas the now ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) has always opposed the separation of the oil-rich enclave.

While the 19-year war between the MPLA and the main Angolan rebel force, the Union for the Total Liberation of Angola (UNITA) ended in 1994, the conflict in Cabinda has dragged on, with the FLEC insisting on independence for Cabinda.

The FLEC-Cabinese Armed Forces

(FLEC-FAC) claims to have freed 340km² of the enclave, mainly heavily forested zones along the border with Zaire. Its fighters are men and teenage boys. They women contribute in other ways.

Tchipinda is a member of a group of about 50 women who support the rebel group's struggle.

"Our role is to increase the fighting capacity of Cabinda's women," she says. "There are nearly 80 000 women in Cabinda and we are trying to make them understand the meaning of mobilisation."

"Every Cabindese is a combatant because this is a war that has been imposed on us," said one (male) FLEC-FAC fighter. "Even if someone is a civilian, he or she still plays a role in the revolution."

Some women contribute by teaching children who live in areas controlled by the rebel group. About 40 teachers give classes to about 600 children behind rebel lines.

"I teach in the schools in the bush so as to contribute to improving the intellectual capacity of Cabindese children who will continue this liberation struggle," says Silou. "For that I don't need a salary"

Others help to feed the combatants, like one elderly woman who refused to give her name but said she had a 21-year-old son in the FLEC-FAC.

"By sending our young sons to the front, we are sacrificing ourselves for the independence of our country."

There are reportedly at least 100 child soldiers in the rebel army, whose total strength is a closely guarded secret. — *IPS*

Angola peace commitments still not met

New York.—The United Nations is again unhappy about developments in Angola, where the quartering of Unita troops has fallen off substantially and the target of 62 500 quartered by the end of June went unmet.

Also, only 26 000 personal weapons have been surrendered, and Unita has yet to give up any heavy armaments, including rocket launchers and tanks, a UN spokesman said in a statement in New York. *Star 4/7/96*

The UN peacekeeping operation in Angola, numbering 7 282 soldiers and civilian police, is now the largest of its kind anywhere.

But UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali is displeased with both President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita leader Jonas Savimbi for failing to honour the peace commitments they made in March.

The number of Unita troops quartered so far is 52 127.

Notwithstanding his misgivings, Boutros-Ghali has proposed that the Security Council renew the peacekeeping mandate until October 11. — Star Foreign Service.

Diamond agreement may bring peace

Angolan struggle reverts to grabbing of power

Luanda — In the old days, Angola's war looked like a bit of the cold war. A socialist, Soviet-backed government faced the rebel group Unita, backed by the United States and white-ruled South Africa.

Today's Angola looks like a struggle from even earlier days. The once-Marxist rulers have reverted to the old role of coastal merchants in league with foreign companies, struggling against Unita in the interior for control of Angola's rich resources. Ideology is gone. The struggle is about wealth and power. And most Angolans grow hungrier and angrier. In the wings hovers the army, led by the non-party Joao Baptista de Matos, whose hint of a takeover led to the replacement of the entire government in June.

The resources in question are oil — which belongs to the coastal merchants, alias government ministers, in collaboration with foreign companies — and diamonds, which are still being fought over. A diamond agreement, however, is in the offing. If it goes through, there could be peace by the end of this month, when a government of national reconciliation may be installed in Luanda.

It sounds dreamy, but there is optimism in Luanda; not least because the US has switched sides and is involved in the peace agreement.

The deal gives Unita and its leader, Jonas Savimbi, a guaranteed share of diamond production. Savimbi says he will not give up his diamond-mining operation at Luzamba, in the rich

Cuango valley, which his men have occupied since 1992. He must have an income, he says. The diamonds from Luzamba, and other mines, have given him at least \$1.5 billion, \$450 million of it last year — a handsome income even when there are weapons to be paid for.

But on June 28 Savimbi admitted, after many denials, that his officials had misrepresented the Endiama, the state diamond company, talks in fact started last year. In early June, Paulinho Neto, the acting director-general of Endiama, went to Unita headquarters at Bailundo in central Angola to complete the business.

Meanwhile, the government privately told companies interested in mining in the area occupied by Unita that they could negotiate directly with it. Their deals with Unita will ensure that it hands over the mines in exchange for a lump sum, described as "very



MAN OF MEANS Jonas Savimbi, the leader of Unita, has earned \$1.5 billion from diamonds, \$450 million of it last year

AP PHOTO

large". Unita may also get a share in new mining concessions given to foreign companies. An official announcement of the arrangement between Endiama and Unita is expected in Luanda soon. It will say that Unita either becomes a partner with companies with mining concessions in the Cuango valley or gets its own concession, possibly in Bie province, where Savimbi is setting up a new headquarters. The movement may also get a post in Endiama, although the top ones have already been allocated.

The diamond deal paves the way for a comprehensive peace settlement. It was agreed in November 1994 that Unita would get one of two vice-presidencies, four ministries and an assortment of other posts and perks. Its officers are to be integrated into the armed forces, and most of its other ranks into the police. Troops of both sides are being quartered in

stay, they will be cut off from their friends in Zaire. If they go, the Angolan army will close the road into the Cuango valley. If they stay, the route from Zaire will be blocked by International Defence and Security, a Dutch-registered security firm which has been granted a mining concession along the Zaire-Angola border and has some good friends in Washington. It expects to begin work in August. This is not the only company moving into Angola that has American links. Military Protections Resources, fresh from operations in Croatia and Bosnia, has won a contract to train the new Angolan army. The new coastal merchants have some powerful new foreign partners. — The Economist

15 UN-monitored sites. This week the UN said that more than 50 000 troops of a Unita force, expected to number 62 000, were already in the assembly sites. Shortly afterwards, Gen De Matos halted the process and accused Unita of deceit. He claims that many of the "troops" are really just porters or press-ganged villagers. The real warriors of Unita, many suspect, are either in the Cuango valley or across the border in Zaire, where the movement still has stockpiles of weapons. One suggestion is that Unita will not withdraw from Luzamba, but turn all or part of its army there into a diamond-security force. It could thus keep both its troops and its diamond revenue. Whether Unita's men go or

and wealth

16/7/96

Angola's odd man out

LONDON – Angolan rebels are grossly violating the Lusaka peace accords, say campaigners who are calling on Western governments to apply concerted pressure on Jonas Savimbi and his rebel army to abide by the protocols of the 18-month-old truce.

They charge that the main obstacle to lasting peace is the refusal of Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) to honour its pledges under last year's accord and hand over weapons and encamp its fighters at United Nations-designated sites.

"More pressure on Unita by the West is the only thing that can force it to honour the principles of the Lusaka accords," says Ben Jackson, director of London-based Action for Southern Africa.

"They have not handed in weapons and are delaying the quartering of their troops. They are committing these and other gross violations of clauses in the accords with impunity. Peace can only be achieved in Angola when Unita begins to comply with the Lusaka agreement."

According to UN sources in London, at least half of the estimated 40 000 Unita "fighters" who have so far been registered at the 11 UN quartering sites around the country are not frontline guerrillas.

Confirmed claims

The UN has also confirmed claims by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) government that only about a third of them arrived with weapons of any sort, and these were mainly small arms.

"Unita has not even begun a serious effort towards disarming and demobilising, 18 months after the Lusaka accords," the UN source said. "And there is no sign of any change in their attitudes."

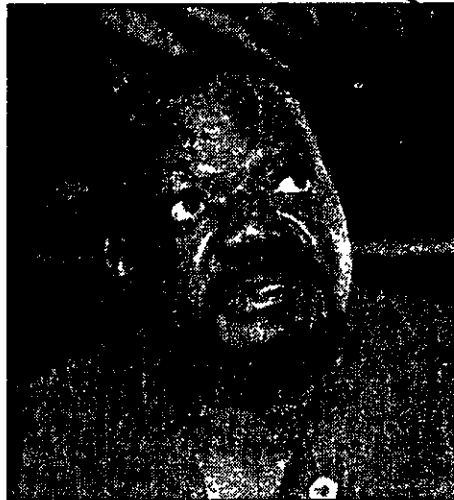
These perceived "delaying tactics" by the rebel movement have led to doubts as to whether ongoing moves to select and incorporate 26 000 Unita fighters into the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) – begun in June – will be completed by the end of July, the deadline set by FAA commander General Joao de Matos.

The unified national army had been billed to replace the UN military contingent – the upkeep of which is costing over R1.43 million a day. To date only about 20 Unita officers have been inducted into the FAA.

And, with the UN Security Council itself questioning the commitment of Unita to the Lusaka accords, many observers maintain it would be irresponsible for the UN force to pull out.

Savimbi and his top lieutenants have been frequently accused of scuppering successive peace initiatives in the country's two decade-

Some observers believe Jonas Savimbi plans to resume hostilities if the Angolan peace process unfolds in a manner he finds unacceptable. **Lahal J Samboma** discusses the issues involved...



Jonas Savimbi ... whose party is accused of being the main obstacle to lasting peace in Angola.

long civil war, notably in October 1992 when, following an 18-month ceasefire, the rebels relaunched the war after losing elections which international monitors ruled free and fair.

For the duration of that ceasefire, as now, Savimbi had dragged his feet over the disarmament and encampment of Unita fighters.

Some observers believe Savimbi plans to resume hostilities again – if not immediately then sometime in the future – should the peace process unfold in a manner he finds unfavourable.

His steadfast refusal to occupy the vice-presidency in the government is seen as another indication that he is keeping his options open. Ironically he had been very insistent on it during the talks leading to Lusaka.

As Jackson said: "Even in March Savimbi, at the talks in Gabon with (Angola's President Jose Eduardo) Dos Santos, said he was going to take up the post. Why this change of heart? It makes you wonder."

The MPLA had also offered Unita several ministerial, ambassadorial and other top positions in government.

Savimbi's game plan is bound to remain largely hidden until at least August, when Unita holds its congress. The rebel leader said this week that it is then that the decision on whether

to join the government will be taken.

Many analysts, including UN sources, perceive this as another delaying tactic.

Meanwhile, international human rights activists say that abuses by both sides are being committed. There are numerous allegations of police brutality and arbitrary arrest in areas controlled by the government, while Unita has been accused of killings, torture and "disappearances".

Angola's conflict started immediately after independence from colonial Portugal in 1975, when Savimbi's Unita, funded and armed by the then apartheid state of South Africa and backed by Portugal and the United States, pledged to remove the popular, left-wing MPLA government.

All that changed in the nineties with the ending of the Cold War, the dismantling of apartheid and the MPLA's defeat of Unita in the 1992 elections.

Diamond sales

However, despite the current UN embargo on the rebel movement, arms and fuel supplies – for which it pays with proceeds from illegal diamond sales – continue to be flown in to Unita via neighbouring Zaire.

Although there are signs that Washington, London and other Western governments are using diplomatic pressure to try to persuade Savimbi to bring an end to his marathon war, campaigners say they are not doing enough.

Britain dismisses this claim. "While we cannot speak for other governments," says British Foreign Office spokesman Clive Thompson, "the British government has kept up pressure on both sides for a more rapid implementation of the Lusaka accords at every opportunity."

Jackson said: "Unita will not budge until intense, coherent and concerted pressure is applied by the West. They should start by making the sanctions work and that means taking action on Zaire, which is violating UN sanctions by allowing supplies to reach Unita through its soil and airspace.

"When you look at how international sanctions are hitting Iraq and Libya, you can see that the West is not doing enough. When they want sanctions to work, they make them work. There is a lot more they can do to force Unita to respect the Lusaka accords." – *Sapa-IPS*.

(5) Sowetay 25/7/96

Angola's peace under threat

Angola's tortuous peace process is under strain yet again, and only international pressure on Unita to honour its agreements with the MPLA can relieve the situation, writes **LHAI SAMBOBOMA** of International Press Service in London.

ANGOLAN rebels are grossly violating the Lusaka peace accords, say campaigners who are calling on Western governments to apply concerted pressure on Jonas Savimbi and his rebel army to abide by the protocols of the 18-month-old truce.

They charge that the main obstacle to lasting peace is the refusal of Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) to honour its pledges under last year's accord and hand over weapons and encamp its fighters at UN-designated sites.

"More pressure on Unita by the West is the only thing that can force it to honour the principles of the Lusaka accords," says Ben Jackson, director of London-based Action for Southern Africa (ACTSA).

"They have not handed in weapons and are delaying the quartering of their troops.

"They are committing these and other gross violations of clauses in the accords with impunity. Peace can only be achieved, in Angola when Unita begins to comply with the Lusaka agreement."

According to UN sources in London, at least half of the estimated 40 000 Unita "fighters" who have so far been registered at the 11 UN quartering sites around the country are not front-line guerrillas.

The UN has also confirmed claims by the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola

(MPLA) government that only about a third of them arrived with weapons of any sort, and these were mainly small arms.

"Unita has not even begun a serious effort towards disarmament and demobilising, 18 months after the Lusaka accords," the UN source said.

"And there is no sign of any change in their attitudes."

These perceived "delaying tactics" by the rebel movement have led to doubts as to whether ongoing moves to select and incorporate 26 000 Unita fighters into the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA) - begun in June - will be completed by the end of July, the deadline set by FAA commander General Joao de Matos.

The unified national army had been billed to replace the UN military contingent - the upkeep of which is costing over R1-million a day.

To date only about 20 Unita officers have been inducted into the FAA.

And with the UN Security Council itself questioning the commitment of Unita to the Lusaka accords, many observers maintain it would be irresponsible for the UN force to pull out.

Savimbi and his top lieutenants have been frequently accused of scuppering successive peace initiatives in the country's two-decade-long civil war, notably in October 1992 when, following an 18-month ceasefire, the rebels relaunched the war after losing

(5) *ALG 26/7/96*

elections which international monitors ruled free and fair.

For the duration of that ceasefire, as now, Savimbi had dragged his feet over the disarmament and encampment of Unita fighters.

Some observers believe Savimbi plans to resume hostilities again - if not immediately then sometime in the future - should the peace process unfold in a manner he finds unfavourable.

His steadfast refusal to occupy the vice-presidency in the government is seen as another indication that he is keeping his options open.

Ironically he had been very insistent on it during the talks leading to Lusaka.

As Jackson said: "Even in March Savimbi, at the talks in Gabon with (Angola's President Jose Eduardo) Dos Santos, said he was going to take up the post. Why this change of heart? It makes you wonder."

The MPLA had also offered Unita several ministerial, ambassadorial and other top positions in government.

Savimbi's game plan is bound to remain largely hidden until at least August, when Unita holds its congress at its Bailundo headquarters.

The rebel leader said this week that it is then that the decision on whether to join the government will be taken.

Many analysts, including UN sources, perceive this as another delaying tactic of Savimbi's.

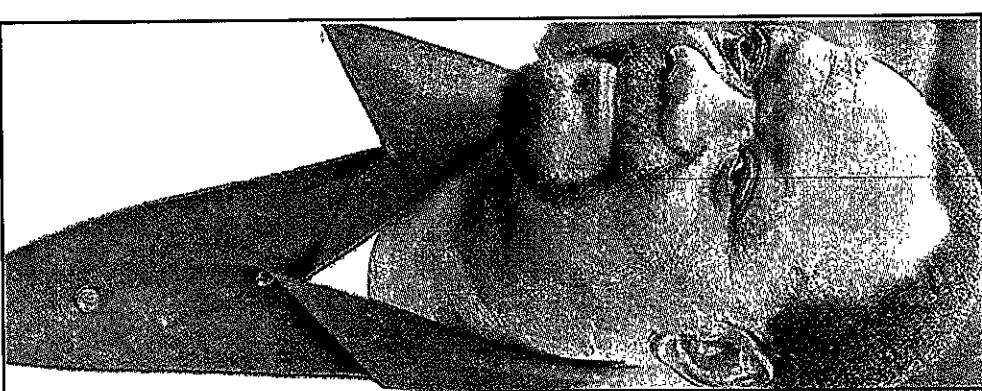
Meanwhile, international human rights activists say that rights abuses by both sides are being committed. There are numerous allegations of police brutality and arbitrary arrest in areas controlled by the government, while Unita has been accused of killings, torture and "disappearances".

These abuses not only violate universally-accepted principles of human rights, but also contravene the Lusaka accords which require that both sides observe international human rights standards, says Gillian Nezzins, an Amnesty International researcher who returned this week from Angola.

According to Nezzins, Unita, which was left in control of over half the country after last year's ceasefire and which operates its own judicial system in the areas it controls, has sanctioned the executions of many so-called "anti-social elements".

"We found instances of torture and cruel and inhuman punishment," she said. "One favourite punishment is that people are stretched out on logs of wood and beaten with sticks and hosespipes which usually ends in their bones breaking under the pressure."

"People have been sentenced to death and executed under Unita's 'justice system'. This is also a violation of the Lusaka agreement, which states that Unita must respect Angolan law, which has abolished the death penalty."



Unita leader Jonas Savimbi. He is accused of reneging on agreements.

Kenyan MP stabbed in face by fellow politician

(5) Stan 27/7/96
Nairobi. - A Kenyan MP received eight stitches below the eye after he was stabbed by a fellow deputy in parliament, the Kenyan press reported yesterday.

Otieno Kopiyo, an opposition deputy, said fellow MP Farah Maalim rained blows on him and stabbed him in the face on Thursday. Both MPs belong to the official opposition Forum for

the Restoration of Democracy-Kenya.

Maalim is also a founder member of the unregistered opposition Safina Party of wildlife conservationist Richard Leakey.

Maalim said he attacked Kopiyo because he had repeatedly intimidated him with taunts about the low number of votes he had received.

In the 1992 first multiparty legislative elections, Maalim garnered 2 735 votes to take the Lagdera constituency in the sparsely inhabited Somali North Eastern Province.

Kopiyo polled 30 018 votes to win the Kasipul-Kabondo constituency in the heavily populated Luo region on Lake Victoria in western Kenya. - AFP

APG 29/7/96

Unita starts surrendering its weapons

JAMBA. - Angola's Unita opposition group, boasting a 1994 peace accord with the government, has begun to surrender its heavy weapons, some of it still in its original packaging.

Acting chief of staff, General Altino Sapalalo said Unita, which waged a guerrilla war against the government for more than 20 years, would hand over more weapons, including tanks, at other points in the Cuando Cubango

province this week (5)

Unita officials yesterday handed over 770 tons of new weapons and ammunition including anti-tank grenades, rockets and mortars in a guarded tent at Mucusso, a town close to the Namibian border.

Most of the equipment was still sealed in its original packaging, some showing its origin in China and South Africa. - Reuter.

Moi implicated in committee's catalogue of sins

By Joe Khemisi

Nairobi — The Kenya's Public Accounts Committee has uncovered a catalogue of financial sins committed by government officials. These included fraudulent transactions, illegal allocation of tenders and embezzlement and theft of public money.

The bulky report compiled by parliamentarians of the ruling Kanu Party and opposition parties, revealed a pattern of irregularities from 1992 to 1993 that reportedly cost the country billions of shillings.

The controversial report was tabled in parliament on July 23 by Michael Wamalwa, the opposition leader, after a spirited but unsuccessful battle by the government to have the name of President Daniel arap Moi

expunged from its contents.

Parliamentarians are barred from invoking the president's name (considered almost sacred) during the debate

and defendant members of parliament were temporarily suspended from parliament for doing that.

A row developed early this month between Francis Kaparo, the Kanu appointed Speaker, and opposition

members over the mention of the president's name in the report.

The speaker ordered that all references to President Moi be replaced with the word government.

The opposition protested,

threatening to resign from all parliamentary committees if the report was edited.

Officials tried to have president's name expunged from report

President Moi's name was on the report when it appeared, signalling an embarrassing about turn by the authorities.

The office of the president is mentioned adversely in a number of cases, in which huge sums of money were misappropriated.

Four billion shillings (about R310 million), in one case, was paid to a Kenyan businessman for the supply of security equipment, which was never delivered. The businessman fled to Dubai and has ignored summonses to appear

before the committee to explain non-delivery.

The defence department, which falls under Moi, is also censured for paying out millions of shillings to contractors for building military facilities that remained incomplete three years later.

A request by the committee to visit military barracks was denied by Moi, fueling further speculation that the government had something to hide.

But the most contentious case of all was when, a few months ago, Moi refused to order government officials to appear before the committee to answer questions about irregular payments of 5.7 billion shillings to five politically connected banks.

The money was allegedly linked to the now-famous

Goldenberg scandal, in which senior central bank officials and a local Asian tycoon are facing criminal charges.

The money was paid three years ago to the tycoon as part of a gold and diamond export compensation scheme.

But critics said the commodities never left the country. Besides, Kenya does not have diamonds or gold.

Opposition parliamentarians claim Moi's refusal to disclose information was intended to cover up involvement of more senior officials, some reportedly close to Moi.

The committee has failed to

proceed because crucial files linked to the payments were locked up in government vaults.

The committee wants all beneficiaries and operators of the Goldenberg funds exposed.

The president's office is mentioned adversely in a number of cases

The committee also recommended that all illegally obtained plots of ground and houses belonging to them be repossessed and those involved be prosecuted.

The report has tarnished the credibility of the Moi government and seriously jeopardised its commitment to good governance, transparency and accountability of public resources. — Independent Foreign Service.

(5) CR (GR) 30/7/96

Belgium's Petrofina returns to its war ravaged oil fields

By Lesley Wroughton

Soyo, Angola — Belgium's Petrofina has returned to its war-damaged base in northern Angola and hopes to double its present oil production to 12 000 barrels a day by early next year.

The company's wells officially resumed production at Soyo in February after a three-year break, pumping 5 000 barrels a day.

"Our production has reached 6500 barrels per day in the first phase of reconstruction and we hope to be doing between 10 000 and 12 000 barrels per day by early 1997," the company said.

"We hope to increase this by 10 000 barrels in 1998," Philippe Remacle, the technical director, said.

Petrofina abandoned its Soyo operations in 1993 when Unita guerrillas captured the town near the Zaire border. About 14 employees were left behind by government helicopters during the evacuations. They were held prisoner by the rebels, but later released.

Full production would be achieved in three phases, Remacle said. The production is from the natural-flow wells close to Soyo. The oil is pumped offshore to a floating storage installation and then transferred to tankers.

Remacle said the company would move southeast to Pangala in the next phase and produce from wells averaging 1 600m in depth. The last phase would resume production from wells at Quinfuquena.

Damage to the oil installations is severe. Two 400 000-barrel storage

tanks lay scorched and melted yesterday after they burned for 90 days at the Quinfuquena loading terminal.

Nearby warehouses are in ruin after looting, with equipment damaged by rust. Holding tanks and pumps lie lopsided, blown up at their bases.

South Africa's Saracen International, contracted by the oil companies to remove landmines, has had to burn smaller pools of oil to clear the land for mine clearance.

"The extent of damage of facilities is between \$50 million and \$60 million. Fortunately the wells dried naturally. If it had happened at the start of production of each well, we would have something like Kuwait," Remacle said.

"We are discussing now what we are going to do to clear the oil," he said.

He said kilometres of pipelines laid along roads would have to be flushed with water to find leaks.

David Bax, the Saracen spokesman, said the company had cleared Soyo's harbour and the beach area in the first phase of its operations.

After almost a year, Saracen's workers have removed thick bush and cleared mines and unexploded ammunition from about 150km of roads.

"We have to give Fina access to the wellheads," Bax said. "It appears there was no attempt to mine or booby-trap the pipelines, but we have found anti-tank mines on the shoulders of the roads and in the roads we are clearing." —Reuter

(5) CT (PR) 31/7/96

Angolan oil starts to flow as peace prevails

(5) BD 3/7/96
SOYO — Belgium's Petrofina SA has returned to its war-damaged base in northern Angola and hopes to double its current oil production there to 12 000 barrels per day by early next year.

Its wells at Soyo officially resumed production at an initial 5 000 bpd in February after a three-year break. The company has operated fields around the port city since 1969. "Our production has reached 6 500 barrels per day in the first phase of reconstruction and we hope to be doing between 10 000 and 12 000 barrels per day by early 1997. We hope to increase this by 10 000 barrels in 1998," technical director Philippe Remacle said.

Petrofina abandoned its Soyo operations in 1993 when Unita guerrillas captured the town, near the Zaire border. At least 14 employees, left behind by helicopters during evacuations, were held prisoner by the rebels, but later released.

Full production would be achieved in three phases, Remacle said. Current production is from natural-flow wells close to Soyo town. The oil is pumped offshore onto a floating storage installation and

then transferred to tankers. Remacle said the company would in the next phase move southeast to Pangala and produce from wells averaging 1 600m in depth. The last phase will be resumed production from wells at Quinfuquena.

Damage to oil installations is severe. Two huge 400 000 barrel storage tanks today lie scorched and melted after they burned for 90 days at Quinfuquena loading terminal. Nearby warehouses are in ruin after looting, with equipment damaged by rust. Holding tanks and pumps lie lopsided, exploded at their bases.

In at least three areas oil well heads, damaged by gunfire, have been leaking, creating lakes of oil and destroying vegetation.

SA's Saracen International Company, contracted by oil companies to remove landmines, has had to burn smaller pools of oil to clear the land for mine clearance.

"The extent of damage of facilities is between \$50 or \$60m. Fortunately the wells dried naturally.

"If it had happened at the start of production of each well, we would have something like 'Kuwait,'" Remacle said. — Reuter.

Kathryn Strachan (5) 2016/8/96

Coalition moves on polio in Angola

ANGOLA's first polio immunisation campaign, conducted during the past few days, has been a resounding success according to the organisers, with Unita and government representatives coming together to fight the disease.

The organisers said yesterday that only months ago Angolan officials doubted whether a national health campaign could even take place. A crumbling infrastructure from 20 years of civil war set Angola apart as one of the most difficult areas in Africa targeted for polio eradication.

Fuelled by a peacetime settlement and a strong desire to improve conditions for Angola's two million children, a coalition of the World Health Organisation, Rotary International, Unicef and local health ministries are now concluding the first round of two "national immunisations days".

The effort is part of the "Kick Polio out of Africa" campaign, launched by President Nelson Mandela last week. According to Governor Justino Fernandes, his province, which includes the city of Luanda, achieved a 70% coverage rate during the first 48 hours of immunisations. Health workers were successful in penetrating urban slum areas where more than 600 000 children live.

What we witnessed in Angola this past week should stand as an example to all of Africa that, even under the most difficult and dire circumstances, ultimate success in polio eradication can and will be achieved by the turn of the century," said Rotary International trustee Tony Serrano.

"A country with such limited infrastructure rose to meet the challenge of immunising thousands of children. This successful campaign will undoubtedly give hope to other countries such as Nigeria, Zaire and Ethiopia, which face similar challenges."

The WHO reported 1 600 cases of polio last year in Africa.

Angola peace talks falter as Unita rejects Savimbi post

(5) Star 28/8/96

Luanda - Angola's Unita opposition has stalled the peace process in the southern African country by failing to agree to proposals for a government of national reconciliation acceptable to the Luanda authorities.

The former Unita rebels, who were yesterday winding up a congress at Bailundo in central Angola, turned down a

government proposal to give a vice-presidential post to their leader Jonas Savimbi. Unita information officer Marcial Dachala ruled out the prospect that Savimbi would accept one of two vice-presidential posts offered by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, saying it could go to another Unita representative.

The government, however,

insists that the post is reserved for Savimbi only.

His future status had been deliberately set aside in a series of negotiations to end almost 20 years of a devastating post-independence civil war.

"No to war! War is over," Savimbi told the third Unita congress, adding: "Nobody of good faith can cast doubt on or

suspect Unita's intentions."

Savimbi earlier told the meeting that his return to Luanda depended on the appropriate security arrangements.

Dos Santos last week called on the UN to set a three-week deadline for Unita to apply the terms of the Lusaka protocol signed by the two sides in November 1994. - AFP.

Angola expels foreign traders

5) PD 29/8/96

DAKAR — Angola yesterday expelled 162 Senegalese as part of a crackdown on foreign traders, three days after a French plane brought back 13 Senegalese deportees from Paris, officials said.

Witnesses said the deportees from Angola, including six women and five children, arrived at Dakar airport in an Angolan Tupolev plane. Officials said 37 other Senegalese were in detention in Luanda waiting to be sent home.

Senegalese traders are found all over Africa and in Europe and North America. Thirteen Senegalese were among more than 50 illegal immigrants deported from France at the weekend and scores more are expected to be affected by tougher rules for migrant workers announced by Sierra Leone on Monday.

Angola has thrown out hundreds of West Africans, Lebanese and Indians since the start two weeks ago of a campaign against foreign traders. — Reuter.

Unita Congress silences Angolan town

M+G 6-12/9/96

Delays in implementing Angola's peace accords were highlighted at Unita's third congress in Bailundo last month, reports

John Liebenberg

THE town of Bailundo, set in the farmlands of central Huambo, has always played a significant role in Angolan history.

Once home to the Ovimbundu kings, famous for leading a 1902 rebellion against Portuguese rule, the town is now home to a different ruler. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi turned the town into the new headquarters for the Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola (Unita) in 1964.

Late last month the third extraordinary congress of Unita, now celebrating 30 years of resistance to Portuguese and Movimento Popular de Libertacao de Angola (MPLA) rule, was held amid the mix of renovated and shell-damaged buildings of Bailundo.

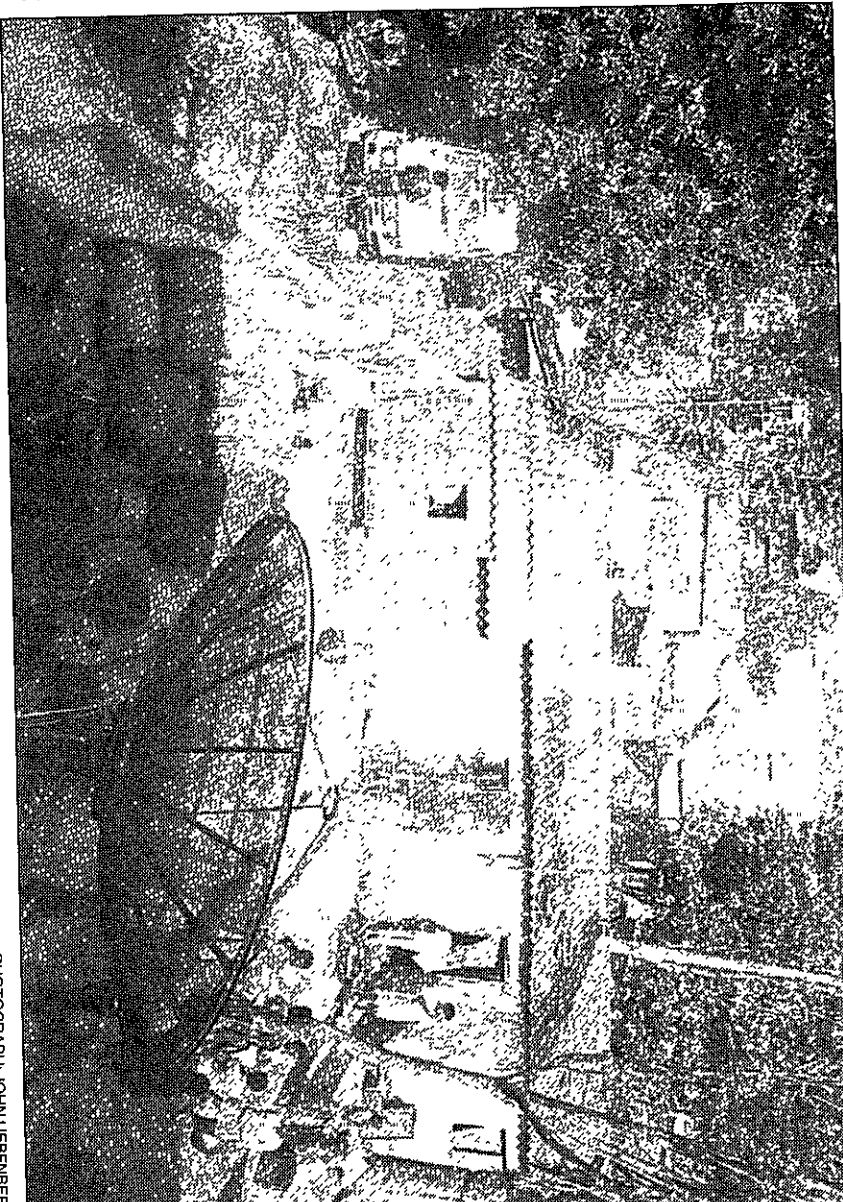
In the town centre, the city hall was draped with red and green flags sporting the symbolic black cockered crowing at dawn. Inside, the walls were plastered with paintings of Unita's African heroes — Nelson Mandela, Kwame Nkrumah, Gamal Nasser and many more lined the entry to the stage.

And when Savimbi arrived at the congress venue, the music of Jean Michel Jarre filled the air. The town's new king looked healthy and young, his cropped head neatly clipped with not a grey hair in sight.

The media are keen to discover why there have been interminable delays in cementing a peace accord for the country. The latest is due to Savimbi's rejection of the vice presidency, a post he had agreed to accept until recently.

The recent demand that a senior Unita staffer fill the post came as a surprise to all at the United Nations, the Troika (Russia, America and Portugal) and the MPLA. Savimbi added at the congress that the integration of the rival parties' armed forces, delayed by security problems, and the MPLA's use of mercenaries, are other factors stalling the process.

Unita is now insisting that all 40 generals in its high command be integrated into the MPLA's Angolan Armed Forces — a move possibly designed to quell growing discontent.



Hi-tech, but deceitful: Unita's new headquarters in Bailundo

PHOTOGRAPH: JOHN LIEBENBERG

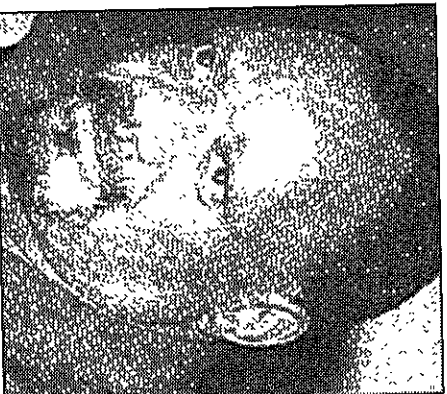
in Unita's military ranks as officers demand the same treatment as the movement's political leaders.

Some of the generals, recently promoted by Unita, have allegedly been responsible for major human rights atrocities in Angola. The move is possibly designed to obtain a guarantee of safety from the MPLA and the United Nations so that these people can effectively be indemnified against punishment for war crimes.

The MPLA announced recently in Luanda a general amnesty for all war crimes committed since 1992, but few in the Unita ranks believe this will come about.

The congress made it obvious that Unita has little intention of returning now or soon to Luanda. Savimbi insisted he wanted to remain president of Unita, a post he would have to relinquish if he became deputy president of the country.

From Bailundo he makes endless demands that will continue to paralyse the Angolan government and economy. With his militia and civilian sup-



Jonas Savimbi: Healthy, young and not a grey hair in sight

porters being accommodated by the United Nations, the status quo can continue indefinitely.

South Africa has also played an important role in the supply of logistics to Unita's quartermaster areas, through recent multi-million dollar donations. An estimated \$30-million a month from diamond revenue is also

making Unita a profitable venture.

A party celebrating Unita's success at the end of the congress perhaps reflected the new fortunes of Unita's leaders, who entertained congress members with imported French champagne and wine. Schol beer made under licence in Zaire and whisky from the heartlands of Scotland.

A block away from the congress hall, commandos patrolled the streets with the familiar and dreaded red berets on their heads, as ominous reminders that the movement's special forces are far from being quartered.

In the town a silence prevails. People talk in whispers, no one laughs out loud, the streets are full of people but empty of voices.

Attempts to interview or meet locals from Bailundo are totally out of the question. They scamper away at the sight of journalists. The eyes of Unita officials fill with fear when reasonable questions are asked. Asking questions is the task of only senior people, who also prefer to answer questions with questions.

(5)

A press conference held by Savimbi on the last day after the congress reflected the movement's ongoing xenophobia. The first critical question directed at Savimbi erupted into loud jeers and booing from the audience. The bemused Portuguese journalist glanced back into a sea of angry faces and sat down. But there was no mercy and he was called on again to repeat his question.

This was not the time or the place to ask questions on past human rights violations, the war against ordinary Angolans or the nine-month siege of Guito which forced its demoralised people to eat dogs and the bodies of the dead.

On the fate of South African mercenaries captured and held, Savimbi suggested "the question be put to the MPLA who employed them". But the fate of these men now seems evident.

"The South Africans ... captured by Unita?" asks General Arlindo Pena known as "Ben Ben".

"They are not here ... they are dead ... If they were captured on the front line ... then they were executed."

"General!" a journalist insists, "There are South African families who believe the men are still held by Unita."

"We have no one here. We would present them. They are not alive ... they are dead. If they were caught in the front line ..."

"General, what is the message I tell the mothers, the wives?"

"Tell them ... we are not sorry."

The treatment meted out to the four South Africans captured while mining for diamonds and held at Bailundo for nine months, leaves little hope of survival for the men who have been missing since mid-1993.

The four were tortured for months on end. Bags were placed over their heads so that they did not know where or when the beatings would start or where the punches were coming from. Their thumbs were tied over their shoulders, and their arms stretched for days on end.

"And mercenaries employed by Unita, general?" the journalist asked.

"We have none."

Unita now has an Internet address: <http://www.sfi.edi/tr/kup/kup@worldnet>.

(5) Nov 7/19/96
**Dos Santos to
meet Savimbi
in Angola for
the first time**

Luanda — Former Angolan rebel leader Jonas Savimbi is ready to meet President José Eduardo dos Santos in the country before September 20, UN special envoy to Angola Alioune Blondin Beye, has announced.

Beye said on Thursday the former foes were due to discuss the extension of parliament's mandate beyond November and Unita's return to the National Assembly of elected deputies. The staging of a second round of presidential elections would also be discussed, Beye said after a visit to Unita headquarters at Bailundo in the centre of Angola.

Observers hope the meeting will break a political deadlock caused by Savimbi's refusal to take up a vice-presidential post offered to him.

Beye said "a definitive solution concerning the government of national unity will be found during the meeting. Mr Savimbi has authorised me to state that publicly."

Dos Santos and Savimbi have met four times since the signing of the Lusaka peace protocol in November 1994, but never on Angolan territory, since Unita has expressed concern for the safety of its leader.

Savimbi pledged that Unita generals would take up posts in the regular army from September 27, Beye said. — AFP

New-style diplomacy bears fruit in Angola

By **JEAN-JACQUES CORNISH**
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

Behind the return of 18 South African diamond workers from Angola this week lie many months of this country's new-style diplomacy.

Officials at the Department of Foreign Affairs believe that what happened in both Luanda and Pretoria demonstrated the strength of bilateral ties and the efficiency of the machinery driving them.

After years of exhausting civil war, the Angolan bureaucracy is understandably not working as well as it might.

Nevertheless, it reacted with

speed and sympathy to the arrest of the 18 men on charges including working without permits, illegally importing mining equipment and contravening aviation regulations.

Since the South African embassy opened in Luanda, staff there have identified and built a network of influential contacts that has made it possible to traverse the bureaucratic maze. The success of this is illustrated by the speed with which ambassador Roger Ballard-Tremeer and his officials were able to make contact with the people in a position to get to grips with the problem; get a decision; and get that decision executed.

Airline sources confirmed that the 18 workers were put on board a plane before tickets had actually been bought - yet another illustration of the embassy's contacts.

All in all the exercise is being reviewed with satisfaction in both Pretoria and Luanda. Both sides acted in good faith and with mutual respect for each other's difficulties.

South Africa, for example, has considerable problems of its own related to illegal immigrants. Foreign affairs officials were sensitive to the Angolan need to establish a correct precedent in a field of such economic importance.

(5) Star 21/9/96

WORLD

Unita stays away from Angola talks

(5) BD 3/10/96

LUANDA — One of Angola's two former warring parties boycotted peace talks yesterday, dashing the hopes of SA President Nelson Mandela and other regional leaders that their initiative could lead to a breakthrough.

Jonas Savimbi, head of the former rebel movement Unita, failed to come to the government-held capital Luanda from his stronghold in Bailundo in the north of the still effectively partitioned country. "We are disappointed that Dr Savimbi is not here. He has given us his reasons," said Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe. "It is not wishes we want from him, instead the wishes should rather come from us."

Portuguese radio said two of Savimbi's aides came to the venue of the meeting to hand in their leader's letter justifying his absence. The Angolan government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita are implementing a 1994 peace accord to end two decades of civil war.

SA leaders are keen to see the peace process completed to ensure stability in the region, but it has slowed almost to a stop.

Unita generals were integrated last month into the national army with their former enemies, but political rapprochement has hardly begun.

Savimbi has rejected the vice-pres-

idency reserved for him under the peace accord. It would have meant moving to government-held Luanda, far away from his Bailundo base.

"We are at a dangerous crossroads between peace and war," dos Santos told the 11 heads of state from countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at the first peace summit of its kind.

"You are no carriers of a magic wand but your presence in Luanda is a stimulant for peace and a source of inspiration for national reconciliation."

Mandela said before the meeting that instability in any country in the region could upset the situation in other countries too.

Peace would dent Unita's lucrative income from the sale of diamonds mined in areas it controls and would leave the movement playing second fiddle to dos Santos' MPLA, which is currently struggling to keep its impoverished government going.

The MPLA won elections held in 1992 after a previous peace accord. But Unita rejected the results and the peace collapsed.

Luanda's streets were secured before the leaders arrived yesterday. Armed soldiers stood on each corner of the major routes to the meeting of the SADC states. — Reuter.

HOPES FOR STABILITY DASHED

Savimbi's boycott of summit condemned

(5) CT 3/10/96

LUANDA: "We are at a dangerous crossroads between peace and war," Angola's President José Eduardo dos Santos told Southern African leaders yesterday after Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi failed to turn up at a peace summit.

SOUTHERN African leaders meeting here to help Angola's peace process condemned Unita leader Dr Jonas Savimbi yesterday for his failure to arrive, which dashed hopes of a quick breakthrough in the stalled initiative.

The 11 Southern African Development Community (SADC) leaders attending the one-day summit appealed to Savimbi's movement to fulfil its commitments in the Lusaka Protocol, signed by the Angolan government and Unita in 1994 to end two decades of war.

In a joint statement, the SADC also urged the United Nations' Security Council, which reviews its peace-keeping mandate in Angola today, to "develop measures which oblige Unita to fully respect dead-

lines" in a peace timetable.

The meeting decided too that the region would send five ministers to the Security Council in New York to present SADC's position on the Angolan peace process.

"He has given us his reasons," Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe said.

Portuguese radio said two of Savimbi's aides came to the hotel where the meeting was being held to hand in their leader's letter justifying his absence.

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meant moving to government-held Luanda, far away from his Bailundo base.

"We are at a dangerous crossroads between peace and war," Dos Santos told the 11 heads of state from countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at the first peace summit of its kind.

President Nelson Mandela told reporters before the meeting that instability in any country in the region could upset the situation in other countries too.

Peace would dent Unita's lucrative income from the sale of diamonds mined in areas it controls and it would play second fiddle to Dos Santos' MPLA, which is struggling to keep its impoverished government going.

The SADC members are Mauritius, Angola, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Malawi, Botswana and South Africa. — Reuter

Arar 3/10/96

Unita boycott sets back new peace initiative

Angolan president warns SADC heads
of state that Savimbi's absence from
Luanda summit leaves the country at
'a dangerous crossroads'

LUANDA
Reuters

The former Angola guerrilla group Unita boycotted a peace summit yesterday, dashing the hopes of President Nelson Mandela and other regional leaders that their initiative could lead to a breakthrough.

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi failed to come to the government-held capital Luanda from his stronghold in Bailundo in the north of the still effectively partitioned country.

"We are disappointed that Dr Savimbi is not here. He has given us his reasons," said Zimbabwean president Robert Mugabe. "It is not what we wish for him. Instead, the wishes should rather come from us."

Portuguese radio said two of Savimbi's aides had come to the hotel where the meeting was being held to hand in their leader's letter justifying his absence.

The Angolan government of President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Unita are implementing a 1994 peace accord to end two decades of civil war.

Southern African leaders are keen to see the peace process completed to ensure stability in the region, but it has slowed almost to a stop.

Last month, Unita generals were integrated into the national army with their former enemies, but political rapprochement has hardly begun.

Savimbi has rejected the vice-presidency, reserved for him under the peace accord, as it would have meant moving to government-held Luanda, far away from his Bailundo base.

"We are at a dangerous crossroads between peace and war," Dos Santos told the 11 heads of state from countries of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at the first peace summit of its kind. "You are no carriers of a magic wand, but your presence in Luanda is a stimulant for peace and a source of inspiration for national reconciliation."

Mandela told reporters before the meeting that instability in any country in the region could upset the situation in other countries as well.

Peace would dent Unita's lucrative income from the sale of diamonds mined in areas it controls and would leave the movement playing second fiddle to Dos Santos's MPLA, which is struggling to keep its impoverished government going.

The MPLA won elections in 1992 after a previous peace accord. Unita rejected the results and the peace deal collapsed.

There was tight security on Luanda's streets before the leaders arrived, with armed soldiers on all major routes.

The SADC is formed by Mauritius, Angola, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Malawi, Botswana and South Africa.

SADC takes a dim view of Savimbi

(5) Star 4/10/96

Harare: Southern African leaders returned home yesterday from a summit in Luanda which was meant to shore up the deteriorating Angolan peace process, but which was rendered fruitless by opposition leader Jonas Savimbi's refusal to attend.

The leaders called on the United Nations Security Council to use its influence to get Unita to stick to the peace agreement.

Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, who chaired the meeting of the Southern African Development Community's organ on security, angrily told a press conference: "We condemn this at-

titude.

"We hope that it will never happen again".

President Nelson Mandela, who interrupted a state visit by Holland's Queen Beatrix, said he was disappointed.

Mugabe said he had been given a note from Savimbi in which the guerrilla chief said he had not been able to attend "because the political conditions were not there".

A Unita spokesman said Savimbi had been invited to the summit only on Saturday and had not had enough time to prepare for the meeting. - Sapa-DPA.

Savimbi under fire for peace talks breakdown

Luanda - ^{ARL 4/10/96} Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has disclosed serious strains in relations with Unita leader Jonas Savimbi, saying he has not talked to him since early August.

The comments by Mr Dos Santos on national radio yesterday came a day after Southern African leaders attacked Unita for allegedly delaying efforts to shore up Angola's shaky peace.

Mr Dos Santos said he last spoke to Dr Savimbi several days before a special Unita congress in mid-August to decide the future of the movement.

The president also said he hoped the United Nations Security Council, reviewing its peacekeeping mandate in Angola, would put pressure on Unita to fulfil its obligations under the peace plan signed in Lusaka in 1994.

Eleven heads of state of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)

⁽⁵⁾ met in Luanda yesterday to try to end the deadlock.

Dr Savimbi did not arrive, citing "unfortunate political conditions".

The SADC group condemned Dr Savimbi's absence.

However, they added they would continue their contacts to get discussions going between the two Angolan leaders.

Mr Dos Santos told the summit Angola had reached a dangerous crossroads. "We have the impression that someone wants to push the return of war. It is, however, not our wish."

Dr Savimbi has yet to tell Mr Dos Santos personally of a decision by Unita's congress not to accept the vice-presidency offered to him in a unity government.

Political analysts said the Unita leader had further isolated himself by ignoring efforts by African and Western governments to break the stalemate. - Reuter

Unita will comply with demands – envoy

(5) Star 8/10/96

SAPA-AFP

United Nations – The Angolan former rebel movement Unita has promised to comply with two key military demands after blocking implementation of the peace process, UN special envoy Alioune Blondin Beye said yesterday.

Beye said he was confident Unita would fulfil its promises by tomorrow, when the UN Security Council meets to discuss renewing the mandate of the UN peacekeeping force in Angola, Unavem III.

The Luanda-based UN official also revealed that Unita had for the first time formally proposed a role for its leader Jonas Savimbi as part of a series of new political proposals.

The council meeting comes at a

time when pressure is growing in southern Africa for possible economic sanctions against Unita for failing to fulfil all its commitments under the 1994 Lusaka peace accords.

Ministers from five members of the 12-nation Southern African Development Community, which last week urged the council to “adopt measures” in the light of Unita’s actions, are due in New York for the council session.

The Security Council must take a decision on the UN force’s mandate by Friday, when the current Unavem mandate expires.

Beye said Savimbi had assured him that the last four Unita generals would arrive in Luanda to join the integrated Angolan armed forces. Five other generals have

been in the Angolan capital since last month in line with the peace accords.

Beye added that if the four generals failed to show up, he would recommend to the council a short extension of the Unavem mandate to “November 30th at the latest,” to keep up the pressure on Unita.

He also said that he had “just heard” that the number of Unita personnel to be selected for the Angolan armed forces now stood at 10 000. He expected the figure to rise to 15 000 by tomorrow, up from 3 000 last week.

Under the peace plan, a total 26 300 Unita personnel are to be incorporated into the armed forces.

UN secretary-general Boutros Boutros-Ghali said yesterday that the two issues should be the key

factors in deciding how long the Unavem mandate should be extended.

He hinted that the council might consider sanctions if Unita failed to comply, saying that by extending the mandate for a short period until December 11, the council could “respond appropriately to continuing delays, especially by Unita”.

Western diplomats said Washington, which remains influential with Unita, its former Angolan civil war ally, would be opposed to sanctions against the rebels.

Beye also pointed to recent political concessions by Unita, notably concerning the future status of Savimbi, who has rejected a government offer to become Angolan vice president.

Unita proposes new plan for unity

(5) Mar 9/10/96
REUTERS

Luanda - As the clock ticks towards Angola's November deadline to form a unity government, the former rebel Unita movement yesterday revealed plans for a new unity state with its leader Jonas Savimbi in the role of loyal opposition.

"People within the MPLA (government) are concerned that Unita wants to disrupt the process and are deliberately causing delays until November when the government's mandate expires," chief Unita negotiator in Luanda, Isaias Samakuva, said.

"We feel the government is concerned with the end of the mandate and they are very nervous, so we have given them three documents which will serve as a smooth extension of the mandate.

"We want this to begin in October," he said.

Samakuva said concrete proposals on outstanding political issues were given to the government and the United Nations last week.

Days ahead of a UN Security Council meeting, where strong criticism of Unita's delays in implementing a 1994 peace plan is expected to emerge, Samakuva said his party was eager to show commitment to the blueprint, which ended 20 years of civil war.

Unita has rejected the nomination of its 62-year-old leader as vice president in a unity government.

Instead, it has proposed that Savimbi be given special status as leader of the largest opposition party and would consult with the president on national matters.

Savimbi's position and role would be akin to that of the majority opposition leaders of Britain or Mozambique.

Unita also tabled a plan for national reconciliation, which would include extending the state's administration to Unita-controlled areas and integrating Unita's public services into a single administration.

Unita has also proposed that the current national assembly be transformed from November for a maximum of two years into a constituent assembly to review the Angolan constitution.

Samakuva said immediate changes to the constitution were necessary for this transformation and to extend parliament's mandate.

He said revising the constitution should also enable postponing national and presidential elections until the UN had declared conditions in the country suitable.

Unita 'is nudging Angola back to war'

(5) BD 10/10/96

NEW YORK — Angola has not known peace since 1960, and is creeping back to a tense, warlike state after new moves by Unita, UN diplomats warn.

Two years after the Angolan government and Unita signed peace accords in Lusaka, Zambia, the UN is worried that the peace process has stalled badly, with too many soldiers still armed and deployed.

UN special envoy to Angola Alioune Blondin Beye has downplayed reports of conflict between the government and Unita in the past, but now acknowledges Unita especially has problems coming to terms with peace.

"Unita signed the accords in a weak position," Beye says, noting the Lusaka Accords were concluded only after a series of major government victories in the summer of 1994. But now Beye insists that, whether the party is happy with the peace process or not, it must retire more of its troops and turn in more of its weaponry.

So far Unita's scorecard on those subjects has been poor. "In Angola, the pattern has been one of grudging compliance with the provisions of the Lusaka protocol, with protracted delays and last-minute concessions," UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali noted in a report last week: "This trend cannot continue."

By September 27, Unita had sent 63 189 declared fighters to UN-guarded bases where they could turn in arms — well in excess of the 62 500 guerrillas Unita originally claimed to have.

But the UN notes that about 25 000 of those troops came without any weapons, while "the overall quality of the weapons and ammunition surrendered remains low," Boutros-Ghali said. The UN Angola Verification Mission (Unavem), a 7 000-soldier peacekeeping force, would check the quality and number of the weapons turned in so far by mid-October, Beye said.

There are many indications, however, that Unita, supported for many years by the US and SA in their battle against Angola's then-Marxist government, remain well armed and still can field a substantial fighting force.

"They have a lot of weapons," one UN envoy said, speaking on condition of anonymity. "Every day, they receive weapons by plane from Zaire." The Zairean government has repeatedly denied the charges, which the UN has been unable to confirm.

Moreover, the UN source said, Unita had not sent as many real soldiers to the UN quartering sites as the numbers indicated.

"Many of the people in the camps were civilians," he said.

"Unita told them there would be food in the camps." But when Unavem troops checked to see if the self-described soldiers could assemble and take apart weapons, many did not know how, he said.

Unita "failed to confine all its true military to quarters," Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura complained last month. "It did not surrender its light and heavy materiel."

In recent months about 12 000 of the declared soldiers at the Unita quartering sites have deserted, heading back to their homes. But Beye dismissed the desertions as a minor problem: "They are not in prison — they are free to leave." But such manoeuvres feed an impression that the rebels are still prepared for war.

UN peacekeepers, foreign investors and Angolan civilians alike have been hedging their bets, fearing that the two years of relative peace the Lusaka protocol has brought may not last. The fears of new fighting reached a peak at the end of August, when Unita rebuffed an offer for its leader, Jonas Savimbi, to accept a post as deputy vice-president.

The offer to Savimbi is the biggest concession by the Angolan government. Luanda was predictably on edge after the Unita congress's signal that it expected more for Savimbi.

The question is whether Savimbi could restart the war even if he tried. When Unita renewed full-scale fighting in the winter of 1993, Angola's civil war — now in its 21st year — entered its bloodiest phase, with about 1 000 people dying each day.

With his control over key diamond-producing regions and his alleged continuing links to arms suppliers despite a UN ban on arming Unita, Savimbi may well be able to unleash another burst of violence if he is dissatisfied.

Yet with Angola no longer a Cold War hot spot, Washington has dropped Unita, which now lacks major allies and control of most of Angola's key cities. Many diplomats believe Angolans are so weary of non-stop fighting — even in the past three months, Unavem recorded 55 cease-fire violations — that Unita will not abandon the peace process. But Angola faces several problems over the next few months. Boutros-Ghali noted that Unavem, currently the largest UN force, would end its mission next February, and begin to "downsize" in December.

As one UN envoy puts it: "This could send the wrong signal ... and be another Somalia situation" where factions ready for war wait for the UN's departure. — Sapa-IPS.

International community loses patience with Unita ⑤

United Nations—The international community yesterday piled pressure on Angola's former rebels to live up to its commitments under peace accords ending nearly two decades of fighting.

The UN Security Council formal debate, was scheduled as council members were discussing regional African proposals for a 30-day deadline for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) to comply with its commitments under the 1994 Lusaka peace accords or face an assets freeze, the closure of its offices, and travel restrictions.

Angolan Foreign Minister Venancio de Moura listed the "systematic delays" by Unita which he said pointed to a "lack of political will" by its leader, Jonas Savimbi.

He noted that the quartering

11/10/96

Savimbi

exhibits a

lack of

political will

of Unita's 63 000 troops had dragged on for too long, that four Unita generals who were to join the integrated armed forces were still awaited in Luanda, and that Unita had failed to induct the planned 26 300 of its members into the joint army.

On the political front, De Moura complained that Unita deputies had failed to return to the national parliament which they have boycotted since 1992.

Angola's 16-year civil war formally ended in 1991 but fighting quickly broke out again, and a second accord was signed in 1994.

Four other foreign ministers of the 12-nation Southern African Development Community (SADC) spoke at the debate which was to be addressed by 34 speakers. The SADC sent a delegation to New York after Savimbi boycotted an SADC summit in Luanda last week.

SADC ministers are from Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

SADC delegation leader Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Stan Mudenge said that because of Unita's failure to fulfil its commitments, Angola "is now hovering between war and peace, as the implementation process of the Lusaka protocols is now stalled".

"The time has come to say enough is enough," said Mudenge. He said the Security Council should send a "clear, unambiguous message to Unita". — Sapa-APP

Angola is told: 'World won't tolerate war'

(5) APR 15/10/96

Christopher is concerned peace accords
will fail when troops leave in February

REUTERS
Luanda

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said yesterday it was "imperative" that Angola's rival factions honour peace accords and warned that the world would not tolerate renewed war.

He spoke after deciding to send a senior aide to deliver that message to Unita leader Jonas Savimbi at his highland stronghold following talks in Luanda with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

George Moose, US Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, is to see Savimbi, head of the former rebel movement who has been blamed for recent delays in implementing the peace agreement.

"Much has been accomplished in bringing peace to Angola," Christopher said.

But with UN peacekeeping troops due to begin leaving in February "it is imperative that both sides move rapidly to meet their obligations", he said.

"Unita must fulfil its pledge to send its remaining generals to Luanda, to provide 26 000 volunteers for the combined armed forces, and to assure the free movement of goods and people throughout the country.

"The government must recover weapons from civilians and ensure that the Unita soldiers it integrates have real jobs, security,

and respect," he said.

UN peace troops are due to begin leaving Angola in February, when a 1994 peace agreement between the government and Unita is supposed to be fully in effect.

Although both parties have at times dragged their feet on the accord, the United States and the United Nations have blamed Unita this time.

Christopher stressed that "political integration is essential" and said the international community "will not tolerate any resumption of conflict.

"The United States is committed to a long-term partnership with Angola and we will pursue that partnership with all those who maintain their commitment to peace."

Christopher, wrapping up a five-nation African tour, had wanted to meet Savimbi in Luanda. But Savimbi, who once depended on US and South African help in his guerrilla war against the then-Marxist Angolan government, said he could be in danger in the capital.

Christopher rejected Savimbi's suggestion to meet in another country or at his base camp because it "would send the wrong signal", US officials said. Instead he had decided to send Moose.

Dos Santos said his government was committed to the peace agreement but there had to be economic benefits to underpin stability. - Reuters.

(5)
**IMF acts as
economic
peacemaker
in Angola**
CT (ex) 16/10/96
FROM REUTER

Luanda — Michel Camdessus, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) managing director, has urged the Angolan government and rebel Unita movement to work toward a joint reconstruction to restore confidence in its economy.

He told a joint ceasefire commission meeting on Monday that his visit was aimed at finding the best way to restructure Angola's war-ravaged economy.

"I have held meetings with the government and the economic team aimed at seeing how to establish the best possible programme to spare the Angolan people additional suffering," Camdessus said.

Economists in Luanda said the IMF would look specifically at government efforts to make its oil account more transparent and examine steps to reduce inflation and the budget deficit.

Camdessus' visit comes after the withdrawal of its representative by the IMF last year. The MPLA-led government had failed to implement economic reforms for the fourth time since 1987.



Man 17/10/96 (S)

Savimbi still fly in Angola's ointment

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi wants to rule Angola. But when the rebel leader agreed to a 1994 peace accord that ended one of Africa's longest civil wars, it was a tacit admission that he could not take the country by force.

No one said peace would be easy, however, and Savimbi – with his chronic delays in implementing the peace accord and his oft-repeated fears for his personal safety – has proven as wily a brinkman during peace as during war.

As the nation tries to consolidate a peacetime political and military system after a ruinous 12-year civil war, managing Savimbi's failed wartime ambitions and his peacetime insecurities has become a nagging problem that complicates a crucial postwar period – one that will challenge the warring parties' commitment to peace and their ability to share power, diplomats say.

Savimbi's Unita and the ruling MPLA, bitter enemies even before Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975, are hard up against a deadline for reform. The United Nations, whose mandate here ends early next year, is to begin phasing out its 7 000 peacekeepers. At the same time, the country needs a constitutional arrangement to run until the next elections.

The real test of Angola's peace is about to begin, but Savimbi's recalcitrance – including his refusal to travel to the capital, Luanda, to meet Secretary of State Warren Christopher – has caused the peace process to lag far behind schedule.

Savimbi's troops have not turned in all their weapons and he is far behind in integrating his force into the national army. With each delay, each failure to fulfil a pledge, Savimbi adds to insecurity.

"The irreversibility of the peace process depends on the political will of Unita," said Faustinho Muteka, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos's representative to the UN commission that is supervising the implementation of the 1994 peace accord forged in Lusaka, Zambia.

Muteka's assessment is partisan but it reflects the consensus reached in the international community: that Angola cannot move forward until Savimbi fulfils his part of the peace bargain. The United States, which once funded Unita as a Cold War proxy to thwart communism in Africa, now is leading the campaign to force Savimbi to adhere to the timetable of peace.

The question hanging over the peace process is what Savimbi wants. Unita "has ambition to rule the country one of these days," said Isaias Samakuva, Unita's representative at the UN commission. "That is our goal."

A half-million people were killed in the war between

Still dreaming of ruling the country,

Unita leader as obdurate in peace

as in war, writes Lynne Duke

1975 and 1994, scores of thousands were maimed by land mines, and roughly a third of Angola's 12 million people were displaced by fighting in the agriculturally rich interior.

What remains to be seen is whether Unita is able to make the transition from rebel army to political party, especially given its record of rejecting electoral results and flouting peace agreements.

But despite their penchant for war, Alioune Blondin Beye, the special representative here for UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, said last week that "Unita knows there is no other way or choice" than peace. "They know they can't rule the country by the gun."

In this chaotic capital of blackouts and beggars, amputee war victims and kerbside money changers, reading the tea leaves of the peace process is a daily obsession. Rumours fly about this or that side's latest threat, about the doings of 13 000 Unita troops who deserted the UN camps where 63 000 Unita fighters were quartered, or about secret Unita rear bases alleged to exist in border areas of neighbouring Zaire.

The movement denies that it has secret bases and has pledged to round up the deserters.

The Security Council threatened to add new sanctions to its oil and arms embargoes on Unita if it does not speed up demilitarisation. Several Unita generals arrived here on Friday in compliance with the Lusaka accord and buoyed hopes they are back on track.

But the UN criticised the rebels for delaying the integration of 26 000 of its fighters into the national army, for interfering with peacekeepers, and for the age and paucity of the weapons turned in by Unita soldiers.

Unita claims all its troops are quartered and accounted for and that it has turned in its weapons.

A diplomat in the US-Portuguese-Russian troika assisting implementation of the Lusaka accord called it an imperfect process that is best viewed broadly. Seen that way, the peace is holding, the hostilities have ceased, and Angola has a shot at reviving its war-torn economy. Viewed in detail, however, many rough spots remain. – The Washington Post.

PRIVATE PANACEA?

While government has made spending on primary health care and free health services to the disadvantaged a priority, the first network involving two hospital groups and a managed health-care company has been formed with the aim of trimming medical costs for middle- and upper-income earners.

The network takes in 64 hospitals, of which 27 are in Gauteng, 14 in the Western Cape and nine in KwaZulu-Natal.

Southern Healthcare JV — owned by Anglo American and Southern Life Association — and US registered United Healthcare have joined forces with Clinic Holdings and Apex Healthcare Network (a division of Afrox and Medi-Clinic) which have more than half of the private hospital beds and cover the main cities.

United Healthcare is the largest managed care company in the US. It has about 40m members.

The venture will invest more than a billion rand over 10 years to develop health management technology.

Southern Healthcare external affairs GM John Wardle says Anglo joined the venture because of rising medical costs. Together with Southern Life, it was looking for a new approach to managing private health care. "We do not believe there are fundamental flaws in the medical schemes system," he says. "We see opportunities in the management of the process which can result in a positive outcome for all participants."

He says Southern Healthcare would initially aim to capture a share of the medical scheme business in the middle to upper segments of the market.

Southern has already signed an agreement with the Medical Association of SA (Masa) to contract doctors and specialists to deliver managed health-care services to the group. CEO Kathy Walstead-Plumb says the target is to achieve a long-term partnership with the medical profession. Such a partnership has to be based on trust and Masa acceptance is the first step in that direction.

Under the contract, Masa will nominate representatives for the company's management advisory committee.

The committee considers issues such as confidentiality, guidelines, admission requirements and fees.

"One official seat on our quality assurance and credential granting committees

will also be given to a participating provider nominated by Masa," says Walstead-Plumb.

Clinic Holdings and Apex will co-operate on asset management and quality assessment. ■

Savimbi casts doubts over unity govt

(5) 60 27/11/97

ANDUILO—Jonas Savimbi, the leader of Angola's opposition Unita movement, says he has "no trust" in the Luanda government with which he is committed to sharing power.

"We want to set up a government of unity and national reconciliation if such a unity government can help the country out of its current mess. Why not?" he said.

But Savimbi, who fought for two decades before the two sides signed a peace agreement in Lusaka in November 1994, cast some doubt on Unita's desire to govern with its former foes when he said Unita was interested in joining a unity government only if it "really wants to work for the stability of the country".

"But if it is just to rubber stamp the policies of (President José Eduardo) Dos Santos there is no point in both- ering," Savimbi said.

On the issue of demobilising his estimated 65,000 troops, Savimbi said the disarming "is effective" but he "understood these men's fears for their future". Of the total Unita troops, 23,600 men will be integrated into the future national army, under the Lusaka accords. The others will be demobilised.

"They trusted us and up to now we have been able to keep them under control. But one should not push them too far," Savimbi warned, alluding to his troops. "However, if the Lusaka accords were 'bad' for Unita, it was because the Unita armed forces had failed in their task. This is my profound conviction," Savimbi said, without elaborating on the implied criticism of his own forces.

He said 10 Unita generals, who were supposed to be integrated into the staff of the future national armed forces, had been left at hotels in Lu-

anda for two months and had had no contact with senior army leaders.

"They are doing absolutely nothing. They are ignored. They cannot leave Luanda. All this is not very reassuring. This situation has completely undermined our trust" in the government.

Savimbi said he was also disappointed that the United Nations (UN) verification mission in Angola "is not a buffer force", and that he did not have the means to help the troops in Unita's 15 regroupment camps.

On political developments, Savimbi said a decision to prolong the mandate of the Angola parliament, dominated by the formerly Marxist liberation movement the MPLA, in power since independence, was "proof of the bad faith of the Luanda authorities with regard to setting up a national unity government".

Unita had fulfilled its obligations

under the peace accords, whereas the MPLA "is buying arms and boosting its armed forces with the aid of Russia which is part of the troika (Russia, Portugal and the US) handling the Angolan problem". This was "a contradiction in terms".

"We are training our cadres to enter the political arena if the MPLA lets us do so. If we are given the possibility of taking part in politics, we are ready to do so," said Savimbi, who has been accused by the UN of holding up the peace process.

"We would like to feel that on the government side, there is a real will to do business with us because once the UN troops leave, how will Angolans get along?" Savimbi said.

The 7,000 UN troops who have been policing the peace accords in Angola will begin withdrawing at the end of December.—Sapa-AFP.

Angola 'will form united govt soon'

BD 4/12/96
5

BRAZZAVILLE — The United Nations (UN) mediator for Angola announced yesterday the "imminent" formation of a new government of national unity following two years of wrangling.

"We will announce the formation of this government in a few days," Alioune Blondin Beye said before the opening of a meeting of central African leaders in Brazzaville, Congo.

Beye gave no details of the planned government but said it would include Jonas Savimbi's former rebel movement, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita), and President Jose Eduardo dos Santos' Popular Liberation Movement of Angola (MPLA). The joining of Unita and Dos Santos' leadership in a new government would close out Africa's longest civil war.

Savimbi first went to war against Dos Santos' then-Marxist MPLA on the eve of independence from Portugal in 1975. Beye was appointed special UN mediator in 1993 and oversaw the signing of a peace accord in Lusaka, Zambia in November 1994 calling for a government of national reconciliation.

Clashes continued as the two sides repeatedly failed to agree on a power-sharing deal, raising fears of a renewal of all-out war. At a congress in August, Unita indicated it was willing to accept a vice-president's post with guarantees it would not be mainly ceremonial.

Dos Santos had accused Savimbi of stalling to prolong the war and in October urged the UN Security Council to impose sanctions on Unita to force compliance with the accord before the withdrawal of UN peacekeeping troops early next year.

Beye credited "reasonable dialogue" with the success in Angola and said he hoped it would serve as an example to African leaders meeting in Congo to discuss the Zairean crisis. Zaire accuses Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda of backing rebels who have run Zairean troops out of many eastern towns, and says its neighbours have declared war on it. — Sapa-AP.

'ANC government knew about Angolan deals'

5
Nov 5/12/96

Roles played by Pik Botha and Magnus Malan scrutinised by Mbeki and Mufamadi, trial told

By NORMAN CHANDLER
Pretoria Bureau

President Nelson Mandela was fully briefed on alleged activities involving Angola said to have been carried out by two former senior cabinet ministers in the F W de Klerk government, the Pretoria Regional Court heard yesterday.

The roles played by former foreign minister Pik Botha and defence minister General Magnus Malan were said by top police investigator General Karel "Suiker" Brits to have been scrutinised by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi in regard to claims that the two had been involved in alleged diamonds-for-weapons deals, ivory deals, and the trade in so-called red mercury.

The court heard that the ministers had also been told about secret Swiss bank accounts. However, no information about the accounts was given to the court.

Brits, who is a police commissioner, was giving evidence yesterday for the State against suspended Brixton Murder and Robbery Unit commander Colonel Charles Landman and former Civil Co-operation Bureau operatives Ferdi Barnard and Gert Marais. The trio are facing allegations of corruption and defeating the ends of justice.

Landman had been in charge of a special investigation squad which was looking into reports of red mercury, and in that capacity, Brits said, Landman had briefed Mbeki and Mufamadi on several occasions in regard to weapons

allegedly supplied to Unita's Jonas Savimbi in return for diamonds and ivory.

Brits described Landman as "one of the top five" murder and robbery detectives in the country "up until today - he never told me something which I thought he lied about", he said.

Brits' disclosure follows similar claims made in evidence earlier by Senior Superintendent Casper Jonker, a member of the Transvaal attorney-general's special investigations team, who said under

“
**Landman
one of the
top five
detectives in
the country**
”

cross-examination from former Witwatersrand attorney-general Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau - now an advocate in private practice and appearing for Landman - that he was aware Landman had been involved in investigations into various deaths attributed to deals in red mercury, notably that of Alan Kidger, whose dismembered body was found in 1994 in a car boot at Johannesburg airport, and Don Lange, who was found gassed in his Umhlanga Rocks, Durban, apartment.

The court also heard that

Lange - whom Landman had said, Von Lieres told the court, had contact with Botha - had carried a Philippine passport, which was produced in court.

Jonker confirmed under questioning that "the matter of red mercury" had appeared in all police files relating to the unexplained deaths.

Von Lieres told the court that Landman's 1995 desk diary had included references to information he had received involving both Malan and Botha in illegal diamonds and weapons deals, but Jonker was unable to say why the two had not been questioned.

There was no sign yesterday of a representative of Western Cape Attorney-General Frank Kahn, who was to have appeared in court to answer claims made earlier in the week by Von Lieres that a subpoena he had issued had not been adhered to. The subpoena related to a file in connection with the case and which Kahn was said to have declined to release to Landman.

Von Lieres earlier called on Magistrate W W P Moyses to issue a warrant of arrest for Kahn. Kahn retaliated by claiming that Von Lieres had acted irresponsibly and said he would report Von Lieres to the Bar Council for disciplinary measures to be taken against him.

There was no explanation yesterday from state officials as to why the representative had not made an appearance. Von Lieres earlier withdrew the subpoena temporarily following discussions with the state prosecuting team.