

OUTGOING MESSAGE

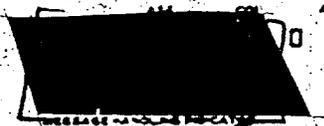
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4. ANGOLA: SOVIET PRESS COVERAGE OF THE CIVIL WAR IN ANGOLA REMAINS EXTREMELY HEAVY. PRAVDA, IZVESTIA, AND THE SOVIET NEWS AGENCY TASS ARE HAMMERING AWAY AT ALLEGED INTERVENTION BY SUCH OUTSIDE FORCES AS CHINESE, SOUTH AFRICANS, ZAIRIANS, PORTUGUESE "FASCISTS," AND "AMERICAN MERCENARIES" ON BEHALF OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT'S RIVALS.

MOSCOW HAS RESERVED SOME OF ITS HEAVIEST BRICKBATS FOR THE CHINESE. THE SOVIET PRESS RECENTLY BLASTED PEKING FOR ITS CRITICISM OF MOSCOW'S "EXPANSION" AND "INTERFERENCE" IN ANGOLA. REFLECTING SOVIET SENSITIVITY TO THESE CHARGES, THE COMMENTARIES RAILED AGAINST PEKING'S OWN MILITARY, FINANCIAL, AND TRAINING SUPPORT FOR ANTI-MOVEMENT FORCES, AS WELL AS ITS COLLUSION WITH "PORTUGUESE FASCISTS, SOUTH AFRICAN RACISTS, AND INTERNATIONAL MONOPOLIES."

ANTI-SOVIET VITRIOL HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN A STANDARD FEATURE OF CHINESE COMMENTARY ON THE ANGOLAN CONFLICT. PEKING'S EFFORT TO EMBARRASS MOSCOW FOR ITS INVOLVEMENT WITH THE POPULAR

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Approved for Release,
 Date 1 OCT 1997

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MOVEMENT HAS GAINED MOMENTUM, HOWEVER, SINCE THE CHINESE LOWERED THE VISIBILITY OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT BY WITHDRAWING CHINESE ADVISERS FROM ZAIRIAN TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR THE NATIONAL FRONT LATE LAST MONTH. SINCE THEN, PEOPLE'S DAILY HAS CARRIED TWO ARTICLES LAMBASTING SOVIET MEDDLING IN ANGOLA, AND THE TRADITIONAL INDEPENDENCE DAY EDITORIAL GAVE HEAVY PLAY TO THE SAME THEME.

THE NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY HAS ALSO CARRIED SEVERAL LENGTHY REPORTS FOCUSING ON THE SOVIET ROLE IN ANGOLA. ITS DAILY TRANSMISSIONS HAVE BEEN SATURATED WITH REPLAYS OF ANTI-SOVIET ARTICLES AND STATEMENTS FROM A NUMBER OF AFRICAN CAPITALS. CHINESE PROPAGANDISTS HAVE HAD A FIELD DAY REHASHING THE GENERALLY NEGATIVE AFRICAN REACTION TO MOSCOW'S RECOGNITION OF THE POPULAR MOVEMENT IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY'S CALL FOR NEUTRALITY IN THE ANGOLAN DISPUTE. PEKING HAS PROMINENTLY IDENTIFIED ITSELF AS A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE ORGANIZATION'S POLICIES. A RECENT PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL SAID THE ORGANIZATION'S CALL FOR EXTENSION OF RECOGNITION

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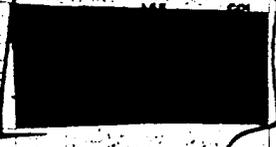
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