

## SOUTH AFRICA - ANGOLA: Cross-Border Operation Ends

*South Africa has ended its large sweep operation in Angola and has reduced its military presence in northern Namibia, but Pretoria may still be conducting some operations beyond its normal zone of control in southern Angola.*

The cross-border operation--the longest South Africa has staged since 1975--lasted from mid-July through August. Angola claims South African units ranged as far west as Oncocua and Chiange and as far north as Kassinga. Pretoria has stated its forces pushed 250 kilometers into Angola.

According to [redacted] the mission was designed to disrupt South-West Africa People's Organization activity in the region without engaging Angolan or Cuban troops. One source [redacted] contacts also says the operation was aimed at expanding South Africa's buffer zone in Angola. [redacted]

Luanda claims South African forces are still at Mupa, Ngiva, and Xangongo, and around Cahama. [redacted]

Comment: The size of the recent operation remains unclear. [redacted] more probably took part. The force may have operated extensively on both sides of the Cunene River. [redacted]

If Angola's claims are true, Pretoria could have enlarged its buffer zone in southern Angola and now possibly holds positions at Oncocua and Mupa. A convoy of trucks sighted on 27 August heading north from Ngiva may have been transporting supplies to a forward base. [redacted]

The effect of the operation will be to disrupt the activities of SWAPO in southern Angola and to further reduce--but not end--its ability to infiltrate guerrillas into Namibia. An expansion of South Africa's zone of control could also clear territory for occupation by Jonas Savimibi's insurgent group, which South Africa backs with military aid. [redacted]

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