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U.S. Seeking Explanation

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WASHINGTON, May 24 — The Reagan Administration said today that it was seeking a full explanation from the South African Government about the military mission into Angola.

A State Department spokesman, Edward P. Djerejian, said the United States had no knowledge of any possible South African military operation in Cabinda province until the Angolan and South African announcements.

"We have made known to the South African Government our deep displeasure over Tuesday night's incident at Cabinda, and we are seeking a full explanation from the South African government," Mr. Djerejian said. <u>He de.</u> <u>clined to respond to questions about</u> whether the United States knew about South African intelligence teams in Angola.

Serious Concern Expressed

Mr. Djerejian said the United States Government was "deeply concerned" about the safety of American citizens and property in the region. Texaco Inc. and the Gulf Oil Corporation operate in Angola.

The incident comes at a time of increasing domestic racial violence in South Africa as the Pretoria Government attempts to crack down on opponents of its white racial dominance system called apartheid. The Reagan Administraion in turn, is facing mounting pressure from the American public and Congress to take a stronger stand against apartheid.

Congress, responding in part to antiapartheid protests by college students and civil rights groups across the United States, appears poised to pass legislation imposing economic sanctions against the South African Government.

At a hearing today before a Senate Banking subcommittee, the presidents of Harvard University and the University of Pennsylvania urged Congress to impose restrictions that would include a ban on new investment by American companies doing business in South Africa and a ban on American bank loans to the Pretoria Government or to South African banks.

"The current United States policy of 'constructive engagement' with South Africa seems increasingly inadequate," said Derek Bok of Harvard.

Sheldon Hackney, president of the University of Pennsylvania, told the Senate panel that a voluntary code of ethics adopted by some American companies in South Africa has helped improve working conditions for black employees in those companies.