

1946 : ANGOLA-DIAMONDS

BY FRED BRIDGLAND

LUSAKA, DEC 14. REUTER - THE SOVIET-BACKED ANGOLAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT MPLA IS DOING BUSINESS WORTH MANY MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WITH A MULTI-NATIONAL DIAMOND FIRM, THE RIVAL UNITA LIBERATION MOVEMENT SAID HERE TODAY.

IT ALLEGED THE FIRM WAS A CONSORTIUM FORMED BY A SOUTH AFRICAN FIRM WITH BELGIAN, PORTUGUESE, AMERICAN AND BRITISH INTERESTS.

A STATEMENT RELEASED BY UNITA (THE NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL LIBERATION OF ANGOLA) PRESS SERVICES SAID:

"THE MOSCOW-DOMINATED POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA (MPLA) IS INVOLVED IN MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR SECRET BUSINESS DEALS WITH A SOUTH AFRICAN-CONTROLLED DIAMOND EXPLOITING FIRM.

"THE SOVIET UNION AND MPLA HAVE SPREAD RUMOURS OF SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT AGAINST MPLA-SOVIET-CUBAN FORCES IN ANGOLA TO MASK THEIR SECRET DEALINGS WITH SOUTH AFRICAN FINANCIAL INTERESTS."

THE STATEMENT SAID THE MPLA WAS BEING PAID AT ABOUT THE RATE OF 80 MILLION DOLLARS A YEAR BY THE CONSORTIUM FOR ANGOLAN DIAMONDS MINED IN THE EASTERN PROVINCE OF LUNDA.

MORE RR/5CH

1954 : ANGOLA-DIAMONDS 2 LUSAKA:

"MPLA MANAGES SECRETLY TO DO BUSINESS WITH THESE IMPERIALIST AND FORMER COLONIAL POWERS WHILE POSING AS THE SOCIALISTIC DEFENDER OF ANGOLA'S INTEGRITY AGAINST ALLEGED SOUTH AFRICAN INVADERS," THE STATEMENT ADDED.

IT SAID LUNDA PROVINCE USED TO BE PATROLLED DURING PORTUGUESE COLONIAL RULE BY THE DIAMOND FIRM'S OWN PRIVATE POLICE FORCE.

HELICOPTERS, ARMoured CARS, BAZOOKAS AND MACHINE-GUNS NOW USED TO PROTECT THE DIAMOND WORKERS AND POLICE THE POPULATION OF LUNDA WERE ALL OF RUSSIAN MANUFACTURE AND MANNED MOSTLY BY RUSSIAN TROOPS AND CUBAN MERCENAIRES, THE STATEMENT ADDED.

IT SAID THE MPLA WAS DERIVING MORE THAN ONE QUARTER OF ITS FOREIGN EXCHANGE FROM THE FIRM'S ROYALTIES AND DIVIDENDS.

MORE RR/5CH

1956 : ANGOLA-DIAMONDS 3 LUSAKA:

NOTING THAT MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO HAD SAID HIS MOVEMENT WELCOMED FOREIGN INVESTMENT FROM ALL COUNTRIES, THE UNITA STATEMENT ADDED:

"ALL COUNTRIES, AND ESPECIALLY SOUTH AFRICA."

UNITA SAID SOME OF THE INFORMATION FOR THE STATEMENT HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY A WESTERN JOURNALIST WHO WAS AN MPLA SUPPORTER AND HAD VISITED THE DIAMOND MINING AREAS IN LUNDA PROVINCE.

THE STATEMENT SAID UNITA WAS PREPARING FURTHER STATEMENTS ON ALLEGED SECRET MPLA DEALINGS WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

REUTER RR/5CH

Angola

A229

D B

O'NEILL 12-14

WASHINGTON (UPI) -- CONGRESS WILL OPPOSE ANY MOVE TO SEND AMERICAN TROOPS OR ADVISERS TO ANGOLA, HOUSE DEMOCRATIC LEADER THOMAS P. O'NEILL SAID SUNDAY.

"NO AMERICANS WHATSOEVER, I CAN ASSURE YOU, WILL BE SENT TO ANGOLA," THE MASSACHUSETTS DEMOCRAT SAID.

"I KNOW THE FEELING OF THE CONGRESS IS NO TROOPS, NO ADVISERS."

O'NEILL, IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW (NBC: MEET THE PRESS), SAID REPORTS OF SECRET AMERICAN AID TO TWO GUERRILLA FACTIONS IN ANGOLA REPRESENT "ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEMS" CONGRESS MUST FACE WHEN IT RECONVENES MONDAY AFTER THE WEEKEND.

MOST CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS WERE NOT BRIEFED ABOUT THE SITUATION, HE SAID, ALTHOUGH THE HOUSE INTELLIGENCE PANEL CHAIRED BY REP. OTIS PIKE, D-N.Y., AND THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE WERE INFORMED. PIKE IS CALLING FOR A PROMPT REPORT.

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS SAY THE CIA HAS PROVIDED \$25 MILLION IN U.S. ARMS, BY WAY OF NEIGHBORING ZAIRE, TO TWO GUERRILLA GROUPS IN EFFORTS TO STOP THE SOVIETS FROM GAINING A FOOTHOLD IN NEWLY INDEPENDENT ANGOLA. ANOTHER \$25 MILLION SHIPMENT IS ON THE WAY, THEY SAID.

THE SOVIETS HAVE PROVIDED ARMS, AND CUBA HAS PROVIDED TROOPS TO AID THE POPULAR MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF ANGOLA, WHICH HAS SET UP A GOVERNMENT IN LUANDA.

O'NEILL SAID ANOTHER VIETNAM "IS NOT THE WILL OF CONGRESS."

CONGRESSMEN WANT TO KNOW WHO SETS U.S. POLICY, HE SAID. "WHO SENT THE CIA IN? WHO DECIDED WHAT GROUP WE SHOULD SUPPORT? THESE ARE THE THINGS THE CONGRESSMEN DON'T KNOW AND ... THEY'RE GOING TO FIND OUT WITHIN THIS WEEK."

ON ANOTHER SUBJECT, O'NEILL SAID THE TAX CUT BILL APPROVED BY CONGRESS COULD BE VETOED AND BACK IN THE HOUSE BY TUESDAY EVENING. BUT HE HELD OUT THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT STILL CHANGE HIS MIND.

A VETO WOULD BE POLITICALLY MOTIVATED, HE SAID, WITH FORD "TRYING TO GET TO THE RIGHT OF (REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDER RONALD) REAGAN."

"I BELIEVE WE WILL OVERRIDE HIS VETO," O'NEILL ADDED, WITH THE ONLY POSSIBILITY OF FAILURE IF FORD DOES SOME "ARM TWISTING IN THE HOUSE."

HE SAID FORD "HAS BEEN A COMPLETE DISASTER" AS PRESIDENT, AND "HAS NO POSITIVE PROGRAMS."

THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER ALSO PREDICTED THE BUSING ISSUE WOULD NOT HURT HIS OWN RE-ELECTION.

"IT'S OBVIOUS YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET THROUGH A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT" AGAINST BUSING, HE SAID.

DUPLICATES 8-WIRE POINTS

UPI 12-14 03:05 PES

INSERT O'NEILL WASHINGTON A229 AFTER 9TH FGH XXX WEEK."

SEN. EDMUND S. MUSKIE, D-MAINE, AGREED THERE SHOULD BE NO TROOP COMMITMENTS MADE BY ANY AMERICAN OFFICIAL, AND THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD CONSULT CONGRESS BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER TO SUPPLY ANGOLA WITH ARMS AND OTHER AID.

MUSKIE SAID (ON ABC'S "ISSUES AND ANSWERS"), "I AM CONCERNED ABOUT ANGOLA BECAUSE OF WHAT IT TELLS US ABOUT SOVIET INTENTIONS. DETENTE HAS GOT TO WORK BOTH WAYS IF IT'S GOING TO WORK AND THIS KIND OF AGGRESSION AND EXPANSIONISM ON THE PART OF THE SOVIET UNION SUGGESTS TO ME LESS THAN A COMPLETE COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE SOVIET UNION TO DETENTE."

PICKUP 10TH FGH: O'NEILL

UPI 12-14 03:37 PES