A. ANGOLA

The Portuguese overseas territory of Angala attained independence on Nov. 11 in accordance with the agreement signed on Jan. 15, 1975 [see 26973 A], by the Portuguese Government and leaders of the three main liberation movements—the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (Movimento Popular da Libertacao de Angola, MPLA) the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (Frente Nacional de Libertacao de Angola, FNLA) and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Uniao Nacional para a Independencia Total de Angola, UNITA). However, in the absence of any agreement between the three movements on the future of Angola, two separate Republics were proclaimed on Nov. 10–11, by the MPLA and the FNLA respectively, following which rival Administrations were formed—one by the MPLA in Luanda (the capital) and the other, based in Huambo (formerly Nova Lisboa), by the FNLA and UNITA acting jointly.

Notwithstanding the establishment on Jan. 31 of a transitional Government representing all three movements [see 27106 A], serious underlying differences had quickly reasserted themselves, leading to a resumption of fighting in late April. In the following six months a state of virtual civil war had developed, in which UNITA had eventually joined forces with the FNLA against the MPLA and which had led to the de facto partition of the country. Although reports of the precise positions of the three movements varied considerably, it was clear-as shown on the map on page 27498—that at the time of independence the MPLA held a belt of territory around Luanda stretching from the coast to the Zaire border that FNLA forces controlled the northern provinces and that the FNLA and UNITA jointly held the southern half of the country and were making a strong advance on the capital.

As independence approached, international involvement in Angola deepened. On the one hand, the MPLA was supplied with increasing quantities of arms and equipment by the Soviet Union and was also supported by a detachment of 3,000 Cuban soldiers on the other, the United States, the People's Republic of China (and subsequently North Korea), ZaVOL21re and South Africa channelled assistance to FNLA-UNITA forces.

The main developments in Angola, after fighting recommenced between the liberation movements in late April despite the truce agreement of March 28 [see 27100 A] are described below.

Fighting broke out in Luanda an April 28 between supporters of the MPLA and the FNLA and continued until May 4 during this period between 500 and 1,000 people were estimated to have been killed (many of them civilians caught in crossfire). A curfew was imposed on May 1, all three liberation movements were confined to barracks, and food had to be flown into the capital on May 4 to combat severe shortages. South African radio reported that several hundred more people died on May 8 in incidents between the MPLA and the FNLA at Sao Salvador (near the Zaire border). The Portuguese Government suggested on May 9 that the three movements should meet for talks, but the FNLA said on May 11 that it would not participate in any meeting attended by Portuguese representatives.

In the emergency situation the Portuguese Government On May 15 declared virtual martial law in Angola. It ordered the disarming of civilians, a ban on the use of heavy weapons and the immediate expulsion of all foreigners in the service of the three liberation movements * it also declared that any member of the movements could be tried before military tribunals and that the Portuguese Army would henceforth be "totally responsible for the security of Angola".

Hundreds of the inhabitants of Caxito fled the town after clashes between the MPLA and the FNLA on May 29, and according to A Provincia da Angola at least 200 people died in the following week in fighting between the two groups, responsibility for which was placed on the MPLA by the Portuguese military command.

At the instigation of President Kenyatta of Kenya, the leaders of the three liberation movements—Dr. Agostinho Neto (MPLA), Sr. Holden Roberto (FNLA) and Dr. Jonas Savimbi (UNITA)—began talks at the President's villa in Nakuru on June 10, at the conclusion of which on June 21 they signed an agreement "to renounce the use of force as a way to resolve problems".

Under the agreement, the three movements resolved to carry out elections to a Constituent Assembly [as iaid down in the independence agreement of Jan. 15, 1975—see page 26974] on an as yet unspecified date in October. The electoral campaign would last 20 days, and a census would be held between Aug. 1 and
Sept. 30 to enable electoral rolls to be drawn up. The three movements guaranteed each other the right to free political activity in all parts of the country.

Moreover, to facilitate an orderly transition at independence and to avoid further bloodshed, the police and armed forces would be reorganized. The proposed combined national Army would have 30,000 troops from the three movements (6,000 more than laid down in Article 32 of the independence agreement 26974), and a permanent military commission of the three groups would supervise the gradual integration of MPLA, FNLA and UNITA troops into the Army. The civilian population would be disarmed, and all prisoners held by the movements would be released immediately.

The transitional Government would take measures to revive the economy, and would immediately negotiate the reopening of the ports of Luanda and Lobito (which had been closed for several months due to fighting and strikes). Diamond-mining areas would be classified as military zones to ensure their protection.

The three movements declared that they would try to create "a climate of political tolerance and national unity within the political and ideological diversity of Angola", and reiterated that Cabinda was an integral part of Angola.

Despite the Nakuru agreement hostilities broke out again on June 23, and the Portuguese High Commissioner, Brigadier-General Antonio Silva Cardoso, issued a statement on the following day accusing the MPLA and the FNLA of violating the agreement by delaying the release of prisoners and carrying out illegal arrests. Further heavy fighting erupted on July 9, and again on July 12 when the MPLA attacked and destroyed the headquarters of the FNLA in Luanda. The National Defence Commission (established under Article 28 of the independence agreement—see — page 26974) blamed the MPLA for the incidents, in which the death toll was reported to have reached 300, with 1,000 wounded. Portuguese troop reinforcements were flown to Luanda on July 14.

The MPLA consolidated its control of Luanda on Aug. 11 when the last of the troops of the other two movements withdrew. About 500 FNLA troops who had been besieged in the Sao Pedro fort since early July (the siege having halted production at a nearby oil refinery and caused a grave fuel crisis) finally pulled out on Aug. 10 after 10 hours of heavy fighting, while UNITA withdrew all its forces to Huambo on Aug. 11.

Ceasefires ordered on July 19 and 22—respectively the sixth and seventh in 1975—were both broken, the latter by a large explosion on July 23 which damaged the offices of Jornal de Angola (the country's largest-circulation newspaper, which was partially controlled by the FNLA). Eight people were injured in the attack. In addition to the continuing battles in Luanda, major fighting took place in mid-July in Henrique da Carvalho and Luso (in eastern Angola).

On July 27 a total of 20 people were killed in Luanda when Portuguese soldiers fired on MPLA troops, following an incident the night before when the MPLA had opened fire on a Portuguese patrol, seriously wounding one man. The following day (July 28) Dr. Neto demanded that all 24,000 Portuguese troops remaining in Angola should leave immediately. [Under the independence agreement these were to be progressively withdrawn between Oct. 1. 1976 and Feb. 29, 1976.]

UNITA which had hitherto remained apart from inter-factional fighting, on Aug. 5 placed its forces on alert and ordered them to return fire "in self-defence". Shortly afterwards, fierce fighting was reported on Aug. 8 between the MPLA and UNITA at the Ruacana Falls hydroelectric project on the Cunene river (which forms part of the border between South West Mrica and Angola), and from mid-August UNITA and FNLA forces in the southern half of the country operated jointly against the MPLA.

In the weeks leading up to independence the three movements intensified their efforts to consolidate their military positions. The MPLA maintained its hold on Luanda, but its position was threatened by an armoured column consisting of troops of the FNLA and UNITA which was advancing from the south under the command of Mr. Daniel Chipenda (leader of a former dissident faction of the MPLA). The column, which was supported by helicopter gunships, had in recent weeks taken the key towns of SA de Bandeira, Mocamedes, Benguela and Lobito from the MPLA in the north the FNLA controlled the provinces of Uige and ZaVOL21re (on the ZaVOL21rese border), and in the south UNITA held six of the provincial capitals. Brigadier-General Silva Cardoso (the Portuguese High Commissioner) was recalled to Lisbon on Aug. 2, apparently for health reasons. His recall followed a visit to Angola on July 81-Aug. 2 by three members of the Portuguese Supreme Revolutionary Council, including Admiral Antonio Alba Rosa Coutinho (formerly responsible for administration in Angola, — page 26865). The FNLA, however, stated on Aug. 7 that it would attend no more cabinet meetings of the transitional Government until Brigadier-General Silva Cardoso returned to Luanda.
The acting High Commissioner, General Ernesto Ferreira do Macedo, announced on Aug. 15 that he was assuming full executive powers in Angola in the absence of a functioning government, and on Aug. 29 the Portuguese Government announced the suspension of the Angolan independence agreement, although it stressed that the date of independence (Nov. 11) would be respected.

The Portuguese National Committee on Decolonization, headed by President Costa Gomes, said in a statement on Sept. 3: "We remind the liberation movements that we are now on the verge of the last opportunity to find a means of transferring sovereignty in such a way that the aspirations of the Angolan people will be satisfied."

Portugal, the statement continued, would "not allow herself to be the target of demagogic, false and tendentious attacks or any actions which interfere with sovereignty up to Nov. 11, or with its efforts to conduct correctly the process of decolonization". It listed the main causes of the deterioration of the situation in Angola as the introduction of large quantities of weapons by the three movements the lack of political tolerance the establishment of so-called areas of influence and regions of alleged military superiority the arming of the civilian population; the increase in tribalism, regionalism and racism; and reactionary agitation by people opposed to the process of decolonization.

Admiral Leonel Cardoso, who was appointed High Commissioner on Aug. 26, stated on Sept. 19 that Portugal would withdraw all its troops from Angola by Nov. 11 (instead of by Feb. 29, 1976, as laid down in the independence agreement) and that only technical troops would remain.

The exodus of some 400,000 White and mixed-race Angolans from the country during May-November (described as the biggest mass departure of European settlers from an African country since the French withdrawal from Algeria in 1962) left Angola in a state of economic chaos, as well as causing severe economic problems for Portugal (the destination of most of the refugees). Angola's coffee, sisal and cotton crops remained unpicked, diamond mining stopped completely, and local government and many essential services came to a halt in the absence of skilled workers and administrative employees. Moreover, the International Committee of the Red Cross estimated in August that more than 500,000 Africans had been displaced by the fighting, and many were reported to be starving in the north.

In June and early July about 1,000 settlers were leaving for Portugal daily on the Portuguese airline TAP, and others were being transported by military aircraft. As independence came closer the Portuguese in August organized an emergency airlift, with the help of the United States, Britain, France, Switzerland, the Soviet Union and East and West Germany, to transport the 300,000 people who still wished to leave. Many other refugees fled over the border into South West Africa, their numbers increasing in August and reaching an estimated 20,000 by the end of the month. Most were transported by the South African authorities to Johannesburg and thence to Portugal.

As the fighting intensified, intelligence sources reported that the Soviet Union had provided the MPLA with tanks, artillery and armoured troopers and that Soviet airlifts had been used to fly weapons and ammunition into MPLA-controlled areas. UNITA forces capturing towns east of Luanda from MPLA hands claimed to have found large supplies of fuel for MiG fighter-bombers, two squadrons of which were reported to have been positioned in Brazzaville and Pointe Noire (Congo). Moreover, some 3,000 Cuban troops were deployed on the MPLA side, in addition to several thousand Katangese gendarmes who had taken refuge in Angola after the Congo war.

The MPLA obtained a further pledge of support when, during the weekend of Nov. 8-9, Dr. Neto flew to Lourenco Marques for talks with President Samara Machel of Mozambique and officials representing Guinea-Bissau, the Cape Verde Islands and Sao Tome and Principe. The meeting, which took place within the framework of the Conference of Nationalist Organizations of the Portuguese Colonies, resulted in the formation of a military alliance under which the four independent former Portuguese territories undertook to commit forces to fight with the MPLA against the FNLA and UNITA.

Dr. Henry Kissinger, the U.S. Secretary of State, said in Detroit on Nov. 24 that "we cannot ignore the substantial Soviet build-up of weapons in Angola, which has introduced great-power rivalry into Africa for the first time in 15 years."

Dr. Kissinger went on to say that "we cannot be indifferent while an outside power embarks upon an interventionist policy … so distant from its homeland and so removed from traditional Russian interest". The Soviet Union still has an opportunity for a policy of restraint which permits Angolans to resolve their own differences without outside interventions.

Adding that he was also concerned at the sending of "thousands of Cubans into an African conflict", Dr. Kissinger said: "Let there be no illusions : a policy of conciliation will not survive Cuban meddling in
Puerto Rico [see 27450 A, or Cuban armed intervention in the affairs of other nations struggling to decide their own fate."

However, a move by the U.S. State Department in October to grant $60,000,000 in aid to Zaire, some of which, it was believed, would be channeled to the FNLA in Angola, failed to gain immediate congressional hacking. Earlier, The New York Times had reported on Sept. 25 that substantial U.S. aid had already reached the FNLA through ZaVOL21re, while on Nov. 6 it was reported that at least two battalions of regular ZaVOL21rese troops were supporting FNLA forces advancing on Luanda.

The FNLA also received substantial support, in terms of supplies, financial aid and training, from China however, following independence it was reported that Chinese military advisers were being withdrawn from the conflict and were, by late November, being replaced by North Koreans.

The South African Foreign Minister, Dr. Hilgard Muller, denied in London on Nov. 18 that South African troops were operating deep inside Angola, but admitted that some troops were stationed at the Ruacana Falls project to protect men and installations there. Dr. Muller suggested, moreover, that the South African-manufactured Panhard armoured cars which had been observed in UNITA hands as far as 400 miles north of the South West African border had reached them via countries other than South Africa.

Reports of South African troop activity around the Ruacana Falls project had first been published in the Lisbon daily Diario de Notícias on Aug. 11, and the MPLA claimed in late August that between 800 and 1,000 South African troops and a dozen helicopter gunships had moved into Angola on Aug. 22 in the direction of Pereira d'Eca. The South African Government admitted an Sept. 5 that it had sent a 30-man patrol 20 miles into Angola to protect the project, but said that the Portuguese authorities had agreed to take over this role and that South Africa would "as soon as possible suspend all measure taken by us ... and withdraw the personnel concerned".

The MPLA on Oct. 23 further accused South Africa of sending troops with the FNLA 150 miles into Angola, and went on to say that it had ordered mobilization of all men between the ages of 18 and 35 to counter a "general invasion" from both South Africa and Zaire.

The South African Government on Nov. 17 invoked the Defence Act to impose a ban on publication in the South African press of all reports from foreign newspapers concerning alleged South African involvement in Angola. However, following an official announcement in Pretoria on Nov. 27 that two South African soldiers had been killed in action in Angola (bringing the total South African death toll in November to 11), authoritative government sources acknowledged that South African troops and military advisers based at Calupe (18 miles inside Angola) were actively supporting FNLA-UNITA forces against the MPLA and had on occasion penetrated up to 200 miles into Angola in "hot pursuit" of opposition forces.

Following a visit to Angola in October 1975 by a conciliation commission of the Organization of African Unity (as proposed at the 18th Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the OAU held in Kampala on July 28–Aug. 1 – see 27298 A.), a report on the commission's findings was published on Oct. 25 calling for the cessation of hostilities the formation of a joint government of national unity to lead Angola into independence an undertaking by the three movements not to advance beyond the positions held at the time of the ceasefire; and the holding of elections before Nov. 11, 1976. It also called on Portugal to transfer independence to the three movements jointly if no understanding had been reached between them before Nov. 11 condemned South Africa and other countries for intervening and requested all states not to interfere.

After a series of meetings in Kampala in October and early November between the OAU political bureau and defence commission and representatives of the three movements, it was reported on Nov. 2 that a ceasefire had been declared the previous day, while on Nov. 6 it was announced that agreement had been reached "in principle" on the formation of a pro-visional government of national unity. However, the Nov. 6 statement added that the three groups were not unanimous and in Luanda the MPLA denied that it had agreed to a cease-fire.

The Soviet Union suspended relations with Uganda on Nov. 11 after President Amin had the previous day expelled the Soviet ambassador to Kampala for allegedly trying to induce him, as president of the OAU to support the MPLA However, the Soviet Union announced on Nov. 17 that it had restored normal relations with Uganda after an "exchange of opinions" between Moscow and Kampala.

In a note delivered to President Amin on Nov. 3 the Soviet Union stated: "It is the intention of the MPLA to assume responsibility for the whole of Angola when the Portuguese withdraw on Nov. 11 and to conclude an understanding with the U.S.S.R. Moscow intends to recognize Angola when the MPLA declares independence. The President immediately placed the note before an emergency meeting of the
OAU political bureau in Kampala to discuss the Angolan situation, and reiterated the OAU's position of recognizing all three liberation movements.

Following a meeting with the Soviet ambassador, Mr. Zakharov, on Nov. 9, President Amin conferred with senior members of the Uganda Defence Council, after which he threatened in a statement to break off relations with the Soviet Union if Mr. Brezhnev did not send a senior official to Kampala within 48 hours to explain the Soviet Union's policy in Angola and the ambassador's conduct. On the next day President Amin expelled the ambassador who, he said, "regarded himself as the vice-president of Uganda", whereupon the Soviet Government on Nov. 11 ordered the Ugandan ambassador and his nine staff to leave Moscow immediately, describing the break as a "temporary suspension" of relations. In an apparent attempt at reconciliation President Amin said on Nov. 11 that Mr. Zakharov might have been suffering from "an overdose of vodka", and called for a new ambassador to be sent to Kampala.

The restoration of normal relations on Nov. 17 forestalled the departure of some 500 Soviet military technicians and advisers who had been preparing to leave.

With fighting continuing, particularly to the south of Luanda, Dr. Neto (MPLA) proclaimed the new People's Republic of Angola at midnight on Nov. 10-11 and was inaugurated as its President in Luanda early on Nov. 11 also on Nov. 11 Sr. Roberto (FNLA) announced in Ambriz (north of Luanda) that the country would henceforth be known as the Democratic People's Republic of Angola. According to a statement released on the same day, the FNLA and UNITA unit formed a Joint National Council for the Revolution based in Angola's second city, Huambo (formerly Nova Lisboa), which would act as the Government for the time being [see below]w. The FNLA and UNITA had in early November announced the formation of a joint military and political command, thereby formalizing a situation which had existed for some months.

All three movements held separate independence celebrations an Nov 10-11— the MPLA in Luanda, the FNLA in Carmona and Ambriz and UNITA in Huambo.

In Luander Dr Neto called an the people to resist the reactionary forces "of the other liberation movements. He announced the construction of a democratic socialist society with a policy of collectivism, although private property would be respected. The people, he- said, must become politically educated to defend the national interests and must “tread paths of development other than the conventional”.

At the stroke of midnight, troops in Luanda fired thousands of rounds of ammunition into the air. A Red Cross aircraft coming into land at Luanda airport was hit, and a portuguese airliner carrying delegates for the next day's independence celebrations turned back.

Sr. Roberto declared in Ambriz : “We want to build a new Angola with the assistance of all those who live in it because they love it, without regard to the colour of the skin.” He said that Angola was divided because “we, the FNLA, can never agree to our country emerging from socio-economic exploitation only to fall directly under ideological exploitation”. The FNLA planned an equitable distribution of the national revenue, he said, and its action programme included a plan for the rapid social development of the country by creating new jobs under state protection.

On the Portuguese side, the High Commissioner, Admiral Leonel Cardoso, left Angola on Nov. 10 after lowering the Portuguese flag for the last time. At a brief ceremony in the government palace, at which only journalists were present, he said that Portugal is departing without a feeling of guilt or shame " and that those really to blame for the civil war are not so much the rival liberation movements as the powers placing deadly weapons in their hands for the Angolan people to destroy themselves with".

The High Commissioner left later the same day an a frigate, accompanied by the last remaining Portuguese troops.

The People's Republic of Angola was immediately recognized by the Soviet Union and the East European states (although Yugoslavia recognized only Angolan independence*), as well as by Brazil and North Vietnam. Contrary to the official policy of the OAU, which recognized all three liberation movements but neither the MPLA nor the FNLA-UNITA Governments, some members, including Algeria, Congo, Guinea, Nigeria and the former Portuguese colonies of Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Sao Tome and Principe and the Cape Verde Islands also recognised Dr. Neto's Government.

A statement issued by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Nov. 15 congratulated the Angolan people and all the three Angolan liberation organizations” on their victory against Portuguese colonialism and expressed the hope that the three movements would “unite themselves, remove their differences, oppose the common enemies, expel super-power meddling and interference.

The new Government of the People's Republic of Angola was sworn in on Nov. 14 by Dr. Neto, the portfolios being allocated as follows:
Mr. Lopo do Nascimento
Prime Minister.

Mr. José Eduardo dos Santos
Foreign Affairs.

Commander Iko Carreira
Defence.

Sr Jorge Martins
Information.

Dr Diogenes da Assis Boavida
Justice.

Commander Nito Alves
Internal Administration

Commander Carlos Rocha
Planning and Economic Coordination.

Mr. Mario Afonso de Almeida
Health

Mr. Joaquim do Amaral Martins
Education and Culture.

Member of transitional Government [see A].

The Marxist MPLA, founded in 1956 in Luanda and since based mainly in the Congo, drew its main support from the Kivimbundu tribe in central and eastern Angola. Internal dissension had existed in the movement since 1972, a splinter group forming under Mr. Chipenda and a further one under the MPLAS's former president, Mr. Mario Pinto de Andrade; however, the unity of the movement was strengthened after a conference held in Lusaka in June 1974 [see page 26864].

The FNLA and UNITA on Nov. 23 established a coalition Government comprising two Prime Ministers, who were hold office during alternate months, 13 ministers and three secretaries of state (eight of the total belonging to the FNLA and 10 to UNITA). The Government was based at Huambo for the time being and began functioning on Dec. 1.

The composition of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Angola was as follows:

Mr. Johnny Eduardo (FNLA)
Prime Minister

Dr José N’dele (UNITA)
Prime Minister

Sr Mateus Katalaye
Interior

Sr Hendrik Vaal Neto
Foreign Affairs

Sr Wilson Fernandes Santos
Information

Professor Jeronimo Wanga
Education and Culture

Sr Domingos Fernandes
Agriculture and Fisheries

Sr Eliseu Chimbili
Labour

Sr Craca Tavares
Planning and Finance

Sr Jean Paul Mouzinho
Economy and Trade

Sr Isaac Jacob
Natural Resources
According to the ZaVOL21re news agency AZAP, the Government would administer the country and guarantee the security of people and property, while the Joint National Council for the Revolution would maintain law and order. Sr Roberto and Dr. Savimbi, as joint military chiefs of staff, would be responsible for political and military organization.

The ZaVOL21re-based FNLA, which was created in 1962 from the former Union of the Populations of Angola (UPA) and which set up a Revolutionary Angolan Government-in-exile (GRAE), represented the Bakongo tribe of northern Angola; while the main support of UNITA, whose leader, Dr. Savimbi, defected from GRAE in 1964 [see 20253 A], came from the Ovimbundu and Chokwe tribes of central and southern Angola. (The Ovimbundu tribe constituted about 40 per cent of Angola's population.)

In an announcement made from Kampala on Nov. 1, the enclave of Cabinda [see map] was declared independent by the leader of the Front for the Liberation of the Enclave of Cabinda (FLEC), Sr. Luis de Ganzaga Ranque Franque. Considered an integral part of Angola by the three liberation movements and by Portugal, Cabinda was at the time under MPLA control.

The formation of an independent Government was announced on Aug. 13, with Sr. Ranque Franque as President and Sr. Francois-Xavier Lubota, former secretary-general of the FNLA, as Prime Minister. A dissident faction of FLEC had announced at a press conference in Paris on July 25 the creation of a provisional revolutionary Government, led by Sr. Henrique N'Zita Tiago, vice-president of FLRC.

According to its Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sr. Luizi Ballu, the Government had been proclaimed on July 16 in Cabinda in a FLEC-controlled zone, aimed at liberating the enclave from foreign domination, organizing free and democratic elections, and installing a central government before Nov. 11. The FLEC headquarters in Kinshasa (Zaire) had, however, immediately condemned the proclamation of the government, for which it said Sr. Tiago had no authority.

About 2,000 MPLA troops were reported to have been in control of Cabinda since early June, and the (U.S.) Gulf Oil Corporation had continued to produce oil (at a rate of 150,000 barrels per day) with the agreement of the MPLA.

After President mobutu of Zaire had proposed on May 22 that a referendum should be organized in Cabinda to allow its inhabitants to decide their future, President Ngouabi of the Congo warned on Aug. 7 that his Government would not accept a solution imposed by force on Cabinda.

President Ngouabi said that the Congo still supported the MPLA but that his country wanted "a solution which takes account of the aspirations of the people of Cabinda" and would not accept "a solution imposed by the MPLA". On Nov. 2 President Ngonabi warned that his troops would intervene if "morcenarles recruited by South Africa and its African puppets" entered Cabinda.

In early November heavy fighting was reported in Cabinda between forces of the MPLA and FLEC, and the Zaire news agency AZAP stated that Congolese troops had entered the enclave to support MPLA forces and protect the oilfields until independence, whereupon some 600 MPLA soldiers had gone over to the FLEC side, taking heavy weapons with them. AZAP also said that several thousand Zairese troops were massing on the Cabinda border.---(Times - Guardian - Daily Telegraph - Financial Times - New York Times - International Herald Tribune - Cape Times - Le Monde - Neue Zurcher Zeitung - La Vanguardia, Barcelona - Economist - BBC Summary of World Broadcasts) (Prev. rep. Transitional Government, 27106 A; Independence Agreement, 26973 A.)