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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, NOPS, AO, SF

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: SAG REQUESTS USG PROVIDE FNLA/UNITA WITH MILITARY EQUIPMENT

REF.: PRETORIA 4461

1. IN RESPONDING TO SADF CHIEF OF STAFF'S REQUEST OF NOVEMBER 18 FOR U.S. SUPPORT FOR UNITA/FNLA, DEFENSE ATTACHE SHOULD ADHERE CLOSELY TO LANGUAGE OF FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH.

2. USG APPRECIATES AND SHARES SOUTH AFRICA'S CONCERN OVER DANGEROUS AND PROVOCATIVE ROLE SOVIETS AND CUBANS ARE PLAYING IN ANGOLA. WE DEPLORE THEIR SUPPORT OF THE MPLA IN ITS REJECTION OF A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT AND ITS PURSUIT OF MILITARY CONQUEST. WE WOULD REGARD THE IMPOSITION BY FORCE OF A SOVIET/CUBAN-BACKED MPLA REGIME IN ANGOLA WITH PARTICULAR CONCERN. WE UNDERSTAND, HOWEVER, THAT THE

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FNLA AND UNITA ARE CONTINUING TO RECEIVE ARMS ADEQUATE TO THEIR DEFENSE, INCLUDING SOME AIR DEFENSE CAPACITY. WE BELIEVE THAT THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF ANGOLA IS A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT IN WHICH NO ONE GROUP DOMINATES THE OTHERS. WE HAVE MADE OUR DEEP CONCERN WITH THE PRESENT SITUATION KNOWN TO A NUMBER OF GOVERNMENTS,

INCLUDING THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT, AND ARE CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS TO HELP BRING ABOUT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. KISSINGER

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