

SFO Postle JAN 2 1976
SF Chronicle
A Report of
Yanks Going
To Angola

Boston

Three-hundred Americans sponsored by the Central Intelligence Agency are ready to join an equal number already fighting in the Angolan civil war, and 150 of the new recruits took Army refresher training, the Christian Science Monitor reports.

Staff correspondent David Anable said in a story in today's editions that the waiting Americans are "ready to go as soon as the CIA can obtain further funds." He said the recruits took the refresher course at Ft. Benning, Ga.

In Washington, White House deputy press secretary John Carlson said yesterday, "The story is without foundation." A CIA spokesman said "the total story is nonsense." A State Department spokesman said it was "without foundation and ridiculous" and the Defense Department said it had "nothing on it."

Sources for the Monitor story were described as "senior mercenary officers familiar with the situation both in Angola and the United States" who are "close to the U.S. Central Angola and the

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YANKS AND ANGOLA

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United States" who are "close to the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency."

The group awaiting departure includes 15 South Vietnamese, the Monitor said. American members were said to be recently discharged soldiers or on indefinite leave from Army Special Forces units in the United States and the Panama Canal Zone.

Recruiting was said to be under way for 150 pilots and mechanics to fly and maintain a squadron of 13 French-built helicopters en route to Angola through South Africa.

The newspaper said most Americans fighting in Angola were with the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola in the south, a faction supported by South African troops. However, it said, some are with another faction, the National Front for the Liberation of Angola, in the north.

Those two factions are fighting a third, the Russian-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, alongside which Cuban troops are fighting. The Popular Movement holds the central part of the country.

Associated Press