

Pro-West Angolans Ask New Arms Aid

Silva Porto, Angola

President Jónas Savimbi of the anti-Communist Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) called yesterday for more American military equipment to counter the continuing flow of Cuban soldiers and Russians arms to his Angolan Marxist foes.

"We don't need American troops; we never have asked for American personnel," he told foreign correspondents at a news conference in the former Portuguese provincial governor's mansion not far from his military headquarters here.

"We are asking material support from America," he said. He asked specifically for artillery and other weapons to counter the T-54 tanks, armored cars and 122-mm. rockets that the Russians have provided Angola's Marxists. He also disclosed that Cuban pilots have used rocket firing helicopters for the first time in the past few days.

Savimbi said more than 150,000 civilians and combatants have been killed in Angola's civil war since it began last November. Previous estimates have run only a fraction of that number.

Savimbi, whose UNITA is allied uneasily with the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA) against the Marxist Popu-

lar Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), said he hoped the Organization of African Unity would call for the withdrawal of all non-Angolans from this country at the African Unity summit meeting opening Saturday in Addis Ababa. He has not been invited formally to the session.

He said such a demand, and the formation of an Angolan government of national unity integrating its Marxists and anti-Communists, "is the only way to end the war here." He did say, however, that if foreign troops were pulled out of Angola, the anti-Communist forces could defeat the Marxists and capture the capital of Luanda "in two weeks."

If the Organization of African Unity does not call for the withdrawal of foreign troops and the establishment of a national unity regime in Angola, "if it condones the civil war here" Savimbi continued, UNITA and the FNLA will recruit "the best people" to fight with them against the Popular Movement.

"Each of us will feel free to recruit personnel where we can get them — except in America," he said, adding, "and I can tell you we know where to get them."

He did not specify why the United States would not be a source of recruitment.

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