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Zambia Says Angola Seized Copper Ship

From News Dispatches

Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said yesterday that the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola had seized a ship loaded with Zambian copper in the Angolan port Lobito.

Kaunda gave no further details.

The seizure cast doubt on the possibility that the new Angolan government might reopen the vital Benguela railway to Zambian traffic.

The Zambian president said his country would not go on its knees to beg Angola to trade with Zambia.

"Zambia has no interest in Angola apart from seeing that there is peace in that country, and we want all foreign forces out of Angola," Kaunda said.

Radio Luanda reported that the Popular Movement, which now controls the former Portuguese colony, had outlawed three rival liberation groups—the National Front for the Liberation of Angola, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola and the Cabinda Liberation Front.

The following developments concerning Angola were also reported:

- Venezuela's Foreign Minister Ramon Escovar Salom said his country had made known its displeasure with neighboring Guyana for allowing Cuban planes to refuel there while transporting troops to Angola.

- Belgium, Japan and Finland recognized the new government in Angola.

- A spokesman for Italy's airline Alitalia said the line would soon begin weekly flights to Luanda and would give technical assistance to the Angolan airline, TAAG.
