

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1976

ANGOLAN AID BAN SIGNED BY FORD

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the diplomatic and political importance of the journey.

"He was invited as a private citizen and he is going at their invitation," Mr. Ford said, "and I really have no strong feeling one way or another."

President Ford did voice strong feelings on United States policy in the United Nations. He said a successor would soon be appointed for Daniel P. Moynihan, who has resigned as the chief United States delegate.

"The new nominee," Mr. Ford said, "will follow the same policy of challenging some of the third or fourth world powers, calling a spade a spade. Obviously there aren't many Pat Moynihans when it comes to flair and flamboyance, but the basic policy will be identical."

The President denied that he had criticized Mr. Moynihan privately—"In fact, I praised him"—and added, "As far as I know Henry Kissinger did the same."

Confident of Victory

He also denied that Secretary of State Kissinger had been recalled from Moscow for exceeding his mandate in the latest round of arms talks.

"His trip to Moscow," Mr. Ford stated, "was carried out precisely as we planned it."

Questioned about domestic politics, President Ford said that, despite the challenge from Ronald Reagan for the Republican Presidential nomination, "I think I am going to win in Kansas City."

"I intend to be there and

I intend to win," he said, alluding to the site of the Republican Convention.

Asked whether he would withdraw if he lost three of the first four Presidential primaries, he declared that there was no question of it, he would not withdraw.

Speaking of his ability to get things done in Washington after a quarter of a century here, Mr. Ford remarked that "some stranger coming down here wouldn't be able to achieve those constructive things."

Question: Do you regard Reagan as a stranger?

The President: "He doesn't want to associate with the situation down here; so if he doesn't want to associate with them, he must be a stranger to them."

Asked who would be the Democratic presidential nominee, Mr. Ford said he had been predicting for more than a year that it would be Senator Hubert H. Humphrey—"And I think all the rest of them are running for exercise."

Group's 10th Anniversary

The President's audience for those remarks consisted of 30 or more reporters have gathered frequently, usually at breakfast, to interview newsmakers in Washington. Marking the group's 10th anniversary, Mr. Ford this morning presented an engraved silver bowl to the organizer of the group, Godfrey Sperling of The Christian Science Monitor.

The bowl was a gift from Mr. Sperling's colleagues. Mr. Ford added a memento of his own—a White House ashtray—and gave the reporters breakfast, instead of having breakfast with them, as he used to do when he was a Representative and then Vice President.

Later, the President signed the defense of appropriations bill, which provides money for

the 15-month period ending next Sept. 30. While signing the measure, Mr. Ford again expressed his disappointment that funds had been denied to the Western-backed forces in Angola.

Responding to the President, the Senate majority leader, Mike Mansfield, said Mr. Ford's criticism of congress "won't hold water." The Associated Press reported.

"They wanted \$28 million more," the Senator said. "By now, very likely they would have asked for \$50 million."

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... Congress 'Lost
Guts' in Amending
Million Arms Bill

CLIFTON DANIEL
The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10 — President Ford signed a \$112.3 billion defense appropriations bill today, although he said that Congress had "lost their guts" by including in the measure a ban on further aid to the forces in the Angola civil war opposing the faction supported by the Soviet Union and Cuba.

"I think it was a serious mistake and I think they will live to regret it," the President told a group of reporters who were his guests at breakfast under the gilt chandelier of the state dining room in the White House.

Asked what reason he had to believe that Congress had learned anything from the Angolan experience, Mr. Ford said, "If and when the Soviet Union and their Cuban mercenaries undertake another military operation, we can only tell then."

Hopeful on Détente

Meanwhile, Mr. Ford said, the Soviet Union and their Cuban mercenaries have seized a strategic stronghold in Africa.

Asked earlier whether the Soviet and Cuban actions called for a re-examination of Soviet-American détente, the President observed that, while détente had not worked with Angola, "it might work in the case of SALT"—the strategic arms limitation talks—and the negotiations should not be abandoned.

On relations with China, Mr. Ford declared that no one in his Government was informed of former President Richard M. Nixon's plan to visit China at the invitation of Mao.

He said he had not asked Nixon to make a "special detour" to China on the trip, and he persisted in minimizing

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