

Angola -- another Vietnam?

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WASHINGTON — Clandestine U.S. military aid to Angola and the State Department's hard-line stance have raised fears in Congress that America maybe getting involve in another Vietnamtype war or a direct U.S.-Soviet confrontation in Angola.

Secretary of State Kissinger said several weeks ago the United States can't ignore Soviet interference in Angola. Then at the NATO meeting in Brussels on Thursday, he said a Soviet foothold in Angola is inadmissible.

Meanwhile, the CIA has provided Angola \$25 million in U.S. arms — sent secretly via Zaire — and another \$25 million shipment is on the way.

Kissinger's comments in Brussels, a view he has yet to express to Congress, sparked sharp debate in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Friday.

Sen. Frank Church, (D-Idaho),

was concerned the executive branch is acting in a way that could lead to another Vietnam. He added: "I could guess blinfolded that we would choose the wrong side."

Similar concerns are felt in the House.

"The Angolan situation has all the potential for embroiling us in another escalating and iterminable conflict on the order of a Laos or at worst, another Vietnam," Rep. Don Bonker, (D-Wash.), said yesterday.

Sen. Dick Clark, (D-Iowa), head of the African Subcommittee of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, introduced an amendment to the foreign aid bill to rohibit furtner aid to Angola without congressional authorization.

"The fact is, both the United States and the Soviet Union are deeply involved in a civil war in that country," Clark said.

"If they want to do that, it

should be done by congressional approval. I ask the committee that we no longer allow tens of millions of dollars to go into Angola without congressional approval."

And in the House, Bonker has introduced one amendment similar to Sen. Clark's.

"I do not believe we should be willing to spill others' blood if, in the final analysis, we wouldn't be willing to spill our own," he said in a letter to the House International Relations Committee chairman.

Even if the U.S. wins, Bonkers said, "We may just get ourselves into the position of being blackmailed to give yet another country perpetual foreign aid to keep it on our side."

Sen. Clifford Case, (R-N.J.), is also concerned but he urged Congress not to halt all aid now because the administration appears to be pressuring Mosciow to get out of Angola.