

May Quit Angola War

From News Dispatches

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 28—South Africa gave increasing indications over the weekend it is considering pulling its troops out of the Angolan civil war.

The white-minority dominated country, which has only recently admitted its forces are in Angola despite persistent reports of its involvement, is under increasing pressure at home and abroad to pull out.

Defense Minister P.W. Botha said today "South Africa has no claim against Angola" and added that the country would almost certainly reconsider its involvement in the former Portuguese colony if its interests in southern Angola could be guaranteed.

This was a reference to the presence of South African troops guarding Calueque pumping station and Ruacana dam in southern Angola. The facilities supply water to Namibia, which South Africa administers as the territory of Southwest Africa despite United Nations demands that the territory be given independence.

Botha's statement came shortly after the Johannesburg Sunday Times said South Africa was ready to pull out as part of an African peace initiative which will demand that the Soviet Union and Cuba also end their support for one of the three Angolan factions, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola.

A series of top-level meetings over the Christmas

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