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For the Record

The following is excerpted from a recent editorial in the Washington Afro-American:

This country's government is now more tied to the white racist regimes of southern Africa than ever before. Why the U.S. permitted itself to get caught fighting on the same side with South Africa cannot be explained away in Africa.

Russia is sure to come out of this clash in Angola with new prestige in Africa. Russia also now has put itself in a position to side more concretely with the self-determination movement in Africa at the expense of the U.S.

When the chips are down on the issue of self-determination and liberation in southern Africa even Zaire will have to back off its selfish Angola stance and desert the U.S.

If the U.S., which had been operating on the "freedom fighters can't win" theory expressed in the State Department's "Tar Baby" policy option, will go to the extent it has in Angola, what would this nation attempt to do when the guns are turned on South West Africa, Rhodesia and South Africa?

That is the bigger question the U.S. Congress had better be concerned about.

South Africa has invited a violent settlement of its apartheid problem by its aggression in Angola. In time, South Africa will be taken up on that invitation.

That is why in African nations such as Nigeria they are displaying the captured South African fighters. They are building up the same kind of resentment among their people that some Americans are attempting to build up here against what the Russians are doing.

The difference is that the Africans are likely to take firmer action sooner against South Africa's interests than the U.S. will against Russia.