

Around the World

CIA Said Using Ex-GIs in Angola

The Christian Science Monitor reported today that 300 American ex-servicemen have been sent to Angola in the past three months and a similar number are trained and equipped to go there in a covert operation sponsored by the Central Intelligence Agency.

A CIA spokesman refused to comment on the report but White House deputy press secretary John Carlson said "the story has no foundation and it is not true."

The Monitor report, quoting what it said were sources close to the CIA, said the U.S. mercenaries were being paid \$1,000 to \$1,500 a month and received a \$20,000 life insurance policy for helping two pro-West factions fighting a pro-Soviet faction in Angola.

In other Angolan developments:

—William Eteki Mboumoua, secretary general of the Organization of African Unity, sharply attacked South Africa for its involvement in Angola as his organization prepared to meet later this month on the matter.

—A Guyana spokesman said the United States was pressuring that nation on South America's Caribbean coast to refuse landing permission for Cuban planes supplying troops and supplies to aid Angolan pro-Communist forces.

—Intelligence sources in South Africa said the pro-Soviet movement controlling the Angolan capital at Luanda would launch an offensive within two weeks with fresh Cuban troops and a new squadron of Soviet jets.

—Guerrillas operating out of Angola killed a British immigrant and his African maid in a raid on the Namibian border town of Oshakati.

might have forced immediate Israeli elections.

In other Middle East developments:

—Egypt announced there will be an Oct. 2 referendum vote on whether President Anwar Sadat should continue in office. His present term expires Oct. 15 and he is not expected to have opposition.

—Beirut greeted the new year with a barrage of gunfire, most of it apparently aimed in the air in celebration. Gunmen then shelled an empty mosque and blew up several private cars.

Production Drop

TEL AVIV—The government announced a 2 per cent drop in Israel's gross national product—the first in 22 years—coupled with a 36 per cent decrease in immigration to the Jewish state.

The government also announced a 4 to 5 per cent drop in per capita consumption, meaning a reduced standard of living, and said inflation was 38 per cent, higher than earlier estimates.

Figures also showed immigration slowed to 20,000 in 1975, following an influx of 32,000 new citizens in the previous year.

Meanwhile, the country's Arab population grew nearly twice as fast as its Jewish population, the government said.

OPEC Raiders

Algeria said its release of six terrorists who kidnaped 11 oil ministers in Vienna was approved by the minister governments as part of a pact to save their lives.

An Egyptian newspaper reported that Libya

has reportedly given the terrorists refuge, financed the abduction of the ministers.

For the Record

—Three persons died from bombs attacks on bars in Northern Ireland.

—In what it called a Year's gesture, Thailand opened its border with clocked Laos, which suffered a crop shortage because of closing six weeks.

—Mauritania's Mokhtar Libyan Qaddafi said