

Ford Will Seek Aid for Angola

By Murrey Marder
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The Ford administration will resume its "uphill battle" to try to obtain congressional support for anti-Communist factions in Angola, officials said yesterday after the stalemate in the Organization of African Unity summit conference.

William E. Schaefe, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, said the administration takes some comfort from the inability of the Soviet Union to obtain an OAU endorsement of the Soviet-backed faction, the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

This does not mean "that we were satisfied or happy about the results of the OAU meeting," Schaefe said.

Nevertheless, he said the United States regards it as significant that in the 46-nation conference, which ended early yesterday in Addis Ababa, 22 nations were aligned in support of a coalition including the anti-Communist factions in Angola, against 22 nations supporting only the Soviet-backed group. Ethiopia and Uganda didn't take sides.

Schaefe said "we haven't determined exactly what strategy we are going to adopt now," but "it has to be an African solution."

"We are fighting an uphill battle," Schaefe acknowledged, in seeking—when Congress reconvenes next week—a House vote to overturn the Senate's 54 to 22 rejection last month of any additional U. S. funds to support two anti-Communist groups in Angola, the National Front for the Liberation of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola.

The United States has supplied about \$32 million to these forces through the Central Intelligence Agency.

"I certainly believe that in the long run Angolan nationalism will assert itself," said Schaefe, but "I am concerned that the run will be too long," and that "the Soviet Union will have to be paid off" by the people of Angola for its investment in their civil war.

Schaefe was interviewed

on the WTTG TV program "Panorama."

At the White House, press secretary Ron Nessen said, "The President still feels that the best solution is a cease-fire, withdrawal of all foreign elements and a government of national unity" in Angola.

The United States, Nessen said, will continue to use diplomatic channels to help seek a solution and will continue to provide "a limited amount of assistance to countries which share those goals."

State Department spokesman Robert L. Funseth said yesterday that the Soviet-supported MPLA forces in Angola "were unable to get a majority of the African states to recognize the MPLA."

In fact, he said, half of the 22 nations voting for the MPLA agree with the United States position "that the legitimate aspirations of all three factions should be taken into account in trying to establish a government of national unity."

Schaefe said that as a result of the even split in the OAU, "Congress should know that 22 African countries do support our policy." That is hardly the way most African nations would put it; many of them are equally concerned about Soviet, Cuban, South African, American and other outside involvement in Angola.

"Obviously we had nothing to do with the South African decision to go in," said Schaefe, and it is the U. S. position that "everybody get out." He said, "In effect, the Soviet Union and Cuba have internationalized the conflict" and "it is their primary responsibility to de-internationalize it."

President Ford has cautioned that Soviet policy in Angola can damage U. S.-Soviet detente.

The National Security Council yesterday held its second session in five days at the White House. In addition to reviewing Angola policy, a decision is pending on whether to send Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger to Moscow this month on the deadlocked U. S.-Soviet nuclear strategic arms talks.