

WXPost  
**Renegade Force**  
JAN 20 1976  
**Turns to Looting**

By Raymond Wilkinson

United Press International

**GAGO COUTINHO,** Angola—A group of black and white renegade mercenaries has blazed a trail of gunfire, robbery and looting throughout southern Angola in recent weeks.

The Angolan faction controlling the area, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), appeared powerless to check the progress of the heavily armed column.

The polyglot collection of mercenaries belongs to the so-called Chipenda column, according to UNITA officials, and is a thousand-member band that has been fighting on the Western-backed side in the civil war under the leadership of former soccer star Daniel Chipenda.

Chipenda has been the wild card thus far in the war among three Angolan nationalist factions. Until late 1974 he was a powerful figure in the Marxist-oriented Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola. But after an unsuccessful bid for power he switched allegiances to the National Front for the Liberation of Angola, taking many of the Popular Movement's best fighters with him.

He is still nominally attached to the National Front but operates on his own in southern Angola. The National Front's main forces are all concentrated in the north.

In recent weeks, his mercenaries have abandoned the front line and embarked on an orgy of destruction. According to UNITA officials, who now describe the Chipenda fighters as common outlaws, they robbed several banks in Huambo (formerly Nova Lisboa), the UNITA capital, seizing currency worth at least \$2 million.

They also sparked a Christmas shootout with UNITA troops in Huambo. In three days of gunbattles, 20 to 100 persons were killed.

A few days later in Sa da Bandeira, a southern town, other Chipenda troops forced a showdown with UNITA forces, which at one point abandoned the town and then surrounded it.

This tiny village near the Zambian border was the latest target for some 300 Chipenda mercenaries. Earlier this month a heavily-armed column of blacks and whites swept through the town, according to local residents, robbing and looting and urging the villagers not to support UNITA. The group later disappeared into the bush.

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**200 Protest**  
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**U.S. Role**  
**In Angola**

United Press International

Comparing U.S. involvement in the Angolan civil war with the early stages of the Vietnam conflict, some 200 demonstrators gathered at the Capitol yesterday to call for an end to American aid to the feuding Angolan factions.

In sub-freezing temperatures, the small group of demonstrators responded enthusiastically to speeches by Rep. Bella Abzug (D-N.Y.) and such veteran peace activists as David Dellinger and Cora Weiss.

"Welcome back everyone," Weiss shouted to the crowd in recognition that most of those present were veterans of the civil rights and antiwar movements.

Every speaker drew a parallel between American support for one of the Angolan factions and the war in Vietnam. But Dellinger said the movement against U.S. involvement in Angola was better organized and larger than the antiwar movement at the same time. "This is a warning," Dellinger said.

Abzug, who was interrupted a dozen times by applause and cheers from the demonstrators, called for the ending of all foreign involvement in Angola, including that of Cuba, the Soviet Union and South Africa.