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Mercenaries

For Angola Leave London

London

Dozens of British mercenaries, hired to fight in Angola, flew out of London yesterday.

They were bound via Brussels for Kinshasa, Zaire, a nation that backs the Western-supported liberation group known as the National Front — FNLA in neighboring Angola.

The FNLA and its ally, the National Union (UNITA) have been losing to Soviet-backed forces of the Popular Movement — MPLA — in the civil war for control of the former Portuguese colony.

The mercenaries were generally close-mouthed and dodged photographers as they went through security checks and sat drinking tea awaiting their flights.

But some were quoted as saying they had been recruited by a firm called Security Advisory Services in Surrey, a county southwest of London, and were to paid \$300 a week, tax free, by the Zaire government.

Forty to 50 men departed on a first flight and about 100 others followed later yesterday.

"This is a spearhead. There could be a lot more following," one of the many Scots in the group said before boarding the plane.

Associated Press
