## South Africa Seeks Accord With Angola Leftists

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 12 But at Same Time It Prepares (AP)—South Africa is openly seeking an accommodation with victorious Communist-backed 'forces in Angola, but is also preparing for the possibility of a major war. Officials have repeatedly de-

clared in Parliament and privately that South Africa is are protecting at least four refused willing to seek a peaceful compromise with the Soviet-backed north of the South-West Afri-Popular Movement for the Lib-eration of Angola

South Africans watch devel-

cent days to capture a number of major towns. The defenses of the pro-Western alliance of the Na-tional Front for the Liberation of, Angola and the National Union for the Total Independ-ence of Angola have crumbled before the Soviet-supplied BM-21<sup>°</sup> multiple rocket launchers, T-34 and T-54 tanks and armed helicopters, and the troops sent in by Cuba. South Africa has promised a major in by Cuba. South Africa has promised a major in by Cuba. South Africa has promised a major South Africa nofficials have

## for the Possibility of a Major War

Calueque, about 15 miles inside

Angola. Other South African forces

eration of Angola. But the nation is also girding itself for war with troop call-ups, increased military train-buildup of forces along Angola's southern 'border. South Africans worth dend fense line that sometimes stretches up to 50 miles inside

South Africans watch devel-opments in Angola with a sense of foreboding and many fear an eventual confrontation with the Popular Movement in the for-mer Portuguese territory. The Popular Movement forces, spearheaded by thousands of Cuban troops, have swept through southern Angola in re-cent days to capture a number of major towns. The South Africans have in-cunene project, which is de-signed to supply water to the entire territory by 1977. The project was begun while Angola was still under Portu-guese colonial administration

The project was begun while Angola was still under Portu-guese colonial administration and was not created to benefit

in by Cuba. Since the beginning of its offensive in December, the Popular Movement has virtually wiped out all military opposi-tion in both northern and southern Angola. Next Objective Unclear Africa has promised a major confrontation. "If we are atacked we will retaliate effectively," Defense Parliament re-cently. "In the past we hit back we will retaliate with greater Next Objective Unclear

Next Objective Unclear What is not clear is whether the Popular Movement, the Cubans and the Soviet Union are prepared to push their vic-tory all the way to Angola's southern border with South-West Africa, a territory that South Africa has controlled for South Africa has controlled for the region is stabilized and souther words if they restrain themselves in staying where fused to withdraw from the mineral-rich territory. Waiting for the Popular Movement are 4,000 to 5,000 South African troops dug in around the huge multimillion dollar Cunene River hydroelect-trie and irrigation project at Nations mandate that is now West African troops dug in around the huge multimillion dollar Cunene River hydroelect-trie and irrigation project at Nations mandate for the South-trie and irrigation project at Nations project at Nations mandate that south-Movement are 4,000 to 5,000 South African troops dug in around the huge multimillion dollar Cunene River hydroelect-trie and irrigation project at Nations mandate the popular Movement are 4,000 to 5,000 South African troops dug in around the huge multimillion dollar Cunene River hydroelect-trie and irrigation project at Nations mandate the hydroelect-trie and irrigation project at Nations mandate the hydroelect-trie and irrigation project at Nations mandate that is now Nations mandate that is now

dollar Cunene River hydroelec- repeatedly said both publicly the tric and irrigation project at and privately that some agree- ry.

ment could be reached with the Popular Movement such as that between South Africa and Marxist-oriented Mozambique.

The feeling in informed mili-tary circles in South Africa is that neither the Cubans nor the Popular Movement would relish a face-to-face confrontation over the Cunene River project.

While the Popular Movement has some superior military equipment, South Africa, in the view of most observers, could easily hold its own and inflict heavy casualties on attackers. South Africa has also made it clear that it follows a policy