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**Widow Sues CIA —
Angola Execution**

Washington

The wife of an American executed in Angola sued the CIA yesterday for \$33 million. She charged that the CIA duped her husband and other volunteers into fighting in Africa but later abandoned them rather than reveal its covert role in Angola's civil war.

Sheila Gearhart's damage suit in U.S. District Court immediately became an issue in Congress, with Representative Robert Dornan (Rep-Calif.), introducing a resolution asking the House to investigate CIA involvement in Angola.

With Mrs. Gearhart and her son Michael, 9, in the House gallery, Dornan delivered a eulogy to Daniel F. Gearhart, who was executed by a firing squad in Angola on July 10, 1976.

Dornan said there is "new evidence" suggesting Gearhart and other U.S. mercenaries were lured to Angola by the CIA.

Mrs. Gearhart, of suburban Kensington, Md., filed suit alleging the CIA and top U.S. officials had abandoned her husband to his own defense and characterized him as a "criminal" unworthy of official U.S. support.

She told reporters her husband was no "mercenary." She said he had volunteered because he had been persuaded "there was a just cause and reason to do so."

Mrs. Gearhart said her four children have suffered permanent "psychological damage" from being "taunted" by other children because of the way their father died.

Her suit named the intelligence agency, former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, former CIA Director William Coby and other lesser officials as defendants.

Gearhart and two Europeans were executed by Angola's newly victorious Marxist government after a trial in which they were convicted of being mercenaries in the hire of the country's defeated, Western-backed guerrilla forces.

The suit apparently will draw upon the recently published allegations of John Stockwell, former head of the CIA's Angola task force, that the agency encouraged badly bungled private efforts to import mercenaries into Angola in 1976.

A Gearhart spokesman said Stockwell had agreed to testify on Mrs. Gearhart's behalf.

The suit claims the CIA knew that Sao Salvador, where Gearhart was captured, "had become a trap for anyone without access to air escape from the rapidly advancing Cuban onslaught," but the agency failed to warn him.

When Gearhart was brought to trial, the suit said, U.S. officials "did deliberately distort the truth which resulted in denial of the best defense" in order to conceal the "illegal" U.S. role in the civil war.

United Press