

2 November 2, 1984

SAL MINUTE

In the context of a discussion of prospects of an overall settlement of the conflict situation in southwestern Africa, the U.S. side, at the request of the Government of Angola, transmitted the latter's proposal for an overall solution in southwestern Africa. The U.S. side noted the historic significance of the Angolan proposal, which accepts the principle of Cuban troop withdrawal and offers concrete steps to achieve it. The U.S. side stressed that the Angolan proposal constituted an opening bid. It was not a U.S. proposal.

The South African side expressed its understanding of the historic significance of the acceptance in principle by Angola of Cuban withdrawal and agreed that this acceptance constitutes an important step toward a settlement.

In discussing the Angolan proposal, the U.S. side noted that it did not constitute a firm, concrete commitment to complete Cuban troop withdrawal. The U.S. also noted that the MPLA was already on notice that the proposal fell far short of South African expectations on the issue of parallelism.

The South African side agreed with these observations and noted that the proposal was a clear reflection of MPLA security preoccupations. The South African side expressed the opinion that progress had been made in respect of broad consensus on the political principles on the Angolan proposal. The South African side undertook to provide the

U.S. with a concrete proposal reflecting South African views on Cuban troop withdrawal and other subjects in the Angolan proposal. This proposal would be presented by the U.S. to the MPLA as soon as possible, within two to three weeks, so as to maintain the forward momentum of the negotiations. The two sides noted the Angolan proposal for a tripartite meeting and agreed that such a meeting could be useful once the necessary groundwork was laid.

The two sides discussed the continuing central role of UNITA as a factor in the equation. The U.S. side noted its readiness to discuss directly with UNITA the evolution reflected in the Angolan proposal. The South African side noted that the Angolan proposal could be interpreted as an effort to utilize the negotiations as a means to destroy UNITA. The U.S. side made clear that this was not the U.S. intention and that such a goal was unrealistic in any case.

DISENGAGEMENT

The U.S. side conveyed the Angolan government's willingness to meet at the ministerial level to make arrangements for completion of the disengagement. The South African delegation suggested that the next high level meeting of the Joint Monitoring Commission should be held before 15 November 1984 with a view to completing the disengagement process. The U.S. agreed to transmit this proposal to Luanda which the South Africans will also communicate through their own means and through the Cape Verdeans.