

FCO PRESS CONFERENCE: THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 1985

SOUTH AFRICAN INCURSION INTO ANGOLA ON 16 SEPTEMBER

Spokesman issued the following statement:

We strongly condemn this incursion into Angolan sovereign territory by South African Defence Forces. Such acts can only undermine the stability of the region and damage efforts to achieve Namibian independence. We urge South Africa to withdraw her forces at once.

The British Government believes that the longer term prospects for the security of the region depend on mutual respect for borders and on urgent progress towards implementation of Security Council Resolution 435 leading to internationally-recognised independence for Namibia.

We are making these views known to the South African Government through diplomatic channels.