

Angola

FILE

DS



cc. Foreign Pol: Newsletter from
Crozier: March 80.

10 DOWNING STREET

THE PRIME MINISTER

3 May 1980

Dear Brian,

Just a line to thank you for the report
which you sent me recently about activities
in Zaire related to Angola. Like so much of
what you send me, I found the report most
interesting.

Yours
Margaret

Brian Crozier, Esq.

RH



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

25 April 1980 (2)

I will instruct myself
MS.
 Dear Michael,

Angola

Bonnie Minister
 The attached report was forwarded to you by
Bonnie Minister. I thought you would want to see it
 to further with an F.O. commentary.

Thank you for sending me, under cover of your letter of 18 April, a report about plans to destabilise Angola. *And*

We doubt whether there is any substance in the report. Although it is dated 19 February 1980, we have received no corroboration of its contents (which are inherently unlikely) from any source.

It is claimed that camps have been established in Zaire to train Angolan dissidents for operations against the MPLA government. It is difficult to see what Zaire would gain from permitting such activities. President Mobutu and President dos Santos of Angola agreed in October 1979 that they would not permit hostile activities directed against each other. In accordance with this agreement, Holden Roberto (leader of FNLA) was expelled from Zaire and the ex-Katangese gendarmes, who had been responsible for the invasions of Shaba in 1977 and 1978, were withdrawn by the Angolan Government from the frontier region. The threat to Zaire's stability from Angola is far greater than any counter threat which Zaire could mount; and Mobutu would be extremely foolish to risk provoking Angola in the way suggested. Belgium, France and China do have teams of military officers in Zaire, engaged in training Zairean armed forces units; and these training teams may have given rise to the report.

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The suggestion that Holden Roberto is receiving substantial backing from the French Government also seems doubtful. The consensus of opinion (including Savimbi) is that Roberto's FNLA movement is defunct. The report may be a piece of propaganda by sympathisers of Roberto, to attract support for him by associating him with Savimbi.

If we receive any information which leads us to modify these conclusions, I shall of course let you know,

Yours ever
Roderic Lyne
 (R M J Lyne)
 Private Secretary

M O'D B Alexander Esq
 10 Downing Street

SECRET

OK.

Angola /

file

18 April 1980

GF 27.4.80

I enclose a copy of a report which has been forwarded to the Prime Minister by Brian Crozier about plans being made in Zaire to destabilise Angola. Before submitting it to the Prime Minister, I would be grateful for any comments which you may have on the assertions made in the report. They are relevant to the paper of whose preparation you informed me in your letter of 1 April about policy towards the Soviet Union.

I should be grateful if knowledge that I have forwarded this report to you could be limited to the smallest possible number of people.

M. O'D. B. ALEXANDER

George Walden, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

GF

SECRET

26 March 80

Message dated 19 February 1980. Original in French. Translation follows.

Training camps for Angolans have been set up in various parts of Zaire. Courses in sabotage, assassination and destabilisation, or in the event of a direct conflict between Zaire and Angola, for which Zaire is preparing.

2. One of the camps is run by a mission of 10 American officers, the commandant of which is John Oliver STENNIS. Another is run by a French Colonel Jacques Lemarchand.

There are no Zaire citizens among the recruits, and the instructors are all American or French.

3. A third camp is to be established before the end of February, under the direction of a Belgian Captain Charles Levallois, accompanied by 15 Belgian officers. There is a fourth camp, run by a Chinese, with the unofficial rank of Colonel, Chen Yi; with him are 12 officers-instructors, all Chinese. Training is given for tanks, parachute-drops, guerrilla war, etc.

4. There is no proof of coordination between the four camps, but it is almost certain that the Western ones are all coordinated.

5.

It has a substantial budget and a team of specialists to help Savimbi on the diplomatic level (approaches to certain Western, Arab or African governments etc.), logistics (certain types of armaments, including arms of Soviet or East European origin), and financial (loans, sent regularly but carefully controlled by a financial specialist to make sure the money is not used by Savimbi for personal expenditure). For Savimbi himself, there is a personal account in the Union de Banques Suisses in Lausanne, where every month a transfer of \$50,000 is made, plus expenses.

6. A special section of the French SDECE has been set up to deal with FNLA refugees, who are arriving in Paris in large numbers. They are greeted by a special office of the Paris Préfecture and are sent on to the special section of the SPN.

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are sent on to the special section of the SDECE, where the most reliable people are selected. Decent lodgings and adequate wages are provided, both for them and for their families where necessary. A special military programme is on offer, "to save Angola from communist domination".

7. Holden Roberto, who has a residence visa for six months and is living in Neuilly in a SDECE house, is in charge of the general supervision of these , whom he intends to send later to Gabon, Zaire and other places, for operations of sabotage, assassination, bomb attempts and so forth, not only in various cities where there are representatives of the Angolan government.

8 For the time being, Holden Roberto does not have the same American help that Savimbi gets. However, he has put up a plan which has been accepted by the French , and which consists of trying to mobilise help from the Arab, African , Asian and South American governments in an attempt to overthrow the Luanda regime, His plans include the following:

- A trip to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf emirates, Egypt, Sudan, Tunisia, Morocco , Pakistan, to collect new funds.
- Sadat invited him to set up a military training camp in Egypt.

- Prince Fahd, with the backing of King Hassan of Morocco. invited him to visit him in Riyadh .

- A personal counsellor of President Bourguiba , Allala Luoititi , has invited him to Tunis.

- He is talking of establishing a strategic, and possibly even a tactical alliance with Savimbi on the basis of a minimum political and military programme.

- For April 1980, there is a project of Holden Roberto's to call a conference of all serious opposition elements in Angola and set up a Popular Liberation Committee for Angola. These moves for national unity has the backing not only of the Americans , French, Portuguese, but also of various Arab, Africa and Asian governments . The

conference will probably be held in Switzerland, but no firm decision has yet been taken.

- Also part of the plan is to, request the intervention of France to persuade friendly African governments to provide ^{official but} discreet aid. He has been expelled from Dakar and Abidjan, but this would not prevent him from coming back under some suitable disguise.

- Roberto met Senghor of Senegal in Paris about three weeks ago. Senghor promised to help if Roberto became more serious (plus sérieux) with his programme. But it is clear that Senghor prefers Savimbi.

9. Roberto is therefore trying to reorganise and strengthen his activities in Portugal. He is slightly envious of the considerable aid Savimbi himself gets from that country, from Morocco, the US, etc. and would like an equal share of whatever aid is forthcoming. He is aware that the American role is more effective and complains of the lack of the right kind of assistance from USA.

10. On 16 February, Roberto sent a delegation of three to Washington to try and make the right contacts and to prepare his own trip to the United States. He is being helped by certain religious organisations in USA. This mission is still in the US at this moment.

11. Right-wing political and military groups in Portugal have promised Savimbi all possible aid to overthrow the MPLA government in Luanda. Apparently the new Portuguese government is in agreement with this strategy, although it will try not to arouse too much anger in Luanda.

12. Here are the terms of the agreement, concluded in Lisbon between Savimbi and the official Portuguese representative who is a colonel by rank, who uses the name of Colonel Porto although that is not his name, for aid to UNITA. That is the training of three groups of partisans of Savimbi in Portugal, each one consisting of 300 men. These men must be hand-picked by Savimbi himself. Their lodging and food expenses and so forth will be found by Colonel Porto. The campaign to raise funds to help Savimbi which the big industries and

private enterprises of Portugal would contribute. There is talk of a budget of 135 million escudos for the year 1980, of which one-fifth has already been found in the past three months. Next they would send high Portugese officers who are now in retirement from the army to Savimbi's camps in Angola and to Namibia to supervise the training of troops and military operations against Angola. A liaison would also be set up between the Portugese on one side and the US and France on the other side. Various efforts would be made in West Germany to gain West German assistance as well for Savimbi. All necessary facilities, including corruption and pressure to give Savimbi access to press, radio and television in Portugal and to launch the paper in Portuguese, French and English to be published in Lisbon to combat the MPLA and to support Savimbi.

Finally to buy Savimbi a special plane that would allow him to travel securely with secure pilots. This is supposed to be a Mystere 20.

Note. The informant is a Frenchman of leftish views, whose reliability has been tested over a period of some years. The original document was shown to Bernard by the German contact who distributes a regular service to selected people. This one is considered too sensitive for distribution. Bernard was not allowed to take a copy, but instead taped a quick translation.