

Angola
IMMEDIATE

MR R WADE-GERY CABINET OFFICE
NO 10 DOWNING STREET.

PS

PS/SIR I GILMOUR

PS/MR LUCE

PS/PUS

MR DAY

SIR L ALLINSON

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HD/S AF D

HD/UND

HD/DEF DEPT

HD/NEWS D

~~RESIDENT CLERK~~

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GRS 352

CONFIDENTIAL

FM LUANDA 011512Z

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 268 OF 1 JULY

INFO IMMEDIATE UKMIS NEW YORK PRETORIA LUSAKA

INFO SAVING DAR ES SALAAM SALISBURY LAGOS GABORONE WASHINGTON

LISBON PARIS BONN OTTAWA FREETOWN ADDIS ABABA

MY TELEGRAM NUMBER 267 OF 1 JULY

SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACKS INTO ANGOLA

1. WE TALKED YESTERDAY WITH A YOUNG IRISH COUPLE WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING AT A CATHOLIC MISSION HOSPITAL IN CUNENE PROVINCE NOT FAR FROM XANGONCO. THEY SAY THAT SOUTH AFRICAN AIRCRAFT HAD OVERFLOWN THE HOSPITAL ON MOST DAYS SINCE THEY ARRIVED LAST OCTOBER. AUDIBLE EXPLOSIONS IN THE AREA IN THE PAST MONTH CAUSED INMATES TO FLEE INTO THE BUSH ON MANY OCCASIONS WHERE SOME HAD DIED FOR WANT OF ATTENTION. RECENTLY A LORRY BRINGING RICE TO THE HOSPITAL HAD BEEN STRAFED CLOSE BY AND THE DRIVER FIRED ON AS HE FLED. MANY LOCAL INHABITANTS HAD ABANDONED THEIR HOUSES AND TAKEN TO THE BUSH. THE HOSPITAL DEALT WITH FAFLA WOUNDED AND THE INCREASING NUMBER OF THOSE INJURED IN COLLISIONS BETWEEN VEHICLES DRIVING FAST AT NIGHT WITHOUT LIGHTS. SWAPO PERSONNEL WERE NOT

INCREASING NUMBER OF THOSE INJURED IN COLLISIONS BETWEEN VEHICLES DRIVING FAST AT NIGHT WITHOUT LIGHTS. SWAPO PERSONNEL WERE NOT TREATED BY THE HOSPITAL. THEY HAD THEIR OWN FACILITIES.

2. THE COUPLE TRAVELLED BY ROAD FROM XANGANGO TO LUBANGO ON 29 JUNE. SOUTH OF LUBANGO THEY PASSED COLUMNS OF MILITARY TRANSPORT CARRYING CUBANS SOUTHWARD. THEY HAD NOTED A NUMBER (UNSPECIFIED) OF TANKS.

3. THEY COMMENTED ON NUMBERS OF RUSSIANS AND EAST GERMANS SEEN AT LUBANGO WHERE THEY SPENT THE NIGHT BEFORE FLYING ON 30 JUNE TO LUANDA.

4. THEY BELIEVED XANGANGO HAD BEEN BOMBED DURING 29 JUNE AND BELIEVED ANGOLAN REPORTS THAT SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES WERE STILL IN PARTS OF CUNENE PROVINCE. AFRICAN PEOPLE IN THEIR AREA BELIEVED THAT UNITA BANDS HAD COME INTO CUNENE WITH SOUTH AFRICAN FORCES. IN RECENT DAYS SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE HAD BEEN DROPPING LEAFLETS IN PORTUGUESE TELLING POPULACE THEY HAD NOTHING TO FEAR AND THAT QUOTE UNITA WOULD NOT CUT THEIR THROATS UNQUOTE. COUPLE WERE INCLINED TO DOUBT ANY LARGE SCALE UNITA ENTRY INTO CUNENE PROVINCE. SWAPO MILITANTS IN UNIFORM HAD APPEARED MORE NUMEROUS THAN FAPLA IN THEIR IMMEDIATE NEIGHBOURHOOD. NEAR DROUGHT OVER PAST YEAR WAS ADDING TO HUNGER AND GENERAL CONFUSION.

5. IN INTEREST OF REMAINING HOSPITAL STAFF AND COUPLE PLEASE PROTECT SOURCE.

FCC PLEASE PASS TO ALL AND ALL SAVING ADDRESSEES

BYATT

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SENT/RECD AT 011507Z SEH/ABD