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ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE
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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,
THIRTY-SIXTH ORDINARY SESSION
23rd February to 1st March 1981
Addis Ababa

REPORT OF THE OAU MISSION TO ANGOLA



CM-1092

MICROFICHE

CM/1092(XXXVI)
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The General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity presents its compliments to the Ministries of Foreign/ External Affairs of the Member States of the OAU and has the honour to forward herewith the Report of the OAU Mission to Angola.

The General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministries of Foreign/External Affairs of the Member States of the OAU the assurances of its highest esteem.

To All Member States of the OAU

Encl.

REPORT ON THE OAU MISSION TO ANGOLA

At the time it was deliberating, the Thirty-fifth Session of the OAU Council of Ministers was informed of the large scale aggression carried out by South Africa against the territory of the People's Republic of Angola.

After discussions on this issue, the Council of Ministers decided to send a delegation composed of representatives of the Council and the Liberation Committee to give Africa's support to Angola and estimate the damages caused by the South African aggression.

2. The Committee of Nineteen and the Liberation Committee met on 28 June 1980 in Freetown and set up the following delegation:

Chairman - Togo
Members - Algeria and Nigeria

Representatives of the OAU Secretariat and the Liberation Committee were to join these members.

3. The Angolan delegation informed the Council of Ministers that the mission could be carried out during the second fortnight of July and that it would confirm the date as soon as it returned to Luanda.

4. The consultations which led to the fixing of the date are contained in the messages attached as annexes to this report.

5. The representatives of the three countries appointed in Freetown reached Luanda on 30 July.

6. The OAU delegation was composed of:

Togo - His Excellency ANANI AKAKPO-AHIANYO,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Togo.
Algeria - His Excellency HARBI NOUREDDINE, Ambassador
Nigeria - His Excellency DEINDE GEORGE, Ambassador.

7. The OAU delegation started its mission with a meeting with His Excellency PAULO TEIXEIRA JORGE, Minister of External Relations of the People's Republic of Angola, on 31 July.

The talks were focussed on the organization of the work of the mission and the steps taken by the Angola Government to facilitate the accomplishment of this task.

It was agreed that the mission would work from 31 July to 4 August.

8. The OAU delegation participated in the celebration of the Sixth (6th) Anniversary of the Proclamation of the People's Liberation Army of Angola (PALA) on 1 August.

9. On the same day, the OAU delegation held talks with His Excellency Colonel PEDRO PARIÁ TONHA (PEDALE), Member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA - Labour Party and Minister of Defence, who informed the mission of all the arrangements made by his department.

10. The delegation, accompanied by His Excellency PAULO JORGE, Minister of External Relations of Angola, and Lieutenant-Colonel RUI DE MATOS, went to Lubango, capital of HUËLA Province, on 2 August where it was welcomed by Lieutenant-Colonel MIGUEL LUIZ, Member of the Central Committee and Provincial Commissioner of Lubango, and Lieutenant-Colonel PEDRO LIMABINGA, Commander of the Fifth (5th) Military Region.

11. During its stay in Lubango, the delegation visited the areas in Lubango, 440 kilometres away from the border of Namibia where aggression was perpetrated by South Africa.

On 27 September 1979, after reconnaissance flights, the South African Air-force bombarded a wood work industry complex, located in the centre of Lubango City. This complex made furniture for the whole of Angola. The bombardment took place on the same day in the morning at working hours, as well as destroyed completely the complex and killed thirty (30) workers.

On the same day the Air-force bombarded and razed a transit centre for Namibian refugees, capable of accommodating three hundred (300) persons, and situated in the centre of Lubango City. Sixty (60) refugees were killed and twenty-six (26) were injured.

Another target of the South African Air-force was the corn flour factory, adjacent to the wood work industry complex which is at present being rebuilt.

12. The delegation then went to Serra do Leba, on the road linking Lubango with Mocamedes.

On Sunday, 28 October 1979, at 4.00 p.m. troops transported by South African helicopters mined and blew up two bridges on the Lubango-Mocamedes road, thus cutting off the Huambo and Mocamedes provinces from that of Lubango.

On the same road, South African Commandoes destroyed five cars and killed the occupants, that is seventeen (17) persons, all Angolan civilians.

13. The delegation listened to a special statement made at the Headquarters of the Fifth Military Region.

The Fifth Military Region is composed of four (4) provinces of which three (3), those of Cunene, Cuando-Cubango and Mocamedes have a common border with Namibia. The reconnaissance flights over

the Angolan territory by the South African Air-force, the bombardments, the air machine gunning, the landing of troops transported by helicopters were of such regularity that one could affirm that South Africa was waging a silent and undeclared war against Angola.

Thus, during the first half of 1980, the South African Army carried out 476 reconnaissance flights, 27 bombardments, 7 air machine gunnings, 4 landings of troops transported by helicopters for terrorist and destructive activities and 2 land bombings. Eighty-six (86) civilians were killed and seventy-seven (77) were injured.

These figures do not include the balance sheet of the last aggression of June 1980.

The aggression which took place from 7 to 29 June 1980 caused the death of 322 persons among the civilians, mostly women, old people and children and that of 36 soldiers. There were also more than 250 injured among the civilians.

14. These aggressions deeply affect the economic and social life of these target provinces because of the destruction of the means of transport, stealing of cattle as well as the looting of "foodstuffs shops". Thus, during the aggression which took place from 7 to 29 June 1980, 33 transport trucks were destroyed and 500 cattle heads were stolen.

Cattle is the main wealth of these regions and are used to supply other regions of Angola with meat and milk.

The houses of the civilians too were not spared.

The 1,250 kilometres long border separating Angola and Namibia, is not under strict control and surveillance. During their raids, the South African troops carried in their wake members of the UNITA, based and trained in Namibia by South African instructors.

Despite the efforts of the Angolan Government to obviate these difficult situations, the inhabitants of these areas badly lack medicine, food and clothes.

15. The mission is in a position to be an eyewitness of the destruction of the South African military aircrafts especially a French made Alouette helicopter, a British made IMPALA and a French made mirage. It noted that the parts of these aircrafts were of various origins coming from countries like France, Italy, the United States of America. It also saw the arms recovered by FAPLA such as French made 30 mm cannons, an FN of Belgian origin, ammunitions for French made cannons transported by helicopters.

16. The mission went on to listen to AVELINO CHIACA, a prisoner of UNITA, aged 24 years, a native of the Lubango Province. According to him, he was kidnapped by the UNITA in 1977, carried by force to Namibia where he spent three months in prison before being transferred to the KAVANGO base. There, he received a military training, organized and directed by South African instructors. He stated having been visited by persons called SAVIMBI and PUNA.

According to him, the base was composed of around 250 persons recruited by force by the UNITA. He stayed in that base up to 1979. Weariness overcame most of the members of the camp because of continued delayed orders announcing a triumphant march of the UNITA, which was promised to them each day.

It was during that year 1979 that he decided to escape and regain his native province. He was captured by the FAPLA in the beginning of 1980. The afore-mentioned person stated that having been recruited by force and that he seized the first opportunity to escape, the reason why he did not present himself to the Angola authorities was because he was afraid of being killed as he was made to believe by the UNITA.

17. On 3 August 1980, the OAU mission went to Mougua (Cunene Province), located around 80 kms from the Namibia border.

As a result of regular bombardments, this small locality was almost entirely deserted by its inhabitants who only returned there for medical care or for administrative purposes.

The mission could see for itself the damages caused by the South African army which occupied the area before being driven away by the Angola army after violent fights.

A primary school, the town-hall, a hospital administering health care to 600 persons/month, houses were all destroyed. These destructions were the results of the joint activities of the South African motorised infantry and air-force during the aggression of June 1980.

18. From Mougua, the mission went to N'GIVA, capital of the Cunene Province, situated at 35 kms from the border of Namibia. Because of its proximity to the occupied Namibia, this area is the most exposed to the murderous and destructive activities of the Pretoria troops.

By its presence in N'GIVA, the mission promised, on behalf of the OAU, to give its support and solidarity to the people of this province.

19. On the basis of talks with the Angola civilian and military authorities, the various hearings and its own observations, the mission came to the following conclusions:

- South Africa is waging an undeclared war against the People's Republic of Angola;
- The main targets of these aggressions are the economic and social infrastructures, the means of transport, the road infrastructures (bridges), etc.;
- These aggressions have a deep and negative effect on the economic and social life of the People's Republic of Angola and hamper seriously the development of Angola;
- The consequences of these aggressions, at the human level (loss of human lives, injured, disabled etc.) are also an obstacle to the efforts of national reconstruction and constitute a heavy burden for the People's Republic of Angola;
- The political aim behind these aggressions is nothing less than the destabilisation of Angola. By causing all sorts of difficulties for the young state of Angola, by stifling its development efforts, these aggressions aim at creating conditions which would enable puppets to assume power at their expense.
- In addition to the destructions observed, the mission could visit two provinces in the South (Huila and Cunene) and saw that they were entirely under the control of the central authorities. The mission is also in a position to affirm that the claim of the Northern provinces of Angola being occupied by the UNITA, was an imaginary invention;

- Wherever it went, the mission saw nothing that would permit to affirm that the defence of the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Angola was not ensured by Angolan troops only;

- The damages caused by the South African aggressions are at present being evaluated by the Angolan authorities.

However, the Angolan Government has already communicated to the United Nations the estimate of the damages caused by South African aggressions during the period from 1975 to 1976 which stands at 6 billion and 600 million dollars. From May 1978 to July 1979, the damages are evaluated at more than 100 million dollars.

20. By virtue of its terms of reference, the mission is in a position to make the following recommendations:

- Recommends Member States which have not yet done so to recognise the Government of the People's Republic of Angola;

- Recommends Member States to refrain from giving support, in whatsoever form, to the UNITA, because this support would mean an unbiased support to South Africa;

- Appeals to Member States to announce their contributions, in accordance with the resolution adopted in Freetown;

- Calls upon Member States to give assistance in medicine, clothes, food and means of transport to the Government of the People's Republic of Angola;

- Requests the African Group to the United Nations to include on the Agenda of the next General Assembly an item entitled "The Aggressions of South Africa against Angola";

Requests the Executive Secretariat of the OAU to the United Nations to organise an exhibition of photographs of South African aggressions against the People's Republic of Angola;

- Requests the OAU General Secretariat to ensure the widespread dissemination of information on the South African aggressions against Angola so as to break the conspiracy of silence over the South African armed attacks against this country;

- Requests the Committee of 19 to speed up the missions entrusted to it by the Freetown Summit;

- Requests the Liberation Committee to speed up the study on the ways and means to make African peoples aware of the situation obtaining in the Frontline States.

21. The OAU mission would like to thank the Angolan Government for all the facilities accorded to it for the accomplishment of its task.

10 July 1980

OAU ADDIS ABABA

TO: H.E. MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
LOME, TOGO

SG 1598 COMPLIMENTS STOP REFERENCE OAU MISSION TO ANGOLA STOP
KINDLY INFORM AS SOON AS POSSIBLE DEPARTURE DATE AND MEETING PLACE
OF THE MISSION STOP HIGHEST CONSIDERATION STOP

F. X. NJENGA
DIRECTOR, OAU POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Annex 2

10 July 1980

MISTOGO ONU
TO: OAU ADDIS ABABA
ATTENTION: MR. F. X. NJENGA
DIRECTOR, OAU POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

WITH REFERENCE TO YOUR TELEX 1598 INFORM YOU THAT ANGOLAN
DELEGATION COMMA AFTER ITS RETURN TO LUANDA COMMA WAS CHARGED WITH
PROPOSING DATES FOR THE DELEGATION WHICH SHOULD GO TO ANGOLA STOP
THEREFORE WE ARE AWAITING THE PROPOSALS OF THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT
FINAL STOP

ANANI AKAKPO-AHIANYO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
LOME, TOGO

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Annex 3

18 July 1980

OAU ADDIS ABABA

TO: H.E. AKAKPO-AHLIANYO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

SG 1682 COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR INFORM YOU THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND ASSEMBLY DECISION IN FREETOWN ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT READY TO RECEIVE OAU MISSION TO ANGOLA IN SECOND FORTHNIGHT OF JULY STOP KINDLY FIX URGENTLY DATE AND MEETING PLACE OF MISSION TO LUANDA STOP

DR. PETER ONU, OAU ACTING SEC GEN

Annex 4

18 July 1980

MINIAFFET ET COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

TO: OAU ADDIS ABABA

ATTENTION OF DR. PETER ONU

COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR PROPOSE YOUR MEETING IN BRAZZAVILLE ON 28 OR 29 JULY 1980 STOP KINDLY CONSULT ALGERIA AND NIGERIA ON PROPOSED DATES AND INFORM ME OF FINAL DECISION FINAL STOP

ANANI KUMA AKAKPO-AHLIANYO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO



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Annex 5

25 July 1980

OAU ADDIS ABABA

TO: H.E. MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LOME, TOGO

SG 1754 REF/VOTEL 930/TOAEC/CAB OF 18 JULY 1980 HONOUR
INFORM YOU THAT MISSION MEMBERS RATHER AWAIT FINAL DATE FROM YOU STOP
KINDLY FIX RAPIDLY ARRIVAL DATE OF MISSION IN ANGOLA STOP
HIGHEST CONSIDERATION FINAL STOP

DR. PETER ONU
OAU ACTING SEC GEN

ANNEX 6

23 JULY 1980

MINAFFET ET COOPERATION
LOME, TOGO

TO: OAU ADDIS ABABA
ATTENTION OF DR. PETER ONU

NO.944/TO/AEC/CAB/80 REFERENCE YOUR MESSAGE NO. SG 1682
OF 18 JULY 1980 OUR MESSAGE NO. 930/TO/AEC/CAB/80 OF 18 JULY 1980
COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR REQUEST YOU KINDLY INFORM US OF MEASURES TO BE
TAKEN COMMA FOLLOW UP ACTION TO OUR MESSAGE MENTIONED AS REFERENCE
FINAL STOP

ANANI KUMA AKAKPO-AHIANYO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
LOME, TOGO

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Annex 7

24 July 1980

MINAFFET ET COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

TO: OAU ADDIS ABABA

ATTENTION OF DR. PETER ONU

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF 19

REF. NOS. TELEX NO. 930/TO/AEC/CAB/80

COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR REQUEST YOU KINDLY INFORM US OF
OAU DELEGATION MEMBERS (COMMITTEE OF 19) HAVE CONFIRMED THEIR
CONSENT TO MEET IN BRAZZAVILLE COMMA THE MEETING PLACE COMMA ON
28 OR 29 JULY AS SUGGESTED RECENTLY STOP

GRATEFUL REPLY US URGENTLY BY RETURN TELEX STOP
HIGHEST CONSIDERATION FINAL STOP

ANANI KUMA AKAKPO-AHLANYO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

Annex 8

25 July 1980

MINAFFET ET COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

TO: OAU GENERAL SECRETARIAT

ADDIS ABABA

ATTENTION OF DR. PETER ONU

NO. 950/TO/AEC/CAB/80 REFERENCE YOUR TELEX NO. SG 1754 COMPLIMENTS STOP
HONOUR INFORM YOU THAT MEETING IN LUANDA FIXED FOR 30 JULY 1980 STOP
HIGHEST CONSIDERATION FINAL STOP

ANANI KUMA AKAKPO-AHLANYO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

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Annex 9

25 JULY 1980

MINAFFET ET COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

TO: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
ALGIERS - ALGERIA

TOP PRIORITY

NO. 954/TO/AEC/CAB/80

COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR CONFIRM YOU THAT APPOINTMENT FOR OAU MISSION
TO ANGOLA IS FIXED FOR 30 JULY 1980 IN LUANDA FINAL STOP
HIGH CONSIDERATION

ANANI KUMA AKAKPO-AHLIANYO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
LOME, TOGO

Annex 10

25 July 1980

MINAFFET ET COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

TO: MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF TANZANIA
FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY OF THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE
DAR ES SALAAM

TOP PRIORITY

NO. 952/TO/AEC/CAB/80

COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR CONFIRM YOU THAT APPOINTMENT FOR OAU MISSION
TO ANGOLA IS FIXED FOR 30 JULY 1980 IN LUANDA FINAL STOP HIGH
CONSIDERATION

ANANI AKAKPO-AHLIANYO
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION
LOME, TOGO

25 July 1980

MINAFFET ET COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

TO: MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
LUANDA - ANGOLA

TOP PRIORITY

No. 951/TO/AEC/CAB/80 COMPLIMENTS STOP HONOUR INFORM YOU THAT
MEETING OF OAU MISSION TO ANGOLA IS FIXED FOR 30 JULY 1980
FINAL STOP HIGH CONSIDERATION

ANANI KUMA AKAKPO-AHIANYO

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND COOPERATION

LOME, TOGO

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