

A SOVIET plan to arm the MPLA to the hilt, and at the same time create chaos in Angola, are the main factors behind the MPLA's military superiority in that country today. =
The whole exercise has been a - classic straight from the Kremlin's book .a cedures for revolution.) /

Moscow was perfectly aware that had general elections taken place in Angola earlier this year, as laid down in Article 40 of the illfated Alvor Agreement, the MPLA would have been decisively beaten by the FNLA and Unita.

Instead, the MPLA immediately gained control - of finance and information and drove its rivals the FNLA and Unita from Luanda with Soviet arms.

Russia's decision to supply arms to the MPLA was taken in the early 1960s, when the Soviets first

rican instrument..

" Since then, the eyes of the Kremlin have been on Angola's oil, copper and diamonds. But these, in the Russian mind, have always been secondary to the strategic assets of controlling Angolan - ports and, ultimately, the Cape route. :

k This is why Russia is

chose the MPLA as-its Af-

. rts to

m MPL. rtunes,
ng in the best of
modern arms, doctrinal

backing, and a Moscow-

campa'ed propaganda offensive urging unswerving support for the MPLA while = denigrating the FNLA and Unita as being allied to reactionary for-

ces, namely ' the United

States and South Africa.

When, a few months ago,

Soviet arms began to pour

into Luanda at an increased rate, so were profes-

sional communist agitators

moved into the city.

Two business men . who arrived in Lusaka from Angola in early October reported that one of these groups of agitators includ-

ed two East Germans, one

of whom was an intelligence officer, a Brazilian officer discharged from his country's navy for subversion, and a Congolese intelligence officer who previously had been arrested in Zaire on espionage charges.

Also in the group was. a

Russian agent, a Czech, a to East Germany for train-

Rumanian and a Finn.

Angola: the Red connection can only get tighter

@ BOB HITCHCOCK, Military Correspondent
amines aspects of a special
published by the authoritative

Conflict, London, and traces the
Soviet-aligned MPLA. " ©

Anti-communist intelligence reports from Angola indicate that a group of 200 MPLA personnel left Congo - Brazzaville at the

- end of March this year in two Soviet transport air-

craft

Most of these Africans were scheduled for an eight-month military training course in . Russia. Others were on their way

â\200\230 (bâ\200\230el.ow)â\200\234, ex-

I report on Angola compiled and
Institute for the Study of .
military build-up of the

security work.

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Another group
MPLA personnel had been
flown to Russia three
months previously for a
training course of indeter-
minate duration. /

The role of the Congo
Republic as a terminus
for a Soviet arms supply
operation for the MPLA
was confirmed without
doubt in April this year
when a Congolese Air
Force Fokker transport
plane openly flew Russian
arms from the Maya-Maya
air base, north of Brazza-
ville, into Angola.

But these operations
were only the tip of the
iceberg as far as Soviet
military assistance _ pro-

_ grammes to. the

were concerned this year.

For about 13 years the
MPLA has been receiving
Soviet arms, including
rifles, machine-guns, mor-
tars, anti-personnel mines,
hand-grenades and 122 mm
rockets. â\200\230

These Russian deliver-
jes were steeply accelera-
ted in October last year,

of 200

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allowing a lead-time of six
months following the Por- -
tuguese â\200\230revolution. â\200\230
The accelerated deliver-
ies, besides rifles, ma-
chine-guns - augÂ¥ other in-
fantry weapons_on previ-
ous lines, have in addition
included the following re-
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a-

s O&XP essed by the
two other nationalist move-
ments in Angola.

manks, light field artil-
lery,
six-wheeled trucks, tracked
armoured anti-aircraft ve-
hicles, armoured person-
â\200\230nel carriers, rocket ldun-
chers and anti-tank wire-
guided missiles.

The total effect is to
give the M consider-
able mobility as well as
great firepower. In other
words, the MPLA: outguns
its rivals. E

_ The Institute for the
Study of Conflict report
stresses that: Soviet official
sources explicitly see.vic-
torv of their cause in An-
gola as leading to further
operations against Rhode-
sia, South Africa and South
West Africa.

~_For this reason, it is lik-

ely that Russia will con-
tinue to supply increasing-
ly sophisticated arms â\200\230to
the MPLA â\200\224 and military
advisers and more Cuban
soldiers to ensure that the
arms are handled profi-
ciently.

armoured vehicles,