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Angola Release

BY THE PRESS - CS JOHANNESBURG

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**EXCERPTS OF THE ADDRESS BY
MR MANUEL AUGUSTO
AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE ON
30 SEPTEMBER 1993 IN PRETORIA**

Mr Manuel Augusto addressed members of the press on the situation in Angola which have met an unfortunate and tragic evolution, due to the intransigence of Mr Jonas Savimbi and his followers in accepting the rules of the democratic game.

"As you are aware, mandatory sanctions against UNITA are in effect since last September 25, thus, being this organization liable to an embargo of arms, oil supply and other necessary means contributing to the war that it has initiated.

We appreciate this position of the Security Council which should be reinforced within a limit of 45 days if UNITA is not willing to accept the negotiations which will lead to an effective cease-fire under the terms of the Resolution passed by this organ of the UN on Angola.

In the last days before the Security Council Meeting of September, 15, there was a campaign led by the lobby of UNITA, about a new Peace Proposal offered by Mr Savimbi.

We would like to have identified within UNITA's document some signals which could reveal that it is a serious and good-intention Proposal, but we can observe that UNITA is only planning a dangerous manoeuvre which intends not to comply with the principles of the Bicesse Accords.

We would also like to refer to all the political movement carried out by UNITA on the eve of the meeting of the Security Council, who had no aim of the peaceful and immediate solution of the conflict but only to avoid the adoption of sanctions, as it feared that by this they would be forced to negotiate within the Bicesse Accords and the UN Security Council Resolutions.

The above facts, advise us to act with precaution so that UNITA once again can not avail itself the benefit of doubt that has been given to her and which has enabled them to maintain until now the arrogant and intransigent posture that has been assuming from the Namibe meeting reaching Addis-Ababa I and II until Abidjan.

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UNITA, by violating the previous engagements, assumed the positions which successfully nullified the engagements that have already been reached and at the same time availing itself the expectations of peace created around the contact which were being held and enlarging its area of illegal occupation of the territory as happened with the cities of Uige, Negage, Soyo and Huambo.

I should underline that this very procedure of UNITA is being repeated as to the City of Kuito, where with its manoeuvre of cease-fire "IN SITU" has been able to move its troops to the most advantageous positions and getting closer to the defensive lines of the Government troops who are defending the place.

I would like to emphasize that with its strategy of dividing the Country, we ask ourselves, for how long yet will UNITA maintain its false pretence of cease-fire, as it constitutes a fundamental component of its plan, the occupation of the city of Kuito. As a matter of fact, it is convenient to mention that within this strategy, UNITA is carrying out all of its efforts, in order to convince about the need of monitoring of this cease-fire "IN SITU" by the UN contingents who would work in practice terms as the peacekeeping forces, consummating the division "de facto" of the Country.

Nonetheless, the Angolan Government is still committed to the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict and considers that it must be done on the following framework:

1. Withdrawal of UNITA's military forces from the places illegally occupied since the general elections held on September 29 and 30, 1992, followed by a ceasefire in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council.
2. Rendering of humanitarian aid and the urgent evacuation of the wounded, ill and foreigners after the declaration of a cease-fire.
3. Explicit and unequivocal acceptance of the validity of the Bicesse Accords, and the results of the September 1992 elections.
4. Compliance with legislation produced by the sovereign bodies instituted as a result of the elections.
5. Reiteration of the Angolan Government's willingness to resume negotiations as soon as conditions to do so exist.

Finally, I would like to recall that today, 30th of September, the entire Angolan People is commemorating the first anniversary of the first and free elections with the hope that the enemies of Peace, Democracy and development will be defeated".

