and contempt for the representatives of the administration, who were allowed a mere five minutes each to respond to two hours of testimony presented by the sponsors of the legislation!

Selling out UNITA

The import of the legislation for the military and strategic affairs of the region was identified when Ron Dellums (D-Cal.) stated that one hidden purpose of his was to bring an end to U.S. support for Jonas Savimbi and his UNITA resistance fighters, and to force the United States out of any negotiations to end the conflict in Angola, bringing any monitoring of any eventual solution under the control of an "international body" of observers. In practice, this ensures that the conflict will continue, under the control of the Soviet-run liberation movements.

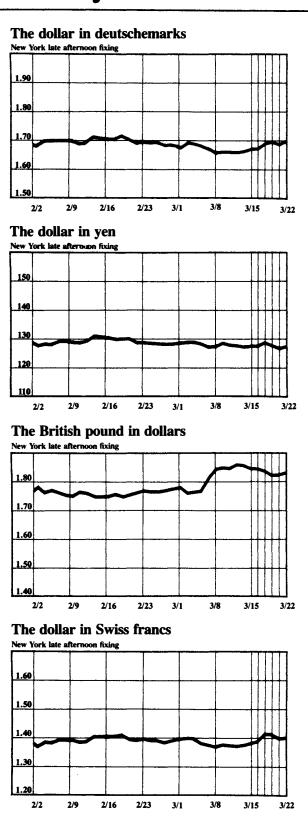
Angola's ruling MPLA has demanded that the United States represent UNITA and the South Africans at the bargaining table, refusing to deal directly with either of the principal combatants. Similar to the arrangements being proposed in Afghanistan, this demand is particularly fraudulent in the Angola case, as UNITA has always primarily depended on European sources for military support. The effect of the proposed legislation is to signal to all parties that substantive negotiations will occur directly and indirectly with the Soviets, only.

The Defense Department spokesman, Mr. James Woods, indicated that the bills would make it impossible to monitor developments in Angola and Namibia. He went on to point out that other provisions of the Dellums legislation would prohibit long-range telemetry flights which are used to assess rocket burn data and confirm trajectory accuracy during satellite launches.

The closing of the attaché's office in Pretoria is a most severe action, he stressed, more serious than any we have taken against the Warsaw Pact, and there are also provisions of the bill which are guaranteed to wreck relations with our European and Asian allies. He referred to Section 7 of H.R. 1580, which includes an unprecedented provision for third-party sanctions. "This wording could generate serious frictions with some of our Asian and European friends, for starters." Woods reported, "Waiver of penalties for some states but not for others would compound the problems generated by this proposed legislation. We are concerned at the sweeping impact this kind of provision might have on our world-wide politico-military relations."

He pointed out that there are provisions of the legislation which eliminate the authority of the President to grant exceptions to embargoes of strategic raw materials, limiting the exceptions to items of "military use." The Defense Department spokesman pointed out that in the case of such items, the distinction between military and civilian activities does not exist, and the legislation could have severe effects on the U.S. economy.

Currency Rates



Economics EIR April 1, 1988