

NSC review completed - unredacted segments may be declassified

5 January 1975

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]

SUBJECT : Angola NSSM

1. Comments on the draft from OCI/WE are attached.

2. In general, State/EUR has chosen to accentuate the positive, whereas the earlier OCI/WE treatment stressed the skepticism with which WE governments contemplate the idea of active intervention in Angola. The case can be made either way -- depending on what strains of European sentiment one wishes to highlight, and the almost semantic problem of how much weight to put on rhetorical expressions like "share our concern."

3. I come out somewhere in the middle, but I do feel that the State draft does not sufficiently stress the essential unwillingness of WE governments (with the qualified exception of France) to take any active partisan role against the MPLA which might strain their relations with the OAU. State may have privileged reports we haven't seen (probably does), but even if US demarches have encountered sympathetic hearings in various foreign offices on the continent, one must still keep in mind the difference between agreement on desirable outcomes, objectives, etc., and willingness to do anything concrete.

[redacted]

NIO/WE

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State Dept. review completed

Attached are some comments on the
Angolan MSSM--which I hope will still do
some good. Why did not send over
to State what we had drafted before?

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