

| ROUTING | | | |
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| TO: | NAME AND ADDRESS | DATE | INITIALS |
| 1 | ARCHIVES | | |
| 2 | | | |
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| | ACTION | DIRECT REPLY | PREPARE REPLY |
| | APPROVAL | DISPATCH | RECOMMENDATION |
| | COMMENT | FILE | RETURN |
| | CONCURRENCE | INFORMATION | SIGNATURE |
| REMARKS: | | | |
| PAPER PRINTS | | | |
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DISSEMINATION CONTROL ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| NOFORN- | Not Releasable to Foreign Nationals |
| NOCONTRACT- | Not Releasable to Contractors or Contractor/Consultants |
| PROPIN- | Caution-Proprietary Information Involved |
| ORCON- | Dissemination and Extraction of Information Controlled by Originator |
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Attachment to Z-17365/84
NPIC/IEG (3/84)
20 MARCH 1984

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INCREASED DEFENSES
NOVA LISBOA AIRFIELD, ANGOLA (SWN)



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1. SIGNIFICANCE: SINCE MARCH 1983 ANGOLAN/CUBAN FORCES HAVE RESPONDED TO MOUNTING PRESSURE BY UNITA FORCES (NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA) BY STRENGTHENING DEFENSES AND INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COMBAT AIRCRAFT AT NOVA LISBOA AIRFIELD IN THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL OF HUAMBO IN CENTRAL ANGOLA. (SWN)
2. REMARKS: MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE AIRFIELD DEFENSES INCLUDED THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADDITIONAL 35 AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS (FOR A TOTAL OF 39) AND AN EARTHEN BERM ALONG THE NORTHERN EDGE OF THE AIRFIELD'S SUPPORT AREA SINCE MARCH 1983 (EIGHT REVETMENTS NOT ON GRAPHIC). AN ADDITIONAL EARTHEN BERM, PARTIALLY ENCLOSING THE AIR WARNING (AW) SITE ON THE AIRFIELD'S SOUTHWESTERN EDGE, HAD ALSO BEEN ERRECTED BY MARCH 1984. IN ADDITION, HARDENED UNDERGROUND PERSONNEL SHELTERS HAVE BEEN CONSTRUCTED AT THE AW SITE, THE THREE SIX-POSITION ANTI-AIRCRAFT ARTILLERY (AAA) SITES (ONE NOT ON GRAPHIC), AND IN A WOODED AREA AT THE EAST END OF THE RUNWAY WHERE AN INFANTRY UNIT OF UNDETERMINED SIZE IS DEPLOYED (NOT ON GRAPHIC). (SWN)

SIGHTINGS OF INCREASED NUMBERS OF COMBAT AND TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT HAVE COINCIDED WITH THE UPGRADING OF THE AIRFIELD'S DEFENSES. FISHBED AIRCRAFT WERE REDEPLOYED TO THE AIRFIELD IN APRIL 1983 AFTER AN ABSENCE OF TEN MONTHS. AT LEAST FIVE FRESCO HAVE BEEN DEPLOYED TO THE AIRFIELD SINCE OCTOBER 1983. TWO OF THE 12 HIND-D ATTACK HELICOPTERS IN ANGOLA'S INVENTORY HAVE BEEN OPERATING FOR THE FIRST TIME FROM THE AIRFIELD SINCE AT LEAST LATE FEBRUARY 1984. HIP HELICOPTERS RETURNED TO THE AIRFIELD IN OCTOBER 1983 AFTER AN ABSENCE OF 16 MONTHS AND INCREASED FROM FOUR TO SEVEN DURING MARCH 1984. (SWN)

IN RECENT MONTHS, INCREASED FLIGHTS OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT HAVE ALSO BEEN OBSERVED AS UNITA'S ATTEMPTS TO ISOLATE THE TOWN OF HUAMBO HAVE BECOME INCREASINGLY SUCCESSFUL. THESE FLIGHTS INCLUDED UNUSUAL DEPLOYMENTS OF TAAG (ANGOLA'S COMMERCIAL AIRLINE) 707'S, WHICH ARE NORMALLY USED FOR INTERNATIONAL ROUTES. THREE SOVIET VTA CUBS WERE OBSERVED AT THE AIRFIELD IN OCTOBER 1983. A 737 WHICH HAD MADE A CRASH-LANDING WAS

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NPIC/IEG (3/84)

20 MARCH 1984

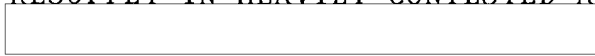
JUST OFF THE WEST END OF THE RUNWAY IN MARCH 1984. UNITA CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CRASH IN OPEN PRESS ACCOUNTS. (SWN)

ANALYST'S COMMENTS: SIMILAR UPGRADING OF DEFENSES AND DEPLOYMENTS OF COMBAT AIRCRAFT HAVE ALSO BEEN OBSERVED AT OTHER PROVINCIAL AIRFIELDS NEAR WHERE UNITA FORCES ARE CONDUCTING OPERATIONS AGAINST THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT. THESE AIRFIELDS INCLUDE LUENA AIRFIELD [REDACTED] IN MOXICO PROVINCE, MALANJE AIRFIELD [REDACTED] IN MALANJE PROVINCE, AND MENONGUE EAST AIRFIELD [REDACTED] IN CUANDO CUBANGO PROVINCE. THIS TREND IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE AS ANGOLAN FORCES BECOME MORE ISOLATED AND DEPENDENT ON AIR SUPPORT FOR RESUPPLY IN HEAVILY CONTESTED AREAS. (SWN)

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3. [REDACTED], COORDINATES 12-48-23S 015-45-26E (S)

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