

FILED

3

NEW YORK POST
29 November 1986**AFGHAN AND ANGOLA REBELS GOT IRAN \$\$\$****Ousted aide used
slush fund to buy
arms from China**By **NILES LATHEM**
in Santa Barbara
and **RACHEL FLICK**
in Washington

PROFITS from the sale of arms to Iran have been funneled to guerrillas fighting pro-Communist regimes in Afghanistan and Angola, The Post has learned.

Until now, the Reagan administration has acknowledged only that the \$10 million to \$30 million in diverted funds from the Iranian arms deal financed the Nicaraguan contras.

But U.S. intelligence sources revealed yesterday that pro-Western forces battling Marxist governments in Afghanistan and Angola have received millions of dollars in secret aid from the Iranian deal.

Sources said ousted Lt. Col. Oliver North and retired Maj. Gen. Richard Secord — two men at the heart of the controversy over the secret shipments to the contras — directed the diversion of funds to the Angolan and Afghan rebels as well.

U.S. intelligence received evidence about the Afghan and Angolan operations from communication intercepts — telephone or cable conversations picked up through listening devices by the CIA and the National Security Council.

The money sent to the Angolan rebel movement was channeled to the guerrilla group UNITA, headed by the pro-U.S.

guerrilla leader Jonas Savimbi, according to intelligence sources.

The sources said profits from the Iranian arms sale were used to purchase military hardware from China.

The equipment was then shipped to the Portuguese territory of Macao. From there the weapons were sent to Portugal and finally to UNITA forces in Angola.

Angola is a former colony of Portugal.

American arms were also purchased through the same backdoor pipeline and delivered to Angola and Afghanistan, the sources said.

The sources added that the CIA appears to have been aware that profits from the Iran arms sale were going to the Afghan and Angolan rebels.

There were these other fast-paced developments in the scandal yesterday:

- An Oregon businessman said government sources told him early this year that the Pentagon was planning to use the Iranian profits to buy arms for the contras.

Businessman Richard Brenneke said he informed a military assistant to Vice President George Bush of the plans and was told, "We will look into it."

Brenneke's statements, if confirmed, would mean that more officials in Washington than previously acknowledged were aware of the Iran-contra connection.

Bush's spokesman did not return repeated calls seeking comment.

- Several key congressmen questioned the White House's contention that North, who was ousted from his White House post Tuesday, was acting independently in organizing the arms sale.

"Col. North did not act alone," declared Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

"I don't know who gave the orders but Col. North did not act on his own. He got orders from higher authority."

- A House judiciary subcommittee released a report supporting the call for appointment of an independent special prosecutor to investigate possible violations of U.S. laws.

- Nicaraguan contra leaders said they feared that a deepening White House scandal could seriously damage or even destroy their cause.