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FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF

PROGRAM Evening Exchange

STATION WHMM-TV

DATE January 29, 1986 7:00 P.M. CITY Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT John Stockwell Interview/Angola

KOJO NNANDI: ...Six years ago, according to one report, Jonas Savimbi couldn't get an appointment with an Assistant Secretary of State. So, who is Jonas Savimbi and why are we suddenly showering him with attention, and maybe with money? Well, that's a long story. In tonight's program we'll attempt to tell as much of that story as possible, beginning with Mr. Savimbi's history, and continuing in a second segment with a discussion of Mr. Savimbi's present and his future.

For openers, we will say three things. First, that Jonas Savimbi is head of UNITA, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola. Second, that the White House and the Congress are both considering financial aid for UNITA. And third, that opponents and proponents of those proposals say the measures would give new meaning to the term constructive engagement with South Africa, Mr. Savimbi's main backer.

Joining me for the first segment on the background to the U.S. relationship with Jonas Savimbi and UNITA is John Stockwell. He is former chief of the CIA's Angola task force, also author of the international bestseller In Search of Enemies: A CIA Story, a book in which he describes his experiences in the CIA's Angola operation. This is the book.

Angola is a Southwest African territory that was dominated and colonized by the Portugese in the latter part of the 15th Century. The Portugese held on to it until the mid-1970s, when after a revolution in Portugal the stage was set for the independence of the Portugese colonies in Southern Africa, Mozambique and Angola.

In the case of Angola, there were three major liberation

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# The desert continues to shake

By Norman Solomon

More than 600 atomic bombs have exploded in southern Nevada since a mushroom cloud first rose over the test site on Jan. 27, 1951. Thirty-five years later, with American nuclear blasts continuing underground at an average rate of once every three weeks, there is no end in sight.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev recently announced a three-month extension of his government's nuclear test moratorium, and repeated a pledge to make the halt permanent if the United States reciprocated. But the arms control offer never had a chance.

Much of the Reagan administration's determination to keep on testing has to do with its attachment to Star Wars scenarios. On the last weekend of 1985, when the Nevada desert shook from an explosion nearly a dozen times the power of the A-bomb dropped on Hiroshima, the 150-kiloton detonation was part of research for nuclear-pumped X-ray lasers for the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Reasons usually given for U.S. rejection of the Soviet test moratorium are the stuff of nuclear-age mythology.

Scientific means for clearly detecting underground nuclear bomb tests, from many thousands of miles away, have existed for years. And in December the Soviet Union went on record with a promise to permit on-site inspections of its testing grounds, to provide for added monitoring of compliance with a test ban treaty.

With the verification issue crumbling, the White House fell back on claims that explosions are necessary to test reliability of this country's existing bombs. But several years ago a petition written by former Los Alamos Laboratory director Norris Bradbury and famed physicist Hans Bethe—and endorsed by the Federation of American Scientists—declared that the reliability of nuclear warhead

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stockpiles has been "confirmed almost exclusively by non-nuclear testing." The petition added that nuclear detonations to ensure dependability have been "rare to the point of nonexistence."

Some hopeful trends, however, are developing in a region where Mormon opposition derailed the MX missile's "race track" mode. Mormon church elders met with William Colby a few weeks ago while the former CIA director was in Utah to speak for a test ban. Days later the mayors of Salt Lake City and Provo issued proclamations calling for an end to nuclear tests. Utah's legislature is considering a similar resolution, backed by leading Democrats and the state AFL-CIO.

Medical researchers have linked high rates of cancer and leukemia with radioactive fallout that blew from the Nevada test site during the 1950s and '60s. In recent years a Utah-based grass-roots group, Downwinders, has helped galvanize antitesting sentiment in the region. The U.S. nuclear testing program—underground since the 1963 Limited Test Ban Treaty—is also encountering resistance from former GIs exposed to radioactivity.

Early in the new year, the director of the International Alliance of Atomic Veterans spent a few days in a Nevada jail cell. Anthony Guarisco, a serviceman at Bikini atoll atomic tests 40 years ago, was among more than 200 people arrested for civil disobedience at the Nevada test site last year. He accuses the Pentagon of "working in tandem with a corrupt military-nuclear-industrial complex" that is eager "to perpetuate a new phase of a pork-barrel nuclear arms race like Star Wars that is sucking our economy dry."

Controversies over current nuclear testing do not apply to weaponry scheduled for deployment between now and the year 2000. An immediate test ban, for example, would not interfere with Trident II submarines—brandishing extremely accurate long-range missiles—probably the most dangerous nuclear weapons system of the next decade.

The sad truth is that the U.S. government set off 15 nuclear explosions last year—including seven after the Soviet moratorium began last summer—because it is committed to escalating the nuclear arms race into the 21st Century. Unless that commitment is abandoned, the Southern Nevada desert will continue to tremble.