

despite the fact that many Angolans have been trained in the Soviet Union to take over this role.<sup>8</sup>

The Soviet Union has been the largest supplier of military hardware and technical training to the Angolan Government. However, several Western European countries have also sold military hardware to the Angolan Government. Spanish, Swiss and French equipment has been purchased and used in the war.

#### UNITA Guerrilla Organization

The FALA (Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola) of UNITA is reported to number about 60,000 men. Of these forces, about 26,000 operate in conventional units and 34,000 are reported to be engaged in guerrilla warfare. Their weapons are a mixture of captured Soviet weapons and weapons left over from the war against the Portuguese colonial regime. South Africa has also provided substantial military support to UNITA. New weapons, including missiles, are expected to be introduced in the war by UNITA, as a result of military aid from the United States.<sup>9</sup> It was reported in the press that the United States would be providing anti-aircraft and anti-tank missiles to UNITA soon. This development is bound to produce a much tougher assignment for Cuban forces in Angola and produce many more casualties.<sup>10</sup>

#### Casualties

The extent of Cuban involvement and casualties in Angola can be best illustrated by a review of press reports on the war in the last days of 1984 and those during 1985 and 1986. At the end of 1984, on December 21, 1984, UNITA claimed that its forces had killed 196 government soldiers and 16 Cubans during fighting between December 8th and 12th. The fighting was reported to have taken place in the northern provinces of

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<sup>4</sup> In 1985, the Soviet Union delivered to Angola Mi-24/Hind and Mi-17/Hip H helicopters, additional Su-22/FITTERs, Mig-23/FLOGGERS and SA-13 SAMs. Source: U.S. Department of Defense, Soviet Military Power: 1986 (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1986), pp. 131-132.

<sup>9</sup> "Sabimbi Eyes U.S. Missiles Before April," Mexico City News (February 18, 1986), p. 2.

<sup>10</sup> "Regan Decides to Send Weapons to Angola Rebels," New York Times (February 19, 1986), p. 1, col. 1.