

## U.S./AFRICA

## Angolan Prisoner Exchange Seen Likely

[AN] The Angolan government has agreed to release two American mercenaries in exchange for two Soviets held captive by the Angolan insurgent movement UNITA. A third American imprisoned in Angola, a pilot captured just one year ago, will probably not be included in the swap, which after several delays is now expected to take place later this month in Kinshasa, Zaire.

If successful, the deal will give a boost to the Reagan administration's dual track Angola policy, which has combined hard-line talk and a public tilt toward UNITA with ongoing diplomatic interchanges with the Luanda regime.

The two mercenaries are Gary Martin Acker from Sacramento, California, and Argentine-born Gustavo M. Grillo, a New Jersey resident. They were captured in February 1976 just days after entering Angola to fight for the National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA), led by Holden Roberto, then loosely allied with UNITA. They had been hired by a California recruiter, David Bulfinch, who said in a March 1976 interview with *Africa News* his money was coming from the CIA through the FNLA.

According to information that later became public, the U.S. committed some \$30 million in covert aid to UNITA and the FNLA, before Congress blocked the intervention by adopting the "Clark Amendment" in December of 1976. With Soviet and Cuban backing, the Angolan government defeated the FNLA, while UNITA has waged a continued bush war in southern Angola assisted by South Africa.

Acker, Grillo and Daniel Gearhart were tried along with ten British mercenaries. (A fourth American, George Bacon, was killed in fighting.) Four of the thirteen, including Gearhart, were executed. Acker was given a sixteen-year sentence, Grillo thirty years.

The Angolans apparently agreed to the exchange as a gesture to both the Soviet and American governments. Negotiations began a few months after UNITA shot down a Soviet air transport in November 1980. Kolia Mollavey, the pilot, and Ivan Chernitsky, an engineer, were captured virtually unharmed. The Soviet government is believed to have asked Zaire President Mobutu Sese Seko to act as an intermediary with UNITA. Discussions followed, involving at various points the governments of Angola, Zaire, the U.S., the USSR, and South Africa.

After the South African army captured another Soviet pilot, Sergeant-Major Nikolai Pestretsov, during the invasion of Angola last September, there was thought given to broadening the exchange. The U.S., for its part, would like to free the American pilot, Geoffrey Harrison Tyler, who was captured last February when he landed his plane on a road in southern Angola. In addition, Portugal is seeking the release of several of its citizens held by Angola and by UNITA.

Last week, UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi was reported to be in Kinshasa, where he has not been welcome since Mobutu worked out a rapprochement with Luanda in 1979. But it appears that the exchange, if it comes off, will be limited to the two Americans and two Soviets.

The Reagan administration took office with leading figures, including the president, on record favoring recognition and support for

UNITA. Early on, the White House asked Congress to repeal the Clark Amendment.

Contacts between Washington and Luanda, which do not have official relations, began to develop as the U.S. resumed the diplomatic initiative on Namibia. In September, Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Jr., met with Angolan Foreign Minister Paulo Jorge at the United Nations. In October, Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker visited Luanda. And last month, Crocker and Jorge met in Paris.

For fear of jeopardizing these negotiations as well as the Clark Amendment repeal drive, the administration asked for a delay in the U.S. visit being organized for UNITA President Jonas Savimbi early last year. With pro-UNITA sentiment building among administration supporters, however, Savimbi was finally permitted to come

to Washington for meetings with both Haig and Crocker in December, the same month Mobutu was in town.

In interviews last month in Rabat, Morocco, with several Portuguese publications, Savimbi portrayed his Washington talks in the best possible light. The U.S., he claimed, has put two pre-conditions on a Namibian settlement: withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola and reconciliation between UNITA and the ruling party, the MPLA.

He also dismissed suggestions that UNITA suffered a setback when Congress in late December did not repeal the Clark Amendment. Saying he has been receiving U.S. aid, he told the conservative weekly *Tempo*: "Material help is not dependent on, nor limited by, the Clark Amendment. A great country like the United

States has other channels."

"We have not made Cuban troop withdrawal a precondition of the Namibian settlement," Crocker said in October. "But the problems are empirically related." The Cubans' presence, he argued, "is a major impediment to progress on Namibia."

The major problem, as the Angolans see it, is the continuation of attacks from South Africa, whose forces launched major invasions in September and November. The South African actions "have prevented the Angolan government from planning with the friendly government of Cuba the end of the military aid that has been given us," MPLA Secretary General Lucio Lara said last month.

The Angolans have been alarmed by what they regard as Washington's acquiescence in Pretoria's aggression. Five weeks ago, the Angolan news agency ANGOP charged an escalation in the campaign "to try to overthrow the MPLA government or force it to negotiate."

A new insurgent movement — the Military Committee for Angolan Resistance, with the Portuguese acronym COMIRA — was readying 2,000 armed men in northern Angola, ANGOP said, alleging that the movement formed "in close liaison" with "Washington and 'in close collaboration' with Savimbi, as a replacement for the defunct FNLA."

"Washington likes to have a finger in every pie," the dispatch concluded, expressing what may be official ambivalence about the Reagan administration's approach. "If they fail diplomatically, COMIRA will move to center stage."

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CARROLLTON, ALA.—A civil rights coalition comprised of the SCLC, NAACP and the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Nonviolent Social Change kicked off a two-week march from here to protest the imprisonment of two black women on vote fraud charges and to dramatize support of the Voting Rights Act. Shown (l-r) are Tuskegee Mayor Johnny Ford, Walter Fauntroy, chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus and Board of SCLC, and the Rev. Joseph Lowery and his wife. Lowery is President of the Atlanta based SCLC.

UPI Photo

## A Woman's Guide To Social Security

If you are a divorced woman, and were married to your ex-husband at least ten years, you can receive social security retirement or disability benefits when you turn 62 years of age.

This is according to a free booklet put out by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services called *A Woman's Guide to Social Security*. To get your free copy, just send a postcard to the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 513K, Pueblo, Colorado, 81009.

Another important fact women should know is that all social security records should show your correct name. This is especially true if you are unemployed, since your employer reports your earnings under the name you give. So, whenever you change the name you use in employment, whether because of marriage, divorce, or other reasons, you should notify Social

Security. Otherwise, your earnings will not be properly recorded toward security credit.

To report a name change, just fill out an Application for a Social Security Number Card. You will have to show proof of identity under both the old name and the new name. You can pick up the form at any social security office, and find out there what documents you will need as proof of identity.

If a woman becomes disabled and can't work for a year or more, she can get disability checks, provided she has worked long enough under social security. These benefits start on the sixth full month of disability and continue as long as the disability persists. After 24 months of disability payments, a woman is also eligible for Medicare protection.

While collecting disability benefits, payments are also given to unmarried children

under 18 (or under 22, if full-time students). This includes stepchildren and legally adopted children.

To get social security benefits, you need credit for a certain amount of work, depending on your age. The credits are measured in "quarters of coverage." Starting in 1980, employees and self-employed people received one quarter of coverage for each \$290 of "covered" annual earnings, with no more than four quarters credited in any one year.

If you interrupt your career to raise children, the amount of any monthly benefit you might earn could be affected by the years of no earnings. If several years of no earnings have to be counted, your benefit may be lower than if you worked throughout your life. If you stop working before you've earned enough credit, you can't get benefits. But the credit you've earned stays on your

record, and you can add to it by subsequently returning to work under social security.

When you order *A Woman's Guide to Social Security* (free), you'll also receive a free copy of the *Consumer Information Catalog*. Published quarterly by the Consumer Information Center of the GSA, the *Catalog* lists more than 200 free or low-cost consumer publications.

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## Rogers-Herr Honor Roll

The Rogers-Herr Junior High School Honor Roll list for the second nine weeks reporting period has been announced by the principal, R.L. Yokley.

Honor roll students are: Reginald Alston, Shannon Alston, Warren Alston, John Beatty, Lori Blake, Melissa Brower, Tammy Cates, Katherine Cheatwood, Karen Crawford, Melissa Crawley, Paul Crenshaw, My Dung Do, Raymona Evans, Sonja Gib-

son, Gail Hollowell, Tonia Hopkins, Robert Lewis, Donna Mangum, Vickie Mebane, Sarah Parnell, Mark Pippen, Andre Pittman, Laura Quinn, Alonso Salter, Preston Sandlin, Deborah Smith, Christopher Stevens, Teneki Tate, Dwight Thompson, Carlos Torian, Cabell Townsend, Chrissy Wilder, Treavesa Watson, Dexter Watson, Jenny Whitney, Kim Wilson, Anthony Williams, Steven Zung.

Coping  
Defeat Stress  
And Win Success

By Dr. Charles W. Faulkner

The stress that you feel when you are involved in a demanding situation is not a necessary component of your life. As difficult as you may think that it is, stress can be easily eliminated. You need only to apply the proper procedures for eliminating the stress that you feel.

How do you know when you are under stress? Rapid heart beat, trembling, increased blood pressure, nervousness, irritability, quickness of temper and rapid breathing are but a few of the symptoms of stress. Most of the unexplained physical problems that you have were probably caused by stress. Untraceable aches and pains, brittle fingernails, skin rashes, constipation, hair breakage and stomach pains are sometimes caused by stress.

What can you do to control stress?

1) Use the breathing techniques, progressive relaxation techniques and guided fantasies that I have presented in previous columns. If you missed those columns, you may send me a self-addressed/stamped envelope to: P.O. Box 50016, Washington, DC 20004. I will forward them to you immediately.

2) Stop competing with other people unless you are involved in a well-defined, structured contest. Constant psychological competitiveness causes tension and physiological discomfort. Achieve the best results of which you are capable and be satisfied that you did your best regardless of what others do.

3) Stop being overly concerned with what others think about you. Your positive opinion of yourself is far, far more valuable than negative opinions others may have of you. Be your own person. Be the best judge of yourself.

4) Live and let live. Life is short and should be lived and enjoyed to its fullest. Stop criticizing others for their shortcomings. This consumes too much time and energy. Remember, only a few things in life are really important. Concentrate your energy and attention on those really important things. Don't belabor trivialities. Be bigger and stronger than everything with which you come into contact.

5) Don't be afraid to try something new. You may be quite surprised at how successful you might be if you just give it a try.

6) Don't be afraid to fail. Do you know of anyone who has not failed at something? Everyone has failed but you will eventually triumph if you continue to try your hand at something new. If you do fail, learn from your failure and use your new knowledge to do better the next time. But, first give it a try. Fear is your greatest enemy. Your greatest friend is your constant dedication to keep on trying even if victory seems far, far away.

7) Daydream your way to the success that you desire. Let your mind be your guide. Let your dreams of success be the motivating force in your life. Dream about the wonderful, almost impossible, things that you want for yourself. They may not be as impossible as you think. But, never, never daydream about failure. Let your dreams be your friend.

8) Encourage someone else. Try to be a positive and valuable force in the life of a relative, a friend or a stranger. While you are saving your own life, you may save the life of another person who needs you desperately.

9) Forget the past and look ahead to a bright future for yourself and others. Then, make it happen.

10) Stop trying to be perfect - no one is perfect. But, you have all of the ingredients necessary for success. Use them. Dream a lot and prepare yourself for the success that will be yours if you continue to fight — in spite of possible setbacks.

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