

SMITH'S SURRENDER OPENS WAY FOR ROCKEFELLER REORGANIZATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Dec. 12 (IPS)--In a nationally televised speech today, Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith, leader of the most diehard white racist regime in the world, announced the freeing of all black political detainees, a ceasefire in the guerrilla war, and acquiescence to the demand for a constitutional conference which is certain to result in "black rule" in Rhodesia.

Smith's stunning surrender has removed the last obstacle in the way of the Rockefeller faction's fascist reorganization of southern Africa. Mozambique and Angola were earlier pacified with the installation of the CIA-controlled "socialist" FRELIMO and the openly pro-U.S. National Front for the Liberation of Angola. In South Africa, Rockefeller allies obtained the assurance and cooperation of Prime Minister John Vorster. Only Smith's ultra-conservatives in Rhodesia stood in the way--until today.

Smith's final capitulation unfolded in exactly the way IPS predicted last March. "Detente" was arranged between the cooperative racist Vorster and black Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda. Then, last summer, a coordinated "hard cop/soft cop" operation was mounted against Rhodesia, with Vorster and Kaunda playing the respective roles. Vorster encouraged Smith to "reason" with the black majority, mainly by threatening to withdraw South African troops in Rhodesia. Kaunda praised Vorster and threatened Smith with a "Caesarean operation" if an independent Rhodesia was not naturally born.

Finally Dec. 6, Kaunda hosted a conference in Lusaka, Zambia where two white Rhodesian Cabinet ministers met with almost every black head of state and liberation movement in the region, including leaders of the three Rhodesian "liberation" movements, the non-violent African National Council (ANC), and the guerrilla movements ZANU and ZAPU. The leaders of the latter, Ndabaningi Sithole and Joshua Nkomo, had been released from 10 years' imprisonment in Rhodesia and were flown to Zambia on a plane provided by Vorster's South Africa. On orders from Zambian President Kaunda, Sithole and Nkomo promptly merged their organizations into Bishop Abel Muzorewa's ANC, which they had previously denounced.

False Comfort

On Dec. 7, apprehensive white Rhodesians breathed an audible sigh of relief when they heard that their delegation in Zambia had "rejected out of hand" demands for immediate majority rule. But this has turned out to be a "misunderstanding," as today's speech by Smith came only shortly before the return to Rhodesia of Sithole and Nkomo, met by a cheering crowd of 1,000 black Rhodesians.

The pressure on Smith is not off. U.S. diplomatic sources say that the Ford Administration backs the expected repeal of the Byrd amendment, which allows the importation of certain strategic materials from Rhodesia, and that economic sanctions against Rhodesia will not be lifted until majority rule has been attained. Additionally, there has been "confusion" about the exact conditions for the cessation of guerrilla activities. Even after Smith's announcement that the fighting would stop, a press release from guerrilla headquarters in Lusaka, later repudiated, said that the fighting would not stop until a definite date was set for the constitutional conference. To add to Smith's peace of mind, Vorster announced within an hour of Smith's speech that all 2,000 South African troops hitherto bolstering Rhodesian forces would shortly be removed.

Today's Financial Times of London laid out the next move of the Rockefeller forces in an editorial saying "Smith is not a free agent" and "there is little reason to believe that Smith will be able to meet African demands" (emphasis added) because of his own electorate. The London Times reported the reaction of the leader of the right-wing Rhodesia National Party, who called Smith's speech "complete betrayal of the white man." The French daily Le Monde Dec. 9 reported the formation of a new ultra-right party, the Unified Conservative Party, headed by William Harper, a former member of Smith's cabinet, fired in 1968 for "security reasons."

Further psywar is obviously needed against the white Rhodesian population to speed up the fascist reorganization of southern Africa, as the South African press are already discussing proposals for a "southern African United Nations" and a "southern African Common Market."

CONFIRM IEA CONTROL OF CANADIAN ENERGY POLICY

NEW YORK, N.Y., Dec. 11 (IPS)--IPS confirmed this week that the recent cutbacks in Canadian oil exports to the U.S. were ordered by the International Energy Agency (IEA) and that they will be used to promote energy austerity on both sides of the border.

An aide to Congressman John Anderson (R.-Ill.) admitted to IPS today that "The IEA policy has had some effect on the Canadian cutbacks, speeding them up. We expected them next year." Canadian participation in the IEA has not been approved by Parliament; thus, the IEA has no legal sanction whatsoever to dictate Canadian energy policy.

The cutbacks, which are supposed to completely shut off Canadian oil exports to the United States by 1982 or sooner, are being used by Trilateral Commission agents in the U.S. Congress to heat up a phony trade war between Canada and the United States.