

development in Africa (see box).

This process is now threatened, however, by a desperate British-inspired counterattack witnessed in the escalation of atrocities against black and white civilians by the pro-British "Sandhurst clique" in the Rhodesian military. Accompanying hysterical predictions of a general massacre of the white population, are cries from the British Tory party for support of Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith's bogus and illegal "internal solution."

Abetting the British, the United States Senate voted up an amendment to this year's foreign military-aid bill on July 26, setting conditions under which President Carter would be required by law to end the U.S. economic boycott of Rhodesia.

The Senate's action sabotages the further progress of the already astounding accomplishments of Ambassador Young and Donald McHenry, who, on top of the Namibia settlement, have been responsible for the improvement of U.S.-Angola relations and, in conjunction with Western Europe, South Africa, and the black front-line states, have the best chance of arriving at a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia. The Namibia settlement — which provides for a transition to independence of the South African colony by next year — was reached by close collaboration between black Africa's five front-line states: Angola, Botswana, Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, and Western delegations from France, the U.S., West Germany, Britain and Canada. While the front-line states kept the pressure up on the Namibian SWAPO liberation movement to settle, the Western delegations applied the pressure on South Africa.

In the middle of this coordination, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt paid a visit to Zambia just prior to the Bremen summit, where he discussed with President Kenneth Kaunda peace plans and Europe's new development-oriented foreign policy. Schmidt particularly made the point that while Germany

supports the front-line states over Rhodesia, they have extensive economic ties with South Africa which they are not about to break in any dangerous and self-defeating embargo. The dismantling of apartheid must be accomplished in the context of economic growth, he added.

Ending Apartheid

South Africa has responded to this diplomacy with an appeal for the resumption of détente with black Africa. Foreign Minister R.F. Botha welcomed the Namibia settlement with the statement that this represents "a possible new era in southern Africa..." This opens the possibility of South Africa and the front line states resuming their 1973 collaboration in getting an acceptable settlement in Rhodesia and ending the war, and subsequent negotiations over apartheid along the lines laid out by Chancellor Schmidt. This latter issue was discussed recently by South African manufacturing and mining magnate Harry Oppenheimer, who has reversed his previous support for low-wage labor intensive investment — which would tend to augment the apartheid policy — with a call for capital intensive investment and rapid economic takeoff in South Africa as the only road away from further domestic upheaval.

—Peter Buck

Oppenheimer Denounces IMF Austerity

Henry Oppenheimer, chairman of the Anglo-American Corporation and South African gold and diamond magnate, argued for capital-intensive investment and the upgrading of the southern African labor force in a speech, quoted here, to the International Monetary Fund Conference in Mexico City, May 22.

...I am convinced that an attempt to meet South Africa's problems by containing wages and favouring a relatively simple structure of production is bound to fail. We have reached an advanced stage in our economy from which we cannot go back. New development will either be carried through in a sophisticated manner or will not be carried through at all. There is no real choice in most modern industry between high wages and much mechanization on the one hand and low wages and little mechanization on the other....

...My belief is that progress in any sphere and not least in the economy is not best sought by way of a general advance all along the line but by a significant breakthrough on a narrow front....

If it is assumed that South Africa is able to finance a rate of growth which must be not less than about 5 percent per annum to allow all the new entrants to the labour market to find employment the effect must be a huge growth in the black urban population outside the homelands....Moreover, of these black workers much larger numbers will require to be skilled....The only economic situation which is compatible with apartheid is one of stagnation in which development of the modern sector of the economy is limited to a level at which the majority of the skilled work can be handled by the whites and the black participation is kept to a minimum. This

Andrew Young Leads U.S. African Policy

From an exclusive interview with the Mexican daily El Sol, July 21:

The rich countries can only benefit from the progress of the less wealthy countries, said the controversial U.S. Ambassador Andrew Young in Geneva, defending the "right of the developing countries to economic expansion."

Young, disavowed on innumerable occasions by the State Department, had the opportunity today, between lines, to defend his personal style of diplomacy by saying that "One must proceed with the largest dose of credibility, even if there are misunderstandings."

"The possible success of the current negotiations with Namibia demonstrates to us that our current diplomacy in Africa, in the direction of stabilization, cooperation, and respect for human rights, is correct."