

ROCKEFELLER USES ANTI-IMPERIALISM IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

May 24 (IPS) — NATO's announcement this week that it has contingency plans for operations in southern Africa confirms that Rockefeller financial interests in southern Africa have declared war on the dinosaur-like apartheid regimes in the region. Following fascist Antonio de Spínola's Popular Front coup in Portugal, Rockefeller has stepped up the drive to isolate the Rhodesian and South African regimes, using his anti-imperialist African flunkies. The model for the region is already being set by Lisbon in Mozambique, where angry strikers are being told to return to work because "you will soon be governed by your brothers." A leading theme in the Lisbon propaganda urges workers to work harder so society can meet its responsibilities under the "new freedom."

The sudden interest of arch-racist Rockefeller in moving against the openly racist, white-minority regimes in southern Africa is a soft-cop tactic. Populations the world over are being prepared psychologically to respond with enthusiasm to new employment opportunities and economic development in labor-intensive projects—fascist economics. There is no way for the hated white-minority governments to get away with such economic policies. Either they integrate blacks into the government in some form or they are pushed aside. Either way, victory over racism will serve as a smokescreen for the new fascist policies.

Vast Mineral Wealth

The ostensible reason for NATO planning so far from its "North Atlantic" turf is the need to protect the oil tanker route around Cape Horn from Soviet interference; actually, much more is involved. The strategic importance of southern Africa's vast mineral resources is beyond question: South Africa alone produces much of the total "free world" supplies of numerous raw materials—78 per cent of the gold, 40 per cent of the antimony, 37 per cent of all industrial diamonds, and 37 per cent of all chromium, to name but a few. While Angola lacks South Africa's industrial development, its untapped resources in oil and iron ore especially are believed to be greater than South Africa's.

After giving repeated assurances that she was not going to pull out of her colonial territories, Lisbon is now hinting that she may have to turn Mozambique over to a government dominated by the guerrilla front FRELIMO and get out. Such a decision could lead the die-hards in South Africa to protect core interests by invading southern Mozambique, and their counterparts in Angola to execute a coup against Lisbon to safeguard white government against a similar decision there. *NATO's objective will not be to back up the die-hards, but to contain them, giving scope for the development of Spínola-style liberal forces under hothouse conditions.*

Pressure Stepped Up On Rhodesia

Now that the Portuguese territories have been put into motion, Rhodesia is next on the agenda. After years of verbal attacks and half-hearted sanctions against the Smith regime, effective pressures are now being brought to bear for the first time:

- The U.S. Senate voted to restore the embargo on Rhodesian chrome.
- The U.S. Treasury this week ordered Air Rhodesia's New York office closed for sanctions-breaking activities which funnelled millions of U.S. tourist dollars to Rhodesia annually.
- Britain's Labour government prosecuted a sanctions breaker for the first time in April.

•The Dutch Anti-Apartheid Movement this week cracked a sanctions-breakers' code, exposing six Dutch and three Danish firms involved in handling thousands of tons of Rhodesian tobacco annually.

• Eleven Commonwealth governments are giving aid to clownish President Kaunda in Zambia to ensure that the Rhodesia-Zambia border remains closed.

•Guerrilla operations organized by the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) are entrenched and spreading from Rhodesia's northeast, which has been declared a "free-fire" zone.

•Joint ZANU/FRELIMO operations now straddle the railroad from Umtali to the port of Beira and are thrusting southward toward another vital rail link from Malvern to the port of Lourenço Marques. Indeed, Rockefeller's Institute for Strategic Studies in London has warned of escalating guerrilla warfare "beyond Rhodesia's ability to contain."

Smith Regime Squeezed

As the Smith regime is increasingly squeezed between advancing guerrillas at home and international economic sanctions, it deludes itself with negotiations with Tom Muzorewa, head of the nonviolent African National Congress. Smith would dearly love to settle accounts with Muzorewa to relieve pressure on his government—but he cannot. Smith's power rests upon his ability to guarantee white government in perpetuity. Even Muzorewa's minimum demand is the overturning of precisely that guarantee. Any settlement they reach will be based on self-deception and cannot survive. It may, however, buy time for the building of biracial liberal forces which can replace the Smith government at the right moment.

The Vorster government in neighboring South Africa is also getting the pressure treatment, although it is far less vulnerable. The effective pressure here is actually the fears aroused by the developments in Rhodesia and the Portuguese territories.

Rockefeller's Anti-Imperialist Harry Oppenheimer

For years the CIA has nurtured the fledgling liberal forces in South Africa which can either join with the "enlightened" wing of the ruling National Party or, if necessary, replace the "Nat" government altogether. Multimillionaire Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of the sprawling Anglo-American (and nearly 70 other corporations) is the leading Rockefeller ally on the scene, operating among South African whites through his *Rand Daily Mail* and his Progressive Party.

Last month's elections brought five new Progressives into Parliament, including a top official of Anglo-American, to join the lone Helen Suzman. A number of Progressives who lost the elections ran strong; and the leadership of the likeminded reform wing of the United Party was elected in greater strength. These are the forces in South Africa which regard the politics of butcher Spínola as a model to emulate.

The Rockefeller faction has sought to channel the political motion of the mainly black working class over the past three years by actually creating a drive for unionization and union recognition. Their intent is to provide the newly emerging union leaders with the training which only the most advanced counterinsurgent British and American union leaderships can provide. The drive for unionization has been organized through a network of pressure and propaganda fronts ranging from the domestic student-run Wages Commissions to British trade-union and parliamentary inquiries. Such a strategy would have been unthinkable if not for the coincident need of big capital to upgrade layers of black labor to safeguard profits.