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ANC-SWA



“At last. Now we can get on with the party.”

THE MULUNGUSHI REFORMS

Running like a silver thread through President Kaunda's historic address at Mulungushi last Friday to UNIP's National Council is the constant reference to the need for economic independence to make political independence a reality. In the words of the President: 'political independence without matching economic independence is meaningless. It is economic independence that brings in its wake social, cultural and scientific progress of man'.

Zambians must be masters of their own economic and political destiny. That was the crux of the speech. The economic changes outlined by the President are far-reaching, and open up possibilities of yet greater changes to come.

For too long the fruits of Zambia's soil and Zambian sweat have gone into the pockets of Shareholders and Directors in foreign countries. The time is long overdue for Zambians themselves to benefit from their own resources. The Mulungushi reforms are a first step towards this end.

Among other things, the State will take over 51% of shares in 25 specified Companies, compel all foreign Companies, including the Mines, to invest at least 50% of their profits in Zambia; curtail the amount of credit granted to expatriate business-men by Finance Institutions; give Government contracts worth less than K100,000 to Zambians only; refuse a renewal of current licences to Commercial and Industrial enterprises owned by expatriates in rural areas; and promote the growth of Zambian business enterprises especially in such areas.

This is not a Socialist programme. Its immediate beneficiaries will be the rising class of Zambian Traders, Contractors and Industrialists. But the long-term consequences are bound to have a wider significance.

Firms in which Zambians have a controlling interest will employ a large and growing proportion of Zambians in responsible positions. The existing practice, whereby non-Zambians monopolise managerial and technical posts, will no longer be tolerated.

The expansion of the public sector, as outlined at Mulungushi, will enable the State to plan the national economy more effectively than at present. Capital and labour resources can be diverted to underdeveloped regions. This will reduce the enormous gap between town and country, which is the main reason for the big and disturbing migration of peasants to the urban centres.

By insisting that at least 50% of profits must be ploughed back into Zambian enterprise, the government hopes that the rate of economic growth will keep pace with the increase of population. Experience elsewhere has shown that a mixed economy of public and private enterprise can achieve a high rate of growth and attract capital from abroad.

Given the guarantees outlined by the President, foreign Capitalists need not be deterred from investing in Zambia. They must accept a ceiling on their profits, but will receive in return the security of partnership with the State.

Two major principles underly the reforms. One is that the era of crude exploitation has been brought to an end. That applies also to Zambian Capitalists. 'I do not want them to get rich at the expense of the rest of the nation', the President said. Exploitation was wrong, he added: 'We will not glorify it here in Zambia'. He emphasised that he did not propose to create a Zambian capitalism.

The other principle is that political and economic power must rest in the same hands - in the hands of the Zambian people. Only in this way could Zambia become truly independent, and steel itself adequately for the tasks and dangers that face it, internally and from the White minority regimes in the south.

We welcome the Mulungushi reforms as a great forward step towards a genuine democracy and independence. Under Dr. Kaunda's dynamic leadership, Zambia has initiated a course that will affect the destinies of people throughout the continent.

* * * *

BATTLE FOR THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE

As the vanguard of the forces of ZAPU and Umkhonto We Sizwe is engaging the enemy in different fronts in Zimbabwe, MAYIBUYE is engaged in the task of informing you about the progress on the battle field. The racist regimes in Southern Africa are dishing out their propaganda and slander through its radio, press and other media. It is intensifying its battle for the minds of the people against the forces of freedom. Through the medium of MAYIBUYE we have to counteract this virulent propaganda of the imperialist press whose interests are being threatened by the sacrifice and determined efforts of our people in Southern Africa.

Progressive mankind and all men of goodwill have made known their support for our cause. This has been very encouraging indeed. But on the other hand as the tempo of our just war of liberation increases, so does the hostility of the enemy's propaganda. To counter these lies MAYIBUYE has to come out regularly. This task cannot be fulfilled without your help. In the past we have appealed to you for funds but now the appeal is rather more URGENT.

Contribute towards the advancement of the cause of freedom in Southern Africa. The enemy is using his press and radio to wage a psychological war to delude the people and misinform them about the struggle at the war front. You can only get the TRUTH about the struggle and the situation in Southern Africa from MAYIBUYE.

KEEP MAYIBUYE ALIVE. Send all contributions to:

"MAYIBUYE",
African National Congress of (S.A.),
P.O. Box 1791,
LUSAKA. ZAMBIA.

* * * *

A VICTORY FOR AFRICA AND THE
TRUE SPIRIT OF SPORT

"When grass-hoppers kick in unison they
break the pot."

(AN AFRICAN PROVERB)

The International Olympic Committee this week announced the exclusion of South Africa from the Mexico Olympics, reversing its ill-considered February decision taken at Grenoble that South Africa could compete in the Mexico Games.

The African National Congress of South Africa wishes to express its sincere appreciation of the principled stand taken by the Supreme Council of African Sports and all those countries and individuals who promised not to participate in the Mexico Games if South Africa were admitted. We wish also to make special thanks to the Mexico Government and its Sports Council, their role in this was a very great one indeed. The uncertainty as to whether the Games would be held or not, must have caused a great inconvenience in the preparations. We hope and wish that the Olympic meeting in their country will be even a greater success.

We are certain that racist South Africa's re-admission was a carefully planned manoeuvre on the part of sections of the International Olympic Committee's leadership. Knowing the oppressive nature of the South African racist regime, and knowing also the governments of the world who are overtly or covertly friendly towards the South African regime, it is not necessary for us, here, to go into this matter in detail. Suffice it to re-emphasise that it was, in fact, a well calculated manoeuvre intended to delude and deceive the International Community. It was indeed a shocking state of affairs that those holding positions of authority should place in jeopardy the fund of goodwill that the Olympic Games usually generate by behaving in such an utterly irresponsible manner.

The reversal of the decision to re-admit South Africa has done three things: it has restored the debased image of the Games. Secondly, it has shown the reactionaries everywhere who have frustrated progressive world opinion in its attempt to punish South Africa for its evil policies of racism that they cannot always get away with their evil deeds. Thirdly, the benefits of this squabble will be immense indeed. From now on we hope sane counsel, more attuned to the 20th Century might prevail within the IOC itself. South Africa now has two alternatives: its sportsmen will either repudiate their racist leaders and form sporting associations on a truly non-racial basis or be doomed to dispirited games of jukskei in their own backyard.

To our brothers and sisters in South Africa, we would like to say that the fight is still on. Do not be deceived by those who expressed themselves in favour of participating in these games on an apartheid basis. All that they would have succeeded in becoming was well expressed by Mr. Andre Hombessa, Chairman of the Supreme Council for Sports in Africa:

"The/...

"The Black men", he said, "will be like trained monkeys who would be shown at the fair; and who would go back to the forest once the party was over". Surely, you would not have liked this to happen to you?

Indeed those who declared themselves in favour are well known "Uncle Toms" who depend on the evil system of apartheid for their livelihood. Take for instance, Mr. Nkosi, who has expressed himself in favour of apartheid in sports: he is a Welfare Officer and salaried Sports Organiser for the mines, the most exploitative industry in South Africa which does not even allow Africans to organise Trade Unions.

Remember too that our spokesmen in sports like Dennis Brutus were forced to leave the country because of the brutality the South African Government unleashed against them. Since the Olympic Games were formed in Paris in 1894 we have been excluded, but now the racist Whites are experiencing what we have experienced in the past 74 years. But now, that the White sportsmen know what it is to perish unseen, we hope they will do something about it. The hypocrisy of the South African racists has at last caught up with them. They will have to choose between their racism and enjoying international participation in sports. They cannot have it both ways. That is the message of the revocation of South Africa's participation in the forth coming Olympic Games

That also is the message of the African National Congress of South Africa when, referring to the decision to review South Africa's re-admission to the Olympic Games, hailed it as "a forceful demonstration of the power and effectiveness of united action by Africa."

* * * *

MINI-OUTLOOK:

"South African Olympic Committee President, Frank Braun today proposed a "mini-Olympics" for South Africa now that the country has been excluded from the Mexico Games. Fifty South African sportsmen, representing the main Olympic sports, should be sent to Australia in December-January to compete against a side selected from the Australian Olympic team, Mr. Braun said in a newspaper interview.

He added that a New Zealand team should also be invited to take part in the series of tests, which would be repeated in South Africa in 1970....

In another move designed to compensate for South Africa's expulsion from the Games, the Federation for Youth and Sport has decided to hold a "Republican Sports festival" every five years....

In Lausanne, Switzerland, the IOC said the number of votes against South Africa participating in the Mexico Games had risen to 46, with 14 in favour and two abstentions". — Reuter.

- TIMES OF ZAMBIA, APRIL 26, 1968

* * * *

THE SOUTH WEST AFRICA DEBACLE .. By Ndab'ezitha

The non-event of the year has happened. This is the much-publicised attempt of the United Nations to land in South West Africa and wrest the administration from the illegal control by South Africa. Freedom lovers in Africa, and all progressive forces will be saddened by this development. Indeed, they will be tempted to fulminate against the United Nations for its impotence.

But instead of launching a virulent attack on the United Nations, we had better examine why it is ineffective in South West Africa. Of central importance in this regard is the fact that the United Nations is a Western tool. In the Security Council the veto is largely in Western hands. Moreover, most of the United Nations' personnel and finances come from Western quarters. Herein lies the reason for the United Nations' failure. All along, the Western Powers have shied away from effective action against South Africa. Britain is the main stumbling block, because of her heavy economic interests. Last week we had occasion to refer to Britain's reluctance to act on Rhodesia because of her investments in the Republic. This economic stake makes her block all United Nations action on Southern Africa, for South Africa is the hub of the unholy Alliance - Rhodesia and Portugal being but junior partners.

Other Western Powers support Britain's position. They, too, profit from our exploitation. But there are other factors, apart from the economic, which play a part. With the Asian people bent on liberating themselves from foreign rule, and President Nasser asserting closing the Suez Canal, Southern Africa assumes a new strategic importance in Western contingency planning. This is the only place in Africa where Western interests are firmly anchored and entrenched. In the event of a major war between East and West, they can rely on Southern Africa. In practical terms, this means reliance on South Africa since she is the leader of the unholy alliance.

Now, for South Africa to remain strong and reliable, the West must ensure the preservation of the existing socio-economic-political order in Southern Africa. If Rhodesia, Angola and Mozambique and South West Africa fall to the liberation movements, South Africa would stand naked. She would fall easy victim to African forces operating all along her extensive borders. Consequently, she would no longer be able to serve Western interests.

For these reasons, the Western Powers have not allowed the United Nations to act on South West Africa - or on other areas in Southern Africa. They have deliberately left the United Nations powerless to implement its decisions.

And the South African Government is aware of all these factors. Its Afrikaans mouthpieces have warned the United Nations in no uncertain terms that it was wasting its time, energy and money on South West Africa. On March/...

March 25, 1968 long before the recent United Nations trip, Die Transvaler gloatingly reminded the United Nations that the members "who have the military power necessary for the implementation of the decision (to take over South West Africa from South Africa), are not prepared to act against the Republic." And on April 5, the same newspaper scoffed at the arrival in Lusaka of the Council without soldiers, and said:

"...it is this fact which clearly shows that the United Nations is absolutely toothless. Decisions can be taken in New York with imposing majorities, but the power to implement them is simply not there. This is why this (the South West African Council's trip) is a mere tilting in the air."

It then warned the Council to stay put in New York so as to spare itself "a major humiliation."

That the Council nonetheless undertook its trip despite this clear warning is not surprising. They were motivated by the Afro-Asians' desire to end South African colonialism. Their trip was meant to be a gesture of solidarity with the struggling people of South West Africa. Alas, the trip became the non-event of the year.

* * * *

ZAPU-ANC JOINT COMMUNIQUE

Careful investigation has now revealed that there are 1,700 South African troops in support of the Rhodesian settlers in the areas of current fighting alone. These constitute nearly two-fifths of the Rhodesian regime's regular troops. The current areas of guerrilla fighting are Umvukwes, Bindura, Mazoe, Sinoia, Karoi, and even 20 miles north-west of Salisbury.

Attacks on enemy positions by ZAPU-ANC guerrilla forces are continuing. On Monday, April 15th, two ZAPU-ANC guerrillas led the enemy forces into an ambush near Karoi and the two of them killed seven of the enemy troops.

The Rhodesian regime's troops in the Mazoe area have resorted to killing African herd-boys and African lone travellers in order to make up for their losses in their engagement with our guerrilla forces.

In Salisbury, some European children have had to be shifted from the general hospital to wards in the Princess Margaret Hospital for Coloureds in order to make room for the increasing number of Rhodesian and South African troop casualties from the bush battles.

Meanwhile, families of white farmers in the fighting and adjacent areas have been strongly advised by the regime to sleep in hotels in towns, particularly those in Salisbury, and not at their farms.

(ENDS)

April, 23, 1968

* * * *

ENTRENCHING WHITE SUPREMACY

- By Nkwenkwe

Facing both ways, the Rhodesian Constitutional Commission has repudiated apartheid on the one hand, and, on the other hand, refuses to contemplate African majority rule now or in the future. The draft constitution is said to be unacceptable to the settlers' extreme right wing, while the liberation movement will treat it with the scorn it deserves. But we cannot yet say whether the draft will provide a basis for a negotiated settlement between Britain and the rebel regime.

In terms of African representation, the draft does not differ greatly from the present system - which corresponds to the details of the 1961 constitution - or from the proposals worked out on the Tiger by Harold Wilson and the rebel leader Smith. The similarity of the franchise arrangements adds to the suspicion that the Rhodesian Front hopes to regain legitimacy while retaining White supremacy.

Rhodesia is now governed by a legislative assembly of 65 members. Fifty are elected by an overwhelming majority of White voters on a common or 'A' roll; and fifteen on a 'B' roll, which marks the practical limit of African representation. Chiefs and headmen qualify automatically for the A roll; approved African ministers of religion and 'kraal heads' for the B roll. Other Africans can obtain the vote by conforming to certain property and educational standards. In effect, all but a few hundred Whites are on the A roll, while all Africans, apart from some 2,000 appear on the B roll.

The Tiger draft proposed a legislature of 67 members: 33 elected on a common and virtually White roll; 17 by White voters only; and 17 by voters on the B roll. In comparison with the existing Constitution, African representation under the Tiger scheme was to be increased from 23% to 25%.

Another reason given by the Commission for rejecting majority rule is that it would place power in the hands of the Shona, and so increase 'racial' (i.e. inter-tribal) tension. The Commission consequently recommends parity also as between Shona and Ndebele.

The Commission proposes an Assembly of 80 seats, of which 40 are to be reserved for the Settlers, 20 for Africans (10 each for the Shona and Ndebele), while 20 are to be elected by voters on a common roll. The system is further complicated by the recommendation that the 20 reserved African seats should be filled by three groups of voters: six members by some 100,000 urban Africans; two by a potential number of 15,000 African voters in African 'purchase areas'; and twelve by electoral colleges of chiefs, headmen and local councils in the tribal trust lands.

Both the Tiger and the Constitutional Commission drafts allow Africans 25% of the seats in the assembly and promise them increased representation. The Tiger draft proposes an eventual 75% of the seats for Africans; the Commission's 'parity' principle sets the limit at only 50%. But this must be regarded as mere window dressing. The Settlers' government has always insisted/...

insisted on having the sole right to lay down the qualifications for the vote.

The Tiger draft retained the existing qualifications, but proposed to give Africans over 30 years an opportunity to join the B roll; while all adult Whites would qualify to vote for the seats reserved for Whites. The Constitutional Commission proposes a sharp increase in the means test for the common roll - an increase of 30% in the incomes test and of 100% in the property test; while only a secondary education to 'O' level will earn a reduction of the means test. The intention is clearly to allow only members of the African middle class to qualify for the common roll.

White supremacists look to the chiefs for their main support. The Tiger draft included a senate of 12 Whites and 14 Africans, six of whom were to be chiefs. The Constitutional Commission suggests a senate of 12 Whites and 12 Africans, six of whom are to be chiefs. If the latter vote with the Whites, they will have an 18 to 6 majority, as compared with the 18 to 8 under the Tiger draft.

The difference between the two drafts is clearly negotiable. All that stands in the way of a settlement is Wilson's dictum: 'No independence before majority rule'. But the British Conservative Party has never accepted this principle. If a referendum endorses the Commission's draft, it can be presented as a 'national' approval of what is a slightly right wing version of the Tiger draft. In that event, a Tory government might refuse to allow 'NIBMAR' (no independence before majority rule) to stand in the way of admitting the settlers back into the commonwealth fold.

This will not be easy. Any such decision might lead to the breaking up of the Commonwealth, and will probably be rejected by a majority of United Nations members.

As against these disadvantages, the British right wing, the Rhodesian Settlers and South African White supremacists are clearly anxious to deprive the Freedom Fighters of the strong moral argument that they are fighting a rebel regime. Strategic and economic considerations may yet give the Constitutional Commission's draft a greater significance than it appears to possess at present.

Representation in the Rhodesian Legislature:

<u>Legislative Assembly</u>	<u>At Present</u>	<u>Tiger Draft (1966)</u>	<u>Commission Draft (1968)</u>
Common Roll (mainly White)	50	33	20
B Roll (mainly African)	15	17	-
Reserved White seats	-	17	40
Reserved African seats	-	-	20
TOTAL SEATS	65	67	80

Racial Control %:

African	23	25	25
White	77	75	75

Senate

White	-	12	12
African: chiefs	-	6	6
voters	-	8	6
Nominated	-	-	7
TOTAL SEATS		26	31

* * * *

"PHONEY 'FANCY FRANCHISE'

.....The inevitable consequence is that the gap between the races 'which has hitherto preserved European dominance in the electorate' is widened.

In the light of such blatant machinery for keeping the Africans in subjection - with just a narrow loophole through which it is hoped to entice a handful of 'responsible' and 'civilised' 'middle-class' Africans - Dunn's sharp condemnation of Central African 'partnership' is fully justified.

'Let us stop deluding ourselves about Central Africa,' he appeals. 'Its present leaders are not trying to direct it towards any new form of race relationship. The whole aim of policy is to keep things as they are for as long as possible. Such plans as there are for African political advancement are intended only to confuse and frustrate African opposition, to justify the white community's present privileges in its own eyes and in those of the world, and to engage the support of the British Government....in practice the whites keep their civilisation behind a stockade and allow the Blacks only a small share even of the material benefits derived from development.'

- JACK WODDIS - AFRICA: THE LION AWAKES.

* * * *

1ST MAY : DAY OF STRUGGLE FOR

DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS - By R.E. Matajo

This 1st of May is its 82nd anniversary. It was in 1884 when the American Congress of Trade Unions resolved that May 1st 1886 be fixed as the target date to demand the reduction of working hours to an eight hour working day.

They sang:

We're summoning our forces from shipyard, shop and mill,
Eight hours for work,
Eight hours for rest,
Eight hours for what we will!

Those were the days when the American workers toiled from 12 to 16 hours per day. Their resolution gained enthusiastic support from the workers. Huge mass meetings endorsed the resolution. The movement for a shorter working day was so great that by 1886 about 30,000 workers had won a 9 hour day.

1st May Day Martyrs!

On May 1st, 1886 about 350,000 American workers downed tools. Demonstrations of 25,000 marched in New York. In Chicago, the American ruling class used terrorist tactics to intimidate the workers; the police threw a bomb into the demonstrators and blamed the workers' leaders for the loss of life. Eight workers' leaders were tried and convicted on a framed up charge. Four were hanged.

But the fight and the sacrifice was not in vain. 185,000 workers out of the 350,000 that struck that day gained the 8 hour day the same day or soon afterwards. For the other 200,000 workers, working hours were reduced to a 9 hour working day.

Thus May first became associated with the struggle for 8 hour working day. 1st of May - International Labour Day. The International Workingmen's Congress meeting in Paris on 14th July, 1889 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the storming of the Bastille which started the French Revolution decided to set aside May First as the day of struggle for working class unity and rights.

Six years later in 1895 the Johannesburg Trades Council organised the 1st May Day demonstration in Johannesburg. It gradually extended to other towns in South Africa. Cape Town held its first May Day demonstration in 1902. In 1910 Tom Mann the great English workers leader together with Comrade Bill Andrews led the 1st of May demonstration in Johannesburg. In 1914, the Cape Town Social Democratic Federation organised a big 1st of May demonstration and protested against the Riotous Assemblies Bill. A year later in 1915 during the 1st World War the Social Democratic Federation at its 1st of May demonstration which consisted of peoples of all colours resolved/...

resolved to "fight for unity of all peoples and the abolition of capitalist exploitation, brutality and bloodshed." So, 1st of May took root in South Africa as it took root all over the world.

The International working class lost many of their best sons and daughters on the 1st of May mass demonstrations in Paris, Berlin, Rome, Budapest, Peking, Tokyo, New York and Johannesburg. In the 1920's, and 1930's the workers marched not only for shorter hours and workers' rights but for the defence of the U.S.S.R., the 1st workers' Socialist Republic. They marched for work, bread and peace.

1st of May 1928 saw a great demonstration of Africans in Johannesburg together with some White and Coloured workers marching behind banners and "Workers Of All Races Unite!" May Day 1931 was the day when thousands of Africans and White unemployed marched together shouting slogans: "We Want Bread" and clashed with Oswald Pirow's, the then Minister of Justice, thugs. In following years May Day saw joint demonstrations in the main centres of South Africa.

1st of May has been written into the history of both the National Liberatory and working class movement. On May 1st 1950 the A.N.C. together with other organisations issued a call for a general strike in protest against the Nationalist government's attacks on the peoples organisation. The response of the workers was magnificent. Factories were brought to a standstill, in the big cities, above all, in the Witwatersrand. It was there that 'Blakie' Swarts', the then Minister of Justice, police thugs, ran amok stabbing with fixed bayonets and shooting at the people. Eighteen (18) Africans were killed.

It was in protest against this massacre, the Suppression of Communism Legislation, Group Areas Act that the A.N.C. initiated Freedom Day - 26th June. June 26th 1950 saw even a bigger strike, bigger demonstrations - 1st of May International Labour Day, International Workers Solidarity Day united with our very own Freedom Day June 26th.

This year as in previous years the World Federation of Trade Unions calls on the International Working Class to demonstrate for Working Class Solidary, to stop the brutal war by the American militarists in Vietnam, against all imperialist war mongers in the Middle East, against colonialism, race and national oppression. For Peace and Social Security for all workers. In Tanzania, Soviet Union; China, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Poland, East Germany, Rumania, Yugoslavia and now Zambia, 1st of May is a public holiday. In many other countries where the workers do not rule yet but where their organisations are powerful 1st of May is a Workers Holiday and they march in the streets with their banners and demands for Peace and Social Security.

More and more workers the world over have adopted the 1st of May as Labour Day. Mr. Wilson Chakulija General Secretary of Zambian Congress of Trade Unions issued a call to the Zambian workers to demonstrate for the first time on 1st of May in their work-clothes to do homage to the miners killed by/...

killed by police during protests against bad working conditions and for the right to establish Trade Unions - the miners at Luanshya and Mufulira in 1935 and 1940.

In our South Africa - the White Trade Unionists having betrayed working class principles have also given up 1st of May but for the African, Coloured, Indian Workers May Day will remain a day of struggle for democratic rights. They cannot demonstrate today, but, they know time and the way is with them and against their oppressors!!

LONG LIVE 1ST OF MAY INTERNATIONAL WORKING CLASS SOLIDARITY DAY!

* * * *

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Cedar Ward, Halliwick Hosp.,
Friern Barnet Road,
LONDON N.11, England.

Dear Sir,

I have just read the text of your leaflet "We Are At War".

I myself am a Pacifist, and deplore Apartheid (segregation) in/by any means or form. Even though I am a Pacifist I cannot deplore this text as much as my Pacifism cries out against killing.

The Black people of Southern and Western Africa have suffered far too long by White fascists, and bloodshed seems to be the only answer. I only hope this can and will be avoided.

I am only 17 and White, yet I can feel the sufferings of your people and my brothers.

If it is of any consolation to you (which I doubt) there are many people in England who feel the same.

Please don't make the same mistake as us in England have, of putting too much hope in the Labour M.P.'s although some have enough principle to speak out, but the majority, are just concerned with their own pockets.

I cannot really express what I really feel and want to say except good luck and MAJORITY RULE FOR AFRICA.

Best wishes,

ALLAN HARRISON.

THERE are hundreds of people who can no longer withhold their views on the evil system of apartheid and racial discrimination. Hundreds more want to play their part in the abolition of that abominable system. The above letter embraces both standpoints. --- EDITOR.

* * * *

NEWS FROM THE FRONT - From News-Spotter

Last week two of our guerrillas routed a squad of enemy soldiers near the Rhodesian town of Karoi. Thoroughly outwitted by the guerrillas, the enemy has during the past few weeks resorted to terrorising the African population in Zimbabwe. And from South Africa came fresh and menacing threats of aggression against Zambia.

As the present offensive of the ZAPU and ANC guerrillas entered its seventh week, it became quite clear that our boys are made of sterner stuff as compared to the enemy. Enemy officers privately admitted that the guerrillas were efficient. But complained that the frustrating development was that the African population was giving shelter to and hiding the guerrillas.

Yet when it came to tactics our guerrillas clearly demonstrated that they are 'super'. A small clash that took place some time last week gives a clear indication of this. Two guerrillas dressed in mufty went into a shop to buy. Having done so they picked up their weapons from where they had hidden them and proceeded towards the base. However, they soon noticed that they were being persued by a squad of enemy soldiers. But they decided they wouldn't run away. Using a clever ruse they lured their persuers into an ambush and then they let fly with their submachine guns. Soon seven enemy soldiers lay dead and the rest fled. There's evidence of high morale and guts for you!

No one in Salisbury believes anymore the casualty statistics released by the Smith rebel regime. However, in a desperate bid to show up something, the Rhodesian and South African army has been increasingly engaged in indiscriminate shooting of African herd boys and villagers. Helicopters carrying soldiers have descended on African villagers and their provocative sorties have caused the frightened peasants to flee into the bush. The racist army alleging that they are terrorists then opens fire killing innocent people. However, far from being intimidated, the anger of the people has been greatly aroused by these brutalities.

Objective observers in Rhodesia speak of an atmosphere that is as thick as a mist with tension. The White racists are gripped with fear. To conceal their high casualty rate they have resorted to the miserable tactic of hospitalising their wounded at night. But so great is the overcrowding at hospitals due to admission of wounded army personnel that in some, tents have been pitched to house the convalescing. In Salisbury, the regime even suspended its racism and had European sick children admitted to a Coloured hospital so as to ease congestion.

The hotels in Salisbury and other big towns are full. The new inmates are White farming families who have evacuated their farms from areas of guerrilla activity.

Meanwhile/...

Meanwhile, new threats against Zambia have emerged from South Africa. Looking for a Causus Belli, the South African Deputy Minister of Police, Lourens Muller said on April 24th, that his government had information that further groups of African guerrillas had gathered in Zambia. He added that there was evidence that these guerrillas were fully equipped with the most modern weapons and equipment. Taken against the background of recent threats by South Africa to stage an Israel-type of reprisals against countries which are allegedly harbouring guerrillas, this statement was seen as a stepping up of psychological preparation of the white population for aggressive action against Zambia.

The South African authorities no longer speak of "police action" in Rhodesia but are now openly admitting that the South African army has been committed to action there. Reports indicate that the present strength of South African troops in Rhodesia is 1,700. Fresh reinforcements were rushed there in recent weeks to help relieve an overstrained Rhodesian army which had been compelled to put in the field even its Territorials composed of Bank, Insurance clerks and other key functionaries in industry and commerce.

* * * *

WHAT OTHERS SAY:

Under the title "GUERRILLA WAR TAKES NEW TURN IN RHODESIA" Commonwealth Correspondent of the Observer of April 21, 1968 writes:

"The seriousness of the guerrilla attacks in Rhodesia has grown with the decision of the South African exile movement, the African National Congress (ANC), to co-operate with the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) to help bring down the Smith regime.

The dangers of reprisal attacks against Zambia by Rhodesia and South Africa are bound to grow with guerrilla successes. It is this dialectic that makes the Zambesi frontier so explosive.

The present battle against the guerrillas is now in its sixth week. In all previous engagements the combined Rhodesian and South African forces have been able to eliminate the insurgents in a matter of days.....

But the Rhodesians have clearly been taken by surprise by the tenacity and fighting skill of the guerrillas.

For the Rhodesians, one of the most disturbing factors must be the increasing readiness of the local African populations to hide the guerrillas and feed them. Without such aid it would have been impossible for them to continue their operations for five weeks...."

* * * *

+++++ MERCENARIES ENROL TO FIGHT IN RHODESIA +++++
+ Between 80 and 100 of the former Congo mercenaries recently +
+ released from detention in Ruanda have been enrolled to +
+ leave for Rhodesia soon where they will join the combined +
+ South African-Rhodesian troops now fighting our guerrillas. +
+++++