

Afrikaner control of government from 1948, was therefore of special interest to the Rockefeller cabal.

By building relations with the emerging Afrikaner businessmen, the Rockefeller cabal was then able to win over Afrikaners in government, the universities and the trade unions who were willing to destroy Afrikaner values. For example, Jan Marais of the Federale Group of Companies founded the Trust Bank in 1954 and made it into one of the big five, using the most advanced business methods. He was courted and won by the Rockefeller establishment. This proud holder of the 1966 Harvard Business Statesman Award sits on the board of Rocky's Goodyear Tyre and Rubber in South Africa. Anton Rupert, who began as a university lecturer, founded the Rembrandt Group which is today a massive multi-national. David Rockefeller made him a personal friend.

Democracy a "Luxury"

To most Afrikaners, such men are heroes. As one commented on Rupert, "He began with nothing. Here we were, a country that was feeling rather persecuted for our (racial) politics, and finally one of us was making it." Here are precisely the men who can bust the Afrikaner working class while appearing to lead it in the name of "racial justice." While maintaining impeccable Afrikaner political connections and keeping clear of too close association in public with English business, they use the Anglo-American counterinsurgency arsenal of John Rawlings Rees and Frank Kitson. Rupert's leading role was reaffirmed to big business by his recent appearance on the cover of Business Week. His contacts with the more powerful English magnate Harry Oppenheimer are far more significant than he will admit. Ruthless Rupert maintains a low profile. A great believer in boardroom democracy, he thinks dictatorship is desirable beyond the boardroom doors: "Democracy is a luxury only the rich countries can afford."

ETHIOPIA: MILITARY TUSSELES WITH LABOR MOVEMENT

Oct. 5 (IPS)--Ethiopia's Armed Forces Coordinating Committee (AFCC) is experiencing growing pains as it advances from the CIA's script for a progressive military coup to the more complex CIA scenario for consolidating a fascist society. Although the New York Times adopts a motherly tone in editorializing that "they (AFCC) have not yet recovered the sure touch that marked their revolution for the task of coping with the soaring expectations aroused by that revolution," the Rockefeller attempt to ram a "new era" down the Ethiopians' throats in fact run into a temporary snag.

Setbacks in organizing students and worker support have brought about a staccato-like series of governmental crises in which officials are appointed and then removed at an amusingly rapid pace. Rumors to the effect that current leader Aman Andam had been arrested were spreading so quickly throughout Addis Ababa that the AFCC had to initiate threats against "forces of internal dissension," and Andam had to make the rounds of government employees to convince them that he was still alive and kicking.

Organizing "constituencies" to accept fascism, even with the CIA's help, is never easy; and the military originally attempted to bypass the dilemmas they now face by convincing Haile Selassie himself to put on a new, modern fascist face. One Ethiopian Colonel, Abaderash Tessema, braved the fresh air of non-secrecy long enough to spill the beans to the Sunday London Times. Noting that the AFCC had tried to deal with Selassie, Tessema explained, "We reminded him of the Shah of Persia who made a 'revolution from the top' when his throne and his country was endangered by 'revolution from the bottom.'"

But the Lion of Judah didn't bite.

The AFCC alternative to a fascist Selassie proceeded at first without a hitch. From February until the overthrow of Selassie in mid-September, the students and workers organized in the Confederation of Ethiopian Labor Unions (CELU) helped usher in the CIA's new age, despite occasional brute military suppression of strikes. Only recently have these groups begun to balk at the obvious slave labor aspects of the AFCC's fascist austerity program. Students have questioned the idea of a year of free national service; and the trade union chiefs have not relished the banning of strikes and public demonstrations.

AFCC Attacks Labor

While student discontent has gone only so far as to hold inconsequential mass meetings in public stadiums in the face of military bans, the "threat from organized labor" spurred AFCC immoderation. The so-called Provisional Military Administrative Council of AFCC arrested the president, vice-president, and secretary-general of CELU Sept. 24 for agitating organized labour to disrupt the peaceful change in Ethiopia." CELU President Ato Beyene Solomon was accused of "having been handpicked by the former regime," and of threatening to "ruin the economy of the country which has already been deteriorating even without any industrial unrest....conniving...to suppress the aspirations of organized labour in Ethiopia.... diverting for personal use part of a half a million dollars donated by a foreign organization for the construction of CELU headquarters in Addis Ababa." The Washington Post identified this "foreign organization" as the African-American Labor Center, the AFL-CIO's organizing body for Africa.

The CIA Exposes Itself

Whatever the truth of the charges of personal corruption against Solomon and his two cronies, the overall import of the accusations is precisely on target --even if the AFCC has a topsy-turvy understanding of them. For example, in March and April of this year, CELU sparked demonstrations and stoppages in the various transport and dockworker affiliates which crippled an economy already ravaged by astronomical oil import bills and a spreading drought. Without the slightest understanding of even a regional economic program, CELU acted only to sweep duped workers under the CIA-AFCC's rug.

An initial investigation of handpicked labor leaders leads to the conclusion that the Ethiopian labor movement itself virtually was conjured up by Selassie in cooperation with the CIA. Before 1958 when loot-hungry capitalists began to turn their eyes seriously to the African continent, Ethiopian wage workers (who comprised just a tiny portion of the feudally structured, subsistence agriculture economy) came together only in traditional, self-help arrangements and had no legal rights to organize. But capitalist infrastructural modernization required a higher skill level and modern institutions -- including trade unions -- in order to have a small portion of the overall population expedite the beginnings of development.

A mass strike in miniature among textile and sugar workers in 1961-62 gave Selassie the excuse he was looking for to make his kingdom more attractive to Rockefeller. Labor relations codes were introduced to cover both the newly formed CELU and a parallel employers' federation. Thus, corporatist forms existed from the beginning.

In the 1962-65 period, practically the entirety of the CELU leadership -- 400 men in total -- were trained in seminars conducted by the UN-related Interna-

tional Labour Organization, the CIA-infested International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, and the counterinsurgent Friedrich Ebert Foundation from West Germany. In the later 1960s, the African-American Labor Center (AALC), the entry point to Africa for top-level CIA labor agents like Irving Brown, set up shop "to suppress the aspirations of organized labour in Ethiopia." In an interview with IPS, a top-level spokesman for the AALC, pooh-pooed both the extent of AALC activity in Ethiopia and the validity of the AFCC's accusations. Yet the AALC's own publications list an impressive and growing range of activities in Ethiopia, including the building of CELU headquarters not only in Addis Ababa but in the northern city of Asmara!

Viable Fascists

The significance of these accusations is the CIA's attempt to separate viable fascists from the old-style pro-democrats. Most Ethiopian union heads were educated in the mythologies of bourgeois democratic promises to labor and obviously they find it difficult to internalize Rockefeller-determined "necessity." Potential splits within CELU were denied strongly by the AALC spokesman, who also claimed that the Brussels-based ICFTU was "dead set" against the military, and that the AALC itself didn't care overly much for the AFCC honchos.

Although the general strike of its 100,000 members called to protest the arrest of the CELU leaders was a dismal failure, lasting only two hours and attracting few members, CELU remains a thorn in the side of the AFCC, which must choose between further repression or a pullback into some type of military-labor "peoples' government."

MOROCCO'S KING HASSAN USES SAHARA ISSUE TO CREATE POP FRONT FOR CIA

Oct. 5 (IPS)--For the past several months King Hassan of Morocco, aware that his political existence could be snuffed out at any instant, waged a propaganda and diplomatic campaign aimed at "liberating" the Spanish Sahara from Spain's control and making it part of Morocco. In trouble at home, Hassan's real aim was to take the heat off himself by uniting with his CIA-controlled "democratic" opposition against a "common enemy." In maneuvering to save his neck, he consolidated the disparate political forces of Morocco--to prepare the country for the slave labor "development" projects in line with the Rockefeller cabal's plans for the Third World. If Hassan had not paved the way for such "reforms," the CIA would have initiated a classic "progressive military" coup to accomplish the same goal.

Since independence in 1956, one of the recurring demands of the Moroccan opposition has been the liberation and annexation of the Spanish Sahara. While the throne (King Hassan and his predecessor King Mohammed V) usually was able to defuse ferment around this issue, in general the political history of Morocco is one of unrest. Now, caught in the most severe political crisis of his life, Hassan decided to turn the tables and push for annexation of the Spanish Sahara. Thus he began a series of belligerent speeches announcing Morocco's intention to "liberate" the Spanish Sahara militarily. These were accompanied by the deployment of official emissaries to capitals all over the world, making it appear that Hassan was deadly serious.