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Africa Newsletter

Kissinger Activates "Tarbaby Option"

Southern Africa Destabilization Scenario Initiated

July 23 (NSIPS) — With the approach of a second round of meetings between U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and South Africa's Prime Minister Johann Vorster, both South Africa and Rhodesia have been hit with new waves of racial violence. In particular, developments in the Rhodesian guerrilla war and a corresponding pattern of emphasis and "speculation" in Western press reportage on the situation would lead an intelligence analyst to conclude that Henry Kissinger's "Tar-Baby Option" is now very much a "live" option.

First, "Thirty Years' War" scenarios and associated southern African destabilizations mooted for weeks in both official and private "Africa-hand" intelligence circles have begun to materialize in the renewal of obviously-provoked rioting by "black youth" in South Africa, and unprecedented acts of "terrorism" by persons "fleeing in the night" in Rhodesia, promising a significant escalation of the guerrilla war there. Also this week, a "Constitutional Settlement" of the Rhodesian "majority rule" problem imposed by Henry Kissinger with NATO troops became a subject of open discussion in leading Western newspapers for the first time, and continued to prevail over all other items in the regular "leakage" provided to this press service by intelligence network insiders who were exceptionally anxious to pin the blame for the projected bloodbaths on offices other than those of the Secretary of State.

And the clincher: The New York Times in July 18 coverage of the South African settler-regime's problems with racial violence and the falling price of gold, twisted blame for the situation onto "conservative forces" in the United States backing President Gerald Ford and sabotaging Henry Kissinger's "liberal policy toward southern Africa." The latest issue of the gutter-level CounterSpy publication of Marcus Raskin's Institute for Policy Studies similarly "exposed" a "pro-Apartheid" stance now being adopted in Africa's southern cone "by President Ford."

This is the "Tar-Baby Option" of the Rockefeller-Kissinger faction, as its prickly details were outlined to NSIPS by intelligence insiders two weeks ago — to secure the defense of the Rhodesian settler-regime with NATO troops, and topple the Ford Administration in the ensuing waves of "domestic protest."

"The United States and Great Britain," revealed the July 20 New York Times, "seeking to persuade the Rhodesian government to negotiate a transfer to black majority rule, are quietly shaping a joint policy that assures financial aid and property guarantees to the white minority" — admittedly a question of debt instruments stored in certain New York banks. The imposed settlement is intended to prevent a situation in which "the escalating war will produce a radical Marxist black leadership, similar to that in Mozambique," said the Times.

At that very moment, "terrorists" in Rhodesia were acting to ensure an "escalating war." A white restaurant and a white nightclub in downtown Salisbury were blown up on July 20, signifying the deepest penetration of alleged "guerrillas" into the settler-regime's heartland since the Zimbabwe liberation struggle began. Western press sources were quick to report that

government authorities did not consider these unprecedented bombings to be "isolated acts." The Sunday Telegraph of Great Britain added to its "coming war" portrait with a "human interest" story on hundreds of Rhodesian white settlers who have allegedly been smuggled into Great Britain by an underground railway, rather than be drafted for the looming all-out showdown with "the terrorists." If rejected for work passports, they go underground, says the Telegraph, but will not return to Rhodesia "until after majority rule."

A "southern Africa" specialist at the University of California at Los Angeles who claims close contact with William Schaufele, State Department African Affairs chief, has declared that Kissinger will back his "Constitutional Settlement" in Rhodesia with U.S. or NATO troops and that an "escalating war" in Rhodesia for this purpose is "absolutely guaranteed." The specialist, George Bender, speaking to a one-time reporter for a major Midwestern newspaper, reported that "rumor has it, Kissinger told the British that they should topple the Rhodesian regime with force.... Kissinger would like to avoid having the Zimbabwe Liberation Army take power... The problem is, there is no leading black politician who is moderate who is not very, very tainted...."

The July 21 edition of the London Observer put these "rumors" on its front page. According to the Observer, not only is Kissinger's "secret plan" to push Great Britain into a military intervention in Rhodesia, but William Schaufele's six-nation tour of African nations last week was devoted to this plan.

This plan is the "Tar-Baby Option" authored by Anthony Lake and first floated by Henry Kissinger at the NATO chiefs of staff meeting in Oslo, Norway in early April. Anthony Lake, a former advisor to Henry Kissinger during the latter's tenure as Advisor to the President for National Security Affairs, recently gave a briefing on his scenario to a closely guarded meeting of top officials of the Institute for Policy Studies covering both the African and "domestic" features of his plan.

An African expert associated with Nelson Rockefeller subsequently described the scenario as designed to "put the U.S. in an Angola-type situation.... A Middle East sort of thing only Africa... just like Lebanon." The details are clear from Anthony Lake's published book, *The Tar Baby Option, American Policy in Rhodesia*, based on his "prediction" that "the present administration" and "conservative Republicans" will embroil the US and her allies in an African war to secure the apartheid regimes from Marxist revolutions. The consequences will be "race riots" in American ghettos — directly under the control of the Institute for Policy Studies and U.S. Justice Department "field marshal" units commanded by Attorney General Edward Levi. There will be a rising tide of liberal, labor and civil rights protest ensuring that President Ford will be crushed in the November elections.

"Not Kissinger...", insisted George Bender, "he won't be to blame for what happens... don't publish anything to make him look bad.... Whatever happens in Rhodesia will be inevitable... Don't blame Kissinger... that's not it, whatever you write...."