

AFRICA

African States Pull Rug Out From Under Kissinger

Sept. 17 (NSIPS) — African nations, led by Tanzania, this week dealt a decisive blow to Secretary of State Henry Kissinger's plotting of Third World regional wars by pulling the rug from under his attempt to activate such a scenario in southern Africa.

Kissinger had invited himself to Africa to begin "shuttle diplomacy" to provoke war between African nations and the white minority regimes in South Africa and Rhodesia. African nations were onto his game before he arrived, however. At his first stop in Tanzania on Sept. 14, the Secretary was delivered the most deliberate snub of his entire career as an itinerant meddler.

The day before the self-invited guest had scheduled himself to barge into the country, Tanzanian Foreign Minister I. Kaduma suddenly left on an official visit to East Germany. Hours before Kissinger's arrival the official government paper, *The Daily News*, called his trip a "worthless effort" and went on to criticize his policies. "Kissinger is welcome to see the victories of the revolutionary movement so he can go tell the fools in Salisbury (Rhodesia) and Pretoria (South Africa) that their days are numbered. . .," the editorial stated.

Anticipating that Kissinger would rant and rave about communism to justify his African intervention, the editorial added: "It would be stupid to stop communism, if to stop communism means to install puppet regimes. People want revolution, not puppet regimes."

Kissinger was greeted on his arrival in Tanzania's capital, Dar es Salaam, by hundreds of demonstrators chanting "Go home, go home," and waving placards saying "Down with shuttle diplomacy," and "No dialogue with (South African Prime Minister) Vorster." The demonstrators followed Kissinger to his hotel, to keep him in the proper frame of mind.

Kissinger later was allowed to meet with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere for an hour. Nyerere presented him with a six-page statement representing the view of Kissinger's proposals for "peace" in southern Africa taken by the front-line southern African leaders at last week's Dar es Salaam summit. The statement undercuts Kissinger's threat of race war, which had been used to force African nations to accept negotiations with South Africa — with Kissinger as the "wheeler-dealer" in the middle. The document refuses to focus on South Africa as a credible force, and insists that the real issues are apartheid and racial domination. Nyerere demanded that Kissinger support the fundamental issue of freedom from racial domination, or go home: ". . . the U.S., which fought for its own independence," says the statement, ". . . must recognize the same right for the black guerrillas who have taken up arms for their freedom."

"The American government has said that the USA is on the side of freedom from racial domination and colonialism in southern Africa," the statement continued. "Why cannot the American Government also say that if a peaceful transfer of power is impossible because of the intransigence of the racists, then it will be on the side of those who fight for freedom?"

Kissinger could only lamely reply that "Every step we will take in the future will be closely coordinated with the frontline

Presidents." Rumors are circulating in Republican Party circles in this country that Kissinger was sent on his trip that was doomed to fail just to get him out of the country. On Sept. 14, President Ford stated in a television interview that he saw no possibility of success for Kissinger's trip.

After further talks with Kissinger, Nyerere commented at a press conference that "I could even say that I am less hopeful than I was (before meeting the Secretary of State)." When an American reporter persisted in asking questions about Kissinger's well-known phobia about the Cuban presence in Angola, Nyerere exclaimed: "Cuba, Cuba, Cuba. I am fed up with this obsession with Cuba." He then reminded his audience that South African forces had invaded a southern African country and the Angolans called for outside help. "It is preposterous for a nation so powerful as the United States to be so preoccupied with a nation the size of Cuba 90 miles off its shores."

Fomenting Race War

As he left Washington, Kissinger had raised the spectre of race war. "Racial war has begun. . . . If this type of war does not stop immediately, world peace will be threatened." This, he hoped, would force African nations to negotiate with the racist regimes of South Africa and Rhodesia.

On cue, South African Prime Minister Vorster and Rhodesian Prime Minister Smith made tough "no concessions to the blacks" statements to help give Kissinger's threats credibility. Vorster publicly refused to pressure Smith to make concessions, and added: "I am not prepared to share power over myself and my people with any other people, however well disposed they may be." Smith chimed in, saying that his government "can have no truck with some of the political gimmicks that are so much in credence today, things such as one man-one vote or majority rule."

Kissinger's co-conspirators in South Africa are matching these words with action. South African officials have authorized white vigilantes to shoot down blacks, implementing the race war promised by Kissinger. Justice Minister Kruger has openly advised whites to arm themselves, and weapons stores have reportedly sold out their stocks in the past few weeks.

At the Congress of the ruling Nationalist Party of the Orange Free State last week, Kruger explicitly ruled out any change in South Africa's policy of racial segregation: "Historically the white man in South Africa has a position of authority. He is not ready to cede it. . . . There is only one way for Blacks and Whites to live in peace, that's separate development."

Emphasizing their determination to continue carrying out this policy, South African authorities proceeded, just before Kissinger's arrival in their country, to forcefully ship an African community of 45,000 "Tswana tribesmen" to what has been designated as their homeland or "bantustan." According to the scheme, the large "local control" ghettos will be given autonomy in much the same way that the Nazis gave the Warsaw ghetto its "local control."

This particular group of Africans had been peacefully settled in a white-surrounded area for more than a century. They have now been shipped by truck to a bantustan shack settlement in an uninhabitable and swampy area.

Kissinger fared no better in Zambia, the next stop on his shuttle. Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda welcomed Kissinger by declaring that the "present maneuvers of the United States in Africa postpone a suitable solution to the future of the peoples of the South of the continent." Kaunda denounced the so-called constitutional conference taking place in Namibia for permitting only the participation of "elements in the service of Pretoria."

Distrust of Kissinger's maneuverings in southern Africa is shared by nearly all African countries. The Mozambique newspaper *Noticias* commented on Sept. 15 that Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy is an attempt by the Americans and the British to impose mediated solutions to the problems of southern Africa and in this way, impede the triumph of the liberation movements and save the South African and Rhodesian regimes.

State Department:

Tanzania's Snub To Kissinger Not A Slap In The Face

Sept. 16 (NSIPS) — What follows is an interview with the assistant to the State Department's Director of Southern African Affairs, who is now in Africa with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger:

NSIPS: What do you think of Mr. Kissinger's reception yesterday in Dar es Salaam?

State: Well — um — um — I really can't comment on the government angle. I'm not speaking for the Department. The Secretary is clearly welcome.

NSIPS: But what about the anti-shuttle diplomacy demonstrations and the Tanzanian document suggesting he support Africa's forces for majority rule should shuttle diplomacy fail?

State: The document is a statement of the position of the government of Tanzania. It is not a rejection of Mr. Kissinger. It is a good reflection of the public position of the Tanzanian government. I believe it was issued by the Tanzanian Information Service. Very frequently governments take public positions and then don't raise them privately. The document only asks a question, it doesn't pose a demand about Washington's support for the liberation struggle if the shuttle diplomacy fails. If Tanzania raises the issue in private discussions, then Mr. Kissinger will have to answer. But I really can't predict what the Secretary of State will do.

NSIPS: Won't this inhibit the shuttle diplomacy?

State: I shouldn't think so. No, this is not necessarily a slap in the face. He will still go to Zambia and South Africa.

State Department:

Where Kissinger Goes In Africa, There Will Be Demonstrations

Sept. 16 (NSIPS) — What follows is a Sept. 14 interview with James Pope, the official spokesman of the State Department's African bureau:

NSIPS: What did you think of Kissinger's reception yesterday in Dar es Salaam? (He was pelted with eggs and tomatoes and greeted with anti-shuttle diplomacy signs — ed.)

Pope: It was a wonderful reception!

NSIPS: What about the angry demonstrators, and Tanzanian

President Julius Nyerere's presentation to him of a document suggesting that he drop the failed shuttle diplomacy tactic and support the continent's peace and majority rule forces? Nyerere didn't even meet Kissinger at the airport.

Pope: I don't know. That happens all over. It's not a tradition for Nyerere to go to the airport anyway. Because of equivalent rank, the Foreign Ministry should welcome him.

NSIPS: But didn't the Tanzanian Foreign Minister leave for East Germany just before Kissinger arrived?

Pope: So, someone else from the Foreign Ministry met him. I see nothing strange in that. Every time he goes to Africa there will be demonstrations out there. Some people are not happy about the pace of development. But Kissinger is still determining whether shuttle diplomacy can take place, and the talks went well.

Soviets Attack Kissinger Diplomacy In Africa

Sept. 16 (NSIPS) — The following appeared in the Sept. 10 Soviet Party daily Pravda, as an authoritative "observer's" opinion.

The political storm that erupted in South Africa in June, when the racist executioners killed and wounded hundreds of demonstrators in suburbs of major South African cities, has not quieted down. Reports arrive daily from the south of the continent about new crimes of the racists. The military-police machine of South Africa, created and armed with the direct participation of NATO countries, has launched repression against the mass movement against apartheid, race discrimination, and exploitation unprecedented in the country's history.

The most profound crisis has enveloped the last bastions of racism and colonialism in Africa. However, the shameless reactionaries ruling in Pretoria (South Africa—ed.) and Salisbury (Rhodesia—ed.) still hope to remain in power. The U.S. and other NATO countries are rendering them serious support. How else can one evaluate the two rounds of talks between U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger and South African Premier Vorster, during the days when in the streets of Johannesburg, Capetown, Durban innocent people were and are being murdered. The goal of these meetings is to save the racist regimes from total collapse. Under the guise of mediator and peacemaker, Washington is interfering in the affairs of the continent in the interests of the South African and Rhodesian racist ruling clique.

Long-standing common interests also link the South African racists with the City of London. In the last few years, investments by West German, French and Japanese monopolies in South Africa have risen sharply. The dangerous game of a number of Western companies, involving the creation on an atomic and military industry in South Africa is generally known. It is no coincidence that immediately after the last talks between Kissinger and Vorster in Zurich, Kissinger left for an "explanatory visit" to England, France and West Germany. A peculiar form of symbiosis has been created in southern Africa, whereby the local racist businessmen and the monopolies exploit the richest resources and the population of the region.

And now U.S. Secretary of State Kissinger hopes to coordinate the political actions of the chief NATO members in the South African crisis — with the goal of preserving their position and not allowing the national democratic forces to come to power.