

Front-Line Alliance Endangered In Southern Africa

The United Nations Security Council on Sept. 30 passed resolution 415, authorizing the appointment of a United Nations representative alongside a British-appointed Resident Commissioner "...to enter into discussions... with all parties, concerning the military and associated arrangements that are considered necessary to effect the transition to majority rule in Southern Rhodesia."

While the resolution did not endorse the entirety of the Anglo-American settlement, the qualified authorization was another hurdle passed for British Foreign Secretary David Owen's "one hurdle at a time" approach to ensuring the installation of a British puppet government in Rhodesia. The actual intentions behind the Anglo-American plan are expressed in the men who will impose the settlement: it is presumed that the UN's representative will be Indian General Prem Chand. Chand was involved in the Belgian Congo independence struggle and helped set up the assassination of Patrice Lumumba, and then did service in Cyprus. He will work with Britain's Field Marshal Lord Carver, who is Owen's representative in Rhodesia. Carver was the commanding officer of the British forces in Kenya during the "Mau Mau" emergency of the early 1950s, and oversaw the "pseudo-gang" operation run by Capt. (now Brigadier) Frank Kitson. The Kenya experience was later codified in Kitson's book *Gang and Countergang* and was adopted by the Rhodesian government's Selous Scouts regiment.

Mozambique the Target

Now with the protective coloration of the United Nations, Owen and his U.S. allies, Vice-President Walter Mondale and United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young will proceed with a campaign to isolate the socialists in the Patriotic Front, Rhodesia's dominant nationalist coalition, and the governments of Mozambique and Angola in the front-line states alliance. This stratagem is being undertaken not only because of the Soviet influence in Mozambique and Angola, but because of Mozambique's closer relations with France, and the related fact that France and West Germany are leading an independent European approach to a comprehensive settlement of the southern Africa situation.

While objecting to provisions such as the dictatorial powers granted to Carver as British Resident Commissioner, the black leaders have fallen into Owen's trap by their acceptance of the basic premise of the plan: that Owen and company have any business in Rhodesia at all. They have thereby obligingly provided Owen with legitimacy and a base of operations.

Patriotic Front Split

Also this week several British newspapers "exposed" the fact that Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda, a member of the front-line alliance, had held a secret eight-hour meeting with Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith on Sunday, Sept. 25. The reports uniformly speculated that Kaunda and Smith had discussed a deal whereby Joshua Nkomo, co-chairman of the Patriotic Front and President of the Zambia-based Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), a constituent organization of the Front, would sell out the Mozambique-based National Union (ZANU) headed by the Patriotic Front's other co-chairman, Robert Mugabe, in return for a guarantee of the Prime Ministership in independent Rhodesia.

Mugabe has indicated his openness to an independent European initiative in southern Africa as he did in a meeting with French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud in September.

"It is clear now," said the *London Times* Oct. 3, "that Kaunda would like to detach Nkomo from Mugabe...." The *Manchester Guardian* took an editorial stand on the matter: "...an unusual alignment presents itself in which Smith, the front-line presidents and the UN Security Council all offer their qualified support to Field Marshal Lord Carver and General Prem Chand... Nkomo's wisest move, if Carver and Chand appear to be getting anywhere, would be to end his link with Mugabe, give up his unconvincing role as a guerrilla leader, and put himself where he belongs, in mainstream Zimbabwe (Rhodesian) politics."

To drive home the point, Prime Minister Smith's army launched two attacks on Mozambique this week.

Whether the newspaper reports are fanciful or not — and both Nkomo and the Zambian government vehemently deny them — is irrelevant to their purpose: to poison relations between ZAPU and ZANU, and, as a Western European source put it, "to deal Mugabe out of the game."

The leak on the meeting emanated from the Rhodesian government, a week after the fact and the day before Nkomo and Mugabe were to have a conference on the closer unification of their movements. The Nkomo-Mugabe meeting was then postponed for two weeks, according to some sources, specifically because of the Kaunda-Smith meeting.

In the Future

With or without Nkomo's cooperation, the Anglo-Americans mean to transform Carver and Chand from

negotiators into the transitional governors of Rhodesia. Once installed, Carver would provoke the incidents necessary to credibly undertake military operations against Mugabe's Zimbabwe People's Army (ZIPA). Such operations are to be carried out by the "United Nations Zimbabwe Force" under Chand. The successful isolation of ZIPA in Mozambique would create a repeat of a "North Vietnam" harboring the "communist guerrillas" trying to overthrow the "majority" rule government.

It is no wonder that Smith welcomed Carver's appointment with an invitation to come to Salisbury and meet the Rhodesian General Staff. The surprise is that not one

of the black leaders protested the appointment.

In a collateral policy, according to Western European sources, Britain and the United States are overseeing the destabilization of Angola by "pouring millions into UNITA," the liberation movement in southern Angola founded by the Portuguese secret police in the late 1960s and based in South Africa's illegally held colony of Namibia. The recent upsurge in UNITA's random depredations in Angola, and the Anglo-American drive into Southern Africa in general, prompted Angolan President Agostinho Neto to pay a visit to Moscow last week for consultations with Soviet leaders.