

AFRICA

Carter Endorses Kissinger Bloodbath Policy for Southern Africa

Nov. 13 (NSIPS) — Jimmy Carter this week reiterated his support of the Kissinger bloodbath policy for southern Africa in an interview in this week's South African weekly *Financial Mail*. The interview, in which Carter promised increased American investment in fascist South Africa, was accompanied by a slanderous all-out propaganda campaign in the Western press aimed at justifying intensified South African military assaults on Angola — through its surrogates the National Union (UNITA) — by creating the impression of a real or potential Cuban military threat throughout southern Africa.

This deliberate increase of provocations against southern Africa's progressive black states was answered with the declaration by the five frontline states that they will resist all pressures designed to force them to internationalize the conflict in Rhodesia and give the West an excuse for military support to Rhodesia. At the same time, the frontline states reiterated their commitment to achieve an independent southern Africa.

In addition to Carter's *Financial Mail* interview, in which he proposed American efforts to roll back the Angolan revolution, Representative Charles Diggs and Senator Dick Clark both made statements backing up Carter and paving the way for American provocations in southern Africa.

Speaking to reporters upon his return from a visit to the Geneva conference on Rhodesia, Rep. Diggs predicted "very critical problems" unless the black nationalists stopped demanding independence by later 1977, essentially blaming the blacks for the present impasse, and adding to propaganda in the Western press claiming that black intransigence is the cause for the talks' breakdown.

In Lusaka, Zambia, where he went after visiting Geneva with Diggs, Senator Dick Clark implied the beginning of an American initiative to counter Soviet influence in southern Africa. "...The only way Angola can survive is through strong commercial relations with the West." With incredible cynicism Clark added: "The Soviets have nothing to offer these countries but their own liberation."

The British Daily Telegraph claimed Nov. 10 that "Cuban-led Murder Squads Shoot Angola Refugees," in the most ludicrous of a series of articles appearing in the Western press this week. "Refugees fleeing from the civil war..." says the Telegraph, "are being gunned down by Cuban-led Marxist forces..." Similar reports have appeared in other papers, the latest in this morning's *New York Times*, and all based on interviews with South African officials based in Namibia, or with "refugees" displayed by the South Africans.

This concerted campaign was denounced yesterday in a major dispatch by Miguel Roa of the Cuban press agency *Prensa Latina*. The campaign was aimed, said Roa, at "creating the conditions for anew aggression against the People's Republic of Angola."

Roa also attacked the Western press for failing to report massacres recently committed against women and children by the South African-sponsored counter-gang UNITA. The *New York Times* today asserts that there "is no hard evidence" that the South Africans support UNITA. Nonetheless, UNITA "Foreign Minister" Jorge Sangumba, who apparently does not read the *Times*, arrived Wednesday in Johannesburg, according

to the Nov. 11 *Financial Times* of London, where he was met by white South African officials.

The response of southern Africa's five front line presidents was expressed by Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere in an interview with the *British Observer* Nov. 11. Expressing his reluctance to involve his army in a war of liberation, Nyerere nonetheless said: "an aggression against an independent state is a different question..." and added that Tanzanian troops will be sent to help defend Mozambique if the Rhodesian attacks continue.

Nyerere added, however, that it was Rhodesia's plan to internationalize the conflict and bring in outside forces, and reiterated his view that the African presidents will do everything in their power to avoid this kind of escalation of the conflict.

Johannesburg Star:

Soviets May Test Carter In Southern Africa

Nov. 4 — The Soviet Union may make southern Africa a test for Carter, according to an editorial in the South African liberal daily *Johannesburg Star*. The editorial, entitled "Carter and Africa," states that "Carter's remarkable victory yesterday is not likely to lead to any profound differences in policy either at home or abroad....It could happen that the Soviet Union, deeply interested in peddling influence in Africa, may seize this chance to make southern Africa a new testing ground, in the way they tested the untried President Kennedy in Cuba in 1962.

Carter in Financial Mail:

No Sanctions Against South Africa

Nov. 5 — *The following are excerpts from an interview with Jimmy Carter with the South African Financial Mail.*

FM: It took intervention in Angola by a Soviet-backed Cuban expeditionary force to re-awaken America's interest in Southern Africa. Under your presidency, will American involvement in African affairs lessen or increase?

Carter: If you mean, do I contemplate a physical involvement in Southern Africa, such as we had in Vietnam, let me say I don't see it. But I think you will see an increase in our diplomatic commitment, in our foreign policy efforts to achieve a lasting peace in Africa, a peace built on majority rule with the protection of minority rights.

Right now we are playing catch-up in Africa after 15 years or more of neglect. And the Ford Administration has essentially been operating on an *ad hoc* policy basis with the single aim of keeping Southern Africa from blowing up into a shooting war.

What I envisage, what I will work for, is a more permanent effort, not just through one-man peace-keeping missions, but using the whole array of America's peace-keeping arsenal, its technological assistance, its help in developing Southern Africa's resources. I don't see this as just do-good charity either. There are resources which only Africa can supply us and there is technology to develop those resources which only America can provide.

FM: Positive programmes for peace aside, how serious a threat are the current tensions in Southern Africa to world peace, compared, say, to the various crises in the Middle East, in Asia, and so on?

Carter: Frankly, my judgement at the moment is that the potential for a shooting war that could involve the U.S. and the Soviet Union are the greatest in the Middle East. There is no doubt about it.

I believe that we also face a serious challenge to our own national security in the increased tensions in Korea. Having said that, I do not mean to diminish the seriousness of the problems of Southern Africa. As long as the Soviet Union is willing to sponsor aggression and unrest there, the threat to the U.S. is a serious one.

One thing that I must add on a positive note is that I think the solutions to many of the critical tensions in Southern Africa are not as hard to unravel as they might be elsewhere. Rhodesia must move on to majority rule as soon as possible. South Africa must move just as quickly towards independence for Namibia.

Once those solutions are achieved then we can move to stabilise the Angolan situation and achieve a removal of the Cuban troops there. The steps that need to be taken are clearly laid out. It won't be an easy path to follow, but it clearly is only one there is.

FM: Given how difficult peace will be to achieve in Southern Africa, why do you rule out direct military aid as well as direct military intervention, as likely American responses in Southern Africa?

Carter: I have not ruled out any such responses. I can't do that.

FM: But they are unlikely, are they not?

Carter: I really hope so. For one thing, past American policy, and it has been wrong I believe, has been to send arms and to sell arms, often to both sides in a struggle, as an alternative to really working toward peace.

FM: You have said that there are many similarities between the American position in the Middle East and its position in Southern Africa. Yet the U.S. provides arms to both Arab and Israeli forces. Isn't there a contradiction?

Carter: There is no reason to repeat a mistake in the Middle East in Southern Africa.

FM: Without military aid, much less military intervention, what influence can America have in the region?

Carter: America alone cannot have much influence throughout the entire Southern African region. We must work in concert with other relevant powers, such as Britain which has real influence in Rhodesia, and in those nations such as Zaire and South Africa where we have some clout of our own.

FM: What kind of influence do you think the U.S. has in South Africa for example? How would you quantify it?

Carter: Very great. Our economic presence in South Africa gives us a greater influence on that government than its government has over Rhodesia, for example. I think our American businessman can be a constructive force achieving racial justice within South Africa. I think the weight of our investments there, the value the South Africans place on access to American capital and technology can be used as a positive force in settling regional problems.

FM: Among those positive forces, do you count the threat of economic sanctions against South Africa?

Carter: Not really. I think such sanctions could be counter-productive.

FM: Would you free up American investment through Export-Import Bank loans and otherwise encourage an increase in private American lending and corporate activity in South Africa?

Carter: Yes indeed. Other interviews have quoted me saying I intend to follow "an aggressive policy for peace." That sounds

contradictory although it's accurate enough. It might be more accurate to say I intend to follow a positive policy toward peace in Southern Africa. Economic development, investment commitment and the use of economic leverage against what is, after all, a government system of repression within South Africa, seems to me the only way to achieve racial justice there.

FM: Can you say whether you will extend diplomatic recognition to the Transkei?

Carter: Not at this time. I think we will have to examine Transkei's true national status before we make such a move.

FM: Because your campaign depends so heavily on the support of Black Americans will your presidency automatically be pro Black?

Carter: I don't know how much more committed I can be to majority rule in Africa, with or without Black American support.

Western Press Gears Up For Invasion of Angola

The following is a report on South Africa from Prensa Latina:

Southern Africa: The South African and British Press launches a systematic campaign against Cuba and Angola intended to cloud international knowledge to the deprivations of the racist regimes of the cone of Africa.

Havana, Nov. 12 (PL) — The South African and British press are launching a systematic campaign against Cuba and Angola intended to cloud public international knowledge to the deprivations of the racist regimes of the southern cone of Africa.

In recent days, London and Johannesburg dailies, amply cited by capitalist press agencies, are reporting military operations in the south of Angola, undertaken by "Cuban and Angolan" troops. These fabrications claim that the "information" of several thousands of inhabitants who cross the border with Namibia, "flee" the "atrocities" committed by the "Cubans and Angolans."

Guerrillas of SWAPO were supposedly also involved in these operations.

The object of this gigantic military activity? According to the "respected" capitalist press, they are fighting the forces of the so-called "Union for the Total Independence of Angola."

This abominable crime, of which the victims were mainly women and children, encountered much less repercussion, and almost no denunciation in the western mass media.

This campaign, to link SWAPO with the supposed military operation, intends, at the same time, to create conditions for a new aggression against the Popular Republic of Angola.

South Africa, Rhodesia and their patrons have not renounced their fantasy of taking control of Angola, knowing full well that there exists, in this country, a revolutionary government which has the active support of the socialist states and progressive nations and which is making an effort to change the future of southern Africa.

These actions have made Washington and Pretoria seek desperately a neo-colonial solution for Namibia and Zimbabwe to maintain sacred the privileges of these reactionary regimes.

According to those sources, UNITA would have become the "serious threat" to the government of Angola.

As a last straw of optimism, some London dailies have even begun to talk about "vast territories" controlled by that counter-revolutionary organization. Such a high dose of lies would move one to uncontrollable laughter were it not for the fact that behind these suggestions there lie two aspects of the very plan of the racist governments of southern Africa.

On the one hand, this press campaign is intended to cover up

the genocide committed by the South African government in Soweto and the massacres by the Rhodesian troops in Mozambican territory, which resulted in more than 1,000 victims in two raids.

(The South Africans,) using groups of UNITA agents which the South African and British press present as resisters to the "communist" government of Angola murdered last month close to 300 people in (the village of Canhala).

The presence of Angola and Mozambique and the activity of the fighters of Zimbabwe and Namibia has torn to shreds the strategy of the racists and their allies. The Kissinger plan intended to hold back the revolutionary tide in Zimbabwe, is

collapsing.

The so-called constitutional conference of Windhoek, prepared to give independence to Namibia under South African tutelage, has not had any better luck. Faced with these failures, the racists and their protectors have not found any recourse except to utilize their press to slander the Angolan army and to try to vilify the international solidarity of the Cuban people.

This design has been simple: they attribute to FAPLA (the Popular Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola: Angolan army) and its Cuban comrades — the same who defeated them on the battlefield — the actions which the racist troops and mercenaries are accustomed to practice all the time.

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