ZIMBABWE MUST BE FREE!

Keep U.S. Sanctions on Rhodesia!

Support the Patriotic Front!
WHAT IS ZIMBABWE-RHODESIA?

White Control and Foreign Domination — Black Resistance

Zimbabwe-Rhodesia is a country in southern Africa where a white minority of 250,000 (3.5 percent) rules over seven million black people. In the 1890s, as part of a European takeover throughout Africa, British white settlers led by Cecil Rhodes took the land from the native population, naming it Rhodesia. Since that time, African people have been forced off their lands and put to work in mines, factories, and plantations owned by the white settlers and foreign corporations. While black workers often receive less than poverty-level wages and their families live in misery, white settlers and foreign investors reap huge profits.

The white minority has also controlled the government, denying all significant political rights to the black majority. Under the racist legal system, blacks are denied freedom of speech, press, and assembly, and are banned from organizing trade unions. In 1965, Rhodesian whites under Ian Smith’s leadership unilaterally declared independence from British colonial rule, to avoid granting political rights to black Zimbabweans. Since then, Rhodesia has existed as an outlaw nation; in 1966 the U.N. imposed economic and military sanctions — a total boycott — against the illegal Rhodesian government.

In 1969, after years of futile efforts to achieve majority rule through legal means, the major black political parties — the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) — turned to armed struggle as the only way to win freedom. In 1976, ZANU and ZAPU formed a joint political-military alliance known as the Patriotic

Rhodesian soldier interrogating prisoners at gun-point. His captives were kept in this position for over an hour.
Front. This liberation force is committed not only to defeating white minority rule and foreign domination, but to creating an independent and non-racial society, where economic development is planned for the good of all.

WHAT IS THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT?

New Constitution and Elections Create the Illusion of Majority Rule

By 1978 the victories of the Patriotic Front and the impact of the U.N. sanctions were weakening the white war effort. Costs of the war soared to over $1 million a day, and more and more whites fled the country. In order to get sanctions lifted, Ian Smith, with the cooperation of the U.S. and Great Britain, devised a scheme known as the "Internal Settlement", which gave the illusion of majority rule — permitting a few black office-holders, but maintaining white control over the judiciary, military, police, mines, land, and factories. These significant provisions were carefully entrenched in a new constitution by giving whites a veto power over any changes; changes required 78 votes in Parliament, but blacks had only 72.

In April 1979, elections were held to choose a new parliament and a new prime minister. Blacks did go to the polls, but many were herded in buses, coerced by the Rhodesian army. The elections were denounced as a sham by the U.N. Security Council, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the non-aligned states, and the British Commonwealth of Nations. Instead of bringing peace and equality to Zimbabwe, the elected black prime minister Bishop Muzorewa is forming an alliance with South Africa to get military support for the war against the liberation fighters. He has arrested many of his political opponents and refused all economic or land reforms.

In the fall of 1979, the British, the Patriotic Front, and the Smith-Muzorewa regime sat down at a conference in London to work out the future of Zimbabwe. The Patriotic Front has bargained in good faith, but is determined not to sell out the rights of the Zimbabwean people. Unlike the Patriotic Front, the British and the Smith-Muzorewa regime have been unwilling to make significant compromises.

WHAT IS THE U.S. ROLE?

U.S. Supplies Oil, Arms, and Mercenaries to Racist Government.

U.S. Violates U.N. Sanctions
- In keeping with international law, it is now a federal crime for any U.S. manufacturer to ship or receive goods from Zimbabwe-Rhodesia. However, Mobil Oil and Caltex (jointly owned by Standard Oil of California and Texaco) illegally continue to provide Rhodesia with refined oil through their South African subsidiaries. Thus far, the U.S. government has not tried to stop this crime.
- Arms manufactured or licensed by U.S. manufacturers have been reaching Rhodesia: 11 Textron helicopters, some 20 Cessna-Reims FTB reconnaissance aircraft, and a number of Rockwell OV-10 counterinsurgency aircraft.
• Also, publications such as Soldier of Fortune openly and illegally recruit U.S. mercenaries to join the Rhodesian army and kill black Africans. The U.S. government does nothing about it.

U.S. Supports the Racist Government
• In order to maintain corporate domination and take advantage of cheap black labor in South Africa and Rhodesia, the U.S. supports the present regimes there. Although sanctions exist against Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, there are not yet economic sanctions against its ally, South Africa. So the U.S. trades with Rhodesia through South Africa.
• From 1971 to 1977, U.S. legislation allowed Union Carbide and other stainless steel companies to buy millions of dollars worth of chromium directly from Zimbabwe-Rhodesia. Purchases of raw materials such as these from the mineral-rich country only bolster the economy of the present regime.

WHY KEEP SANCTIONS?
Sanctions Are Needed Until There is Genuine Majority Rule
By keeping sanctions the U.S. would:
• Support the just struggle of the Zimbabwean people and the Patriotic Front for majority rule.
• Withhold recognition from a government that is not a freely
elected representative of the Zimbabwean people, and which can only be described as a front for continued racist minority rule.
- Prevent the corrupt Smith-Muzorewa regime from openly buying weapons and oil from the U.S. and expanding the war against the liberation forces.
- Stop the multinational corporations from increasing their highly profitable investments in Zimbabwe and propping up the present government.

**Genuine Majority Rule in Zimbabwe is in the Material Interests of Working and Oppressed People in the U.S.**

By keeping sanctions and supporting the Patriotic Front in the struggle for a free Zimbabwe, the U.S. working people would:
- Help prevent the export of U.S. jobs to Rhodesia. If sanctions were lifted, such runaway shops could easily go to Rhodesia as well, taking advantage of 25-cents-per-hour wages and thus increasing unemployment in the U.S.
- Oppose a common enemy — the giant corporations and the racism they perpetuate. Many of the same companies that are responsible for unemployment, inflation, and energy shortages in the U.S. profit from the cheap labor of southern African blacks.
- Keep our tax dollars from going to support a corrupt foreign government, as they went to Vietnam, Iran, and Nicaragua.

**WHAT IS THE PATRIOTIC FRONT?**

The Patriotic Front Leads the Zimbabwean People in Their Struggle for Freedom

Despite severe repression and the arrest and murder of activists, the liberation movement has steadily grown. Presently the Patriotic Front, an alliance of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) is struggling for majority rule. The Patriotic Front is recognized as the legitimate and sole representative of the people of Zimbabwe by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations. But the Patriotic Front is doing more than waging a war. It is educating Zimbabweans in the political and technical skills they will need in governing a free Zimbabwe, and is striving for a non-racist society with true equality for all citizens. It wants an economy which is free from exploitation and will benefit all Zimbabweans.

**CLIP AND MAIL TO ZAC!**

☐ Let me know how I can help with the Zimbabwe Action Campaign.

☐ I would like to arrange for a speaker to come to my organization.

Name (print) ____________________________________________

Address & Zip __________________________________________

Phone ________________________________________________
WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Oppose U.S. support for Rhodesia: write President Carter or your local Congressperson urging them to maintain sanctions.
2. Support the Patriotic Front in its fight for a free Zimbabwe: send a donation c/o the Zimbabwe Action Campaign (ZAC) representative in your area, or contact your local ZAC committee to see what material aid is needed.
3. Inform people about the situation in Zimbabwe, write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper, or host an educational meeting with the ZAC slideshow.
4. Sign up to join the ZAC committee in your area and help build the campaign.

ZIMBABWE ACTION CAMPAIGN

ZAC Goals: Keep the U.S. Out of Rhodesia. Give Material Aid to the Patriotic Front

Formed in September 1979, ZAC is a multi-racial national campaign carried on by local political action groups representing a broad range of occupational backgrounds and political perspectives. Our main goals are to put pressure on the federal government to end all support for the Rhodesian regime, and to support the Patriotic Front in its struggle for justice in Zimbabwe. We are attempting a broad outreach designed to unite community groups, unions, campuses, churches, and others of all races behind these goals.

Contact the ZAC Representative in your area:

Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa
P.O. Box 8791
Boston, MA. 02114

Or contact the national co-ordinator at P.O. Box 11376, San Francisco, CA 94101 [415] 824-2864.

This brochure prepared by: People for Southern African Freedom, Eugene, OR.; Southern Africa Organizing Committee, San Francisco; Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa; Seattle Southern Africa Solidarity Committee; Working Committee on Southern Africa, San Diego; Fresno ZAC Committee.