



committee of returned volunteers
1127 North 21st
milwaukee wisconsin

October 4, 1969

Dear Member of the World Affairs Council:

You are preparing to honor Dean Acheson on October 10, 1969. His support for the ABM and the War in Vietnam have already caused some of your members to refuse to attend the dinner honoring him.

As people who have been volunteers in third world countries, we too must speak out against the award being given to Dean Acheson. His consistent support of white racism and Portuguese colonialism in Southern Africa, though less well known than his views on military preparedness and the Vietnam war, are equally reproachable. We urge you to see that the award is not given to him.

Dean Acheson has consistently opposed sanctions for Rhodesia and by so doing, justified the continued existence of white racist rule in that country. Arguing that Rhodesia has in fact been an independent state long before UDI and that the situation involves no threat to the international peace, he completely ignores the legal sovereignty of Great Britain and the threat to international peace posed when a six percent white minority suppresses ninety-four percent of the people who are black.

Acheson's views on Southern Africa have been lauded and disseminated by numerous right-wing organizations with special interests in Southern Africa, such as the American-African Affairs Association, Inc. (co-chairmen, William A. Rusher and Max Yergan) and The Overseas Companies of Portugal.

Acheson has been a long-time friend of Portugal and has consistently identified himself with Portuguese colonial interests in Africa.

- 1) Acheson has argued for the strategic importance of our friendship with Portugal and a NATO-first policy.
- 2) In his memoirs, Acheson has great praise for Salazar and begs that we overlook his dictatorial shortcomings.
- 3) He has written the forward to a new book by the Foreign Minister of Portugal, France Nogueira. The book, entitled The Third World, is a justification of Portuguese colonialism.

some of the countries where crv members have served:

ghana - philippines - peru - mexico - thailand - brazil - tanzania - india - colombia - honduras

To honor Dean Acheson is to support the suppression of black people in Southern Africa. If the award dinner is held, we will be joining with African students and Afro-Americans in public protest of your support of white racism, and we urge you to join us.

Sincerely,

Loraine Samsel
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