RHODESIA

ECONOMIC

Rhodesia's external trade slumped over £95m in 1966, according to figures released by regime. The trade totalled £183m of £284.5m the year before UDI. Times of Zambia - (undated)

Rhodesia, fearful of isolation, is building airport at Salisbury which boasts to be Africa's largest, with runways large enough to accommodate planes capable of "getting us out of Rhodesia without crossing any enemy country". Only SAA offers no-change-of-plane service Salisbury to Europe. C.S. Monitor-4/26

OPERATION OF "PARLIAMENTARY" RHOD-FRONTISM

Governor of Rhodesia, Gibbs is maintaining strict neutrality over the question of giving evidence to the Smith Govt. constitutional commission. Some anti-Smith whites have decided to give evidence so that their views will go on record, come what may. A large group which signed the Lord Malvern petition (4,000) have given evidence in favor of accepting the Tiger solution. The UPP is not giving evidence, as it holds the commission is illegally appointed under an illegal regime. The Salisbury Christian Action Group will not give evidence because the commission is illegal, they say. One plan the commission has in mind is for community representation with the emphasis on separate racial development. A Senate heavily populated with tribal chiefs and elders is known to be popular in the RF. The present A and B rolls is unlikely to survive, and with it will go the 15 mainly African seats. TofZ-4/13

Rhodesian Front Congress changed clause affirming loyalty to Queen, to read: "The party affirms its loyalty to the independent country of Rhodesia."
Opposition to Smith is still disunited; groups such as Rhodesia Constitutional Association and "The Forum" (influential business/professional men) are included. Their chances for influence are diminished by today's decision. Observer 4/23

Dupont again read speech from throne at opening of new session of Parliament. The judges and 4 opposition MPs were absent. Opposition members who attended wore in lapels a crown, emblem of new anti-republican movement developed by retired civil servant Dr. Richard Morris. Few surprises in speech: New Bill coming to enable RG to cancel citizenship; preventive detention powers will no longer require declared Emergency, but will be on statute book. Times - London 4/20

RG asked opening session Parliament to extend Preventive Detention Act, under which persons can be held without trial. Law presently is valid only while state of emergency exists. Washington Post 4/20
PERSONAL ITEMS

Rev. Neil Richards, teacher at Epworth Theological College, is third American missionary of UCC ordered out of Rhodesia in last 20 months. NYT-4/14

Rhodesia has some 75 Africans jailed under sentence of death, including 28 sentenced before UDI. Sentences have not been carried out because it would "lead to confrontation in courts over RG's legal right to do so." Wash. Post 4/26

Leo Baron flew to London with wife and daughter, allowed to leave Rhodesia after medical reports to the authorities when he was in Salisbury prison hospital. 4/26

LSE lifted ban on 2 student leaders, announced this at meeting of governors, attended by Dr. W. Adams by invitation. This is first hopeful sign of improvement in LSE atmosphere since Oct. '66 when trouble flared over opposition to appointment of Dr. Adams. LT - 4/15

AFRICAN PARTIES

UNIP National Secretary Chona blamed ZAPU leaders for continued split with ZANU. Chona urged ZAPU members to talk with ZANU, who have been willing to talk. Zambia Mail 4/17

ZAPU in Lusaka alleges that Rhodesia tobacco is being taken by road to Malawi to be auctioned there when the auction begins. LT - 4/25

ZAMBIA

ECONOMIC

This week Phelps Dodge withdrew from the consortium (including Sweden's Svenska Metallverken and Continental Ore) which was bidding for setting up Zambia's first copper fabricator. The explanation is that it would be uneconomic to go ahead with the plans if the two big Zambian copper producer, Roan Selection Trust and Anglo-American are planning on building their own.

But there never seemed to be any question of the Zambian Government giving permission for more than one plant. Could the withdrawal "have anything to do with the fact that Roan Selection Trust and Phelps Dodge are interconnected, through American Metal Climax and that Svenska Metallverken depends for a large part of its supplies on the Zambian producers?" Furthermore, "Roan Selection's chairman, Sir Ronald Prain, has been chary about setting up a fabricating plant in Zambia, both because of the tariff barriers such a plant would have to face in most of its major export markets and because it would be competing with established European fabricators, many of whom are their own customers." They only appeared interested after Phelps Dodge had shown interest in building a fabricator. Whether they will now continue on their own is a question. Economist 4/22
Bulldozers have started bush clearing south of Dar es Salaam for 1,060-mile oil pipeline to Ndola. Pipe-laying operation is due to begin end May, and is expected to be completed by September, 1968. Meanwhile oil will continue to be taken down 1,000-mile Great North Road, called "Hell Run" by 1,400 drivers. Mud up to two feet deep following arrival of long rains slows trucks on oil run, which last month carried record 6.75 m. gals to Copperbelt. NYT - 4/23

Finance Minister Wina reported Britain, Italy, France approved in principle financial support for projected Kafue hydroelectric project, to be built by consortium from 3 countries at estimated cost $163 m. NYT - 4/23

DIFFICULTIES

Increasing campaign by UNIP to have Zambia's only daily newspaper, the "Times," banned, is proving a test for Kaunda's pledge on freedom of press. Because the "Times" has been critical of UNIP, and has itself been "linked" with persons campaigning against UNIP, the paper seems in jeopardy. The Star sees conflict arising between Kaunda and other high-ranking officials who are pushing Kaunda to declare complete ban of the "Times." Johannesburg Star 4/8

Commonwealth Office stated that British High Commission in Lusaka has asked Zambia's Minister of Foreign Affairs about British citizens arrested in Zambia. One of 5 arrested is commander of white territorial battalion. "Rhodesian rebellion continually breeds opportunity for racial suspicions, or rather Britain's failure to end it does." Racial sympathy among Zambian whites for Rhodesia "is becoming an obsession with many party personages. The Europeans are thought of as a fifth column." "Prospect of having to co-exist indefinitely with the defiant Smith regime is producing psychological changes in Zambia that are dangerous and little understood." LT 4/15

Lawyers said that 5 whites detained under President Kaunda's special powers declined to make public reasons for their arrest. LT - 4/20

Kaunda announced formation of "secret-police squad" to cut down spread of corruption among officials and politicians, whose members would only be known by Kaunda himself. NYT - 4/27

SOUTH AFRICA

BUSINESS

Board of Missions of Methodist Church stated April 20 that its purpose is "to pursue with American business and government the moral issues in our involvement in the support of the apartheid system of SA, which purpose we are prepared to implement even to the point of removing our funds from consortium banks, if necessary." President of Board asked to appoint committee to back General Secretary in efforts to bring about spring consultation on question of Methodist unilateral action. Statement of Meth. Board of Missions

Rev. Pierre J. Dil, Anglican priest deported for writings and work with multiracial groups recently accused Christianity in general and American business interests specifically with complicity in SA's apartheid system.
Said system could not survive without US investments in atomic and oil research, automobile industry, and other SA businesses. Also said "Africans are appalled to see Americans in the foreground of these things." Specifically accused group of American banks, including First National City and Chase Manhattan, of abetting apartheid through recent renewal of $40m loan to SAG. Charged General Motors and Ford with exploiting black workers permitted on to border lands only for jobs. Washington Post 4/24

Vorster plans to increase trade links with more independent African states so that he can say any sanctions applied against him in the future will harm the African states as well. His trading plans have helped cause division in OAU. Sunday Times of Johannesburg 4/2

Can a Polecat change its stripes? Vorster's recent attempts to lead SA "back into the world" may be the result of feeling less frightened of a united black Africa, due to the seven coups and two assassinations in year preceding his accession, in Sept. With Botswana and Lesotho's independence last Oct., "It dawned on Pretoria that in many ways a ring of black states economically beholden to S.A. could provide a far better protective cushion vs. the north than the old area of white colonies which, being colonies, tended to invite attention to trouble." Prospects of 8 Bantustans, independent Swaziland and Malawi and Zambia's increased dependence economically on SA fit this idea of a "Southern African 'co-prosperity' sphere--the prosperity of course being mainly South African."

The one serious gap in the co-prosperity sphere is Rhodesia. This puts SA's two main trading partners at economic war with each other and leaves open the threat that the Rhodesian crisis may flare up and involve all of Southern Africa, and that sanctions are not yet totally discredited. Rhodesian crisis is becoming a bit boring to South Africans who are taking more interest in doings of Chief Lebua Jonathan than those of Smith.

The lack of agreement of the UN ad hoc committee on SWA also relieves SAG. Their plan for establishing 11 tribal Bantustans there will "fit into the general scheme for co-prosperity." Economist 4/22

JUDGING CATTLE OR PEOPLE?

Judge Oscar Calgut of SA Supreme Court upheld judgement that 11 year old Sandra Laing is "coloured" although her parents and siblings are classified as "whites." Officials said she was a "genetic throwback" exhibiting non-white characteristics, but the Judge said she might be reclassified white under new legislation before Parliament making descent, rather than appearance and general acceptance, the criteria for racial classification. NYT 5/3

SA couple and 3 children, previously declared colored by race classification board, ruled recently to be white by Durban Supreme Court which ordered SAG to pay costs of case. NYT 4/30

DR. BIRLEY REPORTS

Interview with Dr. Robert Birley famous English educator, just returned from 3 years at Witwatersrand University: Three significant changes have taken place in SA in the past 3 years:

1) "a quite ruthless intensification" of petty or social apartheid: separation in all activities. 2) SA is becoming remorselessly more and more of a police state. 3) it is becoming more industrialized, leading to strict control of pass laws and breakup of African families; also, this contradicts with the increased degree of education of many Africans.
African opposition at the moment seems to be crushed. Yet Africans are still generous and speak of giving the whites a part in an eventual non-racial society. This generosity cannot continue much longer; young Africans are becoming increasingly independent of their elders.

British investors in SA should remember that Africans are extremely badly paid, while the cost of living in SA is not much lower than in England.

Provision for African education is highly inadequate. No more than 60,000 Africans are in secondary school; and the system is unable to absorb greater numbers, while demand is certain to rise. The British academic boycott of SA Universities is a great mistake; it encourages the government and gives liberals the feeling they have been abandoned by the outside world. The Bantustan policy "is a complete sham". After 19 years, only the Transkei has been started, and that is under the complete domination of the government.

In the end, catastrophe seems inevitable. The Africans are becoming steadily more politically conscious, and the whites do not see this, being cut off from most Africans. Observer 4/23

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Special session of UN General Assembly began discussion April 22 of proposal for UN to replace SA as administering power of SWA. Few delegates predict concrete, positive results. First subject debated is that of how to assume control of territory now under de facto SA rule. NYT - 4/22

SWAZILAND

Prince Dlamini's Imbokodvo National Movement won all 24 seats in Swazi Parliament. Swaziland will become fully independent before end 1969. NYT-4/26

TANZANIA

International seminar to focus attention on southern African colonialism and racial problems will be held in Dar es Salaam, July 15 - 28, under joint sponsorship of Special Committee on Apartheid and Special Committee on Colonialism of UN. The UN will pay $88,000 expenses, and Tanzania will foot the rest of the bill. 55 UN member nations will attend, as well as southern African liberation movements recognized by the OAU and 23 non-government organizations such as CORE, SNCC, World Federation of Trade Unions -- (Communist-backed), and ICFTU -- representing wide spectrum of political attitudes. Martin Luther King, Jean-Paul Sartre, and Chief Albert J. Luthuli have been invited. The Seminar will discuss international responsibility towards victims and opponents of apartheid; the role of foreign, financial interests in slowing down the elimination of southern African colonialism, and southern Africa's implications for world peace. NYT 5/2

UGANDA

President Obote repeated that he will not allow 200,000 "racists" of Rhodesia to cause Uganda to leave the Commonwealth. Obote cited absurd color barriers created in Rhodesia as point of contention that his nation would never permit. In assailing Ian Smith, Obote attacked the "straw man" notions of superiority of the White, and obsession with color rather than "humanity" as vulnerable. Obote gave special praise to the continued British support of Uganda which amounts to about £6m annually. Johannesburg Star 4/8