the struggle for freedom

ZIMBABWE

Zimbabwe's freedom fighters. Our used shoes can save their lives.

You can help
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA today a nation of six million black people is fighting to win control of their country from the 4% white minority that rules it.

The white regime calls the country Rhodesia, but the black people call it by its African name, ZIMBABWE.

Whites first came to Zimbabwe in 1893 and soon set up a colonial regime under British protection. Their descendents rule today, a wealthy privileged class. They live off the labor and poverty of blacks, to whom they give no political rights.

HOW BLACK ZIMBABWE LIVES UNDER RHODESIAN RULE

Most black people cannot vote, own their own homes, or farms.

• Black workers make less than one-tenth the pay of whites.
• If black workers strike, they are arrested, fined and jailed.
• Black political prisoners who are sentenced to death are hanged by the government in secret. Their families are not informed until the prisoner is dead.
• Urban workers must stay in segregated slums called "Townships."
• Tens of thousands of field laborers have been forced by the government to live in "Protected villages." Surrounded with barbed wire, lit up by floodlights, and kept under armed guard 24 hours a day, these "villages" are concentration camps, set up to keep villagers from making contact with the liberation movement. Every week, dozens are shot dead for being caught outside after sundown.
U.S. POLICY TOWARD ZIMBABWE

The U.S. government, under Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Carter, has always publicly "deplored" Rhodesia's racist policies in statements. But U.S. government policies support the racist regime economically.

Now the U.S. government is considering sending American troops to southern Africa as a "peace-keeping" force for Rhodesia.

THE LIBERATION FIGHT HAS BEGUN

But the war has already begun. There can be no peace in Rhodesia until the black nation wins its freedom.

Guerilla armies are in daily combat with the Rhodesian army. The goal of the liberation movement is to overthrow the racist regime and form their own government.

If the U.S. sends troops, black and white Americans could be fighting the people of Zimbabwe in another war like Vietnam.

To prevent this, the people of Zimbabwe must win their struggle for freedom.

Zimbabwean child murdered in massacre by Rhodesian troops in refugee camp in Mozambique.
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Leading the liberation movement is the Patriotic Front, a military alliance between the two major liberation organizations: ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union) and ZAPU (Zimbabwe African People's Union).

The entire history of the struggle for liberation in Zimbabwe indicates that the Smith regime will never willingly give up its power to the black majority. Armed struggle is the only road to victory in Zimbabwe.

The liberation army of the Patriotic Front is growing rapidly. Every week, hundreds of men, women, and even school children cross the border into neighboring Mozambique to join the liberation army. They take nothing with them.

WHAT THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS NEED

The Freedom Fighters have asked the Southern Africa Liberation Committee to collect shoes, clothes, tampax, blankets and other supplies for the guerillas.

Many of the liberation soldiers walk barefoot through swamps and rain forests, and catch foot and leg diseases that make them unable to walk. In the current rainy season, the most important fighting must take place.
WHAT YOU CAN DO

The Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa needs your help. The shoes and used clothing we send can save lives of men, women, and children who are fighting for the freedom of Zimbabwe. They can bring closer the liberation of Zimbabwe and that of all Africa.

Every month a freighter sails from Norfolk, Virginia to Mozambique with free space available for supplies for the freedom fighters. The Patriotic Front is depending on us to fill that ship every month with

- shoes
- clothing
- tampax
- blankets

☐ I have shoes or other supplies I would like picked up.
☐ I am contributing $ . . . . . .

Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa

☐ I would like to see a film on the freedom struggle in Africa.
☐ I would like more information about the Southern Africa Liberation Committee.

Name........................................................................................................
Address.................................................................................................Zip.............

Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa
P.O. Box 101
Boston MA 02123

This campaign is also being sponsored and organized by the International Socialists and Afrikans Working for the Liberation of Southern Africa. For further information contact Bill Fravis at 625-5724 or the Afrikan Heritage Institute at 440-9110.
The Boston Coalition for the Liberation of Southern Africa includes a number of organizations in the Boston Area, and was formed to support the liberation struggle of the people of South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

For many years, struggles for freedom from colonialism and racism have swept Africa. The fight for African freedom has inspired many movements for equality, justice and freedom here in the U.S.

Often the struggles of African workers, students and liberation fighters may seem far away from us. But there are ways for us to lend our support to these movements and help bring them closer to victory.

Since being formed, BCLSA has sponsored a number of demonstrations and forums and a major fundraiser for the African National Congress of South Africa.

This brochure explains the struggle in Zimbabwe and tells how you can get involved.

In addition to the campaign to collect shoes and other supplies for Zimbabwe, the Coalition has launched a campaign to expose the complicity of the First National Bank of Boston in propping up the white settler regime in South Africa, and to encourage union pension funds, church groups and individuals to withdraw their accounts from FNBB. Contact the coalition for further information on this campaign and for literature and or speakers on Southern Africa.

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