THE GATHERING STORM

EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN FOR SOUTH AFRICA
Towards a free Southern Africa

1973

MICHAELMAS (FALL)

14 West 11 Street
New York City
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1973

MICHAELMAS (FALL)
Blood and Gold

"Africans want to be paid a living wage... African men want to have their wives and children to live with them where they work, and not be forced into an unnatural existence in men’s hostels.... Africans want a just share in the whole of South Africa; they want security and a stake in society. Above all we want equal political rights, because without them our disabilities will be permanent."

"The police have always acted with the greatest caution in such circumstances, They acted in the same way last night."
- Balthazar Johannes Vorster, Prime Minister of South Africa

Carletonville - where 11 African gold mine workers were shot dead by the police on 11 September 1973 - is now recorded for history as another battlefield in the ongoing war by the South African apartheid regime against the country’s black majority.

The shootings at the Anglo American Corporation’s Western Deep Levels mine, one of the world’s biggest and richest, is the latest episode within the African, Coloured and Indian population’s determined struggle for a living wage and better conditions. A quarter of a million people have gone on strike over the past year despite arrests, imprisonments, dismissals, police harassment - and death.

The South African gold mining industry pays African underground workers an average of $48 per month, plus housing in barracks and food. Pneumatic drill operators, those who protested at Western Deep, are among the highest paid, their wages recently increased to $77.50 per month. White miners receive an average of $500 a month.

The gold mines in 1972 realized profits before taxes $305,280,000 greater than in 1971. Their total Black wage bill for 1972 was $136,800,000.

"We emphasize that unless structural changes are made in the political system there are grave dangers facing South Africa: it may degenerate into a 'garrison-state', a type of totalitarian society in which all the liberties of all the citizens are stifled; or there may be violence. Southern Africa has become a political bloc. Guerrilla opponents of the South African government regard it as such, and see Southern Rhodesia and the Portuguese colonies of Angola and Mozambique as the front line. South Africa has responded by undertaking co-operation in security matters beyond her borders. There is a long-run danger that the entire sub-continent may become engulfed in a race war whose possibilities of escalation are incalculable."
The Namibian people in early August handed the South African usurper a stunning defeat by boycotting an election in South Africa's showpiece bantustan, Ovamboland. Only 1300 of 50,000 eligible voters turned out to ballot for a government-picked slate. Ovambo comprise 45% of Namibia's three-quarters of a million people; the election was crucial in South Africa's scheme to compartmentalize the nation and appear to be granting self-government. The boycott was a striking victory for SWAPO and the Democratic Co-Operative Development Party, both of which held forbidden rallies. Many of their leaders were arrested, including John Otto who went through the 1967/68 Pretoria Terrorism Trial.

These are guerrilla soldiers of the South West Africa Peoples Organization operating in the Caprivi Strip panhandle of Namibia.

A crowd of 1500 assembled for a pre-election rally at Katutura township outside Windhoek, Namibia's capital, sponsored by the nine-organization National Convention. Defiant rallies by SWAPO's Youth League brought the wrath of the police, who shot one man and arrested almost 300. Security police still search for the Youth League leaders.

The National Convention has issued the text of a Constitution which calls for the unity of Namibia and for a struggle for 'total and complete independence'.

South Africa has a large stake in Namibia, for reasons of prestige, for the protection it offers as a buffer state, because of the country's vast mineral wealth, not the least a uranium mine at Rossing near the sea. THE TIMES of London reports that South Africa has perfected a new method of enriching uranium to produce weapons grade material and fuel for reactors. The apartheid state is close to becoming a nuclear power.

Theo-Ben Gurirab spoke at the UN marking a beginning to SWAPO's eighth year of armed struggle - since 26 August 1966:

"We are one people for one Namibia. We shall leave no stone unturned, give up no ground gained and shall spare no life when called for, to make Namibia free and independent within the shortest possible time."
Leaked confidential documents reveal that a New York-based multinational bank is the secret assembler of over $210 million in direct loans to the South African government and its agencies since 1970.

It was in November, 1959, that a three-year campaign by religious, university and anti-apartheid groups in the USA forced the dissolution of a $40 million revolving credit to South Africa by ten of this country's most prestigious banks.

The Corporate Information Center of the National Council of Churches received internal papers detailing the involvement of the European-American Banking Corporation as the prime mover in putting together six loans supporting the apartheid regime.

The European-American Banking Corporation, chartered in New York, is jointly owned by 6 of the largest banks of West Europe and has combined loans and deposits amounting to almost $1.1 billion.

EABC officers admitted the authenticity of the documents when confronted by the Rev. Donald Morton, a South African in exile and consultant to the Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ; Professor Sean Gervasi, economic research officer at Oxford University; and Judge William H. Booth, president of the American Committee on Africa and a member of the boards of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Episcopal Churchmen for South Africa.

One loan of $20 million went to the South African Iron and Steel Corporation (ISCOR) wholly owned by the Republic of South Africa and accounting for three-quarters of the country's steel production. The FINANCIAL MAIL of Johannesburg reported in May 1973 that EABC has proposed another ISCOR loan - of half a billion dollars - for construction of a rail line to the Indian Ocean.

Eleven US banks took part in two loans totaling $70 million, most of them operating through off-shore subsidiaries. Three of the loans, of $50 million each, were handled through EABC's branch in Nassau, capital of newly-independent The Bahamas, which has an international banking industry (second only to tourism as a source of income) generating $12 million in salaries and fees, according to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

The Rev. Dr. W. Sterling Cary, president of the National Council of Churches, received an internal paper detailing the involvement of the European-American Banking Corporation as the prime mover in putting together six loans supporting the apartheid regime.

The Rev. Dr. W. Sterling Cary, president of the National Council of Churches, wrote Bahamian Prime Minister Lynden O. Findling pointing out that the banks use the new black nation as a transmittal ground for financing having an important political effect. "Self-sufficiency would free South Africa from crippling international economic pressures to isolate the white government and to challenge its abilities to maintain the apartheid system."

An expose of these loans written by investigative reporter Tad Szulc and scheduled for publication in THE NEW YORK TIMES was suddenly killed - a sad commentary on the people who brought us the Pentagon Papers.

Judge Booth was asked to address the City Council of Petersburg, Va., which voted to sever its ties with United Virginia Bankshares. Wachovia Bank in North Carolina denied its participation in the consortium but avoided offering credible proof.

Here are the American banks. Publicly protest their participation in these loans:

**CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK IN CHICAGO**
Frank E. Bauder, chairman
120 South La Salle Street
Chicago, Illinois 60603

**CITY NATIONAL BANK OF DETROIT**
John H. French, Jr., chairman
505 Jackson Building
Detroit, Michigan 48226

**MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK AND TRUST COMPANY**
R. E. Sweeney, Jr., chairman
37 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF LOUISVILLE**
Hugh M. Shwab, Jr., chairman
216 South 5th Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202

**UNITED VIRGINIA BANKSHARES, INC.**
Edward F. Gee, chairman
900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

**WACHOVIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, INC.**
Archie K. Davis, chairman
Third and Main Streets
Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

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RESTORE THE UNITED STATES AS A LAW-ABIDING NATION.

REPEAL THE BYRD AMENDMENT.

Two bills are pending before Congress:

H.R. 8005 - sponsored by Congressmen Charles Diggs, Donald Fraser and 93 others.

S. 1868 - sponsored by Senator Hubert Humphrey and 24 co-sponsors.

- which are intended to repeal the so-called Byrd Amendment, to halt the importation of Rhodesian chrome and so restore the United States to a position of abiding by its treaty obligations to the United Nations.

WRITE OR WIRE YOUR SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN TO VOTE FOR PASSAGE OF THIS LEGISLATION.

GET YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR CHURCH, YOUR LOCAL POLITICIANS TO DO SO.

For further information:

WASHINGTON OFFICE ON AFRICA
110 Maryland Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
PHONE: (202) 546-7961

Crippling herbicides are banned at home. Ban their shipment overseas.

The USA lavished an herbicide called 'Agent Orange' in Vietnam, more than 100 million pounds of it. It's chief ingredient is called 2,4,5-T.

This chemical is prohibited from use in this country by the Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency.

But it can be sold overseas.

South Africa's purchases doubled in one year, Portugal's six-fold.

Portugal drops it on staple food crops of Africans in Angola and Mozambique, in an effort to cripple the people's support of liberation armies.

Representative Charles Rangel (D-NY) introduced these bills in Congress:

H.R. 8573 - to halt exportation of 2,4,5-T herbicides.

H.R. 8574 - to ban the exportation of all herbicides to Portugal and South Africa.

WRITE OR WIRE YOUR CONGRESSMEN TO GIVE THEIR SUPPORT TO THIS LEGISLATION.

I enclose $____________________ for the work of Episcopal Churchmen for South Africa.

(contributions to ECSA deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes)

NAME: ____________________________________________________________

STREET: __________________________________________________________

CITY: ____________________ STATE: __________ ZIP CODE: ______

I do not wish an acknowledgment.

Please make checks payable to: EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN FOR SOUTH AFRICA
14 West 11th Street
New York, N.Y. 10011
Atrocities committed by troops and security forces of Portugal in Mozambique have been extensively documented by sources which cannot be ignored by the Western press and politicians, calling fresh attention to the United States' NATO ally's African wars.

Atrocities by Rhodesian troops in Mozambique, operating in complicity with the Portuguese, have been personally verified by a British journalist in the field.

On 10 July, Fr. Adrian Hastings, Roman Catholic priest-teacher at the ecumenical College of the Ascension in Birmingham, in a front-page article in THE TIMES of London, stated that Portuguese troops had been 'carrying out the systematic genocidal massacre' of Africans suspected of helping guerrilla soldiers of FRELIMO, the Mozambique Liberation Front.

"The security forces feel free in the knowledge that there are no journalists for hundreds of miles and the victims know no European language. But the Spanish missionaries in the area obtained detailed information and themselves buried many of the victims."

Pictures have been widely printed showing Portuguese soldiers beheading freedom fighters. The Portuguese prize photographs of severed heads on poles, sending home souvenir postcards of them.

Mr. Marcelino Dos Santos, vice president of FRELIMO, testified at a special meeting of the United Nations Committee on Decolonization on 20 July of the numerous occasions that FRELIMO had reported on Portuguese savagery. "In 1960, well before the beginning of the national liberation war, in Mueda in the Province of Cabo Delgado, hundreds of persons - almost 600 - were killed by the Portuguese army with grenades and machine guns while they were demonstrating peacefully, requesting fertile land and claiming their right to independence. This event became a historic symbol because that massacre at Mueda was the event which finally showed the Mozambican people that any peaceful development towards independence was impossible and that only armed struggle would allow them to attain their aspirations to freedom, justice and dignity."

A former major in the Portuguese Air Force and now a member of the Front for National Liberation, a freedom organization in metropolitan Portugal, said at a press conference hosted by a Labour MP in London, that in 1960, 50,000 to 80,000 people were killed in Angola, many by bombs dropped from aircraft supplied to Portugal by NATO.

On 2 September, THE OBSERVER of London, featured a report by David Martin, fresh from marching with FRELIMO guerrillas in Tete Province of Mozambique, telling of incursions by Rhodesian troops, with Portuguese permission, chiefly in search of freedom fighters of the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU). They assaulted with bombers, jet fighters and helicopter gunships, killed men, women and children, burned villages, spread defoliants over crops - and indulged in decapitation of villagers. This is further verification of the Lisbon-Salisbury-Pretoria alliance which pools armed forces in the white regimes' struggle against the liberation movements' armies in Southern Africa.

A series of massacres, 'for ghastliness each rivaling that of My Lai' were perpetrated in the Mucumbura area of Tete Province and detailed in reports given to Fr. Hastings by the Spanish Burgos Fathers, long-time missionaries in Mozambique. Over 400 people were destroyed at Wiriyamu on 16 December 1972:

"Following a bombardment, soldiers who had been transported by helicopter invaded it with ferocity, began ransacking the huts, and the massacre of the people followed immediately... Many children at the breasts and on the backs of their mothers were shot at the same time as their mothers.

"The soldiers asked a pregnant woman named Zostina the sex of her child. 'I don't know', she replied. 'You soon will', they said. Immediately they opened her stomach with knives and extracted her entrails. Showing her the fetus, they said. 'Look, now you know.' Afterwards she was burned."

The reports refer to the presence of officers of the Directorate-General of Security, (DGS), successor to the infamous PIDE, the Portuguese secret police, reliably connected by Interpol investigation to the 1969 assassination of the founder of FRELIMO, Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, and responsible for last January's murder of the Guine-Bissau leader, Dr. Amilcar Cabral.

A decade and more of struggle has hardened in combat and firmed in political governance the liberation movements of Angola and Mozambique and in Guine-Bissau whose people led by the Party for the Independence of Guinea and the Cape Verde Islands, PAIGC, are on the verge of declaring their independence - having won three-quarters of their country from the Portuguese.

Yet the United States government persists in support of its butcher NATO ally.