God is beyond
in the midst of our life.
The church stands,
not at the boundaries
where human powers give out,
but in the middle of
the village.

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer
Letters from Prison

EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN FOR SOUTH AFRICA
14 West 11 Street New York City (212) 477-0066
FOR A FREE SOUTHERN AFRICA
MATIVITY OF OUR LADY 1975
Sept 1975
In June, Anglican Bishop Richard Wood, his American wife, Ms. Cathleen Wood and Lutheran layman Rolf Friede were expelled from Namibia, events described in ECSA's Pentecost bulletin. This newsletter brings you a close look at South Africa's illegal rule in that United Nations territory - by means of copies of documents affecting the Woods and their two-and-a-half-year old daughter, Rachel Ndimuwa.

The search warrant used to raid the bishop's office and the Woods' home is an explicit display of Pretoria's mentality and hatreds. Note that Cathy Wood wrote down the names of the large-size police team. Observe, too, that the South African regime, which makes every effort to put its stooge South West Africa Administration up front, addresses "All Members of the South African Police" in Ms. Wood's removal warrant. The most touching text is Cathy Wood's letter protesting her expulsion and pleading Rachel Ndimuwa's rights of Namibian citizenship.

The U.S. State Department is busy replying to letters you and your congressional officials have sent on the expulsions, with this basic text:

"Upon learning of the expulsion order, our Embassy in South Africa immediately, but ultimately unsuccessfully, sought to have the expulsion order rescinded or stayed pending notification to Bishop Wood and his wife of the reasons for the expulsion and the holding of a hearing to permit them to answer the charges. We also pointed out the obligations of the South African Government to withdraw its administration from the territory, consistent with the conclusions of the 1971 advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, and to respect the rights of the territory's inhabitants.

"Following the arrest and expulsion of Mrs. Wood from Namibia our Embassy made another demarche to the South African Government on June 27 expressing our displeasure over the forcible removal of Mrs. Wood from Namibia. The South African Government belatedly responded on July 17 to our repeated requests for information on the reasons for the expulsion. We find the South African Government's explanation of the expulsion unconvincing, and we are considering what further actions, if any, we might take in this situation."

Keep up your letters to: The Hon. Henry Kissinger Department of State Washington, D.C. 20520

What legal action will the U.S. government undertake on behalf of this American citizen illegally and forcibly removed from the United Nations territory of Namibia?

When is the U.S. government going to condemn publicly Cathy Wood's illegal expulsion by the usurper?
VERW. NR. REF. NO.

NAVRAE: ENQUIRIES:

TELEFOON NR. TELEPHONE NO.:

TELEGRAMADRES TELEGRAM ADDRESS: "SWASEC"

ADMINISTRASIE VAN SUIDWES-AFRIKA  
SOUTH WEST AFRICA ADMINISTRATION

Kantoor van die  
Office of the

SECRETARY FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA,  
PRIVATE BAG 13186,  
WINDHOEK.  
9100.

16 June 1975.

THE RIGHT REVEREND R.J. WOOD.

WHEREAS the Administrator-in-Executive Committee has, in terms of section 1(1) of the Undesirables Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Proclamation 50 of 1920), as amended, directed me to issue an order to you

THE RIGHT REVEREND RICHARD JAMES WOOD  
SUFFRAGAN BISHOP OF DAMARALAND

residing at the Bishop's House, 5, Brahms Street, WINDHOEK, to leave the Territory of South West Africa before 12 noon on the 23rd day of June 1975;

NOW THEREFORE I, Hendrik Pieter Fasulin Gous, in my capacity as Acting Secretary for South West Africa, do hereby, in terms of section 1(1) of the Undesirables Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Proclamation 50 of 1920), as amended, order you, the said THE RIGHT REVEREND RICHARD JAMES WOOD to leave the Territory of South West Africa before 12 noon on the 23rd day of June 1975.

ACTING SECRETARY FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA.

VERMY VERTRAGING: MELD ASSEBLIEF BOSTAANDE VERWYSINGSNOMINER  
AVOID DELAY: PLEASE QUOTE ABOVEMENTIONED REFERENCE NUMBER
WHEREAS the Administrator-in-Executive Committee has, in terms of section 1(1) of the Undesirables Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Proclamation 50 of 1920), as amended, directed me to issue an order to you

MRS. CATHLEEN ANNE WOOD

residing at the Bishop's House
5, Brahms Street
WINDHOEK

to leave the Territory of South West Africa before 12 noon on the 23rd day of June 1975;

NOW THEREFORE I, Henderik Pieter Faculin Gous, in my capacity as Acting Secretary for South West Africa, do hereby, in terms of section 1(1) of the Undesirables Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Proclamation 50 of 1920), as amended, order you, the said MRS. CATHLEEN ANNE WOOD to leave the Territory of South West Africa before 12 noon on the 23rd day of June 1975.
SEARCH WARRANT.

TO ALL POLICE OFFICERS:

Whereas it appears to me from information taken on oath that there are reasonable grounds for believing that the following goods and/or documents, viz:— Ledgers, cash books, day books, account books, invoices, cheque books, cheque stubs, deposit slips, bank statements, financial returns, circulars, circular instructions, letters of instructions, minute books, minutes, pamphlets, draft speeches, recording discs, recording tape, recording machines, letters, telegrams, cablegrams, nominal rolls, plans of campaign, posters, stickers, flags, placards, diaries, banners, speaker's notes, invitation cards, resolutions, draft resolutions, membership cards, volunteer forms, lectures, books, note book, film, gramophone records, shorthand notes, typewriters, and all other correspondence, the property of and/or relating to the affairs of the undermentioned organizations or matters:

AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS (ANC); PAN AFRICANIST CONGRESS;
AFRICAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA (APDUA);
SOUTH WEST AFRICAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION (SWAPO); THE SOUTH AFRICAN COMMUNIST PARTY (SACP); DEFENCE AND AID FUND;
QUAKER SERVICE FUND; BLACK SASH; THE SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES; INTER CHURCH AID; CHRISTIAN COUNCIL; CHRISTIAN AID; THE CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AFRICA; SOUTH AFRICAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES (RELIEF DEPARTMENT); AMERICAN BOARD MISSION; PRISON EDUCATION FUND; SOUTH AFRICAN COMMITTEE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION; TURRETT CORRESPONDENCE COLLEGE (PTY) LTD;
UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT; THE REPUBLIC TRANSPORT WORKERS UNION INC.; DEAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND; EDUCATION INFORMATION CENTER; SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS; NAZI\CHRISTIAN UNION OF SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENTS (NUSAS); WITWAVESLAND COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND ANTI-APARTHEID MOVEMENT; INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, will afford evidence as to the commission or more of the undermentioned offences, or are intended to be used for the purpose of committing the said offences, to wit:

[Redacted]
1. c/s 3 & 4 Ord. 13/1933 - Rail Relations - Stamping - Junction
3. c/s 11 of Act. 44/1950 as amended - Suppression & Communication
4. c/s 21(1) of Act. 76/1962 - Sabotage
5. c/s 2(1) Act. 83/1967 - Terrorism

and are in or upon the premises or receptacle at

Sinclairroad and Brahmsstreet including all the rooms and premises which are occupied/used by officers of the Anglican Church in the occupation of Bishop R.J. Wood

These are therefore in the State's name to authorise and require you, with necessary and proper assistance, to enter the said premises or receptacle and there diligently to search such premises or receptacle and any person found thereon or thereat for the said goods and documents, and if the same or any part thereof shall be found upon such search, that you bring the said goods and documents so found before the magistrate at Windhoek to be disposed of and dealt with according to law.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AT Windhoek

THIS 17th DAY OF June 1975

THE DAY OR NIGHT.
TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE

WARRANT OF REMOVAL FROM THE TERRITORY

WHEREAS there are reasonable grounds for suspicion against Mrs. CATHELEEN ANNE WOOD

OF

5, BRAHMS STREET, WINDHOEK

that she, being a person who was ordered in terms of section 1(1) of the Undesirables Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Proclamation 50 of 1920), to leave the Territory of South West Africa before 12 NOON on the twenty-third day of June, 1975, is still to be found within the Territory of South West Africa;

THESE are therefore to command you in terms of section 1(1) of the Undesirables Removal Proclamation, 1920 (Proclamation 50 of 1920), immediately upon sight hereof forthwith to remove (or cause to be removed) from the Territory of South West Africa the said

MRS. CATHELEEN ANNE WOOD

Given under my hand at Windhoek this twenty-fourth day of June, 1975.

__________________________

ACTING SECRETARY FOR SOUTH WEST AFRICA
TO THE ADMINISTRATOR - IN - EXECUTIVE - COUNCIL:

Dear Sir

On June 17 I was served with an order to leave this territory. I refused to leave of my own free will, and am accordingly being forcibly removed this day.

I protest strongly against my expulsion, as also against the situation which has thus been forced on me as regards my two-and-one-half-year old daughter, Rachel Ndimuwa, who was born in this mandated territory.

As regards my own expulsion, I must presume that this action has been taken against me solely on the grounds that I am the wife of the Right Reverend Richard Wood, Suffragan Bishop of Damaraland, also expelled as of yesterday. Clearly there can be no other grounds for my expulsion. As my husband said in a pastoral letter, if the Administrator-in-Executive-Council could be made to give reasons for this arbitrary action against me, "they would be the laughing stock of the world".

My daughter, Rachel Ndimuwa, was born in Windhoek on 20 January 1973. Her birth was duly registered with the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages. She holds a South African passport. There is no right of citizenship in this territory, as there is in almost all countries of the world. If there were such a right, my daughter, by virtue of her birth, would indisputably be a citizen.

She has not been expelled from the territory, but I learn that despite her birth, the Administration would be legally entitled to expel her as an "undesirable".

As a mother, I must take Rachel with me. I do this under strong protest, as she is being deprived of her God-given right to remain and live in the country of her birth, a right which you have seen fit to abrogate.

Yours faithfully,

CATHLEEN ANN WOOD
Citizen of the United States of America

This letter is being given to the officer removing me from the territory for delivery to the Administrator.
Chief Filemon Elifas, chief minister of the Owambo 'homeland' in northern Namibia, was assassinated Saturday night, 16 August. THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER reports the 43-year-old ally of the South African regime was shot dead by a lone gunman at Onamagongwa. Commissioner Jannie de Wet, South Africa's pro-consul in the area, said the chief was riddled from the belt to the armpit by bullets fired at close distance, and that spent shells appeared to have come from an automatic weapon. A nephew accompanying the bantustan leader was seriously wounded. Elifas was dead on arrival at the hospital at the Owambo administrative center of Oshakati. He was given a state funeral.

South African Police reinforcements were flown in from South Africa by the nervous occupation authorities who think the assassination was the work of the South West Africa People's Organization. News from the northern region is hard to come by because of emergency regulations long-imposed by the South Africans, but at least two SWAPO leaders have been arrested.

Chief Elifas is widely hated. The public floggings of dissidents to Owambo rule and other acts of intimidation, Elifas' assertions of support for South African Prime Minister Balthazar Johannes Vorster's 'detente' policy (aimed at restructuring Pretoria's defenses in the wake of the Portuguese collapse in Southern Africa), and the chief's proclamations favoring an independent Owambo (thus backing South Africa's aim of fragmenting Namibia) all ran counter to the country-wide determination of the Namibian people for a unitary, state-free from minority and foreign rule. David de Beer reports on an early summer visit to southern Angola he and Bishop Colin Winter made -nd of the Ovambo people's "open defiance towards the South African authorities and their determination to live in a free Namibia" when they came across the border to greet their bishop and make communion with him.

THE ADVERTISER relates that "there was much rejoicing in Katutura" when news of the assassination reached that African township outside Namibia's capital city and there were shouts of "Elifas got what he wanted" and "Elifas was the one who received bribes from the Boers". At a meeting convened by local leaders of the Damar* people - staunch opponents of South African occupation and white rule - "...Blacks...made no secret of their delight". THE TIMES of London says that Ovambo migrant workers were jubilant and a crowd chanted "Kapuuo will be next".

Herero Chief Clemens Kapuuo, an adversary of SWAPO and the umbrella Namibia National Convention and who until recently defied the regime, has announced he will participate in the South African-sponsored "constitutional conference" set to begin in Windhoek on 1st September. NNC and SWAPO reject this conclave. Kapuuo claimed he was at the top of a SWAPO assassination list. SWAPO national chairman David Meroro denied his organization was responsible for the slaying of Chief Elifas.

Prime Minister Vorster is relying on the conference to come up with a scheme for an independent South West Africa which will preserve Pretoria's political, military and economic grip on the wealthy territory and at the same time nullify world pressure for a free Namibia brought about by help and supervision of the United Nations. Vorster will miss his key black puppet Elifas. (continued)
Elifas and Vorster held a meeting early in August in Pretoria at which the chief minister asked for and received greater powers. South African defense forces and police "would remain in Owambo as long as their presence was essential for law and order". Vorster promised to tighten travel restrictions over the Namibia-Angola border which forms Owambo's northern frontier. THE JOHANNESBURG STAR lists a further intriguing commitment by Vorster: "For improved infrastructure, safeguards for the Ruacana water and hydro-electric project."

SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA

THE WASHINGTON POST's Africa correspondent, David Ottaway, in a dispatch from Luanda in the 24 August issue, says that South Africa has sent troops from occupied Namibia into Angola under the pretext of protecting the dam it is building on the Cunene River. THE POST a week earlier, in an article reporting on an invasion charge, stated: "A spokesman in Pretoria for the South African defense force declined to comment on the charge."

South African and Portuguese (old regime) police had cooperated for years in quelling African dissidents. But this incursion raises an entirely new international issue: a usurper springboarding from its occupied territory into yet another country - one virtually in civil war. (Reuters reported on 22 August the Angolan MPLA liberation movement charged foreign mercenaries are joining the rival FNLA - Zaireans, Tunisians, Afro-Americans.)

The Ruacana dam complex on the Cunene River was initiated in 1969 with an agreement between the Portuguese and South African regimes "as a source of cheap water and power", according to the South African Foreign Affairs Department's South West Africa Survey 1974, integral to the intense building up of and investment in the territory by Pretoria (in addition to private South African and other foreign investments). Ruacana is aimed to avoid dependence on costly imported coal and fuel oil.

The Cunene River emanates from central Angola, moves south to the Ruacana Falls where it turns westward to flow some 300 km - as the Namibia-Angola boundary - to empty into the Atlantic. There is a regulating dam at Gove and a dam and pumping station at Calueque in Angola, the latter place 40 km upriver from Ruacana. The Calueque station, an irrigation canal to the Namibian border and an interim power station at the Falls are complete, at a cost to South Africa of $6.5 million. Expenditures for the initial stage of the scheme will be almost $200 million, including a power grid to Windhoek, there to connect with existing lines. Contracts with the South West Africa Water and Electricity Commission have been signed by Windhoek and other municipalities and by the American-controlled Tsumeb Corporation.

REFUGEES

Over 8,000 refugees, mostly whites, have fled across into Namibia as the war in Angola spreads southward. They are being air-ferried to South Africa for return to Portugal or hopeful resettlement in other countries.

BISHOP & MS. WOOD

Bishop Richard Wood flew to Lusaka, Zambia, in mid-August on the first stage of a journey into southern Angola to further the setting up of a mission and hospital at Namacunde, 10 km above the Namibian border.

Ms. Cathleen Wood and their daughter, Rachel Ndimuwa, are making a short visit with Ms. Wood's parents in Arizona. She returns to Britain in mid-September where she and her husband and Bishop Winter will make a final decision on the Woods settling at Namacunde.
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"While South Africa has trumpeted loudly overseas about detente and improved human rights, nothing has been done in this country, and a policy of violence has been followed internally." - Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia.

(The Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Ovambokavango Lutheran) (Church are federated into the United Evangelical Lutheran Church and their) (members comprise over half the population of Namibia.)

The Sixth Ordinary Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, under the presidency of Bishop Lukas de Vries, met in Otjimbingwe in July 1975 and issued a message to its adherents and to the world. Following are excerpts:

"The dialogue held earlier with representatives of the South African Government has shown that the representations and objections of the Church have fallen on deaf ears, and that the road to reconciliation has been seriously impaired by this attitude. The promises of the authorities that investigation would be made into the representations of the Church in respect of tortures, refusal of visas and passports, human rights, etc., were never carried out. This has become apparent in the recent action of the authorities against Pastor H.J. Messerschmidt, Bishop R. Wood, Mrs. C. Wood and Mr. R. Friede.

"This persecution of the Church has been evident not only in the banning and expulsion of clergy, but also in the expulsion of ELC congregation members from places of employment and sometimes towns. The Synod notes with regret the increasingly violent threats of the police and ordinary White population against Black people who are not armed, through the presence of police armed with dogs, automatic weapons and batons. The Synod is shocked by the silence of White churches in regard to the threatening attitude of their congregations. The Synod wishes to question this silence on the grounds of Christian responsibility and more specifically on the grounds of the role of the Church.

"The Synod calls on the South African Government to admit that peace cannot be achieved through violence, but that the Government should pay attention with all honesty and seriousness to the voice of the Christians who desire the freedom of their country. Only then can true freedom be achieved."