RHODESIA

RG - HMG

HMG may announce final breakdown of talks with Smith. Consultations with Commonwealth allies will precede request for selective sanctions at UN: (to include principal exports - tobacco, chrome, asbestos). Oil will be excluded at first, for fear SA will not cooperate -- Both Britain and US want to avoid trade war with SA.

Wilson has been very reluctant to admit failure of negotiations and is uncertain of public opinion; much thought has been given to best way of breaking news.

HMG will base its case on Smith's persistent refusal to promise "unimpeded progress" towards majority rule; this will be documented in White Paper containing London-Salisbury exchanges. Much of final dispute has centered on Clause 3 of 1961 Constitution, which Britain wanted to amend to ensure majority rule.

HMG will recall that Smith has had a year to come to terms and that Commonwealth was held together September only by promise to make one final offer to Smith. Security Council is due to debate Rhodesian issue early December.

Parliament will debate matter Monday/Tuesday Nov. 28/29; Conservatives are likely to dissent on grounds that Smith is still willing to talk. Observer - 11/20

Commonwealth Secretary Bowden flew to Rhodesia on last chance mission for Smith regime to avert threat of UN sanctions but few thought Smith was ready to change attitude, accept British conditions for ending UDI. Vital issues are that there must be unimpeded progress toward black majority rule and that Britain must be satisfied that any proposed constitution is acceptable to all Rhodesians -- the 220,000 whites and four million blacks.

Wilson informed Parliament that he doubted agreement could be reached. HMG has prepared resolution for UN Security Council early December calling for compulsory selective economic sanctions. New York Times - 11/25

If no timely agreement Wilson pledged he would ask UN for mandatory economic sanctions against Rhodesia. And he said he would, after that, rule out any agreement to independence for Rhodesia except on the basis of immediate majority rule.

Proposal for Bowden's trip came from Governor of Rhodesia Gibbs, who is ignored by Smith regime. Wilson said Britain owed it to Gibbs to make this final gesture after his lonely opposition to the Smith actions. Likely that HMG's deference to Gibbs represents more than tribute to his courage. It may be attempt to keep him from resigning, thus breaking last link between Rhodesia and British Crown. New York Times - 11/24

Vorster saw the British Ambassador Nicholls on Rhodesia issue. Ambassador's call was viewed by diplomats as a request to SA to intercede so that Britain does not have to go to UN for mandatory sanctions, but little optimism that

Then - - And Now (John Hatch in New Statesman) Stripped of its verbiage, British policy seems to be approaching an inevitable choice between two alternatives. Either some form of military intervention will be used to end the rebellion; or the present impasse will continue for the foreseeable future. Unless the government can screw up its courage to coerce the Rhodesian white community with at least some threat of force, we are entering a long period of inconclusive attrition. This can only lead to Smith gradually strengthening his de facto power with South African help, whilst the Zambian economy, now under growing strain, progressively declines. It would be more honest for Harold Wilson to face these alternatives than to continue to deceive himself. If he will not contemplate force, or is not allowed to by other ministers, he would do better to admit defeat. He would lose the Commonwealth, together with many economic and diplomatic advantages. But at least the Africans would know the stark truth and could prepare to meet it.

I have already suggested a plan for buying out those Rhodesians who will not live under African government. Now I would like to ask Mr. Wilson: "If you believe in summit meetings in Moscow and Washington, why not in Africa, where you have direct responsibilities? Before your policy finally destroys the Commonwealth, together with British influence in the Third World, go to Nairobi and meet Kaunda, Nyerere, Kenyatta and Obote. They are politicians like yourself; you would at least understand each other; you would see the significance of Rhodesia to Africa; you might even salvage something between you to aver the final catastrophe." 10/14

THE U. N.

UN General Assembly 89 - 2 (Portugal-SA) - 17 called on Britain to take all necessary measures, including force, to end Smith regime; most abstainers were Western nations.

THE O. A. U.

OAU Ministerial Council adopted resolution calling for Britain to put down Smith regime, even if it meant using force. Resolution called for all member states to support full mandatory sanctions, and fund for Zimbabwe nationalist movements.

President Nyerere of Tanzania distributed booklet urging African states to give ultimatum to Britain stating, "You cannot now create another SA and still hope to remain on friendly terms with independent Africa." Times, London - 11/7

ECONOMIC

Minister of Agriculture Rudland announced RG will pay tobacco growers second bonus (£500,000), which probably reflects miscalculation in average payment made to growers last season based on 24d per pound (about 56% usual average price.) i.e. "the average payment made on the basis of the guaranteed prices has fallen short of this figure (24d/lb.) because of the relatively poor quality of the crop."

Rhodesian businessmen arrived Lisbon to discuss increasing Rhodesian-Portuguese trade. As of Feb., 1955 Portuguese goods can enter Rhodesia under a preferential customs tariff. Times, London 11/9

-389-
INSIDE RHODESIA

2 Africans were sentenced to 8 and 10 years' imprisonment for possession of 2 machine-guns and ammunition. Times, London - 11/9

US citizen Brooks, alleged to have absconded while on bail in Philadelphia and fled to Rhodesia, received reprieve from Rhodesian High Court preventing his deportation to SA (from which country US could exercise extradition procedures). US does not recognize Rhodesia: Brooks is charged with arson/theft in Philadelphia and was detained in Rhodesia Nov. 5 for not recording criminal charges on his immigration form. New York Times - 11/19

ZAMBIA

RKG replied to Kaunda's 7-day ultimatum demanding breakup of Rhodesia Railways: contents of reply were not disclosed. New York Times 11/24

SA has emerged as Zambia's main trading partner since UDI, filling vacuum left by Rhodesia. However, many items still come in across southern border, and only by licensing essential imports has Zambia been able to reduce Rhodesian imports of cars, clothes, consumer goods. New York Times - 11/17

Roan Selection Trust, Ltd., in spite of necessity of operating on "day-to-day basis set production/sales/profit records for fiscal year ending June 30. However, production figures for quarter ended Sept. 30 were down about 30% due to recent strikes. New York Times 11/17

17,155 petrol was transported by road/rail/plane from Dar es Salaam to Zambia October 1966. Times, London - 11/9

ZG announced Rhodesian troops had shot Zambian Mrs. Soko in Zambia's territorial waters of Zambezi. Times, London - 11/7

SOUTH AFRICA and SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Vorster said SA regarded UN decision to deprive SAG of mandate over SWA as "ridiculous"/illegal/unconstitutional, and SAG intended to do nothing about it. News from SA - 11/9

UN General Assembly announced that following nations would serve on 14-member committee to study proposed transfer of SWA to UN administration: Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Finland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Senegal, Soviet Union, UAR, USA. Committee is due to report its findings to special session of UN General Assembly April '67. New York Times - 11/22

-390-