RHODESIA

RG reported exports $293.2m and imports $235.8m 1966 -- resulting in $57.4m positive balance of trade. Exports dropped $168m since 1965 -- probably indication of effect of tobacco sanctions. White population increased by 2,000 to 226,000. African population statistics were not given.

New York Times 4/14

In 16 months since UDI Rhodesia has maintained apparent material prosperity; but prices and unemployment rise while growth rate decreases. Yet belief is almost unanimous that RG can survive sanctions campaign. Lack of growth causes unemployment. 80,000 African school dropouts entered labor market 1966. Total employment in 1965 was 721,500, of whom 633,000 were Africans. Wash. Post 4/10

If Rhodesian illegal independence ends, probably will come when SA bankers tire of honoring currency worthless nearly everywhere else, or when SAG hints privately that game is up. Some Salisbury merchants report that checks mailed to SA have been returned with request for payment in another currency. W.P. 4/11

President of RTA Heurtley warned further cut in tobacco crop target 1967/68 season would ruin hundreds of growers. In recent years average crop has been c. 250 m lbs. 1967/68 figure probably will be much below 1966/67 figure of 200 m lbs. London Times 4/12

HMG is under pressure to ask for increased sanctions. Careful study is being given to this. New sanctions might fall on passports, freedom to travel outside Southern Africa, and posts and communications; which have not been applied so far, because "they might hurt Britain's friends (black and white) in Rhodesia and prove inhumane in special cases, with political repercussions". At present, British principals of businesses in Rhodesia meet their Rhodesian managers on the continent, but countries applying sanctions could prevent this by examining passports; then meetings could take place only in Portugal or Switzerland.

Would the International Postal Union agree to embargo mail, cables and calls? This would also inconvenience Gibbs. Letters could be restamped in SA, but this would burden Rhodesia's unofficial mission in Pretoria, "where Mr. Gaunt is already none too popular". LT - 4/17

Commonwealth Scholarship Commission has found way to allow 11 Rhodesians, studying in UK on scholarship, to finish their courses, "provided the holders did not engage in political activity in support of the illegal regime". LT - 4/13

Committee on Southern Africa, University Christian Movement
Room 754, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N. Y. 10027
REGIME RELEASES BARON -- FOR DEPORTATION --

THROUGH MAGNANIMITY? -- -- --

MORE LIKELY RG DOES NOT WANT SICK MAN ON THEIR HANDS. NOW, RG'S CONSCIENCE IS CLEAR -- AS MUD.

Leo Baron (legal advisor to ZAPU President Joshua Nkomo) who was restricted near Bulawayo May, 1965 and then detained without trial in Salisbury after UDI, Nov. 1965, has been released from prison and "allowed to leave" Rhodesia for health reasons. He will go to London. Mr. Baron's detention was the basis for various court proceedings in Rhodesia over the constitutionality of Smith regime after UDI. The High Court stated that although UDI regime was not dejure govt., it was de facto in charge. On appeal in January 1967, the Appellate Division judges reserved judgement.

Mr. Baron went to live in Rhodesia early 1950's, and involved himself in legal work, including work for Africans and organizations such as the African Railway Workers' Union. He backed Garfield Todd's United Rhodesia Party, and its successor, the Central Africa Party, until after the 1961 Constitutional Conference. In 1965 he was detained for being "actively associated with activities prejudicial to the maintenance of law and order in Rhodesia." NYT-4/19

IS WILSON BEGINNING TO LEARN?

Wilson said in Commons he had no reason to believe allegations that SA army units had moved into Rhodesia in civilian clothes, but he would make inquiries. Liberal Leader Jeremy Thorpe raised the question. Rand Daily Mail-4/7

Wilson warned that RG risks "very serious" internal developments unless it returns to constitutional rule. Asked in Commons if he anticipated any breakdown of law and order in Rhodesia, he said: "Not currently. We all hope and trust it won't happen. But when you have a regime fortified by massive censorship, and terrorism of the African population by agents provocateur, when you have in every African village a member of Smith's secret police informing on them -- and Mr. Smith confirmed this to me . . . you are running the risk of very serious developments." Christian Science Monitor - 4/20

Here follows an example of what Wilson may be appearing to be, beginning to learn --

Three men, alleged to have set fire to a teacher's house and a store in Mrewa district 1964, were charged under MANDATORY HANGING CLAUSE of Law and Order Maintenance Act in High Court, Salisbury. Nobody was injured in attack on house, but store was badly burnt. The accused are John and David Mundwa (brothers) and a juvenile. In alleged statement to police, John Mundwa, chairman of school board, said nationalists believed that the teacher was a police informer. Rand Daily Mail.- 4/5
DOES TIME MOVE BACKWARDS, MR SANDYS?

Duncan Sandys made some points at "Peace with Rhodesia" rally in Bradford:
-- HMG and RG should reaffirm readiness to settlement on Tiger proposals.
-- RG allow HMG "to ascertain view of anyone they chose".
-- After agreement, fix early date for independence.
-- RG end UDI.
-- HMG end sanctions.
-- Gibbs dissolve present Rhodesian legislature; then new elections under new constitution.
-- "A new govt. should be formed . . . in accordance with normal democratic practice."
-- (Sandys was interrupted several times by hecklers; audience of 1,000.) LT-4/8

BACK TO FRONT - - -

The R. F. (Rhodesia Front, which party Backs RG) will hold special one-day congress April 22. This probably because of party's attitude to Constitutional Commission to which the party (independent of RG!) will present evidence.

Observers believe there is conflict within R. Front re nature of constitutional proposals to be put to Constitutional Commission (set up by RG). Amendments due at R. Front Congress are:
1) deletion of "the Party affirms its loyalty to the Queen."
2) addition of "the Party opposes compulsory integration - - -" LT-4/7,10

Z A M B I A

Chilean Government paper expressed conviction that meeting to be held in Lusaka June 1967 between world's major copper producers (Chile, Zambia, Congo, Peru) would be successful because they represent 75% of world's copper. (!) Recent price drop of copper on London market was explained by normalization of consumer deliveries by Congo and Zambia. NYT - 4/3

Hopefully, not an imitation of RG - -

75 white copper miners began wildcat strike to protest detention of 5 people (including 2 Britons, 1 Canadian) by ZG under security regulations. Families not allowed to visit detainees, who are being held at Mumbwa prison camp, 100 miles from Lusaka; arrangements are being made for their lawyers to see them. The Observer 4/15

Item: Mrs. Violet Elliot, an Austrian subject married to an American was sentenced to 1 year jail in Tel Aviv for connection with plot to blow up railway bridge in Zambia, in order to disrupt copper shipment and raise world prices. Her husband awaits trial in USA. LT - 4/10

-466-
SWAZILAND

ENG is quietly carrying out last of 3 promises made 58 years ago - that it would not turn over to SA the 3 protectorates without their consent. Swaziland will hold parliamentary elections April 19-20 as first step toward independence, now tentatively set for late 1968. Consensus is that Imbokodo National Movement will win landslide. It is party of Swazi King Sobhuza II, known as the "rainmaker" and "Ngwenyama (lion) of the Swazis", and has pushed for independence.

King Sobhuza II will remain constitutional monarch, and INM led by Prince Dlamini, will probably gain legislative majority. This party now rules Swaziland legislative council, and Prince Dlamini is expected to become Prime Minister. Swazi wives will vote in election. The King's (aged 68) lineage goes back 400 years. Although he has 50 wives, there is no queen. Instead his aunt, Nklovukazi or the "Great She-Elephant", will be official Queen Mother Regent. The selection of a new king will be in the hands of a royal advisory body.

Recently the INM made efforts to gain support of 10,000 Europeans -- mostly SA--who live among 250,000 Swazis. This year, for second time, the King invited some whites to participate in the Incwala ceremony, symbolic of power of Swazi monarchs and unity of the nation. The King has assured whites they will continue to be needed to aid in Swaziland's development. The opposition parties, however, suggest that the King's pro-white stand was payoff to London for granting Constitution that gives King what the opposition considers almost dictatorial powers (e.g. King is given right to name 6 members of National Assembly).

Opposition parties include Ambrose Zwane's Ngwane National Liberation Congress which stands for 'pan-Africanism'; left-leaning Swaziland Progressive Party led by J. H. Nquku; Swaziland Democratic Party led by A.W. Nxumalo; and pro-white United Front.

Swaziland has distinct advantage over fellow former protectorates -- its economy is based on minerals rather than agriculture, and its agriculture is fortunate with climate/soils good enough to produce exportable surplus of sugar, butter, meat, timber. Christian Science Monitor, New York Times - 4/19

BOTSWANA

US Peace Corps has brought mingling of races to southern Africa on scale never before seen in this part of the world, reports Afrikaaner paper, Die Burger. Their correspondent wrote: "Never has so much miscegenation been committed in southern Africa as by these young Americans. Their influence is almost unbelievable, though they have been in Botswana for only a few months. White and black converse in hotels and bars. There are parties where the numbers of white and blacks are equal and couples of...different races walk arm in arm in the streets." Recently a PCV group was evicted from white-owned hotel in capital Gaberones because they were "kissing African women" in the lounge. Corps members fear they may have to leave as result of resistance of influential whites. There is unanimous praise however, for the PC leader in the country, Russell Schwartz, 26, the youngest PC leader in Africa, a Harvard graduate, and former PCV himself. New York Daily News (Jaap Boekkooi) - 4/16
SOUTH AFRICA

If Pretoria permits, Barratt O'Hara, chairman of Africa Subcommittee of House of Representatives, which has probed US-SA relations for last year, will bring subcommitte to SA.

O'Hara moved to hold hearings on SA because of charges that US firms exploited nonwhite workers by paying low wages, and that US banks lending money to SA compromised US foreign policy. O'Hara thinks while US has no moral right to interfere in SA domestic policy, Congress claims "the right to know what American companies are doing there; how their operations affect our foreign policy objectives; whether our position against apartheid at the UN is the right one." O'Hara expressed concern about propaganda campaign for Vorster and Smith regimes being conducted by right-wing organizations in US.

O'Hara said he wouldn't go to SA if "all my colleagues were not treated with equal courtesy." Committee has two Negro members. Rand Daily Mail - 4/3

Southern Baptists have refused to participate in revival crusade in SA because Negro preachers could not enter country with whites. Home Mission Board recently cancelled tour after planning to recruit 100 evangelists, including about 20 Negroes. NYT 4/16

Prof. Leslie Rubin of Howard University says Jews of SA are in insecure position because "racism is indivisible." Once color/race is test for citizenship, "it makes no difference whether you are dealing with white or black, Jew or Gentile." Those SA rabbis who speak out are censured by congregation and/or forced to leave pulpits. SA Jewish community is in 2 parts: fatalistic older generation, and younger generation who speak of emigrating to England, Canada, US. (For 6 years Rubin was only Jew in SA's Senate of 48 members; represented African constituency.) Jewish Chronicle, Pittsburgh 3/31

Mrs. Taubie Kushlick, leading SA producer-director visiting USA, criticized "dollar hypocrisy" of playwrights such as Edward Albee and Muriel Resnick for prohibiting presentation of their plays ("Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" and "Any Wednesday") in SA while allowing film versions to be shown. Mrs. Kushlick stated some plays are available to amateur groups in SA, but are not allowed to be performed by professional companies. NYT - 4/19

SOUTH WEST AFRICA

Chairman of Dept. of International Affairs, Ernest A. Gross, has summarized present situation in UN re SWA. General attitude summed up by Lord Caradon: "The repercussions of the totally unexpected judgment were consequently immediate and far-reaching. The issue of SWA, far from being only one of a number of interrelated problems, became at once one of top priority." Gross said the most striking repercussion was US/UK support of UNGA decision that SA, by repudiating its obligations under the Mandate, had forfeited its title to administer Mandate. An Ad Hoc Committee for SWA was instructed to recommend "practical means by which SWA should be administered, so as to enable the people of the territory to exercise the right of self-determination and to achieve independence." The
decisive words were "practical means" - - interpretation of this phrase will govern direction/rate of progress toward self-determination/independence of SWA, especially in light of SA's intention to hold SWA by force if necessary.

The Ad Hoc Committee will submit report to Special Session of UNGA April 21.

Essential points at issue are:

1) Should UNGA - as African States propose - seek at once to assert authority over/within SWA, by force, if necessary?

2) Should discussions with SA be initiated, but subject to timetable for independence of SWA? (proposed by Latin American members of Committee)

3) Should discussions with SA be undertaken with no fixed terminal limit? (proposed by US, Italy, Canada) International Issues 4/14

SA Ambassador Botha said that SA will participate in opening of UNGA special session on SWA even though it considers illegal any UNGA action to end SA's mandate over SWA. SA will continue to administer SWA in spirit of its former League of Nations mandate. Washington Post 4/19