

# EPISCOPAL CHURCHMEN for SOUTH AFRICA

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## **—For A Free Southern Africa—**

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### MISSIONS & MOVEMENTS #1

*There is well underway a still swelling movement of people between Southern Africa and the USA - visits, tours, exchanges, study missions - a startling increase of traffic over the past years. Persons engaged in a wide range of pursuits are coming to America from South Africa and adjacent countries and a counterflow of Americans are pouring into the troubled sub-continent. Businessmen, large and small; journalists; financiers; politicians; trade unionists; academics and students; technicians; community and church leaders; people in the world of sports; tourists - as well as government officials, military personnel and intelligence officers, the movements of whom are less well marked - flood the airways. Americans go principally to the Republic of South Africa. South Africans concentrate on the USA, but often Britain, West Germany, Canada, France and other western countries are included.*

*This phenomenon occurs simultaneously with events on the political scene. The Carter administration has refurbished the USA's approach to the crisis in Southern Africa. Concomitantly, South African Prime Minister Pieter W. Botha and his team of modern-age technocratic generals are attempting to shift gears, pretty up apartheid and contain the thrust for freedom in South Africa and the rest of the region. Botha aims for a 'constellation' of Southern African states all dominated by South Africa. Namibia and Zimbabwe figure high in this scheme; Angola and Mozambique surely are targetted to be brought one way or another under the sway of Pretoria.*

*At the same time, Pretoria is tightening its security and defense system and is working to bring South Africa to total mobilisation. Both the American and the South African efforts stem from the same period - 1976/77 - in the wake of the Angolan war and at the time of the Soweto uprising and the murder of Steve Biko. Evidence shows an exhaustive re-appraisal by the men in charge in Pretoria, continuing today and utilizing the complete resources of all elements of the South African power structure.*

*South Africa's new look (that's all it is: apartheid remains firmly in command) resembles, in translation, American moves to meet and to blunt the civil rights demands of the 1960s in the USA. Whatever differences Washington and Pretoria may have in timing and methods pale before common concerns: preservation of Southern Africa as a Western-controlled part of the world; access to the vast mineral resources thereof by transnational corporations; securing the vital Cape route; keeping at bay the bugaboo of Soviet - and horrors! Cuban - influence; destroying, or at least crippling, the African liberation movements of South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe.*

*The expertise, the finances, the total application directed toward achieving these ends are on an unprecedented scale.*

*Missions & Movements will try to keep track of the comings and goings of persons - and their purposes - to and from Southern Africa and the USA and other countries. We ask you all to help. Please send us any information you learn - as soon as you learn it - in your area of the country or elsewhere so that it can be nationally disseminated as rapidly and accurately as possible.*

## SAVIMBI

DR JONAS SAVIMBI, leader of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) is in the USA. It is not clear at this point who is responsible for his tour, the first in many years. UNITA lost its bid for control of all or half of Angola in the war of 1975/76 during which it cooperated with South Africa - and received aid of materiel and advice from the USA through the CIA. Ever since, UNITA has carried on a program of military harassment against the Peoples Republic of Angola. UNITA receives equipment and shelter from the South African Defence Force occupying the International Territory of Namibia, Angola's southern neighbor. Namibians in the 'operational area' in the northern part of the Territory know well the UNITA contingents who range their country and constitute an added element of persecution alongside the SADF, the South African Police and the 'tribal armies' of bantustan chiefs.

The burden of Savimbi's message in the USA is 'Soviet imperialism'. He speaks in New York on 5/6 November. The Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University in Washington sponsor him on 7 November and a more public meeting is set at Georgetown the evening of 8 November under the aegis of Social Democrats, USA, the national chairman of which is Bayard Rustin. Doubtless government and legislative people in the nation's capitol will have opportunities to meet with Savimbi. So, too, may other Americans around the country. Watch out for him.

Savimbi's tour occurs just after a savage attack by the South African Defence Force on the southwestern Angolan cities of Lubango, Mocamedes and Porto Alexandre, the latter two seaports. The SADF constantly attacks installations of the PRA and of SWAPO, the Namibian liberation movement whose Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia operates from Angola and where thousands of Namibians fleeing South Africa's misrule in their country find shelter. Question for three-star general Jonas Savimbi: tell us, will you, of the extent of coordination between UNITA and Pretoria?

## ANOTHER STUDY!

On Southern Africa, of course, and it promises to be the granddaddy of them all. An 11-person study commission has been set up on Manhattan's East Side, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation to the tune of \$600,000, with a projected budget for the 1½ - 2 years of its work to run up to \$2 million. Franklin A. Thomas, president of the Ford Foundation, chairs the new commission. Alan Pifer, president of the Carnegie Corporation, university presidents and corporation chairmen constitute most of the outfit. The Foreign Policy Study Foundation holds hearing at its New York headquarters and has staff people in South Africa soliciting cooperation from leadership types of all races. Pretoria, according to Johannesburg's SUNDAY TIMES, has decided not to obstruct the commissions study. A South African embassy spokesman sighed: 'It will be one of the crosses we have to bear'.

The commissions prospectus lists past American policy as having sought to: 'promote transition to racially inclusive yet moderate governments in southern Africa; maintain peace and stability in the region; minimize involvement by the Soviet Union, China and other communist states; encourage economic development favorable to U.S. investment and trade, including access to the region's raw materials; protect strategic interests and maintain good relations with other African nations.'

The new study aims to systematically inquire into US interests in Southern Africa and 'evaluate the policy options open to the United States' and give the results to the American public and policy makers. Other studies are going apace, among them one by Georgetown's CSIS, and the Aspen Institute in Colorado, with which Henry Kissinger is said to be associated.