

RHODESIA NEWS SUMMARY

Committee on Southern Africa, National Student Christian Federation, 475 Riverside Drive, Room 754, New York, N.Y. 10027

Week of March 24 - 30

EDITORIAL & PERSONAL COMMENTS

The Chicago Daily News - March 23, 1966 (Max Freedman)

"U.S. was wise to limit its Rhodesian Commitment"

"Events of the last few weeks have vindicated the wisdom of the U.S. in making no more than a limited commitment to the British government's attempt to crush the Smith regime by economic sanctions. . . . The United States has accepted the British position . . . but the Johnson administration has refused to accept the extreme advice offered by its own zealots that it should urge Britain to apply sterner and harsher penalties. . . . The United States has enough problems of its own without getting involved more deeply in Rhodesia. A good working rule would be to say that we would give the British no more help in Rhodesia than they are giving us in Viet Nam."

The Economist - March 26 - April 1, 1966

"Southern Africa"

The 222nd issue of Round Table, a quarterly dealing with Commonwealth questions, is out this week and is devoted to the Rhodesian rebellion. The journal presents the varying viewpoints of anonymous contributors. Rhodesian and South African correspondents discuss the rebellion "regretfully, but in the manner to be expected from people who say 'the Rhodesians' when they mean only the colony's whites." Thus it is easy for them to say "that 'most people' abhor the idea of direct British rule and that it is out of the question." The leading article, however, insists that there is no alternative to direct British responsibility for a decade and perhaps a generation. A legal article on the position of the U.N. states that non-compliance of South Africa and Portugal with a mandatory embargo would probably not make them subject to "secondary sanctions" since "it is unlikely that the veto-wielding powers would agree that non-compliance in itself amounted to a threat to peace." The article does not deal with the possibility of South Africa being directly accused of sustaining a rebellion in British territory in which it would seem that even "primary" sanctions would have a legal basis.

Sunday Telegraph (London) Letters to the Editor from George W. Brind in Salisbury
"Voice from Rhodesian Opposition"

"I write with some authority on the Rhodesian question as I resigned from the Executive of the governing party, the Rhodesian Front, in July 1965, when it became apparent, in secret meetings, that rebellion was contemplated and that the existing constitution was to be torn up. . . . The Rhodesian Front was formed by and derives most of its support from the farmers. (I was the only industrialist on the Executive). The Rhodesian farmers are concerned that their supply of cheap labour will diminish because of the industrialisation of the country. The farm labourer is paid an average of two shillings per day, plus whatever food his employer gives him to maintain his fitness for work. . . . Even this sum is usually withheld until the end of the season, by which time the farm labourere will find he owes his employer money for goods his employer has sold him from the farm store. Living quarters will usually be a mud hut with no sanitary facilities and medical care is non-existent."

The Sunday Telegraph (Letter from George W. Brind)

"There is an educational qualification to get onto the Voters' Roll. To prevent the education of the African, the Rhodesian Front government introduced school fees ranging from L6 to L16 per year for the African and this will effectively prevent the African from being enfranchised. Many of the Tory Right Wing in London have a financial interest in the continued semi-slavery of the African, and this is probably the reason for their protests against sanctions. . . . We in Rhodesia are now living in a police state and that is the reason why your readers hear of no opposition to the de facto government. This memorandum is mailed to you outside Rhodesia because of the tight censorship. No meetings are allowed and it is forbidden to listen, with one's friends, to outside radio broadcasts. Hitler also claimed support of 90.9% under similar circumstances."

"It is not true that an alternative to the present regime is a black immature government. The writer, who has access to the legal Governor, Sir Humphrey Gibbs, through underground means, knows that a legal government is in waiting, composed of ex-Cabinet Ministers and business men and will probably include Mr. Mkudu and Mr. Gondo, presently African members of the Opposition, as the only two African members. . . . The world must break the Smith regime to ensure peace and tranquillity in Africa

The Times - London - March 25, 1966

"Rhodesia on the Way to Apartheid" (Rev. T.A. Beetham, a Methodist minister who recently visited Rhodesia for the sixth time in 15 years.)

Smith's Rhodesian Front government is moving swiftly to a state of strict apartheid. If his power is reassured, the university, which is multi-racial, will be the chief target. The laws concerning the use of land (The Land Apportionment Act) are being made more strict."

"It is the nonsense and mental cruelty of this implacable segregation that white Christians in Rhodesia cannot or will not see. In consequence, there is a rift in the Church in Rhodesia. Its leaders, speaking for the majority of their members, have spoken with a clear voice; most of their European members do not agree with them."

"Some Observations within Rhodesia" (Personal comments of a recent visitor to Rhodesia)

"For those of you who feel that oil sanctions evoked against the rebellious colony will stymie power and transportation thus bringing industry to a standstill, hitch your hopes to another star. First of all, let us look at the facts. White Rhodesia is getting petrol. Make no mistake about that. To begin with, the Republic of South Africa is definitely a source of refined oil products. Dr. Verwoerd's Government has announced that official permits are not necessary any longer to export petrol. I watched the oil being brought in daily to Salisbury via road tankers. And last Friday, trucks rumbled through the streets of the capital amid cheering bystanders carrying their thousands of gallons of petrol that were the gift of people in the Northern Transvaal. . . . Oil products in any case are not vital to Rhodesia's immediate survival. According to a New York Times analysis, only 27% of Rhodesia's energy requirement is met by oil. 63% is supplied by the coal that exists in abundance at Wankie. The remaining ten per cent is met by the power from Kariba. . . So it is obviously whistling in the dark to rest hopes on an oil embargo. . . I was given 17 gallons myself in less than week's time and could have had double that amount had I wanted it!" (the author mentions that in Zambia his ration was 12 gallons per month)

"Some Observations . . ." (Cont.)

"The next thing that needs to be demythologized is the official British policy, belief that general sanctions will bring Smith's apartheid regime to its knees. . . . One man in Salisbury summed it up well when he said, "the only thing we are short of is breakfast cereal, so we will shortly begin to produce it ourselves. . . . It would be erroneous to say that sanctions are not hurting. They are. But, paradoxically, . . . rather than cripple the economy, the pressure has caused Rhodesian manufacturers to diversify their output to an astonishing extent. . . . The mining industry is experiencing an almost unprecedented boom despite the asbestos and chrome sanctions. This, more than anything else, accounts for the buoyancy of Rhodesian export earnings and the volume of rail traffic still being carried. . . . It is those staunch advocates of "democracy", the West Germans, French and Americans who are surreptitiously keeping this racist government economically viable. . . . The Almighty dollar, mark, franc, or yen commands much more worship than any multi-nation attempt to punish a treasonous police state where four million Africans are subjected to a living death of psychological and oftentimes physical harassment by 220,000 whites."

"The oil embargo is now a joke. The general sanctions are a failure. And all this means that there is great optimism in Salisbury and the belief that the "civilized" nation of Rhodesia . . . has won a stupendous victory. . . . Indeed, there is an ubiquitous emotional feeling of supercilious bliss and unity among the European populations . . . One woman confided that she never felt a sense of identity with the country until after the Unilateral Declaration of Independence on Nov. 11, 1965."

"The most sickening aspect of the Rhodesian crisis is the dehumanizing effect racial bigotry manifests among the peoples of that country. . . . How apparent this hatred and cleavage is was heinously expressed to me by a man who declared, "This is one of the few countries left where a man can call a black man a kaffir and still get away with it."

What lies ahead for Rhodesia If /the Labour Party, is given a strong mandate/ Africa will be waiting, with growing impatience, to see whether the West really intends to stand on the side of human equality and human freedom. 'But if the West fails to bring down Smith, or having defeated him, fails to establish conditions which lead to majority rule before independence,' writes President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, in a recent edition of Foreign Affairs, 'then Africa will have to take up the challenge and may turn to communist nations for help.'

What must be done . . . "First, the present voluntary sanctions against Rhodesia must be made mandatory Secondly, the Zimbabwe guerillas must step up their acts of civil disobedience through sabotage and espionage to bring about internal disorder But these disturbances will not be enough. For next to South Africa, Rhodesia has the best army in Africa. . . . So the British must use military force of their own or financially subsidize a United Nations military team to subdue the revolt quickly and with the least amount of bloodshed. . . . Though some of the fanatics would indeed use the torch, ('I would burn down my home and its furniture before giving in to majority rule,' said one), and others would move to their farms already purchased in South Africa, I believe the vast majority of whites would grudgingly remain in Rhodesia as the growing number of black intelligentsia took over the rule in Zimbabwe. It is hardly a great price to pay to continue to live in rich, fertile Zimbabwe, a prosperous land the whites have heretofore refused to share at all with the Africans." (written on March 20, 1966)

SANCTIONS & OIL

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966

"Ship halted by U.K. Carrier: Captain"

Captain Armando Alcantara, master of the 3,500 ton freighter Licungo, said that his ship had been buzzed by R.A.F. jets and stopped by the British ship Eagle. He reported that a helicopter hovered over his ship and that it was not allowed to continue until it hoisted the Portuguese flag. These incidents occurred on March 13th, 14th, and 21st about 100 miles north of Beira. British officials still deny the establishment of a blockade while the Portuguese captain thought that the British were simply trying to show their strength.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Michael Stewart, said that his country would ask the U.N. for an affirmation of Chapter VII of the Charter if the oil leak went too far. The present procedure is to inform the nation whose vessel is said to be approaching Mozambique with oil for Rhodesia, "but oddly enough, the ship is always found not to exist, if it does, to be on a completely different voyage."

"Tanker docks --- but oil not for Rhodesia"

The Caltex storage tanks are being filled with oil from the tanker Denby Grange which arrived in Beira from Lourenco Marques. Caltex assures that the oil is not for Rhodesia but only for Mozambique. The tanker is docked at wharf No. 7 which is not connected with the pipeline to Rhodesia although the facilities at wharf No. 8 are near such connections. The new storage tanks capable of storing 3,200 tons each and built by the Mozambique Investments, Ltd. firm are almost near completion. The Rhodesian Minister of Transport, Eri^g. Andrew Dunlop, has come to Beira to inspect them.

The Times, London - March 28, 1966

The Lonrho pipeline company might decide to pump oil from Beira to Untali, against the strong wishes of the British members of the company.

March 29, 1966: Portugal has made three complaints to Britain about their surveillance operations in the Mozambique channel. The Portuguese have charged infringement of Portuguese territorial waters by aircraft or naval vessels on watch for tankers approaching Beira. Britain said that if there had been any violation, it was inadvertent and regretted.

March 30, 1966: A Greek tanker is said to be on her way to Beira with crude oil for Rhodesia. It's on time charter to South African interests. The Greek Government has joined in the ban on oil to Rhodesia and her ban includes ships on time charter. The British government has asked Greek authorities to keep the ship from reaching Beira.

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966

"Japan ignores sanctions request"

In spite of the British embargo Japan still plans to import Rhodesian sugar (50,000 tons worth £1 million) and iron-ore (30,000 tons worth £100,00). The Japanese justification is that the contracts were concluded before UDI. The Government banned trade in sugar, tobacco, and iron in January and declared that an import license was necessary to import anything from Rhodesia. Thus no iron-ore contracts have been made since this time.

TOBACCO

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966

"Big Tobacco Firm hopes to stay" (from Bristol)

Mr. John Partridge, chairman of the Imperial Tobacco Company, said that his company would try to maintain itself in Rhodesia with its primarily African employees numbering 2,000. He did admit, although, that if the whole tobacco crop were lost it would require radical alterations in production and greater costs. He said that the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Callaghan, had overestimated his revenue from tobacco.

Mr. Bottomley, the Commonwealth Secretary, commented on the Rhodesian tobacco auctions and said that Rhodesian tobacco could be identified very easily.'

The Times, London - March 28, 1966

The Rhodesian tobacco will be sold tomorrow. A price support system will be used for the first time and high secrecy surround the auction halls. The sanctions imposed by Britain are expected to hold, though the Tobacco Corporation, which is buying from the farmers and selling to the buyers, may have customers who won't appear on the auction floors. The extent of price supports indicates the degree to which the Rhodesian Treasury and Reserve Bank believe they can support the economy without running into inflation. This year's crop is the smallest one in three years, but much larger than was expected.

March 30, 1966: Tobacco auctions got underway in top secrecy. P.M. Smith hopes to sustain the Rhodesian economy through the sale of most of the 200 million pound crop.

The New York Times - March 30, 1966

"Rhodesians Auction their Tobacco Crop in Secret"

Tobacco marketing sales are being conducted in secret. The buyers, prices, conduct of sales and marking is kept secret from the British, nevertheless, half the crop was bought by British buyers. The British Government has tried to reduce the trade in tobacco, which accounts for one-third of Rhodesia's export earnings and the employment of a half-million Rhodesians. The Rhodesian Government Tobacco Corp. has successfully diverted the crisis and deposed of all the crop for this year.

The Times, London - March 30, 1966

British trade with Rhodesia amounted to £523,00 worth of imports during the month of February. Goods were apparently passing through other countries. Tobacco accounted for £484,000 worth. Exports worth £672,000 went to Rhodesia during the same month. (March 26, 1966: Mr. Bottomley warned the world's tobacco buyers against taking part in Smith's auctions. He said that if speculators took part in the auctions the British Government would take action to ensure that they lost their money. He said, "Buyers will have no legal right to their purchases and no claim to the return of their money." On March 25th the Times reported that the Rhodesian Tobacco Corporation was willing to pay from 1^d to 43^{1d}/₂ per pound for tobacco.)

CONDITIONS WITHIN RHODESIA

ECONOMIC

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966

"Bond boosts Bonds" Independence bonds worth £11,000 were sold in Bulawayo during

Economic Conditions in Rhodesia (Cont.)

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966 (Cont.)

over a period of two days in conjunction with the showing of the James Bond film "Thunderball." Mr. J.J. Mithall, the Minister of Finance, said that the sale "is a magnificent achievement."

"Rhodesian concerns turn their hand to new lines"

The diversification of the Rhodesian economy for the purpose of beating the British-imposed sanctions is keeping machines working and employment high. Most of the production alterations have been simply new developments along former lines -- thus a maize farmer is now planting thyme, parsley, mint, and sage. Dunlop tire manufacturers are now producing fanbelts, windshield wipers, and other rubber goods, while a match company has expanded its production to include 15 new goods such as sucker sticks and brush handles. In the field of heavier industry an engineering firm is now making hydraulic jacks and pneumatic lifts, and it has also put together a large press. Some companies have moved into radically new lines of production. A dental mechanics firm is now making wedding rings and a pin manufacturer mens' toiletries. Other newly produced goods which replace previously imported products include blackboard chalk, air purifiers, self-adhesive labels, metal toys, mayonnaise packet soup and gravy, burglar alarms, safes etc. etc.

The Times, London - March 30, 1966

Officials of Rhodesia Railways are meeting to discuss the Rhodesian Ministry of Transport's charges that Zambia is frustrating the work of the railways and is using alternate routes for Zambian traffic previously carried by the railway.

POLITICAL AND LEGAL CLIMATE

The Times, London - March 25, 1966

Sir Victor Robinson, chairman of the Rhodesian Constitutional Council, died yesterday. Appointing a successor will require the cooperation of the Chief Justice, Sir H. Beadle and the Governor, Sir H. Gibbs. Sir Hugh must work with the Rhodesian Front Officer Administering the Government, Clifford Dupont, and it is not expected that a successor will be chosen for the time being.

March 26, 1966: The Rhodesian Government accused a British diplomat, Mr. N.A.I. French of espionage. It said that Mr. French had worked through a former Rhodesian information officer, Mr. William Black, who has since defected. The Commonwealth Relations Office has denied the accusations that Mr. French tried to undermine Rhodesian security or economic welfare.

Mr. James Biddulph, a B.B.C. reporter and free-lance journalist, was declared a prohibited immigrant by the Smith Government today. No reasons were given.

The United Peoples' Party, which forms the opposition in the Rhodesian Parliament replaced Mr. Josiah Gondo with Mr. Chad Chipunza as its leader.

The New York Times - March 26, 1966

The Smith Government is toying with the idea of declaring itself a Republic, which would mean severing its alleged loyalty to the British crown. On November 11th an expression of loyalty was considered politically expedient but Rhodesians are now very resentful about the unfriendly treatment they have received from the Commonwealth

The Times, London - March 28, 1966 (Letter from Judith Todd, daughter of the former Prime Minister, Garfield Todd)

Miss Todd contends that there has already been a breakdown of law and order in Rhodesia through the use of emergency regulations and censorship of the press. She says that her father supports Wilson in all that he has done on this issue. (March 30th, Garfield Todd said today that the Africans in Rhodesia are "ready, able, and determined to have their full say in the political future of this land.")

March 29, 1966: Mr. Duncan Watson, of the Commonwealth Relations Office, has been in Rhodesia recently. He met with Gov. Gibbs and has tried to assess the effect of British sanctions.

The judiciary in Rhodesia recognizes as legal any legislation which could have been passed under the 1961 Constitution. Mr. Smith is proposing to recommend new constitutional safeguards which will aid in altering the clauses in the 1961 Constitution. The changes which Smith envisions will probably provide for the creation of a second chamber which would include chiefs. These proposals could not be passed under the 1961 laws and therefore the judiciary must decide whether or not to regard them as illegal.

Michael Haddon, Treasurer of the Southern Rhodesian Legal Aid and Welfare Fund was accused today in magistrates' court of stealing £2,700 from the fund. He was also accused of defrauding the mineral firm of Samincorp of £14,000. Haddon is a mining company director.

UNIVERSITY CRISIS

The Times, London - March 25, 1966

The University College in Salisbury expects that the demonstrating students and the striking lecturers will return to their classes tomorrow. Some compromise agreement has been reached which allows for the appointment of an independent commission to study the report of the disturbances. A British academician may be asked to act as commissioner. Police contingents have been removed from the campus.

The Christian Science Monitor - March 28, 1966 (Robert M. Hallet)

The first public demonstrations against the Rhodesian Government since it declared independence have taken place at University College, located on the outskirts of Salisbury. Protests began with 11 hours of peaceful student demonstrations, mostly by Africans and Asians numbering about 150, on March 16th. Some 35 lecturers and 200 students are now boycotting classes protesting against the university for not resisting government policies and actions. The university has long been a burr in the Rhodesian Front saddle. Front supporters refer to it as "the Kremlin on the hill." A few lecturers had earlier been expelled or their permits not renewed. There was special animosity towards eight UNESCO teachers who were withdrawn after UDI by the U.N. Presently Dr. Walter Adams, the principal, is on a visit to England to save the multiracial university from closing. He needs more money and staff. Because of the buildup of incidents the government may move forcefully against the university and students. The question is whether the university can survive.

The Times, London - March 26, 1966: The University College returned to normal today with students and lecturers back in classes.

MILITARY

The New York Times - March 25, 1966

"Rhodesia widens defense efforts"

The Rhodesian Government has ordered all men between the ages of 17 and 60 to register and has also extended the reservists' training period from 19 to 35 months. The Rhodesians believe that Britain's surveillance of them is far greater than necessary. There are two British aircraft carriers off the East Coast of Africa plus British reconnaissance planes flying over from Kenya and those which have received rights to station on Madagascar.

Britain is also sending home men who would be unwilling to fight people of their own color - "perhaps even their own kin." Britain is also flying in some military equipment along with oil shipments to Zambia.

London

The Times /- March 26, 1966

The Rhodesian Minister of Defense announced a plan for the registration of all males of European, Asian, and Colored classification, ages 17 - 60, and the doubling of peace time training to 9 months.

SUMMARY

The Observer - March 27, 1966 (Roy Perrott)

The Smith regime has just doubled the military training period for Rhodesians between 17 and 60, "a recognition that the use of force may one day be seriously contemplated either by Britain or the African states." Rhodesians believe that if Wilson is returned to power he "would not stand idly by" but would elect force if that seemed necessary. Mandatory U.N. sanctions are another real possibility, although there is reason to doubt whether they could be effective. It is believed in Salisbury that the regime "feels in its bones that it is winning," and that therefore the Conservative proposal of talks is unrealistic.

The correspondent had just returned to Salisbury after two months and writes that he finds a "total change in the mood. Most of the aggressiveness and bravado has gone out of the air and been replaced by a degree of confidence, only slightly tinged with unease about the future."

The tobacco sales are being held in complete secrecy. "Most of the portents suggest that they may well raise at least £20 million, which would just cover everyone's production costs." Other sanctions show no signs of having an immediate effect. However, the appearance of economic and commercial well-being includes an "element of bluff" (generous petrol rationing and openhandedness with foreign currency) Mr. Smith is actually "counting on a short-term engagement before Britain gets bored." But "one of the vital factors is that Rhodesia is managing to keep its sale of minerals, especially chrome, asbestos, and gold, at normal levels" by shipping it from stockpiles kept at Beira.

The effect of sanctions on employment vary. In Bulawayo, the main manufacturing center, 28 of the 80 factories "are in some difficulty," having cut their working week to two or three days. But less factories elsewhere in Rhodesia are on this short schedule. The number of unemployed Europeans is probably in the lower hundreds, while the number of Africans who are out of work is perhaps over 1,000.

"All of these things amount to the faint crack in the wall which shows that the house is being slowly undermined. The quick and surgical kind of sanction, like oil and currency control, have been so badly blunted that all that can now really be expected is a much more protracted, crumbling action."

Conditions within Rhodesia (Cont.)

The Observer - March 27, 1966

The Smith regime still has a number of worries. It would like the legal status of the government affirmed by its own courts. It is also trying to secure affidavits from senior military officers and civil servants swearing support for the regime. "The attitude of the judges -- and most lawyers agree with them, even those who dislike the Smith regime -- is to postpone any showdown in the courts as long as possible. If the courts decided against the legality of the Smith regime they might be replaced, but the judges would like to see "proper courts of justice continue" even if Smith beats the sanctions.

Probably the most important development is Rhodesia's "strengthening tie with South Africa," in the hopes that after the general elections Dr. Verwoerd will aid his neighbor perhaps coming out more openly for Smith. "If in the next few months Rhodesia decided to declare itself a republic, and if it were ultimately reduced to desperate straits by sanctions, it is not impossible that it would ask to join South Africa as its fifth province." The correspondent admits that several months ago this kind of thinking would have been ridiculous, but three different, well-informed figures suggested it to him this week. "Dr. Verwoerd has seen that Rhodesia's four million Africans are docile enough to be managed by the police; and the country's white population and its resources would be a pleasant acquisition."

"The train of events set afoot last November is only now beginning to open out unpredictably and one begins to hear a heavier footfall behind the day-to-day argument about sanctions. . . The question now is whether any British Government has enough power or never or will to check this new momentum."

CONDITIONS WITHIN ZAMBIA

The Times, London - March 25, 1966

Zambia is ordering 270 British and Italian trucks to be used to transport oil and petrol from Dar Es Salaam, and copper from Zambia back to Dar.

The Christian Science Monitor - March 26, 1966

An airlift of copper from landlocked Zambia has started arriving in Dar aboard two Lockheed Hercules transports which were recently purchased by Zambia Air Congo, Ltd. Coming from Ndola each plane carries 21 tons of copper while on the return flight it carries fuel. The aim is to carry out 55,000 tons of copper a year.

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966

Discontented white workers in the Zambian section of the Rhodesian Railways are considering a protest over their contracts and the transfer system. Of 2,200 staff members, a little over half of them are whites sent from Rhodesia to Zambia. Some employees want to leave Zambia and if they did it could upset the economy considerably as 95% of Zambian import-export trade is carried by the railway. There was one strike in Livingstone after U.D.I. when whites were attacked by members of the Zambian Youth Service and "the country's trade was paralyzed." New contracts for the workers are established for only a year and were drawn up by Zambian and Rhodesian representatives of the Railways board at a meeting in Bulawayo.

BRITAIN & RHODESIA

The Times, London - March 25, 1966 (letter from a former resident of Rhodesia and supporter of Garfield Todd)

The Times, London - March 25, 1966 (Cont.)

The choice, says the author of the letter, is not between recognizing Smith or not, but between the initiation of talks and military intervention. If Britain demands that Smith return to a constitutional government, she will wait forever -- or until the U.N. intervenes. If the U.N. does enter the scene and uses force, it will be the ruination, politically and economically, of Rhodesia. It will also be the eventual ruination of the Republic of South Africa and the Portuguese territories with the loss of hundreds of millions in British trade and British influence.

The Johannesburg Star - March 26, 1966

"Rhodesia is key issue in U.K. Poll"

Bitter exchanges between political leaders in Britain have added Rhodesia to the Common Market and the nation's economy as the main election issues. Mr. Reginald Maulding, the deputy-leader of the Conservatives, has called Mr. Wilson's attitude dishonest, for the entire Rhodesian situation has been made "more difficult" by its transformation into a personal contest between Mr. Smith and Mr. Wilson. On the other side, Mr. Aurhur Bottomley accused the Conservatives of "giving comfort" ("echoing a phrase from the Treason Act") to the Rhodesian Government. He said that the Conservative attitude was one of claiming to support Labour's policy yet actually sabotaging it.

Mr. Stewart, the Foreign Secretary, said in a television interview that if there are Rhodesians who want a return to constitutional government they should "say so loud and clear and we will listen." Referring to the British Government's policy, he said, "The Rhodesian declaration of independence is wrong, and our policy must be to bring this illegality to an end. That is the purpose of the policy of sanctions. If Smith has anything to say, he can say it at any moment. The Governor is there in Rhodesia. . . But I do not believe that he is prepared to talk on any basis except the recognition of his rebellion, which is wrong."

The Times, London - March 29, 1966

"Rhodesia flare-up as campaign continues in Britain"

Mr. Wilson reiterated that he would not use force in Rhodesia unless he were called upon to restore law and order. Mr. Heath said again that talks must begin without asking Smith to give up illegal independence.

Letter from Sir Alec Douglas-Home: Sir Alec refutes the charge that the Conservatives caused the problems now plaguing Rhodesia. He states that it is the Socialists who are to blame for refusing to cooperate with the Monckton Commission in saving the African Federation.

The New York Times - March 29, 1966

The consensus of African states feel that unless Britain acts decisively against Rhodesia, either through the U.N. or unilaterally, she will lose the faith of the African countries and the nations will look elsewhere for guidance and help. Pressure will be applied soon as the elections are over in Britain. Thus Britain might lose a certain amount of prestige and trust she has built up over the years.

(Sanctions: extra - Star, March 26: Dr. Verwoerd said that if South African ships approaching Beira were interfered with by the British, the S.A. Government would "act in a proper manner". He said he hoped that captains of such ships would not disclose the contents or destinations of their ships if asked to do such.