

SOUTHERN AFRICA NEWS BULLETIN

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

RHODESIA NEWS SUMMARY

Week of May 5 - 11

EDITORIALS AND PERSONAL COMMENTS

The Economist - May 7, 1966

Letter to the Editor from Patrick Wall, House of Commons.

"I wonder if your article 'Talks about Talks' (April 30) has really struck the right balance. The implication is that Rhodesia's economy is being rapidly eroded by sanctions and that the South Africans are not prepared to offer them long-term support. As far as one can ascertain it would seem that Rhodesia's economy has remained remarkably buoyant after nearly six months of sanctions. . . It is true that the policy of sanctions may have made Rhodesians more amenable to negotiations but surely this is also true of the British economy. The total cost of the Rhodesian campaign in visibles and invisibles has been estimated at some £200 million in a full year and it must now be clear to Mr. Wilson that whether he likes it or not the next step will be the imposition of mandatory sanctions by the United Nations not only on Rhodesia but also on South Africa and the Portuguese territories. The first and major victim of this step would be the British economy--deprived of our third best trade partner the blow might be mortal. I believe that these factors together with the strongly expressed views of the Governor and the Chief Justice must be foremost in Mr. Wilson's mind and it is surely he, rather than Mr. Smith who has the most to gain from the opening of talks. . ."

OIL AND SANCTIONS

The Times, London, May 9, 1966

The Johannesburg paper, Dagbreek, said yesterday that Portuguese authorities have given permission to the stateless Johanna V to discharge her crude oil into storage tanks at Beira. It is assumed that the oil will not reach Rhodesia before a solution to the British-Rhodesian crisis is in sight.

May 11, 1966: Friends of Rhodesia Trust, formed in South Africa has given £90,000 worth of petrol, goods and cash to Rhodesia since UDI. The organization was set up by the Rhodesian Government to coordinate all gifts to Rhodesia.

Africa Report, April 1966 (Additional news and views)

Report from Salisbury by Frank Kearns telecast on the CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite, March 21, 1966

"Why the Oil Sanctions Failed"

". . . no matter what they say here or in South Africa, or Mozambique, Portugal or England, and no matter what happens to those pirate oil tankers or the pipeline, this country is sneaking in well over its public ration of about 80,000 gallons a day. In fact, the stuff is coming in such a steady stream that the obly problems are distribution and storage for the overflow. The oil embargo against Rhodesia appears to be a complete failure.

## Oil and Sanctions (Cont.)

### Africa Report, April, 1966 (Cont.)

"The Tobacco War" (Report from Salisbury by Frank Kearnes, Marcy 30, 1966)

"This country is engaged in all out economic war, and the battle to beat the sanctions against Rhodesian tobacco is far more important than the battle against the oil embargo. In fact, this unprecedented tobacco war could quite literally make or break the Smith regime. . . This may be an economic war, but it's as secret and unpredictable as the real thing, and as crucial. If the British lose this tobacco war, as they're already losing the oil war, then the British or United Nations might feel that they have to fall back on their last ultimate weapon, namely the use of force."

### TALKS

### The Economist - May 7, 1966

"Neither on Sunday, nor on Tuesday nor on Thursday, did any emissaries from Salisbury fulfil the reported expectations in London that they would arrive there for the first round of the promised 'talks about talks.' It was announced in Salisbury on Thursday, however, that a mission would fly to London this weekend so that talks could start a day or two later. . . The debate on Rhodesia on April 27th (when the agreement on talks was announced) having somewhat purged the British body politic, and that body being budgetarily preoccupied this week, the lack of immediate signs of the talks being started caused no noticeable distress in London. . ."

Although the South African government denied reports that it had advised local oil companies to reduce the supply of petrol to Rhodesia, observers seem to agree that the flow of oil across Beit Bridge fell off sharply about a week before Mr. Smith agreed to start talking. This may have some bearing on the speed with which progress in the actual talks can be made.

### The Times, London - May 6, 1966

Mr. Ian Smith has named his three man team for the exploratory talks with Britain Sir Cornelius Greenfield, chief economic advisor to Smith; Mr. Gerald Clarke, Secretary to the Cabinet; and Mr. Stanley Morris, chairman of the Public Services Board. British officials for this first round of talks, to be held in London, will be Mr. N. Duncan Watson from the Central African Affairs division of the Commonwealth Relations Office, and Mr. Oliver Wright, formerly Mr. Wilson's advisor on external affairs. The talks are to be carried on out of the limelight, without news releases and with no time table. Sanctions will continue until Salisbury genuinely wants to reach a legal settlement. The appointments of Greenfield and Clarke are not surprising, but the inclusion of Mr. Morris is puzzling. He has served in the former Department of Native Affairs and was considered a paternalist in African affairs. His appointment may be an assurance to Smith's right wing supporters who are anxious about the talks.

May 7, 1966: Mr. Bottomley, Commonwealth Secretary, reaffirmed today Mr. Wilson's six points regarding Rhodesia and said that Britain would stand by her Lagos commitments. No place has yet been set for the London talks. Mr. Wilson met with six Ministers yesterday in preparation for the talks.

## Talks (Cont.)

### London Times (Cont.)

May 9, 1966: Talks began in secret today. The place is secret and reporters will not be allowed. There will be no contact between the Rhodesian officials and Messrs. Wilson and Bottomley. The emissaries are being treated as rebels who are given safe conduct in Britain. There will be no social gatherings for them.

Mr. Ian Smith said yesterday that a "sort of truce or armistice" has been arrived at by the British and Rhodesian Governments. He said he thought white Rhodesians "have enough sense to realize that it would be undesirable to go on as we are at the moment." The Rhodesian Government is entering the talks on the advice of Dr. Verwoerd and Dr. Salazar. Concern about trade with Zambia is another reason Smith is prepared to open talks. Smith himself has a "strong affection" for the British connection and wants to revive it. The future of the Rhodesian economy is uncertain, depending greatly on the sale of the present tobacco crop.

May 10, 1966: Mr. C. M. LeQuesne, head of the West and Central African Department of the Foreign Office and Mr. K J. Neale, head of Rhodesian Department of Commonwealth Relations Office were added to the British delegation today. The following factors seem paramount: 1) The efficacy of British sanctions as they are likely to operate in the future months. 2) London and Salisbury's understanding of the intentions of Dr. Verwoerd. 3) The agreed deadline of July for a Commonwealth Conference if the Rhodesian rebellion is not ended by then.

May 11: No official Statement was issued today. It appears that the talks will go on for some time rather than for the few days projected.

May 10: Mr. Simon Kapwepwe, Foreign Minister of Zambia again condemned the British for opening talks with the Smith rebel regime.

### New York Times - May 8, 1966

A three-man delegation has left Salisbury for London for talks aimed at a resumption of negotiations. The delegation is led by Sir Cornelius Greenfield, Smith's economic adviser. With him are Stanley E. Morris, African affairs and public service expert, and Gerald Clarke, Cabinet secretary.

May 9, 1966: The Rhodesian delegation of three civil servants has arrived in London. The ostensible aim of the talks is to see if there are enough points of agreement to make talks worthwhile between politicians rather than their civil servants.

May 10, 1966: Exploratory talks began in London in an atmosphere of secrecy. Speculation ranges from pessimism about any agreement to optimism to fear of an agreement that would be a sellout. Simon Kapwepwe, Foreign Minister of Zambia, termed the talks "shameful."

## INTERNAL RHODESIA

### A. Political

#### Johannesburg Star - May 7, 1966

Mr. Herbert Chitepo, speaking to the Socialist International Conference in Stockholm, said that ZANU would intensify its campaign to overthrow the Smith government by force. (see Washington Post article) (256)

## Internal Rhodesia (Cont.)

### Johannesburg Star - May 7, 1966 (Cont.)

The Rhodesian Ministry of Information condemned the BBC for a report that five Rhodesian policemen had been killed and 12 Rhodesian aircraft shot down in a guerilla attack 25 miles from Sinoia. The BBC had quoted an African nationalist source in Tanzania.

A former U.S. Federal judge and special assistant to the Attorney-General said this week in Salisbury that the State Department had given him a wrong impression of Rhodesia. Judge A. Levitt, of Hancock, N. H. said there was no likelihood of a Communist takeover. The State Department had told him that conditions were such that communism might develop.

### The Times, London - May 6, 1966

Police in Salisbury released photos of Chinese and Russian grenades and detonators picked up after the battle near Sinoia last Friday. Last week a plastic bomb was found attached to one of the pylons carrying transmission lines from Kariba to Salisbury.

May 7, 1966: Mr. Chad Chipunza, African leader of the United People's Party, the Opposition Party in Rhodesia, is considering a visit to London to discuss the negotiations between Rhodesia and Britain. Mr. Chipunza condemned President Kaunda for harboring Rhodesian terrorists and for interfering in Rhodesian affairs.

### B. Economic

#### The Times, London - May 10, 1966

Sharp increases in petroleum prices were announced today in Salisbury. Premium grades will cost 6 shillings (84¢) a gallon and regular will cost 77¢ a gallon. The increase reflects the extra cost to Rhodesia of importing refined products from South Africa and Mozambique.

The Rhodesian Government is to float a new £4.5 million loan next month. The Reserve Bank said that the 25 year loan (1986-1991) at 6½% will be issued at par on June 1.

### Johannesburg Star - May 7, 1966

Matabeleland Turkish tobacco growers are anxiously awaiting the beginning of the auction, which will be held in Salisbury instead of in Bulawayo. This shift means extra travel costs for the growers. The leading grower, Mr. E. R. York, did not predict trends for the sales, expected to begin in May and last till August.

"Internal Conditions" The Rhodesian Government is engaged in an ambitious scheme to open up new land for African settlement. Some 25,000 people have already moved to their new homes in Settlement areas around the perimeter of Rhodesia. The development of these areas is connected with the eradication of the tsetse fly.

"Trade with South Africa" Dr. K. Mathieson, a chemical engineer and executive member of the Transvaal Chamber of Industries, said in Bulawayo that industrialists from South Africa now came to buy as well as to sell. He and his party were very impressed with the articles on display at the Central African Trade Fair there.

"Economic Conditions" The Anglo-American Corporation is to develop one of the biggest mining projects launched in Rhodesia in years, it was announced in Salisbury. It will take an 85% interest in the Trojan Nickel Mine at Bindura. The Mine is expected to employ 25 whites and 500 Africans.

## Internal Rhodesia (Cont.)

New York Times - May 10, 1966

Bernard Musset, Minister for Commerce and Industry, announced that the price of gasoline, as well as Diesel fuel and other petroleum products would be raised today.

### C. The University

The Times, London - May 10, 1966

Dr. Robert Birley, former Head Master of Eton, who recently held an inquiry into the disturbances at the University College of Rhodesia is being mentioned as a possible stop-gap successor to Dr. Walter Adams, Principal of the College, who is expected to announce his retirement this month.

## ZAMBIA

The Times, London - May 9, 1966

The railway from the Copperbelt through the Congo and Angola to Lobito seems to be the most likely route for exporting Zambian annual 650,000 tons of copper. The carrying capacity of the railway needs to be increased. An American survey for the State Department estimates a cost of nearly L18 million to increase the capacity to one million tons of exports from Zambia and 770,000 tons of imports to Zambia.

A L5 million transport company financed by the Zambian and Tanzanian Governments with the Italian Fiat Co. begins work in July. The company will carry fuel and general cargo over the 1,200 mile Great North Road between Dar Es Salaam and Zambia. Copper will be the return commodity. The company will compete with Rhodesian Railways in both time and cost. About 250 trucks are expected on the road by the end of the year.

May 11: Plans are for a L8 million road and rail link from Kitwe on the Copperbelt through Malawi to Nacala Bay in Mozambique. The road will by-pass Rhodesia completely. It could be completed in two years, compared to seven years projected for the road through Tanzania. The French and Portuguese Governments and the World Bank are backing the scheme.

## INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS

### A. United Nations

The Times, London: May 11, 1966

Some thirty African nations called for an immediate meeting of the U.N. Security Council on Rhodesia. They said that the present talks in London aggravate the situation and constitute a threat to international peace. They call for measures to be taken under Chapter VII to assure majority rule in Rhodesia. The African group called for all member nations to break off economic relations with Rhodesia and for Britain to give effect to this by imposing an economic blockade to prevent supplies from reaching Rhodesia. Dr. de Beers, president of the Council, said the meeting would be convened within 48 hours.

## International Reactions (Cont.)

New York Times - May 8, 1966

Britain is trying to dissuade the African group from any initiative in the Security Council on Rhodesia, fearing that such action might interfere with the forthcoming talks in London between Britain and Rhodesia. However, the African group is planning to ask on Tuesday for an urgent meeting of the Security Council. The foreign ministers of Zambia, Senegal, and Algeria are reported to be flying to New York for the debate.

### B. African Reactions

The Economist - May 7, 1966

"East African Omens"

"The East African states' varying reactions to the Rhodesian crisis have reflected their new positions--but the reflections have not all been crystal clear. Tanzania formally broke off relations with Britain; Kenya and Uganda did not. In practice many links remained between London and Dar Es Salaam; indeed, as the latter became a main base for the British oil lift to beleaguered Zambia, new links also took shape. . . . Mr. Kenyatta, however beset by his own left wing, has been wisely understanding about Mr. Wilson's predicament. At bottom, the East African states, although deeply stirred by what they see as an attempt to carry off into servitude four million of their kith and kin, have been united in reluctance to make this a final parting with Britain. It is their gestures that have varied, according to their present differing (and unpredicted) circumstances."

Washington Post - May 8, 1966 (by Wilfrid Fleisher)

"African Bloc Boycotts Session of Socialist Parley in Sweden"

"The African bloc boycotted a special session of the Socialist International Congress today that was to have dealt with African affairs. The session was to have been limited to a discussion of 'democratic socialism in Africa within the framework of the Congress' in the hope to avert any attempt to air the Rhodesian issue, which the British wanted to avoid. . . African delegates expressed their resentment by boycotting the session. . . Nelson Samkange, a leader of the Rhodesian Nationalists' Zimbabwe African Peoples Union who met with British Deputy Prime Minister George Brown last night, said the African bloc considered the action of the Congress an insult and did not intend to be muzzled. Samkange told Brown what he would have told the Congress if he had had the opportunity--that he considered the forthcoming British negotiations with white-minority Rhodesian regime 'a flagrant betrayal of the African people.'"

### C. The United States

The Times, London - May 7, 1966

Mr. Thomas Mann, Undersecretary of State, has asked members of the Maritime Administration to take additional steps to insure that American ships do not transport oil destined for Rhodesia.

NOTE: British Newspaper poster

"Rhodesia oil - Beira of ill-tidings"