



A MANIFESTO ON RHODESIA

The Rhodesian crisis remains acute. Britain's failure to oust the illegal Smith regime now threatens to damage this country's relations with the new states of Africa and in particular with the governments of the Commonwealth African states. For, despite the British Prime Minister's undertakings at the Lagos Commonwealth Premiers' Conference in January last, the Smith regime not only continues to exercise its illegal authority, but has taken new and more arbitrary measures aimed at entrenching its race rule over the territory. It has banned the African opposition parties and has banished its leaders. Over 1,000 political prisoners are being held without trial.

Britain's sanctions measures against Rhodesia have proved to be ineffective: both South Africa and Portugal are rendering economic and financial assistance to the Smith Regime to a degree that negates many of Britain's declared aims in Rhodesia. This country has done nothing either to require South Africa and Portugal to desist from rendering such aid, or to make economic sanctions mandatory on all member countries of the United Nations. Instead, Her Majesty's Government has engaged in Talks with the representatives of the Smith regime - an act which has not only strengthened the latter's authority, but has severely weakened the credibility of Britain's policy in the eyes of the peoples and governments of the world. These Talks are seen as the beginnings of a British "sell out": the acceptance of U.D.I. without an assurance of democracy for the oppressed African people of Rhodesia.

The Rhodesian crisis can only be solved in terms of justice and democracy. This now requires the most urgent action to remove the Smith regime and to restore constitutional rule—

- Her Majesty's Government must break off the Talks.
- United Nations mandatory sanctions should be immediately imposed on Rhodesia.
- Britain must provide every assistance to enable Zambia to engage in sanctions against Rhodesia.
- There must be no Rhodesian independence without majority rule.

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