

# EDITORIAL/OPINION

## They deferred his dream!

*What happens to a dream deferred?  
Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun?  
Or fester like a sore — and then run?  
Does it stink like rotten meat?  
Or crust and sugar over — like a syrupy sweet?  
Maybe it just sags like a heavy load?  
OR DOES IT EXPLODE?*

Langston Hughes

Was it just a coincidence that immediately following the Portland Board of Education's refusal to adopt a school desegregation plan that would provide justice to the district's Black students, that same Board eloquently praised the ideals of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Jonathan Newman — who has repeatedly refused to mandatorily transfer white children while busing increasing numbers of Black children — called Dr. King "the outstanding American of the Twentieth Century."

Isn't it a shame that those who speak so glibly

of Dr. King's dream that one day "little Black boys and Black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and girls as sisters and brothers" do not have the courage to make that dream a reality.

The Board of Education should recall another of Dr. King's statements: "The whirlwinds of revolt will continue to shake the foundations of our nation until the bright day of justice emerges." Justice has not emerged in Portland — and the Board's refusal to consider the transfer of white children for the purpose of desegregation has delayed that day.

Designating Dr. King's birthdate as a school holiday (whether paid or unpaid) is an honorable gesture, one that comes many years too late. But how much more appropriate would it have been to end the district's discrimination against Black children and provide equal educational opportunities for all children.

## Another Point of View

### School integration issue not closed

taken from *The Oregonian*

The Portland School Board's rejection of a resolution to "pair" Black and white schools, as a means of racial integration and racial equity in achieving integration, does not put an end to the issue of improving the program of integration in local schools. The School Board and the independent Community Coalition for School Integration, which raised the basic issues involved in the debate, should continue discussion and negotiation.

Chief among the issues has been the pairing proposal, in which predominantly white schools would be matched with Black schools, with mandatory busing of students between the schools of each pairing.

This recommendation had built-in explosives. There are seven predominantly Black schools involved, many times that number of white schools. It meant that the Board would be required to choose a minority of white schools to share the burden of integration that has rested more heavily on the Blacks. The Coalition strategically declined to make recommendations for such pairings.

One of the things that should be sought by more consultation is a means of involving whites in busing on a level more equitable to that of Blacks.

The editors of *The Oregonian* have grave reservations about the over-simplified pairing propo-

sal, inviting as it did unreasonable enmities between or among the community's neighborhoods. But hope is to be held for a change in the "scattering" of Black pupils among white schools. There should be some cohesion in the busing of student bodies, whatever the race. One or two Black pupils in a predominantly white school or one or two whites in a Black student body is not integration; it is isolation.

It is our understanding that the School Board has obstructed an early and fair solution to this community problem by the reluctance of its members to discuss the issues among themselves in public. There has been much discussion, but it has come primarily from members of the audience with Board members listening.

A reporter for *The Oregonian* who attended the Board meetings and hearings has observed: "During six Board meetings held on the Coalition's proposals, not once has the Board engaged in public discussion of the substance of these proposals."

This is not in the tradition of the Portland School Board or in the tradition of openness at every level in Oregon government. It does not do credit to any decisions the Board has so far made.

The School Board and representatives of the Coalition should continue to work toward improvements in the integration program, and they should do so in the open.

## Letters to the Editor

### End police brutality

To the editor:

I have known Kevin Berry since his birth. I want everyone to know of the good Christian characteristics of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Berry and their two sons, of which Kevin is the youngest.

I feel that there is a conspiracy among the police to bust anyone regardless of age, race or sex, if the person does not have a police record at all. I am well aware of the police officers' special weapons and tactics (SWAT), especially in our Albina area.

Our backyard is only one hundred

N.E. Prescott. While gardening each summer (for ten years) in the daytime I see police officers pulling cars over — also stopping pedestrians often for I.D. or whatever. Yes, I am just nosy and I like to know "what it is", as our young people say.

I pray that the officers in Albina will stop using extreme brutality when making an arrest because we do not need a "Watts," a "Detroit" or an earthquake to teach us a lesson. Only the strong survive and we who are parents and grandparents do not intend to sit quietly like Uncle Toms and Aunt Janes letting our

young people suffer from all kinds of abuse and possibly murder.

Shame on our preachers, the cowards, not to speak out in public concerning all this undercover police harassment in Portland. You are going to hell with your eyes wide open. No praying, singing or preaching can save you. Repent and stop your low-down Uncle Tom ways. Come forward and help Kevin Berry because his family has helped all of us spiritually.

I do not know the young lady who was beaten but I pray for her too. Who will be the next victim?

Mrs. C. Louise Harris



ALFRED L. HENDERSON  
Editor/Publisher

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## Rhodesia: What's in store for the New Year?

by N. Fungai Kumbula

A lot of things happened in Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) this past year but, in terms of progress, very little was accomplished. There was the sellout "agreement" of March 3 in which Bishop Abel Muzorewa and Rev Ndabaningi Sithole put the 6.5 million Zimbabweans on the auction block. The immediate response to this was an escalation of the armed conflict. So far, this war has claimed 15,000 lives, 40 percent of these lives have been lost since the signing of the agreement. Over half a million people have been incarcerated in "protected villages" to "prevent them from aiding and collaborating with the guerrillas."

There were repeated raids into Mozambique and Zambia by the desperate Smith regime and hundreds upon hundreds of innocent refugees were killed. White flight (exodus) reached unprecedented levels, averaging 1,000 people per month. By the end of the year, an estimated 12,000-20,000 whites (five percent of the total) had fled. Ian Smith, Ndabaningi Sithole and Abel Muzorewa came to the U.S. at the invitation to Hayakawa and Helms to plead for an end to sanctions and recognition of the "internal government" by the U.S.

Both missions failed. The only thing the unholy trio succeeded in doing was in attracting thousands of demonstrators everywhere they went. The demonstrators managed to convey to them the message that even though Americans are so far away from the scene of oppression, they are fully aware of the injustices perpetrated by that infamous regime. The demonstrators also educated a lot of their countrymen who may not have been too familiar with the Rhodesian tragedy.

With the war heating up in Rhodesia, the mercenary recruitment campaign was stepped up all over the "Free" world. At the same time, combat weary mercenaries who were already in Rhodesia began to desert in significant numbers. Ndabaningi Sithole, who now has to cling to Smith for survival, initiated a plan to extend the draft to Blacks. The bogus elections, originally scheduled for last December were scrapped almost at the last moment due to "technical difficulties." They are now scheduled for April 20th. The white referendum for approval or rejection of the proposed new constitution will be on February 28th.

The original guidelines for the setting up of an independent Zimbabwe have been drastically altered. Whereas in the original agreement, whoever had won the election would

have been free to choose his own government, the new guidelines call for a coalition government. Now, anybody who gets just five percent of the vote will have to be included in the government, will have to be allotted some cabinet posts. With the Black vote split three ways, and the whites guaranteed a minimum 28 seats, any government to result from such a setup can only be expected to be sadly ineffectual if not actually unworkable. On the other hand, it would also be a thinly disguised way of perpetuating the present system.

Byron Hove, the co-Minister of Justice, Law and Order was fired after he had protested the absence of Blacks in the higher ranks of the police, the army and the rest of the civil service. A Rhodesia Airways plane with 52 persons aboard (all white) was shot down by the guerrillas using anti-aircraft rockets (SAM) and all but six of those on board perished. A few weeks previously, several missionaries had been killed. Initially, the Smith regime had tried to blame the killings on the guerrillas in an effort to discredit them before the eyes of the world but, evidence recently uncovered has implicated the notorious Selous Scouts, operatives of the Rhodesian army who frequently masquerade as guerrillas.

Smith held a secret meeting in Lusaka, Zambia with Joshua Nkomo, one of the two leaders of the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance. The meeting was presided over by the President of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda who had tried to strike a separate deal (between Nkomo and Smith) excluding Robert Mugabe, the other guerrilla chief. This meeting was inconclusive and at one point threatened to wreck the cooperation that had so far existed among the Front line states. Charges and countercharges flew back and forth between Zambia and Tanzania. The relationship between the two countries was further strained toward the end of the year when Kaunda decided to reopen Zambia's border with Rhodesia, ironically, at the very time Smith was bombing Zambia. This border had been closed since 1968 as part of the sanctions campaign. Some sources claim that he was pressured into doing this by the IMF from whom he had had to borrow to get Zambia out of a nagging financial quagmire.

A few days before Christmas, the guerrillas made one of their most daring and spectacular raids when they destroyed, using rockets, a fuel refinery and storage dump just outside Salisbury (the capital). More than \$20 million worth of fuel was

destroyed and the blaze burned out of control for four days. A massive manhunt was launched but the "culprits" were never apprehended and the already jittery white populace received another severe jolt.

In fleeing the country, due to the severe currency restrictions the now desperate regime has imposed, a lot of the whites fleeing Rhodesia are devising some very ingenious ways to thwart the government. There was even a scandal involving some very high ranking military officials who had diverted into personal Swiss bank accounts, funds earmarked for arms purchases. Some eleven Augusta Bell 205 helicopters mysteriously turned up in Rhodesia and the Houston based company says it has no idea how they got there. They supposedly originated in Italy (from a Bell licensee), then were sold to Israel, then to some "logging company" in Southeast Asia and suddenly wound up in Rhodesia. They were used in the recent raids.

If all of this sounds confusing, don't despair. You are not alone. I am sitting here wading through all this and trying to figure out: where do we go from here? The only thing that seems clear is that Rhodesia's problems are far from over. Even the U.S. State Department acknowledges this and is now sort of sitting back to watch. "We have done all we could." Amidst all this confusion comes the latest report which details how, in addition to the two wings of the Patriotic Front battling the Rhodesian army, Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau have now begun raising private armies that owe allegiance to them, rather than to Zimbabwe.

Again, it is the innocent civilian who gets caught in the crossfire. One way of hope lies in that the farmers, who have been the backbone of white resistance to majority and the major source of income for the Smith regime have been leaving in record numbers. In some cases, up to 70 percent of them have fled. Business is also suffering as the businessmen (white) spend interminable periods of time in the bus pursuing an invisible enemy. Now the regime has to depend on older whites (in the 50-70 category) to guard the cities! This military "over-duty" has also spurred white flight.

With a new government in Iran that hopefully will cut off oil sales to South Africa, Rhodesia may finally be starved of oil. Meantime, all we can do is sit and hope and pray that Zimbabwe will be saved and prevented from completely going to the dogs.

## African realities and the conflict strategy myth

by Professor Anatoli Gromyko

Director, USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Africa

Refusing to face the facts and to concede the inevitability of change, the West lays the blame for everything that is happening in Africa at variance with its interests on the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries, claiming that these countries are pursuing a "conflict strategy" in Africa. Hence the myths about "Soviet penetration" and about the socialist countries working to destabilize Africa and impeding the peaceful settlement of conflicts. Moreover, some politicians in effect lay claim to the right to wage armed struggle against the independent countries and progressive forces of the continent.

The fundamental difference between the approaches of the USSR and some Western powers to Africa developments is plain to see. The Soviet Union is opposed to policy which runs counter to the objective imperatives of historical development in Africa. We shall continue, as always, to support the forces fighting for national liberation and the peoples of the newly free countries who are waging a difficult struggle to uphold their independence and freedom, including their right to choose their own path of social development, and to ensure the territorial integrity, independence and sovereignty of their countries. In pursuing this policy, the USSR is not prompted by any "ulterior motives," contrary to what Western propagandists maintain. As Leonid Brezhnev has said, in rendering assistance to peoples fighting for their freedom, the Soviet Union does not seek any advantages for itself, is not out to obtain concessions, does not strive for political domination or to acquire military bases.

There is another aspect of the matter that must be borne in mind. Some prominent leaders of NATO countries make a point of underscoring the dependence of the West's economy on wide access to African raw material resources. Moreover, the emphasis is placed on the growing importance of these resources for the economies of the Western countries, in particular the United States. But surely it is obvious that dependence on one or another raw material source cannot justify the use of gunboat diplomacy or armed intervention to gain control over such sources.

To maintain that Africa is an arena of rivalry between socialist and capitalist countries, and especially between the USSR and the U.S., is to be totally blind to the very substance of the policy of the Soviet Union. Suffice it to mention that in our country there are no transnational monopolies, which in the United States, for instance, as is admitted even in American quarters, often dictate their will to the State Department. What the Soviet Union is working for is the immediate granting to the peoples of southern Africa of their legitimate rights and the abolition of such political anomalies and social anachronisms as the racist regimes.

The Soviet Union has no "conflict strategy" in Africa. It is opposed to the arms race everywhere, Africa included. However, when it comes to newly liberated countries that have embarked on building a society free of exploitation, the Soviet Union, like the other socialist countries, helps them to repulse aggression and to build up their defense capability. The latest examples are Angola and Ethiopia, where Soviet and Cuban

assistance foiled the aggressors' plans and compelled them to beat a retreat. It is not difficult to visualize what would have happened in Angola, for instance, had the Soviet Union and Cuba not come to its aid. As like as not, it would have been occupied by the South African army and shared the fate of Namibia, which was annexed by the racists after World War II.

The assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to Angola and Ethiopia and the national liberation movements in southern Africa was fully in accord with the United Nations Charter and the decisions of the world organization and other authoritative international forums. It serves the just cause of the liberation of the peoples from racist and colonial oppression and the defense of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states against encroachments from without. The Soviet people are rightly proud of this.

The attempts made to misrepresent the stand taken by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries on African problems are primarily designed to justify the NATO countries' policy of direct intervention in African affairs. There is no dearth of instances of such interference. Take, for instance, the intervention in Zaire, the provocations engineered against Benin, Angola, Zambia, Mozambique, and Botswana, the attempt to set up an "inter-African force" under NATO aegis, and the political maneuvers undertaken to save the racist regimes.

As we see it, it is imperative for all states whose efforts could lead to the removal of the conflict situation that has arisen in southern Africa to take (Please turn to Page 5 Column 5)