Mr. Mugabe said, The Americans have been clear and forthright. But they must support those who hold the responsibility as the colonial power. It is David Owen who is giving us all the trouble now.

If it were only up to the Americans we would have no problem. They are ready to proceed, on the basis of the Anglo-American proposals, where things were adjourned in Malta.

## The Times, London. March 13:

A sharp division of opinion between Dr. David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and the leaders of the Patriotic Front, Mr. Joshua Nkomo and Mr. Robert Mugabe, caused their talks on Rhodesia to end in failure yesterday.

Mugabe said, We asked him to think again. Apparently he is going to think again now.

We are trying to press Dr. Owen to keep to the (Anglo-American) plan but it appears we are not succeeding.

The front was not opposed to others, whom Mr. Nkomo terms "the Salisbury talkers", joining in. It was not prepared, however, to move towards the Salisbury talks, which they regard as totally unacceptable, because they proceed from the rebel regime.

#### A Reuters wire, datelined Lusaka, March 14:

Mr. Mainza Chona, the Zambian Prime Minister, says Britain was indirectly responsible for Rhodesian raids into the country and should compensate it for the losses suffered.

Briefing Parliament here yesterday on last week's raid, Mr. Chona said Britain was "indirectly responsible for the brutal murder of innocent Zambians and destruction of Zambia's property." The British Foreign Office was propping up the Rhodesian government, both economically and militarily.

# Pressure For The Internal Solution

A press campaign in Britain and the U.S. portraying Smith's internal solution" as a viable transfer to majority rule is aiding efforts to transform the situation into a Soviet-U.S. confrontation: the Carter Administration is being attacked for not adopting a hardline posture in defense of the internal solution. In the words of a Republican Party report released March 22, the Administration is giving "Soviet-supported totalitarian Marxists a veto over the future political order in Rhodesia," instead of supporting the "prowestern black majority," Smith's "internal solution" puppets are euphemistically called.

The Daily Telegraph (London) March 21, "Council End White Rule In Rhodesia":

Exclusive White rule in Rhodesia will end today with the first meeting of the Executive Council, the four-man group which will guide the country to Black majority rule at the end of this year... The Executive Council will become the supreme policy and decisionmaking body in Rhodesia.

#### The New York Times, March 22:

The swearing in ceremony introduced the black leaders into a government structure that retains ultimate constitutional power in white hands. for example, Mr. Smith will retain the title of Prime Minister and the statutory powers that accompany it... Another problem for the black leaders will be control of the white-led Government forces. up to now, the forces have been directed by a 10-member War Council... but sources disclosed today that a smaller body was established recently under the same name, chaired by Lieut. Gen. Peter Walls, commander of the Government forces: When questioned on the topic, Mr. Smith was evasive, saying that the conduct of the war would rest, as before, with the military commanders.

# James J. Kilpatrick, syndicated column, March 22:

By their refusal to embrace the Rhodesian settlement, Britain and the United States are demonstrating to the whole world how the West will be lost....How can these interests be defined? Unless reason has fled our temples altogether, we are interested in halting the spread of Soviet-Cuban adventuring in Africa; we are interested in having an anti-Communist, as distinguished from a pro-Communist, regime in this part of the world. We are interested in seeing in Rhodesia a peaceful, multi-racial, more or less democratic society...The settlement reached between Prime Minister Ian Smith and three moderate black leaders provides all these things....All that is required is for Britain and the United States publicly to welcome the compact, and to throw their influence, their money and their arms behind its acceptance....These are times when great powers must act as great powers....Britain and the United States need only to act decisively, promptly and fearlessly. So far as we are concerned, they might say, the U.N. sanctions no longer will be honored; we will support the new government with credits, loans, diplomatic recognition and with whatever military aid may be required to smash the guerillas and their Communist Cuban allies.

#### **Public and Private**

The South African Digest for the week ending March 10 reports the public reaction to the Rhodesian internal settlement by the South African Government:

His Government welcomed the fact that Whites and Blacks in Rhodesia had reached an acceptable agreement, the Prime Minister, Mr. B.J. Vorster, said in Cape Town.

Mr. Vorster added that the success of the agreement would depend on the good faith of the parties concerned and whether they would be allowed to arrange and determine their affairs according to their own wishes.

Mr. R.F. Botha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, said: "We welcome it. The leaders of Rhodesia have a right to work out their own future, just as it is the perogative of the people of South West Africa to work out their own future."

Private discussions with South African diplomats reveal a more pragmatic attitude. Said one:

"South Africa doesn't want to get involved in supporting the internal solution. The internal solution is extremely fragile, and the only way it could have a chance of working is if South Africa went in militarily and supported it. However, the minute South Africa leaves, it will collapse."

# ...And Pressure Against It

New York Times, March 18:

To the chagrin of British officials, the thinking behind their diplomacy was revealed with unusual clarity in confidential documents released in Salisbury . . . The documents purported to be minutes of talks held in London last month by Mr. Sithole (one of the signatories to the internal solution — ed.) and the British Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen.

The documents, made available by Mr. Sithole's organization, showed Dr. Owen arguing that the parties to the Salisbury accord could resolve their difficulties if they could make an offer to Joshua Nkomo that could cause a break between him and Robert Mugabe. . . .

"You know that the Patriotic Front is not united," Dr. Owen was quoted as having said . . . The minutes quoted Dr. Owen as having said that Britain might accept the Salisbury accord if a genuine effort had been made to include at least Mr. Nkomo. . . .

Dr. Owen was quoted as having said that Mr. Nkomo could not "be seen to break with Robert Mugabe before he gets a concrete offer."

"We are at your disposal, what can we do to help in this?" Dr. Owen was said to have asked. "This holds the key to Zimbabwe,"...

Ambassador Andrew Young, on "Meet the Press" (NBC)
March 12, 1978

(On the acceptability or otherwise of the Rhodesian internal settlement:) "... the way things are set up, we won't really know even whether Ian Smith is serious for ten months, and Mr. Smith has had a 12-year period of deviousness in relationship to the British. He has made promises after promises, you know, which he has broken, and they (the British) have a lot more leverage against him than Bishop Muzorewa and Reverend Sithole (signatories to the internal settlement — ed.)...

"... Most Americans think that the internal solution is good, well-worked-out, democratic agreement, approved of by the majority of the citizens of Rhodesia. and yet, there is no proposal at all to put this proposal to a vote of the six million black citizens in Rhodesia.... It is a white plan that does not require black approval.

Victor Zorza, syndicated column, March 16:

The West would again find itself on the wrong side if it gave support to the Smith formula, because the "internal settlement" is a transparent device to ensure that the real decisions in Rhodesia will continue to be made by the whites.

That is what Moscow Radio has been telling the Africans, and the analysis cannot be easily controverted. It has also said, more ominously, that the new situation creates "a serious threat to peace" that could be made

an excuse for the introduction of Cuban and Soviet military forces. . . . That is one threat to peace.

The other... is that the Rhodesian security forces will seek to preempt the stepped-up attacks by Patriotic Front guerrillas based in neighboring Mozambique and Zambia... and thus give both Zambia and Mozambique a reason for requesting Soviet-Cuban military aid...

If the West allows itself to be maneuvered once again into the position of supporting the wrong side, then it will also find itself on the losing side — and the Kremlin will have made another gain in the steady unfolding of its African strategy.

### 'U.S. Should Call For Geneva'

A U.S. specialist in African and Soviet Affairs commented:

"The problem with Carter Administration policy is that no one has said anything realistic about including the Patriotic Front in the settlement of the Rhodesia question. The U.S. should call for a Geneva conference in participation with the Soviets to settle the question, on the basis of the joint economic development of Rhodesia."

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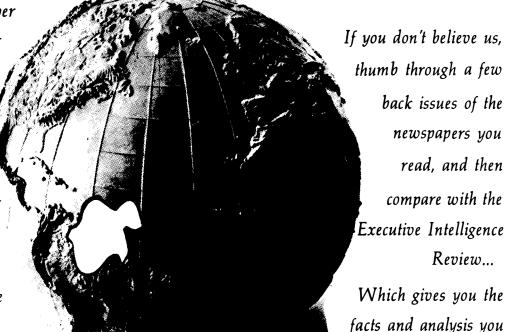
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