

FILMS

"A Luta Continua" (The Struggle Continues) depicts the struggle for freedom inside Mozambique and shows the problems of health education, political development, and economic growth and defense of the people of Mozambique under the leadership of FRELIMO. Available for rental.

Write to: Robert F. Van Lierop, Africa Information Service, 112 West 120th Street, New York, N.Y. 10026.

"Nation-Time West," a one-hour documentary (16mm plus sound) featuring highlights of the Western Regional Conference of the Congress of African People held in San Diego, California.

"West Coast black nationalists showed themselves to be Pan-African in orientation. They are now focusing on political organizing and economic development as ways of dealing with inequities in the nation's black communities."

Available from: Rufus Butler, Bhang Productions, 5343 Monroe Street; Hollywood, Calif. 90038.

Travels from inside liberated territory with soldiers of the Eritrea Liberation Army have been recorded on Super 8 mm color film by Richard Lobban. Mr. Lobban writes: "While marching for about 500 kilometers I filmed some of the activities of the Eritrean Liberation Front. I have prepared a narration to accompany the film and give descriptive and background information. This narration is on a separate tape cassette. This film is not professional; however, it is the only one of its kind available in the United States... Included with the narration is an extended speech by Herui Bairu, the E.L.F. official in charge of policy and program."

Rental fee: \$5.00 (plus \$10.00 deposit to cover postage and insurance). Write to: Prof. Richard Lobban, Department of Anthropology and Geography, Rhode Island College, Providence, R.I. 02908.

NEWS NOTES

This section of the Newsletter features articles culled from various periodicals which make their way into our office. We welcome suggestions or contributions from members.

Most of the world seems relieved that President Nixon will be in the White House for another four years.

About the only exceptions reported by Monitor correspondents around the world are countries in Latin America and Black Africa.

Said one African at the packed United States Information Service election-returns center in Nairobi: "It's too bad the choice is left to Americans."

Senator McGovern had conceded defeat four hours earlier. The crowd's mood seemed one of quiet disappointment.

One observer suggests that "Africans-for-McGovern" sought in part some assurance that voters really can eject powerful, moneyed, incumbent parties. This has never happened in black-ruled Africa.

The Christian Science Monitor 11/9/72

Washington — Senator George McGovern has selected a lop-sided panel of extreme southern African "hawks" to advise him on African questions during his run for the presidency.

Four of them, including the chairman, Willard Johnson, are members of the Blacks-only African Heritage Studies Association, an academic group that broke away from the integrated African Studies Association.

Members of the AHSa belong to a committee — the so-called Mau Mau Committee — that tries to prevent Black celebrities from going to South Africa. The membership is largely committed to support for southern African guerrilla movements.

Of the four, the most prominent is Professor Herschelle Challenor, a highly talented and articulate woman who

organised a meeting of "hawks" to discuss southern Africa in Puerto Rico in February. The other two are Ron Walters and Carl Gregory.

With them, Senator McGovern has appointed Mrs. Goler Butcher, an aide to Congressman Charles Diggs, Professor John Marcum, whose field is the Portuguese territories of Africa; Peter Weiss, president of the American Committee on Africa which contributed to the guerrilla movements, and Wayne Fredericks of the Ford Foundation.

This selection is remarkable in that it includes nobody to represent American business interests in the continent, nobody from the modern academic community, nobody associated with the policy of dialogue and nobody from the church groups which display a militant interest in the area.

In New York, reports SAPA-AP an interfaith network of religious leaders has been formed to back Senator McGovern in his campaign. This breaks a long-time practice against church leaders taking sides in U.S. national elections.

Methodist Bishop James Armstrong, who chaired the formative planning meetings, emphasized that participants were acting as "individual citizens," not as spokesmen for their church constituencies.

Star (S.A.)

9/30/72



Prime Minister M. Caetano has "as an admirer and a friend" congratulated President Nixon with his reelection "in order that the relations between our two countries remain as cordial as they have been during the last few years."

Diario de Noticias (Port.) 11/10/72



United Nations, N.Y., Nov. 10 — The General Assembly's Economic Committee, overriding the strenuous objections of many Western countries, including the United States, voted today to set up the headquarters of the new United Nations Environmental Program in Nairobi, Kenya.

All United Nations agencies, with the exception of regional economic commissions, are now in North America or Western Europe. The move this morning appeared to presage not only a greater decentralization of United Nations organizations throughout the world but also an increasing conflict over the issue between developing and industrialized countries.

On an initial ballot to place the environmental secretariat in a developing country, and specifically in Kenya, the United States cast the lone negative vote. The final ballot on the full resolution regarding the headquarters was 93 to 0, with 31 nations abstaining. Among the major powers, only China voted for the measure.

Many Western diplomats, who expected the secretariat to be placed in Geneva after a routine debate here, were startled by the force and unity of the push by African, Asian and Latin American states to establish the headquarters in a developing nation.

A number of western countries conceded the merits of locating some United Nations bodies in developing countries, if only to dramatize the universality of the organization's concerns and interests.

However, they said, the site of any body should be determined primarily by factors of efficiency, effectiveness, and cost. And, judged by these standards, Nairobi was not a good candidate for the environmental secretariat, they said.

Western representation, including those of Britain and the Scandinavian countries, pointed out that the environmental secretariat was meant to be a small body that would spur and coordinate activities of other agencies, such as the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Thus there was particular reason for locating this body as near environmental experts and other United Nations agencies as possible, they said.

The developing countries, in an intense and often emotional debate that began three weeks ago, held that the site of the environmental headquarters was essentially a "political" decision. They said the argument about coordination was overplayed and the matter of additional cost in Kenya or elsewhere was secondary.

Joseph Odero-Jowi, Kenya's delegate, said some industrialized states were still trying to live in the days when they made the decision for their colonies. These times have passed, he said.

If it costs a little more to build a United Nations agency in a developing state, Mr. Odero-Jowi said, the United Nations "will in effect pay a little rent for the omissions of the past."

"This is why I say the decision must be political, not financial," he said.

Secretary-General Waldheim's staff estimated that the first year cost of the Secretariat in Geneva would have been \$1.4 million. The figure for Nairobi is \$2.3 million.

*By M.A. Farber, special to the
New York Times*

11/11/72



London — Coups seem to have become commonplace in the African Republic of Dahomey, but the latest (Oct. 26) carries some new risks with it.

Superficially there was no immediate cause for the intervention, although not all the details of events leading up to it are known. Maj. Mathieu Kerekou, the leader of the coup who has now proclaimed himself president of the republic, gave as his reasons the deficiencies of the three-man presidential council which has ruled Dahomey for the past 2½ years.

The council was designed to cope with the presence of three constantly warring regional tribes by giving a representative of each tribe a chance every two years to be president.

Despite their early rivalries, the three leaders (M. Maga, M. Ahomadegbe, and M. Apithy) accepted the system and were able to achieve the first "rotation" last May, when M. Ahomadegbe took over from M. Maga, despite considerable apprehensions.

But the three presidents showed that even in harness they could still run seriously out of step. Major Kerekou has complained that they "marred Dahomey's history with negative and destructive aims by their continuous unpatriotic struggles," turning the presidential council into a 'veritable monster'."

The major has also alleged corruption, regionalism, and nepotism. He now has appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate the council's activities.

All these weaknesses were present in the regime from its beginning. The first of the three presidents to hold office, M. Maga, spent more than £100,000 refurbishing the £1 million palace he had built in Cotonou in the early 1960's, during his first presidency. All the presidents had their own cabinets, their own palaces, and their own Mercedes.

The Maga regime was able to profit from a modest economic upturn, based partly on some solid groundwork or the 18-month rule of Dr. Zinsou in 1968-69, but due more specifically to the expansion of smuggling to and from Nigeria during the civil war there.

The three presidents were diligent aid-raisers, and by preaching that, the council shared in a new era of stability and had begun to interest Western investors.

A visit by President Pompidou of France, due at the end of November, might have further consolidated over-seas support. Likewise a relationship was being built with Nigeria, which recently granted Dahomey a £1 million interest-free loan.

The vices and virtues of the council were predictable from its inception. The army knew this when the former military regime set up the council in May, 1970. For the roots of the latest coup, therefore, one has to look to the state of the Dahomey army.

The Dahomey army has probably the most politicized officers in black Africa. In the heyday of army rule, in 1966-67, the officer corps of under 100 men met regularly in an "assembly of officers" to discuss policy in a kind of military parliament.

Military vocations in politics have been strong among the middle-ranking and junior officers, many of whom have passed through French military academies. They are the military counterparts of Dahomey's often turbulent and underemployed intelligentsia.

The presidential council was regarded by most of the officers as a sellout. Their disillusionment was passed on to the rank-and-file soldiers. Acts of indiscipline by both officers and other ranks went unpunished, until a mutiny in a mortar company was exploited by discontented officers and formed the basis of an apparent attempted coup last February.

The trial of the officers involved (including Colonel Kouandete, the most notorious coupmaker) was a major bone of contention among the council members. Potential conflict between army factions, inflamed by politicians using selected officers as clients, may have been the underlying reason for Major Kerekou's move.

He was a former close colleague of Colonel Kouandete (they staged the 1967 coup together), but had rallied the army after the February mutiny, and became its deputy chief in May. A northerner, he was one of the few officers who retained the support of the mainly northern rank and file.

By Kaye Whiteman
The Christian Science Monitor 11/8/72



Zomba, Malawi — A marked increase in guerrilla terrorist activities is reported from the Tete district of Mozambique. Several recent incidents suggest an offensive against the communications of the giant Cabora Bassa hydro-electric scheme.

Accompanying tensions between Portugal and Malawi about Portuguese counter-measures have led to the withdrawal of the Lisbon Ambassador in Zomba at his own request.

Cooling of relations with Portugal was shown by a curt reference to Portugal in President Banda's opening speech to Parliament last week.

He did, however, make special reference to improved relations with Tanzania, principal host country for the Frelimo rebel movement into Mozambique.

An offensive with landmines of Chinese design has interrupted traffic on 100 miles of the Beira to Tete railway on a stretch between Mutara and Caldas Xavier, running about 12 miles from the border with Malawi....

All tourist motor traffic stopped two years ago and a heavy toil has been taken of freight vehicles.

There is no doubt that Frelimo's sustained successes have led to trouble between Rhodesia and Portugal. During his October visit to Lisbon, Mr. Ian Smith, Rhodesian Prime Minister, expressed concern at the dilatory strategy of the Portuguese military command in the Tete district.

He argued that Frelimo successes there might spread south and lead to mine attacks of his road and rail links between Umtali and Beira.

Rhodesia has reports that the Organization of African Unity's Liberation Committee in Dar es Salaam is switching finance and material aid to Mozambique, where guerrilla successes have the additional effect of reinforcing the United Nations sanctions policy.

By Ian Colvin
Daily Tl. (U.K.)

11/27/72



Lisbon, Nov. 15 — Dr. Marcello Caetano, Prime Minister of Portugal, has publicly rebuked Rhodesia for spreading alarm about the military situation in Mozambique's Tete district where the controversial Cabora-Bassa dam is being built.

Dr. Caetano referred to a nation-wide television and radio address to the "fears" of some neighbours of Mozambique. Some observers believe that the rebuke may lead to a serious rupture in relations between Lisbon and Salisbury.

Dr. Caetano said: "In foreign countries the campaign against Cabora-Bassa has reached hysterical heights. And in Mozambique it is above all in the district of Tete, where the work is being carried out, that the furies of the guerrillas have been concentrated.

"But this does not perturb us and we have maintained our domination of the situation: Cabora-Bassa continues. But some of our neighbours with less experience do not conceal their fears. They have been told more than once that there is no reason for their great fright."

There is no doubt in Lisbon that although he named no names, Dr. Caetano has issued a very deliberate rebuke to the Rhodesians and to a lesser extent the South Africans. In recent weeks the Rhodesians, in particular, have gone out of their way to say they consider the situation in Mozambique is fast-deteriorating.

A public attack of this type occurs only rarely in Portugal and reflects the depth of feeling against Rhodesian leaders and the Rhodesian Press which, in Lisbon's view, has published deliberately alarmist reports about Portugal's attitudes.

Fin. Times (U.K.) 11/16/72

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Lagos, Nigeria, Nov. 12 (Agence France-Presse) — A Nigerian newspaper said today that "hundreds" of Nigerian laborers had recently been shot dead in nearby Equatorial Guinea.

The Nigerian Sunday Observer charged that the plantation workers died in indiscriminate shooting that was the "climax of increasing hostility" against Nigerians by the authorities of Equatorial Guinea. The paper did not identify any killers.

It quoted workers, who, it said, had succeeded in fleeing Fernando Po, the island province of Equatorial Guinea in the Bight of Biafra, by chartered boat.

The slain laborers were reportedly in the process of leaving the island when the shootings were said to have occurred.

Nigeria has complained in the past of near-slave conditions imposed on workers at plantations in Fernando Po. A withdrawal of Nigerian labor, which threatened the former Spanish colony's economy with collapse at one point, resulted in negotiations by the two countries for improved working conditions, but Nigerian workers have continued to complain of ill treatment.

The New York Times 11/13/72

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Kinshasa, Zaire — Increased production of copper by this African country is serving to offset the effects of lower prices for the metal. But with imports still at a high level despite efforts to restrict them, Zaire — the former Belgian Congo — appears to be heading for her first trade deficit since 1967.

Since copper is the country's main resource and the source of nearly 70 per cent of Government revenues, the decline in copper prices from the high levels of 1970 has brought tighter credit and a perceptible slowdown of economic activity.

Along with the trade deficit, which will be fairly moderate, there are expected to be deficits also in the Government's budget and in the balance of payments.

The New York Times 11/11/72

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Kinshasa, Zaire (AP) — President Mobutu Sese Seko has announced establishment of diplomatic relations with China.

He made the announcement yesterday at a mass rally at Kinshasa Stadium to mark the seventh anniversary of his regime.

He said talks with Peking which led to mutual recognition had taken place in Paris and lasted five months. Zaire is the new name for the Congo.

The Sunday Star and Daily News
11/22/72

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United Nations, N.Y. (AP) — Africans are riding high in their most successful year of U.N. politics.

As the largest and perhaps tightest voting bloc, Africans won an unexpected victory in the vote to put the U.N. environment agency in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

The second show of strength in a week by the 40 nonwhite African nations came on Tuesday. They won a General Assembly vote to censure Portugal and recognize rebels as authentic representatives of Portugal's African territories — Portuguese Guinea, Mozambique and Angola.

The Africans requested and got a meeting of the Security Council Wednesday to air more protests against Portugal, the last white colonial power on the continent.

The Organization of African Unity claims 1972 has been the most productive year for African statesmen. Their accomplishments include:

- A General Assembly vote to set aside a Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa. The week begins May 25, 1973, the 10th anniversary of the OAU.
- A meeting of the Security Council in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the first session ever outside New York.
- An appearance by Amilcar Cabral, rebel leader in Portuguese Guinea, as an official U.N. observer.
- A Security Council resolution in October condemning Portugal for sending troops from Portuguese Guinea into neighboring Senegal in pursuit of Guinean rebels.
- A mission by three U.N. representatives to the scene of Portuguese Guinea's 19 year war for independence.
- A visit by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to South-West Africa, a disputed territory controlled by South Africa. He was to release his findings late Wednesday.

Following his visit to the territory, Waldheim dispatched an Austrian diplomat, Alfred Escher, to investigate conditions there further. Escher and Waldheim spent the past four days conferring about progress toward independence for the 750,000 people of South-West Africa, listed on the U.N. map under the native name of Namibia.

The General Assembly approved a resolution earlier this month recognizing the "legitimacy" of armed rebellion against colonialism. It also agreed to join the Organization of African Unity in sponsoring a conference in Oslo, Norway, in April in support of Southern African independence movements in Southern Africa.

Despite U.N. action on other African problems, there has not been much debate this session on Rhodesia, ruled by a white-minority government.

Some observers question whether the debates on African questions that have dominated the current assembly session will bring concrete results. The session next year is seen as the high point in 10 years of growing U.N. concern about Southern Africa.

"It will be a watershed," one Western source said. "We'll get some results or else Africa will just fade out of the picture."

The African bloc has won a number of new allies in its drive to end white rule in Southern Africa, Australia, Austria, Canada, Israel, Japan and the Scandinavian countries joined in the vote on Tuesday to censure Portugal.

Only Britain, the United States, Spain and Brazil stuck with Portugal and South Africa. France abstained. In Lisbon, Premier Marcello Caetano rejected the General Assembly censure. He said Portugal would not negotiate with the rebels or hand over its overseas provinces to them.

The premier told his countrymen to expect "terrorist activities" in Africa and widespread diplomatic moves against Portugal. But he said his government would stand firm on its policy of keeping the African territories as "autonomous states."

*By Ford Burkhart
The Denver Post*

11/15/72



United Nations, Nov. 16 — There was a mixed but generally cool reaction today among African diplomats at the United Nations to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's report on Namibia (Southwest Africa).

The report, which was officially made public today, outlines the three concessions that South Africa, the de facto ruler of the territory, is willing to make to the United Nations, which is theoretically the legal sovereign.

The few Africans who had read the report agreed that the concessions offered were small. Some felt that the Security Council should now terminate Waldheim's mandate to continue negotiations with South Africa, but others disagreed.

South Africa has agreed to the establishment of federal advisory council that would provide a semblance of unified rule by linking the 10 separate tribal homelands into which Namibia is divided.

The second concession involves a promise by South Africa to allow freer speech and rights of assembly to the blacks of Namibia. The third was a promise to ease the restrictions on travel.

The Security Council has insisted that Namibia become independent as a single state and with equal rights for whites and blacks.

The Washington Post

11/17/72



United Nations, N.Y., Nov. 22 — The Security Council, unanimously adopting a compromise resolution, called on Portugal today to enter into negotiations leading toward self-determination and independence for her African territories of Angola, Mozambique, Guinea and Cape Verde.

A number of nations, including the U.S., Britain and France, said they discerned a new flexibility on Portugal's part regarding the issue and hoped for a "positive" response from Lisbon to the Council's action.

Antonio Patricio, Portugal's representative at the United Nations, said in a letter to the Council two days ago that Portugal "has never excluded discussion on all pertinent issues concerning its overseas provinces and has, on more than one occasion, expressed readiness to debate matters in a constructive spirit with representatives of sovereign African states."

In an interview before the Council vote this afternoon, Mr. Patricio said that Lisbon was prepared to enter unconditional talks regarding the "evolution" of its territories "in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter."

*Special to
The New York Times*

11/24/72



Lisbon (Reuter) — Portugal last night rejected Wednesday's unanimous United Nations Security Council resolution on Portuguese African territories, and said the council was not competent to discuss the internal affairs of member states.

A Foreign Ministry communiqué issued here said Portugal could not abandon its territories without serious injustice and irreparable harm to the overwhelming majority of the territorial populations, with whom there was permanent and harmonious contact.

The Security Council resolution called on Portugal to begin negotiations on the right of self-determination and independence in its African territories and cease military operations in Angola, Guinea (Bissau), Cape Verde, and Mozambique.

The Sun

11/24/72



United Nations, N.Y. (AP) — The U.N. General Assembly has asked members of the European Common Market to deny aid and "commercial or other facilities" to South Africa so long as the country practices race segregation.

The request, in a resolution recommended by the special political committee yesterday, also was addressed to members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the International Monetary Fund and other "international agencies and organizations."

The resolution passed by a vote of 100 to 4 with 21 abstentions. The United States did not explain its vote, but apparently was going along with opposition from Common Market countries, who abstained.

The United States voted for other Assembly resolutions that:

- Ask the U.N. Special Committee on Apartheid to consult "experts and representatives of the oppressed people of South Africa and African liberation movements" on "ways and means of intensifying international action against apartheid."
- Ask Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to arrange for "wider and more effective publicity by the Office of Public Information through all media, including films and broadcasts, on the evils of apartheid" and U.N. efforts to end it.
- Call upon South Africa to end "physical and mental torture and other acts of terror against opponents of apartheid under detention."
- Appeal to "all states, organizations and individuals for generous annual contributions" to the U.N. Trust Fund for South Africa.

The Evening Star and Daily News

11/16/72



The United States won the first round yesterday in its battle to cut its contribution to the U.N. budget, probably saving the life of the United Nations.

The victory appeared to eliminate the danger that the United States would turn its back completely on the United Nations. Many delegates feared that this would be the result if the United States lost the vote and that it would lead to bankruptcy and total ineffectuality of the world organization.

The victory came by a larger margin than expected. This appeared to reduce the likelihood that many states would resent the fact that the U.S. Congress' vote to reduce the U.S. contribution had been imposed on the United Nations.

Congress voted earlier this year to cut the U.S. contribution to the regular U.N. budget to a maximum of 25 per cent starting Jan. 1, 1974. Much of the Congressional support was reaction against the U.N. vote to expel Taiwan a year ago.

Yesterday's vote in the General Assembly's budgetary committee approved a U.S. resolution calling for a ceiling of 25 per cent on any nation's contribution. The United States now pays 31.52 per cent.

The vote was 67 to 30 with 32 abstentions. This was more than a two-thirds majority in favor of the U.S. resolution. Had it been less, the opponents might have tried to insist that the matter needed a two-thirds vote when it comes before the General Assembly.

As things stand, such an opposition move is highly unlikely.

After the expected assembly approval of the resolution, the Committee on Contributions is expected to meet next March to set a new scale of assessments imposing the 25 per cent ceiling "as soon as practicable." That may mean a gradual reduction to 25 per cent by 1976, which would still need reconciliation with the congressional position.

U.S. Ambassador George Bush said the result was "good for the U.N., it's good for the U.S., it's good for the U.S. Ambassador. It's the best thing that can happen in terms of generating support for the United Nations in the United States."

The actual difference between the U.S. contributions under the old scale of assessment and the new one would be about \$13. million.

By Anthony Astrachan

The Washington Post

12/2/72



United Nations, N.Y., Dec. 8 — The General Assembly in a resolution today asked governments to avoid giving assistance that could help Israel consolidate her control of Arab territories occupied since the 1967 war.

Israel, attacking the Egyptian-supported proposal as one-sided, voted against the resolution. But it was approved by 86 votes to 7.

The United States, one of 31 nations abstaining, criticized the resolution as lacking balance and served notice that it would not affect American policy.

United Nations, N.Y., Dec. 7 — The General Assembly today condemned the importation by the United States of chrome and nickel from Rhodesia in violation of the United Nations 1968 embargo on trade with Rhodesia.

It was the first instance in which the word "condemn" had been directed against the United States by name in an Assembly resolution.

The United States has been the target of mounting criticism, particularly from African countries, since Congress approved legislation last year permitting the resumption of purchases of strategic materials from Rhodesia. The United Nations had adopted its 1968 embargo as a punitive measure against the white supremacist government.

The Assembly last year stopped short of a condemnation and merely expressed concern and asked that the trade cease. The new resolution, citing the United States and also South Africa and Portugal for trade with Rhodesia, was approved 93 to 8, with the United States among those voting "no" and 23 nations abstaining.

*Special to
The New York Times* 12/8/72



United Nations — Action to curb international terrorism was regarded by many diplomats here as one of the most important issues to come before the current General Assembly. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim pushed hard on the question. And to most people in the Western world it was a problem that had to be dealt with severely by the community of nations.

But last week the United Nations voted, in effect, to do nothing concrete about the problem. When the issue came up in the Assembly's Legal Committee, a coalition of Arab, African and Communist countries pushed through a resolution that not only put off strong international legal action against terrorism but condemned "alien regimes" that denied peoples "their legitimate right to self-determination." The resolution did not, however, condemn acts of international terrorism; it deals mainly with exploring the causes of terrorism. The vote was 76 to 34 with 16 abstentions.

Cutting through the purposefully dense diplomatic verbiage, it appeared to Western representatives that the resolution could be interpreted as encouraging terrorists to do their worst so long as their efforts were aimed at self-determination of their people.

New York Times 12/17/72



Some 1,539 Jehovah's witnesses, Sunday, Nov. 19, adopted a resolution calling on Dr. H. Kamuzu Banda, President of the Republic of Malawi in Africa, to call a halt to what they described as "a great wave of persecution" of Jehovah witnesses there.

The Witnesses cite reports which said that hundreds of their members were fleeing from villages and some even walking as much as 350 miles to Zambia to escape persecution. They claimed that a Blantyre businessman, M.L. Chirwa, died after being attacked by youth leaders of the Malawi Congress Party for refusing to buy a party membership card and for being one of Jehovah's witnesses.

The Malawi Mission to the U.N. denied the charges and said it has no basis. "It is possible that some torturing of Jehovah Witnesses is being conducted in Malawi by individuals, but the Government of Malawi is unaware of it," the Ambassador said.

N.Y. Amsterdam News 11/25/72



Meeting in the capital, Zomba, at the Catholic Secondary School, party delegates attending the 1972 Malawi Congress Party's Annual Convention adopted on September 16 a series of resolutions. We here quote from the Mana Daily Digest, issued by the Malawi government's Ministry of Information and Broadcast, dated September 18, 1972. Page 17 shows that the party delegates went on record as having:

- (a) Deplored the fact that certain fanatical religious sects which operated like the banned Jehova[h]'s Witnesses sect, hindered both the political and economic development in the country.
- (b) Resolved that all the members of these fanatical religious sects employed in commerce and industry should be dismissed forthwith, and that any commercial or industrial concern that does not comply with this resolution should have its license cancelled.
- (c) Resolved that all the members of these fanatical religious sects employed by the Government should be dismissed forthwith and that any member of these sects who is self-employed, either in business or farming, have his business or farming activities discouraged.
- (d) Resolved that all the members of these sects who live in the villages should be chased away from there, and appealed to the Government to give maximum possible protection to members of the party who deal with the adherents to these sects.

In reality, the only ones affected by these resolutions were Jehovah's witnesses. No other religious group in Malawi suffered as they did....

Thousands of Christian men, women and children have fled the East African country of Malawi in recent weeks.

Nearly 11,600 flooded into neighboring Mozambique. A dispatch from Zambia to the London Daily Telegraph reported 8,925 had sought refuge in Zambia by the middle of October, with more continuing to arrive daily. Some had walked as much as 350 miles with only the possessions they could carry. The Times of Zambia said the country was faced with a "refugee crisis." Still others had fled to Rhodesia.

Why this mass exodus of Christians from Malawi?

Confirmed reports by thousands of eye witnesses gave a horrifying account of brutal persecution in that land, one seldom equaled in modern history. Among the thousands now living in the hastily constructed refugee camps, many showed the effects of vicious beatings and torture.

The United Nations High Commission for refugees sent representative Dr. Hugo Idoyaga to the Zambia-Malawi border. He reported "that many of the refugees bore cuts and gashes apparently inflicted by pangas, the huge knives common to East Africa." (New York Times, October 22, 1972).

All these refugees were Jehovah's witnesses. They formed the vast majority of some 23,000 African witnesses of Jehovah for whom Malawi had been home.

Suffering was not new to many of them. In 1967 an earlier wave of persecution had brought them intense hardships. Thousands of their homes, stores and places of worship were destroyed and looted, a number of the Witnesses were murdered, hundreds of their women were raped, some repeatedly. Their Christian activity, their Bible literature and meetings for worship were all placed under official ban.

Now, five years later, savage persecution has raged on an even larger scale than before. A countrywide effort has been made to destroy Jehovah's witnesses as a united Christian group in Malawi, depriving them of all employment and the very means of feeding and housing themselves. Estimates of those killed run from ten known dead to as high as sixty.

Awake! (A Watchtower Publication) 12/8/72



Salisbury, Rhodesia, Nov. 27 — Rhodesian television audiences were told last night by Clark MacGregor, former counsel to President Nixon for Congressional relations, that the United States might soon recognize Rhodesia's sovereignty.

Mr. MacGregor, who resigned to head Mr. Nixon's re-election campaign, described as "unnatural the present situation in which the breakaway British colony has not received international recognition as an independent republic.

In reply to a question about the likelihood of recognition, Mr. MacGregor replied: In a free society such as ours, unnatural situations which are unpopular tend to be subject to change. So I am sure change will come — for the better. I can't predict how or when, but I rather expect it will be sooner than most people realize."

Washington, Nov. 27 — The State Department today emphatically denied a report that the United States might soon recognize Rhodesia.

There are absolutely no plans to recognize Rhodesia a department spokesman said. He added a White House spokesman noted that Mr. MacGregor was a business executive, rather than an advisor to President Nixon. He recently joined the United Aircraft Corporation.

The New York Times

11/28/72



Salisbury, Rhodesia, Nov. 17 (Agence France-Presse) — The Rhodesian Government introduced legislation in Parliament today requiring every black over the age of 16 to carry a registration certificate or identity card at all times.

The bill, which also requires the blacks to apply for permission every time they want to leave the country, will be debated in Parliament next week.

It is the fourth new racial measure to be introduced since September, when Prime Minister Ian D. Smith, facing right-wing charges that his Government had failed to press segregationist policies and, at the same time, seeking a settlement with Britain of the independence dispute, held out the promise of a more moderate approach to Rhodesia's black majority....

Public swimming pools were segregated. The Lady Chancellor, Salisbury's main maternity home, was told that it could no longer accept patients of Asian or mixed blood after the end of the year. A 7 P.M. weekday curfew was imposed on blacks drinking or eating in white areas. That last measure, however, was quashed yesterday by the High Court.

Today's measure, introduced by Lance B. Smith, the Minister of Internal Affairs, provides a maximum fine of \$152 and six months in jail for failure to carry valid identity documents. It also says that blacks seeking to travel abroad must get permits from Government registration officers, to whom they must surrender their identity papers. The blacks must apply for reissue of the papers on return.

The African National Council, which was formed last December to urge rejection of terms of the settlement with Britain under which blacks would gain only the most gradual political representation here, reacted quickly to the latest legislative proposal.

It is, said the Rev. Canaan Banana, the council's vice president, "an abominable piece of legislation designed to intimidate Africans into conniving with a corrupt system of government as perpetrated by a group of terrified little men."

"It is strange," said Edson Sithole, a former member of the outlawed Zimbabwe African National Union and the publicity secretary of the council, "that the Government should introduce these racial measures but, at the same time, state that they would want a settlement and acceptance by the world."

The New York Times

11/18/72



Samuel C. Adams Jr., assistant administrator for African affairs at the Agency for International Development has been named a winner of the \$10,000 (tax free) Rockefeller Public Service Award. Adams is 52, and started with Uncle Sam as a machinist trainee at the Norfolk Navy Yard in 1942.

The Washington Post 11/21/72

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United Nations (AWA) — Congressman Charles C. Diggs, the Congressional Black Caucus and various individuals, church organizations and other groups have lost their suit to prevent the United States government from breaking United Nations boycotts of the white minority regime of Rhodesia (Zimbabwe).

The U.S. District Court had ruled against them in June of this year, and the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington upheld that ruling on Oct. 24.

By Winston Berry
The Afro-American 11/28/72

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Operation PUSH — a Chicago-based economic rights organization headed by the Rev. Jesse Jackson — is working out a plan with Liberian authorities to set up dual U.S.-Liberian citizenship for American blacks.

Jackson met with President William R. Tolbert Jr. in Monrovia last week, and the Liberian government announced its willingness to establish dual citizenship "for black Americans who wish to formalize their historic ties with Africa in general and with Liberia in particular."

PUSH Vice President Thomas N. Todd, a professor of law at Northwestern University, said the goal was to have Liberian citizenship available to U.S. blacks in the same way that Israeli citizenship may be acquired by Jews.

"We're still working on the mechanics of its," said Todd, who accompanied Jackson to Liberia. "This is a breakthrough for black Americans, but we don't want them to have to give up their American citizenship."

Under Israeli law, Jewish immigrants automatically acquire citizenship after three months residence unless they opt against it.

A State Department spokesman said the agency is not concerned about the possibility of dual U.S.-Liberian citizenship. The department is relaxed about the idea, he said.

The Washington Post 11/22/72

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Washington — President Nixon has asked Joseph Sisco, his top Mideast troubleshooter, to take over George Bush's job as ambassador to the United Nations when Bush moves up to the new post of deputy secretary of defense....

The Sisco appointment, if he accepts it, will be the focus of an intensified administration drive to try to bring peace to the strife-torn Middle East. Sisco has had wide experience at the United Nations, though his new assignment would climax a somewhat unorthodox career.

Although he has been a State Department officer since 1950, Sisco has never held a foreign post — an observation that was rather pointedly made in the foreign service journal when he was nominated by Nixon in 1968 to become a career minister....

Bush's elevation to an important post at the Pentagon is expected to help groom him for a return to political life, where he ran twice unsuccessfully in Texas Senate races.

By John P. Wallach
The News American 12/3/72

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London — Reports from Uganda indicated that three former Cabinet ministers have been arrested in the past two weeks and are believed to have been murdered, the London Observer said.

The newspaper reported that three army lieutenant colonels, a former junior Cabinet minister, a leading African businessman, a former heavyweight boxer and a senior official of the Coffee Marketing Board have also joined the growing list of those "missing believed murdered."

The Washington Post 12/4/72

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Lusaka, Zambia, Dec. 8 — The Zambian Parliament enacted legislation today to convert the eight-year-old republic into a one-party state.

Minutes before the bill was approved by a vote of 78 to 0, all 17 members of the opposition African National Congress party walked out of the chamber.

Outside Parliament, Harry Nkumbula, 62-year-old leader of the African National Congress, said: "They did not want to listen to us there. This is the only way we can register our protest."

The African National Congress is the first black political party formed in this landlocked south African republic, a former British protectorate that gained independence, on Oct. 29, 1964.

The bill stipulates that "there shall be one and only one political party in Zambia, namely the United National Independence party."

President Kenneth D. Kuanda, who heads the party, is expected to sign the bill in the next few days.

The New York Times 12/9/72

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Aristotle Onassis gave his wife, Jackie, the deed to her very own diamond mine for their fourth wedding anniversary recently. Ari has invested heavily in Africa in recent months, buying up mining rights to several ore and diamond deposits in Swakopmund, on the coast of South West Africa, where he's developing a deep sea harbor port for his fleet of tankers to dock at. Mr. O. has also purchased a huge land parcel on the opposite coast, in South East Africa, in an undeveloped area aptly named Paradise Wilds. Ari intends to turn his new found Paradise into a Jet Set hideaway-vacation hot spot and has already subdivided the land surrounding his own choice property into 5000 separate plots which Ari's realtors will sell to only The Right People. That way Onassis can not only get all his money back from the land purchases — but he can also control just who his neighbors will be.

Thus far the first, and only, Right People to come along and buy a chunk of those 5000 available plots has been another couple who are truly in keeping with all of Jackie and Ari's high standards — Liz Taylor and Richard Burton.

*Memo From John J. Miller 11/26/72
S.F. Sunday Examiner & Chronicle*



AFRICAN STUDIES IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

The 1973 ASA conference will be organized around a central theme — African Studies in Comparative Perspective. The intellectual rationale for this thematic orientation is fundamental. Many students of Africa consider aspects of African society and culture to be unique whereas other scholars are struck by the parallels between the African situation and developments elsewhere in the Third World and beyond. The identification and explanation of these similarities and differences presupposes a comparative approach. Yet it can be shown that there have been few intra-African comparisons or studies that compare African and non-African phenomena in the fields of inquiry that the African Studies Association represents. The principal reason for focusing the 16th annual meeting on African Studies in Comparative Perspective is this basic scholarly need.

Other reasons for this theme are valid as well. The African people and many of their governments seek development and liberation. Members of the ASA wish to help in the achievement of these goals. Policy making in Africa can be improved if policy makers are aware of the reasons for the successes and failures of developmental policies in other parts of Africa and the Third World. Comparative scholarship can provide this needed information.

At many universities throughout the world the validity of an "area studies" approach, which is assumed to conflict with a "comparative" approach, is being questioned. How valid is this assumption and what are the relative advantages and disadvantages of approaches such as area studies, the comparative study of problems like political violence, and "value neutral" comparison for the sake of building better theories?

Finally, trends in the United States clearly point to a decline in financial support for African studies, per se. How is the study of Africa organized and supported elsewhere — including, of course, within Africa itself? This question can only be answered by actual comparison. In answering it we may discover that examining African Studies in Comparative Perspective will help to generate continued support for research and teaching on Africa.

These are the ideas behind the choice of a central theme for the 16th Annual African Studies Association Meeting. As program chairman I welcome ideas for panels, plenary session, workshops, displays, etc. that relate to this theme.

Patrick J. McGowan
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