

RHODESIA

as it really is

June, 1977

A RACIAL WAR? NONSENSE!

Everyone knows we are fighting a war here, but, when people say that it's black against white, do they realise that 82% of Rhodesia's Regular Security Forces are black Rhodesian officers and men... and how do they explain that every single one of them is a volunteer? Only Whites, Coloureds and Asians are conscripted. Out in the bush, black and white Rhodesians live and fight together, side-by-side. When one is killed, they mourn together.

A CONFLICT OF NATIONALISM?

The war is described as a conflict of Nationalism and undeniably some of those attacking Rhodesia feel this way. However, some of those who claim to be Nationalist leaders are more concerned with plotting against each other and jockeying for power from their Communist backers, who exploit any genuine Nationalist feelings — to achieve Marxist aims. When the various terrorist factions are not killing each other, they prove their bravery by intimidating, torturing, maiming and massacring innocent, unarmed black men, women and children. Terrorists seldom attack Security Forces — except by ambush at night and land mines — troops can fight back. Priests and nuns are also their targets — people who have dedicated their lives to educating and improving life for black Rhodesians.

TERROR TACTICS

Initially, terrorists appeal emotionally to people's hearts and do win some genuine converts. But, when that tactic fails, terrorists kill Tribal leaders, black teachers and councillors, burn down schools, council offices and community welfare projects. They stop children attending school, often abducting them at gun point, forcing the boys into terrorist training and the girls to become under-age 'camp-followers'. They destroy anything which could bring their fellow blacks any benefits or progress. They also use the cover of being 'freedom fighters' to commit acts of armed robbery for personal gain.

THE PATRIOTIC FRONT

Robert Mugabe, co-leader with Joshua Nkomo, of the Patriotic Front, has stated that "the solution will come from the battlefield, not Geneva" and, more recently, that even if Dr. Owen's trip resulted in a return to the conference table, the armed struggle would continue.

Their inflexible violence contrasts totally with those Nationalist leaders who are genuinely interested in a peacefully negotiated future for all Rhodesians.

LAW AND ORDER

Despite the war situation, Rhodesian Police do not carry guns (except in border areas) and yet our cities are among the safest in the world, with a lower per capita crime rate than virtually any other

Together Black and White Rhodesians enjoy a day at the racecourse



city. There are approximately three blacks to every white in the Police Force and patrol cars are normally manned by a team of one white and one black Police Officer — either may be male or female.

SORTING OUT THE TRUTH

So many misconceptions, untruths and distortions have been spread by the world's press and TV. Faked pictures and films were shown, such as portraying black men snoozing on the grass in a park as being dead bodies, and, 'starving' black children foraging in dustbins for food — after 'responsible' journalists had thrown in sweets or coins. Since the Geneva Conference, many media have accepted the genuine journalist's responsibility of reporting truth and facts — from both sides — without bias.



RACE RELATIONS

In reality, race relations here are among the best to be encountered anywhere in the world. Certainly some discriminatory legislation still exists, so relations can be further improved and the Government, along with other public bodies, is working towards this end. Of course our society is not perfect — whose is? — but, it is multi-racial.

Whether at work or play, you will see white and black Rhodesians together on all forms of public and private transport; in shops, offices, banks, the professions, industry and agriculture; in restaurants, hotels, cinemas; in television (on screen and behind the cameras), in theatres (in audiences and on stage) and at sports grounds — both as spectators and competitors.

COME AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES

On paper, we cannot really describe the friendship and goodwill which exist between the vast majority of black and white Rhodesians, however, the smiles exchanged in daily life and on the streets are graphic testimony that you are not likely to see elsewhere. We don't expect you to take our word for it, but we do wish you would come and see for yourselves.

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Education is available to all black Rhodesians — except in those border areas where terrorist activity has forced schools to close. At present, approximately 85% of African children between 6 and 16 receive a minimum of 5 years education. Improvements in educational facilities continue, despite 50% of the black population being under 17 and, one of the highest birth rates in the world (3.6% p.a. increase), which will double the six million population every 20 years. One out of six of the total population is at school — compared to one in 52 in Ethiopia, one in 180 in Gambia and one in 210 in Ghana. In Africa, only South Africa has a higher proportion in school. In 1963 the Government spent \$11 million on African education and in 1975, \$30 million (approx. £30m or US\$48m). The majority of private schools are multi-racial and the University of Rhodesia has more black than white students. Employment opportunities and pay in commerce and industry are based on ability and not restricted by race. In common with most countries, there are still areas where wages could be improved — and the same is true of African education.

The jazz section of the Police Band give a concert at the multiracial Salsbury Dominican Convent High School



MEDICINE

Excellent hospitals, clinics and medical services (both Government and Mission) are also available to all black Rhodesians. There is one hospital bed for every 350 of the population — in Nigeria, it is one bed for every 1,867. Medical and educational facilities are mostly subsidised by white tax payers.

RELIGION — AND MURDER

All denominations of religion are multi-racial. Churchgoers here wonder why many of the world's churches, which are supposed to be anti-Communist, continue to support Communist-backed terrorists. What a sad irony that money given by churches (from their congregations) to so-called 'freedom-fighters' — buys the bullets which have killed priests and nuns.

TRIBAL TRUST LANDS

The land area of Rhodesia is divided as follows: Tribal Trust Lands (40%) and African Purchase Areas (4%) = 44%, European farming areas — 36%, urban areas — 9%, other areas (National and Game Parks, forests etc.) — 11%. The Tribal Trust Lands include most of the areas where the nomadic Shona tribesmen, and the more static Matabele, were living when the first white settlers arrived in 1890. Following the 1893 Matabele War and the 1896 Mashonaland Rebellion, some tribesmen were re-settled for reasons of defence strategy, while others were undoubtedly moved for the benefit of white farmers. However, the Tribal Trust Lands were established for the tribesmen, to prevent settlers purchasing African land and the map shows how much was secured for them. Today, approximately 84% of black Rhodesians live in Tribal Trust Lands and the Tribal Trust Land Development Corporation helps to develop natural resources, industry and commerce for the benefit of the inhabitants. The recent Land Tenure Amendment Act has now opened all farming areas to black Rhodesian buyers.

THE TRIBES

The two major tribal groups in Rhodesia are the Mashona (some 76% of the black population) and the Matabele. There are also about a dozen other minor tribes. It is interesting to note that, just among the Shona-speaking peoples, there are seven major tribal groupings and 61 sub-groups. The achievement of true 'unity' — even under 'normal' conditions — is rarely straightforward!

PROTECTED VILLAGES

The Protected Villages offer black Rhodesians protection against terrorists — out in the bush in some border areas, they are helpless targets for murder and torture. They go out to cultivate their lands each day, returning at night for the protection provided by a multi-racial guard force. In these villages they enjoy facilities not available in the bush, eg: medical clinics and family planning, schools, clubs ... and water, which the women would otherwise have to walk miles to obtain.



*Together we mourn fellow Rhodesians
killed defending our country*

TOGETHER — WE BELIEVE IN RHODESIA

WHY ARE SO MANY COURAGEOUS AND PATRIOTIC PEOPLE (MOST OF THEM BRITISH OR OF BRITISH ORIGIN), TOGETHER WITH MANY MORE BLACK RHODESIANS, PREPARED TO FIGHT AND EVEN DIE FOR THEIR COUNTRY? TO RISK BEING WOUNDED, DISABLED OR KILLED IN A TERROR WAR REQUIRES A VERY SPECIAL LOVE FOR WHAT MUST BE A VERY SPECIAL PLACE. These supreme sacrifices are being made by black and white Rhodesians, who want to live together in peace. They will not surrender their country to Communist-backed puppets, whose terrorist followers are unknowingly fighting — not for freedom — but for the egos and political aspirations of their leaders. To satisfy such aims, their fellow blacks are murdered in the name of 'liberation'.

Tribal Trust Lands are exclusively for black Rhodesians — under the Land Tenure Amendment Act, African Purchase Land is now open to purchase by all races. Most other land areas are occupied by blacks and whites.



OTHERS — WHO ALSO BELIEVE IN RHODESIA

People from many countries do what they can to help Rhodesia. Some even volunteer to join the Security Forces and fight for our cause — under the same conditions of service as Rhodesians. Mainly governments are against us — but are not governments supposed to represent their peoples' views?

THE ALTERNATIVE — A COMMUNIST DISASTER

Look at the recent history of most black African states: constant tribal conflict and personal scores settled under the banner of 'Nationalism'; genocide — especially of tribes other than those of the ruler — epitomised by the madman Idi Amin; rigged elections, corruption and nepotism; mismanagement of land, turning once-fertile areas into deserts; economic and administrative disasters. Most of these countries are ruled by constantly changing dictators and military regimes. With few exceptions, communist infiltration and subversion are the common factors.

THE RESULTS OF COMMUNISM

For the results of Communism, think of the infamous Berlin Wall, behind which people are detained against their will. What are their leaders so frightened of — could it be genuine freedom? Remember the vicious suppressions of mild attempts at some semblance of freedom in Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Examples are legion, but these few suffice to show you what we are fighting to prevent happening here. Naturally, you will judge for yourselves, but, to offset some of the misrepresentations about Rhodesia, here are some of the reasons . . .

WHY WE LOVE OUR COUNTRY

We challenge anyone to show us another African or Western country with less inter-racial tensions or more friendliness and goodwill between black and white citizens. If race relations were as bad here as you've been led to believe, the whites would have been thrown out years ago — they're outnumbered 22 to 1!

There are no waves of bombings in our cities — Salisbury has had only one bomb incident in the last year. During the same period, there was only one major strike — by black bus drivers. Trade Unions are multi-racial, but members may form black and white branches, if so desired.

Rhodesians are the sort of people who made the 'Great' of Britain mean just that. They have retained codes of ethics and behaviour, manners and civility. Our children grow up in a clean, un-polluted and healthful climate. Sport and exercise turn them into healthy, strapping youngsters — and, despite cannabis growing wild in the country, we have only a minimal drug problem.

Often, fathers and sons fight for our country, while mothers and daughters serve in voluntary organisations, working for the country they love — a country founded by their parents or grandparents, who first established the British principles of law and order, decency and fair play in a land partly occupied by some 400 000 placid Mashona tribesmen, who were being pillaged and killed by 200 000 warlike Matabele

Rhodesia is a young country, just 87 years old, and so retains the ideals and self-sufficiency of the pioneer spirit. Rhodesians are a hardy, cheerful people with an unconquerable determination to succeed, overcoming any obstacles — like coming through 12 years of sanctions economically healthier than many free-trading Western countries. Despite not receiving financial aid from any country, nor any loans from the International Monetary Fund, we've been nowhere near going broke . . . unlike New York City!

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT RHODESIA?

Hopefully now you know a little more about us and realise that we're not as bad as you were led to believe — of course, not everything is all 'rosy' either! We'll be happy to send you a copy of 'Rhodesian Digest', containing detailed information on the subjects touched on in this brief look at Rhodesia. Just write to **Women For Rhodesia** at the address below. To assist our volunteer organisation with printing costs, postage and administration, a small contribution would be appreciated, but is not essential.

WOMEN FOR RHODESIA



*... tell the world the truth
... unite the Nation*

WOMEN FOR RHODESIA

*are strictly non-political,
non-racial and work only in the
interests of the Nation*

P.O. Box 1117,
Salisbury, Rhodesia

RHODESIA'S FUTURE — WHAT YOU CAN DO

We leave you with this thought — we would like the opportunity to settle our internal affairs by ourselves. We welcome the fact that Dr. David Owen, the British Foreign Secretary, came here to see for himself. We hope that all other statesmen will now follow his example, before making any more pronouncements about a country and a situation they have never seen.

Thank you for taking the interest to read about us — please tell your friends, the press and all opinion-setting individuals and organisations. More of these leaflets are readily available from **Women For Rhodesia**.

If you decide to come and see for yourself, reduced fare flights are available from most countries, via South Africa. A warm welcome awaits any visitor here and particularly one who comes to see . . .

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I enclose _____ (optional) as my contribution to Women For Rhodesia

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