

U.S. Stands Behind Enslavement of Southern Africa



Throughout history peoples of the world have been struggling for political and economic independence; for a national liberation which will leave them in control of their resources, their institutions, their own history. Since World War Two, they have increasingly confronted the economic interests of the U.S. multinational corporations backed up by U.S. governmental and military support. While in the 1960's and early 1970's the focus for popular struggles against racism and economic exploitation was in Southeast Asia, today that focus is in Southern Africa. The liberation of Guinea-Bissau, Angola and Mozambique has set the stage for an intensified struggle to free Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa.

For those of us in the U.S., these struggles have a particular significance and bring particular responsibilities. U.S. corporate investment in South Africa, Namibia and Zimbabwe(Rhodesia) now totals well over \$4.5 billion. Over 256 major U.S. corporations are currently active in South Africa alone. U.S. banks have invested over \$2 billion in loans to bolster the South African economy. To secure U.S. corporate and financial stakes in southern Africa, the U.S. government has consistently supported the white minority regimes. While a new administration has changed tactics, the basic policy remains the same. The main premise of this policy is to maintain U.S. economic control over the region by protecting and expanding U.S. corporate involvement there. Although the U.S. government has recently advanced demands for modification of some of the more socially obvious aspects of apartheid, these are essentially insignificant; they do not begin to touch the system of brutal economic exploitation of people in southern Africa. Such U.S. sponsored proposals as the "development fund", which would preserve white economic power in a future independent Zimbabwe, reveal its continued underlying support for a neo-colonial solution that would protect the economic power of white minorities without transferring any significant economic power into the hands of the majority of the African peoples in southern Africa. The U.S. government, in fact, is doing all it can to prevent such an eventuality from happening!

Join with other people at work or school, in solidarity with the fight for self-determination for the African people!

U.S. OUT OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

SOUTHERN AFRICA LIBERATION COMMITTEE