

JANUARY 1977

Tues 25

Headline – *Smith Takes the Warpath* – as the British foreign secretary, A Crossland expressed the opinion that to do so would be a “tragic mistake a calamitous mistake” as the Rhodesian prime minister prepares to broadcast to the nation setting out his reasons why he is prepared to do. “If we were to give way now it would not be to majority rule it would be to a Marxist minority”. - **Daily Express page 1 C 1** -

Headline – *Why defiant Smith tries to buy time* – his military chiefs and the industrial are all behind their leader in the belief that the forces of the black nationalists can be kept out of power until an interim government to his liking has been achieved.

All that was achieved, during the Geneva talks, was a government in which he had only a one sixth part in. The countries military council chaired by a British diplomat; with the power of veto, would consist of 4 black leaders 3 military commanders and himself. In his view this new government was skewered in such a way that he saw it as an immediate take over by the majority population. **ditto page 4**

Sun 30

Headline – *Why Ian Smith is not to Blame* – because, in the writers view, the British government and the chairman of the Geneva talks, Ivor Richards, did little to try and make the Kissinger proposals work., rather the foreign secretary pushed for acceptance of London 's proposals. **R Maudling MP Sunday Express**

Headline – *Smith woos 'the better the devils'* – who he believes would be the Americans. However with new administration in Washington in power, when the push comes the United States will be more occupied with keeping African states out of the Soviet sphere of influence. - **M Meredith Sunday Times** -

Headline *Call for pan – African army* -will be heard from the 22 man liberation committee of the Organisation of African Union meeting in Lusaka. Their main task, set out recently by the secretary general W E Mboumoua, would to come up with a plan that has enough military force to defend the borders of the African states that border Rhodesia and thus prevent cross border hot pursuit missions after military actions by black nationalists against the white regime. - **ditto** -

Leader Comment, *Geneva is the best hope* “By rejecting the latest British proposals Mr Smith is leading his country up to, and possibly over, the brink of national destruction.” What to do?, fight on “for months years”? Should he encourage Bishop Musorewa, who has the backing of “among his own people ... lacks support of the governments of the surrounding African states.”

His best option is to return to a Geneva style of black white negotiation with all parties involved. To do nothing to encourage a settlement far from calling a halt to the guerilla war they the neighbouring states would redouble their efforts to overthrow the white regime.

“If Mr Smith can surmount the apparently insurmountable obstacle, he will astound an incredulous world.” - **ditto** -

Mon 31

Headline – *Blacks mass against Smith* – as the members of the Front Line States convert the conflict into a full blown invasion. Weapons would be supplied through the Soviet supplied military.

The main thrust, from Mozambique, of the invasion would be in the north east of the country with enough ground forces to capture and hold the liberated territory. As of this time Tanzanian are being deployed along their common border as are other OAU troops on the borders of Botswana and Zambia.

As much as 6, 000 tonnes of war material has already been unloaded at the Indian Ocean port of Nacala say intelligence reports emanating from Salisbury.

FEBRUARY 1977

Tues 1

Headline - *Lessons in terror for kidnap pupils* – as black nationalist guerillas flee across into Botswana, taking 400 students from Manama in the south west of the country. Those taken to become soldiers in the liberation army were aged 12 – 16 and included 170 female students. Staff members; nursed clerks and teachers were also abducted. A number of similar kidnappings have taken place in recent months say the authorities in Salisbury.

Elsewhere the American secretary of state Cyrus Vance notes that the Washington administration is in close touch with all concerned in the future of Rhodesia. Trouble in the black townships; rioting, of South Africa has seen 'wartime measures' imposed to control the violence. - **Daily Express** -

Wed 2

Headline – *Rhodesia warns on kidnap* – as the message is put out, by the authorities in Botswana, that the students that left Manama were abducted when in fact they left because of alleged harassment from the Rhodesian military, the Rhodesian foreign minister warns of possible military action to bring them back.

Despite this war of words ten children, accompanied by two members of staff, have made their own way back to the mission school from where they were taken. Giving details one of the adults, Sister E Streamer, said that there were only 8 terrorists and it took them only twenty minuets to motivate all 400 students and begin towards the border.

Ivor Richards arrives back in London from an African tour. His first meeting will be with the foreign secretary Anthony Crossland. - **D E** -

Thurs 3

Headline – *Rhodesia faces bankruptcy move* as the authorities in London and Washington as the two governments work together, and with South Africa, to end Salisbury 's exports of chrome ore to America. Thus hitting the counties economy where it hurts.

The House of Commons will mount a debate, called by R Bell C P, on the implications of the Manama mission school abductions after the foreign secretary refused to demand an explanation from the government of Botswana. A Johannesburg newspaper has corroborated the Manama

students left of their own accord; a similar line as the reason already stated.

Sat 5

Headline – *Popularity test for Rhodesia 's leaders* – thought to be through the means of a referendum. While the prime minister reiterated again that he was willing to work with moderate leaders. He would not work with the communists and asked of the American administration to help ensure that any settlement did not lead to control of Rhodesia by “the tools of Russian imperialism.”

Bishop Muzorewa told the white leader that he would not make a direct deal with him even as he is 'a black leader on the outside' as both Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe are backed by the black African states. - **D E** -

Mon 7

Headline – *'Kidnapped' teenagers stay on to fight Smith* – as the Manama mission parents; 140, make a direct plea for all the students to leave Botswana. As of now as many as 300 pupils have turned their back on their former life and decided to throw their lot in with the black nationalist fighters. However 51 of the students, mainly females, did cross back into Rhodesia.

Since the students were first taken 26 male students returned; 2 others returned on 5/2. The fighting force had been enlarged by a total of 331 despite their parents plea. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Tues 8

Headline - *Priest faces firing squad and survives* – after twelve guerillas made a visit to Musami Mission forty five miles north east of Salisbury. The Roman Catholic cleric D Myers, who was supposed to die along with 7 other staff members, by playing dead. As the nationalists opened fire he fell as the guns began to fire.

A second incident saw the death of two ethnic Indians – the first Asian victims of the civil war. - **D Express page 4 C 1** -

Wed 9

Headline – *Massacre 'puts race relations back 20 years'* – as Church bishops, meeting in Pretoria, are considering withdrawing all church members out of southern Africa. With 80% of the church membership, in the region are ethnic blacks, to support the actions of the military who violently oppress this group is wrong.

Catholic schools continue to breach strict apartheid laws in the Transvaal and Cape Province. Such is their admittance of black students that the government is considering more closely inspecting the day to day administration in these establishments.

A second Mission School, 150 miles from Musami, in the town of Nyashanu, has had a visit from black nationalists. No deaths have been reported. However £4, 000 was stolen and a school office was set alight. - **P Hawthorne Johannesburg** -

Thurs 10

Headline – *Don 't let me down, Smith urges Vorster* – when the two leaders met in Cape Town four months after the Geneva talks were held. The rebel prime minister sought the endorsement of his

plan of action; internal negotiations leading to a black white government followed, in time, with Rhodesia being governed by the black majority. An economic plea that the countries economic lifeline would not be cut off by the international community. Encourage American participation in the settlement talks and an urgent meeting with Cyrus Vance Washington 's secretary of state.

Salisbury officials have called on the British government to hold an inquiry into the Musami Mission massacre. The MP 's would travel to the country and interview survivors of the attack who are believed to be followers of Robert Mugabe; something the Zapu leader denies in the strongest terms.

As school students, in the black township of Soweto outside Johannesburg continue to boycott their classes they were ordered to return to education. If they refused “they would feel the full weight of the law”. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Fri 11

Headline – ***Bishop 's defy Vorster regime*** – following decisions made at the conclusion of a Roman Catholic Bishops conference in Pretoria. The clerics have come out in support of those whites that are willing not to answer call of conscription by the government. They also came down on the side of the oppressed majority. By backing those who refused military service the church could be deemed to have breached the South African Defence Act. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Headline - ***Whites in Funeral Protest*** – as about twelve ethnic whites walked out of the funeral service for the seven missionaries at the Manama Mission School. The show of disgust came as the presiding black priest, Fr I Chikore, repeated some earlier words of the Bishop of Umtali D Laumont.

“I cannot say who is immediately responsible. But those remotely responsible are the authorities who have refused to face the fact that the majority of the population of Rhodesia do not enjoy equality under the law.”

The rebel cleric is already facing a long term in jail for allegedly allowing members of the black nationalist forces to congregate on church property and not report their presence to the military forces. - **ditto page 4 C 4** -

We 16

Headline - ***Why a boy of 14 tried to join fight against Smith*** – so that he could learn to be a scientist and make guns and become a millionaire is what he told the press as was made to appear before them by the Rhodesian government.

The black youth was captured, with an 18 year old, near the Mozambique border after he was injured after a land mine exploded. The arrest of the two leaves questions hanging over the strength of the border security of the government forces.

The effects of the call up into military service is affecting the economic output of the country says the leaders of the business community. Such is their concern that they have persuaded the prime minister to set up a mechanism whereby a an 'essential person' can delay his military service for another 90 days.

Thurs 17

Headline – *Rhodesia peace mystery* – as news leak out, from Pretoria 's foreign minister H Muller, that his country is part, along with America of a British initiative that may bring a settlement with Rhodesia in talks starting 'very soon'. However both officials from Washington and London denied that anything 'big' was likely to happen.

The Pretoria regime, the American and British authorities believe, now have the capacity to build a nuclear weapon 'within months'. The South Africans themselves say that this new energy source would only be used in peaceful ways. Any wars fought, in southern Africa would be of the conventional type.

Mon 21

Headline – *Calling a new Dr K ...* - in an American television broadcast prime minister Smith told how he remained committed to a black majority led government and called on the USA to bring forward any ideas to smooth his way to achieve this. There was no going back on the decisions announced in Geneva. Any problems perceived, between the two government, he put down to a communications gap.

Rhodesian security forces, involved in a hot pursuit operation which saw them cross the border into Botswana has led to the death of one Rhodesian policeman. An alternative came from the Botswana authorities; the police officer died after the hot pursuit patrol of five shot up a village 13 km inside Botswana border.

Wed 23

Headline – *Top whites quit in Rhodesia exodus* – of the doctor, engineer and technical professions. In 1/77 1, 400 whites left for Australia, Britain or across the border into South Africa. It is said such rates of emigration to, 12/77, leave only one white person for every twenty black persons nationally.

23 : 1 is the ration black/white persons according to the governments figures. Tourism slumped from 244, 000 in 1975 to 140, 000 12 months later .

Fri 25

Headline – *Smith eases race laws* – by enacting legislation that will allow white owned farm land, in excess of one third of the land mass, will be opened up to black ownership and settlement on. City councils will be allowed to open up specific areas for residential multi racial occupancy. A similar scheme, in the cities business district, will allow blacks to own businesses. Hotel bars and bars will now have to serve black people. Only state owned education and medical facilities will remain segregated.

The governments aim, said the prime minister, was “to work with our black people in order to produce the correct political solution for our future.

Headline – *Bishop Defiant* - as the court judgement for his not telling that black nationalist forces were on church property, delivered It 's verdict to Roman Catholic cleric Bishop Lamont of Umtali. He will be deported and stripped of his Rhodesian citizenship.

The Irish born sixty five year old faced 10 years in jail, but the appeal court sentenced him to four years, three of them suspended. The swift exit from the country was decided upon by justice

minister, H Squires, told parliament “I have had enough of his intellectual arrogance, the hypocrisy his selective conscience and constant denigration of the government while enjoying its benefits.”

Speaking outside the appeal court the bishop indicated the words of appeal court judge, chief justice H Mc Donald 'gave neither a balanced or moderate view of a cleric rather a diatribe of a political activist anxious to promote by any means the victory of communist terrorism.' - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

MARCH 1977

Thurs 3

Headline - ***Smith lands in new crisis*** – as at least twelve members of parliament oppose his opening of suburbs, business and land ownership to the black majority population. Notable names; deputy leader of the Rhodesian Front; T Suttin Price, R Cooper a former defence minister both withdrew their loyalty for the leader. This internal row is the largest party split in the whole of the 14 years that been in power and could lead to a general election.

A second murdered cleric, Fr J Diaz aged 58, was found dead beside his bullet ridden car within the last 24 hours. Britain's foreign office minister T Rowlands is to investigate reports that the Shell Oil Company and BP are shipping oil to Rhodesia and thus breaching international sanctions.

Fri 4

Headline - ***Smith fights to save race laws*** – as even members of the prime minister party, the Rhodesian Front; as many as four, may join the rebels in voting down his racial reforms. There is even talk of the formation of a new political party being formed by the rebel MP's. - **D E** -

Mon 7

Headline – ***Arab cash pours into Rhodesia war chest*** – as the heads of government of members of the Organisation of African Union gather in Dar es Saleem. The details have already been worked out at a prior meeting of the OAU's Liberation Committee already meeting in the Tanzanian capital. The bulk of the finances will come from the oil rich nations of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Other measures adopted include the deployment of Palestinian guerillas from Syrian and Lebanon into Mozambique to train elements of the Patriotic Front fighting force.

Parliament rejected the Smith plan for racial reforms after twelve members of the Rhodesian Front voted with the opposition. They were ordered to resign by the prime minister. - **D E** -

Tues 8

Headline – ***Smith wages a word war*** – as a newly formed military unit, Psychology Action, deploys into school rooms of the black majority population. One such unit, as part of a 1, 000 strong force, spent 48 hours on patrol near the border with Botswana. It is led by R Bromberg aged 31 and the son of the countries information minister. His remit was to counter the communist idea that the majority population were seen as an inferior person.

The teams approach is to have the primary school children write about, in this observed case, the recent Manama massacre. A winning female pupil, aged 10, writes that the terrorists are not good people. When asked what should happen to them “skin them and eat them alive” is the answer. After

producing horrific pictures of dead guerillas killed by army gun sand told that “the soldiers are your friends.” - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Sun 13

Headline – *Rhodesia : Three die in farm raid* – and bring the total of war dead, in the last seven days to 124.

This latest incident saw land owner H Hasting, aged 67, fight of members of the black nationalist military then die of a heart attack. Previous to his death the guerillas had killed his wife Murial aged fifty five and their 12 year old grand daughter Sharon whose parents Mr and Mrs Roberts died in a car crash recently. - **D E** -

Mon 14

Headline – *Owen for Rhodesia* – after his time spent in South Africa where, in Cape Town, he had talks with premier John Vorster. Ian Smith was also present and encouraged Britain 's foreign secretary to be in Salisbury on the 19th. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Mon 28

Headline – *Get out now, Smith warned* – was the message given to the prime minister by the returned Bishop Able Muzorewa. The cleric was addressing 5, 000 of his political supporters in the Salisbury Soccer stadium. Another message delivered to the beleaguered PM was 'Give up now.'

The bishop demanded that all political prisoners should go free and the colonial power, Britain, organise a referendum to find a leader, possibly non white to whom the RF leader would hand over power to. Arrange for the black nationalist fighters to use their vote and the organisation of a conference to facilitate a new constitution for the independent country.

Comments from the prime minister, as he prepared to leave for a holiday, across the countries southern border, implied that the ethnic white population had already chosen its ethnic group leader.

Thurs 31

Headline – *Priest held in jail* – as security forces detained a number of mission staff, close to the Mozambique border, as the number of guerilla were known to have spent time at the Mount Mellery mission at Inyanga.

The Roman Catholic priest, Fr L Lynch and the head of an Anglican school is being held in Umtali when both men will appear in court on 7/4. They are both charged with failing to report the presence of members of the black nationalist forces on church premises. - **D E** -

APRIL 1977

Sun 3

Headline – *What to do next in Rhodesia* – in the view of this writer is to try and recreate the atmosphere, that a previous foreign secretary; Alex Douglass Holme had with all those concerned with finding an acceptable solution to the crisis that may come is there is no amicable solution found to the setting up of the accepted policy of black majority rule in Britain 's last colony in Africa. - **Edward Heath Sunday Times** -

Mon 4

Headline *We may by – pass Smith to get settlement, says Owen* – was one of the idea 's floated by the foreign secretary when he took part in ITV 's Weekend World programme. There are other members of the minority community the British government is prepared to work with he said.

As to the shift of political influence, throughout the whole of the African continent, was concerned the current fear that Russian would be the larger influence in the long run. Of most concern to Lord Holme, a former prime minister, was the expansionist policies of the Chinese government. Soviet attempts at promoting the communist ethos are more of the 'in your face' style. The Beijing approach is more of a blending in with the people. Fear of the 'long term danger' of the Chinese is echoed also by the Labour politician Anthony Crossland.

Another consequence of the increasing intensity of the civil war within the countries borders is the number of Roman Catholic nuns and priests who have left Rhodesia. The latest figures show that 30 have done so - D E -

Wed 6

Headline – *Owen stands firm on Rhodesia deal* – that will lead to an end of British colonial rule on the African continent within two years, rather than the one year demanded by the black nationalists.

While still in London the foreign secretary will have talks with Bishop Musorewa despite the African cleric accusing Dr Owen of being spineless in his dealings with Ian Smith. There will also time, it is hoped, to talk to Joshua Nkomo, before the foreign secretary begins his African shuttle diplomacy tour. - D E -

Tues 12

Headline - *Mugabe blow to Owen mission* – as the foreign secretary arrives in Tanzania 's capital Dar es Salaam on his first leg of his shuttle diplomacy. At his first meeting, with R Mugabe, he was told in no uncertain terms that an armed struggle was the only way to ensure an end to white rule in Rhodesia..

There was also a meeting with the countries president J Nyerere who, as chairman of the Front Line States, fully backed the military solution offered by the Patriotic Front to end white rule. Speaking from Cape Town Ian Smith did not give out much hope that when the two met, within the next 24 hours, that anything of benefit would come from the talks. - D E -

Wed 13

Headline – *Gentle touch* – was the inclusion of the foreign secretaries wife on the plane that carried Dr Owen from Tanzania to Cape Town for his duel meetings wit Ian Smith and later John Vorster. There were hints, from London, that he was about to reveal a new initiative which will be shared with the South African president later in the day.

It would seem that the guerilla tactic of kidnapping groups of Rhodesian national is on the increase. Over the last few months it is said that in excess of 1, 000 people have been taken. In the latest incident, which occurred at a wedding reception in Salisbury, way 150 people; including the principals forced marched across the border into Botswana.- D E -

Thurs 14

Headline *authors own - Here comes Uncle Sam* – as president Carter agrees to break new ground in American politics. Washington has agreed to underwrite the cost of ensuring a new and prosperous multi racial Rhodesia comes into being as diplomats, from all interested parties come together to work out a new constitution for Rhodesia.

Such an agreement will see the Kissinger Principal; non interventionist policy from Geneva ditched. In any subsequent round table conference the American diplomats would be right in the thick of the negotiations. - **Daily Express page 1** -

Headline – *Rhodesia gloom lifted* – as a meeting, set for 16/4, between foreign secretary Owen and prime minister Smith that with high optimism on all sides will seed the on/of settlement talks back in track. - **ditto page 4 C 1** -

Leader Comment *Struggle for Rhodesia* “There is no question that Rhodesia is going to come under some sort of black majority rule within the next few years.” Sad or tragic you decide. British diplomats see Rhodesia as “an awkward problem that must be solved” even as it has no longer the authority to “impose a solution.” All British diplomatic efforts can be expected to achieve “is to arrive at a view about who is going to win in order to be on their side and an good terms with them.”

The important 1980 's problem is who is going to control the country that emerges from the ashes of Rhodesia. Is it going to be an administration that is hostile to those western influences that saw much of the 19th century world ruled by imperial power. Or the “Soviets and guerilla bands, armed and financed by the Russians whose objectives are quite different” become a dominating influence in policy decisions of this new administration.

The “struggle for Southern Africa”, its mineral wealth and its “strategic position” is the real issue here. “If morality entered into it, then all the Powers would support an internal settlement among the people, black and white, of Rhodesia. That this is not so indicates the true nature of what is going on.”- **ditto page 10 C 1** -

Fri 15

Headline - *Owen 's plan is torpedoed* – even as he lays down a timetable of three months to the beginning of the all party talks conference detailed. First to dismiss the idea “they are deemed to failure” was the militant cleric and politician the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole who will meet with the foreign secretary upon is return to London but still attend any subsequent talks. A 'luke warm' response was also given by president Kaunda of Zambia when the two met in Lusaka.

Sat 16

Headline – *Relax, David! It 's carnival time in Dombo* – the black township; properly titled Dombo Tombo is 45 miles outside the capital which will be visited by the foreign secretary after his arrival to Rhodesia. The township is the first in the country to be run by a black council and its resident.

According to figures from the Botswana government the number of black Rhodesians that have fled across the border in the last 10 days is about 1, 600. The majority then left the former British colony for other African countries. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Sun 17

Headline – *Russian Shadows over Africa* – and the effects of a bush war that is already raging on the African continent; its significance for the ongoing conflict in Rhodesia, and the influence of Soviet expansionist plans.

Intelligence sources note that in 1975 the guerilla war claimed 2, 500 lives; as many as 500 Soviet and Cuban military advisers were based in Mozambique and passing on their skills to members of the Patriotic Front. It is thought that as many as 2, 000 black nationalist guerillas are already based inside Rhodesia. - **Sunday Telegraph page 21 C 1** -

Headline - *Flying doctor a tonic for embittered Africa* – as his settlement plans have surprised those diplomats that thought the trip to the troubled continent would bring nothing forward, in settlement terms to the Rhodesian crisis.

While the base line has been set **1** Total American involvement, from the initial talks through to the end game of black majority rule. **2** Himself, being right in the thick of the diplomatic battle to end the colonial rule of London on the African continent. **3** the imprecise target date; no deadlines, of 1978 for the end of white rule. **4** A draft of a constitution, by 6/'77, after consultations both in southern Africa and in London. **5** the end conference, in London, chaired by himself and only called if success is in the cards. **6** The Westminster parliament to introduce, in 11/'77 possibly and finished all its proceedings by 4/'78, which allows democratic rule to pass from Britain to the new black majority government. **7** An 'election period of three to four weeks when Smith 's government would cease to rule, fighting would end, international sanctions would end and caretaker administration would rule. - **Sunday Times** -

Mon 18

Headline – *'Front line Five' back Owen plan* – The recent developments in the struggle to get over the impasse between the factions involved who seek a settlement to the Rhodesian crisis hopes have emerged that the Owen plan is acceptable.

The latest 'notables' to back the foreign secretaries plan were the leaders of Zambia, Botswana, Tanzania, Mozambique and Angola. Such wide ranging support for a constitutional conference gave the lie to belief that the members of the Patriotic Front held sway in how a settlement would come about. The message from Dr Owen to Robert Mugabe was that talks would go ahead with or without the black nationalists.

Tues 19

Headline – *Rhodesia will do it Smith 's way* – as moderate politicians, of the Rhodesian Front political party, who attended a one day party congress defeated the hard liners and detailed prime minister to take his place at the negotiating table along with the American and British delegations to begin the process of granting ethnic blacks a major role in government of an independent Rhodesia.

The Soviet view of of the British initiative was rubbished by the authorities in Moscow. Their view was that the London government and the Americans wanted to keep the whites in power; protecting their economic investments in southern Africa. – **Daily Express** -

Leader Comment *Owen 's journey* the foreign secretaries latest talks should be linked to a long line of attempts since UDI in 1965. “Remember the Fearless talks, the Tiger Talks, the Pearce Commission.” They all failed.

“Mr Smith is fighting a rearguard action ... hope that it will be possible to make an internal settlement with moderate black leaders a life and death matter for him and his white community. More than that it is in the interests of the western powers to promote a settlement which will not turn over his fine country to the rule of intolerant fanatics and gunmen.” - ditto page 10 C 1 -

Wed 20

Headline – *Dr Owen's flying squad ready for Rhodesia* – as soon as the beginning of 6/'77. This will see the return of British diplomatic representation in Salisbury since 1969 when the then governor Sir H Gibbs left.

Reporting back to the Commons in London the foreign secretary reported to assembled MP 's that he was under no illusions how long the hard and lengthy the talks will be or how necessary a black majority government was needed. An issue that had to be overcome was the complete lack of trust between the whites and the blacks.

Headline – *Rhodesia – we could send troops* – some time in 1978, a move that has been resisted by every British government since the 1965 UDI was declared. The thinking behind this is that it would answer one of the difficulties that might be highlighted by the white regime as to who was responsible for security during the transition period from colony to independent state. - **Daily Mail page 1 C 1** -

Sat 30

Headline - *Smith sacks his party rebels* – in retaliation for being among the members of parliament who voted down the prime ministers plans to create a fairer society in a country travelling along the road to a multi racial democracy. The also sacked deputy RF chairman, H Coleman, noted that he thought that he had been sacked from his position for attempting to uphold the principals under which the present government was elected.

The dismissal comes at the conclusion of a disciplinary committee hearing. In the fullness of time it is expected that the 12 Rhodesian Front MP 's will be challenged by their former boss to stand for re election.

MAY 1997

Sun 1

Headline - *MP 's rage at 'petty ban' on Rhodesia Duke* – of Montrose, who at one time was a former cabinet minister in the Smith government. The seventy year old now wants to return to the Britain briefly to attend a clan meeting of the 86 Scottish clan chiefs. Our embassy, in Pretoria, has refused an entry visa because he is a 'restricted person'.

Such actions, against a man who has not been active in politics for the past nine years, has angered members of the Conservative Party. The C P MP J Knight said “there can be no moral justification for banning him. ... he fought Hitler.” - **Sunday Express** -

Tues 3

Headline – *Rhodesia election is on the cards, says Smith* – after the defeat of his moves to create a fairer society after a vote in parliament. This showed that the Rhodesian Front had lost the favour of the two thirds support necessary from parliament, and by intimation, the general public. The only recourse was to hold a general election.

Of the majority rule talks, between all sides in the dispute were on the horizon the prime minister was not that impressed with the efforts made by the British foreign secretary. He was not hoping that they would fail.

Sun 8

Speaking to the media, in the north of England, prime minister J Callaghan, noted that a settlement in Rhodesia was no nearer as of this time as it was when the Kissinger proposals were outlined. The Labour politician was also sceptical about Ian Smith's intentions about a hand over of power to the black majority. In reality, he said, we must take things as they are, and deal with the situation as it is now.

Headline – *Rhodesia talks go into low gear* – as, so Joshua Nkomo reports, that Cyrus Vance the American secretary of state had dropped the notion that the country would be part sponsor of constitutional talks on the future of Rhodesia. While in London the co leader of the Patriotic Front had a meeting with a British foreign office diplomat at the Zanu leaders London hotel.

All along the Patriotic Front have asserted that any settlement should only involve those parties that are directly involved in the war of liberation. The three questions that any conference must answer are The text of a constitution for an independent Zimbabwe. Internal security/conditions within between the end of white rule and free elections and the assumption of authority by the government thus elected. The funding; to keep the white business alive and functioning efficiently. Protection of pensions and inducements to the minority population to be part of this new country. - **Sunday Times** -

Tues 10

Headline - *Slaughter of the innocents caught in the crossfire* – as Rhodesian forces clashed with guerilla forces on the Indanga tribal trust lands 100 miles from the Mozambique border. The outcome thirty six deaths and thirty injured out of a total of 200 villagers.

Only one of the combatants was injured/killed, a guerilla, who failed to escape after ten of his colleagues were interrupted as the military came across the black nationalists as they held addressed the villagers. - **D E** -

Wed 11

Headline – *Smith's deadline* – sets out the time table that leads to black majority rule in the last British colony in Africa. Total transfer of power will be on 24 9 1978 and three months earlier Ian Smith and his government will have relinquished power. Many people inside Rhodesia however think this time schedule is too short.

The full details, agreed between Owen and Cyrus Vance, are thought to be the return of a British diplomatic mission to Salisbury. Diplomat J Graham, would oversee developments. Smith and his Rhodesian Front cabinet go before independence arrives. Four party, SA, USA, PF, FLS and Rhodesia talks. The £1, 250m investment fund being in place. Exploring the removal of UN sanctions.

In addition to the British mission an other, with American assistance, will be based in Tanzania or Zambia, be fully mobile; able to move swiftly around the black led states and down to South Africa as needs arise.

Although the diplomats would like the Rhodesian leader to leave the political scene, before

independence, this is still uncertain. The ending of the political clashes between Zanu and Zapu has not been addressed yet. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Thurs 12

Headline – ***Rhodesia mission set to leave*** – with John Graham deputy under secretary at the foreign office, at its lead diplomat. Speaking to the Commons Owen said that the mission head would report back in early 6/77.

In Salisbury prime minister Smith, unhappy at being called upon to go before independence is also that the 24/9/78 is to short a time and would prefer the handover 12 months later at the very most. - **Daily Express** -

Fri 13

Headline *authors own* - ***The costs of war*** – an estimate; £50,000 per day which is 25% of the Rhodesian budget. Indirect taxes have risen twice in the last 16 months as the targeting and seizure of guerilla weapons and equipment increases.

Sun 15

Headline – ***Rhodesia offers arms for sale*** - designed and assembled internally. One such weapon, the LPD a semi automatic, is being offered for sale by the Johannesburg based arms dealer D Stoffberg. The cost; £200. The weapon is described as “safe, portable and easy for women to use.”

Other weapons to hit the market in the near future is the Mamba a stainless steel 9mm automatic pistol. Patents are pending in South Africa and West Germany. Sales pitch; The Rhodesian originators.... have had some of the best brains in the business to assist them. - **Sunday Times ?** -

Mon 16

Headline – ***Smith faces a new border menace*** – timed to coincide with the beginning of a new round of negotiations. Military sources in the capital believe the forces of Joshua Nkomo will mount an offensive across the Zambian border.

Limiting the effects, of the expected incursion, will be made more manageable will be made easier says commander J Hickman because the land in that region is devoid of settlements where assistance and the land is open scrub land; ideal for open warfare.

The 12 Rhodesian Front M P's sacked for wrecking the advancement of members of the black majority, by voting against land, education and other living conditions and were sacked, have been reinstated.

Tues 17

Headline - ***Kaunda goes on war alert over Rhodesian 'first strike' threat*** – as British prime minister Callaghan, and hopefully John Vorster the South African president, condemn any action that sees Rhodesian forces cross into Zambia to attack guerilla bases based close to the border. Politicians are undecided whether the threats are scare tactics or a means of destabilising the coming negotiations. - **Daily Mail** -

Wed 18

Headline – *Big push to oust Smith* – comes from the United States president Jimmy Carter. Not only is he calling for the diplomatic expulsion of the Rhodesian prime minister but also a warning to the South African apartheid regime.

Handing over the task to his vice president, Walter Mondale and the countries ambassador to the United Nations; Andre Young the president calls for the ending of military and oil supplies to the Salisbury regime unless the rebel leader agrees to hand over power to the majority black population by 1978.

His initiative, for changes to the Pretoria regime, is the fifteen year hiatus of inaction after the 'Wind of Change' speech by the then British prime Minister Harold Macmillan when he spoke to the countries parliament and warned of the need for change.

The latest demands, which will be put to the South African premier when he meets W Mondale in Vienna within days. The United States desires are progressive moves towards full citizenship for the black majority population. Ending the policy of forced migration. Election freedom in Namibia.
Daily Express page 4 C 1

Fri 20

Headline – *The big squeeze* – caused by an international trade boycott of white Rhodesian traders is part of the initiative to bring about changes to the lives of black people in the region is part of the plan to bring the rebel Salisbury regime down. This was proposed at a conference of interested parties in Mozambique.

The UN 's American ambassador Andrew Young foresaw that if the black population stopped purchasing goods from white retailers, excluding food and medicine, for as little as six months then the Smith regime would be impact on the regime to such an extent that a settlement would be top of the governments agenda.

The above was only a summary of the 10 page memorandum, distributed to delegates, from 87 countries attending the international gathering that defines American policy on southern Africa.

One critic of the Washington plan was co leader of the Patriotic Front, Robert Mugabe, who noted that such methods as outlined by A Young had been tried already with no success. His proposals still contained an element of colonial rule. - **D Express page 4 C 1** -

Sun 22

Headline - *Why Smith faces war on two fronts* – after the apparent failure of the recent Vienna conference of 87 who were determined to find an agreeable solution to all sides that hampers the hopes of the black population in the last two white led administrations in Southern Africa.

The conference ended in open rupture with both Andrew Young and Walter Mondale 's plans both being condemned as being 'to moderate' when the seen through the eyes of those who would exchange the governments of both Rhodesia. For those who wish to change these governments the plans were deemed 'to moderate.' - **M Meredith Sunday Times page 10 C 1** -

Mon 23

Headline – *Mondale dashes Britain 's hopes on Rhodesia* – as the American vice president reports to the London government on his recent talks with South African president John Vorster. The apartheid government would continue to support the Smith regime and put no pressure on them to negotiate a settlement. A similar unhelpful message was also delivered by the various diplomats and government ministers who have been commuting to and from African capitals in recent times. **Daily Mail page 4 C 1 -**

Fri 27

Headline – *A fight to the finish* – is the message that the Rhodesian foreign minister, P van de Byl gave to those who wish to overthrow the white regime. The minister, was speaking in the town of Invanya, added “There can be no question of surrender and every inch will be fought for we will contest every hill .. river .. village ... town .. cross roads ... bridge. Inevitably and unavoidably, the land will suffer.” - **Daily Express -**

Mon 30

Headline – *Smith troops kill 22 in border raid* – as a large force of the rebel army cross into Mozambique in a 'hot pursuit' raid for members of the guerilla forces opposed to the white regime. The timing, as the Anglo American talks team were leaving at the end of the recent Maputo All Africa conference.

The on going raid, still searching out the enemy forces, is seen as a timely reminder to the international community that Rhodesian forces are able to attack at will the countries enemies. **D E**

JUNE 1977

Wed 1

Headline – *Carry on invading* – is the order from prime minister Smith to the commanders of the Rhodesian forces that are into their third day of military action inside Mozambique. Thus the Salisbury regime is blatantly ignoring appeals from both the British prime minister and the foreign secretary to end their invasion.

Military sources in the Rhodesian capital say that its troops have moved 60 miles into Mozambique in an attempt to disrupt the guerilla forces of the Patriotic Front, destroy their stocks of munitions and food as well as kill the black insurgents before they can re enter Rhodesia. To date it is said that 31 nationalists have died at the hands of the Rhodesian forces.

Claims that Pretoria have sent troops to Angola, where there is an on going liberation struggle between the Swapo movement and the South African backed Unita forces, has been denied. The South Africans are known to support Unita, logistically, but has no intention of actually deploying troops in the country. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1 -**

Thurs 2

Headline – *Rhodesia raps Owen* – over the criticism the foreign secretary made of the Rhodesian military forces incursion into Mozambique. His Salisbury based opposite number, Pieter van de Byl noted that similar actions had been taken by the London government when guerilla elements in

Hareb in Yemen faced the might of the British military after their attacks in Aden in 1964.

Responding to the military action in Mozambique a state department in Washington warned that the cross border action of the Rhodesian army brought the world closer to a 'great war in Africa.' Such a conflict would draw in the Cuban, Soviets and the Chinese governments as all three have financial and economic interests in the region.

Fri 3

Headline – *Mapai raid ends in relief and pride* – as the South African government will not have to make the decision as to whether or not to intervene to end the fighting.

Assessing the success of the military action the commander of the Rhodesian army, Lieutenant General Peter Walls, indicated that as a result of the forces action the guerilla forces campaign of inside Rhodesia campaign had been put back many months. - D E -

Sat 4

Headline – *Ex Premier Todd puts Rhodesia in the dock* – as he claims that Rhodesian military forces have indulged in brutality and torture against those opposed to the present regime. The former prime minister of the Rhodesia, who spent many months under house arrest for his belief in black majority rule, flew into America to give evidence to a Congressional committee.

“Africans can expect to be killed for helping terrorists – I call that murder People think I 'm a traitor to my race but I believe that unless something is done quickly a lot of white boys are going to die.” - D E -

Wed 8

Headline – *Power cut threat to Zambia* – are being used by the Salisbury government as a bargaining tool to stop the Lusaka administration harbouring guerilla forces within its borders. It would be possible for the power produced from the hydro electric plant on the Kariba Dam can be turned on and off at will.

The warning comes, from the minister of combined operations, R Hawkins, after a recent attack on Kariba village by Zambian troops where two residents were injured. - D E -

Thurs 9

Headline – *Owen plans new trip to boost peace moves* – within the next few weeks to try and move along the road towards a peaceful settlement in the region. This move comes despite the foreign secretary being fully behind the Anglo American plan.

There was no threat to cut the electricity supply to Zambia; detailed by the Salisbury minister Hawkins. His intention was to make the Zambian administration aware of the dangers, the attack on Kariba village, brought to the dam itself. - D E -

Sat 11

Headline - *Red threat to Smith* – will come as the Soviet union has promised to provide aid to those fighting the rebel regime in Rhodesia. The warning came from the British prime minister, J Callaghan, who was speaking at the Commonwealth Conference in London.

The heads of government of the Commonwealth also voted their backing for the Anglo American peace initiative even though most of the governments thought that an armed struggle was inevitable.

Also in London was Joshua Nkomo who backed military action to gain black majority rule was speaking away from the Conference; he had not been invited to speak. Despite this he accused the Smith regime of frequent non judicial hangings and other atrocities against the black population. The co leader of the Patriotic Front has a list of 15 people due to hand and urged the British government to step in to halt the deaths. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Sat 25

Headline – ***Time to fight says Kaunda*** – as the Zambian president call on the nations people to start digging trenches along its southern border to prevent Rhodesia 's military forces from crossing into Zambia at will.

Speaking of a post independent military Lieutenant General J Hickman, commander of the Rhodesian army, noted that his force would work with any elected government of whatever ethnicity. “ As soldiers we our allegiance not to any political party, but to the state.” The head of the army was speaking out at a passing out parade. The comments were in response to those made by the leaders of black African states and called of the Rhodesian military to be led by officers of neighbouring black armies.

Soweto, the black township outside Johannesburg, the ongoing tension in the townships schools flared up again as police fired tear gas into the Orlando West high school. - **D E** -

Tues 28

Official figures show that from 1 – 5/'77 7, 284 whites left the country and only 2, 367 entered the country. These figures are higher that at any time since 1963 when the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland became independent nations with a resulting exodus of 8, 000 whites.

Speaking to his ruling party congress president Kaunda the Zambian leader warned his southern neighbour that any hot pursuit raids across the border between the two countries would be reciprocated in a southerly direction by the Zambian military.

According to a South African media source and confirmed by police commissioner G Prinsloo three members of the African National Congress have been arrested, along with other persons, following a bomb attack in Johannesburg in the recent past. The three had received training in Angola and been infiltrated into the apartheid state via Mozambique along with the seven others detained.

Wed 29

Headline – ***Bullets all round in the three way Zambezi mix up*** – involving troops from Rhodesia, Botswana and Zambia. The battle occurred on 26/6 at Kazungula on the Zambezi River. A mix up over the actions of the Botswana Defence Force and their actions towards civilians and a border post was the cause of the military action.

A New York meeting of the United nations security council will hear Zambia claim that the Smith regime is provoking a regional war in southern Africa. The reasoning, according to the counties foreign minister S Mwale, is that with support from the Soviets and its allies for the nationalists will force the West to intervene on the side of Rhodesia.

JULY 1977

Fri 1

Headline – *Blow for Rhodesia* – as it is announced in parliament that the defence budget for the coming year will rise to £130m. Whereas, according to the defence minister, M Partridge, the amount spent during 1976 – 1977 was only £90m; and that was mainly the costs incurred with the defence of the countries border with Mozambique. Other expenses incurred will see the amount spent on the military rise to £650m.

As the security council of the United nations continues its debate in New York details have emerged that will see the go ahead give to a third world plan for cash to be allocated to Mozambique for its defence of its borders from invasion by members of the Rhodesian military who are in 'hot pursuit' of black nationalists who have crossed the border.

While the black led governments in the region demanded military aid for the Maputo administration western members of the security council, through long hours of negotiation, had the final communiqué state that “material assistance” be given. The first world governments feared that to specify military aid would lead them into a similar situation that occurred in Angola. With this resolution aid can mean anything from books to tanks. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Sat 2

Headline – *Rhodesia faces new war front* – as black nationalist fighters mount an attack, from inside the countries borders, in the Elephant Hills Hotel on the border with Zambia. Also during the attack a tourist bus and a police launch on the Zambezi River were attacked.

The American secretary of state, Cyrus Vance has called on the South African government to bring about changes in attitude towards its black majority population. The alternative is to face an onslaught of violence alongside Communist intervention. - **D E** -

Sun 3

Headline – *The tragedy is that the African states surrounding Rhodesia are now committed to a solution imposed by a black invasion* – a review of the personality of Ian Smith; a complicated man with hopes for an honourable settlement of the crisis. Always in danger of being ousted by members of his own party who happen to be more radical in their politics.

Solving the issues will involve the diplomacy of both the USA and Britain. Agree with the black African states that any solution must be an African solution. Identify one, on the many Rhodesian black African leaders, to speak solely on the majorities behalf. The cooperation of South Africa must be sought to ensure a peaceful solution. A role in peace negotiations for the United nations.

Any lasting solution must not just be platitudes towards ethnic groups, described in parliamentary terms but a way forward. Otherwise the whole continent, and region, could be drawn into a world wide conflict. - **Sir H Wilson; News of the World** -

Mon 4

Headline - *Why the wild men will lose the final battle for Rhodesia* – is that on both sides of the conflict members of both ethnic groups are mud slinging members of their same ethnic groups. This name calling does nothing to move the conflict towards its ending

On the white side are the members of the Rhodesian Front, who 's opinion of Ian Smith; voiced by Des Frost MP, derides the leadership of the prime minister and calls on him to retire. The squabbling blacks are no better. One time allies Joshua Nkomo, now the co leader of the Marxist Patriotic front, and cleric Bishop Muzorewa, exchange insults with the Zanu leader calling his one time close friend a 'louse.'

The urge to settle is growing, even prime minister Smith accepts an 'any settlement terms' is more acceptable than warfare that will, according to foreign minister van de Byle, will see every tree and hillock fought over despite the consequences. - **J Ellison Foreign editor Daily Express page 11 C2** -

Diplomatic efforts move up a gear as stage two of the Anglo American southern African peace initiative sees Britain' s African specialist, J Graham, fly to the Kenyan capital before going to Lusaka where he is due to engage with the leaders of the Patriotic Front on 6/7. Also at this Lusaka meeting will be London 's overseas development minister who will reveal details of a multi million development plan for Rhodesia. Thence to Salisbury and a reveal all meeting with Ian Smith . - **ditto page 4 C 1** -

Wed 6

Headline – ***Rhodesia peace hopes sour as Smith 's resolve cracks*** – as the continuing internal wrangling of the ruling Rhodesian Front M P 's along with the 'reasonable proposals' to be revealed in the not too distant future, could see an end to the ongoing upheaval in Rhodesia.

It is understood that the Graham proposals, seen by the black nationalists in Nairobi, include a Bill of Rights that will protect the rights of all races in the new country of Zimbabwe. International funding to help black and whites to integrate successfully. There will also be an international peacekeeping force to ensure free and fair elections are held.

Seemingly, of no coincidence, one time Marxist Dr Ndabaningi Sitholi, who has been exiled even though he has refused to join the Patriotic Front, will be allowed to return. Already meetings with white RF members have taken place, in Malawi, which may lead to the former exile becoming the 'acceptable face' of black politics to the minority white population. The other black politician 'in favour' with the ruling party is Bishop Musorewa who may become leader of the Independence Party.

A large stumbling block is the willingness, or not, of the Rhodesian prime minister to allow the problem of law and order being taken away from his party and handed over to members of the international community during the countries transmission from a British colony to independent Zimbabwe. - **D E** -

Headline - ***Talks near success*** – After two years self exile cleric Sithole made a triumphant return to the country. He was greeted at a Salisbury rally of 3, 000 of his supporters. Many expect him to be elected the first black leader of an independent Zimbabwe. - **Daily Telegraph** -

Thurs 7

Headline - ***Nkomo is spurning peace bid*** – Even as Smith 's political dilemma, who to negotiate with, over a peace deal that will end the conflict, one of the chief protagonists Joshua Nkomo leader of the Zanu elements of the Patriotic Front has dismissed part of the the Anglo American settlement unworkable.

The nationalist leader 's gripe is that is that Ian Smith remains in power while the formation of a

new constitution is still being worked out. In his view while these never ending talks continue the whites in Rhodesia will continue their military action and continue to build up military hard wear and continue to cling to power. - D E -

Sat 9

Headline – *Smith 's 'last year'* – is the prediction, on the continuation of white rule in Rhodesia of the white minority, made by president Kaunda of Zambia. Another prediction; a black government will rule in the independent, from South African administration, of Namibia.

His speech also highlighted the willingness of other countries who may offer troops, for the defence of the Zambian border an internal attack inside Rhodesia. Those named include Cuba and Somalia who would be used to counter hot pursuit raids by Salisbury 's forces searching for black nationalist guerilla bases.

Impasse between diplomats, on all sides in Salisbury, over constitutional issues, has seen the expected visit of the British foreign secretary cancel his intended trip to the region that was set for the near future. - Daily Express page 4 C 1 -

Sun 10

Headline - *Power vacuum as Smith party splits* – as hopes of a peaceful settlement are at risk because of the internal disputed between the ruling Rhodesian Front members of parliament. Even large numbers of the minority white population; those that can be termed right wing seem determined to scupper any settlement.

Ethnic whites split three ways; dissident Rhodesian Front politicians, led by RF ex MP D Frost's new Rhodesian Action Party. Serviceman elements; Rhodesian Action Movement, 3, 000 strong ex military men disillusioned with their politicians.

Consequences RAP plus RAM join together to oust Ian Smith or members of the Rhodesian Action Movement will use force; a military coup. Another alternative is that the RF will side with either of the 'moderate' black nationalist movements. One such effort, with Bishop Able Musorewa 's United Action National Conference [UNAC] party, has failed.

With the return of the Reverend N Sithole after six years of self imposed exile, imposed after a jail sentence of similar length was commuted; after the intercession of the South African prime minister J Vorster, after being convicted of planning the death of prime minister Smith. Now shows how desperate the Rhodesian leader is.

On the black nationalist/governments side are the ongoing distrusts between military and political forces. The Organisation of African Unity, who backed both elements of the Patriotic Front recently, are not completely sure of the stability of the two military elements. Well respected military leader, of the Zipra forces Josiah Tongogara, is now back in control where political leader of Zanu; Robert Mugabe wields the power.

Then there is the ideological differences of the political backers of both Zapu and Zanu. Robert Mugabe, backed by Beijing, noted that the Chinese 'genuinely aid Zimbabwe' while the Soviets; who favour Nkomo 's forces 'its desire to establish spheres of influence and to foster puppets.'

Such influence, on the white and black ethnic groups leave the scope for settlement via the Anglo American proposals less scope for success to avoid a civil war. - Sunday Times page 6 C 1 -

Tue 12

Headline – *New hitch over Rhodesia* – sees a new set of talks, in London, immediately John Graham the governments African specialist flew back from abortive talks in Salisbury. Also attending the foreign office talks was foreign secretary David Owen, S Low American ambassador to Zambia.

The point of the talks; to find a plan that is acceptable to the black nationalists concerning what is to happen to the military forces during the period when fighting ends up until a new government is sworn in.

Wed 13

Headline – *Now Smith holds out for a better deal* – as hopes fade that the UK/USA basis for a settlement will ever be acceptable to the minority ethnic grouping. A spokesman in Salisbury said that officials in London change their minds on fundamental issues or there would be no hope of a successful outcome to any negotiations.

Headline - *Owen must think again* – and begins with a flight to Washington to talk to Cyrus Vance the American secretary of state, over the sticking point on any deal; the government 's refusal to hand over military power to the black nationalist forces or “unknown hands” as the administration in Salisbury has deemed the would be former guerillas. - **Daily Mail page 4 C 1** -

Fri 15

Headline - *Whites' plan puts Smith in the cold* – as even the civilian population come together and make demands of their politicians. A new moderate grouping; the National Unifying Force, calls for the immediate formation of a national government . This new administration, without the presence of the present prime minister, Ian Smith, would then deliver political power to the majority black population.

To further their aims a three man delegation, from the National Unifying Force, has already met the British foreign secretary, in London, to outline their plans. They believe that the Rhodesian leader has lost his grip on Salisbury politics. - **D E** -

Headline – *The war without hope* – a photo montage of a country that is paying a high price for its independence. Where mothers work in soldiers canteens, while their children play among the weapons left outside the canteen. Where people survive, R Fraser and and son, after their home was burned out. Petrol rationing is common and estate agents are flooded with venues to sell; their owners are leaving the country. - **Daily Mail page 19 to 22** -

Mon 18

Headline – *Whites get pledge from the bishop* – named Musorewa as he spoke to 150, 000, supporters gathered in the Highfield township stadium, after returning from exile. Speaking directly to the white community the cleric, seen by many whites as the man that could lead a black moderate government, called on those whites who had left the country and identify themselves “with the aspirations of the struggling masses.” - **D E** -

Tues 19

Headline – *Ian Smith calls poll to end white disunity* – speaking on national television the prime

minister, in a 2, 000 word address blamed the London government for siding with the aspirations of the black nationalist forces and fostering unrest in the white community. To counter this parliament will be dissolved and a general election held on 31/8.

The main elements of the poll will be the battle for a new constitution, for which the prime minister has a five point plan to put to the voters. The formation of a broad based government; including members of the black community seen as 'moderates' would seem the main issue of concern to those struggling for a say in government.

Speaking of the Anglo/American based negotiations the PM noted that in his view the whole dual plan was biased in favour of the demand list of the members of the Patriotic Front. - **Daily Telegraph page 1** -

Headline ***Rhodesia rebels fail to agree on terrorist merger*** – as one single fighting force to confront the Rhodesian military forces. The move comes, despite an agreement between the two liberation forces signed in Dar es Salaam on 16/7, to form a United Military programme. There will be cooperation between the Mugabe and Nkomo forces; however both forces will operate in separate zones of conflict.

With each guerilla army under the influence of different Marxist ideologies, China and Russia, diplomats worry that for them to work together could lead to major regional conflict. Both are well armed, 82mm mortars and 75mm recoilless rifles. - **ditto page 4** -

Headline – ***Smith bid to go it alone*** – despite being told by the London government that any future Salisbury administration that had not been elected on a one man one vote franchise had no chance of success. There could be no special accommodation for the minority white population.

Another point made clear to the renegade prime minister that his political party held only 37 of the 66 seats in the Salisbury parliament and 12 other RF MP 's had resigned or been sacked. There was also a hint of Smith resigning from the political field.

“I have no wish to sail under any false colours. If it is the wish of the majority of Rhodesian to surrender and betray these principals for which so many sacrifices have been made they will have to find someone else to lead them.” - **Daily Express page 1 C** -

Wed 20

Headline – ***Smith election moves invokes early rebuffs*** - as both the National Unifying Force and the Rhodesian Action party groupings vow to stand in all 50 parliamentary constituency 's and thus challenge the Rhodesian Front party at the 31/8 general election.

The last general election role, for the 1974 poll was Europeans 83, 178 Africans 7, 052. The numbers that came out to vote; Europeans 72, 867 Africans 3, 096. On the current voting register, as of 31/5, sees European 85, 406 Africans 7, 478. - **Daily Telegraph page 4 C 1** -

Headline – ***Terrorist hunt is for pay*** – as local cattle farmers, in one location, have employed two former members of the British military to end the cattle rustling by hungry members of the black nationalist forces. The two former soldiers, turned game keepers, are paid about £11, 000 to protect the herd.

The need for this protection, on the 100, 000 acre farm in the Lowveld region of the country, says owner D C Lilford is that local villagers have stopped feeding the guerillas as most of their

supporters have been moved, by the country's military into 'protected kraals. - Ditto page 4 C 3 -

Wed 20

Headline – ***Smith Accused*** – by the foreign secretary David Owen of, by calling the forthcoming general election, of an intensification of the civil war raging across Rhodesia's borders. His one hope is that after the 31/8 vote the white moderates within the country will have more of an influence than they do at present.

Bishop Muzorewa, the face of the moderate majority population, leader of the African National Council, noted that if Ian Smith is talking about a settlement in which all the people can come together to elect the government then we will accept that the prime minister is determined to form a majority led government. - D E -

Sun 24

Headline – ***Muzorewa puts Rhodesia plan*** – and calls for an immediate constitutional conference with the aim of handing over power to the majority black population, through the auspicious of one man one vote. This was the one of five points the president of the United African National Council made in his statement released in the country's capital.

Other points; the new constitution to be formulated after discussions with British legal constitutional experts. Agreement reached in three months and put to a referendum by 1/78 to be followed by the universal franchise vote by the end of 3/78.

The economic output of Rhodesia has suffered a blow as the South African mining giant, the Anglo American Mining Corporation, has decided to end its prospecting operations in the war torn country. According to the company's 100 geologists, seeking out mineral wealth under the Rhodesian soil, guerilla activity is putting the lives of company employees at risk. - Sunday Times -

Headline ***Ian Smith's tightrope election*** – as he lamely blasts the American and British negotiators of the Anglo American plan; A Low US ambassador to Zambia and J Graham and David Owen respectively for being “naive.” - Sunday Telegraph page 17 C 1 -

Tues 26

Headline – ***Rhodesia peace move 'Must go on'*** – is the message the foreign secretary pushed as he gave a progress report on the Anglo American negotiations to parliament. However he was unable to indicate how forward moves would be made. At the moment there are irreconcilable differences between the conflicting groups. - Daily Telegraph page 1 C 1 -

Wed 27

Headline – ***Let's stop shouting*** – at each other says UNAC president Bishop Muzorewa as he downgrades his constitutional demands made earlier. No longer does he demand the 'one man one vote' basis for an election. For any 1978 election 'equal voting rights' would be sufficient after his five point plan brought no response. - D E -

Undated

Headline - ***Smith warns white rebels of 'disaster'*** - as the prime minister opens his party's general election campaign. Mainly in his sights were the rebel Rhodesian Front members who have formed

the Rhodesian Action Party. Foreseeing a dirty campaign he noted that the policies of the reactionary RAP will do nothing to end the racial divisions within the country. "It would isolate us entirely from the rest of the world and would not be acceptable to the rest of the world."

For the PM to remain in office he needs a two thirds majority in the parliament made up of 50 European seats and the 16 African seats which are split; 8 tribal appointment and 8 subject to a public vote.

In London a legal challenge, by the Anti Apartheid Movement; investigating the activities of Mr Justice McCauley in Salisbury, who sentenced a black recruiter for the guerilla forces to death, has angered the members of the Rhodesian legal system. The unnamed man was eventually reprieved.

Defending the reasoning; Chief Justice McDonald noted that to show mercy to a man recruiting others to cause the death of Rhodesian national would give the impression that the state does not carry out the death penalty. - **Daily Telegraph page 2 C 1** -

AUGUST 1977

Mon 1

Headline – *'Dunkirk spirit' sustains white Rhodesians-* as 268, 000 whites refuse to leave despite the numbers of their fellow countrymen who have died since the 1972 campaign for a more fair society was began by the black majority population. Since that date 380 members of the security forces have been killed, 116 to date in '77 including the nineteen fatalities in 7/'77. The figures for the black nationalists are 2, 760, 848 and 123 respectively.

The attitude of the white minority is that black majority rule will come and their hopes are that the moderate political parties, such as the cleric led United African National Council will be the dominant force in any government. Their greatest fears are a government led by either Robert Mugabe of Joshua Nkomo as part of any Salisbury government. Opinion of how long it will be before a black led government is installed has ranged from 50 years ten years ago. As of now one cattle rancher expects black rule within 5 years and possibly 12 months.

Despite this optimism from the whites that stay on 5, 761 of this ethnic group left the country in 6/'77.

Headline – *Sithole 'moving into whites only area* – of the Houghton Spring suburb of the capital Salisbury. Two family members, daughters Sikhu and Mpilo said the house had been purchased through a deed of sale from their father via an estate agent in the city. Such happenings are becoming more frequent according to other non white residents of the suburb.

The countries judiciary have called on the government to make it well known that those convicted of terrorism will, if convicted, be hanged for their crimes. There will be no chance that an alternative sentence, life imprisonment, will be substituted on appeal.

Headline – *Smith 's unique Paras* – who are to be trained as part of the counter insurgency forces that defend the countries borders, and pursue black nationalists across then, with Zambia Botswana and Mozambique.

The man commanding this force, Major Peter Wallis, himself a former member of the special forces fighting in Malaysia, with the British against counter insurgents in the 1960's, has adopted the

tactics learned in the Far East and brought them to the southern African region. With the aid of airborne troops the hot pursuit cross border raids can go further and more quickly to where they are needed. - **Daily Telegraph** -

Headline - ***If Ian Smith were black*** – the west would have no problem with a country, so the writer suggests, has been well run by a government that 'has been created out of practically nothing in a couple of generations or so by colonists, who brought peace and prosperity.'

The London governments, and in no small way the international community and the United Nations, have deemed the Salisbury regime illegal despite such a claim being patently wrong; the Smith government has 'established that they are in effective control. Piling on pressure; the High Court ruling criticising the Salisbury judge for sentencing a convicted man to death for guerilla activities is surely the actions of good governance.

What is Ian Smiths crime! Is it being white in a country where the majority of the people are black? Would London be acting in a different way if the presiding regime was non white but acting in the same way towards a minority population? - **George Gale; Daily Express page 11** -

Tues 2

Headline - ***Tourists escape new terror attack*** – when a number of terrorists attacked a motel near the countries Victoria Falls. The black nationalists breached the 12 high security fence surrounding the building. There was lots of damage but no casualties. A similar attack occurred in 10/76 when one white person died and 2 others injured.

Which ever of the guerilla forces carried out the attack, from across the River Zambezi or 20 miles trek across the countries border with Botswana guts were shown. The motel was only 400 yards away from a military and police camp.

A bomb has destroyed the Zapu headquarters building of Joshua Nkomo in the Zambian capital of Lusaka. - **D E** -

Wed 3

Headline – ***Passports for the asking!*** - are being distributed to the black majority group in Rhodesia. They are available, through the diplomatic missions in Lusaka, Gaborone and Johannesburg and Pretoria.

Historically British passports are available for those who can claim that they have at least one parent born in Britain. As of this time those applying for entry papers may do so on the grounds that they are political refugees who fear for their lives if they were to return to Salisbury.

The London government is of the opinion that the, as of this time the 5, 000, who have shown an interest in leaving the war torn country, will return once there has been a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia. - **Daily Express page 2 C 1** -

Fri 5

Letters [1] **N Carruthers Carslile, Cumbria** anger shown at the behaviour of the London government towards the Smith regime. After majority rule comes a time of peace will prevail.

[2] **G W Barnett Baschurch, Salop** similar sentiments expressed in support.

[3] **P K Platts – Judd Buxton, Derbyshire** attitudes may differ if living under the repressive white regime that is current in Rhodesia. - **D E** -

Leader Comment, **Ian Smith is Right** in his belief that “Rhodesia under majority rule shall be a stable, constitutional democracy, not a Marxist madhouse”. This is the stance the prime minister takes even as he agrees to majority rule thus risking alienating his own political supporters.

The lack of sympathy, from the international community, is staggering. From the London government; silly ideas that the two guerilla forces should be integrated into the Rhodesian military force during the transition period is in “downright bad taste.”

“Mr Smith should be supported in his search for an internal settlement. That is an understanding with moderate black leaders such as Bishop Musorewa who want majority rule but who hates terrorism. **Daily Express page 15 C 1** -

Sun 7

Headline – ***Terror bomb kills 12 in Smith 's capital*** – in the Woolworth 's branch on Pioneer Street. There were also at least fifty people injured when the 75 lbs of gelignite exploded just after midday.

With a feeling that his continued presence on the political field the prime minister let it be known that he may step away from his life of politics after the 31/8 general election. His comments were made, in private , to a member of the shadow cabinet in London. - **Sunday Express page 1** -

Mon 8

Headline – ***Divided we conquer*** – the rift between the two leaders of the Patriotic Front becomes wider and wider. The latest occurrence, the refusal of Joshua Nkomo to allow members of his Zimbabwe African Peoples Union guerilla army to take part in military training in Tanzania with the Mugabe loyal Zimbabwe African national Union force. The two leaders even defy their national backers, the black led states that surround Rhodesia, in calling for only a unified army to oust the countries prime minister.

Such a policy; two separate military forces where one has done more of the fighting only to loose power after a general election, could leave Zimbabwe in the same state that Angola is in at this present time; an extended civil war between one time allies.

Headline – ***Whites count the grim cost of terror*** – as police continue their search for those responsible for the town centre bomb in Salisbury that killed a large number of people. As black townships around the capital were searched two 'moderate' black nationalist leaders Able Musorewa and Ndabaningi Sithole described the Woolworth bombing as “senseless slaughter.” **DE**

Headline – ***Rhodesian nationalists join hunt for bombers*** – as members of the United African National Council informed police that they had seen three acting suspiciously near the Pioneer Street building. The movements leader named the people loyal to J Nkomo as most likely to have planted the bomb that caused so much death and destruction in the capital.

There will be London talks, involving UNAC leaders, foreign secretary Owen and Cyrus Vance the American secretary of state. The Washington government leader is trying to gain the clerics support for the British governments idea that a London caretaker administration should have a role in guiding Salisbury through to independence. - **Yorkshire Post** -

Headline – *Men of property* – will not be the black middle classes after the ministry of housing in Salisbury expel from 'whites only suburbs' those who reject Marxism and support free enterprise. Most prominent among these are the members of the Sithole family who must leave and the estate agent who sold the moderate black politician the home may be prosecuted.

The prime minister, in defence of the expulsion, blamed his hard right political opponents who were hoping to damage his image abroad. Not so, says this writer, more likely Ian Smith is still showing his right wing tendencies even as he tries to hide them among moderate black political ideals.

His base line seems to be “Anything that stirs up racial problems and racial animosity in Rhodesia is contrary to what we are trying to achieve.” But there again there are no signs that black people will be able to live where they desire; whites only suburbs. - **Keith Waterhouse; Daily Mirror** -

Tues 9

Headline *Mugabe men say: We planted death bomb* – in the Woolworth store, where 60 lbs of explosive were used, in the Rhodesian capital. It is now known that three whites; mother son and daughter – eight blacks, two of whom were pregnant died. Those injured numbered seventy six. While the UNAC leader insists that the attack was carried out by forces loyal to Nkomo a Zanu official noted that their Patriotic Front co member was not military prepared enough at this time for such an attack.

In the country's second city Bulawayo, where Muzoerwa was addressing an 8, 000 strong rally in the Luveve township clashes occurred with 200 supporters of Zapu even as a police cordon tried to keep the two sides away from each other. Later it was known that one man died and 22 were injured after violence broke out between the two groups.

Salisbury also saw a political rally when five thousand of N Sithole's African National Council supporters, which included some defectors from the rival UNAC party gathered together. Recently Moton Malianga the national chairman of United National African Council changed his allegiance by joining the moderate rival. - **DM** -

Leader Comment, **A Grisly harbinger of civil war** in the eyes of those that bombed the Woolworth store in Salisbury “by shattering human bodies they hope to shatter any hope of a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia.” The planting of the device carries the warning 'the liberation war is now transformed into civil war between black and whites.'

“Britain and America must back Bishop Musorewa ... probably the most popular black leader in Zimbabwe. He is not a white man's pawn. He is a man who should take charge of an interim government when Ian Smith decides to quit. - **Daily Mail page 6 C 1** -

Headline – *Salisbury bomb link with IRA* – as it is known among the world's security forces that terrorists, of whatever persuasion, are known to aid each other as and when required. Police have noted the similarities between this explosive and others in Northern Ireland; timing mechanisms and source of explosive are two indicators. Shared sources of military hardware; Libya being the supplier of choice. - **DT** -

Headline – *Two terrorist bombs rock Rhodesian capital* – one city centre car park location, devoid of many passers by, just past 2pm when two elderly persons were injured by flying glass from the windows of the Parkside Shopping Centre away from the city's main business area but in an area often frequented by members of the black population. The second blew out the windows of Chancellor House which houses the offices of the prime minister. - **Daily Telegraph page 4**

Fri 12

Headline – *Suspicion clouds Rhodesia talks* – that are taking place in London between previously named government ministers from London and Washington. The main talks, on this day, were between David Owen who aimed to persuade the UNAC leader to engage with the joint leaders of the Patriotic Front into the settlement talks. A fear of Bishop Musorewa is that the Anglo American end game is to have Joshua Nkomo installed as the first black prime minister of an independent Zimbabwe.

A spokesman for the PF called this proposal “a dirty plot the inclusion of Pik Botha in the London talks justifies the PF 's belief that the Anglo /US plan for Rhodesia is just a front for an imperialist regional settlement” favoured by the West. - **Daily Telegraph page 1 -**

Headline - *Smith attacks 'silence' on atrocities* – that occurred in Salisbury recently when black nationalists placed bombs in the Woolworth store and many people died. Since that time, with no criticism from the USA or Britain, a white woman doctor and a Roman Catholic nun have been injured in separate shootings. - **ditto page 4 C 1 -**

Sat 13

Headline – *4, 000 lives – the tragic cost of terror* – is the reason that the ongoing Anglo American settlement talks in London must not fail. With this number of dead, since hostilities began in mid 1972, a breakdown of the fatalities 1, 100 black nationalists have been killed by the military since 1/77. Over the whole campaign over 380 military deaths have occurred and 146 have died 1 – 7/77. Civilian deaths, from the majority ethnic group. Numbering 1, 200 died at the hands of guerillas that seek shelter in Mozambique.

The economic cost of the war; £375m to date. This years defence budget is £135m which is nearly one quarter of the entire government spending for 1977. The loss of man power to the economy, as the call up of men aged 38 to 50 have to spend 70 in uniform every year. Further strains are felt as the number of whites who have left the country grow. Figures show that 7, 000 more left the country 1 – 6/77 than entered in the same period. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1 -**

Sun 14

Headline – *Nyerere backs plan for Rhodesia* – whether it is the Anglo USA accord or supporting military actions of the PF just so long as prime minister Smith is “out of the way and bring down the white minority power structure in Rhodesia.” - **Sunday Times -**

Leader Comment, **Forget the Front** even after six and a half hours of talks between “ a huffy President Nyerere a belligerent Bishop Musorewa a totally silent South African foreign minister and an Owen Vance duet which not one word for public consumption” or hope of an agreement.

With the goal clear”peaceful transition to majority rule” any distinction between an internal or an externally imposed solution is meaningless. As the UNAC leader told the London gathering “the only genuine relevant settlement is one which achieves the transfer from the minority to the majority. better by far to re – start the internal groups – who on analysis contain more seekers for peace.” - **ditto -**

Headline – *Way out for Rhodesia* – would, in this writers opinion, be an internal settlement agreement with the moderate black political party led by Able Musorewa. As of this time the majority of the black population support the UNAC leader. With his anti Russian and pro Western

ideals; held by the minority whites there is not the idealistic chasm between the the two ethnic groups than there would be if either element of the Patriotic Front was to gain power. A rival Ndabaningi Sithole, brought into any deal would encourage Smith to through his lot in, what would be a majority of the black population. To have instant black rule would be disaster; no weapons to overcome the might of the Nkomo/Mugabe alliance. However keeping the white military under its present command structure until such time as one man one vote elections are feasible.

Any settlement that ensues should not be seen by the West as a show of support for the regime in Pretoria nor will it support the regime if in the future the armed struggle is once again take up by those wishing to overthrow the South African apartheid regime. - **Sunday Telegraph page 14 C 4** -

Headline – ***Guns on the table*** – are ever present when farmers and their wives relax at a gathering Eastern Highlands Tea Estate in the Honde Valley. - **ditto Magazine page 17 to 22** -

Headline - ***Your kith and kin, Wilson called them*** – a historical look back at the 'mistakes' made by successive British governments as they tried and failed to settle their last colony in Africa. - **D Barder; Sunday Express page 7 C 1** -

Mon 15

Headline – ***Owen wins Rhodesia ally*** – as the foreign minister of South Africa, Roelof Botha returns from attending the Anglo US negotiations. There was no indication of specifics just that the proposals “deserved the serious consideration of all parties.” - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Headline – ***Nkomo's man hanged on terror charge*** – named as Panios Zehana the provincial organising secretary of Zapu in Mashonaland. He died on 8/8, leaving a wife and a child just born, for the crime of enabling young blacks to train as guerillas. It has already been noted that his appeal was rejected by Judge Mc Donald which brought a London legal case against him by the Anti Apartheid Movement. - **ditto C 4** -

Headline - ***Rhodesia plan gets mixed reception*** – from the Pretoria participant who feels that the USA and London were putting pressure on his government to change its way. In his view any settlement options given, for either Rhodesia or Namibia, would be seen by the west as being able to be offered to the black population of South Africa. This was not going to happen. - **Yorkshire Post** -

Wed 17

Headline – ***You 've let us down, Smith accuses Britain*** – as the prime minister tells a group of 300 tobacco farmers in so far that the plan for a new constitution did not guarantee; impartial courts, the force of law and order, giving a show of loyalty to the state, maintenance of the security forces, pension protection land and dwelling rights.

In his view such an settlement would make it worthwhile living in a black African state. Critics of this decision would say live in Africa live like an African.

Members of the council of Joshua Nkomo 's Zimbabwe African National Union [Zapu] have been banned from speaking at the parties rallies.

Undated

Headline – ***Smith has high hopes of deal*** – with the black 'moderate' politicians even though he had not entirely shunned the idea of a deal emerging from the Anglo/USA ongoing negotiations. The prime minister was talking to farmers in the Eastern Highlands region of the country. He was in the

Chipinga constituency of J Wright MP, one of his own 12 party rebels who left the Rhodesian Front and formed the Rhodesian Action party. Thus he had brought his general election campaign into the heart of the oppositions country.

Mon 22

Headline – *Massacre at Junction Farm* – by the forces loyal to Robert Mugabe when sixteen blacks died on the white owned farm 17 miles from the town of Umtali which is thirty miles from the countries border with Mozambique. Although the military forces sent to the area it is thought the nationalist forces had already crossed into friendly territory.

A political resignation; gone as vice president of UNAC is Elliot Gabellah. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Wed 24

Headline – *Britain gives Smith a deadline* – to come into being in 12 months from when it is issued following more talks between foreign secretary Owen and the Pretoria regime. The Rhodesian rebel leader will be expected to resign once the three point initiative is out in the open. - **D E** -

Thurs 25

Headline – *Owen to seek UN troops* – to span the time it will take to for setting up a one man one vote election before a new Zimbabwe army comes into being. This, supposedly secret, plan has been agreed by Kurt Waldheim secretary general of the UN and prime minister Callaghan over dinner in London. These, and other initiatives, will be revealed to the Rhodesian prime minister after foreign secretary Owen arrives in Salisbury within days. - **Daily Telegraph page 1** -

Leader Comment **Futile Rhodesia Plan** the now known elements of the 'secret' Anglo US roadmap for the illegal Smith regimes political future have made it more certain that the previous indication, from the president of Tanzania, that the black African states will now fully back those fighting to oust the white regime.

Gone are the chances of a government made up of elements of the black 'moderate politician; Bishop Musorewa. The coming general election will almost certainly see a Smith victory which would progress the internal settlement.

“If Britain and America, together with the European Community countries, take a firm stand on a genuine democratic settlement in Rhodesia in accordance with the wishes of the Rhodesian Africans living in the country, they will be surprised at the outside support they will get. \Morally President Carter 's human rights campaign leaves them no alternative.” **ditto page 14 C 1** -

Headline - *Smith 's wife joins the election battle* – with a resounding attack on the decision by the London government not to offer the financial security; protecting civil servants pensions of the white minority. In her eyes, with 15 years in the front line of politics, the Anglo/ US election plan did not fully abide by the one man one vote ideology when those voting would shun the Patriotic Front. - **D E** -

Sat 27

Headline - *Vorster key to Rhodesia* – who is seen by by London and Washington as the only person who has the influence with the prime minister from across his northern border to make the agreement work. Pretoria 's leading politician was credited, by the American in getting an

agreement, with moderate black politicians, on a policy of black majority rule.

Britain 's foreign secretary David Owen has flown to Lusaka to spill the beans on the Anglo/US plan to the leaders of the black African states and the two leaders of the Patriotic Front. - **Daily Telegraph page 1** -

Headline – ***Smith must keep troops says Thatcher*** – who up to this point in time and as leader of the Conservative Party has not had much to say on this issue. In the Opposition leaders view to the assumed disbanding of the white Rhodesian military force would further undermine the confidence of the white population. - **ditto B P** -

Headline – ***Mugabe says whites will be eliminated*** – was the main message spelt out in a statement from Robert Mugabe as the revived Anglo/US proposals were about to be unveiled at a meeting in Lusaka.

Headline – ***Smith to fight on*** – and has no intention of resigning or disbanding the countries security forces. The shuttle diplomacy begins; D Owen and the US ambassador Andrew Young fly into Lagos to hold talks with the Nigerian government. - **Daily Express** -

Sun 28

Headline – ***Owen over first hurdle with Rhodesia plan*** – as there was not an outright rejection, by J Nkomo, of the forward movement offered up by London and Washington at the Lusaka talks. The leaders of the PF have now said that more talks can take place with Owen and Andrew Young. Other hurdles, for Britain 's foreign secretary and ambassador Young come when they meet the heads of government of Zambia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Botswana then, within 24 hours the South African leader. - **Sunday Times Page 1** -

Headline – ***Owen kicks for touch to avoid tackling Smith*** – rugby metaphor; Welsh national,, as the foreign secretary is, Rugby Union players Gareth Edwards and J P R Williams and team members of a World X1 take on the Springbok. At the same Rhodesian prime minister Smith flies home to Salisbury as the foreign secretary arrives in Pretoria to update, and pressurise Vorster in moving the Anglo/US initiative forward. - **ditto page 2 C 8** -

Headline – ***Smith 's con trick on the whites*** – is based on the strategy after rejecting the Anglo/US deal offered win the general election by convincing the Rhodesian whites that they can reach a 'soft' agreement with moderate black politicians but then persuade the minority whites that majority rule is the only way forward.

There was an exchange of mortar fire, between Zambian and Rhodesian forces, across the border in the Victoria Falls region on 26/8. The fire fight, said to have been started by the Zambian troops slightly injured 3 Rhodesians during the 90 minuet engagement.

Five years of civil war has seen 3, 191 guerillas die at the hands of the Rhodesian military who them selves have lost 375 men during the same period. Civilian deaths numbered 1,951 all but 101 of them black. **Ditto page 6 C 7** -

Headline – ***Secret Owen plan may outlast Smith*** – as the foreign secretary expects the Rhodesian leader to reject the Anglo/USA initiative. All parties have plans in place for such an eventuality. The Patriotic Front expect to have 8, 000 would be fighters ready to escalate the struggle. The FLS will continue efforts to bring about a single command force for the Zanu/Zapu fighting force.

Still backing the rebel regime the South Africans, post general election, will act swiftly to broker talks with moderate black politicians Musorewa and Sithole and clan chiefs to work on a new constitution. The time line goes into 1978 when a black government under the UNAC leader lead to a one man one vote election. - **Observer page 2 C 1** -

Headline – *Even the backwoodsmen know the end is near* – as coffee farmer and secretary of the Chipanga Rural Council, declares a 'scorched earth policy' of his land when he leaves. This from one of many 180 farming families who live in the 1, 400 square mile area in the east of the country.

Pinpointing the problems is one who came from Britain in 1951 with £300 to his name. As of this time Essex born D Wade has a business worth £400, 000 notes that there is no 'middle class' blacks who have an eye for business. A majority led government must develop business policies that encourage the white Europeans to stay. -ditto page 6 C 1 -

Headline – *Pack your bags and come home Dr Owen* – as even with your youth and freshness have not lived up to expectations of other people who this writer expected to become foreign secretary. In his view both Ian Smith and Owen are 'slippery negotiators'. Those who are dying and will continue to die also deserve better. - **Lord George Brown; Sunday Express** -

Mon 29

Headline – *Support for Smith as Vorster stands firm* – behind the Rhodesian prime minister and allowing him to proceed any way he wishes even if this entails rejecting the Anglo/ US negotiations. - **Daily Mail page 1** -

Headline – *We 're seeking solution people judge us fair* – as foreign secretary Owen did not Rhodesian PM Smith had rejected then Anglo/American proposals outlined recently. This was why Pretoria 's input was vital even as Vorster talked about an internal settlement. - ditto page 4 C 4 -

Tues 30

Headline - *Now Owen mission looks for a miracle* – after little progress was made in discussions between himself and the South African premier Vorster. Still the stumbling block, as far as the white community are concerned, is use of a UN peace keeping force as power is transferred to a black nationalist led government.

In the eyes of the fighters, and their leaderships, their demands are that the prime minister goes and members of the white security/police forces are stood down to make way for elements of their former enemies to become part of a unified police/ military force. - **Daily Mail page 1 C 3** -

Wed 31

Headline – *Smith 's victory target* – a bullseye shot at World Pistol Shooting Championship, was seen by the academics/pollsters as a metaphor that the Rhodesian Front will win a two thirds majority of the seats up for grabs in the general election in which 93, 000 Rhodesians registered voters are enfranchised. A lesser number of seats will be deemed a political disaster for the prime minister and the country. **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Leader Comment **Rhodesia in the firing line** in what may be their “last chance to vote as the sovereign electorate of Rhodesia.” The future, over the next 12 months; white led government, moderate black government or, after much blood letting, a Marxist dictatorship. “They have few friends.”

The white Rhodesians now agree that white supremacy is only now a historical note of the past. Along with the friends that they do have the minority whites see the way forward under a moderate black led government led by Musoewa or Sithole and holding off the efforts of the dual led Patriotic Front. The future policy of Mr Smith should be “evolution rather than revolution.”

The main objections to the Anglo/US initiative is the expected participation of the very guerilla forces that have been at war over these last seven years with his government. “Mr Smith has made plain he will have non of it.” Conceding political power to groups that the black majority seem to care little for would be wrong

“Paving the way towards a stable multi racial democracy is one thing. But Dr Owen and Mr A Young have no right to invite him to negotiate the suicide of the whites.” - ditto page 10 C 1 -

SEPTEMBER 1977

Thurs 1

Headline – *Smith jets bombed us says Kaunda*- after another cross border exchange of fire between forces from Zambian and Rhodesian military. The bombs fell on the Zambian town of Feira. While not mentioning the air attack Salisbury noted that its forces had 'neutralised ' two positions on the Zambian side of the border. - D M page 1 -

Headline – *Landslide for Smith* – can be assured even as not all the votes have been counted.. His chief rivals, the Rhodesian Action Party and the National Unifying force are ready to concede defeat after loosing votes. - ditto page 4 C 1 -

Headline – *The shame of Rhodesia – by Mark, 10* who writes a letter, to his father back in Britain, as to the problems he encountered when he wanted to take his black friend swimming while living in Rhodesia. This was not allowed and they were both turned away.

The boy, son of an actor could not understand why this was happening to black people at the hands of the whites. The only people that cared for the black people, he said, were the Roman Catholic nuns and priests. “I sincerely hope that they will keep up their good work.” - **The Sun** -

Fri 2

Headline – *Will Smith say No again?* - after studying the new seven point plan presented to the again elected prime minister of Britain 's last African colony. Handed the package 24 hours ago by foreign secretary Owen His was cautious in his response to; a commissioner to take charge of security during the handover of power. United Nations troops to supervise this period of time. A six month transition, bedding in of a new Zimbabwe National Army. Transition period to be monitored by a United Nations official. Cash, \$1bn, fund to finance the countries development. Votes for 21 year old 's on polling day.

Missing from the document are details of the prime ministers future or what happens if members of the UN security council; Russia or China vote down the deal.

For commissioner, during the hand over time, one names id Field Marshall Lord Carver whose jobs will include sacking the generals of the existing Rhodesian army. Integrating the black nationalist armies into one National Army and using 'acceptable officers' from that same army in the new military. - **Daily Express** page 4 C 1 -

Headline – *Give him a chance* – do not, as the American and British negotiators have threatened to do “take such steps as seen appropriate to boot him out.” After all all the many attempts, by British governments to settle the issue of rule in Rhodesia, from 1965 to the present day, have failed. Give the man a chance.

“Everybody wants a settlement so the issue today is not whether to hand over power but how.” - J Ellinson; foreign editor **Daily Express** page 12 C 1 -

Sat 3

Headline – *I was gagged* - says the British foreign secretary as a request, from an aide, to explain his settlement proposals on national television was deemed “impossible to arrange.” - **The Sun** page 4 C 1 -

Headline – *They are crazy!* - are the milder of the words the Rhodesian prime minister used to describe the latest settlement plans unveiled by Dr Owen. Chief concerns, which were delineated as being 'insane and crazy' was the one man one vote for the majority population detail. In the PM's view this will in effect mean a black majority rule from the start.

Integration of the Rhodesian Army and elements of the black nationalist forces brought the response “Whom God wishes to destroy he first makes mad.”

The prime minister was not happy with the use of the word surrender and where white Rhodesians see terrorists and guerilla forces he see liberation armies. Personal attacks on the foreign secretary followed accusing him of malice over his declaration of UDI in 1965. - **Daily Express** page 4 C 1 -

Sun 4

Headline – *And now the cart before the horse plan* – where Smith took an aggressive stance against the outsiders and Owen and Young questioned was their journey really necessary? - **Sunday Times** page 6 C 2 -

Leader Comment, **Reassurance in Rhodesia** is mainly needed by the minority white population. Chief among their concerns are that “the present guerilla forces will form the major basis of the new Zimbabwe army.” The very manor of the actions of the foreign secretary, in his dealings with the African leaders, does not inspire whites as of this time.

For its faults the current deal betters Dr Kissinger 's in that the constitutional make up of the new Zimbabwe ; black majority rule, has been determined before any change in power has happened. Previously it was thought possible that “all parties could achieve the impossible”

The next major hurdle is to negotiate a cease fire then the instillation of British commissioner Lord Carver to run the country during the change over period “backed by the existing police and a special United nations force for a limited transitional period.”

There are two ways that the cease fire can be viewed by the minority whites; “a lifeline to be grasped which will lead to a moderate government” or to “a replica of the situation in the former Portuguese colonies.”

Thu Dr Owen 's next task is not “let himself be so inhibited by his concerns to carry the nationalists with him that he gives inadequate reassurance to the white Rhodesians and allow his own scheme to be aborted. - ditto page 16 C 1 -

Cartoon Mr Smith the ultimate trophy G Scarfe ditto

Mon 5

Headline – *Zambia blackout as guerillas mass for attack* – across the border by elements of Joshua Nkomo 's Zapu forces. Border towns, as well as the capital Lusaka, are now as British towns were during WW2, fearful of air strikes in the areas where the borders of Zimbabwe Zambia and Mozambique converge. Within the last seven days the Rhodesian Air force have already bombed the town of Feira in this region.

The Salisbury offices of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace has been raided by Special Branch offices days ahead of the church groups report of alleged torture of prisoners by the military is to be published in London.

Arrested were chairman J Deary, Brother A Dupuis organising secretary and executive member Fr Dieter Scholz. One nun, a press secretary Sister J McLaughlin was also detained. They are all to be charged under the Law and Order Maintenance Act. Thus the work of the Commission will now end as the offices will close.

Justice minister H Squires would not comment on the contents of the report ; “of torture at the hands of the government security forces continue to be the rule rather than the exception” the minister noted its “patently absurd allegations that the deaths of Rhodesian soldiers had been kept quiet.” - **D Mail** -

Tues 6

Headline – *We need you* – and “we need the white man 's skill. This is your land as much as it is mine” noted cleric Ndabaningi Sithole when he spoke to a number of farmers at a Salisbury country club.

The man who at one time spent 11 years in jail as a militant nationalist, and now has emerged as one of the majority population could emerge as part of a majority black led government could not work with prime minister Smith own plan. However the peace plan, sponsored by London and Washington, had the backing of the international community and the Organisation of African Unity was more acceptable.

There were questions asked; on disbandment of the Rhodesian security forces, one man one vote, denouncing terrorism all which were answered and the answers improved the image and enabled others to gain an understanding of his parties political views on the future of Rhodesia. - **D E** -

Thurs 8

Headline – *No retreat* – back across the border to Rhodesia seems the option for the British passport holder Nigel Dunne who only crossed into Zambia to attend his dads funeral. His job; a lance corporal in the Rhodesian Light Infantry.

From the time of his arrest, by the countries defence force, he has spent time on the run, given himself up 2 days in jail and 10 being interrogated. This captors were eager to find out about Rhodesian troop deployment, make up of the air force and the kind of weapons at their disposal.

The detained man believes that his usefulness to Rhodesia is over. There is a job offer; become an advisor to the Zambian army. This chimes badly with his ethos of hating Communism that's all

terrorism represents. - D E -

Mon 12

Headline – *Vorster faces crunch on oil* – as the foreign secretary points out to the South African premier that if there is civil war across his northern border once the nationalists have overthrown Smith's regime factions will drift across the River Limpopo and topple the Pretoria apartheid regime. Far better to encourage the prime minister to deal with what he is offered.

Concerns are also mounting about the oil imports that are being sent to Rhodesia through South African ports. This is a clear breach of international sanctions. - **Daily Mail** -

Tues 13

Headline *Now Vorster Offers to keep the peace* – by moving a 'peace keeping' force up north. The move comes as the two leaders met in Salisbury to agree a final statement on the Anglo/ American proposals. One of the great fears of the South African leader is the fear of the black nationalist war spreading south.

The bunch of moderate black Rhodesian politicians, Musorewa and Sithole are travelling in the same plane to Malawi where they will both meet with president Banda. - **Daily Express** -

Thurs 15

Headline – *The nun who backed terror is 'disowned'* – by the Catholic Institute for International Relations as the world wide clerical body deems that the words use, in the CCJP report on alleged military abuses of prisoners were her “personal views” according to a spokesman speaking in London.

Sister McLaughlin was jailed for “spreading alarm and despondency.”

Tues 20

Headline - *Rhodesia gets law pledge* – from J Chikerma the vice president of United African National Council who has just returned on the political scene after 14 years in exile. His 'deal breaker' would allow the whites to veto any of the legislation proposed that is deemed irresponsible.

More surprising is his call that the majority of the military forces would be integrated into the ZNA. The only exception would be the Selous Scouts. All the military personnel would need to show would be a commitment to 'peace and welfare.'

Sun 25

Headline – *Sithole supports Anglo US plans* – for a peaceful transition to black majority rule. They provide for the surrender of the white minority regime in favour of a British administrator who would organise elections.

“A rejection of these proposals means, in realistic terms, a decision to continue the war, whereas an acceptance means peace for our country,” he told a conference organised by his African National Council. - **Sunday Times** -

OCTOBER 1977

Sat 1

Headline – *Terror gang knife baby* – after ambushing her parents on the road near the Mozambique border. Then the guerillas went to the farmhouse, seized the baby, Natasha Glenny aged six months,, threw her from the veranda and then bayoneted her to death. Government statement; deems it a brutal murder and carried out by “our boys” a euphemism loved by certain elements in our society; the clerics.

At the same time time Fr P Slevin, from the same RC mission two nuns had been earlier deported, suffers the same fate. Thus increasing the tension between the Church and state as outlying missions usually shelter black nationalist forces.

Sun 2

Headline – *Secret Smith trip aimed to lure 'moderate' Nkomo into more talks* – with the assistance of the business based Africanist Tiny Lonhro. It was the British based businessman 's plane that flew the Rhodesian prime minister and 11 of his colleagues to the Zambian capital and then the residence of president Kaunda.

There then ensued seven hours of talks between two of Africa 's most bitter enemies as they battled to find a way to end the civil war that threatens to engulf the whole region of southern Africa. The talks were at the request of Smith and before Kaunda agreed he consulted the other leaders of the Front Line States.

Away from the two leaders talks, which not only had the Tiny Rowland input, the opinion of the South African president John Vorster was sought. Lusaka also was, at the end of the Smith Nkomo Kaunda talks, the venue for talks between the Zanu leader and his PF associate Robert Mugabe.

While battling, for a cease fire in the five year civil war, the prime minister seems to be putting more energy into working within the Anglo/American peace plan rather than the internal settlement with the 'cleric' moderate politicians.

What may be a blow to Smith 's plan to work with Joshua Nkomo is that Lucas Tiou, a Zapu party worker has been found guilty of encouraging 23 young Africans to to leave the country to receive guerilla training. - **Sunday Times** -

Headline – *Roland backs Nkomo to insure the future* – of his business interests in the underdeveloped region of the continent.. An examination how the boss of Lonhro, Africa 's largest multi national company, set about securing a peaceful solution to Rhodesia 's problems; how he used his money to advance the political career of J Nkomo; and how he managed to bring two of the disputes 'principals' for a secret meeting that serves it increase the Zapu leaders chances of becoming the first leader of an independent Zimbabwe. - **Insight; ditto page 9** -

Leader Comment, **The best chance yet for Rhodesia** has come now that the United Nations security council has voted to install a special envoy to deal with 'the Rhodesian problem.' With very few fetters on his way of working will not please the Soviet Union. “But the Russians did not get what they wanted and the UN representative will have a fair amount of independence.”

When the UN representative is in position the process of transition; the appointment of commissioner delegate, Lord Carver, can begin. In the long run the military appointee must “retain

the confidence of all sides, he must act more circumspectly” any visits to 'the principals' should be outside the field of conflict; Rhodesia.

“The important fact is that the best conceived and organised effort ever made to settle Rhodesia remains on course. At this political season, it deserves the support of all parties in this country, including the Conservatives, whose attitude so far has been neither clear nor helpful. - ditto page 16 C 1 -

Unused material;

Tyranny of trendy talking P Worsthorne Sunday Telegraph .

Last Rights of the Whites ditto Magazine page 30 to 40.

Mon 3

Headline – *Owen backs terrorists* – as by their actions, the launch of civil war activities, then the Rhodesian prime minister would never have contemplated moving towards majority rule for the black majority. The foreign secretaries remarks were made to Fabian Society conference in London.

The upshot of this, in the eyes of the Conservative Party, is that the Labour government is trying to end, once and for all its dispute with its last colony in Africa. - **Daily Express** -

Fri 7

Headline - *Owen forecasts early Rhodesia peace talks* – or even a free Zimbabwe by 1978. The revelation, hope, was made at the Labour Party annual conference where he pledged the government would not hold back in the fight for change in Rhodesia.

These promises! were made during a debate at conference, on the left wing executive 's motion which called for “material and moral support” for Rhodesia 's freedom fighters. No matter how much South Africa was acting in a support role for the illegal regime there was no help from delegates. They voted down a call for international sanctions against Pretoria. - **Daily Express** -

Fri 14

Headline – *Smith 'killer fury'* – a claim made by a student that made a protest at the Conservative Party annual conference. As the conference chairman, D Sells, tried to maintain order as law student Edward Rickman aged 21, moved toward the podium and posed the question How would you feel if Britain was being ruled by a tiny alien clique?

Noting that the Smith regime was 'in rebellion against the Crown, the Oxford University student, a member of the Federation of Conservative Students was heckled even louder when he said ”Don 't dismiss the liberation forces out of hand.

Earlier at conference the Marquis of Salisbury questioned the morals of the government when it seemed to believe it could deal with people who had been given a “charter of unlimited slaughter” by the Labour Party. **Daily Express** page 7 C 3 -

Mon 17

Headline – *Atrocities row splits Church* – questions over the deaths of a number of Africa tribal

people have been raised in a report compiled by the catholic Commission for Justice and Peace. When unveiling the report, in front of a congregation of white Catholics the CJP chair, J Deary noted that the government was offered the chance to prosecute us; they have not. The document has, however been banned.

It would seem, by the reaction of the whites reaction, that the report was centred on the actions of the notorious Selous Scouts who have a fearful reputation within the African community for ruthlessness. One white person was hear to shout "I am ashamed to be Catholic. You should ought to be hanged."

Security forces have revealed that six Africans were killed in the last 48 hours at the hands of black nationalist forces. - **D E** -

Sun 23

Headline – *The six month dictator* – In the week that Lord Carver sets off for Africa endeavouring to arrange ceasefire terms between the Rhodesian government and African nationalist guerillas in the five year civil war in Rhodesia.

His mission is the first stage of the Anglo American plan for the future of that country. Here the former career soldier explains the hazards of the job. - **Spectrum; Sunday Times** -

Sat 29

Headline – *I could be boss says Sithole* – his thoughts after the clerics latest round of London talks with foreign secretary David Owen. His assumption was made on a belief that Africans and guerillas accepted the London/Washington agreement.

Explaining away the known hostility of Mugabe and Nkomo to such an agreement he noted that each factions fighters were not interested in the their politics they were just providing the means for another black led government on the continent. - **Daily Express** -

Sun 30

Headline – *Gloom as Carver leaves for Africa* – firstly to Dar es Salaam where he will meet up with the United Nations special representative to Rhodesia; General P Chand. When arriving in Salisbury there to greet him will be a mood of pessimism brought about by the rigidity of the PF leaders attitudes to the Anglo/US initiative.

At the same time the two will also face the scepticism of the prime minister and his Rhodesian Front politicians and its chances – even the South African politicians have doubts – about its success. - **Sunday Times** -

Mon 31

Headline – *Rhodesia envoy faces snags* – as the leaders of the Patriotic Front confront Lord Carver with the question what guarantee the nationalist forces have that prime minister Smith will adhere to the Anglo/US agreement. Specifically the constitutional and political arrangements.? - **D E** -

NOVEMBER 1977

Tues 1

Headline – *A mission impossible* – is the view of the mission of Lord Carver, deemed an unofficial visitor with no powers at all by the Smith regime. On arrival, from Tanzania, there was no official comment by the regime.

More school aged students have been taken from Gwanda region of the country by guerilla forces. It is thought they are making for the countries border with Botswana. The 50, and their abductors are being pursued by members of the military. - D E -

Thurs 3

Headline – *Salvo of ripe fruit greets Carver on mission impossible* – and the Rhodesian Air force show defiance or greeting with a fly past as the imposed commissioner arrives. Away from the capital, near the border with Zambia the black nationalist 'welcome' was one of destruction. The hotel, alongside the Victoria Falls, VF Hotel was badly damaged by a heat seeking missile fired from across the border. There were no injuries.

Headline – *Castro 's civvy 'invaders'* – are being dispatched, as part of Cuba 's International Detachment to Angola where 2, 000 personnel; well versed in Marxism, will teach the nations students. Already domiciled on the continent are 400 Cubans resident in Mozambique. By the end of 1977 as many as 5, 500 Cuban national, working as teachers, doctors and other civilian experts resident on the continent. - D E -

Fri 4

Headline – *Carver the king of no comment* – after a three hour meeting with Rhodesian Front government ministers. Under discussion was only non military issues of the transition. It has not been said whether he will have face to face talks with prime minister Smith. Earlier there had been talks with the regimes military force leadership. These talks were described a 'good' although the majority of the commissioners replies involved the words “No comment ... I have nothing to say.” Reporting on progress brought such responses 'none' or 'a little.' - D E -

Sat 5

Headline – *Carver 's talk of progress 'a dam lie' says Smith* – as the British government seem to want a hand over of power before a new constitution is agreed. In the speech, given in Bulawayo, the prime minister noted that political decision making came first.

At the same time Carver was in talks with the moderate black politicians Musorewa and Sithole, a gathering that grew a crowd of 3, 000 singing nationalist anthems as heard through the window of the conference room. At the outcome of this meeting Lord Carver was 'much encouraged by the wide areas of agreement.

The cleric/ politicians however were concerned at the amount of attention the commissioner was taking of the views of Nkomo and Mugabe. Even they were in tune with the thoughts of Ian Smith when they both said that a new constitution must come before a ceasefire.

The 3, 000 strong tuneful demonstration, outside Mirimba House, the former home of the British ambassador, was mainly made up by female supporters of Musorewa and Sithole. Their placards

noted that if an election was held now, before the nationalist forces of the PF were able to interfere the bishop would win. - **Daily Mail** -

Sun 6

Headline – *Carver to see Smith today* – in a meeting, taking place in Mirimba House which had been delayed 24 hours. The Rhodesian prime minister, still angered by the assumed position of the British that talks with Rhodesian ministers are going well is secretly hoping for a complete breakdown of the Anglo/US initiative because of hostility from the moderate black politicians.. Thus leaving the Smith regime blameless.

Still the sticking point for the whites, as well as the black nationalists, is the timing of any cease fire. Now it can be said that in the minds of the opposing elements in the struggle for independence political decisions should come first before military ones.

Once the talks end Lord Carver and his associates; General Prem Chand; UN special envoy will fly to the capital of Botswana. Once settled in Gaborone there will be talks with president Seretse Khama. - **OBS** -

Tues 8

Headline – *Closing the gap!* - between moderate black politicians and the white minority does seem possible Ian Smith has let it be known. More than anything the prime minister wants to return to the life of a farmer is the impression that many Rhodesian Front MP 's have of their leader. “However unpalatable black majority rule is this has to be accepted” a close confidant was told.

With the British well ready to give the politics a rest “let the whites stew in the war a little longer” PM Smith will now concentrate on talks with Sithole Musorewa and the tribal chiefs led by Chief Chirau. Thus isolating further the Marxist led Patriotic Front and their military forces.

In the final analysis the war torn country leadership believes the reason the country is failing, to find its own solution, is that outsiders are trying to direct us towards a solution that they think is best for us. This is not the way. “Let us solve our own problems.” **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Thurs 10

Headline – *Stumbling block to peace in Rhodesia* – is, according to Britain 's foreign secretary David Owen, the inability of prime minister Smith to decide which of the black nationalist leaders he should deal with. He still favoured the Anglo/US plan to resolve the leadership impasse and rejected the fears of his Conservative 'shadow' J Davis MP that Labour planned to hand over power to the black nationalists. - **Daily Express page 4 C 1** -

Headline – *Owen gambles on Rhodesia summit* – on the island of Malta to which the Rhodesian prime minister and black nationalist leaders will be invited. Their aim; to hammer out the details of a countrywide ceasefire. This form of negotiation; face to face round the same table is a gamble. Once again the trade off of laying down weapons without constitutional issues being solved are the concerns of the African delegations. - **Daily Mail** -

Sat 12

Headline – *The big Rhodesian gamble* – is a plan, according to the Conservative MP Julian Amery, for the majority of the existing Rhodesian forces to be abolished during the run up to majority rule.

The new countries forces would then be formed from members of the forces of the Patriotic Front. The former colonial secretary, who was speaking in a Commons debate on extending sanctions against Rhodesia. Defending the government foreign secretaries minister of state, T Rowlands, noted "There are no final definite proposals."

At the end of the debate the House voted 77 :26 to extend sanctions for a further twelve months as the Conservative members were told by John Davis, shadow foreign secretary, not to oppose their renewal. - **Daily Express** page 1 -

Sun 13

Headline – ***Kaunda 's secret plan for Rhodesian coalition*** – has been finely tuned over the last six weeks with meetings, throughout southern Africa over the last six weeks; the time of the release of details of the Anglo/US initiative.

While the Zambian plan works along the line of London/Washington's ideas for the formation of a Zimbabwe other elements differ considerably. Alternative idea, because of the risk of tribal elements among the majority population in the political and military fields, firstly a government of national unity should run the country for three years. In this time, it is hoped, tribal animosities will have dissipated and free and fair elections can be held.

In the view of the Zambian president; internal political support for any of the 'moderate' black politicians has been built up to more than it is. Bishop Musorewa is seen as inept and would be a bad leader of Zimbabwe. Lacking support within the country, and hated by the back nationalist forces, Sithole fares little better.

Little credence to the Kaunda plan what with the plan meaning that members of the white Rhodesian Front and the black nationalist forces, who have been engaged in a civil war for years, would have to work amicably for three years is seen as a non starter. - **Sunday Times** -

Headline – ***Carter ready to press on*** – and talk over cease fire issues to the likes of Mugabe and Nkomo even as; if Ian Smith travels to Malta for more talks even though they both reject elements of the London/Washington proposals.

While foreign secretary Owen holds dear to the main clauses of the deal, end the fighting then majority rule, the report on talks from Lord Carver 's time in Africa he will clarify previously vague concepts within the joint document. He will explicitly describe Britain 's wording of the constitution which gives the Commissioner power during the hand over period to majority rule.

Also laid out will be wording that protects the interests of the white minority are fully protected in the countries new parliament and the objections of the Patriotic Front who say that Lord Carver has too much power during the transition period. - **ditto** -

Headline – ***New blow to Rhodesia peace talks*** – that were supposed to take place in Malta as many of the 'principals' have decided not to attend. The RF will now be represented only by 'second division' negotiators; non military people. Members of the Patriotic Front declined the invite.

The role of Lord carver, as chief negotiator has come into question. Some believe he is the wrong man for the job. A military man all his working life these present circumstances need a person of a more complex nature and one who understands the politics of Rhodesia.

All along the time the British commissioner was in Salisbury he was treated, by the Rhodesian

diplomats with disdain and kept hanging around waiting for phone calls that never came. - ditto -

Mon 14

Leader Comment, **Security comes first** through the implementation of the Anglo US peace accord. It is understandable the Mr Smith does not want to hand over power to the Patriotic Front. "It cannot be done and the whole effort should be dropped. - **Daily Express** -

Tues 15

Headline – ***Rhodesia denies losing jets*** – after Mozambique radio announced that its forces had shot down two jet fighters and a helicopter belonging to the Rhodesian air force. The spokesman said the losses occurred over the town of Mapi.

Meanwhile in Zambia Joshua Nkomo said the PF had lost faith with the Anglo/ US solution offered and would now press for direct action that will see the united forces of the united guerilla army for a direct take over of power, without elections, in Rhodesia. In London Lord Carver and foreign secretary Owen talked to American diplomats over Smith's refusal to attend talks in Malta. **Yorkshire Post**

Fri 18

Headline – ***Is this really why Wilson resigned*** – the links the British government had with the British oil companies; Shell and BP that continues to supply oil to the rebel administration after 1965.

So the claim, by the then prime minister Harold Wilson, that the end of UDI would come within "weeks rather than months" was not substantive. At the same time Ian Smith, in talks with the prime minister was told that the use of British troops to end UDI was not an option. Thus 12 years of illegality ensued.

The writer believes that these details became known to James Callaghan, an older man, and was used by him to force the resignation of his Labour Party colleague one year ahead of national celebrations; the monarch's silver jubilee. - **Chapman Pincher; Daily Express** -

Sun 20

Headline – ***Guns for girls as Rhodesian police recruits train for action*** – as 18 – 22 year old 's practice two handle pistol firing and the art of self defence; judo and karate. - **Sunday Telegraph** -

Mon 21

Headline – ***Smith in talks with bishop*** – Muzorewa on settlement talks says informed sources. Over the last 48 hours rumours of a 'new initiative' by Mr Smith are thought to mean decisive steps have been taken towards the long awaited internal settlement.

Thurs 24

Headline – ***Rhodesian planes in big frontier assault*** – across the Mozambique border according to London monitored Maputo radio. The planes targets were twelve miles from the town of Chimoio in the central province of Manica. Mozambican authorities noted that the air attack, which was rebuffed, came at the same time as Smith's forces massed on the countries border. - **YEP page 1** -

Fri 25

Headline – *Smiths 's big gamble* – is the offer of one man one vote to the black majority. In return the nationalists; Musorewa, Sithole and Chief Jerimiah Chirau, he will begin talks with in the next seven days have agreed to talks that will “other and possible better ways” of maintaining standards that the whites have hold dear.

These plans can all be thwarted id Nkomo/Mugabe refuse to become involved, the issues involving the standing army are unresolved or the interests of the whites are not satisfied. **Daily Express page 4 C 1 -**

Headline – *Shopping trip to terror* – across the countries southern border in the business capital of South Africa. The attack, which injured 16 people, happened in the cities Carlton Centre shopping mall. A previous attack, at the height of the 1976 Soweto riots caused damage. In 12/'76 the centres hotel restaurant was bombed and Isac Seko aged 21 was jailed for 12 years. - **Daily Mail page 4 C 1 -**

Headline – *Ordeal of a child whose shirt was treated with acid* – was suffered by he daughter of Donald Woods a 'banned person' in the apartheid state. The T shirt, with a picture of the BCM 's founder Steve Biko who died at the hands of the police, was found to be impregnated with acid. The girl 's skin came out in a rash. Doctors however indicated that no permanent damage had been done. **ditto C 5**

Sat 26

Headline – *Smith plan wins over bishop* – Musorewa as declaration of support will come within 24 hours. This means all the man 'principals' Sithole and Chief Chirau are behind the internal settlement plan.

Speaking of their decisions “the fight for majority rule has been won. I am prepared to give due consideration to the anxieties of minority groups in exchange for majority rule.” Chief Chirau. Speaking on behalf of his boss the Reverend Sithole ; “We welcome Mr Smith 's commitment to adult suffrage.” Dr E Gabellahn.

For the prime ministers plan to proceed, a plan that Joshua Nkomo of the PF has dismissed as “dammed rubbish” the Rhodesian Front leader needs the Bishops blessing otherwise it will be seen that only 20% of the black majority can be said to be behind this internal settlement, - **unattributed -**

Headline – *US. doubts over Smith vote plan* – were expressed by United Nations ambassador Andrew Young. He noted that such a settlement, one that does not involve the main players; as was the case in Vietnam when the Vietcong were excluded from the talks, is unlikely to end the fighting.

The British foreign secretary was more cautious “wait and see” was his response. There might be a chance if the internal settlement proposals were based on the Anglo/US accord. The African National Council, the political wing of the PF, issued a statement that rejected the Smith plan calling it 'political gimmickry and companionship at its worst. - **unattributed -**

Cartoon Temporary sticking plaster; Smith allows an internal settlement vote – **Sunday Times -**

Mon 28

Headline – *Rhodesian air strike 'kills 400'* – black nationalist fighters after troops crossed the border and penetrated at least 80 miles into Mozambique after six days fighting.

Tues 29

Headline – *1, 200 dead as Smith 's men crush guerillas* – after at least six days inside Mozambique by troops loyal to the Salisbury authorities. Describing the logistics of the mission, in which only one white soldier died and one was injured, the Combined Operations minister R Hawkins said that Rhodesia was acting in self defence.

With the knowledge gained, from the deployment of special forces guerilla camps, fuel dumps and stores belonging to the Zanla forces were identified. Across the border swept a column of 90 trucks each carrying 20 troops sped across the border into Mozambique from Untali. As recently as 27/11 struck a guerilla base at Tumbue 135 miles north of the Caborabassa Dam in Tete province.

Responding to the attacks the Mozambique authorities noted that as many as 80 national were killed during the military action. Speaking of the nationalist fighters who died the communiqué were “men fighting to restore civilisation in Rhodesia.” - **Yorkshire Post page 1 C 1** -

Headline – *'Quiet' Owen angers nationalists* – as he said nothing about the Rhodesian military incursion across the Mozambique border. However he was vocal in his condemnation of a 6/77 cross border incident when troops invaded, and held the Mozambique town of Mapi for days. Reaction to the recent campaign, from Joshua Nkomo, was instant; “we will fight Smith and defeat him. There is no other alternative now.” - **Daily Mail Page 4 C 6** -

DECEMBER 1977

Thurs 1

Headline – *Bishop back from the brink* – of pulling out of the already agreed internal agreement despite Musorewa 's previous assurances of compliance. The reason for the clerics faltering was the military cross border raids into Mozambique.

Since that time, when the Rhodesian prime minister was accused to have had 'blood on his hands' the UNAC leader has settled on the option that those killed across the border were only refugees. This statement chimes with the defence ministers explanation that the countries forces were only acting in self defence and to stop guerilla incursions into Rhodesia..

The one fatality that the Salisbury administration admitted was names as P Haigh aged 29 from Wetherby N Yorkshire England who was an air force pilot. - **Yorkshire Post** - ?

Fri 2

Headline – *Smith 's talks to go ahead without Musorewa 's men* – on this the first day of supposed negotiations. Those delegations confirming their attendance; the African National Council led by Ndabaningi Sithole along with members of the Zimbabwe United Peoples Organisation [ZUPO].

In an interview prime minister Ian Smith further backs the statement from his minister of defence concerning the cross border raids into Mozambique. Rhodesian troops had attacked well known guerilla bases and there was no mention, by the authorities in Maputo that refugee camps had been targeted. - **GDN page 8 C 1** -

Headline - *Smith sets out to woo Nkomo* – with a request that he returns to take part in forming the new black majority government. Gone has any stipulation that one half of the Patriotic Front must denounce terrorism and the use of force. This in the message Josiah Chinamano, president of the

African National Congress Zimbabwe will deliver on his arrival in London.

The first day of the Salisbury talks between the prime minister and the moderate black politicians did not take place. There will be seven days of mourning for the dead in Mozambique. **Daily Express**

Sat 3

Headline – *Rhodesia probes army 's 'atrocities on civilians'* – allegedly occurred as a photo journalist R Baughman accompanied troops led by Major M Williams travelling on horse back through the bush seeking out black nationalist guerillas in 9/'77.

It was noted that persons of interest; blacks were treated harshly by members of the twenty five strong unit of the Grey Scout unit. Such punishments, in the search for locations plans and numbers of fighters were brutal. Village huts were burned down, looting of possessions and attacks on the family of a local politician occurred. - **Daily Mail page 9 C 1** -

Mon 12

Headline – *Smith on brink of deal* – which, is expected to be finalised within the next 72 hours, will bring an end to white minority rule in the last British colony in Africa.

With a final settlement all the population, over 18 years, will have a chance to elect the government of their choice. The new parliament, will have two thirds of the seats for the majority ethnic group. The rest reserved for the whites.

As to the sticking points, noted in the rejected Anglo/US initiative; the security structure, and the civil service will stay as is it is at present. Introduction of a Bill of Rights will guarantee an independent judicial system. Constitutional changes will require will only pass into law if there is a majority +1 vote. Thus law changes can never be black versus white in nature. - **Daily Express** -

Tues 13

Headline – *Yes, black power is on the way at last ...* - as the writer answers eight questions; safeguarding for whites to live as themselves wish, accept the coming massive changes. His own about face over the timing of black majority rule. Hopes of ending the war. Peace without the Patriotic Front. Level of optimism for the future. Personal future life .

“And while I do not want to jump to conclusions – that it is all over bar the shouting – I would say that so far so good, and lets have a little faith and confidence, and maybe it will work. - **Ian Smith Rhodesian Prime Minister; Daily Express** -

Fri 30

Headline – *Rhodesia talks bogged down* - after ten sessions and 20 hours of talks the three 'principals' involved in the settlement talks have not come to a consensus over the number of reserved white seats in the soon to be multi ethnic parliament of the new Zimbabwe. The talks have been suspended for five days as each delegation ponders a way forward.

Envisaged is a ninety nine seat parliament with the prime minister saying that the whites should hold 33 seats and be elected by the whites only. Musorewa sees this number of whites as dangerous. The cleric would much prefer the common voting roll and if blacks vote for their 'betters' so be it.