

## ARMED EXILES

BY LAURA PARKS

The world's diplomatic community and especially the Foreign Offices of the major powers are busy preparing lengthy position papers and accompanying publicity to justify their respective positions on events in Zaire.

There is general agreement that the "invaders" of Shaba province, in southern Zaire, are former Katangese militiamen who fled their native land following the collapse of their secessionist war against the central government. They fled over the borders of Portuguese Angola and waited for the winds of fortune to change. Meanwhile, their Katangese homeland was renamed Shaba by the victors.

The essential question is whether or not the returning armed exiles constitute an armed "foreign" invasion, or the continuation of a previously unresolved internal domestic matter.

This question was present from the moment the Katangese militiamen crossed back into Shaba province five weeks ago. However, it remained in the background because important military observers, in this case the Belgians, with some support from the French believed that General Mobutu's troops would easily defeat the Katangese.

Other observers, more familiar with Zaire's internal problems, concluded, that while the army and its equipment looked good on paper, its fighting morale was extremely low. Five weeks after the "invasion" the fact is that Mobutu's army failed to halt the Katangese drive. The Katangese militiamen scored impressive victories in the heart of the copper rich provinces of the country and are in control of at least one third of the province.

At this point, General Mobutu's advisors at Kinshasa, supported by the advice of various friendly governments and their international legal experts, concluded that the "invasion" would have to be regarded as the continuation of previous unresolved internal conflicts. But the matter could be given the coloration of a "foreign invasion" if evidence could be found indicating the presence of foreign supporting troops fighting along side the Katangese.

The stage was now set to appeal for outside help to combat the "foreign invasion". To make the case convincing, Zaire broke off diplomatic relations with Cuba citing documents found on a Cuban diplomat proving that Cubans were fighting with Katangese. Various Zaire army

commanders also claimed that their troops had found the bodies of Russians, Cubans and Portuguese.

Not everyone believed the story. On April 5, the US declared that it lacked evidence of Cuban participation in the invasion of Zaire. From this point on the ground was cleared for some real action. The US ostensibly cleared its name with the Cubans by declaring their disbelief in Cuban involvement with the invaders, thus preserving a relationship that might lead to improved US Cuban ties in the near future.

At the same time, intense behind the scenes activity was under way, initiated by the French, encouraged by the Belgians and given the nod of approval by the British and the US to do something to shore up Mobutu's army. Direct involvement of either Britain or the US was to be avoided for this was regarded as a possible threat to the pro-black majority rule stance the two nations have adopted toward Southern Africa. This too might give aid and comfort to Vorster of South Africa and Smith of Rhodesia, in their fight to preserve white minority rule.

The solution arrived at was to have the Morroccans send 3,000 men into Zaire airlifted in French military planes, piloted by French airforce officers. The Morroccans were to be flown directly to the battle zone. The pretext of this action was to aid the Zairians against "outsiders." Morrocco has promised additional help if the Katangese advance is not halted.

Some African strategists believe that the Katangese victory over the Mobutu armies would eventually result in the establishment of a leftist government in Zaire with control over the mineral wealth, now basically in European hands passing to unsympathetic Katangese leaders who would probably exact steep payments and royalties from the economically hard pressed European copper users.

Still other African watchers maintain that the Katangese militia, while not able to defeat Mobutu's forces will be successful enough to negotiate a settlement, it is believed, would establish their near supremacy in the nation's affairs. Part of the negotiated settlement, it is believed, would include greater Zairian control over the nation's mineral resources and increased revenues from their sales without the immediate threat of copper prices rising as fast as inflation in Europe.

# Black Jobless May Drop 9% In Year, Says Labor Asst. Sec. Green

## LIBERATION

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where they are, let alone where they are going. Anyone who is trying to stop us from understanding Africa is trying to stop us from understanding our proper history, is trying to stop us from finding our correct solution," Carmichael said.

Describing the make-up and nature of the AAPP, Carmichael said blacks must have "a big monolithic black fist, that moves like one, acts like one, reacts like one." Carmichael's speech indi-

cated a strong push to gain support for African liberation struggles throughout the black community, including the Christian Church. Explaining that the church can be used for revolutionary and reactionary purposes, Carmichael urged members of the party to go into the church and make it a revolutionary force. "We must make Christianity real," he said.

There were three marches and rallies held in D. C. on Saturday for African Liberation. Much of the press were critical of the singular efforts, including WHUR radio station which Carmichael called reactionary. He said the differences among the three were ideological. One march of about 600 people came within one block of Malcolm X Park. Predominantly white, the marchers carried signs, "U.S. Corporations Out of Africa," "Yankee Imperialism Must

Go". Carmichael said that several had criticized him for not denouncing the Soviet Union as an exploiter of Africa. Carmichael said that the three superpowers had their own interests in Africa. Staunchly against Zionism, Carmichael said U. N. Ambassador Andrew Young's support of Israel and opposition to the white rule in South Africa were contradictory. Carmichael said Israel, too, was "an illegal government of white settlers and for Young to denounce South Africa and support Israel was a contradiction."

Several speakers brought expressions of support for liberation struggles in Africa, the Caribbean and the U. S. among them were David Sibeko, representing the Pan African Congress of Anzania; Mohammed Shadid, representing the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO); a representative of the Zim-

babwe National Union; Paul Laracue representing Haitian revolutionaries; and Clyde Bellecourt, of the National Council of the American Indian Movement.

Damu Smith, spokesperson for the National Wilmington 10 Defense Committee read a letter from Rev. Ben Chavis addressed to the event. The second letter from a prison cell in McCain, N. C. to the annual event, Chavis pledged support for the African liberation struggles, with an impassioned plea for support so that his next address to African Liberation Day celebrations would not be from prison.

Music for the event was provided by the Trinidad Steel Band and Sun RA. Sun RA, a jazz musician who rose to prominence in the 1960's, produced vibrant rhythms that held the rally's attention for forty minutes during the hottest part of the afternoon.

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Black unemployment, which now stands at about twelve per cent, is expected to drop to around nine per cent within a year, said recently appointed Assistant Secretary of Labor Ernest G. Green in an address before the Capitol Press Club Wednesday evening at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Joining him at the session was Ms. Alexis M. Herman, Director of the Women's Bureau. Both Green and Herman are black. He is one of the Little Rock Nine whom the Army escorted in to Central High in the Arkansas city twenty years ago. A year later he graduated from the school as the first black and went on to Michigan State University where he received BA and MA degrees.

The speakers were introduced by Mrs. Marian H. Hull, acting director of research of the Booker T. Washington Foundation Cable Communications Center and president-elect of the Capitol Press Club.

In his address, Green indicated that more political pressure is being applied to the Carter Administration to hold inflation in check than is being brought forth to reduce unemployment. Although \$20 billion has been appropriated to fight joblessness, he expects overall unemploy-

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# THE POWER & THE GLORY

By Dr. G.E.A. Toote

## A CHILD'S FEAR

**NOT IMAGINATION**—Children's fears are not simply imagination, a reason, even though not understood by them exists. A recent survey indicates that most grammar school children are happy with family life but fearful of the world at large.

Two-thirds of the children indicated fear that "somebody bad" might get into their house; a quarter were fearful that when outside someone might harm them. Children from broken homes were more likely to fight at school.

**BLACK CHILD**—Black children seemed to be happier or less unhappy. Although eight per cent of white youngsters said they felt lonely "a lot," only sixteen per cent of black children had such feelings.

**FAMILY VIOLENCE**—A common occurrence today is violence. Recently it was reported that 1.7 million children are kicked, punched or bitten by parents; and that 46,000 parents a year attack children with knives or guns.

Violent episodes occur with 7.5 million couples a year, during which physical injury is attempted; and 2.3 million children wield a knife or gun against a brother or sister.

**SOCIAL CONSEQUENCE**—The persistent high unemployment rate among blacks, teenagers, and women has created a two-tier society, composed of the "haves" and the "have nots."

Most black children are in families where there is unemployment. They hear the comments of adults that racism is still healthy in America. Their experiences are daily wrought with the consequences of cultural poverty.

**BLACK GIRLS**—Young black girls realize that women in the labor market remain in segregated occupations that pay less and provide less opportunity for job upward mobility.

They realize that women generally receive 63 per cent of a man's salary for comparable work; and that their future offers the probability that they will have to work the majority of life, even after becoming a mother.

But what is awesome is the fear that her children may be functional illiterates.

**FUNCTIONAL ILLITERATES**—Forty-two per cent of blacks are classified as functionally illiterate. Functional literacy is the ability to read simple materials such as street signs, store coupons, telephone directories and driver's license tests.

The black percentage of functional illiteracy is double that of whites. This proves the failure of the last decade to provide equal educational opportunities. It also underscores the fact that equality of results is not concomitant with equal opportunity.

**DREADED RESULTS**—There is a trauma in American life style, much of it caused by the insensitivity of government to redress the bias of contingencies that negatively impact upon society.

The fact that black children appear happier in their homes belies the explosive atmosphere pervading the black community.

Deep hostility well camouflaged is often ignored or not recognized. Our black children must believe that there can be a better tomorrow. This is our task and a responsibility of government. If we fail, we shall dread the results.

## AMEN

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### AT DURHAM COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT

Major Donald L. Miller, Vice President for Personnel Management at Columbia University, delivers a stirring and inspirational message to the approximately 150 graduating seniors and the packed gymnasium audience in attendance here Saturday. (Photo by Ken Edmonds)



### BY THE WAY...

by Joe Black

Have you ever taken the time to ask yourself, "Who am I listening to, and what am I hoping to hear?"

Too often, we want to hear someone blame all of our troubles and woes on the other guy. We just don't want to face the reality that some of our problems in the Black community are the result of our being too concerned with perpetuating stereotypes.

It's time for us to soft-pedal symbolism, and start dealing with the socio-economic problems confronting the Black community.

Sure, 'fros, beards, clenched fists, and shouting Black power may be cool. But they don't overcome a life of impoverishment.

Our lifestyles won't improve until we reassess our priorities. And improve the economy of Black America.

We must concern ourselves with staying in school, conjugating verbs and improving our vocabularies. We must learn how to apply for jobs and get rid of the notion that we can make a place for ourselves simply by acting cool and dressing up like peacocks.

Think a minute. How far has "Black language" gotten you, applying for a job or credit, when you can't make yourself understood. Are you part of the high Black high school dropout rate? How far have you gotten when you've applied for a job without a diploma?

Are you on time for interviews? Or do you just ease in, overdressed? Superficial finery doesn't make it at the employment agency. Do you know what kind of a job you want, or what you're qualified to do? Employment agencies don't have a category called "anything".

Sure, we're superfly style setters. But are we really benefiting ourselves? And if you think you're benefiting Black businesses, just look at the labels sewn inside. They are not manufactured by Black companies.

Isn't it time we start improving our lifestyles to make us feel proud like a peacock instead of just looking like a peacock?

*Joe Black*  
Vice President  
The Greyhound Corporation



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