

AFRICA NEWS

A Weekly Digest of African Affairs

RHODESIA GUERRILLAS SAY MORAL IS HIGH

[AN] When white Rhodesian leader Ian Smith was asked about the war during an interview last month on London Weekend Television, he replied: "I don't think we can honestly say we are winning now, but I believe we can hold the position."

Recognition that African guerrillas opposed to the current regime are growing more powerful all the time is apparently now widespread among the countries whites. Smith said the answer is to be found in a political, not military, solution.

Not surprisingly, the mood on the other side is more hopeful. Rex Nkhomo, commander of the ZANU wing of the Patriotic Front told Mozambique's Tempo magazine: "The morale of the combatants in the liberated zone is very high. They have no doubts but that they will take power soon."

Apparently fearing just such a take-over, a government minister and long-time white political leader. Rollo Hayman, recently resigned and called on Smith to place the country under British administration again.

The Patriotic Front's strategy, Nkhomo says, is to establish "liberated zones" in the northwest region, where the guerrilla presence has been limited.

"Then we will go to the basic strategy of this offensive: isolation of the enemy in the cities by destruction of all means of communication," Nkhomo says.

ALGERIA BOUMEDIENE-A CHAMPION OF THE THIRD WORLD

[AN] He came to power on a wave of anti-Communist sentiment in the army, and ended by being called a "self-confessed Marxist" in Newsweek.

When his coup d'etat succeeded, foreigners who had been attracted by the socialist philosophy of the man he overthrew began leaving the country in droves; but his capital became a haven for leftist exiles from around the world.

One of his early speeches so angered women that officials had to bar the door to prevent a walkout; by his death he had staked the prestige of his government on backing Sahran guerrillas, for whom the liberation of women is a principal aim.

He was Houari Boumediene, leader of Algeria since he overthrew Ahmed Ben Bella in 1965, until his death on December 27. After thirteen years as president of a strategic and resource rich nation, his life's basic details are still in dispute.

According to Marina and David Ottoway, Boumediene was born Mohamed Ben Brahim Boukharouba on August 23, 1932, in eastern Algeria. In 1952 he fled the country to avoid service in the French army, and studied at Cairo's Al-Azhar University. When the Algerian revolution began he joined the fight against French rule, rising by February 1960 to leader of the National Liberation Army. In 1964 he was elected to the Political Bureau of the FLN, Algeria's only political party.

The coup which ousted Ben Bella was mounted with the support of conservative military and religious leaders who opposed the prominence of foreign advisers in Algeria's policy-making structure. Boumediene's highly nationalistic regime began with deep suspicion of all outsiders.

But in retrospect there appears much truth to Boumediene's claim that his disagreements with Ben Bella were less ideological than functional. While Ben Bella talked of worker and peasant management, and Boumediene favored what he saw as the more orderly method of state control, in practice their policies dif-

ferred little. Both wanted an independent Algeria, strong enough to resist economic dominance by

any foreign power, and developed enough to improve the lot of its desperately poor people. Both

had only limited success. Despite vast natural resources, the gap between rich and poor is widening.

Algeria today relies economically on the West and depends on the east to supply its military. Boumediene's critics charge that he suppressed dissent and managed state enterprises poorly. And yet Algeria has earned a reputation as a champion of the right of poor countries to a more equitable share of world wealth, and its support for the Saharan independence war shows it can chart an independent foreign policy.

A shy man, Boumediene became a popular figure at home with a reputation for honesty. Even his critics would tell visitors over and over again, "Whatever else, he is a good man."

BITS & PIECES WHERE TO FOR OIL?

Now that South Africa's oil supply is threatened by the changes occurring in Iran, the Pretoria government has asked for help from some powerful friends. The South Africa oil companies whose parent

firms are part of the Iranian oil consortium have been asked by Economic Affairs Minister Chris Heunis to draw up contingency plans for getting the necessary crude.

Shell, British Petroleum, French-owned Total, Mobil, Caltex (Standard of California and Texaco), and Exxon are the majors which operate in both South Africa and Iran. The new Iranian prime minister has said his country will no longer sell to South Africa, and the exiled

religious opposition leader Ayatollah Khomeini has made a similar pledge. Just where South Africa can expect to get the 90% of its supply previously coming from Iran is not yet known. The Arab and African oil producers have observed a near complete boycott of South Africa since 1973.

MSU SELLS SOUTH AFRICA STOCKS
At a meeting on December 8 the Board of Trustees [Continued On Page 9]

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Fast-cutting chain saw has solid state ignition. Automatic and manual oiling system. 16-in. Friction Fighter guide bar. Guide bar, handguard, chain come unattached. Sale ends January 22.



Craftsman 3.7 cu. in. Gas Chain Saw

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Craftsman 12-in. Electric Chain Saw

Reg. \$69.99
Weights 10 lbs. 3 oz.
54⁹⁹

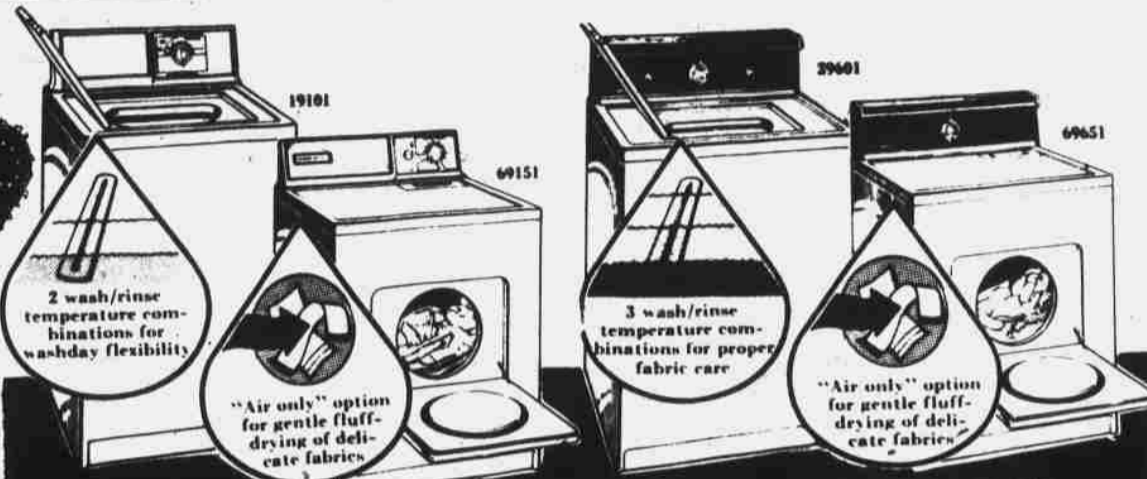
Enjoy simple plug-in convenience. Double insulated, no grounding necessary. Low profile chain. Manual oiler. Guide bar and chain unattached. Sale ends January 22.



50,000 BTU Portable Heater

Reg. \$199.99
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Ideal for garages, workshops. Heats 9,000 cu.ft. to 9 hours on 3 1/4 gal. fill up. Larger sizes at reduced prices. Sale ends Jan. 18.



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24-in Wide Washer
Short on floor space? This washer fits in tight areas! Automatically preset water temperature. Heavy-duty motor. See it today!
Sears Price **\$229**

Large Capacity Washer
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Quantities Limited!
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Capacitor-start 1-HP motor develops 2-HP. Includes leg set and two table extensions. Self-aligning rip fence. Miter gauge. Partially assembled.



FROSTLESS 15.1 cu.ft. Refrigerator Sears Price \$369	FROSTLESS 19.1 cu.ft. Side-by-Side Sears Price \$499	SAVE '40 Personal-Size Color TV Reg. \$339.95 Sears Price \$299⁹⁵	PORTABLE Go Anywhere Black-White Sears Price 149⁹⁵	SAVE '23 Weedwacker Trimmer, Line Reg. Sep. Price \$63.28 Thru Jan. 31 Sears Price 39⁹⁹	VALUE Sears Early One Fire Detector Sears Price 18⁹⁹
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ELECTRIC Kenmore 30-in. Electric Range Sears Price \$239	SAVE '30 Defrost/Cook Microwave Oven Reg. \$319.95 Sears Price 289⁹⁵	SAVE '20 Powermate® Canister Vac Reg. \$139.95 Sears Price 119⁹⁵	'40 OFF! 2-Speed Kenmore Upright Vac Nov. '78 Was \$119.95 Sears Price 79⁹⁵	SAVE '3 Sears Best Easy Living Latex Reg. \$12.99 Sears Price 9⁹⁹	SAVE '3 Sears Best Latex Semi-Gloss Reg. \$12.99 Sears Price 9⁹⁹
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RAINBOW WHITE SALE

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Toughcord Spreads
Twin Regular **10⁹⁹**
Sturdy Perma-Prest® bedspread. Machine washable polyester and rayon. In solid colors or rich plaids.
\$14.99 Full 12.99
\$11.99 Bunk Twin 8.99
Sale ends January 15

28% OFF
Matchmate Bath Towels
Reg. \$3.49
Bath Size **2 for \$5**
Absorbent Matchmate towels come in rainbow of bright colors. Polyester and cotton.
Thru. Jan. 15.
\$2.29 Hand Towel 2.09
\$1.19 Washcloth 1.09
Sale ends January 15



SAVE \$3

Your Choice **5⁹⁹** Gallon
Reg. \$8.99
Latex Flat or Latex Semi-Gloss
• For all interior walls - 1 coat coverage
• Clean up with just soap and water
• In decorator colors
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