

Countering Qaddafi

U.S.-AFRICA

[AN] When President Reagan took office, he pledged to an anti-Soviet oriented foreign policy, it was not clear what role Africa would play in it. Nearly a year later, the continent's key position is no longer in doubt.

Just in the last few weeks, Reagan has engaged in a vitriolic exchange of highly-publicized charges and counter-charges with Libya's Colonel Qaddafi, and he has hosted the pro-American presidents of Zaire and Sudan at the White House, he has dispatched Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger to Morocco and has invited Morocco's King Hassan to Washington; and he had agreed that Secretary of State Alexander Haig, Jr., will visit both Morocco and Tunisia within the coming weeks.

Jonas Savimbi, whose dissident Angolan movement UNITA Reagan endorsed during the presidential campaign, received high-level access during his visit to Washington this month. And three other moderate Africa leaders — Nigeria's Shehu Shagari, Mauritius' Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, and Kenya's Daniel Arap Moi — were welcomed to the White House during the year.

In keeping with Reagan's tough campaign rhetoric, U.S. support for its friends in Africa has primarily taken the form of military backing, most of it aimed at turbulent north Africa. At the same time, however, American economic and development assistance is being cut by the Republican administration, even while new studies indicate that Africa's situation is more perilous than ever.

President Reagan's decision last week to ban travel by American citizens to Libya and to call upon 1500 American living there to get out is a continuation of a stance his administration has adopted toward the north African state all year. It may also be a prelude to further measures.

Announcing the ban, Deputy Secretary of State William Clark accused Libya of seeking "to undermine neighboring states and to work against U.S. interests." These and other harsh criticisms of Libya by senior administration officials, including the president, have been made in the context of an alleged plot by Qaddafi to assassinate Reagan.

Qaddafi has denied the charge and has said the U.S. is trying to kill him. Neither government has produced evidence to back up these claims.

Nevertheless, the continuing highly-charged U.S. campaign against Qaddafi has fueled speculation that even more steps are in the works. Although one State Department official who briefed reporters said, "We rule out nothing, we plan nothing," other officials have said serious contingency planning regarding Libya has been under way for months.

Attention has focused both on economic measures and on military action. Some American political leaders have called for a boycott of Libyan oil, a step many observers believe the administration is getting closer to taking. But some experts have opposed this action and other steps which, they argue, work against U.S. interests and make Qaddafi seem to be a more major figure than he really is.

U.S. officials have worried that the 1500 Americans living in Libya complicate the situation, since they could be the focus of retaliation. Recent American visitors to the country report, however, that there have been no signs that sentiment for

such a move is developing there. Nevertheless, by calling for the departure of these Americans, the administration was clearing that obstacle to any further moves it might decide to take.

One linch-pin of Reagan policy throughout the year has been support for other African regimes "who see this problem as we see it," in the words of Assistant Secretary of State Chester Crocker, in Congressional testimony in July. A chief beneficiary of this pledge is Sudan, which has been slated for a three-fold increase in arms sales credits totalling \$100 million.

President Jaafar el Numeiry's arms orders are currently being given priority status by the Pentagon, and deliveries of M-60 tanks, F-5 aircraft, and other supplies are expected to begin within the next few weeks.

Tunisia, another Libyan neighbor, is also receiving a large boost in arms sales credits. The administration is asking for \$95 million for the Tunisian military in 1982, and a joint military command has been set up to formalize contacts between the two countries. During the 1981 fiscal year Tunisia received \$15 million from Washington. Most of this year's credits will go to the purchase of M-60 tanks.

It is Egypt, however, which has remained the focus of U.S. military and diplomatic strategies in the region. Prior to President Anwar Sadat's assassination in October, the U.S. had speeded up arms deliveries to Egyptian military and secured the use of the Red Sea port of Ras Banas for U.S. troops. The administration also decided to add \$900 million in military sales credits for 1982 to the \$3.5 billion already approved by the Carter administration, and promised Sadat to ask Congress to spend some \$500 million to improve facilities at Ras Banas, strategically situated just across the Red Sea from the new Saudi oil pipeline.

The Reagan administration also pushed hard to begin deliveries of modern arms by the end of the year. As part of the \$3.5 billion deal with Carter, Cairo has requested some forty F-16 jet fighter bombers, 311 M-60 tanks, 550 armored personnel carriers, fifteen CH-47 helicopters, 129 vehicles to tow damaged tanks off the field, a Hawk missile battery, 125 anti-tank missile launchers and more.

Though not so directly involved in the U.S. showdown with Col. Qaddafi, Morocco, too, has been given a high priority. King Hassan II has proved a staunch Arab ally for the Western powers, offering assistance on both African and Middle Eastern issues. In the past Hassan's forces have been called into action as far away as Zaire to help put down rebellions against Western-backed President Mobutu Sese Seko.

Morocco's need for active military support has been fed by the war in Western Sahara, which pits the king's forces against the POLISARIO independence movement that has been fighting for Saharan self-determination for six years. While Algeria is the main backer of POLISARIO, Libya has also provided help. Because of the complexities of the Saharan conflict, Carter officials had pursued a policy of limited arms sales to Morocco while simultaneously encouraging the king to negotiate.

Algeria, of course, played an important intermediary role in winning freedom for the American hostages held in Iran. Nevertheless,



BUSY WEEK FOR UNCF

Lou Rawls (left), the United Negro College Fund's national honorary chairman, concluded recent media tour through Chicago, Detroit, Dallas and Los Angeles promoting "The Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" television special which airs soon in those cities to raise funds for UNCF. With him at news media luncheon in Los Angeles are David S. Cunningham, Los Angeles City Councilman, and Wayman F. Smith, III, vice president of corporate affairs, Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. The Parade of Stars entertainment special is produced through a grant from Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc. to benefit the 41 privately owned black colleges and universities of the UNCF.

within a week of President Reagan's inauguration and 48 hours after the release of the hostages, Ulric Haynes, President Carter's ambassador to Algeria, was instructed to inform the Algerian government that U.S. restrictions on arms sales to Morocco had been lifted.

Haynes criticized the move sharply. The Algerians, while refraining from public condemnations of U.S. policy, were clearly angered by news that the Pentagon had received the go-ahead for deliveries of 108 M-60 tanks and six OV-10A counter-insurgency aircraft. One prominent Algerian editor interviewed by the *Washington Post* said the decision indicated Reagan "was going to try to carry out the hard-line, anti-Soviet, to-hell-with-the-Third World policies which Watergate and the Vietnam war debacle prevented" Richard Nixon from pursuing.

Explaining in March Congressional testimony that the Reagan administration would no longer "make decisions on military equipment sales explicitly conditional on unilateral Moroccan attempts to show progress toward a peaceful negotiated settlement," a State Department official said: "This position is consistent with our behavior

toward other traditional and historical friends of the U.S." He said the administration was planning to go ahead with the \$182 million tank deal, as well as the \$230 million sale approved by the Carter administration of twenty F-5E bombers and OV-10 reconnaissance aircraft. [In addition, another \$30 million in military sales credits were requested for 1982.]

King Hassan's proposal in June at the Organization of African Unity summit for a referendum in Western Sahara encourages U.S. officials in the belief their policy was working. Then, in October, Moroccan troops suffered defeat in a decisive battle at Guelta Zemmour, and intelligence sources said POLISARIO for the first time used Soviet-made SAM-6 surface-to-air missiles and T-54 tanks. Morocco lost some five planes in the battle, including an American-supplied C-130 transport, two Mirage jets, and F-5, and a Puma helicopter.

Hassan immediately appealed to Washington for additional assistance. "We are making a limited response," one official involved said. "We feel the introduction of the Soviet equipment ups the ante, as it were, and we feel obligated to try to

restore the balance as it stood at the time the king made his referendum proposal to the OAU."

Specifically, the U.S. made "a hurried effort to get them some electronic counter-measure type equipment and chaff dispensers for their F-5's," another official explained. Both are used to reflect the radar which SAM-6's use to trace an aircraft in the air.

U.S. officials believe the Moroccan military cannot absorb, or make effective use, of any additional equipment at this time, beyond what is in the pipeline for them. In addition, the rush

sales of military equipment all across North Africa has strained U.S. resources.

Addressing this issue in an August press conference, Haig said that as "a consequence of a long period of neglect here in the United States of our own industrial complex," there are usually "long delays" between a military sales agreement and delivery. To offset the delays in the future, he said, the Pentagon has asked to establish a contingency fund for 1983 to purchase some equipment ahead and prepare for contingencies.

Six Promotions Announced At NCCU

Chancellor Albert N. Whiting has announced the promotions of six of North Carolina Central University's faculty members to higher academic rank.

Mrs. Courtney Ferguson of the Department of Business Education and Administrative Services was promoted from instructor to assistant professor. Mrs. Ferguson, a member of the NCCU faculty since 1973, holds both the bachelor of science in commerce and the master of science degrees from North Carolina Central.

Promoted from assistant professor to associate professor were Dr. Desretta McAllister of the School of Library Science and Dr. Jess J. Bowe of the Department of Political Science.

Dr. McAllister holds the bachelor of arts degree from Bennett College, the master of science in library science degree from Atlanta University, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Bowe, who is director of NCCU's Criminal Justice Program, holds the bachelor of science degree from West Virginia State College, the master of science degree from Eastern Kentucky University, and the Ph.D. degree from Duke University.

Dr. McAllister joined the NCCU faculty in 1973, Dr. Bowe in 1971. Promoted from associate professor to professor were Dr. Phyllis Randall of the Department of English, Robert Kennedy of the Department of Art, and Dr. Lafayette Lipscomb of the Department of Sociology.

Dr. Randall joined the NCCU faculty in 1967. She holds the bachelor of arts degree from Juniata College, the master of arts degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and the Ph.D. degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Kennedy, who is a noted sculptor, joined the NCCU faculty in 1964. He holds the bachelor of arts degree from Mexico City College and the master of fine arts degree from the University of Michigan.

Dr. Lipscomb, who is director of the university's Academic Skills Center and Assistant to the Chancellor, holds the bachelor of arts and master of library science degrees from North Carolina Central University, and the master of science and Ph.D. degrees from UNC-Chapel Hill. She joined the NCCU faculty in 1974 and had previously been a member of the university's library staff.

Other promotions involving tenure awards remain subject to approval of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors and will be announced in January.

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