

U.S. and South Africa

Committee on Foreign Affairs
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The October 30 U.S. veto of the Security Council resolution to expel South Africa from the United Nations and subsequent U.S. action opposing the successful effort to bar that country from participation in the General Assembly are but two in a series of concrete examples of the U.S. failure to reflect in its policy towards South Africa the inevitability of majority rule there.

Following the April 25, 1974 coup in Portugal, progress towards the liberation of southern Africa has accelerated with Guinea-Bissau's independence finally recognized by Portugal on September 10, Mozambique's expected independence on June 25, 1975 and, although some obstacles remain, Angola's likely independence within the next two years. Pressures have mounted on the Rhodesian regime so that the question now is not if, but when, Zimbabwe will become an independent, majority-ruled country. Bordered by an independent Angola, the prospects for majority rule and independence in Namibia can only increase. In South Africa itself, there is continued resistance to the totalitarian regime and its increasingly oppressive apartheid apparatus.

South Africa now faces stepped-up internal and external pressures for liberation. A most recent example is the series of arrests, detentions and police raids following the scheduled September 25 pro-Frelimo rally, in Durban. At this rally, black leaders in South Africa and Frelimo representatives were to have voiced their support for the liberation of neighboring Mozambique. However, the crowd which gathered, despite the official ban on the meeting, found itself attacked by dogs and police. These actions against the leaders and supporters of South Africa's black consciousness movement are simply the latest in a series of confrontations over the past few years.

However, there is as yet, no evidence of a positive re-thinking and revision of U.S. policy towards southern Africa, in the direction of substantive U.S. support for freedom and majority rule. Quite the contrary, U.S. support for the minority regimes of southern Africa, particularly South Africa, has continued and, in fact, significantly increased.

A few ^{more} examples ~~of current U.S. policy~~ are illustrative.

We have seen, especially since January of this year, a continuing spate of "unofficial" visits to the United States by high-level defense and government officials from South Africa. In January, Dr. Cornelius Mulder, the South African Minister for Information, met with Vice Admiral Ray Peet, Director, Defense Security Assistance Agency of the Department of Defense, which has responsibility for foreign military sales and military assistance. In May, Admiral Hugo Bierman, Chief of South Africa's Defense

