

# BLACK WORKERS SAY NO TO CHROME FROM RHODESIA

BLACK WORKERS CONGRESS P.O. BOX 6950

Most of us probably have some knowledge about the southern African country of Zimbabwe. The European name is Rhodesia, but to the 5 million Africans who live there, it is ZIMBABWE. Presently Zimbabwe is ruled by a handful of the 200,000 Europeans (white minority) who illegally reside there. Zimbabwe is rich in many mineral resources, such as: gold, copper, nickel, silver, zinc, CHROME. The mines are all foreign owned (U.S., Japan, Italy, etc.) Agriculture is under the control of the white owners of huge plantations.

The 5 million Africans are virtually slaves, unable to enjoy the democratic rights of citizens or the basic rights of humanity. It is illegal for the African workers to organize into workers associations or unions. It is a crime for African workers to strike. It is very common for the Rhodesian authorities to massacre hundreds of Africans when they gather to demand more freedom. IN SPITE OF THE ODDS, THE AFRICAN PEOPLE OF ZIMBABWE CONTINUE TO STRUGGLE, CONTINUE TO RESIST WHITE RACIST AND FASCIST DOMINATION. There is much support from the masses for the three major liberation movements - Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU), Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) and Front for the Liberation of Zimbabwe (PROLIZI).

The people of Zimbabwe are engaged in a life and death struggle to liberate their homelands from foreign occupation and domination and to secure for themselves a life of FREEDOM AND PROSPERITY. They realize that the struggle will be a long one, because they are not just fighting white racist settlers in Zimbabwe but the world wide system of IMPERIALISM which is led by the U.S. IMPERIALISTS. They further realize that they will win because history is on the side of the oppressed.

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How does this oppressive and brutal situation in Zimbabwe affect all workers in America and particularly Black workers.

OUR STRUGGLE IS A COMMON ONE - WE ARE UNDER ATTACK BY THE SAME ENEMY. U.S. Imperialism-these huge multinational corporations such as: Ford, General Motors, Chrysler, Bethlehem Steel, ITT, IBM, etc. - is the main enemy of the workers and oppressed peoples and nations of the world. Not only do the companies own or have interest in Zimbabwe and other countries of Africa, Asia and Latin America, but their American based companies use many of the minerals and products which are produced by virtual slave labor.

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A glaring example is the fact that a ship load of CHROME and nickel from Zimbabwe will attempt to unload in the Baltimore harbor on Saturday, June, 1973. This is in direct violation of the UNITED NATIONS embargo against the importing of CHROME from white racist Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). The progressive leadership and rank and file members of the International Longshoremen Association have declared that they won't unload the ship.

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THE BALTIMORE AFRICAN LIBERATION SUPPORT COMMITTEE is calling on all Black people to gather in Harlem Park at Edmondson Ave and Gilmer St. at 10 AM on Saturday and proceed with us down to the docks to show our support for the ILA's decision and for the struggle for freedom in Zimbabwe. Members of the BLACK WORKERS CONGRESS also work with the Support Committee. We urge Black people in general and Black workers in particular to respond to their call.

We, as Black people-as workers inside the U.S. must let our brothers and sisters know through word and deed that we understand the ours is a common fight. We must let our people on the African continent know that we stand with them as they fight to take back their land and free themselves from the yoke of imperialist exploitation and white colonial domination. WE MUST LET THEM KNOW THAT THE STRUGGLE FOR AFRICAN LIBERATION IS A STRUGGLE ON TWO FRONTS AGAINST A COMMON ENEMY THAT HAS EXPLOITED BLACK PEOPLE IN THE U.S. AND AFRICA. We understand that the people of Africa are their own liberators. They will make their own history in freeing themselves. BUT EVERY VICTORY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM-these huge corporations and governments they support-IN AFRICA IS OUR VICTORY!

We must be in the forefront WHEREVER WE ARE-in protesting against RISING UNEMPLOYMENT, CUT BACKS IN BADLY NEEDED HEALTH AND WELFARE PROGRAMS, INCREASED REPRESSION AND POLICE BRUTALITY IN OUR COMMUNITIES, THE RISING COST OF LIVING. As the lowest paid workers we are hard hit by runaway food cost. WE MUST ORGANIZE STRONG RANK AND FILE WORKERS ORGANIZATIONS. BLACK WORKERS TAKE THE LEAD!!! UNITE TO FIGHT!!!