

Rhodesian artillery sank the Kazangulu ferry from Zambia across the Zambezi River into Botswana and threatened to do the same to any replacement, even when Zambia promised to moor it every night in Rhodesia. With the connivance of South African-backed guerrillas, the Benguela railroad from Angola through Zaire into Zambia has been inoperative since 1975.

This operation was carried out by the British-allied "Malaysia clique" in the Rhodesian military—officers who cut their spurs in British counterinsurgency efforts in Malaysia, Aden and elsewhere—led by Lt. Gen. Peter Walls. Lord Carrington proposes to leave this clique—the government de facto of Rhodesia—in power during the "transition to independence."

The Rhodesian cutoff is meant to be a final blow to Zambia, which desperately needs 200,000 tons of maize to stave off starvation until the next harvest. Zambia has arranged to import most of it through South Africa and Rhodesia.

The country has already collapsed economically, the result of bad harvests, low copper prices, and an IMF-dictated austerity program including a severe curtailment of capital investment. There is already considerable unrest in the country over commodity shortages and prices, and the Kaunda government is regularly reported to be in danger of falling. The replacement would be a right-wing clique ready to capitulate to the demands of Rhodesia, South Africa and the International Monetary Fund.

Variations of this destabilization-and-economic-collapse scenario appear throughout the continent, particularly in countries key to regional development:

Angola

On October 28, the South African Army launched the latest in a series of raids in southern Angola, with airborne infantry and fighter-bombers. The raiders destroyed a railroad tunnel and mined tracks on a southern line key to the exploitation of Angola's iron ore resources, and blew up four highway bridges. The campaign is aimed at preventing Angola from consolidating its hold on the southern region, keeping the government threatened with destabilization.

Sudan

The most immediate victim of Federal Reserve Chairman Volcker's credit crackdown will be the Sudan, which needs a constant flow of credit until its sizeable agricultural projects come on line. The country is entering negotiations with its commercial creditors—many of them American—in hopes of rescheduling its enormous arrears and possibly getting some new credit. Their credit rating has been virtually finished off by the IMF—and Volcker is taking care of the rest.

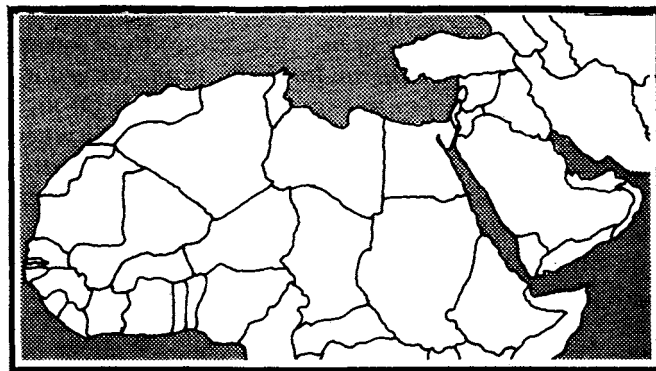
Sudanese President Jaafer al-Nimeiry, furthermore, has been forced to impose draconian austerity measures in the country, which led to several days of rioting in mid-August followed by a cold coup in which Nimeiry installed the head of the British-run Muslim Brotherhood as Attorney-General.

Uganda

This country has become the prime victim of the tribal warfare scenario. Tensions are running high between the dominant Baganda and other tribes, an alignment which overlaps the "leftist" and "rightist" struggle over the makeup of the government.

The result has been physical insecurity, chaos and shortages worse, if possible, than under the Amin regime. Both indigenous and expatriate professionals are fleeing the country, and potential aid donors are refusing to act until the security situation improves—which can't happen without that aid.

Britain's hand is evident: Ugandan officials in September accused Her Majesty's ambassador Richard Posnett of actively discouraging aid donors.



North Africa: war and a return to feudalism

A Carter administration decision to reverse policy and sell arms to Morocco, and to dispatch Undersecretary of State Warren Christopher to Morocco and National Security Council chief Zbigniew Brzezinski to Algeria, are the first steps of an Anglo-American initiative in North Africa. If successful, these maneuvers will eliminate Algeria as a key ally in the efforts of French President Giscard d'Estaing and West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt to establish a new international monetary system.

Both Iran's Foreign Minister Ibrahim Yazdi and

Brzezinski were in Algeria for the 25th anniversary of the start of the Algerian fight for independence. The same feudalist Muslim Brotherhood networks of which Yazdi is a part and which are now in control of Iran are slated to play the central role in shifting North Africa away from any possibility of rapid industrialization. Algeria in particular with its strong proindustry policy is on the planning boards to adopt a World Bank-style self-sufficiency policy, so popular with the Muslim Brotherhood. Bernard Lewis, the British national who drew up the blueprints for the balkanization of the Middle East along religious and tribal lines, is now saying that "the Muslim Brotherhood is on the rise in Morocco and Algeria."

Morocco's King Hassan II, otherwise loyal to London-New York financial interests, will reportedly soon be dethroned in what American intelligence agencies are calling an "Iranianization" process. According to the *Baltimore Sun*, U.S. intelligence agencies advised Carter that Hassan II has less than a year to survive as King of Morocco.

The dispute between Morocco and Algeria was set up in 1975 by then U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. The issue between Morocco and Algeria is the former Spanish colony of the Spanish Sahara, which bordered on Morocco, Algeria and Mauritania. Kissinger convinced the Spanish government of Francisco Franco to give their mineral-rich colony to Morocco and Mauritania in return for U.S. arms, instead of permitting the colony to become independent through the normal U.N.-supervised process. Algeria opposed the move and threw its support behind the Polisario liberation front which had already been calling for the independence of the colony.

Earlier this year, Mauritania gave up its portion of the Sahara and sided with Algeria, calling for the territory to become independent under the auspices of the U.N. At that point, Morocco claimed all of the former Spanish colony.

Spain has since reversed its policy and, along with France, has called the Sahara question a decolonization question that must be resolved in the context of the U.N. Thirty-five African countries have recognized the provisional government established by the Polisario front.

The French government response to Carter's pledge of arms to Hassan II was to immediately answer a prior Mauritanian requisition for French troops.

Since Carter made his arms pledge, Hassan II has launched a large-scale military offensive against the Polisario in the Sahara. But military unrest over a war that can't be won, and an emerging popular discontent over the cost of the venture to the Moroccan economy has Hassan II boxed in. The *New York Times* reported recently that a faction of the Moroccan military favored a limited war with Algeria as the best way out of the

predicament. Such a limited war could kick off the process that would eliminate Hassan II and put Algeria under the thumb of the Muslim Brotherhood.

The death of Algeria's Houari Boumediene and the consequent weakening of the drive for industrialization has opened the door to the Muslim Brotherhood in Algeria. Boumediene was determined to use Algeria's oil wealth to industrialize. But the Algerian government is now turning to a self-sufficiency "small is beautiful" approach to economic organization and development.

Since Boumediene's death two key members of his economic development team have been dismissed: A. Ghozali, who was the director of the Algerian Oil Corporation, and at one time Minister of Energy and Petroleum as well as Minister of Hydraulic and Water Resources; and Ait Laoussine, his close associate.

The promotion of the Muslim Brotherhood in Algeria intersects a strong proenvironmentalist sentiment among the younger educated layers of the population. Organized from Switzerland and France, this movement views advanced technology as destroying fundamental human values and having no immediate visible benefit for the peasant not skilled to work in the plants.

—Douglas DeGroot



Latin coups compete with Cuban influence

The tiny island nation of Grenada last week accused NATO and yet unnamed "U.S. sources" of involvement in a foiled attempt to overthrow the country's pro-Cuban government. In a scenario reminiscent of the 1962 Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba—albeit on a much smaller scale—the coup plan was based on a three-pronged invasion by mercenary forces based in Miami,