

Africa Report by Douglas DeGroot and Mary Brannan

Appeasement by the OAU

The 50 member nations of Africa will be led next year by Qaddafi, the man whose policy is to destroy them.

It's just like Chamberlain's appeasement of Hitler at Munich," commented a German specialist on Africa about the Organization of African Unity's (OAU) agreement to hold its 1982 summit in Tripoli, Libya. This means that Muammar Qaddafi, Africa's "Hitler," will chair the summit and be the official leader of the 50 member nations of the OAU for one full year.

Qaddafi, in a recent memo to African leaders on "how to behave" at the summit, told them they "will be required to rise to the enlightened and progressive political and cultural levels they will find in Tripoli," and will not be allowed to exhibit their "lack of political and social development through the influence of the cultural backwardness that afflicts much of Africa. . . . All regimes must be compelled to accept the leadership of those that are fitted to lead."

This little Hitler is a mere puppet of the wealthy "old families" centered in northern Italy and England, whose policy for Africa is to drastically reduce its population, using social chaos, starvation, and epidemic disease accompanying endless warfare, internal strife, and government destabilizations.

Qaddafi has provoked a bloody civil war in neighboring Chad, and in December, invaded and annexed the country. He financed rioting inside Nigeria; he armed guerrillas in Uganda, Tunisia, the Central African Republic, and Morocco.

The OAU reached its decision at the last minute, at 4:00 a.m., with only 14 member nations voting for Tripoli and Qaddafi "because of the need to maintain African unity." Afterwards, "One can negotiate with Qaddafi," said a Nigerian diplomat. Others voiced hopes that the OAU chairmanship would force the Libyan to moderate his policy; if not, some threatened they would not attend.

But no amount of threats or appeasement has changed Libyan policy toward Chad, which borders the most populous African nation with the greatest development potential, Nigeria. As Qaddafi's troops took over Chad in December, bloody riots inside Nigeria left over 1,000 dead in the northern city of Kano. Nigerian sources say that the responsible parties received financing from Tripoli.

At the time, Nigerian President Shagari ordered a reevaluation of Nigerian military and intelligence capabilities, evidently concluding that Nigeria, despite an army of 200,000 men, was not prepared to challenge Qaddafi's well-equipped legions. Subsequently, at a special OAU meeting on the crisis, Nigerian opposition to Qaddafi's annexation of Chad evaporated.

Perhaps the greatest danger is that Qaddafi will split Chad into two parts, an Islamic north and an African-Christian south. That could spark dismemberment of Sudan, Niger, Mali, Mauritania and

other nations also divided between Muslims and Christians.

The key for Qaddafi's Anglo-Venetian controllers is Nigeria, on which much of Africa's future depends. When Cameroon border guards fired on Nigerian troops last month, provoking border clashes, "white officers" are said to have given the order. The only "white officers" there are French, and President Mitterrand is a close Qaddafi collaborator.

"Nigeria is a country which is not cemented together. . ." commented the German specialist on Africa. "If you look closely, you will see that all federal states have their own policies. It could easily fall apart. The same as Chad [and] Sudan. . . . The only country which would not fall apart is the Central African Republic. It is the only country which has one language and a relatively united national identity. Cameroon has problems [and] Sudan is having problems, too. Niger has a larger population of Touregs that Qaddafi could stir up; Algeria has problems, and as for Mali, let's not even discuss it!"

Qaddafi is also subverting the Central African Republic, where President Dacko has outlawed opposition parties, arrested party leaders and declared a state-of-siege after bombing attacks on government offices. Qaddafi is reported to want oppositionist Patasse put in Dacko's place; Qaddafi will then use the Central African Republic for operations against Zaire.

Such is the OAU's new leader. African nations may not "have the means to fight Qaddafi." He could however, be stopped were President Reagan to follow up domestic actions against Qaddafi's agents with certain foreign policy actions.