

Young and British Foreign Minister David Owen's plans to resume their stalling diplomatic game with the front line states at a conference in Zambia beginning Aug. 26.

The Times report, however, fails to account not only for the fate of the fissile material which has *not* been returned, but also for recent shipments of several pounds of weapons-grade uranium which, in the words of Wisconsin Representative Les Aspin, would suffice to help the South Africans cross the military nuclear "threshold."

Test of French Intentions

In any event, the French initiatives reveal that, contrary to the wishes of the State Department, certain continental West European countries are on the verge of proposing a credible alternative — based on racial peace

and region-wide economic development projects — to the Carterites' war scenario. The French magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur*, a mouthpiece of the terrorist Institute for Policy Studies which has traditionally denounced General De Gaulle and his successors Pompidou and Giscard d'Estaing as the main Western supporters of pro-apartheid layers in South Africa, was forced this week to quote Zimbabwe Patriotic Front co-leader Mugabe, who affirmed his belief in the sincerity of France's intentions as a potential mediator after his meeting with Guiringaud. The first test of France's intentions, stated Mugabe, is whether or not Giscard will stop shipments of French conventional arms to the Vorster government. Giscard's upcoming disarmament proposal is certainly a major step in this direction.

— Jean-Claude Barré

De Guiringaud Reports On His African Tour

The following are excerpts of a statement made by French Foreign Minister de Guiringaud to France-Inter Aug. 22 after his return from a trip to several African nations:

... I am returning satisfied with my trip. France has close traditional relations with Western Africa and is known there. France is unknown in Eastern and Southern Africa and I unfortunately experienced this fact. But it must also be said that the French do not know this part of Africa well. Thus, my trip was an exploratory one. There were certain risks in it. But for three stages of it anyway, I am perfectly satisfied with the results. I was able to explain our policy. I think that I was able to get many aspects of it accepted, and I was also able to hear leaders of these countries explain the problems which concern them, and the more particular points on which they would like our policy to change.

... We must replace this problem (of French weapons delivery to South Africa—ed.) in its framework. Decolonization is not over in Southern Africa; the British colony of Rhodesia is still dominated by a minority of Whites, two hundred thousand Whites, led by Mr. Ian Smith, who want to impose their law on four or five million Blacks, in a regime of segregation and racial oppression which is quite comparable to that which exists in the Republic of South Africa. There is a second problem of decolonization. A territory which used to be called German South-West Africa, which fell under the control of the Republic of South Africa and which is now called Namibia, must accede to independence. France has played a spearheading role, a leading role in the United Nations to determine the conditions in which this territory of Namibia should accede to independence. The support of the Republic of South Africa can be seen behind the resistance to the moves towards independence of these two territories, Rhodesia and Namibia. Or, it is true that in the past, we have supplied arms to South Africa. We have even supplied an im-

portant quantity of them; we cannot deny it. But, for two years these supplies have been reduced, and since last fall the President of the Republic (of France—ed.) has imposed a total embargo on arms supplies to South Africa.

... There are two things to say about (Franco-South African nuclear cooperation—ed.). First, the Soviets have accused the South Africans of preparing, not an atomic bomb, but a nuclear explosion. We have effectively received intelligence according to which preparations were taking place in South Africa in view of an atomic explosion, which the South Africans affirmed would be peaceful. We know what a peaceful explosion is. At least, no difference can be made between a peaceful atomic explosion and an atomic explosion for military experimentation ends. Thus, we warned South Africa that we would consider that such an experimentation would put in danger all the processes of peace which have been engaged and would possibly have grave consequences on our relations with this country. This is what the precisions of my ministry this morning alluded to.

... There is a second thing I would like to say. It is very unfortunate that nuclear power appeared to men for the first time in the form of a bomb. This was the fault of the war and the concern which the incredible progress of the Germans and Japanese in 1942 gave rise to. It was then that Einstein wrote to Roosevelt to inform him that, on the basis of the atom, a bomb of heretofore unequalled power could be produced. The Americans went to work, and we know what the results were. What is unfortunately forgotten, is that until then the research of French scientists, Joliot-Curie, Perrin, Bertrand Goldschmidt, Kowarski, who were the most advanced in the world in this field, was oriented towards the industrial utilization of the fantastic energy produced by the disintegration of the atom. If there had not been any war, there would not have been any bomb. But, we still would have had electro-nuclear plants, and no one would have worried about it, any more than one worries about heating fuel and coal plants.

It is necessary to recall these facts to show how dishonest it is to make an amalgamation between electro-nuclear plants and the atomic weapon. It is to

play on the ignorance and the gullibility of the masses. In the long run, it never pays. What is true is that the nuclear weapon can be the far off by-product of nuclear plants, when, after about three years, the irradiated fuel of the plants is recycled. Recycling nuclear fuel is a little like recharging a battery, except that it is a considerable, extremely complex, extremely difficult industrial operation, and which only France at the present time has perfected on a commercial scale.

In addition, this operation engenders, as a direct by-product, plutonium with which one can either make bombs or feed fast-breeder reactors. But you can see that the plutonium appears far away from the electro-nuclear plant (process), and only after very lengthy, very complicated, very expensive operations which, once again, only France at the present time in the world knows how to do on a commercial scale. Now the Framatome contract with South Africa for the construction of two electro-nuclear plants in Koelberg near the Cape, precisely calls for the recycling of the fuel from these plants to take place in France and the plutonium will not be sent back to South Africa. It is thus contrary to the truth, and perfectly dishonest, to say that these plants could help South Africa acquire the atomic weapon. But unfortunately, there are even some Frenchmen who affirm this. They are lying, and are, unconsciously I hope, acting as foreign agents and as enemies of our country.

(On Rhodesia:) We did not condemn the French who left Algeria to death, nor those who stayed. And if the rule of the majority is finally to be accepted in Rhodesia, and you are right to say Zimbabwe, because then it would

be called Zimbabwe, a great number of Whites can stay there; this is one of the features of the Owen-Vance plan which will be proposed to Mr. Smith.

(With respect to the provocative demonstration against France in Tanzania:) First of all, I do not think that President Nyerere personally wanted to set a trap for me. Tanzanian leaders certainly tolerated and facilitated a demonstration which was unacceptable, especially since it occurred in the presence of the Foreign Affairs Minister who was welcoming me and since he did not lift a little finger to try to interrupt it. This is what I reproached him with. I do not think it occurred on the level of President Nyerere, but on a much lower level and I certainly do not put President Nyerere into question. Some time ago he made hostile declarations towards France. Such a statement was played on our radio waves Saturday, but, if I am not mistaken, was a month old, and it put ... into question because of our arms sales and the nuclear contract with South Africa. We will certainly be attacked again in Lagos (at the U.N. Conference on apartheid—ed.) for our arms sales, for this nuclear contract. We must clearly see that the majority of Africa is not Francophone and an intimate friend of France, as we too easily believe. It is Anglophone. Add up the populations of the countries we visited and their neighboring countries, and see what it represents. If you add Nigeria to this, which alone represents 80 million inhabitants, this entire part of Africa receives American or English mass-media, which silences the considerable Anglo-Saxon interests in Africa and points a finger towards this little France which sells arms to South Africa. It will be the same thing in Lagos. The French delegation will respond appropriately.

French Peace Moves In Southern Africa Target Of Anglo-American Sabotage

Following the cancellation by Tanzania of French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud's planned visit, Carter's UN Ambassador Andrew Young and other American officials Aug. 24 leaked details of new Anglo-American proposals for a settlement in Rhodesia. The proposals include the disbanding of the only military force of black Rhodesian nationalists, the Zimbabwe People's Army (ZIPA), and replacing both ZIPA and the white Rhodesian army with a peacekeeping force under United Nations or other auspices.

The Vance-Owen proposals are intended to sabotage the French diplomatic initiative in Africa, an initiative which appears to be aimed at bringing about black majority rule in Rhodesia without a bloodbath, and without the installation of a blackface puppet government run by Ian Smith. If Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere capitulates to Anglo-American pressure and follows through on initial indications that he would support the Anglo-American proposal, a Rhodesian-South African war against Mozambique in the short term is on the agenda.

Since the Anglo-American plan provides for the

castration of the Patriotic Front, it will be completely unacceptable to Mozambique and Angola in particular. Mozambique, the base of the ZIPA guerrilla forces would then be isolated, for attack by Rhodesia.

This scenario — isolating the governments of first Mozambique, and then Angola, was Henry Kissinger's goal when he plunged into southern Africa following the MPLA victory in Angola.

If, on the other hand, Nyerere reaffirms his solidarity with the other frontline states over the weekend, the rejection of the Anglo-American plan by the frontline states, coupled with Smith's rejection of the plan, sets the stage for implementation of what Smith has termed his "internal solution." In that case, the danger is that South Africa would reject the French option and support Smith in his quest for an "internal solution," thus ensuring continued war between Rhodesia and the frontline states.

In either of the above cases, southern Africa will be turned into a Vietnam-like slaughterhouse and the French effort to defuse the southern Africa hot spot will be sabotaged. Peace and a real settlement can only