

# Rhodesian Censorship Seen Having Backfire

By CARL MOLLANS  
LONDON (CP) — Reports of news censorship in Rhodesia indicate that the information blackout is limited and in some ways has backfired on the censors. The rebel regime of Ian Smith imposed censorship the day he declared independence—Nov. 11—on news published or broadcast in Rhodesia.

Commonwealth Secretary Arthur Bottomley signed here Friday a special order revoking the Smith administration's censorship orders.

Bottomley signed the order under powers granted in a special emergency act rushed through Parliament last week.

Even before Nov. 11 the white-minority government headed by Smith had asserted control over Rhodesia's only local broadcast radio, the state-owned radio and television. Under censorship, the system ceased, replaying BBC news programs and interrupted relays of South African government radio.

Twelve censors, only one of them known to have journalistic experience, were appointed by the Smith government to watch papers and the two Sunday papers in Salisbury and Bulawayo, as well as the few weekly newspapers.

**SEIZE FOREIGN PAPERS**  
Incoming foreign newspapers have been confiscated when judged by censors to violate rules against publication of material critical of the Smith regime. All but two of the eight British Sunday newspapers that arrived by air last Monday were burned at the airport.

However, Rhodesians are receiving foreign radio broadcasts. Reports in the British press say sales of radios in Rhodesia have boomed.

Many Rhodesians, both white and black, own radios capable of receiving short-wave broadcasts. The BBC, Voice of America and Zambia radio have stepped up news broadcasts beamed at Rhodesia on wavelengths that can be picked up on ordinary transistor radios.

Newspaper censorship has turned into a boomerang against Smith, according to reports by British correspondents. The editors of the two dailies have refused to co-operate, leaving censors unable to pass an article.

The dailies, the Rhodesian Herald of Salisbury and the Bulawayo Chronicle, and The Sunday Mail of Salisbury and Sunday news of Bulawayo, are owned by Argus South African Newspapers Ltd., which is controlled by South African mining interests and permits editors to set their own editorial policies.

**OPPOSED SMITH**  
The newspapers had opposed unilateral independence and since the event their editorial comment and reports of British reaction have been heavily censored.

Rhys Meier, South Africa-born editor of The Sunday Mail, got a critical editorial into print Nov. 14. While criticizing unilateral independence and warning of an economic squeeze, the editorial said business must go on as usual.

Malcolm Smith, Rhodesian editor of the Herald, and Sydney Swadell, Scottish editor of The Chronicle, have been making censorship as difficult as possible for the government. Smith was detained briefly and questioned by security police last Wednesday after he had discussed one of his banned editorials with British correspondents. Swadell one night ordered a censor out of his newsroom when the censor began watching news being processed.

The censors—Deputy Information Minister P. K. Van der Byl has done his stint at the Rhodesia Herald office away from the newsmen and blue-pencil galley proofs.

**KICKS OUT CHIEF**  
The man Swadell ordered out of his newsroom was Chief Censor Ivor Benson, a South African who was fired from Johannesburg's Rand Daily Mail by Editor Laurence Gander, strong opponent of South Africa's nationalist regime. Benson had written an article in Gander's absence praising British Nazi Leader Oswald Mosley.

Censorship has produced ironies and inconsistencies. South African radio, propagandist for the nationalist regime, has been labelled "Freedom radio" by some news-hungry wags in Rhodesia.

The Rhodesia Herald was ordered to cease publishing a daily notice telling its readers that it had been censored, although rivers of white space made the fact apparent. The Bulawayo Chronicle was allowed to retain the notice.

While some articles are removed entirely, others merely contain blank spaces in the text, giving rise to guessing games among readers. A blank for an adjective before "the Rhodesian government" in a Herald report should clearly have contained the word "rebel" or "illegal."

Reports on censorship of outgoing news vary. Some foreign correspondents report they have been required to submit cables to a censor and others find no evidence that their reports have been censored.

But foreign correspondents have been harassed by treasury regulations that make it virtually impossible for some to file reports by cable, forcing them to telephone London or find other means.

**MUST PAY CASH**  
Press cables are transmitted only after cash payment or a letter of credit is established, instead of the usual systems of cabling collect. Even then, payment must be made in six difficult to get currencies, excluding British or Rhodesian currency.

When correspondents can pay in U.S. dollars, Swiss or French francs, German marks, Italian lira or South African rand, the change given is in Rhodesian currency which cannot be used for further payments.

Smith defended censorship at a press conference last Wednesday as "a necessary evil." He accused The Herald of distorting news.

"If we believe it is necessary to keep a check on the press in order to ensure the quiet safety of Rhodesia then there is nothing wrong with this," he said.

# Grave Damage To Rhodesia Seen From Trade Boycott

By DON DALLAS  
LONDON (Reuters) — Rhodesia could survive an all-out economic and trade boycott for some time but its economy might be gravely damaged, economic experts here believe.

They were commenting on Saturday's call from the Security Council asking UN members to "do their utmost" to sever economic ties with the breakaway colony and to stop its oil supplies.

Premier Ian Smith's chances of finding alternative oil sources lie at the heart of the question as to how long he can hold out. Most of the oil used in Rhodesia and neighboring Zambia is processed at a refinery at Umtali, Rhodesia.

The crude oil comes almost entirely from Iran, which could stop the supply at the source if it joined an oil embargo.

**SHIPPED FROM IRAN**  
It is shipped from Iran to the port of Beira, in the Portuguese colony of Mozambique on the east coast of Africa, and taken by pipeline to the Umtali refinery.

Of the oil firms owning the refinery, Shell and British Petroleum each have a 20.75 per cent share, Mobil 17.75 per cent, Caltex 15.75 per cent and small American independent companies 15 per cent.

Economic experts said Smith might look to Angola or to South Africa to supply Rhodesia's needs of 400,000 tons of oil a year.

Angola produces some 900,000 tons of crude oil a year and refines some 550,000 tons.

A five-year trade agreement between Rhodesia and Portugal, concluded last March, provides for the duty-free import of crude oil from Angola.

But the only apparent way of getting this oil to Rhodesia would be by ship round the Cape of Good Hope to Beira, a long and possibly costly route.

**MAY HESITATE**  
While South Africa is a possible oil supplier, some political observers think Premier Hendrik Verwoerd might hesitate to

fly in the teeth of world opposition.

Some Washington officials are credited with the view that if Rhodesia were completely cut off from oil its economy would quickly grind to a halt.

But according to published figures only some 27 per cent of Rhodesia's energy requirements are met by oil. Coal supplies 63 per cent of the power and the remainder comes from the hydro plant at the Kariba Dam on the Zambian border.

Tough trade sanctions imposed by Britain will have a direct effect on at least one-third of Rhodesia's export trade.

The British ban on imports hit tobacco, most vital to the country's economy, and the rising sugar industry. Nearly half of Rhodesia's tobacco production, worth about £17,000,000 (\$51,000,000) was bought by Britain.

Rhodesia has been expelled from the International Sugar Agreement, cutting her off from benefits amounting to £4,000,000.

The United States Saturday announced it would turn back 9,500 tons of Rhodesian sugar now on the way to the U.S.

**Pictou Firm To Construct Souris Ships**  
PICTOU, N.S. (CP) — Vice-president J.B. Ferguson of Ferguson Industries Ltd. said here work will begin immediately on four steel trawlers for Prince Edward Island firms.

Mr. Ferguson said the 93-foot vessels for Eastern Fisheries and Usen Fisheries of Souris will be completed in 1966.

He added that Hull 197, a 130-foot steel side trawler being built for North Atlantic Fisheries Ltd. of St. John's, Nfld., will be launched this morning.

The vessel scheduled for completion in early spring.

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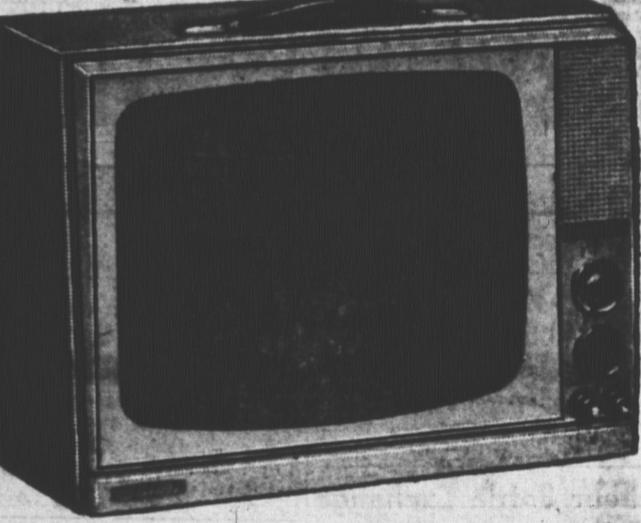
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