NO
TO THE
RACISTS

THIS March 17, 1972, the Day of International Solidarity with the People of Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia) is celebrated along with the sixth anniversary of the beginning of the armed liberation struggle in this African country.

For more than 80 years, the oppressed people of Zimbabwe have suffered a most brutal oppression, that imposed by the British colonialists. Throughout Zimbabwe's history, the British colonialists have spared no effort to subject the Zimbabwe people to slavery.

From the time of the colonial conquest of the territory, forced labor, robbery of the wealth, exploitation of a cheap work force have been the sole and exclusive aim, with an inhuman policy based on the application and imposition of a regime of racial discrimination that synthesizes British policy in South Africa and Namibia.

Clever but evil — imperialism's most notable characteristics — the British colonialists have been eager to continue their repression after introducing misery among the people of Zimbabwe, and successive reactionary regimes in Great Britain have reverted not only to terroristic measures based on the assassination of a large part of the population of Zimbabwe, but today are also using a policy aimed at deceiving and
confusing both the people of Zimbabwe and the rest of world public opinion, to oppose the growing emancipation movement that impels the peoples of the three continents to struggle for their liberation from the oppressor's yoke.

Ever since the decade of the 60s when the colonial powers were forced to abandon their completely bankrupt policy of classical colonialism, the British imperialists have invented various political formulas aimed at holding back the great march of the Zimbabwe people and their African brothers.

Ian Smith's unilateral proclamation of independence in 1965 and the rebel status of this high British functionary, are eloquent proof of the astuteness of the enslavement policy and constitute one of the many previously-mentioned formulas.

What is certain is that the so-called Unilateral Declaration of Independence and the rebel status that the British imperialists adopt, are no more than the distinguished works of British imperialism. There is no such independence nor is Ian Smith a rebel against the Crown.

In connivance with the Yankee, French and other imperialists, the British imperialists retain their monopoly over the economy, continue robbing the wealth of the people of Zimbabwe, recognize the white minority regime as the de facto regime, and spur it on to engage in the oppression and repression of the Zimbabwe people.

Under the pretext of resolving differences between the African majority in Zimbabwe and the white minority, the British imperialists invented the so-called Douglas-Home mission for Zimbabwe, whose sole objective was and is to try to legalize the racist regime of white supremacy over the Africans and at the same time to continue to deceive public opinion.

Like all of imperialism's plans, this scheme on the part of Her Majesty's agents was roundly defeated. Neither the people of Zimbabwe nor world public opinion, including that of the English people, could be deceived. And as a consequence the people of Zimbabwe, in a violent response, said NO to the Anglo-Rhodesian agreements and sacrificed the lives of 18 of their finest sons and unknown numbers of wounded and arrested.

It is well known that such agreements are unacceptable; whatever exists is among the British imperialists themselves in order to perpetuate the slavery they imposed on the people of Zimbabwe; there have been no differences among the British imperialists and their agents, headed by Smith, and if there were any they would only concern the methods for prolonging their occupation of Zimbabwe territory.
The OSPAAAL Executive Secretariat denounces the maneuvers of the British imperialists to try to convert Zimbabwe into a South African Union on the basis of their policy of exploitation and aggression in southern Africa; it condemns the so-called Douglas-Home mission and the practice of racial discrimination by the white minority against millions of Africans who are the sole owners of Zimbabwe’s wealth and its territory; and it firmly supports the determination of the people of Zimbabwe to liberate their country from the oppressor yoke.

The OSPAAAL Executive Secretariat calls on its member organizations and the progressive peoples of the world to declare their solidarity with the Zimbabwe people.

Appeal from the Executive Secretariat on the day of solidarity with the people of Zimbabwe.