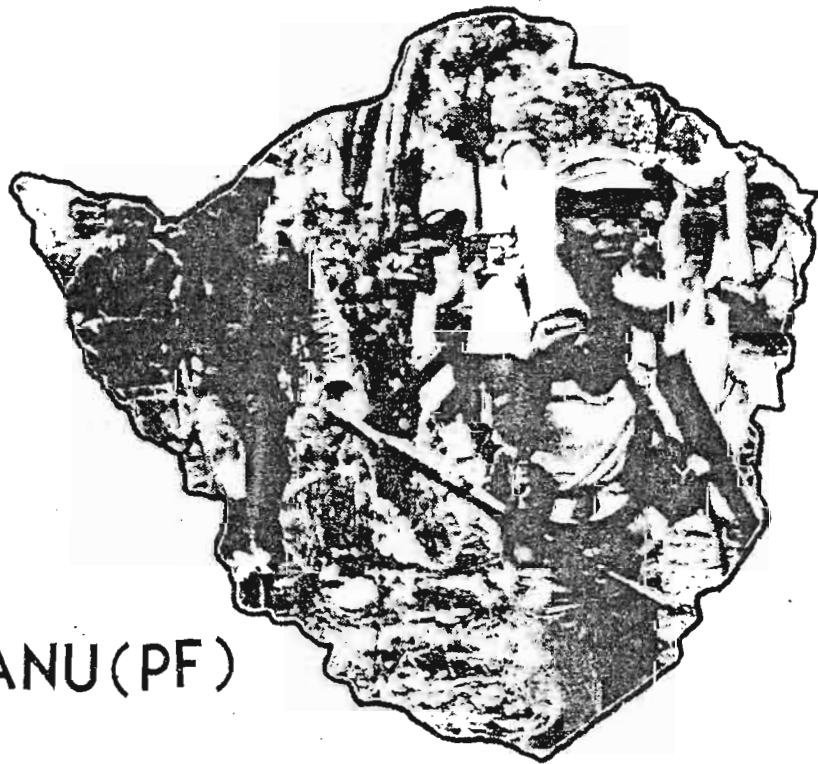


# A FREE & INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE: A Defeat for U.S. Imperialism & White Supremacy

A Forum in Solidarity with the Republic of Zimbabwe



Speaker from ZANU(PF)

Speaker: Silvia Baraldini

May 19 Communist Organization - Slideshow

During the February campaign and elections in Zimbabwe, a delegation from the revolutionary movement in the U.S. -- representatives from the Afrikan Peoples Party, the Provisional Government of the Republic of New Afrika, the Black Acupuncture Advisory Association of North America and May 19th Communist Organization -- went to Zimbabwe as international observers in solidarity with ZANU (the Zimbabwe African National Union). A representative from this delegation from the May 19th Communist Organization has just returned from the Independence Day celebrations of the Republic of Zimbabwe with a first-hand account of this critical phase of the Zimbabwean Revolution, the role of women in the struggle and what the tasks of solidarity are in 1980 -- which ZANU has named the Year of the People's Power.

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Free and independent Zimbabwe is a victory for all people struggling against imperialism and white supremacy to win their liberation. Rhodesia, a white settler colony and a stronghold of imperialist control in Africa, is gone -- destroyed through the mobilization of the entire nation of Zimbabwe to wage 17 years of people's war led by the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU-PF).

The liberation of Zimbabwe weakens the U.S.'s ability to maintain control of southern Africa, and significantly advances the decline of imperialism. White settler colonialism has suffered its first major defeat, changing the balance of power in the world and serving notice to the U.S., South Africa, Israel and all white settler colonies that they too will be defeated. Zimbabwe's liberation advances revolution around the world. This is particularly true for the liberation struggles in Namibia and Azania (South Africa) as well as in the Black Nation in the U.S. which is also struggling for land and independence.

Come hear a first-hand account of Zimbabwe at the dawn of victory. The delegation spoke with leaders and members of ZANU(PF), freedom fighters, women leaders and commanders and people throughout Zimbabwe to gain insight into how the struggle for independence has transformed the people and society and what the tasks are that lay ahead. Women and men, young and old, fought to reclaim their nation from imperialist domination and take control of their future. In particular, Zimbabwean women were key to the victory. Women advanced the people's war at every stage because, through the struggle to liberate their nation, they are engaged in a struggle to liberate themselves from the brutal oppression they faced under imperialism and white supremacy and the subservient role of women in traditional African society. Now with independence women have political power and forms of organization to address the needs of women throughout the nation as the new society is being built.

Under the leadership of ZANU(PF) and Prime Minister Mugabe's government, the Republic of Zimbabwe is being built as a revolutionary African country committed to the full development of its people and the total liberation of the rest of southern Africa from imperialism and white supremacy. Now Zimbabwe must defend its independence from imperialism and consolidate people's power. This means implementing national reconstruction programs, such as land distribution, health care and education -- to improve the conditions of peoples' lives and build a socialist society free of exploitation and oppression.

We are sponsoring this national speaking tour to raise political support and money for national reconstruction in the Republic of Zimbabwe. Work to build an anti-imperialist movement in solidarity with ZANU and the Zimbabwean revolution for 2 years in Park Slope has organized many people to take a stand against white supremacy and contribute clothing and money to aid the liberation forces. Now, it is critical to contribute to Zimbabwe's ability to consolidate as a revolutionary nation and to support the liberation of Namibia and Azania (South Africa) -- the security of Zimbabwe's independence cannot be separated from the liberation of all of southern Africa.

We're experiencing the impact of the victory in Zimbabwe and the advances of national liberation struggles around the world both through the deepening economic and political crisis in this country and through the escalating anti-imperialist struggle. This past year, the Black Nation moved forward in its struggle for liberation -- building a revolutionary leadership and a growing mass struggle for human rights. The uprising in Miami exposed the heightening genocidal attacks against Black and Third World people at this time but also made it clear that the U.S. imperialists and the system of white supremacy are going to be challenged here in the same fundamental way they were confronted and destroyed in Zimbabwe. The defining struggles here in Park Slope, those against gentrification, killer cops and the Klan, are part of the overall struggle against the system of imperialism and white supremacy.

U.S. imperialism is fighting to preserve its empire. U.S. troops invaded Iran, young people face the reinstatement of the draft, and the reality is that a war in the Third World, probably in southern Africa, is likely. Women are particularly feeling the impact of US defeat -- increasingly forced into the lowest paying jobs at the same time that basic services are being destroyed, violence is heightening and lesbian oppression intensifies. U.S. imperialism is trying to win people to support its strategy of counterinsurgency against national liberation. The Klan is growing, fighting that white rights must be defended by attacking the Black liberation struggle. Mass support is being built for killer cops through the formation of white vigilante groups like Civilian Observations Patrols (COP), auxiliary police and block watchers.

The crisis of US imperialism is going to be resolved only through its destruction. White people can play a role in this worldwide struggle by fighting against white supremacy, by helping to destroy the system that binds us to imperialism. That means actively opposing the Klan and the cops and supporting the struggle of Third World people for human rights and self-determination. It means building a movement that will aid the consolidation of the Republic of Zimbabwe and commit itself to the total liberation of southern Africa.