

ZAPU DEFINES ITS STAND

In an article entitled: "Where We Stand", which appears in the June issue of the "Zimbabwe Review", official organ of the Zimbabwe African People's Union, ZAPU states, inter alia:

"The illusion that Britain would support the cause for democracy in Rhodesia has now been dispelled. The unguarded hopes that international pressure would bring political change inside Rhodesia have vanished in Rhodesia there are no illusions left."

After outlining the various stages in the anti-imperialist struggle there ZAPU says:

"We have now passed the elementary stage of the anti-imperialist struggle and are now moving to a more advanced stage - revolution. Our attention now is centred on the decisive issue - armed struggle."

The article then goes on to discuss the nature, the ends and means of revolution, which it calls "a process constituting of various stages." One stage leads to another in a systematic, planned way. It is a process that calls for adequate preparation if the end-result is to be achieved. This preparation in turn is governed by objective conditions. To emphasise the need for planning in preparation for revolution the article continues; "Revolution is therefore not spontaneous unguided activity. Its success depends on the profound analysis of the concrete situation and the adoption of such measures which conform with the attainment of the desired objective The systematic application of revolutionary strategy entails the recognition of the protracted nature of the struggle."

Having analysed the nature of imperialist and fascist oppression and exploitation of the peoples of Southern Africa and having appreciated fully the demands of the revolutionary situation ZAPU comes to this conclusion: "The creation and expansion of a revolutionary structure is a prerequisite and an integral part of revolutionary activity." This is one of the basic tenets of revolutionary science, politics and strategy. There must be general mobilisation of the population for engaging in revolutionary activity.

Flowing from the above is the inevitable conclusion that in this protracted struggle against imperialism and fascism, the masses, the revolutionary masses, are the decisive force. In the words of the article under review:

"The revolutionary masses have passed the crossroads and committed the whole nation to a long-drawn struggle against imperialism. They themselves will dictate the frontiers of confrontation."