

## Guerilla Action in Mozambique

Minority white settlers in Mozambique will attempt to follow in the footsteps of Rhodesia's Ian Smith.

The prolonged guerilla action by whites following the independence agreement between Portugal and Frelimo, was only a climax in a gathering campaign.

Recruitment of mercenaries in Rhodesia has started, and in the capital of Mozambique, the only bombs exploding since the coup in Portugal have been hand grenades thrown against property by whites. And while the Frelimo representatives were putting their signatures to a

ceasefire agreement in Lusaka (Zambia), radical whites were planning attacks that broke six hours later.

Mostly members of the rightist Fico (I Stay) Party, they seized a local radio station and freed 200 recently imprisoned members of the secret police. Broadcasts from the station over three days rallied support from Portugese living in neighbouring countries, and made extravagant claims of control in the country and the main towns.

What later clashes did promise was a civil war impending, with Frelimo in a

commanding position. It is nine years since Ian Smith declared independence from Britain in Rhodesia, and the situation has changed dramatically on the borders of Mozambique. Perhaps it was this obvious conclusion, which caused the whites to attack Indian shopping areas rather than vent their persuasions directly on the black people. In a population exceeding seven million, whites number only 200,000.

It has been the whites and the Asians who have fled the country. Many are becoming refugees in South Africa and Rhodesia, but before the whites attacked eleven hundred people had boarded one ship to Portugal, and three or four jumbo jets a week have been booked up one month

in advance. The only local cargo agency in the capital has been storing belongings on pavements since their warehouses were filled.

The agreement between the Portugese government and Frelimo provided for a provisional government with six of the nine ministers from Frelimo and full independence on June 25. It was earlier expected that the combined government would take over the weakening civil authority on September 25 — tenth anniversary of the fight for independence.

Now Frelimo has declared that, in conjunction with Portugese armed forces and "in the spirit of this historic accord," they "will smash this rebellion of dangerous and irresponsible criminals."

## Atwood at Dal

by Catherine Dyke

As I entered the Arts Centre on Tuesday night at about 8:20, I wondered if it was possible that all the people milling around the lobby were coming to see Margaret Atwood. I shortly learned that they were, but that the doors were closed because the Dunn Theatre was already full. However, I did get in as did everyone else. Ms. Atwood invited people to sit on the stage floor and even pulled the drapes so people could sit behind her. Opening the drapes proved to be rather amusing, since there was an unsuspecting member of the set crew preparing a backdrop for the upcoming Dal Theatre performance. Undaunted he continued; nobody seemed to mind, least of all him.

Despite the largeness of the crowd the poetry reading was very intimate. We were bunched up on the floor all around her, becoming increasingly and painfully stiff but enjoying every minute of it. She read perhaps 15 poems, (quantity however is unimportant) from various books of her poetry. All of them were unmistakably characteristic of her style except maybe one or two, yet each remained distinct from every other. Between poems and afterwards she good-humouredly told us a bit about herself. Her parents are from Nova Scotia, but she missed being born here by one month. She still has quite a

few relatives here, centered mainly in the Valley or on the South Shore. Presently she has a farm in Ontario which as I found out later is less than 5 miles from my grandparents farm where I spent many summers years ago.

Ms. Atwood was asked what inspired her to write poetry and how she felt about her work. She responded very simply that she doesn't know: One can analyze another writers poems but as for determining the why's of her own writing she just doesn't think about it.

While I was hanging around the book table in the lobby where she was autographing copies of her books that were being sold, I learned some other interesting things about her. She is writing a Doctoral thesis which I presume is on the Victorian novel, since that is her field. She was asked why she didn't give it up since there obviously was no need for her to finish it. She answered, "I always finish everything and besides I like it". She also said that to work on it especially after writing a novel gave her brain a rest. I didn't think that a Ph. D. thesis was supposed to be relaxing, but as she said if she ever wanted to teach university, she wouldn't be hired on the basis of her thesis work, so why worry?

All in all I felt the evening was a tremendous success. I met one of Canada's prominent contemporary writers and listened to some excellent poetry.

## Clubs and Societies to Meet at Tupper

On Saturday afternoon, October 19, 1974 at one o'clock in Theatre A of the Sir Charles Tupper Medical Building, the Student Union and the office of Internal Affairs will sponsor a conference involving all active Clubs, Societies, and Organizations on campus.

This opportunity will bring Student Union executive, Student Council, Student Union Management, professional people and the students together, in order to solve problems of mutual interest together. The conference will allow each group to express their views on Student Union activities, food services, parking, bookstore facilities, entertainment, finances, cultural and academic areas where the Union may become more involved.

There has been a lack of Communication among our

groups, societies and organizations on campus and between them and the Student Union. Hopefully, we will be able to iron out these problems and with your advice, guidance and involvement, come up with solutions to these mind boggling trouble spots. On a long term basis, it is quite difficult for a Student Union to solve these problems of Student Organizations, if we cannot determine what the students want and how to go about dealing with the students' needs.

This conference will be the last opportunity for student groups to place items on the Student Union referendum of October 30th.

From the forum, the Union hope to bring to the students attention the ever growing need of involvement in Union activities and the necessity of bringing new ideas and a fresh

approach to Dalhousie Campus. They hope to inform groups the proper procedure for forming an organization, booking rooms and events on Campus, applying for grants, and areas of involvement in the Union.

After the discussion period is over, there will be ample time to break into workshops to discuss issues of mutual interest with other groups on campus.

Please submit the names of two delegates and one substitute from each group at Dalhousie who plan to attend the conference to the Vice-President's office by October 15th, so that final arrangements can be made. For further information, please contact Lorne Richardson, Room 222 SUB or phone 424-2146.

If there ever was a time to make a move — it's now. Let's get it all together.

## Co-op Housing Comm

Council approved the formation of a Cooperative Housing Committee. This committee is to look into the feasibility of establishing a student housing cooperative for Dalhousie. It must be evident to most of us in Halifax that students are discriminated against as far as housing is concerned. We are forced to take what is available because we do not have the united power to fight exploitative landlords. A cooperative is one way to overcome this disadvantage.

Basically, cooperative living means sharing the facilities of a house with a group of people on an equal basis. However, there are some differences between just splitting the rent and living in a cooperative atmosphere. A cooperative is a group of people who have joined together to achieve some common purposes. Among these are a better living atmosphere; a chance to meet new people and see how other people live and work, and last but not least a way to cut down on the high cost of living. While a cooperative's chief function is to increase the economic utility of its members its chief benefits are social.

A cooperative provides a social atmosphere in which people are exposed to a variety of people and situations which they would probably never experience. Thus a cooperative is a living and learning experience as well as a method to save money.

If you feel that a cooperative is the way to live please come to the first meeting of the committee on OCTOBER 17 at 7:30 in ROOM 424 of the SUB. And please be prepared to donate some of your time. If the cooperative is to succeed it will require much hard work.

If you have any questions please call Don Hains, 1638 Henry Street, 422-6952 (after 6)

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