UNIA-ACL MEMORANDUM  9-1-2012

As Ethiopia prepares for the Sunday Funeral for Meles Zenawi, it is interesting to learn from the tribute interviews about his life and career. It would seem that as Gaddafi was the CEO within the African Union, Meles was the Chief Operating Officer. He was the chief consultant for the African master plan. Within the AU, a successor has not been nominated nor anticipated.

Ethiopian Television has been broadcasting these interviews and other proceedings anticipating tomorrow’s state funeral. One interesting presentation showed the military taking an oath to the government and the constitution. The words resembled closely some words in my Spring 2012 memo: [1] that the disturbances in Africa are due to the lack of respect by the general population for the established governments; and that any shifta rises up against the state because they feel that in Africa there is nothing big enough to put them down. So the governments must re-engineer these relationships. [2] that when a government has been canonized by the AU as a member states, this should signal to all that the AU has become the protector of its constitution and its constitutional order. In the recent oath, the soldiers were pledging to support and protect the constitution and constitutional order. That is striking. [A shifta is the Swahili term for any armed gang, militia, vigilantes, or juntas; good or bad. The Greek term, tyrant, once meant the same thing, a person who rules by disrupting the established order, good or bad. The most famous shifta in Ethiopian history was Emperor Theodore (1818-1868) who reigned from 1855-1868. He was a teenage delinquent, formed his own gang, developed into an army, and seized the throne.]

Since the AU and Africa is developing a continental confederacy rather than a federation of states, the sub-regions of the continent, such as ECOWAS, IGAD, and SADC, serve as lieutenants of the AU system. In my memo, I suggested that each state designate a National Guard unit to serve the AU as protectors of the State, its Constitution and Constitutional order from all comers, foreign or domestic. [You can see how I am following U.S. Constitutional development and the Magna Carta traditions in my logic.]

It has been interesting how dialog within ECOWAS seems to be following that line of reasoning. After the Tuareg and Al-Qaeda seized Assawad and declared independence, they required recognition. Of course, the AU is the only authority around. Then the army of Mali, ashamed at its defeats int he field, turned and overthrew its own government, substituting itself. So ECOWAS has to deal with those bad boys on two levels. First, the junta government, themselves, were in violation of the constitutional order; second, the Tuareg were domestic rebels and the Al-Qaeda elements were foreign insurgents. Which to tackle first?

The Junta government in Mali, based in Bamako, the capital, declared that no foreign forces could enter their country. Meantime, the Bamako junta had to accept loss of Assawad or to accept help to its recovery. That was its dilemma. Gradually, the dialog drifted to the Bamako junta accepting ECOWAS troops for the recovery of Timbuktu on the condition that no ECOWAS troops would enter Bamako. That is progress in a decentralized confederacy where each state [and apparently in Africa, each province, is a sovereign authority over its territory. Only Germany before Bismarck had that problem.

(See Memorandum From The 2nd Assistant President General)
From the Office of His Highness The Potentate and Supreme Commissioner

ONE GOD - ONE AIM - ONE DESTINY!
Spiritual Ruling Body
of the
UNIVERSAL NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
and AFRICAN COMMUNITIES LEAGUE
1918 & 1929 of the World, Inc.

From the Office of His Highness The Potentate and Supreme Commissioner

September 1, 2012
Official Decree

Acting under the authority vested in me by Article I Section 1, and Article V Section 1, of the Constitution of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League; and after being duly advised by members of the Executive Council, I do hereby decree:

Whereas, the lifetime of faithful service she has rendered to the purposes of the Universal Negro Improvement Association and African Communities League;

Whereas, her character, morally and socially, stands above question in her respective community;

Whereas, her lifetime of achievements in developing mechanisms for the general uplift of the Black race has gained her worldwide recognition;

In Honor and Celebration of the Ninetieth year since she first emerged into this world as a self willed and independent thinking human being;

I do hereby confer upon Mariamne Samad the title of Honorary Matron within the Ancient Order of the Sphinx of the World, and,

I decree, that she shall be so respected by all people of African descent from all countries and climes.

SO ORDERED.

His Highness,
Ahmed Assalaam
Dr. Ahmed Assalaam
Potentate and Supreme Commissioner
On another but equally valid concern for AU and Africa is the policies of the two Zumas and South Africa. I have expressed my reservations about Mrs Zuma being Chairperson of the AU, based upon the duplicity of Mr. Zuma. In an interview, Mrs. Zuma said that she represented progress for the whole continent. That of course is laughable. The ANC in South Africa has not been able to provide for its won majority population. And as if Fate, itself, was listening to my complaints, the miners in South Africa went to strike and both Mr. Zuma and the ANC failed to government appropriately.

Re the killings! First, why is a Black government shooting its own people for a white concern. Miners in that country do have the right to unionize and to strike. Second, the demonstrators have been charged with the murder of the victims, even though only the police had weapons and most of the victims were shot in the back. Yet the demonstrators have been charged with murder by the power of an Apartheid by-law. How can that be? How can the Black government of South Africa, after the years of governance by Mandela, Mbeki, and now Zuma, still have Apartheid laws on the books? Even worse, how could they muster the audacity to invoke those wretched regulations? There is no shame in those people. They are not nationalists but bourgeois advocates.

\ A former ANC officer did show some spunk. The former Youth leader spoke to the miners encouraging them by saying: they go into the ground everyday making the corporation rich, but they themselves leave the ground only with a day’s pay. Now that is revolutionary! Hopefully that means that Mr. Zuma’s days have been numbered on the low side.

In the AU, however, who is there to protect the continent from this passive aggression? We have work to do. jwj

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South African Miners Continue Strike, Despite Shooting Deaths of 34 Coworkers

(MARIKANA, South Africa) — Striking miners remained defiant Monday, four days after police shot to death 34 of their compatriots, with at least half the strikers staying off the job and dozens of others singing in a paddy wagon on their way to court.

The Lonmin PLC platinum mine extended its ultimatum by a day, saying strikers have until Tuesday to return to work or get fired. The mine said it resumed operations Monday with 30 percent of its workforce.

Women searched for loved ones missing since Thursday’s shootings, with many gathered outside a courthouse in hopes their husbands, brothers and sons are alive and among 259 miners awaiting trial. The court decided Monday to continue the hearing Aug. 27, with the miners remaining in custody.

Nombulelo Jali wept hysterically in front of the court and said she could not find her 40-year-old husband Themba Khalo Jali. She said he had been arrested on Thursday. “We have frantically searched everywhere and we can’t locate him. Police took him,” 37-year-old Jali said through tears to a reporter from the South African Press Association.

A chorus of wails erupted as trucks carrying the arrested miners arrived, with some women praying and others crying loudly. The mineworkers were singing in the police trucks.

Police instructed the protesters to leave the court building and they assembled in the street outside, singing and dancing in front of police officers holding shields to barricade the court entrance.

Mark Munroe, executive vice president of Lonmin, said 30 percent of the 28,000 workforce reported for duty at the mine Monday, including fewer than half of the 3,000 rock drill operators, called RDOs, who were striking for higher wages amid a dispute pitting the country’s oldest and biggest trade union against a startup.

(See Southern African Miners Page 3)
A horde of politicians including 10 Cabinet ministers descended on the Marikana mine about 40 miles northwest of Johannesburg on Monday. The ministers came to help bereaved families make burial arrangements and get counseling. A group of opposition politicians from several parties made the trip to investigate the scene of the killings that the South African Civil Society called “the horror of South Africa’s first post-apartheid massacre.”

President Jacob Zuma announced a week of national mourning starting Monday and urged the country to “reflect on the sanctity of human life” and “unite against violence from whatever quarter.” Ten people, including police officers and mine workers, had died in violence at the mines in the days before the shootings.

He has instigated a judicial commission of inquiry into what happened on Thursday, when police say they acted in self-defense to fire a barrage of live bullets at a group of charging miners including one armed with a pistol and others with homemade spears and clubs.

National Police chief Riah Phiyega drew fire from opposition politicians for the defense of her officers, whom she absolved of all guilt in the shootings at a funeral Sunday for one of two police officers hacked to death by the strikers. “It was the right thing to do,” Phiyega said, though “We are sorry that lives were lost.”

Lonmin said in a statement Monday: “Lonmin can confirm that work at its Marikana operations resumed today as significant numbers of employees returned to work.” The company’s shares have taken a hard hit since the strikes that started more than 10 days ago.