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*Top* A general view of Brasilia from entrance to Hotel Nacional

*Bottom (left to right)*, Peter Raberoko (PAC), Robert Resha (ANC) and Leslie Rubin, ex-Liberal Party of South Africa

Words Words Words, To the Editor and Inside South Africa resume in December.

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THE ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN UNITY meets in Addis Ababa on the anniversary of UDI week, that final frantic period when Britain and Southern Rhodesia reached deadlock and the white Rhodesians finally committed themselves to taking South Africa's apartheid road. At that time, the nations of Africa stood by, apparently prepared to leave the fate of five million Africans in the heart of the African continent to the wranglings of a remote, reluctant former colonial power and a handful of landgrabbing, racist settlers. Sound and fury have followed — at Lagos in January, Addis Ababa in February, Nairobi in April, London and New York in September-October, when foreign ministers and heads of states have taken positions, and struck attitudes, issued threats, forgotten them. Other than by the logical, firm action of Tanzania, and the few who like her broke off diplomatic relations with Britain, their actions have not moved Britain or the world to greater resolution in the interests of the oppressed Africans of Southern Rhodesia. How could they if, without even effective military alliances, let alone preparedness to stand by the ministers' actions in conference abroad, or unified political planning behind the scenes, the members of the OAU appear deluded, confused, disunited, even at times half-hearted in their campaign for the freeing of so many millions from the Zambezi to Table Bay?

At Addis Ababa from 5 to 9 November these weaknesses will not disappear. While Africa remains in pawn to the wealthy nations of the world, her leaders can scarcely talk as free men. Talk of force is empty when force cannot be mustered. Yet disunity, half-heartedness, lack of support by governments for their spokesmen — these surely can be reduced to the human minimum in Addis Ababa this month. Africa's remaining degree of political unity, and the commitment of her leaders to the political freedom many of them fought for, are weapons that Africa must use more and more skilfully in world forums. With almost a third of the seats at UN occupied by Africans, with a continental unity far more developed than in any other quarter of the globe, Africa has political weapons which she must keep sharp, while the physical ones are fashioned — food and factories, and while Africans remain in slavery, guns as well. The OAU Summit can show, after sound and fury, the way to Africa's sober realisation of her strengths and weaknesses, to the proper use of the former and the elimination of the latter. The OAU Summit can also plan the political strategies for now — to use its unity and its commitment far more effectively than before against those it accepts as more able to act in its peoples' interest in Southern Rhodesia, South West Africa, the Portuguese territories and South Africa.