

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 24 July 2011 17:53 - Last Updated Sunday, 24 July 2011 17:53

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The attempt to deport Vigil supporter Josephine Chari confirms the British government's determination to end the moratorium on sending home failed Zimbabwean asylum seekers. Josephine was returned to Yarlswood detention centre from the airport and it is not yet clear what her position is.

But it is known that one Zimbabwean has already been forcibly removed and the larger than normal turnout at the Vigil suggests that many people believe they could be next. A campaigner for asylum seekers says the UK Border Agency is trying desperately to meet a deadline to resolve about half a million outstanding cases by the end of the month. Chris Eades from Asylum Aid said: 'Over the last six months there has been very little rhyme or reason to who is granted leave to remain and who is refused. The decisions are bizarre and irrational'.

Meanwhile there are reports that the South Africans have extended the deadline for Zimbabweans to regularize their position from the end of July to the end of August. But they have repeated that they will then begin deportations.

The Vigil has always argued that our supporters would be in danger if returned to Zimbabwe because they have been seen and photographed protesting outside the Embassy. This argument has been supported by recent revelations by SW Radio Africa, which has been publishing the names from a list of CIO agents it has obtained, at least two of whom are currently deployed at the Zimbabwe Embassy. They are Bright Kupemba and Win Busayi Juyana Mlambo, who is effectively the Deputy Ambassador. (see:

<http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/CIOpart3mm.htm>

and

<http://www.swradioafrica.com/Documents/CIOpart4fe.htm> ).

Talking of the London-based SW Radio Africa, the station's manager Gerry Jackson made the point: why is the British government trying to send back Josephine and not the CIO torturer Machedze who has been given leave to remain in the UK? (see: Vigil diaries: 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> May 2011

<http://www.zimvigil.co.uk/the-vigil-diary/308-malawi-cuts-off-its-own-nose-zimbabwe-vigil-diary-21st-may-2011>

and

<http://www.zimvigil.co.uk/the-vigil-diary/311-vigil-demands-no-haven-in-uk-for-cio-torturer-zimbabwe-vigil-diary-28th-may-2011>

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### Other points

- Washington Ali of MDC Southend came to the Vigil and appealed for support for an anti-deportation protest to be held in Southend on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> July. For details see 'Events and Notices'.
- Vigil supporters were shocked at how viciously Mugabe's friend President Mutharika has acted in suppressing dissent in Malawi. We are not surprised that Malawi is in turmoil given his autocratic behaviour as evidenced by the expulsion of the High Commissioner for the UK, Malawi's largest donor (the UK promptly suspended aid). We hope Mutharika will soon make use of his US \$22 million presidential jet to flee the country . . . probably to the stolen farm he was given in Zimbabwe. We commend Malawians for their courage and hope they will lead a wave of change in Southern Africa on the Middle Eastern pattern.
- The Vigil has been kindly disposed to Minister of Education Senator David Coltart since he came to visit us last year. But we were disappointed by his remarks reported in an article in the Australian newspaper. They sounded remarkably like comments by people who met Hitler . . . such a nice man, charming, a vegetarian, likes dogs . . . (See: Foes drag Zimbabwe from the brink – [http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/jul23\\_2011.html#Z5](http://www.zimbabwesituation.com/jul23_2011.html#Z5) .) Coltart says Mugabe is in charge – well with that comes responsibility for all the evils being perpetrated in Zimbabwe. We know that the ludicrous constitution being prepared in Zimbabwe will probably provide for the death penalty for anyone criticising the President but the Vigil's view is that he should face trial in the Hague . . . charming or not.
- It was good to have back with us Memory 'Gwenzi' Mucherahowa (former Dynamos FC captain and manager).

For latest Vigil pictures check: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/zimbabwewigil/> . Please note: Vigil photos can only be downloaded from our Flickr website – they cannot be downloaded from the slideshow on the front page of the Zimvigil website. For the latest ZimVigil TV programme check <http://www.zimvigilv.com/>

**FOR THE RECORD:** 113 signed the register.

### EVENTS AND NOTICES:

· **The Restoration of Human Rights in Zimbabwe (ROHR)** is the Vigil's partner organisation based in Zimbabwe. ROHR grew out of the need for the Vigil to have an organisation on the ground in Zimbabwe which reflected the Vigil's mission statement in a practical way. ROHR in the UK actively fundraises through membership subscriptions, events, sales etc to support the

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activities of ROHR in Zimbabwe.

·**ZBN News.** The Vigil management team wishes to make it clear that the Zimbabwe Vigil is not responsible for Zimbabwe Broadcasting Network News (ZBN News). We are happy that they attend our activities and provide television coverage but we have no control over them. All enquiries about ZBN News should be addressed to ZBN News.

·**The Zim Vigil band** (Farai Marema and Dumi Tutani) has launched its theme song 'Vigil Yedu (our Vigil)' to raise awareness through music. To download this single, visit:

[www.imusicafrica.com](http://www.imusicafrica.com)

and to watch the video check:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QukqctWc3XE>

·**Anti-Deportation Protest.** Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> July from 1.30 – 4 pm. Venue: Southend Civic Centre, Victoria Ave, Southend SS2 6ER. The demonstration is organized by MDC Southend and MDC South East District. A petition will be handed to two local MPs. It will be copied to various government departments.

·**ROHR Manchester Vigil.** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: Cathedral Gardens, Manchester City Centre (subject to change to Piccadilly Gardens).

Contact

; Delina Tafadzwa Mutyambizi 07775313637, Chamunorwa Chihota 07799446404, Panyika Karimanzira 07551062161, Artwell Pfende 07886839353. Future demonstrations: 27

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August, 24

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September, 29

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October 26

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November, 31

st

December. Same time and venue.

·**ROHR Wolverhampton general meeting. Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July from 1.30 – 5.30 pm.** Venue: Heath Town Community Centre, 208 Chevriil Rise, Wolverhampton WV10 0HP. ROHR National Executive and a well-known lawyer present. Contact: Tsvakai Marambi 07915065171, Flora Nyahuma 07501843253, Rumbi Mudyanadzo 07867844699, P Chibanguza 0798406069 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.

·**ROHR Nottingham general meeting.** Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July from 2 – 5 pm. Venue: St Saviour Community Hall, Arkwright Walk, Nottingham NG2 2JU. The church is just a few minutes' walk from the train station. ROHR National Executive members will be attending to discuss the abuse of human rights and political situation in Zimbabwe. Contact: Allan Nhemhara 07810197576, Raymond C Chisuko 07832927609. Mary Chabvamuperu 07412074928, Christopher Chibumbu 07775888205, P Chibanguza 07908406069 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.

·**ROHR Woking Summer fundraising barbeque.** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August from 2 pm till late. Venue: The Old Ford, Lynchford Road, Ash Vale, Aldershot GU12 5QA. Everyone is invited – come and enjoy a fun-filled day out.

## Zimbabweans face expulsion from UK – Zimbabwe Vigil Diary: 23rd July 2011

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Braai, sadza, rice, chicken, salads, cakes, snacks, drinks. Games for children including karaoke. Boot sale, auction and raffle with amazing prizes. Contact: Stanford Munetsi 07584161806, Pauline Nyikadzino 07906726477, Sithokozile Hlokana 07886203113 and Jermaine Volkwyn 07908522993.

·**ROHR Ipswich launch meeting.** Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> August from 2 – 5.30 pm. Venue Citizens Advice Bureau, Tower Street, Ipswich IP1 3BE. ROHR National Executive and a well-known lawyer present. Contact: Dhumisani B Muchipisi 07432722907, Lovemore Muzadzi 07552560184, R Chifungo 07795070609, P Chibanguza 0798406069 or P Mapfumo 07915926323 / 07932216070.

·**ROHR Manchester Meetings.** Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> August (committee meeting from 11 am – 1 pm, general meeting from 2 – 5 pm). Venue: The Salvation Army Citadel, 71 Grosvenor Road, Manchester M13 9UB.

Contact

; Delina Tafadzwa Mutyambizi 07775313637, Chamunorwa Chihota 07799446404, Panyika Karimanzira 07551062161, Artwell Pfende 07886839353. Future meetings: 10

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September, 8

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October, 12

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November, 10

th

December. Same times and venue.

·**Vigil Facebook page:** <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8157345519&ref=ts> .

·**Vigil Myspace page:** <http://www.myspace.com/zimbabwewigil> .

·**‘Through the Darkness’**, Judith Todd’s acclaimed account of the rise of Mugabe. To receive a copy by post in the UK please email confirmation of your order and postal address to [ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ngwenyasr@yahoo.co.uk)

and send a cheque for £10 payable to “Budiro Trust” to Emily Chadburn, 15 Burners Close, Burgess Hill, West Sussex RH15 0QA. All proceeds go to the Budiro Trust which provides bursaries to needy A Level students in Zimbabwe.

·**Workshops aiming to engage African men on HIV testing and other sexual health issues.**

Organised by the Terrence Higgins Trust (

[www.tht.org.uk](http://www.tht.org.uk)

). Please contact the co-ordinator Takudzwa Mukiwa (

[takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk](mailto:takudzwa.mukiwa@tht.org.uk))

if you are interested in taking part.