

# SA 'accepts uhuru'

WASHINGTON — South Africa has given high-level assurances to the US that it will accept the inevitability of Black rule in Mozambique and "may even one day accept it in Rhodesia," according to the Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, Mr Donald Easum.

Mr Easum told the House Sub Committee on Africa that Black African leaders had told the US they had received — "with pleasure" — the same assurances.

Mr Easum did not disclose the source of these "high-level" assurances but he is known to have met lately with the South

African Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Hilgard Muller. Observers here take it for granted that Dr Muller must at least have confirmed the assurances.

Mr Easum did hint that South Africa had made a specific exception of South West Africa.

## CONCERN

He disclosed the South

African assurances in reply to a question from the chairman of the sub-committee, Congressman Charles Diggs, who displayed concern that South Africa might engage in surreptitious intervention in Mozambique.

Mr Easum said: "The principle assurances we have are those that common sense and political and economic self-interest dictate to South Africa.

"If South Africa itself is to be free of outside interference, if South Africa is to realise its development and to realise its own eco-

nomie goals, it must come to terms with Black Africa and recognise the importance to its own interest of Mozambique's labour, of the harbour at Lourenco Marques and the power from Cabora Bassa.

"South African interests should surely be in stability, from its own point of view, of its neighbours, rather than in instability."

★ Mr Easum leaves Washington later this month for an extended tour of Southern Africa which will include his first visit to South Africa.