

# Henry's Present



Arthur Hoppe

"HELLO, HENRY. Nice of you to call. How are things in ... Where are you these days?"

"Africa, Jerry. And things are going splendidly. I'm bringing you home an authentic, hand-crafted souvenir."

"Say, that's swell, Henry. What is it? One of those voodoo masks? A tiger-skin rug?"

"No, I made it myself, Jerry. It's an Africa Policy."

"Oh."

"You don't sound too excited, Jerry."

"No offense, Henry. But are you sure we need one?"

"We never had one before. And what will Ronnie say?"

"But you've got to have an Africa Policy now, Jerry. The Russians have one."

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"OH, WELL. I guess Ronnie couldn't object to me standing up to the Russians. What's my new Africa Policy look like, Henry?"

"You'll love it, Jerry. You see there's this little band of white settlers in Rhodesia surrounded by millions of blacks who ..."

"Great, Henry! Then I come swinging down out of the trees with a knife between my teeth to rescue these poor white settlers from the spear-carrying, bloodcrazed natives. Could I rescue Shirley Temple, too? Ronnie's always liked her."

"No, no, Jerry. You're on the side of

the blood-crazed ... That is to say you're for majority rule."

"Oh, Well, I guess Ronnie can't object to majority rule, not as long as we're standing up to the Russians. Why are the Russians on the side of the poor white settlers, Henry?"

"No, Jerry, they're on the side of the blood ... They're on our side. I mean they're on the same side we are. But we have to be more on that side than they because they've got something we haven't got — 10,000 Cubans."

"Don't be silly, Henry. We've got more Cubans than that in Miami alone. Just say the word and I'll ship you over a boatload. I'll bet our Cubans could lick their Cubans any day of the week."

"They didn't last time. Besides, you want to stop the fighting. Your new Africa Policy is for the little band of white settlers to happily turn over power to the millions of blacks they've been exploiting for years. And the blacks, out of gratitude, will tenderly care for the whites and ..."

"Gosh, Henry. I don't think even Ronnie will buy that one."

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"DON'T FORGET, Jerry, we're the most powerful nation on earth. What we say goes! These backward, little ..."

"Please stop shouting, Henry. I'm sure it's a very nice policy. And, after all, it's the thought that counts. But is Shirley Temple all right in Ghana? I worry about that little tyke out there in the jungle, a friend of Ronnie's ..."

"Darned if I know, Jerry. Ghana wouldn't let me in."