ZIMBABWE - GENERAL
1983
AUG. — DEC.
Frontline states may ban SA-based media

HARARE — Information Ministers of the six black African Frontline states announced yesterday that in principle no foreign correspondents would be allowed to cover their countries from bases in South Africa.

The Ministers — from Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Zambia, Angola, Botswana and Tanzania — also agreed that any foreign journalist banned by one of them would be barred by the rest.

After a two-day meeting, the Ministers issued a communiqué called the Kadoma Declaration, after the Zimbabwean town where they gathered.

"A conference source was quoted by the Mozambican official news agency, Aim, as saying the ruling did not apply to South African journalists working for the South African media.

The declaration said South Africa was being used as the main information centre on the region by some international news agencies and other media.

It appealed for foreign news media to follow the example of some and set up bureaux in independent black states.

The Ministers did not say how strictly they would apply the restriction, but "in principle".appeared to imply flexibility. — Reuters.

The Johannesburg-based Foreign Correspondents' Association today refused to comment on the "Frontline" states' decision to ban South African-based journalists from visiting their territories.

"At this stage we have no comment to make," the association's chairman, Mr Bob Chancellor said.

He said the association had still not decided if it would issue a statement on the matter.
5th Brigade pulls back to Midlands

HARARE — Soldiers of the Fifth Brigade blamed for Matabeleland atrocities are withdrawing to their Midlands barracks after reports of renewed violence, Western diplomats said at the weekend.

The pullout of the 5,000-strong North Korean-trained brigade is expected to ease tensions.

People in Matabeleland, base of the runaway opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zanu party, claim the soldiers killed, tortured and raped hundreds of civilians and razed whole villages in the province early this year in a crackdown on dissidents.

Church leaders, relief workers and aid agencies supported these charges and more recent allegations.

Mr Nkomo fled to exile in London in March claiming the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, was using Fifth Brigade troops to assassinate him.

Chief government spokesmen were unavailable to comment on reports of the withdrawal of the Fifth Brigade soldiers, specially groomed in tank warfare, counter-insurgency and martial arts by North Korean army instructors. — Reuters.
Free-spending socialism curbed
Austerity threat to Mugabe power

HARARE. - Zimbabwe's Socialist Govern-
ment has been forced by world recession
and two years of severe drought to adopt
orthodox conservative economic policies
which could endanger its political power
base.

The development plan projected growth of 8.4% a year
between 1987 and 1988 as against 6.5% for services. But, in
1982 output in manufacturing,
agriculture, mining, con-
dustry, domestic trade and transport fell by 1%. Spending
on non-productive education,
health and public administration soared by more than 14%.

Critics of the Government have said it has
failed to meet its ambitious targets and stigmatized itself as
the "country of Zimbabwe"
area for a truly socialist society, had been
thrown into disarray.

Two Zimbabwean banks have announced
that real gross national product will fall this year for the first
time since 1979, reflecting a reshap-
ing of Government economic strategy.

Inability is the economy failing to meet its ambiti-
s 8% annual average growth target, but the pattern is
opposite to that intended.

By JCI: LUFTHansa

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Punishments lift
ship losses

LONDON. - Punishment clauses for late to
British Shipbuilders, soon to announce losses
more than £70 million instead of £10 million
originally projected for the year to last
March.

It lost £28 million in the first half of its financial
year, and its half-year figures show that the
Pentagon's full-scale campaign against the US
navy has been brought to a standstill.

The place of this new concept, however, is not unknown.

One is the British Spirit.
Newsmen hope for talks over banning

Canadians see Boesak as ‘the star of WCC assembly’

Argus Foreign Service

VANCOUVER. — The impact made by Dr Allan Boesak on the sixth general assembly of the World Council of Churches here was highlighted when Canada’s national newspaper said he was the “assembly star.”

The influential Globe and Mail said at the weekend that Dr Boesak — assessor of the Ned Geref Sendingerk, and president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches — filled the plenary hall and captivated the participants.

Dr Boesak attended as a representative of the WARC.

He spoke with the voice of the Third World, cautioning against over-emphasising the issue of nuclear disarmament if it were at the expense of problems such as hunger, poverty and injustice.

The newspaper said his voice kept almost 4 000 participants listening, charming and “seducing” them, even if they did not like what he had to say.

It described him as South Africa’s Martin Luther King.

The article also said he "threw the meeting here into controversy by saying that the church should not abandon oppressed people who had turned to violence”.

TALKS

This was read by some of the media to mean that the supported violence. But what he said was that if people take up arms after years of non-violent attempts to win justice, the church must continue to support them — “not by supplying arms, but by supplying them and bringing them back from the battlefield to the conference table”.

The church should try to convince these agencies that no solution could be obtained through violence.

FLOWERED

The Globe and Mail said Dr Boesak had “flowered as a leader in South Africa, leading a resurgence of black political activities and renewed opposition to the Government’s constitutional proposals.”

He is being mentioned as a possible successor to the secretary-general, Dr Phillip Potter, but the newspaper says the WCC is unlikely to choose another controversial Third World figure “after its recent stormy history.”

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A four-man delegation from the Johannesburg-based Foreign Correspondents’ Association has left for Harare for talks with the Zimbabwean authorities on the frontline states’ decision to ban journalists based in South Africa from visiting their territories.

The delegation is led by the association’s chairman, Mr Bob Chancellor. South African correspondent for Voice of America, and includes another American journalist, a Briton and a West German.

It is not known if representatives of the Zimbabwian Government will agree to meet the delegation.

Restrictions

Under the restrictions announced yesterday, Zimbabweans, Zambia, Mozambique, Angola and Tanzania will bar foreign correspondents accredited to South Africa, and correspondents banned in one frontline state will be banned in all of them.

Yesterday the Zimbabwean Government ordered a Johannesburg-based BBC reporter to leave the country in compliance with the frontline states’ decision.

The Argus Africa News Service reports from Maputo that a spokesman for the Mozambique Government confirmed today that the ban did not apply to South African journalists.

America has expressed regret at the restrictions, reports Sapa-Reuter from Washington.

Freedom

State Department spokesman Mr John Hughes said: “No attempt should be made to restrict freedom of the Press and therefore we would particularly regret

Afrikaans church leaders meet PM

Provincial Reporter

At the invitation of the Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, leading members of four Afrikaans churches have met him, with members of the Cabinet in Pretoria for what were described as “informal discussions.”

Mr Botha said he hoped to have similar talks with other church groups soon.

Among the issues discussed yesterday were bond frauds, Sunday sport, censorship, the morale of the community and matters related to family life.

The Prohibition of Mixed Marriages and Immorality Acts were not discussed.

The Rev Tappies Müller, Western Cape Moderator of the Ned Geref Kerk, said Church and State representatives at the meeting were free to exchange views on matters of mutual concern. No decisions were made.

REPRESENTATIVES

The Ned Geref Kerk was represented by the Rev Kobus Potgieter, Moderator of the General Synod of the NGK; Dr Dirk Fourke, actuary, and Mr Müller, assessor of the General Synod.
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Freedom

State Department spokesman Mr John Hughes said: "No attempts should be made to restrict freedom of the press and therefore we would particularly regret any restrictions on access to information posed by those countries."

Action is also being taken to restrict the operations of South African news gathering organisations in Zimbabwe, and the bureaux of the Argus and Sunday Times.

Botsswana appears unlikely to join in the banning of South African-based foreign correspondents.

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Representing the gereformeerde Kerke were Dr. T. Visser, Dr. P. J. J. de Bruyn and C. J. Malan.

Hervormde Kerke were represented by Professor Bart Oberholzer, chairman of the General Assembly, the Rev. John van der Bergh, deputy-chairman, and the Rev. C. de Lange, secretary.

The Apostolese geleiersing was represented by Mr. P. Moller, head of the church, Pastor W. J. van der Merwe, executive officer, and Pastor J. P. van den Boer, national secretary.
SA-based newsmen barred by Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government has slapped a ban on all foreign correspondents based in South Africa intending to visit Zimbabwe. The tough action has been taken in terms of the agreement reached by Frontline states' Information Ministers who met at the weekend to draw up an information offensive strategy.

Official sources here have made it clear that Zimbabwe intends to waste no time implementing the agreement which they stress was a regional decision aimed at countering Pretoria's efforts to influence media coverage of the black states in the region.

Action is also being taken to restrict the operations of South African news-gathering organisations in Zimbabwe.

Officials are working on the basis that the bureaux of the Argus Group and Sanaa now operating in Zimbabwe will be limited to one man each. The information strategy is aimed at establishing a Frontline states' voice which will disclose their views.

Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Angola, Botswana and Tanzania had delegates at the meeting which was also attended by a Nigerian representative.

The ban on correspondents based in South Africa is also an attempt to force the international news organisations to station their representatives in the Frontline states.

It is argued that correspondents based in South Africa who periodically visit the Frontline states present a distorted picture because they tend to see the situation through South African 'racially inspired eyes'. The decision to bar South Africa-based correspondents "in principle" has been interpreted here as a restriction in general which will allow exceptions in certain circumstances.

Associated Press reports that an association of journalists representing Western news media decided yesterday to send a delegation to Zimbabwe to protest against the ban.

The Foreign Correspondents Association of Southern Africa, based in Johannesburg and representing 53 news organisations from Japan, Taiwan and 10 Western countries, said its representatives would fly to Zimbabwe immediately.

The association said it decried any restriction on the free flow of news, and that its delegation would seek meetings with officials of the Zimbabwean Government and diplomats from the other Frontline states.

UK TV crew

HARARE — A three-man British television team was ordered to leave Zimbabwe yesterday.

This comes after a decision by six black African nations to ban South African-based journalists from reporting in their countries.

The team, led by British Broadcasting Corporation television correspondent Phil Hatton, had arrived in Zimbabwe from South Africa on Friday.

They are the first victims of a ban, announced by Information Ministers of six Frontline nations after a two-day conference in the Zimbabwean town of Kadoma.

The conference was called to offset what they called "South Africa's carefully orchestrated propaganda aggression" against black states in the region.

The countries represented at the conference were Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. — Associated Press

HAGAR the Horrible

By Dik Bro

THINGS SURE HAVE CHANGED SINCE I WAS A KID!

They don't swing like they used to!

Accused: I was 21!

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Two members of an allegedly South African-backed dissident group appeared in the High Court here yesterday. They are charged with murder after the death of a policeman in a shootout in Zimbabwe's south-eastern lowveld in December.

Dr Zwiendanzu Nkima (21) and Mr Bensen Dube (20) pleaded not guilty to...
Bike star in protest

1997, said the Medical Board of the hospital, which is run by the Ministry of Health, that the doctor had been appointed to the position on a temporary basis. The doctor's appointment, however, was later cancelled by the ministry.

People

Illness forces Barnard

into early retirement

African court orders trial: Special committee in charge of financial affairs questions the propriety of the appointment. The court has ordered a full investigation into the matter.

Weather

Over 1997, said the Medical Board of the hospital, which is run by the Ministry of Health, that the doctor had been appointed to the position on a temporary basis. The doctor's appointment, however, was later cancelled by the ministry.

Delay 355-m tax payment

Christian loses bid to

improve    

Go to    

Accused: I was made to train in SA camp

Harare court hears of ‘SA-backed’ dissidents

By ANDRE VILJOEN

HARARE — Two alleged Zimbabwean dissidents, charged with murdering a policeman in a shootout, claimed they were unwilling members of a South African-
backed dissident band, the police said in Harare yesterday.

Mr. Zwelibanzi Nzima, 28, and Mr. Denson Dube, 30, both pleaded not guilty to murder
and the alternative charges of terrorism or illegal possession of arms of war.

But, the two men admitted they were members of a group of seven dissidents in-
volved in a shootout with Poly Support Unit members on Dorrinton ranch in the
Mwenezi district in southern Zimbabwe on December 1.

Five dissidents, two civil-

ians and a police constable,
Mr. Mike Nyanube, died in
the shootout. Another police-
man was wounded.

Mr. Dube claimed he went
to South Africa in May last
year to buy a “Zamisa” gun
for training to fight against
the Zimbabwean government,
Mr. Yonas Nazina, for the
state, told the court yesterday.

He said Mr. Dube said he
spent time at “Spencer, Gumbo,
and Ntabeni camps”, where he was trained in the
use of rifles, grenades and
landmines.

In late October, he was given
an AK-47 rifle and other
equipment with others, he
was taken to the Limpopo
river by a white colonel and a
white sergeant. The trainees
crossed into Zimbabwe.

Mr. Nzima claimed he was
abducted while hunting in
Matabeleland.

He said he was taken by
some men, including whites,
to a camp near the South
African border, Mr. Nazina
said.

Mr. Nzima said he had not
fired any shots in the Dorr
rington contact. Mr. Dube
admitted firing several maga-
tines of AK rounds.

Police Superintendent Mi-
heshu revealed to the court
that on December 1 he had 10
of his men advanced to a la-
bourers’ homestead. Mr Dorr
ington ranch. When they were about 75m from the
homestead, they were fired
on with automatic rifles.

The dissidents in the home-
stead also fired an RPG-7
rocket and threw grenades.

He left the scene of the
counter and returned shortly
in an armoured vehicle. At
this stage the dissidents
broke cover and some of
them were shot. He drove
over the bodies. Asked why
he did this, he said: “It was
one way of fighting the war.”
5th Brigade les terror in its we...

By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The 5,000 troops of the North Korean-trained 5th Brigade has been withdrawn to barracks in the Midlands — just as alarming new evidence of a fresh wave of atrocities by the unit over the past two months has reached church authorities here.

Diplomatic sources confirmed that the controversial brigade had been pulled back, and since its departure there have apparently been no reports of killings, beatings or rape involving government troops.

Clergymen and missionaries in the province say the latest incidents that have come to their attention accelerated from the end of May onwards — after the brief, comparatively peaceful interlude which followed earlier brutalities.

Among the newest incidents reported:

- June 3 — Tsholotsho district; 19 people shot dead in separate incidents.
- June 10 — Sihongwe kraal line, Tsholotsho district; 22 people including women and children herded into a hut and burnt to death.
- June 15 — Madona kraal line, Tsholotsho; eight people shot and two burnt to death.
- June 15 — Three people bayoneted at 5th Brigade Camp near Pumula Mission, Tsholotsho.
- July 5 — Tshongokwe district, Nkayi: army rounded up hundreds of people from the areas around the Zinaphi, Bangali and Ngebume schools.

INVESTIGATIONS

After accusing them of harbouging dissidents the soldiers systematically and brutally beat the crowd, an operation which lasted from dawn till sunset.

June 19 — Roads Department labour gang severely assaulted by soldiers in the Gwanwi area. One man had both legs broken.

The man who has been deeply involved in investigations of the incidents is Father Hebron Wilson, a member of the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, which earlier this year strongly criticised the government for its harsh military campaign in Matabeleland.

Interviewed in Bulawayo, Father Wilson said the incidents documented were probably just a part of the wider picture because of the terror the 5th Brigade had inspired in the province's Rhodesia people.

"There is now an ingrained fear that spread over a wide area of the province, an illusion of freedom of speech brought about by mass killings," he said.

INDOCTRINATED

"What is going on is nothing short of the systematic wiping out of people," he added.

As long as the 5th Brigade stayed in its area, said Father Wilson, there would be no peace because "these soldiers don't obey anyone's command."

The Catholic priests also spoke of massings which had been organised throughout the province by the army and which people were forced to attend.

At the meetings people, including children, were intimidated and forced to buy membership of the ruling Zanu (F) party.

Young girls were forced to cook, washing and perform domestic services for troops.

Schools had been closed in many areas, thousands of people having fled to the comparative safety of Bulawayo.

Father Wilson referred to some of the refugees being given blankets and clothing.
5th Brigade leaves terror in its wake

By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

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June 17: Three people bayoneted at 5th Brigade Camp near Pumula Mission, Tsholotsho.
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Interviewed in Bulawayo, Father Wilson said the incidents he documented were probably only a part of the whole picture because of the terror the 5th Brigade had inspired in the province's Ndebele people.

"There is now an ingrained fear that spreads over a wide area of Matabeleland — an inhibition of freedom of speech brought about by the mass killings," he said.

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"What is going on here is nothing short of the intensive wiping out of people," he added.

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The Catholic priest also spoke of mass meetings which had been organised throughout the province by the army and which people were forced to attend.

At the meetings the people — including young children — were indoctrinated and forced to buy membership cards of the ruling Zanu (PF) party.

Young girls were forced to cook, wash and perform essential services for the troops.

Schools had been closed in many areas and thousands of people had fled to the comparative safety of Bulawayo.

Father Wilson said some of the refugees were being given food, blankets and clothing by the church.

At a Catholic mission hospital north of Bulawayo, Dr Wilhelm Boruch, a German, said that in May and June he had seen a sharp increase in the number of people being admitted with injuries suffered at the hands of the army.

The hospital staff have treated gunshot wounds, torture burns, fractures and other injuries resulting from severe beatings. Since May 1 the hospital has treated 50 such cases compared with the total of about 190 since the original violence began at the end of January.

"But you can be sure that what we see is only the tip of the iceberg," said Dr Boruch.

Most patients admitted to the hospital had told medical staff that the soldiers who ill-treated them threatened to kill both them and the doctor if they sought treatment.

Fifth Brigade troops in his area were withdrawn about 10 days ago, said the doctor.

Since then he had admitted no new victims of violence at the hands of government troops.

Father Wilson said he presented evidence of the latest atrocities to the Minister of Defence, Dr Sydney Sekere, on July 9.

INQUIRY

The Minister listened "attentively", wrote down details and promised to look into the matter, said Father Wilson.

"When we gave the government our evidence of the other incidents earlier this year, however, nothing was done.

"What the people of this province are crying out for now is an independent inquiry into all the killings. Only that way will the truth come out and justice be done," said Father Wilson.
Zimbabwe's first "Iron Lady" Mbuya Nehanda, who was portrayed as a she-devil responsible for the slaughter of more than 100 white settlers in 1896, is today revered as the country's first freedom fighter in the stage production "Mbuya Nehanda — the Spirit of Liberation".

After decades of being blacklisted by the British protectorate rulers, the rehabilitation of Mbuya Nehanda has been completed with a stage production of her life by the Zimbabwe National Dance Company.

Interviewed by the London Observer Service, producer-director Father Emmanuel Rubino said the play begins with the arrival of traders and missionaries and the establishment of the colonial administration which culminated in the revolt.

The 1896 rebellion is now known as the first chimurenga (war of liberation) and the bitter seven-year guerilla war which brought independence is the second chimurenga. Political songs from both periods are featured in the production.

The settlers arrived in Zimbabwe in 1890 and the following year the British Parliament declared the territory a protectorate. Over the next five years resistance built up among black tribes and finally Nehanda, who claimed to receive guidance from the spirit world, exhorted the Shonas to rise up and drive the whites from the land. Between June 1896 and October 1897 a total of 103 settlers, including women and children, were killed until Nehanda was captured with her henchman, Gurove, and the revolt suppressed.

Nehanda was sentenced to hang for the murder of a white colonial history book which "she" died pleading for mercy. A photograph of her taken on the way to the gallows shows a woman of defiant bearing.

Says the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr. Herbert Ushe, "The negative portrayal of the African so common in colonial history books can now be turned on its head. Our young generation is learning a history that puts their society in positive and accurate terms".

The dance-drama, which was first performed a year ago before Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, will start a two-month European tour next month.

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(Note: Table 2: Annual Average in the Percent of Unemployment)
Harare invites man to stay

Harare Starman

Quoting a Milton lawyer, Mr. Andre Viljoen, a South African official, said: "We are pleased to see the man return today after the long exile." Mr. Viljoen was quoted as saying that the man had been "rehabilitated" and could now return to Zimbabwe. The official added that the man would not face any problems in his return, but would be treated as a "private citizen." The official said that the man's return would be seen as a sign of "harmony" between the two countries.

The man, who was once a prominent figure in the Zimbabwean government, was removed from power in the early 1990s. He had been living in South Africa ever since.

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ZIMBABWE BUDGET

Harsh but realistic

Commenting on Bernard Chidzero’s harsh austerity budget, one firm of Zimbabwe accountants said in its clients’ tax-letter last week: “We went into the operating theatre expecting to have both legs amputated at the hips, but we came out with one stump below the knee.”

This cheerful comment reflects the widespread feeling—certainly in business circles—that harsh though the budget is, it is less severe than generally anticipated. It is also an exercise in political courage for which Chidzero deserves high marks.

For an administration committed to “socialist transformation” the budget was little short of remarkable. It tilts the balance further in the direction of consumption rather than income taxes; cuts subsidies, cuts spending on long-cherished development priorities such as land resettlement and even imposes a new tax on low-income groups.

One analysis shows that when the Mugabe administration took office early in 1980, it inherited a tax structure that was 44% indirect (consumption) taxes and 56% income taxes. But in 1983-1984 the balance has switched around to 55% consumption taxes and 45% income taxes. In part, this reflects the present phase of the trade cycle in the Zimbabwe economy, but it also underlines the fiscal realism of this particular socialist administration.

Indeed, the new low-income tax, payable at the rate of 2% by persons earning at least $100 a month but not sufficient to be pulled into the pay-as-you-earn income tax net, will increase the number of direct taxpayers from 90,000 to more than 600,000. Whether this new tax will be worth the effort is a moot point. Employers will be required to collect the tax but there will be a need to increase tax department staff to handle all the administrative work. The tax itself will raise a patry $28m compared with $475m from personal income tax and $240m in sales taxation.

Tax hikes

Admitting that Zimbabwe is now one of the highest taxed countries in the world, Chidzero introduced a range of tax increases, designed to pull in an extra $185m in revenue. By far the most important is the increased sales tax which will raise $28m. The basic sales tax rate is increased to 18% from 15%, while the rate for consumer durables and luxuries is raised to 23% from 19%. At the same time, the range of goods attracting this higher tax rate has been widened to include alcoholic drinks and tobacco products, jewellery, photographic film, records, tapes, pictures and paintings.

Other indirect tax increases include raising the import surcharge from 15% to 20% and a new 15% duty on cars and lorries.

On the direct tax side, Chidzero has increased the sliding tax surcharge from its previous level of 15% to 35%, so that it now ranges from 20% to 40%. This takes the top marginal income tax rate in Zimbabwe from 60% to 63%, compared with 50% in SA, 65% in Kenya and 80% in Zambia. The company tax surcharge has been increased to 20% from 15%, taking the overall corporate rate to 54% against 45% in Kenya and 39% in Zambia, 46% in SA and 50% in Malawi.

There is also a new 20% tax on remittances abroad by companies in Zimbabwe to foreign firms to pay for royalties, management consultancy fees or the external expenses of local companies. The sole concession in the budget is a new 50% investment allowance in respect of capital spending by firms on buildings or equipment used purely for manpower training.

Total budget spending will increase 14% this year—which is below the 18% forecast inflation rate, implying that in real terms public spending will fall. By contrast, revenue is forecast to rise 18.5%, reducing the budget deficit from last year’s forecast $458m to a forecast $450m in 1983-1984.

These forecasts look a little optimistic in that the revenue targets could well turn out to be overly ambitious. On the spending side, current spending could well run ahead of forecast, but capital expenditure is likely to fall short of target again.

Even with the reduced deficit, the government will need to borrow $285m this year as against $376m in 1982. But with Chidzero revealing some worryingly-high debt-service figures, almost all this amount will have to be drawn from the domestic capital market.

The Finance Minister revealed that Zimbabwe’s external debt-service ratio (ratio of public sector foreign loan interest and capital repayments to export income) had risen from 6% at the end of 1981 to 26% this year. The ratio will rise further to 30% next year and Chidzero warned that Zimbabwe must avoid any new foreign borrowing that will require repayments before 1989.

Inflation

This means that the money supply, fuelled by high rates of public sector borrowing, can be expected to continue to grow at 20% or more, which implies continuing high inflation. Inflation for this year is being forecast at 18%, which suggests that the Zimbabwe dollar, which has fallen 30% against the US dollar in the last year, could well drift further in the months ahead.

The large borrowing requirement and the high inflation rate between them will also maintain upward pressure on interest rates.

The Zimbabwe business community, while, on the whole, satisfied that Chidzero has done the best possible job in a very difficult situation, was undoubtedly irritated at his criticism of the private sector’s failure to invest. Private enterprise must invest, expand, create jobs or perish, he warned.

Business leaders believe this is less than fair, because:

- Profit margins are being squeezed by escalating costs and price controls;
- Foreign exchange allocations, savagely reduced in the last 18 months, could well be cut further later in the year;
- Grp is forecast to decline in 1983 by at least 3% and
- The corporate tax has just been increased to become “one of the highest” in the world.

In this situation, it is less than realistic to expect high levels of private sector investment. Indeed, Chidzero himself has admitted that his own development plans target are no longer viable and government investment this year will be substantially lower than in 1982.
Nkomo to keep seat — for a while

HARARE — ZAPU leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, in self-exile in London, will retain his seat in the Zimbabwe Parliament for at least another fortnight.

The debate on a Government motion to have the "Father of Zimbabwe" thrown out of the House was adjourned until August 17.

ZAPU members claimed the Government was stalling because it could not muster the support needed for the 51 votes required under the constitution.

But the Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr Edisson Zvobgo, said more members wanted to speak and he did not want to stifle debate.

During yesterday's debate, Mr Nkomo was labelled a "coward with an insatiable lust for power" by the Minister of Labour, Mr Kumbirai Kangai.

Mr Kangai said it was absurd to say tribalism was behind the move to unseat a member who stayed away from 21 sittings without the leave of the House, and who had thus not adhered to the rules of Parliament.

Mr Nkomo has been away for nearly five months.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Herbert Ushewkunze, called Mr Nkomo a "phantom, non-appearing member suffering from paranoia".

He said Parliament should unseat Mr Nkomo to defend the principle that his constituents had the right to be represented.

The Rhodesian Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, said the central issue was whether Mr Nkomo was a refugee who feared to return because his life was in danger.

He said he would not support the action unless he was convinced there was no problem.
SA journalists invited to stay

HARARE. — Three journalists reporting for South African media have been invited to stay on in Zimbabwe, after the frontline States' ban on Johannesburg-based foreign correspondents this week.

A spokesman for the Zimbabwean Ministry of Information, Posts and Telecommunications said yesterday that exceptions to the ban would be considered on an individual basis.

He said those invited to stay in Harare were: André Viljoen of South African Associated Newspapers, Robin Drew of the Argus Foreign News Service; and Ken Mobbs of the Peace news agency.

Spokesmen for international news agencies told the Herald newspaper here they did not believe the ban would affect their operations.

Reuter's manager for Africa, Derek Blackman, said the agency covered the Southern African sub-region from its Harare office, and South Africa formed another sub-region.

The Harare bureau chief for Agence France Presse, Jean-Michel Stoutig, said his office covered States excluding South Africa, SWA/Namibia and Botswana, which were controlled from Johannesburg.

John Edin, Associated Press correspondent for Zimbabwe, said Johannesburg-based journalists were used mainly when he went on leave and added: "If my copy were ever edited in South Africa, I would resign."

Ending supposition, the Botswana Gold Investment yesterday announced that it would stop journalists from any country visiting. Previously Botswana had signed the ban declaration, but decided to state whether it would enforce it.

"As of now, no journalist from any country is banned from Botswana," the Permanent Secretary for the Office of the President, Mr Festus Mogae, said in Gaborone.

Kenya's biggest-selling newspaper, The Nation, has meanwhile criticized the decision by the frontline States. "Africa should not be ashamed of the world being informed about the truth of what is going on," an editorial in the privately-owned paper said yesterday.

Many journalists based in South Africa were enemies of the system of racial segregation and should not be accused of distorting events to suit Pretoria's propaganda needs, the Nation said. — Sapa-AP.

Police station death probe

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — Investigations into the death of a man alleged to have been shot dead after his arrest a month ago were still continuing, a spokesman for the Police Public Relations Directorate said yesterday.

Mr Paris Malatji, 23, of Mofolo Central, Soweto, was arrested by five police, and his parents were told by police the next day that he had died in a shooting incident at the Protea police station.

Suspended

A statement issued later from the office of the Commissioner of Police said investigations were being conducted by a senior police officer, and that a white policeman based at the Protea police station at the time of the shooting had been suspended from duty.

A spokesman for the directorate said investigations were not yet complete and the policeman was still under suspension.

A spokesman for the office of the Transvaal Attorney-General in Pretoria confirmed yesterday that they had not yet received a police docket on Mr Malatji's death.

New price set for Kronendal

Staff Reporter

THE owners of the historic Hot Bay house Kronendal have decided they will not accept less than R500 000 for the property.

A bid of R250 000 for the 18th-century house, realized at an auction on Monday, was turned down by owners Mr Alhadsir Wyllie and Malcolm Tait yesterday.

The bid was made by Mr John Silburn of Durban.

Mr Tait's son, Mr Mark Tait, said last night that the property was back on the market.

Alleged

Staff Report

A POLLSMOOR man who allegedly tortured and threatened a woman in Klerk during May this year was granted R7 000 when he appeared in the Magistrate's Court.

Mr Harry Engel, who was not given as Pollsmoor, was later remanded to August 10.

He is alleged to have sworn a Ms Tsele of Klerk on May
HARARE — A man was shot dead and his 14-year-old son is missing after gunmen invaded their home near Mutare in the Eastern Highlands of Zimbabwe on Thursday night, a Zimbabwe Information Services statement said yesterday.

The statement said the victims' names were being withheld until their next of kin had been informed. The incident, in Burma Valley in the Vumba mountains just outside town, had been confirmed by police.

Force employees had heard several shots in the vicinity of the homestead but had not investigated until early yesterday, when the man's body was found on the veranda. He had apparently been shot in the chest at close range and had died instantly, the statement said.

The son, reported missing, was presumed to have been abducted by the killer or killers.

Police said a gun cabinet in the house had been forced. — Sapa.
Mugabe: Trade with SA will end

LONDON — Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, has predicted that black African states will eventually stop trading with South Africa.

In an interview published in the newspaper The Scotsman yesterday, Mr. Mugabe said: "We are starting to depend on each other for trade and are looking to expanding trade routes and connections in other parts of Africa and countries of the East."

"We are beginning to realize that the less dependent we are on South Africa and our Western allies, the more politically and economically independent we will be," he said.

Accusing South Africa of trying to intimidate its neighbours into continuing trade by destabilizing their economies, he said: "It (South Africa) does not realize that by doing so it is also losing most of its major African markets. We cannot continue to trade voluntarily with a country that is also bent on destabilizing our economies."

Mr. Mugabe also said "revolution was essential for genuine change in Africa. "If revolution means employing violent means to establish a country’s sovereignty, then so be it."

Westminster

On the subject of democracy, Mr. Mugabe said the Westminster system was inappropriate for black states. "How can a government be truly united if it is torn between many parties with their differing ideologies and policies? The Westminster multiparty model is certainly not in conformity with our own tradition which is based on single leadership and togetherness."

South African parliamentarian Mrs. Helen Suzman, also interviewed by the newspaper, said she did not foresee revolution in South Africa although blacks, as they learnt how to use "their economic muscle", could be expected to make greater demands.

Discrimination

If racial discrimination were removed, South Africa would become "a workshop of the continent," she said.

Dr. Willem de Klerk, the editor of Rapport, predicted in the article that South Africa would have peace founded on compromise, "to accommodate the separation of all its citizens."

There had to be "compromise" between the "two streams of thought" on our racial situation. The one-man-one-vote concept in a unitary state could not come about without a bloody revolution, nor could the Verwoerd concept of separate development work, Dr. De Klerk said. — Sape-Reuters
Mugabe tells rally his party will rule forever

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, told thousands of people in Cecil Square here yesterday that his Zanu Party would rule forever.

"Make it a mammoth party and prepare it for its historic one-party State role," he said to mark the 20th anniversary of the party's founding.

The rally was held outside Parliament in the centre of the city which observers saw as symbolic of the intention to make the party and the State indivisible.

Cecil Square was the scene of the raising of the Union Jack by the pioneer column in 1890. Cecil was the family name of the then British Prime Minister, Lord Salisbury.

Mr. Mugabe said Zanu had dealt: imperialism, colonialism and racism a death blow.

People who belonged to "confused, goalless and disoriented mini-parties" were wasting their time.

He called for unity to defend Zimbabwe's independence against criminal bandits, "whether sponsored by Mr. Joshua Nkomo's Zapu or by South Africa".

He said Zanu supporters must be free from the contradictions arising from tribalism, regionalism and racism. They must also commit themselves to the party's socialist goals.

Zanu had been formed in 1963 "because of the ineptitude, lack of vision, cowardice and weakness of the leadership of the Nationalist movement" led then by Mr. Nkomo.
Court told of arms training in SA camps

HARARE. — About 300 Ndebele and Shona-speaking Zimbabweans were among an army of "Zimbabwean dissidents" undergoing military training in South Africa, the Harare High Court was told yesterday by a man charged with murder.

Mr Benson Dube, 20, along with Mr Zwellibani Ntima, 21, have pleaded not guilty before Mr Justice Charles Waddington to a charge of murdering a policeman at Dorrington ranch, in Mwenezi, in December last year, and to two alternative charges under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act relating to acts of terrorism or sabotage and illegal possession of arms of war.

Mr Dube, who was giving evidence in his defence, admitted that he had discharged five full magazines from his AK rifle during a contact with security forces on December 1 last year, when Constable Mike Nyanzwa, of the Zimbabwe Republic Police Support Unit, was shot dead and Sergeant Chinogurubvanda was seriously injured.

He told the court that he and his uncle, Mr Mark Ncube, were on their way to Bulawayo in May last year when they were abducted in the Thololho area by six armed men.

They were taken to a spot where they saw a big fence and a big river. They were told to wait in a bush while two of their captors went ahead.

The two men returned in a motor vehicle with three white men who drove them to a camp known as "Spencer," which he understood to be in South Africa.

When they arrived at the "Spencer" camp they were taken to an office where they were told they would be sent to another camp in South Africa to be trained as soldiers.

"This was a training centre full of soldiers and we trained there for six months. During the training we were kept in the camp as soldiers. At night we were guarded by other soldiers," be said.

They had four commanders who told them they were to meet other people at Shasta River. When they arrived at the river they saw some white men who were wearing camouflage uniforms normally used by the Zimbabwe National Army.

Cross-examined by Mr Yumnie, Ormerod, for the state, Mr Dube said he was trained in the use of guns and grenades.

He said he did not know the name of the commander who had come from, but said there were about 300 Zimbabweans with him at the "military training centres" in South Africa.

The hearing continues today. — Sapa
SA accused of abduction

A young black Zimbabwean claimed in the High Court here yesterday that he was abducted inside Zimbabwe, taken to South Africa for military training and then later re-infilt rated as an anti-government dissident.

Mr Benson Dube (21) was giving evidence at his trial for the murder of a Zimbabwe police officer during a shoot-out at a ranch in the south-east lowveld of the country in December last year.

Mr Dube said he had gone to Bulawayo to look for work but had been abducted there and taken to South Africa where he was forced to undergo military training at a number of camps.

After six months’ training, he was taken to the border, with instructions to “fight the government soldiers” inside Zimbabwe. He and other recruits were met at the border by two white men wearing Zimbabwe army camouflage uniforms, and later joined up with a number of other dissidents, said Mr Dube.

He said he was wounded in the shoot-out with police, but escaped and was subsequently arrested when he was turned in by tribes people in the area of the gunfight.

He told the court that he was never a willing recruit and that throughout his training in South Africa and deployment inside Zimbabwe, he was closely watched and guarded by other armed dissidents.

The trial is continuing. — SFS.

SAP release details of blast

It has been established “beyond doubt” that at least two limpet mines of communist origin were used in the explosion at the Temple Israel synagogue in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, on Saturday, security chief Major-General F.M.A Steenkamp said in Pretoria yesterday.

Gen Steenkamp said in a statement no one was injured by the blast, but extensive damage was caused to the synagogue, reception hall and furniture. In addition, window panes from flats in the area were also broken.

“These limpet mines are similar to those which have in the past been used in acts of terrorism by the African National Congress and the South African Communist Party (ANC/ SACP), and which have also been recovered in weapons caches pointed out by captured ANC terrorists,” he said. — Sapa.

Quake rocks Tokyo

OKYO — One person was killed and 28 others were injured yesterday when a strong earthquake hit central Japan, stunning Tokyo’s metropolitan areas, police said.

The national police agency said a 53-year-old woman was hit by a rock which fell from a 25-meter fall, west of Tokyo. Eight of the injured were hit by falling rocks while shopping for a souvenir picture in the earthquake shock area of central Japan shortly after 6 am, it said.

The agency said the tremor, which measured 5.8 on the Richter Scale, was followed by a weak aftershock.

The earthquake halted railway, highway and air traffic in and around Tokyo for several hours, but services returned to normal after safety checks. It cut electricity in parts of Tokyo and nearby, affecting an estimated 850,000 homes.

In Europe, a strong tremor — the second in three days — shook Limnos and other islands in the North Aegean yesterday but caused no casualties or damage, police said. — Sapa-Reuters.
Zimbabwe Prepares for Scientific Socialism

Twenty Years Onwards

SOUTHERN TIMES, AUGUST 9, 1993

The idea of socialism is as old as human society itself. It is based on the principle that society should be run for the benefit of all, not just a privileged few. In Zimbabwe, the concept of scientific socialism was introduced by the government in the 1970s as a way to ensure that resources were distributed fairly and that everyone had access to basic necessities.

However, the implementation of scientific socialism in Zimbabwe has been met with mixed results. While some have benefited from the policy, others have struggled to make ends meet.

Despite the challenges, the government remains committed to the principles of scientific socialism and continues to work towards a better future for all Zimbabweans.
STRATEGY

The revolt against Joshua Nkomo's leadership 20 years ago came to a head over fundamental differences in the strategy to be adopted in the nationalist struggle to overthrow white rule.

Nkomo wanted to form a government in exile and direct the campaign from outside the country. The militants, led by the Rev. Nkosi Sithole, said the place of the leaders must be at home. Confrontation was to be the key tone.

Now as Zanu celebrates its 20th birthday as the ruling party in the Government of Zimbabwe with Mr. Mugabe installed in the Prime Minister's residence, Mr. Nkomo is once again outside the borders, this time in London with the threat of being ousted from Parliament hanging over his head.

And dissidents who claim to be followers of his party, Zapa, are conducting a campaign against their old political opponents — with bullets this time instead of stones.

REMAIN

Of the original 20 members who were elected in May, 1964, to the leadership at Zanu's first and only congress to be held so far, only eight members remain active in the party today.

† Mr. Edgar Jokere, formerly party secretary, general was lost both this post and a Cabinet seat but who remains a Zanu MP.

COUPES

Of the other founder members, some defected or were ousted in abortive coups: the original vice-president Mr. Leopold Rakawira died in detention, and the national chairman Mr. Herbert Chitepo was killed in a car bomb explosion in Lusaka.

Mr. Chitepo's death, the blame for which was laid by an international commission of inquiry on rival factions within the party, led to the arrest in Zambia of hundreds of Zanu cadres.

It was after this that President Kaunda was accused by Mr. Mukobe of being the main factor in slowing down the revolution and Zanu switched its base of operations to Mozambique.

Zanu's triumph in the 1980 independence election, which saw Mr. Mugabe's party sweep to victory with 57 seats in the 100-seat House of Assembly, set the scene for the next stage in the party's programme: the establishment of a one-party state.

But during the first two years of independence, the problems of running a government and reconstructing the country after the bitter civil war overshadowed party operations.

It was not until towards the close of 1981
Zimbabwe’s ‘education explosion’

From ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare

ONE of the most striking developments in Zim- 
abwe’s three years of inde- 
pendence is what its 
Deputy Minister of Educa- 
tion and Culture, Senator 
Joseph Cuvelerwe, calls 
“the education explosion.”

In that time the primary 
school population has in- 
creased 26%, from 800,000 to 
2,000,000, and the secondary 
school population by a stag- 
ging 47%, from 660,000 to 
313,265.

In a recent interview the 
Johannesburg-born Uni- 
versity of Cape Town-edu- 
cated Sen. Cuvelerwe proudly 
claimed Zimbabwe was the 
only country whose education 
received a larger slice of the 
national budget than defense.

He attributed the pupil 
boom to free education — espe- 
cially at primary level — and 
that, regardless of the 
explosion, the country 
continues to pursue its goal 
of education for everybody.

Critics of the education 
system in Zimbabwe fall into 
two main categories those — 
mostly white — who say an 
irrevocable consequence of 
education for all is a drop in 
standards; and those — mostly 
black — who complain that 
it is all very well to expand 
pupil numbers but that inter- 
laced curricula have not been 
replaced with ones reflecting 
the new nation’s social 
ideology.

However, racial integra- 
tion at Zimbabwe schools 
seems to be an adult prob- 
lem these days.

"It is nothing but a mani- 
ation, for 90% of the white 
students, they have lost the 
greater understanding and 
more natural attitudes than 
most of their parents," said 
Sen. Cuvelerwe.

"His contention seems to 
apply equally well to, some 
black children, as borne out in 
an anecdote told to me by a 
white parent in Harare.

"When her white daughter 
apologetically told a black 
schoolfriend that her grand- 
mother did not allow blacks 
into her house, her friend 
said simply that it did not matter 
because your grannie is just 
eld.

"Anyway, my parents don’t 
like whites," laughed the girl.

Senator Cuvelerwe said: "Complaints by white parents that standards are falling be- 
cause classes are bigger are invalid.

"Before independence, 
whole entire child had 
access to education, facilities 
for blacks were limited to a 
very few fortunate ones who 
could afford it. The new gover- 
ment has opened doors to all 
children, especially at prima-
ry school level.

"Although the numbers 
have increased per class, the 
quality has not dropped. Our 
teachers have taken up the 
challenge and are coping well 
with the situation.

"We are organizing serv- 
cice courses for teachers to 
prepare them for handling in- 
creased numbers.

"The sudden influx into the 
schools has not improved the 
already poor structures in 
some schools, but rehabilitation 
efforts are being made to im- 
prove the quality of some 
classrooms.

"What is important is not 
early at this stage, is that no child is denied the 
Downloaded from https://www.wikihow.com/Read-a-Manual-at-School-Out-of-Money/645.1x1107.7.png
who, no doubt, are doing a 
commendable job at the 
moment.

On the curricula com- 
plaints he said: 'A serious 
review of curriculum at both 
primary and secondary levels has been 
stituted. Some syllabus have already been 
completed, but we still have quite a lot to 
do in this area.'

He said some curriculum 
changes were obvious — 
such as the ‘rock and roll that 
Blacks discovered the world’ — 
but others required 
onscientific research and would 
have to be introduced slowly.

"He said the government 
planned to 'correct the 
misgivings' of over-emphasiz- 
ing academic education at 
the expense of technical 
education.

"In future it is planned that 
one quarter of school time 
will be spent on practical/ 
technical subjects, one quar- 
ter on languages, one quarter 
onto matric and sciences and 
the remaining quarter on so- 
cial and moral education.'

The proposed new blend of 
practical and academic edu-
cation is called ‘Education with Production.’

"It is for every Zimbab- 
wean pupil and not only for 
academic subjects," said Sen. 
Cuvelerwe.

He said lack of funds, man-
power and a programme for 
introducing ‘Education with 
Production’ into school text-
books meant the system 
locked central control.

But where it has been ap-
plied there have been some 
successes: a few schools have 
kept down their fees or built 
new classrooms using money 
from selling crops grown by 
pupils.

Ultimately it is hoped that 
the programme will better 
equip people to make their own 
way into a job market that is 
likely to emphasize manual skills for some time to come.

In the meantime Senator 
Cuvelerwe acknowledged 
there was real concern about 
absorbing the growing num- ber of school leavers into 
workplace employment.

"But it must be noted that 
at the moment most of our 
young are absorbed into ap-
prenticeships of different 
kinds, while others are en- 
couraged to join the teaching 
service to help give literacy to 
the whole country."

Whatever the complaints 
of critics in the urban areas 
are clear that the government's 
education drive is being wel- 
come enthusiastically in the 
formerly deprived rural 
areas, where the bulk of Zim-
babweans live.
20 years later the ‘rebels’ are in power

The ruling Zimbabwe African National Union (Zanu) party was born on August 8 1963 when “dissidents” broke from Mr Joshua Nkomo’s leadership. Eight members of the original leadership are still active in the party today.

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

HARARE — Twenty years ago yesterday a group of “dissidents’ met in a small house in the dusty Highfield black township on the outskirts of Salisbury and formed yet another black nationalist party.

The dissidents, as they were termed then by fellow nationalists loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo, were fed up with Nkomo’s stalling leadership.

They wanted action. On August 8 1963, Zanu was born and Mr Robert Mugabe became secretary-general of the group of militant activists who vowed to wage a relentless struggle against the settler regime and to evolve a socialist pattern of government.

But in the first year of its existence before it was banned in August 1964, the action was mostly a series of running battles with the Nkomo group.

But even while the stonings and petrol bombings went on, the plans for war were being formulated and the first of the “boys” who were to form the Zanla guerilla army were sent to Ghana and China for training.

The revolt against Joshua Nkomo’s leadership 20 years ago came to a head over fundamental differences in the strategy to be adopted in the nationalist struggle to overthrow white rule.

Nkomo wanted to form a government-in-exile and direct the campaign from outside the country. The militants, led then by the Rev Ndababingi Sithole, said the place of the leaders must be at home.

NKO MO ON THE OUTSIDE

Now as Zanu celebrates its 20th birthday as the ruling and with Mr Mugabe installed in the Prime Minister’s residence, Mr Nkomo is once again outside the borders — this time in London with the threat of being ousted from Parliament hanging over his head.

And dissidents who claim to be followers of his ZAPU party are conducting a campaign against their old political opponents — with bullets this time, instead of stones.

Of the original 20 members elected in May 1964 to the leadership at Zanu’s first and only congress to be held so far, only eight members remain active in the party today. They are:

- Mr Robert Mugabe who became leader in 1976.
- Dr Edisson Zvobgo, Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs.
- Mr Enos Nkala, at whose house the decision to form Zanu was taken, now Minister of National Supplies.
- Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Information.
- Mr Simon Musenda, Deputy Prime Minister.
- Mr Maurice Nyaguibe, Minister of Mines.
- Mr Moton Malanga, Deputy Minister of Finance.
- Mr Edgar Tekere, an MP.

Zanu’s triumph in the 1980 independence election, which saw Mr Mugabe’s party sweep to victory with 57 seats in the 100-seat House of Assembly, set the scene for the next stage in the party’s programme — the establishment of a one-party state.
Zimbabwe dissident ‘abducted to SA’

By the Star Bureau

HARARE - An dissident, wounded in a gun battle with Zimbabwean security forces, told the High Court here yesterday he had been abducted in Zimbabwe and taken to South Africa.

Mr. Benson Dube (21), of the Tsholotsho district in Matabeleland, told the court he had been on his way to look for work in Bulawayo when he was abducted by armed men who took him to South Africa.

White men in South Africa told him he would be sent to a camp where he would be trained "as a soldier". He was taken to a camp where he underwent six months' training. At the end of his training four men from Zimbabwe visited the camp and told him and other recruits they were "going back to Zimbabwe to come and fight the soldiers".

After being given an AK rifle he and the others were taken to the border. They crossed into Zimbabwe, where they joined about 50 dissidents.

Mr. Dube was giving evidence at his trial, together with another alleged dissident, Mr. Zweli Zimba (21), who is accused of murdering a policeman during a gun battle at Dorrington Ranch in south-eastern Zimbabwe on December 3, last year. They have pleaded not guilty.

The dead policeman, Constable Mike Nyamade, was part of a police para-military support unit which located the dissident and the area.

Mr. Nkomo and Mr. Dube escaped, wounded.

They were arrested later after being identified to the authorities by tribespeople. The hearing continues.
Harare clerk in jail over 'secrets'

By The Stage Bureau

HARARE — A young railway clerk who tried to sell the Zambian High Commissioner here "top secret" information for R55 000 has been jailed for a year for fraud.

Munyaradzi Madamombe (21) told the diplomat that the information was known only to a few high Zimbabwe Government officials, including Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

When the High Commissioner failed to meet Madamombe he went to the high commission building where he was arrested by Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) agents tipped off by the Zambians.
Rebel claims he trained in SA

HARARE — About 300 Ndebele and Shona-speaking Zimbabweans were among an army of "Zimbabwean dissidents" undergoing military training in South Africa, the High Court was told on Monday by a man charged with murder.

Bensen Dube (20) along with Zweli Mabazi Nziima (21) have pleaded not guilty before Mr Justice Charles Waddington and two assessors to a charge of murdering a policeman at Dorrington Ranch, in Mwenezi, in December last year and to two alternative charges under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act, relating to acts of terrorism or sabotage and illegal possession of arms of war.

Mr Dube, who was giving evidence in his defence, admitted that he had discharged five magazines from his AK rifle during a contact with security forces on December 1 last year, when constable Mike Nyamudya, of the Zimbabwe Republic Police Support Unit, was shot dead, and Sergeant Chingo Sabanda was seriously injured.

Mr Dube told the court that he and his uncle, Mr Mark Ncube, were on their way to Bulawayo in May last year when they were abducted in the Tsholotsho area by six armed men.

They were taken to a spot where they saw a big fence and "a big river". They were told to wait in a bush while two of their captors went ahead.

The two men returned in a motor vehicle with three whites who drove them to a camp known as "Spencer" which he understood to be in South Africa.

He said when they arrived at "Spencer" camp, they were taken to an office where they were told they would be sent to another camp in South Africa where they would be trained as soldiers.

"This was a training centre full of soldiers and we trained there for six months. "During the training we were kept in the camp as soldiers. At night we were guarded by other soldiers," he said.

After training, they were told that there were people coming from Zimbabwe, he said.

"When four men arrived we were told that we were going back to Zimbabwe to fight the soldiers. We were given weapons and taken to a point near a river where we crossed into Zimbabwe," he said.

They had four commanders who told them that they were to meet other people at Shashe River. When they arrived at the river they saw some white men who were wearing camouflage uniforms normally used by the Zimbabwe National Army.

He said when they crossed Shashe River into Zimbabwe, they found other people already there.

They slept there and the next morning they were told to move. They were a group of more than 30 armed men, he said.

Mr Dube said they were split into small groups. He, with his two colleagues from South Africa and four other men they had found at Shashe River, including Nziima, took a different direction from the rest.

Mr Dube said he was sitting near a tree when he heard the sound of gunfire. He fired two magazines from his AK rifle and then ran towards the gate of the homestead when he was shot in the leg. He was arrested by police at a village two days later.

Cross-examined by Mr Yunus Omarjee for the State, Mr Dube said he did not know where his abductors had come from, but said there were about 300 Zimbabweans with them at the military training centres in South Africa. —Sapa.
Mugabe tells Pretoria that intimidation will not work

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE — The Zimbabwe Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, last night warned South Africa's military that no amount of intimidation would ever "make us compromise our principles".

At a State banquet here in his honour, Mr Mugabe told President Quett Masire and 250 guests that South Africa not only attacked its neighbours militarily but also armed, trained and financed "bandits" in them.

He said Botswana and Zimbabwe were working closely to counter the "destabilising factors".

He made no other reference to security co-operation, although Zimbabwe's concern about Zulu dissidents based in Botswana will no doubt feature prominently in his talks with Dr Masire during the four-day trip.

More than 2 000 cheering people met Mr Mugabe when he arrived at Gaborone Airport in the afternoon. President Masire greeted him, young girls did tribal dances and a 19-gun salute was fired.

The first Zimbabwean High Commissioner arrived here two weeks ago and this visit should further strengthen ties which were strained by thousands of Matabeleland refugees fleeing to Botswana this year and by the Zulu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, taking refuge in Gaborone in March.

Mr Mugabe ridiculed the Namibia State Council calling it a charade.

"It is morally wrong to hold to ransom the people of Namibia and insist their independence depends on the removal of Cubans in Angola," he said.

Mr Mugabe also said foreign intervention in Chad's civil war only worsened the tragic plight of a people who had not known peace for almost 20 years.

He said the war was an internal matter which should be resolved by negotiations among Chadians.

Dr Masire gave a low-key address in contrast to Mr Mugabe.

Although he spoke of "colonialism" in Namibia and "racism" in South Africa, his emphasis was on "economic liberation".

The most potent weapon black-rulled states in Southern Africa had was their "unity of purpose".

The chance to achieve that unity had been enhanced by the launching of the Southern African Development Co-operation Conference — the nine-nation body which aims to reduce dependence on South Africa's economy.

He said: "We do not seek confrontation with anyone as our detractors have been quick to claim. South African destabilisation ranges from sophisticated economic manipulation to blatant military attacks. SADCC must be seen to succeed because the whole world is watching and we cannot afford to fail," Dr Masire said.

Thatcher, back at No 10, consults eye surgeon today

LONDON — British Premier Mrs Margaret Thatcher returned to Downing Street residence yesterday after surgery on right eye and a long weekend convalescing in the country.

A Government spokesman said she would see her eye surgeon today before deciding when to leave for a two-week private break in Switzerland.

Asked if she had stopped work while at Chequers, her official country residence, the spokesman said: "She hasn't been idle, think she has been taking it a bit easy."

Mrs Thatcher (57) described herself as "100 percent fit" at weekend when leaving hospital after last Wednesday's operation to repair a detached retina in her right eye. — Reuters.

Soldier charged as death sparks new riots in Belfast

The Star's Foreign News Service

BELFAST — A soldier has been charged with murder after a man was shot dead during a disturbance in Belfast.

The death provoked the second serious outbreak of rioting in 34 hours.

The soldier was appearing in court today.

The dead man, Mr Thomas youths at a road junction to the huge Springfield Road lice and army base.

A police spokesman said a "fracas" occurred yesterday afternoon. Police patrols who entered met a hostile reception.

Last night, after police army patrols had left, riot broke out in the Whiterock area which earlier yesterday was some of the most intense Riots.
Zanu, ZAPU talks on unity run into snags

The Star Bureau

HARARE - Talks aimed at uniting the two main black parties in Zim-
babwe, Mr. Robert Mugabe's ZANU and Mr. Josu-
hia-Nkomo's ZAPU, have run into diffi-
culties and the prospects of success are fading.
A member of the ZAPU team, Dr. Eddison
Zvobgo, who is Minister of Legal and Par-
lamentary Affairs, accused ZANU yesterday
of refusing to come to grips with reality.
He told the national news agency ZANA it had be-
come very difficult to make progress.
The talks, which started in April, are being con-
ducted by three-man teams from the two
parties.

OVERCOME

Soon after they started, Dr Zvobgo said he saw
no insuperable difficulties and that most
problems which might have stalled the talks
had been overcome.
But yesterday Dr Zvobgo said ZAPU "talked at
any facts which are real, and live in a
world of their own - in a world of imagina-
tion and of dreams."
"They find it hard to accept that ZANU (PF)
was accepted by the majority of the country
and that it is the ZANU central committee
which will have to give it an accommodation
among the people."
He said it was common-
sense that if the cen-
tral committees of the
parties merged at any
future congress, the
leadership of ZANU
would dominate any
new organisation.

Because of ZANU's "unrealistic attitude", the
prospects for unity were gradually fading,
Dr Zvobgo said.
The acting president of
ZAPU, Mr Josiah Chima-
nah, who took charge
of the party, when Mr
Nkomo fled to London
in March, said last
month that ZAPU would
not take part in talks in
which ZANU sought to
swallow his party.
He called for a genuine
effort by both parties
to enter into unity
talks.
Harare to curb SA travellers

By Richard Paris

South African passport holders will no longer be allowed to go outside of Zimbabwe's airports if their aircraft makes an unscheduled stop or is delayed in the country, says the chief immigration officer in Harare.

The president of the Association of Southern African Travel Agents (ASATA), Mr Peter Botterill, received the news in a telex earlier this week.

"We believe this is a cause for concern as all other nationals who are stranded at Harare for more than six hours may leave the airport providing they hand over their travel documents for the duration of the delay," explained Mr Botterill.

The new ruling is being applied to only South Africans, Taiwanese and South Koreans, he added.

As only two overseas flights-a-week from Johannesburg to Europe stop in Harare on route, the chances of South African passport holders being inconvenienced by the move are not great.

"But many South Africans do fly to the Seychelles, India and Australia and a few to other points in black Africa by making a 'connection' in Harare."
Two dissidents get the death sentence

HARARE — Two Zimbabwe dissidents have been sentenced to death by the High Court here for murder, following the death of a policeman in a shoot-out in the south-east of the country in December last year.

Mr Justice Charles Waddington said that it could not be proved "beyond reasonable doubt" that the claim of one of the accused, Benson Dube (20), who said he was given military training in South Africa, was true.

The accused, said the judge, had constructed "such a tangle of untruths" in his evidence that it was difficult to know where the truth lay.

Dube said in his evidence before the court that he had been abducted from Zimbabwe and taken to South Africa where he was forced to undergo military training.

Dube and his co-accused, Zwelihamzi Nzima, a former guerrilla loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo, were wounded during the gunfight at Dorrington Ranch near Mwenezi on December 1.

Five other members of the dissident gang were killed in the exchange with policemen of the Support Unit.

During the firefight with the dissidents, Constable Mike Nyamuda was shot and killed. Another policeman was seriously wounded and will be paralysed for life, the court heard.

Two civilians, one of them a small child, were killed in the cross-fire.
Some fear that Matabeleland won't recover

By Brendan Seery, The Star's Foreign News Service

BULAWAYO — Little more than 150 km separates two Ndebele who have become victims of the violence which has scarred the face of Zimbabwe's Matabeleland province.

Mr Ronnie Siwela, a 20-year-old unemployed man, survived when 22 members of his family and friends died horribly in a blazing hut.

He managed to wriggle over a wall and flee into the night with comparatively minor burns. Mr Siwela is being cared for in Bulawayo on charity from the Catholic church.

The 18-month-old child in an oxygen tent at a mission hospital north of Bulawayo will not survive. The glass-eyed stare and shallow, laboured breathing mark the final stage of measles.

Her mother watches helplessly.

The little girl probably would not have caught the disease if she had been vaccinated against it in time.

A Government curfew and ban on all movement during an operation to stamp out dissident activity meant that the immunisation team did not reach her parents' district.

At the moment, on the surface at least, Matabeleland remains quiet.

The controversial North Korean-trained 5th Brigade of the Zimbabwean army, accused of being responsible for atrocities against civilians, has been withdrawn.

The seeds of a future conflict in Matabeleland, where government troops subdued dissident activity, lie in the misery being endured by the Ndebele people.

There have been no reports of activity by dissidents.

But many people, among them churchmen and aid workers, believe the province will never recover completely from the sustained violence and bloodshed which has characterised life there since early 1982.

It is said to have been worse than the darkest days of the Rhodesian bush war.

Many once-prosperous commercial farms owned by whites have been abandoned by farmers who fear they may be targets for the terror tactics of the dissidents.

Tourism has slumped in the wake of last year's abduction by dissidents of six foreign travellers on the Bulawayo-Victoria Falls road.

Motorists are warned not to travel in rural areas after dark or even in the late afternoon.

Hundreds of graves dot the countryside — anonymous last resting-places of the victims of dissident and army brutalities.

Many villages lie deserted, or remain as wind-blown ash, their occupants having been murdered or having fled to the safety of the cities and towns.

Men, women and children are severely malnourished in many parts of the province — a legacy of the security force policy of stopping food supplies in the early days of the anti-dissident campaign.

Malnourished children are dying of diseases such as measles and whooping cough.

Development projects standstill. Dam-construction workers and borehole drilling-rig operators, whose efforts are vitally needed in the drought-stricken province, have pulled out of many areas.

There were prime dissident targets.

Resettlement schemes have been curtailed, and those that have begun are in danger of collapse because they are a primary focus of anti-government dissident action.

The ramifications of the violence are being felt for many years. The Government's hitherto good international image has been tarnished by revelations of the brutal methods it used to try to control Matabeleland.

Its relations with its neighbours have been damaged too.

For example, thousands of refugees from the army violence have been given a haven in Botswana and are being used for training and recruiting roles.

Resettlement could foster in the years ahead and further polarise the country's two main ethnic groups, the Shona and the Ndebele.

The Government is firm in its conviction that it could not have stood by idly while the dissident toll mounted.

This was a grim figure which, at the end of last year before the crackdown began, stood at scores of people killed and millions of rands' worth of equipment and property destroyed or damaged.
Nkomo to be fined if he returns — Mugabe

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE — If Zapu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo were to return to Zimbabwe he would face only small charges subject to small fines, not imprisonment, the Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, said here yesterday.

The ruling Zanu PF party was having regular meetings with Zapu to bring about reconciliation because "the people want unity", Mr Mugabe said at a news conference at the end of his four-day visit to Botswana.

He said Mr Nkomo had not written to him about coming back, but had written a long "rather ephemeral and idealistic" letter.

"Mr Nkomo seems to conclude the elections in 1980 were not free and fair — where do we start if he thinks the elections were not free and fair?" Mr Mugabe said when questioned about negotiating a reconciliation with Mr Nkomo.

He pointed out that there were still Zapu members in the Zimbabwe Government and that he had not banned Zapu because he was aware that party members had known nothing about the secret arms caches that triggered Mr Nkomo's expulsion from the Cabinet last year.

Mr Mugabe compared his action to what the Republican Administration in the United States would have done had it found the Democrats hiding arms.

SA TALKS

Mr Mugabe was asked if he would be prepared to talk to South African Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, like the United States and Moscow were prepared to talk.

"We have here a regime that refuses completely to listen to the international community, that refuses to heed the wishes of the majority of the South African people, and that protects itself by a strategy (destabilization) that oppresses its peoples.

"A regime of that nature cannot be compared to either the United States or the Soviet Union".

"Why should Mr Botha want a discussion with us while avoiding the people of Namibia and South Africa with whom he should be talking?"

Mr Mugabe said his government was compelled to talk to Pretoria on economic matters, but would not enter into political or diplomatic talks with South Africa.

He also denied that the expulsion of a BBC correspondent meant the end of a critical, free press in Zimbabwe.

"It was not fair to say that because Zimbabwe expelled one journalist there could be no free reporting in the country, he said.

"We certainly welcome criticism, but when a reporter takes it upon himself to misreport deliberately, then he is an incorrigible character and what alternative is there?"

"By the way, we didn't ban the BBC, we banned the reporter."

Botswana and Zimbabwe had agreed on the major steps to be taken against dissidents and refugees crossing their joint border, he said.

Referring to the roughly 3,000 Zimbabwean refugees in Botswana today, Mr Mugabe said: "Some may have been abducted, some may have run away out of fear when the army came into their area.

"They are free to come back. This matter is being handled by our two sides."

Botswana had agreed to return those Zimbabweans who fled to Botswana with the purpose of using it as a base from which to attack Zimbabwe, he said.
The declaration is being seen by some observers as one item in a wider frontline and Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC) disengagement drive away from SA. The declaration is intended to counter "SA information ag- gression," which correspondents based in SA are said to become tainted with — a suggestion the journalists find laughable. Some frontline states also seem to believe that because they are reported on by SA-based foreign correspondents, this implies that they have "second-class status" in relation to SA.

Spokesmen for the 90-member Foreign Correspondents Association of SA (FCA), representing 58 news organisations from 12 countries, think otherwise. FCA chairman, Bob Chancellor, of the Voice of America, led a small team of SA-based foreign journalists to Harare to test the Kadoma ban and to get matters clarified soon after it was announced.

According to Chancellor, the Zimbabweans are concerned about the lack of foreign investment. Consequently, "they are looking for a scapegoat. But this [ban] won’t get foreign investors to come in," he says.

Neither will it persuade the correspondents to relocate either. But it is worth noting that if they did, their presence in Harare would give a small, but surely welcome, boost to the local economy. It costs a news organisation between R100 000 and R200 000 a year to maintain a foreign correspondent.

Chancellor told the FM: "Our impression was that it was basically Zimbabwe that wanted it and they are now hiding behind the cloak of the frontline states." This impression was confirmed, he says, by the expulsion of a BBC television crew from Zimbabwe soon after the ban. The crew had been reporting on the atrocities in Matabeleland.

Zimbabwe’s Deputy Secretary of Information, Justin Nyoka, tried to convince Chancellor and his men to move their operations to Zimbabwe instead, arguing that this would afford them better access to the frontline states.

The correspondents told Nyoka that no one would — for "good economic and professional reasons." They consider SA and apartheid to be the "biggest story" in the region. Further, telecommunications facilities, especially those for TV reportage, are better in SA than in any of the frontline states. In Zimbabwe, for example, there is a two-hour delay in booking international phone calls.

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PRESS FREEDOM

Living with Kadoma

Is the bad press Zimbabwe has had over the past year and which may have discouraged foreign investment, the real reason for Harare’s ban on SA-based foreign correspondents?

The correspondents believe this may be so. But some well-placed observers in Harare disagree. They argue that press reports have had very little to do with the pattern of foreign investment in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe, they explain, was merely the first frontline state to impose the ban (and take the flak) in terms of the Kadoma declaration on the press recently adopted by them all — Angola, Botswana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. However. Botswana seems unlikely to adhere to the ban and is still welcoming correspondents.
Nkomo need not fear jail - Mugabe

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE 147 ZANU-PF party was having regular meetings with Zapu to bring about reconciliation because "the people want unity," Mr. Mugabe told a Press conference at the end of his four-day visit to Botswana.

He said Mr. Nkomo had not written to him about his coming back, but had written a long letter which was "ephemeral and idealistic."

From London The Star reports that Mr. Nkomo can stay in Britain for another month.

The Home Office said today he had been granted permission to stay until September 14. Extensions have been granted each month since he fled in March at the height of the Matabeleland disturbances.

Mr. Nkomo has been in virtual seclusion at secret addresses for the past five months, aides say he fears assassination.
Mugabe's vow: A 'little fine' for Nkomo

Sunday Times Reporter: Harare

ZIMBABWE Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has given Mr. Joshua Nkomo a green light to return from exile by withdrawing threats that the runaway opposition leader could be jailed.

Mr. Mugabe, speaking to reporters at a news conference on his return from an official four-day visit to neighbouring Botswana, said criminal charges still stood "but I do not see him (Mr. Nkomo) going to prison".

"I said Mr. Mugabe: 'He might pay a little fine. But I think he has his own strategy.'"

And, as if to allay Mr. Nkomo's oft-stated fears of harassment if he returns, Mr. Mugabe added:
He is free to come back and we will not molest him unduly.

Smuggling

The assurance was a sharp about-turn from the government's previous officially-stated position.

That was that Mr. Nkomo, president of the minority Zimbabwe African People's Union, faced charges and imprisonment for alleged arms dealings, currency smuggling and illegal exit from Zimbabwe.

The burly veteran nationalist fled the land he fought most of his adult life to liberate in March, claiming Mr. Mugabe had ascended North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade troops to assassinate him.

Mr. Mugabe steadfastly denied any plot against his chief political rival.

But he and fellow Cabinet ministers repeatedly warned that while Mr. Nkomo was welcome to return home he risked prosecution by police.
Finance Correspondent

Buys into Zimbabwe

FOREIGN FOOD GIANT

Time seems to prove the idea high of it and the action. However, on the conclusion of the Commonwealth, the situation improved and the country was able to import and supply the food it needs. The Zimbabwean government has taken steps to improve the situation and the economy is expected to recover.

The main feature is the need for greater cooperation among the countries of the continent. The government has taken steps to improve the situation and the economy is expected to recover.
Nkomo flies to UK exile like adjoin.
Mugabe rules out socialism deadline

The Star's Foreign News Service

Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr. Robert Mugabe said last night it was impossible to put a time on when the transition from capitalism to socialism would be complete.

In the meantime, investors were welcome to make profits, he said, appealing to existing companies to be "more daring" and to re-invest in the country.

Interviewed on television, Mr. Mugabe said socialism in Zimbabwe could not be achieved overnight. Some people believed socialism should be achieved in one swoop but he did not agree.

He did not envisage expropriation of private property but in any case "investors were guaranteed full compensation."

"I do not see what more we can do," he said. Mr. Mugabe said private investment was necessary to give a boost to the economy before it could be transformed to a socialist structure.

He appealed to the people to work harder and to accept the sacrifices they had been called on to make in the budget because of the difficulties brought about by the world recession and the drought.

Asked what he was doing about corruption, the Prime Minister said the process of "purifying the leadership" was going on and steps taken were not always disclosed.

It was necessary to have a large Cabinet and "with a few exceptions" ministers had been very effective.
Private sector in Zimbabwe slated over 'racial bias'  

By Robin Drew  
The Star Bureau

HARARE - A biting attack on the private sector for its alleged reluctance to promote black Zimbabweans to responsible positions is one of the points made in a highly controversial official report just released here.

Reporting on the findings of the National Manpower Survey which was two years in the making, the director, Dr Ibbo Mandaza, slammed the capitalist system inherited by Zimbabwe and the racial bias shown by whites who control the economy.

In a foreword to the report, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said the extent of the shortage of skills in Zimbabwe had been exaggerated.

He said that among the survey's most significant discoveries was the fact that "it is often the ignored or even despised semi-skilled workers who have been the backbone of the economy."

Dr Mandaza goes further by saying that the departure of white artisans after independence "has not caused hardship among employers."

WORKFORCE

He quoted the instance of a company losing 29 white artisans out of a total workforce of 22 artisans, 60 black semi-skilled workers and numerous unskilled employees.

Four semi-skilled workers were immediately upgraded on the basis of a proven record of good skilled work, and with a total of six artisans of whom four were black and two white, production was just as good as before.

He said that more semi-skilled workers could now openly assist the artisans in skilled tasks than in the past when white opposition to such a practice was strong.

Dr Mandaza said the essential role of the semi-skilled workers could hardly be exaggerated.

There was a need to examine both the categorisation of jobs and the money paid to the semi-skilled who were "really more essential, operational and hardworking than the highly-paid professional, managerial and supervisory categories occupied mainly by whites."

SALARY STRUCTURE

Dr Mandaza said it was unfortunate that the trend of Africanisation in the post-colonial era was simply to inherit the employment and salary structure rather than seriously trying to change it.

He said the major intention of companies within the private sector, with a few exceptions, had been to avoid a situation in which an African could be in a position of seniority over whites.

Analysing the historical pattern of employment in the civil service, he said the upper ranks were filled either by people who had begun as "clerks-cum-farmers" or by white school-leavers who had failed to make it outside the civil service.

Other sections of the State apparatus, including the army and the police, were mainly manned by "the general scum of white settler society, half-literate and rabidly racist."

Dr Mandaza said the myth about the indispensability of whites in the managerial, executive and administrative occupations should be exploded.

He said the prophets of doom had predicted a breakdown of administrative services in the hands of Africans.

But the experience of Zimbabwe had been that the new administrators had been both available and skilled.
If he thinks that?" Mr.
Mugabe asked.
pointed out that he con-
tinued to have Zapu members in the Cabinet and said he had not banned Zapu because
he was aware that some Zapu
leaders had known nothing of the secret arms caches. It triggered Mr Nkomo's
debate in the Cabinet last
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"We certainly welcome criti-
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Mr Mugabe said his Govern-
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matters but would not enter into political or diplomatic
talks with South Africa.
Mugabe has that ol

The Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, went to Botswana last week. Throughout his stay he had a hectic schedule seeing people and places all over the country and, by the end of the week, it was evident that he had conquered the hearts of those with whom he came into contact.

Mr Mugabe is many things to many people. To most white Rhodesians he is a downright terrorist who came to power through the barrel of the gun — a sentiment shared by some white South Africans as was evidenced by the official reaction to his landslide victory at the polls (Until shortly before the elections the SABC constantly referred to him as a terrorist leader).

To his opponents in the Joshua Nkomo-led party Mr Mugabe is a dictator who is hell-bent on the road to one-party rule. They also claim he came to power through elections which were not free and fair.

To independent African states such as Botswana he is a living example of what resilience can achieve once the human spirit sets its sights on attaining an objective — some Botswana civil servants openly said they admired the man for the armed struggle he had waged to free people.

To the majority of Namibia and South Africa, in the words of President Quett Masire of Botswana, Mr Mugabe represents "a symbol of hope for the people to whom freedom and justice are distant dreams still to come true".

Throughout the four days of his visit to Botswana, Mr Mugabe and Mrs Sally Mugabe, accompanied by a party of 35 Zimbabweans, had a gruelling schedule which began early every morning and ended late each night.

Wherever they went crowds of Botswana turned out in their thousands to meet them and shouted the traditional greeting of goodwill "Pula" each time the Zimbabwean leader made a public appearance — and he made plenty.

The interesting feature of the tour was that in race-free Botswana Mr Mugabe was also greeted by scores of whites who lined the streets with other Botswanan, all waving miniature flags of Botswana and Zimbabwe.

At a banquet in his honour, the guests — admittedly of an intellectual persuasion — roared their approval when Mr Mugabe warned the "racist Pretoria regime", which he had earlier accused of blatant acts of destabilisation in the subcontinent, that no amount of intimidation would ever make African states compromise their principles.

Mr Mugabe also received a resounding ovation when he told the President of Botswana and honoured guests: "It is morally wrong to hold to ransom the people of Namibia and insist their independence depends on the removal of Cubans in Angola."

When it was all over and Mr Mugabe and his entourage departed for Zimbabwe, again Botswana turned out in their thousands to bid him farewell at Gaborone Airport.

The visit had been a tremendous success, despite earlier strains in relationships between Zimbabwe and Botswana over the latter's granting temporary asylum to Mr Nkomo in March this year at the height of unrest in Matabeleland and also to dissidents loyal to Mr Nkomo, many of whom are still housed at the Dukwe refugee camp in northern Botswana.

During his visit Mr Mugabe referred to Mr Nkomo and said that, if he returned to Zimbabwe, he would face only small charges subject to small fines, not imprisonment.

The ruling Zanu-PF party was having regular meetings with Zapu to bring about reconciliation because "the people want unity", Mr Mugabe told a Press conference in Gaborone.

The Zimbabwean premier said Mr Nkomo had not written to him about coming back but had sent a long letter which was "rather epistolary and idealistic."

"Mr Nkomo seems to conclude the elections in 1980 were not free and fair. Where do we start if he thinks that?" Mr Mugabe asked.

He pointed out that he continued to have Zapu members in his Government and said he had not banned Zapu because he was aware that some Zapu members had known nothing about the secret arms caches which triggered Mr Nkomo's expulsion from the Cabinet.

Sri Lankan army joined in killing, claims survivor

COLOMBO — New evidence that security forces have been involved in the massacre of civilians is beginning to emerge in Sri Lanka.

A mother of three has told how her husband was killed and her house burned down in the presence of the army in the southern town of Badulla.

Details are also emerging of the incidents in Welikada prison in Colombo, in which 52 prisoners died, which suggest that the killings were carried out with the connivance of prison staff.

Agricultural boom in Bophuthatswana

Bophuthatswana is opening up new agricultural schemes to hundreds of learners farmers in a drive to make the homeland fully self-sufficient in food production.

It will also be setting aside further tens of thousands of hectares for purchase by established Tswana farmers.

This has emerged in informal reports.

Bophuthatswana has made remarkable strides in a short time in building up its farming sector to a point where it is virtually self-sufficient in basic food requirements. ANTHONY DUGAN reports.

Other 10,000 ha over the development schemes have been initiated as
I'm going back home

By MARGARET SMITH
London Bureau

LONDON. — Mr. Joshua Nkomo, Zim-
babwe's opposition leader, said in Lon-
don yesterday that he would fly home to
Zimbabwe today.

This would mean the end of five
months of self-imposed exile in Britain.
Mr. Nkomo said he would attend par-
liament in Harare on Wednesday.

He said: "When I was forced by events
to leave my country, I made it clear I
was not leaving just for my own safety. I
have made use of this enforced absence
to work out ways of trying to achieve
solutions to the problems of my country.

"I shall be attending the session of
Parliament in Harare on Wednesday,
when I shall have more to say."

When he arrived in London in March
Mr. Nkomo claimed that Zimbabwe's
Prime Minister Mr. Robert Mugabe had
ordered that he be killed. He has re-
peated this claim during his stay in Britain.
However, he has also maintained that at
some stage he would return to
Zimbabwe.

"I am a leader and I do not intend to
spend my life in exile away from my
people," he said recently.

His return to Zimbabwe would enable
him to speak in a parliamentary debate,
due to resume on Wednesday, on a gov-
ernment move to have his seat in Parlia-
ment declared vacant because of his
absence.

Neither he nor his aides would say
whether Mr. Nkomo had been given a
guarantee of personal safety by Mr.
Mugabe.

A report in a British newspaper yest-
erday said Mr. Nkomo had been booked
first class on an Air Zimbabwe flight
this evening.

Newspaper reports in London also
said he had been in secret correspond-
ence with Mr. Mugabe, offering to work
with anyone to end months of violence in
his home province of Matabeleland.

ANDRE VILJOEN reports from Har-
are that Mr. Nkomo probably would not
be arrested if he returns home.

But while his early return would prob-
ably prevent his almost certain expul-
sion from Parliament on Wednesday for
absenteeism, his political future looks
gloomy.

His deputy party leader, Mr. Josiah
Chinamano, under whose leadership
there has been a faltering attempt to
patch the severely strained relations be-
tween Zaps and the ruling ZANU PF
Party, said yesterday he had not been
told to expect Mr. Nkomo's imminent
return.

"We would of course welcome him
back," said Mr. Chinamano, who said he
had not heard any criticism from within
the party of Mr. Nkomo's extended exile.

A Zimbabwe government spokesman
said in Harare yesterday the govern-
ment had no knowledge of Mr. Nkomo's
impending return.

Mr. Nkomo has ruled whatever chance
he had of leading a reconcilia-
tion drive between his and Mr. Mugabe's
parties.

In Parliament earlier this month a
government Minister called Mr. Nkomo
"a treacherous coward with an insatia-
ble lust for power."

At a Press conference in Harare at the
weekend Mr. Mugabe said the govern-
ment would not "moles them unduly"
and that Mr. Nkomo probably faced at
most "a little fine."

He was referring to possible charges
of embezzlement and currency-smuggling
crimes which police started investi-
gating against Mr. Nkomo before his flight.
HARARE — Mr. Joshua Nkomo, back in Zimbabwe after five months in self-exile, today spoke of a plan he had devised to resolve Zimbabwe's problems.

Details of the proposals have already been sent to the Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, and no reply has yet been received.

Mr. Nkomo told a crowded news conference at his Highfield home here that while he was in Britain he had worked on a possible plan to resolve problems but for the plan to work people had to be ready and willing to talk.

He hoped passions had cooled and a permanent solution to the country's problems could be worked out.

Mr. Nkomo said people must be prepared to sacrifice face for the good of the country.

He said he would report to Parliament tomorrow and would thereafter decide whether he would try to meet the Prime Minister personally.

Mr. Nkomo parried most questions dealing with his personal safety and the situation in Matabeleland.

"We are going to be tested in the crucible. We must all be less selfish and work together for the good of the country."

He said there were no charges against him, only possible charges which the authorities were investigating.

He reacted angrily when asked why he had gone to Britain and not to the Soviet Union, which had supported his party during the liberation struggle.

He said the Soviet Union had supported the Zimbabwe liberation struggle, not his party, but if he had wanted to go to Moscow he could have done so.

"This time I went to Britain, next time I'll go to Moscow," he added.
Nkomo home ‘with plan to solve problems’

HARARE. — Mr Joshua Nkomo, back in Zimbabwe after five months in self-exile, says he hopes passions have cooled and a solution to the country’s problems can be worked out.

The ZAPU leader told a news conference at his home in Highfield that people must be prepared to sacrifice face for the good of the country.

While in Britain he had worked on a possible plan to resolve problems, but if it were to work, people must be ready and willing to talk.

He refused to give details of his proposals, which he has sent to the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe. He has not yet received a reply.

But he said he would report to Parliament tomorrow, and after that he would decide whether he would try to meet the Prime Minister.

Charges

Mr Nkomo parried most questions dealing with his personal safety and the situation in Matabeleland.

He said: “We are going to be tested in the crucible. We must all be less selfish and work together for the good of the country.”

He said there were no charges against him, only possible charges which the authorities were investigating.

At the airport to greet him were scores of vociferous supporters and senior ZAPU leaders. They included his son-in-law, Mr John Ndlovu, who was only recently released from detention in which, he claimed, he was beaten and abused.

Mr Nkomo’s baggage was searched by customs officials, who confiscated electronic equipment — Argus Africa News Service and Sapa.

Sacos official refused passport

Staff Reporter

The president of the South African Council of Sport (SACOS), Mr Frank van der Horst, has been refused a passport by the Department of Internal Affairs to travel overseas.

Mr van der Horst said today he applied for the passport in early May. The matter was referred to Pretoria and he recently received a reply stating that his application had been refused. No reasons were given.

He said he was planning a holiday to Europe and America and would have been looking at countries from a sporting and educational viewpoint as well as sightseeing.

Mr van der Horst said he felt the refusal of the passport was part of the victimisation and harassment of non-racial sports bodies.

“We are being prevented from articulating our viewpoint. It merely shows that the multi-racial sport fraud is falling apart,” he said.

Smith mull.

(Cont’d f.)

switched off the main.

It was submitted today that any facts that reduced Smith’s moral blameworthiness as distinct from her legal culpability, constituted extenuating circumstances.

Mr Shaw said it was clear she was provoked over a long time by the humiliating behaviour of her husband, particularly when she was under the influence of liquor, and that this behaviour extended to her daughter, Miss Wood.

Smith had an immature personality and had been affected by the fact that she has focal epilepsy. She was influenced by the fact that, after initially agreeing to a divorce, her husband changed his mind and threatened to blackmail her father if she went through with it.

FAMILY

She was subjected to considerable influence, amounting to, or nearly to, coercion by various members of her family, including her father, her aunt, Miss Dorothy Sleet, her daughter, Miss Wood, and Miss Wood’s boyfriend, Mr Lee Sparrowhawk. The effect of the influence was greater because of her mental condition.

On the admissible evidence, Smith believed her husband would be murdered on his way home on the night in question, and played no part in the details of the arrangements which led to the actual killing.

The court erred in not taking into account that she was unaware that the killing was to take place, and played no part in the planning of such killing on the night in question.
National football players are expected to be at the world cup in South Africa. The event is being held in the country and will be attended by thousands of people from around the world. The stadium will be fully packed with spectators cheering for their favorite teams. The tournament will feature some of the best players in the world, including famous stars from various countries. The football event is also expected to boost the local economy, as hotels, restaurants, and shops will see an increase in business due to the influx of visitors.
Nkomo back in the fold as expulsion bid is withdrawn

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

HARARE — Reconciliation was the victory in the Zimbabwe Parliament yesterday afternoon when the motion to unseat the Zanu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, was withdrawn amid cheers from all sides of the House.

The Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr Eddison Zvobgo, who had proposed the move to evict Mr Nkomo from Parliament because he had missed 21 sittings, said the government had never intended to be vindictive or vicious.

After strongly criticising Mr Nkomo for doing a disservice to the country by being in Britain, Dr Zvobgo said: "We thank him for the fact that he has now returned."

Looking up at the Press gallery crowded with foreign newsmen, Dr Zvobgo pointed to Mr Nkomo and said: "This is the man who said we wanted to kill him."

Earlier, Mr Nkomo, who returned after five months in Britain, had said: "I ran away from my grave."

He claimed amid shouts from the government benches that the men who had raided his home in Bulawayo killing two of his staff and seriously wounding another had said: "Their mission was to take my life."

The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, sat silently with his arms folded as Mr Nkomo said that if there was any doubt his life had been in danger, Parliament should appoint a commission of inquiry.

The Zanu leader said he was prepared to make available to the House copies of his communications to Mr Mugabe with ideas for solving the country's problems.

But Dr Zvobgo said Mr Nkomo's plan was "old hat".

"He believes that our problems will vanish simply by bringing everybody together."

Even before the debate started, Mr Nkomo was greeted with apparent warmth by Dr Zvobgo and by Mr Enos Nkala.

Afterwards Mr Nkomo said he was happy with the outcome. Several hundred noisy supporters, mostly women, had earlier been moved away from Parliament by the police.

US planes track suspected Red arms ship in Caribbean

WASHINGTON — US planes from the aircraft carrier Coral Sea, in the Caribbean, are tracking a Soviet freighter which is believed to be carrying arms to Nicaragua, defence officials said yesterday.

They said there had been no attempt to contact the ship, which they did not identify, but added that the planes were following the vessel's progress on a course thought to be through the Panama Canal to Nicaragua's Pacific port of Corinto.

A five-ship task force, led by Coral Sea, arrived for exercises in the Caribbean on Tuesday.

The officials said that on July 30 the guided missile destroyer Lynde McCormick approached the Soviet freighter Ulyanov, believed to be carrying arms, and asked its destination and cargo.

The Soviet vessel replied that it carried general cargo and continued to Corinto without incident.

The officials said later that a manifest they had obtained showed the Ulyanov was carrying military equipment.

The Reagan Administration has charged the Soviet Union and Cuba with supplying arms to leftist Nicaragua which, in turn, is sending them to rebels fighting the US-backed Government in El Salvador.

Informers' relatives found safe

DUBLIN — A Northern Ireland police informer's two missing relatives, who were threatened with death by a nationalist group of guerrillas, have turned up safe and well, police said today.

Mr Richard Hill and his 13-year-old daughter Diana, relatives of informer Harry Kirkpatrick, were located near the village of Falcarragh in County Donegal after a police search.

The Irish National Liberation Army (INLA) had said it was holding the pair along with Kirkpatrick's 24-year-old wife, Elizabeth. It threatened yesterday to kill them all if he did not retract evidence against INLA activists.

Mr Hill (48), Kirkpatrick's stepfather, disappeared along with his daughter from their holiday home in County Mayo two weeks ago.

HÄGAR the Horrible

I THINK WE'RE IN TROUBLE

DON'T WORRY, JUST DON'T GIVE YOUR RIGHT NAME...

I THINK SHE KNOWS
welcome Nkomo home

Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE - An enthusiastic crowd of about 5,000 supporters greeted the Zimbabwe opposition ZAPU leader, Mr. Joshua Nkomo, when he arrived at his home in Bulawayo at midday yesterday.

Mr. Nkomo, who had attracted crowds of 200,000 less people in Harare since he returned on Tuesday from six months' exile in Britain, travelled by car to Bulawayo.

Bulawayo is the centre of Matabeleland, where Mr. Nkomo draws most of his support. When he returned from exile in 1988, he was welcomed by more than 130,000 people.

Mr. Nkomo's followers, the first of whom started gathering outside his home at dawn, sang in Sindise as Joshua Nkomo arrived.

Mr. Nkomo, who has been challenged for his support, will now face a die-hard while ZAPU is divided.

Mr. Nkomo, addressing the crowd briefly, urged all Zimbabweans to pull together to make our country one.

If there is conflict, we won't settle it by killing each other, he said.

In Parliament this week, Mr. Nkomo rejected his claim that he had led ZAPU to victory in March after soldiers had been ordered to kill him.

He also said soldiers had killed more than 2,000 civilians. He had sent Mr. Mugabe a document outlining his proposed solution to the country's political problems, he said.

Mr. Mugabe told Parliament that disaffected in Matabeleland had acted in Mr. Nkomo's name. A government spokesman said Mr. Nkomo had not made any formal request to meet Mr. Mugabe.

According to a well-informed source, Mr. Mugabe would probably refuse to meet Mr. Nkomo if the proposal was to discuss his proposed solution to the country's problems. He would probably be prepared to accept a "courtesy call" from the ZAPU leader.
It's just not on unions

LUSAKA. — The Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) has decided to "go it alone" over the stalled controversial 10% wage ceiling protest against the "carefree" attitude by the special committee appointed by President Kenneth Kaunda and chaired by Premier Nalumino Mundia to study and analyse the impasse.

Announcing this yesterday, a disappointed ZCTU chairman Mr Frederick Chiluba also called for an emergency ZCTU general council meeting on Saturday to map out a strategy for "approaching the whole issue again from a fresh perspective."

"The ZCTU is extremely disappointed with the slow pace the special committee chaired by Prime Minister Mundia is working. We won't wait any longer because we are depriving the workers of the right to live well. Since its appointment on June 27 we have met only twice — for less than three hours. This is just not on," he said.
Harsh words lead to Tass walkout

The Star
Foreign News Service
HARARE — The reporter from the Soviet Union's Tass news agency could take it no longer.

"What about El Salvador, Nicaragua, Chile and Uruguay?" he fumed before storming out of a press conference being given in Harare by United States congressmen on a six-nation African tour.

The target for his anger was the hard-hitting Republican congressman from New York, Mr. Jerry Solomon, who had launched a tirade against the Marxist Leninist regime of Colonel Mangistu Halla Mariam of Ethiopia.

Mr Solomon, the only Republican in the eight-man delegation from the House of Representatives sub-committee on Africa, was the hawk among the Democrat doves led by Mr. Howard Wolpe.

He rounded on his colleagues for making an issue of the incident in Zaire when a group of ex-parliamentarians who had been to see the American congressmen were beaten up outside the hotel.

"I didn't hear you sounding off against the human rights violations in Ethiopia.

"The atrocities there are unbelievable. They make the incident in Zaire look like a skirmish between high school kids in a sandlot."

"I am talking about the summary execution of 30,000 Ethiopians. The outright murder of another 10,000 including innocent and helpless children," he thundered.

He said that according to Amnesty International, a liberal organisation, and Freedom House, a more conservative organisation, the atrocities continued.

Mr Solomon said that when the delegation had gone on to Zaire he had told General Mobutu that the United States appreciated the crucial role that Zaire was playing.

He said the Zaire leader had been a faithful friend of the United States and he congratulated him on his human rights record.

"I think Mobutu is trying. But Mengistu is an avowed Marxist Leninist and his country is the major cause of destabilisation in the area. He has led a decade of suppression of the Ethiopian people."

Mr Solomon's outburst clearly embarrassed Mr. Wolpe and his liberal-minded colleagues.

They said the Ethiopian Government had signalled its desire for improved relations with the United States.
Nkomo proposes a peace talks plan

By Robin Drew 88

HARARE - Zanu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo wants the Zimbabwe Government to convene an "Of the People" conference under the plan for peace he has sent to the Prime Minister.

Details of the plan, which has leaked out in here, reveal that Mr Nkomo warned Mr Robert Mugabe in a letter from London before he returned to Zimbabwe that the country was slipping deeper into tragedy.

In Bulawayo last night Mr Nkomo refused to comment on the plan which he said would be revealed in due course.

It is understood that Mr Nkomo told Mr Mugabe it was "not too late to rescue the situation if we can act resolutely with vision, courage and determination."

He proposed that Mr Mugabe conferred with a wide spectrum of society to include representatives of the churches, trade unions, commerce, industry, political parties, the chiefs, former combatants, the armed services, student bodies and other representative organisations.

Mr Nkomo, it is understood, have appealed to Mr Mugabe to recognise that Zimbabwe is at the crossroads. If action were not taken the country was in danger of disintegration, he said.

He suggested that the conference examine not only the problem of dissidents, but of other issues such as refugees, unemployment, the release of all political detainees, the repeal of repressive legislation and the operations of the Fifth Brigade.

In another letter, Mr Nkomo is believed to have spelt out his suspicions that Mr Mugabe had master-minded the creation of instability in Matabeleland to enable him to press ahead with his programme of liquidating opponents and establish a one-party State.

Mr Nkomo strenuously denied plotting any coup. The letter, it is said, claimed that "the people who go about killing, maiming, raping and burning government property are in fact organised provocateurs planted by Zanu (PF) in the form of undercover pseudo-dissidents."

See picture on Page 5.
Bitter pill for a lion turned hen

From ROBIN DREW
Weekend Argus Foreign Service
HARARE — The atmosphere was electric in the Zimbabwean Parliament this week.

But it was not the television lights or the cables lying across the floor of the House that gave the impression that sparks were about to fly.

It was the presence in his usual place on one of the back benches of the bulky figure of Joshua Mqabuko Nkomo, back home again after another spell in exile.

Joshua Nkomo has been likened to an elephant, a bull, a lion and, more recently, a hen who deserted its chicks.

Old man

But the impression he left after his explanation to the House for his absence from the country for five months was of an old man, trying with some dignity to re-establish his place in the political arena in which he had blundered about for more than 30 years.

This is not to say that Nkomo can or should be disregarded in the political world which absorbs the energy of so many Zimbabweans.

Former British Prime Minister James Callaghan reputedly once said that Nkomo had more political skill in his little finger than most politicians have in both hands.

But he has established a reputation for failing to use it effectively and critics have accused him of lacking determination to lead a militant movement.

The young intellectuals around Mr Mugabe tend to treat Mr Nkomo with contempt — although he spent 11 years in detention or in prison, and seven years in exile from his country.

In the verbal onslaughts that have been launched against him, he is frequently referred to as a coward, a devious, power-hungry self-seeker and even a collaborator with South Africa.

His political life has been punctuated with a series of false starts.

In the early 1960s, for example, he first agreed to and then reneged on the constitutional plan to create special African seats, which would have led to majority rule within 15 years.

If he had been able to press on with his initial agreement, it is just possible he might have ended up as the country’s first black Prime Minister.

He tried to negotiate with Mr Ian Smith in the mid-1970s, at a time when detente was all the rage. But that, too, came to nothing.

After the 1980 elections he was offered, but turned down, the presidency — even after it was abundantly clear that the sweeping victory for Mr Mugabe had put paid to any chance of Mr Nkomo’s party becoming more than a junior partner in the government of national unity.

The blow he suffered in the 1980 elections was a crushing one for him personally. Ever since then, he has been increasingly bitter about the failure of Mr Mugabe’s Government to give sufficient acknowledgement to his role as the once dominant figure in black nationalist politics.

While he was still in the Cabinet and decisions were being taken without consulting him, he remarked that he was made to feel “like a china ornament sitting in a glass case”.

The crunch came in February 1982, when he was sacked from the Cabinet after the discovery of vast arms caches on Zapa property.

Peacemaker

There followed the growth of dissident activity and Government measures to suppress it, culminating in Mr Nkomo’s dash through the bush to the safety of Botswana and later Britain.

Now he is back on the scene, wearing the apparel of a peacemaker.

His political flair will be put to the test as never before if he is to stand any chance of regaining a place which he still feels is owed to him.

He has yet to show his hand, but then as a politician Mr Nkomo may well have a card or two to play.

But however bitter the pill, Mr Nkomo will have to swallow the fact that it is his old former lieutenant, Robert Mugabe, the man whom he called “sonny boy”, who holds the future of the “Father of Zimbabwe” in his hands.
The shortest rugby game?

One of the shortest rugby matches in history—perhaps a world “record”—took place at the Sturrock Park ground in Johannesburg this week.

It lasted five minutes.

And it happened in a “social” league game between the Road Transport Services of Langlaagte and the Electric Transport Department of Braamfontein.

Shortly after the start, several ugly incidents occurred and the referee decided to cut the match short after five minutes “before someone gets killed.”

A blatantly dangerous high tackle which nearly beheaded a player was whistled up sharply and penalised.

A few scrums and lineouts later and one player lay on the turf, dazed and with blood pouring out of a cut from his head.

That was the signal—like the bell at a boxing match—for the fist fighting.

But the chivalrous Queensbury rules were brought to the board as players started kicking as well as punching.

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  BABIES’ NAPPIES.
Nkomo letters spell it out

LONDON

RAY JOSEPH on the letters Mr Nkomo wrote to Mr Mugabe

TWO LETTERS written from his London exile by Mr Joshua Nkomo to Mr Robert Mugabe provide a revealing insight into the problems of Zimbabwe — and the strained relationship between the two men.

In the first of the letters — a 23-page document — the veteran ZAPU leader declares that "I write because I feel that our country is in danger of complete disintegration, to the detriment of all its citizens now living and of generations to come.

"Not least I write to you because I am convinced that you believe that I am the main contributory factor to this dangerous situation."

The aim of the letter was apparently to try to make Mr Mugabe understand the deep sense of grievance Mr Nkomo feels about events in Zimbabwe.

On the charge of ZAPU boarding arms to overthrow the Mugabe government, Mr Nkomo again accused the Prime Minister of planting them to discredit both himself and his supporters.

Mr Nkomo does not deny that arms were found on ZAPU farms, but because he was never given the opportunity to see the arms and their location, he says:

"As it is now, I cannot be sure that the quantity, quality and nature of the arms were not presented to the Press in fact all unearthed just on those two farms."

"It is quite clear that for the discovery to make an impact on the people of Zimbabwe and the world in general, it was necessary for those who assisted you to ferry arms from elsewhere so as to make the accusation of a plot to overthrow the government appear real."

Another allegation that Mr Nkomo makes is that the government purposely destabilised unity within the country's army, an integrated force made up of both ZANLA and ZIPRA.

The main thrust of Mr Nkomo's charges concern the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade, which answers only to the Prime Minister.

From January this year onwards, he alleges, they conducted a campaign of killings and destruction against ZAPU supporters and officials of Matabeleland.

Trumped up

The Zimbabwe Government has always said that the campaign was necessary to stamp out dissidents operating in the area.

But while accepting that the Fifth Brigade was sent in after about 200 murders and large-scale destruction of government property, Mr Nkomo adds:

"I am sure you appreciate the absurdity of trying to protect people who have 200 of them killed (sic) in 12 months by dissidents while the Fifth Brigade in the process of that protection killed 300 to 400 people in six weeks."

Replying to police investigations against him, including charges that emeralds were found at his house, Mr Nkomo dismisses them as "trumped-up" charges designed by your government to embarrass and harass me."

Mr Nkomo slams the maintenance of legislation enacted during the years of Mr Ian Smith's government and asks: "Do you think there is something wrong? What did our people fight for?"

"It is a well known fact that in Zimbabwe today there are more people detained without trial than in fascist South Africa."

"In fact the situation today is, in some respects, even worse as our government has abandoned even those standards of bourgeois legality with which the Smith regime generally attempted to hide their repression."

"As it is now in Zimbabwe, everyone feels fear."
Apart from promoting reconciliation with the Ndebele, Mugabe has three major concerns that transcend the speculations raised by Nkomo's return. The first is how to achieve a single-party state by cement.

The second is how to carry forward his proposal for turning Zimbabwe into a socialist state. And the third is to focus on the corruption that has undermined confidence in a number of his ministers and other senior government officials.

While Nkomo's agreement to a merging of Zaps and Zanu would help the process of creating a single-party state, some Mugabe supporters believe that there are other Ndebele leaders who can fill the roles formerly held by Nkomo. They protest that opinion rather than to assert in what they see as rehabilitating Nkomo's tarnished image.

Little attention has so far been paid to the serious tensions within Mugabe's own party over his firm commitment to socialism. During a recent meeting of the central committee of Zanu, several prominent members (including a senior minister) argued that Zaps should give up its socialist objectives.

Mugabe insists this challenge head-on by declaring that such a change of policy would Britain in the presidential character of Zuma. He insisted that those who now favored a system of private enterprises should come into the open, and that he would then be ready to order a policy election on the single issue of whether or not Zanu should abandon its commitment to socialism. This issue remains unresolved.

Meanwhile, Mugabe has begun to move deftly in dealing with corruption in his ranks. He is reported to have personally been greatly shaken by the speed with which some former guerrilla fighters have been corrupted by their positions of power and have taken to acquiring private wealth.

Mugabe has also ordered that his ministers should give a full accounting of all their assets and show how these were acquired since independence. Meanwhile, though, the prime minister remains deeply concerned about what he sees as a growing military threat from South Africa. During his recent visit to Botswana, he has discussed reports about the movement into South Africa of discontented soldiers who have fled into exile from Mozambique.

There is independent evidence to show that this is happening. According to one source, a lieutenant of Nkomo's Zaps is said to be concerned about this development. Mugabe has several times accused South Africans of holding up a small force of Zimbabwe exiles, black and white, with the aim of destabilizing his country.

Mugabe denies it. However, the question remains why Zimbabweans are said to be undergoing training in a South African military camp in the Northern Transvaal.

Mugabe's concern about what he sees as a serious threat from the south has led him to speak seriously about involving the help of the Soviet Union, with whom he has in the past been on friendly terms.

He intends to discuss the possibility of a security agreement between the USSR and Zimbabwe and other border states along South Africa's frontiers when he visits Moscow shortly.
The big grab in Zimbabwe
Now South Africa faces problem of ex-Rhodesians

THOUSANDS of ex-Rhodesians in South Africa could face destitution and could become drains on the state, under the latest ruling of Zimbabwe’s Reserve Bank.

The ambiguous ruling, issued in May, was construed by financial analysts in this country as a shrewdly generous move to block transfers of assets (notably external securities) to encourage confidence and thus further investment in the Zimbabwean financial structure.

It now seems that the real purpose is to deprive immigrants of their South African earned incomes in order to retain foreign currency in Zimbabwe.

The May directive indicated that with immediate effect all remittable income, including pensions and annuities, had to be transferred to the form of external securities.

These securities could either be sold in Zimbabwe and the proceeds used to purchase, the individual’s entitleld or be registered and exported.

For this purpose scrip would no longer be valued at local market prices, but the selling price would be fixed at the external market at the time of transfer would be used.

On the face of it, immigrants had cause for rejoicing since many of them, before quitting the then Rhodesia, had spent the savings they were not allowed to bring with them into safely reputable South African undertakings, such as De Beers shares, Escom stock and so on. In terms of the new ruling, it was suggested that this was perfectly in order.

But the snags, created by the Smith regime and now being exploited by Zimbabwe’s new rulers, was that the scrip of all shares and stock required to be held in safe custody by nominee companies (mostly banks) who alone took “considerable time” to effect such re-registration and transfer of scrip.

Even if the transfers were made concurrently with the receipt of each dividend in Zimbabwe, in the case of such a highly popular investment as Escom’s long-term loan stock, the recipients would have to wait until the early 1990s before they would be locally drawing what had hitherto been the bulk of their family’s income from this source.

By that time, assuming the scrip is still alive, inflation will have reduced the value of the income they now depend on the equivalent of cigarette money.

But the real problem of the investors is not 25 years hence, but now. In the meantime, South African money, which rightfully belongs to those who invested in good faith in this country’s economy, is still being shipped into Zimbabwe to prop up an ailing financial structure.

And South Africa may have to bear the burden of supporting thousands of immigrants who were granted permanent residence on the strength of the financial contributions they could make to this country’s economy.

A possible solution, as suggested by one ex-Rhodesian immigrant, is that the South African Government be given the right to do direct deals with the local undertakings concerned, to cancel the relevant amount of stock held by this or that nominee company in Zimbabwe, issue new stock and pay the dividends directly in this country to the investors.

“As far as the Smith Government would allow us, we put our money into this country,” he said. “Now we need some backing to sustain the rights we came here with — or do we just go on social welfare?”
Nkomo lobbied outside support, says Mugabe

HARARE — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe claimed at the weekend that his arch-rival, Zanu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, had tried to lobby support from the Frontline states.

Addressing a political rally, Mr Mugabe said the Zanu leader had made his lobbying attempts during his five-months self-imposed exile in London.

"We told him that none of our friends could interfere with the affairs of Zimbabwe."

Mr Nkomo has emphatically denied the Prime Minister's allegation.

Zanu vice-president Mr Joshua Chirwa, who headed the party during Mr Nkomo's absence, said at the weekend that the recent Government move to oust Mr Nkomo from his seat in Parliament had badly damaged the Government's image abroad.
Major writers in Zimbabwe for landmark literary fair

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE — One of the biggest literary events ever staged in Africa — the Book Week Africa Fair and writers' workshop — was opened in Harare last night by the Zimbabwean Minister of Education and Culture, Dr Dingani Mutumbuka.

Centrepiece of the fair is a display of about 700 recent titles from 110 African publishing houses in 26 African countries, as well as about 200 African-published journals and periodicals. The only South African publishing house taking part is Ravan Press.

About 15 prominent writers from various African countries, including four South Africans and about 15 Zimbabwean writers, have been invited to take part in a writers' workshop from today until Friday.

And tonight, the premier African publishing award, the Nema Award, will be presented to Ghana's former attorney-general, Mr A. S. A. M. Malee, for his scholarly work, Criminal Procedure in Ghana.

The book fair, which will also feature displays by publishing houses from the Soviet Union, China, both East and West Germany, France as well as by Unesco and individual European publishers, will be open to the public.

The workshop sessions will be open only to delegates and invited observers. A number of the delegates are political exiles and some of them are at political loggerheads with each other.

At what is expected to be one of the most controversial workshop sessions, a Somali-born author, Nureddin Farah, who lectures at a Nigerian university, will present a paper entitled "The author and the politician".

One of the internationally best-known African authors, Chinedu Achebe of Nigeria, whose first two novels both sold more than a million copies and who has recently turned to children's books, is expected to read some of his latest work to children during an outdoor session, and a South African poet, Isango Seokane, is expected to take part in an outdoor poetry reading.

Other South African-born writers taking part are Nadine Gordimer, Louis Nkosi, who lectures at the University of Zambia, and Mongane Serote, who lives in Botswana.

There are also several delegations from Francophone Africa as well as writers from Mozambique, Angola, Malawi, Kenya, Ethiopia, Somalia, Nigeria and a few more.
Mara’s long wait in the agony of uncertainty

‘I JUST WANTED TO DIE WHEN HE WAS TAKEN AWAY AGAIN’

MARA MINNAAR is a small woman whose fine-boned face shows the strain she has been under in the six weeks since her husband, Major-General Taileefer Minnaar, security adviser to the Ciskei Government, was detained by Ciskei security police.

She laughs frequently and nervously, and there are sudden quick movements of hands and head that betray the inner turmoil of a woman caught up in a situation which, she says, she does not understand.

But underneath there is a steely quality; her face can harden suddenly, showing great determination.

“Don’t print photographs showing me laughing — I shouldn’t be laughing. All I can do is wait — and pray,” she said when I interviewed her at a relative’s house in Johannesburg this week.

Throughout the interview Mrs Minnaar was on tenderhooks that she would say or do something that might prejudice her husband, whom she obviously adores.

She refused to say anything at all about her own or Gen Minnaar’s background, except that he is “a South African born and bred — as I am”.

“Tal’s arrest came as a terrible shock to me,” she said.

“I had no idea that anything was brewing. I had always been under the impression that he was on very good terms with President Lennox Sebe.”

Her husband never discussed his work with her, said Mrs Minnaar.

“I have my work in East London, where I run a freight company — it’s a long way, 83km each way, to commute daily.

“He worked at his office from nine to five every day. But when we got home neither of us talked about our work.”

Telling of her horror over the last six weeks, Mrs Minnaar recalled how she had reacted to the news of her husband’s detention last month.

“When I heard from a secr.

vast that he had been taken away by police, I tried to find out what had happened. But nobody would tell me anything. In the end I heard on the radio he had been detained by Security Police.

“I could hardly wait for a relative to arrive from Johannesburg to help me. We went to a lawyer in East London and eventually brought an application in the Ciskei Supreme Court asking for my husband to have access to me and to his lawyers, but that was refused.

“I was told he was being detained in prison in Mlan- tana — the Ciskei township outside East London — and it was agony not being able to see him.

“I was given a list of toiletries and clothing he was allowed to have, and was told they had been delivered to him.

“The next I heard of him was when our lawyer telephoned to say he had been taken to Westkoppies Hospital for observation.”

Mrs Minnaar said she and the lawyers were “absolutely in the dark” as to the reasons for Gen Minnaar’s removal to Westkop- pies, a state mental hospital in Pretoria.

“We were unable to find out who had authorized it,” she said, and quoted a newspaper report which said Gen Minnaar’s removal “evoked shades of the Gulag”.

“I immediately left for the Transvaal, and the first time I saw my husband since his detention was when the lawyers and I were allowed into Westkoppies.”

“That brought the application in the Pretoria Supreme Court and he was released, to go as an on Tuesday — and immediately re-arrested by South African police with a provisional warrant of arrest.”

“I just wanted to die,” she said, close to tears.

“I had planned that we would go on a second honeymoon the moment he got out.”

Instead, Mara Minnaar had to watch her adored husband loaded into a police van and driven off to prison.

Gen Minnaar, who became Ciskei security consultant in 1980, was arrested on July 17 — the day after he arrived back from a trip to Israel with the Ciskei President.

The Ciskei’s army chief, General Charles Sebe — a brother of the President — and eleven other men were detained at the same time.

No charges have yet been formally laid by Ciskei authorities, but when SA police arrested Gen Minnaar this week, nine counts under the Explosives Act and the Arms and Ammunition Act were cited.

Home-made schoolboy in

A 10-YEAR-OLD East London schoolboy is in hospital with third-degree burns over nearly two-thirds of the front of his body sustained when a home-made bomb exploded in his hands.

Doctors said it was a miracle that he was not killed or more seriously injured and
Rhodesian links in the life of jailed Ciskei expert Minnaar...  

By JEAN LE MAY

CLOSE business links were traced this week between Major-General Talliefe Minnaar, the former Ciskei security adviser now in Pretoria Central Prison, and a number of prominent Rhodesian security specialists operating in the security field. They include Mr. Isaac Kaye, whose Rhodesian interests date back to Northern Rhodesia; Lieut.-General Ron Reid-Daly, founder of the Selous Scouts; and Mr. John Erasmus, a former National Party candidate backed by Mr. Kaye.

Gen. Minnaar was managing director of a Johannesburg security company, Volksguard Security Pty Ltd, immediately before he went to Ciskei.

His wife, Mrs. Marja Minnaar — who is bringing tomorrow’s applications for bail pending an extradition application by the Ciskei government — worked for the same security company as sales manager.

Other directors were Mr. Erasmus, Mr. John Bishop and Mr. Peter Goldberg, former group accountant for Mr. Kaye’s Alumina group.

Mr. Kaye is overseas and could not be reached for comment.

Mr. Goldberg was accountant for the Alumina group at the time he was a director of Volksguard.

He confirmed that he had been a director of Volksguard and that Mr. Kaye was majority shareholder.

Mr. Goldberg now runs a freight company, Adfreight.

Mr. Bishop, who is with the Colin Security Services of Pretoria, went to Volksguard from Fidelity Guards, the security arm of the Reunies group.

A spokesman for Reunies said the former Miss Mara Dyer — now Mrs. Minnaar — had also worked for Fidelity Guards.

"Both Mrs. Minnaar and Mr. Bishop left when Volksguard was formed," he said.
Zimbabwe bid to beat corruption

HARARE - Penalties for corruption have been increased fivefold in Zimbabwe.

The Minister of Justice, Mr Simbi Mubako, told Parliament the government would be failing in its duty if it did not take action before corruption reached epidemic proportions.

He said corruption had proved a major problem in many countries, particularly newly independent ones.

The maximum penalty has been increased to $50,000 or five years' imprisonment for people who cannot prove that gifts received in connection with their work were given legally.
Zimbabwean sabotage trial nears close

HARARE — A Zimbabwean judge, Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena, has started reading his judgment in the High Court today in the case of six air force officers accused of helping South African raiders sabotage 13 Zimbabwean warplanes last year.

If the officers are convicted they could be condemned to death or jailed for life.

The six officers are Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater (41), Air Commodore Philip Pile (42), Wing-Commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox (both 36), and Air-Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd (31) and Neville Weir (24).

At the start of the nine-week trial all pleaded not guilty.

Mr Justice Dumbutshena ruled that proceedings held to confirm alleged confessions made by the accused were invalid because they had been deprived of access to their lawyers.

He added that the onus thus shifted to the State to prove that the statements made by the men were given freely and could be used in evidence.

When led down to the court cells for the lunch adjournment, the officers appeared relaxed and confident, smiling to friends and relatives.

(Proceedings)
Mugabe will face pressure over human rights abuse.

Britain to probe airmen's detention.

LONDON — The British Government has called for the "urgent clarification" of the Zimbabwean decision to redetain the six air force officers who were acquitted in the High Court, Harare, yesterday of being involved in the sabotage of aircraft last year.

This was confirmed by a Foreign Office spokesman who said the British Government welcomed the fact that Judge Enoch Dumbutshena had found all the accused innocent, but we are disturbed by the redetentions.

"Our High Commission in Harare has been instructed to seek urgent clarification of the position."

Four of the officers have dual Zimbabwean and British nationality, while the remaining two, Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, hold only Zimbabwean citizenship.

The comment yesterday by the Foreign Office is one of the strongest statements made by the British Government on human rights issues in Zimbabwe since independence and may be the first salvo of many broadsides that the Mugabe Government may have to face over the redetention of the men.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe can expect tough questioning on the issue in the United States this month. He is due to visit Canada and the US, meeting President Reagan for the first time on September 13.

QC is 'sickened'

British lawyer Mr. Harry Ognewt (QC), who led the defence team for the officers, said he was sickened by the redetention move and would now try to muster maximum diplomatic pressure on the government from the highest possible level.

He said the Zimbabwean Government can expect pressure from friendly Western countries and that Western diplomats said before the trial that the question of whether acquittals would be followed by freedom or redetention would pose a major challenge for the Government.

The Government has so far given no indication whether or not the "indefinite detention orders" issued by the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr. Herbert Ushewokunze, are aimed simply at giving authorities time to assess the acquittals. In some diplomatic circles this is believed to be the case.

The Government has argued in the past that courts often acquit people in security cases because of legal technicalities and that the Government has the supreme duty of caring for the people.
Wives are shocked by 'Joy turns to tears as officers are marched off'

redefinition

Joy turns to tears as officers are marched off

Joyful moments turned to tears for the families of the British armed forces as they were marched off to war.

The soldiers, who had spent months training and preparing for the conflict, were seen departing from their bases, their faces reflecting the mixed emotions of pride and sadness.

"It's a sad day," one family member said. "We're proud of them, but it's hard to see them go."
Zimbabwe releases Moll

HARARE — Mr Edward Moll, the Zimbabwe National Railways employee in Botswana who was arrested in January this year for allegedly insulting President C. B. T. Mugabe, has been released.

In the Assembly yesterday Minister of Home Affairs Dr Herbert Ushewokunze said Mr Moll was released on August 25.

Asked by Mr Bill Irvine (Independent, Marlborough) whether this had resulted from the Prime Minister's intervention, Dr Ushewokunze said: "I do not have to give a catalogue of what happened. He was given his due time in the cooler, now he is out."

Mr Moll was ordered to be released on March 21, but the Minister re-detained him on April 29. — Saps.
Joy to grief for Zimbabwe wives as

Freed air force men redetained

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE.

Six white Zimbabwe Air Force officers were released under indefinite detention yesterday within 30 minutes of being acquitted on charges of aiding and abetting the sabotage of warplanes in July last year.

Shocked and sobbing wives, relatives and friends cried: "Shame, shame," as the men were led away handcuffed. A British barrister, Mr. Harry Og Pull QC, who defended the men, was clearly furious.

Earlier the crowd in the packed galleries of the Harare High Court had risen and spontaneously applauded the Judge President, Mr. Justice Enoch Dumbuzo, when he announced that he found all six officers not guilty.

After the verdict, a triumphant Mr. Og Pull had said: "These men have had a conspicuously fair trial, not only in the attitude of my opposition, but in the cooperation I have received from him and his state."

He said he was "as relieved as I am delighted" that the six, "extremely honourable," men had been acquitted.

Observers believe the trial was the last in a series of trials that people have been arrested after being set free by the courts - a severely strained relations between Zimbabwe and a Western country.

In an indefinite detention order under the Some emergency powers, the Minister of Affairs, Mr. Herbert U. Shone, said he believed officers "will be a danger to public safety and order".

The officers had alleged they had been subjected to brutal electric shock torture yesterday Mr. Justice Dumbuzo said some of the electric shock "had "the ring of truth." He found that police investigating the sabotage of warplanes at Thornhill Air Force Base, near Gwern, in July last year, had moved the six officers from one "antagonistic environment to another," and denied them their constitutional right to access to their lawyers.

He said the denial of legal access was illegal inducement and therefore ruled the confessions inadmissible as evidence. Besides the confession, the judge said there was "very little incriminating evidence against the officers."

The officers are Air Vice-Marshal Sir Hugh Slatter, 41; Air Commodore Philip Fles, 43, Wing Commander Peter Briscoe, 37, Wing Commander John Cox, 38, Air Lieutenant John Flegg and Air Lieutenant Neville Welch, 34.

Moments after the officers were acquitted, Air Vice-Marshal Sir Hugh Slatter, who was deputy commander of the air force at the time of his arrest, said: "We will have time to see if we can pick up our lives again."

Whether or not he would remain in Zimbabwe would depend on "my family and the Prime Minister (Mr. Robert Mugabe)."

One of the officers' wives said immediately after the trial that she and her family would be leaving Zimbabwe as fast as possible. A spokesman for the British High Commission in Harare said the position was "still unclear," and he would not comment yet on the re-detention. Four of the officers have dual British and Zimbabwean citizenships.

Sapa reports that tears of joy among the wives of the five married officers quickly turned to tears of anger and shouts of rage as a prison officer served the stunned airmen with detention orders and led them off handcuffed.

Most of the wives wept with joy, then cried out when they saw that their husbands had been detained again.

Air Vice-Marshal Sir Hugh Slatter nearly knocked his wife off her feet as he hugged her exuberantly. Mrs. Slatter, who was injured in a car accident during his husband's detention, was wheeled into court in a chair with her leg bandaged and in a brace.
Mugabe asks for German aid

HARARE — The West German Government could take a more positive stand on South Africa and, hopefully, dissuade it from continuing acts of aggression against neighbours, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe said in an interview published in Harare yesterday.

He said: "There can be a much more forthright position against South Africa, in favour of the people of South Africa ... and Namibia, from West Germany as a whole."

This was a request Zimbabwe had always made to its friends in the West. "If the same friends whom South Africa depended on for support at international forums, especially the UN, "One hopes ... that there will be this realisation that for us to prosper, for us to develop our economic systems, there has to be that degree of freedom from acts of aggression, from acts of sabotage that South Africa is perpetrating against us," the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Mugabe said South Africa had recently begun taking advantage of the dissident problem in western Zimbabwe. "They have been recruiting former ZIPRA and banding them together with former Mozorewa auxiliaries who fled the country and are still in South Africa and sending them to Matabeleland as trained dissidents to operate under the banner of ZAPU," he said.

Mr. Mugabe said he was aware there were two groups operating in Matabeleland at present. "These were the "South African-sponsored bands and those who would derive from ZAPU, of course," South Africa has repeatedly denied such charges.

Asked whether the West German Government had responded "constructively" to requests for a more positive stand on South Africa, Mr. Mugabe acknowledged the role that the country was playing as a member of the five-nation contact group. "But one would hope that our appeal has been passed to the previous administration to the government of Chancellor Kohl and now that there has been this interaction between us and the new administration, there is an understanding of our problem." — Sapa.
Zimbabwe re-detentions revive old fears about Mugabe

In three major trials now the State has failed to prove its case. Yet the people involved, innocent in the eyes of the law, are behind bars.

Three former police officers — the accused — have been acquitted, and the re-detention in May of six top ZAPU men, including Myron Mradzunguwa, Lieutenant-General Lookout Muzakura, after they had been found not guilty.

But the outcome of the air force trial, followed by the finding in the police trials, has cast doubt on the credibility of the images of torture and ill-treatment that had been used to justify the actions of the police.

It is being asked in political circles here what action Mr Mugabe will now take to ensure some accountability to the image of the country.

Last year when the allegations of torture first came to light, the Minister of Justice, Mr Simbi Mhuka, promised that an inquiry would be held if the torture claims were proved during the court case.

And Mr Mugabe himself told Parliament in July that "any kind of torture is undesirable and those who torture will be brought to book."

The crude way in which the re-detention of the officer was handled — having them marched in handcuffs past their families and international journalists — points to either remarkable insensitivity or the failure of the authorities to appreciate the impact this would have on international opinion.

Sources here say the decision to keep the men in custody in the event of an acquittal had been decided in advance to ensure a fair decision about their future to be taken.

The Home Affairs Minister, Dr Furthermore, who issued the detention orders, maintained in answer to early critics of the re-detention of acquitted people that an acquittal showed only that the State had failed to prove beyond reasonable doubt that an offence had been committed.

"If the evidence brought to my attention still convinces me that an individual constitutes a danger to the State, I have no choice but to detain that person," he said at the time.

In previous cases where the State has won, strong condemnation has followed the judges involved.

Mr Justice Squire, who acquitted the ZAPU officials on treason and arms cache charges, was accused by Dr Dube of not being in tune with the present government.

But in this case the president's habeas corpus, who was the first black judge to be appointed to the bench after Mr Mugabe came to power, has long-standing associations with the nationalist movement.
Thornhill six may be deported by Zimbabwe

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government is understood to be making preparations to deport the six air force officers who were re-detained after their acquittal of complicity in the sabotage at Thornhill air base.

With international concern mounting over their fate, Britain yesterday made it clear that the continued detention of the six officers was "absolutely unacceptable". The incident could seriously damage British-Zimbabwean relations.

The Zimbabwe Government has kept strict silence since the men were put back behind bars on Wednesday afternoon. An attempt by Republican Front leader Mr Ian Smith to raise the issue in Parliament yesterday evening was blocked.

A Government spokesman said a statement might be issued later today.

Lawyers yesterday confirmed they had been asked if the officers' passports were in order.

In London yesterday, Mr Malcolm Rifkind of the Foreign Office summoned the acting Zimbabwe High Commissioner to say Britain's "very strong feelings on the subject" and to ask him to convey these urgently to his government.

At the same time the British High Commissioner in Harare had been asked to "clarify what the intentions of the Zimbabwean Government are".

Because none of the officers held only British citizenship, Britain could not offer them any formal protection.

However, he made it clear that the four who held dual British and Zimbabwean nationality would have no difficulty in returning to Britain. It was possible that Britain could also be "helpful" in the case of the other two.

It is believed the Zimbabwean Government is planning to bar Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slater from the country under the same special regulation which was introduced in 1980 to bar another born Zimbabwean, General Peter Walls, from entering the country of his birth.

Of the other officers, four hold dual British-Zimbabwean nationality and Wing Commander Peter Breese, who was born in South Africa, is a citizen of Zimbabwe by registration.
Six refugee buses from Botswana return empty

BULAWAYO—A fleet of seven buses, sent by the Zimbabwe Government to Botswana to bring back refugees who wanted to return to their homes, returned through the Plumtree border post yesterday morning — with six of the buses empty and only 22 in the other.

The buses had been sent to Francistown to transport those of the estimated 5,000 Zimbabweans in the Dukwe Camp who were willing to return, following an agreement between the Botswana and Zimbabwean governments to repatriate them.

The Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President in Gaborone, Mr Festus Mogae, said yesterday that 49 Zimbabweans from the Dukwe Camp had been repatriated over the past two days.

"This is a result of an agreement between the governments of Botswana and Zimbabwe to persuade the refugees to go back home," he said.

"There is a joint commission from the two countries that has been engaged in consultations on the problem of the refugees. As a result of the deliberations of this commission 22 refugees left for Zimbabwe on Tuesday and an additional 27 left yesterday."

Mr Mogae said the Zimbabwean High Commissioner in Gaborone, Mr Alois Chidoda, and Botswana Government officials had addressed the estimated 3,000 refugees.

"We told them they are welcome back in Zimbabwe and that those of school-going age would be sent to schools and the adults would be sent to their districts where they would be helped to settle," said Mr Mogae.

He described the mood among the people at Dukwe as one of scepticism, saying many did not know what future awaited them back in Zimbabwe. But he was confident that the number being repatriated would increase as more were persuaded to return home.

He emphasised that those 'refugees' indulging in unlawful activities or acts of banditry against Zimbabwe would be repatriated immediately on identification.

Mr Mogae denied a BBC report yesterday morning that Botswana had decided to repatriate all the refugees and indicated that while Botswana would like them all to return to Zimbabwe, 'this is a matter of persuading them'.

The Protection Officer of the UNHCR in Botswana, Mr Rainer Hassel, said the UNHCR was particularly concerned about the fate of 470 'unaccompanied' children. — (Sapa)
Lawyers battle over six airmen

HARARE — Negotiations were apparently taking place yesterday between lawyers representing the six detained air force officers and the Zimbabwe Government.

However the government seemed to be adopting a relaxed attitude over their fate. As the airmen languished in a maximum security prison two days after being acquitted of sabotage and then re-detained under emergency powers, government leaders were out of their offices.

Chad claims to have killed 800 rebels in new fighting

NYDJAMENA — The Chad Government said yesterday that its troops had killed 800 Libyan-backed rebels and captured 600 after repulsing an attack on a garrison in north-east Chad.

An army communiqué said most of the men captured after a battle around Oum-Chalouba, some 640 km from here, were Sudanese.

The communiqué said the forces of President Hissene Habre's government captured 12 vehicles with anti-aircraft and ground-to-ground missiles mounted on them, and 16 large Mercedes trucks loaded with ammunition and food.

The communiqué gave no further details of the battle which began early yesterday morning. Chad's Information Minister Mr Mahamat Sounia said a force of about 3,000 Libyan-backed rebels, supported by tanks, armoured cars and artillery, attacked the government garrison at Oum-Chalouba.

Earlier there were reports that French Jaguar aircraft were involved in the fighting — but the French Defence Ministry in Paris would not confirm or deny this.

French Jaguar strike aircraft and Mirage fighter escorts — there are four of each based here — did take off from N'Djamena yesterday morning but there was no word on their destination. — Reuters.

A government spokesman said the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, was in Uzungwe, some 200 km from the capital, addressing a political meeting. Officials in the Information Ministry took the afternoon off to attend the annual Harare Agricultural Show.

One Information Ministry spokesman said a statement on the re-detentions was imminent while another said it was possible there might be no news until after the weekend.

Diplomatic sources said the issue was very delicate and there was no firm indication yet whether the airmen would be freed soon or held indefinitely.

Sources close to the defence team for the airmen — acquitted because their alleged confessions to involvement in a devastating raid on Zimbabwe's air force a year ago were obtained through torture — said negotiations were under way to obtain the officers' early release and departure from the country.

But there was no indication of how far the talks had progressed. Four of the defendants have joint British-Zimbabwean nationality and Britain has indicated that all six would be welcome to go there.

Both Britain and the United States, Zimbabwe's biggest aid benefactor with several hundred million dollars pledged for development programmes, have indicated concern at the implications of the re-detentions on the rule of law in one of Africa's youngest states.

Mr Mugabe is due to leave next week on an official visit to Ireland, the United States and Canada and could face tough questioning if the officers are still in jail. — Reuters.
RUMOURS RIFE THAT AIRMEN WILL BE DEPORTED BEFORE MUGABE'S THREE-NATION TOUR

By NORMAN ELLIS and ANDRE VILJOEN: Harare amid an international storm over Zimbabwe's detention of six white airmen acquitted of sabotage charges, former Prime Minister Ian Smith is to publicly call for their release in Parliament on Tuesday.

Mr Smith was thwarted in an effort on Thursday to raise the issue in the 100-member House of Assembly the day after the airmen were declared free men for the first time in a year.

A government-led walk-out robbed the House of a quorum.

But Mr Smith said in an interview he would raise the matter when the House sits next on Tuesday.

"It was a deliberate, dirty trick to silence me," Mr Smith said.

"They have guilty consciences."

The state-controlled Press radio and TV have pointedly ignored reports from Britain, the United States and other Western nations of angry protests over the detentions - ordered by Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Uhekwueke in March after Judge Enoch Dambuzosha acquitted the airmen.

They were charged with helping South African saboteurs to blow up 13 white planes at the Thornhill airbase on July 26 last year.

But the independent Financial Gazette slammed the detentions as "cruel and impossible to understand" and suggested Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was forced to sign hundreds of detention orders from the Cabinet.

"The Prime Minister will undoubtedly feel the effect of this on his imminent trip to Ireland, Canada and the United States, the editor wrote.

"It will cast a shadow on what promises to be a most constructive tour."


They were freed of the charges after the judge ruled that they had been "inadmissible" witnesses against the airmen who were also "inadmissible" witnesses against the airmen.

Smith (I was gagged) plans new appeal to release Zimbabwe's six detained officers

THE JOY Philip Pile and wife Liz shortly after his release, but their reunion was brief

THE SORROW Paddy Briscoe .... praying for release

Extracted through electric shock torture and threats and were inadmissible

Spectators in the crowded courtroom rose to applaud the judge, but tears of joy from the officers' wives turned to tears of anger as the airmen were handed detention orders instead of release papers by a prisons officer.

Jeers

And cheers from family and friends changed to jeers as the bewildered officers, clad in business suits, were handcuffed and driven away in a police van - not to the freedom the judge promised, but to the cells of the Chikurubi Prison on the outskirts of Harare that had been their home for months.

Black bastards," shouted one white man as they were processed. He was promptly arrested.

"This is unbelievable, just unbelievable," cried one of the five wives who had sat on wooden benches at the front of the courtroom during the two-hour ordeal.

Behind-the-scenes diplomatic and legal efforts were continued yesterday to get the officers freed along with a seventh pilot, British Nigel Lewis-Walker, who was re-detained on Dr Uhekwueke's orders in May after being exonerated of charges of illegal possession of arms.

Both government and diplomatic sources say they expect the seven airmen to be freed and ex-pelled, probably to Britain, before Mugabe sets off on his three-nation tour.

"It would not be a very comfortable trip for the PM if this matter is not settled before he goes," said one official.

Embarrassing

"He would run into a lot of embarrassment," said one diplomat.

But it would be equally embarrassing for Mr Mugabe - at home - if the whites were freed while six black officials of Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zimbabwe African People's Union remain in detention after being acquitted in April of capital charges of plotting to overthrow the government.

"Zimbabweans will be mighty puzzled if they see the whites go free and not the blacks," one diplomat noted.

Wives of the five married airmen, meanwhile, have their bags packed ready to quit Zimbabwe for good.

"We are confident our prayers will be answered," said Liz Pile, who like the other wives and all their husbands have become born-again Christians over the ordeal.

Lt Col Val Rajah, chaplain to Zimbabwe's armed forces, visited the airmen in their cells at Chikurubi prison on Thursday and reported: "They're in good spirits and confident they'll be out soon."

Informed sources continued to speculate that it was probable that all or some of the detained officers would be released and deported although they thought it unlikely that any action would be taken before Monday.

A spokesman for the British High Commission in Harare, which has sought clarification from the Zimbabwean Government because of British concern that the six officers were not released after their acquittal, said yesterday that there had been talks at "a high level" between the High Commission and the Zimbabwean Government.

Speculation that the government was considering deporting the officers has been given added impetus by the fact that it asked their lawyers on Thursday whether the six had valid passports.

The lawyers said they were watching the outcome of diplomatic pressure to secure the officers' release but that possible legal steps would include trying to secure an urgent review of their detention. 
Fate of six re-detained
Zimbabwes silent on

Canada.

For instance, the Labour Disputes Act in Canada guarantees the right to collective bargaining for workers. Labor unions and workers can negotiate with employers for better conditions and pay.

In consultation with their clients and
lawyers for the clients have been
free to discuss the issues.

A recent report by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) highlighted the importance of free speech and the need for safeguarding it against government overreach. The report argued that the government's efforts to suppress dissent violate the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

The action led to protests from

The special forces

The special forces

The special forces

The special forces

The special forces

The special forces

The special forces
Remains of abducted whites found — report
Argus Africa News Service
HARARE. — The Zimbabwe Government says captured bandits in the Matabeleland province have pointed out the remains of two whites abducted some months ago.

The State Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, said the captured dissidents showed security forces what appeared to have been the remains of Mr David Biliang and Mr Robert Dyer-Smith.

Mr Biliang, a Natal University student, was abducted with his grandfather, Mr Benji Williams, on New Year's Eve in the Turk Mine area north of Bulawayo.

Mr Williams was found dead shortly after the abduction. He had been murdered by his kidnappers.

Bulawayo accountant
Mr Dyer-Smith, 66, a Bulawayo accountant, was taken by armed bandits from his farm on the outskirts of the city on March 18.

Two employees with with Mr Dyer-Smith were set free by the dissident gang and given a note to take back to the authorities. The note demanded the release from detention Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and Lieutenant-General Lookout Mawu, both top officials in Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party.

According to Mr Mnangagwa, the captured dissidents also admitted being involved in the murder of a farming couple, Mr and Mrs Eric Stratford, and their two grandchildren in the Nyamandlovu district on March 18.

Meanwhile, there has still been no news of the fate of six foreign tourists who were abducted by dissidents on July 23 last year.

The six — two Britons, two Americans and two Australians — were nearing the end of a trans-Africa tour when they were abducted at a bandit roadblock on the Bulawayo-Victoria Falls road.

During the visit, some bus services have been stopped in parts of rural Matabeleland after the recent destruction of buses. One bus company has reported losing eight buses.

SNAKES
Residents in part of city are plagued by pythons

Argus Africa News Service
NAIROBI. — Residents of the Kasarani district of Nairobi have appealed to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife to rid them of pythons in the area.

"I do not want to imagine what a python could do to my three-year-old child, who usually plays outside in the compound," said one resident, Mr Festus Kerenge.

Another related how his dog narrowly escaped when a python lunged at it but missed. The alarm came after a policeman shot a five-metre python in the area.
Day of economic reckoning comes

Following this week’s food price increases, the ordinary man must be asking what has happened to the promised fruits of independence, writes Robin Drew of the Argus Foreign Service in Harare.

Nothing has so clearly rung home the message that Zimbabwe is in desperate economic straits than the sweeping increases in the prices of essential basic foodstuffs which came into force this week. The price of mealie meal, the people’s staple diet, went up by more than 50 percent, milk by 50 percent and bread by 25 percent. Prices charged for meat, cooking oil and fats have also shot up.

To soften the blow a little, the Government has ordered that people earning less than $330 a month be given pay increases of up to 10 percent. But for the majority of workers, including those in the agricultural, mining and domestic sectors, the increase will be limited to about 20 percent.

The huge increases in food prices are as a result of the painful decision to cut agricultural subsidies drastically and are aimed at saving the Government about $150 million a year.

Warnings aplenty

There have been plenty of warnings that belts will have to be tightened because of the dual effects of the drought and the world recession.

Indeed, “Tighten Your Belts” might be said to have become the national slogan.

But the ordinary man, who has already suffered from July’s budget of austerity which brought increases in sales tax on most consumer goods and an extension of income tax, will have to be told what has happened to the promised fruits of independence.

In just 20 months, for example, the price of mealie meal has doubled. But minimum wages, which last went up at about the same time, have not kept pace. The increase in the prices of essential foodstuffs is a 50 percent increase in the prices of mealie meal, chicken, beef, milk, bread and cooking oil.

Inflationary

There can hardly be a single item which has not increased sharply in price. Many of the increases — such as the increase for petrol, which went up by 10 percent in February and electricity charges which soared by up to 50 percent in July — have had a biting inflationary effect.

The slashing of the subsidies on agricultural products has been on the cards for some years and an earlier reduction resulted in the first increase in the price of mealie meal at the end of last year.

But the Government has been reluctant, because of possible political repercussions, to take a big stride in this direction.

After the first year of independence, the previous Finance Minister, Mr. Enos Nkala, complained that he was fighting a lonely battle to get food subsidies reduced.

“Much worse”

He warned then that the subsidy bill would bankrupt the nation and that the day of reckoning must eventually come. Now, two and a half years later that day seems to have been reached.

Mr Nkala’s warning that putting off the unpopular decision would make it much worse seems to have been borne out.

There have been many other calls by economists for the Government to reduce subsidies. But by failing to act decisively before now, the Government has been forced to implement cuts across the board instead of being able to phase in the increases.

The sacrifices which the people are having to make will revive criticism of over-spending by the Government in other areas, such as the number of Ministers and Deputy Ministers Mr Mugabe has around him.

Credit due

There are altogether 55 Ministers and Deputy Ministers, making it an extremely top-heavy administration.

The civil service, too, has increased by nearly 70 percent. This excludes the armed forces which are also a heavy drain on Government funds.

The defence vote is absorbing more than $1 billion a day, taking up 19 percent of recurrent expenditure. And the four votes of defence, education (top of the bill), health and home affairs (which includes the police) take up more than half of Government expenditure.

With the decline in the inflow of international aid, the absence of any substantial investment and reserves completely run down, the Government has obviously decided that the time to act on the subsidy bill could no longer be delayed.

In that sense it deserves credit for taking what is a dangerously unpopular step. But the price it will pay in loss of support among the people has yet to be counted.
NOVEMBER MUSE: With no budget how the mortar of the court

VISITORS to the recent

West are Shipping

The Writers

Mugabe's ties with

FROM JOHN ATTERTON in London

INSIDE MAIL
Britain is urged to act on detained Zipra men

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The British Government has been urged to protest about the redetention of two of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zipra officers while making demands for the release of six white air force officers in Zimbabwe.

Major-General Sir John Acland, who commanded the British monitoring force in Rhodesia prior to independence, says there should be no difference in the clamour for the release of white and black officers.

Sir John, who was military adviser to the British Government during the independence transitional period, has pointed to the lack of outcry over the redetention of Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and Mr Lookout Manukwa.

The two Zipra officers were acquitted at an earlier trial and immediately redetained, but their plight went almost unnoticed in Britain.

In an interview Sir John said he "sincerely hoped" that the British Government was making similar demands for the release of these two men while making its feelings known over the re-arrest of the six white officers.

He said the two Zipra men "could scarcely have been more co-operative" during the ceasefire period; "much more so than many of the white Rhodesian officers with whom we had to deal".

In a letter to The Times Sir John said that without these two the "fragile ceasefire would have collapsed on many occasions, and the whole operation would probably have failed".

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said it was "considerably more difficult" to protest over the handling of Zimbabweans in Zimbabwe than other nationals.

Mugabe on tour as 'class justice' row hits Harare

The Star Bureau

HARARE — A Zimbabwe Cabinet Minister has accused the Judge President who acquitted six air force officers last week of charges of sabotage of dispensing "class justice".

As Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe left on a three-nation tour of the West — expected to draw flak over the re-detention issue — Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze lashed out at the acquittal by the Judge President, Mr Justice Enoch Dumbutshena, of the men and his evaluation of evidence.

In a statement, the controversial Dr Ushewokunze claimed that before independence High Court judges believed police witnesses and disbelieved the accused — a position "now exactly reversed".

The "Thornhill Six" — Air Vice-Marshall Hugh Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile, Wing Commanders Peter Bristoe and John Cox and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir — were acquitted by Mr Justice Dumbutshena of complicity in a sabotage attack on the Thornhill air base last year. They were free, but immediately re-detained.

In believing the "police torture" claims by the airmen, the judge had relied on "intuitive and unexpressed factors" which showed a set of values within the country's judiciary which favoured people with the same culture, education and class position of those dispensing justice, the Minister said.

The Minister then tacitly admitted that the policemen investigating the case had acted illegally. He said that even if evidence was obtained illegally it was still admissible in court.

Mr Mugabe, meanwhile, looks set to stir up a storm in the West — he is due to arrive in the United States after two days in Ireland, but there is still no indication of any plan to release the "Thornhill Six".

During his five-day visit, Mr Mugabe will meet President Ronald Reagan. He has left behind him accusations of "gangster tactics" in Parliament — the house was adjourned until next Wednesday after a stormy scene on Tuesday night caused when the Government blocked attempts by Mr Ian Smith to debate the re-detentions.
Hara-kiri in Harare

Zimbabwe is not the only country to have detained citizens indefinitely without trial, nor did it invent the pernicious practice of re-detaining those whom the courts have found guiltless. Indeed, SA itself stands similarly convicted along with scores of states which have failed to pass international muster on human rights.

However, the case of Harare’s acquitted airmen, freed by the courts of sabotage and thrown back into jail by security police last week, is beyond comprehension.

Such cynical disregard of basic justice is bad enough. But we are used to that in Africa now. What is more difficult to understand is the futility of it all.

At last count there were about 26 people in Zimbabwe prisons who were re-detained after being cleared by the courts. One, a white railway worker, has been locked up for nearly four months.

Among the others are members of Joshua Nkomo’s Zapu who are regarded, rightly or wrongly, as a potential danger to the state. Yet that cannot be the reason behind the incarceration of the airmen. Their stated wish is to get out of the country as soon as possible.

In a sense, it was not only the officers in the dock last week. Zimbabwe itself was on trial. It passed the test honourably in the courtroom — not only because the accused were acquitted, but because due process of law was seen to have taken place.

But then, with the eyes of the world upon it, the Mugabe government chose to inflict upon itself and the country grievous damage which, even if the detainees are set free, will take years to repair.

Predictably, the free world finds the re-detentions abhorrent; there is talk in Britain of withdrawing foreign aid. But even more important for the national interest will be the reaction of business.

Already there are signs that investors who were initially well disposed to creating job opportunities in the newly-independent Zimbabwe have begun to waver. Zanu’s anti-business stance has seen to that.

And now it publicly flaunts the fact that they will also enjoy precious little protection under the law. A combination of the two, we suspect, will turn investment away and the common man, as usual, will be the loser.

The best construction which can be placed on the unhappy events in Harare last week is that the detentions were the work of a single individual — fanatical Home Affairs Minister Herbert Ushekwonze.

As Minister of Health, he all but brought Zimbabwe’s medical services to a halt with his anti-white outbursts against hospital nurses. They responded by walking out en masse. Ushekwonze was dropped from the Cabinet, only to be re-appointed later to the even more sensitive portfolio of Home Affairs.

In view of Ushekwonze’s rank-and-file Zanu support, Mugabe no doubt found the move expedient. But the government must take collective responsibility for his irrationality. If Ushekwonze’s senseless action was indeed without Cabinet knowledge, he should be dropped again. This time for keeps.
ng 185c/kg — 10% up on last year. Current estimates are that when the season finishes next month, the average price of the season will exceed 185c/kg — up most 12% on last year's figure. This means that total income to growers will increase from Z$146m in 1982 to a record Z$1580m.

For growers the good news will be that they will have secured a 20% rise in total income — keeping up with the 20% devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar last December. The bad news, though, will be that as the sales closed a year ago, the Zimbabwe dollar has depreciated by some 35%, which means that this season's average price will be at least 15% lower than that of 1982 in terms of the US dollar.

However, the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association (ZTA) is confident of export prospects. It says stock carryover into the 1984/85 season will be the lowest since the US dollar in 1973.

Whether the optimism is justified remains to be seen. The fact is that Zimbabwe has become a high-cost producer of tobacco largely because of the rising price of labour, transport and fuel. Devaluation may not have offset these increases. Traditional export markets have always been in Western Europe, North America and Japan — markets where consumption growth is stunted by high unemployment and severe excise and import duties. Yet tobacco remains Zimbabwe's main export, and it is vital that it retains its overseas market share in the face of fierce competition from lower cost producers in the Far East and Brazil.

This past season's performance has been better than anticipated — given the drought-affected leaf qualities — and it may be this achievement that lies at the heart of the decision to expand again in 1983-84.

ZIMBABWE TOBACCO

Puffing up profits

Zimbabwe plans to increase its flue-cured tobacco output by more than 15% in 1983-84 to 110,000 t — the largest such crop since 1980. After last season's severe drought, growers were recently pleasantly surprised by the prices on Harare auction floors. By the end of August, the seasonal price for a crop estimated at some 55,000 t was aver-
The 70% reduction in food subsidies, sharply higher food prices and the modest rise in wages for low-income groups announced by the Zimbabwe government last week, underlines the new mood of economic realism abroad in Harare. Exactly how tough the package is won’t be clear for some time since retail price increases have still to be finalised. But there can be no doubt that all sections of the community are facing a decline in living standards.

Announcing the package, Labour Minister Kumbirai Kangai revealed that without higher retail prices, food subsidies in Zimbabwe this year would total some $2000m, but the increased prices for milk, bread, maize meal, meat and vegetable oils and fats would enable the subsidy bill to be cut by more than 70% to $258m.

The milk price is up 50%, while bread will cost 25% more and maize meal has gone up more than 40%. Less dramatic increases have also been announced for beef and items such as cooking oil and margarine. In an effort to soften the blow, wages which had not been raised since January 1982, have been increased by 10% ($25 a month) for farm labour and domestic work-

ers, by 9.75% for industrial and commercial workers (by $210 to $2115 monthly) and by 4.8% (from $2105 to $2110) for miners. However, these wage increases apply only to those earning less than $2500 monthly. A wage review for high-income groups has been promised for early 1984, but there is no doubt that the pay rise fail to compensate adequately for the increased food prices.

In any event, this latest tough package is just one further step along the austerity road that the Zimbabwe government has been following since mid-1982. The early 1982 wage increases were followed by a tough mid-year budget which raised indirect taxes and then by the increases in vegetable oil and maize meal prices at the end of last year. In February, the mini-budget led to higher prices for petrol, drink and tobacco and the 1983 budget in July not only raised sales tax and import duties but also saw the imposition of the new 2% income tax on people earning less than $2100 monthly. This tax has still to be finalised but is expected to come into operation next January.

By mid-1983 — before the budget increases which took effect in July — inflation was averaging 18% and this will move over the 20% level for the first time in recorded memory, before the end of this year. The increased food prices will have a particular severe impact on lower income groups since expenditure surveys suggest that such people spend 55% of their incomes on foodstuffs. Indicators are in the final quarter of 1983, the lower income group CoI index will rise by between 12% and 15% while wages will be rising by a maximum of 10%.

Politically, the package will be unpopular but government ministers seem confident either that political memories are short or that the Shona majority will not cross the tribal divide at next year’s elections to vote for an Nkomo-led opposition Ndebele party. They are almost certainly right, but that doesn’t mean that the politicians can afford to ignore the “crisis of disappointed expectations” reported building up amongst some of the lower-paid groups.

Obviously, what is vital is that the world economic recovery should remain on course and that there should be good rains over the next six months. Given these two developments, the economy will be clearly on the mend by the time Mr Mugabe has to call the country’s first post-independence general election, probably in the latter part of 1984. But if the world recovery runs out of steam or if Zimbabwe has its third successive drought, there will be no shortage of politicians inside the ruling ZANU-PF itself looking for scapegoats.
Zimbabwe to expel Slatter and Pile tonight

Airmen face forced flight to freedom

By Andrew Walker

Two of the six Zimbabwean Air Force officers who were re-detained after being acquitted in the Harare High Court of charges of sabotage were offered their freedom 10 days ago — but they refused to leave prison unless the other four were released.

Sources close to the families of Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter (41) and Air Commodore Philip Pile (43), said in Johannesburg today, that the two men had "bowed to pressure" and would accept the offer of freedom today.

They are scheduled to leave Harare tonight on an Air Zimbabwe flight to London, said the sources.

The two officers had demanded that the other four — Wing Commanders Peter Bruce (37) and John Cox (36) and Air Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd (30) and Neville Weak (24) — who are being held in the Chikurubi maximum security prison near Harare, also be freed.

"Now they have been told by the Zimbabwean authorities that they must accept the freedom offer — or they will prejudice themselves and the other four officers," said the sources.

It is not known why Air Vice Marshal Slatter and Air Commodore Pile were singled out for release.

In a surprise development last night, Zimbabwe's Home Affairs Minister, Dr. Herbert Ushewokunze, who signed the orders for the re-detention of the six airmen, said in a statement that the two would be released on condition that they agreed to leave Zimbabwe.

Service chaplains who visited the detained men said the six had agreed that, if an offer were made to release only some of them, they would refuse to go.

Dr. Ushewokunze did not mention the other four detained officers in his statement.

The Minister said the decision to re-detain the two men was taken last Wednesday, but delays in implementing the decision were caused by "unnecessary and irrelevant hitches and tantrums by the officers and their lawyers."

Air Vice-Marshall Slatter holds Zimbabwean citizenship while Air Commodore Pile holds Zimbabwean-British nationality.

In London, it is believed that, if the other four men are not released, the Thatcher Government will be "forced to take action."
Minister accuses Judges of Rich Class Justice.
By then, the three Funeral Procession Service members had beenheaded for the top.

Deported arms had fallen.

Heads bowed, holding hands,

they prayed.

"I was asked to perform a funeral service for a group of infant victims of a tragic accident," the Reverend said. "It was a somber occasion, but it was also a time of healing and remembrance. The service was a tribute to the lives that were lost, and a celebration of the love and support that the community provided to their families."

The ceremony began with a reading of the names of the victims, followed by a moment of silence and a brief prayer. Then, the body was taken up the stairs, allowing the family members to follow in a moment of peace and reflection. The service ended with a song of comfort and reassurance, sung in the choir that had helped to prepare it.

"It was a powerful experience," the Reverend added. "I hope that it will help the families to heal and move forward, and that it will serve as a reminder of the importance of compassion and support in times of tragedy."
Silence as airmen fly to freedom

By Beatrice Seery,
The Sun Bureaux

HARARE — Two Zimbabwe Air Force chiefs left for freedom in London yesterday in a cocoon of silence.

Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slater, (41), and Air Commodore Philip Pile, (43), arrived at Harare Airport in the evening in an unmarked prison van and were given a subdued sendoff by relatives, friends and fellow air force officers.

The two senior officers, who were detained last week after their acquittal by the High Court in Harare on charges of sabotage, would not speak to the crowd of pressmen at the airport.

"This applies here as well on the other side," said one lawyer. He would not, however, say whether the airmen were maintaining silence on the orders of the government or on legal advice.

See Page 5.
SA-Zimbabwe talks reported

By LIZ van den NIEUWENHOF

SECRET meetings between officials from South Africa, Zimbabwe and Lesotho were reported this week, but neither the Department of Foreign Affairs nor the police would confirm or deny the reports.

Colonel Chris Coetzee of the Police Directorate, however, said it is from time to time necessary that liaison occurs between different police forces.

Interest in the reported meetings arose from the announcement of an agreement between Lesotho and the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees that 24 African National Congress refugees would be moved from Lesotho to other countries.

The Lesotho Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. K. Molomoanyane, had announced the moving of the refugees, saying it was done to "remove obstacles that seem to obstruct normalising of relations with South Africa."

It is understood that the refugees to be moved from Lesotho were included in a list submitted by South Africa.

SAPA reported that an lawyer from Pietermaritzburg, Mrs. Phyllis Nkabo, was among them.
EXILED Zimbabwe airmen Hugh Slatter and Philip Pike flew into freedom yesterday — and just missed a face-to-face meeting with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Moments after the air force officers left Gatwick airport for London, the Zimbabwean leader flew in from Ireland on his way to the United States.

Mr Mugabe is having a rough ride on his three-nation overseas tour as his government faces mounting condemnation over its redetention of the six air force officers accused on sabotage charges.

Captain Tony Thomas won them a round of applause from the mainly white passengers when he announced shortly after take-off: “We have two important celebrities on board. We hope that they will enjoy their flight.”

During the flight, Mr Slatter and Mr Pike received a stream of good wishes and congratulations from white passengers.

They spoke guardedly about their imprisonment, praising the guards who had watched over them at the red-brick Chirundu maximum-security prison outside Harare.

“The prison staff were very good. They played by the rules,” said Mr Slatter, who was tortured by policesoon after his arrest in August last year.

“The prison government was excellent. They were doing an excellent job of what was their duty,” said Mr Pilk, who were tortured but perfectly correct in their treatment of us.”

They have arrived in Britain in very uncertain futures. With no money, and doubting that they will be paid out on thousands of dollars of pension owing to them, their first priority is to find jobs.

The officers described their minerals advances in the prison wards: under exercise orders, they said they never once saw daylight and spent their time reading, studying, painting and playing bridge.

Confined to one narrow corridor and tiny, single

He has already controlled with Britain Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, over the issue, accusing her of interfering in the internal affairs of Zimbabwe and he faces a grilling in the United States today.

President Reagan is expected to raise the issue during their talks on Tuesday.

President and Johnie, Air Vice Marshall Slatter, Cl and Air Commodore Pike, 41, will this weekend begin picking up the pieces of their shattered lives.

Their families, left behind in Zimbabwe, are preparing to join them in Britain.

In a carefully worded statement on their arrival in Britain, Hugh Slatter and Philip Pike spoke briefly of their concern for the men still in detention.

“We are concerned for the well-being of our fellow officers who are left behind. But I hope that their situation will be resolved very soon,” Mr Slatter said in Britain.

“We want to see them treated with the same respect and fairness to which the men who we serve are entitled,” Mr Pike said.

The two consistently refused to make political statements of their capture or their release pending the release of the others.

Diplomatic sources in Harare have confirmed that the two senior men initially refused to go free unless their junior were also released.

But they were eventually persuaded that their freedom could pave the way for the release of the other airmen.

There was cheerful atmosphere aboard the flight that took the exiled officers to London.

Applause
Airmen fly into London: Mugabe to face a storm

...they have been banished as "undesirable inhabitants".

"I'm sad about what happened, but bitterness is not in my nature," said London-born Mr Pile, who is flying to Guernsey with his mother, Hazel, and businessman brother Lester, who recently moved to the Channel Islands.

The men were visibly upset, face muscles contorting in agitation, when asked about Friday's emotional farewells to the comrades they left behind - Johannesburg-born Wing Commanders John Cox, 33, and Dublin-born Peter Breslin, 33, and Air Lieutenants Barry Lloyd 31, from Manchester and Neville Wein 33, born in Zimbabwe, who '...sent a hearty send-off'.

Mr ROBERT MUGABE

Having a rough ride.

we took up callisthenics...

Religion was a great solace to the men during their year-long ordeal - they and their wives have become born-again Christians as a result.

"Our religion was a great comfort - it was comforting and reassuring and we were helped by the padre (army chaplains who visited them regularly) and the knowledge..."
MUGABE SLAMS MRS THATCHER’S ‘INFERFERENCE’

LONDON: Zimbabwe’s Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who has just ended a two-day visit to Ireland, has lashed out angrily at criticism of his government’s handling of the case of the detained Air Force officers.

He accused Britain’s Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of “interfering in his country’s affairs” by demanding an explanation of why the six men were re-arrested minutes after being cleared in the High Court.

"Why is there so much concern about these men?" he asked in Dublin on Friday night.

“They are not the only ones in detention. There are others as well. Is it because they are white? Is it because they are Mrs Thatcher’s kith and kin?"

Mr Mugabe said the four Air Force officers still being held after being cleared in court of sabotage charges had been re-arrested because of intelligence information about them.

The decision to take them back into custody 40 minutes after their acquittal had been taken by himself and his Minister of Security.

Two others had been freed.

Mr Mugabe and if we do not release those more will die.

"I have no basis of information on what evidence it is based on."

Their brilliant careers in tatters

By BRENDAN SEERY  Foreign Service

The two airmen deported from Zimbabwe behind them stood shining in the NATO radar screen.

The real love was flying and it was all the way from the then Royal Rhodesian Air Force in 1962.

Vice-Marshal Slatter and Commodore Philip Young were sent for the training at Thornhill, where the Sabotage School was housed.

The reality is that the men and their families have now the Air Force to the United States and later to Europe on trips to evaluate various aircraft types for the force.

It was largely on the recommendations of Air-Vice Marshal Slatter’s team that the government decided to buy Hawk fighter trainer aircraft from British Aerospace.

Three of these aircraft were badly damaged and one destroyed in the Thornhill sabotage.

He has been married for 10 years and has two children aged 14 and 12. His wife Jayn spent ten weeks in a Harare hospital during the sabotage trial, accompanied by Force in the Fifties, training first with the Royal Air Force in England as a technician and then eventually winning his wings and a commission.

Recognised by superiors as a well turned-out and meticulous officer, Mr Pile served for a time in the pre-UDI years as aide-de-camp to the then Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Humphrey Gibbs.

He also rose steadily through the ranks and was selected to be Zimbabwe’s first air attaché at the country’s High Commission in London, shortly after independence in 1980.

During this time at Zimbabwe Force Mr
Two others set free had been released because they had been found to be "less involved" in alleged activities.

Mr. Mugabe said: "The other cases will be reviewed and if we decide they should be released, they will be released. Those less involved will eventually be released — those more involved will take longer to be released."

He said his government made its judgment on the basis of intelligence information and not necessarily on what evidence was given in court.

It had discovered that "from those who served with Ian Smith during UDI there emerged elements that worked hand in glove with South Africa to destabilise our situation."

He rejected suggestions that his government's decision had amounted to dictatorship.

"There is no dictatorship in Zimbabwe. To tell you the truth, we have better justice than you think you might have in Britain."

Asked whether Irish Prime Minister Dr. Garret Fitzgerald had expressed concern, he said: "Unlike Mrs. Thatcher, he does not interfere in the internal affairs of my country."

Flight to Britain — and freedom

□ From PETER GODWIN of the London Sunday Times (who flew to London with the two expelled officers)

LONDON: Passengers on Air Zimbabwe flight RH124 broke into spontaneous cheers when the pilot, Captain Tony Thomas, asked them to "bid a special welcome to two celebrities on board, Hugh Slatter and Philip Pile."

"I hope they enjoy their flight to the UK," he said.

The two men, who a year ago were second and third most senior officers in the Zimbabwe Air Force, left Chikurubi prison on the outskirts of Harare less than an hour before the plane took to the air.

Nine days before they, and their four colleagues still in jail, had been acquitted of sabotage charges which would almost certainly have carried a death sentence had they been found guilty.

Although legally innocent, they were all redetained under the country's wide-ranging emergency laws.

The government's decision to release Slatter and Pile on condition that they immediately left the country, was made public on Friday morning.

Their wives, children and close relatives were at Harare airport, tensely waiting for the officers to arrive at the appointed time of 8 pm.

A full hour passed, though, before a white van pulled up and the men were hustled through a side entrance escorted by security men.

Air Vice-Marshal Slatter's mother, Dr. Eve Slatter, voiced the general uneasiness: "I'm not counting my chickens before they hatch. When Hugh phones us from outside the country, only then will I relax."

Later, on the plane, Slatter echoed his mother's fears that he would not be really safe until he landed in Britain.

"A lot of peculiar things have happened," he said.

When the plane finally landed at Gatwick at 7:56 am yesterday, he visibly trembled with relief.

The nightmare started in the early hours of July 25, 1982, when a series of explosions at Thornhill, Zimbabwe's main airbase, destroyed seven Hawker Hunter fighters, one brand-new Hawk, and a Cessna spotter plane, and left several other planes badly damaged.

Most of Zimbabwe's predominantly white Air Force was questioned before six officers were accused of helping South African agents carry out the attack.
command Zimbabwe Air Force

Their brilliant careers in tatters

By BRENDAN SEERY

Four men deported from Zimbabwe left behind them distinguished Air Force careers in the country both said they called home.

Air Vice-Marshall Hugh Slatter, were it not for the devastating Thornhill air base sabotage, would in all probability have now been head of the Air Force of Zimbabwe, with the rank of air marshal. Air Commodore Philip Pile could well have been his second-in-command.

Air Marshal Norman Walsh told the trial that Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and President Canaan Banana had approved Air Vice-Marshall Slatter’s appointment to the top post.

For both men, their arrests came as they were nearing the pinnacles of careers which began 20 years ago.

Originally planning becoming an architect, Zimbabwe-born Air Vice-Marshall Slatter (41) left university, accepting that his real love was flying and joined the then Royal Rhodesian Air Force in 1962.

He gained his wings and was an active flying officer when he decided to resign from the force in October 1965. The following month, when the UDI declaration was made, he withdrew his notice and stayed in the Air Force.

He rose rapidly through the ranks and, in 1972, attended a staff officer training course at the South African Air Force staff college, where his instructors were impressed by his ability.

A pilot with instructor’s ratings in both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters, Air Vice-Marshall Slatter revealed in his evidence in court that he was involved in the planning of cross-border air strikes from Rhodesia into neighbouring territories during the country’s bush war.

After independence in 1980, he was chosen to head delegations from the Air Force to the United States and later to Europe on trips to evaluate various aircraft types for the force.

It was largely on the recommendations of Air Vice Marshal Slatter’s team that the government decided to buy Hawk fighter trainer aircraft from British Aerospace.

Three of these aircraft were badly damaged and one destroyed in the Thornhill sabotage.

He has been married for 16 years and has two children aged 11 and 12. His wife Jayn spent ten weeks in a Harare hospital during the sabotage trial, recovering from injuries she received in a car smash on her way home from court. She is still hobbling with the aid of crutches.

Mr Slatter was the Air Force chief of staff at the time he was arrested — Air Marshal Walsh’s number two man.

Air Commodore Pile (43) was born in London and came to Southern Rhodesia with his parents in the late 40s, and was educated in the country.

He joined the Air Force in the Fifties, training first with the Royal Air Force in England as a technician and then eventually winning his wings and a commission.

Recognised by superiors as a well turned-out and meticulous officer, Mr Pile served for a time in the pre-UDI years as aide-de-camp to the then Governor of Southern Rhodesia, Sir Humphrey Gibbs.

He also rose steadily through the ranks and was selected to be Zimbabwe’s first air attache at the country’s High Commission in London, shortly after independence in 1980.

During this time at Zimbabwe House, Mr Pile made many friends among those in British military and aviation circles.

On his return to Zimbabwe, he was appointed as director-general of support services, then promoted to air commodore and given the post of director-general of operations — effectively the third in command of the Air Force.

He is married and has two sons.

Air Commodore Philip Pile said at the High Court in
Flight to Britain — and freedom

From PETER GODWIN of the London Sunday Times (who flew to London with the two expelled officers)

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The two men, who a year ago were second and third most senior officers in the Zimbabwe Air Force, left Chikurubi prison on the outskirts of Harare less than an hour before the plane took to the air.

Nine days before they, and their four colleagues still in jail, had been acquitted of sabotage charges which would almost certainly have carried a death sentence had they been found guilty.

Although legally innocent, they were all re-detained under Zimbabwe's wide-ranging emergency laws.

The government's decision to release Slatter and Pile on condition that they immediately left the country, was made public on Friday morning.

Their wives, children and close relatives were at Harare airport, tensely waiting for the officers to arrive at the appointed time of 8 pm.

A full hour passed, though, before a white van pulled up and the men were hustled through a side entrance escorted by security men.

Air Vice-Marshal Slatter's mother, Dr Eve Slatter, voiced the general uneasiness: "I'm not counting my chickens before they hatch. When Hugh phones us from outside the country, only then will I relax."

Later, on the plane, Slatter echoed his mother's fears that he would not be really safe until he landed in Britain.

"A lot of peculiar things have happened," he said.

When the plane finally landed at Gatwick at 7.55 am yesterday, he visibly trembled with relief.

The nightmare started in the early hours of July 25, 1982, when a series of explosions at Thornhill, Zimbabwe's main airbase, destroyed seven Hawker Hunter fighters, one brand-new Hawk, and a Cessna spotter plane, and left several other planes badly damaged.

Most of Zimbabwe's predominantly white Air Force was questioned before six officers were accused of helping South African agents carry out the attack.

Slatter and Pile, the last of the group to be pulled in, were both arrested on August 31, 1982. Two weeks later, after being held incommunicado, they made confessions.

When the cases came to trial, these were thrown out by Mr Justice Dumbutshena as having clearly been obtained under torture.

Yesterday, as I flew with the two released men to London, they were unwilling to discuss that part of their experience.

"I really don't want to say anything," said Slatter, "not while our five fellow officers are still inside. We don't want to jeopardise them in any way."

He and Pile emphasised there were five others involved, not just the four who were acquitted with them at the trial.

Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker has never been formally charged but has been detained since the sabotage affair. The others are wing commanders Peter Briscoe and John Cox, and air lieutenants Harrington Lloyd and Neville weir.

Slatter said on the plane: "The rest should be released soon. They are all innocent."
Released airman is reunited with his sons

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The two sons of Air Commodore Philip Pile, reunited with their father in London after his detention in Zimbabwe, are now settling in to their new life in Britain.

At Heathrow Airport, smiling after meeting their father for the first time in a year, Christopher (13) and Nicholas (11) said they had no regrets about leaving Zimbabwe.

"I'm looking forward to living in London," said Nicholas. "I don't regret leaving Zimbabwe, although we had a lot of friends there. But I expect we'll see them again."

Air Commodore Pile, who arrived the day before they did after being released with Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slater, said: "It's marvellous to be with them again.

He then briefly at Harare Airport as I was leaving. I've not been with them for more than a year — since I was detained. All I had was brief glimpses of them."

The boys said their mother, Elizabeth, would be joining them in Britain in about six weeks.

Christopher, a keen squash player, walked from the aircraft carrying two squash rackets. He said: "We will be going to school here now. I don't know which one but I hope they've got squash courts because I'm a fairly good player."

After the reunion, watched by crowds of the public and reporters, the boys were taken to a waiting car.

The family is staying with relatives outside London while plans are made for a more permanent home in Britain.

Britons urge action on Mugabe's strong taunts

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, made an unexpected journey to London after leaving Ireland at the weekend for the United States.

He held talks at Heathrow Airport yesterday with the British Minister of State, Mr Richard Luce, on the re-detention of the five air force officers.

Both governments insisted last night that there had been no attempt to put pressure on Mr Mugabe by threatening to suspend British economic aid or ending the military training mission now in Zimbabwe.

Both sides said the talks at Heathrow were "normal courtesy."

Conservative anger is growing over the continued detentions in Zimbabwe with demands at the weekend for the Prime Minister, Mrs Margaret Thatcher, to respond personally to Mr Mugabe's extraordinary taunts against her and Britain.

Leading Tory MPs are calling for an end to Britain's R30 million a year aid to Zimbabwe in retaliation at Mr Mugabe's undiplomatic outburst at a Dublin Press conference.

Sir Anthony Kershaw, Tory MP for Stroud, said: "I call on the Prime Minister to speak for the people of Britain. The aggressive remarks of Mugabe in Dublin really seem very sinister to me. I shall propose that we take a look at our aid for Zimbabwe."

Sir William Clark (MP for Crewe and Nantwich) said: "It really is time for the British Government to be more robust in dealing with violations of human rights, particularly against citizens who have British passports."

Mr Mugabe accused Mrs Thatcher of "interfering in my country's affairs" by demanding an explanation of why the six men were re-arrested minutes after being cleared in the High Court.

"Why is there so much concern about these men?" he asked at the Dublin Press conference on Friday night.

"They are the only ones in detention. There are others as well. Is it because they are white? Is it because they are Mrs Thatcher's kith and kin?"

Mr Mugabe said the four air force officers still being held after being cleared in court of sabotage charges had been re-arrested because of intelligence information about them.

Two were set free because they had been found to be "less involved" in alleged activities.

Mr Mugabe said: "The other cases will be reviewed and if we decide they should be released, they will be released."

He rejected suggestions that his Government's decision had amounted to dictatorship.

"There is no dictatorship in Zimbabwe. To tell you the truth, we have better justice than you think you might have in Britain."

Asked whether the Irish Prime Minister, Dr Garret Fitzgerald, had expressed concern, he said: "Unlike Mrs Thatcher, he does not interfere in the internal affairs of my country."

Right-wing newspapers here say Zimbabwe has "begun the slide into barbarism."

Air Commodore Philip Pile, one of the released Zimbabwe Air Force officers, has an emotional reunion with his sons, Nicholas (11) and Christopher (13) on his arrival at Heathrow yesterday. They met for the first time in over a year.

Call to US blacks: help build Zimbabwe

ATLANTA — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe yesterday invited black Americans to go to his country to help rebuild it.

"We invite you to join us in the building of a free country," Mr Mugabe told about 800 students at Atlanta's Morehouse College. He said students "who have energy, drive and resourcefulness" should go to Zimbabwe as teachers.

Mr Mugabe, who goes to Washington tomorrow on a three-day official visit, said Zimbabwean blacks had fought for independence because they could not tolerate "a society built on racial inequality."

Receiving an honorary degree from the college, Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe was on a path of "peace and progress" that included a plan for economic development and an adult literacy campaign.

Atlanta's mayor, Mr Andrew Young, praised Mr Mugabe for including whites and members of the rival Zimbabwe African Peoples' Union in his Cabinet. — Reuters.
Zapu men plotted coup and uprising — evidence

HARARE — Supporters of Zapu leader Mr. Joshua Nkomo planned a coup against the Zimbabwe Government in June last year and aimed to set up a military junta, it was alleged in the High Court in Harare yesterday.

An attack on the official Harare residence of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was to have triggered the uprising which would have been backed by armoured and artillery units of the army, alleged State prosecutor Mr. Andrew Chigovera said.

He was outlining the State "case against 10 Zapu supporters — nine of them former members of the party's military wing, Zipra — who are charged with being involved in the abortive attack on the Prime Minister's house in the early hours of June 24 last year.

Mr. Chigovera, addressing Justice Wilson Sandura, called the plot a 'diabolical plan' to overthrow a "democratically elected government."
Zimbabwe expects to reduce current account deficit further

LONDON — A combination of drought and lack of demand for mineral exports is likely to result in a current account deficit in Zimbabwe of R570 million to R580 million this year, says Dr Bernard Chidzero, the Minister of Finance.

The forecast would represent an improvement on the R570 million current account deficit recorded last year, and Dr Chidzero expects a further improvement next year as exports pick up.

But a major factor in the improved current account position this year is likely to be substantial cuts in imports, which have forced many manufacturing sectors to cut production.

Dr Chidzero, who was speaking in Dublin before his departure for the US with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, says the effects of the present foreign exchange crisis have been mitigated by the current international monetary fund programme.

Zimbabwe has so far drawn about R150 million out of total credits of R310 million. He says the drought has not only cut back production of traditional export crops like maize and cotton, but also forced the country to import more wheat.

Mineral exports have fallen in both volume and value, and Zimbabwe is having to finance substantial stockpiles until world markets recover.

But, he says, there are already "fairly good" orders for minerals and tobacco in 1984, and the foreign exchange position will improve.

"The measures we have taken on devaluation to make our export sector more competitive, and also the reduction of costs such as wages and salaries, and the budgetary measures to reduce government expenditure, should mean that we will be in a position to gear up the economy to a stage where we can recapture our traditional markets," he says.

Dr Chidzero says the Government is following a flexible exchange rate policy, with the Zimbabwe dollar now tied to a trade-weighted basket of currencies. This has resulted in a total devaluation against the US dollar of about 30 percent over the past year.

Efforts to promote exports are also being helped by a R62 million World Bank loan intended to finance necessary imports for the export-oriented manufacturing sector. Financial Times
Harare appoints an atrocity commission

Harare — The Zimbabwean Government has convened a four-man commission of inquiry to investigate alleged atrocities against Matabeleland civilians by the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade.

The Minister in charge of Defence, Dr Sydney Sekeramayi, told journalists yesterday the commission consisted of three Zimbabwean attorneys and the former commander of the Bulawayo-based First Brigade, Major-General Mike Shute.

The lawyers are Mr Simplicius Chihambakwe (commission chairman), Mr John Ngara and Mr P. Machaya.

The commission was appointed at the end of June and had already taken evidence relating to the reported brutalities committed by the brigade after its deployment in early January to combat dissident activity in Matabeleland, the Minister said.

According to external media reports, thousands of innocent civilians were killed and maimed during the brigade’s reign of terror.

Dr Sekeramayi said the commission’s report would be presented to the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, before being made public.

He said the activity by dissidents loyal to Mr Joshua Nkomo’s party, Zapu, was still a problem in Matabeleland but had lessened.

He said the dissidents were now being infiltrated from South Africa rather than from Botswana where the Gaborone Government was co-operating with Zimbabwe in an attempt to stop the trouble in Matabeleland.
Court hears of Zimbabwe coup attempt

The Star Bureau

HARARE — A soldier from the Zimbabwe Army's presidential guard described in the High Court here yesterday how armed men attacked the official residence of Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe in an abortive coup attempt last year.

Corporal Didymus Kanyongo, who was on duty at the gate to the residence near the city centre on 24 June, told the court that a group of armed men travelling in an army truck had opened fire on the Prime Minister's gate guards in the early hours of the morning.

Some of the attackers jumped off the truck and continued firing from the ground. After a brief exchange of fire with the defenders, the attackers fled, said Corporal Kanyongo.

The guard was giving evidence at the trial of 18 supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party, who are charged with being involved in the attack.

The State alleges that the attack was to have been the signal for a greater uprising and overthrow of Mr Mugabe's government.

The rebels allegedly planned to seize key government buildings throughout Harare, including the one housing the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation transmitters.

All the accused have pleaded not guilty to charges under the Law and Order (Maintenance) Act, which carry the death penalty.

Some are claiming that statements of guilt they made to police were extracted after assaults.
Teachers rally to support detainee

Education Reporter

As a gesture of support to the detained maths teacher Miss Jannie Lourens, maths teachers belonging to the National Education Union of South Africa (Neusa) have decided to mark her pupils' third term examination papers.

Before her detention on August 23, Miss Lourens taught maths to Standard Six pupils at C.J. Botha High School in Boksburg, Johannesburg.

"As a dedicated teacher, we believe Jannie will be concerned for her pupils. By marking her papers we hope to show her our support," said Miss Rena Shermian, member of the Neusa maths workshop.

Neusa had condemned the detention of Miss Lourens as a "cruel system through which the State tried to suppress all attempts at opposition," she said.
Mugabe's talks in US confirm 'shared desires'

The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — President Ronald Reagan said today that the ultimate responsibility for solving Southern Africa's problems rested with the countries in the region.

The president spoke to reporters at the end of a working lunch at the White House with Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe.

After the wide-ranging discussions on bilateral and international issues, President Reagan said the talks had confirmed that Zimbabwe and the US shared a desire for peace and stability in Southern Africa.

"The ultimate responsibility for resolution of their problems, however, rests with the states of the regions themselves," the president said.

Turning to the Prime Minister, President Reagan said: "We have spoken very frankly and in an atmosphere of mutual respect. We didn't always agree, but we always gained much from hearing your views."

He said the US looked to Zimbabwe for leadership in Southern Africa. It was blessed with natural resources, and a hardworking multiracial population. And, in a spirit of national reconciliation, Zimbabwe could provide a foundation of economic viability and political stability and it served as an anchor for freedom in Southern Africa.

In his reply, Mr Mugabe said: "We have discussed bilateral relations, the question of economic aid to Zimbabwe, the question of our original relations and the fact that South Africa continues to destabilize our region."

"We have discussed Namibia, where we have discussed the apartheid system and in Southern Africa, and there is a greater measure of agreement. There might be some differences here and there in respect of the method of bringing about change, positive change, to the area."

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe was a young country. It might make mistakes as it moved forward but it was prepared to correct itself and "get back to course".

According to a US official who attended the talks, Mr Mugabe told President Reagan that in spite of "negative reporting in the media" about human rights abuses in Zimbabwe, the country was still committed to democracy and the rule of law.

"These assurances were well received," the official said.

He said that in the discussion on South Africa, Mr Mugabe asked that diplomatic and political pressure be brought on Pretoria.

"He was not calling for economic sanctions or anything like that," the official said.

The Americans told the Prime Minister that they believed they were going about facing the region's problems the right way.

No progress was made in persuading Mr Mugabe that a withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola was a necessary precursor to independence for Namibia and peace in Southern Africa.

But while Mr Mugabe remains adamant that there should be no linkage between the Cubans and Namibian independence, there was a hint from a senior Reagan official that the Americans may be making some progress in this area with the Angolans themselves.

American officials have had several meetings with the Angolans on conditions that could lead to a Cuban withdrawal, the most recent just over a week ago.

Officials have told Mr Mugabe that the United States was disappointed that Zimbabwe abstained from voting against the Soviet Union in the UN Security Council debate over the downed Korean Airlines 747.

In spite of the American disappointment, it was considered highly unlikely here that the US would react by cutting back on aid to Zimbabwe, presently amounting to 75 million dollars a year — but there could be opposition to further aid by conservative members of the Congress, which has to approve such measures.

Zimbabwe premier Mr Robert Mugabe at the White House with President Ronald Reagan. On the question of South Africa, the president made it clear he was not changing his stance in that situation.

13 die as crashing train in Austria

GRAZ — A bus full of Hungarian tourists crashed into a road near Graz, Austria today, plummeting 200 feet to the ground. At least 13 people were killed, police in Frohleiten, Austria, said everyone was accounted for.

Twenty ambulances and 1
Northern Transvaal
Bureau

MESSINA — In a dramatic start yesterday to the case of a man charged with assisting in the abduction of Corporal Steven Mutasa to Zimbabwe, the judge was told that Corporal Mutasa was back in South Africa and would be called as the State's first witness.

Mr Justice J W O de Villiers granted an application that Corporal Mutasa's evidence be heard in camera as it was of a sensitive nature.

Mr Daniel Mathiva (30), a worker employed at River Farm, Messina, is charged in the Messina Circuit Court with assisting two armed men to abduct Corporal Mutasa.

When the courtroom doors were reopened, Lance Corporal Christiaan Ndou testified that he saw three people fishing in the Limpopo River on the day of the alleged abduction.

The three spoke to Corporal Mutasa, and then grabbed him. Lance Corporal Ndou started to run away, and heard several shots. Looking around, he saw Corporal Mutasa also running away, but his hands were tied behind him.

The pursuers were speaking Shona.

Mrs Rosina Mahlura, a domestic worker, said she saw Corporal Mutasa running away with his hands tied and pursued by two men.

She said Mr Mathiva caught Corporal Mutasa, helped put him on a tractor and drove the tractor to the river while the two men, who spoke "a strange language", subdued the captive.

The two men took Corporal Mutasa across the river, where "many soldiers" were waiting.

Mr C Lambinon told the court Mr Mathiva had worked on her farm as a supervisor for three years.

He had had access to the keys to security gates on the river bank, because one of his duties was to maintain a pump in the dry river bed.

Mrs Lambinon said that when she arrived about 15 minutes after the alleged abduction Mr Mathiva told her that the Zimbabwean soldiers had taken the keys.

Mr Mathiva denied saying this, and told the court he had not used the tractor to help abduct Corporal Mutasa.

Lieutenant A J Smit of the South African Defence Force said Mr Mathiva gave him a detailed account of the incident shortly after it took place, but later changed his story. He was unable to explain the discrepancies.

Mr Justice de Villiers, who is assisted by two assessors, is to deliver his judgment today.
Mugabe can be satisfied with his US visit

By JOHN L'ANGE, The Star's Foreign News Service

WASHINGTON — Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe was sharply questioned by Congressmen about some of his Government’s policies and actions when he met the Foreign Affairs committee of the House of Representatives today, according to Congressional sources.

For Mr. Mugabe, the meeting was an ‘important one’ in that the amount of aid Zimbabwe gets from the United States depends partly on votes in Congress — and lining up more US aid is believed to have been one of the main purposes of his visit to Washington.

When he left today on his way to Canada, Mr. Mugabe had reason to be satisfied with the warm reception given him by the Reagan Administration.

The Administration, which regards Zimbabwe as a key element in its regional policy on Southern Africa, was clearly prepared to tread softly on controversial actions by the Mugabe Government, including the re-detention of the air force officer and the alleged troop brutality and repression of political opposition in Matabeleland.

While the Administration is believed to have conveyed to Mr. Mugabe its concern about these actions, it attached higher priority to encouraging the prospects it still sees of Zimbabwe becoming a stable bulwark against Communist expansion into Southern Africa.

But the disquiet felt in Congressional circles about some events in Zimbabwe was more forcefully expressed, according to sources, when Mr. Mugabe fielded questions in a private session with the House Foreign Affairs committee.

Among the matters troubling the Congressmen was Zimbabwe’s abstention in the UN Security Council on the resolution condemning Russia’s shooting down of the Korean airliner.
Suspended for airmen welcome

Zimbabwe's Ushewokunze

HARARE — An Air Zimbabwe pilot, Captain Tony Thomas, who flew the two freed Zimbabwe Air Force officers to London on Friday night, has been suspended for welcoming the deported men aboard the aircraft, official sources here say.

Captain Thomas reportedly broadcast a welcoming message to Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile over the aircraft’s public address system.

After the captain’s announcement, passengers reportedly broke into spontaneous applause.

LONDON — Wing Commander Peter Briscoe of the Zimbabwean Air Force arrived in London early today after his release from detention, but kept his remarks to waiting journalists to a bare minimum.

His release from Harare's Chikurubi prison follows that of Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter and Air Commodore Philip Pile last weekend.

Shortly after his arrival from Zimbabwe, a tense-looking Commander Briscoe (25) said he was very happy about his release, although this happiness was tempered by the fact there were four other officers still in prison and he was concerned about about them.

He said he had no idea when they might be released, but added that their health and morale was "pretty good."

He said he had made no firm plans for the future, but would stay with friends in London until his wife and two children joined him "when they are ready."

The three airmen who remain in Chikurubi prison despite their acquittal are Wing Commander John Cox and Flight Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir.

Lieutenant Nigel Lewis-Walker is also still in jail although no charges have been laid against him.

Meanwhile, in a stormy debate in the Zimbabwe Parliament yesterday, Security Minister Mr Emmerson Mnumangwagwa said the three officers still held would remain in detention as long as the government thought fit.

During the debate, which was initiated by independent white members against strong objections from the government benches, Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze said that, by raising the matter, members were "guaranteeing the perpetual stay of the others in prison."

Dr Ushewokunze shouted: "You are sick in the head!" when Mr Bill Irvine said the officers should be freed, given compensation and their pensions.

And, when Mr E M Micklem said individual justice was a prerequisite for being civilised, Dr Ushewokunze shouted: "To hell with it!"
Video voodoo is latest scourge of 'evil spirits' 🧿

The Star Bureau

HARARE — A Zimbabwean traditional healer has taken the ancient practice of diagnosing medical, social and emotional problems through identifying "evil spirits" a step further — with video voodoo.

Mr Kazembe Jambo's clients see with crystal clarity on the traditional healer's video screen the events in their lives which are troubling them.

For example, distraught relatives may relive the events leading to the death of a family member — and also pick out the faces of the people allegedly responsible for the death.

Others may find lost relatives or friends by seeing on the screen what happened to them.

However, to the interested and impartial observer, the screen appears to be blank. More than that, it does not even appear to be plugged into an electrical socket or connected to anything else.

A potion at R10 a dose is at the root of the matter. It is concocted from a variety of herbs collected from all around Zimbabwe. The potion is swigged back by clients who are apparently unconcerned by its unappetising blue-black colour.

The drink induces drunkenness in the client who then looks at the screen and sees whatever problem has been troubling him.

"Clients come back to us the next day when they have got over their drunken stupor to tell us "what they saw on the screen", said Mr Jambo.

One man testified that after his car had been stolen he had swigged Mr Jambo's potion, gone first to his carport then back to the healer's screen.

After a while he began seeing plainly the events leading to the theft of the car, the faces of the thieves coming out clearly. After seeing where the thieves had taken the car, the man reported to police, who had no difficulty locating the stolen car and arresting the culprits.
Carter might as well still be president, for all the difference it made to Robert Mugabe’s visit to Washington.

Not a word about one-party rule, no complaints about the torture of air force officers was allowed to darken the procession as Andrew Young’s best friend in Africa avoided open press and other open meetings on his trek from Atlanta (where he picked up an honorary degree) to the White House.

One would have thought Ronald Reagan was the one who needed money and legitimacy, so warm was the welcome, reports the FM’s Washington correspondent. The Americans smiled through it all as Mugabe blamed the United States for impeding the process of Namibian independence and urged America to apply pressure on SA to speed up the independence talks.

During his first official visit to the US and President Reagan, Mugabe criticised the key American role in the United Nations “contact group.” The five-nation group — which is trying to resolve the Namibia problem — has linked a settlement in Namibia with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

“We feel that SA has been allowed to be intransigent and we naturally blame the contact group for not having exerted more pressure,” Mugabe told the Washington Post.

Mugabe said he does recognise the US concern over the presence of Cubans in Angola but added: “That should not be allowed to interfere with resolving the question of independence for Namibia.”

When the Zimbabwean leader arrived in Washington, there was speculation that the talks would centre around alleged violations of civil rights in Zimbabwe that surfaced last week when Mugabe’s officials re-arrested six white air force officers previously acquitted of sabotage charges.

But State Department and administration officials took a hands-off approach to the affair.

“Zimbabwe has a strong set of legal precedents and a judicial system that we support,” said a State Department official at a briefing. “Zimbabwe must make its own decisions, what they do is their business.”

Mugabe met Secretary of State George Shultz and the President during his brief, two-day stay in Washington. While there, Mugabe and US State Department officials downplayed the differences between the two countries and both termed relations “excellent.”

One administration official told reporters, at a background briefing, that the talks between Reagan and Mugabe would centre on the “Namibia problem,” on Zimbabwe’s new Security Council seat at the United Nations and on future economic prospects for the country.

In 1989, the US agreed to give Zimbabwe $75m a year for the first three years of the country’s independence. So far US aid has totalled $225m, and the initial pledge is almost complete. There is no doubt, one official said, that the President and Mugabe would discuss what form the “partnership between Zimbabwe and the US” should take.

Mugabe met with business leaders during his visit to the US capital. The Reagan administration has encouraged Mugabe to promote foreign investment in his nation, which the administration feels will transfer needed technology and expertise, as well as capital, to the country. US officials said that Mugabe’s government had already taken politically unpopular but necessary steps to fight economic stagnation in the country, including raising prices on basic food commodities.
Hopes of an early release dim

Airmen may be detained 'indefinitely'

HARARE - Hopes for the early release of three white Zimbabwean air force officers, detained after being acquitted of sabotage charges, appeared to be waning yesterday.

Home affairs minister Herbert Ushewokunze said earlier this week he had information convincing him Wing Commander John Cox and air lieutenant's Barrington Lloyd and Neville Weir should be kept behind bars.

Under Zimbabwe's emergency laws, the men could be held indefinitely, although their detentions must be reviewed regularly.

UNDESIREDABLE

Official sources said this might be done after the Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, returned from an overseas tour next week.

Three other white officers were deported to Britain as undesirable after they and the still-detained men were found not guilty of helping South African agents blow up war aircraft valued at Z$20 million last year.

The Zimbabwean High Court found the accused had been tortured, intimidated and induced by police to confess to involvement: All six were then immediately redetained, but three were freed and expelled from Zimbabwe within the last week.

Diplomatic pressure for the release of the remaining three men continues.

A British diplomat has said his government would welcome their freedom while a United States diplomat said Washington remained interested in their release for humanitarian reasons.

EXPELLED

A fourth man held in Harare is believed to be the rarely-mentioned Nigel Lewis-Walker. He was originally detained with the others last year, then freed but redetained last April.

Those expelled were Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Slater, former deputy air force commander, Air Commodore Philip Pile, former director of operations and Wing Commander Peter Biscoe. — Reuters
HARARE — Zanu leader Mr. Joshua Nkomo was told beforehand of a planned attack on Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's official Harare residence in June last year, it was claimed at the high court here today.

A Zanu supporter, who may not be named and who is one of the accused in an alleged plot to overthrow the government, told the court a secret meeting was held in Bulawayo at which one of his co-plotters stated that the "old man" (Mr. Nkomo) had been told there would be no bloodshed in the attack.

The witness added that the attack on the house was to have been the trigger for a wider uprising and coup against the government which would have led to the installation of a military junta and the eventual establishment of a Zanu government.

The Zanu man, who has turned, the State's evidence, was testifying at the trial of 13 supporters of Mr. Nkomo, who are charged with being involved in the attack on the Harare house in the early hours of June 24 last year.

Warned by Mr. Justice Wilson Sangeda that he would be treated as an accomplice, the witness was also told that if the court was satisfied he had given honest evidence, the attorney-general would guarantee immunity from prosecution.

The witness told the court that several meetings had taken place in Bulawayo prior to the attack. The plotters had discussed assembling weapons and men and organizing transport for the operation, which, it was said, would be supported by Zanu followers in Harare and by elements of a national army mechanised unit near the capital.

A figure of 70 men being involved in the military side of the operation was mentioned, the man recounted.

It was also foreseen that the uprising would be supported by loyal former members of Mr. Nkomo's Zipra guerrilla forces from the Matabeleland province, he added.

The State alleges that an army truck was used by the rebels who drove it past the gate of the prime minister's official residence, Zimbabwe House, and opened fire.

Soldiers, duty at the entrance gate told the court earlier that when they returned fire, the attackers fled, leaving behind a quantity of military equipment, including rifles and rocket launchers.

The State claims that the rebels planned to attack and seize various important government installations in Harare, including the prime minister's and president's houses, and the studios of the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation.

The prosecution has also introduced state evidence of the discovery of a body — which was found next to an AK47 rifle and dressed in a Zimbabwe Army camouflage uniform — in the vicinity of a cabinet minister's home in the affluent suburb of Borrowdale.

The man was earlier reported as having been killed by the ministers' security guards in the morning of the attack on Mr. Mugabe's residence.

The trial is continuing.
Mugabe furious at UK threat over aid

By MARGARET SMITH
London

MR ROBERT MUGABE has been "in a towering rage", says a British report.

The reason: the prospect of British aid sanctions being imposed because of the detention of the airmen in Zimbabwe.

Writing in the London Daily Telegraph, David Adamson, diplomatic correspondent, said Mr Mugabe's rage was such that the release of the first of the three air force officers had to be delayed.

What is clear is that, whatever Mr Mugabe feels, Britain intends continuing to exert "strong but subtle" pressure until the remaining airmen are freed.

This has been made plain by Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minister responsible for Africa. His strong attack is another stage in Britain's campaign to secure the release of all the airmen.

"Whitehall sources say, however, that Britain's difficulty is in assessing the degree of pressure that will bring results — without jeopardising the interests of British citizens in Zimbabwe.

"Sounding show, however, Whitehall feels the time for exceptional caution has passed.

Difficulties

British aid to Zimbabwe is obviously vulnerable.

But a failure to secure assurances on the officers' release would not lead to any well-publicised cut off. It is believed aid would merely get "stuck in the pipe-line", an official put it.

Mr Adamson wrote: "It is recognised in London that the Mugabe government faces difficulties over releasing white detainees while black ones remain in prison."

Meanwhile, Sunday Times correspondents in Harare report that two lawyers who first publicly disclosed that detained white air force officers were tortured by Zimbabwe police — interrogators have won an appeal against a conviction for contempt of court.

Chief Justice Telford Georges reversed a magistrate's conviction and R120 fine against white attorneys Mr Michael Hartmann and Mr Bert Gardener.

The West Indian-born judge ruled that a Press conference called by the lawyers to reveal the airmen were tortured was "not likely to..."
Whitehall sources say, however, that Britain's difficulties in assessing the degree of pressure that will bring results—without jeopardising the interests of British citizens in Zimbabwe—soundings show, however, Whitehall feels the time for exceptional caution has passed.

**Difficulties**

British aid to Zimbabwe is obviously vulnerable.

But a failure to secure assurances on the officers' release would not lead to any well-publicised cut off. It is believed aid would merely get "stuck in the pipeline", as an official put it.

Mr. Adamson wrote: "It is recognised in London that the Mugabe government faces difficulties over releasing white detainees while black ones remain in prison."

Meanwhile, Sunday Times correspondents in Harare report that two lawyers who first publicly disclosed that detained white air force officers were tortured by Zimbabwe police investigators have won an appeal against a conviction for contempt of court.

Chief Justice Telford George reversed a magistrate's conviction and R120 fine against white attorneys Mr. Michael Hartmann and Mr. Rhett Gardener.

The West Indian-born judge ruled that a press conference called by the lawyers to reveal the aircraft were tortured was "not likely to interfere with the due administration of justice."

The future of the white pilot suspended for publicly welcoming two just-freed detainees aboard a Harare-London flight remained in doubt yesterday.

**Salvo**

A three-member commission of inquiry has taken statements from the crew, but an Air Zimbabwe spokesman said Capt. Tony Thomas "still had to explain himself."

Capt. Thomas was the pilot of the scheduled Air Zimbabwe flight which took Air Vice Marshal Hugh Stalham and Commodore Philip Fille to London just over a week ago.

Capt. Thomas announced that there were "two celebrities on board—Hugh Stalham and Philip Fille. I hope they enjoy their flight in the UK."

The former Rhodesian Prime Minister, Mr. Ian Smith, said Capt. Thomas's suspension was "incomprehensible."

While Zimbabwe has been under fire from all quarters for its detention of the air force officers, the acting Prime Minister, Mr. Simon Musenda, sent off a salvo of his own yesterday — on much the same subject.

His condemnation of detention was, however, reserved for someone else — the leader Nelson Mandela.

Mr. Musenda, signing a memorandum for the world-wide campaign to free Mr. Mandela, denounced his imprisonment as "rash, inhuman and unjustified."

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**Karen marries the man of her dreams**

By CHARMAIN NAIDOO

**FIRST** they lived together, then they had a baby girl called Tanya... now they're married.

Miss South Africa 1976, Karen Sickle, and the man of her dreams, Springbok show-jumper Errol Wucherpenning, decided a few weeks ago to take the plunge and tie the knot.

They were married on Wednesday this week in Randburg's Rhena Bible Church by Errol's old friend, Pastor Ray McCauley. Their three-week-old daughter was not at the wedding because "that would not have been the proper thing to do," says blonde beauty Karen.

Said Errol from his plush Morningside home: "We haven't been a good example so far and I am determined to put that right." He said he and Karen had gone about things the wrong way, but were very happy with their decision to marry and were going to make it work.

A relaxed and smiling Karen said she and Errol had not wanted to rush into marriage just because they were going to have a baby.

"But we love each other very much and have always wanted to get married."

Sporting a 45-carat diamond ring Errol gave her two years ago, Karen explained: "That's how long we've been talking marriage for."

The bride wore a frothy cream creation — specially designed for her by Fisquet — and a wide brimmed summer hat.

It was a small, lunchtime wedding with about 30 guests.

It's been quite a week for Errol. He was also awarded the State President's merit award for showjumping.

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**Pup Pepe put on ice thieves loot!**

By EUGENE ABRAMH

A 10-WEEK old puppy was rescued from an icy death in a deep-freeze this week.

He was locked in the freezing tomb by burglars who ransacked the plush double-story house in Sea Point, Cape Town, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ezra Kastan.

The thieves stashed the mongrel pup — Pepe alongside the frozen meat and vegetables.

**Freezer**

Then they systematically went through the house and made off with Mr. Kastan's safe which contained about...
‘Criminal and shameful’ food racket exposed in Zimbabwe

HARARE — Officials of the Ministries of Defence and National Supplies have unearthed a racket involving two companies that have been short-supplying the army with food. This cost the government more than R1 million, according to the Minister of National Supplies, Mr Enos Nkala.

In an interview published here, the Minister said his Ministry had found that people behind the two companies were the same ones involved in a 1980 scandal. At the time the government was cheated of about R7.8 million by a company supplying food rations to guerilla assembly points.

Describing the activities of the two companies as "shameful and criminal", the Minister said the government was aware of the process of recovering the money lost to one of the companies supplying an army unit near Kwekwe. The company would have to supply the army with an equivalent amount of food for which the government would not pay.

Mr Nkala named the companies involved during the interview — they are not published — and said officials of the Ministries of Defence and National Supplies were also assessing how much had been lost through the second company. Since that company supplied food to three army units, the government believed the losses would be more than R1.1 million.

Besides short-supplying the army and being paid in full, said the Minister, the companies had also substituted some of the commodities, supplying fish instead of rice and providing the army with "soiled salt, spilt food and contaminated fruits".

Most disturbing, however, was the fact that the companies had presented themselves as being owned by blacks when applying for tenders to supply the army with food. It had now been found that they had used blacks only as fronts.

"They knew we had blacklisted them as they had cheated us before. So in order to win the new contracts, they used blacks and quoted very low prices. We have got them again and we are making them pay back every cent," Mr Nkala said.

The companies would continue supplying food to the army, but under strict supervision "until every single ill-gotten cent has been recovered". — Sapa.

Accounts of PM criticised

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe Government accounting standards have been so drastically in the past few years that the Auditor General has refused to sign the accounts of the Ministries.

In a report tabled in Parliament by the Controller and Auditor General, Mr J N Hilligan, the accounts of seven other Ministries including that of the Prime Minister were criticised.

Mr Hilligan said that too often loss of experienced staff was used as an excuse for ignoring procedures.
Mugabe urges spending on Third World aid, not arms

TORONTO — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said here that wealthy nations must redirect funds from the arms race to development aid if they hoped to enjoy a peaceful world.

"Perhaps the most dangerous threat to peace and security today is the very nature of the unequal relationship existing between rich industrialised nations and the impoverished Third World nations," Mr. Mugabe said.

"The great majority of mankind, who live in the South, will not agree to starve to death in peace while those in the North have so much to eat and even more to spend on armaments," he said.

The Zimbabwean leader said he believed a reallocation of some of the funds currently spent on armaments toward development in the Third World would be a major step in the quest for world peace and security.

Mr. Mugabe's speech, to a capacity audience of 1,800 at the University of Toronto on Tuesday, came at the end of a six-day visit to Canada which included talks with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, one of the leading advocates of North-South dialogue.

At a news conference later, Mr. Mugabe said he had discussed the possibility of North-South talks with Mr. Trudeau "but like us he does not see how those who are not interested could be drawn into it."

Mr. Mugabe told reporters that the idea that his Government was violating civil rights of dissenters in Zimbabwe was "completely erroneous."

He said his Government still hoped to create a one-party state because "Zimbabwe should view itself as one family."

But he emphasised that the move would be made democratically after a popular vote showed the people approved the idea. — Associated Press.
Skilled medical staff needed

HARARE: Zimbabwe is short of a variety of skilled and professional personnel, especially in the medical field, according to a spokesman for the Ministry of Manpower, Planning and Development.

The medical profession needed pathologists, psychiatrists, pharmacists, physicists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists, dental technicians, hospital equipment engineers, and other medical technicians, the spokesman said.

Senior accountants, typists, stenographers and shorthand typists were required to supplement the commercial field.

Professional engineers, higher technical personnel and technical college instructors were also in demand.

In agriculture, the skilled workers needed were veterinary surgeons, extension officers, research officers, engineers, technicians and agricultural college lecturers.

The Manpower Planning Committee on Foreign Recruitment was consulted by the Immigration Department in the case of skill-based applicants, the spokesman said.

"In principle, the government would like to have all jobs in the country held by Zimbabweans." But, due to historical realities, the government found itself without the necessary skills required for certain jobs "since past governments did not wish to train all citizens," he said.

"The Government, having conducted an exhaustive manpower survey, is aware of the areas of shortages and all employers wishing to bring in guest workers in areas of non-shortage will definitely not be allowed to do so.

"So although the area at issue could be termed a manpower shortage area, if there are unemployed Zimbabweans in the area, no employer can bring a foreigner into the country."
A country of graft and abuse

HARARE

NORMAN ELLIS on the vagaries of accounting in Zimbabwe

FOUR years after independence Zimbabwe is gripped by a wave of corruption, graft and abuse of public funds.

And tough new anti-corruption laws — including a stringent leadership code — have been promised by top Ministers, from Mr Robert Mugabe down, to deal with a situation that is causing more and more concern.

In a recent report, the Department of Customs' chief executive officer, Mr. Richard Humphreys, noted that in the 29 years before independence his white-dominated department had only two cases of corruption — since July, 1990, there has been 1.

Rumours

Few top officials in Zimbabwe — and especially members of Mr. Mugabe's 56-strong Cabinet — have been untrammelled by rumours, or plain beerhall gossip, about accepting gifts for favours or stuffing their Ministries with family and friends.

And even some, of those who have been charged with misusing public funds, or their positions, have gone largely unpunished.

The most celebrated case of misuse of public funds was that concerning the country's first High Commissioner to Britain, Mr. Robert Zwenzwa, who spent almost £600 000 on an official mansion in London against government orders.

He was recalled to Harare but still holds down a senior job in the foreign ministry.

Another noted case was that of the deputy Youth, Sports and Recreation Minister, Mr. George Rutshuru, who pocketed a $5 000 backpacker after his ministry approved the purchase of a Greek businessman's farm at $200 000 above its value. He is still in his post — effectively number two in a major ministry.

There were then the mayor of Gweru, Mr. Patrick Kombayi, whose tyrannical reign has been well-documented.

These senior officials are but the tip of an iceberg, it seems.

In Matabeleland Province, where thousands of villagers are facing starvation after two years of devastating drought, eight government administrators are awaiting trial for diverting truckloads of relief food to line their own pockets.

The deputy Housing Minister, Mr. Mudzimbi Chinwindi, denouncing the new Zimbabwe as a country of scandals damaging our reputation abroad, said of the two decades when many of today's leaders were in exile: "We are fortunate to have lived in countries where these scandals were rare, but we do not seem to have learned anything from it."

Accumulation of wealth is not appropriate in a country geared to socialism," he said.

But both supporters and detractors alike fear Mr. Mugabe has not moved swiftly and ruthlessly enough to remove the cancer of corruption at the very top, setting examples through all tiers of society.

The Zimbabwean Auditor General, Mr. J. N. Hill, has also slammed overspending and unauthorized spending in a number of ministries, and in two cases refused to sign accounts as being correct.

There has been a visible deterioration in accounting standards in many ministries during the 1981/1982 financial year, despite an undeniably low level of audit coverage, he said in a report tabled in parliament.

Excuse

Mr. Hilligan acknowledged that the loss of experienced staff since independence had contributed to a decline of the state of public accounts, but said this loss was "too often used as an excuse, when in fact the irregularities and inadequacies can be more properly attributed to a disregard for the laid-down procedures and effective monitoring and internal control within ministries."

He also refused to sign the account of the ministry of Youth, Sport and Recreation, the Settlement Loan Fund, administered by the Secretary for the Public Service, and also criticised the accounts of the Prime Minister's Office, the Cabinet Office, and the ministries of Defence, Trade and Commerce, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs and Manpower Planning and Development.

Deterioration

Mr. Mugabe, on record as saying repeatedly that he wants to avoid the arrow-committed in other African countries, vows that crooked Cabinet Ministers will be forced to resign their posts. He has also promised to unveil a leadership code for his Ministers after attacking some of them for buying houses, farms and businesses while many of his 7.5 million people can scarcely afford to eat.
Angry Mugabe lashes out at Britain for ‘interfering’

By Brenden Seery, The Star Bureau

HARARE — In a blistering attack on Britain yesterday, Zimbabwe’s Prime Minister Robert Mugabe warned Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher that his Government would not tolerate interference in its internal affairs.

Speaking on his return to Harare from a two-week tour of Ireland, the United States and Canada, Mr Mugabe said he was “terribly unhappy” about the attitude of Britain to the recent re-deployment of air force officers after their acquittal by the High Court on sabotage charges.

Thumping the table, a visibly angry Mr Mugabe told assembled diplomats, party officials and journalists: “We do not accept intimidation or manipulation from quarters abroad.”

He added: “Britain should lay its hands off Zimbabwe.”

If the British wish to dissociate themselves from Zim-

babwe then we are willing that occurs,” he said.

Acknowledging British aid, said Mr Mu-

gabe that if that aid was given so that it could

serve the Government right as a State

and protection of our own security,

was clearly go-


e said that the British Government’s

pressure Zimbabwe directly and in-

terference of the air force officers

was undesirable development” that had

lations between the two countries.

He added that Mr Mugabe would be written to Mrs

he subject, Mr Mugabe was roundly

applauded when he said: “I am not accountable to Mrs Thatcher.”

In one of his strongest attacks on the British Government since independence, Mr Mugabe said citizens of British extraction had for years supported the UDI government of Mr Ian Smith and rebelled against the crown.

Yet, when Zimbabwe arrested a "handful of air force men" the British Government had adopted them as "most precious citi-

zens”.

The Prime Minister said his tour of the three countries was “very, very rewarding indeed.”

The Zimbabwean delegation had cemented ties with Ireland, Canada and the United States during the tour.

While Zimbabwe and the US disagreed on a number of international matters, bilateral relations between the two countries were good, he said.

Although Zimbabwe had abstained from voting on a United Nations Security Council resolution condemning the shoot-down of a Korean airliner, this did not mean she was adopting an anti-US stance, and African leaders had realised this.

Nkomo appeals for national unity

By Robin Drew, The Star’s Foreign News Service

GWERU — Mr Joshua Nkomo, leader of the Zanu, yes terday, made an impassioned plea for national unity and for wide-ranging talks, which would include all political parties, to solve Zimbabwe’s problems.

At his first rally since his return nearly six weeks ago from five months’ self-exile in Britain, Mr Nkomo devoted most of his 90-minute speech to his call for the people to come together.

Appealing for an end to political hatred, Mr Nkomo said: “Young people are being taught to hate and, in the end, the whole nation will be full of hatred.”

The Zanu leader said it was madness to divide the people. Neither colour nor tribe was important.

“We fought against racism because it was evil and its policies were evil. How can detention without trial be right now just because it is administered by blacks?” he asked.

Mr Nkomo scoffed at the results of local government elections in Matabeleland in which Zanu was routed. He said these elections could not be said to have been held fairly when, in the presence of soldiers, people had to line up and indicate their choice of candidate.

Of the dissident problem, he said killing was no solution and that it was the Government’s responsibility to find out what had gone wrong.

Mr Nkomo was given an enthusiastic reception when he arrived at the rally, but the applause at the end of his speech was subdued.

Reagan and Sutherland call for re-detained

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has dimmed hopes of an early release for the remaining three re-detained Zimbabwe air force officers.

Speaking at a Press conference at Harare airport yesterday, Mr Mugabe said: “The other ones, I’m afraid, we will have to keep for some time.”

The Prime Minister was asked why the three men — Wing Commander John Cox and Air Lieutenant Nkayi Bwala and Neville Viner — were held after the release of Police Vice-Marshal Hugh Statten, Air Commodore Philip File and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe.

The airmen who had been released, said Mr Mugabe, were “regarded as less culpable than the others”.

The three men being held were directly connected with the South African agents who came to Zimbabwe to blow up the aircraft at Thornhill base, he said.

It was from information from the three men in detention that the other senior men had been implicated, said the Prime Minister.

Mr Mugabe, meanwhile, denied that the authorities were “not acting in violation of our own laws”, in re-detaining the airmen.
RF goes all out to win crucial by-election
‘Boer’ farmers forge a vital Zimbabwean link

By Robin Drew,
The Star’s Foreign News Service
CHIPINGE (Zimbabwe) — For the hardy farmers and their wives of Gaza-land whose roots go back to the Orange Free State, it was a day to remember.

They were playing host to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe and half a dozen of his Ministers at a luncheon in the little town of Chipinge which nestles in the mountains along Zimbabwe’s eastern border.

The occasion was the opening by the Prime Minister of a R6.8 million sterilised-milk factory which has been built with aid from Holland.

But to observers the event was a striking example of the practical application of the Government’s cornerstone policies of reconciliation and reconstruction.

Chipinge and the surrounding farmlands 150 km south of Mutare have a thriving Afrikaans community, peopled by descendants of the trekboers from the Free State.

They followed in the footsteps of Tom Moodie and his clan from Bethle-
pendence.

Problems remain, in particular those concerning squatters and refugees who cross into the district to escape the fighting in Mozambique between government forces and the rebel MNR bands.

But on the day the milk factory opened, they were put aside. The farming community turned out in their best to welcome Mr Mugabe and his Ministers. The wives laid on a lavish spread and decorated part of the factory with proteas and home-grown flowers, drawing the comment from Mr Mugabe that it looked more like a hotel than a milk plant.

He congratulated the farmers on increasing milk production by 140 percent since independence and promised his government’s continuing support for the agricultural industry.

The plant itself, the most modern in Africa, will initially produce 12 million litres of sterilised milk a year, most of which will be sold to consumers in the rural areas which have no refrigeration.

But the Dairy Marketing Board which operates the factory also has an eye on export to neighbouring countries.

It is also planned to supply milk for the factory from a resettlement scheme which is to be established with assistance from the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

Praise for the farming community came, too, from the Dutch ambassador, Mr A.L. Schneiders, who said it had provided the most stimulating, open-minded and constructive response to the challenges of the new Zimbabwe.

Present at the opening were men such as Mr "Cois" Joubert, a leading Chipinge farmer who was one of the driving forces behind the move to get the milk factory established.

"We are confident that things will go well here," he said. "We have had a talk to the Prime Minister about some of the main issues, such as squatters, and we hope they will be sorted out."

Present too was Dominee Wessel Roussouv of the Dutch Reformed Church who has been in Chipinge for just over a year from South Africa.

With a congregation of more than 100 adults — "the Anglicans only have about four at their services" — he is happy to be carrying out his ministry in Zimbabwe.

The milk factory is being managed and run by black Zimbabweans, some of whom underwent courses in Holland.

The manager, Mr Nigel Munyati, studied food science at Pennsylvania State University.

In itself the opening of a factory, modest by world standards, hardly rated as a major event.

But when added to gether and seen in the context of a country that was at war just a few years ago, the components do portray a remarkable example of cooperation, both internationally and across local racial barriers.

They also speak of black advancement at a pace which many would have thought impossible.
hern who opened up the area to white settlement in 1892.

Eight months of hard trekking preceded the establishment of the first settlement in the promised land.

The hillsides were green, game abounded, and the cattle grew sleek and fat.

In all my travels through the southern parts of Africa, I never saw a more beautiful area than north Gaza-land. I have never regretted leaving the Free State, though the 'voor- trekker's life is a hard one,' wrote one of those early pioneers, Martinus Martin.

Life was hard, too, in the days of the Rhodesian bush war for the families living close to the Mozambique border. Young and old died in raids on homesteads and in ambushes, in landmine explosions and in contacts between the security forces and the guerrillas.

Some farms were abandoned, but other farmers stayed on, growing coffee and raising the dairy cattle which thrive in the fertile valleys.

With the transition from Rhodesia to Zimbabwe in 1980, came the uncertainty of what to expect under the new government.

Difficulties, too, in coping with hordes of squatters who moved on to the land from the overcrowded communal areas in expectation of reaping quick benefits from inde-
Support for coup from Zambia: claim

The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE - An anonymous witness told the High Court here yesterday that a group of disaffected soldiers plotting against the Zimbabwe Government planned to stage a coup which would have been supported by "aircraft from Zambia".

The witness, a soldier from the Zimbabwe national army, who may not be named in terms of a court order, told the court that the coup was to have been triggered by an attack on the official Harare residence of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe over the Easter weekend last year.

He added that no attack took place on that occasion.

The witness was giving evidence at the trial of 10 supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo - nine of them former guerrillas from Mr Nkomo's ZAPU military wing - who are charged with an attack on Mr Mugabe's house on June 24 last year.

The State allegation is the attack was planned as the start of a coup which would have seen the setting up of a military junta.

Among the targets were the Prime Minister's and President's houses, government security establishments, and the studios of the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation.

The witness told the court that one of the accused, Mr Albert Hoy, a former ZAPU fighter, had complained that ex-guerrillas from Mr Mugabe's ZANLA forces were given better promotions and postings in the new national army than those who had been loyal to Mr Nkomo during the war.

All the accused have pleaded not guilty to charges under the country's Law and Order (Maintenance) Act which can carry the death penalty.

Some of the men are alleging in their defence that they were assaulted and intimidated by police as a means of forcing confessions from them.

The trial is continuing before Mr Justice Wilson Sandura, who is sitting with two assessors.
Several members of the milling industry this week agreed that the maize cut had come as a shock, in view of economic problems already being faced by the industry:

"It will affect millers financially as we shall have to cut back on the production of roller-meal, super-refined maize meal, samp and stockfeeds. It will also affect consumers who may find supplies a bit short," said one spokesman.

A second said that the cut in the wheat allocation might not be felt too seriously, as the demand for bread from bakers had fallen off since bread prices were increased last month.

But the maize cut is a different kettle of fish. That could really upset consumers, because it is a basic foodstuff in this country."

The cuts are a result of the two-year drought.
SA trained them.

Hartie's claim over two young dissidents
Zimbabwean troops deep in Botswana

By NORMAN CHANDLER

At least two platoons of soldiers, believed to be from Zimbabwe's feared Fifth Battalion and numbering more than 40 men, have been dropped by helicopter in northern Botswana to search for dissenters fleeing from Mr. Robert Mugabe's government.

This was confirmed in Gaborone yesterday by a spokesman for the Botswana Department of Information and Broadcasting, who said they have attacked villagers in the North-East Province and are 50km or more inside Botswana. The men said they were looking for dissenters.

Last night a spokesman for the Zimbabwean Government denied in Harare that any of its troops were in Botswana or had crossed into Botswana. "We have established that our troops were not involved," he said.

There was no immediate Botswana reaction to the denial.

The invading forces, claimed by Botswana to have been led by a white officer, attacked anthology's village, estimated in dense bushland north of Francistown at about 4pm on Sunday.

It is understood that the men have been steadily progressing south. They were brought into the area by helicopter.

First news of the incursion was received in Gaborone mid-week. The message said that several villagers were held on up. It is not yet known whether any were killed.

Units of the Botswana Police and the Botswana Defence Force have been moved into the remote area, but have apparently not yet made contact with the Zimbabwean troops.

Reinforcements, according to sources in Gaborone yesterday, are being drafted into the province, which is bordered on two sides by Zimbabwe.

The sources fear that the Fifth Brigade troops may be heading for the huge Dukwe camp, where 3,000 "official" Zimbabwean refugees have been housed after fleeing their country in the past few months. There are also many South African refugees in the camp.

The refugees, mostly members of Mr. Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party, have refused to return to their homeland for fear of reprisals.
Row looms over possible cut in US aid to Harare
white's evidence, says Zombo

Zimbabwê airmen held on

Significant: Korea'szugam-Trom

London - From Tokyo

So far, there has been

The prime case of the

Three minutes

The blast came at the
headaches for Mugabe
Sect followers' beliefs cause
Masire heads north to probe border invasion

By NORMAN CHANDLER

The President of Botswana, Dr Quett Masire, has gone to his country's North East Province to personally investigate a Zimbabwean troop incursion — in its ninth day — in the area.

He is accompanied by Botswana Defence Force and Police officials, including the country's highest-ranking officers, amid strong indications that Botswana troops may have made contact with the invasion force.

The visit was confirmed yesterday by a spokesman in Francistown for the Officer Commanding No 1 District, Botswana Police.

The President's visit is scheduled to last three days and he is due back in his office in Gaborone on Thursday.

This is believed to be the first time President Masire has personally visited areas where across-border violations, particularly involving Zimbabwean troops, have taken place.

"According to information given to the Rand Daily Mail yesterday, the visit is "indicative of the concern with which the Botswana Government views the incident".

The Zimbabweans' last known position, on Saturday, was in dense bush country 30km south of Butshale's village, about 70km from the Botswana-Zimbabwe border, according to sources in Gaborone.

Butshale's village is on the main "refugee road" to Dukwe camp, near Francistown, where 2 900 refugees — many from Zimbabwe — are housed.

The Mail was told yesterday that contact "had probably been made" with the Zimbabweans but, because of poor communications, there was no indication that fighting was continuing.

The Zimbabweans are believed to be heading for Dukwe. Refugees there have consistently refused to leave the camp and return to their homeland for fear of reprisals by Zimbabwean officials.

On Friday, the Zimbabwean Government claimed to have no knowledge of a border violation and said its troops were not involved.

However, reports reaching Francistown said Zimbabwean troops were dropped by helicopters near Butshale's village on Sunday afternoon, October 3, and entered the village at 4pm that day. The helicopters returned to Zimbabwe.

Villagers were beaten up but so far it has not been possible to ascertain whether anyone was killed. The troops — numbering about 40 — are understood to be from the Beitbridge District.

According to villagers, the invading troops — thought to be members of the North Korean-trained 5th Brigade — have told them they are looking for dissidents who have fled Zimbabwe.

The dissidents are members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party.

Government officials in Gaborone were unable to give any information as to President Masire's whereabouts yesterday.
Botswana troops on border alert

By NORMAN CHANDLER

FRANCISTOWN. — Botswana troops are this morning in position on the two-strand fence border with Zimbabwe in the wake of a border violation by a group of mystery troops.

The identity of the troops who crossed the border in three helicopters is being hotly disputed and there are various versions of the incident that have emerged.

A Cuban official Zimbabwean Government spokesman has denied that any Zimbabwean troops crossed into neighbouring Botswana.

The secretary of the Botswana Cabinet, Mr Festus Mogae, yesterday released a statement saying there were no Zimbabwean troops in Botswana but admitting that residents of Kutseke's Village were assaulted and harassed by soldiers who landed in helicopters which came from the Zimbabwean side of the border.

A Malawi team at the scene of the incident interviewed villagers who consistently claimed the soldiers had been wearing the uniforms of the Zimbabwean National Army, had identified themselves as members of the Zimbabwean army and had crossed into the territory from the Zimbabwean side.

The confrontation is very low key at the moment but the troops have warned villagers they would be back in strength by October 21 to wipe out both the village and Zimbabwean dissidents they believe are hiding in the area.

The soldiers crossed the border 11 days ago in search of dissidents who were badly injured in a clash in southern Matabeleland between the Fifth Brigade and supporters of Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The dissidents are now undergoing treatment for their wounds in Francistown Hospital but no one has been allowed to interview them.

The Botswana President, Dr Quett Masire, has so far not yet visited the area even though he is presently touring the militarily sensitive North East and Central provinces.
US considers a huge cut in aid to Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — Reagan Administration officials are considering cutting America's economic aid to Zimbabwe next year by as much as 80 percent. The move comes in the wake of Zimbabwe's abstention on the United Nations Security Council resolution condemning the Soviet shooting down of the Korean airliner.

The move has brought sharp protests from Congressmen who say it would seriously harm United States relations with black Africa.

Extracts from a confidential memorandum disclosing the proposal for a 50 percent cut in Zimbabwe's scheduled $75 million payment from the US Agency for International Development were published yesterday in the Washington Post.

State Department and agency officials who were asked about the Post report insisted that no final decision had been taken but did not deny that the cut was being considered.

According to sources here the Reagan Administration has been offended not only by the abstention on the Korean airliner resolution but also by other Zimbabwean votes in the Security Council, by the detention of the acquitted Zimbabwe air force officers and by the treatment of ZANU leader Mr. Joshua Nkomo.

Although Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's recent visit to Washington appeared to have gone off well, some sources say there was friction behind the scenes between Reagan Administration officials and the Zimbabwean leader.

The differences have been suppressed because Reagan Administration officials consider Zimbabwe a key state in the Administration's Southern African policy.

The disillusionment felt in some official quarters has, however, been revealed by the extracts from the memo published in the Washington Post.

The memorandum, dated October 3, was sent to Undersecretary of State Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger by the head of US aid, Mr. Peter McPherson.

Mr. McPherson said he was responding to a request from Mr. Eagleburger on September 29 "seeking reaction to a proposed 50 percent reduction in the aid levels for Zimbabwe" for fiscal 1984.

"I believe that it is in our interest that a strong, clear American response be quickly forthcoming to Zimbabwe's abstention," Mr. McPherson wrote.

He went on to say a cut of up to 50 percent immediately would be "appropriate".

There is believed to be scepticism in the Reagan Administration at Mr. Mugabe's explanation that Zimbabwe was voting not for itself but on behalf of the African bloc it represents in the Security Council.

The Reagan Administration pledged in 1981 to give Zimbabwe $225 million in aid over three years.
Botswana sends back Nkomo's dissidents

By NORMAN CHANDLER

FRANCISTOWN. — Botswana is returning dissidents fleeing from Zimbabwe's North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland.

This emerged yesterday as more Botswana Defence Force soldiers dug in along the Zimbabwean border in the wake of a border violation by Mr Robert Mugabe's troops 13 days ago.

The Botswana men are strung out along a 30km stretch of the border close to Buthale's Village, where the incursion took place on October 2.

Since the beginning of October dissidents — who are said to be supporters of Zimbabwe's opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo — have been getting through the two-strand wire fence which serves as the boundary. It is understood that there was a major battle in southern Matabeleland on September 30 and October 1.

Botswana police have been picking up dissidents in dense bushland in the area north of Francistown. If they are injured the dissidents have been taken to Jubilee Hospital in the provincial capital.

A number are in the wards there at present, but Botswana authorities are refusing permission for any to be interviewed or photographed.

Construction workers on the Francistown to Zimbabwe tarred road said yesterday five dissidents were picked up in the bush on Thursday.

One worker said: "They have been avoiding the main road and trying to get into the country via the bush. Police patrols have been active on the road as well as in the bush."

The Mail was able to establish yesterday that Botswana has been returning fleeing dissidents, but the number is unknown.

The information came from local officials who were reluctant to be identified.

The Mail was told by police that "these Zimbabweans are giving us a lot of trouble . . ."

A marked increase in border tension is apparent in this part of the country. Ever since Buthale's Village, 70km north-east of Francistown, was invaded by troops said to be of the Zimbabwe National Army, the Botswana Defence Force and Botswana police have trucked in men and equipment.

Every day this week the Botswana troops have patrolled through the village, according to Chief Ntirias Buthale.

"They are in position just over there," he told the Mail, pointing to the nearby border visible through scrubland.

Tracks made by many vehicles are clearly visible in the bush.
Mystery as SADF soldier gets asylum in Zimbabwe

By NEIL HOOPER

RUNAWAY national serviceman Candidate Officer Ronald Woods, who disappeared from the army last month, has surfaced in Harare, Zimbabwe, where he has been granted political asylum.

The former welfare officer — who disappeared mysteriously on September 11 — has told friends and relatives that he has been given a job by the Zimbabwe government.

His arrival in Zimbabwe was confirmed this week by his brother Eric and Pastor Paul Ras of the Apostolic Faith Mission in Harare, who spoke to the young academic after a church service last Friday.

American-born Pastor Ras, who has known Mr Woods since 1979 when he was ministering in South Africa, said that the former Witwatersrand University honours student was "well" and sharing accommodation in Harare with several bachelors.

"When I spoke to him Ronald said that his application for political asylum in Zimbabwe had not been finalised, and that he had to speak to the authorities again this week.

"I didn't have much time to speak to him, and didn't ask him why he had been seeking political asylum here."

Mystified

"Expected to speak to him again last Sunday, but he didn't show up for the service," Pastor Ras said.

However, brother Eric says that Mr Woods had since telephoned a close friend, Gordon Smith, in Durban to say that he had arrived safely in Zimbabwe and had been granted political asylum and given a job by the Zimbabwe government.

"He also telephoned his father-in-law in Johannesburg to give him the news. He in turn contacted my mother in Bloemfontein. I was on leave and heard about the calls only on Tuesday."

"It is a tremendous relief to hear that Ronald is well, although I am still mystified about him applying for political asylum in Harare."

Mr Woods said that he had been able to make contact with friends and relatives in South Africa only during the past week because he had been held in prison while Zimbabwe authorities checked his application for asylum.

The telephone calls are the first confirmation that Ronald Woods did in fact travel to Zimbabwe after disappearing on Sunday, September 11, when he told his friend that he intended applying for political asylum in Zimbabwe.

Earlier Eric told the Sunday Times that the Defence Force — for whom Ronald was working as a welfare officer during his two-year spell of national service — had not been able to throw any light on his brother's whereabouts and that he was "extremely worried".

Two weeks ago a spokesman for the SADF confirmed that Candidate Officer Woods had been absent without leave since September 19.

A senior police officer said this week the police had no official information about the missing social work graduate, but believed he was in Zimbabwe.

The Sunday Times has been unable to obtain any official comment from the Zimbabwe authorities about him.
Zimbabwe's troops turn in rifles for rakes

The Star Friday October 21 1993
ZIMBABWE

Holding the reins

The collapse of the "unity talks" between Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu-PF Party and Joshua Nkomo's minority Zapu was hardly a surprise. Still less surprising were the accusations levelled against Nkomo by Maurice Nyagumbo, organising secretary of the governing party and Minister of Mines.

Nkomo's extravagant demands were responsible for the collapse, according to Nyagumbo, who accused the Zapu leader of seeking not only to become deputy premier but also of demanding more Cabinet posts for Zapu politicians, the immediate release of Zapu detainees and an investigation into the conduct of the national army.

There was no way that the ruling party could—or would—swallow these terms. Zapu leaders point out that it is Nkomo who is in a weak bargaining position. His party is in disarray while his lust for power and wealth is great. In Parliment he failed to make the major policy speech that he had promised and in debate he is overshadowed by the agile, witty, incisive style of PM Mugabe.

Furthermore, when Zimbabwe goes to the polls — either next year or in 1985 — all the signs are that Nkomo will be doing well if he manages to hang on to the 20 seats that he currently holds in the House of Assembly. Since Zanu-PF is likely to win the remaining 60 seats contested by black politicians, Zapu seems destined to play the uncomfortable role of a minority opposition at a time when the government is committed to establishing a one-party state.

There are no signs that Nkomo is yet willing to throw in the towel. True, there is bound to be some dissatisfaction at grassroots levels within the ruling party. The drought, the recession, government spending reductions, the recent steep rises in food prices and increased indirect taxes must all have left their mark on party loyalty.

But the numbers likely to switch regional-tribal allegiances from Zapu to Zanu and the other way around are likely to be small. All of which means that Mugabe is sitting pretty despite his economic problems and the politicking within the ruling party that is becoming increasingly evident.

Next May, Zanu-PF is scheduled to hold its first full-scale congress in 20 years and already the party hopefuls are jockeying furiously for position. The most sought-after post is that of secretary general, once held by Edgar Tekere, but now vacant. The two leading contenders are said to be the Karanga-supported Eddison Zvobgo, Minister of Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, and Nathan Shamuyira, Minister of Information, who reportedly has Zezuru and Manyika backing, plus that of Mugabe himself.

The party congress elections could turn out to be significantly more important than those for Parliament in 1985, since it is increasingly evident that the crucial policy decisions are made in the party rather than in Parliament.

For their part, white politics have little relevance these days. Much has been made of the fact that Ian Smith's once all-powerful Republican Front has now lost two successive by-elections and today holds only nine of the 20 white seats in Parliament.
Zimbabwe will help to resist SA

HARARE—Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has pledged to support Mozambique in any measures it takes to defend its borders.

In a message to President Samora Machel after Monday's South African commando attack on Maputo, Mr Mugabe expressed revulsion at another barbarous and cowardly attack against defenceless civilians in Maputo by forces of the racist Pretoria regime.

"Be assured of Zimbabwe's fullest support for any measures you may take in defence of Mozambique's territorial integrity," Mr Mugabe said.

Zimbabwe already has about 2,000 troops in Mozambique to protect the Beira oil pipeline against guerillas of the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR).

Zimbabwe's leading newspaper, the Herald, said the raid highlighted the need for tighter security measures by the states bordering South Africa.

"We should be capable of inflicting unacceptable casualties on those who have the audacity to launch attacks in our very city centres. We have the soldiers and the equipment. All possible enemy targets must be heavily guarded 24 hours a day," the Herald said. —Reuters
By HOWARD PREECE
and GERALD REILLY

SOUTH AFRICA'S inflation rate as measured by the official Consumer Price Index (CPI) dropped to 10.9% at the end of September — the lowest level in five years.

It was 12.2% in August.

Even more important is that the underlying rate of inflation in the economy now seems less than 9%.

The rise in the cost of living, however, for 1981 is still likely to be over 10% — albeit only just.

If so this will mean South Africa will have undergone a full 10 years with annual inflation levels in double figures.

But Mr Owen Horwood, the Minister of Finance, should be rightly encouraged by the evidence that the country is at last showing signs of getting the ever-growing cost of living under much better control.

The debit side, though, is that the process has been inevitably accompanied by severe economic recession with industrial production declining and unemployment rising.

The overall CPI increased by 0.6% in September this year.

That was way under the 1.8% rise in September 1980 — after General Savings Tax had been pushed up from 5% to 6% — and so the annual rate eased from 12.5% to 10.9%.

In October last year the CPI went up by 1.2%, again influenced by the GST increase.

The rise should be less this month so a further fall in the CPI annual rate — for the 12 months to the end of October — should be announced in November.

The CPI, however, rose by a modest 0.6% in November 1980 and by a minimal 0.3% in December last year.

It will be difficult to improve on that record and thus inflation for 1981 as a whole may well stay above 10%.

But the CPI index figure at the end of March this year was 52.3. By the end of September it had risen only to 56.7.

That represents a six-month increase of 4.5% — or an annual rate of just under 9%.

That is probably a fair reflection of the underlying inflation trend in the economy.

The food only index during September this year rose by 1.3% — mainly because of drought-created scarcities.

For the 12 months to September the jump in food prices was 11.3%.

But the full effects of the drought have far from been felt yet.

Barclays Bank chief economist Dr Johan Cloete said last night all the indications were that the inflation

Three young visitors to the Ideal Homes Exhibition played at the post office.

CROWDS TO IDEAL HOMES

Mail Reporter

THE last two days — today and tomorrow — at the 26th Ideal Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition are expected to attract some 16,000 visitors through the gates.

This will take this year's overall attendance to well over 40,000 people.

The eight Johannesburg construction companies taking part in this year's exhibition at Sunninghill Park are Maria Homes Ltd, LBS Construction, M R Dull Construction, Rona Homes, Dron Construction, Morn Construction, Montagu Homes and Dallas Construction. All have built spectacular homes.

• Report — Page 3

Prisoners found hanged
Zimbabwe bans Israeli passport holders

HARARE - Israeli passport holders have been barred from Zimbabwe, informed sources said yesterday.

They said a directive from Home Affairs Minister Herbert Ushevwokonze decreed that no one travelling on an Israeli passport could enter or transit through the country.

No official announcement has been made and a Government spokesman refused to comment.

Zimbabwe has no diplomatic relations with Israel, which recently renewed ties with several African countries.

Government announcements, radio and TV usually refer to "Zionist Israel." The only other countries given such treatment are South Africa and Morocco.

A number of joint Israeli-Zimbabwe passport holders are believed to be in the country but no figures are available.

At a religious conference in Jerusalem on Thursday, Bishop Abel Muzorewa said Zimbabwe should establish diplomatic links with Israel to take advantage of its technological and agricultural knowhow.

However, a Government spokesman was quick to dismiss his remarks yesterday saying: "No comment. He is talking as a private citizen. We don't want to give credence to that kind of talk." - Reuters.

It's time for you to watch out...

The Star Bureau

LONDON - If you wear a watch in bed, watch it - it can tell more about you than the time.

If you're a lover it could mean half your mind is somewhere else. Or perhaps you're worried about missing out on something at work.

On the other hand, psychologist Jane Firbank has warned that if you never wear a watch you're sadly lacking in self-discipline, in affairs of business as well as of the heart.

But the sexes see things differently when it comes to punctuality.
PHIL Anderson watched a Zimbabwe prison guard snap handcuffs around the wrists of his army friend in the courtroom where he had just been acquitted of capital treason charges and made a decision he had been agonising over for a year to leave the country of his birth.

"If they can do that to an innocent man, they can do it to me. And I'm not hanging around waiting for it to happen," said Mr Anderson, a 32-year-old communications technician.

It's a decision that is being made by hundreds of other whites in Zimbabwe, belatedly following in the footsteps of 50 000 compatriots who have fled the country since black rule came to power three-and-a-half years ago.

The drama of the trial and redemption of six high-ranking white officers of the air force - three of whom have since been deported to Britain - may not be the breaking point, but it has certainly added impetus to the exodus of whites, now running at more than 1 500 a month.

Whites who stayed after independence to grasp the "hand of reconciliation" extended by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe seriously doubt the model of racial harmony promised will materialize.

They were promised "a place in the land of sunshine".

"If this is the price of the sunshine, you can keep it," Mr Anderson retorted.

He is heading for South Africa, the most popular destination of emigrating whites. Britain and Australia are next on the list.

High-ranking and middle rank whites in Zimbabwe's air force, army and police have taken the same route, either in anger over the detention of people acquitted by courts, or disillusioned by a policy of Africanisation they feel leaves no scope for career advancement.

They want to do the work, but the Africans get the promotions and the money," a policeman complained.

Whites are reeling from abuse by Mr Mugabe since he returned from what was to have been a tour of Ireland, the United States and Canada to polish Zimbabwe's tarnished image.

An angry Mr Mugabe returned home to a table-thumping Press conference where he declared that perhaps "he had been wrong to let whites stay in the country.

"Have we done wrong by encouraging these people to remain in our country?" he asked.

He accused some whites of being saboteurs and spies in the pay of the South African government.

He tore open the barely healed scars of the bloody seven-year bush war, in which whites fought to stave off black rule, by saying: "They massacred our people, fought against us yesterday and still continue to work with the enemy to destroy us."

Whites watched fearfully the next day as a 2 000-strong demonstration stopped traffic in central Harare, brandishing placards declaring "Hang the airmen" and "Expel all British passport holders".

Strict foreign currency regulations which prevent people taking out more than $5 000 per family and only one second-hand car are a sore point among would-be emigrants and undoubtedly stop many others who would like to quit the country.

"People go out not as emigrants but as refugees," a white Republic MP said.

But the Draconian restrictions have not stemmed the flow of whites.

"It's a vicious circle," said former Rhodesian leader Ian Smith.

"The biggest single problem facing this country is a lack of confidence in its future.

"So emigration will continue at a fairly high rate and the drain of white skills has an unfortunate effect on efficiency in running the country which lessens confidence even more," he said.

Whites also complain that they no longer enjoy the same standard of living - a key incentive to remain in the country.

Compulsory increased wages for domestics have led many to cut down from two or three servants to one - a move which ironically adds to the overcrowded underemployed market.

Skyrocketing prices and inflation running at 20% has forced many to cut down on their traditional diet of steak, steak and more steak.

They've been hard-hit by a "feel-the-rich-to-pay-for-the-poor" budget, which even Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero admits makes Zimbabwe one of the most highly taxed countries in the world.

They are also concerned about falling standards of education which they fear will deteriorate to unacceptable levels prevalent.

As thousands of black children previously deprived of education forced onto crowded state schools, parents get nervous of repeated government threats to shut down private schools catering mainly for whites and the children of a few wealthy blacks.

But they fear most for their safety.

There have been spiralling increases in thefts and burglaries which observers say will escalate hugely in the next few months as thousands of ex- guerrillas stop being paid monthly demob cheques. With no prospects for jobs, they will turn to crime, experts say.

Such incidents as last month's shooting of a young white man who drove down the blocked-off road passing Prime Minister Mugabe's official residence, are blown out of all proportion as whites ponder the agonising question: to leave or not to leave.
Zimbabwe industry adapts to new socialist norms

By SIMON WILLSON
Industrial Editor

ZIMBABWE business is keen to show the world that it is on good terms with Harare's socialist Government and confident of economic prospects.

Mr Frank Mills, president of the Federation of Zimbabwe Industries, said he wanted to dispel any thoughts that there was confrontation between the private sector and the Government of Mr Robert Mugabe.

"There are differences, but we in industry are committed to the aims and objectives of our national development plan and have attempted to create an atmosphere where differences of opinion can be exchanged without acrimony or ill-feeling," Mr. Mills said.

Mr. Mills, speaking at the Federated Chamber of Industry's annual conference in Cape Town, gave the impression, however, that Zimbabwean entrepreneurs faced the task of convincing their Government that they had a role to play in the nation's future.

Proof of Zimbabwe industry's commitment to and confidence in the future was its investment in the manufacturing sector since independence in 1980.

"In 1980 and 1981 investment was at levels higher in real terms than any year during the 1970s. A recent survey by CZI indicated that last year less than 2% of manufacturers failed to engage in investment expenditure. Subsidaries of foreign companies invested in excess of $2100m in manufacturing."

The biggest challenge to the manufacturing sector was posed by the fundamental change in political philosophy that accompanied independence.

"With majority rule and a Government committed to a policy of socialism, the onus is now on private-sector entrepreneurs to prove that we have an essential role to play in the future of Zimbabwe," Mr Mills said.

The structure of Zimbabwean manufacturing was undergoing a fundamental change, moving from a mainly import-substitutive and foreign currency-absorbing industrial structure towards a more export-oriented form.

"During the days of UDI the operative word was survival. The world was one - leadership, innovation, export, promotion, industrial relations and in both investment and attracting investment."
Zimbabwe cops in clash over squatters

THE Zimbabwean judiciary clashed with the country's police again this week — this time over the politically sensitive issue of squatters.

In a test case, a High Court judge in Harare ordered police to help court officers evict 19 squatter families from a commercial farm they had been living on illegally in Shurugwi (formerly Selokwe) since December 1999.

**Ignored**

Warrants of eviction were first issued against the squatters in July last year, but police refused to give an armed escort to the court messenger serving the warrants and nothing came of them.

In January a crowd of squatters "screamed and danced" around a court messenger's truck when he tried to serve summons on them in a damages suit filed by the farm owner. The messenger served the warrants, which were ignored.

In February a magistrate issued warrants of execution against 11 of the squatters, but court messengers refused to go back to the farm without police assistance.

The officer commanding Zimbabwe's Midlands province said police were restricted by a government directive from prosecuting any squatter without written permission from the Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development.

The situation is typical of several over the past few years in light of contradictory signals from government on squatters.

Officials from the Ministry of Lands often speak in support of commercial farmers against squatters.

Illegal squatting flies in the face, they say, of the government's plans for orderly resettlement.

**Warned**

But that public position does not always follow through to eviction.

Commenting on the Shurugwi case, High Court Judge Waddington warned that police refusal to help court officers could lead to "anarchical results" in which people could take the law into their own hands.
Mugabe sells his socialist soul

CP Reporter: HARARE

MARGARET is 25 and unemployed. For the moment, courtesy of two white liberals, she has a roof over her head in the "khaya" at the back of one of the classy homes in the Harare suburb of Highlands.

Officially her rent is supposed to be two dollars a month - just enough to cover the water and lights she uses. But Samson, the house servant and former Muzorewa supporter, has been charging her 16 dollars a month. And, when she refused to sleep with him, he assaulted her and concocted various schemes to have the two white liberals kick her out. But, as it happens, Samson was fairly clumsy about these attempts, so the "bas" has decided Margaret can stay.

It may be a fairly innocuous story, a common tale of profiteering and sexism. But it has a certain importance - Margaret is a former guerilla in Prime Minister Robert Mugabe's Zanla forces. She is one of 20,000 former guerillas recently demobilised from the army who have been unable to find work.

She fought and risked her life for a better society - not one in which she would depend on the kindness of white liberals, be subjected to profiteering by those who took the easy way during the war, be humiliated because of her sex, and find herself without a political liberation she fought for.

The basic charge is that the Mugabe Government has failed to take concrete steps to alter the economic structure the company inherited from Ian Smith and Abel Muzorewa. Instead, they say, the Government has become a puppet of the International Monetary Fund, which is dictating Zimbabwe's economic policy to suit the developed countries of the capitalist West.

In the current serious worldwide economic depression, these critics argue, the Mugabe Government has shifted the greatest burden onto the poor in the factories and fields - contrary to the socialist consciousness the Mugabe Government has claimed for itself.

Sales tax - which affects everyone regardless of how much they earn - is now 18 percent on foodstuffs and basic toiletries and 23 percent on other goods. The land resettlement scheme, in terms of which hundreds of thousands of Zimbabweans were to be resettled on land bought back from white farmers, has come to a halt as a result of government cutbacks in spending.

Where is our socialist egalitarianism if the budget throws the burden of the international recession and drought on the shoulders of the lower income groups in our society? asks "Social Change and Development".

ROBERT MUGABE ... laying the wreath on his promise to build a socialist state?
HARARE — The former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, was arrested at his home late yesterday afternoon and is being held in Harare.

Zimbabwe's Minister in Charge of Security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, confirmed this morning that the leader of the United African National Council had been arrested. He would not say why he was being held.

Bishop Muzorewa returned to Zimbabwe last week from a visit to Israel and vigorously denied accusations that he had been plotting to overthrow Mr Mugabe's Government with the help of Israel.

Close associates of the bishop said this morning the UANC leader was picked up at his home in Borrowdale and taken to the central police station.

Bishop Muzorewa, who is leader of the United Methodist Church, told newsmen at the weekend that he had gone to Israel for Bible studies.

He denied any political motives behind his visit and said he had not campaigned for diplomatic links between Zimbabwe and Israel.

The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, recently warned Bishop Muzorewa not to try to start another war and said the Zimbabwe Government would investigate the reasons behind his visit to Israel.

A remark reportedly have been made by the bishop that Zimbabwe should establish ties with Israel, caused an outcry in Zimbabwe and he was heavily criticised by the Press and the State radio.

The Herald called on the government to "use the fist" against the UANC leader.

Bishop Muzorewa, who holds one of the three UANC seats in Parliament, said the accusations were "political mud" being smeared on him.

At a news conference last Saturday, Bishop Muzorewa angrily denied he was conspiring against the Zimbabwe Government.

He accused the administration of political harassment and oppression which, he said, was as bad as during white minority rule in the former Rhodesia.
**Shot in cold blood, says survivor**

The Northern Transvaal Bureau reports:

The two men shot dead in Botswana last weekend were enjoying a day’s fishing when they were ordered out of their boat and gunned down in cold blood, Mr Stephen Visser, the surviving member of the party, said at his Pietersburg home yesterday.

When his friends were shot dead without warning he jumped into the river to swim to safety, Mr Visser said.

Mr Visser (28), a Pietersburg businessman, strongly denied that he and Mr Ron Visser (34), of Bandollerkop, and Mr Bertie Bekker (29), of Francistown, were poaching when they were challenged by Botswana forces from the banks of the Chobe River, near Kasane, last Friday evening.

According to Mr Visser, the two men were shot after they had obeyed an instruction to leave the boat from which they were fishing.

The three men left the boat and, when they reached the river bank, Botswana troops opened fire on them.

Mr Visser said he and his friends were unarmed and that there was no question of poaching.

He returned to Pietersburg yesterday after being questioned by Botswana Security Police.

His business partner in Pietersburg, Mr Lulu van Tonder, criticised what he termed “one-sided Press reports” about the incident which, he said, assumed that the men were guilty of poaching.

The families of the two dead men are expected to announce funeral arrangements today.

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**Muzorewa is linked to SA rebels: claim**

The Star Bureau

Harare - Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who has been detained here for questioning about alleged links with South African-based dissidents, had planned to travel to the United States later this month, a Government Minister said last night.

The Minister of State Security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, said Bishop Muzorewa’s trip to the US for a meeting of the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church would have included a few days in South Africa.

He said Bishop Muzorewa had been picked up in an operation code-named “Chinayavada”, which means scorpion — “designed to check on subversive elements connected with South African bands”.

The bishop’s few days in South Africa would have seen him “re-united with his intimate friends in the leadership of the South African Government”.

A church associate said this morning that as far as he knew Bishop Muzorewa did not have a visa for South Africa and was to have gone straight to the US.

He said the council of bishops meeting was held twice a year in California and Bishop Muzorewa usually stopped off in New York to meet church officials there before going to San Francisco.

A lawyer managed to see the bishop yesterday but would not comment on what steps were being taken to secure his release.

He said he was not able to say anything about the matter.

The bishop was arrested at his home on Monday afternoon by officers of the Central Intelligence Organisation and taken to the main police station here.

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**Catholic Church leader held incommunicado in Ciskei**

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Southern African Catholic Bishops’ Conference has established that its general secretary, Father Smangaliselo Mkhathwa, is being held incommunicado in the Ciskei in terms of section 26 of the territory’s National Security Act.

The conference has still not found out where Father Mkhathwa is imprisoned, the associate general secretary, Sister Bridget Flanagan, said in Pretoria today.

She added that the president of the SACBC, Archbishop Dennis Hurley, and Bishop Murphy of Port Elizabeth were engaged in “round-the-clock” attempts to contact the Ciskei authorities.

Father Mkhathwa, who is also a patron of the United Democratic Front, was held on Sunday after joining in a prayer service with Catholic students at Fort Hare University.

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**Shot in cold blood, says survivor**

**Northern Transvaal Bureau**

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HARARE — The former prime minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, was arrested at his home late on Monday afternoon and held overnight in the central police station in Harare.

Zimbabwe's Minister in charge of security, Mr. Emmerson Mngagwa, confirmed yesterday that the UANC leader had been arrested but would not say why he was being held.

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have been made by the bishop that Zimbabwe should establish ties with Israel caused an outcry in Zimbabwe and he was heavily criticised by the Press and the state radio.

"The Herald" called on the government to use the fist against the UANC leader.

Bishop Muzorewa, who holds one of the three UANC seats in Parliament, said the accusations that he was plotting to overthrow the government were political mud being smeared on him and his party.

He said that on his return from Israel he had been harassed at the airport and his luggage had been thoroughly searched.

Bishop Muzorewa held office as Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia for nine months before his regime came to an end after the Lancaster House agreement in December 1979.

His party suffered a crushing defeat in the elections which saw Mr Mugabe swept to power.
Forgotten man of Zimbabwe

Muzorewa: scapegoat of internal discontent?

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

HARARE — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who was taken into custody by the Zimbabwean security authorities on Monday, received massive South African backing in his ill-fated election campaign in 1980.

But not even the R1 million which former Information Secretary Dr Eschel Rhodie admitted was made available to assist the bishop, could block the crushing defeat inflicted on his United African National Council (UANC) by Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu (PF).

The former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia held office for a little over six months before the Lancaster House agreement. This led to the birth of an internationally recognised independent Zimbabwe and the death of the first black-led Government of the country which Mr Ian Smith had sworn would not see black rule for 1,000 years.

Bishop Muzorewa took office on June 1, 1979, promising peace.

But he could not deliver it. The black electorate, who in April of that year had given solid backing to his party, turned instead to Mr Robert Mugabe.

In the 1979 election Bishop Muzorewa took 35 of the 72 black parliamentary seats. A year later, his party could hold only three.

One of those was occupied by Bishop Muzorewa — and the diminutive figure of the leader of the United Methodist Church has regularly taken his seat in the House of Assembly, though his contributions in debates have been infrequent.

He has never been able to shake off the tag that he was a puppet of Mr Ian Smith and at best a stopgap leader while the heavyweights were in detention or outside the country directing the guerrilla war.

Bishop Muzorewa came into political prominence in 1971 when he led the United organisation which successfully opposed the settlement proposals drawn up by Mr Smith and Sir Alec Douglas-Home.

But after the release of the detainees, the squabbling over leadership and control of the nationalist movement continued and the bishop found himself leading his own group.

During his tenure of office in both the traditional Government and the subsequent Zimbabwe-Rhodesian Government of which he became Prime Minister, bitter fighting against the guerrilla forces continued.

In the 1980 election campaign his voice was the most strident in predicting doom and hell on earth should the Marxist forces of Mr Mugabe come to power.

In an eleventh hour bid to gain support, he switched from his bitter denunciation to an appeal for absolute reconciliation.

But it was too late and the small fortune which had been spent on his lavish campaign went to waste.

Since independence, Bishop Muzorewa has occasionally lashed out at the Government and its plans for a one-party state, usually in response to threats against him.

Two years ago Mr Mugabe threatened to have Bishop Muzorewa and his wife kept in detention. The bishop's reply was that he was being treated as a scapegoat because the ruling party was losing support.

The latest warning from Mr Mugabe came last month when the Prime Minister told the UANC leader he would be "dealt with" if he tried to start another war.

He was referring to suspicions that the bishop's six-week long visit to Israel had sinister connotations.

Information Minister Dr Nathan Shamuyarira said the liberation war had been fought against an Israeli-South African-Rhodesian triumvirate and added: "We are not surprised that Bishop Muzorewa is in Israel today."

On his return to Harare at the end of last week, the bishop strenuously denied that there was any political motive to his visit.

But he did admit to saying that Zimbabwe was being foolish by not using Israeli expertise to develop its agriculture.

He told reporters that the people of Zimbabwe were being oppressed "not by Smith, not by Israel, not by South Africa and not by any persons with white skins, but by our ruling party and Government with black skins."

"These people," he said, "seem to think of nothing but being overthrown, probably exactly as they could be doing if they were not in power themselves."

Two days after these remarks came his arrest.
Muzorewa conspiring against us, says Mugabe

HARARE — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, was detained because the Government had evidence that he was involved in clandestine activities against the State, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has alleged.

Mr Mugabe told a British television correspondent in Harare yesterday that the bishop was not playing a “fair political game”.

Bishop Muzorewa was arrested at his Harare home on Monday and is being detained at the Gorerongwa interrogation centre, about 30 km from the capital.

His arrest came shortly after his return from a visit to Israel, and just before a planned trip to the United States for a bishops conference of the United Methodist Church, of which he is the head in Zimbabwe.

The time the bishop was to have spent in transit at Jan Smuts Airport has been given in Harare as evidence that he wanted to be reunited with his intimate friends among the leaders of the South African Government.

In his first public reference to the arrest of Bishop Muzorewa, Mr Mugabe said the leader of the United African National Congress still had links with “our opponents and enemies”.

Mr Mugabe said the bishop’s recent visit to Israel was proof that he was involved in clandestine activities.

At a Press conference after the furor over his Israeli trip, Bishop Muzorewa denied he had been plotting to overthrow the Zimbabwean Government.

In Jerusalem, an Israeli institute at which the bishop studied last month, said in a statement yesterday that he was a research student, and denied he had contacts with Israeli Government officials.
Muzorewa 'not playing a fair game' — Mugabe

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE. — Bishop Abel Muzorewa was detained because the Government had evidence he was involved in clandestine activities against the State, Mr Robert Mugabe has alleged.

Mr Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, told a British television correspondent in Harare yesterday that the bishop was not playing a "fair political game".

Bishop Muzorewa, former Prime Minister of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia, was arrested at his Harare home on Monday and is being detained at the Chikurubi Interrogation Centre about 30 km from the capital.

US visit

The bishop was arrested after his return from a visit to Israel and just before a planned trip to the United States for a bishops' conference of the United Methodist Church, of which he is the Zimbabwe head.

A four-hour stop the bishop was to have made

Mr Robert Mugabe

Bishop Abel Muzorewa

in transit at John Smuts Airport, Johannesburg, was given here as evidence that he wanted to be "reunited with his intimate friends in the leadership of the United African National Council still had links with "our opponents and enemies."

The Prime Minister said the bishop "had worked under a regime which was responsible for many atrocities and murders of Zimbabweans".

Mr Mugabe said his recent visit to Israel was proof that the bishop was still involved in clandestine activities.

The Prime Minister did not clarify this remark, though government spokesmen have been critical of remarks the bishop made during his trip over the reasons for Zimbabwe's continued refusal to have ties with the Israelis.

Mr Mugabe emphasised that the bishop was not "under unlawful arrest".

"He was arrested under definite grounds which are being investigated at the moment."

At a Press conference following the furor over his Israeli visit, Bishop Muzorewa denied he had been plotting to overthrow the Zimbabwe Government.
New order foils bid to free Muzorewa

By ANDRE-VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — An attempt to secure a Zimbabwean High Court order for the release of the former Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, failed yesterday after the state withdrew its original detention order and issued a new one.

Mr Justice Waddington, who heard the application on behalf of Bishop Muzorewa, said the reasons for detaining the bishop recorded on the original detention order did not appear to bear any relation to subsequent public explanations by the government.

The original order stated the United African National Council (UANC) and United Methodist Church leader was being detained because of allegedly derogatory statements he made about the Zimbabwean Government on Israeli Radio and Television. Since the arrest on Monday afternoon the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, has said the action was taken because of the bishop’s alleged involvement in “clandestine activities against the state”.

The government has also said that while in Israel Bishop Muzorewa had plotted a South African and Israeli-backed coup.

Mr Simbarashe Muchenevere, who represented the state in yesterday’s urgent application, acknowledged there were irregularities in the original police detention order but said it had been replaced with a valid Ministerial order.

Relatives and political associates of Bishop Muzorewa claimed yesterday he had been on a hunger strike since his arrest.

His son, Mr Philemon Muzorewa, 29, claimed his father was sick because of not eating but was being denied medical treatment. He said no family members had been allowed to see him.

The first vice-president of the UANC, Mr Walter Mihingura, said at a Press conference yesterday that the government allegations were tantamount to playing “with the intelligence of our people” and showed “the government is scared out of its wits”.

He dismissed repeated government allegations that since independence Bishop Muzorewa had sent 4,000 armed supporters to South Africa to train for operations against Zimbabwe.

But in an interview with a British television journalist in Harare this week, Mr Mihingura admitted that Bishop Muzorewa was not “under unlawful arrest” but was arrested “under definite grounds which are being investigated at the moment.”
HARARE — Former Zimbabwe-Rhodesian Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa, now on the fifth day of a hunger strike after his arrest here on Monday, could face a lengthy stay in detention.

A spokesman for the Zimbabwe Government disclosed yesterday that Bishop Muzorewa has been imprisoned under Zimbabwe’s emergency laws, which allow for indefinite detention.

Bishop Muzorewa, who is at Goromonzi Detention Centre about 90 km from Harare, is reported to be in reasonable health although he is weak from not having eaten since the time of his arrest. He is taking water.

State attorneys told the high court that the 59-year-old cleric was being held under Section 17 of the Emergency Powers Act under which a person can be held for 30 days before the case is reviewed by a serial tribunal.

However, regardless of the tribunal’s findings, the section permits indefinite incarceration if the government decides that public order is threatened by the detainee’s activities.

The State admitted an initial detention order was invalid because it had not been properly made out, but said that it had been superseded by the Section 17 order. This ended the appeal.

The judge ruled the first detention order “invalid” after asserting that the statement of reasons for Bishop Muzorewa’s detention “were just not reflected” by the explanation that appeared in the Zimbabwe Press.

Court sources said later that the new order cited Mr Robert Mugabe’s reasons for the continued detention of the bishop.

The Zimbabwe premier claimed that Bishop Muzorewa, his predecessor as national leader, was involved in subversive activities.

In Lagos, Nigeria’s State-owned Daily Times yesterday criticized the move and called on Prime Minister Mugabe to stop harassing his political opponents.

In a statement released in Harare yesterday, Bishop Muzorewa’s United Africans National Council (UANC) party said: “To expect a great man like Bishop Muzorewa to be subjected to the ignominious experiences of detention is indicative of the fact that the government is scared out of its pants.”

The Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, a former prominent black nationalist leader who is still heads a small party called the Zimbabwe African National Union (Sithole), has hit out at the Zimbabwe Press and radio for their treatment of the arrest of Bishop Muzorewa.
The day Mugabe turned the


THE DAY MUGABE TURNED THE


SOMEBODY


NIGHTBIRD


MUGABE


NIGHTBIRD


LITTLE BISHOP INTO A POLITICAL


SOMEBODY


THE DAY MUGABE TURNED THE


SUNDAY TIMES. NOVEMBER 6, 1983


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"Scorpion", which was mounted by security forces to check on subversive elements connected with South African bands.

More specifically, Muhangagwa said the government learnt the Bishop was intending to visit South Africa next week, "to be reunited with his intimate friends in the leadership of the South African Government".

The "subversive elements" include 2,000 former black auxiliary soldiers recruited by Muzorewa's white-backed government which bridged the 12-month transition from white-governed Rhodesia to independent Zimbabwe.

While on a recent visit to Israel for biblical studies he told an Israeli television reporter that Zimbabwe should establish diplomatic relations with the Jewish state and benefit from its sophisticated technology.

**Unrepentent**

Mugabe was livid.

Like most African leaders, he refuses to recognize Israel until the Palestinians' right to self-determination is granted.

He accused Muzorewa of going to Israel to drum up support against his government.

And when the Bishop flew home last week his passport was confiscated.

But Muzorewa, unrepentant, summoned a news conference three days after his return to put the record straight.

He hadn’t gone so far as to urge diplomatic links, he insisted, but he had said Zimbabwe could benefit a lot from ties with that country.

And leaders who suggested he had gone on a sinister mission were "pathologically insane".

More significant, he concluded, was one of the most acid public criticisms levelled against Mugabe’s leadership from within Zimbabwe:

"I continue to hope and pray that God can somehow help us to be delivered from the oppression imposed upon us, not by former Prime Minister Ian Smith, not by Israel, not by South Africa and not by persons with white skins — but by our ruling party and Government of Zimbabwe."

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**Mugabe tells of secret dealings with SA**

Sunday Times Reporter

PRIME MINISTER Mugabe, addressing Zanu (PF); Mashonaland Central Women's League district officials at Bindura, said the Government was aware of two opposition parties' secret activities in their dealings with South Africa which were aimed at undermining the Government.

Mr Mugabe warned that the Government would take action against both the Zimbabwe African People's Union of Opposition leader Joshua Nkomo and the Zimbabwe African National Union led by the Rev. Ndabanzini Sithole, who was the founder of the Prime Minister's own ruling party.

"Therefore we say the Reverend Ndabanzini Sithole and people like him watch out," Mugabe said.

At a later meeting he said auxiliaries had been arrested by authorities. It was the first time that the Government had said that they had captured dissenters loyal to Mr Muzorewa. In the past, all those anti-government infiltrators captured had been said to be loyal to Mr Nkomo.
Harare tightens security censorship

The Star Bureau, HARARE - The promulgation of designated areas covering the western half of Zimbabwe in last week's Government Gazette means a return to the bad old days of censorship of news relating to security.

Three months ago, Mr. Robert Mugabe's government re-enacted emergency legislation introduced during the war by the Rhodesian Government to control security information.

However, until last Friday, it had refrained from designating specific areas where the control was to be enforced.

Under the Rhodesian regulations, the entire country was under the ban on reporting terrorist incidents or government measures to counter them until official authorisation had been obtained.

The new censorship rules closely follow the wording of the old regulations but apply only to designated areas such as Matabeleland, Gokwe, Gweru and Kwekwe.

The new regulations require that the ban be renewed every two months.

They cover news published within or outside the country.

Reporters have to get clearance from the Ministry of Information for any stories relating directly or indirectly to "any measure or act of any description whatsoever of the security forces or the government for the purpose of combating or suppressing terrorism or reducing the incidence thereof in any designated area, or any act of terrorism or sabotage or other terrorist activities in any designated area".

Exceptions are government, media statements or communiqués or information revealed in court proceedings or in Parliament.

The regulations also state that, when stories are authorised, the Minister of Information may impose any conditions "relating to the manner or form of publication as he thinks fit" and it will be an offence to publish any information about such conditions.

Penalties for contravening the regulations are a fine of up to R1 000 or imprisonment for a year, or both.

The last major reported incident in Matabeleland, which has been troubled by dissident activities for the past two years, was the killing of Chief Mahlikwa Khumalo last month.

Chief Khumalo, who had ruled for 54 years, was the leader of the chiefs in Matabeleland and was a direct descendant of Malikazi.

At his funeral, a Deputy Minister said he had been killed in an ambush by bandits sent from South Africa.

Last month, Zimbabwe troops were also reported to have staged a raid across the Botswana border in pursuit of dissident gang.

The Botswana Defence Force moved troops into the area.

In September, the Minister of Defence, Dr. Sidney Sekeramayi, said activity by South African-backed ZAPU dissidents was still a problem but had lessened.

A commission of inquiry is investigating allegations of atrocities by troops against civilians during anti-dissident operations.

In Matabeleland, hundreds of people — some reports say several thousand — have died at the hands of dissidents or in security force operations since the start of 1982.
Zimbabwean Govt and judiciary clash again

HARARE — A High Court judge in Harare has ordered the immediate release from detention of Mr Dumiso Dabengwa, one of Mr Joshua Nkomo's top aides.

In April, Mr Dabengwa was acquitted by the High Court on a charge of treason but was later redetained under an indefinite detention order signed by Home Affairs Minister Dr Herbert Ushewokunze.

Mr Justice John Pittman has ruled that the order detaining Mr Dabengwa — former Secretary for War in Mr Nkomo's Zapu party — was illegal and of no force or effect.

He also ordered the Director of Prisons to produce Mr Dabengwa before the deputy sheriff of the High Court by noon tomorrow.

Mr Simbarashe Muchecheterere, of the attorney-general's office, said that the State would lodge an immediate appeal against the judgment.

Last year, Dr Ushewokunze ignored a similar judgment by Mr Justice Pittman ordering the release of Matabeleland farming brothers Noel and Alan York. This provoked fears of a confrontation between the Government and the judiciary.

During the hearing of the application for the release of Mr Dabengwa, the State said his case was due to come before the detention review tribunal this month.

But Mr Adrian de Bourbon, appearing for Mr Dabengwa, argued that his client was entitled to a review of his case "forthwith" and that the Government had been "dilatory" in not doing so.

The backlog of cases due to be heard by the review tribunal had risen from 17 to 70, the court heard during the application.

Other senior Zapu members, including the former chief of the organization's military wing, Mr Zipta's Lieutenant-General Lookout Masuka, who were detained together with Mr Dabengwa in April, are still in detention.
Zimbabwe aid cut ‘still on the cards’

WASHINGTON. — Officials say the US administration is still considering cutting aid to Zimbabwe because of its failure to back US positions in the United Nations, and other actions.

In September, members of the administration considered the US to act as a counter to the allegation that Zimbabwe relations were cordial.

"What he meant was that he was continuing to receive US aid, but we think there is a lot more to a relationship than an aid programme."

The senior official described the current state of US relations with Zimbabwe as "somewhat distant."

The State Department also issued a statement this week expressing concern about Zimbabwe’s denial of an airport in the coming year.

Since then, however, Zimbabwe has taken the lead in the UN General Assembly criticizing the US-led invasion of Grenada.

One senior State Department official said: "If their idea of democracy is Grenada and Nicaragua, and they don’t object to the shooting down of a civilian airliner, then hell with them."

The official said that Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe "was very eloquent when he was in Washington (in September) about US-Zimbabwe relations being very cordial."

The official also said the US was concerned about the trend of events in South Africa, where the Government was overwhelming white approval in the referendum.

The official said: "The substance of the referendum is not as important as what the voice says about the white electorate in South Africa."

The official said the vote could be seen by the South African Government as a mandate for further change.

He said "it would be wrong to walk away from a country trying to make progress" and suggested that the US should be more involved in the Government of South Africa.

"These resolutions are the philosophic opposite of what we are trying to do," he said. "The resolutions would distance ourselves from the South Africans without doing anything positive."

The official said the US would be following a "constructive engagement" policy towards South Africa. — UPI.
Botswana in urgent bid to stop clashes

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE — Botswana has asked for an urgent meeting with the Zimbabwe Government in the wake of yesterday's cross-border strike in which Zimbabwe soldiers bombarded a Botswana patrol with rifle fire, handgrenades and mortars.

"We are ready to meet anywhere with the aim of stopping this kind of thing," the administrative secretary in the Office of the Botswana President, Mr Lebang Mpotokwane, said today.

He said the Botswana Government had applied thorough the normal channels for an urgent ministerial meeting but had not yet heard from Zimbabwe officials.

Although no casualties were reported in the clash, which occurred yesterday morning, soldiers of the Zimbabwe National Army destroyed six buses causing villagers in the Maitongwe area of eastern Botswana to flee.

According to Mr Mpotokwane the villagers had returned by early today. He denied allegations by Botswana opposition parties that Botswana and Zimbabwe had entered a pact whereby Zimbabwe forces were allowed to operate in Botswana in search of dissidents.

The incident was sparked off when a five-man Botswana patrol picked up a trail on the border. They unit followed it for about 4 km and came on 30 Zimbabwe soldiers who had been ferried in by two helicopters.

The Commander of the Botswana Defence Force, Major General Mompai Mafabu, said the soldiers exchanged fire until the BDF called in reinforcements and the Zimbabweans retreated.

It was the second such incident in just more than a month. Earlier, Zimbabwe soldiers assaulted the headman at Butele and demanded to know dissidents' whereabouts.

Botswana has denied harbouring Zimbabwe dissidents and said it kept a tight check on refugees at the Dukwi camp.
Botswana rejects Harare version of border incident

The Star's Foreign News Service

GABORONE — Botswana has bluntly rejected Zimbabwean claims that South African-backed ZAPU dissidents and not its national army bombarded a Botswana Defence Force patrol from two helicopters this week.

Officials of the two governments met today to discuss the growing border tension as details of a third incident, in which three Botswana men were allegedly abducted to Zimbabwe, were made public.

In the Botswana Parliament yesterday, the Minister of Public Service and Information, Mr. Daniel Kwelagobe, condemned the incursion and warned of the deteriorating relations between the two governments.

He said that about 36 Zimbabwean troops caught in Botswana on Tuesday called in two helicopters which opened fire 4 km inside Eastern Botswana, near Maitengwe. No one was injured but the troops destroyed six huts in the area.

The Zimbabwean Government has categorically denied the incursion. A Ministry of Defence spokesman claimed yesterday that the BDF had clashed with South African-backed ZAPU dissidents. He did not say where dissidents might have obtained helicopters.

The Minister of State for Defence, Dr. Sidney Sekeramayi, claimed that the Zimbabwean army had repulsed a "sizeable" gang of dissidents who crossed from Botswana.

He said the army was under strict instructions not to cross into Botswana.

But Mr. Kwelagobe was adamant that no dissidents were involved.

In another incident at the weekend three brothers, Mr. Hasi Makubungu (53), and Mrs. Matuku Makubungu (48), and Mr. Nogwa Makubungu (26), were abducted by five men in camouflage uniforms near Francistown. Helicopters had been reported over the area shortly before.
Zimbabwe in drive to woo back US tourists

By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The American travel agents bubbled with enthusiasm for the country they had seen on a whirlwind nine-day tour.

The people were friendly, the hotels of a high standard, the climate beautiful, and the wildlife, well... amazing!

But the hard-headed businessmen and women, looking at Zimbabwe through the eyes of the US tourists they would be selling to, did not miss much.

Ms Anne Spilsbury, a leading Los Angeles travel agent who has seen the best that Africa, the East, Australia and Europe have to offer, was not impressed by the anti-American rhetoric on the radio.

Mr. Paul Carleton of Chicago, who has been organising big-game safaris to Zimbabwe since the mid-70s, said Americans, riding high on the wave of a strong dollar, would not be impressed by the unfavourable exchange rate in Zimbabwe.

The travel agents airing their frank views were part of a group of 25 of the most influential people in the US tourist industry who were invited here recently by the Zimbabwe Tourist Board (ZTB).

The board is mounting a drive to bring the tourist dollars back to the country.

Tourism, always a strong foreign currency earner during the UDI years, took off immediately after independence in April 1980.

However, with the deteriorating security situation in the troubled Mas-
Border row is resolved

GABORONE — Botswana and Zimbabwe have resolved their problems amicably following a border incident earlier this week, a Botswana Government statement said yesterday.

An emergency ministerial meeting in Gaborone on Thursday also decided that communications between the two countries should be improved to avoid friction in the future.

Botswana demanded the meeting after it said a border patrol was attacked on Tuesday by Zimbabwean troops supported by helicopters, who had crossed into northern Botswana.

Zimbabwe denied any involvement and suggested the Botswana had encountered Zimbabwean rebels backed by South Africa.

"Discussions at the meeting were frank and cordial and all issues discussed were resolved amicably," the statement said.

It said Zimbabwe had reassured its neighbours that its army and air force were under strict orders never to cross into Botswana on operations.

The clash occurred near Makutswa, about 4km inside Botswana. Botswana said its five-man patrol was fired on by 30 Zimbabwean troops.

Zimbabwe is fighting rebels in its south-western province of Matabeleland which adjoins Botswana. It accuses South Africa of supporting the rebellion and of infiltrating insurgents into Zimbabwe, sometimes through Botswana.

People in northern Botswana have for some time accused Zimbabwe of "hot pursuit" raids against Matabeleland rebels fleeing across the border. Zimbabwe has denied this.

The incident was potentially serious as both countries are key members of the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference.

The statement said the meeting was attended by the Botswana Foreign Minister, Mr Archie Mogwe, and the Information Minister, Mr Daniel Kwelagobe.

The Zimbabwean delegation included the Foreign Minister, Mr Witness Mangwende, the Security Minister, Mr Emmerson Munnangwa, and the Defence Minister of State, Mr Sydney Sekorma — Sapa-Reuters.
Mugabe government's decision to substantially reduce food subsidies. Official figures just released show that in September prices for low-income families were 33% higher than a year previously. The main culprit was food prices which showed a 40% hike, of which 27% took place in one month.

At the beginning of September, the Zimbabwe government announced sweeping food price increases for meat, milk, maize meal, bread and vegetable oils as part of a programme to reduce food subsidies by some Z$150m. The result was a 27% jump in food prices for low-income groups while the higher income food prices index showed a much more modest 15% increase.

Despite these sharp increases in food prices, the overall inflation position is not as bad as might have been expected. In the first nine months of 1983, the low-income index showed a 23% rise while for higher income families the increase was 15%, giving an average on the two indices of just below 19%. Zimbabwean economists expect the year-end rate to average out at around 20%. This is less than forecast, but far too high for government policymakers usefully contemplating the lost competitiveness that this inflation represents in the first year after devaluation.

The fact is that the Zimbabwe dollar has now fallen by an estimated 27% in the past year, and far too substantial a margin of this devaluation benefit has been lost in the increased inflation rate. The good news is that there are at least some signs that the authorities are getting a grip on the money supply, which has shown negligible growth in 1983 after growing more than 20% last year. This points to a reduction in inflation in the latter half of 1984, although the timing of the food price increases will maintain a high inflation rate through the first half of 1984. Indeed, there could be a further inflationary jolt next April when the new producer prices for farmers come on stream. And if government sticks to its anti-subsidy stance, there will have to be a further round of food price increases by mid-84.

But with domestic demand falling at a really astonishing rate, and with government keeping a firm rein on public sector spending, the inflation rate could well fall from around 26% in 1983 to below 15% next year. The joker in the pack is exchange rate policy. The further the Zimbabwe dollar slips, the greater will be the impact on domestic prices of escalating import prices.

The price index figures have been widely anticipated, but economists in Zimbabwe have been taken aback by the depth of the slump in domestic consumer spending. Delta Corporation, whose interests include National Breweries, the Coca-Cola franchise, the OK Bazaars retailing activities in Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwean Sun Hotels and Sprymaster Furniture Manufacturers (formerly part of Afcol), announced a 9% fall in turnover in the half-year to September 1983. National Breweries says its sales have fallen 24% and — for the first time just about in living memory — it is now operating at a loss. Consumer resistance to higher prices for soft drinks is increasing and sales volumes are falling. Delta says the downturn is also affecting its OK Bazaars retail outlets, while losses are mounting in the hotel and furniture divisions. Among other factors, the sharp rise in the cost of living is obviously taking its toll of discretionary consumer spending on non-essentials.
Zimbabwes money monster

WALES HAVE DOUBLED, BUT THE COST OF LIVING ROCKETS

SUNDAY EXPRESS November 1, 1981
The Key to Zimbabwe's Economic Struggles

By ROBIN DREW

The Harare Sunday News, 30 July 1993

Mugabe the desatabilizer

The argos, Mond

The Zimbabwe Press

The most vocal critic of the economic policy of the government, Dr. Robert Mugabe, has thrown down the gauntlet to President Mugabe, reports Argus Foreign Service.
Mugabe says what he means

Welensky

By Joan Stables

People fail to understand the political situation in Zimbabwe because they do not take Prime Minister Robert Mugabe at face value, the former Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Sir Roy Welensky, said today.

Speaking at a press conference in Johannesburg to mark the world launch of "The Welensky Papers", Sir Roy said he had not changed his opinion of Mr Mugabe.

"He is a very able man. He is also a very honest man. He has said many times he is a Marxist and intends setting up a Marxist state in Zimbabwe."

"I don't understand why people don't take him at his word."

Sir Roy also said: "There is no case for the Cabinda to be in Africa."

Accompanied by Lady Welensky, the former statesman spoke about many of the significant events in the history of Central and Southern Africa that are covered in the book.

He dismissed allegations that the UN Secretary General during the Congo crisis, Mr Dag Hammarskjold, had been murdered when his plane crashed at Ndola during a mission to seek a solution to the civil war.

He said the plane could have not been shot down as had been suggested, and there was no evidence of bombs on board.

"The truth is that there was misjudgement by the pilot."

"He misjudged the altitude at which he was travelling," said Sir Roy.

The author of the book, Dr J Wood who lives in Harare, said "The Welensky Papers" was the product of 13 years of research and was based entirely on Sir Roy's private papers.

"Few historians have written a book on a great man and then produced him at its launch," said Dr Wood.

Sir Roy is expected to return to his home in England on Saturday.

**See Page 11, World section.**
Zimbabwe in face of criticism

By Brenda Sercy, The Star Bureau

HARARE - In this face of criticism from some officials, the Zimbabwean judiciary has been asked to check the "culture of impunity," as it tries to "settle" the increasing number of human rights abuses.

In the recent trial of six of Mr Justice Dumbusha's, the government again used the "imposition of complex" as a means of getting convicted criminals to "confess" to their crimes.

In the case of the Mutare police station, where brothers Noell and Alan York were charged with the murder of a police officer, the government has been accused of "conspiring to pervert the course of justice." The trial has been delayed due to "technical reasons." The government has also been accused of "inflating" the numbers of those charged with the crime.

The government has also been accused of "subverting" the courts by issuing "false" detention orders. In the case of the ZA MP Mr Vote Moyo, who was arrested in connection with last year's abortive raid on Mr Mugabe's official Harare residence, and MNUC Leader Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the government has been accused of "theft" of illegally possessed arms of war.

Other important rulings against the government have included the cases of Mr Justice Mr Hilary Squires, who was the subject of a "false" prosecution. The courts have also shown their fearlessness in ruling on important questions of law, and the government has been accused of "obstructing justice." In the case of Justice Mr Hilary Squires, the government has been accused of "obstructing justice." The court has ruled that the government had "acted" contrary to the Constitution.

The state is appealing the ruling and until the matter is heard, Mr Dambengwa remains behind bars.

The court's decision has been raised in many official circles, particularly from Dr Uebert Angis, who has accused the government of "being" a "long-lasting" against the judiciary.

The lawyer of the accused, Mr Justice Mr Hilary Squires, has been "refused" to appear in court by his "impartial" accused.

So far, the Air Force officers, after the acquittal of Mr Justice Dumbusha, have been "denounced" as "class justice" in believing educated white witnesses against unopposed, little-educated black policemen.

In each case, Justice Minister Dr Simbi Makoni has jumped quickly to the defence of the judiciary and to assure the public that the government is satisfied with the impartial way they are carrying out their duties.

After the acquittal of Mr Justice Dumbusha, the government has been "denounced" as "class justice" in believing educated white witnesses against unopposed, little-educated black policemen.

In each case, Justice Minister Dr Simbi Makoni has jumped quickly to the defence of the judiciary and to assure the public that the government is satisfied with the impartial way they are carrying out their duties.
Remote camp for Zimbabwe ‘undesirables’

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — An estimated 2,000 to 3,000 men, women and children, rounded up in a nation-wide crackdown on social outcasts, are being kept behind barbed wire in a heavily guarded military camp in a remote Zambezi River valley district in north-eastern Zimbabwe.

So far the government has not explained exactly what it is doing with its prisoners and has refused to say under what legal authority they are being held, but the indications are that it has embarked on a massive social experiment similar to those tried out in Mozambique and Tanzania.

The inmates of the mystery camp at Nyambudzi, near Mushumbi Pools, include squatters, beggars, prostitutes, and mentally deranged people. There is one white — a boho pensioner who is reported to be suffering symptoms of alcoholic withdrawal.

Since the rounding-up, officially called "Operation Clean-up," started, the Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, has declared that prostitutes would be rehabilitated and the Minister of Local Government and Town Planning, Mr Enos Chikore, has said squatters would be resettled. He said some had already been resettled voluntarily and others were being screened.

This week a government spokesman said there would be no further official comment on the operation until it had been completed. Apparently even senior officials in some of the six ministries involved in the exercise have not been informed of its details.

According to a medical source in the area, the population in the camp two weeks ago, after the first 3,000 "undesirables" were rounded up in Harare, was about 1,000. This week police in Mvurwi, on the route to Nyambudzi, have seen about 50 truckloads of about 25 to 30 women, each, rolling northwards.

The first two journalists to visit the camp this week were politely but firmly turned away by a man who identified himself as Major Moyo.

The officer confirmed that squatters and prostitutes were being housed in the rows of asbestos and brick buildings inside the security fence, but refused to say how many there were or how they were occupied.

That was the business of the Ministry of Labour and Social Services and had nothing to do with the army, he said.

Medical sources in the area said the inmates had an adequate supply of fresh water. Everybody was being given prophylactics against malaria, and infants were being vaccinated against measles and other diseases. Food was mainly the national staple of maize meal and beans. A psychiatric nurse was attending to the needs of deranged inmates.

The medical spokesman either could not or would not say how the prisoners were spending their time. They did confirm that some screening was going on in the camp and some people had been set free.

There is some speculation in the area that some candidates for rehabilitation might be employed on a nearby state cotton plantation and that an attempt could be made to resettle squatters in the underpopulated and underdeveloped valley.

The Ministry of Community Development and Women’s Affairs, which took the unprecedented action of denouncing the first sweep on suspected prostitutes in Harare, is apparently not involved in the exercise.

The government has apologised to the victims of last weekend’s nation-wide round-up in which police and soldiers picked up a number of innocent women.
Zimbabwe whites tense over warning to schools

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government's ultimatum to private schools to step up their proportion of black pupils and to hold fees down or face closure next year has sent a wave of uneasiness through the white community here.

These schools were warned to employ at least 60 percent of black teachers, with fees held to a maximum of R540 a term.

White independent and Rhodesian Front members of Parliament say they have been bombarded with calls from parents and business leaders, who report growing feelings of insecurity among their white staff.

Informed circles consider it unlikely, however, that the government will refuse to allow schools to re-open in January if they have not met the requirements.

Many private schools have already closed their lists for next year's intake of pupils, and meeting the required ratio of black to white pupils would mean turning away some pupils already admitted.

The association representing the 29 independent schools affected by the warning has not commented so far.

But the tone of remarks made by the Minister of Education, Mr Dzingai Mutumbuka, who accused private schools of becoming white citadels and deliberately blocking black pupils by increasing fees, has led people to ask if Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe's government really wants whites to stay.

Observers recalled, however, that while the minister's announcement was the strongest warning of impending action, the government's attitude has been made abundantly clear in the past.

As long ago as last February Mr Mugabe said private schools had to increase their ratio of blacks to whites to 60 percent.

He said: "At every one of these schools there must be a racial complexion that reflects our society.

"It is repugnant that in a country where the majority of the citizens are black and exceed whites by a ratio of 35 to one, there should continue to be schools and other institutions which deliberately, seek to close their doors to the average black child."

Mr Mugabe said that Zimbabwe's independence had brought about a democratic order in which neither race nor colour was a criterion for determining rights or privileges.

All social institutions had thus to be open to all, and it was for this reason that the government was opposed to private schools and hospitals.

Observers here note that while none of the private schools bars pupils on grounds of colour, in practice most have a much higher proportion of whites.

Anxiety about the standard of teaching in government schools has led to the increased popularity of private schools, despite the higher fees they charge.
POLICE who tortured innocent airmen in Zimbabwe are being trained in Britain ... by British coppers.

While two Englishmen are still in the jails of Mr. Robert Mugabe, his officers have been nipping over for courses at a top police college — and at British taxpayers' expense, says the Sunday newspaper, News of the World.

Men condemned by a judge to their "brutality and dishonesty" have been enjoying British hospitality and cash handouts under the guise of overseas aid.

They belong to a team of interrogators who beat up the airmen — some of them — British subjects and some still locked, up long after being acquitted of the charges against them.

Rantings

A shock dossier compiled by the News of the World shows that the interrogators:

- USED electric shocks to force confessions to "crimes".
- BURNED one captive on the buttocks with a red-hot wire brush.
- ATTACHED electrodes to another man's private parts and big toe.
- THREATENED to shoot, maim, and burn their victims alive.

Yet, senior members of the terror squad have been attending "Overseas Command Courses" at the Police Staff College, Bramshill, Hampshire. The newspaper named three of them as Deputy Commissioner Govani Mhoma, Chief Superintendent Richard Muremba, and Assistant Commissioner (Crime) A M Mureverwi.

Mhoma and Muremba, named by a Zimbabwe judge as the masterminds behind the torture campaign, were granted places on courses run by the British Council and Overseas Development Agency.

Mureverwi, who has openly boasted of his role in the interrogation of British police officers, is regarded as "a bit of a joke" at Bramshill for his Marxist rantings.

But he and his henchmen are no joke to two Britons and an Irishman languishing in Chikurubi prison.

The men, all Zimbabwe Air Force officers, are being held prisoner although cleared of sabotage accusations. One has still not been charged after 18 months in custody.

The three are Flight Lieutenants Neville Weir, Barrington Lloyd — both Britons — and Wing Commander John Cox, an Irishman.

Horrifying

Three officers released after international protests are Air Vice-Marshall Hugh Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile, and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe.

Another, Flight Lieutenant Nigel Lowis-Walker, was released last week after 16 months. He is still in Zimbabwe and it is not yet known whether he will leave.

Air Commodore Pile, who returned to Britain in September, described Mugabe's torturers as "quite beyond the pale" and said he was worried for his colleagues still in custody.

"He went on: "fhe fact that these people are being sent here to courses does not surprise me. I can only hope they learn something." Pile was lucky he was merely hooded, threatened with shooting and laughed at when he asked for a lawyer.

But the horrifying plight of his comrades was described by judge John Dumbutshena, who threw out the charges against them.

The judge told how SLATTER was given electric shocks and thought he would be burned alive or have his feet chopped off.

BRISCOE was beaten up, made to do physical jerks naked and had an electrode attached to his navel.

COX had a burning hot brush put between his buttocks and LLOYD was given electric shocks in the genitals and feet.

The torture also chained WEIR to the floor and beat him near senseless to make him "confess".

The News of the World's correspondent in Harare, Tom Mason, reports: "The white community here is terrified at the treatment of these men.

"The knowledge that their torturers are being trained in Britain is sickening and humiliating."
From ANDRE VLIEGEN

A Zimbabwean farmhouse guard was shot dead by a farmer.

The guard was shot in the head while he was working at the farm's chicken coop.

Witnesses reported seeing the guard fired at least three shots into the air before he was killed.

The farm owner said that the guard was involved in a dispute with a co-worker over a chicken.

The incident is under investigation by the police.
Two US lawyers barred from seeing Muzorewa

HARARE — Two American lawyers have been refused permission to see the UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who enters his fourth week of detention today.

Professor Albert Blaustein, founder and president of the New York-based Human Rights Advocates International, and his executivedirector, Mr Charles Printz, said today they had been told they could not see the former Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Prime Minister.

"We communicated with people in government at various levels but the final answer refusing permission came from the Central Intelligence Organisation," they said.

Professor Blaustein, who was Bishop Muzorewa’s legal adviser at the Lancaster House conference, said he had been asked by the bishop's brother, Rev Farai Muzorewa, who lives in America, to do what he could for his brother.

Zimbabwe farmers angry over murder

HARARE — The white farming community in Zimbabwe is fuming over the cold-blooded murder on Friday of Kwekwe farm manager Mr Peter van der Walt by a teenage member of the para-military People’s Militia.

Local farmers and representatives of the Commercial Farmer’s Union (CFU) are to meet soon to discuss the incident, which occurred on Friday evening at the Electricity Supply Commission’s power station at Umniati.

The MP for the area, Kwekwe rancher Mr Henry Elsworth, called the killing " alarming" and an indication of the "general breakdown of law and order" which was taking place across the country.

The killing is the first reported incident of violence involving members of the militia, who were trained as a "home guard" force by instructors who in turn received their training from North Korean tutors.

Farmers in the area say since the militia was moved to guard strategic installations, such as the power station, railway lines and bridges about a month ago, there has been a wave of intimidation of the residents of the district — both black and white.
Undoubtedly the Minister’s comments, with a temporary freeze on white promotions, accelerated the white exodus from the organisation.

However, at the electrification ceremony in Gweru, it was a quietly confident Mr Masango who told the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, that the NRZ was able to move 2-million passengers and 14-million tons of freight last year and had the capacity to move even more.

The Zimbabwe railway system, he said, was ready to play its crucial part in becoming the lynchpin in the SADCC nations’ transport network and strategy. Already, apart from the electrification, there has been a number of developments — both before and after independence — which have enhanced the NRZ’s capabilities. Computerised control centres and advanced “hump” marshalling yards at Dabuka near Gweru and at Chirungu near Harare have been constructed.

The electrification project is an example of the NRZ’s commitment to modernising and expanding its network. The electrification scheme led directly to the construction of a new coal-fired power station at Chirungu, and the colliery company’s open-cast mining expansion project.

The railways are, however, vulnerable to sabotage and the violent actions of armed dissidents. A number of railwaymen have been killed and locomotives and trains have been damaged in dissident attacks.

But, for the people who gathered in their thousands along the line or rail to witness the passing of the “Freedom Train”, as it was dubbed by Mr Mugabe, the NRZ is a powerful symbol that Zimbabweans can themselves implement the development plans which would make the country a better place to live for all.
HARARE — The railway line from Zimbabwe to Maputo through Chincalongula is virtually unusable because of repeated sabotage in Mozambique, an official source said yesterday.

Inkatha wants UDF despite war

OWN CORRESPONDENT — Inkatha leaders still support the Democratic Front movement, despite fears of the two organisations in the Maru park on Sunday.

Between 200 and 400 people, including Mr Archie Gumede, were killed when about 300 Inkatha supporters were killed.

They were allegedly killed by soldiers from leaving the hall.

Dr Oscar Dhlomo, secretary-general of the movement, said that if Inkatha supporters were killed, "then what happened does not really matter for Inkatha as a movement.

Dr Dhlomo said today that Inkatha was not sure about the war.

Amputees a trial to the South

RANGOON — Two suspects, both with arms amputated, staggered into a courtroom today and were charged with murdering 16 people in a terrorist bombing against the South Korean leadership.

Security was tight as authorities brought in the two men identified as North Korean army officers Major Soh Ho and Captain Kang Dan Chul. Both are accused of involvement in the bombing attack on October 9 at the Martyr’s Mausoleum in Rangoon, where top South Korean leaders were gathered for a wreath-laying ceremony.

Six charge sheets were read...
cripple a nation

When children

By Preston Berry, The Star Bureau
Tough new law on Zimbabwe vagrants

HARARE. — Prostitutes and other vagrants will be held in rehabilitation centres or barred from urban centres for three months after a nationwide blitz on alleged prostitutes, beggars and squatters.

Under new emergency powers regulations published yesterday, suspected vagrants can be detained for up to five days.

Then they have to appear before a rehabilitation officer who decides whether they are vagrants, but he can postpone a case for up to 28 days to get further information.

Rehabilitation officers can order the detention of vagrants at rehabilitation centres for up to three months, or bar them from all or some urban areas for the same period.

Vagrants have the right to appeal against the "sentence" to the Minister of Labour and Social Services.

The new law comes in the wake of swoops by soldiers and police who have indiscriminately arrested thousands of people — most of them innocent married women, single career women and even teenage schoolgirls.

There has been a national outcry as women have simply disappeared in raids on more than a dozen towns and cities in Zimbabwe.

A weekend promise from the Minister of Parliamentary and Legal Affairs, Dr Edmore Zvobgo, that his government would respect the rights and dignity of women appeared to have little effect as police and men from the Central Intelligence Organisation in the southern town of Gwanda on Saturday night jailed women who just the week before had been arrested and later released.

At the same time Dr Zvobgo instructed people trying to find missing relatives to report to the local media.

Yesterday the state-controlled Herald newspaper carried reports of husbands, brothers and employers saying they had failed in frantic efforts to trace arrested women.

Mrs Bibian Machina, who has eight children, was last seen shopping in a supermarket at Chitungwiza, a suburb bordering Harare, her brother Paul said.

Women have been forced to leave children untended and employers wondering whether they have quit their jobs.

Raided have included door-to-door searches, snatchings of women from their beds and arrests in broad daylight of women window shopping, waiting at bus stops and even in supermarkets.

A Harare policeman's wife, Mrs Primrose Turuvina, was arrested in her home while her husband was out jailing other man's wives. She was eventually freed.

A soldier was driving a truckload of women to Harare's Chikurubi Prison when he heard his name called. He looked back to find that his wife was among the alleged prostitutes arrested.

— Sapa.
Zambian wage freeze melts

Mail Correspondent

LUSAKA - The government and the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) have finally solved the crisis over a 10% wage freeze imposed nearly two years ago.

Mr Frederick Chiluba, outspoken chairman-general of the ZCTU, confirmed yesterday that an agreement was reached at a recent meeting at State House.

However, Mr Chiluba warned that the agreement was only an interim solution which would allow "free" wage increases by bargaining only for the period between now and April next year.

He explained that the labour movement agreed to maintain the 10% wage freeze until that time because they understood the restriction was one of the conditions imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for its $1.2 billion loan.

But Mr Chiluba warned that the labour movement would not accept restrictions on "free" bargaining after April 1981.

"Our acceptance is not a forgone conclusion from us. We shall resume free bargaining immediately after April because it embarrasses us to see a farm worker who produces maize fail to buy a bag of mealie meal," he said.
IN the face of a mounting public outcry against the nationwide detentions of hundreds of suspected prostitutes, army trucks yesterday ferried more than 500 women and girls back to Harare from a rehabilitation camp in the bush — and freed them.

A Social Services Department official said the blitz would continue.

The blitz against vice, beggars and squatters was launched on October 28 in a bid to stamp out crime in the capital and in other cities and towns.

Several thousand people, including hundreds of women and girls, were detained for vagrancy — a minor offence for which violators in the past were usually fined by magistrates.

But this time many of the detainees were crammed at gunpoint into army lorries and driven to the remote far northeast of the country and interned in a former military camp called Mashambu Pools in the steamy Zambezi Valley.

Most of the detainees were innocent married women, career women and even teenage schoolgirls rounded up by over-zealous troops, police and youths of Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe’s ruling Zimbabwe African National Union.

Most were freed after being screened by the Department of Social Services.

But some were included among those held at Mashambu Pools where they were instructed in cooking, gardening, dress-making and other domestic skills.

Unofficial reports said that three women died in the wire-fenced camp, but this could not be immediately substantiated by authorities in Harare.

"Conditions were terrible and there was scarcely any food," said one 19-year-old secretary who escaped from the camp.

She would not divulge her name for fear of official retribution.

Operation Clean-Up, ordered by Mugabe’s Cabinet, raised an outcry from outraged Zimbabweans of all walks of life including husbands, boyfriends, parents, relatives and employers.

The Women’s Affairs Minister, who was not consulted on the operation, has said she approved of the crackdown on prostitutes but insisted that their male customers be detained as well.

Among those detained were five British women teachers stationed in the Midlands town of Gweru, and six white Zimbabwean teenage girls from a school in the nearby town of Kwekwe.

The release of the 500 detainees appeared to signal the end of the operation.

Government sources said they expected the remaining few hundred detainees at Mashambu Pools would be freed in the next few days.

Operation Clean-Up triggered the biggest anti-government reaction in Zimbabwe since independence from Britain on April 18, 1980.

Prime Minister Mugabe, who was regularly briefed on the operation, has made no mention of it.

But sources close to the President’s office said the crackdown was ordered for two reasons:

1. Escalating crime including armed robberies, burglaries and pick-pocketing.

2. Complaints from foreign diplomats, mainly African, that their official visits were being distracted from diplomatic duties by prostitutes, call girls and maids in Harare’s infamous red-light districts.

More old houses and apartment blocks ring the centre.
The starving old man who fed on newspapers

AN old man in Zimbabwe’s remote north-east Rushing district has died after struggling to survive by eating old newspapers, plastic packets and unripe fruit.

The report of his death came from a horrified headmaster in the district, Mr David Mushayabasa, who also revealed that children at his school regularly fainted from hunger.

Others he found sleeping on rocks complained that they had no energy for classes because they had not eaten for two days:

Reports are also coming through of babies in the eastern Mutare district dying of drought-stricken malnourishment as well as an unprecedented increase in the Vitamin B deficiency disease pellagra, attributed to thousands trying to live on maize meal alone.

Earlier this year Zimbabwe’s Minister of Water Resources and Development, Mr Cephas Mafupa, vowed that nobody would die of starvation in the drought that has ravaged the entire sub-continent.

But, for, lack of money, Zimbabwe’s government has been forced to renege on that promise.

In a shock announcement recently it said it could no longer afford to pay some $20-million a year in food subsidies and hiked the price of maize by 50%.

That ‘shock’ was shortly followed by another — that the government did not have $120-million that it had budgeted for drought relief.

Only a quarter of the money had ‘come through’, Labour and Social Services Minister, Mr Kumbirai Kangai announced.

Mr Kangai said that although the government was giving drought relief food to more than two million people, it was only feeding those it considered ‘utterly destitute’ who would die without the food.

No rain this year will be disastrous for Zimbabwe.

Thanks to a record two-million-ton maize meal crop spread to keep black faces out of private schools.

Ironically, blacks who are at the schools already are children of Zimbabwe politicians, Cabinet Ministers, senior civil servants and businessmen.

One farmer said: “It’s just going too far. Not only are we under pressure to produce food and fight ‘dissenters’, but now this last reason to stay here has been removed.”
Zimbabwe can't shake off trade shackles

"A shopper in Harare, Zimbabwe's capital. The country is facing a severe economic crisis, with inflation reaching over 700% and a sharp devaluation of its currency. The government has imposed strict capital controls and import restrictions in an effort to stabilize the economy. However, international sanctions and limited access to foreign exchange have further complicated the situation. In May 2022, the United Nations warned that the crisis could lead to widespread famine and social unrest."
Zimbabwe 'repels investors'

The Star Herald
HARARE - A leading Zimbabwean economist has had some harsh words for the Government's Foreign Investment Committee - accusing it of being a barrier rather than a magnet for outside investment.

Mr John Robertson, chief economist for the RAL merchant bank, said that private sector investment opportunities were best identified by businessmen themselves, and not by speech-makers, bankers or civil servants.

The Financial Gazette newspaper quoted Mr Robertson as commenting that companies here which were struggling provided "disturbing object lessons" to outside firms which would, in addition, have to face the Foreign Investment Committee before being accepted in Zimbabwe.

Aske Mr Robertson: "What can we hope to achieve by being so grudging in our acceptance of foreign investment?"

The investment policies and the investment climate to which they gave rise were not compatible with the needs of the investor.

"We are offering him a near-certainty that he won't make money.

"We've told him that we don't want to see him getting rich and our legislation tells him that we have every intention of interfering with everything he does," said the economist.

Some of the Government's negative policies he cited were:

High wages against low, controlled prices; high productivity against state protection for disruptive or lazy workers; high investment against low profits; and hopes of saving to invest almost destroyed by high taxation.

It was not surprising that some investors were asking for guarantees that some profits would at least be made and that they would be fairly compensated in the event of nationalisation of their interests.

Many of those considering Zimbabwe could readily find other lands in which to invest their money, and would give this country a miss, he said.
‘Shona’ not derogatory

DR CYRIL A HROMNIK, visiting historian at the University of Cape Town, looks into the Indian Buddhist origins of the designation applied to 80 percent of Zimbabwe’s population

AFRICAN names, whether pre-colonial, colonial or post-independence in their origin, are a frequent source of confusion, irritation and misunderstanding. The chief causes seem to be that many of these names have many different spellings and meanings, were imposed by foreigners, or have been modified and changed, often arbitrarily, by the locals.

Recently-independent Zimbabwe has had more than its share of this kind of problem and recently-published histories and textbooks have done little to alleviate it.

A key name in newspaper reports on Zimbabwe is Shona or Mashona, which designates some 80 percent of the country’s population. But few people know anything about the origin of this name, and the most commonly accepted derivation can hardly be pleasing to the Mashona themselves.

According to this derivation, which was produced by European writers in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the name Mashona is a derogating name which the Matabele (Ndebele) gave to the hapless local Karanga/Kalanga when they invaded their country north of the Limpopo river in 1836.

Tribe-cleaners

Meanings ascribed to the name Mashona range from servants, slaves and baboons to dirt, dogs, tribe-cleaners, pigs. No wonder that the Karanga/Kalanga people were not too eager to accept the name when it was given to them officially in 1931 when its use was justified in C M Doke’s Report on the Unification of the Shona Dialects.

Doke had his misgivings about the name which he perceived as being “uncomplimentary”, but he endorsed its application, reasoning: “It is pretty certainly a foreign name and as such is very likely to be uncomplimentary... but in point of etymology it is extremely uncertain and no one can dogmatize about it.”

Today, 50 years later, nobody dogmatizes about its origin, and historians imply that Shona is simply the name of an historical people like any other. The unpleasantness of the meanings attached to the name by Europeans is such that recent writers do not even speculate about its origin.

Skilled

In reality, the name Shona or Mashona has no connection with the derogatory meanings ascribed to it and owes nothing to the Ndebele.

The British learnt about the name for the first time in 1820 (16 years before Milikazi’s Ndebele invaded Mashonaland) when John Campbell was told by the Hurutshe Tsawa that the “Mascoona”, whom later travellers described on the basis of the local intelligence as skilled craftsmen and traders in Indian and other foreign goods, who lived north of the Limpopo river and made regular trading visits to the tribes south of that river.

In 1849 David Livingstone first referred to the “gold-washings of the Mashona,” and during the gold-rush that followed the discovery of gold in the Tati river (in the southern Matabeleland portion of the historical Mashonaland) by Karl Mauch and Henry Hartley in 1867, the name Mashonaland became a campfire (later household) word among the mostly British prospectors.

The name Mashona was later imposed by the Government of Southern Rhodesia on the majority of the Bantu-speaking Karanga/Kalanga (including also the Manica, Zezuru, Korekore and Ndua), who accepted it only with reluctance. These people are presently known as the Mashona or Shona although only some chiefly lineages and some communities of traders, skilled metalworkers and other craftsmen are the true historical Mashona.

Pali word

The use of the word Shona in Mashonaland (present-day Zimbabwe) dates, in fact, to the ancient quest for gold in Africa. Shona or souna is a Pali (the language of the early Indian Buddhists) word for “gold” and was brought to Africa by ancient Indian goldseekers before or shortly after the time of Christ.

These Indian prospectors and traders called the land which produced gold — Souna — Sumbar, meaning the “Land of Gold”, which the Portuguese simplified as Bar do Ouro and the British learnt to know as Mashonaland. The early Indian goldseekers became known to the later-arriving Negroid Bantu-speakers as Ma-Shona — the “People of Gold.” Ma- is a Bantu prefix often affixed to foreign words and names and indicates plurality.

Land of Gold

The work of the early Indian Mashona in the gold regions of Africa is well attested by more than 1 200 gold mines (1 267 workings have been recorded by Roger Summers), ranging from shallow surface diggings to deep and sophisticated mine shafts.

These mines bear clear signs of having been worked by miners who used the technology and mining techniques which had been developed in the ancient Indian gold mines in the state of Karnataka. Medieval Muslim records speak of Indian gold traders and mention Indian settlers in the Land of Gold.

And as a confirmation of this visible and written evidence, most of the gold-, trade-, and mechanical terminology in the local language derives from Indian and other Asian languages.

Historically speaking, the name Mashona had originally designated only the Indian, Persian, Arab and mixed Afro-Asian goldseekers. These Mashona were the founders of a significant number of chiefly lineages, some of which still bear Indian names.

Uplifting

Their crafts form the base of the highly-respectable and much-admired image that the Mashona enjoyed among their near and distant neighbours and clients until recent times. The historical Mashona never formed a nation, nor even a tribe, although their elites ruled many Karanga/Kalanga and other tribes and their craftsmen lived scattered in practically every village.

Far from being “derogating”, the name Shona or Mashona is, in the light of the history outlined here, uplifting and respect-giving, and it is understood such by the surrounding tribes and nations.

Recognition of the historical meaning of the name Shona or Mashona and acknowledgement of the historical people whom it designated at various stages and who are indelible from the present-day Shona, is the only way to place the new nation of Zimbabwe on a secure historical footing.
300 held in camp freed

Mail Correspondent
HARARE.—About 300 people arrested during "operation clean-up", the government's notorious month-long crackdown on prostitutes, squatters and vagrants, were released at the weekend from a detention camp in northern Zimbabwe.

At least 10 army trucks brought the group back to Harare from the sweltering camp, enclosed by barbed-wire, near the Muchenzi pools in the Zambezi Valley to which an estimated 2,000 to 3,000 had been sent.

Government officials in Harare would not give details yesterday on those released, except to say the releases were part of an "ongoing process". But most of those released are understood to be women who had been sent to the camp as suspected prostitutes.

The police campaign began on October 27. More than 1,000 men, women and children were taken into custody in Harare squatting camps.

At least 1,000 suspected prostitutes and beggars were also picked up. Hundreds of women, many of them married and with children, are believed to have been arrested simply because they were on the street alone or accompanied by other women.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Edisson Stobbe, later admitted that "overzealous" police had arrested innocent people without cause and promised that everyone would be screened within five days of their arrest.

Many of those arrested apparently were illegal at the time, as Zimbabwean law only made it a crime to solicit for prostitution. The government changed that last week by using its emergency powers regulations (left over from the Rhodesian UDI state of emergency days) to pass a sweeping law against vagrants and prostitutes.

In effect, anyone found in an urban area without a job can now be arrested as a vagrant and shipped to a camp. The law was made retroactive to include the entire "operation clean-up" period.

The allegedly wrongful arrests of women brought protests from the Ministry of Women's Affairs, newspaper columnists and private citizens in Harare.

The government's tough stand on urban squatters and vagrants is at odds with its actions in some rural areas. The day Operation Clean-up began a month ago, the Harare High Court ordered police to help court officials evict squatters who had been on a white-owned commercial farm near the Midlands village of Shurugwi for two years.

But police refused to carry out the order and the Minister of Home Affairs has now appealed against the High Court decision.
Zimbabwe hotel crisis worsens

The Star’s Foreign Service

HARARE — The crisis faced by Zimbabwe’s hotel industry deepened last week with the financial collapse of three top hotels, two of them at Victoria Falls, the country’s main tourist resort.

The Rainbow Hotel at the Falls closed after its operating company was placed in liquidation in a High Court action last week.

The company, liquidators.

The hotel company appealed in vain to the country’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism for aid although the Government said the matter was being investigated.

The Rainbow, the Lodge was closed but re-opened in 1984 to take advantage of the expected upswing in tourism and has been losing steadily over the past two years.

The liquidation action was started by the trustees of the pension fund of the National Railways of Zimbabwe, which holds a R1 million mortgage on the hotel.

The Lodge’s sister hotel in Harare, the Ambassador, operated at a profit until about two years ago but, with a bed occupancy rate of around 30 percent and rising overheads, its losses stand at present at about R150,000.

R450,000. Optimism that tourism would expand has proved unfounded.

In September, 22,770 people visited Zimbabwe — an increase over the same period last year. This is the first time this has happened since tourism slumped in the wake of dissident activities in Matabeleland last year.

TOURISTS.

The Zimbabwe Tourist Board has mounted an all-out programme to attract tourists to the country, particularly from South Africa and the US.

In an editorial in an independent financial newspaper, commented that the industry’s predicament was likely to worsen when two new hotels — one wholly government-owned and the other partially owned by the State — opened in Harare.

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At the same time, the hotel’s wages, coffers and other costs had “risen to the point where it was feared that the liquidation would leave creditors with ‘heavy losses’.

Built for just over R1 million 10 years ago, the Rainbow opened in early 1976 only to close a year later when a tourism slump, caused by the spreading bush war, hit the industry.

It stood empty until last year when it was renovated and re-opened at a cost of about R450,000. Optimism that tourism would expand has proved unfounded.

Ironically, the closures come at a time when the tourist industry in general is showing signs of picking up.

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Zimbabwe turns its attention to the farming battle front

MASVINGO (Zimbabwe) — Former Ziga guerrilla fighter, Abdul Nyathi, now a lieutenant in the Zimbabwe National Army, is doing the job he trained for before he went to war — growing crops and raising livestock.

He is a key figure in an experiment in self-reliance in which soldiers of the army's 4th Brigade exchange their rifles for hoes for a spell down on the farm.

The 400 ha farm south of Masvingo on the road to Beitbridge was bought by the Ministry of Land and Re-settlement two years ago and handed over to the 4th Brigade to see if the soldiers in Zimbabwe's 40,000-strong army could contribute to the peaceful development of the country.

"Our first task is to fight," said tough-talking Brigadier Tshirts Moyo, commander of the four battalions based at Masvingo whose members are divided fairly equally between former members of the Rhodesian African Rifles and ex-comrades of Mr Mugabe's Zanla force and Mr Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU army.

"But, he told newsmen at a briefing on the farming operation, "we cannot do that at the same time. Even in Lesotho they don't do that. But instead of sleeping when we are in reserve, we grow crops and vegetables for the benefit of the nation."

Lieutenant Nyathi, who gained an agricultural diploma before leaving the country in the 1970s to become a Ziga guerrilla, was given the job of farm manager.

A committee was appointed to oversee operations.

Every member of the brigade from the raw private up to the brigade commander contributed to a fund to buy farm equipment.

In three months, R5 200 was raised, ordinary soldiers giving 50 cents a month with the contribution rising by rank up to the brigade's R27 a month.

On farm duty, the soldiers work in the fields where maize and vegetables are grown under irrigation, tend the pigs and tend the cattle, look after the rabbits and look after the chickens.

The objective is to grow food to feed the brigade but in the initial stages of developing the farm, produce is being sold to raise money for the day-to-day running of the property.

The committee is still feeling its way with technical advice from agricultural officials. One of the main snags is a shortage of ready cash to maintain the tractors and equipment in working order.

Some service members have volunteered to go on farm courses and Brigadier Moyo says their difficulties have arisen in getting the men to work on the land. "You must remember," he said, "the parents of the sons of peasants who have been ploughing all their lives.

The brigadier refused to discuss the enemy training side, saying the commander was purely there to look at the farming operation.

It was men from the 4th Brigade battalion currently working on the farm who were involved in the engagement a year ago with a group of South African soldiers who crossed into southeastern Zimbabwe on what was said to be an unauthorised mission when three ex-Rhodesian servicemen were killed in a clash in the Sibesvika area.

But whether it is fighting or farming, these soldiers seem to take it all in their stride — SDF.

WAR VETERAN: Former Zupa guerrilla Lieutenant Abdul Nyathi.

Sudan begins to feel the imposition of Islamic law

Khartoum — Reports from the sudden imposition of strict Islamic law in Sudan are being felt throughout the Nile valley, from Cairo to the Ugandan border.

President Nimeiry has released 13,000 common criminals, and ordered 85 million worth of liquor to be poured into the Nile at Khartoum.

This "new page of Islamic justice" for Africa's biggest country will bolster fundamentalist groups in neighbouring Egypt. Some of these underground groups are more extreme than the hardline Muslim Brothers, who have apparently wound Iran and Ayatollah Khomeini.

Three thousand kilometres to the south, in Sudan, predominantly Christian regions where rebellion is festering there is anger at this tightening of Islamic strait-lacedness.

Sudan's Crimina1 police enjoy freedom (reach with a K1 "golden handbash") Tian-

Nimeiry has been arresting criminals and rivals.

Among these are Said El-Mahdi (48), a former Prime Minister and leader of the widespread Muslim religious-political body.

ARRESTED

He was arrested at his home in Omdurman, across the Nile from Khartoum, after Anar youths staged a military-style march. Others taken to the State Security headquarters included ex-Ministers and judges. Nimeiry has also ordered that opponents arrested in the provinces be flown to Khartoum.

Sadig, who became Prime Minister at the age of 30 in 1966, was jailed for two years after Nimeiry's military takeover, then went into hiding.

After an unsuccessful coup attempt, Sadig was sentenced to death in absentia but returned to Sudan from his home in Britain to publicly renounce his Nimeiry later they disagreed over the Camp David agreement. Nimeiry had supported the Egyptians in defiance of the west of the Arab world.

Nimeiry's motives for the gamble with Islamic law — a system shunned by Egypt — are over-quick.

Aboard he wanted to gratify Saudi Arabia and the Gulf Emirates, from which he desperately needs money and free oil.

(Khartoum was totally without power throughout last month).

At home he wants to appease the Muslim Brotherhood. In Secretary-General, Dr Hassan el-Turbashi, in his legal adviser and Attorney-General, as well as being Sadig's most formidable intellectual opponent and his brother-in-law.

Before the latest round-up, according to Amnesty International, there were 200 to 300 political detainees in Sudan.

The arrest of Sadig El-Mahdi and his associates at the Hotel of Ambar carries a threat of anarchy among Sudan's 20 million people. Although a devout Muslim, he has dissimilated Nimeiry's imposed religion of religious law is irrelevant at a time, when the country is bankrupt and divided.

STARRY

Shortly before his arrest, Sadig addressed 500,000 followers at a Abu Island. His movement's spiritual focal point, 150 miles south of Khartoum. He said: "If a man's family is starving and he steals to feed them, he cannot rule that he should be put to death.

Sadig is a great son of the first Mahdi, whose followers conducted Sudan and killed General Gordon in 1885, after a succession of the first Mahdi, whose followers conducted Sudan and killed General Gordon in 1885. After a succession of the first Mahdi, whose followers conducted Sudan and killed General Gordon in 1885.

The latest arrests have not been mentioned on Khartoum radio. Nor has the jailing of El-Mahdi's officers Fortnight on suspicion of planning a coup.

At any clear sign of disintegration, the Egyptian army could be called in by Nimeiry. He has been assiduously strengthening his relations with President Hosni Mubarak.

The United States might also give help, if there seemed any risk that it in bête noire, Colonel Quadri, could seize an advantage from Sudanese civil conflict, perhaps in alliance with the Marxist-inclined Colonel Mengistu of Ethiopia.

Sadig El-Mahdi has always resisted the idea of violent opposition to Nimeiry. In 1970 about 3,000 Amur rebels on Abu Island were killed by government troops. The Imam, Sadig's uncle, was shot trying to escape.

After his arrest on the Sunday, Sadig was taken for interrogation in a new security block run by the President's brother and set up by the Egyptians and the CIA. — OW. Extra.
ZIMBABWE

Row over schools

At last week's industrial symposium organised by the Confederation of Zim- 
babwe Industries, the loudest applause of the day was reserved for the speaker who 
urged the Robert Mugabe government to rethink its policy on private schools. 
Business leaders say that no previous single act of government policy has upset the white 
community as much as Education Minister 
Dzingai Mutumbuka's threat to close the 
privately-owned schools if they fail to comply with State policy by January next year.

The demands made on the schools are obviously totally unrealistic and it was no 
surprise when, at the weekend, the Minister announced a compromise which gives the 
schools time to meet certain quota demands. But business leaders fear that the 
damage has been done. The writing is on the wall for the private schools and many 
whites with young children are likely to conclude that it is time to move on.
The row erupted at the end of October when Mugabe sharply criticised the private 
schools for seeking to maintain white elitism in a socialist society. Mutumbuka fol-
lowed this up with three unattainable demands. He said the private schools must, 
when they re-open in 1984, have a majority of black pupils — 60% of total enrolments 
must be black. He called, too, for a similar majority of black staff in the schools and 
added that the fees in the private schools must be reduced to a maximum of Z$500 a 
term; inclusive of boarding fees.

The schools, which cater for some 10,000
Muzorewa's activities being probed by Mugabe

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Government is investigating the activities of detained United African National Council leader Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who the House of Assembly was told yesterday.

The Minister of State (Security) in the Prime Minister's office, Mr Emerson Mupangagwa, told the House that the Minister should investigate allegations that the bishop was involved in "wrong-doing" and that he would be charged.

Mr Munangagwa was replying to a question from Dr Herbert Usawo-kunze, to a question raised by Mr Tony Berekovich (RF, Central), who wanted to know when the cleric would appear in court.

He said it was not in the State's interest to say when the bishop would appear because the investigations involved allegations which took place in other countries.

However, the bishop's detention would be subject to review by the detention review tribunal and the government would abide by the tribunal's decision.

Asked by the Republican Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, why the government had not left the cleric alone until investigations were complete, Mr Munangagwa said:

"We were aware of his intentions on the trip he wanted to undertake to South Africa."

Asked why the government did not confiscate the bishop's passport instead of detaining him, the Minister replied: "The passport does not travel. It's the person who travels."

Brigadier John Probert (RF Borrowdale) said the bishop's continued detention was doing the country a lot of harm.

He claimed that by detaining the bishop, the government was being more "oppressive" than South Africa.

Bishop Muzorewa was arrested on October 31 in Operation Chayawada (Scorpion) which Mr Munangagwa said was to check on subversive elements connected with South African bands.

The cleric's arrest came soon after a six-week tour of Israel.

The Bishop was later accused of plotting a coup, but the cleric denied the charge at a Press conference. He claimed he was being harrassed by the ruling Zimbabwe National Union.

-SAPA
SECRETARY for Finance takes Zimbabwe Government to task

"Actually saying that the Government could help the private sector rather than the other way around is a complete about-turn of the official line."

Another contentious issue has been official policy towards foreign investment. Considerable criticism has been directed at the Government about its attitudes and this too Dr Mwaka acknowledged, while saying that the committee responsible for deciding on investment applications was going to be overhauled.

That was another welcome surprise for the conference. The delegates were expecting another defence of policy and a routine attack on the private sector’s attitude.

But he also showed a good grasp of the background of industry, a background which has led to many of its problems.

"Over the period of UDI the economy was not only closed to the world and insulated from external buffeting, but was internally orientated, heavily protected and in a number of areas producing at a high cost."

This is a diplomatic way of saying it must be more efficient and outgoing to compete on world markets.

"It is my fear that we have not wisely used the period of recession to obtain a measure of transformation of our economy from a high to low cost producer or from a closed to an open one. We could well find ourselves lagging far behind in the recovery when it comes."

In the context of Zimbabwe today this was an astonishing and brave speech. There can be no doubt it will have caused something of a stir in the corridors of power.

SECRETARY for Finance talks Zimbabwe Government to task
Zimbabweans rush for meal

Panic buying and flight to Harare

AFRICA

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The Argus, Tuesday December 6 1983
SA's neighbours 'can't curb ANC'  

From NEIL LURSSEN  
Argus Foreign Service  

WASHINGTON. — An American expert on security says that, even if they want to, Mozambique and Zimbabwe would find it very difficult to meet South African demands that they curb the activities of African National Congress activists.

Professor Michael Clough, of the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, was speaking at a seminar held by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University.

Professor Clough, a specialist on Mozambique and Zimbabwe, said South Africa was making demands on those countries in return for reducing "SA support for their insurgents" and reducing "destabilisation".

"Little problem over bases"

One was that Mozambique and Zimbabwe give no active support for ANC guerrillas, such as permitting bases and helping logistically.

There was little problem in reaching an agreement here, Zimbabwe had never provided such support, and it was clear that Mozambique was complying, too. Sabotage carried out in South Africa did not require large-scale bases.

But South Africa was also demanding efforts to ensure that ANC activities did not extend through Mozambique and Zimbabwe into South Africa.

In almost all the talks between the countries, South Africa had demanded direct communication between its security officials and security officials of Mozambique and Zimbabwe on ANC activities.

"It is going to be very difficult for Mozambique and Zimbabwe to ever fully meet the South African demands at this level — even if they make the commitment," Professor Clough said.

"Border request is naive"

It was not a question of closing down bases. It was naive to think that Mozambique and Zimbabwe could control their long, "porous" borders with the Republic.

Also, South Africa was asking them to prevent what they saw as the liberation of South Africa, and this caused them severe political problems.

Yet another serious problem was compliance with an agreement. "If a bomb explodes in South Africa, how do you demonstrate that there has not been a violation of the agreement?"

Another South African desire could not be met by either country — that they reduce their level of anti-South African rhetoric.

For these reasons, there was a very serious problem in trying to achieve "rules of the game" between the countries in the region, as envisaged in US policy towards Southern Africa, Professor Clough said.
US scenario threatened

Zimbabwe needs America's monetary aid; the Reagan administration needs Zimbabwean stability in Southern Africa. But relations are deteriorating and in the middle of both points of view are Capitol Hill and Congress.

Foreign Ministry boycott ed a memorial service in Harare held by the American and French embassies to commemorate the soldiers killed in the lorry-bomb attacks on the barracks in Beirut.

Provision

Congress recently voted to grant the full $75-million in Zimbabwe aid requested by the Reagan administration for 1983 but tacked on a provision for cutting off aid to countries consistently opposing US foreign policy.

It remains to be seen whether the warning will be heeded in Harare, where there is talk of hurting America in some way. It is understood that the allocation of foreign aid is decided ultimately by Congress and not by the White House.

The Reagan administration appears to be willing to go to some lengths to maintain good relations with Zimbabwe to preserve its Southern Africa strategy.

But the administration's options are limited by the current mood on Capitol Hill.

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Argus Foreign Service
WASHINGTON. — The deteriorating relations between the United States and Zimbabwe threaten a key element in the Reagan administration's regional plan for stability in Southern Africa.

Amid a relatively sudden worsening in their relations over the past year, both countries have tried to keep alive some of their high hopes they had of each other when Zimbabwe became independent in 1981.

Zimbabwe, facing enormous economic problems, hopes mainly for a continuation of the huge amounts of aid — more than $200-million so far — it has received from America since independence.

But the Reagan administration is finding it increasingly more difficult to justify supporting this kind of money as shifts in Zimbabwe's domestic politics push it further away from the Western democratic and economic ideals that Washington would like to see followed in Africa.

Interests

Washington nevertheless retains some hope that Zimbabwe will at least come close to fulfilling the important part envisaged for it in the Reagan administration's grand plan for Southern Africa.

And at a lunch with foreign correspondents last week whether the administration was planning to cut back its aid, Dr. Chester Crocker, the Assistant Secretary of State for Africa, said: "We are not going to walk away from our interests (in Zimbabwe)."

In various statements over the past year the Reagan administration has outlined a policy of encouraging the states of Southern Africa to submerge their political differences and work together to promote mutual progress and stability.

A positive move away from apartheid in South Africa is seen as an essential element for the plan to work.

Zimbabwe's role in the Washington scenario appears to be to build on the relatively strong economy and free-enterprise system it inherited at independence to provide an encouraging example to other states, including apartheid South Africa and Marxist Mozambique.

In a keynote speech last June outlining the Reagan administration's Africa policy, the Under-Secretary of State for Political Affairs, Mr. Lawrence Eagleburger, said that while Zimbabwe faced serious difficulties "its leadership has committed itself to the principles of political reconciliation and a mixed economy".

"Because of its key geographic position and relatively strong economic base, it is important that Zimbabwe not fail as a new nation."

The Reagan administration's ideals, however, have increasingly conflicted with the harsh realities of tribal politics in Zimbabwe and with the Mugabe government's extreme socialist ideas and its loyalty to the policies of the Third World.

Non-aligned

"We are non-aligned and we shape our own direction," Zimbabwe's Deputy-Prime Minister, Mr. Simon Muzenda, told an American reporter in Harare recently.

But the United States, according to opinions expressed by some officials, believes that foreign relations cannot be "compartamentalised" and that Zimbabwe cannot expect to continue receiving substantial aid from the US while opposing American interests, not only in Southern Africa but in other parts of the world.

Support for retaliatory cuts in aid has been generated in Congress as well as in the Reagan administration by a series of visits to Zimbabwe that were regarded as hostile in Washington.

In 1981 Zimbabwe angered Washington by supporting a harsh condemnation by the non-aligned movement of American policy in the Middle East and America's alleged "colonisation" of Puerto Rico.

US diplomats are reported to have again raised the issue of aid when they warned Zimbabwe against supporting a Cuban move to raise the Puerto Rico issue at the United Nations General Assembly.

In the UN Zimbabwe has repeatedly chosen to stand with its Third World allies in taking positions against the United States on issues including Nicaragua and Chad.

US diplomats made a count of votes at the UN that showed Zimbabwe exceeded even the Soviet Union in voting against the US.

Relations between Harare and Washington deteriorated sharply this year in spite of a visit by Mr. Robert Mugabe that appeared to be aimed at defrosting the situation.

Even while Mr. Mugabe was in the US his country abstained in the Security Council on an American-sponsored resolution deploring the Soviet downing of the Korean airliner.

The State Department was able to stifle a move in Congress to halve US aid to Zimbabwe in retaliation for the abstention.

But indignation rose again when Zimbabwe co-sponsored a resolution condemning the US invasion of Grenada.

Relations soured further when the Zimbabwe...
From ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare

DENIS NORMAN'S "simple" stocks

"From the beginning of the drought it was evident that rainfall would be much below average. The worst drought since 1985 has affected the entire country. The situation is critical and we need immediate action."

IN THEORY there is enough maize in the country to feed all the people. But in practice, the situation is quite different. The government has imported about 500,000 tons of maize in the past two years. However, it has been unable to distribute it to the people who need it most. The result is widespread hunger and malnutrition. The government has also been criticized for its lack of preparedness. The drought was forecast two years ago, but no action was taken. This has led to a crisis situation. The government has been accused of prioritizing its own interests over the welfare of the people. The situation is urgent and demands immediate action."

In some areas people have rioted because they believe they will not receive enough food. The government has been accused of not doing enough to prevent this. The situation is very serious and requires immediate action.
named "the cutback" closer to 10% in real terms because the GMB had based its allocation on a percentage of a four-months period during which demand from millers had been naturally low because of government maize meal handouts in the peak of its drought relief programme.

He said GMB allocations should have been reduced six months ago but now he believed — since the government clearly did not want to import maize — the best way to get a more equitable distribution would be to ration meal to individuals.

Some parliamentarians have expressed concern at alleged favouritism in meal distribution, which has resulted in some people having plenty while their neighbours went hungry. The GMB says its just supplies millers who, in turn, say they are sending more meal to rural areas than ever before but have no control over it once it leaves their premises.

Other MPs have expressed fears about the next harvest. Late planting, no guarantee that the drought will break, and a maize price insufficient to spur farmers to plant more, have been named as factors potending a bleak harvest.

But Sen Norman says available indications persuade him there is a good prospect of attaining a 1.5-million ton harvest which would feed the country and allow for a small stockpile.
Mugabe threatens to nationalise millers

HARARE—Zimbabwe's Prime Minister, Robert Mugabe, said his Government might nationalise milling companies if investigations showed they were responsible for a current shortage of maize meal. He told a rally at Gutu, about 220 km south-west of Harare, that Zimbabwe had sufficient meal supplies and the shortage amounted to sabotage. Zimbabwean newspapers have published reports that parts of the country, especially the south-western province of Matabeleland, faced serious shortages of the staple food. Speaking in Parliament on Wednesday, Mr. Mugabe accused the millers of being unreliable and said a five-man ministerial committee had been set up to investigate the meal shortage. Privately-owned milling companies have blamed the shortages on cuts in their maize allocations from the parastatal Grain Marketing Board. The board says that while there have been cuts there should still be enough meal. Mr. Mugabe told the rally his Government had political power but that the economy was largely controlled by whites, some of whom he accused of trying to discredit his socialist administration. —Sapa-Reuters.
Jobs, homes, marriages lost after prostitution blitz

Opposite: Police swoop on brothels, bars, karaoke bars, massage parlors and other establishments known to provide sexual services in an Anti-Prostitution Operation in Hong Kong. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)
Botswana steps up security along border

By NORMAN CHANDLER

BOTSWANA has tightened security on its border with Zimbabwe, the government announced at the weekend.

It was disclosed in Gaborone that Botswana Defence Force (BDF) patrols in the remote border area had been increased as a direct result of cross-border incursions into north-east Botswana by units of the Zimbabwe National Army.

The country’s Minister of Defence and Information, Mr Daniel Kwekagobe, said “the patrols were insufficiently manned to cover the 600km-long border”.

He said their inadequacy was exacerbated by poor communications, and that urgent people living near the border to inform the police or the BDF of the presence of strangers in their villages.

Mr Kwekagobe said it was important to have the co-operation of citizens in the efforts to provide maximum security for the nation.

The Minister’s statement comes several weeks after Zimbabwe soldiers crossed the border by helicopter and entered Buthale’s Village, 60km north-east of Francistown.

The village headman was assaulted, and villagers warned that if they harboured alleged dissidents, fleeing Zimbabwe, their village would be razed.

When the helicopters came, villagers — including more than 130 school-going children — fled into the surrounding bush.

Botswana rushed reinforcements to the border and stationed platoons of soldiers at a number of makeshift camps in the area.

Soon after, Zimbabwe troops again crossed over in the same area.

After that raid a high-ranking Botswana delegation held talks with Zimbabwe officials, in Zimbabwe, to resolve the issue.

The north-east district has been a popular haven for Zimbabweans fleeing from Mr Robert Mugabe’s government. Refugees usually keep to the dense bush alongside the national road linking Francistown with the border, and if detected are taken to the Dukwe refugee camp near Francistown.

Some have been returned to Zimbabwe.

Alleged dissidents injured in recent fighting with the army in southern Matabeleland have had their wounds treated at Jubilee Hospital in Francistown.
We're let down by US aid cut — Mugabe

Mail Correspondent

HARARE — Zimbabwe felt let down by the Reagan administration's decision to cut its aid, but relations with the United States had not been adversely affected, the Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe said in Harare yesterday.

"We still regard the United States as a friend. We are not going to quarrel with a donor or benefactor who decides to withdraw aid to us. We were not entitled to that aid in the first place as a matter of right," Mr Mugabe told a Press conference.

However, Zimbabwe felt let down because it had planned its land resettlement programme with US aid guarantees in mind. The aid reduction would force the government to consider acquiring land for resettlement on a credit basis rather than the cash basis required at present by the country's British-inspired constitution.

"Very few countries have carried out resettlement programmes after decolonisation in the same way as we have and we are having to do it without the cash that has been available," he said.

US State Department officials announced this week that the 1984 aid to Zimbabwe would be cut to about $40 million — a reduction of about $35 million.

Since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980, the US has committed about $254 million to Zimbabwe, the largest contribution of any single nation.

Mr Mugabe said he found "extremely objectionable" US State Department suggestions that the aid reduction was linked to Zimbabwe's condemnation of the US invasion of Grenada and its failure to support a US-sponsored United Nations resolution condemning the Soviet Union for shooting down a South Korean airliner.

"Let them reduce their aid to us on more honourable grounds than that," he said.

It would have been preferable if the US had said it did not have enough aid money to go round and explained that recipients would have to suffer, Mr Mugabe said.

But he denied any intention of refusing other US aid.

"Why should we reject it? We are a beneficiary and whatever aid comes to us, provided it has no strings attached, we will accept," he said.

In response to a question, Mr Mugabe said the security situation in Mataheleiland province was improving, but that the Botswana Defence Force (BDF) was not co-operating with the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) and there were dissident bases in Botswana.

He denied that ZNA soldiers had fired at a BDF unit during an incident inside Botswana on Tuesday in which a ZNA soldier was killed and said efforts were being made to improve border co-operation between the two armies.

UPI reports that Mr Mugabe denied that the release on Thursday of three detained white air force officers had resulted from his recent talks with the British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher, whose government had been quietly lobbying for their release.

"I can assure you that they were released because the detainees review tribunal conducted a review of their cases and recommended their release," he said.

"We are releasing them in good faith, not because we are not convinced that they are wrongdoers but because we do not want to go against the tribunal," he said.
HARARE. — A Matabeleland farmer, Mr Charles Loxton, and his wife and daughter were gunned down by dissidents in an attack on their Kazi ranch 100 km south of Bulawayo over the weekend.

Charles's brother, Tony, was killed in a shootout later.

The killing at the start of the Christmas weekend cast a deep gloom here as once again a holiday period became a time of terror and death.

Mr Charles Loxton, aged about 50, his wife, Rose, and their daughter, Julie, aged about 19, were killed when dissidents attacked their farmhouse on Friday evening.

Before they died they got a message through on the police radio to say they were under attack.

18 killed

Mr Tony Loxton, who was staying with a neighbour, was shot dead when farmers went to try to rescue the family. One dissident was killed and the others fled.

Last year at Christmas and New Year, seven whites were killed in Matabeleland and at Easter Senator Paul Savage, his daughter and a friend were killed by dissidents.

The deaths of the Loxton family brought to 18 the number of farmers and members of their families killed in Matabeleland this year alone.

Last month another member of the small Kazi farming community, Mr Joseph van Vuuren, was killed by a gang when he came upon them skinning one of his cattle.

Two days later Mr Trevor Smith, a farmer in the Pigtree area, was shot dead on his farm when he went to investigate a report of dissidents in the compound.

Three days later a priest, Brother Matthias Satterfield, was beaten to death south of Plumtree.
The past year has seen a marked improvement in Israel's key relationship with the US, which in 1982 was far from enthusiastic about the IDF invasion of Lebanon. The turning point came midway in 1983, when the American contingent in Beirut came under increasing military pressure from the Syrian-aligned anti-Israeli forces — Druse, Shifites and Iranians. The mutuality of Israeli-American interests in Lebanon — to clear out the Syrians from Lebanon, reduce Soviet influence in the area and frustrate the anti-government Lebanese internal forces — became crystal clear, and the Israeli-US strategic connection began to take on flesh.

Economically, the country passed through a major crisis in the second half of 1983. Share prices plunged, with bank shares — until then considered the safest popular investment, short and long-term — tumbling by some 40%. This opened the public's eyes to the basic fact of overspending and over-extension. This had resulted in a great deal of popularity for the Begin government and in considerably increased private consumption. The result was unprecedented foreign debt and BoP deficits.

The October crisis, when everything came to a head, forced the resignation of Finance Minister Yoram Aridor, who in his 2½ years in office had overseen an increase of real term wages by some 20% and a slightly higher increase in private consumption. The foreign debt, at the same time, grew annually by more than US$1 billion, reaching by the end of 1983 some US$22 billion.

Aridor's successor, Yigal Cohen-Orgad, has promised austerity, to the extent that the Cabinet will back him (knowing the cost in votes) and the public and trade unions will go along. Cohen-Orgad, who intends slashing the coming fiscal year budget, wants to force a 6% drop in real wages and consumption in both 1984 and 1985.

The government has already cut (in 1983) some US$500m from the government budget (this year about US$1 billion) and drastically reduced government subsidies of basic goods and services (bread, milk and electricity prices have risen by 50%, for example). The gap for 1983, according to Treasury estimates, will amount to US$22 billion, representing a growth of some 2.5% (compared with zero growth in gap in 1982).

While Aridor focused his unsuccessful efforts on curbing inflation (currently running at about 160% annually), Cohen-Orgad hopes to tackle Israel's basic economic problems by slashing the BoP deficit. Israel's total exports of goods and services (civilian and military) in 1983 stood at US$10.5 billion and its imports (civilian and military) amounted to some US$15.5 billion. The exports were up in real terms by about 2% over 1982.

Discounting military imports (but not Israeli military exports, which are classified among "industrial exports"), the BoP deficit stood at US$5.7 billion in 1983, something less than the US$4 billion originally feared by the Treasury. Israel's total industrial exports stood at around US$8 billion; polished, cut diamonds at about US$1 billion; and agricultural exports at US$500m. Tourism rose in 1983 by 10%-15%, reversing the 1982 (a war year) decline of 5%-8%.

To make up at least part of the deficit, Israel has traditionally received large amounts of aid from Washington and from world Jewry. In 1983, American aid amounts to just over US$2.6 billion—US$1.7 billion of it in military aid (half grant, half loan). Israel is asking Washington for a slight increase in the aid and a conversion of the loan part also into an outright grant.

The conversion is required, according to Israeli officials, because of the country's major debt servicing problem. Some 35% of the US$21 billion government budget is spent in this way. In 1983, Israel paid some US$3 billion to service its foreign debt, an amount expected to rise to US$4.2 billion in 1984.

Military expenditure in 1983 amounted to 27% of the annual budget. Education, by comparison, cost US$1.4 billion.

Unemployment stood in 1983 at 4%, which economists consider negligible, meaning that almost everyone who really sought a job found one. Cohen-Orgad's budget slashing, consumption-cutting austerity policies are expected to push unemployment in 1984 to 5%-6% and to lead to at least a "minor recession," according to government economists.

Another major government projection for 1984 is that the gap will grow by 1%-1.5%, mainly because of the expected 5%-6% decline in private consumption and the decline in military expenditure (because of the completion of construction of the new Awali line in southern Lebanon). Exports are expected to increase by 10% to close to US$2 billion, and imports (civilian) to decrease by 1%-1.5%. It is unclear whether military imports will increase or decrease, but the civilian BoP deficit will amount to US$3.1 billion. There is hope that industrial exports will go up by some 15%.

Government officials were unwilling to offer any projections on inflation next year, stressing that it "can be kept at "pravice level". Cohen-Orgad's policies have pushed up the inflation rate, as expected. The hope is that inflation, at all events, will not exceed the psychological shock barrier of 200%.

ZIMBABWE

Politics retards recovery

Danger is that in an election year sensible economic austerity will be sacrificed in an attempt to gain electoral popularity, writes TONY HAWKINS, the FMM's Harare correspondent.

Next year promises to be a year of major political developments in Zimbabwe, against a background of economic austerity. In terms of the Lancaster House constitution, Zimbabwe is scheduled to hold a general election by February 1985, but the signs are that — the security situation in Matabeleland permitting — Mugabe will go to the polls in the last quarter of 1984.

Before the elections, though, there will be the crucial congress of the ruling Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) — the first it will have held in more than 20 years.

This combination of a party congress in May 1984, followed by general elections towards the end of the year, suggests a period of intense political activity, particularly within Zanu-PF itself. White politics are increasingly irrelevant as the white population, currently estimated at 130 000 and forecast to fall to around 100 000 by the end of the decade, are white quality leader Ian Smith is most unlikely to remain in politics after the elections and his party is expected to quietly disintegrate after his
In recent weeks there have been some signs of a recovery in the ferrochrome market and there is optimism over Zimbabwean steel exports in 1984. If the weather is kind and metal markets maintain their gentle recovery, then exports, estimated at Z$1.2 billion in 1983 — could rise by as much as Z$200 million or about 16%.

Industrialists say that they detect an increased demand for exports too, but manufactured exports from Zimbabwe — with the exception of steel and ferrochrome — are of relatively minor significance. Major snags for industrial exporters are the relative strength of the Zimbabwe dollar against the rand and the very weak external payments position of neighbouring Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (Sadc) countries, with the notable exception of Botswana.

While the Zimbabwe dollar has depreciated some 30% against major currencies since November 1982, the fall against the rand has been less than 25%, which means exporters continue to face tough competition both within the SA market and from SA exporters.

Industrial output is estimated to have fallen some 4%-5% during 1983, while mining production rose more than 20% in value, reflecting devaluation and higher metal prices, but continued its gentle decline in terms of volume. In 1984, economists expect manufacturing production to continue to decline through the first half of the year, but they predict a small recovery towards the end of 1984. Mining is expected to reverse its volume decline but value growth will be slower — possibly marginally so — than in 1983. Much depends on what happens to the bullion price though.

Agricultural output is expected to be significantly higher — depending on the weather — and this should ensure a substantial rise in farm exports. The tobacco crop target has been raised 12% to 110,000 t, and so has the cotton target. Latest reports suggest that cotton plantings will be at least 30% higher than last year, but maize plantings are estimated to have fallen by 15%.

This year was a bad year for the retail sector, with consumer demand falling sharply in the second half of the year in the wake of higher taxes and substantially increased food prices. The retail sector is likely to remain depressed at least until mid-year, when the assumed boost to farm incomes should result in higher consumer spending.

The signs are that the balance of payments position will remain very tight. In 1983, the current account deficit is estimated to have fallen from Z$530m in 1982 to Z$450m. This is largely the consequence of savage reductions in import quotas on the one hand and reliance on commodity aid programmes to finance imports on the other. No improvement in import quotas can be anticipated at least until the second half of 1984 and probably not until 1985.

Inflation is estimated at 20% for 1983 but there are signs that the worst is now past and that the inflation rate will be falling sharply by the end of 1984. The high inflation rate in the last year is explained by the devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar, higher sales and import duties and increased taxes on fuel, exacerbated by the steep increase in food prices at the beginning of September. A further hike in food prices is forecast by mid-1984 as the government further reduces food subsidies, but in the second half of the year inflation should be falling, with the result that in 1984 the rate should be no more than 15%.

All of which tends to suggest that 1984 will be a difficult year economically as well as politically. In addition to these problems, Mugabe will have to cope with the dissident crises in Matabeleland, exacerbated, the Zimbabwe government says, by a deliberate policy of destabilisation master-minded from Pretoria.

What makes Mugabe's task so difficult is the need to maintain austerity policies at a time of high inflation and when his political colleagues are anxious to relax wage, fiscal and monetary policies in an attempt to boost their electoral popularity. This too is a worrying aspect for foreign lenders, bankers and businessmen, anxious to see the government maintain its policy of restraint. The danger is that premature politically inspired relaxation will dissipate the hard-won gains of the past 18 months of economic restraint.

Drought in Zimbabwe... hitting the economy

Financial Mail December 30 1983
secluded retirement.

Begin's successor, former Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir, has not yet shown his full credentials. His relationship has so far been characterized by caution and carefulness, and by a continued hard line in foreign and defence policy.

The past year has seen a marked improvement in Israel's key relationship, with the US, which in 1982 was far from enthusiastic about the Lebanon invasion of Lebanon. The turning point came midway in 1983, when the American contingent in Beirut came under increasing military pressure from the Syrian-aligned anti-Israeli forces - Druse, Shi'ites and Iranians. The mutuality of Israeli-American interests in Lebanon - to clear out the Syrians from Lebanon, reduce Soviet influence in the area and frustrate the anti-government Lebanese internal forces - became crystal clear, and the Israeli-US strategic connection began to take on flesh.

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ZIMBABWE

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![Image](image.png)

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Resettlement plans in trouble

The Star's Foreign News Service

LONDON — Zimbabwe's resettlement programme, crucial to satisfying the post-independence expectations of the black population, is running into trouble.

Writing in the Observer, Mr. Allister Sparks, former editor of the Rand Daily Mail, says this was exacerbated last week when the United States cut its aid to Zimbabwe by nearly half, reducing the already inadequate funds needed for the programme's implementation.

Land, rather than the right to vote, was the main driving force behind the war which ended white minority rule and gave Zimbabwe its first black government, he adds.

Mr. Mugabe drew support for his guerrilla forces by promising the black peasants that he would give them back their land when independence was won. His "political future could hinge on how far he can deliver on that promise.

Mr. Mugabe's economic advisers have warned him that if too much farmland is transferred from the whites to the black peasants, not only will Zimbabwe soon cease to be one of the few countries in Africa that can feed itself, but its population, which is one of the fastest-growing in the world, would be headed for famine before the end of the century.

At the same time, his political advisers have warned that if too little is transferred, the Government could soon run into a crisis of unfulfilled expectations.

A Land Acquisition Bill, due to be law in February, has been drafted giving the Minister of Lands power to confiscate "under-utilised" land, either whole farms or portions of farms.
Thornhill saga is over, but saboteurs may never be known

The Star Bureau

LONDON — The identity of whoever was responsible for placing explosives in a dozen fighter aircraft which blew up at Zimbabwe’s main air base in July last year may never become public knowledge.

The release of the last three air force officers detained in connection with the Thornhill sabotage arrived in Britain yesterday — and is the closest thing to an admission that they were innocent of complicity — scapegoats in an investigation which went disastrously wrong.

Speculation has revolved around diverse theories — that the operation was carried out by embittered former Rhodesians, by South Africans or by members of the minority Zipra faction in the armed forces.

But Air Vice-Marshall Hugh Statter, former deputy commander of the Zimbabwe Air Force, was not convinced by these theories although he said he had no idea who was responsible for the sabotage.

“I wish I did. There are various theories and various possibilities and I suppose it could be one of them. But they are convenient theories, I think.”

But the evidence which might have proved the case one way or another has been lost, abandoned in an investigation by incompetent police officers who decided at an early stage, for reasons which remain unclear, that they had to prove a conspiracy by senior white officers and tortured convenient suspects until they “confessed”.

Evidence gathered by the Air Force board of inquiry, which was abandoned after the arrest of two of its members, could have proved crucial if followed up in the police investigation.

It includes threads of fabric found at a spot where a hole had been cut in the security fence around Thornhill, which was ignored by forensic investigators.

This and other aspects of the case, such as the behaviour of some ex-Zipra personnel at the base, remain unexplained.

With the release of the last airmen, the affair can be expected to pass into history, which will please both the British and Zimbabwean governments, troubled by the strain it has imposed on their relations.

They will find that all has not gone smoothly for the freed airmen. Air Vice-Marshall Statter, his wife and two children have been living with friends for more than three months, his only income being from social security payments.

It is understood he has been offered a job in the New Year. Air Commodore Philip Plie is still without a job and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe left Britain for the United States, having failed to find work.

All three men are still waiting for their pension entitlements, understood to run into “tens of thousands” of rands.

The long-term effect of the Thornhill sabotage on the ZAF has also been little short of disastrous. The treatment of the officers has provoked a mass exodus of skilled administrative, flying and maintenance personnel.

Machel honours Mozambican troops

The Star’s Foreign News Service

MAPUTO — Troops of the Mozambican contingent which fought in what was then Zimbabwe-Rhodesia with Mr Robert Mugabe’s Zanla guerrillas were honoured by President Samora Machel yesterday.

Eighty-one members of the 500-strong Frelimo force, in Mr Machel’s words, “faced the shrapnel and bullets of the Smith regime’s troops”, have just returned from military training courses overseas.

The official Mozambican news agency, AIM, said the men received promotions to commissioned and non-commissioned officer rank in a ceremony held in Maputo Stadium.

The Mozambican force was sent into Zimbabwe-Rhodesia in the closing stages of the war.

Several of its members are believed to have been killed by security forces while fighting with Zanla units and at least 30 were captured and repatriated to Mozambique after the ceasefire.

A second Mozambican contingent, this time of artillery, was sent to Uganda to help the Tanzanian army and local forces topple Idi Amin.

Cameraman filmed Pope’s Agca visit

The Star’s Foreign News Service

ROME — An Italian television cameraman succeeded in filming the entire meeting on Tuesday between the Pope and Mehmet Ali Agca, the man who tried to kill him, according to Milan’s Corriere della Sera.

Cameraman Tommaso Pinini apparently placed his lens against the spyhole in the door to Agca’s cell, even though a guard was standing nearby.

Some words, mostly those of the Pope, were also recorded on the video tape but appear to be of little interest, and were made more fragmentary by other sounds which the microphone picked up. The two men spoke in Italian.

It is assumed by those who heard the tape that Agca inquired about his visitor’s health, because the Pope is heard replying: “Not too bad… different… I can work… your Mother… may the Lord give you His grace… Happy New Year… a small gift”.

The last was said as the Pope gave Agca a box believed to contain a rosary in silver and mother-of-pearl.

After his 25-minute visit, the Pope said that what they had talked about would remain secret. — Associated Press.
ZIMBABWE—GENERAL
1984

JANUARY — DEC.
Will Zimbabwe recover early promise?

Zimbabweans were glad to turn their backs on 1983. It was a terrible year for the young country which in April will celebrate the end of its fourth year as an independent state.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe described it as year of immense problems, the most difficult since independence. No one will disagree with that.

Overshadowing the hardships brought about by the worst drought in memory and the depressed state of the economy has been the dreadful loss of life in Matabeleland. The harsh methods adopted by the Government to crush support for rebellious dissidents in the early months of the year have left indelible scars.

No one will ever know how many perished when the army was let loose on the civilian population and there are no great hopes in Harare that the official inquiry into alleged atrocities will shed real light on this unhappy episode.

Mr Joshua Nkomo’s flight to Britain in fear of his life focused international attention on Matabeleland. Mr Mugabe came in for harsh criticism in the Western media and his international standing suffered even among organisations genuinely sympathetic to his aims.

The aftermath of the sabotage of a quarter of the Zimbabwe Air Force in mid-1982 carried through to the end of 1983 when the last of the air force officers who had been detained, acquitted and then re-detained were finally freed.

Their release closed a chapter which saw relations with Britain dip sharply, though they have since recovered, but leaves unanswered the burning question of who did organise the blowing up of the aircraft.

South Africa-based agents were held to be responsible for the actual act of sabotage which followed earlier devastating threats to stability by Mr Mugabe’s enemies.

Acts such as this and the discovery of arms caches on Zau property, which led to Mr Nkomo’s dismissal from the Cabinet in February 1982 and to the continued detention of some of his top lieutenants, are sometimes forgotten in the haste to take Mr Mugabe to task for repressive measures.

Mr Mugabe defends the tough action in Matabeleland with the argument that if it had not been taken, dissident activities would have spread far wider. But the best he could say about the security situation was that it had not worsened.

The Harare government desperately needs a respite from the kind of activity which has placed a heavy strain on its inexperienced, says Robin Drew of The Star’s Foreign News Service.

The murder last month of another white farming family by dissidents was a brutal reminder of the fact that peace is a long way from being established.

A major disappointment of the year was the failure to make any progress in getting to grips with the core of the problem which led to the growth of violent opposition to the Mugabe Government.

The suspicion and distrust between the Shona-dominated ruling Zanu (PF) party and Zau, which has its power base among the Ndebele people, has hardened.

Mr Nkomo’s efforts to convene a national indaba to thrash out differences fell flat and since his return from Britain he has stayed well back in the shadows.

More signposts on the road to a one-party state emerged with the detention of the UANC leader, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who is still being held on suspicion of plotting the overthrow of the government in some form of conspiracy with Israel and South Africa.

Zimbabwe desperately needs an interval of rest from the kind of activity which has placed such a heavy strain on the ability of a young government and a largely inexperienced administration to handle it.

It needs restoration of confidence among the business community and a good rainy season to produce the food and the cash crops for export.

It needs a respite from ill-considered political statements and a greater appreciation of the need to temper demands for an early transformation of society in the light of the realities of a complex and changing pattern of relations both within the country and in the world outside.

Impatience with the rate of change is understandable. The people in power fought hard against the system which they eventually overthrew. They are a long way from achieving the kind of society which they will be realistic when they were fighting for power.

The new year, with its important congress of the ruling party now scheduled for August, will be a watershed in determining whether Zimbabwe will be able to recover the early promise shown when the prophets of doom were forced to eat their words.
Mugabe drops six ministries

HARARE — Prime Minister Mr. Robert Mugabe announced a surprise reshuffle of his cabinet yesterday, dropping six ministries and demoting the controversial Minister of Home Affairs, Dr. Herbert Ushewokunze.

Only 10 ministries were left untouched out of 32 portfolios. Mr. Mugabe cited "financial developments" as one reason for the more streamlined cabinet. He denied that outside pressure, as from the International Monetary Fund, had been a factor.

Dr. Ushewokunze, who has been outspokenly critical of the country's judiciary in a number of major court cases that went against the government, clearly lost power in a transfer from Home Affairs to the transport ministry.

The prime minister appointed the legal and parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. Eddison Zvobgo, to head a merged ministry containing his department and the previous justice ministry.

He added: "The financial burden is too heavy and we just can't bear to go on doing things as we are doing at the moment. It means there will be some slackening in the reform programme."

Mr. Mugabe said seven deputy ministers out of 24 were being dropped as part of a rationalisation programme in which the civil service would also have to be cut in size.

Zimbabwe has been suffering severe financial problems, including an inflation rate of up to 20 per cent, over the past two years exacerbated by a crippling nationwide drought.

The changes, which involved mergers among six ministries and the appointment of two ministers who each had portfolios, concentrated more power in the prime minister’s own office.

Mr. Mugabe, already defence minister, will also have a new ministry for Political Affairs and Provincial Development Co-ordination, headed by the former mines minister, Mr. Maurice Nyusambo, working in the prime minister's office.

Mr. Mugabe said there would soon be a major restructuring of the country's eight provinces, in which each would be headed by a governor representing the central authorities to ensure greater development in the rural areas.

Some, but not all, of the deputy ministers axed yesterday would be appointed to those positions, he added.

Key ministers retaining their portfolios included the finance minister, Mr. Bernhard Chidzero, and the foreign affairs minister, Mr. Witness Mangwende.

SAPA-RNS.
Very serious

SA apologises after envoy's arm broken

Mr David Buynaga was assaulted by a Transvaal provincial Administration official during a visit to Pretoria.

The Transvaal's deputy Premier, Mr Schalk Brits, was quoted as saying the incident was 'very serious'.

The incident, which occurred on 22 December in Pretoria, took place during a visit by the South African Government's official visiting the Transvaal Administration.

Mr Buynaga, who is the South African Government's representative in Pretoria, was apparently taken to hospital after the incident.

A police spokesman, Major H. N. Coetzer, said Mr Buynaga had been released from hospital and was recovering.

The Transvaal Administration has also issued an apology for the incident.
Many heave a sigh as Ushewokunze goes

ROBIN DREW of the Argus Foreign Service reports from Harare on the fear with which the former Minister of Home Affairs was regarded by a considerable section of the public.

DR Herbert Ushewokunze who has been moved from the powerful post of Minister of Home Affairs to take charge of the Ministry of Transport did more to destabilise Zimbabwe in the past two years than many of its enemies did.

There were shudders when the Minister who had been chopped from the Cabinet in October 1981 for defying the Prime Minister was brought back in February 1982, this time to Home Affairs instead of Health, his previous portfolio.

During his term of office as Health Minister, he was widely blamed in medical circles for the mass of resignations that plagued the health service.

He lost his post then for twice challenging Mr Mugabe's authority by open criticism of the Public Service Commission, which falls under the Prime Minister, for blocking his candidates for top medical jobs.

But it was as Minister of Home Affairs with responsibility for the police and the maintenance of law and order that the Durban-educated doctor really made his presence felt, provided as he was with sweeping powers of detention under the state of emergency.

A series of blistering attacks on the judiciary, including an accusation that the judges were sowing the seeds of revolt against the Government; defiance of court orders; and his issue of a string of detention orders made Dr Ushewokunze's name one to be feared.

His flair for the dramatic was given free rein in Parliament when he spoke on law and order matters.

There was the occasion, for example, when he was asked about the numbers of people in detention. Pretending to go through half a dozen thick box files laid on the table of the House while he kept Parliament in suspense, he eventually drew a single sheet of paper from his pocket and in measured tones declared that it was not in the public interest to make this information available.

Dr Ushewokunze is given to dressing for the part. Soon after his appointment as Minister in charge of the police, he appeared in public in a sub-inspector's uniform which he said was the height rank to which Africans could attain during colonial days.

**Ordered arrest**

On a number of occasions he took part in police operations, including car chase through the suburbs.

He established a branch of the police force to deal with political offenders, a branch which some observers regarded as a rival to the Central Intelligence Organisation run by the Minister responsible for security, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa.

In one incident at Harare Airport he ordered the arrest and detention of a senior white immigration official after an altercation with the official over a 10-minute delay in the departure of a aircraft carrying the Prime Minister on an overseas trip.

The official was lucky. He spent only four nights in detention. But a railwayman, Mr Herbert Moll, spent eight months in prison in terms of various detention orders signed by the Minister for allegedly making derogatory remarks about Mr Mugabe and President Banana. Charges against him in court were withdrawn but he stayed in detention for months.

**Revolution talk**

When Mr Moll was finally released, Dr Ushewokunze declined to explain to Parliament why he had been kept in prison and said: "He was given his due time in the cooler."

As a member of the ruling party's central committee and a member of the Cabinet, Dr Ushewokunze will no doubt have plenty of opportunity to continue to talk on a variety of subjects, including the need to press ahead with the socialist revolution.

But now he is no longer running one of the ministries concerned with security and is stripped of his powers of detention, many people will feel a sense of relief.
Although the headline writers have understandably focused public attention on the demotion of the controversial Herbert Ushewokunzwe in this week’s Zimbabwean Cabinet reshuffle, there are other critically important aspects to consider.

Ushewokunzwe, sacked from the Cabinet in October 1981 for publicly criticizing the Public Service, was brought back and promoted to Minister of Home Affairs with responsibility for the police five months later. Now, two years later, he has been demoted back to the still important, but politically less sensitive position of Minister of Transport.

His job as Police Minister goes to the moderate Simbi Mubako, formerly Minister of Justice. It was Mubako who publicly defended the High Court Bench from Ushewokunzwe’s angry criticism, especially after the acquittal last year of the six white air force officers accused of sabotage. PM Mugabe’s decision to demote Ushewokunzwe and replace him with Mubako will be welcomed by the white community and the legal profession alike.

Also demoted is former Industry Minister Simba Makoni, blamed by some for last year’s petrol crisis and, more recently, for the maize shortage. He moves to the altogether less sensitive post of Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture.

Besides these two changes, there are some significant trends in the reshuffle. First, there is the concentration of power in the Prime Minister’s Office. The Ministry of Industry and Energy Development has been abolished and replaced with two new ministries, one of Industry and Technology within the Prime Minister’s Office and one of Energy and Water Resources within the Deputy Premier’s Office.

Promotion

A very significant development, too, is the promotion of Maurice Nyagumbo from his position as Minister of Mines to head a new Department of Political Affairs and Provincial Co-ordination Development also within Mugabe’s Office.

Four ministries have been abolished altogether or merged with existing departments, which will help the government’s programme of curbing public spending. Mugabe was at pains to tell a news conference that the Cabinet changes were his idea and not those of the International Monetary Fund, which has urged the government to reduce the number of departments.

Just how significant the financial savings are likely to be, remains to be seen, especially as Mugabe is talking of using some of the displaced ministers and deputy ministers in a new role as provincial governors.

Nyagumbo’s promotion has fuelled speculation that he will be Mugabe’s nominee for the vital vacant post of secretary-general of the ruling Zanu-PF. Elections for this post will be held in August, and now that Nyagumbo has been given a ministerial post of co-ordinating political policy, he would seem to be the logical man for the job. This may well upset two other ministers who have been tipped for the post — Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira, who remains in his old job, and Eddie Zvobgo, outspoken Minister for Legal and Constitutional Affairs who has been promoted, his ministry having been merged with the former Justice Department.

It is not possible to read into this reshuffle a directional shift in government. There are bound to be those who will see the Ushewokunzwe demotion and the centralisation of power in the Premier’s Office as a move towards the centre. But against that, all the signs are that in an election year — at party congress level if not at national level — policy is likely to lean left, at least rhetorically.

Businessmen will be reassured by the fact that Bernard Chidzero is remaining at the economic helm, but disappointed that Richard Hove stays on as Minister of Trade and Commerce.
assault on envoy
Closer ties for Cuba and Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Co-operation between Zimbabwe and Cuba is to be strengthened, the Zimbabwe Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr Witness Mangwe, has announced.

At a function to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Cuban revolution, the Minister said technical assistance provided by Cuba since Zimbabwe's independence four years ago had been greatly appreciated.

He said Zimbabwe and Cuba had constantly opposed colonialism in Namibia, apartheid in South Africa, the destabilisation of Southern Africa by Pretoria, Zionism in the Middle East and imperialism worldwide.

The acting head of the Cuban mission in Harare, Mr. Ramon Alonso, said the "unconditional" withdrawal of South African troops from Angola and the end of aggression and threats against Angola should be the only linkage heading to Namibian independence.
Industrial development conference in Zimbabwe

HARARE — More than 130 delegates will gather in Harare next week to discuss industrial development projects in Southern Africa.

The three-day meeting of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference (SADCC) and its donor agencies will review recent progress in planning and arranging finance for proposed industrial projects in SADCC countries.

Delegates from donor countries and agencies will meet with project managers, which are generally governments or private companies. They will arrange pledges of financial assistance to be announced at the SADCC Donors Conference meeting in Lusaka in February.

Several donor agencies and countries have already shown interest in the projects.

The workshop, which is expected to be opened by the Tanzanian Minister of Industries, will start with a one-day meeting of officials followed by two days of discussions between donors and officials.

It has been organised by the SADCC's industrial co-ordination unit in Tanzania and by the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The three-day "Industrial Projects Implementation Workshop" will be a follow-up to the Maseru donors' conference in January last year and a run-up to the next donors' conference in Lusaka in February. — Sapa.

Support for PLO from Mugabe

HARARE — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe sent a message to Palestine Liberation Organisation leader Yassar Arafat pledging continued support for the PLO on Thursday.

The message, sent to mark the 19th anniversary of the founding of the PLO, reaffirmed Zimbabwe's "unflinching support for the struggle for self-determination not only in Palestine but in Southern Africa, Latin America and elsewhere".

Mugabe led his country to independence from Britain on April 18 1980 after waging a seven-year guerrilla war against nine decades of white minority rule. — Sapa.
Matabeleland 'atrocities' probe begins

BULAWAYO.—A four-man committee of inquiry began hearing evidence behind closed doors yesterday of alleged atrocities by members of the Zimbabwe Security Forces.

Only one witness, a middle-aged black man, was waiting when the committee opened its session at the Bulawayo Municipality's Housing and Community Services Centre.

"We know many people who witnessed brutalities, but who are too frightened to come before the committee," said Bishop Robert Mercer, Anglican Bishop for Matabeleland.

"Others' witnesses have gone missing. There's also been a certain amount of cynicism for this exercise because it is a committee not a commission, it is not headed by a judge and its makeup does not suggest total impartiality," he said.

The committee, set up by the Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, in June last year to probe widespread charges that troops killed and brutalised hundreds and perhaps thousands of civilians, comprises three black lawyers, including a legal adviser in the Prime Minister's office and a retired white army major-general.

The committee, which will present its report to the Prime Minister, has taken testimonies from soldiers, policemen and civil servants in Harare.

It has also interviewed some witnesses in the Matabeleland district. Yesterday's sitting was the first formal session to hear witnesses. Bishop Mercer and the Roman Catholic Church are to produce dossiers of alleged atrocities on Friday.

Catholic missionaries were among the first people to publicly disclose details of alleged atrocities by troops, mainly of the North Korean-trained Five Brigade, after they had been deployed in Matabeleland during January last year to hunt down armed gangs of anti-government rebels.

Missionaries, aid agencies, relief workers and foreign journalists alleged the troops of Mr. Mugabe's dominant Shona tribe went on a bloody rampage against local people of the minority Ndebele tribe -- traditional supporters of opposition leader, Mr. Joshua Nkomo.

Teenage girls and elderly women were reportedly raped and some murdered.

Men, women and children were marched into the bush and shot, beaten to death or bayoneted. Others were robbed and assaulted. Mud and grass huts were burnt down.

The dissidents are said to be loyal to Mr. Nkomo, whose dismissal from the coalition government in 1982 for allegedly plotting a coup, led to mass desertions by supporters from the army to become brigands in the bush.

"We haven't been asked to present evidence," Mr. Nkomo said in an interview at his Bulawayo home. "We don't expect much from it. Soldiers are still beating people as we speak."

Mr. John Njara, secretary of the committee, said he expected the members would hear all testimonies within a week.

"People in Matabeleland are just too terrified to speak out about what they have seen," said Senator Max Rozental, a white rancher who lives in Matabeleland. — Sapa-AP.
Aid to Business

ZIMBABWE

1/3/18

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In the past two years, there have been delays in the shipment of goods, which has affected the economy. Despite these delays, the government has been working to improve the situation.

The economic situation in Zimbabwe has been improving, with the economy growing in recent months. However, there is still a lot of work to be done to fully recover from the recent economic difficulties.

The government is working to attract foreign investment and improve the country's infrastructure. It is also working to improve the country's export capabilities and diversify its economic base.

Despite these efforts, the country still faces many challenges, including a high rate of inflation and a lack of basic goods. The government is working to address these issues and improve the lives of its citizens.

The government is also working to improve the country's educational system and increase literacy rates. This is important for the future of the country, as a well-educated population is crucial for economic development.

In addition, the government is working to improve the country's healthcare system and provide better access to medical care. This is important for the health and well-being of the country's citizens.

Overall, the government is working hard to improve the country's economy and provide a better future for its citizens. With continued effort and support from the international community, Zimbabwe has the potential to become a prosperous and stable country.
Refugee camp for Mozambicans entering Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Department of Social Services is proposing to set up a camp to house about 25,000 Mozambican refugees fleeing the fighting between Frelimo and the Mozambique National Resistance.

The Zimbabwe news agency, Ziana, reported the plan after a visit to the Chipinge border area by the country's Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Services, Mr. Robson Manyitka.

A government source said the proposed camp would be securely guarded to prevent infiltration by the MNR.

There are thousands of Mozambicans in Zimbabwe. In the Chipinge area alone the government is feeding 8,000 refugees. Many of them walked hundreds of kilometres to get to Zimbabwe, having either fled Mozambique because of the activities of the MNR, or because of the critical food shortage which followed a disastrous drought.

Many of those inside Zimbabwe were malnourished and emaciated, said the government source, who added that social services officials were expecting more than 25,000 Mozambicans they had planned to cater for in the camp.

Other fact-finding missions by the department have visited the north-eastern border areas of Zimbabwe, where Mozambicans are known to have crossed in their hundreds.
Zimbabwe plans crisis task force

HARARE — Zimbabwe will soon set up a task force capable of dealing with crisis situations or acts of international terrorism, State Security Minister, Mr. Emmerson Mnangagwa, said yesterday.

He told senior security officers from various government departments attending a five-day crisis management course, that Zimbabwe needed such a force because of international terrorism and kidnappings.

"The political content and repercussions of some of the crises envisaged necessitates the participation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in this course."

"If an airliner were hijacked to Zimbabwe, he pointed out, the fate of foreign nationals would be in Zimbabwe's hands and the government would want to resolve the crisis without bringing in special forces from outside."

Six foreign tourists were abducted by rebels in Zimbabwe's troubled south-western province of Matabeleland in July 1992 and there has been no news of them since. — Sapa/Reuters
Zimbabwe-Soviet ties strengthened with trade pact

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The signing of a trade agreement yesterday between the Soviet Union and Zimbabwe represents one more cautious step along the road to closer relations between Harare and Moscow.

The fact that it has taken nearly four years since Zimbabwe became independent to reach this stage is an indication of the wariness with which Zimbabwe views the Soviet Union.

It took almost a year for diplomatic relations to be established and that came about only after Moscow formally agreed to Zimbabwe's terms which spelt out clearly that relations would be on a government-to-government basis.

This was seen as a direct warning to Moscow to cut its special links with Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party.

Mr Robert Mugabe's Zanu party, on the other hand, moved quickly to establish firm and friendly relations with Peking, its long-standing ally.

Mr Mugabe has yet to visit Moscow.

Last May it was announced that the Zimbabwe leader would visit the Soviet capital later in the year, but nothing came of it.

Instead Mr Mugabe went to Washington where he met President Reagan and also paid visits to Canada and Ireland.

Up to now Soviet links with Zimbabwe have been at the cultural level, with the high-light being last year's tour by the Bolshoi Ballet.

The Moscow State Circus has also paid a visit and there have been film festivals and displays of Russian literature.

A delegation from the Soviet Women's Committee toured Zimbabwe last year and about 90 young Zimbabweans went to the Soviet Union last year on various study courses.

The Soviet ambassador in Harare, Mr Georgy Ter-Gazarants, has said he is satisfied that successful relations in the economic, social, political and cultural spheres are being established.

The Soviet Embassy has 17 people listed as those entitled to diplomatic immunity and it is possible that after the signing of the trade agreement this number will increase.

The Russians were keen on establishing a separate trade mission in the country, but this was not looked on with any enthusiasm by the Zimbabweans.

It is somewhat ironic that Mr Mugabe, a proclaimed Marxist, has allowed the United States to maintain a much bigger embassy here with double the number of listed diplomats.

The embassies of the two super-powers are virtually back to back and no doubt spend a fair amount of their time watching one another.

The Americans who have been Zimbabwe's biggest aid donors, recently cut this year's allocation by 46 percent.

But their trade with Zimbabwe in both directions is worth about R180 million against the Soviet Union's R6 million.

The leader of the Soviet trade delegation visiting Harare, Mr Guennady Zhuravlev, the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade, said the trade agreement should result in purchases of tobacco, maize, sugar and other food products. Russia, he said, was interested in supplying oil to Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe stuck to strict protocol in the arrival ceremony and sent Mr John Landa, its Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, to meet the Soviet delegation. Two years ago he was Chief Whip of Mr Ian Smith's Republican Front Party but quit the party to sit as an independent and was given a government post by Mr Mugabe.
Dissidents have killed 75 people in six months

The Star Bureau

HARARE — During the last six months, 75 people have been murdered and 284 armed robberies committed in Zimbabwe's troubled Matabeleland and Midlands provinces, the Minister of Home Affairs, Dr Simbi Mubako, told Parliament here yesterday.

During the same period, there were 537 sightings of armed dissidents and 175 "contacts" between government forces and the bandits.

The Minister's disclosure was the first time the government has revealed the extent of the dissident problem in the south of the country.

Dr Mubako was speaking on the renewal of the state of emergency which has existed since UDI in 1965, and which has been extended at six-month intervals since the government of Mr Robert Mugabe took office in April 1980.

Dr Mubako, recently appointed to the Home Affairs post to replace controversial Dr Herbert Chibwana, said he "deeply regretted" that almost four years after independence he had to come before the House and ask for an extension of the emergency.

There had been an overall improvement in the security situation in the country, he said, but the improvement had not been such that the government could dispense with the powers which the state of emergency gave it.

"There is no doubt that these bandit groups are being assisted and encouraged by South Africa, which provides them with bases from which to operate and with weapons and funds with which to carry out their nefarious activities — calculated to disrupt the peaceful conditions which should exist in Zimbabwe."

The government needed the extra powers to combat the problem, said the Minister.

He added, however, that he would be urging his ministerial colleagues not to abuse the emergency powers which normal legislative procedure could be used.

Since independence, the emergency powers have been used by the government to bring in a number of regulations on minimum wages, salary freezes, and the changing of street and place names.

A total of 67 MPs, including members of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zanu party and independent white MPs, voted for the extension of the emergency.

Only the eight Rhodesian Front MPs under Mr Ian Smith voted against the motion.

Dead soldier MP gets government praise

The Star Bureau

HARARE — The young Zimbabwean MP, Mr Donald Goddard, who died when he fell down a waterfall during a New Year's Day picnic, was yesterday praised for his courage and dedication by the Minister of Justice, Dr Ersson Zvogho.

Speaking in Parliament on behalf of the government and associating himself with a tribute to Mr Goddard paid by Republican Front leader, Mr Ian Smith, Dr Zvogho said Mr Goddard had fought for Rhodesia and lost.

However, he had remained in Zimbabwe and had dedicated himself to the service of the country, said Dr Zvogho, who, among others, had many clashes in the house with the outspoken MP.

"We will miss him," he said while extending his condolences to members of Mr Goddard's family.

Mr Smith said his former colleague had been well known, loved and respected within and outside Zimbabwe.

Mr Goddard (32), a Selous Scout during the war, had fought for Rhodesia with loyalty and distinction and worked for Zimbabwe with the same loyalty.

Mr P K van der Byl, making one of his rare appearances in the House of Assembly, described Mr Goddard as a "gentle" man, who...
Harare buys control of Kingston's

By Brendan Seery

The Star Bureaus

Harare South African group CNA Gallo Gordon and Gotch (Investments) and Argus Printing and Publishing have sold their shares in Zimbabwe's largest books and periodicals distributor.

The buyer of the 62.3 percent shareholding in Kingston's is an investment firm belonging to Zimbabwe Mass Media Trust which owns that country's main newspaper group.

The chairman of the state-appointed Mass Media Trust Dr Davidson Sadza told Ziana news agency the trust would make offers to minority shareholders for the remaining shares.

No intimidation

Shareholders are being offered Zim$1.11 for ordinary shares and Zim$1.30 for preference shares representing premiums of 86.48 and 3.96 percent respectively over quoted market prices.

Dr Sadza said the deal was concluded on a "willing buyer will-seller basis" with no one having been intimidated.

He said the trust was going ahead with policies in the Kingston's group which it did not want "impeached or slowed by minority shareholders.

The main aim would be to serve as many people as possible through Kingston's outlets and expansion to smaller centres and rural areas was planned.

"Initially, we may make very little profit or even lose money, but that will not be our main concern," Dr Sadza said.
MARAUDING gangs of rag-tag anti-government rebels have achieved in peacetime what two communist-backed guerrilla armies failed to do in the seven-year war for Zimbabwe's independence.

They have driven most of Matabeleland's white farmers off the land. "This is the biggest crisis we have ever faced in the area," says Mike Wood, president of the Matabeleland branch of the all-white Commercial Farmers' Union (CPU), of mounting attacks by the disaffected against civilians in the western Zimbabwe province.

More than half of the 3,000 CPF ranchers and farmers in the province, a battlefield for thousands of guerrilla soldiers and the armed gangs, have abandoned their properties and have fled to Zimbabwe for safer places to retreat to the peaceful pastures of Bulawayo and Harare.

By NORMAN ELLIS: Bulawayo

Butchered

Most of those remaining behind have been forced to move away from journalists, automatic rifles and pistols and live in fear of their lives from the dissenters—mainly former guerrillas loyal to opposition leader Joshua Nkomo.

The rebels, believed to number 1,000, began a reign of terror in Matabeleland two years ago after helping to overthrow the nationalist government of Ian Smith and taking up arms against the newly independent country.

A band of civilians—men, women and children have been murdered, raped and robbed in a bloody rampage by gangs who tell frightened villagers they see on a dirt track on their Zimbabwean farm, who often run under Prime Minister Robert Mugabe—a member of the dominant Shona minority, is the historic rival to the minority Ndebele people of Matabeleland.

At least 60 white farmers, their wives and children who survived the bloody seven-year war, have been butchered by the rebels in an escalating campaign to wreak the four-year-old republic's agriculture-based economy.

Zimbabwe's 3,000 white farmers—men who collectively employ the biggest labor force, produce most of the country's food and generate the bulk of export income—are prime targets in Matabeleland.

The last victims—Charles Laxton, his wife Rosaline, their 10-year-old daughter Jennifer and Mr. Laxton's brother Tony—were slain by a band of rebels that entered their house through the security fence of their Keli ranch, slaughtered their watchdogs and then raked the homestead with automatic fire.

The Keli block, a mere shadow of the Matabeleland provincial capital of Bulawayo, is 41 white farms in a 40-year period of independence. Now there are none.

Thought after independence that we would be completely over our tests, Mr. Ray van Vuuren, 50, said 18 years as a 42-year-old pioneer farmer who had been part of the official band of snipers that worked for the Laxtons' deserted ranch for the last time on Wednesday this week.

Worse

"Now it's worse than the war days because you don't know the enemy," the Van Vuurens, who led white farmers entered their 6,000 cattle ranch out of the thick brush, got into a bush cleared with high fences and drove off to a cattle...

MAX ROSENVELDS: 10 white farmers in the province are facing ruin. On his ranch in the Matabeleland district near Kei—-but for how long he doesn't know.

"No to long ago we were up on a paddy (short) line of 11 people. We said, 'Give us the only chance of survival: of survival—'

Senator Ronafeldt is grimly aware of how dangerous life can be for farmers in Matabeleland. He and his son, Tony, were ambushed last year by a gang of rebels who destroyed their 5,000-cow ranch.

"I don't believe anything is set in stone. I believe that the situation is not as grave as it seems."

But Home Affairs Minister Milton Byaruhanga, who is convinced that the ex-blacks are closing in, is skeptical.

"We are trying to combat the situation, but it's hard to prevent serious problems."

In the province six months ago, it was destroyed there were 437 sightings of "bandits". Security forces and vigilantes clashed at 175 times. The...
Fighting to live his people again.
Pretoria

Correspondent

No action will be taken against Transvaal provincial traffic inspectors who were involved in an incident in which a Zimbabwean envoy's arm was broken.

This was confirmed today by the deputy provincial secretary, Mr Schalk Brits.

He said no action would be taken against the provincial traffic inspectors on duty at the roadblock near Louis Trichardt last year when the Zimbabwean Deputy Trade Commissioner, Mr David Buyanga, had his arm broken.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Pik Botha, has been sent a copy of a report dealing with the incident.

The Administrator, Mr Willem Cruywagen, forwarded the report to Mr Botha after an investigation by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Mr Brits refused to reveal the contents of the report.
Envoy's arm: no action

Pretoria Correspondent
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Mr. Brits refused to reveal the contents of the report.
DETENTION OF TOP ZAPU LEADER ‘UNDER REVIEW’

By ANDRE WILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE — A detained former Zapu guerrilla commander, Lieutenant-General Logchat Masuku, has appeared before a review tribunal which would recommend whether or not to continue holding him, the Zimbabwean House of Assembly heard yesterday.

Masuku was deputy-commander of the Zimbabwean army when his former Zapu intelligence chief, Mr Dumiso Dabengwa and other former guerrilla leaders were detained early in 1982.

The Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, told the House that Mr Dabengwa’s detention would be reviewed shortly. He, Gen Masuku and four other men were all acquitted in April last year of treason, but they were immediately detained again.

Mr Mubako also disclosed that a former Zapu MP, Mr Vote Moyo, who was detained early in 1982, had not yet appeared before a review tribunal.

He said police were still conducting investigations against the former Zimbabwe-Rhodesia Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who was detained last October in connection with alleged ‘clandestine activities against the State’.

Commenting on the fact that on the strength of review tribunal recommendations late last year, the Government had released detained white air force officers who had not been behind bars as long as the former Zapu guerrilla leader Mr Masuku, at each case was treated according to its merits and some matters took longer to investigate than others.

During the Prime Minister’s question time yesterday, Mr Robert Mugabe said dissenters in the south-western province of Matabeleland continued to commit murders and other acts of lawlessness, but the situation was not worsening.

Whether they (dissenters) are nurtured by ZAPU or by some area, or by South Africa, as others are, their aim is to sustain ZAPU and lead it into power under its leadership,” he said.
Private school subsidises 35 needy pupils

By ANDRE VLJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — Some of Zimbabwe's lowest-paid workers are sending their sons to one of the country's most exclusive private high schools this year.

And the privilege of their sons' admissions to Peterhouse will cost the black farm and domestic worker parents no more than places in ordinary government schools.

According to Dr Alan Medragalay, rector of the school in the affluent Morningside farming district about 75km south-east of Harare, about 35 sons of poor parents are being admitted. Their fees will be heavily subsidised from the school's bursary fund and cheap uniforms will be available from the school's second-hand shop.

By day, the lucky 35 will share modern, spacious educational and sporting facilities with about 450 other boys — whose parents will be paying more than R1 000 a term this year. But unlike their richer chums who are all boarders, they will spend their nights with their families in huts nearby.

The new move by Peterhouse follows a private schools score late last year when the government threatened to close down private schools unless at least 60% of their pupil intake was black, and if they charged more than R548 a term.

The predominantly white schools were accused of constantly raising their fees to maintain white exclusiveness.

But following a flurry of discussions between private sector chiefs and Cabinet Ministers, the private schools were apparently given more time in which to get their houses in order.

Dr Medragalay refused to say what proportion of black pupils he had admitted to the school this year, but it is reliably understood to be small.

However, he stressed that like other private schools which pioneered non-racial education before independence in 1980, Peterhouse had never excluded pupils on racial grounds.

The new deal for poor parents as well as plans to expand an existing inexpensive night school for both adults and children, were "part of our attempt to share our facilities with the less privileged," he said.

But because of high running costs, it would essentially remain a school for those parents who could afford to pay more than most.
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Contacts between Zimbabwe and South Africa on trade and security matters were being maintained Mr Robert Mugabe said today.

The Zimbabwe Prime Minister had been asked if he envisaged talks with South Africa along the lines of the recent consultations between Maputo and Pretoria in an endeavour to bring peace and security to the region.

CONTACT MADE

He told Parliament that trade contacts had been maintained in an open manner and when matters of security arose officers had been sent to confer with South African officials to try to secure conditions of peace and law and order.

"We have had relations in the sphere of trade and law and order so there has already been contact," he said.

Mr Mugabe said Zimbabwe's army was small and ill-equipped but was developing and the people of Zimbabwe were determined to repulse acts of aggression from South Africa.

"We remain vigilant and feel we have the capability to defend ourselves," he told a questioner.

When commando units had been sent into Zimbabwe they had lasted only a few days.

"In the event of an invasion we will do our best, but I hope South Africa will think twice before resorting to such ill-conceived action," he said.

Mr Mugabe said some dissidents operating in Matabeleland were nurtured by South Africa and others by ZAPU. But they all fought for one cause... to lead ZAPU to power.

He said the security situation still gave rise for concern. It was not worsening and was in fact under greater control. But murder and lawlessness continued and the government was taking steps to strengthen security.
HARARE — The cost of living for lower-income urban families in Zimbabwe shot up by nearly 32 percent from October 1982 to October last year. Steep food price rises were the main cause.

Lower-income families were estimated to spend nearly 55 percent of their income on food. The cost of living for higher-income families was estimated to have risen by 18 percent, according to the latest figures.
Mugabe's reign of terror - charge

Own Correspondent

LONDON. - Many thousands were now believed to have died, with women bayoneted and corpses left unburied in bush villages, during a "reign of terror" conducted by government forces to suppress dissidents across Zimbabwe's Matabeleland, the Sunday Telegraph reported here yesterday.

Reports that the death toll has exceeded 20,000 and that the purges, which began 18 months ago, have started up once more are likely to prove deeply embarrassing to Britain as a staunch supporter of the Mugabe government.

Evidence of the alleged atrocities and protests from leading Zimbabwe politicians in London are being aired as Mr Mugabe's Information Minister, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, spends a week here as guest of the government.

His trip has been planned partly to try to improve Zimbabwe's tarnished image.

A state of emergency has been renewed in Zimbabwe as 3,000 men of the notorious North Korean-trained 5th Brigade move through drought-stricken areas of Matabeleland.
ord over embattled — and parched — Southern Africa

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The grim spectre of a third successive year of drought hangs over Zimbabwe with large areas of the country already facing a desperate situation.

But in the major cropping areas, where the bulk of the staple diet, maize, is produced, there is still hope that the rains will save the day.

Mr John Laurie, leader of the 4,500 commercial farmers in Zimbabwe, said: "The situation in the cropping areas is very serious but can be retrieved if we get rain within the next 10 days and if they continue into April."

Mr Laurie, who has made extensive tours of the country, said the situation north of Harare was not too bad, though there were dry parts in this area which were in a critical state.

To the south of Harare, however, the overall picture was grim with the situation deteriorating rapidly.

"In the Masvingo, Mweneze and Buffalo Range farming districts, farmers, particularly cattle ranchers, are facing a disastrous situation. It is as bad as it was this time last year when Zimbabwe experienced its worst drought in living memory."

Apart from a few pockets, ranchers are under extreme pressure with cattle already turning to browsing to stay alive.

This is in spite of the fact that in the Mwenezi district, for example, ranchers have destocked to 50 percent of the animals they had at this time last year.

Mr Laurie said that in Matabeleland the situation in the Gwanda and west Nicholson districts was critical. Very little rain had fallen and there was practically no grass.

There was a deteriorating picture west of Bulawayo in the Marula ranching area.

Zimbabwe needs rain — lots of it and soon. The key question facing the country is whether it has enough maize stockpiled to feed its people before the next harvest. And, despite expectations of good tobacco and cotton crops, these too might fail if rain does not fall soon.

The key question here at the moment is whether the country has enough maize in stock to feed the people until the next harvest.

Mr Laurie agreed that the question of adequate stocks seemed it could develop into an "11th-hour situation."

"Hopefully we will have enough to carry us through to the end of April. Drying maize which was planted early can be a costly process, but we should be able to start delivery by the middle of April," said Mr Laurie.

Farmers are hoping for incentives to help cover the costs of early deliveries, but no announcement has yet been made.

He did not know of any plans to import maize at this stage. The government has given assurances that stocks will last, but has declined to reveal the current size of the stockpile.

There were chaotic scenes in December when maize supplies to the millers were cut in an effort to conserve stocks and mealie meal ran short in many areas of Zimbabwe.

The government was then forced to increase allocations to the milling companies.

Drought relief feeding schemes which had been stopped were also resumed.

Temperatures soaring into the 30s have added to the concern about dwindling water supplies.
Reign of Terror

20,000 massacred in
Mathabels tell of corpses left to rot

London Daily Mail, March 30, 1984
4. Dr W J Snymans asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether a charge was laid with the South African Police against provincial traffic inspectors roundabout January 1984 in consequence of an incident at Louis Trichardt involving a foreign representative; if so, what was the nature of the charge;

(2) whether the charge has been investigated; if so, what was the result of the investigation?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Although the incident had been reported to the Police at Louis Trichardt, no formal complaint had been lodged.

(2) Falls away.

Foreign representative: incident at Louis Trichardt

5. Dr W J Snymans asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether a charge was laid with the South African Police roundabout January 1984 in connection with the conduct of a foreign representative during an incident at Louis Trichardt:

if so, what was the nature of the charge;

(2) whether the charge has been investigated; if so, what was the result of the investigation?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) and (2) My reply to the previous question also applies to this question.
Airman tells of Harare torture

London Bureau

WING-CDR John Cox, among the last of the white Zimbabwe Air Force officers to be released after their clearance on sabotage charges last year, spoke for the first time yesterday about torture he suffered in detention in Harare.

Wing-Cdr Cox said, however, that in spite of his arrest and torture he had kept a 'naïve faith' in Zimbabwean Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

From his home near Bristol Wing-Cdr Cox spoke of beatings, blindfold interrogation, a 450 km drive through the bush in leg-irons and handcuffs. A mock execution and finally severe electric shock treatment with an instrument which 'felt as if it was a red-hot hedgehog or wire brush'.
Government troops and dissidents accused of atrocities

By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Foreign News Service

BULAWAYO — Being trapped “between the rock and the hard place” is a fact of life for people in rural areas of Zimbabwe’s Matabeleland province.

Last week, in the latest phase of its continuing anti-dissident campaign, the Zimbabwe Government slapped a severe dusk-to-dawn curfew on the worst dissident-infected areas of Kezi, Matapos and Gwanda, south-west of here.

The curfew — which restricts movement and commerce — was implemented, according to the authorities, to help combat the influx of allegedly South African-trained dissidents into Zimbabwe. The dissidents were accused by the Government of being responsible for a number of atrocities against innocent civilians in Matabeleland.

The dissidents’ campaign of violence, and the Government’s offensive against them, have been continuing, and the civilian population appears to be squeezed in the middle suffering brutality from both sides.

For some months now — a year after the deployment of Fifth Brigade troops in the province and resultant international publicity about alleged brutalities and atrocities against civilians — church organisations here have been receiving reports of killings, beatings and kraal burnings by security forces in remote areas.

Father Hebron Wilson, a worker for the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in the city, is continuing to compile a dossier on recent alleged security force acts.

Among those he has recorded, and forwarded to the commission’s offices in Harare are:

- November 24 — 20 people, most of them members of Mr Joshua Nkomo’s Zapu party, were reported beaten to death by soldiers near an army camp on the Mlambuzi river in the Plumtree area. The victims were, according to informants, buried in a single grave.

- November 24 — in the Wana ward in the Plumtree area, three Zapu members of the district council — Mr Maganenge Dube, Mr Loyi Ndlovu and Mr Fanyana Moyo — were reported to have been shot dead by soldiers.

- January 17 — in the Lupane area, soldiers allegedly burnt down the huts of local businessman Mr Daniel Ndlovu and his brother, Samson. Three cows and a calf were also shot by the troops, who allegedly told the Ndlovs: “You will not cook for dissidents again.”

- January 19 — Mr Ngumula Ndlovu was beaten to death by soldiers in the Sibobo district of Plumtree. The beating was witnessed by a rural council worker who was also beaten by the troops and later had to be treated in hospital.

One of Father Wilson’s co-workers on the commission, a black man who did not wish to be identified, has also compiled similar dossiers and sent them to the commission in Harare.

His records of the brutalities include:

- December 2 — six homes burnt in the Kezi area.

- December 2 — two women shot and wounded during “crossfire” between the army and dissidents. In the same district — Gwalali — 24 kraals were burnt to the ground by troops who followed dissident spoors into the area.

An official Government statement this week said there was concern about the “marked increase” in killings, torture and maltreatment of innocent people by dissidents in Matabeleland.

The statement said that since January 1983 more than 200 people had been killed, 23 mutilated and 47 raped in parts of north Matabeleland and the Midlands.

Most of the victims were Government supporters, government employees or officials of Mr Robert Mugabe’s ruling Zanu (PF) party.

One man was buried alive, a man and his wife were herded into their hut, which was then set alight, and one man was ordered to club his neighbour to death.

Other atrocities which, claimed the statement, bore the “hallmark of the Selous Scouts tactics employed during the war”, included the hacking-off of ears, lips and noses, and there were instances of victims being burnt with plastic.

Certainly, whether due to the activities of dissidents or government troops on counter operations, there has been an influx of refugees into this southern city from outlying areas — particularly the Nkayi district.

Father Wilson estimated that the latest movement of people was “upwards of 500” and said that the Catholic Church Council for Social Services and Development was helping to feed at least 130 people who were hiding with relatives in black townships.

Various reports continue to filter back to the church investigators. In the Nkayi area, for instance, people report that a Fifth Brigade colonel who calls himself “Black Jesus” or “Black Moses” has set up roadblocks to turn back those trying to flee to Bulawayo, and warned those who leave that their kraals will be burnt down.

Other refugees speak of soldiers burning kraals after accusing residents of harbouring or feeding dissidents. The latest victim, Mr Nkomo, who arrived in Bulawayo to have reached when the justice system was involved in brutal incidents. Kral burnings and atrocities notables members gaped.

A government committee’s annual granted by the who arrived to be sat in Bulawayo. Such was the members, even lunch hour and could not deal with. The court to return to the to hear further. According to violence by go to reached a peak March last year, at least July, met the minister’s defence. Dr Sipindled for a halt. The priest’s officially reported in.
ral people flee as w reign of terror s Matabeleland

media at the time, and units of the Fifth Brigade were withdrawn with a consequent decline in violence. The reports of violence started coming in again during the latter half of last year, according to Father Wilson, and informants are still coming forward to describe alleged brutalities by security forces in a number of districts in the province.

Father Wilson has been interrogated by the country's Central Intelligence Organization (CIO) on three occasions concerning his work for the justice and peace commission and his statements to reporters. Last November, he was warned, he said, by his questioners, that he could face a stiff fine or jail sentence for "passing information which would damage state security".

Security Minister Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa said this week that security forces had killed or captured 429 bandits since operations began. He made no mention of government dead or wounded.

White farmers in the province, whose morale has slumped after the recent murders of the Loxton family in Kwekwe and the subsequent complete evacuation of that area by the remaining farmers, appear to be adopting a "wait and see" attitude.

After a weekend meeting with farmers, Mr Mnangagwa promised that the Government would do its best to try to improve the security situation.

Mr Mike Wood, chairman of the Matabeleland branch of the Commercial Farmers' Union, said that no mass exodus of farmers from the province had taken place despite the Kezi withdrawals.

Some of his members had become "weekend farmers"—living in Bulawayo and visiting their farms regularly to keep things running—because of the security situation.
Zimbabwe plans to clamp down on the foreign exchange drain

CUTBACK ON THE CARDS

HARARE: As Zimbabwe's foreign debt grows worse, the authorities are thinking of new ways to cut down on the unceasing flow of foreign exchange.

Measures due to be announced within two weeks could be the worst news since 1989 on the remittability of money abroad.

For a start, it seems that annual dividends for companies abroad will be slashed from the present maximum of 50 percent of the total amount owed, with the possibility that it could be stopped entirely.

In its place will come the queue system, well known in Nigeria and Zambia, with companies applying for money to be remitted and then having to sit back and wait.

Accompanying this will probably be reductions in allowances for former residents, such as total annual income which could be reduced to $10 000.

Finance Correspondent

The earlier predictions of cuts in the settling-in allowances for elderly people seem to be on the cards. Although the Government says holiday allowances will be the last payments to be touched, these might be shaved to lessen the foreign currency pressure.

However, pensions and annuities will definitely not be affected; come what may, these are going to be honoured. Enough friendly words of advice have been given to officials to make them realise just how serious such a move would be.

The financial struggle being waged by Treasury Minister Dr. Herried Chidozero is really on two fronts — domestic and foreign expenditure.

Internally the rate of official spending continues to rise unabated and the recent civil service pay rise adds to the pressures. So, new tax measures are being contemplated.

They include yet another rise in the petrol price. The theory, bizarre though it may seem, is that motorists can save only a certain amount of fuel and would have to use a minimum amount no matter how high the price. This of course does not take any account of the effect on the national inflation rate of 30 percent a year.

Controls on the price of beer are being discussed. This is probably the largest single sales tax earner but sales have gone down because the price is so high — more than $1 in some cocktail bars — and it has been suggested revenue would pick up if the selling price was fixed or even lowered.

In a rare example of inter-country co-operation, Zimbabwe and Zambia are talking about setting up bank accounts in the two countries to pay off debts to each other. Zambia desperately needs goods unavailable there while Zimbabwe owes millions in foreign exchange for buying electricity.

The two have come to the conclusion, although little has happened as yet, that business would improve if goods were traded rather than hard currency.

Zimbabwe this year is going to be spending huge sums on maize imports and drought relief. It has been calculated that foreign maize will have a landed cost of $300 a ton and will mean the equivalent of $120 million being spent in foreign currency.

On top of this will be drought relief and food aid to tribal areas, costing another $60 million, which is a huge proportion of the national budget in terms of the extra money needed.
WINDHOEK — A five-man team from the SWA/Namibian Agricultural Union (Swalu) leaves for Zimbabwe on invitation for a five-day visit.

Public relations officer for the SWA/Namibian delegation, Mr. Gys Reitz, said the invitation had been extended by the Zimbabwe Commercial Farmers’ Union.

He said the Swalu delegation would make contact and build up relations with their Zimbabwean counterparts, as well as studying the state of agriculture in independent Zimbabwe.

Those in the delegation are the president, Mr. Johnny Kirsten, Swalu director, Mr. Hennie Snyman, the vice chairman of the Meat Producers’ Association, Mr. Paul Smit, and Swalu public relations officer, Mr. Reitz. — SAPA.
FORMER Zimbabwean guerrillas are spearheading what Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has dubbed "the second liberation war...the war for economic independence".

Their "army" is called Oczim, short for the Organisation of Collective Co-operatives in Zimbabwe.

And with its first major victory under its belt - a two-year battle to become registered and recognized as official representative of collective co-operatives - Oczim is in a militant mood.

"Whoever thinks we are a soft egg to crush will find we are as hard as stone," Oczim chairperson Mr Cephas Munopa said in an interview published in the organisation's fortnightly newsletter Vanguard.

"We will run our co-operatives as efficiently as the capitalists run their businesses, but we will be serving the people, not exploiting them.

"In this way we can play our role in the development of our country," he said.

Such fighting talk is easy to dismiss in Harare, where most black and white residents of the city's park-like suburbs have come to regard official socialist rhetoric as silly but harmless background noise.

But, says Oczim administrator Mr Humphries Runowa, the majority of Zimbabweans - who still live in crowded, infertile and drought-ravaged communal lands - are hungry for land and economic independence.

Mr Runowa - who, like the entire Oczim executive, is a former guerrilla and co-operative activist - says former combatants are the best-qualified to build the foundation for a national collective co-operative movement, which he believes could maximize production and eradicate unemployment.

Many former guerrillas received co-operative training overseas during the war, and all of them had learnt the value of co-operative effort in overcoming serious food shortages and health and education problems in refugee camps in Mozambique, Zambia and Botswana.

Most of the 2000 former guerrillas demobilized since the end of 1981 had received their demobilisation pay and, for the remainder, the last R203 monthly payout was looming ever closer.

The war had cost them heavily in lost education and job training.

For many of these ex-combatants, the appeal of pooling their demobilisation pay and energy in collective co-operatives presented a much more attractive prospect than competing for scarce jobs in a depressed economy.

According to Mr Runowa, nearly half of the demobilised ex-combatants were now active in the array of agricultural, commercial, industrial and transport co-operative co-operatives that have become part of the new Zimbabwe.

"Co-operatives have failed everywhere else in Africa, but we have studied the mistakes and I am sure we will be the first to succeed."

"Unlike Tanzania, for example, where people were forced into co-operative villages, here co-operatives are established in response to a felt need," he said.

However, he anticipated a long and arduous struggle before the many sceptics shared Oczim's view that collective co-operatives are the key to national development.

The vast majority of collective co-operatives were seriously short of cash (some agricultural co-operatives, in fact, faced ruin unless they received emergency drought aid soon) and there was a serious shortage of management skills.

Oczim was taking practical measures to meet the challenge head on.

It was enlisting the financial support of donor agencies - notably in Canada and Scandinavian countries - and had so far disbursed R90000 worth of drought relief aid and R5000 for other co-operative projects. The University of Zimbabwe, it was conducting a major survey to identify strengths and weaknesses of the national collective co-operative movement in order to facilitate planning.

It has established a dozen district offices providing a link between the headquarters in Harare and more than 200 affiliated collective co-operatives throughout the country.

It hoped to establish more district offices and to set up district transport, health and marketing pools.

If funds permit it would also employ qualified field officers to co-operate with district office committees in budgeting, marketing and other technical areas.

The organisation also has its eye on hundreds of traditional co-operatives, which it does not recognise as true collective (producer) co-operatives but sees as potential recruits.

The Oczim headquarters is one of the busiest offices I have visited in Harare, and after several recent sessions there - and visits to three Oczim-affiliated collective co-operatives - I was left in no doubt that the "second liberation war" is being waged as earnestly as was the first.

TOMORROW: Where the money goes to fund co-operatives.

SUPERMARKETERS... former guerrilla fighters pooled their army demobilisation pay to buy this Harare store, which they run as a co-operative.
One-party state after next polls, says Mugabe

HARARE. — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, said yesterday if his ruling party won the next General Election it would find ways of circumventing the British designed constitution and create a one-party state.

Replying during his monthly parliamentary question session, Mr. Mugabe reiterated his pledge that his ruling ZANU PF (Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front) would not allow “constitutional rigidity” to frustrate moves towards a one-party state.

“We will fight the next election on a platform which will include the one-party state proposition and if the party wins these elections then the party would not allow the will of the people to be foiled by the rigidity of our constitution,” he said.

“We will have to seek ways and means of ensuring that the will of the people is given full expression by the creation of a political order which is based on the one-party system,” he said.

The will of the people was paramount and once they had decided to have a one-party state it would be introduced, he said.

“We will come to Parliament and confer with everybody here on the possibility of creating a one-party state. We would want to see here opponents to the will of the people, opponents to democracy when the time comes. And if there are opponents to democracy we will not allow it to suffer detriment. We would rather the opposition suffered detriment,” he said amid laughter from government members.

Mr. Mugabe’s statement — his second in five days on the one-party state plans — is seen by observers to be a harder line in preparation for the General Election, scheduled for late this year or early next.

The constitution’s specially entrenched clauses — including guaranteed white representation in Parliament — was introduced at independence in 1980 for 10 years or the life of two parliaments, whichever is the shorter. A parliamentary term is normally a maximum of five years.

Asked about the fate of detained former Prime Minister, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Mr. Mugabe said the detainees’ review tribunal was still working on his appeal for release and had not reported to the government.

Bishop Muzorewa was detained in November for allegedly plotting against the government.

Asked why opposition leader Mr. Joshua Nkomo had not also been hounded up when he was “invariably linked with dissidents”, Mr. Mugabe said the government was trying to be accommodating but warned that Mr. Nkomo was not immune from arrest.

The early Mr. Nkomo listened impassively as Mr. Mugabe complained that the opposition leader and his Zagos party had failed to mount a concerted campaign to persuade its supporters to stop helping dissidents — UPI.
Harare's fight against cholera

By ANDRE WILKSEN

Health authorities in Zimbabwe have adopted tough measures to contain a cholera outbreak in the eastern border region but have refused to disclose the scale of the problem.

According to an informed but unofficial source, some 2000 cholera cases have been confirmed in the Chitungwiza and Chaiimbabwe districts since the outbreak last year.

A health official at a roadblock on the outskirts of the affected area said this week that many people had died.

An official in the eastern city of Mutare, about 150km north of the quarantine area, this week expressed optimism that the worst of the outbreak was over and had been successfully contained.

But there is concern after a single cholera case was reported in Chimanimani last week.

Health authorities and police continued to man roadblocks on all roads leading to the quarantine area this week.

People leaving the area are required to take preventative medicine and are not allowed to take cut meat or fresh produce or water. Those entering are warned of the health risks.

Cholera is thought to have been introduced by fleeing Mozambicans.

Police and health department officials in Mutare recently persuaded 500 people at an annual church meeting to disperse after it was learnt that some of the crowd had come from the cholera area.

The Mutare Health Department has imposed a ban on all meetings requiring communal sleeping, and temporary pit latrines and has also ordered that funerals be held only after consultation with health authorities and be attended by "essential people only.

Health teams in Mutare are lecturing and distributing pamphlets on how to prevent the spread of cholera and residents have been advised not to encourage visits from relatives and friends from cholera areas.
Now former enemies help black farmers get best from the land

THE Harare South Farmers’ Association still meets on the last Thursday of every month.

But there is a difference.

The meeting of prosperous white commercial farmers in the local country club is also being attended by black ex-guerrillas who have bought a 4 600ha spread which they are farming collectively.

“They didn’t seem too happy when we arrived at our first meeting, but we told them that, although we were enemies yesterday, today we are no longer interested in politics but in farming,” the deputy chairman of the Simukai Agricultural Co-operative, Mr Richman Nkolomi, told me during a conversation in the farm office.

“They accepted that and now they are really helping us to do the right things and plant crops which will give us the best return. They say if we continue as we have started we should succeed.” Simukai, about 40km from Harare, is the most prosperous of the three co-operatives I visited recently.

But it clearly faces many problems, not the least of which is how to lay hands on the substantial amounts of money needed to keep it running.

It is the aim of the 97 former guerrillas and 24 civilian men and women running the collective to maintain levels of production comparable with commercial farms.

The ex-combatants pooled R66 000 in demobilisation pay towards the cost of the farm and were met halfway by an Agricultural Finance Corporation loan.

Ironically, while the collective has been accepted by white farmers it has inspired little enthusiasm among 98 former farm labourers who are still living on the land.

“At first we tried to involve them in projects, but they were used to monthly wages and were put off when we told them none of us would get any money unless we worked very hard.

“We offered them the same small (R35) monthly soap and cigarette allowances we currently receive but they said they would rather stand back and see how we work out.”

“A few have recently told us they have noticed some improvement and I think in time they will join us,” said Mr Nkolomi.

He said although all 81 co-operative members did the work of labourers without receiving the wages, they ate their own good produce, owned the land, stock, buildings and machinery and were motivated to succeed.

In Harare I visited what on the surface looks like a perfectly ordinary, well-stocked suburban supermarket and bottle store.

Mr Weston, a good-humoured one of 11 ex-guerillas who run the complex collectively, told me they had not advertised their real location because they did not want to antagonise anyone.

“But by now, of most of our regular customers – about half of whom are white – know about us and there are no hard feelings.”

The men, who were together in the war and did not regard each other as friends but as brothers, each put R2 640 of their demobilisation pay towards the purchase of the complex.

Although their venture has a monthly turnover of about R27 000, it has drawn any salary and none of them expects to do so before another two years’ hard work.

“Because we are a co-operative, millers, bakers and manufacturers refuse to give us credit facilities. We have to buy all our stock on a COD basis and what little of our earnings are not needed for running costs, we put into expansion projects such as our new poultry unit.”

Mr Shawarira said they were all committed to their venture and determined to promote self-reliance.

The other collective co-operative I visited was run by 10 remarkably patient women who, after nearly three years of collective dreaming, are not even earning enough extra money to pay for their bus fares to work.

This cost is carried by their factory-worker husbands.

Mrs Eunatha Rawonder, chairperson of the Shingati Co-operative – which operates from a small, dingy rented room – said, however, “things are a bit improved now, but we don’t have enough sewing machines”.

In fact, the former housewives – who make school uniforms by day and attend adult education classes in the evenings – have only two industrial machines which were donated to them by Oceanic, the Organisers of Collective Co-operatives in Zimbabwe) and three loaned domestic machines which they have to return at the end of this month.

They earn about R1 100 a week selling to schools with which they have contracts. All the money is absorbed buying more material and paying rent.

“We could make much more if we had more machines,” said Mrs Rawonder.

Despite the little progress they said they were better off, thanks to their decision to take the collective plunge after attending a co-operative meeting in 1981.

“We were doing nothing before. Now we are doing our best to help our children and develop our country and we are mixing with different people and sharing ideas with others.”

It was heartwarming to hear from an Oceania official later the good news which had not yet been conveyed to the industrious women; that the organisation had decided to give them another two industrial machines.

“We constantly monitor all collective co-operatives and try to give material assistance to those we believe deserve it,” the official said.
New Terror in Zimbabwe

... Message and shudders, but the government denies wave of killings
Security forces guilty of atrocities — US report

A woman stands in the doorway of a burning house.

The government of Zimbabwe denies claims that it forces all residents to leave their homes.

The President submitted the report to Congress in early February, and the report was released to the public in March. The report is a comprehensive examination of the human rights abuses committed by the military and police forces in Zimbabwe. The report documents instances of torture, summary executions, and other abuses of human rights.

The report also highlights the role of the military in perpetrating human rights abuses. The report notes that the military has used its power to intimidate and suppress opposition politicians, journalists, and human rights activists.

The report concludes with recommendations for the United States to take action to address the human rights abuses in Zimbabwe. The report calls on the United States to impose sanctions on the Zimbabwean government and to support independent human rights organizations in the country.

The report has been widely criticized by the Zimbabwean government, which has denied the allegations and accused the United States of interference in its internal affairs.

The report has also been praised by human rights organizations, which have welcomed the document as a landmark in the effort to hold the Zimbabwean government accountable for its violations of human rights.

The report is a call to action for the international community to work together to end the human rights abuses in Zimbabwe and to promote respect for human rights in the country.
Starving refugees face uncertain fate

By ANDRE VILJOEN
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — About 100,000 sick and starving Mozambican refugees who have trekked hundreds of kilometres to escape a killer famine, now face an uncertain future in Zimbabwe.

While aid organisations and border district authorities await a lead from the government, the burden of providing assistance to these shattered people is weighing on poor peasant villagers in eastern Zimbabwe.

District authorities are becoming increasingly apprehensive about the health hazard to villagers. In one district alone, health authorities are battling to contain an imported outbreak of cholera which has affected an estimated 20,000 people and has caused an unknown number of deaths.

About 20,000 refugees have been lucky enough to get temporary work on commercial farms, and, according to an informed source in Harare, the government recently put about 24,000 in a camp where it is presumably feeding them.

The extent of their plight is generally unknown in Zimbabwe and so far the refugees have received limited food and clothing on an ad hoc basis from a Catholic Church organisation, a rural school, some concerned town dwellers and of course villagers and district administration officials.

Apparently voluntary organisations which met in Harare this week to consider a response to the crisis and some other potential benefactors, are finding it difficult to help without any clear indication of the government’s plans. The Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, told Parliament this week he regarded Mozambican refugees as “being on a temporary sojourn” in Zimbabwe and the government was talking to Mozambique about repatriating them.

Refugees spoke to in north-eastern Zimbabwe this week said they would never go back. Among them were blind men, women, and children whose long trek had taken them through what some refugees described as “villages of death”. Most of the refugees speak Shona which is also the language of the Zimbabweans who are helping them.

An old man at Rushinga said they had come from Tete province where nothing was growing and there was not a crumb of food or stitch of clothing in any store.

More than 100,000 people have reportedly starved to death in Mozambique in the past year and government spokesmen have said they could not send food or Tote because of the activities of allegedly South African-backed Mozambique Resistance Movement (MNR) bandits in central areas of the country.

The refugee children seen this week were potbellied and had wasted limbs. Some were eagerly eating food given to them by sympathisers, but others sat listlessly. There were signs of vitamin deficiency — ginger-tinted hair, flaky scalps and advancing blindness.

The senior district administrative officer at Rushinga, Mr Webster Mutisi, said his office had been appealing to the government since September last year for help with the refugee burden.

He expected the government would take decisive action soon but in the meantime hoped more outside help would be forthcoming.

Peasants who were feeding the refugees were also drought victims and received only enough government aid to feed themselves. “But with our people it is very difficult to look at a man dying on your doorstep, so the little they have they share with these people.”
Hapless Mozambique refugees seek relief

Starving thousands pour into Zimbabwe

By Brendan Seery,
The Star's Foreign News Service

RUSHINGA—When the emaciated old Mozambican eventually died, the other starving people in his group of refugees were too weak to dig a proper grave.

So they left the body covered with shrubs and grass a short distance from the road, and resumed their weary march into Zimbabwe in search of food.

Such stories are becoming commonplace in this harsh hot corner of north-east Zimbabwe where, over the past three months, there has been an influx of thousands of starving Mozambicans.

Church and relief agencies are extremely worried about the influx and are hard put to feed them. Urgent appeals for international aid have been made by the agencies, but so far none has been forthcoming.

PRECONDITION

The Zimbabwe Government has failed to acknowledge and classify the people as refugees — a precondition for receiving aid from the wealthy UN High Commission for Refugees.

Many and lie in shallow graves or under shrubs. Others, particularly the little children, have died in hospitals and clinics. Burned infants, bellies swollen but limbs scrawnny and bowed, are a common sight around Rushinga and at the Catholic mission hospital at Marymount, close to the border.

The Mozambicans, mainly malnourished women and children and elderly people, queue patiently at the mission's kitchen for their daily hand-outs of sadza, beans and soup.

Dr. Rainer Winkelmann, a German working at the mission, is concerned about the health hazard from the 300 or so refugees camping at the mission, but is heartened by the progress the small children have made.

In this corner of Zimbabwe alone there are believed to be about 15,000 Mozambicans. However, all along Zimbabwe's eastern border, right down to the lowveld, the hapless ones have come streaming across.

Some of the refugees tell of having had to hand over what little food they had to the Mozambique Army which is deployed against the MNR and appears to have little food. Other refugees say the MNR robbed them of their clothes.

On the road from the border to Rushinga, and further south to the main administrative centre of Mount Darwin, the refugees are a common sight.

Instantly distinguishable from Zimbabweans by their gaunt and tatty appearance, many have headed for the squatter camps springing up in the main centres.

Aid workers are worried that the Mozambicans, who will have serious problems later this year in trying to feed their own people, will herd the Mozambicans back to their own country.

In the meantime the Mozambicans are existing, in many instances, on the generosity of local Zimbabweans.

"That is the normal Shona hospitality," says one aid worker, "and also the Zimbabweans still feel very grateful for everything the Mozambicans did for them during the war."

Come winter the Zimbabweans themselves could well be in the same position.

The Ziana news agency reported earlier this week that a headmaster in the Rushinga area said he was afraid his pupils might not make it to school because they would succumb to starvation.

The area has had bad rains for the third consecutive season, and crops harvested here will be very small.

Looking at the smiling, fairly healthy, chubby Zimbabweans it is chilling to think that they could be as badly off as their Mozambican comrades later this year, when an estimated 40,000 people in the area including refugees, will need food assistance in one form or another.
Kiss of death for a dream

Mugabe still in SA trade shackles

By Angus Macmillan

ZIMBABWE, senior partner in the four-year old Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference, can kiss goodbye its pipedream of economic independence from big brother south of the Limpopo for the time being anyway.

South Africa is still its biggest export market and supplies most of its imports — in both cases more than double the volumes of the United Kingdom, its former colonial parent which is in second place.

Zimbabwe's trade with West Germany, the United States and Japan has increased markedly since 1983, but not at SA's expense.

Zimbabwe's trade with its SADCC partners has fallen since the alliance's inception in 1980 — exactly what SADCC wanted to avoid — and it has not been able to prune its economic connections with South Africa.

SA's trade with black Africa has doubled since 1979 to more than R1 000-million a year.

Oil lifeline

Pretoria's extension of its long-standing preferential trade agreement in 1982 — an about-turn after announcing that it would be ended — is the single most important factor in Zimbabwe's economic development. Without the agreement, Robert Mugabe's regime would be forced to keep its place on top of the SADCC pile.

When Zimbabwe's oil lifeline from Maputo was sabotaged, commerce and industry were kept going by fuel from South Africa.

Zimbabwe's dependence on SA was highlighted last year when Pretoria showed its economic leverage by temporarily shutting the railway link.

In May and June last year, Zimbabwe imported goods worth R34-million from SA. Imports from the UK were valued at R34-million between January and April. The South African figure does not include petroleum.

In the export stakes, Zimbabwe is slightly better off. But the R33-million of goods sold south of the Limpopo in May and June were more than double Zimbabwe's exports to the US of R18-million from January to April. Exports to the UK were R5-million in the first four months of 1983.

Six SADCC members — Lesotho, Botswana, Swaziland, Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia — are also firmly ensnared in South Africa's trade web.

The two other members are Angola and Tanzania with which South Africa trades more surreptitiously — it does with many other African countries.

Apart from drought and worldwide recession, the SADCC has been plagued by lack of cohesion, bickering over who gets what new industries and transport inadequacies.

Keith Atkinson, of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries, says there has been infighting among members over plans for industrial projects. "Each has solid grounds for wanting new industry, but not all have sufficient infrastructure to support its needs".

In spite of these shortcomings, the SADCC has made some progress in communications. Zimbabwe has a new multi-million rand electrified rail network, Mozambique's ports have been revived by international aid and satellites have upgraded telecommunications.

However, Mozambique's ports — Nacala, Beira and Maputo — are still a stumbling block. Maputo relies on transhipment of SA goods for most of its revenue and many Zimbabwean traders prefer Durban to the closer Mozambique ports, once teeming with holidaying white South Africans.

Alliance

Zimbabwe is a major participant in another trade alliance which has sprung up among African nations looking to decrease their reliance on South Africa and their former colonial masters.

The Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe has become the clearing house for the Preferential Trade Agreement which is expected to take off once a list of products is established in July.

Comprising East and Southern African members, the PTA includes Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Tanzania, Somalia, Swaziland, Uganda, Zambia and the Comoros.

One-stop leasing the truck fleet

By Aloc Hogg

HASSLE-free running of heavy-duty trucks has arrived.

Imperial Truck Hire, which has a fleet of more than 600 vehicles, has completed a link with Volakas fleet management division VVK, enabling it to provide clients with a one-stop leasing service for trucks.

The system combines a fixed maintenance fee for the fleet with the variable monthly cost of petrol and oil.

According to Stuart Reeves, managing director of Imperial Truck Hire, its attraction lies in trouble-free operation of a truck fleet, and the issuing of credit cards for the purchase of petrol and oil.

Similar systems are in use for car fleets, but this is the first time the service has been available for heavy vehicles.

Manager Development Program

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For further details, contact the School of Business Leadership, University of the Witwatersrand, P.O. Box 377, Wits 2050.
ZIMBABWEAN soldiers are blocking food shipments into curfew areas of southern Matabeleland and are assaulting people in large-scale round-ups of residents, people from the region said this week.

The curfew was ordered a month ago as part of the latest government attempt to suppress dissident guerrillas believed responsible for hundreds of robberies and killings since 1983.

Government officials have not commented on the anti-rebel operation, but interviews last week with refugees, farmers and security sources just outside the curfew zones indicated that it could be as violent as a similar operation in northern Matabeleland a year ago.

Britain that operation and foreign aid groups accused the army of torturing and murdering thousands of civilians.

The North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade is again the most heavily involved unit of the Zimbabwean national army. It is supplemented by a recently-commissioned unit, the Presidential Guard, dubbed the Sixth Brigade because its men are, like the Fifth Brigades, armed with AK-47 assault rifles and trained by North Korean advisers.

A number of villagers said soldiers had beaten people indiscriminately with heavy wooden sticks.

In the first week of the curfew, one rural hospital treated 60 victims of such beatings, more than 90% of whom had broken limbs. A seven-year-old girl had an arm broken in several places.

Unlike last year's operation, nobody is questioned in a village or kraal. Instead people are herded into trucks and driven to barbed wire-enclosed interrogation centres run by the Fifth Brigade and the Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO).

Several thousand people have been sent to two such camps near Kezi and near Gwanda.

A source close to the military said injuries to the kidneys caused by beatings around the buttocks and back had caused a number of deaths.

Most of the dissidents the army is hunting are believed to have slipped out of the curfew area about two weeks ago, moving to the north and east. But there has been no attempt by army or police to follow them.

The attack two weeks ago on five schoolteachers near Masvingo, 140km east of the curfew area, may have been in retaliation for the government crackdown.

Most of the area's remaining white farmers have not been bothered but several are afraid of what happens when they report sightings of dissidents to the army.

The Presidential Guard and Fifth Brigade troops often assault the workers who reported to the farmer in the first place.

"From a military point of view they are not trying to get information that will help them round up dissidents. They are just trying to brutalise people," a source close to the military said.

"The only way this could solve anything is if every Matabele in the region is killed, because there is no way anyone associated with this kind of terror campaign will ever want to have anything to do with the government," he said.

The operation has spilled over the curfew boundaries into districts that are not curfewed. On at least one occasion, just after midnight last Monday, soldiers forced the entire black population of the southeastern town of Gwanda out of their homes and told them to "run" to a football field 1km away.

Those who did not run fast enough were kicked or hit with rifle butts. Two Fifth Brigade soldiers were arrested in connection with an assault on a 1-off duty policeman during the operation.

Later that day more than 400 of Gwanda's 2,000 black residents were tricked into an interrogation camp at Bar 20 mine, 12km away. While that was happening, a CIO officer arrested Mr Sithewill Moyo, an opposition MP for Matabeleland and a close friend of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

Mr Moyo, 61, was released on Tuesday, hardly able to walk and bruised over more than half his body. He said Fifth Brigade soldiers had assaulted him.
Mass grave shown to Zimbabwe Ministers

HARARE — Zimbabwe Cabinet Ministers were yesterday shown a mass grave site where more than 4,000 guerillas and their supporters, were allegedly buried by Rhodesian security forces.

Several graves were opened at the site — a disused shooting range about 5 km from the farming community of Rusape, 200 km east of Harare.

Ministers were told that one grave held the remains of 180 women guerillas and another the remains of 160 men.

It was estimated, said a government spokesman, that more than 4,000 combatants, including young “mujibhas” and “chimb-widos” (guerilla helpers), were interred at the site.

Mrs Clara Farayi, a local woman who has spent more than Rs 600 of her own money on marking and clearing the grave sites, claimed that many of the dead were shot at the range by Selous Scouts. Other guerillas killed in contacts with government forces were brought to the site in plastic bags for burial, she said.

The Zimbabwe television service claimed the rifle range was used as a torture and interrogation centre by the Selous Scouts, and that many of the victims were burned after being shot.

A section of one of the graves was opened and Ministers and Pressmen saw human bones and skulls.

The government spokesman said prisoners had been used to dig the graves.

Information Minister Nathan Shamuyarira — head of a Cabinet committee on national monuments — said the grave site was an exposure of “the brutalities and atrocities committed by the regime of Ian Smith”.

He appealed to others who might have information of massacres or mass graves sites to come forward.

It was the government’s intention, he said, to build a national monument at the Rusape grave site.
African summit: where will the leaders meet?

The Star’s Foreign News Service

Where will the summit meeting be? Botswana, Zambia or Malawi?

All those coy dimples displayed by Mr Pik Botha on TV recently while he described the birth of a new era in Maputo/Pretoria relations have intensified speculation about the likely venue for a meeting between Prime Minister P W Botha and President Samora Machel of Mozambique.

The Foreign Minister acknowledged, with what appeared to be some hope of success, that he would like to have the two leaders sign the Maputo/Pretoria peace accord.

However, he carefully sidestepped a question on where such a meeting would take place. There are several possibilities.

Pretoria, which would be eager to host such a meeting as a demonstration of its keenness to increase its influence in its former territories, is out. The two parties agree that a signing ceremony of such import should take place in Africa.

Zimbabwe set to reopen diplomatic links with Pretoria?

By Robin Drew, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The belief is growing in informed circles here that Zimbabwe will be talking to South Africa on a government-to-government basis before too long.

Contact at ministerial level between Harare and Pretoria was banned by Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe soon after independence when in July 1980 he ordered the South African diplomatic representative here to pack his bags and go.

Both governments maintained trade missions in each other’s countries and kept on talking through their officials.

But Mr Mugabe has up to now been adamant that there should be no discussions between Ministers, an attitude which angered Pretoria.

Now in the wake of the dramatic peace initiative involving ministers of the Mozambique and South African Governments and likelihood of a meeting between President Samora Machel and Prime Minister P W Botha, political and diplomatic circles here are asking not of, but when, Ministers from Harare and Pretoria will get together.

It is reliably learnt that overtures have already been made by South Africa and that Mr Mugabe’s government has been urged to reconsider its stance in the interests of Southern African peace and stability.

Close ties between Zimbabwe and Mozambique were formed during the liberation war when Mr Machel allowed forces of the now-ruling Zanu (PF) party of Mr Mugabe to operate from Mozambique territory, despite the terrible cost exacted through Rhodesian security force raids.

Particular attention has been paid here to the remark last week by President Machel that the security talks in Maputo were not a matter for Mozambique and South Africa alone, but for the whole of Southern Africa.

TRANSPORT LINKS

Mr Mugabe has himself said in the Zimbabwe Parliament he had been assured that the talks were in the interests of security, and that if South Africa proved to be sincere, Zimbabwe should benefit from the security of its transport links through Mozambique.

But he went further to talk about his hopes for positive results from the Mozambique and Angolan meetings which could mean peace and calm in the region.

This, he said, would depend on whether there had been a “transformation” on the part of the South African Government.

Earlier this year when asked if he visualised talks with South Africa in view of the Mozambique moves, Mr Mugabe left the door open by saying that contacts had always been maintained with South Africa in an open manner, particularly when matters of trade or security needed to be discussed.

Well-placed sources in Harare say it seems inevitable that, because of the changed Southern African scene resulting from the peace talks between Maputo and Pretoria, the Zimbabwe Government will review its ban on ministerial contacts.

There is still a marked reluctance to take this step because of the wish to avoid offending South Africa the claim to respectability which it could make if yet another “progressive” African country found itself negotiating with a regime which had been labelled “obnoxious”. There is also grave distrust of South African motives.

ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS

But against this, there is the camp which says that given the prevailing economic hardships, it would be foolish for Zimbabwe to take a stand on a matter of principle when the rest of the region has found it necessary to bend.

One view is that if Zimbabwe does not agree to government-to-government discussions, it would be laying itself open to a stepped-up programme of destabilisation.

The Zimbabwe Government has repeatedly accused South Africa of arming dissidents and of mounting a propaganda campaign through a clandestine radio station called “Radio Truth”, which it says is operating from South African territory.

“Whether we like it or not, we have to take account of the realities of the situation and that means more stick from Pretoria unless we reach for the carrot,” said one source.

The carrot could be a non-aggression pact on similar lines to the one Mozambique has agreed to.

It could also be promises of assistance in helping to move food supplies which Zimbabwe will need this year and even assistance in persuading Botswana to do more to stop dissidents using that territory as a base.

A pact presumably would mean an end to Radio Truth outpourings and an agreement not to let South African soil be used as a springboard for opponents of the Harare Government.

It would also mean a formal acknowledgement of the Zimbabwe Government’s stand that it will not allow South African liberation movements to use the territory as a base for incursions across the border.
Talks with Zimbabwe next?

From ROBIN DREW, Argus Foreign Service, Harare

THE belief is growing in informed circles here that Zimbabwe will be talking to South Africa on a government-to-government basis before long.

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Mozambique

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Changed scene

Well placed sources in Harare say it seems inevitable that, because of the changed Southern African scene resulting from the peace talks between Maputo and Pretoria, the Zimbabwe government will review its ban on ministerial contacts.

There is still a marked reluctance to take this step because of the wish to avoid affording South Africa the claim to "respectability" which it could make if yet another "progressive" African country found itself negotiating with it. There is also grave distrust of South African motives.

But against this, there is the camp which says that given the prevailing economic hardships, it would be foolish for Zimbabwe to take a stand on a matter of principle when the rest of the region has found it necessary to bend.

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A pact presumably would mean an end to Radio Truth and an agreement not to let South African soil be used as a springboard for opponents of the Harare Government.

It would also mean a formal acknowledgement of the Zimbabwe government's stand that it cannot allow South African "liberation" movements to use the territory as a base for incursions across the border.

Zimbabwe has consistently maintained that while it gives the ANC and the PAC diplomatic and moral support, it cannot allow them to operate from here. Both organisations have maintain a low key presence.
HARARE—Zimbabwe claimed yesterday that South African-armed ‘bandits’ had burnt down a Matabeleland school, bayoneted two teachers and later shot dead a local chairman of the ruling party.

The 10-man gang also set fire to schoolbooks at Chimbandi School in the Mberengwa communal lands and robbed a nearby country store of cash and goods, security chief Mr Emmerson Munangagwa said in a statement.

Mr Munangagwa, who is Minister of State for Security in the Prime Minister’s Office, said the bandits had attacked the school on March 3. The wounded teachers were in hospital, but their condition was not reported.

The gang was armed with AK-47 rifles, RPG-7 rocket launchers and three machineguns. One of the machineguns was recovered by the security force after they had shot one gang member in a clash on a ranch near the school yesterday, the minister said.

**Accused**

From checks of serial numbers of weapons supplied to captured bandits previously by South Africa, the RPK machinegun, serial number ANC30002, had been established as ‘part of the same batch of weaponry’, Mr Munangagwa said.

He said it was ‘yet another indication of South African destabilisation through their supply of weaponry to bandits operating in southern areas of Zimbabwe’.

Zimbabwe has repeatedly accused South Africa of helping to arm, train and supply anti-Government dissidents in Matabeleland province, traditional stronghold of opposition leader Joshua Nkomo, bordering South Africa.

In a related development, the Zimbabwe Home Affairs Minister, Mr Simbi Mubako, said yesterday the dusk-to-dawn curfew imposed in Matabeleland last month had been eased ‘to alleviate any hardships’ for local villagers.

A South African Defence Force spokesman, questioned about the allegations, said in Pretoria last night that channels existed between South Africa and Zimbabwe through which common problems could be discussed. The defence force, therefore, had no comment to make. — (Sapa-AP)
Newsmen tell of Press ‘smear’ on Zimbabwe

BULAWAYO. — A group of black South African journalists has alleged in Bulawayo that the South African Press had been deliberately discrediting Zimbabwe.

The five journalists, Mr. Sam Niah of the Soweto Star, Mr. Tshiamo, news editor of the Star Africa edition, Mr. Tshiamo, news editor of the Soweto Star, and Mr. Malmboe of the Sunday Times — left Bulawayo yesterday at the end of an eight-day fact-finding mission.

They were in Zimbabwe as guests of the Zimbabwe Tourist Board, Mr. Zim- 

The group visited Harare, Masvingo, Kariba, Hwange, Victoria Falls and Bulawayo.

Full of praise for the holiday resort, wildlife and hotel standards, the group said racial integration had impressed them most.

"Zimbabwe has only just emerged from a long, traumatic war. That within such a short space of time racial friction has given way to complete harmony, with life going on normally, is a magnificent achievement," Mr. Mantini said.

The South African Press had been doing Zimbabwe an injustice for a long time, but it was in the interests of the Republic to discredit the country. In the hope whites would leave to help swell white ranks in South Africa, Mr. Mantini added.

Mr. Sepelela told that while a single murder in Zimbabwe was "blown up out of all proportion" by South African newspapers, the fact that there were more than 1,400 murders in Soweto alone last year went unrecorded.

The average weekend death toll in that township is 30 people as a result of violence. Not to mention, the many more who die as a result of tribal/faction fights.

But, if there is a single murder in Zimbabwe, it makes headlines, he said.

The group agreed that a great potential existed for getting more black South African tourists to visit Zimbabwe.

But it had to be appreciated that the South African Government would do everything possible to discourage black people from visiting Zimbabwe. "Since they would then be able to see how a multi-racial country really works," Mr. Sepelela said.
ZIMBABWE

The exodus grows

Emigration from Zimbabwe increased 8% last year to 19,087 — the second-largest total in the country's history. Official figures published in Harare this week show that more than 71,000 people have emigrated from Zimbabwe since independence nearly four years ago. Over the same period, there have been more than 27,000 immigrants — giving a net loss of 44,500 people.

Most of the emigrants are believed to be white, though the figures do show that some 10,000 people have emigrated to Malawi since 1980 — presumably returning black migrant workers. Many of the immigrants have been returning black Zimbabweans.

This means that the substantial outflow of whites since independence is continuing, though precisely how large the exodus has been is not clear. One reason for this is the fact that migration figures are not published on a racial basis; nor do the emigration statistics capture all those leaving the country. Ex-Zimbabweans arriving in SA in the last two years are said to exceed 17,500 a year — roughly double the figure published by the statistical office in Harare.

The reason for this would seem to be that many younger emigrants do not disclose that they are leaving the country permanently since they may be able to take out more in the form of a holiday allowance than as an emigrant.

How large the white community is now is not clear. The consensus is that it is somewhere in the region of 120,000 — less than half the peak figure of 273,000 reached in the mid-Seventies.

It is not only the size of the white population that has changed. So has its make-up. There are many transient whites in the Zimbabwean population today — diplomats, the international aid fraternity, employees of non-governmental organisations, the expatriate business community, expatriate technicians, teachers, engineers and miners. The hard core of former Rhodesian whites is probably closer to 100,000 and likely to continue to shrink at a rate of at least 700 a month in 1984.

The government's moves against private schools — its insistence that private schools must work towards a majority of black pupils and black teachers over some undetermined time period — has had a severe impact on white morale. This has done more than any other single development to raise grave doubts in the minds of the dwindling white minority about their long-term future in Zimbabwe.

KwaZulu ... pensioners abandon hope?

Financial Mail March 9 1984
The face of Africa, 1984

HARARE — Zimbabwe’s government is preparing to evacuate thousands of Mozambican refugees who are living across the country’s borders. While some are fleeing famine, others are seeking political asylum.

Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Simba Mabasa, said: "Illegal immigration would be dealt with firmly."

The same day in Ruwa, Zimbabwe’s government applied for asylum in Zimbabwe. The Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Mr. Simba Mabasa, said: "The Government of Zimbabwe has been following the developments in Mozambique and is prepared to receive them in a friendly manner."
50 000 at Nkomo rally

From ANDRE VILJOEN
BULAWAYO. — Innocent women and children were being starved to death by soldiers in southern Matabeleland, the Zimbabwe opposition leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo, told an estimated 50,000 supporters in Bulawayo yesterday.

The political rally in a packed football stadium was one of the biggest in Zimbabwe since independence in 1980 and Mr Nkomo's first in nearly three years in the provincial capital of his Matabeleland stronghold. He has been refused permission to hold rallies in the capital city of Harare.

Mr Nkomo said nothing had come of a government promise last Tuesday to restore food to southern Matabeleland where there have been no supplies since a dawn-to-dusk curfew was imposed on February 9 after a surge in dissident violence and sabotage.

He said there were also reports of military atrocities in the area similar to those reported in northern Matabeleland a year ago.

Southern Matabeleland was naturally hard and after more than two years of drought the food situation was critical. Thousands of children were suffering from malnutrition before the curfew started and now with soldiers having forced stores to close, there had been reports of pregnant women and children starving to death.

By Saturday night not a single store in the vast curfew area had been re-opened, in spite of a promise by the Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Simbi Mubako, last Tuesday to open stores at least twice a week. About 420,000 villagers are affected by the curfew.

Mr Nkomo was the first to speak out about alleged atrocities in the area when he told Parliament last month that Fifth Brigade troops had summarily executed six men at the southern town of Kezi on February 9.

He told yesterday's rally that he had presented the men who had buried the six Kezi victims to government cabinet ministers in Harare. He had also brought them two teenage schoolgirls who had allegedly been raped by Fifth Brigade soldiers.

He said neither incident involving the Fifth Brigade was the exception, and there were quite a number of graves around southern Matabeleland.

'I have done my bit to tell the government about these things,' he said.
Zimbabwe GDP takes a tumble

HARARE.—Real gross domestic product (GDP) after a 2% rise in 1982 fell by 4% last year, says the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe.

The decline was due to the 1982/83 drought, which reduced agricultural production by 16% and to lower output in the manufacturing and distribution sectors.

While exports had nominally risen 7% in the past two years, they had fallen by 20% in real terms. In 1981, import allocations had been reduced 40% in nominal terms and almost 60% in real terms.

Despite these reductions in imports, the bank estimated that Zimbabwe's overall balance of payments deficit in 1983 would be significantly higher than the $241.8m. recorded in 1982.

It said the inflation rate had also remained high, with prices rising at an annual rate of between 15% and 20% since the middle of 1983, despite tight control of the money supply, which had increased by less than 1% in 1982.

The high rate of inflation was due to the effects of a drop in the exchange rate and the impact on prices of lower food subsidies.

Sapa-Reuters
The Matabeleland puzzle: Are people really getting food?

The Star Bureau

HARARE.—There are still doubts that food is reaching people in all parts of the curfew area in southern Matabeleland.

Last week the Home Affairs Minister, Mr. Simbi Mubako, announced a relaxation of the six-week-old curfew restrictions to allow shops to open twice a week to sell mealie meal.

But at a rally in Bulawayo on Sunday the ZAPU leader, Mr. Joshua Nkomo, claimed that no shops had been allowed to open, and that people in the area were starving.

However, ranchers and farmers living on the outskirts of the curfew zone said that they believed few stores had been opened in the large curfew area, which stretches from the southern tip of the Hwange Game Reserve to Beitbridge.

Some shops were opened over the weekend for the benefit of local journalists flown into the area by security forces.

But, while villagers were photographed buying up entire stocks of mealie meal at stores, other small grocery outlets in the surrounding areas stayed closed.

According to local ranchers, some army units are confiscating mealie meal but people are trying to get to their relatives in remote districts. Under the curfew restrictions, no movement is permitted without permission of army and police commanders.

Residents are confined to a 50 m radius of their homes between dusk and dawn.

In the Senate last week, Senator Max Rosenfeld claimed that he had had reports that people were starving in the curfew areas.

No food was getting in, and a large maize depot at the border town of Plumtree was "stacked to the ceiling" with bags, he said.

In normal times there would be queues of trucks waiting to collect stock from the depot.

Mr. Nkomo claimed at his rally that young mothers and children were dying of hunger and being buried by their weakened relatives.

People interviewed by local newsmen at the opening of the stores said that since the imposition of the curfew they had been existing on goat meat and maize meal.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Simon Muzenda, last week ordered villagers to go into the curfew area and see for themselves whether the reports of starvation were true. But so far he has not done so.

Three consecutive years of drought have hit the peasant farmers in the curfew area particularly hard. Widespread crop failures and pitiful grazing are the order of the day.
Mugabe for one-party state

HARARE. — Paving the way for the introduction of a one-party state in Zimbabwe, the Prime Minister, Mr. Robert Mugabe, said yesterday that the multi-party system had created more chaos than peace in the country.

Officially opening the first Zanu (PF) Women’s Congress, he also claimed that thousands of Bishop Abel Muzorewa’s former UANC auxiliaries had been trained in South Africa and were now ready to be deployed in Zimbabwe.

Mr. Mugabe told the congress Zimbabwe “cannot hesitate to introduce a one-party state now, as any further delays could mean more disunity and subversion by forces bent on destroying the country’s independence.”

He said the postponement of a one-party state would create more room for disunity and destabilization by those who hoped to “wield power one day”.

Mr. Mugabe, the Zanu (PF) president, said: “Time has surely now come for us to start laying the foundation on which the one-party state will be structured.

“We cannot continue to hesitate on this matter, as this creates a mixture of destabilization and plans for more disunity by other forces.”

The congress, he said, should accordingly “pronounce itself” on this subject so that its views could be transmitted to the coming party national congress in August this year.

The Prime Minister said the present multi-party system in Zimbabwe had created more chaos than peace.

Tell me which of the other parties, Zanu, UANC and the Republican Front, has not yielded disloyal men who have resorted to subversion in order to overthrow Zanu (PF) and its government,” he asked.

He reminded the congress that Zanu (PF) was currently fighting Zanu dissidents, while thousands of former UANC auxiliaries, he claimed, had undergone military training in South Africa and were now ready to be deployed in Zimbabwe.

The Republican Front also had a “whole history” of subversion and “criminality”, having declared UDI in 1961, he said.

“Surely, in circumstances such as these, it is calamitous for our nation to opt for a multi-party state.”

Accordingly, Zanu (PF)’s belief was that democracy could be practised only under circumstances which firstly created national unity and offered a broad forum for free discussion and debate of national issues.

“Such a forum can only be offered by a one-party state.”

Mr. Mugabe said Zimbabweans had for the last four years of independence been waiting for a one-party state because they know “we are one nation, one state with one government, which must have a one-party state”.

He urged women to discuss the idea of a one-party state in their districts and provinces so that the country could easily move to establish the system. — Sapa.
Blast closes vital Zimbabwe power plant

Mail Correspondent
HARARE.—An explosion has forced Zimbabwe's largest coal-fired power-generating station to shut down. Officials of the country's two major power companies said in Harare yesterday.

No comment could be obtained on the cause of the explosion or on the extent of the damage.

The Hwange power station, situated near the huge Hwange coalfield in Mashonaland West province, has been closed for more than a week. The plant produces 55% of Zimbabwe's power, more than one-quarter of the country's total consumption.

The Electricity Supply Commission (ESC), which owns the plant, announced on March 7 that one person had been killed and 16 injured in the explosion. The company said no other details. Further comment could not be obtained.

The power station is bordered by a region that has been troubled by anti-government guerrillas for more than a year, but a spokesman for the Department of Information in Harare said the explosion was not believed to be a result of rebel activity.

A Harare newspaper, The Financial Gazette, reported that all three of the plant's boilers had been damaged in the explosion. The newspaper quoted electrical engineering and industry specialists as describing the Hwange plant as a "hidden catastrophe".

Utility companies throughout Zimbabwe have been ordered to shed power, and a coal-fired power station at Ummati had been closed last year due to the damage.

But there is has been no public announcement of the shutdown of the two major cities of Harare and Bulawayo have not been affected.

Zimbabwe gets most of its power from the Kariba Dam hydro-electric scheme, jointly owned by Zimbabwe and Zambia. But that station is undergoing maintenance and is generating at less than full capacity.

Manufacturing companies in Bulawayo and Harare have been asked to voluntarily cut back on their power usage.

Mr Tony Reid, director of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI), said the power cuts were worrying industrial plant managers because no one knew how severe the crisis was or for how long it would continue.

"We are very worried by the situation," Mr Reid said. "If there are to be major power cuts, then we would be pleased to plan a cooperation with the government as to the best way of working out a rationalised method of power usage," he said.

Construction of the Hwange plant began in 1972, but it was interrupted by the seven-year independence war. Work resumed in 1990 with extensive international participation. Steam turbines were provided by France and West Germany, and generator transformers by Italy.

Dawie plans to jump 12 cars

Mail Reporter
A SCHOOLBOY who is attempting to raise money by jumping over cars on his BMX bike, plans to jump over 12 cars.

Dawie Victor, 14, hopes to raise money for his younger brother Wayne, 12, to have an eye operation in the United States.

Dawie is current holder of the world record for jumping over nine cars at the Cape Steen roundabout earlier this month.

He now aims to jump over 12 cars.

However, his mother, Mrs Nettie Victor, said yesterday that Dawie would not attempt to jump over more than 12 cars on his BMX because it is too dangerous.

So far Dawie has raised 
000.

Mrs Victor said yesterday: "Wayne's eyesight remains stable, but he will worsen as he grows older, or he could lose it overnight."

"If the American doctors cannot help him, we will still want to take him to see Disneyworld before his vision goes totally."

Natal baby-snatcher jailed for five years

Mail Correspondent
DURBAN.—A 32-year-old woman who stole a two-day-old baby from its mother in Addington Hospital, Durban, in May, was jailed for five years by Mr R S van der Walt in the Durban Regional Court yesterday.

Before the court was Kay Gounder of Shalimar Gardens, Tongaat, who had pleaded not guilty to stealing Baby Samantha Clark. The trial began on May 5 at Addington Hospital on November 19 last year.

The court heard that Gounder, posing as a doctor, had approached Mrs Anne Clark.

Gounder showed interest in the baby and asked if she could take it and show it to her professor. She took the baby and did not return. On May 13, the baby was found by police at Gounder's home.

Gounder admitted three convictions for shoplifting.

Passing sentence Mr van der Walt said that child stealing was a very serious crime.

He sentenced Gounder to eight years in prison, three of which were suspended for five years for child stealing and six months' imprisonment for impersonating a doctor.

The sentence was run concurrently with the five-year jail term she will now serve.

Bids to save British granddads

By JEANETTE
THE LEADSAW CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE (LCC) is attempting to save about 9000 sub-economic homes from demolition.

The Government's Home Sale in Lenasia has turned out to be a shambles, with only 3000 homes receiving offers of 12000 tenancies of the sub-economic homes.

The scheme, which started in June, will only be available until June 30 this year.

But the Minister of Community Development, Mr Mzimela, has agreed to extend the scheme and economic homes in the United States.

Nurses to lobby for aid change

Mail Correspondent
CAPE TOWN.—South African nurses want medical aid societies to repay patients for the services of private nurses—and have drawn up a plan of action to achieve this.

The South African Nursing Association (Sana) stated at their central board meeting yesterday that the legislation should provide for the recognition of private nurses by medical aid societies.

Phase one of their plan was to educate other nurses, the medical profession and the general public.

They decided it was too soon to approach the Department of Health and Welfare at this stage.

It was also suggested that, as most nurses belonged to a medical aid society, they should lobby for the change within their own societies.

The work of private nurses was extremely important, especially that done by midwives and those nursing the elderly.

Nurses should be accepted as independent professionals who did not have to rely on doctors to prescribe that they were needed. In many cases, they could mean that a doctor need not be consulted.

Opening the meeting yesterday, the president of Sana, Professor Fetha van Huysegem, said many nurses held a good image of nursing, despite the fact that it was an independent profession with a proud history and well-defined ethical code.

The self-image of nurses was lost and part of the community also failed to see the nurse as an independent practitioner.
Zimbabwe backs bid for peace

According will benefit entire region, says Mugabe
Canoeist faces his moment of truth

There was no turning back for Eckhard Bruchhauser as he stared down a 20m rock fall in a pool — the 11th of six falls he had to navigate in his canoeing trip through a strategy situation in which Mozambican forces had been locked in a struggle.

His first mission, including a 50m climb, was to reach the Africana 270 Foundation. National Congresses were to be held in the provinces of Natal and Zululand. The risk of being arrested was real, but the support of the ANC and the National People's Congress was critical.

Bruchhauser was aware that the ANC had been mounting an extensive campaign of support, including the distribution of pamphlets and the establishment of a broadcast network. The ANC was supported by the South African Communist Party, which was in conflict with the National Party. The ANC had also been involved in a series of protests and demonstrations, including the May 8, 1985, demonstration in Durban.

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Bruchhauser had decided to take on the challenge, despite the risks. He had been trained in the use of a canoe and was confident in his ability to navigate the treacherous waters.

The journey was long and arduous, but Bruchhauser was determined to succeed. He had been supported by the ANC and the National People's Congress, and he knew that he was not alone in his struggle.

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Bruchhauser was a brave man, and he knew that the journey was not going to be easy. But he was determined to succeed, and he knew that he was not alone in his struggle.

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ANDRE VILION REPORTS FROM DARRETT

It seems that the situation in Darrett has become even more dire. The shortages of food and water have only worsened, and the citizens are becoming increasingly desperate. Attempts to secure aid from neighboring countries have been met with little success. It is crucial that we continue to monitor the situation closely and provide whatever assistance we can.
Mathedeland’s endangered species — but some won’t quit
The Viscount airliners
How Zipira shot down
362
Helped survivors

The Rhodesian propaganda people at once claimed that our anti-aircraft team had killed ten survivors on the ground. This was obviously untrue, since the plane fell well away from the firing point.

Some of our Zipla boys did approach the crash site, and did help the eight survivors to get to safety, bringing them water and looking after them. I truly have no idea how the ten died. I do not believe they were killed by our people; I hope not.

I then made an error of a different kind. The following day the B.B.C. telephoned me for a comment on the shooting down. I told them as much of the truth as I knew. Then fairly enough in the circumstances, they asked me what weapon the plane had been brought down with. Clearly I could not say it was a Sam-7; it was a secret that we had such things. To turn the question aside, I answered that we had brought it down by throwing stones, and as I said so I laughed a bit. I was not laughing at the death of all those civilians, but at the evasive answer. The laugh was remembered, rather than my regret at those unnecessary deaths.

In retaliation for the first Viscount disaster, the Rhodesians mounted a savage raid on our Freedom Camp just north of Lusaka. It was not a military training camp but a genuine refugee camp for young
Not as bad as he expected, says Mugabe

FOUR YEARS ago when he first took over as Prime Minister of the new republic of Zimbabwe he had anticipated much worse problems than he faced now, Mr Robert Mugabe said last week.

We had been talking about dissident violence in the south-west of the country, a third year of drought which for the first time necessitated maize imports, and the influx of thousands of starving Mozambican refugees in the east.

We had been talking about dissident violence in the south-west of the country, a third year of drought which for the first time necessitated maize imports, and the influx of thousands of starving Mozambican refugees in the east.

'But I must say I did expect a worse situation than we have,' said Mr Mugabe.

'First we had the white community pitted against us,' said Smith (the former Rhodesian Prime Minister) who worked on their minds for so long that they believed we were blood-suckers and would never accept the look of a white man in our region.'

So he said he had been prepared for political opposition and 'chaos'. But after his government told whites they were welcome in the new Zimbabwe he had been surprised when, white army commanders and, later, other whites pledged their loyalty to the country.

At first I was suspicious but as time went on I came to believe it,' Mr Mugabe said.

The Government had battled to get former guerrillas to accept the policy of reconciliation. They had thought victory would be outright without any accommodation.

But both the Zanla and ZIPRA guerrilla armies and the former Rhodesian army were made into one army and now they are in the same army. They were in the same army and they are benefiting from the experience of the others have had.

Mr Mugabe blamed the ZAPU leader Mr Joshua Nkomo for most of the dissident violence in the province of Matabeleland in the past two years. However, he said South Africa also had started managing some discontent in the area.

He said if Mr Nkomo had gone to the places where discontent existed and seriously denounced them there would have been a drop in disaffected activity.

'But he hasn't done this because indirectly he feels that if the dissidents succeed he might benefit from their actions.'

Mr Mugabe said he found it heartening that there was now a growing group within ZAPU that sought unity with his ruling ZANU-PF party.

'We hope they will succeed in swaying the rest of the ZAPU membership but Nkomo himself is still adamant that they must stick it out and he hopes that one day he will be given what he believes to be his birthright — the leadership of the country.'

Despite reports that his security forces were responsible for excesses in Matabeleland, Mr Mugabe said on the whole he was 'very happy with what has been going on'.

Before a curfew was clamped on southern Matabeleland on February 5 and 6 troops and police were sent there to hunt down dissidents and the army continued its efforts.

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Before a curfew was clamped on southern Matabeleland on February 3, before troops and police were sent there to hunt down dissidents he had told his security ministers and army and police chiefs he wanted no 'wanton' actions and that ordinary people should not be made to suffer unnecessarily.

'But in the nature of operations you may get on the ground a commander of a local area, believing that the people in this village are all accomplices of dissidents and that it might be more effective if a given course of action was taken — you get that happening on the spot and that does cause some hardships.'

Then you have an uproar from the Church leaders and Nkomo of course, who always talks more loudly about actions we take against dissidents than the actions the dissidents effect against the people.'

He said the current operation in the curfew areas was making a reaction to a series of dissident murders of white farmers.

He denied that the North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade was anti-Ndebele. He said it was not true that most of its members were Shona-speaking ex-guerrillas of his former ZANU army and that he had not been enough former ZIPRA guerrillas left to make for a more balanced composition.

Next election

Mr Mugabe said his party would fight next year's general election on a one-party state platform. He said that 51 percent of popular support would be enough to justify declaring one-party rule but said he thought we will get more than that.

He said his government would be weakened if it did not get the Lancaster House constitution, which is binding until April 1980. In terms of that constitution any fundamental change in the system of government had to be approved by the entire House before the House could be passed.

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In the event of an election victory he said he would start talks with ZAPU on how to accommodate it in a one-party state. He said he would talk with white representatives including 'my friend Ian Smith' to try to convince them his party 'rule' would not eclipse them as an ethnic group.

Criticisms

He argued that one-party rule in which people were free to express themselves through congress and provincial, district, sub-regional and village organs was more representative than Western multi-party democracies where the 'only occasion where people meet is when they cast their vote'.

He expected and welcomed criticism at his party's first post-independence congress in August. One of the issues would be land redistribution, which had been 'painfully slow'. About 40,000 families had been resettled — way short of the target of 162,500 families by the end of June next year.

One of the constraints was the lack of money to buy land for resettlement. And a simpler system, perhaps involving land bonds, would have to be found.

He was also anxious to resettle people more for purposes of co-operative agriculture than simply to provide homes.
Dissidents and Death

29 March 1984

Since his imprisonment in 1973, Mr. Nkombo, despite his popular image as a 'poet', has been subjected to various forms of harassment and intimidation. This has included frequent visits by the security forces, who have occasionally broken into his home and searched it. In 1980, he was arrested and charged with treason, but was later acquitted. In 1982, he was again arrested and remained in detention until 1984, when he was released on bail.

Mr. Nkombo has been a vocal critic of the government's policies, particularly its handling of the economy and its human rights record. His writings have been critical of the government's repressive measures and have called for greater democracy and freedom of expression.

Mr. Nkombo's release on bail was a significant victory for human rights activists in Malawi, and it is hoped that he will continue to speak out on behalf of those who are denied their basic liberties.
Communication Journal

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pass along the road every day the one to be stopped should contain two young Britons, two young Australians and two young Americans from the leading country in the West and two of the leading countries in the Commonwealth. The car was stopped by the immigration post at Victoria Falls, coming from Zambia. Only Government forces could have known the potential for diplomatic pressure of the passengers in that particular vehicle.

I absolutely guarantee that neither nor I nor Nzapu had anything to do with that kidnapping. The diplomats of these very important countries came to my house to ask for my and my party's help in obtaining their release. I asked why they came to see me: Zimbabwe was run by Robert Mugabe. They said he had approved their visit. But I told them they were being used to divide my country, to maintain me as though I ran my own little republic within it.

The ambush

One of the cars seen by the released women passengers to have been involved in the ambush was later used by the police to transport the driver of the damaged vehicle back to town. Then the car disappeared. I really do believe in dissidents who drive about in private cars that are later used by the police and disappear without trace in a country with road-blocks everywhere. I do not believe that six young white men could be hidden and eventually killed in the villages without anyone seeing them or reporting their presence.

I had nothing to do with that cruel kidnap. I had great sympathy with the young men's parents.

The killings made our joint committee seem irrelevant. The Fifth Brigade, I knew, was a force recruited almost entirely from ex-Zanla combatants and migrants trained by 100 North Korean instructors in operations "in aid of the civil power" — that is, against civilians. Officially they were hunting down the so-called dissidents, gangsters who were said to be politically motivated by loyalty to Joshua Nkomo. In reality they were out to terrorise the people. They burnt villages, slaughtered cattle, assaulted women and killed simply to instil fear.

The scale of the Mata beledza brutality is understandable, and it is reasonable to observe: Why, they ask, should such excesses be permitted? Was the point of it all? I cannot say why the state should have allowed its men to do such things: to me also it seems senseless. But that it happened I am certain. As impartial witnesses I can quote the priests of the Roman Catholic Church in Mata beledza. Their Church is not a dissident organisation. It had bravely spoken out against the crimes committed by the forces of the Smith regime.

At their conference at Easter 1983, six Catholic bishops made a statement, bindings, beatings, burns, and rapings. Many homes have been burnt down. People in rural areas are starving, not only because of the drought, but because in some cases supplies of food have been deliberately cut off and in other cases access to food supplies has been restricted or stopped. The innocent have no recourse or redress, for fear of reprisals.

"Jeremiahs"

Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, the Minister of Information, described the Catholic bishops' statement as "irresponsible, contrived propaganda". The Prime Minister said the bishops were "mere megaphone agents of their external manipulative masters"; he called them a "band of Jeremiahs". But abuse is not a reasoned answer. If anything, the bishops underlined their frightfulness. The latest reports, from the same sources as gathered in evidence for the bishops, now put the number of casualties at the hands of the Fifth Brigade in Matabeleland in 1983 at around 20,000 people.

The damage went well beyond that. Houses, villages, whole communities were burnt to the ground. At the end of the dry season, after two years when the rains had failed the Government then prohibited the sending of food to the worst-affected districts on the pretence that it would be used to sustain the bands of dissidents. Travel was restricted, access to watering points for cattle and for people was controlled by soldiers.

My own first cousin, Silas Nkomo, lives in the village where he gave me shelter when I was restricted to his home by the Rhodesian Government in 1962. By October 1983 his children were showing the dreaded symptoms — swollen belly, yellowing hair — of the disease kwashiorrhea, which is caused by malnutrition.

Gangsters

The Government spoke of a problem of "dissidence" — a problem that it did not define, and that was hard to understand. That there were gangsters at work, especially in Matabeleland, was clear. There were many unexplained deaths, robberies and beatings. A significant number of white farmers were killed without explanation. By lumping all these deplorable incidents together as "dissidence", the Government implied that they were the result of an organised and politically motivated movement: the clear indication was that ex-ZIPRA people were at work, and they were behind the crimes. In Parliament the Prime Minister pointed the finger at me and said we were responsible for television cameras that the Father of Zimbabwe had become the father of the dissidents.

In Parliament I called for a select committee of all parties to examine the problem of dissidence; the Government said there was no need for an inquiry, they knew who the guilty ones were.

TOMORROW:

Mr. Ian Smith flies to Lu-

But Roger's sons live in Bulawayo, and wished to bury their father there. It took two days of negotiations before the police would allow the body to be moved from Plumtree: the problem was with the death certificate. It was eventually issued, with the cause of death described as "gunshot wounds". By now it was the weekend, and the funeral could not be arranged before Monday. So, a clear week after his murder by the men of the Fifth Brigade, Roger Maina's body was buried.
Nkomo's time-bomb

behind the scene

for house peace talks began.

Nkomo's, the story of his life, describes how preparations for the conventional strike continued as the Lancas
access the Zambezi from Zambia using tanks and get support from across the border. The Matabele leader, with the help of the South Africans, planned to invade
in an attempt to adjudge the response with one spectacular stroke. Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zimbabwe forces planned to invade

1968/12/2

Nkomo's
The ammunition, grenades, and hand luggage cases of rifles went in the hold. I carried...
Early Peace thwarted

In the story of my life.

Messages reach...
correspondent
Finance

Zimbabwe's takeover of all foreign shares in nominee companies spells nationalisation

April 1, 1994 - S-Link
Zimbabwe's budget reassessment...
'Rebel force' trains in SA

From STANLEY UVY

LONDON — South Africa is assembling a 'force' of Zimbabwe rebels in preparation for further military operations against Zimbabwe, according to a report by a special correspondent in Africa magazine, published here yesterday.

The report claims that the force consists of 5000 former auxiliaries of Bishop Abel Muzorewa, Selous Scouts and disidents who supported the ZAPU leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The report describes the differences between ZAPU and the dissidents, whom it describes as 'super-Zapu' and says 'super-Zapu is an extension of the South African Defence Force', which South Africa will 'furnish' with a leadership once the time is ripe for open destabilization of Zimbabwe.

The report claims that super-Zapu insurgency forces operating from South Africa have been responsible for 'increased acts of banditry' in Matabeleland.

'The South African Government's involvement has been exposed by captured dissidents, who have testified publicly to having been trained in South Africa. Some of the camps in Northern Transvaal where dissidents are trained by former Rhodesian Army officers are Mandimbo Gumbo, Spence and Pafuri along the Limpopo River.'

'It is still not clear who leads super-Zapu. Premier Mugabe asserts that the dissidents are a ZAPU brainchild.'

Mr Joshua Nkomo has repeatedly denied any involvement, the report adds.
Rebels burn borehole equipment

BULAWAYO. — A group of about 20 armed insurgents burst into a drilling rig and a tractor which was being used to sink a borehole near a school in the Matabeleland last Saturday, it was confirmed yesterday.

After sending a hail of bullets through the tents of a Ministry of Water Resources and Development drilling team, the insurgents forced three team members to dose the rig and tractor with diesel and set fire to them.

The drilling superintendent for Matabeleland, Mr. Alfred van Straten, said a seven-man team had been drilling near Hopmani School in Nkayi on Saturday. After work, the team, including the drill operator, had gone off to buy meat and the remaining three stayed at the camp with their wives.

The workers were getting outside their tents when shooting began around 5.30pm, Mr. van Straten said.

The Minister of State for Water Resources and Development, Mr. Chephas Maita, was deeply disappointed and angered by the incident.

The people of Nkayi had asked us for water, and we went ahead with the drilling of boreholes. Now it will be the women and children who will suffer. The people there will see who is their enemy now. The provincial water engineer, Mr. Piet Mariens, said the rig and the tractor had been damaged but could be repaired.

But until the rig, which had been taken to Nkayi for safekeeping, was brought to Bulawayo and stripped for repair, it was difficult to say how extensive the damage was, he said.

The drilling rig donated by Sweden, is one of two that had been operating exclusively in Nkayi since last year, drilling boreholes where needed, Mr. Mariens said.

Another rig, was set ablaze in the Bulawayo district last year. That one had been donated by Sweden, he said.

— Spu.

JOHANNESBURG:

Brothers’ murder charge

Jo’burg housing project praised

Mail Reporter

THE acquisition of housing and loans for the housing of Johannesburg’s white elderly is a major breakthrough and should be seen as part of the city’s centenary projects, the deputy chairman of Johannesburg’s management committee, Mr. Jan Burger, said yesterday.

Mr. Burger — who is also chairman of the council’s housing committee — con-

permit the traffic department to be in control of the policing.

The department will in the next few weeks alert and warn offenders. But after that drivers will have to pay R150 fines for parking on the road.

The centre will, for example, provide parking for disabled people soon.

Non-disabled shoppers who disregard the signs and use a parking space for the disabled will be fined, he said.

The State alleges they raped two black women at Buxton on January 9 and robbed them.

They will appear again on May 2. Mr. Benda was freed on R300 bail while the other two were remanded.

3 appear on rape charges

Mail Reporter

THREE white men appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate’s Court yesterday on charges of raping two black women and robbing them.

Before Mr. D. J. du Plessis van der Walt were Mr. Winston and Mrs. Raymond Benda, of Van Zyl Street, Kempton Park, Mr. Hendrik Frederik van Staden, 23, and Mr. Martinus van Staden, 23, whose addresses were not given.

The State alleges they raped two black women at Buxton on January 9 and robbed them.

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MPs make a song and dance over harp

London Bureau

LONDON. — More than 20 MPs have signed a motion condemning plans to introduce harp music in the Harcourt Room, a candlelit dining room at the House of Parliament, where many of them enjoy quiet conversation over dinner.

A proposal by Mr. Charles Irving, a Conservative MP, that a harpist should be hired to play during the evening is being opposed by MPs.

But Mr. Irving said: “There are so many dreary deaths in this place, I wouldn’t have expected anything else.”

“Some MPs have asked for the Harcourt Room to be brightened up as it is a place where they take their families.”

Mr. Peter Snazzer, a Labour MP, welcomed the move. Mr. Snazzer said a jazz trio might be more suitable. “I’m not sure whether I am suitable as there are far too many other symbols and traditions that go with the Harcourt Room.”

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— Spu.

Anthem

juice” to make it more popular.

Opposition leader Mr. Peacock cried “rushed,” while Mr. National Secretary Mr. Martin G. said the anti-Hawke movement was “the thin edge to move us to republicanism.”

Sources in Melbourne’s Labor Retained government in the next election,

Hawkie will press national referendums, other symbols and symbols, even the coat of arms.

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boiled alive and hundreds of people have died in torture camps set up by Robert Mugabe's government in a new campaign to end raids by dissident guerillas in Matabeleland, according to survivors in Harare.

The London Sunday Times says it has evidence that a "death camp" has been established at Belaiwwe, a town in Matabeleland.

At least one witness and several reports say government forces have already killed large numbers of people at the camp.

Father John Gough, a dedicated campaigner for human rights during UDI, spoke during a sermon in Harare last week of "genocide" in Matabeleland.

He told of bodies being tossed into channels of boiling water and of people being burnt up to their necks and shot in the head.

According to details pieced together from reports by survivors, church supporters and anti-Mugabe factions, thousands of people have been indiscriminately arrested for "screening" in the detention camps.

 Those investigated were beaten with heavy sticks on the buttocks and legs - back and were subjected to electrical shocks and other forms of torture.

In Belaiwwe, the most notorious of the camps, many people died and their bodies thrown into shallow pits, splashed with kerosene and set alight. Identification papers were destroyed.

A member of the security forces, now outside the country, said that atrocities and deliberate killing of civilians are commonplace. He estimated that more than 1,000 civilians have been killed since the start of anti-riot searches.

He claims to have seen telex messages from Harare to field headquarters in the province which suggest the murder of civilians may be official government policy.

The Belaiwwe camp is a barbed wire enclosure in dry scrubland 16km south of Kwekwe and close to a dried up mine called Antelope. About 46km south of Antelope is another camp at a place called Ye Sen. A third camp has been built at Umpungu, east of Francistown on the Botswana border.

Based at these and other camps in Matabeleland are elements of the Zimbabwean Army's notorious Fifth and Sixth Brigades, as well as about 200 members of the Central Intelligence Organisation.

These groups are not only campaigning against guerillas but also seem to be forcing civilians to support Mr Mugabe's ZANU (PF) Party.

Though forbidden on pain of death to leave the curfew area, thousands of people have fled over the border into Botswana or have gone to Bulawayo.

In Harare, Father Gough invited his congregation to meet witnesses of the alleged killings.

These villagers said tens of thousands were starving in the curfew area because the government had stopped food supplies to areas where the army was operating.

Eventually, after representations from the church, the government allowed stores to open for one hour twice a week, under close army supervision, but customers say they were denied

Mugabe . . . army accused of operating death camps.
Zimbabwe tourism picks up

HARARE. Tourism to Zimbabwe continued to pick up in January this year, with 24,427 people visiting the country, 2,468 more than in January last year. According to the latest government migration and tourism statistics, visitors who left the country in January spent R1,337,338. Visitors who do not stay for at least one night are not included in the spending figures.

The number of Zambian tourists jumped from 6,327 in January 1986 to 7,490 in January this year, almost certainly making Zambia the largest single source of tourism.

There were 7,544 tourists from South Africa, Swaziland, and Botswana and the South Africans spent R310,979, providing about a third of the January takings. The Zambians who left in January spent R376,624. — Sapa.
Murder in Mataheleland: the evidence

The Third World This Week

Robert Mugabe's government in Zimbabwe has launched a new campaign of extraordinary brutality in Matabeleland in the south of the country. The aim is to end the raids on white farms and government buildings by dissident guerrillas. According to the home affairs minister, Mr Simba Mubako, the guerrillas have been responsible for 75 murders and 284 armed robberies in the past six months. In one case, two teenage girls teachers had their noses and ears cut off for 'collaborating' with the government.

But the government is now meeting brutality with extreme brutality. The London Sunday Times has evidence that a 'death camp' has been established at Belgrove, a town in Matabeleland. At least one eye-witness and several other reports say that large numbers of people have already been killed there by government forces.

The camp is a barbed-wire enclosure in dry scrubland 16 km south of Kedzi: it lies between two rivers, the Shashani and the Tuli, waterless after a three-year drought. It is close to a disused mine called Antelope. Some 40 km due south of Antelope is another camp at a place known as Sun Yet Sen. A third camp has been built at Mphoonge, due east of Francistown on the Botswana border.

At these, and other camps in that half of Matabeleland which has been under strict curfew since January, are based elements of the Zimbabwean army's 5th and 6th brigades. The 5th became notorious because it was trained by North Korean officers. The 6th is known as the presidential guard. Also among the estimated 15,000 troops in that area, are some 200 men of the Central Intelligence Organisation.

These formidable groups are not only campaigning against the guerrillas, but seem to be forcing civilians to support Mugabe's Zanu (PF) party. Until now Matabeleland has been a stronghold for Joshua Nkomo's opposition party. The campaign is seen as further evidence of Mugabe's desire to make Zimbabwe a one-party state.

According to details pieced together from reports by surviving victims, church supporters and anti-Mugabe factions, thousands of people were indiscriminately rounded up for "screening", in the internment camps. During interrogation they were beaten with thick sticks on the buttocks and lower back, and subjected to electric shock and other torture.

In Belgrove, the worst camp of all, many people died and their bodies were thrown into shallow pits, splashed with kerosene and set alight. Identification papers were destroyed. A member of the security forces now outside the country has told The London Sunday Times that atrocities and deliberate killing of civilians are commonplace. He estimates that more than 1,000 civilians have been killed since the anti-Mugabe sweep began.

He says that the actions against the civilian population appeared to be systematic, rather than the work of undisciplined troops. He claims to have seen radio messages from Harare to field headquarters in Matabeleland which suggest that the murder of civilians may be official government policy.

Recently, Father John Gough, who was a dedicated campaigner for human rights during the Ian Smith regime, preached a sermon in Harare Cathedral in which he used the word "genocide." He warned his congregation that horrifying things were happening in Matabeleland and spoke of babies being tossed into cauldrons of boiling water and people being buried up to their necks and shot in the head.

Father Gough invited worshippers to meet eye-witnesses of the alleged killings in the vestry. These villagers said that tens of thousands were starving in the curfew area because the government had stopped food from going into areas where the army was operating.

This was at least partly confirmed by other sources who told The London Sunday Times that shops and stores have been forced to close, depriving the drought-stricken residents of the area of sufficient food to survive. Eventually, after representations from the Catholic Church, the government allowed stores to open for one hour twice a week under close army supervision. But customers say that the soldiers decide arbitrarily who can buy food and who cannot.

Though forbidden on pain of death to leave the curfew zone, many thousands of people have fled. They slip over the border, eluding the army patrols under cover of darkness, into Mozambique. Others escape to relatives in the high density suburbs of Bulawayo, the provincial capital.

Evidence of the Matabeleland atrocities has been passed to the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace which met in Harare last week. This group first drew public attention to an earlier 5th Brigade terror campaign in the province with a dossier of incidents compiled by village priests, hospital workers and relatives of people killed or missing.

The prime minister at first rejected the document, condemning its authors as "interfering busybodies", but later set up a committee of inquiry, which will report directly to him. The committee's findings have not yet been expanded to examine the latest allegations.

The Matabeleland problem is only one of a number of serious pressures on the Mugabe government. The worst recession and the drought have reduced the real growth rate from 15 percent in 1980 to zero. The country has been transformed from a maize exporter to a maize importer.

Drastic measures, including suspension of remittances and dividends abroad, have been taken. This will affect tens of thousands of ex-Zimbabweans, forcing some of them to return.

Yet the underlying cause of the country's ills continues to be lack of foreign investment. It was disclosed at a seminar of economists in Harare recently that Zimbabwe had made itself one of the least attractive of all Third World countries to potential foreign investors.

Zimbabwe also faces increasing pressure from South Africa to come to a non-aggression agreement similar to that between South Africa and Mozambique and the one being worked out with Angola.

Usually reliable sources in Harare said recently that shortly after signing the February 30 deal with Mozambique, South African ministers flew to the Zimbabwean capital, shown Mugabe the text of the accord and suggested a similar agreement with his government. This was denied in Pretoria.

From the London Sunday Times.
Sons and daughters of famous, dying policemen.

Camps, say ex-prisoners in torture and beatings in Jodhpur.
Porters’ murder charge

Mail Correspondent

TWO Groote Schuur Hospital porters who allegedly threw a colleague into the Liefiebek River in Mowbray after a drinking session last week, are to be charged with murder.

The body of Mr Edward Blumenfeld, 37, of Eden Road, Observatory, was found by police divers on Sunday afternoon.

Mr Blumenfeld had been reported missing by members of his family last Friday night, police flatnote officer for the Western Cape, Captain Jan Calitz, said yesterday.

"It has been established that his death was caused by drowning," Capt Calitz said.

Mr Blumenfeld and two colleagues had been drinking alongside the Liefield River about 5.30pm on Thursday, Captain Calitz said.

Capt Calitz said the men, aged 21, 22, and 23, would appear in the Wynberg Magistrate’s Court shortly.

Matabele teacher tells of army brutality

GABORONE - A young Zimbabwean teacher has said he and five colleagues were tortured and threatened with death by Zimbabwean troops seeking information about dissidents.

He said he had escaped an army detention camp in the troubled south-western Matabeleland province and slipped across the border into Botswana.

Mr Gwion Khumalo, 21, told reporters at Dukwe refugee camp in northern Botswana he feared for the lives of his colleagues as the troops had threatened to kill them by April 15. Zimbabwe independence day, if they did not provide information by then.

Mr Khumalo was speaking at the weekend at the same time as the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, attacked Catholic bishops in Zimbabwe for presenting a report to his government alleging that troops on an anti-dissident drive in Matabeleland had conducted a murderous reign of terror.

The report charged troops with targeting the local population and listed cases of killings, torture, rape and beatings.

Mr Mugabe said the bishops were supporting the dissidents, but said they would be called on in due course to lead officials to where the alleged atrocities had occurred.

The anti-dissident drive began in southern Matabeleland on February 2 when a dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed and severe restrictions clamped on movement in and out of the area.

Mr Khumalo said he was a teacher at a school in his home village of Tshangwa, 9km north of the western town of Plumtree.

He said he and five colleagues, three men and two women, were taken from the school by members of the Fifth Brigade of the Zimbabwe Army on the night of March 15 and taken to an army camp he named as Coetlos. He could not say where it was.

Mr Khumalo said at the camp they were "brutally interrogated" regarding the whereabouts and movement of dissidents in their area.

When they denied any knowledge of dissidents, he said they were tortured with electric shocks, made to stand in water up to their necks with their hands cuffed behind their backs for several hours, and beaten with sticks.

Wet towels were also placed over their heads, during which one of the women teachers fainted, he added.

Mr Khumalo said the torture continued even after instructions from and under supervision of a white lieutenant, whom he said was Howard.

The North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade, which was also accused of atrocities during a similar anti-dissident drive in southern Matabeleland last year, has a small number of white officers.

- Sapa-Reuters

Russia playing game of words

Mail Correspondent

MOSCOW — The Soviet Union will not boycott the Los Angeles Olympics but might still stay away - Soviet Olympic Committee chairman, Mr. Marat Gramov, told a Moscow Press conference yesterday.

He drew a semantic distinction between a boycott and a decision not to participate, should the American organizers and the United States Government fail to uphold the Olympic charter rules and traditions.

A desire for revenge for the US boycott of the Moscow Olympics in 1980 is seen as a major influence on the Soviet position, but few Western observers in Moscow doubt that the Russian team compete in Los Angeles.

A decision on whether to send a team would be made at the end of May.

Soviet sports officials told newsmen that given "normal" conditions in Los Angeles, a full-strength Soviet team of almost 600 athletes and officials would attend.

"We never use the word boy-

“Little Miss Easter Chick” competition winner, four-year-old Elizabeth Anne Beures, is flanked by Sharon Shaleu, 7, (left) who came second and Liza Anne Pon, 4, who was third.

Picture: GLENN MIDDLETAN

Russia playing game of words
Zimbabwe - four years after the bush war's end

DOZENS of new poster-size portraits of President Canaan Banana and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe look down on Harare's busy Samora Machel Avenue - and bright red, yellow, green and black flags and bunting decorate the city centre.

Preparations for the fourth anniversary of independence celebrations are also at an advanced stage in the second city and provincial capital of Mutareland - Bulawayo - although the celebration committee there says cosmetics are only at a quarter of the level they were this time last year. They blame the drought and general economic conditions.

But what is the mood in the rural areas and home of the bulk of the national population, in whose name the liberation struggle that brought about Zimbabwe four years ago tomorrow, was fought?

To get some idea I drove about 30 miles out of Harare, leaving behind the wooded suburbs and fenced commercial farms, to the Murewa district where thousands of Shona-speaking peasants grow maize and groundnuts and keep cattle and goats on plains between rugged hills and huge, rounded granite outcrops.

The area is also a traditional stronghold of Mr Mugabe's Zanu PF party.

I dropped in on Mr Tigere Rukuni, an old man who did not know his age or that tomorrow is the fourth anniversary of independence.

But Mr Rukuni, who still works his land each day with his aged wife to ensure their annual R50 income, said he remembered Independence Day on March 18, 1980.

"We were drinking and enjoying ourselves on that day, because we knew we had powers," said the old man, who was wearing a gumboot on one foot and a tattered velvaskoon on the other.

I asked him what single change since independence had meant the most to him. Without hesitation he replied: "Now we can slaughter our cattle whenever we want. Under Smith, each time we killed a beast we had to show the tail to the government."

The old man told me he used to give food to "freedom fighters" and I gathered that the Rhodesian Government had kept a close check on peasants' meat consumption. This year, because of the drought, the government gave him some groundnuts and a bag of fertiliser. Nothing like that had happened "since I was a small boy."

The district council had also helped him get water, because it was so dry that he had had to walk 10km to fetch it.

But Mr Rukuni said the cost of living had risen so much he could afford less than he could before independence.

"At least we are ruling ourselves now, but I still think people have got to go to the government and ask them to reduce the prices."

He also wished the government would give him more land to graze his cattle on.

At a more prosperous-looking kraal, I spoke to a 28-year-old woman, Mrs Mary Mubaiwa, who said she would definitely celebrate tomorrow.

Despite the drought, the 12-member extended family had had a reasonable harvest and had even planted some decorative marigolds around their brick-and-thatch huts. Their doves, chickens, guineafowls and rabbits were kept in neat stockades. Two of the family's sons worked in Harare and sent most of their earnings home.

In Mrs Mubaiwa's opinion, the greatest advance since independence was the building of schools and the lowering of school fees.

Before, the nearest school had been three days' walk. Now, with a school within a walking distance from their home, her two brothers were able for the first time to attend school.

With government encouragement, every family group in the local community had made 1000 bricks towards the school building, which had been erected by local people.

Like the old man, she, too, had given food to "freedom fighters". Two of her brothers and her father-in-law had been shot dead by Rhodesian soldiers "one night at Ntabazinduna" - a peasant settlement about 20km outside Bulawayo and in the territory of opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

"It proved to be more difficult to persuade people to comment on their first four years of independence."

Two young men refused to speak to a reporter, even after he showed them his Press card.

"You could have been sent by the government. We know the CIO (Central Intelligence Organisation) spies around. You could be trying to trap us into saying something against the gov-

Poster-size portraits of the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, are displayed in Harare to mark Independence Day tomorrow.

ANDRE VILJOEN in Harare
Mugabe claim refuted

Political Correspondent
CAPE TOWN—The South African Government had not approached Zimbabwe with a view to concluding a non-aggression pact, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Fik Bopho, said yesterday.

Mr Bopho was commenting on reports from Harare that Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe had disclosed in a television interview this week that the S A Government had asked for talks at ministerial level aimed at probing the possibility of a peace pact.

Mr Mugabe said in the interview he did not consider it necessary to have a peace pact with South Africa.

Mr Bopho said yesterday the Zimbabwean Government's repeated public stand was that it was not prepared to allow its territory to be used for acts of aggression or the planning of aggression against its neighbours including South Africa.

There was therefore no need for a formal non-aggression treaty and the South African Government had not approached Mr Mugabe's government with this in mind, Mr Bopho said.
Catholic Church upset by Mugabe allegations

By ANDRE VILJOEN

HARARE — The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe has denied allegations by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, that clergymen in Matabeleland had influenced Catholic bishops in the country to adopt a document alleging widespread military atrocities.

The commission was "deeply concerned" by Mr Mugabe's "alarming statement", a spokesman, Mr Alois Masvena, said.

"It should be clear to everybody that neither the Catholic bishops nor the clergy have ever been involved in party politics and in particular that the bishop and clergy of Bulawayo are not ZAPU supporters," the statement said.

It said both the commission and the Catholic Bishops Conference were "concerned only with protecting innocent people against brutality, the violation of their human rights and starvation".

The church was united in its condemnation of atrocities, whether they were committed by dissidents or by security forces.

The Catholic Bishops Conference, which had its annual meeting earlier this month, had publicly supported the government's legitimate efforts to restore law and order in Matabeleland, where it imposed a curfew in February.

The conference's "deep concern for the suffering of the people of Matabeleland" was based on reports from the commission which had been presented to Mr Mugabe and "which have not been published precisely because they were intended only to inform the Prime Minister of the serious state of affairs in that area".

Mr Mugabe first attacked the Catholic Church last weekend when he told a Press conference that the church in Matabeleland supported Mr Nkomo's ZAPU Party which, he said, had been sustaining dissidents.

He accused the Bishop of Bulawayo, the Right Reverend Henry Karlen, of having inspired other bishops to adopt the atrocities document.

The bishops' document was being studied, he said.

Meanwhile, the Mail's London Bureau reports that Mr Donald Telford, editor of the Observer, is to be told by Mr "Tiny" Rowland, chairman of the newspaper's board of directors, that he expects him to issue a "statement of clarification" about his report in last Sunday's issue in which he referred to alleged atrocities in Zimbabwe.

A spokesman for Mr Rowland's holding company, Lotho, has extensive business interests in Zimbabwe, said he would insist that Mr Telford "restored the balance" and outlined "the chronology of events affecting his collation and research of the evidence".
of Fear and Uncertainty

Blacks and Whites Alike

Darkness over Zimbabwe
Mugabe's reputation in Britain lies bleeding on the ground.
Why fearful Lonrho boss
telexed apology to
Mr. Mugabe

THIS is Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chairman of the giant Lonrho group, which last year made more than $113-

million of its $240-million profits from its interests in Africa.

And Zimbabwe is one of its most important African profit centres with operations spanning textiles, car and conch-

building, and the franchise to distribute Mercedes vehicles.

More than half of these profits were made in Zimbabwe.

Lonrho is no stranger to political difficulties in the region.

Mr Rowland has nevertheless maintained a good record for sorting out his group's African problems.

...and the man he dropped

By RAY JOSEPH

London

JOSifa NKOMO has revealed for the first time how Lonrho boss Tiny Rowland suddenly cut off his funds after supporting him financially for a number of years.

Mr Nkombo disclosed that Mr Lonrho stopped his financial support after he had called a Press conference in London to support claims of Catholic bishops in Zim-

babwe of atrocities by the infamous Fifth Brigade.

The message that Row-

land's aid would be immedi-

ately cut off angered Nkombo because it was passed on to him by phone by one of the business tycoon's staff.

So ended the close association between Nkombo and multi-millionaire he had come to know as "a good man". What the call meant, one of the family by marriage.

Nkombo was in London this week to launch his new book, "Nkombo - The Story Of My Life", published by Random House.

Mr Nkombo revealed how his relationship with Rowland came to an abrupt end.

"At the darkest moment of my life, the man I regarded as my friend withdrew his help and left me without money or a place to live, at 12 hours' notice.

But, he says, he can understand why Mr Rowland took this step.

Threatened

"People were pressing him. If he went on helping, his investments might be threatened...my friends in the business

world wanted me to starve...

Despite this he was grateful to Mr Rowland for his help over the years and his last contact with the busi-

nessman had been a message expressing his "thanks".

His relationship with Mr Rowland began in 1974 as a result of the businessman's intervention through person-

al contacts with both the South African Government and President Kaunda of Zambia, which led to the release of both himself and other nationals.

"At no time did I have dealings with Lonrho," said Mr Nkombo. "My friends in the world of business were purely with Tiny Row-

land as an individual, not with Nkombo.

"His most important con-

tribution was airline tickets. I was constantly travelling usually with two or three air-

line tickets, whenever I asked for one it was always given to me."

Detained

Four BBC reporters and TV crewmen were detained several hours last week while trying to enter the Zim-

babwean town.

Missionsaries who have read the accounts by the Observer and The Sunday Times say they "were close to the truth, understated per-

haps".

By week's end the war of words was still raging.
Horror

But Telford was anxious to learn more about allegations levelled by foreign journalists and Catholic mission workers that Mugabe's troops led by the laity of North Korean-trained Fifth Brigade were murdering, raping, torturing and systematically harrowing thousands of Ndebele villages in a far-off war that was stepped up in south Matabeleland and had killed 500,000 people by February 1.

So, accompanied by Zimbabwe-born Observer Africa correspondent, Godwin Matusi, Telford flew to Mafeking, the provincial capital of Barwings, where, checked into the Holiday Inn and then turned into his room for what he said was an early night.

Matusi, whose appointment as Harare-based correspondent last year was ordered by Rowland, and resisted by Telford, went off to see relatives. But Telford was, meantime, handed a sealed envelope with instructions to see someone in the hotel carpark.

By Telford's own account he was driven into the bush where victims and witnesses of atrocities were waiting.

He spent the night recording their allegations, drove back to the inn, had breakfast with Matusi, and then flew back to Harare and then, Friday night's flight to London.

Before he left, Telford dictated his story to a tape, of the same kind of horror stories Zimbabwe officials hoped to discredit — by telephone to the Observer. The subsequent page one expose for Sunday — similar to a follow-up by the Sunday Times and the Daily Telegraph.
Staring Mozanbicans face ostracism

The scene turned.

Improved area has.

Security
Church replies to attack by Mugabe

Own Correspondent

HARARE — The Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace in Zimbabwe has dismissed charges by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, that politically biased clergymen in Matabeleland had influenced Catholic bishops in the rest of the country to adopt a document alleging widespread military atrocities.

The commission was "deeply concerned" by Mr Mugabe's "astonishing statement", a spokesman, Mr Alois Mveneka said in a statement released here.

"It should be clear to everybody that neither the Catholic bishops nor the clergy have ever been involved in party politics and in particular that the bishop and clergy of Bulawayo are not ZAPU supporters," the statement said.

It said both the commission and the Catholic Bishops' Conference were "concerned only with protecting innocent people against brutality, the violation of their human rights and starvation".

The church was united in its condemnation of atrocities, whether they were committed by dissidents or by security forces, the statement said.

The Catholic Bishops Conference, which had its annual meeting earlier this month, had publicly supported the government's legitimate efforts to restore law and order in Matabeleland where it clamped a curfew on February 3.

The conference's "deep concern for the suffering of the people of Matabeleland", was based on reports from the commission which had been presented to Mr Mugabe and "which have not been published precisely because they were intended only to inform the prime minister of the serious state of affairs in that area".

Mr Mugabe first attacked the Catholic Church last weekend when he told a press conference that the church in Matabeleland supported Mr Nkomo's ZAPU party which he said had been sustaining dissidents.
Zimbabwe farm may be handed over to squatters

By Brendan Seery, The Star Bureau

SHURUGWI — After a three-year running battle to have squatters evicted from his property, a farmer in this Midlands town, Mr Robert Rensford, could be the first person to have his farm compulsorily acquired by the Zimbabwe Government for resettlement purposes.

Up to now, Mr Robert Mugabe’s Government has acquired vacant or unutilised white farming land on a “willing seller-willing buyer” basis for its ambitious programmes to resettle more than 160 000 families from the impoverished former tribal trust lands.

However, Lands and Resettlement Minister Mr Movem Mahachi said last week that Mr Rensford’s property would be “acquired” by the government and that the people now living on the farm would run it as a co-operative venture.

RESURRECTION

Under the terms of the Lancaster House Agreement, the government may seize farming properties it requires for resettlement, provided that it pays adequate compensation.

However, there is a stipulation that any compensation shall be remittable anywhere in the world, free from any levies or taxes.

Because of its tight foreign exchange position and because there have been plenty of vacant farms available for resettlement, the authorities have so far avoided this course of action.

Although the minister has made public his intention of taking over the farm, Mr Rensford has so far received no official notification on the matter.

He has been farming in the area since 1956 and bought the 2 000 ha Little Impala farm in 1989 as additional grazing for his 1 700 head of prime Hereford cattle. He refuses to give up the land.

“Why should I? I paid for it and I am the legal owner. How can a bunch of squatters do as they please?” he asked.

The squatter population — which numbers 19 families — is composed of former employees of the farm’s previous resident.

When Mr Rensford bought the property, they refused to move, claiming that they had been given the land by the previous resident who, in fact, was not the legal owner, and who also served the squatters with eviction notices before. Mr Rensford was to move in.

A Shurugwi farmer is facing the unhappy prospect of becoming the first Zimbabwean to have his land compulsorily acquired by the Government for resettlement. Squatters, who refuse to leave the 2 000 ha property in the Midlands, appear likely to take it over and set up a co-operative in a move that could have far-reaching implications for all farmers in the country.

The squatters have been repeatedly and violently refused to acknowledge Mr Rensford as the owner and have even refused offers of jobs made by him.

They have backed up their stand by maliciously tearing down kilometres of boundary fences which the farmer and his workers painstakingly put up.

They have threatened to kill him and his wife, have threatened his labour force and assaulted his workers’ children.

About 100 head of cattle have been either rustled or snared and butchered. More than a thousand trees have been cut down on the property and packs of hunting dogs brought to the squatters are killing off the game, said Mr Rensford.

The headmaster of a primary school — which Mr and Mrs Rensford are helping to support — was assaulted by some of the squatters because he refused to move his school nearer their hutments.

Mr Rensford has recorded a total of 42 incidents related to the dispute and has filed a case from poaching to assault to damage to property and theft — but, so far, police have done nothing.

His efforts to negotiate with the Ministry of Lands met with no success.

He was first told the squatters would be moved and resettled. Then he was called in.

He was then informed the squatters would be resettled on a nearby government scheme. They refused to be moved, although the resettlement scheme land was better farming country.

Mr Rensford was asked by the government to sell his property so the people could start their own cooperative farming scheme. He refused to do so, as he needed the land for grazing.

Tired of wrestling with officials, Mr Rensford eventually took the matter to the courts and won eviction orders. But a local police officer would not help the sheriff’s office in carrying out the evictions.

Taken to court over the issue, the Commissioner of Police suggested he was above the law and not bound to enforce orders from the courts.

Stung in the judiciary and ordered by both the High Court and the Supreme Court to cooperate in the eviction, police last week claimed they were short of manpower when the eviction operation was about to start.

The eviction was then postponed for two weeks.

Now, after the Minister’s announcement, Mr Rensford is not sure where he stands.

He said he has received anxious telephone calls from farmers across the country — including one black landowner who was concerned that the minister’s edict might set a dangerous precedent.

“What this means now, if it goes through, is that no landowner, if he gets rid of his labour or sells his property, will have to allow his workers to remain on the land, farming their own little patches.

“If a small group of people, who seem to have connections in the right places, can get their way and the rule of law is ignored, what is the rest of the world going to think?”

COMPENSATION

If the government does take over the farm, Mr Rensford will hold out for what he thinks should be adequate compensation.

If the squatters eventually take over the land to run it as a co-operative, he does not believe he will be spared harassment.

Plains by white MPs, including former Rhodesia Prime Minister Mr Ian Smith — who is a neighbour of Mr Rensford — and Independent MP Mr Harry Twai, have come to nothing.

Mr Rensford, unlike some other white farmers — who would dearly love the chance to remit their money outside the country — is not tempted by the possibility that he can be paid out elsewhere.

“This is my home. When I came here this place was virgin bush. My efforts have helped to make this farm what it is today. I’m a Zimbabwean, proud to say so. Why should I be pushed out?”
Harare set to probe atrocity allegations

BY ANDRE VILJoen
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE. — The Zimbabwean Government will investigate all the atrocities alleged to have been committed by troops in southern Matabeleland, the Minister of National Supplies, Senator Enos Nkala, told a weekend rally in the area.

The promise follows a challenge he made last week to churchmen, the opposition ZAPU leader Mr. Joshua Nkomo, and others who alleged atrocities had been committed in the area in the past three months of curfew.

"Show us where the mass graves are," said Nkala.

The Catholic Bishop of Bulawayo, the Rt. Rev. Henry Karlen, has said he would be willing to present evidence if he were invited to, and a Catholic priest, Father Gabriel, who accepted a government challenge to attend a weekend rally, said he could present witnesses if their safety could be guaranteed.

Sen Nkala told Father Gabriel, who reportedly made atrocity allegations to a British journalist, that his witness would be given all the protection they needed.

Sen Nkala told the rally at Kwekwe in the heart of the curfew area, that the Prime Minister Mr. Robert Mugabe was "disturbed" by false reports of atrocities.

Catholic Church leaders recently handed Mr. Mugabe a document detailing alleged atrocities. International news media have also carried reports of soldiers allegedly killing, torturing, and raping civilians in their ongoing crackdown on armed dissidents.

Much of the published information has come from clerics who are among the few independent observers who have had access to the curfew area.

Mr. Mugabe has accused the Western Press of conducting a smear campaign against Zimbabwe and he has claimed that Catholic clergyman in Matabeleland are biased in favour of ZAPU which he says, supports dissidents.

The Minister of Health, Dr. Sydney Sekereinayi, went further at the weekend when he publicly accused Bishop Karlen of being "in league with Satan. Joshua Nkomo, bands and other evil forces hell-bent on trying to destroy our nationhood and the unity of our people".

Ironically, Bishop Karlen and the Catholic Church were outspoken critics of Rhodesian security force atrocities against civilians and supporters of black nationalist movements during the Rhodesian bush war.

Three weeks ago the government announced it was relaxing conditions in the curfew area and would also be inviting foreign journalists to visit the area to dispel "atrocity allegations."

The journalists' trip has not materialised yet but according to sources the relaxation of the curfew has brought about an improvement in the availability of food in the drought-stricken area.
Harare goes all out to counter atrocity claims

HARARE — Zimbabwean Government Ministers began a campaign yesterday to counter allegations that the country's security forces had committed countless atrocities in the hunt for anti-government rebels. The atrocity claims featured in Roman Catholic Church dossiers given to the government and in foreign news reports.

The National Supplies Minister Mr Enos Nkala, and the Political Affairs Minister Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, said after a tour of southern Matabeleland they had found no evidence of army atrocities.

Mr Nkala told the pro-government Herald newspaper: "I felt confident in challenging Roman Catholic churchmen to produce evidence of atrocities against civilians.

"A mass grave is not something one can hide. We want these people to verify their allegations. All we have been presented with are further unsubstantiated claims," he said.

Mr Nkala said he had been particularly angered by Western Press reports alleging the government was attempting to "wipe out" the minority Ndebele tribe in Matabeleland.

Press reports quoted a Catholic priest Father John Gough in a sermon last month at Harare's Catholic cathedral.

Mr Nkala said: "I am an Ndebele, a senior Cabinet Minister and member of the central committee of the ruling Zanu PF (Zimbabwe African National Union Popular Front).

"What these foreign journalists are saying is that I have been sitting in council that have been making decisions to eliminate my own tribe."

Mr Nyagumbo echoed Mr Nkala's assertions, accusing the Catholic churchmen of having "an unloyal alliance" with opposition leader Mr Joshua Nkomo and his Zimbabwem African Peoples Union (Zapu) party.

Mr Nyagumbo said neither the church nor Zapu had issued "a single word of condemnation of disadventures on civilians."

"But the Catholic clergy have condemned the security forces for unsubstantiated allegations of atrocities," he said.

The Information Minister Mr Nathan Shamuyarira joined the government campaign with a bitter attack on Mr Donald Treiford, editor of the London newspaper The Observer, who reported, the atrocity claims two weeks ago after visiting Zimbabwe.

"Mr Shamuyarira accused Mr Treiford of "cheating the Zimbabwe Government."

The Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has not so far commented in detail on the atrocity claims but officials believe he plans to join the campaign today when he makes an important speech marking Labour Day. — UPI
Stabilization: Is Zimbabwe next in line?

As the last session of the old minisiter prime minister parliametary era debates the estimates of expediture, the effiicacy of the adimistration is riding high. A series of regional diplomatic coups has isolated the African National Congress, depriving them of secure haven bases for mounting guerrilla warfare in South Africa.

The external-based threat to the country's security has been dealt a heavy blow, by all accounts, and it seems unlikely that the ANC will be able to sustain the current level of infiltration from abroad for much longer.

The days of sabotage and ambush terrorism in South African towns and cities, planned and mounted from across the borders, may well be numbered, or at least the frequency and intensity of the attacks may be greatly moderated.

On the domestic front a new constitution is about to come into effect. While it is generally welcomed that the new three-chamber system is grossly inadequate, many people have a hunch that it will lead to further liberalization.

Wait and see

Meanwhile, Mr. Botha is sweeping all before him. The English financiers and foreign investors who were keeping him as a star. Some English-speaking businesspersons openly proclaim that they support Mr. Botha, and are inclining to withdraw their support from the Opposition.

They would do better to wait and see.

As the external threat fades, so too does the "total onslaught" line of propaganda lose its potency. And it is no longer possible to divert attention from pressing domestic problems by blaming everything on communist aggression from outside.

The trouble is mainly internal and springs from an oppressive domastic policy which excludes blacks from the body politic and discriminates against people of colour.

Does the Botha administration really intend to do something about it? Hope that they are about to address the problem of black rights in a clear fashion is quickly dispelled when the apartheid bureaucracy, at Mr. Botha's bidding, cracks down on the squatters who are streaming into the towns to find jobs.

In the House of Assembly this week Dr George Morrison, a deputy minister, left little doubt that Crossroads is to be demolished come what may - and quickly. The Prime Minister, instead, reaffirmed the government's determination to move all Peninsula blacks to Khayelitsha in due course.

It is not that a contradiction in Mr. Botha's policies threatens to wipe out the diplomatic advance he has made.

The Western world has a bad conscience about population removals in Europe which remembers the horrors endured by civilians in World War II, large scale removals from one place to another arouse a sense of moral outrage - as does the bulldozing of squatter camps.

Mr. F. Botha, riding the crest of his popularity after Nkomati, has been invited to visit various European capitals. His advisors must surely have told him of the embarrasments and demonstrations which could spoil such a visit - if the newspapers are full of news reports from South Africa announcing the demolition of squatter camps in the rain and cold of a Cape winter.

Meanwhile, the last Westminster-style session and the prospect of coloured and Indian elections are attracting remarkably little interest in the country. Indeed, the attention of the public is fastened on Mr. Botha's relations with his African diplomacy.

And Africa-watchers abroad are wondering who will be singled out next in Mr. Botha's campaign to "stabilize" the sub-continent.

Zimbabwe is likely to be subjected to increasing doses of clandestine "stabilization". At least, is what leading figures in Harare believe, as reports in the Guardian under a headline "Pretoria's secret war against Zimbabwe" may be summarized as follows:

A radio station known as Radio Moveni, based in South Africa, has been beaming anti-Mugabe propaganda into: Matabeleland for almost a year. But the level of Pretoria-sponsored anti-Mugabe media was compared with South African support for Unita in Angola and the MNR in Mozambique remains relatively low. The SA-sponsored anti-Mugabe rebels have been dubbed super-Zapu. Harare claims to have discovered traces of South African involvement in 48 incidents of violence last year and there have been several more this year, it is claimed, including ambushes of government troops, attacks on a bridge and a mine, "as well as the shooting of three white farmers, one of them a senator, together with his daughter and male visitor staying with them," according to Steele.

These are extraordinary allegations. Can they possibly be true? In the new era of clandestine operations, convincing proof of South African involvement is unlikely be readily available.

It is certainly strainig credit to suggest that the South African taxpayer is unwittingly helping to finance an anti-Mugabe revolt in Matabeleland in which murderous acts of terrorism are the order of the day.

The allegations in the Guardian are pretty detailed, however, and it is unlikely that we have heard the last of this. If a force of anti-Mugabe Rhodesians is in fact undergoing training in camps in the Northern Transvaal, as alleged, the idea presumably is to keep Mr. Mugabe in line, indicating that he will feel the full force of South African "stabilization" if he should incur the wrath of Pretoria.

The sub-continent may be pacified for a while by the use of force and the threat of further force. But this will not remove the need to subdue, again and again.

Why not try diplomacy with Mr. Mugabe - instead of driving him steadily into the arms of the Soviets and their surrogates?

Instead of exploiting the historic distrust between Shona and Ndebele to keep Zimbabwe off balance, as South Africa is said to be doing, why not offer Mr. Mugabe practical help? You may pacify a sub-continent by humiliating its leaders and forcing them to do your will. It is not a pretty sight. And it is at best a temporary solution.

There can be no lasting peace in Southern Africa until the apartheid policies which infringe upon the dignity of people of colour everywhere have been abolished, and a regional alliance can be negotiated on a basis of mutual trust and respect.
Nkomo wants his job back

HARARE—Zapu leader Joshua Nkomo returned from London yesterday and announced he wanted to rejoins the Government.

He said on his arrival: 'I am prepared to work with the Government in order to reduce tension and mistrust in the country and to discover who the dissidents are and what their motive is.'

He attacked tribalism, regionalism and racism and said he was committed to a unified Zimbabwe.

Mr Nkomo said he had been removed from the Cabinet 'for being a plotter'. He added: 'I've never been a plotter and I will never be one. I stand for the interests of this country.'

Mr Nkomo had been in London to launch his autobiography. He said he hoped the book would be available locally within the next few weeks.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe recently described the book as a 'pack of lies'.

Mr Nkomo said: 'That is his view. The people who happen to appear in this book should know that this is my book, my life ... I report what I believe happened. If they don't believe it, they will write their own books some day.'

On charges that Zapu was working with the Roman Catholic Church in alleging atrocities by Government troops, Mr Nkomo said the Catholics had expressed their views.

'Where they get their information, I don't know. And I'm not a Catholic myself.' He repeated his party's denial of charges that it sponsored dissidents. —(Sapa)
Eglin calls on PM to meet Robert Mugabe

Mr. Mugabe had endorsed the Nkomati Accord with Mozambique, but relations between Zimbabwe and South Africa had not really thawed. This was a pity, because South Africa and Zimbabwe between them held the key to the development of Southern and Central Africa. South Africa should make the improvement of relations with Zimbabwe an important foreign policy objective, Mr. Eglin said.

Mr. Eglin (FFP Sea Point) said during the Foreign Affairs debate that Zimbabwe appeared to have remained aloof from new relationships between South Africa and her black neighbours.

Mr. P.W. Botha, and Mr. Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe should not be impossible in view of regional developments, Mr. Colin Eglin said yesterday.

The Foreign Minister, Mr. P.W. Botha, said that, South Africa did not reply directly to the call for a meeting between the two governments. He would like to improve South Africa's relations with Zimbabwe, but did not want to say anything about Zimbabwe's shortcomings, because then they will talk about ours, he told the Assembly.

In essence, however, relations between the two countries were normal, realistic, and correct. Trade and private business continued and Zimbabwe had since independence refused to allow terrorist groups to operate from its soil, Mr. Mugabe had not only welcomed the Nkomati Accord, but had expressed the hope that it would lead to greater understanding, Sapa reports that Mr. Botha said an Nkomati-type agreement was not necessary because the Zimbabwean Government had constantly given the assurance that it would not accommodate terrorists in its territory.
PFP attack on new local-govt funding

Political Correspondent
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — Proposed new levies to finance local government were attacked by the Progressive Federal Party yesterday as likely to increase unemployment by hampering job creation.

The three proposed levies were set out yesterday by the Minister of Finance, Mr Owen Horwood:

- They are an establishment levy (which has been referred to as a turnover tax), a services levy on salaries of all employees and a levy on productive assets.

Mr Horwood said during the budget debate on his portfolio that these recommendations by the Crozer working group on local-government financing had been accepted in principle.

They had, however, also been referred to the National Co-ordinating Council for further consideration. A final decision would only be taken on receipt of this report and in consultation with all concerned.

The chief opposition finance spokesman, Mr Harry Schwarz (FFP Yeoville), told Mr Horwood that taxation of turnover, employment and productive assets went to the root of South Africa's main problem: The need to create many jobs cheaply.

South Africa's population was already increasing at double the rate that jobs were being provided. Any further restriction on job creation was a disservice to the economy and to future stability.

"Hungry people are not interested in constitutions. They will turn to political interests to see their stomachs are full," Mr Schwarz said.

Mr Horwood earlier described local government as the cornerstone of the government's new constitutional arrangement.

The objective was to provide funds enabling local authorities to provide minimum standards, including infrastructure, for the provision of housing, roads, sewerage and electricity. The present system of financing local government favoured the more prosperous and established areas.

The Crozer report had therefore recommended that the new levies be imposed on the basis of a region where people lived, worked, and purchased. There would then be a formula for the division of these proceeds among local authorities in the area.

The new recommended sources of funds were:

- An establishment levy. This would be applied at a low rate on the turnover of all trade, manufacturing and professional business undertakings within a particular local government area. It would replace the existing trade licence fees based on stock.
- A service levy on the wages and salaries paid by all employees, including the public sector. Because this was proposed as a replacement for the existing transport levy, it was suggested that a portion of this income be used to cover the broad costs of urban transport.

Van der Walt 'no secret agent'

Political Staff
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Prime Minister, Mr P W Botha, yesterday rejected the claim by a former deputy minister, Mr Henkie van der Walt, to have been a government security agent involved in secret information projects.

Mr Botha told Mr Horace van Rensburg (FFP Bophuthatswana) that he had been assured by the heads of security forces that no secret operations of the kind mentioned by Mr Van der Walt ever existed.

The question follow Mr Van der Walt's statement to the Transvaal Law Society that he put R1 million into a secret government project known to the then Prime Minister, Mr John Vorster, and the former Minister of Information, Dr Connie Mulder.

Special agent

"The money came from trust funds in Mr Van der Walt's legal firm. Mr Van der Walt, who resigned his parliamentary seat and his deputy ministership on the grounds of ill-health, was subsequently struck off the attorneys' roll for misusing clients' trust money.

Mr Van der Walt claimed to have been a special agent for security for 11 years but said he had never been given proof of the money he invested in a secret project which had never materialized.

He said the project was linked to the Schlebusch Commission, which Mr Van der Walt said subsequently became the President's Council. His claims were denied by Dr Mulder.

Yesterday Mr Botha told Mr Van Rensburg that Mr Van der Walt had not been a security agent for any state department, nor were there any security operations with regard to the Schlebusch Commission or the President's Council.

When Mr Van Rensburg put further questions on the matter, Mr Botha accused him of "gossiping" and of enjoying trampling on people who were down.
Atrocity probe seen as ‘farce’

BULAWAYO. – The press trip to investigate allegations of army atrocities in Matabeleland province has cast a pall over Zimbabwe’s international image and further damaged already strained relations between the government and foreign press.

The two-day trip was ordered at the highest level of government to force foreign correspondents to substantiate overseas press reports of widespread military brutality since southern Matabeleland was placed under curfew and their residence was cancelled on February 3 as part of an army sweep against armed rebels.

In a combination of force and tragedy, the correspondents were held in the bush near testimonies of murders, rape and beatings dismissed as sensational and were threatened about their future reporting.

Records, Information Director Mr John Tsimba said the purpose of the trip had been to establish whether there had been genocide against the minority Ndebele tribe in the region and to pinpoint alleged mass graves.

“On those counts there was no evidence whatsoever,” he added.

‘Set-up’

At a press conference in Bulawayo on Saturday, Mr Tsimba accused the foreign correspondents of engineering the presence of witnesses with army activities and said: “The whole thing was a set-up.”

The Minister of State for Defence, Mr. Ernest Kadungure, in reply to a question, said: “The government will take its time to see whether we have to waste money investigating or not.”

Sharply critical articles about the trip have appeared in newspapers around the world, particularly in the United States, and Western diplomats in Harare expressed shock and dismay over the foreign correspondents’ accounts.

Domestic news media, however, said the trip had failed to produce any evidence to substantiate allegations of army atrocities and described it as “a wild goose chase”.

Diplomats from several Western countries contacted foreign correspondents to ask about the trip and said they would be making lengthy reports to their capitals. One diplomat commented after reading summaries of the foreign newspaper articles: “It’s much worse than I had expected.”

Convoy lost

The trip, led personally by Army Commander General Rex Nhongo, took correspondents by military convoy into the curfew area of southern Matabeleland, which is normally out of bounds to journalists.

Originally scheduled for only Wednesday, the tour was extended after General Nhongo left the convoy in an area where the correspondents had not asked to visit and it got lost.

After being reunified with the convoy, however, General Nhongo said that officially there were only 40 to 50 rebels, referred here as dissidents, in the whole of Matabeleland’s south province. The region covers about 30,000 sq km of southwest Zimbabwe.

When the tour resumed on Thursday, the correspondents said they would take part only if they could choose the route.

General Nhongo agreed, on condition that London Sunday Times reporter, Mr. Peter Godwin, led the convoy in his own car. Mr Godwin, 28, was the author of an article which particularly angered the Zimbabwe Government, in which he reported entering the curfew area, hearing of killings and being shown graves.

At the first stop, at Matopo mission south of here, a nursing sister told of 28 people she had treated in February and March who said they had been beaten by soldiers.

Others at the mission, questioned publicly, said they knew of no cases of army brutality. But three men later took aside an American reporter and said they did know of beating cases but had not wanted to admit it in the presence of government photographers and troops.

At Mshabeshe mission, 60km south of Bulawayo, an American correspondent, said he had treated more than 120 people since February 3 who said they had been beaten by troops.

Dr Devee Boyd, 36, added that in the past three weeks he had also treated 15 teenage girls who had been raped by men who they said were military personnel.

A group of villagers from the nearby area of Donkwe Donkwe were waiting to meet the correspondents. But before they were allowed to speak, Mr Tsimba said they were not plausible witnesses because Mr. Godwin had arranged for them to be there.

The villagers said they had witnessed the shooting of six young men near Donkwe Donkwe School on February 3 by soldiers who had said: “We want to show you we kill people who support dissidents.”

During questioning of the villagers, three of whom said they were relatives of the dead men, arguments broke out as reporters for the government-controlled domestic news media persistently interrupted foreign correspondents’ questions.

Graves

The villagers led the group to where they said the men had been shot and pointed to two graves where they had been ordered to bury the bodies.

Three days earlier restrictions on travel and movement of food in the curfew area were lifted. Since then there have been unconfirmed reports that the army has been exhuming bodies and burning them to eliminate evidence.

Questioned about the villagers’ testimony, General Nhongo said they were liars.

As the trip ended in pitch dark by the grave, Mr Tsimba announced: “This whole trip has proved allegations of brutality, allegations of atrocities on a mass scale, like the figure which was mentioned of 30,000 people killed in this area alone, are false.”
LONDON.—Mr Donald Trelford, the editor who publicly argued with his proprietor over a story on alleged atrocities in Zimbabwe, said yesterday that his report was now supported by a government-conducted tour.

Long reports of the tour have appeared in London newspapers and the editor of the Sunday newspaper the Observer, Mr Donald Trelford, said in a radio interview that despite the official nature of the trip, journalists were still able to discover the truth.

He said he was "really quite astonished" that villagers were brave enough to say there had been atrocities, "even on a conducted tour like this, with soldiers standing around with rifles, and with members of the Central Intelligence Organization taking photographs for obvious use afterwards."

"I think that shows astonishing courage and itself is an indication of the scale of what's been going on there," Mr Trelford told Independent Radio News.

Mr Tiny Rowland, owner of the Observer and boss of the Lonrho conglomerate, accused Mr Trelford of inadequately researching his report from Zimbabwe on the atrocities. Mr Trelford rejected the criticism and has remained in the editor's chair.

Lonrho has ranching, mining and other interests in Zimbabwe. — Supa

AP
The people of a certain village were building a new house. The weather was sunny, and everyone was working together to get the job done. The village was known for its hard work and community spirit.

As the building progressed, a group of friends decided to take a break and enjoy some tea. They sat under a big tree and talked about their plans for the future. One of them mentioned that they had heard about a special tree that could provide shade for their new home.

The others were eager to learn more, so they set out to find the tree. After walking for several miles, they finally found it. It was magnificent, with roots that spread out far and wide. The villagers decided to plant it near their village square, where everyone could enjoy its shade.

The tree began to grow, and soon it became a symbol of the village's perseverance and ingenuity. The villagers were proud of their hard work and the beauty of their new home. They knew that they had created something special that would last for generations.
HARARE. - Zimbabwe's Police Commissioner has refused to enforce a Supreme Court order to evict farm squatters in a case which threatens a serious clash between the police and the judiciary.

Zimbabwe's government-run Herald newspaper said yesterday that Police Commissioner Wredzel Nguruve could face charges of contempt of court for failing to deploy his men against the squatters.

Lawyers acting for a white cattle rancher, Mr. Robert Remford, have threatened Mr. Nguruve with a private prosecution if he refuses to evict the 27 black squatters from the farm in Shurugwe in Zimbabwe's Midlands Province.

Mr. Remford won a High Court order last year to evict the squatters but court messengers who went to supervise their expulsion from the land were threatened and abused. The court then ruled the messengers should be protected by police.

"Mr. Nguruve appealed" to the Supreme Court, arguing that as Commissioner he was immune from direction from the courts and was above the law.

The Supreme Court called his arguments "extraordinary" and dismissed his appeal.

The Minister of Lands and Resettlement, Mr. Moven Machachi, however, told the squatters to stay where they were and form a cooperative on the farm because they had been there longer than the owner.

"What is legally right might not always be morally defendable," Mr. Machachi said.

The wrangle illustrates the plight of land-hungry Zimbabwean peasants who have been forced into the countryside by strict government controls over the number of people allowed in towns and cities.

After independence from Britain in 1980, Zimbabwe launched an ambitious land resettlement scheme. The programme has, however, been short of money and progress has been slow.

An official of the Commercial Farmers' Union said the Remford case could set a dangerous precedent.

"Those who are breaking the law must be brought to court," he said. "This could be the straw that broke the farmers' back."
White TDF officers called gold diggers

UMTATA — White Zimbabweans in the Transkei Defence Force (TDF) were accused yesterday of being there "to fill their pockets".

The accusation of them being "gold diggers" who were making the TDF their "gold mine" came from the MP for Bizana, chief Daliwonga Mlindazwe.

The chief cited several cases which he said backed his claim and also called for a commission of inquiry into promotions.

Chief Mlindazwe cited a case of a white army officer who was living in Johannesburg but was collecting his salary cheque in Umtata.

There was another example of some white officials in the TDF who had charged the government R6 000 for furniture removal.

"All I know is that most of these whites come from countries where they are not allowed to take their belongings, including furniture."

"I would like the Minister to give us a satisfactory answer about the whole set-up in our defence force."

I would also like to know what happened to the guns which were said to be crooked and were said to have been sent to Pretoria.

"If they have been brought back, the minister must tell us."

"It is the taxpayers' money and we are there to find out exactly how our money is being used," Chief Mlindazwe said.

The chief also cited a case where a white official had been paid R13 000 compensation after an accident in a government vehicle:

"There are other people who have been injured in the TDF. Some are paralysed, but they had not been paid a cent."

Chief Mlindazwe said. — DDR.
Zimbabwe’s scandal causes furor

ROBIN DREW of the Argus Foreign Service reports from Harare

SET against the millions said to be involved in South Africa’s alleged oil payment scandal, Zimbabwe’s £6.3 million bribery and corruption case might look like small fry.

But the issue has set tongues wagging all over the country.

You do not have to look hard to find someone who will suggest yet another name among the top ranks of government said to be involved.

At the centre of the scandal is a leading local businessman, Mr Samson Paweni (46), whose company gained a government contract to deliver drought relief maize to collection points in Manicaland in eastern Zimbabwe.

The company also has defence ministry contracts.

The state alleges that the transport charges were grossly inflated and cost the government some £6 million. To cover up the fraud, it says, officials were bribed to keep quiet.

Four officials have already been given jail sentences of up to 10 years. In mitigation they claimed everyone in the ministry concerned “right to the top” knew of the swindle.

One convicted official said he was too terrified to try to stop it because the then minister, Mr Kumbirai Kangai, had “bodyguards with guns”.

This drove the minister to issue a statement through the department of information denying any involvement and accusing “criminals of mudslinging and dividing the people”.

Mr Paweni himself has been in custody since the end of March under a detention order.

It has been stated that among things he was involved in was economic sabotage and that he had supplied food to the MNR rebels in Mozambique in exchange for payment in Lisbon.

Then during a bail application by another official facing a bribery charge came the bombshell announcement by the state that a plot had been discovered to spring Mr Paweni from custody and to take him out of the country.

No details of the “kidnap” attempt, as it was termed, were given. But one version now doing the rounds is that the people who wanted to get him out of the authorities’ hands intended to dispose of him permanently to ensure his silence.

Meanwhile a judge who sentenced some of the officials has ordered the police to investigate the claims by the convicted men that they were the minor cogs in the wheel of corruption.

Some documents concerning the scandal are said to have disappeared and a court was told the police were searching for a secret hideout along the Mozambique border.

While the Paweni case slowly unfolds, the whole question of corruption involving politicians, officials and businessmen is being actively debated.

On television this week one panelist said nothing on this scale had occurred during Ian Smith’s reign.

In the newspaper columns, the authorities, from the Prime Minister down, are being urged to crush corruption before it becomes an incurable cancer.
HARARE. — An all-out “fight to the finish” against Zapu-sponsored dissidents and their sympathizers in Zimbabwe was declared at the weekend by the country’s Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe.

"Enough is enough," he told several hundred mourners in Chegutu, at the funeral of a local Zams (PF) official, Mr Peter Simanayi, 39, gunned down by a group of dissidents last Sunday at his homestead in the Masenjezi area in central Zimbabwe.

"Zapu has started something and I want to assure you that we are going to see this thing to the bitter end."

"I shall give power to the police, the security forces, all of them to mount a manhunt, not only in houses but also in bushes, anthills and trees. Anybody here who belongs to Zapu will have to answer for it," he said.

Mr Mugabe said Zapu was to blame for the murder of Mr Simanayi, the Zams (PF) secretary for transport for Musengezi district in Mashonaland West province.

Visibly angry, Mr Mugabe said Zapu had now proved to be "incorrigible" and would never see the errors of its ways, let alone reciprocate the hand of friendship or unity being extended to it by Zams (PF).

And in a speech read on his behalf in Harare at the opening of a three-day international trade union anti-apartheid conference, Mr Mugabe called on South African workers to intensify efforts to create new anti-apartheid fronts in all industries.

"Not even the might of the racist South African state will be able to withstand the organized strength and concerted energy of the workers of that country as they strike at the heart of the productive system as part of the assault of the entire liberation movement in that country," he said. — Sapa
Freedom without freedom for Nkombo

IT WAS the 18th Century French philosopher, Jean-Jacques Rousseau, who observed, “Man was born free and everywhere he is in chains.”

Joshua Nkombo, in his autobiography, “Nkombo — The Story of My Life” (published by Metconen — London), presents a corollary to Rousseau’s immortal maxim: “The hardest lesson of my life has come to me late. It is that a nation can be won without its people becoming free.”

Father Zimbabwe, the name given to Nkombo by his political associates, has produced a thoroughly readable account of the growth of independence and freedom from an intrepid and well entrenched minority white regime.

But dismissing readability as a mere observation, it needs to be stressed that the assessment of Mr Nkombo’s book would be incomplete without making the observation that it is riddled with rancour — a good sign if it is evidently justified — directed at Prime Minister Robert Mugabe — referring to ZANU—PF party.

Mr Nkombo goes some length to show how kind he has been to Robert Mugabe and even claims responsibility for bringing Mr Mugabe to the leadership of Zanu. His helpfulness to Mr Mugabe, however, claims, were met with treachery and finally an attempt to subvert him by government agents that forced him to flee the country he loved and had worked so hard to liberate.

To demonstrate the manner in which he was let down by Mr Mugabe, Joshua Nkombo refers to the Lancaster House Agreement, points out that to begin with the most encouraging aspect of the agreement was the co-operation that built up between Mr Mugabe and himself as leaders of the two wings of the Patriotic Front.

The day after the Lancaster House Agreement had been signed, Nkombo and Mugabe were scheduled to meet to discuss the procedure for the elections that were due in three months’ time.

Mr Nkombo’s description of what happened: “The day was decided as our first full-scale meeting. We met at a flat for our first talk. Nobody answered the place; the owner had left for Dar-es-Salaam. That was the end of our agreement to talk, broken not by me, but by Robert Mugabe. The smiles of Lancaster House were left behind in London. The national campaign of reconciliation that I dreamed of remained a dream. I, and the followers of ZAPU, had been deceived.

Passages of a similar type are common throughout the book — Mr Nkombo stressing his commitment to national unity and reconciliation while accusing Mr Mugabe of fostering tribalism and constantly attempting to divide citizens in the nationalist movement.

Clearly, there must be some truth in Mr Nkombo’s allegations, but the manner in which he recites them lends credence to the argument that Nkombo has become a bitter old man in his ging to give vent to his spleen on legitimate political rivals.

Independence election is another factor for Mr Nkombo’s ire. In fact, he goes so far as to suggest that it was a patent fraud. The greatest threat to the fair conduct of the elections, he says, came from Zanu guerrillas in the east.

At the ceasefire, large numbers of fighting men loyal to Zanu were left withdrawn into the assembly points. Nkombo says that these former combatants stayed on in the villages, refusing to move or allow anyone other than ZANU—PF candidates to campaign there. Two Zapu candidates and 18 party campaigners were killed and many more were arrested.

"Zapu was cheated out of some seats that it could have won a fair campaign." The British, who were in Zimbabwe to organise and supervise the election, also came in for a pasting. Mr Nkombo says that after the count, the usual ballot papers were flown to Britain, not to be stored as historic documents, but to be burned. Way he asks, would this have been done if there were nothing to hide?

"That my party should not have won a single seat in Salisbury and only 28 seats in the whole western strip from Kariba right down to Beitbridge, I could not believe and still do not believe.

"Given the known and massive campaign of intimidation could not have achieved that. That the first election in free Zimbabwe failed to reflect the people’s will is something of which I am sure.

"My party and my followers were cheated. In dealing with the war, Mr Nkombo once again attempts to discredit the efforts of Zanu’s Zulu contingents by suggesting that they had it comparatively easy while his own ZAPU fighters were forced to fight in most mountainous terrain.

"Operating out of Zimbabwe, he says the ZAPU guerrillas were confronted first of all with 20 000 Zambian soldiers. Then they had to make their way through ravines and high, bare hills which were followed by a wide expanse of open bush with semi-desert set with a maze of landmines.

"By contrast, Nkombo says, the Mozambique border opened up as an alternative route into Rhodesia after independence in 1974, was mostly forest and mountains. It had good cover from the air and was excellent guerrilla country.

"We are left wonder at whether there can be no explanation of why his ZAPU foil, Mr. Ian Smith, provided an pliant, ever pliant, ever-hospitable Viscount also cast doubt on this.

The first aircraft was shot down — a Sun-n-Fun military bomber — and four South African soldiers killed. The Rhodesians had no lives to lose.

According to Nkombo, Viscounts were being used to transport Rhodesian troops and as para-troopers based at Victoria Falls, it had been assumed that the plane was carrying supplies.

Another Viscount was downed at Kariba, because it was thought that the Rhodesia military sent Lieutenant-General Peter Walls in this pas-

"My party and my followers were cheated. In dealing with the war, Mr Nkombo once again attempts to discredit the efforts of Zanu’s Zulu contingents by suggesting that they had it comparatively easy while his own ZAPU fighters were forced to fight in most mountainous terrain."

Walls and his staff officers, Nkombo says, were certain of their legitimate target and, in a country at war, the Viscount could not be regarded as exceptionally unfair.

Viscount and ZAPU were able to reconcile their differences for while they were main at loggerheads, innocent people were killed — even policemen, army, military personnel, were among the passengers.

What Nkombo fails to va-

Viscount’s information proved to be not accurate. Walls was not among the passengers. Instead of preferring totally unacceptable explanations for these acts of unprovoked terrorism, Mr Nkombo would have done well not to have so obviously condemned them.

The great irony, indeed absurd to Mr Nkombo’s life — and it emerges powerfully in this book — is the fact that his treatment by Zimbabwe’s current rulers is what he would have had if not worse than it was at the hands of previous white regimes.

On the other hand, Mr Mugabe’s government claims to have good reason for its anti-Nkombo attitude. He is held responsible for the gruesome activities of undocumented bands of dissidents in the southern Ma-

Perhaps predictably, Nkombo has denied these allegations. In fact, he says, he had gone so far as to suggest that government forces had perpetrated most of the atrocities attributed to ZAPU dissidents.

Whatever the truth, the book provided Mr Mugabe’s government with an opportunity to respond in its troops. Mr Nkombo claims that more than 70 per cent of the government’s major support came from those who supported his policies and his ousting would thus have alienated the mass of landless farmers, majority of the population and major support in foreign politics.

There can be no doubt that after the publication of his book, Mr Nkombo and his colleagues will be subjected to the same treatment as his colleagues, now known to have been killed in Matabeleland and on all the fronts of our Fifth Brigade.

What he writes is shocking. He does for his own life is real. Accus-

Mr Nkombo’s leadership is under question of his people. As a result, his efforts to destroy his "own"

It was shortly after this, he comments, that "known to have been killed in Matabeleland and on all the fronts of our Fifth Brigade.

He explains it in these words: "There had been a lot of hard work — and the sporadic fire was continuous." "Never before had I wished that I was dead, but I wished it then. I wished that I had been killed when Ian Smith’s raiders attacked my Lusaka house and I didn’t die as I wished. Then I would have died at the hands of the enemies of my people."

Remembering that they come from the leader of the significant section of Zimbabwe’s population, it is statements like these that provide a true picture of the extreme difficulty that the country’s rulers face in attempting to achieve peace and tranquility.

In The Story of My Life, Nkombo there can be no realistic vision for the future of what could be one of Africa’s last viable and viable and brand-independent states.
THE ZIMBABWE PURGE

By Chin'gongwa

Mugabe homes in on corruption, tribal chieftains and half-hearted socialism

The government in Harare was not the first to militarise the administration of a country's national security system. In 1983, the late Robert Mugabe, then Zimbabwe's minister for home affairs, wanted to deploy the nation's security forces to quell tribal conflicts that were erupting across the country. But the commander-in-chief of the army, Gen. Lt. Robert Gwede, refused to lead the country's national security forces into tribal conflicts. Mugabe then turned to the police. The etcetera of Zimbabwe's recent history tells a similar story. The army was assigned to quell the 1980 general strike in Zimbabwe, while police were deployed to keep order in the country's rural areas. The police have been deployed in the recent tribal conflicts in Zimbabwe, while the army was deployed to keep order in the country's urban areas. The police have been deployed in the recent tribal conflicts in Zimbabwe, while the army was deployed to keep order in the country's urban areas. The police have been deployed in the recent tribal conflicts in Zimbabwe, while the army was deployed to keep order in the country's urban areas.
Zimbabwe to step up drive towards socialist revolution

HARARE — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has pledged an all-out campaign to educate the people in Marxist-Leninist doctrines as part of an intensified drive towards a socialist revolution.

Speaking in Harare at the conference of the Youth League of the ruling Zanu (PF) party, Mr Mugabe said that although the people of Zimbabwe had fought for, and achieved, political power, they were still deprived of economic power.

"Must we be content with a situation in which we control the votes but not the economic resources of our country? Are we content to hold only the calabash while its nourishing drink is being gulped by others?" he asked more than 3,000 young people.

A major event in the run-up to the party's decisive congress in August, the youth conference will elect leaders who will sit on the party's extended 90-member central committee which will be constituted after the full congress.
Zim youths want one party

HARARE—The youth league of Zimbabwe Prime Minister Mr Robert ‘Mugabe’s ruling Zanu-PF party has called for the country’s British-drafted constitution to be scrapped and a one-party state declared in this southern Africa nation.

The resolution was made at the league’s weekend national congress, a run-up to the first national congress of the Zimbabwe African National Union (Patriotic Front), since inde-

pendence in April, 1980. Zimbabwe’s independence constitution should be “totally, wholly and uncondi-
tionally rejected” said the resolution, which will go forward to the August national congress.

Another resolution said the multi-party system of government inherited at independence had no place in Zimbabwe because it was alien both to our culture and scientific social-

ism”.

The constitution, a document that guarantees multi-party democracy and guards against civil rights abuses, was approved by Mr Mugabe and other parties at the British-

 chaired Lancaster House peace talks in London in December 1979 to end nine decades of white minority rule and seven years’ war.

Twenty seats in the 100-member national as-

sembly are reserved for whites — outnumbered 75-1 by blacks — under the constitution, which requires a 50 percent vote from legislators for major constitutional changes, such as a one-party system. — Sapa
The recent plight of the ailing Zimbabwean economy provided Prime Minister Robert Mugabe with just the excuse he needed to put his Marxist ideologies into practice. While no one would deny that the Zimbabwean economy needed a shot of corrective medicine, few believe in euthanasia. That, very largely, was what he gave it.

The origins of Zimbabwe's modern economy were humble. It was, after all, less than 100 years ago that the country was colonised by a British commercial concern — the British South Africa Company. The country's emergence from underdevelopment was made possible only by Western investment and technology. The important role the pioneers and local population played together in developing what was Rhodesia cannot be underestimated.

But just as trust between the population groups was damaged by the war of independence, developments since the installation of an internationally accepted black government in 1980 have reflected serious disparities over the direction of economic consolidation and development. In short, the Zimbabwean economy has been on the skids since independence — though this was not altogether the doing of the Mugabe government. The white population has dwindled to one third of its former size — taking away technical and managerial skills — and there has been a noticeable lack of foreign investment.

The disruptions in Matabeleland added to the image problems, scaring off further investment, and three years of devastating drought knocked the living standards of all sections of the population. Inflation became rampant — and is currently around 20%. In short, few people who supported the Mugabe government have come to enjoy the improvement in living standards that legitimate independence was supposed to bring.

Until recently, Mugabe's personal brand of politics and economic "reform" took a relatively low profile — although much of the white population seems to have thought otherwise, and to have voted accordingly with their feet.

Mugabe is keeping an eye on the elections scheduled to be held in nine months' time; and he is only too well aware of the economic suffering of the masses. Pressures from the strong leftwing elements of his party have surfaced in a predictable form — an insistence on the need to redistribute the nation's wealth along socialist lines. And so it was that the wealth of the former white residents began to seem a logical target for a kind of appropriation — the intention being to provide the base from which radical economic policies could be put into practice. Simultaneously, the eco-
was Botha asked to "leave the laager" and enter the wider world in which apartheid seems, at best, a nasty aberration from the past and at worst a threat to regional stability? The answer is that the journey is part-reward (for Nkomati, Namibia and the constitutional reforms) and part-warning (that in the end apartheid must go at the price of genuine international respectability).

P W Botha and Pik Botha are strong men: they will not take kindly to the least hint of patronisation. After all, they are more fully aware of the realities of southern Africa than any European leader can be. And they must always be aware that they have to report back to an increasingly suspicious, and right-wing-leaning electorate. But they will be meeting equally strong leaders, who are likely to be as forthright in spelling out the terms for SA's readmission to the world community.

Can there truly be a meeting of minds? What seems likely is that while the leaders will agree to discuss blueprints for the future of the black majority — so extending the time period in which SA must resolve its essential problem — progress can be made in the following areas:

- A drawing of SA into the Western defence network, with a concomitant re-consideration of the arms embargo; and
- An outline of the kind of aid and development packages that the West will arrange for Mozambique, Angola and an independent Namibia — bearing in mind that strengthened economic links in the sub-continent require the goodwill and active participation of SA.

But the overwhelming achievement of the European tour is likely to be symbolic: a recognition that, within the constraints of ideology, SA has moved towards change and that, as the Americans have been arguing for four years, dialogue and persuasion carry more force in Pretoria than condemnation and isolation. Indeed, the negative approach to SA — in a spectrum that ranges from severing cultural and sports links, to disinvestment — is now perceived to affect the hardline ideologues not one inch. Instead, carried to extremes, it would impoverish all of southern Africa and entrench (currently weak) Soviet leverage over states like Mozambique, Angola and ultimately Zimbabwe.

But unless there is another world crisis and the combatants scramble for allies at almost any price, SA's acceptability in Lisbon, Bonn, London and Washington will always be tentative and conditional while it maintains grand apartheid. Botha is almost certainly a leader of sufficient stature to recognise and be troubled by that fact. It is devoutly to be hoped that he will be given the time to make the necessary reforms at home — not to placate the world, but for the sake of regional peace itself. On the Left and Right many are waiting for him to fail or "go too far."

The sobering aspect of the European tour, therefore, is that it represents not too much of a triumph or vindication of overall policy, as the beginning of a massive task of internal reconstruction and reform. One of the posters at the Graaff-Reinet rally read: "We trust you, P W, keep up the good work." But do the NP stalwarts realise just how open-ended that "good work" really is — and how many of them have any chance of succeeding?

ZIMBABWE

The mills of change

The recent plight of the ailing Zimbabwean economy provided Prime Minister Robert Mugabe with just the excuse he needed to put his Marxist ideologies into practice. While no one would deny that the Zimbabwean economy needed a shot of corrective medicine, few believe in euthanasia. That, very largely, was what he gave it.

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The disruptions in Matabeleland added to the image problems, scaring off further investment, and three years of devastating drought knocked the living standards of all sections of the population. Inflation became rampant — and is currently around 26%. In short, few people who supported the Mugabe government have come to enjoy the improvement in living standards that legitimate independence was supposed to bring.

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Tranches — one-sixth of the capital for six years, starting in seven years' time. And whereas previously the maximum income a non-resident could receive annually was $315,000, there is now no limit.

But clearly the measures adopted by the government take advantage of the vulnerability of the wealth of former residents whose assets are blocked inside Zimbabwe.

In many cases, non-residents will have to sell their assets in a very depressed market if they are to beat the October deadline for placing their funds in the government stock. Income from assets which are not realised in the prescribed fashion will probably be lost forever. The banking system is already bursting at the seams with the unnatural excess liquidity arising from the liquidation of non-residents' assets.

It is interesting to note that the punitive legislation discriminates between those non-residents who previously resided in the country, and those who own assets in Zimbabwe but have never lived there. It also does so between those companies which invested in Zimbabwe after the Lancaster House Conference began in September 1979, and those which had already invested in what was then Rhodesia. In this fashion, the new legislation does not violate the terms of the Lancaster House agreement, though whether its spirit is being honoured is another matter.

Seeking a court ruling

Non-residents who have never lived in Zimbabwe are not being forced to realise their assets and invest in the 4% government bonds. Companies that invested after 1979 are still free to remit their dividends.

The other companies and non-residents (those who never lived in the country) are currently, in theory, not receiving income on their investments — although their position will apparently be reviewed next year.

South African and other foreign parent companies have generally adopted a conservative line of thinking on investment in Zimbabwe. In the parent companies' balance sheets investments in Zimbabwean subsidiaries are not consolidated or disclosed, and only any income received (normally dividends) is accounted for. Possibly this accounting treatment realistically reflects the genuine fear that Zimbabwean investments are indeed very tenuous. They could well be the next target.

A measure that applies universally to all parties with vested interests within the country is the forced sale of all externally quoted securities. This could save Zimbabwe some $200m in a once-off foreign currency coup — if successful. In what could prove to be an epic court case in SA, more than 20 individuals are intent on blocking the Zimbabwe government from disposing of their externally quoted securities registered in SA. To date, the litigation is limited to SA, but if it spreads to other countries, the overseas media might find it difficult to ignore the full impact of all the
new measures. Any economic benefit that might result from the drastic actions of the Zimbabwean government is likely to be short-lived and detrimental to the economy in the longer run. People with skills, and foreign companies with capital to invest, are understandably unwilling to commit themselves to a country whose political and economic policies run contrary to the spirit of free enterprise. This awareness is bound to spread.
Mugabe starts farm drive

HARARE

ANDRE VILJOEN on a move to get farmers back on the land in Matabeleland

THE Zimbabwean Government will launch a campaign tomorrow to reclaim 274,000ha of land abandoned by commercial ranchers in southern Matabeleland because of widespread dissent and terror.

According to an informed source, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, hopes that the drive will deal a political blow against dissidents who are reportedly hoarding to hide their cattle that the government had failed to deliver.

Two state-run bodies, the Cold Storage Commission (CSC) and the Agricultural and Rural Development Authority (Arda), will manage the farms in the Keet and Marula South areas and will be protected by resident security forces.

A number of farmers who abandoned their land in January are understood to be interested in returning to the new circumstances.

The CSC is buying the approximately 18,000 remaining head of cattle at the 18,000 head left after the January exodus. Matabeleland farmers describe the CSC price, which is well above the depressed market price, as "very generous."

According to an informed source, the government is anxious to defeat a new dissident strategy, which it says emerged eight months ago.

A concerted effort was made to entrench the rebel presence in the southwestern border areas by exploiting the sensitive issue of land.

In the balance

Through a combination of political indoctrination and sabotage the dissidents have disrupted all government resettlement schemes in Matabeleland and, after a Christmas eve killing of a white farming couple and their two children in the Keet district, frightened all white commercial farmers in the area off their land.

Elsewhere in Matabeleland the future of commercial ranching is in the balance. The number of resident ranchers in the province has dropped from 198 at independence to about 273.

Immediately after a Matabala farmer, Mr Ian Birchall, was shot dead by dissidents on his land on May 24, the remaining nine families in the area spoke of leaving, but after a visit from the close-knit community has decided to try to stay on.

A prominent Matabala farmer and independent senator, Mr Max Rosenfeld, said Mr Birchall had been, the only commercial farmer in the province killed by dissidents in the past five months and it now seemed his death had not been premeditated.

This, despite the fact that there was a heavy dissident presence in the area, gave farmers some hope that there was not a specific campaign to kill them.

"Right now we are staying on but we are very unsure of our future," said Mr Rosenfeld.
Mr. Donald Freidland
Dr. Nathan Shamugam

DIPLOMACY

Mr. Donald Freidland
Dr. Nathan Shamugam

NEGATIVE JOURNALS

GOVT.

RUSSIA'S GRIP ON SEYCHELLES TIGHTENS

Mr. Donald Freidland
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NEGATIVE JOURNALS

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GOVT.
Drought Swindle

A probe over big directors' fringe benefits

The companies are

The Communications

Zimbabwe Govt Signs Steel Firm

Concerns as Zambeziwe Govt Grabs Steel Firm

                                    ZAMBEZIWE
The ‘unacceptable face of Zimbabwe socialism’

HARARE — Concern is being expressed in business circles here about the way in which the Zimbabwe Government has acquired control of the Lancashire Steel Company’s operations at Kwekwe.

The company has been running at a loss for the past two years because of rising costs and the government’s refusal to allow it to raise its prices.

Now the government, through the Industrial Development Corporation and Ziscosteel, both state-controlled concerns, has taken over the whole issued shareholding of Lancashire Steel without paying a cent.

In a barbed comment, a spokesman for the local directors of the British subsidiary, said: “If it had been government’s intention, from the outset, to acquire Lancashire Steel without having to go through the procedure for nationalisation and compensation, it would no doubt have behaved exactly as it has.”

The spokesman said that by failing to give a price increase 10 months ago, the government had placed the company in a position where it had lost its capital and become heavily indebted to banks and to the Zimbabwe Iron and Steel Company (Zisco).

In an editorial, the Independent Financial Gazette said many businessmen believed the government was choosing key industries and, by applying economic pressure through price controls, was forcing companies to surrender a shareholding or contrive an inexpensive takeover.

“'The trend could be described as nationalisation by manipulation,” said the paper in an editorial headed “The unacceptable face of socialism?”

It said that by taking over companies which had been forced into the red because of official actions or controls, the government was adopting the worst features of the capitalist system it purported to despise.

Zimbabwe wants state control of all strategic industries. It already controls or has a stake in fuel procurement, two banks, the insurance business, the coal mining industry, the external sale of all minerals, the main drug manufacturer and the steel industry.

It controls or has powerful interests in the communications media and the hotel industry and is negotiating to take control of the main urban bus companies.
Free schooling for all next year in Zimbabwe

Malawi Bureau
GABORONE - The Zimbabwean Minister of Education, Dr. Daini Matumbuka, has revealed that free and compulsory education for all Zimbabwean children up to the age of 16 will be introduced next year.

Speaking from Harare yesterday, Dr. Matumbuka outlined the progress made in Zimbabwean education since independence in 1980.

In those four years the number of children in government high schools has increased from 62,000 to 400,007 and the number of high schools which had been built since independence is 1,004 of which more than 400 were opened in 1984 alone.

There are now 10 teachers' training colleges, with an enrolment of 5,000 prospective teachers.

Three levels of student places are available annually at the University of Zimbabwe, 1,200 places available annually at the University of Zimbabwe, and this means that the students should get a first class pass in order to be assured of a place.

Dr. Matumbuka, who has a doctorate degree in chemistry from the University of Sussex in England, added that his Ministry's educational goal had now been achieved in that primary and high school places were now available for every Zimbabwean child.

The country had now entered a period of consolidation with major emphasis on the teaching standards and improvement of classroom facilities.

Dr. Matumbuka paid tribute to the role of parents, both in the building of the schools and in assisting to run them.

He said Zimbabwe had also entered into an agreement with independent African states in Southern Africa. In terms of this agreement, these countries are sending their students to the University of Zimbabwe for courses not available in their respective countries.

He also disclosed that he had been to England where he had recruited 1,000 British teachers. He has also recruited teachers from Australia and said he would go to Canada in September to recruit others.
Ban imposed on Zapu meetings

KWEKWE, Zimbabwe. — Zimbabwe’s opposition party, the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC), has imposed a ban on all Zapu party meetings in the country’s Midlands province from today, the Minister of State for Security, Mr. Emmerson Mnangagwa, was quoted as saying yesterday.

The ban, which is led by former cabinet minister Mr. Joshua Nkomo, was imposed following the assassination of Zanu-PF official killed by dissidents in the province.

Mr. Mnangagwa said the ban was necessary to prevent violence and instability in the province.

The government has accused dissidents of operating in the Midlands and neighboring Matabeleland of being supporters of Zapu (Zimbabwe African People’s Union), which is led by former cabinet minister Mr. Joshua Nkomo.

The Midlands province is one of the key battlegrounds in the upcoming general elections, and the government is concerned about the potential for violence and unrest.

On each occasion we have discovered that Zapu officials fed and sheltered dissidents who carried out the murders, and misled the security forces in their follow-up operations.”

Ziana quoted Mr. Mnangagwa as saying.

Last month, a funeral of a Zanu-PF official killed by dissidents in Matabeleland was held.

The dissidents have been operating in the province for years, and the government has been trying to contain their activities.

Mr. Mnangagwa said the ban would remain until all dissidents in the province had been wiped out.

Harare paper urges: Take Botha seriously

HARARE — The home of the former prime minister of the former Rhodesia, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, who is now in detention, has been turned into a war zone.

The home would be auctioned on June 29 because the bishop had fallen behind in mortgage payments.

The property was bought in 1980 for about $400,000.

“Last week a lengthy court action between Bishop Muzorewa’s UANC party and a Gweru transport company was resolved in an out-of-court settlement.”

Muzorewa to lose house

HARARE — The home of the former prime minister of Zimbabwe, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, has been seized by the government.

The bishop, who is now in detention, has fallen behind in mortgage payments.

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“Last week a lengthy court action between Bishop Muzorewa’s UANC party and a Gweru transport company was resolved in an out-of-court settlement.”

SA: Mugabe critical

HARARE — South Africa has been bringing its influence to bear to prevent a military coup in Mozambique.

The government has been meeting with representatives of the Mozambican army to discuss the crisis.

South Africa has been trying to prevent a military coup in Mozambique, which could lead to chaos and instability in the country.

In an interview with the South African Broadcasting Corporation, President Thabo Mbeki said that South Africa was “very concerned” about the situation in Mozambique.

“South Africa is deeply concerned about the developments in Mozambique and is working closely with the African Union and other international organizations to ensure that the situation is resolved peacefully.”

Mr. Mbeki said that South Africa would be providing military support to Mozambique if necessary.

“South Africa will not hesitate to use force if necessary to protect our interests in Mozambique.”

Mr. Mbeki said that South Africa was “very concerned” about the situation in Mozambique and was working closely with the African Union and other international organizations to ensure that the situation is resolved peacefully.
in Zimbabwe
FIVE CLUBBED DEAD

HARARE—Five followers of Zimbabwe's opposition leader, Joshua Nkomo, have been clubbed to death by Mangwane<br>porters in a week of political violence in the Midlands town of<br>Kwekwe.
Zimbabwe businessman strikes gold

The Star's Foreign News Service

LONDON — British oil entrepreneur Alyn Cliff, whose Zimbabwe gold mine started production four weeks ago, says costs are so low that good profits look assured in the first year.

He said he expects the mine to produce revenue for his Cliff Oil business of R1.3 million this year and at least R7 million over the next four years or so.

And that assumes a bullion price at only the present level of around 370 dollars an ounce.

The gearing is such that revenue could amount to a healthy R33 million with a gold price of 450 dollars.

The Royal Family Mine — so named because gold operations in the territory traditionally had names like Elizabeth and His Majesty — is due to get bigger, it seems.

Mr. Cliff says he has another four prospects in his sights, two of them already under survey and two the subject of options.

Mr. Cliff says the Zimbabweans are very co-operative towards the operation at a time when few foreigners want to invest in the country.

Cliff can repatriate 60 percent of the profits. The rest will go into exploration, and the company does not expect to pay tax out there.

Mr. Michael McAllister, the Cliff director working on the project, says that grades indicate an output of about 640 ounces of gold a month when the No. 1 shaft is at full steam.

The Royal Family Mine breaks even with a bullion price as low as 140 dollars.
HARARE. — Zimbabwe's two Detainees Review tribunals face mounting problems in handling the cases of 148 people currently held in preventive detention.

Mr Stephen Mafara, an official in the Attorney-General's office, told the High Court on Wednesday that the two tribunals meet only twice a week.

There were 148 detainees and each case was already due for review, he said.

"Mr. Mafara was opposing an application from the wife of a Harare kindleddinha to have her detention reviewed immediately.

Mrs Gertrude Paweni was detained on May 5 with her husband Samson, who is facing charges of defrauding the government of about $800,000.

He is alleged to have falsified drought relief transport claims.

Judge Teresa Scot rejected Mrs Paweni's application but hoped more detainees tribunals would be set up "to cope with the situation if due regard is to be had for the liberty of the individual, which is at stake here."

"The Minister of Home Affairs Mr Simba Mubako told Parliament on Wednesday that the detained United African National Council leader and former Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa was in good health.

Bishop Muzorewa was detained in November on charges of plotting against the government.

"He has visited his family and lawyer and everybody is satisfied that he is quite healthy," Mubako said. — UPL.
Disguised

She also tells why the mission to assassinate Zipata leader Joshua Nkomo at his guarded home in Luzaka didn't come off, and how the SAS drove into Lusaka in their own disguised vehicles.

Her husband, former SAS Lieutenant Peter Cole, said the MNR movement took the credit for many bridge-blowing and train-wrecking operations carried out by the SAS.

"The SAS shunned publicity, we were a low-profile unit and because the MNR was a rebel movement they needed publicity and that the credit went to many of our operations," he said.

Like the majority of Rhodesians during the war — including most members of the regular army — Mrs Cole said she knew nothing of the SAS's secret operations even though her husband was an officer.

"SAS men were known for their silence and my husband was no exception."

"I would see him for six months at a time, and when he was home for a few days he wouldn't say where he had been or what he had been doing."

"Eventually I trained myself not to ask." After Prime Minister Robert Mugabe came to power in 1980 and SAS members — after closing down the unit — spread across the world, Mrs Cole began to hear bits of information about the SAS's cross-border operations.

Reluctant

"When I lived in Durban when I decided the story of the SAS had to be told."

Mrs Cole spent the next four years researching her book, gathering information. Most SAS members came to South Africa, but many headed for other parts of the world. I had to track them down in America, Australia, England, Canada — even the Middle East."

For Peter Cole, his wife's research answered many questions about his wartime operations. "As Barbara dug deeper and spoke to more and more people, the information she was getting explained a lot to me."

"Things fell into place. I began to realise why we had to blow up certain bridges, why we had to capture certain people and documents." — Peter Cole said.

Barbara Cole turned down two offers — one from an English publishing house specialising in military books and one from a South African publisher — to have her book published, because she wanted to do it her way.

"The publishers were imposing limits on the length of the book and the amount of colour and black and white photographs I wanted to use, so I decided to go it alone."

Her husband and two former SAS colleagues, Captain Colin Willis and Captain Bob Mackenzie, set up their own company called Three Knights Publishing to commission Barbara Cole to write the book.
Alarm at govt hand in local affairs

By EVELYN VOSLOO
Municipal Reporter

THERE is growing alarm about five pieces of legislation recently before Parliament which give the government a lot of control over local authorities.

Instead of the devolution of power promised for the new constitutional dispensation by the President’s Council and the Prime Minister, Mr PW Botha, the government is increasing its control.

The provisions of the legislation include that:
1. A cabinet minister will acquire direct control of salaries and working conditions of local officials.
2. Power to control services, change local authority boundaries and radically alter the municipal franchise will be vested in the cabinet.
3. No compensation will be paid to local authorities for assets or rights transferred to planned Regional Services Councils.
4. The Administrator will be able to appoint chairmen of the regional councils.
5. The public could be barred from Regional Services Council meetings. If this includes the press, the meetings will be held in secret.

An Opposition spokesman on local government, Mr Colin Eglinton, said the overall effect would be to entrench apartheid.

Local authorities would be linked to the Group Areas Act. They would be established on a racially-compartmentalized basis and the franchise would be based on race.

In a recent speech, the Leader of the Opposition in the Provincial Council, Mr Herbert Hirsh, said a major problem was the exclusion of all black people from the new local government dispensation.

Authoritarian powers would be given to the minister concerned to do virtually whatever he liked and to direct the administrator, who was himself being given greater powers. References to consultation were almost meaningless, as there was no requirement for consent or agreement with the government.

"Indications are that decision-making power is moving upwards rather than downwards to local authorities."

Measures

A senior local official says three of the five measures, of which four have already been approved by Parliament, allow a cabinet minister to interfere directly in the "intimate details" of the staff policy of local authorities.

The fifth bill has been referred to a select committee. The measures are:

- The Commission for Administration Act, which removes and increases the powers of the former Public Services Commission. It allows the relevant cabinet minister, and through him the commission, to appoint senior local government staff and determine their salaries and conditions of service.
- The Remuneration of Town Clerks Act, which grades local authorities and specifies that the salaries of town clerks in each grade will be decided by the minister. This directly affects all other salaries, because no local authority may pay an employee more than 82.5 percent of the town clerk’s salary.
- The Promotion of Local Government Affairs Amendment Act, which allows a minister to set criteria for establishing local authorities. It divests administrators of their previous power to establish, dissolve or extend the boundaries of local authority after advertising for and considering objections, and places this power in the hands of the relevant minister.
- The Local Government Bodies Franchise Act, which radically changes qualifications to vote in municipal elections—formerly this was decided by a Provincial Ordinance. Whites retain their right to vote, but coloured and Indian people will have the franchise only if they live in areas with local authorities representing their race group.

Regions

The Act also provides for more than one municipal vote. Anyone over 18 registered as a voter will have a vote for people owning fixed property over a value prescribed by the minister in other wards will be able to vote there as well.

- The Regional Services Councils Bill, which has been referred to the Select Committee on the Constitution, empowers the minister to set up these councils to provide and control services in any area.

Unless the bill is amended, black local bodies will have no input into the councils, as only white, coloured and Indian local authorities will be represented on them.

Black local authorities will be able to get services from the councils only on a contract basis, as is done at present by Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu.
ZIMBABWE

Inflation rises

With inflation already averaging 20%, Zimbabwean government ministers must have been loath to increase inflationary pressures. But last week they were left with no alternative but to announce another round of food-price and wage increases.

Bread, maize-meal and vegetable oil products have been increased in price by margins ranging from 10% to 20%. This is part of the continuing government programme of phasing down food subsidies and making consumers pay for the increase in producer prices awarded to farmers last year.

Immediate farm reaction was that this was another case of robbing Peter to pay Paul. The hike in food prices was accompanied by a 10% general wage increase for those earning less than Z$300 a month. The Commercial Farmers Union estimates that this will cost the industry an extra Z$30m annually in wage costs and, coming on top of the recently-announced 43% increase in fertiliser prices, it raises new and deeper doubts about the viability of the Z$180/40 kg maize producer price announced early in the month.

When the fertiliser increase was announced, the farmers — who were looking for a Z$200/40 kg producer price for maize in 1984-85 — asked the government for an assurance that any further cost escalations would be added into the price next year. Agriculture Minister Denis Norman, understandably enough, was unable to give any such assurances. Now he is under renewed pressure from the farmers for an upward revision in the maize price.

Wage impact

Just how severe the wage impact will be on other sectors of the economy is unclear. The vast majority of the workforce in retailing, manufacturing and mining earns less than Z$300 monthly and will therefore qualify for the pay rise. The increase is certainly justified on the grounds that real wages have been falling for the past 18 months.

In industry, wage costs account for about 20% of total costs implying that the impact on industry's aggregate costs is unlikely to exceed 2%. The pay rise will add at least Z$60m to industrial pay packets and more than Z$50m to the mining industry's costs.

There are mixed feelings in industry about the pay rise since it will help underpin existing depressed levels of demand as well as adding to total costs.

There is concern on two specific points. First, industrialists are concerned that the 10% pay rise will have to be matched all the way up the scale. Also, with shop floor militancy running at a high level in some firms, there could be further pay demands made by the end of the year.

Secondly, Zimbabwe's export competi-
R1-Bn Wankie Power Station

International help sees Zimmbabwe’s biggest single investment pay off

By Rhoda Moyo
Court orders 100 squatters out

HARARE.—Zimbabwe's High Court has given the police chief, Commissioner Wiridzai Ngurume, until August 9 to evict about 100 black squatters from a white-owned farm.

However, the government wants to nationalize the farm and set it up as a squatter co-operative, the farm's lawyer said yesterday.

Commissioner Ngurume faces High Court action from the farmer, Mr. Robert Rensford, who has asked for his imprisonment for contempt of court after the commissioner refused to carry out a High Court eviction order.

Mr. Rensford's lawyer, who cannot be identified for ethical reasons, said yesterday the ultimatum date was fixed by Mr. Justice Nick McNally in a private session last week. The edict was first reported in the independent Financial Gazette yesterday.

Mr. Rensford, 57, has been fighting government officials and police for four years to have the squatters, labourers of a previous farm owner, evicted from the 1 600ha Little Impala Ranch he bought in southern Shurugwe in 1989, only months after the former British colony became independent.

Numerous court eviction orders were overruled by the Lands and Resettlement Minister, Mr. Moven Mahachi who, in May, ordered Mr. Rensford to sell the farm to the government so the squatters could set up a co-operative.

It is the first time the government of Mr. Robert Mugabe, has tried to nationalize a farm owned by one of the country's 4,500 white commercial farmers.

Mr. Rensford says the squatters have killed several of his cattle, burnt one of his tractors, destroyed 10km of fencing and stoned his car.

Mr. Mahachi argues that the welfare of more than 100 people is more important than that of one family and "what may be legally justifiable may not be morally defensible." — Supa-AP.
ZANU congress may be the turning point

HARARE — The second congress of the ruling ZANU-PF party, to be held next month, will be of immense political significance in Zimbabwe.

In a country which is moving inexorably towards a one-party state, what emerges from the meeting will undoubtedly affect everyone.

There are many dimensions to this party congress which has added significance because it is the second one in ZANU’s entire 21-year turbulent history.

The first was in Gweru in 1984, 10 months after the party was formed by rebels who broke away from Joshua Nkomo’s leadership.

It was at that congress that Robert Mugabe was elected secretary-general.

At the second congress he will be re-elected party leader, a post he assumed in 1976 when the guerrilla fighters of the ZANLA army refused to recognise any longer the Reverend Ndabaniyi Sithole, the first president of ZANU-PF.

Political and diplomatic observers believe that Mr Mugabe will emerge from this congress in an even stronger position.

The central committee of the party, which was restructured in 1977 at a wartime meeting in Mozambique, is to be trebled in size.

This will enable Mr Mugabe to extend patronage to a wider cross-section of his followers.

But the new 90-strong body will have above it the real powerhouse in the form of a politbureau, an innovation in Zimbabwe.

It is expected to be composed of 15 men and women appointed from members of the central committee by the party’s president and vice-president.

This means they will be hand-picked by Mr Mugabe whose post as president will not be challenged. It is understood that this position will give him the added position of first secretary in the politbureau.

The vice-president, who will almost certainly be Mr Simon Muzenda, will become second secretary.

There will be intense interest in the remaining members of the politbureau which, according to party thinking, will be the nerve centre which will direct the affairs of the country through the cabinet and the ordinary organs of government.

Mr Mugabe has promised that the congress will foreshadow a purge of non-committed socialists from the party leadership and especially those tainted with corruption allegations.

It is expected that a leadership code is to be adopted by congress which will be one way in which he will be able to get rid of these elements.

...and will see a reinforcement of the commitment to scientific socialism based on marxist leninist principles.

Because the role of the party is so crucial to the development of this kind of socialism, there will certainly be demands for an acceleration of moves towards a one-party state.

“The one-party idea is a religion for us,” Mr Mugabe said recently and the only point at issue is how to achieve that state.

The congress itself which is due to start on August 8 is expected to be attended by more than 5,000 delegates. The nomination of candidates for central committee position is being handled through the party’s provincial structure and it is likely that by the time the actual voting takes place all will have been been arranged before hand.

The congress will have an international flavour with visiting delegations from European and African socialist countries attending, with even some heads of state expected.

A highlight of the proceedings will be a marathon review of the party’s history by Mr Mugabe. — The Star’s Foreign News Service
Mystery TVI stations air propaganda

Propaganda branded hostile to two of South Africa's neighbouring countries is being beamed from the Transvaal by mystery radio stations.

Confirmation that the clandestine broadcasts emanated from South Africa came today from the BBC Monitoring Service, which records radio transmissions from around the world.

Two stations were broadcasting political propaganda to Angola and Zimbabwe, the BBC said. The broadcasts to Zimbabwe were heard as recently as last week.

"These stations are broadcasting from the Transvaal," said Mr John Chadwick, acting assistant editor of news and publications for the BBC Monitoring Service in Reading, England.

"We can't pinpoint the transmitters because we haven't got enough monitoring stations in that part of the world."

"We can give only the approximate locations of these stations — roughly in terms of the size of a British county."

But sources in Zimbabwe said the transmissions beamed to their country had been coming from Moriah Hill, near Mzimba, for about a month. Before that, the signal was coming from the Louis Trichardt area — about 60 km away.

"This would suggest that the radio signals are being beamed from a mobile unit," said the source.

A third station, transmitting propaganda to Mozambique, ended its broadcasts days after the Nkomati Accord was signed, said Mr Chadwick.

"A magazine, New Africa, reported that the Mozambiquan signals were coming from the north-eastern Transvaal, although we cannot confirm this."

Radio Truth shows SA aggression — Harare

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe Information Minister Dr Nathan Shamuyarira has said Radio Truth represents the operation of Radio Truth as an indication of South Africa's aggressive attitude.

He told The Star Bureau earlier this year that Zimbabwe's objections had been made known to the South African authorities through the trade mission in Johannesburg.

He said: "We know that a former Rhodesian security officer is running the station. But he is acting under orders from the Zimbabwean authorities."

Dr Shamuyarira said there was no doubt that the station operated from the Transvaal. He said the broadcasts had little political impact and the radio represented a clumsy attempt at subversion.

The Minister said Zimbabwe had criticised the policy of apartheid on its radio service.

"But we have not directed any of our radio programmes at a particular section of the South African public in an attempt to subvert the Government."

"South Africa has an external service which is anti-Zimbabwean and anti-African generally. But it also has this special radio beamed at Zimbabwe."

He said that until the South African Government acted to stop the broadcasts, it was difficult to take seriously its claims that it wanted peace in the region.

SABC fades as broadcasts reach Harare

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Broadcasts of Radio Truth into Zimbabwe have been monitored at 5,018 kHz on the 60 m shortwave band — very close to the external broadcasts of the SABC.

A Zimbabwe Government source said the transmissions, monitored in Harare, took place six days a week between 6.30 am and 7 am, although the signal appeared weak.

External broadcasts of the SABC have been heard to go off the air at around 6.30 am and resume at just before 7 am — the time that Radio Truth is transmitting, said the government source.

The programmes consist of uncultured English tones of a woman calling herself "Flame Lily" dispense the virulent anti-Mugabe commentary, often interspersed with "appropriate" slogans.

During a long commentary...

● From Page 1

aimed at whites, asking what they hoped to gain by remaining in a Zimbabwe that was crumbling around them, "Flame Lily" played Elton John's "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road."

The commentaries, in English and occasionally delivered by a man, also include jokes denigrating Mr Mugabe and his government.

Government radio technicians in Harare regularly monitor the broadcasts, and transcripts of the commentaries have been shown to visiting delegates as evidence of South Africa's "destabilisation" campaign against Zimbabwe.

In March this year a Bulawayo man, Derek John Rhodes, was arrested on a four-month jail sentence for recording a Radio Truth programme, broadcast in the vernacular, and playing it to his black workmates.

After his arrest, Rhodes was allegedly assaulted by police officers and kept in custody for some time.

In English

Radio Truth, whose transmissions could be heard in Zimbabwe, was broadcast in...
The broadcasts were resumed in Shona and Ndebele — with occasional announcements in English — between 3 pm and 5.30 pm GMT each day, on the same frequency, he told 24 Hours.

The BBC recorded a test transmission on March 10, 1983, and the first commentary 15 days later. Broadcasts started on 6,000 kHz, but at the end of the first week, they switched to 4,902 kHz.

"We would describe Radio Truth's broadcasts as hostile to the government of Zimbabwe," said Mr. Chadwick.

He said the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel was heard in Angola in Portuguese and other commonly spoken Angolan languages. It supported Dr. Jonas Savimbi's Unita guerrilla movement.

"We would call these transmissions hostile to the Government of Angola!"

The broadcasts were on 4,900 kHz at 4:30 am to 6:30 am and 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm GMT every day, Mr. Chadwick said the station was first heard on January 4, 1976.

The Voice of Mozambique Resistance was broadcast to Mozambique, also from the Transvaal, but transmissions were stopped a week after the signing of the Nkomati Accord, he said.

See Page 11, World section.
Mugabe's men gather to plan future

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's ruling party this week holds its first congress for 20 years in what will be a watershed event for Africa's youngest nation.

In the unlikely setting of Harare's Borrowdale racecourse, about 6,000 Zanu-PF members will debate a new draft constitution whose central plank is the establishment of a one-party state in Zimbabwe under its own "Vanguard leadership".

The August 8-13 meeting in the elegant racing grounds, one of the most visible vestiges of Zimbabwe's colonial past, will begin on the 21st anniversary of the founding of the now-splintered Zimbabwe African National Union.

Zanu held its first congress in the town of Gweru in 1964, with the present Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, elected to one of the three top posts, before the party was banned by the white authorities and the Zanu leadership was scattered into prison or exile.

The second congress will review the 16-year struggle for freedom, assess the party's performance since winning power in the independence elections of 1980 and map strategy for fresh elections in the next six months.

For months, Mr Mugabe, the Zanu-PF president, has been addressing rallies around the country telling the party faithful what the second congress is all about.

His theme has been that because Zanu-PF was now the party of government, it was necessary to formulate new programmes, restructure its organisation and chart the course the party envisages for social and economic development.

But political analysts, commentators and party members themselves all agree that the congress is also about power.

It will elect a much-expanded central committee with 99 members as opposed to the present 26. More than half the places are reserved for nominated members and regional, youth league and women's league representatives.

But 42 will be elected at the congress and the battle for those places will be hard fought.

From the central committee, the party president and vice-president, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, will appoint a 15-member political bureau — a Soviet-style "Politburo" that is destined to be Zimbabwe's ultimate authority.

"As a party, Zanu-PF is seeking exclusive political power for itself. Individually, its top politicians are battling for who is on the highest councils of authority and who is not," commented a party insider with close ties to the government.

A broad range of issues will be debated at the congress: "Basic issues, matters of life and bread," in the words of the Justice Minister, Mr Eddie Zvobgo.

Above all, running through the five-day gathering will be the essential theme of the supremacy of the party over the government.

How to proceed in that direction from the present multi-party democracy, where change to the country's constitution requires the assent of all 100 members of the House of Assembly until 1990, will be a topic of debate at Borrowdale.

Some party hardliners want it to be declared unilaterally and have already adopted a battle-cry of "One-party state now". Others believe Zanu-PF will win the forthcoming polls so convincingly that the next parliament will effectively reflect a one-party state and there will be no need for legislation.

Zanu-PF has 58 of the 100 seats at present. Twenty are reserved for whites until 1990.

Mr Mugabe will open the congress on Wednesday. — Sapa-Reuters.
The face that Mr Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, is presenting to the nation in this week of the mammoth congress of his ruling Zanu (PF) party is that of an earnest marxist missionary.

Mugabe is never happier than when he is painstakingly explaining to his interviewers that socialism has a powerful moral appeal for him, that the disillusion among the people of the natural resources of the country, the philosophy that he wants everyone to embrace emphasises the selfless approach as opposed to the selfish individualism of the followers of capitalism.

Mr Mugabe's problem, however, is to find enough people who understand what he is talking about.

When he was asked how socialism could succeed when there appeared to be only one committed socialist himself, he spoke of the small beginnings of any project.

"We will start with a core of the committed few," he said. But he accepted that even among the leadership of the party, which is to adopt scientific socialism as its guiding ideology, there were people who did not support or even understand the concept.

In Marxist terms, socialism is the first phase of communism. Under socialism, marxists believe that private ownership of the means of production must be replaced by public ownership, that power must belong to the working people and that a nationally planned and managed economy will put an end to economic crises, poverty and exploitation.

Mr Mugabe has said that while there are different roads to socialism, there is only one genuine product and that is socialism of the marxist-leninist variety.

In the wake of Africa, even though it is 25 years since the collapse of colonialism began, not one country is ruled by a party recognised as "communist" in Soviet terms.

The authoritative check list of communist parties published in "Problems of Communism", a US Government publication, lists only five countries in Africa ruled by parties which are regarded by Moscow as "vanguard revolutionary democratic" bodies. These are parties deemed by Russia as ones most likely to evolve into fully fledged communist parties.

Those countries are Benin, Congo, Ethiopia, Angola and Mozambique - hardly a triumph for the spread of marxist-leninist ideas.

The other concept which will be pushed hard at this week's congress is the move to a one-party state, something which Mr Mugabe's followers find easier to grasp. Once again he has adopted a crusading attitude and said recently that the one-party system was a "religion" for him.

The obstacles here, however, lie in the constitution which gave rise to the state of Zimbabwe.

The rules for governing Zimbabwe, drawn up at Lancaster House, lay down that the people have an enshrined right to form political parties of their own choice.

The Declaration of Rights in the constitution granting them freedom of association is specially protected. Until the end of the first decade of independence, which will be reached in 1990, the assent of every single member of the 100-seat House of Assembly would be needed to do away with this provision.

In other words, given the presence in Parliament of men like Mr Ian Smith, who have vowed to oppose the one-party system, it will be another five years before that system can be introduced legally.

As Mr Mugabe has repeatedly said he intends to act within the constitution (though he has hinted at a different course of action on occasions) it is more than likely that introducing the one-party system will be a long drawn-out process.

Political observers in Harare believe that while the concept will be endorsed, implementing it will probably be linked to a review of the whole constitution. Zanu (PF) favours, for example, one House of Parliament instead of the bicameral Senate and House of Assembly, and an executive President instead of the present system of a Prime Minister and a figurehead President.

Reviewing the whole constitution could entail the appointment of a special commission, consultations with various groups, studies of government processes in other parts of the world, and so on.

Meanwhile there is the general election, scheduled for early next year, at which Mr Mugabe must obtain an increase in seats to prove that the electorate does endorse his wish for a one-party state.

Congress week will see an outpouring of rhetoric. But hard practical politics will in the end decide the pace of change in Zimbabwe.
Squatter law stuns Zimbabwe farmers

ZIMBABWE'S white commercial farmers were stunned this week by the surprise introduction of a law that will allow some squatters to remain on land they have occupied illegally.

The law was gazetted this week under the country's emergency powers regulations that allow laws to be passed without the approval or knowledge of Parliament.

It enables the Minister of Lands, Resettlement and Rural Development, Mr Moven Mahachi, to issue certificates allowing people to stay on farmland they have occupied for more than five years. The certificates may also be issued if evictions result in "undue hardship".

The law seems to be aimed mainly at facilitating the government's retribution from the embarrassing situation it faced in the case of Mr Robert Rensford, who runs a cattle ranch at Shuregwi (formerly Selukwe), 200km south-west of Harare.

Mr Rensford bought a farm next to his ranch just after independence in 1980 and has been battling since to evict 10 squatter families that came to the land.

Both the country's High Court and Supreme Court have upheld his right to evict them, but the police have refused to take action.

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Wisemasi Nguruvu, was facing contempt of court charges in connection with the police inaction when the new law went into effect.

Mr Adrian de Bourbon, acting for Mr Rensford, told the High Court in Harare last week that the Police Commissioner should still be liable for contempt of court. He claimed this was due to Mr Nguruvu's non-compliance with regard to another court order that dealt with property damage caused by the squatters and their right to stay on the land.

High Court Judge Mr Justice J Salama has reserved judgement on what is obviously a political hot potato.

The government has taken action against squatters in urban areas. Squatter camps have been bulldozed in Harare, but no muscle has been used against squatters in rural areas.

Nevertheless, the squatter problem, which threatened to 'destroy' some prime commercial farm land just after the war, has faded away in most of the country.

Officials of the Commercial Farmers Union credited the improvement largely to the CPU's easy-going approach to sorting out problems in each area. They said only a small percentage of the CPU's 4,000 members had squatters on their land.

Of these farms, even fewer seem to be affected by the new law. But the key word is 'seem'. The law does not refer to squatters, but to people who 'occupy' land.

And that vague wording, some farmers fear, may be a loophole giving the 270,000 labours living on commercial farms a claim — however dubious — to some of their employers' land.

CPU officials last week tried to clarify the law with the Ministry. The discussions were inconclusive, but sources close to government said on Friday the government had no desire to throw the commercial farming sector into turmoil.

With white farmers still growing most of the country's food, it cannot afford to. But that is little consolation to Mr Rensford, who has been enduring vandalism, cattle theft and intimidation of his workers by his squatter neighbours.

The Ministry of Lands has requested that he sell the land for conversion to a resettlement project. But Mr Rensford does not want to sell.
MUGABE: TURNING THE SOIL

BY Colin Legum

London, The First

[Image]
SA may have cut its aid to rebels

HARARE — The Zimbabwean Prime Minister Mr. Robert Mugabe, has said South Africa might have decided to end its alleged policy of infiltrating dissidents into the country.

Zimbabwe has often accused South Africa of training and equipping a hard-core "fifth column" of rebels which it calls "Super Zapa," who have been active mainly in the western province of Matabeleland for two years.

Mr. Mugabe charges that the dissidents are loyal to the main opposition Zanu party of Mr. Joshua Nkomo, an accusation the veteran nationalist rejects.

Asked during question time in Parliament yesterday about reports that South Africa had cut its aid to the rebels, Mr. Mugabe said: "There has been a hullabaloo for some time and it appears that South Africa has not been successful in continuing its process of infiltrating our country with Super Zapa elements, or that it has deliberately decided to stop that policy."

A curfew in southern Matabeleland imposed six months earlier was lifted on August 1 because of the improved situation following a decline in dissident activities.

Mr. Mugabe said Zimbabwe would stick to its stand that it would not have ministerial talks with South Africa.

The trade missions in both countries would continue and security talks could take place either at the border or, if necessary, in Johannesburg.

Mr. Mugabe said he hoped a general election could be held before March next year. — The Star Bureau and Sapa.
The 14 people named to occupy the positions of power and influence in Zimbabwe as members of the newly formed Zanu (PF) politburo are as diverse a group as any to be found in the country.

After Mr Robert Mugabe, the party first secretary, follow in order of seniority: Mr Simon Muzenda, Mr Maurice Nyagumbo, Mr Enos Nkala, Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, Mr Emmerson Mnangagwa, Mr Didymus Mutasa, Dr Nathan Shamuyarira, Dr Dingai Mutumbuka, Mrs Teurai Ropa Nhongo, Mr Ernest Kadungure, Lieutenant-General Rex Nhongo, Air Vice-Marshal Josiah Tungamirai and Dr Sydney Sekeramayi.

It would be difficult to find two more contrasting figures than Mr Mugabe and his deputy. Mr Mugabe is the archetypal international figure, highly educated, articulate, always immaculately dressed, but somewhat remote from the ordinary man.

Mr Muzenda, who trained as a carpenter at Marianhill near Durban, is very much a man of the people. The grey-bearded grandfather image that he presents, the rumpled jacket and cardigan he favours, the lack of authority when he speaks in English, but the respect he commands when addressing a crowd in the vernacular, all add up to a picture of a homegrown politician with influence among the peasant people who constitute the bulk of the population.

In ideological attitudes it would be difficult to find two more contrasting attitudes displayed by the veteran Ndebele-speaking politician, Mr Nkala, and Dr Ushewokunze.

Mr Nkala, once regarded as a wild man given to inexpressive statements, has mellowed into a "conservative" socialist who frequently cautions against moving too fast and destroying the economy in the process. Dr Ushewokunze, with his flair for the dramatic, is likely to emerge as the front-running radical in the politburo.

One member whose star is clearly in the ascendency is Dr Shamuyarira, who takes on the high profile post as party secretary for publicity and information which matches his Cabinet position as Information Minister.

The partial eclipse of Dr Edisson Zvobgo, who did not get a seat on the politburo and who had to scramble to get onto the central committee, was one of the shocks of the congress. But he is unlikely to allow this setback to keep him out of the limelight too long.

General Nhongo and Air Vice-Marshal Tungamirai were among the 10 members of the 50-member central committee to be appointed by Mr Mugabe. Similarly they have been brought into the politburo by special nomination, a sensible move in the opinion of political observers conscious of Africa’s history of military coups.

There has been some surprise at the appointment to the politburo of Mr Didymus Mutasa, Speaker of the House of Assembly and a man whose party political involvement has been low-key.

However, it must be remembered that one of Mr Mugabe’s tasks in forming his politburo was to maintain a tribal balance and Mr Mutasa and Mr Maurice Nyagumbo are the only two members from Matabeleland in the east.

The volatile Mr Edgar Tekere, chairman of the Manicaland division of the party, got back on to the central committee to tremen-

100 Years Ago

From The Eastern Star

Mr Hutchison, conversing with the farmer members of the Commission, said: “You farmers will have to change your entire system of farming if you are not to go to the dogs. You will have to get better and keep fewer stock, and take better care of it. You will farm then with success.” The farmers said: “You’re right.”

A correspondent at Rorke’s Drift writes that Mnyamana has accepted the Boer terms about the border line. Piet Joubert has been elected President, and Lucas Meyer Commandant, of the new territory.
Mugabe rejects Westminster, turns to Marxism-Leninism

LONDON. — This last week Southern Africa began political life with its third Poliburo. There is the Poliburo of the MPLA in Angola and the Poliburo of Frente de Libertação de Moçambique. Both are the commanding executives of single-party states.

Now we have the rather curious set-up in Zimbabwe which we must accept as a sort of Poliburo-in-waiting, to be supplied by Zanu (PF) when it finally becomes the only party in Zimbabwe.

The Zimbabwean Poliburo is already in existence although the constitutional moves to make it legal have not yet been taken.

In jail

It is smaller than the poliburo originally planned and its members are already named. Nine from the cabinet and three from the ministry with Mr. Robert Mugabe as its secretary and foreign affairs specialist.

After spending 10 years in jail shopping political theory, Mr. Mugabe has reached some pretty fixed theoretical positions derived from his masters, Vladimir Lenin and Karl Marx. No doubt the century experience of governing under their lights has also entered the Zimbabwean leader's concepts and he has made suitable adjustments for African application.

He must have studied and gone to see the form of communism as applied in Ethiopia, the country which claims to have the purest Marxist-Leninist approach in Africa.

Once there were those who felt that the nearest thing in Africa to an East European socialist state was Sekou Toure's Guinea, the last refuge of Kwame Nkrumah, whose ideas Mr. Mugabe so much admired. But Sekou Toure's recent death and the revelations that followed it has made the state of Guinea no good example to follow, either theoretically or in reality.

Ethiopia's adoption of Marxist-Leninism has been far more uncompromising than that of any other African state. It is crowned by the erection of a huge statue of Lenin and an appointment of a Poliburo from the long-lasting committee of military revolutionaries, the Derge. This was also followed by the biggest nationalization of land on the African continent.

Mr. Mugabe wishes to give his followers in Zimbabwe the evidence, even ahead of time, of the direction their socialism is going to take. There is not going to be, in their future course, any kind of truckling under to any Westminister-type compromise and peddling in British half-measures.

It may be that up to 1990 some checks and balances, insisted on by the British, are going to restrict true socialism in Zimbabwe, but beyond that such hypocritises and hindrances are going to operate.

The Zimbabwean Prime Minister and future president has now nailed his colours to the mast and declared his African independence of Western constitutionalism.

He has apparently refused to have any truck with mere bluff, as it exposed itself by a former cabinet minister Mr. Edgar Tekere. But Mr. Mugabe seems equally resistant to British legalism - neither Mr. Tekere nor Dr. Eddison Zvobgo, the best legal mind at Mr. Mugabe's disposal, has been appointed to his poliburo-in-waiting.

Perhaps the examples of both the former Rhodesia and the present South Africa are not accessible to the whites in both these states were able to twist and manipulate the British inheritance to oppress the blacks.

Nor is he going to set the example for his people of gratitude to Western capitalism. Certainly he is going to borrow from the West and rely on Western expertise, and he is going to continue feeding his people through the production of the efficient white-owned farms in Zimbabwe.

Conviction

In any case he reckons that the white farmers will stay and the Western loans and investment will flow as long as it suits the West.

Only if Western aid proves to be generally useful to the farmers of Southern Africa, will the respective case for retention in the future.

Mr. Mugabe is advertising his reliance on Marxist-Leninism out of sheer conviction that is likely to be of greater help to Africa in the long run than the Western methods, which have ended in the subjugation of the continent to example and the exploitation by Western capital.

He might be wrong, but he feels he has the stronger case. Expect no favours.
Mystery killing of white Zimbabwean detective

By Brendan Seery
The Star's Foreign News Service

HARARE – On a warm December evening in 1982 a senior white detective was gunned down in a grisly, sectarian-type execution in Bulawayo. The question has now been raised here — were South African agents responsible?

Unconfirmed reports of the killing suggested that Superintendent Eric Roberts, a Bulawayo CID officer, was shot three times in the head from close range in his house in the Waterford suburb.

His body was then dragged into the garden where another two shots were pumped into it.

A resident at the policeman's home was reported as saying that police investigators believed three white men were responsible for the killing.

The allegation of South African involvement emerged in Bulawayo this week at a court case after a tragic suicide last October.

Another detective, Superintendent Robert Minchin, was fined R63 for failing to take precautions to ensure that his service pistol did not fall into the hands of an unauthorised person.

The court heard that Minchin's wife, Sylvia, used the weapon to kill herself during a family gathering at their home.

The policeman, who was acquitted of culpable homicide, told the court he had been issued with the weapon for "self-protection" after "the murder of a senior member of the CID" the previous year.

Minchin did not mention the name of the dead policeman, but told the court that investigations after the killing showed it had been carried out by "South African agents".

Roberts, who was in his 30s, had been a policeman for many years and was highly regarded for his work in the law and order section of the CID, dealing with incidents relating to security.

In late 1981, just before he was replaced as head of the section by a black officer, Roberts authorized an investigation into the activities of Bulawayo dentist Frank Bertrand.

As a result of the investigation, which was carried out mainly by black detectives, Bertrand was jailed by the High Court in Bulawayo for 10 years for conspiracy to commit acts of sabotage and terrorism and create a secessionist state in Matabeleland.

Bertrand's son, Stephen, and a friend, Allen Cavin, were each given four years for their parts in the plot, and Bulawayo municipal employee Victor Radmore (56) was jailed for seven years.
The eighth part of the operation point to the right of the stag, leading to the bottom of the list, which shows the text:

**SIGNIFICANCE**

**Conclusion:**

Once the system is secured, the users can use the platform to provide feedback on their satisfaction and efficiency. This feedback will be used to improve and adjust the platform. The feedback will be analyzed to ensure that the platform meets the needs of the users.

**HARARE – THE W W W – E – S E R V E R”**

The site is presented as a warning.
Infiltration from SA alleged

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE. — A "sizeable group" of Zapu dissidents was infiltrated two weeks ago from South Africa into Zimbabwe's strife-torn Matabeleland province, the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, alleged in parliament here yesterday.

The public allegation marks an apparent breakdown of a de facto truce which appeared to have been arranged between South Africa and Zimbabwe following the signing in February of the Nkomati Accord between the Republic and Mozambique.

'Halted support'

While the truce lasted, South Africa was reported to have halted its support for dissidents in Matabeleland and high-level talks took place between police and army commanders of the two countries.

Speaking during his monthly "prime minister's question time" in the House of Assembly, Mr Mugabe said that despite recent reported incidents, the general level of dissident attacks in Matabeleland had not increased since some army units were withdrawn from the province earlier this year.

Mr Mugabe said that, warned by "Zapu intelligence," some dissidents had escaped the security-force net in Matabeleland South and fled to the north of the province, from which they were now trying to return southwards.

"And we are also aware that a sizeable group was infiltrated from South Africa about two weeks ago — about 40 or so."

"I think some have already been arrested — captured — and they are giving us more information. And as the process of following up the rest continues, I am sure more and more will be captured."

Mr Mugabe's public allegation concludes a period of some weeks of unconfirmed reports of renewed South African support for "super Zapu" dissidents, during which there has been a marked increase in Mr Mugabe's verbal hostility towards the Republic.

At his "prime minister's question time" session in August, Mr Mugabe expressed a very guarded hope that South Africa had abandoned its "destabilization" policy towards Zimbabwe following the Nkomati Accord.

He said Zimbabwe would pursue trade and security co-operation with the Republic, stopping short only at having a "political forum" at which ministers of the two governments met face to face.

Security sources in Harare have reported that the newly-captured dissidents, members of a gang numbering about 40, bore equipment which was claimed to be of fresh South African origin, easily distinguishable from war material dissidents retrieved from caches made during the 1972-1980 Rhodesian conflict.

It is alleged that both Nato and Communist-made weapons passing through South Africa to the Zapu dissidents have their original serial numbers erased and new numbers forged.

Civil servants

Mr Mugabe yesterday categorically denied a report in the London Daily Telegraph that hundreds of members of the Korean-trained Fifth Brigade had deserted with their rifles and equipment such as armoured cars after the controversial unit's withdrawal from Matabeleland for retraining under British instructors.

Questioned about reports that all civil servants would eventually be required to be members of the ruling Zanu party, Mr Mugabe said that while Zanu did not wish to force anyone to join, it would negate the planned oneparty state's object to have public servants who did not subscribe to Zanu's socialist ideology.
Zimbabwe wants peace, not another civil war

AMID all the talk of the imminent arrival of a one-party state in Zimbabwe, none seems to have considered what would happen if Mr. Mugabe lost the next election. This is widely unlikely, but it is not unthinkable. At present Mr. Mugabe has an absolute majority of seven in the 109-seat House of Assembly. Bishop Abel Muzorewa's UANC holds three seats. Mr. Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU, and the tally of all 20 white seats taken together, Ian Smith's party in 1980 has now been whittled down, by defection and by-elections, to seven.

This would be the upshot if Bishop Muzorewa and Mr. Nkomo and Mr. Smith were to end up just enough seats at the general election scheduled for February to give them a combined House of Assembly majority.

Bargaining

We certainly would not witness the kind of frenzied, but peaceful, bargaining to form a coalition government that is taking place in Israel over the past month. An election victory for Mr. Mugabe will very likely mean that the Lancaster House constitutional negotiations will be "dead" for the "inauguration" of a one-party state.

But, an announcement of defeat would be even more disastrous for the rule of law and constitutional government. It would mean civil war, at least a technical coup d'etat, because the Zanu members, now in overwhelming majority in the civil service and other armed forces, would refuse to record their votes. The ordinary black people outside Matabeleland, who make up 70 percent of the population of Zimbabwe, know all this.

Aspirations

They want a government which will meet their aspirations, but without foreclosures. After the horrors of the 1972-74 war, they want peace — as far as their desire for peace as can reasonably be obtained in the unstable conditions of the day. They can, and by large, deliver the goods.

Bishop Mugabe, released from prison last week after 10 months in detention, was笔试 at the request of the government. Detained, he could not vote.

The bishop, like one-time colleague in the Rhodesian National government, the Reverend Father Sithole, belongs to the "first generation" of nationalist leaders. The challenge set them the need to reconcile a desire for meaningful social and political development.

Expectations

Mr. Ian Smith was also a nationalist leader in one of these cases, and it will be up to expectations among Rhodesian whites of imminent independence from Britain until the pressure was to treat in November 1985 that if Mr. Smith and his colleagues have been deported as premier and replaced by a man willing to work with the "idea" that Mr. Smith had created. However, when a nationalist movement at that time, it needs to be no apparatus for an idealist, but an effective power broker.

Here the "second-generation" leader Mr. Mugabe is in his element, while Mr. Smith, Bishop Muzorewa and Mr. Sithole can all be seen to have failed.

Support

After the attacks on UANC and ZAPU party members' homes by Zanu supporters it has become very difficult for the bishop to organize any open support. The ground appears to be lost, and the government had warned that if he tries to work through the American-based Unitarian Methodist Church, of which he was the local head, he will be regarded as a"prisoner.

However, if he stays free, the rest of the few

Michael Hartsnak reports from Harare

Mr. Ian Smith months the bishop's public statements in support of free enterprise and his clear association will arouse much sympathy in the non-communist world, even if they do not get through to Zimbabwean voters.

Amicable as the bishop is, his brief record in office was almost an ideal lesson in "how not to do it" in Africa. His party, which should have stood solidly united since all its MPs were on a single Petrocist Front list, was nevertheless riven by a walkout after the April 1979 election which brought it to power.

Unwise

The bishop's unwise omission of several key personalities from his first cabinet — all from the Nshena tribe and, incidentally, Mr. Mugabe's home area — precipitated the split.

Bishop Muzorewa's overnight contacts with Mr. Mugabe's own cabinet created a new structure and lured away some of the key personalities of the opposition. The split, if it happens, will be between an opposition of two rival parties, each with its own leadership.

Lukavcic

K. has kept ZAPU members and deputy ministers in their lucrative posts despite the breach with Mr. Nkomo and the "undeclared war" with "super-Zapu" dissidents in Matabeleland.

Yet the greatest handicap Bishop Muzorewa suffers from, in the eyes of the average Shona voter, is not his political ineptitude but his image as the man who spearheaded the campaign for black rule as the ideal of the internal nationalist settlement that then as Prime Minister sent the Rhodesian army and air force out to attack the youngsters who had believed they were going to die abroad for his cause. For this, the many relatives of the dead will never forgive him.

‘Dictatorships'

He helped create a fever of black expectations, but was unable to exploit it. Bishop Muzorewa protested after his release last week. 'One of the reasons Africa is a slaughterhouse of coup and counter-coup is that people are denied by one-party dictators the opportunity to change their governments.' This may be true, but the Westminster parliamentary system offers just as little hope, in practice, in peaceful changes of government. The best the people of Zimbabwe can hope for is a ruler who will nurture the varieties of peace by maintaining political stability long as possible between the inevitable upheavals.'
Zapu to go ahead with congress despite ‘harassment by Zanu’

HARARE — Zapu is to hold its congress next month despite a climate of "harassment and intimidation" by the ruling Zanu party, Mr Joshua Nkomo has announced.

Speaking at a Press conference at his home, Mr Nkomo said he expected a full quota of 8 000 delegates, “despite the intimidation that has been going on, especially in Matabeleland south and north”.

The congress was planned to run for four days from October 12 and delegates from all of the party’s eight provincial organisations would be present.

The last Zapu congress was in 1975, Mr Nkomo said.

The ruling party held its congress last month over five days at the Borrowdale Racecourse and 6 000 delegates were present.

“I appeal to the government that we move towards elections in a sense of tranquillity and a sense of freedom of being able to hold meetings,” Mr Nkomo said.

The country’s general elections are due in February next year.

Zapu has been banned from holding meetings in the provinces of the Midlands and Mashonaland West, following violence in July in which at least seven people were killed and hundreds of others injured as supporters of Zanu sought out Zapu loyalists.

The Government alleges that Zapu is behind guerilla unrest in Matabeleland.

Mr Nkomo would not say whether he had applied for permission, in terms of the country’s state of emergency legislation, to hold the congress.

“No names shall be given to people who have nothing to do with congress,” he said. — Sapa.
Zimbabwe's dazzling farming 'miracle'

Against all predictions black peasant farmers are turning in record crops reports ROBIN DREW of The Argus Foreign Service in Harare

PEASANT farmers in Zimbabwe have this year produced 315 000 tons of maize over and above their own needs. Their contribution has enabled the country to slash planned imports and maintain its record of being able to feed itself.

The fact that this year peasant farmers in Zimbabwe will deliver 35 percent of the maize crop to the grain depots for marketing has been described as phenomenal.

Four years ago, their contribution amounted to eight percent. But in the years since independence it has gone up dramatically — fivefold in volume — reflecting the response of the farmers to the provision of technical advice, aids such as fertilizer and insecticides, and credit facilities.

The director of the state agricultural advisory service, Agritech, Stellenbosch University-trained Mr John Hayward, said the emphasis had been switched after independence from assisting the 6 600 mainly white commercial farmers to the 850 000 peasant families in the communal lands and the 8 000 small-scale commercial producers.

"In the circumstances, the switch in emphasis made sense," Mr Hayward says. "The commercial farmer was capable of looking after himself, probably up with the best in the world."

Most of the peasant-grown maize which is coming into the grain marketing board depots is from areas in the North of the country constituting less than 10 percent of the communal land area. It has been produced almost entirely by the efforts of individual growers. In the communal lands which in the bad old days were known as native reserves it is only the grazing land which is shared. Each family is allocated its own lands by the chief or district administrator and is responsible for growing its own crops.

Mr Hayward said terrific progress had been made in the better rainfall areas in improving farming techniques. Forty percent of Zimbabwe's cotton crop has been produced by peasant growers this year.

"They are getting intensive training and advice and they are responding well," he said. "In parts of the country I have walked through fields after field of cotton and maize and never seen a weed. You do not often find that in Africa. The farmers are using herbicides and scouting for pests. Their results compare very favourably with neighbouring commercial farmers' lands."

Mr Hayward said that given the right incentives such as viable prices and credit facilities, he had found that peasant farmers did a good job.

"They are motivated by the right price and the return for their efforts. They do not use a computer but they go through the same mental process in working out the economics of farming," he said.

He did not agree it was a matter of a "Peeling for the soil". "No. It is a question of hard work and following advice. You do not get something out of farming without putting plenty into it."

The communal lands make up 42 percent of Zimbabwe and are heavily over-populated and overstocked in some areas. There are extremely serious erosion problems in the marginal areas particularly.

Mr Hayward attributed the boost in maize production contrary to earlier forecasts of a big shortfall to the late rains which fell in Zimbabwe at the end of March and the beginning of April.

'It was a miracle rain," said the Agritech director who came to Zimbabwe more than 30 years ago from the family farm between Murraysburg and Aberdeen in the Eastern Karroo.

As a tribute to his efforts, the commercial farmers' union this year awarded him the farming "Oscar."

His department is also heavily involved in the resettlement programme in which up to now $5 000 families have been given land on former white owned farms.
Tribalism a simple label in Zimbabwe’s ethnic maze

From MICHAEL HARTNACK in Harare

Only a comparatively small number of the Ndebele, the Amazulu, can claim to have been left out from the warriors Lobengula’s father, Mzilikazi, took with him from Zululand in the 1830s to escape the wrath of Chaka. A larger section, the Amahlala, are descended from Sotho people forcibly incorporated during the Ndebele’s sojourn in the Transvaal, before their defeat by the Trekboers at the battles of Vegkop and Mansropri. Supporters of Mr Mugabe have claimed that these “true” Ndebele are the ones least committed to the Zulu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo. They point to several Ndebeles in prominent positions in the ruling ZANU-PF party to justify their claim that tribalism is dead or dying in Zimbabwe.

Strength

Mr Nkomo himself, like many of the people who support him in Matabeleland, is in a highly ambivalent position triply. He is descended from the Shona people subjugated by Mzilikazi and Lobengula. To this day there is little word for the section of the tribe of Shona origin - “Amashabane” remains highly offensive to Shonas, and under white rule Mr Nkomo’s people preferred to call themselves Nka-langa rather than Ndebele.

But such was the strength of the Kalanga’s Shona heritage that when Lobengula was vanquished by the whites in 1888 they had risen to be more than a slave tribe, replacing the Ndebele religious practices brought from Zululand with their own. Mr Nkomo boasts that his grandfather was chief rainmaker to Lobengula. As their name suggests, the Nkala-langa are related to the Maka-Nga Nga of southern Mashonaland, but like the British and the Bretons, similarity of name belies a divergence of history and political alliances.

The Shona, who make up 70 percent of Zimbabwe’s people, are a language group, not a tribe. In the pre-Ndebele and pre-colonial past even major sub-divisions of the Shona such as the Karanga were seldom united for long under a single chief. The Karanga clans trace descent from altogether extraneous ancestors, such as the Tonga, who lived along the Zambezi River and in the southern highlands of Zambia.

One found a network of clans having similar language, religious practices and culture, venerating the same spirits of certain legendary figures, but with different emphasis. There were sometimes fierce inter-clan battles.

Near the eastern town of Rusape, for example, the soil between two great hills is still reputed to be phosphorescent by night with the bones of warriors killed in a battle between two Shona clans which are today often ignored lumped together as “Manicaland” because the whole area is labelled “Manicaland” on administrative maps. Scotsmen are notorious for sticking together, but the old Campbell-MacGregor feud can still start some vicious brawls in Glasgow.

Among the Shona, the Karanga, from whom comes Mr Mugabe, both benefited and suffered from an accident of geography. Since Cecil Rhodes’ white pioneers sited their capital in Matabeleland and this group gained quick access to schools, hospitals, towns and jobs, and the other blessings and banes of European civilization. They outgrew their “natives” more quickly and so were brought into the earliest conflict with whites.

Favoured

More than any other group they have intermarried with the hundreds of thousands of descendants of Malawian migrant workers, who are often overlooked as a very important element in the economy. The Minister of Finance, Dr Bernard Chidzero, is the most prominent Zimbabwean of Malawian descent.

The Karanga have a rather unfair reputation with fellow Shonas for being “cruel” which goes hand in hand with the tribal and military tradition. Since the Karanga suffered worse from the white regime’s dirty war than the Ndebele, most of them took no part in the 1986 rising in which said the whites were slaughtered. Recruited first as “nationals” they soon became the preferred 99-year lease-holders in the white-officed police and army.

The Karangas have a disrepute of cultural superiority over the other Shonas who are the Shona which they are usually too subtle to display. In politics, they seem to prefer the more “black” Karanga to be their spokesman but they cite the 1986 fracas to support their claim that no political venture can succeed without their backing. A Karanga regime in partnership with electoral disaster at the hands of Karangas in the 1988 elections.

Although the past few tragic years of political violence in Matabeleland have inflamed tribal sensitivities there, the Karangas have yet to impose severe limits to the political importance of tribal loyalty elsewhere in Zimbabwe.

Writing in 1912 about the ancestors of modern Europeans when they were passing through a similar political phase, the historian H M Chadwick wrote that their princes appeared to free themselves to a large extent from control by the tribe with its ancestor-worshipping elders.

“The fear formerly exercised by the kindred is now largely transferred to the comitatus, a band of men who are pledged to personal loyalty to their chief;” write Chadwick.

In the formation last month of Mr Mugabe’s hand-picked 15-member cabinet, an outstanding example of Chadwick’s principle.

Mr Mugabe said that Mr Nkomo first became a cult figure, over 25 years ago, not as an Ndebele or a Nka-langa but as a...
Peasant farmers to the rescue in Zimbabwe

The fact that this year peasant farmers in Zimbabwe will deliver 35 percent of the maize crop to the grain depots for marketing has been described as phenomenal.

Four years ago, their contribution was 8 percent. But in the years since independence it has gone up dramatically fivefold, reflecting the response of the farmers to the provision of technical advice, such as fertiliser and insecticides, and credit facilities.

The director of the State agricultural advisory service, Agritek, Mr John Hayward, said the emphasis had been switched after independence from assisting the 4,600 mainly white commercial farmers to the 850,000 peasant families in the communal lands and the 8,000 small-scale commercial producers.

"In the circumstances, the switch in emphasis made sense," Stellenbosch University-trained Mr Hayward told The Star's Foreign News Service. "The commercial farmer was capable of looking after himself, probably up with the best in the world."

What was needed and would continue to be needed was a balance between large- and small-scale farmers in Zimbabwe.

Most of the peasant-grown maize which is coming into the Grain Marketing Board depots is from areas in the north of the country constituting less than 10 percent of the communal land area.

This is because the bulk of the communal lands are situated in low rainfall marginal land areas which were hard hit by last season's drought and which in any case are not suitable for commercial crop production.

Growers in the communal lands have this year produced 315,000 tons of maize over and above their own needs, enabling the country to slash planned imports and maintain its record of being able to feed itself. Robin Drew reports from Harare.

It has been produced almost entirely by individual growers' efforts. In the communal lands, which in the bad old days were known as native reserves, it is only the grazing land which is shared. Each family is allocated its own lands by the chief or district administrator and is responsible for growing its own crops.

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"It was a miracle rain," said the Agritek director who came to Zimbabwe more than 30 years ago from the family farm in the eastern Karoo.

As a tribute to his efforts, the Commercial Farmers' Union this year awarded him the farming "Oscar".

His department is also heavily involved in the resettlement programme in which up to now 38,000 families have been given land on former white-owned farms. Resettlement land amounts to about 2 percent of the land area.

But while this programme has attracted publicity, it is not at this stage comparable in terms of output with either communal or commercial agriculture. Resettlement areas have contributed only about 1 percent of this year's marketed maize crop.
SECRET contacts have taken place between Zimbabwe and South Africa for the release of two alleged South African spies detained for nearly three years.

This was disclosed to the Sunday Times by Zimbabwe’s security supremo, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa, who said contacts and co-operation were continuing.

He is the former Zanla guerrilla intelligence chief who now holds the official title of Minister of State (Security) in the office of the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, and controls Zimbabwe’s Central Intelligence Organisation.

New hope for the release of the alleged spies comes after a desperate personal plea to the Zimbabwe Government from the tragic family of one of the men.

Mr Munangagwa said the fate of the accused spies, Colin Evans, 29, and Phillip Hartlieb, 33, held since 1981 in Chikurubi Prison, had been the subject of previous abortive talks when “approaches through foreign governments” suggested an exchange of prisoners between Angola, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Evans and Hartlieb, both former officers of Mr Munangagwa’s CIO, were acquitted by Zimbabwe’s High Court in 1983 on charges of spying for South Africa and assisting the assassins of the ANC envoy to Harare, Joe Gqabi.

They were detained immediately after the verdict. Both were former Rhodesian policemen who stayed on after the transition to black rule.

Mr Munangagwa said the court’s finding resulted from “some technical legal problem”.

He said Mr Mugabe’s government had given sufficient grounds for their continued imprisonment to the detainees’ review tribunal, which, after a recent secret hearing, turned down their second plea for release since their court acquittal.

“However, there are things happening elsewhere outside this environment,” said Mr Munangagwa.

“The South Africans have approached us and we are talking about these persons quietly, but I am unable to say at this stage what propositions they are making.”

Mr Munangagwa said no special consideration had been given to Colin Evans because his nine-year-old son, Davy, is suffering from incurable muscular dystrophy. But Davy and his mother, Mrs Colleen Evans, were allowed regular visits at Chikurubi Prison in company with Mrs Brenda Hartlieb.

Challenge

Mrs Evans last week handed in a letter to Mr Mugabe appealing for his personal intervention to re-unite her family so they may take their son to proper medical care.

Lawyers for Evans and Hartlieb last week announced their intention to challenge the review tribunal’s recommendations in the High Court on October 17.

Zimbabwean legal history will be made when the application is lodged for the tribunal to justify its refusal to recommend their immediate release.
Messina to shed mining interests in Zimbabwe

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. - Messina is negotiating to sell all its mining interests in Zimbabwe to the Zimbabwe Mining Development Corporation.

The group said in a statement released yesterday that negotiations have reached an advanced stage and agreement in principle had been reached whereby Messina would provide certain technical and engineering services to the mines in question for a minimum of three years.

The mining interests to be sold include Messina's investment in MTD (Mangula) and consist of three gold and two copper mines.

Bonds

Payment will be through the issue of non-resident government bonds bearing interest at four percent per annum and redeemable in foreign currency in equal annual instalments over six years.

Messina's financial director, Mr David Dry, said yesterday the deal would have minimal effect on Messina's results.

"We have received nothing in the way of dividends from our Zim-бавwe operations for the last three years and in our accounts have already provided against the investments in full.

"The price we are negotiating will be in the region of $2.5m to $2.85m repatriable over six years. That means we should get out about $1m a year over the next six years if the Zimbabwe Government meets its obligations."

Mr Dry said Messina had actually negotiated a deal to sell its Zimbabwe mining operations to one of the major public companies based in Harare. He declined to name the company.

Approval

"However, when we submitted the deal to the government for approval it refused to allow the company involved to borrow the foreign currency outside of the country to pay the purchase price."

"The government then said it wanted to buy our mining interests itself."

"We had previously wanted to close one of the copper mines down but the government forced us to keep it going through providing emergency loans," he said.

Messina's remaining South African copper mining operations are now a tiny part of the group's business which is dominated by its stake in car manufacturer Nissan South Africa.

Currently, mining provides about R2.5m of Messina's total annual turnover of around R900m.

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Zimbabwe backing for SA unions

By JOSHUA RABOŘOKO

THE ZIMBABWE Congress of Trade Unions and the International Labour Organisation have expressed their support for black unions and their abhorrence of the disturbing laws in South Africa.

This was said by the general secretary of the Motor Assemblies and Components Workers' Union of SA (Macwusa) and General Workers' Union of SA (Gwusa), Mr Denis Neer, after his return from Zimbabwe recently.

Mr Neer, who had attended a conference of the international trade unions, said his delegation had experienced difficulties in obtaining visas and information about the conference in South Africa.

"We had to spend a whole night at Harare Airport due to the fact that SA had refused us proper travel documents. With the help of ZCTU and the cooperation of the Zimbabwean Ministers we went through," he said.

Mr Neer said that they had exposed the lack of freedom of association in South Africa and other discriminatory laws affecting blacks. "We were also given an exposure as to what is happening in the trade union movements internationally."

Slain taxi driver: Man arrested

A MIDDLE-AGED man has been arrested in connection with the death of a 38-year-old taxi driver who was shot in a taxi at a rank in Mamelodi, Pretoria, at the weekend.

The arrest followed the death of Mr France Choma of 13299 Mamelodi East, who was shot in the head during an argument inside a taxi near the Dannemarsh station.

Brigadier H A du Plessis, Chief CID Officer for the Northern Transvaal, yesterday said the man was arrested on Monday night following intensive police investigations.

- Police are still investigating the death of a 26-year-old man who was shot dead by a detective in Mamelodi last Tuesday night.
- Mr Norman Petros Hlangotho of 6344 Mamelodi West, died instantly after being wounded in the chest by a bullet from his friend's revolver.

A police spokesman said Mr Hlangotho was in the company of a detective friend who had a revolver in his hand. A shot went off, "accidentally" fatally wounding him in the chest. A docket would be submitted to the Attorney-General of the Transvaal as soon as investigations were completed.

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Harare buys MTD mines

HARARE — The Zimbabwe Government will pay the South African mining concern Messina R6,6 million for its interest in gold and copper mining operations in Zimbabwe which are conducted by the MTD group of companies.

The Minister of Mines, Mr. Callistus Ndlovu, said MTD had wanted to close down some of its mining operations but the government intervened to maintain copper production and employment and to maintain the foreign exchange earnings from the mines.

EXTERNAL BONDS

Mr. Ndlovu said Messina had substantial deposits of copper, lead and zinc which had yet to be developed and offered a great potential for future expansion.

Under an agreement in principle, the purchase price will be payable immediately that formal agreement has been reached.

The money will be remittable outside the country under the government's six year external four percent bonds.

Messina is to continue to provide technical services at an annual fee of 0.5 percent of the gross turnover of the copper mining companies and the three gold mines under the MTD group.
**Nkomo's deputy dies at 61**

The Star'Brien

HARARE — Mr Josiah Chinamano, veteran nationalist politician and deputy leader of Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zapu party, has died in Harare after a long illness.

Mr Chinamano, who received his university education at South Africa's Fort Hare and married a South African woman, was 61.

His wife, Mrs Ruth Chinamano, was elected to the Zimbabwean Parliament in 1980 and is known for her fiery debating style and outspoken manner.

**INTO TEACHING**

The Zapu vice-president was born in Harare and, after qualifying at Fort Hare and taking a further diploma at Birmingham University in England, went into teaching.

He was arrested, together with his wife, during the UDF period and the couple spent more than 10 years in detention for nationalist activities.

He was nominated to fill a seat in the Zimbabwean Parliament in 1981 and was appointed Minister of Transport. After the arms cache scandal in early 1982, Mr Chinamano, along with Zapu colleagues, was dismissed from the Government but he remained active in party politics.
Harare claims SA "elements", aid rebels

By Brendan Steyn
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe State Security Minister Mr. Emmerson Mnangagwa says 106 armed rebels have been killed in military operations around the country this year, bringing to 500 the number killed since the security force campaign began two years ago.

He said there had been a marked decrease in sabotage and malicious damage to property this year, with only 17 cases reported compared with 38 last year. Most of these took place in the south of Zimbabwe.

Mr. Mnangagwa said "elements in the South African Army" were still engaged in "acts of destabilisation" against Zimbabwe.

SA SPIES

These people had been providing training and supplies for the rebel bands, which called themselves Super Zanu.

There had also been evidence that South African spies had been operating against Zimbabwe from within its borders.

Mr. Mnangagwa said he would soon make a statement on spying.

Thousands of former auxiliaries loyal to Bishop Abel Muzorewa were still in South Africa.

While some of these, who numbered about 4,000, had left South Africa, its armed forces, others still, had "hostile intentions towards Zimbabwe" and a number had been arrested in Zimbabwe, while seeking information about security forces' movements and strengths.
A big defeat for Mugabe's party

By Michael Hartnack
Mail Africa Bureau

HARARE — Mr. Robert Mugabe's ruling Zanu (PF) suffered a landslide defeat when results were announced yesterday of municipal elections in Bulawayo's "low density" suburbs.

Black householders, who now constitute up to 95% of the ratepayers in many of the once exclusively white suburbs of Matabeleland's capital city, appear to have rejected Mr. Mugabe's party in favour of joining forces with their white neighbours.

White independent candidates won all seven seats, and among the victors was at least one former member of the party of former Rhodesian Prime Minister Mr. Ian Smith.

The white population of Bulawayo is believed to have shrunk from about 70,000 to less than 40,000 since Zimbabwe's independence in 1980.

Zanu (PF) members have already alleged intimidation in the campaign between Mr. Smith's party, now called the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe, and Mr. Joshua Nkomo's opposition Zapu, which deliberately did not field candidates to prevent a split in the anti-government vote.

A white Zapu (PF) candidate was defeated by 42 votes to 107 by the last white mayor of Bulawayo, Mr. Michael Constantino, while a former MP for Mr. Smith's party, Mr. Charles Scott, standing as an independent, defeated a black Zapu (PF) candidate by 600 votes to 106.

Most of the ruling party's candidates failed to gain even a 10th of their white opponents' votes.

At the weekend black voters in Bulawayo's high density suburbs go to the polls in eight wards, all of which are contested by Mr. Nkomo's party.

As the build-up continues for next year's first post-independence general election, Mr. Mugabe's government has moved to keep its pledges on free campaigning, lifting the four-month-old ban on Zapu meetings in the Midlands and Mashonaland West provinces.

At least six people were killed in inter-party violence in the provinces in June when mobs of Zanu (PF) supporters attacked Zapu members' offices and homes after the murder of two ruling party officials by dissidents.

Announcing the lifting of the ban, Zimbabwe's Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Simbikizwi Mubako, said he had been encouraged to do it by recent condemnations of dissidents issued by Zapu leaders.

Zapu would still have to obtain official permission for all political meetings, but this would be granted as long as they were peaceful and did not incite support for the dissidents.
Zimbabwe, SA should come clean over Matabeleland

MICHAEL HARTNACK reports from Harare

ZIMBABWE, the southern African country that has been called "the South African counterpart," should come clean over its role in the Matabeleland region, according to a recent report by Michael Hartnack from Harare.

The report highlights the cooperation and information sharing between Zimbabwe and South Africa, which has been a concern for many years.

The report mentions the "open door" policy of Zimbabwe, allowing passage through its borders.

It also discusses the "in-the-record" interview with Mr. Musanagwa, stating that the government of Zimbabwe has been cooperative and forthcoming.

The report concludes with a request for Zimbabwe to come clean about its role in the Matabeleland region and to bring an end to "the unspoken" cooperation with South Africa.
COVER-UP!

A PROLONGED official cover-up ended on Friday when Zimbabwe's main national newspapers said four soldiers of the Korean-trained Fifth Brigade might be arraigned on multiple murder charges.

Although a final decision on prosecution of the soldiers rests with Mr Robert Mugabe's government, publication of the story breaks a total news blackout that endured for two weeks while an inquest in Bulawayo heard sensational evidence of attempts to intimidate police and a magistrate into silence over the killing of four people in Northern Matabeleland last year.

Last week's exposures represent a triumph for the integrity of Zimbabwe's independent judiciary and the personal courage of a provincial magistrate, Mr George Romilly, who pressed on with an investigation into the deaths of the four despite threats from one of Zimbabwe's top policemen.

Mr Romilly testified at a Bulawayo inquest pressed over by Mr Gordon Geddes. Evidence presented to Mr Geddes read more like a Len Deighton thriller than a judicial inquiry.

Mr Geddes heard that an Ndebele-speaking army lieutenant, Edna Ndimbvu, and his wife Jennifer were stopped by Fifth Brigade troops at a road block near Lupane on January 11, 1984.

Two still unidentified black civilians, a young woman and a young boy, were also boxed in by cars who took them away. Their four bodies were later found in a shallow roadside grave.

Mr Romilly, who was provincial magistrate at Hammars (formerly Whanga), first heard of the killings when Lt Ndlovu's unit tried to cover up an army board of inquiry into his death.

After being told by Lt Ndlovu's commanders that police refused to investigate his death, Mr Romilly called in Inspector Samuel Ngwenya, police officer in charge at Lupane, who confessed in obvious fear that he was acting under his superiors' orders. Mr Romilly said that when he approached a Fifth Brigade major at Lupane, he was met with an "extremely arrogant" response.

Above law

"As far as he was concerned, he and his men were above the law and did not have to answer to the authorities," Mr Romilly testified.

Later that day Mr Romilly was telephoned by the then commanding officer of the Zimbabwe Police, Bulawayo district, Assistant Commissioner Noah Mvere, who accused the magistrate of subversion and threatened to have him detained under Zimbabwe's state of emergency if he did not drop his inquiries.

After Mr Romilly reported the incident to Zimbabwe's chief magistrate in Harare, a written order was sent to all magistrates not to investigate such cases, nor to testify to an official commission of inquiry into alleged army atrocities against Ndebeles and civilians.

Mr Mugabe appointed the commission last year to counter what he called an orchestrated "campaign of lies" against his government by Roman Catholic churchmen and British newspapers.

Crossfire

Mr Romilly said that despite the orders he refused to close the case when he received a "sudden death dossier" from police stating that the four had died accidentally in "crossfire" between ZAPU insurgents and Zimbabwe security forces.

He knew from previous post-mortem results that three of the victims were bayoneted to death.

The dossier disappeared after he dismissed it as "a police fabrication". Mr Romilly later unearthed evidence of elaborate forgeries and deletions from official records which made reference to the case.

Insp Ngwenya testified that he was called "a traitor" when he tried to investigate the killings. He and a subordinate section of Roman Catholic churchmen and British newspapers.

Orders

Corporal Charles Simango, Simon Chiyana and Private Samuel Gwathiri were ordered to be detained in custody pending a decision by the Attorney General's office in Harare on whether they should be prosecuted for murder.

Clean sweep for whites

Security force commanders who briefed Insp Ngwenya when the Fifth Brigade moved into Lupane allegedly told him "that the purposes of the operations I was blind, and I would be told when to look up".

Mr Geddes heard other evidence from soldiers and a passenger who escaped after being taken from Lt Ndlovu's car at the army road-block.

Mr Scott defeated a black ZANU (PF) candidate by 600 votes to 196 in the lowest margin of any successful candidate.

Since Independence Bulawayo's white population is believed to have halved to below 40,000.

Many of the houses in the "low density" suburbs have been taken over by black civil servants, who are being allowed in to housing loans.

Last week's poll may indicate the continuing opposition to a system of separate elections among whites but wealthier blacks in Matabeleland, while political violence in the rural areas has led to charges of government human rights violations.
Zanu’s dilemma over tradition

Michael Hartnack in Harare

This system also explains, in part, the massive role in Shona society of the spirit mediums. The only person who can settle the seemingly insoluble disputes that arise over succession is, most of the time, the tribal ancestor who died centuries ago. He is therefore consulted through the spirit mediums.

When at last his verdict comes, it is final, as some Rhodopian colonial administrators found out to their cost. The Shona will reject authority not consecrated by their own process, secretly honouring and obeying their ownclaimant.

The same is true of the spirit mediums themselves. The Shona have elaborate tests by which they say they can detect bogus ones.

Whatever the supernaturals influence on spirit mediums, public opinion is certainly a major factor, too.

If Zanu’s planned one-party state does indeed silence all criticism, as some observers fear, whoever rules in Harare will arouse a huge groundswell of opposition. The voice is heard through the spirit mediums, or their modern counterparts, the Africanised churches.

The deep-rooted egalitarian tradition among the Shona is illustrated by the way in which they regard white plans to build a black middle class as a buffer between themselves and the mass of blacks with deep suspicion and resentment.

Mr Mugabe knows this. It explains a major attraction of socialist theory for Shona intellectuals which is seldom understood by outsiders.

But neither will the Shona look kindly on the rise of a ruling caste of Marxist bureaucrats.

The ruling ZANO party in Zimbabwe has a desire to have its cake and eat it as far as Zimbabwes past is concerned.

All the traditional pre-colonial African institutions were based on the tribe, but in one breath we are told that tribalism is evil, to be equated with racism and apartheid, and is on its way out.

In the next breath we are told the planned new one-party state which will lead Zimbabwe into the 21st century is really just a re-assertion of traditional, pre-colonial African political institutions and therefore, by implication, morally legitimate.

Zimbabweans are doing nothing new in the world by contradicting themselves in this manner. Arnold Toynbee, the British historian, pointed to the glaring ambiguity, for example, in the Bolshevist attitude to Russias tsarist heritage.

No one would say, he remarked, whether Lenin intended to undo or complete the traditional processes of “Europeanising” Russia begun by Peter the Great 200 years before.

The Nazi’s position was truly preposterous: they aimed to introduce a futuristic new age, made “more terrible by perverted science” at Churchill put it, while at the same time reverting to some idyllic state they fancied had existed before their pagan ancestors were enslaved by a romance culture and a somnolent superstition — Christianity.

There are less glaring examples of this contradiction in other, milder, forms of nationalism. They are hardly surprising, since nationalism only arises when societies are in a violent state of flux.

During the Rhodesian war a vicious academic controversy raged here which paralleled the conflict taking place in the bush. Who were the leaders of Africanism then?

The Rhodesian Ministry of Internal Affairs said they were parents, chiefs and tribal authorities.

At the University College of Rhodesia (now the University of Zimbabwe) there was an opposition group whose most famous member was the sociologist Dr A K Weichart.

It contended that young blacks now wanted to accept the values and behaviour patterns of teachers, successful career people and ideals of the entertainment media.

Ironically, both factions were to be proved right and both wrong, for ZANU based its successful campaign on a two-pronged attack. While its political wing abroad continued foreign opinion they were fighting to modernise a society the whites were deliberately holding back, their military wing in Rhodesia’s Tribal Trust Lands told the people they were fighting to throw off the constraints of alien ways.

Modern conservation and husbandry programmes were resisted by force. Any one representative of the cultural intrusions of the previous 90 years was attacked. Traditional African religion was favoured and the spirit mediums played an important part under special ZANU protection in consolidating guerrilla morale.

As soon as ZANU came to power in 1980 the bewildering ambiguity of its stance became apparent. What, for example, was its attitude to women’s rights? If it was going to fulfil the hopes of the Scandinavian socialist intellectuals who had idealised it, it should have legislated immediately to emancipate African women fully.

If it was consistent in its attitudes to African authenticity, however, it should return women firmly to their traditional place as marketable property.

Tribal loyalties are indeed on the wane, being replaced by cults of personality which, here as elsewhere, are symptomatic of social insecurity.

But the values and attitudes of centuries are not going to be lightly thrown off. Just after independence, when members of the new government were completely cock-a-hoop with their claim to rule Zimbabwe by right of conquest, a leading politician (who had best remain nameless) grated one of the humblest black housing areas of Harare with the honour of an official visit. He was sent away with a flea in his ear.

Blacks who were present said he was told: “You must talk to us nicely when you come to visit us.”

No one actually stopped from the ragged crowd and told him so — he got the message from the “vendettas” and indignant demonisation aroused by his patronising arrogance.

It was an endlessly typical reaction of the Shona people, who make up 90% of Zimbabwe’s population, rooted in traditions which make them quite different from their Ndebele neighbours.

To understand it one must go back to their peculiar system of “collateral succession”. In most Shona clans there is no “royal house” or hereditary aristocracy.

Chiefsmanship passes not from father to son, as among the Ndebele, but to the descendant separated by the least number of generations from the founding father of the tribe.

In the pre-colonial past this ensured a remarkably egalitarian society, at least as far as men were concerned. Political influence passed (in theory) from one distant cousin to another in a rotation among families.
Zimbabwe farmer fights on to evict squatters

By Brendan Seery,
The Star Bureau

HARARE — Shurugwi farmer Mr Robert Rensford is to go back to the Zimbabwe Supreme Court again in his long battle against the government over squatters who have occupied his land for four years.

This time his legal team will go before the country’s highest court to argue that emergency regulations — which give the squatters virtual permanent residence on the property — are unconstitutional.

The regulations were introduced after Mr Rensford repeatedly took the country’s Police Commissioner, Mr Wiridzai Ngurave, to court over his refusal to comply with court orders for the eviction of the squatters.

The emergency legislation, titled the “Resolution of disputes over rural land”, gave the squatters residence rights and also prevented the Commissioner of Police being sued for damages or prosecuted for contempt of court for his failure to act on the eviction orders.

Mr Rensford had on a number of occasions tried to take such legal action against the commissioner who repeatedly argued that he was under orders from the government not to evict squatters from commercial farming land.

The case raised fears among the white farming community that the rule of law was being abrogated by the authorities in the handling of the case. Other farmers who also have squatters on their land feared they might suffer the same fate as Mr Rensford because of the emergency regulations.

Referring the matter to a full Supreme Court hearing, the Acting Judge President of the High Court, Mr Justice Wilson Sunders, said the matter was of considerable importance and the question of whether the regulations were constitutional was neither “frivolous nor vexatious".
No real independence till development battle is won

UNTIL the assassination of the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, the most prominent reports the BBC world service was broadcasting last week stemmed from the famine in Ethiopia and the Nigerians' reluctant decision to cut the price of their oil below the agreed Opec level.

Meanwhile the SABC told listeners the rand was taking on world foreign exchange markets and its own ZBC carried item after item referring in one form or another to Zimbabwe's chronic shortage of foreign currency.

Although it may not be obvious at first sight, there is a very definite link between all these reports of economic hardship.

Poverty

In view of its strong dependency on the industries, South Africa has an infinitely more sound economy than most other African states, but to the extent that its financial health depends on exports to the developed world of primary products such as gold, but also in the same boat as Ethiopia with its coffee, hides and skins, Nigeria with its oil, or African states with their tobacco, chrome and asbestos.

While South Africa may not require massive gifts of grain to stave off famine, it is very dependent on its relationship with its industrialized trade partners as it strives to redeem its growing population from obvious rural and urban poverty — just as we are here in Zimbabwe to an even greater extent.

Opening the third Co-operation for Development in Africa (CDA) conference here on Monday, Zimbabwe's deputy Prime Minister, Mr Simon Muzenda, said a growing number of people faced "utter starvation", or Zimbabweans did not achieve econom-

ic self-sufficiency, specifically, he believed, self-sufficiency in food.

Mr Muzenda said food production per head in sub-Saharan Africa had fallen by up to 20 percent in the last two decades, while the need for food imports was increasing by eight percent a year as a result of population growth.

These imports were placing African states' balances of payments under critical stress, dashed all hopes of real development investment.

One of the oldest and least pretty of economic theories is called the "iron law of wages".

When wages go up, the early economists said, the labouring classes become more affluent, thus are able to raise more children to adulthood. This leads in due course to a glut of labour on the market, which forces wages down — so less labourers' children survive and the whole vicious circle of human misery begins again.

The question needs to be asked: Are we seeing a version of this "iron law" in operation today in the economic relationship between the developed and underdeveloped peoples of the world, the so-called "north-south" dispute?

When their economies are booming, the great industrialized nations seem to have plenty of surplus cash with which to compete in bargaining for South African gold, Zimbabwean copper, Zimbabwène tobacco or Ethiopian hides and skins.

They also have surplus products which they are happy to export to the poorer countries at low prices. They invest in long-term capital projects such as the Kariba Dam, or they give apparel and gratuitous humanitarian aid.

Under the impact of this tide of surpluses from the developed nations, there is wholesale dislocation of traditional production patterns and traditional checks on population growth.

But at the earliest signs of recession, the underdeveloped peoples are the first to feel that the tide is going out. Again and again they are left high and dry, with their economies geared to meet a pattern of demand that no longer exists in the industrialized world.

However, they have also developed a very rigid pattern of demand for the basic necessities — such as food, housing, health, education and transport — and are quite able to cope with the demands of people who feel they do not fit into the developing world from which they come.

The most conspicuous here at present are the idealistic volunteers, formally nicknamed "Peace Corps" and "Third World groups", who go about telling Zimbabwëns the wealth of Europe and America is rightfully theirs since, they claim, modern industry.

The horrors of the Rhodesian war and its legacy of suffering which are all too recent memory of this deeply scarred society, should not dethrone them from the world in general of what could happen on a vast scale if developing peoples are not helped to build their populations back into balance with new production techniques, evolving a new social order to meet the challenges of the modern world.

Fickle

For a time in the 1970s it seemed the oil producers might be an exception to the rule, but with the slump in the oil price it now seems to have been proved that the terms of trade must always be against the Third World peoples who sell primary products, and heavily in favour of the industrialized communities with their wheat, butter and "mountains", their wine and milk "lakes".

Along with its fickle demand for products such as gold and tobacco, the developed world has had a requirement, nearly as erratic, for another "primary input of the production process" — migrant labour.

As anyone ever drooned in a British hospital knows, the National Health Service relies heavily on "economic immigrants" to staff it. A black Zimbabwë doctor sent home because his work permit is not being renewed in the present climate of government "austerity" will feel just as resentful as a Mexican fruit-picker repatriated from California, or one of the hundreds of unskilled "gastarbeiter" deported last month from West Germany.

But Marxist-style analyses of purely economic factors fail, because they are highly relevant to understanding the roots of "north-south" conflict is the extraordinary two-way traffic of people that arises between developed and underdeveloped parts of the world — something consciousness today on the streets of Harare.

One may see a black Zimbabwéan looking and talking like an English city gentleman, or a recent young immigrant from Europe obviously "gango", evolving a new world culture.
Zimbabwean senator dies in hail of bullets

Armed Rivalry

HARARE. - A Zimbabwean senator and member of the ruling Zanu-PF party's central committee, Senator Moven Ndlou, has been murdered by armed dissidents at his home in a Beitbridge township.

The leader of the Senate, Senator Joseph Culverwell, confirmed the killing and said he had been told Senator Ndlou had been shot eight times.

Senator Culverwell deplored the killing and described it as "an appalling tragedy."

About 100 people have been injured in factional clashes which broke out there after the killing last night.

AFTERMATH

The Zana news agency reported that the senator was gunned down by two dissidents at his home in the Dillibadzimu township in Beitbridge.

Supporters of Mr. Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU party were attacked in the aftermath of the killing and property was set on fire.

An informer source in Harare said a group of men had gone to Senator Ndlou's home and told him that some dissidents had been captured and that he was sent to come out and see them. As he opened the door he was gunned down.

In recent months leading officials of Mr. Mugabe's party have been targets for armed gangs and a number have been killed.
With enough money, MNR could have ousted Machel, says new book

If arms, money and other help had been available, the Mozambique National Resistance movement could have overthrown President Samora Machel's regime in Mozambique in the late 1970s, says a new book on the Rhodesian war.

And, the book adds, it could have installed a government sympathetic to the then white government in Rhodesia (and, presumably, to South Africa).

The book is "The elite, the story of the Rhodesian Special Air Service", by former Rhodesian journalist Ms. Barbara Cole.

It says the concept of the MNR was the product of the innovative Rhodesian military command.

Faced by a hostile Mozambique which was hosting increasing numbers of Mr Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army, the Rhodesians came up with the idea in 1976 of establishing a black anti-Machel resistance movement in Mozambique.

The Central Intelligence Organisation was given the brief, with the task of setting up a body which would challenge the existing authority in Mozambique and at the same time help the Rhodesian forces in its actions against Mr Mugabe's army.

The idea that Mr Machel might eventually be overthrown and a sympathetic government installed never became more than an idea.

It was always a fairly low-level effort, given meagre assistance, but nevertheless remarkably successful in many ways.

Though Rhodesia to the end denied officially that it was linked to the MNR, it was responsible for the conception, the birth and the formative years of the movement, says the book.

The first move was the establishment of an undercover radio station, the Voice of Free Africa, using a huge, old-fashioned 400 kw transmitter nicknamed Big Bertha and sited at Gwelo (now Gweru) in the Rhodesian Midlands.

So successful was the Voice, says the book, that the Central Intelligence Organisation was faced with the embarrassing situation of having countless Frelimo deserting to join the resistance, but being unable to find it because it existed in name only.

The book says several countries around the world, watching the Mozambican situation closely, then came up with enough finance to arm the handful of recruits who had so far gathered.

The training of recruits began on an isolated farm at Odzi, near Umtali (now Mutare).

Once the rebel leadership had been established the MNR began launching offensives, with often amazing success, and the response to recruiting became overwhelming, the book says.

Soon the MNR was providing the Rhodesians with a wealth of intelligence on Robert Mugabe's army movements and camps.

By the beginning of 1979, the SAS was operating with the MNR, at first in a training and advisory role and later in joint actions.

The MNR proved invaluable, both in guiding troops to the targets and in gathering intelligence.

The next step was the establishment, with SAS help, of MNR bases inside Mozambique, at which anti-Machel elements could rally.

The MNR, often with the SAS alongside, met with growing success as its campaigns spread.

But on the Rhodesian side political peace was being worked out, with the ceasefire and all-party, British-supervised elections on the horizon.

Mr Machel, says the book, had saved the Lancaster House talks by persuading Mr Mugabe to stay talking at the conference table.

To repay the favour, the British put a stop to the rebels' Rhodesian-based radio station.

The Voice of Free Africa went off the air in February 1980.

The rebels' training camp inside Rhodesia was quietly closed down, and the Central Intelligence Organisation and SAS connection with the rebel army came to an end as Zimbabwe came into being.

It was not, however, the end of the MNR, nor 5 000-strong, and it carried on its campaign against Mr Machel with help from other sources.

"While the MNR had provided an excellent intelligence network, the plan to overthrow Machel and install a government sympathetic to Rhodesia had been overtaken by time and events," says the book.

"And yet, says Central Intelligence Organisation officers, it might well have been different.

"Had the necessary arms, money and other resources been available when the idea was first mooted and a definite time-scale been set, they feel they would have been able to accomplish the aim."

The book, to be launched on Sunday, the anniversary of Rhodesia's UDI, is being published by Three Knights Publishing, in conjunction with CNA, which has exclusive rights in South Africa on the book for six months.

The initial print order is a high 15 000.

Barbara Cole spent four years researching the book, tracking down former SAS men living in 15 countries, as well as Special Branch and Central Intelligence Organisation officers and politicians.

The book documents the history of the SAS through the early days in the Western Desert to the formation of the Rhodesian SAS for service in Malaysia through the Federation, the UDI era and finally the decolonisation of Rhodesia by the British in 1980 and the end of the regiment.

The MNR experience is just one small part. — Sapa.
With enough money, MNR could have ousted Machel, says new book

If arms, money and other help had been available, the Mozambique National Resistance movement could have overthrown Mozambique in the late 1970s, says a new book on the Rhodesian war.

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The MNR experience is just one small part. — Sapa.
Mugabe and his army went to war, and the war continued for years. It was an epic battle of survival and power. In the end, Mugabe emerged victorious, but his army had paid a heavy price. The SAS massacre was a turning point in the war, and it marked the beginning of the end for Zimbabwe. The story of the conflict, and the SAS massacre, is told in this book.
Minister clears police of murder cover-up
10 hurt as new violence flares in Zimbabwe

By MICHAEL HARTNACK
Mall Africa Bureau

HARARE — Zimbabwe suffered its second outbreak of violence in 48 hours when supporters of the Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe and his rival, Zanu-founder the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, clashed at the weekend in Masvingo (formerly Fort Victoria).

Zanu (Sithole) officials said 10 people were hurt in violence in Masvingo on Saturday night and the acting leader of the party in Zimbabwe Mr Phileas Sithole, the local provincial secretary Mr Nelson Dlamini, and deputy national organising secretary Mr Timo Matungu had been detained.

Mr Sithole is in self-imposed exile in Britain.

No government comment was available on the reported arrests.

The scene of the renewed violence was 200km north of the border town of Beit Bridge, where widespread rioting occurred on Friday as Zanu (PF) Women's League and Youth Wing members wreaked vengeance for the assassination of a member of Mr Mugabe's Central Committee, Senator Moven Ndira, by dissidents believed to be supporters of the opposition Zanu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo.

As Beit Bridge returned to normal, the latest clashes occurred in Masvingo's Mukuve township when Zanu (Sithole) members attempted to hold a meeting in preparation for yesterday's internal party elections.

Zanu (PF) Youth Wing members are allegedly to have besieged a carpenter's shop where the meeting was taking place and violence continued until police arrived.

There were no reports of faction fighting from other parts of Zimbabwe over the weekend, but the Minister of Justice, Mr Eddison Zvobgo, alleged that minority parties were deliberately fomenting trouble in the run-up to next year's general election.

Mr Zvobgo claimed Sithole supporters had arranged their election for November 11 as a provocative celebration of the 19th anniversary of Mr Ian Smith's unilateral declaration of Rhodesian independence from Britain.

Meanwhile in Harare yesterday government representatives boycotted Remembrance Sunday services at the Cenotaph in Harare's main park for the fourth successive year.

This has been done since independence because the government associates Remembrance Sunday with the UDI anniversary.

Last month the government censured the Harare City Council's plans to demolish the Cenotaph — as a reminder of imperial wars — saying it honoured those who died fighting fascism, which Zanu (PF) opposed.
The Mozambique National Resistance (MNR) movement could, had adequate arms, money and other assistance been available, have overthrown the Machel regime in Mozambique in the late 1970s and installed a government sympathetic to the then white government in Rhodesia (and, presumably, to South Africa), claims a new book on the Rhodesian war.

The book, The Elite, the Story of the Rhodesian Special Air Service, by former Rhodesian journalist, Barbara Cole, says the concept of the MNR (or Banamo) was the product of the innovative Rhodesian military command.

Faced by a hostile Mozambique which was hosting increasing numbers of Robert Mugabe's Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army (Zanla), the Rhodesians came up with the idea in 1978 of establishing a black anti-Machel resistance movement in Mozambique.

The Central Intelligence Organisation (CIO) was given the brief, with the task of setting up a body which would challenge the existing authority in Mozambique, and at the same time help the Rhodesian forces in its actions against Zanla.

The idea that Machel might eventually be overthrown and a sympathetic government installed never became more than that — an idea. It was always a fairly low level effort, given meagre assistance, but nevertheless remarkably successful in many ways.

Though Rhodesia to the end denied officially that it was linked to the MNR, it was responsible for the conception, the birth, and the formative early years of the movement, says the book.

The first move was the establishment of an undercover radio station, the Voice of Free Africa, using a huge old-fashioned 400 kilowatt transmitter nicknamed Big Bertha, sited at Gwelo (now Gweru) in the Rhodesian Midlands.

So successful was the Voice, says the book, that the CIO was faced with the embarrassing situation of having "countless" Frelimo deserting to join the resistance — but being unable to find it because it existed in name only.

The book says "several countries around the world", watching the Mozambican situation closely, then came up with enough finance to arm the handful of recruits who had so far gathered.

The training of recruits began on an isolated farm at Odzi, near Umtali (now Mutare). Once the rebel leadership had been established, the MNR began launching offensives, with often amazing success, and the response to recruiting became overwhelming, the book says.

Soon the MNR was providing the Rhodesians with a wealth of intelligence on Zanla movements and camps. And when Frelimo began using Zanla forces against the MNR, they started to hit back.

By the beginning of 1979, the SAS was operating with the MNR, at first in a training and advisory role, and later in joint actions. The MNR proved invaluable, both in guiding troops to the target with their local knowledge, and acting as "faces" among the local population, gathering intelligence while the SAS remained under cover.

Mozambique's President Samora Machel — how close was the MNR to overthrowing him?
different Rhodesian story could have been

BILL McLEAN, in Johannesburg, reviews a book that discloses how the "innovative Rhodesian military command" in 1976 inspired the formation of Mozambique's rebel movement, the MNR or Renamo.

The next step was the establishment, with SAS help, of MNR bases inside Mozambique, at which anti-Machel elements could rally. The MNR, often with the SAS alongside, met with growing success as its campaigns spread.

But on the Rhodesian side, the political peace was being worked out, with the ceasefire and all-party British supervised elections on the horizon.

Machel, says the book, had saved the Lancaster House talks by persuading Robert Mugabe to stay talking at the conference table. To repay the favour, the British put a stop to the rebels' Rhodesian-based radio station. The Voice of Free Africa went off the air in February, 1980.

The rebels' training camp inside Rhodesia was quietly closed down, and the CIO and SAS connection with the rebel army came to an end as Zimbabwe came into being.

It was not, however, the end of the MNR, now some 5,000 strong, and it carried on waging its campaign against Machel, with help from other sources.

"While the MNR had provided an excellent intelligence network, the plan to overthrow Machel and install a government sympathetic to Rhodesia had been overtaken by time and events, says the book. "And yet, say CIO officers, it might well have been different."

"Had the necessary arms, money and other resources been available when the idea was first mooted and a definite time scale been set, they feel they would have been able to accomplish the aim."

The CIO, it adds, still felt Machel could have been ousted, Zanla expelled from Mozambique, "and the Rhodesian war could have been all over bar the shouting by 1978-79."

The book was launched last Sunday, November 11 — the anniversary of Rhodesia's UDI.

Barbara Cole spent four years researching the book, tracking down former SAS men living in 15 countries, as well as Special Branch and CIO officers and politicians, and sifting through masses of secret files and information smuggled out of Zimbabwe, she says.

The book documents the CIO, SAS through the early days in the Western Desert (during World War Two) to the formation of the Rhodesian SAS for service in Malaya, through the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and the UDI era and, finally, the decolonisation of Rhodesia by the British in 1980 and the end of the regiment.

"The MNR experience is just one small part. But it remains very close to Barbara's husband Peter, a former SAS Lieutenant. "When the Cabura Basha line is blown up and lights go out in our Amanzimtoti flat, I always think: I wonder if that was one of the blokes I taught,"

SAPA.
Violence gathers momentum

Call for peace in Zimbabwe has a more urgent ring

HARARE — The call this month by Zimbabwe's Catholic bishops for a peace initiative has been given added emphasis and urgency by the killing of Senator Moven Ndlou, a member of the ruling Zanu (PF) central committee.

The bishops appealed for help in communicating with the dissidents to establish what they were fighting for and offered to mediate between them and the government.

This raises the fundamental question of who speaks for the dissidents.

Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe has said their god is Zanu leader Mr Joshua Nkomo, and that Zanu has chosen to seek power through the bullet.

That, he said, was why he could no longer have Zanu Ministers in his government.

But Mr Nkomo and the dismissed Zanu Ministers have consistently disclaimed any association with the dissidents, whose anti-government activities started in earnest 2½ years ago.

Sporadic outbreaks of violence first claimed outside attention with the ambush of two freight agents on the main Bulawayo-Bulawayo road in March 1982.

The outbreaks followed the dismissal from the Cabinet of Mr Nkomo and two other Zanu Ministers and the arrest of top Zanu officials Mr Damiso Dabengwa and Lieutenant-General Lookout Manzuku, both of whom are still in detention despite their acquittal on treason charges.

The dismissal of the Ministers and the trial of the Zanu officials centred on the discovery of huge arms caches on Zanu-owned property which was confiscated by the government.

Desertions from the national army of former guerrilla fighters of Mr Nkomo's Zipra force swelled the ranks of the rebels, whose campaign hit the world headlines with the abduction of six foreign tourists in Matabeleland in July 1982.

The kidnappers wrote a ransom note demanding the release of General Masuku and Mr Dabengwa, the return of Zanu property and an end to harassment of Mr Nkomo.

By the beginning of 1983, 70 people had been killed.

During 1983, another 125 people were murdered and up to the end of July this year a further 45 had fallen prey to dissident killings.

The approximate death toll now of 250 includes 40 members of the white farming community in Matabeleland.

Scores of rapes, hundreds of armed robberies and horrific instances of mutilations and beatings have been recorded.

And there are unknown numbers of victims of security force operations, aimed at quelling popular support for the rebels, in which hundreds of people have perished.

Mr Nkomo, Mr Ian Smith and other Zimbabwe politicians have frequently urged the government to establish a high-powered commission just such a purpose.

The Government's response has been that it is clear that Zanu is to blame.

There are fears in Zimbabwe that the run-up to the general election due to be held early next year will see an intensification of violence.

But there has been no sign that Mr Mugabe intends to follow any course other than tough retaliatory action and further counter-dissident security operations.
Mugabe forcing Nkomo into a political wilderness

FOR 90 days out of the hundred the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, seems content to conform to what appears to be his self-assigned role as the paternal varint don, the dean of the senior common room.

The 100th day Mr Mugabe can work himself into a passion and reveal a highly emotional underlying nature.

The measured, deliberate way in which Mr Mugabe deals with all the crises in his cabinet usually seems calculated to leave his opponents with the feeling that they may have something to gain by continuing to cooperate with him. The public appearance of a final break is avoided.

Dismissed

In marked contrast was Mr Mugabe's wrathful reaction to the assassination at Beitbridge last week of Senator Moven Ndelou, a member of the Zanu (PF) central committee.

When he arrived back in Harare from Senator Ndelou's funeral, Mr Mugabe summarily dismissed the last two Zanu members of his cabinet, accusing their party's hierarchy of direct responsibility for the murder despite all the denials issued by the Zanu leader, Mr Joshua Nkomo.

The Zanu (PF)-Zapu alliance, forged during the Rhodesian bush war, was finally at an end. Mr Nkomo must now feel that the door to the Zimbabwian corridors of power has been slammed shut in his face for as long as Mr Mugabe controls the right of admission.

Violence

Mr Nkomo is largely to blame for this impasse since he has fostered an all-Political habit, adopted exactly the same attitude to Government tactics of dissidents that the British miners' leader, Mr Arthur Scargill, adopted to picket-line violence outside the strikebound coalfields.

Mr Scargill deplores the violence but says it is a necessary tactic of the police and by the intrusiveness of the government in attempting to negotiate with him on his own terms.

The similarity of Scargill-Nkomo political tactics is no mere coincidence, but the methods Mr Nkomo found so effective in the late 1950s and early 1960s in putting pressure upon successive British governments, and through Whitelaw upon the Rhodesian government, cut no ice with Mr Mugabe.

They can only work upon authorities who hold grave inner reservations about the limits of their moral right to use coercion. Mr Mugabe has no qualms at all, being monumentally convinced that he is the living leader of the Zimbabwean people's struggle for development and justice, within his own interpretation of the terms.

In short, Mr Nkomo's tactics have been an outmoded relic of the colonial era, and he is beginning to realize the appalling weakness of his position where a totally resolute opponent holds the apparatus of the state at his disposal.

There was a confession of impotence in Mr Nkomo's shrill reaction to the news that Mr Mugabe had sacked the Zapu ministers: "He wants to ban the party, let him go ahead, if he wants to arrest us, let him go ahead. If he wants to kill us, let him go ahead.

Putting aside the disputed question of who was responsible for Senator Ndelou's murder, and Mr Mugabe's apparently impetuous reaction to the killing, it appears the Zimbabwean leader may have followed in the footsteps of his Rhodesian predecessor, Mr Ian Smith, who repeatedly fell victim to the propaganda distortions of his own scatological broadcasting media.

Since the Zapu congress last month Mr Mugabe's men have been stopping talking about Mr Nkomo's alleged plan to form an anti-Zapu coalition with Mr Smith, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole.

Unless Zanu (PF) is relying on Central Intelligence Organization briefings, to which the overseas press appears to have access, these accusations seem to be based on misunderstanding or a misreading of what Mr Nkomo actually said at the congress.

Misunderstood

Those who were present to hear Mr Nkomo's speech gained the impression that by his reference to the formation of a "broad national front" he was not suggesting any anti-Mugabe league, but hinting in an insinuatingly suppliant manner, that in return for a slightly bigger slice of the political cake, Zapu—or at least Mr Nkomo himself—would be prepared to acquiesce to Mr Mugabe's one-party state.

If this was Mr Nkomo's meaning and he was willingly misunderstood then Mr Mugabe has lost a golden opportunity for getting his own way at remarkably little political cost.

Civil war

Since independence Mr Mugabe has proved himself a past master in the art of using his legal patronage prerogatives to maintain peace and political stability. British politics have not seen Mr Mugabe's equal at this game since the days of King Charles II and the first British Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole.

Those two British rulers, like Mr Mugabe, were trying respectively to avert a recurrence of open civil war in a situation of incipient rebellion, and it was said of Walpole that he knew the price of every member of the House of Commons barring six.

One does not know what Mr Nkomo's political price would have been to assist at the funeral rites of the Lancaster House constitution but he seemed, prettily clearly, open to an offer.

Those of Mr Mugabe's ardent supporters here who have publicly denied since the Zapu congress have done their Prime Minister no favours. If Mr Mugabe has been influenced by the echoes of public sentiment that anti-Nkomo feeling now has they have convinced him he may live to rue it.
Three whites freed after 80 are held in Zimbabwe

The Star Bureau

HARARE — Three white residents of Beitbridge who were among 80 people detained after the murder of Senator Moven Ndelu on November 9 have been set free, Prime Minister Mr Robert Mugabe told Parliament yesterday.

But Mr Mugabe made it plain to the House that he was not happy at being questioned by an independent white member about the arrests in Beitbridge.

The police were only doing their job, he said.

"If each time one or two whites are arrested, questions are asked here, we grow suspicious," said Mr Mugabe.

CUSTODY

The Prime Minister said that up to yesterday 22 of the 80 originally arrested were still in custody.

Of the three whites — Mr Raymond Roth, Mr Lou Watson and Mr Mervyn Klockow — he said: "They were not arrested for nothing.

"Let us not assume that because people of a different colour are arrested, it is done on a racial basis. The police act on information but if the evidence is unsustainable, people must be released."

Beitbridge is still suffering from the aftermath of the murder of the senator when gangs of Zanu (PF) supporters turned on ZAPU members.

The national news agency, Ziana, reported that some people who fled the border town after the rioting have not yet returned.
In addition to Zanu’s determined political campaigning to edge ZAPU out, mob violence by Zanu women and youth wing members has driven ZAPU underground.

**Curious**

In Matabeleland south, a curious mixture has emerged. In the Beitbridge district council, 11 of the 12 wards were won by Zanu. The area has also traditionally been a marginal one, because of the predominance of the Venda-speaking people, historically at odds with the nearly one million Ndèbele who dominate the rest of Matabeleland.

Zanu has campaigned hard in the area through Job Mbedzi, a former ZAPU Central Committee member and a fluent Venda speaker who defected to Zanu after Mr Nkomo failed to nominate him as a parliamentary candidate in 1980. The district council elections are distinct from those in the border town where two weeks ago ZAPU candidate in the district council elections, in particular those for the general elections, are expected by the government to be peaceful, but that the government’s revenant presence in the area will not necessarily bring about a peaceful election.

ZAPU’s offices were set on fire and the home of five other ZAPU members were damaged.

**Curfew**

In Maitobo district, Mr Nkomo’s home, ZAPU comfortably took all 18 wards despite the presence there three months ago of Government security forces enforcing a curfew.

In Insiza district next door, ZAPU scored a seemingly victory over ZAPU’s traditional support, taking all 12 seats. But the district is the home of volatile ZAPU politician member Senator Enos Nkala, the only Ndèbele in the ZANU inner sanctum.

In Gwanda district last week, ZAPU won all 18 wards, and a few days later gangs of youths in the town’s high-density area of Zanu fought night battles on the streets. One man was injured. ZAPU’s offices were set on fire and the home of five other ZAPU members were damaged.

**Guerrillas**

In Bulilimambange, a wedge west of Bulawayo running alongside the Botswana border for 200 miles, the election officer raised eyebrows when he announced that all the candidates stood as independents, and none had been sponsored by the contesting parties.

Up until this year, guerrillas crossing from their bases inside Botswana would have to pass through Bulilimambange, and exerted a strong influence, as did the Government forces deployed there against them.

The latest victim was a headmaster and recently elected ZANU official who was shot dead by guerrillas last month.

The freezing of elections in Matabeleland North has not been explained. However, it follows complaints by ZANU Central Committee member Callistus Nkala, who defected to ZANU earlier this year, that ZAPU was carrying out political intimidation in the province.

**Queue**

District council elections are not conducted by secret ballot, nor have they ever been. Voters simply queue up behind the candidate of their choice, or they gather on election day and vote by show of hands.
Soldiers and rebels ‘rape’ Matabeleland

By Brendan Scoey, The Star Bureau

HARARE — The three women standing forearm
ly in the dock of the High Court in Bulawayo mir
rored the tragedy of Matabeleland and the suf
fering of its rural people.

All had been charged
with killing their newborn babies, and had
pleaded guilty.

The infants they decid
ed they could not live
with had all been con
ceived as the result
of brutal rapes by armed
men — dissidents and
government soldiers — in
the strife-torn rural
areas of the province.

A 25-year-old woman
from Lupane was jailed
for five years after she
described to the court
how she had hit her baby
on the head with a hoe
shortly after giving birth,
and had thrown the
corpse into a dustbin and
tried to burn it.

She said in mitigation
that she had been raped
on three occasions while
staying with relatives in
the Bindesi area — once
by an army soldier and
twice by dissidents.

She fled to Bulawayo
for safety and later dis
covered she was pregnant.

Afraid that people
would accuse her of hav
ing slept with dissidents,
she decided to kill the
child, she said.

Another woman, who
said she was 21 but was
considered much younger
by the court, said she had
been staying with her
grandmother in a village
in the Kezi area of south
ern Matabeleland.

Bandits visited the vil
lage on three occasions,
and each time she was
raped by the rebel leader.

She was accused of
being a “sellout” because
her brother was in the
army.

She ran to the nearby
government-run farm
near Antelope mine,
where she was employed
as a casual labourer.

There she discovered she
was pregnant.

Early this year, the es
cape was visited by secu
rity forces on anti-dis
sident operations. The sol
diers called all the preg
nant women together and
told them to explain their
pregnancies.

The woman said she
was assaulted by the sol
diers who told her to get
rid of the child as they
did not want to see a
baby “fathered by the
dissidents”.

Shortly after the birth
of the child, she decided
to kill it by strangling it
with a piece of cloth.

She then dumped the
body in a disused toilet.

That night, other
women on the estate
learnt she had killed the
child and beat her up be
fore handing her over to
the police.

The woman told the
court she would have kept
the baby but was
afraid and confused.

She killed the baby be
cause she feared the
soldiers would kill her
because the child’s father
was a dissident.

She said she could not
go to Bulawayo because
of the curfew and could
not return to her grand
mother’s village because
of the dissidents.

She was jailed for 12
months.

DESPERATE

The third woman, a 23-
year-old from Nkayi, was
sentenced to four years’
jailed after she admitted
putting her newborn
baby into a cardboard
box and crushing it with
a piece of metal. She told
the court she had been
raped repeatedly, raped by
a soldier in the Nkayi area.

She had eventually fled
development and the
army for sheltering dis
sidents.

Caught in the middle
twice armed
between the two
sides, the women are
often forced by the dis
sidents to cook for them
and later abused by the
army for sheltering dis
sidents.

Because of the security
problem, the government
has curtailed many of its
development, health, and
welfare programmes,
which are most beneficial
to women and their chil
ren.
Mugabe attacks US for ‘deceit’

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Zimbabwe and the United States may be teetering towards another diplomatic crisis following a scathing attack by the Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, on the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Dr Chester Crocker.

On his return from last Friday’s five frontline leaders’ summit in Tanzania, Mr Mugabe reinforced his reputation as the most outspoken of the six leaders by accusing the United States and South Africa of “fraudulently deceiving” the other frontline leaders into thinking Angola’s MPLA government had accepted the principle of “linkage” between SWA/Namibian independence and a Cuban withdrawal from Angola.

President Eduardo dos Santos had in fact rejected the “linkage” proposal outright, he said.

The US is currently sponsoring a $230 million aid programme here and has previously expressed its disapproval over Zimbabwe’s unabashed hostility to its foreign policy.

There was a pointed cutback in the year’s budget last year when Zimbabwe refused to condemn the Soviet Union for shooting down of a Korean airliner.

But in his latest attack on US policy towards South Africa, Mr Mugabe said the frontline leaders were “wiser” after hearing President dos Santos’s version of negotiations with Dr Crocker that they were left behind by the Assistant Secretary of State on a visit to their capitals.

“Our conclusion is that the United States and South Africa are acting fraudulently on the whole question, and the sooner the international community returns to the Security Council for ways and means of implementing United Nations Resolution 435 the better,” said Mr Mugabe.

He said the frontline leaders found it “peculiar” that Dr Crocker declined to convey to the South Africans President dos Santos’s outright rejection of the US-backed proposal that all Cuban troops should be withdrawn from Angola within 12 weeks, leaving only civilians whose presence would be monitored.

‘Arrogant reply’

“They (the Americans) refused to report the American reply to South Africa saying it would kill the negotiations whereas South Africa’s completely unjustified and arrogant reply is accepted by the United States and conveyed in happiness.

“That position of the US is absolutely peculiar and serves to underline what we have said before about the United States spoiling constructive negotiations,” he said.
Indefinite jail for 'SA spies'

From MICHAEL HARTNACK

HARARE — Two alleged South African spies held here for the past three years appear to be doomed to indefinite detention despite their formal acquittal in the High Court last year on Official Secrets Act charges.

Mrs Justice Mavis Gibson yesterday rejected a plea by the two former officers of Zimbabwe's Central Intelligence Organisation, Phillip Hartlebury, 32, and Colin Evans, 29, for a fresh review of their imprisonment by "ministerial order" under the 19-year-old state of emergency.

In a public judgment handed down in the High Court after a secret hearing in October, Mrs Justice Gibson noted that the South African trade mission in Harare had admitted in diplomatic exchanges that Evans and Hartlebury were in Pretoria's employ.

She stated: "It would be inconceivable that the South African Government, having gone to the lengths that it did to secure the release of the applicants, and having run the risk of incurring the diplomatic opposition that such disclosures would have incurred, would not wish to continue to use the services of the applicants in some other suitable manner at home or abroad."

Nothing would stop them, once released, from going to South Africa to work against Zimbabwe again, she said.

She said lawyers had failed to prove that Zimbabwe's detainees' review tribunal had acted in bad faith by refusing to recommend the release of the two after the last secret hearing of their case in May.

The judge said the South African Government had offered 115 Angolan prisoners-of-war in exchange for Evans and Hartlebury, and when this offer failed threw in "a Russian spy" as an additional bargaining counter.

When bargaining proved useless, South Africa sent an unsuccessful military "rescue mission" in August 1982 in which four former Rhodesian soldiers were killed by Zimbabwean security forces in the Sengwe tribal area of southern Zimbabwe, the judge said. South African defence headquarters claimed the patrol had crossed into Zimbabwe without authority.

Lawyers for Evans and Hartlebury are studying the judgment to see if it offers grounds for an appeal.
Zimbabwe churches in peace call

BY MICHAEL HARTMACK

HARARE. — The heads of every major Christian denomination in Zimbabwe have joined in a Christmas campaign to demand an end to pre-election political violence in the country.

Among their avowed aims are the signing of a solemn covenant by all political and tribal leaders to forebear inciting their followers to violence.

"A dark cloud is gathering across the country causing panic, terror, fear, insecurity and hopelessness as more and more people lose respect for life, human dignity and human rights," warn the churchmen.

An advertisement by the church heads takes up nearly half a page in yesterday's "Sunday Mail", and says as momentum builds up towards next year's scheduled general election a violent spirit or "Ngiz" is taking possession of the hearts and minds of many Zimbabweans.

In Shona tribal religion an "Ngiz" is a revenge-seeking poltergeist.

"If it is not exercised the pre-election days will be bloody, destructive, costly and wasteful," warn the denomination heads, who have formed a "continuation committee" to pursue their goal.

Zimbabwe's Roman Catholic bishops, who have clashed with the Prime Minister Mr. Robert Mugabe over their denunciations during the past year of dissident violence and state counter-violence in Matabeleland, were represented at the meeting of more than 30 church leaders in Harare last week which decided to launch the campaign.

The meeting was chaired by the Presbyterian Moderator of Matabeleland, the Rt. Rev. Herbert Chikomo; and inspired by the Anglican Bishop The Rt. Rev. John Stendel, by an initiative from the former Southern Rhodesian Prime Minister Mr. Garfield Todd.
Drastic fiscal controls pay off in Zimbabwe

Mercuret Correspondent

HARARE—The drastic import restrictions and exchange control clampdown imposed by President Robert Mugabe's government last March have combined to yield a dramatic improvement in Zimbabwe's balance of payments position, reports the December issue of RAL Merchant Bank executive guide to the Zimbabwean economy.

The publication said final figures for 1983 showed that the value of Zimbabwean exports increased by 19 percent following the devaluation of the Zimbabwe dollar in December 1982.

In the first six months of 1984, the value of exports increased by 23 percent compared with the first six months of 1983.

For the whole of 1984 the value of exports could well reach R1,700 million, the magazine predicted.

The publication said of stringent exchange control allocations the value of imports fell from R1,302 million in 1982 to R1,257 million in 1983. In view of inflation running at 15 to 20 percent according to unofficial figures, this represents a massive drop in real terms.

In the first six months of 1984 the value of imports increased by seven percent to R712 million compared with R698 million in the first half of 1983.

Treble Swell—RAL said for the whole of 1984 imports are unlikely to exceed R1,437 million.

Consequently, the trade surplus of R111 million in 1983 could treble in 1984, possibly reaching R375 million.

The RAL review said the position of Zimbabwe's 'invisibles' account was rather more difficult to estimate as balance of payments figures for 1983 had not yet been published. The impact of Zimbabwe's devaluation of external freight and port dues was difficult to assess.

It seems reasonable to expect an increase in net payments of about R25 million on this account in 1984 and a further increase of about R18.75 million to reach a net outflow of about R181 million in 1984, the publication said.

It said the Government's controversial action in freezing remittances of incomes, rents and dividends from former resident was officially estimated to have saved the country about R216 million.

The publication forecast that the net outflow on current account, estimated to be R590 million in 1983, was expected to fall to about R31 million in 1984.

This small deficit is likely to be more than offset by capital account transactions giving rise to an overall credit balance for the first time since 1979.